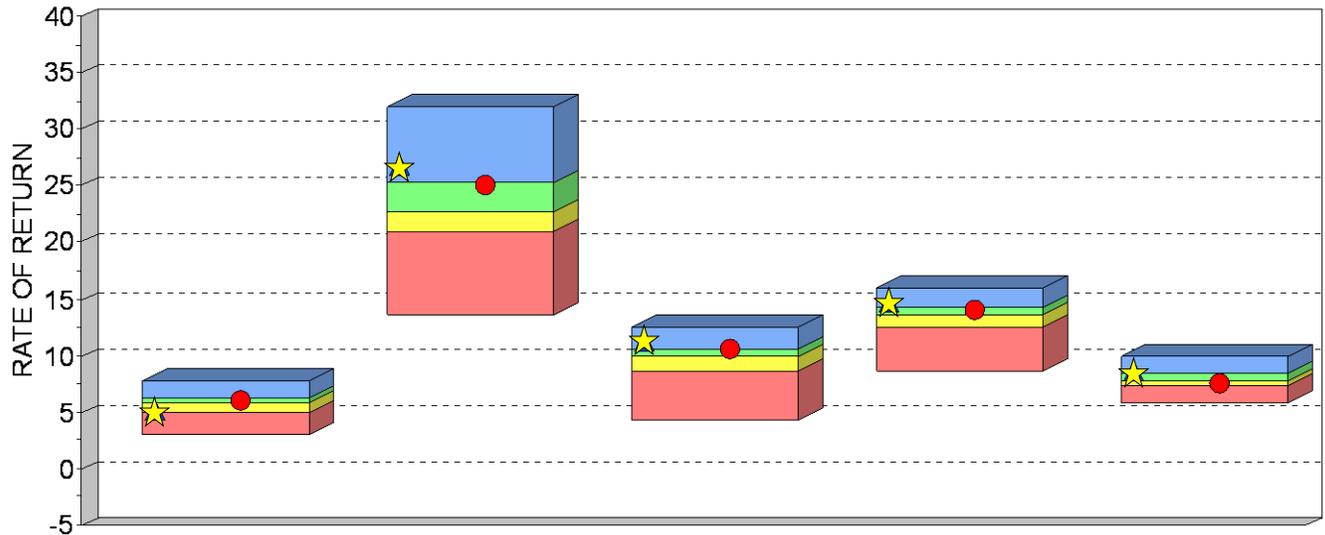


FEBRUARY 2017

ARGUS CORE EQUITY STRATEGY

Quartile Ranking Bar Compared to PSN Large-Cap Core** (Periods Ending February 28, 2017)



	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
HIGH (0.05)	7.69	31.96	12.55	16.04	10.02
FIRST QUARTILE	6.16	25.39	10.65	14.31	8.34
MEDIAN	5.82	22.77	9.84	13.54	7.82
THIRD QUARTILE	4.97	20.89	8.67	12.62	7.35
LOW (0.95)	3.03	13.55	4.27	8.70	5.76
MEAN	5.61	22.85	9.48	13.32	7.87
VALID COUNT	126	126	124	115	102

	YTD		1 Year		3 Year		5 Year		10 Year	
	VALUE	RANK	VALUE	RANK	VALUE	RANK	VALUE	RANK	VALUE	RANK
★ AIC Core Composite	5.15	73	26.72	10	11.30	10	14.59	19	8.70	15
● Standard & Poor's 500	5.94	40	24.98	27	10.63	25	14.01	32	7.62	65

**The bar chart above shows Argus Core Equity Composite returns gross of fees, compared to returns for the PSN Large-Cap Core peer group. (See page 2 for Core Equity Composite net-of-fees returns compared to the benchmark.) The PSN database calculates returns for all money managers using the simple linked geometric return method, rather than the Modified Dietz method used by Advent in the table on page 2. The 'Rank' in the table above indicates the relative performance of a fund within the PSN Large-Cap Core peer group, with 1 being the highest score and 100 the lowest. A score of 10 for the most recent one-year period means that the Argus Core Equity Composite outperformed 90% of large-cap core equity managers in the PSN database. Past performance is not indicative of future results. The information contained herein is intended for institutional investors only. Please see Performance Notes below.

Performance Summary

As shown in the chart above, the Argus Core Equity Strategy underperformed the S&P 500 benchmark for the first two months of 2017, returning 5.15% (gross of fees) compared to a 5.94% return for the benchmark. The Argus composite continued to outperform the benchmark over the latest 1-, 3-, 5- and 10- year periods. On a one- and three-year basis, the composite ranked in the 10th percentile, outperforming 90% of large-cap core equity managers in the PSN database.

*Performance Notes

Argus Investors' Counsel, Inc. (AIC) is an SEC-registered investment advisor that provides investment advisory services to institutional and individual investors. The Argus Core Equity Composite contains fee-paying fully discretionary core equity accounts that do not contain investment restrictions. Returns on page 2 are presented gross and net of management fees and include the reinvestment of all income. AIC's SEC registration does not imply a certain level of skill or training. The information in this document has not been approved or verified by the SEC or by any state securities authority. Annual and annualized periods are calculated based on geometrically linked monthly returns. The quartile ranking bar chart was produced by PSN and generated on March 23, 2017. The Argus Core Equity Composite was created on December 31, 1994. AIC claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®). AIC has been verified firm-wide by Ashland Partners & Company, LLP from January 1, 1995 through December 31, 2016. The US dollar is the currency used to express performance. Past results are not indicative of future returns. To obtain a complete list and description of AIC's composites and/or a GIPS-compliant presentation, please contact Richard Ciuba at (646) 747-5439 or Steve Biggar at (646) 747-5446.

Firm Overview

Argus Investors' Counsel (AIC), a registered investment advisor, was incorporated and registered with the SEC in 1960. Our flagship product, The Argus Core Equity Strategy, is based on a rigorous fundamental approach. The Core Strategy seeks to outperform the S&P 500® with dividends over a full market cycle, while limiting downside risk.

Philosophy

While many equity market participants construct investment strategies in response to recent events, Argus constructs its Core Equity portfolios to prosper in a range of market environments. Recognizing that the S&P 500 is an investable universe, not an investment strategy, and that purely passive index construction methodologies often create unrecognized risks, Argus constructs its Core Equity portfolios using the following key elements:

- Broad Diversification using uncorrelated revenue streams
- Financial Strength as Primary Stock Selection Criterion
- Counter-Momentum Rebalancing of Holdings
- Independent Fundamental Research

Key Professionals:

Sharon D. Wagoner

Chairman – Portfolio Manager

Donna M. Palais

VP – Portfolio Manager

Jim Kelleher, CFA

Director of Research, ARC

Peter Canelo

Investment Strategist, ARC

Assets in the Core Strategy:

\$222 Million

Benchmark:

S&P 500® with Dividends

Historical Tracking Error:

2.25%-3.25%

Diversification:

Growth & Value Representation
 Minimum \$5 Billion Market Cap
 WTD Average Market Cap: 141B
 Number of Holdings: 45-55

**Past performance is not indicative of future results. Portfolio characteristics and performance data presented in this document are representative only. The information contained herein is intended for institutional investors only. Please see Performance Notes on page 1.*

CONTACT US:

Stephen Biggar

Director of Business Development

SBiggar@ArgusResearch.com

(212) 425-7500

Market Commentary

The Argus Core Equity Strategy continued to post positive returns in February. The composite returned 3.92% (net of fees) for the month, just below the S&P 500's return of 3.97% (including dividends). The Argus Core Equity Composite continued to outperform the S&P 500 on a full 1-, 3-, 5- and 10-year basis.

In February, better economic indicators were the main drivers of the positive market performance. Economic data reported for December and January was strong across the board, including continued gains in nonfarm payrolls (to 227,000 in January from 157,000 in December); low unemployment; high jobs availability; very strong housing data, including new and existing home sales and home prices; strong durable goods orders (ex-aircraft); and 94 consecutive months of expansion in ISM manufacturing.

However, investors also began to recognize that true stimulus takes time: tax cuts (if enacted) will impact income in 2018, not 2017, and government-sponsored infrastructure spending could struggle to get through a GOP-led Congress. In the last week of February, investors moved into more defensive names, with Consumer Staples, Utilities and Telecom doing well. The Core Equity Strategy's sector leaders in February shifted from Consumer Discretionary to Consumer Staples and Financials. Healthcare remained strong. The strategy was positively impacted by Unilever (+16.4%), Amgen (+12.7%), Apple (+12.9%), Cisco (+11.3%), but was hurt by the performance of Energy stocks.

The Core Equity strategy continues to take advantage of stock and sector rotation in 2017.

Annualized Performance – Argus Core Equity Composite (As of February 28, 2017)

Trailing Period	Argus Composite (Gross)	Argus Composite (Net)	S&P 500® Benchmark (with dividends)
YTD	5.14	5.04	5.94
1 Year	26.70	26.29	24.98
3 Year	11.29	10.93	10.63
5 Year	14.58	14.23	14.01
10 Year	8.70	8.39	7.62