

# MEDIA RELEASE

## Immediate Release

27 March 2018

## SQM recognises Ausbil's MicroCap Fund

SQM Research has awarded Ausbil's MicroCap Fund a 4 star, "Superior" rating.

The 4-star 'Superior' rating indicates that the Fund is suitable for inclusion on most approved product lists, outperforms (or is likely to outperform) its peers and benchmark most of the time and has a management team of a very high calibre.

"The new MicroCap team is highly qualified and competent, integrating well into the overall Ausbil team and investment framework. A strong and long running track record of high achievement in risk and return outcomes appears to be continuing in the early days of the new teams' management."

The Fund is a concentrated portfolio of 40 to 50 stocks and invests outside of the Top 200 stocks listed on the ASX. Whereas the majority of microcap funds bias the ex 300 space, the Ausbil Fund biases the ex-200 space given it's superior liquidity and quality characteristics. It is managed by Mason Willoughby-Thomas, Portfolio Manager and Arden Jennings, Co-Portfolio Manager.

To the end of February 2018, the Fund returned 26.5% per annum (net of fees) since inception in February 2010. During the last 12 months it returned 26.1% (net) versus 19.1% for the benchmark, the S&P/ASX Emerging Companies Accumulation Index.

"We have maintained a meaningful overweight to infrastructure and mining services companies. We've modestly pared back exposure to metals and mining but retain a positive view on the battery storage thematic. We're cautious about domestic consumer stocks", commented Mason.

Investors may access the Fund directly via the Product Disclosure Statement (minimum investment is \$20,000) or via their preferred platforms.

"Mason and Arden continue to demonstrate their expertise in this part of the market and we're delighted that consultants and platforms are acknowledging this," said Mark Knight, Head of Distribution.

ENDS

### About SQM Research

SQM Research Pty Ltd is a respected Australian investment research house, specialising in providing ratings and data across all major asset classes. It is founded and run by one of the Country's most recognised and respected property analysts, Louis Christopher, whose objective, candid and honest approach to the real estate market is one of the foundations on which SQM Research has been built on. Being a two-pronged company, as well as its residential research division, SQM Research also contains a Ratings research division where the company awards star ratings to a wide array of managed investment schemes within all asset classes.

For more information on this, please visit [www.sqmresearch.com.au](http://www.sqmresearch.com.au).

### About Ausbil Investment Management

Ausbil Investment Management Limited is a leading Australian based investment manager. Established in April 1997, Ausbil's core business is the management of Australian equities for major superannuation funds, institutional investors, master trust and retail clients. Ausbil is owned by its employees and New York Life Investment Management (NYLIM), a wholly-owned subsidiary of New York Life Insurance Company. As at 28 February 2018, Ausbil manage over \$11 billion in funds under management. The Ausbil MicroCap Fund is managed by Mason Willoughby-Thomas and Arden Jennings.



For further information or to schedule an interview with the Portfolio Managers please contact:

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