



# MICRO CAP COMMENTARY

1Q 2019  
AS OF MAR 31, 2019

In the first quarter, the Micro Cap composite had a gross preliminary return of 4.74% (net of fees: 4.68%) compared to 13.10% for the Russell Microcap Index (“Index”).

SCP Micro Cap vs. Russell Microcap													
12/31/2018 to 3/31/2019													
Representative Account	SCP Micro Cap			Russell Microcap			Variation			Attribution Analysis			
	Port. Average Weight	Port. Total Return	Port. Contrib. To Return	Bench. Average Weight	Bench. Total Return	Bench. Contrib. To Return	Average Weight Difference	Total Return Difference	Contrib. To Return Difference	Allocation Effect	Contribution to Selection Effect (Holdings Only)	Total Effect	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>4.76</b>	<b>4.76</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>13.10</b>	<b>13.10</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>-8.34</b>	<b>-8.34</b>	<b>-1.16</b>	<b>-7.18</b>	<b>-8.34</b>	
Communication Services	1.16	72.97	0.41	3.59	7.51	0.32	-2.43	65.46	0.09	0.03	0.44	0.47	
Utilities	--	--	--	1.32	5.52	0.07	-1.32	-5.52	-0.07	0.07	--	0.07	
Consumer Staples	0.44	-0.31	-0.00	2.19	8.60	0.21	-1.75	-8.91	-0.21	0.03	0.01	0.05	
Industrials	16.44	13.54	1.86	10.96	13.87	1.50	5.48	-0.34	0.36	0.01	-0.11	-0.09	
Energy	0.70	4.46	0.12	4.35	15.07	0.66	-3.65	-10.61	-0.54	-0.04	-0.19	-0.23	
Real Estate	2.26	12.66	0.27	4.64	18.71	0.84	-2.38	-6.05	-0.57	-0.14	-0.15	-0.29	
Materials	2.40	-9.19	-0.06	2.80	9.52	0.29	-0.41	-18.71	-0.36	0.06	-0.54	-0.48	
Information Technology	16.28	12.05	1.73	10.24	17.02	1.68	6.04	-4.97	0.05	0.22	-0.73	-0.51	
[Cash]	4.02	0.87	0.03	--	--	--	4.02	0.87	0.03	-0.54	--	-0.54	
Financials	27.93	4.84	1.36	24.34	6.87	1.88	3.59	-2.03	-0.52	-0.23	-0.66	-0.90	
Consumer Discretionary	15.12	-2.67	-0.07	10.48	11.26	1.24	4.63	-13.93	-1.30	-0.02	-2.08	-2.10	
Health Care	13.25	-6.02	-0.88	25.07	18.95	4.41	-11.83	-24.98	-5.29	-0.61	-3.17	-3.78	

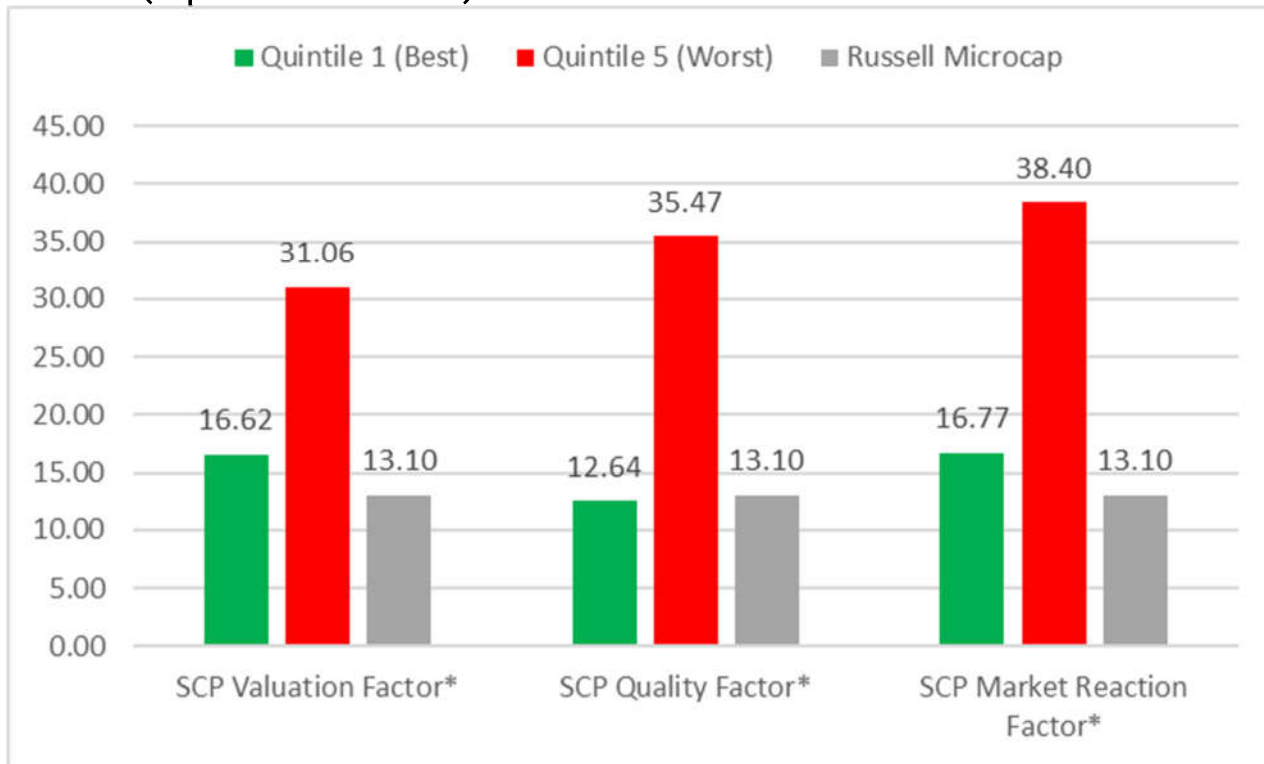
Source: FactSet, Gross Returns Shown

The portfolio is constructed utilizing a quantitative system that helps the portfolio team make investment decisions based on factors (“SCP Factors”) that we believe will outperform over full market cycles. The quantitative model used in stock selection has been the starting point for all SCP strategies since the firm was founded. The quantitative model is intended to help us maintain exposure to securities with cheap valuation, high quality metrics, and positive market reaction relative to the index. The Micro Cap strategy implicitly takes advantage of a fourth investment anomaly related to “small size” or market capitalization. Both academic and independent research has found these factors to be lowly correlated and additive to each other over long time horizons.

We believe that adhering to a consistent discipline of maintaining positive exposure to the SCP Factors will add value over full market cycles but may not work every quarter. We also believe that our process of combining factors can allow for better risk-adjusted returns than single factors by themselves. To assist in risk management, a number of risk flags are included in the quantitative process to alert the portfolio team to heightened perceived risks.

The following returns are based on SCP’s composite factors grouped relative to their benchmark and equal weighted. These are hypothetical portfolios and do not reflect any fees or transaction costs and are only meant to be representative of our quantitative process. Actual results of the portfolio may differ materially from the individual factors due to interaction effects not explained by singular factor exposure, among other reasons.

## Exhibit 1 (in percent total return)



Source: Seizert Capital Partners, Bloomberg

**Exhibit 1:** SCP Factor data is an output of the firm's quantitative investment system. SCP's factor data is calculated for each company in the Index at the end of the previous quarter, organized into quintiles, with equal weighted performance for each quintile calculated for the following quarter. This information illustrates performance of various criterion used in the investment process. Please refer to Disclosure page for additional information.

### Current Strategy Overview

As of March 31, 2019, the Micro Cap portfolio has a weighted average portfolio exposure of the 23<sup>RD</sup> percentile based on the SCP Valuation Factor, 20<sup>TH</sup> percentile on the SCP Quality Factor and 41<sup>ST</sup> percentile based on the SCP Market Reaction Factor with respect to the Russell Microcap Index. We strive to maintain positive portfolio exposure to these three factors over long-term time horizons to capture factor efficacy. Please see our quarterly fact sheet, available at [www.seizertcapital.com](http://www.seizertcapital.com), for a graphical representation of these exposures.



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## Past performance does not guarantee future results.

Gross composite performance figures shown are based on time-weighted rates of return, and are net of transaction costs. The net composite performance figures shown reflect gross performance less investment management fees, net of transaction costs. Our advisory fees are disclosed in Form ADV, Part 2 A. All returns reflect the reinvestment of investment income (dividends and/or interest) and capital gains. The Russell Microcap Index is a capitalization weighted index of 2,000 stocks that captures the smallest 1,000 companies in the Russell 2000 Index, plus 1,000 smaller U.S.-based public stocks. Estimates and certain information contained in this commentary are based upon research and should not be considered as investment advice. Index performance information was furnished by sources deemed reliable and is believed to be accurate, but not guaranteed and the information is subject to correction. The information provided should not be considered a specific recommendation to purchase or sell any securities and is subject to change without any notice.

## Attribution

Attribution information is based on a representative portfolio which is an account in the composite that we believe closely reflects current portfolio management style for this strategy. Gross performance is not a consideration in the selection of the representative portfolio. We believe these effects are representative of other accounts in the composite as they are managed in a very similar manner however the portfolio shown may differ from that of the composite. Sector weightings, contribution to return, allocation effect, selection + interaction and total effect may vary for each client in the strategy due to asset size, market conditions, client guidelines and diversity of portfolio holdings. The average weight of a position or group reflects the average value of the position or group relative to all of the positions or groups in the portfolio. The total return is the rate of return from changes in market value (price return) and earned income, such as dividends. The contribution to return is calculated by multiplying the beginning weight of a security by the portfolio or benchmark return. The allocation effect is the portion of portfolio positive or negative return attributed to sector weighting decision relative to the benchmark. The selection + interaction effect is the portion of portfolio excess return attributable to individual security selection and relative sector weight decisions. The returns represent past performance. Past performance does not guarantee future results. The strategy composite returns and attribution returns may not match due to the different data sources for these returns and may be higher or lower than actual composite results. Composite performance is obtained from Firm's portfolio accounting system whereas attribution returns are obtained from a third party system. Please note that the returns from the third party system are not audited for GIPS compliance and are for reference only.

The **SCP Valuation Factor** is a weighted aggregate of over 20 components that are ranked relative to the Russell Microcap benchmark. This ranking ranges from 1 to 100 in percentile format, with lower values (less than the 50th percentile) being more attractive relative to the benchmark. We believe this best represents our effort to maintain a favorable Valuation exposure to characteristics relative to the Russell Microcap Index.

The **SCP Quality Factor** is a weighted aggregate of over 20 components that are ranked relative to the Russell Microcap benchmark. This ranking ranges from 1 to 100 in percentile format, with lower values (less than the 50th percentile) being more attractive relative to the benchmark. We believe this best represents our effort to maintain a favorable Quality exposure to characteristics relative to the Russell Microcap Index.

The **SCP Market Reaction Factor** is a weighted aggregate of over 10 components that are ranked relative to the Russell Microcap benchmark. This ranking ranges from 1 to 100 in percentile format, with lower values (less than the 50th percentile) being more attractive relative to the benchmark. We believe this best represents our effort to maintain a favorable Market Reaction exposure to characteristics relative to the Russell Microcap Index.

SCP Factors are built from numerous underlying components that are then scored and ranked with respect to the Russell Microcap Index. The information provided is based on actual data and combined to show the back-tested compounded return of market factors. Back-tested performance is not actual performance, but is hypothetical.

## DISCLOSURE FOR HYPOTHETICAL CUMULATIVE COMPOUND RETURN OF MARKET FACTORS – Exhibit 1

Back-tested performance is NOT an indicator of future actual results and cannot be guaranteed. The results reflect performance of a strategy that do NOT represent returns that any investor actually attained. The strategy was not historically offered to investors by Seizert Capital Partners and is not currently available for investment. The back-test presents return data from a hypothetical portfolio in which stocks are selected using criterion similar to those used in SCP's investment process. EXHIBIT 1 was created using Bloomberg's Equity Screening and Equity Back-test tools to demonstrate the one quarter efficacy of an equal weighted portfolio that was both 1) In the Russell Microcap Index 2) in the top (best) 20% (labeled Quintile 1) or bottom (worst) 20% (labeled Quintile 5) of the factors of SCP Value, SCP Quality, or SCP Market Reaction. These SCP Factors are built from numerous underlying components that are then scored and ranked with respect to the Russell Microcap Index. This yields a cross section of the SCP Factor within the Russell Microcap Index of anywhere from 300 to 400 stocks that are then equal weighted and rebalanced on a quarterly basis. The information provided is based on actual data and combined to show the back-tested compounded return of market factors. The back-tested performance is hypothetical and does not represent actual trading and there are no fees or transaction costs factored into the results shown. No cash balance or cash flow is included in the calculation. The results are run on an equal weighted quarterly rebalance from 12/31/2018 to 03/31/2019. The Russell Microcap Index is a capitalization weighted index of 2,000 stocks that captures the smallest 1,000 companies in the Russell 2000 Index, plus 1,000 smaller U.S.-based public stocks. The Russell Microcap Equal Weighted Index performance is shown for illustrative purposes only. Index returns include reinvestment of income and do not reflect investment advisory fees that would reduce performance in an actual client account. The index is unmanaged and unavailable for direct investment. Back-tested performance does not represent actual performance and should not be interpreted as an indication of such performance. Actual performance for client accounts may be materially lower. Back-tested performance results have certain inherent limitations. Such results do not represent the impact that material economic and market factors might have on an investment adviser's decision-making process if the adviser were actually managing client money. Back-tested performance also differs from actual performance because it is achieved through the retroactive application of model data designed with the benefit of hindsight. As a result, the models theoretically may be changed from time to time and the effect on performance results could be either favorable or unfavorable. No representations and warranties are made as to the reasonableness of the assumptions.