



Octopus AIM VCT plc

Data as at 30 April 2019

About the Product

Octopus AIM VCT plc is a Venture Capital Trust (VCT) which aims to provide shareholders with attractive tax-free dividends and long-term capital appreciation by investing in a diverse portfolio of predominantly AIM-quoted companies.

Risk is spread by investing in a number of different businesses across a range of activities.

Key Facts

Net Assets	£128.3m
Market Cap	£120.0m
Shares Issued	120.6m
Launch Date	1998
Benchmark	FTSE AIM All-Share TR
Number of Holdings	78
Year End	28 February

Current Price

NAV per share*	105.7p
Share price (mid)	99.5p

*NAV reported weekly.

Share buybacks: the VCT can buy back up to 10% of the share capital annually at a 5% discount to NAV, subject to Board approval.

Directors

Roger Smith (Chairman)
Joanne Parfrey
Neal Ransome
Stephen Hazell-Smith

Fees & Codes

Management Fee	2.00%
Total Expense Ratio*	2.00%

ISIN Code	GB0034202076
Sedol Code	3420207
Ticker (LSE)	OOA

*Calculated as at 28 February 2018

Performance Overview

Five year performance (%)



	YTD	3 years	5 years	Calendar Year		
				2018	2017	2016
Octopus AIM VCT NAV TR	5.77	15.49	9.80	-10.02	14.27	5.91
■ Octopus AIM VCT Share Price TR	4.74	13.99	13.09	-8.72	11.96	7.83
■ FTSE AIM All-Share TR	13.34	38.83	26.09	-17.12	25.97	16.07
■ FTSE All-Share TR	12.35	33.33	35.16	-9.47	13.10	16.75

Discrete yearly performance (%)

Year to 30 April	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Octopus AIM VCT NAV TR	-7.60	5.86	17.56	5.11	-7.82
Octopus AIM VCT Share Price TR	-8.97	7.40	16.60	6.61	-6.95
FTSE AIM All-Share TR	-6.73	10.65	34.53	-2.08	-7.25
FTSE All-Share TR	2.62	8.16	20.14	-5.69	7.48

Source: Lipper and Octopus Investments. VCT performance is shown as a simple return comparison between the NAV at the beginning of the period and the NAV, plus any dividends paid out, at the end of the period. VCT share price performance shown includes reinvested dividends. NAV is stated after deduction of fees.

Key Risks

- Your capital is at risk and you may not get back the full amount invested.
- Tax treatment depends on individual circumstances and may be subject to change.
- Investments quoted on AIM are likely to fall and rise in value more than shares listed on the main market of the London Stock Exchange. They may also be harder to sell.
- The availability of tax reliefs also depends on the investee companies maintaining their qualifying status.
- Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns.



Investment Enquiries

To speak to any of our fund managers, please call:

0800 316 2394

info@octopusinvestments.com

About the Team

The Octopus Smaller Companies team has a combined experience of more than 100 years. The team, which includes Richard Power, Kate Tidbury, Chris McVey, Edward Griffiths, Stephen Henderson, Mark Symington, Dominic Weller, Jessica Sweeney and Charles Lucas, manage over £1.6 billion in AIM-quoted companies, and are also responsible for Octopus AIM VCT plc, Octopus AIM VCT2 plc and FP Octopus UK Micro Cap Growth Fund.

Awards



Monthly Commentary

April saw a continuation of the equity market rally experienced over the first quarter of this year, following a volatile 2018. During the month, the net asset value of Octopus AIM VCT plc rose 4.42%. This was against a market backdrop that saw the FTSE AIM All-Share Index rise by 5.90% and the FTSE All-Share Index increase 2.68%, all on a total return basis.

Shares in technical patent and IP translator, **RWS Holdings plc**, rose 25.3% after the company announced that trading in the first half of the year was ahead of expectations. Earnings upgrades were principally driven by 13% organic growth in Intellectual Property services, following significant business wins and an increase in outsourcing work from patent attorneys. Global identify verification business, **GB Group plc**, confirmed that profits would be ahead of expectations and up 20% on the previous year, leading to a share price increase of 21.6%. The outperformance was largely attributed to Idology, where revenue contribution over the 1.5 months of ownership was well ahead of initial forecasts, though all three of the Group's main global service lines delivered solid performance. Software and consultancy provider to the financial services industry, **First Derivatives plc**, grew 17.8% after confirming that results would be in line with market expectations. Optical component manufacturer, **Gooch & Housego plc**, confirmed that it was trading in line with full year guidance. This was reassuring given February's downbeat trading update, and the shares went 17.3% higher as a result. **Enteq Upstream** announced a year end trading update, confirming that profits will be materially ahead of expectations. The shares rose 20.4%.

We had strong news flow from several healthcare focused companies. Stem cell expert, **Reneuron**, licensed rights to its CTX and hRPC cell therapy programmes to Fosun Pharma for the Chinese market. The company is to receive upfronts and total milestones worth up to £80 million. Contract research organisation, **Ergomed**, announced revenue increases of 15% and order backlog increases of 20% to £109 million, underpinning 2019 targets. Antibody specialist, **Fusion Antibodies**, also updated the market on trading and saw significant increases in orders and revenues in fiscal year second half 2019. **Creo Medical** released final results in line with management expectations while the company is building a platform for future growth.

5-Year Dividend History

Pay Date	Type	Dividend
24 Jul 2014	Final	3.00p
15 Jan 2015	Interim	2.50p
07 Aug 2015	Special	4.00p
07 Aug 2015	Final	2.80p
14 Jan 2016	Interim	2.50p
22 Jul 2016	Final	2.50p
20 Jan 2017	Interim	2.50p
04 Aug 2017	Final	3.00p
19 Jan 2018	Interim	2.50p
20 Jul 2018	Final	3.00p
18 Jan 2019	Interim	2.50p

The Board targets a minimum dividend of 2.5p each half year with the final adjusted annually, based on the year-end share price, so that shareholders receive either 5p per annum or a 5% yield, whichever is greater at the time.

Portfolio Analysis

Top Ten Holdings (%)

GB Group	5.0
Breedon	3.9
Learning Technologies Group	3.4
Craneware	2.9
Quixant	2.6
Staffline Group	2.5
Mattioli Woods	2.4
Brooks Macdonald	2.1
Creo Medical Group	1.7
RWS Holdings	1.5

Total 28.0

Top Ten Sectors (%)

Software & Computer Services	17.3
Support Services	9.4
Pharmaceuticals & Biotechnology	8.1
Specialty & Other Finance	4.5
Health	4.3
Construction & Building	3.9
Technology Hardware	3.5
Telecommunication Services	3.5
Electronic & Electrical	3.4
Media & Entertainment	2.8

Total 60.7

Glossary

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A representative portfolio of securities created to represent a particular market or a portion of it.

Net Asset Value (NAV)

The price-per-share of a fund or other investment. The per-share amount of the fund is based on the total value of all the securities in its portfolio, any liabilities the fund has and the number of fund shares outstanding.

Total Return (TR)

The gain or loss derived from an investment over a specified period of time. This figure includes interest, capital gains, dividends, and income distributions realised over that time period.

Important Information

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