# **HSZ** China Fund

Figures as of Net Asset Value December 31, 2012

Value USD 118.15, CHF 84.04, EUR 114.85

Fund Size USD 114.5 million Inception Date\* May 27, 2003
Cumulative Return Annualized Return 13.4% in USD

\* The track record is the combination of two consecutive track records of China Investment Corporation (CIC) and HSZ China Fund (HCF). From May 27, 2003 to November 17, 2006 it is the performance of CIC, a trust account managed by HSZ (Hong Kong) Limited for listed Chinese equities. Since the launch of HCF on November 17, 2006 it is the performance of HCF.



Performance				
	December	YTD	1 Year	Nov 17, 06
USD Class	4.1%	19.9%	19.9%	18.2%
CHF Class	2.5%	16.3%	16.3%	(16.0%)
EUR Class	2.5%	17.0%	17.0%	14.9%

Largest Holdings	
China Merchants Bank	6.9%
Ping An Insurance	6.6%
Wharf Holdings	6.0%
AAC Technologies	5.8%
Belle International	5.7%
Golden Eagle Retail	5.5%

Exposure	
Consumer Discretionary	31.5%
Financials	30.8%
Industrials	15.6%
Consumer Staples	13.3%
Energy	3.1% 💳
Cash	2.7% 💻

## Newsletter December 2012

- China's annual conference emphasizes urbanization quality
- Macau gaming revenue reaches a new record in December
- Baidu debuts a new Siri-like app for smartphones in China
- Chow Sang Sang sees an improving sales trend

Chinese equities had a strong run in December, helped by the steadily improving macro environment in China and the tactical resolution of the US fiscal cliff. China's official PMI was flat at 50.6 in December, indicating a steady pace of expansion. Thanks to better domestic demand and restocking process, industrial production growth recovered steadily by 0.5 percentage point to 10.1 percent in November. Retail sales also edged up further to 14.9 percent. CPI remained within the comfort zone, growing at 2.0 percent. The annual central economic work conference was held on December 15-16. While maintaining continuity and stability in macroeconomic policies, the new leaders pledged to promote urbanization as an important driver of growth and to improve its quality, potentially through areas like household registration and healthcare systems, which bodes well for consumption and spending on social welfare system.

Sands China stood to benefit from the strong growth in gaming revenue in December. According to the Statistics and Census Service Department in Macau, the gaming revenue reached a new record and increased by 20 percent year over year to MOP 28.2 billion. Assuming the mass market was up 30 percent in December, it would imply a decent growth of 15 percent in the VIP segment, which is much better than the flattish growth as expected by the market. The extension of Guangzhou-Zhuhai Intercity railway also commenced operation on December 31, 2012, which would reduce the travel time from Guangzhou to Gongbei from two hours to 80 minutes. The railway extension should drive more traffic to Macau and Sands China would benefit most given its dominant position in the mass gaming segment.

Baidu released a proprietary voice assistant app for the Android smartphones in early December. Users can use their voice to make phone calls, send SMS, play songs and set alarms. The app also supports location based information queries, such as weather, nearby restaurants, flights and travel routes. Baidu claimed it as the first to apply the deep neural network (DNN) technology which would reduce the recognition error by 25 percent. Given its dominant position in internet search, Baidu is more experienced in voice recognition and the prediction of user's intention which would enhance the accuracy and provide a better user experience.

Chow Sang Sang witnessed a strong recovery in same store sales growth (SSSG) in November and reported a decent SSSG of high teens in Hong Kong and low teens in Mainland China. Luk Fook Jewelry, a peer of Chow Sang Sang, also achieved a robust sales growth in November and the management from Luk Fook expected to deliver 20 percent SSSG during the Christmas holiday. Given the retail outlets of Chow Sang Sang being all self-owned, it has higher fixed costs than peers and thus higher operating leverage on sales improvement.

Name HSZ China Fund Theme Entrepreneurial China Nature

Long-only equity fund, actively

managed

Focus Listed Chinese equities focusing on

privately controlled companies

Structure Swiss investment fund, regulated by

FINMA, open-ended Distributions Income annually Fiscal Year End December 31 Reporting Semi-annually in USD

**Currency Classes** USD, CHF, EUR (all unhedged) Daily issuance and redemption, Trading

based on net asset value

**Fund Manager** Credit Suisse Funds AG Custodian Bank Credit Suisse AG **Investment Manager** HSZ (Hong Kong) Limited

KPMG AG Auditors

Management Fee 1.5% annually

Performance Fee 10% above hurdle rate of 5%, high

water mark

Issuance Fee 0.5% Redemption Fee None

**EUR Class** 

**USD Class** ISIN CH0026828035, Valor 2682803

WKN A0LC13

Bloomberg HSZCHID SW Equity CHF Class ISIN CH0026828068, Valor 2682806

WKN A0LC15

Bloomberg HSZCFCH SW Equity ISIN CH0026828092, Valor 2682809

WKN A0LC14

Bloomberg HSZCHEU SW Equity

Credit Suisse AG Orders via Banks

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## General Information

## **Investment Opportunity**

Once the world's largest trading power, China's gradual decline during the second millennium culminated in the Maoist purgatory. However, since the 1980s economic development has taken center stage. China has become the engine of the fastest growing region in the world attracting substantial foreign investments and developing into the world's manufacturing hub. Furthermore, an increasing middle class is fuelling demand for consumer products. The growth momentum is set to continue as China strives to catch up with mature economies, producing attractive investment opportunities.

#### Investment Strategy

The objective of HSZ China Fund is to create sustained shareholder value by acquiring and managing equity and equity-linked investments in a select number of high-quality companies that are rooted in China. At least two-thirds of the total assets are to be invested in companies which are domiciled in China or participate as holding companies in enterprises domiciled there. At most one-third of the total fund volume can be invested in equity oriented stocks and money market instruments of issuers worldwide. Based on fundamental analysis and a bottom up approach, investment opportunities are identified that are assessed to provide above-average return on invested capital, have strong earnings per share growth and are priced attractively.

### Risk Management

The Chinese stock market has many of the particular risks and characteristics of emerging markets. HSZ (Hong Kong) Limited exerts itself for reducing specific risks by accurately screening and monitoring high quality assets. That is why the long-lived experience of its specialists based locally is invaluable for investors. The fund is well diversified to avoid concentration risk. The weight of each position in the portfolio is subject to a maximum limit of 15%. No portfolio leverage is employed. The fact that HSZ China Fund invests in listed equity provides the investor with a reasonable degree of liquidity.

### Investment Manager

HSZ (Hong Kong) Limited is a Hong Kong based independent investment management company. Its investment team has been managing Asian equity portfolios since 1994.