# **HSZ** China Fund

Figures as of April 29, 2016

Net Asset Value USD 107.21, CHF 80.87, EUR 120.87

Fund Size USD 82.2 million Inception Date\* May 27, 2003 Cumulative Total Return Annualized Total Return 9.5% 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				
	April	YTD	1 Year	Nov 17, 06
USD Class	(2.1%)	(11.5%)	(31.2%)	14.1%
CHF Class	(2.2%)	(14.0%)	(29.0%)	(14.2%)
EUR Class	(2.4%)	(15.1%)	(32.0%)	26.7%

Largest Holdings	
Gree Electric Appliances	7.3%
Yili Company	7.1%
Tencent Holdings	7.0%
Times Electric	6.4%
Kweichow Moutai	5.8%
AAC Technologies	5.8%

Exposure	
TMT	31.5%
Consumer Discretionary	25.5%
Financials	14.7%
Industrials	11.9%
Consumer Staples	9.6%
Cash	2.2% 🔳

# Newsletter April 2016

- Tax reform to start on 1 May
- Yili significantly outperformed Mengniu in FY15
- Times Electric reported 42% net profit growth for 1Q16
- Ping An's VNB growth remained strong at 38% in 1Q16

Tax reform to start on 1 May, with business tax to be replaced by a value added tax (VAT) for construction, real estate, finance and consumer services sectors, which used to contribute 80 percent of China's total business tax. The plan is expected to ease corporate payments by CNY 500 billion this year. Besides, manufacturers, which already operate under VAT structure, will get tax breaks on research and development, encouraging them to innovate and upgrade.

Yili significantly outperformed Mengniu in FY15 in terms of sales growth, gross margin expansion, earnings growth as well as working capital management. Yili reported +10.9%/+11.8% growth in revenue and net profit in comparison to -1.6%/+0.7% growth of its major competitor Mengniu. The outperformance is attributable to Yili's strategy to increase promotion and selling expense in the challenging industry conditions of high inventory, its superior execution ability to launch high-end products and flatter distribution structure. 1Q16 results were also announced with further gross profit margin expansion to a record high level of 41.7% and recurring earnings increased 12.1% year on year.

Times Electric reported 42% net profit growth for 1Q16. Revenue rose by 20% year over year to CNY 2.4 billion thanks to faster delivery of multiple units and subway trains. Gross profit margin continued to increase by 1 percentage point year over year to 39.1% and selling & administrative expense ratio shrank by 1.8 percentage points to 16.4%. As a result the net profit increased by 42% year over year to CNY 567 million. The research and development of 1700V and 3300V IGBT products came to a breakthrough and are being used in certain subway trains and locomotives in China, while the 6500V module is still in the trial program. Times Electric continued to be the market leader in the propulsion system for the railway sector in China with an excellent return on equity.

Ping An's value of new business (VNB) growth remained strong at 38% in 1Q16. Despite higher traditional product reserve due to lower interest rate and equity market headwind where CSI300 Index was -14% in 1Q16 (vs +15% in 1Q15), Ping An's net profit increased 3.7% year on year to 20.7 billion, while the largest Chinese life insurer suffered 57% decline in net profit. Auto premiums rose 17.5% year on year and combined ratio maintained at healthy level of 94.3%. Ping An's book value increased 4% on sequential basis.

Name HSZ China Fund Entrepreneurial China Theme 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 Custodian Bank Investment Manager

Credit Suisse AG HSZ (Hong Kong) Limited

KPMG AG Auditors

Management Fee 1.5% annually

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

water mark

Credit Suisse Funds AG

Issuance Fee 0.5% Redemption Fee None

**USD Class** ISIN CH0026828035, Valor 2682803

WKN AOLC13

Bloomberg HSZCHID SW Equity ISIN CH0026828068, Valor 2682806 CHF Class

WKN A0LC15

Bloomberg HSZCFCH SW Equity **EUR Class** 

ISIN CH0026828092, Valor 2682809

WKN A0LC14

Bloomberg HSZCHEU SW Equity

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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.