## A Sub-Fund of Morgan Stanley Investment Funds

# **US** Permanence Fund



### **Performance Review**

In the three month period ending 30 June 2025, the Fund's Z shares returned 17.31% (net of fees)<sup>1</sup>, while the benchmark returned 10.94%.

The portfolio outperformed the S&P 500 Index this quarter due to favorable stock selection.

### **Market Review**

U.S. large cap equities, as measured by S&P 500 Index, advanced quarter to date. Information Technology, Communication Services and Industrials led benchmark gains, while Energy, Health Care and Real Estate underperformed the benchmark.

While recent changes in US tariff policy have significantly increased uncertainty and overall market volatility, there has been no change to our investment approach. We continue to invest in high quality businesses that have sustainable competitive advantages. The companies we own tend to be more asset light, have lower financial leverage, strong pricing power, attractive unit economics, high margins, solid cash generation capability and the ability to succeed through different market/macro environments. We will continue to carefully consider and monitor fundamental variables, while managing overall portfolio risk and exposures – including geopolitical risk.

# **Portfolio Activity**

QTD outperformance has been primarily driven by favorable stock selection in Information Technology, Industrials and Financials.

## Top contributors QTD include:

- Web performance and security company, Cloudflare
- Building products distribution company, Qxo
- Cryptocurrency exchange, Coinbase Global
- Specialty distributor, Core & Main
- Supplier of lithography equipment, ASML

Top contributor Cloudflare offers a global cloud platform that provides security, performance, and reliability services to the applications of its customers. The company's cloud platform has a proprietary architecture that allows it to scale rapidly to meet customer demands, and its services are easily deployed and enable customers to run their applications without managing expensive and complex network hardware internally. We believe the company benefits primarily from intellectual property and efficient scale related competitive advantages. Cloudflare is poised to capitalize as companies seek high performance, low cost, and secure access to the internet, and developers build an increasing number of applications on Cloudflare's Workers platform. The company reported results that exceeded expectations, driven by strong adoption among larger enterprise customers—a key strategic initiative. Additionally, the company demonstrated improved sales execution and productivity, following recent reorganization efforts.

Contributor Core & Main distributes water, wastewater, storm drainage, and fire protection products and related services to municipalities, private water companies, and professional contractors in the United States. We believe the company benefits from switching costs related competitive advantages, and is well positioned to benefit from aging U.S. water infrastructure as the public and private sector require significant reinvestment. Its shares rose on the back of strong results, driven by solid sales growth and sustained demand in the municipal infrastructure sector.

Conversely, stock selection in Consumer Discretionary, an average sector underweight position in Information Technology and an average sector overweight position in Real Estate detracted most from relative performance.

### Top detractors QTD include:

- Leading luxury products group, LVMH Moet Hennessy
- Streaming platform, Netflix
- Hard surface flooring retailer, Floor & Decor
- Healthcare and Industrial equipment manufacturer, Danaher
- Texas landowner, LandBridge

We attribute the weakness in LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton—the world's leading luxury products group with a diverse portfolio of prestigious brands—to investor concerns around macroeconomic uncertainty. These concerns are primarily driven by potential tariff impacts and the evolving dynamics of the Chinese consumer. We believe the company benefits from brand related

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Source: Morgan Stanley Investment Management Limited. Data as of 30 June 2025.

competitive advantages, and is well positioned to capture an increasing share of global luxury spending due to their best in class collection of brands.

Detractor Danaher is a diversified global designer and manufacturer of leading healthcare, environmental, and industrial equipment. It operates through three segments: Life Sciences, Diagnostics and Environmental & Applied Solutions. We believe the company benefits from efficient scale and brand related competitive advantages, and is well positioned to capitalize due to its strong culture and proprietary operating system, Danaher Business System (DBS), driving continuous operational improvements and innovation as it continues to capture an increasing share across the three segments it operates in. Despite reporting healthy overall results, the company's shares were under pressure due to ongoing uncertainties from tariff negotiations. Reduced government funding for certain programs under the DOGE initiative in the U.S., along with decreased funding from China, has placed additional strain on research and academic institutions. These factors have negatively impacted investor sentiment for Life Sciences, Biotechnology, and Diagnostics companies during the quarter.

# **Strategy and Outlook**

Counterpoint Global looks to own a portfolio of unique companies with diverse business drivers, strong competitive advantages and positioning, and healthy secular growth prospects whose market value we believe can increase significantly over the long-term for underlying fundamental reasons, independent of the macro or market environment. We believe having a market outlook can be an anchor. We focus on assessing company prospects over a five year investment horizon. Current portfolio positioning reflects what we believe are the best long-term investment opportunities.

For further information, please contact your Morgan Stanley Investment Management representative.

### **Fund Facts**

| Launch date   | 30 October 2020   |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------|-------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Base currency | U.S. dollars      |  |  |  |  |  |
| Benchmark     | S&P 500 Net Index |  |  |  |  |  |

### Calendar Year Returns (%)

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results.

|                   | YTD   | 2024  | 2023  | 2022   | 2021  | 2020 | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Class Z Shares    | 17.65 | 11.88 | 24.99 | -21.18 | 17.98 |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| S&P 500 Net Index | 6.20  | 25.02 | 26.29 | -18.11 | 28.71 |      |      |      |      |      |      |

All performance data is calculated NAV to NAV, net of fees, and does not take account of commissions and costs incurred on the issue and redemption of shares. The sources for all performance and index data is Morgan Stanley Investment Management ('MSIM Ltd'). Please visit our website www.morganstanley.com/im to see the latest performance returns for the fund's other share classes.

### Share Class Z Risk and Reward Profile

- The Fund may be impacted by movements in the exchange rates between the Fund's currency and the currencies of the Fund's investments.
- The Fund relies on other parties to fulfill certain services, investments or transactions. If these parties become insolvent, it may expose the Fund to financial loss.
- Sustainability factors can pose risks to investments, for example: impact asset values, increased operational costs.
- There may be an insufficient number of buyers or sellers which may affect the Fund's ability to buy or sell securities.
- Investment in China A-Shares via the Shanghai-Hong Kong and Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect programs may also entail additional risks, such as risks linked to the ownership of shares.
- There are increased risks of investing in emerging markets as political, legal and operational systems may be less developed than in developed markets.

- Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results.
   Returns may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations. The value of investments and the income from them can go down as well as up and investors may lose all or a substantial portion of his or her investment.
- The value of the investments and the income from them will vary and there can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objectives.
- Investments may be in a variety of currencies and therefore changes in rates of exchange between currencies may cause the value of investments to decrease or increase.
   Furthermore, the value of investments may be adversely affected by fluctuations in exchange rates between the investor's reference currency and the base currency of the investments.

Please refer to the Prospectus for full risk disclosures, available at www.morganstanleyinvestmentfunds.com. All data as of 30.06.2025 and subject to change daily.

Applications for shares in the Sub-Fund should not be made without first consulting the current Prospectus and the Key

Information Document ("KID") or Key Investor Information Document ("KIID"), which are available in English and in the

language of countries authorized for fund distribution and is available online at Morgan Stanley Investment Funds Webpages or free of charge from the Registered Office at European Bank and Business Centre, 6B route de Trèves, L-2633 Senningerberg, R.C.S. Luxemburg B 29 192.

The summary of investor rights is available in the aforementioned languages and website location under the General Literature section.

Information in relation to sustainability aspects of the Fund is available in English online at: Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation.

If the management company of the relevant Fund decides to terminate its arrangement for marketing that Fund in any EEA country where it is registered for sale, it will do so in accordance with the UCITS rules.

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The use of leverage increases risks, such that a relatively small movement in the value of an investment may result in a disproportionately large movement, unfavourable as well as favourable, in the value of that investment and, in turn, the value of the Fund.

Investment in the Fund concerns the acquisition of units or shares in a fund, and not in a given underlying asset such as building or shares of a company, as these are only the underlying assets owned.

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Charts and graphs provided herein are for illustrative purposes only and subject to change.

### **INDEX INFORMATION**

The **Standard & Poor's 500** Index (**S&P 500**) measures the performance of the large cap segment of the U.S. equities market, covering approximately 80% of the U.S. equities market. The Index includes 500 leading companies in leading industries of the U.S. economy.

The index is unmanaged and does not include any expenses, fees or sales charges. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

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Institucionales" of the Securities Market Public Registry (
Registro Público del Mercado de Valores) maintained by the
Superintendencia del Mercado de Valores (SMV), and the
offering of the Fund interests in Peru only to institutional
investors will be subject to the supervision of the SMV, as well
as any transfers of the Fund interests shall be subject to the
limitations contained in the Securities Market Law and the
regulations issued thereunder mentioned before, under which
the Fund interests may only be transferred between
institutional investors under Article 27 of the Reglamento 1 and
Reglamento 2. If neither the Fund nor the interests in the Fund
have been and will not be registered in Peru under Decreto
Legislativo 862 and under Decreto Legislativo 861 referenced
above, nor they will be subject to a public offering directed
to institutional investors under the Reglamento 1, and will be

offered to institutional investors only (as defined in article 8 of the Securities Market Law) pursuant to a private placement, according to article 5 of the Securities Market Law, the interests in the Fund will not be registered in the Securities Market Public Registry maintained by the **SMV**, and the offering of the Fund interests in Peru to institutional investors nor the Fund will be subject to the supervision of the SMV, and any transfers of the Fund interests shall be subject to the limitations contained in the Securities Market Law and the regulations issued thereunder mentioned before, under which the Fund interests may only be transferred between institutional investors.