



Select Growth

Quarterly Report
September 30, 2025



SANDS CAPITAL

Contents

STRATEGY UPDATE	3
COMMENTARY	6
CONTRIBUTION ANALYSIS	11
STEWARDSHIP	12
DISCLOSURES	15
FIRM OVERVIEW	16

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AI can create "winners" and "losers" in markets. "Winners" are those who can leverage AI to enhance productivity and efficiency. "Losers" may include jobs involving routine tasks that are at risk of automation.

GIPS Reports found [here](#).

[Notice](#) for non-US Investors.

Disclosures and definitions found [here](#).

On the Cover

The Spheres are three spherical conservatories that are part of the Amazon headquarters campus in Seattle, Washington. Designed to serve as an employee workspace, The Spheres house more than 40,000 plants consisting of 400 different species. Amazon has been a Select Growth portfolio business since 2015.

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Select Growth (USD)

Quarterly Report - September 30, 2025

OVERVIEW

Select Growth focuses primarily on U.S. businesses at the forefront of the most vital areas of positive structural change in our economy. These businesses are built on disruptive innovation, and generate growth by inspiring profound change within existing industries or creating entirely new ones.

INVESTMENT CRITERIA

1. Sustainable above-average earnings growth
2. Leadership position in a promising business space
3. Significant competitive advantage/unique business franchise
4. Clear mission and value-added focus
5. Financial strength
6. Rational valuation relative to the market and business prospects

KEY ATTRIBUTES

CONCENTRATED AND CONVICTION WEIGHTED

30

Businesses

58%

Top Ten Weight

LONG-TERM INVESTMENT HORIZON

29%

Turnover-Annual Avg.

5+ Yrs

Expected Holding Period

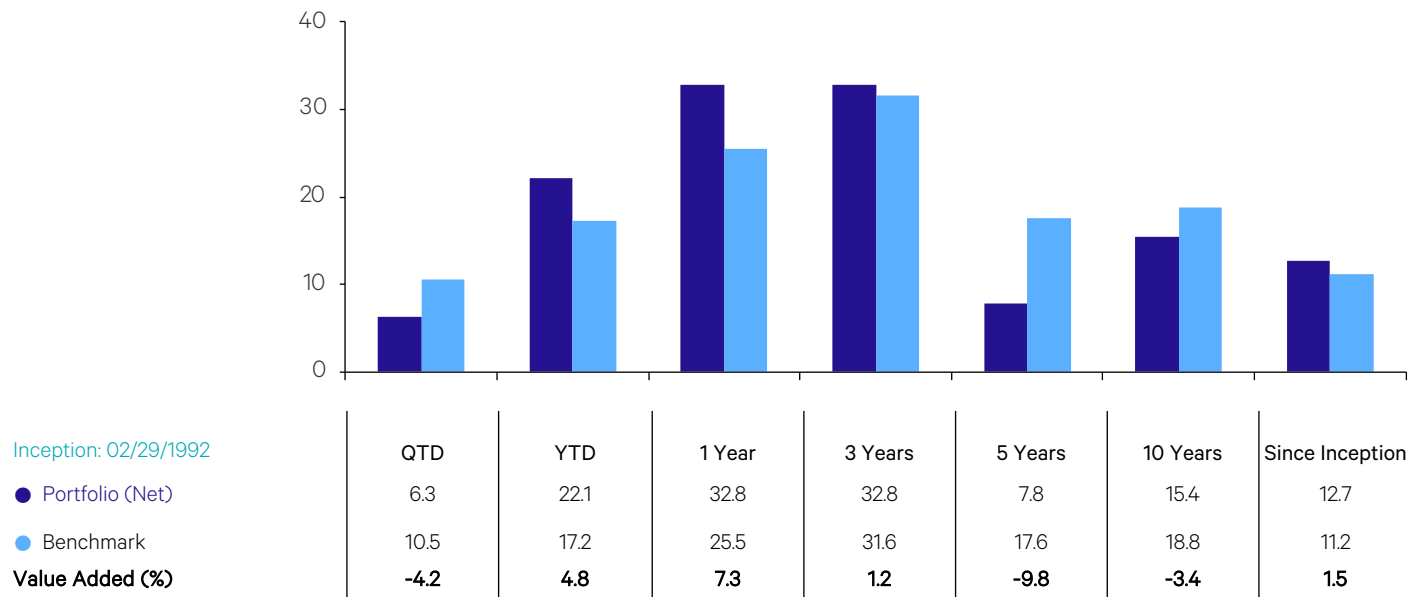
GROWTH-ORIENTED

28%

Sands Capital Long-Term
EPS Growth Estimate

INVESTMENT RESULTS (%)

Select Growth vs Russell 1000 Growth Index



CALENDAR YEAR RETURNS (%)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	YTD
Portfolio (Net)	-7.1	35.1	6.8	33.3	71.4	4.9	-49.1	52.0	24.3	22.1
Benchmark	7.1	30.2	-1.5	36.4	38.5	27.6	-29.1	42.7	33.4	17.2
Value Added (%)	-14.2	4.9	8.3	-3.1	32.9	-22.7	-20.0	9.4	-9.1	4.8

Inception date is 2/29/1992. Returns over one year are annualized. The investment results shown are net of advisory fees and expenses and reflect the reinvestment of dividends and any other earnings. The investment results are those of the Select Growth Tax Exempt Institutional Equity Composite. Net of fee performance was calculated using Select Growth Tax Exempt Institutional Equity Composite's actual fees and performance fees if applicable. Past performance is not indicative of future results. GIPS Reports found [here](#).

PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS

	Portfolio	Benchmark
Portfolio Businesses	30	391
Active Share	55%	n/a
5-Year Historical EPS Growth	41%	31%
Consensus Forward P/E - Next 12 mos.	34x	31x
Strategy Assets	\$14.1B	n/a
Weighted Avg. Market Cap (USD)	\$1.5T	\$2.0T
Median Market Cap (USD)	\$106.9B	\$23.7B
Turnover - Trailing 12 mos.	51%	n/a

RETURN & VOLATILITY METRICS

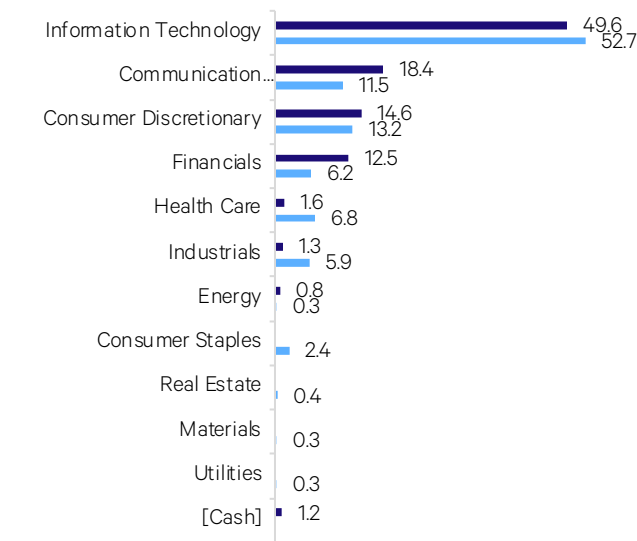
(Trailing 5 Years Net of Fees)	Portfolio	Benchmark
Annualized Excess Return	-9.8%	n/a
Beta	1.26	1
Information Ratio	-0.8	n/a
R-Squared	81.8%	100.0%
Sharpe Ratio	0.2	0.8
Standard Deviation	26.2%	18.8%
Tracking Error	12.2%	n/a
Up Capture	97.8%	100%
Down Capture	127.7%	100%

TOP TEN HOLDINGS (57.6% OF ASSETS)

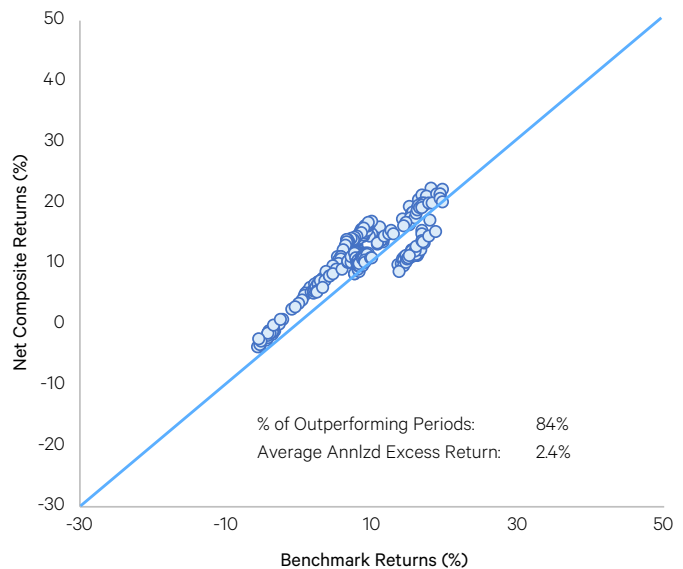
Company	Sector	Domicile	Portfolio(%)	Owned Since
 NVIDIA	Information Technology	United States	12.8	2022
 Microsoft	Information Technology	United States	8.2	2023
 Meta	Communication Services	United States	6.6	2023
 Amazon	Consumer Discretionary	United States	6.4	2015
 Broadcom	Information Technology	United States	4.9	2025
 AppLovin	Information Technology	United States	4.5	2024
 Taiwan Semiconductor	Information Technology	Taiwan	4.4	2025
 Sea	Consumer Discretionary	Singapore	3.4	2019
 Nu Holdings	Financials	Brazil	3.2	2023
 Spotify	Communication Services	Sweden	3.2	2024

SECTOR EXPOSURE

● Portfolio ● Benchmark



ROLLING TEN YEAR INVESTMENT RESULTS*



Source: Benchmark data sourced from Benchmark providers. Company domicile, sector, industry, regional, and country classifications, where applicable, are sourced from MSCI. Other data sourced from FactSet. * Average annualized excess returns are calculated based on monthly rolling periods beginning 2/29/1992 (composite inception date). The investment results shown are net of advisory fees and expenses and reflect the reinvestment of dividends and any other earnings. Investment results presented are those of the Select Growth Tax Exempt Institutional Equity Composite. Net of fee performance was calculated using Select Growth Tax Exempt Institutional Equity Composite's actual fees and performance fees if applicable. Past performance is not indicative of future results. GIPS Reports found [here](#).

PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS BY SECTOR

SECTOR/COMPANY	GICS INDUSTRY	DOMICILE	PORTFOLIO (%)	BENCHMARK (%)	OWNED SINCE
Communication Services			18.4	11.5	
Alphabet	Interactive Media & Services	United States	2.9	5.1	2025
Meta Platforms	Interactive Media & Services	United States	6.6	3.8	2023
Netflix	Entertainment	United States	2.7	1.6	2015
Roblox	Entertainment	United States	3.0	0.3	2024
Spotify	Entertainment	Sweden	3.2	0.3	2024
Consumer Discretionary			14.6	13.2	
Amazon	Broadline Retail	United States	6.4	4.2	2015
Carvana	Specialty Retail	United States	2.5	0.2	2025
DoorDash	Hotels Restaurants & Leisure	United States	2.2	0.3	2020
Sea	Broadline Retail	Singapore	3.4	-	2019
Energy			0.8	0.3	
Venture Global	Oil Gas & Consumable Fuels	United States	0.8	-	2025
Financials			12.5	6.2	
Arthur J. Gallagher	Insurance	United States	1.9	0.0	2025
Block	Financial Services	United States	2.4	0.0	2020
Intercontinental Exchange	Capital Markets	United States	2.4	-	2024
Nu Holdings	Banks	Brazil	3.2	0.2	2023
Visa	Financial Services	United States	2.5	1.9	2008
Health Care			1.6	6.8	
Dexcom	Health Care Equipment & Supplies	United States	0.8	0.1	2020
Ultragenyx Pharmaceutical	Biotechnology	United States	0.8	0.0	2023
Industrials			1.3	5.9	
Axon Enterprise	Aerospace & Defense	United States	1.3	0.2	2024
Information Technology			49.6	52.6	
AppLovin	Software	United States	4.5	0.5	2024
Atlassian	Software	United States	1.2	0.1	2018
Broadcom	Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment	United States	4.9	4.7	2025
Cloudflare	IT Services	United States	1.7	0.2	2021
Datadog	Software	United States	1.7	0.1	2022
Microsoft	Software	United States	8.2	11.6	2023
NVIDIA	Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment	United States	12.8	13.1	2022
Oracle	Software	United States	1.9	1.5	2025
Samsara	Software	United States	2.6	0.0	2024
ServiceNow	Software	United States	2.8	0.6	2016
Shopify	IT Services	Canada	2.9	-	2021
Taiwan Semiconductor	Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment	Taiwan	4.4	-	2025
Cash			1.2		

Source: Sands Capital, FactSet, MSCI. Data presented is that of the Select Growth Tax Exempt Institutional Equity Composite. The index represented will differ in characteristics, holdings, and sector weightings from that of the composite. The index does not contain cash and does not reflect the reinvestment of dividends. Rounding may cause figures to vary from 100.0%. GIPS Reports found [here](#).

Commentary

MARKET ENVIRONMENT

U.S. large-cap growth equities, as measured by the Russell 1000 Growth Index, extended the rebound that began in April. Gains were supported by resilient corporate earnings, investor enthusiasm around artificial intelligence (AI), and growing expectations for Federal Reserve policy easing. Beneath the surface, however, signs of economic softness and mounting uncertainty contrasted with the market's strength.

The quarter opened with strong momentum, as earnings broadly exceeded expectations. The S&P 500 Index posted more than 12 percent year-over-year earnings growth—over twice the rate forecast at the start of the season—with more than 80 percent of companies beating consensus estimates. The Magnificent Seven again stood out, with the group (excluding NVIDIA) delivering 26 percent earnings growth, led by a reacceleration in cloud services, advertising, and ecommerce.

The AI investment cycle remained a dominant theme. Hyperscalers raised 2026 capex forecasts by more than \$80 billion, pushing industry-wide spending expectations above \$430 billion. Investors welcomed this wave of investment, particularly as evidence of improving monetization emerged—for example, at Meta Platforms, where AI-powered tools drove stronger engagement and advertising returns.

Enthusiasm faded mid-quarter following reports of limited productivity gains and a muted GPT-5 launch. Confidence rebounded later in the month, however, after Broadcom posted strong results and Oracle announced contracts to deliver more than \$500 billion in computing power over the next five years.

Economic data sent more mixed signals. August nonfarm payrolls increased by just 22,000, the weakest print since 2020, and revisions pointed to slower job creation earlier in the year. The unemployment rate edged up to 4.3 percent, while inflation reaccelerated slightly in August, led by “supercore” categories such as services ex-housing.

Investors viewed the slowdown as sufficient to justify monetary easing without signaling imminent recession.

Over the quarter, expectations for rate cuts increased, ultimately confirmed by the Federal Reserve's 25-basis point reduction at its September meeting.

As the rally progressed, performance became increasingly concentrated in higher-volatility equities, indicating a rise in speculative activity. Morgan Stanley highlighted a notable uptick in call-option volumes alongside renewed strength in retail-favored names. Market breadth narrowed, with fewer than half of Nasdaq 100 constituents trading above their 50-day moving averages by quarter-end. Meanwhile, software and non-AI cyclical stocks lagged amid softening demand signals, while AI infrastructure providers—particularly semiconductor businesses—delivered some of the strongest returns.



Are We in an AI Bubble?

Technological transformation often breeds bubbles. Sr. Portfolio Manager Thomas H. Trentman, CFA, discusses how investors can best read the signposts.

[Watch now.](#)

INVESTMENT RESULTS AND ATTRIBUTION

Positioning within the Magnificent Seven was the primary driver of poor security selection and relative underperformance. While this positioning had contributed meaningfully to outperformance in the first half of the year, performance leadership in this cohort reversed in the third quarter. Underweights in three large benchmark holdings weighed on returns relative to the index.

The portfolio's holdings in businesses viewed as key enablers of AI were strong contributors to absolute returns. However, this exposure modestly weighed on relative results, as Select Growth maintained an underweight to the index's exposure to AI and two mega-cap companies that emerged as perceived AI-beneficiaries in the quarter.

Consumer internet and software holdings helped offset this weakness. Consumer internet names benefited from idiosyncratic growth drivers in ecommerce, advertising, and gaming, with AI-enabled personalization and content recommendation contributing to stronger business results.

Software contributed positively overall, though headline returns obscured pronounced dispersion within the sector. A narrow cohort of infrastructure and cybersecurity providers drove gains, while many other segments—particularly horizontal application software—remained weighed down by uncertainty surrounding AI's long-term impact. Key concerns included mounting pressure on seat-based pricing models and fears that generative AI could reduce barriers to entry, eroding incumbents' competitive moats.

These views are difficult to disprove in the near term. At the same time, many software companies remain in a deceleration phase from the peak growth of 2020 and 2021. This combination has pressured valuations, compounded by capital rotation into perceived safe havens such as semiconductors and AI-exposed hardware.

We agree that AI represents a paradigm-shifting force, but we believe the market has, in many cases, overstated its risks for software. We also see meaningful opportunity for incumbents to use AI as a business accelerant, and early evidence is emerging. In this bifurcated environment, we remain focused on seeking to identify the best growth businesses while selectively taking contrarian positions in those we believe have been unfairly categorized as losers.

We continue to own software businesses in infrastructure, security, and vertical subcategories—such as Axon Enterprise, Cloudflare, Datadog, Samsara, and Shopify—where AI disruption risk is limited and adoption is a tailwind. Among horizontal application software holdings—Atlassian and ServiceNow—we believe both are positioned to use AI to strengthen their businesses, and that disruption fears have created attractive risk-reward opportunities.

With this in mind, we continue to test our assumptions as research uncovers new insights.



Select Growth Quarterly Strategy Review

Sr. Portfolio Manager Thomas H. Trentman, CFA shares insights on the markets, Select Growth's current positioning, and where we see long-term opportunities.

Watch the replay until November 21, 2025.

CONTRIBUTORS

The top individual absolute contributors to Select Growth's results were AppLovin, NVIDIA, Taiwan Semiconductor, Roblox, and Broadcom.

AppLovin is one of the leading providers of advertising solutions for mobile game developers. Second-quarter growth accelerated, with revenues rising 77 percent year over year and EBITDA margins reaching 81 percent—a roughly 900 basis point expansion compared with a year ago. Our focus remains on the significant opportunity for AppLovin to evolve into the fourth major direct-response advertising platform by extending its reach beyond gaming into ecommerce. The company advanced toward this goal with plans to launch a self-serve ad manager in beta during the fourth quarter, with a broader rollout expected in early 2026. Self-serve is a defining feature of successful advertising platforms, and AppLovin is pursuing an AI-first approach that emphasizes automation, agents, and AI-driven creative tools rather than relying on a large sales force.

NVIDIA is a semiconductor company helping to enable the future of computing. The business delivered another strong quarter, with demand continuing to outpace supply. Excluding China, its datacenter segment accelerated from 64 percent year-over-year growth last quarter to 73 percent this quarter, with guidance implying a further increase to 84 percent. NVIDIA sustained growth even as China's contribution to datacenter revenue fell from about 10 percent to nearly zero. For now, China remains a source of potential upside. Looking ahead, the upcoming Vera Rubin "superchip" is expected to significantly boost compute performance. This could expand use cases and support higher pricing, as NVIDIA typically charges a percentage of the incremental performance gain. In September, OpenAI and NVIDIA announced a strategic partnership to deploy at least 10 gigawatts of NVIDIA systems for OpenAI's next-generation AI infrastructure. The first phase of this deployment is expected to go live in 2026 and will use NVIDIA's Vera Rubin platform.

Taiwan Semiconductor (TSMC) is the world's largest producer of leading-edge logic chips by market share. Shares rose following strong quarterly results, raised full-year guidance, and positive signals from the global AI infrastructure buildout. The company continues to benefit from strong AI-related demand and is expanding CoWoS capacity to narrow the gap between supply and demand. Despite currency headwinds and elevated investment

in overseas fabs, gross margins have remained resilient, supported by yield improvements and disciplined pricing. Looking ahead to 2026, we believe TSMC is well positioned to exceed the 16 percent revenue growth expected by consensus. Key drivers include capacity expansion, the launch of a new iPhone with enhanced AI capabilities, and increased outsourcing from Intel. Longer term, we model 20 percent annualized earnings growth through 2029. While AI remains the primary growth engine, we also expect smartphones, PCs, servers, and automotive chips to grow at low-to-mid-teens rates, driven by pricing and rising silicon content.

Roblox is a leading gaming development and distribution platform. A viral garden simulation game, Grow a Garden, fueled outsized growth in the quarter, reaching more than 20 million concurrent users—far above the roughly 1 million average for other popular experiences. This surge helped second-quarter bookings accelerate 51 percent year over year, supported by daily active users and total hours rising 41 percent. Grow a Garden reflects a broader structural shift on Roblox: new experiences are gaining unprecedented traction. We view this trend as healthier than the platform's past reliance on a few mainstay franchises, and it underscores a defining strength of Roblox—the frictionless creation of user-generated content paired with global distribution.

Broadcom is a key enabler of systems scalability and compute growth through ethernet networking and custom accelerators. In the third quarter, Broadcom delivered 63 percent year-over-year growth in AI semiconductor revenues. However, the key accelerator for shares of the business was the news that Broadcom booked \$10 billion in orders to deliver custom semiconductor chip designs to a fourth customer. This will materially impact 2026 revenues and in our view, further solidifies Broadcom's position as the preferred provider of custom AI-chip design services that allows businesses to optimize hardware for their specific workloads.

DETRACTORS

The top individual absolute detractors were Dexcom, ServiceNow, Netflix, Atlassian, and Intercontinental Exchange.

Dexcom is a leading producer of glucose monitors for diabetes management. Shares declined during the quarter, pressured by broader weakness in the medical devices industry and heightened FDA and customer scrutiny of product reliability. Despite these external

pressures, Dexcom continues to execute well following its mid-2024 operational challenges. The second quarter marked its third straight quarter of accelerating year-over-year revenue growth, supported by near-record new patient additions. While management raised 2025 revenue guidance, the increase was more cautious than consensus expected, disappointing investors. We believe this conservative stance creates room for upside in the second half of 2025. Dexcom ended the quarter trading near its all-time low forward earnings multiple, which we view as a disconnect from its growth outlook. Potential catalysts include strong adoption of its newly launched 15-day sensor, expanded Medicare coverage for type-2 non-insulin patients, and clarity on the company's long-range plan. We expect margin leverage from the 15-day sensor should also contribute meaningfully to profitability in 2026.

ServiceNow is the leading provider of enterprise workflow automation software, based on market share. Shares continue to face concerns about potential government spending cuts and the risk that AI could disrupt application software providers. We see no evidence of weakening fundamentals and believe AI is enhancing, rather than pressuring, the business. Second-quarter results were strong, with subscription revenue up 22.5 percent year over year and operating margins expanding 230 basis points. Both measures exceeded consensus by one of the widest margins in recent years. ServiceNow also reported 50 percent year-over-year growth in its AI-enabled Pro Plus product, alongside rising adoption of other AI offerings, including NOW Assist, AI Control Tower, and Workflow Data Fabric.

Netflix is the world's largest producer and distributor of streaming video content, based on content investment and subscriber count. Shares declined in the third quarter after strong first-half performance in 2025 pushed its forward earnings multiple to the highest level since 2022, leading to some profit-taking. Fundamentally, the business continues to execute well. Netflix raised full-year revenue guidance by \$700 million at the high end, citing stronger subscriber growth, improved ad performance, and a weaker U.S. dollar. It also raised operating margin guidance by 1 percentage point to 30 percent. We view this as conservative, given the lack of any significant increase in operating expenses. The guidance implies a slowdown in margin expansion for the second half of 2025, which contrasts with over 6 percentage points of expansion in 2024 and more than 5 percentage points in 2025's first half. Our proprietary survey results continue to validate our thesis, with Netflix leading in engagement, retention, content quality, and perceived value.

Atlassian is a leading software-application vendor that creates tools to enhance team collaboration and productivity. Shares continue to face the overhang of concerns that AI could constrain developer headcount growth or reduce the need for workflow management software. These fears stand in contrast to strong business results, as year-over-year sales growth reaccelerated above its two-year average, driven by robust enterprise adoption, expanding paid seats, and more frequent upgrades. Atlassian also reported 2.3 million monthly active users of its AI products, with platform interactions increasing 20 times compared with a year ago.

Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) is one of the world's largest derivatives exchanges and clearinghouse. The stock lagged the broader market during a period when investors favored businesses with direct exposure to AI. In our view, underlying results were strong, with sales up 10 percent and adjusted earnings per share up 19 percent year over year, both ahead of consensus expectations. Looking ahead, we expect the energy complex to normalize against tougher comparisons following two strong years. Meanwhile, ICE's Mortgage Technology division (IMT) is showing accelerating refinancing activity off a low base, which is driving meaningful improvements in profitability. In our view, these improvements to IMT profitability are more significant and meaningful to the long-term growth case for ICE versus year-to-year volatility in the Exchange segment.

PORTFOLIO ACTIVITY

In the third quarter, our investment actions centered around navigating the AI cycle as our conviction in both the magnitude and sustainability of demand for AI infrastructure increased. Several data points supported this view over the quarter, punctuated by news that Oracle has signed contracts to deliver over \$500 billion in computing power over the next five years.

While AI has been a meaningful driver of Select Growth's absolute returns, we entered the quarter slightly underweight the benchmark exposure. In September, we purchased Oracle and Alphabet to help close this underweight and broaden our exposure to businesses exposed to the development of AI.

We view Oracle as the leading challenger in GPU cloud infrastructure, advantaged by a clean GPU cloud technology stack. Alphabet, meanwhile, is well positioned to capture rising consumer demand for AI, with the resolution of a recent Department of Justice case enabling Google to pursue this opportunity more aggressively.

These additions were funded by trims across a broad range of AI-exposed software and consumer internet businesses.

More detail on our investment thesis for each business is provided in the narratives below.

PURCHASES

Oracle is emerging as a leader in infrastructure for AI workloads. Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI) is moving from a second-tier competitor in the CPU-based cloud infrastructure paradigm to the preeminent infrastructure provider for some of the most significant AI companies. An inflection in large-scale, multi-year customer commitments from AI companies, including OpenAI, demonstrates this shift. While Oracle also has well-established database and enterprise resource planning (ERP) software businesses that account for the majority of current revenues and earnings—and themselves have reasonably attractive growth prospects—the long-term growth case increasingly rests on its cloud infrastructure business.

Alphabet is a global internet company whose principal businesses are Google and YouTube—two of the most-visited websites in the world. The company uses this consumer reach to sell targeted advertising, which benefits from the unique value of search intent data. Advertisers can match consumer demand more precisely, helping drive strong returns on their marketing spend. AI is poised to reshape how people search for information online, creating an opportunity to expand the addressable market. Alphabet appears well-positioned to lead this shift. It can leverage its Chrome browser, AI platform Gemini, and the wide reach of its applications to integrate more intelligent and personalized consumer experiences. These could evolve into AI assistants capable of handling complex queries and directly connecting users to products and services. Amid these shifts, Google Cloud is starting to improve its competitive position. Beyond search and cloud, we are also increasingly optimistic that Alphabet can receive credit from the market for its other dominant and emerging businesses. These include YouTube, as well as technologies such as Waymo. Although still early in commercialization, Waymo benefits from Alphabet's scale and access to data—both critical for training autonomous systems.

SALES

There were no transactions for this period.

OUTLOOK

Looking ahead, investors face a complex set of market crosscurrents. On the one hand, corporate earnings remain robust, the AI investment cycle continues to gather momentum, and broader financial conditions are supportive. On the other hand, signs of market exuberance are emerging, labor market and inflation trends are diverging, and investors continue to scrutinize if AI will present enough near-term monetization to justify current levels of spending.

Amid this complex of competing market dynamics, business fundamentals have overcome a challenging macroeconomic backdrop to support the advance in equity markets. Earnings expectations have been revised upward, and growth has reaccelerated in the mega-capitalization businesses that heavily influence markets.

As markets have advanced, the AI secular growth theme has increasingly converged with the largest companies. Market leadership has narrowed, and equities have reached record highs, with the S&P 500 adding \$15 trillion in market capitalization—roughly half of U.S. GDP—since April. AI-related capital expenditures are now becoming a meaningful contributor to domestic economic growth.

This growing reliance on AI presents both opportunity and potential risk. History suggests that technology paradigm shifts can drive transformative productivity gains and create new market leaders. Yet they have also tended to spur overinvestment, compress profitability, and push valuations to levels that embed unrealistic expectations.

Given the economy's rising dependence on AI and historically high household equity ownership, any downturn could be amplified.

We believe this duality requires careful portfolio construction. Our approach is to maintain meaningful exposure to AI beneficiaries, but to do so through businesses with strong fundamentals, improving monetization, durable competitive positions, and earnings expectations that we view as conservative.

We remain mindful of our mandate to deliver full-cycle performance—participating in the upside while protecting against significant drawdowns. With this in mind, we are constructing a portfolio that balances exposure to AI with businesses less correlated to the theme, providing diversification as the cycle matures.

We will adjust exposures as our view on the AI cycle evolves, drawing on more than 30 years of growth investing experience. To date, our research indicates that demand for AI infrastructure and services continues to exceed supply. Even so, we are closely monitoring indicators such as GPU pricing, payback periods, chip packaging trends, model improvements, and user adoption for signs of a potential downturn.

As active, long-term investors, we believe periods of profound change create the best opportunities to fulfill our mission: to add value and enhance our clients' wealth with prudence over time.

Contribution Analysis

CONTRIBUTION ANALYSIS (NET %)

Top Absolute Contributors

Quarter to Date

Company Name	Average Weight	Return	Contribution
AppLovin	2.8	105.2	2.3
NVIDIA	12.7	18.0	2.2
Taiwan Semiconductor	3.8	23.5	0.8
Roblox	2.8	31.6	0.8
Broadcom	4.1	19.8	0.7

Trailing 1 Year

Company Name	Average Weight	Return	Contribution
NVIDIA	10.7	53.0	6.4
Roblox	2.1	212.3	3.1
Cloudflare	2.4	164.6	2.8
Spotify	3.4	88.7	2.7
Netflix	3.2	68.3	2.6

Trailing 3 Year

Company Name	Average Weight	Return	Contribution
NVIDIA	7.7	1435.5	26.6
ServiceNow	6.2	140.4	11.8
Shopify	3.3	448.3	10.4
Netflix	3.3	405.9	9.7
Amazon	7.8	91.0	7.1

Trailing 5 Year

Company Name	Average Weight	Return	Contribution
NVIDIA	4.8	1021.5	25.3
ServiceNow	6.3	86.3	7.3
Microsoft	4.1	98.7	6.9
Netflix	4.3	136.4	5.3
Visa	5.6	73.6	4.5

Bottom Absolute Contributors

Company Name	Average Weight	Return	Contribution
Dexcom	2.6	-23.0	-0.7
ServiceNow	3.9	-10.6	-0.5
Netflix	2.9	-10.6	-0.4
Atlassian	1.4	-21.5	-0.4
Intercontinental Exchange	3.1	-8.0	-0.3

Company Name	Average Weight	Return	Contribution
Ultragenyx Pharmaceutical	1.3	-46.6	-1.0
Venture Global	0.6	-43.5	-0.8
Apple	1.9	-6.4	-0.6
Samsara	3.0	-23.3	-0.5
ASML Holding	0.8	-8.5	-0.4

Company Name	Average Weight	Return	Contribution
Atlassian	3.3	-27.5	-2.8
Match Group	0.9	-31.8	-1.4
ASML Holding	1.1	-16.3	-1.1
Venture Global	0.2	-43.8	-0.8
Okta	0.7	-6.5	-0.7

Company Name	Average Weight	Return	Contribution
Block	4.4	-58.9	-6.8
Match Group	2.2	-72.2	-6.3
Atlassian	3.3	-15.6	-5.1
Twilio	1.3	-65.9	-4.4
Sea	4.7	12.6	-3.0

All values are those of the Select Growth Tax Exempt Institutional Equity Composite. The companies identified above represent a subset of current holdings in the Select Growth portfolio and were selected based on the performance measures presented. With the exception of IPOs where actual transacted prices are used, contributions are calculated in FactSet Portfolio Analysis using FactSet end of day prices, and do not reflect actual purchase prices. This can affect the presentation of contribution and performance of transactions amid heightened volatility. Security return and contribution are net of advisory fees and expenses and reflect the reinvestment of dividends and any other earnings. Attribution generated returns will not match actual performance because FactSet uses different exchange rate sources, the performance does not capture intra-day trading, and the analysis removes the impact of cash flows. Relative Return calculations do not incorporate risk or volatility impacts and should not be exclusively relied upon. To receive a description of the calculation methodology for the attribution analysis and a complete list detailing each holding's attribution please contact a member of the Client Relations Team at 703-562-4000. Past performance is not indicative of future results. GIPS Reports found [here](#).

Stewardship

CARBON EXPOSURE

Select Growth vs. Russell 1000 Growth Index
Reported September 30, 2025

Carbon Footprint

	CARBON EMISSIONS	TOTAL CARBON EMISSIONS	CARBON INTENSITY	WTD AVG. CARBON INTENSITY	CARBON EMISSIONS DATA AVAILABILITY
Select Growth	1.7	1,674	19.4	18.4	99%
Russell 1000 Growth	7.3	7,278	53.6	34.3	100%
	tCO ₂ e/\$M Invested	tCO ₂ e	tCO ₂ e/\$M Sales		Market Value

Largest Contributors

to Portfolio Weighted Average Carbon Intensity

COMPANY	PORTFOLIO WEIGHT (%)	CARBON INTENSITY (S1+2) tCO ₂ e/\$m	CONTRIB. TO WTD AVG. CARBON INTENSITY
Taiwan Semiconductor	4.5	185.9	8.4
Microsoft	8.3	38.8	3.3
Amazon	6.5	29.7	2.0
Cloudflare	1.7	44.2	0.8
Sea	3.4	17.5	0.6

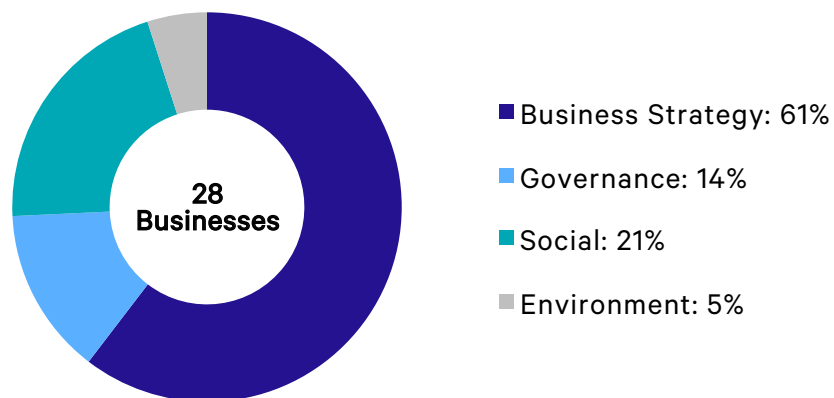
Carbon Emissions are calculated as Scope 1 & Scope 2 carbon emissions per \$1 million invested. Portfolio and Benchmark Carbon Intensity is defined as the portfolio or benchmark carbon emissions per \$1 million of portfolio or benchmark sales. At a business level, carbon intensity is calculated as carbon emissions per unit of sales (tons/\$ 1 million sales). Weighted averages are computed as the sum product of the portfolio or benchmark companies’ respective carbon values and portfolio or benchmark companies’ weights.

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VOTING ACTIVITY - TRAILING 12 MONTHS ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

VOTES	BUSINESSES	RESOLUTIONS	%
Cast in Favor of Management	24	334	98%
Cast Against Management	4	6	2%
Abstentions	0	0	0%
		340	100%

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY - TRAILING 12 MONTHS ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025



TOPICS ADDRESSED

Governance

Capital structure
Increasing transparency and disclosure
Management accountability
Audit and accounting
Board structure or composition
Regulation
ESG strategy and oversight
Executive compensation
Related-party transactions
Shareholder protections and rights

Social

Human capital management
Product safety and impact
Regulation
Data security and privacy
Digital ethics
Diversity and inclusion
Health and safety
Labor rights
Human rights

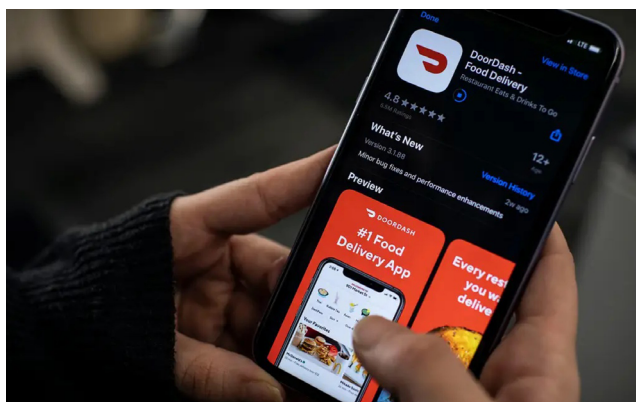
Environmental

Energy use and efficiency
GHG emissions or climate change strategy
Materials use and sourcing
Environmental policy and strategy
Regulation

We may refrain from voting when issues arise that cause us to determine that voting proxies is not in the best interest of our clients or that it is not reasonably possible to determine whether voting proxies will be in the best interests of clients. Additionally, we do not vote in certain countries that require "share blocking," due to the possible liquidity constraints that could result in the cost of voting outweighing the benefit to the client. Shares out on loan also may not be voted. Sands Capital is not an activist investor and generally does not acquire or hold investments for the purpose or effect of changing or influencing the control of its investee companies.

As part of our ongoing research, Sands Capital regularly engages with the management teams and, if appropriate, board members of portfolio businesses to better understand each business's long-term strategic vision and management of risks and opportunities, including those pertaining to environmental, social, and governance (ESG) matters. Sands Capital's engagement with management teams and board members does not involve any direct or indirect attempt to exert pressure to implement specific measures, change policies, or otherwise influence control over the issuer.

DoorDash



Business: DoorDash is the leading food-delivery platform in the United States, based on market share.

Key issues: Board structure or composition and executive compensation.

DoorDash operates an online platform that enables consumers to order food and other goods for pickup or delivery. The business is well positioned to capture a sizable share of a large and growing total addressable market. As the company nears its fifth anniversary as a public company, we believe it has an opportunity to modernize elements of its governance framework to reflect its scale and maturity.

Earlier this year, we contacted DoorDash representatives to discuss board structure and executive compensation. These discussions build on prior governance engagements and reflect our ongoing efforts to promote stronger alignment between management, the board, and long-term shareholders.

Board Structure: Encouraging Annual Director Elections

We encouraged the board to consider transitioning to annual director elections. While we recognize DoorDash's desire to protect its long-term strategic vision, particularly through mechanisms such as its dual-class share structure, we noted that several shareholder rights remain limited. In addition to the dual-

class share structure, this includes the inability to call special meetings. We believe moving to annual elections would also represent a reasonable first step toward a more institutional-quality governance approach and could signal a willingness to evolve. Notably, ESG rating agencies have continued to cite DoorDash's staggered board structure as a weak point in its governance profile. Adopting annual elections would be a straightforward improvement that strengthens accountability and transparency, in our view.

Executive Compensation: Seeking Greater Alignment with Business Results

We also discussed executive compensation, with a focus on the methodology used to determine remuneration. The current framework considers financial metrics, business outcomes, key performance indicators, and achievement of business objectives. However, the assessment is primarily qualitative. We advocated for an evolution of the framework to include explicit links to these elements. Our objective is not to make the company overly prescriptive but to help ensure that guardrails are in place. We believe this would serve the best interests of shareholders and result in greater alignment between management incentives and long-term value creation.

These governance enhancements would not only address current shareholder concerns but also support DoorDash's continued transition into a more mature, publicly traded company.

Next Steps: Monitoring Progress and Continuing Dialogue

We will continue to monitor DoorDash's governance disclosures, particularly with respect to any movement toward annual board elections and greater transparency around executive compensation. We plan to follow up in future engagements to assess whether the board is receptive to evolving its practices. We view these conversations as constructive and ongoing and will continue to advocate for incremental changes that support long-term value creation.

This report is an example of the type of fundamental research Sands Capital conducts and, as such, contains the opinions and comments of Sands Capital at points in time. Additional or subsequent information may cause Sands Capital's views to change. This report is not a complete analysis of all material facts and therefore is not a sufficient basis alone on which to base an investment decision. This material may include summaries and references to research notes, emails, conference calls, and meetings, and there is no guarantee or representation that this information is complete, current, or accurate. The information contained herein has been prepared from sources believed reliable but is not guaranteed by us as to its timeliness or accuracy and is not a complete summary or statement of all available data. This report is for informational purposes only. As part of our ongoing research, Sands Capital regularly engages with the management teams and, if appropriate, board members of portfolio businesses to better understand each business's long-term strategic vision and management of risks and opportunities, including those pertaining to environmental, social, and governance (ESG) matters. Sands Capital's engagement with management teams and board members does not involve any direct or indirect attempt to exert pressure to implement specific measures, change policies, or otherwise influence control over the issuer. The company illustrated represent a holding in the Sands Capital strategies as of June 30, 2025, and was selected by the author on an objective basis to illustrate the views expressed in the Commentary. The example was selected based on the recent date of the engagements and topics discussed. The assessment of each business is based on factors that we believe are material to the long-term investment case. To receive a complete list of company engagements for the prior twelve months please contact a member of the Client Relations Team at 703-562-4000.

Select Growth Tax Exempt Institutional Equity Composite (TEIEC) GIPS Report

YEAR END	NUM OF ACCTS	END OF PERIOD AUM (USD \$M)	TEIEC		ANN. 3 YR. STD. DEV. (NET)	R1000G		NON-FEE PAYING % OF COMPOSITE	ASSET WGT'D STD. DEV. (GROSS)	FIRMS TOTAL ASSETS (USD \$M)
			NET RETURNS	GROSS RETURNS		R1000G	ANN. 3 YR. STD. DEV.			
2024	46	\$6,375.64	24.30	24.79	28.91	33.36	20.33	0.00	0.22	\$47,462.52
2023	69	\$7,696.98	52.03	52.71	28.22	42.68	20.51	0.00	0.29	\$46,746.96
2022	88	\$6,625.17	-49.14	-48.88	28.26	-29.14	23.47	0.00	0.19	\$40,707.08
2021	78	\$10,733.38	4.89	5.36	20.99	27.60	18.17	0.00	0.23	\$75,340.29
2020	82	\$12,888.65	71.42	72.15	22.42	38.49	19.64	0.00	0.71	\$68,621.83
2019	84	\$10,063.97	33.34	33.91	17.22	36.39	13.07	0.00	0.15	\$44,636.85
2018	90	\$9,140.97	6.77	7.27	17.03	-1.51	12.13	0.00	0.19	\$35,387.67
2017	102	\$11,646.37	35.15	35.74	15.07	30.21	10.54	0.00	0.48	\$41,331.26
2016	115	\$10,192.82	-7.13	-6.70	15.58	7.08	11.15	0.00	0.18	\$34,914.29
2015	146	\$14,686.78	2.92	3.40	14.56	5.67	10.70	0.00	0.50	\$44,192.42

Net Returns

As of 09/30/2025	QTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	Since Inception (02/29/1992)
TEIEC	6.3	22.1	32.8	32.8	7.8	15.4	12.7
R1000G	10.5	17.2	25.5	31.6	17.6	18.8	11.2

Effective 5/31/2022, the name of the composite changed from Tax Exempt Institutional Equity Composite to Select Growth Tax Exempt Institutional Equity Composite. As of October 1, 2021, the firm was redefined to be the combination of Sands Capital Management, LLC and Sands Capital Alternatives, LLC (previously known as Sands Capital Ventures, LLC). Both firms are registered investment advisers with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in accordance with the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended. The two registered investment advisers are combined to be one firm for GIPS purposes and are doing business as Sands Capital. Sands Capital operates as a distinct business organization, retains discretion over the assets between the two registered investment advisers, and has autonomy over the total investment decision making process. Prior to October 1, 2021, the firm was defined as: Sands Capital Management, LLC, is an independent registered investment adviser. Sands Capital claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS® standards. Sands Capital has been independently verified for the periods February 7, 1992 through December 31, 2024. A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. The Select Growth Tax-Exempt Institutional Equity Composite ("TEIEC") has had a performance examination for the periods February 29, 1992 through December 31, 2024. The verification and performance examination reports are available upon request. The TEIEC contains all fee and non-fee paying, tax-exempt institutional accounts managed in the Select Growth strategy. The Select Growth strategy is a concentrated portfolio that normally consists of the equity securities of 25 to 30 primarily large and mid-capitalization growth businesses. Portfolio companies are primarily domiciled in the U.S. but may also include ADRs and the equity securities of foreign issuers in other developed and emerging markets that are listed on U.S. exchanges. The strategy may experience losses as it is subject to equity securities risk, market and issuer risk, selection risk, growth style risk, concentration risk, and other economic risks that may influence the returns of this strategy. The benchmark for the TEIEC is the Russell 1000 Growth Index ("R1000G"). The R1000G measures the performance of those Russell 1000 companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values. The TEIEC holds securities that are not included in the R1000G, and Sands Capital may invest in securities not covered by the index. The minimum account size for this composite is \$3 million. The annual composite dispersion presented is an asset-weighted standard deviation calculated of performance dispersion for accounts in the composite for the entire year, using beginning of period values. Gross and net performance includes the reinvestment of all income and is presented net of expenses, interest income, and capital gains. Net returns presented are calculated using actual fees and performance fees if applicable. Bundled fee accounts pay a fee based on a percentage of assets under management. Other than brokerage commissions this fee may have included portfolio monitoring, consulting services, and in some cases, custodial services. As of January 1, 2013, bundled fee accounts are no longer included in the TEIEC and in 2012, bundled fee account assets represented 0.9% percent of the composite. The U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance. Policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS Reports are available upon request. A list of composite descriptions, pooled fund descriptions for limited distribution pooled funds, and broad distribution funds is available upon request. Past performance is not indicative of future results. The investment management fee schedule for separate accounts is 0.75% on the first \$50 million of assets under management and 0.50% on assets under management greater than \$50 million. Accounts may also pay a performance-based fee that consists of a base fee plus a percentage of the annualized excess return versus the benchmark. Additional information regarding performance fees is available upon request. Actual investment advisory fees incurred by clients may vary which will result in performance that may be higher or lower. The TEIEC was created on February 29, 1992 and the inception date for performance is February 29, 1992. Russell 1000® Growth Index is a trademark of the Frank Russell Company. GIPS® is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein.



Sands Capital is an active, long-term investor in leading innovative growth businesses, globally. Our approach combines analytical rigor and creative thinking to identify high-quality growth businesses that are creating the future. Through an integrated investment platform spanning venture capital, growth equity and public equity, we provide growth capital solutions to institutions and fund sponsors in more than 40 countries. Sands Capital is an independent, staff-owned firm founded in 1992 with offices in the Washington, D.C. area, London, and Singapore.

ALL-IN CULTURE

We are one team dedicated to one mission and one philosophy. As a fully independent and staff-owned firm, we attract and retain strong talent, focus on long-term outcomes, and are highly aligned with our clients' interests.

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE WITH LOCAL UNDERSTANDING

Innovation-driven growth knows no geographic boundaries. Neither does our research team. We are hands on, on-the-ground, deeply immersed in the ecosystems in which our businesses operate.

INSIGHT DRIVEN

Businesses that can build a sustainable advantage are few and far between. To seek them, we apply six criteria to separate signal from noise, identify what matters most, and construct differentiated views on tomorrow's businesses, today.

HIGH CONVICTION FOR HIGH IMPACT

All our strategies concentrate investments in only our best ideas and avoid mediocrity. With the intent to own businesses for five years or longer, we seek to create value for clients through the compounding of business growth over time.