Fund Review
Lincoln U.S. Growth Funds

Lincoln Indicators
Invest in the numbers

December 2025
Quarter in review

Tim Lincoln
Co-Founder and Chief Investment Officer

Dear investor,

The Lincoln U.S. Growth Fund Hedged delivered a return of -5.31% for the December 2025 quarter, underperforming its benchmark, the S&P 500 Total Return Index, which rose 2.65%. With the US dollar continuing to slide, the Lincoln U.S. Growth Fund Unhedged performed slightly worse, closing the period -5.76%. Equity markets were characterised by a sharp rotation beneath the surface, with leadership narrowing and several previously resilient growth segments experiencing meaningful drawdowns. While broader indices were supported by strength in select mega-cap stocks, performance dispersion across sectors and styles remained elevated.

The Fund's significant overweight exposure to Software & Services (c.30% above benchmark) was the primary driver of relative underperformance during the quarter. The Software & Services subsector declined approximately 7%, making it one of the weakest-performing areas of the U.S. market. Several core holdings detracted meaningfully from returns, including AppFolio (-17%), Manhattan Associates (-15.45%), Spotify Technology (-14%), Cadence Design Systems (-11%), Check Point Software (-10%), and Palo Alto Networks (-10%). Weakness across the sector reflected a combination of valuation compression, profit-taking following strong multi-year performance, and renewed investor caution toward growth stocks amid highly volatile interest rate and currency dynamics. Despite the period being weak for growth companies, there were some positive contributors, including Alphabet, which continued to demonstrate earnings resilience and AI-driven growth, Medpace, supported by robust demand for outsourced clinical trials, and ASML, which remained a key beneficiary of long-term semiconductor capital expenditure and technological leadership.

From a factor perspective, the Fund's overweight exposure to Profitability and underweight exposure to Size were additional contributors to underperformance. During the quarter, market leadership favoured larger-capitalisation stocks and those with more immediate earnings visibility, while highly profitable mid-cap growth companies lagged. This style environment was particularly challenging for software companies that, despite strong fundamentals, were more sensitive to changes in discount rates and investor risk appetite.

Macro and geopolitical conditions also influenced market behaviour. U.S. dollar weakness supported commodity-linked assets and contributed to renewed interest in precious metals, which continued to perform well amid concerns around fiscal sustainability and geopolitical fragmentation. At the same time, markets increasingly focused on the Federal Reserve's policy independence, with shifting expectations around the timing and magnitude of future rate cuts driving volatility across asset classes.

It was certainly an unwelcome drawdown to end the year – but the moves were not reflective of deteriorating fundamentals which provides the team with confidence that a clean upcoming reporting period will see these stocks rebound strongly in the months ahead.

Kind regards,

Tim Lincoln
Co-Founder and Chief Investment Officer

This communication may contain general financial product advice or forward-looking statements regarding our intent, belief or current expectations with respect to the market conditions. Caution is advised to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, as our advice has been prepared without taking account of your personal circumstances. It is not intended to take the place of professional advice, and you should not take action on specific issues in reliance on this information. Therefore, you should consider its appropriateness before acting on it in light of your objectives, financial situation and needs.

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Performance to December 2025

	Lincoln U.S. Growth Funds			
Suitable for	Investors seeking diversity			
Investment objective	Hedged: Over the medium to long term, the Fund aims to outperform the return of the S&P 500 Total Return Index (USD). Unhedged: Over the medium to long term, the Fund aims to outperform the Australian Dollar return of the S&P 500 Total Return Index.			
Distribution frequency	Annually			
	Hedged (covering currency risk)		Unhedged (exposed to currency risk)	
	Fund return[1]	S&P500 Total Return Index (in USD)	Fund return[1]	S&P500 Total Return Index (converted to AUD)
3-months	-5.31%	2.65%	-5.76%	2.02%
1-year	3.59%	17.88%	-2.38%	9.45%
3-years p.a.	5.37%	23.01%	8.40%	23.70%
Financial Year to Date	3.81%	11.00%	2.66%	9.08%
Since inception p.a. (01/07/2020)	4.69%	17.02%	7.89%	17.91%

[1] Fund returns are calculated using exit prices and are net of management fees, ongoing fees and expenses, and assume distributions are reinvested and no tax is deducted.
* Past performance is not an indicator of future performance.

Performance highlights

- **Alphabet Inc (GOOG):** The stock performance in the period (+29%) was driven by robust growth across its core advertising and cloud businesses, particularly as AI-powered products and services — including its Gemini models and expanded cloud offerings helped expand revenue and engagement metrics ahead of expectations. Strong investor sentiment was also supported by diversification into high-growth segments and record revenue milestones, reinforcing confidence in the company's ability to monetise AI and scale its ecosystem globally.
- **ASML Holdings (ASML)** Gained +10% over the quarter, driven by outstanding quarterly results that exceeded expectations, followed by news of its inclusion in the S&P 500 Index. Its AI-driven advertising platform continues to deliver exceptional revenue and margin growth, supported by rising digital ad spend.
- **Vertiv Holdings Co (VRT):** The company's share price over the quarter (+8%) benefitted from accelerating demand for data centre infrastructure tied to AI and digital transformation, as its thermal, power and critical support solutions saw significant backlog growth and robust organic orders across major regions.

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Lincoln U.S. Growth Funds holdings as at 31 December 2025

Code	Company	Portfolio %
Information Technology		**57.28%**
CDNS	Cadence Design Systems, Inc.	4.27%
PEGA	Pegasystems Inc.	4.19%
PANW	Palo Alto Networks, Inc.	4.18%
ASML	ASML Holding N.V-Ny Reg Shs	4.16%
ADBE	Adobe Inc.	4.15%
ADSK	Autodesk, Inc.	4.14%
APPF	AppFolio, Inc. - A	4.12%
CHKP	Check Point Software Technologies Ltd.	4.11%
NVDA	NVIDIA Corp.	4.08%
RMBS	Rambus, Inc. - Common Stock	4.08%
QLYS	Qualys, Inc.	4.07%
APP	AppLovin Corporation-Class A	4.00%
ANET	Arista Networks Inc	3.96%
IDCC	InterDigital, Inc. - Common Stock	3.77%
Financials		**7.97%**
MA	Mastercard Inc. - A	4.18%
BOW	Bowhead Specialty Holdings Inc. Common Stock	3.79%
Health Care		**8.35%**
DOCS	Doximity,Inc.-Class A	4.10%
MEDP	Medpace Holdings, Inc.	4.25%

Code	Company	Portfolio %
Communication Services		**12.13%**
META	Meta Platforms, Inc.-Class A	4.12%
SPOT	Spotify Technology S.A.	3.95%
GOOG	Alphabet Inc.-Cl C	4.06%
Industrials		**8.45%**
INOD	Innodata Inc. - Common Stock	4.28%
VRT	Vertiv Holdings Co-A	4.17%
Materials		**4.19%**
ORLA	Orla Mining Ltd	4.19%
Cash		**1.6%**

Strategy update

- At the end of the quarter, the Fund team rebalanced the portfolio in line with our quantitative ranking models.
- New purchases: As a result, the Fund introduced **Bowhead Specialty Holdings (BOW), Rambus Inc (RMBS), Innodata Inc (INOD), InterDigital Inc (IDCC) & Orla Mining (ORLA).**
- Sales/removals: We removed **Ferrari N.V. (RACE), Rollins, Inc. (ROL), Kinsale Capital (KNSL), Catalyst Pharmaceuticals (CPRX) and Manhattan Associates (MANH).**

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Key data

	Lincoln U.S. Growth Fund Hedged	Lincoln U.S.Growth Fund Unhedged
APIR code	ETL6283AU	ETL1491AU
Fund inception	1 July 2020	1 July 2020
Minimum initial investment	AU$5,000	AU$5,000
Management costs	1.00% p.a.	1.00% p.a.
Performance Fee	20% of outperformance of the S&P 500 Total Return Index.	20% of outperformance of the S&P 500 Total Return Index converted to Australian Dollars.
Entry/exit fees	Nil	Nil
Distribution frequency	Annual	Annual
Entry/exit unit price (4 decimal places)[1]	$1.1200 / $1.1144	$1.2130 / $1.2070
Fund size[1]	$26.18m	
Responsible Entity	Equity Trustees Ltd	
Investment Manager	Lincoln Indicators Pty Ltd	

[1] As at 31 December 2025.

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- → Top up your current investment
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Important information:

The Investment Manager for the Lincoln U.S. Growth Fund (Hedged) and Lincoln U.S. Growth Fund (Unhedged)(the Funds) is Lincoln Indicators Pty Ltd (Lincoln Indicators) ABN 23 006 715 573 as Corporate Authorised Representative of Lincoln Financial Group Pty Ltd ABN 70 609 751 966, AFSL 483167 (Lincoln Financial). Equity Trustees Limited (Equity Trustees) ABN 46 004 031 298, AFSL 240975 is the Responsible Entity for the Funds. Equity Trustees is a subsidiary of EQT Holdings Limited ABN 22 607 797 615, a publicly listed company on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX: EQT). This communication has been prepared by Lincoln Indicators, as Corporate Authorised Representative of Lincoln Financial, to provide you with general information only. In preparing this communication, we did not take into account the investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any particular person. It is not intended to take the place of professional advice and you should not take action on specific issues in reliance on this information. Neither Prime Financial Group, Lincoln Indicators, Equity Trustees nor any of its related parties, their employees or directors, provide any warranty of accuracy or reliability in relation to such information or accepts any liability to any person who relies on it. Past performance should not be taken as an indicator of future performance. You should obtain a copy of the Product Disclosure Statements before making a decision about whether to invest in these products.

The Fund's Target Market Determination is available here. A Target Market Determination is a document which is required to be made available from 5 October 2021. It describes who this financial product is likely to be appropriate for (i.e. the target market), and any conditions around how the product can be distributed to investors. It also describes the events or circumstances where the Target Market Determination for this financial product may need to be reviewed.

All figures, information and illustrations are as at 31 December 2025 unless stated otherwise. Portfolio holdings are subject to change without notice.