





# Volta Finance Ltd Monthly Report - May 2017

#### Data as at 31 May 2017

**Gross Asset Value** €354.6m **Estimated liabilities** €43.3m **Estimated NAV** €311.3m **Estimated NAV per** €8.52 share **Outstanding Shares** 36.5m **Share Price (Euronext)** €7.55 Share Price (LSE) €7.75 VTA.NA **Tickers** VTA.LN

### **Fund Facts Launch Date**

ISIN

Dec-2006 **Fund Domicile** Guernsey **AFX Listing and Trading LSE** Type of Fund Closed-ended **Dividend** Quarterly Trailing 12m Div. Yield3 7.7% Base currency

**EUR** Corporate Credit Assets types and ABS

### **Background and Investment Objective**

AXA Investment Managers Paris ("AXA IM") has been the Investment Manager of Volta Finance Limited ("Volta") since inception. Volta's investment objectives are to preserve capital across the credit cycle and to provide a stable stream of income to its Shareholders through dividends. For this purpose, Volta pursues a multi-asset investment strategy on deals, vehicles and arrangements that provide leveraged exposure to target Underlying Assets (including corporate credit, residential and commercial mortgages, auto and student loans, credit card and lease receivables).

### **Fund Performance**

24.4% +11.9% Annualised over 5 years<sup>1</sup> Annualised since inception<sup>1</sup>

> +0.6% 1 month<sup>2</sup>

€311.3m

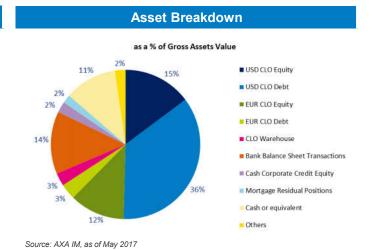
Estimated NAV as of May 17

| Returns <sup>2</sup> | Jan   | Feb   | Mar  | Apr   | May  | Jun   | Jul  | Aug   | Sep   | Oct  | Nov  | Dec  | Year  |
|----------------------|-------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|-------|------|------|------|-------|
| 2017                 | 1.3%  | 0.9%  | 0.9% | -0.5% | 0.6% | -     | -    | -     | -     | -    | -    | -    | 3.3%  |
| 2016                 | -4.0% | -2.9% | 4.1% | 2.0%  | 1.3% | -0.9% | 5.5% | 2.8%  | 1.4%  | 2.0% | 2.7% | 1.4% | 15.2% |
| 2015                 | 3.7%  | 1.3%  | 3.1% | 1.7%  | 1.6% | -0.7% | 0.1% | -0.6% | -1.7% | 0.1% | 1.1% | 0.1% | 10.0% |
| 2014                 | 2.7%  | -1.6% | 0.8% | 0.7%  | 1.5% | 0.7%  | 1.3% | 1.3%  | 2.4%  | 0.4% | 1.7% | 0.3% | 12.4% |
| 2013                 | 3.6%  | 1.5%  | 2.5% | 0.1%  | 4.1% | -0.7% | 3.1% | 2.0%  | 0.7%  | 2.4% | 2.9% | 1.3% | 25.3% |

- <sup>1</sup> Share (VTA.NA) performance (annualised figures with dividends re-invested). Source: Bloomberg (TRA function) <sup>2</sup> Performance of published Estimated NAV (including dividend payments)
- Calculated as the most recent annual dividend payments versus the month-end share price (VTA.NA)



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# Monthly Commentary

In May, Volta's Estimated NAV\* performance was +0.6%. This positive performance is mostly due to the good performance of the CLO Equity bucket and is in line with the modest but positive performance of credit markets in May.

The depreciation of the dollar against Euro contributed to -0.7%. The negative contribution this month needs to be put in perspective with the positive contribution (circa +2.1%) for the period from March 2016 to March 2017. Volta currency exposures are limited and through time are not expected to be a significant driver of performance.

During the month, Volta did not purchase nor sell any assets.





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At the end of May 2017, Volta's Estimated NAV\* was €311.3m or €8.52 per share. The GAV stood at €354.6m. A 16 cents per share quarterly dividend payment is scheduled to be paid on the 29th of June (ex-dividend date was June 8th).

In May, mark-to-market variations\*\* of Volta's asset classes were: +0.9% for Synthetic Corporate Credit deals; +2.6% for CLO Equity tranches; 0.8% for CLO Debt tranches, 0.0% for Cash Corporate Credit deals; and -0.2% for ABS.

In May, Volta generated the equivalent of €1.1m in interest and coupons net of repo costs (non-euro amounts translated into euro using end-of-month cross currency rates). This brings the total cash amount generated during the last six months in terms of interest and coupons to €15.7m.

Cash holdings or cash equivalent instruments at the end of May totaled €40.2m. €5.8m will be used to pay for the end of June dividend.

The current level of cash is higher than usual and mainly reflects the strong prepayments that occurred recently. Our view is still that credit markets are now quite fully valued and this amount will be deployed in due course when better opportunities arise. Typically we expect to be able to deploy more capital in CLO Equity tranches and in Bank Balance Sheet transactions. We expect to utilize CLO warehouse exposure as a way to access CLO equity positions with better economics.

#### Portfolio Composition by Asset Type

| Market Value (€m)          |        | Breakdown (% GAV)                 |         |
|----------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------|---------|
|                            |        | USD CLO Equity                    | 14.8%   |
|                            | 243.3  | USD CLO Debt                      | 35.6%   |
| alo                        |        | EUR CLO Equity                    | 12.0%   |
|                            |        | EUR CLO Debt                      | 3.4%    |
|                            |        | CLO Warehouse                     | 2.8%    |
| Synthetic Corporate Credit | 48.0   | Synthetic Corporate Credit Equity | 0.0%    |
| Synthetic Corporate Credit | 46.0   | Bank Balance Sheet Transaction    | 13.5%   |
| Cash Corporate Credit      | 8.4    | Cash Corporate Credit Equity      | 2.4%    |
| Cash Corporate Gredit      | 0.4    | Cash Corporate Credit Debt        | 0.0%    |
| ABS                        | 14.7   | Mortgage Residual Positions       | 1.8%    |
| ABS                        | 14.7   | ABS Debt                          | 2.3%    |
| Cash or equivalent         | 40.2   | Cash or equivalent                | 11.3%   |
| GAV                        | 354.6  |                                   | •       |
| Liability                  | (40.3) | Debt from Repurchase Agreeme      | (11.4)% |
| Fees due                   | (3.0)  | Fees due to Investment Manager    | (0.8)%  |
| Estimated NAV              | 311.3  | Per Share                         | 8.52    |

Source: AXA IM. as of May 2017

**Top 10 Underlying Exposures** 

| Issuer           | %     | Bloomberg Industry Group |  |  |  |
|------------------|-------|--------------------------|--|--|--|
| First Data       | 0.87% | Software                 |  |  |  |
| Ineos Group      | 0.67% | Chemicals                |  |  |  |
| Ziggo            | 0.66% | Telecommunications       |  |  |  |
| Altice Financing | 0.60% | Telecommunications       |  |  |  |
| TransDigm        | 0.51% | Aerospace/Defense        |  |  |  |

Source: Intex, Bloomberg, AXA IM Paris as of May 2017 - unaudited figures - not accounting for unsettled trades Figures expressed in % of the Estimated NAV

Volta's currency exposure is relatively unchanged since the end of April. The exposure to the US Dollar at the end of May was still circa 24% against circa 33% one year ago.

In May we closed the modest and positive duration position that was added to the portfolio in Q4 2015. It modestly contributed to +0.2% to Volta performance during the period. This kind of hedge is aimed at dampening downside volatility arising from shorter-term mark to market developments that may arise. Ultimately, the returns of Volta continue to be predominantly driven by the performance and the strong cash flows from the structured finance assets held but we believe that these hedges will contribute to a better volatility profile.

\* It should be noted that approximately 10.2% of Volta's GAV comprises investments in funds for which the relevant NAVs as at the month-end date are normally available only after Volta's NAV has already been published. Volta's policy is to publish its own NAV on as timely a basis as possible in order to provide shareholders with Volta's appropriately up-to-date NAV information. Consequently, such investments in funds are valued using the most recently available NAV for each fund. The most recently available fund NAV was as at: 31 March 2017 for 1.0% of Volta's GAV and at 28 April for 9.2% of Volta's GAV.

\*\* "Mark-to-market variation" is calculated as the Dietz-performance of the assets in each bucket, taking into account the Mark-to-Market of the assets at month-end, payments received from the assets over the period, and ignoring changes in cross currency rates. Nevertheless, some residual currency effects could impact the aggregate value of the portfolio when aggregating each bucket.



Source: AXA IM, as of May 2017 (% of NAV for ccy / % of GAV for geography)



Source: AXA IM, as of May 2017

**Energy Future** 

Calpine

Issuer

0.47%

0.44%

**Bloomberg Industry Group** 

Energy

Utilities





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#### **Contact:**

For the Investment Manager AXA Investment Managers Paris Serge Demay Serge.demay@axa-im.com +33 (0) 1 44 45 84 47

> **Company Secretary and Portfolio** Administrator Sanne Group (Guernsey) Limited voltafinance@sannegroup.com +44 (0) 1481 739810