



# Volta Finance Ltd Monthly Report – November 2020



#### **Data as of 30 Nov 2020**

€239.5m Gross Asset Value €1.4m Liabilities NAV €238.1m NAV per share €6.51 **Outstanding Shares** 36.6m Share Price (Euronext) €4.89 Share Price (LSE) €5.15 VTA.NA **Tickers** VTA.LN VTAS.LN

#### **Fund Facts**

ISIN

**Launch Date** Dec-2006 **Fund Domicile** Guernsev AFX **Listing and Trading** LSE Type of Fund Closed-ended Dividend Quarterly Dividend Cover<sup>4</sup> 2.2 times Base currency **EUR** Corporate Credit **Asset 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**

6.9% 2.8% 7.2%
Annualised since inception Annualised over 5 years 1 month 1

€238.1m

9.8%

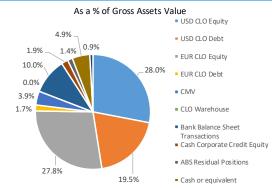
NAV as of November 2020

Trailing 12-month Div. Yield<sup>3</sup>

Returns <sup>2</sup>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
2020	1.1%	-2.6%	-32.4%	5.7%	4.5%	6.9%	-1.2%	1.9%	4.8%	1.6%	7.2%		-10.2%
2019	3.1%	0.4%	0.5%	1.9%	1.4%	-1.0%	0.5%	-1.5%	0.4%	-2.6%	0.4%	3.3%	6.7%
2018	-0.4%	0.7%	-0.2%	0.9%	2.4%	0.2%	0.6%	1.2%	-0.4%	1.3%	-1.4%	-4.8%	0.1%
2017	1.3%	0.9%	0.9%	-0.5%	0.6%	0.1%	-0.2%	0.4%	0.6%	1.7%	0.1%	0.6%	6.6%
2016	-4.0%	-2.9%	4.1%	2.0%	1.3%	-0.9%	6.2%	2.1%	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%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Share (VTA.NA) performance (annualised figures with dividends re-invested). Source: Bbg (TRA function)

# Asset Breakdown



GG00B1GHHH78

# **Historical Performance**

Others



Source: Bloomberg, as of November 2020

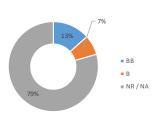
Source: AXA IM, as of November 2020

## **Top 10 Underlying Exposures**

Issuer	%	Bloomberg Industry Group
Altice France SA/France	0.60%	Telecommunications
Clarios Global LP	0.45%	Auto Parts&Equipment
EG Group Ltd	0.43%	Retail
Froneri International Ltd	0.48%	Food
Virgin Media Secured Finance PLC	0.44%	Media
GTT Communications Inc	0.38%	Telecommunications
Upfield BV	0.39%	Food
Action Nederland BV	0.27%	Retail
Paysafe Group Ltd	0.25%	Internet
Asurion LLC	0.32%	Insurance

Source: Intex, Bloomberg, AXA IM Paris as of November 2020 – unaudited figures - not accounting for unsettled trades Figures expressed in % of the NAV

# **Portfolio Rating Breakdown**



Source: AXA IM, as of November 2020

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Performance of published NAV (including dividend payments)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Calculated as the most recent annual dividend payments versus the month-end share price (VTA.NA)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Calculated as total income divided by the most recent annual dividend payments





# Volta Finance Ltd Monthly Report – November 2020

### **Monthly Commentary**

In November, the monthly performance of Volta was +7.2%, a solid performance following the announcements regarding the availability of vaccines against the COVID-19 pandemic. The performance was mainly driven by the CLO debt and equity buckets.

The monthly asset class performances\*\* were in local currency: -1.1% for Bank Balance Sheet transactions, +11.0% for CLO equity tranches; +10.2% for CLO Debt; -2.8% for Cash Corporate Credit deals (this bucket comprises funds that have a one-month delay in publishing their NAV); and +0.2% for ABS.

Regarding Volta's CLO equity positions, our conviction, pre-announcement of the vaccines, was that Volta could suffer limited diversion of cash flows for these positions. Considering that vaccination should allow faster economic recovery, it should reduce further the occurrence of loan defaults. Hence, the probability that Volta's CLO equity suffers some diversion of cash flows is expected to have further decreased. Our view is now that there shouldn't be an issue for Q1 2021. Going forward, cash diversion depends on the timing of default occurrences and loan upgrades/downgrades, but we are optimistic.

During recent months we have already observed more upgrades than downgrades (according to Moody's at least) in the US loan market. S&P reports were more balanced. Our view is still that, after such a massive and systematic wave of downgrades, we might see, in 2021, more upgrades than downgrades in the US loan market. With vaccines available early next year, this may also be the case in Europe (economically speaking we consider the availability of vaccines is more important for Europe than for the US as Europe took stronger measures to contain the pandemic).

November is, as always, a relatively quiet month for interest and coupons. Volta received in November 2020 the equivalent of €2.5m. On a 6-month rolling basis, Volta received the equivalent of €18.0m as at the end of November, representing a 15.1% annualised yield, based on the end November NAV (even taking into account the strong increase in NAV).

For next year, thanks to expected loan price increases and CLO spreads decreases, we might see some good opportunities to call some of our oldest positions (we have two CLO equity positions that would need to be called as most of the leverage has already disappeared due to earlier loan amortizations) and to refinance or even reset the more recent positions. Any opportunity to improve the situation of our CLO Equity positions will be exploited.

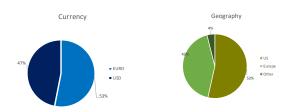
As at the end of November 2020, Volta's NAV was €238.1m or €6.51 per share.

The month-end available cash position was €11.8m.

\*It should be noted that approximately 10.2% of Volta's GAV comprises investments 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 NAV on as timely a basis as possible to provide shareholders with Volta's appropriately up-to-date NAV information. Consequently, such investments are valued using the most recently available NAV for each fund or quoted price for such subordinated note. The most recently available fund NAV or quoted price was for 9.0% as at 31 October 2020 and 1.2% as at 30 September 2020.

\*\* "performances" of asset classes are calculated as the Dietz-performance of the assets in each bucket, taking into account the Mark-to-Market of the assets at period ends, 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.

### **Currency and Geography exposures (%)**

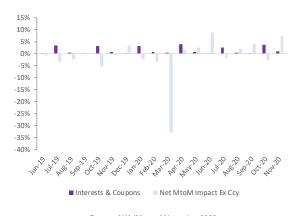


Source: AXA IM, as of November 2020 (% of NAV for ccy / % of GAV for geography)

### Portfolio Composition by Asset Type

Market Value (€m)		Breakdown (% GAV)	
		USD CLO Equity	28.0%
	193.6	USD CLO Debt	19.5%
CLO		EUR CLO Equity	27.8%
		EUR CLO Debt	1.7%
		CMV	3.9%
		CLO Warehouse	0.0%
		Synthetic Corporate Credit Equity	0.0%
Synthetic Credit	24.0	Synthetic Corporate Credit Debt	0.0%
		Bank Balance Sheet Transactions	10.0%
Cash Corporate Credit	4.5	Cash Corporate Credit Equity	1.9%
Cash Corporate Credit	4.5	Cash Corporate Credit Debt	0.0%
ABS	5.4	ABS Residual Positions	1.4%
ABO	5.4	ABS Debt	0.9%
Cash or equivalent	11.8	Cash or equivalent	4.9%
GAV	239.5		
Liability	-	Debt from Repurchase Agreement	0.0%
Fees due	(1.4)	Fees due to Investment Manager	(0.6)%
Estimated NAV	238.1	Per Share	6.51

### **Last Eighteen Months Performance Attribution**



Source: AXA IM, as of November 2020





# Volta Finance Ltd Monthly Report – November 2020

## **Important Information**

This monthly report is published by AXA Investment Managers Paris ("AXA IM"), in its capacity as alternative investment fund manager (within the meaning of Directive 2011/61/EU, the "AIFM Directive") of Volta Finance Limited (the "Company") whose portfolio is managed by AXA IM. This monthly report is intended only for the person to whom it has been delivered. By obtaining access to and reviewing this monthly report, you acknowledge and agree to be bound by the following: No part of this document may be reproduced in any manner without the prior written permission of AXA IM. This monthly report does not constitute or form part of any offer or invitation to sell or issue, or any solicitation of any offer to purchase or subscribe for, any shares or other securities of the Company whose portfolio is managed by AXA IM, or securities of any other entity (together, the "Securities"). The Securities described in this monthly report may not be eligible for sale in some states or countries and may not be suitable for all types of investors. Prospective investors are advised to seek expert legal, financial, tax and other professional advice before making any investment decision. Securities in the Company may not be offered or sold directly or indirectly into the United States or to U.S. Persons. Nor shall this monthly report or any part of it nor the fact of its distribution or publication (on the Company's website or otherwise) form the basis of, or be relied on in connection with, any contract or investment decision in relation to the Securities. This monthly report does not constitute a recommendation to buy, sell or hold the Securities. The information contained herein is for information purposes only, does not purport to contain all the information that may be required to evaluate the Company or any other entity or their respective financial positions. This monthly report speaks only as of its date and neither AXA IM nor the Company is under any obligation to update the information contained herein. Certain information and estimates contained herein are originated by or derived from third parties and the accuracy and completeness of such information and estimates has not been verified. It should also be noted that the financial information contained herein has not been audited. No representation or warranty whatsoever, whether express or implied, is given by or on behalf of AXA IM, the Company, their affiliates, or their respective directors, officers or employees or any other person as to (a) the accuracy or completeness of the information or (b) the opinions contained in this monthly report. None of AXA IM, the Company, any of their affiliates, or their respective directors, officers or employees or any other person accepts any liability whatsoever for any such information or opinions. Nothing contained herein shall be relied upon as a promise or representation whether as to past or future performance of the Company, any other entity, any Securities or any asset class in the Company's portfolio. The figures provided that relate to past months or years and past performance cannot be relied on as a guide to future performance or construed as a reliable indicator as to future performance. Throughout this review, the citation of specific trades or strategies is intended to illustrate some of the investment methodologies and philosophies of the Company, as implemented by AXA IM. The historical success or AXA IM's belief in the future success, of any of these trades or strategies is not indicative of, and has no bearing on, future results. No statement in this monthly report is intended to be nor may be construed as a profit forecast and there can be no assurance that the assumptions described herein, the returns and targets (including without limitation target portfolio composition) indicated herein will be achieved. The views and opinions expressed herein include forward-looking statements which may or may not be accurate. Forward-looking statements can be identified by words like "believe", "expect", "anticipate", or similar expressions. You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements, which are current as of the date of this report. AXA IM disclaims any obligation to update or alter any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. The valuation of financial assets can vary significantly from the prices that the AXA IM could obtain if it sought to liquidate the positions on behalf of the Company due to market conditions and general economic environment. Such valuations do not constitute a fairness or similar opinion and should not be regarded as such. They follow the valuation policy of the Company as adapted from time to time in the best interests of the shareholders, taking into account the conditions of financial markets at that time. Volta qualifies as an alternative investment fund within the meaning of the AIFM Directive and is notified as such under the license held by AXA IM with the Autorité des Marchés Financiers (the "AMF") in France.

Editor: AXA INVESTMENT MANAGERS PARIS, a company incorporated under the laws of France, having its registered office located at Tour Majunga, 6, Place de la Pyramide 92908 Paris – La Défense cedex – France, registered with the Nanterre Trade and Companies Register under number 353 534 506, a Portfolio Management Company, holder of AMF Approval no. GP 92-08, issued on 7 April 1992.

### 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 Administrator
BNP Paribas Securities Services S.C.A, Guernsey Branch
guernsey.bp2s.volta.cosec@bnpparibas.com
+44 (0) 1481 750 853