



IRON INCERTUS STRATEGY

An adaptive, goal-focused strategy

Incertus means uncertain.

The Incertus Strategy seeks to weather and thrive through uncertain environments.

Overview

<u>01 – Waiting on Equity</u> <u>02 – Less Drama</u> <u>03 – The Incertus Solution</u> 04 – Strategy Returns

PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT INDICATIVE OF FUTURE RESULTS.

The IRON Incertus portfolio offers an actively managed diversified asset-class exposure to global equities, bonds, commodities, and inflation-protected securities. The portfolio objective is to outperform a moderate target risk index, while delivering lower drawdown.

The results shown above are of actual managed accounts. Results from inception to April 30, 2020 are of a single account owned and managed by a related person of IRON under the supervision of IRON's Chief Investment Officer. A second proprietary portfolio was added in May 1, 2020. Client accounts have been invested since September 1, 2020. Results include the reinvestment of earnings and dividends.

All results are net of commissions (if any). Results are shown net of a 0.70% advisory fee, which is IRON's highest published fee for this strategy. Actual fees may vary depending upon, among other things, the applicable fee schedule and portfolio size. Accounts are charged quarterly in arrears based on quarter end value adjusted for capital flows. Net returns reflect deduction of management fees on a monthly basis. IRON's fees are available upon request and may be found in our Form ADV Part 2A disclosure brochure.

IRON has designated the Morningstar Moderate Target Risk TR USD Index as the portfolio's benchmark. The Morningstar Target Risk Index family is designed to meet the needs of investors who would like to maintain a target level of equity exposure through a portfolio diversified across equities, bonds, and inflation-hedged instruments. The Morningstar Moderate Target Risk Index seeks approximately 60% exposure to global equity markets, with the remaining exposure allocated to bond and inflation hedge instruments.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results and the strategy involves the risk of loss, particularly with respect to short-term performance.

Can you withstand decades before your equity portfolio builds wealth?

(Figure source: IRON Financial, Bloomberg)







Waiting on Equity

(Figure source: Morningstar)



Managing your "tail" risk

- One should always be invested but protected in the left tail (crisis periods), so they can take advantage of the right tail (growth years).
- The largest gains and losses occur in the tails of the equity returns distribution.

(Figure source: IA SBBI US Large Stock TR USD Ext (01/01/1926 – 04/30/2020)



For building wealth consistently, is the stock/bond portfolio the solution?

- The stellar performance of the tradition 60/40 portfolio comes from 1981-2007, as policymakers aggressively cut rates (19% in 1981 to 0% by 2009, 2020).
- Modern portfolios have become reliant on bonds as a source of diversification. How will the traditional bond/stock portfolio provide protection going forward?





(Figure source: IA SBBI US Large Stock TR USD Ext & IA SBBI US IT Govt TR USD (01/01/1926 – 04/30/2020)

It is human nature to seek insurance after the storm...

- It is hard for investors to hold positions in defensive assets when stocks and real estate are exploding higher at the end of the bull market.
- It is also hard for investors to maintain equity exposure when they are down 50%.
- It is not about predicting the market or being afraid, it is about being prepared in advance.
- Defensive assets are important to the total portfolio, even if they fail to make money consistently.



(Figure source: Artemis Capital Management LP)

If you want to diversify, how do different portfolio options react to market volatility?

We believe that by having more than just stocks and bonds in your portfolio, crisis periods will be less painful, without sacrificing long-term returns.

(Figure source: IRON Financial)



Crisis Returns

Data Point: Return Calculation Benchmark: S&P 500 TR USD

	2020 COVID -19 Pandemic (12/2019 -3/2020)	2011 Eurozone Crisis (4/2011 - 9/2011)	2008 Credit Crisis (10/2007 - 2/2009)	2000 Dotcom Crash (3/2000 - 9-2002)	Russian Debt Default (7/1998 - 9/1998)	Black Monday Period (9/1987 - 11/1987)	Volcker's Bear (12/1980 - 7/1982)	Bretton Woods (1/1973 - 9/1974)
Basic All-Weather (50/40/10)	-1.34	1.29	-20.84	-12.06	-1.72	-13.76	-7.48	-9.36
US 60/40 Portfolio	-10.22	-7.11	-32.75	-21.15	-4.52	-17.18	-3.16	-17.04
S&P 500 TR USD	-19.60	-16.26	-50.95	-43.75	-9.95	-29.58	-16.52	-27.21
US 30 Day TBill	0.37	0.01	2.24	9.90	1.29	1.40	24.46	7.50
US LT Government	19.60	23.22	15.95	35.39	8.34	2.69	17.92	-3.50
Gold	6.22	5.50	20.58	16.96	-0.83	8.62	-44.67	62.17

Risk

Time Period: 2/1/1970 to 6/30/2021 Calculation Benchmark: S&P 500 TR USD

	Return	Std Dev	Max Drawdown	Beta	Up Capture	Down Capture	Sharpe Ratio
			Diawdowii		Ratio	Ratio	Ratio
Basic All-Weather (50/40/10)	10.36	9.24	-20.87	0.52	61.64	40.87	0.61
US 60/40 Portfolio	9.97	9.89	-32.75	0.64	69.88	56.98	0.54
S&P 500	11.13	15.22	-50.95	1.00	100.00	100.00	0.46
US 30 Day TBill	4.51	0.97	0.00	0.00	10.11	-11.67	-1.50
US LT Government	8.17	10.73	-20.96	0.06	22.88	-12.33	0.35
Gold	7.92	19.76	-61.78	0.00	17.10	-20.90	0.25

*US Bond: 10% IA SBBI IT Govt Index, 10% IA SBBI LT Corp Index, 5% IA SBBI LT Govt Index, 5% IA SBBI 1 YR Treasury Index, 5% IA SBBI 30 Day Tbill Index

All references in this document to the 60/40 Portfolio and Basic All-Weather Portfolio are comprised of the following: US Stock Market is proxied by the S&P 500 TR USD index. Long-Term Treasury is proxied by the IA SBBI US LT Govt TR USD index. Gold refers to the LBMA Gold Price PM USD index.

Long-Term High-Quality Bonds Protect Against Deflation.

- The proper selection of bonds can protect against deflationary cycles by becoming negatively correlated to equities.
- For bonds to offer deflationary protection they must have low to no default risk. Traditionally US Treasuries and highly rated investment grade sovereign or corporate bonds exhibit those characteristics.
- Long-dated bonds are more volatile but mixed with an equity portfolio, they can offer a superior counterbalance.





Commodities move in long cycles and can protect during an inflationary environment.

- Prices of commodities tend to trend higher during periods of extreme uncertainty.
- May offer lower correlation to other asset classes.
- Can protect against high inflation.



Sources: Bloomberg, Ned Davis Research, and Wells Fargo Investment Institute, as of June 30, 2019. For illustrative purposes only. NDR Commodity Composite used for December 1802–February 1972. Reuter's Continuous Commodity Index used for March 1972–June 2019. The Reuters Continuous Commodity Index is an equal-weighted geometric average of commodity price levels relative to the base year average price. An index is unmanaged and not available for direct investment. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

A basic all-weather portfolio may help eliminate those dreadful years.

(Figure source: IRON Financial)

Drawdown

Time Period: Since Common Inception (2/1/1970) to 6/30/2021



- Basic All-Weather (50/40/10)

-US 60/40 Portfolio

A basic all-weather portfolio can produce the same result as 60/40 but with less downside.

(Figure source: IRON Financial)



— S&P 500

- Basic All-Weather (50/40/10) US 60/40 Portfolio

IRON Incertus Portfolio

Face uncertain market conditions with confidence.

About the Strategy

- ✓ An all-weather portfolio:
 - Strives to participate in bull markets and protect in bear markets.
 - Limit interruptions in wealth building.
- ✓ Adaptive goal-focused strategy:
 - Focused on the goal of consistently compounding wealth, not on a particular investment style.
- ✓ Strategy is always invested. By giving up some gains during bull markets, we seek to limit drawdowns during bear markets.
- ✓ Focuses on real world risk allocation not asset allocation.

Strategy Objectives



 Seeks to balance exposure to economic and market risks (e.g., economic growth, inflation, deflation, and reliable diversification)



- Strives to outperform a 60/40 portfolio with lower drawdowns
- Seeks to achieve equity-like returns with lower risk
- Build multigenerational wealth



- Resilience to crises
- Goal is to limit downside

Potential Asset Classes Utilized

Primary Allocation

- ✓ Global Equities: 30% 80%
- ✓ Fixed Income: 10% 50%
- ✓ Commodities: 0% 20%

Limited/Opportunistic

- ✓ Options: 0% 3%
- ✓ Volatility Instruments: 0% 3%

Avoids

- ➤ Instruments with unlimited downside such as futures.
- ★ Direct Shorting

Macro Economic Framework

Our process begins with the Incertus Macro Economic Framework, which assists in decisions concerning real world risk allocation, asset allocation, and security selection.

Global Macro Themes

- Research and analyze current global macro themes and risks.
 - Real World Risks: inflation, disinflation, deflation, growth, etc.
 - Business Cycle: establish where we are in the current business and credit cycle.
 - Macro themes: find uncorrelated macro themes and undervalued assets likely to protect and/or benefit of the current macro environment.
 - Optimize allocation of uncorrelated asset classes and securities for stability and growth.

The macro themes are exhibited via tilts in the portfolio securities and asset classes, though the core of the strategy is a stable all-weather allocation.

Fig. 11	INFLATIONARY BOOM					
Real World						
Financial Asset Risks	Inflation	Deflation				
(Figure source: IRON Financial)	 Precious Metals TIPs Commodities Long-volatility 	 US Long Duration Treasury Bonds Ultra-Investment Grade Long-Duration Bonds Long-volatility 	DISINFLATIONARY			
	Falling Growth – Defensive Stocks – Investment Grade Bonds	Rising Growth – Growth Stocks – Cyclical Stocks – Real Estate	BOOM			

DEFLATIONARY BUST

The Business Cycle

You cannot time the business cycle. However, investment portfolios should be adjusted through the business cycle to limit downside.

(Figure source: IRON Financial)

Early Expansion

- Increasing Cyclical Stocks
- Decreasing Defensive Stocks
- Decreasing Fixed Income
- Decreasing right-tail hedging assets

Late Contraction

Decreasing Fixed IncomeIncreasing Growth Stocks

Late Expansion

- Increasing Defensive Stocks
- Decreasing Cyclical Growth Stocks
- Decreasing Growth Stocks
- Increasing Fixed Income
- Increasing right-tail hedging assets

Early Contraction
- Increasing Defensive Stocks
- Decreasing Cyclical Stocks



Qualitative & Quantitative Equity Analysis

(Figure source: IRON Financial)

Growth Stocks (0-20% allocation)

Includes businesses with growth rates significantly above the market

Quality Stocks

(20-50% allocation)

Includes businesses with sustainable competitive advantages and pricing power

Defensive Stocks

(30-60% allocation)

Includes businesses that are essential in any economic environment

Our Philosophy – The Barbell

- Barbell Real World Risks:
 - We seek a portfolio that thrives during bull markets and mitigates loss in bear markets.
 - We like risk, just not correlated risk.
 - We look for natural and inexpensive hedges.
 - Each individual piece in the portfolio has a specific purpose.



- Many investors believe that in a crisis, correlations will go to one and diversification does not work.
- However, that is not true. High quality long duration fixed income and hedging assets such as gold have historically performed exceptionally.
- Also, conventional wisdom states that equities are less risky compared to longduration bonds and gold. However, equities have produced larger drawdowns and have exhibited similar volatility.
- US Treasury Inflation Protected securities (TIPS) are a relatively new asset (started trading in 2000) class but have exhibited favorable downside protection qualities.

Crisis Returns

Data Point: Return Calculation Benchmark: Russell 1000 TR USD

	2020 COVID -19 Pandemic	2011 Eurozone Crisis	2008 Credit Crisis	2000 Dotcom Crash
	(12/2019 -3/2020)	(4/2011 - 9/2011)	(10/2007 - 2/2009)	(3/2000 - 9-2002)
S&P 500 TR USD	-19.60	-16.26	-41.39	-20.56
MSCI ACWI GR USD	-21.26	-20.27	-44.67	-21.99
Bloomberg Commodity TR USD	-23.29	-20.06	-32.70	7.03
LBMA Gold Price PM USD	6.22	5.50	15.07	6.47
Morningstar US 10+Y TIPS TR USD	10.37	13.68	-1.87	15.82
BBgBarc US Treasury 20+ Yr TR USD	21.47	30.96	14.59	12.85

Performance

Time Period: 2/1/2000 to 6/30/2021 Calculation Benchmark: S&P 500 TR USD

	Return	Std Dev	Max Drawdown
S&P 500 TR USD	7.45	15.06	-50.95
MSCI ACWI GR USD	6.33	15.70	-54.57
Bloomberg Commodity TR USD	1.46	15.93	-72.02
BBgBarc US Treasury 20+ Yr TR USD	7.29	12.49	-21.40
Gold	8.91	16.80	-41.55
US LT TIPS	8.00	10.32	-17.16

- The Incertus portfolio is designed and managed to deliver during both falling rate and rising rate environments.
- Even in a world with very low interest rates, it is still important to hold high quality long duration fixed income.
 Without exposure to such assets, periods of falling rates and deflation will expose a portfolio to material losses (1930s, 2000, 2008).
- Further, rising interest rates pose a headwind for all assets, as equities are valued using discount rates.



Rate Environments

Data Point: Return Calculation Benchmark: None

	Falling Rates	Rising Rates
	(2/2019 - 3/2020)	(4/2020 - 3/2021)
Incertus Composite	13.52	23.42
S&P 500 TR USD	-1.82	56.35
MSCI ACWI GR USD	-6.14	55.31
Bloomberg Commodity TR USD	-18.88	35.04
LBMA Gold Price PM USD	18.24	5.10
Morningstar US 10+Y TIPS TR USD	22.76	2.97
BBgBarc US Treasury 20+ Yr TR USD	32.53	-16.31

Our Philosophy in a Nutshell

- Our motto is "win by losing less."
- Loss aversion is not a bias but an evolutionary requirement for survival.
 - In wealth building, losses hurt more than equivalent gains. If one losses
 20% of their portfolio, they need a 25% gain to get even. If one losses 50%
 of their portfolio value, they will need a 100% gain to get back to even.
- Optimization and portfolio construction methodologies are often overdone and narrow, as they assume the exact circumstances of a historical time period will persist in the future. We want resiliency to weather a broad and everchanging array of market conditions.

Anticipated Underperformance Conditions

The portfolio is structured to do well in most environments but not all.

- When cash outperforms all other asset classes (liquidity events), this portfolio will underperform cash, i.e., March 2020.
- We expect Incertus to move higher with equity markets, but during strong stock market rallies the portfolio will trail a 100% equity portfolio.



Performance (As of 6/30/2021)

(Figure source: Morningstar, IRON Financial)

Please see important disclosure information on page 3 of this presentation.

Quarter	Time Weighted Net Return					
	(Quarterly)					
*2019 Q1	5.96%					
2019 Q2	6.67%					
2019 Q3	3.79%					
2019 Q4	2.56%					
2020 Q1	-4.45%					
2020 Q2	14.45%					
2020 Q3	7.52%					
2020 Q4	5.10%					
2021 Q1	-5.20%					
2021 Q2	6.38%					
*Data for 2019 begins 2/1/2019						

Investment Growth

Time Period: Since Common Inception (2/1/2019) to 6/30/2021



"Return" and "Since Inception" figures are annualized.

IRON Incertus Portfolio

— Morningstar Mod Tgt Risk TR USD

— S&P 500 TR USD

Net Performance	
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Time Period: Since Common Inception (2/1/2019) to 6/30/2021 Calculation Benchmark: S&P 500 TR USD

	Return	Std Dev	Max Drawdown	Down Capture Ratio	Beta	Sharpe Ratio	Alpha
IRON Incertus Portfolio	18.25	11.09	-7.71	14.49	0.43	1.49	7.03
Morningstar Mod Tgt Risk TR USD	13.76	11.34	-13.38	59.08	0.61	1.11	-0.72
S&P 500 TR USD	23.37	18.10	-19.60	100.00	1.00	1.20	0.00

Net Trailing Returns				
As of Date: 6/30/2021 Data Point: Return Calculation Benchma	rk: S&P 500 TR USD			
	QTD	YTD	1 Year	Since Inception
IRON Incertus Portfolio	6.38	0.85	13.95	18.25
Morningstar Mod Tgt Risk TR USD	4.98	7.26	23.92	13.76
S&P 500 TR USD	8.55	15.25	40.79	23.37

Asset Classes Performance & Return Analysis (As of 6/30/2021)

Source Data: Net Return						
	QTD	YTD	1 Year	Since Inception		
IRON Incertus Composite	6.38	0.85	13.95	18.25		
5&P 500	8.55	15.25	40.79	23.37		
Global Stocks	7.53	12.56	39.87	19.91		
JS Treasury 20+	6.80	-8.06	-10.72	9.37		
Commodities	13.30	21.15	45.61	7.78		
JS LT TIPS	9.42	-1.61	5.88	15.99		
Gold	4.26	-6.59	-0.28	12.61		

(Figure source: Morningstar, IRON Financial)

Please see important disclosure information on page 3 of this presentation.



Benchmark Comparison – Monthly Returns (6/30/2021)

(Figure source: Morningstar, IRON Financial)



Current Allocation (As of 6/30/2021)

(Figure source: Morningstar, IRON Financial)

Please see important disclosure information on page 3 of this presentation.





%

67.4 17.8

5.1 9.7

100.0

Source: Morningstar Direct

Equity Allocation – Breakdown & Styles (As of 6/30/2021)

(Figure source: Morningstar, IRON Financial)

Please see important disclosure information on page 3 of this presentation.



Consumer Defensive Healthcare

Utilities

Communication

Services

Energy

Industrials

Technology

Basic Materials

Consumer Cyclical Financial Services Real Estate

Fixed Income Allocation – Breakdown (As of 6/30/2021)

(Figure source: Morningstar, IRON Financial)

Please see important disclosure information on page 3 of this presentation.

Fixed Income Statistics			
	Average Credit Quality	Average Eff Duration	Average Eff Maturity
IRON Incertus Portfolio	AAA	23.19	24.49
Morningstar Mod Tgt Risk TR USD	А	6.82	8.62







IRON Traditional vs. Non-Traditional Portfolios

(Figure source: IRON Financial)







Aaron Izenstark Co-founder, Chief Investment Officer



Joe Fanaro Portfolio Management & Trading

IRON Incertus Strategy Management Team



George Georgiev, CFA Portfolio Management & Research

Uncertainty is calling. How will you answer?

Explore more and ask questions at <u>www.ironfinancial.com</u>

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Glossary

Maximum Drawdown: Measures the magnitude of the worst loss an investor could have incurred by investing in that security.

Sharpe Ratio: This risk-adjusted measure was developed by Nobel Laureate William Sharpe. It is calculated by using standard deviation and excess return to determine reward per unit of risk. The higher the Sharpe ratio, the better the fund's historical risk-adjusted performance.

Sortino Ratio: The Sortino Ratio, a variation of the Sharpe ratio, differentiates harmful volatility from volatility in general by using a value for downside deviation. The Sortino ratio is the excess return over the risk-free rate divided by the downside semi-variance, and so it measures the return to "bad" volatility. (Volatility caused by negative returns is considered bad or undesirable by an investor, while volatility caused by positive returns is good or acceptable.)

Standard Deviation: This statistical measurement of dispersion about an average, depicts how widely a mutual fund's returns varied over a certain period of time. Investors use the standard deviation of historical performance to try to predict the range of returns that are most likely for a given fund. When a fund has a high standard deviation, the predicted range of performance is wide, implying greater volatility.

Correlation: In the finance and investment industries, correlation is a statistic that measures the degree to which two securities move in relation to each other. Correlations are used in advanced portfolio management, computed as the correlation coefficient, which has a value that must fall between -1.0 and +1.0.

Inflation: A quantitative measure of the rate at which the average price level of a basket of selected goods and services in an economy increases over some period of time. It is the rise in the general level of prices where a unit of currency effectively buys less than it did in prior periods. Often expressed as a percentage, inflation thus indicates a decrease in the purchasing power of a nation's currency.

Deflation: A general decline in prices for goods and services, typically associated with a contraction in the supply of money and credit in the economy. During deflation, the purchasing power of currency rises over time.

Stagflation: A seemingly contradictory condition described by slow economic growth and relatively high unemployment, or economic stagnation, which is at the same time accompanied by rising prices (i.e. inflation). Stagflation can also be alternatively defined as a period of inflation combined with a decline in gross domestic product (GDP).