



media:release

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Good things come in small packages

Retail investors and their financial advisers can now directly access the best opportunities that Australian small companies have to offer, through the AMP Capital Small Companies Fund available from AMP Capital Private Clients.

The AMP Capital Small Companies Fund provides investors with access to a team of experienced fund managers who research and assess opportunities with listed small companies on a daily basis.

AMP Capital Investors Senior Portfolio Manager Mike Cowin said that analysing all of Australia's listed small companies can be extremely time intensive due to the sheer volume of stocks.

"There are more than 450 small listed companies in Australia¹ and hidden among them are some great investment opportunities. The skill comes in identifying the opportunities early and capturing their full growth potential, not just the latter stages," Mr Cowin said.

With the AMP Capital Small Companies Fund, investors can leverage the extensive research and analytic skills of AMP Capital fund managers to access these potential growth stories.

AMP Capital has been specifically researching and investing in listed small companies (those companies outside the ASX 100) as a stand-alone asset class since 1989. Mr Cowin said that Cochlear Limited, a leader in hearing implant solutions, was an example of a company that had started small but gone on to be an international success story.

In 1997, AMP Capital identified an opportunity with Cochlear, based on its strong management team and market position. Since then, Cochlear has grown from a company with a small capitalisation to become the world leader in cochlear implants and a top 100 ASX listed company.

"This is just one example of the value which can be gained from identifying small companies with a strong growth potential," Mr Cowin said.

Launched six years ago, the AMP Capital Small Companies Fund has delivered investors a return of 20 per cent per annum since its inception². This is 6.1 per cent per annum above the return of the Small Ordinaries Index over the same period.

¹ Source: AMP Capital Investors.

² Fund returns shown are for the period since inception (3.5.00) to 31.3.06 and are before tax, after fees and assume income is reinvested. Returns have been calculated based on Class A unit performance and do not include units in the Private Clients class, which are a new class of units being offered to private (retail) clients. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

The product will appeal to self-managed investors, including self-managed superannuation fund (SMSF) investors, who may be either investing in consultation with their adviser or directly managing their own funds.

Launched in May 2006, AMP Capital Private Clients offers retail investors and their financial advisers direct access to a range of investment products including the Core Property Fund, AMP Capital Global Property Securities Fund, AMP Capital Enhanced Yield Fund and now the AMP Capital Small Companies Fund.

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To invest in the AMP Capital Small Companies Fund (Fund) investors will need to obtain the current product disclosure statement (PDS) available from AMP Capital Investors Limited (ABN 59 001 777 591. AFSL 232 497) (AMP Capital). The PDS contains important information about investing in the Fund and it is important investors read the PDS before making a decision about whether to acquire, continue to hold or dispose of units in the Fund. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. This information has been prepared for the purpose of providing general information, without taking account of any particular investor's objectives, financial situation or needs. Investors should, before making any investment decisions, consider the appropriateness of this information, and seek professional advice, having regard to their objectives, financial situation and needs. AMP Capital is the responsible entity of the Fund.