

# **Trade Rationale**

**MARCH 2023** 

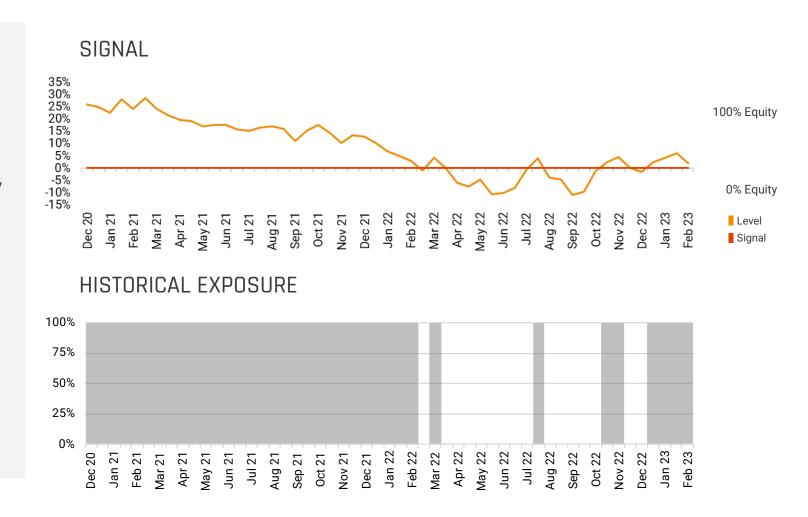
### **Trend Level Element**



#### TRADE RATIONALE

The Trend element remains positive despite a bumpy ride in the market toward the end of February. The Fed remains a key driver of equity market volatility, and the "higher for longer" thesis around Fed interest rate policy has been gaining ground as a result of the most recent Fed governor comments, combined with the latest economic and inflation data. While the fourth quarter's earnings season was soft, top-line growth across the S&P 500 constituents and a resilient jobs market may slow any short-term reversal of recent market trends.





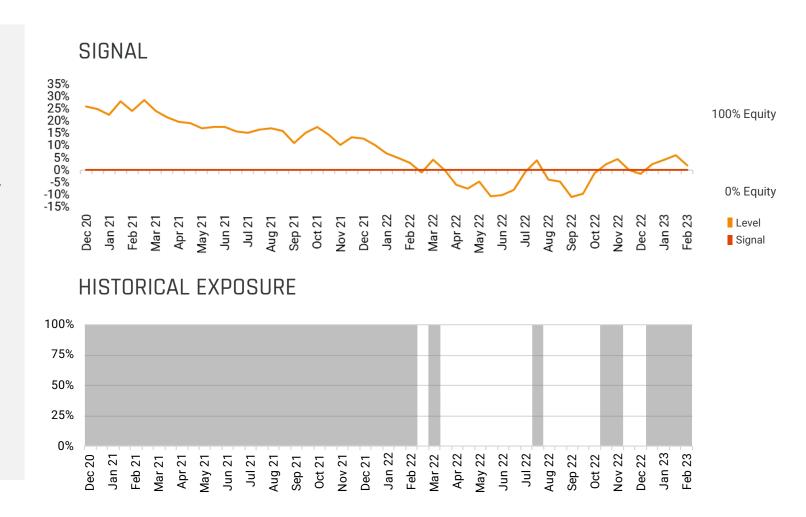
### **Volatility Level Element**



#### TRADE RATIONALE

The Trend element remains positive despite a bumpy ride in the market toward the end of February. The Fed remains a key driver of equity market volatility, and the "higher for longer" thesis around Fed interest rate policy has been gaining ground as a result of the most recent Fed governor comments, combined with the latest economic and inflation data. While the fourth quarter's earnings season was soft, top-line growth across the S&P 500 constituents and a resilient jobs market may slow any short-term reversal of recent market trends.





### **Economic Level Element**

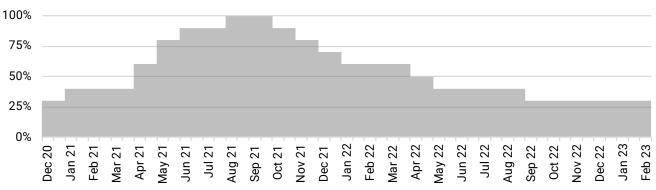


### TRADE RATIONALE

The Economic element remains relatively soft with mixed data across the economy. A strong labor market combined with improving trends in consumer sentiment and global output has slightly improved the overall picture, though consumer sentiment remains quite low historically. Leading economic indicators as well as services conditions continue to be particularly weak spots across the economy.



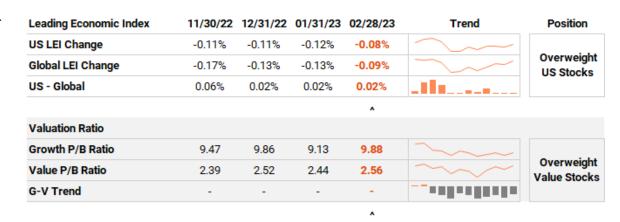




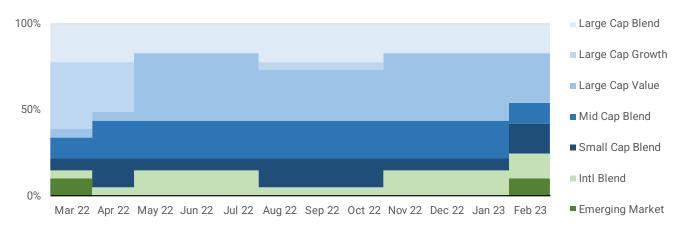
## **Active Equity Style Element**



### SIGNAL



### HISTORICAL EXPOSURE



#### TRADE RATIONALE

Despite a resurgence in the international economic outlook, US leading economic indicators remain more attractive versus the rest of the world - for now. Relative valuation trends between growth and value stocks continue to favor value. The short-term technical view shows US small cap, international blend, and emerging market stocks have the strongest risk-adjusted momentum.



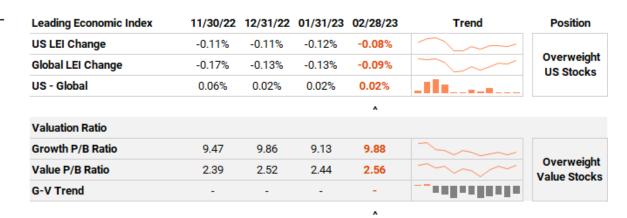
Source: Helios Quantitative Research, Bloomberg

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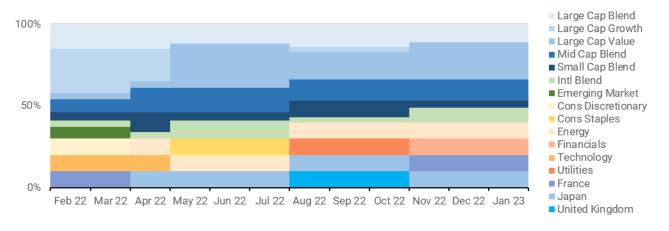
## **Active+ Equity Style Element**



### SIGNAL



### HISTORICAL EXPOSURE



### TRADE RATIONALE

Despite a resurgence in the international economic outlook, US leading economic indicators remain more attractive versus the rest of the world - for now. Relative valuation trends between growth and value stocks continue to favor value. The short-term technical view shows US small cap, international blend, and emerging market stocks have the strongest risk-adjusted momentum. On a sector basis, energy and financials remain favored. Exposure to Germany and Italy was added given their more favorable leading economic indicators relative to other developed nations.



Source: Helios Quantitative Research, Bloomberg

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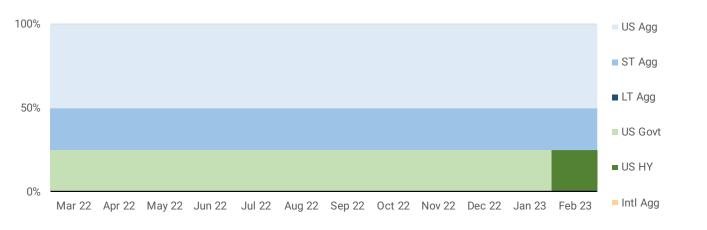
## **Active Fixed Income Style Element**



### SIGNAL

Indicator	11/30/22	12/31/22	01/31/23	02/28/23	Trend	Position
Inflation	6.00	5.70	5.60	5.60		·
2-Year Yield	4.31	4.43	4.20	4.82		SHORT DURATION
10-Year Yield	3.61	3.87	3.51	3.92	addition that	
Credit Spreads	5.01	5.09	4.63	4.70		HIGH YIELD
Intl Agg (BWX)	22.52	22.43	23.23	22.11		0%

### HISTORICAL EXPOSURE



#### TRADE RATIONALE

Higher than expected inflation data continues to favor an allocation to short-term bonds. However, as credit spreads have recovered, data now favors an exposure to high yield securities vs. treasuries. Moving to high yield creates a more "risk on" approach to credit risk, while staying allocated to short-term bonds is a more "risk off" approach to duration (interest rate) risk. Overall, the Active Fixed Income element has begun to diversify its exposures as bond markets begin to heal.



Source: Helios Quantitative Research, Bloomberg

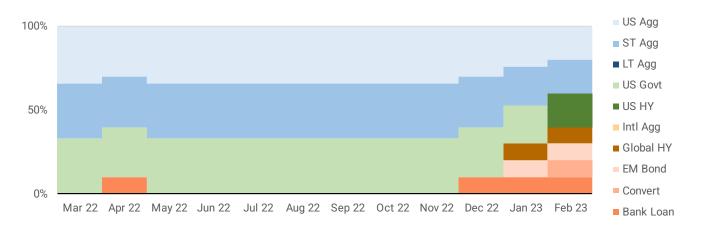
## **Active+ Fixed Income Style Element**



### SIGNAL

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Credit Spreads	5.01	5.09	4.63	4.70		HIGH YIELD
Intl Agg (BWX)	22.52	22.43	23.23	22.11		0%
Global HY (GHYG)	41.92	41.40	43.05	41.90		10%
EM Bond (EMB)	86.43	84.59	87.91	85.24		10%
Convert (CWB)	66.64	64.34	68.21	67.05		10%
Bank Loan (BKLN)	20.82	20.53	21.11	20.95		10%

### HISTORICAL EXPOSURE



#### TRADE RATIONALE

Higher than expected inflation data continues to favor an allocation to short-term bonds.

However, as credit spreads have recovered, data now favors an exposure to high yield securities vs. treasuries. Moving to high yield creates a more "risk on" approach to credit risk, while staying allocated to short-term bonds is a more "risk off" approach to duration (interest rate) risk. Trends in global high yield, emerging market bonds, and bank loans remain positive while exposure to convertible bonds was added as short-term trends turned positive. Overall, the Active+ Fixed Income element continues to broadly diversify its exposures as bond markets begin to heal globally.



Source: Helios Quantitative Research, Bloomberg

### **Model Changes**



### Revo Turnkey

This series of models uses Trend and Economic Level Elements and had no change in the level of equity exposure.

This series also uses the Active Style Element for Equity and Fixed Income style category selection.

In equity, Large Cap Value and Mid Cap Blend were reduced while Small Cap Blend was increased, and Emerging Markets added.

In Fixed Income, US Treasury was replaced with US High Yield.

#### Revo Blends

This series of models uses Trend, Volatility, and Economic Level Elements and had no change in the level of equity exposure.

This series also uses the Active Equity Style Element and the Active Plus Fixed Income Style Element for style category selection.

In Equity, Large Cap Value and Mid Cap Blend were reduced while Small Cap Blend was increased, and Emerging Markets added.

In Fixed Income, US Treasury was replaced with US High Yield, and US Aggregate Bond was reduced, and Convertible Bonds added.



# **Definitions & Disclosures**

METHODS, DEFINITIONS, AND MORE

### **Definitions & Disclosures**

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Helios Adaptive Index, Helios Alpha Index, Helios Equity Index, Helios Dynamic Risk 5% Index, Helios Dynamic Risk 7% Index, Helios Dynamic Risk 10% Index,

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