# Yield Advantage Intermediate Government/Credit Q3 2024

#### Annualized Returns (%)

	QTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	7 Years	10 Years	Since Inception <sup>1</sup>
Gross of fees	4.13	5.38	10.33	0.75	2.03	2.51	2.51	3.56
Net of fees	4.1	5.21	10.07	0.46	1.72	2.19	2.20	3.25
Benchmark <sup>2</sup>	4.17	4.68	9.45	0.17	1.26	1.89	1.96	2.95

<sup>1</sup> Inception Date: June 30, 2003 <sup>2</sup> Bloomberg Intermediate Government/Credit

# **Performance Commentary and Attribution**

Our Intermediate G/C strategy produced very strong total returns that surpassed 4% but excess returns were modestly negative. Corporate credit markets proved sanguine as Investment Grade (IG) excess returns exceeded 50 basis points (bps) and credit spreads rallied by four basis points. Other spread sectors were mixed between spread performance and excess returns but MBS excess returns were the most notable at over 92 basis points.

Sector positioning was the primary contributor to performance this quarter, followed by coupon income. While we repositioned some of our allocations within the corporate universe, we maintained our overall corporate exposure/overweight versus the benchmark which proved fruitful given the performance discussed above. With corporate credit valuations becoming a little stretched, we have been focused on more liquid, higher quality issuers that should outperform in the event credit spreads turn bearish. We continue to favor higher coupons in our higher quality corporate holdings, thus driving our 45 basis point coupon advantage versus the benchmark. We believe this advantage will continue to provide excess returns as we are likely past the point of "peak rates".

An underweight duration position was the primary detractor to performance this quarter. The Federal Reserve officially initiated its easing cycle with a 50 basis point interest rate reduction in September, which was larger than the market was expecting. In turn, market participants aggressively priced in future cuts and a bull steepening curve shape. We believe that the market might've gotten a little ahead of itself, and some of these moves will likely re-trace. With that being said, we anticipate the portfolio to duration to be adjusted to a slightly overweight duration bias for the foreseeable future.



September 30, 2024

#### **Portfolio Team**



Charles L. Curry, Jr. Managing Director, Sr. Porftfolio Manager, U.S. Fixed Income



**Noel McElreath, CFA** Sr. Director, Sr. Porftfolio Manager, U.S. Fixed Income

Total product assets shown above may include accounts that are not reflected in the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS<sup>®</sup>)\* report below. Portfolio characteristics are subject to change, and current holdings may differ. Past performance is not an indication of future results. Returns are presented gross and net of management fees and include the reinvestment of all income. GIPS-compliant performance information for the firm's strategies and products are available upon request at info@xponance.com. A GIPS report is found at the end of this presentation. Statistics shown above are supplemental information to the GIPS report at the end of this presentation. Results represent preliminary data which is subject to change. For further performance data, please see the Xponance<sup>®</sup> Yield Advantage Intermediate Government/Credit disclosures below.

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## Yield Advantage Intermediate Government/Credit



### Trailing period performance as of 09/30/2024

(%)	QTD	CYTD	1- Year	3- Years	5- Years	10- Years	Since Inception	Inception Date
Composite Gross	4.13	5.38	10.33	0.75	2.03	2.51	3.56	6/30/03
Composite Net	4.10	5.21	10.07	0.46	1.72	2.20	3.25	
Index <sup>1</sup>	4.17	4.68	9.45	0.17	1.26	1.96	2.95	

<sup>1</sup>Benchmark: Bloomberg Intermediate Gov/Credit

Past performance is not indicative of future results. Periods greater than 1 year are annualized. The U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance.

Investments in fixed income involve risks, including the loss of principal invested. This strategy's returns may fluctuate in response to one or more of many factors, that include financial condition of individual companies; the business market in which individual companies compete; industry market conditions; interest rates; general economic environments; portfolio management activities; and data or modeling risk where proprietary models are used in the management of the strategy. The strategy is subject to general market risk, interest rate risk, credit (issuer and counterparty) risk, and liquidity risk. General market risk is the risk that the value of the securities owned in the strategy may underperform because of exogenous market factors such as cyclical or geopolitical. Interest rate risk is the risk the values of bonds will change by changes in interest rates. If rates increase, the value of bonds declines in general on a mark to market (price)basis with the offsetting caveat of higher yields. Credit risk is the risk the value of investments may change because of changes in creditworthiness of issuers of debt securities to raise cash for redemption requests by other bondholders.

Gross of fee returns are presented before management fees, but after custodial fees and transaction costs and include the reinvestment of all income. Net of fee returns reflect the deduction of the actual management fees (including performance-based fees) from the monthly gross of fee returns. Actual management fees incurred by clients may vary. Prior to June 30, 2004, net of fee returns were calculated using a dollar-weighted average fee.

The standard management fee schedule is as follows: First \$50mm: 25 bps; Next \$25mm: 22 bps; Next \$25mm: 20 bps. Fees are charged to clients on a quarterly basis. Fees are calculated as a percentage of assets under management and vary based upon the type of product and the total amount of assets under management. The percentage fee is expressed terms of basis points ("BPS") for our products. One hundred basis points equal 1%. All fees are negotiable.

Xponance claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®). To obtain GIPS-compliant performance information for the firm's strategies and products, please contact info@xponance.com.

The firm maintains a complete list and description of composites and limited distribution pooled fund(s) which is available upon request. Please refer to the GIPS® report for additional performance information which is included on the next page of this presentation.

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#### Annual Disclosure Presentation

	Performance Results (%)				lized Ex-Post Deviation (%)			
Year End	Composite Gross TWR	Composite Net TWR	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	Composite Gross	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	Number of Portfolios	Composite Assets (\$mm)	Total Firm Assets (\$mm)
2023	6.40	6.06	5.24	4.30	4.58	Five or fewer	41	16,613
2022	-8.41	-8.70	-8.23	4.12	3.82	Five or fewer	30	13,512
2021	-0.30	-0.62	-1.44	2.84	2.34	Five or fewer	33	14,866
2020	7.66	7.32	6.43	2.85	2.31	Five or fewer	30	12,493
2019	7.26	6.87	6.80	1.95	2.04	Five or fewer	27	5,411
2018	0.65	0.35	0.88	1.97	2.84	Five or fewer	9	4,026
2017	2.59	2.29	2.14	2.05	2.11	Five or fewer	3	6,817
2016	4.51	4.20	2.08	2.23	2.22	Five or fewer	3	6,249
2015	-0.15	-0.45	1.07	2.21	2.10	Five or fewer	3	5,577
2014	3.38	3.05	3.13	2.19	1.94	Five or fewer	4	2,542

Composite inception date: June 30, 2003.

<sup>1</sup>Benchmark: Bloomberg IntermediateGov/Credit

Xponance,<sup>®</sup> Inc. ("Xponance<sup>®</sup>") claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS<sup>®</sup>) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. Xponance<sup>®</sup> has been independently verified for the periods from November 1, 1998 through December 31, 2023. The verification report is available upon request.

A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. Verification does not provide assurance on the accuracy of any specific performance report. GIPS® is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein.

On August 31, 2018, FIS Group, Inc. ("FIS Group") acquired Piedmont Investment Advisors, Inc.'s ("PIA") predecessor, Piedmont Investment Advisors, LLC. Xponance®, Inc. ("Xponance®") is an independent, registered investment adviser and is the successor registrant under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (the "Advisers Act") to both FIS Group and its wholly-owned subsidiary, PIA. Pursuant to a corporate rebranding and consolidation strategy, Xponance® was established effective April 1, 2020, to leverage the long histories of its predecessor entities in providing customized investment management products to institutional clients. FIS Group (through its former subsidiaries, Fiduciary Investment Solutions, Inc. and FIS Funds Management, Inc.) managed assets since 1996 and PIA (through its former affiliate Piedmont Investment Advisors, LLC) began managing assets in 2000. The firm maintains a list of composite descriptions and limited distribution pool fund(s) descriptions, which is available upon request.

Xponance is an investment adviser registered with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). Our registration as an investment adviser does not imply any level of skill or training and the information in this report has not been approved or verified by the SEC or by any state securities authority.

Total firm assets presented through, and including, Calendar Year 2019 represent total firm assets for PIA, prior to April 1, 2020, this composite was managed by legacy firm PIA. Total firm assets presented post April 1, 2020 represent the total firm assets of Xponance<sup>®</sup>.

Yield Advantage Intermediate Government/Credit Composite contains fully discretionary core fixed income accounts with a one to ten-year maturity horizon and is measured against the Bloomberg Intermediate Government/Credit Index. The product typically has 40-80 holdings with duration ranging from 90 to 110% of the prospective index and a predicted tracking error of 0.25 to 0.75%. The Yield Advantage Intermediate Government/Credit Composite was created June 30, 2003.

Results are based on fully discretionary accounts under management. Accounts that are no longer with the firm are included through the last full measurement period such accounts were managed in the composite's style. Past performance is not indicative of future results. The U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance

The composite maintains a significant cash flow policy. Effective 9/30/2022, for cash flows 25% or greater in Fixed income accounts, we will remove the member account from the composite until trading is complete

Gross of fee returns are presented before management fees, but after custodial fees and transaction costs and include the reinvestment of all income. Net of fee returns reflect the deduction of the actual management fees (including performance-based fees) from the monthly gross of fee returns. Actual management fees incurred by clients may vary. Prior to June 30, 2004, net of fee returns were calculated using a dollar-weighted average fee.

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The three-year annualized standard deviation measures the variability of the composite gross returns and the benchmark returns over the preceding 36-month period.

Internal dispersion presented is an equal-weighted standard deviation of annual gross returns of those portfolios that were in the composite for the entire year. For those years when less than six portfolios were included in the composite for the full year, no dispersion measure is presented.

Policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS reports are available upon request.