

# Conestoga SMid Cap Growth

3Q24

## Strategy Objective

The Strategy seeks to provide long-term growth of capital.

## Strategy Investment Approach

The Strategy strives to generate long-term investment returns favorable to its benchmarks with lower risk. The Strategy typically holds 40-60 SMid capitalization stocks that the investment team believes are attractively valued relative to their growth prospects. Conestoga seeks companies which we believe have sustainable earnings growth rates, high returns on equity, low debt levels, and capable management teams.

## Strategy Information

Inception	1/31/2017
Number of Holdings	48
Total Strategy Assets (as of 6/30/24)	\$1,960.8 Mil
Benchmark	Russell 2500 Growth Index

## Portfolio Management Team



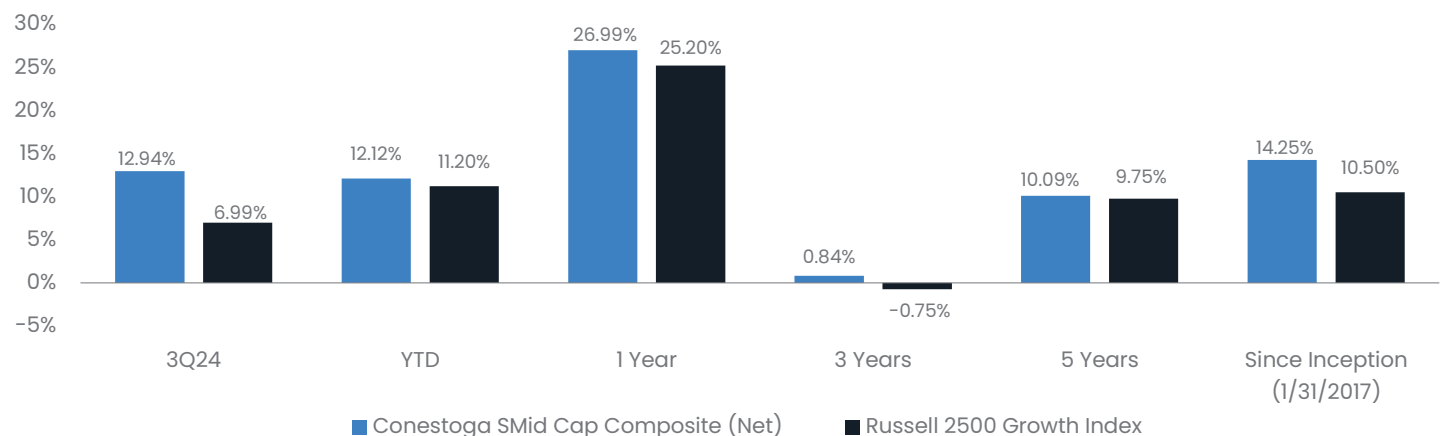
**Robert M. Mitchell**  
Portfolio Manager,  
Research Analyst  
29 Years of Experience



**Derek S. Johnston, CFA**  
Portfolio Manager,  
Research Analyst  
28 Years of Experience

The team is supported with research from Joe Monahan, CFA, David Neiderer, CFA, CPA, Larry Carlin, CFA, Ted Chang, CFA, and John Schipper.

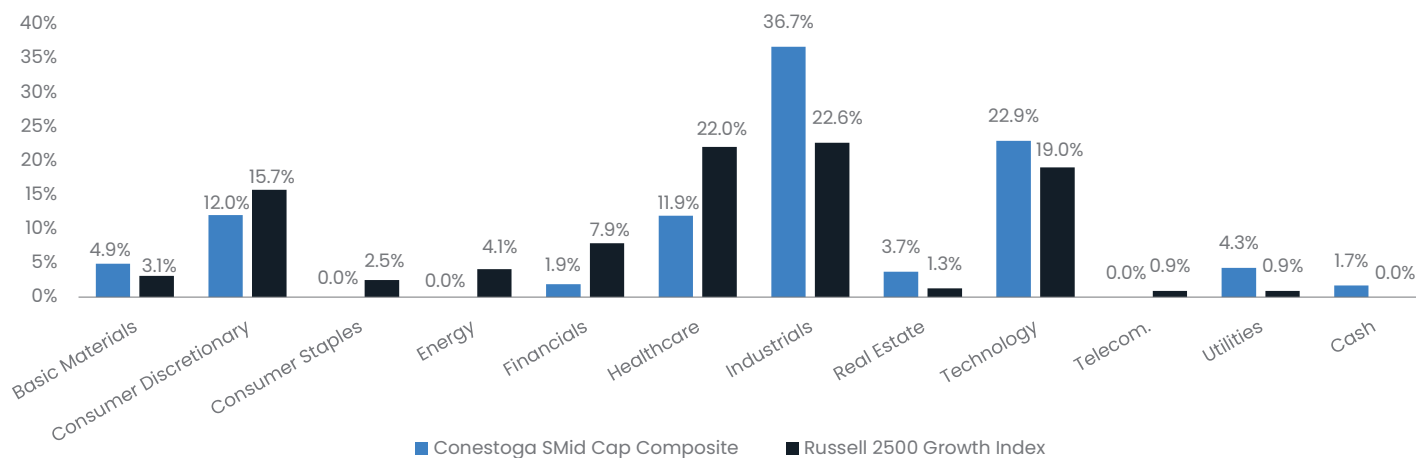
## Performance (as of 9/30/24)\*



\*Source: Conestoga, Russell Investments. All periods greater than one year are annualized. Past performance does not guarantee future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance quoted. Performance data includes reinvestment of dividends. Investment returns and principal value of an investment will fluctuate. The Russell 2500 Growth Index measures the performance of the small to mid-cap growth segment of the U.S. equity universe. It includes those Russell 2500 companies with higher price-to-book ratios, forecasted growth values, and historical sales per share.

# Conestoga SMid Cap Growth

## Sector Weightings (as of 9/30/24)\*



\*Source: FactSet Research Systems and Conestoga Capital Advisors. Sectors are defined according to the ICB industry classifications.

## Strategy Facts (as of 9/30/24)\*\*

	Conestoga SMid Cap Composite	Russell 2500 Growth
P/E (1 Yr. Forward excl. Neg.)	35.6x	19.2x
P/E (1 Yr. Forward incl. Neg.)	37.4x	31.0x
Earnings Growth (3-5 Yr.)	15.3%	16.7%
Weighted Avg. Market Cap.	\$11,227.7 Mil	\$6,688.7 Mil
ROE (5 Yr. Weighted Avg.)	13.3%	5.3%
Long-Term Debt/Capital	32.0%	37.5%
Turnover Rate	10.7%	N/A
Number of Holdings	48	1,293

## Top Ten Equity Holdings (as of 6/30/24)\*\*\*

1. Casella Waste Systems, Inc.	4.33%
2. FirstService Corp.	3.70%
3. Exponent, Inc.	3.69%
4. Descartes Systems Group, Inc.	3.23%
5. Tyler Technologies, Inc.	3.22%
6. Rollins, Inc.	3.19%
7. Construction Partners, Inc.	3.13%
8. Watsco, Inc.	3.02%
9. HEICO Corp.	2.81%
10. Guidewire Software, Inc.	2.77%
<b>Total Percent of Portfolio:</b>	<b>33.09%</b>

\*\*\*P/E (1 Yr. Fwd.) is the ratio of a stock's price to forecasted earnings over the next year. Earnings growth is the forecasted growth rate of a company's earnings over the next 3-5 years. Wtd. Avg. is a calculation that takes into account the varying degrees of importance of the numbers in a data set. In calculating a weighted average, each number in the data set is multiplied by a predetermined weight before the final calculation is made. Wtd. Avg. Market Cap. is determined by multiplying the current market price by the number of outstanding shares and then taking an average to determine weighting. ROE—Five Year Average is calculated as a company's net income divided by its shareholders' equity, and is a measure of profitability. Long-Term Debt/Capital is a measure of how much debt a company is using to finance its operations, and is determined by dividing long-term debt by total capitalization. The Turnover is the lesser of the market value of purchases or sales of portfolio securities over the past twelve months, divided by the monthly average market value of the securities held during the past twelve months. Forecasted data is sourced from FactSet Research Systems and represents the average of sell-side analyst forecasts.

\*\*\*The positions represent Conestoga Capital Advisors largest equity holdings based on the aggregate dollar value of positions held in the client accounts that are included in the SMid Cap Composite. All information is provided for informational purposes only and should not be deemed as a recommendation to buy the securities mentioned. Portfolio holdings are subject to change. Current and future portfolio holdings are subject to risk.

From small-to mid-cap, identifying and investing in quality growth stories relies on understanding the great businesses of tomorrow both inside and out. It is our belief that by specializing in the small to medium company space, analyzing financial fundamentals through an ownership lens, and establishing real relationships with management teams, we can more accurately identify future industry leaders and ultimately unlock potential multi-cycle outperformance.

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 You may also call us at 484-654-1380 or visit us on the web at [www.conestogacapital.com](http://www.conestogacapital.com)



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**Important Information: GIPS®-Compliant Performance Information for the Period Ending September 30, 2024**

Year Return	Conestoga SMid Cap Equity Composite Total Net Return	Russell 2500 Growth Total Return	# of Portfolios	Composite Dispersion (%)	Composite Assets at End of Period \$ (Millions)	% of Firm Assets	Firm Assets \$ (Millions)	UMA Assets \$ (Millions)	Total Assets \$ (Millions)
YTD 2024	12.12%	11.20%	22	N/A	\$648.3	8%	\$8,072.5	\$675.5	\$8,748.0
2023	26.61%	18.93%	24	0.44	\$580.0	8%	\$7,190.5	\$630.8	\$7,821.3
2022	-29.45%	-26.21%	29	0.38	\$494.9	9%	\$5,708.7	\$517.1	\$6,225.8
2021	16.57%	5.04%	27	0.30	\$683.6	8%	\$8,165.1	\$718.5	\$8,883.6
2020	30.89%	40.47%	11	0.54	\$538.5	8%	\$6,834.2	\$504.4	\$7,338.6
2019	35.96%	32.65%	7	1.05	\$88.3	2%	\$4,707.3	\$156.1	\$4,863.4
2018	0.69%	-7.47%	4	0.21	\$68.6	2%	\$3,633.1	\$66.3	\$3,699.4
1/31/17-12/31/17	32.69%	21.58%	2	N/A	\$59.6	2%	\$2,730.2	\$35.6	\$2,765.8
12/31/13-5/31/14	-12.28%	-1.23%	1	N/A	\$66.8	4%	\$1,652.7	N/A	\$1,652.7

**Annualized Rate of Return for the Period Ending September 30, 2024**

Time Period	Conestoga SMid Cap Equity Composite Total Net Return	Russell 2500 Growth Total Return
1 Year	26.99%	25.20%
3 Years	0.84%	-0.75%
5 Years	10.09%	9.75%
Since Inception (1/31/17)	14.25%	10.50%

Conestoga Capital Advisors, LLC claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. Conestoga Capital Advisors, LLC has been independently verified for the periods December 31, 1998 through March 31, 2024 by independent verifiers.

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. The Conestoga SMid Cap Equity Composite ("Composite") has had a performance examination for the periods December 31, 2013 through March 31, 2024. The verification and performance examination reports are available upon request.

A complete list and description of all composites and policies for valuing portfolios, calculating and reporting reporting returns, and preparing GIPS reports are available upon request. Performance results are presented after

**Important Information: GIPS®-Compliant Performance Information for the Period Ending September 30, 2024**

all actual investment management fees, custodial fees, commissions, and other trading expenses. Computations assume the reinvestment of all dividends and capital gains. Portfolios are valued monthly, and returns are weighted by using beginning-of-quarter values plus weighted cash flows. Annual returns are calculated by geometrically linking the monthly returns. Performance results for the full historical period are total net return, time-weighted rates of return expressed in U.S. dollars. Trade date accounting is used for all periods. No leverage has been used in the accounts included in the Composite. The actual return and value of an account will fluctuate and at any point could be worth more or less than the amount invested. Individual account performance will vary according to individual investment objectives.

All fee-paying discretionary portfolios will be assigned to an appropriate composite according to investment objective. Composites will include new portfolios at the start of the next performance measurement period (i.e. the beginning of the next month) after the portfolio comes under management and will exclude terminated portfolios after the last full calendar month period the portfolios were under management (i.e., the end of the last full calendar month), but composites will continue to include terminated portfolios for all periods prior to termination.

The Russell 2500 Index measures the performance of the small to mid-cap segment of the U.S. equity universe, commonly referred to as "SMid" cap. The Russell 2500 Index is a subset of the Russell 3000® Index. It includes approximately 2500 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The Russell 2500 Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive and unbiased barometer for the small to mid-cap segment. The benchmark for this Composite is the Russell 2500 Growth Index, which measures the performance of the small to mid-cap growth segment of the U.S. equity universe. It includes those Russell 2500 companies with higher price-to-book ratios, forecasted growth values, and historical sales per share. Index returns are provided for comparison purposes to represent the investment environment existing during the time periods shown. An index is fully invested, includes the reinvestment of dividends and capital gains, but does not include any transaction costs, management fees, or other costs. Holdings of each separately managed account in a composite will differ from the index. An investor may not invest directly in an index. (Source: Russell)

UMA assets presented are not part of Conestoga's GIPS-defined firm assets as Conestoga has no trading authority over these assets and serves in an advisory-only capacity. UMA assets under management are received on a preliminary quarterly basis, which are subject to change by the plan sponsor after a complete reconciliation of the underlying accounts. The "Total Assets" include UMA assets and are not part of the GIPS firm assets. UMA and Total Assets are shown as supplemental information.

The current management fee schedule is as follows: Up to \$25,000,000 = 1.00%; Over \$25,000,000 = Negotiable.

The dispersion of annual returns is measured by the standard deviation across equal-weighted portfolio returns represented within the Composite for the full year. Dispersion is shown as "N/A" for periods less than one year and for periods with 5 or fewer composite members for the entire year.

As of December 31, 2023, the three-year standard deviation, calculated net of fees, for the Conestoga SMid Cap Equity Composite was 21.11% and the Russell 2500 Growth was 20.97%. As of December 31, 2022, the three-year standard deviation, calculated net of fees, for the Conestoga SMid Cap Equity Composite was 23.81% and the Russell 2500 Growth was 25.18%. As of December 31, 2021, the three-year standard deviation, calculated net of fees, for the Conestoga SMid Cap Equity Composite was 19.19% and the Russell 2500 Growth was 21.97%.

Conestoga Capital Advisors, LLC is an independent registered investment advisory firm specializing in small and mid cap portfolio management. The Conestoga SMid Cap Equity Composite creation date and inception date is December 31, 2013. In June 2014, the Composite lost its member portfolio, and, as a result, the Composite had no member portfolios. Reporting of the Composite resumed in January 2017, when a portfolio was added to the Composite. The Composite includes all dedicated SMid Cap equity portfolios. This Composite contains portfolios which primarily invest in Mid Cap and Small Cap equities. In addition, for an account to be included in the Composite, no more than 20% of the assets can have a market capitalization outside the size range of the Russell 2500 Index. Portfolios that are less than \$250,000 in size at inception are not included in this Composite. Portfolios will not be removed from the assigned composite if they fall below the minimum simply due to market depreciation. As of December 31, 2021, the Composite definition was redefined. Previously, the market capitalization size range was calculated using a rolling 3-year average of the Russell 2500 Growth Index. **Past performance is not indicative of future results.**

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