

### Style Cycle

### Rooted in 'Recession'

Quantitative Strategy

#### Deeper into 'Recession' in September

The European Composite Macro Indicator (CMI) declined in September to its lowest level since Aug '20, rooting the Style Cycle in the 'Recession' phase. We continue to prefer High Quality, Low Risk, Large Caps and Value over Growth. In August, the top Recession stocks outperformed the bottom stocks by 3.1%, and outperformed in 17 out of 20 sectors and 6 out of 8 countries. For the latest 'Recession' screens see Exhibit 40 and Appendix: additional screens.

#### The middle of typical phase path with half of inputs down

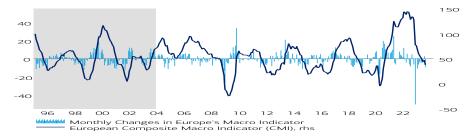
Declining German IFO and PPI are the two inputs with the most extreme readings compared with history (lowest since Jun'20 and Jan'10 respectively). The change in the European bond yield fell as well. On the other hand, the BofA Europe Leading Indicator, GDP forecast and Global EPS Revision Ratio improved over the month. The current 'Recession' phase is in the middle of the usual path: a) the CMI falls on average by 24 points in this phase (so far down by 11 points), and b) the phase lasts on average for 7 months (in the 4<sup>th</sup> month currently).

#### Defensives outperform when ECB rates are at peak

During episodes of peak ECB deposit rates, Healthcare, Energy, Low Risk and Switzerland outperformed the most consistently. Note, while our economist expects a 25bps hike from the ECB tomorrow, he flags that if there isn't one, a hike is unlikely later (Europe Economic Weekly: Done after next week 08 September 2023).

#### Exhibit 2: The European Composite Macro Indicator (CMI) dropped in September

European Composite Macro Indicator (CMI) and its monthly changes



Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy - Based on BY, GDP Forecasts, OECD, IFO Survey, PPI & EPS Revs. The sentiment indicator identified as European Composite Macro Indicator above is intended to be an indicative metric only and may not be used for reference purposes or as a measure of performance for any financial instrument or contract, or otherwise relied upon by third parties for any other purpose, without the prior written consent of BofA Global Research.

#### 13 September 2023

Quant Strategy Europe

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The European 'Style Cycle' marries phases of the economic cycle with investment style returns.

#### **Exhibit 1: Summary of Europe's macro** signals

Direction

**RISING** 

**FALLING** 

FALLING

**FALLING** 

**RISING** 

3 out of 6 inputs are falling

#### Inputs of EU Composite **Macro Indicator**

BofA Europe Leading Indicator German IFO Indicator 12mth Change in Pan EU BY Producer Price Inflation Pan Europe. Cons. GDP Forecasts Global EPS Revision Ratio

Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy. BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

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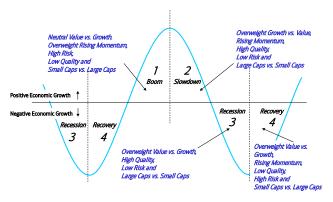
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### **Summary - European Style Cycle**

#### **Exhibit 3: European Style Cycle framework**

Style Cycle is currently in the 'Recession' phase



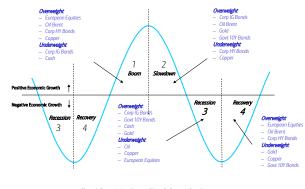
<u>Phase 1</u>- Rising & Accelerating: <u>Phase 2</u>- Rising & Decelerating: <u>Phase 3</u>- Falling & Decelerating: <u>Phase 4</u>- Falling & Accelerating: <u>Phase 5</u>- Falling & Accelerating: <u>Phase 6</u>- Falling & Accelerating: <u>Phase 8</u>- Falling

Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy

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### Exhibit 4: Suggested European cross-asset allocations in respective phases of the Style Cycle

Style Cycle is currently in the 'Recession' phase

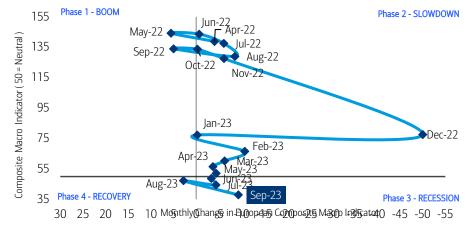


<u>Phase 1</u>- Rising & Accelerating; <u>Phase 2</u>- Rising & Decelerating; <u>Phase 3</u>- Falling & Decelerating; <u>Phase 4</u>- Falling & Accelerating

Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy

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### **Exhibit 5:** Economic signals generated over the past 18m from the EU Composite Macro Indicator Style Cycle is currently in the 'Recession' phase



Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy – Based on BY, GDP Forecasts, BofA Europe LI, IFO Survey, PPI & EPS Revision Ratio.

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Macro signals were down over the month.

This month 3 out of 6 indicators are rising and 3 are falling.

Our European Composite Macro Indicator (CMI) is a composite index based on 6 variables:

- 1) 12m change in European bond yields,
- 2) 12m forward consensus GDP forecasts,
- 3) 12m change in BofA Europe Leading Indicator
- 4) Germany's IFO Survey,
- 5) 12m change in European PPI and
- 6) Global consensus EPS Revision Ratio

See Exhibit 61 for a complete list of the historical phases of the economic cycle according to the Composite Macro Indicator (CMI).

#### Exhibit 6: Style Cycle 'Recession' preference and styles' exposures by country

As of the end of the last month

Name	Style Cycle Preference (100-Top)	Value Rank (100=Cheap)	Growth Rank (100=High)	Momentum Rank (100=Rising)	Quality Rank (100=High)	Risk Rank (100=High)	Size Rank (100=High)
Denmark	59	17	69	67	74	31	52
Switzerland	54	33	43	36	61	33	54
France	53	47	53	51	50	46	53
Italy	51	72	61	74	43	71	46
UK	50	60	40	41	46	45	50
Spain	50	67	62	71	30	58	49
Finland	48	59	39	30	53	53	43
Norway	47	73	28	28	57	57	35
Netherlands	46	30	64	62	62	71	52
Germany	46	61	51	52	40	62	50
Sweden	45	44	54	63	55	59	37

**Source:** BofA European Equity Quant Strategy. Note: The exposure/preference are market cap weighted average Styles ranks/Style Cycle Rank aggregated from the stock level, 100 indicates the highest exposure to the Style/Style Cycle phase, 50 is equal to market cap weighted average, while 1 indicates the lowest exposure to the Style/Style Cycle phase



#### Exhibit 7: Style Cycle 'Recession' preference and styles' exposures by sector

As of the end of the last month

Name	Style Cycle Preference (100- Top)	Value Rank (100=Cheap)	Growth Rank (100=High)	Momentum Rank (100=Rising)	Quality Rank (100=High)	Risk Rank (100=High)	Size Rank (100=High)
PCDG Stores (S600PDP)	63	43	38	53	57	11	51
Autos (SXAP)	59	82	45	79	56	81	49
Media (SXMP)	58	30	57	51	65	27	48
Health Care (SXDP)	56	29	51	46	60	20	54
Food, Bev & Tobacco (S600FOP)	56	35	37	18	56	16	53
Utilities (SX6P)	54	70	45	63	25	38	47
Consumer Pdts and Svs (S600CPP)	54	22	62	62	70	39	53
Energy (S600ENP)	52	93	16	13	47	74	55
Retail (SXRP)	50	41	58	78	60	63	40
Technology (SX8P)	49	18	67	58	69	61	53
Basic Resources (SXPP)	48	83	6	21	68	91	47
Construction (SXOP)	48	52	52	64	48	67	47
Telecoms (SXKP)	48	72	35	30	25	47	46
Banks (SX7P)	45	95	73	80	12	76	51
Industrial Gds & Svs (SXNP)	45	39	58	64	57	64	46
Insurance (SXIP)	45	78	55	38	32	59	49
Chemicals (SX4P)	40	45	36	25	48	58	46
Financial Svs (SXFP)	36	50	47	47	41	67	46
Travel & Leisure (SXTP)	32	41	80	79	38	67	39
Real Estate (SX86P)	28	47	25	36	22	46	24

**Source:** BofA European Equity Quant Strategy. Note: The exposure/preference are market cap weighted average Styles ranks/Style Cycle Rank aggregated from the stock level, 100 indicates the highest exposure to the Style/Style Cycle phase, 50 is equal to market cap weighted average, while 1 indicates the lowest exposure to the Style/Style Cycle phase

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### Table of the month

Exhibit 8: Healthcare, Energy, Low Risk and Switzerland are among the most consistently performing assets during ECB deposit rate peak

Performance statistics during two previous peaks in ECB deposit rate, sectors/countries/styles with most consistent results are shaded

	Relative return o	over period (EUR)	% of days with	positive return	Max drawdown			
	05-Oct-00 to 10-May-01	12-Jun-07 to 11-Nov-08	05-Oct-00 to 10-May-01	12-Jun-07 to 11-Nov-08	05-Oct-00 to 10-May-01	12-Jun-07 to 11-Nov-08		
Technology	-32.9%	-8.2%	43%	52%	-44%	-19%		
Telecoms	-18.1%	27.4%	38%	49%	-27%	-18%		
Healthcare	10.3%	45.4%	53%	49%	-11%	-14%		
Financials	5.8%	-26.5%	52%	38%	-4%	-30%		
Discretionary	4.0%	2.4%	52%	48%	-4%	-17%		
Staples	12.6%	25.5%	51%	52%	-6%	-19%		
Industrials	1.0%	-14.8%	48%	48%	-5%	-20%		
Materials	25.0%	-6.2%	58%	54%	-6%	-41%		
Energy	15.5%	23.5%	56%	52%	-16%	-17%		
Utilities	6.4%	32.1%	54%	54%	-9%	-10%		
Real Estate	9.0%	-27.6%	56%	46%	-10%	-28%		
France	-0.6%	2.3%	48%	45%	-4%	-4%		
Germany	-1.4%	6.3%	43%	47%	-5%	-8%		
taly	2.3%	-9.9%	48%	36%	-7%	-17%		
UK	2.6%	-2.9%	46%	43%	-6%	-7%		
Spain	2.5%	10.3%	48%	41%	-13%	-15%		
Sweden	-25.2%	-16.1%	46%	48%	-31%	-24%		
Netherlands	1.9%	-3.9%	50%	49%	-4%	-14%		
Norway	7.6%	-17.5%	52%	52%	-8%	-43%		
Denmark	-7.1%	12.0%	46%	50%	-15%	-17%		
Switzerland	4.9%	27.5%	51%	50%	-9%	-8%		
Cheap Value	30.1%	-39.6%	55%	38%	-3%	-42%		
Expensive Value	-24.3%	36.0%	38%	51%	-31%	-15%		
High Growth	-19.1%	-3.4%	42%	50%	-27%	-20%		
ow Growth	2.8%	-19.0%	46%	38%	-7%	-24%		
Rising Momentum	-6.6%	-5.4%	44%	53%	-11%	-21%		
alling Momentum	-7.6%	-25.6%	39%	32%	-11%	-29%		
High Quality	-10.4%	22.3%	44%	52%	-17%	-9%		
_ow Quality	3.9%	-14.8%	46%	42%	-3%	-18%		
High Risk	-11.3%	-31.5%	40%	45%	-16%	-36%		
Low Risk	13.8%	32.3%	50%	46%	-7%	-10%		
High Size	-10.4%	19.0%	39%	46%	-15%	-11%		
Low Size	8.7%	-8.4%	51%	43%	-4%	-13%		

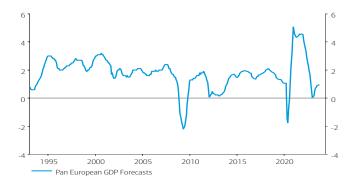
 $\textbf{Source:} \ \ \mathsf{BofA} \ \ \mathsf{European} \ \ \mathsf{Equity} \ \ \mathsf{Quant} \ \ \mathsf{Strategy}, \mathsf{Factset}, \ \mathsf{Refintiiv}, \mathsf{MSCI}.$ 



# Inputs of European Composite Macro Indicator (CMI) - FALLING

Exhibit 9: Input is RISING, z-score marginally increased to -0.74, the highest since Oct '22

Pan Europe – Economists' GDP forecasts

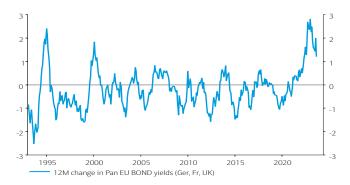


Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, Consensus Economics

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### Exhibit 11: Input is FALLING, z-score declined to 1.72, the lowest since Apr '22

12m change in Pan EU Bond Yield (Germany, France, UK)



Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, Refinitiv

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# Exhibit 13: Input is **FALLING**, z-score collapsed to -1.23, the lowest reading since Jul '16

Pan European Inflation (PPI) 12m change



**Source:** BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, Refinitiv

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# Exhibit 10: Input is RISING, z-score rose to 0.31, the highest reading since Mar '22

BofA Europe Leading Indicator 12m change

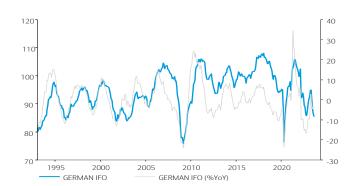


Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, OECD

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### Exhibit 12: Input is **FALLING**, z-score fell to -1.45, the lowest since Jun '20

German IFO Indicator

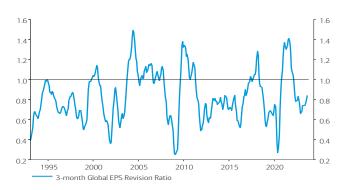


Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, IFO Institute

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# Exhibit 14: Input is RISING, z-score increased to -0.004, the highest since Apr '22

Global EPS Revision Ratio (>1 = net EPS upgrades)



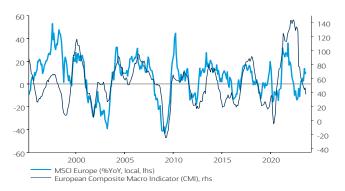
Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, IBES, MSCI



### **Key Charts**

#### Exhibit 15: European equities are sensitive to moves in the CMI

European CMI versus MSCI Europe performance (%YoY)

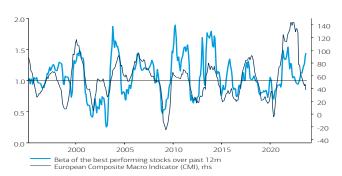


Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, Refinitiv

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### Exhibit 17: Typically, beta of best performing stocks moves in-line with CMI

European CMI versus beta of the best performing stocks over past 12m

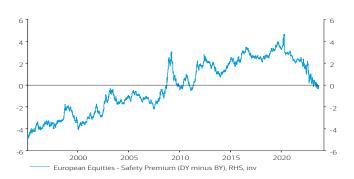


Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy

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### Exhibit 19: European equities 'safe' risk premium is at a decade low reading

European equities "safe" risk premium (safe premium = dividend yield minus European 10Y bond yield)

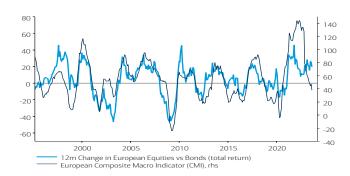


**Source:** BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, Refinitiv. Note: European bond yield is average of UK, France and Germany 10Y bond yields

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### Exhibit 16: European equities vs bonds performance is sensitive to moves in the CMI

European CMI versus European equities to bonds performance (%YoY)



Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, Refinitiv, ICE

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### Exhibit 18: Low versus High Quality style performance is sensitive to moves in the CMI

European CMI versus Low vs High Quality performance (%YoY)



Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy

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### Exhibit 20: Typically, European 'safe' risk premium moves in-line with CMI

European CMI versus actual yearly change in European equities "safe" risk premium (safe premium = dividend yield minus European 10Y bond yield)



**Source**: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy. Note: European bond yield is average of UK, France and Germany 10Y bond yields



### Exhibit 21: European 12m fwd P/E is sensitive to moves in the CMI

European CMI versus MSCI Europe's 12m fwd P/E

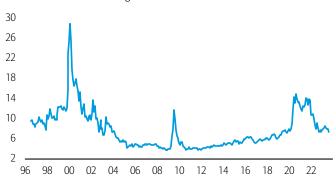


Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, Refinitiv

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#### Exhibit 23: The current P/E dispersion stands at 7.4

European stocks - standard deviation of 12m Fwd P/E excluding 1% of top and bottom extreme readings



Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, MSCI, I/B/E/S

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### Exhibit 25: European price to book ratio is sensitive to moves in the

European CMI versus MSCI Europe's 12m trailing P/B



**Source:** BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, Refinitiv. Note: European equities are represented by MSCI Europe index.

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#### Exhibit 22: Typically, European YoY change in 12m fwd P/E moves in-line with CMI

European CMI versus MSCI Europe's 12m fwd P/E YoY change

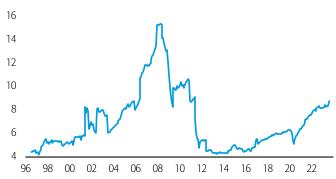


Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, Refinitiv

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#### Exhibit 24: The current 12m Fwd EPS dispersion stands at 8.8

European stocks - standard deviation of 12m Fwd EPS excluding 1% of top and bottom extreme readings



Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, MSCI, I/B/E/S

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#### Exhibit 26: Typically, European YoY change in 12m trailing P/B moves in-line with CMI

European CMI versus MSCI Europe's 12m trailing P/B YoY change



**Source:** BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, Refinitiv. Note: European equities are represented by MSCI Europe index.

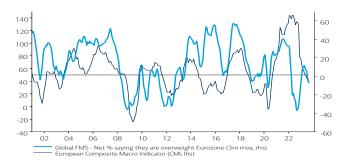
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## Exhibit 27: Net 10% of global investors say they are underweight Europe in September, a small decline over the month

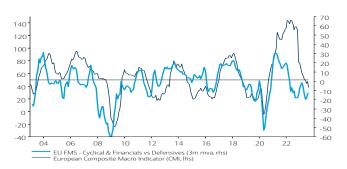
Please indicate for each of the following equity markets, how overweight or underweight you consider your position to be relative to your internal benchmark:



Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

### Exhibit 29: Investors increased their underweight in cyclical & financial sectors vs defensives in Europe in September

Please indicate for each of the following European sectors, whether you consider your position to be overweight, underweight or neutral relative to your internal benchmark

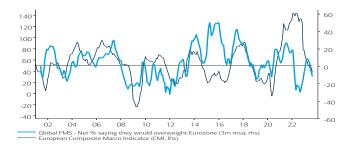


**Source:** BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, BofA European Fund Manager Survey. Note: The positioning is a difference between average positioning in cyclical and financial sectors (Autos, Basic Resources, Chemicals, Construction, Consumer Pds&Svs, Industrial Gds&Svs, Media, Retail, Technology, Travel&Leisure, Banks, Financial Svs, Insurance, Real Estate) and defensive sectors (Food&Beverages, Pharma/Healthcare, Telecoms, Utilities, PCDG Stores).

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# Exhibit 28: Net 19% of global Investors continue to intend to underweight the region over the next 12 months, the highest number since Oct '22

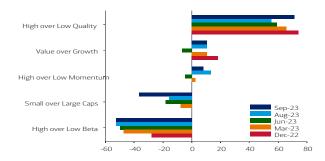
Which ONE of the following equity markets would you most like to overweight over the next twelve months, and which ONE would you most like to underweight?



Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

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# Exhibit 30: In September, European investors increased their belief the most in High Quality and Large caps outperforming over the next 12m How do you see Investment Style outperformance in Europe in the next 12

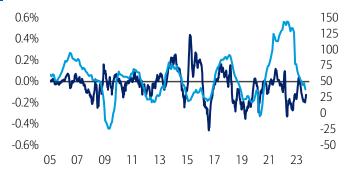


**Source:** BofA European Fund Manager Survey. Note: Question firstly asked in May '14 survey, the High over Low Momentum answer was added in Apr '19

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#### Exhibit 31: Our CMI points to further outflows from European equities

European Composite Macro Indicator (light blue line, rhs) vs rolling 8w flows into Europe-focused equity funds as % of mcap (dark blue line, lhs)



Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, EPFR Global

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### **Exhibit 32: Flows increased for Size and Quality styles over the past 4w** Rolling 8w flows into European styles (l/s) this year



Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, EPFR Global



### **European Style Cycle - performance**

**Style Cycle:** The European 'Style Cycle' links phases of the economic cycle with performance of investment style. Stocks are screened based on their equal weighted rank of Value, Growth, Momentum, Quality, Risk and Size.

#### Exhibit 33: Top & Bottom Style Cycle relative price performance

Relative price performance to largest 250 European stocks (price, EUR, equally weighted)



Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, FactSet. The shaded area on the chart above shows back-tested results during the period from Mar-95 to Dec-03. The un-shaded portion represents actual performance since Jan-04. The Style Cycle back-testing is a rolling monthly performance based on the changing phases of the Style Cycle. This performance is back-tested and does not represent the actual performance of any account or fund. Back-tested performance depicts the theoretical (not actual) performance of a particular strategy over the time period indicated. No representation is being made that any actual portfolio is likely to have achieved returns similar to those shown herein. The data displayed in this exhibit depends in part on certain monthly screens and other data that were not previously published. Please see <a href="Style Cycle: 1800m">Style Cycle: 1800m</a> persists 30 June 2021 for details and relevant data.

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### Exhibit 34: Last month Top stocks have outperformed Bottom stocks by 3.1% Excess Price Returns (%)

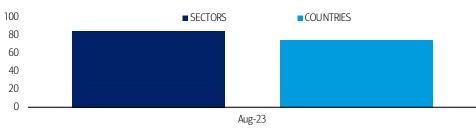
	1M	3M	6M	12M	YTD	3 Yrs	5 Yrs	Since Incept.
Top Style Cycle	1.6	0.2	9.0	3.4	4.5	20.1	5.9	100.1
Bottom Style Cycle	-1.5	-1.6	-7.1	-4.7	-4.8	-14.8	4.9	-52.2
Top vs Bottom Style Cycle	3.1	1.8	17.4	8.5	9.7	41.0	1.0	318.4

**Source:** BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, FactSet. \* - Inception = January 2004. Note: Month end data used for performance of stock screen. Performance based on equal weight portfolios, monthly rebalanced, no transaction costs are included, and performances based on price returns and not total returns (dividends are not included). Performance is shown not as a guide to any past recommendation, but as confirmation of each phase's characteristics

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### Exhibit 35: Top vs Bottom Recession stocks outperformed in 17 out of 20 sectors and in 6 out of 8 countries in Aug-23

 $\% \ of \ SXXP \ supersectors \ and \ countries \ where \ the \ Recession \ top \ vs \ bottom \ stocks \ are \ outperforming$ 



BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, FactSet. Note: countries included: France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and UK. Performances are based on the top / bottom quintile/or minimum 5 stocks in each group of stocks ranked by the Recession ranks or in sectors/countries.

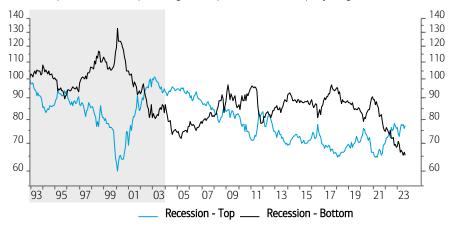


### Style Cycle - Recession

**Style Cycle - Recession:** The European 'Style Cycle' links phases of the economic cycle with performance of investment style. The stocks below are screened by the characteristics of the 'Recession' phase. Stocks are screened on their equal-weighted rank of Value, Growth, Momentum, Quality, Risk and Size.

#### Exhibit 36: Top & Bottom Recession relative price performance

Price relative performance vs top 250 largest European stocks (EUR, equally weighted)



**Source:** BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, FactSet. Inception – January 2004. The shaded area shows back-tested results during the period from Dec-92 to Dec-03. The unshaded portion represents actual performance since Jan-04. This performance is back-tested and does not represent the actual performance of any account or fund. Back-tested performance depicts the theoretical (not actual) performance of a particular strategy over the time period indicated. No representation is being made that any actual portfolio is likely to have achieved returns similar to those shown herein. The data displayed in this exhibit depends in part on certain monthly screens and other data that were not previously published. Please see <a href="Style Cyde: 'Boom' persists 30 June 2021">Style Cyde: 'Boom' persists 30 June 2021</a> for details and relevant data.

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### Exhibit 37: Top Recession stocks outperformed Bottom Recession stocks by 3.1% last month Excess Price Returns (%)

								Since
	1M	3M	6M	12M	YTD	3 Yrs	5 Yrs	Incept.
Top Recession	1.6	0.2	6.1	2.3	1.1	8.7	15.7	-18.6
Bottom Recession	-1.5	-1.6	-5.8	-9.5	-4.6	-22.4	-25.7	-20.9
Top vs Bottom Recession	3.1	1.8	12.6	13.1	6.1	40.1	55.8	3.0

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Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, FactSet. \* - Inception = January 2004

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#### **Exhibit 38: Median Top Recession**

Latest valuations for Top Recession stocks

	Fwd P/E	DY	RoE	ERR	Size	Beta
Тор	13.7	3.6	26.0	3.4	51.7	0.8
LT Avg	12.9	3.8	21.2	0.6	43.9	0.7
EU Market	14.7	2.7	14.8	1.4	20.4	1.1

Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, FactSet

**Exhibit 39: Median Bottom Recession**Latest valuations for Bottom Recession stocks

	Fwd P/E	DY	RoE	ERR	Size	Beta
Bottom	17.3	2.0	5.9	0.7	11.7	1.3
LT Avg	18.0	1.5	6.3	0.8	8.4	1.3
EU Market	14.7	2.7	14.8	1.4	20.4	1.1

#### Exhibit 40: Style Cycle - Recession screens for Sep '23 (data as of 31/08/2023)

Top and Bottom Style Cycle Recession stocks

To	Top Stocks (Good Value, Low Risk, High Quality & Large Size)								Bottom Stocks (Poor Value, High Risk, Low Quality & Small Size)						
BBG Ticker	Name	Recession Rank	Value Rank	Size	Beta	RoE	Price	BBG Ticker	Name	Recession Rank	Value Rank	Size	Beta	RoE	Price
NOVN SW	Novartis	100	45	207259	0.6	21.2	89.3	ALO FP	Alstom	1	52	8954	1.3	0.6	25.5
ULVRLN	Unilever	100	37	129378	0.5	39.8	40.4	1COV GR	Covestro	1	26	10289	1.5	-8.0	49.1
NOVOB DC	Novo Nordisk	99	5	307127	0.5	75.5	1274.0	VWS DC	Vestas Wind Systems	1	7	23380	1.2	-17.9	159.0
ROG SW	Roche	99	39	207050	0.3	51.7	260.3	ENT LN	Entain	2	49	9352	1.4	10.4	11.6
GSK LN	GSK	98	60	72064	0.7	53.6	13.9	FER SM	Ferrovial	2	8	16166	1.1	4.4	29.3
NESN SW	Nestle	98	23	331277	0.5	33.0	106.4	AGN NA	Aegon	3	91	8682	1.4	-9.1	4.7
SANFP	Sanofi	98	56	121485	0.6	10.9	98.6	MTX GR	MTU Aero Engines	3	32	12546	1.6	11.5	215.8
ITX SM	Inditex	97	24	41864	1.2	28.6	35.4	UU/ LN	United Utilities	3	30	8183	0.8	-0.3	9.5
ORFP	L'Oreal	97	5	106072	0.9	21.7	405.8	SIGN SW	SIG	4	21	8060	0.7	1.7	23.3
DSV DC	DSV	96	28	35444	1.2	21.6	1307.5	WTB LN	Whitbread	4	40	8809	1.4	8.0	34.4
IBE SM	Iberdrola	96	65	71119	0.7	11.3	11.0	CONGR	Continental	5	77	8193	1.6	10.7	68.6
BA/LN	BAE Systems	95	51	38982	0.8	17.4	10.1	HMB SS	H&M	5	48	10054	1.5	8.0	167.5
ENEL IM	Enel	95	75	54819	1.1	16.0	6.2	SLHN SW	Swiss Life	5	67	19356	1.3	4.5	554.6
STLA US	Stellantis	95	100	41934	1.7	27.9	17.2	CBK GR	Commerzbank	6	79	11727	1.5	5.9	10.2
RMS FP	Hermes	94	1	65338	0.9	29.1	1900.8	SCAB SS	Svenska Cellulosa	6	27	8078	0.8	5.2	146.0
KNIN SW	Kuehne Nagel	94	43	16359	1.0	72.8	265.9	AV/ LN	Aviva	7	88	13244	1.3	-15.2	3.8
NXT LN	Next	94	42	10811	1.6	64.0	69.9	CLNX SM	Cellnex Telecom	7	31	21654	0.7	-1.9	35.3
DHL GR	Deutsche Post	93	57	47064	1.3	19.6	43.1	NWG LN	NatWest	7	99	16742	1.4	9.1	2.3
PUB FP	Publicis	93	63	17901	1.1	15.9	72.1	akza na	Akzo Nobel	8	47	13880	1.2	10.8	75.0
IMB LN	Imperial Brands	92	82	19907	0.8	49.2	17.9	SY1 GR	Symrise	8	17	13858	0.7	7.4	96.2
AD NA	Ahold Delhaize	92	66	31954	0.4	16.2	30.2	EDP PL	EDP	9	60	13370	0.7	1.8	4.2
RKT LN	Reckitt Benckiser	91	35	51745	0.4	26.0	57.0	VIE FP	Veolia Environnement	9	65	21264	1.2	13.7	28.9
SHEL LN	Shell	89	87	209248	0.9	22.8	24.1	ADYEN NA	Adyen	10	9	18195	1.3	19.4	772.5
TSCO LN	Tesco	89	73	24640	0.9	13.2	2.7	AER US	AerCap	10	67	10210	2.0	9.8	61.5
WKL NA	Wolters Kluwer	89	11	31080	0.6	49.4	111.2	SRT GR	Sartorius	10	1	10735	0.8	28.3	377.4

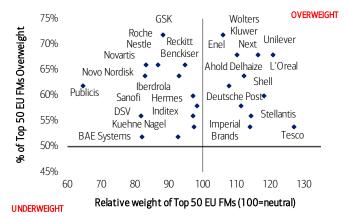
**Source:** BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, FactSet, Price in Local Currency. Companies listed represent the top and bottom 10% of the largest 250 European stocks. The screen identified as Style Cycle – Recession above is intended to be an indicative metric only and may not be used for reference purposes or as a measure of performance for any financial instrument or contract, or otherwise relied upon by third parties for any other purpose, without the prior written consent of BofA Global Research. This screen was not created to act as a benchmark.

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#### Recession characteristics

### Exhibit 41: There is no stock from Top Recession list which is unpopular with investors

Top Recession stocks ownership

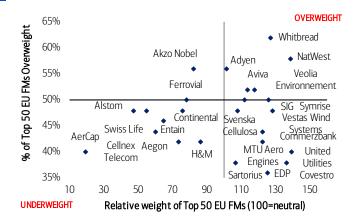


Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy

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# Exhibit 42: There are 5 stocks from Bottom Recession list which are highly popular with investors

Bottom Recession stocks ownership

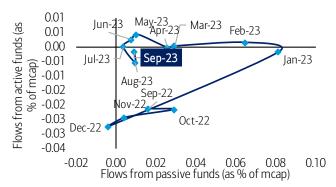


**Source:** BofA European Equity Quant Strategy



# Exhibit 43: So far in September, Top Recession stocks saw \$0.04bn outflows from the active funds and \$0.21bn inflows from passive funds

Top Recession stocks flows over the past 12 months as % of mcap

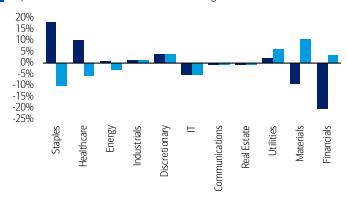


Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, EPFR Global

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### Exhibit 45: Top Recession stocks are most OW Staples, while bottom stocks are most OW Materials

Top and bottom Recession relative sector weights



Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy

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# Exhibit 47: Top Recession stocks trade at a 7% P/E discount to the market relative to the long term average

Top Recession stocks P/E relative to market

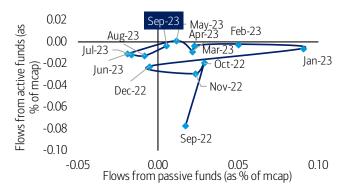


Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy

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# Exhibit 44: So far in September, Bottom Recession stocks saw \$0.01 bn outflows from the active funds and \$0.02 bn inflows from passive funds

Bottom Recession stocks flows over the past 12 months as % of mcap

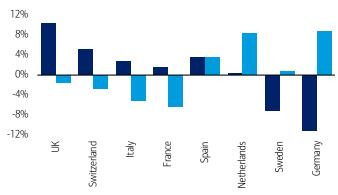


Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, EPFR Global

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## Exhibit 46: Top Recession stocks are most OW UK, while bottom stocks are most OW Germany

Top and bottom Recession relative country weights



Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy

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# Exhibit 48: Bottom Recession stocks trade at a 13% P/E discount to the market relative to the long term average

Bottom Recession stocks P/E relative to market



Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy



### **Appendix: additional screens**

#### Style Cycle screen for European SMIDs

Exhibit 49: Style Cycle SMID - Recession screens for Sep'23 (data as of 31/08/2023)

Top and Bottom Style Cycle SMID Recession stocks

Top Stocks (Good Value, Low Risk, High Quality & Large Size)

Bottom Stocks (Poor Value, High Risk, Low Quality & Small Size)

В	BG Ticker	Name	Recession Rank	Value Rank	Size (EUR bn)	Beta	RoE	Price	BBG Ticker	Name	Recession Rank	Value Rank	Size (EUR bn)	Beta	RoE	Price
Ε	LISA FH	Elisa	100	26	6	0.2	35.2	45.3	AML LN	Aston Martin	1	14	1	2.0	-105.8	3.6
IF	PN FP	lpsen	100	43	5	0.8	21.0	119.8	BFIT NA	Basic-Fit	1	14	1	2.0	0.0	28.2
K	ESKOB FH	Kesko	100	69	5	0.7	25.4	18.0	<b>BORR NO</b>	Borr Drilling	1	22	1	3.3	-26.9	75.0
Ν	IXT LN	Next	100	38	10	1.6	64.0	69.9	IWG LN	IWG	1	33	2	2.3	-66.1	1.8
R	S1 LN	RS	99	51	4	1.2	22.4	7.6	MBTN SW	Meyer Burger	1	2	1	2.9	-16.7	0.4
Н	WDN LN	Howden Joinery	99	49	5	1.1	42.0	7.4	SPM IM	Saipem	1	44	2	1.8	-9.0	1.5
Ν	MNDI LN	Mondi	99	79	7	1.0	22.2	13.1	ARYN SW	Aryzta	2	41	2	2.3	5.3	1.5
Y.	AR NO	Yara	99	94	6	0.7	16.7	388.9	BAVA DC	Bavarian Nordic	2	42	2	1.6	3.3	153.2
Α	DM LN	Admiral	98	28	6	0.2	32.4	24.9	ROO LN	Deliveroo	2	23	1	1.8	-37.0	1.1
Ε	MSN SW	EMS-CHEMIE	98	7	5	0.8	29.3	664.5	NDX1 GR	Nordex	2	21	1	2.3	-96.1	11.0
IC	GG LN	IG	98	81	3	0.7	25.9	6.8	RDC GR	Redcare Pharmacy	2	10	2	0.8	-15.7	110.0
R	ED SM	Redeia Corporacion	98	63	6	0.5	11.9	15.0	ZEAL DC	Zealand Pharma	2	1	2	1.0	-50.6	256.8
В	ME LN	B&M European Value Retail	97	53	6	1.1	50.8	5.8	FRA GR	Fraport	3	61	2	2.2	5.8	50.1
D	CC LN	DCC	97	85	5	0.9	12.2	43.3	HMSO LN	Hammerson	3	49	1	2.7	4.6	0.2
IT	RK LN	Intertek	97	26	8	0.7	26.7	41.4	ONT LN	Oxford Nanopore Technologies	3	4	1	1.8	-13.2	2.4
Ε	MG LN	Man	97	72	3	1.1	35.5	2.1	TRNLN	Trainline	3	19	1	2.1	12.8	2.3
N	IZYMB DC	Novozymes	97	9	8	0.6	26.3	298.5	VK FP	Vallourec	3	74	2	3.0	14.1	12.4
V	VPP LN	WPP	97	80	10	1.5	29.2	7.7	CCL LN	Carnival	4	11	2	2.8	-65.5	11.2
Α	UTO LN	Auto Trader	96	7	7	0.7	47.2	6.1	EZJ LN	easyJet	4	65	1	2.9	-1.6	4.2
C	CC LN	Computacenter	96	54	2	1.0	24.5	21.8	SCYR SM	Sacyr	4	71	1	1.9	20.5	2.9
C	RDA LN	Croda	96	13	9	0.8	15.7	55.2	SCHA NO	Schibsted	4	20	1	0.8	-22.8	226.5
Н	IIK LN	Hikma Pharmaceuticals	96	47	4	0.4	18.8	21.9	SHC LN	Shaftesbury Capital	4	15	2	1.3	1.2	1.2
Q	IA GR	QIAGEN	95	12	10	0.1	11.2	42.2	SSPG LN	SSP	4	26	2	2.0	57.4	2.4
R	AND NA	Randstad	95	76	6	1.5	22.4	54.2	WG/LN	John Wood	5	70	1	2.1	1.1	1.6
R	MV LN	Rightmove	95	7	5	1.0	288.1	5.6	S92 GR	SMA Solar Technology	5	12	1	1.5	20.4	74.3

Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, FactSet, Price in Local Currency. Companies listed represent the top and bottom 25 stocks within European SMIDs (companies with market cap less than 10bn EUR). The screen identified as Style Cycle SMID - Recession above is intended to be an indicative metric only and may not be used for reference purposes or as a measure of performance for any financial instrument or contract, or otherwise relied upon by third parties for any other purpose, without the prior written consent of BofA Global Research. This screen was not created to act as a benchmark. This screen is not a recommended list either individually or as a group of stocks. Investors should consider the fundamentals of the companies and their own individual circumstances/objectives before making any investment decision

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Recession

#### Exhibit 50: Style Cycle Europe Stoxx 600 supersectors - Recession screens for Sep '23 (data as of 31/08/2023)

rope Stoxx 600 supersectors

11/2	Top and Bottom Style Cycle Recession stocks by Euro
	Recession

BBG Ticker	Name	Recession Rank (100=Top)	BBG Ticker	Name	Recession Rank (1=Bottom)	BBG Ticker	Name	Recession Rank (100=Top)	BBG Ticker	Name	Rank (1=Bottom
			utomobiles and P			GAW LN	Games Workshop	67	ALE PW	Allegro.eu	1
STLA US	Stellantis	98	CON GR	Continental	44			Ener	gy		
MBG GR	Mercedes-Benz	97	RNO FP	Renault	34	EQNR NO	Equinor	94	HBR LN	Harbour Energy	6
BMW GR	BMW	96	VOLCARB SS	Volvo Car	23	REP SM	Repsol	90	ENR GR	Siemens Energy	4
RACE IM	Ferrari	95	FRVIA FP	Forvia	9	TTE FP	TotalEnergies	90	SUBC NO	Subsea 7	2
ML FP	Michelin	94	FRFP	Valeo	2	PKN PW	ORLEN	79	ENOG LN	Energean	1
			Banks			GTT FP	Gaztransport & Technigaz	77	NEL NO	NEL	1
HSBA LN		90	PKO PW	PKO Bank Polski	37			Financial S			
	SEB	90	ABN NA	ABN AMRO Bank	27	IGG LN	IG	98	RF FP	Eurazeo	14
DNB NO	DNB Bank	87	CBK GR	Commerzbank	25	III LN	3i	97	ICP LN	Intermediate Capital	7
	Swedbank	81	JYSK DC	Jyske Bank	23		Deutsche Boerse	94	ALLFG NA	Allfunds	6
BBVA SM		80	AIBG ID	AIB	16		Man	92	MNG LN	M&G	6
SANSM	Banco Santander	79	SPL PW	Santander Bank Polska	11	EXO NA	EXOR	75	MF FP	Wendel	6
	Svenska	78	SYDB DC	Sydbank	11			Food Beverage			
KBC BB	KBC	76	CBG LN	Close Brothers	7	IMB LN	Imperial Brands	96	ABIBB	Anheuser-Busch InBev	42
UCG IM	UniCredit	63	VMUK LN	Virgin Money UK	7		Nestle	94	HEIA NA	Heineken	41
			Basic Resources			BNFP	Danone	91	BARN SW	Barry Callebaut	36
RIO LN	Rio Tinto	95	UPM FH	UPM-Kymmene	51		Mowi	89	CPR IM	Davide Campari-Milano	19
MT NA	ArcelorMittal	81	NDA GR	Aurubis	36		Orkla	89	Bakka no	Bakkafrost	13
	Glencore	75	KGH PW	KGHM Polska Miedz	32	TATE LN	Tate & Lyle	82	DSFIR NA	DSM-Firmenich	9
	Anglo American	64	SCAB SS	Svenska Cellulosa	26			Health			
HOLMB SS	Holmen B	43	ANTO LN	Antofagasta	15		Novartis	100	ARGX BB	argenx	25
			Chemicals				Novo Nordisk	100	GETIB SS	Getinge	22
AI FP	L'Air Liquide	84	WCH GR	Wacker Chemie	21		GSK	99	EKTAB SS	Elekta	16
	Yara	64	OCI NA	OCI	20	ROG SW	Roche	98	ALKB DC	ALK-Abello	12
	Givaudan	61	EVK GR	Evonik Industries	12	HIK LN	Hikma Pharmaceuticals	97	GXI GR	Gerresheimer	12
BNR GR	Brenntag	53	1COV GR	Covestro	9	IPN FP	lpsen	97	BANB SW	Bachem	11
IMCD NA	IMCD	34	LXS GR	LANXESS	4	SANFP	Sanofi	95	AMP IM	Amplifon	8
			struction and Ma			MRK GR	Merck	77		Ambu	7
	Saint-Gobain	91	ACS SM	ACS Actividades	32	BIM FP	bioMerieux	76	GN DC	GN Store Nord	5
KSP ID	Kingspan	91	SPIE FP	SPIE	21	QIA GR	QIAGEN	71	EVT GR	Evotec	2
DG FP	VINCI	91	ANA SM	Acciona	14	HLN LN	Haleon	69	Bava DC	Bavarian Nordic	1
	ASSA ABLOY	90	FERSM	Ferrovial	9			ndustrial Goods			
sika sw	Sika	56	ARCAD NA	Arcadis	8	BA/LN	BAE Systems	99	GFTU LN	Grafton	25
			ner Products and				DSV	99	EDEN FP	Edenred	23
ORFP	L'Oreal	98	UBIFP	Ubisoft Entertainment	12	KNIN SW	Kuehne Nagel	99	NEX FP	Nexans	23
RMS FP	Hermes	97	LPP PW	LPP	11	DHL GR	Deutsche Post	96	VALMT FH	Valmet	21
	Henkel	89	EMBRACB SS	Embracer	8		Kone	95	BEIJB SS	Beijer	20
MC FP	LVMH	84	DHER GR	Delivery Hero	5	SRPLN	Serco	95	MTX GR	MTU Aero Engines	20
MONC IM	Moncler	78	ELUXB SS	Electrolux	2	VOLVB SS	Volvo	94	ELIS FP	Elis	18

Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, FactSet. Companies listed represent the top and bottom quintile stocks (or minimum 5 stocks) within Europe Stoxx 600 supersectors. The screens identified as Europe Stoxx 600 supersectors - Recession above are intended to be an indicative metric only and may not be used for reference purposes or as a measure of performance for any financial instrument or contract, or otherwise relied upon by third parties for any other purpose, without the prior written consent of BofA Global Research. These screens were not created to act as benchmarks. This screen is not a recommended list either individually or as a group of stocks. Investors should consider the fundamentals of the companies and their own individual circumstances/objectives before making any investment decision

# Exhibit 51: Style Cycle Europe Stoxx 600 supersectors - Recession screens for Sep '23 (data as of 31/08/2023) Top and Bottom Style Cycle Recession stocks by Europe Stoxx 600 supersectors

		Recession Rank			Recession Rank	BBG		Recession Rank	BBG		Recession Rank (1=Botto
BBG Ticker	Name	(100=Top)	BBG Ticker		(1=Bottom)	Ticker	Name	(100=Top)		Name	m)
ATCOA SS	Atlas Copco	93	KGX GR	KION	18	LIFP	Klepierre	49	COL SM	Inmobiliaria Colonial	2
EPIA SS	Epiroc	93	TOM NO	TOMRA Systems	17			Reta			
BNZL LN	Bunzl	91	FHZN SW	Flughafen Zuerich	14	NXT LN	Next	100	RUI FP	Rubis	44
EXPN LN	Experian	91	TPK LN	Travis Perkins	10	ITX SM	Inditex	99	HMB SS	H&M	27
LRFP	Legrand	91	INPST NA	InPost	9	BMELN	B&M European Value Retail	96	SMWHLN		7
MAERSKB DC	A.P. Moller - Maersk	90	TKA GR	thyssenkrupp	8		Howden Joinery	87	DUFN SW	Dufry	2
ABBNSW	ABB	89	WLNFP	Worldline	6	MKS LN	Marks & Spencer	53	ZAL GR	Zalando	2
DPLM LN	Diploma	88	GET FP	Getlink	5		<u> </u>	Techno		_	
SCHP SW	Schindler	88	ISS DC	ISS A/S	5		Auto Trader	94	PRX NA	Prosus	36
HO FP	Thales	87	ALO FP	Alstom	3	SGE LN	Sage	87	BESI NA	BE Semiconductor	26
SAND SS	Sandvik	83	AZE BB	Azelis	3		STMicroelectronics	87	NOD NO	Nordic Semiconductor	14
SGSN SW	SGS	82	NKT DC	NKT	3	CCC LN	Computacenter	86	FNOX SS	Fortnox	11
ITRK LN	Intertek	81	IDS LN	Intl. Distri. Svs	3	CAPFP	Capgemini	79	AMS SW	ams-OSRAM	4
IMI LN	IMI	78	ADP FP	Aeroports de Paris	1	SCT LN	Softcat	78	TKWY NA	Just Eat Takeaway.com	4
		Insura						Telecommu			
MUV2 GR	Munich Re	92	PHNX LN	Phoenix	23	KPN NA	Royal KPN	92	CLNX SM	Cellnex Telecom	21
PST IM	Poste Italiane	89	HSX LN	Hiscox	17	DTE GR	Deutsche Telekom	85	SESG FP	SES	5
G IM	Generali	84	STB NO	Storebrand	17	ORA FP	Orange	74	TIT IM	Telecom Italia	5
CS FP	AXA	84	AGN NA	Aegon	15	TEF SM	Telefonica	74	O2D GR	Telefonica Deutschland	4
ADM LN	Admiral	83	SCRFP	SCOR	15	VOD LN	Vodafone	51	TIGO US	Millicom	3
NN NA	NN	72	BEZ LN	Beazley	12			Travel and			
	- 11	Med				EVO SS	Evolution	86	LHA GR	Deutsche Lufthansa	24
PUB FP	Publicis	98	INF LN	Informa	66	FDJ FP	La Francaise des Jeux	76	AC FP	Accor	15
WKL NA	Wolters Kluwer	95	WPP LN	WPP	45	IHG LN	Ictl. Hotels	70	IAG LN	IAG	14
REL LN	RELX	93	ITV LN	ITV	37	SWFP	Sodexo	66	TUI1 GR	TUI	5
UMG NA	Universal Music	79	EVD GR	CTS Eventim	34	RYA ID	Ryanair	54	SSPG LN	SSP	1
PSON LN	Pearson	60	VIV FP	Vivendi	21			Utili			
TGGG 1 11		sonal Care Dru	ig and Grocery	S	66	ELE SM	Endesa	99	UU/ LN	United Utilities	26
TSCO LN	Tesco	100	CA FP	Carrefour	66	EOANGR	EON	97	VIE FP	Veolia	24
ULVRLN	Unilever	100	ESSITYB SS	Essity	60	SSELN	SSE	97	DRX LN	Drax	15
SBRY LN	J Sainsbury	88	GRG LN	Greggs	55	IBE SM	Iberdrola	95	EDPR PL	EDP Renovaveis	12
RKT LN	Reckitt Benckiser	87	DNP PW	Dino Polska	53	RWE GR	RWE	93	PNN LN	Pennon	7
BEIGR	Beiersdorf	84	OCDO LN	Ocado	10	_					
51.071.11	Pt 1	Real Es		-	10						
RMV LN	Rightmove	78	FABG SS	Fabege	13						
WDP BB	Warehouses De Pauw	71	KOJAMO FH		13						
PSPN SW	PSP Swiss Property	60	LXILN	LXI REIT	13						
COFB BB	Cofinimmo	59	BALDB SS	Fastighets Balder	10						
LAND LN	Land Securities	53	COVFP	Covivio	9						

Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, FactSet. Companies listed represent the top and bottom quintile stocks (or minimum 5 stocks) within Europe Stoxx 600 supersectors. The screens identified as Europe Stoxx 600 supersectors - Recession above are intended to be an indicative metric only and may not be used for reference purposes or as a measure of performance for any financial instrument or contract, or otherwise relied upon by third parties for any other purpose, without the prior written consent of BofA Global Research. These screens were not created to act as benchmarks. This screen is not a recommended list either individually or as a group of stocks. Investors should consider the fundamentals of the companies and their own individual circumstances/objectives before making any investment decision



G IM

Generali

# Exhibit 52: Style Cycle Europe Stoxx 600 countries - Recession screens for Sep '23 (data as of 31/08/2023) Top and Bottom Style Cycle Recession stocks by Europe Stoxx 600 countries

IP IM

Interpump

BBG		Recession Rank			Recession Rank	BBG		Recession Rank			Recession Rank
Ticker	Name	(100=Top)	<b>BBG</b> Ticker	Name	(1=Bottom)	Ticker	Name	(100=Top)	<b>BBG</b> Ticker	Name	(1=Bottom)
			France					Nethe	erlands		
ORFP	L'Oreal	98	ADP FP	Aeroports de Paris	1	WKL NA	Wolters Kluwer	95	TKWY NA	Just Eat Takeaway.com	4
PUB FP	Publicis	98	FRFP	Valeo	2	AD NA	Ahold Delhaize	93	ALLFG NA	Allfunds	6
RMS FP	Hermes	97	ALO FP	Alstom	3	KPN NA	Royal KPN	92	arcad na	Arcadis	8
IPN FP	lpsen	97	GET FP	Getlink	5		ASML	85	DSFIR NA	DSM-Firmenich	9
SANFP	Sanofi	95	MF FP	Wendel	6	UMG NA	Universal Music	79	INPST NA	InPost	9
ML FP	Michelin	94	WLN FP	Worldline	6	EXO NA	EXOR	75	AGN NA	Aegon	15
SGO FP	Saint-Gobain	91	AF FP	Air France-KLM	9				ain		
BNFP	Danone	91	COV FP	Covivio	9	ELE SM	Endesa	99	COL SM	Inmobiliaria Colonial	2
LRFP	Legrand	91	FRVIA FP	Forvia	9	ITX SM	Inditex	99	FER SM	Ferrovial	9
DG FP	VINCI	91	UBIFP	Ubisoft Entertainment	12	IBE SM	Iberdrola	95	GRF SM	Grifols	10
TTE FP	TotalEnergies	90	RF FP	Eurazeo	14	RED SM	Redeia Corporacion	92	ANA SM	Acciona	14
HO FP	Thales	87	AC FP	Accor	15	<b>REP SM</b>	Repsol	90	MRL SM	MERLIN Properties SOCIMI	17
AI FP	L'Air Liquide	84	SCR FP	SCOR	15			Swe	eden		
CS FP	AXA	84	TE FP	Technip Energies	15	VOLVB SS	Volvo	94	ELUXB SS	Electrolux	2
MC FP	LVMH	84	SOLFP	Soitec	17	ATCOA SS	Atlas Copco	93	TIGO US	Millicom	3
			Germany			EPIA SS	Epiroc	93	EMBRACB SS	Embracer	8
EOAN GR	EON	97	EVT GR	Evotec	2	ASSAB SS	ASSA ABLOY	90	BALDB SS	Fastighets Balder	10
MBG GR	Mercedes-Benz	97	ZAL GR	Zalando	2	SEBA SS	SEB	90	FNOX SS	Fortnox	11
BMW GR	BMW	96	LXS GR	LANXESS	4	EVO SS	Evolution	86	WIHL SS	Wihlborgs Fastigheter	12
DHL GR	Deutsche Post	96	ENR GR	Siemens Energy	4	SAND SS	Sandvik	83	FABG SS	Fabege	13
DB1 GR	Deutsche Boerse	94	O2D GR	Telefonica Deutschland	4	SECUB SS	Securitas	82	SAGAB SS	Sagax	15
RWE GR	RWE	93	DHER GR	Delivery Hero SE	5	SWFDA SS	Swedbank	81	EKTAB SS	Elekta	16
MUV2 GR	Munich Re	92	ECV GR	Encavis	5	SHBA SS	Svenska Handelsbanken	78	SAVE SS	Nordnet	16
P911 GR		91	TKA GR	thyssenkrupp	8		LM Ericsson	76	CAST SS	Castellum	17
HEN3 GR		89	1COV GR	Covestro	9				erland		
FME GR	Fresenius Medical Care	86	EVK GR	Evonik Industries	12	NOVN SW	Novartis	100	DUFN SW	Dufry	2
DTE GR	Deutsche Telekom	85	GXI GR	Gerresheimer	12	KNIN SW	Kuehne Nagel	99	AMS SW	ams-OSRAM	4
BEIGR	Beiersdorf	84	FNTN GR	freenet	18	ROG SW	Roche	98	BANB SW	Bachem	11
G24 GR	Scout24	81	KGX GR	KION	18	NESN SW	Nestle	94	FHZN SW	Flughafen Zuerich	14
DTG GR	Daimler Truck	79	MTX GR	MTU Aero Engines	20	ABBNSW		89	ALLNSW	Allreal	18
D TO OIL	Dail Her Fracit	, 3	Italy	mre / tere Engines	20	SCHP SW	Schindler	88	CMBNSW	Cembra Money Bank	18
STI A LIS	Stellantis	98	TIT IM	Telecom Italia	5	SGSN SW		82	SFSN SW	SFS	18
ENEL IM		95	AMP IM	Amplifon	8	LISN SW	Lindt & Spruengli	81	SIGN SW	SIG	21
RACE IM		95	INW IM	Infrastrutture Wireless	10	LOGNSW		81	SLHN SW	Swiss Life	22
PST IM	Poste Italiane	89	CPRIM	Davide Campari-Milano	19		Swisscom	80	SPSN SW	Swiss Prime Site	25
	P STMicroelectronics	87	BPE IM	BPER Banca	23	SCIVILADAA	344133C0111		Kingdom	SWISS I TIME SILE	2.5
SRG IM	SNAM	85	BC IM	Brunello Cucinelli	23	NXT LN	Next	100	ENOG LN	Energean	1
JINU IIVI	JI W 11VI	0.5	DC IIVI	Dianello Caciliciii	23	14/\1 LIN	INCAL	100	LINOU LIN	LITERSCALL	!

Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, FactSet. Companies listed represent the top and bottom quintile stocks (or minimum 5 stocks) within 8 Europe Stoxx 600 countries. The screens identified as Europe Stoxx 600 countries - Recession above are intended to be an indicative metric only and may not be used for reference purposes or as a measure of performance for any financial instrument or contract, or otherwise relied upon by third parties for any other purpose, without the prior written consent of BofA Global Research. These screens were not created to act as benchmarks. This screen is not a recommended list either individually or as a group of stocks. Investors should consider the fundamentals of the companies and their own individual circumstances/objectives before making any investment decision

TSCO LN Tesco

25

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SSP

100

SSPG LN

# Exhibit 53: Style Cycle Europe Stoxx 600 countries - Recession screens for Sep '23 (data as of 31/08/2023) Top and Bottom Style Cycle Recession stocks by Europe Stoxx 600 countries

BBG		Recession Rank	BBG		Recession Rank	BBG		Recession Rank	BBG		Recession Rank
Ticker	Name	(100=Top)	Ticker	Name	(1=Bottom)		Name	(100=Top)		Name	(1=Bottom)
ULVRLN	Unilever	100	IDS LN	Intl. Distri. Svs	3	Henci	runc	(100 10р)	TICKCI	Hullic	(1 Doctom)
BA/LN	BAE Systems	99	TUI1 GR	TUI	5						
GSK LN	GSK	99	HBRLN	Harbour Energy	6						
IGG LN	IG	98	MNG LN	M&G	6						
III LN	3i	97	CBG LN	Close Brothers	7						
HIK LN	Hikma Pharmaceuticals	97	ICP LN	Intermediate Capital	7						
SSE LN	SSE	97	PNN LN	Pennon	7						
BME LN	B&M European Value Retail	96	VMUK LN	Virgin Money UK	7						
IMB LN	Imperial Brands	96		WH Smith	7						
RIO LN	Rio Tinto	95	OCDO LN	Ocado	10						
SRP LN	Serco	95	TPK LN	Travis Perkins	10						
AUTO LN	Auto Trader	94	ENT LN	Entain	11						
REL LN	RELX	93	BEZ LN	Beazley	12						
EMG LN	Man	92	NWG LN	NatWest	12						
BNZL LN	Bunzl	91	LXILN	LXI REIT	13						
EXPN LN	Experian	91	IAG LN	IAG	14						
HSBA LN	HSBC	90	OSB LN	OSB	14						
BATS LN	British American Tobacco	89	ANTO LN	Antofagasta	15						
CNA LN	Centrica	88	DRX LN	Drax	15						
DPLM LN	Diploma	88	ABDNLN	Abrdn	16						
SBRY LN	J Sainsbury	88	HSX LN	Hiscox	17						
HWDN LN	Howden Joinery	87	DLNLN	Derwent London	18						
RKT LN	Reckitt Benckiser	87	WOSG LN	Watches of Switzerland	19						
SHEL LN	Shell	87	MRO LN	Melrose Industries	21						
SGE LN	Sage	87	PHNX LN	Phoenix	23						
CCC LN	Computacenter	86	GFTU LN	Grafton	25						

Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, FactSet. Companies listed represent the top and bottom quintile stocks (or minimum 5 stocks) within 8 Europe Stoxx 600 countries. The screens identified as Europe Stoxx 600 countries. are intended to be an indicative metric only and may not be used for reference purposes or as a measure of performance for any financial instrument or contract, or otherwise relied upon by third parties for any other purpose, without the prior written consent of BofA Global Research. These screens were not created to act as benchmarks. This screen is not a recommended list either individually or as a group of stocks. Investors should consider the fundamentals of the companies and their own individual circumstances/objectives before making any investment decision



### **Explaining the European Style Cycle**

Style cycle: the relationship between the economic cycle and investment style

- We draw on the back-testing results first presented in February 2004, using data (since January 1992) on investment style price returns and the economic cycle to create the European 'Style Cycle'.
- The European 'Style Cycle' aims to offer what we believe are two vital components for investing across the cycle. These are 1) Timing and 2) Rotation.
- Investment styles with potential for success are based on favourable positioning within the cycle. Highlighted investment styles are expected to outperform the MSCI European equal-weight price index.
- We identify investment styles that we believe have the characteristics to underperform the MSCI European equal-weight price index, based on the unfavourable positioning within the cycle at a particular point in time. The screens resulting from the investment styles are not a recommended list, either individually or as a group of stocks. Investors should consider the fundamentals of the companies and their own individual circumstances/objectives before making any investment decision.

We observe the year on year changes for signals of economic expansion or contraction, and analyse monthly changes in the index for indications of peaks and troughs in macro data. The combination helps investors navigate the economic cycle, acting as a timing indicator for style rotation.

We show the relationship between the European economic cycle and price performance of various investment styles in the chart below. The four phases of the economic cycle are dictated by changes in the European CMI. The style preferences in each phase are based on the back-testing results of average monthly price returns from following individual investment styles during the changing conditions in the economic cycle

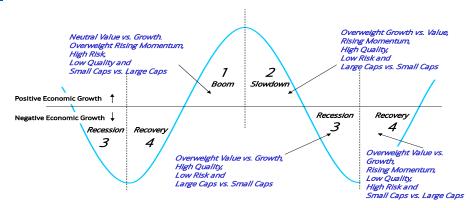
As a reminder, the CMI is an equal-weighted composite indicator of 6 inputs:

- Pan European GDP forecasts 12m fwd forecasted GDP growth for the Developed European countries
- BofA Europe Leading Indicator 12m change in BofA Europe Leading Indicator which indicates an acceleration (deceleration) in anticipated GDP growth, above (below) long-term GDP growth for Europe
- European 10Y bond yield 12m actual change in average of 10Y bond yields of Germany, UK and France
- German IFO level of indicator as published by the IFO institute for the Trade and Industry (Excluding Services) survey
- European PPI Eurozone Producer Price inflation (expressed as 12m change) ex Construction, SRWG, Waste Management and Remediation Activities
- Global EPS Revision Ratio ratio between the number of companies in the MSCI ACWI index for which Refinitiv consensus earnings estimates have been raised versus those that have been lowered



We take each one of the six variables as they existed at month end and record the data, then using z-scores to normalise the data (some are percentages, some are levels and others are ratios). Using a percentile rank methodology of each variable can achieve the same outcome. We then aggregate the individual data series by using an equal-weight average. The sum of the individual data or aggregate macro series is referred to as the European Composite Macro Index (CMI).

Exhibit 54: Phases of the Economic Cycle\* & Investment Style Preferences – 'Style Cycle' Style Cycle framework



<u>Phase 1</u>- Rising & Accelerating; <u>Phase 2</u>- Rising & Decelerating; <u>Phase 3</u>- Falling & Decelerating; <u>Phase 4</u>- Falling & Accelerating.

Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy

Back testing period from Dec 1992 to Dec 2003. Actual Performance Jan 2004.

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### **Back testing - European Style Cycle**

#### Back-testing the cycle with investment style

The table below includes the average excess price returns (monthly) for individual investment styles at each phase of the economic cycle. (Style performance is versus MSCI Europe equal weight Price Index).

**Exhibit 55: Monthly excess returns by investment style and phases of the economic cycle** Backtesting results (based on period from Dec '92 to Dec '03)

				Quality	Risk	Size
Economic cycle	Value	Growth	Momentum	hi-lo	high	(large-small)
Phase 1 - 'Boom' rising accelerating	1.1	0.78	0.97	-1.34	0.65	-0.75
Phase 2- 'Slowdown' rising decelerating	0	0.44	0.89	0.52	0.07	0.25
Phase 3 - 'Recession' falling decelerating	-0.7	-1.91	-0.81	6.37	-2.85	1.1
Phase 4 - 'Recovery' falling accelerating	2.47	1.31	0.1	-3	2.66	-2.05
Cycle average	0.72	0.15	0.29	0.64	0.13	-0.36

**Source:** BofA European Equity Quant Strategy/ Refinitiv/ OECD/ MSCI; Back testing period Dec 1992 to Dec 2003. Performance based on equal weight portfolios, monthly rebalanced, no transaction costs are included, and performances based on price returns and not total returns (dividends are not included).

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Summarising the results - we draw the following conclusions:

Phase 1 'Boom' - investors have benefited most by being overweight Momentum (Rising Price & EPS), High Risk (High Beta & High Estimate Dispersion), Small Caps vs Large Caps and being Neutral on Value vs Growth. Phase 2 'Slow-down' - investors have benefited most by overweighting Growth vs Value, Momentum (Rising Price & EPS), High Quality (Strong Balance Sheet indicators), Low Risk (Low Beta & Low Estimate Dispersion) and Large Caps vs Small Caps. Phase 3 'Recession' – overweight Value vs Growth, High Quality (Strong Balance Sheet indicators), Low Risk (Low Beta & Low



Estimate Dispersion) and Large Caps vs Small Caps. Phase 4 'Recovery' – overweight Value vs Growth, Momentum (Rising Price & EPS), Low Quality (Weak Balance Sheet indicators), High Risk and Small vs Large Caps.

The back-testing results illustrate how certain investment styles work well compared to others, depending on the economic conditions and ultimately where we are in the cycle. The data presented above looks at all periods since 1992, including 5 complete cycles.

For the purpose of the historical back-testing, we calculate price returns in our analysis, not total returns. Dividends are not re-invested and performance does not include tax withholdings or any investment advisory fees. We do not include transaction costs, and we not do include implementation costs or borrowing costs in the absolute 'Style Cycle' price returns.

Price returns are based on month end data, meaning we use closing stock prices for the last trading day of the calendar month. All screens are based on month end data and it is assumed on the 1st business day of the new month our screens would have been available to the market. We calculate the profit or loss for a particular month based on the month end data from one period to the month end data of the next period.

Screens are determined at the end of each month using month-end data. Price performance is calculated as the simple average performance of the stocks within the screen. In order that we compare like with like, screen performance is compared to an equal-weighted average performance of all stocks in the universe. In this way, we remove any size bias from the analysis, and thereby test whether the factors on which we are focused predict price performance. It is noteworthy that BofA restricted stocks have not been excluded from any part of the historical monthly screens as defined as the back-test period.

Back-tested performance is hypothetical in nature and reflects application of the screen prior to its introduction and is not intended to be indicative of future performance.

### **Definitions**

#### **Investment styles**

**Value:** Equal weighted combination of factors - Forecast/Trailing EPS Yield, Dividend Yield, Cash to Price Yield, Book to Price Yield, Price to Sales and Forecast PEG.

**Growth:** Equal weighted combination of factors - Forecast/Trailing EPS Growth,

Forecast EPS Change and Forecast Long Term Growth.

**Momentum:** Equal weighted combination of factors - 3m EPS Change, EPS Revision Ratio, Sales Revision Ratio, 1m Price Change and 12m Price Change.

 $\textbf{Quality:} \ \textbf{Equal weighted combination of factors - Return on Assets, Return on Capital,}$ 

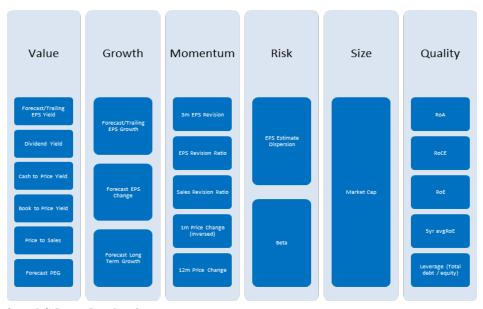
Return on Equity, 5yr Return on Equity and Leverage.

**Risk:** Equal weighted combination of factors - .EPS Estimate Dispersion and Beta



#### **Exhibit 56: Style components**

Individual factors that are used for style composites



Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy

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#### Multi factor models

**STYLE CYCLE:** The European 'Style Cycle' links phases of the economic cycle with the performance of investment style. Stocks are screened based on their equal weighted rank of Value, Growth, Momentum, Quality and Risk.

#### Absolute return

Absolute return is calculated based on monthly returns and reflects simple price appreciation (depreciation) over the stated period of the screened stocks. For purposes of this calculation, the stocks in the screen are assumed to be equally weighted. Returns do not reflect dividend or costs.

#### Relative return

Relative return is calculated based on monthly returns and reflects simple price appreciation (depreciation) over the stated period of the screened stocks minus the return for our Equal weighted European Universe. Returns do not reflect dividend or costs

### Performances of phases

#### Exhibit 57: European Absolute factor returns by Style Cycle phase (%)

Prices as of end of last month

Style	Factor Name	1M	3M	6M	12M	YTD	3YR	5YR	Since Incpt.*
Multi-factor	Style Cycle - Top	-1.6	1.8	6.8	12.9	12.6	48.1	23.9	376.0
Multi-factor	Style Cycle - Bottom	-4.6	-0.1	-9.0	4.1	2.6	5.0	22.7	13.8
Multi-factor	Style Cycle - BOOM - Top	-2.4	9.7	-5.9	12.6	4.7	53.3	20.3	189.1
Multi-factor	Style Cycle - BOOM - Bottom	-4.4	-1.5	1.4	5.5	5.4	12.9	30.7	199.5
Multi-factor	Style Cycle - SLOWDOWN - Top	-2.8	-0.4	4.5	10.5	10.2	9.3	26.0	419.8
Multi-factor	Style Cycle - SLOWDOWN - Bottom	-3.9	-0.4	-9.3	3.7	2.2	29.4	-15.2	-3.8
Multi-factor	Style Cycle - RECESSION - Top	-1.6	1.8	3.9	11.7	8.9	34.0	35.4	93.7
Multi-factor	Style Cycle - RECESSION - Bottom	-4.6	-0.1	-7.7	-1.3	2.7	-4.3	-13.1	88.1
Multi-factor	Style Cycle - RECOVERY - Top	-2.6	6.8	-9.2	10.3	2.9	63.3	29.7	169.4
Multi-factor	Style Cycle - RECOVERY - Bottom	-6.1	-4.1	2.2	9.2	9.8	17.8	41.8	234.2
Market	European Market (abs)	-3.1	1.6	-2.0	9.1	7.7	23.3	17.0	137.9

Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, FactSet. \*Inception – January 2003.



#### Exhibit 58: European Relative factor returns by Style Cycle phase (%)

Prices as of end of last month

Style	Factor Name	1M	3M	6M	12M	YTD	3YR	5YR	Since Incpt.*
Multi-factor	Style Cycle - Top	1.6	0.2	9.0	3.4	4.5	20.1	5.9	100.1
Multi-factor	Style Cycle - Bottom	-1.5	-1.6	-7.1	-4.7	-4.8	-14.8	4.9	-52.2
Multi-factor	Style Cycle - BOOM - Top	0.8	8.0	-4.0	3.2	-2.7	24.3	2.8	21.5
Multi-factor	Style Cycle - BOOM - Bottom	-1.3	-3.0	3.5	-3.3	-2.2	-8.5	11.7	25.9
Multi-factor	Style Cycle - SLOWDOWN - Top	0.3	-1.9	6.7	1.2	2.3	-11.4	7.7	118.5
Multi-factor	Style Cycle - SLOWDOWN - Bottom	-0.8	-2.0	-7.4	-5.0	-5.1	4.9	-27.5	-59.5
Multi-factor	Style Cycle - RECESSION - Top	1.6	0.2	6.1	2.3	1.1	8.7	15.7	-18.6
Multi-factor	Style Cycle - RECESSION - Bottom	-1.5	-1.6	-5.8	-9.5	-4.6	-22.4	-25.7	-20.9
Multi-factor	Style Cycle - RECOVERY - Top	0.6	5.1	-7.3	1.0	-4.4	32.4	10.8	13.2
Multi-factor	Style Cycle - RECOVERY - Bottom	-3.1	-5.6	4.3	0.1	1.9	-4.5	21.2	40.5

Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, FactSet. \*Inception - January 2003.

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**Exhibit 59: European Style Cycle advancers**Number of companies which saw their price up over the last month

Factor Name	1M	3M	6M	12M	YTD	3YR	5YR	Since Incpt.*
Style Cycle - Top	9	41	93	169	125	481	802	3382
Style Cycle - Bottom	6	37	66	154	103	476	815	3268
Style Cycle - BOOM - Top	6	46	72	164	107	498	795	3387
Style Cycle - BOOM - Bottom	4	33	76	154	104	478	832	3387
Style Cycle - SLOWDOWN - Top	5	34	86	162	118	468	808	3413
Style Cycle - SLOWDOWN - Bottom	6	40	69	157	106	469	755	3248
Style Cycle - RECESSION - Top	9	41	84	160	116	499	841	3368
Style Cycle - RECESSION - Bottom	6	37	73	154	107	447	762	3310
Style Cycle - RECOVERY - Top	7	42	66	164	102	503	800	3356
Style Cycle - RECOVERY - Bottom	3	30	80	155	112	477	843	3382
Market	63	383	742	1615	1111	4710	7945	11820

**Source:** BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, FactSet. \*Inception – January 2003.

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#### **Exhibit 60: European Style Cycle decliners**

Number of companies which saw their price down over the last month

Factor Name	1M	3M	6M	12M	YTD	3YR	5YR	Since Incpt.*
Style Cycle - Top	16	34	57	131	75	418	622	2839
Style Cycle - Bottom	19	38	84	146	97	424	587	2949
Style Cycle - BOOM - Top	19	29	78	136	93	402	612	2830
Style Cycle - BOOM - Bottom	21	42	74	146	96	421	570	2833
Style Cycle - SLOWDOWN - Top	20	41	64	138	82	431	608	2808
Style Cycle - SLOWDOWN - Bottom	19	35	81	143	94	431	651	2967
Style Cycle - RECESSION - Top	16	34	66	140	84	400	573	2850
Style Cycle - RECESSION - Bottom	19	38	77	146	93	453	644	2901
Style Cycle - RECOVERY - Top	18	33	84	136	98	397	602	2860
Style Cycle - RECOVERY - Bottom	22	45	70	145	88	423	567	2838
Market	187	367	758	1384	889	4284	6151	10403

Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy, FactSet. \*Inception – January 2003.

# Historical phases of the 'Style Cycle'

**Exhibit 61: Style Cycle – historical phases**February 1995 to date

Month CMI phase Feb-95 Slowdown	Month CMI phase Dec-99 Boom	Month CMI phase Oct-04Slowdown	Month CMI phase Aug-09 Recovery	Month CMI phase Jun-14 Slowdown	Month CMI phase
Mar-95 Slowdown	Jan-00 Boom	Nov-04 Slowdown	Sep-09 Recovery	Jul-14 Slowdown	Apr-19 Recovery
	•			•	May-19 Recovery
Apr-95 Slowdown	Feb-00 Boom	Dec-04 Slowdown	Oct-09 Recovery	Aug-14 Slowdown	Jun-19 Recovery
May-95 Slowdown	Mar-00 Boom	Jan-05 Slowdown	Nov-09 Boom	Sep-14 Recession	Jul-19 Recovery
Jun-95 Slowdown	Apr-00 Slowdown	Feb-05 Slowdown	Dec-09 Boom	Oct-14 Recession	Aug-19 Recession
Jul-95 Slowdown	May-00 Slowdown	Mar-05 Slowdown	Jan-10 Boom	Nov-14 Recession	Sep-19 Recession
Aug-95 Slowdown	Jun-00 Slowdown	Apr-05 Slowdown	Feb-10 Boom	Dec-14 Recession	Oct-19 Recession
Sep-95 Slowdown	Jul-00 Slowdown	May-05 Slowdown	Mar-10 Slowdown	Jan-15 Recession	Nov-19 Recession
Oct-95 Recession	Aug-00 Slowdown	Jun-05 Slowdown	Apr-10 Slowdown	Feb-15 Recession	Dec-19 Recovery
Nov-95 Recession	Sep-00 Slowdown	Jul-05 Slowdown	May-10 Slowdown	Mar-15 Recession	Jan-20 Recovery
Dec-95 Recession	Oct-00 Slowdown	Aug-05 Boom	Jun-10 Slowdown	Apr-15 Recovery	Feb-20 Recovery
Jan-96 Recession	Nov-00 Slowdown	Sep-05 Boom	Jul-10 Slowdown	May-15 Recovery	Mar-20 Recovery
Feb-96 Recovery	Dec-00 Slowdown	Oct-05 Boom	Aug-10 Slowdown	Jun-15 Recovery	Apr-20 Recession
Mar-96 Recovery	Jan-01 Slowdown	Nov-05 Boom	Sep-10 Slowdown	Jul-15 Recovery	May-20 Recession
Apr-96 Recovery	Feb-01 Recession	Dec-05 Boom	Oct-10 Slowdown	Aug-15 Recovery	Jun-20 Recession
May-96 Recovery	Mar-01 Recession	Jan-06 Boom	Nov-10 Slowdown	Sep-15 Recovery	Jul-20 Recovery
Jun-96 Recovery	Apr-01 Recession	Feb-06Boom	Dec-10 Boom	Oct-15 Recovery	Aug-20 Recovery
Jul-96 Recovery	May-01 Recession	Mar-06 Boom	Jan-11 Boom	Nov-15 Recovery	Sep-20 Recovery
Aug-96 Recovery	Jun-01 Recession	Apr-06 Boom	Feb-11 Boom	Dec-15 Recovery	Oct-20 Boom
Sep-96 Recovery	Jul-01 Recession	May-06 Boom	Mar-11 Boom	Jan-16 Recovery	Nov-20 Boom
Oct-96 Recovery	Aug-01 Recession	Jun-06 Boom	Apr-11 Slowdown	Feb-16 Recovery	Dec-20 Boom
Nov-96 Recovery	Sep-01 Recession	Jul-06 Boom	May-11 Slowdown	Mar-16 Recession	Jan-21 Boom
Dec-96 Recovery	Oct-01 Recession	Aug-06 Slowdown	Jun-11 Slowdown	Apr-16 Recession	Feb-21 Boom
Jan-97 Boom	Nov-01 Recession	Sep-06 Slowdown	Jul-11 Slowdown	May-16 Recession	Mar-21 Boom
Feb-97 Boom	Dec-01 Recession	Oct-06 Slowdown	Aug-11 Slowdown	Jun-16 Recession	Apr-21 Boom
Mar-97 Boom	Jan-02 Recovery	Nov-06 Slowdown	Sep-11 Recession	Jul-16 Recession	May-21 Boom
Apr-97 Boom			•	Aug-16 Recession	,
I .	Feb-02 Recovery	Dec-06 Slowdown	Oct-11 Recession	U	Jun-21 Boom
May-97 Boom	Mar-02 Recovery	Jan-07 Slowdown	Nov-11 Recession	Sep-16 Recession	Jul-21 Slowdown
Jun-97 Boom	Apr-02 Boom	Feb-07 Slowdown	Dec-11 Recession	Oct-16 Recovery	Aug-21 Slowdown
Jul-97 Boom	May-02 Slowdown	Mar-07 Slowdown	Jan-12 Recession	Nov-16 Recovery	Sep-21 Slowdown
Aug-97 Boom	Jun-02 Slowdown	Apr-07 Slowdown	Feb-12 Recession	Dec-16 Recovery	Oct-21 Slowdown
Sep-97 Boom	Jul-02 Slowdown	May-07 Slowdown	Mar-12 Recession	Jan-17 Recovery	Nov-21 Boom
Oct-97 Boom	Aug-02 Slowdown	Jun-07 Slowdown	Apr-12 Recovery	Feb-17 Boom	Dec-21 Boom
Nov-97 Boom	Sep-02 Slowdown	Jul-07 Slowdown	May-12 Recovery	Mar-17 Boom	Jan-22 Boom
Dec-97 Boom	Oct-02 Slowdown	Aug-07 Slowdown	Jun-12 Recovery	Apr-17 Boom	Feb-22 Boom
Jan-98 Slowdown	Nov-02 Slowdown	Sep-07 Slowdown	Jul-12 Recovery	May-17 Boom	Mar-22 Boom
Feb-98Slowdown	Dec-02 Slowdown	Oct-07 Slowdown	Aug-12 Recovery	Jun-17 Boom	Apr-22 Slowdown
Mar-98 Slowdown	Jan-03 Recession	Nov-07 Slowdown	Sep-12 Recovery	Jul-17 Boom	May-22 Slowdown
Apr-98 Recession	Feb-03 Recession	Dec-07 Slowdown	Oct-12 Recovery	Aug-17 Boom	Jun-22 Slowdown
May-98 Recession	Mar-03 Recession	Jan-08 Slowdown	Nov-12 Recovery	Sep-17 Boom	Jul-22 Slowdown
Jun-98 Recession	Apr-03 Recession	Feb-08 Slowdown	Dec-12 Recovery	Oct-17 Boom	Aug-22 Slowdown
Jul-98 Recession	May-03 Recession	Mar-08 Slowdown	Jan-13 Recovery	Nov-17 Boom	Sep-22 Slowdown
Aug-98 Recession	Jun-03 Recovery	Apr-08 Slowdown	Feb-13 Recovery	Dec-17 Boom	Oct-22 Slowdown
Sep-98 Recession	Jul-03 Recovery	May-08 Slowdown	Mar-13 Recovery	Jan-18 Boom	Nov-22 Slowdown
Oct-98 Recession	Aug-03 Recovery	Jun-08 Slowdown	Apr-13 Recovery	Feb-18 Boom	Dec-22 Slowdown
Nov-98 Recession	Sep-03 Boom	Jul-08 Slowdown	May-13 Recovery	Mar-18 Boom	Jan-23 Slowdown
Dec-98 Recession	Oct-03 Boom	Aug-08 Slowdown	Jun-13 Boom	Apr-18 Slowdown	Feb-23 Slowdown
Jan-99 Recession	Nov-03 Boom	Sep-08 Recession	Jul-13 Boom	May-18 Slowdown	Mar-23 Slowdown
Feb-99 Recovery	Dec-03 Boom	Oct-08 Recession	Aug-13 Boom	Jun-18 Slowdown	Apr-23 Slowdown
Mar-99 Recovery	Jan-04 Boom	Nov-08 Recession	Sep-13 Boom	Jul-18 Slowdown	May-23 Slowdown
Apr-99 Recovery	Feb-04 Boom	Dec-08 Recession	Oct-13 Boom	Aug-18 Slowdown	Jun-23 Recession
May-99 Recovery	Mar-04 Boom	Jan-09 Recession	Nov-13 Slowdown	Sep-18 Slowdown	Jul-23 Recession
Jun-99 Recovery	Apr-04 Boom	Feb-09 Recession	Dec-13 Slowdown	Oct-18 Recession	Aug-23 Recession
-				Nov-18 Recession	
Jul-99 Boom	May-04 Boom	Mar-09 Recession	Jan-14 Slowdown		Sep-23 Recession
Aug-99 Boom	Jun-04 Boom	Apr-09 Recession	Feb-14 Slowdown	Dec-18 Recession	
Sep-99 Boom	Jul-04 Boom	May-09 Recession	Mar-14 Slowdown	Jan-19 Recession	
Oct-99 Boom	Aug-04 Slowdown	Jun-09 Recovery	Apr-14 Slowdown	Feb-19 Recession	
Nov-99 Boom	Sep-04 Slowdown	Jul-09 Recovery	May-14 Slowdown	Mar-19 Recession	

Source: BofA European Equity Quant Strategy

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# Investment rating Total return expectation (within 12-month period of date of initial rating) Ratings dispersion guidelines for coverage cluster<sup>R1</sup>

Buy	≥ 10%	≤ 70%
Neutral	≥ 0%	≤ 30%
Underperform	N/A	≥ 20%

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