

# **Volta Finance Ltd**

Monthly Report- December 2023



#### Data as of 31 Dec 2023

**Fund Facts** Launch Date

Dividend

**Fund Domicile** 

Listing and Trading Type of Fund

**Dividend Cover**<sup>4</sup>

**Base currency** 

Asset types

Gross Asset Value	€256.8m
NAV	€245.1m
NAV per share	€6.70
Outstanding Shares	36.6m
Share Price (Euronext)	€5.20
Share Price (LSE)*	€5.00
	VTA.NA
Tickers	VTA.LN
	VTAS.LN
ISIN	GG00B1GHHH78

#### **Background and Investment Objective**

AXA Investment Managers Paris ("AXA IM") has been the Investment Manager of Volta Finance Limited ("Volta") since inception. Volta's investment objectives are to preserve capital across the credit cycle and to provide a stable stream of income to its Shareholders through dividends. For this purpose, Volta pursues a multi-asset investment strategy on deals, vehicles and arrangements that provide leveraged exposure to target Underlying Assets (including corporate credit, residential and commercial mortgages, auto and student loans, credit card and lease receivables).

## **Fund Performance**

VTA.LN VTAS.LN GG00B1GHHH78	Annı		0% ince inc	eption <sup>1</sup>		Annu	5.1 ualised o	L% over 5 ye	ears <sup>1</sup>			<b>2.6</b> 1 mor		
Dec-2006 Guernsey				€2 NAV as o	245.1 of Decei		3	Tra		. <b>0.1%</b> •month I	Div. Yield	1 <sup>3</sup>		
AEX														
LSE	Returns	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Closed-ended	2023	5.5%	1.7%	-1.5%	3.0%	1.9%	0.0%	3.8%	1.3%	1.6%	0.5%	1.8%	2.6%	24.5%
Quarterly	2022	1.7%	-3.9%	1.5%	2.3%	-11.8%	-4.6%	4.5%	2.8%	-7.2%	-2.6%	6.3%	-0.9%	-12.7%
2.6 times	2021	3.9%	1.0%	1.1%	2.1%	0.4%	2.2%	1.9%	-0.5%	1.9%	1.2%	1.0%	0.3%	17.9%
EUR	2020	1.1%	-2.6%	-32.4%	5.7%	4.5%	6.9%	-1.2%	1.9%	4.8%	1.6%	7.2%	4.3%	-5.7%
	2019	3.1%	0.4%	0.5%	1.9%	1.4%	-1.0%	0.5%	-1.5%	0.4%	-2.6%	0.4%	3.3%	6.8%
Corporate Credit	2018	-0.4%	0.7%	-0.2%	0.9%	2.4%	0.2%	0.6%	1.2%	-0.4%	1.3%	-1.4%	-4.8%	0.0%

<sup>1</sup> Share (VTA.NA) performance (annualised figures with dividends re-invested). Source: Bbg (TRA function)

<sup>2</sup> Performance of published NAV (including dividend payments).

<sup>3</sup> Calculated as the most recent annual dividend payments versus the month-end share price (VTA.NA).

<sup>4</sup> Calculated as total income divided by the most recent annual dividend payments.

## Asset Breakdown

As a % of	Gross Assets	Value
-----------	--------------	-------

and ABS

- USD CLO Equity 19.7%
- USD CLO Debt 14.9%
- = EUR CLO Equity 27.0%
- EUR CLO Debt 23.3%
- CMV 4.6%
- CLO Warehouse 1.4%
- Bank Balance Sheet Transactions 0.9%
- Cash Corporate Credit Equity 0.8%

# **Top 10 Underlying Exposures**

Issuer		
Altice France SA/France	0.88%	Telecommunications
Virgin Media Secured Finance PLC	0.64%	Media
Nidda Healthcare Holding GmbH	0.51%	Pharmaceuticals
BMC Software Inc	0.50%	Software
McAfee LLC	0.46%	Computers
Verisure Holding AB	0.45%	Commercial Services
Masmovil Holdphone SA	0.44%	Telecommunications
Asurion LLC	0.41%	Insurance
Solera Holdings Inc	0.38%	Software
Nouryon Finance BV	0.36%	Chemicals

Source: Intex, Bloomberg, AXA IM Paris as of December 2023 - unaudited figures - not accounting for unsettled trades Figures expressed in % of the NAV

## **Portfolio Rating Breakdown**



500 450 400 350 300 Cumulative Total Return 250 (Gross Dividends) 200 150 100 50 0 -50 -100 -150 2010 2016 2008 2009 2012 2013 2014 2015 2018 2019 2011 2017

Source: AXA IM, as of December 2023

ce: AXA IM, as of December 2023

Source: Bloomberg





## **Volta Finance Ltd** Monthly Report- December 2023

## **Monthly Commentary**

Volta Finance posted yet another positive monthly performance of +0.6% in December 2023 (+2.6% including the January dividend payment). This concluded a calendar year where Volta recorded a positive production each month of year to the exception of March (-1.5% MoM) and June (flat). All-in, the year-to-date performance settled at +24.5%, Volta's strongest since 2013.

Despite challenges stemming from geopolitical tensions and Central Bank policy anticipations, broader markets remained composed in December and managed to shrug volatility off as central banks indicated by mid-month that they would maintain rates unchanged. This essentially signaled a pause in the rate hikes cycle as the Federal Reserve acknowledged indications of softer economic growth, prompting traders to price three rate cuts for 2024. Fixed income markets rallied, for instance both Investment Grade and High Yield spreads tightened over the quarter.

In the CLO space, market remained active both in Primary and Secondary. As Primary gradually slowed down into Christmas, spreads tightened significantly across all rated tranches and lifted valuations up. We saw notably a decent appetite on low mezzanine assets especially for tranches that had underperformed their peers price-wise due to worsening collaterals quality. A pivot in rates may provide relief to the weakest companies those CLOs are specifically exposed to, prompting bids up.

Volta's underlying sub asset classes monthly performances\*\* were as follow: +1.0% for Bank Balance Sheet transactions, +4.0% for CLO Equity tranches, +5.0% for CLO Debt tranches and -5.9% for Cash Corporate Credit and ABS.

In terms of fund management, while Volta's 2015-3 Equity piece from Oak Hill Advisors was redeemed, USD 5.00mm of BB-rated risk (+885bps) as well as EUR 2.00mm of Single-B risk (+1125bps) were sourced, both from the Primary market since it offered better value and cleaner collateral pools compared to the Secondary offerings that were available.

## Portfolio Composition by Asset Type

Market Value	e (€m)	Breakdown (% GAV)	
		USD CLO Equity	19.7%
		USD CLO Debt	14.9%
CLO	233.5	EUR CLO Equity	27.0%
	200.0	EUR CLO Debt	23.3%
		CMV	4.6%
		CLO Warehouse	1.4%
		Synthetic Corporate Credit Equity	0.0%
Synthetic Credit	2.2	Synthetic Corporate Credit Debt	0.0%
		Bank Balance Sheet Transactions	0.9%
Cash Corporate	20	Cash Corporate Credit Equity	0.8%
Credit	2.0	Cash Corporate Credit Debt	0.0%
ABS	1.4	ABS Residual Positions	0.5%
ADO	1.4	ABS Debt	0.0%
Cash or equivaler	17.7	Cash or equivalent	6.9%
GAV	256.8		
Liability	-	Debt from Repurchase Agreement	0.0%
Fees due	(11.7)	Fees due to Investment Manager	(4.6)%
Estimated NAV 245.1		Per Share	6.70

Source: AXA IM, as of December 2023

As of end of December 2023, Volta's NAV was €245.1m, i.e. €6.70 per share.

\*It should be noted that approximately 7.16% of Volta's GAV comprises investments for which the relevant NAVs as at the month-end date are normally available only after Volta's NAV has already been published. Volta's policy is to publish its NAV on as timely a basis as possible to provide shareholders with Volta's appropriately up-to-date NAV information. Consequently, such investments are valued using the most recently available NAV for each fund or quoted price for such subordinated notes. The most recently available fund NAV or quoted price was 1.72% as at 21 December 2023, 5.44% as at 30 November.

**\*\*** "performances" of asset classes are calculated as the Dietz-performance of the assets in each bucket, taking into account the Mark-to-Market of the assets at period ends, payments received from the assets over the period, and ignoring changes in cross-currency rates. Nevertheless, some residual currency effects could impact the aggregate value of the portfolio when aggregating each bucket.

### Currency and Geography exposures (%)



Source: Intex, Bloomberg, AXA IM Paris as of December 2023 – unaudited figures - not accounting for unsettled trades Figures expressed in % of the NAV

### Last Eighteen Months Performance Attribution



Source: AXA IM, as of December 2023

MONTHLY REPORT VOLTA FINANCE LIMITED - December 2023 
2





## **Volta Finance Ltd** Monthly Report- December 2023



## **Important Information**

This monthly report is published by AXA Investment Managers Paris ("AXA IM"), in its capacity as alternative investment fund manager (within the meaning of Directive 2011/61/EU, the "AIFM Directive") of Volta Finance Limited (the «Company») whose portfolio is managed by AXA IM. This monthly report is intended only for the person to whom it has been delivered. By obtaining access to and reviewing this monthly report, you acknowledge and agree to be bound by the following: No part of this document may be reproduced in any manner without the prior written permission of AXA IM. This monthly report does not constitute or form part of any offer or invitation to sell or issue, or any solicitation of any offer to purchase or subscribe for, any shares or other securities of the Company whose portfolio is managed by AXA IM, or securities of any other entity (together, the "Securities"). The Securities described in this monthly report may not be eligible for sale in some states or countries and may not be suitable for all types of investors. Prospective investors are advised to seek expert legal, financial, tax and other professional advice before making any investment decision. Securities in the Company may not be offered or sold directly or indirectly into the United States or to U.S. Persons. Nor shall this monthly report or any part of it nor the fact of its distribution or publication (on the Company's website or otherwise) form the basis of, or be relied on in connection with, any contract or investment decision in relation to the Securities. This monthly report does not constitute a recommendation to buy, sell or hold the Securities. The information contained herein is for information purposes only, does not purport to contain all the information that may be required to evaluate the Company or any other entity or their respective financial positions. This monthly report speaks only as of its date and neither AXA IM nor the Company is under any obligation to update the information contained herein. Certain information and estimates contained herein are originated by or derived from third parties and the accu- racy and completeness of such information and estimates has not been verified. It should also be noted that the financial information contained herein has not been audited. No representation or warranty whatsoever, whether express or implied, is given by or on behalf of AXA IM, the Company, their affiliates, or their respective directors, officers or employees or any other person as to (a) the accuracy or completeness of the information or (b) the opinions contained in this monthly report. None of AXA IM, the Company, any of their affiliates, or their respective direc- tors, officers or employees or any other person accepts any liability whatsoever for any such information or opinions. Nothing contained herein shall be relied upon as a promise or representation whether as to past or future performance of the Company, any other entity, any Securities or any asset class in the Company's portfolio. The figures provided that relate to past months or years and past performance cannot be relied on as a guide to future performance or construed as a reliable indicator as to future performance. Throughout this review, the citation of specific trades or strategies is intended to illustrate some of the investment methodologies and philosophies of the Company, as implemented by AXA IM. The historical success or AXA IM's belief in the future success, of any of these trades or strategies is not indicative of, and has no bearing on, future results. No statement in this monthly report is intended to be nor may be construed as a profit forecast and there can be no assurance that the assumptions described herein, the returns and targets (including without limitation target portfolio composition) indicated herein will be achieved. The views and opinions expressed herein include forward-looking statements which may or may not be accurate. Forward-looking statements can be identified by words like "believe", "expect", "anticipate", or similar expressions. You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements, which are current as of the date of this report. AXA IM disclaims any obligation to update or alter any forward- looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. The valuation of financial assets can vary significantly from the prices that the AXA IM could obtain if it sought to liquidate the positions on behalf of the Company due to market conditions and general economic environment. Such valuations do not constitute a fairness or similar opinion and should not be regarded as such. They follow the valuation policy of the Company as adapted from time to time in the best interests of the shareholders, taking into account the conditions of financial markets at that time. Volta qualifies as an alternative investment fund within the meaning of the AIFM Directive and is notified as such under the license held by AXA IM with the Autorité des Marchés Financiers (the "AMF") in France.

Editor: AXA INVESTMENT MANAGERS PARIS, a company incorporated under the laws of France, having its registered office located at Tour Majunga, 6, Place de la Pyramide 92908 Paris – La Défense cedex – France, registered with the Nanterre Trade and Companies Register under number 353 534 506, a Portfolio Management Company, holder of AMF Approval no. GP 92-08, issued on 7 April 1992.

## **Contact:**

For the Investment Manager AXA Investment Managers Paris François Touati Francois.touati@axa-im.com +33 (0) 1 44 45 80 22

Company Secretary and Administrator BNP Paribas S.A., Guernsey Branch guernsey.bp2s.volta.cosec@bnpparibas.com +44 (0) 1481 750 853