

**MANAGER COMMENTARY**

# MoA International Fund

**TICKER: MAIFX**
**MORNINGSTAR RATING**


Overall Morningstar Rating™ based on risk-adjusted returns among 667 Foreign Large Blend Category funds as of 9/30/2024.

**PORTFOLIO MANAGERS**


**Jamie A. Zendel, FRM**  
26 Years Experience



**Eric Lockenvitz, CFA**  
12 Years Experience

**ABOUT MoA FUNDS**

Mutual of America created its first mutual funds in 1985. Now, Mutual of America Capital Management manages an array of 28 mutual fund strategies that span domestic and international equities, fixed income, target date and allocation funds. With a team of over 20 investment professionals, we manage portfolios with a common goal — to provide investors with attractive returns over time while being mindful of risk.

**CONTACT US**

Financial Professionals:  
**443.652.4218**

Shareholder Services:  
**800.914.8716**

[moafunds.com](http://moafunds.com)

## 1 Would you please comment on the international stock markets in the third quarter of 2024 and how the Fund performed in this period?

The international markets were impacted by interest rate changes by several central banks in an effort to counteract persistent inflation and slower growth. In August, the Bank of England cut interest rates by 25 basis points (bps). In September, the Swiss National Bank and Sweden's central bank both cut rates by 25 bps. The European Central Bank cut rates by 25 bps in June and again in September. Interestingly, the UK and Europe central banks, which often follow the actions of the Fed, cut rates earlier than the U.S. in their attempt to stimulate growth. Meanwhile, the Bank of Japan raised short-term rates in July by 25 bps, but held steady at its September meeting, as it seeks to normalize monetary policy after eight years of negative interest rates.

For the three months ended September 30, 2024, the MSCI EAFE Index returned 7.26%. During the period, the Fund's return of 5.45% underperformed the Morningstar Foreign Large Blend Category average of 7.29%. However, for the 1-year period ended September 30, 2024, the Fund outperformed the category average with a return of 25.14% vs. 24.17%.

When considering longer-term periods, the Fund is **the only fund** (out of 153 unique funds) in the Morningstar Large Blend category that has **top 20% or better performance as well as Morningstar's "Below Average" Risk Rating** for the 3-, 5- and 10-year periods ended September 30, 2024.

## 2 Japan is the Fund's largest country weighting. Would you please provide an update about the country and share a portfolio example?

We believe that Japan presents a compelling long-term growth opportunity. The Tokyo Stock Exchange has implemented a series of reform initiatives aimed at improving corporate governance and transparency to strengthen

*Continued on next page*

**FUND PERFORMANCE (%) as of 9/30/2024**

	ANNUALIZED						
	3 Mo	YTD	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr	Since Inception
MoA International Fund	5.45	12.94	25.14	7.33	9.11	6.14	3.38
MSCI EAFE Index	7.26	12.99	24.77	5.48	8.20	5.71	3.19
Morningstar Foreign Large Blend Cat. Avg.	7.29	13.08	24.17	4.29	7.73	5.42	–
<b>Percentile Rank in Morningstar Cat.</b>			<b>40</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>20</b>	
# of Funds in Cat.			717	667	629	422	
Morningstar Risk Rating				Below Avg.	Below Avg.	Below Avg.	

Date of Inception: 11/5/2007 | Gross Expense Ratio: 0.47% | Net Expense Ratio: 0.32%

Morningstar Percentile Ranking based on total returns.

*The performance data quoted represents past performance and is no guarantee of future results. Investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. For the most recent month-end performance, please call 800.914.8716 or visit moafunds.com.*

*The Adviser has contractually agreed to a waiver of 0.15% of the Fund's management fees. This contractual obligation may not be terminated before April 30, 2026.*

the stock market over time. The government is also encouraging individuals to invest in the stock market by creating tax-free accounts. In our view, these measures, in addition to Japan's strong export economy, position the country well for growth over the next several years. Japan is the Fund's largest country weighting, with approximately 22% of the portfolio's assets as of September 30, 2024.

Hitachi Ltd. is a portfolio example that has performed well, and its stock price gained 18% during the third quarter of 2024. Hitachi is a Japanese multinational conglomerate that is over 100 years old and has operations in over 140 countries. The company has business lines including digital systems, power and renewable energy, railway systems, healthcare products, and financial systems. It is known for providing services such as computer-aided control systems for high-speed trains, fiber-optic data-transmission equipment, and digital cameras, among others. Hitachi has a history of stable and increasing dividends and we believe the company is positioned well for continued growth.

### 3 Where is the Fund finding opportunities in the Consumer Discretionary sector?

Our investment approach is focused on seeking high-quality, primarily large-cap companies with the potential for above average long-term price

appreciation. We emphasize companies with attractive valuation, favorable capital deployment, and high earnings quality. We examine individual companies that meet our stringent criteria within a given sector.

When it comes to the Consumer Discretionary sector, one company that does meet our investment criteria is Hermes International SA. Hermes is a luxury design house and manufacturer established in 1837 that specializes in leather goods, silk goods, lifestyle accessories, home furnishings, perfume, and jewelry. Hermes targets affluent customers who are less affected by economic downturns, allowing the company to maintain strong sales even during challenging economic times.

The Hermes management team has continued to invest in the company's production capacity, recently opening its 23rd leather goods site in France. In addition to creating new jobs, the company experienced double-digit growth in all of its geographical areas in the first half of 2024. The company's consolidated revenue increased 12% year-over-year from the first half of 2023. We believe that Hermes's business operations are sustainable and continue to provide growth opportunities.

**You should consider the investment objectives, risks, and charges and expenses of the funds carefully before investing. This and other information is contained in the funds' prospectuses and summary prospectuses, which can be obtained by calling 800.914.8716 or visiting [moafunds.com](http://moafunds.com). Read them carefully before investing.**

Mutual fund investing involves risk. Principal loss is possible. Investing in foreign securities involves risks including greater volatility, political, economic, and currency risks, as well as differences in accounting methods. The portfolio manager's judgments about the attractiveness, value or potential appreciation of the Fund's investments may prove to be incorrect. The Fund could underperform in comparison to other funds with a similar benchmark or similar objectives and investment strategies if the Fund's overall investment selections or strategies fail to produce the intended results.

© 2024 Morningstar, Inc. All rights reserved. The information contained herein: (1) is proprietary to Morningstar and/or its content providers; (2) may not be copied or distributed; and (3) is not warranted to be accurate, complete, or timely. Neither Morningstar nor its content providers are responsible for any damages or losses arising from any use of this information.

The Morningstar Rating™ for funds, or "star rating", is calculated for managed products (including mutual funds, variable annuity and variable life subaccounts, exchange-traded funds, closed-end funds, and separate accounts) with at least a three-year history. Exchange-traded funds and open-ended mutual funds are considered a single population for comparative purposes. It is calculated based on a Morningstar Risk-Adjusted Return measure that accounts for variation in a managed product's monthly excess performance, placing more emphasis on downward variations and rewarding consistent performance. The Morningstar Rating does not include any adjustment for sales loads. The top 10% of products in each product category receive 5 stars, the next 22.5% receive 4 stars, the next 35% receive 3 stars, the next 22.5% receive 2 stars, and the bottom 10% receive 1 star. The Overall Morningstar Rating for a managed product is derived from a weighted average of the performance figures associated with its three-, five-, and 10-year (if applicable) Morningstar Rating metrics. The weights are: 100% three-year rating for 36-59 months of total returns, 60% five-year rating/40% three-year rating for 60-119 months of total returns, and 50% 10-year rating/30% five-year rating/20% three-year rating for 120 or more months of total returns. While the 10-year overall star rating formula seems to give the most weight to the 10-year period, the most recent three-year period actually has the greatest impact because it is included in all three rating periods. Among Foreign Large Blend funds, the MoA International Fund received 5 stars among 667 for the 3-year, 4 stars among 629 for the 5-year, and 4 stars among 422 funds for the 10-year period ended 9/30/2024. **Past performance is no guarantee of future results.**

Morningstar percentile rankings are based on a fund's average annual total return relative to all funds in the same Morningstar category. Fund performance used within the rankings, reflects certain fee waivers, without which, returns and Morningstar rankings would have been lower. The highest (or most favorable) percentile rank is 1 and the lowest (or least favorable) percentile rank is 100.

Morningstar Risk scores for a given time period (three, five, or 10 years) reflect the Fund's Morningstar risk score plotted on a bell curve: Monthly calculations are based on whether the Fund scores in the top 10% of its category, its risk score is considered High; if it falls in the next 22.5% Above Average; a place in the middle 35% is Average; those lower still, in the next 22.5%, are Below Average and the bottom Low. Overall Morningstar risk score is a weighted average of the available three, five, and 10 year Morningstar risk scores. Investments with less than three years of performance history are not rated.

Fund holdings and/or sector allocations are subject to change and are not recommendations to buy or sell any security. Of the companies mentioned, the Fund's holdings as a percentage of net assets as of 9/30/2024 were as follows: Hitachi Ltd. 1.53%, Hermes International SA 1.41%. Diversification does not guarantee investment returns or eliminate the risk of loss.

The MSCI EAFE Index is an equity index which captures large and mid cap representation across 21 developed markets countries around the world, excluding the U.S and Canada. With 798 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country. It is not possible to invest in an index. A basis point is one hundredth of 1 percentage point.

MoA Funds distributed by Foreside Fund Services, LLC.