

**GREEN ASH**  
PARTNERS

# GA-Courtenay Special Situations Fund

GA-Courtenay Special Situations Fund “SSF” is an award-winning performance orientated hedge fund targeting consistent positive returns across diverse market conditions.

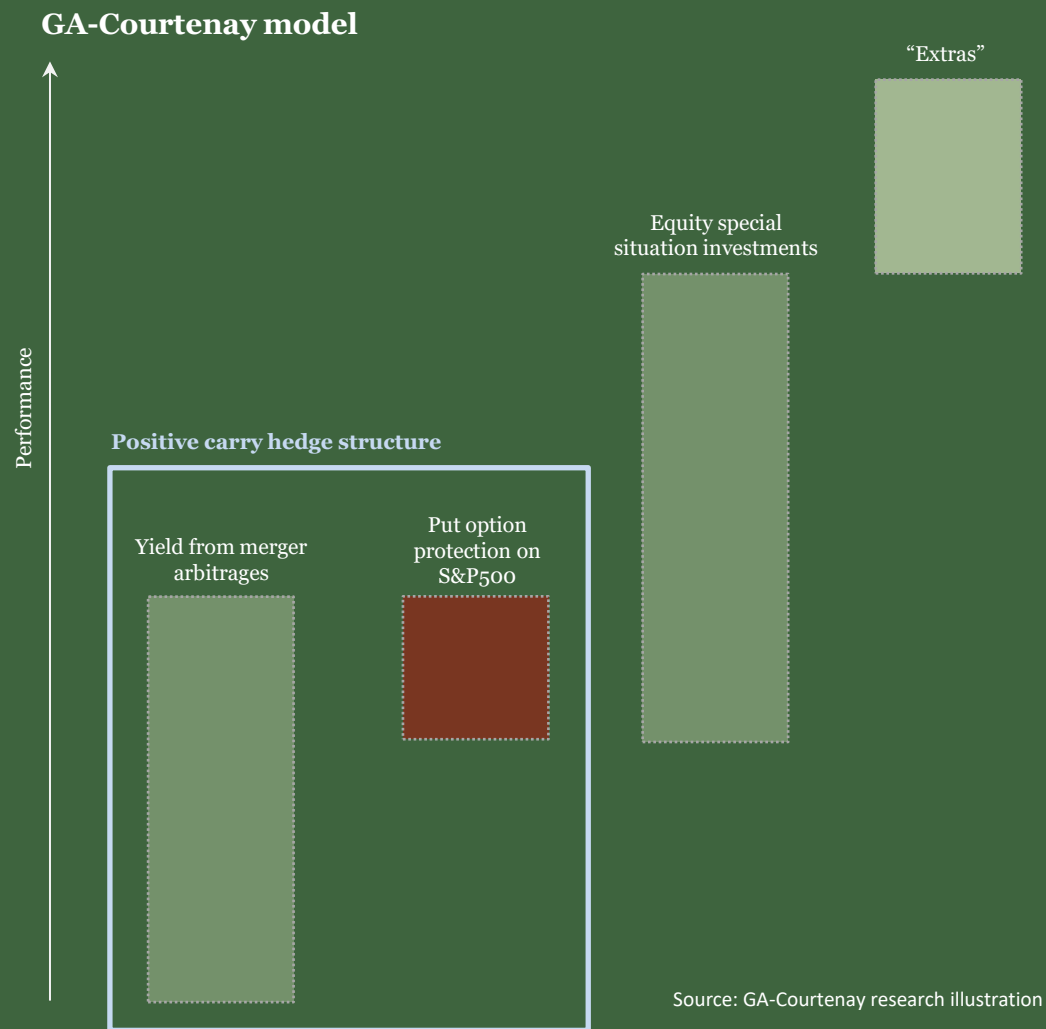
The fund maintains a portfolio of structurally advantaged equity special situation investments, enhanced by a positive carry hedge structure combining merger arbitrage yield with index put option protection.

Winner (2025) of Best Performing Event Driven UCITS Fund (5 years) from the Hedge Fund Journal.

the hedge fund journal**UCITS Hedge  
Awards 2025****Event Driven****Best Performing Fund over 5 Years**  
GA-Courtenay Special Situations**HEDGEWEEK®**  
EUROPEAN AWARDS 2025**Shortlisted: Emerging Performance of the  
Year, UCITS - Alternative Equity Strategies**  
GA - Courtenay Special Situations Fund

# *Fund Strategy & Case Studies*

# Performance, Protected: underpinned by a positive carry hedge structure



Source: GA-Courtenay research illustration

## Advantages of GA-Courtenay approach relative to other absolute return strategies

Relative to **balanced** funds:  
the potential for leverage, avoidance of credit risk in macro shock scenarios

Relative to **long/short** funds:  
the removal of unlimited liability property of short selling, removal of speculation, lowering of cyclical aspects

Relative to **macro** funds:  
greater determinism in outcomes, higher consistency, removal of speculation

Relative to **pure merger arbitrage** funds:  
greater potential for decisive performance advantage, ability to overcome “seasonal aspects” of merger arbitrage

# “Turn every page” – a comprehensive search for opportunities throughout the global merger arbitrage and global equity special situation domains

*“We showed a movie about Berkshire Hathaway last year that was called Turn Every Page. And I would say that turning every page is an important ingredient to bring to the investment field. Some of them you want to turn pretty fast, but [if you turn every page] you just get lucky in life, and you want to take advantage of your luck.*

*And very few people do turn every page. And the ones who turn every page aren't going to tell you what they're finding. So you got to do a little bit yourself.”*

Warren Buffett, Berkshire Hathaway Annual Meeting May 2025

## Equity special situations

**Search breadth:** global developed markets

**Market capitalisation range:** \$500m+

**Nature of opportunities:** holding period three years or more; situations possess beta, moderated by combining with put option protection

**Style:** high quality companies at mid-stage of growth, following announcement or high probability of announcement with the potential to accelerate economics

## Merger arbitrage

**Search breadth:** global developed markets

**Market capitalisation range:** \$100m+

**Nature of opportunities:** duration 3-6 months, return characteristics independent of broader market conditions

**Style:** focus on binding, high forecast accuracy. The competitive bidding situation is the blue sky opportunity

# “Come up with a different set of problems to attack” – our approach deliberately de-prioritises traditional data feeds, and stale frameworks

*“My values have always been led by, first, just to do something that everybody else isn’t doing. If you run with the pack you will probably lose. You might win, but more likely you will lose. So try to come up with a different way of doing things or a different set of problems to attack.*

*And don’t give in easily, stick with things, even when it really hurts. To do good things, can take time.”*

Jim Simons, founder, Renaissance Technologies

## De-prioritisation of traditional data feeds

**Fund operation is independent of day-to-day market feeds:** no broker research, no Bloomberg, no CNBC, no FT.com

**Focus is on the continual evolution of our proprietary systems:** our search for opportunities is instead a function of our own proprietary systems build, including extensive and thoughtful data selection captured into Excel and Python-coded systems

Our form of opportunity identification as such is to **target situations which exhibit a relative absence of competition from other fund managers**; by contrast as soon as an opportunity is subject to wide market commentary the probability of its co-incidence with inefficient pricing is significantly lowered

## Augmentation of stale frameworks

**As the world evolves, the optimal investment framework must also adapt:** “You have to keep learning if you want to become a great investor. When the world changes, *you* must change.” Warren Buffett, Berkshire Hathaway letter, 2022

Conventional investment frameworks focus on moats, intrinsic value, and other standard metrics, but **decisive alpha emerges only when the investor is right while the market is also precisely wrong** – so a winning strategy must also achieve a level of differentiation from consensus.

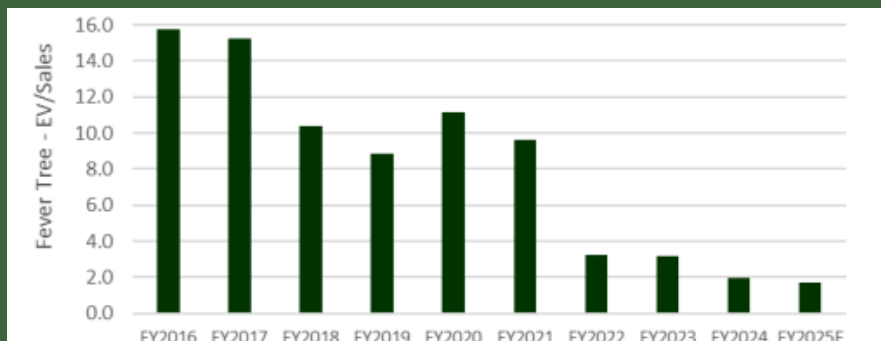
We retain classical filters but also **apply proprietary first-principles tests derived from organisational science and evolutionary biology**. These evaluate leadership calibre, workforce merit and coordination efficiency, division of labour, scale economies, network effects, technological advantage, tailwinds from free-riding, and the presence of value catalysts.



## Equity special situation case study

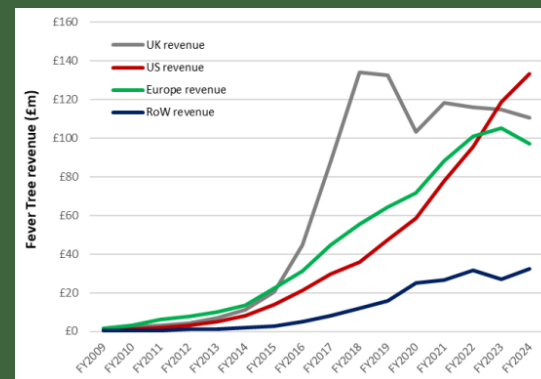
# Fever Tree, \$1.3bn mcap, held at 9.5% of NAV

**1. Fever Tree, a market leading premium beverages company, has seen its valuation de-rate to just 1.7x EV/Sales..**



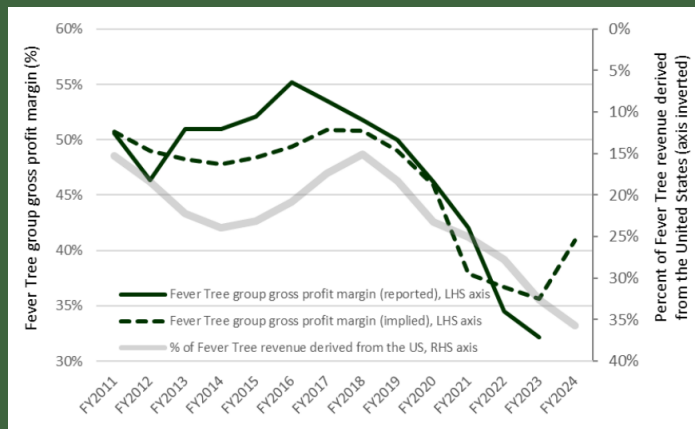
Source: corporate disclosures

**2. Despite, since 2009, revenue growth at 35% annualised, comprehensively penetrating multiple regions worldwide**



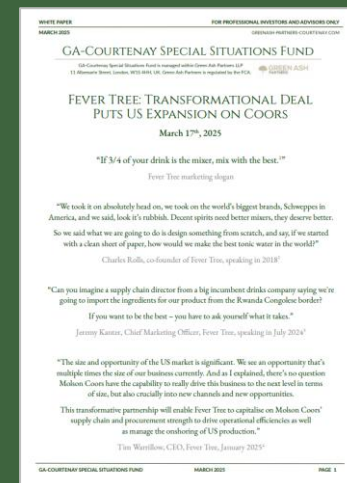
Source: corporate disclosures

**3. The reason for the Fever Tree de-rating has been its margin decline, caused by rising transatlantic shipping costs (from UK) as the US has gone to the largest part of its revenue**



Source: GA-Courtenay research, corporate disclosures

In January 2025, Fever Tree signed a transformational deal with Molson Coors. The deal moves all production for the US market to on-shore, removing transatlantic shipping costs and exposure to tariffs. Based on 2025 consensus revenue estimates, a return to historic 35% operating margins would yield a P/E ratio of 7.9x – or just 7.1x excluding cash at year end 2024. The Molson Coors deal also stands to significantly accelerate Fever Tree's revenue growth.

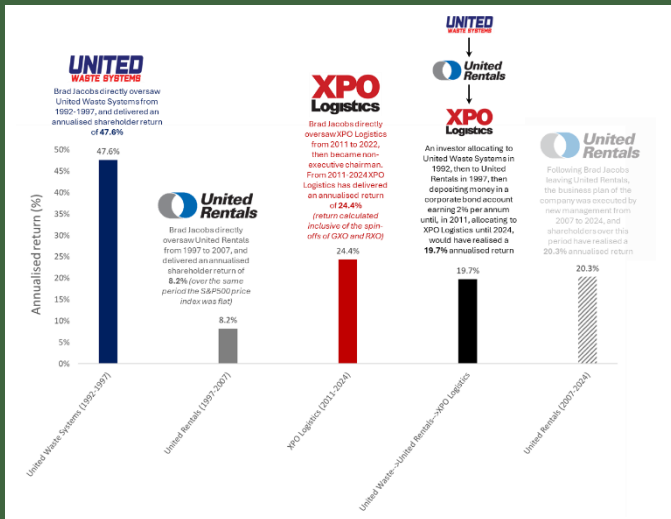




# Equity special situation case study QXO, \$11bn mcap, held at 8.3% of NAV



1. a) An investor who backed the prior vehicles of Brad Jacobs, United Waste Systems, United Rentals, and then XPO Logistics, would have realised a 20% annualised return



Source: GA-Courtenay research, corporate disclosures

1. b) June 2024, Brad Jacobs announces QXO, a publically listed cash shell entity targeting a series of M&A transactions in the building products distribution industry



"QXO plans to become a tech-forward leader in the \$800bn building products distribution industry. The company is targeting tens of billions of dollars of annual revenue in the next decade through accretive acquisitions and organic growth."

QXO press release June 13<sup>th</sup> 2024<sup>25</sup>

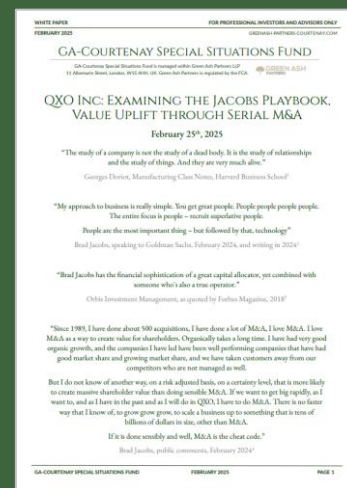
2. Our entry cost in QXO was an \$11bn equity capitalisation, following the company raising \$7.7bn of capital from investors including Orbis, Walton family office, Kushner

Date	Issuance security	Status	Capital raised (\$m)	Stock: subscription price per share Warrants: strike price per share	Shares issued (m)	Subscribers
	Common stock preceding					0.7
Dec 04, 2023	Deal agreement consideration	Completed	1,000			90% Brad Jacobs, 10% Sequoia Heritage
Jun 13, 2024	Common stock	Completed	3,116	9.14		340.9 Orbis, MFN, Finepoint, Affinity, Madrone
Jul 22, 2024	Common stock	Completed	620	9.14		68 Institutions including Affinity Partners
Jul 22, 2024	Pre-funded warrants	Completed	384	9.14		42 Other investors (non disclosed)
			5,120	9.14		451.4
Dec 04, 2023	Convertible preferred stock	If executed	1,000	4.57		219 90% Brad Jacobs, 10% Sequoia Heritage
Dec 04, 2023	Warrants	If executed	500	4.57		109 90% Brad Jacobs, 10% Sequoia Heritage
Dec 04, 2023	Warrants	If executed	375	6.85		55 90% Brad Jacobs, 10% Sequoia Heritage
Dec 04, 2023	Warrants	If executed	749	13.70		55 90% Brad Jacobs, 10% Sequoia Heritage
			2,624	5.99		438.3
			7,744		8.71	889.4
Date	Market cap (\$m)	Share price	Total diluted share count (m)			
Feb 25, 2025	10,682		12.01			889.4
Therefore, premium to net cash position			38%			

Source: corporate disclosures

Our approach undertakes a deep dive analysis of the business strategy of QXO, including leadership team and operational competency, industry choice, through to M&A targets, and sensitivity analysis in relation to prospective outcomes

Source: GA-Courtenay research

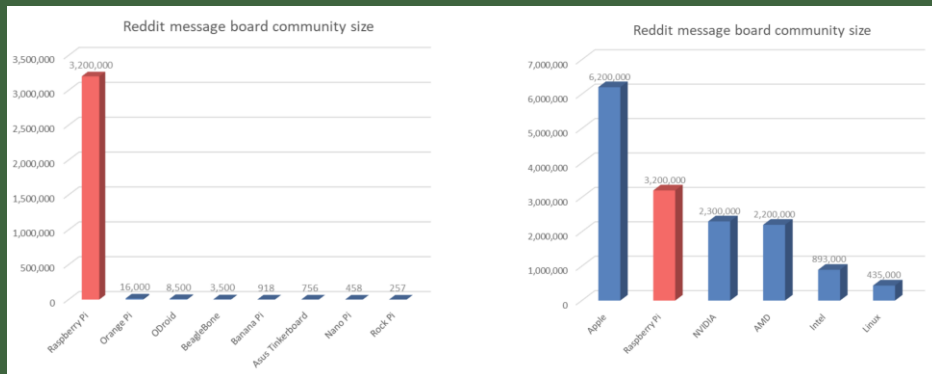


# Equity special situation case study

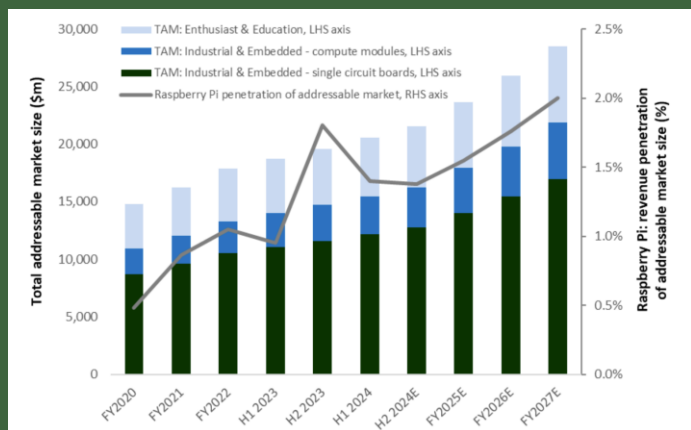
## Raspberry Pi, \$1.1bn mcap, 8.0% of NAV



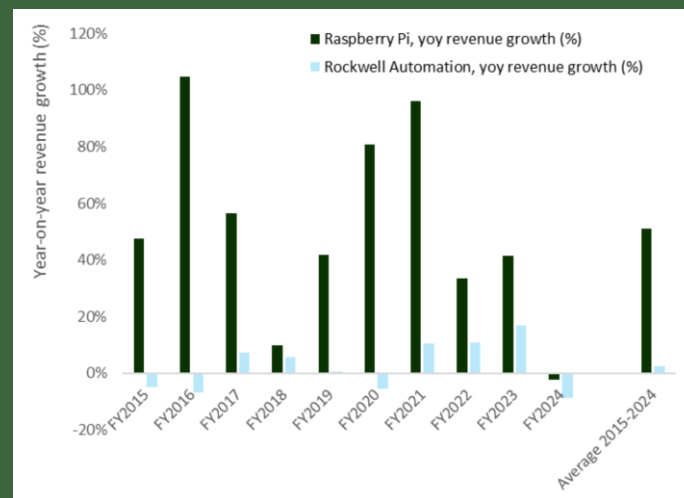
**1. Raspberry Pi dominates small form factor computing, with a community followership that competes in size even with scaled US tech companies**



**3. Addressable market size is 70x current revenues**



**2. Raspberry Pi possesses an advantaged product set, enabling the company to grow revenues at 50% per annum over the last decade and significantly ahead of closest alternatives**



*Our deep dive research concludes Raspberry Pi maintaining a significant advantage over its nearest peers, particularly in price-performance and cohesive aspects of its compute platform provided for by Raspberry Pi's vertically integrated business design.*

Source: GA-Courtenay white papers from website



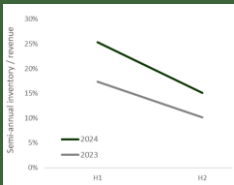
# Equity special situation case study

## Raspberry Pi, \$1.1bn mcap, 8.0% of NAV



### 1. Multiple signalling as to revenue growth prospects above consensus estimates

Raspberry Pi is building inventories, a behaviour normally co-incident with anticipated revenue growth



The workforce of Raspberry Pi increased by 41% in 2024, relative to a 1% increase in 2023 and 11% in 2022



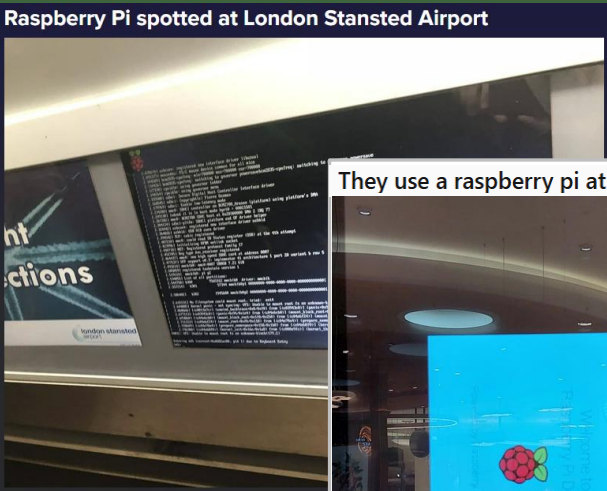
Raspberry Pi in 2024 also increased its reseller relationships by 20%



ARM Holdings (CPU design licensor, insider) more than doubled its stake at the 2024 IPO of the company

	Following the Pre-IPO Reorganisation and Immediately prior to Admission <sup>(1)</sup>		Immediately Following Admission	
	Number of Shares	Percentage of total share capital	Number of Shares	Percentage of total share capital
<b>Shareholders</b>				
Raspberry Pi Foundation <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	140,854,092	77.31	94,919,627	49.08
Londoner Developments Master Fund Limited <sup>(4)</sup>	6,036,894	4.41	13,136,894	6.79
Evans Charitable Trust	6,430,098	3.53	6,430,098	3.32
Scay Semiconductor Solutions Corporation	3,213,592	1.76	3,213,592	1.66
Alm Technology Investment 2 Limited <sup>(5)</sup>	6,427,145	3.53	16,252,148	8.40
Employee Benefit Trust <sup>(6)</sup>	9,870,480	5.42	7,145,767	3.69

### 2. Scale of customer set significantly larger than Raspberry Pi's trailing revenues

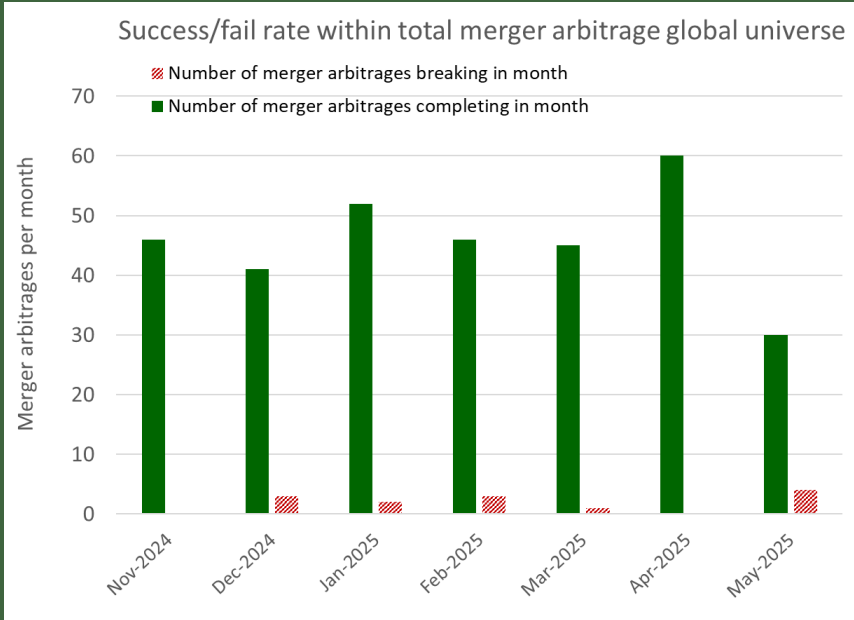
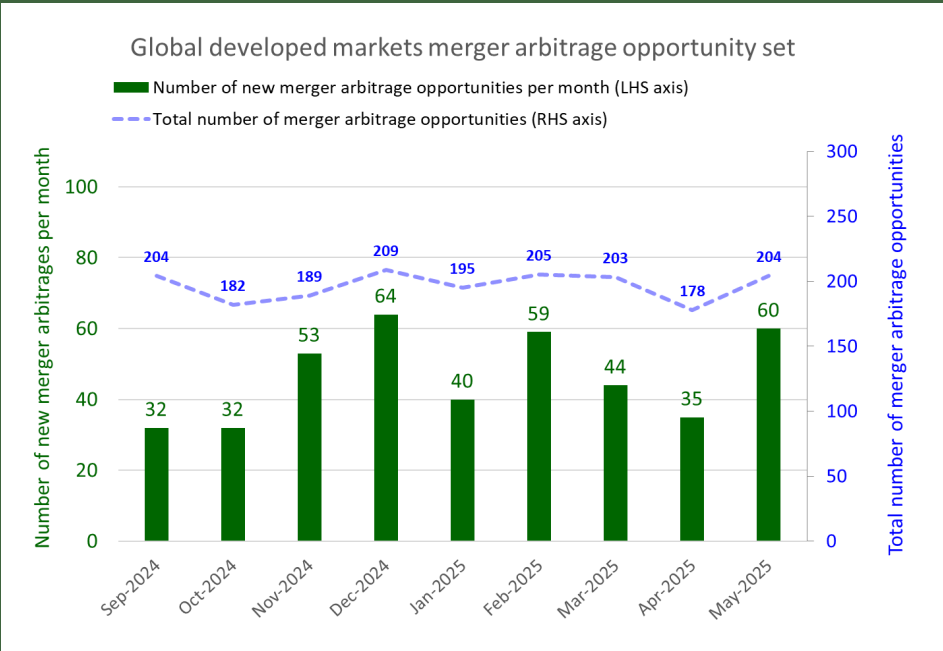


Raspberry Pi products are deployed across diverse applications including electric vehicle charging, elevators and escalators, industrial control and automation, sports performance tracking, digital signage, smart buildings, and energy management.

Figure sources: GA-Courtenay white papers from website



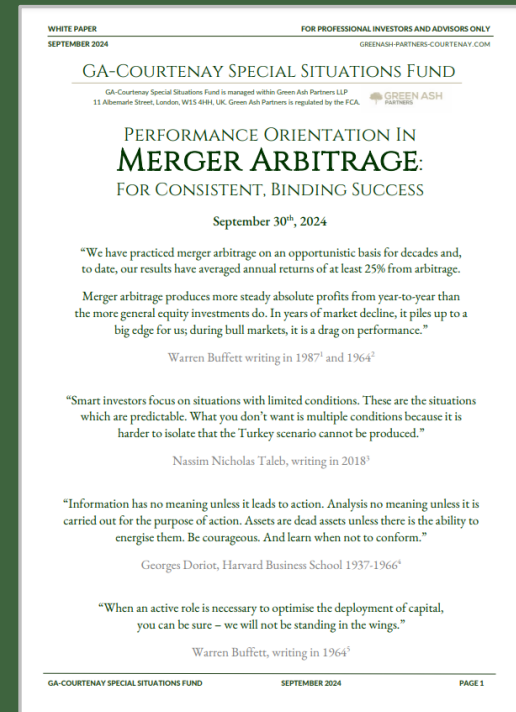
# Search systems target comprehensive new merger arbitrage identification



Source: Green Ash Partners internal systems

# Multiple pillars drive performance enhancement in merger arbitrage

- Comprehensive search
- Antitrust history systems
- Spread behaviour history systems
- Shareholder activism
- Competitive bidding situations
- Contingent value rights



Source: GA-Courtenay white papers available on our website

# Arbitrage case study: Loungers Plc, \$0.4bn mcap, held at 9.5% of NAV

Loungers was subject to a takeover offer by Fortress in November 2024. This fund built a position in Loungers in December 2024, and engaged with the company regarding our dissatisfaction with the offer price. The offer price was subsequently raised in January 2025.

January 25<sup>th</sup> 2025: takeover offer for Loungers is increased to 325p



Source: GA-Courtenay research, Google Finance, internal systems

The fund acquired 9.5% of NAV in Loungers Plc at a price of 304.5p on 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 2024, and sold the entire position at 321p on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

As such, the fund realised an annualised return of 55%.

Following the takeover proposal, multiple shareholders, including this fund, communicated to the company dissatisfaction with the offer price

**This is MONEY**  
FINANCIAL WEBSITE OF THE YEAR

## Loungers shareholder 'furious' at £338m deal

By LAURA AVETISYAN  
UPDATED: 11:20, 30 November 2024

More shareholders have come out to oppose the takeover of a cafe-bar chain by US private equity.

Fund manager Downing, which has a 1.5 per cent stake in Loungers, said it was 'absolutely furious' about the proposed deal. And Gresham House said it would use its near-4 per cent stake to 'vote against this transaction'.

The comments came after Slater Investments, which owns more than 10 per cent of Loungers, and Axa Investment Management, with over 4 per cent, said they were opposed to the takeover.

But Canaccord Genuity Asset Management, which holds a 1.7 per cent stake in Loungers, became the latest shareholder to back the deal.

That takes confirmed support for the takeover to 41.9 per cent. Loungers, which owns the Cosy Club and Brightside brands and has 280 sites, this week agreed to a £338million takeover by Majestic Wine owner Fortress Investment Group.

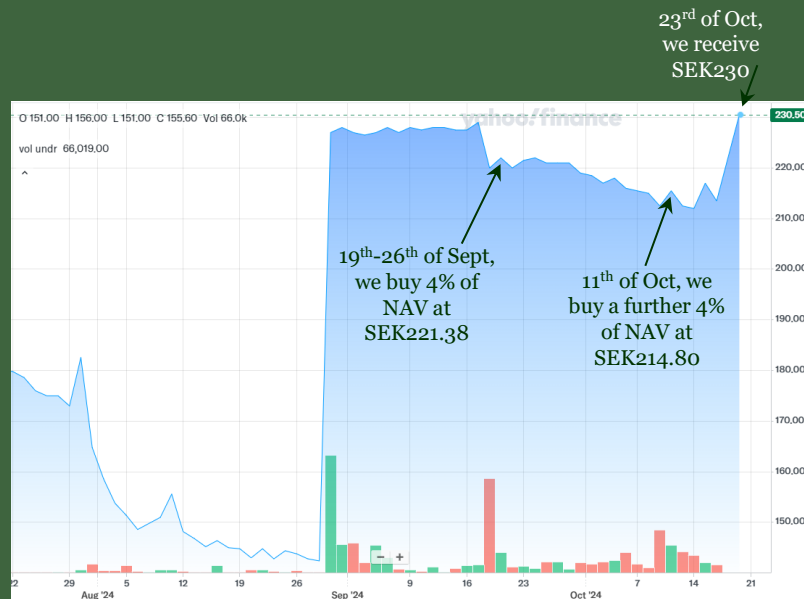
But Judith Mackenzie, a partner at Downing, said: 'We are furious about this.' She said the attempt to buy Loungers was 'opportunistic'.

Source: This is Money



# Arbitrage case study: Concentric AB, US\$770m mcap, held at 8% of NAV

In late September, and early October, the fund allocated to Concentric AB at 8% of NAV, capturing a more than 150% IRR by October 23<sup>rd</sup>



Date	DTC	#	px	Outflow (SEK)	Inflow (SEK)	Gross spread	Return	Annualised return
19/09/2024	34	17,000	222.50	-3,782,500		3.3%	3.4%	42.8%
23/09/2024	30	34,000	221.00	-7,514,000		3.9%	4.1%	62.6%
26/09/2024	27	17,000	221.00	-3,757,000		3.9%	4.1%	71.6%
11/10/2024	12	35,700	214.75	-7,666,575		6.6%	7.1%	707.0%
11/10/2024	12	35,700	214.87	-7,670,893		6.6%	7.0%	693.3%
23/10/2024		139,400	230.00		32,062,000			
				IRR on full deployment				
				152%				

The Q3 earnings report of Concentric was interpreted as a profit warning, however, the report was not materially different from Concentric's Q2 earnings report (disclosed before takeover offer)

Concern over Material Adverse Change clause within Concentric takeover agreement

Concern over 90% acceptance condition within Concentric takeover agreement

## Di: Signs of bidding turmoil after Concentric's profit warning, short selling increases

October 04, 2024 at 01:23 pm

Short selling is increasing in bid-active Concentric and the share is trading below the bid price after a profit warning. Parts of the market seem to be speculating that the bid from A.P. Møller Holding will be withdrawn. This would be a historic event in a Swedish context, and unlikely according to an expert on public takeover bids. This is according to Dagens Industri.

The terms of AP Møller's bid include a disclaimer, which in industry terms is called Material Adverse Change, MAC, which means that the bid can be withdrawn under certain circumstances.

Source: Marketscreener, Olivetree EventDriven

## Olivetree Event Driven Morning Analysis 16th of October 2024



Olivetree EventDriven <eventdriven@ol>  
To Wed 7:31

• COIC SS (RISK ARB): Offer period expiration today at 3pm CET, with tender update expected latest by Friday. As of yesterday, advisors seemed to be actively calling and reminding shareholders to tender, whereas bidder remains very tight-lipped how it would proceed if it would not reach the 90% acceptance condition.

## Bidder A. P. Møller Holding is a long-term, strategic investor

A.P. Møller Holding is an investment company and the parent company of the A.P. Møller Group – a group of companies spanning various sectors and industries. A.P. Møller Holding is committed to its long standing purpose of investing in and developing businesses that have a positive impact on society.



Robert Mærsk Uggla, CEO at A.P. Møller Holding, speaking at Tomorrow Summit 2021

Source: A. P. Møller Holding



# As the regulatory environment adjusts under a Trump administration, M&A volumes would need to rise by 20% to return to long-term averages



*“The M&A market is doing ok, but to your point about coming back, M&A volumes are running 20% below 10 year averages, there is no question that the regulatory environment has had an impact on that, and I do not think the regulatory environment is as constructive and balanced as it should be to ensure our competitive position in the world. And so I hope that adjusts, and I think that will adjust, naturally.*”

*I think the second factor that has impacted the M&A market is that the financial sponsor community, the private equity community, has been a little bit turned off over the last few years. And we got a big reset coming out of the pandemic, and I think the private equity community is still wrestling with the value they perceive their assets to be versus the current market value, and the incentive system really leads that community to wait. So M&A around the sponsor community has been slower.*

*I think both those things will normalise over time, but both of those things have been headwinds to M&A in the short term here.”*

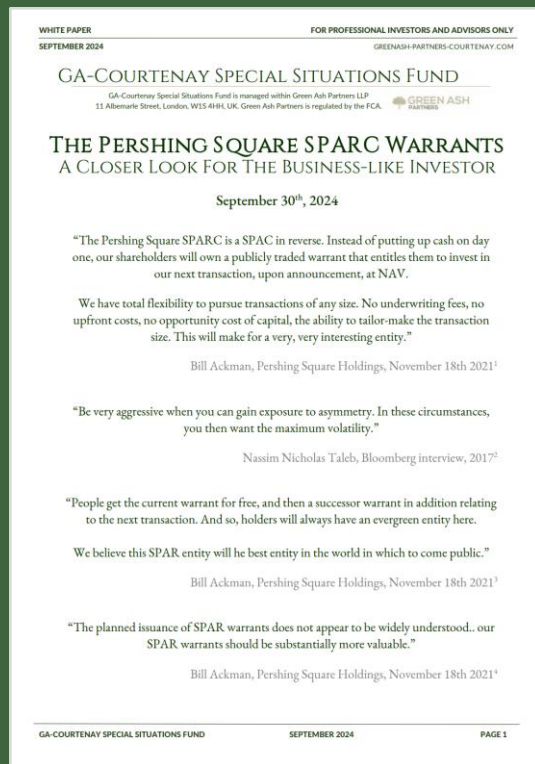
David Solomon, CEO, Goldman Sachs, speaking in September 2024 [[link](#)]



# The potential value of our Pershing Square Warrants, marked at zero, may be heightened in uncertain market environments

## Our base case assessment has been for a \$15.5m potential value uplift assuming a transaction announcement by Pershing Square SPARC

- The fund owns 387,285 Pershing Square SPARC warrants, and each warrant has a right to two stock units. Therefore, the fund owns rights to 774,570 stock units.
- If a merger partner seeks to raise \$12-13bn, the strike of the SPARC stock units is \$100.
- The average day one price rise for private-to-public transactions (IPOs) is +20%, and this has been consistently positive every year for the last 40 years (see RHS chart).
- The base case calculation contention:  $774,570 \times \$100 \times 20\% = \$15.5\text{m}$ .



## Bill Ackman comments at the Pershing Square Holdings 2024 AGM (February 2025)

*"So why hasn't Pershing Square SPARC announced a transaction yet? And the answer is, it really relates to, why have there not been more IPOs? In this ebullient economic environment, rates are reasonably low, everyone is interested in investing in IPOs, and yet there are not a lot of IPOs."*



*The reason for that in my opinion, and the reason we have not done a SPARC transaction, is that the private market carrying values of both private equity companies and venture-backed companies in many cases are above where they would trade in public markets.*

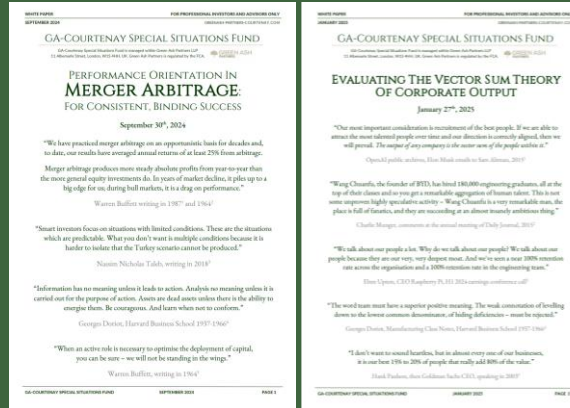
*And so the private equity sponsors, and the management teams, and the shareholders, do not want to get a public mark. And so they are waiting for the business values to grow enough, and so that by the time the companies are ready to go public, they can actually trade them.*

*And we are looking to buy a very high quality business, but we have to buy it at a price that makes sense for us as a major shareholder of the company, where the SPARC investors get a nice uplift at the time the company goes public. But we are actively talking to people, and looking at SPARC transactions."*

Source: GA-Courtenay white papers from website, GA-Courtenay research calculations,  
 Bill Ackman public comments at Pershing Square Holdings AGM February 2025

The fund's website provides comprehensive additional information  
*[www.greenash-partners-courtenay.com](http://www.greenash-partners-courtenay.com)*

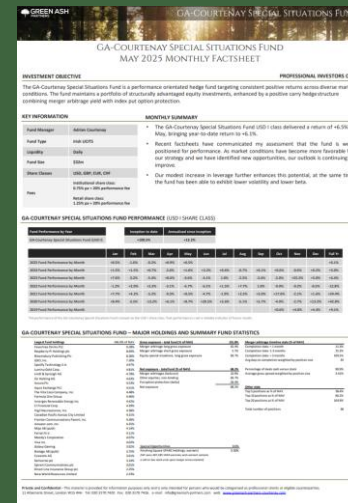
## Fund strategy related white papers



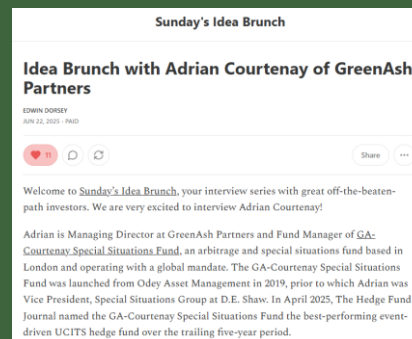
## Stock specific deep dives



## Monthly factsheets



## Fund manager interviews



**Video presentations include quarterly webinars and event presentations**



## Comprehensive fund document PDFs



## Links to publically disclosed shareholder activism





# Fund information

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Inception date:	October 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2019
AUM:	\$33m
Annualised return since inception:	13.4%
Manager focus:	GA-Courtenay Special Situations Fund is the only investment entity overseen by the fund manager and the fund manager is fully invested in the product
Structure:	UCITS (Irish domiciled)
Base currency and share classes:	Base currency: USD, other share classes: EUR, GBP and CHF
Administrator, auditor and custodian:	Administrator: US Bank, Auditor: Deloitte, Custodian: European Deposit Bank
Dealing:	Daily, 2pm
Strategy:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A portfolio of structurally advantaged equity special situation investments, enhanced by a positive carry hedge structure combining merger arbitrage yield with index put option protection</li> <li>• Extensive, internally developed, code-based proprietary systems that optimise both research throughput and execution agility</li> <li>• Intensive per situation due diligence through deep dive research</li> <li>• Historic success targeting highly accretive situations within both equity investments and merger arbitrage including competitive bidding situations, contingent value rights, and shareholder activism</li> <li>• Index put options held for market dislocation scenarios, beta neutralisation</li> </ul>
Leverage tolerance:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Variable with opportunity set</li> </ul>
Fee structure:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual management charge 75bps (institutional share classes)</li> <li>• Performance fee 20% with underperformance carried forward</li> </ul>

# Fund manager bio

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## Fund manager bio

- 2023 – present: Green Ash Partners, GA-Courtenay Special Situations Fund
- 2016 – 2023: Odey Asset Management (Special Situations Fund launches 2019)
- 2014 – 2016: D.E. Shaw & Co, Vice President, Special Situations Group
- 2000 – 2012: Tisbury Capital, Fortelus Capital (both special situations hedge funds)
- 1998 – 2000: Oxford University (Scholar, 1<sup>st</sup> class MA, Oriel College)



## Key strengths

- Wide-ranging experience in situation assessment and relationship building across global developed markets
- Advanced search and history proprietary systems accelerate situation discovery, analysis and risk management
- Extensive due diligence competency through deep dive research
- Demonstrated ability to accrete situation economics by activist engagement

# Legal disclosures

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