

International Small Cap Equity

Intra-Quarter Commentary—July 2025



nternational equities declined in July and underperformed U.S. markets, as international investors grew increasingly cautious amid concerns over rising growth tied to trade tensions and currency volatility. Adding to pressure on global markets, the U.S. Dollar Index reversed course and strengthened after months of decline.

Marking a pause in its year-long easing cycle, the European Central Bank held its key interest rate steady at 2% in July, following eight consecutive cuts since June 2024. With eurozone inflation holding at the ECB's 2% target, policymakers see little urgency to adjust rates further. While inflation and growth appear stable, risks that could weigh on exports and price dynamics remain, particularly from protectionist pressures and a stronger euro.

Inflation in Tokyo cooled slightly in July with core consumer prices rising 2.9% from a year earlier, down from 3.1% in June, matching expectations. Meanwhile, Bank of Japan officials held off on raising interest rates during the month as they continue to assess the effects of new U.S. tariffs. The recent loss by the ruling coalition in the Upper House election has drawn attention to voter frustration over rising prices and the weak yen, which could push the BOJ to consider policy adjustments in the months ahead.

China's manufacturing activity weakened during the month, with the Caixin Manufacturing PMI dropping to 49.5 from 50.4 in June. Slower new-business growth led factories to cut back production and reduce staff, while firms lowered selling prices despite rising input costs amid heightened competition. Overall, export demand continues to deteriorate further, while domestic sales offer only limited support.

GEOGRAPHICAL EXPOSURE & PORTFOLIO CHANGES (1)(2)

Region	Ending Weight ⁽³⁾	Change from 6/30/2025	International Small Cap Equity Additions & (International Small Cap Equity Deletions) ⁽⁴⁾
Western Europe	29.3%	-0.5%	
North America	29.0%	+0.2%	
Asia/Pacific	21.6%	+0.6%	
Central & South America	9.7%	-0.2%	Hypera (Arcos Dorados)
Middle East & Africa	8.6%	-0.2%	
Cash	1.7%	0.0%	
Eastern Europe	0.0%	0.0%	
Developed Markets	74.9%	+0.5%	
Emerging Markets	23.4%	-0.5%	
Cash	1.7%	0.0%	

⁽¹⁾ Based on a representative account of the strategy discussed. Portfolio characteristics (e.g., sector weights, valuation, growth rate) are based on a representative account that we believe is illustrative of the strategy. All accounts in the strategy are invested identically in the same securities unless a client has imposed restrictions. Characteristics and/or holdings on a given date may vary due to pending trades.

Sources: Renaissance Research, FactSet

⁽²⁾ Renaissance determines an issuer's country classification based on company filings and data provided by third-party sources such as Bloomberg or FactSet. Renaissance considers an issuer to be located in an emerging market country if the issuer is domiciled or incorporated in an emerging market country (as defined by the iShares MSCI Emerging Markets ETF) or exhibits risk characteristics (e.g., economic, geopolitical and regulatory risks) similar to emerging market countries.

⁽³⁾ Weights as of the end of the presentation period. Cumulative total weighting may not add up to 100% due to rounding of percentages to the nearest decimal place.

⁽⁴⁾ Any securities referenced should not be considered a recommendation to purchase or sell a particular security. These securities represent a portion of the companies held in a representative account in this strategy as of the date stated and are intended for informational purposes only. The reader should not assume that investments in the securities identified or discussed were or will prove to be profitable. The past performance of these securities is no guarantee of future results. The specific securities identified and described may not represent all of the securities purchased, sold, or recommended for this strategy. To request a complete list of holdings recommendations for this strategy over the past year or a list showing the contribution of every holding to the performance of the representative account for the time period stated, please contact Renaissance at compliance@reninv.com.



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CONTRIBUTORS TO RETURN(1)(2)					
Ticker	Company Name	Average Weight ⁽³⁾	Contribution to Return		
TOP FI	VE CONTRIBUTORS—INTERNA	TIONAL SMALL C	AP EQUITY		
CLS	Celestica	3.39%	0.89%		
TIGO	Millicom International Cellular	2.94%	0.26%		
TCCPY	TechnoPro	2.80%	0.26%		
NEXNY	Nexans	2.35%	0.25%		
OSW	OneSpaWorld	2.78%	0.22%		
BOTTO	M FIVE CONTRIBUTORS—INTE	RNATIONAL SMA	LL CAP EQUITY		
AFYA	Afya	1.64%	-0.43%		
RDWR	Radware	2.38%	-0.31%		
KOF	Coca-Cola FEMSA	2.09%	-0.30%		
ERO	Ero Copper	1.30%	-0.29%		

(1) Based on a representative account of the strategy discussed. Portfolio characteristics (e.g., sector weights, valuation, growth rate) are based on a representative account that we believe is illustrative of the strategy. All accounts in the strategy are invested identically in the same securities unless a client has imposed restrictions. Characteristics and/or holdings on a given date may vary due to pending trades.

(2) The securities listed should not be considered a recommendation to purchase or sell a particular security. These securities represent the top five and

1.80%

-0.26%

²⁰The securities listed should not be considered a recommendation to purchase or sell a particular security. These securities represent the top five and bottom five contributors by weight to the performance of a representative account in his strategy as of the date stated and are intended for informational purposes only. The reader should not assume that investments in the securities identified or discussed were or will prove to be profitable. The past performance of these securities is no guarantee of future results. The specific securities identified and described may not represent all of the securities purchased, sold, or recommended for this strategy. To request a complete list of holdings recommendations for this strategy over the past year or a list showing the contribution of every holding to the performance of the representative account for the time period stated, please contact Renaissance at compliance@reninv.com.

(3) Average weights over the presentation period.

Travis Perkins

Sources: Renaissance Research, FactSet

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Our portfolio performance was down marginally for the month on an absolute basis but ahead of our benchmark. Strong selection in Information Technology and Communication Services offset weak selection in Financials and Health Care. Asia/Pacific contributed the most to portfolio performance, as our Japanese holdings helped returns. Weak performance in Central & South America, particularly in our Brazilian holdings, hurt relative returns.

Our best performing stock during the month was **Celestica** (Canada). The electronics manufacturing service provider saw its stock rise during July after the company reported results and guidance that comfortably topped expectations. Strong momentum in its higher-margin Hardware Platform Solutions segment, boosted by robust AI-related demand, drove margin expansion and led management to raise its outlook for the rest of the year.

Our worst performing stock was **Afya** (Brazil). The Brazilian education provider saw its U.S.-listed shares under pressure as the Brazilian real weakened versus the United States dollar during the month. Despite these currency headwinds, Afya is well positioned for long-term success, supported by its expanding medical school capacity and strong demand.

Overall, the latest updates during July from Europe, Japan, and China point to a delicate global outlook. Inflation seems to be under control for now, but growth risks are building as trade tensions and currency shifts take hold. Central banks appear inclined to wait for clearer signals before making further policy moves, highlighting a global economic environment defined by caution, divergence, and uncertainty.



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DISCLOSURES

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GICS® SECTOR INFORMATION

Sector Listing according to MSCI and S&P Dow Jones data: MSCI and S&P Dow Jones do not make any express or implied warranties or representations and shall have no liability whatsoever with respect to any GICS data contained herein.

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REFERENCED ETF

iShares MSCI Emerging Markets ETF—The iShares MSCI Emerging Markets ETF seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of large- and mid-capitalization emerging market equities.

REFERENCED INDEX

(Indices are unmanaged and are not available for direct investment.)

Manufacturing Purchasing Managers Index (PMI)—Manufacturing PMI is an indicator of economic health the manufacturing sector. A reading above 50 indicates expansion in the sector; below 50 indicates contraction.

U.S. Dollar Index—The U.S. Dollar Index is a measure of the value of the U.S. dollar relative to the value of a basket of currencies of the majority of the U.S.'s most significant trading partners.

STOCK REFERENCES

Any securities referenced should not be considered a recommendation to purchase or sell a particular security. These securities represent a portion of the companies held in a representative account in this strategy as of the date stated and are intended for informational purposes only. Nonperformance-based criteria have been used to select the securities listed unless otherwise stated. The reader should not assume that investments in the securities identified or discussed were or will prove to be profitable. The past performance of these securities is no guarantee of future results. The specific securities identified and described may not represent all of the securities purchased, sold, or recommended for this strategy. To request a complete list of holdings recommendations for this strategy over the past year or a list showing the contribution of every holding to the performance of the representative account for the time period stated, please contact Renaissance at compliance@reninv.com.