

The Merchants Trust PLC

Key Information

Total Assets*	£666.8m
Gearing^{††} (net)	21.0%
No. of Shares[†] (Ordinary 25p)	103,759,877
Net asset value[†]	525.3p
Net asset value (debt at Market Value)[†]	495.7p
Premium/-discount to NAV[†]	-6.6%
Premium/-discount to NAV (debt at Market Value)[†]	-1.0%
Share price*	490.8p
AITC Sector	UK Income Growth
RIC	MRCH
Year end	31st January
Report and Accounts	Final posted in April Interim posted in September
AGM	May
Dividends	February, May, August and November
Price Information	Financial Times The Daily Telegraph www.allianzgi.co.uk
Board of Directors	Hugh Stevenson (Chairman), Sir John Banham, Dick Barfield, Sir Bob Reid, Joe Scott Plummer, James Sassoon
Investor services	020 7065 1407
Brochure request	0800 317 573

* Source: Datastream as at 29.09.06

[†] Source: Allianz Global Investors as at 29.09.06

Investment trusts are quoted companies listed on the London Stock Exchange. Their share price is determined by factors including demand, or lack of, which means that the shares may trade below (at a discount to) or above (at a premium to) the underlying net asset value.

A trust's net asset value (NAV) is calculated as available shareholders' funds divided by the number of shares in issue, with shareholders' funds taken to be the net value of all the company's assets after deducting liabilities. In line with current industry best practice NAVs are shown that take into account the 'fair value' of debt. This means NAVs are calculated after allowing for the valuation of debt at fair value or current market price, rather than at final repayment value. NAVs with debt at market value provide a more realistic impact of the cost of debt, and thus a more realistic discount.

^{††} Source: Datastream as at 29.09.06.

Please also refer to Trust Aim & Characteristics, above right.

Trust aim & characteristics

The Trust's objective is to provide an above average level of income and income growth together with long term growth of capital through a policy of investing mainly in higher yielding UK FTSE 100 companies.

^{††} Merchants seeks to enhance returns for its shareholders through gearing, in the form of bank borrowings. Gearing can boost the Trust's returns when investments perform well, though losses can be magnified when investments do badly. You should be aware that this Trust may be subject to sudden and large falls in value and you could suffer substantial capital loss.

Fund Manager's Review

Six months to 29th September 2006

After falling in May, the stock market has now almost recovered its former highs, where strong profits growth and takeovers fuelled by cheap debt have supported the market. Over the six month period under review performance has been strong, driven by the takeover approaches for AWG and AB Ports and gains in utilities such as Scottish & Southern Energy. The Trust has also benefited from good stock selection within Media, as Reuters and Reed both performed well. On the negative side Wimpey and Taylor Woodrow, which we owned early in the period, were weak on fears over US housing.

Looking ahead robust corporate profits and dividend growth will add support to the market, although the risk of a US consumer slowdown is rising. We see the best opportunities amongst the largest stocks and companies offering good growth on reasonable valuations.

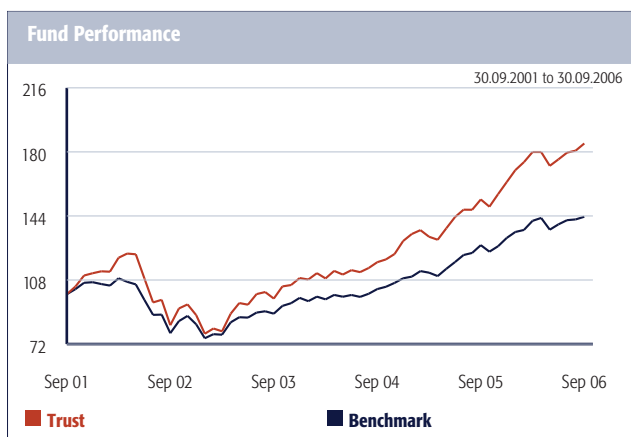
Top 10 holdings

Name	%
Royal Dutch Shell "B" Shares	8.8
HSBC	7.0
BP	6.9
Glaxosmithkline	6.6
Royal Bank of Scotland Group	4.2
Vodafone	3.7
Barclays	3.6
HBOS	3.6
Lloyds TSB Group	3.2
BT Group	2.8
Total	50.4

Source: Allianz Global Investors as at 29.09.06



Simon Gergel



Source: Allianz Global Investors/ Russell/ Mellon. 30th September 2001 to 30th September 2006, Total Return, net income reinvested, calculation indexed. UK Sterling.

Please remember that past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of an investment and the income from it can fall as well as rise as a result of market fluctuations and you may not get back the amount originally invested. This investment trust charges 65% of its annual management fee to the capital account and 35% to revenue. This could lead to a higher level of income but a lower capital return.

History

The Trust was incorporated in February 1889, making it the oldest of the investment trusts in the Allianz Global Investors stable. Initially it principally invested in the fixed interest securities of railway companies in the USA, Canada and South America, with the remainder held in Government securities and companies such as Castlemain Brewery in New South Wales. The Trust now concentrates primarily upon major UK companies with an above average rate of dividend yield.

On 30th June 2006 a further 1,655,941 Ordinary shares were issued following the reconstruction and planned winding up of Allianz Dresdner Income Growth Investment Trust plc. The increase in assets was achieved at no cost to existing shareholders.

Launch Date: 1889 **Wind-up Date:** None

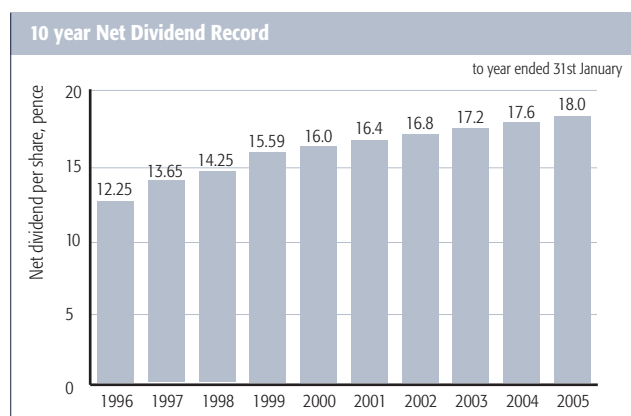
Share buybacks

230,000 shares have been repurchased for cancellation to date.

Standardised Past Performance

From	28/09/2001	30/09/2002	30/09/2003	30/09/2004	30/09/2005
to	30/09/2002	30/09/2003	30/09/2004	30/09/2005	29/09/2006
Share Price	-6.6%	14.7%	12.9%	31.1%	23.1%

Source: Allianz Global Investors/Lipper Hindsight. Discrete years, mid to mid, basic rate tax, based in UK sterling. Standardised past performance figures comply with the Financial Services Authority's regulations to enable investors to compare different products from different providers.



Source: Allianz Global Investors