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All Star eyes international managers

Alternative assets look attractive

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Retail fund manager All Star Funds plans to expand its suite of products with the group compiling a shortlist of international share managers.

The Professional Investment Services (PIS)-backed fund manager is expected to finalise the list later this year.

"We're going into our next stage of product development. We are compiling a short list for international share managers and in March I will be visiting several of them overseas," All Star Funds managing director Kate Mulligan said.

All Star Funds might also offer funds in the alternative asset class, such as commodities and private equity, Mulligan said.

"I'm also quite interested in alternative asset classes in this environment," she said.

However, she said the All Star model was not about filling asset classes but about finding excellent managers.

"So whilst I'm interested in it as a concept and I think the market is ripe for some alternative asset classes, it really will be a matter of finding exceptional managers to take out in those categories."

Meanwhile, fellow specialist fund manager within PIS, Ventura Investment Management, has launched two new multi-manager funds.

The Ventura Global Opportunities Fund and the Ventura High Group 100 Fund were launched in response to adviser demand for greater diversity and an increase in international exposure.

PIS is a shareholder in All Star Funds, which has two categories of funds - the All Star series and the Ventura series.

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