

An alliance to help institutional investors make smarter decisions

A new technology solution is delivering Mercer's global manager research, data and ratings through Backstop's state-of-the-art cloud-based productivity platform for institutional investors.

The challenge

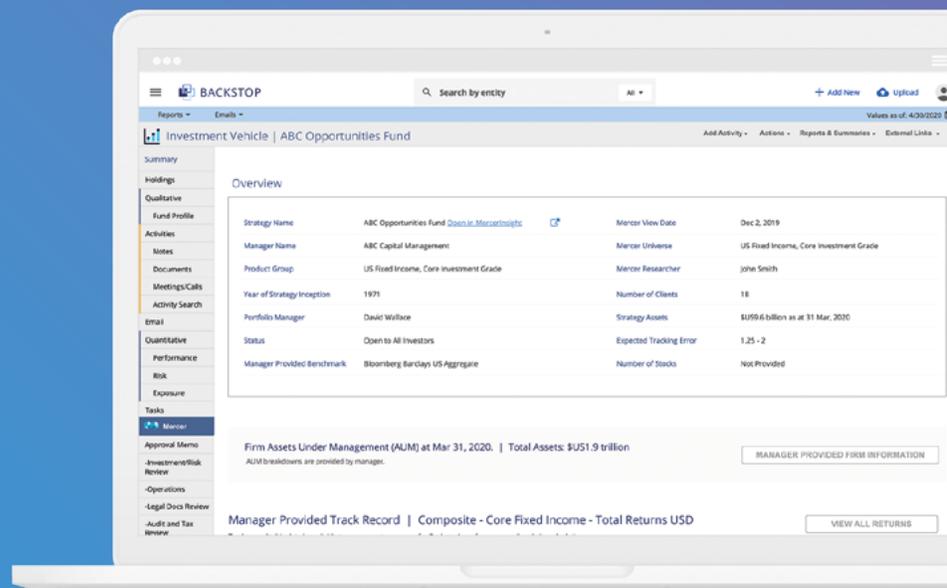
Driving better investment outcomes can be a challenge in an environment where investment options are ever-expanding, continually evolving and becoming more complex. Having the correct tools can streamline how you research, monitor and conduct due diligence on managers. Being able to quickly cut through the noise to find the right data is critical to saving time and seizing opportunities that can help you make better investment decisions.

The combined technology solution

Mercer and Backstop have created an alliance to deliver a technology platform that allows you to easily find the investment strategies that best align with your interests, identify how those strategies compare to your peers and industry benchmarks, perform ongoing diligence and monitor your investments across managers. In one place you can now view Mercer's in-depth global institutional data and forward-looking research from MercerInsight® as part of Backstop's productivity platform, giving you greater agility to manage today's challenging investment environment and helping you to drive better financial outcomes.

Combining research with technology agility can help institutional investors make smarter investment decisions.

- Enhance your team's productivity with streamlined research management and due diligence workflows
- Get a consolidated view of quantitative and qualitative information
- Create consistency and continuity for your team with a centralized source of data, research and performance analytics
- Automate reporting



For illustrative purposes only.

Search > Filter > Identify > Due diligence > Select > Rate

Monitor

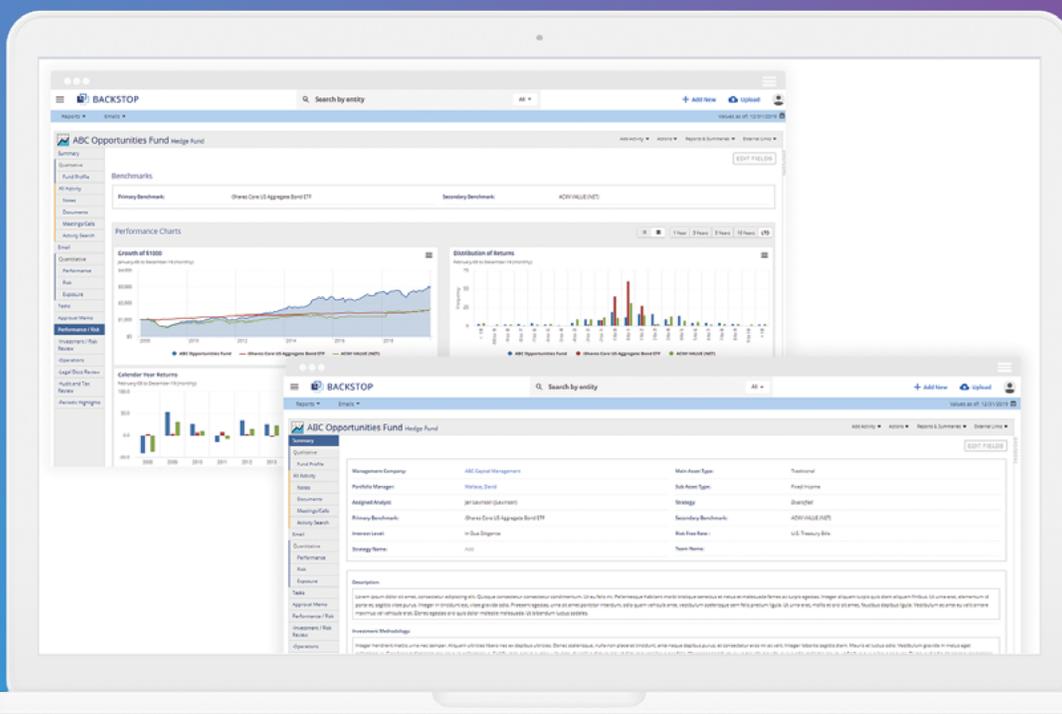


Search, filter and identify managers. Use your unique criteria to identify managers from the widest possible coverage of product providers in the global marketplace, across liquid and illiquid markets.

Conduct due diligence and evaluate performance. Carry out analyses of institutional strategies against competitors, Mercer universes or market indices. Perform side-by-side comparisons of investments using proprietary analyst ratings.

Select investments in less time and with more precision. Use Mercer's research to get a second opinion and a top-to-bottom operation risk assessment of investment managers' operations.

Monitor and measure performance in Backstop. Use robust analytics tools and reporting capabilities to easily share your findings with your internal team and stakeholders. Export professional charts and graphs to make powerful presentations to communicate with investors.



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About Backstop Solutions Group

Backstop helps asset allocators maximize their time by removing barriers to their everyday work. Our software and services are designed with one goal in mind: to help researchers and due diligence professionals run their operations more efficiently. The Backstop platform:

- Is one central, scalable and secure platform for managing investment workflow across every vertical of your investment process
- Promotes collaboration and transparency across your organization with easy access to shared documents, emails and activity notes
- Combines powerful performance analytics and customizable reporting
- Facilitates communications to internal and external stakeholders
- Provides a fully integrated productivity suite, including Client Relationship Management (CRM), Investor Relations (IR), Software, Investor Portal, Research Management and Performance Management Software

About Mercer

At Mercer, we believe in building brighter futures.

Together, we're redefining the world of work, reshaping retirement and investment outcomes, and unlocking real health and well-being. We do this by meeting the needs of today and tomorrow. By understanding the data and applying it with a human touch. And by turning ideas into action to spark positive change.

For more than 70 years, we've been providing advice and solutions to help build healthier and more sustainable futures for our clients, colleagues and communities.

Welcome to a world where economics and empathy make a difference in people's lives.

Welcome to brighter.





MercerInsight® allows institutional investors to harness the views of Mercer's 200+ research and operational due diligence specialists, bringing together quantitative and qualitative data and proprietary ratings on more than 6,700 managers and 35,000 investment strategies¹ through a web-based platform. This allows institutional investors to:

- Identify the managers that meet their criteria from a detailed dataset on over 4,000 quantitative and qualitative data points
- Discover trends among asset classes gleaned from 10+ years of search history
- Measure manager and strategy performance against industry-specific indices and peer analysis
- Identify the asset classes preferred by institutional investors
- Access global coverage on both liquid and illiquid markets

Let's get started

Mercer and Backstop Solutions have joined forces and want to help you operate more efficiently, invest more intelligently and communicate more effectively. With our experience, we know the needs of institutional investors, we understand your everyday challenges and we speak your language.

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¹ Manager and strategy statistics as of March 31, 2020; includes sub-advised strategies. Investment professionals exclude Financial Services and are FTE (not count of employees). Research specialists exclude nine central support/administrative staff members.

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Research ratings

For the most recent approved ratings of an investment strategy, and a fuller explanation of their meanings, contact your Mercer representative.

Mercer universes

Mercer's universes are intended to provide collective samples of strategies that best allow for robust peer group comparisons over a chosen timeframe. Mercer does not assert that the peer groups are wholly representative of and applicable to all strategies available to investors.

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