

Fund update: R-co Thematic Blockchain Global Equity — December 2024



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Nature is Healing

In November, investment into digital asset products reached record levels. Since the start of the year, net capital inflows got to US\$37bn¹, with an additional US\$8bn¹ this month only. Bitcoin spot ETFs have surged past US\$100bn¹ mark in AUM. Donald Trump's win at the US Presidential elections and majority in Congress supported expectations for a more favorable business environment for digital innovation. Potential ease of regulatory environment for digital assets, pro innovation nominations at SEC and key public agencies like CFTC² and OCC³, support for the domestic mining industry and discussions around establishing a Bitcoin "National Strategic Reserve" would indeed support the development and adoption of digital assets and the blockchain industry. Last but not least, bipartisan support to advance legislation like FIT21 and especially stablecoins are expected to contribute unlocking a much larger addressable market for this industry and an acceleration in corporate digitization. On the macro front, Fed cut interest rate by 25 bps¹, notwithstanding US labor market signs of consolidation.

In this context, fund strongly outperformed in November, led by Blockchain Infrastructure and Digital Assets companies. Crypto-miner Core Scientific, one of our key holdings and contributors to portfolio performance, kept on advancing both Bitcoin mining and diversification towards AI HPC segment. On Bitcoin mining, the company successfully improved its production mix by allocating more machines and power to self-mining from hosting services. As a result, Core Scientific achieved to increase Bitcoin sales proceeds by 9% to US\$24.2m¹ from the month before despite 26.7 MWh curtailment consumption reduction, demonstrating its ability to ramp-up overall efficiency. On Cloud HPC front,

Core Scientific signed another 120 MW extension with AI hyperscaler Coreweave. This makes the 12-year contract worth US\$8.7bn¹ for around 385 MW of co-location capacity. It implies an annualized revenue of more than US\$500m¹, which would, all else equal, double the digital infrastructure company revenue base and widely increase its recurring revenue. The company's ability to secure power and build up HPC infrastructure in less than half the time required by infrastructure competitors constitutes a significant competitive advantage for the company and its customers. The Cloud infrastructure background of key staff members, coming from companies like Microsoft Azure, readily operational and able to understand HPC clients specific needs, has been supporting the company's first mover advantage in this segment.

We remained disciplined on risk management and took some profits on outperforming companies like Coinbase, Palantir and Core Scientific. At the end of the month, equity exposure was $95.2\%^4$.

Industry news to watch

Announcements made this month by established companies of blockchain-based innovations continued to pertain to various sectors of the economy and enterprise usecases. Among many others:

<u>The European Central Bank</u> publishes second progress report on the digital euro preparation phase.

<u>UBS</u> pilots blockchain-based multi-currency payment solution with UBS Digital Cash.

<u>Sony</u> advances its Blockchain protocol Soneium and selects 32 DeFi and Web3 start-up projects for its Soneium Spark incubator.

Meer informatie over de fondsen

R-co Thematic Blockchain Global Equity



Bekijk dit document op onze website





- [1] Bloomberg, December 2024.
- [2] Commodity Futures Trading Commission: independent US federal agency that regulates derivatives markets
- [3] Office of the Comptroller of the Currency: independent agency of the US Treasury Department responsible for regulating and supervising national banks and federal savings associations.
- [4] Source: Rothschild & Co Asset Management, 30/11/2024.

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SRI risk indicator 6/7

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Meer informatie op: www.am.eu.rothschildandco.com

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