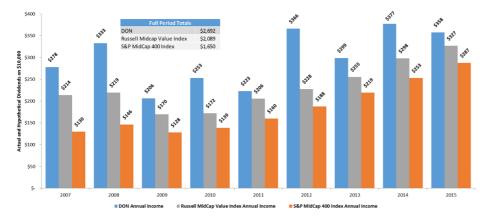
## THE EQUITY'S "MIDDLE CHILD" IS ON A ROLL

Christopher Gannatti - Global Head of Research 08/15/2016

When investors think of <u>dividends</u> (especially in today's low-<u>interest rate</u> environment) they often think of large-cap companies such as AT&T, Verizon, Johnson & Johnson or Exxon Mobile. But what about mid-caps? WisdomTree Introduced Mid Cap Dividends More Than 10 Years Ago On June 16, 2006, WisdomTree launched the WisdomTree MidCap Dividend Fund (DON). As of June 30, 2016, more than 10 years later: • DON had a trailing 12-month dividend yield of 2.33%, 1 largely because it tracks (before fees and expenses) a strategy that includes only dividend payers, weighted by their cash dividends: the <u>WisdomTree MidCap Dividend Index</u>. For reference, the <u>S&P MidCap 400 Index</u>-which both dividendand non-dividend-paying companies, weighted by market capitalization-had a trailing 12-month dividend yield of 1.80%. The Russell Midcap Value <u>Index</u>, by the same measure, showed a yield of 2.56%.<sup>2</sup> It's notable that neither of these index measures of yield account for fees or other operational costs that may in fact cause a comparatively lower distribution over a 12-month period. But what about incomegenerating potential across time? Illustrating DON's Income-Generating Potential: \$10,000 Initial **Investment** 



Sources: WisdomTree, Bloomberg, with data from 12/31/2006 to 12/31/2015, the longest range of full calendar years available. Only full calendar years are used such that the dividend behavior of underlying constituents, which tends to relate to the annual cycle, encompasses regular, standard periods and is not subject to any partial-year cycles that could impart bias. For the S&P MidCap 400 and Russell Midcap Value indexes, dividend generation is merely hypothetical and for illustrative purposes only, not inclusive of any fees or other operational costs that may cause fund-level distributions to be lower. Past performance is not indicative of future results. You cannot invest directly in an index.

believe that DON's historical record has shown that, for the calendar years from 2007 to 2015, the methodology employed by the underlying index has enhanced the incomegenerating potential of the mid-cap section of a U.S. equity portfolio. We believe that the consistency of the methodology applied to generate this track record points to ongoing potential. Income Is Not Total Return Now, we've heard it time and again from clients—higher yields and greater income are not necessarily the same as higher total returns. In many cases, that tends to be the more important factor to consider. DON's performance against the Morningstar Mid-Cap Value category is shown net of fees, whereas for the S&P MidCap 400 and Russell Midcap Value indexes, no fees are assessed. The dominance of the strategy over the past decade is clear. DON Crushed the



Morningstar Mid-Cap Value Category, as of June 30, 2016

Fund Ticker	und		Fund Inception Date	Morningst ar Category	1-Year		3-Year		5-Year		10-Year		Since Fund Inception	
	cker				Percent of Category Beaten	Rank								
D	ON	WisdomTree MidCap Dividend Fund	6/16/2006	Mid-Cap Value	99%	5	100%	3	99%	3	94%	16	94%	16
	S&P MidCap 400 Index				76%	120	86%	61	81%	68	89%	28	89%	28
		Russell Midcap Value Index			82%	87	90%	43	94%	24	84%	40	84%	40
Number of Managers					491		423		360		248		248	

	Fund Information			NAV Returns (%)					Market Price Returns (%)					
Fund/Index	Ticker	Exp. Ratio	Inception Date	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year	Since Fund Inception	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year	Since Fund Inception	
WisdomTree MidCap Dividend Fur	DON	0.38%	6/16/2006	11.55%	13.97%	13.63%	8.99%	9.17%	11.51%	13.89%	13.60%	8.98%	9.21%	
S&P MidCap 400 Index				1.33%	10.53%	10.55%	8.55%	8.87%	1.33%	10.53%	10.55%	8.55%	8.87%	
Russell Midcap Value Index				3.25%	11.00%	11.70%	7.79%	8.01%	3.25%	11.00%	11.70%	7.79%	8.01%	

Sources: WisdomTree, Morningstar Direct

Performance is historical and does not guarantee future results; current performance may be lower or higher than quoted. Investment returns/principal value of an investment will fluctuate; an investor's share, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Performance data for the most recent month-end is available at wisdomtree.com.

WisdomTree shares are bought and sold at market price (not NAV) and are not individually redeemed from the Fund. Total returns are calculated using the daily 4.00 p.m. EST net asset value (NAV). Market price returns reflect the midpoint of the bid/ask spread as of the close of trading on the exchange where Fund shares are listed. Market price returns do not represent the returns you would receive if you traded shares at other times.

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<sup>1</sup>Source:

WisdomTree. Distribution yield: 2.68%; SEC 30-day yield: 2.80%. <sup>2</sup>Source: Bloomberg.

## Important Risks Related to this Article

There are risks associated with investing, including possible loss of principal. Funds focusing their investments on certain sectors and/or smaller companies increase their vulnerability to any single economic or regulatory development. This may result in greater share price volatility. Please read the Fund's prospectus for specific details regarding the Fund's risk profile.

For standardized performance and the most recent month-end performance click <u>here</u> NOTE, this material is intended for electronic use only. Individuals who intend to print and physically deliver to an investor must print the monthly performance report to accompany this blog.

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## **DEFINITIONS**

Dividend: A portion of corporate profits paid out to shareholders.

Interest rates : The rate at which interest is paid by a borrower for the use of money.

<u>Trailing 12-month dividend yield</u>: Dividends over the prior 12-months are added together and divided by the current share price. Higher values indicate more dividends are being generated per unit of share price.

**S&P MidCap 400 Index**: provides investors with a benchmark for mid-sized companies. The index covers over 7% of the U.S. equity market, and seeks to remain an accurate measure of mid-sized companies, reflecting the risk and return characteristics of the broader mid-cap universe on an on-going basis.

<u>Market capitalization-weighting</u>: Market cap = share prices x number of shares outstanding. Firms with the highest values receive the highest weights in approaches designed to weight firms by market <math>cap.

Russell MidCap Value Index: measures the performance of the mid-cap value segment of the U.S. equity universe. It includes those Russell Midcap Index companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower forecasted growth values.

