



International Investing It's not as foreign as you think

While U.S. investors tend to focus on domestic markets, there is a world of investment opportunities beyond our shores. Many investors lack foreign exposure, even as the importance of diversification across investment styles, market caps and sectors has become quite clear. You may be reluctant to invest internationally because you're unfamiliar with foreign companies. However, as the scenarios below illustrate, you may already use international products – so why not consider adding them to your portfolio?

A Day in the Life of International Portfolios

You may be surprised at how far you can travel in a single day without leaving your hometown.

- Woke up to the sound of my Sony alarm clock
- Put on my adidas running shoes for my morning jog
- Took a shower with Dove soap and Kiehl's shampoo
- Brushed my teeth with Aquafresh toothpaste and Sonicare toothbrush
- Took a One A Day vitamin
- Drank a Slim-Fast for breakfast
- Talked with friends on my Samsung cellular phone
- Sent a report to my boss using my Canon fax machine
- Played a round of golf with my TaylorMade clubs (including my new Tour Burner driver)
- Stopped at a gas station to fill up my Lexus with gas and buy a pack of Dentyne gum
- Heated up a Lean Cuisine for dinner and fed my dog Purina dog food
- Watched TV on my Philips television
- Saved the world on my PlayStation 3
- Cleaned my kitchen with Lysol All Purpose Cleaner
- Treated myself to a double scoop of Ben & Jerry's ice cream
- Took an Alka-Seltzer before going to bed

These sample brands are not all inclusive. The companies mentioned are for illustrative purposes, do not necessarily represent specific fund holdings and should not be considered recommendations to purchase or sell a particular security.

Global leadership

While the U.S. is certainly home to some of the most successful companies in the world, there are many leading companies around the globe. Through foreign investments, individuals can gain exposure to various world economies, business cycles, currencies, stock-price valuations and even global leaders.

Brand Names and Their Origins ¹		
Brand	Company	Country
Sofitel, Motel 6	Accor SA	France
Lancome, Maybelline, Kiehl's	L'Oréal	France
Aleve, Midol, Alka-Seltzer, One A Day vitamins	Bayer AG	Germany
adidas, TaylorMade, Reebok	adidas AG	Germany
Mandarin Oriental Hotels	Jardine Matheson	Hong Kong
Sony, Sony VAIO, PlayStation 3	Sony	Japan
Lexus	Toyota	Japan
Canon	Canon	Japan
Norelco, Sonicare	Royal Philips Electronics	Netherlands
Ben & Jerry's, Dove, Hellmann's, Lipton, Slim-Fast, Wish-Bone	Unilever	Netherlands
Samsung	Samsung	South Korea
Cartier, Alfred Dunhill, Montblanc	Compagnie Financière Richemont	Switzerland
Purina, Lean Cuisine, PowerBar, Perrier	Nestle	Switzerland
Dentyne, Halls, Trident	Cadbury Schweppes	United Kingdom
Woolite, Lysol, Clearasil, Spray 'n Wash, Air Wick, French's Mustard	Reckitt Benckiser	United Kingdom
Aquafresh	GlaxoSmithKline	United Kingdom

¹ As of Feb. 28, 2009
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Talk to your financial advisor

Your sights are set on a financial summit – a college degree, new home or secure retirement. One of the best ways to help reach your goal is to partner with a strong team: a financial advisor who can provide sound guidance based on your individual needs and an investment company that can deliver a broad range of diversified strategies. Talk to your financial advisor about how an investment plan and Invesco Aim can help you pursue your financial goals.

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Consider the investment objectives, risks and charges and expenses carefully. For this and other information about AIM funds, obtain a prospectus from your financial advisor and read it carefully before investing.

This is not an offer to buy or sell any financial instruments and should not be relied upon as the sole factor in an investment-making decision.

Past performance cannot guarantee future results.

Note: Not all products, materials or services available at all firms. Advisors, please contact your home office.

Asset allocation/diversification does not guarantee a profit or eliminate the risk of loss.

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