CION INVESTMENTS | ARES

EXPECT MORE FOR YOUR PORTFOLIO®



Investing in Your Daily Life

© 2026



EXPECT MORE FOR YOUR PORTFOLIO®

Privately held companies are owned by families, small groups of shareholders, or private equity firms. These companies have always been a big part of consumers' everyday lives.

They are part of what is called the "middle market," and have been a significant driver of economic growth. They represent one-third of private sector GDP and employ approximately 48 million workers in the U.S. alone[1].

The middle market represents a vast investment universe. Within the U.S. there are nearly 200,000 middle market businesses, over 85% of which are private[1].

That's compared to approximately 4,000 publicly listed companies[2]. But until now, getting exposure to these companies in an individual investor portfolio has been difficult.

The CION Ares Diversified Credit Fund (CADC)* invests across the public and private corporate credit markets, including both U.S. and European middle market companies.

CADC seeks to capitalize on market inefficiencies and relative value opportunities by dynamically allocating across credit asset classes, companies, industries, and geographies.

Why CADC?

Downside Risk Management

Offers the potential for downside risk management as portfolio consists predominantly of private, senior-secured loans underwritten by professionals across Ares Credit Group.

Illiquidity Yield Premium Goal

Seeks enhanced yield due to the premium associated with less liquid, private credit securities.

Flexibility/Diversification

Investment team identifies and dynamically allocates to what we believe are the best relative value opportunities in credit.

References to "downside management" or similar language are not guarantees against loss of investment capital or value. Diversification does not assure profit or protect against market loss.

*CION Ares Diversified Credit Fund (CADC) is a diversified, non-traded closed-end management investment company registered under the 1940 Act as an interval fund.

1. The Center for the Middle Market: Year-End 2025 Middle Market Indicator
2. Statista, March 2026

The private companies within the CADC portfolio may be part of your daily life.

Rawlings Sporting Goods Company

Established in 1887, Rawlings is a leading baseball and softball brand worldwide. This investment supported Rawlings's acquisition of Easton Diamond Sports, a leading developer and manufacturer of baseball and softball equipment with an over 40-year brand history in diamond sports. This transaction solidifies the combined company as a leading global brand and manufacturer of premium baseball and softball equipment, including bats, gloves, balls and protective gear. Ares served as the administrative agent and sole arranger for a senior secured credit facility to support Rawlings' acquisition of Easton Diamond Sports.

Dr. Scholl's (Scholl's Wellness Company)

Scholl's Wellness Company is a leading footcare brand focused on insoles, custom-fit orthotics and skin treatment categories. Ares served as the administrative agent, joint lead arranger and joint bookrunner for an incremental senior secured credit facility to support the acquisition of the brand's international business, Scholl.

Suave

Suave is a leading personal care company with products across hair care, skin cleansing, deodorant, and skincare. Ares served as the administrative agent, joint lead arranger and joint bookrunner for a senior secured credit facility to support Yellow Wood Partners' acquisition of Suave.

Mr Greens Produce

Headquartered in Miami, Florida, Mr Greens is a rapidly growing distributor of produce, dairy, and specialty food items to the restaurant and hospitality industries in Florida and Texas, including many of the marquee restaurant groups in its active markets. Ares served as the administrative agent, lead arranger and bookrunner for a senior secured credit facility to support Sterling Investment Partners' acquisition of Mr Greens.

Anaqua

Anaqua is a leading provider of comprehensive intellectual property (IP) management software and services. Anaqua's solutions are used to identify, protect, and monetize ideas across the IP lifecycle for major corporations, such as Microsoft, Ford, and Coca-Cola, and law firms across the globe. Ares served as administrative agent, lead arranger, and bookrunner to support Nordic Capital's acquisition of Anaqua.

Ignite Fitness

Ignite Fitness is one of the largest Planet Fitness franchisees in the country, operating 134 clubs across the U.S. and Canada. Ares served as an administrative agent and sole lead arranger for a senior secured credit facility to support TowerBrook Capital Partners' continued growth plans for Ignite Fitness.

ID.me

ID.me is the number one provider of remote digital identity verification. Boasting a 99% retention rate, ID.me digital credentials are utilized by 46 federal (IRS, Social Security, and Veteran's Affairs, etc.) and state agencies (California, Texas, New York, etc.) and 600+ enterprises to enable login and access government services, healthcare portals, and commerce services in a regulated and secure manner. Ares served as administrative agent and sole lender for a senior secured credit facility to support ID.me's continued growth plans.

Encore Fire Protection

Encore Fire Protection is a one-stop shop for all fire-related services, including maintenance, inspection, repair, replacements, and installation for alarm systems, sprinklers, and suppression equipment, with more than 80% of revenue coming from recurring services with clients such as Costco, Hasbro, and L'Oreal. Ares served as the administrative agent and joint lead arranger for a senior secured credit facility to support Permira Advisers' acquisition of Encore.

Raptor

Raptor Technologies is an integrated K-12 school safety software that enables schools to screen, record and report all visitors that check in on campus. Raptor is a school safety partner for over 60,000 schools providing SaaS and mobile technology, comprehensive training and consultation solutions. Ares served as administrative agent and lead arranger to support Raptors acquisition of SmartPass, a market-leading digital hall pass system.

Holdings as of 6/30/2026 are subject to change. The companies highlighted represent current and realized investments in underlying holdings and may be an obligation of one or more entities affiliated with the named company. These companies were selected based on potential public familiarity. CADC's top 10 holdings as of 6/30/2026 include (holdings percentage): FEH Group, LLC (1.2%), Vantage Data Centers North America (1.1%), Banyan Software (1.0%), Reddy Ice, LLC (1.0%), Global Music Rights (1.0%), Dun & Bradstreet (0.9%), Enviva Partners (0.9%), Rockefeller Capital Management (0.9%), Vantive Health Inc. (0.9%), Nielsen (0.9%). Data shown is for informational purposes only and not a recommendation to buy or sell any security.

All company-specific statistics detailed herein were sourced from the respective company's website.

We believe that in order to be a successful direct originator in the middle market, it is important to have:

- **A scaled platform with a broad geographical footprint**
- **A multi-channel origination strategy**
- **Diverse product capabilities**
- **Flexible sources of capital**
- **Deep credit experience**

In our view, these attributes will lead to the origination of a broader set of investment opportunities, greater asset selectivity, and improved long-term credit decisions. CADC was established to offer credit capabilities to a broader base of investors via a daily-NAV interval fund, which is an unlisted closed-end investment company registered under the 1940 Act.

The Ares Differentiator

Founded with a consistent credit-based approach to investing

Experienced management team with integrated and collaborative approach

20+ year track record of generating compelling risk-adjusted returns through market cycles

One of the leaders in leveraged finance and private credit investing and origination

Past performance is not indicative of future results. Risk adjusted returns do not guarantee against loss of capital.

This is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation to purchase the securities described herein. An offering is made only by the prospectus which must precede or accompany this brochure. Please read the prospectus prior to making any investment decision and consider the risks, charges, expenses and other important information described therein. A copy of the prospectus may be obtained by contacting CION Securities at 800.435.5697 or by visiting cioninvestments.com.

Risks and limitations include, but are not limited to, the following: investment instruments may be susceptible to economic downturns; most of the underlying credit instruments are unrated or rated below investment grade and considered speculative; there is no guarantee all shares can be repurchased; the Fund's business and operations may be impacted by fluctuations in the capital markets; the Fund is a diversified, closed-end investment company with limited operating history; diversification does not eliminate the risk of investment losses. Unlike most closed-end funds, Shares are not listed on any securities Exchange. The Fund intends to provide liquidity through quarterly offers to repurchase a limited amount of the Fund's Shares (at least 5%). An investment in the Fund is considered illiquid.

As with any asset class, there are certain risks associated with private credit. Credit risk is the risk of nonpayment of scheduled interest or principal payments on a debt investment. Because private credit can be debt investments in non- investment grade borrowers, the risk of default may be greater. Should a borrower fail to make a payment, or default, this may affect the overall return to the lender. Further, private credit investments are generally illiquid which require longer investment time horizons than other investments. For these and other reasons, this asset class is considered speculative and may not be suitable for everyone.

Please be aware that the Fund, the Advisor, the Distributor or the Wholesale Marketing Agent and their respective officers, directors, employees and affiliates do not undertake to provide impartial investment advice or to give advice in a Fiduciary capacity in connection with the Fund's public offering of shares.

CION Securities, LLC (CSL) is the wholesale marketing agent for CION Ares Diversified Credit Fund, advised by CION Ares Management, LLC (CAM) with marketing services provided by ALPS Distributors, Inc (ADI). CSL, member FINRA, and CAM are not affiliated with ADI, member FINRA.



CION INVESTMENTS | ARES

EXPECT MORE FOR YOUR PORTFOLIO®

To learn more about the CION Ares Diversified Credit Fund visit www.cioninvestments.com/cadc

Investing in Your Daily Life © 2026

CAD000396-1228