

SUPERSAVVY ROAD TEST

“\$15 billion beast that reeks of independence”



PERFORMANCE - A BIG FUND WITH IMPRESSIVE PERFORMANCE

It's big, but certainly no slouch as far as performance goes. Think Jonah Lomu at his peak. 7 Year Platinum rating and runner up for Fund of the Year. Pension Fund of the Year 3 years running. A hiccup in 2010, but it has bounced back nicely.

A not-for-profit fund that is, unusually, not a member of the industry super fund network. If that suggests a fund that likes its independence, this has been reinforced by the fund recently bring administration and investment management in-house.

RUNNING COST - GENUINE LOW COST FUND

If it were a vehicle, it would be something big. A Ford F100. But an electric one. With a million members and \$16 million under management, costs per member are low. As a result it is great value for money. Super Solutions is 48% cheaper than industry average. SunSuper Pension is 43% cheaper than average.

BUILD QUALITY - SURPRISINGLY SOPHISTICATED

We called it an F100. It has something of the robustness of that monster. Some things we like: Members can choose single manager options and single sector options as well as 6 multi-sector options managed in-house, an ethical option managed by AMP and an emerging market option also managed by AMP. The website has a bit of fluff. But no more than the average belly button. The structure is good, it's easy to navigate and there are lots of useful information and tools.

HANDLING - A NICE INVESTMENT MENU

Many members will love being able to select from the menu of investment options listed above. Daily unit pricing is a nice touch for those who like to check ... um, daily. The fund offers segmented member communication. Perfect for everyone except 20 year old lawn bowlers.

There appears to be limited ability to help 3rd parties when all else fails. If that happens, we suggest you throw a tantrum. It worked for us.

MEMBER COMFORT - BIG, STRONG, NO NONSENSE

Perfect for members who like their super without sugar. Pitched more seriously than most other not-for-profit funds. Very little fluff (the education documents are an exception). The investment administration runs smoothly.

The cost/performance ratio is good. There's a sense of security sitting in something as big and strong as this.

PRACTICALITY - LET DOWN BY INSURANCE

Member cost? A no brainer. Often way under industry average. Ease of use? A no brainer. Good choice and clear website. Find lost super and consolidate just like that. In-house advice? A no brainer. Insurance products? To be honest, not up to scratch. Income protection is just OK. Death and TPD are no longer competitive.

COOL FACTOR - NO FUNNY STUFF AROUND HERE

A generally serious fund for generally serious members. No golden retrievers, which is cool. We did spot Crapple Check. That's not cool. They have just launched a new social media campaign and the education pdfs suggest a hipper fund than the one presented on the website. If we were from Queensland, we'd probably join.

www.sunsuper.com.au

