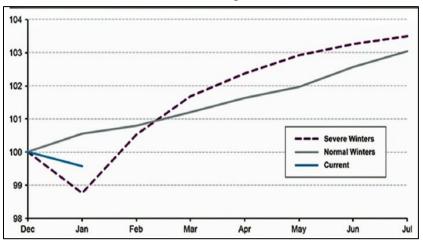
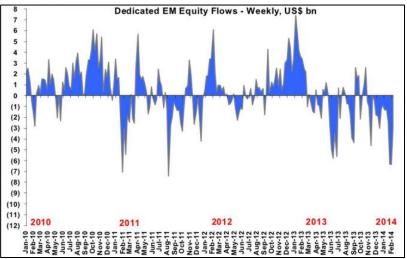
## Market Recap

Severe Winter Weather's Impact on Retail Sales



Source: Haver



Source: EPFR Global Fund Flows Database

This winter, economists have attributed the harsh weather faced by most of the U.S. with having impacted a wide range of economic data. Inclement weather has been to blame for poor results in everything from Retail Sales to Industrial Production, as well as the housing market in the form of tempered mortgage applications and home sales. The silver lining may be that, while the weather has temporarily muffled consumer activity, a recovery may accompany warmer temperatures. Based on past experiences, when cold weather depresses retail sales in January, there is typically a meaningful rebound in consumer activity in the coming months as pent-up demand is released. Current forecasts suggest that consumer demand is expected to rise in the spring, setting a course for solid U.S. GDP growth in 2014 of 3% or more.

Money continues to flow out of emerging market investments. Recent fund flows data shows that \$3.05 billion exited dedicated emerging market funds during the week ending February 12th. This marks the 16th straight week of outflows, with cumulative totals of \$36.60 billion. The previous record was 14 weeks set in 2002. Outflows may be slowing, however, as this week's \$3.05 billion was lower than the average \$6.30 billion over the previous two weeks. In addition to being impacted by the growth slowdown in China and other developing countries, many emerging market countries rely heavily on financing that comes from abroad. Investors are concerned that the improving economies in the U.S. and Europe, coupled with eventual normalization of U.S. monetary policy, will lead to an increase in interest rates, putting pressure on the borrowing costs of emerging economies.

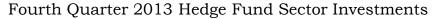
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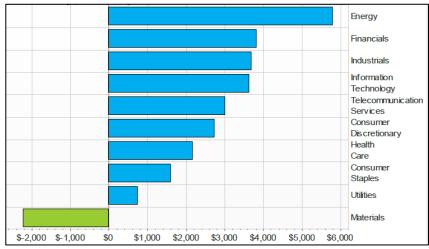
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#### Weekly Emerging Markets Fund Flows

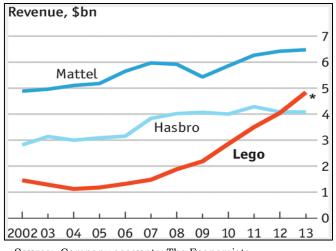
# Market Recap





Source: Factset

#### Largest Worldwide Toy Manufacturers



Source: Company accounts; The Economists

An evaluation of the 50 largest hedge funds shows that they increased their equity exposure by 3.6% during the fourth quarter of 2013. Among stocks, Apple experienced the highest increase in exposure (+\$1.8 billion), primarily due to significant purchases by Coatue Management, Citadel Advisors, and Icahn Associates. Several IPOs, including Twitter, also added sizable equity positions to hedge fund portfolios. Within sectors, the largest hedge funds added the most exposure to the Energy sector, while Apollo Capital's sale of LyondellBasell led to a significant decrease in exposure in the Materials sector. Energy sector investments included over \$500 million in exposure to four companies related to oil and gas, refining, or energy equipment and services: Whiting Petroleum, Valero Energy, Talisman Energy, and Cameron International.

Few toy manufacturers have enjoyed the sustainability of the Danish brick-maker Lego. Current estimates are that, on average, every person on earth owns 86 Lego bricks. By 2017, Lego people are expected to outnumber humans. The little bricks are big business. Despite having only one product line, Lego has gone from being a relatively small, unprofitable firm a decade ago to the world's second-biggest toymaker. In the 1990s, growth slowed as children became increasingly glued to computers. Lego fought back by embracing the new media, diversifying into television, video games and, now, film with the release of "The Lego Movie." Lego also built success on the coattails of other blockbuster franchises. In 1999, sales of their Lego Star Wars toys were six times greater than the company forecast. There is something for everyone, from the Simpsons series to Marvel Superheroes sets.

02/21/2014

**Contact:** If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us at 703.992.6164. For more information about Harbour Capital Advisors, please visit our website at <u>www.harbourcapitaladvisors.com</u>.

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