### Part 2A of Form ADV: Firm Brochure

## Aspen Gold Investment Management, Inc.

4020 East Beltline Avenue, NE (#103) Grand Rapids, Michigan 49529 Telephone: 616 361 2500

Email: Bill@aspengold.biz

### 03/25/2011

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of .Aspen Gold Investment Management, Inc

If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at 616 361 2500 or Bill@aspengold.biz

The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority.

Additional information about Aspen Gold Investment Management, Inc. also is available on the SEC's website at www.adviserinfo.sec.gov. You can search this site by a unique identifying number, known as a CRD number. Our firm's CRD number is 112081.

# Item 2 Material Changes

The SEC adopted "Amendments to Form ADV" in July, 2010.

Aspen Gold Investment Management, Inc.'s ("AGIM") firm Brochure, dated 03/25/2011, is our new disclosure document prepared according to the SEC's new requirements and rules.

As you will see, this document is a narrative that is substantially different in form and content, and includes some new information that we were not previously required to disclose.

After our initial filing of this Brochure, this Item will be used to provide our clients with a summary of new and/or updated information. We will inform you of the revision(s) based on the nature of the updated information.

Consistent with the new rules, we will ensure that you receive a summary of any material changes to this and subsequent Brochures within 120 days of the close of our business' fiscal year. Furthermore, we will provide you with other interim disclosures about material changes as necessary.

# Item 3 Table of Contents

Part 2(b) – Biographical Supplement

		Page
Item 1	Cover Page	1
Item 2	Material Changes	2
Item 3	Table of Contents	3
Item 4	Advisory Business	4
Item 5	Fees and Compensation	6
Item 6	Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management	9
Item 7	Types of Clients	9
Item 8	Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss	10
Item 9	Disciplinary Information	13
Item 10	Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations	13
Item 11	Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading	14
Item 12	Brokerage Practices	15
Item 13	Review of Accounts	17
Item 14	Client Referrals and Other Compensation	18
Item 15	Custody	18
Item 16	Investment Discretion	19
Item 17	Voting Client Securities	20
Item 18	Financial Information	20
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3

21

## Item 4 Advisory Business

Aspen Gold Investment Management, Inc. ("AGIM") is a SEC-registered investment adviser with its principal place of business located in Michigan. AGIM began conducting business in 1993.

Listed below are the firm's principal shareholders (i.e., those individuals and/or entities controlling 25% or more of this company).

• William J. Alphenaar Jr., President / Sole Shareholder

AGIM offers the following advisory services to our clients:

# INVESTMENT SUPERVISORY SERVICES INDIVIDUAL PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

Our firm provides continuous advice to a client regarding the investment of client funds based on the individual needs of the client. Through personal discussions in which goals and objectives based on a client's particular circumstances are established, we develop a client's personal investment policy and create and manage a portfolio based on that policy. During our data-gathering process, we determine the client's individual objectives, time horizons, risk tolerance, and liquidity needs.

As appropriate, we also review and discuss a client's prior investment history, as well as family composition and background.

We manage these advisory accounts mainly on a discretionary basis, but have some accounts which are non-discretionary. The non-discretionary accounts are older accounts and we no longer accept any non-discretionary accounts.

Account supervision is guided by the client's stated objectives (i.e., maximum capital appreciation, growth, income, or growth and income), as well as tax considerations.

Clients may impose reasonable restrictions on investing in certain securities, types of securities, or industry sectors.

Our investment recommendations are not limited to any specific product or service offered by a broker-dealer or insurance company and will generally include advice regarding the following securities:

- Exchange-listed securities
- Securities traded over-the-counter
- Foreign issuers
- Warrants
- Corporate debt securities (other than commercial paper)
- Commercial paper
- Certificates of deposit
- Municipal securities
- Variable annuities
- Mutual fund shares
- United States governmental securities

Because some types of investments involve certain additional degrees of risk, they will only be implemented/recommended when consistent with the client's stated investment objectives, tolerance for risk, liquidity and suitability.

## **AMOUNT OF MANAGED ASSETS**

As of 03/25/2011, we were actively managing \$55,506,000 of clients' assets on a discretionary basis plus \$355,000 of clients' assets on a non-discretionary basis.

### Item 5 Fees and Compensation

# INVESTMENT SUPERVISORY SERVICES INDIVIDUAL PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT FEES

The annualized fee for Investment Supervisory Services will be charged as a percentage of assets under management, according to the following schedule:

<b>Assets Under Management</b>	<u>Annual Fee</u>	
\$1,000,000	1.0%	
\$1,000,001 to \$4,999,999	0.75%	
\$5,000,000 + .	0.50%	

Our fees are billed quarterly, in advance, at the beginning of each calendar quarter based upon the value (market value or fair market value in the absence of market value), of the client's account at the end of the previous quarter. Generally, fees will be debited from the account in accordance with the client authorization in the Client Services Agreement. On occasion, clients who so choose, may pay for their fees when invoiced rather than have the fees debited.

Limited Negotiability of Advisory Fees: Although AGIM has established the aforementioned fee schedule(s), we retain the discretion to negotiate alternative fees on a client-by-client basis. Client facts, circumstances and needs will be considered in determining the fee schedule. These include the complexity of the client, assets to be placed under management, anticipated future additional assets; related accounts; portfolio style, account composition, reports, among other factors. The specific annual fee schedule will be identified in the contract between the adviser and each client.

We may group certain related client accounts for the purposes of achieving the minimum account size requirements and determining the annualized fee.

Discounts, not generally available to our advisory clients, may be offered to family members and friends of associated persons of our firm.

#### GENERAL FEE INFORMATION

**Termination of the Advisory Relationship**: A client agreement may be canceled at any time, by either party, for any reason upon receipt of 30 days written notice. As disclosed above, certain fees are paid in advance of services provided. Upon termination of any account, any prepaid, unearned fees will be promptly refunded. In calculating a client's reimbursement of fees, we will pro rate the reimbursement according to the number of days remaining in the billing period.

**Mutual Fund Fees**: All fees paid to AGIM for investment advisory services are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged by mutual funds and/or EFTs to their shareholders. These fees and expenses are described in each fund's prospectus. These fees will generally include a management fee, other fund expenses, and a possible distribution fee.

If the fund also imposes sales charges, a client may pay an initial or deferred sales charge. A

client could invest in a mutual fund directly, without our services. In that case, the client would not receive the services provided by our firm which are designed, among other things, to assist the client in determining which mutual fund or funds are most appropriate to each client's financial condition and objectives.

Accordingly, the client should review both the fees charged by the funds and our fees to fully understand the total amount of fees to be paid by the client and to thereby evaluate the advisory services being provided.

**Additional Fees and Expenses**: In addition to our advisory fees, clients are also responsible for the fees and expenses charged by custodians and imposed by broker dealers, including, but not limited to, any transaction charges imposed by a broker dealer with which an independent investment manager effects transactions for the client's account(s). Please refer to the "Brokerage Practices" section (Item 12) of this Form ADV for additional information.

**Grandfathering of Minimum Account Requirements**: Pre-existing advisory clients are subject to AGIM's minimum account requirements and advisory fees in effect at the time the client entered into the advisory relationship. Therefore, our firm's minimum account requirements will differ among clients.

*ERISA Accounts*: AGIM is deemed to be a fiduciary to advisory clients that are employee benefit plans or individual retirement accounts (IRAs) pursuant to the Employee Retirement Income and Securities Act ("ERISA"). As such, our firm is subject to specific duties and obligations under ERISA and the Internal Revenue Code that include among other things, restrictions concerning certain forms of compensation.

To avoid engaging in prohibited transactions, AGIM only charges fees for investment advice about products for which our firm and/or our related persons do not receive any commissions or 12b-1 fees, or conversely, investment advice about products for which our firm and/or our

related persons receive commissions or 12b-1 fees, however, only when such fees are used to offset AGIM's advisory fees.

**Advisory Fees in General**: Clients should note that similar advisory services may (or may not) be available from other registered (or unregistered) investment advisers for similar or lower fees.

**Limited Prepayment of Fees**: Under no circumstances do we require or solicit payment of fees in excess of \$1200 more than six months in advance of services rendered. As state-registered advisers are subject to the rules and regulations of their home state (i.e., the state in which the firm maintains its principal place of business) these firms should review home state requirements which may limit prepayment of fees in excess of \$500.

### Item 6 Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management

AGIM does not charge performance-based fees.

### Item 7 Types of Clients

AGIM provides advisory services to the following types of clients:

- Individuals (including high net worth individuals)
- Pension and profit sharing plans(other than plan participants)
- Charitable organizations
- Corporations or other businesses not listed above

## Item 8 Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss

### **METHODS OF ANALYSIS**

We use the following methods of analysis in formulating our investment advice and/or managing client assets:

**Fundamental Analysis.** We attempt to measure the intrinsic value of a security by looking at economic and financial factors (including the overall economy, industry conditions, and the financial condition and management of the company itself) to determine if the company is underpriced (indicating it may be a good time to buy) or overpriced (indicating it may be time to sell).

Fundamental analysis does not attempt to anticipate market movements. This presents a potential risk, as the price of a security can move up or down along with the overall market regardless of the economic and financial factors considered in evaluating the stock.

**Technical Analysis.** We analyze past market movements and apply that analysis to the present in an attempt to recognize recurring patterns of investor behavior and potentially predict future price movement.

Technical analysis does not consider the underlying financial condition of a company. This presents a risk in that a poorly-managed or financially unsound company may underperform regardless of market movement.

**Risks for all forms of analysis.** Our securities analysis methods rely on the assumption that the companies whose securities we purchase and sell, the rating agencies that review these securities, and other publicly-available sources of information about these securities, are

providing accurate and unbiased data. While we are alert to indications that data may be incorrect, there is always a risk that our analysis may be compromised by inaccurate or misleading information.

#### **INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

We use the following strategy(ies) in managing client accounts, provided that such strategy(ies) are appropriate to the needs of the client and consistent with the client's investment objectives, risk tolerance, and time horizons, among other considerations:

**Long-term purchases.** We purchase securities with the idea of holding them in the client's account for a year or longer. Typically we employ this strategy when:

- we believe the securities to be currently undervalued, and/or
- we want exposure to a particular asset class over time, regardless of the current projection for this class.

A risk in a long-term purchase strategy is that by holding the security for this length of time, we may not take advantages of short-term gains that could be profitable to a client. Moreover, if our predictions are incorrect, a security may decline sharply in value before we make the decision to sell.

**Short-term purchases.** When utilizing this strategy, we purchase securities with the idea of selling them within a relatively short time (typically a year or less). We do this in an attempt to take advantage of conditions that we believe will soon result in a price swing in the securities we purchase.

A short-term purchase strategy poses risks should the anticipated price swing not materialize;

we are then left with the option of having a long-term investment in a security that was designed to be a short-term purchase, or potentially taking a loss.

In addition, this strategy involves more frequent trading than does a longer-term strategy, and will result in increased brokerage and other transaction-related costs, as well as less favorable tax treatment of short-term capital gains.

*Trading.* We purchase securities with the idea of selling them very quickly (typically within 30 days or less). We do this in an attempt to take advantage of our predictions of brief price swings.

Utilizing a trading strategy creates the potential for sudden losses if the anticipated price swing does not materialize. Moreover, under those circumstances, we are left with few options:

- having a long-term investment in a security that was designed to be a short-term purchase,
   or
- the potential of having to taking a loss.

In addition, because this strategy involves more frequent trading than does a longer-term strategy, there will be a resultant increase in brokerage and other transaction-related costs, as well as less favorable tax treatment of short-term capital gains.

**Management Strategy.** AGIM generally attempts to diversify portfolios across many asset classes and to periodically rebalance among those asset classes when any one asset class might be significantly higher or lower, due to market results, than AGIM deems appropriate for a specific portfolio.

Portfolios are generally not managed to a strict quantitative model, but instead AGIM attempts to structure and manage each portfolio uniquely to each client's needs consistent with their stated investment objectives.

At times, however, AGIM will undertake a more active or tactical asset allocation strategy, either in response to changing market, economic or global factors, or in anticipation of potential risks or opportunities. This more active or tactical strategy may at times, then, lead portfolios to become non-diversified either because of a concentration in a few asset classes including cash equivalents, or even within one security if AGIM believes such a non-diversified approach will better protect client portfolios from real or perceived downside risks, or to take advantage of the upside potential of a specific security.

Those times when portfolios are in such a non-diversified position may lead to greater volatility – both up and down – in shorter periods of time.

**Risk of Loss.** Securities investments are not guaranteed and you may lose money on your investments. We ask that you work with us to help us understand your tolerance for risk.

## Item 9 Disciplinary Information

We are required to disclose any legal or disciplinary events that are material to a client's or prospective client's evaluation of our advisory business or the integrity of our management.

Neither our firm not any or our management personnel have any reportable disciplinary events to disclose.

### Item 10 Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

Our firm and our related persons are not engaged in other financial industry activities and

have no other industry affiliations.

# Item 11 Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading

Our firm has adopted a Code of Ethics which sets forth high ethical standards of business conduct that we require of our employees, including compliance with applicable federal securities laws.

AGIM and our personnel owe a duty of loyalty, fairness and good faith towards our clients, and have an obligation to adhere not only to the specific provisions of the Code of Ethics but to the general principles that guide the Code.

Our Code of Ethics includes policies and procedures for the review of quarterly securities transactions reports as well as initial and annual securities holdings reports that must be submitted by the firm's access persons. Among other things, our Code of Ethics also requires the prior approval of any acquisition of securities in a limited offering (e.g., private placement) or an initial public offering. Our code also provides for oversight, enforcement and recordkeeping provisions.

AGIM's Code of Ethics further includes the firm's policy prohibiting the use of material non-public information. While we do not believe that we have any particular access to non-public information, all employees are reminded that such information may not be used in a personal or professional capacity.

A copy of our Code of Ethics is available to our advisory clients and prospective clients. You may request a copy by email sent to Bill@aspengold.biz, or by calling us at 616 361 2500.

AGIM and individuals associated with our firm are prohibited from engaging in principal transactions.

AGIM and individuals associated with our firm are prohibited from engaging in agency cross transactions.

Our Code of Ethics is designed to assure that the personal securities transactions, activities and interests of our employees will not interfere with (i) making decisions in the best interest of advisory clients and (ii) implementing such decisions while, at the same time, allowing employees to invest for their own accounts.

Our firm and/or individuals associated with our firm may buy or sell for their personal accounts securities identical to or different from those recommended to our clients. In addition, any related person(s) may have an interest or position in a certain security(ies) which may also be recommended to a client.

It is the expressed policy of our firm that no person employed by us may purchase or sell any security prior to a transaction(s) being implemented for an advisory account, thereby preventing such employee(s) from benefiting from transactions placed on behalf of advisory accounts.

### Item 12 Brokerage Practices

AGIM does not have any soft dollar arrangements.

We participate in the Schwab Institutional ('SI') services program offered to independent investment advisers by Charles Schwab & Company, Inc., Member NYSE/FINRA/SIPC.

As part of the SI program, AGIM receives benefits that it would not receive if it did not offer investment advice.

While it is not required of clients, we may recommend/ that they establish brokerage accounts with the Schwab Institutional division of Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. to maintain custody of clients' assets and to effect trades for their accounts.

SI provides AGIM with access to its institutional trading and operations services, which are typically not available to Schwab retail investors. These services generally are available to independent investment advisors at no charge to them.

SI's services include, among other things:

- Research
- Brokerage
- Custody

Access to mutual funds and other investments that are otherwise available only to institutional investors or would require a significantly higher minimum initial investment.

SI also makes available to us other products and services that benefit this firm but may not benefit its clients' accounts. Some of these other products and services assist AGIM in managing and administering clients' accounts. These include software and other technology that

- provide access to client account data (such as trade confirmations and account statements)
- facilitate trade execution (and allocation of aggregated trade orders for multiple client accounts)
- provide research, pricing information and other market data
- facilitate payment of fees from our clients' accounts

assist with back-office support, recordkeeping and client reporting.

Many of these services generally may be used to service all or a substantial number of our accounts, including accounts not maintained at SI.

SI may also provide AGIM with other services intended to help us manage and further develop its business enterprise. These services may include

- Consulting
- publications and presentations on practice management
- information technology
- business succession
- regulatory compliance
- marketing.

In addition, SI may make available, arrange and/or pay for these types of services to AGIM by independent third parties. SI may discount or waive fees it would otherwise charge for some of these services or pay all or a part of the fees of a third-party providing these services to us.

The availability to AGIM of the foregoing products and services is not contingent upon our committing to Schwab Institutional any specific amount of business (assets in custody or trading.

#### Item 13 Review of Accounts

# INVESTMENT SUPERVISORY SERVICES INDIVIDUAL PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

### Reviews

While the underlying securities within Individual Portfolio Management Services accounts are continually monitored, these accounts are reviewed at least quarterly.

Accounts are reviewed in the context of each client's stated investment objectives and guidelines. More frequent reviews may be triggered by material changes in variables such as the client's individual circumstances, or the market, political or economic environment.

These accounts are reviewed by William J. Aphenaar, Jr., President.

### Reports

While AGIM does not provide reports for clients unless this has been requested and included in a client's agreement, we do provide a quarterly portfolio statement along with quarterly invoices.

### Item 14 Client Referrals and Other Compensation

It is AGIM's policy not to engage solicitors or to pay related or non-related persons for referring potential clients to our firm.

### OTHER COMPENSATION

Our firm and/or our officers and representatives are prohibited from receiving incentive awards (including prizes such as trips or bonuses) for recommending certain types of insurance policies or other investment products that we recommend.

### Item 15 Custody

We previously disclosed in the "Fees and Compensation" section (Item 5) of this Brochure that our firm directly debits advisory fees from client accounts.

As part of this billing process, the client's custodian is advised of the amount of the fee to be deducted from that client's account. On at least a quarterly basis, the custodian is required to send to the client a statement showing all transactions within the account during the reporting period.

Because the custodian does not calculate the amount of the fee to be deducted, it is important for clients to carefully review their custodial statements to verify the accuracy of the calculation, among other things. Clients should contact us directly if they believe that there may be an error in their statement.

Our firm does not have actual or constructive custody of client accounts.

#### Item 16 Investment Discretion

Clients may hire us to provide discretionary asset management services, in which case we place trades in a client's account without contacting the client prior to each trade to obtain the client's permission.

Our discretionary authority includes the ability to do the following without contacting the client:

- Determine the security to buy or sell; and/or
- Determine the amount of the security to buy or sell

Clients give us discretionary authority when they sign a discretionary agreement with our firm, and may limit this authority by giving us written instructions. Clients may also change/amend such limitations by once again providing us with written instructions.

## Item 17 Voting Client Securities

As a matter of firm policy, we do not vote proxies on behalf of clients. Therefore, although our firm may provide investment advisory services relative to client investment assets, clients maintain exclusive responsibility for:

- (1) directing the manner in which proxies solicited by issuers of securities beneficially owned by the client shall be voted, and
- (2) making all elections relative to any mergers, acquisitions, tender offers, bankruptcy proceedings or other type events pertaining to the client's investment assets. Clients are responsible for instructing each custodian of the assets, to forward to the client copies of all proxies and shareholder communications relating to the client's investment assets.

We may provide clients with consulting assistance regarding proxy issues if they contact us with questions at our principal place of business.

### Item 18 Financial Information

AGIM has no additional financial circumstances to report.

Under no circumstances do we require or solicit payment of fees in excess of \$1200 per client more than six months in advance of services rendered. Therefore, we are not required to include a financial statement.

AGIM has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition at any time during the past ten years.

## Part 2B of Form ADV: Brochure Supplement

## William J. Alphenaar, Jr.

Aspen Gold Investment Management, Inc. 4020 E. Beltline Avenue, NE Suite 103 Grand Rapids, MI 49525 (616) 361-2500

03/25/2011

This brochure supplement provides information about William J. Alphenaar, Jr. that supplements Aspen Gold Investment Management, Inc.'s Disclosure Brochure.

You should have received a copy of that brochure. Please contact William J. Alphenaar, Jr. if you did not receive our brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement.

Additional information about William J. Alphenaar, Jr. is available of the SEC's website at <a href="https://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov">www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</a>.

21

## Item 2 Personal, Educational Background and Business Experience

Full Legal Name: William J. Alphenaar, Jr.

Title: President / Owner

Year of Birth: 1956

## Education

- Calvin College, Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration, 1978.
- Indiana University, Master of Science in Education, College Student Personnel, 1980

## **Business Background:**

 Aspen Gold Investment Management, Inc., President / Owner from 1993 to present

# Item 3 Disciplinary Information

Mr. Alphenaar does not have any history of disciplinary events to disclose.

### Item 4 Other Business Activities

Mr. Alphenaar is not engaged in any other business or occupation.

## Item 5 Additional Compensation

William J. Alphenaar, Jr. does not receive compensation from any source other than the investment advisory fees outlined in this Brochure.

## Item 6. Supervision

As sole employee, owner and President of Aspen Gold Investment Management, Inc., William J. Alphenaar, Jr. is solely responsible for all supervision, formulation and monitoring of investment advice offered to clients.

Mr. Alphenaar reviews and oversees all material investment policy changes and conducts periodic testing to ensure that client objectives and mandates are being met.