

# August 2023 Investment Update

	Pre-tax NTA
W A M Capital	\$1.47
W A M Leaders	\$1.41
W A M Global	\$2.37
W A M Microcap	\$1.30
W A M Alternative Assets	\$1.20
W A M Strategic Value	\$1.19
W A M Research	\$0.96
W A M Active	\$0.78

Dear Fellow Shareholders,

In August, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) held its cash rate at 4.1% as Australian equities softened following underwhelming guidance from companies throughout reporting season. Globally, inflation, economic data from China and the US Federal Reserve's July meeting weighed on investor confidence with the MSCI World Index in USD terms closing down 2.3%. The US Dollar appreciation against the Australian Dollar led to the MSCI World Index (AUD) to close up 1.6%, while the S&P/ASX All Ordinaries Accumulation Index fell 0.7% during the month.

#### Wilson Asset Management Leaders Fund Roadshows

Please join me and Portfolio Managers Matthew Haupt and John Ayoub as we discuss the market outlook, the stocks we are buying and the details of our new unlisted fund, Wilson Asset Management Leaders Fund at our upcoming roadshows.

There will be ample opportunity to ask all your questions in an extended Q&A session and speak to the team following the presentation.

Matthew and John have been meeting the CEOs of Australia's top companies. They will share their insights from these meetings, their views on Australian and global markets and the numerous investment opportunities they are seeing. Hear how they are interpreting global markets and extracting information to invest in the best large-cap Australian companies. Please register your attendance [here](#).

#### Our listed investment companies' full year results, annual reports and Q&A webinars

We were pleased to announce the FY2023 results, annual reports and final dividends for our listed investment companies. We also held our FY2023 Results Q&A Webinars and I thank all shareholders for their support

- WAM Capital (ASX: WAM) [full year result](#), [Annual Report](#) and Q&A webinar [recording](#)
- WAM Leaders (ASX: WLE) [full year result](#), [Annual Report](#) and Q&A webinar [recording](#)
- WAM Global (ASX: WGB) [full year result](#), [Annual Report](#) and Q&A webinar [recording](#)
- WAM Microcap (ASX: WMI) [full year result](#), [Annual Report](#) and Q&A webinar [recording](#)
- WAM Alternative Assets (ASX: WMA) [full year result](#), [Annual Report](#) and Q&A webinar [recording](#)

- WAM Strategic Value (ASX: WAR) [full year result](#), [Annual Report](#) and Q&A webinar [recording](#)
- WAM Research (ASX: WAX) [full year result](#), [Annual Report](#) and Q&A webinar [recording](#)
- WAM Active (ASX: WAA) [full year result](#), [Annual Report](#) and Q&A webinar [recording](#)

#### Future Generation half year results

The Future Generation companies announced their 2023 half year results in August. Join me and Future Generation CEO Caroline Gurney for the [Future Generation HY2023 Results Webinar](#) on Thursday 5 October 2023 at 3:30pm (Sydney time) with Future Generation pro bono fund managers Tom Richardson from Paradise Investment Management and Nicholas Markiewicz from Lanyon Asset Management.

- Future Generation Australia (ASX: FGX) [half year result](#) and [Half Year Report](#)
- Future Generation Global (ASX: FGG) [half year result](#) and [Half Year Report](#)

#### Regional Shareholder Presentations

We are looking forward to meeting with shareholders at our upcoming Regional Shareholder Presentations in October and November. Join us to meet the investment team, listen to their market outlook, investment themes and their high conviction stock picks, learn about the Future Generation companies and ask us any questions you may have. Please register your attendance [here](#).

#### In the media

Lead Portfolio Manager Oscar Oberg spoke to [The Australian](#) on the outlook for small-to-mid cap companies and the investment opportunities he's currently positive on. Oscar also spoke to [CommSec](#) Market Analyst Tom Piotrowski about how he identifies small cap opportunities, including the three key metrics they look at before making an investment

[The Australian Financial Review](#) reported on WAM Global Lead Portfolio Manager Catriona Burns' views on the global earnings season.

Portfolio Manager Tobias Yao delivered his buy, hold and sell calls on healthcare companies including Regis Healthcare (ASX: REG) and Capitol Health (ASX: CAJ) with [Livewire Markets](#).

Thank you for your support.



Geoff Wilson AO  
Chairman



# LIC snapshot



## W|A|M Capital

The most compelling undervalued growth opportunities in the Australian market

ASX: WAM

Share price*	\$1.675
NTA before tax	\$1.47
Full year fully franked dividend	15.5cps
Profits reserve#	14.3cps

## W|A|M Leaders

Actively investing in the highest quality Australian companies

ASX: WLE

Share price*	\$1.49
NTA before tax	\$1.41
Full year fully franked dividend	9.0cps
Profits reserve#	36.1cps

## W|A|M Global

The world's most compelling undervalued growth companies

ASX: WGB

Share price*	\$2.02
NTA before tax	\$2.37
Full year fully franked dividend	11.5cps
Profits reserve#	53.3cps

## W|A|M Microcap

The most exciting undervalued growth opportunities in the Australian micro-cap market

ASX: WMI

Share price*	\$1.50
NTA before tax	\$1.30
Full year fully franked dividend	10.5cps
Profits reserve#	52.9cps

## W|A|M Alternative Assets

Unique opportunities beyond traditional assets

ASX: WMA

Share price*	\$1.06
NTA before tax	\$1.20
Full year fully franked dividend	5.0cps
Profits reserve#	18.4cps

## W|A|M Strategic Value

Discounted asset opportunities

ASX: WAR

Share price*	\$1.08
NTA before tax	\$1.19
Annualised interim fully franked dividend guidance**	4.0cps
Profits reserve#	11.4cps

## W|A|M Research

The most compelling undervalued growth opportunities in the Australian market

ASX: WAX

Share price*	\$1.155
NTA before tax	\$0.96
Full year dividend	10.0cps
Profits reserve#	39.9cps

## W|A|M Active

Mispricing opportunities in the Australian market

ASX: WAA

Share price*	\$0.73
NTA before tax	\$0.78
Full year fully franked dividend	6.0cps
Profits reserve#	10.2cps

\*As at 13 September 2023.

#The profits reserve figures are as at 31 August 2023 in cents per share (cps).

\*\*Subject to no material adverse changes in market conditions or to the investment portfolio.

# W | A | M Strategic Value

The WAM Strategic Value (ASX: WAR) investment portfolio decreased during the month. The investment portfolio's allocation to direct discount assets including AMP (ASX: AMP), Lark Distilling Co. (ASX: LRK) and Global Data Centres (ASX: GDC) provided positive performance throughout the month while the slight widening of share price discounts to net tangible assets (NTA) for a number of the listed investment companies (LICs) and listed investment trusts (LITs) within the investment portfolio detracted from the investment portfolio performance in August.

AMP is a provider of superannuation and investment products, financial advice and banking products in Australia and New Zealand. AMP's share price increased 11.9% during the month as the company delivered better-than-anticipated results for the half year ended 30 June 2023. In addition to reducing costs during the first half of calendar year 2023, AMP reached an agreement to settle a shareholder class action with the settlement amount being met by available insurance proceeds. AMP continues to utilise available cash for accretive capital management initiatives. Since August 2022, \$610 million has been returned to shareholders with a further \$140 million expected to be returned by October 2023 through the payment of the interim dividend and a residual on-market buy-back. We believe that the settlement of the class action, continued effort to simplify the business and reduce costs, as well as further capital management initiatives commencing later this year will continue to drive share price performance in the medium term.

The VGI Partners Global Investments (ASX: VG1) share price declined 6.2% during the month, adjusted for the 5.0 cents per share dividend that was declared, with the share price discount to NTA widening in August. During the month, the Board of VGI Partners Global Investments announced a renewal of the on-market share buy-back and the on-market acquisition of shares to facilitate the dividend reinvestment plan (DRP). In addition, the investment manager, Regal Partners and Chief Investment Officer Philip King became substantial shareholders acquiring 7.8 million shares on 1 August, increasing their stake in the company to 6.38%. For the six months to June 2023, VGI Partners Global Investments generated a net return of 19.7% with an average net equity exposure of 72%. Uniquely, VGI Partners Global Investments remains fully hedged to Australian dollars (AUD) as it takes an active view on the AUD. While we believe that the improved investment portfolio performance, capital management initiatives and the continued acquisition of shares by key executives will assist in narrowing the share price discount to NTA over the medium term, the emergence of Saba Capital, a US based activist investor, as a substantial shareholder may provide a near term catalyst for liquidity at or near NTA.

Market capitalisation  
(ASX: WAR)

\$184.6m\*

Full year fully  
franked dividend

3.5cps

Gross assets

\$216.0m^

Annualised interim  
fully franked  
dividend guidance

4.0cps\*\*

\*Based on the 31 August 2023 share price of \$1.025 per share and 180,125,761 shares on issue.

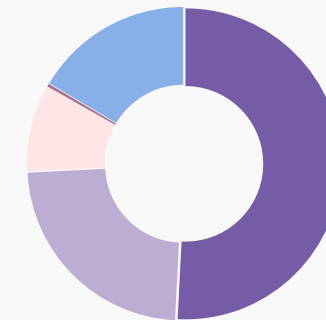
^Gross assets exclude the \$311k offer costs receivable balance associated with the Initial Public Offer (repayable by the Investment Manager).

\*\*Subject to no material adverse changes in market conditions or to the investment portfolio.

## About WAM Strategic Value

WAM Strategic Value will take advantage of market mispricing opportunities, including securities trading at discounts to assets or net tangible assets, corporate transactions and dividend yield arbitrages. WAM Strategic Value aims to deliver strong risk-adjusted returns derived from a portfolio primarily composed of discounted asset opportunities selected using the proven market-driven investment process we have developed over more than two decades.

Diversified investment portfolio by listed  
investment company/trust (LIC/LIT) sector



- LIC/LIT Global Equities: 50.8%
- LIC/LIT Domestic Equities: 23.4%
- Direct Discount Asset: 9.0%
- LIC/LIT Fixed Interest: 0.3%
- Cash and Cash Equivalents: 16.5%

August 2023  
look-through  
pre-tax NTA

\$1.38

## Look-through NTA before tax

The Australian Accounting standards require the Company's pre-tax NTA to be calculated based on the market price (or share price) of the underlying investment portfolio. The Company's look-through pre-tax NTA is an estimation of the Company's pre-tax NTA calculated using the estimated or most recently available pre-tax NTA of the underlying investment portfolio as at the end of the month where available. The look-through pre-tax NTA of the Company is indicative only and provides an estimate for investors of the value of the underlying investment portfolio, assuming the share price discount to NTA of the underlying discounted asset opportunities are closed.

## Net Tangible Assets (NTA) per share

	NTA before tax	NTA after tax and before tax on unrealised gains	NTA after tax
August 2023	119.30c	119.52c	122.87c
July 2023	120.69c	121.10c	123.56c

## Top 20 holdings (in alphabetical order)

AMP	CD2	CD3	CIN	GDC	LRK	MGF	NGE	NSC	PIA
PIC	PMC	QVE	RG8	SB2	SEC	TEK	URF	VG1	WGB*

\*WAM Strategic Value received WAM Global shares as scrip consideration for Templeton Global Growth Fund shares previously held. Wilson Asset Management has foregone management fees on the portion of the investment portfolio held in WAM Global shares.

# W | A | M Capital

The WAM Capital (ASX: WAM) investment portfolio increased during the month, outperforming the S&P/ASX All Ordinaries Accumulation Index. Significant contributors to the investment portfolio outperformance included automotive products manufacturer and distributor GUD Holdings (ASX: GUD) and telecommunications company TPG Telecom (ASX: TPG).

GUD Holdings owns a portfolio of companies in the automotive aftermarket and accessories sector. In August, the company announced its FY2023 results, noting a 27% increase in its underlying earnings before interest, taxes and amortisation (EBITA) to \$191.1 million, driven by organic growth of 6.5% and full-year contributions from acquisitions. Pleasingly, GUD Holdings beat earnings expectations and was able to reduce inventory levels which eased the market concerns around its balance sheet. We believe that inflationary pressures for the business have eased and expect a strong organic growth profile over the medium term to drive a re-rating of the share price.

TPG Telecom owns well-known communication brands including Vodafone, TPG, iiNet, AAPT, Internode, Lebara and felix mobile, and operates Australia-wide mobile and fixed-line networks. During the month, TPG Telecom confirmed that it had received an indicative, highly conditional, non-binding offer from Vocus Group to acquire certain enterprise, government and wholesale assets and associated fixed infrastructure assets for approximately \$6.3 billion. TPG Telecom also announced its results for the half-year ended 30 June 2023, noting a 4.5% increase in its service revenue to \$2,288 million and a 12.4% increase in its earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) to \$941 million. TPG Telecom also upgraded its FY2023 EBITDA guidance to between \$1,925 million and \$1,950 million, up from its previous guidance of between \$1,850 million and \$1,950 million. The upgraded FY2023 EBITDA guidance was pleasing to see and we look forward to receiving further updates around the proposed transaction in the coming months which may provide a further catalyst for a share price re-rating.

## Market capitalisation (ASX: WAM)

\$1,838.0m<sup>#</sup>

## Gross assets

\$1,652.6m

## Listed equities

\$1,492.7m

## Investment portfolio performance (pa since inception Aug 1999)

15.0%<sup>^</sup>

S&P/ASX All Ordinaries Accumulation Index: 8.3%

## Dividends paid since inception (per share)

292.75c

## Fully franked dividend yield

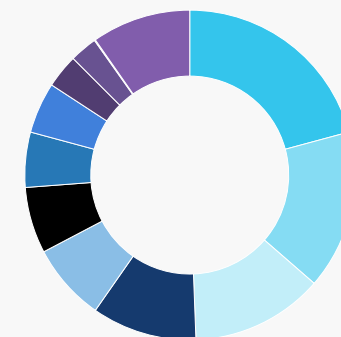
9.3%<sup>#</sup>

<sup>#</sup>Based on the 31 August 2023 share price of \$1.67 per share and the FY23 full year fully franked dividend of 15.5 cents per share. WAM Capital has 1,100,603,773 shares on issue.

<sup>^</sup>Investment portfolio performance is before expenses, fees, taxes and the impact of capital management initiatives to compare to the relevant index which is before expenses, fees and taxes.

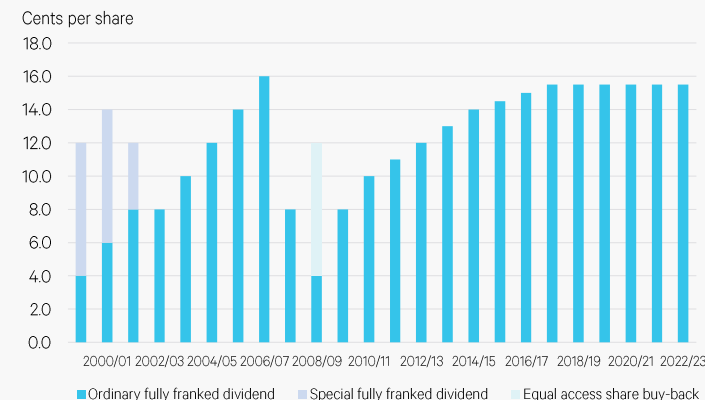
## Diversified investment portfolio by sector

- Consumer discretionary: 20.8%
- Financials: 15.6%
- Industrials: 13.0%
- Information technology: 10.3%
- Health care: 7.6%
- Communication services: 6.5%
- Real estate: 5.4%
- Materials: 5.0%
- Energy: 3.3%
- Consumer staples: 2.7%
- Utilities: 0.1%
- Cash: 9.7%



## Fully franked dividends since inception

The Board declared a final fully franked dividend of 7.75 cents per share payable on 31 October 2023. The Company's ability to continue paying fully franked dividends at the current level is dependent on generating additional profits reserves, through positive investment portfolio performance in FY2024, and franking credits. The ability to generate additional franking credits is reliant on the receipt of franked dividends from investee companies and the payment of tax on profits.



## Net Tangible Assets (NTA) per share

<sup>^</sup>The August 2023 NTA before tax is after the payment of \$2.5m (0.23 cents per share) in tax during the month.

	NTA before tax	NTA after tax and before tax on unrealised gains <sup>*</sup>	NTA after tax <sup>*</sup>
August 2023	147.26c <sup>^</sup>	163.87c	162.10c
July 2023	145.42c	162.15c	160.57c

<sup>\*</sup>Includes 1.65 cents per share of tax assets resulting from the acquisition of investment companies and 15.49 cents per share of income tax losses available to the Company in future periods.

## Top 20 holdings (in alphabetical order)

Life360	AMP	Credit Corp Group	CODAN	FLIGHT CENTRE TRAVEL GROUP	HMC	LIGHT & WONDER	MAAS	NEXT DC	Pinnacle
360	AMP	CCP	CDA	FLT	HMC	LNW	MGH	NXT	PNI
PEXA	SELECT HARVESTS	Sigma Healthcare	thl	technologyone	TUAS	tyro	VIVA Energy Australia	VIRGIN MONEY UK	Webjet Limited
PXA	SHV	SIG	THL	TNE	TUA	TYR	VEA	VUK	WEB



# W | A | M Leaders

The WAM Leaders (ASX: WLE) investment portfolio decreased during the month. A contributor to the investment portfolio performance was Domino's Pizza Enterprises (ASX: DMP) while BHP Group (ASX: BHP) was a detractor.

Domino's Pizza Enterprises holds the exclusive Master Franchise Agreement for the Domino's brand and network in multiple countries across Europe and Asia and in Australia and New Zealand, which allows Domino's Pizza Enterprises to own, operate and franchise Domino's stores. Domino's Pizza Enterprises was one of our key strategic holdings into the FY2023 full year results as we saw market expectations tempered by a soft macroeconomic environment, elevated commodity prices and the company's balance sheet leverage. The company delivered a solid result relieving most of these concerns and provided confidence in the outlook as same store sales growth momentum started to return in Australia, New Zealand and across Europe. We have since slightly reduced our weighting, however we continue to hold Domino's Pizza Enterprises as we expect improved sales growth and therefore, enhanced franchisee profitability to reaccelerate store rollouts. Combined with the company's prudent cost controls, this will drive a gradual recovery in the company's valuation.

BHP Group is one of the largest global diversified mining companies with exposure to iron ore, copper, coal, nickel and potash across multiple geographies. The company has a number of growth options including the Jansen potash project and Western Australia Iron Ore (WAIO) production. BHP Group provided a higher-than-expected FY2024 costs and capital expenditure guidance during the month, which led to a marginal downward earnings revision impacting the company's share price in August. We strategically increased our weighting reflecting our confidence in the company's long-term prospects supported by strong operational performance and the ability to rebound strongly in response to an improvement in market conditions. Over the past week, we saw signs of more accommodative policy measures out of China, which we anticipate will see the share price begin to reflect higher iron ore prices. We believe the current valuation is reasonably attractive, and its main commodity exposures iron ore and copper prices, which have held up well, also provide downside protections to the share price.

## Market capitalisation (ASX: WLE)

\$1,848.3m\*

## Gross assets

\$1,800.8m

## Listed equities

\$1,731.3m

## Investment portfolio performance (pa since inception May 2016)

13.7%<sup>^</sup>

S&P/ASX 200 Accumulation Index: 8.5%

## Dividends paid since inception (per share)

39.65c

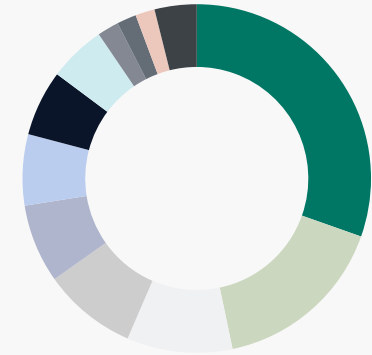
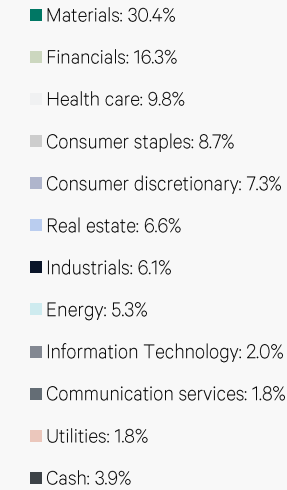
## Fully franked dividend yield

6.1%\*

\*Based on the 31 August 2023 share price of \$1.47 per share and the FY23 full year fully franked dividend of 9.0 cents per share. WAM Leaders has 1,257,331,124 shares on issue.

<sup>^</sup>Investment portfolio performance is before expenses, fees, taxes and the impact of capital management initiatives to compare to the relevant index which is before expenses, fees and taxes.

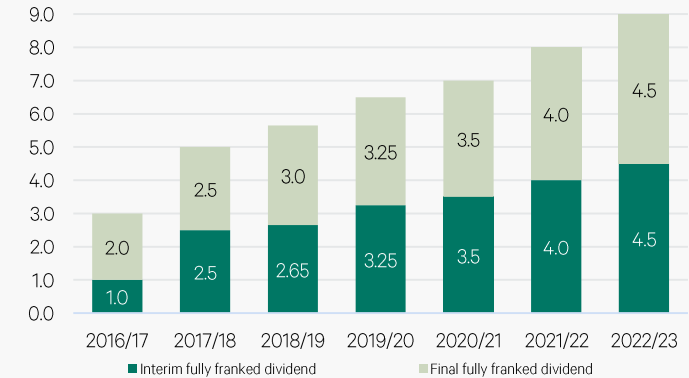
## Diversified investment portfolio by sector



## Fully franked dividends since inception

The Board declared a final fully franked dividend of 4.5 cents per share payable on 31 October 2023.

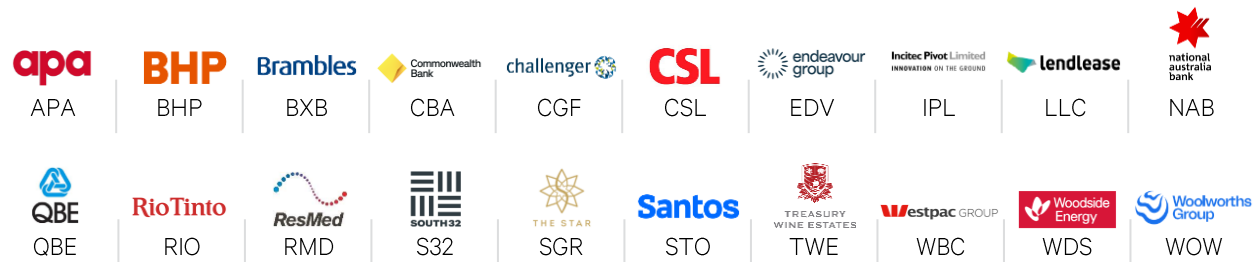
Cents per share



## Net Tangible Assets (NTA) per share

	NTA before tax	NTA after tax and before tax on unrealised gains	NTA after tax
August 2023	140.81c	140.69c	141.30c
July 2023	144.04c	143.81c	143.34c

## Top 20 holdings (in alphabetical order)



# W | A | M Global

The WAM Global (ASX: WGB) investment portfolio increased during the month, outperforming the MSCI World Index (AUD). Significant contributors to the investment portfolio outperformance included software provider Intuit (NASDAQ: INTU) and financial and commodity markets exchange Intercontinental Exchange (NYSE: ICE).

Intuit is a leading provider of small business accounting and consumer tax preparation software. The business also provides small businesses and consumers with payments, payroll, financial management, compliance, and marketing products and services. The company operates through the QuickBooks, TurboTax, Credit Karma and MailChimp brands. In late August, Intuit reported its fourth-quarter result, reporting revenues of USD2.7 billion, up 12% year-on-year, and a 50% increase year-on-year in earnings per share (EPS), both of which were above market expectations. The company provided guidance for the coming year which points to a continuation of strong growth in its QuickBooks Online ecosystem, as well as an attractive opportunity to roll out generative AI solutions in both its small business and consumer software end markets. Our view is that management have been prudently conservative in setting their guidance and we see earnings upside as a catalyst to drive the share price over coming quarters.

Intercontinental Exchange is a leading provider of financial exchanges, mortgage software and data services. The company's exchange business holds strong, global leading positions in a range of asset classes including commodities, interest rates, equities, derivatives and currencies. With the recently completed acquisition of Black Knight, Intercontinental Exchange is set to have an end-to-end digital mortgage origination and servicing technology offering, with significant growth and value-creation opportunities that come from digitising this very large, underpenetrated market. In August, Intercontinental Exchange reported its second-quarter result, with revenue of USD1.9 billion and adjusted EPS growing 8% year-on-year to USD1.43 per share, both above market expectations. In our view, the management team, led by Chief Executive Officer and Founder Jeff Sprecher, has navigated the decline in the mortgage refinancing market well and is set to benefit as this ceases to be a headwind in the coming quarters. Combined with an attractive valuation for such an impressive set of businesses, we see catalysts to unlock value through the integration of the Black Knight deal and through continued strong operational execution.

## Net Tangible Assets (NTA) per share

<sup>^</sup>The August 2023 NTA before tax is after the payment of \$2.4m (0.68 cents per share) in tax during the month.

	NTA before tax	NTA after tax and before tax on unrealised gains*	NTA after tax*
August 2023	237.21c <sup>^</sup>	235.25c	237.55c
July 2023	232.25c	231.42c	233.60c

\*Includes 0.29 cents per share of tax assets resulting from the acquisition of investment companies.

## Market capitalisation (ASX: WGB)

\$703.1m\*

## Gross assets

\$843.8m

## Listed equities

\$804.3m

## Investment portfolio performance (pa since inception June 2018)

8.1%<sup>^</sup>

MSCI World Index (AUD): 11.3%

## Dividends paid since inception (per share)

35.75c

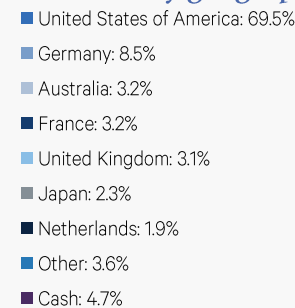
## Fully franked dividend yield

5.8%\*

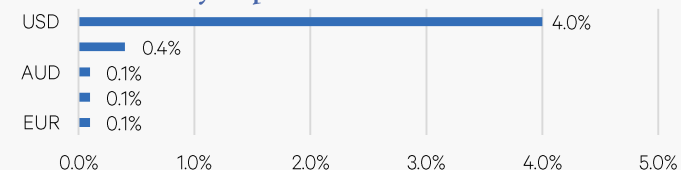
\*Based on the 31 August 2023 share price of \$1.99 per share and the FY23 full year fully franked dividend of 11.5 cents per share. WAM Global has 353,297,218 shares on issue.

<sup>^</sup>Investment portfolio performance is before expenses, fees, taxes and the impact of capital management initiatives to compare to the relevant index which is before expenses, fees and taxes.

## Portfolio by geographical exposure

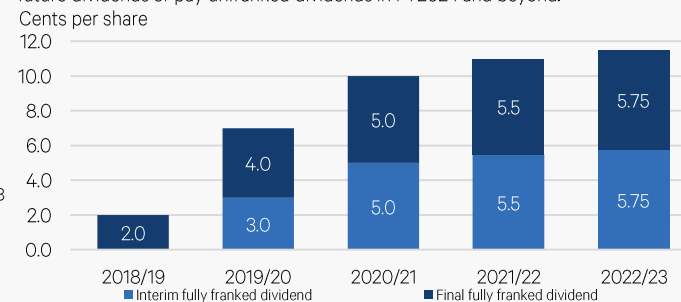


## Cash currency exposure



## Fully franked dividends since inception

The Board declared a final fully franked dividend of 5.75cps payable on 27 October 2023. The Company's ability to continue paying fully franked dividends is dependent on generating additional franking credits through the payment of tax on profits in FY2024. Currently, the franking account balance of the Company is able to fully frank the final dividend and partially frank the interim dividend assuming it's 5.75cps. If no additional franking is generated through the performance of the investment portfolio and the payment of tax on profits, the Company will only be able to partially frank future dividends or pay unfranked dividends in FY2024 and beyond.



## Top 20 holdings (in alphabetical order)

Adobe ADBE US	Gallagher AJG US	Applus <sup>®</sup> APPS SM	Avantor AVTR US	Booz   Allen   Hamilton BAH US	CME Group CME US	dun & bradstreet DNB US	eventim EVD GR	Edwards EW US	expedia group EXPE US
HCA Healthcare HCA US	ICE ICE US	ICLR ICLR US	INTUIT INTU US	PWR PWR US	SAP SAP GY	ThermoFisher SCIENTIFIC TMO US	TransUnion TRU US	Tradeweb TW US	VISA V US

# W | A | M Microcap

The WAM Microcap (ASX: WMI) investment portfolio decreased during the month. Health services group Healthia (ASX: HLA) was a contributor to the investment portfolio performance, while tertiary education services provider NextEd Group (ASX: NXD) was a detractor.

Healthia is a health care company which operates optometry, podiatry and physiotherapy clinics. In August, Healthia announced that it had entered into a scheme implementation deed with Harold BidCo, an entity owned by Pacific Equity Partners, to acquire 100% of the share capital in Healthia by way of a scheme of arrangement. The cash consideration of \$1.80 per Healthia share represented a 72.8% premium to the 3-month volume weighted average price (VWAP) to 30 August 2023. We believe the scheme provides shareholders with attractive value.

NextEd Group operates a group of 10 private tertiary education businesses and a global international student recruitment agency. Earlier in the month, the company provided a negative trading update on the emerging implications of the Australian government's temporary activity visa (subclass 408) which provides onshore non-residents unlimited working rights for 12 months without study. NextEd Group has observed its students currently enrolled in the English language intensive course are studying for shorter durations, and fewer students of the course are progressing into vocational courses, which caused earnings to be lower than expected and NextEd Group's share price to fall 29% following the update. Later in the month, the Australian government announced that the temporary visa would be revoked, causing NextEd Group's share price to increase 35%. Despite the company being a detractor to the investment portfolio performance and having a volatile month for its share price, the cancellation of the temporary visa presents itself as a major positive development for the company.

## Net Tangible Assets (NTA) per share

	NTA before tax	NTA after tax and before tax on unrealised gains	NTA after tax
August 2023	130.36c	130.47c	132.10c
July 2023	132.52c	132.11c	133.52c

## Market capitalisation (ASX: WMI)

\$334.4m\*

## Gross assets

\$279.9m

## Listed equities

\$258.1m

## Investment portfolio performance (pa since inception June 2017)

15.0%<sup>^</sup>

S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries Accumulation Index: 5.8%

## Dividends paid since inception (per share)

49.0c

## Fully franked dividend yield

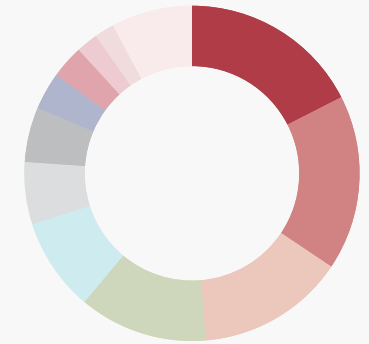
6.6%\*

\*Based on the 31 August 2023 share price of \$1.585 per share and the FY23 full year fully franked dividend of 10.5 cents per share. WAM Microcap has 210,979,923 shares on issue.

<sup>^</sup>Investment portfolio performance is before expenses, fees and taxes to compare to the relevant index which is also before expenses, fees and taxes.

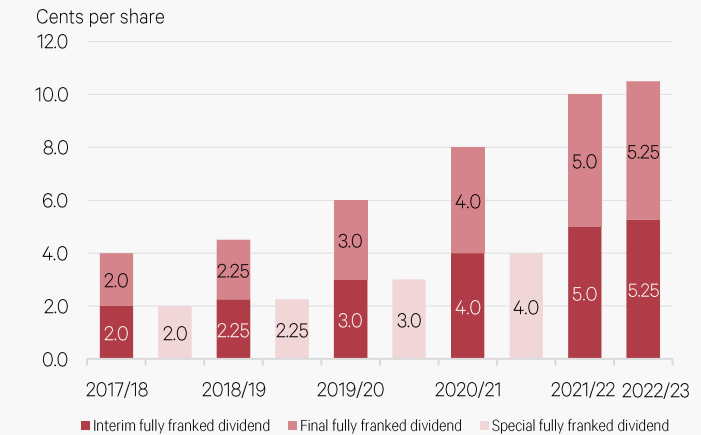
## Diversified investment portfolio by sector

- Financials: 17.5%
- Consumer discretionary: 16.9%
- Industrials: 14.3%
- Information technology: 12.4%
- Health care: 9.0%
- Communication services: 6.0%
- Materials: 5.3%
- Energy: 3.6%
- Utilities: 3.2%
- Real estate: 2.1%
- Consumer staples: 1.9%
- Cash: 7.8%

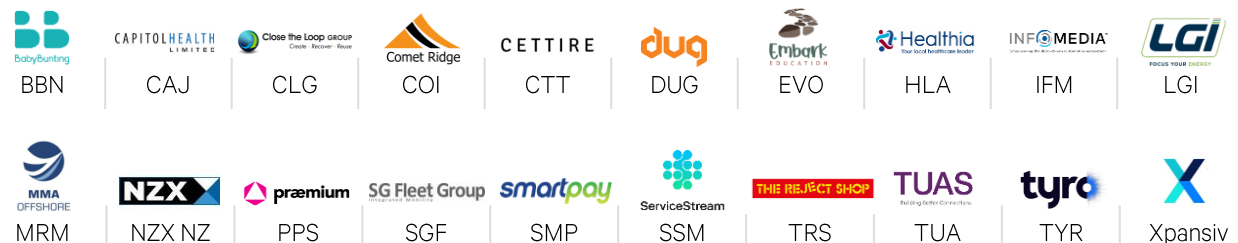


## Fully franked dividends since inception

The Board declared a final fully franked dividend of 5.25 cents per share payable on 16 October 2023.



## Top 20 holdings (in alphabetical order)



# W | A | M Alternative Assets

The WAM Alternative Assets (ASX: WMA) investment portfolio decreased during the month, primarily driven by a valuation provision against venture capital investments that was taken up as part of the preparation of the Company's FY2023 annual report in light of current market circumstances prevalent. The decrease in the investment portfolio for the month was also driven by the underlying performance of its real assets investments.

The WAM Alternative Assets investment portfolio benefits from its exposure to infrastructure through the investment in Palisade's Diversified Infrastructure Fund (PDIF), managed by Palisade Investment Partners. The investment in PDIF provides the WAM Alternative Assets investment portfolio with a steady, reliable and inflation-linked income yield. PDIF invests across sectors such as transport, renewable energy, social infrastructure, digital infrastructure and includes quality and established infrastructure assets. PDIF delivered solid returns for the 2023 financial year consisting of approximately 60% income and 40% capital growth. Valuations of most assets within the portfolio benefitted from higher near-term inflation due to their linkage to inflation.

The WAM Alternative Assets investment portfolio's exposure to water entitlements and agriculture is managed by its investment partner, Argyle Capital. The Argyle Water Fund consists of a portfolio of Australian water entitlements, which are the perpetual legal rights to water usage for irrigation purposes. During the month, the carrying value of the Argyle Water Fund declined slightly due to a decrease in water entitlement values. The Strategic Australian Agriculture Fund (SAAF) consists of a portfolio of Australian water entitlements, farmland and associated businesses and agriculture infrastructure. Investments in water entitlements and agriculture are supported by strong long-term tailwinds, such as growing demand for food, scarce land and water resources, increasing transport costs and frequent adverse weather conditions. The asset class has embedded inflation protection due to the high correlation with food inflation and its investment returns have a low-to-negative correlation to other asset classes. One of the larger underlying assets in the SAAF is Nericon Citrus, also known as Griffith Citrus Aggregation, a citrus farm in New South Wales which is approximately 516 hectares in size. Plantings consist predominantly of high-value table citrus and the property includes water irrigation entitlements. The Argyle Capital team has been enhancing the asset and the performance of the plantings through capital improvements, providing a strong outlook for the Nericon Citrus farm. [The Australian Financial Review](#) featured Argyle Capital in an article on agricultural land and water entitlements.

## Net Tangible Assets (NTA) per share

	NTA before tax	NTA after tax and before tax on unrealised gains	NTA after tax
August 2023	120.44c	120.61c	119.69c
July 2023	121.07c	121.20c	120.16c

## Market capitalisation (ASX: WMA)

\$205.0m\*

## Gross assets

\$238.8m

## Investment portfolio performance

(pa since appointment of Wilson Asset Management as Investment Manager October 2020)

11.1%<sup>^</sup>

## Profits reserve (per share)

18.4c

## Full year fully franked dividend (per share)

5.0c

\*Based on the 31 August 2023 share price of \$1.05 per share. WAM Alternative Assets has 195,209,463 shares on issue.

<sup>^</sup>Investment portfolio performance is before expenses, fees and taxes.

## Asset Classes

### Real assets

Agricultural assets and investments in perpetual water entitlements which can be sold or leased to irrigators to generate income.

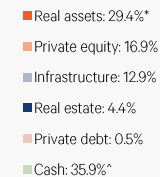
### Private equity

Unlisted companies with long-term and accelerated growth potential.

### Real estate

Industrial and healthcare assets.

## Asset class exposure



<sup>^</sup>Total capital commitments are 22.0%.

\*Real assets includes:

■ Water Rights: 23.2%

Portfolio structure	Current value		+/- Prior month	
	\$m	%	\$m	%
Real assets	70.3	29.4	(0.2)	(0.3)
Private equity <sup>*</sup>	40.3	16.9	(1.1)	(2.7)
Infrastructure	30.7	12.9	-	-
Real estate	10.6	4.4	-	-
Private debt	1.1	0.5	-	-
Cash <sup>^</sup>	85.8	35.9	0.1	0.1
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>238.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(1.2)</b>	<b>(0.5)</b>

<sup>\*</sup>Includes undrawn capital commitments to the Crescent Capital Partners VII Fund (\$15.0m); the Intermediate Capital Group Australian Senior Loan Fund (\$8.9m); the Barwon Institutional Healthcare Property Fund (\$7.8m); the Allegro Fund IV (\$7.6m); the CEN (I&L) Partnership Fund (\$6.5m); the Adamantem Capital Fund II (\$5.3m) and the Strategic Australian Agriculture Fund (\$1.3m).

<sup>^</sup>During the month, a valuation provision against venture capital investments (\$12m) was taken up as part of the preparation of the Company's annual report in light of current market circumstances prevalent.

### Infrastructure

Mid-market infrastructure assets across a range of essential services and facilities including air and sea transport, renewable energy and utilities.

### Private debt

Senior secured loans to established Australian and New Zealand-based businesses.

## Top holdings

### Real assets



#### Water Fund

Pioneer and leading non-irrigator water investor in Australia

#### Strategic Australian Agriculture Fund

Investing across Australian water entitlements, farmland and associated businesses and agricultural infrastructure

### Private equity



A provider of outsourced e-commerce solutions in South-East Asia



A manufacturer of premium condiments, desserts and beverages

### Infrastructure



Palisade's Diversified Infrastructure Fund

Palisade's Renewable Energy Fund

### Private Debt



Australian Senior Loan Fund

### Real estate



Barwon Institutional Healthcare Property Fund



Centennial CEN (I&L) Partnership Fund

## New Investment Partners



Mid-market private equity buy-out strategy



Australian senior secured loan strategy



Last-mile logistics real estate strategy



Australian healthcare real estate strategy



Mid-market infrastructure strategy



Mid-market private equity strategy with a focus on healthcare



Turnaround, special situations and transformation private equity strategy



# W | A | M Research

The WAM Research (ASX: WAX) investment portfolio increased during the month, outperforming the S&P/ASX All Ordinaries Accumulation Index. Significant contributors to the investment portfolio outperformance included automotive products manufacturer and distributor GUD Holdings (ASX: GUD) and residential aged care provider Estia Health (ASX: EHE).

GUD Holdings owns a portfolio of companies in the automotive aftermarket and accessories sector. In August, the company announced its FY2023 results, noting a 27% increase in its underlying earnings before interest, taxes and amortisation (EBITA) to \$191.1 million, driven by organic growth of 6.5% and full-year contributions from acquisitions. Pleasingly, GUD Holdings beat earnings expectations and was able to reduce inventory levels which eased the market concerns around its balance sheet. We believe that inflationary pressures for the business have eased and expect a strong organic growth profile over the medium term to drive a re-rating of the share price.

Estia Health is a leading provider of residential aged care in Australia, operating 6,720 residential places across 73 homes in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Victoria. During the month, the company announced that it entered into a scheme implementation agreement with Bain Capital for the acquisition of 100% of its shares by way of a scheme of arrangement. Under the scheme, Estia Health shareholders will receive \$3.20 per share, reduced by the amount of any permitted dividends paid, and represents a 52% premium to the one-month volume weighted average price (VWAP) of Estia Health shares to 21 March 2023. We believe the scheme represents significant value to Estia Health shareholders and is a strong endorsement of the company as a leading aged care provider. We have since exited our position in the company following the strong share price performance.

## Market capitalisation (ASX: WAX)

\$235.0m<sup>#</sup>

## Gross assets

\$195.4m

## Listed equities

\$187.3m

## Investment portfolio performance (pa since change in investment strategy July 2010)

13.8%<sup>^</sup>

S&P/ASX All Ordinaries Accumulation Index: 8.7%

## Dividends paid since inception (per share)

139.0c

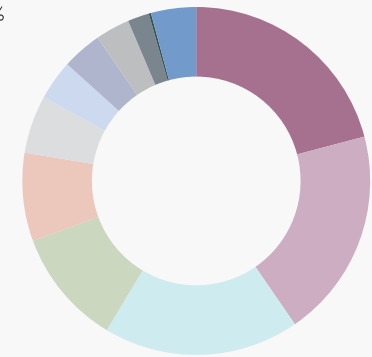
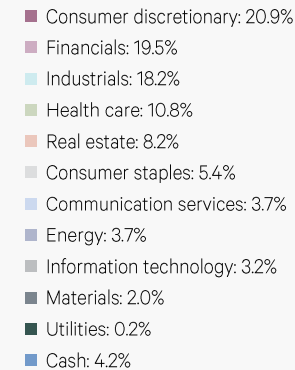
## Full year dividend yield

8.5%<sup>#</sup>

<sup>#</sup>Based on the 31 August 2023 share price of \$1.17 per share and the FY23 full year dividend of 10.0 cents per share, with the final dividend being 5.0 cents per share, partially franked at 60%. WAM Research has 200,885,140 shares on issue.

<sup>^</sup>Investment portfolio performance is before expenses, fees and taxes to compare to the relevant index which is also before expenses, fees and taxes.

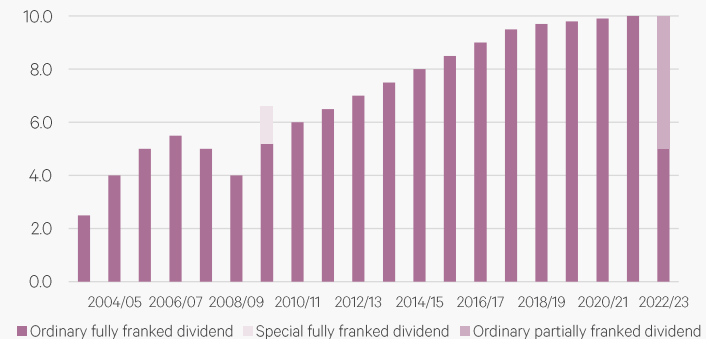
## Diversified investment portfolio by sector



## Dividends since inception

The Board declared a final dividend of 5.0 cents per share, partially franked at 60%, the maximum extent possible with the franking account balance at year end. The Company's ability to continue paying franked dividends in FY2024 is dependent on the future franked dividends received from investee companies held within the WAM Research investment portfolio, and future tax paid on realised profits generated by the investment portfolio. In FY2024, it is anticipated that the franked dividends received from investee companies in the investment portfolio will generate franking to fully frank approximately 2.0 cents per share in a dividend for shareholders and any additional franking would need to be generated through the payment of tax on profits.

Cents per share



■ Ordinary fully franked dividend ■ Special fully franked dividend ■ Ordinary partially franked dividend

## Net Tangible Assets (NTA) per share

<sup>^</sup>The August 2023 NTA before tax is after the payment of \$460k (0.23 cents per share) in tax during the month.

	NTA before tax	NTA after tax and before tax on unrealised gains*	NTA after tax*
August 2023	95.72c <sup>^</sup>	100.91c	101.66c
July 2023	94.87c	99.97c	100.83c

\*Includes 5.56 cents per share of income tax losses available to the Company in future periods.

## Top 20 holdings (in alphabetical order)

CCP	GEM	HMC	HVN	JIN	KLS	LIC	MGH	PNI	PXA
SGF	SHV	SIG	THL	TNE	TUA	TYR	VEA	VUK	WEB

# W | A | M Active

The WAM Active (ASX: WAA) investment portfolio increased during the month. Significant contributors to the investment portfolio performance included hotel commerce platform SiteMinder (ASX: SDR) and telecommunications company TPG Telecom (ASX: TPG).

SiteMinder is a leading hotel commerce software provider with offices in nine countries. In August, SiteMinder delivered a 30.5% increase in its total revenue to \$151.4 million in its FY2023 results, which was driven by growth in subscription and transactional revenue. The company reiterated its organic revenue growth guidance of 30% in the medium term, and expects its earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) to be profitable moving into the second half of FY2024, which beat analyst expectations. We are pleased to see SiteMinder's ongoing focus on automation in sales, onboarding and support, which frees up resources to be redirected towards innovative initiatives that will drive value to customers through new products and the company's share price.

TPG Telecom owns well-known communication brands including Vodafone, TPG, iiNet, AAPT, Internode, Lebara and felix mobile, and operates Australia-wide mobile and fixed-line networks. During the month, TPG Telecom confirmed that it had received an indicative, highly conditional, non-binding offer from Vocus Group to acquire certain enterprise, government and wholesale assets and associated fixed infrastructure assets for approximately \$6.3 billion. TPG Telecom also announced its results for the half-year ended 30 June 2023, noting a 4.5% increase in its service revenue to \$2,288 million and a 12.4% increase in its earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) to \$941 million. TPG Telecom also upgraded its FY2023 EBITDA guidance to between \$1,925 million and \$1,950 million, up from its previous guidance of between \$1,850 million and \$1,950 million. The upgraded FY2023 EBITDA guidance was pleasing to see and we look forward to receiving further updates around the proposed transaction in the coming months which may provide a further catalyst for a share price re-rating.

## Market capitalisation (ASX: WAA)

\$54.8m<sup>#</sup>

## Gross assets

\$59.3m

## Listed equities

\$53.4m

## Investment portfolio performance (pa since inception Jan 2008)

10.2%<sup>^</sup>

Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index (Cash): 2.8%

## Dividends paid since inception (per share)

89.7c

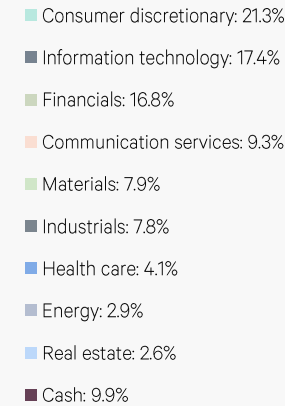
## Fully franked dividend yield

8.2%<sup>#</sup>

<sup>#</sup>Based on the 31 August 2023 share price of \$0.73 per share and the FY23 full year fully franked dividend of 6.0 cents per share. WAM Active has 75,068,303 shares on issue.

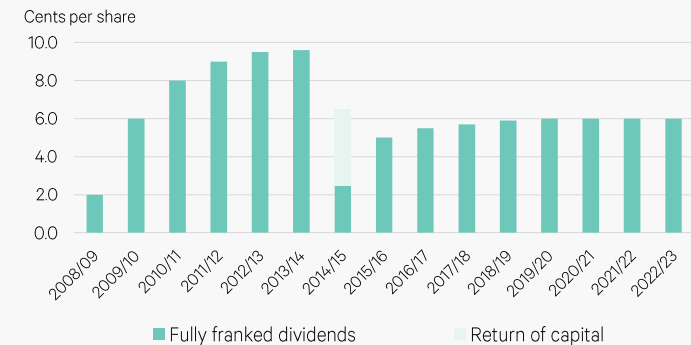
<sup>^</sup>Investment portfolio performance is before expenses, fees and taxes to compare to the relevant indexes which are also before expenses, fees and taxes.

## Diversified investment portfolio by sector



## Fully franked dividends since inception

The Board declared a final fully franked dividend of 3.0 cents per share payable on 16 October 2023. The Company's ability to continue paying fully franked dividends is dependent on generating additional profits reserves and franking credits. The ability to generate franking credits is reliant on the receipt of franked dividends from investee companies and the payment of tax on profits.



## Net Tangible Assets (NTA) per share

	NTA before tax	NTA after tax and before tax on unrealised gains*	NTA after tax*
August 2023	78.08c	86.75c	87.73c
July 2023	76.15c	85.36c	86.35c

\*Includes 10.00 cents per share of income tax losses available to the Company in future periods.

## Top 20 holdings (in alphabetical order)

Life360 360	AMP AMP	BELLEVUE GOLD BGL	BORAL BLD	CODAN CDA	CFL CKF	FLIGHT CENTRE TRAVEL GROUP FLT	KEYBRIDGE CAPITAL LIMITED KBC	LIGHT & WONDER LNW	Megaport MP1
MMA OFFSHORE MRM	nickscali NCK	NEXT DC NXT	oh! OML	PREMIER INVESTMENTS PMV	SiteMinder SDR	smartpay SMP	SGH Industrial Services, Mach. Energy and Investments SVW	tpg TELECOM TPG	Worley WOR