

## DAILY MARKET SUMMARY



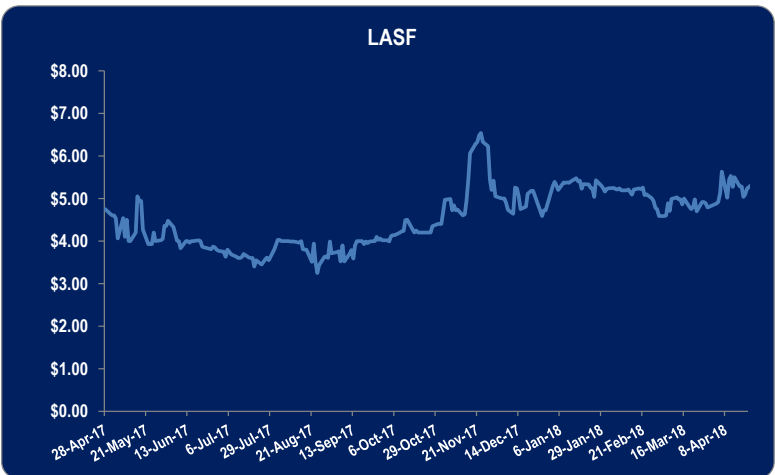
### LOCAL STOCK MARKET: (JS)<sup>+</sup>

Stock Symbol	JMMBGL	CCC	AMG	CHL	LASF
Current Price (\$)	26.78	35.58	1.96	9.70	5.51
Trailing EPS (\$)	1.97	1.20	0.14	0.33	0.20
P/E (times)	13.62	29.65	13.52	29.84	28.19
Projected P/E	11.77	9.72	16.59	29.45	23.54
Projected EPS (\$)*	2.28	3.66	0.12	0.33	0.23
Book Value per share (\$)	17.42	10.93	0.93	0.94	1.05
Price/Book Value (times)	1.54	3.26	2.11	10.34	5.23
Dividend Yield (2018 %)	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.19%	N/A
Volumes	120,688	213,889	42,117	NIL	62,740
Recommendation	BUY	BUY	HOLD	SELL	SELL

### FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKET TRADING SUMMARY \*

	PURCHASE RATE			SALES RATE		
	Highest	Lowest	Weighted	Highest	Lowest	Weighted
			Average Rate			Average Rate
USD	126.100	100.010	123.9413	134.350	100.020	125.7253
CAN	117.000	73.000	95.2556	110.000	92.000	97.5415
GBP	176.300	137.000	173.6371	179.399	165.000	174.6744
EURO	153.800	110.000	148.5835	172.410	143.400	154.2719

\*Rates as at April 25 2018



### STOCK OF THE DAY: Lasco Financial Services Limited (LASF)

#### For the nine months ended December 31, 2018:

LASF recorded trading income of \$1.09 billion; this represented a growth of 37% when compared to \$794.46 million posted in 2016, while trading income for the quarter amounted to \$407.48 million (2016: \$288.25 million). LASF acquired 100% shares in Scotia Jamaica Microfinance Company Limited (CrediScotia) through a Share Purchase Agreement effective December 1, 2017. LASF Group now comprises two (2) subsidiaries, CreditScotia, renamed LASCO Microfinance Limited and LASCO Financial Services (Barbados) Limited. Other income amounted to \$31.36 million (2016: \$35.95 million), a decrease of 13% year over year. This resulted in overall income of \$1.12 billion, a growth of 35% compared to \$830.41 million for the corresponding period in 2016. Overall revenue for the quarter was \$404.90 million (2016: \$297.68 million).

Operating expenses amounted to \$431.08 million, 41% more than the \$304.96 million the year prior. This as administrative expenses rose by 20% to \$388.75 million compared to the \$323.87 million in 2016. Selling and promotional expenses also grew 20% to close at \$388.75 million relative to the \$323.87 million report in the prior period.

Despite the increase in total expenses, profit from operations grew by 49% to total \$300.28 million, relative to the \$201.58 million recorded last year. profit from operations for the quarter improved 19% to close at \$91.48 million (2016: \$77.15 million), after booking direct expenses for the acquisition and normal seasonal operational increases.

Finance costs increased to \$26.69 million (2016: \$2.99 million), resulting in a profit before tax of \$273.59 million, relative to the \$198.59 million booked for 2016.

Net profits attributable to shareholders totalled \$221.52 million, 37% more than the \$162.14 million posted for the same period last year. This after taxes for the period totalled \$52.07 million (2016: \$36.45 million). Net profit for the quarter amounted to \$54.78 million relative to \$61.97 million booked in 2016. Earnings per share for Lasco Financial Services Limited (LASF) amounted to \$0.18 (2016: \$0.13).

EPS for the quarter totalled \$0.044 (2016: \$0.049), while the twelve-month trailing earnings per share amounted to \$0.20.

### MONEY MARKET

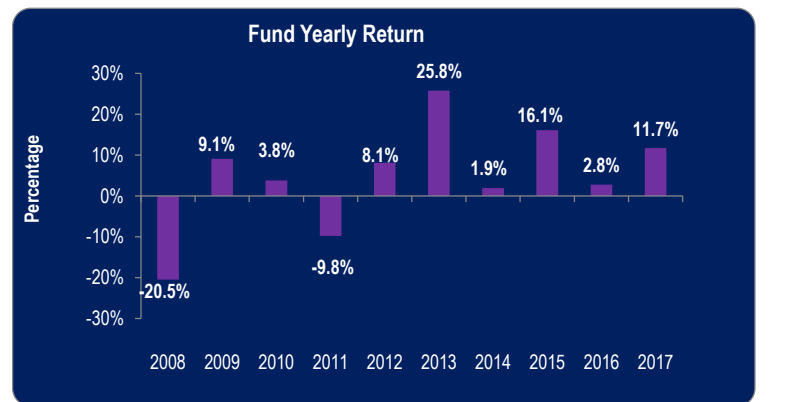
The Jamaican dollar fixed income market was liquid in today's (April 26, 2018) trading session. The over night rates were quoted around 1.60% while the 30-day rates stood at 2.30%.

The US dollar fixed income market was also liquid during today's (April 26, 2018) trading session; The overnight market rates were quoted 1.00% while the 30-day market rates stood around 1.40%.

### OVER THE COUNTER FUNDS (CI FUNDS)

#### CI International Value Corporate Class

This fund's objective is to obtain maximum long-term capital growth. It invests primarily in equity and equity-related securities of companies whose primary operations are outside of North America. The fund may make significant investments in any country including emerging markets and emerging industries of any market. The fund has a 3 year return of 6.3% and a 5 year return of 10.3% as at March 31, 2018. The Fund also has a 6 month return of 5.1%.



<sup>+</sup>Prices are as at April 26, 2018 \*Projections are for the forward 12 months from the most recent quarter results

**U.S.: The Next 9 Days Will Teach Us a Lot About the U.S. Economy**

The Federal Reserve has spent the past decade coaxing a recession-torn U.S. economy back to health. They've had resounding success in slashing unemployment, yet wage growth and inflation have remained stubbornly slow – keeping victory at bay. The week ahead could finally clinch it. Data released over the next nine days could show both accelerating prices and pay, like pieces of a data puzzle clicking into place. Other major economic headlines will bring key news for the central bank, from a Treasury refunding to bellwether earnings reports. Here's what to watch as the Fed closes in on a milestone that will make it a rarity in the post-crisis world: a monetary authority that has hit all of its targets on the nose. Gross domestic product data for the first quarter will be the main event on Friday, but a side act – the Employment Cost Index – could easily steal the show. The figures will be released alongside GDP at 8:30 a.m. Financial markets are sensitive to any signs of stronger inflationary pressures, and they interpreted a jump in average hourly earnings back in February as a sign that the central bank might pick up the pace. If this quarterly series on labor costs comes in stronger than expected, it could have a similar effect. Any pickup would be welcome news at the Fed, though: Officials have been puzzled that slow pay gains have persisted despite low unemployment. For what it's worth, GDP is likely to show a slowdown to 2 percent for the first quarter from 2.9 percent at the end of 2017.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-04-26/the-next-9-days-will-teach-us-a-lot-about-the-u-s-economy>

**Europe: Draghi Insists Outlook Is Solid as ECB Skirts QE Debate Again**

Mario Draghi said policy makers refrained from discussing the end of asset purchases or even the stronger euro as they focused on gauging the health of the region's economy. The Governing Council spent its two-day meeting assessing a raft of weaker economic data, the European Central Bank president said at a news conference in Frankfurt. While Draghi acknowledged that momentum softened at the start of the year, he reaffirmed his confidence in the durability of the euro-area expansion. "The interesting thing is that we didn't discuss monetary policy per se," he said. "It's quite clear that since our last meeting, broadly all countries experienced, in a different extent of course, some moderation in growth or some loss of momentum." Draghi said that policy makers didn't focus on volatility in the currency. The euro gained as much as 0.4 percent against the U.S. dollar and traded at \$1.2182 at 3:50 p.m. in Frankfurt. The comments "should put a floor below the euro," Credit Agricole analyst Manuel Oliveri said. The ECB confirmed expectations by leaving policy unchanged earlier on Thursday, keeping to its commitment to bond-buying at a monthly 30 billion euros (\$37 billion) until at least September, with rates on hold "well past" then. The central bank's quest to restore sustainable inflation of just under 2 percent has been complicated by data suggesting that the euro area's strongest growth in a decade may be faltering.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-04-26/draghi-recognizes-weaker-momentum-as-ecb-affirms-solid-outlook>

**PLATINUM PORTFOLIO**

Platinum Portfolio Yield Measures as at March 26, 2018	
	Percentage (%)
Yield to Maturity	5.65
Weighted Average Coupon	5.463
Current Yield	5.49

The platinum portfolio has an effective maturity of 15.12years and duration of 5.73years.

**STRUCTURED PRODUCT**

**Mayberry Managed Equity Portfolio (MMEP)**

We offer a managed equity portfolio for both institutions and individuals. The MMEP is a full discretionary managed portfolio of a diversified group of stocks. The stocks included in the portfolio represent Mayberry's top recommended stocks. Persons who find it difficult to manage their equity portfolios on a day to day basis should consider the MMEP. Further, the MMEP is for individuals and institutions who would like to pursue a medium to long term equity strategy.

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**MIL Ratings System:**

**BUY:** We believe the stock is attractively valued. The company has sound or improving fundamentals that should allow it to outperform the broader market. We anticipate the stock will outperform the market over the next 12 months. The risk factors to achieving price targets are minimal.

**HOLD:** We believe the stock is fairly valued at the current price. The company may have issues affecting fundamentals that could take some time to resolve. Alternatively, company fundamentals may be sound, but this is fully reflected in the current stock price. The risk factors to achieving price targets are moderate. Some volatility is expected. In addition, technically it may be difficult to attain additional volume of the stock(s) at current price.

**SELL:** We believe the stock is overpriced relative to the soundness of the company's fundamentals and long-term prospects.

**SPECULATIVE BUY:** We believe the prospects for capital appreciation exist, however there is some level of uncertainty in revenue growth.

Source: [www.jamstockex.com](http://www.jamstockex.com), [www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com), [www.investopedia.com](http://www.investopedia.com), [www.tradewire.com](http://www.tradewire.com)

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 = POSITIVE TRANSFORMATION FOR OUR CLIENTS  
 MANAGED FUND SOLUTIONS • CURRENCY SOLUTIONS • GLOBAL INVESTING SOLUTIONS • RETIREMENT PLANNING SOLUTIONS

**...BULLISH ON JAMAICA**

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