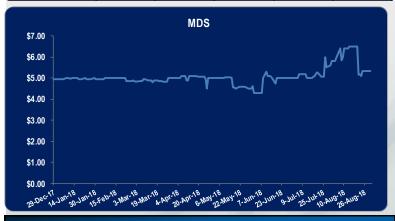
# DAILY RECOMMENDATION



## LOCAL STOCK MARKET: (J\$) +

Stock Symbol	JAMT	ECL	MDS	KLE	LASF
Current Price (\$)	4.02	8.35	6.67	3.30	5.80
Trailing EPS (\$)	0.26	0.24	0.43	0.05	0.23
P/E (times)	15.66	35.05	15.52	66.15	25.48
Projected P/E	12.96	28.64	15.03	58.36	21.53
Projected EPS (\$)*	0.31	0.29	0.44	0.06	0.27
Book Value per share (\$)	1.62	0.34	2.63	1.43	1.16
Price/Book Value (times)	2.48	24.56	2.54	2.31	4.99
Dividend Yield (2018 %)	0.75%	6.04%	1.56%	N/A	N/A
Volumes	33,821	13,125	32,868	1,400	22,192
Recommendation	BUY	HOLD	HOLD	SELL	HOLD



## ■ STOCK OF THE DAY: Medical Disposables & Supplies (MDS)

#### For the three months ended June 30, 2018:

Revenue amounted to \$541.11 million, an increase of 13% compared to the \$480.59 million booked in 2017. This according to Management, "reflected continued growth in sales. This performance was mainly attributable to growth in the consumer business segment and prices increases."

Cost of Sales increased \$46.25 million to total \$424.33 million relative to \$378.09 million in 2017, a 12% increase. As a result, Gross Profit grew by 14% or \$14.28 million to total \$116.78 million in 2018 compared to \$102.50 million in 2017.

Total Operating Cost rose 7% to close at \$86.71 million (2017: \$81.03 million). Of this total, Selling and Promotional costs slid 2% to \$32.25 million relative to \$33.02 million in 2017. Administrative Expenses went up by 17% to close the three month period at \$48.64 million (2017: \$41.42 million). MDS recorded Other Operating Expenses of \$689,248 for the first quarter of 2017 relative to an income of \$284,831 for the comparable period of 2018. Depreciation increased by 4% to close the quarter at \$6.11 million (2017: \$5.91 million). Management noted the increase in expenses were mainly due to a growth in business activities and staff complement in the warehouse and sales department and infrastructural improvements. MDS also indicated, "General insurance increased by \$0.8M or 47% consistent with the increased levels of inventories and other assets."

As a result, Operating Profit closed the first quarter at \$31.43 million relative to \$22.55 million in 2017, this represents a 39% increase. MDS reported Loss on Foreign Exchange of \$4.20 million versus a gain of \$1.18 million twelve months earlier. This according to MDS was due mainly to, "the devaluation of the Jamaican Dollar in relation to the United States currency."

Pre-tax profit totalled \$19.21 million, up from the \$15.69 million booked for the corresponding quarter of 2017, a 22% increase. Profit for the quarter amounted to \$19.21 million relative to \$15.66 million booked for the first three months of 2017 after taxation of \$30,000 relative to nil for the first quarter of 2018.

Earnings per Share for the first quarter amounted \$0.07 (2017: \$0.06). The trailing earnings per share amounted to \$0.43. The number of shares used in the calculation was 263,157,895. MDS stock price closed the trading period on August 03, 2018 at \$5.80.

## FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKET TRADING SUMMARY

PURCHASE RATE				SALES RATE		
	Highest	Lowest	Weighted Average	Highest	Lowest	Weighted Average
			Rate			Rate
USD	138.500	100.000	135.4918	146.810	100.000	137.5518
CAN	108.500	75.520	101.4104	120.840	100.700	106.6520
GBP	180.000	152.770	171.7136	202.010	169.200	177.6847
EURO	163.320	114.370	151.6175	183.000	152.000	161.7501

\*Rates as at August 30, 2018

### MONEY MARKET

The Jamaican dollar fixed income market was liquid in today's (August 31, 2018) trading session. The over night rate stood at 0.85% while the 30-day rate ranged between 1.30% and 1.60%.

The US dollar fixed income market was also liquid during today's (August 31, 2018) trading session; The overnight market rates were quoted at 1.20% while the 30-day market rates stood at 1.50% to 1.70%.

### OVER THE COUNTER FUNDS (CI FUNDS)

## CI American Managers 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 believed to have good growth potential. These companies are located in countries that have signed the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), or its successor. These countries currently include the United States, Canada and Mexico, but may also include countries that become members of NAFTA in the future The fund has a 3 year return of 6.6% and a 5 year return of 12.4% as at July 31, 2018. The Fund also has a 10 year return of 9.2%.



#### U.S.: Trump Makes Clear EU Won't Escape His Ire Over Trade for Long

The EU's Jean-Claude Juncker left Washington in late July with a Rose Garden truce -- a handshake trade agreement he had good reason to believe would spare the continent from President Donald Trump's wrath. It didn't last. In a Bloomberg interview on Thursday the U.S. president spoke of the European Union as if it's likely to be his next target. "Almost as bad as China, just smaller," he declared. Trump's remarks cast doubt on the longevity of his agreement with Juncker, intended to stave off a broader trade war between the U.S. and Europe after the president-imposed tariffs on imported steel and aluminium earlier this year. The trans-Atlantic dispute has rattled markets and shaken the international order created after World War II. They also illustrate why Trump is still seen as a fickle dealmaker internationally and raise questions about his ability to ever negotiate with China, or whether a deal with Canada and Mexico to revise NAFTA that appears close will endure.

https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-08-31/trump-makes-clear-eu-won-t-escape-his-ire-over-trade-for-long?srnd=economics-vp

## PLATINUM PORTFOLIO

Platinum Portiolio Yield Measures as at August 27, 2018				
	Percentage (%)			
Yield to Maturity	5.77			
Weighted Average Coupon	5.548			
Current Yield	4.35			

The platinum portfolio has an effective maturity of 13.32 years and duration of 4.45 years.

#### Asia: India's World-Beating Growth Not Enough to End Jobs Drought

The world's fastest growing major economy isn't growing nearly fast enough. That may seem like an absurd description for India, an economy the International Monetary Fund expects to expand 7.3 percent in the fiscal year through March 2019 and 7.5 percent in the next. Yet the reality is that even at its current pace, India is having trouble creating enough new jobs for its massive workforce or enough wealth to broaden its middle class. With its demographic tailwind and massive developmental needs, Asia's third-biggest economy should be growing at double-digit rates. Holding India back are glacial economic reforms, a fragile banking sector, rigid labor laws and a spotty educational system that imparts limited skills to the 12 million young people who enter the job market each year. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is trying to address these challenges.

https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-08-30/india-s-world-beating-growth-not-enough-to-end-deep-jobs-drought

### ■ STRUCTURED PRODUCT

## **Mayberry Platinum**

The Mayberry Platinum portfolio is ideal for investors seeking a short to medium-term investment with returns denominated in hard currency. The portfolio comprises Investment Grade corporate and sovereign bonds, which provide strong yield and performance. The primary objective of this product is to provide our clients with income as well as capital appreciation. The Platinum portfolio enables the client to take full advantage of a diversified bond portfolio and is ideal for persons who do not have the time to actively manage their own portfolio.

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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, www.bloomberg.com, www.investopedia.com, www.tradewire.com



