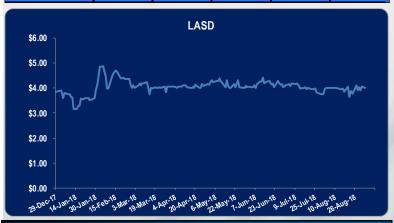
# DAILY RECOMMENDATION



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

Stock Symbol	WISYNCO	BPOW	LASD	KEX	GENAC
Current Price (\$)	9.11	4.99	4.00	12.60	4.30
Trailing EPS (\$)	0.61	0.18	0.30	0.36	0.30
P/E (times)	14.90	27.58	13.43	35.48	14.38
Projected P/E	14.65	22.59	15.96	33.24	17.31
Projected EPS (\$)*	0.62	0.22	0.25	0.38	0.25
Book Value per share (\$)	2.32	1.35	1.38	1.25	1.96
Price/Book Value (times)	3.93	3.70	2.91	10.06	2.19
Dividend Yield (2018 %)	0.69%	3.81%	2.93%	0.56%	N/A
Volumes	46,051	87,428	34,918	NIL	12,100
Recommendation	BUY	SELL	HOLD	SELL	HOLD



### STOCK OF THE DAY: Lasco Distributors Limited (LASD)

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

Lasco Distributors Limited (LASD) for the three months ended June 30, 2018 posted a 4% growth in revenues to \$4.28 billion, up from \$4.13 billion in the corresponding period in 2017. Cost of sales amounted to \$3.41 billion relative to the \$3.31 billion posted for the prior year.

Gross profit also recorded an increase for the quarter, up by 6%, closing at \$871.44 million compared to the \$821.06 million reported the same period for the prior quarter. This represented an increase of \$50.39 million.

Other operating income jumped 132%, to end the quarter at \$42.70 million compared to the \$18.43 million in the corresponding quarter last year. Operating Expenses grew by 6.% to end the period at \$660.40 million (2017: \$622.41 million).

Operating Profit improved 17% to close at \$253.74 million relative to \$217.08 million for the comparable period of 2017. Finance costs increased 23%, totaling \$172,000 for the period compared to \$140,000 in the year prior.

Pre-tax profits totaled \$253.57 million, an increase of 17% from the \$216.94 million for the prior year. Net Profit for the quarter saw a 19% increase closing at \$233.64 million (2017: \$196.86 million), after tax charges of \$19.93 million (2017: \$20.08 million).

Earnings per share for the three months ended June 2018 totaled \$0.07 (2017: \$0.06). The trailing EPS amounted to \$0.03. The number of shares utilized in our calculations amounted to 3,490,794,739 units. Notably, LASD's stock price closed the trading period on July 19, 2018, at a price of \$4.00.

## FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKET TRADING SUMMARY

	PURCHASE RATE			SALES RATE		
		Weighted				Weighted
	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average
			Rate			Rate
USD	144.100	100.000	135.6755	146.810	100.000	137.0137
CAN	105.750	74.620	104.9716	120.840	95.000	105.5891
GBP	179.000	152.150	173.4577	205.440	165.000	177.5276
EURO	156.204	113.620	152.7551	183.840	151.000	155.7407

\*Rates as at August 31, 2018

### MONEY MARKET

The Jamaican dollar fixed income market was liquid in today's (September 03, 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 (September 03, 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 Small Companies Fund

This fund's objective is to seek above-average capital growth. It invests primarily in equity and equity-related securities of small to mid-capitalization North American companies. The fund has a 3 year return of 6.3% and a 5 year return of 12.7% as at July 31, 2018. The Fund also has a 10 year return of 10.5%.



#### U.S.: SocGen Edges Closer to Settling U.S. Sanctions Investigation

"Societe Generale SA said that it expects to settle U.S. investigations into alleged sanctions violations "within the coming weeks," and that the final penalty will probably be broadly in line with its estimates. "Societe Generale has entered into a phase of more active discussions" with the authorities investigating past dollar transactions involving countries under U.S. sanctions, the French lender said in a statement on Monday. "At this stage, Societe Generale expects that the amount of the penalties in the U.S. sanctions matter will be almost entirely covered by the provision for disputes." SocGen had already set aside around 1.2 billion euros (\$1.4 billion) to settle an investigation that has involved the U.S. Treasury, federal and New York state attorneys' offices, the Federal Reserve and the New York Department of Financial Services. Ending the probe is a key step for Chief Executive Officer Frederic Oudea. It will enable him to concentrate on his goals of improving profitability, selling noncore assets and sustaining growth in the group's dividend. With the announcement, SocGen appears likely to pay much less than the \$9 billion that larger rival BNP Paribas SA paid four years ago, after pleading guilty to charges about forbidden transactions involving Iran, Cuba and Sudan."

 $\frac{https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-09-03/socgen-edges-closer-to-settling-u-s-sanctions-investigation?srnd=premium$ 

#### PLATINUM PORTFOLIO

Platinum Portfolio Yield Measures as at September 03, 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.

#### Europe: U.K. Manufacturing Growth Slows to 2-Year Low as Exports Falter

"U.K. manufacturing growth unexpectedly slowed to the weakest in two years last month as export orders contracted amid a weakening of the global economy. IHS Markit's Purchasing Managers' Index fell to 52.8 in August, the firm said Monday, down from 53.8 a month earlier, and below the 53.9 forecast by economists. A gauge of new orders for exports fell below the 50 level that indicates expansion for the first time since April 2016. The pound fell after the report and traded down 0.7 percent at \$1.2873 as of 11:16 a.m. in London. Markit's report also showed manufacturing production rose at the slowest pace in 17 months, while both input and output prices increased, with companies reporting higher costs of metals, electronic components and energy which were passed onto clients. Optimism among firms slumped to a 22-month low, with some citing ongoing uncertainty about Brexit and the exchange rate. The U.K.'s decision to leave the EU has already cost Britain more than 2 percent of economic output, according to a separate report published Monday by UBS Group AG. Investment is around 4 percent weaker because of the vote, the analysis showed."

 $\label{lem:https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-09-03/u-k-manufacturing-growth-slows-two-year-low-as-exports-falter?srnd=economics-vp$ 

#### ■ 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, www.bloomberg.com, www.investopedia.com, www.tradewire.com



