JULY 8, 2019 AYBERR INVESTMENTS LIMITED DAILY RECOMMENDATION



LOCAL STOCK MARKET: (J\$)

Stock Symbol	VMIL	LASD	SEP	JSE	JP
Current Price (\$)	4.79	3.44	47.24	29.53	29.86
Trailing EPS (\$)	0.29	0.17	1.63	0.62	0.80
P/E (times)	16.45	20.18	28.90	47.57	37.46
Projected P/E	14.54	18.35	19.26	41.65	34.65
Projected EPS (\$)*	0.33	0.19	2.45	0.71	0.86
Book Value per share (\$)	2.24	1.48	20.48	1.54	11.54
Price/Book Value (times)	2.14	2.33	2.31	19.23	2.59
Dividend Yield (2018 %)	4.32%	3.03%	3.17%	4.28%	0.72%
Volumes	85,580	9,840	18,004	15,044	2,300
Recommendation	BUY	HOLD	HOLD	SELL	SELL



STOCK OF THE DAY: Lasco Distributors Limited (LASD)

for the year ended March 31, 2019: -

Lasco Distributors Limited (LASD) posted 11% growth in revenue to \$18.13 billion, up from \$16.27 billion in the corresponding period in 2018. For the quarter, revenue increased by 19% closing at \$4.80 billion (2018: \$4.03 billion).

Cost of sales amounted to \$14.58 billion, up 11% on the \$13.10 billion reported in the prior comparable period. Within the fourth quarter, cost of sales went up 19% to \$3.88 billion versus \$3.25 billion in the previous quarter in 2018.

Consequently, gross profit recorded an increase of 12% year over year, closing at \$3.55 billion compared to the \$3.17 billion generated for the same period in the prior year. However, gross profit for the quarter climbed 18% totalling \$922.61 million (2018: \$779.28 million).

Other operating income fell by 66% to end the year end at \$136.01 million relative to \$395.41 million in the corresponding period last year. For the quarter, other operating loss closed at \$37.31 million versus other operating income of \$326 million in the same quarter last year.

Operating expenses of \$2.98 billion were booked for the year end, a growth of 20% on \$2.49 billion recorded for the comparable period of 2018. Of this: Administrative cost went up 15% to close at \$2.20 billion (2018: \$1.92 billion). Selling and promotional cost closed at \$775.77 million (2018: \$568.17 million). Operating profit fell by 35% to close at \$705.86 million for the period under review. For the quarter, there was a decline to \$37.47 million relative to \$493.77 million recorded in the prior comparable quarter in 2018.

Finance cost totalled \$13.92 million (2018: \$524,000), while for the quarter, finance costs closed at \$13.44 million (2018: \$170,000). Pre-tax profit amounted to \$691.94 million, a 36% decrease from the \$1.08 billion reported in the previous year. For the quarter, Pre-tax profit saw a decline to \$24.02 million (2018: \$493.60 million). Net profit for the period closed at \$597.78 million (2018: \$1 billion), a 40% decline year over year following taxation of \$94.16 million (2018: \$75.49 million). As for the quarter, net loss amounted to \$23.07 versus net profit of \$468.66 million reported in the previous corresponding quarter.

Earnings per share for the year ended March 2019, totalled \$0.17 versus \$0.29 for the corresponding period in 2018. For the quarter, loss per share amounted to \$0.01 (2018: \$0.13). The total amount of shares outstanding used for this calculation was 3,507,259,835 units.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKET TRADING SUMMARY

	PURCHASE RATE				SALES RATE		
	Highest	Lowest	Weighted Average Rate	Highest	Lowest	Weighted Average Rate	
USD	136.000	102.396	132.0863	151.963	102.235	133.4359	
CAN	103.200	78.884	102.1952	113.256	78.392	102.5554	
GBP	167.700	130.857	161.2265	187.620	156.000	165.8887	
EURO	147.000	111.720	143.5384	171.360	141.800	150.3659	

*Rates as at July 5, 2019

MONEY MARKET

The Jamaican dollar fixed income market was liquid in today's (July 8, 2019) trading session. The over night rate stood at 0.50% to 0.90% while the 30-day rate ranged at 1.50% to 1.80%.

The US dollar fixed income market was also liquid during today's (July 8, 2019) trading session; The overnight market rates were quoted at 2.00% to 2.20% while the 30-day market rates stood at 2.40% to 2.70%.

OVER THE COUNTER FUNDS (CI FUNDS)

CI American Managers Corporate Class

This fund invests primarily in equity and equity-related securities of companies that are located in countries that have signed the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) (or its successor).

The fund has a 3 year return of 6.2% and a 5 year return of 3.2%. The Fund also has a 10 year return of 9.1%. Rates are as at May 31, 2019.



U.S.: The Trump Tariff Twist That Has Cost U.S. Steel \$5.6 Billion

"President Donald Trump's tariffs on foreign steel have sped the decline of some of the U.S. mills he vowed to help. Exuberance over the levies dramatically boosted U.S. output just as the global economy was cooling, undercutting demand. That dropped prices, creating a stark divide between companies like Nucor Corp., that use cheaper-to-run electric-arc furnaces to recycle scrap into steel products, and those including U.S. Steel Corp., with more costly legacy blast furnaces. Since Trump announced the tariffs 16 months ago, U.S. Steel has lost almost 70% of its market value, or \$5.5 billion, and idled two American furnaces in mid-June that couldn't be run profitably at the lowest prices since 2016. Meanwhile, Nucor, down around 20%, has touted \$2.5 billion in expansion projects. The president's actions likely "sped up" up an unavoidable "evolution," said Nucor Chief Executive Officer John Ferriola in an interview last month. "Are some companies are going to suffer? Absolutely. We'll we see some capacity go away, I'm sure of it."

https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-07-07/the-trump-tariff-twist_that-s-cost-u-s-steel-5-5-billion?srnd=economics-vp

Europe: ECB Officials Ready to Add Stimulus But Won't Say When or How

"European Central Bank policy makers reiterated their readiness to add monetary stimulus for the euro zone, but signaled they're not yet united on when or how to act. Executive Board member Benoit Coeure said in remarks broadcast Monday that loose policy is needed now "more than ever" and interest-rate cuts and quantitative easing are both on the table. Bank of France Governor Francois Villeroy de Galhau said the ECB has the "determination" to act but noted mixed readings on the economy and suggested there's no need to rush into a decision this month. "We have several Governing Councils to come in the next months," Villeroy said in a CNBC interview. "If and when needed, there must be no doubt about our determination to act and our capacity to act. I repeat, if and when needed." Economic reports on Monday showed how there are silver linings amid the euro zone's slowdown, as German industrial production saw a slight pick-up in May. At the same time, the Bank of France cut its growth estimate for the second quarter and said confidence among manufacturing executives has dropped to its lowest level in six years."

https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-07-08/ecb-officials-ready-to-add-stimulus-but-won-t-say-when-or-how?srnd=economics-vp

PLATINUM PORTFOLIO

Platinum Portfolio Yield Measures as at July 8, 2019				
	Percentage (%)			
Yield to Maturity	5.63			
Weighted Average Coupon	5.514			
Current Yield	5.1			

The platinum portfolio has an effective maturity of 13.24 years and duration of 4.73 years.

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 pro-vide 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 per-sons who do not have the time to actively manage their own portfolio.

DISCLAIMER

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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.



INVESTMENTS LIMITED

A Member of the Jamaica Stock Exchange

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