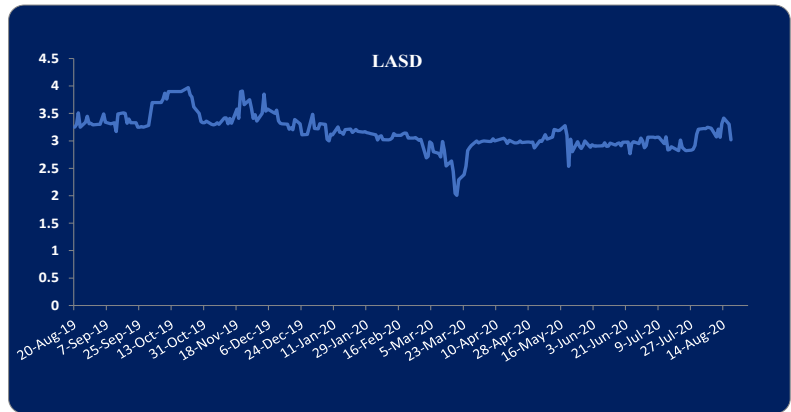




## LOCAL STOCK MARKET: (JS) +

Stock Symbol	WIG	ISP	LASD*	CAR	SEP
Current Price (\$)	0.80	14.59	3.03	6.48	55.21
Trailing EPS (\$)	0.05	0.23	0.23	0.68	2.21
P/E (times)	14.74	62.54	12.96	9.50	24.98
Projected P/E	13.82	55.65	10.66	10.38	17.73
Projected EPS (\$)*	0.06	0.26	0.28	0.62	3.11
Book Value per share (\$)	0.34	3.56	1.65	0.30	22.18
Price/Book Value (times)	2.34	4.10	1.83	21.65	2.49
Dividend Yield (2019 %)	N/A	N/A	1.11%	7.07%	1.67%
Volumes	7,056,498	NIL	39,926	130,844	15,713
Recommendation	BUY	SELL	HOLD	BUY	BUY

\*-Long Term Buy



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

**For the three months ended June 30, 2020:**

Lasco Distributors Limited (LASD), for the three months ended June 30, 2020, posted an 8% increase in revenue to \$4.70 billion, up from \$4.34 billion booked in the corresponding period in 2019. Cost of sales amounted to \$3.81 billion, up 10% on the \$3.47 billion reported in the prior comparable period. Consequently, gross profit recorded a 4% increase year over year, closing at \$896.24 million compared to the \$864.70 million generated for the same period in the prior year.

Other operating income rose by 39% to end the three months closing at \$73.14 million relative to \$52.66 million in the corresponding period last year.

Operating expenses of \$650.84 million were booked for the period, a 10% decline from \$724.63 million recorded for the comparable period of 2019.

Operating profit increased by 65% to close at \$318.53 million for the period under review (2019: \$192.76 million) while Finance cost totalled \$1.50 million (2019: \$5.66 million).

Pre-tax profit amounted to \$317.03 million, a 69% increase from the \$187.07 million reported in the previous year.

Net profit for the period closed at \$258.02 million (2019: \$163.91 million), a 57% increase year over year following taxation of \$59.01 million (2019: \$23.16 million). Additionally, total comprehensive income for the period amounted to \$271.36 million relative to \$171.01 million booked last year same time.

Earnings per share for the three months ended June 2020, totalled \$0.07 versus \$0.05 for the corresponding period in 2019. The trailing twelve months EPS is \$0.23. The total amount of shares outstanding used for this calculation was 3,508,293,292 units. Notably, LASD's closed the trading period on July 28, 2020, at \$2.92.

\*Prices are as at August 31, 2020 \*Projections are made to the company's financial year end

## FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKET TRADING SUMMARY

Currency	PURCHASE RATE			SALES RATE		
	Highest	Lowest	Weighted Average Rate	Highest	Lowest	Weighted Average Rate
USD	150.300	118.463	148.3155	157.950	136.000	149.5907
CAN	115.800	92.771	110.7964	118.152	102.000	115.2502
GBP	198.500	160.000	192.9779	205.500	180.000	196.9110
EURO	173.000	140.000	170.6822	181.300	141.000	179.8655

\*Rates as at August 28, 2020

## MONEY MARKET

The Jamaican dollar fixed income market was liquid in today's (August 31, 2020) trading session. The overnight rate stood at 0.30% to 0.50%, while the 30-day rate was 1.10% to 1.30%.

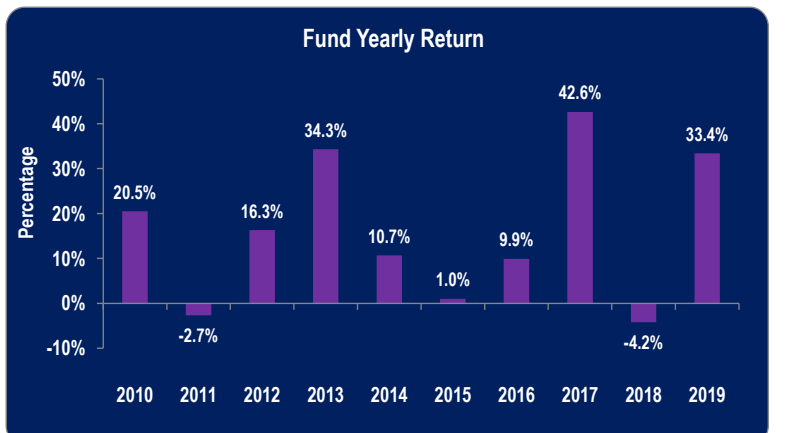
The US dollar fixed income market was also liquid during today's (August 31, 2020) trading session; The overnight market rates were quoted at 1.50% while the 30-day market rates stood at 1.70% to 1.90%.

## Over The Counter Funds (CI FUNDS)

**Signature Global Science & Technology Corporate Class**

This fund invests primarily in equity and equity-related securities of companies around the world that have developed or are developing technological products, processes or services.

The fund has a 3 year return of 23.1% and a 5 year return of 20.2%. The Fund also has a 10 year return of 18.3%. Rates are as at July 31, 2020.



“There isn’t any urgency for the Federal Reserve to offer more clarity on how long it will hold interest rates near zero at the moment because investors already understand the central bank won’t be tightening for a while, Minneapolis Fed President Neel Kashkari said. “Market expectations are that rates will be low for a long period of time, and so I don’t feel like there’s a burning pressure that we need to change our forward guidance today to change market expectations,” Kashkari said during an interview on the Bloomberg Odd Lots podcast with Joe Weisenthal and Tracy Alloway, recorded on Aug. 26 and published Monday.”

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-08-31/kashkari-says-there-s-no-urgency-for-fed-to-update-rate-guidance?srnd=economics-vp>

“Chinese economic activity continued to rebound in August, with a gauge of the services industry at the strongest level since early 2018 while the expansion in manufacturing activity slowed slightly. The non-manufacturing gauge rose to 55.2 from July’s 54.2, the National Bureau of Statistics said Monday. The official manufacturing purchasing managers’ index moderated to 51 from 51.1 a month earlier. A reading above 50 indicates conditions improved from a month earlier.”

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-08-31/china-factory-outlook-slips-in-august-amid-slow-recovery?srnd=economics-vp>

**PLATINUM PORTFOLIO**

**Platinum Portfolio Yield Measures as at August 31, 2020**

	Percentage (%)
<b>Yield to Maturity</b>	4.66
<b>Weighted Average Coupon</b>	4.924
<b>Current Yield</b>	5.09

The platinum portfolio has an effective maturity of 13.20 years and duration of 4.75 years.

**STRUCTURED PRODUCT**

**Mayberry Individual Retirement Plan (IRP)**

IRP is a Retirement Scheme for all persons who are self employed or are employed in non-pensionable positions and do not otherwise contribute to an approved Superannuation Fund or an-other approved Retirement Scheme. The IRP will help some people make substantially greater contributions then they might otherwise do.

**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.

Source: www.jamstockex.com, www.bloomberg.com, www.investopedia.com, www.tradewire.com



www.mayberryinv.com

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