



ECL

EXPRESS CATERING LIMITED (ECL);

Opening price— \$3.30;

Price to book— 4.23 times;

P/E— 12.01 times

Week to Date: -2.77%



Month to Date: 2.01%



Quarter to Date: 2.01%



Year to Date: -17.45%



Our weekly pick features a stock currently held in the Mayberry Managed Equity Portfolio (MMEP). For more information on the MMEP, please contact your investment advisor today.

Express Catering Limited, established in 2001 and headquartered in Montego Bay, Jamaica, specializes in operating branded sports bars and restaurants at Sangster International Airport. As a subsidiary of Margaritaville St. Lucia, the company has carved out a niche in providing high-quality dining experiences for travelers. With a dedicated team of 294 employees, Express Catering Limited continues to enhance its offerings, contributing significantly to the hospitality industry in Jamaica.

Express Catering Limited (ECL) has shown a promising 21% increase in Revenue, reaching a total of \$25.59 million for the year ended May 31, 2024, compared to \$21.20 million in the corresponding period last year. The fourth quarter also saw a 14% increase, closing at \$6.92 million, compared to \$6.05 million for the comparable quarter of 2023. Express Catering Limited (ECL) reported cost of sales, which amounted to \$8.47 million (2023: \$7.43 million), an increase of 14% year over year. This has led to a significant 24% increase in gross profit, reaching \$17.12 million compared to \$13.77 million for the year ended May 31, 2023. The company booked a gross profit of \$4.62 million for the fourth quarter versus \$3.88 million reported for the similar quarter of 2023. Depreciation and amortization increased by 16% to close at \$3.15 million (2023: \$2.71 million), while Administrative Expenses increased by 50% from \$5.88 million in 2023 to \$8.82 million in the period under review. As a result, total expenses for the year-end ended May 31, 2024, amounted to \$12.01 million, a 40% increase relative to the \$8.61 million reported in 2023. Operating Profit for the year-end ended May 31, 2024, amounted to \$5.11 million, a 1% decrease relative to the \$5.16 million reported in 2023. Operating Profit for the fourth quarter amounted to \$1.08 million (2023: \$1.56 million). Finance Costs totalled \$3.26 million, a 45% increase from last year's period. (2023: \$2.25 million). Profit before tax for the year ended May 31, 2024, decreased 38% to \$1.83 million (2023: \$2.94 million). Total comprehensive profit for the year amounted to \$1.41 million, a 48% decrease from the \$2.70 million reported in 2023. For the fourth quarter, total comprehensive loss was \$678,733 (2023: Profit of \$775,757).

ECL (as at Friday October 4, 2024) was trading at 4.23 times its book value with a P/E of 12.01 times.