

Bailador Technology Investments Ltd

Strong gains made in FY21, well set up for FY22

Bailador Technology Investments (ASX:BTI) is a listed investment company specialising in investing in early stage tech companies that have advanced through the start-up phase and are looking for expansion capital. BTI typically invests \$5m-\$10m in its investee companies, taking a minority position and board seat. BTI listed on the ASX in November 2014 after raising \$25m at \$1.00 a share to give a market capitalisation at listing of \$62.46m. At that time, BTI had three investee companies in the portfolio, SiteMinder, Standard Media Index, and Viocorp. The company has subsequently raised \$79.9m in additional capital from three equity raisings: in April 2016, \$38.4m from an options exercise; in November 2018 \$17.45m at \$1.03/share from a share placement and security purchase plan (SPP); and in April 2021, \$24m at \$1.37/share from a share placement and SPP. BTI has also had partial and full realisation events with in the portfolio. During the course of FY21, BTI fully realised the investment in three companies, DocsCorp, Lendi and Viostream, all at values above their carrying value, and merged Stackla with an international peer, Nosto. There are currently eight investee companies in the group: SiteMinder, Instaclustr, SMI, Rezdy, InstantScripts, Brosa, Nosto, and Straker Translations (ASX:STG) with two, SiteMinder and Instaclustr potentially coming to IPO during the course of FY22.

Business model

BTI is a listed investment firm specialising in investments in expansion capital in unlisted companies that have advanced through the start-up phase. Typically BTI invests \$5m-\$10m for a minority stake and takes a board position on the investee company. BTI generates returns for investors through the portfolio value increasing as the investee companies mature and, at the appropriate time, are sold, merged or listed, delivering a realisation event for investors. In FY21, the portfolio delivered an 89% return to shareholders.

Significant uplift in portfolio value in FY21, FY22 a pivotal year

BTI gained \$52m on its portfolio value in FY21 and grew NTA per share, pre-tax, by 23.4% to \$1.53. BTI also announced a special dividend of 1.4cps. The group had three cash realisation events in FY21, DocsCorp, Lendi and Viostream, which it exited with a respective carrying value uplift of 53%, 21% and \$1.1m. The group also participated in two follow-on investment events in FY21: a \$3.8m convertible note in Instaclustr and \$5.2m invested via Straker's \$25m equity raising in June. Bailador expects FY22 to be a significant year for new investments and profitable realisations. With eight companies now in the portfolio and the prospect of potentially two realisation events with slated IPOs for Instaclustr and Siteminder, the group is aiming to maintain its portfolio size at 8-12 investments. The group kicked off its investment drive in July 2021, with a \$5.5m investment in digital health platform InstantScripts.

Look to UK listed investment companies for peers

There are few listed companies in Australia that are comparable to BTI. The closest two are CVC Ltd (ASX:CVC) which does have some venture capital investments alongside its property finance and development and funds management arms, and Pacific Current Group (ASX:PAC) which invests in multiple boutique asset managers. In our view, BTI is more comparable to UK investment companies such as TMT Investments (LON:TMT), Augmentum Fintech (LON:AUGM), and Chrystalis Investments (LON:CHRY), which all trade at a premium to NTA.

Historica	l earnings	and	ratios

Year end	Gain/(loss) on Portfolio (A\$m)	Portfolio Value (A\$m)	NTA pre- tax (A\$)	NTA post-tax	NPAT (A\$M)	EPS (c)	PER (x)	Share price discount to NTA
06/18a	8.4	148.0	1.110	1.065	3.65	3.04	24.3	31%
06/19a	32.0	178.4	1.313	1.207	17.05	14.18	7.4	13%
06/20a	(1.6)	140.7	1.235	1.146	(4.12)	(3.41)	na	38%
06//21a	52.0	192.0	1.529	1.367	27.58	22.00	6.0	3%

Source: Company data, RaaS analysis

Listed Investment Companies

10th September 2021





- Delivering investment exposure to high growth mostly unlisted tech opportunities
- Outperformed ASX's tech index by 49% in FY21
- Strong track record of generating returns

Downside Case

- Unlisted nature of its investments makes it difficult to compare with other Australian LICs
- Australian investors have traded BTI below
- LIC market overcrowded

Catalysts/upcoming events

Realisation events in SiteMinder/Instaclustr IPOs Adding new investee companies during FY22

Comparable companies (Aust/NZ)

CVC Ltd (ASX:CVC), Pacific Current Group (ASX:PAC)

Top 5 shareholders*

Washington H Soul Pattinson	17.23%
David Kirk	6.94%
Paul Wilson	3.13%
Paul Lewis	1.42%
DDH Graham	1.42%
*Source: Refinitiv Fikon	

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