

Wutherich & Co. March 2017 Newsletter

Wil Wutherich, President, B.Sc., MBA: Over twenty-four years as an equity analyst and portfolio manager with Standard Life, Van Berkom & Associates and Wutherich & Co.

Monthly Message

The Wutherich & Co. Composite was up 3.2% in March. This compares with the S&P/TSX up 1.3%, the BMO Small Cap Index up 1.1%, S&P 500 (US\$) up 0.1%, the DJIA (US\$) down 0.6%, while the NASDAQ (US\$) was up 1.5%.

The Trump Bump, Trump Slump, Trump ?. How many alliterations can we come up with and do they matter? As long as it's not Trump Dump, I suppose we are okay. Other than being entertained by Trump related news, we pay very little attention to the antics in Washington.

What we are interested in are the fates of interesting companies. To wit, we have re-introduced an old name to the portfolio and let another one go. Goeasy (the erstwhile Easyhome) was introduced to the portfolio in February. The company is transforming itself from a rent-to-own supplier of furniture, electronics and appliances to a consumer loan provider. Using the cash flow from their legacy business, they are rapidly expanding their loan business to achieve overall growth rates of 25% in EPS for the next several years.

In February, we said good-bye to the longest tenured name in our portfolio, Hibbett Sports, which we have owned for more than 15 years. The unrelenting pressure of the likes of Amazon and Hibbett's slow response to the changing retail landscape had us fold our hand on this one. That being said, it is still an excellent company and we will monitor it closely for some time to come.

The following table illustrates the performance of the Wutherich & Co. Composite to the present:

(Unaudited, since Sep.30/01)*

	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>1YR</u>	<u>3YR</u>	<u>5YR</u>	<u>10YR</u>	<u>15YR</u>	<u>INCEPTION</u>
<u>WUTHERICH & CO.</u>	3.2%	16.8%	-3.9%	5.5%	5.9%	9.6%	12.2%
<u>BMOSCI-WTD</u>	1.1%	29.9%	3.4%	4.3%	3.6%	7.7%	9.4%
<u>S&P/TSX</u>	1.3%	18.6%	5.8%	7.8%	4.7%	7.4%	8.2%

Please note that the Wutherich & Co. Composite is reported **AFTER FEES**.

Wutherich & Co. Factsheet

Company Objective

Our goal is to seek prosperity for our clients through participation in stable, growing companies in North America, led by strong management teams that we consider our partners for the next five or more years.

Investment Philosophy

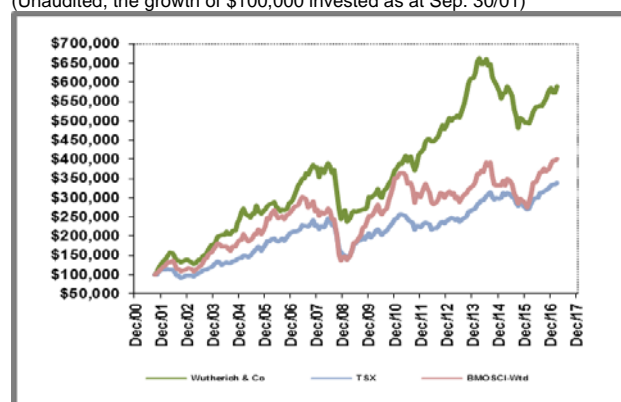
Our style can be described as concentrated, disciplined, long-term growth stock investing. The focus is on established companies that generally have a demonstrated track record in revenue, cash flow or earnings per share growth, with strong managements and solid balance sheets. The current emphasis in the portfolio is on the equity of small to medium capitalization companies, defined roughly as \$50 million to \$5 billion in market capitalization. The portfolio may include large capitalization companies if the right elements are there. Stocks are bought with a keen eye to valuation, so you're not likely to find many high multiple stocks here. The portfolio will likely maintain a significant percentage in foreign securities, providing exposure to investment returns outside of Canada.

Portfolio Composition

CANADIAN STOCKS	75.59%
• ENERGY	8.55%
• FINANCIALS	12.78%
• INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	14.32%
• COMMUNICATIONS	0%
• CONSUMER	0%
• HEALTHCARE	10.76%
• INDUSTRIALS	24.23%
• MATERIALS	0%
• TELECOM	0%
• UTILITIES	0%
• OTHER	4.95%
U.S. STOCKS	11.91%
• INDUSTRIALS	7.04%
• ENERGY	4.87%
CASH AND OTHERS	12.50%

Performance

(Unaudited, the growth of \$100,000 invested as at Sep. 30/01)*



Your account with us

Wutherich & Company is an independent investment counsellor. We do not hold assets for our clients, but simply exercise trades over your account as per an agreed upon investment policy statement and portfolio management agreement. Your account is held at [National Bank Correspondent Network](#) in your name. Withdrawals from that account can only be sent to you at your designated bank account and/or address of record. Wutherich & Co. may also do withdrawals from your account to satisfy any fees that may apply to your account. All accounts are cash accounts. Unlike hedge funds, we do not use leverage or derivatives to manage your money. Also, we are not a fund company – if you are a private investor with us, your account will mirror the Model Portfolio but your investments are not pooled.

Other Facts

- Annual fees are 1.5% of assets on a quarterly basis in arrears, plus applicable taxes
- Any commissions, custodial or brokerage fees are in addition to the annual fees
- Clients qualifying for an institutional account would be charged 1.5% for the first \$1 million, 1.0% from over \$1 to 10 million and 0.5% for the next \$40 million
- Fees on any accounts over \$50 million would be subject to negotiation
- Minimum account size is \$250,000
- Investments are 100% RSP eligible

*The Wutherich & Co. performance shown here (using the Time Weighted Rate of Return method) is of a composite which combines the performance of all of the accounts managed by Wutherich & Co. that have been invested according to the Wutherich & Co. Portfolio throughout their history. These accounts vary greatly in the size of assets that they contain and whether or not fees have been deducted directly from the accounts during their history. BMO S&P 500 = BMO Small Cap Index, Total Return, weighted. This index is currently the most comparable to the Wutherich & Co. portfolio due to its average market capitalization, though it may differ greatly in its sector weightings; TSX = S&P/TSX Total Return Index. Due to its large capitalization nature and substantially different sector weightings, this index may not be considered comparable to the Wutherich & Co. Portfolio.