

Wutherich & Co. May 2017 Newsletter

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

Monthly Message

The Wutherich & Co. Composite was down 3.0% in May. This compares with the S&P/TSX down 1.3%, the BMO Small Cap Index down 2.1%, S&P 500 (US\$) up 1.4%, the DJIA (US\$) up 0.7%, while the NASDAQ (US\$) was up 2.5%.

I was reminded of an interesting acronym this month: FOMO. It is short for Fear of Missing Out. I get a sense that portfolio managers are buying certain stocks because they feel they have to own them to chase market performance, rather than that they should own them based on fundamentals. In my nearly 25 year career, I have seen this happen a few times. The most famous example is the TMT (Technology, Media and Telecom) boom of the late 1990's. While many of the stocks that are being chased this time are no doubt excellent businesses, I don't believe they are the only stocks worthy of consideration. Furthermore, the intense focus on just a handful of names and sectors probably means that these are well priced. Situations like this often end in tears.

We tend to ignore what everyone else is focused on and buy individual names that we think present good value for their growth prospects. We know that we can be completely out of sync for long periods of time, but we are comfortable with this, believing that we develop better long-term rates of return this way. In the meantime, one thing that we have observed in the portfolio is that there are no small reactions. Stocks react violently to disappointing earnings or fanciful "short-seller reports" (STN and ZCL in the former category; BAD and CRH in the latter). Whenever this happens, we review the fundamentals and stick to our own convictions regarding the stock, be it buy or sell.

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>	-3.0%	6.1%	-4.2%	5.0%	5.0%	9.1%	11.7%
<u>BMOSCI-WTD</u>	-2.1%	12.5%	1.4%	5.7%	2.4%	7.1%	8.9%
<u>S&P/TSX</u>	-1.3%	12.3%	4.7%	9.1%	3.9%	7.5%	8.0%

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

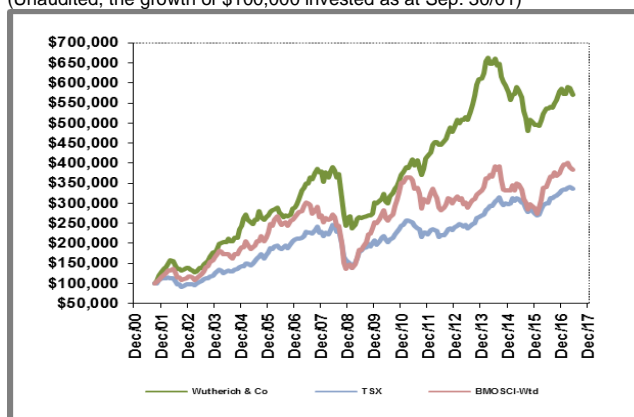
Our style can be described as concentrated, disciplined, long-term growth stock investing. The focus is on established companies that generally have a demonstrated track record in revenue, cash flow or earnings per share growth, with strong managements and solid balance sheets. The current emphasis in 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	64.75%
• ENERGY	9.99%
• FINANCIALS	14.66%
• INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	12.61%
• COMMUNICATIONS	0%
• CONSUMER	0%
• HEALTHCARE	7.91%
• INDUSTRIALS	14.27%
• MATERIALS	0%
• TELECOM	0%
• UTILITIES	0%
• OTHER	5.31%
U.S. STOCKS	12.73%
• INDUSTRIALS	8.22%
• ENERGY	4.51%
CASH AND OTHERS	22.52%

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 Wtd = 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.