# Spheria Emerging Companies Limited (ASX:SEC)

2021 Annual General Meeting

30 November 2021



# Agenda

- 1. Chairman's Address
- <sub>2</sub> Formal Business
- Investment Update
- 4 Questions







Company Overview

# The Company Spheria Emerging Companies Limited (ASX: SEC)

- SEC offers investors access to an actively managed Australian and New Zealand small cap equities portfolio
- IPO on the ASX on 5 December 2017.
   \$163 million of net assets as at 31
   October 2021<sup>1</sup>.

#### The Manager Spheria Asset Management Limited

- Believes free cash flow drives valuations in the medium to long term with risk assessment a critical overlay
- Identifies smaller companies where the future value of cash flows can be reasonably ascertained and the companies are assessed to be trading at a discount to their intrinsic value





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> based on pre-tax NTA as at 31 October 2021 of \$2.71

Investment Objectives

The Company's investment objectives are to:

- outperform the benchmark, the S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries Accumulation Index, over each full investment cycle (which the Manager considers to be a period of typically 3 to 5 years); and
- provide capital growth (over each investment cycle) and income.

The Company aims to generate total Shareholder return via a combination of capital growth and income, with the aim of regularly paying fully franked dividends to Shareholders.



Company Details

#### Manager

Spheria Asset Management

#### **Board of Directors**

- Jonathan Trollip (Chairman)
- Lorraine Berends
- Matt Booker
- Adrian Whittingham (retirement effective at the conclusion of this AGM)
- Alex Ihlenfeldt (Alternate) (cessation effective at the conclusion of this AGM)

| Shares <sup>1</sup>  |            |
|--|------------|
| Outstanding  | 60,150,633 |
| Price  | \$2.60     |
| Market capitalisation  | \$156.4m   |
| NTA <sup>2</sup>   |            |
| Pre-tax (Which includes tax provided for on realised gains)                        | \$2.713    |
| Post-tax (Which includes tax provided for on realised and unrealised gains/losses) | \$2.574    |



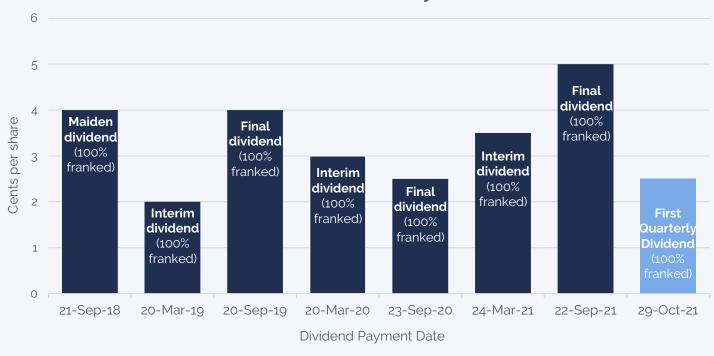
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As at 31 October 2021

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As at 31 October 2021, excluding deferred tax assets relating to capitalised issue cost related balances and income tax losses.

#### Dividends

- FY21 annual dividend of 8.5 cents is an increase of 55% on the FY20 annual dividend of 5.5 cents, in recognition of the strong profit for the year.
- New target dividend yield of 4% of NTA p.a.
   (5.4% including franking), paid quarterly, for FY22.
- First quarterly dividend of 2.5 cents paid on 29
   October 2021
- Total dividends since IPO of 26.5 cents per share
- Dividend Reinvestment Plan (DRP) expected to commence for March 2022 dividend

#### **Dividend History**



Source: Spheria Emerging Companies.



#### Performance

#### **Company Performance<sup>1</sup>**

• 12.6% annualised from inception to 31 October 2021

|                        | 6 months | 1 year | 3 years p.a. | Inception<br>p.a. |
|------------------------|----------|--------|--------------|-------------------|
| Company                | 13.6%    | 45.9%  | 15.9%        | 12.6%             |
| Benchmark <sup>2</sup> | 7.9%     | 31.0%  | 13.5%        | 9.8%              |
| Difference             | 5.7%     | 14.9%  | 2.3%         | 2.9%              |

#### TSR Performance<sup>3</sup>

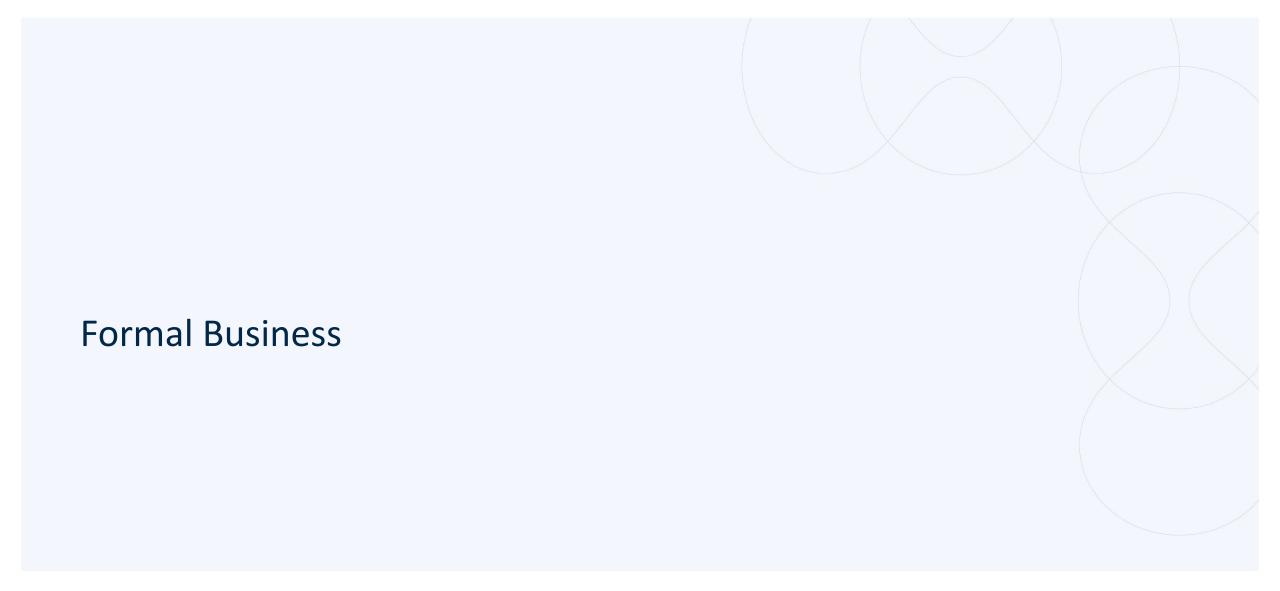
• 10.8% annualised from listing date to 31 October 2021 (share price of \$2.60 compared to an issue price of \$2.00, with dividends of \$0.265 paid by the Company since inception)

#### **NTA** discount

Share price of \$2.60 is a 4.2% discount to pre-tax NTA and a 1.0% premium to post-tax NTA<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Calculated as the Company's investment portfolio performance after fees excluding tax on realised gains and unrealised gains/losses and other earnings, and after Company expenses. Inception date 30 November 2017. <sup>2</sup>S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries Accumulation Index <sup>3</sup> Measured as movement in share price adjusted for dividends paid during the period <sup>4</sup>As at 31 October 2021.





# Formal Business – Financial statements and reports

Consideration of financial statements and reports



#### Formal Business – Resolution 1

#### **Adoption of the Remuneration Report**

To consider and, if thought fit, to pass the following resolution:

"That the Remuneration Report of the Company for the financial year ended 30 June 2021 be adopted."



# Formal Business – Resolution 1 - Proxies

#### Shares voted

| For     | 2,028,581 | 93.44% |
|---------|-----------|--------|
| Open    | 11,000    | 0.51%  |
| Against | 131,500   | 6.06%  |
| Abstain | 17,500    |        |



#### Formal Business – Resolution 2

#### Re-election of Matt Booker as a director

To consider and, if thought fit, to pass the following resolution as an ordinary resolution:

"That Mr Matthew Booker, having been appointed to the Board since the last Annual General Meeting of the Company and retiring as a director of the Company in accordance with rule 6.2(b) of the Company's constitution, be re-elected as a director of the Company."



# Formal Business – Resolution 2 - Proxies

#### Shares voted

| For     | 2,327,582 | 99.53% |
|---------|-----------|--------|
| Open    | 11,000    | 0.47%  |
| Against | 0         | 0%     |
| Abstain | 0         |        |







Fundamental investing shines through

# **Product Background**

SEC is a listed version of the **Spheria Australian Smaller Companies Fund** 

Designed to give investors exposure to:

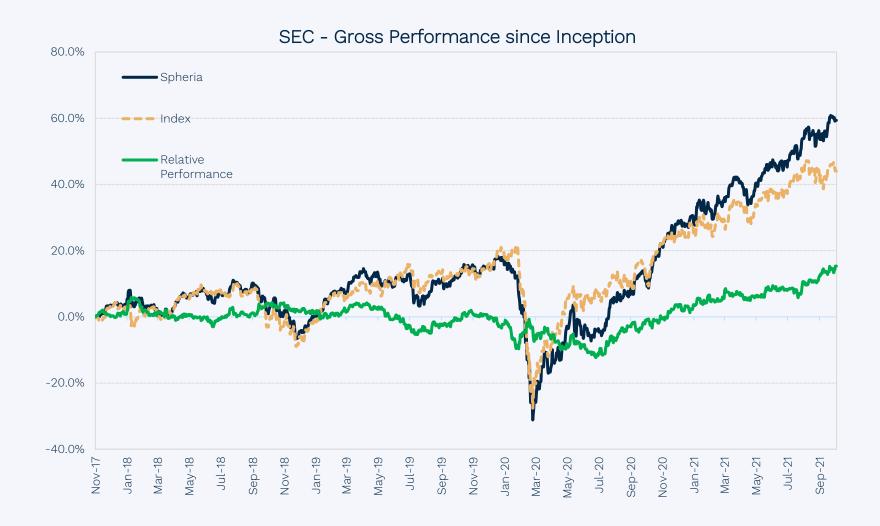
- cash generative
- lowly geared smaller companies
- with supportive valuations.

SEC will typically have **20-65 stocks** (currently 42) with a max. active weight of ~5%

Has consistently paid dividends every 6 months (since inception) and is now paying quarterly



# Performance – Graphical Illustration

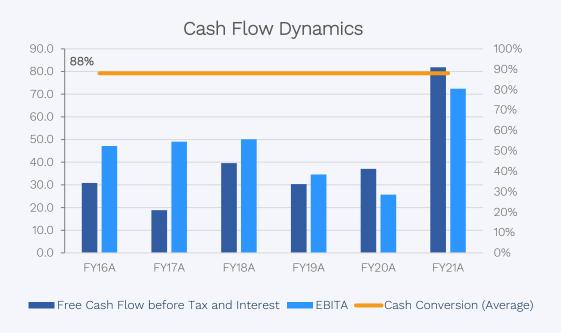




#### Investment Process - Michael Hill

# (ASX:MHJ)

#### A forgotten gem





- Michael Hill a leading specialty retailer of fine jewellery in Australia, New Zealand and Canada with 40+ year track record
- Lost its way under prior management, over last two years completely overhauled
- Now well positioned for organic and potential inorganic growth with \$70m of net cash.
- Despite share price rally, trading on <6x our best estimate of through the cycle EBIT.</li>



# **Top Positions**

| Spheria Emerging Companies Ltd as of 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2021 |                      |             |  |
|--|----------------------|-------------|--|
| Security   | Company Name         | % Portfolio |  |
| FLT  | Flight Centre Travel | 5.2         |  |
| CL1  | Class Limited        | 4.7         |  |
| IRE  | IRESS                | 3.7         |  |
| BKL  | Blackmores           | 3.6         |  |
| VGL  | Vista Group          | 3.6         |  |
| HT1  | Ht&E                 | 3.5         |  |
| ABC  | Adbri                | 3.5         |  |
| MND  | Monadelphous         | 3.4         |  |
| CTD  | Corporate Travel     | 3.2         |  |
| BGA  | Bega Cheese          | 3.2         |  |
| Top 10   |                      | 37.7        |  |

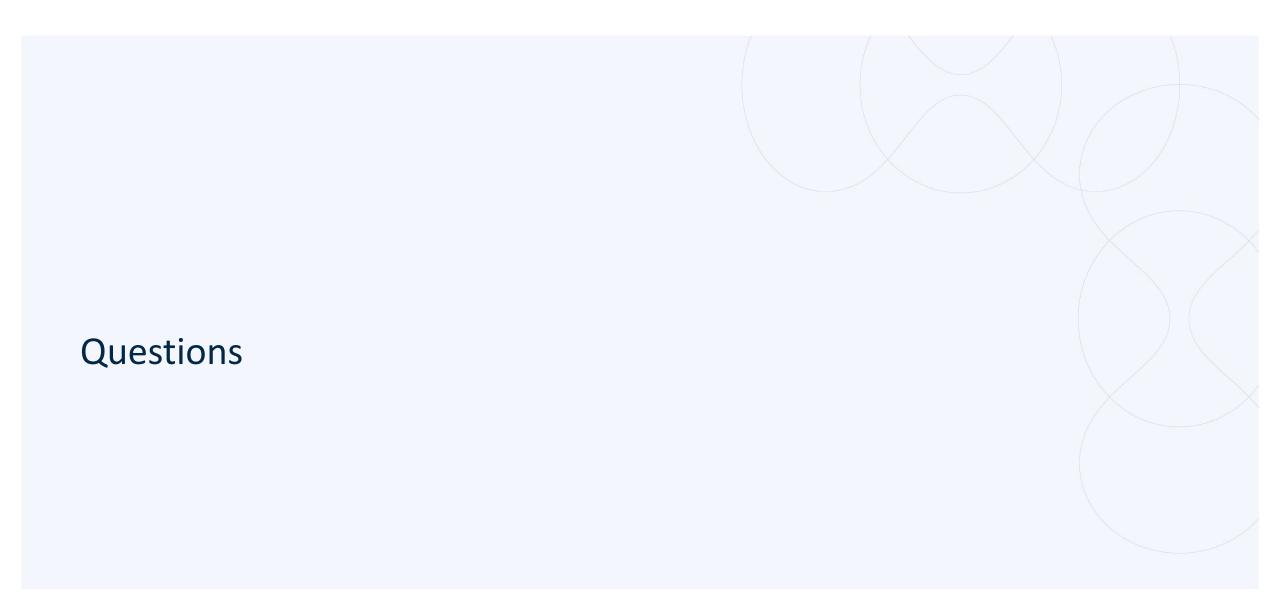


#### Outlook

- The rotation we noted at last year's AGM from "speculation to valuation" continues, this favours traditional fundamental investors like us.
- Rising inflation and interest rates will likely drive volatility and possibly an adjustment in investor behaviour.
- Business models that are not self-funded may find it more difficult to source capital if capital markets tighten up.
- We will continue to exploit market inefficiency in a disciplined manner.









# Thank you for joining us

SEC Shareholder Enquiries

For general information and investment enquiries please contact the Share Registry, Automic.

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E: hello@automic.com.au

For investment enquiries please contact Pinnacle

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E: invest@spheria.com.au

#### Disclaimer

Note: Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

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