NAOS SMALL CAP OPPORTUNITIES COMPANY LIMITED (ASX: NSC)

ABN 47 107 617 381

IN ^ Level 34 25 Martin Place Sydney NSW 2000

0

T (02) 9002 1576 F (02) 8215 0037

E enquiries@naos.com.au

www.naos.com.au

7 February 2023

ASX Market Announcements ASX Limited 20 Bridge Street Sydney NSW 2000

#### Q2 FY23 Investor Update and Q&A – Presentation Materials

Please find attached the presentation materials for the Q2 FY23 Investor Update and Q&A to be held by NAOS Asset Management Limited today at 10:30am (AEDT).

Authorised by:

Rajiv Sharma Company Secretary



Tuesday 7 February 2023 | 10:30 am (AEDT)

Audio Dial In: +61 3 8488 8990

Audio Access Code: 228-836-619

O2 FY23 Investor Update and Q&A

### Important Information

This material has been prepared by NAOS Asset Management Limited (ABN 23 107 624 126, AFSL 273529) (NAOS) for general information purposes only and must not be construed as investment advice. It does not constitute an offer to purchase any security or financial product or service referred to herein. Any such offer or solicitation shall only be made pursuant to a relevant offer document, which is available by calling NAOS on (02) 9002 1576. This material does not take into account the investment objectives, financial situation or needs of any particular investor. Before making an investment decision, investors should consider obtaining professional investment advice that is tailored to their specific circumstances.

Where past performance information is shown, it is intended to be for general illustrative purposes only. Past performance is not a reliable indication of future performance. In relation to any NAOS financial product or service referred to herein, NAOS does not guarantee its future performance, the amount or timing of any returns or that any investment objectives will be achieved.

Statements contained in this material that are not historical facts are based on the current expectations, estimates, projections, opinions, assumptions and beliefs of NAOS, which are subject to change without notice. This material may also contain forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees or predictions of future performance and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainty and other factors beyond NAOS' control. Unless otherwise expressly stated, no independent person has reviewed the reasonableness of any such forward-looking statements or assumption. Undue reliance should not be placed on forward-looking statements as actual events or results or the actual performance of a NAOS financial product or service may materially differ from those reflected or contemplated in such forward-looking statements.

Neither NAOS or any of its respective officers or employees makes any representation or warranty (express or implied) with respect to the correctness, accuracy, reasonableness or completeness of any information contained in this material and to the maximum extent permitted by law, NAOS disclaims all liability to any person relying on the information contained in this material in relation to any loss or damage (including consequential loss or damage), however caused, which may be suffered directly or indirectly in respect of such information.

This material must not be reproduced or disclosed, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of NAOS. Certain economic, market or company information contained in this material may have been obtained from published sources prepared by third parties. Any trademarks, logos or service marks contained herein may be the registered or unregistered trademarks of their respective owners. Nothing contained herein should be construed as granting by implication or otherwise, any license or right to use any trademark displayed without the written permission of the owner.

### NAOS Asset Management

NAOS Asset Management is a specialist fund manager providing concentrated exposure to quality private and public emerging companies.

NAOS established its first Listed Investment Company (LIC) in 2013 with 400 shareholders, and today NAOS manages ~\$300 million across three LICs and one private investment fund, for over 7,500 investors.

Our directors and employees hold significant investments across the NAOS investment strategies, creating strong alignment of interests with all investors.

We believe that demonstrating leadership in ESG is ultimately a differentiating factor that benefits all parties. We strive to create a positive impact on social, environmental and governance issues.

NAOS was originally founded in 2004 and today has 10 staff and donates 1% of its recurring revenue to 4 outstanding organisations making a difference to our environment and/or society.

### NAOS Directors and Team

#### OUR DIRECTORS



Sebastian Evans Managing Director, NAOS Asset Management Limited & Director NCC, NSC & NAC



Warwick Evans Chairman, NAOS Asset Management Limited & Director NCC, NSC & NAC



Sarah Williams Independent Chair of NCC, NAC and Independent Director NSC



David Rickards OAM Independent Chair of NSC and Independent Director of NCC & NAC



Trevor Carroll
Independent Director NSC



Matthew Hyder Director, NAOS Asset Management Limited



Mark Bennett Director, NAOS Asset Management Limited

### OUR TEAM



Sebastian Evans
Chief Investment Officer



Robert Miller Portfolio Manager



Brendan York Portfolio Manager



Jared Tilley Senior Investment Analyst



Nelson DeMestre Associate Analyst



Richard Preedy Chief Financial and Operating Officer



Rajiv Sharma Head of Legal and Compliance



Angela Zammit Marketing & Communications Manager

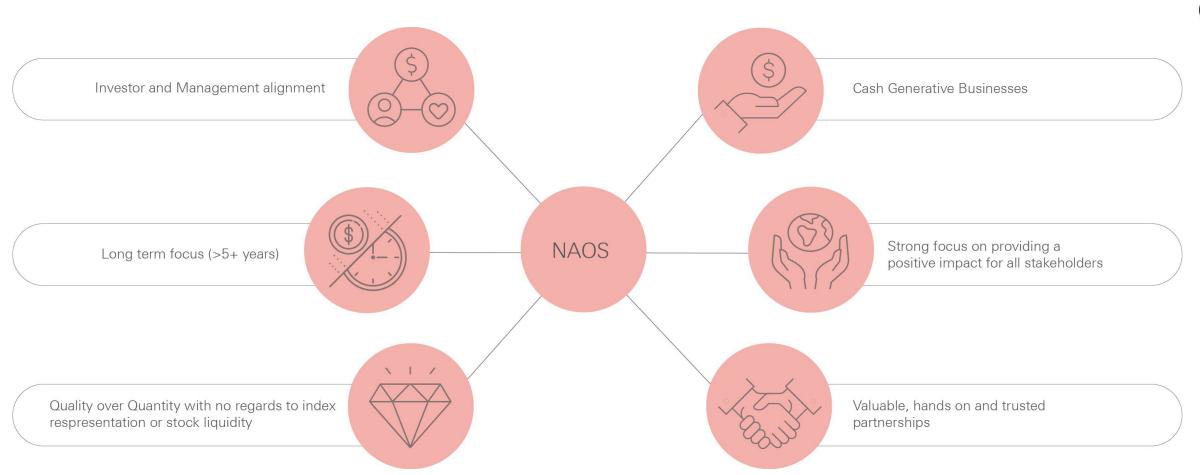


Hayley Coy Marketing Coordinator



Julie Coventry
Business Sustainability
Analyst

### Our Investment Beliefs and Differentiation

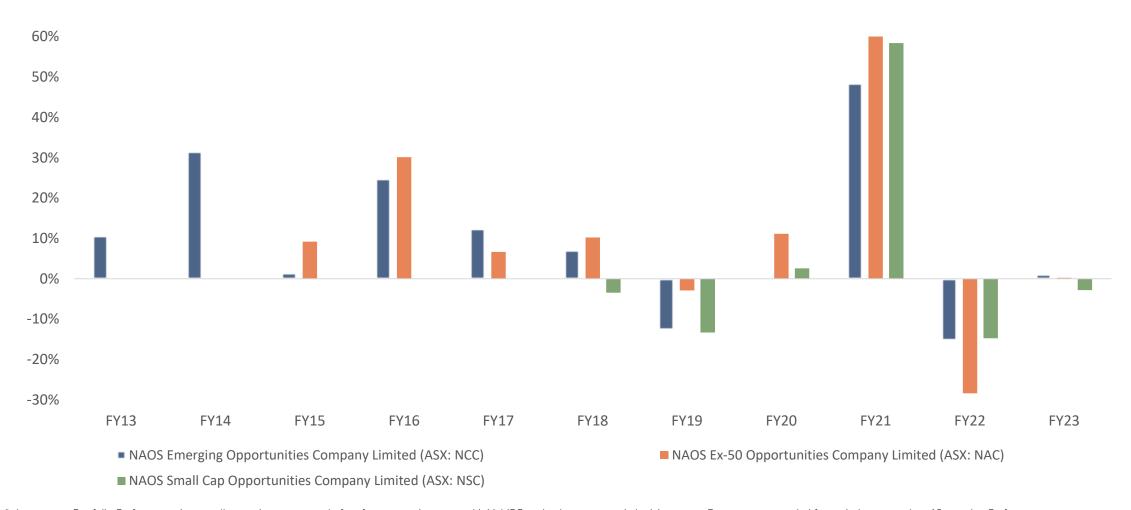


N ^

0

Our LICs are not for everyone. Some reasons why you may not choose to invest with NAOS include:

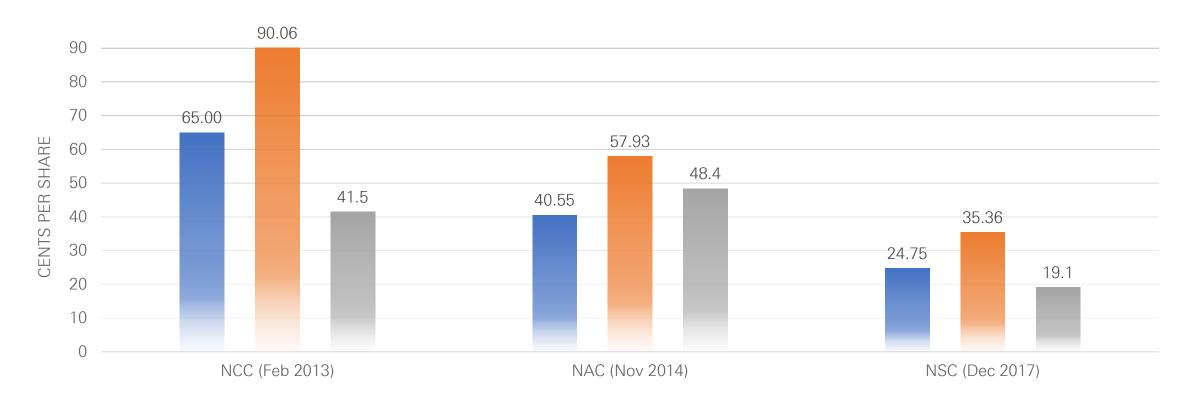
- Concentrated portfolios (0-15 investments & shareholdings often >20%)
- Long-term investment philosophy (5+ years)
- Focus on emerging companies (\$20 million \$500 million market capitalisation)
- Benchmark unaware (no current NAOS investments are within the XSOAI)
- Industrial focus (no exposure to resources or very early-stage businesses)
- Smaller fund size (increases ability to gain a meaningful exposure to smaller businesses)
- ESG aware with a focus on positive impact
- LICs can often trade at discounts and premiums to their underlying net-asset backing



<sup>\*</sup> Investment Portfolio Performance is post all operating expenses, before fees, taxes, interest and initial IPO and subsequent capital raising costs. Returns compounded for periods greater than 12 months. Performance has not been grossed up for franking credits received by shareholders. Inception dates are February 2013 (NCC), November 2014 (NAC) and December 2017 (NSC).

### NAOS LIC Franked Dividend History and Profit Reserves

Each LIC has consistently paid dividends and holds healthy profit reserves



■ Total Dividends Paid (Since Inception) ■ Total Gross Dividends Including Franking (Since Inception) ■ Profit Reserves 31 December 2022

All figures as at 31 December 2022

# N A O S

### Investment Portfolio Performance Summary

Investment Portfolio	Q2 FY23 PERFORMANCE	Q2 FY23 BENCHMARK PERFORMANCE	3 YEAR PERFORMANCE (p.a.)	3 YEAR BENCHMARK PERFORMANCE (p.a.)	INCEPTION PERFORMANCE (p.a.)	BENCHMARK INCEPTION PERFORMANCE (p.a.)
NCC Investment Portfolio Performance*	+0.22%	+7.54%	+2.51%	+1.38%	+9.57%	+4.79%
NAC Investment Portfolio Performance*	-1.95%	+7.23%	+2.73%	+3.15%	+9.67%	+6.45%
NSC Investment Portfolio Performance*	-4.18%	+7.54%	+4.18%	+1.38%	+2.40%	+3.51%

<sup>\*</sup>Investment Portfolio Performance is post all operating expenses, before fees, interest, taxes, initial IPO commissions and all subsequent capital raising costs. Performance has not been grossed up for franking credits received by shareholders. Since inception (P.A. and Total Return) includes part performance for the month of February 2013 (NCC), November 2014 (NAC) and December 2017 (NSC). Returns compounded for periods greater than 12 months. All figures as at 31 December 2022. ^NAC Benchmark= S&P/ASX 300 Industrials Accumulation Index, NCC & NSC Benchmark= S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries Accumulation Index

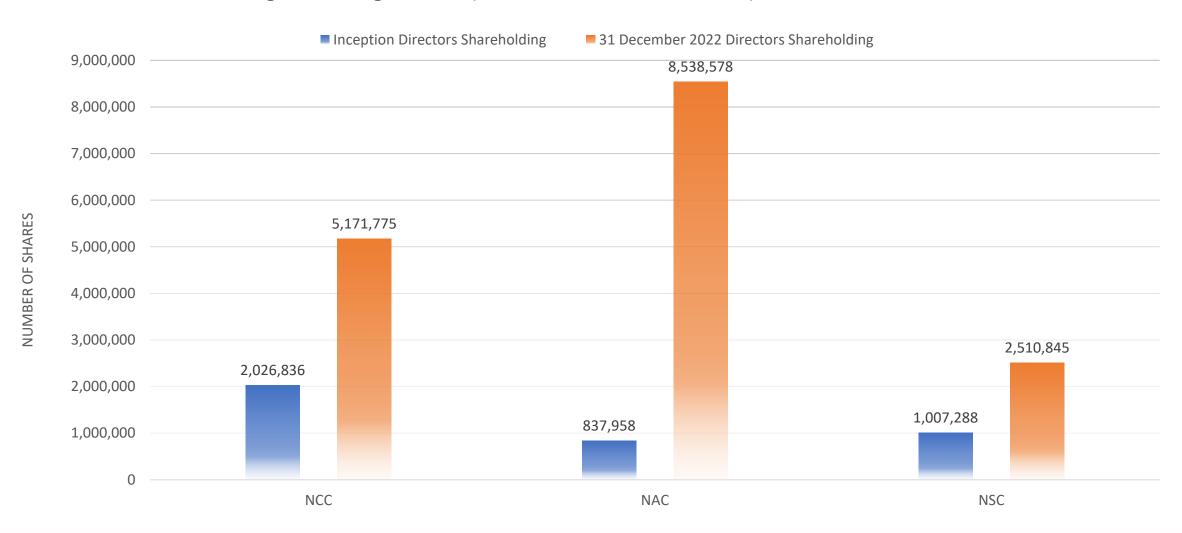
### What Qualitative Information Sources Does NAOS Use?

The NAOS Investment Team undertakes fundamental analysis on potential and current investments. Some examples of our key focus areas include:

Internal Engagement External Engagement Hands On Executive Team including Company Announcements Company Announcements and Former Employees CEO, CFO, COO & CTO and Reports Reports Transcripts (Company Specific Board of Directors (Independent Product/Service Sampling and Listed and Unlisted Competitors and Other) & Non-Independent) Testing Wider Management Team and Suppliers (Current and Former) Cold Calling Industry Reports & Journals Staff I.e., General Managers, Sales Executives to Assistants/Associates Social Media and Industry Customers (Current and Former) Forums Industry Contacts and Industry Surveys, Ratings & Proprietary Associations Analytical Tools **ESG** Analysis

### NAOS LICs Director Alignment

Directors' shareholdings have significantly increased since the inception of each LIC

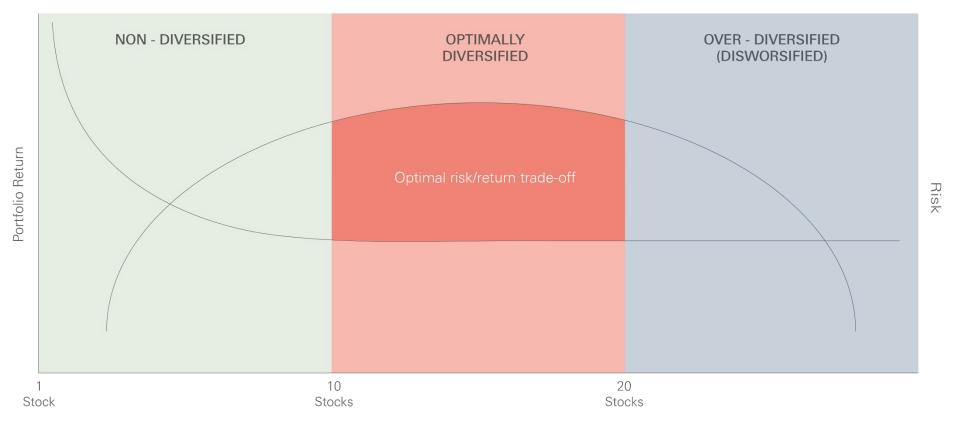


10

### The Case for Concentrated Investing

Holding too many stocks in a portfolio can lead to poor risk adjusted performance

#### THE EFFECTS OF DIVERSIFICATION ON RETURNS



Level of Diversification (number of stocks in a portfolio)

Source: NAOS Asset Management

### What Has Changed Over the Past 12 Months?

Measurement	31 December 2021	31 December 2022	
RBA Cash Rate	0.10%	3.10%	
Australian 10-Year Bond Yield	1.58%	4.05%	
Australian CPI (YoY)	3.50%	7.30%	
AUD/USD	\$0.73	\$0.68	
ASX 200 Forward P/E (12-month)	18.05	14.42	
ASX Small Ordinaries Accum. Index	11,004	8,982	

Source: FactSet, IRESS

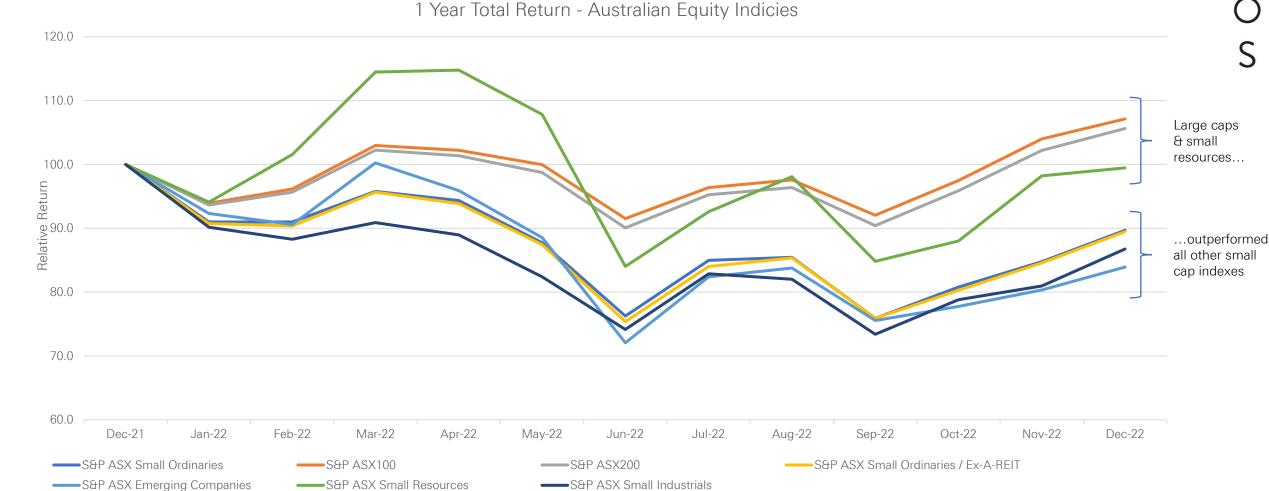
- CY23 expectations are low. In our view this is due to the lag effect of CY22 interest rate rises, which certain sectors of the market have been factoring in, as shown by the -20% fall in the ASX Small Ordinaries Index.
- Significant dispersion in stock performance through CY22. Premium placed on liquidity (ASX 100), resources outperformed due to high inflation, and a significant underperformance in small cap industrials.
- Interest rate rises are starting to have the desired effect on several drivers of higher inflation, but not all i.e., some input prices are decreasing but unemployment remains very low.
- Early signs of slowing growth in corporate profits:
  - Domain (ASX: DHG) Downgraded earnings due to significant drop in real-estate listings.
  - Symbio (ASX: SYM) Slow sales conversion and existing clients returning unused services.
  - City Chic Collective (ASX: CCX) Reduced demand and increased promotional activity.
  - MAAS Group (ASX: MGH) Increased lead times for new home sales conversions.

### Q2 FY23 Summary







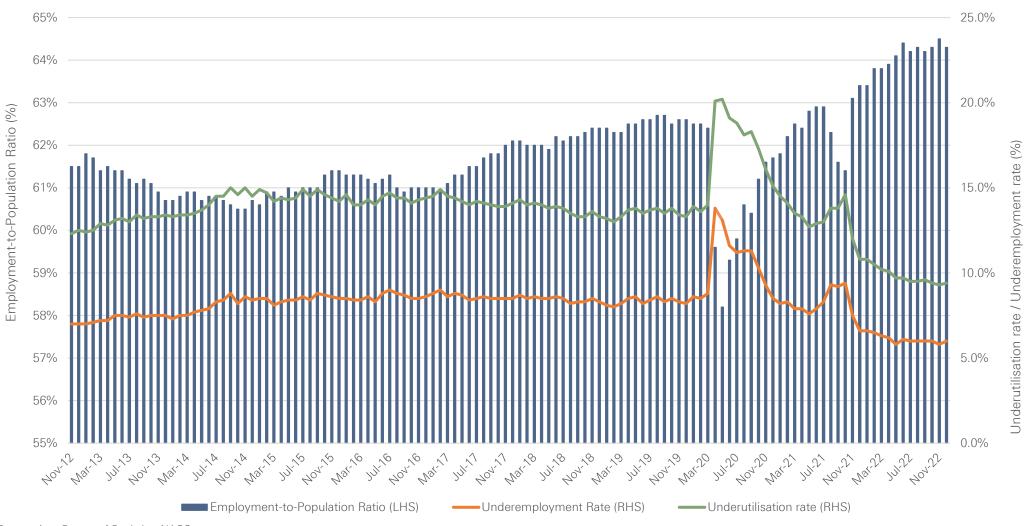


Source: FactSet, NAOS

14

### Q2 FY23 Summary





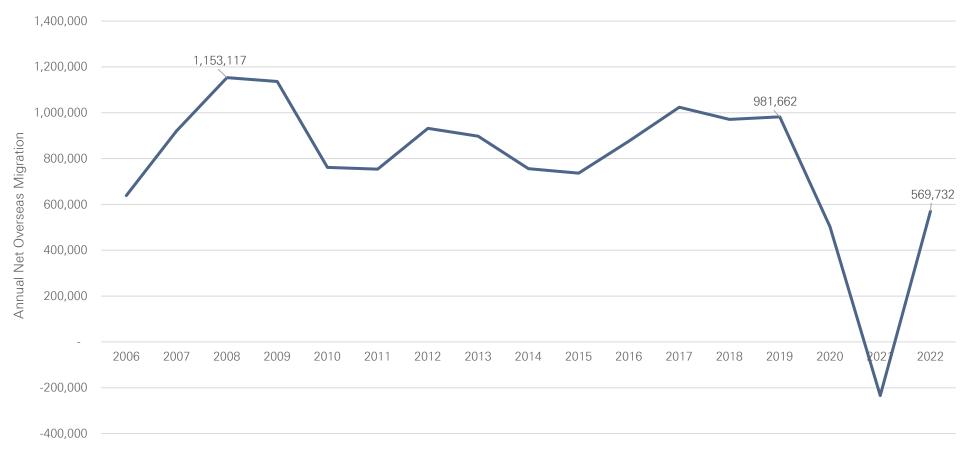
Source: Aus. Bureau of Statistics, NAOS

### Are Things As Bad As They Seem?

- Unlike many previous economic slowdowns this has been engineered by the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA).
- Interest rates are now at their highest level for a decade, so there is meaningful scope to reduce rates in the short to medium term if easing is required.
- Corporate balance sheets have never been stronger, as shown by the median net debt to equity ratio of the ASX 200 of ~18%.
- We believe the total return equation will be derived more from dividends than has been the case over the previous 5 years which plays well for Australian equites.
- Meaningful structural trends that will promote long-term growth opportunities within certain industries i.e.:
  - Lack of new housing availability
  - Infrastructure spending
  - Ageing demographic trajectory
  - Continued shift to renewable energy

### Q2 FY23 Summary

#### Australian Annual Net Overseas Migration



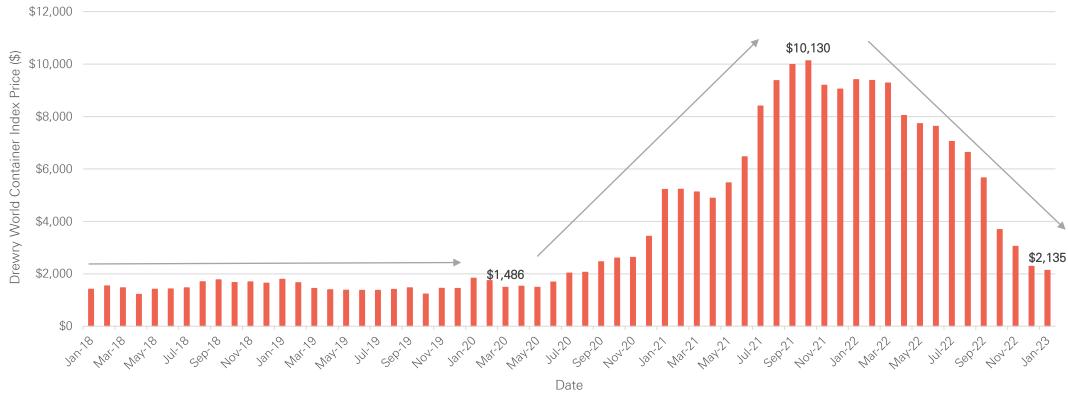
Source: Aus. Bureau of Statistics, NAOS

#### **EXPLAINER:**

Net overseas migration is the net gain or loss of population through international migration to and from Australia. A net migration number >0 means more people are moving to Australia than are moving overseas in any given year.

### Q2 FY23 Summary





■ Drewry World Container Index Price

Source: Bloomberg, NAOS

#### **EXPLAINER:**

The Drewy World Container Index assessed by Drewry reports actual spot container freight rates for major East West trade routes. The Index consists of 8 route-specific indices representing individual shipping routes and a composite index. All indices are reported in USD per 40ft Container.

### Is Market Timing as Important as Many are Led to Believe?

- In our view not only is it impossible to predict market troughs and peaks but it also adds little value over the long term.
- To illustrate this, the basic analysis below shows the return if an individual had theoretically invested in the S&P500 Index at the top of the last 4 bull markets.

Investment Date	Investment Amount	Index Price at Time of Investment	Market 'Crash' Event	Investment Return at Trough of Market Crash
Jan-87	\$10,000	274	Black Monday	-16%
Jan-00	\$10,000	1394	Dot.com Bubble	-39%
Jan-07	\$10,000	1438	GFC	-49%
Jan-20	\$10,000	3225	COVID-19	-20%
Total Invested	\$40,000			

Total Value of Investment	\$392,372
Nominal Return	881%
Average Nominal Return p.a.	7.90%
Inflation Adjusted \$ Return	\$137,888
Inflation Adjusted Return	245%
Average Inflation Adjusted Return p.a.	4.80%

<sup>\*</sup> All return values as at end CY-22

Source: Yahoo Finance, Offical Data. Org, NAOS. S&P500 Index data is adjusted for dividends, capital gain distribution & stock splits. Returns assume all dividends are reinvested. All figures are in USD.



Arno Becker

CFO and Interim Chief Executive Officer



Richard Bartley
Executive GM



## **b**5a°



#### **Our Business** BSA is a publicly-listed company on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX: BSA). It is BSA's vision to be our clients' indispensable partner for the design, delivery and management of innovative asset solutions. BSA's services are structured under two strategic business units: Darwin Katherine bsa Port Hedland Communications & Utility Infrastructure (CUI) Advanced Property Solutions (APS) Karratha Fixed-Line Fire Brisbane Wireless **HVAC** Kalgoorlie Grafton Adelaide Orange Customer Access BMS & Energy Newcastle Perth Wagga Wagga Lidcombe Busselton Sydney Wodonga Asset Lifecycle **Solutions** Fyshwick Breakwater $(\circ)$ Advise → Design & Construct → Dingley Service & Optimise -> Install & Upgrade -> +800 20 2,000 **Talented** Skilled Field Offices & Ulverstone **Employees** Resources Warehouses

### **Core Capabilities**





#### Fixed-Line

Network Technologies (Fibre, Copper, HFC), Civil Works, Cabling, Power Supply, Active & Passive Equipment, Testing & Alignment



#### Wireless

Microwave, Cellular, Small Cell, Critical Networks, SAED, EME Safety Engineering, Civil Works, Rigging, Hauling, Duct & Fibre



#### **Customer Access**

Connections & Assurance, Satellite, Lead-in, In-Building Coverage, Cabling, Racking, Energy Meters & Smart Homes



#### Fire

Fire Detection & Protection Systems, Emergency Evacuation Systems, Fire Suppression (Wet & Dry) & Portable Equipment



#### **HVAC**

Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, Refrigeration, & Mechanical Systems, Sustainable Upgrades & System Optimisation



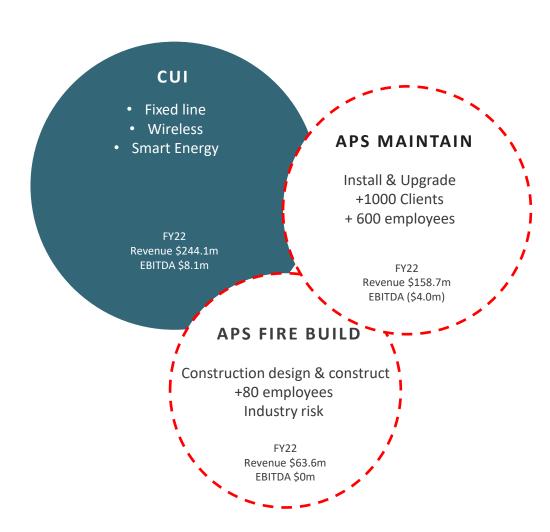
### BMS & Energy

Building Automation, Energy Generation & Management, Internet of Things Solutions & Data-Driven Asset Management



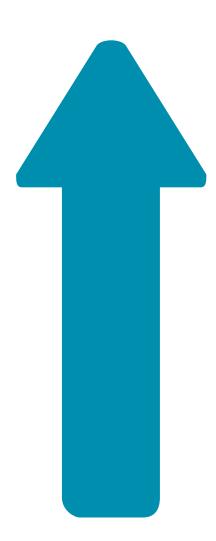


### **Continuing Operations | Stabilise & Focus**



#### Highlights:

- On 23 November 22 BSA entered into an agreement with CBRE for the sale of the APS Maintain business for \$20m before costs and adjustments - completed on 3 February 23 ahead of schedule;
- Funds used to increase working capital to meet operational costs, thus strengthening the balance sheet;
- On 31 Jan 23, the Group announced it will hold APS Fire business for sale to focus on Telecommunication sector; and
- Continuing operations (CUI) significantly improved financial performance on prior comparison period.





### FY23H1 – Financial Update

### **Material improvement on PCP**

Financial Performance \$'m	Q2 FY2023	Q2 FY2022	Var	H1 FY2023	H1 FY2022	Var
Revenue						
CUI	62.7	63.8	(1.1)	123.0	122.5	0.5
Continuing Revenue	62.7	63.8	(1.1)	123.0	122.5	0.5
Gross Margin %	25%	18%	7%	23%	18%	5%
EBITDA						
CUI	5.7	2.2	3.5	8.8	3.4	5.4
Corporate	(0.7)	(1.4)	0.7	(1.4)	(2.1)	0.7
Continuing EBITDA	5.0	0.8	4.2	7.4	1.3	6.1

#### Highlights:

- Significant profitability improvement on pcp;
- Volumes on nbn have remained stable with favorable mix of work;
- Other platforms now fully mobilised and benefiting from normalised delivery volumes; and
- Rationalisation of the Group's operating cost base as announced in April 2022.

### FY23 – Strategic Direction



Simplified approach with emphasis on stability, profitability and growth

### **Stabilise**

- Target internal efficiencies and system optimisation
- Sustainable & supportive structures
- Return to cash backed profitability
- Exit loss making platforms, branches & projects

### **Focus**

- Prioritise cash backed results
- Focus on Telecommunications
   Sector

### **Transform**

- Protect and partner with clients
- Setup for accelerated growth on our terms
- Increase shareholder returns





BSA Limited Investor Presentation – FY2022



**CUI** Highlights

### **CUI Overview**



1

Leading and National Telco Services Platform with Strong Brand Heritage

- ✓ BSA's Communication and Utility Infrastructure (CUI) division represents one of Australia's leading providers of diversified services to the telecommunications sector
- ✓ Diverse range of capabilities across fixed-line (copper and fibre), wireless, satellite and smart metering networks, supported by class leading field services capabilities to ensure end-customer satisfaction

~3,800 jobs per day

~250 direct staff

2 Long Blue

Long Term Partner to a Blue Chip Client Base

- ✓ Focus on multi-year contracts with tier one clients such as nbn, Foxtel and Optus
- ✓ Track record of service excellence and customer retention 20-year relationship with clients such as Foxtel and Optus
- ✓ Partnership approach CUI is proud to represent its clients as the trusted delivery partner for critical services

nbn ⊚

foxtel

**OPTUS** 

- Strong Growth
  Prospects and Attractive
  Industry Thematics
- ✓ The Australian telecommunication services market is valued in excess of \$9bn and is expected to grow at 3.5% p.a. from FY22 to FY25
- ✓ Ongoing evolution of technology in the medium term (e.g. upgrade to Fibre- to-the-Premise and 5G/6G networks) is expected to drive strong future demand for CUI's services



4

Highly Experienced
Management Team Able
to Deliver on the CUI
Growth Plan

- ✓ CUI has built a highly motivated and experienced management team comprised of executives from a range of telecommunications and field service delivery backgrounds
- ✓ The management team has been key in executing on the current strategic plan and is well placed to continue to drive the next phase of growth

~100 years collective industry experience





Four core platform categories

#### **NBN**

- ✓ A unique long-term services contract;
- ✓ Assurance and activation led;
- Largest market share across NSW and Victoria; and
- ✓ Trusted multi-layered relationship with nbn for a critical piece of national infrastructure.

### Smart Energy Solutions

- ✓ Over 5 years of experience supporting Vector and PlusES; and
- ✓ 2022 Intellihub win, a smart meter market disruptor.
- $\checkmark$

#### **Wireless**

- ✓ Acquisition of Catalyst
   One in 2020 to establish capability in Group;
- Market credibility and connections with key wireless operators in Australia; and
- ✓ Shift in market dynamics due to sale of tower assets across the country.

### Residential & Enterprise

- ✓ Group heritage having designed and installed the vast majority of Australia's key telecommunications infrastructure across fixed and mobile networks; and
- ✓ Sole Foxtel delivery partner since 2021.

### **CUI Growth Plan**



Clear opportunities expected to underpin continued growth over the medium and longer term

### Maximise Opportunity with Existing Clients

- ✓ Maximise returns from significant nbn pipeline forecast in FY24 and beyond (CUI ideally placed given track record and footprint).
- ✓ Geographic expansion of nbn services a key priority.
- Leverage initial Intellihub contract win to expand scope and footprint in smart metering.
- Maximise other smart meter opportunities
- ✓ EV expansion opportunities Tesla, Go Evie and Ohmie.

#### **Wireless Expansion**

- ✓ Leverage initial wins in wireless build market (represents a large and growing market)
- ✓ NSW expansion of Catalyst ONE
- ✓ TPG / Vodafone expansion opportunities.
- ✓ Realise opportunities with wireless tower ownership change in 2023 and beyond.

### Innovation through Investment in Technology

- ✓ Leverage customer experience and workforce management expertise to expand into new sectors
- ✓ Move beyond field services









#### APAC Smart Meter Market set to grow at 6.2%, Australia set to grow at least x2 this rate



- Only 4m of 13.6m meters are smart representing a 30% penetration rate
- Vector NZ recently sold 50% of business to QIC at NZ\$2.5bn valuation
- Pacific Private Equity sold 50% of Intellihub to Brookfield for \$1bn
- Most Smart Meters are 3g and will need to upgrade to 4g by 2033
- VIC is the only state with mandatory roll out of smart meters (2m (or 50%) of all of smart meters are in VIC). Other states need to catch up

#### EV Market holds significant longer term opportunities but volume not expected until late 2020's



- When the residential market reaches scale there is significant growth opportunity
- BSA are in the market early with Go Evie, Ohmie & Tesla
- In 2022, 20k EV cars sold which is less than 2% of the new car market
- Barrier to scale is the cost differential of EV cars plus supply side constraints
- Emissions regulations in global markets are stricter than Australia
- The EV market % will rise year on year but cross over point not expected until late 2020's



#### **Key Areas of Operation**

Region	Tech's	Tasks performed
NSW Metro South	223	
NSW Regional North	177	Activation/Assurance across all
VIC Metro South	201	technologies and Remed/Civils works
VIC Regional North	99	

### Case Study

### nbn Unify Contract

#### **Overview of Contract**

- Largest provider service Activations & Assurance VIC, NSW
- 700 Technicians on project
- Supervision across all key areas
- BSA also support remediation/civils work and various projects

#### **Professional services**

- Program management for national and large scale product roll outs
- Large technical workforce management solutions
- Stakeholder communication and contact centre services
- Customer field services experience programs
- Land access team

#### Technical field services

- Technicians skilled across a range of technologies, including; HFC, FTTC, FTTN, FTTP & FTTB
- Civils crews able to carry out remediation and pre-install work



#### Major wireless milestones

- Approximately 500 greenfield sites
- Approximately 200 upgrade / RANCAP sites
- Approximately 200 Transmission Upgrade / Deployment Sites
- Active WIP of ~250 In Building Coverage Sites Greenfield and Upgrade

### Case Study

### Wireless Experience

#### Optus

- National Deployment Over 500 Greenfield RAN and In Building Coverage Sites
- Upgraded Over 250 RAN Sites and Transmission
- Renewed or Amended Over 200 Lease / Licence Agreements
- Acquired 20 nbn POI locations for Optus Wholesale (HFC Project)

#### **Vivid Wireless**

- National PMO and end-to-end Deployment 50 Greenfield RAN Sites
- Upgraded more than 25 RAN Sites and Transmission
- Renewed or Terminated Over 200 Lease / Licence Agreements

#### nbn

- Desktop Town Planning Property Assessment FTTN and HFC Upgrade Projects
- Property Land Access Documentation (SLAAN & LIFD) and Public Contacts Handling

### NAOS Investee Companies - Key Events Q2 FY23

regional Victorian presence.

HOLDING INDUSTRY
 AGM trading update sees strong FY22 conditions continuing into early FY23.
 Appointment of exec. GM John Lorente as CEO (effective 1st March) replacing Jim Bindon, providing consistency within operations and company culture.
 Completed acquisition of Epping Timber, complementing existing Melbourne &



(ASX: MOV)

(ASX: BRI)

Transport & Logistics

**Building Supplies** 

- CEO appointment of Craig Evans (effective 1st February). 35 years at Mainfreight (NZX: MFT) including the last six as New Zealand Country Manager.
- Challenges for the MOV transformation program but increasing improvements over time.
- FY23 EBITDA growth guidance withdrawn given contract changes.
- Ocean Freight vessel Atlas Wind now operational.



(ASX: GTK)

Software

- Upgraded FY23 (>\$130m rev.) and FY24 guidance (>\$150m rev.) despite challenging energy sector macro & previous customer insolvencies (e.g., Bulb).
- Confidence to provide targets for FY25 and beyond, margin expansion expected for both Utilities and Airports divisions.
- International expansion investment to occur during FY23.

# NAOS Investee Companies - Key Events Q2 FY23

HOLDING **INDUSTRY Q2 UPDATE** Awarded \$44m tank construction, civil and electrical engineering project for Western Sydney Airport phase 1. Buoyant sector conditions continue with SND winning projects under State Govt. (NSW Bridge Replacement) & Federal Govt. (Diesel Storage Program). FY23 guidance provided of \$190m-220m revenue and 6.5%-7.5% EBIT margin. (ASX: SND) Engineering Strategic divestment of APS Maintain business for \$20m pre-transaction costs and debt adjustments to CBRE Group Inc. Cash generative core communications division is returning to growth, underpinned by long-term NBN work programs. Secured Intellihub Australia (utility infrastructure provider) smart metering contract (ASX: BSA) Solutions & Services across numerous states. FY23 trading update seeing post-COVID cost normalisation and continued investment in people, resulting in 'single digit' growth. **Objective** Phasing out 'one-off' software license sales & investments to reduce software deployment costs are meaningful, strategic, longer-term business decisions. M&A focus & organic business fundamentals will drive growth into FY24 and (ASX: OCL) Software beyond.

#### **EXPLAINER:**

In December 2022, Craig Evans was appointed CEO of MOVE Logistics Group effective 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023. Craig has an outstanding track record in the Logistics sector, having previously spent 35 years at Mainfreight (NZX: MFT), including the last six years as Mainfreight's New Zealand Country Manager.

We believe his appointment should further strengthen MOVE's executive team and we gain comfort in the value he will add to the broader group by the below two excerpts which were taken from the book, Ready Fire Aim: The Mainfreight Story.

#### Excerpt 1:

"All the various strands of Mainfreight were being marketed as a single supply-chain solution. Pulling all this together was the responsibility of Craig Evans, who constantly argued, 'He who creates the most value wins. That's the business we're in, creating value'."

#### Excerpt 2:

"In Craig Evans' words, 'The key to selling logistics is to become a trusted advisor, and the way you get there is by always being proactive. The world is changing at such a pace, if we are not giving confidence to our customers that they are at the leading edge the whole time, then we are out of business."

Source: Ready Fire Aim: The Mainfreight Story

# NCC Overview as at 31 December 2022

\$0.87 Pre-Tax NTA

\$0.90 Post-Tax NTA

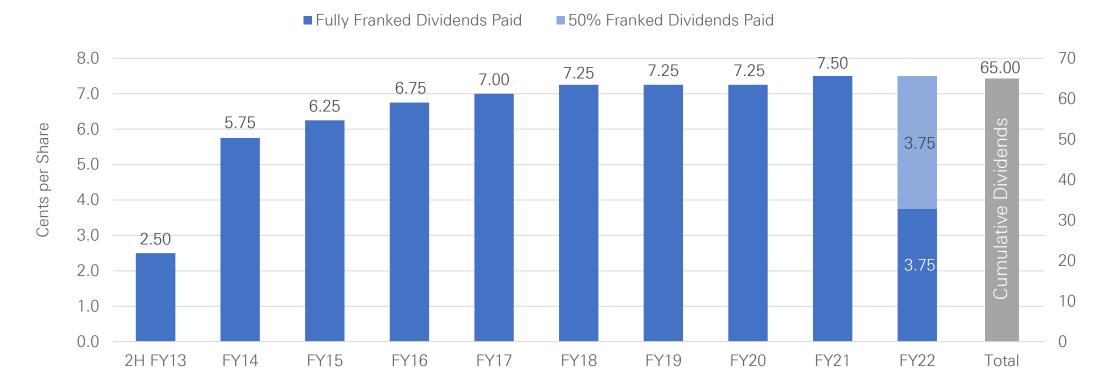
\$0.755 Share Price

9.93% Franked Dividend Yield

12 Number of Holdings

\$134.6m Weighted Average Market Capitalisation of the Investments

FRANKED DIVIDEND HISTORY



37



\$0.86 Pre-Tax NTA

\$0.92 Post-Tax NTA

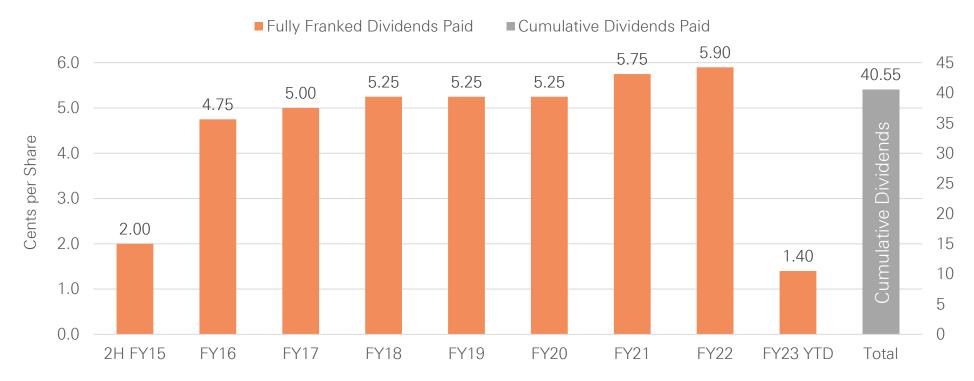
\$0.87 Share Price

6.55% Fully Franked Dividend Yield

Number of Holdings

\$308.9m Weighted Average Market Capitalisation of the Investments

FULLY FRANKED DIVIDEND HISTORY





\$0.78 Pre-Tax NTA

\$0.80 Post-Tax NTA

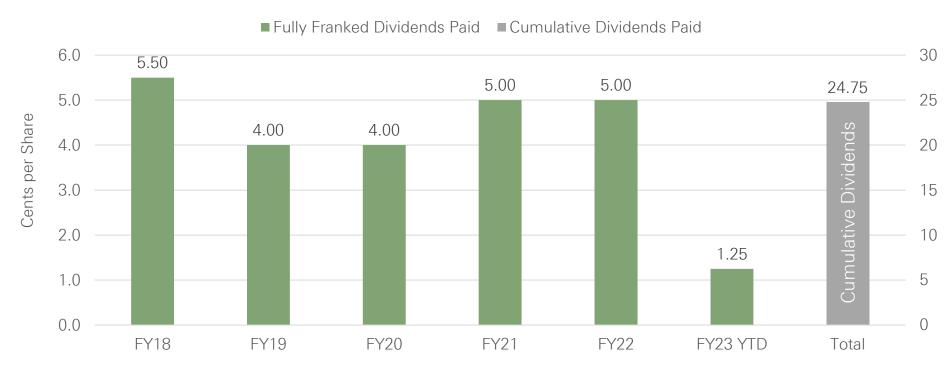
\$0.69 Share Price

7.25% Fully Franked Dividend Yield

Number of Holdings

\$206.1m Weighted Average Market Capitalisation of the Investments

#### FULLY FRANKED DIVIDEND HISTORY



39

# Capital Management Initiatives

Performance	Maintain a focus on long term performance without deviating from the NAOS investment philosophy.
Dividends	<ul> <li>Continue to focus on a growing stream of dividends, franked to the maximum extent possible, whilst maintaining an adequate reserve balance.</li> </ul>
Alignment	• Continue to be aligned with shareholders as Directors and Staff are some of the largest shareholders across all 3 of the LICs.
Communication	<ul> <li>Maintain a very high standard of marketing materials and communications so all current and prospective shareholders have a clear understanding of the NAOS offering.</li> </ul>
NSC	<ul> <li>The share buyback remains active. 28.4 million shares, or 17% of shares on issue, have been bought back on market since the buyback commenced in April 2019.</li> <li>One-for-three bonus Options (ASX: NSCOA) were issued in May 2021, allowing shareholders to acquire fully paid ordinary shares exercisable at \$1.02 per Option on or before 28 June 2024.</li> </ul>
NAC	<ul> <li>The share buyback remains active. 22% of shares on issue have been bought back on market since the buyback commenced in June 2019 to date, which has been significantly accretive for shareholders.</li> </ul>
DRP	Shares purchased on-market to satisfy DRP requirements when shares are trading at a discount to NTA, thus eliminating any dilution for shareholders.

## Overview & Outlook Q3 FY23

- Expectations of slowing economic activity as impact of rate hikes take hold. The impact of ~23% of home loans cycling onto higher variable rates throughout 2023 is a major unknown.
- Positive factors that may prove valuable in insulating against a meaningful recession:
  - Continued normalisation of COVID-19/geopolitical supply chain bottlenecks
  - Overseas migration activity underpinning growth across a wide range of sectors & industries
  - Regulatory reform aiding cost of living pressures (e.g. energy market intervention)
  - High commodity prices driving resources & agricultural sectors
  - Infrastructure spending continuing at elevated levels
  - Scope to lower interest rates
- Equity markets are forward looking and will likely rebase and recover ahead of the consumer.
- We expect to continue seeing limited liquidity in the smaller end of the equity markets during Q3 FY23 but are optimistic that when the cycle turns, many small caps will offer significant long-term gains.

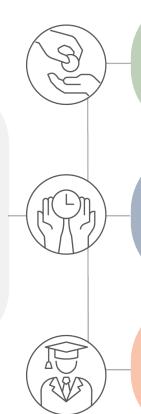
### Outlook Q3 FY23

- Updates from most portfolio companies expected in the February reporting season.
  - We have used the uncertainty to rotate out of investments that we believe offer inferior return profiles going forward and have added a number of new investments such as Smartgroup (ASX: SIQ), Infomedia (ASX: IFM) and Boral (ASX: BLD).
  - We will be looking for the following updates across core holdings such as:

Move Logistics Group (ASX: MOV)	Incoming CEO strategy & update on rollout of new transport management system.
BSA Limited (ASX: BSA)	Completion of divestment to CBRE Group Inc.
Gentrack Group (ASX: GTK)	Updates on new customer wins & rollout of 'g2.0' software platform.
Big River Industries (ASX: BRI)	Update on industry activity & outlook for 2H, and M&A pipeline.
Saunders International (ASX: SND)	Progress updates on numerous works programs including major US Defense Dept. projects.

# NAOS Asset Management 1% Pledge

As a company, we commit to **Pledge 1%** of revenue, time and intellect to movements and missions that matter.



Each year NAOS donates 1% of its annual revenue to the charity partners listed to the side. Each charity supports a cause that we strongly believe in.

Our people have an incredible range of skills that can be a huge help to charities and community organisations. Each year, team members have the opportunity to take 2 days paid volunteer leave to lend a helping hand to an organisation of their choice.

NAOS sees the value in supporting young members of the investment community. We provide training and mentorship for one student each year.









#### ABO

Thank you for your continued support.

"Games are won by players who focus on the playing field - not by those whose eyes are glued to the scoreboard."

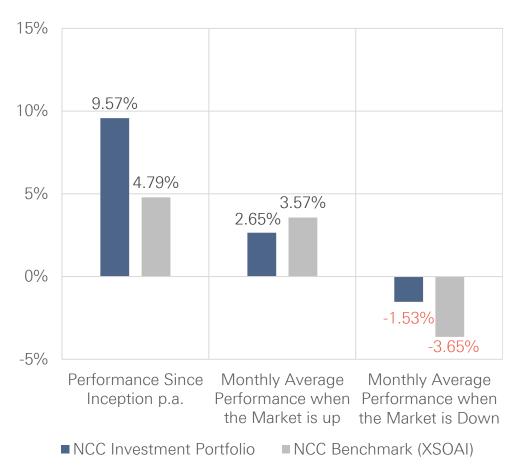
Warren Buffett



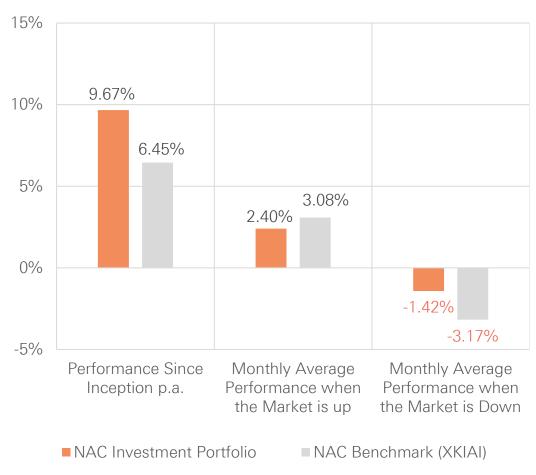
Appendix

# NAOS Strong Long-term Risk-adjusted Returns\*

#### NCC Investment Portfolio Risk and Performance Metrics



#### NAC Investment Portfolio Risk and Performance Metrics

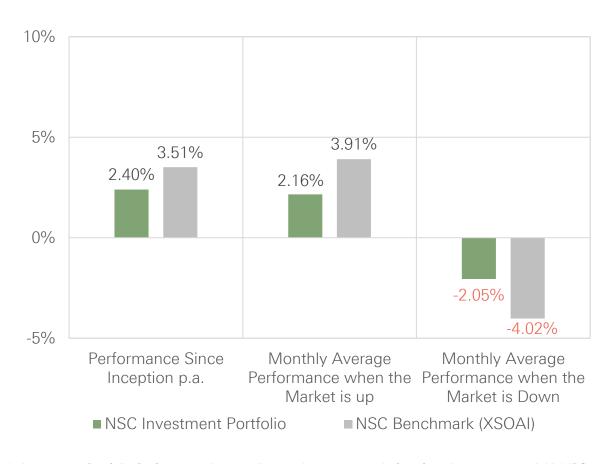


<sup>\*</sup> Investment Portfolio Performance is post all operating expenses, before fees, interest, taxes, initial IPO commissions and all subsequent capital raising costs. Performance has not been grossed up for franking credits received by shareholders. Since inception (p.a.) includes part performance for the month of February 2013 (NCC) and November 2014 (NAC), returns compounded for periods greater than 12 months. All risk metrics are calculated from the inception date of each portfolio. All Figures are as at 31 December 2022. Since NCC's inception (118 months) there have been 77 positive months for the market and 41 negative months and since NAC's inception (98 months) there have been 60 positive months for the market and 38 negative months.

# NAOS Strong Long-term Risk-adjusted Returns\*

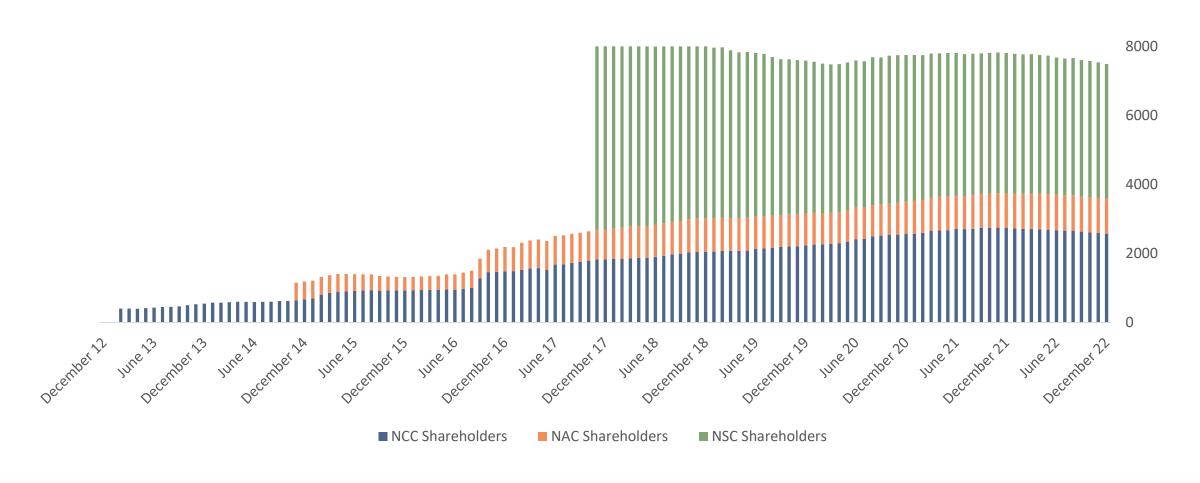
# $N \wedge O_{c}$

NSC Investment Portfolio Risk and Performance Metrics



<sup>\*</sup> Investment Portfolio Performance is post all operating expenses, before fees, interest, taxes, initial IPO commissions and all subsequent capital raising costs. Performance has not been grossed up for franking credits received by shareholders. Returns compounded for periods greater than 12 months. All risk metrics are calculated from the inception date of each portfolio. All Figures are as at 31 December 2022. Since NSC's Investment Portfolio inception (62 months) there have been 31 positive months for the market and 31 negative months.

### Historical Shareholder Numbers



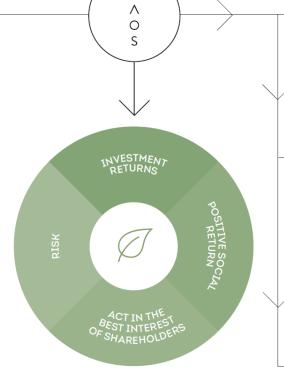
## NAOS ESG Framework

# OUR COMMITMENT TO RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT

As an investment manager, NAOS recognises and accepts its duty to act responsibly and in the best interests of shareholders. We believe that a high standard of business conduct and a responsible approach to environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors is associated with a sustainable business model over the longer term that benefits not only shareholders but also the broader economy.

We recognise the material impacts that ESG factors can have on investment returns and risk, and also the wider implications for achieving a positive social return.

NAOS is a signatory to the United Nations-supported Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) and is guided by these principles in incorporating ESG into its investment practices.



Ν

NAOS systematically excludes investing in specific industries and companies

excludes investing in specific industries and companies that do not align with our responsible investment goals.

**GAMBLING** 

NUCLEAR & URANIUM

CONTROVERSIAL

**WEAPONS** 

COAL MINING OPERATIONS, OIL & GAS PRODUCTION

03

#### **ESG FRAMEWORK**

The types of ESG factors we consider are represented by the following, although from time to time we will consider factors outside this group.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL**

**TOBACCO** 

Water
Waste
Pollution
Biodiversity
Deforestation
Climate Change
Reporting on Violations
Greenhouse Gas Emissions
Environmental Opportunities

#### SOCIAL

Training
Supply Chain
Social Licence
Human Rights
Labour Standard
Community Relations
Human Capital Policy
Employee Engagement
Workplace Health & Safety

#### GOVERNANCE

**ANIMAL** 

**CRUELTY** 

Board Quality
Board Diversity
Codes of Conduct
Risk Management
Incentive Structures
Board Independence
Shareholder Voting Rights
Shareholder Concentration
Anti-bribery and Corruption Policy
CEO and Executive Remuneration

Signatory of:



The incorporation of ESG considerations into the investment process applies across all NAOS investments and involves regular discussions and engagement with companies over material ESG issues.

ESG considerations rest at the core of the NAOS investment process. While the investment team screens all prospective investments on an ESG basis, NAOS also ensures that all its investee companies abide by the same principles. NAOS seeks to ensure investee companies are acting in a responsible manner, are setting clear targets and are having a positive impact on their respective stakeholders (i.e. employees, clients, community). Their impact on the environment is foremost among these priorities. As part of this process, NAOS has continued to evolve its ESG questionnaire it provides to all investee companies. This questionnaire provides NAOS with transparent, consistent and granular data on how these companies are both performing and improving upon these focus points.

CONVICTION. LONG TERM. ALIGNED / Copyright 2023 NAOS Asset Management

THE INCORPORATION OF ESG

# Key Business & Industry Traits for Maximising Long-term Performance and Reducing the Risk of Permanent Capital Loss Events

Industry Tailwinds Supporting Long-Term Revenue Growth A growing revenue base provides companies with a number of competitive advantages such as the ability to scale their fixed cost base and increase margins, the opportunity to reinvest to improve their product or service offering, or the chance to enter new markets and compete on a number of considerations other than just price.

**Pricing Power** 

Certain products and/or services around the globe can charge a price that is largely irrelevant to the consumer, due to the simple fact that it provides such a sound consumer experience.

Scalability

Ideally, a business structure is built from the ground up and is structured in such a way that it has the systems and processes to handle significant scaling without an equivalent dollar of cost being added to the cost base. Businesses that can demonstrate a trend of increasing profits over the long term have generally been able to increase margins as well.

Capability to Internally Fund Expansion Opportunities

The ability to invest in organic business initiatives such as research and development, new product or service launches into adjacent markets, or small bolt on acquisitions that bring with them a new capability.

**Business Moat** 

If a business has a sustainable competitive advantage and can also increase this advantage over time, this will generally lead to significant organic revenue growth over the long term. This is driven by a strong customer proposition as well as significant pricing power. With such organic growth, the business should have the financial resources to support further innovation to ensure they maintain and even enhance this moat over time.

Alignment

A company with the ability to support the interests of all shareholders can have substantial compounding effects over time. If the Board of Directors, key executives and staff are material shareholders then a business is more likely to develop a culture, values and a business strategy that aligns with total shareholder return outcomes over the long term.

# Why Invest via a Listed Investment Company?

\ \ \ \ \ \

We strongly believe LICs are a highly effective structure to give investors the highest quality exposure to specific asset classes, which in the case of NAOS is emerging businesses.

A Listed Investment Company structure:

- Allows the investment manager to build a concentrated portfolio of high-quality investments without needing to worry about short-term liquidity requirements.
- Fund size is generally limited to the upside, allowing investors to maintain a significant exposure to the underlying investments and not be diluted by new investors, which may occur in an openended fund.
- Enables a smoother distribution profile as profits can be retained, as opposed to managed funds which distribute all taxable income annually. Dividends from a LIC may also be fully franked.
- Can provide access to a range of alternative asset classes which may not be suited to an openended structure.

## Investor Awareness and Communication

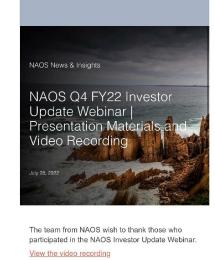
Quarterly Webinars

CEO Insights, NAOS
Newsletter

N
A
O
S

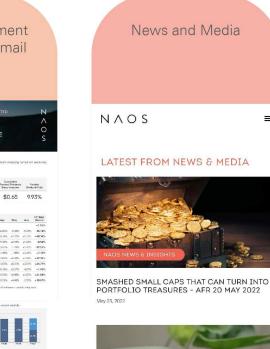
NAOS NTA Update &
Insights Newsletter

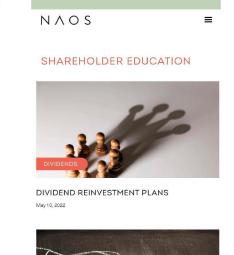
April 2022



Presentation materials can be viewed here







Shareholder Education



**NAOS Emerging Opportunities** 

Company Limited

(ASX: NCC)







Subscribe now: www.naos.com.au/subscribe