



ECP EMERGING GROWTH LIMITED

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

For the Half-Year Ended 31 December 2022

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Directors' Report

Your Directors submit the Interim Financial Report of ECP Emerging Growth Limited (the "Company") for the half-year ended 31 December 2022.

Directors

The following persons were Directors of ECP Emerging Growth Limited since 30 June 2022 and up to the date of this report, unless stated otherwise.

- Mr Murray d'Almeida (Chairman)
- Mr David Crombie AM
- Mr Jared Pohl

Principal Activity

The principal activity of the Company is investing in a diversified portfolio of quality small to mid-cap companies listed on the Australian Securities Exchange. There have been no significant changes in the nature of this activity during the period.

Market Commentary

Over the last 12 months the financial markets have been impacted by global events and macro-economic conditions that no-one expected in December 2021. The shock of the Reserve Bank of Australia's interest rate policy shift in response to persistent inflation set off a significant decline in equity values. Ongoing speculation regarding inflation readings and interest rate moves impacted sentiment throughout the year. In the 6 months from 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2022 the ASX All Ordinaries Index has gained 7.0% but the move has not been a straight linear path. Ongoing uncertainty and volatility impacts the market and factors that have been dominating headlines in 2022 are most likely to continue into 2023.

The ECP Emerging Growth portfolio is built with companies that have a sustainable competitive advantage and dynamic capabilities to respond to new competition or other business challenges. These businesses should be well equipped to handle the challenges of today and to deliver out-performance over the long term.

Review of Operations

Investment performance for the six months to December 2022 was positive 11.1%, compared to the ASX Small Ordinaries Index increase of 5.4%. The result is an improvement on the prior year six month portfolio performance of positive 4.2% and is just under the 5 year average of 13.1%.

Due to the global macro-economic environment equity valuations have been under pressure however pleasingly the investee businesses have generally performed in line with expectations with resultant dividend income increasing year on year by \$119,103. Net profit increased compared to last year by \$1,471,208, this is due to the portfolio performance mentioned above less the impact of interest costs associated with the convertible notes issued in April 2022 (ASX: ECPGA).

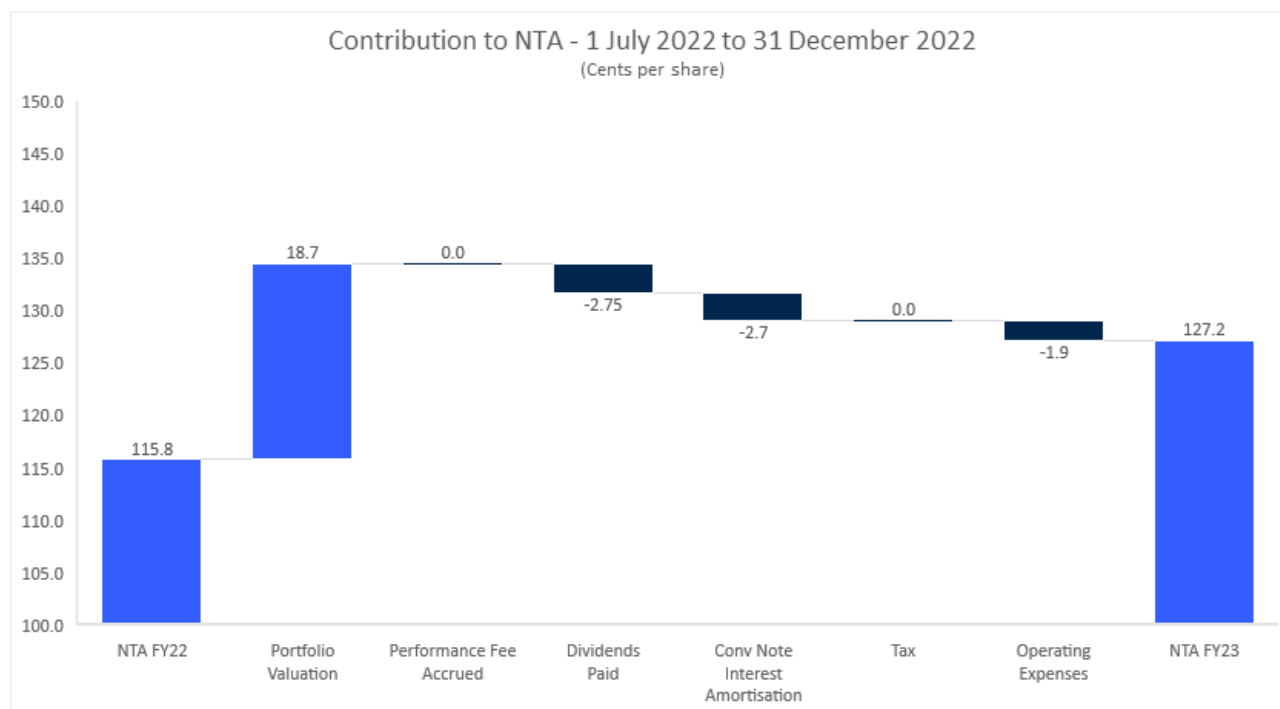
During the six months to December 2022 the company paid the FY2022 Final Dividend of 2.75 cents per share, a total of \$504,325.30. At 31 December 2022 the Company maintains sufficient reserves to maintain the annual fully franked dividend of 4.85 cents per share for a further 3.5 years.

Portfolio Performance

	6 mths to Dec 2022	12 mths to Dec 2022	3 years	5 years	Since Inception (23 Jan 2014) p.a.
ECP Portfolio	11.1%	-23.4%	8.9%	13.1%	13.0%
ASX Small Ordinaries	5.4%	-20.7%	-1.2%	0.2%	2.7%

Net Tangible Asset Backing

The net tangible asset backing (NTA) per share (tax on realised gains only) at 31 December 2022 was 127.2 cents per share compared with 115.8 at 30 June 2022. The graph below depicts the movement in NTA in terms of the contribution of the portfolio and outgoings in running the Company.



Significant Changes In State Of Affairs

There have been no significant changes to the operations of the Company during the last six months.

Dividend Declared

A fully franked interim dividend of 2.2 cents per share in respect to the half-year ended 31 December 2022 is to be paid on 9 March 2023. This represents a 4.8% increase on the interim dividend paid in March 2022.

During the six-month period to December 2022 the Company paid a final dividend for the 2022 financial year of 2.75 cents per share. The total distribution of \$504,325 was paid on 14 September 2022.

Capital Gains Component Of Dividend

The capacity of the Company to continue to facilitate access to the capital gain benefit of the dividend, will depend on the Company's capacity to generate capital profits.

The interim dividend will include an LIC capital gain component.

Auditor's Independence Declaration

The Auditor's Independence Declaration under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* is set out on page 4 and forms part of the Directors' Report for the half-year ended 31 December 2022.

This report is made in accordance with a Resolution of the Directors.

Murray d'Almeida
Chairman
GOLD COAST
16 February 2023


**ECP EMERGING GROWTH LIMITED
ABN 30 167 689 821**

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION UNDER
SECTION 307C OF THE CORPORATIONS ACT 2001
TO THE DIRECTORS OF ECP EMERGING GROWTH LIMITED**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief during the half-year ended 31 December 2022, there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the review; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the review.

Connect National Audit Pty Ltd
Authorised Audit Company No. 521888



**George Georgiou FCA
MANAGING PARTNER**

Dated this 16 day of February 2023.

Condensed Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the Half-Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Note	31 Dec 2022 \$	31 Dec 2021 \$
Revenue	2	321,110	183,607
Net cumulative gain/(loss) on sale of financial assets at fair value		(775,440)	2,104,190
Net unrealised gains/(losses) on financial assets at fair value		3,909,617	(384,075)
Finance Expense		(496,218)	-
Other Expenses		(351,574)	(354,313)
Profit before income tax		2,607,495	1,549,409
Income tax expense		(6,041)	(419,163)
Net Profit after income tax for the half-year		2,601,454	1,130,246
<i>Other Comprehensive Income</i>			
Other Comprehensive Income for the half-year, net of tax		-	-
Total Comprehensive Income for the half-year		2,601,454	1,130,246

Earnings per share:	Cents	Cents
Basic earnings per share based on net profit	14.19	6.17
Diluted earnings per share based on net profit	11.61	6.17
Comprehensive Earnings per share	14.19	6.17

The above Condensed Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Condensed Financial Statements.

Condensed Statement of Financial Position

As at 31 December 2022

	Note	31 Dec 2022 \$	30 June 2022 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and Cash Equivalents		2,050,673	2,904,468
Trade and Other Receivables		55,465	116,815
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		2,106,138	3,021,283
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	4	31,253,417	28,522,162
Deferred tax asset		78,844	84,885
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		31,332,261	28,607,047
TOTAL ASSETS		33,438,399	31,628,330
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and Other Payables		46,974	532,012
Current Tax Liabilities		1,108,611	1,108,611
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,155,585	1,640,623
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Deferred Tax Liability		-	-
Convertible Note		8,949,157	8,751,178
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		8,949,157	8,751,178
TOTAL LIABILITIES		10,104,742	10,391,801
NET ASSETS		23,333,657	21,236,529
EQUITY			
Issued Capital	6	17,978,916	17,978,916
Option premium on convertible notes		1,848,766	1,848,766
Retained Earnings		3,505,975	1,408,847
TOTAL EQUITY		23,333,657	21,236,529

The above Condensed Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Condensed Financial Statements.

Condensed Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Half-Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Ordinary Shares	Retained Earnings	Notes Option Premium	TOTAL
2021		\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2021		17,952,246	12,558,069	-	30,510,315
Profit for the half-year		-	1,130,246	-	1,130,246
Other Comprehensive Income		-	-	-	-
Transactions with Owners in their capacity as owners					
Dividends paid	3	-	(503,746)	-	(503,746)
Balance at 31 December 2021		17,952,246	13,184,569	-	31,136,815

	Note	Ordinary Shares	Retained Earnings	Notes Option Premium	TOTAL
2022		\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2022		17,978,916	1,408,847	1,848,766	21,236,529
Profit for the half-year		-	2,601,454	-	2,601,454
Other Comprehensive Income		-	-	-	-
Transactions with Owners in their capacity as owners					
Dividends paid	3	-	(504,325)	-	(504,325)
Balance at 31 December 2022		17,978,916	3,505,975	1,848,766	23,333,657

The above Condensed Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Condensed Financial Statements.

Condensed Statement of Cash Flows

For the Half-Year Ended 31 December 2022

	31 Dec 2022 \$	31 Dec 2021 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Dividends received	313,490	220,405
Interest received	18,402	1
Interest paid on convertible notes	(298,240)	-
Other payments (inclusive of GST)	(304,664)	(2,481,370)
Net cash used in operating activities	(271,012)	(2,260,964)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from sale of investments	10,578,362	12,460,964
Payment for investments	(10,626,820)	(10,966,357)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	(78,458)	1,494,607
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Dividend paid	(504,325)	(503,746)
Net cash used in by financing activities	(504,325)	(503,746)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents held	(853,795)	(1,270,103)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at beginning of the financial period	2,904,468	3,774,884
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the end of the financial period	2,050,673	2,504,781

The above Condensed Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Condensed Financial Statements.

Notes to the Condensed Financial Statements

NOTE 1 BASIS OF PREPARATION

These general purpose Interim Financial Statements for the half-year reporting period ended 31 December 2022 have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and Australian Accounting Standard AASB 134: Interim Financial Reporting.

ECP Emerging Growth Limited is a for-profit Company for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

This Interim Financial Report is intended to provide users with an update on the latest financial statements of ECP Emerging Growth Limited. As such it does not include all the Notes of the type normally included in an Annual Financial Report and therefore cannot be expected to provide as full an understanding of the financial performance, financial position and financing and investing activities of the Company as the full financial report.

It is recommended that this financial report be read in conjunction with the annual financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2022, together with any public announcements made by ECP Emerging Growth Limited during the half-year ended 31 December 2022 in accordance with the continuous disclosure requirements of the ASX listing rules.

The same accounting policies and methods of computation have been followed in this Interim Financial Report as were applied in the most recent annual financial statements.

These Interim Financial Statements were authorised for issue on 16 February 2023.

Comparative Figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial period.

Changes in Accounting Policy

There are no changes in accounting policy that apply for the half-year ended 31 December 2022.

New, Revised or Amending Accounting Standards and Interpretations Adopted

The Company has adopted all the new, revised or amending Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

Any new, revised or amending Accounting Standards or Interpretations that are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted.

The adoption of these Accounting Standards and Interpretations did not have any significant impact on the financial performance or position of the Company.

Notes to the Condensed Financial Statements

NOTE 2 REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME

	31 Dec 2022 \$	31 Dec 2021 \$
Dividends Received	302,708	183,606
Interest Received	18,402	1
Total Revenue	<u>321,110</u>	<u>183,607</u>

NOTE 3 DIVIDENDS

	31 Dec 2022 \$	31 Dec 2021 \$
Dividends paid during the half-year:		
- final dividend of 2.75 cents per share paid 15 September 2021 – fully franked		503,746
- final dividend of 2.75 cents per share paid 14 September 2022 – fully franked	504,325	-
	<u>504,325</u>	<u>503,746</u>

Since the end of the half-year, the Directors have declared an interim dividend of 2.2 cents per share. The Interim dividend is 100% franked and payable on 9 March 2023.

NOTE 4 FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The following assets and liabilities are recognised and measured at fair value on a recurring basis:

- Financial Assets at fair value through Profit or Loss.

AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement requires all assets and liabilities measured at fair value to be measured and disclosed using the three-level hierarchy:

- Level 1 Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
- Level 2 Inputs other than quoted prices included with level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (as prices) or indirectly (derived from prices), and
- Level 3 Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

Notes to the Condensed Financial Statements

NOTE 4 FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (Continued)

The following table sets out the Company's assets and liabilities that are measured and recognised at fair value in the financial statements.

Company – at 30 June 2022	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	TOTAL
Assets	\$	\$	\$	\$
Recurring fair value measurements.				
Financial Assets at fair value through profit or loss -				
Listed Equity Securities	28,522,162	-	-	28,522,162
Total Financial Assets	28,522,162	-	-	28,522,162

Company – at 31 December 2022	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	TOTAL
Assets	\$	\$	\$	\$
Recurring fair value measurements.				
Financial Assets at fair value through profit or loss -				
Listed Equity Securities	31,253,417	-	-	31,253,417
Total Financial Assets	31,253,417	-	-	31,253,417

There were no transfers during the year between Level 1 and Level 2 for recurring fair value measurements.

The Company's policy is to recognise transfers into and out of the different fair value hierarchy levels at the date the event or change in circumstances that caused the transfer occurred.

Due to their short-term nature, the carrying amount of trade receivables and payables are assumed to approximate their fair values.

The carrying amount of current trade and other payables are assumed to approximate their fair values because the impact of discounting is not significant.

NOTE 5 OPERATING SEGMENTS

Segment Information

The Company operates solely in the investment industry. Its core business focuses on investing in Australian equities to achieve medium to long-term capital growth and income.

Operating segments have been determined on the basis of the reports reviewed by the Board. The Board considers the business from both a product and geographic perspective and assesses performance and allocates resources on this basis. The Board considers the business to consist of just one reportable segment.

Notes to the Condensed Financial Statements

NOTE 6 MOVEMENTS IN ISSUED CAPITAL

Date	Details	Number of shares	Price \$	Issued Capital \$
30 June 2021	Balance	18,318,043		18,322,898
	DRP Share Issue	21,405	\$1.3099	27,568
30 June 2022	Balance	18,339,088		18,350,465
	Nil Movement*	-	-	-
31 December 2021	Balance	18,339,088		18,350,465
<i>Adjust for</i>				
	Capital Raising Costs			(530,784)
	Capital Raising Costs – Tax Effect			159,235
	Net Capital Raising Costs (After Tax)			(371,549)
	Balance of Contributed Equity Per Balance Sheet			17,978,916

* The Dividend Reinvestment Plan was facilitated through on-market purchase of shares.

There were no shares issued during the period.

(a) Ordinary Shares

Ordinary shares entitle the holder to participate in dividends and the proceeds on winding up of the Company in proportion to the number of shares held.

On a show of hands every holder of ordinary shares present at a meeting in person or by proxy, is entitled to one vote, and upon a poll each share is entitled to one vote.

NOTE 7 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS

The Company has no known contingent liabilities or contingent assets.

NOTE 8 EVENTS OCCURRING AFTER REPORTING DATE

Since the end of the period, the Directors declared a fully franked interim dividend of 2.2 cents per share payable on 9 March 2023.

The Directors are not aware of any other matter or circumstance which has arisen since balance date that has significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Company in subsequent financial periods.

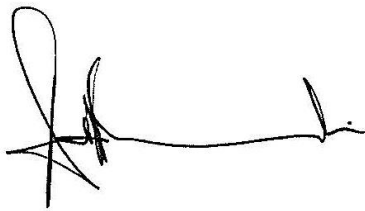
Directors' Declaration

The Directors declare that the Financial Statements and Notes as set out on pages 5 to 12 are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:

- a) complying with Accounting Standard AASB134 Interim Financial Reporting, the Corporations Regulations 2001 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and
- b) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 31 December 2022 and of its performance for the half-year ended on that date.

In the Directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that ECP Emerging Growth Limited will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Directors.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Murray d'Almeida', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Murray d'Almeida

Chairman

GOLD COAST

16 February 2023

**ECP EMERGING GROWTH LIMITED
ABN 30 167 689 821**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REVIEW REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF ECP EMERGING GROWTH LIMITED
(Page 1 of 2)**

Conclusion

We have reviewed the half-year financial report of ECP Emerging Growth Limited (the Company), which comprises the Condensed Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2022, the Condensed Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income, the Condensed Statement of Changes in Equity and the Condensed Statement of Cash Flows for the half-year ended on that date, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information and the Directors' Declaration.

Based on our review, which is not an audit, we have not become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the accompanying half-year financial report of ECP Emerging Growth Limited does not comply with the Corporations Act 2001, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of ECP Emerging Growth Limited's financial position as at 31 December 2022 and of its performance for the half-year ended on that date; and
- (b) complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134: Interim Financial Reporting and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

Basis for Conclusion

We conducted our review in accordance with ASRE 2410 Review of a Financial Report Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity. Our responsibilities are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Review of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards) (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the annual financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the Corporations Act 2001 which has been given to the directors of the company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's review report.

Responsibility of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the half-year financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Act 2001 and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the half-year financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

**ECP EMERGING GROWTH LIMITED
ABN 30 167 689 821**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REVIEW REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF ECP EMERGING GROWTH LIMITED
(Page 2 of 2)**

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the half-year financial report based on our review. ASRE 2410 requires us to conclude whether we have become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the half-year financial report is not in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 including giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 31 December 2022 and its performance for the half-year ended on that date and complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134: Interim Financial Reporting and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

A review of a half-year financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and, consequently, does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

Connect National Audit Pty Ltd
Authorised Audit Company No. 521888



**George Georgiou FCA
MANAGING PARTNER**

Dated this 16 day of February 2023



www.ecpam.com/emerging

REGISTERED OFFICE

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