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15 November 2024

By Electronic Lodgement

Market Announcements Office ASX Limited 20 Bridge Street Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam

#### Spheria Emerging Companies Limited (ASX:SEC) – Monthly Investment Update

Please find attached a copy of the investment update for the month ending 31 October 2024.

For further information, please contact 1300 010 311.

Authorised by:

Calvin Kwok
Company Secretary



# Spheria Emerging Companies Limited ASX: SEC

Investment Update 31 October 2024

## **Overall Commentary**

The Company performance for the month of October was 1.0% (after fees), outperforming the S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries Accumulation Index by 0.2%.

Small caps continued to march higher in October, outperforming larger companies. General sentiment continues to improve with markets increasingly believing that central bankers are navigating a soft landing with inflation falling and interest rates beginning to be cut across most markets. Australia has been the exception so far on this front and is increasingly looking like an isolated case – although against this we didn't tighten anywhere nearly as far as the US, UK or NZ. This backdrop is viewed as supportive for consumer spending and growth more generally. Despite ongoing geopolitical and election uncertainty the small-cap index is up over 26% in the last year.

Insignia Financial (IFL.ASX, +66bps), not owning WEB Travel Group (WEB.ASX, +49bps), and Michael Hill International (MHJ.ASX, +27bps) were positive contributors for the month. The largest detractors from performance included not owning Arcadium Lithium (LTM.ASX, -54bps), Sigma Healthcare (SIG.ASX, -27bps) and Life360 (360.ASX, -24bps).

### **Company Facts**

Investment Manager	Spheria Asset Management Pty Limited		
ASX Code	SEC		
Share Price	\$2.330		
Inception Date	30 November 2017		
Listing Date	5 December 2017		
Benchmark	S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries Accumulation Index		
Dividends Paid	Quarterly		
Management Fee	1.00% (plus GST) per annum¹		
Performance Fee	20% (plus GST) of the Portfolio's outperformance <sup>2</sup>		
Market Capitalisation	\$139.3m		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Calculated daily and paid at the end of each month in arrears.

### Performance as at 31 October 2024

	1 Month	3 Months	1 Year	3 Years p.a.	5 Years p.a.	Inception p.a <sup>3</sup>
Company <sup>1</sup>	1.0%	3.7%	33.2%	1.0%	7.9%	7.4%
Benchmark <sup>2</sup>	0.8%	3.8%	26.6%	-0.6%	4.7%	5.2%
Difference	0.2%	-0.1%	6.6%	1.6%	3.3%	2.2%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Calculated as the Company's investment portfolio performance after fees excluding tax on realised and unrealised gains/losses and other earnings and after company expenses

#### Net Tangible Assets (NTA)<sup>1</sup>

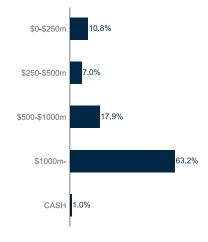
Pre-Tax NTA<sup>2</sup>
2.395
Post-Tax NTA<sup>3</sup>
2.339

The NTA values shown above are after the dividend of 3.5 cents per share paid on 12 November 2024. The ex-date of the dividend was 22 October 2024.

## Top 10 Holdings

Company Name	% Portfolio
Supply Network Limited	5.5
Fletcher Building Limited	4.9
Insignia Financial Limited	4.4
IRESS Limited	4.2
Healius Limited	3.8
Bega Cheese Limited	3.6
Universal Store Holdings Limited	3.2
Sims Limited	3.0
Technology One Limited	2.9
Deterra Royalties Limited	2.7
Top 10	38.2

## Market Cap Bands



Source: Spheria Asset Management

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Against the Benchmark over each 6-month period to a high-water mark mechanism

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Benchmark is the S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries Accumulation Index.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Inception date is 30 November 2017. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. All p.a returns are annualised.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> NTA calculations exclude Deferred Tax Assets relating to capitalised issue related balance and income tax loses.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Pre-tax NTA includes tax on realised gains/losses and other earnings, but excludes any provisions for tax on unrealised gains/losses.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Post-tax NTA includes tax on realised and unrealised gains/losses and other earnings.



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Investment Update 31 October 2024

#### **Fund Ratings**



#### **Contact Us**

For more information, please contact Pinnacle Investment Management Limited on 1300 010 311 or email <a href="mailto:distribution@pinnacleinvestment.com">distribution@pinnacleinvestment.com</a>

#### **Disclaimer**

Spheria Emerging Companies Limited (the Company, ASX: SEC) is a listed investment company (LIC) that provides investors with access to an actively managed, Australian and New Zealand small and micro companies portfolio, designed for investors seeking capital growth and portfolio diversification. It is a confined capacity investment strategy that identifies smaller companies where the present value of cash flows can be reasonably determined and they are assessed to be trading at a discount to their intrinsic value. The smaller companies universe is more volatile and higher risk. An experienced investment manager in the small company end of the market is paramount to success, for this reason there are only a small number of listed investment companies offering access to a diversified small companies investment portfolio. Spheria Asset Management Pty Ltd (the Manager, Spheria), is the appointed investment manager and is a specialist team with a track record of navigating the higher risk opportunities at the small end of the market.

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