

**15 December 2022**  
**ASX Announcement**

## **Auctus Investment Group to sell stake in Petspiration Group**

*Sale is expected to generate gross Internal Rate of Return of approximately 30% p.a. and money multiple of 1.8x*

- Woolworths Group (ASX: WOW) to acquire a 55% equity interest in Petspiration Group (PETstock)
- Auctus' Pet Fund to sell entire 10.22% stake as part of the transaction
- Woolworths Group will pay a Cash purchase price of \$586 million for 55% interest
- Auctus is expected to receive a performance fee in excess of \$6M on close<sup>1</sup>

### **Overview**

Auctus Investment Group ('AVC', 'Auctus' or 'The Company') is pleased to advise that Woolworths Group has today announced the acquisition of a 55% equity interest in Petspiration Group ('Petspiration'), for a cash consideration of \$586 million.

In March 2021, Auctus raised the \$58M Pet Fund to acquire a stake in Petspiration, the owner and operator of leading retail brand PETstock with a network of 276 stores, established eCommerce platforms such as Pet.co.nz, a 2.4 million member Petspiration loyalty program, and a strong own brand range including Caribu and Glow.

Assuming completion of the transaction, Auctus will sell the Fund's entire stake of 10.22% in Petspiration, which is expected to generate a gross IRR of approximately 30% p.a. and money multiple of 1.8x for Pet Fund Investors.

At close Auctus is expected to receive a cash performance fee in excess of \$6M.

Commenting on the transaction, Auctus Investment Group managing director Campbell McComb said: "This is an excellent result for Auctus investors and shareholders and our second investment exit, again generating strong returns. It further illustrates the value Auctus is delivering as a manager of highly curated private market opportunities."

Woolworths Group has shared details of its investment in Petspiration Group via an announcement published on the ASX. This announcement can also be found at:  
<https://www.woolworthsgroup.com.au/au/en/investors/our-performance/asx-announcements.html>

The transaction remains subject to customary closing conditions including ACCC and NZCC approvals with completion expected in mid-2023.

**- ENDS**

---

<sup>1</sup> Assuming settlement prior to 30 June 2023

**About Auctus**

**Auctus Investment Group Limited ('Auctus')** is an ASX listed private markets asset manager with in-excess of A\$485M Assets Under Management (AUM), focusing on opportunities across private equity, infrastructure and operating real estate. Our core investment thesis is investing in sectors with strong tailwinds and potential to scale. Auctus provides wholesale, Family Office and sophisticated investors with access to a highly curated selection of private market investment opportunities.

This announcement has been authorised for release by the Board of AVC.

**For shareholder enquiries please contact:**

Campbell McComb  
Managing Director

[enquiries@auctusinvest.com](mailto:enquiries@auctusinvest.com)