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### Wutherich & Co. March 2018 Newsletter

Wil Wutherich, President, B.Sc., MBA: Over twenty-five years as an equity analyst and portfolio manager with Standard Life, Van Berkom & Associates and Wutherich & Co.

# Monthly Message

The Wutherich & Co. Composite was down 0.3% in March. This compares with the S&P/TSX down 0.2% and the BMO Small Cap Index down 1.6%.

By the end of March, all of our companies in the Wutherich & Co. Portfolio had reported their most recent quarterly results. With a few exceptions, the numbers were good, not that you would know it from the reaction in their stock prices.

One of our long-term holdings is Badger Daylighting. It has been interesting to watch how this stock has performed over that last 2 years or so. The company has proven that it can grow beyond its Western Canadian oil and gas roots and enter other end-markets and geographic areas. It has done so in spectacular fashion. Yet, the stock price is about the same as it was two years ago despite much stronger fundamentals. A key reason is that it has been the prey of US short sellers who seem to be able to make any number of unsubstantiated claims against the company. To date, nothing has come to light of a material nature to indicate that the company has done anything wrong. Now, Badger management is fighting back. They have hired advisors to investigate the practices of the short-sellers and they will forward their findings to securities regulators. Meanwhile, we focus on the fundamentals of the company which continue to look very good. We are happy to continue to hold a significant position.

The following table illustrates the performance of the Wutherich & Co. Composite to the present:

(Unaudited, since Sep.30/01)\*

	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>1YR</u>	<u>3YR</u>	<u>5YR</u>	<u>10YR</u>	<u>15YR</u>	INCEPTION
WUTHERICH & CO.	-0.3%	2.6%	1.8%	3.5%	5.2%	10.9%	11.5%
BMOSCI-WTD	-1.6%	-5.0%	4.6%	4.0%	4.0%	8.7%	8.4%
S&P/TSX	-0.2%	1.7%	4.1%	6.9%	4.5%	8.9%	7.8%

Please note that the Wutherich & Co. Composite is reported **AFTER FEES**.

# Wutherich & Co. Factsheet

## Company Objective

Our goal is to seek prosperity for our clients through participation in stable, growing companies in North America, led by strong management teams that we consider our partners for the next five or more years.

## **Investment Philosophy**

Our style can be described as concentrated, disciplined, long-term growth stock investing. The focus is on established companies that generally have a demonstrated track record in revenue, cash flow or earnings per share growth, with strong managements and solid balance sheets. The current emphasis in the portfolio is on the equity of small to medium capitalization companies, defined roughly as \$50 million to \$5 billion in market capitalization. The portfolio may include large capitalization companies if the right elements are there. Stocks are bought with a keen eye to valuation, so you're not likely to find many high multiple stocks here. The portfolio will likely maintain a significant percentage in foreign securities, providing exposure to investment returns outside of Canada.

### **Portfolio Composition**

CANADIAN STOCKS	78.31%
• ENERGY	12.95%
• FINANCIALS	14.24%
<ul> <li>INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</li> </ul>	8.90%
<ul> <li>COMMUNICATIONS</li> </ul>	0%
CONSUMER	0%
HEALTHCARE	8.72%
<ul> <li>INDUSTRIALS</li> </ul>	26.97%
<ul> <li>MATERIALS</li> </ul>	0%
TELECOM	0%
• UTILITIES	0%
• OTHER	6.52%
U.S. STOCKS	10.73%
<ul> <li>INDUSTRIALS</li> </ul>	5.30%
• ENERGY	5.44%
CASH AND OTHERS	10.96%

### **Performance**



#### Your account with us

Wutherich & Company is an independent investment counsellor. We do not hold assets for our clients, but simply exercise trades over your account as per an agreed upon investment policy statement and portfolio management agreement. Your account is held at *National Bank Correspondent Network* in your name. Withdrawals from that account can only be sent to you at your designated bank account and/or address of record. Wutherich & Co. may also do withdrawals from your account to satisfy any fees that may apply to your account. All accounts are cash accounts. Unlike hedge funds, we do not use leverage or derivatives to manage your money. Also, we are not a fund company – if you are a private investor with us, your account will mirror the Model Portfolio but your investments are not pooled.

#### Other Facts

- Annual fees are 1.5% of assets on a quarterly basis in arrears, plus applicable taxes
- · Any commissions, custodial or brokerage fees are in addition to the annual fees
- Clients qualifying for an institutional account would be charged 1.5% for the first \$1 million, 1.0% from over \$1 to 10 million and 0.5% for the next \$40 million
- Fees on any accounts over \$50 million would be subject to negotiation
- Minimum account size is \$250,000
- Investments are 100% RSP eligible

\*The Wutherich & Co. performance shown here (using the Time Weighted Rate of Return method) is of a composite which combines the performance of all of the accounts managed by Wutherich & Co. that have been invested according to the Wutherich & Co. Portfolio throughout their history. These accounts vary greatly in the size of assets that they contain and whether or not fees have been deducted directly from the accounts during their history. BMOSCI-wtd = BMO Small Cap Index, Total Return, weighted. This index is currently the most comparable to the Wutherich & Co. portfolio due to its average market capitalization, though it may differ greatly in its sector weightings; TSX = S&P/TSX Total Return Index. Due to its large capitalization nature and substantially different sector weightings, this index may not be considered comparable to the Wutherich & Co. Portfolio.