

Wutherich & Co. May 2023 Newsletter

Wil Wutherich, President, B.Sc., MBA: Over thirty 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 1.8% in May. This compares with the S&P/TSX being down 4.9%.

Debt ceiling battles in the US, Russia's invasion of Ukraine, recession fears, inflation, higher interest rates, the health of the consumer, concerns about the banking environment and regulatory changes continue to weigh on markets, and on some of our stocks.

Outstanding earnings reports from most of our names during May countered some of this negativity. This affirms how strongly positioned many of our companies are to weather this environment. Notable exceptions are Alaris (AD.UN-T) and Hibbett (HIBB-Q). The drop in HIBB stock alone caused a 3% decline in the Wutherich & Company Composite in May. AD.UN, which invests in private companies, is dealing with challenges with one of its current, one of its former and select weakness in some of its other partners. HIBB, a sporting goods retailer, is dealing with the aftereffects of the COVID boom in demand for its products combined with a consumer that is re-trenching in the face of all the above-mentioned macro-economic factors. Both companies have plenty to work through but we believe they can re-establish growth in the coming years. As for the rest of our names, we find managements are more cautious but still enjoying strong fundamentals for their businesses. Good long-term outlooks and cheap valuations should support long-term capital appreciation for the portfolio. While we don't chase it, an average dividend yield of about 4% provides us with a good underlying rate of return while equity prices sort themselves out over the next few years.

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>5YR</u>	<u>10YR</u>	<u>20YR</u>	<u>INCEPTION</u>
<u>WUTHERICH & CO.</u>	-1.8%	-3.3%	9.0%	6.7%	10.4%	11.2%
<u>S&P/TSX</u>	-4.9%	-2.5%	7.2%	7.7%	8.4%	7.9%

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

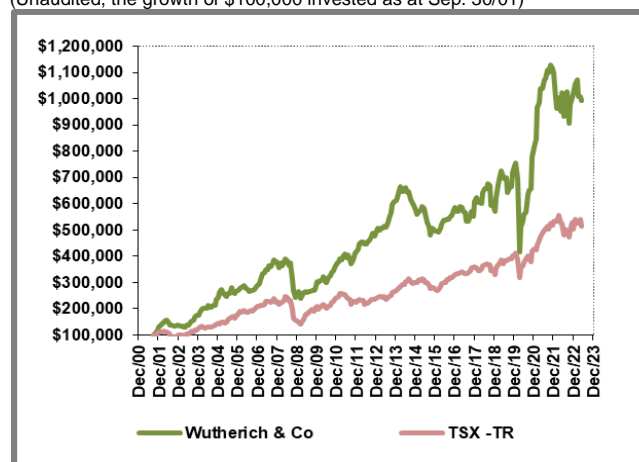
Our style can be described as concentrated, disciplined, long-term growth stock investing. The focus is on established companies that generally have a demonstrated track record in revenue, cash flow or earnings per share growth, with strong managements and solid balance sheets. The current emphasis in 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	86.87%
• ENERGY	16.96%
• FINANCIALS	18.92%
• INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	7.79%
• COMMUNICATIONS	0%
• CONSUMER	0%
• HEALTHCARE	4.78%
• INDUSTRIALS	27.21%
• MATERIALS	0%
• TELECOM	0%
• UTILITIES	0%
• OTHER	11.21%
U.S. STOCKS	6.23%
• CONSUMER	6.23%
CASH AND OTHER	6.90%

Performance

(Unaudited, the growth of \$100,000 invested as at Sep. 30/01)*



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 Independent 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. 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.