

# Market Analysis

Issue No. 327

P.O. Box 34-162, Auckland

September 7, 1999.

## Inside Market Analysis

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## Summary and Recommended Investment Strategy.

Our stockmarket forecasts remain Neutral to moderately Bullish - but that hasn't prevented our NZ and Australian shares from continuing to appreciate over the last month (up about 4.8%). These stockmarkets offer good *value*- and from within those markets we seek to find *under-valued* shares and companies with *growth potential*. Remain fully invested in the recommended shares.

## Investment Outlook.

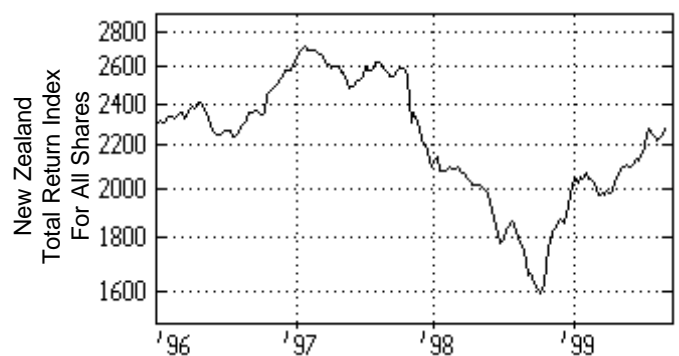
"Contrary opinion" is an excellent stockmarket tool, although it is never easy to stand firm against the tide of opinion and to buy and hold when *everybody* else is selling, or to sell and take profits when most other investors are bullish and rushing into the stockmarket.

Over many months we have received many "Why invest 40% of a portfolio in NZ when it has under-performed Australia and the US stockmarkets?" enquiries from subscribers. We answer that question in detail on pages 12-14, but it is perhaps worth noting here that our Total Return Index (which measures the performance of all NZ shares - not just the big companies) has outperformed both Australia and the United States consistently over the last three months, the last six months and the last twelve months. And our Recommended Portfolio (see page 3) has performed *significantly* better during this recovery!

The NZ stockmarket continues to offer good *value*. NZ interest rates have increased slightly over the last 6-9 months (in line with world trends), but Money Supply has increased sharply in the last month and the exchange rate has declined. Overall our forecasting model rates Monetary and Economic indicators as Neutral, while Fundamental and Technical indicators are bullish (i.e. the NZ stockmarket is *under-valued* and *trending upwards*).

Our **Primary Trend Model** of the NZ stockmarket is **moderately Bullish** at **63%**. Our **Short Term Trend Model** is **Bullish** at **75%**.

*International Investor* predicts a **Neutral 51%** chance that the Australian stockmarket will rise over the next year - with Fundamental, Technical, Monetary and Economic indicators all rated as neutral.





# Recommended Investments

Whoops! Oh, no! This is so embarrassing. We've made a "statistical error" in the calculation of the Recommended Portfolio's annual rate of return.

18½ years ago when we began publishing "Market Analysis" we promised to keep investors informed on how all recommendations performed and started publishing a summary at the bottom of the "Recommended Portfolio". Later, after a few shares had been sold, we started publishing our "Complete Summary of all Prior Recommendations" - and have sent a copy of that report to every new subscriber.

However, in August 1989 when we changed "Market Analysis" from a fortnightly to a monthly publication we made a programming error. The change resulted in the period between newsletters increasing from an average of just over two weeks to just over four weeks but we incorrectly entered a factor of just over three. So the computer has been calculating only 39 weeks in a year instead of the universally accepted 52 weeks! That has

understated the period that shares have been held and thereby overstated our annualised return on more recent investments by one-third!!!

Our program has now been corrected - with the effect that the annualised return on current investments is about 6% lower at 18.7% p.a., while the annualised return of all recommendations (about the first half of which were calculated correctly) is about 5% lower at 29.9% p.a. The good news is that this is still an outstanding "track record"!

**Apple Fields** is in a dispute with **Tower Trust** which is the trustee for its *Rural Super Bonds Superannuation Scheme* which is being wound up. Apple Fields claims to have property contracts "either completed or at an advanced stage of negotiation" in excess of \$19 million. This would allow the repayment of the remaining Rural Super Bond debt of \$16.5 million and leave Apple Fields completely debt free.

Keeping Apple Fields

(Continued on Page 4)

## Portfolio of Recommended Investments

CURRENT ADVICE	Company	Initial Recommendation Code	- Date -	Price	Perform- mance Forecast	Issued Shares (mil.)	Vola- tility Ratio	Price/ Sales Ratio	Price/ Earnings Ratio	Gross Dividend Yield	Recent Share Price	Cash Dividends Rec'd	Total Return %
<b>NZ Shares</b>													
HOLD+	Air New Zealand "A"	AIRVA	08/10/96	257*	B	566.8	0.9	0.50	11	7.4	270	54.0	+26%
HOLD-	Apple Fields Limited	APF	10/03/92	237	D	29.2	2.6	1.44	NE	Nil	11	10.0	-91%
BUY	CDL Investments Ltd	CDI	12/01/99	25	E	169.5	1.9	1.89	12	11.1	27	2.0	+16%
BUY	Cavalier Corporation	CAV	05/12/95	312	B	36.0	0.9	0.62	12	11.2	348	79.0	+37%
HOLD+	Colonial Motor Company	CMO	10/11/92	150	A	30.9	0.8	0.26	11	7.5	270	179.8	+200%
HOLD+	Designer Textiles Ltd	DTL	12/01/99	47	A	29.7	2.0	0.23	6	13.2	34	1.0	-26%
HOLD+	Fernz Corporation Ltd	FER	11/02/97	505	D	150.5	0.9	0.48	11	5.6	450	52.0	-1%
SELL <sup>1</sup>	Fruited Supplies Ltd	FSL	09/02/93	210	A	12.1	1.0	0.30	17	7.2	145	72.0	+3%
HOLD	Michael Hill Int'l Ltd	MHI	11/06/91	46*	B	38.6	0.8	0.83	15	5.0	340	45.5	+738%
HOLD+	Nuplex Industries Ltd	NPX	11/02/97	350	D	55.4	1.0	0.50	14	5.5	285	16.0	-14%
HOLD+	Owens Group Limited	OWN	12/03/91	47*	D	56.3	1.1	0.20	19	11.1	135	77.3	+352%
HOLD+	PDL Holdings Ltd	PDL	13/02/96	810	C	13.6	0.9	0.25	47	5.0	600	113.0	-12%
HOLD	Radio Works NZ Ltd	RWL	08/12/92	205	A	12.0	0.6	2.08	17	3.0	755	112.5	+323%
HOLD+	Renaissance Corp	RNS	13/08/96	85*	C	35.3	1.9	0.10	13	Nil	42	4.4	-45%
HOLD	Richina Pacific	RCH	03/11/95	119*	E	72.2	1.6	0.09	NE	Nil	61	11.9	-39%
HOLD	South Port New Zealand	SPN	13/02/96	120	C	32.4	1.1	0.88	11	8.8	89	29.8	-1%
HOLD+	Tourism Holdings Ltd	THL	14/07/92	179*	A	56.6	0.9	0.92	16	2.7	276	51.7	+83%
HOLD	Wrightson Limited	WRI	13/01/98	83	E	139.7	1.8	0.09	NE	Nil	37	6.3	-48%
<b>Australian Shares (in Aust cents)</b>													
BUY	Abigroup Limited	ABG	09/03/99	265	B	47.2	0.5	0.19	7	5.2	229	6.0	-11%
HOLD+	Atlas Pacific Ltd <sup>2</sup>	ATP	14/05/96	073	D	49.4	1.7	10.58	NE	Nil	22	Nil	-70%
HOLD+	Biron Corporation Ltd	BIC	12/04/94	178	C	21.6	1.7	0.72	NE	9.3	22	9.0	-83%
HOLD+	Central Equity Ltd	CEQ	09/02/94	154	B	81.7	0.5	1.02	7	7.1	225	55.0	+82%
BUY	Data#3 Limited	DTL	09/02/99	285	A	13.4	0.9	0.49	17	3.4	339	5.5	+21%
HOLD+	E.R.G. Limited	ERG	10/10/95	152*	A	201.1	0.4	2.96	40	0.4	400	6.0	+167%
HOLD+	Flight Centre	FLT	11/08/98	308	B	80.9	0.2	0.49	42	1.2	940	13.0	+209%
HOLD	Hancock & Gore	HNG	15/07/97	125*	C	46.5	0.7	0.56	10	6.0	130	11.5	+13%
BUY	PMP Communications	PMP	09/02/99	309	B	253.0	0.5	0.57	11	7.7	264	10.4	-11%
HOLD+	Thakral Holdings	THG	10/11/98	65	B	489.6	0.9	1.77	12	7.4	78	2.6	+24%
BUY	Toll Holdings	TOL	08/09/98	240	B	59.0	0.3	0.25	11	3.9	566	18.0	+143%
BUY	Vision Systems	VSS	10/11/98	685*	B	12.4	0.3	0.65	12	4.1	677	13.9	+1%

The average Total Return (i.e. both Capital Gains/Losses plus Dividends received) of all current investments from initial recommendation is +66.2%. This is equal to an average annual rate of +18.7%, based upon the length of time each position has been held..

The average annual rate of gain of ALL recommendations (both the 30 current and 100 closed out) is +29.9%, compared with a market gain of +13.2% (by the SRC Total Return Index) and +820.5% (by the NZ Herald Index).

CURRENT ADVICE is either Buy, Hold+, Hold, Hold- or Sell. Hold+ indicates the most attractive shares not rated as Buy. Hold- indicates relatively less attractive issues.

\* Initial Recommendation Prices adjusted for Share Splits, Bonus and Cash Issues.

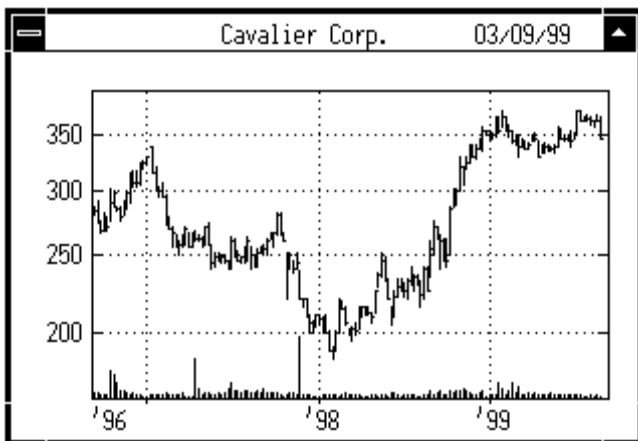
(1) Sell Fruited Supplies at 145 cents or better, otherwise Hold.

(2) Atlas Pacific notes (ATPG) last traded at 23 cents.

**Recommended Investments** (Continued from Page 3) in our "Recommended Portfolio" significantly depresses the annualised return on our *current* investments. Our primary objective, however, is not quickly "burying mistakes" to seek a cosmetic improvement in the Portfolio but, being investors, we are more interested in maximising what little remains of this unsuccessful investment. We don't much like the company (so we wouldn't buy any more shares) but the shares trade at a large discount to net asset values, so there will probably be a better opportunity to sell out at some time in the future. "Hold".

**Cavalier Corporation** has increased profits by 5.4% to \$10,592,000 (29.4 cents per share) from revenue up 3.8% to \$201.3 million. A steady final dividend of 12.0 cents (plus full tax credits) will make a 4.0% higher 26.0 cents for the year.

Wool Scouring revenues rose 3.5% to \$136.9 million but earnings (before interest and tax) fell 34.6% to \$4.6 million. The Carpet Manufacturing division increased sales 6.9% to \$81.6 million with earnings up 16.2% to \$15.6 million. Profitability on carpet exports to Australia improved with the lower exchange rate.



**Designer Textiles** has reported a 40.3% increase in profits to \$1,674,000 (5.6 cents per share) from revenue up 20.7% to \$44.9 million. A final dividend of 2.0 cents (plus full imputation tax credits) makes a steady 3.0 cents for the year.

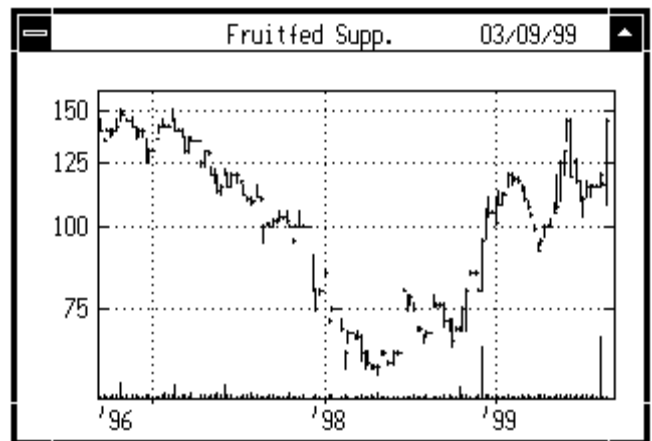
**Fruitfed Supplies** has received a takeover offer from **Williams & Kettle** - which bought out Fruitfed's other major shareholder in June (at \$1.19, after Fruitfed paid a 5.0 cents final dividend and 16.0 cents special dividend). The current takeover offer is four Williams & Kettle shares plus \$5.00 for every ten Fruitfed shares. With Williams & Kettle trading at 207 cents, this values Fruitfed at 133 cents.

Williams & Kettle claim their takeover is at a 23% premium to Fruitfed's market price of 108 cents - a price which resulted from the sale of just 1000 shares at that lower price a couple of days ahead of the takeover being announced. The offer price in the market was also 108 cents - but only 96 shares were available at that price with the next seller asking 118 cents. Anyone wanting to make a small investment and buy 2000 shares late last week would have had to pay an average of 117½ cents. The takeover comes in at just a 13% premium to that price!

Although there are substantial cost savings in taking over Fruitfed Supplies, we doubt that Williams &

Kettle would want to increase their takeover offer. However, it certainly makes sense to wait a while to see if the Fruitfed independent directors seek an improvement in the price. The value of the takeover would also improve with any appreciation in the value of Williams & Kettle shares. Fruitfed Supplies shares closed last Friday at 145 cents (with buyers at 130 cents and sellers at 165 cents).

We recommend that investors sell on-market at 145 cents or better - but that price reached on Friday when the takeover was announced may not be available this week. If the market price dips back to around 130 cents we recommend holding to see how the takeover offer develops (i.e. whether the price increases slightly, or whether the Williams & Kettle share price appreciates making the offer more attractive).



**Michael Hill International** increased profits 22.0% to \$8,774,000 (22.8 cents per share) from revenue up 11.1% to \$157.1 million. The final dividend will be raised 20.0% to 6.0 cents (plus full tax credits), lifting the annual dividend rate 21.1% to 11.5 cents.

This final dividend from Michael Hill will lift the total dividends that we have collected from this investment to 51.5 cents (all tax-paid) - which more than completely repays our initial cost price of the shares eight years ago at 46 cents!

Sales in NZ rose 11.3% to \$56.6 million, while an increase in profit margins (up 0.4% to 12.4%) resulted in a 14.5% lift in earnings (before interest and tax) to \$7.0 million. Three new stores were opened in NZ during the financial year (bringing the total to 38 NZ stores), and since then a large "super store" has been opened in Albany (Auckland) with another planned for Mt Wellington (Auckland) in time for Christmas sales. The company has come up with the statistic that total jewellery sales in NZ average \$40 per person per year, compared with A\$88 per person in Australia and £45 per person in the United Kingdom - which "suggests that there is still a lot of room for growth in the NZ market".

In Australia, revenues rose 11.0% to NZ\$100.3 million and profit margins improved (up 0.7% to 8.6%), resulting in a 21.0% increase in earnings to NZ\$8.7 million. Six new stores were opened in Australia, making 64 stores in that country. Another 6-10 conventional stores will open this year (subject to site availability) with the potential to eventually expand the Australian business to 110 stores or more.

**Nuplex Industries'** profit rose 66.8% to \$11,646,000

(21.0 cents per share) with revenues up 79.5% to \$315.0 million. This increase results mainly from a full year's trading of **Australian Chemical Holdings**, compared with just three months ownership of that company in the 1998 financial year. The final dividend will remain unchanged at 5.0 cents (plus tax credits), making a steady 10.5 cents for the full year.

Nuplex usually *expects* to earn a higher profit in the first half of its financial year, but the second half profit (\$6.1 million) exceeded the first half result (\$5.5 million) owing to continued synergies and cost savings being achieved. These further cost savings over a full year - plus lower interest payments as the company steadily repays the debt used to partially finance its major Australian acquisition - give the directors "confidence that strong profit growth will be maintained" in the current financial year.

As reported in July, Nuplex bought the Dulux resin business from **Orica Australia**, it has recently purchased a water dispersed polymer business from **National Starch & Chemical** (a subsidiary of UK based **ICI plc**) and it has acquired an Australian resin flooring business as a base for expanding its successful NZ Terrazite and Sureshield flooring business into Australia.

**PDL Holdings** has reported an improvement in profits to \$1,460,000 (10.7 cents per share) for the three months to June 30. Revenue was up 6.8% to \$85.0 million.



**Radio Pacific** has changed its name to **Radio Works New Zealand** after completing its recent merger with **Radio Otago**.

**Richina Pacific** has returned to profitability, earning \$146,000 (0.2 cents per share) for the six months to June 30. Total revenues rose 15.9% to \$262.2 million.

**Tourism Holdings** has reported a recovery in profits, re-instated dividend payments and a major acquisition that will require a large cash issue.

Trading profits have increased 123.6% to \$10,063,000 (17.8 cents per share) from revenue that rose 31.4% to \$169.1 million. The company will re-instate dividends with a final 5.0 cents (plus full tax credits) payment.

Tourism Holdings plans to take over Australian based **Britz** rental motor home business for NZ\$62 million. \$34 million of this will be paid in cash (to be funded from a cash issue to existing Tourism Holdings shareholders), \$15 million through the issue of Tourism Holdings shares to the vendors and \$13 million in three

year mandatory convertible notes. The Australian business has interest bearing debts of \$104 million which (when consolidated into Tourism Holdings' balance sheet) will raise Tourism Holdings' total debt from \$23 million (after selling some NZ assets since its June 30 balance date) to around \$127 million.

Tourism Holdings is to raise \$38 million from a cash issue. The terms have not yet been disclosed - but a one for three issue priced at \$2.00 looks likely.

Britz operates a total of 2300 motor homes and is the largest operator in Australia, the second largest (behind Tourism Holdings) in NZ and has a small operation in South Africa. Tourism Holdings' existing Maui business currently has 1500 motor homes - so this division will expand considerably in size and hold about 60% of the market in Australia and 50% in NZ. Details of the revenue and profits currently earned by Britz have not yet been disclosed, but merging these two businesses is predicted to result in cost savings of \$8.5 million annually. A cost saving equals an increase in pre-tax earnings - and \$8.5 million is a 13% return on the acquisition price of \$62 million (in addition to existing profit levels earned by Britz). Total group profits are predicted to rise to \$26.7 million by 2001 which, with the increase in issued capital (to fund this expansion), we estimate at about 30-31 cents per share. The company projects a 13.0 cents dividend in 2001.

**Wrightson** has reported a trading loss of \$1,029,000 (0.7 cents per share) from revenues down 11.2% at \$564.1 million. In addition there were unusual losses of \$8,228,000. No dividend will be paid.

The company is to reverse many of its restructuring changes of the last few years. Splitting the company into several separate businesses has not been successful and they will be re-organised into one organisation.

While the company's performance over the last couple of years has been disappointing, the market is under-valuing the shares relative to the level of profits that Wrightson should be capable of earning. Investors should continue to hold these under-valued shares in this under-performing business. *Eventually* management will stumble upon the right business combination, profits will return and the shares will become significantly more valuable. "Hold".

#### **Australian Shares**

**Hills Motorway**, in which **Abigroup** holds 15,000,000 units, is seeking to refinance all of its debts. The existing debt facilities have restrictions which prevent the company from making higher distributions to shareholders.

**Biron Corporation** has reported a *trading* loss of AS\$241,000 (1.1 cents per share) for the year to June 30 (but earned an extraordinary capital profit of AS\$726,000), from revenue 13.4% higher at AS\$6.4 million. Nevertheless, the company remains in a sound financial position and will pay a steady 2.0 cents dividend.

The Cultured Emerald business operated at a loss of AS\$417,000. Sales volumes and revenue increased strongly, but unit sales prices fell with selling from Russian producers. Biron has continued to improve productivity and lower production costs and, as previously announced, signed a three year marketing agreement with New York based **Kingstone Gem Importers**. This has involved (Continued on Page 6)

**Recommended Investments** (Continued from Page 5) some restructuring costs which have impacted on the current result. Profits for the June 2000 year will depend upon Kingstone's ability to exceed minimum contracted sales levels. The following two years of the agreement include "built-in price increases which should ensure profitability even at the minimum sales levels".

Biron has sold off its remaining shares in **Sydney Gas Company** (formerly Desertstone NL) to realise a capital profit of A\$726,000. Its A\$1.0 million investment in **Atlas Pacific** 12½% convertible notes is also showing an unrealised profit with a market value of A\$1.5 million and Biron holds A\$1.5 million in cash (although A\$433,000 will be used to pay the dividend).

Research & Development work to find a replacement for Mississippi mussel shell for use as the pearl nuclei in the cultured pearl industry has been completed. Field trials "conclusively show the Bironite® nuclei is an acceptable alternative". Mississippi mussel shell is becoming more expensive, while the Bironite nuclei is cheaper and can be cut to the larger sizes required by the South Sea pearl farms. The company reports encouraging preliminary interest from pearl farms in Australia, Indonesia and Tahiti, and a marketing program has been started.

**Central Equity** has reported a 40.2% increase in profits to A\$28,147,000 (34.4 cents per share) for the year to 30 June 1999. A final quarterly dividend of 6.0 cents makes a 23.1% higher annual payout of 16.0 cents. Revenue (from completed and settled residential apartment sales) fell 9.0% to A\$179.5 million, but off-the-plan pre-sales (which will be brought into account in the June 2000 and 2001 financial years) are up 29.7% from A\$185 million to A\$240 million.

Central Equity remains in a strong financial position. Over the last year its cash holding has dropped A\$17.4 million (to A\$64.1 million or 78 cents per share) owing to the timing of recent settlements. Over the year *net current assets* have increased A\$16.1 million. Since its June 30 balance date, Central Equity has completed its 159 apartment, 24 level residential tower at 416 St Kilda Road, Melbourne and received over A\$36 million in settlements.

While Central Equity's business is subject to fluctuations in the property cycle the company minimises its risks by pre-selling before construction and building on fixed price contracts that assure its profit margins. The company currently reports "the Melbourne inner city residential market is strong", the company is in a strong financial position and the stockmarket is not placing a high valuation on these shares - so we continue to view them as a long term investment.

At A\$2.25 the shares trade at a Price/Sales ratio of 1.02, a Price/Earnings ratio of 6.5 and offer a Dividend Yield of 7.1%. Although Central Equity has excess cash reserves and doesn't need to retain further cash, the company is currently distributing only 46.5% of its tax paid profits. The large cash holding suggests that the dividend could be increased further (or that Central Equity could pay special dividends, make a capital repayment or a share buy-back), while the high dividend cover indicates that the dividend could be maintained even if profits were to decline in the next property downturn. With pre-sales and fixed price construction,

any property market downturn would take 18-24 months to show up in lower revenue and/or reduced profit margins.

**ERG** has announced a 47.2% increase in profits to A\$20,345,000 (9.6 cents per share) from revenues up 12.2% to A\$242.5 million. A final dividend of 1.5 cents will be paid, up 50.0% on last year.

The major Automated Fare Collection (AFC) contracts won over the last year were too late to contribute to the current result, but "are expected to contribute strongly to profit in the 2000 and 2001 years". Spending on Research & Development fell 46.8% to A\$12.4 million.

Revenue in the AFC division rose 12.6% to A\$166.1 million, with earnings (before interest and tax) up 83.9% to A\$25.6 million. The Telecommunications division experienced a similar 10.1% rise in revenues, but earnings fell 42.1% to \$3.6 million.

**ERG and Visa International** are to integrate their smart card systems. ERG's transit smart cards will be integrated with Visa's electronic purse, while Visa will introduce ERG's contact/contactless smart card technology. Both companies will produce smart cards and systems that comply with the *Common Electronic Purse Specifications* (CEPS) global standard which will allow all CEPS smart cards to be used on all CEPS payment systems.

**ERG and Nokia** have extended their relationship under which ERG manufactures Nokia GSM base station equipment. ERG originally won a three year manufacturing contract in 1992, which has now been extended for a third three year term through to December 2001.

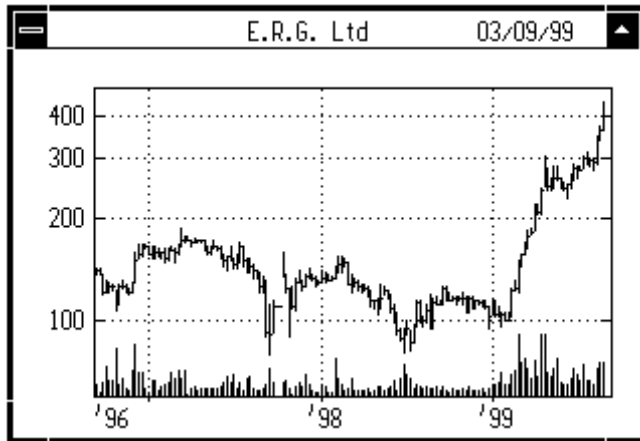
ERG has currently submitted, or is preparing, bids for another 13 AFC tenders and hopes to win half of these.

At A\$4.00, ERG shares are looking expensive with a Price/Sales ratio of 3.50, a Price/Earnings ratio of 42 and a Dividend Yield of 0.4%. Revenues, profits and dividends will grow significantly as a result of the company's outstanding success at winning five major AFC contracts over the last year, so the share's fundamental statistics should improve considerably over the next few years! ERG has released performance forecasts for its AFC projects (in joint venture with Motorola) over the next three years generating total revenues of A\$2,200 million and a gross profit of A\$128.5 million.

Another way to evaluate "high technology" companies like **JNA Telecommunications**, ERG or **Vision Systems** is the Price/Research ratio - which compares the market value of the company with its annual expenditure on Research and Development. In the last year ERG spent A\$12,390,00 (5.9 cents per share) on Research & Development (down 46.8% on 1998). So with the shares trading at A\$4.00 the Price/Research Ratio is 67. Kenneth Fisher (*Super Stocks*, page 60) suggests (1) never buy a technology company at a P/R ratio of greater than 15, and (2) looking for companies on a P/R ratio of 5-10. ERG therefore looks to be expensive by this measure.

However, while ERG shares look expensive there is no sign of "insider" selling and the shares have a Relative Strength Rating of +39.4% and are ranked 4

(on a scale of 0-99). *Strong* shares often continue to outperform the stockmarket, so at this stage we are happy to "Hold" these shares and let our profits run.



**Hancock & Gore** have repurchased 172,779 shares on-market over the last two months, at prices between A\$1.30 and A\$1.40.

**PMP Communications** has reported just a 5.5% increase in profits to A\$61,208,000 (24.2 cents per share) before an abnormal cost of A\$4,148,000 involved in merging its Melbourne editorial operations with Sydney (which is expected to save A\$1.5 million annually in operating costs). Revenues increased 5.1% to A\$1,192.2 million. A final dividend of 10.0 cents will make a steady 20.4 cents for the year.

Revenue increased 5.1% to A\$893.4 million in Media Production and 5.3% to A\$293.9 million in Publishing, while Media earnings (before interest and tax) rose 10.5% to A\$89.9 million but Publishing earnings fell 28.8% to A\$33.2 million.

Next year's dividend is expected to carry only 50% franking credits which (while irrelevant to NZ investors) will make the shares less attractive to Australian investors.

PMP Communications shares have therefore fallen back to their earlier lows around A\$2.70. At that price the shares trade on a Price/Sales ratio of just 0.34, a Price/Earnings ratio of 11.2 and a Dividend Yield of 7.6%. That makes the shares a "Buy" under the *Income* section of our *Comprehensive Share Selection Criteria* - or a low risk, high yielding under-valued share in a large company. Such *out of favour* shares should provide investors with a high income yield and a good capital gain when the shares are re-rated over the following few years.

PMP Communications was believed to have acquired the Australian business of **Gordon & Gotch** from NZ based **Independent Newspapers** in June at a price of less than four times operating cashflow. However, it has now been revealed that negotiations over price are still continuing. Apparently Gordon & Gotch has experienced a tough year with low profits - but Independent Newspapers needs to sell to raise cash to fund its recently increased (non-income producing) investment in **Sky TV Network**. With depressed profits last year, and an eager seller, PMP Communications will be acquiring the Gordon & Gotch businesses at a very favourable price!

**Thakral Holdings Group** has increased profits 16.4% to A\$31,040,000 (5.6 cents per "stapled" unit)

from revenue 4.1% higher at A\$215.6 million. A final distribution up 18.5% to 3.2 cents will bring the annual payout to 5.8 cents (up 11.5%).

The expected downturn in the company's **Hotel Investments** (revenue up 1.2% to A\$151.5 million but earnings down 3.0% to A\$33.3 million) was more than offset by improvements in **Retail & Commercial Investments** (revenue up 6.1% to A\$46.9 million and earnings up 7.7% to A\$14.6 million) and **Property Development** (revenue up 51.1% to A\$10.4 million and earnings up 54.7% to A\$4.8 million) although other activities (revenue up 15.6% to A\$5.5 million, but earnings down 22.0% to A\$1.1 million) made a smaller contribution.

Thakral's 50,000m<sup>2</sup> of retail and commercial property investments (which are over 99% tenanted) are mainly associated with hotel properties. An additional 1,351m<sup>2</sup> of retail space was built at its **All Seasons Esplanade Hotel** in Cairns over the last year.

The company's small investments in residential property development have been very successful. All 12 southern townhouses at **Pacific Bay** have been sold (at an average of A\$345,000 each) and another 11 will be completed by November. Construction of premium villas on the northern ridge of the Pacific Bay Resort is also proceeding and will be staged over the next few years to meet demand. The joint venture sub-division at **Glenwood** (Sydney) is nearing completion with all 163 sections sold (at an average price of A\$138,000) and Thakral's share of the profits is expected to be over A\$3 million. Thakral is involved in two other property development joint ventures - at **Newport on Pittwater** (seven residential and five commercial units, plus a 64 berth marina) and at the inner city Sydney suburb of **Newton** where construction and selling of Stage I (consisting of 225 residential units) has commenced.

Gaming activities are also making a valuable addition to the hotel business - contributing over A\$2.5 million to gross profits over the last year.

Last year we received a large amount of cash in Australia from the management buyout of **Equitilink** and the takeover of **JNA Telecommunications**. After re-investing much of that money in Flight Centre, Toll Holdings and Vision Systems - and adding to existing shareholdings in a number of companies - we purchased Thakral Holdings as a "low risk, high yielding investment that should produce steady capital appreciation over the next 18-24 months". The shares were also attractive owing to significant *insider* buying, the impact of the 2000 Olympics on occupancy levels at the company's hotels (which are mainly in Sydney) and diversification into Residential Property Development and Gaming Lounges.

The steady revenue, profit and dividend growth reported above confirms Thakral as a low risk, high income investment that should continue to also offer the potential for capital appreciation over the next 12-18 months. Hold+.

**Toll Holdings** has increased its profits 124.0% in the year to June 30 to A\$29,210,000 (51.1 cents per share) on revenue up 53.5% at A\$1,328.6 million. The final dividend is being raised 50.0% to 12.0 cents, increasing the annual dividend rate 57.1% to 22.0 cents.

(Continued on Page 8)

**Recommended Investments** (Continued from Page 7)

The last year has been a period of consolidation for the company which has focused on "capturing the benefits of recent acquisitions" and "driving shareholder value through higher returns on assets". The company has also been "strategically positioning" itself for future growth - especially in the areas of rail and port privatisation and "purpose built property projects" providing warehousing and logistics to major customers.

Toll Holdings is undertaking a major restructuring of its unprofitable Refrigerated Roadways interstate operations. The business will focus on servicing only those customers that require rail services as well as key customers in the refrigerated and fresh produce market. Revenues from this division will reduce by 50%, staff numbers will drop 70% (and mainly be redeployed in other Toll Holdings businesses) with the reduced and restructured division expected to become profitable from the second quarter of the current financial year.

**Vision Systems** increased revenue by 19.7% to A\$130.2 million in the year to June 30, but profits (after deducting the convertible preference dividend) fell 4.2% to A\$6,890,000 (with earnings per share down 12.9% to 55.5 cents). The final dividend of 14.0 cents makes a 7.7% higher annual dividend rate of 28.0 cents.

The Fire & Security division increased revenue by 18.4% to A\$58.1 million with earnings (before interest and tax) up 28.9% to A\$8,838,000. The Technologies division increased revenue by 23.7% to A\$45.5 million and earnings by 33.2% to \$2,141,000. The Defence division experienced an 11.7% drop in revenue to A\$31.6 million and a 66.3% fall in earnings to A\$1,773,000.

Revenues and earnings from the Defence division are expected to recover strongly with:

- (1) The four year, A\$32 million Digital Hydrographic Database project (which started in May 1999, so had little impact on the last financial year but will

have a "significant impact" on the current and future years).

- (2) Two major contracts worth A\$38 million won since June 30 and A\$90 million of project bids awaiting decisions. This includes the Australian Army's NINOX Ground Surveillance Radar Project (where **Racal Australia** is the preferred tenderer for this contract worth over A\$50 million - of which over A\$30 million would be sub-contracted to Vision Systems).
- (3) Growth from the company's Laser Airborne Depth Sounder (LADS) business. This generated revenue of A\$4 million last year - but revenue of A\$8 million is required to break-even. The last year has confirmed that the system works, customers have endorsed its quality and survey costs have been less than half of traditional ship based depth sounding methods. Major customers, however, are Governments departments which have slow approval processes. LADS is expected to make another loss this year (i.e. to June 2000) but Vision Systems expects revenues of A\$20+ million and earnings of A\$5 million in the June 2001 year. The system is being evaluated by the French Navy Hydrographic Service this month.

In the last year Vision Systems spent A\$13,123,000 (A\$1.06 per share) on Research & Development (up 78.3% on 1998). So with the shares trading at A\$6.77 the Price/Research Ratio is 6.4 (see ERG for details of this statistic). On that basis, Vision Systems looks to be exceptionally good value.

By more traditional valuation methods, Vision Systems shares trade on a Price/Sales ratio of 0.65, a Price/Earnings ratio of 12.0 and a Dividend Yield of 4.1% - all of which suggest the shares offer good value (even before taking into account the company's target of better than 20% per annum growth in revenues and profits). Buy.

## Telstra's Secondary Share Offering

The Australian Government is selling off more shares in **Telstra**. Should existing shareholders and other investors apply for shares?

Before answering that question, investors need to understand the difference between an *Initial Public Offering* (IPO) and a *Secondary Offering*. An IPO is where shares in a company are sold to the public for the first time. In this situation there is no existing market in the shares and no-one can be sure exactly what the *market* will determine the shares are worth. Therefore most IPO's are deliberately under-priced. This ensures that they are attractive to investors (and that the underwriter can collect the 2-3% underwriting commission without actually being required to buy any shares). It is also considered desirable that the shares trade on the market at a premium to the issue price - as this makes it easier for the company to possibly raise further money in a later cash issue (and encourages investors to buy the next IPO, making life easier for the organising broker and underwriter). Sometimes the organising broker will under-estimate the value of a

company's shares - or the demand from investors - and the shares will list at a substantial premium to their issue price, or appreciate rapidly in value after listing.

A Secondary Offering is completely different! The shares are already trading on the stock exchange, so the *market* has already determined their value. So the market value of the shares to investors is already known (i.e. there will be no windfall gains from under estimating their value, or underestimating investor demand) and the vendor of the shares will also usually want to get a price close to market value. The shares, however, usually need to be sold at a slight discount to attract interest from investors (who could simply buy shares on the stockmarket through any broker). The most unfavourable factor of a secondary offering is that it increases the number of shares available to be traded on the market - bringing into play the basic economic principle that increasing *supply* will decrease price!

Telstra shares have actually weakened slightly over the last couple of months - which is probably this increased supply starting to (Continued on Page 9)



# Computer Selections of NZ Shares based upon our Comprehensive Share Selection Criteria

See "Market Analysis" issues 298-301 or the Reprint sent to all new subscribers for details. These shares are not formal "buy" and "sell" recommendations, but the "Under-Valued", "Best Performing" and "Income" shares should be considered for purchase, while the "Over-valued" and "Worst Performing" shares can generally be sold to release money for re-investment in more attractive shares.

Company	STRENGTH RATING					Price to NTA	Return on Equity	Volatility	Price/Earn. Ratio	Dividend Yield	Price/Sales Ratio	Market Cap'n
	Share Price	Cur. rent	4-Wk Chg.	Rank	Brokers Following							
<b>UNDER-VALUED SHARES:</b> Lowest Price/Sales, Yld > 0, Rel Strength > 0												
East'n Equities	70	+7.6	+7.2	26	-	0.7	-	1.4	NE	6.4	0.23	24
PDL Holdings	600	+2.7	+4.2	46	3	1.0	2	0.9	47	5.0	0.25	82
Col Motor Co	270	+9.0	+1.1	19	-	1.1	10	0.8	11	7.5	0.26	84
Progressive Ent	297	+20.9	+1.5	6	7	3.0	9	0.9	35	2.5	0.30	552
Fruited Supp	145	+10.1	-1.1	17	-	2.4	15	1.0	17	7.2	0.30	18
Williams Kettle	208	+7.0	-2.2	27	-	0.9	3	0.8	28	8.6	0.31	31
Donaghys Ind	140	+3.4	+1.2	43	1	0.8	7	0.10	10	8.5	0.37	43
Mainfreight Grp	159	+6.5	+0.0	30	7	2.6	15	1.1	17	5.2	0.40	11
Reid Farmers	64	+3.8	+2.1	41	-	1.0	11	1.2	9	10.5	0.48	36
Air New Zealand	270	+6.8	-4.5	27	11	0.8	7	0.9	11	7.4	0.50	1,530
Restaurant Brds	137	+5.3	-1.2	35	8	5.1	36	1.1	14	6.5	0.56	116
A. Barnett Ltd	118	+0.1	+0.5	61	-	0.6	-	1.0	NE	3.8	0.57	17
CDL Hotel NZ	34	+2.8	-1.0	46	5	0.6	3	2.0	17	3.3	0.57	119
Cavalier Corp	348	+5.4	+0.1	34	5	1.7	15	0.9	12	11.2	0.62	125
Ceramco Corp	140	+9.3	-2.6	19	5	1.1	6	1.1	19	5.3	0.65	59
Dorchester Pac	89	+17.8	+3.1	9	-	1.3	17	1.2	8	7.5	0.68	15
Taylor's Grp Ltd	110	+5.7	-2.7	33	2	1.4	10	1.0	15	6.1	0.70	27
Michael Hill	340	+8.8	+0.7	20	3	4.1	27	0.7	15	5.0	0.83	131
Colonial Ltd	735	+1.5	+0.9	54	-	1.5	8	0.9	19	0.8	0.92	6,742
Tourism Hold.	276	+26.7	-1.9	4	9	1.7	11	0.9	16	2.7	0.92	156
<b>BEST PERFORMING SHARES:</b> Strongest Shares, P/E < 20, P/S < 1.0												
Tourism Hold.	276	+26.7	-1.9	4	9	1.7	11	0.8	16	2.7	0.92	156
Renaissance	42	+19.2	-7.5	8	-	1.1	9	1.5	13	Nil	0.10	15
Dorchester Pac	89	+17.8	+3.1	9	-	1.3	17	1.0	8	7.5	0.68	15
Fruited Supp	145	+10.1	-1.1	17	-	2.4	15	0.9	17	7.2	0.30	18
Ceramco Corp	140	+9.3	-2.6	19	5	1.1	6	0.9	19	5.3	0.65	59
Col Motor Co	270	+9.0	+1.1	19	-	1.1	10	0.7	11	7.5	0.26	84
Michael Hill	340	+8.8	+0.7	20	3	4.1	27	0.7	15	5.0	0.83	131
Air New Zealand	270	+6.8	-4.5	27	11	0.8	7	0.8	11	7.4	0.50	1,530
Mainfreight Grp	159	+6.5	+0.0	30	7	2.6	15	0.9	17	5.2	0.40	11
Taylor's Grp Ltd	110	+5.7	-2.7	33	2	1.4	10	1.0	15	6.1	0.70	27
Cavalier Corp	348	+5.4	-0.1	34	5	1.7	15	0.8	12	11.2	0.62	125
Restaurant Brds	137	+5.3	-1.2	35	8	5.1	36	0.9	14	6.5	0.56	116
Reid Farmers	64	+3.8	+2.1	41	-	1.0	11	1.0	9	10.5	0.48	36
Donaghys Ind	140	+3.4	+1.2	43	1	0.8	7	0.7	10	8.5	0.37	43
CDL Hotel NZ	34	+2.8	-1.0	46	5	0.6	3	1.6	17	3.3	0.57	119
Corp Invest Ltd	96	+2.3	+3.3	49	8	1.7	10	1.2	17	4.7	0.96	412
Kingsgate Int'l	18	+1.8	-1.8	52	-	0.5	4	1.7	12	Nil	0.79	69
Colonial Ltd	735	+1.5	+0.9	54	-	1.5	8	0.8	19	0.8	0.92	6,742

Company	STRENGTH RATING					Price to NTA	Return on Equity	Volatility	Price/Earn. Ratio	Dividend Yield	Price/Sales Ratio	Market Cap'n
	Share Price	Cur. rent	4-Wk Chg.	Rank	Brokers Following							
<b>INCOME SHARES:</b> Highest Yields, Capitalisation > NZ\$100 million												
Cavalier Corp	348	+5.4	-0.1	34	5	1.7	15	0.8	12	11.2	0.62	125
DB Group	230	-5.6	+1.0	87	9	1.0	11	0.7	9	10.4	0.35	232
Brierley Invest	44	-4.5	-2.1	84	8	0.5	-	1.0	NE	10.2	0.46	1,314
Hallenstein G.	234	-1.3	-1.8	68	7	4.1	29	0.8	14	10.2	0.89	136
Sky City Ltd	770	+3.9	-1.0	41	8	5.0	31	0.7	16	8.3	2.88	755
Tranz Rail Hold	308	-9.2	+0.5	94	9	0.8	15	0.7	5	8.2	0.65	372
Telecom Corp	863	-1.9	+1.0	73	13	13.9	76	0.6	18	8.0	4.4115,127	127
NZ Refining Co	1300	-6.4	-1.3	91	5	2.1	16	0.4	13	7.7	1.28	312
Natural Gas	195	+4.8	+3.1	37	8	1.5	9	0.8	17	7.7	2.33	769
Steel & Tube	161	-1.9	-0.8	73	8	1.2	9	0.9	14	7.4	0.42	142
<b>OVER-VALUED SHARES:</b> Highest Price/Sales Ratios, Relative Strength < 0												
Telecom Corp	863	-1.9	+1.0	73	13	13.9	76	0.6	18	8.0	4.4115,127	127
Ports Auckland	493	-8.1	+0.2	92	8	2.8	14	0.6	20	5.4	4.25	653
National Mutual	290	-5.7	+0.4	88	-	1.0	7	0.8	15	3.7	3.23	5,043
Force Corp.	63	-0.6	+0.8	64	4	1.6	13	1.1	12	9.5	3.06	98
SE Utilities	88	-1.5	+0.6	70	-	0.8	7	0.8	12	6.8	2.19	53
<b>WORST PERFORMING SHARES:</b> Weakest Shares, P/S Ratio > 0.25, Yield < Twice Average												
Spectrum Res.	11	-48.7	+0.0	98	-	2.2	-	1.6	NE	Nil	N/A	3
Otter Gold Mine	80	-11.1	+0.9	97	-	0.6	17	0.8	4	Nil	0.51	37
Damba Hold Ltd	61	-10.9	+3.8	96	-	0.7	-	0.5	NE	Nil	0.72	11
Trans-Tasman	32	-9.4	-1.6	95	6	0.3	-	1.4	NE	Nil	1.08	116
Summit Gold Ltd	10	-9.2	-3.2	95	-	1.6	-	1.9	NE	Nil	N/A	9
Tranz Rail Hold	308	-9.2	+0.5	94	9	0.8	15	0.7	5	8.2	0.65	372
Metro. LifeCare	183	-8.1	+0.5	93	2	1.5	9	1.0	17	4.9	1.78	113
Ports Auckland	493	-8.1	+0.2	92	8	2.8	14	0.6	20	5.4	4.25	653
NZ Refining Co	1300	-6.4	-1.3	91	5	2.1	16	0.4	13	7.7	1.28	312
Tag Pacific Ltd	13	-6.1	-0.2	90	-	0.4	4	1.5	10	5.4	0.29	6
Apple Fields	11	-6.0	-1.8	89	-	0.2	-	1.2	NE	Nil	1.44	3
National Mutual	290	-5.7	+0.4	88	-	1.0	7	0.8	15	3.7	3.23	5,043
Goodman Fielder	174	-4.8	+0.9	86	-	1.4	10	0.5	14	5.1	0.60	2,204
Nobilio Wines	90	-4.7	+2.2	85	1	1.5	7	0.8	20	5.0	0.78	39
AMP Limited	1922	-4.7	-0.3	84	-	2.0	12	0.7	17	1.1	0.6920,692	
Fernz Corp Ltd	450	-4.3	-3.5	83	8	1.6	14	0.7	11	5.6	0.48	677
Contact Energy	319	-3.8	-1.0	82	6	-	-	0.7	30	4.1	N/A	1,927
Max Resources	13	-3.5	+0.7	80	-	0.4	-	1.5	NE	Nil	N/A	5
Fisher & Paykel	570	-3.2	-0.6	79	8	1.8	9	0.6	19	4.7	0.87	670
AMP NZ Office	92	-3.1	-0.9	78	6	1.5	13	0.7	12	8.4	6.58	230

**Telstra** (Continued from Page 8) impact on price. For example, existing shareholders not wanting to increase their holding may sell some shares on the market now, expecting to be able to buy them back more cheaply from the Government. In fact, no small part of Telstra's strong performance since the IPO is the "scarcity value" which will be removed by the Government's sale of more shares.

The pricing of the Telstra secondary offering has not yet been decided - although the Australian Government has hinted that it will not be offering a significant discount *nor* will the price be payable in instalments.

Despite this, apparently 1.2 million existing shareholders and 1.8 million other Australians have registered an interest in the Telstra secondary offering. That interest may be in anticipation that the Government will sell at a favourable price or on favourable terms. If that is not the case, then many of those 1.8 million new investors may not actually seek to buy shares.

### Summary and Recommendation

It is certainly worth existing shareholders indicating an interest in the Telstra secondary offering - and

taking up their entitlement if offered a favourable price or favourable payment terms. At the same time, investors should seriously be considering taking some profits or even completely selling out of this company. Once all the hype associated with marketing the secondary offering has ended there will be a lot more Telstra shares around and the price will be vulnerable to a decline or a period of under-performance.



# Computer Selections of Australian Shares based upon our Comprehensive Share Selection Criteria

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Company	STRENGTH RATING					Price to NTA	Return on Equity	Volatility	Price/Earn. Ratio	Dividend Yield	Price/Sales Ratio	Market Cap'n	
	Share Price	Cur. rent	4-Wk Chg.	Rank	Insider Buy-Sell								
<b>OVER-VALUED SHARES:</b> Highest Price/Sales Ratios, Relative Strength < 0													
Bougainville Co	21	-2.4	+2.6	63	0-0	-	-	1.4	14	Nil	8.94	84	
Medical Innovat	37	-4.8	+4.2	71	0-0	-	-	1.2	17	Nil	8.55	11	
Tyndall Prop Tr	38	-0.8	-0.8	53	0-0	-0.8	5	1.2	14	7.3	8.17	41	
Lion Selection	67	-3.0	-0.7	65	1-0	-0.7	-	1.0	NE	Nil	7.71	67	
Aust Infra.	212	-0.4	-0.9	51	0-0	4	0.9	10	0.8	9	7.55	294	
Petrol NL	47	-10.3	+1.3	84	2-0	6	0.9	2	1.1	39	Nil	7.33	91
Geo2 Limited	20	-7.1	-0.4	77	0-0	-10.0	-	1.4	NE	Nil	7.30	22	
Julia Mines	8	-2.1	+9.8	61	0-0	-	-	2.0	NE	Nil	7.27	7	
Cinimagic Ltd	11	-6.4	-5.7	75	0-0	-1.3	-	1.8	NE	Nil	7.05	23	
Strategic Poole	17	-18.6	-6.3	94	0-0	-0.5	-	1.5	NE	Nil	6.87	12	
Quantum Res.	12	-28.0	-0.7	98	0-0	-	-	1.8	NE	Nil	6.51	20	
Data Advantage	402	-2.4	-0.7	62	0-0	523.6	50	0.7	47	1.2	6.43	399	
Peptide Tech.	59	-1.2	+1.9	56	0-0	111.8	-	1.0	NE	Nil	6.12	82	
Aust Tourism	65	-0.1	+0.0	49	0-0	-0.9	6	1.0	15	10.8	6.07	136	
Tap Oil	76	-1.9	+3.2	59	0-0	5	-	1.0	28	Nil	6.07	100	
Sea World PT	78	-5.9	-0.3	73	0-0	1	0.7	7	1.0	10	9.2	5.77	162
Investment Coy	240	-3.9	-0.6	67	0-0	-0.7	5	0.8	15	5.7	5.72	50	
Telco Australia	37	-6.2	-3.4	74	0-0	-9.3	26	1.2	35	1.4	5.61	28	
Tectonic Res.	10	-6.5	+5.8	75	0-0	-	-	1.9	NE	Nil	5.28	12	
Sydney Aquarium	419	-1.0	+0.5	55	0-0	6	5.7	29	0.7	20	5.0	4.90	91
Illuka Resource	388	-0.9	+3.4	54	2-0	9	9.5	25	0.7	39	4.6	4.80	864
Innerhadden	31	-6.6	-1.3	75	0-0	-0.9	-	1.2	NE	Nil	4.40	13	
Dominion Mining	37	-2.4	-0.1	63	1-0	-	-	1.2	NE	Nil	4.39	25	
Div. United Inv	142	-0.1	-1.3	49	3-1	-0.9	4	0.8	21	4.0	4.30	106	
Climax Mining	12	-21.0	-1.0	96	0-0	-	-	1.7	NE	Nil	4.27	11	
Carillon Dev.	145	-4.4	+0.2	69	0-0	-0.5	4	0.8	13	4.8	4.24	35	
Alamain Invest.	10	-6.7	+15.2	76	0-0	-1.1	0	1.9	714	Nil	4.08	7	
Lihir Gold	123	-12.9	+2.7	89	0-0	13	-	0.9	171	Nil	3.87	1,159	
Oil Coy of Aust	202	-2.4	+0.6	62	0-0	-	-	0.8	16	2.5	3.84	238	
Entertain't Wild	41	-4.4	-2.7	69	0-0	-	-	1.2	NE	Nil	3.83	10	
Charter Towers	11	-6.7	+1.8	76	0-0	-	-	1.8	2	Nil	3.63	27	
Metals Explor.	53	-0.0	-0.7	48	0-0	-8.8	-	1.1	NE	Nil	3.59	9	
Bligh Ventures	85	-17.9	-2.6	94	0-0	-0.7	4	0.9	16	Nil	3.43	6	
Pipers Brook	275	-0.1	-1.0	49	0-0	1	1.8	2	0.7	71	0.7	3.41	34
Orogen Minerals	185	-0.8	+1.3	53	0-0	6	-	0.8	14	3.5	3.35	594	
Huntley Invest	52	-0.2	+0.3	50	0-0	-0.8	16	1.1	5	4.8	3.25	22	
Nat'l Mutual	236	-7.8	+0.6	79	0-0	13	1.3	6	0.8	20	3.7	3.12	4,159
Tabcorp Holding	1100	-0.4	-0.1	51	0-1	13	4.5	19	0.6	23	3.9	3.09	3,348
Bank of Q'land	570	-1.0	-1.6	55	1-0	11	2.3	11	0.7	20	4.2	3.04	330
Cinema Plus	78	-15.3	+1.4	92	0-0	5	2.1	25	1.0	8	4.9	2.96	59
Orbital Engine	60	-4.8	+6.8	70	3-1	-	-	1.0	NE	Nil	2.95	194	
Adsteam Marine	265	-2.5	-0.7	63	0-0	8	8.0	65	0.7	12	5.3	2.87	212
Energy Equity	29	-8.4	+1.7	80	0-0	3	0.5	2	1.3	29	Nil	2.83	93
Queens'd Metal	61	-2.1	-0.1	60	0-0	4	-	-	1.0	NE	Nil	2.82	156
China Cons	21	-0.9	-0.0	54	0-0	-0.4	13	1.4	3	Nil	2.73	106	
Formida Holding	112	-30.6	+1.2	99	0-0	-	-	0.9	NE	Nil	2.71	11	
Gold Mines Sard	39	-11.9	-2.2	87	0-0	-3.0	-	1.2	NE	Nil	2.68	77	
Magellan Petrol	150	-0.5	+0.2	52	1-0	-	-	0.8	13	6.7	2.60	36	
Guinness Peat	127	-5.6	-0.1	73	0-0	-	-	0.9	11	0.4	2.51	591	
Bass Strait Oil	336	-5.7	-0.8	73	0-0	-0.8	8	0.7	9	7.9	2.51	148	
<b>WORST PERFORMING SHARES:</b> Weakest Shares, P/S Ratio > 0.25, Yield < Twice Average													
Diamond Rose	5	-35.5	-3.7	99	0-0	-	-	2.3	NE	Nil	N/A	7	
Vengold	15	-33.9	-13.2	99	0-0	-	-	1.5	NE	Nil	N/A	21	
Liberty One	95	-31.1	+1.9	99	0-0	1	6.3	-	0.9	NE	Nil	N/A	204
Formida Holding	112	-30.6	+1.2	99	0-0	-	-	0.9	NE	Nil	2.71	11	
Viagold Capital	7	-29.6	-5.7	98	0-0	-1.0	-	2.0	1	Nil	N/A	9	
Quantum Res.	12	-28.0	-0.7	98	0-0	-	-	1.6	NE	Nil	6.51	20	
<b>INSIDER SELLING:</b> Most Insider Selling, Relative Strength < 0													
Gindabie Gold	15	-7.0	-11.5	76	0-4	-	-	-	1.4	NE	Nil	N/A	7
Precious Metals	34	-10.1	+0.4	83	0-3	-	-	-	1.1	NE	Nil	1.63	31
Ranger Minerals	226	-17.9	+0.2	94	2-5	8	-	-	0.7	NE	Nil	N/A	152
Buderim Ginger	79	-6.3	+0.1	74	0-2	-1.0	4	0.9	23	5.1	0.64	17	
MacMahon Hold	34	-8.8	+1.5	81	0-2	7	0.6	10	1.1	6	10.4	0.11	53
Sun Resources	12	-10.0	+1.5	83	0-2	-	-	-	1.6	NE	Nil	N/A	7
Montague Gold	3	-20.9	-0.3	96	0-2	-	-	-	2.5	NE	Nil	N/A	5
Eastern Gold	8	-19.9	-5.7	95	0-2	-	-	-	1.8	4	Nil	N/A	5
Eco-Air Ltd	43	-2.9	-2.4	64	0-2	-14.3	-	-	1.0	NE	Nil	0.13	4
Macmin NL	4	-15.5	+2.0	92	0-2	-	-	-	2.3	NE	Nil	N/A	6
Metex Resources	10	-14.7	-0.1	91	0-2	-0.5	-	-	1.6	NE	Nil	N/A	7
Scientific Serv	35	-12.4	+1.5	88	0-2	1	2.3	19	1.1	12	7.1	0.37	28
Aust Resources	23	-1.5	+0.3	57	0-2	2	-	-	1.2	9	Nil	0.34	69

## NZ Brokers on the Internet

**Access Brokerage** ([www.access-brokerage.co.nz](http://www.access-brokerage.co.nz)) and **Direct Broking** ([www.direct-broking.co.nz](http://www.direct-broking.co.nz)) have both recently launched internet share services - with significantly lower brokerage rates.

**Direct Broking** is charging investors a low 0.7% brokerage for internet trades in NZ shares (minimum NZ\$20 plus \$4 trade fee) and Australian shares (minimum A\$50), while **Access Brokerage** has a very new internet service where investors can buy and sell only NZ shares at a very competitive flat rate of

NZ\$29.50 per trade (and *no* trade fee), regardless of value. Regular (i.e. via telephone) NZ brokerage rates start at 1.25% at Direct and 1.4% at Access.

With both internet services you need to maintain a cash management account with the broker and have funds available before placing a buy order.

Access also offers its internet customers *real time* quotes and an on-line portfolio management program. Both brokers offer the current day's Company Announcements made to the NZ Stock Exchange.

# Australian Company Analysis: Mount Burgess Gold Mining

**Mt Burgess Gold Mining Company NL (MTB)** appeared in the *Insider Buying* section of our *Comprehensive Share Selection Criteria* last month with six insider buyers and no sellers over the last year. Over the last month, insiders have made five further purchases of shares! What's going on here that makes the company so attractive that its directors are actively buying shares?

## Asset Sale Nets A\$14.0 million

The most significant event at Mt Burgess Gold recently was the sale of its 50% share in the **Butcher Well Gold Joint Venture** for A\$14.0 million in cash (plus the company retains a 2-3½% royalty of any gold production above a certain level). Mt Burgess Gold has an issued capital of 110,566,135 shares, so this A\$14.0 million cash equals 12.7 cents per share - which is only slightly less than the 13 cents market price of the shares!

## Current Business

Despite its name, Mt Burgess Gold Mining is not currently involved in "gold mining" but *gold, base metal and diamond exploration*. The company has several valuable exploration interests including:

**Telfer Gold Project.** This comprises 510km<sup>2</sup> of tenements located around **Newcrest Mining's** Telfer mine (which has produced five million ounces of gold since 1977). **Normandy Gold** is funding exploration, and will spend up to A\$5 million before February 2002 to earn up to a 51% interest (reducing Mt Burgess Gold's interest to 49%). Exploration results to date are described as "only preliminary" but "encouraging". Some samples have shown high grade gold, as well as base metals. Mt Burgess Gold and Normandy believe that "the potential for the discovery of major metal deposits in the area is considerable".

**Tabletop Project.** Mt Burgess Gold has applied for six exploration licences covering 120km<sup>2</sup>. This region is considered highly prospective for gold, base metal and platinum group metals as well as diamonds.

**Broadhurst Project.** Mt Burgess Gold holds one exploration licence and has applied for two other licences and four mining leases, covering a total area of 180km<sup>2</sup>. These surround the large, low-grade **Maroochydore** copper deposit and Mt Burgess Gold is searching for gold and base metals.

**Tay Project.** Exploration for sulphide nickel gold deposits over a 740km<sup>2</sup> area.

**Tsumkwe, Namibia.** Mt Burgess Gold can earn up to a 75% interest in this 2000km<sup>2</sup> "highly prospective" diamond exploration project in north-eastern Namibia, near the Botswana border.

## Strong Financial Position

Following the sale of the Butcher Well Joint Venture, Mt Burgess Gold holds A\$14 million in cash and is debt free. The company has no income (although will now

start to earn interest) and is currently spending around A\$1.5 million per year on exploration.

## Insider Buying

The sale of the Butcher Well Joint Venture was announced in late May and a month later director NR Forrester started actively buying Mt Burgess Gold shares on the market. NR Forrester has made eight purchases over the last three months, acquiring a total 3,080,370 shares at prices from 9-12 cents per share. This lifts his total shareholding to 9,678,275 shares (8.8% of the company). Three other directors have also bought shares: JJ Moore purchase 100,000 shares (raising his holding to 650,000 shares) in mid July, as did CB Jones who bought 115,300 shares (bringing his shareholding to 352,300 shares). In August, GE Taylor purchased 222,112 shares to build his investment up to a total of 1,947,339 shares (1.8% of the company).

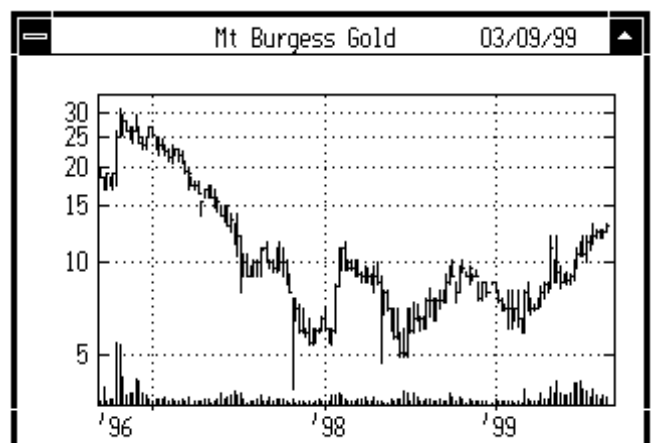
## Share Buy-Back

Not only are directors buying shares, but the company has recently announced a share buy-back that will see it re-purchase up to 11,000,000 shares (9.95% of its capital) on the stockmarket over the next six months.

## Summary and Recommendation

Eleven insider buys from four different directors is about the strongest *buy recommendation* that investors will ever get from a company's directors! The recently announced on-market share buy back is further evidence that the directors consider the shares to be under-valued - and will tend to support the share price (reducing the risk that the shares decline in value). Finally, with a cash backing of 12.7 cents per share, Mt Burgess Gold shares certainly do look under-valued at just 13 cents.

While we are not formally recommending Mt Burgess Gold, we believe that these shares are a very attractive *speculative investment* - suitable for investors prepared to accept the risks involved in *very small* companies and mineral exploration. We would look for the shares to rise to 20-30 cents over the next 6-12 months.



# Why Invest in the New Zealand Stockmarket?

Subscribers continue to write in asking why we recommend investing about 40% of portfolios in New Zealand shares (and 20% in Australia and 40% internationally) when the NZ stockmarket has underperformed stockmarkets like Australia and the United States.

This spread is, of course, just a suggestion. Some investors may have as little as 20% invested in NZ, while others may have 60-70% in NZ shares. While we feel that an approximate 40/20/40 split is appropriate (especially for investors aged 20-55 years) the most important principle is that investors diversify across several world stockmarkets.

## Why the NZ Stockmarket has Under-Performed

There are many possible reasons why the NZ stockmarket may have under-performed many other world stockmarkets over recent years. Some of these include:

1. Mean Reversion of stockmarket returns. The *very long term* returns of world stockmarkets tend to be very similar. So a period of particularly strong stockmarket returns is usually followed by a period of poor returns, and similarly a period of particularly poor returns is usually followed by a period of strong returns.

The NZ stockmarket *outperformed* most world stockmarkets in the period from 1978-1987 - rising more than 12-fold in value in just nine years. So the under-performance over the last decade may simply be the result of the stockmarket's tendency to *mean reversion*.

There are many examples of this tendency to *mean reversion*: The under-performance (i.e. a 90% decline) by Germany's stockmarket at the end of the Second World War - and its subsequent catch up with the United Kingdom and United States stockmarkets over the following 10-15 years. Another example would be the strong performance of the Japanese stockmarket through to December 1989 - and its subsequent under-performance over the last decade.

Investors who point to *International Investor's* strong gains from Asian stockmarkets should realise that those gains are a *mean reversion* from the huge falls from mid-1997 to mid-1998. The United States stockmarket has performed strongly since 1975 - so may face a period of low returns over the next 20-25 years!

2. Removal of Foreign Exchange Controls. Until March 1985, NZ investors were unable to take money overseas for investment, so were forced to invest 100% of their portfolios in NZ. Although *Market Analysis* recommended moving at least 30% of portfolios offshore in 1985 (which proved very profitable from 1987-1992), most NZ investors remained fully invested locally owing to the booming NZ stockmarket.

Therefore the NZ stockmarket's under-performance since 1988 could be the result of NZ investors diversifying internationally. As a result, NZ investors would tend to be net sellers of NZ shares and net purchasers of international equities. This would tend to depress NZ share prices.

3. The NZ stockmarket is dominated by a small number of larger companies, many of which have performed poorly. The NZ stockmarket is *small*, with a large percentage of its total value in just a dozen companies. So one poorly performing large company in NZ will have a bigger impact on the share index than a single poorly performing large company in Australia, the UK or the US.

NZ's 1980's stockmarket boom was built on an asset bubble of inflated stockmarket and property values. When that bubble burst a number of very large companies (e.g. Equiticorp, Chase) failed. Many that survived (e.g. Brierley) have been poorly managed or were burdened with massive debts (e.g. Lion Nathan). *Many* other large NZ companies are in low growth, low profitability *commodity* businesses (e.g. Carter Holt, the Fletcher companies).

Commodity/resource companies have been bad investments in Australia recently but there are bigger and more diversified industrial and finance sectors which have boosted the share index. Lion Nathan, is a de facto Australian company - but makes up a very much smaller percentage of the Australian share index. All countries have had unsuccessful investment companies, but Brierley did make up a large percentage of the NZ index.

The apparent under-performance of the NZ share index is therefore the result of *many unattractive large companies* and not because the economy is an unattractive place to be running a business.

The good news, of course, is (1) investors didn't have to put their money in the shares of these large, unattractive companies, (2) a lot of medium sized and smaller companies have done very well (but are ignored by the index) and (3) there is no reason why a company based in NZ should be any less successful than a similar business based in Australia or the United States.

Let's not blame an "under-performing NZ stockmarket" for what is really an under-performing handful of larger NZ companies.

## Why Invest about 40% of Portfolios in NZ Shares

Once again, there are many reasons for investing approximately 40% of investment portfolios in NZ:

1. Investor bias towards local investments. It is a simple fact that most people like to invest their money locally in companies that they know. NZ investors buy NZ shares, Australian investors buy Australian shares and United States investors buy US shares. Perhaps investors around the world

*should* all put 52% of their portfolio in the US, 11% in the UK, 11% in Japan, and so on, but very few people invest in that way.

[Editor's Note: Of course, investors who want to buy NZ shares subscribe to *Market Analysis* because it covers this stockmarket - but if this wasn't where I wanted to invest 40% of my own money then I wouldn't be in this business.]

2. **Taxation.** Income is an important investment objective for many investors - but even if your primary goal is *growth* it is important to diversify your portfolio and hold some *low risk, income* shares (as you need some *safe* investments before you can afford to risk other parts of your capital in emerging growth companies or smaller Asian stockmarkets!). NZ investors can claim a credit for income tax paid in NZ by NZ companies. So with imputation tax credits, dividend income earned from NZ shares is worth *49% more* than a similar yield from a foreign share where the investor will need to pay NZ tax on the dividend income.

So the *income* shares portion of an investment portfolio should be (mainly) invested in NZ. This could make up 70% (or more) of shares held by a retired investor, and at least 20% of the portfolio held by investors whose primary goal is maximum capital growth (from Australian and international investments).

3. **Minimising Volatility Risk.** Small growth companies and small world stockmarkets offer the best potential for maximum capital appreciation - but can be very volatile and risky. Investing all of your portfolio in these volatile sectors is counter-productive. It is better to hold a diversified portfolio with part of the portfolio (and we suggest 40%) invested in lower risk investments. When small growth companies and small stockmarkets are booming, some of the gains can be "banked" into the lower risk NZ section of your portfolio. But if small growth companies and small stockmarkets plunge - then all is not lost and the sale of some of the lower risk NZ shares can enable you to re-build the foreign sections of your portfolio when prices are low.

There are numerous examples of how our investment spread has helped us build investment wealth over the last couple of decades. Moving 30-40% of our portfolio offshore in 1985-86 helped avoid the worst of the 1987 stockmarket crash as NZ shares remained low but US shares (where we held most of our international investments at the time) recovered and grew very strongly from 1988 - 1992. In the early 1990's we cashed in some US investments and used that money to build up our holdings in NZ companies like Michael Hill, Owens Group, Radio Otago and Radio Pacific. In 1994, we started recommending Australian shares but suffered some large initial losses. Holding a well diversified portfolio enabled us to add to investments like Central Equity, ERG and JNA Telecommunications at low prices! During 1998 the secure wealth in our NZ and Australian shareholdings has enabled us to confidently add to Asian stockmarkets.

Had we invested in just one of these markets, a downturn would have seriously eroded our

investment wealth. That in turn would have forced us to invest "conservatively" instead of being able to buy aggressively while prices were low!

4. **Minimising Exchange Rate Risk.** Most investors measure the value of their portfolio in their local currency, so NZ investors will usually measure their investment wealth in NZ dollars. Holding a portion of your portfolio in NZ will remove at least part of the short term *risk* from fluctuations in the exchange rate.

Alternatively, investors *could* seek to hedge their exchange *risks* - although this will lower long term returns (perhaps by as much as 1-3% per annum, especially as transaction costs are relatively high for private investors). Shares are a *real asset* and therefore a natural hedge against exchange rate movements - over the *medium to long term*. So investors should not seek to hedge their foreign exchange exposure which is already hedged (over the longer term). That still leaves investors with a short term *risk* owing to exchange fluctuations. We believe that the best way to deal with this is simply to reduce that exposure (by holding some portion in NZ investments) to a level of "comfort".

5. **The NZ stockmarket offers good value.** NZ shares offer good value compared with most other world stockmarkets. In NZ, Price/Earnings ratios are lower than on other world stockmarkets and Dividend Yields are higher. That indicates that NZ shares are under-valued and/or that many other world stockmarkets are over-valued. Needless to say, we seek to invest in under-valued situations and to avoid over-valued situations.

Of the 43 stockmarkets covered in our *International Investor* newsletter, NZ is one of only five rated as *under-valued* (another eleven are rated as *fairly valued* and 27 are *over-valued*).

#### **Summary & Recommendation**

We believe that the NZ stockmarket offers good value and - despite many unattractive larger companies that have held back the share index - offers many shares which are very attractive investments. Furthermore, NZ shares are a good source of investment income for retired investors, offering tax credits (which are not available from foreign shares) as well as protecting that income and investment capital from inflation.

As NZ is a small country with less than 150 listed companies the potential to find young, emerging growth companies is limited. Australia offers a ten times greater selection of companies. Growth companies, however, are risky and their share prices are volatile - so it is necessary to invest at least some proportion of a "growth portfolio" in lower risk NZ shares.

Similarly, before venturing into counter-cyclical investment in depressed world stockmarkets (e.g. buying Asian shares after their crisis) it is necessary to have some low risk investments at home! Asian stockmarkets fell about 90% in 1996-98, so investors who bought in after only an 80% decline lost half their investment before markets recovered. Investing 100% of a portfolio in these markets would exceed most investors level of "comfort" - resulting in *panic* selling when markets drop sharply. Having a substantial proportion of our total portfolio in relatively safe *(Continued on Page 14)*



# "Neglect" Ratings of Australian Shares

"Neglected" Shares = 1-4 Brokers, "Moderately Followed" Shares = 5-10 Brokers, "Widely Followed" Shares = 11 or more Brokers.

Company	No. of Following Brokers	Market Capitalisation (A\$ Mill.)	Company	No. of Following Brokers	Market Capitalisation (A\$ Mill.)	Company	No. of Following Brokers	Market Capitalisation (A\$ Mill.)	Company	No. of Following Brokers	Market Capitalisation (A\$ Mill.)
A.G.L.	11	3,222	Chip Appl Tech	1	56	Homemaker Prop.	2	158	Progen Indust.	1	86
A.P. Eagers	2	65	Cinema Plus	5	58	Hoyts Cinemas	7	610	Prophecy Int'l	2	133
A.V. Jennings	1	105	Cleland	1	42	IAMA Ltd	6	209	Q.B.E. Insur.	13	2,257
AAPT	13	1,506	Clough Limited	1	221	Illuka Resource	9	864	Q.C.T. Resource	13	716
AJ Indust Fund	5	125	Coal & Allied	3	936	Incitec	5	707	Qantas	17	5,991
AJ Office	7	299	Coates Hire	9	250	Indust Inv Trt	4	217	Queens'd Cotton	4	135
AJ Retail	5	307	Coca-Cola Bev.	2	3,244	Infratil Aust.	6	241	Queens'd Metal	4	156
AMP Ind Prop Tr	6	333	Coca-Cola Amatil	16	5,660	Infrastructure	4	895	Ramsay Health	7	101
AMP Ltd	13	16,833	Cochlear Ltd	7	826	Jupiters	15	850	Ranger Minerals	8	152
AMP Office Trt	9	606	Coffey Int'l	1	22	Just Jeans Grp	10	128	Rebel Sport	4	53
AMP Shop Centre	7	829	ColFS Indust.	7	351	K&S Corporation	3	40	Rec. Solutions	3	41
ANZ Bank	18	15,561	ColFS Com Prop	7	267	Keycorp Ltd	1	125	Reinsurance Aus	11	151
APN News Media	12	790	Coles Myer	17	10,238	Kidston Gold	6	44	Resolute Saman.	13	111
ARB Corporation	3	69	Colonial Retail	7	361	King Island	1	39	Ridley Corp.	10	191
ARC Energy	1	19	Colonial Ltd	12	5,494	Lang Corporatio	7	650	Rio Tinto Ltd	17	16,821
AWA Ltd	2	132	Comwealth Bank	17	22,313	Leighton Hold	13	1,654	Roberts Ltd	1	18
Abigroup Ltd	1	108	Com. Inv. Trust	4	710	Lemarne Corp	1	38	Rock Building	1	38
Acacia Resource	15	555	Comalco Ltd	15	4,933	Lemvest Ltd	1	37	Ross Mining NL	11	96
Adelaide Bright	10	360	Computer Share	4	2,518	Lend Lease Corp	14	9,710	Rothmans Hold	7	1,963
Adelaide Bank	12	406	Cons Rutile	4	116	LibertyOne	1	204	Rural Press Ltd	9	561
Adsteam Marine	8	212	Cons Manufact.	2	16	Lihir Gold	13	1,159	Santos Ltd	20	2,750
Adtrans Group	1	49	Corp Express	5	265	M.I.M. Holdings	17	2,236	Scanbox AsiaPac	1	5
Advance Prop	5	683	Coventry Group	3	170	MacMahon Hold	7	53	Schroder Prop.	12	1,053
Amalgamated Hld	6	503	Crane Group	9	378	Macquarie Leis.	2	82	Scientific Serv	1	28
Ancor Ltd	15	5,129	Cranswick Wines	2	90	Macquarie Ind.	7	239	Sea World PT	1	162
Ammtec Ltd	1	20	Crevet Ltd	3	16	Macquarie Off.	7	546	Seven Network	14	1,100
Amrad Corp.	2	114	Croesus Mining	1	30	Macquarie Bank	10	3,303	Siddons Ramset	8	282
Anaconda Nickel	3	662	Cultus Petrol.	3	174	Macquarie C'Wde	7	401	Simeon Wines	10	259
Antaeus Energy	1	25	Cuppa Cup Vine.	2	41	Maxi TRANS	2	44	Simsmetal Ltd	10	538
Aristocrat	7	1,429	Darling Park Tr	6	117	Mayne Nickless	17	1,684	Singleton Group	2	138
Ashton Mining	8	207	Data Advantage	5	399	McConnell Dowel	1	100	Skilled Eng.	12	266
Asia Pac Spec	7	71	Data 3 Ltd	1	45	McGuigan Wines	4	141	Smith (Howard)	12	2,326
Atkins Carlyle	8	133	David Jones	14	476	McPherson's Ltd	2	36	Smorgon Steel	5	1,942
Aurora Gold	11	85	Davids	7	324	Metalcorp Ltd	3	124	Solution 6	2	362
Ausdoc Group	10	230	Delfin Property	3	142	Metal Manufact.	6	270	Sonic Health	7	594
Auspine Ltd	6	103	Delta Gold NL	14	468	Micromedical	1	62	Sons of Gwallia	16	444
Aust Oil & Gas	1	75	Dev Capital Aus	1	57	Millers Retail	4	127	Soul Pattinson	2	958
Aust Hospital	8	123	Devine	1	50	Mirvac Property	3	639	Southcorp Ltd	16	3,615
Aust Resources	2	69	Dollar Sweets	2	84	Mirvac Ltd	2	547	Spicers Paper	11	310
Aust Stock Exch	7	1,126	Downer Group	1	275	Murchison Un.	1	24	Spotless Serv.	7	444
Aust Com Prp Tr	3	160	E.R.G.	1	805	Namoi Cotton	2	87	Spotless Group	7	665
Aust Gth Prop.	3	156	ETRADE Aust.	1	299	Nat'l Mutual	13	4,159	St George Bank	15	4,757
Aust Infra.	4	294	East'n Aluminu	7	146	Nat'l Can	1	114	Star City Hold.	13	593
Aust Pharm. Ind	4	323	Email Ltd	11	764	Nat'l Foods	13	779	Sthn Star	3	89
Austrim Ltd	4	690	Emperor Mines	3	39	Nat'l Aust Bank	18	34,743	Sthn Cross Brd.	6	228
Australand Hold	4	409	Energy Resource	9	310	Nat'l Mut. Prop	8	974	Stockland Trust	9	1,432
Austral Ltd	2	284	Energy Equity	3	93	Natronix Ltd	4	65	Straits Res.	3	26
Auto Group Ltd	1	40	Energy Develop.	5	478	Neverfall Spr.	2	248	Strathfield Grp	1	164
Avatar Indust.	2	47	Envestra	4	319	Newcrest Mining	16	908	Suncorp Prop.	2	30
B.H.P.	16	30,954	Evans Deakin	10	353	News Corporatio	15	22,936	Suncorp-Metway	11	1,718
BRL Hardy Ltd	14	920	FXF Trust	1	286	Niugini Mining	4	212	Sydney Aquarium	6	91
BT Hotel Group	3	250	Fairfax (John)	14	3,165	Norm Mt Layshon	10	152	TAB Ltd	15	1,475
BT Office	8	0	Farnell & Thom.	1	19	Norman Wines	2	44	TDG Logistics	1	42
BT Property	7	432	Faulding (F.H.)	10	1,600	Normandy NFM	11	236	TV Media Serv.	7	0
BT Sydney	2	360	Finemore Hold	8	80	Normandy Mining	18	1,921	Tabcorp Holding	13	3,348
Bank of Q'land	11	330	First Aust Bldg	1	97	North Ltd	17	2,686	Tap Oil	5	100
Bank of W. Aust	15	1,696	Fleetwood Corp	1	37	Novogen Ltd	1	190	Telecasters Aus	4	158
Beaconsfield GI	1	69	Flight Centre	5	760	Novus Petroleum	9	181	Telstra	16	35,340
Becker Group	1	21	Flinders Ind PT	3	192	OPSM Protector	10	370	Tempo Services	6	103
Bendigo Sand.	6	394	Foodland Assoc	11	878	Oil Search Ltd	12	1,177	Ten Network	11	776
Beyond Int'l	2	35	Forest Place Gr	2	55	Orica Ltd	12	2,179	Thakral Holding	2	382
Biota Holdings	2	466	Forrester Kurts	2	126	Orogen Minerals	6	594	Ticor Ltd	5	236
Blackmores Ltd	2	69	Foster's Brewin	17	8,096	PBL	13	5,219	Timbercorp	4	246
Boag (J) & Son	2	36	Franked Income	4	1,478	PMP Communicat.	11	667	Toil Holdings	5	334
Boral Ltd	15	2,753	Freedom Furn.	13	135	Pacific Group	13	936	Tourism Aust.	1	182
Brambles Ind.	17	10,185	Futuris Corp.	12	1,090	Pacific Hydro	1	62	Tripleee Ret.	2	94
Brandrill	2	32	G.U.D. Holdings	12	112	Pacific Mining	4	193	United Energy	9	957
Brazin Limited	7	417	GIO Australia	13	1,601	Pacific Dunlop	15	2,412	United Group	8	174
Breakwater Is.	2	43	GWA Internat'l	10	700	Paladin Ind.	5	174	Village Road.	9	713
Brickworks Ltd	3	550	Gandel Retail T	10	1,157	Paladin Com.	7	410	Villa World	4	82
Bridgestone	1	93	General Prop Tr	12	3,758	Parbury Ltd	2	34	Vision Systems	2	84
Bristle Ltd	3	119	Ges Internat'l	1	617	Pasminco Ltd	17	1,979	Walker Corp.	3	225
Bunnings W/hse	1	150	Goldfields	10	176	Peptide Tech.	1	82	Watpac Ltd	1	34
Burns Philp	2	164	Goodman Fielder	16	1,818	Perrilya Mines	2	22	Wattly Ltd	14	348
Burswood Ltd	14	313	Goodman Hardie	5	390	Perp Trust Aust	7	779	Wesfarmers Ltd	13	3,791
C & W Optus	16	12,454	Graincorp	1	278	Perseverance	2	6	West Aust News	13	1,152
C'wth Prop Off.	5	551	Grand Hotel	3	243	Petaluma Ltd	7	118	West'n Metals	10	217
C.S.R. Ltd	14	4,060	Great Central	3	476	Peter Lehman W.	5	77	Western Mining	18	8,136
CI Technologies	4	299	Gt Sthn Plant'n	1	281	Petroz NL	6	91	Westfield Amer.	3	1,483
CIM Resources	1	16	Gunns Ltd	2	46	Petsec Energy	2	43	Westfield Hold.	12	4,787
CPI Group	9	106	Gympie Gold	2	41	Pioneer Int'l	15	3,156	Westfield Trust	10	4,727
CSL Limited	9	2,501	HIH Insurance	10	462	Pipers Brook	1	34	Weston (George)	1	726
Caltex Australia	11	867	Hardie (James)	12	1,718	Pirelli Cables	2	66	Westpac Banking	17	17,759
Campbell Bros	1	133	Hargraves Res.	3	36	Portman Mining	6	77	Westpac Prop Tr	7	532
Candle Aust.	8	112	Harris Scarfe	8	109	Pracom Ltd	4	112	Westral'n Fores	1	96
Capral Alum.	13	494	Harvey Norman	12	3,347	Preston Resourc	1	44	White (J) Malt	1	67
Cent Norseman	1	87	Healthscope	1	22	Primary Health	1	224	Wide Bay Cap'n	1	64
Centaur Mining	7	92	Henry Walker Gr	10	313	Prime Credit PT	8	515	Wills (WD & HO)	8	825
Central Equity	1	184	Hill 50 Gold	4	110	Prime Retail	2	98	Woodside Petrol	19	7,320
Centro Prop.	5	512	Hills Motorway	9	740	Prime TV	8	152	Woolworths Ltd	17	6,398
Chal Prop Inc	2	149	Hills Indust.	5	261	Prime Indust.	6	627	Yates (Arthur)	7	69

# "Insider" Insights

(A summary of buying and selling by major shareholders)

Company	Shareholder	Buy/ Sell	Shares (Mill)	% of Coy Held Before	% of Coy Held After
<b>06/08/99</b>					
LWR Industries	CHL New Zealand	Buy	+0.487	67.02%	68.48%
Nuplex Industries	Shamrock Holdings	Buy	+1.146	5.04%	7.03%
<b>13/08/99</b>					
Aquaria 21	K D Wikeley	Sell	-35.378	25.77%	8.70%
Aquaria 21	Oregon Forestry	Buy	+35.378	0.0%	17.07%
Ernest Adams	Goodman Fielder	Buy	+9.359	20.00%	76.72%
FC - Paper	Franklin Resources	Sell	-4.557	5.52%	4.93%
Infratil International	Guinness Peat	Buy	+1.691	6.05%	7.78%
LWR Industries	CHL New Zealand	Buy	+4.417	68.48%	81.72%
Mainfreight	Harris Associates	Buy	+0.280	4.99%	5.41%
Natural Gas Corporation	Infratil NZ	Buy	+4.970	5.08%	6.34%
Newmarket Property	Manro Management	Sell	-0.900	7.21%	5.97%
Otter Gold Mines	Mid-East Minerals	Buy	+10.289	0.0%	18.87%
Progressive Enterprises	Foodland	Buy	+0.022	68.38%	67.41%
Tasman Agriculture	Brierley Investments	Buy	+3.107	60.61%	63.74%
<b>20/08/99</b>					
Dairy Brands	Savoy Equities	Sell	-24.648	74.66%	24.09%
Ernest Adams	Goodman Fielder	Buy	+0.661	76.72%	80.72%
Fisher & Paykel	AMP Asset Mgmt	Buy	+1.202	7.13%	8.15%
LWR Industries	CHL New Zealand	Buy	+0.427	81.72%	83.00%
Otter Gold Mines	Royal & Sun Alliance	Buy	+3.636	0.0%	7.023%
<b>27/08/99</b>					
Auckland Airport	Col First State	Buy	+21.120	0.0%	5.03%
Brierley Investments	Franklin Resources	Sell	-30.478	12.76%	11.75%
Eastern Equities	AMP	Buy	+7.218	59.78%	81.32%
Infratil Australia	National Mutual	Sell	-0.852	5.19%	4.91%
LWR Industries	CHL New Zealand	Buy	+1.735	83.00%	88.20%
Progressive Enterprises	Foodland	Buy	+15.506	89.07%	97.96%
Restaurant Brands	Tower Corporation	Buy	+1.080	8.37%	9.64%
Restaurant Brands	National Mutual	Sell	-1.182	9.81%	8.42%
Tasman Agriculture	Brierley Investments	Buy	+3.125	63.74%	66.18%
<b>03/09/99</b>					
Ceramco Corporation	Tower Corporation	Buy	+0.473	10.58%	11.75%
Ernest Adams	Goodman Fielder	Buy	+0.383	80.72%	83.04%
Kiwi Development	National Mutual	Sell	-0.571	14.21%	13.02%
LWR Industries	CHL New Zealand	Buy	+0.801	88.20%	90.60%
Tourism Holdings	National Mutual	Sell	-0.883	8.68%	7.12%

**KD Wikeley has failed to exercise a call option to buy 35.4 million Aquaria 21 shares, with the beneficial ownership therefore returning to the vendor Oregon Forestry. Failure to exercise this option indicates that the shares have under-performed the insider's expectations and have not exceeded the (undisclosed) exercise price.**

Guinness Peat Group is building up a shareholding in **Infratil International** to pressure that company into liquidating assets and repaying the money to shareholders.

**Total Return Index for All Listed Shares**

Aug 9	2228.12	Aug 16	2226.96
Aug 10	2222.05	Aug 17	2225.82
Aug 11	2208.24	Aug 18	2232.43
Aug 12	2214.77	Aug 19	2237.09
Aug 13	2214.38	Aug 20	2239.33
Aug 23	2237.67	Aug 30	2272.02
Aug 24	2237.18	Aug 31	2266.21
Aug 25	2242.62	Sep 1	2271.58
Aug 26	2250.64	Sep 2	2278.39
Aug 27	2270.06	Sep 3	2279.10

# Dividend \$

Company	Cents per Share	Ex- Date	Pay- able	Tax Credit
AMP NZ Office Trust	4.0132988	20-09	30-09	Nil
Auckland Int'l Airport	5.10	08-11	16-11	Full
Baycorp Holdings	9.00	13-09	17-09	Full
Capital Properties	2.2425	06-09	24-09	0.645
Cavalier Corporation	12.00	04-10	08-10	Full
Corporate Investments	1.50	01-11	12-11	Full
Designer Textiles	2.00	27-09	08-10	Full
Donaghys Industries	3.00	25-10	29-10	Nil
Ebos Group	9.00	18-10	22-10	Full
FC - Building	6.00	20-09	07-10	Full
FC - Energy	7.00	20-09	07-10	Full
FC - Paper	1.50	20-09	07-10	Full
Force Corporation	3.00	20-09	24-09	Full
Lyttelton Port	4.55	04-10	08-10	Full
Michael Hill International	6.00	18-10	26-10	Full
Mr Chips Holdings	2.00	06-09	10-09	Full
National Property Trust	4.2707	23-08	27-08	0.9657
Natural Gas Corporation	5.00	06-09	13-09	Full
Natural Gas (1)	2.50	06-09	13-09	Full
Nobilo Wines	3.00	04-10	15-10	Full
Nuplex Industries	5.00	04-10	15-10	Full
NZ Refining Company	10.00	18-10	25-10	Nil
Port of Tauranga	13.00	25-10	05-11	Full
Ports of Auckland	9.00	11-10	22-10	Full
Reid Farmers	4.50	20-09	07-10	Full
Restaurant Brands	4.50	13-09	24-09	Full
Sky City	26.00	20-09	01-10	Full
St Lukes Group	3.14	06-09	20-09	Nil
Tasman Agriculture	3.00	15-11	26-11	0.012553
Taylor's Group	2.50	27-09	15-10	Full
Telecom NZ	11.50	06-09	15-09	Full
Tourism Holdings	5.00	11-10	26-10	Full
Tranz Rail	8.50	13-09	24-09	Nil
<b>Australian Shares</b>				
AMP	20.00	-	-	-
Biron Corporation	2.00	13-09	28-09	-
Central Equity	6.00	27-09	08-10	-
ERG	1.50	-	-	-
PMP Communications	10.00	22-09	07-10	-
Thakral Holdings Group	3.20	15-09	24-09	-
Toll Holdings	12.00	16-09	-	-
Vision Systems	14.00	08-10	20-10	-
(1) Special Dividend				

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## Office Closed: September 8-17

Our office will be closed from September 8-17 (inclusive) while your Editor and family "do their bit" to ease Auckland's APEC traffic congestion by leaving the country for a short holiday.

## Next Issue

The next issue of "Market Analysis" will be posted in five weeks time on Tuesday October 12, 1999.

MARKET ANALYSIS is published 12 times per year by Securities Research Company Limited, P.O. Box 34-162, Birkenhead, Auckland. (66 Stanaway Street. Telephone 64-9-4199427 Facsimile 64-9-4199428 Internet: www.stockmarket.co.nz Email: james@stockmarket.co.nz). Subscription Rate \$175 (including GST) per year.

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