



THORNEY

OPPORTUNITIES
TOP

Date: 12 January 2022

ASX Code: TOP

STEADY NTA PERFORMANCE IN H1 DESPITE EQUITY MARKET VOLATILITY

Highlights:

- December NTA at 71.9 cents before tax¹ and 68.5 cents after tax¹
- Key holding Australian Community Media (ACM) benefitted from:
 - A refinance of its debt facilities with CBA (ASX:CBA), providing a reduced cost of debt
 - Seven West Media's (ASX:SWM) acquisition of Prime Media Group (ASX:PRT) in which ACM is the largest shareholder with a 23% holding
- Austin Engineering (ASX:ANG) secured a five-year mining products and service supply contract with Rio Tinto (ASX:RIO), with estimated value of services at ~A\$300m
- Money3 Corporation (ASX:MNY) secured additional funding lines enabling it to pursue a loan book in excess of \$1b
- Southern Cross Electrical Engineering (ASX:SXE) renewed its CBA funding lines, providing it with funding flexibility for its growing order book

Thorney Opportunities Ltd (ASX:TOP) is pleased to provide its monthly Net Tangible Asset backing per share (NTA) as at 31 December 2021.

Net Tangible Asset backing per share (NTA):

NTA current month	Before Tax ¹	After Tax ¹
31 December 2021	71.9 cents	68.5 cents
NTA previous month	Before Tax ¹	After Tax ¹
30 November 2021	72.2 cents	69.2 cents

¹ Figures are unaudited and approximate.

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Monthly commentary:

The December NTA was affected by a weaker performance in the listed investment portfolio during the month consistent with the drop in global equity markets. The NTA was also negatively affected following Palla Pharma's (ASX:PAL) disappointing announcement that it was entering into voluntary administration on 17 December, leading to TOP's decision to write-down its investment to nil.

Australian Community Media (ACM)

In late December 2021, ACM completed a refinancing of its existing debt facilities with the Commonwealth Bank (ASX:CBA), providing both term and working capital facilities. The new facilities offer a lower cost of funding and maturity to 2024.

On 31 December 2021, Seven West Media Limited (ASX:SWM) completed its acquisition of the regional media business and assets of Prime Media Group Limited (ASX:PRT), following the approval of PRT shareholders on 23 December 2021. ACM, and its associates, is the largest shareholder in PRT with an interest of approximately 23%. PRT intends to distribute the proceeds of sale to its shareholders in early February 2022, providing ACM with additional capital to pursue its growth ambitions in both traditional and digital media as well as flexibility to make a further distribution to its shareholders, including TOP.

Combined with the strong underlying performance, the positive developments above provide TOP with a strong basis to assess the carrying value of its investment in ACM as part of completing its half-year results.

Austin Engineering Limited

Key portfolio holding Austin Engineering Limited, (ASX:ANG) extended its long-term partnership with resources giant Rio Tinto (ASX:RIO) with the signing of a five-year mining products and service supply contract, valued at up to \$300 million over the life of the contract, effective from 16 December 2021.

The contract which covers supply from all of Austin's major global facilities including those in Australia, Indonesia, North America and South America, is for the supply of dump bodies, lightweight trays for ore trucks, heavy machinery buckets, water bodies and other fabricated products. The contract also covers the provision of 'Off Site Repairs' and other associated services for both Austin supplied equipment and for other OEM's supplied heavy machinery.

TOP remains enthusiastic about the outlook for ANG under the leadership of new Chief Executive Officer, David Singleton.

Money3 Corporation Limited

TOP's largest portfolio holding, Money3 Corporation (ASX:MNY), announced it had secured additional funding, demonstrating its ability to fund its future growth aspirations. TOP remains optimistic about MNY as it continues to pursue growth both in its loan book to \$1 billion and beyond, and further franked dividends for shareholders.

Southern Cross Electrical Engineering

One of TOP's core mining services and engineering portfolio positions, Southern Cross Electrical Engineering Group (ASX: SXE), announced it had renewed a \$50 million Multi-Option Facility with the Commonwealth Bank. As SXE continues to pursue growth in its order book, this facility renewal provides the company with total funding of up to \$100 million for bonding purposes.

TOP's Chairman, Alex Waislitz said: "We remain extremely enthusiastic about a number of portfolio positions, in particular, the largest listed position, MNY, and the largest unlisted position, ACM. We maintain our positive attitude towards the portfolio exposures to the infrastructure and resources services sector, including ANG and SXE, as well as MMA Offshore Limited (ASX: MRM), Decmil Group Limited (ASX: DCG) and Service Stream Limited (ASX: SSM). At the same time, we remain focused on reducing and eliminating the discount of our share price to NTA and as outlined at our 2021 AGM, have undertaken a number of activities to achieve this. This expanded NTA announcement is one of the steps we have taken to provide greater detail and transparency on TOP's portfolio activities, and we welcome any feedback from shareholders as we continue to enhance communications."

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About Thorney Opportunities Ltd

Thorney Opportunities Ltd (TOP) is an ASX listed investment company (LIC) which concentrates on producing absolute returns for shareholders over the medium to long term. Its primary focus is on the careful selection of investments which enables TOP to be a constructive catalyst towards unlocking the value in the companies that it identifies. TOP invests in listed and unlisted equities and financial assets, in a variety of sectors, including media, automotive, energy and pharmaceutical. TOP is managed by the privately owned Thorney Investment Group (TIG) pursuant to a long-term investment management agreement. TIG has grown its own portfolio substantially over the past two decades and it is this same strategy that TOP employs as it carefully selects its investments. Through the investment management agreement, TOP has access to the same investment team and deal flow as TIG and has already co-invested with TIG in a number of the investments that TOP has undertaken so far. You can invest in TOP by purchasing shares on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX). For more information visit: <https://thorney.com.au/thorney-opportunities/>