



Weekly Newsletter

June 27, 2022

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Investment Playbook



Equities

Stock Ticker	Stock Information (As of June 24, 2022)	Analyst Outlook
WISYNCO Wisynco Group Limited	P/E: 18.48x	OVERWEIGHT Throughout the pandemic, Wisynco has managed to improve its operational efficiency but given the effects of COVID-19 on industries such as tourism and education, the Company was unable to deliver significant revenue growth. Now, with tourism rebounding and schools operating at a greater level, Wisynco has married its improved operational efficiency with stronger revenue growth, allowing for significant net profit growth. As tourism is expected to continue growing towards its pre-pandemic level of output, we expect Wisynco to continue to perform well. Wisynco Equity Report
	P/B: 4.06x	
	Price: \$18.85	
	Div Yield: 1.59%	
JMMBGL JMMB Group Limited	P/E: 6.91x	OVERWEIGHT Given its relatively low P/E ratio and considering the Group's consistently strong performance throughout the pandemic, the market has been underpricing JMMBGL significantly, relative to its local counterparts. In recognition of this, the JMMBGL Directors approved a share buyback program which should begin in FY2022/23 which begins on April 1, 2022. Share buyback programs reduce the number of shares outstanding. As the supply of shares in the market reduces from the share buyback, share price increase is likely to follow as demand for the stock outweighs supply. JMMB Equity Report
	P/B: 1.26x	
	Price: \$42.15	
	Div Yield: 2.02%	
MASSY Massy Holdings Limited	P/E: 9.69x	OVERWEIGHT Massy Holdings Limited. (MHL, Massy), through its portfolio companies, engages in trading, manufacturing, distribution, and service industry businesses throughout the Caribbean region. The company operates through three portfolios: Integrated Retail, Gas Products, Motors, and Machine and two business lines: Financial Services, and Strategic and Other Investments. In financial year 2020, Massy transitioned from a Conglomerate to an Investment Holding Company. By so doing, Massy's strategy has changed, with the Group focusing mainly on its core portfolios. These core areas of the business represent Massy's competitive advantages, are well-positioned to scale, and are therefore expected to drive strategic growth going forward. Massy Equity Report
	P/B: 1.16x	
	Price: J\$ 92.00	
	Div Yield: 2.90%	

Ratings Definitions

OVERWEIGHT/BUY

Exposure to this asset should be between 5% and 10% of your total portfolio

MARKETWEIGHT/HOLD

Exposure to the asset should be equal to 5% of your total portfolio

UNDERWEIGHT

Reduce exposure in your portfolio to less than 5% for this particular asset

SELL

Reduce exposure in your portfolio to zero

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Investment Playbook



Equities

Stock Ticker	Stock Information (As of June 24, 2022)	Analyst Outlook
LASD Lasco Distributors	P/E: 11.23x	OVERWEIGHT Our expectation is for the Company to continue on its growth trajectory, supported by the improving economic backdrop of the global economy, which should manifest through continued domestic demand for goods and services. With increased stopover arrivals and the reopening of key industries such as entertainment and education (face-to-face teaching), there are sufficient catalysts to spur further growth in 2022. However, this isn't without challenges as the global supply bottleneck has affected LASD's margins. In response, management has prudently managed operational costs such that higher imported inflationary has not completely eroded the bottom line, resulting in continued growth. Lasco Distributors Equity Report
	P/B: 1.52x	
	Price: J\$ 3.25	
	Div Yield: 2.00%	
SCIJMD / SCIUSD Sygnus Credit Investments	P/E: 9.13x / 12.53x	OVERWEIGHT Sygnus' business model is built on providing capital and direction to the underbanked, targeting the middle market. To accomplish this, the Company has executed several equity raises, the most recent of which was its APO launch in December 2020. Given the increase in its weighted average number of shares, EPS growth has not mirrored the double digit growth in net profit attributable to shareholders. However, we must indicate that continued growth at this level will drive higher EPS growth, once further dilution does not occur. Moreover, the stock trades at significant discount relative to peers both from a P/E perspective and a P/B perspective. At present, the market is pricing Sygnus at a steep discount to its book value per share which we believe is very wrong.
	P/B: 0.58x / 0.79x	
	Price: J\$14.58/ US\$0.13	
	Div Yield: 2.46% / 1.93%	
TROPICAL Tropical Battery Limited	P/E: 34.09x	OVERWEIGHT Tropical Battery has been aggressively pursuing revenue diversification strategies, to reduce its dependence on auto battery and accessory sales. This is evident by the company's recent launch of three new subsidiaries aimed at providing renewable energy solutions for commercial customers. In addition, the company recently implemented a new inventory management system that has yielded improved operational efficiencies in addition to targeted sales initiatives that have improved revenue growth. We believe that the Company will continue to grow as they build out new revenue lines, improve operational efficiencies and drive targeted sales initiatives. Tropical Battery Equity Report
	P/B: 4.42x	
	Price: J\$ 3.00	
	Div Yield: 0.33%	
PROVEN JMD/PROVEN USD Proven Investment Limited	P/E: 11.43x/11.33x	OVERWEIGHT Proven has shown strong revenue and profit growth throughout the current financial year, a performance-driven by the Group's accretive acquisitions. Most notable among these include JMMBGL and Roberts Manufacturing Company Limited. The company continues to demonstrate its appetite for growth through acquisitions as evidenced by the recent 100% acquisition of Fidelity Bank(Cayman). Given the company's history of acquiring companies with accretive value, we expect Fidelity will be similar. Coupled with this, we believe Proven is trading at favorable PE and PB multiples relative to the market.
	P/B: 1.13x/1.12x	
	Price: J\$37.72/ US\$0.26	
	Div Yield: 3.10% / 3.00%	

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Investment Playbook



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Lumber Lumber Depot Limited	P/E: 11.52x	OVERWEIGHT Lumber represents an option to gain exposure to the construction sector which has been a relatively resilient and fast-growing sector. With this sector tailwind, lumber has shown strong revenue growth since its 2019 listing and the current Trailing Twelve Months(TTM) profits is 28.6% higher than financial year 2021 earnings. While there were however hiccups in the last 6 months earnings which was impacted by a combination of lock down restrictions and rising input costs respectively for Q1 and Q2, we are still monitoring how the company progresses given the loosening of restrictions and continued growth in the construction sector. We also note that despite the growth it has shown over the last 2 years, the stock still trades at an attractive PE compared to Junior market peers. Lumber Equity Report
	P/B: 5.02x	
	Price: J\$ 3.11	
	Div Yield: 1.93%	
LAB The Limners and Bards Limited	P/E: 16.71x	OVERWEIGHT The LAB is the only listed Creative Agency on the JSE. Throughout the pandemic, the demand for the services provided by the Company has been strong. In FY2021 alone, revenue grew by 35%, an indication of the demand for the Company's services while net profit grew by 22%. With consistently positive cash flows and a cash balance that is 1.36x larger than the Company's current liabilities, we believe the Lab is poised to invest its capital efficiently towards further growth. The first step towards this is the Lab's brainchild, "SCOPE Caribbean". To date, SCOPE has not been profitable which has negatively impacted the Lab's net profit growth. This is not abnormal for a new business, and we expect this should turnaround as the business scales. The LAB Equity Report
	P/B: 4.55	
	Price: J\$ 2.84	
	Div Yield: 3.87%	
GK GraceKennedy Limited	P/E: 12.38x	MARKETWEIGHT For their financial year ended December 2021, the company reported growth in both their top and bottom line. Revenues increased by 12% and profit increased by 32%. Now, the company has indicated several transactions in their pipeline, including a few in insurance, one in fintech and others outside of Jamaica. These acquisitions stand to add more diversity and growth to the company's earnings. Grace Kennedy Equity Report
	P/B: 1.43x	
	Price: J\$ 103.39	
	Div Yield: 1.87%	
LASM Lasco Manufacturing	P/E: 11.79x	MARKETWEIGHT Our expectation is for the Company, like others, to continue benefiting from an improving economic backdrop. However, there has been a clear revenue growth slowdown in the most recent quarterly result, coupled with reduce gross profit margins throughout FY2022, owing to global supply chain issues and a higher effective tax rate as Lasco no longer benefits from the Junior Market tax incentive. Lasco Manufacturing Equity Report
	P/B: 2.32x	
	Price: J\$ 4.87	
	Div Yield: 1.49%	

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Investment Playbook



Equities

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SEP Seprod Limited	P/E: 25.55x	MARKETWEIGHT Seprod has been considerably affected by global supply chain issues that have increased the Company's cost of sales. While this has occurred, instead of raising prices to consumers equivalently, Seprod has absorbed some of these costs which has affected profitability. To help mitigate this, the Group has improved its operational cost management which has had positive implications on the performance. Notwithstanding, the cost of sales remains elevated, and has only trended upwards throughout FY2021, with no clear methods to manage or reduce the current pace of the increase. Therefore, while we expect current operational cost controls to help, the uncertainty regarding cost of goods remains an ever-present threat to Group profit growth, especially given the current inflationary environment. Seprod Equity Report
	P/B: 2.17x	
	Price: J\$ 71.29	
	Div Yield: 1.82%	
MAILPAC Mailpac Group Limited	P/E: 18.93x	MARKETWEIGHT During the peak periods of the pandemic, MAILPAC benefited immensely as online shopping became a larger share of shoppers' wallets. In large part, this period of heavy COVID-19 fear has reduced and while we anticipate online shopping will remain integral for the everyday consumer, the outsized growth we witnessed in FY2020 will likely soften further. Admittedly, the Company has a robust balance sheet with more cash than total liabilities which we believe places MAILPAC in a position to make growth-inducing investments. The current slowdown in demand and consequently revenue and profit growth, matched with the Company's strong balance sheet underscores our MARKETWEIGHT recommendation MailPac Equity Report
	P/B: 8.82x	
	Price: J\$ 2.65	
	Div Yield: 4.15%	
SGJ Scotia Group Jamaica Limited	P/E: 13.77x	MARKETWEIGHT The greatest driver of profitability in FY2021 was the reduction of Expected Credit Losses (ECL) relative to the previous year as the economic backdrop improved. Scotia is not likely to have this benefit recur to the magnitude it did in FY2021. This, coupled with no clearly communicated path to growing its main revenue lines in an industry that is highly competitive presents obvious challenges for the Group. However, Scotia has two major positives. The first is that the current rising interest rate environment supports the Group's bank model, more so than other listed financial institutions. The second is that SGJ is a consistent source of relatively attractive dividends which makes the Company a good asset for investors with a clear preference for income. Scotia Group Equity Report
	P/B: 1.01x	
	Price: J\$ 37.31	
	Div Yield: 4.15%	

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Investment Playbook

Equities



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FTNA Fontana Limited	P/E: 23.02x	MARKETWEIGHT Fontana has been growing and expanding since listing on the junior exchange in 2019. The Company has plans to expand, which includes a new outlet to bring their stores to a total of seven locations. In its most recent quarter, Net Profit saw a marginal increase of 0.1% due largely to the impact of FX losses. Further, cost of sales has been impacted given the current inflationary environment and is likely to continue being affected in the near to medium term. However, the company continues to grow organically and is financially positioned to do so. Due to the current environment and exposure to FX liabilities, profitability could dampen in the near term but in the long term, the addition of its new outlet could support growth. On balance, the Company has both significant risks and the potential for upside, which underscores our recommendation. Fontana Equity Report
	P/B: 6.18x	
	Price: J\$ 10.36	
	Div Yield: 1.74%	
SVL Supreme Ventures Limited	P/E: 27.40x	MARKETWEIGHT Supreme Ventures is the market leader in the lottery and gaming industry. The company has also in recent years embarked on an aggressive growth strategy through several acquisitions (Champion Gaming and Post To Post Betting). The company would have been impacted by the pandemic as the lockdown measures impacted its operations at Caymanas Park. With the easing of restrictions, the Company should benefit from an easing of lock down restrictions and a normalization of business. Despite this, in the medium term we note that the company now has competition in the lottery segment of the market which may negatively impact margins. The degree to which this might impede the pace of revenue growth will however depend on the take up of new games such as Scratchaz which, at present, seems popular amongst younger consumers as it is a new addition to the Company's product offerings. Supreme Ventures Equity Report
	P/B: 16.75x	
	Price: J\$ 28.90	
	Div Yield: 2.77%	
ECL Express Catering Limited	P/E: 13.69x	UNDERWEIGHT With the ongoing recovery of the tourism industry, we believe ECL's revenues will increase year over year. However, the Company is not currently operating at pre-covid efficiency levels, as price increases due to the current global supply chain challenges have driven higher costs across all product categories. Consequently, there has been a clear deterioration of the Company's profit margins. Higher cost of goods has had implications for the Company's profitability and while we expect continued growth in the tourism industry will drive higher revenue, we also expect the inflationary environment to present challenges for the Group's profitability. ECL Equity Report
	P/B: 23.92x	
	Price: J\$ 5.90	
	Div Yield: N/A	

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Monitoring List



Equities

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MDS Medical Disposable Supplies	P/E: 20.11x	Medical Disposables and Supplies have quietly been diversifying its revenue streams over the last 2 years. This is inclusive of its purchase of 60% of Cornwall Medical and Dental Supplies (CMDL) which has been consolidated into the company's financials as of their second quarter 2021. This increases the company's exposure to the dental supplies space and expands their reach into the western end of the island. The company has also shifted to providing more confectionary products and we believe its expansion and diversification efforts are worth watching.
	P/B: 1.77x	
	Price: J\$ 7.44	
	Div Yield: 0.94%	
JBG Jamaica Broilers Group	P/E: 10.42x	The Jamaica Broiler's group has effectively decreased the size of its Haiti operations which has been weighing on performance for the last few quarters. This when coupled with the Group's expansion efforts into the United States may provide tailwinds for increased profitability going forward.
	P/B: 1.55x	
	Price: J\$ 26.78	
	Div Yield: 1.61%	
SOS Stationery & Office Supplies	P/E: 19.68x	Stationery and Office Supplies presents investors with another option to benefit from the reopening of the domestic economy. A core segment of their business would have suffered from the lockdown measures and work from home, namely the sale of furniture and its SEEK line of books. However, during that period stationary sales have done well to fill that revenue gap. With the resumption of economic activity, the return to office and the expansion in the BPO sector, SOS might be a large beneficiary in 2022.
	P/B: 3.97x	
	Price: J\$ 12.40	
	Div Yield: 1.29%	
SJ Sagicor Group Jamaica Limited	P/E: 11.73x	Sagicor Group Jamaica Limited would have been adversely impacted by the pandemic even more so than the typical financial sector company due to their exposure to the tourism sector. This would have therefore led to sizeable impairment losses on their investment in associated companies (I.e., Playa Hotel and Resorts). For 2022 we therefore expect to see some amount of recovery as the group has disposed of their investments in Playa which will stem impairment losses while simultaneously still having direct exposure to travel through their US resort (The Hilton DoubleTree) while their banking services should benefit from a pickup in economic activity.
	P/B: 1.64x	
	Price: J\$ 55.02	
	Div Yield: 2.02%	

The "Monitoring List" includes stocks that are on our radar as our initial expectation for these companies is positive. However, no official recommendation is presented as these stocks are still being evaluated.

Unit Trust

Unit Trust Fund	22/06/2022	15/06/2022	Week/Week Return	Year-to-Date Return	1 Year Return	Yield
Capital Growth	97.36	95.68	1.76%	5.88%	3.69%	-
Money Market	15.3485	15.3705	-0.14%	0.82%	1.92%	2.36%
Income Portfolio	100.00	100.00	-	-	-	3.10%
FX Bond Portfolio (US\$)	1.3209	1.3299	-0.68%	-4.17%	-3.42%	3.84%
Real Estate Portfolio	5,450.77	5,436.69	0.26%	2.83%	-4.65%	-
FX Growth Portfolio	0.8558	0.8712	-1.77%	-20.91%	-16.63%	-

"Someone's sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago."

Warren Buffett

LOCAL EQUITY MARKET

For the week ended June 24, 2022, the local stock market as measured by the Combined Index advanced week over week by 0.35%. The Main Market Index declined by 0.09%, the JSE Junior Market Index advanced by 4.45%, and the JSE USD Equities Index advanced by 4.14%. During the week, Ciboney Group Limited was the largest gainer, rising 103.85% to close at \$1.59. The biggest decliner was Main Event Entertaining Group Limited, which fell by 11.48% to close at \$7.02.

Year-to-date, with the ongoing rebound in the local economy, small-cap stocks, reflecting those listed on the Junior Market Index have continued the strong performance seen in 2021, growing by 28.04% YTD, outpacing its Main Market counterpart which is down 3.78% YTD.

This week, Overall Market activity resulted from trading in 115 stocks of which 66 advanced, 38 declined and 11 traded firm. The following companies represent the overall volume leaders:

1. DOLLA FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED ORDINARY SHARES with 148,884,956 units (51.91%);
2. TRANSJAMAICAN HIGHWAY LIMITED ORDINARY SHARES with 21,002,409 units (7.32%);
3. JFP LIMITED ORDINARY with 10,469,745 units (3.65%);

Revisiting relevant news during the week:

Investors in 1834 Investments are set to get more shares out of the deal in which the company is to be amalgamated into Radio Jamaica Limited. The announcement of the change was made by 1834 Investments and Radio Jamaica to the Jamaica Stock Exchange (JSE) late Friday.

[Radio Jamaica increases share offer for 1834 Investments](#)

Transjamaican Highway Limited (TJH) has begun negotiations to acquire 100 per cent interest in Jamaican Infrastructure Operator Limited (JIO) with an intention to enter in a binding share purchase agreement shortly.

[TJH to acquire Jamaican Infrastructure Operator](#)

Following the successful roll-out of its GoIPO platform in Jamaica, NCB Capital Markets Limited (NCBCM) has deployed the platform in Trinidad and Tobago ahead of First Citizens Group Financial Holdings Limited's (FCGFH) additional public offering (APO).

[NCB Capital Markets deepening reach across region](#)

Just a week after listing on the Junior Market of the Jamaica Stock Exchange (JSE), Dolla Financial has inked a partnership deal with RTA Biz Energy Solutions to provide its clients with access to loan financing of alternative energy solutions.

[Dolla Financial partners with RTA Biz Energy Solutions](#)

Jamaica Producers (JP) Group Limited's pursuit of geographic and product diversification has paved the way for the conglomerate's recovery from the economic shock of the novel coronavirus pandemic, evidenced by a strong financial performance in 2021.

[Diversification propels JP Group's recovery](#)

Jamaica's central bank digital currency (CBDC) Jam-Dex is expected to become available to the public by the end of this month, but the Bank of Jamaica (BOJ) is signalling that the use of the currency could be limited because of the issues in preparing merchants to accept the digital payment method.

[Jam-Dex by month-end](#)

Index	24/06/2022	17/06/2022	31/12/2021	Week/Week	Year-to-Date
JSE Main Market	381,186.83	381,528.21	396,155.61	-0.09%	-3.78%
JSE Junior Market	4,389.47	4,202.44	3,428.30	4.45%	28.04%
JSE Combined Market	395,884.64	394,523.44	401,130.23	0.35%	-1.31%
JSE USD Equities Market	219.67	210.93	195.51	4.14%	12.36%
JSE Financial Index	91.28	91.24	98.05	0.04%	-6.90%
JSE M&D Index	107.30	106.82	100.38	0.45%	6.89%

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS



US

Bad news for the economy interpreted as good news for stocks

Signs that inflation might be moderating as growth cooled helped stocks rally sharply over the holiday-shortened week, lifting the S&P 500 Index out of bear market territory. Nearly every sector in the index recorded strong gains. Energy stocks were the notable exception, as oil continued to back off from its recent highs over most of the week. T. Rowe Price traders noted that month- and quarter-end flows may have increased trading volumes, as did the rebalancing of Russell indexes following the close of trading Friday. Markets were closed on Monday in their first observance of Juneteenth.

The week's economic data offered several signals that the Federal Reserve's forceful turn toward monetary tightening was having the intended effect of slowing the economy and moderating inflation. On Tuesday, the National Association of Realtors reported that existing home sales fell to their lowest level in May since June 2020, and its chief economist predicted further declines ahead in the face of higher mortgage rates. The Chicago Federal Reserve also reported that its gauge of national economic activity had reached an eight-month low. On Thursday, S&P Global's index of June manufacturing activity came in well below forecasts (52.4 versus roughly 56), while its services gauge also missed estimates and hit its lowest level since January.

Europe

Shares in Europe snapped three weeks of losses as signs that the economy is slowing cast doubt on whether central banks would seek to increase interest rates aggressively. In local currency terms, the pan-European STOXX Europe 600 Index advanced 2.40%. Major stock indexes were mixed. France's CAC 40 Index rose 3.24%, while Italy's FTSE MIB Index gained 1.52%. Germany's DAX Index, however, was little changed. The UK's FTSE 100 Index climbed 2.74%

[T.RowePrice Market Data](#)

Data point to deepening economic slowdown in Europe

S&P Global's Flash Eurozone Composite PMI, which gauges services and manufacturing activity, fell from 54.8 in May to 51.9 in June—its lowest level since February 2021. (PMI readings greater than 50 signal expansion.) The decline was driven by a sharp drop in business confidence and new orders. Manufacturing output contracted for the first time in two years. Demand for services also cooled.

Consumer confidence in the eurozone unexpectedly tumbled to -23.6 points in June, according to an early estimate published by the European Commission. This sentiment reading was near the nadir hit in April 2020, early in the coronavirus pandemic, and likely reflected the effects of soaring inflation. In Germany, the Ifo Institute's Business Climate Index slipped to 92.3 in June from 93.0 in May, with manufacturers expressing concerns about energy costs.

UK

UK inflation surges; business confidence slumps

UK inflation accelerated to a record 9.1% in May as food costs rose at the fastest rate in 13 years. Meanwhile, the S&P Global/CIPS UK Flash Composite PMI remained at a 15-month low of 53.1 in June, as businesses struggled with falling orders. Consumers reined in their spending, the Office of National Statistics reported, with the volume of retail sales falling 0.5% in May from April.

Germany

Germany steps up emergency energy plans

Germany moved to the second "alarm stage" of its emergency plans to reduce gas consumption and increase storage inventories of the thermal fuel after Russia sharply reduced pipeline flows. Sweden and Denmark joined Germany, Austria, and the Netherlands in implementing measures aimed at countering a supply squeeze and averting winter shortages. In addition, Germany, Austria, and Romania moved to reopen some coal plants for electricity generation.

Index	24/06/2022	17/06/2022	31/12/2021	Week/Week	Year-to-Date
Dow Jones	31,500.68	29,888.78	36,338.30	5.39%	-13.31%
S&P 500	3,911.74	3,674.84	4,766.18	6.45%	-17.93%
NASDAQ 100	12,108.80	11,265.99	16,320.08	7.48%	-25.80%
FTSE 100	7,211.07	7,016.25	7,384.54	2.78%	-2.35%
Euro Stoxx 50	3,533.17	3,438.46	4,298.41	2.75%	-17.80%

ABOUT US

Barita Investments Limited, is a publicly traded company on the JSE, 74.3% owned by Cornerstone Financial Holdings Limited ("Cornerstone"). Founded by Rita Humphries-Lewin in 1977, the Company has the distinction of being the oldest stockbrokerage in Jamaica. The Company is licensed by the FSC as a Securities Dealer, is a member dealer of the JSE and is a Primary Dealer and Cambio Dealer for the Bank of Jamaica ("BOJ").

Barita, home of one of Jamaica's top performing equity funds, has a legacy of excellence, and is recognized as established in relation to middle market retail segment products and for Unit Trust performance.

Products and services include:

- Cambio Trading
- Fixed Income Trading
- Stock Brokerage
- Pooled Funds Management
- Structured Products
- Retirement Planning
- Wealth Management
- Investment Banking

Through its subsidiary, Barita Unit Trusts Management Company Limited ("BUTM"), Barita currently offers six (6) unit trust products spanning fixed income, equities and real estate.

Contact us

Tel: (876) 926-2681 or (888) 429-5333

Website: www.barita.com