# Platinum Capital Limited ASX: PMC

## MONTHLY REPORT 31 May 2021

### **FACTS**

Portfolio value	\$495.45 mn
Portfolio commenced	29 June 1994
Current share price	\$1.565
Current dividend yield	3.83%
Pre-tax NTA	\$1.6962
Post-tax NTA	\$1.6070
Maximum franked dividend	7.13 cps
NTA retained earnings & div profit resv.	26.30 cps

#### PERFORMANCE<sup>1</sup>

	Company % (Pre-tax NTA)	MSCI %
1 month	2.1	1.3
3 months	3.7	8.8
6 months	11.1	10.4
Calendar year to date	10.8	10.5
1 year	25.7	21.6
2 years (compound pa)	12.1	15.7
3 years (compound pa)	5.9	13.0
5 years (compound pa)	9.7	12.7
7 years (compound pa)	9.2	12.8
10 years (compound pa)	10.7	13.1
Since inception (compound pa	a) 11.8	7.6
DMC's returns are calculated after the dadus	tion of foos and expenses, adjusted for taxes	poid and any

C's returns are calculated after the deduction of fees and expenses, adjusted for taxes paid and any ital flows and assume the reinvestment of dividends. **PMC's returns have not been calculated using** PMC's share price.

## INVESTED POSITIONS<sup>3</sup>

	LONG %	SHORT %	NET %	CCY %
Asia-Pacific	40.9	(1.0)	40.0	42.9
Australia	3.6		3.6	3.7
China	15.2	(0.3)	15.0	15.0
Hong Kong	2.4		2.4	3.3
India	2.3		2.3	2.3
Japan	11.8	(0.7)	11.1	13.2
South Korea	5.5		5.5	5.5
Europe	20.0	(0.4)	19.7	20.9
Austria	1.4		1.4	
Belgium	0.1		0.1	
Denmark	0.4		0.4	0.4
Finland	2.2		2.2	
France	3.5		3.5	
Germany	4.8		4.8	
Hungary	0.1		0.1	0.1
Ireland	1.6		1.6	
Italy	1.7	(0.4)	1.7	
Netherlands	0.4	(0.4)	(0.4)	0.4
Norway	0.4		0.4	0.4
Spain	1.6		1.6	2.0
United Kingdom	2.2		2.2	3.0 16.9
Euro	25.0	(0.4)	17 E	
North America	25.9	(8.4)	17.5	34.4
Canada	3.6	(0.1)	3.5	6.3
United States of America	22.3	(8.2)	14.1	28.1
Other	1.8		1.8	1.8
Sub-Total	88.6	(9.7)	78.9	100.0
Cash	11.4	9.7	21.1	
Total	100.0		100.0	100.0

Long - 108 stocks, 2 swaps Short - 20 swaps, 1 index

### **FEES**

Management fee: 1.10% p.a. (excl. GST) of portfolio value\*

Performance fee: 15.00% p.a. (excl. GST) of outperformance

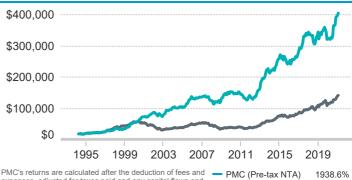
over benchmark (MSCI All Country World

🖨 Platinum

Net Index (A\$))

\*The portfolio value is the market value of the investments in the portfolio after the deduction of fees

## PERFORMANCE GRAPH<sup>2</sup>



PMC's returns are calculated after the deduction of fees and expenses, adjusted for taxes paid and any capital flows and MSCI 619.0% assume the reinvestment of dividends. PMC's returns have not been calculated using PMC's share price.

## TOP TEN POSITIONS<sup>4</sup>

STOCK	COUNTRY	INDUSTRY	%
Samsung Electronics Co	South Korea	Info Technology	3.7
Glencore PLC	Australia	Materials	3.1
ZTO Express Cayman Inc	China	Industrials	3.1
Minebea Co Ltd	Japan	Industrials	2.6
Ping An Insurance Group	China	Financials	2.5
Micron Technology Inc	United States	Info Technology	2.5
Weichai Power Co Ltd	China	Industrials	2.4
AIA Group Ltd	Hong Kong	Financials	2.4
Microchip Technology Inc	United States	Info Technology	2.4
Ally Financial Inc	United States	Financials	2.3
		Total	27.0

#### INDUSTRY BREAKDOWN<sup>3</sup>

SECTOR	LONG %	SHORT %	NET %
Industrials	19.8		19.8
Materials	18.8	(0.3)	18.5
Financials	15.7		15.7
Information Technology	13.7	(2.1)	11.5
Consumer Discretionary	9.7	(1.9)	7.8
Health Care	5.4	(1.5)	3.9
Real Estate	3.3		3.3
Communication Services	1.5		1.5
Energy	0.3		0.3
Consumer Staples	0.4	(1.1)	(0.7)
Other		(2.7)	(2.7)

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derivatives) are only included under the relevant sector if they are sector specific, otherwise they are included under "Other".

4. The "Top ten positions" show PMC's top ten long securities positions as a percentage of PMC's portfolio value (including long securities and long securities derivative positions).

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Weighings of the index. In index is provided as a reference only.

3. The geographic "Long %" is the exposure to long securities and long securities and long securities and long securities. Index derivative positions, the geographic "Short %" is the exposure to short securities and short securities and short securities and long securities. Index derivative positions and the geographic "Long %" and the geographic "Short %", each as a percentage of the market value of the Fund's portfolio. The "Currency %" is the effective currency exposure as a percentage of the market value of the Fund's portfolio taking into account long and short securities. Index derivative positions. The cash "Long %" includes cash at bank, cashflows expected from forwards and effective cash exposures resulting from long securities/index derivative positions and the cash "Short %" includes effective cash exposures resulting from short securities/index derivative positions and the cash "Short %" is the difference between the cash "Long %" and the cash "Short %", each as a percentage of the market value of the Fund's portfolio. For the "Industry breakdown", index positions (whether through ETFs or described the calcurate the selective test of the selection of

# Platinum Capital Limited ASX: PMC

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#### MARKET UPDATE AND COMMENTARY



- Third-strongest financial year to date (i.e. 11 months to 31 May 2021) for PMC's investment performance since 2001, driven by good stock selection on the long side.
- Increasing signs that the market drivers are changing and rewarding cyclicals after a long trend favouring growth and defensives.
- Taking the view that inflation will only be transitory is likely riskier than being open to more persistent effects.

#### **Market Commentary**

Inflation has become increasingly scrutinised. In mid-2020, few thought it would ever return, but increasingly, the data points to rising prices. This follows strong moves in asset prices and supply shortages in areas such as semiconductors, following COVID-driven distortions.

The debate has moved from whether there will be inflation, to whether it will be transitory. Where asset prices sit today, we feel there is more risk in taking the transitory side of the argument. We note the economic recovery, and that stock market, housing market and commodity prices have all rebounded further and faster than expected, so we question whether inflation and interest rates should be any different?

The skew in our portfolio is strongly away from the growth and defensive stocks that were beneficiaries of the central banks' largesse. With governments providing the additional support to economies, the probability of prolonged inflation starts to increase. It is in crisis that we tend to generate the most excitement in terms of new themes in the portfolio, such as travel during COVID and semiconductors in the trade war. Our investments in copper miners and automakers provide exposure to the burgeoning energy transition theme.

Avoiding permanent impairment of capital is our goal; we must acknowledge extremely high valuations at a broad market level and a speculative mania in certain subsets. We are more active on the short side; net market exposure is trending down. In our view, it is highly plausible that markets as a whole will struggle to make real progress in the coming years, but within that, we expect rotations may be highly profitable.

Events like Archegos and Greensill, are now joined by a rapid sell-off in crypto-currencies and a re-emergence of the craziness in so-called meme-stock land. We cannot emphasise enough that the more of these that we see, the more we are alert to risk.

#### Performance Analysis\*

For the financial year to date (i.e. 11 months to 31 May 2021), this period ranks 6th in the Company's investment performance history (having regard to the same 11-month period), returning 25% after fees and costs. Over this period of rising markets (MSCI AC World Net Index (\$A) +22%), the long portfolio contributed an impressive +32% to gross returns. This can be broken down to: 'cyclicals' adding +27%; technology adding +8%; and 'defensives' costing -2%.\* Shorts cost -5% over this period, almost all from the Nasdaq index.

The top 10 contributors added +15%, dominated by resources (Glencore, First Quantum Minerals, Freeport McMoRan) plus Ally Financial, BMW, FedEx, General Electric, LG Chem, Louisiana Pacific and Samsung Electronics.

### Quantitative Analysis

The way markets have behaved in recent years has prompted a lot of talk about 'value' and 'growth'. Our acute focus on price leads to us being viewed as a 'value manager'. However, 'value' is a technical term, which has specific connotations inconsistent with our portfolio construction. Portfolio analysis highlights that at this point in time, the portfolio's most significant difference to broad equity markets, is its higher exposure to rising interest rates. This has been the case over the last few months, with the portfolio's strong performance coinciding with a move upwards off all-time low US bond yields.

#### **Valuation**

Aggregate valuation data is a useful gauge for the portfolio's attractiveness. There appears to be value in an absolute and relative sense, with the portfolio offering a starting earnings yield 46% higher than the market and appearing 41% cheaper relative to the assets backing it.

Metric	Platinum Capital Limited	MSCI AC World Net Index (A\$)
NTM Earnings Yield	7.9% (Price-to-Earnings ratio of 13x)	5.4% (Price-to-Earnings ratio of 18x)
NTM Dividend Yield	2.5%	2.4%
Price-to-Book Ratio	1.7x	2.9x
Enterprise Value-to-Sales	1.3x	2.1x

The valuations in the table have been calculated by Platinum and refer to the long portion of the portfolio, exclude negative net earnings, and use FactSet consensus earnings.

<sup>\*</sup>Source: Platinum for PMC returns and FactSet Research Systems Inc for MSCI returns. Numbers for long and short positions are based on the total return of individual positions (in AUD) and are gross as they do not take into account fees and costs (other than brokerage). Contribution numbers may not add up due to rounding and the effect of fees. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns.

<sup>\*</sup>Cyclicals (64% average weight) include: Industrials, materials, energy, real estate, financials and consumer discretionary; Technology (19% average weight) includes: IT and communication services; and Defensives (7% average weight) include: Healthcare, utilities and consumer staples.