

BTN Research

Jeff Middleswart jmiddleswart@btnresearch.com

bwhiteside@btnresearch.com

Bill Whiteside, CFA

November 13, 2020

www.btnresearch.com

## Macquarie Infrastructure Corp – 3Q20 Update Maintain BUY

We are maintaining our Buy recommendation on MIC after it announced it has reached an agreement to sell its IMTT (storage tank) unit. We had estimated it was worth \$2.6 billion and the final sale came in at \$2.685 billion. That business is healthy with inventories high and all the capacity that came up for renewal was completed at a higher rate. The sale is expected to close in 4Q20 or early 1Q21. We think the rest of the company brings the total value per share net of debt to about \$45 and it is expected to be unlocked within a year. See our April 2020 report for more details of how we arrive at that figure:

- The key parts to this sale are that MIC will effectively retire all parent company debt \$400 million in convertible bonds. There is \$150 million drawn on the revolver but there is more than enough cash on hand to repay that too. Second, shareholders will be paid a \$10.75 per share dividend.
- Atlantic Aviation posted EBITDA of \$54 million vs. \$17 million in 2Q and Free Cash Flow was \$39 million vs. \$42 million y/y. They are forecasting EBITDA for 2020 of \$185-195 million vs. \$276 million in 2019, they are seeing steady improvement as flying resumes.
- The Hawaiian gas company has improved as Hawaii relaxed its quarantine issues. EBITDA of \$7 million matched 2Q and the company is free cash positive at \$4 million for the quarter. Guidance is for \$35-\$40 million of EBITDA vs \$60 million in 2019. As travel to Hawaii recovers, it should see a return to normal operations.
- MIC expects that the gas utility will be sold next. It is smaller and would take about a year to go through the Public Utility Commission. We estimate that this business is worth about \$600 million, which is 10x the \$60 million in EBITDA it regularly

produces. It has under \$200 million debt and is **worth about \$4.50 per share** in our view.

- That leaves Atlantic and if not sold, MIC speculated on the 2Q call that it would likely acquire the parent company and become effectively spun-off to shareholders as a pure-play of airport assets. <u>Management has a financial incentive to complete</u> <u>all of this by January 1, 2022.</u>
- At \$30 per share, we see \$10.75 and \$4.50 net of debt for IMTT and Mic Hawaii. That values Aviation at \$14.75 per share. Normal operations are \$276 million in EBITDA growing about 4%-5%. The market is valuing that at 8.3x EBITDA. Airport assets trade at more than 20x EBITDA. Atlantic Aviation has long-term concessions at airports to provide fuel, hanger space, catering, cleaning, de-icing... That would be tough to duplicate. If aviation is valued at 10-15x EBITDA – here is what the stock could be worth:

EBITDA Multiple	10.0	11.0	12.0	13.0	14.0	15.0
Value of Atlantic	\$2,760	\$3,036	\$3,312	\$3,588	\$3,864	\$4,140
Less Atlantic Debt	<u>\$1,000</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>
Value to MIC Shares	\$1,760	\$2,036	\$2,312	\$2,588	\$2,864	\$3,140
Per share	\$20.2	\$23.3	\$26.5	\$29.7	\$32.8	\$36.0
Plus IMTT and HI	<u>\$15.3</u>	<u>\$15.3</u>	<u>\$15.3</u>	<u>\$15.3</u>	<u>\$15.3</u>	<u>\$15.3</u>
Total Sum of Parts	\$35.4	\$38.6	\$41.8	\$44.9	\$48.1	\$51.3

We are comfortable pointing to a valuation for MIC of \$45-\$48 per share that will be unlocked via three deals over the next year. We think the most problematic one has already been announced. Every \$90 million in taxes and fees that may need to be paid with a sale of MIC Hawaii and Atlantic is about \$1/share off these totals. IMTT is expected to cost \$158 million in taxes and \$53 million in various fees and the \$10.75/share is net of those. If the aviation side becomes a pure-play company effectively spun-off to shareholders, that may save on taxes.

## Explanation of EQ Rating Scale

6- "Exceptionally Strong"	Indicates uncommonly conservative accounting policies to the point that revenue and earnings are essentially understated relative to the company's peers. Higher possibility of reporting positive earnings surprises
5- "Strong"	Indicates the company has no areas of concern with its reported results and we see very little risk of the company disappointing due to recent results being overstated from aggressive reporting in recent periods.
4- "Acceptable"	Indicates the company may have exhibited a minor "red flag", but the severity of the issue is not yet a concern. Minimal risk of an earnings disappointment resulting from previous earnings or cash flow overstatement
3- "Minor Concern"	Indicates the company has exhibited either a larger number of or more serious warning signs than companies receiving a 4. The likelihood of an immediate earnings or cash flow disappointment is not considered to be high, but the signs mentioned deserve a higher degree of attention in the future.
2- "Weak"	Indicates the company's recently reported results have benefitted materially from aggressive accounting. Follow up work should be performed to determine the nature and extent of the problem. There is a possibility that upcoming results could disappoint as the impact of unsustainable benefits disappears.
1- "Strong Concerns"	Indicates that the company's recent results are significantly overstated and that we view a disappointment in upcoming quarters is highly likely.

In addition to the numerical rating, the EQ Review Rating may also include either a minus or plus sign. A minus sign indicates that our analysis shows the overall earnings quality of the company has worsened since the last review and there is a possibility the numerical rating will fall should the problem continue into the next quarter. Likewise, a positive sign indicates that the overall earnings quality is improving, and the company may see an upgrade in its numerical rating should the trend continue.

## Key Points to Understand About the EQ Score

The EQ Review Rating is much more than a blind, quantitative scoring method. While we utilize proprietary adjustments, ratios, and methods developed over decades of earnings quality analysis, the foundation of all of our analysis is reading recent SEC filings, press releases, conference call transcripts and in some cases, conversations with managements.

The EQ Review Rating is not comparable to a traditional buy/sell rating. The Rating is intended to specifically convey the extent to which reported earnings may be over/understated. Fundamental factors such as forecasts for future growth, increasing competition, and valuation are not reflected in the rating. Therefore, a high score does not in itself indicate a company is a buy but rather indicates that recent results are a good indication of the underlying earnings and cash generation capacity of the company. A low score (1-2) will likely result in us performing a more thorough review of fundamental factors to determine if the company warrants a full-blown sell recommendation.

## Disclosure

Behind the Numbers, LLC is an independent research firm structured to provide analytical research to the financial community. Behind the Numbers, LLC is not rendering investment advice based on investment portfolios and is not registered as an investment adviser in any jurisdiction. All research is based on fundamental analysis using publicly available information including SEC filed documents, company presentations, annual reports, earnings call transcripts, as well as those of competitors, customers, and suppliers. Other information sources include mass market and industry news resources. These sources are believed to be reliable, but no representation is made that they are accurate or complete, or that errors, if discovered, will be corrected. Behind the Numbers, LLC does not use company sources beyond what they have publicly written or discussed in presentations or media interviews. Behind the Numbers does not use or subscribe to expert networks. All employees are aware of this policy and adhere to it.

The authors of this report have not audited the financial statements of the companies discussed and do not represent that they are serving as independent public accountants with respect to them. They have not audited the statements and therefore do not express an opinion on them. Other CPAs, unaffiliated with Mr. Middleswart, may or may not have audited the financial statements. The authors also have not conducted a thorough "review" of the financial statements as defined by standards established by the AICPA.

This report is not intended, and shall not constitute, and nothing contained herein shall be construed as, an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities referred to in this report, or a "BUY" or "SELL" recommendation. Rather, this research is intended to identify issues that investors should be aware of for them to assess their own opinion of positive or negative potential.

Behind the Numbers, LLC, its employees, its affiliated entities, and the accounts managed by them may have a position in, and from time-to-time purchase or sell any of the securities mentioned in this report. Initial positions will not be taken by any of the aforementioned parties until after the report is distributed to clients, unless otherwise disclosed. It is possible that a position could be held by Behind the Numbers, LLC, its employees, its affiliated entities, and the accounts managed by them for stocks that are mentioned in an update, or a BTN Thursday Thoughts.