

Wednesday, 12 April 2023 ASX Code: OEQ

MARKET ANNOUNCEMENT

Net Tangible Asset Backing – 31 March 2023

Month Ending:	% Change	31 March 2023 Consolidated	28 February 2023 Consolidated
Mornin Ending.	Change	Consolidated	Consolidated
Net tangible assets (NTA) (before tax)		\$2.136m	\$2.412m
Pre-Tax NTA Backing per share	-11.46%	\$0.137	\$0.154
Net tangible assets (after tax)		\$2.136m	\$2.412m
Post-Tax NTA Backing per share	-11.46%	\$0.137	\$0.154
Based on total issued share capital		15,649,228	15,649,228

The NTA position comprises the following items:

Net Tangible Assets	Current Month \$'millions	Previous Month \$'millions
Investment in listed Associated Entity:		
(a) Shares in Bentley Capital Limited (ASX: BEL)	* (refer below)	0.085
Investments in other listed securities: (a) Shares in Strike Resources Limited (ASX: SRK)	0.580	0.770
Investment in property (held for development/resale)	1.750	1.750
Net cash/receivables/payables/other assets/provisions	(0.195)	(0.193)
Pre-Tax NTA	2.135	2.412
Tax Provisions: (a) Prior year tax (b) Current year tax (c) Net deferred tax asset / (liability)	- - -	- - -
Post-Tax NTA	2.135	2.412

Orion notes that the carrying value of its 20,513,783 shareholding in Bentley is based on 'equity accounting' for Bentley as an associate entity – as set out in Note (1) over the page, this manner of accounting has technically reduced the carrying value to Nil – whereas this compares with Bentley's last bid price on ASX of \$0.045 per share (valuing Orion's investment at \$0.923m) and Bentley's after-tax NTA value of \$0.049 per share (valuing Orion's investment based on Bentley's NTA backing at \$1.003m), as at 31 March 2023.



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Orion Equities Limited

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Notes:

(1) The Company's investment in Bentley Capital Limited (ASX:**BEL**), an Associated Entity (i.e. in which the Company has a greater than 20% interest), is accounted for under the equity method in the consolidated financial statements. Under the equity method, the carrying amount of such investment is cost plus a share of the Associate Entity's net profit or loss (after tax) for the financial year to month end as provided to the Company by such Associated Entity. Refer also Note 19 (Investments in Associates) on pages 34 and 35 of the Company's 30 June 2022 Annual Report for further details in this regard.

Under the equity method of accounting for Associate entities, the Company's carrying value of its investment in BEL has been reduced from cost to nil – as a consequence of the Company's accumulated recognition of BEL's net losses. The Company is not required to carry the BEL investment at a negative value (ie. below Nil) and if BEL should generate net profits in the future, the Company will recognise a share of BEL's net profits under the equity method, which will permit the Company to recognise a positive carrying value for BEL.

Accordingly, as at 31 March 2023, the Company's 20,513,783 shares (26.95% interest) (28 February 2023: 20,513,783 shares and 26.95%) in BEL have a nil carrying value; this compares with BEL's last bid price on ASX of 4.5 cents per share (\$0.923m) and BEL's after-tax NTA backing of \$0.049 per share (\$1.003m)¹, as at month end.

- (2) The fair value of investments in ASX-listed Strike Resources Limited (ASX:**SRK**) comprise 10,000,000 shares (28 February 2023: 10,000,000 shares) with a value of \$0.058 per share (based on the closing bid price as at 31 March 2023) (28 February 2022: \$0.077).
- (3) The fair value of investments in other listed securities is based on each security's last bid price on market at month end.
- (4) Investment in property (held for resale) was valued by an independent qualified licensed valuer of the Australian Property Institute as at 30 June 2021.
- (5) Tax Provision Item (c) includes where applicable, a provision for income tax on net unrealised gains on the Company's investments in securities and its share of Associated Entities' after-tax net profit for the month (deferred tax liability) and the recognition of future income tax benefits on net unrealised losses on the Company's investments in securities and its share of Associated Entities' after-tax net loss for the month (deferred tax asset). Refer also Note 5 (Tax) on pages 24 to 26 of the Company's 30 June 2022 Annual Report for further details in this regard.

AUTHORISED FOR RELEASE - FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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¹ Refer BEL's ASX Announcement dated 12 April 2023: NTA Backing as at 31 March 2023