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CANADIAN ANALYSTS' CALLS

Neo Performance Materials Inc.

(TSX:NEO). Raymond James analyst Frederic Bastien upgraded the stock to "Outperform" from "Market Perform," while raising his target price to \$18 per share from \$12, believing "NEO's advanced materials will help accelerate the electrification of cars, the reduction of greenhouse gases and the purification of water."

"We understand NEO is months away from launching new formulations targeted at antibacterial and fire retardant applications, and could even see automakers other than Honda adopt Magnequenchpowered traction motors on their new EV/HEV platforms," he said.

"Impossible to time, yet always percolating in the background, are acquisitions. We'd welcome a deal of any size as long as it fits strategically and makes sense financially, but we would favour a more transformational one if it also serves to improve the stock's liquidity and optimize NEO's balance sheet."

Protech Home Medical Corp. (TSXV:PTQ). Echelon Capital Markets analyst Stefan Quenneville has a "Buy" rating and a \$2.30 per share target price on the stock.

"We are nominating Protech Home Medical to Echelon's Q121 Top Picks Portfolio as we remain bullish on the home care focused durable medical equipment (DME) industry and Protech's positioning in an M&A sweet spot where it can make accretive acquisitions of the many smaller players in this fragmented market, while it has achieved a regional scale that would make it an attractive target for one of the handful of larger national players," the analyst wrote.



U.S. ANALYSTS' CALLS

Twilio Inc. (NYSE:TWLO). Stifel analyst J. Parker Lane initiated coverage on the stock with a "Buy" rating and a \$425 per share price target, saying the Company should be able to sustain more than 30% growth in the longer term, given that it is a leader in a big and fast-growing market.

"We believe Twilio commands a premium multiple in the software space given its clear leadership and category defining position in its core market, its ability to grow >30% organically in the mid-term, and the potential for Segment to drive further adoption of the platform," Mr. Lane said.

Crown Castle International Corp. (NYSE:CCI). Citi analyst Michael Rollins upgraded the 5G infrastructure stock to "Buy" from "Neutral" with an unchanged price target of \$170 per share.

The analyst sees a combination of improving domestic site leasing growth in 2021, potential

upside in future years from C-Band and DISH, and the potential for small cell bookings to improve once carriers begin deploying mid-band spectrum.

"Crown has potential catalysts that can result in better domestic organic tower revenue growth over the next 12-24 months," he wrote.



STOCKS THAT MAY MOVE

Atlantic Power Corporation (TSX:ATP) said it has agreed to be acquired by I Squared Capital for US\$3.03 per share in cash.

Cogeco Inc. (TSX:CGO) reported a better-than-expected 4.5% increase in its Q1 revenue as well as earnings per share of \$2.53. The cable company also said it expects mid-to-high digit growth in revenue and adjusted earnings and high single-digit growth in free cash flow for fiscal 2021.

MARKETS

S&P/TSX and U.S. equity futures are pointing to a lower open Friday as investors weigh U.S. President-elect Joe Biden's US\$1.9-trillion stimulus plan.

CURRENCIES

The Canadian dollar is down 0.37 at 0.7872 (U.S.).

COMMODITIES

West Texas Intermediate crude oil fell 1.2% at \$52.94.

Gold slipped 0.3% to \$1,846.60 an ounce.

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