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Morning Need to Know

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Written & curated by the Capital Ideas Media team



CANADIAN ANALYSTS' CALLS

Haivision Systems Inc. (TSX:HAI). Canaccord Genuity analyst Robert Young upgraded the video solutions provider to “Buy” from “Hold,” while maintaining a \$13.50 per share target price on the stock, after the Company released better-than-anticipated Q1 results.

“Haivision kicked off F21 with a strong print ahead of our forecast for both revenue and EBITDA,” he said.

“Revenue growth was driven by strong product sales in Defense and Broadcast, along with a \$1.1-million programmatic defense order being pulled into Q1

from Q2. Gross and EBITDA margins both came in ahead of our numbers, driven by better mix and efficiencies, although operating margins were impacted by a one-time legacy ESOP payment (non-cash) ... Revenue in seasonally weak Q1 was greater than in seasonally strong Q4, a strong start. Emerging cloud products Hub and Connect are in beta testing and are seeing a positive response from early customers. Importantly, management reiterated its confidence in announcing a material acquisition in F21 given a pipeline of 50 targets and advanced discussions.”

Lowell Farms Inc. (CSE:LOWL), formerly Indus Holdings. PI Financial analyst Jason Zandberg initiated coverage on the U.S. cannabis company with a “Buy” rating and a \$4 per share price target, saying Lowell is a growing fish in the big pond of California.

“Most MSOs in the U.S. have not yet deployed large amounts of capital in California. We believe that current operators not only have an opportunity to capture market share, these same operators will likely be attractive takeover targets when bigger capital decides to jump in. We believe Lowell Farms represent an emerging operator that has both the opportunity to build market share and potentially

represent that acquisition opportunity,” the analyst wrote.



U.S. ANALYSTS' CALLS

Option Care Health Inc. (NASDAQ:OPCH). Barrington analyst Michael Petusky raised his price target on the largest independent national provider of home and alternate site infusion services to \$24 per share from \$19, while keeps an “Outperform” rating on the stock, calling Option a “best idea” for fiscal 2021 within the healthcare space while noting that his “bullish conviction has only increased since early January.”

Mr. Petusky said the Company has made significant investment in upgrading its technology over the past couple of years and appears well positioned to capture market share within the home and alternate site infusion space.

Yalla Group Limited (NYSE:YALA). Oppenheimer analyst Bo Pei upgraded the Middle Eastern

and North African social networking and entertainment platform to “Outperform” from “Perform” with a \$28 per share price target, saying he expects Q4 results to beat the high end of guidance, with strong momentum carried into Q1.

As well, he wrote the App store rankings of Yalla and Ludo suggest strong in-app purchases in Q4 and the firm's revenue estimate of \$41.2M is 14% above high end of guidance.



STOCKS THAT MAY MOVE

Shaw Communications Inc. (TSX:SJR.B) said it has agreed to be acquired by Rogers Communications for \$40.50 per share, in a deal valued at \$26 billion.

Battle North Gold Corporation (TSX:BNAU) announced that it has agreed to be acquired by Australia's Evolution Mining Limited for a price of C\$2.65 per share in cash.

MARKETS

S&P/TSX and U.S. equity futures are pointing to a mixed open Monday on optimism related to U.S. stimulus.

CURRENCIES

The Canadian dollar is up 0.06 at 0.8021 (U.S.).

COMMODITIES

West Texas Intermediate crude oil fell 0.1% at \$65.52.

Gold gained 0.5% to \$1,728.20 an ounce.

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