
Investment Thesis

We view Altius as a venture sponsor and financial holding company with an exceptional management team that consistently creates value for shareholders. Led by Brian Dalton, this team has delivered a 5-year compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 72% in the share price since 2002.

While incremental value could arise from any of the Company's several project investments, we are conservative in our valuation, considering only those assets with near-term visible financial impact. Of the various projects in the Company's investment portfolio, we consider Altius' 37% stake and accompanying royalty in the NLRC refinery project the most likely value-creating asset for the Company over the next few quarters. With permitting success now visible, our valuation centres on this project, which we believe has a high probability of successful execution.

Given a downside limited by hard liquid assets of nearly \$10 and a potential share price of \$27 in the event of permitting success, we believe the current market premium to NAV of \$6 is the maximum downside, versus upside of \$11 by our conservative estimates. However, in light of our favourable view for the likelihood of permitting success, we believe the shares represent an exceptional speculative buy opportunity and recommend investors take a position in advance of the permitting decision expected later this year.

We rate Altius Minerals Corporation (ALS-T) as **SECTOR OUTPERFORM (SPECULATIVE)** with a \$27 target price, which represents a 66% premium to the closing trading price of \$16.22 on June 21. The speculative rating reflects the permitting risk of the refinery project and the commodity price risk of the resource-rich investment portfolio.

Realization of the Refinery Project Value in Sight

We believe that permitting remains the only significant barrier to unlocking the value of the refinery project. As outlined in our initiating coverage report (March 12), we believe the globally experienced management team of NLRC as well as the financial heavyweights that are Altius' venture-capital partners in the project provide a great deal of strength for the proposed project. Furthermore, as we learned from the Company's April 3 update, technology licences appear locked up. Considering these factors, we see execution risk as minimal.

The Company is in ongoing negotiations with major oil producers and refined product marketers, which could produce a term crude agreement that should strengthen the Company's creditworthiness. As the market is currently awash in private equity and pension-fund capital looking for decent returns, project financing at LIBOR + 200 basis points would likely be viewed as an attractive option and allow the refinery to reach its optimal financial leverage of 80%.

We have updated the valuation of the refinery using a transparent net present value (NPV) analysis with the following results. Our leverage assumption is based on the half-way point between our original base case estimate of 50% and the refinery's potentially optimal level of 80%.

NPV Assumptions

EBITDA Estimate	
BPD of throughput	300,000
Production days per year	350
Refining margin (net of op. costs and royalty)	12.00
Total net refining margin	1,260,000,000
Less: SG&A (\$320/bpd)	96,000,000
EBITDA	1,164,000,000

Build Assumptions	2008	2009	2010
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Distribution of CAPEX	20%	60%	20%
CAPEX (USD M)	5,000.0		
Maint. CAPEX as % of Build	2.0%		
Years of Production	25		

Capital Structure	
Debt Level	65%
Cost of Debt	7.3%
Tax Rate	35%
Inflation	2%
Cost of Equity	15%
WACC	8.3%
Debt Principal Repayment:	over 20 years beginning in fifth year of production

Source: Haywood Securities

Model Summary (up to fifth year of production displayed)

NLRC NPV Analysis								
Estimated Free Cash Flows (Millions of USD)								
Fiscal years ending December 31st								
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
EBITDA	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,164.0	1,187.3	1,211.0	1,235.2	1,260.0
Depreciation	0.0	0.0	0.0	(200.0)	(200.0)	(200.0)	(200.0)	(200.0)
EBIT	0.0	0.0	0.0	964.0	987.3	1,011.0	1,035.2	1,060.0
Income taxes @ 35%	0.0	0.0	0.0	(337.4)	(345.5)	(353.9)	(362.3)	(371.0)
EBI after Taxes	0.0	0.0	0.0	626.6	641.7	657.2	672.9	689.0
Depreciation	0.0	0.0	0.0	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0
CAPEX	(1,000.0)	(3,000.0)	(1,000.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)
Free Cash Flow	(1,000.0)	(3,000.0)	(1,000.0)	726.6	741.7	757.2	772.9	789.0
Debt Flows - Inflow(Repayment)	650.0	1,950.0	650.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	(162.5)
Ending Debt Principal Balance	650.0	2,600.0	3,250.0	3,250.0	3,250.0	3,250.0	3,250.0	3,087.5
Interest expense	(47.5)	(118.6)	(213.5)	(237.3)	(237.3)	(237.3)	(237.3)	(231.3)
Interest tax shield	16.6	41.5	74.7	83.0	83.0	83.0	83.0	81.0
Free Cash to Equity	(380.8)	(1,127.1)	(488.8)	572.4	587.5	603.0	618.7	476.1

IRR to Equity Sponsors (Financing Participants)	15.0%
NPV to Founding Partners	
after financing participants NPV 15%	1,504.6 USD(M)
Altius 37% stake at CAD/USD 1.10	612.4 CAD(M)
Per ALS Share	21.26

Source: Haywood Securities

Therefore, our base-case scenario provides \$21 per Altius share for the equity stake in the refinery. We believe the refinery royalty may not remain fully intact through the financing of the project as both debt and especially equity participants would likely oppose the structure. As such we have excluded it from our valuation.

Valuation

We estimate a value of Altius cash, marketable securities, and producing assets of over \$9.50 per share. We add to this value our estimate of the Company's stake in the NLRC refinery project, with an adjustment for further potential gains obligations, to arrive at our \$27 target.

Valuation Summary

<i>Asset</i>	Value per ALS Share	
	Hard Assets	Including NLRC
NLRC (Oil Refinery Project) Current 37% Equity Interest	N/A	\$21.26
Net Cash (Estimated after tax obligations)	\$3.03	\$3.03
Voisey's Bay 0.3% Net Smelter Royalty Valued at 15.0x 2007E CF	\$1.81	\$1.81
2.5 million share Equity Forward on AXU-T Equity Holdings	\$1.47	\$1.47
Aurora Interest net of equity forward	\$2.54	\$2.54
Rambler Metals and Mining Interest (RAB-V)	\$0.64	\$0.64
Paragon Interest (PRG-V)	\$0.08	\$0.08
Alba Mineral Resources PLC Interest (ALBA-LN)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Value of Holdings	\$9.58	\$30.84
Adjust for potential capital gains	\$8.87	\$26.94

Source: Haywood Securities

Note that since we consider Altius an investment holding company that derives value from the market performance of its investments, we assign value to those holdings that we believe will add realizable financial impact in the near term. Therefore, we exclude several projects that may prove accretive in the long run but are either unquantifiable at present and/or in very early development. Thus, we consider our valuation conservative given the true speculative potential of the Company.

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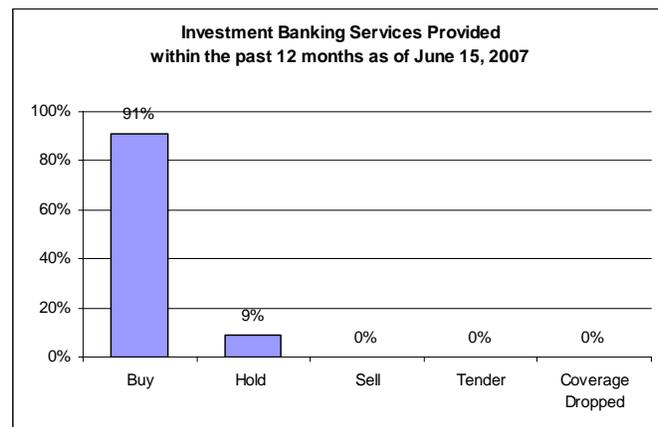
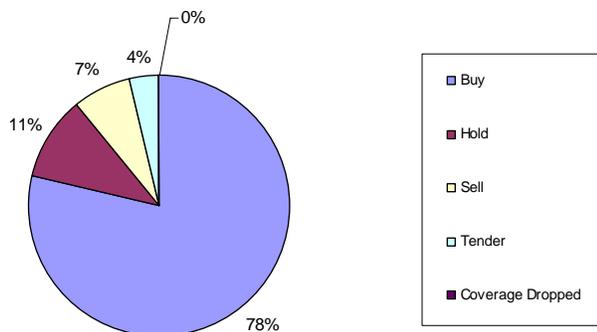
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Rating Distribution March 15 2007 - June 15, 2007



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Forecast Risk: *High* – Haywood forecasts are below guidance. The Company has a history of missing targets and/or Haywood expects guidance to be lowered. Limited hedging increases commodity risk beyond peers. To raise expectations requires higher commodity prices or production that is ahead of guidance. *Moderate* – Haywood forecasts are generally in line with guidance. The Company has a history of meeting or exceeding guidance. Forecasts are consistent with current commodity pricing and production guidance. Hedging practices are in line with peers. *Low* – Haywood forecasts exceed guidance. The Company has a history of meeting or exceeding guidance. Forecasts allow for modestly lower commodity pricing or production levels. Commodity hedging lowers volatility relative to peers.

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Political Risk: *High* – Properties are located in an area with limited petroleum industry activity or infrastructure. An environment unfriendly to the industry makes obtaining permits to drill or produce hydrocarbons challenging. Significant government or local opposition exists. *Moderate* – Properties are located in an area with minimal petroleum industry activity or infrastructure. An environment friendly to the industry makes obtaining permits relatively straightforward. All levels of government are considered indifferent to hydrocarbon activity. *Low* – Properties are located in an area with established petroleum exploration and development activity. Oil and gas Production Sharing Agreements or Exploration Permits are in hand. Government at all levels supports the sector.

Valuation Risk: *High* – The current valuation is at the high end of historic levels and/or at a premium to peers. The valuation reflects continued production growth and/or continuing strong commodity prices or further appreciation. Where applicable, the market capitalization exceeds the NAV by more than 30%. *Moderate* – The current valuation is within historic ranges and generally consistent with peers. The valuation reflects reasonable production growth and/or commodity price appreciation. Where applicable, the market capitalization exceeds the NAV by 15% to 30%. *Low* – The current valuation is at the low end of historic ranges and/or at a discount to peer valuations. The valuation reflects limited production growth and/or no commodity price appreciation. Where applicable, the market capitalization exceeds the NAV by less than 15% or falls below the capitalization.

Risk Profile Parameters – Mining and Minerals Sector

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Financial Risk: *High* – The business plan is not fully funded, but requires debt and/or equity financing. The exploration program is funded for two years or less. This categorization does not predict whether the additional funds will be raised. *Moderate* – The development plan is fully funded, with the exploration program funded for three years or more. The Company’s debt is rated below investment grade. *Low* – The Company is fully funded.

Its debt is rated investment grade and/or the Company has a history of profitability or dividend payments in each of the last three years.

Valuation Risk: *High* – The current valuation is at the high end of historic levels and/or at a premium to peers. The valuation reflects considerable exploration success and/or commodity appreciation. Where applicable, the current capitalization exceeds the DCF valuation by more than 50%. *Moderate* – The current valuation is within historic ranges and generally consistent with peers. The valuation reflects reasonable exploration success and/or commodity appreciation. Where applicable, the current capitalization exceeds the DCF valuation by 15% to 50%. *Low* – The current valuation is at the low end of historic ranges and at a discount to peer valuations. The valuation reflects limited new exploration success and no commodity appreciation. Where applicable, the current capitalization exceeds the DCF valuation by less than 15% or falls below the current market value.

Political Risk: *High* – Currently no industry activity or infrastructure exists. Government opposition is significant. Obtaining permits is challenging. *Moderate* – Industry activity or infrastructure is minimal. Government at national, regional, and local levels is indifferent. Obtaining permits is relatively straightforward. *Low* – Industry activity and infrastructure exist. Government is supportive. Obtaining permits is facilitated.

Risk Profile Parameters – Technology/Special Situations

Forecast Risk: *High* – Haywood forecasts are below guidance. The Company has a history of missing targets and/or Haywood expects guidance to be lowered. Sales are minimally visible. *Moderate* – Haywood forecasts are generally in line with guidance and sales are moderately visible. The Company has a history of meeting or exceeding guidance. *Low* – Haywood forecasts exceed guidance. The Company has a history of meeting or exceeding guidance and its sales are highly visible.

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Valuation Risk: *High* – The current valuation is at the high end of historic levels and/or at a premium to peers. Where applicable, the DCF valuation is not more than 10% above the current equity valuation. *Moderate* – The current valuation is within historic ranges and generally consistent with peers. Where applicable, the DCF valuation exceeds the current capitalization by more than 10%. *Low* – The current valuation is at the low end of historic ranges and at a discount to peer valuations. Where applicable, the DCF valuation exceeds the current capitalization by more than 20%.

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