## eResearch



REVSIONS

| Rating/Target | Rev. | Prior |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Rating | Buy | Buy |
| Target Price (C\$) | $\$ 2.65$ | $\$ 2.65$ |
| Revenue F2021E (M) | $\$ 13.1$ | $\$ 13.9$ |
| Adj. EBITDA F2021E (M) | $-\$ 0.9$ | $\$ 0.8$ |
| Adj. EPS F2021 (M) | $-\$ 0.03$ | $-\$ 0.02$ |
| MARKET DATA |  |  |


| Date: | Sep 22, 2021 |
| :--- | :---: |
| Current Price (C\$): | $\$ 1.35$ |
| Target Price (C\$): | $\$ 2.65$ |
| 52-Week Range: | $\$ 1.22 / \$ 1.90$ |
| Shares O/S (M): | 68.2 |
| Mkt Cap (C\$M): | $\$ 92.1$ |
| EV (C\$M): | $\$ 79.8$ |
| Avg. Weekly Vol. (M): | 0.01 |
| Website: www.eqworks.com |  |
| FINANCIALS |  |


|  | F2020A F2021E |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Revenue (\$M) | $\$ 10.4$ | $\$ 13.1$ | $\$ 22.2$ |
| EBITDA (\$M) | $-\$ 1.3$ | $-\$ 0.9$ | $\$ 2.9$ |
| EPS (S) | $-\$ 0.05$ | $-\$ 0.03$ | $\$ 0.02$ |
| Cash (\$M) | $\$ 3.2$ | $\$ 9.6$ | $\$ 10.7$ |
| Current Assets (\$M) | $\$ 8.0$ | $\$ 15.6$ | $\$ 18.4$ |
| Net Cash (\$M) | $\$ 1.1$ | $\$ 9.5$ | $\$ 10.6$ |
| Total Assets (\$M) | $\$ 10.0$ | $\$ 17.7$ | $\$ 30.5$ |
| Debt (\$M) | $\$ 2.1$ | $\$ 0.1$ | $\$ 0.1$ |
| Total Liabilities (\$M) | $\$ 5.4$ | $\$ 2.2$ | $\$ 2.4$ |

Fiscal Year End: 31-Dec
Source: Company Reports, S\&P Capital IQ, eResearch Corp.

Chris Thompson, CFA, MBA, P.Eng. Director of Equity Research

## EQ Inc. (TSxv:EQ) <br> Quarterly Results Improve as Revenue Increases 71\% Q/Q and 74\% Y/Y

## Company Description:

EQ Inc. ("EQ" or "the Company") enables businesses to understand, predict, and influence customer behaviour. Using unique and third-party data sets, advanced analytics, artificial intelligence and machine learning, EQ creates actionable intelligence for businesses to attract, retain, and grow customers. The Company's proprietary SaaS platform mines insights from location and geospatial data, enabling businesses to close the loop between digital and real-world consumer actions. EQ is one of the largest providers of location-based data in Canada with over 1 petabyte of data.

## Quarterly Highlights:

- Quarterly Revenue Increases 71\% Q/Q and 74\% Y/Y
- Revenue for the three months ended June 30, 2021, was $\$ 3.0$ million, an increase of $74 \%$ compared to $\$ 1.7$ million in Q2/2020, and slightly higher than our estimate of $\$ 2.98$ million.
- EQ's Data Solutions revenue, its fastest-growing segment, increased $85 \%$ from Q2/2020 to $\$ 0.8$ million in Q2/2021, and accounted for $27 \%$ of the overall quarterly revenue.
- Paymi Acquisition Opens New Consumer Line of Business and Proprietary Data Set
- Paymi is a cloud-based rewards and marketing platform that processes consumer transactions in real-time to create aggregated, anonymized customer spending profiles. Paymi adds a new consumer line of business that should generate incremental revenue \& also provides a new proprietary data set to the LOCUS platform.
- Recent Sales Wins Support Stronger H2/ 2021
- In June, EQ reported that it entered into a data services contract with one of Canada's largest media companies to utilize the LOCUS platform and it also signed a $\$ 1.8$ million agreement with an unnamed media agency to use the LOCUS data platform to provide data solutions and insights to leverage online and offline audiences.


## Financial Analysis \& Valuation:

- We slightly reduced our 2021 and 2022 revenue estimates due to the continued impact of COVID-19 on advertising spending.
- 2021E: Revenue $\$ 13.1$ million; EBITDA loss of $\$ 0.9$ million;
- 2022E: Revenue $\$ 22.2$ million; EBITDA $\$ 2.9$ million.
- We estimate an equal-weighted price target of $\$ 2.65$ based on a DCF valuation ( $\$ 2.49 /$ share) and Revenue Multiple valuation (\$2.86/share).
- We are maintaining our Buy rating and one-year price target of \$2.65.


## Review of Q2/2021 Financials

## Revenue

EQ reported that its revenue continued to be negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic that started in December 2019. During Q2/2021, the Company's media division had campaigns paused or reduced due to COVID-19 as governments enacted measures to reduce the risk of spreading the virus, which impacted retail operations of various businesses.
Revenue for the three months ended June 30, 2021, was $\$ 3.0$ million, an increase of $74 \%$ when compared to $\$ 1.7$ million in the same quarter a year ago, and slightly higher than our estimate of $\$ 2.98$ million (Figure 1). Revenue in Q2/2020 was a recent low point for EQ as its sales were impacted by the height of the COVID-19 pandemic and the government lockdowns that severely restricted the opening of retail locations.

The Company reported that the revenue growth in Q2/2021 was attributable to new data engagements and its focus on key verticals, including financial services, insurance, automotive, and retail. EQ experienced growth in both its data and advertising divisions as demand increased for services including data and analytics.

EQ's Data Solutions revenue, recently its fastest-growing segment, increased 85\% from Q2/2020 to \$0.8 million in Q2/2021, and accounted for $27 \%$ of the overall quarterly revenue, up from $25 \%$ in Q2/2020.

## Growing the LOCUS Data Revenue Segment

EQ reported that it continued to engage more clients on its LOCUS data platform, added more third-party data providers, and also launched new data products. We believe the growth in the LOCUS business will positively impact revenues in future quarters.

To bolster its data sets, in July 2021, EQ acquired Integrated Rewards Inc. and its Paymi application (see Subsequent Events section). Paymi is a cloud-based rewards and marketing platform that processes consumer transactions in real-time to create aggregated, anonymized customer spending profiles. This acquisition adds a new consumer line of business that should generate incremental revenue and also provides a new proprietary data set to the LOCUS data platform.

Earlier this year, the Company announced that its clients have agreed to spend a minimum of $\$ 4$ million on projects this year that use EQ's data analysis tools as well as its targeted media-buying platform.

In June 2021, EQ reported that it entered into a data services contract with one of Canada's largest media companies to utilize the LOCUS data platform to derive deeper insights from data analytics and intelligence from online and offline channels.
Also in June 2021, EQ announced the signing of a $\$ 1.8$ million agreement with a leading media agency holding company to use the LOCUS data platform to provide data solutions and insights to leverage online and offline audiences.

Figure 1: Financial Summary

| (C\$) ('000) | 2019A | Q120A | Q220A | Q320A | Q420A | 2020A | Q121A | Q221A | Q221E | DIFF | Q321E | Q421E | 2021 E |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total Revenue | \$8,965 | \$2,198 | \$1,726 | \$2,851 | \$3,646 | \$10,421 | \$1,755 | \$3,009 | \$2,975 | 1\% | \$4,200 | \$5,000 | \$13,964 |
| Total Operating Expenses | \$4,926 | \$1,443 | \$1,459 | \$1,908 | \$2,897 | \$7,707 | \$1,725 | \$1,923 | \$1,708 | 13\% | \$2,403 | \$2,857 | \$8,908 |
| Operating Income | (\$976) | (\$503) | (\$826) | (\$494) | (\$1,161) | $(\$ 2,984)$ | (\$907) | (\$661) | (\$72) | (\$589) | (\$93) | (\$107) | $(\$ 1,768)$ |
| Adj. EBITDA | (\$647) | (\$449) | (\$594) | (\$111) | (\$127) | $(\$ 1,282)$ | \$578 | (\$453) | \$59 | (\$513) | \$84 | \$100 | \$309 |
| Diluted EPS | (\$0.04) | (\$0.01) | (\$0.01) | (\$0.01) | (\$0.02) | (\$0.05) | (\$0.02) | (\$0.01) | (\$0.00) | (\$0.01) | (\$0.00) | (\$0.00) | (\$0.03) |
| Cash | \$3,691 | \$1,996 | \$4,982 | \$4,651 | \$3,209 | \$3,209 | \$13,350 | \$12,699 | \$11,878 |  | \$10,187 | \$9,612 | \$9,612 |
| Debt | \$1,603 | \$1,699 | \$1,876 | \$1,973 | \$2,069 | \$2,069 | \$120 | \$120 | \$118 |  | \$118 | \$115 | \$115 |

Source: Company Reports; eResearch Corp.

## Segment Data

In Q2/2021, EQ generated $\$ 2.97$ million or $98.7 \%$ from clients in Canada, up from $92.7 \%$ in Q2/2020, with the U.S. generating only $1.3 \%$ of revenue in the current quarter (Figure 2).
EQ is now reporting revenue streams from two segments, Advertising Services and Fixed Fee Data Sales. In Q2/2021, the Advertising Services stream comprised $73.4 \%$ of revenue, similar to the $72.9 \%$ reported in 2020, but continues its downward trend from $83.9 \%$ of revenue in 2019. As Data revenue increases quarter-over-quarter and year-over-year, the Company continues to believe that this segment will become a larger percentage of overall revenue (Figure 3).
There is some customer concentration risk as the top three customers comprised $61 \%$ of $\mathbf{E Q}$ 's revenue in Q2/2021, compared with $55 \%$ in the previous quarter and $65 \%$ in Q2/2020, but we believe the concentration rate should be abated as customer spending recovers once the government lockdowns are fully eased as vaccinations are available in Canada. According to recent data from Our World in Data, the current vaccination rate in Canada is $70.4 \%$ of the eligible population compared with $55.4 \%$ in the United States and $66.7 \%$ in the United Kingdom.

## Expenses

Publishing Costs are positively correlated to Sales. Publishing Costs increased to $\$ 1.75$ million in Q2/2021, from $\$ 0.94$ million in the previous quarter and $\$ 1.09$ million in Q2/2020. Gross Margin improved year-over-year to $42 \%$ in the quarter from $37 \%$ in Q2/2020; the Company attributed the higher Gross Margin to a larger percentage of data sales that have a better margin.
Even with the Company's response to the pandemic and its efforts to reduce costs over the past year, Total Operating Expenses were $\$ 1.92$ million in Q2/2021, higher than $\$ 1.73$ million in Q1/2021 and $\$ 1.46$ million in Q2/2020. The higher expenses were driven by an increase in Employee Compensation \& Benefits, and Other Operating Expenses that primarily consist of office and administration expenses.
The increase in Employee Compensation \& Benefits was primarily due to the Company's growth, recent acquisitions, and the development of its data services platform, which has increased technology investments as well as the number of employees.

## EBITDA

Adjusted EBITDA loss in Q2/2021 was $\$ 0.5$ million compared to a loss of $\$ 0.6$ million in Q2/2020. Margin improvements came from a larger portion of data sales (higher margin) and tight expense controls. We estimate EQ to be EBITDA positive starting in 2022 (Figure 4).
Figure 2: Revenue Segmentation Chart

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mar 31/19 } \\ \text { Q1/19A } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jun 30/19 } \\ \text { Q2/19A } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Sep 30/19 } \\ \text { Q3/19A } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec 31/19 } \\ \text { Q4/19A } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec 31/19 } \\ \text { 2019A } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mar 31/20 } \\ \text { Q1/20A } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jun 30/20 } \\ \text { Q2/20A } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Sep 30/20 } \\ \text { Q3/20A } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } 31 / 20 \\ \text { Q4/19A } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec 31/20 } \\ 2020 \mathrm{~A} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mar 31/21 } \\ \text { Q1/21A } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jun 30/21 } \\ \text { Q2/21A } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Geographical Canada | \$1,072 | \$1,639 | \$2,224 | \$2,578 | \$7,513 | \$2,153 | \$1,600 | \$2,655 | \$3,511 | \$9,919 | \$1,723 | \$2,970 |
| United States | \$332 | \$568 | \$255 | \$290 | \$1,445 | \$45 | \$126 | \$196 | \$135 | \$502 | \$32 | \$39 |
| Outside of North America | \$2 | \$0 | \$0 | \$5 | \$7 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Total ('000) | \$1,406 | \$2,207 | \$2,479 | \$2,873 | \$8,965 | \$2,198 | \$1,726 | \$2,851 | \$3,646 | \$10,421 | \$1,755 | \$3,009 |
| Revenue Streams |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Advertising Services | \$1,207 | \$1,861 | \$2,052 | \$2,398 | \$7,518 | \$1,769 | \$1,278 | \$2,096 | \$2,453 | \$7,596 | \$1,275 | \$2,210 |
| Fixed Fee Data Sales | \$79 | \$129 | \$236 | 466 * | 1,308 * | 429 * | \$103 | \$335 | 975 * | 2,546 * | 480 * | 799 * |
| CPM Data Sales | \$58 | \$184 | \$156 | N/A | N/A | \$0 | \$330 | \$374 | N/A | N/A | \$0 | \$0 |
| Other Services | \$62 | \$33 | \$35 | \$9 | \$139 | \$0 | \$15 | \$46 | \$218 | \$279 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Total ('000) | \$1,406 | \$2,207 | \$2,479 | \$2,873 | \$8,965 | \$2,198 | \$1,726 | \$2,851 | \$3,646 | \$10,421 | \$1,755 | \$3,009 |
| Customer Concentration |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Top Customer 1 | 23\% | 28\% | 37\% | n/a | 27\% | 23\% | 28\% | 21\% | n/a | 23\% | 24\% | 29\% |
| Top Customer 2 | 21\% | 26\% | 20\% | n/a | 13\% | 16\% | 20\% | 12\% | n/a | 14\% | 21\% | 17\% |
| Top Customer 3 | 11\% | 0\% | 0\% | n/a | 11\% | 12\% | 17\% | 12\% | n/a | 0\% | 10\% | 15\% |
| Total | 55\% | 54\% | 57\% |  | 51\% | 51\% | 65\% | 45\% |  | 37\% | 55\% | 61\% |
| *Includes CPM |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Source: Company Reports; eResearch Corp.

## Cash and Debt

As at June 30, 2021, EQ had $\$ 12.7$ million in cash compared to $\$ 13.4$ million in the previous quarter. Below we highlight the major changes to the Cash and Debt positions in the quarter.

- Revolving Credit Facility
- In 2020, the Company closed a new $\$ 1.6$ million revolving credit facility, which included a credit card facility, and is secured by accounts receivable. As at June 30, 2021, there was no outstanding balance on the loan portion and $\$ 0.06$ million outstanding under the credit card facility.
- Canada Emergency Business Loan ("CEBA")
- EQ has also tapped into CEBA provided by the Government of Canada that provided interest-free loans to businesses to help cover operating costs during COVID-19. As of June 30, 2021, the Company has received $\$ 0.12$ million from the CEBA program. The loan is interest-free until December 31, 2022, when any remaining balance would be converted to a three-year term loan at an annual interest rate of $5 \%$.
EQ continues to believe that based on its current business outlook and strong cash balance, it is wellpositioned to outlast the pandemic, enhance and develop new data services, and complete strategic acquisitions during the remainder of the year (Figure 5).

Figure 3: Quarterly Revenue by Segment


Source: Company Reports; eResearch Corp.

## Events in the Quarter

- In June 2021, EQ reported that it signed a Data Services contract with one of Canada's largest integrated media companies that remains unnamed. The engagement will span across multiple print, online and mobile platforms, and utilize the Company's LOCUS solution for audience analysis, attribution reporting, customer classifications, and enriching existing data sets.
- Also in June 2021, the Company announced that it signed a one-year, $\$ 1.8$ million agreement with an unnamed media agency for services and fees related to platform licensing, data usage, insights, analytics, predictive modelling, and execution.

Figure 4: Revenue and EBITDA Margins


Source: Company Reports; eResearch Corp.

## Subsequent Events after June 30, 2021

- On July 5, 2021, EQ closed the acquisition of Integrated Rewards Inc. and its Paymi application for $\$ 2.5$ million.
- Paymi is a cloud-based rewards and marketing platform that enables consumers to receive cash back rewards for credit and debit card transactions and allows merchant partners to learn more about their customers to help improve sales and more effectively target marketing.
- Paymi processes transactions in real-time to create aggregated, anonymized customer spending profiles to better understand consumer spending patterns and target the most desired customers.
- According to EQ, "Paymi has secured over 350,000 linked credit and debit cards to date, processed over $\$ 80$ million of transactions through its platform, and over $\$ 10$ billion in customer spend and has an existing contract with one of Canada's tier-1 banks."
- Paymi adds a new consumer line of business that should generate incremental revenue and also provides a new proprietary data set to the LOCUS data platform.
- On July 21, 2021, EQ announced the launch of LOCUS Commute that allows retailers, insurance providers, and out-of-home networks to understand the movement patterns of Canadians. With this knowledge, LOCUS Commute enables businesses to interact better with their customers to lower acquisition costs and reduce churn.
- Earlier this month, EQ reported that it partnered with SafeGraph, a leading provider of Points of Interest and building footprint data to create Canada's largest geospatial data set that will benefit EQ's clients with more robust data around business listings and add additional data points to EQ's proprietary LOCUS data platform.


## Guidance and Growth Priorities

According to the Company's Q2/2021 MD\&A report, EQ expected that sales in H1/2021 would be impacted as several customers were forced to reduce advertising spending early in the year due to the pandemic. However, as the Company exited the second quarter and governments eased restrictions, EQ witnessed businesses returning to more normal levels of operation.

As mentioned in a previous report, when government-mandated shopping restrictions are completely lifted, EQ's technology will play an important role for businesses to understand
consumer behaviour in a post-COVID-19 world. EQ offers a unique value proposition in the market as it gives customers the ability to understand what consumers are looking for and then presents them with the most relevant content and advertising.
EQ continues to focus on its growth priorities (Figure 5), which include:

1. Targeting key verticals, including financial services, insurance, automotive and retail;
2. M\&A activity: In the past three years, EQ has completed three acquisitions: Tapped Networks, certain assets of Curate Mobile Ltd., including Juice Mobile, and in July 2021, Integrated Rewards Inc. and its consumer facing, marketing rewards application Paymi.com. As EQ continues with its U.S. expansion, an acquisition of a U.S.-based company could speed up revenue growth and client acquisition;
3. Organic Growth Strategy: EQ has demonstrated the ability to grow revenue organically through product development.

Figure 5: EQ Growth Priorities


Source: Company Presentation (April 2021)

## VALUATION

Due to a slower recovery from the impact of COVID-19, we are reducing our Q3/2021 revenue estimate to $\$ 3.3$ million from $\$ 4.2$ million but maintaining our Q4/2021 revenue estimate at $\$ 5.0$ million. Overall, our 2021 revenue estimate decreases to $\$ 13.1$ million from $\$ 13.9$ million, and we are also slightly decreasing our 2022 revenue estimate to $\$ 22.2$ million from $\$ 23.2$ million, and decreasing our 2023 revenue estimate to $\$ 33.3$ million from $\$ 34.8$ million.
Figure 6 highlights the revenue growth and gross margin assumptions we use in our model to reach our stock price target estimates.

## Figure 6: Model Assumptions

| METRIC | RATE |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2020A | 2021E | 2022E | 2023E | 2024E-2026E |
| Revenue Growth | $16 \%$ | $25 \%$ | $70 \%$ | $50 \%$ | $25 \%$ |
| Gross Margins | $45 \%$ | $51 \%$ | $56 \%$ | $57 \%$ | $\sim 60 \%$ |
| EBITDA Margins | - | - | $13 \%$ | $18 \%$ | $20 \%+$ |

Source: eResearch Corp.
For the balance of 2021 and future years, we assume that there is the potential for $\mathbf{E Q}$ to significantly increase revenue by shifting some sales \& marketing efforts to the U.S. market. The U.S. is the largest advertising market in the world and, according to MAGNA, is expected to grow by US\$34 billion in 2021 to reach US $\$ 259$ billion. Canada ranked tenth in advertising expenditures and spends about 20 times less than the U.S. The deal with the U.S. publisher announced in November 2020 is a good indicator of the Company's future potential in the U.S. market.

## Target Price Calculation

## Method 1: Discounted Cash Flow (see Figure 7)

We moved the model forward one quarter and maintained the Terminal EBITDA multiple in 2024 at 20x to keep it in-line with comparable companies (see Appendix C). Using a Weighted Average Cost of Capital (WACC) of $10 \%$, the one-year target share price estimate is $\$ 2.49$.

## Method 2: Revenue Multiple

We moved the model forward one quarter to calculate a one-year forward Revenue estimate of \$20.1 million and maintained the revenue multiple at 9.0x to calculate a one-year target share price of $\$ 2.86$.

The equal-weighted price per share is $\$ 2.68$ and we are maintaining our one-year price target of \$2.65.

We are maintaining our Buy rating and one-year price target of $\$ 2.65$.

Figure 7: Target Price (1 Year) Calculation

|  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :--- | :---: |
| Method 1: DCF | WACC:10\% | Terminal Multiple:20x EBITDA | $\$ 2.49$ |
| Method 2: | Revenue Multiple | 9.0 x | 1 Year Fwd Revenue (Est.): \$20.7M |
| Equal-Weighted Valueation (1 year) | $\$ 2.86$ |  |  |
| Target Price (1 year) |  |  |  |

Source: eResearch Corp.
Figure 8: DCF Analysis

| EQ Inc. FYE (December 31) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| DCF Analysis (C\$) | 2019A | 2020A | 2021E | 2022E | 2023E | 2024E | 2025E |
| Revenue (\$) | 9.0 | 10.4 | 13.1 | 22.2 | 33.3 | 41.6 | 52.0 |
| Revenue Growth | 52.8\% | 16.2\% | 25.4\% | 69.9\% | 50.0\% | 25.0\% | 25.0\% |
| EBITDA (\$) | (0.6) | (1.9) | (0.9) | 2.9 | 6.0 | 8.3 | 12.0 |
| EBITDA Growth | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | 107.7\% | 38.9\% | 43.8\% |
| EBITDA Margin | -7.2\% | -18.6\% | -6.6\% | 13.0\% | 18.0\% | 20.0\% | 23.0\% |
| Depreciation and Amortization | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| EBIT (\$) | (0.8) | (2.3) | (1.1) | 2.8 | 5.9 | 8.3 | 11.9 |
| NOPAT | (1.0) | (3.0) | (1.7) | 1.8 | 4.3 | 6.1 | 9.1 |
| Plus Amortization (\$) | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Less Capital Expenditures (\$) | (0.4) | (0.6) | (0.4) | (0.1) | (0.1) | (0.1) | (0.1) |
| Capital Intensity | 4.5\% | 6.2\% | 2.7\% | 0.3\% | 0.2\% | 0.1\% | 0.1\% |
| Net Working Capital Changes | (0.4) | (1.5) | (2.5) | (1.6) | (3.0) | (2.2) | (2.9) |
| EPS (Continuing) | (0.04) | (0.05) | (0.03) | 0.02 | 0.06 | 0.08 | 0.12 |
| Unlevered Free Cash Flow (\$) | (1.6) | (4.8) | (4.3) | 0.3 | 1.2 | 3.9 | 6.2 |
| PV of Unlevered FCFs (\$) | (1.9) | (5.1) | (4.2) | 0.2 | 1.0 | 2.8 | 4.1 |
| Valuation Assumptions: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Discount Rate | 10.0\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Terminal Multiple | 20.0x |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Valuation Analysis: | Current | 1-Yr Target | 2-Yr Target |  |  |  |  |
| Total PV of FCFs (\$M) | -1.1 | 4.4 | 9.9 |  |  |  |  |
| Terminal Value (\$M) | 239.3 | 239.3 | 239.3 |  |  |  |  |
| PV of Terminal Value (\$M) | 159.2 | 175.1 | 192.7 |  |  |  |  |
| Net (debt) cash position | 2.7 | 10.3 | 12.2 |  |  |  |  |
| Total Value (\$M) | 160.7 | 189.8 | 214.8 |  |  |  |  |
| DCF Value/Share (C\$) | C\$2.11 | C\$2.49 | C\$2.82 |  |  |  |  |
| DCF Value/Share (US\$) | US\$1.65 | US\$1.95 | US\$2.21 |  |  |  |  |
| FD Shares O/S (M)* | 76.2 | 76.2 | 76.2 |  |  |  |  |
| *Includes \$10 million financing in 2022 for Acquisitions |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Source: Company Reports; eResearch Corp.
Figure 9: Sensitivity Chart - Discount Rate and Terminal EV/EBITDA Multiple

|  |  | Terminal EV/EBITDA Multiplier |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | $\mathbf{1 7 . 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{1 8 . 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{1 9 . 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 . 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 1 . 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 2 . 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 3 . 0 0}$ |
|  | $\mathbf{6 . 0 \%}$ | 2.41 | 2.54 | 2.67 | 2.80 | 2.93 | 3.06 | 3.19 |
|  | $\mathbf{8 . 0 \%}$ | 2.27 | 2.40 | 2.52 | 2.64 | 2.76 | 2.88 | 3.01 |
|  | $\mathbf{1 0 . 0 \%}$ | 2.15 | 2.26 | 2.38 | $\mathbf{2 . 4 9}$ | 2.61 | 2.72 | 2.84 |
|  | $\mathbf{1 2 . 0 \%}$ | 2.03 | 2.14 | 2.24 | 2.35 | 2.46 | 2.57 | 2.68 |
|  | $\mathbf{1 4 . 0 \%}$ | 1.92 | 2.02 | 2.12 | 2.22 | 2.33 | 2.43 | 2.53 |
|  | $\mathbf{1 6 . 0 \%}$ | 1.82 | 1.91 | 2.01 | 2.11 | 2.20 | 2.30 | 2.40 |

Source: Company Reports; eResearch Corp.

## Appendix A: Investment Thesis - Why Invest in EQ

## Leader and Innovator in Location-Based Analytics and Solutions

EQ is a leader in location-based analytics linking activity in the online world to the physical world to provide actionable insights for businesses and advertisers. The Company leverages strong relationships with its clients, publishing partners, and data providers, yielding insights into millions of devices and locations for audience creation, tracking, and verification. EQ has over 1 petabyte of data, growing at 7 terabytes daily and, to augment its data, has secured licencing agreements with a number of third-party data providers, including Opta, Mastercard, Statistics Canada, and TMG Analytics. EQ has also been recognized as an innovator by its industry peers. The Company was nominated in the Best Location-Based Platform category at the 2016 Digiday Signal Awards, and won in the category of Best Publisher Innovation at the Digital Trading Awards in 2017.

This month, EQ announced that it partnered with SafeGraph, a leading provider of Points of Interest and building footprint data to create Canada's largest geospatial data set that will benefit EQ's clients with more robust data around business listings.

## Digital Advertising and Location-Based Data - Large and Growing Market

In 2020, eMarketer expected companies in the U.S. to spend over US $\$ 150$ billion on digital ads versus US $\$ 107$ billion on traditional ads, with two-thirds of the ads targeting mobile devices. By 2023, eMarketer expects that digital ads will capture over $60 \%$ of all ad spending and reach over US\$517 billion.

## Dominant Player in Canada with Room to Grow in the U.S. Market

EQ is one of the largest providers of location-based data in Canada. Currently, EQ collects over 7 terabytes of unique first-party location-based data daily and has already identified more than 1,000 proprietary Custom Audience Profiles for the Canadian market. The Company currently has 3 million locations mapped, with over 18 million unique individuals reached in Canada, and processes over 15 billion data points daily.
In 2020, the U.S. accounted for less than $\mathbf{5 \%}$ of revenue. The U.S. is the largest ad market in the world (Canada is \#10) and, according to MAGNA, is expected to grow by US\$34 billion in 2021 to reach US $\$ 259$ billion. By shifting some sales \& marketing efforts to the U.S. market, there is the potential for EQ to significantly increase revenue.

## Organic and Inorganic Growth Strategy

EQ has demonstrated the ability to grow revenue organically through product development but has made tactical business acquisitions when the Company saw a need to fill a technical or skills gap. In the past three years, EQ has completed three acquisitions: Tapped Networks, certain assets of Curate Mobile Ltd., including Juice Mobile, and, in July 2021, Integrated Rewards Inc. and its consumer facing, marketing rewards application Paymi.com. As EQ continues with its U.S. expansion, an acquisition of a U.S.-based company could speed up revenue growth and client acquisition.

## Experienced Management Team

EQ has established a highly experienced team of professionals in the fields of digital strategy, online advertising \& marketing, finance, product strategy, and mergers \& acquisitions. EQ's CEO Geoffrey Rotstein has over 20 years of online advertising and marketing experience and has guided the Company through its transition to become a dominant player in the location-based online advertising industry in Canada.

## Appendix B: Financial Statements

Figure 10: Income Statement

| EQ Inc. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Income Statement - FYE (December 31) | 2019A | 2020A | Q121A | Q221A | Q321E | Q421E | 2021E | 2022E | 2023E |
| Total Revenue | 8,965 | 10,421 | 1,755 | 3,009 | 3,300 | 5,000 | 13,064 | 22,200 | 33,300 |
| Total Cost of Sales | 5,015 | 5,698 | 937 | 1,747 | 1,485 | 2,250 | 6,419 | 9,768 | 14,319 |
| Gross Profit | 3,950 | 4,723 | 818 | 1,262 | 1,815 | 2,750 | 6,645 | 12,432 | 18,981 |
| General and Administrative | 3,026 | 3,944 | 938 | 1,022 | 1,254 | 1,900 | 5,114 | 6,660 | 8,991 |
| Other operating costs | 1,726 | 2,061 | 458 | 693 | 495 | 750 | 2,396 | 2,886 | 3,996 |
| Stock Based Compensation | - | 678 | 236 | 121 | 122 | 185 | 664 | 821 | 1,232 |
| Depreciation of Property \& Equipment | 130 | 141 | 35 | 33 | 9 | 9 | 86 | 30 | 23 |
| Total Operating Expenses | 4,926 | 7,707 | 1,725 | 1,923 | 1,893 | 2,857 | 8,397 | 10,449 | 14,294 |
| Operating Income | (976) | $(2,984)$ | (907) | (661) | (78) | (107) | $(1,752)$ | 1,983 | 4,688 |
| Total Other Income | (938) | (443) | (59) | (51) | (0) | 3 | (108) | 9 | 17 |
| EBT | $(1,914)$ | $(3,427)$ | (966) | (712) | (78) | (104) | $(1,860)$ | 1,993 | 4,705 |
| Income Taxes | - | - | - | - | 8 | 10 | 18 | (199) | (470) |
| Net Income (Loss) | $(1,914)$ | $(3,427)$ | (966) | (712) | (70) | (93) | $(1,842)$ | 1,794 | 4,234 |
| EPS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Basic EPS | (0.04) | (0.06) | (0.02) | (0.01) | (0.00) | (0.00) | (0.03) | 0.02 | 0.06 |
| Diluted EPS | (0.04) | (0.05) | (0.02) | (0.01) | (0.00) | (0.00) | (0.03) | 0.02 | 0.06 |
| Shares Outstanding |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shares Outstanding, Basic (Weighted) | 48,331 | 58,912 | 63,873 | 68,222 | 68,229 | 68,229 | 68,229 | 73,229 | 73,229 |
| Shares Outstanding, Diluted (Weighted) | 48,331 | 63,189 | 63,873 | 68,222 | 71,451 | 71,451 | 71,451 | 76,451 | 76,451 |

Source: Company Reports; eResearch Corp.

Figure 11: Balance Sheet

| EQ Inc. <br> Balance Sheet - FYE (December 31) | 2019A | 2020A | Q121A | Q221A | Q321E | Q421E | 2021E | 2022E | 2023E |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Current Assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cash | 3,691 | 3,209 | 13,350 | 12,699 | 10,920 | 9,594 | 9,594 | 10,666 | 13,102 |
| Account Receivables | 2,060 | 4,572 | 2,639 | 3,525 | 3,614 | 5,476 | 5,476 | 7,118 | 10,678 |
| Investment Tax Credits Receivable | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 178 | 270 | 270 | 343 | 503 |
| Prepaid Expenses \& Other Assets | 197 | 197 | 213 | 158 | 163 | 245 | 245 | 265 | 365 |
| Total Current Assets | 5,948 | 7,978 | 16,202 | 16,382 | 14,875 | 15,584 | 15,584 | 18,393 | 24,648 |
| Non-Current Assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Property and Equipment | 102 | 102 | 89 | 90 | 85 | 79 | 79 | 61 | 47 |
| Intangible Assets | 537 | 1,096 | 1,188 | 1,284 | 1,284 | 1,284 | 1,284 | 1,284 | 1,284 |
| Goodwill | 535 | 732 | 732 | 732 | 732 | 732 | 732 | 732 | 732 |
| Other | 146 | 76 | 58 | 41 | 41 | 41 | 41 | 10,041 | 10,041 |
| Total Assets | 7,268 | 9,984 | 18,269 | 18,529 | 17,017 | 17,721 | 17,721 | 30,511 | 36,752 |
| Current Liabilities |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Accounts Payables | 1,705 | 2,908 | 1,747 | 2,618 | 1,115 | 1,677 | 1,677 | 1,815 | 2,497 |
| Lease Liability | 70 | 132 | 156 | 161 | 102 | 155 | 155 | 202 | 302 |
| Short-Term Debt | 0 | 1,989 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 18 | 18 | 43 | 56 |
| Total Current Liabilities | 2,055 | 5,337 | 2,192 | 3,032 | 1,480 | 2,103 | 2,103 | 2,312 | 3,108 |
| Non-Current Liabilities |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Term Loan | 1,603 | 80 | 120 | 120 | 108 | 97 | 97 | 64 | 42 |
| Provision/Loan Payable/Benefits Payable |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Liabilities | 3,746 | 5,435 | 2,312 | 3,152 | 1,588 | 2,201 | 2,201 | 2,376 | 3,150 |
| Shareholders Equity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Capital Stock | 3,522 | 4,549 | 15,957 | 15,377 | 15,377 | 15,377 | 15,377 | 25,377 | 25,377 |
| Contributed Surplus |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 122 | 307 | 307 | 1,129 | 2,361 |
| Deficit |  |  |  |  |  | (164) | (164) | 1,630 | 5,864 |
| Total Shareholders Equity | 3,522 | 4,549 | 15,957 | 15,377 | 15,429 | 15,520 | 15,520 | 28,135 | 33,602 |
| Total Liabilities \& Shareholders Equity | 7,268 | 9,984 | 18,269 | 18,529 | 17,017 | 17,721 | 17,721 | 30,511 | 36,752 |

Source: Company Reports; eResearch Corp.

Figure 12: Cash Flow Statement

| EQ Inc. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cash Flow Statement - FYE (December 31) | 2019A | 2020A | Q121A | Q221A | Q321E | Q421E | 2021E | 2022E | 2023E |
| Cash Provided By Operating Activities |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net Income (Loss) | $(1,914)$ | $(3,427)$ | (966) | (712) | (70) | (93) | $(1,842)$ | 1,794 | 4,234 |
| Amortization of Intangibles | 44 | 228 | 58 | 54 | 13 | 13 | 138 | 51 | 51 |
| Depreciation of Property \& Equipment | 130 | 141 | 35 | 33 | 9 | 9 | 86 | 30 | 23 |
| Stock Based Compensation Expense | 155 | 678 | 236 | 121 | 122 | 185 | 664 | 821 | 1,232 |
| Changes in Non-Cash Working Capital |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Account \& Other Receivables | 107 | $(2,512)$ | 1,933 | (886) | (89) | $(1,862)$ | (904) | $(1,643)$ | $(3,559)$ |
| Investment/Income Tax Credits |  |  |  | - | (178) | (92) | (270) | (73) | (160) |
| Prepaid Expenses \& Other Current Assets | (73) |  | (16) | (274) | (5) | (82) | (377) | (20) | (100) |
| Accounts Payable \& Other Payables | (127) | 1,096 | $(1,161)$ | 1,142 | $(1,503)$ | 562 | (960) | 138 | 682 |
| Deferred (Unbilled) Revenue | (324) | (76) | - | - | (59) | 53 | (6) | 47 | 101 |
| Total Cash Provided By Operating Activities | $(1,044)$ | $(2,745)$ | 157 | (438) | $(1,760)$ | $(1,308)$ | $(3,349)$ | 1,145 | 2,505 |
| Investing Activities |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Purchase of Property \& Equipment | (30) | (68) | (4) | (17) | (4) | (3) | (28) | (12) | (9) |
| Purchase of Intangibles | (375) | (575) | (150) | (150) | (13) | (13) | (326) | (51) | (51) |
| Business Acquisition | 169 | (941) | - | - | - | - | - | $(10,000)$ | - |
| Redemption of Short-Term Investments \& Restricted Cash | (744) |  | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Cash From Investing Activities | (978) | $(1,576)$ | (150) | (195) | (16) | (16) | (378) | $(10,063)$ | (60) |
| Financing Activities |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Proceeds from Loan | 183 | 80 | 40 | - | - | - | 40 | - | - |
| Operating Line (Repayment) |  |  | (293) |  | - | - | (293) | - | - |
| Repayment of Loan | (430) | (21) | $(1,740)$ | (24) | (2) | (2) | $(1,769)$ | (9) | (8) |
| Issue/Repurchase of Equity | 5,112 |  | 10,746 | (5) | - | - | 10,741 | 10,000 | - |
| Proceeds from exercise of Stock Options and Warrants | 283 | 3,776 | 1,392 | 16 | - | - | 1,408 | - | - |
| Total Cash From Financing Activities | 5,148 | 3,835 | 10,145 | (13) | (2) | (2) | 10,127 | 9,991 | (8) |
| Effect of Exchange Rates on Cash | (19) | 4 | (11) | (5) | - | - | (16) | - | - |
| Net Increase in Cash | 3,107 | (482) | 10,141 | (651) | $(1,779)$ | $(1,326)$ | 6,385 | 1,073 | 2,436 |
| Beginning Cash | 584 | 3,691 | 3,209 | 13,350 | 12,699 | 10,920 | 3,209 | 9,594 | 10,666 |
| Ending Cash | 3,691 | 3,209 | 13,350 | 12,699 | 10,920 | 9,594 | 9,594 | 10,666 | 13,102 |

Source: Company Reports; eResearch Corp

## Appendix C: AdTech \& Business Intelligence Comparables

Figure 13: U.S. and Canadian Comparables


Source: S\&P Capital IQ; eResearch Corp.

## Appendix D: eResearch Disclosure

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## ANALYST ACCREDITATION

eResearch Analyst on this Report: Chris Thompson CFA, MBA, P.Eng.
Analyst Affirmation: I, Chris Thompson, hereby state that, at the time of issuance of this research report, I do not own common shares, share options or share warrants of EQ Inc. (TSXV:EQ).

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