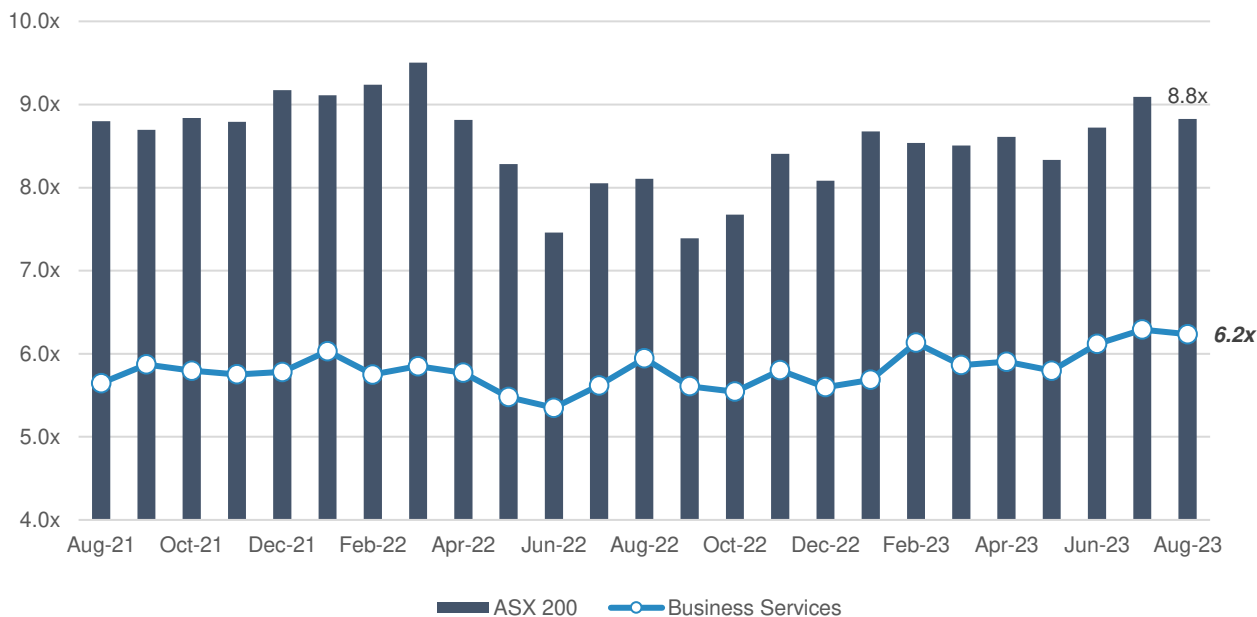


## VALUATION MULTIPLES

**Forward EV / EBITDA Multiples** (monthly to 30/08/2023) Source: FactSet Research Systems Inc.

Multiples in the Business Services sector have remained constant over the period. At the end of August, the sector traded on a forward EV / EBITDA multiple of 6.2x, compared to the ASX200 on 8.8x.



**Average Values and Trading Multiples** (values as at 30/08/2023) Source: FactSet Research Systems Inc.

Subsector	Enterprise Value (\$ m)	EV/EBITDA FY2023	EV/EBIT FY2023	Price / Earnings FY2023
Business and Technical Consulting	24,958	6.0x	8.0x	11.0x
Business Process Outsourcing	4,379	9.8x	12.6x	14.2x
Education	9,127	5.9x	11.7x	17.3x
Facilities Management	557	4.4x	10.8x	8.1x
Staffing	271	4.7x	6.6x	6.8x
Transportation, Logistics & Distribution	45,481	8.1x	12.7x	15.2x
<b>Business Services</b>	<b>83,827</b>	<b>7.3x</b>	<b>11.4x</b>	<b>14.5x</b>

Note: Multiples are based on the forward year of the unreported period, which for the majority of companies in the sector is FY2023. Difference in forward EV/EBITDA multiples between Figure and Table are representative of the timing difference between month-end result, and current day result. Composition of companies in Sector Dashboards are updated every 6 months.

## MERGER & ACQUISITION NEWS...

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Blackstone



STUDENT ONE

Value: AUD 500m

**Blackstone**, the alternative investment management company that provides financial advisory services including M&A, restructuring and reorganization advisory services, and fund placement services, has acquired **Student One**, the Australia based operator of student housing facilities. The consideration was AUD 500m, as per articles from RealAssets and Mingtiandi.

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AirTree

Value: AUD 12

**AirTree Ventures**, the Australia based venture capital firm has acquired an undisclosed stake in **High Earth Orbit Robotics**, the local provider of Space Situational Awareness (SSA) and asteroid prospecting services using nanosatellites deployed in high Earth orbit. The consideration was AUD 12m.

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HEO  
ROBOTICS



Shareworks

by Morgan Stanley

Value: Not Disclosed

**Computershare Limited** [ASX:CPU], an Australian transfer agency and share registration firm, has agreed to acquire the European public equity share plan business of Solium Capital UK, trading as **Shareworks by Morgan Stanley**.



Computershare

Wealth manager and brokerage Morgan Stanley [NYSE:MS] acquired the European operations of Solium as part of the 2019 acquisition of Solium Capital, a Canada-based provider of equity administration software. Solium Capital UK provides employee share plans to around 120 publicly listed companies in the UK and Continental Europe and employs around 100 staff, managing plans with approximately 365,000 participants and USD 20bn in assets under administration.

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consolidated



Bidvest

Value: Not Disclosed

**Bidvest** [JSE:BVT], the South African company engaged in manufacturing, trading, distribution of various products and providing services, has acquired **Consolidated Property Services Pty Limited** (CPS), an Australian provider of integrated property services, from its private shareholders.

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diverger



Count

Value: AUD 45.3m

**Diverger Ltd** [ASX:DVR] has entered into a binding scheme implementation agreement to be fully acquired by **Count Ltd** [ASX:CUP], the two companies said in their respective statements filed with the Australian Securities Exchange.

The total scheme consideration of AUD 1.14 per Diverger share represents an implied equity value of AUD 45.3m.

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## MERGER & ACQUISITION NEWS...

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**MPS Interactive**



**Value:** Undisclosed

**MPS Interactive Systems**, the India based wholly owned subsidiary of MPS has acquired 65% of **Liberate Group**, the Australia based e-learning company comprising **Liberate Learning** (Australia), **Liberate eLearning** (Australia), **App-eLearn** (Australia), and **Liberate Learning** (New Zealand). The terms of the deal were undisclosed.

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## SERVING UP SOME SUPPOSITION...

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- Australia-based QR code ordering businesses **Mr Yum** and **me&u** are set to merge in an all-stock deal. Following the deal, Melbourne-based Mr Yum and Sydney's me&u will form an entity spanning 6,000 venues in Australia, New Zealand, the UK, and USA. Mr Yum raised AUD 89m in a Series A funding round in late 2021, while me&u received AUD 30m in late 2022.
- **PAG**, the alternative investment firm has agreed to acquire **Australian Venue**, the Australia based hotel operator from **KKR & Co**, the private equity firm. The transaction provides an exit strategy for KKR & Co. The transaction is expected to close late 2023 and is subject to customary conditions, including regulatory approvals.
- **FAAC**, the Italy based residential, commercial, industrial automation, pedestrian and vehicle access control systems manufacturer has acquired through its subsidiary **Magnetic Automation**, the Australia based company engaged in perimeter security industry **Aero NZ**, the Australia based market importer and distributor of access automation gates.
- **Kin Group**, the Australia based investment holding company, through its subsidiary **Bennamon Industries**, the local investment holding company, announced its unconditional off-market takeover offer to acquire 50% of **Pact Group**, the local company engaged in supplying rigid plastics and metals packaging products, at AUD 0.68 cash per share. The consideration was AUD 117.0586m.
- **Iress** [ASX: IRE], **Link Administration** [ASX: LNK], and **Bigtincan** [ASX: BTH] are thought to be among companies attracting takeover interest in Australia's tech sector. Investors in Iress are believed to be fielding calls from investment banks, as efforts are believed to be intensifying to secure a bid for the company. Last month, Iress was named as a potential target after its share price fell nearly 36% on the day it released its full-year earnings. Iress's value has continued to fall and is thought to represent compelling value with a market capitalisation of AUD 1.13bn .
- Shareholders of **AirTrunk**, an Australian data centre business, are considering the sale of a minority stake or a potential IPO that would value the company at over AUD 10bn on an enterprise value basis. AirTrunk's owners, **Macquarie Asset Management** and **PSP** sent a request for proposal (RFP) to seven investment banks earlier this month, asking them to pitch ideas for a capital review, which would consider a possible ASX listing or options around selling a minority stake in the company. ECM teams are believed to have presented to the owners last week, but appointments have not yet been made. The potential IPO comes one month after AirTrunk completed a AUD 4.76bn debt deal.
- **Atlassian** [NASDAQ:TEAM] is actively scouting for acquisitions to add capabilities to its collaboration and productivity software platform, President Anu Bharadwaj said. The Sydney-headquartered company is seeking artificial intelligence and automated solutions in Agile and DevOps, IT service management, and work management. Additionally, Atlassian is seeking enterprise automation and analytics technologies that it can incorporate into the architecture of its central cloud-based platform. The company reported cash and cash equivalents plus marketable securities of USD 2.1bn as of 30 June.

## CONTACT DETAILS

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