

Ocean Wilsons Holdings

Disposal to generate surplus capital

In FY24, Ocean Wilsons increased its earnings per share and dividend by 7% and more than 40%, respectively. 2024 was a seismic year for the company as it agreed to sell its 56% holding in Wilson Sons. It will be returning a portion of the sale proceeds to shareholders but the use of the remaining proceeds is still under consideration. Currently, Ocean Wilsons is trading at a c 40% discount to our estimated total asset value of 2,389p/share. Given the pending disposal, we are withdrawing our forecasts.

FY24 EPS up c 7% and DPS increased by 43.5%

FY24 net profit attributable to equity shareholders increased by 6.9% to US\$71.7m, driven largely by strong trading in Wilson Sons, offset by lower net returns from the investment portfolio. Net assets increased by 2.9% to US\$839.4m and net debt fell by 29.8% to US\$336.1m, at least in part driven down by a 44.0% increase in net cash inflow from operating activities. Earnings per share increased by 6.9% to 202.7 cents and the proposed dividend for the year was 122.0 cents, up 43.5%.

Investment portfolio in line with benchmark

The investment portfolio, which will be the sole investment vehicle of Ocean Wilsons on completion of the sale of Wilson Sons, generated a gross return of 6.5% and net return of 5.3% compared to its benchmark's return of 5.9%. In FY23, it produced a net return of 8.9% compared to the benchmark return of 6.4%. The portfolio is c 55% exposed to North America, but exposure has been slowly diversifying to emerging markets and Japan, where high-quality companies offer significant valuation discounts compared to US equities. However, with US government policy increasing market volatility, this shift has been paused 'for the time being.'

Sale of Wilson Sons to complete in mid-2025

In October 2024, following a strategic review, Ocean Wilsons announced that it had agreed to sell its 56% holding in Wilson Sons to Shipping Agencies Services Sàrl, a wholly owned subsidiary of Mediterranean Shipping Company for BRL17.50 per share. Ocean Wilsons announced on 20 March that it expects the transaction to complete in Q2 or Q325, depending on regulatory approvals and other closing conditions.

Tender offer follows shareholder consultation

Following the sale announcement, the board of Ocean Wilsons undertook a consultation exercise with shareholders regarding the use of the net proceeds. Following feedback and consideration, it was announced that a portion of the proceeds will be returned to shareholders via a tender offer for up to 7,072,608 ordinary shares, representing 20% of the issued share capital. The board is considering strategic options in relation to the use of the remaining net proceeds.

Investment companies

11 April 2025

Price	1,400.00p
Market cap	£499m
Shares in issue	35.4m
Code/ISIN	OCN/BMG6699D1074
Primary exchange	LSE
AIC sector	N/A
52-week high/low	1,640.0p 1,200.0p

Fund objective

Ocean Wilsons Holdings is an investment company based in Bermuda. It has a controlling shareholding in Wilson Sons, a quoted maritime services company in Brazil, and holds a portfolio of international investments.

Bull points

- The investment portfolio is diversified reducing specific risk.
- Geographically, it is biased to North America, which has been a growth engine.
- Disposal of Wilson Sons offers management optionality on reinvestment.

Bear points

- Shareholder consultation implies a period of uncertainty.
- Exposure to North America may increase volatility.
- Tender offer may reduce liquidity.

Analyst

Andy Murphy +44 (0)20 3077 5700

investmenttrusts@edisongroup.com

[Edison profile page](#)

**Ocean Wilsons Holdings is
a research client of Edison
Investment Research Limited**

Exhibit 1: Financial summary

Year end 31 December	US\$m	2023 IFRS	2024 IFRS
INCOME STATEMENT			
Investment portfolio returns		29.1	20.5
Investment portfolio expenses		(3.3)	(3.5)
Corporate expenses		(4.3)	(5.6)
Net Interest		0.2	0.5
Forex gains/(losses)		(0.1)	(0.6)
Profit Before Tax (reported)		21.7	11.2
Reported tax		0.0	0.0
Profit After Tax (reported)		21.7	11.2
Minority interests		(36.0)	(47.4)
Discontinued operations		81.4	107.9
Net income (reported)		67.0	71.7
Basic average number of shares outstanding (m)		35.4	35.4
EPS - basic reported (c)		189.6	202.7
Dividend (c)		85.0	122.0
BALANCE SHEET			
Non-Current Assets		998.5	0.0
Intangible Assets		27.5	0.0
Tangible Assets		614.1	0.0
Investment in joint ventures and associates		96.1	0.0
Other		260.8	0.0
Current Assets		523.4	1,462.8
Stocks		18.2	0.0
Debtors		65.7	0.0
Cash & portfolio assets		391.8	361.8
Assets held for sale		0.0	1,100.9
Other		47.7	0.0
Current Liabilities		(182.2)	(623.4)
Creditors		(71.8)	(0.6)
Tax liabilities		(10.8)	0.0
Borrowings		(99.6)	0.0
Liabilities held for sale		0.0	(622.7)
Non-current liabilities		(523.8)	0.0
Long-term borrowings		(448.8)	0.0
Other long-term liabilities		(75.0)	0.0
Net Assets		815.8	839.4
Minority interests		(214.3)	(211.5)
Shareholders' equity		601.5	627.9
CASH FLOW			
Op Cash Flow before WC and tax		21.7	11.2
Returns on investment and other		(29.1)	(20.5)
Working capital		2.1	(0.4)
Other investment income		(0.2)	(0.7)
FX		0.1	0.6
Net cashflow from discontinued operations		134.2	195.1
Net operating cash flow		128.7	185.3
Acquisition/disposal of investments		(9.1)	(6.4)
Discontinued operations (debt movement)		(18.0)	(41.0)
Discontinued operations (Other)		(90.0)	(73.8)
Net interest		2.2	14.1
Dividends		(24.8)	(30.1)
Net Cash Flow		(10.9)	48.2
Opening net debt/(cash)		440.2	479.1
FX		2.4	0.8
Net debt cash movements		(18.0)	(41.0)
Other cash movements		7.0	89.1
Other non-cash movements		(30.4)	94.0
Closing net debt/(cash)		479.1	336.1

Source: Company data

General disclaimer and copyright

This report has been commissioned by Ocean Wilsons Holdings and prepared and issued by Edison, in consideration of a fee payable by Ocean Wilsons Holdings. Edison Investment Research standard fees are £60,000 pa for the production and broad dissemination of a detailed note (Outlook) following by regular (typically quarterly) update notes. Fees are paid upfront in cash without recourse. Edison may seek additional fees for the provision of roadshows and related IR services for the client but does not get remunerated for any investment banking services. We never take payment in stock, options or warrants for any of our services.

Accuracy of content: All information used in the publication of this report has been compiled from publicly available sources that are believed to be reliable, however we do not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of this report and have not sought for this information to be independently verified. Opinions contained in this report represent those of the research department of Edison at the time of publication. Forward-looking information or statements in this report contain information that is based on assumptions, forecasts of future results, estimates of amounts not yet determinable, and therefore involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of their subject matter to be materially different from current expectations.

Exclusion of Liability: To the fullest extent allowed by law, Edison shall not be liable for any direct, indirect or consequential losses, loss of profits, damages, costs or expenses incurred or suffered by you arising out or in connection with the access to, use of or reliance on any information contained on this note.

No personalised advice: The information that we provide should not be construed in any manner whatsoever as, personalised advice. Also, the information provided by us should not be construed by any subscriber or prospective subscriber as Edison's solicitation to effect, or attempt to effect, any transaction in a security. The securities described in the report may not be eligible for sale in all jurisdictions or to certain categories of investors.

Investment in securities mentioned: Edison has a restrictive policy relating to personal dealing and conflicts of interest. Edison Group does not conduct any investment business and, accordingly, does not itself hold any positions in the securities mentioned in this report. However, the respective directors, officers, employees and contractors of Edison may have a position in any or related securities mentioned in this report, subject to Edison's policies on personal dealing and conflicts of interest.

Copyright 2025 Edison Investment Research Limited (Edison).

Australia

Edison Investment Research Pty Ltd (Edison AU) is the Australian subsidiary of Edison. Edison AU is a Corporate Authorised Representative (1252501) of Crown Wealth Group Pty Ltd who holds an Australian Financial Services Licence (Number: 494274). This research is issued in Australia by Edison AU and any access to it, is intended only for "wholesale clients" within the meaning of the Corporations Act 2001 of Australia. Any advice given by Edison AU is general advice only and does not take into account your personal circumstances, needs or objectives. You should, before acting on this advice, consider the appropriateness of the advice, having regard to your objectives, financial situation and needs. If our advice relates to the acquisition, or possible acquisition, of a particular financial product you should read any relevant Product Disclosure Statement or like instrument.

New Zealand

The research in this document is intended for New Zealand resident professional financial advisers or brokers (for use in their roles as financial advisers or brokers) and habitual investors who are "wholesale clients" for the purpose of the Financial Advisers Act 2008 (FAA) (as described in sections 5(c) (1)(a), (b) and (c) of the FAA). This is not a solicitation or inducement to buy, sell, subscribe, or underwrite any securities mentioned or in the topic of this document. For the purpose of the FAA, the content of this report is of a general nature, is intended as a source of general information only and is not intended to constitute a recommendation or opinion in relation to acquiring or disposing (including refraining from acquiring or disposing) of securities. The distribution of this document is not a "personalised service" and, to the extent that it contains any financial advice, is intended only as a "class service" provided by Edison within the meaning of the FAA (i.e. without taking into account the particular financial situation or goals of any person). As such, it should not be relied upon in making an investment decision.

United Kingdom

This document is prepared and provided by Edison for information purposes only and should not be construed as an offer or solicitation for investment in any securities mentioned or in the topic of this document. A marketing communication under FCA Rules, this document has not been prepared in accordance with the legal requirements designed to promote the independence of investment research and is not subject to any prohibition on dealing ahead of the dissemination of investment research.

This Communication is being distributed in the United Kingdom and is directed only at (i) persons having professional experience in matters relating to investments, i.e. investment professionals within the meaning of Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, as amended (the "FPO") (ii) high net-worth companies, unincorporated associations or other bodies within the meaning of Article 49 of the FPO and (iii) persons to whom it is otherwise lawful to distribute it. The investment or investment activity to which this document relates is available only to such persons. It is not intended that this document be distributed or passed on, directly or indirectly, to any other class of persons and in any event and under no circumstances should persons of any other description rely on or act upon the contents of this document.

This Communication is being supplied to you solely for your information and may not be reproduced by, further distributed to or published in whole or in part by, any other person.

United States

Edison relies upon the "publishers' exclusion" from the definition of investment adviser under Section 202(a)(11) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 and corresponding state securities laws. This report is a bona fide publication of general and regular circulation offering impersonal investment-related advice, not tailored to a specific investment portfolio or the needs of current and/or prospective subscribers. As such, Edison does not offer or provide personal advice and the research provided is for informational purposes only. No mention of a particular security in this report constitutes a recommendation to buy, sell or hold that or any security, or that any particular security, portfolio of securities, transaction or investment strategy is suitable for any specific person.
