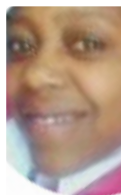




Equus Total Return, Inc. (NYSE: EQS) Reports Marginal Increase In Q1 NAV As The BDC Continues To Rally With Improving Oil Prices

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By **Nyambura Tabitha**
Markets Reporter



Equus Total Return, Inc. (NYSE: EQS) has seen NAV increase marginally in Q1. The Business development company reported a Net Asset Value of \$37.6 Million in Q1, up by \$0.3 Million

compared to the previous quarter. NAV per share increased up to \$2.96 from \$2.94.

The marginal improvement in NAV comes as oil prices continue to rally. Equus Total Return, Inc. (NYSE: EQS) has interests in the oil and gas space through its wholly owned subsidiary Equus Energy and as such, improving oil prices could have a positive impact on performance this year. In Q1

results this year Equus Energy was hit hard. Equus Total Return's fair value in Equus Energy dropped from \$5.5 million to \$4.5 Million. This factor was largely attributed to the declining oil and gas prices around the world in recent months. However, Equus Total Return, Inc. (NYSE: EQS) is confident that improving oil prices present a good opportunity for better performance for the remainder of 2016.

◀ Improving Oil Prices

For the past few years the oil industry has been in turmoil to say the very least. Oil prices slumped from about \$100 a barrel to a thirteen year low of \$28 a barrel. However, the seemingly inevitable slump has halted and global oil prices are beginning to rally. As of Today, Oil prices were trading at \$50 a barrel, a considerable improvement compared to the lows of recent months. The revival of the oil sector is expected to continue albeit with monumental challenges. Equus Total Return, Inc. (NYSE: EQS) believes that a strong oil sector and a steady Improvement in prices will provide favorable conditions on its long term performance.

Besides, performances for other subsidiaries in which Equus Total Return Fund has a stake were not that bad. The fund's share interest in PalletOne improved from \$9.6 million to \$11.6 million in the first quarter. [Equus Total Return, Inc. \(NYSE: EQS\)](#) owns an 18.7% stake in PalletOne, one of the biggest wooden pallet manufacturers in the US. PalletOne also reported significant increases in revenues over the last 12 months.

What Improved Oil Prices Mean For Equus Total Return, Inc. (NYSE: EQS)

For the first time in 2016 oil prices have hit \$50 a barrel. There are indications that the industry is recovering but analyst fear that improved prices could trigger renewed production. In any case, the oil industry is expected to recover and while it may take time to fully regain its former glory, the trajectory is looking upwards. So what does this mean for Equus Total Return,



Inc. (NYSE: EQS)? First of all, it is important to note that Equus Total Return, Inc. (NYSE: EQS) has interests in a wide range of sectors and oil and gas is just one of them.

However, you cannot still discount the importance of its interests in oil and gas. Equus Total Return, Inc. (NYSE: EQS) fully owns Equus Energy, an oil and gas company based in, Huston, Texas. Equus Energy owns and operates oil and gas reserves and much of its revenue is directly dependent on the performance of the global oil and gas sector. With the current improving oil prices the potential of improved performance for Equus Energy is good and ultimately, this will have a direct positive effect on Equus Total Return, Inc. (NYSE: EQS).

Equus Total Return, Inc. (NYSE: EQS) Strategy

Equus Total Return, Inc. (NYSE: EQS) is a business development company that invests on small companies with the potential of becoming big and successful in the future. It gives

value investors a chance to get in on the ground floor of small companies with massive potential to take off and grow into relatively bigger and successful companies. Equus Total Return, Inc. (NYSE: EQS) was founded in the 80s and in its over 30 year history the fund has invested on solid small and mid-sized companies and helped them become big through financial assistance, advice, and counsel. You can buy into the company on the New York Stock exchange. The Fund's stocks closed at \$1.81 a share yesterday.

The Bottom Line

Equus Total Return, Inc. (NYSE: EQS) has had a steady NAV over the last four years. The company has maintained a range of between \$2.86 and \$3.11. With improving oil prices prospects are definitely looking good especially for Equus Energy. The fund allows investors to invest in the small guys with proven potential. If you are looking for long term capital appreciation, then you might find the Fund quite ideal in the end.

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