



# **Unlocking Capital for Swiss Small-Caps Effective Strategies for Holistic Investor Engagement and SME Positioning**

3 December, 2024 – Zurich, Switzerland, SIX IR Conference 2024

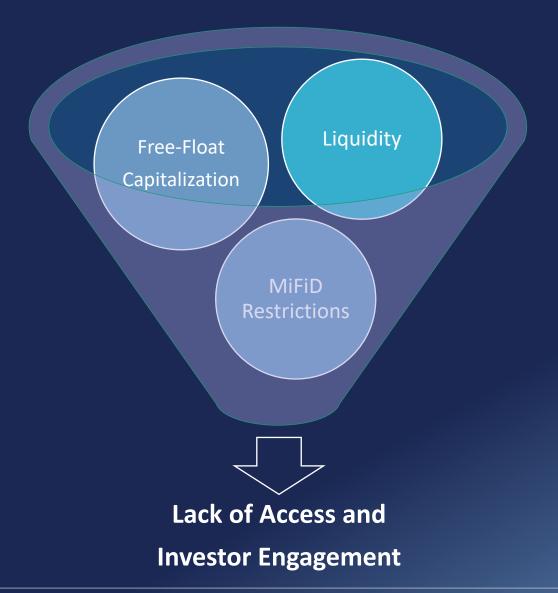
Andreas Posavac, MBA. BA. (CESGA, CSE) – Managing Partner and Founder Dr. Miro Zuzak, CIO – JMS Invest AG Bettina Schragl, Head of Capital Markets & Communications, Semperit AG **George Carswell – Senior Consultant, Investor Engagement & Corporate Access** 

# **Agenda - Unlocking Capital for Swiss Small-Caps**

- 1. Intro
- The State of Things A Small-Cap Dilemma
- 3. Impuls Statement on How to Tap Into the Opportunity
- 4. Expert Views from:
  - The Buy-Side Was to get on the map?
  - 2. The Issuer Approaches to Consider
  - 3. Investor Engagement How to work with the ecosystem
- 5. Q&A

# The State of Things

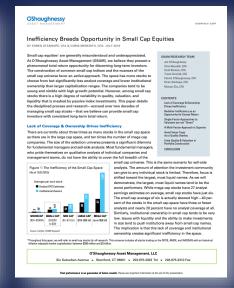
# A Small-Cap Dilemma



# **How To Tap Into the Opportunity?**

# **Inefficiencies Breed Opportunity for Small Caps**







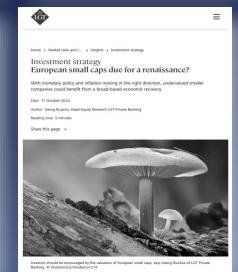






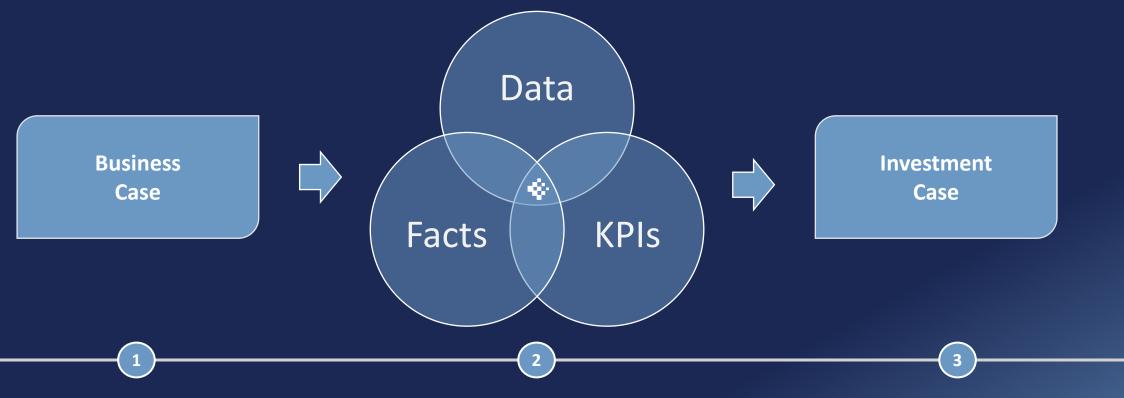








## Developing the Equity Story... a data-driven narrative

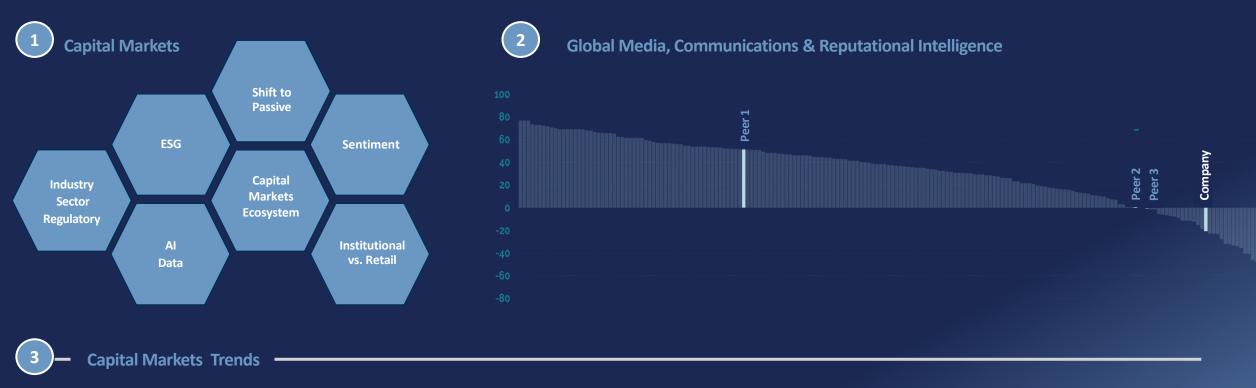


- The **business case** describes the path to reach the ambitions of the company
- ✓ Inside-out perspective

- ✓ Equity Story translates the business strategy considering investor views and requirements
- ✓ Introduces the management and gives insights into strategic goals
- ✓ Provides forecasts on revenues, market growth and expected market share and why the company will be financially successful
- ✓ Risk profile (business, market, regulation...)
- ✓ Investment profile (growth vs. yield / cyclical vs. defensive)

- ✓ The **investment case** reflects the positioning of the company towards investors and the Capital Market, for the outside in perspective
- ✓ The investment case not only reviews the equity story but also structures several aspects of the engagement

# **Understand Market Trends to Position and Align Story**





## **Defining Your Bespoke Equity Intelligence Profile**

**Current Investor Profile** and Engagement Record

**Fund-Level Analysis of Fundamental Portfolio Fit of** bespoke investment profile

Assessment of ESG-Profile and other **Network of Ecosystem Influencers** 



Type, Portfolio Risk, Potential or Target

#### **Investment & Risk Policy**

Liquidity, Industry, Market-Cap Constraints



#### **Active vs. Passive**

Equity Pitch vs. Disclosure & Engagement



### **Investment & Engagement Record**

Buy-in, Cost-base, AGM, Proxy Vote, Lending, Short-history, Dissent, meeting and engagement history



#### **Investor Ecosystem**

Bank, Broker, Distribution network, custodian



Client



#### **ESG-Data Vendors**

Data, ratings, contoversies, index-provider benchmarks



### **Proxy Advisers**

ISS, Glass Lewis & Engagement Policies



### **ESG-Strategy**

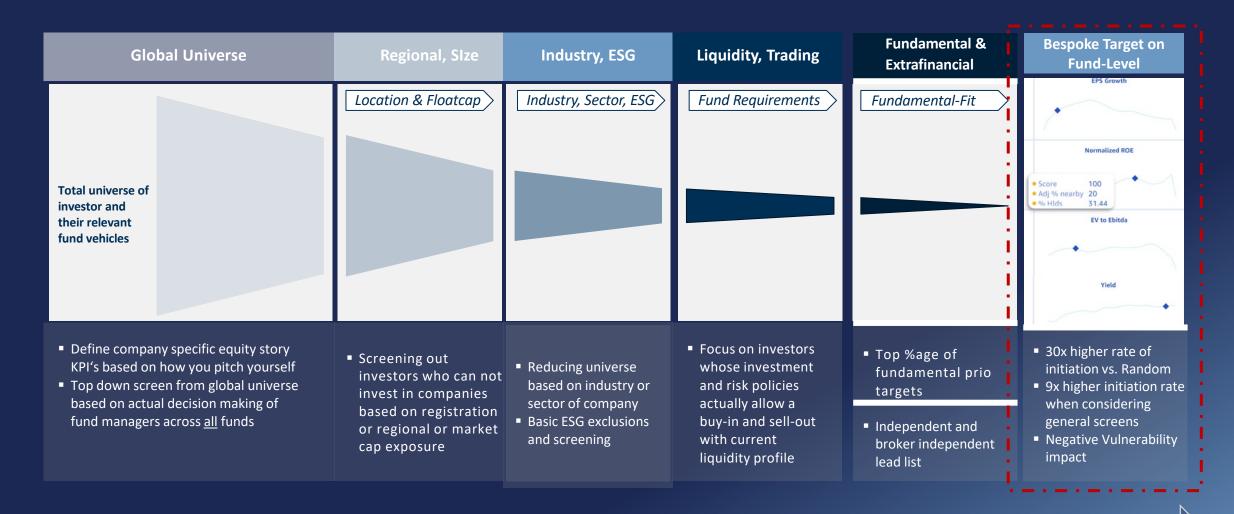
In-/exclusion, thematic, impact, integration



#### **ESG-Signatory & Advocacy**

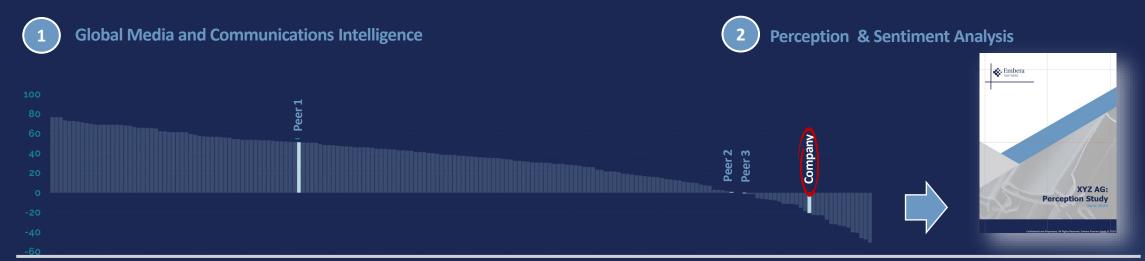
NZAOA, CA100+, UNPRI, Associations, etc

### **Global Quantitative Investor Fit Assessment**



Cross Security Assessment (ORD, PREF, ADR/GDR, REG, FI)

# **Qualitative Overlay to Plan and Execute**



Strategic Plan, Execute



**Monitor and Measure** 



# What to do? Expert Views and Perspectives



Andreas Posavac

Managing Partner

Embera Partners



Bettina Schragl
Head of Capital Markets & IR
Semperit Holding AG



**Dr. Miro Zuzak**Chief Investment Officer, PM
JMS Invest AG



George Carswell
Head of Investor Engagement
Embera Partners





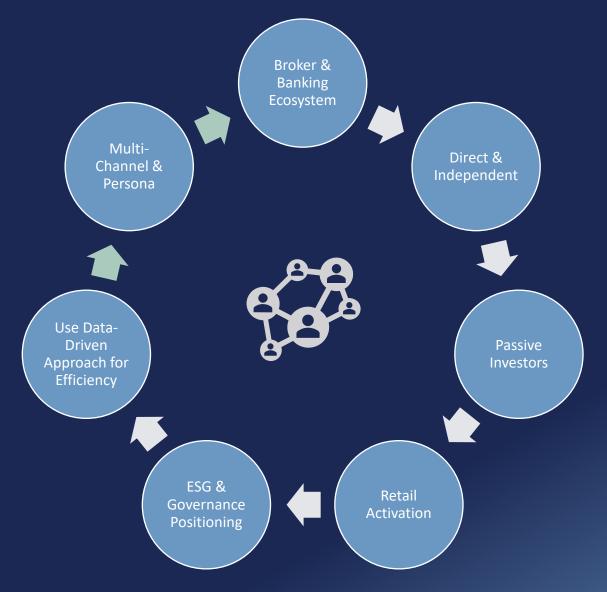
+ Reminder:

We are conducting a corporate access study for the DACH region with FH St.Pölten.

Please participate as it will not only help get transparency about the latest developments, but also allow us best practice recommendations from the source (corporates, buy-side and sell-side corporate access) which will be anonymized and shared with you directly in Q2 2025. Expect them to reach out to you shortly

# Appendix

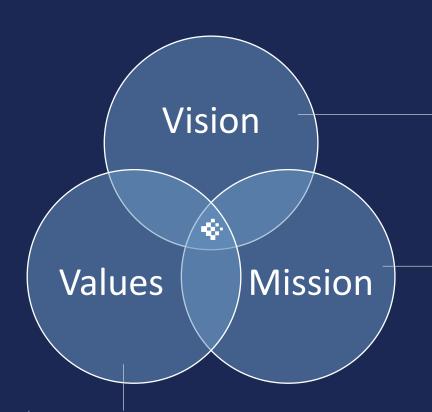
# ...To Taking a Proactive, Holistic, Approach to Investor Engagement



# **About Embera Partners**

### Our approach to success





We are a specialized independent advisory boutique in Europe with a leading role in the business of advising investors as well as executives and boards of corporations in Europe, the UK and MENA when it comes to capital markets, investor relations as well as corporate governance, ESG and IPOs.

We demystify capital markets challenges through a bespoke, hands-on, factbased approach that is data driven, ultimately creating value and trust. Our ambition is to become the trusted partner across the value chain by taking an entrepreneurial, pragmatic and independent approach.

### Independence

We are unaffiliated, independent and seek to give unbiased advice for all of our clients.

### **Entrepreneurial**

We are passionately entrepreneurial with a hightouch, pragmatic approach that is solutions-oriented.

#### **Trust**

Integrity and accountability are key values in our commitment ultimately being the baseline for the highest value: trust.

### **Diversity**

We strive for diversity, respect and humbleness in our team, with our clients and international partners.

### Respect

Our employees are our biggest asset. We treat all fairly, equally and incentivize in line with our values and goals.

# Our structure and offering



**Business Verticals** 

1

### **Financial Advisory**

Entrepreneurial corporate finance advisory for senior executives and board members in private and public corporations with a focus on value creation and individual market positioning.

2

#### **Investor Relations**

Outsourced IR and data-driven IR advisory solutions focused on the entire capital markets ecosystem and specialized on investor engagement, feat. DR's, capital access, AGM and M&A support, governance and ESG.

3

### **Financial Communications**

End-to-end financial comms including crisis, reputational and change, positioning, public affairs and media relations, M&A and IPO's incl. stakeholder mapping, litigation support and background research.

4

### **Capital Access & Funding**

Support for fundraising and capital access needs for start-ups to listed entities incl. access to our established network of family offices, HNW's, PE & VC funds.

Data-driven and fact-based advisory by experts and senior practitioners

Sector, industry and market capitalization agnostic

Independent expert advice across the entire value chain and functions

# **A Unique Value Proposition**



#### Non-exhaustive overview

| Verti | cals                           | Solutions                                  |   |                                      |                             |   | How we add value to our clients   |
|-------|--------------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---|
| 1     | Financial<br>Advisory          | Equity Story Uplift                        | IPO Readiness<br>and RFP-<br>Management | Corporate<br>Finance<br>Advisory     | IPO Allocation<br>Support   | Executive and Board Training and Capital Markets Briefing | <ul> <li>✓ Entrepreneurial solutions-oriented approach to strategic value creation</li> <li>✓ 100% independent, conflict-free and confidential in the interest of our clients</li> <li>✓ Senior experts with a proven track record who will stay on the project team from start to finish, unlike for some of the large bulge bracket advisers and banks</li> <li>✓ Unique network and partner-network which can be tapped</li> </ul> |
| 2     | Investor<br>Relations          | Investor & DR<br>Intelligence              | Corporate<br>Access                     | Corporate<br>Governance              | ESG &<br>Sustainability     | M&A & Outsourced Activism Investor Relations              | <ul> <li>✓ Demystify institutional investors behavior in standard or critical situations</li> <li>✓ Holistic understanding on capital markets ecosystem and influence factors</li> <li>✓ Senior practitioners who have successfully dealt with similar challenges first hand</li> <li>✓ Data-driven and fact-based solutions underpinning senior expert advice</li> </ul>   |
| 3     | Financial<br>Communications    | Financial &<br>Corporate<br>Communications | Transsaction<br>& IPO<br>Communications | Crisis &<br>Reputation<br>Management | Research &<br>Insights      | Litigation Support<br>and Public Affairs                  | <ul> <li>✓ Structure and process management as well as execution support</li> <li>✓ We develop and help clienst tell a compelling story in almost any situation</li> <li>✓ Devloping strategies and narratives which enhance, safeguard and (re)-build clients reputation based on their needs</li> <li>✓ Active navigation of complex regulatory, capital marketand political environment</li> </ul>                                 |
| 4     | Capital<br>Access &<br>Funding | Fundraising<br>Preparation                 | Capital<br>Access                       | Financial<br>Advisory                | Briefing and<br>Preoaration |   | <ul> <li>✓ Access to an established network of investors for start-ups, scale-ups and established companies in public and private markets</li> <li>✓ Input on business plan and financing requirements/structures</li> <li>✓ Founder and executive preparation for fundraising or capital markets engagement</li> </ul>   |



>10

More than 10 regional reprsentations globally with a focus on Europe and CEEMEA



>500

Client projects across different business verticals in last 5 years\*



>20

Senior experts and practitioners dedicated to client work globally

### The Embera Partners Team\*



#### **Executives**

Non-Exhaustive Team Overview\*



#### Andreas Posavac, MBA. BA. (CESGA, CSE) Managing Partner & Founder

- +20 years in capital markets, M&A, Governance, ESG and IR advisory
- Background: S&P Global, IHSMarkit, Ipreo, CapitalBridge, Citigate
- Certified Supervisory Board Expert and ESG-Analyst
- University of Washington and Vienna



#### **Peter Gotke**

Partner, Business Development & Partnerships

- +20 years in banking, investor relations, advisory and depository receipts
- Background: S&P Global, IHSMarkit, BNY Mellon, Deutsche Bank, Thomson
- IR, Advisory and Depository Receipts Market Leader
- London Metropolian University
- Board Member MEIRA



#### Alexander Kalinin, MBA

Commercial Director, CEEMEA

- +15 years of experience in PR, investor relations, investment banking and depositary receipts
- Background: S&P, Deutsche Bank, VTB Capital plc
- Held senior roles in IR, Depositary Receipts and Sustainability
- Warwick Business School

#### **Directors & Senior Consultants**



#### **Michael Oplustil** Investor Relations, Capital Markets

- +20 years in Investor Relations and Capital Markets
- Background: Uniqa Versicherung, Erste Bank, Mondi, Deutsche Bank. Michael led Uniga's IR team and ran the Re-IPO process and capital markets strategy
- M&A and Corporate Finance Experience
- University of Vienna



### **George Carswell Corporate Access**

- +20 years in corporate access and advisory
- Background: Goldman Sachs, J.P. Morgan and Barclays, where he was head of EMEA equity marketing and corporate access
- PE/LP investment experience
- Durham University



#### Richard O'Connor

Investor Relations, Capital Markets

+40 years experience in IR, capital markets and access

- Background: HSBC, Natwest, RBC, CME
- Most Senior IR and Capital Markets Person in London
- Experience in IR, ESG, Activism, IPO/ReIPO, strategic advisory and repositioning with buy-sell side network globally
- University of London



#### Jason Engelberts, CFA

Research Lead, Data, Al and Intelligence

+5 years of experience in capital markets, data and investor intelligence

- Background: S&P Global, IHSMarkit
- Senior Consultant and Research Lead with focus on market and investor intelligence, capital markets & M&A advisory
- Data and platform expert, creating bespoke deliverables for client
- University of Stellenbosch

### **Advisory Council & Consultants**



#### **Cary Krosinsky** Sustainability, IR and Academia

- +30 years of sustainability, ESG and climate experience
- Background: Yale, Harvard, Trucost, UNGC, CapBridge, **Generation Investment Management**
- Leading lecturer, educator and adviser in the field of sustainability strategy and ESG integration
- Harvard and NYU Stern University



#### **Brendan Fitzpatrick CFA** Targeting, Data, Analytics

- , + 30 years in data and analytics, focus on targeting
- Background: Fitz, S&P Global, IHSMarkit, Ipreo
- Founder of Fitz and BuySidelQ
- Investor Targeting and Engagement Specialist
- NY University



### Dr. Markus Kaum Capital Markets Law

- +30 years experience in capital markets, law and IR
- Background: Munich RE, Siemens, Infineon, Pure, Mariacher Legal
- Supervisory board chair at Pure Holding
- University Munich



#### **Mark Wilson**

Investor Engagement, IR, Corporate Access

+30 years of experience in investor engagement, corporate access and IR

- Background: BNY Mellon, Taylor Rafferty, Thomson Reuters
- Senior investor relations and corporateadvisory expert with focus on investor engagement, market research and sentiment
- Roadshow Access, Meeting Preparation, Market Perception
- University of London

# **Local Expertise – Global Coverage**





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