FIRSTADVISERS

INVESTOR RELATIONS PROGRAMMES

Actively build relationships through structured engagement with the market.

Investor Relations doesn't happen by itself or arise as a by-product of other company activities. It needs to be programmed, actively managed and have objectives that are relevant and measurable.

What is best practice for an established top 100 company will not suit a newly listed small cap or a mid cap company seeking to increase its profile with institutional investors. But there are some IR benchmarks that all ASX-listed companies must meet regardless of size.

Design

A key outcome of a well designed IR programme is the improved effectiveness of senior management's time spent engaging with the market. CEOs of newly listed small cap companies spend at least 20-25% of their time (for CFOs up to 50%) on IR so companies incur significant costs undertaking this activity.

FIRST Advisers sets out a calendar of IR activities for the year which includes:

- Statutory reporting events
 - » Results
 - » AGM
 - » Annual report
- Marketing to analysts (buyside and sellside)
 - » Roadshows
 - » Investor days
- Market intelligence
 - » Monitoring share register
 - » Review of broker research
 - » Perception research

Execution

FIRST Advisers' proprietary contact management system, AccessIR[™], enables us to provide clients with:

- Comprehensive contact list of buyside and sellside analysts
- Record meeting notes and access profiles of investors
- Analysis of movements of institutional owners behind nominee holdings
- Investor targeting programme based on analysis of shareholdings in peer company registers and knowledge of institutional investment styles/biases

We develop presentations for investor briefings, edit newsletters, draft ASX announcements, provide copy for the annual report and manage all interactions with the market.

The IR and media support we provide senior executives ensures that maximum value is generated from time spent with investors.



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Measurement

IR performance measures must fit the company and be a mix of qualitative and quantitative factors. Some of the measures of success we monitor are:

- Meetings with 'buy side' and 'sell side' analysts and the number of opportunities to present at investor conferences
- Positive feedback in perception studies
- Increased sell side analyst coverage
- Financial media coverage
- Progress towards achieving a targeted shareholder mix on the register

In-sourcing IR Support – it works

We work in partnership with the senior executive team to provide the experience and resources required to execute their IR Programme.

A US study of 184 firms that hired IR consultants to develop an IR strategy reported significant increases in their disclosure, institutional ownership, analyst coverage, trading activity, press coverage and market valuation. (Bushee and Miller).

In a survey in December 2009 of buy side analysts in the US, 75% viewed IR as having a real impact on valuation, with 'good' IR lifting the median valuation by 10% and 'bad' IR discounting it by 25%. Subsequent surveys in Australia and Canada have duplicated these findings. There is therefore a real cost to companies choosing to under-invest in their IR capability.



Why FIRST Advisers?

For over the past two decades FIRST Advisers consultants have provided IR advice and support to more than 100 listed companies in Australia and New Zealand. This experience is backed by deep expertise in funds management, broking, investment banking and corporate affairs.

How to find out more

Contact Ben Rebbeck or Victoria Geddes on +61 2 8011 0350 or email us at info@firstadvisers.com.au

We'd be happy to discuss your company's particular needs and how an appropriately structured IR Programme can improve the effectiveness of your engagement with the market.

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Investor Relations Corporate Communications Transaction Communication Services Shareholder Solicitation Digital and Document Design Shareholder Analytics

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