# **ANZ IT & Management Consulting Quarterly Report**





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## **Introducing Equiteq**

Equited leverages deep Knowledge Economy expertise to advise in relation to corporate finance and strategic matters including equity value growth, mergers & acquisitions and capital raisings

#### We are an independent, global investment bank specialising in the Knowledge Economy

Our focus and deep experience in the Knowledge Economy sector provides our clients with the key insights into the markets, buyers, and industry trends needed to ensure the right transaction with an optimal outcome is achieved

	What we do
Sell-side Advisory	<ul> <li>Completed over 180 M&amp;A transactions in the Knowledge Economy</li> <li>Design sale and capital raising processes to optimise value and terms</li> <li>Negotiate and structure complex transactions</li> <li>Cross-border capabilities</li> </ul>
Strategic Advisory	<ul> <li>Evaluate all options to maximise shareholder value</li> <li>Advised 1,000 clients on equity growth</li> <li>Proprietary database of KPIs, industry benchmarks and best practices, built over 15 years of client engagements</li> </ul>
Buy-side Advisory	<ul><li>Identify and evaluate acquisition targets</li><li>M&amp;A execution and acquisition advice</li></ul>

What makes us different?								
Global Presence	<ul> <li>Over 70 professionals across 6 offices and 4 continents</li> <li>True global footprint with relationships with buyers and investors across the world</li> <li>Able to leverage existing relationships from global offices to help drive high quality outcomes</li> </ul>							
Sector Focus	<ul> <li>Sector specialists across the Knowledge Economy</li> <li>We are passionate about high growth, IP-driven companies</li> </ul>							
Market Intelligence	<ul> <li>Extensive global coverage – 2,500 buyers covered; over 1,000 buyer calls annually for our mandates and research</li> <li>Global buyside service provides insight into buyer strategies and valuation drivers</li> </ul>							

#### Global reach and coordination

Our coverage of North America, Europe and Asia Pacific means we can provide our clients with access to a global buyer and investor pool



#### Proven track record across the Knowledge Economy

We operate solely in the Knowledge Economy, providing in-depth, specialist expertise to a range of services and software businesses

#### **Knowledge Economy sectors**

We focus exclusively on companies that leverage intellectual property in the form of software, tech-enabled services, proprietary data/analytics, or methodologies delivered as a professional service



Technology services & outsourcing



Engineering consulting & services



Software & techenabled services



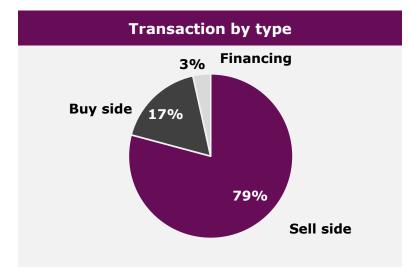
Marketing & information services

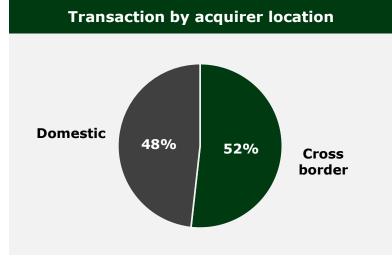


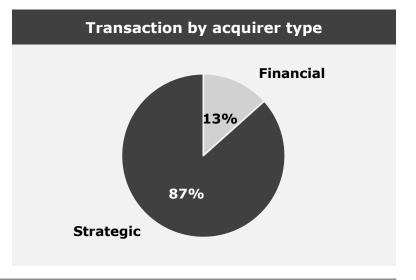
Management consulting



Human capital management







### Deals recently completed by Equiteq in ANZ

Below is a list of deals Equited has completed in the IT & Management Consulting sector in the past 6 months

#### **PROXIMITY**

Sold to



Close date: Feb-2025

**Client overview:** Government-focused consultancy providing management advisory, legal and commercial services

**Buyer overview:** US-headquartered government specialist focused on national security and defence sectors



"Equiteq was a **fantastic partner** for us, and have delivered an **exceptional result** for Proximity. We appreciate the **expertise and dedication** of the team. Their **strategic guidance**, **deep market insight**, and unwavering support were instrumental in achieving the outcome we did. We recommend the team highly"

- Sean King, Co-Founder and Director at Proximity



Sold to



Close date: Dec-2024

Client overview: Award-winning professional services partner of ServiceNow, Splunk, Atlassian and New Relic

**Buyer overview:** A leading Australian IT cloud and managed services provider



"I am thrilled at the outcome that Equiteq has delivered for JDS. Their thoughtful advice coupled with their diligent approach and teamwork helped secure a fantastic outcome. Equiteq were always available, responsive and easy to work with; I would highly recommend them"

- John Bearsley, Founder and MD at JDS

#### Aware

Sold to



Close date: Aug-2024

**Client overview:** Award-winning Microsoft Gold Partner providing data & AI services

**Buyer overview:** A leading, global Microsoft partner backed by Carlyle PE



"Equiteq were a **brilliant partner** for us. They took time to intimately understand our business, unique culture and the goals of our shareholders which directly influenced how we optimised the positioning of Aware to find our perfect buyer"

- Mike Jenkins, Chairman of Aware Group

## Most active M&A advisor in the Knowledge Economy worldwide

Since 2017 >60% of our transactions have been cross border and >20% with private equity

#### Selected Completed Transactions ——

Malk 🗪

ESG Advisory

Sold to

Advised on the sale

October 2024

Ø ARES











































ids<sup>.</sup>





















Advised on the sale

January 2024



Advised on the sale

January 2024

## Most active M&A advisor in the Knowledge Economy worldwide

Since 2017 >60% of our transactions have been cross border and >20% with private equity

#### **Selected Completed Transactions** —









































































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#### **Market snapshot**

Notable market themes and events

Most major stock indices ended the year on a quieter note but delivered impressive overall performance. Notably, the S&P 500 closed 2024 with gains surpassing 20%, achieving its first consecutive 20% increase since the 1990s

Markets have experienced volatility in recent weeks amid uncertainty over President Trump's economic policies. This is likely to continue to have an impact on market stability and performance

In 2024, ANZ received the largest deal inflows within the APAC region, re-affirming its position as an attractive region thanks to its stable regulatory framework and Australia's strategic position as a gateway to the APAC region

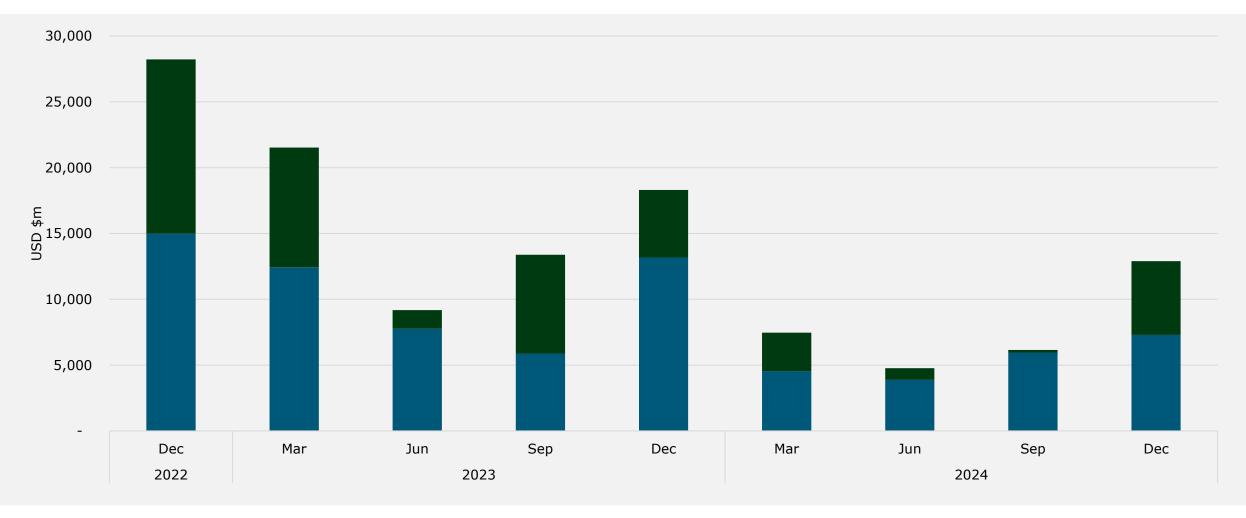
PE and PE-backed firms continued to drive M&A activity, particularly in technology and sustainability services. Investors were drawn to consultancies offering digital, cyber, data & analytics and ESG advisory, betting on the long-term growth in these areas

We are seeing a discernible shift towards strategic M&A deals rather than a focus on high transaction volumes. Companies are prioritising acquisitions that offer clear synergies and growth opportunities, aligning with long-term business objectives

The overhaul of merger laws in Australia could trigger a surge of deals in 2025 as dealmakers rush to get transactions across the line before the new Mandatory Notification Regime will come into effect from January 1, 2026. It is unclear how the new laws will affect B2B services

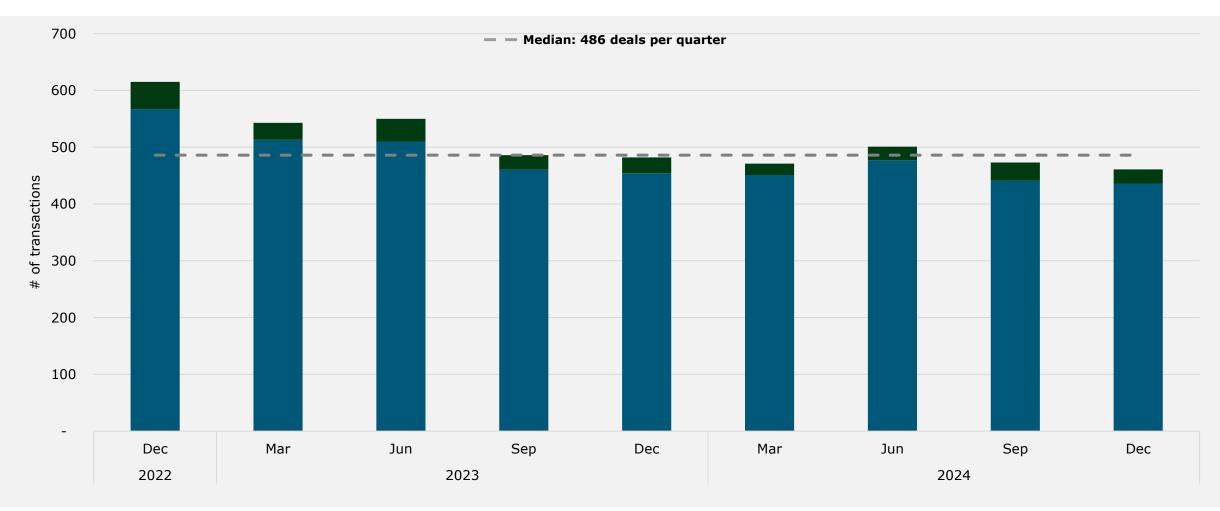
### Global IT & Management Consulting M&A deal value

In the fourth quarter of 2024, M&A deal values hit their peak for the year, driven by both strategic and financial buyers. This marked three consecutive quarters of growth heading into 2025



### Global IT & Management Consulting M&A deal volume

M&A activity has experienced a decline in volume year-on-year, yet deal values are holding steady, signalling a shift towards more substantial transactions within the market

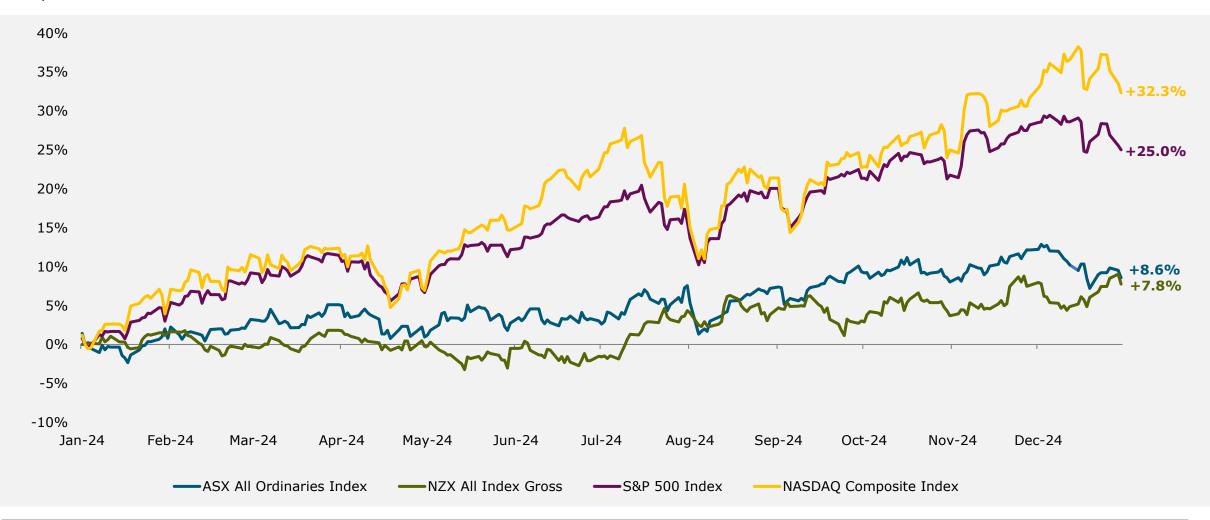


Financial Buyer

Strictly Confidential

#### **Market performance**

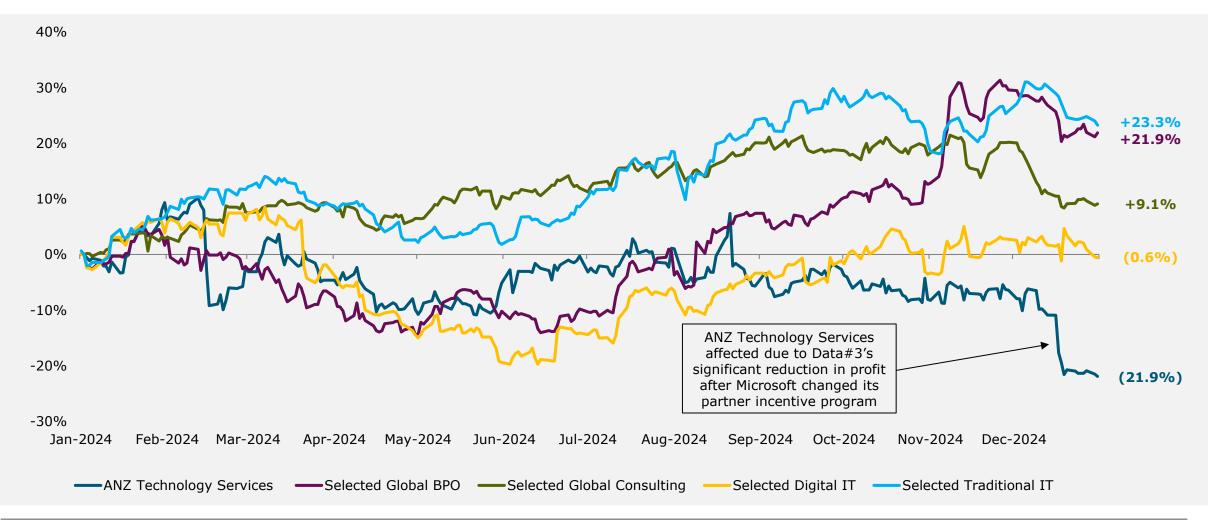
Most major stock indices delivered an impressive overall performance in 2024, however headwinds have surfaced in 2025 with President Trump's new policies



Source: S&P Capital IQ, cut-off date 31 December 2024
Calculation: indexed market capitalisation weighted performance

### IT & Management Consulting sector performance

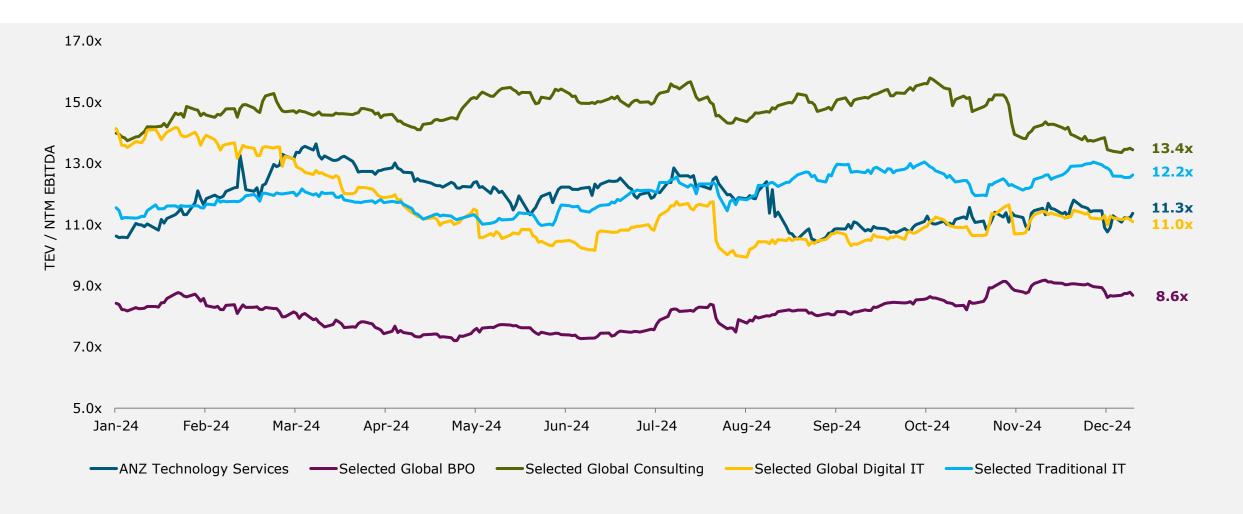
Most listed indices have performed strongly during 2024, with a more pronounced surge from Traditional IT and Global BPO sector due to companies reporting strong earnings



Equiteq

## IT & Management Consulting sector multiples

The valuation multiples have largely continued to remain stable across all sector indices



Date	Target	Acquirer	Cross border	EV (A\$m)	EV/Revenue	EV/EBITDA	Description
Dec-24	xarıgroup	FIRSTFOCUS	x	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Managed IT services consultancy
Dec-24	E3 Advisory	RICARDO	✓	101	n.a.	n.a.	Infrastructure advisory
Dec-24	CT GROUP EFFICIENCY THROUGH IT	<b>Evergreen</b>	x	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Managed IT services consultancy
Dec-24	EMM creating opportunities	QUADRANT PRIVATE EQUITY	x	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	ESG consultancy
Dec-24	edge impact.	RSK	x	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	ESG consultancy
Dec-24	<b>Com</b> <i>Activity</i>	atturra	x	15	n.a.	7.0x	Digital solutions provider in the manufacturing industry
Dec-24	Toustone Better data, smarter decisions.	COSOL	x	22	n.a.	5.7x	Data analytics consultancy
Dec-24	<i>jd</i> s∵̂	AC3	×	Confidential	Confidential	Confidential	Leading ServiceNow and Splunk partner
Dec-24	HINDS BLUNDEN	₽ RIMKUS	<b>√</b>	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Project Management consultancy
Dec-24	PLAN.B	atturra	<b>√</b>	22	n.a.	6.2x	Managed IT services consultancy
Nov-24	Chrome Consulting	atturra	×	8	n.a.	7.5x	SAP & OpenText consultancy
Nov-24	JGROUP CONSULTING	EY	x	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Cybersecurity consultancy specialised in Privileged Access Management
Nov-24	5.00	<b>₫</b> OneStep Group	x	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	IT Services consultancy
Nov-24	ProQuest	◆DECISION INC.	✓	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Salesforce consultancy

Date	Target	Acquirer	Cross border	EV (A\$m)	EV/Revenue	EV/EBITDA	Description
Nov-24	The APP Group	(1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1)	✓	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Project management consultancy
Oct-24	SECTION	FIRSTFOCUS	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	IT services and digital marketing consultancy
Oct-24	PACIFIC AEROSPACE	<b>∧</b> aurizn	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Defence technology and cybersecurity consultancy focused on the aerospace industry
Oct-24	BEVINGTON PARTNERS	Argon&Co*	✓	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Management consultancy
Oct-24	Optimum.consulting	FUSION5 Business Solutions	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Microsoft consultancy
Oct-24	<b>W</b> YSCOM	efex	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Managed IT services consultancy
Oct-24	TECHNOLOGY	FUJ¦FILM	✓	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	IT services consultancy for small to mid-sized businesses
Sep-24	Salinger Privacy	<b>HPX</b>	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Privacy and compliance services consultancy
Sep-24	CHARTER TECH	KPMG	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Finance and IT services consultancy
Sep-24	WORLDMARK corporess consularing	efex	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	IT services consultancy
Sep-24	SEQUANA	Pemba Capital Partners	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Project management advisory
Aug-24	<b>♦</b> STANNARDS	Pemba Capital Partners	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Finance and advisory services consultancy
Aug-24	forensic it	O Spirit	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Cyber incident response consultancy
Aug-24	M:B.	PROJECT SERVICES COMSULTANTS	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Project management advisory (merger)

Date	Target	Acquirer	Cross border	EV (A\$m)	EV/Revenue	EV/EBITDA	Description
Aug-24	Aware	Hso	✓	Confidential	Confidential	Confidential	Microsoft data & AI Gold partner consultancy
Aug-24	spectrum	Being.	×	6	n.a.	n.a.	Data infrastructure and cloud-based services
Aug-24	COMMARC CLOUD TECHNOLOGY SPECIALISTS	O Blue Berry Technology on your terms	x	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	IT services consultancy
Jul-24	<b>Winsited</b> Electrotech	WHITEOAK	x	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Defence focused consultancies acquired and merged
Jul-24	<b>≥</b> INTEGRATIONWORKS	FUSION5 Business Solutions	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	IT services consultancy
Jul-24	exent	atturra	×	8	n.a.	6.5x	Management consultancy
Jul-24	pwc PwC's Indigenous Consulting	Deloitte.	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Management consultancy
Jul-24	<pre>     efficientIA </pre>	Deloitte.	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Technology integration consultancy
Jul-24	Aish powerd by that	efex	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	IT support & cybersecurity consultancy
Jul-24	<b>√</b> N∪AGO	BRENNAN IT	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Managed services provider
Jun-24	ch∧monix exp⊗sé	Synechron	✓	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	IT services & data science consultancy
Jun-24	xAmplify	CSQ GRDUP	x	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	AI, automation and cyber solutions provider
Jun-24	D+I	Capgemini	✓	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Product development consultancy
Jun-24	networkdoctor	Corp.Centre	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Managed services provider

Date	Target	Acquirer	Cross border	EV (A\$m)	EV/Revenue	EV/EBITDA	Description
Jun-24	VIRTUAL IT	Riverside.	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Managed services provider
Jun-24	gocloud	FUSION5 Business Solutions	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Managed services provider
Jun-24	Project Eagle	Undisclosed	×	Confidential	Confidential	Confidential	Government focused digital consultancy
Jun-24	RGB Assurance	TSA Riley	×	Confidential	Confidential	Confidential	Project advisory focused on rail sector
Jun-24	ENERGET1°C5	<b>ERM</b>	✓	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Climate risk and energy transition consultancy
May-24	Partners in Performance	accenture	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Strategy consultancy
May-24	Î G D Creedata	Synechron	✓	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Cloud and data consultancy
Apr-24	STRATIVITY	U · S T	✓	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Strategy consultancy specialising in customer-centric transformations
Apr-24	Q1 <sub>GROUP</sub>	©S≡ISMA GROUP	×	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Cybersecurity solutions and services provider
Mar-24	NEXTGEN GR <sup>®</sup> UP	EXCLUSIVE NETWORKS	✓	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	IT services provider
Mar-24	ARADO	S AUCLOUD	×	8	n.a.	n.a.	Managed services provider
Mar-24	<b>VENN</b> IT solutions	<b>S</b> AUCLOUD	×	8	1.6x	20.0x	Managed services provider
Mar-24	PCG CYBER	S AUCLOUD	×	15	2.3x	12.5x	Cybersecurity solutions and services provider
Mar-24	entrered.	<b>Evergreen</b>	✓	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Managed services provider

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# Selected ANZ IT & Management Consulting M&A

Date	Target	Acquirer	Cross border	EV (A\$m)	EV/Revenue	EV/EBITDA	Description
Mar-24	BIGZERO  BIGMIDDLE	<b>ERM</b>	✓	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Cloud consultancy applied for ESG
Mar-24	5p	FINDEX	x	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Microsoft Gold partner consultancy
Feb-24	leonardo	U · S T	✓	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Process transformation consultancy
Feb-24	liquid	ollo	x	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Managed services provider
Feb-24	GLINTECH	valiantys	✓	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Atlassian Platinum Partner
Feb-24	Info <b>Trust</b>	O Spirit	x	39	n.a.	n.a.	Cybersecurity solutions and services provider
Feb-24	<b>z</b> enee	FIRSTFOCUS	x	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Managed services and IT solutions provider
Jan-24	<b>\sqrt</b> Lightfold	CLOUDWERX	x	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Data and AI consultancy
Jan-24	<b>⊽NEXT</b>	RAPID CIRCLE	✓	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Microsoft Azure cloud consultancy
Jan-24	Lancom: Technology	<b>Evergreen</b>	✓	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Managed services and IT solutions provider
Jan-24	<b>Think</b> Place	Synergy	x	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Strategic design consultancy
Jan-24	rennie	Pemba Capital Partners	x	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	ESG consultancy
				Mean	2.5x	9.3x	
				Median	2.5x	7.0x	



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## **Trading comparables**

The table below lists selected global digital IT and traditional IT players

Company	Enterprise Value '000	Market Cap '000 EV / I	Revenue LTM EV / R	Revenue NTM EV	/ EBITDA LTM EV /	EBITDA NTM	3 Yr. Revenue CAGR	3 Yr. Average Gross Margin	3 Yr. Average EBITDA Margir
Selected Digital IT									
Accenture plc	355,969	354,767	3.3x	3.2x	18.0x	16.4x	7.3%	32.3%	17.6%
Cognizant Technology Solutions Corporation	60,973	61,234	2.0x	1.8x	9.9x	10.3x	2.7%	35.2%	17.9%
EPAM Systems, Inc.	18,527	21,573	2.5x	2.3x	15.9x	13.0x	11.2%	31.8%	15.3%
Globant S.A.	15,462	15,207	4.1x	3.6x	24.0x	17.5x	27.0%	36.8%	16.3%
Endava plc	3,338	3,048	2.0x	2.0x	23.7x	13.4x	14.4%	30.1%	13.5%
Neurones S.A.	1,469	1,757	1.1x	1.1x	9.7x	8.9x	11.5%	46.6%	11.3%
CI&T Inc.	1,441	1,291	2.2x	2.1x	15.0x	11.0x	21.3%	34.2%	16.0%
NCC Group plc	1,078	931	1.6x	n.a.	14.5x	n.a.	n.a.	40.3%	10.5%
Aubay Société Anonyme	847	975	1.0x	0.9x	10.1x	8.7x	6.1%	11.8%	9.4%
	Median		2.0x	2.0x	15.0x	12.0x	11.3%	34.2%	15.3%
	Average		2.2x	2.1x	15.6x	12.4x	12.7%	33.2%	14.2%
Selected Traditional IT									
International Business Machines Corporation	403,962	329,130	4.0x	3.9x	18.8x	14.4x	13.7%	55.1%	16.8%
Tata Consultancy Services Limited	276,083	283,203	5.9x	5.5x	21.9x	20.1x	11.8%	41.2%	25.9%
Hitachi, Ltd.	190,576	184,601	2.0x	1.9x	13.4x	12.8x	(1.7%)	26.1%	12.6%
Infosys Limited	144,826	148,591	4.9x	4.6x	20.2x	18.8x	8.1%	29.9%	23.3%
HCL Technologies Limited	94,341	98,341	4.4x	4.1x	20.5x	18.5x	8.1%	36.1%	20.9%
NTT DATA Group Corporation	75,832	43,495	1.6x	1.6x	10.6x	10.0x	22.7%	26.8%	15.2%
Wipro Limited	54,101	60,067	3.2x	3.1x	16.6x	15.5x	8.3%	29.4%	18.3%
Fujitsu Limited	52,889	51,878	1.4x	1.4x	11.5x	10.2x	1.1%	31.0%	11.8%
Capgemini SE	50,848	44,056	1.4x	1.4x	9.4x	9.0x	9.4%	26.7%	13.3%
CGI Inc.	41,905	39,832	2.5x	2.4x	13.6x	12.0x	6.6%	30.8%	17.7%
Tech Mahindra Limited	28,329	29,037	2.9x	2.7x	26.0x	18.7x	8.9%	31.2%	12.3%
DXC Technology Company	11,838	5,834	0.6x	0.6x	4.1x	3.9x	(7.7%)	22.5%	10.9%
Sopra Steria Group SA	8,273	5,641	0.8x	0.8x	6.6x	6.8x	11.2%	14.3%	9.9%
Indra Sistemas, S.A.	5,140	4,994	0.6x	0.6x	6.6x	5.4x	12.8%	22.6%	8.5%
Zensar Technologies Limited	3,016	3,272	3.2x	2.9x	19.5x	17.9x	9.8%	20.2%	13.7%
Sword Group S.E.	588	565	1.2x	1.0x	10.6x	8.2x	14.5%	44.6%	10.3%
	Median		2.3x	2.1x	13.5x	12.4x	9.2%	29.6%	13.5%
	Average		2.5x	2.4x	14.4x	12.6x	8.6%	30.5%	15.1%

Note: Currency in AUD; Only companies with Enterprise Value ≥A\$100m included; As of 31 December 2024

Source: CapIQ

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## **Trading comparables**

The table below lists selected global consulting, BPO and ANZ technology services players

Company	Enterprise Value '000	Market Cap '000 EV	/ / Revenue LTM EV / F	Revenue NTM EV	/ / EBITDA LTM EV /	EBITDA NTM	3 Yr. Revenue CAGR	3 Yr. Average Gross Margin	3 Yr. Average EBITDA Margir
Selected Consulting									
Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.	189,793	168,593	4.9x	4.5x	15.3x	15.1x	7.8%	44.2%	28.6%
Booz Allen Hamilton Holding Corporation	31,383	26,468	1.7x	1.6x	13.5x	13.9x	12.7%	23.3%	11.0%
FTI Consulting, Inc.	10,695	10,909	1.8x	1.7x	12.4x	15.4x	11.0%	32.0%	11.8%
ICF International, Inc.	4,550	3,566	1.4x	1.3x	11.1x	11.7x	7.8%	36.1%	10.1%
Huron Consulting Group Inc.	4,025	3,271	1.7x	1.6x	14.1x	11.7x	18.9%	30.9%	11.6%
CRA International, Inc.	2,264	2,033	2.1x	2.1x	13.5x	17.6x	5.8%	29.9%	11.5%
Wavestone SA	1,820	1,706	1.2x	1.1x	8.4x	8.2x	25.3%	24.6%	15.5%
	Median		1.7x	1.6x	13.5x	13.9x	11.0%	30.9%	11.6%
	Average		2.1x	2.0x	12.6x	13.4x	12.7%	31.6%	14.3%
Selected BPO									
Genpact Limited	13,501	12,166	1.8x	1.7x	10.1x	8.5x	6.1%	35.2%	16.2%
ExlService Holdings, Inc.	11,649	11,488	4.1x	3.6x	23.0x	16.7x	18.1%	37.1%	16.9%
TTEC Holdings, Inc.	2,080	372	0.6x	0.6x	5.6x	6.4x	0.5%	24.3%	10.6%
Capita plc	1,191	467	0.2x	0.2x	4.8x	3.0x	(7.6%)	27.8%	10.3%
	Median		1.2x	1.1x	7.8x	7.5x	3.3%	31.5%	13.4%
	Average		1.7x	1.5x	10.8x	8.6x	4.3%	31.1%	13.5%
ANZ Technology Services									
Data#3 Limited	736	991	0.9x	0.2x	12.6x	11.4x	(25.6%)	5.4%	3.8%
Atturra Limited	362	396	1.5x	1.2x	19.0x	11.9x	35.3%	32.2%	7.7%
COSOL Limited	209	190	2.0x	1.7x	14.6x	10.7x	44.8%	24.0%	14.6%
	Median		1.5x	1.2x	14.6x	11.4x	35.3%	24.0%	7.7%
	Average		1.5x	1.0x	15.4x	11.3x	18.2%	20.5%	8.7%

Note: Currency in AUD; Only companies with Enterprise Value ≥A\$100m included; As of 31 December 2024

Source: CapIQ



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