

# **Energy Market Sentiment**

While Q3 2022 was marked by rising levels of inflation and increased global recession fears, the demand for energy equipment and services continued to strengthen. Industry trends and data remain positive – the rig count in Western Canada is trending well above pre-pandemic levels, increasing 49% quarter over quarter, as producers bank on continued strong market pricing.

WTI prices started the quarter off strong at \$107/bbl, but decreased to \$79/bbl at the end, reaching their lowest point since the beginning of the year. This slide, driven by signs of economic shakiness and U.S. SPR release, was the most rapid decline since the COVID-related crash of 2020. While analysts reduced their near-term oil price forecasts, many remain exceptionally bullish on pricing overall. Current expectations are that prices will climb significantly from current levels into 2023, as global markets remain tight in the face of a likely continued diminishment of Russian supply, a re-opening in China, support from OPEC+, and the cessation of SPR releases.

Post-quarter, the October 5th OPEC+ announcement of a 2 million bbl/d production cut successfully increased prices over \$90/bbl. This move heightened existing geopolitical tensions, as the Biden administration had been pushing Saudi Arabia to increase its supply to replace lost Russian barrels and improve gas prices in the face of inflation related political challenges domestically.

Overall, we expect the demand for oilfield equipment and services to continue to strengthen – the longer energy prices remain elevated, the more that Western political sentiment is likely to shift in support of further oil and gas development.



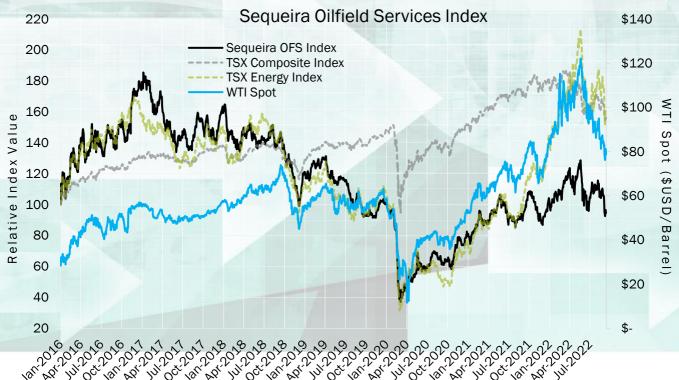


Source: Baker Hughes

## Market Overview

Sequeira's OFS index tracks publicly listed Canadian Oilfield Service company stock price performance. Investor sentiment for OFS companies represented by our index has traded mostly flat in the quarter, as compared to the TSX Energy index representing E&Ps which has increased 49% year over year. This confirms investors have greater confidence in producers to continue to churn significant cash flow under the current market conditions than they do in service companies to capture value through price increases. Despite the trend in the OFS index, we believe that oilfield services firms will soon reach a point where they will be able to meaningfully raise prices and capture additional value, as excess capacity continues to be absorbed by improving activity levels.

Current market trends for commodity demand and production indicate that pricing will gain momentum into the last quarter of 2022 and 2023, which we anticipate will result in producers and service providers sharing more equitably in the spoils.



Source: S&P Capital IQ



# **Energy Service and Industrial Transactions**

Q3 2022 has seen a multitude of events that have resulted in uncertainty in the global markets, including the OFS and industrial space in Canada. Multiple interest rate hikes of 1% and 0.75% in July and September respectively resulted in an increased hesitancy from some purchasers to pursue transactions until there is clearer line of sight on near-to-medium term borrowing rates. As a result of these uncertain market conditions, Q3 2022 saw a decline in overall transactions when compared to Q3 2021. Despite this uncertainty, corporations continue to capitalize on high demand and a lucrative commodity pricing environment to continue to generate significant cash flows, resulting in healthy balance sheets capable of executing on transactions.

In the oilfield services sector in particular, we anticipate that as operators continue to prove out investment hypotheses with strong operating results purchaser hesitancy will wane and a corresponding ramp up in M&A activity will follow.





This past quarter (Q3 2022) saw 81 disclosed transactions in the industrials and oilfield services sector with either a Canadian target or buyer. That represented an increase from the previous quarter (Q2 2022) which saw 73 transactions and a lower level as compared to the comparative quarter from the prior year (Q3 2021) which saw 119 transactions. Of the 81 transactions this quarter, 6% were in the oilfield services sector down from the 12% in Q2 2022, and 10% in Q3 2021. The supressed OFS M&A activity in the quarter is not entirely surprising given the uncertainty throughout the market as exemplified by the decrease in WTI of 24% over the quarter – when prices stabilize and uncertainty wanes, we expect activity to return.





# **Buyer Profile**

### Industrial & OFS Transactions By Buyer Location(1)

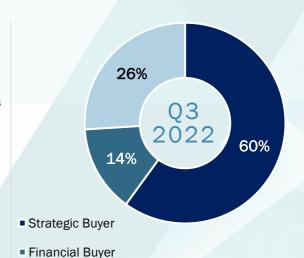
Buyer Location	Q3 2022 (Count)	Q3 2022 (%)	Q3 2021 (Count)	Q3 2021 (%)
Western Canada	19	24%	39	33%
Eastern Canada	39	48%	54	46%
USA	17	21%	21	18%
International	6	7%	4	3%
Total	81	100%	118	100%

Consistent with historical trends, domestic parties continue to represent the largest group of acquirers for Canadian-based businesses. However, US-based buyer activity has grown as a percentage of transactions in Q3 2022. This is a trend we've observed on recent engagements as the US dollar continues to hold global strength against the diminishing Canadian dollar, providing a pricing parity benefit for cross-border transactions.

### By Buyer Type(1)

Strategics continue to represent the largest group of buyers in the quarter, though their share has reduced amongst public market turmoil. While some Financial buyers are feeling the pressures of increased borrowing rates which reduces their capacity for leverage, those with ample access to cash are well-positioned and capitalizing on what has become a less competitive market – with a particular focus on addons for existing platforms.

Buyer Type	Q3 2022	Q3 2021
Strategic	60%	72%
Financial	14%	10%
Financial Backed Strategic	26%	18%



Financial Backed Strategic Buyer

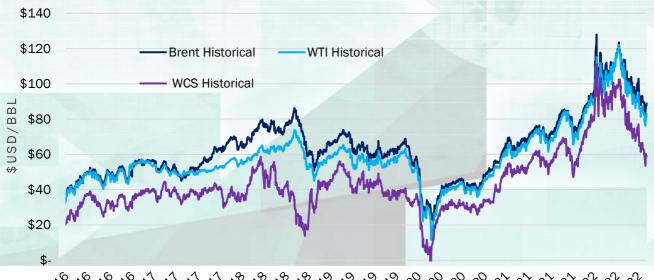


## Commodity Pricing and Analyst Forecasts

Q3 2022 began with WTI and WCS trading at \$107.27 and \$84.65 USD. The momentum from 2021 peaked in Q1 2022 but has faded as interest rates have soared and global demand has not been as robust as expected, with continued lockdowns in China. Additionally, the relative strength of the US dollar, which is at 20-year highs, has contained prices – foreign currency equivalent pricing would present a far less steep decline.

While demand shows signs of wavering as expectations of a recession grow, supply continues to tighten, leaving analysts to weigh the relative strengths of these market forces. The recent announcement of decreased OPEC+ production to come, coupled with a possible end to SPR releases, could provide a significant jolt to the supply side. Years of underinvestment in the sector continues to play a role in current dynamics – with Aramco CEO Amin Nasser warning that current investments are "too little, too late, and too short-term."

As a result, the outlook on the pricing environment is positive, with many analysts recognizing there is significant upside beyond current prices – Goldman Sachs sees crude averaging over \$100/bbl through Q4 and increasing further into 2023.



Source: S&P Capital IQ



## Commodity Pricing and Analyst Forecasts

AECO pricing has seen volatility throughout the quarter, stemming from tight capacity on shipments from Alberta and British Columbia to North American markets. However, through the choppiness, AECO and Henry Hub pricing has increased 52% and 25% year over year, respectively. The step change in pricing through the year is largely due to global economic factors – demand for LNG continues to persist, amplified by the instability and uncertainty throughout Europe with the reduction of shipments from Russia. Many nations are resorting to other means of energy to curve the rapid price increases, such as Germany restarting a previously mothballed coal-fired plant to keep up with power demands – however, these alternative means of production can only be extended so far, and more gas will be needed.

During a visit in August, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz stated that Germany is looking for Canada to play a major role in filling the shortfall of LNG as Europe moves away from reliance on Russian energy supplies. This outlook supports two east coast projects, including a proposed LNG Facility in Nova Scotia and modifying Repsol's import facility in New Brunswick to handle exports. These projects would provide positive momentum for Canada to join the ranks of other major players in supplying the growing demand of LNG worldwide – though it remains to be seen if Federal and Provincial Governments would be supportive.



Source: S&P Capital IQ



# Team Update



Sequeira Partners is pleased to announce Julie Afanasiff as Managing Partner effective August 1, 2022. This role supports Sequeira Partners' continued growth as one of Western Canada's largest and most active independent transaction and valuation advisors.

Congratulations Julie.



Sequeira Partners has continued to add depth and experience to the team with a new addition in the Edmonton office. Prior to joining the team, Neesha spent three years with a Big Four accounting firm in Edmonton, and holds a CPA designation.

Welcome to the team Neesha!

Neesha Chahal - Edmonton

## About Us

Sequeira Partners is Western Canada's leading sell-side transaction advisor to private and public industrial, energy services, business services, manufacturing and insurance businesses.

From our offices in Vancouver, Edmonton and Calgary, the team at Sequeira Partners has completed more than 200 mid-market transactions in Canada, the United States, and countries around the world. www.sequeirapartners.com.

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Company

Pason Systems Inc.

Median

Bri-Chem Corp.

Enerflex Ltd.

Mean

Median

PHX Energy Services Corp

Total Energy Services Inc.

**Production & Completion** 

CES Energy Solutions Corp.

Source Energy Services Ltd

Computer Modelling Group Ltd.

Oilfield & Facility Construction

Badger Infrastructure Solutions Ltd.

North American Construction Group Ltd

ClearStream Energy Services Inc.

Enterprise Group, Inc.

Calfrac Well Services Ltd

STEP Energy Services Ltd.

Transportation & Logistic

**Environmental & Geophysical** 

Secure Energy Services Inc.

Vertex Resource Group Ltd

Black Diamond Group Limited

Gibson Energy Inc.

Mullen Group Ltd

Pulse Seismic Inc

Camps & Catering

Civeo Corporation

Dexterra Group Inc

Mean - All Subsectors

Median - All Subsectors

Trican Well Service Ltd.

Shawcor Ltd

Mean

Mean

Median

Mean

Mean

Median

Median

Median

Wolverine Energy and Infrastructure Inc.

Precision Drilling Corporation

Western Energy Services Corp.

### Sequeira Oilfield Services Index - Sector Drilldown

Dividend

2.2%

5.3%

3.1%

2.4%

4.0%

1.5%

1%

2.3%

2.1%

1%

6.5%

5.4%

(%)

2.6%

0.4%

1.4%

6.6%

Market

Cap

1,168

1,181

384

328

103

14

689

404

802

25

(\$mm)

990

4

22

414

632

396

819

(\$mm)

3,314

1,238

(\$mm)

105

251

550

346

2,185

Share

Price

14 25

7.59

86.95

7.83

3.03

0.59

5.03

6.48

1.84

0.07

0.04

0.42

15.25

8.97

3.42

22.63

13.34

1.95

7.05

0.31

\$ 4.16

\$ 40.07

\$ 5.30

\$

\$ 2.69

\$ 28.73

Ś 7.00

\$ 5.54

Ś

Ticker

TSX-PSI

TSX:PD

TSX:TOT

TSX:WRG

TSX-RRY

TSX:CEU

TSX:CMG

TSX:EFX

TSX:SHLE

TSXV:WEII

TSX:BDG

TSX:CSM

TSX:NOA

TSX:SCL

TSX:CFW

TSX:STEP

TSX:TCW

TSX:GEI

TSX:MTL

TSX:PSD

TSX:SES

TSX:BDI

TSX:DXT

NYSE:CVEO

TSXV:VTX

TSX:E

TSX:PHX

As at October 25, 2022

2023E

6 0x

3.3x

4.1x

3.3x

3.8x

3.7x

3.6x

NM

4.4x

13.2x

2.3x

7.4x

6.3x

4.4x

(x)

6.4x

NM

3.6x

3.5x

3.6x

4.3x

3.6x

2.5x

2.9x

3 9x

3.1x

2.9x

(x)

9.5x

6.4x

7.9x

7.9x

(x)

7.7x

6.2x

3.6x

5.9x

6.2x

(x)

5.3x

6.7x

5.2x

5.7x

5.3x

Price/

Book

3 5x

2.6x

1.0x

0.7x

0.3x

1.1x

0.7x

0 7x

1.3x

8.6x

0.4x

0.2x

2.6x

1.0x

(x)

3.6x

NM

0.6x

1.5x

1.0x

1.7x

1.2x

0.9x

1.7x

1 7x

1.4x

1.7x

(x)

5.5x

1.3x

3.4x

3.4x

(x)

2.9x

1.8x

0.5x

1.8x

1.8x

(x)

1.0x

1.4x

1.2x

1.2x

1.2x

1.5x

Source: Capital IQ

Net Debt/

NM

0.4x

3.6x

3.1x

2.0x

2.0x

(x)

ND

2.1x

NM

1.1x

4.3x

8.7x

4.1x

3.2x

(x)

1.2x

ND

2.0x

1.6x

1.5x

(x)

2.0x

1.1x

NM

1.6x

1.6x

(x)

3.1x

2.3x

2.7x

2.7>

(x)

NM

2.1x

3.5x

2.8x

2.8x

(x)

2.4x

1.4x

2.1x

2.0x

2.1x

1.9x

2.0x

2022E EBITDA

Drilling & Equipment				(%)	(\$mm)	(\$mm)	(\$mm)	(\$mm)	(%)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)
AKITA Drilling Ltd.	TSX:AKT.A	\$	1.70	-	68	160	152	13	8.8%	11.9x	5.1x	3.6x	0.5x	2.9x
Cathedral Energy Services Ltd.	TSX:CET	\$	0.85		183	197	106	7	6.6%	28.4x	4.1x	2.2x	1.5x	0.2x
CWC Energy Services Corp.	TSXV:CWC	\$	0.24	-	123	173	174	33	19.0%	5.2x	NM	NM	0.7x	ND
Ensign Energy Services Inc.	TSX:ESI	\$	3.03	-	569	1,937	1,242	230	18.6%	8.4x	5.7x	4.2x	0.5x	3.9x
Essential Energy Services Ltd.	TSX:ESN	\$	0.37	-	51	59	135	3	2.1%	21.3x	4.0x	2.6x	0.4x	0.5x
High Arctic Energy Services Inc	TSX:HWO	\$	1.42	4.2%	69	63	97	5	5.4%	12.0x	NM	NM	0.5x	ND
McCov Global Inc.	TSX:MCB	Ś	0.99	-	28	28	41	5	11.5%	5.9x	NM	NM	0.7x	ND

**Enterprise** 

Value

983

421

460

224

47

1.205

388

1,053

278

103

(\$mm)

1,197

358

33

818

842

678

611

802

4,925

2,019

(\$mm)

3,359

439

870

499

99

2,329

Revenue

269

441

1,402

594

181

84

68

1.517

1,248

374

649

494

23

717

1,133

1,403

784

692

10,655

(\$mm)

23

7,317

345

954

862

1,939

ттм

93

40

250

105

44

149

27

128

13

(2)

78

5

6

171

83

149

101

113

449

264

(\$mm)

16

474

62

169

45

(\$mm.

**EBITDA** 

**EBITDA** 

Margin

34.7%

9.0%

17.8%

17.7%

24.1%

14.6%

14.6%

(%)

8.8%

9.8%

40.1%

10.3%

3.4%

NM

14.5%

14.5%

(%)

11.9%

1.0%

26.6%

23.9%

7.3%

14.1%

11.9%

10.6%

12.8%

16 3%

13.3%

12.8%

(%)

4.2%

8.9%

8.9%

(%)

66.2%

6.5%

9.1%

27.3%

9.1%

1%

18.0%

17.7%

5.2%

13.6%

17.7%

15.8%

13.2%

13.6%

10.5x

10.6x

9.3x

4.4x

5.1x

11.1x

9.9x

6.3x

8.1x

14.3x

8.2x

21.9x

11.8x

NM

8.2x

(x

15.4x

NM

5.4x

4.8x

9.0x

7.8x

4.5x

6.1x

7 1x

5.9x

6.1x

(x)

11.0x

7.6x

9.3x

9.3x

(x)

6.4x

7.1x

8.6x

7.4x

7.1x

(x

7.1x

5.1x

7.8x

7.1x

10.4x

8.2x

11.2x

10.1x

EV/EBITDA

2022E

7.0x

4.9x

6.9x

4.0x

5.7x

5.1x

NM

5.2x

12.5x

NN

6.8x

5.1x

(x)

8.9

NM

4.3x

3.9x

7.3x

6.1x

5.8>

3.4x

3.5x

5 1x

4.0x

3.5>

(x)

9.6x

6.0x

7.8>

(x)

6.5x

4.5x

8.8x

6.5x

6.0x

5.6x

6.9

6.0>

7.2x

15.4x