

# STREET JOURNAL seque

PARTNERS

Oilfield Services and Industrials Deep Dive

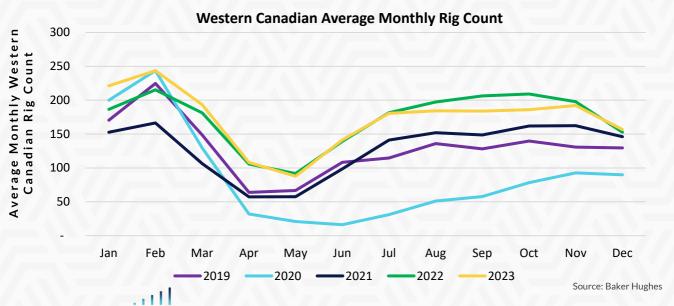


#### **Energy Market Overview**

During Q4, energy markets witnessed heightened volatility and overall declines in both oil and gas commodity prices. This period was marked by ongoing conflicts in the Middle East and organizational changes to the OPEC alliance. These geopolitical shifts coincided with an unseasonably warm winter which ushered in reduced demand for natural gas and strengthened storage levels with a corresponding impact on prices. Producers in Western Canada saw small increases in rig counts over the beginning of the quarter and subsequently retreated during the later stages of December consistent with historical trends.

The unseasonably warm temperatures and limited snowfall in November and December resulted in less-than-ideal conditions for ground freezing and a difficult operating environment for drilling activities. Such circumstances increase the likelihood of an expedited spring break-up, during which melting conditions lead to road bans and render the ground too soft for drilling operations. However, the extremely cold start to the new year offered hope of mitigating these issues, though the final impact on the drilling season remains to be seen.

While the quarter faced challenges that affected commodity prices, it concluded a year of remarkable activity in upstream transactions, the most robust since 2012, with an aggregate deal value of ~\$234 billion. Management teams successfully leveraged robust balance sheets and favorable commodity prices from earlier periods, strategically deploying cash reserves to expand operations and enhance scale. While the same has yet to be seen in the OFS space, our view is that the increase in upstream M&A should signal a more bullish outlook for the overall sector and should lead to a corresponding uptick in M&A activity amongst OFS companies as they look to diversify offerings, enter new markets, and acquire new technology to meet growing demands from their customers.

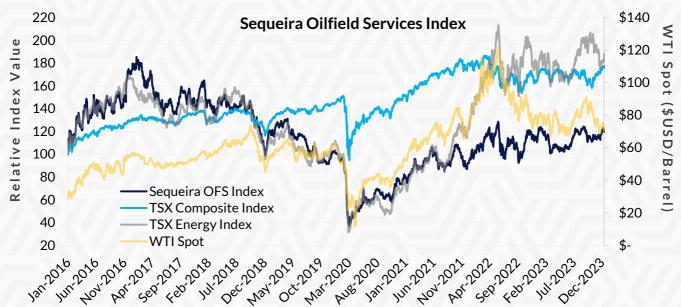


#### **Market Sentiment**

Sequeira's OFS Index monitors the stock price performance of publicly listed Canadian Oilfield Service (OFS) companies. Historically, the Sequeira OFS and TSX Energy Index traded in tandem up until the end of Q3 2021 when the TSX Energy Index gained significant momentum through to the end of 2022 due to greater investor confidence in the upstream sector versus OFS. For the full year 2023, the Sequeira Index experienced a year over year increase of 5.2%, while the Energy Index experienced a slight decline of 0.4%. For context, the Sequeira OFS and Energy Index were up by 23% and 48% in 2022, respectively. While there's still quite a bit of ground to be made up for the OFS Index to trade in tandem again to that of the Energy Index, on a quarter-over-quarter comparison for Q4 2023 the Sequeira OFS Index was up by 8.0% compared to a 7.8% decline in the Energy Index.

The market witnessed an uptick in strategic M&A activity as most of the majors sought to expand market share and take advantage of robust balance sheets. These transactions occurred on both sides of the 49th parallel and included notable deals such as Peyto's acquisition of Repsol Canada's Deep Basin holdings for \$638M and Crescent Point's \$2.5B acquisition of Hammerhead. Similarly, south of the border Chevron's \$60B deal to acquire Hess, Exxon's acquisition of Pioneer for \$65B, and, finally, Occidental's \$12B acquisition of CrownRock LP.

While OFS deals did not experience the same robustness as the E&P sector, the trends may transcend to major service players looking to follow a similar playbook of utilizing strengthened balance sheets to roll up and consolidate the OFS space.





### **Energy and Industrial Transactions**

M&A activity in 2023 was slow, and although upstream activity among producers picked up in the last half of the year, the OFS and Industrial sectors experienced modest activity, in line with global M&A trends. This came during a year characterized by escalating geopolitical tensions, rising inflation, and increasing interest rates. Despite limited activity, analysts see the end of the quarter as a turning point for M&A, with an optimistic outlook for the year ahead.

As inflation rates, and subsequently interest rates have begun to stabilize, credit markets and sources of capital are becoming more obtainable again, which we anticipate will lead to greater interest in M&A. With the Bank of Canada signaling to the market that its unlikely to increase its policy rate any further than the current 5%, we anticipate greater interest in M&A as debt servicing costs become easier to forecast. We've also seen an increase of private lenders that have grown in popularity over the year as the typical sources of capital paired back appetite. With more options and stability in the credit markets, we anticipate this will help spur M&A.





Q4 2023 saw 84 disclosed transactions in the industrial and oilfield services sectors involving either a Canadian target or buyer. This represents a decrease from the 104 transactions in the previous quarter (Q3 2023) and the 101 transactions in Q4 2022. Among the 84 transactions in the quarter, 5% were in the oilfield services sector, a decrease in comparison to the 8% in Q3 2023 and the 6% in Q4 2022.



#### **Buyer Profile**

### Industrial & OFS Transactions By Buyer Location<sup>(1)</sup>

Buyer Location	Q4 2023 (Count)	Q4 2023 (%)	Q4 2022 (Count)	Q4 2022 (%)
Western Canada	20	24%	32	21%
Eastern Canada	38	45%	49	51%
USA	18	21%	22	22%
International	8	10%	6	6%
Total	84	100%	101	100%

The buyer profile trends have remained consistent with domestic buyers representing the most active group of acquirers of Canadian based businesses. The engagement of US buyers closely mirrors the patterns observed in the prior year, while international buyer activity witnessed a small uptick in comparison.

By Buyer Type(1)

While strategic buyers continue to account for most transaction activity, there has been a marginal shift in the overall buyer dynamic. Despite heightened interest rates and borrowing costs, financial buyers were more prominent during the quarter. This is not surprising as private equity groups are incentivized to put capital to work, regardless of market conditions. We'd anticipate greater interest in transactions by strategics moving forward.

Buyer Type	Q4 2023	Q4 2022
Strategic	58%	67%
Financial	17%	11%
Financial Backed Strategic	25%	22%



Financial Buyer

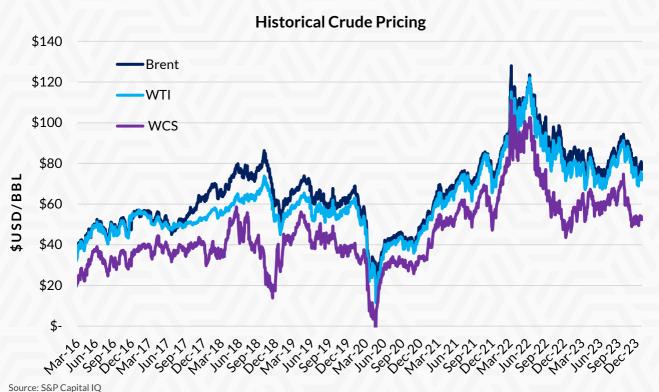


Financial Backed Strategic Buyer

# **Commodity Pricing and Analyst Forecasts**

The onset of Q4 saw WTI and Brent prices trading at \$87.17 and \$90.71 USD, respectively. During the first two months of the quarter, prices declined before stabilizing towards the end of the year, closing the quarter at \$71.84 USD and \$77.04 USD. This represents a material decrease from the strong pricing that was observed during the prior quarter in Q3 and stands in sharp contrast to the bullish forecasts which forecasted a return to \$100 per barrel by year-end.

These price decreases persisted despite upward pressure on pricing driven by announcements from OPEC+ committing to further production cuts scheduled for Q1 2024 and escalating geopolitical tensions in the Middle East. However, the impacts of these events were counteracted by resilient production data from the United States, which increased during the year despite reductions in rig count. In addition, the recent exit of Angola from OPEC raises concerns about the groups cohesion and ability to influence future pricing. As a result, there is skepticism among crude traders regarding the OPEC+ alliance's capacity to implement the supply cuts which they've committed to and are scheduled to take effect this month. Many members have already experienced considerable production reductions which are adversely impacting their associated revenue. How this plays out going forward will impact markets and volatility over the course of 2024.



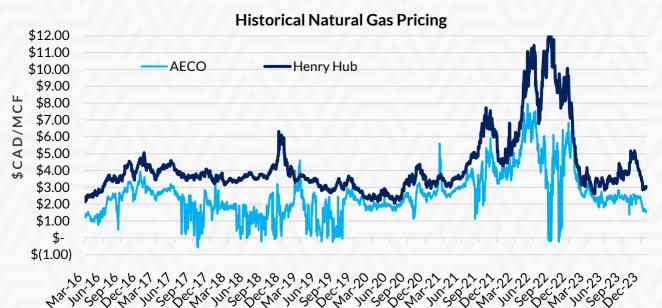


# **Commodity Pricing and Analyst Forecasts**

Volatility continued to be part of the story for Q4 natural gas prices, with both AECO and Henry Hub experiencing a relatively difficult 3-months. AECO opened the quarter at \$2.32, reached a peak of \$2.60, and ultimately closed the quarter at \$1.58. Henry Hub's opening price for the quarter was \$3.78, followed by a short spike above the \$5 mark before declining over the second half of the quarter to close at \$3.07. An unusually warm start to the winter season across North America has been the main factor contributing to the weak natural gas pricing environment. Recent cold spells in January across Canada and the Northern US has provided some optimism that prices could increase over Q1 2024.

The combination of warmer weather and increasing natural gas production across the US further contributed to the downward pressure on prices. Storage facilities in North America and Europe remained significantly above historical levels at the quarter's close. European storage facilities were 86.5% full compared to the 5-year average of 74%, while US facilities were 8.5% above their 5-year average. High storage levels are likely to put further downward pressure on natural gas prices, barring any unexpected events that significantly increase demand or deplete surplus supply.

While the short-term outlook for natural gas prices remains neutral, global demand has been on the rise. Over the next five years, there is a projected need for Canada and the US to produce an additional >15 bcf/d, reflecting the anticipated expansion of North America's LNG export capacity by >12.5 bcf/day. This expansion is attributed to the commencement of service for Canada and Mexico's first LNG export terminals, alongside the US's addition to its existing 11.4 bcf/d capacity.







Company

**Drilling & Equipment** 

Cathedral Energy Services Ltd.

High Arctic Energy Services Inc

Ensign Energy Services Inc.

PHX Energy Services Corp.

Total Energy Services Inc.

**Production & Completion** 

CES Energy Solutions Corp.

Source Energy Services Ltd.

Enterprise Group, Inc.

Calfrac Well Services Ltd.

STEP Energy Services Ltd

Transportation & Logistics

**Environmental & Geophysical** 

Black Diamond Group Limited

Secure Energy Services Inc. Vertex Resource Group Ltd

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

Computer Modelling Group Ltd.

Oilfield & Facility Construction

Badger Infrastructure Solutions Ltd.

Mattr Infrastructure Technologies

North American Construction Group Ltd.

**Precision Drilling Corporation** 

Western Energy Services Corp.

AKITA Drilling Ltd

McCov Global Inc.

Pason Systems Inc

Mean

Median

Bri-Chem Corp.

Enerflex Ltd.

Mean

Mean

Mean

Mean

Mean

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Median

Median

Median

Median

Median **Pressure Pumping** 

Median

As	at January 25	, 202	4
	Source:	Capita	HC

TTM

(x)

2.2x

4.2x

3.6x

4.3x

4.0x

5.9x

4 2x

4.0x

2.9x

4 7x

4.0x

4.1x

(x)

6.6x

4.8x

20.9x

6.8x

6.3x

9.1x

6.6x

(x)

11.7x

4.7x

5.0x

7.9x

7.3x

6.4x

(x)

2.2x

2.4x

3.6x

2.8x

2.4x

(x)

11.8x

6.4x

9.1x

9.1x

(x)

5.2x

7.3x

4 8x

5.8x

5.2x

(x)

8.0x

4.2x

6.7x

6.3x

6.7x

6.3x

4.9x

**EBITDA** 

Margin

(\$mm

60 25.4%

75 14.5%

472 25.8%

> 3 4.5%

11 16.5%

168 45.4%

115 17.7%

547 28.2%

160 18.0%

44

7 6.5%

291 13.4%

37 44.1%

326 10.6%

53 10.6%

(\$mm)

163 18.2%

12 36.0%

253 29.2%

151 11.3%

(\$mm)

(\$mm)

(\$mm)

(\$mm)

17 70.7%

547

37 15.2%

96 25.3%

136

82 7.4%

327 17.3%

189 18.9%

241 25.2%

519

338 16.9%

18.3%

21.4%

18.1%

1%

17.0%

10.6%

(%)

23.7%

23.7%

(%)

20.5%

18.9%

(%)

4.8%

10.9%

10.9%

(%)

6.9%

30.9%

15.2%

14.6%

15.8%

14.6%

20.8%

17.8%

(%)

(\$mm)

134

318

11

45

999

486

2,173

467

203

(\$mm.

46

1.399

2,208

(\$mm)

1,901

1,256

1,191

(\$mm)

735

455

875

(\$mm.

6,108

2,149

(\$mm)

90

4,009

(\$mm)

770

577

549

178

55

765

337

1,675

(\$mm)

238

518

59

68

370

649

890

238

106

83

2.173

3,070

(\$mm)

892

33

864

1,334

(\$mm)

1,891

1,002

(\$mm)

10,705

1,999

(\$mm)

25

7,929

(\$mm)

379

936

1,101

246

954

503

1,941

1,829

V/EBITDA

(x)

2.7x

3.5x

3.5x

NM

NM

5.8x

3 1x

3.5x

2.9x

4 4x

3.7x

3.5x

(x)

NM

4.6x

NM

4.4x

3.5x

4.2x

4.4x

(x)

9.0x

4.2x

4.2x

6.3x

5.9x

5.2x

(x)

2.2x

2.5x

3.6x

2.8x

2.5x

(x)

10.4x

6.5x

8.5x

8.5x

(x)

NM

6.9x

4.6x

5.7x

5.7x

(x)

7.1x

4.4x

4.9x

5.5x

4.9x

5.2x

4.4x

2023E 2024E

(x)

2.5x

2.5x

3.5x

NM

NM

5.2x

3 1x

3.5x

2.4x

4.1x

3.3x

3.3x

(x

NM

4.4x

17.9x

4.2x

3.2x

7.4x

4.3x

(x)

7.7x

4.1x

2.8x

7.4x

5.5x

5.7x

(x)

2 2x

2.1x

3.4x

2.5x

2.2x

(x)

9.2x

6 4x

7.8x

7.8x

(x)

NM

8.9x

4.5x

6.7x

6.7x

(x)

7.1x

5.0x

5.1x

5.7x

5.1x

5.4x

4.4x

Source: Capital IQ Price/ Book (x)

0.4x

1.1x

0.3x

0.5x

1.0x

2.8x

2 3x

0.8x

0.7x

0.3x

1.0x

0.8x

(x)

0.4x

1.5x

13.0x

0.6x

5.5x

4.2x

1.5x

(x)

4.8x

1.0x

2.5x

1.4x

2.4x

2.0x

(x)

0 7x

0.9x

1.8x

1.1x

0.9x

(x)

3.6x

1 4x

2.5x

2.5x

(x)

3.5x

2.6x

0 7x

2.3x

2.6x

(x)

1.9x

1.1x

1.3x

1.4x

1.3x

2.1x

1.4x

Net Debt/

(x)

1.5x

1.2x

2.6x

ND

ND

NM

0.3x

1.6x

0.5x

2.3x

1.4> 1.5>

(x)

ND

1.5x

NM

2.7x

2.4x

2.2>

2.4>

(x)

1.0x

1.2x

1.3x

0.7x

1.1x

1.1>

(x)

1.0x

0.6

NM

0.8

0.8

(x)

4.5x

2.4x

3.5>

3.5

(x)

ND

1.8x

3.5x

2.6>

2.6>

(x)

2.0x

1.1x

1.5x

1.5>

1.5>

1.6>

1.5>

2023E EBITDA

Sequeira	Oilfield	Services	Index -	Sector	Drillo

\$ 1.55

\$ 0.85

\$ 2.22

Ś 1.07

Ś 2.00

\$

\$ 9.40

\$

\$ 9.46

Ś

\$

\$ 4.03

Ś 9.55

\$ 7.01

Ś 7.88

\$

Ś 0.79

\$

\$

\$ 4.71

\$ 4.32

\$

\$ 1.90

\$ 10.38

Ś 0.39

\$ 8.93

\$ 29.20

\$ 5.99

21.33

\$ 15.26

46.79

31.81

15.95

4.95

14.72

82.24

2.75

0.33

TSX:AKT.A

TSX:CET

TSX:ESI

TSX:HWO

TSX:MCB

TSX:PSI

TSX:PHX

TSX:PD

TSX:TOT

TSX:WRG

TSX:BRY

TSX:CEU

TSX:CMG

TSX:EFX

TSX:SHLE

TSX:BDGI

TSX:NOA

TSX:MATR

TSX:CFW

TSX:STEP

TSX:TCW

TSX:GEI

TSX:MTL

TSX:PSD

TSX:SES

TSX:BDI

TSX:DXT

NYSE:CVEO

TSXV:VTX

TSX:E

equeira	Oilfield	Services	Index	– Se	ctor l	Drilld <sub>(</sub>	own
		Share	Dividend	Market	Enterprise		TTM

(%)

5.6%

2.0%

3.3%

8.5%

3.4%

(%)

2.5%

2.1%

1.4%

(%)

1.5%

1.3%

(%)

3.7%

(%)

7.3%

4.7%

(%)

2.9%

3.9%

(%)

1.3%

4.6%

5.8%

(\$mm)

62

205

407

53

54

1,172

445

378

93

9

950

775

869

107

(\$mm)

1,613

39

851

1,056

(\$mm)

424

340

903

(\$mm)

3,448

1,344

(\$mm)

100

45

2,973

(\$mm)

546

431

386

(\$mm)

1,187

Sequeira	Oilfield Servi	ces	Index	– Se	ctor [	Orilld <sub>(</sub>	own
		Share	Dividend	Market	Enterprise		TTM
	Ticker	Price	Yield	Cap	Value	Revenue	EBITDA

# **Sequeira Partners in the Community**

We take great pride in actively contributing to our communities through various initiatives. Below are some recent highlights.

#### Women & Entrepreneurship Event





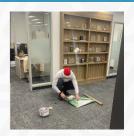
Sequeira Partners is committed to championing diversity and inclusion, exemplified by our annual Women & Entrepreneurship event hosted in Vancouver. This event serves as a platform for networking, and mentorship among female entrepreneurs and business leaders.

#### **Holiday Hampers**

In December, our teams engaged in wrapping, packing and delivering holiday hampers for local families in need. This is an annual tradition for our offices.







#### **Thrive Youth Development Canada**









We are proud to announce our recent sponsorship of Thrive Youth Development Canada, supporting the growth and empowerment of youth through arts. We packed and distributed art kits in our communities for at risk youth and look forward to continued involvement with this organization over the course of the year.



