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LP $2bn MYOB IPO biggest so far Four investment banks and a raft of other advisers, such as lawyers and accountants, will split a pool of fees worth as much as $41.1 **million** for the $2 **billion** float of accounting software **firm** MYOB in what is the largest initial public offering so far for 2015.

MYOB will list at between $3 and $4 per share with its market capitalisation at between $1.9bn to $2.26bn when it lists on May 4.

TD According to the prospectus, released yesterday, the four joint **lead** managers, which include Goldman Sachs , UBS , Bank of America Merrill Lynch and Citi, are entitled to a base fee of 1.9 per cent of the proceeds raised.

The **company** said it may elect to pay the joint **lead** managers an incentive fee of 0.85 per cent of the total offer proceeds “at its discretion”.

It would also reimburse the joint **lead** managers their costs. Other advisers on the deal include financial adviser Reunion Capital, law **firm** Clayton Utz, and PricewaterhouseCoopers , among others.

MYOB’s enterprise value will be between $2.34bn to $2.7bn.

The book build will be held on April 29 and 30 as vendor Bain Capital moves to raise between $831.7m to $833.8m.

The deal equates to between 14.5 times and 16.8 times MYOB’s earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation for its 2016 annual earnings or 24.9 times pro forma net profit after tax and amortisation for the fiscal year to June 2016.

US private **equity** giant Bain Capital is not selling any of its MYOB shares through the offer, and will continue to hold at least 56.75 per cent post-IPO.

Bain had acquired MYOB for about $1.2bn in 2011 from Australian private **equity firm** Archer Capital .

MYOB provides tax accounting and other services to small-to-medium businesses. It is the largest player in the Australian accounting software market for small and medium enterprises.

The Melbourne-based **company** is one of the largest providers of desktop and cloud business management software in Australia and New Zealand, employing over 1100 people and serving over 1.2 business customers.

Chinese bidder arrives As the first round of bidding for Morgan Stanley ’s $8.9 **billion** Investa Property Group nears a conclusion, a colossal **Chinese** life insurance **firm**, Ping An, has emerged as a serious contender for the real estate empire.

The insurer, **China** ’s second largest by market share, is widely viewed as one of the most aggressive suitors for Investa given its sheer scale and track record of snapping up iconic property assets.

In 2013 Ping An, which has total assets of over US$461 **billion** , bought the iconic Lloyd's of London building, marking its first offshore **purchase** , and followed that up with Tower Place in the capital.

The **company** is currently vying with Fosum, another **Chinese** behemoth, for a US$1.6 **billion** portfolio of buildings in the centre of Berlin as it seeks out relatively high-yielding blue-chip property assets. Ping An has previously stated it will consider teaming up with partners to explore opportunities, although it has no fixed **acquisition** strategy and it remains unclear how it will structure an offer for Investa, which is selling a $2.5bn portfolio of balance sheet assets, that include stakes in some of Australia's most recognisable skyscrapers, like Deutsche Bank Place, as well as a management platform.

As The Australian reported last month, over 40 contenders have so far filed through the data room, with several listed domestic groups, including, Charter Hall, GPT Group and Dexus squaring up against long list of international names such as the US real estate giant, CBRE, alternative asset manager, Blackstone, Canada's Brookfield, **Chinese** conglomerate Fosun and La Salle Investment Management.

However, one of the most acquisitive offshore investors, Canada's massive Pension Plan Investment Board, has opted to steer clear of the auction.

Morgan Stanley acquired Investa at the peak of the last credit cycle and called in UBS last year to help advise on the **sale** of the business — a move first revealed by this newspaper.

It is understood that Investa's advisers, along with its management team, will travel to Morgan Stanley 's head office in New York within the next two weeks to present a short-list of contenders.

Sources claimed Ping An may opt to submit a bid on its own and but the entire group outright, giving it control over the listed Investa Office Fund , along with its unlisted stablemate, ICPF, or strike a partnership deal with an Australian or Asian manager.

Alternatively Ping An may join a consortium and seek to take control of a handful of the assets from the balance sheet.

Chinese Life Insurers spent a combined $15 **billion** on offshore property last year after the government relaxed regulations limiting the sector from making international acquisitions in 2012.

The volume of purchases that have been made since then have led some to predict the mainland insurers will repeat the same large scale incursions made by the Japanese throughout the 1980s and 1990s.

Strong IPO conditions TouchCorp's strong start to its life as a listed **company** yesterday has reinforced the strength of the Australian sharemarket conditions for initial public offerings.

Shares in digital payments system **company** closed nearly 11 per cent higher on its ASX debut, underlining the strong investor demand for technology stocks.

TouchCorp shares rose as much as 16 per cent in intraday trade but settled at $1.55 by close, up 10.7 per cent from the issue price. Around 6.5 **million** shares, or nearly 6 per cent of the **company** 's **equity** , changed hands on the ASX on Tuesday.

The IPO raised $56 **million** through a combination of **sale** of existing shares and issue of new shares.

All shares were issued at $1.40 each, giving the **company** a market value of $162m on listing.

TouchCorp focuses on the retailing sector, with its Touch System software allowing retailers to sell third party products by connecting retailers with the third party service providers.

The deal comes as technology **company** Aeeris Limited , will debut on the ASX on Wednesday, after raising $3.5 **million** through an IPO. Aeeris, which operates a location-based weather and hazards early warning service, issued shares at 25c each.

Meanwhile, investors are expected to hoover up Quadrant's $26.3m **stake** in media monitoring business, iSentia tomorrow morning.Expectations are also building ahead of a possible second trade on the logistics and infrastructure outfit, Qube, where Carlyle Infrastructure Fund holds an 11.5 per cent **stake**.

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