**Overview on the AIM**

Alternative Investment Market (AIM) is the London Stock Exchange’s international market for smaller growing companies. A wide range of businesses including early stage, venture capital backed as well as more established companies join AIM seeking access to growth capital and liquidity of the London markets – the largest and deepest pool of international capital in the world. Since their launches in 1995, over 3,000 companies from across the globe have chosen to join AIM. Among these are companies from particularly high-growth areas such as technology, clean-tech and biotech. Flexibility is provided by less regulation and no requirements for capitalisation or number of shares issued. Many companies listed on AIM have made the transition to the Main Market. AIM enjoys a more favourable tax status than other markets which in turn encourages investment by private individuals. Every AIM company is supported, advised and monitored by its own Nominated Adviser (Nomad). Firms that wish to act as Nomads must undergo stringent checks before they can be authorised to become a London Stock Exchange-approved Nomad for AIM. These checks ensure the suitability both of Nomads and of the companies they assist to operate as part of AIM, bringing investors increased certainty and security.

**AIM is back in the business**

Alternative Investment Market is back in business, having just registered its most successful 10 months of trading since before the financial crisis.

In the first ten months of 2014, ninety five companies have joined AIM, raising £2369.0m on admission, an increase of 183.37% on the comparative period in 2013. Seventy seven (or 81.05%) of these companies of these companies raised money upon admission, with an average raised of £30.83m. Of the new admissions, 61 companies listed on the exchange first time by way of an IPO compare to 38 companies listed first time last year. That represents a dramatic recovery for Aim, which has been shrinking in size since 2007.

Total number of constituents on the AIM at the end of October was 1,096 – five more than were listed on AIM as at the end of October 2013. Of the 95 businesses that came to Aim during the 2014 calendar year, 46 companies have seen a positive share price performance since joining by 31st October 2014. The typical company is up by 5.57%.

The recent trend on AIM’s primary market is shifting away from the Oil & Gas and Mining Industry. New entrants that operated in the Mining and Oil & Gas sectors stood at 34% in 2012 that declined to 24% in 2013 and in 2014 it further declined to just 12.7% of the new constituents. The UK economy is strong, and continuing to strengthen, and there’s still a steady stream of private owners looking to exit their business. It’s also no coincidence consumer companies are dominating the picture as spending in the UK has picked up sharply.  Substantial size of fundraising is achieved in Consumer services and Industrials which are 33.7% of new entrant companies in 2014 compare to just 16.21% of constituents in 2013. Strong UK economic recovery is further evident with 63 (or 64%) of the new joiners have their central operations based in the UK compare to only 53% of the new joiners were based in the UK in 2013.

**Industry wise breakdown of AIM’s New Entrant 2014**

**Industry wise breakdown of money raised in 2014**

So which have been the best performing Aim IPOs in last 12 months ending 31st October 2014? Here are the 10 companies that have managed to at least give more than 50% return to investors’ money.

**Tiziana Life Sciences Plc** (up 271.33% by 31st October**)**

Tiziana Life Sciences Plc, is a U.K. developer of an experimental treatment for late-stage breast cancer. Tiziana is founded on research at the European Cancer Stem Cell Research Institute in Cardiff, Wales. Scientists there have identified the BCL3 gene as a drug target to halt the spread of metastatic breast cancer to other parts of the body, potentially preventing the disease from becoming life-threatening. A study in the mice showed that suppressing the BCL3 gene inhibited the development of metastatic tumours. Tiziana is doing a pre-clinical study on similar inhibitor compounds, scheduled for completion in 2014, expected to determine if there is a significant improvement in survival in targeted animal models with existing advanced metastatic disease. If successful, the subsequent selection of a clinical candidate will initiate the process of manufacturing scale-up and pre-clinical toxicology and could lead to an Investigational New Drug application being made in 2016.

**Audioboom PLC** (264.1%**)**

Audioboom is a digital audio platform “the audio equivalent of YouTube” with more than 3.0m registered users that allows professional and amateur content producers to create and broadcast original and exclusive, largely non-music audio content. Current channel partners include the BBC, Sky News, The Telegraph, The Guardian newspapers, and the Premier League*.* Its audience is growing fast; Audioboom said that its content was listened to 20.0m times across its network in August, up from 8.0m in the same month a year ago. Company has recently raised more than £8.0m from new and existing institutional and other shareholders to fund the growth of the business particularly to support the global roll out of the new Audioboom app in all formats

**4D Pharma PLC** (230%)

4D pharma is a pharmaceutical company focussing on developing a number of projects targeting important new therapeutic areas called live biotherapeutics. Live biotherapeutics are a new class of drugs, exploiting recent advances in understanding of how the bacteria naturally present in the body play a pivotal role in developing and regulating our immune system and other aspects of our health.

Investors are excited that two of 4D Pharma’s product Blautix, which is a treatment for irritable bowel syndrome , and Thetanix, which is for the treatment of Paediatric Crohn's Disease are now anticipated to enter clinical studies in Q2 2015.  The studies will primarily be concerned with evaluating the safety and tolerability of the two products.

**Trakm8 Holdings PLC (235.9%)**

Trakm8, the Machine to Machine telematics company using Big Data analytics to improve driver behaviour is a leading technology designer, developer and manufacturer of telematics products and solutions. Company has reported a good start to the current financial year and that the Group is on course to achieve expectations for the year. The value of new orders booked is 33% greater than the same period last year on a like for like basis. A full period contribution from BOX (which the Group did not own at the same stage last year) along with much higher levels of Trakm8 sales have resulted in revenues being considerably higher than last year with the corresponding benefit to profitability.

**Mosman Oil & Gas LTD** (96.88%)

Crude oil prices are down more than 20% this year, Investors are excited above Mosman an Australia and New Zealand focused oil exploration and Development Company after it made discoveries on its Petroleum Creek asset and through the proposed acquisition of Trident Energy, which brings three further oil and gas exploration assets into its portfolio in Australia.

**Applied Graphene Materials** (77.41%)  
Graphene is new material of the moment, with applications across a wide range of industries and according to BCC research it suggest a market for graphene products of US$195.0m by 2018, with growth at a compound annual rate of 47.1%, to reach US$1.3bn by 2023. Applied Graphene Materials has a number of patents allowing it to produce high-specification graphene. That has already won it business from a number of companies that work with the material.

**Premaitha Health PLC** (70.18%)

Premaitha Health, a molecular diagnostics company employing next generation DNA analysis technology to develop molecular diagnostic products. Company has reported it has made further progress in the development and preparations for commercialisation of its lead product - the IONA® non-invasive prenatal screening test. The company has received positive feedback on its quality systems and regulatory strategy, and the IONA® has performed well in verification studies. Company has presented the test at a number of international fetal medicine and medical genetic conferences in Europe, USA and Australia. There has been positive interest in the product from customers in the UK, Europe, Asia and Australasia from both private and publicly funded clinical laboratories.

**Nasstar PLC** (70%)

Nasstar plc is a provider of Hosted Desktop cloud computing, Nasstar said trading in the first half of the year of 2014 gives the Board confidence that its 2014 full year expectations for the Group will be met. Group is focusing on restructuring Nasstar UK, transforming the business from loss making to sustainable profit making with its first positive monthly EBITDA achieved in June 2014. Group has made good progress on integration of Nasstar UK Limited and e-know.net Limited (the business which it acquired in December 2013), with cost and revenue synergies being achieved.

**Bacanora Minerals LTD** (61.36%)

An increase in Electric vehicles production and continuous demand for hybrid electric vehicles and plug-in hybrid vehicles supported by Tesla building a Gigafactory- wold’s largest lithium-ion battery factory is driving strong demand for the Lithium.

Bacanora Minerals Ltd an explorer and developer aim to extract and process industrial minerals more efficiently in Mexico with a primary focus on Borates and Llithium. The Company currently has two exciting prospects: a Lithium project in the Sierra Madre Occidental and a Colemanite Borate project centred at the town of Magdalena de Kino.

**Secure Income REIT PLC** (57.47%)

Secure Income REIT Plc is a UK REIT (Real Estate Investment Trust) specialising in generating long term, inflation protected, secure income from real estate investments.  The Company owns a freehold portfolio of 28 well established, key operating real estate assets independently valued at circa.£1.46bn as at 30 April 2014, reflecting a yield of 6.1% after completion of the 2014 rent reviews in July.

98% of the Group's rental income is guaranteed by financially strong, substantial global businesses with Merlin Entertainments plc and Ramsay Health Care Limited each accounting for 49%. All leases have annual upwards only rental uplifts throughout the lease term.  The weighted average unexpired lease term of the Portfolio is 25 years, very significantly in excess of the average in the UK market today of less than six years.