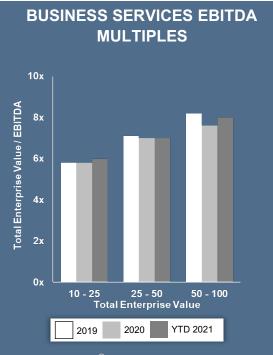
BALMORAL

BALMORAL BULLETIN WINTER 2022 HVAC Services



Source – GF Data[®] (November 2021)

Preliminary value of a company is often measured as a multiple of EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization). The graphic, above, shows the stable or increasing nature of these multiples. Note that he multiples are higher for larger companies.

The data includes transactions from a broad combination of business services subsectors. Based on our experience, multiples for HVAC companies are often higher than this combined data



INVESTORS' AVAILABLE FUNDS

Market Forces Drive HVAC Company Value

Chemicals &

Materials

Food &

Beverage

Industrials

Plastics &

Packaging

6

Business

Services

Building

Products

It's the first question an HVAC contractor thinks about when considering selling their business: "What is my company worth?". Generally, a company's price depends on its size and performance, timing in the marketplace, a buyer's appetite and a seller's willingness to sell. The price varies over time depending on these and other factors.

Tim Gerhardt, former owner of Allpoints, a commercial HVAC service company, describes his experience selling his company. "I began to get solicitations back in the early 2000s. Then, about 15 years ago, the calls stopped." Remember that, around that time, the U.S. was deep into the Great Recession.

Tim said "About 3 years ago, the calls began again. The value I was offered was higher and the deal structures better than offers from before. I sold my business in 2020" (*Disclosure: Balmoral participated in that sale as an advisor*).

At that time, financial investors (for example, private equity funds) were amassing large funds to make purchases, and HVAC companies were attractive because of their steady cash flows. The same remains true today. The graph below illustrates this increase, and these funds now have over \$800 billion to invest. This phenomenon plays a role in driving values higher.

Note that many financial investors already own HVAC companies and are growing their business through acquisitions. This is creating large HVAC service providers with resources and scale to quickly dominate any marketplace.

Why would an HVAC company owner want to sell? In some cases, owners are ready to retire from the business having experienced multiple economic downturns, not to mention a pandemic. Others are finding it hard to compete with larger companies and their deep resources. Still, owners are concerned about potential tax law changes that could take a bite out of sale proceeds. All want to take advantage of good prices still being offered to sellers.

For the time being, buyers remain interested in building their HVAC businesses, and sellers may need to act while the environment is still favorable. Company size and performance are critical to the value, in tandem with the market forces,

Balmoral Advisors is a specialized investment bank focused on advising owners on selling their companies. HVAC is one of our strengths. Contact me to discuss your specific situation.

> Brooks Crankshaw, Managing Director <u>BCrankshaw@BalmoralAdvisors.com</u>

2021 INDICATIVE DEAL ACTIVITY BUYER COMPANY CLASSIFICATION DATE Service Champions **Odyssey Investment Partners** Residential Jan 4 Jan 5 C.E. Holt Refrigeration CoolSys Commercial Canyon State Air-Conditioning & HomeServe USA Residential Jan 12 Heating Schuldt Mechanical Services Mar 3 **Reedy Industries** Res/Comm Commercial Mar 31 **Duquette Refrigeration** CoolSys Mar 31 Sierra Air Service Champions **Res/Comm** Zone Mechanical Wind Point Advisors Commercial Apr 8 Standard Plumbing and Heating May 17 Commercial **Reedy Industries** Company Sila Heating & Air Conditioning May 26 Morgan Stanley Private Equity Residential HELP Plumbing, Heating, Residential July 19 Service Champions Cooling and Drains Page Mechanical Group Commercial **Reedy Industries** Aug 31 Hiden Harbor Capital Partners **Res/Comm** Sep 8 Air Conditioning Specialist Timo's Air Conditioning & Sep 13 Service Champions Residential Heating **Chiller Systems Service** Sep 14 The Arcticom Group Commercial Nov 10 C L Weaver CoolSys Commercial Nov 11 **Bel-Aire Mechanical Therma Holdings** Commercial Nov 30 Service Mechanical Industries Commercial Service Logic Dec 2 Air Reps LLC Daikin North America Commercial Dec 3 **Entek Corporation** Midway Mechanical Services Res/Comm Air Conditioning Innovative Atlantic Street Capital Dec 22 Commercial Solutions Management

BALMORA

Call Balmoral Advisors for a deeper discussion of the issues surrounding the sale of an HVACR company.

Brooks Crankshaw	Tim Gerhardt	Karen Croyle	Max Rothstein
Managing Director	Senior Advisor	Director	Analyst
(312) 872-4742 (o)	(630) 816-1852 (m)	(217) 621-3431 (m)	(440) 665-0887 (m)
bcrankshaw@balmoraladvisors.com	tgerhardt@balmoraladvisors.com	kcroyle@balmoraladvisors.com	mrothstein@balmoraladvisors.com

Balmoral Advisors | 100 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 850, Chicago, IL 60606 | (312) 766-9890 | <u>www.balmoraladvisors.com</u> *Securities offered through Bridge Capital Securities, Inc. Member FINRA/SIPC.