

26 May 2021

# DUG Technology Limited Services

**Rating**  
**BUY**  
unchanged

**Price Target**  
**A\$1.76↓**  
from A\$1.88

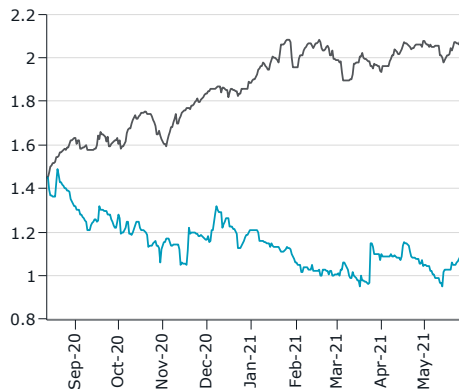
**DUG-ASX**

**Price**  
**A\$1.10**

## Market Data

52-Week Range (A\$) :	0.95 - 1.49
Avg Daily Vol (M) :	0.2
Market Cap (A\$M) :	109.4
Shares Out. (M) :	99.5
Dividend /Shr (A\$) :	0.00
Dividend Yield (%) :	0.0
Enterprise Value (A\$M) :	120

FYE Jun	2020A	2021E	2022E	2023E
Sales (US\$M)	49.4	42.5↓	53.0↓	64.8↓
Previous	-	50.6	58.0	69.3
EBITDA (US\$M)	9.2	0.1↓	11.1↓	15.2↓
Previous	-	7.2	12.5	18.3
EBIT (US\$M)	(0.0)	(8.1)↓	1.3↓	4.5↓
Previous	-	(1.0)	2.3	7.7
EV/EBITDA (x)	12.3	768.5	9.0	6.7
EV/EBIT (x)	0.0	(11.8)	74.2	22.4
Net Debt (Cash) (US\$M)	28	11↑	14↑	16↑
Previous	-	7	8	13



Source: FactSet

Priced as of close of business 26 May 2021

Canaccord Genuity (Australia) Limited has received a fee as Lead Manager to the DUG Technology Limited Initial Public Offering announced on 6 July 2020.

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## New 'green compute' carbon-free HPC data centre and trading update

### Investment Recommendation

Over the past week, DUG has signed CSIRO as a customer, been granted a US patent, announced a new facility and provided a trading update. Pertinently, the company has firmed up plans to build a high-performance-computing (HPC) data centre in Geraldton (Western Australia), powered by wind, solar and potentially a hydrogen battery solution. This is a logical and timely development with a strategically placed facility (adjacent to the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) radioastronomy project and renewable energy sources), in our view, with a low upfront capital commitment (A \$5.0m) and, importantly, we believe it positions DUG to better service Australian private and public HPC sectors over the long term.

Heightened attention around the carbon energy impost of cryptocurrency mining is a timely reminder, in our view, that energy-efficient systems and green credentials will play an increasingly important role in HPC and data centres more generally going forward. Clear evidence of this is provided by ICRAR (the Australian arm of SKA), which has clear ambitions to reduce emissions relating to its HPC ([here](#)).

In its trading update, DUG noted that trading in the four months to April 2021 has been below the pcg (US\$11.8m versus US\$13.8m). Increasing tender activity and a 10% increase in new work proposals (US\$45.9m) in the Services division (four months to April 2021 relative to 2019) provides a clearer view to the near-term outlook, in our view. We have adjusted our forecasts and refer to our recent [report](#), which provides context on the improving Oil & Gas end market conditions.

**Whilst the trading update is disappointing, HPCaaS and Software revenues have continued to grow. Validation around DUG's offerings and use cases domestically is building on the back of recent agreements with research-intensive organisations (e.g. CSIRO, Curtin University, Harry Perkins Medical Institute). We reiterate our positive view and retain our BUY recommendation and lower our DCF-based price target to \$1.76 (from \$1.88).**

**Green compute is becoming more front of mind.** Corporations globally are demonstrating increasing awareness and willingness to reduce carbon emissions (KPMG). The impost of electricity usage by cryptocurrency mining (~0.5% of global electricity consumption, Cambridge Bitcoin Electricity Consumption Index) was recently highlighted by Elon Musk. Separately, ~1.0% of global emissions emanates from data centre IT load ([energyinnovation.org](#)).

**Initially self-funding, with compute to be brought on as demand requires.** The Geraldton project can be funded internally at the outset with a \$5.0m initial capex envelope. Construction is scheduled to begin in 3Q CY21 with the Stage 1 data hall being commissioned in 1H CY22. Compute will be added 'just-in-time'. Planned compute capacity of 200 petaflops (6MW of power) for Stage 1 data hall compares to DUG's current group capacity of 30 petaflops.

**DUG has experience in building and operating large facilities.** In 2019, DUG undertook a similar build in Houston - a time-lapse video ([here](#)) provides context of the facilities scale. As with the proposed Geraldton site, compute can be added just-in-time.

**Use-case validation building.** We believe the recent agreement with CSIRO, encompassing access to DUG's compute, storage and services over the coming two years, provides further validation that the company has an important role to play in servicing Australia's research-intensive organisations.

Figure 1: DUG Technology (DUG-ASX); Canaccord Genuity forecasts

DUG Technology (DUG)		Share Price (A\$)		\$1.10	Share Price (US\$)	\$0.86	Year end 30 June		
Profit & Loss (US\$m)	2020A	2021E	2022E	2023E	Valuation Ratios	2020A	2021E	2022E	2023E
Sales revenue	49.4	42.5	53.0	64.8	EV/EBITDA (x)	nmf	768.5	9.0	6.7
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>49.4</b>	<b>42.8</b>	<b>53.0</b>	<b>64.8</b>	EV/EBIT (x)	nmf	-11.8	74.2	22.4
<b>EBITDA</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>15.2</b>	EPS (US\$) (NPAT)	-0.21	-0.12	0.00	0.02
Depreciation	-9.1	-8.1	-9.5	-10.5	P/E (x) (NPAT)	nmf	-7.3	-269.7	39.6
<b>EBITA</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-7.9</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>4.7</b>	EV/EBITDA Rel - XAO		73.9	0.9	0.7
Amortisation	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	EV/EBITDA Rel - XSO		63.0	0.8	0.6
<b>EBIT</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-8.1</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>4.5</b>	DPS (US\$)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net interest	-6.8	-1.6	-1.7	-1.7	Dividend yield (%)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	CFPS (US\$)	0.07	0.02	0.10	0.13
<b>Pre-tax profit</b>	<b>-6.8</b>	<b>-9.8</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>2.9</b>	Price / CFPS (x)	12.5	39.8	8.6	6.4
Tax expense	-1.4	0.0	0.0	-0.7	<b>Profitability Ratios</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>
<b>NPAT (attributable)</b>	<b>-8.2</b>	<b>-9.8</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>2.2</b>	EBITDA margin (%)	18.6%	0.3%	20.9%	23.4%
<b>NPAT (reported)</b>	<b>-13.0</b>	<b>-11.7</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>2.2</b>	EBIT margin (%)	0.0%	-19.1%	2.5%	7.0%
<b>Cash Flow (US\$m)</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>	ROE (%)	-162.6%	-94.8%	-1.5%	10.0%
<b>Operating EBITDA</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>15.2</b>	ROA (%)	0.0%	-12.1%	1.9%	6.4%
Interest and tax	-3.1	-1.6	-1.7	-2.4	ROIC (%)	-32.3%	-26.2%	-0.7%	4.7%
Working capital/other	-1.8	3.7	0.5	0.5	<b>Capital Structure</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>
<b>Operating cashflow</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>13.3</b>	Enterprise value (US\$m)	88.7	96.1	99.7	101.5
Capex	-3.2	-11.4	-12.0	-13.7	Net Debt (cash) (US\$m)	28.0	10.8	14.3	16.2
<b>Free cashflow</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>-9.2</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	Net debt / equity (%)	742.9%	51.8%	69.8%	71.3%
Acquisitions	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	Net debt / EBITDA (x)	3.0	86.2	1.3	1.1
Equity issued	0.0	28.7	0.0	0.0	NTA / share (US\$)	0.06	0.21	0.20	0.22
Borrowings	10.4	-15.4	0.0	0.0	Price / NTA (x)	17.5	4.2	4.2	3.8
Other	0.0	-1.4	0.0	0.0	Shares on issue (m)	62.6	99.5	99.5	99.5
<b>Net cashflow</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>Growth Ratios</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>
Opening cash	2.0	12.0	13.8	10.2	Sales revenue (%)	-5.2%	-13.9%	24.7%	22.2%
<b>Closing cash</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>8.4</b>	Gross profit (%)	-5.3%	-13.5%	24.0%	22.2%
<b>Balance Sheet (US\$m)</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>	EBITDA (%)	-6.4%	-98.6%	8763.1%	37.0%
Cash	12.0	13.8	10.2	8.4	EBIT (%)	nmf	nmf	-116.5%	237.4%
Receivables	7.8	7.6	8.7	10.7	NPATA (%)	nmf	nmf	-96.8%	-781.0%
Inventories	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	EPS (NPATA) (%)	nmf	nmf	-96.8%	-781.0%
PPE	22.8	25.9	28.1	31.2	DPS (%)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Intangibles	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	<b>Interim P&amp;L (US\$m)</b>	<b>1H20A</b>	<b>2H20A</b>	<b>1H21A</b>	<b>2H21E</b>
Other assets	21.8	21.8	21.8	21.8	Sales revenue	26.8	22.6	24.2	18.4
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>64.7</b>	<b>69.4</b>	<b>69.2</b>	<b>72.3</b>	Gross profit	26.8	22.6	24.4	18.4
Borrowings	40.1	24.6	24.6	24.6	<b>EBITDA</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>-2.3</b>
Payables	3.0	5.0	5.2	6.1	EBIT	0.3	-0.3	-1.3	-6.8
Other liabilities	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.9	Pre-tax profit	-1.0	-10.6	-3.9	-7.8
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>61.0</b>	<b>47.5</b>	<b>47.6</b>	<b>48.6</b>	<b>NPAT (reported)</b>	<b>-2.5</b>	<b>-10.5</b>	<b>-4.5</b>	<b>-7.2</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>21.9</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>23.8</b>	EPS (US\$) (NPAT)	-0.04	-0.17	-0.04	-0.07
<b>Board of Directors</b>					DPS (US\$)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Wayne Martin				Chairman	<b>Valuation</b>				
Matt Lamont				Founder & Managing Director	<b>DCF</b>				
Phil Schwan				CTO	Cost of equity	12.0%	Beta		1.5
Louise Bower				Director	Cost of debt	5.5%	WACC post tax		10.4%
Frank Sciarone				Independent NED	Terminal growth rate	2.5%	<b>DCF (A\$/share)</b>		<b>\$1.76</b>
Michael Malone				Independent NED					
Mark Puzey				Independent NED	<b>Capitalisation of future earnings</b>			<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>
<b>Shareholders</b>	<b>Shares</b>			<b>%</b>	EBITDA (US\$m)			11.1	15.2
Matt Lamont	23.8			23.9%	EV/ EBITDA multiple			10.0	10.0
Perennial Value	13.8			13.9%	<b>Enterprise value (US\$m)</b>			<b>110.9</b>	<b>151.9</b>
Phil Schwan	7.2			7.3%	Net cash/ (debt) (US\$m)			-14.3	-16.2
Regal Funds	5.9			5.9%	Equity value (US\$m)			96.5	135.8
TIGA	5.1			5.1%	<b>Equity value (A\$/share)</b>			<b>\$1.24</b>	<b>\$1.75</b>
<b>Top 20 shareholders</b>	<b>70.6</b>			<b>71.0%</b>					

Source: Company reports, Canaccord Genuity estimates

## Trading update

We have updated our forecasts on the back of the trading update.

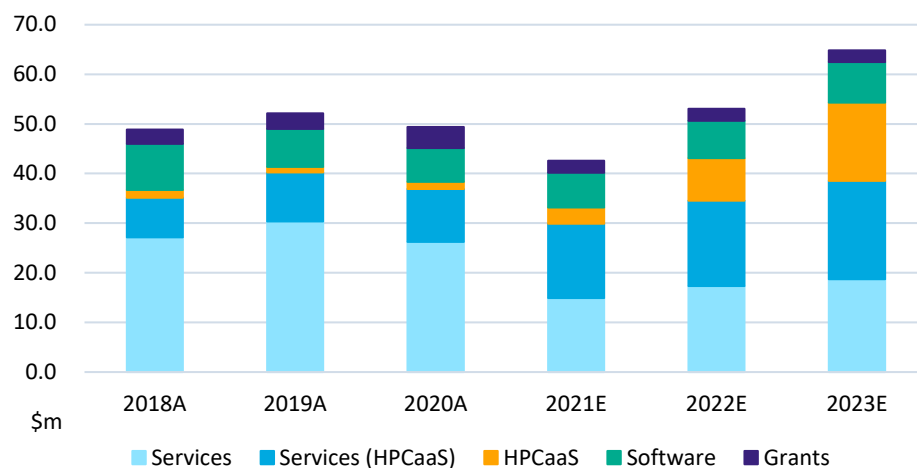
- A more challenging 2H21E than we expected has led to a recalibration of our near-term forecasts. With a broadly fixed cost base, we now expect an EBITDA loss in 2H21E.
- To incorporate lower baseline revenue moving into FY22E, we have pulled back our Services revenue expectation with the net result being -8.5% group revenue.
- Our FY22E revenue (US\$53.0m) is positioned 6% higher than three-year average group revenue achieved in FY18-20 (US\$50.1m). This assumes continuing growth in HPCaaS and Software with a recovery in Services revenue, but not to levels achieved in FY18-20 (see Figure 3).
- DUG noted improved tender activity and increasing project awards. In the four months to April 2021, the company has written US\$45.9m in new work proposals, 10% higher than the same period in 2019.
- The A\$5.0m upfront capital required for the Geraldton HPC facility has been incorporated into our forecasts.

Figure 2: Forecast changes

US\$m	Old	2021E New	Change	Old	2022E New	Change
Revenue	50.6	42.5	-15.9%	58.0	53.0	-8.5%
Growth		-13.9%			24.1%	
Costs	-43.4	-42.4	-2.2%	-45.5	-42.0	-7.8%
EBITDA	7.2	0.1	-98.3%	12.5	11.1	-11.3%
Growth		nmf			nmf	
Margin	14.2%	0.3%		21.6%	20.9%	
NPATA	-2.7	-9.8	nmf	0.5	-0.3	nmf
Growth		nmf			nmf	
Net Debt	7.4	10.8		8.1	14.3	

Source: Canaccord Genuity estimates

Figure 3: Divisional revenue



Source: Company Reports, Canaccord Genuity estimates

## Announcement of HPC data centre in Geraldton

DUG has announced its intention to build a carbon-free, HPC data centre in Geraldton, Western Australia. Key points include:

- The site will be powered by renewable energy and will utilise DUG's patented immersion-cooling system.
- The project has support of the Yamatji Nation peoples, who will assume ownership of the land later this year.
- DUG expects construction to begin in 3Q CY21 with the Stage 1 data hall due to be commission in 1H CY22.
- Upfront capital committed to the project is \$5.0m, with compute to be added in a 'just-in-time' manner beyond the initial build.
- Initial compute capacity of 200 petaflops (6MW of power) with optionality to expand to beyond 1,000 petaflops, as demand dictates.

Stakeholder engagement has been front of mind for this development. The HPC campus will sit on 45 hectares of leased land, that will ultimately be owned by the Yamatji Nation Trust. DUG expects support and ongoing engagement with the local community to lead to employment opportunities being made available over time.

The goal for the campus is to be completely powered by renewables through a mix of locally sourced solar and wind power as well as the potential for an onsite hydrogen battery system. The latter is under investigation with consideration for how it may be funded.

In its recent MoU partnership announcement with Curtin University, DUG discussed the prospects of research into green innovation and radio astronomy. Today's announcement firms up this narrative. Curtin University has expertise in renewable energy and additionally has deep expertise in astronomy, including access to the SKA project (DUG 15 April 2021 announcement).

The facility will be built to meet the Federal Government's requirements for handling sensitive information and will be connected to the nearby Mid West TAFE, which has an AARNET large fibre connection to Perth (i.e. a low latency connection).

## Green compute narrative is building...

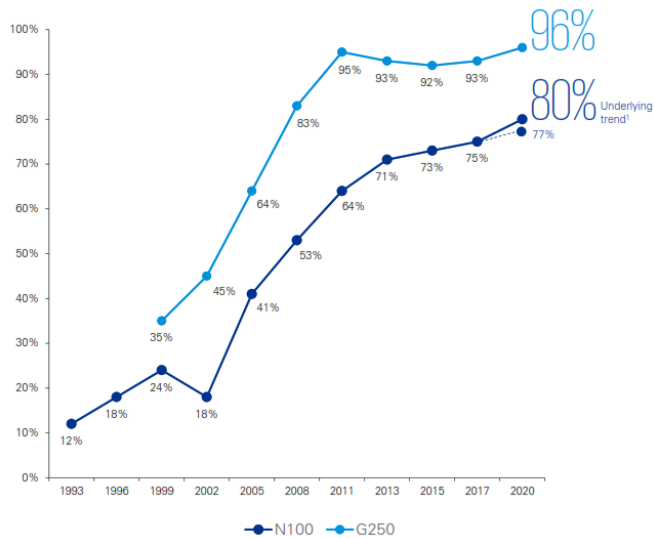
Data centres account for ~1% of global energy consumption (energyinnovation.org), with cryptocurrency mining accounting for an additional ~0.5% (Cambridge Bitcoin Electricity Consumption Index).

Green computing, processing data in an environmentally sustainable manner, has become more front of mind in recent periods. This was most recently highlighted by Elon Musk's consternation of bitcoin's energy usage. He has subsequently encouraged the use of green energy for bitcoin mining purposes (businessinsider).

A trade-off exists between energy costs, public brand perception and lower emissions. When considering HPC applications, installation costs, altered performance and maintenance requirements are likely front of mind, in our view. These are areas of both strengths DUG currently offers through its products and services as well as problems that the company seeks to solve for end users through its energy efficient systems. For example, the company's systems have a Power Usage Effectiveness of 1.05x, a 46% power cost saving relative to a traditional air-cooled data centre (Uptime Institute, 2019).

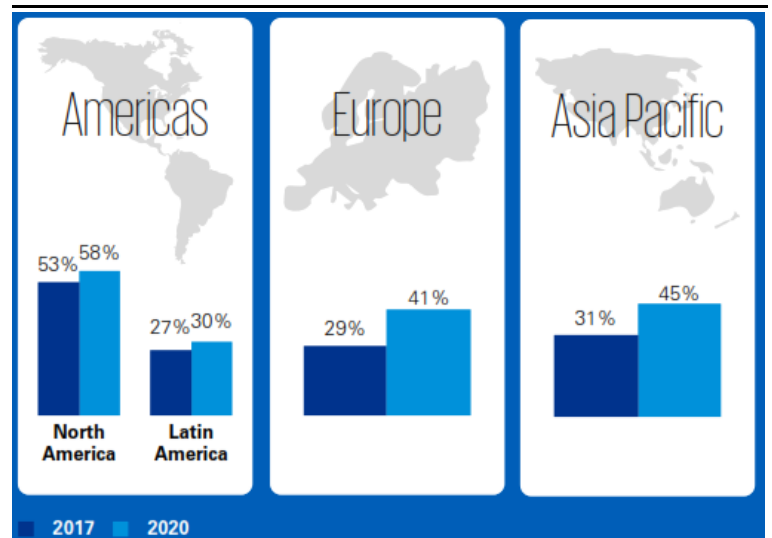
A survey undertaken by KPMG exploring sustainability reporting in 2020 provides some useful insights into sustainability and climate reporting.

**Figure 4: Growth in global sustainability reporting rates (base 5,200 N100\* companies and 250 G250 companies)**



Source: KPMG Survey of Sustainability Reporting 2020  
\*N100 = top 100 companies headquartered in 52 selected countries

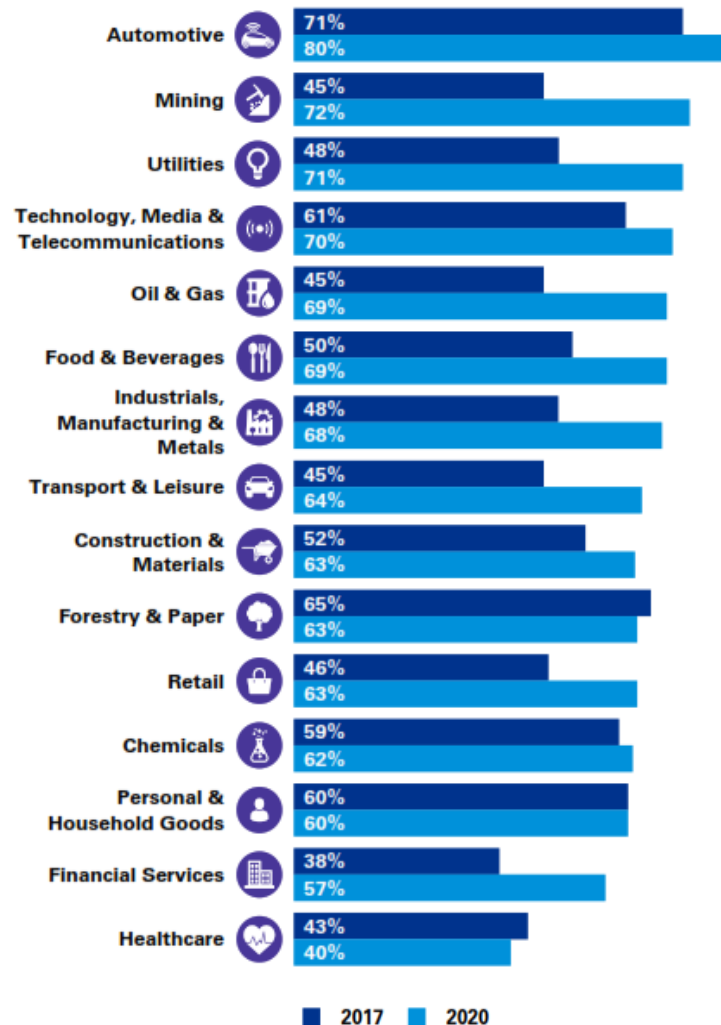
**Figure 5: Acknowledgement of climate risk in financial reporting: N100 by region (selected regions)**



Source: KPMG Survey of Sustainability Reporting 2020

When considering carbon reduction targets, a notable change has been evidenced since 2017. At a sector level, standout mentions relevant to DUG include Oil & Gas (a significant increase in companies disclosing carbon reduction targets) and Healthcare (the lowest reading for companies disclosing carbon reduction targets).

**Figure 6: Companies disclosing carbon reduction targets in their reporting: N100 by sector (base 3,983 N100 companies that report on sustainability)**



Source: KPMG Survey of Sustainability Reporting 2020

## ...as is 'big compute'

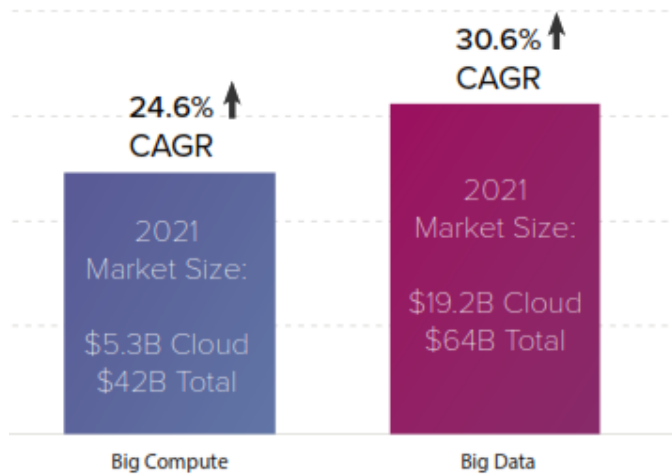
Big compute is the use of HPC hardware and specialised software at scale with the aim to achieve breakthroughs in science, engineering and business. The approach enables scientists to test hypotheses, for example future weather patterns or how stars form.

Big data on the other hand starts with a high volume of observed data points with the goal of finding representative models.

Both require modern IT architectures with big compute more akin to HPC use cases.

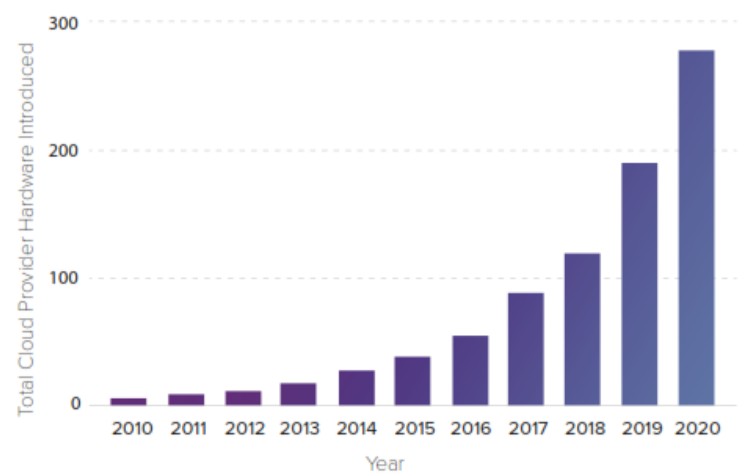


**Figure 7: Growth of big compute versus big data in 2021; both are growing very strongly**



Source: Marketandmarkets, Hyperion Research

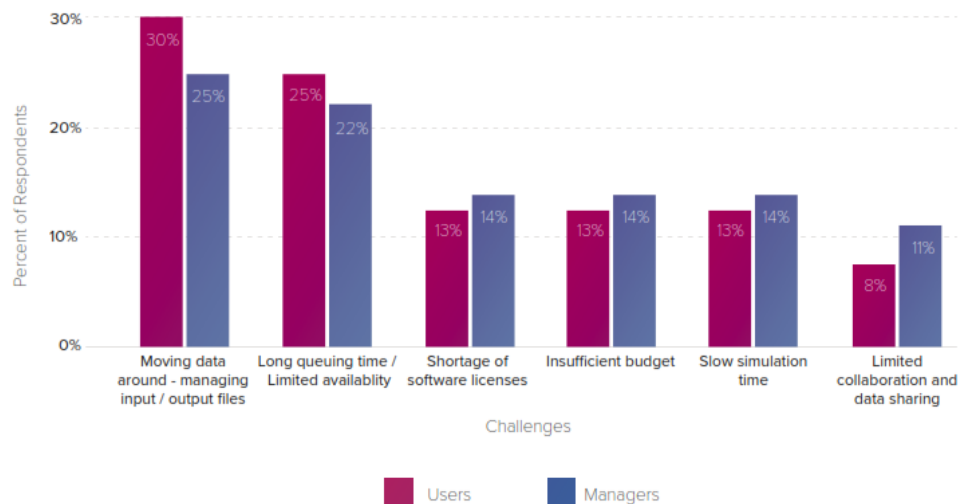
**Figure 8: Cloud provider hardware options available; New architectures and enterprise adoption growth is accelerating**



Source: Rescale Cloud HPC Platform Analytics

The top two current pain points for HPC users, according to a recent survey are data management and long queue times or limited availability.

**Figure 9: What are the top challenges to maintaining an optimal HPC environment?**



Source: 2020 HPC Practitioner Survey

## DUG's use-case validation in Australia is building as well

We are encouraged by DUG's recent progress in signing research-intensive client both within Australia (CSIRO, Curtin University and Harry Perkins Medical Institute) and abroad (Imperial College London, a top 10 global university).

Notably since our last report, CSIRO has agreed to use DUG McCloud compute, storage and services under a formal agreement. DUG expects headline revenue to be \$700,000 for HPC and storage and \$555,000 for services over the coming two years.

The high-profile signing provides strong validation, in our view, and we suspect this could lead to more meaningful discussions with other parties both locally and offshore. Progress in diversifying DUG's revenue streams is becoming more evident.

The CSIRO announcement follows shortly after the signing of Curtin University to collaborate in high-performance computing (HPC), education and research.

- A decade-long partnership where DUG will provide HPC, storage and archiving capabilities as well as DUG Insight (processing and visualisation software) and related support activities.
- Specific areas of research interest include astrophysics, biomedicine, and meteorology.

Examples of past interactions DUG has had with Curtin include:

- Co-development of algorithms that can detect and monitor space junk and satellites in the Earth's orbit; and
- In 1H CY20 DUG processed 450 hours of data from the Murchison Widefield Array, a precursor to the Square Kilometre Array radio telescope. DUG worked with ICRAR (the Australian arm of the SKA) and Curtin researcher Associate Professor Cathryn Trott to optimise the code and ensure efficient use of the compute. The optimised algorithm delivered the processed data 125x faster than those achieved at Pawsey (a government supported HPC facility). More detail can be found [here](#).

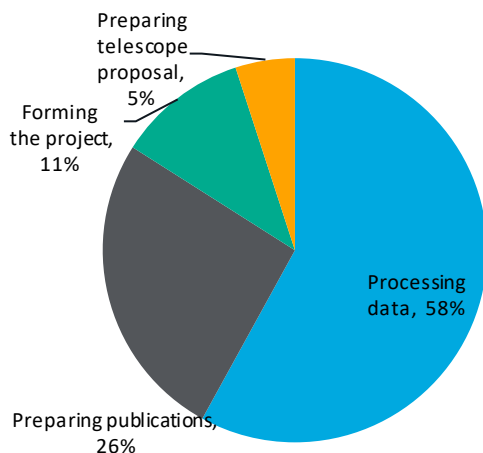
### Separately, we believe there is meaningful scope for DUG to conduct HPC work within the radio astronomy market into the medium term

Whilst in early stages of the project build, the Australian arm of the SKA radioastronomy project will require compute capacity in excess of 100 petaflops for the baseline workload ([skatelescope.org](#)) with the South African arm requiring an equivalent compute load. Further information on the SKA project can be found in our prior research ([here](#)).

We understand that additional workloads are likely to come from astronomers looking to process chosen data sets for their research projects. As is the case today, astronomers crunch data sets from other telescopes to conduct their data sets.

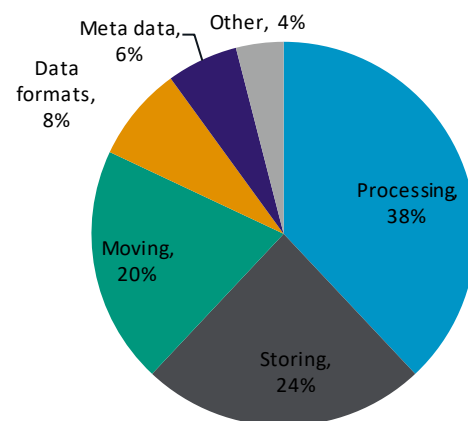
A survey of the radio astronomy data user community in Australia by the Australian SKA Regional Centre provided some interesting insights into current pain points for the community. Notably, processing data is the most challenging stage in observational projects and processing, storing and moving data are significant pain points when working with radio astronomy data.

**Figure 10: What is the most challenging stage in observational projects?**



Source: Australian SKA Regional Centre

**Figure 11: What are the biggest issues you encounter when working with radio data?**



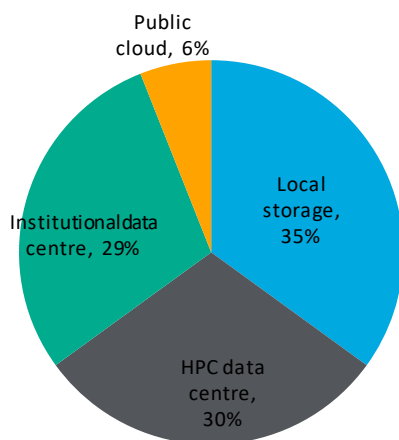
Source: Australian SKA Regional Centre



Additionally, the biggest issues encountered using astronomy software and tools included:

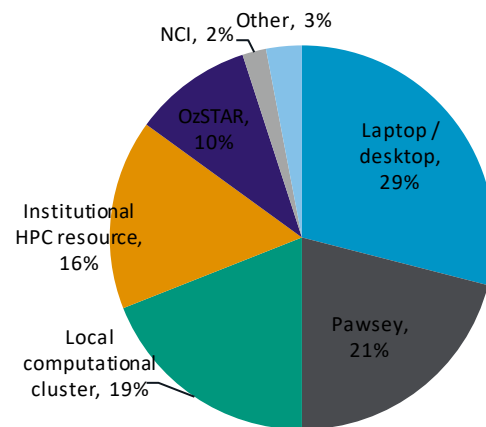
- Software is poorly supported and maintained (21% of respondent's concerns)
- Software is poorly documented and there is a lack of use case examples (18%)
- Software is poorly written (11%)
- Lack of flexibility and support for certain use cases which often results in bespoke software creation (9%)
- Support for large datasets (9%)
- Lack of support for different platforms (7%)
- Data format capability (7%)
- Concern that the current software packages will not be capable of supporting the next generation of telescopes (5%)
- Other (13%)

**Figure 12: Where is your data stored?**



Source: Australian SKA Regional Centre

**Figure 13: Where do you process your data?**



Source: Australian SKA Regional Centre

Importantly, there looks to be meaningful scope for DUG to service the radio astronomy community needs from both a data storage and processing perspective.

As detailed above, a substantial proportion of storage is either held locally or in institutional data centres and a significant proportion of data processing is still conducted on laptop/desktop or local computational machines

### Other research-intensive use cases are broad based

In its Annual Report 2019-20, Pawsey (a government funded HPC facility) confirmed that requests were 1.8x the hours available.

- The top four users were Curtin University, Monash University, University of Melbourne and UNSW.
- Global users and collaborators totalled 390.
- Of the workload, 36% was for chemistry and material science, 21% was for radio astronomy and 18% was for engineering and fluid mechanics.
- FY20 revenue totalled \$15.8m and largely came from the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy Grant (40%) and the WA Government (28%).

Pawsey provided 10 use case examples, which can be found on pages 24-43 ([here](#)). In brief, these include:

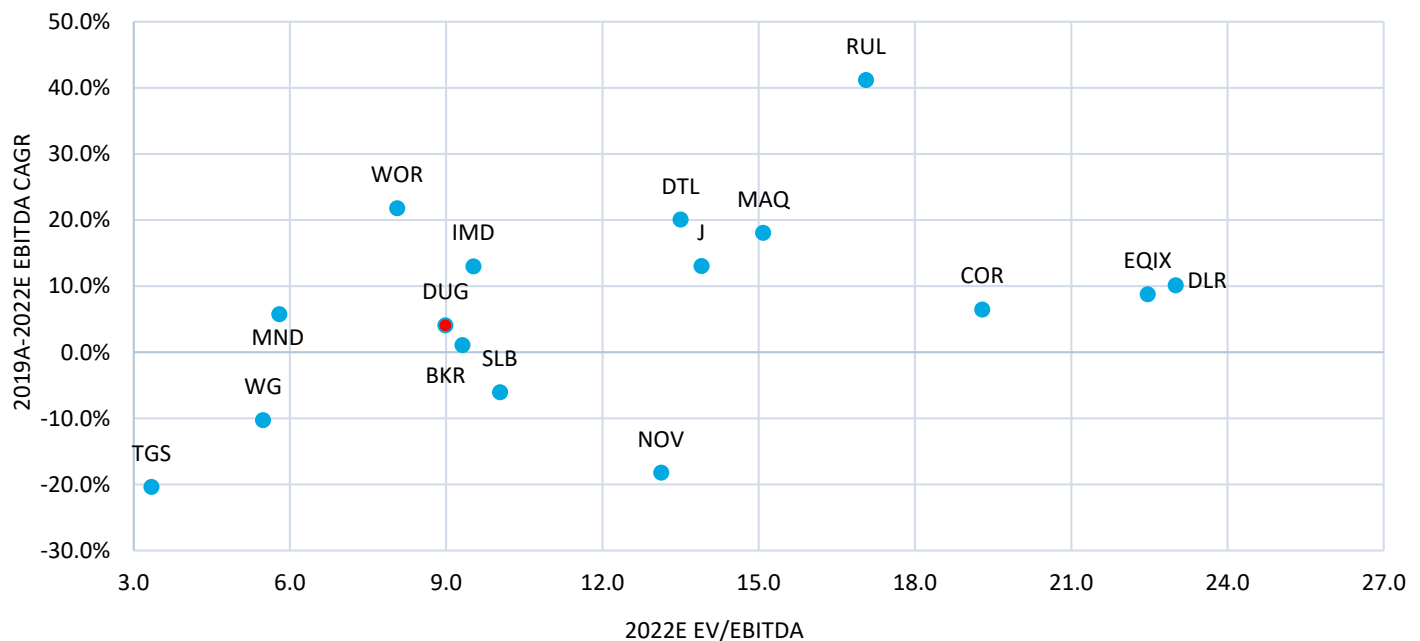
- ICRAR – astronomy
- Curtin University – extra-terrestrial geology
- UNSW – computational fluid dynamics
- UWA – aquaculture
- University of Sydney – chemistry, physics
- APPF – plant biology
- WA Govt DPI – biology
- WA Govt DPI – plant pathology
- University of Melbourne – biomedical engineering, fluid physics
- RMIT – biology

## Valuation and peer group comparison

Our 12-month price target has been lowered to \$1.76/share (from \$1.88/share). For reference, at our target price, DUG would trade on a FY22E EV/EBITDA of 13.6x (FY23E 10.0x).

DUG's evolving business model and product offering lends itself to a range of comparisons to peers across a range of sectors. We have positioned DUG against c.30 listed companies to consider its market positioning and valuation optionality: (1) Australian businesses that offer services to the resources sector; (2) Australian- and US-listed technology and data centre businesses (selected names with hardware, software or SaaS characteristics); and (3) Global Oil & Gas and geophysical mapping businesses.

**Figure 14: Valuation versus growth comparison; DUG is well positioned to 'move to the right' on strong execution and market comfort in the growth optionality and trajectory**



Source: FactSet, IRESS, Canaccord Genuity estimates (for DUG only)

# Appendix: Important Disclosures

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## Investment Recommendation

Date and time of first dissemination: May 26, 2021, 04:20 ET

Date and time of production: May 26, 2021, 04:20 ET

## Target Price / Valuation Methodology:

DUG Technology Limited - DUG

Our 12-month price target for DUG is A\$1.76/share. This is based on a DCF valuation which assumes a WACC of 10.4% (12.0% cost of equity, 20.0% debt to equity and terminal growth of 2.5%).

## Risks to achieving Target Price / Valuation:

DUG Technology Limited - DUG

**Brand damage from technology-related issues:** With technology operating services across multiple end-user touch points, service levels and uptime performance are critically important. Similarly, data security breaches as a result of cyberattacks, data theft or human error could impact brand reputation and client demand.

**Commodity price volatility:** The business has been impacted in recent months by oil price volatility, and continuing uncertainty may lead to long-term changes in end-market demand for services.

**Foreign exchange movements:** DUG's functional currency is US dollars. Shares are listed in Australian dollars and with no hedging in place against movements in exchange rates, translation risk is present.

**Increasing competition or technology advancements:** The business operates in competitive and fast changing markets. The relevance of products and services, product pricing, customer relationships and brand reputation should be monitored.

**IP protection and patent rights:** Patent applications may be challenged or not granted, and with this, DUG may not be able to adequately protect its IP from competing products.

The company is currently a co-respondent in litigation alleging patent infringement. The outcome of this litigation may require damages to be paid and/or alteration of operations.

**Reliance on key personnel:** DUG is a founder-led business with a track record of long tenures and a consistent strategy. Changes to this dynamic, especially relating to Matt Lamont, Phil Schwan and Troy Thompson would warrant caution. Failure to attract, train and/or retain adequately skilled employees could have an adverse impact on the business going forward.

**Slower-than-expected uptake of HPCaaS services and DUG McCloud platform,** especially in FY21: Adoption of these offerings and expansion to use cases outside the resources sector may take longer than expected, impacting operating performance and investor sentiment.

## Distribution of Ratings:

### Global Stock Ratings (as of 05/26/21)

Rating	Coverage Universe		IB Clients
	#	%	%
Buy	610	64.62%	41.64%
Hold	168	17.80%	25.00%
Sell	10	1.06%	20.00%
Speculative Buy	144	15.25%	66.67%
	944*	100.0%	

\*Total includes stocks that are Under Review

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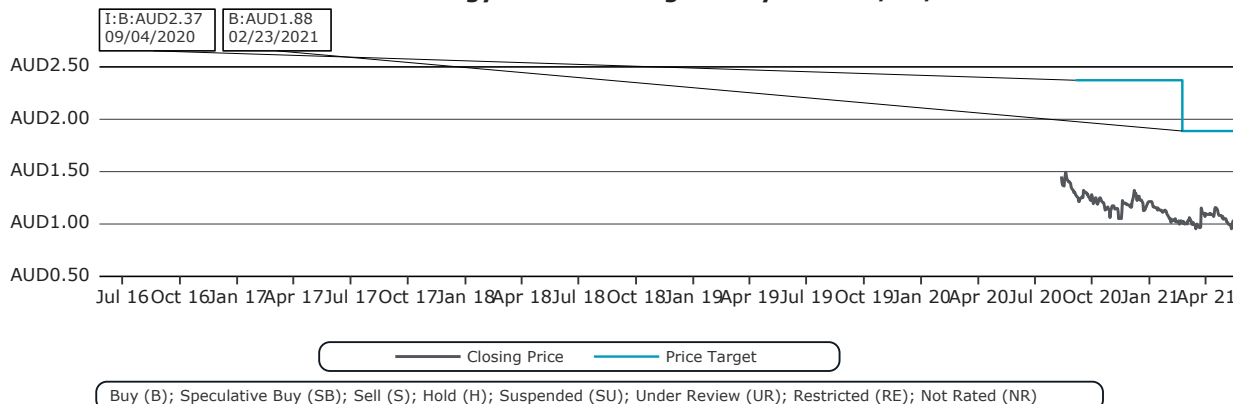
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### DUG Technology Limited Rating History as of 05/25/2021



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