iGaming M&A Insights

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M&A Activity

ESPN Enters the U.S. Sports Betting Market in a Big Way

While a number of new entrants to the online sports betting industry turned heads recently, including acquisitions by Fanatics and Endeavor, perhaps none were as noteworthy as ESPN's recent \$2B deal with PENN Entertainment (NASDAQ: PENN, "PENN").

The allure of sports betting in the U.S. continues to draw adjacent market participants and ESPN, given its dominance in the sports media landscape, is a natural fit. That said, the Disney subsidiary's fully committed entry to the space represents a stark departure from its previous strategy – smaller deals with other operators – and highlights a willingness to bet on the long-term potential of the U.S. market.

While ESPN's entrance has certainly commanded attention, it is worth examining PENN's decision to enter this long-term deal with ESPN. Commentary from Disney CEO, Bob Iger, shines some light on the matter: "And why PENN? Because PENN stepped up in a very aggressive way and made an offer to us that was better than any of the competitive offers – by far." At Clearsight, we take this as an indication that PENN was committed to seeking a new core iGaming strategy through this opportunity. PENN appears to be transitioning away from the relatively unsuccessful combination with Barstool Sports that resulted in only ~5.5% market share, despite a total investment of over \$500M. With limited market share in the online industry, PENN may have desired to make a more significant strategic pass at becoming a relevant player in the U.S. iGaming space, before the industry becomes more solidified. ESPN may have represented the best near-term opportunity to do so.

This deal represents a marked strategy change for both ESPN and PENN. It may turn out to be a masterstroke for both if the combination of ESPN's reach and brand recognition with PENN's operational expertise proves to be a winning formula. However, given the high cost of the agreement and the everchanging landscape of the sports betting industry, there may not be a second chance if the deal turns sour.

Sector Leadership



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Sector Spotlight

Entain Announces Acquisition of Angstrom Sports

Target

Angstrom Sports

Acquirer

Entain

Deal Commentary

- Entain's acquisition of Angstrom Sports illustrates the need of B2C providers to expand their data and analytics capabilities to improve their efficiency and the customer experience
- Entain is a leading global provider of online and retail sports betting and online casino products and current 50/50 partner in the BetMGM joint venture with MGM Resorts. This acquisition gives Entain additional capabilities within the data and analytics and predictive modeling space to further develop their sports betting platform in the high-growth U.S. market.
- Entain CEO, Jette Nygaard-Andersen, said, "Their next generation forecasting, pricing and risk management capabilities will unlock significant opportunities across BetMGM's U.S. sports betting offering, particularly in the fast-growing markets of parlay and in-play wagering. This acquisition will provide our customers with an unrivalled sports betting experience underpinned by enhanced inhouse data-analytics..."

Transaction Summary

On July 17th, 2023, Entain, a global retail and iGaming company, announced its acquisition of Angstrom Sports, a provider of sports modeling and data analytics. Angstrom Sports provides a variety of predictive modeling services to drive pricing and forecasting analytics with a deep focus on the U.S. sports betting market.

Transaction Information

Announced Date 17-Jul-2023
Deal Type Acquisition

Target Information

Year Founded 2018
Target HQ London, England
of Employees 100

EveryMatrix Announces Acquisition of DeepCl

Target

DeepCl

Acquirer

EveryMatrix

Deal Commentary

- EveryMatrix's acquisition of DeepCl illustrates the importance of adding new capabilities for B2B providers to provide a comprehensive solution to clients. The recent success of DeepCl also underscores the emphasis affiliate operators are placing on efficiency and operational optimization as the industry continues to grow in a competitive marketplace
- This acquisition augments EveryMatrix's existing affiliate products (PartnerMatrix) and adds a differentiated, data and analytics product offering to further improve the value proposition offered to customers
- Ebbe Groes, CEO of EveryMatrix, said, "DeepCI's data-driven tools are unique to our industry, their commercial success is similarly remarkable, and their product will bring significant benefits to our customers."

Transaction Summary

On July 1st, 2023, EveryMatrix, a leading provider of iGaming software and solutions, announced its acquisition of DeepCI, a developer of a brand affiliate business intelligence platform. DeepCI leverages affiliate tracking monitoring to offer customers detailed analytics on affiliate exposure and performance to support operational optimization and efficiency.

Transaction Information

Announced Date 01-Jul-2023
Deal Type Acquisition

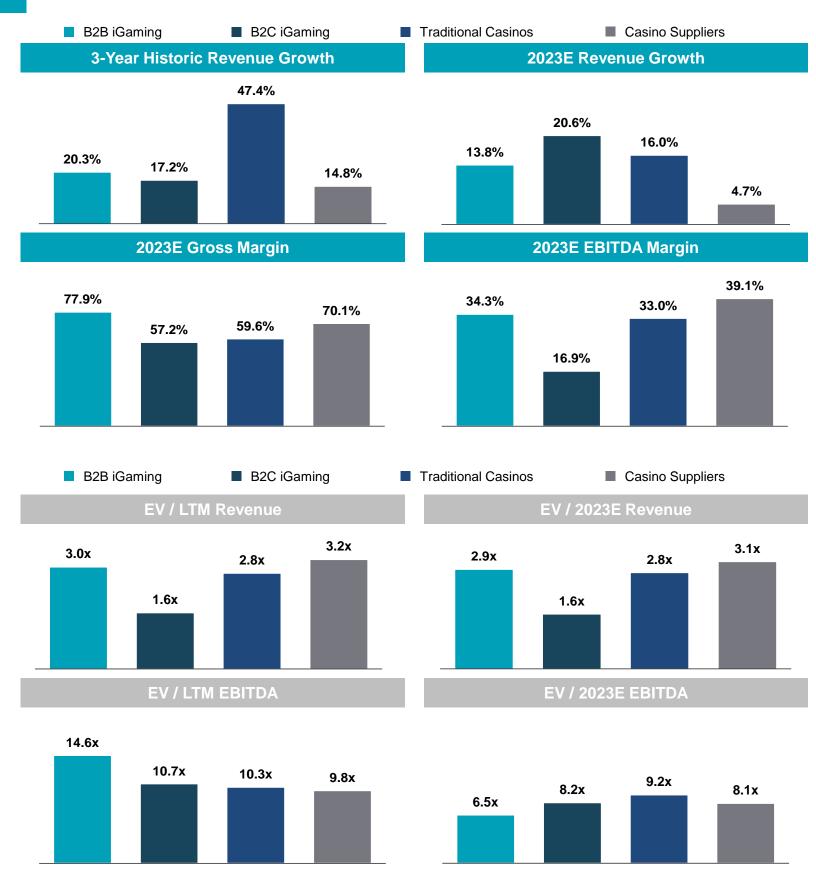
Target Information

Year Founded 2020
Target HQ London, England
of Employees ND





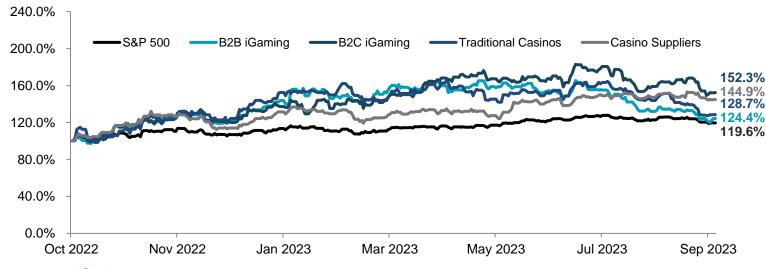
Public Market Performance



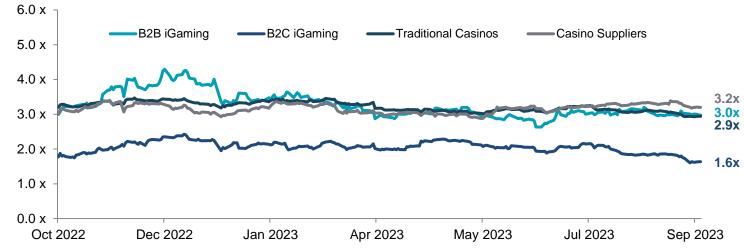


Public Market Performance

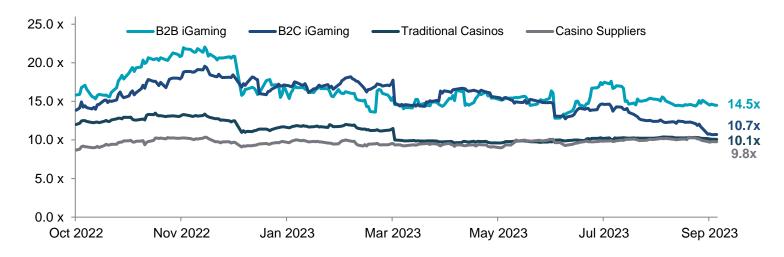
iGaming Market Indices Performance - 1 Year



LTM EV / Revenue Multiple Trend – 1 Year



LTM EV / EBITDA Multiple Trend – 1 Year





Public Market Performance

B2B iGaming Index

	Closing	% of 52	Equity	Enterprise					LTM	3 Year	2023E
	Price	Week	Market Cap	Value	EV / Revenue	e Multiples	EV / EBITDA	A Multiples	EBITDA	CAGR	Revenue
B2B iGaming Index	30-Sep-23	High	(\$ in M)	(\$ in M)	2022A	2023E	2022A	2023E	Margin	2020A-23E	Growth %
Bragg Gaming	\$4.86	84.6%	6 \$110	\$105	1.2x	1.0x	22.9x	6.1x	5.3%	21.6%	12.7%
Evolution Gaming	101.53	75.3	21,692	21,449	13.8	11.1	21.0	15.8	66.3	41.3	24.4
Gaming Innovation Group	2.61	92.8	336	408	3.6	3.0	25.8	6.5	20.5	20.3	17.5
Jumbo Interactive	10.00	95.0	630	598	7.7	6.8	19.2	13.7	43.3	15.2	13.8
Kambi Group	14.90	70.9	452	404	2.3	2.1	9.7	6.0	22.7	11.1	11.2
Playtech	5.52	70.6	1,676	1,942	1.1	1.1	6.0	4.3	20.0	11.0	5.4
Sportradar	10.01	64.3	2,975	2,811	3.6	2.9	13.1	16.3	27.2	24.7	23.2
	High	95.0%	\$21,692	\$21,449	13.8x	11.1x	25.8x	16.3x	66.3%	41.3%	24.4%
	Median	75.3	630	598	3.6	2.9	19.2	6.5	22.7	20.3	13.8
	Mean	79.1	3,982	3,960	4.8	4.0	16.8	9.8	29.3	20.7	15.4
	Low	64.3	110	105	1.1	1.0	6.0	4.3	5.3	11.0	5.4

B2C iGaming Index

	Closing	% of 52	Equity	Enterprise					LTM	3 Year	2023E
	Price	Week	Market Cap	Value	EV / Revenue	e Multiples	EV / EBITDA	A Multiples	EBITDA	CAGR	Revenue
B2C iGaming Index	30-Sep-23	High	(\$ in M)	(\$ in M)	2022A	2023E	2022A	2023E	Margin	2020A-23E	Growth %
Betsson	\$11.03	91.3%	6 \$1,511	\$1,372	1.7x	1.4x	9.2x	5.1x	20.7%	9.1%	21.6%
DraftKings	29.44	85.4	13,659	13,866	6.2	3.9	N/M	N/M	(31.7)	78.8	56.8
Entain	11.38	58.4	7,271	10,845	2.1	1.9	11.3	8.7	16.6	6.2	12.6
Flutter Entertainment	163.40	79.6	28,726	33,988	3.7	2.9	40.3	16.7	11.5	25.3	27.8
Kindred Group	9.17	72.9	1,971	1,952	1.5	1.3	18.4	7.6	12.5	(0.1)	19.5
Rush Street Interactive	4.62	84.3	319	312	0.5	0.5	N/M	N/M	(10.0)	34.2	13.6
	High	91.3%	% \$28,726	\$33,988	6.2x	3.9x	40.3x	16.7x	20.7%	78.8%	56.8%
	Median	81.9	4,621	6,398	1.9	1.6	14.8	8.2	12.0	17.2	20.6
	Mean	78.6	8,910	10,389	2.6	2.0	19.8	9.6	3.3	25.6	25.3
1	Low	58.4	319	312	0.5	0.5	9.2	5.1	(31.7)	(0.1)	12.6

Traditional Casinos Index

	Closing	/0 UI 32	Equity	Enterprise					L I IVI	3 Ieai	2023E
	Price	Week	Market Cap	Value	EV / Revenu	e Multiples	EV / EBITDA	A Multiples	EBITDA	CAGR	Revenue
Traditional Casinos Index	30-Sep-23	High	(\$ in M)	(\$ in M)	2022A	2023E	2022A	2023E	Margin	2020A-23E	Growth %
Bally's	\$13.11	51.1%	6 \$598	\$5,280) 2.3x	2.1x	10.1x	9.5x	21.8%	88.9%	11.5%
Boyd Gaming	60.83	83.3	6,084	9,599	2.7	2.6	7.5	7.5	35.4	19.2	3.8
Caesars Entertainment	46.35	76.9	9,979	35,073	3.2	3.0	11.4	8.8	32.6	47.3	7.2
Las Vegas Sands	45.84	69.9	35,040	44,021	10.7	4.3	174.0	11.1	24.6	51.8	150.4
MGM Resorts	36.76	71.6	12,899	41,522	3.2	2.6	23.5	9.0	13.4	47.5	20.6
Wynn Resorts	92.41	78.4	10,451	61,111	NM	9.7	NM	30.7	20.6	44.2	67.1
	High	83.3%	% \$35,040	\$61,111	10.7x	9.7x	174.0x	30.7x	35.4%	88.9%	150.4%
	Median	74.2	10,215	38,297	3.2	2.8	11.4	9.2	23.2	47.4	16.0
	Mean	71.9	12,508	32,768	3 4.4	4.1	45.3	12.8	24.7	49.8	43.4
	Low	51.1	508	5 280) 23	2.1	7.5	7.5	13 /	10.2	3.8

Casino Suppliers Index

	Closing	% of 52	Equity	Enterprise					LTM	3 Year	2023E
	Price	Week	Market Cap	Value	EV / Revenue	e Multiples	EV / EBITDA	A Multiples	EBITDA	CAGR	Revenue
Casino Suppliers Index	30-Sep-23	High	(\$ in M)	(\$ in M)	2022A	2023E	2022A	2023E	Margin	2020A-23E	Growth %
Aristocrat Leisure	\$26.36	94.8%	\$17,096	\$17,001	4.4x	4.2x	14.5x	12.8x	29.8%	8.1%	3.2%
Everi	13.22	66.6	1,163	2,001	2.6	2.4	5.7	5.2	43.4	29.4	6.2
International Game Technology	30.32	89.2	6,073	12,149	2.9	2.9	8.7	7.0	33.8	10.8	0.4
Light & Wonder	71.33	90.2	6,489	9,764	3.9	3.4	12.7	9.2	31.9	18.7	13.2
1											
	High	94.8%	6 \$17, 0 96	\$17,001	4.4x	4.2x	14.5x	12.8x	43.4%	29.4%	13.2%
1	Median	89.7	6,281	10,956	3.4	3.1	10.7	8.1	32.9	14.8	4.7
	Mean	85.2	7,705	10,229	3.4	3.2	10.4	8.6	34.7	16.8	5.8
1	Low	66.6	1,163	2,001	2.6	2.4	5.7	5.2	29.8	8.1	0.4

Source: Capital IQ, market data as of 30-Sep-2023



Featured Transactions

Date	Target	Buyer/Investor	Enterprise Value	Summary				
27-Sep-23	MaxBet	Flutter Entertainment	\$292M	MaxBet is a Serbian omnichannel sports betting and gambling operator				
18-Sep-23	Tipsbladet	Better Collective	\$7M	Tipsbladet is a Danish digital football content platform				
04-Aug-23	UK & Australian Brands (Catena Media)	Moneta Communications	\$7M	Divestiture of Catena Media's UK & Australian online sports betting brands. Catena Media is an affiliate marketing firm focused on the iGaming industry				
01-Aug-23	BetLion	888Africa	ND	BetLion is a Kenya-based B2C iGaming operator with licenses in Kenyza, Zambia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo				
27-Jul-23	Premier Lotteries Ireland	La Francaise des Jeuz	\$385M	Premier Lotteries Ireland is the operator of the Irish state lottery				
24-Jul-23	Playstar	Glitnor Group	ND °	Playstar is a New Jersey-headquartered operator of an online gaming platform				
14-Jul-23	FunFair's Multiplayer Games Portfolio	Raw iGaming	ND •	Divestiture of FunFair's catalogue of multiplayer, arcade games products				
12-Jul-23	Three Europe- Facing Assets (XL Media)	Beach Services	• \$4M	Divestiture of three of XL Media's European- focused casino assets. XL Media is an affiliate marketing firm focused on the iGaming industry				
12-Jul-23	Emwys	B90 Holdings	\$4M	Emwys is a provider of pay-per-click marketing services to the iGaming industry				
03-Jul-23	Playmaker HQ	Better Collective	\$54M	Playmaker HQ is a sports media company focused on the U.S. market				



About Clearsight

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Recent Transactions





















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