

Plover Bay Technologies Limited (SEHK: 1523)
December 2021

# INTRODUCTION

# WE MAKE CONNECTIVITY RELIABLE



Founded in **2006 IPO** in 2016 (1523.HK)



Peplink for **Enterprise**Pepwave for **Prosumer** 



200+ Employees & Consultants
110+ Dedicated Engineers



Sales<sup>1</sup> in **Over 100 Countries** 



Wired & Wireless **Connectivity** Solutions

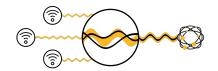


**260+** Patents Granted

# **CORE TECHNOLOGIES FOR UNBREAKABLE CONNECTIVITY**

#### **SpeedFusion**

Combining multiple WAN into a single connectivity



Enables reliable streaming Instant session failover & Unbreakable wireless connectivity

#### **SpeedFusion Cloud**

SpeedFusion simplified



Over 90 nodes around the world Achieve SpeedFusion with a few clicks Turns SpeedFusion into usage-based service

#### InControl2

Network controller for all Peplink routers



Manage all devices from one location >300K registered users (30 June 2021)

## **5G READY PRODUCT PORTFOLIO**



# **ENABLING RELIABLE CONNECTIVITY IN WORKPLACES...**

**5G Enterprise SD-WAN** 













# ... AND IN EVERYTHING AND EVERYWHERE

**5G Mobile SD-WAN** 











### A FAST GROWING PLAYER WITH TRACK RECORD

# Expanding Global Reach

5-year Revenue CAGR<sup>1</sup>

• North America: 26%

• EMEA: 15%

• APAC: 11%

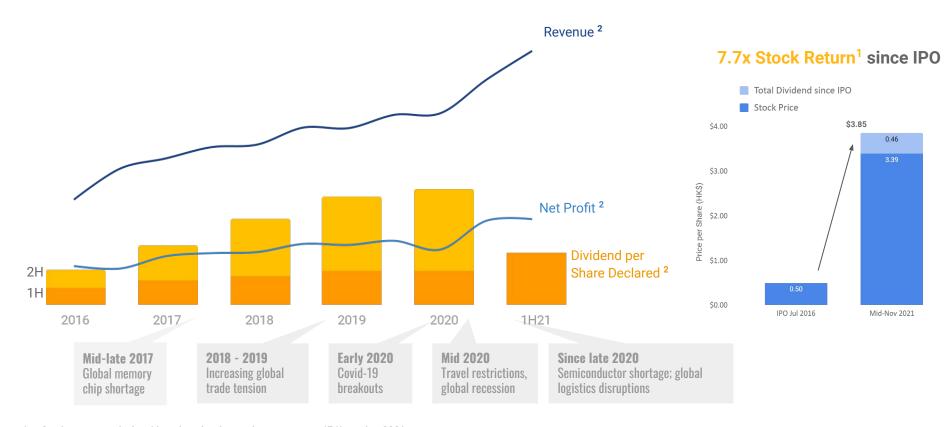
# 5-year EPS CAGR 24%<sup>1</sup>

Diluted EPS increased from 0.45 to 1.33 (US cents)

# Highly Efficient Operations

<sup>1.</sup> CAGR uses figures from 2015 to 2020

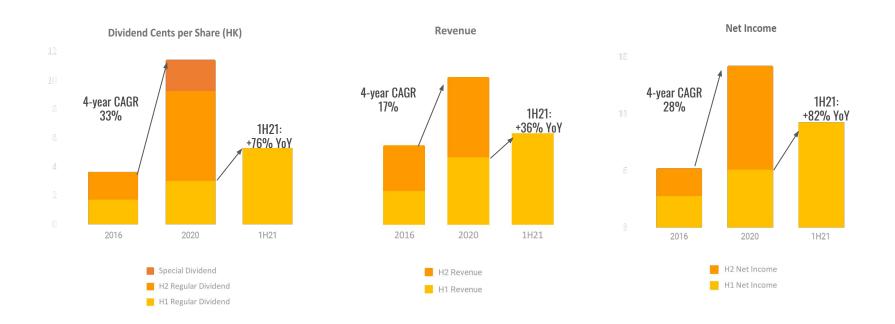
## **DELIVERING VALUE THROUGH UNCERTAIN TIMES**



- 1. Stock return is calculated based on the closing share price as at 15 November 2021.
- 2. Revenue and Net Profit are semi-annual data in US dollars millions and Dividend per Share Declared are annual data in HK dollars in cents.

# WHY NOW? UNPRECEDENTED GROWTH IN 1H21

With the increasing global demand of reliable connectivity and 5G trend, we have experienced an unprecedented growth in 1H21.



# **NEED FOR CONNECTIVITY IS ALWAYS EXPANDING**

**Expanding Product Range** 

Expanding Addressable Market <sup>1</sup>

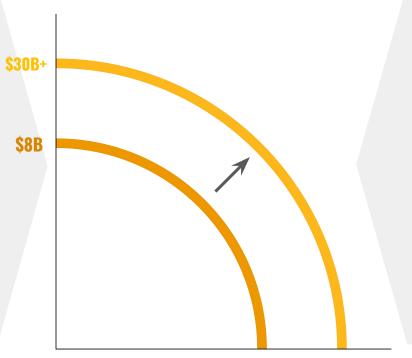
**Increasing Need for Connectivity** 

#### Now:

- 100+ major product series
- Software for reliable connectivity

#### New products:

- 5G connectivity products
- Expanding product range



#### Shorter term:

- Post COVID "New normal"
- 5G upgrade cycle
- 3G sunset starting from 2022

#### Long term:

- Everything needs connectivity
- Higher data consumption
- Lower bandwidth cost

NOW

**LONG TERM** 

### WELL-POSITIONED FOR THE TAILWINDS

#### **Tailwinds**

#### "New Normal"

- Connectivity needed anywhere
- New mobile IoT connections will grow at 19% CAGR<sup>1</sup>

#### **New Applications**

 New possibilities will require real-time connectivity: robotics, autonomous vehicles, drones, Industry 4.0, tele-surgery

#### **Higher Traffic at Lower Cost**

- Mobile data traffic expanding at 29% CAGR<sup>2</sup>
- Cost of 5G unlimited plans approaches broadband cost

#### **Our Position**

#### **Extensive Product Lineup**

 Over 100 products designed to reach any markets

#### **5G Ready**

 Integrated 5G solution with devices and software available for new customers and new applications

#### **Expanding Product Range**

- Wireless antenna
- New subscription services
- Becoming a one stop vendor for connectivity
- Number of loT devices with cellular connections to increase from 1.9 billion in 2021 to 5.5 billion in 2027 (Source: Ericsson Mobility Report).
- 2. Mobile data traffic to increase from 80 exabyte/month in 2021 to 370 exabyte/month in 2027 (Source: Ericsson Mobility Report).

# **OUR APPROACH**

### RELIABLE CONNECTIVITY AT GREAT VALUE

| <b>(ey</b> | Com | peti | tor |
|------------|-----|------|-----|
|            |     |      |     |

#### Our Competitive Advantage



SD-WAN

Established networking / network security players

- Natively integrated wireless capability
- Strong pricing advantage given our operational efficiency
- Flexible licensing options, no lock-in



enterprise

Specialized mobile router vendors

- Wide range of products for every market
- Strong pricing advantage given our operational efficiency
- Flexible licensing options, no lock-in, private-hosted options for sensitive use cases



Business oriented routers from consumer brands

- We offer much better reliability and management options
- We support much wider connectivity options



Industrial IoT

Industrial / IoT routing vendors

- Complete management from devices to robust connectivity
- Better pricing given our operational efficiency and lean structure



Mi-Fi vendors

- We offer reliable 5G router + data in one package
- Better software and management capabilities

### GO-TO-MARKET APPROACH BUILT ON EFFICIENCY

#### **Distributor/ Reseller Channel**

- Owners and entrepreneurs as our "sales extension"
- Motivated by our fast growth and attractive discount
- First line of customer support

#### **Advantages**

- Minimal Relationship/ Sales cost
- Highly scalable operations
- High efficiency





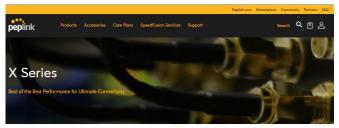
#### **Strategic Customers**

- Potential new business models
- Work with the best, learn from the best

#### **Advantages**

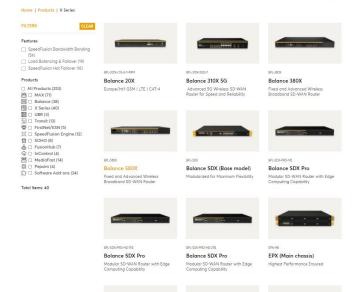
- Be part of cutting edge technologies
- Custom SKUs and features become future standard features

### **GROWING ONLINE PRESENCE**



#### Peplink e-store

- Self-service ordering for channel partners
- Automated backend, minimizes staff intervention



#### **Peplink on Amazon**

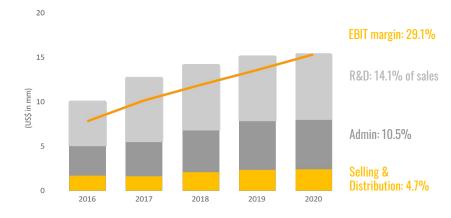
- Massively expands our market reach
- Marketing opportunity
- Very high growth

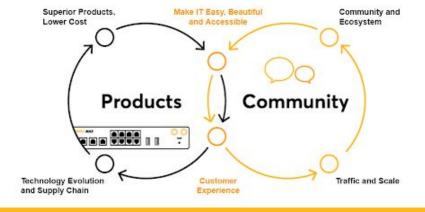


### **LEAN CULTURE GETS THINGS DONE**

#### **Highly Efficient Operations**

- Minimal layers; small teams across the globe
- Strong culture of "Getting Things Done"
- Constantly find ways to automate processes



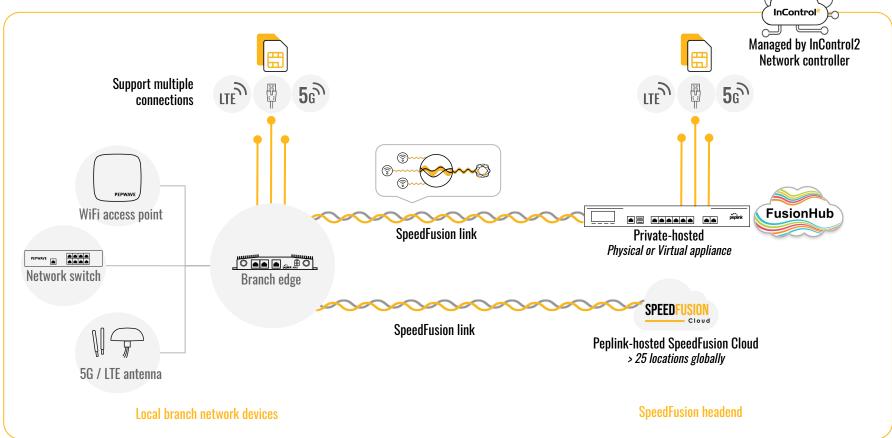


#### **Community-driven Feedback Loop**

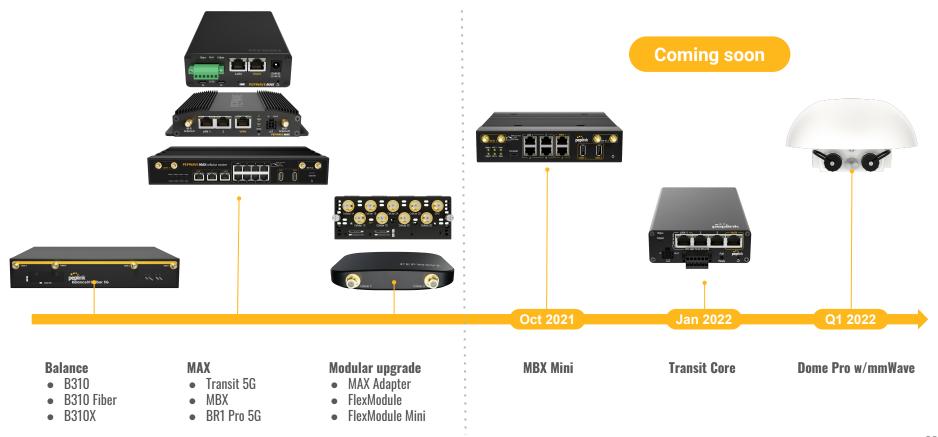
- Direct feedback to engineering teams
- Enhance brand loyalty
- Quick product turnaround time

# **PIPELINE & VISION**

# **OUR CONNECTIVITY ECOSYSTEM**



### **5G ROADMAP**



## POSITIONED TO TAKE OFF



**SPEEDFUSION** 





### SPEEDFUSION

#### 2006 Past Improvements

- Increased focus on high volume opportunities
- U.S and LT warehouses result in faster supply chain
- Enhanced products for easier deployment
- Customer user account integration
- eStore improvements
- Improved marketing

#### 2021

- Improved eStore
- Supply chain diversity

# **Enhancing Peplink Connectivity Ecosystem**

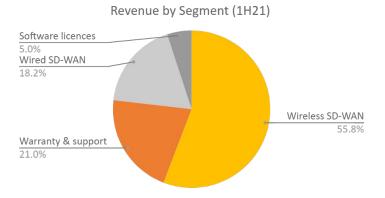
- From SD-WAN to one-stop Connectivity Ecosystem
- 5G replacement cycle & growing wireless demand
- New product lines for new markets
- New partnerships

# **FINANCIAL**

# **FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

| Financial period<br>(US \$'000)                   | 2016       | 2017       | 2018       | 2019        | 2020        | 1H20       | 1H21       | YoY<br>Growth |
|---|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Revenue   | 28,358     | 37,132     | 41,806     | 45,910      | 52,818      | 24,102     | 32,751     | 36%           |
| Year-over-year growth                             | n/a        | 31%        | 13%        | 10%         | 15%         | n/a        | 36%        | n/a           |
| Gross profit                                      | 17,945     | 22,975     | 26,189     | 28,774      | 30,800      | 14,136     | 19,645     | 39%           |
| Operating expense, Other income<br>& Finance cost | -10,018    | -12,346    | -13,976    | -14,780     | -14,758     | -8,066     | -8,602     | 7%            |
| Profit before tax                                 | 7,927      | 10,629     | 12,213     | 13,994      | 16,042      | 6,070      | 11,043     | 82%           |
| Net profit  | 5,240      | 8,754      | 10,620     | 12,089      | 14,230      | 5,119      | 9,293      | 82%           |
| Gross profit margin                               | 63%        | 62%        | 63%        | 63%         | 58%         | 59%        | 60%        | n/a           |
| Net profit margin                                 | 19%        | 24%        | 25%        | 26%         | 27%         | 21%        | 28%        | n/a           |
| Diluted EPS (US cents)                            | 0.60 cents | 0.84 cents | 1.00 cents | 1.14 cents  | 1.33 cents  | 0.48 cents | 0.86 cents | 78%           |
| Dividend per share (HK cents)                     | 3.66 cents | 6.94 cents | 8.80 cents | 11.11 cents | 11.43 cents | 3.03 cents | 5.32 cents | 76%           |

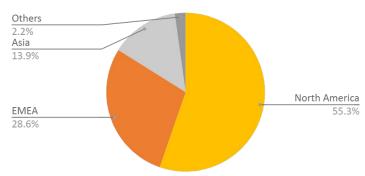
# **REVENUE BY SEGMENT**



| Segment            | 1H21 growth<br>(YoY) | Growth driver   |
|--------------------|----------------------|---|
| Wired SD-WAN       | +53%                 | Increased focus on low-mid range products with high volume opportunities                              |
| Wireless SD-WAN    | +41%                 | New warehouses in U.S and Lithuania; faster lead time in supply chain                                 |
|                    |                      | • Wired SD-WAN products with embedded wireless capability gaining traction among enterprise customers |
|                    |                      | Expanding 5G product portfolio  |
| Warranty & Support | +17%                 | Increasing user base expands future Warranty and Support potential                                    |
| Software licenses  | +29%                 | <ul> <li>Increasing InControl2 subscriptions from increasing user base</li> </ul>                     |
| Overall            | +36%                 | Broad based growth in all segments reflecting increasing demand everywhere                            |

# **GEOGRAPHICAL BREAKDOWN**

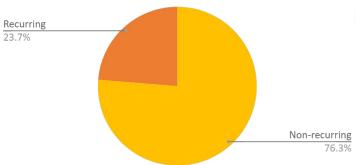




| Region                     | 1H21 growth<br>(YoY) | Growth driver  |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--|
| North America (mainly U.S) | +33%                 | Broad based growth across all customers, WFH, strong interest in mobile enterprise and 5G        |
| EMEA                       | +50%                 | New VAD ramping up quickly in region, particularly strong in maritime                            |
| Asia Pacific               | +20%                 | High growth SMEs but price sensitive / Government driven opportunities but high lumpiness        |
| Others (mainly Australia)  | +67%                 | New Australia VAD added in 1H, channel restructured, strong interest in mobile enterprise and 5G |

## RECURRING VS NON-RECURRING REVENUE



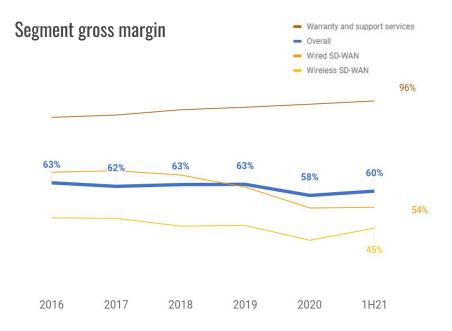


#### **Drivers to improve subscription rates:**

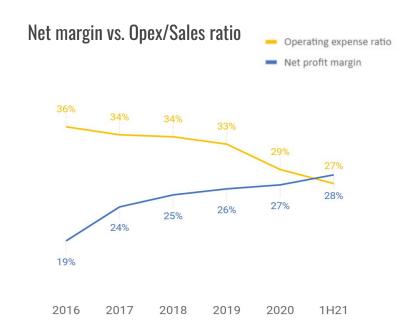
- Growing user base of our products
- Growing variety of services, such as SpeedFusion Cloud and SIM management tool
- Including more features in CarePlan subscriptions
- Rolled out auto renewal and promotion campaigns

| Segment            | Description   | Occurrence    |
|--------------------|---|---------------|
| Wireless SD-WAN    | Wireless SD-WAN routers, Non-core products and Accessories  | Non-recurring |
| Wired SD-WAN       | Wired SD-WAN routers  | Non-recurring |
| Warranty & Support | Embedded warranty<br>CarePlan Subscriptions<br>Support contract with Direct Customer<br>SpeedFusion Cloud prepaid usage | Recurring     |
| Software licenses  | InControl2 Subscriptions  | Recurring     |
|                    | Virtual appliance<br>Add-on software features   | Non-recurring |

### LEAN OPERATING STRUCTURE



- Overall gross margin remains well within 58-63% range
- Over the years, changes are attributed to product mix



- OPEX mainly consists of salary, R&D spend and office rents
- We have had significant operating leverage in the past, leading to net profit margin expansion

# **BALANCE SHEET & CASH FLOW SUMMARY**

| Balance Sheet Summary (USS"000)  | 2016   | 2017   | 2018   | 2019    | 2020    | 1H21    |   |
|--|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---|
| Trade and other receivables  | 3,947  | 7,763  | 4,922  | 6,223   | 6,997   | 8,880   |   |
| Inventories  | 6,678  | 11,629 | 8,372  | 7,387   | 12,509  | 15,636  |   |
| Trade and other payables   | 1,884  | 2,630  | 2,274  | 2,614   | 4,452   | 4,855   |   |
| Contract liabilities   | 4,405  | 6,221  | 8,672  | 8,891   | 10,881  | 15,383  |   |
| Bank borrowings  | 318    | 1,944  | 1,306  | 393     | 3,378   | 3,378   |   |
| Cash and cash equivalents  | 19,193 | 16,747 | 26,850 | 28,926  | 31,151  | 35,014  |   |
| Total equity   | 24,246 | 28,750 | 32,718 | 34,114  | 35,837  | 40,679  |   |
| ROE (%)  | 33%    | 33%    | 35%    | 36%     | 41%     | 49%     |   |
| CASH FLOW STATEMENT SUMMARY (USS"000)                                    | 2016   | 2017   | 2018   | 2019    | 2020    | 1H21    | • |
| Cash flows from operating activities                                     | 4,419  | 2,809  | 19,491 | 15,877  | 15,844  | 7,766   |   |
| Cash flows from investing activities (excluding changes to bank deposit) | -808   | -1,950 | -1,293 | -777    | -789    | -565    | • |
| Cash flows from financing activities                                     | 9,654  | -3,320 | -8,078 | -13,020 | -10,873 | -13,407 |   |

-9,576

17,235

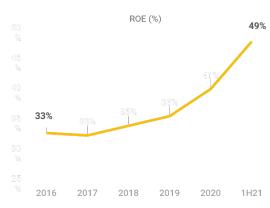
2,080

4,181

-6,209

13,266

Net change to cash



- Investing activities mainly related to purchase of PPE and additions to IA.
- Financing activities mainly related to dividend payment, lease payments, bank borrowings or repayment.

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## **WORKING CAPITAL SUMMARY**

| Working Capital summary (US\$"000) | 2018  | 2019  | 2020   | 1H21   |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| Inventory                          | 8,372 | 7,387 | 12,509 | 15,824 |
| Raw materials and consumables      | 6,033 | 5,006 | 7,939  | 10,340 |
| % of Inventory                     | 72%   | 68%   | 63%    | 65%    |
| Finished goods                     | 2,339 | 2,381 | 4,570  | 5,484  |
| % of Inventory                     | 28%   | 32%   | 37%    | 35%    |
| Turnover in days                   |       |       |        |        |
| Inventory                          | 234   | 168   | 165    | 197    |
| Trade receivables                  | 55    | 44    | 46     | 43     |
| Prepayment                         | 14    | 14    | 15     | 14     |
| Trade payable and other payables   | 57    | 52    | 59     | 63     |

#### Inventory days

- For 1H21, 197 days (2020: 165 days)
- Global shortage of semiconductor components lead to the need for higher levels of inventory accumulation, particularly of wireless modules

#### Working capital requirements

- Current cash expense run rate is about \$1.3M per month mainly for salaries and lease payment
- Working capital investment of \$0.6-\$0.9M per month

# **OUTFORMING PEERS OVER THE PAST 5 YEARS**

| Company          | Ticker  | Business segment              | Market Cap<br>(USD) <sup>1</sup> | Stock Price<br>(USD) <sup>1</sup> | Revenue 5-yr<br>CAGR <sup>2</sup> | Most recent<br>quarter /<br>interim revenue<br>growth (YoY) | EPS 5-yr<br>CAGR <sup>2</sup> | P/S | P/E<br>(Trailing) |
|------------------|---------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|-----|-------------------|
| Plover Bay       | 1523 HK | Enterprise / Industrial       | HKD 3.8B /<br>USD 490.3M         | HKD 3.47 /<br>USD 0.45            | 19.3%                             | 35.9%   | 24.4%                         | 7.9 | 26.2              |
| DIGI Int'I       | DGII    | Industrial / Enterprise       | 834.7M                           | 24.18                             | 5.6%                              | 10.5%   | 1.5%                          | 2.6 | 75.7              |
| Cambium Networks | CMBM    | Service provider / Enterprise | 770.1M                           | 29.47                             | 8.9%                              | 47.7%   | 1.5%                          | 2.5 | 17.7              |
| Inseego          | INSG    | Service provider / Consumer   | 749.5M                           | 6.82                              | 7.3%                              | -10.4%  | n/a                           | 2.5 | n/a               |
| Sierra Wireless  | SWIR    | Industrial / Enterprise       | 716.2M                           | 18.58                             | -5.9%                             | 12.2%   | n/a                           | 1.5 | n/a               |
|                  |         |                               |                                  |                                   |                                   |   | Average                       | 3.3 | 39.9              |

<sup>1.</sup> An exchange rate of 1 USD = 7.75 HKD is used for exchange conversion.

<sup>2.</sup> The 5-year CAGR is calculated using full-year financial results of the respective peer companies.

# **MAJOR M&A IN THE INDUSTRY**

| Target company       | Announced date | Business segment  | Acquirer           | Enterprise value<br>(USD) | Revenue (USD) | Implied EV / sales |
|----------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Cradlepoint          | Sep 2020       | Wireless SD-WAN   | Ericsson           | 1.1B                      | 137M (2019)   | 8.0x               |
| Silver Peak Networks | Jul 2020       | Enterprise SD-WAN | HP Enterprise      | 925M                      | Over 100M     | < 9.3x             |
| CloudGenix           | Mar 2020       | Enterprise SD-WAN | Palo Alto Networks | 420M                      | Undisclosed   | N/A                |
| VeloCloud            | Nov 2017       | Enterprise SD-WAN | VMWare             | 449M                      | Undisclosed   | N/A                |
| Viptela              | May 2017       | Enterprise SD-WAN | Cisco              | 610M                      | Undisclosed   | N/A                |

# **EXCELLENT RETURN SINCE IPO**



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