## INDUSTRIALS BUILDING PRODUCTS

BROWN GIBBONS LANG & COMPANY RIÓN MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS

FEBRUARY 2024

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# INDUSTRY DEEP DIVE

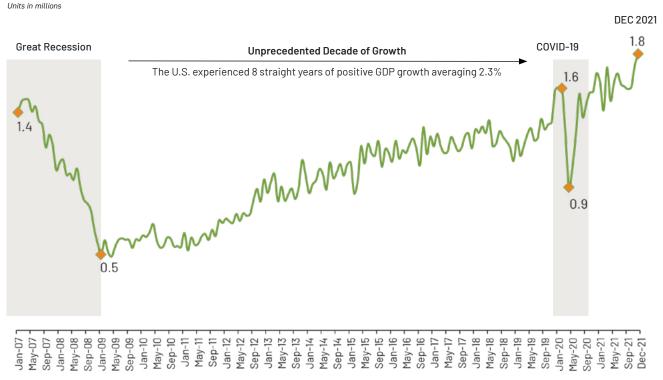


Coming off a decade-long bull run, 2022 and 2023 proved to be a period of more tempered demand, with a confluence of factors impacting the U.S. housing market and related M&A activity. Inside this edition, we examine those factors leading to the current state of the market while highlighting long-term demand drivers which we believe provide the foundation for a multi-year growth outlook in residential building products.

### **UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL U.S. HOUSING STARTS**

- Following a precipitous decline due to the Great Recession, the U.S. housing market began a historic decade-long bull run fueled by a growing economy and record low interest rates.
- 2010-2019 was a period of steady growth as consumers slowly re-entered the housing market. With the Federal Funds rate set at zero for the majority of the period, and never exceeding 2.5%, home buyers enjoyed consistently low mortgage rates and a growing economy.
- Although initial fears were that COVID-19 would thwart the housing market's rise, the pandemic actually served to accelerate the growth as consumers spent more time at home and benefited from growing disposable incomes.
- New home builds ended 2021 at 1.8 million annualized total starts. As many companies within the industry recorded record profits, the Federal Reserve contemplated enacting its first interest rate hike to combat surging inflation, an action that would ultimately send the housing market into a period of tempered growth and uncertainty.

### U.S. HOUSING STARTS (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED), 2007 - 2021

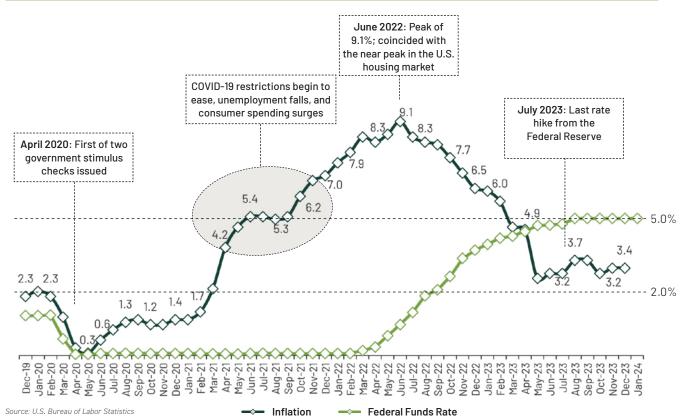


Source: U.S. Census

## AN UNPRECEDENTED SURGE IN INFLATION FOLLOWING COVID-19 LOCKDOWNS

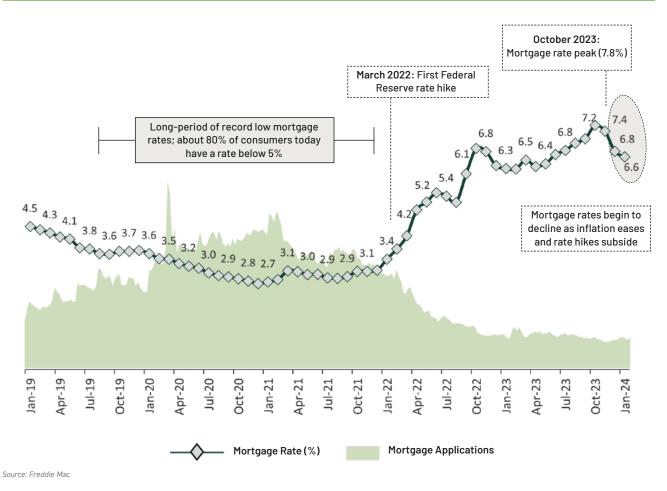
- For many years, inflation remained stubbornly low, not reaching an annual rate of above 3.0% for the 8-year period between 2012 2020. That changed when COVID-19 sparked an unexpected surge in inflation that would force the Federal Reserve to enact a series of interest rate hikes.
- As unemployment spiked in March 2020 following government-mandated shutdowns, the U.S. government passed the CARES Act which among other things, sent every American earning below \$75,000 a \$1,200 stimulus check.
- Through the first few months of COVID-19 consumer spending remained low, but as government shutdowns began to lift and unemployment fell, consumers began to spend at rates that many companies were unprepared for.
- Manufacturers struggled to employ workers fast enough and were dealing with COVID-19 supply chain constraints. These dynamics led to demand that significantly outpaced supply and started to put upward pressure on prices.
- As consumer spending continued to grow, the Federal Reserve was forced to begin a series of interest rate hikes beginning in March of 2022 and continuing through the summer of 2023.
- Inflation has moderated to a much more reasonable 3.2% as of December 2023, improved but still above the Federal Reserve's 2.0% target. The Federal Reserve is currently monitoring the markets closely to determine its next move with current consensus being that they will begin to modestly bring down rates in 2024.

### YEAR-OVER-YEAR INFLATION VS FEDERAL FUNDS RATE (%), 2019 – JAN 2024



### MORTGAGE RATES RISE AFTER YEARS AT RECORD LOW LEVELS

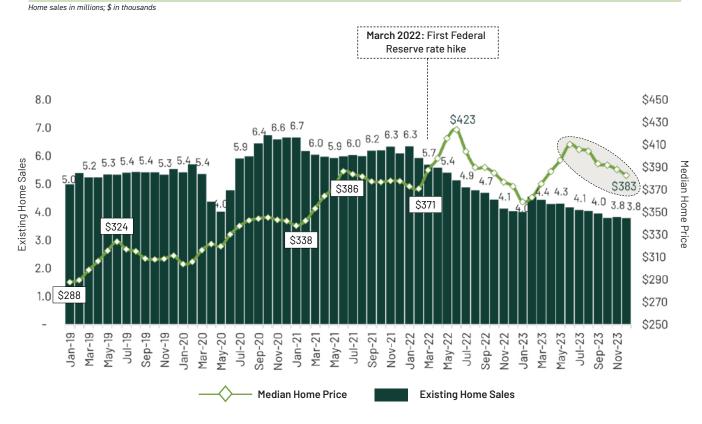
- As inflation grew, mortgage rates followed suit and rose to a 20-year peak of 7.8% in October 2023, significantly hampering home price affordability and keeping many would-be home sellers on the sideline who locked in lower rates.
- At the current median home price of \$389,900 and assuming a 20% downpayment, a 1.0% increase in mortgage rates results in an increase of \$260 in monthly payments.
- The rapid rise in mortgage rates proved to be a major deterrent of would-be buyers and sellers, with many consumers opting to stay in their existing home versus selling to keep their low mortgage rate.
- As inflation has receded and the Federal Reserve has begun to signal a potential end to rate increases, mortgage rates have begun to fall, down a full percentage point from the record high experienced in October 2023.
- The drop in rates along with consumer optimism about the 2024 forecast have led many buyers to dip their toes back into the market which is expected to help alleviate a tight inventory supply.



### MORTGAGE RATES AND APPLICATIONS (%), 2019 - JAN 2024

### LOW INVENTORY AND HIGH HOME PRICES

- Despite strong demand, inventory of existing homes for sale has plummeted as consumers who locked in record low mortgage rates were not willing to sell and incur a higher rate.
- In December 2023, existing-home sales fell to 3.78 million, a 13-year low.
- The dearth of supply also had the impact of keeping home prices stubbornly high, significantly hampering home price affordability for many first-time home buyers dealing with high mortgage rates and high prices.
- Creative steps have been taken to help entice consumers to purchase. Builders started "buying down" the
  mortgage on new builds, a practice in which they pay an upfront fee to lenders to help lower a consumer's
  mortgage rate for a period of the loan. The government has also stepped in with Fannie Mae ramping up its
  purchase of mortgages that don't have title insurance but instead, an attorney's opinion letter, a cheaper
  alternative that saves consumers around \$1,000 at closing.
- Many expect inventory to increase throughout 2024 as mortgage rates begin to fall and buyers with low mortgage rates begin to capitulate and no longer delay moving.

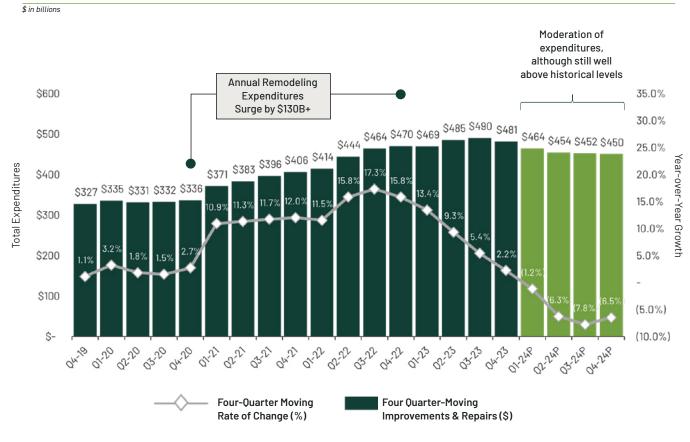


### EXISTING HOME PRICES VS SALES, 2019-2023

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

## REMODELING ACTIVITY SURGES AS CONSUMERS SPEND MORE TIME AT HOME

- Following COVID-19 lockdowns, consumers were forced to spend more time indoors, leading many to turn to home renovation projects as they awaited restrictions to ease. As a result, growth in repair and remodeling (R&R) activity began to surge in 2021.
- In addition to pandemic-fueled expenditures, homes built during the housing boom experienced between 2004 and 2006 began to enter their prime remodeling age. This confluence of factors fueled even higher spending, with R&R expenditures reaching a record \$490 billion in 2023 up from \$336 billion in 2020.
- As many expected, growth began to slow as restrictions eased and pent-up demand began to moderate.
- Consumers are still indicating a strong desire to invest in their homes, with forecasted R&R expenditures of \$450 billion+ in 2024 representing a very healthy level of activity.
- Many consumers who would be buyers of new homes if it were not for current mortgage rates will likely turn to investments in their existing homes for the time being as a budget conscious alternative. This, in conjunction with high prices of existing homes, are expected to keep R&R activity strong into the foreseeable future.

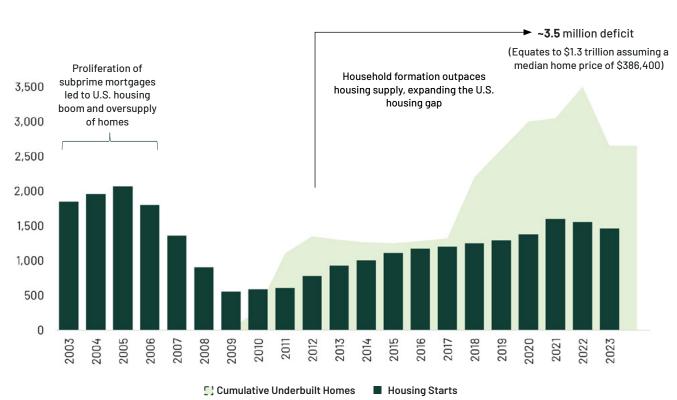


### LEADING INDICATOR OF REMODELING ACTIVITY (LIRA), 2019-2024P

Source: Joint Center for Housing Studies - Harvard University

### **NEW BUILDS CRITICAL TO ADDRESS U.S. HOUSING SHORTAGE**

- The U.S. has faced a housing shortage for over a decade, with the issue accelerating in recent years as housing starts slowed and inventory levels depleted amidst continued growth in U.S. households.
- The deficit peaked at 3.5 million homes and still sits at an astounding 2.3 million homes.
- Strong growth in the multi-family market in 2022 and 2023 helped curb the gap in the short term, but the long-term need for affordable housing persists.
- Between 2012 and 2022 U.S. household formation grew 15.6 million with housing starts lagging at 13.3 million.
- As existing inventory remains tight, new builds will need to fill the gap, with consumers choosing smaller homes with fewer upgrades to increase affordability.
- In Q3 2023, the median square footage for a new home completed registered at 2,218 square feet, down 3.9% from a year earlier and the third straight quarter of decline.



### U.S. HOUSING STARTS VERSUS HOUSING DEFICIT

Units in millions

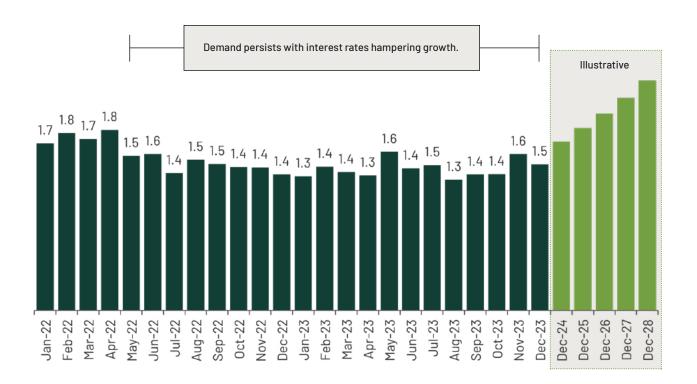
Source: Source: FRED, Builders FirstSource

### 2024 OUTLOOK

- As we move into 2024, BGL's outlook for the U.S. housing market is one of optimism. Our long-term bullish view on the market is driven by:
  - An unprecedented deficit of affordable housing that will need to be filled in part by accelerating the pace of new home builds.
  - Easing inflation and the cessation of interest rate hikes putting downward pressure on mortgage rates.
  - Moderation of home price growth improving the affordability for many first-time home buyers.
  - Improved inventory levels as sellers return to the market.
  - Millennials, the largest generation in history, entering their prime home buying years.
  - Builders continuing to offer smaller and more affordable housing solutions.

#### U.S. HOUSING STARTS, 2022 - TODAY

Units in millions



Source: U.S. Census

## 2 INSIGHTS FROM MARKET LEADERS

### LENNAR

Underlying this environment is a general chronic supply shortage of homes, especially affordable homes across the country as well as a growing pent-up demand for housing that is and has been held back by materially higher interest rates. There's been a very short supply of affordable products and a very strong demand for that affordable product.

> STUART A. MILLER Co-CEO & Executive Chairman

Lennar Corporation – FQ4 2023 Earnings Call, December 2023

### MASONITE.

We remain confident that other macroeconomic realities such as the underbuilt and aging housing stock and significantly improved levels of home equity will ultimately drive a resurgence of demand in both new construction and RRR.

> HOWARD CARL HECKES President, CEO & Director

Masonite International Corporation – FQ3 2023 Earnings Call, November 2023



We recognize that the current housing market is being constrained by affordability challenges. The current conditions have added to the pent-up need for additional housing. We expect that once interest rates stop increasing and return to normal levels, this pent-up demand will provide significant tailwinds for our business.

> JEFFREY T. JACKSON President, CEO & Director

PGT Innovations - FQ3 2023 Earnings Call, November 2023

## MASCO

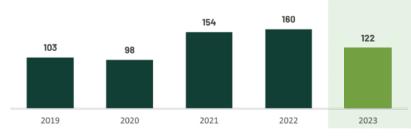
As we look over the longer term, our repair and remodel markets are strong and supportive of long-term growth. These include high home equity levels, the age of housing stock, and homeowners staying in their homes longer. We remain committed to investing in our brands, capabilities, and people to drive strong growth when market conditions improve.

> KEITH J. ALLMAN President, CEO & Director

Masco Corporation – FQ3 2023 Earnings Call, October 2023

## **3 M&A ACTIVITY**

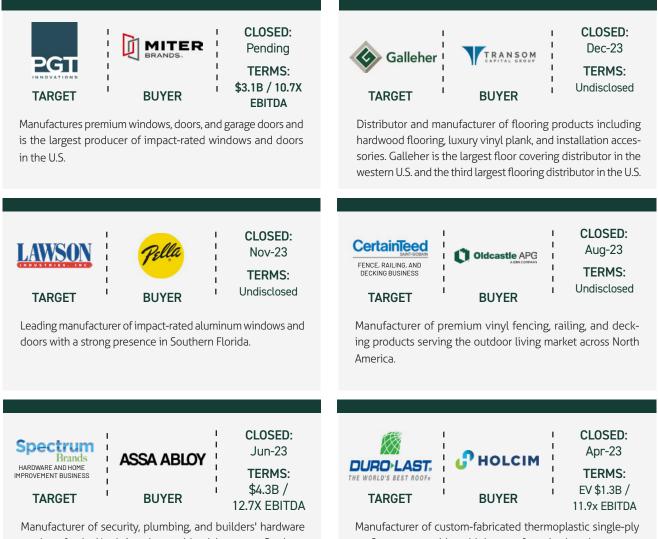
HISTORICAL U.S. M&A ACTIVITY IN BUILDING PRODUCTS



M&A Activity in the U.S. building products market slowed in 2023 as many corporate buyers focused inward on operating performance and integrating acquisitions from previous years while private equity investors sought greater clarity on the macroeconomic environment.

Source: U.S. completed deals, PitchBook

### NOTABLE 2023 DEALS



products for the North American residential segment. Products include locksets, faucets, and builders' hardware.

Manufacturer of custom-fabricated thermoplastic single-ply roofing systems with multiple manufacturing locations across the U.S.

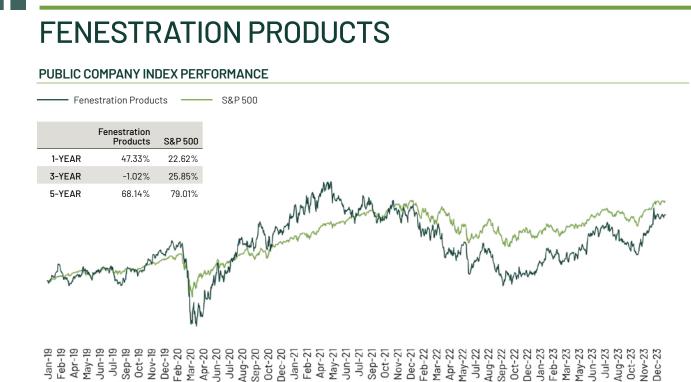


Source: S&P Capital IQ

Source: S&P Capital IQ



### PUBLIC COMPANY EV / LTM EBITDA VALUATION TRENDS



## 4 INDUSTRY METRICS KITCHEN & BATH

### PUBLIC COMPANY INDEX PERFORMANCE



Source: S&P Capital IQ



**FCRTUNE** 

BRANDS

MASCO

### PUBLIC COMPANY EV / LTM EBITDA VALUATION TRENDS

Source: S&P Capital IQ

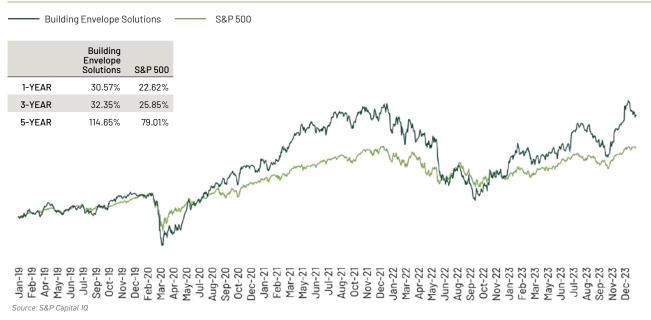
BGL COMPOSITE INDEX -

Woodmark

American

## **INDUSTRY METRICS** BUILDING ENVELOPE SOLUTIONS

### PUBLIC COMPANY INDEX PERFORMANCE



### PUBLIC COMPANY EV / LTM EBITDA VALUATION TRENDS

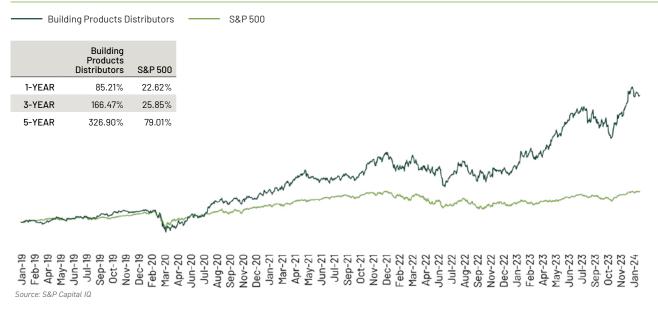


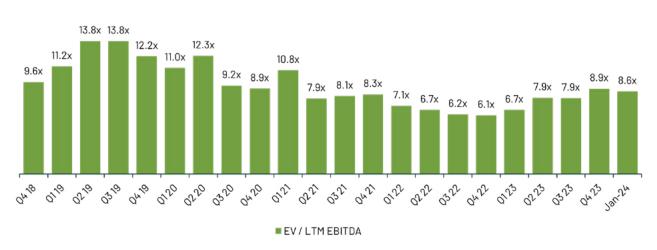
Source: S&P Capital IQ



## 4 INDUSTRY METRICS BUILDING PRODUCTS DISTRIBUTORS

### PUBLIC COMPANY INDEX PERFORMANCE





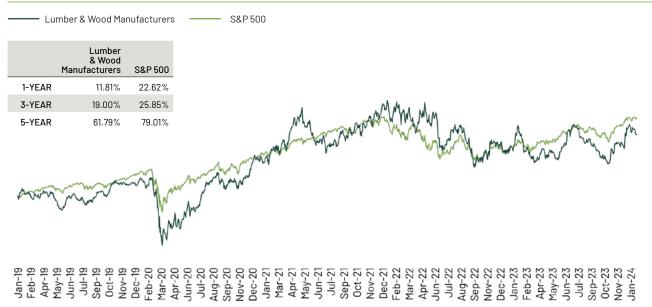
### PUBLIC COMPANY EV / LTM EBITDA VALUATION TRENDS

Source: S&P Capital IQ



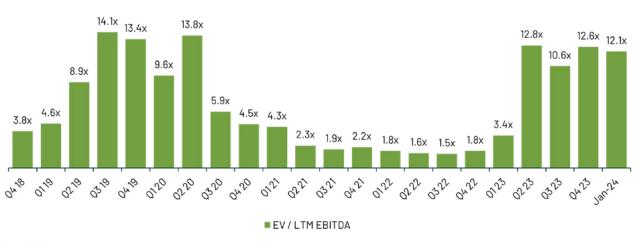
# LUMBER & WOOD PROCESSORS

### PUBLIC COMPANY INDEX PERFORMANCE



Source: S&P Capital IQ

### PUBLIC COMPANY EV / LTM EBITDA VALUATION TRENDS

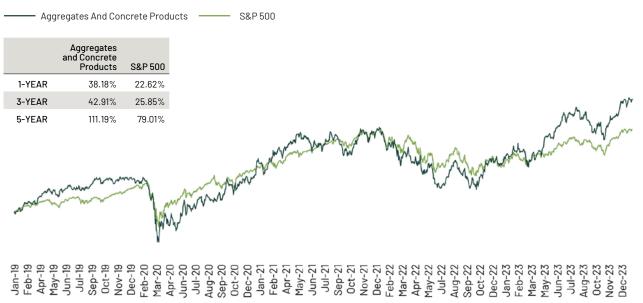


Source: S&P Capital IQ

BGL COMPOSITE INDEX

## 4 INDUSTRY METRICS AGGREGATES AND CONCRETE PRODUCTS

### PUBLIC COMPANY INDEX PERFORMANCE



Source: S&P Capital IQ

### PUBLIC COMPANY EV / LTM EBITDA VALUATION TRENDS



Source: S&P Capital IQ

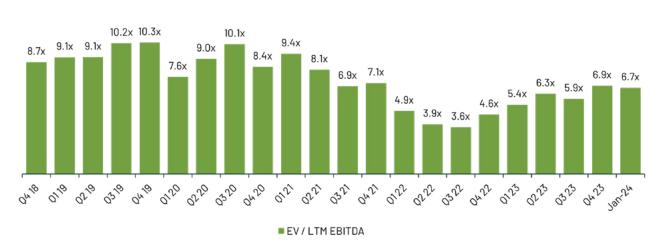
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## 4 INDUSTRY METRICS HOMEBUILDERS

### PUBLIC COMPANY INDEX PERFORMANCE

Ho	mebuilders -	S&P 50	)0					
	Homebuilders	S&P 500						
1-YEAR	65.94%	22.62%						
3-YEAR	103.34%	25.85%						
5-YEAR	252.77%	79.01%	www.	wer have	n. Muy	Marth Journa	www.hun	V. Wing
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### PUBLIC COMPANY EV / LTM EBITDA VALUATION TRENDS



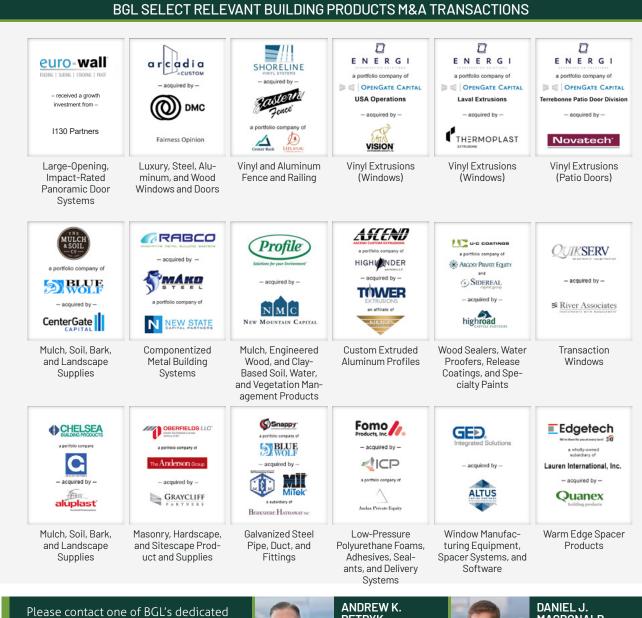
Source: S&P Capital IQ

BGL COMPOSITE INDEX DR.HORTON America's Builder LENNAR INVR GROUP Toll Brothers

## **5** BGL BUILDING PRODUCTS GROUP

BGL is an independent investment banking and financial advisory firm serving the global middle market since 1989. The firm comprises of 80+ bankers with investment banking offices in Chicago, Cleveland, New York, and Los Angeles, and international reach via Global M&A Partners.

BGL has a long history of serving family/entrepreneurially-owned, private equity-backed, and publicly traded companies within the Building Products market and supports it M&A advisory efforts with focused proprietary industry publications and regular attendance at industry trade shows.



Please contact one of BGL's dedicated industry bankers if you would like to discuss the report and trends impacting the Building Products market.



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