

# OTC Markets Group Announces the 2018 OTCQX Best 50

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NEW YORK, Jan. 24, 2018 /CNW/ -- OTC Markets Group Inc. (OTCQX: OTCM), operator of the OTCQX®, OTCQB® and Pink® financial markets for 10,000 U.S. and global securities, today announced the 2018 OTCQX® Best 50, a ranking of top performing OTCQX companies in the prior calendar year.

The OTCQX Best 50 is an annual ranking of the top 50 U.S. and international companies traded on the OTCQX Best Market, based on an equal weighting of one-year total return and average daily dollar volume growth. Companies in the 2018 OTCQX Best 50 were ranked based on their performance during the 2017 calendar year.

"This year's roster of companies represented a wide range of sectors and industries, from global markets and innovators such as the Bitcoin Investment Trust, to established community banks, airlines and resources. These leading companies represent a diverse landscape of issuers from around the globe and here in the U.S.," said Jason Paltrowitz, Executive Vice President of Corporate Services at OTC Markets Group. "We are pleased to congratulate our 2018 OTCQX Best 50 companies on their stellar performance and their commitment to providing a premium, efficient trading market that serves their investor base."

## 2018 OTCQX Best 50 Results

2018 OTCQX Best 50 companies traded an aggregate \$19.9 billion in dollar volume in 2017. The companies delivered to investors an average total return of 120%.

The #1 ranked company was Bitcoin Investment Trust (OTCQX: GBTC), an open-ended trust that is invested exclusively in bitcoin and derives its value solely from the price of bitcoin. The top performing International company ranked at #2 was [Amerigo Resources Ltd.](#) (OTCQX: ARREF). Twenty-one regional and community banks were included in this year's list. Nine companies from last year's ranking remained on the list in 2018:

- Bitcoin Investment Trust (OTCQX: GBTC)
- [Columbus Gold Corp.](#) (OTCQX: CBGDF)
- [Excelsior Mining Corp.](#) (OTCQX: EXMGF)
- First West Virginia Bancorp, Inc. (OTCQX: FWVB)
- [Mason Graphite Inc.](#) (OTCQX: MGPHF)
- [Nemaska Lithium Inc.](#) (OTCQX: NMKEF)
- Smith-Midland Corp. (OTCQX: SMID)
- Suncrest Bank (Visalia, CA) (OTCQX: SBKK)
- Village Farms International Inc. (OTCQX: VFFIF)

The 2018 OTCQX Best 50 Companies are:

Rank	Company	Symbol
1	Bitcoin Investment Trust	GBTC
2	<a href="#">Amerigo Resources Ltd.</a>	ARREF
3	<a href="#">Novo Resources Corp.</a>	NSRPF
4	Village Farms International Inc.	VFFIF
5	Mission Valley Bancorp	MVLY
6	Immunovaccine Inc.	IMMVF
7	Kroton Educacional SA	KROTY
8	CIBT Education Group, Inc.	MBAIF
9	First West Virginia Bancorp, Inc.	FWVB
10	First Colebrook Bancorp, Inc.	FCNH
11	First Resource Bank (Exton, PA)	FRSB
12	OurPet's Company	OPCO
13	F & M Bank Corp.	FMBM
14	Blackhawk Bancorp, Inc.	BHWB
15	PBB Bancorp	PBCA
16	<a href="#">Excelsior Mining Corp.</a>	EXMGF
17	<a href="#">Critical Elements Corp.</a>	CRECF
18	Estacio Participacoes S.A.	ECPCY
19	Prime Meridian Holding Co.	PMHG
20	Oncolytics Biotech Inc.	ONCYF
21	<a href="#">Corvus Gold Inc.</a>	CORVF
22	<a href="#">Nemaska Lithium Inc.</a>	NMKEF
23	<a href="#">Mason Graphite Inc.</a>	MGPHF
24	<a href="#">Ivanhoe Mines Ltd.</a>	IVPAF
25	Starpharma Holdings Ltd.	SPHRY, SPHRF
26	Commencement Bank (WA)	CBWA
27	Parkway Acquisition Corp	PKKW
28	Meritage Hospitality Group, Inc.	MHGU
29	Royal Financial, Inc.	RYFL
30	<a href="#">Columbus Gold Corp.</a>	CBGDF
31		

[Northern Graphite Corp.](#)

NGPHF



32	Deutsche Lufthansa AG	DLAKY,DLAKF
33	Suncrest Bank (Visalia, CA)	SBKK
34	Coastal Banking Company, Inc.	CBCO
35	Repro Med Systems, Inc.	REPR
36	FVCBankcorp, Inc.	FVCB
37	BNP Paribas	BNPQY,BNPQF
38	Kentucky Bancshares, Inc.	KTYB
39	Air Canada	ACDVF
40	Riverview Financial Corp.	RIVE
41	Virginia National Bankshares Corporation	VABK
42	Katahdin Bankshares Corp.	KTHN
43	OmniComm Systems, Inc.	OMCM
44	Rocky Mountain Dealerships Inc.	RCKXF
45	Freedom Bank of Virginia (Fairfax)	FDVA
46	Amazing Energy Oil & Gas Co.	AMAZ
47	FNCB Bancorp, Inc.	FNCB

OTC Markets Group applied the following criteria to the 367 companies traded on OTCQX on December 31, 2017 to determine which companies would qualify for the 2018 OTCQX Best 50:

- |    |   |      |
|----|---|------|
| 49 | ● First Priority Financial Corp.  | FPBK |
|    | ● closing share price of \$0.25 or greater on December 31, 2017   |      |
| 50 | ● Smith-Standard Corp.  | SLM  |
|    | ● traded equal to or greater than \$500,000 in dollar volume in 2017  |      |
|    | ● not a "penny stock" on December 31, 2017, as defined under SEC Rule 3a51-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 |      |
|    | ● member of the OTCQX Composite Index as of December 31, 2017.  |      |

For more detail on the 2018 OTCQX Best 50 ranking, visit <https://bit.ly/OTCQX-best50-2018>

OTC Markets Group Inc. stock trades on the OTCQX Best Market, however the company removed itself from the ranking. OTC Markets Group reserves discretion to omit companies from the ranking that no longer demonstrate the OTCQX market standards of transparency and wide distribution of news and financial disclosure.

The OTCQX Best 50 is for informational purposes only. Neither OTC Markets Group Inc. nor its affiliates make any recommendation to buy or sell any security or any representation about the financial condition of any company. Investors should undertake their own due diligence and carefully evaluate companies before investing.

About OTC Markets Group Inc.

OTC Markets Group Inc. (OTCQX: OTCM) operates the OTCQX® Best Market, the OTCQB® Venture Market, and the Pink® Open Market for 10,000 U.S. and global securities. Through OTC Link® ATS, we connect a diverse network of broker-dealers that provide liquidity and execution services. We enable investors to easily trade through the broker of their choice and empower companies to improve the quality of information available for investors.

To learn more about how we create better informed and more efficient markets, visit [www.otcmarkets.com](http://www.otcmarkets.com).

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