



## About to Be Unleashed

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By FMT, June 25, 2018

YTD, Platform Specialty Products has made meaningful progress. Since FMT wrote “Compounder Ready for Liftoff” in January 2018, the company’s share price has outpaced the market by a large margin.

The company’s operations have been robust since our ownership, but FMT believes the operations and shareholders are about to be launched into the stratosphere.

The company’s plan to separate Platform’s performance solutions division from its agricultural segment to unlock shareholder value is well on track as per management’s original timeline.

Platform’s management team originally planned to IPO out Arysta LifeScience this summer to unlock shareholder value, but they remained open to other possibilities that could provide a more optimal outcome for shareholders.

Other possibilities arrived when Platform entered discussions with multiple bidders for Arysta LifeScience – Wilmcote Holdings, a London-based blank check company, came in with a bid for Arysta LifeScience for \$3 billion in equity and \$1 billion in debt, for a total bid of \$4 billion.

Both Platform Specialty and Wilmcote publicly confirmed the advance negotiations in early June 2018. By mid-June, however, Platform announced it was in *exclusive negotiations* with a higher bidder, an Indian-based firm named UPL.

The bid is most likely well north of \$4 billion. Platform's management plans to provide more information on or before their second quarter earnings conference call, which is less than two months away!

The market is valuing the market cap of Platform Specialty at just over \$3 billion (not including debt). Arysta LifeScience comprises only half of the entire business of Platform, with a \$4+ billion bid for just Arysta.

FMT Advisory believes there is going to be substantial upside to MacDermid Performance Solutions in the near and intermediate future once Arysta is monetized (MacDermid will be the new successor name to Platform Specialty Products).