DuPont de Nemours, Inc (DD)

$59.31 (As of 10/09/20)

Price Target (6-12 Months): **$62.00**

Long Term: 6-12 Months	**Zacks Recommendation:** (Since: 02/13/20) Prior Recommendation: Underperform	**Neutral**
Short Term: 1-3 Months	**Zacks Rank:** (1-5) Zacks Style Scores: Value: C | Growth: B | Momentum: D	**3-Hold** VGM:C

Summary

Earnings estimates for DuPont for the third quarter of 2020 have been going up over the past month. DuPont will benefit from its investment in innovation and new product development. New product launches across high growth markets will drive the company's top line. DuPont's cost and productivity improvement actions should also support its margins. The company also remains focused on driving cash flow and shareholder value. Actions to divest non-core assets and focus on growth areas should also boost its performance. However, soft demand across a number of markets is likely to hurt DuPont's volumes. Weak nylon pricing is also expected to weigh on its sales and margins. The company also faces headwinds from plant idling costs and unfavorable currency swings. It has also underperformed the industry over a year.

Price, Consensus & Surprise

Source: Zacks Investment Research

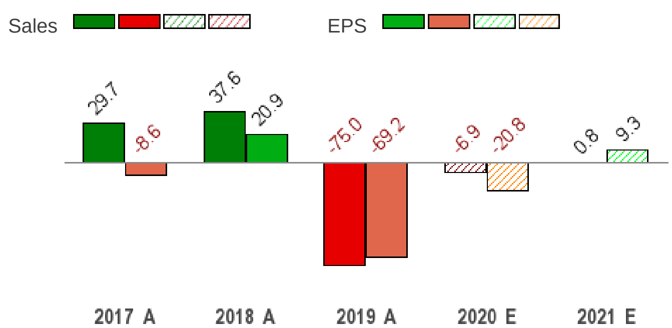
Data Overview

52-Week High-Low	**$73.49 - $28.33**
20-Day Average Volume (Shares)	**4,406,554**
Market Cap	**$43.5 B**
Year-To-Date Price Change	**-7.6%**
Beta	**1.71**
Dividend / Dividend Yield	**$1.20 / 2.0%**
Industry	**Chemical - Diversified**
Zacks Industry Rank	**Top 34% (86 out of 253)**

Last EPS Surprise	**18.6%**
Last Sales Surprise	**3.1%**
EPS F1 Estimate 4-Week Change	**0.3%**
Expected Report Date	**10/29/2020**
Earnings ESP	**3.2%**

P/E TTM	**17.2**
P/E F1	**19.7**
PEG F1	**2.0**
P/S TTM	**2.1**

Sales and EPS Growth Rates (Y/Y %)



Sales Estimates (millions of $)

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2021	5,367 E	5,108 E	5,241 E	5,119 E	20,187 E
2020	5,221 A	4,828 A	5,014 E	5,025 E	20,021 E
2019	19,649 A	5,468 A	5,426 A	5,204 A	21,512 A

EPS Estimates

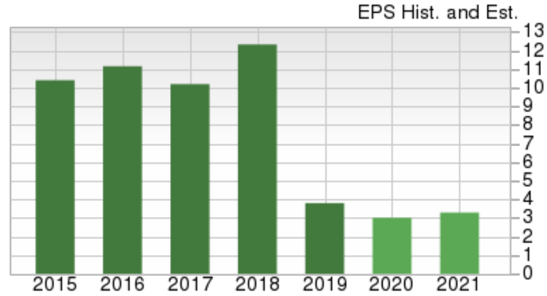
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2021	$0.83 E	$0.77 E	$0.86 E	$0.84 E	$3.29 E
2020	$0.84 A	$0.70 A	$0.76 E	$0.76 E	$3.01 E
2019	$2.52 A	$0.97 A	$0.96 A	$0.95 A	$3.80 A

*Quarterly figures may not add up to annual.

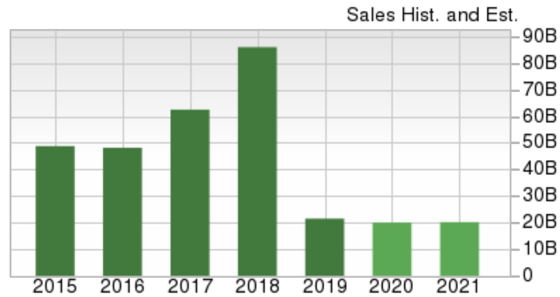
The data in the charts and tables, including the Zacks Consensus EPS and Sales estimates, is as of 10/09/2020. The reports text is as of 10/12/2020.

Overview

DuPont de Nemours, Inc., which was formerly known as DowDuPont Inc., started trading as a stand-alone company on Jun 3, 2019 following the separation of its Agriculture division through the spin-off of Corteva, Inc. Following the Corteva separation, DuPont now holds the specialty products business of the former DowDuPont.



DuPont provides technology-based materials, ingredients and solutions. It serves markets including electronics, transportation, construction, health and wellness, food and worker safety. The company, which recorded revenues of around $21.5 billion in 2019, has strong geographic, customer and end-market diversification and leading positions in core markets with businesses aligned with high-growth market trends. The company currently operates in five segments:



Electronics & Imaging: The segment provides the industry's broadest portfolio of semiconductor and advanced packaging materials. It offers differentiated materials and systems for a vast range of consumer electronics. The segment accounted for 17% of 2019 sales.

Nutrition & Biosciences: The unit is among the biggest producers of specialty ingredients globally. It offers solutions for home and personal care, food and beverage, dietary supplements, energy, animal nutrition and pharmaceuticals markets. DuPont, in late 2019, agreed to merge this unit with International Flavors & Fragrances. The deal is expected to complete by first-quarter 2021. The division accounted for 28% of 2019 sales.

Transportation & Industrial: The segment provides high-performance engineering resins, silicones, lubricants, adhesives and parts in transportation, electronics, healthcare, industrial and consumer end-markets. It accounted for 23% of 2019 sales.

Safety & Construction: The unit is a leading provider of engineered products and integrated systems for industries including construction, energy and transportation. It accounted for 24% of 2019 sales.

Non-Core: The segment supplies key materials for the production of photovoltaics and solar cells, and components and films for consumer electronics, automotive and aerospace markets. It accounted for 8% of 2019 sales.

Source: Zacks Investment Research

Reasons To Buy:

- DuPont remains focused on driving top-line growth though innovation and new product development. New product launches are driving growth in a number of areas including automotive electrification and water. The company's innovation-driven investment is focused on several high-growth areas. It remains committed to drive returns from its research and development (R&D) investment. The company plans to invest roughly $900 million on R&D in 2020.

- The company is gaining from cost synergy savings and productivity actions. DuPont achieved roughly $500 million in productivity and cost synergy savings in 2019. DuPont is also taking additional cost actions in 2020, which is expected to deliver $180 million of savings. A significant portion of this has been targeted at reducing functional general and administrative costs. DuPont delivered $130 million in cost savings in the last reported quarter. The company's cost actions are expected to contribute to its adjusted earnings per share in 2020.

DuPont will gain from its investment in innovation and new product development. Its cost and productivity actions should also support margins. DuPont also remains focused on driving shareholder value.

- The company remains focused on driving cash flow and shareholder value. It looks to boost cash flow through working capital productivity and earnings growth. The company sees around $1 billion in multi-year working capital productivity opportunity. It is taking actions to deliver more than $500 million of working capital improvement in 2020. DuPont also remains committed to effective capital allocation. At the end of 2019, the company returned more than $1.3 billion to shareholders since Jun 1, 2019. It expects to return roughly $900 million in dividends this year.

- DuPont is actively managing its portfolio with an aim for value creation. The company is divesting non-core assets to focus more on high-growth, high-margin businesses. It is making significant progress in its divestiture actions. In sync with its portfolio strategy, DuPont has agreed to combine its Nutrition & Biosciences unit with International Flavors & Fragrances to form a new entity with 55.4% shareholding. Upon the deal's closure, DuPont expects to get one-time cash payment of $7.3 billion, enabling the company to boost shareholders' returns, repay debts and focus on growth through potential merger and acquisitions. The deal is expected to close in the first quarter of 2021. DuPont has also agreed to sell its silicon wafer business to SK Siltron. The company expects its portfolio actions to boost its underlying performance.

- The company's efforts to manage its debt load appear encouraging. The company, in April 2020, issued $2 billion bond offering to satisfy the debt maturities due in November this year. During the first quarter, it also strengthened its liquidity position with $1 billion revolving credit facility. The company also ended the second quarter with a strong cash position (of around $3.8 billion). These coupled with $1.4 billion in available commercial paper, the company has roughly $6 billion of total available liquidity, which appears to be adequate to meet its short-term debt obligations of roughly $3.6 billion as of Jun 30, 2020.

Reasons To Sell:

Weak demand in certain end-use markets will hurt DuPont's volumes and organic sales. The company also faces headwinds from weak pricing, plant idling costs and unfavorable currency swings.

- DuPont's shares are down 8.5% over a year, underperforming the industry's rise of 9.7%. The company faces headwind from weak demand across some of its businesses. It saw softness across certain markets such as automotive, aerospace, industrial and oil & gas in the last reported quarter. Weakness in the automotive market (reflected by declining global automotive builds amid the coronavirus pandemic) is hurting volumes in the company's Transportation & Industrial unit. Global automotive builds were down 45% in the second quarter and the company expects automotive builds to decline more than 10% in the third quarter. DuPont is also seeing lower demand in commercial construction, industrial and aerospace & defense markets due to the coronavirus outbreak. Oil and gas industry dynamics also remain challenging. While the company is seeing some recovery in automotive, demand weakness across other end-markets is expected to continue to affect the company's organic sales in the third quarter.
- Weaker pricing is expected to dent the company's organic sales and margins for 2020. The company is facing pressure from lower nylon prices as witnessed in the most recent quarter. Nylon prices remain under pressure partly due to the supply-demand imbalance. Nylon pricing weakness is expected to continue to hurt third-quarter sales as reflected in the company's guidance. DuPont expects overall prices to be down mid-single digits year over year in the Transportation & Industrial division in the third quarter.
- The company faces earnings headwind from costs associated with idling of plants. DuPont is idling certain facilities, primarily in the Transportation & Industrial segment, to align its supply with market demand. Charges associated with plant shutdowns hurt margins in the Transportation & Industrial division in the second quarter of 2020 and the same is expected to continue in the third quarter.
- DuPont is slowing down production across most of the industrial businesses in its Safety & Construction unit to drive working capital improvement. This is expected to lead to reduced utilization in a number of businesses within this segment. The company also expects weaker mix in this segment in the third quarter due to supply constraints in its Tyvek platform as it executes routine maintenance on the assets.
- DuPont is exposed to currency headwinds, which is hurting its organic sales and earnings. Currency contributed to the year-over-year decline in its adjusted earnings for 2019. Headwind from unfavorable currency swings on earnings was 16 cents for the year. The company also saw unfavorable currency impacts on sales across all of its segments in the last reported quarter. Currency is expected to continue to impact its results moving ahead.

Last Earnings Report

DuPont's Earnings and Revenues Top Estimates in Q2

Quarter Ending	06/2020
Report Date	**Jul 30, 2020**
Sales Surprise	**3.05%**
EPS Surprise	**18.64%**
Quarterly EPS	**0.70**
Annual EPS (TTM)	**3.45**

DuPont recorded a loss (on a reported basis) from continuing operations of $3.37 per share for second-quarter 2020, wider than a loss of $1.48 per share in the year-ago quarter.

The bottom line in the reported quarter was hurt by a $2.5 billion non-cash impairment charge in the company's Transportation & Industrial segment, resulting from the global slowdown in the automotive industry due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Barring one-time items, earnings came in at 70 cents per share for the reported quarter, topping the Zacks Consensus Estimate of 59 cents.

DuPont raked in net sales of $4,828 million, down 12% from the year-ago quarter. It also surpassed the Zacks Consensus Estimate of $4,685 million.

Net sales fell 10% on an organic basis as growth in Electronics & Imaging and Nutrition & Biosciences units was more than offset by declines in the other segments.

Segment Highlights

The company's Electronics & Imaging segment recorded net sales of $905 million in the reported quarter, up 5% on a year-over-year comparison basis. Organic sales rose 7% on 7% higher volumes. Strong volume gains in Semiconductor Technologies more than offset softer demand across Interconnect Solutions and Image Solutions.

At the Nutrition & Biosciences unit, sales were down 1% year over year to $1.5 billion. Organic sales rose 1% year over year on 1% higher volumes. The company saw strength across food & beverage and health & wellness end markets.

Net sales for the Transportation & Industrial division were $832 million in the reported quarter, down 34% year over year. Organic sales fell 33% on 5% lower pricing and 28% volume decline due to weakness in the automotive market.

Net sales in the Safety & Construction unit were $1.2 billion, down 7% year over year. Organic sales fell 8% as 2% price improvement was offset by 10% lower volume. The company saw strong demand for Tyvek protective garments.

In the non-core reporting segment, net sales fell 30% year over year to $308 million. Organic sales declined 20%, impacted by 22% lower volumes. Prices rose 2% in the quarter.

Financials

DuPont had cash and cash equivalents of $3,737 million at the end of the quarter. Long-term debt was $15,608 million.

The company also generated operating cash flow of $802 million and free cash flow of $564 million in the reported quarter.

Outlook

DuPont sees sales to be modestly up in the third quarter on a sequential comparison basis. A recovery in automotive and residential construction is expected to be mostly offset by seasonal patterns in Nutrition & Biosciences and the effects of supply constraints in Tyvek. The company also expects aerospace, industrial, oil & gas commercial construction markets to remain challenged. DuPont expects adjusted earnings per share for the third quarter in the band of 71-73 cents.

Recent News

DuPont Inks Degasification Deal With Sun Chemical & DIC Corp

DuPont, on **Sep 2, 2020**, announced that DuPont Water Solutions inked an exclusive global partnership with DIC Corporation and Sun Chemical, to introduce membrane degasification modules to market.

The degasification of liquids is critical to various water treatment processes including, oil and gas production, industrial demineralization, pharmaceutical production, drinking water treatment and microelectronics production. Ligasep membrane degassing modules are part of DuPont's portfolio of water purification and separation technologies. It includes reverse osmosis, ultra-filtration and ion exchange resins.

The Ligasep product line uses a polymethylpentene hollow fiber membrane that removes dissolved gases from water, including carbon dioxide and oxygen. This prevents oxidation and reduces the ionic load on downstream processing equipment. The control of these gasses is vital for production of high-quality water used in the industrial manufacturing, power generation and semiconductor industries.

Further, the partnership supports DuPont's goal to boost access of products and technologies required to address global challenges, including the increasing need to generate clean water while reducing the energy requirements to recycle water.

DuPont Develops GWP Product to Lower GHG Emissions

DuPont, on **Jul 16, 2020**, announced the phased launch of a reduced global warming potential ("GWP") Styrofoam brand insulation in support of its commitment to lower greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions, while fostering sustainable innovation.

Notably, starting from Jan 1, 2021, the Styrofoam Brand Insulation family of products is expected to comprise of lower GWP alternatives, advancing DuPont's 2030 Sustainability Goals as well as adhering with state and provincial hydrofluorocarbon regulations across the United States and Canada.

Further, with the latest Styrofoam innovation, the company aims to incorporate a decline in embodied carbon in an updated Environmental Product Declaration, which will be available with the new products. Notably, the new GWP product, is expected to first launch in states of the United States and Canada, that have adopted hydrofluorocarbon regulations as of Apr 1, 2020, with plans to expand the product offerings moving ahead.

Valuation

DuPont's shares are down 7.6% in the year-to-date period and 8.5% over the trailing 12-month period. Stocks in the Zacks Chemical - Diversified industry and Zacks Basic Materials sector are up 0.6% and 3.2% in the year-to-date period, respectively. Over the past year, the Zacks sub-industry and sector are up 9.7% and up 14%, respectively.

The S&P 500 index is up 8.1% in the year-to-date period and up 17.5% in the past year.

The stock is currently trading at 6.67X trailing 12-month enterprise value-to EBITDA (EV/EBITDA) ratio, which compares to 8.83X for the Zacks sub-industry, 7.74X for the Zacks sector and 15.24X for the S&P 500 index.

Over the past five years, the stock has traded as high as 22.38X and as low as 3.94X, with a 5-year median of 8.86X.

Our Neutral recommendation indicates that the stock will perform in-line with the market. Our $62 price target reflects 19.19X forward 12-month earnings per share.

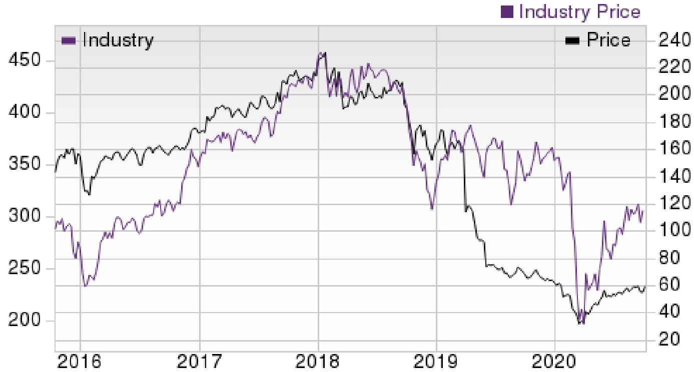
The table below shows summary valuation data for DD:

Valuation Multiples - DD

		Stock	Sub-Industry	Sector	S&P 500
EV/EBITDA TTM	Current	6.67	8.83	7.74	15.24
	5-Year High	22.38	13.12	18.41	15.66
	5-Year Low	3.94	5.19	6.49	9.53
	5-Year Median	8.86	7.52	10.16	13.08
P/E F 12M	Current	18.36	19.25	13.39	22.62
	5-Year High	22.08	19.25	21.06	23.47
	5-Year Low	7.61	8.97	9.84	15.27
	5-Year Median	14.89	13.18	13.39	17.7
P/B TTM	Current	1.16	2.07	2.29	6.04
	5-Year High	3.12	2.82	3.07	6.2
	5-Year Low	0.51	0.87	1.23	3.75
	5-Year Median	1.58	1.75	2.21	4.89

As of 10/09/2020 *Source: Zacks Investment Research*

Industry Analysis **Zacks Industry Rank:** Top 34% (86 out of 253)



Source: Zacks Investment Research

Top Peers

Company (Ticker)	Rec	Rank
Dow Inc. **(DOW)**	Outperform	3
Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. **(APD)**	Neutral	3
BASF SE **(BASFY)**	Neutral	4
The Chemours Company **(CC)**	Neutral	3
Celanese Corporation **(CE)**	Neutral	3
Eastman Chemical Company **(EMN)**	Neutral	3
LyondellBasell Industries N.V. **(LYB)**	Neutral	2
PPG Industries, Inc. **(PPG)**	Neutral	3

The positions listed should not be deemed a recommendation to buy, hold or sell.

Industry Comparison Industry: Chemical - Diversified

	DD	X Industry	S&P 500	BASFY	DOW	LYB
				Industry Peers		
Zacks Recommendation (Long Term)	Neutral	-	-	Neutral	Outperform	Neutral
Zacks Rank (Short Term)	3	-	-	4	3	2
VGM Score	C	-	-	B	A	A
Market Cap	43.52 B	2.62 B	23.82 B	59.59 B	36.58 B	26.65 B
# of Analysts	9	3	14	3	8	7
Dividend Yield	2.02%	1.63%	1.59%	4.11%	5.67%	5.26%
Value Score	C	-	-	A	C	A
Cash/Price	0.09	0.12	0.07	0.11	0.11	0.13
EV/EBITDA	11.50	8.48	13.54	7.85	18.73	6.48
PEG F1	1.96	3.50	2.94	NA	9.30	3.01
P/B	1.16	1.88	3.51	1.41	2.79	3.61
P/CF	5.89	7.36	13.47	6.81	6.65	5.63
P/E F1	19.60	21.27	22.09	28.13	46.51	16.58
P/S TTM	2.10	0.95	2.67	0.91	0.94	0.89
Earnings Yield	5.08%	4.50%	4.31%	3.58%	2.15%	6.04%
Debt/Equity	0.42	0.62	0.70	0.43	1.24	1.85
Cash Flow ($/share)	10.07	3.35	6.92	2.38	7.43	14.19
Growth Score	B	-	-	B	B	C
Historical EPS Growth (3-5 Years)	-15.55%	9.61%	10.45%	-4.75%	NA	-2.41%
Projected EPS Growth (F1/F0)	-20.70%	-20.41%	-3.01%	-48.51%	-69.93%	-49.94%
Current Cash Flow Growth	-56.42%	-8.71%	5.47%	-19.09%	-5.85%	-16.46%
Historical Cash Flow Growth (3-5 Years)	1.70%	6.32%	8.50%	-3.10%	NA	-3.48%
Current Ratio	1.50	1.96	1.35	1.62	1.74	2.36
Debt/Capital	29.35%	38.21%	42.90%	30.27%	55.43%	65.15%
Net Margin	-12.31%	3.89%	10.28%	1.81%	-5.05%	6.79%
Return on Equity	6.33%	10.91%	14.79%	6.85%	10.31%	29.99%
Sales/Assets	0.30	0.73	0.51	0.66	0.64	0.97
Projected Sales Growth (F1/F0)	-43.99%	-4.09%	-0.62%	-2.15%	-14.11%	-22.76%
Momentum Score	D	-	-	D	A	C
Daily Price Change	0.07%	0.00%	0.24%	-3.28%	-0.04%	0.73%
1-Week Price Change	-0.49%	1.60%	2.13%	4.90%	2.76%	3.76%
4-Week Price Change	2.74%	2.51%	4.78%	1.57%	1.36%	12.55%
12-Week Price Change	8.27%	10.04%	7.34%	10.04%	12.62%	15.95%
52-Week Price Change	-6.07%	1.30%	6.73%	-5.97%	9.88%	-4.86%
20-Day Average Volume (Shares)	4,406,554	80,562	2,121,744	217,487	4,614,409	2,557,366
EPS F1 Estimate 1-Week Change	0.11%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	3.03%	-0.17%
EPS F1 Estimate 4-Week Change	0.30%	0.00%	0.00%	-8.47%	35.86%	2.98%
EPS F1 Estimate 12-Week Change	5.81%	3.93%	3.47%	-16.02%	0.86%	1.34%
EPS Q1 Estimate Monthly Change	-0.22%	0.00%	0.00%	-12.50%	40.08%	6.21%

Source: Zacks Investment Research

Zacks Stock Rating System

We offer two rating systems that take into account investors' holding horizons: Zacks Rank and Zacks Recommendation. Each provides valuable insights into the future profitability of the stock and can be used separately or in combination with each other depending on your investment style.

Zacks Recommendation

The Zacks Recommendation aims to predict performance over the next 6 to 12 months. The foundation for the quantitatively determined Zacks Recommendation is trends in the company's estimate revisions and earnings outlook. The Zacks Recommendation is broken down into 3 Levels; Outperform, Neutral and Underperform. Unlike many Wall Street firms, we maintain a balance between the number of Outperform and Neutral recommendations. Our team of 70 analysts are fully versed in the benefits of earnings estimate revisions and how that is harnessed through the Zacks quantitative rating system. But we have given our analysts the ability to override the Zacks Recommendation for the 1200 stocks that they follow. The reason for the analyst over-rides is that there are often factors such as valuation, industry conditions and management effectiveness that a trained investment professional can spot better than a quantitative model.

Zacks Rank

The Zacks Rank is our short-term rating system that is most effective over the one- to three-month holding horizon. The underlying driver for the quantitatively-determined Zacks Rank is the same as the Zacks Recommendation, and reflects trends in earnings estimate revisions.

Zacks Style Scores

The Zacks Style Score is as a complementary indicator to the Zacks rating system, giving investors a way to focus on the highest rated stocks that best fit their own stock picking preferences.

Academic research has proven that stocks with the best Value, Growth and Momentum characteristics outperform the market. The Zacks Style Scores rate stocks on each of these individual styles and assigns a rating of A, B, C, D and F. We also produce the VGM Score (V for Value, G for Growth and M for Momentum), which combines the weighted average of the individual Style Scores into one score. This is perfectly suited for those who want their stocks to have the best scores across the board.

Value Score	C
Growth Score	B
Momentum Score	D
VGM Score	C

As an investor, you want to buy stocks with the highest probability of success. That means buying stocks with a Zacks Recommendation of Outperform, which also has a Style Score of an A or a B.

Disclosures

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ZIR uses the following rating system for the securities it covers. **Outperform-** ZIR expects that the subject company will outperform the broader U.S. equities markets over the next six to twelve months. **Neutral-** ZIR expects that the company will perform in line with the broader U.S. equities markets over the next six to twelve months. **Underperform-** ZIR expects the company will underperform the broader U.S. equities markets over the next six to twelve months.

Additional Disclosure

This material represents an assessment of the market and economic environment at a specific point in time and is not intended to be a forecast of future events, or a guarantee of future results. Forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties. Any statements that refer to expectations, projections or characterizations of future events or circumstances, including any underlying assumptions, are forwardlooking statements. Actual results, performance, or achievements may differ materially from those expressed or implied.

Returns quoted represent past performance which is no guarantee of future results. Investment returns and principal value will fluctuate so that when shares are redeemed, they may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be higher or lower than the performance shown.

Investing involves risk; principal loss is possible. There is no guarantee that companies that can issue dividends will declare, continue to pay or increase dividends.

Glossary of Terms and Definitions

52-Week High-Low: The range of the highest and lowest prices at which a stock has traded during the past year. This range is determined based on the stock's daily closing price which may differ from the intra-day high or low. Many investors use it as a technical indicator to determine a stock's current value and future price movement. The idea here is that if price breaks out from the 52-week range, in either direction, the momentum may continue in the same direction.

20-Day Average Volume (Shares): The average number of shares of a company traded in a day over the last 20 days. It is a direct indication of a security's overall liquidity. The higher the average daily trading volume, the easier it is to enter or exit the stock at a desired price with more buyers and sellers being available.

Daily Price Change: This is the percentage difference between a trading day's closing price and the prior trading day's closing price. This item is updated at 9 p.m. EST each day.

1-Week Price Change: This is the percentage change in a stock's closing price over the last 5 trading days. This change reflects the collective buying and selling sentiment over the 1-week period.

A strong weekly price increase for the stock, especially when accompanied by increased volume, is an indication of it gaining momentum.

4-Week Price Change: This is the percentage change in a stock's closing price over the last 20 trading days or past 4 weeks. This is a mediumterm price change metric and an indication of the stock gaining momentum.

12-Week Price Change: This is the percentage change of a stock's closing price over the last 60 trading days or past 12 weeks. Similar to 4-week price change, this is a medium-term price change metric. It shows whether a stock has been enjoying strong investor demand, or if it has been in consolidation, or distress over this period.

52-Week Price Change: This is the percentage change in a stock’s closing price over the last 260 trading days or past 52 weeks. This long-term price change metric is a good reference point for investors. Some investors seek stocks with the best percentage price change over the last 52 weeks, expecting the momentum to continue.

Market Cap: The number of outstanding common shares of a company times its latest price per share. This figure represents a company's size, which indicates various characteristics, including price stability and risk, in which investors could be interested.

Year-To-Date Price Change: Change in a stock's daily closing price in the period of time beginning the first day of the current calendar year through to the previous trading day.

# of Analysts: Number of EPS estimates used in calculating the current-quarter consensus. These estimates come from the brokerage analysts tracking this stock. However, the number of such analysts tracking this stock may not match the number of estimates, as all brokerage analysts may not come up with an estimate or provide it to us.

Beta: A measure of risk commonly used to compare the volatility of a stock to the overall market. The S&P 500 Index is the base for calculating beta and carries a value of 1. A stock with beta below 1 is less risky than the market as a whole. And a stock with beta above 1 is riskier.

Dividend: The portion of earnings a company is expected to distribute to its common shareholders in the next 12 months for each share they own. Dividends are usually paid quarterly. Dividend payments reflect positively on a company and help maintain investors' trust. Investors typically find dividend-paying stocks appealing because the dividend adds to any market price appreciation to result in higher return on investment (ROI). Moreover, a steady or increasing dividend payment provides investors a cushion in a down market.

Dividend Yield: The ratio of a company's annual dividend to its share price. The annual dividend used in the ratio is calculated based on the mostrecent dividend paid by the company. Dividend yield is an estimate of the dividend-only return from a stock in the next 12 months. Since dividend itself doesn’t change frequently, dividend yield usually changes with a stock’s price movement. As a result, often an unusually high dividend yield is a result of weak stock price.

S&P 500 Index: The Standard & Poor's 500 (S&P 500) Index is an unmanaged group of securities considered to be representative of the stock market in general. It is a market-capitalization-weighted index of stocks of the 500 largest U.S. companies. Each stock’s weight in the index is proportionate to its market value.

Industry: One of the 250+ groups that Zacks classifies all stocks into based on the nature of business. These groups are termed as expanded (aka "X") industries and map to their respective (economic) sectors; Zacks has 16 sectors.

Zacks Industry Rank: The Zacks Industry Rank is determined by calculating the average Zacks Rank for all stocks in the industry and then assigning an ordinal rank to it. For example, an industry with an average Zacks Rank of 1.6 is better than an industry with an average Zacks Rank of 2.3. So, the industry with the better average Zacks Rank would get a better Zacks Industry Rank. If an industry has the best average Zacks Rank, it would be considered the top industry (1 out of 250+), which would place it at the top 1% of Zacks-ranked industries. Studies have shown that roughly half of a stock's price movement can be attributed to the industry group it belongs to. In fact, the top 50% of Zacks-ranked industries outperforms the bottom 50% by a factor of more than 2 to 1.

Last EPS Surprise: The percentage deviation of a company's last reported earnings per share from the Zacks Consensus Estimate. Companies with a positive earnings surprise are more likely to surprise again in the future (or miss again if they recently missed).

Last Sales Surprise: The percentage deviation of a company's last reported sales from the Zacks Consensus Estimate.

Expected Report Date: This is an estimated date of a company's next earnings release. The information originated or gathered by Zacks Investment Research from its information providers or publicly available sources is the basis of this estimate.

Earnings ESP: The Zacks Earnings ESP compares the Most Accurate Estimate to the Zacks Consensus Estimate for the yet-to-be reported quarter. The Most Accurate Estimate is the most recent version of the Zacks Consensus EPS Estimate. The idea here is that analysts revising their estimates closer to an earnings release have the latest information, which could potentially be more accurate than what they and others contributing to the consensus had predicted earlier. Thus, a positive or negative Earnings ESP reading theoretically indicates the likely deviation of the actual earnings from the consensus estimate. However, the model's predictive power is significant for positive ESP readings only. A positive Earnings ESP is a strong predictor of an earnings beat, particularly when combined with a Zacks Rank #1 (Strong Buy), #2 (Buy) or #3 (Hold). Our research shows that stocks with this combination produce a positive surprise nearly 70% of the time.

Periods:

TTM: Trailing 12 months. Using TTM figures is an effective way of analyzing the most-recent financial data in an annualized format that helps neutralize the effects of seasonality and other quarter-to-quarter variation.

F1: Current fiscal year. This period is used to analyze the estimates for the ongoing full fiscal year.

F2: Next fiscal year. This period is used to analyze the estimates for the next full fiscal year.

F12M: Forward 12 months. Using F12M figures is an effective way of analyzing the near-term (the following four unreported quarters) estimates in an annualized manner. Instead of typically representing estimates for the full fiscal year, which may not represent the nitty-gritty of each quarter, F12M figures suggest an all-inclusive annualized estimate for the following four quarters. The annualization helps neutralize the potential effects of seasonality and other quarter-to-quarter variations.

P/E Ratio: The price-to-earnings ratio measures a company's current market price per share relative to its earnings per share (EPS). Usually, the trailing-12-month (TTM) EPS, current-fiscal-year (F1) EPS estimate, or forward-12-month (F12M) EPS estimate is used as the denominator. In essence, this ratio shows what the market is willing to pay today for each dollar of EPS. In other words, this ratio gives a sense of what the relative value of the company is at the already reported level of earnings or at a future level of earnings.

It is one of the most widely-used multiples for determining the value of a company and helps comparing its valuation with that of a competitor, the industry group or a benchmark.

PEG Ratio: The price/earnings to growth ratio is a stock's P/E ratio using current fiscal year (F1) EPS estimate divided by its expected EPS growth rate over the coming 3 to 5 years. This ratio essentially determines a stock's value by factoring in the company’s expected earnings growth and is thus believed to provide a more complete picture than just the P/E ratio, particularly for faster-growing companies.

P/S Ratio: The price-to-sales ratio is calculated as a company’s current price per share divided by trailing 12 months (TTM) sales or revenues per share. This ratio shows what the market is willing to pay today for each dollar of TTM sales per share. The P/S ratio is at times the only valuation metric when the company has yet to become profitable.

Cash/Price Ratio: The cash-to-price ratio or Cash Yield is calculated as cash and marketable securities per share divided by the company’s current share price. Like the earnings yield, which shows the anticipated yield (or return) on a stock from earnings for each dollar invested, the cash yield does the same, with cash being the source of return instead of earnings. For example, a cash/price ratio of 0.08 suggests a return of 8% or 8 cents for every $1 investment.

EV/EBITDA Ratio: The EV/EBITDA ratio, also known as Enterprise Multiple, is calculated as a company’s enterprise value (market capitalization + value of total long-term debt + book value of preferred shares - cash and marketable securities) divided by EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization). Usually, trailing-12-month (TTM) or forward-12-month (F12M) EBITDA is used as the denominator.

EV/Sales Ratio: The enterprise value-to-sales ratio is calculated as a company's enterprise value (market capitalization + value of total long-term debt + book value of preferred shares - cash and marketable securities) divided by annual sales. It is an expansion of the P/S valuation, which uses market value instead of enterprise value. The EV/Sales ratio is perceived as more accurate than P/S, in part, because the market capitalization does not take a company's debt into account when valuing it.

EV/CF Ratio: The enterprise value-to-cash flow ratio is calculated as a company's enterprise value (market capitalization + value of total long-term debt + book value of preferred shares - cash and marketable securities) divided by the trailing-12-month (TTM) operating cash flow. It's a measure of how long it would take to buy the entire business if you were able to use all the company's operating cash flow.

The EV/CF ratio is perceived as more accurate than the P/CF ratio, in part, because the market price does not take a company's debt into account when valuing it.

EV/FCF Ratio: The enterprise value-to-free cash flow metric compares a company's enterprise value to its trailing-12-month (TTM) free cash flow (FCF). This metric is very similar to the EV/CF ratio, but is considered a more exact measure owing to the fact that it uses free cash flow, which subtracts capital expenditures (CAPEX) from a company's total operating cash flow, thereby reflecting the actual cash flow available for funding growth activities and payments to shareholders.

P/EBITDA Ratio: The P/EBITDA ratio is calculated as a company's per share market value divided by EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization). This metric is very similar to the EV/EBITDA ratio, but is considered a little less exact measure as it uses market price, which does not take a company's debt into account. However, since EBITDA is often considered a proxy for cash income, the metric is used as a measure of what the market is willing to pay today for each dollar of the company's cash profitability in the trailing 12 months (TTM) or forward 12 months (F12M).

P/B Ratio: The price-to-book ratio is calculated as a company's current price per share divided by its book value (total assets – liabilities – preferred stocks) per share. In short, the book value is how much a company is worth. In other words, it reflects the total value of a company's assets that its common shareholders would receive if it were to be liquidated. So, the P/B ratio indicates whether you're paying higher or lower than what would remain if the company went bankrupt immediately. Investors typically use this metric to determine how a company's stock price stacks up to its intrinsic value.

P/TB Ratio: The price-to-tangible-book value ratio is calculated as a the per share market value of a company divided by the value of its tangible assets (total assets – liabilities – preferred stocks – intangible assets) per share. Tangible book value is the same thing as book value except it excludes the value of intangible assets to get a step closer to the baseline value of the company.

P/CF Ratio: The price-to-cash flow ratio measures a company's per share market price relative to its trailing-12-month (TTM) operating cash flow per share. This metric is used to determine whether a company is undervalued or overvalued relative to another stock, industry or sector. And like the P/E ratio, a lower number is typically considered better from the value perspective.

One of the reasons why P/CF ratio is often preferred over P/E ratio is the fact that operating cash flow adds back non-cash expenses such as depreciation and amortization to net income. This feature helps valuing stocks that have positive cash flow but are not profitable because of large noncash charges.

P/FCF Ratio: The price-to-free cash flow ratio is an extension of P/CF ratio, which uses trailing-12-month (TTM) free cash flow per share instead of operating cash flow per share. This metric is considered a more exact measure than P/CF ratio, as free cash flow subtracts capital expenditures (CAPEX) from a company's total operating cash flow, thereby reflecting the actual cash flow available for funding activities that generate additional revenues.

Earnings Yield: The earnings yield is calculated as current fiscal year (F1) EPS estimate divided by the company's current share price. The ratio, which is the inverse of the P/E ratio, measures the anticipated yield (or return) from earnings for each dollar invested in a stock today.

For example, earnings yield for a stock, which is trading at $35 and expected to earn $3 per share in the current fiscal year (F1), would be 0.0857 (3/35 = 0.0857) or 8.57%. In other words, for $1 invested in the stock today, the yield from earnings is anticipated to be 8.57 cents.

Investors most commonly compare the earnings yield of a stock to that of a broad market index (such as the S&P 500) and prevailing interest rates, such as the current 10-year Treasury yield. Since bonds and stocks compete for investors' dollars, stock investors typically demand a higher yield for the extra risk they assume compared to investors of U.S. Treasury-backed securities that offer virtually risk-free returns. This additional return is referred to as the risk premium.

Debt/Equity Ratio: The debt-to-equity ratio is calculated as a company's total liabilities divided by its shareholder equity. This metric is used to gauge a company's financial leverage. In other words, it is a measure of the degree to which a company is financing its operations through debt versus its own funds. The higher the ratio, the higher the risk for shareholders.

However, this ratio is difficult to compare across industry groups where ideal amounts of debt vary. Some businesses are more capital intensive than others and typically require higher debt to finance their operations. So, a company's debt-to-equity ratio should be compared with other companies in the same industry.

Cash Flow ($/share): Cash flow per share is calculated as operating cash flow (after-tax earnings + depreciation + other non-cash charges) divided by common shares outstanding. It is used by many investors as a measure of a company's financial strength. Since cash flow per share takes into consideration a company's ability to generate cash by adding back non-cash expenses, it is regarded by some as a more accurate measure of a company's financial situation than earnings per share, which could be artificially deflated.

Current Ratio: The current ratio or liquidity ratio is a company's current assets divided by its current liabilities. It measures a company's ability to pay short-term obligations. A current ratio that is in line with the industry average or slightly higher is generally considered acceptable. A current ratio that is lower than the industry average would indicate a higher risk of distress or default. A higher number is usually better. However, a very high current ratio compared to the industry average could be an indication of inefficient use of assets by management.

Debt/Capital Ratio: Debt-to-capital ratio is a company's total debt (interest-bearing debt + both short- and long-term liabilities) divided its total capital (interest-bearing debt + shareholders' equity). It is a measure of a company's financial leverage. All else being equal, the higher the debt-to-capital ratio, the riskier the stock.

However, this ratio can vary widely from industry to industry, the ideal amount of required debt being different. Some businesses are more capital intensive than others and typically require higher debt to finance their operations. So, a company's debt-to-capital ratio should be compared with the same for its industry.

Net Margin: Net margin is calculated as net income divided by sales. It shows how much of each dollar in sales generated by a company translates into profit. For example, if a company's net margin is 15%, its net income is 15 cents for every $1 of sales it makes.

A change in margin can reflect either a change in business conditions, or a company's cost controls, or both. If a company's expenses are growing faster than sales, its net margin will decline. However, different net margin rates are considered good for different industries, so it's better to compare net margin rates of companies in the same industry group.

Return on Equity: Return on equity (ROE) is calculated as trailing-12-month net income divided by trailing-12-month average shareholder equity (including reinvested earnings). This metric is considered a measure of how effectively management is using a company's assets to generate profits. For example, if a company's ROE is 10%, it creates 10 cents profits for every $1 shareholder equity, which is basically the company's assets minus debt. A company's ROE deemed good or bad depends on what's normal for its peers or industry group.

Sales/Assets Ratio: The sales-to-assets ratio or asset utilization ratio or asset turnover ratio is calculated as a company's annual sales divided by average assets (average of assets at the beginning of the year and at the year's end). This metric helps investors understand how effectively a company is using its assets to generate sales. For example, a sales-to-assets ratio of 2.5 indicates that the company generated $2.50 in sales for every $1 of assets on its books.

The higher the sales-to-assets ratio, the better the company is performing. However, similar to many other ratios, the asset turnover ratio tends to be higher for companies in certain industries/sectors than in others. So, a company's sales-to-assets ratio should be compared with the same for its industry/sector.

Historical EPS Growth (3-5 Years): This is the average annual (trailing-12-month) EPS growth rate over the last 3-5 years. This metric helps investors see how a company's EPS has grown from a long-term perspective.

Note: There are many factors that can influence short-term numbers — a recession will reduce this number, while a recovery will inflate it. The longterm perspective helps smooth out short-term events.

Projected EPS Growth (F1/F0): This is the estimated EPS growth rate for the current financial year. It is calculated as the consensus estimate for the current fiscal year (F1) divided by the reported EPS for the last completed fiscal year (F0).

Current Cash Flow Growth: It measures the latest year-over-year change in operating cash flow. Cash flow growth tells an investor how quickly a company is generating inflows of cash from operations. A positive change in the cash flow is desired and shows that more 'cash' is coming in than going out.

Historical Cash Flow Growth (3-5 Years): This is the annualized change in cash flow over the last 3-5 years. The change in a longer period helps put the current reading into proper perspective. By looking at the rate, rather than the actual dollar value, the comparison across the industry and peers becomes easier.

Projected Sales Growth (F1/F0): This metric looks at the estimated sales growth for the current year. It is calculated as sales estimate for the current fiscal year (F1) divided by the reported sales for the last completed fiscal year (F0).

Like EPS growth, a higher rate is better for sales growth. A look at a company's projected sales growth instantly tells you what the outlook is for their products and services. However, different sales growth rates are considered good for different industries, so it's better to compare sales growth rates of companies in the same industry group.

EPS F1 Estimate 1-Week Change: The percentage change in the Zacks Consensus EPS estimate for the current fiscal year over the past week. The change in a company's consensus EPS estimate (or earnings estimate revision) has proven to be strongly correlated with the near-term price movement of its shares. It is an integral part of the Zacks Rank.

If a stock's consensus EPS estimate is $1.10 now versus $1.00 a week ago, that will be reflected as a 10% upward revision. If, on the other hand, it went from $1.00 to 90 cents, that would be a 10% downward revision.

EPS F1 Estimate 4-Week Change: The percentage change in the Zacks Consensus EPS estimate for the current fiscal year over the past four weeks.

A stock's earnings estimate revision in a 1-week period is important. But it's more meaningful to look at the longer-term revision. And, of course, the 4-week change helps put the 1-week change into proper perspective.

EPS F1 Estimate 12-Week Change: The percentage change in the Zacks Consensus EPS estimate for the current fiscal year over the past 12 weeks.

This metric essentially shows how the consensus EPS estimate has changed over a period longer than 1 week or 4 weeks.

EPS Q1 Estimate Monthly Change: The percentage change in the Zacks Consensus EPS estimate for the current fiscal quarter over the past four weeks.

While the revision in consensus EPS estimate for the current fiscal year is strongly correlated with the near-term price movement of its shares, the estimate revision for the current fiscal quarter is an important metric as well, especially over the short term, and particularly as a stock approaches its earnings date. If a stock's Q1 EPS estimate decreases ahead of its earnings release, it's usually a negative sign, whereas an increase is a positive sign.