

Hyatt Hotels(H) Long Term: 6-12 Months Zacks Recommendation: (Since: 11/13/19) Neutral \$53.95 (As of 08/07/20) Prior Recommendation: Underperform Price Target (6-12 Months): \$57.00 Short Term: 1-3 Months Zacks Rank: (1-5) 4-Sell Zacks Style Scores: VGM:F Value: C Growth: F Momentum: D

Summary

Shares of Hyatt have underperformed the industry so far this year. The company reported second-quarter 2020 results, wherein earnings and revenues missed the Zacks Consensus Estimate. Moreover, both the metrics also declined year over year owing to the coronavirus pandemic. RevPAR also decreased year over year. The company has also discontinued all share repurchase activity and suspended dividend payments owing to the uncertainty stemming from the crisis. Notably, earning estimates for 2020 have declined over the past 30 days. However, the company's differentiated brand portfolio and strong expansion plans bode well. Also, its increased focus on strengthening financial flexibility and core operation is noteworthy. The company announced that outside of China and South Korea the company is witnessing increase in demand in few markets

Data Overview

52 Week High-Low	\$94.98 - \$24.02
20 Day Average Volume (sh)	760,456
Market Cap	\$5.2 B
YTD Price Change	-43.0%
Beta	1.36
Dividend / Div Yld	\$0.58 / 1.1%
Industry	Hotels and Motels
Zacks Industry Rank	Bottom 4% (241 out of 252)

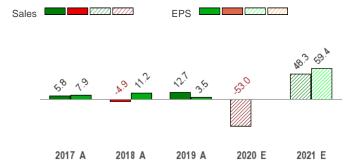
Last EPS Surprise	-30.4%
Last Sales Surprise	-0.2%
EPS F1 Est- 4 week change	-35.6%
Expected Report Date	NA
Earnings ESP	0.0%

P/E TTM	NA
P/E F1	NA
PEG F1	NA
P/S TTM	1.4

Price, Consensus & Surprise



Sales and EPS Growth Rates (Y/Y %)



Sales Estimates (millions of \$)

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2021	768 E	780 E	874 E	948 E	3,496 E
2020	993 A	250 A	460 E	659 E	2,358 E
2019	1,241 A	1,289 A	1,215 A	1,275 A	5,020 A

EPS Estimates

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2021	-\$0.62 E	-\$0.52 E	-\$0.27 E	-\$0.17 E	-\$1.67 E
2020	-\$0.35 A	-\$1.80 A	-\$1.17 E	-\$0.92 E	-\$4.11 E
2019	\$0.45 A	\$0.76 A	\$0.37 A	\$0.47 A	\$2.05 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 08/07/2020. The reports text is as of 08/10/2020.

Overview

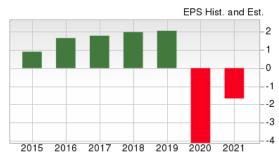
Hyatt Hotels Corporation is a leading global hospitality company engaged in the development, ownership, operation, management, franchising and licensing of a portfolio of properties, including hotels, resorts and residential and vacation ownership properties around the world. As of Mar 31, 2020, the company's portfolio included more than 900 properties in 65 countries across six continents. The company's portfolio has more than 20 premier brands.

Hyatt manages its business within four reportable segments:

The Owned and Leased Hotels segment consists of the company's owned and leased hotel properties, located mostly in the Unites States and also across few international locations.

The Americas Management and Franchising segment includes management and franchising of the company's properties located in the United States, Latin America, Canada and the Caribbean. The segment revenues also include the reimbursement of costs incurred for managed and franchised properties.

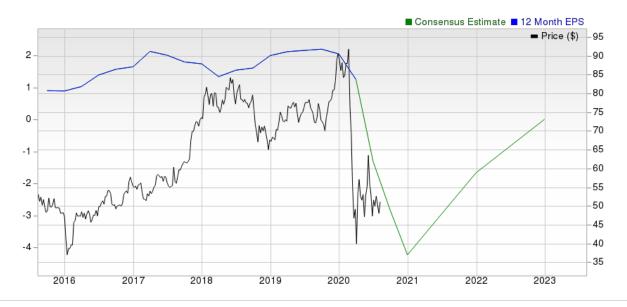
The ASPAC Management and Franchising segment comprises the company's management and franchising of properties located in Southeast Asia, as well as greater China, Australia, South Korea, Japan and Micronesia. The segment revenues also include the reimbursement of costs incurred for managed and franchised properties.





The EAME/SW Asia Management and Franchising segment encompasses the company's management and franchising of properties located primarily in Europe, Africa, the Middle East, India, Central Asia and Nepal. The segment revenues also include the reimbursement of costs incurred for managed and franchised properties.

Notably, in 2017, Hyatt acquired Exhale Enterprises from an unrelated third party for a price of \$16 million. Also, in Jan 2017, the company acquired Miraval, the renowned provider of wellness and mindfulness experiences, for \$239 million, subject to working capital adjustments. In November 2018, Hyatt completed the acquisition of Two Roads for \$405 million. As of Dec 31, 2018, the acquisition of Two Roads added 65 hotel properties or approximately 12,000 rooms, along with 10 condominium ownership properties comprising approximately 1,500 units, to the company's portfolio.



Reasons To Buy:

▲ Strong Brand Recognition Across the Globe: Hyatt aims to differentiate its brands from one another by providing distinct travel experiences. Hyatt is also consistently trying to expand its presence worldwide and has expansion plans in Asia-Pacific, Europe, Africa, Middle East and Latin America. Expansion in these markets should help the company gain market share in the hospitality industry, thus boosting business. Thus, an essential aspect of the company's riveting growth potential is its strong brand presence and continual expansion in higher growth and under-penetrated markets such as India and China. Apart from these, the company has also announced expansion plans in diverse international markets like Australia, Brazil, Germany, the U.K., Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand, Netherlands and others. Meanwhile, the company's new signings across its brands globally have consistently outpaced openings. In 2018 and 2019, Hyatt registered

We expect Hyatt's differentiated brand portfolio, strong expansion plans and acquisition strategies to spur growth

net room growth of 13.6% and 7.4%, on a year-over-year basis, respectively. For the first and second-quarter 2020, Hyatt registered net room growth of 6.3% and 5.8%, respectively. The company announced that net rooms have increased by over 40% and its pipeline has nearly doubled. This trend is anticipated to continue in 2020 and beyond.

▲ Gradual Increase in Demand: As the economy is opening up, signs of improvement can be noticed in greater parts of China and South Korea. Moreover, the company stated that outside of China and South Korea, it is witnessing increase in demand in few markets but at a slower rate. With signs of recovery in greater China, preliminary estimates for occupancy stands at 57% for July. However, excluding Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan, occupancy rates are estimated at 65%.

Coming to hotel openings, approximately 87% of total system-wide hotels were open as of Jul 31, 2020, compared with around 65% of total system-wide hotels as of Apr 30, 2020. Approximately 75% of full-service hotels and 96% of select service hotels in the Americas, 70% of hotels in the EAME/SW Asia region, and 92% in the ASPAC region were open. In the owned and leased hotels segment, approximately 69% of the hotels were operating.

- ▲ Focus on Expanding Select Service Presence: The Hyatt Place and Hyatt House brands allow to expand Hyatt's presence globally in a bid to further strengthen its fast-growing select service category. The company strongly believes that the opportunity for properties that offer selected services at a lower price than full-service hotels is particularly compelling in certain markets, including India, China and the Middle East. This is because there is a large and growing middle-class population in these markets along with a significant number of local business travelers. Notably, the company intends to grow its select service presence via third-party construction of new franchised properties, conversion and renovation of existing non-Hyatt properties, and in certain cases, participation in the development of new managed properties. Select service production in the United States has slowed owing to constraints on financing. However, select service production is likely to recover as there are significant opportunities for global growth of select service brands.
- Acquisition & Divestitures as Growth Strategies: Hyatt is strongly invested in the strategies related to various acquisitions and divestitures that can drive growth for the company. In 2017, the company acquired Miraval Group, which extended the Hyatt brand beyond traditional hotel stays into a wellness category that resonates well with the high-end travelers. Moreover, the company is also increasing its focus on private accommodations, another fast-growing travel segment, which has the potential to extend the Hyatt brand beyond traditional hotel space and is a fantastic fit to the Hyatt portfolio and its brand positioning. The company has also acquired Exhale for \$16 million and the 693-room Hyatt Regency Phoenix, Arizona, for roughly \$140 million. In 2018, the company also acquired lifestyle hotel management company Two Roads Hospitality. These buyouts are part of Hyatt's ongoing asset recycling program. In an effort to strengthen financial flexibility and focus more on core operation, the company is also focusing on the sale of assets. The sale of assets is helping Hyatt grow through management and licensing arrangements instead of direct ownership of selective assets. However, the company does not intend to sell assets at distressed prices just to meet goals.
- ▲ Loyalty Program and Other Initiatives to Increase Occupancy: In order to survive in a tough economic environment, Hyatt is continuously devising newer ways to enhance guest experience and raise occupancy. Successful innovation has been a trademark of Hyatt, with a commitment to impactful architectural design of hotels in both the large-scale convention and smaller leisure markets. The company also has a creative approach to food and beverage at its hotels worldwide and has created profitable and popular venues that build and enhance demand for its hotel properties. Meanwhile, in 2017, the company launched a new loyalty program, World of Hyatt, which replaced its Gold Passport loyalty program. Notably, World of Hyatt is a platform for guest engagement. The company is witnessing a higher level of guest satisfaction owing to the enhancements.
- ▲ Enough Liquidity to Tide Over Coronavirus Crisis: Hyatt has enough liquidity to survive the coronavirus pandemic for some time. As of Jun 30, 2020, the company has nearly \$3.1 billion of liquidity. During the first-quarter 2020 conference call, the company stated that it has sufficient liquidity to maintain operations at the current scenario for the next 30 months. As of Jun 30, the company's long-term debt stands at \$2.5 billion, compared with \$1.9 billion at the end of Mar 31, 2020. However, the company has only long-term debt maturity of \$250 million, which is due in third-quarter 2021. Moreover, the company has a debt to capitalization ratio of 0.41, which indicates that Hyatt is well positioned to meet debt obligations.

Reasons To Sell:

▼ Coronavirus Impact: The COVID-19 pandemic and related travel restrictions and other containment efforts have impacted the company significantly. Owing to the uncertainty of the crisis, the company has discontinued all share repurchase activity and suspended dividend payments. The suspension of share repurchases and dividend payments will continue through first-quarter 2021.

Decline in RevPAR and occupancy rates due to the coronavirus pandemic and stiff competition remain a concern.

▼ Dismal RevPar Performance: The company has been experiencing significant decline in demand due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which is resulting in a system-wide RevPAR decrease. In second-quarter 2020, Owned and leased hotels, Americas full-service hotels, Americas select-service hotels and ASPAC full-service hotels RevPAR declined 97.4%, 95.7%, 81.2% and 79.1%, respectively.

With travel restrictions and quarantines in place, the company has been witnessing Dismal Revpar worldwide. Nonetheless, the company stated that it has been witnessing sequential improvement in Revpar since April. However, for July, preliminary estimates indicate a decline of approximately 76% in RevPAR for all comparable system-wide hotels compared with that of 2019. Notably, the decline can primarily be attributed to the negative impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

- ▼ Valuation Looks Inappropriate: Hyatt's valuation looks a bit stretched when compared with the industry average. Looking at the company's EV/EBITDA ratio (Enterprise Value/ Earnings before Interest Tax Depreciation and Amortization), investors might not want to pay any further premium. The company currently has a trailing 12-month EV/EBITDA ratio of 50.24X, which makes it overvalued compared with its peers as the industry average EV/EBITDA currently is 13.66x.
- ▼ Geopolitical Concerns: The company has a considerable international presence, which makes it vulnerable to the economic conditions in the region. In the Middle East, political unrest, lower government spending, new hotel supply and a tough oil market continue to hurt tourism and is a cause of concern. Also, the slowdown in the Chinese economy might continue to hurt discretionary spending as well as travel.

Moreover, since the company's operations outside the United States represent approximately 20% of net revenues, in 2018, the costs of complying with laws, regulations and policies (including taxation policies) of foreign governments relating to investments and operations, may affect the company's profitability. Also, volatility in exchange rates is likely to hurt results similar to the past few quarters. Moreover, Donald Trump's stringent policies on immigration and tourist visa seem to have impelled international visitors to rethink about their vacation plans in the United States. Evidently, there has been a continued slowdown in U.S.-bound air travel bookings ever since Trump took charge. The ongoing trade spat between China and the United States had led to a demand slump in greater China.

▼ Cutthroat Competition: The hotel industry is highly competitive, as major hospitality chains with well-established and recognized brands are continuously expanding their global presence. Hyatt is continuously facing intense competition from both large hotel chains and smaller independent local hospitality providers.

Increasingly, the company also faces competition from new channels of distribution in the travel industry. Additional sources of competition include large companies that offer online travel services as part of their business model such as Alibaba, search engines such as Google and peer-to-peer inventory sources that allow travelers to book stays on websites that facilitate the short-term rental homes and apartments from owners, thereby providing an alternative to hotel rooms, such as Airbnb and HomeAway. Unless Hyatt counters these competitions with appropriate strategies, it may pose a concern to the company's future profitability.

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Last Earnings Report

Hyatt Q2 Earnings & Revenues Miss Estimates, Fall Y/Y

Hyatt reported dismal second-quarter 2020 results, wherein earnings and revenues not only missed the Zacks Consensus Estimate but also declined sharply on a year-over-year basis.

The company reported adjusted loss per share of \$1.80, wider than the Zacks Consensus Estimate of a loss of \$1.38. In the prior-year quarter, the company had reported adjusted earnings per share of 76 cents.

Quarterly revenues of \$250 million missed the consensus mark of \$251 million by 0.2%. The top line also declined 80.6% from the year-ago quarter.

Quarter Ending 06/2020 Report Date Aug 03, 2020 Sales Surprise -0.22% EPS Surprise -30.43% Quarterly EPS -1.80 Annual EPS (TTM) -1.31

Operating Highlights

Adjusted EBITDA slumped 154.6% to \$117 million (down 155.2% at constant currency). Moreover, adjusted EBITDA declined 274.6% in the second quarter against 31.6% growth in the year-ago quarter.

Segmental Details

Hyatt manages business through four reportable segments — Owned and Leased Hotels; Americas Management and Franchising; Southeast Asia, Greater China, Australia, South Korea, Japan and Micronesia (ASPAC) Management and Franchising; and Europe, Africa, Middle East and Southwest Asia (EAME/SW Asia) Management and Franchising.

Revenues at Owned and Leased Hotels totaled \$20 million, down 95.9% from the year-ago quarter number. The sharp decline can primarily be attributed to the impact of coronavirus on comparable owned and leased hotels as well as dispositions. Owned and leased hotels RevPAR declined 97.4% in the quarter. While ADR was down 32.6%, occupancy rate declined 75 percentage points during the second quarter.

Meanwhile, adjusted EBITDA decreased 168.2% to (\$78) million. At constant currency, the same declined 168.6%.

Revenues at Americas Management and Franchising amounted to \$10 million, reflecting a decline of 92.5% and 92.4% from the year-ago figure and constant currency, respectively.

RevPAR for comparable Americas full-service hotels decreased 95.7%. While ADR declined 35.4%, occupancy rates fell 74 percentage points from the year-ago quarter number.

Meanwhile, RevPAR for comparable Americas select-service hotels was down 81.2%. While ADR declined 31.1%, occupancy rates decreased 57.7 percentage points from the year-ago quarter number.

Adjusted EBITDA fell 103% (as well as in constant currency) to (\$3) million.

Revenues at ASPAC Management and Franchising decreased 81.8% year over year (down 81.5% at constant currency) to \$6 million.

RevPAR for comparable ASPAC full-service hotels declined 79.1%. While ADR declined 36.4%, occupancy rates decreased 49 percentage points from the year-ago quarter number.

Meanwhile, RevPAR for comparable Americas select-service hotels was down 58%. Occupancy and ADR declined 32.3 percentage points and 18.4%, respectively, in the quarter under review.

Adjusted EBITDA were down 108.3% (down 108.5% at constant currency) to (\$2) million.

Revenues at EAME/SW Asia Management and Franchising were down 90.4% to \$2 million.

Comparable EAME/SW Asia full-service hotels' RevPAR decreased 93.9% on account of suspension of hotel operation owing to the COVID-19 crisis. While ADR decreased 35.4%, occupancy rates declined 60.6 percentage points during the quarter.

Adjusted EBITDA decreased 201.4% (down 208.5% at constant currency) to (\$11) million.]

Balance Sheet

As of Jun 30, 2020, Hyatt reported cash and cash equivalents (including investments in highly-rated money market funds and similar investments) of \$1,438 million. The total debt was \$2,500 million as of Jun 30, 2020.

The company ended the second quarter with 38,114,681 Class A and 63,028,031 Class B shares issued as well as outstanding. Notably, the company suspended all share repurchase activity effective Mar 3, 2020, and suspended its quarterly dividend through the first quarter of 2021.

Recent News

Hyatt on Expansion Spree, Unveils Properties in Lenox – Jul 15, 2020

Hyatt Hotels recently announced the opening of a destination Hotel — Wyndhurst Manor & Club. The company also announced the opening of Miraval Berkshires. Miraval is a leading wellness resorts and spa brand. Covering a total area of 380 acres, both the venues are located in the same property in Lenox, MA.

Hyatt to Open Grand Hyatt Limassol in Cyprus by 2025 – Jul 13, 2020

In a bid to strengthen its portfolio across Europe, Hyatt Hotels affiliate recently entered into a management agreement with Anolia Holdings Limited to launch the first-ever Grand Hyatt Limassol hotel on the island of Cyprus. The company expects to open the property by 2025.

Hyatt to Bolster Alila Brand Portfolio With New Hotel - Jul 9, 2020

Hyatt Hotels recently announced its intentions to expand its Alila Brand in Americas. The company is likely to open Alila resort in the Americas, located in Encinitas, CA — a quintessential beach town in San Diego's North County Coastal region — by 2021.

Hyatt Expands Thompson Hotels Brand Portfolio With New Hotels – Jul 7, 2020

Hyatt Hotels is planning to open two new properties — Thompson Savannah and Thompson Buckhead — in an effort to expand Thompson Hotels brand. Both the properties are expected to open in Georgia in 2021. These will join four other Thompson hotels already under development that includes Dallas, Houston, San Antonio and Austin, TX.

Valuation

Hyatt's shares are down 43% year-to-date and 30.9% in the trailing 12-month period. Stocks in the Zacks sub-industry and the Zacks Consumer Discretionary sector are down by 30% and 5.2% in the year-to-date period, respectively. Over the past year, the Zacks sub-industry is down by 20%, but the sector is up by 5.2%.

The S&P 500 index is up 3.9% in the year-to-date period and 16.4% in the past year.

The stock is currently trading at 1.7X forward 12-month sales, which compares to 2.26X for the Zacks sub-industry, 2.37X for the Zacks sector and 3.66X for the S&P 500 index.

Over the past five years, the stock has traded as high as 2.12X and as low as 0.75X, with a 5-year median of 1.56X. Our Neutral recommendation indicates that the stock will perform in-line with the market. Our \$57 price target reflects 1.79X forward 12-month sales.

The table below shows summary valuation data for H.

Valuation Multiples - H						
		Stock	Sub-Industry	Sector	S&P 500	
	Current	1.7	2.26	2.37	3.66	
P/S F12M	5-Year High	2.12	2.26	2.95	3.66	
	5-Year Low	0.75	1.13	1.68	2.53	
	5-Year Median	1.56	1.65	2.5	3.05	
	Current	1.48	2.16	3.24	4.67	
P/B TTM	5-Year High	2.53	2.25	4.95	4.67	
	5-Year Low	0.94	1.13	2.22	2.83	
	5-Year Median	1.94	1.64	4.22	3.73	
	Current	8.72	11.78	27.63	20.84	
P/FCF	5-Year High	21.88	23.97	27.79	36.22	
	5-Year Low	3.95	6.39	14.87	16.11	
	5-Year Median	11.19	13.39	23.18	22.96	

As of 08/07/2020

Industry Analysis Zacks Industry Rank: Bottom 4% (241 out of 252)

■ Industry Price -95 Industry Price 350 -90 85 80 300 75 70 65 250 -60 -55 -50 -45 200 40 150 35 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020

Top Peers

Company (Ticker)	Rec I	Rank
Extended Stay America, Inc. (STAY)	Neutral	3
Choice Hotels International, Inc. (CHH)	Underperform	4
Hilton Worldwide Holdings Inc. (HLT)	Underperform	4
China Lodging Group, Limited (HTHT)	Underperform	5
Intercontinental Hotels Group (IHG)	Underperform	5
Marriott International, Inc. (MAR)	Underperform	4
MGM Resorts International (MGM)	Underperform	3
Marriot Vacations Worldwide Corporation (VAC)	Underperform	5

Industry Comparison Industry: Hotels And Motels			Industry Peers			
	Н	X Industry	S&P 500	нтнт	MAR	VAC
Zacks Recommendation (Long Term)	Neutral	-	-	Underperform	Underperform	Underperforn
Zacks Rank (Short Term)	4	-	-	5	4	5
VGM Score	E	-	-	F	D	С
Market Cap	5.17 B	3.13 B	23.30 B	10.35 B	30.41 B	3.73 E
# of Analysts	8	6	14	3	9	4
Dividend Yield	1.13%	0.31%	1.76%	0.91%	1.54%	1.68%
Value Score	С	-	-	F	D	C
Cash/Price	0.26	0.14	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.29
EV/EBITDA	4.50	11.83	13.32	19.88	16.72	14.08
PEG Ratio	NA	12.38	2.94	NA	50.92	NA
Price/Book (P/B)	1.48	2.10	3.19	13.88	NA	1.37
Price/Cash Flow (P/CF)	8.13	10.92	12.51	26.15	12.70	7.52
P/E (F1)	NA	68.30	22.02	NA	308.04	169.02
Price/Sales (P/S)	1.38	1.47	2.53	6.70	1.47	0.99
Earnings Yield	-8.04%	0.16%	4.37%	-4.05%	0.32%	0.59%
Debt/Equity	0.82	0.82	0.77	1.89	-570.75	1.68
Cash Flow (\$/share)	6.29	3.17	6.94	1.35	7.39	12.08
Growth Score	F	-	-	F	С	С
Hist. EPS Growth (3-5 yrs)	15.95%	14.83%	10.46%	21.13%	18.59%	14.83%
Proj. EPS Growth (F1/F0)	-300.61%	-93.15%	-6.80%	-193.25%	195.14%	-93.12%
Curr. Cash Flow Growth	5.97%	6.05%	5.39%	69.11%	-2.82%	82.73%
Hist. Cash Flow Growth (3-5 yrs)	2.61%	4.04%	8.55%	22.85%	21.40%	32.34%
Current Ratio	2.76	1.59	1.33	0.50	0.62	3.65
Debt/Capital	45.13%	56.81%	44.50%	65.38%	93.91%	62.67%
Net Margin	7.45%	0.95%	10.13%	-4.08%	4.50%	-2.94%
Return on Equity	-3.48%	-0.62%	14.39%	-6.45%	231.22%	6.53%
Sales/Assets	0.45	0.41	0.51	0.22	0.82	0.41
Proj. Sales Growth (F1/F0)	-53.03%	-35.65%	-1.51%	-14.49%	-44.97%	-32.80%
Momentum Score	D	-	-	Α	D	F
Daily Price Chg	1.37%	0.24%	0.90%	-1.95%	3.75%	1.72%
1 Week Price Chg	-4.65%	-2.67%	0.14%	2.29%	-4.20%	-4.09%
4 Week Price Chg	4.58%	9.18%	8.95%	-5.62%	8.73%	13.38%
12 Week Price Chg	9.51%	20.18%	18.90%	7.36%	18.33%	29.36%
52 Week Price Chg	-32.52%	-20.42%	1.18%	12.43%	-28.05%	1.53%
20 Day Average Volume	760,456	363,132	2,057,775	2,012,470	2,973,464	363,132
(F1) EPS Est 1 week change	-21.24%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	-72.40%
(F1) EPS Est 4 week change	-35.58%	-18.74%	1.36%	-0.47%	-52.74%	-81.98%
(F1) EPS Est 12 week change	-43.79%	-48.36%	1.57%	-1,326.67%	-84.05%	-79.88%
(Q1) EPS Est Mthly Chg	-36.19%	-16.67%	0.54%	0.00%	-64.91%	-165.35%

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 have an excellent 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.

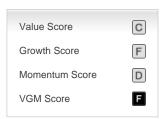
Zacks Rank

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.



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.

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