

Wabtec Corporation(WAB)

\$70.88 (As of 02/26/20)

Price Target (6-12 Months): **\$75.00**

Long Term: 6-12 Months

Zacks Recommendation:

Neutral

(Since: 04/23/19)

Prior Recommendation: Underperform

Short Term: 1-3 Months

Zacks Rank: (1-5)

3-Hold

Zacks Style Scores:

VGM:C

Value: D

Growth: A

Momentum: F

Summary

Shares of Wabtec have underperformed its industry in a year, partly due to escalating operating expenses. The company's high operating expenses and the consequent deterioration in the operating ratio (operating expenses as a percentage of revenues) are quite concerning. Operating expenses skyrocketed more than 100% in 2019. High debts are concerning too. Additionally, the deceleration in the industrial sector does not bode well for the company. However, the inclusion of GE Transportation products is helping the company grow its sales significantly. In 2020, Wabtec expects sales of \$8.7 billion while adjusted earnings per share are expected between \$4.5 and \$4.8 per share. Wabtec's efforts to reward its shareholders are appreciative too. The acquisition of RELCO Locomotives to fortify market capabilities is an added positive.

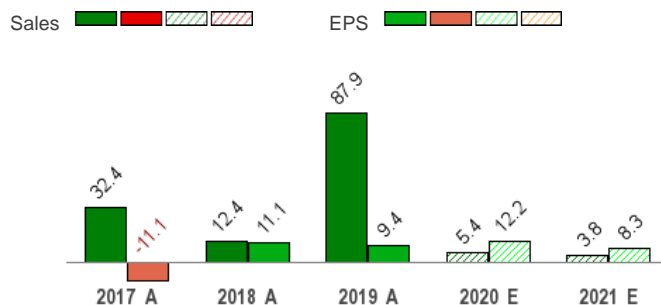
Price, Consensus & Surprise



Data Overview

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 52 Week High-Low | \$81.75 - \$61.00 |
| 20 Day Average Volume (sh) | 1,191,548 |
| Market Cap | \$13.6 B |
| YTD Price Change | -8.9% |
| Beta | 1.47 |
| Dividend / Div Yld | \$0.48 / 0.7% |
| Industry | Transportation - Equipment and Leasing |
| Zacks Industry Rank | Bottom 21% (200 out of 254) |

Sales and EPS Growth Rates (Y/Y %)



| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Last EPS Surprise | 1.0% |
| Last Sales Surprise | 8.1% |
| EPS F1 Est- 4 week change | 2.5% |
| Expected Report Date | 04/23/2020 |
| Earnings ESP | 0.0% |
| P/E TTM | 16.9 |
| P/E F1 | 15.2 |
| PEG F1 | 1.2 |
| P/S TTM | 1.7 |

Sales Estimates (millions of \$)

| | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Annual* |
|------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 2021 | 2,187 E | 2,284 E | 2,231 E | 2,318 E | 8,969 E |
| 2020 | 2,043 E | 2,197 E | 2,137 E | 2,308 E | 8,642 E |
| 2019 | 1,594 A | 2,236 A | 2,002 A | 2,368 A | 8,200 A |

EPS Estimates

| | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Annual* |
|------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 2021 | \$1.10 E | \$1.35 E | \$1.28 E | \$1.36 E | \$5.07 E |
| 2020 | \$1.00 E | \$1.23 E | \$1.19 E | \$1.24 E | \$4.68 E |
| 2019 | \$1.06 A | \$1.06 A | \$1.03 A | \$1.04 A | \$4.17 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 02/26/2020. The reports text is as of 02/27/2020.

Overview

Westinghouse Air Brake Technologies Corporation is a provider of locomotives, value-added, technology-based equipment, systems and services to the freight rail and passenger transit industries across the globe.

The company operates under the name of Wabtec Corporation and is currently based in Wilmerding, PA. Wabtec, which went public on the NYSE in 1995, operates in more than 50 countries.

In February 2019, Wabtec completed the previously announced merger with GE Transportation, a business unit of GE. The combined company has an expanded product portfolio and a larger customer base. It focuses on innovation. Following the completion of the merger with GE Transportation in February 2019, Wabtec was included in the coveted S&P 500 index.

In January 2020, Wabtec acquired RELCO Locomotives to fortify its market capabilities

The company operates under two business segments, namely **Transit** and **Freight** segments

The Transit segment (65% of 2019 revenues) manufactures and provides aftermarket parts and services for new locomotives. Through the segment, the company also provides components for new and existing locomotives and freight cars.

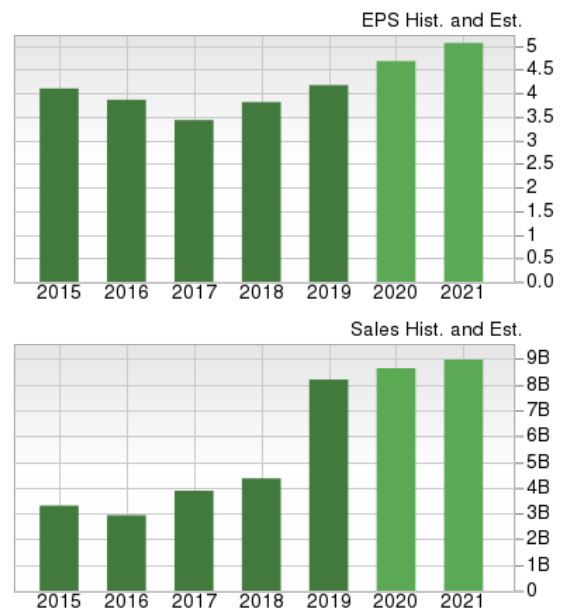
Following the completion of the GE Transportation acquisition, Wabtec, through this segment, has become the largest global manufacturer of diesel-electric locomotives for freight railroads

In 2019, 55% of segmental sales came from the United States. Additionally, roughly 60% of the segment's sales are in the aftermarket. The balance comes from the original equipment market.

The Freight segment (35%) focuses on manufacturing and offering aftermarket parts and services for new locomotives. The segment also provides components for new and existing locomotives and freight cars. Other functions include building new commuter locomotives and supplying rail control and infrastructure products.

In 2019, 15% of segmental net sales came from the United States. Roughly, 50% of the segmental net sales were in the aftermarket with the other half being generated in the original equipment market.

The company's financial year coincides with the calendar year.



Reasons To Buy:

- ▲ In February 2019, Wabtec completed the previously announced merger with GE Transportation, a business unit of GE. The combined company has an expanded product portfolio and a larger customer base. Inclusion of GE Transportation products helped the company's sales increase in excess of 100% in the second quarter of 2019. The inclusion of Wabtec in the coveted S&P 500 index in February 2019 following the completion of the merger with GE Transportation is an added positive.
- ▲ Apart from the GE Transportation merger, Wabtec has taken other steps to expand its product portfolio. To this end, in January 2020, Wabtec acquired RELCO Locomotives, an established name in the locomotive leasing, rebuilding and repairing industry. The transaction valued at \$29 million on cash-free and debt-free basis, increases Wabtec's freight services capabilities and capacity, thereby driving growth in the remanufacturing and repair business. Moreover, in 2018, it acquired Annax and Lynxrail.
- ▲ Wabtec anticipates sales to have been \$8.7 billion in 2020, higher than the 2019 figure due to the inclusion of GE Transportation products. Adjusted EBITDA is estimated to have been \$1.6 billion. Additionally, adjusted earnings are expected between \$4.5 and \$4.8 per share. We are also impressed with the company's efforts to reward shareholders. In February, the company's board authorized a buyback program worth up to \$500 million.

Wabtec anticipates sales to have been \$8.2 billion in 2019 due to its expanded portfolio. The acquisition of RELCO Locomotives to fortify market capabilities is an added positive.

Reasons To Sell:

- ▼ Wabtec's high operating expenses and the consequent deterioration in operating ratio are worrisome. Total operating expenses surged more than 100% to \$1.6 billion in 2019, primarily due to 84% rise in selling, general and administrative expense. Operating ratio deteriorated to 19.7% from 17.4% in 2018. Lower the value of the metric the better.
 - ▼ We are also concerned about the company's high debt levels. Long-term debt as of Dec 31, 2019, was \$4.33 billion compared with \$3.79 billion at 2018 end. Additionally, the deceleration in the industrial sector is unwelcome for transportation companies like Wabtec.
 - ▼ Rafael Santana succeeded Ray Betler as Wabtec's president and chief executive officer (CEO) from Jul 1, 2019. Santana is also a member of the company's board. However, if this change at the helm fails to yield the desired results, then investors' confidence in the stock might be rattled.
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Wabtec's high operating expenses and the consequent deterioration in operating ratio are worrisome. Escalated debt levels are concerning too.

Last Earnings Report

Earnings Beat at Wabtec in Q4

Wabtec's earnings (excluding 33 cents from non-recurring items) of \$1.04 per share, surpassed the Zacks Consensus Estimate by a penny. Moreover, the bottom line improved 7.2% year over year. Also, total sales soared more than 100% year over year to \$2,368.4 million and surpassed the Zacks Consensus Estimate of \$2,191.8 million. The substantial year-over-year increase in sales was owing to the inclusion of GE Transportation products and higher sales from the Transit segment.

Quarter Ending **12/2019**

| Report Date | Feb 18, 2020 |
|------------------|--------------|
| Sales Surprise | 8.06% |
| EPS Surprise | 0.97% |
| Quarterly EPS | 1.04 |
| Annual EPS (TTM) | 4.19 |

Total operating expenses in the reported quarter increased in excess of 100% to \$448.8 million, primarily due to 92.7% rise in selling, general and administrative expenses. Also, the operating ratio (operating expenses as a percentage of revenues) deteriorated to 18.9% from 18.2% in the prior-year period. Notably, lower the value of the metric the better.

Segmental Highlights

At the Transit segment, net sales inched up 1% to \$701 million, driven by organic sales growth and acquisitions. Segmental operating margin (income from operations as a percentage of sales) increased to 5.6% from 5.2% in the year-ago quarter.

Freight net sales soared more than 200% to \$1,667.1 million despite organic sales decrease and unfavorable foreign currency related movements. Segmental sales were boosted by acquisitions worth \$1.3 billion. Segmental operating margin declined to 14.3% from 17.8% in the year-ago quarter.

Liquidity & Buyback

As of Dec 31, 2019, Wabtec had \$604.2 million in cash and cash equivalents compared with \$580.9 million at the end of 2018. Long-term debt at the quarter-end was \$4,333.6 million compared with \$3,792.8 million at 2018 end. The company's board authorized a buyback program worth up to \$500 million.

2020 Outlook

Sales are anticipated to be \$8.7 billion. Adjusted income from operations is estimated to be \$1.4 billion. Additionally, adjusted EBITDA is predicted to be \$1.6 billion. Meanwhile, adjusted earnings per share are forecast in the band of \$4.5-\$4.8. For 2020, adjusted operating margin is expected to be 16% while adjusted effective tax rate is anticipated to be 25.5%. Moreover, the company hopes to achieve net synergy benefit of more than \$150 million in the current year owing to its cost-cutting measures and synergies from its merger with GE Transportation. Further, cash flow from operations is expected to be around \$900 million.

Recent News

RELCO Acquisition - Jan 08, 2020

Wabtec acquired RELCO Locomotives, an established name in the locomotive leasing, rebuilding and repairing industry. The transaction valued at \$29 million on cash-free and debt-free basis, increases Wabtec's freight services capabilities and capacity, thereby driving growth in the remanufacturing and repair business.

Wabtec's president and CEO Rafael Santana feels that the combined entity will help generate aftermarket services growth, besides supporting the development of innovative solutions to improve asset utilization and lower operating costs for customers.

The buyout, accretive in the first year itself, will enable Wabtec to expand its network, fortify market capabilities and better serve the rail industry. RELCO is expected to have generated sales worth approximately \$50 million in 2019.

Valuation

Wabtec shares are down 3.2% over the trailing 12-month period. Over the past year, stocks in the Zacks sub-industry are up 0.8% while those in the Zacks Transportation sector are down 7.2%.

The S&P 500 index is up 11.1% in the past year.

The stock is currently trading at 15.9X forward 12-month price to earnings, which compares to 10.93X for the Zacks sub-industry, 11.81X for the Zacks sector and 17.81X for the S&P 500 index.

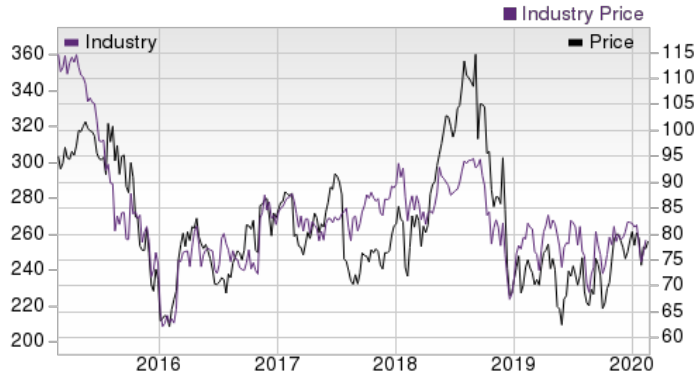
Over the past five years, the stock has traded as high as 26.51X and as low as 13.57X, with a 5-year median of 18.52X. Our Neutral recommendation indicates that the stock will perform in-line with the market. Our \$75 price target reflects 16.82X forward 12-month earnings.

The table below shows summary valuation data for WAB

| Valuation Multiples - WAB | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|-------|--------------|--------|---------|
| | | Stock | Sub-Industry | Sector | S&P 500 |
| P/E F12M | Current | 15.9 | 10.93 | 11.81 | 17.81 |
| | 5-Year High | 26.51 | 16.22 | 17 | 19.34 |
| | 5-Year Low | 13.57 | 8.63 | 10.48 | 15.18 |
| | 5-Year Median | 18.52 | 12.19 | 13.16 | 17.47 |
| EV/EBITDA TTM | Current | 13.83 | 9.63 | 7.85 | 12 |
| | 5-Year High | 22.36 | 13.71 | 11.08 | 12.87 |
| | 5-Year Low | 9.6 | 5.84 | 6 | 8.48 |
| | 5-Year Median | 15.67 | 9.49 | 7.4 | 10.77 |
| P/S F12M | Current | 1.56 | 1.18 | 1.02 | 3.28 |
| | 5-Year High | 2.86 | 1.74 | 1.44 | 3.43 |
| | 5-Year Low | 1.14 | 1.05 | 1.02 | 2.54 |
| | 5-Year Median | 1.93 | 1.44 | 1.21 | 3 |

As of 02/26/2020

Industry Analysis Zacks Industry Rank: Bottom 21% (200 out of 254)



Top Peers

| | |
|--|------------|
| Avis Budget Group, Inc. (CAR) | Outperform |
| GATX Corporation (GATX) | Outperform |
| Air Lease Corporation (AL) | Neutral |
| CAI International, Inc. (CAI) | Neutral |
| Greenbrier Companies, Inc. (The) (GBX) | Neutral |
| Herc Holdings Inc. (HRI) | Neutral |
| Freightcar America, Inc. (RAIL) | Neutral |
| Trinity Industries, Inc. (TRN) | Neutral |

| Industry Comparison Industry: Transportation - Equipment And Leasing | | | | Industry Peers | | |
|--|-------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| | WAB Neutral | X Industry | S&P 500 | GATX Outperform | GBX Neutral | TRN Neutral |
| VGM Score | C | - | - | C | F | B |
| Market Cap | 13.59 B | 1.07 B | 22.59 B | 2.61 B | 819.47 M | 2.52 B |
| # of Analysts | 6 | 1 | 13 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| Dividend Yield | 0.68% | 0.00% | 1.92% | 2.46% | 4.30% | 3.61% |
| Value Score | D | - | - | B | C | B |
| Cash/Price | 0.04 | 0.07 | 0.04 | 0.05 | 0.29 | 0.06 |
| EV/EBITDA | 29.40 | 7.87 | 13.29 | 10.78 | 4.87 | 10.25 |
| PEG Ratio | 1.21 | 0.83 | 1.93 | 0.87 | 0.99 | NA |
| Price/Book (P/B) | 1.36 | 1.09 | 3.03 | 1.43 | 0.56 | 1.09 |
| Price/Cash Flow (P/CF) | 12.80 | 3.67 | 12.33 | 4.83 | 4.22 | 5.80 |
| P/E (F1) | 15.15 | 12.29 | 17.79 | 13.01 | 9.38 | 17.80 |
| Price/Sales (P/S) | 1.66 | 0.98 | 2.47 | 1.87 | 0.26 | 0.84 |
| Earnings Yield | 6.60% | 7.91% | 5.60% | 7.69% | 10.66% | 5.60% |
| Debt/Equity | 0.43 | 2.41 | 0.70 | 2.85 | 0.56 | 2.05 |
| Cash Flow (\$/share) | 5.54 | 8.93 | 7.02 | 15.49 | 5.96 | 3.63 |
| Growth Score | A | - | - | D | F | C |
| Hist. EPS Growth (3-5 yrs) | -0.29% | -2.37% | 10.85% | -2.37% | -16.57% | -27.81% |
| Proj. EPS Growth (F1/F0) | 12.23% | 11.00% | 6.79% | 4.36% | -6.62% | -6.09% |
| Curr. Cash Flow Growth | 122.27% | 16.45% | 6.53% | 1.08% | -8.90% | 18.84% |
| Hist. Cash Flow Growth (3-5 yrs) | 18.88% | 6.16% | 8.38% | 2.02% | 6.72% | -13.56% |
| Current Ratio | 1.29 | 1.55 | 1.22 | 2.16 | 2.35 | 1.60 |
| Debt/Capital | 30.25% | 70.71% | 42.37% | 74.02% | 36.58% | 67.24% |
| Net Margin | 3.98% | 9.01% | 11.57% | 15.15% | 1.90% | 4.58% |
| Return on Equity | 7.54% | 10.49% | 16.80% | 11.03% | 6.29% | 6.52% |
| Sales/Assets | 0.43 | 0.31 | 0.54 | 0.17 | 1.16 | 0.35 |
| Proj. Sales Growth (F1/F0) | 5.39% | 0.00% | 4.06% | 0.00% | 12.60% | -12.63% |
| Momentum Score | F | - | - | C | D | B |
| Daily Price Chg | -2.29% | -0.42% | -0.98% | -0.47% | 0.00% | 0.77% |
| 1 Week Price Chg | 1.88% | 0.00% | -0.94% | 3.63% | 1.36% | 5.74% |
| 4 Week Price Chg | -8.31% | -5.25% | -6.27% | -4.97% | 0.40% | 0.29% |
| 12 Week Price Chg | -7.32% | -3.70% | -3.33% | -7.20% | -9.80% | 2.53% |
| 52 Week Price Chg | -5.87% | -2.78% | 6.81% | -4.76% | -39.67% | -10.27% |
| 20 Day Average Volume | 1,191,548 | 195,420 | 2,109,774 | 221,790 | 437,007 | 1,072,252 |
| (F1) EPS Est 1 week change | -0.75% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 2.08% |
| (F1) EPS Est 4 week change | 2.55% | 0.00% | -0.08% | 0.88% | -2.19% | 9.70% |
| (F1) EPS Est 12 week change | 0.19% | -0.22% | -0.22% | 12.38% | -3.13% | 6.52% |
| (Q1) EPS Est Mthly Chg | -14.25% | -11.81% | -0.61% | 0.00% | -9.38% | -31.82% |

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 | D |
| Growth Score | A |
| Momentum Score | F |
| 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.

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