VALUE LINE PRODUCT GUIDE

Value Line®

PRODUCT GUIDE

The Value Line Investment Survey®

Smart research. Smarter investing.™

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CHAPTER

1

Getting Started

The Value Line Investment Survey was designed to cover 90% of total U.S. stock market capitalization, all the familiar stocks mentioned in the news plus hundreds you may have never come across. The aim of this guide is to help you understand The Value Line Investment Survey and the information it contains so you can use this product to its full capabilities.

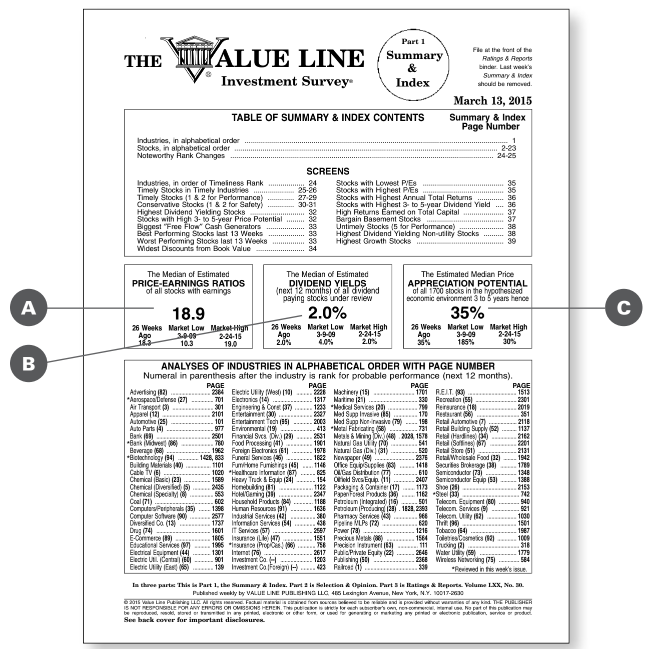
HOW TO USE *THE VALUE LINE INVESTMENT SURVEY*

The Value Line Investment Survey is a unique source of financial information designed to help investors make informed investment decisions that fit their individual goals and levels of risk. It is: (1) a proven forecaster of stock price performance over the next six to 12 months; (2) a source of interpretative analysis of approximately 1,700 individual stocks and approximately 100 industries; and (3) a source of historical information that helps investors spot trends.

If you come across any unfamiliar terms as you read through this guide, please refer to the Glossary which is available on our website, www.valueline.com.

Part 1 — Summary & Index

Please begin with the *Summary & Index*. The front page contains a Table of Contents, three important market statistics, and a list of all the industries we follow in alphabetical order with the relative industry rank to the right of the industry name and the page number of the industry analysis in *Ratings & Reports* listed under PAGE. The market



THE VALUE LINE Investment Survey®

Part 1 Summary & Index

File at the front of the *Ratings & Reports* binder. Last week's *Summary & Index* should be removed.

March 13, 2015

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The Median of Estimated **PRICE-EARNINGS RATIOS** of all stocks with earnings

18.9

26 Weeks Ago	Market Low 3-9-09	Market High 2-24-15
18.3	10.3	19.0

The Median of Estimated **DIVIDEND YIELDS** (next 12 months) of all dividend paying stocks under review

2.0%

26 Weeks Ago	Market Low 3-9-09	Market High 2-24-15
2.0%	4.0%	2.0%

The Estimated Median Price **APPRECIATION POTENTIAL** of all 1700 stocks in the hypothesized economic environment 3 to 5 years hence

35%

26 Weeks Ago	Market Low 3-9-09	Market High 2-24-15
35%	185%	30%

ANALYSES OF INDUSTRIES IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER WITH PAGE NUMBER
Numeral in parenthesis after the industry is rank for probable performance (next 12 months).

	PAGE		PAGE		PAGE		PAGE
Advertising (82)	2384	Electric Utility (West) (10)	2228	Machinery (15)	1701	R.E.I.T. (93)	1513
*Aerospace/Defense (27)	701	Electronics (14)	1317	Maritime (21)	330	Recreation (55)	2301
Air Transport (3)	301	Engineering & Const (37)	1233	*Medical Services (20)	799	Reinsurance (18)	2019
Apparel (12)	2101	Entertainment (30)	2327	Med Supp Invasive (85)	170	Restaurant (56)	351
Automotive (25)	101	Entertainment Tech (95)	2003	Med Supp Non-Invasive (79)	198	Retail Automotive (7)	2118
Auto Parts (4)	977	Environmental (19)	413	*Metal Fabricating (58)	731	Retail Building Supply (52)	1137
Bank (69)	2501	Financial Svcs. (Div.) (29)	2531	Metals & Mining (Div.) (48)	2028, 1578	Retail (Hardlines) (34)	2162
*Bank (Midwest) (86)	780	Food Processing (41)	1901	Natural Gas Utility (70)	541	Retail (Softlines) (67)	2201
Beverage (68)	1962	Foreign Electronics (61)	1978	Natural Gas (Div.) (31)	520	Retail Store (51)	2131
*Biotechnology (94)	1428, 833	Funeral Services (46)	1822	Newspaper (49)	2376	Retail/Wholesale Food (32)	1942
Building Materials (40)	1101	Furn/Home Furnishings (45)	1146	Office Equip/Supplies (83)	1418	Securities Brokerage (38)	1789
Cable TV (6)	1020	*Healthcare Information (87)	825	Oil/Gas Distribution (77)	610	Semiconductor (73)	1348
Chemical (Basic) (23)	1589	Heavy Truck & Equip (24)	154	Oilfield Svcs/Equip. (11)	2407	Semiconductor Equip (53)	1388
Chemical (Diversified) (5)	2435	Homebuilding (81)	1122	Packaging & Container (17)	1173	Shoe (26)	2153
Chemical (Specialty) (8)	553	Hotel/Gaming (39)	2347	Paper/Forest Products (36)	1162	*Steel (33)	742
Coal (71)	602	Household Products (84)	1188	Petroleum (Integrated) (16)	501	Telecom. Equipment (80)	940
Computers/Peripherals (35)	1398	Human Resources (91)	1636	Petroleum (Producing) (28)	1828, 2393	Telecom. Services (9)	921
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Drug (74)	1601	IT Services (57)	2597	Power (78)	1216	Tobacco (64)	1987
E-Commerce (89)	1805	Insurance (Life) (47)	1551	Precious Metals (88)	1564	Toiletries/Cosmetics (92)	1009
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*Reviewed in this week's issue.

In three parts: This is Part 1, the Summary & Index. Part 2 is Selection & Opinion. Part 3 is Ratings & Reports. Volume LXX, No. 30.
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See back cover for important disclosures.

Summary & Index

statistics are found in three boxes. The first box (**A**) has the median of estimated price/earnings ratios of all stocks with earnings in *The Value Line Investment Survey*. The second box (**B**) shows the median of estimated dividend yields (total dividends expected to be paid in the next 12 months divided by the recent price) of all dividend-paying stocks in *The Survey*. The third box (**C**) contains the estimated median price appreciation potential 3 to 5 years into the future for the approximately 1,700 stocks in *The Survey*. While that median may prove to be optimistic, it serves as an indicator of the relative level of the market. By studying these statistics, a fairly good picture emerges of how the universe of Value Line stocks is currently being evaluated. **The Value Line universe of approximately 1,700 stocks comprises approximately 90% of the market capitalization of all stocks traded in U.S. markets.**

Beginning on page 2, the *Summary & Index* also includes an alphabetical listing of all stocks in the publication with references to their location in Part 3, *Ratings & Reports*. If you are looking for a particular stock, look inside the *Summary & Index* section, which is updated each week to provide the most current data on all companies included in *The Value Line Investment Survey*.

To locate a report on an individual company, look for the page number just to the left of the company name. Then turn to that page in Part 3, *Ratings & Reports*, where the number appears in the upper right corner.

In the far left column of *Summary & Index* is a number that refers to recent Supplementary Reports, if any, which are included on the back pages of *Ratings & Reports*. If two asterisks (**) appear in this column, it means that there is a Supplementary Report in the current Issue.

There are many columns in the *Summary & Index* with more information on each of the approximately 1,700 stocks we cover, including from left to right:

- Page numbers for the latest company report and any recent Supplementary Report (Supplementary Reports are published at the back of *Ratings & Reports*)
- The name of each stock and the exchange on which it is traded (the New York Stock Exchange, unless otherwise indicated)
- Each company's stock exchange (ticker) symbol
- The recent stock price (see the top of page 2 in *Summary & Index* under Index to Stocks for the specific date)

Value Line's proprietary Timeliness™, Safety™ and Technical ranks (See Chapter 3 and the online Glossary for definitions. For a more detailed review, read *The Definitive Guide To the Value Line Ranking System*.)

- Beta (a measure of volatility)
- Each stock's 3- to 5-year projected Target Price Range and the percent appreciation potential
- Each stock's current P/E ratio
- Each stock's estimated dividend yield
- Each stock's estimated earnings (approximately six months historical, six months estimated)
- Each stock's estimated dividends for the next 12 months
- Each stock's Value Line Industry rank (see Chapter 6)
- Latest earnings and dividend declarations
- Options trade indicator

Toward the back of each *Summary & Index*, we provide stock screens that we believe will provide a good starting point for any investor. The screens are updated weekly and cover a broad range of investment options. They are also useful for investors who want a list of stocks relevant to specific strategies they may have in mind.

Some examples of our useful screens are:

- Industries in Order of Timeliness
- Stocks Moving Up or Down in Timeliness Rank this week
- Timely Stocks in Timely Industries
- Conservative Stocks (stocks ranked above average for Safety)
- Highest Dividend Yielding Stocks
- Stocks with the Highest Estimated 3- To 5-Year Price Appreciation Potential
- Best/Worst Performing Stocks in the Past 13 Weeks
- Stocks With the Lowest and Highest P/E Ratios
- Stocks with the Highest Estimated Annual Total Returns (Next 3 To 5 Years)
- Stocks with the Highest Projected 3- To 5-year Dividend Yield
- Highest Growth Stocks

PART 2 — SELECTION & OPINION

Selection & Opinion (S&O) contains Value Line's latest economic and stock market commentary, along with additional information, such as one or more pages of research on interesting stocks or industries, and a variety of pertinent economic and stock market statistics. For those who want more investment guidance than a static stock screen, *Selection & Opinion* also includes four model stock portfolios (Stocks with Above-Average Year-Ahead Price Potential, Stocks for Income and Potential Price Appreciation, Stocks with Meaningful Long-Term Price Growth Potential, and Stocks with Above-Average Dividend Yields). These portfolios are overseen by senior Value Line analysts and updated weekly. On a quarterly basis, a more in-depth review is provided detailing the most recent performance of each portfolio. We also provide stock screens and stock highlights in *Selection & Opinion* that go beyond those included on a weekly basis in *Summary & Index* and often provide a different and unique view of an investment approach. The stock highlights are a more in-depth review of a company that we believe merits a second look. These two options offer another convenient starting point for considering stocks for inclusion in your own portfolio. If you spend time with *Selection & Opinion* each week, you should be able to get some valuable investment ideas.

PART 3 — RATINGS & REPORTS

Ratings & Reports is the core of *The Value Line Investment Survey* with one-page reports on approximately 1,700 companies and one-page reports on approximately 100 industries. The company reports contain a summary describing the business, Timeliness, Safety and Technical ranks, our 3- to 5-year forecasts for stock prices, income and balance sheet data, as much as 17 years of historical data, capital structure and our analysts' commentaries. They also contain stock price charts; quarterly sales, earnings, and dividend information; and a variety of other very useful material. Each page in this section is fully updated every 13 weeks. When unexpected important news occurs during these 13 week intervals, a Supplementary Report (appearing in the back section of *Ratings & Reports*) is published. If there is a Supplementary Report, its page number will be shown in the far left hand column of the *Summary & Index*, near the company name (two asterisks — * * — indicate that a Supplementary Report is in this week's Edition).

Every week subscribers receive a new Issue of *Ratings & Reports* containing approximately 135 company reports grouped by industry and a smaller number of one-page industry reports. The industry reports precede the reports on the companies in that industry. Over the course of three months, new reports are issued on all of the approximately 1,700 companies and some 100 industries.

THE VALUE LINE
Investment Survey®

PAGES 4389-4400
File in page order in the *Selection & Opinion* binder.

PART 2 — *Selection & Opinion* — FEBRUARY 6, 2015

Dear Subscribers,

As part of our ongoing efforts to keep *The Value Line Investment Survey* the most valuable investment resource for our subscribers, all updated Ranks are now being released on the Value Line Web Site by 8:00 A.M. Eastern Time on Mondays. You can access all the Ranks each week at www.valueline.com by entering your user name and password. We look forward to continuing to provide you with accurate and timely investment research. Thank you.

The Value Line View

In This Issue

The *Selection & Opinion* Index appears on page 4516 (November 28, 2014).

In Three Parts: Part 1 is the Summary & Index. This is Part 2, Selection & Opinion. Part 3 is Ratings & Reports. Volume LXX, Number 25.

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ECONOMIC AND STOCK MARKET COMMENTARY

Housing is showing its mettle. Of note, after a series of reports issued during the fall had hinted that this key sector's recovery might be starting to fray, more recent figures suggest that this is not the case. On point, housing starts are at their highest level since July; resales are above five million homes annually once again (even as the median price of a home is up to its highest level since 2007); and sales of new homes closed 2014 on a much stronger note than forecast. At the same time, falling mortgage rates, reduced levels of distressed sales, improved labor market conditions, and a surge in consumer confidence in January all suggest that housing's revival has further to go.

Other areas are moving back and forth. Of note, we have seen further strength in the leading indicators and selective gains in regional business surveys. On the other hand, orders for durable goods fell in December. Given these trends, and factoring in developments in other sectors, we think that the nation's gross domestic product will grow by a reassuring 3%, or so, in the first half of this year.

The Federal Reserve is still on board, as its January FOMC meeting voted to retain the current minuscule interest-rate levels and to continue on its accommodative path for another few months, at least. And even when the Fed does act, well below-target inflation, uncertainty on the growth front overseas (especially in Europe), and faltering commodity prices all suggest the Fed will act carefully and deliberately when it finally does start to adjust its monetary course.

The European Central Bank is also in there pitching, having voted to expand its bond-buying program, in order to inject life into the Continent's ailing economies. If our own (since concluded) bond-buying efforts are a harbinger, though, the positive impact on Europe's markets from this latest easing will come before any effects on their economies.

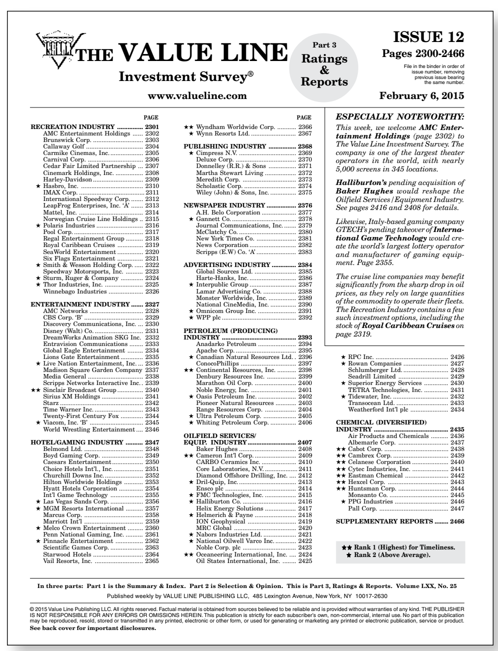
The continuing sluggishness in Europe and elsewhere, along with the fall in commodity prices aren't being lost on Wall Street. Here, our stock market is showing greater volatility, in part due to the increase in instability overseas, an uneven profit season, and our market's high valuations.

Conclusion: Stocks remain rather pricey, even after the recent pullback. But the lack of compelling investment alternatives in this historically low interest-rate environment suggests that staying the course might be the best option at this time. Please refer to the inside back cover of *Selection & Opinion* for our statistically-based Asset Allocation Model's current reading.

CLOSING STOCK MARKET AVERAGES AS OF PRESS TIME

	1/21/2015	1/28/2015	%Change 1 week	%Change 12 months
Dow Jones Industrial Average	17554.28	17191.37	-2.1%	+7.9%
Standard & Poor's 500	2032.12	2002.16	-1.5%	+11.7%
N.Y. Stock Exchange Composite	10720.40	10603.86	-1.1%	+5.3%
NASDAQ Composite	4667.42	4637.99	-0.6%	+13.2%
NASDAQ 100	4192.09	4140.38	-1.2%	+18.1%
Amex Major Market Index	2441.62	2441.52	0.0%	+4.6%
Value Line (Geometric)	489.10	488.86	0.0%	+2.7%
Value Line (Arithmetic)	4570.73	4572.69	0.0%	+7.0%
London (FT-SE 100)	6728.04	6825.94	+1.5%	+3.9%
Tokyo (Nikkei)	17280.48	17795.73	+3.0%	+18.8%
Russell 2000	1166.25	1175.12	+0.8%	+3.2%

Selection & Opinion



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Part 3 Ratings & Reports

ISSUE 12
Pages 2300-2466
File in the binder in order of issue number, removing previous issue bearing the same number.
February 6, 2015

ESPECIALLY NOTEWORTHY:

This week, we welcome ***AMC Entertainment Holdings*** *(page 2302) to The Value Line Investment Survey. The company is one of the largest theater operators in the world, with nearly 5,000 screens in 345 locations.*

Halliburton's *pending acquisition of* ***Baker Hughes*** *would reshape the Oilfield Services/Equipment Industry. See pages 2416 and 2408 for details.*

Likewise, Italy-based gaming company GTECH's pending takeover of ***International Game Technology*** *would create the world's largest lottery operator and manufacturer of gaming equipment. Page 2355.*

The cruise line companies may benefit significantly from the sharp drop in oil prices, as they rely on large quantities of the commodity to operate their fleets. The Recreation Industry contains a few such investment options, including the stock of ***Royal Caribbean Cruises*** *on page 2319.*

★★ Rank 1 (Highest) for Timeliness.
★ Rank 2 (Above Average).

In three parts: Part 1 is the Summary & Index. Part 2 is Selection & Opinion. This is Part 3, Ratings & Reports. Volume LXX, No. 25

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See back cover for important disclosures.

Ratings & Reports

PART 4 — WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Subscribers to T*he Value Line Investment Survey* also receive a weekly email newsletter that is sent out each Monday around 8:00 A.M. Eastern Time. The content is written by senior members of Value Line's Research Department, and includes stock highlights, industry discussions, economic analysis, and top stories. The newsletter is also home to the $5 – $15 Model Portfolio, a 20-stock portfolio actively managed by a seasoned Value Line analyst. For inclusion, as the name suggests, stocks must be priced between $5 and $15 at selection time. A table displaying the current holdings is included each week, as well as a thorough write-up that discusses recent changes, news, and updated analysis.

CHAPTER

2

Understanding the Value Line Page

To start studying a stock, we suggest that you concentrate on four features found on every *Ratings & Reports* page (a sample is printed on the inside rear cover). We also have included an enlarged sample page with the welcome package. First, we recommend that you look at the Timeliness and Safety ranks (see item 1 of the sample page) shown in the upper left corner of each page. Then, note the Financial Strength rating and read the business description and the Analyst's Commentary (item 17) in the bottom half of each report. Next, we suggest you look at our forecasts for various financial data including the stock price (items 11, 15, 22, 23, and 29). These forecasts are explained in more detail later in this Chapter. Finally, we think you should study the historical financial data appearing in the Statistical Array in the center of the report (item 26). Illustrations and more detail follow. There is also a lot of other useful information on each page, but the four features mentioned above provide the best place to begin.

VALUE LINE RANKS

(See 1 on the sample page)

A synopsis of the Value Line Ranking System follows. For a more detailed description, please refer to *The Definitive Guide To The Value Line Ranking System*.

Timeliness

The Timeliness rank is Value Line's measure of the expected price performance of a stock for the coming six to 12 months relative to our approximately 1,700 stock universe. Stocks ranked 1 (Highest) and 2 (Above Average) are likely to perform best over the 6 to 12 months relative to the others. Stocks ranked 3 are likely to be average performers relative to the Value Line universe. Stocks ranked 4 (Below Average) and 5 (Lowest) are likely to underperform stocks ranked 1 through 3 in Value Line's stock universe.

TIMELINESS	3	Raised 9/5/14
SAFETY	1	New 7/27/90
TECHNICAL	4	Lowered 11/21/14
BETA .75 (1.00 = Market)		

Sample Ranks Box (Also see item 1, on the sample page)

Just one word of caution. Stocks ranked 1 may prove volatile and often tend to have smaller market capitalizations (the total value of a company's outstanding shares, calculated by multiplying the number of shares outstanding by the stock's market price per share). Conservative investors may want to select stocks that also have high Safety ranks because they are usually more stable issues.

Safety

The Safety rank is a measure of the total risk of a stock compared to others in our approximately 1,700 stock universe. As with Timeliness, Value Line ranks stocks from 1 (Highest) to 5 (Lowest). However, unlike Timeliness, the number of stocks in each category from 1 to 5 is not fixed. The Safety rank is derived from two measurements (weighted equally) found in the lower right hand corner of each page:

a company's Financial Strength and a stock's Price Stability. Financial Strength is a measure of the company's financial condition, and is reported on a scale of A++ (Highest) to C (Lowest). Larger companies with strong balance sheets get the higher grades. A stock's Price Stability score is based on a ranking of the standard deviation (a measure of volatility) of weekly percent changes in the price of a stock over the last five years, and is reported on a scale of 100 (Highest) to 5 (Lowest) in increments of 5.

Technical

The Technical rank is primarily a predictor of short-term (three to six months) relative price change. It is based on a proprietary model which examines short-term price trends for a particular stock. The Technical ranks also range from 1 (Highest) to 5 (Lowest). At any one time, 100 stocks are ranked 1; 300 ranked 2; approximately 900 ranked 3; 300 ranked 4; and 100 ranked 5.

Beta

This is a measure of volatility, as calculated by Value Line. While it is not a rank, we do consider it important. See the online Glossary for more detail.

ANALYST'S COMMENTARY

(17 on the sample page)

Next, look at the analyst's written commentary in the lower half of the page. Many readers think this is the most important section of the page. In the commentary, the analyst discusses the company's recent performance and his/her expectations for the stock's future. There are times when the raw numbers don't tell the full story. The analyst uses the commentary to explain why the forecast is what it is. The commentary is also particularly useful when a change in trend is occurring or about to occur. As an example, a stock may have a low (i.e., 4 or 5) Timeliness rank but the analyst thinks earnings could turn around in the future. In this case, the analyst may use the commentary to explain why he/she thinks conditions are likely to get better, thus giving the subscriber insight into what is happening, and why, as well as the stock's prospects.

Johnson & Johnson rounded out 2014 on a decent note. December-quarter sales dipped 1%, to $18.3 billion, as operational gains of 4% were more than offset by the unfavorable impact of currency translation. The full-year picture was brighter, as the top line advanced 4%, to $74.3 billion, thanks to internal growth of 6%. The main story in 2014 was the performance of the healthcare conglomerate's Pharmaceutical business, which delivered tremendous top- and bottom-line growth throughout the year. Both new and existing drugs contributed to the group's results, although most of the credit goes to J&J's new hepatitis C drug *OLYSIO*. On the other hand, the Consumer and Medical Devices segments struggled to generate growth over the last 12 months, and both reported top-line declines in 2014. Share earnings inched forward in the December quarter, which was in line with reduced expectations; full-year share-profit growth was much better, at 8%.

We are now looking for J&J to report a top-line decrease in 2015. We have lowered our sales target to $72.7 billion, owing mostly to extremely stiff currency translation headwinds. Moreover, we do not expect the Consumer and Medical Devices businesses to perform much better this year, due to a lack of growth drivers. The Pharmaceutical business ought to continue to report solid top-line figures, but the comparisons are only going to get tougher as we plod along through 2015. We have lowered our adjusted share-earnings estimate for the year, as well, and now look for the figure to come in at $6.20. At first blush, this seems like decent growth, but J&J is changing the way it reports non-GAAP profits. On an apples-to-apples basis, share earnings will likely decrease by about 3%, from the year-earlier mark of $6.39.

The price of this blue chip has fallen a bit since our last review, and has been bouncing between $99 and $109 for about nine months. The stock is ranked unfavorably for Timeliness, so momentum accounts should probably look elsewhere for now. Longer-term total-return potential is decent, thanks in large part to the above-average dividend yield, and the Price Stability score is excellent.

Erik A. Antonson *February 20, 2015*

Sample Statistical Array
(Also see items 15 and 26 on the sample page)

FINANCIAL AND STOCK PRICE PROJECTIONS

Value Line's securities analysts make a variety of financial and stock price projections in most reports we publish. They make Estimates for 23 different numbers and ratios going out 3 to 5 years into the future in the Statistical Array (item 15 on the sample page). They also forecast a projected Target Price Range (item 11) for each stock, going out 3 to 5 years. And finally they show the 3- to 5- year Projections (item 29) for the price of the stock, along with the expected percentage appreciation (depreciation) and the expected annual total return (including dividends). These projections are discussed below.

Financial Estimates

(15 on the sample page)

In the Statistical Array in the center of the report (where most of the numbers are), Value Line provides both historical data and financial projections. All projections are printed in ***bold italics***.

The estimates of sales, earnings, net profit margins, income tax rates, and so forth are all derived from spread sheets maintained on every company and updated quarterly. Afterward, they make whatever adjustments they believe are warranted by unusual developments that may not be revealed in the numbers, (e.g., the expected outcome of pending lawsuits affecting the company's finances), the anticipated success of new products, etc.

Target Price Range

In the upper right-hand section of each report is a Target Price Range. The Target Price Range represents the band in which the expected average price is likely to fall in the next 3 to 5 years. The prices are based on the analyst's projections in the period out 3 to 5 years for earnings multiplied by the average annual price/earnings ratio in the Statistical Array for the same period. The width of the high-low range depends on the stock's Safety rank. (A stock with a high Safety rank has a narrower range, one with a low rank, a wider band.)

3- to 5-Year Projections

(Item 29 on the sample page)

In the left hand column of each report, there is also a box which contains Value Line's high and low stock price projections for a period 3 to 5 years in the future. There you can see the potential average high and low prices we forecast, the percentage price changes we project, and the expected compound annual total returns (price appreciation plus dividends). To make these calculations, analysts compare the expected prices out 3 to 5 years into the future (as shown in the Target Price Range and Projections box) with the recent price (shown on the top of the report).

Investors whose primary goal is long-term price appreciation should study the 3- to 5-year Projections carefully and choose stocks with above-average price appreciation potential. For comparative purposes, you can find the weekly Estimated 3- to 5-Year Median Price Appreciation Potential for all approximately 1,700 stocks on the front page of the Summary & Index.

The Target Price Range and 3- to 5-year Projections are necessarily based upon an estimate of future earnings. They are, therefore, very subjective. These should not be confused with the Timeliness rank for 12-month performance, which is independent of estimates and based solely on historical data.

ANNUAL RATES OF CHANGE

(Item 23 on the sample page)

At this point, it may be helpful to look at the Annual Rates box in the left-hand column. This box shows the compound annual per share growth percentages for sales, "cash flow," earnings, dividends and book value for the past 5 and 10 years and also Value Line's projections of growth for each item for the coming 3 to 5 years. All rates of change are computed from the average number for a past 3-year period to an average number for the specified future period, which our analyst estimates. For details, see below.

Trends are important here. Check whether growth has been increasing or slowing and see if Value Line's analyst thinks it will pick up or fall off in the future. Specific estimates for various data items for 3 to 5 years out can be found in bold italics print in the far right hand column of the Statistical Array (item 15 on the sample page).

CALCULATING ANNUAL RATES OF CHANGE (GROWTH RATES)

In an attempt to eliminate short-term fluctuations that may distort results, Value Line uses a three-year base period and a three-year ending period when calculating growth rates. Investors often try to calculate a growth rate from one starting year to one ending year, and then can't understand why the number they get is not the same as the one published by Value Line. If they used a three-year base period (2012-2014) and three-year ending period, (2018-2020), they would get the same results we do.

HISTORICAL FINANCIAL DATA

(26 on the sample page)

Many investors like to use the Statistical Array to do their own analysis. They, in particular, use the historical data in the center of each report to see how a company has been doing over a long time frame. It is worth pointing out that while all of the data are important, different readers find different data items to be most useful.

The numbers are probably most helpful in identifying trends. For example, look at sales per share to see if they have been rising for an extended period of time. Look at operating margins and net profit margins to see if they have been expanding, narrowing or staying flat. And examine some of the percentages near the bottom, such as the Return on Shareholders' Equity, to see if they have been rising, falling, or remaining about the same.

CHAPTER

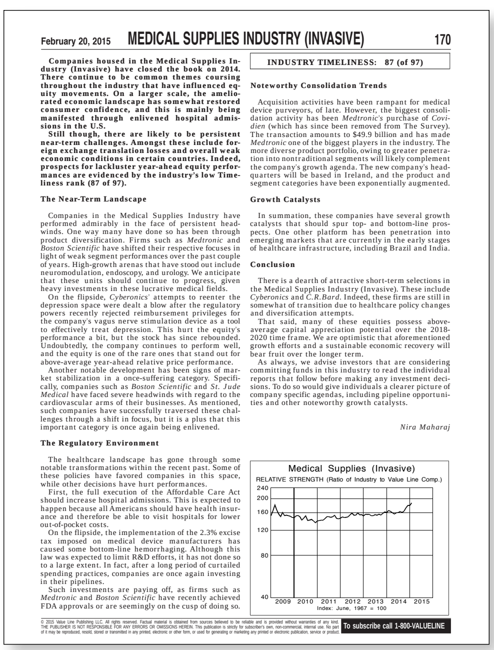
3

The Value Line Industry Report

All the company reports in *The Value Line Investment Survey* are grouped by industry, and at the front of each industry group is a one-page Industry Report.

The information contained in each Industry Report may differ considerably from one industry to another, but there is a general format we follow.

The number of industries followed in *The Value Line Investment Survey* is constantly changing. As companies drop out, usually because of mergers or acquisitions, we may discontinue an industry. On the other hand, as new industries develop, we add them.



February 20, 2015 **MEDICAL SUPPLIES INDUSTRY (INVASIVE)** 170

Companies housed in the Medical Supplies Industry (Invasive) have closed the book on 2014. There continue to be common themes coursing throughout the industry that have influenced equity movements. On a larger scale, the ameliorated economic landscape has somewhat restored consumer confidence, and this is mainly being manifested through enlivened hospital admissions in the U.S.

Still though, there are likely to be persistent near-term challenges. Amongst these include foreign exchange translation losses and overall weak economic conditions in certain countries. Indeed, prospects for lackluster year-ahead equity performances are evidenced by the industry's low Timeliness rank (87 of 97).

The Near-Term Landscape

Companies in the Medical Supplies Industry have performed admirably in the face of persistent headwinds. One way many have done so has been through product diversification. Firms such as *Medtronic* and *Boston Scientific* have shifted their respective focuses in light of weak segment performances over the past couple of years. High-growth arenas that have stood out include neuromodulation, endoscopy, and urology. We anticipate that these units should continue to progress, given heavy investments in these lucrative medical fields.

On the flipside, *Cyberonics*' attempts to reenter the depression space were dealt a blow after the regulatory powers recently rejected reimbursement privileges for the company's vagus nerve stimulation device as a tool to effectively treat depression. This hurt the equity's performance a bit, but the stock has since rebounded. Undoubtedly, the company continues to perform well, and the equity is one of the rare ones that stand out for above-average year-ahead relative price performance.

Another notable development has been signs of market stabilization in a once-suffering category. Specifically, companies such as *Boston Scientific* and *St. Jude Medical* have faced severe headwinds with regard to the cardiovascular arms of their businesses. As mentioned, such companies have successfully traversed these challenges through a shift in focus, but it is a plus that this important category is once again being enlivened.

The Regulatory Environment

The healthcare landscape has gone through some notable transformations within the recent past. Some of these policies have favored companies in this space, while other decisions have hurt performances.

First, the full execution of the Affordable Care Act should increase hospital admissions. This is expected to happen because all Americans should have health insurance and therefore be able to visit hospitals for lower out-of-pocket costs.

On the flipside, the implementation of the 2.3% excise tax imposed on medical device manufacturers has caused some bottom-line hemorrhaging. Although this law was expected to limit R&D efforts, it has not done so to a large extent. In fact, after a long period of curtailed spending practices, companies are once again investing in their pipelines.

Such investments are paying off, as firms such as *Medtronic* and *Boston Scientific* have recently achieved FDA approvals or are seemingly on the cusp of doing so.

INDUSTRY TIMELINESS: 87 (of 97)

Noteworthy Consolidation Trends

Acquisition activities have been rampant for medical device purveyors, of late. However, the biggest consolidation activity has been *Medtronic*'s purchase of *Covidien* (which has since been removed from The Survey). The transaction amounts to $49.9 billion and has made *Medtronic* one of the biggest players in the industry. The more diverse product portfolio, owing to greater penetration into nontraditional segments will likely complement the company's growth agenda. The new company's headquarters will be based in Ireland, and the product and segment categories have been exponentially augmented.

Growth Catalysts

In summation, these companies have several growth catalysts that should spur top- and bottom-line prospects. One other platform has been penetration into emerging markets that are currently in the early stages of healthcare infrastructure, including Brazil and India.

Conclusion

There is a dearth of attractive short-term selections in the Medical Supplies Industry (Invasive). These include *Cyberonics* and *C.R.Bard*. Indeed, these firms are still in somewhat of transition due to healthcare policy changes and diversification attempts.

That said, many of these equities possess above-average capital appreciation potential over the 2018-2020 time frame. We are optimistic that aforementioned growth efforts and a sustainable economic recovery will bear fruit over the longer term.

As always, we advise investors that are considering committing funds in this industry to read the individual reports that follow before making any investment decisions. To do so would give individuals a clearer picture of company specific agendas, including pipeline opportunities and other noteworthy growth catalysts.

Nira Maharaj

Sample Industry page

ANALYTICAL COMMENTARY

Much of each page contains analytical commentary. The text in each report is written by a Value Line securities analyst, who normally also follows a number (sometimes as many as 10 or 12) of the companies in the industry.

The text normally includes comments about important developments in the industry and the impact those developments have been having on the companies. It also usually includes the analyst's projections about the immediate and longer-term prospects for the industry. We always recommend that you read this report to get an idea of just what an analyst thinks about an industry.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

When purchasing a stock in a company, an investor should also know something about the industry in which a company is operating. Some important questions are:

- Is the industry growing?
- Are the industry's operating and profit margins increasing or at least remaining steady?
- Stock prices
- Are the industry's returns on total capital and shareholders' equity rising or at least remaining steady?

The answer to these questions can usually be found in the analyst commentary. In most cases, if an industry's trends are favorable, the operating conditions for the companies in that industry will also be favorable. If the industry trends are negative, the opposite may be true.

COMPANY/INDUSTRY COMPARISONS

When you are investing in a company, you should also know how that company is performing relative to its industry. A company's size and operating performance are both very important, and you should study them by looking at our individual company pages. However, you should also know if a company is well run. Some questions an investor should ask are:

- How does a company's operating margin compare with its industry peer?
- How does a company's net profit margin compare with its competitors?
- Are a company's returns on total capital and on shareholders' equity greater or less than others in the same sector?

If a company's margins and returns are higher than its peers, the company is probably efficiently run. If the margins and returns are lower than most firms in the industry, the company is probably not being run as well as it could be.

WARNING! Many industries are dominated by one or two companies. When that is the case, company/industry comparisons may not be very useful. Be careful when making company/industry comparisons to make certain the comparisons are meaningful.

INDUSTRY TIMELINESS

At the top right of each industry report, we publish an Industry Timeliness rank on each of the approximately 100 industries we rank (excluding Investment Companies). These go in descending order from 1, which is the highest possible rank.

The first screen each week is Industries in order of Timeliness.

The Industry Timeliness ranks are calculated by averaging the Timeliness ranks of each of the stocks in a particular industry. If an industry has a large number of stocks ranked 1, the Industry Timeliness rank is likely to be high. If an industry has a large number of stocks ranked 5, the Industry rank is likely to be low.

The Industry ranks are updated weekly and published on the front cover and a subsequent inside page of the Summary & Index. You should always look in the Summary & Index to make certain you have the most recent numbers.

RELATIVE STRENGTH CHART

In the lower right corner of most industry reports is a relative strength chart going back for as many as seven years. Relative strength compares the price of the stocks in that industry over time with the price of the Value Line Composite Index of approximately 1,700 stocks. When the relative strength line is rising, it means that the stocks in an industry are stronger than the broader market. When the line is falling, the stocks in an industry are weaker than the broader market.

CHAPTER

4

Frequently Asked Questions

Long-term subscribers to *The Value Line Investment Survey* are often well aware of the basic tenets of investing and the many ways information can be used in *The Value Line Investment Survey*. However, they and many newer readers often have questions about material in the publication. Below are answers to those questions we receive most frequently.

TIMELINESS RANKS

How do you determine the Timeliness rank, and what makes it change?

Value Line's Timeliness Ranking System ranks the approximately 1,700 stocks in our universe for relative price performance in the coming six to 12 months. At any one time, 100 stocks are ranked 1; 300 are ranked 2; approximately 900 are ranked 3; 300 are ranked 4; and 100 are ranked 5. In simple terms, Timeliness ranks [which go from 1 (Highest) to 5 (Lowest)] are determined by a company's earnings growth and its stock's price performance over a 10-year period relative to the 1700 stocks in *The Value Line Investment Survey*. A rank may change under three circumstances. The first is the release of a company's earnings report. A company that reports earnings that are good relative to those of other companies may have its stock move up in rank, while a company reporting poor earnings could see its stock's rank drop.

TIMELINESS	4	Lowered 1/30/15
SAFETY	1	New 7/27/90
TECHNICAL	3	Raised 2/20/15
BETA .75 (1.00 = Market)		

Sample Ranks Box (Also see item 1, on the sample page)

A change in the price of a stock can also cause a stock's rank to change. A change in price carries less weight in our model than a change in earnings, but it is still an important determinant. Generally speaking, strong relative price performance is a plus, while negative relative price performance (relative to all other approximately 1,700 stocks) is a minus.

And finally, there is the "Dynamism of the Ranking System." This phrase means that a stock's rank can change even if a company's earnings and stock price remain the same. That's because a fixed number of stocks are always ranked 1, 2, etc. Every time one stock's Timeliness rank moves up or down, another's must also change. As an example, let's suppose one company reports unusually good earnings, causing its stock's Timeliness rank to rise from 2 to 1. Since there can be only 100 stocks ranked 1, some other stock must fall to a rank of 2, even though there may have been no change in its earnings or price.

Why do stocks with Timeliness ranks of 1 or 2 sometimes have below-average long-term appreciation potential, and vice versa?

Probably the most important thing for all readers to know is that the time horizons for Timeliness ranks and for 3- to 5-year Projections are very different. Our Timeliness ranks are for the relative performance of stocks over the coming six to 12 months. Our forecast for long-term price potential is for 3 to 5 years. Because of the very different time periods, our forecasts for the two periods can be very different.

To provide a more specific answer, stocks ranked 1 or 2 for Timeliness often have been moving higher and often sell at high price/earnings ratios. While we think these stocks will continue to outperform other stocks in the Value Line universe during the next six to 12 months, it is unrealistic to think a stock's price will keep moving up forever. At some point, earnings growth is likely to slow, at least somewhat, and our analysts try to be as realistic as possible in calculating the 3- to 5-year projections. If earnings growth slows in the future, a stock's price/earnings ratio is likely to narrow, limiting the potential for appreciation in the stock's price.

Why do some stocks not have a Timeliness rank?

Our computer-generated Timeliness ranks require at least two years of income statement and stock price history. If a stock has been trading for less than two years, possibly because a company is relatively new or because there was a major spinoff or acquisition, we are unable to assign a rank to it. We also suspend Timeliness ranks for unusual developments such as a merger offer, bankruptcy rumors or the payment of a large special dividend.

TECHNICAL RANK

What exactly is the Technical rank?

The Technical rank uses a stock's price performance over the past year to attempt to predict via our computer model short-term (three to six month) future returns. The stocks in our approximately 1,700-company universe are ranked in relation to all others on a scale of 1 (Highest) to 5 (Lowest). While our Technical rank does contribute to investment decisions, we would like to stress that our primary investment advice is based on our successful time-proven Timeliness and Safety ranks. The Technical rank is best used as a secondary investment criterion.

EARNINGS

Why does Value Line sometimes show different share earnings than those in a company's annual report, or in The Wall Street Journal, or in a brokerage house report?

We each calculate earnings differently. In particular, Value Line often excludes what we consider to be unusual or one-time gains or charges in order to show what we consider to be "normal" earnings.

Company earnings often contain one-time nonrecurring or unusual items, such as expenses related to the early retirement of debt, a change in accounting principles, restructuring charges, or a gain or loss on the sale of assets. In order to make a reasonable comparison of core operating results from one year to the next—or from one company to another—it is often necessary to exclude these items from reported earnings. Some items are relatively easy to take out because they are explicitly shown in the company's income statement and footnotes. Others, however, must be estimated by our analysts. Any unusual adjustments to reported earnings will be disclosed in the footnotes of each Value Line report.

OPERATING MARGIN

What is an operating margin?

The operating margin shows operating income (earnings before the deduction of depreciation, amortization, interest, and income taxes) as a percentage of sales or revenues. Operating income is sometimes referred to as EBITDA.

PRICE/EARNINGS RATIO

Why does the Value Line price/earnings ratio often differ from that in The Wall Street Journal or brokerage reports?

All price/earnings ratios are calculated by dividing the recent stock price by 12 months of earnings. The different ratios occur because our analyst uses different 12-months earnings figures. Newspapers typically use 12-months trailing (i.e., reported) earnings. Value Line uses a total of the past six months of trailing earnings and the next six months of estimated earnings. (In our view, this is the best method since it incorporates both recent history and a near-term forecast.) Your broker is likely to use a calendar year's earnings. While we think our method is best, none is wrong. Just be sure that when you are comparing two companies' P/E ratios, you are using the same methods.

ABBREVIATIONS

I have trouble understanding some of your abbreviations. Can you help me?

Yes. Most of the frequently used abbreviations are included in the online Glossary which is available at www.valueline.com.

SELECTION & OPINION MODEL PORTFOLIOS

How are stocks chosen for the Model Portfolios I, II, III, and IV in Selection & Opinion?

Each portfolio is dedicated to a different investment objective. To make it more attractive and useful to conservative investors, Portfolio II must hold stocks that are ranked at least 3 (Average) for Safety.

Portfolio I, Stocks with Above-Average Year-Ahead Price Potential, is built on Value Line's well-respected Timeliness Ranking System. It is primarily suitable for investors who wish to take more risk in hopes of greater returns than might be afforded in Portfolios II or III. To qualify for purchase, stocks have to be ranked 1 (Highest) for Timeliness. To reduce portfolio turnover (and recognizing the fact that many good growth stocks go up and down in price along the way), a stock that drops a rank in Timeliness to 2 (Above Average) may remain in the portfolio, assuming that the company's longer-term fundamentals remain sound. A stock that drops to 3 (Average) for Timeliness must be sold. We attempt to diversify the holdings as much as possible, but note that the Timeliness Ranking System tends to favor high earnings growth and more volatile issues that may cluster in a few industries.

Portfolio II, Stocks for Income and Potential Price Appreciation, attempts to combine our Timeliness Ranking System with an investment objective for above-average income. This portfolio is primarily suitable for more-conservative investors. To qualify for purchase, a stock's yield (the estimated annual dividend for the next 12 months divided by the recent stock price) must be higher than the median yield for all approximately 1,700 stocks Value Line follows. The median is shown on the cover of the Summary & Index each week. The stock must also have a Timeliness rank of at least 3. The higher-than-average yields provide support to the shares in down markets. This portfolio tends to be less volatile because the companies, as a whole, are more likely to be mature and predictable.

Portfolio III, Stocks with Meaningful Long-Term Price Growth Potential, is based on the fundamental research of our staff of research analysts. This portfolio is suitable for investors with a 3- to 5-year horizon; in terms of risk, it falls somewhere between Portfolios I and II. This portfolio tends to be the most flexible, allowing purchases of a broader array of companies. It is constructed under the principles of modern portfolio theory, which state that the risk of a portfolio should be viewed within the context of a portfolio as a whole, rather than judging the portfolio according to the average rankings of individual securities it holds. To that end, this portfolio is generally well diversified, comprising stocks in a variety of different non-related industries.

Portfolio IV focuses on stocks with above-average dividend yields. Investors with an interest in current income are likely to find interest here. Stocks selected for the portfolio must have a yield at least 1% above the median of all dividend-paying stocks tracked in *The Value Line Investment Survey*, a Timeliness rank of at least 3, and a strong Financial Strength rating. Although the analyst managing Portfolio 4 may sell a holding at any time, replacing it with a new stock with better prospects, any stock whose Timeliness rank falls below 4 is automatically replaced.

Despite the focus on dividend yield and current income, stocks are typically selected from a broad range of industries, providing a meaningful degree of diversification. The portfolio's risk profile will likely be less than the broader market, given the usual concentration of low-Beta stocks.

The investment performance of all four portfolios is published quarterly in the *Selection & Opinion*.

The Selected Investments section of Selection & Opinion has four portfolios. Why isn't there a "Conservative" portfolio?

Portfolio II, Stocks for Income and Potential Price Appreciation, is the one we would recommend for "conservative" investors. A key criterion for this portfolio is that the stocks have above-average dividend yields. These attractive yields lend support to stock prices when the market is declining. This portfolio usually also has slightly lower-than-market risk (volatility) as measured by the average Beta of the stocks within the portfolio.

How have the Model Portfolios done?

We publish the record periodically in *Selection & Opinion*.

FINANCIAL STRENGTH

What goes into the Financial Strength rating for each individual company?

Our Financial Strength ratings take into account a lot of the same information used by the major credit rating agencies. Our analysis focuses on net income, cash flow, the amount of debt outstanding, and the outlook for profits, and the stability of the industry and the individual company returns. Other factors also enter into the equation. For example, a company that faces the loss of patent protection on a key product might face a downgrade. The ratings range from A++ (Highest) to C (Lowest), in nine steps, based on the judgment of our senior staff members. A rank of B+ is considered to be average.

A STOCK'S 3-TO 5-YEAR PRICE PROJECTIONS

How are a stock's 3- to 5-year share-price projections derived?

Our analysts have developed comprehensive spreadsheet models that take into account the current economic climate and a company's operating fundamentals, including recent management initiatives, the actions of the competition, and many other relevant factors for each company. These models are used to develop our earnings and other financial projections for the coming 3 to 5 years.

The Target Price Range is calculated by multiplying a company's estimated earnings per share for the period out 3 to 5 years (in the far right-hand column of the statistical array) by the stock's projected average annual price/earnings ratio for the same period and then developing a range showing the likely high and low price. The width of the band of the share-price projections varies, depending on the Safety rank of the stock. Riskier equities have a wider band, safer stocks a narrower band.

STOCK DECLINES

I bought a stock based on your advice, but it went down. What happened?

As you undoubtedly know, our Timeliness Ranking System has worked extremely well over time. Not all stocks do as we forecast, though, and we have never suggested that they will. What we have strongly recommended is that you diversify your portfolio by purchasing at least 10 to 20 stocks across 10 or more industries. That way, you will protect yourself from unexpected changes in the price of any one stock or any one industry. Also keep in mind that the Value Line Ranking System is relative. In declining markets, group 1 and 2 stocks have historically declined less than the general market. On the other hand, stocks ranked 1 and 2 have outperformed the market during periods when stock prices were rising.

Company's Financial Strength	A++
Stock's Price Stability	100
Price Growth Persistence	65
Earnings Predictability	100

Sample Financial/Stock Price Data
(Also see item 19 on the sample page)

SPEAKING TO ANALYSTS

I would like to speak to the Analyst who wrote a report.

Unfortunately, this isn't practical. Our staff of analysts has been hired to analyze stocks and write commentaries for *The Value Line Investment Survey* and, to be fair to all subscribers, they do not have time to provide personalized advice or information.

PRETAX INCOME

Where can I find pretax income on a Value Line page?

You can't. We do, however, show net profit after taxes (usually line 14 in the Statistical Array) and the effective tax rate (usually line 15). You can calculate pretax income by dividing net profit by: 1 minus the tax rate. Example: If net profit was $100 million and the tax rate was 36%, pretax profit would be $156.25 million.

$100,000,000

1.00 - .36 = $156,250,000

ERRORS IN REPORTS

What should I do if I find an error in a report?

If you think you have found an error in any of our publications, we would very much like to hear from you so that we can correct the mistake. Please write or call us. If you call, let the operator know that you want to report an apparent error, and he/she will connect you with an administrative assistant in the Research Department. Please address your written comments to the office of the Research Director, or e-mail us at vlresearch@valueline.com.

If you believe you have found an error in a historical price or per-share data item, please read on:

We actually receive very few complaints about our data. Most of those that we do get relate to historical prices and per-share data, and the fact is that our stock prices, earnings, and other data are usually correct. When there appears to be a difference in stock prices or earnings per share, it is usually because of a stock split or a stock dividend. Value Line (and everyone else) retroactively adjusts historical stock prices and share data for stock splits and dividends. Splits and dividends of 10% or more are shown in the Legends box in the upper left hand corner of the price chart. Splits of less than 10% are shown in the footnotes.

COMPANY COVERAGE

Does a company pay to be included in The Value Line Investment Survey?

No. Value Line is not compensated for coverage by the companies under our review. Subscribers can be assured that we are totally objective when we analyze companies in *The Value Line Investment Survey*.

Does the roster of stocks covered by Value Line change?

Yes. Vacancies constantly occur within our approximately 1,700 stock universe. Sometimes a company's earnings will deteriorate to such a degree that we believe investors have lost interest. If that happens, we will discontinue coverage. More frequently, companies leave our universe when they are acquired by or merged with another firm. Acquired or merged companies will be replaced by others. In choosing replacements, we try to select actively traded stocks with broad investor interest.

Why isn't ABC, Inc., a large well-known company, included?

We do try to include companies with actively traded stocks, which have broad public interest. If ABC fits in this category, we will, in all likelihood, provide coverage in the future.

GROWTH RATES

How are the growth rates calculated in the Annual Rates of change box?

We use a compound annual rate that reflects the annual change for various items over the entire period being computed. All rates of change are computed from the average figure for a past 3-year period to an average for a future 3-year period, as established by our analyst.

ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh)	Past 10 Yrs.	Past 5 Yrs.	Est'd '11-'13 to '18-'20
Sales	7.0%	3.0%	*5.5%*
"Cash Flow"	8.5%	5.0%	*6.5%*
Earnings	8.5%	4.5%	*6.5%*
Dividends	11.5%	8.5%	*7.5%*
Book Value	11.0%	10.0%	*9.5%*

Sample Ranks Box
(Also see item 1, on the sample page)

TIMELINESS OF INFORMATION

When can I expect to receive updates of your information?

Our intention is for subscribers to receive *The Value Line Investment Survey* in print generally on Friday or Saturday. Unfortunately, circumstances beyond our control may cause later delivery.

To guarantee that subscribers have access to key information including the latest ranks at the same time, such data are released to subscribers through our Value Line Web site by 8:00 A.M. Eastern Time each Monday. All subscribers to any version of *The Investment Survey* (print or online) have access to the latest key data on www.valueline.com.

SAMPLE STOCK PAGE

JOHNSON & JOHNSON NYSE-JNJ | RECENT PRICE **100.35** | P/E RATIO **16.5** (Trailing: 16.8, Median: 15.0) | RELATIVE P/E RATIO **0.90** | DIV'D YLD **2.8%** | **VALUE LINE**

TIMELINESS **4** Lowered 1/30/15
SAFETY **1** New 7/27/90
TECHNICAL **3** Raised 2/20/15
BETA .75 (1.00 = Market)

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
High:	64.3	70.0	69.4	68.8	72.8	65.4	66.2	68.1	72.7	96.0	109.5	106.5
Low:	49.3	59.8	56.7	59.7	52.1	46.3	56.9	57.5	61.7	70.3	86.1	99.1

Target Price Range 2018 | 2019 | 2020

2018-20 PROJECTIONS

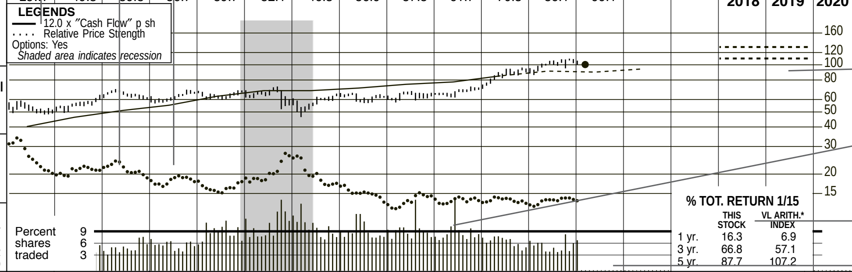
	Price	Gain	Ann'l Total Return
High	130	(+30%)	9%
Low	110	(+10%)	5%

Insider Decisions

	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
to Buy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Options	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1
to Sell	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1

Institutional Decisions

	1Q2014	2Q2014	3Q2014
to Buy	841	755	821
to Sell	925	997	932
Hld's(000)	1867404	1866987	1856100



% TOT. RETURN 1/15

	THIS STOCK	VL ARITH.* INDEX
1 yr.	16.3	6.9
3 yr.	66.8	57.1
5 yr.	87.7	107.2

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	© VALUE LINE PUB. LLC	18-20
9.88	10.47	10.83	12.23	14.10	15.94	16.98	18.43	21.51	23.02	22.47	22.49	23.87	24.19	25.28	**26.80**	**26.45**	**27.55**	Sales per sh A	**33.20**
2.03	2.27	2.46	2.85	3.36	3.84	4.25	4.60	5.23	5.70	5.69	5.92	6.25	6.48	7.08	**7.60**	**7.50**	**7.85**	"Cash Flow" per sh	**9.35**
1.49	1.70	1.91	2.23	2.70	3.10	3.50	3.76	4.15	4.57	4.63	4.76	5.00	5.10	5.52	5.97	**6.20**	**6.55**	Earnings per sh B	**8.00**
.55	.62	.70	.80	.92	1.10	1.28	1.46	1.62	1.80	1.93	2.11	2.25	2.40	2.59	2.76	**2.92**	**3.08**	Div'ds Decl'd per sh C■	**3.60**
.62	.59	.57	.71	.76	.73	.88	.92	1.04	1.11	.86	.87	1.06	1.06	1.27	**1.10**	**1.10**	**1.10**	Cap'l Spending per sh	**1.15**
5.83	6.76	7.95	7.65	9.05	10.71	12.73	13.59	15.25	15.35	18.37	20.66	20.95	23.33	26.25	**28.35**	**30.45**	**32.80**	Book Value per sh D	**40.95**
2779.4	2781.9	3047.2	2968.3	2968.0	2971.0	2974.5	2893.2	2840.2	2769.2	2754.3	2738.1	2724.4	2778.5	2820.6	**2775.0**	**2750.0**	**2730.0**	Common Shs Outst'g E	**2700.0**
31.6	26.4	27.2	25.9	19.4	18.1	18.5	16.6	15.4	14.3	12.5	13.1	12.7	13.1	15.6	16.9	*Bold figures are*		Avg Ann'l P/E Ratio	**15.0**
1.80	1.72	1.39	1.41	1.11	.96	.99	.90	.82	.86	.83	.83	.80	.83	.88	.88	*Value Line*		Relative P/E Ratio	**.95**
1.2%	1.4%	1.3%	1.4%	1.8%	2.0%	2.0%	2.3%	2.5%	2.8%	3.3%	3.4%	3.5%	3.6%	3.0%	2.7%	*estimates*		Avg Ann'l Div'd Yield	**3.0%**

CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 9/28/14
Total Debt $15,267 mill. **Due in 5 Yrs** *$5,000 mill.*
LT Debt $13,152 mill. **LT Interest** *$585 mill.*
(15% of Capital)

Leases, Uncapitalized Annual rentals $286 mill.

Pension Assets-12/13 $20.9 bill. **Oblig.** $21.5 bill.

Preferred Stock None

Common Stock 2,799,110,362 shares
as of 10/24/14
MARKET CAP: $281 billion (Large Cap)

2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016		18-20
50514	53324	61095	63747	61897	61587	65030	67224	71312	74331	**72700**	**75200**	Sales ($mill) A	**89600**
30.6%	28.7%	29.4%	29.5%	31.6%	31.4%	32.3%	35.7%	33.3%	**34.5%**	**35.0%**	**35.5%**	Operating Margin	**36.5%**
2093	2177	2777	2832	2774	2939	3158	3666	4104	**4000**	**3100**	**3100**	Depreciation ($mill)	**3200**
10545	11133	12085	12949	12906	13279	13867	14345	15876	17105	**17500**	**18300**	Net Profit ($mill)	**22100**
24.8%	23.3%	22.1%	23.5%	22.0%	21.1%	20.1%	23.1%	17.2%	19.3%	**20.0%**	**21.0%**	Income Tax Rate	**24.0%**
20.9%	20.9%	19.8%	20.3%	20.9%	21.6%	21.3%	21.3%	22.3%	23.0%	**24.1%**	**24.3%**	Net Profit Margin	**24.7%**
18759	3814	10108	13525	17810	24235	31505	21854	30732	**28800**	**29100**	**30100**	Working Cap'l ($mill)	**37600**
2017	2014	7074	8120	8223	9156	12969	11489	13328	**13200**	**13000**	**13000**	Long-Term Debt ($mill)	**12000**
37871	39318	43319	42511	50588	56579	57080	64826	74053	**78700**	**83700**	**89600**	Shr. Equity ($mill)	**110500**
26.5%	27.1%	24.1%	26.0%	22.3%	20.6%	20.2%	19.1%	18.4%	**19.0%**	**19.0%**	**18.5%**	Return on Total Cap'l	**18.0%**
27.8%	28.3%	27.9%	30.5%	25.5%	23.5%	24.3%	22.1%	21.4%	**21.5%**	**21.0%**	**20.5%**	Return on Shr. Equity	**20.0%**
17.8%	17.5%	17.1%	18.6%	15.0%	13.2%	13.5%	11.9%	11.6%	**12.0%**	**11.5%**	**11.5%**	Retained to Com Eq	**11.0%**
36%	38%	39%	39%	41%	44%	44%	46%	46%	**46%**	**46%**	**46%**	All Div'ds to Net Prof	**44%**

CURRENT POSITION ($MILL.)	2012	2013	9/28/14
Cash Assets	21089	29206	33005
Receivables	11309	11713	11615
Inventory (FIFO)	7495	7878	8419
Other	6223	7610	6934
Current Assets	46116	56407	59973
Accts Payable	5831	6266	6603
Debt Due	4676	4852	2115
Other	13755	14557	14264
Current Liab.	24262	25675	22982

ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh)	Past 10 Yrs.	Past 5 Yrs.	Est'd '11-'13 to '18-'20
Sales	7.0%	3.0%	*5.5%*
"Cash Flow"	8.5%	5.0%	*6.5%*
Earnings	8.5%	4.5%	*6.5%*
Dividends	11.5%	8.5%	*7.5%*
Book Value	11.0%	10.0%	*9.5%*

Cal-endar	QUARTERLY SALES ($ mill.) A Mar.Per	Jun.Per	Sep.Per	Dec.Per	Full Year
2012	16139	16475	17052	17558	67224
2013	17505	17877	17575	18355	71312
2014	18115	19495	18467	18254	74331
2015	***17500***	***18200***	***18300***	***18700***	***72700***
2016	***18000***	***18800***	***19000***	***19400***	***75200***

Cal-endar	EARNINGS PER SHARE AB Mar.Per	Jun.Per	Sep.Per	Dec.Per	Full Year
2012	1.37	1.30	1.25	1.19	5.10
2013	1.44	1.48	1.36	1.24	5.52
2014	1.54	1.66	1.50	1.27	5.97
2015	***1.54***	***1.72***	***1.56***	***1.38***	***6.20***
2016	***1.62***	***1.82***	***1.66***	***1.45***	***6.55***

Cal-endar	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID C■ Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2011	.54	.57	.57	.57	2.25
2012	.57	.61	.61	.61	2.40
2013	.61	.66	.66	.66	2.59
2014	.66	.70	.70	.70	2.76
2015	.70				

BUSINESS: Johnson & Johnson is engaged in the research & development, manufacture, and sale of a broad range of products in the healthcare field. Has three business segments: Consumer (baby care, skin care, oral care, wound care, etc.), Pharmaceutical (antiinfective, antipsychotic, contraceptive, dermatology, gastrointestinal, etc.), and Medical Devices & Diagnostics (electrophysiology, circulatory disease management, orthopedic joint reconstruction, etc.). Employs about 128,000. Officers & directors own less than 1% of common stock; BlackRock, 5.7%; State Street, 5.7% (3/14 Proxy). Chairman & CEO: Alex Gorsky. Incorporated: NJ. Address: One Johnson & Johnson Plaza, New Brunswick, NJ 08933. Telephone: 732-524-0400. Internet: www.jnj.com.

Johnson & Johnson rounded out 2014 on a decent note. December-quarter sales dipped 1%, to $18.3 billion, as operational gains of 4% were more than offset by the unfavorable impact of currency translation. The full-year picture was brighter, as the top line advanced 4%, to $74.3 billion, thanks to internal growth of 6%. The main story in 2014 was the performance of the healthcare conglomerate's Pharmaceutical business, which delivered tremendous top- and bottom-line growth throughout the year. Both new and existing drugs contributed to the group's results, although most of the credit goes to J&J's new hepatitis C drug *OLYSIO*. On the other hand, the Consumer and Medical Devices segments struggled to generate growth over the last 12 months, and both reported top-line declines in 2014. Share earnings inched forward in the December quarter, which was in line with reduced expectations; full-year share-profit growth was much better, at 8%.

We are now looking for J&J to report a top-line decrease in 2015. We have lowered our sales target to $72.7 billion, owing mostly to extremely stiff currency translation headwinds. Moreover, we do not expect the Consumer and Medical Devices businesses to perform much better this year, due to a lack of growth drivers. The Pharmaceutical business ought to continue to report solid top-line figures, but the comparisons are only going to get tougher as we plod along through 2015. We have lowered our adjusted share-earnings estimate for the year, as well, and now look for the figure to come in at $6.20. At first blush, this seems like decent growth, but J&J is changing the way it reports non-GAAP profits. On an apples-to-apples basis, share earnings will likely decrease by about 3%, from the year-earlier mark of $6.39.

The price of this blue chip has fallen a bit since our last review, and has been bouncing between $99 and $109 for about nine months. The stock is ranked unfavorably for Timeliness, so momentum accounts should probably look elsewhere for now. Longer-term total-return potential is decent, thanks in large part to the above-average dividend yield, and the Price Stability score is excellent.

Erik A. Antonson *February 20, 2015*

(A) Years end on last the Sunday in December.
(B) Diluted earnings. Excludes nonrecurring: '99, 2¢; '01, d7¢; '02, d7¢; '03 d30¢; '04, d26¢; '05, d4¢; '06, d3¢; '07, d52¢; '09, d23¢; '10, 2¢; '11, d$1.51; '12, d$1.24; '13, d71¢; '14, d27¢. Next earnings report due late April.
(C) Dividends historically paid: March, June, September, and December. ■ Dividend reinvestment plan available.
(D) Includes intangibles. In '13: $51.2 billion, $18.42 a share.
(E) In millions, adjusted for stock split.

Company's Financial Strength	A++
Stock's Price Stability	100
Price Growth Persistence	65
Earnings Predictability	100

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