Ascendere Associates LLC Innovative Long/Short Equity Research



Model Portfolio Monthly Update: April 30, 2015

There are limitations inherent in our theoretical model results, particularly with the fact that such results do not represent actual trading and they may not reflect the impact material economic and market factors might have had on our decision making if we were actually managing client money. Please see additional disclaimers and disclosures at the back of this report.

We highlight stocks that demonstrate solid growth at a reasonable price (GARP). Stocks selected for our model portfolio strategies all rank highly for the following metrics, with an emphasis on proxies for cash flow growth and ROIC:

- Relative Value
- Operating Momentum
- Analyst Revision Momentum
- Fundamental Quality

Page 2 contains rebalancing actions for our long-only model portfolio.

Page 3 contains rebalancing actions for our short-only model portfolio.

Target and stop prices, as well as updated return data, to be provided in our daily reports that will follow.

Long Model Portfolio -- Rebalancing Actions

4/30/2015 Rebalancing					
Core and Opportunistic Long I	Portfolio:				
32 stocks in the model portfolio =	= 3.13% weig	ght per position			
Close Position		Hold/Rebalance		Open Position	
Cracker Barrel Old Country Store	CBRL	Marriott International, Inc.	MAR	Fiat Chrysler Automobiles N.V.	FCAU
Pilgrim's Pride Corporation	PPC	Tractor Supply Company	TSCO	O'Reilly Automotive Inc.	ORLY
Lazard Ltd.	LAZ	ORIX Corporation	IX	The Walt Disney Company	DIS
Ameriprise Financial, Inc.	AMP	AllianceBernstein Holding L.P	. AB	AutoNation Inc.	AN
Symetra Financial Corporation	SYA	Western Alliance Bancorporat	ticWAL	Industrias Bachoco S.A.B. de C.V.	IBA
Trinity Industries Inc.	TRN	PrivateBancorp, Inc.	PVTD	Sasol Ltd.	SSL
Texas Instruments Inc.	TXN	CBRE Group, Inc.	CBG	Grupo Financiero Galicia S.A.	GGAL
Flextronics International Ltd.	FLEX	Cerner Corporation	CERN	China Life Insurance Co. Ltd.	LFC
Linear Technology Corporation	LLTC	Amgen Inc.	AMGN	Centene Corp.	CNC
Fiserv, Inc.	FISV	Robert Half International Inc.	RHI	General Dynamics Corporation	GD
Autohome Inc.	ATHM	Southwest Airlines Co.	LUV	Canadian National Railway Company	CNI
		Snap-on Incorporated	SNA	Leidos Holdings, Inc.	LDOS
		Aspen Technology, Inc.	AZPN	CDW Corporation	CDW
		Electronic Arts Inc.	EA	Broadcom Corp.	BRCM
		Manhattan Associates, Inc.	MANH		
		MAXIMUS, Inc.	MMS		
		Skyworks Solutions Inc.	SWKS		
Source: Ascendere Associates LLC		Lam Research Corporation	LRCX		

Short Model Portfolio -- Rebalancing Actions

When the market anticipates an improving economy from low price levels, low-quality stocks will at times out-perform high-quality stocks as the expected improvements in fundamentals are discounted from a relatively more depressed price level.

4/30/2015 Rebalancing					
Core and Opportunistic Short	Portfolio:				
22 stocks in the model portfolio	= 4.55% weig	pht per position			
Close Position		Hold/Rebalance		Open Short Sale	
Lions Gate Entertainment Corp.	LGF	Melco Crown Entertainment Li	r MPEL	General Motors Company	GM
BP p.l.c.	BP	Golar LNG Ltd.	GLNG	The Priceline Group Inc.	PCLN
Pembina Pipeline Corporation	PBA	Alkermes plc	ALKS	Charter Communications, Inc.	CHTR
Amec Foster Wheeler plc	AMFW	The Manitowoc Company, Inc.	MTW	Netflix, Inc.	NFLX
Williams Companies, Inc.	WMB	AECOM	ACM	InterOil Corporation	IOC
Medidata Solutions, Inc.	MDSO	Colfax Corporation	CFX	Akamai Technologies, Inc.	AKAM
Verint Systems Inc.	VRNT	3D Systems Corporation	DDD	Qihoo 360 Technology Co. Ltd.	QIHU
HomeAway, Inc.	AWAY	Yahoo! Inc.	YHOO	CoStar Group Inc.	CSGP
Qlik Technologies, Inc.	QLIK	SunEdison, Inc.	SUNE	Mercadolibre, Inc.	MELI
Crown Holdings Inc.	CCK	W.R. Grace & Co.	GRA	Cree, Inc.	CREE
				Nuance Communications, Inc.	NUAN
Source: Ascendere Associates LLC				Vedanta Limited	SSLT

Return Data

Core & Opportu	nistic Long Model				MTD			
3/31/2015 to 4/30/2015								
						Target/	Date+1	
Sector	Company	Ticker	3/31/2015	4/30/2015	Performance	Stop Date	Sell Price	Return
Information Technology	Autohome Inc.	ATHM	43.97	51.04	16.08%			
Information Technology	Aspen Technology, Inc.	AZPN	38.49	44.39	15.33%	4/29/2015	\$ 44.39	15.33%
Financials	ORIX Corp.	IX	70.34	77.05	9.54%	4/22/2015	\$ 81.54	15.92%
Consumer Staples	Pilgrim's Pride Corporation	PPC	22.59	24.70	9.34%			
Information Technology	LAM Research Corp.	LRCX	70.24	75.58	7.61%			
Financials	Privatebancorp Inc.	PVTB	35.17	37.07	5.40%			
Financials	Western Alliance Bancorporation	WAL	29.64	30.92	4.32%			
Information Technology	Manhattan Associates, Inc.	MANH	50.61	52.56	3.85%			
Consumer Discretionary	Snap-on Inc.	SNA	147.06	149.55	1.69%			
Financials	AllianceBernstein Holding L.P.	AB	30.87	31.35	1.55%			
Financials	Symetra Financial Corporation	SYA	23.46	23.75	1.24%			
Consumer Discretionary	Tractor Supply Company	TSCO	85.06	86.06	1.18%			
Financials	Lazard Ltd.	LAZ	52.59	53.03	0.84%			
Consumer Discretionary	Marriott International Inc.	MAR	80.32	80.05	-0.34%			
Financials	CB Richard Ellis Group, Inc.	CBG	38.71	38.34	-0.96%			
Health Care	Amgen Inc.	AMGN	159.85	157.91	-1.21%			
Information Technology	Electronic Arts Inc.	EA	58.82	58.09	-1.23%			
Information Technology	Linear Technology Corp.	LLTC	46.80	46.13	-1.43%			
Health Care	Cerner Corp.	CERN	73.26	71.81	-1.98%			
Information Technology	Fiserv Inc.	FISV	79.40	77.60	-2.27%			
Information Technology	MAXIMUS Inc.	MMS	66.76	64.01	-4.12%			
Financials	Ameriprise Financial Inc.	AMP	130.84	125.28	-4.25%			
Information Technology	Texas Instruments Inc.	TXN	57.19	54.21	-5.20%			
Information Technology	Skyworks Solutions Inc.	SWKS	98.29	92.25	-6.15%			
Industrials	Robert Half International Inc.	RHI	60.52	55.45	-8.38%			
Industrials	Southwest Airlines Co.	LUV	44.30	40.56	-8.44%			
Information Technology	Flextronics International Ltd.	FLEX	12.68	11.53	-9.07%			
Consumer Discretionary	Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc	CBRL	152.14	132.48	-12.92%			
Industrials	Trinity Industries Inc.	TRN	35.51	27.09	-23.71%			

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Core & Opportur	nistic Short Model				MTD			
3/31/2015 to 4/30/2015								
						Target/	Date+1	
Sector	Company	Ticker	3/31/2015	4/30/2015	Performance	Stop Date	Sell Price	Return
Health Care	Alkermes, Inc.	ALKS	60.97	55.37	-9.18%			
Consumer Discretionary	Lions Gate Entertainment Corp.	LGF	33.92	31.01	-8.58%	4/17/2015	\$ 31.39	-7.46%
Information Technology	3D Systems Corp.	DDD	27.42	25.09	-8.50%	4/15/2015	\$ 31.21	13.82%
Industrials	Manitowoc Co. Inc.	MTW	21.56	19.73	-8.49%			
Consumer Discretionary	HomeAway, Inc.	AWAY	30.17	27.95	-7.36%			
Consumer Discretionary	Melco Crown Entertainment Ltd.	MPEL	21.46	20.42	-4.85%	4/9/2015	\$ 24.65	14.86%
Information Technology	Yahoo! Inc.	YHOO	44.44	42.57	-4.21%			
Materials	W.R. Grace & Co.	GRA	98.87	96.72	-2.17%			
Information Technology	Verint Systems Inc.	VRNT	61.93	61.43	-0.81%			
Materials	Crown Holdings Inc.	CCK	54.02	54.26	0.44%			
Energy	Williams Companies, Inc.	WMB	50.59	51.19	1.19%			
Industrials	AECOM Technology Corporation	ACM	30.82	31.56	2.40%	4/14/2015	\$ 33.68	9.28%
Industrials	Colfax Corporation	CFX	47.73	49.59	3.90%			
Energy	Amec Foster Wheeler plc	AMFW	13.45	14.11	4.86%			
Information Technology	SunEdison, Inc.	SUNE	24.00	25.32	5.50%	4/15/2015	\$ 27.07	12.79%
Energy	Golar LNG Ltd.	GLNG	33.28	36.00	8.16%			
Healthcare	Medidata Solutions, Inc.	MDSO	49.04	53.43	8.95%	4/23/2015	\$ 57.59	17.43%
Energy	Pembina Pipeline Corporation	PBA	31.66	34.81	9.95%	4/20/2015	\$ 34.21	8.05%
Energy	BP plc	BP	39.11	43.16	10.36%	4/15/2015	\$ 42.55	8.80%
Information Technology	Qlik Technologies, Inc.	QLIK	31.13	34.79	11.76%	4/14/2015	\$ 33.52	7.66%

					Since	
	Theoretical Model Portfolio* Simple Returns (No Compounding	04/30/15 g)	MTD	YTD	03/31/09	Sharpe
Stock Targets	Core Model					
	Long		-0.30%	8.99%	160.4%	1.06
	Short		3.47%	6.69%	80.1%	0.59
	Core Long/Short		-3.77%	2.30%	80.3%	0.75
Stock Targets and	Opportunistic Model					
Portfolio Targets	Long		-0.30%	8.99%	144.6%	1.24
	Short		3.47%	5.23%	24.7%	0.14
	Opportunistic Long/Short		-3.77%	3.76%	119.9%	1.24
Stock Targets and	Opportunistic Model III					
Portfolio Targets	Long Stocks		-0.30%	8.99%	144.6%	1.24
	Long Inverse ETF ^SH		-1.10%	-0.53%	-77.5%	(1.00)
	Opportunistic Long/Short III		-1.40%	8.46%	67.1%	0.75
	S&P 500 Index		0.88%	1.55%	104.31%	1.04

* Return figures are calculated using cumulative simple returns. This table represents returns of several theoretical portfolios that do not assume any costs. This table is not to be construed as advertising for any investment service. Real portfolios that attempt to exactly replicate these theoretical strategies will generate lower returns relative to these models due to slippage, transaction costs, tax expenses and other costs. There are limitations inherent in our theoretical results, particularly with the fact that such results do not represent actual trading and they may not reflect the impact material economic and market factors might have had on our decision making if we were actually managing client money. We do our best to provide accurate information, but do not guarantee this. Please see additional disclosures and disclaimers.



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	Coro	Opportunistic	"Dollar Neutral" 1	"Dollar Neutral" 2	
	Core	Opportunistic	Neutral 1	Neutral 2	
Inception March 31, 2009	Long , Stock Targets	Long, Stock and Portfolio Targets	Long/Short, Stock Targets and Portfolio Targets	Long, Stock and Portfolio Targets / Long ^SH ETF	S&P 500 Total Return Index
4/30/2015	Theoretical	Theoretical	Theoretical	Theoretical	
Simple Returns					
Today	-1.30%	-1.30%	-0.77%	-0.40%	-1.01%
MTD	-0.30%	-0.30%	-3.77%	-1.40%	0.98%
YTD	21.80%	14.80%	27.54%	2.72%	-0.52%
Cumulative from 3/31/2009	160.44%	144.62%	119.89%	67.12%	117.19%
Absolute Risk					
Daily Average	0.10%	0.09%	0.08%	0.04%	0.08%
Daily Range	16.86%	15.84%	11.84%	12.00%	11.39%
Daily Standard Deviation	1.48%	1.14%	0.94%	0.81%	1.04%
Daily Return/Standard Deviation	7.07%	8.25%	8.37%	5.41%	7.38%
Average 90-Day T-bill	1.37%	1.37%	1.37%	1.37%	1.37%
Annualized Daily Returns	26.41%	23.80%	19.73%	11.05%	19.29%
Annualized Standard Deviation	23.5%	18.2%	14.9%	12.9%	16.5%
Sharpe Ratio	1.06	1.24	1.24	0.75	1.09
Percentage Down Days	44.7%	34.4%	43.0%	43.6%	43.5%
Average Daily Downside Value	-1.05%	-0.92%	-0.62%	-0.54%	-0.75%
Daily Downside Deviation	-1.12%	-0.93%	-0.60%	-0.57%	-0.79%
Daily VAR of 1000 at 95% Conf	-23	-18	-15	-13	-16
Benchmark Relative Risk					
Correlation	0.91	0.70	(0.05)	0.05	
R-Squared	0.83	0.49	0.00	0.00	
Daily Tracking Error	0.68%	0.85%	1.43%	1.28%	
Regression					
Beta	1.30	0.77	-0.05	0.04	
Daily Alpha	0.028%	0.018%	0.002%	-0.033%	
Jensen's Daily Alpha	0.037%	0.014%	0.000%	-0.001%	
Trading Days	1531	1531	1531	1531	
*Returns calculated by the simple return method	nod (not compounded).				
* Portfolio models are theoretical and assume	e no costs.				
* Data collected in real time since 3/31/2009					
Source: Ascendere Associates LLC					

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J. Stephen Castellano – founded Ascendere Associates LLC to provide innovative equity research and investment advisory services that blends fundamental and quantitative approaches.

In general, our approach is quite simple -- we believe that return on invested capital and long-term earnings growth are key to stock valuation. More specifically, we use powerful and unique financial models that combine publicly available data, consensus estimates and our own inputs to generate consistent and actionable stock recommendations.

Among the services that Ascendere provides are: 1) detailed custom equity research analysis; 2) valuation scenario analysis studies; 3) supply /demand studies; 4) long and short stock idea generation; 5) portfolio feedback; 6) detailed fundamental financial modeling services; and 7) additional analytical consulting services. Additional information is available at <u>www.ascenderellc.com</u>.

Mr. Castellano has over 15 years of experience in equity research and related consulting work. At PaineWebber, Warburg Dillon Read and Credit Lyonnais Securities he developed fundamental equity valuation models and conducted in-depth research on the steel and telecom services industries. At Boston Private Value Investors, he developed quantitative models for stock idea generation and also provided general fundamental equity research coverage. Steve received a MBA from the F. W. Olin School of Business at Babson College (2005) and a BA from Oberlin College (1993).

Mr. Castellano's career history is highlighted below:

- Ascendere Associates, LLC (2009-Present)
- Boston Private Value Investors , Equity Research, Equity Research Analyst (2005-2009)
- Pyramid Research, Contract Consultant, Telecom Services (2002-2003)
- Credit Lyonnais Securities (USA), Equity Research, Telecom Services, Vice President (2000-2001)
- Warburg Dillon Read, Equity Research, Telecom Services, Research Associate (1999-2000)
- PaineWebber, Equity Research, Steel and Nonferrous Metals, Research Associate, Editor (1995-1999)