| BUY |  |  |  |  |  | HOLD |  |  | SELL |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline \text { RATING SINCE } \\ \hline \text { TARGET PRICE } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 06 / 23 / 2009 \\ \approx \$ 11.00 \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A+ | A | A- | B+ | B | B- | C+ | C | C- | D+ | D | D- | E+ | E | E- | F |  |  |  |
| Annual Dividend Rate \$2.08 |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Annual Di } \\ & \text { 2.16\% } \end{aligned}$ | Dividend Yield |  |  | $\begin{array}{\|l\|l\|} \hline \text { Beta } \\ 1.00 \end{array}$ |  |  |  | Market Capitalization \$526.4 Billion |  |  |  | 52-Week Range \$89.47-\$132.97 | Price as of $6 / 23 / 2016$ $\$ 96.10$ |  |

## Sector: Technology \| Sub-Industry: Technology Hardware, Storage \& Peripherals | Source: S\&P

## AAPL BUSINESS DESCRIPTION

Apple Inc. designs, manufactures, and markets mobile communication and media devices, personal computers, and portable digital music players to consumers, small and mid-sized businesses, education, and enterprise and government customers worldwide.

## STOCK PERFORMANCE (\%)

|  | 3 Mo . | 1 Yr . | 3 Yr (Ann) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Price Change | -9.46 | -24.35 | 17.61 |
| GROWTH (\%) |  |  |  |
|  | Last 0tr | 12 Mo . | 3 Yr CAGR |
| Revenues | -12.85 | 6.98 | 10.31 |
| Net Income | -22.50 | 6.00 | 8.50 |
| EPS | -18.46 | 11.12 | 14.53 |
| RETURN ON EQUITY (\%) |  |  |  |
|  | AAPL | Ind Avg | S\&P 500 |
| 022016 | 38.84 | 36.22 | 11.95 |
| 022015 | 37.05 | 35.10 | 14.20 |
| 022014 | 31.37 | 28.93 | 14.48 |

## P/E COMPARISON



EPS ANALYSIS' ${ }^{1}$ (\$)



## RECOMMENDATION

We rate APPLE INC (AAPL) a BUY. This is driven by a number of strengths, which we believe should have a greater impact than any weaknesses, and should give investors a better performance opportunity than most stocks we cover. The company's strengths can be seen in multiple areas, such as its largely solid financial position with reasonable debt levels by most measures, notable return on equity and expanding profit margins. We feel its strengths outweigh the fact that the company shows weak operating cash flow.

## HIGHLIGHTS

The debt-to-equity ratio is somewhat low, currently at 0.61 , and is less than that of the industry average, implying that there has been a relatively successful effort in the management of debt levels. Along with the favorable debt-to-equity ratio, the company maintains an adequate quick ratio of 1.10 , which illustrates the ability to avoid short-term cash problems.

The return on equity has improved slightly when compared to the same quarter one year prior. This can be construed as a modest strength in the organization. When compared to other companies in the Computers \& Peripherals industry and the overall market, APPLE INC's return on equity exceeds that of the industry average and significantly exceeds that of the S\&P 500.
$44.30 \%$ is the gross profit margin for APPLE INC which we consider to be strong. Regardless of AAPL's high profit margin, it has managed to decrease from the same period last year. Despite the mixed results of the gross profit margin, AAPL's net profit margin of $20.80 \%$ compares favorably to the industry average.

AAPL, with its decline in revenue, slightly underperformed the industry average of $12.8 \%$. Since the same quarter one year prior, revenues fell by $12.8 \%$. Weakness in the company's revenue seems to have hurt the bottom line, decreasing earnings per share.

APPLE INC's earnings per share declined by $18.4 \%$ in the most recent quarter compared to the same quarter a year ago. This company has reported somewhat volatile earnings recently. We feel it is likely to report a decline in earnings in the coming year. During the past fiscal year, APPLE INC increased its bottom line by earning $\$ 9.20$ versus $\$ 6.43$ in the prior year. For the next year, the market is expecting a contraction of $10.3 \%$ in earnings ( $\$ 8.25$ versus $\$ 9.20$ ).


Companies with higher EBITDA margins and revenue growth rates are outperforming companies with lower EBITDA margins and revenue growth rates. Companies for this scatter plot have a market capitalization between $\$ 2.4$ Billion and $\$ 526.4$ Billion. Companies with NA or NM values do not appear.
*EBITDA - Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization.

REVENUE GROWTH AND EARNINGS YIELD


Companies that exhibit both a high earnings yield and high revenue growth are generally more attractive than companies with low revenue growth and low earnings yield. Companies for this scatter plot have revenue growth rates between $-35.2 \%$ and $7 \%$. Companies with NA or NM values do not appear.

| Beta | Market Capitalization | 52-Week Range | Price as of 6/23/2016 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{1 . 0 0}$ | $\$ 526.4$ Billion | $\$ 89.47-\$ 132.97$ | $\$ 96.10$ |

## INDUSTRY ANALYSIS

The computers and peripherals industry includes PC equipment, handheld devices, complex information technology systems and network equipment. Technological factors such as interoperability of hardware products and compatibility with the web have brought about industry consolidation. Also, intense competition and the importance of intellectual property rights have been instrumental to growth.

The US computers and peripherals industry is one of the largest global markets, including companies such as Apple (AAPL), IBM (IBM), Dell (DELL) and Hewlett-Packard (HPQ). The industry is capital-intensive with highly automated operations. Larger companies are built on purchasing power and mass production while smaller firms concentrate on product specialty and superior technology.

Research and development spending at large manufacturers generally varies between $5 \%$ and $15 \%$ of product revenue and can be more for smaller companies and low for pure assemblers like Dell. Patent licensing is a common practice as are disputes arising from patents. Technological advancement renders products quickly outdated. Many products have a lifespan less than 18 months.

Companies with excellent process technology, capital-intensive components production and flexible high-volume assembly are expected to dominate the hardware value chain. Companies with patent capital, close links to component and equipment developers and the ability to afford research and development expenditures and capital investments will benefit the most in the future. These attributes play into the strategic and technical strengths of Japanese companies. The US industry has superior design skills, but remains largely fragmented, undercapitalized and lacks a long-term approach. However, some US companies have been successful in producing structures, strategy and operational techniques necessary for commercial success.

With the global economic recovery, the computers and peripherals industry is expected to thrive as corporations continue to automate and upgrade their systems to increase efficiency and enhance competitive positions. Major players in the sector derive a substantial portion of their revenues from foreign markets adding geographic diversity to their product sales base. A weaker US dollar has given a pricing edge to American products and services.

Companies have little room for errors or inefficiencies in such a competitive and economically volatile environment. According to International Data Corp., price wars and technological evolution can drive down prices by $25 \%$ a year.

Computer storage and peripherals are strong sellers as data storage continues to be a top priority across businesses. Increasing amounts of data and content and the proliferation of broadband access have necessitated greater capacity across the storage infrastructure.

PEER GROUP: Computers \& Peripherals

| Ticker | Company Name | Recent <br> Price $(\$)$ | Market <br> Cap (\$M) | Price/ <br> Earnings | Net Sales <br> TTM $(\$ M)$ | Net Income <br> TTM (\$M) |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| AAPL | APPLE INC | $\mathbf{9 6 . 1 0}$ | $\mathbf{5 2 6 , 3 8 1}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 . 6 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 2 6 , 9 8 7 . 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{5 0 , 6 7 8 . 0 0}$ |
| STX | SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY PLC | 24.48 | 7,307 | 24.00 | $11,434.00$ | 315.00 |
| NTAP | NETAPP INC | 26.02 | 7,288 | 33.36 | $5,546.00$ | 229.00 |
| EMC | EMC CORP/MA | 27.86 | 54,457 | 27.05 | $24,642.00$ | $2,006.00$ |
| CAJ | CANON INC | 29.99 | 40,000 | 18.29 | $31,541.60$ | $1,797.10$ |
| NCR | NCR CORP | 30.36 | 3,762 | NM | $6,341.00$ | -186.00 |
| BBRY | BLACKBERRY LTD | 7.00 | 3,658 | NM | $2,160.00$ | -208.00 |
| LOGI | LOGITECH INTERNATIONAL SA | 16.73 | 2,706 | 21.73 | $2,018.10$ | 119.32 |
| LXK | LEXMARK INTL INC | 37.98 | 2,383 | NM | $3,505.40$ | -100.00 |
| HPO | HP INC | 12.95 | 22,152 | 6.68 | $74,897.00$ | $3,398.00$ |
| WDC | WESTERN DIGITAL CORP | 50.81 | 14,300 | 14.35 | $12,690.00$ | 828.00 |

[^0]|  | Sector: Technolog |
| :--- | :--- |
| Annual Dividend Rate <br> \$2.08 | Annual Dividend Yield <br> $\mathbf{2 . 1 6 \%}$ |


| Beta | Market Capitalization <br> \$526.4 Billion | 52-Week Range <br> $\mathbf{\$ 8 9 . 4 7 - \$ 1 3 2 . 9 7}$ | Price as of 6/23/2016 <br> $\mathbf{1 . 0 0}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

## COMPANY DESCRIPTION

Apple Inc. designs, manufactures, and markets mobile communication and media devices, personal computers, and portable digital music players to consumers, small and mid-sized businesses, education, and enterprise and government customers worldwide. The company also sells related software, services, accessories, networking solutions, and third-party digital content and applications. It offers iPhone, a line of smartphones;
iPad, a line of multi-purpose tablets; and Mac, a line of desktop and portable personal computers. The company also provides iLife, a consumer-oriented digital lifestyle software application suite; iWork, an integrated productivity suite that helps users create, present, and publish documents, presentations, and spreadsheets; and other application software, such as Final Cut Pro, Logic Pro X, and FileMaker Pro. In addition, it offers Apple TV that connects to consumers' TV and enables them to access digital content directly for streaming high definition video, playing music and games, and viewing photos; Apple Watch, a personal electronic device; and iPod, a line of portable digital music and media players. Further, the company sells Apple-branded and third-party Mac-compatible, and iOS-compatible accessories, such as headphones, displays, storage devices, Beats products, and other connectivity and computing products and supplies. Additionally, it offers iCloud, a cloud service; AppleCare that offers support options for its customers; and Apple Pay, a mobile payment service. The company sells and delivers digital content and applications through the iTunes Store, App Store, iBooks Store, Mac App Store, and Apple Music. It also sells its products through its retail and online stores, and direct sales force, as well as through third-party cellular network carriers, wholesalers, retailers, and value-added resellers. Apple Inc. was founded in 1977 and is headquartered in Cupertino, California.

## APPLE INC

1 Infinite Loop
Cupertino, CA 95014
USA
Phone: 408-996-1010
http://www.apple.com

## STOCK-AT-A-GLANCE

Below is a summary of the major fundamental and technical factors we consider when determining our overall recommendation of AAPL shares. It is provided in order to give you a deeper understanding of our rating methodology as well as to paint a more complete picture of a stock's strengths and weaknesses. It is important to note, however, that these factors only tell part of the story. To gain an even more comprehensive understanding of our stance on the stock, these factors must be assessed in combination with the stock's valuation. Please refer to our Valuation section on page 5 for further information.

## FACTOR

## SCORE

Growth $\quad 3.5$ out of 5 stars

| Measures the growth of both the company's income statement and |
| :--- |
| cash flow. On this factor, AAPL has a growth score better than $60 \%$ of |
| the stocks we rate. |
| Total Return |$\quad 3.0$ out of 5 stars

Measures the historical price movement of the stock. The stock performance of this company has beaten $50 \%$ of the companies we cover.

| * | $\star$ | $\star$ | $x$ | * | § |
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| * | $\star$ | $\star$ |  | $\star$ | 3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

## THESTREET RATINGS RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

TheStreet Ratings' stock model projects a stock's total return potential over a 12 -month period including both price appreciation and dividends. Our Buy, Hold or Sell ratings designate how we expect these stocks to perform against a general benchmark of the equities market and interest rates. While our model is quantitative, it utilizes both subjective and objective elements. For instance, subjective elements include expected equities market returns, future interest rates, implied industry outlook and forecasted company earnings. Objective elements include volatility of past operating revenues, financial strength, and company cash flows.

Our model gauges the relationship between risk and reward in several ways, including: the pricing drawdown as compared to potential profit volatility, i.e.how much one is willing to risk in order to earn profits; the level of acceptable volatility for highly performing stocks; the current valuation as compared to projected earnings growth; and the financial strength of the underlying company as compared to its stock's valuation as compared to projected earnings growth; and the financial strength of the underlying company as compared to its stock's performance. These and many more derived observations are then combined, ranked, weighted, and scenario-tested to create a more complete analysis. The result is a systematic and disciplined method of selecting stocks.

June 26, 2016
NASDAQ: AAPL


## BALANCE SHEET

|  | 02 FY16 | 02 FY15 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Cash \& Equiv. (\$mil) | $55,283.00$ | $33,096.00$ |
| Total Assets (\$mil) | $305,277.00$ | $261,194.00$ |
| Total Debt (\$mil) | $79,872.00$ | $43,871.00$ |
| Equity (\$mil) | $130,457.00$ | $129,006.00$ |

## PROFITABILITY

|  | Q2 FY16 | 02 FY15 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
|  | $44.30 \%$ | $45.05 \%$ |
| Gross Profit Margin | $32.56 \%$ | $35.78 \%$ |
| EBITDA Margin | $27.67 \%$ | $31.51 \%$ |
| Operating Margin | 0.74 | 0.81 |
| Sales Turnover | $16.60 \%$ | $18.30 \%$ |
| Return on Assets | $38.84 \%$ | $37.05 \%$ |


| DEBT |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
|  | 02 FY16 | 02 FY15 |
| Current Ratio | 1.28 | 1.16 |
| Debt/Capital | 0.38 | 0.25 |
| Interest Expense | 321.00 | 163.00 |
| Interest Coverage | 43.57 | 112.14 |
|  |  |  |
| SHARE DATA |  |  |
|  | 02 FY16 | 02 FY15 |
| Shares outstanding (mil) | 5,478 | 5.762 |
| Div / share | 0.52 | 0.47 |
| EPS | 1.90 | 2.33 |
| Book value / share | 23.81 | 22.39 |
| Institutional Own \% | NA | NA |
| Avg Daily Volume | $38,616,923$ | $46,228,263$ |

[^1]
## FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

APPLE INC's gross profit margin for the second quarter of its fiscal year 2016 is essentially unchanged when compared to the same period a year ago. Sales and net income have dropped, although the growth in revenues underperformed the average competitor within the industry, the net income growth did not. APPLE INC has average liquidity. Currently, the Quick Ratio is 1.10 which shows that technically this company has the ability to cover short-term cash needs. The company's liquidity has increased from the same period last year.

At the same time, stockholders' equity ("net worth") has remained virtually unchanged only increasing by $1.12 \%$ from the same quarter last year. Together, the key liquidity measurements indicate that it is relatively unlikely that the company will face financial difficulties in the near future.

STOCKS TO BUY: TheStreet Quant Ratings has identified a handful of stocks that can potentially TRIPLE in the next 12-months. To learn more visit www.TheStreetRatings.com.


## MOST RECENT RATINGS CHANGES

| Date | Price | Action | From | To |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $6 / 23 / 14$ | $\$ 90.83$ | No Change | Buy | Buy |

Price reflects the closing price as of the date listed, if available

## RATINGS DEFINITIONS \& <br> dISTRIBUTION OF THESTREET RATINGS

(as of $6 / 23 / 2016$ )
38.42\% Buy - We believe that this stock has the opportunity to appreciate and produce a total return of more than $10 \%$ over the next 12 months.
31.33\% Hold - We do not believe this stock offers conclusive evidence to warrant the purchase or sale of shares at this time and that its likelihood of positive total return is roughly in balance with the risk of loss.
$\mathbf{3 0 . 2 5 \%}$ Sell - We believe that this stock is likely to decline by more than $10 \%$ over the next 12 months, with the risk involved too great to compensate for any possible returns.

## TheStreet Ratings

14 Wall Street, 15th Floor
New York, NY 10005
www.thestreet.com
Research Contact: 212-321-5381
Sales Contact: 866-321-8726

## VALUATION

BUY. This stock's P/E ratio indicates a discount compared to an average of 13.61 for the Computers \& Peripherals industry and a significant discount compared to the S\&P 500 average of 24.43 . For additional comparison, its price-to-book ratio of 4.04 indicates a premium versus the S\&P 500 average of 2.79 and a premium versus the industry average of 3.51 . The current price-to-sales ratio is above both the S\&P 500 average and the industry average, indicating a premium.

| Price/Earnings | 1 <br> premium |  |  |  | $\mathbf{4}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| discount |  |  |  |  |  |

## AAPL 10.69

Peers 13.61

- Discount. A lower P/E ratio than its peers can signify a less expensive stock or lower growth expectations.
- AAPL is trading at a discount to its peers.

| Price/Projected Earnings | 1 <br> premium | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| discount |  |  |  |  |  |
| AAPL 10.59 |  |  |  |  |  |

## AAPL 10.59

Peers 12.53

- Average. An average price-to-projected earnings ratio can signify an industry neutral stock price and average future growth expectations.
- AAPL is trading at a valuation on par with its peers.

| Price/Book | 1 <br> premium | $\mathbf{2}$ | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | discount |  |  |
| AAPL 4.04 |  |  |  |  |  |

AAPL 4.04
Peers 3.51

- Premium. A higher price-to-book ratio makes a stock less attractive to investors seeking stocks with lower market values per dollar of equity on the balance sheet.
- AAPL is trading at a premium to its peers.

| Price/Sales | 1 <br> premium | $\mathbf{2}$ | 3 | $\mathbf{4}$ | discount |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

## AAPL 2.32

Peers 2.04

- Premium. In the absence of $P / E$ and $P / B$ multiples, the price-to-sales ratio can display the value investors are placing on each dollar of sales.
- AAPL is trading at a premium to its industry on this measurement.

| Price/CashFlow | 1 | 2 | 3 | $\mathbf{4}$ | 5 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| premium |  |  |  |  |  |

AAPL 7.67
Peers 9.98

- Discount. The P/CF ratio, a stock's price divided by the company's cash flow from operations, is useful for comparing companies with different capital requirements or financing structures.
- AAPL is trading at a discount to its peers.

| Price to Earnings/Growth | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | premium |  | discount |  |  |

AAPL NM
Peers 0.38

- Neutral. The PEG ratio is the stock's P/E divided by the consensus estimate of long-term earnings growth. Faster growth can justify higher price multiples.
- AAPL's negative PEG ratio makes this valuation measure meaningless.


## Earnings Growth

## AAPL 11.12

Peers - 20.16

- Higher. Elevated earnings growth rates can lead to capital appreciation and justify higher price-to-earnings ratios.
- AAPL is expected to have an earnings growth rate that significantly exceeds its peers.

| Sales Growth | 1 <br> lower | 2 | 3 | 4 | $\mathbf{5}$ higher |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

## AAPL 6.98

Peers 4.58

- Higher. A sales growth rate that exceeds the industry implies that a company is gaining market share.
- AAPL has a sales growth rate that significantly exceeds its peers.


## dISCLAIMER:

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[^0]:    The peer group comparison is based on Major Technology Hardware, Storage \& Peripherals companies of comparable size.

[^1]:    2 Sum of quarterly figures may not match annual estimates due to use of median consensus estimates.

