Cognizant Technology Solutions - CTSH

Analysis performed by: Joshua Smyser
July 2007

Company Introduction

Cognizant is a leading provider in the IT services business, and differentiates itself through its 'on-site/offshore' model. The company had revenues of \$1.4 Billion dollars in FY2006, and EPS of \$1.65. Over the past 5 years, the company has grown EPS at 53.6% per year, and analysts are expecting the company to grow at a rate of 33.3% for the next 5 years.

Products and Services

Cognizant operates in the IT Consulting and Technology Services business. Currently the demand for outsourcing services has been red hot as of late, with more and more companies farming out services to Indian and Chinese based companies, primarily due to the highly educated, but low wage-earning workers there. Cognizant benefits from this global trend of outsourcing by providing those services to customers. However, Cognizant strives to differentiate itself as more of a value-added partner and seeks to provide solutions to complex projects such as IT Program Development, using its multi-tiered model.

The company's operational model is centered around the large scale operations in India and China, with regional centers being in much closer proximity to the customer (i.e. Chicago, Toronto, Pheonix). The rationale is that the regional centers are on-call 24 hours a day for the client in case of IT 'emergencies' and are able to handle smaller projects requested by the client. For larger projects, say a system migration from one ERP to another, the regional center works directly with the client to determine the needs, objectives, and final deliverables desired and outsources the work back to the teams in India and China.

Cognizant's business model I feel is best of breed in the IT Services industry. The customer's originally come to Cognizant looking for cost reduction through the outsourcing model, but the hope is that they will continue to the be a long-term partner with Cognizant due to their value-adding activities and innovation.

Analysts and Estimates:

Yahoo Finance: EPS growth of 33.34% for the next 5 years, which was relatively consistent with other analyst reports I saw. Currently analyst's have been relatively neutral over the past quarter. Three of past four analyst opinion changes have been negative, with the last upgrade/downgrade occurring in April of 2007.

My SSG Judgements:

Front of SSG

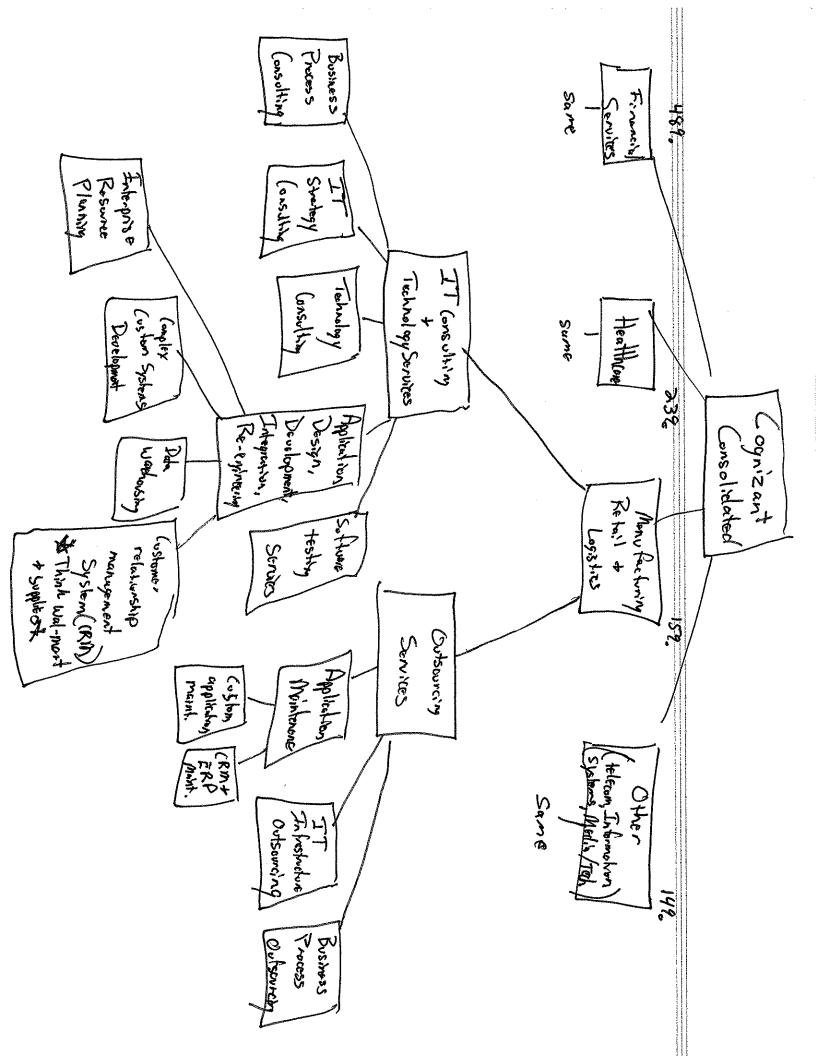
Followed the Preferred Procedures, selecting revenue growth of 32% which is slightly conservative, and I used the net profit margin of 16.3%. Ultimately I arrived at sales growth of 32% and EPS growth of 33.3%

Back of SSG

Selected a high PE of 34, which is the lowest, high PE for a given year that the stock has ever traded at. Selected a low PE using Alt M, which is the average of the middle 5 low PE's, which came to 17.3. Changed the estimated low earnings per share to the most current 4 quarters, or 1.73 Selected the forecast low price of 29.9

Conclusion:

After all is said and done, the stock has an upside/downside ratio of 2.8, making it a hold at the current price.

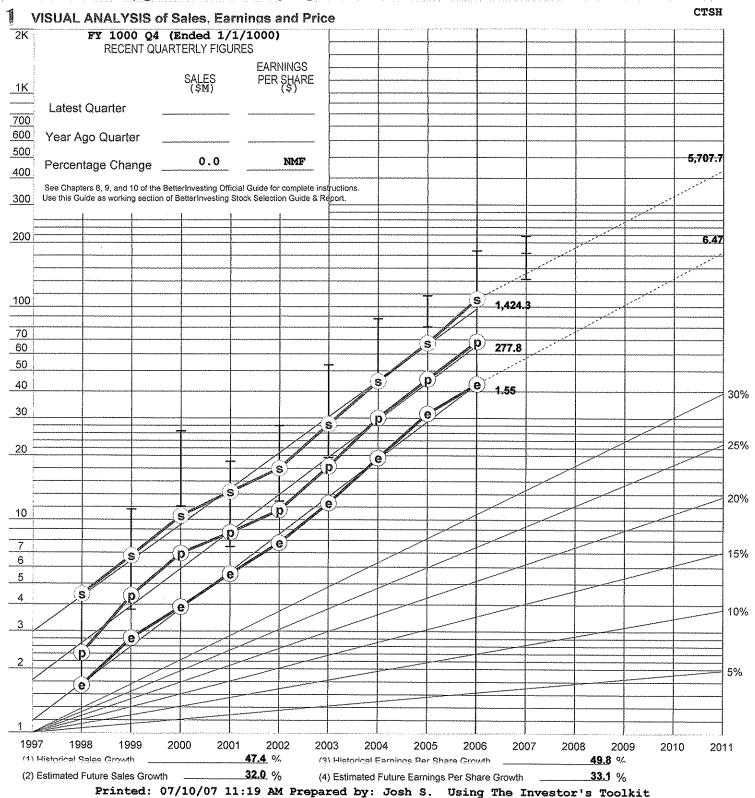


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Stock Selection Guide®

The most widely used aid to good investment judgment

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recurring gain/(loss): '02, (\$0.08); '03, (\$0.03); '05 \$0.08. Next earnings report in late July, '05 \$0.08. Next earnings report earnings report earnings report earnings report earnings report earnings repo