Our 2015 recurring EPS estimate, excluding net nonrecurring charges, is $2.05, up 7.3% from 2014’s $1.85, which excluded $0.31 of higher expenses and operations and maintenance costs. We see higher depreciation excluding EBIT margins of 65.5%, 55.2% and 56.7%.

Recently, ITC traded at 17.5X our 2015 EPS estimate, or a 29% premium to electric utility peers. This is warranted by what we expect to be a 10% premium to its electric utility peers.

Highlights

- ITC is likely to report revenue increases of 12% in 2015 and 7.6% in 2016 versus 6.7% in 2014. A growing base and new projects entering service, supplemented by higher revenue requirements in 2015, is likely, partly offset by negative true-up adjustments. The formula-based rate-setting mechanism generally benefits the company when maintenance spending is high. In 2016, we see several projects entering service and higher rates.

- EBIT totaled $670 million in 2014, $551 million in 2013 and $471 million in 2012, with corresponding EBIT margins of 65.5%, 55.2% and 56.7%. EBIT margins will fall in 2015 and 2016 to about 59.5% in 2016. We see higher depreciation expense and operations and maintenance costs in both years. Interest expense will increase in both 2015 and 2016, with 2016 about 15% higher than 2014, driven by ITC’s capital expenditures.

- Our 2015 recurring EPS estimate, excluding $0.04 of net nonrecurring charges, is $2.05, up 11% from 2014’s $1.85, which excluded $0.31 of net nonrecurring charges. We estimate 2016 EPS of $2.20, up an additional 7.3%.

Investment Rationale/Risk

- ITC will benefit from an increasing rate base through maintenance investments, leading to higher rates in ITC’s Iowa service territory. Also, ITC is building new projects in the upper Midwest and in the Plains states that should boost EBIT growth. ITC raised its dividend by 14% in August 2014, and we see another double digit increase this summer. A recent ruling on ITC’s transmission rate structure in New England indicates that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) will not reduce rates by as much as the complainers want.

- Risks to our recommendation and target price include a challenge to the current rate structure, slower-than-expected economic growth, milder-than-normal weather and higher interest rates.

- Recently, ITC traded at 17.5X our 2015 EPS estimate, a 10% premium to its electric utility peers. Our 12-month target price of $41 is 21.5X our estimate, or a 25% premium to electric utility peers. This is warranted by what we expect to be significantly faster-than-peers EPS and dividend growth.
CORPORATE OVERVIEW. ITC Holdings is the first independently owned and operated electricity transmission company in the U.S. with a fully regulated, high-voltage system that transmits electricity to local distribution facilities from generating stations in Michigan, Iowa and other areas. ITC's subsidiaries (ITC Transmission, METC, ITC Midwest, and ITC Great Plains), as independent transmission companies, are subject to rate regulation only by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). ITC's primary operations include scheduling outages to allow for maintenance and construction, balancing electricity generation and demand, and monitoring flows over transmission lines to ensure safety. As of December 31, 2015, the company owned 15,640 circuit miles of transmission lines.

IMPACT OF MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS. On December 5, 2015, ITC announced plans to acquire Entergy's (ETR 61, Hold) transmission assets, totaling 15,400 miles in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas. The cancelled deal would have given ETR shareholders 50.1% of the merged company in a stock-for-stock exchange. In addition, immediately prior to closing, ITC would have paid a $700 million, or about $13.50 per share, debt-funded special dividend. The deal was cancelled on December 13, 2015 due to disapproval from Mississippi regulators.

The Michigan Thumb Loop is a 140-mile, double-circuit 345 kV project with four substations that connects with wind projects. At a cost of about $310 million, the project was completed on May 13, 2015, with a first phase that entered service in September 2013. ITC recently constructed and now operates two sections or 120 miles, of the "V-plan," a 200-mile, 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line that will run through portions of southern Kansas. ITC will also construct and own new substations. The $300 million project was completed in late 2014, with ITC having spent $315 million. ITC's KETA project is a 225-mile, 345 kV transmission line that runs from southern Kansas into southern Nebraska. ITC owns 174 miles of the $175 million line that was placed into service in 2012. The Hugo to Valliant project is a $37 million, 18-mile, 345 kV project in Oklahoma that was completed in 2012. In eastern Iowa, ITC completed an 81-mile, 345 kV line from Salem to Hazleton. ITC placed the $120 million project into service in April 2013. We believe that ITC will announce several more new projects in the next few years.

PRIMARY BUSINESS DYNAMICS. ITC's customers include utilities, municipalities, co-operatives, power marketers and alternative energy suppliers. ITC's strengths, in our view, include: a supportive regulatory environment and rate-setting formula; smaller weather and commodity-related risks than power generators; and a lack of competition. Network revenues from DTE Energy and CMS Energy generate a substantial portion of the company's revenues. We believe FERC's policy of promoting investment in transmission infrastructure will create opportunities for ITC to add other transmission systems to its holdings.

LEGAL/REGULATORY ISSUES. ITC's rates are established by FERC on a cost-of-service model, which allows for the recovery of expenses and income taxes and a return on invested capital. The rate mechanism approved by FERC allows ITC Transmission to earn a return of 13.88%, METC to earn 13.38%, ITC Midwest to earn 12.38%, and ITC Great Plains to earn 12.16% return on equity.

In November 2013, FERC received a complaint against the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) and various MISO transmission owners, including ITCT, METC, and ITC Midwest. The complainants are seeking a FERC order reducing the 12.38% base return on equity to 9.15%, among other things. In our view, the outcome of this case will hinge on the outcome of a similar case that was filed in New England in September 2011. In August 2013, an administrative law judge (ALJ) found that the base ROE was not reasonable under the standard application of FERC methodology; however, the ALJ left policy considerations and additional adjustments to the commission. In October 2014, the FERC issued a decision in the New England case lowering the ROE in that case to 10.57% from 11.14% and changed its DCF methodology to account for any differences between the actual rate and the rate that should have been charged. ITC Transmission's rates are $2.41/kW month for 2015, compared with $2.31, $2.15, $2.19 and $2.50 in 2014, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively. METC's 2014 rates are $2.72/kW/month compared with $2.78, $2.53, $2.41 and $2.33 in 2014, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively. ITC Midwest's 2014 rates are $3.27/kW/month compared with $3.80, $3.71, $6.80 and $6.69 in 2014, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively. There are other upgrade and rebuild projects throughout ITC's system. We expect rates to continue rising during periods of capital expansion and increasing rate bases.

FINANCIAL TRENDS. ITC's capital expenditures totaled $794 million in 2014, $822 million in 2013, and $807 million in 2012. It plans to spend $4.5 billion between 2014 and 2018. ITC's debt-to-capital ratio was 71% at the end of 2014, down from 80% at year-end 2007, but higher than the 69% last year. While ITC's dividend has historically grown by about 5% annually, it has recently accelerated its dividend growth. We believe it will boost its dividend by about 12% this year, following last year's 14% increase. In May 2015, ITC said its expectations to grow EPS by 11% to 13% annually and to grow its dividend by 10% to 15% annually.
S&P Capital IQ Fair Value

Rank

Based on S&P Capital IQ’s proprietary quantitative model, stocks are ranked from most overvalued (1) to most undervalued (5).

Fair Value Calculation

Analysis of the stock’s current worth, based on S&P Capital IQ’s proprietary quantitative model suggests that ITC is slightly undervalued by $4.10 or 12.5%.

Investability Quotient

Percentile

ITC scored higher than 93% of all companies for which an S&P Capital IQ Report is available.

Volatility

LOW AVERAGE HIGH

Technical Evaluation

BEARISH

Since June, 2015, the technical indicators for ITC have been BEARISH.

Insider Activity

NA

For further clarification on the terms used in this report, please visit www.standardandpoors.com/stockreportguide

Company Financials Fiscal Year Ended Dec. 31

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<thead>
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<th></th>
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<td>NM</td>
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<td>1.20</td>
<td>1.10</td>
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<td>0.73</td>
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<td>0.25</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1.22</td>
<td>1.11</td>
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<td>0.88</td>
<td>0.73</td>
<td>0.56</td>
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<td>0.26</td>
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<td>0.54</td>
<td>0.49</td>
<td>0.46</td>
<td>0.44</td>
<td>0.42</td>
<td>0.40</td>
<td>0.38</td>
<td>0.36</td>
<td>0.18</td>
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<td>41%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>67%</td>
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<td>35.58</td>
<td>26.58</td>
<td>27.30</td>
<td>21.30</td>
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<td>20.00</td>
<td>19.53</td>
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<td>10.10</td>
</tr>
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<td>Prices:Low</td>
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<td>22.10</td>
<td>20.59</td>
<td>17.72</td>
<td>10.75</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Income Statement Analysis (Million $)

| Revenue | 1,023 | 941 | 831 | 757 | 697 | 621 | 619 | 426 | 224 | 205 |
| Depreciation | 122 | 112 | 100 | 88.8 | 87.0 | 86.0 | 94.8 | 67.9 | 40.2 | 33.2 |
| Maintenance | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Fixed Charges Coverage | NA | 3.09 | 2.90 | 2.81 | 2.60 | 2.61 | 2.34 | 2.48 | 2.04 | 2.81 |
| Construction Credits | NA | 30.2 | 23.0 | 16.7 | 13.4 | 13.2 | 11.6 | 8.15 | 3.98 | 2.79 |
| Effective Tax Rate | 38.1% | 33.7% | 36.6% | 35.6% | 36.1% | 37.2% | 38.1% | 33.3% | 29.2% | 35.3% |
| Net Income | 244 | 234 | 188 | 172 | 146 | 131 | 109 | 73.3 | 33.2 | 34.7 |
| S&P Capital IQ Core Earnings | 244 | 233 | 189 | 170 | 145 | 131 | 109 | 73.8 | 34.0 | 35.1 |

Balance Sheet & Other Financial Data (Million $)

| Gross Property | NA | 6,177 | 5,404 | 4,609 | 4,002 | 3,593 | 3,230 | 2,840 | 1,807 | 1,018 |
| Capital Expenditures | 733 | 822 | 803 | 557 | 388 | 405 | 402 | 287 | 167 | 119 |
| Net Property | NA | 4,847 | 4,135 | 3,416 | 2,872 | 2,542 | 2,304 | 1,960 | 1,198 | 604 |
| Capitalization:Long Term Debt | NA | 3,412 | 2,495 | 2,645 | 2,497 | 2,434 | 2,248 | 2,162 | 517 |
| Capitalization:% Long Term Debt | 68.1 | 67.9 | 63.8 | 67.8 | 69.1 | 70.7 | 70.8 | 79.9 | 70.3 | 66.2 |
| Capitalization:% Preferred | NA | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Capitalization:% Common | NA | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.17 |
| Total Capital | 5,773 | 5,126 | 4,362 | 3,904 | 3,614 | 3,446 | 3,222 | 2,897 | 1,795 | 802 |
| % Operating Ratio | NA | 60.1 | 61.3 | 60.1 | 60.6 | 60.0 | 64.5 | 66.0 | 68.0 | 68.0 |
| % Earned on Net Property | NA | 11.0 | 11.4 | 12.6 | 13.2 | 13.5 | 13.4 | 11.5 | 9.6 | 13.9 |
| % Return on Revenue | 23.9 | 24.8 | 22.6 | 22.7 | 20.9 | 21.1 | 17.7 | 17.2 | 14.8 | 16.9 |
| % Return on Invested Capital | NA | 8.4 | 8.5 | 8.5 | 8.2 | 7.9 | 7.4 | 6.2 | 6.1 | 9.4 |
| % Return on Common Equity | 14.8 | 15.3 | 13.9 | 14.2 | 13.7 | 13.5 | 14.6 | 12.4 | 8.3 | 15.0 |

Data as originally reported in Company reports; bef. results of disc opers/spec. items. Per share data adj. for stk. divs.; EPS diluted. E-Estimated. NA-Not Available. NM-Not Meaningful. NR-Not Ranked. UR-Under Review.

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Our fundamental outlook for electric utilities is neutral. Fundamentally, we believe the electric distribution utilities will benefit from still low fuel and purchased power costs and new rate increases, partly offset by higher O&M costs. We expect more normal summer weather to aid utility growth in 2015 following cool summer weather in 2014. We also look for a continued slow recovery in industrial sales to benefit electric utilities. However, we expect wholesale power operators to continue to remain challenged by lower-margin power contracts.

In the aftermath of the nuclear crisis in Japan, companies have faced intense scrutiny regarding the safety of their nuclear plants and in obtaining license extensions of existing plants, and/or the possible development of new facilities. For a variety of safety and economic reasons, several nuclear plants have been retired, and we expect that more will be. Additionally, we see a significant amount of coal generation being retired as well due to recent EPA regulations that would require costly retrofits to the plants. These retirements are being replaced predominantly with natural gas fired generation, but is being supplemented with new wind and solar plants.

While the repeal of the Public Utility Holding Company Act (PUHCA) in 2005 was expected to lead to further industry consolidation, the termination of several planned mergers in 2006 and later made companies cautious about investing the time and money required in the regulatory approval process. Over the past few years, however, there have been several large mergers that were completed. While a recent electric transmission merger was scuttled by regulatory opposition, we believe that deal activity is beginning to increase with two major mergers announced in 2014.

Year-to-date through March 31, 2015, the S&P Electric Utilities Index was down 6.7%, compared to a 5.8% decrease for the S&P 500 Utilities Index and a 0.9% rise in the S&P 1500 Composite Index. This follows a 25.2% increase in 2014, versus a 22.9% increase for the S&P 500 Utilities Index and a 10.9% gain for the S&P 1500.

--Christopher Muir

Sub-Industry Outlook

Industry Performance

GICS Sector: Utilities
Sub-Industry: Electric Utilities

Five-year market price performance through Jun 13, 2015

--Christopher Muir

BIP 6,596 43.88 46.95/32.49 0.12 2.0 21 36.80 A+ 93 23.9 68.0
Brookfield Infrastr Ptnrs L.P.
Centrais Eletr Brasileiras SA ADR
Comp En Minas Gerais-S/EIMI/ Com ADS
Comp Paraense Energia’B ADR
Emera Inc
Empresa Dist y Comercial Norte ADS
Fortis Inc
Interconexion Electrica SA ADS
NextEra Energy Corp Unit
Otter Tail
PNM Resources
Pampa Energia SA ADR
Portland General Electric

NOTE: All Sector & Sub-Industry information is based on the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) Past performance is not an indication of future performance and should not be relied upon as such.
S&P Capital IQ Analyst Research Notes and other Company News

May 26, 2014
02:42 pm ET ... S&P CAPITAL IQ MAINTAINS BUY OPINION ON SHARES OF ITC HOLDINGS (ITC 35.88****): We are lifting our '15 EPS estimate by $0.01 to $2.05, but lowering '16's by $0.05 to $2.20. We are also reducing our 12-month target price by $3 to $41, reflecting lower peer valuations. Our target price is 21.5x our '15 EPS estimate, or a 29% premium to our peer target that we think is warranted by our projection of a three-year EPS growth rate that is much higher than its peers. We see strong capital spending on both maintenance and new projects that should help to drive EPS growth. Q1 EPS of $0.47, vs. $0.44, misses our $0.48 EPS estimate and the $0.49 Capital IQ consensus. /C. Muir

May 3, 2015
04:32 pm ET ... S&P CAPITAL IQ MAINTAINS BUY OPINION ON SHARES OF ITC HOLDINGS (ITC 37.62****): We are trimming our '15 EPS estimate by $0.03 to $2.04 and starting '16 at $2.25. We are also lowering our 12-month target price by $1 to $44, reflecting a slight drop in our EPS growth forecast. Our target price is 21.6X our '15 EPS estimate, or a 19% premium to our peer target that we think is warranted by our projection of a higher-than-peers three-year EPS growth rate. We think high capital spending levels will continue to lead to higher rates, supporting EPS and dividend growth. Q4 EPS of $0.48, vs. $0.44, misses our estimate and the Capital IQ consensus, both at $0.50. /C. Muir

November 12, 2014
11:12 am ET ... S&P CAPITAL IQ LOWERS OPINION ON SHARES OF ITC HOLDINGS TO BUY FROM STRONG BUY (ITC 39.72****): We are trimming our '14 EPS estimate by $0.03 to $1.87 and '15's by $0.02 to $2.07. We are lifting our 12-month target by $4 to $45 helped by higher peer valuations and reduced risk surrounding rate complaints. Our target price is 21.7X our '15 EPS estimate, or a 33% premium to our peer target that we think is warranted by three-year EPS and dividend growth rates that are more than twice its peers. We believe that substantial capital spending will help to drive EPS growth. Q3 recurring EPS of $0.47, vs. $0.42, misses our $0.49 estimate, but matches the Capital IQ consensus. /C. Muir

August 21, 2014
ITC Holdings Corp. has named Rejji P. Hayes as a SVP and the company's permanent CFO. Hayes will also continue in the role of treasurer. ITC also announced the appointment of Albert Ernst and Dave Lopez to its board of directors. As CFO, Rejji P. Hayes is responsible for the company's accounting, internal audit, investor relations, treasury, financial planning and analysis, management reporting, and risk management and insurance functions of the company. Hayes will report to Joseph L. Welch, chairman, president and CEO of ITC. ITC noted that Hayes joined it in February 2012 as its VP of finance and treasurer. Previously, he was assistant treasurer and director, Corporate Finance and Financial Strategy at Exelon Corp. Albert Ernst is a retired partner at Nykema Gossett PLLC, where he served as director of Nykema's Energy Industry Group.

August 19, 2014
On August 13, 2014, the Board of Directors of ITC Holdings Corp. voted to expand the size of the Board from eight to ten directors and appointed Albert Ernst and Dave R. Lopez as directors of the company. There are no understandings or arrangements between Messrs. Ernst or Lopez and any other person pursuant to which Messrs. Ernst or Lopez was selected as a director of the company.

August 14, 2014
ITC Holdings Corp. announced that Rejji P. Hayes has been named as a senior vice president and the company's permanent chief financial officer, effective immediately. Mr. Hayes will also continue in the role of treasurer. ITC also announced the appointment of Albert Ernst and Dave Lopez to its board of directors, effective immediately. As CFO, Rejji P. Hayes is responsible for the company's accounting, internal audit, investor relations, treasury, financial planning and analysis, management reporting, and risk management and insurance functions of the company. Mr. Hayes will report to Joseph L. Welch, chairman, president and CEO of ITC. Mr. Hayes joined ITC in February 2012 as its vice president of finance and treasurer. Previously, he was assistant treasurer and director, Corporate Finance and Financial Strategy at Exelon Corporation in Chicago. Albert Ernst is a retired partner at Nykema Gossett PLLC, where he served as director of Nykema's Energy Industry Group. Dave Lopez recently concluded his role as interim superintendent of Oklahoma City Public Schools, after having served as Oklahoma's Secretary of Commerce.
Analysts' Recommendations

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<tr>
<th>Monthly Average Trend</th>
<th>Buy</th>
<th>Buy/Hold</th>
<th>Hold</th>
<th>Weak Hold</th>
<th>Sell</th>
<th>No Opinion</th>
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Wall Street Average

Number of Analysts Following Stock

Stock Price ($)

Of the total 15 companies following ITC, 15 analysts currently publish recommendations.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>No. of Recommendations</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
<th>1 Mo. Prior</th>
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<td>Buy/Hold</td>
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<td>Hold</td>
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Wall Street Consensus Estimates

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<th>Low Est.</th>
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<td>▲13%</td>
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<td>Q2'16 vs. Q2'15</td>
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<td>NA</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>▼-100%</td>
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Wall Street Consensus Opinion

BUY/HOLD

Companies Offering Coverage

Argus Research Company
Barclays
Credit Suisse
Deutsche Bank
Evercore ISI
Gabelli & Company, Inc.
Goldman Sachs
JP Morgan
Morgan Stanley
Morningstar Inc.
U.S. Capital Advisors LLC
UBS Investment Bank
Wells Fargo Securities, LLC
Wolfe Research, LLC.
Wunderlich Securities Inc.

Wall Street Consensus vs. Performance

For fiscal year 2015, analysts estimate that ITC will earn US$ 2.07. For the 1st quarter of fiscal year 2015, ITC announced earnings per share of US$ 0.43, representing 21% of the total annual estimate. For fiscal year 2016, analysts estimate that ITC’s earnings per share will grow by 6% to US$ 2.19.

A company’s earnings outlook plays a major part in any investment decision. S&P Capital IQ organizes the earnings estimates of over 2,300 Wall Street analysts, and provides their consensus of earnings over the next two years, as well as how those earnings estimates have changed over time. Note that the information provided in relation to consensus estimates is not intended to predict actual results and should not be taken as a reliable indicator of future performance.
**Glossary**

**S&P Capital IQ STARS**
Since January 1, 1987, S&P Capital IQ Equity Research has ranked a universe of U.S. common stocks, ADRs (American Depositary Receipts), and ADSs (American Depositary Shares) based on a given equity's potential for future performance. Similarly, S&P Capital IQ Equity Research has ranked Asian and European equities since June 30, 2002. Under STARS (Stock Appreciation Ranking System), S&P Capital IQ equity analysts rank equities according to their individual forecast of an equity's future total return potential versus the expected total return of a relevant benchmark (e.g., a regional index (S&P Asia 50 Index, S&P Europe 350® Index or S&P 500® Index)), based on a 12-month time horizon. STARS was designed to meet the needs of investors looking to put their investment decisions in perspective. Data used to assist in determining the STARS ranking may be the result of the analyst's own models as well as internal proprietary models resulting from dynamic data inputs.

**S&P Capital IQ Quality Ranking**
(also known as S&P Capital IQ Earnings & Dividend Rankings) - Growth and stability of earnings and dividends are deemed key elements in establishing S&P Capital IQ's earnings and dividend rankings for common stocks, which are designed to capsize the nature of this record in a single symbol. It should be noted, however, that the process also takes into consideration certain adjustments and modifications deemed desirable in establishing such rankings. The final score for each stock is measured against a scoring matrix determined by analysis of the scores of a large and representative sample of stocks. The range of scores in the array of this sample has been aligned with the following ladder of rankings:

- **A+** Highest
- **A** High
- **A-** Above Average
- **B+** Average
- **B** Below Average
- **B-** Lower
- **A-** Lowest
- **C** In Reorganization
- **D** Not Rated

**S&P Capital IQ EPS Estimates**
S&P Capital IQ earnings per share (EPS) estimates reflect analyst projections of future EPS from continuing operations, and generally exclude various items that are viewed as special, non-recurring, or extraordinary. Also, S&P Capital IQ EPS estimates reflect either forecasts of S&P Capital IQ equity analysts; or, the consensus (average) EPS estimate, which are independently compiled by Capital IQ, a data provider to S&P Capital IQ Equity Research. Among the items typically excluded from EPS estimates are asset sale gains; impairment, restructuring or merger-related charges; legal and insurance settlements; in-process research and development expenses; gains or losses on the extinguishment of debt; the cumulative effect of accounting changes; and earnings related to operations that have been classified by the company as discontinued. The inclusion of some items, such as stock option expense and recurring types of other charges, may vary, and depend on such factors as industry practice, analyst judgment, and the extent to which some types of data is disclosed by companies.

**S&P Capital IQ Core Earnings**
S&P Capital IQ Core Earnings is an uniform methodology for adjusting operating earnings by focusing on a company's after-tax earnings generated from its principal businesses. Included in the S&P Capital IQ definition are employee stock option grant expenses, pension costs, restructuring charges from ongoing operations, write-downs of depreciable or amortizable operating assets, purchased research and development, M&A related expenses and unrealized gains/losses from hedging activities. Excluded from the definition are pension gains, impairment of goodwill charges, gains or losses from asset sales, reversal of prior-year charges and provision from litigation or insurance settlements.

**S&P Capital IQ 12-Month Target Price**
The S&P Capital IQ equity analyst's projection of the market price a given security will command 12 months hence, based on a combination of intrinsic, relative, and private market valuation metrics, including S&P Capital IQ Fair Value.

**S&P Capital IQ Equity Research**

**Abbreviations Used in S&P Capital IQ Equity Research Reports**
- CAGR - Compound Annual Growth Rate
- CAPEX - Capital Expenditures
- CV - Calendar Year
- DCF - Discounted Cash Flow
- DDM - Dividend Discount Model
- EBIT - Earnings Before Interest and Taxes
- EBITDA - Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization
- EPS - Earnings Per Share
- EV - Enterprise Value
- FCF - Free Cash Flow
- FFO - Funds From Operations
- FY - Fiscal Year
- P/E - Price/Earnings
- P/NAV - Price to Net Asset Value
- PEG Ratio - P/E-to-Growth Ratio
- PV - Present Value
- R&D - Research & Development
- ROCE - Return on Capital Employed
- ROE - Return on Equity
- ROI - Return on Investment
- ROIC - Return on Invested Capital
- ROA - Return on Assets
- SG&A - Selling, General & Administrative Expenses
- SOTP - Sum-of-The-Parts
- WACC - Weighted Average Cost of Capital

Dividends on American Depositary Receipts (ADRs) and American Depositary Shares (ADSs) are net of taxes (paid in the country of origin).

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Reflects an S&P Capital IQ equity analyst's view of a given company's operational risk, or the risk of a firm's ability to continue as an ongoing concern. The S&P Capital IQ Qualitative Risk Assessment is a relative ranking to the S&P U.S. STARS universe, and should be reflective of risk factors related to a company's operations, as opposed to risk and volatility measures associated with share prices. For an ETF this reflects on a capitalization weighted basis, the average qualitative risk assessment assigned to holdings of the fund.

**STARS Ranking system and definition:**

- ★★★★★ 5-STARS (Strong Buy): Total return is expected to outperform the total return of a relevant benchmark, by a wide margin over the coming 12 months, with shares rising in price on an absolute basis.
- ★★★★ 4-STARS (Buy): Total return is expected to outperform the total return of a relevant benchmark over the coming 12 months, with shares rising in price on an absolute basis.
- ★★★ 3-STARS (Hold): Total return is expected to closely approximate the total return of a relevant benchmark over the coming 12 months, with shares generally rising in price on an absolute basis.
- ★★★ 2-STARS (Sell): Total return is expected to underperform the total return of a relevant benchmark over the coming 12 months, and the share price not anticipated to show a gain.
- ★★ 1-STAR (Strong Sell): Total return is expected to underperform the total return of a relevant benchmark over a wide margin over the coming 12 months, with shares falling in price on an absolute basis.

**Relevant benchmarks:**
In North America, the relevant benchmark is the S&P 500 Index, in Europe and in Asia, the relevant benchmarks are the S&P Europe 350 Index and the S&P Asia 50 Index, respectively.
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<th>Ranking</th>
<th>North America</th>
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<td>Buy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hold</td>
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<td>48.0%</td>
<td>38.8%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>31.0%</td>
<td>27.5%</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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