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DAILY NEWS

Consensus Review & Target Check on Ecopetrol S.A. (NYSE:EC)

Written by Gazette Contributor × July 6, 2019

Ecopetrol S.A. (NYSE:EC) currently has an Average Broker Rating of 3.17. This number is based on the 6 sell-side firms polled by Zacks. The ABR rank within the industry stands at 112.

Analysts often use a number of terms—buy, strong buy, near-term or long-term accumulate, near-term or long-term over-perform or under-perform, neutral, hold— to describe their recommendations. But the definitions of these terms can differ from company to company. Instead of making assumptions, investors should read the definitions of all ratings used in each analyst report. They should also consider the company's disclosures regarding what percentage of all ratings fall into either "buy," "hold/neutral," and "sell" groups.

Analysts on a consensus basis are expecting that the stock will reach $16.33 within the year. The ABR is provided by Zacks which simplfies analyst ratings into an integer based number. They use a one to five scale where they translate brokerage firm Buy/Sell/Hold recommendations into an average broker rating. A low number in the 1-2 range typically indicates a Buy, 3 represents a Hold and 4-5 represents a consensus Sell rating.
Research analysts study publicly traded companies and make recommendations on the securities of those companies. Most specialize in a particular industry or sector of the economy. They exert considerable influence in today's marketplace. Analysts' recommendations or reports can influence the price of a company's stock—especially when the recommendations are widely disseminated through television appearances or through other electronic and print media. The mere mention of a company by a popular analyst can temporarily cause its stock to rise or fall—even when nothing about the company's prospects or fundamentals has recently changed.Investors may be trying to decide if it is the right time to enter the equity market. Stocks have been performing well of late, and investors may be eager to catch the next potential move higher. When looking to put money into the stock market, investors might be working hard to create a strategy and choose specific stocks to add to the portfolio. Building a strategy can be tough, but sticking to a strategy can be even tougher. Sticking to the game plan when markets are in flux can greatly improve the investor's chances of succeeding in the market.

Most recently Ecopetrol S.A. (NYSE:EC) posted quarterly earnings of $0.43 which compared to the sell-side estimates of 0.56. The stock's 12-month trailing earnings per share stands at $1.87. Shares have moved $11.2 over the past month and more recently, $1.96 over the past week heading into the earnings announcement. There are 3 analyst projections that were taken into consideration from respected brokerage firms.

When dealing with the volatility and unpredictability of the stock market, investors may have to learn how to deal with their emotions. There are many factors that can have a big impact on the portfolio. Maintaining discipline can be one of the most important factors. From time to time, investors will be overcome by fear during a large market selloff. On the other side, investors may become extremely excited during a widespread market move to the upside. When these situations occur, investors tend to make better decisions if they are able to keep emotions out of play and stick to the original plan. Buying and selling at the wrong time can lead to portfolio underperformance, and it may damage investor confidence in the future.

Buy Ratings
1 analysts rate Ecopetrol S.A. a Buy or Strong Buy, which is 16.67% of all the analyst ratings.

Earnings
Research analysts are predicting that Ecopetrol S.A. (NYSE:EC) will report earnings of $0.58 per share when the firm issues their next quarterly report. This is the consensus earnings per share number according to data from Zack's Research.

Ecopetrol S.A. (NYSE:EC) closed the last session at $18.76 and sees an average of 607333.25 shares trade hands in each session. The 52-week low of the stock stands at $15.3 while the current level stands at 28.02% of the 52-week High-Low range. Looking further out we can see that the stock has moved -12.01% over the past 12 weeks and 18.14% year to date.

Investors are constantly trying to gain any little advantage when it comes to the stock market. Setting realistic goals and staying disciplined when trying to attain those goals can have a positive impact on an investor's psyche and portfolio performance. Making a couple of badly timed trades can have a drastic effect on the mindset of the investor or trader. Sometimes, investors will have a few missteps that generally include buying when the market is too high, selling when the market is low, or being on the sidelines during a major charge higher. Staying disciplined can help the average investor avoid common pitfalls to help keep the focus in the right direction. When inevitable mistakes are made, investors will have the opportunity to learn from those mistakes and get back on the road to recovery.

This article is informational purposes only and should not be considered a recommendation to buy or sell the stock.

Written by **Gazette Contributor**

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