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Allspring Global Investments Increases Holdings in Ecopetrol S.A.: What Investors Can Expect from Colombia's Energy Heavyweight



by Yasmim Mendonça — April 10, 2023 in News Reading Time: 3 mins read

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On April 9, 2023, the news broke that Allspring Global Investments Holdings LLC – an esteemed capital management firm – had bolstered their holdings in **Ecopetrol** S.A. by 1.6% in the fourth quarter, acquiring an additional 15,035 shares during that period. As a result of this move, their total holdings in the oil and gas company's stock reached a whopping 935,589 shares with a value of \$9,796,000. What does this mean for investors and the future of **Ecopetrol**?

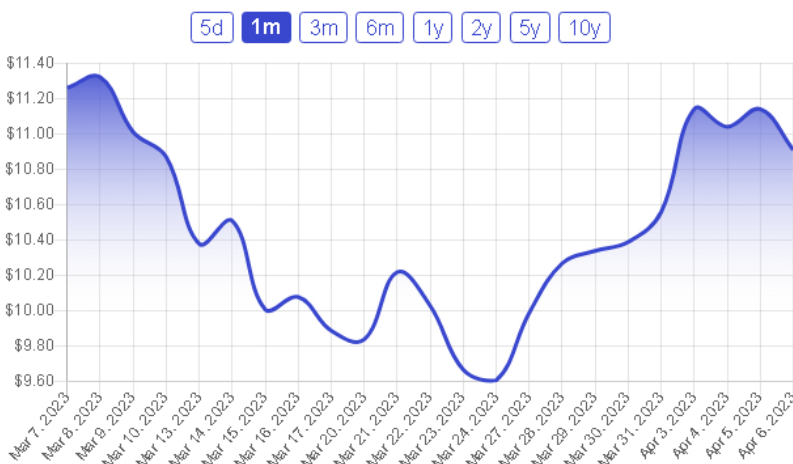
Ecopetrol's earnings results from March 29th were released to the public not too long ago which revealed that the oil and gas company reported \$0.69 earnings per share for the quarter – exceeding analysts' average estimate of \$0.65 by \$0.04. The firm generated revenues of \$8.26 billion over that period against \$8.31 billion expected by industry experts.

Ecopetrol is an energy heavyweight engaging in crude oil and natural gas exploration, development and production activities divided into three segments: Exploration and Production; Transportation and Logistics; and Refining and Petrochemicals.

The capital infusion Allspring Global Investments reflects admirable confidence in this renowned Colombian multinational where even post-COVID-19 pandemic business challenges have been expertly tackled through strategic risk mitigation channels as shown through **Ecopetrol**'s staggering net margin of around 21%. With various investment opportunities available for interested investors on NYSE today, all thoughts converge towards **Ecopetrol**'s continuation to provide stunning returns on equity which currently stands at about 15%.

With market predictions positing estimated earnings per share at about \$2.24 range for **Ecopetrol** in the current year, investment sentiment indicates significant potential benefits available to savvy fund managers similar to Allspring Global Investments who take advantages of such high yield investments across market sectors when presented as opportunities.

Ecopetrol SA Attracting Interest from Hedge Funds and Institutional Investors in Oil and Gas Sector



Ecopetrol SA, a Colombian oil and gas company, has been gaining interest from hedge funds and institutional investors. Several hedge funds have both purchased and sold shares of EC, with Penserra Capital Management LLC purchasing a new position in the first quarter of 2023 worth approximately \$47,000. Apollon Wealth Management LLC also bought a position in the third quarter worth \$89,000. The company saw an 11.1% boost in holdings by UBS Group AG in the first quarter after acquiring an additional 1,058 shares in the last quarter. Furthermore, Jane Street Group LLC bought stakes worth \$116,000 in the second quarter while Credit Suisse AG increased holdings by 10.8% during the same period.

Ecopetrol's stock is currently listed on NYSE EC at \$10.91 as of April 9th, 2023. Its market capitalization totals to \$22.43 billion with a P/E ratio of 2.82 and beta value of 1.43; hence it is deemed as having moderate risk levels for investors looking to invest in this sector.

The business runs several segments: Exploration and Production dealing

with oil and gas exploration activities; Transportation and Logistics assisting in transportation and storage services; Refining and Petrochemicals serving as a refinery owner or investor.

The company recently disclosed its dividend payout of \$0.1479 per share on Friday, December 29th for shareholders that were recorded on Wednesday, December 20th – which represents a yield of impressive rates totaling to 20.4%. The stock has a current DPR of 37.73%.

Many analysts have provided interesting commentary on **Ecopetrol** SA's stock recently too – including The Goldman Sachs Group lowering their price objective from \$12.40 to \$11 while rating it as neutral due to market fluctuations on March 15th; HSBC issued it a “hold” rating while cutting their target price from \$12.50 to \$12.00; StockNews.com covering the stock with a “hold” label on March 16th. Currently, four investment analysts appraise the sentiment of HOLD for **Ecopetrol**.

Overall, it should be noted that institutional investors hold 1.30% of the company's stock and this Colombian oil and gas producer sees interest from different types of hedge funds meaning that whilst there may be some fluctuations in the market for **Ecopetrol**, it remains an industry which is experiencing yearly growth attracting wise investment opportunities.

Tags: [EC](#)



Yasmim Mendonça

Yasmine's focus is on uncovering early-stage ideas with the potential to have a lasting impact. Her educational background includes a bachelor's degree in finance, an MBA, and two tests completed - the CFA and CMT.



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Rice Hall James & Associates LLC Increases Stake in DMC Global Inc. as Industrial Products Company Sees Steady Rise in Stock Prices



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April 9, 2023 – Industrial products company DMC Global Inc. (NASDAQ:BOOM) has recently caught the attention of Rice Hall James & Associates LLC, as the institutional investor has significantly increased its stake in the firm by 51.7%. According to its most recent 13F filing with the SEC, Rice Hall James now owns 130,828 shares of DMC Global's stock after acquiring an additional 44,580 shares during Q4 of last year. This equates to approximately \$2,543,000 worth of investment.

DMC Global Inc., known for its innovative solutions in areas such as oil and gas exploration and defense applications, has been witnessing a steady rise in stock price over the past year. As of Friday's opening price at \$20.08, the stock has a market cap of \$395.98 million with a price-to-earnings ratio of 28.28 and a beta of 1.63.

Furthermore, data from HoldingsChannel.com shows that other hedge funds are also holding BOOM currently. For investors who are looking at expanding their portfolio, these insights can provide valuable information on where others may see potential growth opportunities.

The business currently holds a quick ratio of 1.02 and a current ratio of 2.24 while maintaining a debt-to-equity ratio of only 0.31 reflecting its robust financial position even in tough economic times as well as future growth prospects.

With a fifty-day moving average price sitting at \$23.63 and two-hundred day moving average price at \$20.42 according to reports from NASDAQ:BOOM; we are observing some movement that suggests upward trends for this industrial products company.

As Rice Hall James & Associates LLC continues to stay invested with DMC Global Inc., these developments suggest there could be ample room for future growth and expansion within the company's operations and stocks as well as building shareholders' wealth. Nonetheless, we advise investors to undertake proper due diligence before making any investment decisions as market uncertainties could affect stock prices at any time.

Big Investors Show Confidence in DMC Global's Prospects

DMC Global: Institutional Investors and Hedge Funds Worth Their Salt

Major institutional investors and hedge funds have been buying stakes in DMC Global, signalling their approval of the industrial products company's prospects. Among these are Point72 Hong Kong Ltd, UBS Group AG, Teachers Retirement System of The State of Kentucky, Tower Research Capital LLC TRC and BNP Paribas Arbitrage SA. These high-profile investments in DMC Global are significant as they represent a resounding show of support from established investment firms.

Tower Research Capital LLC TRC alone grew its position by an impressive 339.1%, purchasing an additional 3,913 shares during the last quarter alone. In total, 85.56% of the stock is currently owned by institutional investors and hedge funds.

In terms of analyst ratings for DMC Global shares, Roth Mkm recently raised its target price on DMC Global from \$30.00 to \$35.00 and gave it a "buy" rating while TheStreet upgraded its shares from a "d+" to a "c-". Although StockNews.com gave the company a "hold" rating when it assumed coverage last month, there is still plenty of positive sentiment in the air about this enterprise.

DMC Global's earnings results (released on February 23rd), revealed that the industrial products company had EPS of \$0.22 for the quarter, missing analysts' consensus estimate by (\$0.08). During this same period last year, DMC Global earned \$0.05 per share but much has changed since then with revenue up 143.9% YOY at \$175m compared to analysts' estimates of \$171.23m.

DMC Global operates in energy, industrial and infrastructure markets through two key segments: NobelClad and DynaEnergetics; thus showcasing its versatility within multiple industries through technical products aimed at satisfying customer needs ranging from explosion-welded clad metal plates to the construction of specialized transition joints.

Investment in DMC Global highlights institutional investors' and hedge funds' confidence in its growth. Nevertheless, analysts will keep a close eye on its performance trajectory for Q2 2023 which will indicate how well it has managed the changes within its business model that led to last quarter's earnings results missing target.

Tags: [BOOM](#)



Elaine Mendonça

Over the last nine years, Elaine has managed investment portfolio using fundamental analysis and value investing, emphasizing long-term time horizons.



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