

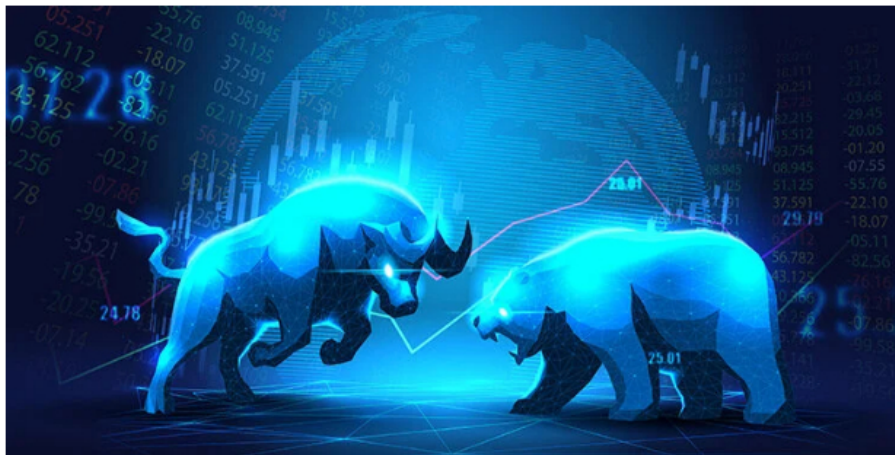
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Vanguard Personalized Indexing Management LLC Invests in Ecopetrol S.A. as Confidence in Oil and Gas Sector Continues



by Elaine Mendonça — June 2, 2023 in News Reading Time: 3 mins read

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On June 1, 2023, Vanguard Personalized Indexing Management LLC made waves in the financial industry by purchasing a new stake in **Ecopetrol** S.A. (NYSE:EC). The firm acquired 19,681 shares of the oil and gas company's stock for \$206,000. This move signals confidence in **Ecopetrol's** future performance and strategic positioning in the energy sector.

Ecopetrol has been making headlines since its last earnings release on March 29th, where it surpassed analysts' expected earnings per share of \$0.65 with \$0.69. The company recorded a net margin of 19.92% and a return on equity of 15.81%. It reported revenue of \$8.26 billion for the quarter compared to expectations of \$8.31 billion.

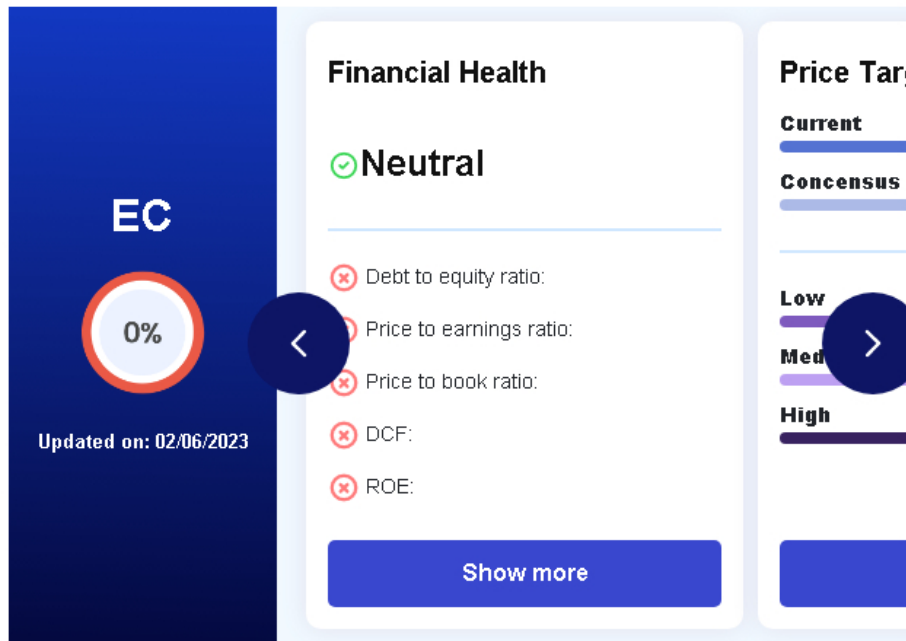
As a leading energy company specializing in crude oil and natural gas exploration, development, and production; **Ecopetrol** operates through three main segments- Exploration and Production, Transportation and Logistics,

and Refining and Petrochemicals. Its robust portfolio makes it an attractive investment opportunity for firms such as Vanguard Personalized Indexing Management LLC.

Although there have been fluctuations in the energy market as renewable energy gains momentum worldwide; economies still rely heavily on crude oil and natural gas to fuel daily activities. As such, substantial investments are being made towards accessing these resources more sustainably over the long term.

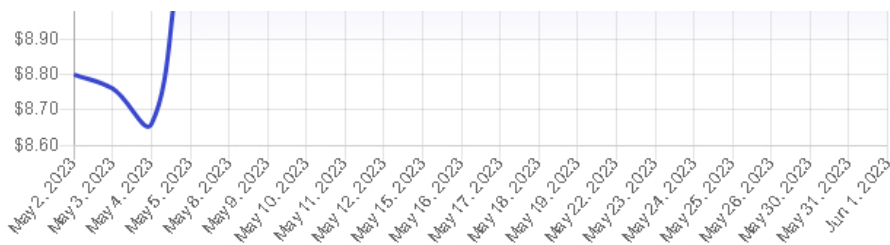
Experts predict that **Ecopetrol** will continue to perform well this year with anticipated earnings per share of 2.08 for the year ending December 31st, 2023. Thus far this year, shares rose by approximately 5%, positioning it as an attractive option for investors looking to diversify their portfolios.

In conclusion, Vanguard Personalized Indexing Management LLC's recent investment into **Ecopetrol** reinforces its potential growth prospects amidst ongoing debate regarding clean energy options versus continued dependence on traditional fossil fuels. The investment firm's confidence in **Ecopetrol's** strong fundamentals speaks volumes for the future of this prominent energy company on the global market.



Ecopetrol SA: Recent Investor Activity Sparks Discussion





Ecopetrol SA: An Overview of Recent Investor Activity

Recent modifications to holdings by large investors in **Ecopetrol** have been making headlines and sparking discussion among financial analysts and commentators. Bank of Nova Scotia recently purchased a new stake in the company during the 4th quarter valued at \$314,000, while First Trust Advisors LP raised its position by 23.1% during the same period. First Trust Advisors LP now owns 1,028,216 shares worth \$10.7 million after buying an additional 192,785 shares last quarter. Similarly, Dimensional Fund Advisors LP lifted its stake by 98.4% to 78,194 shares valued at \$818,000 following its acquisition of an additional 38,777 shares over the same period. Citigroup Inc. boosted its holdings in **Ecopetrol** by 262.8%, owning 25,696 shares valued at \$269,000 following the acquisition of an additional 18,613 share.

Finally Mercer Global Advisors Inc ADV also bought a new stake worth approximately \$186k in Q4 through hedge funds and other institutions now own about 1.30% of EC's shares.

As the NYSE EC opened at \$9.09 on Thursday with a market cap of \$18.68 billion and a PE ratio of 2:35 with Beta rating being at 1:43, these purchases indicate confidence shown by investors towards **Ecopetrol**.

Ecopetrol S.A., engages in exploration development and production of crude oil and natural gas is divided into following segments- Exploration and Production, Transportation, and Logistics as well as Refining and Petrochemicals. As announced recently **Ecopetrol** has initiated dividend payout due on December 29th for which record date is set for December 20th where people who hold Ex-dividend as on Tuesday December 19th will get paid about \$0.1479 per share representing a dividend yield of 20.4%. **Ecopetrol's** dividend payout ratio is 53.23%.

Some brokerages recently commented about EC regarding its rating as well, UBS GROUP lowered the company from "buy" to "neutral" rating and put a price objective at \$13.00 for the company- in contrast StockNews.com started coverage on shares of **Ecopetrol** on 18th May giving it a "hold" rating for the company. And lastly HSBC downgraded its initial "buy" rating to "hold" with reducing price per stock from \$12.50 to 12.00.

Despite some mixed outlooks in terms of ratings, financial experts are unanimous in their stance that the latest investment activity surrounding

unanimous in their stance that the latest investment activity surrounding **Ecopetrol** bears watching, particularly among institutional investors whose acquisition could have far-reaching effects on all parties involved. As such, many will continue to monitor this story closely for any future developments that could impact both individual and institutional investors alike.

Special Disclaimer: AssemblyAI does not provide investment advice or recommendations. This article is solely intended for informational purposes and should not be construed as an offer or solicitation to buy or sell securities either now or in the future under any circumstances whatsoever.

Tags: **EC**



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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Stratasys Receives Unsolicited Merger Proposal from 3D Systems Corp while in Talks with Desktop Metal Inc



by Elaine Mendonça — June 2, 2023 in News Reading Time: 2 mins read

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Stratasys Ltd. (NASDAQ: SSYS) is a company that specializes in providing additive technology solutions to various industries such as aerospace, automotive, healthcare, and consumer products. Over the past few years, the company's stock price has experienced fluctuations, with a 52-week range of \$11.03 to \$21.44. As of April 6, 2023, one share of SSYS stock was priced at around \$14.55.

On May 30, 2023, [Stratasys](#) confirmed that it had received an unsolicited non-binding indicative proposal from 3D Systems Corp (NYSE: DDD) to merge the two companies in a cash and stock deal. The proposed merger would see each Stratasys share converted into \$7.50 in cash and 1.2507 newly issued shares of 3D Systems. Stratasys shareholders would own 40% of the combined company and receive approximately \$540 million in cash. Based on 3D Systems' 60-Day Volume-Weighted Average Price (VWAP) as of May 24, 2023, the offer terms imply a nominal initial value per Stratasys share of approximately \$19. This offer represents a premium of 27% to Stratasys' closing trading price on May 24, 2023, and a premium of 35% to Stratasys' stock price as of the close of trading on March 9, 2023, the last trading day before Nano Dimension Ltd's (NASDAQ:NNDM) first public offer to acquire Stratasys.

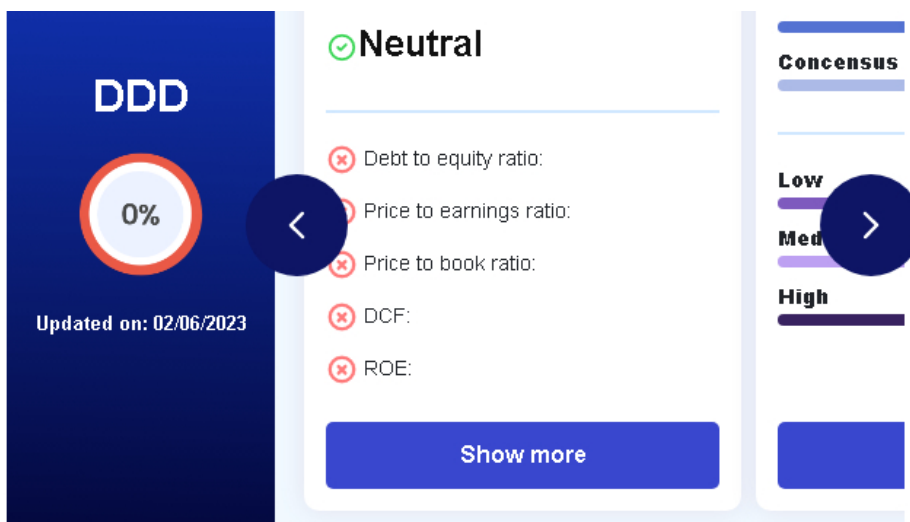
On May 25, 2023, Stratasys announced its merger agreement with Desktop Metal, Inc. (NYSE:DM), in an all-stock transaction. However, on May 30, 2023, Stratasys' Board unanimously determined that Nano Dimension's partial tender offer undervalued the company.

As of June 2, 2023, SSYS shares were trading higher by 10.09% at \$16.04 in premarket.



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DDD Stock Opens Higher with Positive Earnings Growth Forecast

On June 2, 2023, DDD stock opened at 8.75, which was higher than the previous close of 8.33. The stock had a day's range of 8.75 to 9.09 and a volume of 377,119. The market cap of DDD was \$1.0B.

DDD provides 3D printing solutions and has had a negative earnings growth of -136.81% in the past year, but is expected to have a positive earnings growth of +31.44% this year and +30.00% over the next five years. The revenue growth of the company was -12.61% in the past year. The P/E ratio of the stock was not available (NM), while the price/sales and price/book ratios were 1.76 and 1.40, respectively.

DDD's next reporting date is on August 9, 2023, with an EPS forecast of -\$0.05 for this quarter. The company had an annual revenue of \$538.0M and an annual profit of -\$123.3M in the last year, with a net profit margin of -22.92%. The company has no executives to display and is headquartered in Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Overall, DDD's stock performance on June 2, 2023 was relatively stable, with a slight increase in the opening price and a lower volume than the average over the past three months. The company's positive earnings growth forecast for this year and the next five years could potentially lead to a more positive performance in the future.

Tags: [DDD](#)



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by Yasmim Mendonça — June 2, 2023 in News Reading Time: 3 mins read

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