

Pacer Advisors Inc. Takes Position in Ecopetrol S.A. (NYSE:EC)

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Pacer Advisors Inc. bought a new stake in Ecopetrol S.A. (NYSE:EC - [Get Rating](#)) in the fourth quarter, according to its most recent 13F filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The firm bought 61,508 shares of the oil and gas company's stock, valued at approximately \$644,000.

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A number of other hedge funds and other institutional investors also recently made changes to their positions in the business. Penserra Capital Management LLC acquired a new stake in Ecopetrol in the first quarter worth about \$47,000. Apollon Wealth Management LLC acquired a new stake in Ecopetrol in the third quarter worth about \$89,000. UBS Group AG increased its position in Ecopetrol by 11.1% in the first quarter. UBS Group AG now owns 10,610 shares of the oil and gas company's stock worth \$197,000 after purchasing an additional 1,058 shares during the period. Jane Street Group LLC acquired a new stake in Ecopetrol in the second quarter worth about \$116,000. Finally, Credit Suisse AG increased its position in Ecopetrol by 10.8% in the second quarter. Credit Suisse AG now owns 11,308 shares of the oil and gas company's stock worth \$123,000 after purchasing an additional 1,105 shares during the period. 1.30% of the stock is currently owned by institutional investors and hedge funds.

Wall Street Analyst Weigh In

A number of analysts recently commented on EC shares. The Goldman Sachs Group lowered their price objective on Ecopetrol from \$12.40 to \$11.00 and set a "neutral" rating for the company in a research report on Wednesday, March 15th. [StockNews.com](#) assumed coverage on Ecopetrol in a research report on Thursday, March 16th. They set a "hold" rating for the company. UBS Group lowered Ecopetrol from a "buy" rating to a "neutral" rating and set a \$13.00 target price for the company. in a research report on Thursday, February 9th. Finally, HSBC lowered Ecopetrol from a "buy" rating to a "hold" rating and decreased their target price for the stock from \$12.50 to \$12.00 in a research report on Friday, February 10th. Four equities research analysts have rated the stock with a hold rating. According to data from MarketBeat, the stock presently has a consensus rating of "Hold" and an average

target price of \$12.00.

Ecopetrol Trading Down 0.5 %

[NYSE:EC](#) opened at \$8.76 on Thursday. [Ecopetrol](#) S.A. has a fifty-two week low of \$8.59 and a fifty-two week high of \$17.60. The company has a debt-to-equity ratio of 0.82, a current ratio of 1.36 and a quick ratio of 1.15. The stock has a market capitalization of \$18.01 billion, a PE ratio of 2.26 and a beta of 1.43. The business's 50-day simple moving average is \$10.64 and its 200-day simple moving average is \$10.40.

[Ecopetrol](#) ([NYSE:EC](#) - [Get Rating](#)) last released its quarterly earnings data on Wednesday, March 29th. The oil and gas company reported \$0.69 earnings per share for the quarter, beating the consensus estimate of \$0.65 by \$0.04. [Ecopetrol](#) had a return on equity of 15.85% and a net margin of 21.09%. The business had revenue of \$8.26 billion for the quarter, compared to analysts' expectations of \$8.31 billion. Sell-side analysts expect that [Ecopetrol](#) S.A. will post 2.15 earnings per share for the current fiscal year.

Ecopetrol Dividend Announcement

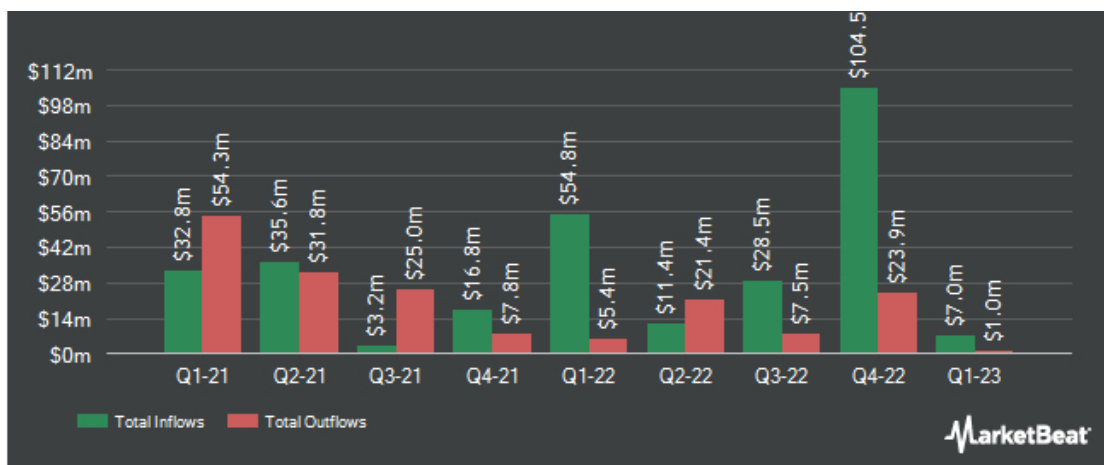
The company also recently announced a – dividend, which will be paid on Friday, December 29th. Shareholders of record on Wednesday, December 20th will be paid a \$0.1479 dividend. This represents a yield of 20.4%. The ex-dividend date is Tuesday, December 19th. [Ecopetrol](#)'s payout ratio is 52.45%.

About [Ecopetrol](#) ([Get Rating](#))

[Ecopetrol](#) SA engages in the exploration, development, and production of crude oil and natural gas. It operates through the following segments: Exploration and Production, Transportation and Logistics, and Refining and Petrochemicals. The Exploration and Production segment deals with oil and gas exploration and production activities.

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Should you invest \$1,000 in **Ecopetrol** right now?

Before you consider **Ecopetrol**, you'll want to hear this.

MarketBeat keeps track of Wall Street's top-rated and best performing research analysts and the stocks they recommend to their clients on a daily basis. MarketBeat has identified the [five stocks](#) that top analysts are quietly whispering to their clients to buy now before the broader market catches on... and **Ecopetrol** wasn't on the list.

While **Ecopetrol** currently has a "Hold" rating among analysts, top-rated analysts believe these five stocks are better buys.

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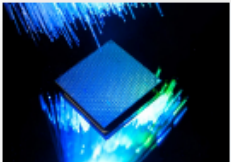
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