



Zacks Sell List Highlights: ADTRAN, LTX Corporation, 99 Cents Only Stores, and Soletron Corporation

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CHICAGO - (BUSINESS WIRE) - Jan. 4, 2005 - Zacks.com releases details on a group of stocks that are part of their exclusive list of Stocks to Sell Now. These stocks are currently rated as a Zacks Rank #5 (Strong Sell): ADTRAN, Inc. (NASDAQ:ADTN) and LTX Corporation (NASDAQ:LTXX). Further they announced #4 Rankings (Sell) on two other widely held stocks: 99 Cents Only Stores (NYSE:NDN) and Soletron Corporation (NYSE:SLR). To see the full Zacks #5 Ranked list of Stocks to Sell Now then visit: <http://at.zacks.com/?id=92>

Since inception in 1988, the S&P 500 has outperformed the Zacks #5 Ranked Strong Sells by 168.2% annually (11.8% vs. 4.4% respectively). While the rest of Wall Street continued to tout stocks during the market declines of the last few years, Zacks told investors which stocks to sell or avoid.

Here is a synopsis of why these stocks have a Zacks Rank of 5 (Strong Sell) and should most likely be sold or avoided for the next 1 to 3 months. Note that a #5/Strong Sell rating is applied to 5% of all the Zacks ranked stocks:

ADTRAN, Inc. (NASDAQ:ADTN): Earnings estimates for the year ended December 2004 and the year ending December 2005 are down 6 cents and 15 cents respectively over the past month, marking declines of approximately -6% and -14%. In mid-December ADTRAN revised its earnings per share guidance for the fourth quarter to between 16 cents and 18 cents, which was below the consensus. Its revised guidance for revenue was also below Wall Street expectations. The company said bookings have been weak in the midst of a pause in its markets. ADTRAN will report its fourth quarter numbers on January 25th.

LTX Corporation (NASDAQ:LTXX): Analysts expect a loss for the year ending July 2005, which has widened from levels two months ago. In mid-November, LTX Corporation forecasted a fiscal second quarter loss of (26 cents) to (28 cents) per share, marking a steeper loss than the consensus was expecting. The company said the semiconductor test equipment industry is in a steep cyclical downturn. LTX Corporation said its decline in revenues and earnings paralleled the sudden drop-off in market conditions.

Below is a synopsis of why these two stocks have a Zacks Rank of 4 (Sell) and should also most likely be sold or avoided for the next 1 to 3 months. Note that a #4/Sell rating is applied to 15% of all the stocks ranked by Zacks:

99 Cents Only Stores (NYSE:NDN) earnings estimates for the year ended December 2004 remain below levels from three months ago by 3 cents, or about -6%, while expectations for the year ending December 2005 are down 7 cents, or about -11%, in that timeframe. In October, 99 Cents posted third quarter earnings per share of 7 cents, which moved lower from last year's 17 cents while missing the consensus by approximately -12%. The company said it continues to address its operational issues surrounding inventory shrinkage and distribution.

Soletron Corporation (NYSE:SLR) earnings estimates for the year ending August 2005 are down 2 cents, or about -8%, from one month ago. Late last month, Soletron reported a fiscal first quarter profit that matched the consensus, but revenue moved lower from the previous quarter due to greater than expected weakness in the consumer market for set-top boxes and 3-G wireless handsets, among other areas. The company also pulled back on its earnings per share forecast for the fiscal year.

Truly taking advantage of the Zacks Rank requires the understanding of how it works. The free special report; "Zacks Rank Guide: Harnessing the Power of Earnings Estimate Revisions" is available here to provide this insightful background. Download a free copy now to prosper in the years to come. <http://at.zacks.com/?id=93>

About the Zacks Rank

For over 15 years, the Zacks Rank has proven that "Earnings estimate revisions are the most powerful force impacting stock prices." Since inception in 1988 the #1 Ranked stocks have generated an average annual return of +32.9% compared to the (a)S&P 500 return of only +11.8%. Also note that the Zacks Rank system has just as many Strong Sell recommendations (Rank #5) as Strong Buy recommendations (Rank #1). And since 1988 the S&P 500 has outperformed the Zacks #5 Ranked Strong Sells by 168.2% annually (11.8% vs. 4.4% respectively). Thus, the Zacks Rank system can truly be used to effectively manage portfolio trading.

Zacks "Profit from the Pros" e-mail newsletter offers continuous coverage of Zacks #1 and #5 Ranked stocks, highlighting stocks to buy and sell using Zacks time tested stock evaluation model. <http://at.zacks.com/?id=94>

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