

**Zacks Issues Buy Recommendations on the Following 6 Stocks.**

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ADTRAN, Avid, Western Digital, Mylan, SanDisk and Hutchinson.

CHICAGO-(BUSINESS WIRE)-March 6, 2003-Zacks.com releases another list of stocks that are currently members of the coveted Zacks no.1 Ranked list which has produced an average annual return of +33.6% since 1988 and has gained +13.3% annually since 2000 as the markets have been tumbling down. Among the no.1 ranked stocks today we highlight the following companies: ADTRAN, Inc. (NASDAQ:ADTN), Avid Technology, Inc. (NASDAQ:AVID) and Western Digital Corporation (NYSE:WDC). Further they announced no.2 Rankings (Buy) on two other widely held stocks: Mylan Laboratories Inc. (NYSE:MYL), SanDisk Corporation (NASDAQ:SNDK) and Hutchinson Technology Inc. (NASDAQ:HTCH). To see the full Zacks no.1 Ranked list or the rank for any other stock then visit. <http://www.zacksrank1bw.zacks.com>

Here is a synopsis of why these stocks have a Zacks Rank of 1 (Strong Buy). Note that a no.1 Strong Buy rating is applied to 5% of all the stocks we rank:

ADTRAN, Inc. (NASDAQ:ADTN) designs, develops, manufactures, markets and services a broad range of high-speed digital transmission products utilized by telephone companies and corporate end-users to implement advanced digital data services over existing telephone networks. The company reported that fourth quarter earnings more than tripled to 32 cents per share, compared to 10 cents last year. The result also beat Wall Street's expectations. Estimates for this year and next have improved by about 18 cents and 30 cents respectively over the past 2 months. The company recently released it's MX2820 to the praises of industry experts. Simplified management, cost savings, space efficiency, and an improved protection system make the MX2820 the most compelling multiplexing solution on the market today. For investors looking for a technology firm on the rise, ADTN may be the solution.

Avid Technology, Inc. (NASDAQ:AVID) develops, markets, sells and supports a wide range of software and systems for creating and manipulating digital media content. In late January, AVID reported a solid fourth quarter 2002 that improved on both the top-and bottom-lines. Excluding a charge and acquisition-related amortization, the company reported net income of 28 cents per diluted share, which was +125% greater than what Wall Street was expecting. AVID said it delivered significant bottom-line improvement for the third consecutive quarter and improved its top-line revenue over the fourth quarter of last year, as it ended 2002 with a stronger balance sheet. Analysts have responded by raising estimates for this year and next by about 25 cents and 21 cents respectively over the past couple of months. With the release of its Symphony system for the Macintosh OS X platform, investors can expect beautiful music from AVID.

Western Digital Corporation (NYSE:WDC) designs, develops, manufactures and markets a broad line of hard drives featuring leading-edge technology. The hard drive industry benefited from favorable conditions in WDC's fiscal second quarter, and the company took full advantage with revenue jumping to \$749.5 million from \$574.7 million last year. Furthermore, net income in the quarter surged to 36 cents per share from 7 cents in the year-ago period, which also surpassed Wall Street's expectations by more than 150%. Over the past four quarters, WDC has put together an average earnings surprise of more than +80%. Recently the company announced the availability of their external FireWire(R)/USB 2.0 combo hard drives. This new drive offers users the high performance of FireWire, ideal for digital audio and video with the convenience of USB 2.0, one of the most popular interfaces in the industry. Analysts hope this will produce increased revenue and gain more market share. The company certainly appears to be moving in the right direction and investors are starting to take notice again.

Here is a synopsis of why these stocks have a Zacks Rank of 2 (Buy). Note that a no.2 Buy rating is applied to 15% of all the stocks we rank:

Mylan Laboratories Inc. (NYSE:MYL) and its subsidiaries are engaged in developing, licensing, manufacturing, marketing and distributing generic and branded pharmaceutical products. Mylan announced net earnings of \$68.4 million, or diluted earnings per share of 37 cents (55 cents pre-split) for the third quarter ended December 31, 2002. This compares to 41 cents per diluted share (61 cents pre-split) for the same prior year quarter. Mylan also announced that it anticipates fiscal 2004 earnings per diluted share to be approximately \$1.59 to \$1.69 (\$2.38 to \$2.53 pre-split) and is increasing its fiscal 2003 annual guidance to between \$1.39 and \$1.42 per diluted share (\$2.09 to \$2.13 pre-split). Mylan's 2004 guidance was consistent with its long-term goal of growing the company's operations by an average of 15% or more per year. With a good track record of success and some strength appearing in its estimates, MYL could be the cure for an ailing portfolio.

SanDisk Corporation (NASDAQ:SNDK) designs, manufactures, and markets flash memory storage products that are used in a wide variety of electronic systems. SNDK recently announced a 1 gigabyte (GB) SanDisk Ultra(TM) CompactFlash(R) card with a sustained write speed of up to 6 megabyte (MB) per second and sustained read speed of 9MB/sec., making it the fastest and largest capacity Type I CompactFlash card. In addition, SanDisk introduced the SanDisk Ultra(TM) SD card line to its family of high-speed film cards specifically designed for digital cameras. The new SanDisk Ultra cards are designed for serious photographers who use digital cameras with CompactFlash or SD slots. These new products will build on the positive fourth quarter numbers that were released in January. Total fourth quarter revenues were a record \$179.8 million, up 27% sequentially from the prior quarter. Product revenues were \$158.7 million, up 20% sequentially. Retail sales increased 35% and represented 69% of product sales, Fourth quarter units sold increased 21% and megabytes sold increased 43% compared to the previous quarter, both representing new record levels. Fourth quarter net income was \$19.6 million, up 73% sequentially. Strong products and strong financials make this stock more than just a flash in the pan.

Hutchinson Technology Inc. (NASDAQ:HTCH) is a leading supplier of suspension assemblies for hard disk drives. The company reported a solid fiscal fourth quarter, with a net profit, excluding a pre-tax charge, of 28 cents a share on net sales of about \$109 million. The earnings result easily surpassed Wall Street expectations and a year-ago loss, while net sales improved from \$95 million last year. HTCH recently stated that it now expects net income per diluted share to reach the high end of the 50 cents to 65 cents range that they previously forecasted for its fiscal 2003 first quarter, which ended December 29, 2002. The company also said that based on recent order trends, it currently expects its shipments of suspension assemblies during its fiscal second quarter will be similar to the fiscal first quarter volume of approximately 135 million units. This should result in fiscal 2003-second quarter financial performance to be similar to fiscal 2003's first quarter. This is positive news for analysts and investors looking to get back into the technology sector may want to give HTCH a spin.

To truly take advantage of the Zacks Rank, you need to first understand how it works. That's why we created the free special report; "Zacks Rank Guide: Harnessing the Power of Earnings Estimate Revisions." Download your free copy now to prosper in the years to come. <http://freezrguideprbw1.zacks.com>

#### 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 1988 the no.1 Ranked stocks have generated an average annual return of +33.6% compared to the (a)S&P 500 return of only +11.3%. Plus this exclusive stock list has generated average gains of +13.3% during the last 3 years; a substantial return compared to the large losses suffered by most investors during that time frame. Also note that the Zacks Rank system has just as many Strong Sell recommendations (Rank no.5) as Strong Buy recommendations (Rank no.1). And since 1988 the S&P 500 has outperformed the Zacks no.5 Ranked stocks by 166.7% annually (11.3% vs. 4.2% respectively). This is a healthy change from traditional Wall Street Brokerage firms who rarely give stocks Sell ratings even as the share price and earnings forecast tumble. Thus, the Zacks Rank system can truly be used to effectively manage the trading in your portfolio.

For continuous coverage of Zacks no.1 Ranked stocks, then get your free subscription to "Profit from the Pros" e-mail newsletter where we highlight no.1 Ranked stocks poised to outperform the market. <http://www.zacksrank2bw.zacks.com/>

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CONTACT: Zacks.com Terry Batey, 312/630-9880 ext. 307 [feedback@zacks.com](mailto:feedback@zacks.com) [www.Zacks.com](http://www.Zacks.com).

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