# **New Constructs**<sup>®</sup>

#### **PREDICTIVE ETF RATING**

09/27/11

Closing ETF Price as of 09/26/11: \$22.73

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# QTEC - Attractive Rating

## First Trust NASDAQ-100-Technology Sector Index Fund

★★★☆	Predictive Rating	Attractive	
***** *****	<i>Business Strength</i> Quality of Earnings Size of the Moat (ROIC)	Rising EE 41.46%	
★★★★☆ ★★★★☆ ★★★☆☆	<i>Valuation</i> Free Cash Flow Yield Price to Economic Book Value Market-Implied Duration of Moat	6.98% 1.34 16 years	

#### **ETF Details**

Net Asset Value (\$MM)	\$154.63		
Issuer	First Trust		
Category	Technology Equities		
Index	NASDAQ-100 Technology Sector		
Management Style	Passive		
Exposure	Long		
Inception Date	04/19/06		
Number of Holdings	41		
Premium (Discount)	-0.04%		
Avg. Daily Volume (3 Mo.)	422,331		
Geography	U.S.		

#### • We recommend investors buy First Trust NASDAQ-100-Technology Sector Index Fund (QTEC).

- QTEC ranks in the 99th percentile of the 400+ ETFs we cover.
- Rising EE means that economic earnings are positive, the ETF's ROIC is greater than its WACC, and ROIC is rising.
- The Price to Economic Book Value ratio compares market expectations for future cash flows to existing cash flows. When the ratio is greater than one, the market predicts cash flows will increase, and vice versa.
- Market-Implied Duration of Moat measures the number of years of future profit growth implied by the stock price.

## **Predictive Rating Methodology**

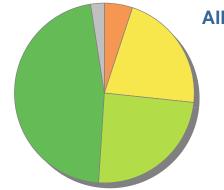
Our rating is based on the aggregation of our financial models for the ETF's holdings, which enables us to assess the profitability and valuation of the ETF just like a stock.

Our predictive ETF rating system is the same as our stock rating system, consistently top-ranked by Barron's.

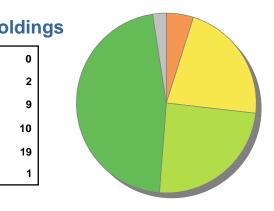
#### **Expense Analysis**

Expense Ratio	0.60%
Rank (percentile)	20.05%
10-Year Cost	\$1,514.89

QTEC's fees will cost an investor 1,514.89 over 10 years assuming a 10,000 investment and 10% returns.



Allo	cation	S	Holdir
	0.00%	Very Dangerous ★☆☆☆	0
	5.07%	Dangerous ★★☆☆☆	2
	21.61%	Neutral ★★★☆☆	9
	24.35%	Attractive ★★★★☆	10
	46.52%	Very Attractive	19
	2.46%	Unrated	1



#### **Top 5 Holdings**

Cerner Corporation (CERN)	2.68%
Oracle Corporation (ORCL)	2.59%
Intel Corporation (INTC)	2.58%
Marvell Technology Group, Ltd. (MRVL)	2.58%
KLA-Tencor Corp (KLAC)	2.57%

#### **Capitalization Exposure**

Large Cap	60.26%
Mid Cap	39.74%
Small Cap	0.00%

# **New Constructs**<sup>®</sup>

#### **Explanation of Predictive ETF Rating System**

Our ETF research aggregates results from our Company Valuation models for each of the companies held by an ETF. Our rating system grades ETFs according to the 5 most important criteria for assessing the risk versus reward of an ETF. Our analysis results in the 5 ratings: Very Attractive corresponds to a "Strong Buy" rating, Attractive to "Buy", Very Dangerous to a "Sell or Short", and everything in-between to a "Hold" rating.

Predictive Risk/Reward Rating	Business Strength		Valuation		
	Quality of Earnings	Size of Moat (ROIC)	FCF Yield	Price to Economic Book Value	Market-Implied Duration of Moat
Very Dangerous ★☆☆☆☆	Misleading Trend	Bottom Quintile	< -5%	> 3.5 or -1 < 0	> 50
Dangerous ★★☆☆☆	False Positive	4th Quintile	-5% < -1%	2.4 < 3.5 or < -1	20 < 50
Neutral ★★★☆☆	Neutral EE	3rd Quintile	-1% < 3%	1.6 < 2.4	10 < 20
Attractive ★★★★☆	Positive EE	2nd Quintile	3% < 10%	1.1 < 1.6	3 < 10
Very Attractive	Rising EE	Top Quintile	> 10%	0 < 1.1	0 < 3

#### New Constructs® - Profile

Incorporated in July 2002, New Constructs is an independent publisher of investment research that provides clients with consulting, advisory and research services. We specialize in quality-of-earnings, forensic accounting and discounted cash flow valuation analyses for all U.S. public companies.

#### How New Constructs Creates Value for Clients

- Superior Recommendations Our stock-picks consistently outperform. See our track record in our stock-picking accolades and Proof Is In 1. Performance reports.
- 2 More Accurate Research - Our patented Research Platform for reversing accounting distortions and discounted cash flow analysis leverages better data to deliver smarter research.
- Time Savings We check the fine print in thousands of corporate filings so you don't have to. As reported by Barron's, our expertise in analyzing 3. SEC filings delivers Hidden Gems and Red Flags that drive long-term stock-picking success.
- Transparency We are proud to share the results of our analysis of over 50,000 10-Ks. See the Corporate Disclosure Transgressions report we 4. provided to the SEC. Our reports detail all data and assumptions. Company Models enable users to change them.
- Objectivity New Constructs is an independent research firm, not tied to Wall Street or investment banking services. See our presentation to the 5. Senate Banking Committee, the SEC and many others in DC.

#### Our Philosophy About Research

Accounting data is not designed for equity investors, but for debt investors. Accounting data must be translated into economic earnings to understand the profitability and valuation relevant to equity investors. Respected investors (e.g. Adam Smith, Warren Buffett and Ben Graham) have repeatedly emphasized that accounting results should not be used to value stocks. Economic earnings are what matter because they are:

- 1. Based on the complete set of financial information available.
- Standard for all companies.
- 3 A more accurate representation of the true underling cash flows of the business.

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