BEST & WORST FUNDS

1/9/18

ETF & Mutual Fund Rankings: Industrials Sector

The Industrials sector ranks fourth out of the 11 sectors as detailed in our 1Q18 Sector Ratings for ETFs and Mutual Funds report. Last quarter, the Industrials sector ranked fourth as well. It gets our Neutral rating, which is based on an aggregation of ratings of 24 ETFs and 18 mutual funds in the Industrials sector as of January 9, 2018. See a recap of our 4Q17 Sector Ratings here.

Figures 1 and 2 show the five best and worst rated ETFs and mutual funds in the sector. Not all Industrials sector ETFs and mutual funds are created the same. The number of holdings varies widely (from 20 to 345). This variation creates drastically different investment implications and, therefore, ratings.

Investors seeking exposure to the Industrials sector should buy one of the Attractive-or-better rated ETFs or mutual funds from Figures 1 and 2.

Our <u>Robo-Analyst technology</u> empowers our unique <u>ETF and mutual fund rating methodology</u>, which leverages our rigorous analysis of each fund's holdings.¹ We think advisors and investors focused on prudent investment decisions should include analysis of fund holdings in their research process for ETFs and mutual funds.

Figure 1: ETFs with the Best & Worst Ratings - Top 5

	Allocation of ETF Holdings					
Ticker	Attractive- or-better Stocks	Neutral Stocks	Unattractive- or-worse Stocks	Predictive Rating		
Best ETFs						
JETS	25%	50%	6%	Very Attractive		
XHB	22%	56%	18%	Attractive		
ITA	7%	58%	33%	Attractive		
PKB	10%	52%	30%	Attractive		
XAR	8%	45%	42%	Attractive		
Worst ETFs						
PRN	5%	52%	41%	Neutral		
FXR	10%	46%	44%	Neutral		
XTN	14%	31%	53%	Neutral		
ARKQ	5%	29%	44%	Unattractive		
EVX	4%	40%	48%	Unattractive		

^{*} Best ETFs exclude ETFs with TNAs less than \$100 million for inadequate liquidity.

Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

EcoLogical Strategy ETF (HECO) is excluded from Figure 1 because its total net assets (TNA) are below \$100 million and do not meet our liquidity minimums.

¹ Ernst & Young's recent white paper "Getting ROIC Right" proves the superiority of our holdings research and analytics.



Figure 2: Mutual Funds with the Best & Worst Ratings - Top 5

	Allocation	of Mutual F				
Ticker	Attractive- or-better Stocks	Neutral Stocks	Unattractive- or-worse Stocks	Predictive Rating		
Best Mutual Funds						
FSLEX	11%	59%	17%	Attractive		
FSDAX	7%	58%	28%	Neutral		
VINAX	6%	52%	42%	Neutral		
FCYIX	6%	48%	43%	Neutral		
FCLIX	6%	48%	43%	Neutral		
Worst Mutual Funds						
FCLAX	6%	48%	43%	Unattractive		
PGIVX	0%	43%	33%	Unattractive		
PGIHX	0%	43%	33%	Unattractive		
ICIAX	3%	42%	46%	Very Unattractive		
PGIAX	0%	43%	33%	Very Unattractive		

^{*} Best mutual funds exclude funds with TNAs less than \$100 million for inadequate liquidity.

Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

ICON Industrials Fund (ICTRX) is excluded from Figure 2 because its total net assets (TNA) are below \$100 million and do not meet our liquidity minimums.

U.S. Global Jets ETF (JETS) is the top-rated Industrials ETF and Fidelity Select Environment and Alternative Energy Portfolio (FSLEX) is the top-rated Industrials mutual fund. JETS earns a Very Attractive rating and FSLEX earns an Attractive rating.

VanEck Vectors Environmental Services ETF (EVX) is the worst rated Industrials ETF and Putnam Global Industrials Fund (PGIAX) is the worst rated Industrials mutual fund. EVX earns an Unattractive rating and PGIAX earns a Very Unattractive rating.

437 stocks of the 3000+ we cover are classified as Industrials stocks.

The Danger Within

Buying a fund without analyzing its holdings is like buying a stock without analyzing its business and finances. Put another way, research on fund holdings is necessary due diligence because a fund's performance is only as good as its holdings' performance. Don't just take our word for it, see what Barron's says on this matter.

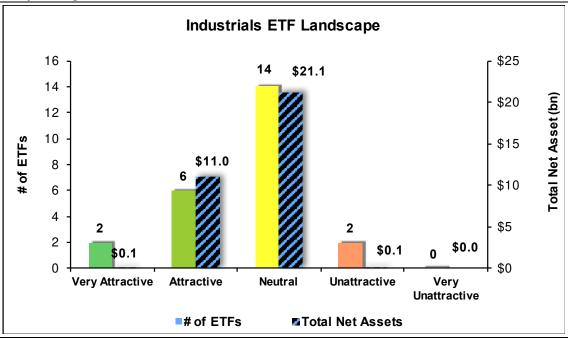
PERFORMANCE OF HOLDINGS = PERFORMANCE OF FUND

Analyzing each holding within funds is no small task. Our Robo-Analyst technology enables us to perform this diligence with scale and provide the research needed to fulfill the fiduciary duty of care. More of the biggest names in the financial industry (see At BlackRock, Machines Are Rising Over Managers to Pick Stocks) are now embracing technology to leverage machines in the investment research process. Technology may be the only solution to the dual mandate for research: cut costs and fulfill the fiduciary duty of care. Investors, clients, advisors and analysts deserve the latest in technology to get the diligence required to make prudent investment decisions.



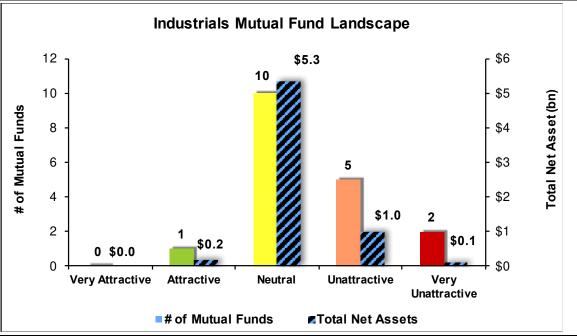
Figures 3 and 4 show the rating landscape of all Industrials ETFs and mutual funds.

Figure 3: Separating the Best ETFs From the Worst ETFs



Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

Figure 4: Separating the Best Mutual Funds from the Worst Mutual Funds



Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

This article originally published on <u>January 10, 2018</u>.

Disclosure: David Trainer and Kyle Guske II receive no compensation to write about any specific stock, sector or theme.

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Ratings & screeners on 3000 stocks, 450 ETFs and 7000 mutual funds help you make prudent investment decisions.

New Constructs leverages the latest in machine learning to analyze structured and unstructured financial data with unrivaled speed and accuracy. The firm's forensic accounting experts work alongside engineers to develop proprietary NLP libraries and financial models. Our investment ratings are based on the best fundamental data in the business for stocks, ETFs and mutual funds. Clients include many of the top hedge funds, mutual funds and wealth management firms. David Trainer, the firm's CEO, is regularly featured in the media as a thought leader on the fiduciary duty of care, earnings quality, valuation and investment strategy.

To fulfill the Duty of Care, research should be:

- 1. **Comprehensive** All relevant publicly-available (e.g. 10-Ks and 10-Qs) information has been diligently reviewed, including footnotes and the management discussion & analysis (MD&A).
- 2. **Un-conflicted** Clients deserve unbiased research.
- 3. **Transparent** Advisors should be able to show how the analysis was performed and the data behind it.
- 4. **Relevant** Empirical evidence must provide <u>tangible</u>, <u>quantifiable correlation</u> to stock, ETF or mutual fund performance.

Value Investing 2.0: Diligence Matters: Technology is Key to Value Investing With Scale

Accounting data is only the beginning of fundamental research. It must be translated into economic earnings to truly understand profitability and valuation. This translation requires deep analysis of footnotes and the MD&A, a process that our <u>robo-analyst technology</u> empowers us to perform for thousands of stocks, ETFs and mutual funds.



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