

Position Close Update: Navistar International (NAV)

Navistar International (NAV) - Closing Short Position - down 30% vs. S&P up 59%

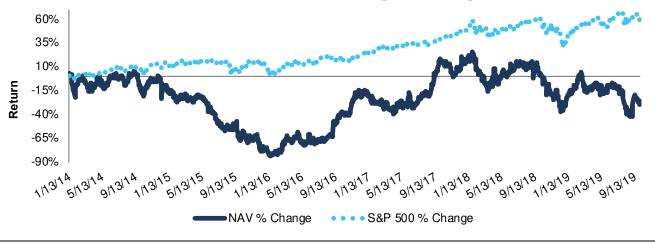
Navistar International (NAV: \$27/share) was originally selected as a <u>Danger Zone Idea on 1/13/14</u>. At the time of the initial report, the stock received an Unattractive <u>rating</u>. Our short thesis pointed out the firm's declining market share, accounting red flags, and expensive valuation.

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During the nearly 6-year holding period, NAV outperformed as a short position, declining 30% compared to a 59% gain for the S&P 500.

Since our original report, NAV has bounced around, falling as low as \$6/share in early 2016 and rising as high as \$47/share in early 2018. Recently, the company's fundamentals have shown signs of improvement, and its return on invested capital (ROIC) has continued to improve (from 6% in 2016 to 17% TTM). NAV has grown revenue year-over-year in each of the past two years, and its improved profitability, combined with its cheaper valuation, means the stock no longer presents the same risk/reward. We believe it is time to take the gains and close this short position.

Figure 1: NAV vs. S&P 500 – Price Return – Successful Short Call



NAV Performance During Holding Period

Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs and dividends.

This article originally published on October 3, 2019.

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

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- 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 tangible, quantifiable correlation to stock, ETF or mutual fund performance.

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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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