STOCK PICKS AND PANS

10/4/19

Position Close Update: SINA Corporation (SINA)

SINA Corporation (SINA) - Closing Short Position - down 53% vs. S&P up 72%

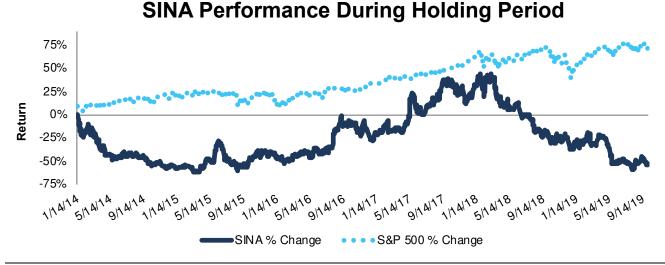
SINA Corporation (SINA: \$40/share) was originally featured on 10/10/13. At the time of the initial report, the stock received a Very Unattractive rating. Our short thesis pointed out the firm's declining ROIC, negative economic earnings, and expensive valuation.

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During the nearly 6-year holding period, SINA outperformed as a short position, declining 53% compared to a 72% gain for the S&P 500.

Since our original report, SINA has bounced around, falling as low as \$32/share in early 2015 and rising as high as \$123/share in early 2018. The company's fundamentals have improved in recent years, and its return on invested capital (ROIC) has risen from 3% in 2013 to 19% TTM. SINA has earned positive economic earnings in each of the past three years and its stock now trades below its economic book value. The stock no longer presents the same risk/reward given the firm's improved profitability and cheaper valuation. We believe it is time to take the gains and close this short position.

Figure 1: SINA vs. S&P 500 - Price Return - Successful Short Call



Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

Note: Gain/Decline performance analysis excludes transaction costs and dividends.

This article originally published on October 4, 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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STOCKS PICKS AND PANS 10/4/19

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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.



STOCKS PICKS AND PANS 10/4/19

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