## STOCK PICKS AND PANS

10/6/20

# Position Close Update: Tuesday Morning (TUESQ)

Tuesday Morning (TUESQ) - Closing Short Position - down 91% vs. S&P up 83%

We put Tuesday Morning (TUESQ: \$1.40/share) in the <u>Danger Zone</u> on <u>March 17, 2014</u>. At the time, TUESQ received an Unattractive <u>rating</u>. Our short thesis noted the firm's deteriorating return on invested capital (<u>ROIC</u>), lagging profitability in a tough market, questionable corporate strategy, and overvalued stock price.

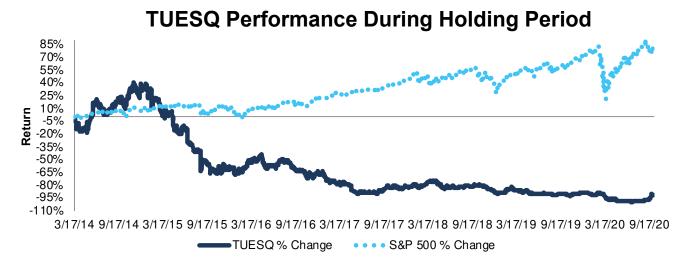
This report, along with all of our research<sup>1</sup>, utilizes our superior data<sup>2</sup> to get the truth about earnings, as shown in the Harvard Business School and MIT Sloan paper, "Core Earnings: New Data and Evidence."

### Learn more about the best fundamental research

During the six-and-a-half-year holding period, TUESQ outperformed as a short position, falling 91% compared to an 83% gain for the S&P 500.

Since then, the firm's fundamentals have deteriorated and culminated in a bankruptcy filing in May 2020. Tuesday Morning recently announced a plan to sell all assets, rather than pursue a traditional bankruptcy reorganization, and shares have jumped higher. Given the uncertain nature of the bankruptcy proceedings, we believe investors should take the gains and close this short position.

Figure 1: TUESQ 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.

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

Follow us on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, and StockTwits for real-time alerts on all our research.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Harvard Business School features the powerful impact of our research automation technology in the case <u>New Constructs: Disrupting</u> Fundamental Analysis with Robo-Analysts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Our core earnings are a superior measure of profits, as demonstrated in <u>Core Earnings: New Data & Evidence</u> a paper by professors at Harvard Business School (HBS) & MIT Sloan. The paper empirically shows that our data is superior to "Operating Income After Depreciation" and "Income Before Special Items" from Compustat, owned by S&P Global (SPGI).



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## Footnotes adjustments matter. We are the ONLY source.

We provide ratings, models, reports & screeners on U.S. 3,000 stocks, 700 ETFs and 7,000 mutual funds.

#### **HBS & MIT Sloan research reveals that:**

- Markets are inefficiently assessing earnings because no one reads the footnotes.
- Corporate managers hide gains/losses in footnotes to manage earnings.
- Our technology brings the material footnotes data to market for the first time ever.

Combining human expertise with NLP/ML/AI technologies (<u>featured by Harvard Business School</u>), we shine a light in the dark corners (e.g. footnotes) of hundreds of thousands of financial filings to unearth critical details.

The HBS & MIT Sloan paper, <u>Core Earnings: New Data and Evidence</u>, shows how our superior data drives uniquely comprehensive and independent debt and equity research.

This <u>paper</u> compares our analytics on a mega cap company to other major providers. The Appendix details exactly how we stack up.

#### Learn more.

Quotes from HBS & MIT Sloan professors on our research:

#### Get better research:

"...the NC dataset provides a novel opportunity to study the properties of non-operating items disclosed in 10-Ks, and to examine the extent to which the market impounds their implications." – page 20

#### Pick better stocks:

"Trading strategies that exploit cross-sectional differences in firms' transitory earnings produce abnormal returns of 7-to-10% per year." – Abstract

#### Avoid losses from using other firms' data:

"...many of the income-statement-relevant quantitative disclosures collected by NC do not appear to be easily identifiable in Compustat..." – page 14

#### Build better models:

"Core Earnings [calculated using New Constructs' novel dataset] provides predictive power for various measures of one-year-ahead performance...that is incremental to their current-period counterparts." – page 4

#### Exploit market inefficiencies:

"These results ... suggest that the adjustments made by analysts and Compustat to better capture core earnings are incomplete. Moreover, the non-core items identified by NC produce a measure of core earnings that is incremental to alternative measures of operating performance in predicting an array of future income measures." – page 26

### Fulfill fiduciary duties:

"An appropriate measure of accounting performance for purposes of forecasting future performance requires detailed analysis of all quantitative performance disclosures detailed in the annual report, including those reported only in the footnotes and in the MD&A." – page 33-34



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