

Energy stocks with the highest growth

SCOTT ADAMS, MAY 28, 2008 AT 7:09 PM EDT

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WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

It's hard to get your attention away from oil stocks these days. Despite all the worries that crude is in a bubble, it doesn't seem to want to slow down.


If you think oil still has legs, you might want to ride oil stocks with the best outlooks for growth. Let's look at energy stocks today to assess which ones have the strongest outlooks for this year and next.

HOW WE DID THE SCREEN

We used Thomson Reuters today to look for energy sector stocks with market capitalizations greater than \$250-million and at least 10-per-cent revenue and earnings growth projected for this year and next.

There might be critics of this screen saying they don't value oil stocks based on earnings or revenue growth; rather, they look at cash flow. The Thomson Reuters screening tool is easier to use when looking for sales and earnings growth but, given the importance of cash flow per share estimates, we included those figures for this year and next. And we ranked the companies by estimated CFPS growth for 2008.

Some readers might also notice that Thomson Reuters places coal companies in the energy sector, while other agencies put them in the materials sector. Whether you agree with this or not, there might be some serendipity to it. It highlights that some coal companies, such as Fording Canadian Coal Trust, are showing stronger growth potential than oil companies. The higher oil climbs, the more industries will be forced to find alternatives such as coal.

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