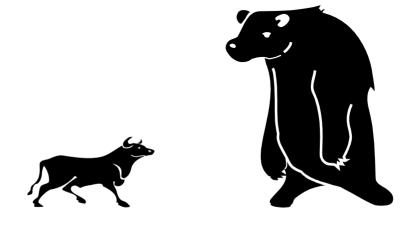


Vision Expo East - 2009

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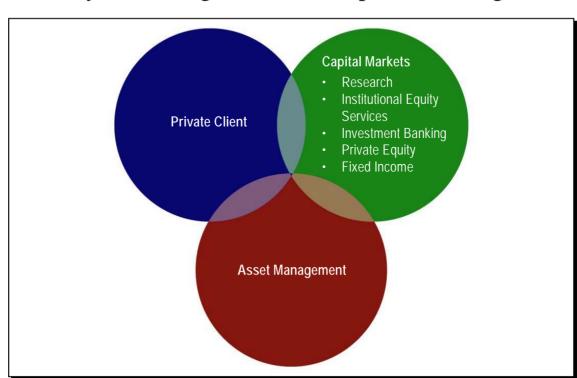
Jeffrey D. Johnson, O.D., CFA
Vice President, Senior Research Analyst
Robert W. Baird & Co. Inc.



# Introduction

## Robert W. Baird & Co. Inc.

- Founded in 1919
- Global Investment Research and Banking Firm
- Employee-owned
- Research ranked #1 as "Most Trusted" in U.S. five years running by annual survey of leading small/mid-cap fund managers.





# Introduction

## Jeffrey D. Johnson, O.D., CFA

- Senior Medical Technology Analyst
- Focus on Ophthalmic, Dental, Orthopedic, Radiation Oncology, and Veterinary/Animal Health Spaces:
  - COO in Ophthalmic
  - SYK, ZMH, WMGI, and EXAC in Orthopedics
  - XRAY, SIRO, HSIC, PDCO, and YDNT in Dental
  - TOMO and AHII in Radiation Oncology and Animal Health
- Background:
  - ICO, Class of 1997
  - Residency UMSL, Contact Lenses 1998
  - Staff Optometrist/Director Optometric Services Mass Eye & Ear
     Infirmary (Cornea/Refractive/CL clinics) 1998-2001
  - Adjunct Assistant Prof. of Optometry NEWENCO 1999-2001
  - Instructor in Ophthalmology Harvard Medical School 1999-2001

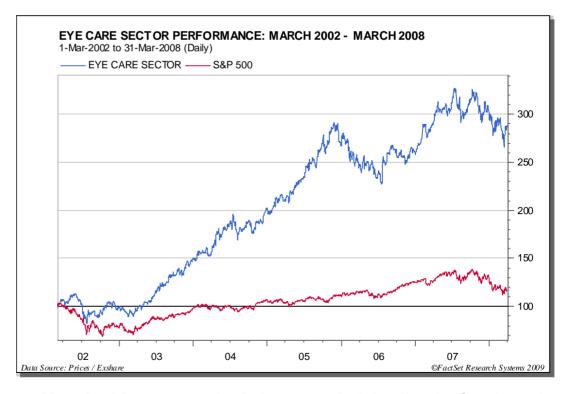


# Eye Care & Wall Street – A Good Combination?





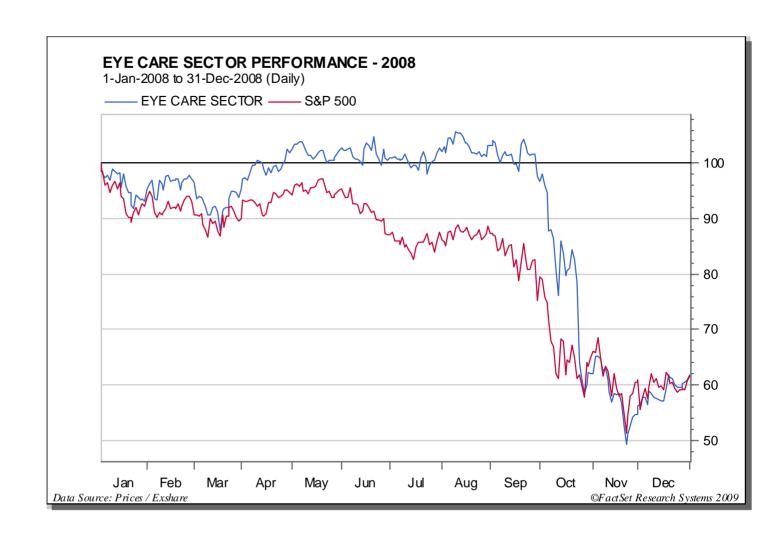
## Great 6 year run in ophthalmic space....



- <u>Spin-off</u> of Alcon and Advanced Medical Optics in 2002 added market cap
- Potential for <u>unmet needs</u> was/remains obvious (accommodating IOLs, back-of-eye therapeutics, etc.)
- <u>M&A</u> has helped fuel interest over years (SOLA, Ocular Sciences, VISX, Intralase, B&L, eyeonics, AMO)



# ....But bear market takes no prisoners

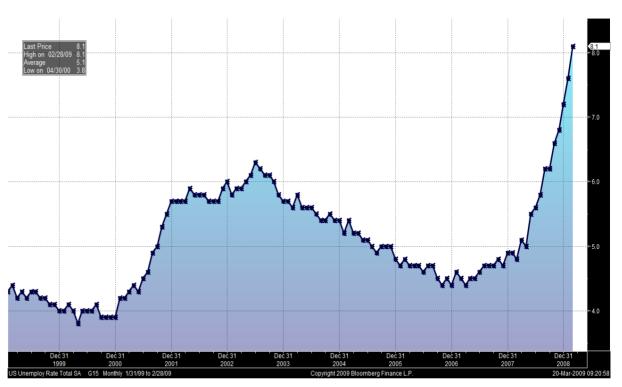




### What have been the concerns?

• <u>Rising Unemployment</u> = Reduced access to healthcare/vision care benefits.

#### **Unemployment Rate**

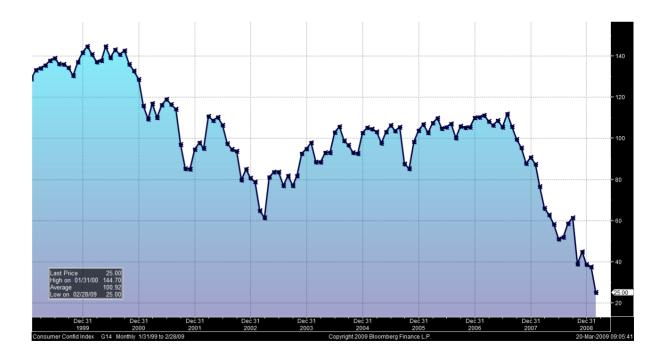




### What have been the concerns?

- **Rising Unemployment** = Reduced access to healthcare/vision care benefits.
- <u>Exposure to the Consumer</u> = Less consumer discretionary spending impacts not only LASIK, but also premium spectacles, contact lenses, pharma products (glc, allergy, etc.), PC/toric IOLs.

#### **Consumer Confidence**

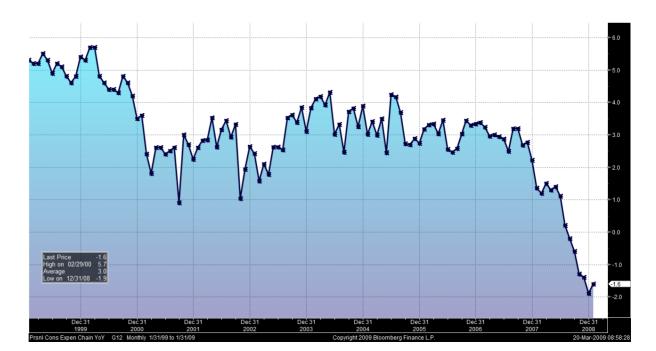




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#### Personal Consumption Expenditure Y/Y Growth

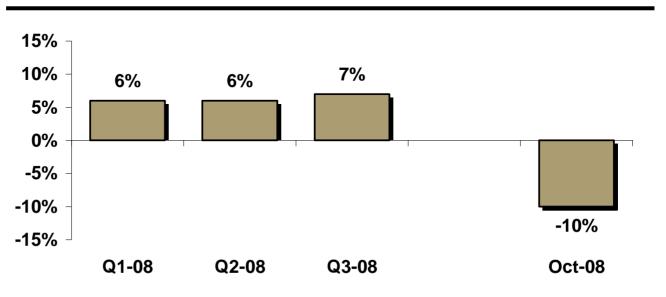




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#### **Worldwide Soft Contact Lens Market**



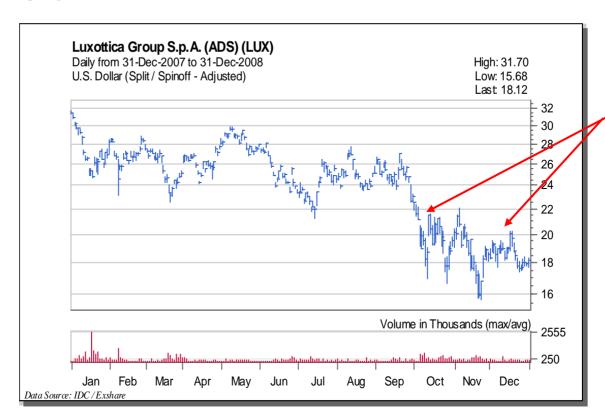
*March* 2009

Source: Company Reports



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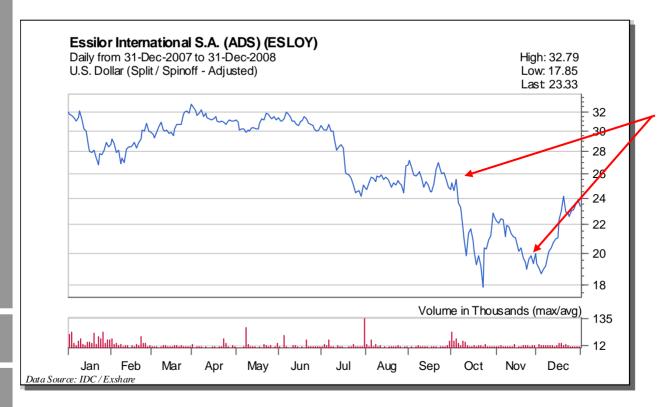


-19% 10/1/08 to 12/1/08 and ~50% peak to trough in 2008



## What have been the concerns?

- Rising Unemployment = Reduced access to healthcare/vision care benefits.
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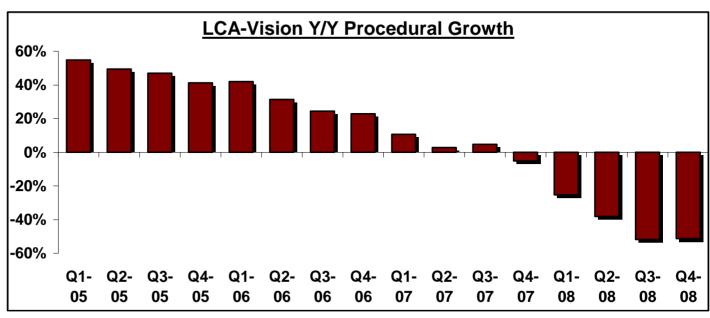


-24%
10/1/08
to
12/1/08
and
~45%
peak to
trough
in '08



### What have been the concerns?

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Source: Company Reports



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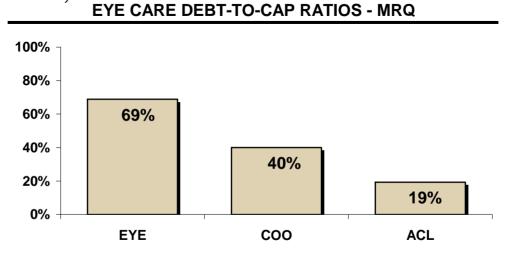
March 2009

from peak to trough in 60%



### What have been the concerns?

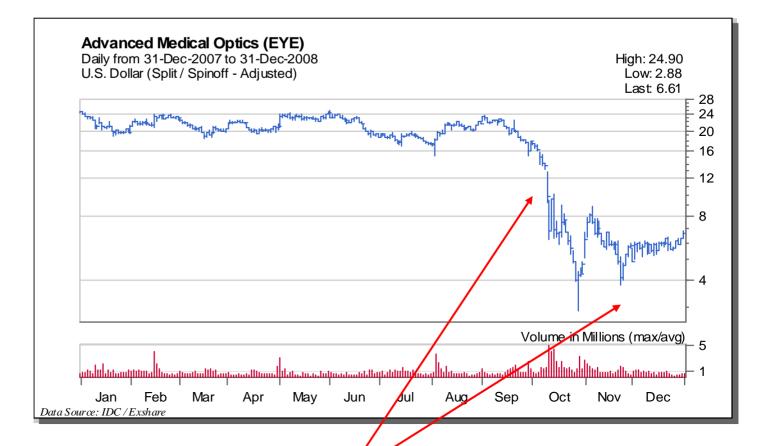
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Source: Company Reports



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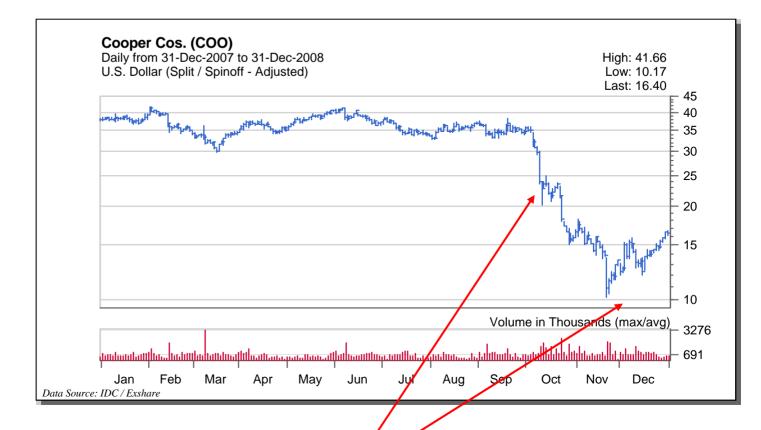


Off 68% 10/1/08 to 12/1/08

and nearly 85% peak to trough in 2008



## What have been the concerns?



Off 66% 10/1/08 to 12/1/08

and ~75% peak to trough in 2008



### What have been the concerns?

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- <u>International Exposure</u> = Foreign currency tailwinds reversing for U.S. based companies, impact not isolated to topline.



### What have been the concerns?



Off 50% 10/1/08 to 12/1/08

and ~60% peak to trough in 2008



# **2009 – Relative Performance Improves**

• <u>Broader market remains weak:</u> S&P off 13% / Dow Jones U.S. Healthcare Equipment/Services off 10% ytd 2009.



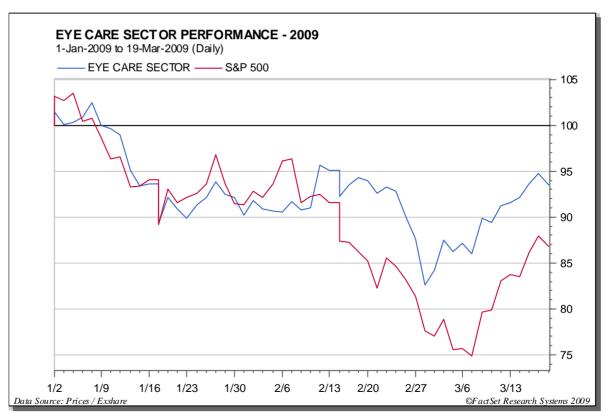
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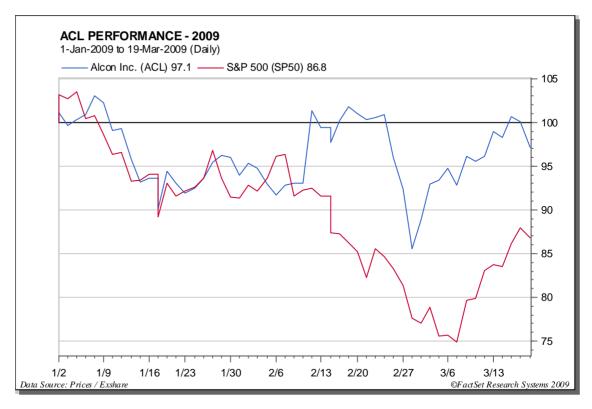
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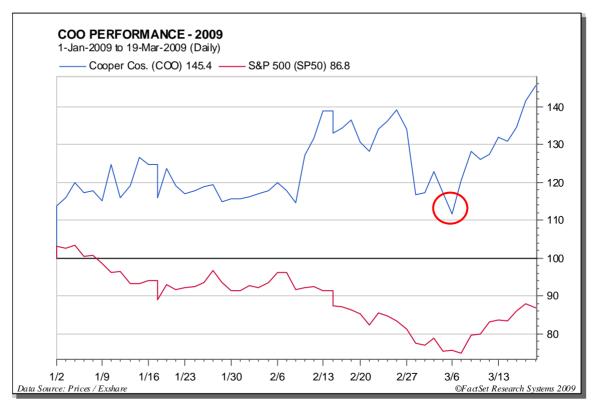
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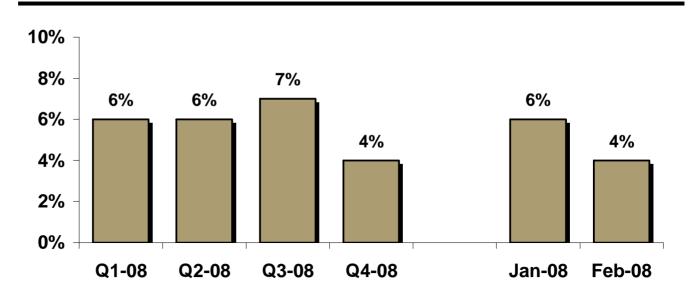




# Other Reasons for Recent Outperformance

• <u>Markets not as sensitive to consumer?</u> CL market no doubt slower and risk of flat to down months/qtrs in 2009 exists, but early '09 trends encouraging.

#### Worldwide Soft Contact Lens Market



Source: Company Reports

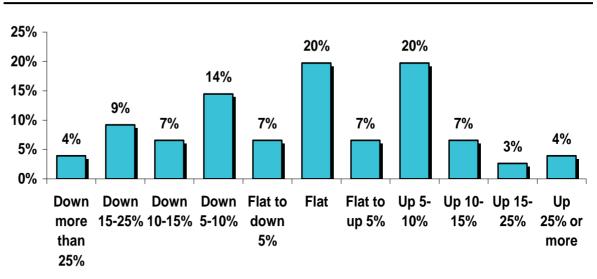


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#### RWB / AllAboutVision.com Winter 2009 Contact Lens Survey

#### **JANUARY 2009 CONTACT LENS SALES PERFORMANCE**



Source: Robert W. Baird & Company & AllAboutVision.com

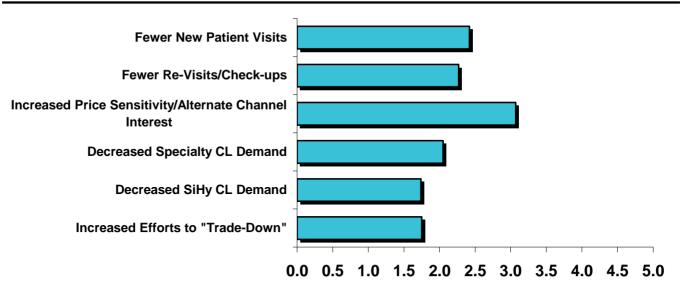


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#### RWB / AllAboutVision.com Winter 2009 Contact Lens Survey

#### PATIENT SENSITIVITY TO MACRO-ECONOMIC TRENDS



Source: Robert W. Baird & Company, Inc. & AllAboutVision.com

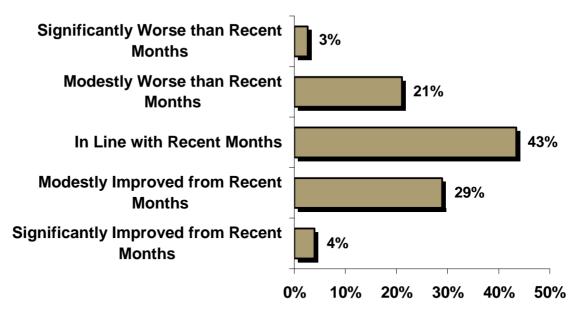


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Source: Robert W. Baird & Company & AllAboutVision.com



# Other Reasons for recent outperformance

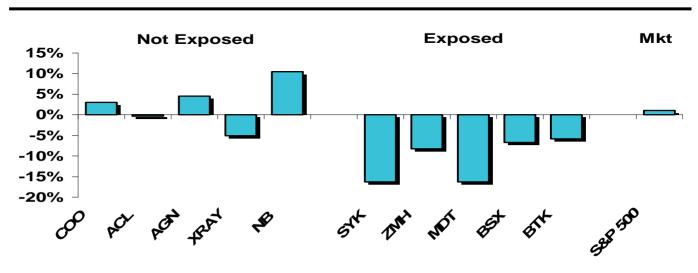
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- "Obama-less" healthcare plays:

#### SELECT HEALTHCARE PERFORMANCES SINCE OBAMA BUDGET PROPOSAL



**March 2009** 

Source: Fact Set



# Wrapping Up....

- <u>Near-term pressures remain</u> = Rising unemployment, low consumer confidence, rising savings/falling consumption rates.
- <u>But "worst case scenarios" appearing less likely of</u> <u>playing out</u> = Has helped some ophthalmic names rebound and/or outperform broader market thus far in 2009.
- <u>Early cycle/consumer rebound plays....</u> = There will be a time to own these stocks again, but need to see stabilization in consumer spending trends; longer-term/secular change in consumer behavior may limit extent of rebound.
- ...And "Obama-less" plays = Lack of exposure to healthcare reform an intermediate- to longer-term positive for group but cannot pound table with this argument given near-term consumer exposure.
- <u>Investors concerned about being "too early" though.</u> Bottom-line a number of these stocks will likely prove to be good early cycle plays...but near-term risk remains in trying to be too early to that game.



# **Thank You**

Please Contact Me if You Would Like:
To Be Added to Our Research Distribution List
A Copy of This Presentation
Formal Write-ups of Our Survey Work

Jeffrey D. Johnson, O.D., CFA

Vice President, Senior Research Analyst Robert W. Baird & Co. Inc.

414 - 298 - 6027

jdjohnson@rwbaird.com



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**Investment Ratings: Outperform (O)** - Expected to outperform on a total return, risk-adjusted basis the broader U.S. equity market over the next 12 months. **Neutral (N)** - Expected to perform in line with the broader U.S. equity market over the next 12 months. **Underperform (U)** - Expected to underperform on a total return, risk-adjusted basis the broader U.S. equity market over the next 12 months.

Risk Ratings: L - Lower Risk - Higher-quality companies for investors seeking capital appreciation or income with an emphasis on safety. Company characteristics may include: stable earnings, conservative balance sheets, and an established history of revenue and earnings. A - Average Risk - Growth situations for investors seeking capital appreciation with an emphasis on safety. Company characteristics may include: moderate volatility, modest balance-sheet leverage, and stable patterns of revenue and earnings. H - Higher Risk - Higher-growth situations appropriate for investors seeking capital appreciation with the acceptance of risk. Company characteristics may include: higher balance-sheet leverage, dynamic business environments, and higher levels of earnings and price volatility. S - Speculative Risk - High-growth situations appropriate only for investors willing to accept a high degree of volatility and risk. Company characteristics may include: unpredictable earnings, small capitalization, aggressive growth strategies, rapidly changing market dynamics, high leverage, extreme price volatility and unknown competitive challenges.

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