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Dividend Opportunities

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A Little-Known Tool for Uncovering International Income Ideas

-- By Carla Pasternak

Looking for a way to uncover potential income investments outside the U.S.? I've found one tool you can use to find strong dividend payers -- and even a few "under the radar" high-yield investments. (*Full Story Below*)

Also in Today's Issue...

Capture 14% Yields and Total Returns up to +185.6%

On the last trading day of 2009, 94% of the picks in this high-yielding portfolio were up. Most of them have returned more than +10%, and several have returned +100% or more. But the best part is that these picks carry stable yields of up to 14.3%!

[Go here to see for yourself.](#)

Turn a \$200 investment into \$1 Million

There's a reason penny stocks have been Wall Street's favorite hidden investment for years now: they give the best shot at winning it big.

[Click Here to get in on these Hidden Investments!](#)

A Little-Known Tool for Uncovering International Income Ideas

What's the first thing that pops into your mind when you hear "Standard & Poor's"? It's likely the benchmark S&P 500 Index.

But there's so much more that Standard and Poor's has to offer.

A [couple of weeks ago](#) I told you about the S&P's High Yield Dividend Aristocrats Index, an income index that has outperformed the S&P 500 for a decade. But what else does Standard and Poor's have up their sleeve, especially for us income investors?

How about one of the greatest tools you can use to uncover international income investments?

The Smart Way to Find International Income

It pays to look abroad for income investments. According to Bloomberg, nearly 240 foreign companies have yields between 12-25% and were profitable over the last 12 months. Compare that to the 24 such companies found in the United States. But even if you know you should be looking abroad for income, figuring out a good place to start your search is a trial in of itself.

Why not let Standard and Poor's give you a head start? That's where the *S&P International Dividend Opportunities Index* comes into play.

Income Notes

Special one-time dividends appear to be more popular than ever.

National Oilwell (NYSE: NOV) approved a one-time dividend of \$1 a share, due to be paid December 16th.

Meanwhile, Wynn Resorts (Nasdaq: WYNN) declared a special cash dividend of \$4 per share that will be paid on December 3rd.

For more on Wynn's special dividend, read Amy Calistri's recent article [here](#).

-- Research Staff

One Stock a Month is All You'll Ever Need

For the entire 2009 calendar year 100% of Amy Calistri's *Stock of the Month* picks have been winners. ALL of her picks are up -- as much as +58.4% in just a few months. And her subscribers are making money hand over fist alongside her. One has made \$10,272... another is up \$46,002.

[Click here to get her latest pick.](#)

Breaking News

[This Time the House Pays, with More](#)

The index is your ticket to 100 of the highest-yielding stocks from outside of the U.S. To make the index, companies must trade on a major exchange and have a market cap of at least \$1.5 billion, with average daily trading volumes of at least \$5 million.

Companies also have to demonstrate a proven ability to pay dividends. All stocks must have positive earnings growth over the past five years, and all stocks must have been profitable over the past 12 months.

Once chosen, the highest-yielding stocks carry the largest weightings and no one country can represent more than 25% of the index. Top countries on the list make up a "who's who" of international income nations. Over 50% of the index's value as of the end of September was made up by Australia, Canada, Italy, Spain and France.

But does the index's strategy of selecting foreign dividend payers actually work?

In a word, yes. On top of an average dividend yield of 7.8% (as of June 30th), it has averaged a stellar return of +13.9% annually over the past 10 years. This blows away an average annual return of -0.15% over the same period for the S&P 500. Year-to-date returns through September 30th are equally sharp: +60.5% for S&P International Dividend Opportunities Index versus +19.3% for the S&P 500.

If you simply want to track the performance of this index, it's as easy as can be. The SPDR S&P International Dividend ETF (NYSE: DWX) is an ETF that tracks the index step for step.

But there is another, more lucrative way you can use the S&P International Dividend Opportunities Index to your advantage.

In the hunt for higher yields, you can replace the common shares listed in the index with a higher-yielding preferred stock or an exchange-traded bond that a member company may have issued. For example, Bank of Montreal (NYSE: BMO) has a great long-term dividend track record and a hefty yield of around 5%. But the company's U.S. subsidiary, Harris Bank, also issued preferred shares (NYSE: HBC-P) denominated in U.S. dollars that are now yielding over 8%.

There is one caveat to watch for. For companies included in the index, yields are calculated on a trailing 12-month basis, so you need to check out how the dividend is faring today. For example, U.K. banking giant Barclays ADR (NYSE: BCS) was recently assigned top billing before the portfolio was rebalanced. It did indeed carry an incredible trailing 12-month yield of 14.4% and met all of S&P's profitability requirements, but the company suspended its dividend during the financial crisis.

A quick check of the current payment can ensure you sidestep this easy-to-spot pitfall.

Good Investing!



Carla Pasternak's Dividend Opportunities

Top Ten Index Holdings
Kon Bam Groep (Netherlands)
Bendigo & Adelaide (Australia)
Bank of Queensland (Australia)
Wesfarmers (Australia)
Nat. Australia Bank (Australia)
Mediaset (Italy)
Orion Corporation (Finland)
Inter Pipeline (Canada)
Portugal Telecom (Portugal)
Rwe Ag (Germany)

[Dividend Jackpots to Come](#)

Casinos used to pay dividends, but that trend ended about the time Sammy, Dean, Joey and Frank left town. But now, one serious Vegas contender is just about to deliver a year-end dividend jackpot.

[Read On...](#)

[High-Yielders with a Decade of Sales Growth](#)

These companies have grown their revenue every year for a decade, and they now yield more than 6%.

[Read On...](#)

[The Historic Change Igniting a High-Yield Bull Market](#)

A massive shift of assets in a major world market is about to occur, and one group of high-yield securities looks poised to reap the rewards. But you can still get in before the crowd catches on... and lock in strong yields.

[Read On...](#)

[We're Finding Stocks Paying \\$26,500 a Year in Dividends](#)

Now is a great time to invest. Every dollar we're investing is giving us two, three, four even five times as much income as it did just a year ago -- it's as if a giant "multiply your money" certificate has dropped into our laps.

P.S. -- Don't miss a single issue! Add our address, Research@DividendOpportunities.com, to your Address Book or Safe List. For instructions, [go here](#).

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