Ecopetrol S.A. (NYSE:EC): Watching The Numbers on This Stock

Europe

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After a recent volatility check, **Ecopetrol** S.A. (NYSE:EC) shares have popped up on the radar. Watching the ATR or average true range, we have noted that the current level is 0.47. The ATR or average true range was developed by J. Welles Wilder. The ATR tracks the distance that the stock price is moving each period. The ATR may be used by investors and traders to gauge when markets are likely to range, when extreme stock price levels are being approached, or if there is significant interest in a trend. ATR may be used as an indicator, but it may not predict anything by itself. Higher ATR's may indicate that the stock is trending, and smaller ATR's may be indicitive of stock price consolidation. The ATR range will be positive whether or not shares are trending up or down. ATR may allow traders to more accurately buy or sell into certain trends.

One of the most basic ideas that goes along with the stock market is buy low and sell high. Although this advice is overly obvious, many new investors will do the exact opposite when trading stocks. Inexperienced investors have the tendency to buy stocks that have been performing the best recently. This may be caused by certain factors such as not looking into the underlying fundamentals or just hoping that the stock will continue to rise. Rookie investors may also make the error of holding onto shares that continue to drop in value. Instead of cutting the loser loose, they hold off with the hope that eventually the stock will at least get back to the breakeven point.

Ecopetrol S.A. (NYSE:EC) has a current consensus broker rating of 3.30. This rating follows a scale where a 1 or a 2 would represent a consensus Buy recommendation. A rating of 4 or 5 would indicate a consensus Sell recommendation. A rating of 3 would represent a Hold recommendation. Checking in on the RSI or relative strength index, we see that the 14-day level is 41.09. The RSI operates in a range bound area with values between 0 and 100. When the RSI line heads higher, the stock may be showing strength. The opposite is the case when the RSI line is moving down. RSI may be used to spot overbought or oversold conditions. An RSI reading over 70 would be considered overbought, and a value under 30 would indicate oversold conditions. A level of 50 would represent neutral market momentum.

At current stock price levels, we have noted that **Ecopetrol** S.A. (NYSE:EC) shares are separated -43.53% from the 52 week high and 3.81% off of the 52 week low. From the open the stock has seen a change of 1.28%. Looking at some other high/low data, the stock has been seen trading -18.61% away from the 50 day high and 3.81% off of the 50 day low. In terms of volume, the current value is near 843544. Investors may be keeping a close eye on unusual trading volume on company shares. A large increase or decrease in trading volume may suggest that other factors are present.

Tracking some historical performance information for Ecopetrol S.A. (NYSE:EC), we have noted that performance for the previous week is 3.27%. YTD, the stock has performed -0.57%. Over the last full-year, shares have performed -30.13%. For the previous month, company shares are -9.72%. For the last quarter, the stock has performed -6.12%. Tracking some recent volatility numbers, shares are 2.36% for the week, and 2.97% for the past month.

Investors might be looking to find some bargains to add to the portfolio as we move closer towards the end of the year. Maybe some of the earlier portfolio picks don't look as promising as they did a few months ago. There might also be a few names that have fallen off a cliff and do not look they will be returning to previous levels. Investors may be searching for a few overlooked stocks that the rest of the investing community has passed on for whatever reason. Nobody knows for sure what the next couple of quarters have in store. As earnings season kicks off, investors will be closely following the companies that manage to beat expectations by a wide margin.

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