

Allspring Global Investments Holdings LLC Acquires New Stake in **Ecopetrol** S.A. (NYSE:EC)

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Allspring Global Investments Holdings LLC acquired a new stake in shares of Ecopetrol S.A. (NYSE:EC-Get Rating) in the third quarter, according to the company in its most recent disclosure with the SEC. The firm acquired 920,554 shares of the oil and gas company's stock, valued at approximately \$8,220,000.

A number of other institutional investors and hedge funds also recently added to or reduced their stakes in EC. Penserra Capital Management LLC bought a new position in Ecopetrol during the 1st quarter valued at approximately \$47,000. Jane Street Group LLC bought a new stake in shares of Ecopetrol in the 2nd quarter worth \$116,000. Credit Suisse AG increased its holdings in shares of Ecopetrol by 10.8% in the 2nd quarter. Credit Suisse AG now owns 11,308 shares of the oil and gas company's stock worth \$123,000 after purchasing an additional 1,105 shares in the last quarter. Cerity Partners LLC bought a new stake in shares of Ecopetrol in the 2nd quarter worth \$130,000. Finally, Virtu Financial LLC bought a new stake in shares of Ecopetrol in the 2nd quarter worth \$135,000. Institutional investors own 1.30% of the company's stock.

Analyst Upgrades and Downgrades

A number of research firms have commented on EC. UBS Group reduced their target price on Ecopetrol from \$14.00 to \$13.00 and set a "buy" rating for the company in a report on Wednesday, December 21st. StockNews.com lowered Ecopetrol from a "buy" rating to a "hold" rating in a report on Friday, December 9th.

Ecopetrol Stock Performance

Shares of EC opened at \$11.62 on Friday. The company has a debt-to-equity ratio of 0.79, a current ratio of 1.32 and a quick ratio of 1.11. Ecopetrol S.A. has a one year low of \$8.59 and a one year high of \$19.81. The firm has a market capitalization of \$23.89 billion, a P/E ratio of 3.05, a PEG ratio of 0.09 and a beta of 1.48. The business has a fifty day moving average of \$10.00 and a 200 day moving average of \$10.10.

Ecopetrol (NYSE:EC - Get Rating) last released its earnings results on Wednesday, November 9th. The oil and gas company reported \$1.06 earnings per share for the quarter, missing the consensus estimate of \$1.20 by (\$0.14). The company had revenue of \$9.95 billion for the quarter, compared to analysts' expectations of \$9.54 billion. Ecopetrol had a net margin of 20.78% and a return on equity of 16.13%. As a group, sell-side analysts anticipate that Ecopetrol S.A. will post 3.74 EPS for the current year.

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Ecopetrol Profile (Get Rating)

Ecopetrol SA engages in the exploration, development, and production of crude oil and natural gas. It operates through the following segments: Exploration and Production, Transportation and Logistics, and Refining and Petrochemicals. The Exploration and Production segment deals with oil and gas exploration and production activities.

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Want to see what other hedge funds are holding EC? <u>Visit HoldingsChannel.com</u> to get the latest 13F filings and insider trades for <u>Ecopetrol S.A.</u> (<u>NYSE:EC - Get Rating</u>).



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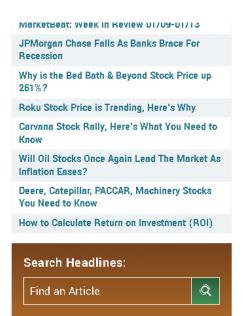
Should you invest \$1,000 in Ecopetrol right now?

Before you consider Ecopetrol, you'll want to hear this.

MarketBeat keeps track of Wall Street's top-rated and best performing research analysts and the stocks they recommend to their clients on a daily basis. MarketBeat has identified the <u>five stocks</u> that top analysts are quietly whispering to their clients to buy now before the broader market catches on... and <u>Ecopetrol</u> wasn't on the list.

While Ecopetrol currently has a "Moderate Buy" rating among analysts, top-rated analysts believe these five stocks are better buys.

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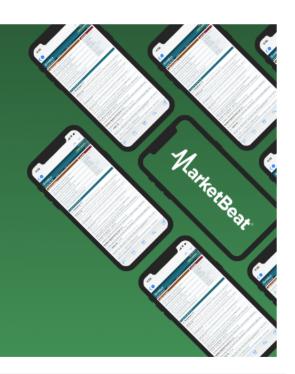


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