

# Triton International Limited (TRTN)

Updated November 1st, 2022 by Nikolaos Sismanis

## **Key Metrics**

<b>Current Price:</b>	\$62	5 Year CAGR Estimate:	15.3%	Market Cap:	\$3.77 B
Fair Value Price:	\$86	5 Year Growth Estimate:	5.0%	Ex-Dividend Date:	12/07/2022
% Fair Value:	73%	5 Year Valuation Multiple Estimate:	6.6%	Dividend Payment Date:	12/22/2022
Dividend Yield:	4.5%	5 Year Price Target	\$109	Years Of Dividend Growth:	7
Dividend Risk Score:	С	Retirement Suitability Score:	В	Rating	Buy

#### **Overview & Current Events**

Triton International is the world's largest lessor of intermodal containers. The company was formed on July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016, through an all-stock merger between Triton Container International Limited ("TCIL") and TAL International Group ("TAL"). The company's intermodal containers are large, standardized steel boxes used to transport freight by ship, rail, or truck. Due to the handling efficiencies they provide, intermodal containers are the primary means by which many goods and materials are shipped internationally. Per its latest filings, Triton's total fleet consisted of containers and chassis representing over 7 million twenty-foot equivalent units. The company generates around \$1.7 billion in annual revenues and is headquartered in Hamilton, Bermuda.

On November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, Triton increased its dividend by 7.7% to a quarterly rate of \$0.70.

On the same day, Triton reported its Q3-2022 results for the period ending September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Total leasing revenues during the quarter equaled \$424.7 million, 6.1% higher than the comparable period last year. Revenues were once again driven by Triton's multi-year leases, whose rates remain at elevated levels following last year's logistical bottlenecks.

With the majority of its containers employed under long-term leases, fleet utilization remained exceptionally high at 99.1%. Adjusted EPS came in at \$2.88 compared to \$1.83 in Q3-2021, following economies of scale, lower interest expenses, and Triton's share count declining by 8.8% year-over-year.

Following record operating cash flows, Triton repurchased 3.2 million common shares (5% of shares) during Q3 and 900K shares from October 1<sup>st</sup> to October 26<sup>th</sup> (1.4% of shares). The stock repurchase program was again boosted by \$200 million. With contractually secured cash flows providing great cash flow visibility, management sees its momentum lasting in the coming years. We are revising our FY2022 EPS estimate from \$11.50 to \$11.40.

## Growth on a Per-Share Basis

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2027
EPS					(\$0.24)	\$4.55	\$4.38	\$4.57	\$4.18	\$7.26	\$11.40	\$14.55
DPS					\$0.90	\$1.80	\$2.01	\$2.08	\$2.13	\$2.36	\$2.80	\$3.93
Shares <sup>1</sup>					56	76.2	80.4	74.7	67.1	66.1	61.4	<i>55.0</i>

Despite Triton operating in arguably one of the most cyclical industries, with global shipping subject to multiple potential disruptions, the company has been able to post quite stable revenues, and consequently, earnings-per-share. With demand exceeding supply, the company's average remaining duration on the containers ordered in 2021 was 13 years. Currently, the remaining term lease on Triton's total portfolio just under 80 months. With the majority of its leases (80% of CEU) under long-term contracts, the company's financials are essentially guaranteed to remain resilient even under a potentially challenging trading environment in the coming years. Triton has been growing its dividend annually since its merger in 2016. The latest dividend increase was by 7.7%. However, as seen in the company's declining share count, management's preferable capital return method has been through stock buybacks. Triton has purchased approximately 23.6% of its common shares since the inception of the program in August 2018. We expect earnings-per-share growth of

Disclosure: This analyst has a long position in the shares of Triton International.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Share count is in millions.



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5% going forward, led by Triton's multi-year leases and stock buybacks. Additionally, we expect dividend growth of 7% through 2027, assuming a prudent deceleration ahead.

## **Valuation Analysis**

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Now	2027
Avg. P/E						7.9	7.5	7.4	9.6	7.6	5.5	7.5
Avg. Yld.					6.0%	5.0%	6.1%	6.2%	5.3%	4.2%	4.5%	3.6%

Despite Triton's resilient cash flows, shares have often traded with a below-average earnings multiple. We believe that this is partially due to the company being valued in line with its industry peers, who, unlike Triton, face cyclical revenues. In addition, the company is headquartered in Bermuda, which is likely pushing away institutional ownership due to its non-U.S. registry. For these reasons, we have Trion's fair P/E at a humble 7.5, but we still expect it to expand considerably from its current multiple of 5.5. We believe the stock is substantially undervalued. The yield sits at 4.5%, and it's worth noting that Bermuda does not apply a withholding tax on dividends.

### Safety, Quality, Competitive Advantage, & Recession Resiliency

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2027
Payout						40%	46%	46%	51%	33%	25%	27%

Considering its growing capital returns, comfortable payout ratio, and long-term contractually secured cash flows, we believe that Triton's dividend is very safe. Besides, the company would likely suspend buybacks before messing with dividend. While Triton was formed just a few years ago, a look at its pre-merger financials showcases a relatively resilient performance, with sales dropping by only -20% during the Great Financial Crisis, which is quite impressive considering its industry. The company's massively expanded booking amid the frenzy in demand for containers should shield future cash flows. Triton competes with at least six other major intermodal equipment leasing companies. However, the company believes that it can maintain its above-average pricing due to its high level of customer service and long-term relationships. Triton achieved roughly a 40% share of all new leasing transactions in 2021, reflecting the importance customers place on its deep container supply capability. It also further highlights Triton's position as the "goto" supplier in the container leasing industry. While the company's balance sheet features a massive \$8.29 billion position of long-term debt, interest payments are covered by nearly 10 times its operating cash flows.

## Final Thoughts & Recommendation

Triton International is an industry leader whose operations are critical for the transportation of goods worldwide. The company's results have been snowballing and are set to remain very strong based on its containers' current average leasing duration. Yet, the stock remains significantly undervalued. We forecast annualized returns of around 15.3%, driven by strong earnings growth visibility, a 4.5% yield, aggressive buybacks, and the possibility for a steep valuation expansion. We continue rating shares a strong buy.

## Total Return Breakdown by Year



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#### **Income Statement Metrics**

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Revenue		707	708	845	1,201	1,433	1,431	1,394	1,784
Gross Profit		649	653	745	1,105	1,321	1,283	1,229	800
Gross Margin		91.8%	92.3%	88.2%	92.0%	92.2%	89.6%	88.2%	44.8%
SG&A Exp.		56	53	66	88	80	76	81	89
D&A Exp.		258	300	448	594	615	578	556	626
Operating Profit		334	302	264	513	696	670	604	713
Operating Margin		47.2%	42.6%	31.2%	42.7%	48.6%	46.8%	43.3%	40.0%
Net Profit		149	111	(14)	345	350	353	330	530
Net Margin		21.1%	15.7%	-1.6%	28.7%	24.4%	24.6%	23.7%	29.7%
Free Cash Flow		(377)	51	(145)	(695)	(609)	822	200	-2,029
Income Tax		6	4	(0)	(93)	71	28	38	50

### **Balance Sheet Metrics**

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total Assets			4,659	8,714	9,578	10,270	9,643	9,713	12,640
Cash & Equivalents			57	113	132	49	62	62	106
Accounts Receivable			178	520	496	742	624	508	295
Goodwill & Int. Ass.				480	391	330	293	270	254
Total Liabilities			3,281	6,907	7,368	7,945	7,110	7,147	9,579
Accounts Payable			81	143	110	100	117	95	500
Long-Term Debt			3,153	6,257	6,808	7,454	6,605	6,386	8,547
Shareholder's Equity			1,217	1,663	2,076	2,204	2,127	2,011	2,335
LTD/E Ratio			2.59	3.76	3.28	3.38	2.61	2.49	2.80

## **Profitability & Per Share Metrics**

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Return on Assets</b>				-0.2%	3.8%	3.5%	3.5%	3.4%	4.7%
Return on Equity				-0.9%	18.4%	16.3%	16.3%	15.9%	24.4%
ROIC				-0.2%	4.0%	3.7%	3.7%	3.7%	5.2%
Shares Out.				56	76.2	80.4	74.7	69.3	67
Revenue/Share		9.57	9.58	15.08	15.76	17.84	19.16	20.10	26.60
FCF/Share		(5.10)	0.68	(2.59)	(9.13)	(7.58)	11.00	2.88	-30.26

Note: All figures in millions of U.S. Dollars unless per share or indicated otherwise.

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