



# Pentair (PNR)

Updated October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019 by Jonathan Weber

## Key Metrics

<b>Current Price:</b>	\$42	<b>5 Year CAGR Estimate:</b>	8.2%	<b>Volatility Percentile:</b>	96.4%
<b>Fair Value Price:</b>	\$42	<b>5 Year Growth Estimate:</b>	6.5%	<b>Momentum Percentile:</b>	35.6%
<b>% Fair Value:</b>	99%	<b>5 Year Valuation Multiple Estimate:</b>	0.1%	<b>Growth Percentile:</b>	70.0%
<b>Dividend Yield:</b>	1.7%	<b>5 Year Price Target</b>	\$58	<b>Valuation Percentile:</b>	64.7%
<b>Dividend Risk Score:</b>	A	<b>Retirement Suitability Score:</b>	B	<b>Total Return Percentile:</b>	60.5%

## Overview & Current Events

Until recently, Pentair was a diversified industrial conglomerate. The company recently spun off its Technical Solutions segment and now operates as a pure-play water solutions company that operates in 3 segments: Aquatic Systems, Filtration Solutions, and Flow Technologies. Pentair was founded in 1966 and trades with a market capitalization of \$7 billion. Pentair has increased its dividend for more than four decades in a row, when adjusted for spin-offs, which makes Pentair a member of the Dividend Aristocrats Index.

Pentair reported its third quarter earnings results on October 23. The company was able to generate revenues of \$714 million during the third quarter, which was 0.3% more than the company's revenues during the third quarter of the previous year. Core sales, which excludes the impact of currency rate movements, acquisitions, and disposessions, were down 2% year over year, which was a rather weak performance compared to the revenues that Pentair has generated over the last couple of quarters. Pentair's gross margin grew by 140 base points, which was a major positive. The company managed to grow its operating income slightly.

Pentair recorded earnings-per-share of \$0.58 for the third quarter, up slightly from \$0.54 during the previous year's quarter. Pentair's earnings-per-share beat the analyst consensus by \$0.03, or roughly 5%. Pentair guides for earnings-per-share of \$0.64 to \$0.66 for the fourth quarter of fiscal 2019, while also seeing a sales growth rate of 2%. On top of that, Pentair forecasts earnings-per-share of ~\$2.35 for all of 2019, which implies that earnings-per-share will be in line with the profits that were generated during the previous year.

## Growth on a Per-Share Basis

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2024
<b>EPS</b>	\$1.47	\$2.00	\$2.41	\$2.39	\$3.21	\$3.14	\$3.94	\$2.47	\$3.53	\$2.35	<b>\$2.35</b>	<b>\$3.22</b>
<b>DPS</b>	\$0.72	\$0.76	\$0.80	\$0.88	\$0.96	\$1.10	\$1.28	\$1.34	\$1.38	\$0.70	<b>\$0.72</b>	<b>\$0.96</b>
<b>Shares<sup>1</sup></b>	99	98	99	206	197	183	181	182	180	177	<b>171</b>	<b>160</b>

At first look the results in the above table do not look overly promising, as 2019's earnings-per-share will be slightly below the company's earnings-per-share from 2011. Earnings-per-share results during 2018 and the following years are impacted by the spin-off of nVent, though, as the results of Pentair's former technical solutions segment are not included in the company's reported results any longer. Between 2008 and 2017 (before the nVent spin-off) Pentair grew its earnings-per-share by 5.5% annually. Adjusted for the impact of the last financial crisis - an unusually harsh recession which made Pentair's earnings-per-share decline by slightly more than 30% between 2008 and 2009 - Pentair's long-term earnings-per-share growth rate would have been even higher.

Pentair's management believes that a long-term earnings-per-share growth rate of 10% is possible, but we are a bit more conservative. It is, we believe, realistic to expect a 6%-7% earnings-per-share growth rate from Pentair over the coming years. The company should be able to achieve this growth through a combination of rising revenues, which will be possible thanks to organic growth and acquisitions, and through tailwinds from margin expansion and share repurchases, which will lead to further declines in Pentair's share count.

<sup>1</sup> In Millions

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## Valuation Analysis

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Now	2024
Avg. P/E	18.2	16.8	15.2	17.6	18.7	22.9	15.2	22.9	18.3	16.2	17.9	18.0
Avg. Yld.	2.7%	2.3%	2.2%	2.1%	1.6%	1.5%	2.1%	2.4%	2.1%	1.8%	1.7%	1.7%

Pentair's valuation has moved in a relatively tight range throughout most of the last decade, and shares did not become significantly more expensive during the recovery from the last financial crisis, relative to the profits that Pentair generated. Shares are trading relatively in line with the historic average right now, which is why we do not see any meaningful changes in the company's valuation over the coming years.

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

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2024
Payout	49.0%	38.0%	33.2%	36.8%	29.9%	35.0%	32.5%	54.3%	39.1%	29.8%	30.6%	29.9%

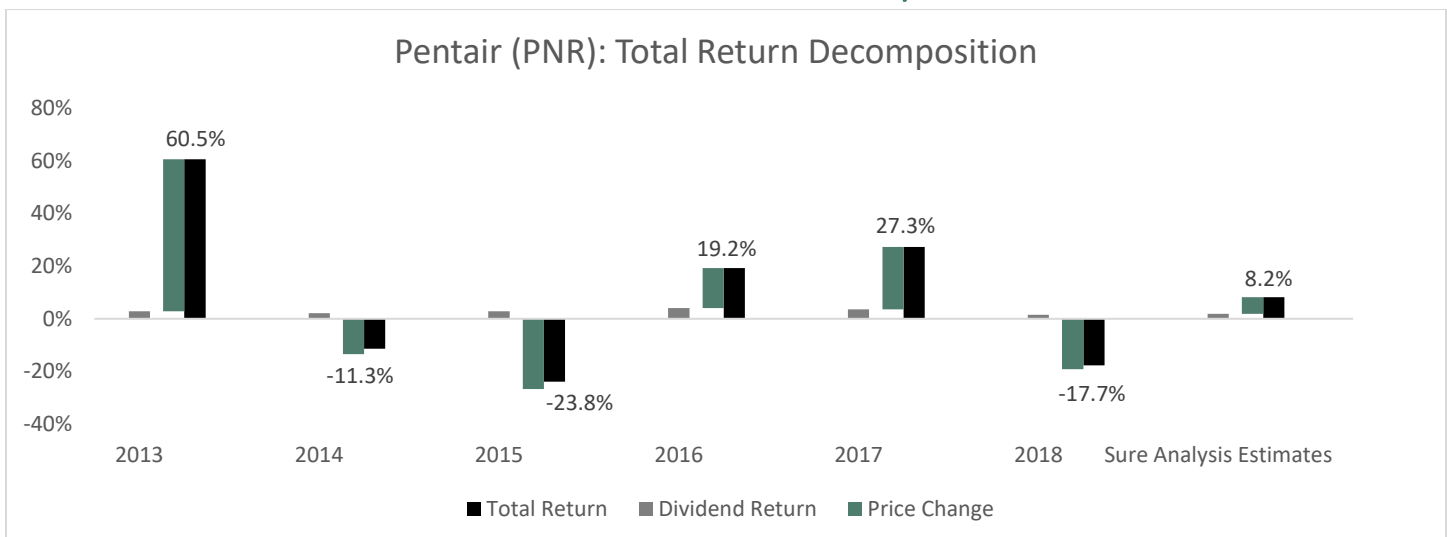
Pentair's dividend has grown consistently for decades, and during the last ten years, Pentair grew its shareholder payouts at an attractive pace. When we adjust for the spin-off of nVent, Pentair's dividend growth track record remains intact. The payout ratio is not very high, which makes us believe that the dividend looks quite safe. Even an earnings decline such as the one during the last financial crisis would most likely not result in a dividend cut.

Qualitatively, Pentair's strongest competitive advantages lie within its managerial practices. The company employs a strategy called the Pentair Integrated Management System – or PIMS – which allows its organizational structure to remain lean and which results in a more efficient supply chain and operations compared to most peers. Pentair is a leader in the niche markets it targets, and through tuck-in acquisitions, Pentair can grow its size and scale.

## Final Thoughts & Recommendation

Following the spin-off of other businesses, Pentair has become a pure-play water company that is a leader in its industry. Pentair plans to consolidate the space further by making tuck-in acquisitions whenever it sees a compelling target. We believe that Pentair should be able to grow its earnings-per-share at a solid pace going forward, although management's forecasts of 10%+ growth seem a bit aggressive. When we factor in the dividend yield, Pentair looks like it could deliver compelling total returns over the coming years. We rate Pentair's shares a buy at the current price.

## Total Return Breakdown by Year



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## Income Statement Metrics

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Revenue	2692	3031	3457	4307	7000	4667	4616	2781	2846	2965
Gross Profit	785	931	1074	1266	2370	1621	1599	959	988	1048
Gross Margin	29.2%	30.7%	31.1%	29.4%	33.9%	34.7%	34.6%	34.5%	34.7%	35.3%
SG&A Exp.	507	551	695	1118	1494	986	884	531	536	534
D&A Exp.	105	84	108	160	275	140	149	88	87	85
Operating Profit	220	313	301	56	754	539	616	354	378	437
Operating Margin	8.2%	10.3%	8.7%	1.3%	10.8%	11.5%	13.3%	12.7%	13.3%	14.7%
Net Profit	115	185	-8	-107	537	215	-76	522	667	347
Net Margin	4.3%	6.1%	-0.2%	-2.5%	7.7%	4.6%	-1.7%	18.8%	23.4%	11.7%
Free Cash Flow	204	211	247	-51	758	925	648	818	581	391
Income Tax	56	89	46	-67	177	114	115	43	59	58

## Balance Sheet Metrics

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total Assets	3911	3974	4586	11883	11743	10655	11834	11535	8634	3807
Cash & Equivalents	33	46	50	261	256	110	126	239	86	74
Acc. Receivable	482	553	569	1275	1285	1206	773	764	483	488
Inventories	361	405	450	1334	1195	1130	565	524	357	388
Goodwill & Int.	2575	2520	2866	7038	6611	6350	6006	5849	2435	2349
Total Liabilities	1785	1769	2539	5395	5526	5991	7825	7280	3596	1970
Accounts Payable	208	262	295	567	577	583	404	437	322	379
Long-Term Debt	806	707	1309	2457	2550	3004	4686	4279	1441	788
Total Equity	2012	2093	1933	6371	6095	4664	4009	4254	5038	1836
D/E Ratio	0.40	0.34	0.68	0.39	0.42	0.64	1.17	1.01	0.29	0.43

## Profitability & Per Share Metrics

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Return on Assets	2.9%	4.7%	-0.2%	-1.3%	4.5%	1.9%	-0.7%	4.5%	6.6%	5.6%
Return on Equity	5.9%	9.0%	-0.4%	-2.6%	8.6%	4.0%	-1.8%	12.6%	14.3%	10.1%
ROIC	3.9%	6.3%	-0.2%	-1.7%	6.1%	2.6%	-0.9%	6.1%	8.9%	7.6%
Shares Out.	99	98	99	206	197	183	181	182	180	177
Revenue/Share	27.33	30.52	35.20	33.81	34.21	24.09	25.28	15.19	15.49	16.72
FCF/Share	2.07	2.12	2.51	-0.40	3.70	4.77	3.55	4.47	3.16	2.20

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

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