



Tennant Company (TNC)

Updated August 29th, 2023 by Jonathan Weber

Key Metrics

Current Price:	\$82	5 Year CAGR Estimate:	10.8%	Market Cap:	\$1.5B
Fair Value Price:	\$98	5 Year Growth Estimate:	6.0%	Ex-Dividend Date:	10/02/23 ¹
% Fair Value:	84%	5 Year Valuation Multiple Estimate:	3.6%	Dividend Payment Date:	10/15/23 ²
Dividend Yield:	1.3%	5 Year Price Target	\$131	Years Of Dividend Growth:	52
Dividend Risk Score:	A	Retirement Suitability Score:	B	Rating:	Buy

Overview & Current Events

Tennant Company is a machinery company that produces cleaning products and that offers cleaning solutions to its customers. In the US, the company holds the market leadership position in its industry, but the company also sells its products in more than 100 additional countries around the globe. Tennant was founded in 1870.

Tennant Company reported its second quarter earnings results in August. The company announced that it generated revenues of \$321 million during the quarter, which was 15% more than the top line number from the previous year's quarter. This was an improvement from recent trends, as revenue had grown mostly only slightly on a year-over-year basis during the recent past. Revenues also were up on a sequential basis during the period.

Tennant Company generated adjusted earnings-per-share of \$1.86 during the second quarter, which was more than what the analyst community had forecasted, and which was up compared to the previous year's quarter. Management is currently forecasting that adjusted earnings-per-share will fall into a range of \$5.10 to \$5.75 in 2023, indicates that earnings will grow at an attractive pace this year. At the midpoint of the guidance range, \$5.43, Tennant's earnings-per-share would be up more than 30% versus 2022. The company increased its dividend by 6% this year.

Growth on a Per-Share Basis

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2028
EPS	\$2.26	\$2.70	\$2.49	\$2.59	\$1.54	\$2.17	\$3.78	\$2.91	\$4.39	\$4.10	\$5.43	\$7.27
DPS	\$0.72	\$0.78	\$0.80	\$0.81	\$0.84	\$0.85	\$0.88	\$0.92	\$0.94	\$1.00	\$1.06	\$1.35
Shares³	18.5	18.4	17.7	17.7	17.9	18.3	18.6	18.6	18.8	18.7	18.5	18.0

Tennant Company's earnings-per-share were quite lumpy over the last decade. Overall, the trend pointed upwards, but there were a lot of ups and downs; the company has not been able to grow its earnings consistently. During the last financial crisis Tennant Company's earnings-per-share were roughly cut in half, from \$1.35 in 2008 to \$0.65 in 2009. The company was able to recover quickly from the impact of the last financial crisis.

Between 2010 and 2021, Tennant Company recorded an average annual earnings-per-share growth rate of 7%. Tennant Company's earnings-per-share saw some ups and downs in that time frame, however, such as in 2017, when profits were down considerably versus the previous year. Tennant Company has plans to grow its sales inorganically, especially in the Asia/Pacific region, where it benefits from above-average market growth rates. The takeover of Chinese cleaning equipment company Gaomei improves Tennant's sales outlook in the Chinese market, as well as in other Asian markets, over the next couple of years. As the coronavirus impact wanes, synergies from this acquisition and other moves to bolster the overall profitability and the business in Asia will increasingly pay off and should deliver attractive earnings growth for Tennant. Tennant Company felt a considerable impact from the pandemic in 2020, when earnings-per-share were down by roughly 25% versus pre-pandemic levels. That was more than balanced out by a steep increase in the company's profitability in 2021, however, as that was a new record year for the company.

¹ Estimated date

² Estimated date

³ In Millions

Disclosure: This analyst has no position in the security discussed in this research report, and no plans to initiate one in the next 72 hours.



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Valuation Analysis

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Now	2028
Avg. P/E	23.8	25.1	25.1	22.7	44.9	24.0	22.1	24.1	18.5	15.1	15.1	18.0
Avg. Yld.	1.3%	1.1%	1.3%	1.4%	1.2%	1.7%	1.1%	1.3%	1.2%	1.6%	1.3%	1.0%

Tennant Company has been valued at high multiples throughout the last decade. This is somewhat surprising, as Tennant Company is not an ultra-high-quality company. Its growth has been solid, but not outstanding. We believe that an earnings multiple of more than 20 is not justified. Based on our earnings-per-share estimate, shares are trading below what we deem a fair valuation for the company, which should have a positive impact on total returns.

Safety, Quality, Competitive Advantage, & Recession Resiliency

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2028
Payout	31.9%	28.9%	32.1%	31.3%	45.5%	39.2%	23.3%	31.6%	21.4%	24.4%	19.5%	18.6%

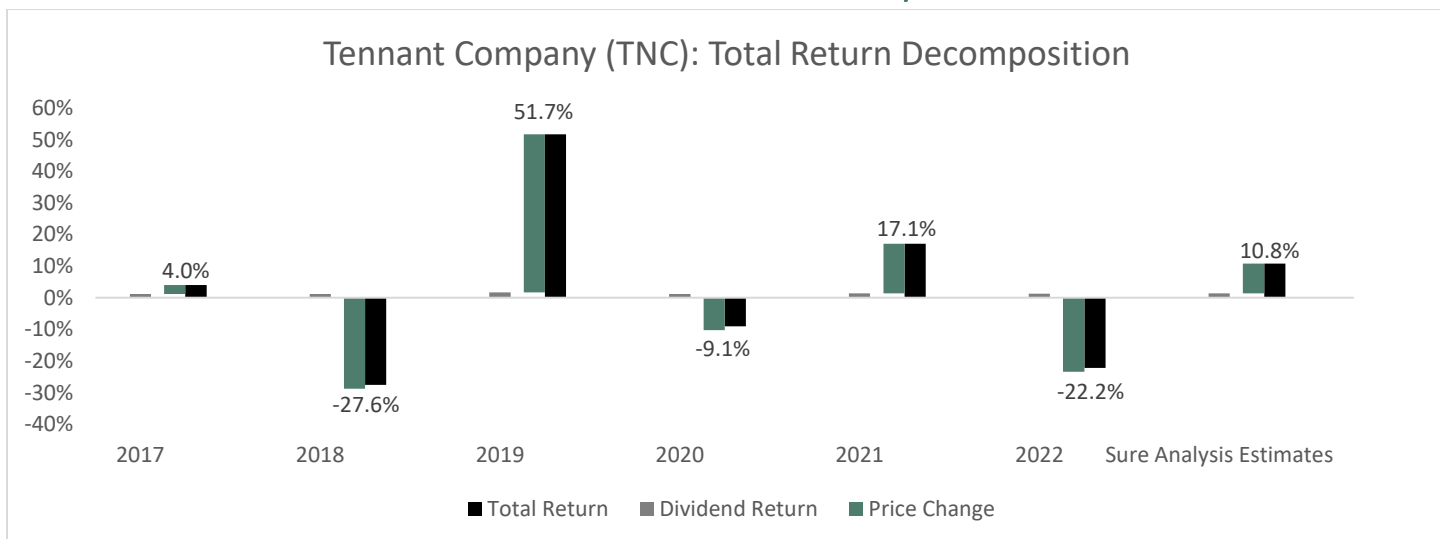
Tennant Company's dividend payout ratio was quite high during the last financial crisis, due to the company's below-average profitability during that time. Since then, the payout ratio has declined to a quite sustainable level. It seems unlikely that Tennant Company could be forced to cut its dividend, but due to its relatively low dividend yield Tennant nevertheless does not look like an attractive income stock; it is more of a capital appreciation play.

Tennant Company is the leader in the US cleaning machines market. This serves as a competitive advantage, as Tennant Company's market leadership allows for better economics of scale and a superior sales network compared to its peers. During the last financial crisis, Tennant remained profitable, but its earnings still suffered considerably. Tennant therefore has exposure to economic downturns, which was also visible in 2020's results, as the coronavirus impact resulted in below-average sales and profits during 2020. We do not believe that this will be a long-lasting issue.

Final Thoughts & Recommendation

Tennant Company is the leader in the niche market that the company serves. Organic growth in China could allow for a solid growth outlook over the coming years, which is why we forecast a mid-single digit earnings-per-share growth rate over the coming years. Following a strong 2021, Tennant was less profitable in 2022, but 2023 will be another strong year. Tennant shares promise compelling total returns, which is why we rate them a buy at current prices.

Total Return Breakdown by Year



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Income Statement Metrics

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Revenue	752	822	812	809	1,003	1,124	1,138	1,001	1,091	1,092
Gross Profit	326	352	349	352	400	445	462	408	438	421
Gross Margin	43.3%	42.9%	43.0%	43.5%	39.9%	39.6%	40.6%	40.7%	40.2%	38.5%
SG&A Exp.	233	251	252	249	335	356	357	314	322	306
D&A Exp.	20	20	18	18	43	54	54	53	53	49
Operating Profit	62	72	64	68	33	58	72	64	84	84
Operating Margin	8.3%	8.8%	7.9%	8.4%	3.3%	5.2%	6.3%	6.4%	7.7%	7.6%
Net Profit	40	51	32	47	(6)	33	46	34	65	66
Net Margin	5.3%	6.2%	4.0%	5.8%	-0.6%	3.0%	4.0%	3.4%	5.9%	6.1%
Free Cash Flow	45	40	20	31	31	58	33	104	46	(54)
Income Tax	20	19	18	20	5	2	8	7	9	13

Balance Sheet Metrics

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total Assets	456	487	432	470	994	993	1,063	1,083	1,062	1,085
Cash & Equivalents	81	93	51	58	58	86	75	141	124	78
Accounts Receivable	135	147	136	145	203	208	217	200	211	252
Inventories	67	81	77	79	128	135	150	128	161	207
Goodwill & Int. Ass.	38	34	20	28	358	329	333	334	291	258
Total Liabilities	192	206	180	191	696	676	702	677	627	613
Accounts Payable	53	62	50	47	96	98	94	106	122	126
Long-Term Debt	32	28	25	36	377	355	339	308	268	300
Shareholder's Equity	264	281	252	279	297	314	360	405	434	471
LTD/E Ratio	0.12	0.10	0.10	0.13	1.27	1.13	0.94	0.76	0.62	0.64

Profitability & Per Share Metrics

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Return on Assets	9.2%	10.7%	7.0%	10.3%	-0.8%	3.4%	4.5%	3.1%	6.1%	6.2%
Return on Equity	16.1%	18.6%	12.0%	17.6%	-2.2%	10.9%	13.6%	8.8%	15.5%	14.7%
ROIC	14.3%	16.8%	11.0%	15.8%	-1.3%	5.0%	6.7%	4.8%	9.2%	9.0%
Shares Out.	18.5	18.4	17.7	17.7	17.9	18.3	18.6	18.6	18.8	18.7
Revenue/Share	39.93	43.86	43.90	44.98	56.69	61.26	61.65	53.72	57.87	58.42
FCF/Share	2.39	2.12	1.11	1.74	1.77	3.18	1.79	5.57	2.45	(2.91)

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

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