



STERIS plc (STE)

Updated September 17th, 2024, by Yiannis Zourmpanos

Key Metrics

Current Price:	\$244	5 Year CAGR Estimate:	9.5%	Market Cap:	\$24.4 B
Fair Value Price:	\$229	5 Year Growth Estimate:	10.0%	Ex-Dividend Date:	09/05/2024
% Fair Value:	107%	5 Year Valuation Multiple Estimate:	-1.3%	Dividend Payment Date:	09/20/2024
Dividend Yield:	0.9%	5 Year Price Target	\$368	Years Of Dividend Growth:	14
Dividend Risk Score:	A	Retirement Suitability Score:	C	Rating:	Hold

Overview & Current Events

STERIS plc (STE) is a global leader in infection prevention and other procedural products and services. Founded as Innovative Medical Technologies in Ohio in 1985, the company was later renamed STERIS in 1987. STERIS operates through four segments: Healthcare, Applied Sterilization Technologies, Life Sciences, and Dental. The company has a strong history of acquisitions, including American Sterilizer Company in 1987 and Amsco International in 1996, which expanded its product line for healthcare and sterilization. STERIS has a market capitalization of more than \$23 billion and a solid history of paying dividends.

On August 8th, 2024, the company announced financial results for the first quarter of fiscal year 2025. STERIS reported Q1 non-GAAP EPS of \$2.03, beating market estimates by \$0.05, and revenue of \$1.3 billion, which was up 8%.

Healthcare revenue increased 10% to \$901.2 million as balanced double-digit growth in consumables and services offset a 10% decline in capital equipment sales. Applied Sterilization Technologies (AST) revenue increased by 7%, driven by higher service and capital equipment sales, while Life Sciences revenue decreased by 2% due to the divestiture of the CECS business.

Still, while the Life Sciences segment revenue declined, the company presented solid fundamentals: 6% constant currency organic revenue growth and continued margin improvements. Cash flow remained strong, with \$303.7 million from operations, while free cash flow declined to \$195.7 million as a result of capital spending. The company reiterated its fiscal 2025 forecast, projecting a 6.5% to 7.5% gain in total revenue and adjusted earnings per share of between \$9.05 and \$9.25. Given the solid operational momentum and positive pricing trends, STERIS is still confident it can achieve these forecasts.

Growth on a Per-Share Basis

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2030
EPS	\$2.25	\$1.56	\$1.28	\$3.39	\$3.55	\$4.76	\$4.63	\$2.48	\$1.07	\$3.81	\$9.15	\$14.74
DPS	\$0.90	\$0.98	\$1.09	\$1.21	\$1.33	\$1.45	\$1.57	\$1.69	\$1.84	\$2.03	\$2.28	\$3.67
Shares¹	59.4	70.7	85.5	85.0	84.6	84.8	85.2	97.5	99.7	98.8	100.0	134.8

STERIS plc operates in a growing healthcare industry that will positively influence its revenues over the long term. In addition, it has a strong track record of growth through acquisitions that helped expand its product offerings and geographical reach. For example, the acquisition of Cantel Medical expanded its product portfolio in infection prevention.

The most significant development of STERIS plc in 2023 was the completion of several tuck-in acquisitions. These acquisitions expanded their product and service offerings in the AST and Healthcare segments. The total aggregate consideration for these acquisitions was approximately \$49.8 million, including a potential contingent consideration of \$7.3 million. This development allowed STERIS to enhance its capabilities and further strengthen its position in the market.

¹ The shares are in millions.

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STERIS plc has reported strong growth in the past five years with an EPS CAGR of 29.5%. As a result, we have slightly increased our EPS forecast for 2025, using the midpoint of the management's estimate at \$9.15. Thus, with a forecasted annual growth of 10.0%, the projected EPS in 2030 is \$14.74. STE has consistently increased its DPS but at a slower growth for the last two years. However, we expect the DPS to remain on a rising trajectory through 2030.

Valuation Analysis

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Now	2030
Avg. P/E	30.5	20.1	18.5	20.5	22.6	25.7	27.8	27.6	194.8	55.4	26.7	25.0
Avg. Yld.	1.3%	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%	1.0%	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	1.0%

STERIS plc trades at a forward P/E of 26.7, close to its normalized long-term average P/E of around 26.0. STERIS trades above its historical valuation multiples, but we consider a P/E of 25 as a fair reflection of the stock's valuation, suggesting a target price of \$368 by 2030.

Safety, Quality, Competitive Advantage, & Recession Resiliency

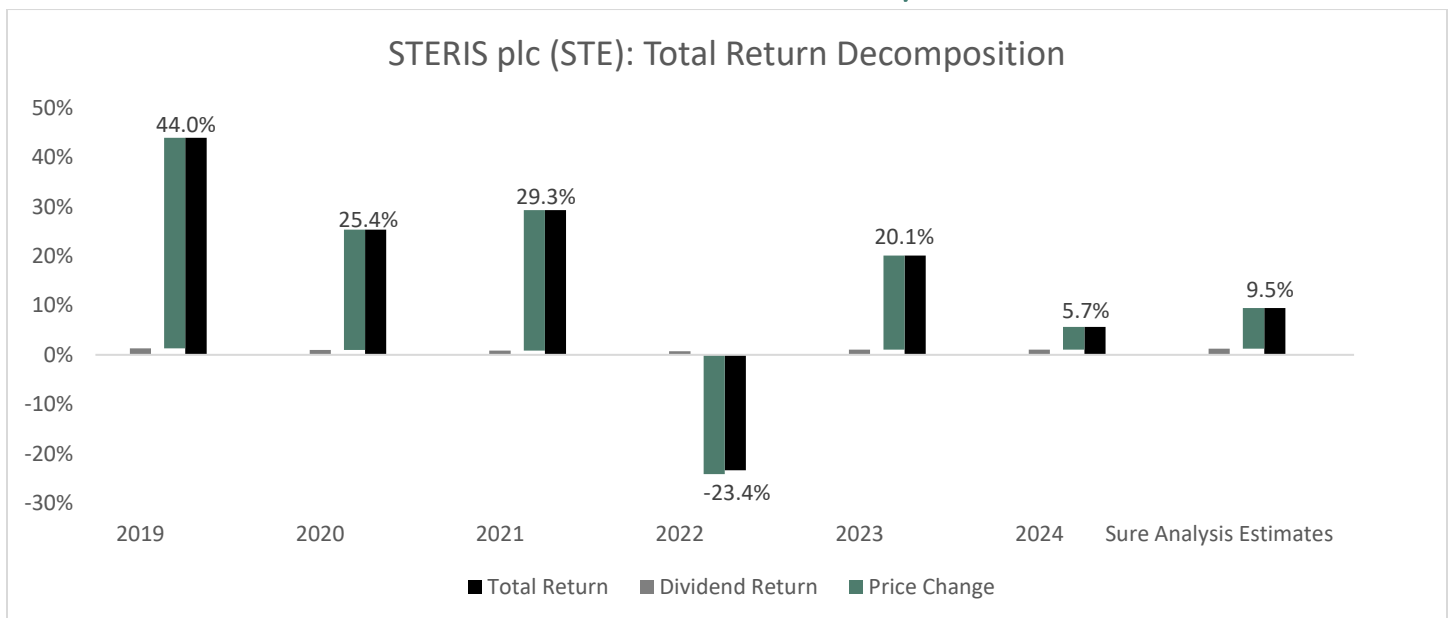
Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2030
Payout	40%	63%	85%	36%	37%	30%	34%	68%	172%	53%	25%	25%

STERIS plc is a leading provider of infection prevention and other healthcare solutions. Its competitive advantage lies in its ability to offer a comprehensive range of products and services that enable healthcare facilities to improve patient outcomes while reducing costs. STERIS plc has also demonstrated resilience during recessions, supported by its steady EPS performance during the 2007 recession. The company has a manageable debt-to-equity ratio of around 53.6%, indicating a healthy balance sheet. This financial stability and competitive edge position STERIS plc for long-term success in the healthcare industry.

Final Thoughts & Recommendation

STERIS' stock has dropped since our last report, and we remain confident that the acquisition synergies will materialize and be reflected in the company's financials in the following years. Thus, we rate STE with a hold rating premised upon the 9.5% annualized total returns for the medium-term, derived from the forecasted earnings-per-share growth of 10.0%, 0.9% dividend yield, and a valuation headwind.

Total Return Breakdown by Year



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Income Statement Metrics

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Revenue	1,850	2,239	2,613	2,620	2,782	3,031	3,108	4,585	4,958	5,139
Gross Profit	774	895	1,026	1,093	1,175	1,320	1,343	2,016	2,160	2,218
Gross Margin	41.8%	40.0%	39.3%	41.7%	42.2%	43.6%	43.2%	44.0%	43.6%	43.2%
SG&A Exp.	493	627	682	632	670	717	731	1,503	1,299	1,252
Operating Profit	227	212	285	400	442	538	545	426	759	862
Op. Margin	12.3%	9.5%	10.9%	15.3%	15.9%	17.7%	17.6%	9.3%	15.3%	16.8%
Net Profit	135	111	110	291	304	408	397	244	107	378
Net Margin	7.3%	4.9%	4.2%	11.1%	10.9%	13.5%	12.8%	5.3%	2.2%	7.4%
Free Cash Flow	161	128	251	292	350	376	450	397	395	613
Income Tax	74	60	74	63	64	91	121	72	52	150

Balance Sheet Metrics

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Assets	2,097	5,346	4,924	5,200	5,073	5,441	6,574	11,424	10,820	11,060
Cash & Equivalents	168	249	283	202	221	320	221	348	209	207
Acc. Receivable	325	472	483	528	565	586	609	799	928	1,008
Inventories	161	193	198	206	208	264	315	575	695	675
Goodwill & Int.	861	3,280	2,956	3,161	2,928	2,922	3,924	7,733	6,835	6,190
Total Liabilities	1,024	2,308	2,114	1,983	1,887	2,023	2,683	4,879	4,735	4,748
Accounts Payable	99	140	133	136	153	149	157	226	280	252
Long-Term Debt	621	1,568	1,478	1,316	1,183	1,151	1,651	3,088	3,079	3,206
Total Equity	1,072	3,023	2,799	3,206	3,178	3,405	3,881	6,532	6,077	6,302
D/E Ratio	0.58	0.52	0.53	0.41	0.37	0.34	0.43	0.47	0.51	0.51

Profitability & Per Share Metrics

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Return on Assets	6.8%	3.0%	2.1%	5.7%	5.9%	7.8%	6.6%	2.7%	1.0%	3.5%
Return on Equity	12.8%	5.4%	3.8%	9.7%	9.5%	12.4%	10.9%	4.7%	1.7%	6.1%
ROIC	8.4%	3.5%	2.5%	6.6%	6.8%	9.1%	7.9%	3.2%	1.1%	4.1%
Shares Out.	85.9	85.0	84.8	84.5	84.9	85.4	100.1	100.0	100.3	99.4
Revenue/Share	30.81	31.45	30.35	30.57	32.55	35.39	36.18	46.63	49.46	51.72
FCF/Share	2.68	1.80	2.92	3.41	4.09	4.39	5.24	4.04	3.94	6.17

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

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