

# North American Construction Group (NOA)

Updated May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 by Samuel Smith

## **Key Metrics**

<b>Current Price:</b>	\$17.3	5 Year CAGR Estimate:	8.6%	Market Cap:	\$512 M
Fair Value Price:	\$22.1	5 Year Growth Estimate:	1.6%	Ex-Dividend Date:	6/4/25
% Fair Value:	78%	5 Year Valuation Multiple Estima	ate: 5.1%	Dividend Payment Date:	7/11/25
Dividend Yield:	2.0%	5 Year Price Target	\$24	Years Of Dividend Growth:	8
Dividend Risk Score:	С	Sector:	Industrials	Rating:	Hold

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

North American Construction Group Ltd. (NYSE: NOA), established in 1953, is a premier provider of mining and heavy civil construction services across Canada, the United States, and Australia. Headquartered in Acheson, Alberta, the company specializes in various sectors, including oil sands mining, industrial construction, and resource development. With over 70 years of experience, NACG operates one of the largest independently owned equipment fleets in the industry, enabling them to undertake large-scale earthworks projects efficiently. Their comprehensive services range from site development and overburden removal to reclamation and mine management.

For the first quarter ended March 31, 2025, North American Construction Group Ltd. (NOA) reported combined revenue of \$391.5 million, marking a 13% increase from the same period in 2024. This growth was attributed to higher equipment utilization in Canada and the commissioning of additional heavy equipment in Australia. However, severe weather conditions, including excessive rainfall in Australia and a prolonged cold snap in Canada, adversely affected operations, leading to a decline in profitability. The company's reported revenue stood at \$340.8 million, up from \$297.0 million the previous year, while adjusted EBITDA rose slightly to \$99.9 million from \$97.4 million. Despite the revenue growth, net income decreased to \$6.2 million from \$11.5 million, and adjusted earnings per share dropped to \$0.52 from \$0.79. Gross profit margins also contracted to 13.2% from 18.1%, reflecting the operational challenges faced during the quarter. Cash flows from operating activities improved significantly to \$51.4 million, compared to \$19.0 million in the prior year, primarily due to better working capital management. However, free cash flow was negative at \$41.6 million, influenced by front-loaded capital maintenance expenditures. The company's net debt increased to \$867.5 million, up \$11.3 million from December 31, 2024, with a cash-related interest rate of 6.2%.

#### Growth on a Per-Share Basis

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2030
EPS	-\$0.14	-\$0.01	\$0.14	\$0.41	\$1.30	\$1.36	\$1.62	\$1.80	\$2.10	\$2.60	<i>\$3.69</i>	\$4.00
DPS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.06	\$0.06	\$0.09	\$0.13	\$0.13	\$0.24	\$0.24	\$0.31	\$0.34	\$0.50
Shares	31.9	28.3	25.5	25.0	25.9	28.8	28.5	26.4	26.7	28.7	28.0	28.0

North American Construction Group is set for growth over the next five years, with earnings per share expected to rise to \$4.00, driven by expanding heavy construction and mining services, increased project demand, and operational efficiencies. Dividends per share are projected to grow from \$0.34 to \$0.50, reflecting confidence in cash flow strength. NOA's strategic equipment investments, contract wins, and cost management efforts should enhance profitability. While commodity price volatility and labor costs present risks, the company's solid backlog, diverse client base, and disciplined capital allocation position it for sustainable earnings and shareholder returns.

## **Valuation Analysis**

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Now	2030
Avg. P/E	NA	NA	38.1	15.7	5.5	4.2	5.1	5.3	4.8	4.4	4.7	6.0
Avg. Yld.	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%	0.9%	1.3%	2.3%	1.6%	2.5%	2.4%	2.7%	2.0%	2.1%

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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North American Construction Group (NOA) is currently trading at a P/E ratio of 4.7, slightly above its recent historical range but still below the 10-year historical average of 6.0. Over the past several years, NOA has consistently traded at low valuation multiples, reflecting its exposure to cyclical industries such as energy and heavy construction. While its valuation is low compared to broader market averages, it is largely in line with historical trends for the company and its sector. The dividend yield of 2.0% is lower than recent years but still provides a moderate level of income for investors. Looking ahead, the valuation multiple could expand if NOA demonstrates consistent earnings growth and benefits from an improved macroeconomic environment, potentially moving toward 6.0-7.0 over the next five years. However, if economic uncertainty persists or energy prices weaken, the multiple may stay near its current levels of 5.0-6.0. Given NOA's strong operational performance and ongoing infrastructure investments, a reasonable five-year expected P/E range would be 5.5-7.0 under stable conditions, with potential upside if investor sentiment toward the energy and heavy equipment sectors improves.

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

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2030
Payout	0%	0%	43%	15%	7%	10%	8%	13%	11%	12%	9%	13%

NOA's competitive advantage lies in its specialization in heavy equipment services for the energy, mining, and construction sectors, particularly in Canada's oil sands region. The company benefits from long-term contracts with major energy producers, an extensive fleet of high-quality equipment, and operational expertise that provides efficiencies in large-scale projects. Its diversification into broader industrial and infrastructure projects in recent years has helped mitigate some of the volatility associated with the oil and gas sector. During the Great Recession (2008-2009), NOA experienced significant financial stress, given its reliance on oil sands development, which saw capital expenditure reductions. However, the company has since diversified its revenue streams to include other industries such as mining and infrastructure, making it more resilient to energy price fluctuations. The low oil price period (2014-2016) was another difficult period for NOA, as capital spending in the oil industry declined sharply. NOA has moderate leverage, with debt levels that are manageable given its strong cash flow generation. The company has maintained a solid interest coverage ratio, ensuring that it can service its debt obligations without excessive risk. While leverage is higher than some industrial peers, it is appropriate for a capital-intensive business with long-term contracts and a steady revenue stream. NOA has historically maintained a low payout ratio, currently at 9%. This suggests ample room for dividend growth, as the company is retaining most of its earnings for reinvestment in operations and debt reduction. The payout ratio has fluctuated based on earnings volatility, but overall, it has remained conservative, allowing NOA to sustain and grow dividends without excessive strain on cash flows.

## Final Thoughts & Recommendation

Between its 2% dividend yield, 1.6% expected five-year EPS CAGR, and 5.1% expected five-year valuation multiple CAGR, we project an 8.6% annualized total return for NOA over the next half-decade, making it a Hold at the moment.

## Total Return Breakdown by Year



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#### **Income Statement Metrics**

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Revenue	220	161	226	316	542	372	522	591	714	850
Gross Profit	25	24	31	53	73	69	72	78	115	153
Gross Margin	11.3%	15.2%	13.6%	16.8%	13.4%	18.5%	13.8%	13.2%	16.1%	18.0%
SG&A Exp.	21	21	20	30	28	18	28	23	42	41
D&A Exp.	33	32	35	45	77	66	86	92	97	122
<b>Operating Profit</b>	3	3	10	23	44	51	44	55	73	112
Operating Margin	1.3%	1.6%	4.6%	7.3%	8.2%	13.6%	8.4%	9.3%	10.2%	13.2%
Net Profit	(6)	(0)	4	12	28	37	41	52	47	32
Net Margin	-2.7%	-0.2%	1.8%	3.7%	5.1%	9.9%	7.9%	8.8%	6.5%	3.8%
Free Cash Flow	34	9	(3)	(95)	0	22	41	41	55	(49)
Income Tax	(0)	(0)	1	5	2	8	7	13	17	12

### **Balance Sheet Metrics**

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<b>Total Assets</b>	260	260	305	506	607	658	682	722	1,166	1,181
Cash & Equivalents	23	10	7	14	4	34	13	51	67	54
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	17	29	36	57	40	25	50	54	62	98
Inventories	2	3	4	10	17	15	35	37	49	52
Goodwill & Int. Ass.	2	1	1			0	3	5	6	7
Total Liabilities	136	142	189	396	469	463	463	496	897	910
Accounts Payable	18	22	28	47	68	32	60	76	110	77
Long-Term Debt	35	29	56	217	254	280	255	310	531	566
Shareholder's Equity	124	118	116	110	138	195	218	225	269	271
D/E Ratio	0.28	0.25	0.48	1.98	1.84	1.44	1.17	1.37	1.97	2.09

## **Profitability & Per Share Metrics**

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Return on Assets	-1.8%	-0.1%	1.4%	2.9%	5.0%	5.8%	6.1%	7.4%	5.0%	2.7%
Return on Equity	-4.1%	-0.3%	3.5%	10.4%	22.4%	22.1%	19.8%	23.3%	18.9%	11.9%
ROIC	-3.1%	-0.2%	2.5%	4.7%	7.7%	8.5%	8.6%	10.3%	7.0%	3.9%
Shares Out.	31.9	28.3	25.5	25.0	25.9	28.8	28.5	26.4	26.7	28.7
Revenue/Share	6.73	5.37	7.62	10.07	16.50	11.52	15.37	17.39	21.63	25.73
FCF/Share	1.05	0.31	(0.11)	(3.03)	0.01	0.67	1.21	1.22	1.67	(1.47)

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

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