



3 Stocks Trading at 52-Week Lows — Is This the Bottom?

Description

Another week of 2014 is in the books, and for these three companies trading at 52-week lows, it was a week to forget.

Westport Innovations (TSX: WPT)([NASDAQ: WPRT](#))

The stock of this company has had quite a bumpy road in 2014, hitting its second 52-week low of the year. This new low happened on March 27 when the stock fell to \$15.34, well below the \$16.90 it sunk to on March 3. This stock has been taking a pounding thanks to a net loss for 2013 that has worried some investors.

However recent [streamlining](#) of its production capacities should erase any losses incurred in 2013. Most of the losses were R&D costs associated with Westport's newly released engine platforms. This downturn for the stock could prove to be a bargain for investors, as many analysts still maintain a target price of \$30.78. The stock closed on Friday at \$16.01.

Kinross Gold ([TSX: K](#))([NYSE: KGC](#))

Canadian gold miner Kinross fell to a new 52-week low on March 27, landing at a share price of \$4.42. The company is feeling the effects of the political pressure between Russia and the West, and the threat of sanctions and/or seizures have investors looking away from a company that is heavily invested in Russia.

Kinross operates two mines in the far east of Russia; the Kupol mine and the Dvoinoye project. These two mines make up 27% of the total gold output of Kinross, and any interruption in the mines' output could quickly affect the company. In 2013, Kinross sold \$3.779 billion worth of gold, but took in a net loss of \$3.742 billion. On a positive note, Goldman Sachs has raised its stock status for Kinross from "sell" to "hold". It has also raised its price target to \$4.20, while other analysts have the stock as high as \$6.40.

Vicwest Inc. (TSX: VIC)

A manufacturer and distributor of engineered storage and handling systems for grain, fertilizer, and liquid storage hit a new low last week when it closed at \$9.54 on March 28. The stock began to fall after the company released its less-than-stellar 2013 year-end results.

Revenues came in at \$394 million in 2013, down from \$411 million in 2012, and net income plummeted to a loss of \$5.1 million (-\$0.31 per share), a far cry from 2012's gains of \$11.5 million. Margins took a hit in 2013 thanks to several factors including an increased price of steel, a shortened construction season and supply chain issues.

One analyst at AltaCorp Capital Research has lowered his price target from \$12.50 to \$9.00 and labeled the stock as "underperform". CIBC World Markets has only cut its price target to \$11.50, down from \$13.00 and maintained a "sector performer" rating. Regardless of how analysts look at this stock, due to last fall's record crop, the backlog of orders for Vicwest subsidiary Westeel reached a new record in February with \$73.8 million worth of orders, up from \$28.5 million the same time last year.

Foolish bottom line

The market is full of highs and lows and savvy investors know when to jump on a good deal. For these companies, a week like this could turn into an opportunity for investors — if they can ride out the waves of the markets and politics.

CATEGORY

1. Investing

TICKERS GLOBAL

1. NASDAQ:WPRT (Westport Fuel Systems Inc.)
2. NYSE:KGC (Kinross Gold Corporation)
3. TSX:K (Kinross Gold Corporation)

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