

## press release

11 January 2010

### The forward look from The Share Centre

**Nick Raynor, investment adviser at retail stockbroker, The Share Centre, gives his thoughts on what to expect from companies announcing results w/c 11 January 2010.**

- **Monday - N/a**
- **Tuesday - N/a**
- **Wednesday**

#### **Tesco (trading statement)**

Next week's trading statement should give us a clue about just how much consumers spent on food and other essentials over Christmas. The recent cold snap may also boost sales as consumers look to stock up on winter essentials. As the first food retailer to release figures in 2010, Tesco will be setting the pace for others to follow.

**We currently list Tesco as a BUY**

- **Thursday**

First Group (interim results)

Strikes have been hitting First Group in its rail division; we expect the full impact of the strikes to be divulged in next week's interim figures. Earlier indications have suggested that profits will be significantly down. There are no plans to benefit from National Express' woes at the moment, but this could change. We feel that First Group is still one of the better managed in the sector.

**We currently list First Group as a BUY**

#### **Associated British Foods (trading statement)**

ABF has traditionally been a safe and secure investment. As such, it is unlikely to cause much excitement, but that's what a lot of investors are looking for at the moment. There have been sales during the year of non-core operations and profit figures are expected to be up in 2010. Next week's trading update will hopefully reassure analysts and investors of these facts.

**We currently list ABF as a HOLD**

#### **Home Retail (trading statement)**

Marks & Spencer showed signs of growth when they released trading figures a few weeks ago and we expect Home Retail, the owner of Homebase and Argos to do the same. The Group's previous quarter's figures showed signs of growth and we fully expect the Q3 figures to do the same.

**We currently list Home Retail as a HOLD**

## ■ Friday

### **Experian (trading statement)**

Throughout 2009 Experian's share price went upwards and continued selective acquisitions have helped maintain this momentum. 2010 will be an important year and next week's trading statement will give a good indication of how well the integration of Experian's new purchases is going. We also expect to hear some news on the company's prospects for the year; we feel positive that Experian will be able to maintain reasonable growth levels.

**We currently list Experian as a BUY**

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Investing in general, and the products and services mentioned above may not be suitable for all: if in doubt, individuals should seek independent financial advice. The value of investments and the income from them can go down as well as up and investors may not get back their original investment. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

The bases and levels of taxation relating to ISAs, CTFs and SIPP's are subject to change and the value of these tax allowances may depend upon the circumstances of the individual.

### **About The Share Centre:**

The Share Centre was established in 1990 to provide value-for-money share services for private investors. Its range of services includes buying and selling shares (by Internet, telephone and post) and a comprehensive share administration and safe custody service. Tax-efficient investment 'wrappers' including ISAs, CTFs and SIPP's are also available.

The Share Centre's Advice Team provides comment on market sectors, individual shares and funds on [www.share.com](http://www.share.com). Access is available to customers and registered users of the site. Registration is free. To understand how our Advice team arrive at their views please read our [Investment Research Policy](#).

In addition, account customers can receive individual telephone advice on UK-listed shares and on funds traded via the CoFunds trading platform.

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