

press release

14 February 2011

Share of the week from The Share Centre

Graham Spooner, investment adviser at The Share Centre picks Essar Energy as his share of the week, here's why:

"As the Indian economy continues to grow, Essar Energy is the ideal company to offer investors exposure to the region.

"Originally part of India's Essar Group and now a company in its own right, Essar Energy is one of the major providers of crude oil, petrol and diesel, as well as power generation. In a recent update it was noted that margins had significantly improved due to the rising price of oil and a reduction in costs.

"Several factors lead us to believe 2011 will be a positive year for the company. The deregulation of petrol prices in India has caused an increase in its retail sales by 40% to \$167m in the June quarter of 2010. The company currently has 1,376 operational retail outlets and expects this to grow to 1,700 by March 2010 due to deregulation of diesel prices.

"Production of four power plants has now moved onto the construction stage and although there is no target set for completion, the company is aiming to increase its generating capacity from 1,220MW in 2009 to 11,470MW by 2014.

"After a strong run in the second half of 2010 the share price has fallen back recently and we see this as an opportunity for investors."

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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. 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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