

We invest in winners. This means we invest in strong companies that create value for their shareholders with sustainable business models, solid balance sheets and high margins. We keep the risks low and invest when our position is fuelled by a positive event. We refer to that as the combination of value and event.

Credit Acceptance Corporation

When Donald A. Foss founded Credit Acceptance in Detroit in 1972 at the age of 27, a financier of used car loans for subprime customers, he had already gained five years of experience as a used-car salesman. At that time, credit was considered a luxury. Car manufacturers granted loans only to the most creditworthy customers, while banks did not issue them to Black borrowers at all. Foss changed the market. Everyone should be able to buy a used car. A catchy jingle sung in a gospel style, “Don Foss puts you in the driver seat; take a Don Foss ride down easy street.”, became a widely recognized advertisement. The company’s core promise still stands today: “approval for everyone.” Today, Credit Acceptance works with one out of every five of the roughly 70,000 used-car dealers in the United States. Dealers participate in the risk and performance of the loan contracts. This structure aligns incentives: dealers are encouraged to sell reliable vehicles that fit the buyer’s ability to pay. When a loan is finalized, the dealer receives a cash advance from Credit Acceptance. Combined with the buyer’s down payment, the dealer earns an immediate profit. Once Credit Acceptance has recovered the advance through the buyer’s interest and principal payments, the dealer receives 80% of all further payments (“dealer holdback”), while Credit Acceptance keeps the remaining 20% as servicing and collection fees. Historically, the collection rate, the

percentage of loan payments ultimately recovered, has been around 67%. If a borrower defaults, the car is auctioned. Over many economic cycles, shifts in interest rates, and competitive environments, the company has refined this model. The difference between the expected collection rate (estimated when the loan is originated) and the actual result is extremely small on average, 0.3%, and remains low even in crisis years (table).

	2001	2008	2009	2020	2022	2023	2024
Delta	-3.1%	0.7%	7.6%	4.3%	-7.3%	-3.2%	-0.7%

The company invests its cash flow based on the expected economic return, either by expanding new business, reducing refinancing needs, or buying back its own shares. Its approach to allocating capital is excellent. Over the past 20 years, the company has increased earnings per share by 13% per year and achieved an average return on equity of 30%. An impressive 67% of its own shares have been repurchased. Earnings per share declined during the weaker loan years of 2022-2023, but this is expected to normalize. This makes the current valuation, price-earnings ratio of 11, and the ongoing share buybacks even more appealing. As a result, we have established a stock position in the fund (table).

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025e
Earnings per share	60	39	22	20	40
Δ Shares YoY	-17%	-10%	-2%	-4%	-6%

Sincerely yours



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