

U.S. EARNINGS UPDATE

Prepared by: Smith Group Asset Management, LLC

In this second reporting season, US earnings numbers are coming in strong, with the percentage of companies beating earnings in-line with last quarter though sales beats are lagging by a few percentage points. Median reported EPS surprise is also strong, with the magnitude of beats increasing from last quarter by about a percentage point and a half, expanding to 5.7%, while revenue surprise is remaining stable at 0.5%. The absolute level of earnings growth year-over-year is higher than last quarter by +1.7%, expanding to 8.5%. Looking ahead to the end of the year, median annual expected bottom-line growth has increased by a percent to 6.9% with annual top-line growth only slightly higher than last quarter, sitting at 4.5%. From a sector perspective, the Industrials sector had the highest percentage EPS beat and an above average surprise driven by high earnings posted in the Capital Goods industry which includes machinery, aerospace, and construction

Q2 Reporting Season	% Reported	% Beat (EPS / Sales)	Median Reported % Surprise (EPS / Sales)	Median % Q1'24 - Q1'23 Expected Earnings Growth	Median % Q2'24 - Q2'23 Expected Earnings Growth	Median % 2024 Expected Growth
U.S. Large Cap Stocks	90	82 / 61	5.7 / 0.5	8.5	5.1	6.9 / 4.5
Cantor Fitzgerald Large Cap Focused Equity	78	86 / 84	6.1 / 1.4	19.0	13.3	12.3 / 9.1
Sectors - U.S. Large Cap						
Communication Services	100	79 / 40	8.0 / 0.0	16.9	9.1	10.3 / 3.0
Consumer Discretionary	72	74 / 59	11.7 / 0.6	17.3	3.2	6.1 / 4.8
Consumer Staples	68	92 / 67	7.7 / 0.8	10.5	-0.4	5.4 / 2.3
Energy	100	69 / 53	1.1 / 0.1	-17.5	15.7	0.7 / 1.3
Financials	97	72 / 73	2.3 / 0.6	11.1	9.4	9.3 / 6.6
Health Care	95	89 / 76	5.6 / 1.5	4.6	5.0	8.7 / 4.0
Industrials	96	94 / 65	6.7 / 0.4	9.1	6.4	7.0 / 5.2
Information Technology	74	89 / 74	5.7 / 0.6	12.7	5.2	7.0 / 3.3
Materials	100	77 / 38	6.4 / -0.5	-7.2	4.1	5.6 / 0.4
Utilities	100	76 / 19	2.7 / -6.1	11.4	11.3	7.3 / 4.7

companies. Consumer Staples has performed likewise well, however with a notable earnings decline Y/Y anticipated for the next reporting period. This can be observed across the sector, though seen most acutely in Distribution and Retail. The Consumer Discretionary sector is expected to grow its earnings the most this quarter of all groups at +17.3% Y/Y. Within the discretionary sector, Consumer Durables and Apparel has grown +23.2% Y/Y which has offset the Automobiles and Components industry shrinking by -5.5% Y/Y. In Financials, banks have declined -22.0% Y/Y, the lowest of any subsector outside of Real Estate Management. Contributing to this has been the steady weathering of net interest income in the industry due to a decline in both loans and deposits. By contrast, insurance companies have risen +20.3% Y/Y amidst

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

lower catastrophe rates. In conclusion, this has been an especially healthy quarter for US earnings and appears encouraging for results in the near term.

PERFORMANCE AND FIRM DISCLOSURES:

This material is for recipient use only. Smith Group is not soliciting any action based upon it.

The material is based upon information we consider reliable, but we do not represent that it is accurate or complete and it should not be relied upon as such. Opinions included in this material are as of date of publication and are subject to change without prior notice. Firm: Originally founded in 1995, Smith Group Asset Management, LLC is now part of Cantor Fitzgerald, starting in July 2021. Smith Group is a registered investment advisor that specializes in equity investment management services. The firm manages assets for a diverse list of clients, which includes foundations, endowments, corporate pensions, public funds, multi-employer plans and high-net worth individuals. Effective Jan. 1, 2006, the firm was redefined to exclude wrap SMA business. Smith Group claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®). Smith Group has received a firm-wide verification for the period Jan. 1, 1996 - Dec. 31, 2022. GIPS® Advertising Guidelines were used to draft these disclosures. To receive a complete list and description of Smith Group's composites and/or a presentation that adheres to the GIPS standards, contact John Brim, CFA at (214) 880-4608, or write to Smith Group, 100 Crescent Court, Suite 1150, Dallas, TX 75201, or john@smithasset.com. Cantor Fitzgerald Large Cap Focused Equity Strategy (fka Cantor Smith Large Cap Core/Growth) - It is comprised of accounts whose primary objective is growth of principal by investing primarily in stock of large capitalization U.S. companies. Inclusion in this composite requires that accounts are in general not missing in excess of 5% of the firm's recommended portfolio. A portfolio manager will review for appropriateness of inclusion in the composite any account maintaining a cash position greater than 10% or missing in excess of 5% of the firm's recommended portfolio. The primary benchmark for these accounts should be the S&P 500 Index and the secondary benchmark should be the Russell 1000 Growth Index. The inception date for the composite is Jan. 1, 1992. The creation date for this composite is Jan. 1, 2004. At this time, the composite containing accounts that directed trading was closed, and those accounts were added to the composite containing accounts in which Smith Group has discretionary trading authority, creating a composite of all accounts invested in this particular strategy. Reporting Season Data: Information provided for the U.S. Large Cap universe is based on information we consider reliable and reflects the reported guarterly and annual earnings and revenue information of the median company in the respective group of companies. The information provided is not intended to reflect stock or portfolio performance but rather reflect the reported earnings and revenues of the median company and consensus earnings and revenues expectations as reported by Refinitiv Financial Services. Smith Group makes no claim of performance based on the reported data nor does Smith Group claim that any historic relationship between the reported earnings and revenues and consensus expectations will exist in the future. Performance and Indices: All performance returns include the impact of cash, cash equivalents, dividends and interest. The S&P 500, Russell 1000, Russell 1000 Growth and Russell 1000 Value, are unmanaged indices of the shares of large U.S. corporations. The Russell 2000, Russell 2000 Growth and Russell 2000 Value, are unmanaged indices of the shares of small U.S. corporations. The MSCI Europe Australia Far East (EAFE), MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) and MSCI All-Country World ex. U.S. (ACWI ex. U.S.) are a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index designed to measure the equity market performance of developed and emerging markets. All index performance includes capital appreciation and reinvested dividends and is presented gross of fees. Holdings, Economic Sectors and Characteristics: It should not be assumed that recommendations made in the future will be profitable or will equal the performance of the securities and economic sectors shown. A list of recommendations made within the last twelve months is available upon request. The information shown is not intended nor should it be construed to be a recommendation to buy or sell an individual security or economic sector. Any portfolio characteristics or holdings that are shown are intended to present the portfolio as it existed on the date of the report. You should not assume that these same characteristics or holdings will exist in the future.

Past performance is not indicative of future results. As with any investment vehicle, there is always a potential for profit as well as the possibility of loss. Actual results may differ from composite returns, depending on account size, investment guidelines and/or restrictions, inception date and other factors. Nothing contained in this presentation should be construed as a recommendation to buy or sell a security or economic sector.

This message is intended only for the designated recipient(s). It may contain confidential, privileged or proprietary information. This message does not constitute an offering for investment interests. This message is not, and under no circumstances is to be construed as, a prospectus, advertisement or public offering of investment interests. If you are not a designated recipient, you may not review, copy or distribute this message. If you receive this message in error, please notify the sender by reply email and delete this message. Thank you.