THE PLATINUM STOCK SET TO DELIVER 10X YOUR MONEY

Bill Patalon









From: William Patalon III, Executive Editor, *Money Morning*

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Dear Reader,

We've recently identified a gold-market anomaly so rare that we've seen this only two other times over the last 20 years.

And both times it created billions in wealth - \$1.25 billion the first time and \$6 billion the second - virtually overnight.

Now this window has popped open for just the third time in two decades – and this time around we're projecting the biggest windfall of all.

That's why we've dubbed it "The \$13 Billion Gold Market Anomaly."

And here's the one stock that will allow you to play it...

Out of Whack but Still on Track

When I'm analyzing stocks to recommend, I have one basic rule that I keep in mind.

The greater the number of potential "triggers," the bigger the possible backend bang.

In other words, find a public company that's got a whole bunch of "triggers" (potential-share-price catalysts) lining up in its favor, and you've very likely found a stock with <u>massive</u> windfall potential.

We've identified several "Gold Market Anomaly" beneficiaries – and we've emailed them to you, and you can find them on the *Private Briefing* Investor Briefing Dashboard. But one in particular grabbed our attention.

It's a mining giant known as **Anglo American PLC (OTC ADR: NGLOY)** – and it's poised to deliver an ultimate "backend bang" of 700%.

Or more.

All the "triggers" are telling me so.

Let me detail all **seven** of these triggers.

And I'll start with the biggest trigger of all – the anomaly itself.

Anglo American Trigger No. 1: The "Gold Anomaly"

Although we call this a "Gold Market Anomaly," the metal that creates this windfall "window" is really platinum.

Platinum is considered a precious metal. And while its name is derived from the Spanish term *platina* – or "little silver" – its rarity has earned it the moniker "**rich man's gold.**"

Indeed, platinum is about <u>30 times rarer</u> than gold – which is why only a few hundred metric tons are produced each year. And it's why, under normal circumstances, it's <u>more expensive</u> than gold.

Insiders describe this "special" relationship as the **gold-to-platinum ratio**. And because gold is usually less than platinum, this ratio is usually expressed as a fraction – roughly 7/10ths.

But right now, in a situation that happens only a few times a generation, the ratio is <u>reversed</u>, and gold is the higher-priced metal.

It won't stay that way.

Indeed, our projections are showing that the ratio will return to normal. And when that happens, you can bet that platinum prices will explode – like fireworks on the **Fourth of July**.

Let me paint you a picture of the first two anomalies.

In the first, in 1996, when the gold-platinum ratio returned to normal and the "spread" between the two metals widened, platinum prices exploded – soaring from \$378 an ounce to \$640 an ounce, a 69% surge.

This saga played out again in 2008, when gold prices temporarily rocketed past platinum. But when the ratio returned to normal, platinum skyrocketed from \$800 an ounce to more than \$1,800 an ounce, a gain of better than 125% as platinum outperformed gold by 200%.

That brings us to what's happening right now.

The price of platinum has again dropped below that of gold, setting us up for the third platinum snapback in 20 years – and another round of hefty platinum trading profits.

In fact, as I'll show you in just a moment, this could well be the biggest profit play of all.

Right now, gold is trading at roughly \$1,230 an ounce, while platinum is priced right around \$931.

So instead of the usual gold-platinum ratio of 7/10ths, the ratio right now is actually about 1.32.

Given that historical norm, with gold currently trading at \$1,230 an ounce, platinum should be trading at about \$1,684.

And that means platinum <u>should</u> soar about 81% to achieve its usual "equilibrium" relationship in the ratio.

Should...

Truth be told, we see an even bigger potential run for platinum – because we're forecasting it to double... or better.

In part because of our next "trigger"...

Anglo American Trigger No. 2: That Boring Thing Called "Demand"

If you've ever taken an **Econ 101** class, you know that price is a function of supply and demand.

With platinum, overall demand is rising slowly – at a couple of percentage points a year. And this year it's expected to rise to 8.25 million ounces.

Two subsets of that – industrial demand and investment demand – are rising at much faster rates.

Investment demand is surging by a substantive 45,000 ounces to a total of 350,000 ounces – thanks to interest in platinum coins and bars and metal demand spurred by exchange-traded funds (ETFs).

While all this is going on, the amount of platinum mined was projected to fall about 3% this year to about 6 million ounces.

That mismatch – the mined supply that falls short of demand – is known as the "platinum deficit."

And in 2016 – for the fifth year in a row – there will be a deficit. Indeed, the **World Platinum Investment Council (WPIC)** just boosted its shortfall estimate for this year by a hefty 16% – to 520,000 ounces.

Some of the deficit – the shortfall between how much platinum is needed and how much is mined – is made up via recycled metal... that is, material recovered from old catalytic converters or other sources that's reprocessed for reuse.

Some of the rest of the "deficit" is offset by platinum inventories held in vaults by investors. They sell their holdings to meet needs - a willingness that's helped hold down platinum prices of late.

But after five years of deficits, those "aboveground" inventories are shrinking.

In fact, the WPIC says these aboveground stores of platinum have been slashed in half over the last 60 months – and currently totals about 1.87 million ounces.

And investors are becoming less inclined to sell platinum right now – believing prices will be higher in the future.

And a number of factors coming into play are threatening to destabilize the supply-demand equation for platinum – a reality that points to higher prices in both the near term... and after.

In the near term, these three variables bear watching:

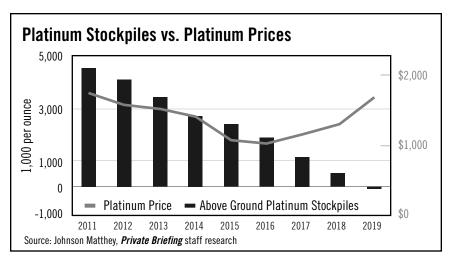
- Production cutbacks: In September, for instance, leading platinum player Anglo American Platinum Ltd. (OTC ADR:
 ANGPY) shut down a smelter responsible for 20% of its refined platinum capacity. This production cutback by a platinum miner (Anglo American our investment recommendation here owns a stake in Anglo American Platinum) will only exacerbate the shortfall.
- Labor strife: The potential for a miners' strike in South Africa

 which accounts for 73% of the world's mined platinum could further crimp the amount of the metal available. In the first part of 2014, for instance, an ugly 20-week strike cut the year's global platinum output by a quarter and ignited metals prices.
- Recycling reductions: According to the most recent estimates, the supply of recycled platinum is projected to fall 2% this year. Because recovered metal helps offset mining drops, this could help widen the "platinum deficit" and bump up the metal's market price.

In the longer term, there's a stark reality that could help fuel a rebound in platinum prices.

According to a report by the consultants at **PricewaterhouseCoopers** (**PwC**), platinum miners began their investment cutbacks in 2008 (compared with 2013 for the rest of the mining industry).

"Low margins have meant that platinum companies have often not been able to fund existing development commitments from cash generated from operations," PwC said in that report. "Cash that could otherwise have been used for new developments was used for survival during the prolonged industrial actions in 2012 to 2014, resulting in weaker balance sheets."



That means the mined supply of platinum will actually fall between now and 2020 – even as demand rises every year. The WPIC says this failure to invest will come home to roost over the next six years, resulting in "an imbalance that should help drive higher metal prices."

Here's where this "boring old concept" of demand becomes quite exciting.

Industrial demand consumes 50% of annual platinum production.

And one of the metal's biggest uses is in the catalytic converters used in cars, trucks, buses and every other type of vehicle manufactured.

Catalytic converters help turn poisonous car and truck emissions into less harmful gas. And the market is a big one: It's projected to reach \$272 billion by 2024.

About 85 million new cars and trucks are built worldwide each year – and each one must have a catalytic converter.

And platinum is needed to make fiberglass, liquid-crystal displays (LCDs), flat-panel displays and cathode ray tubes – even hard drives for computers. In fact, platinum metals are found in practically every electronic – and microelectronic – technology known to man.

Industry isn't the only sector with a big appetite for platinum: There's also the jewelry business. Platinum jewelry sales are expected

to rise in 2016, driven by demand growth in **India**, the **United States** and **Western Europe**.

I'm not the only one saying this. **Creamer Media's Mining Weekly** is saying the same thing, noting that "the platinum-mining industry is not mining anywhere near the forecast demand of nine-million ounces by 2025, the nominal global demand quantum based on a modest compound annual growth rate of only 1.5%."

We started this section on **Anglo American Trigger No. 2** with a reference to **Econ 101**.

So we'll circle back and end this section there, too.

And when demand for something is rising as the supplies are crimped, prices can head in only one direction – higher.

And we believe platinum – just from these "normal" catalysts – is headed higher.

Indeed, we believe that, based just on these normalized factors, platinum will trade up to \$2,178 an ounce by 2020 - 135% above where it's trading right now.

That's a big surge.

But here we're not investing directly in platinum.

Instead, we're investing in **Anglo American**, the miner whose business will benefit from this run-up.

And any improvement the company sees in its sales and earnings because of a ramp-up in platinum prices will be supercharged – multiplied – by our next trigger...

Anglo American Trigger No. 3: When You Hit Rock Bottom

In my 1998 book *Contrarian Investing: How to Buy and Sell When Others Won't and Make Money Doing It*, I expressed repeatedly my love for "turnaround stocks" – something Wall Street refers to as "restructuring stories."

I love them because investors hate them – which means they dump the troubled companies, drive down their share prices and allow us to buy them at flea market prices.

That cheap entry price supercharges our gain when the company turns itself around.

Of course, for that rosy scenario to play out, the troubled company has to have a turnaround plan that it's "working."

Anglo American has that.

But before we detail that turnaround, we have to understand how the company got into its present predicament.

In other words, we need to understand how a firm that was once one of the world's most powerful mining firms hit "rock bottom."

Let me do that by sharing the Anglo American tale...

The firm is now based in **London**.

But it was founded in **South Africa** by **Ernest Oppenheimer** in 1917. The company grew and increased its reach and its market power. And by the 1980s, Oppenheimer's son **Harry** controlled a massive conglomerate, with mining and finance as two of its biggest businesses.

Oppenheimer's companies dominated the South African stock exchange and were worth 30% of its total market capitalization. They were so big, so influential and had such an impact on South Africa's economy that Oppenheimer's empire was known as "The Octopus."

We all know, of course, how terrible apartheid was for the majority of South African citizens.

It had an odd impact on the country's businesses, too. Because of sanctions and U.N. restrictions, South African companies were confined within the country's own borders, meaning they couldn't invest abroad.

So they invested in each other – creating complicated cross-holdings, according to the *The Economist*.

"Besides mining, for example, Anglo American was involved in beer, banking, insurance and media," the magazine wrote in a 2006 analysis. "Similarly, **South African Breweries (SAB)** – which counted Anglo American among its shareholders – had interests in hotels and retail chains, and also manufactured shoes, furniture, textiles and matches."

The isolation also protected South African firms from global competition.

The 1990 release of **Nelson Mandela**, and the lifting of sanctions a year later, transformed that market. And not all the firms could compete.

The effect could clearly be seen on Anglo American, which in 1999 had moved its base to **London**, right after Mandela became president.

The mining company had become soft. Bureaucrats, not mining experts, were running the company. And those bureaucrats missed the memo about **China's** soaring economic growth – and its voracious appetite for commodities – meaning Anglo American got freight-trained by its rivals.

When **Cynthia Carroll** became CEO in 2007, it seemed that Anglo American was in a constant panic mode. (As one expert sardonically told me: "I can just imagine the board meetings... people screaming at each other... panicked cries of 'We *have* to catch up to **Rio Tinto** and **BHP Billiton!**' And the Johnny-Come-Latelies saying: 'Hey, have you heard about what's going on over in China!'")

The result was so very predictable – the kind of outcome you expect when anyone tries to play "catch-up."

Anglo added a lot of mining assets, buying in at peak valuations – just before the commodities rout.

If you want an example, look at the company's purchase of the **Minas-Rio** giant iron ore mine in **Brazil**...

The facility cost \$8.3 billion to develop and has resulted in more than \$10 billion in write-downs. Minas-Rio is also the chief culprit in Anglo American's net debt reaching \$13.5 billion.

Back in February, when Anglo reported its financial results for 2015, it announced a record pretax loss of \$5.5 billion. That loss was driven, in large part, by \$7.2 billion in exceptional charges.

Not surprisingly, after this earnings bombshell, **Moody's** downgraded Anglo American's bonds to "junk" status. It also pinned a negative outlook on the company. The other ratings agencies — **Standard & Poor's** and **Fitch Ratings** — followed with the very same downgrade.

Anglo American's shares hit rock bottom – down 75% from their peak.

But once you hit absolute rock bottom, you can bounce back – if you have a plan.

And that brings us to **Trigger No. 4** – a "diet" that's just for companies...

Anglo American Trigger No. 4: The "Cutifani Diet"

If you have a company that's poised to benefit from a price improvement of its main product, and you simultaneously "fix" the problems that are holding the organization back, the rewards for stockholders can be substantial.

And with Anglo American at its corporate low point, **CEO Mark Cutifani** has initiated what I call the "**Cutifani Diet**" for his firm.

The old business model of mining a wide swath of metals is gone, as are 85,000 jobs. Cutifani's plan is to reduce the number of mining operations it runs to 16 from 45. And now Anglo American will focus on world-class assets in just three areas — **diamonds**, **platinum** and **copper**.

As Cutifani said in February, the restructuring is "about changing the balance sheet."

In other words: **Keep your best-performing assets and sell everything else.**

The albatross that is **Minas-Rio**, the giant iron ore mine in **Brazil**, will be sold (hopefully) "within two or three years," he has said.

Anglo American will also exit the **coal** business, which accounted for a third of its underlying earnings last year. It has coal operations in **South Africa**, **Australia** and **Colombia**.

Also on the chopping block are its nickel operations, the controlling stake in **Kumba Iron Ore** in South Africa, and Anglo American's stake in the **Samanacor** business controlled by another miner, **South 32**.

But Cutifani isn't just dumping these unwanted assets. For instance, the company already reaped \$1.5 billion – well above expectations – by selling its **niobium** and **phosphate** operations in Brazil to **China Molybdenum**.

And now he is using the huge rallies we've seen in the price of bulk commodities like **iron ore** and **coking coal** this year to obtain a higher return for Anglo American shareholders.

The spot price for coking coal just topped \$300 a ton for the first time in five years, and the iron ore spot price is up <u>57%</u> in 2016. Both are surging on the back of better-than-anticipated demand from **China** and **India**.

So Cutifani and Anglo can be patient and wait for a multibillion-dollar payout on those assets it holds from fellow miners like **BHP Billiton**. Meanwhile, the extra cash these assets are pulling in this year will eat away at Anglo American's debt pile.

Granted, the company's South African coal and iron ore assets will be a tough sale because of that country's tough climates in both politics and labor. Here again, however, Cutifani is being smart: He's looking at either a multibillion-dollar spinoff of those assets – or having a local buyer, backed by the government, take them off Anglo's hands.

The company that emerges from this "diet" will be very different – but much more competitive (see graphic).

The assets the company is keeping are its best.

A Bloated Miner Goes on the "Cutifani Diet"

Anglo American CEO Mark Cutifani has initiated what we're referring to as "Cutifani Diet" for his company. The diet is actually a big corporate restructuring plan that was announced in December 2015. The reorganization will slash costs by 60% and will cut the company's worker ranks from 135,000 down to 50,000. And as the accompanying graphic shows, this restructuring plan will transform Anglo American from a mining conglomerate with no sector leadership into a slimmed-down player with only three businesses: platinum, copper and diamonds.



^{*}Operating profit before exceptional items.

Source: The Financial Times, Private Briefing Staff Research

^{**}Pro forma ebitda

^{***}Forecast based on ebitda

Anglo American is retaining its copper mining assets in **Chile**, which looks smart. Copper is finally catching up to its industrial metal peers and recently hit a one-year high at \$5,355 per ton.

Anglo American owns the company that is synonymous with diamond business – **De Beers Group**.

Although it no longer dominates the global diamond business as it once did, De Beers still is the world's largest supplier of rough diamonds by value.

Together with its joint-venture partner, De Beers developed the largest diamond mine in the world in the past 10 years – the **Gahcho Kue** mine in **Canada**, which officially opened in September. And being situated in Canada, the diamonds pulled from this mine will have no political stigma attached to them (think "blood diamonds").

Despite opening the new mine, De Beers – which grew output only 4% over the past year – wisely plans to keep a lid on production to keep profit margins high.

But the real key to the company's future – and the reason I'm so bullish on Anglo American – is its true crown jewel: the platinum business undertaken by its **Anglo American Platinum** division.

Angloplats is the world's largest primary producer of platinum, accounting for about 37% of annual global supply.

The area where Anglo's mines are located – South Africa's **Bushveld** region – is home to 70% of the world's known platinum resources. The company's **Mogalakwena Mine** is the single lowest cost dedicated platinum producer in the world.

Even without the "Gold Market Anomaly" I talked about earlier, this business figures to be healthy going forward – just on the basis of our expectations for industrial and jewelry demand.

Even ignoring the **gold-to-platinum ratio** for a moment, the platinum business looks to be very profitable going forward as demand from the industrial and jewelry sectors escalates.

Just consider the jewelry market, which is the second-biggest demand segment for platinum. It added 35.5 million incremental ounces to demand since 2001. Today, China is about a 1.8-million-ounce market, and demand in India is growing at a year-over-year rate of 28% – and has grown tenfold in just seven years.

Improving financial results will help boost Anglo American's stock price.

And **Wall Street** will turbocharge that rally with one of its patented "upgrade cycles." That's something I'm already seeing — which is why it is "**Trigger No. 5**"…

Anglo American Trigger No. 5: The "Upgrade Cycle"

Before I started running an investing service, I spent 22 years as a business journalist – most of it covering public companies.

And during that time I learned all the games that Wall Street plays.

One of my favorites is the "Upgrade Cycle."

With a few exceptions, sell-side analysts never get anything first.

They're almost always late to the party.

When a company gets in trouble, analysts abandon it in droves with downgrades to "Sell" status – but usually only after maximum damage has been inflicted on investors who waited for these analysts to tell them when to sell.

We saw this during the financial crisis of 2008-'09. It was only after all the problems came to light with corporations and credit-default swaps (CDS) that analysts slapped "Sell" ratings on troubled companies.

Conversely, Wall Streeters tend not to start upgrading a stock to "Buy" or "Strong Buy" until after its rebound is already well underway.

Don't wait for that to happen here.

Wall Street is nibbling a bit.

Back in May, for instance, **Moody's** switched Anglo American's outlook to "**positive**."

And on Wednesday – in a true stunner of a move – **Goldman Sachs** swapped its rating on Anglo American from "**Sell**" to "**Buy.**"

That's an aggressive "about-face" – something you almost never seen from big investment banks.

But other analysts are still tepid on the shares. And that means you have time.

By starting to "Accumulate" shares now – initiating a "base" position and then adding to it on pullbacks – or by making your full "Buy" now, you'll have your stake. Then you can let other investors do the "heavy lifting" when the "Upgrade Cycle" starts.

After Anglo shares have rallied, you'll start to see investment banks shifting from "Sell" to "Hold" to "Buy" to "Strong Buy" – revving up the rally and driving the value of your stake higher in a big way. Those upgrades will keep drawing in new money, creating a flood of liquidity that you can just sit back and enjoy.

And it's going to happen.

In fact, one particular investing "sect" – a group I refer to as the "True Smart Money Crowd" – is so certain of this bullish scenario that they're already positioning themselves to profit.

As "Trigger No. 6" shows...

Anglo American Trigger No. 6: Buy With the "Smart Money"

As I discovered while researching and writing *Contrarian Investing: Buy and Sell When Others Won't and Make Money Doing It*, on a beatendown stock there's one indicator that's the best "Buy" signal of all.

I'm talking about open-market purchases by corporate insiders.

Study after study will demonstrate that insiders know better than anyone when to buy for a rebound.

Already this year, we've seen Anglo American insider buys by CEO Cutifani, by outgoing De Beers Chief Philippe Miller, by incoming De Beers Chief Bruce Cleaver, and by four other directors of the company.

It doesn't end there.

There's also a very significant "proxy" for corporate insiders.

I've referred to them as "knowledgeable outsiders"... as "activist investors"... and even as "Legal Frontrunners."

Call them what you want... but here's the bottom line.

This, too, is the "smart money" set.

And it's the one slice of the "institutional" investing crowd that we keep an eye on.

And these "Legal Frontrunners" are casting their votes for an Anglo American turnaround.

Because of the length of this research report, I'll just offer you a summary.

Clearly, the big-money insiders know what's going on here.

In fact, as I was putting this report together, I found that numerous hedge funds have taken massive positions in this miner.

These folks clearly believe that platinum prices will surge because of the supply-demand imbalance, and because of the "Gold Market Anomaly." And they also believe that any stock-price gains that emanate from a surging platinum market will be revved up by the "diet" and corporate turnaround Cutifani is engineering.

But these "smart-money" investors are also aware of the stratospheric gains that could be attained if one other scenario plays out.

This scenario is a true "longshot" – which is why I refer to it as a "wild card."

But it's still worth a look, because Anglo American shares would truly "go vertical" under this scenario.

I detail it in this next – and final – "trigger"...

Anglo American Trigger No. 7: The "Wild Card"

The **Donald Trump** presidency will change everything.

This "outsider" wants to revitalize our roads and bridges. And he's going to do so with an infrastructure-investment program that's going to rev up U.S. economic growth, cause the deficit to swell and probably jump-start inflation.

In some ways, Anglo American is a quintessential "Trump Stock."

The bond market is already signaling all of this.

But the gold market seems uncertain.

For now...

Perhaps it needs some proof that **U.S. President Donald Trump** can put together a spending plan that will ignite growth – and inflation.

I believe he will.

And when the market "gets it," gold will start to zoom.

And if the "wild card" scenario plays out (and, again, I underscore that this is a true long shot), platinum will soar out of sight.

There are some aggressive forecasts right now calling for gold to hit \$5,000 an ounce. If that happens – and the "Gold Market Anomaly" disappears – we're talking about platinum prices as high as \$6,700 an ounce.

And maybe more.

Take a look at the chart on the next page.

As you can see, throughout history, a bear market in gold has been followed by a "median" average gold-price spike of 451%.

So if history holds true...

And if gold prices move 450% higher like they have on average...

WHY GOLD IS DUE FOR AN HISTORIC BULL RUN NOW							
January 1970 - Present				Source: World Gold Council, U.S. Global Investors			
BULL MARKET			Ŷ	BEAR MARKET			
DATES	LENGTH (MONTHS)	CUMMULATIVE RETURN		DATES	LENGTH (MONTHS)	CUMMULATIVE RETURN	
Jan. 1970 - Jan. 1975	61	451.4%		Jan. 1975 - Sep. 1976	20	- 46.4%	
Oct. 1976 - Feb. 1980	41	721.3%		Feb. 1980 - Mar. 1985	61	- 55.9%	
Mar. 1985 - Dec. 1987	33	75.8%		Dec. 1987 - Mar. 1993	63	- 34.7%	
Apr. 1993 - Feb. 1996	35	27.2%		Feb. 1993 - Sep. 1999	43	- 39.1%	
Oct. 1999 - Sep. 2011	144	649.6%		Sep. 2011 - Present	52	- 44.1%	
AVERAGE	63	385.1%		AVERAGE	47	- 44.0%	
MEDIAN	41	451.4%	ļ	MEDIAN	52	- 42.7%	

We not only could see gold reach \$5,665 per ounce in the coming bull market but also see platinum race up to \$7,591 an ounce as the gold-platinum ratio reverts to the norm.

Put together all of the changes at Anglo American and its 6.7 million ounces of platinum group metals reserves – whose value will soar as platinum does – and you have the makings of a trade that comes along just a couple times in every investor's career.

We've already seen hints of what's to come, because Anglo American...

- Will see its cash flow for this year exceed \$2 billion the first time this has happened in five years.
- Will see a net-income jump of 28% next year, according to an
 estimate from a JPMorgan Chase analyst. And if this "wild card"
 scenario plays out, that'll be way too low.
- And is seeing all the buying by insiders and "smart money" outsiders who make these purchases not for a point or two, but for windfall gains. And the insiders, in particular, are better positioned than anyone to know when such gains are possible.

The **American Depository Receipt (ADR)** shares of Anglo American are already up 225% year-to-date.

But this is just the beginning.

It is still down huge from its peak price. In fact, the stock could rise by another 700%... and it would still be below that peak price.

And if the turnaround takes hold (as we believe it will), if the "Gold Market Anomaly" reverts (as we predict) and if the "wild card" scenario plays out (a long shot, but possible): What could happen then to Anglo American's share price?

I'll leave that to your imagination...

[Editor's Note: Start to "Accumulate" shares now – initiating a "base" position and then adding to it on pullbacks. By averaging in with this "split-entry" strategy – and giving yourself a "window" of 18 months to two years – you can avoid being shaken out by our usual 25% "trailing stop" strategy. Don't overload. And don't chase the stock.]

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MMP1116-703 WEB