

The Zacks Analyst Blog Highlights: Accuray Incorporated.

The Associated Press

Zacks.com announces the list of stocks featured in the Analyst Blog. Every day the Zacks Equity Research analysts discuss the latest news and events impacting stocks and the financial markets. Stocks recently featured in the blog include Toyota Motor Corporation (NYSE:TM), Ford Motor Co. (NYSE:F), General Motors Company (NYSE:GM), Honda Motor Co. (NYSE:HMC) and Accuray Incorporated (Nasdaq:ARAY).

(Logo: <http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20101027/ZIRLOGO>) Get the most recent insight from Zacks Equity Research with the free Profit from the Pros newsletter: <http://at.zacks.com/?id=5513> Here are highlights from Friday's Analyst Blog: Toyota to Intro Hybrid Avalon Toyota Motor Corporation (NYSE:TM) has announced that it will introduce a gas-electric hybrid version of its new Avalon sedan. With a capacity for five people, the vehicle will get roughly 40 miles per gallon (mpg) of gasoline on the highway and 39 mpg on the freeway.

The standard version of Toyota Avalon with 3.5-Liter V-6 engine and 268 horsepower will get 25 mpg in combined city-highway and 31 on the freeway. On the other hand, the hybrid vehicle is equipped with two electric motor-generators, gasoline engine and 200 horsepower.

Fuel efficiency plays a major role in determining the choice of vehicles by the consumers. Generally, consumers shift their preference to midsized cars owing to the mileage offered by the vehicle. The new hybrid Avalon runs with a combination of gas and electricity. It can go on for one mile with 25 mpg solely on electric source.

The new hybrid Avalon with advanced technology and stunning design ensures both high level of comfort and dynamic performance to its customers. Toyota expects higher sales owing to the launch of the new hybrid Avalon. The vehicle will be manufactured in the U.S. and will be more efficient than the existing model which is priced at \$33,195.

Toyota's major competitor Ford Motor Co.'s (NYSE:F) 2013 Ford Taurus with a new 2.0-liter EcoBoost four-cylinder engine has been empowered to deliver 32 mpg on highway. Recently, Taurus has been certified by Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as the class leading in a large sedan city and as a highway fuel efficient vehicle.

Japan-based Toyota is the leading automaker in the world in terms of sales and production. Its product portfolio consists of a full range of models from passenger cars, mini vans and trucks as well as related parts and accessories. The company's other competitors include General Motors Company (NYSE:GM) and Honda Motor

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Co. (NYSE:HMC).

Toyota Motor occupies the number one position in hybrid cars market.

It focuses on hybrid and environmental-friendly vehicles such as electric and fuel cell vehicles with the vision of enriching the people's traveling experience with improved technologies.

Currently, Toyota retains a Zacks #1 Rank, which translates into a short-term (1 to 3 months) "Strong Buy" rating. We have a long-term (more than 6 months) "Outperform" recommendation on the stock.

Milestone for Accuray's TomoTherapy Leading radiosurgery systems maker Accuray Incorporated (Nasdaq:ARAY) recently reported that medical practitioners at the University of California, San Francisco ("UCSF") Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center have started to treat patients with its popular TomoTherapy Systems. The latest addition has enabled the center to offer more dynamic and effective cancer treatment, enhancing patient outcomes.

The UCSF installed its first 3D image-guided, intensity modulated radiation therapy ("IG-IMRT"), TomoTherapy System last month. The center also uses Accuray's CyberKnife Robotic Radiosurgery System along with other equipments to provide a complete range of cancer care technologies.

The TomoTherapy Systems are unique fully integrated and advanced radiation therapy systems used for treating all types of cancers. It provides precise and safe radiation therapy by combining computed tomography ("CT") imaging and radiation treatment delivery in a single device, thereby lowering side effects.

Accuray is a global leader in the field of radiosurgery and provides a non-surgical treatment option for patients diagnosed with cancer. Most of the company's growth comes from acquiring market share from its rivals for two of its flagship products, the Cyberknife and the TomoTherapy Systems.

The company acquired Wisconsin-based radiation system maker TomoTherapy in June 2011. The acquisition has bolstered Accuray's foothold in the radiation oncology space. The merger marked the union of TomoTherapy's unique radiation therapies and Accuray's popular radiosurgery systems to create a leading player in this market. The combined entity is now offering state-of-the-art therapies, ranging from high-precision radiosurgery to image-guided intensity-modulated radiation therapy for treating cancer and other diseases.

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