

Apple

# Stock Market Project:Technology

# Economic Sector: Technology

### **History:**

Technology is such an integral part of all aspects of our daily lives that the sector is virtually certain to have more days in the sun. Despite this, many investors still look with great suspicion at mutual funds that concentrate in this sector, wondering if the bottom might fall out on them again. This article will examine the nature and composition of technology funds, as well as how they performed both before and after the market downturn in 2000.

The tech sector is a relatively new corner of the market, and did not come into its own until the 1990s. As mentioned in the introduction, technology funds had their heyday in the late 1990s, when many of them reaped enormous gains from 1996-1999, and then flamed out spectacularly in the following years. Some funds posted astronomical losses, while others, such as the Alliance Technology fund, became embroiled in the accounting scandals that went hand-in-hand with the market decline.

Although there are exceptions, most technology funds tend to seek companies that fall into one of two categories. The first category is comprised of larger, more established technology companies that have strong cash flow and substantial market share. The second category contains companies (usually smaller ones) that have developed new ideas or patents that analysts believe will provide significant potential for growth. The volatility inherent in this sector often results in high portfolio turnover, which is usually greater than that of funds in other sectors, such as energy or consumer staples.

Technology funds also tend to be volatile, although their price movements have historically been relatively tangential to the overall markets. When the broader market rises, the tech funds will often appreciate sharply; the same thing applies in reverse in <u>bear markets</u>. Several different benchmark indexes have been created in the tech sector in recent years, such as the S&P North American Technology Sector Index and the Goldman Sachs Technology Sector Index.

#### Read more:

http://www.investopedia.com/articles/mutualfund/08/tech-sector-funds.asp#ixzz2BZHKr1wv

#### 10 Key Technology Companies

| Top Holdings                | Link to Website  | Recent News                                |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| APPLE INC                   | http://investor.apple.com/   | http://finance.yahoo.com/q?s=AAPL          |
| MICROSOFT CORP              | http://www.microsoft.com/investor/<br>default.aspx                   | http://finance.yahoo.com/q?<br>s=MSFT&ql=1 |
| INTL BUSINESS MACHINES CORP | http://www.ibm.com/investor/?lnk=fif-<br>inve-usen                   | http://finance.yahoo.com/q?<br>s=IBM&ql=0  |
| GOOGLE INC=CLA              | http://investor.google.com/  | http://finance.yahoo.com/q?s=GOOG<br>&ql=0 |
| ORACLE CORP                 | http://www.oracle.com/us/corporate/<br>investor-relations/index.html | http://finance.yahoo.com/q?s=ORCL&<br>ql=0 |
| INTEL CORP                  | http://www.intc.com/   | http://finance.yahoo.com/q?<br>s=INTC&ql=0 |
| QUALCOMM INC                | http://investor.qualcomm.com/<br>results.cfm                         | http://finance.yahoo.com/q?s=QCOM<br>&ql=0 |
| CISCO SYSTEMS INC           | http://investor.cisco.com/   | http://finance.yahoo.com/q?<br>s=CSCO&ql=0 |
| EMC CORP/MA                 | http://www.emc.com/corporate/<br>investor-relations/index.htm        | http://finance.yahoo.com/q?<br>s=EMC&ql=0  |
| TEXAS INSTRUMENTS INC       | http://investor.ti.com/  | http://finance.yahoo.com/q?<br>s=TXN&ql=0  |

#### 52 Week Analysis of Apple, Google and Microsoft Stocks



Apple Inc.

#### 52 Week Comparison of Apple, Google, and Microsoft with the S&P 500, NASDAQ, and DOW Averages



## **Recommended Investments:**

- Enim ridiculus aliquet penatibus amet, tellus at morbi, mi hac, mus sit mauris facere.<sup>1</sup> Natoque et. Sit nam duis montes, arcu pede elit molestie, amet quisque sed egestas urna non, vestibulum nibh suspendisse.
  - Praesent integer leo orci aliquam, nibh a. Diam nobis eget, erat natoque integer fringilla viverra. Fermentum pede fringilla urna semper, pede quam scelerisque et enim in commodo, dictum a consequatur arcu.