

# PETROHAWK ENERGY CORP

NYSE: HK  
Industry: Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels

**SABRIENT**  
**STRONG**  
**SELL**  
**RATING**

## Stock Fundamentals as of May 26, 2009

Sabrient Rating	<b>Strong Sell</b>
Ticker	<b>HK</b>
Market Cap Designation	<b>Large-cap</b>
Market Capitalization (Billions)	<b>\$6.5</b>
Price	<b>\$23.71</b>
52-Week High/Low	<b>\$54.49/8.49</b>
EPS (TTM)	<b>\$-5.22</b>
P/E Ratio (TTM)	<b>N/A</b>
Dividend Yield	<b>N/A</b>
S&P 500 P/E Ratio	<b>20.9</b>
Price/Book Ratio	<b>2.3</b>
Price/Sales Ratio	<b>5.7</b>
30-Day Average Volume (Millions)	<b>5.2</b>
Beta	<b>0.70</b>
Current Ratio	<b>1.2</b>
Short Interest Ratio	<b>2.2</b>
Shares Outstanding (Millions)	<b>275.6</b>

### Sabrient Ratings

Sabrient's Buy/Hold/Sell ratings are based on a combination of dynamic filters that determine which attributes of a stock are most predictive in the prevailing market and which stocks best reflect those attributes but are not yet rewarded.

Sabrient starts with an "extraction" process that uses the best performing filters to identify stocks having certain compelling attributes currently sought by the market. Then, a composite scoring process uses a weighted average of several key scores to quantify the relative likelihood of upside or downside price action. As a result, the Buy/Hold/Sell rating may, in certain cases, seem inconsistent with a simple average of the scores cited in this analysis.

A BUY rating means the stock is expected to outperform its relevant benchmark substantially over the next 6 months. A SELL rating means the stock is expected to underperform its relevant benchmark substantially over the next 6 months. A HOLD rating means the stock is expected to perform in line with its relevant benchmark over the next 6 months.

If a stock is rated HOLD, the investor should review the stock's history of Sabrient ratings to see if it has recently changed to HOLD from BUY or SELL. If so, this indicates one of the following: (1) there has been a significant change in the stock's fundamentals, (2) the stock is already appropriately rewarded or punished by the market, or (3) there simply has been some recent price consolidation that warrants attention. A reading of Sabrient's analysis should identify which it is.

More about Sabrient on Page 4

### Sabrient's Market Cap Designations

Large Cap	> \$5.0 Billion
Mid Cap	\$1.0 - \$5.0 Billion
Small Cap	\$150 Million - \$1.0 Billion
Micro Cap	< \$150.0 Million

Report prepared on **May 27, 2009** Page 1

Please see important disclaimer on page 5 of this report.

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## PETROHAWK ENERGY CORP



## Company Profile

Petrohawk Energy Corporation engages in the exploration, development, and production of oil and natural gas properties in the United States. The company holds interests in various properties primarily located in North Louisiana, Arkansas, South Texas, East Texas, Oklahoma and the Permian basin.

**Earnings and Revenue Update:** For the quarter ended March 31, 2009, Petrohawk reported earnings of \$-999.8 million or \$-3.87 per share compared with \$-545.1 million or \$-2.18 per share for the prior quarter and \$-55.6 million or \$-0.30 per share for the same quarter one year ago. Revenues were \$263.5 million for the quarter ended March 31, 2009 compared with \$270.7 million for the prior quarter and \$214.9 million for the same quarter one year ago. Last twelve months' earnings were \$-5.22 per share compared with \$0.13 per share a year ago. Last twelve months' revenues were \$1.1 billion compared with \$889.1 million a year ago.

## Sabrient Analysis

Sabrient rates HK a Strong Sell based on its overall inferior scores on important metrics that point to weak future market performance.

- **Value:** With a Sabrient Value Score of 0, HK holds significant risk associated with overvaluation.
- **Momentum:** The company has a below-average Sabrient Momentum Score of 35.9. The score reflects price, earnings and group momentum.
- **Growth:** A score of 68.8 for the Sabrient Growth Score suggests that HK has good growth potential.
- **Timeliness:** This stock has a Sabrient Timeliness Score of 51.5. This is a composite measure of short-term and long-term price performance and long-term group performance.

Sabrient Analysis continued on Page 3

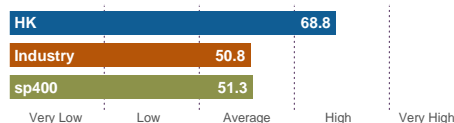
**Sabrient**

Leaders In Investment Research

## Current Sabrient Scores Compared with Industry and Relevant Benchmark

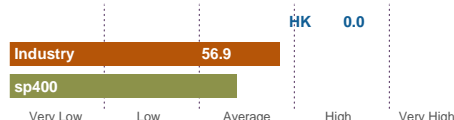
These Sabrient scores compare various aspects of PETROHAWK ENERGY CORP with its industry and relevant benchmarks. The scores are percentile rankings from 0 to 99.9. Higher scores are better. We use a weighted average of several key scores to quantify the relative likelihood of upside or downside price action. Therefore, the Sabrient rating may seem inconsistent with a simple average of the scores cited in this analysis.

### Growth Score: 68.8



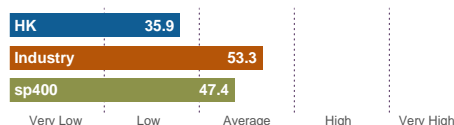
The Sabrient Growth Score reflects a company's historical and projected earnings growth, revenue and sales growth, projected cash flow, analyst activity, and changes in earnings estimates, each over various time periods. The higher the score, the better the combined performance of these key measures. With a Sabrient Growth Score of 68.8, Petrohawk is moderately higher than the average of its industry group, which has a Sabrient Growth Score of 50.8.

### Value Score: 0



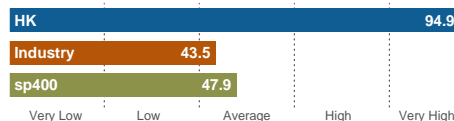
The Sabrient Value Score measures the relationship between a company's stock price and its intrinsic value, as indicated by earnings and balance sheet attributes, with an emphasis on earnings. Also considered are cash flow measures and fundamental valuation ratios. With a Sabrient Value Score of 0, Petrohawk is dramatically lower than the average of its industry group, which has a Sabrient Value Score of 56.9.

### Momentum Score: 35.9



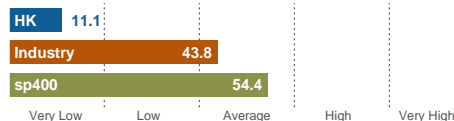
The Sabrient Momentum Score measures a company's earnings and price momentum, evenly weighted, and augmented by group strength, money flow, and relative volume. Core technical factors include current price relative to periodic highs and moving averages. With a Sabrient Momentum Score of 35.9, Petrohawk is moderately lower than the average of its industry group, which carries a Sabrient Momentum Score of 53.3.

### Earnings Score: 94.9



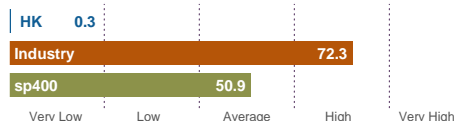
The Sabrient Earnings Score assesses a company's overall earnings performance and projected outlook. Time periods include an average look-back of three years with an emphasis on the past four quarters and a forward look of one to five years. With a Sabrient Earnings Score of 94.9, Petrohawk is dramatically higher than the average of its industry group, which has a Sabrient Earnings Score of 43.5.

### Balance Sheet Score: 11.1



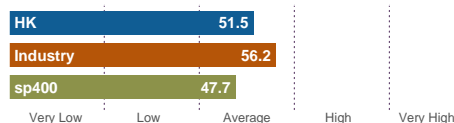
The Sabrient Balance Sheet Score measures a company's liquidity and debt issues, as well as receivables and inventory quality. This score is used to assess relative risk associated with a stock: the lower the score, most likely the higher the inherent risk. With a Sabrient Balance Sheet Score of 11.1, Petrohawk is well below the average of its industry group, which carries a Sabrient Balance Sheet Score of 43.8.

### Fundamental Score: 0.3



The Sabrient Fundamental Score is the broad measure of a company's financial health, including its balance sheet, cash flow, revenue, and earnings quality. With a Sabrient Fundamental Score of 0.3, Petrohawk is dramatically lower than the average of its industry group, which carries a Sabrient Fundamental Score of 72.3.

### Timeliness Score: 51.5



The Sabrient Timeliness Score is an assessment of a stock's short and long-term price strength as determined by various chart-based indicators and measures of group momentum and relative price performance. With a Sabrient Timeliness Score of 51.5, Petrohawk is marginally lower than the average of its industry group, which carries a Sabrient Timeliness Score of 56.2.

## Peer Analysis

This table compares HK with other similar-sized companies in the same industry group, focusing on Sabrient's growth, momentum and value scores, which represent the three main investing styles. The Peer Analysis chart compares HK's 2-year total return with the average 2-year total return of these companies.

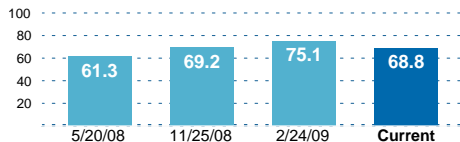


Symbol	Company	Growth Score	Momentum Score	Value Score	Market Cap.(B)
STOSY	Santos	50.2	33.3	38.3	\$8.5
RRC	Range Resources	92.8	47.2	5.9	\$6.8
UPL	Ultra Petroleum	97.7	22.4	18.8	\$6.8
<b>HK</b>	<b>PETROHAWK ENERGY CORP</b>	<b>68.8</b>	<b>35.9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$6.5</b>
PWE	Penn West	55.0	36.4	84.3	\$5.3
CLR	Continental Resources	18.9	37.4	4.7	\$4.6
NFX	Newfield	52.7	52.7	22.9	\$4.6

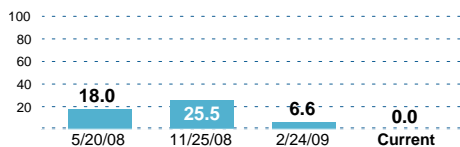
## Historical Sabrient Scores

The recent histories of key Sabrient scores provide insight into the stock's trends -- whether they are increasing or decreasing in strength in a particular area or simply holding steady. The Sabrient scores are percentile rankings from 0 to 99.9, with higher scores better. Keep in mind that Sabrient ratings may seem inconsistent with a simple average of these key scores because a weighted average of several key scores is used to quantify the relative likelihood of upside or downside price action.

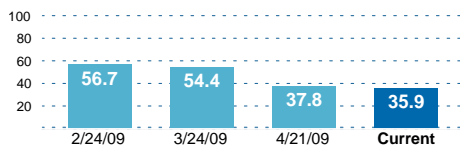
### Growth Score: 68.8



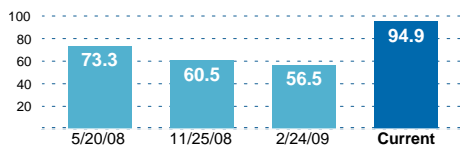
### Value Score: 0



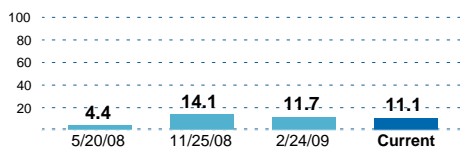
### Momentum Score: 35.9



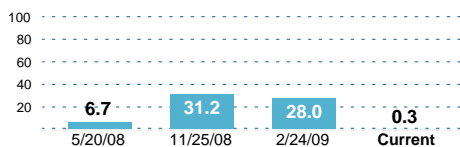
### Earnings Score: 94.9



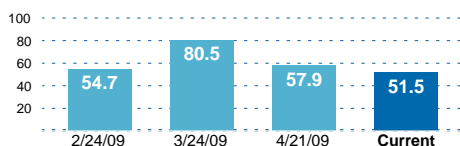
### Balance Sheet Score: 11.1



### Fundamental Score: 0.3



### Timeliness Score: 51.5



Sabrient Analysis continued from Page 1

- **Best Performing Filters:** To determine the likelihood of near-term performance, Sabrient builds and backtests "Smart Filters" to establish which caps, styles and attributes are drawing a premium in today's market. Currently, the three most predictive filters for the relevant segment are:

**Turnaround Filter:** The Turnaround Filter gives high scores to stocks that exhibit low relative valuations and relatively stagnant EPS growth over the last three years, but have favorable EPS projections that have not yet been rewarded by the market. The filter dramatically outperformed its large-cap benchmark during the last three months. HK scores 15.9 for this filter.

**Primary Value Filter:** The Primary Value Filter measures key growth and valuation ratios, both long-term and short-term. It has outperformed its large-cap benchmark over the past three months. HK scores 1.1 for this filter.

**Price Trend Filter:** The Price Trend Filter uses a sophisticated statistical analysis to evaluate a stock's current price with respect to its long-term trend and to compare the result to the stock's core growth characteristics. A high score means the stock is below its long-term trend, especially in light of its earnings performance. A low score means the stock is above its long-term trend and may likely fall back to or below the mean. As of last month, this filter significantly outperformed its large-cap benchmark. HK scores 3.0 for this filter.

In summary, HK's Strong Sell rating is based on a profile of forward-looking metrics which show this stock could significantly underperform the broader markets.

## What the Market Wants: May 2009

[Note: 'What the Market Wants' is based on the market behavior and Sabrient's filter backtesting results for the previous month.]

THE BEAR IS DEAD . . . LONG LIVE THE BULL?

By David Brown, Chief Market Strategist

(May 4, 2009 5:45 pm PST)

Perhaps not. Many don't consider the birth of the bull until the S&P 500 index crosses its 200-day moving average, and that milestone is still a short distance away. So perhaps we have a baby bull and a very wounded bear, but keep in mind that this is one of the most ferocious bears in history. One swipe of his claw can knock a baby bull off his feet.

That said, April was a glorious month, with the market blooming almost every week. The Russell Midcap Value was up an awesome 19.1% for the month, and the Nasdaq was up 12.35%. Indeed, every index was up double-digits, except for the Dow, up 7.4%, and the S&P 500, barely missing two digits at 9.4%.

Similarly, the last three months show everybody in the black, led by Mid-cap Growth (+15.6%) and the Nasdaq (+16.3%). The majority of the six-month numbers are still in the red, as are the 12-months numbers. The year-to-date performance is mixed between positive and negative, but is led by Mid-cap Growth.

With regard to styles, over the past month value slightly outperformed growth in most caps, but still trails over the past quarter by fairly wide margins.

For the most part, corporate earnings have surprised to the positive for the first quarter. Especially surprising were a number of banks that significantly beat their numbers and posted fairly handsome levels of profit.

Leading indicators, in general, have been better than expected, while lagging indicators such as employment statistics remain in dismal territory.

We should still be wary of economic pitfalls because technically, we are still in a recession. There could be negative economic surprises from the upcoming bank stress tests results and from future problems related to consumer debt levels, including credit cards.

Nonetheless, the near-term outlook for the market remains positive as money continues to flow back into equities, and short-covering fuels strong rallies among previously weak stocks. It is interesting to note, however, that despite the strong market rally over the last three months, market valuations in general remain slightly below the bottom of the 1987 crash.

Growth metrics remain the clear favorite, but the market's rise has fueled more interest in reasonable valuations, as evidenced by the improving results of the value style over the past month. The prudent investor will carefully build his portfolio from among the strong valuations that remain available.

Next update: First week of June.

## Company Description

Petrohawk Energy Corporation engages in the exploration, development, and production of oil and natural gas properties in the United States. The company holds interests in various properties primarily located in North Louisiana, Arkansas, South Texas, East Texas, Oklahoma and the Permian basin. As of December 31, 2008, it had total proved oil and natural gas reserves of approximately 1,418 billion cubic feet of natural gas equivalents. The company was founded in 1997 and is based in Houston, Texas.

## About Sabrient

Sabrient Systems is an independent research firm providing statistical analysis of a company's fundamental data to investment professionals. We use a computer-driven, quantitative methodology to identify stocks that appear poised to outperform or underperform the market.

The Sabrient methodology was developed by an experienced research team led by David Brown, a former NASA scientist and retired CEO of Telescan and designer of its premier stock search program, ProSearch. The research team employs a scientific approach to the creation and testing of multi-factor filters. Each filter targets a key area of traditional stock analysis, including value, growth, momentum, fundamentals, earnings, balance sheet, and group strength. Using an adaptive process, filters are continually tested and monitored to ensure that only the best performing filters are at work.

Sabrient's ratings begin with an extraction process in which each of the few best-performing filters scans the universe of equities to identify stocks having certain compelling attributes sought, but not sufficiently rewarded, by the current market. Then, a composite scoring system employs a broader set of "weighting" filters to rank the extracted stocks. To support individual investors, Sabrient uses the same sophisticated methodology to provide individual stock reports on a universe of approximately 5,600 stocks.

Sabrient regularly tests the performance of its stock selections, using its primary list of published rankings and statistical techniques it believes appropriate. These recommendations have consistently outperformed relevant benchmarks across a broad range of investing styles, market caps, time frames and market conditions, demonstrating the robustness of Sabrient's proprietary methodology. While past performance is no guarantee of future results, Sabrient believes it can maintain its strong performance through its rigorous, scientific approach to filter construction and ongoing backtesting within a dynamic and adaptive composite scoring system.

For more information on Sabrient and its performance, go to [www.sabrient.com](http://www.sabrient.com)

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