## Group 1 automotive

Driving Value in an Inflated Market

June 24, 2015
mOON)CAPITAL

## Group 1 Automotive

- Group 1 owns and operates auto dealerships


## GROUP 1 AUTOMOTIVE

Ticker: GPI Stock Price: \$82.53 *

- Third largest dealership group in the U.S. retailing 275,000 new and used vehicles annually
- 104 US dealerships, 17 UK dealerships, 17 Brazil dealerships
- Market capitalization of $\$ 2.0$ billion
- Recent valuation multiples
- '15e P/E: 11.5x


## Local Monopolies

- Dealers provided a great deal of protection in different states (receive long-term operating agreements because they are independently owned and capitalized)
- Franchise agreements provide geographic exclusivity in densely populated areas
- Law requires that the sales channel for new cars must be directed through the dealer network
- Manufacture paid maintenance service required to be completed at dealership
- Expensive OEM specific tools and diagnostics provide barriers to entry for service techs at independent shops



## Economic Moat

## AT THE RISK of SOUNDING JUDGMENTAL, I DON'T THINK THEY REALLY MEAN IT



## Economic Moat

Number of States with Auto Regulations, 1979 vs. 2014



## Deceptively High-Quality Business

- Inventory is financed through vehicle floorplan notes payable from various OEMs
- Notes accrue like other types of borrowing, but OEMs extend "floorplan assistance" to offset the expense
- Little inventory risk as the OEMs provide retailers with significant incentives to move inventory and dealers are often paid to carry
- Dealership decline has improved the competitive environment
- Dealers down 20\% over the past seven years
- GM allowed to rationalize its dealer network during bankruptcy (cut network by 30\%)


## Strong National Footprint

UNITED STATES - 14 States
117 Dealerships
WEST REGION EAST REGION
58\% of NV Unit Sales


WORLDWIDE:

- 151 Dealerships
- 196 Franchises
- 38 Collision Centers
- 32 Brands
U.K.

England:

- 17 Dealerships
- 12\% of NV Unit

Sales


## BRAZIL

Mato Grosso do
Sul, Sao Paulo \&
Parana:

- 17 Dealerships
- 8\% of NV Unit Sales



## Business Mix

- New Vehicle- $54 \%$ of sales, $20 \%$ of gross profit
- Roughly $\$ 1,850$ in gross profit per vehicle, with certain luxury vehicles bringing in more than twice this amount.
- These per car margins are lower than historical norms
- Used Vehicle- $30 \%$ of sales, $13 \%$ of gross profit
- Roughly $\$ 1,600$ in gross profit per vehicle
- Unwanted cars sold at breakeven into the wholesale market
- Finance \& Insurance- $4 \%$ of sales, $26 \%$ of gross profit
- Fees and spreads on car loans and leases
- Purely a fee-based earnings stream for arranging third-party financing, insurance, etc.
- Parts \& Service- $12 \%$ of sales, $41 \%$ of gross profit
- The real profit center of the dealership


## Finance \& Insurance

- Pure margin business- GPI receives roughly $\$ 1,350$ per unit for arranging financing, service, and insurance contracts
- Financing: $1 / 3$ of F\&I ( $\$ 450$ ) comes in the form of flat fees or financing spreads paid to arrange a loan
- Vehicle Warranty and Protection: 2/3 of F\&I comes from fees earned from selling third-party extended warranty, vehicle service, and insurance products


## Financing

Buyer qualifies for a lender offered 3.5\%
60-month amortizing loan

The difference between the buy rate and the dealer rate known as the yield spread premium is calculated and capitalized

Dealership tells the buyer that $5.5 \%$ is the best available rate

The dealer receives the majority of this markup as a kick-back from the lender

## CFPB- Headline Risk



## The Consumer Financial

 Protection Bureau believes dealer discretion in setting interest rates can potentially lead to discrimination in the form of higher prices for certain groupsImplication: The extremely profitable F\&I segment for auto dealers is set to be impacted.

## CFPB- Headline Risk

- The CFPB's intent is to monitor discrimination practices not set pricingthe CFPB agrees that dealers should be compensated for processing financing
- Any impact is limited to financing-dealer markups represent $1 / 3$ or less of F\&I income
- The expectation is that lenders will be forced to move from dealer reserves (interest rate markups) to flat fees
- Certain lenders including BMO Harris Bank in Chicago have moved to flat fees ( $3 \%$ of finance amount) with no change of consequence to dealer economics
- Dealer economics are unlikely to change as they will continue to choose which lenders get the financing business

> "Spread and yield is like a balloon in our mind, you can push in one place and it will expand in another place" - Craig Monaghan CEO Asbury Automotive

## Parts \& Service (The Real Profit Driver)



## Near-Term Catalysts: SAAR Rebound

U.S. Light Vehicle Sales (SAAR)


US auto sales have now fully recovered from the last financial crisis

## Auto Recovery Tailwind

## SAAR- Five Year Rolling



Parts \& service sales base of 0-5 year old vehicles is still more than $15 \%$ below its pre2008 average, providing a mult-year tailwind for the business

## Auto Lending-Is there a Bubble?

## Auto Lending Still Below Normal Levels

Auto loan originations, adjusted for inflation


## Auto Lending-Is there a Bubble?

## Subprime Auto Lending Is Well Below Normal Levels

Auto loans originated to borrowers with a credit score below 620


## Normalized SAAR

Estimated Vehicle Miles Traveled on All Roads


Total vehicles miles traveled remains remarkably steady and suggests a replacement rate similar to the early 2000's

## Normalized SAAR



Total vehicles miles traveled remains remarkably steady and suggests a replacement rate similar to the early 2000's

## Normalized SAAR

## Replacement SAAR

Annual miles driven (in millions)
Average vehicle scrap mileage Implied average life
Normalized replacement demand

Current fleet size
Mileage consumption
Average fleet age

3,000,000 (3 trillion)
180,000 (includes totalled vehicles)
14.4 years
16.7 million cars

250 million cars
12,500 yearly miles per car
11.4 years

## The Automotive Gap



| Then (2008) |  | Now (2015) |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | ---: | :---: |
| Total Dealerships | $20,000+$ | Total Dealerships | 16,400 |  |
| New Vehicle Sales | $16,000,000$ | New Vehicle Sales | $16,000,000$ |  |
| Units Per Dealer | $\mathbf{8 0 0}$ | Units Per Dealer | $\mathbf{9 7 6}$ |  |

## GPI Acquisition Strategy

- Over the past five years, GPI has purchased 89 franchises with expected annual revenues of $\$ 3.6$ billion
- Purchase dealerships at 15-20\% of revenues (excluding real estate and floorplan liabilities)
- Increase operating efficiency in areas such as used vehicle sourcing, advertising, purchasing, data processing, personnel utilization, and cost of floorplan financing
- Improving pre-tax margins to $2.5 \%$ results in an unlevered return of $10 \%$
- Target $15 \%$ returns on acquisitions


Less than $\mathbf{1 0 \%}$ of US dealerships are held by publicly traded companies, leaving a huge opportunity for dealership consolidation

## Comparables

| Comparables |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Company Name | Enterprise <br> Value To <br> EBITDA | EBITDA Margin <br> (3-Year Average) | EBITDA <br> Growth | Price/ <br> Earnings | Total Debt to EBITDA |
| Group 1 Automotive | 7.9 | 3.7\% | 22.5\% | 11.5 | 6.2 |
| AutoNation | 9.9 | 4.7\% | 11.1\% | 17.8 | 5.6 |
| Carmax | 10.0 | 5.1\% | 19.9\% | 26.2 | 8.6 |
| Asbury Automotive Group | 10.6 | 4.7\% | 17.7\% | 18.0 | 5.0 |
| Pensky Automotive Group | 10.6 | 3.3\% | 16.7\% | 15.1 | 7.1 |
| Sonic Automotive | 6.9 | 3.4\% | 1.3\% | 13.3 | 6.8 |

## Valuation

|  | 2012 |  | 2013 |  | 2014 |  | 2015 |  | 2016 |  | 2017 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Revenue Cost of Sales Gross Margin | \$ | 7,476,100 | \$ | 8,918,581 | \$ | 9,937,889 | \$ 10,387,363 |  | \$ 10,857,889 |  | \$ 11,267,050 |  |
|  | \$ | 6,358,848 | \$ | 7,626,035 | \$ | 8,489,951 | \$ | 8,871,099 | \$ | 9,271,204 | \$ | 9,619,675 |
|  | \$ | 1,117,252 | \$ | 1,292,546 | \$ | 1,447,938 | \$ | 1,516,265 | \$ | 1,586,685 | \$ | 1,647,375 |
|  |  | 14.94\% |  | 14.49\% |  | 14.57\% |  | 14.60\% |  | 14.61\% |  | 14.62\% |
| Same Store Sales Growth |  | 13.7\% |  | 6.2\% |  | 5.6\% |  | 4.5\% |  | 4.5\% |  | 3.8\% |
| Total Expenses |  | 879,980 |  | 1,012,752 |  | 1,104,308 |  | 1,167,524 |  | 1,221,747 |  | 1,268,479 |
| Tax \% |  | 25.5\% |  | 27.8\% |  | 23.6\% |  | 25.0\% |  | 25.0\% |  | 25.0\% |
| EPS | \$ | 4.53 | \$ | 4.96 | \$ | 5.87 | \$ | 7.05 | \$ | 7.48 | \$ | 7.85 |
| (+) Improved of Brazilian Ops |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0.05 |  | 0.25 |  | 0.50 |
| (+) Addt. Acquisition Accetion |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0.42 |  | 0.84 |  | 1.26 |
| PF Cash EPS |  |  |  |  |  |  | \$ | 7.52 | \$ | 8.57 | \$ | 9.61 |
| P/E Multiple |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 15.0x |  | 15.0x |  | 15.0x |
| Value Per Share |  |  |  |  |  |  | \$ | 112.86 | \$ | 128.61 | \$ | 144.20 |
| (+) Cumulative Dividend |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0.60 |  | 1.40 |  | 2.20 |
| Adj. Value Per Share |  |  |  |  |  |  | \$ | 113.46 | \$ | 130.01 | \$ | 146.40 |
| \% Premium to Current |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 37\% |  | 58\% |  | 77\% |

Group 1 trades at 12x earnings, a substantial discount to the current market multiple

## Conclusion

## group 1 automotive

| Competition for Existing Units | Local Monopoly |
| :--- | :---: |
| Barriers to Entry | High |
| Maintenance CAPEX | $.2 \%$ of Revenue |
| Returns on Capital | High |

Group 1 is a high quality business selling at a significant discount to intrinsic value

# Moon Capital Management, llc 

Registered Investment Advisors
2103 Riverview Tower
900 South Gay Street
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902
phone: (865) 546-1234
www.mooncap.com

