

## What if I told you there is a retailer:

- 1. TRADING AT ALL TIME LOW PRICE
- 2. TRADING AT ALL TIME LOW MULTIPLE
- 3. THAT SELLS A NON-DISCRETIONARY PRODUCT
- 4. THAT IS CURRENTLY UNDER-EARNING
- 5. THAT IS GROWING UNITS 5% PER YEAR
- 6. GENERATES POSITIVE FCF
- 7. & HAS A PATH TO SALES ACCLERATION & MARGIN RECOVERY
- 8. HAS NEAR-TERM ~40% UPSIDE VS. 14% DOWNSIDE WITH POTENTIAL 3-YEAR GAIN OF >140%



# WHAT'S THE CATCH?



# **Agenda**

Intro /About Me

About Quo Vadis Capital

Our Process - Abbreviated Discussion

ValueX Vail 2024 Idea

Q & A

#### THANK YOU VITALIY & IMA TEAM



# **About me**

# Started Quo Vadis Capital in 2017 Equity Analyst since 1999

Kenyon College & University of Oxford
Started a PhD in Philosophy before finance
Originally a Wisconsinite, now in Paris

Linkedin Profile



## **About Quo Vadis Capital**

Registered Investment Advisor

Idea service for professional investors

Manage separate accounts for individuals

More at <u>quovadiscapital.com</u>



#### **Our process – Unit Level Economics**

- Look for businesses that can be separated into component parts or units.
- 2. Solve for ROIC, diagnose drivers & identify trends
- 3. Evaluate business quality & valuation through this lens



## **Unit Level Economics & Today's Idea**

Investors frequently overweight near-term business performance, permitting us to buy an equity at a discount to the value of its unit growth.



# Back to our idea, and "The Catch"

This retailer's business was disrupted by Covid and its aftermath and <u>is recovering</u> more slowly than expected.

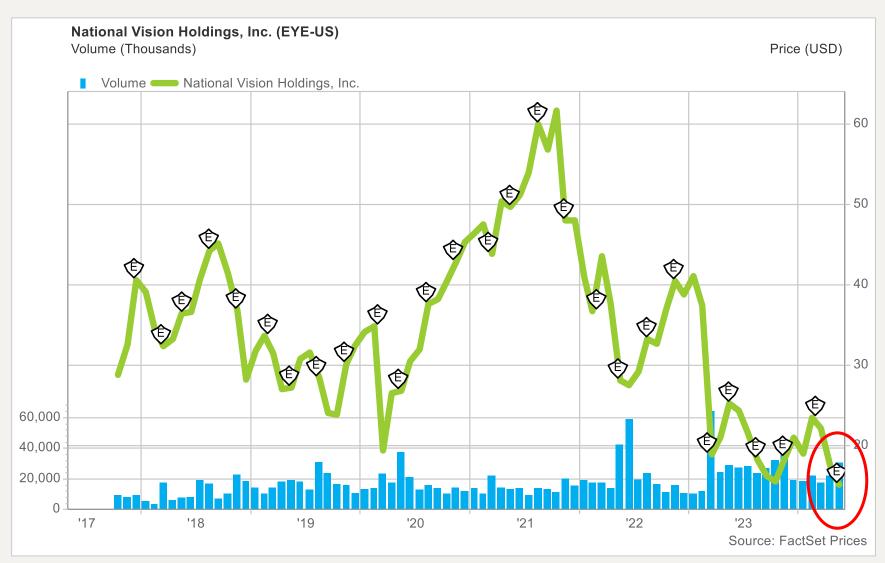


## What is National Vision Holdings (EYE)?

- Retailer of corrective glasses with 1,200 U.S.
   locations.
- Price: \$13; Market Cap \$1.1B.
- ○B/S: \$150M cash, \$450M LT debt including \$302M 2.5% convertible notes.
- o FCF: 2024E \$64M (\$0.81/ share)
- Unit growth: 60-70 gross (5-6%)
- ○Margins: EBIT averaged 6.7% 5-Yrs Pre-Covid

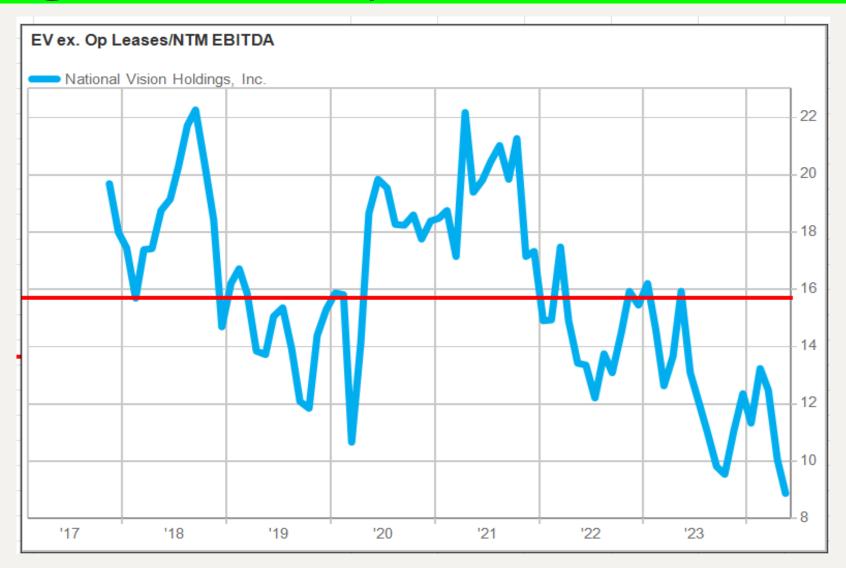


## Not a good look; EYE shs since '17 IPO





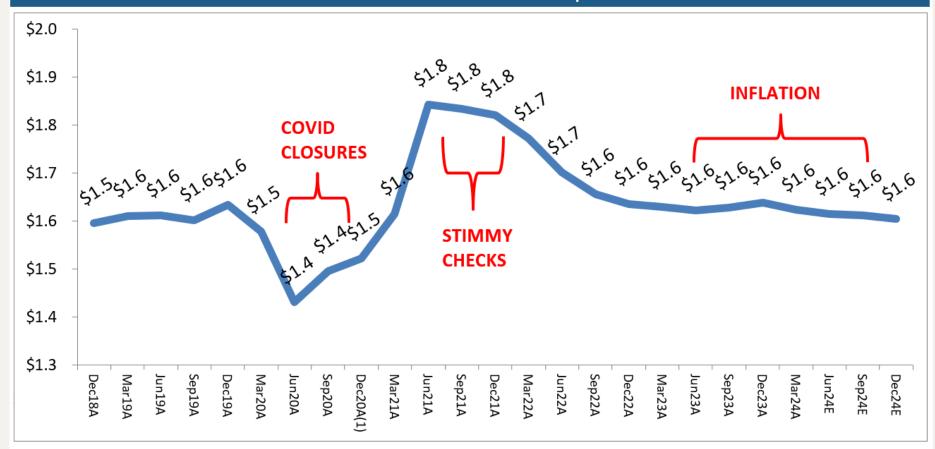
## Avg. multiple 16x, now 8x -- lowest ever





# Why the opportunity exists: recent same-store sales not growing

#### EYE TTM SALES PER AVERAGE STORE \$M 2018-2024E



Source: Company reports, Quo Vadis Capital, Inc. estimates



# ALSO:

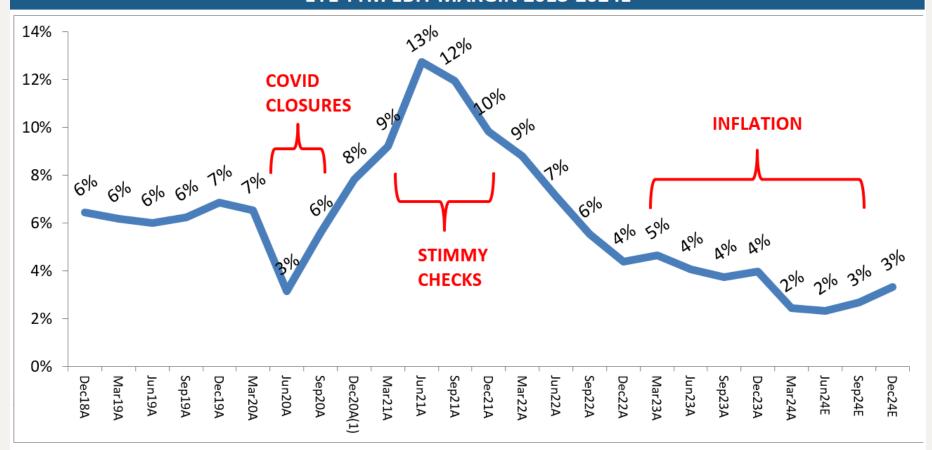
- 1. Shortage of optometrists
- 2. Closure of Walmart stores & AC Lens business creates complexity



## Which gets us this: profitability well

#### below historical levels

#### **EYE TTM EBIT MARGIN 2018-2024E**



Source: Company reports, Quo Vadis Capital, Inc. estimates



#### Investment thesis: How we can win

Shares are discounting a return to historical same-store sales, margins, as well as contribution from expected unit growth.

We believe comps will <u>slowly</u> improve as (1) replacement cycle revs up, (2) remote medicine initiative adds capacity and (3) maturation from recent store openings.



# Investment thesis: margin of safety

Timing of comp recovery is unknown BUT unit growth is reliable.

Based on our estimates, <u>we believe</u>
investors are getting the unit growth for
free.

Assuming modestly better comps & margins AND holding all-time low multiple offers ~40% one-year gains & ~90% 4-year upside.



# How we estimate value of unit growth vs. what the market is paying

- 1. We calculate cash flow from existing business & assign no-growth multiple
- 2. We subtract this from market value to derive market's value of "growth option"
- 3. We estimate value of unit growth via new unit DCF & compare to "growth option"



# EYE screens 2<sup>nd</sup> cheapest of 21 names

#### SORT: Largest to Least % of Value related to the Growth Option

								% of current	
		FY24E EBIT		ter tax CF/	Multiple		Implied market	market value	
	Recent	(M)		nare from	(12% CF		value of growth	related to	
Stock	Price	(Consensus)	e	xisting biz	yield)	Market EV (\$M)	option	growth	
1 KRUS	\$83	\$2	\$	0.79	8.3x	\$1,165	\$1,891	93.7%	
2 CAVA	\$90	\$17	\$	0.67	8.3x	\$6,779	\$6,146	90.7%	
3 BROS	\$38	\$79	\$	0.71	8.3x	\$6,705	\$5,663	84.5%	
4 CMG	\$3,272	\$1,937	\$	62.12	8.3x	\$84,182	\$69,939	83.1%	
5 SHAK	\$89	\$30	\$	2.62	8.3x	\$3,863	\$2,905	75.2%	
6 DOL-TSE	\$124	\$1,573	\$	5.03	8.3x	\$32,591	\$20,830	63.9%	
7 TSCO	\$280	\$1,493	\$	13.01	8.3x	\$29,957	\$18,240	60.9%	
8 TXRH	\$167	\$451	\$	7.89	8.3x	\$10,376	\$5,981	57.6%	
9 LKNCY	\$22	\$219	\$	1.04	8.3x	\$6,370	\$3,627	56.9%	
10 OLLI	\$88	\$247	\$	3.61	8.3x	\$4,210	\$2,356	55.9%	
11 SFM	\$76	\$404	\$	3.73	8.3x	\$6,583	\$3,415	51.9%	
12 DG	\$126	\$2,398	\$	11.02	8.3x	\$37,799	\$17,685	46.8%	
13 BOOT	\$126	\$212	\$	6.75	8.3x	\$3,144	\$1,426	45.4%	
14 FIVE	\$113	\$428	\$	7.57	8.3x	\$5,789	\$2,311	39.9%	
15 ULTA	\$391	\$1,666	\$	28.72	8.3x	\$18,928	\$7,296	38.5%	
16 GO	\$21	\$106	\$	1.89	8.3x	\$2,312	\$750	32.4%	
17 PTLO	\$10	\$62	\$	1.52	8.3x	\$1,035	\$297	28.7%	
18 LTH	\$18	\$293	\$	2.14	8.3x	\$4,655	\$1,037	22.3%	
19 YUMC	\$34	\$1,206	\$	2.98	8.3x	\$13,046	\$2,786	21.4%	
20 EYE	\$13	\$66	\$	1.78	8.3x	\$1,406	(\$244)	17.4%	
21 ASO	\$52	\$681	\$	7.78	8.3x	\$4,535	(\$376)	-8.3%	

Source: FactSet, Quo Vadis Capital, Inc. estimates, DOL-TSE figures in \$CAD, LKNCY estimates are Quo Vadis forecasts



#### value of new units exceeds growth option

#### SORT: Largest to Least Market Premium to Estimated Value of Unit Growth

	Value of								
			Estimated	aft	ter tax CF	Market Premium			
		Current	Foreseeable		om to-be	(Discount) to			
	Recent	Number of	Store Growth		Opened	Estimated Value of	Total Unit		
Stock	Price	Stores	(5 yrs.)		tores \$M	Growth	Growth 5 Years		
DOL-TSE	\$123	1,551	429	\$	1,680	11.4x	28%		
CMG	\$3,378	3,437	1,731	\$	7,415	8.4x	50%		
CAVA	\$94	320	476	\$	794	6.7x	149%		
BOOT	\$130	397	272	\$	230	5.2x	69%		
TXRH	\$171	682	209	\$	989	5.0x	31%		
TSCO	\$288	2,414	523	\$	3,241	4.6x	22%		
SHAK	\$93	295	298	\$	1,016	2.0x	101%		
ULTA	\$388	1,385	221	\$	2,449	2.0x	16%		
SFM	\$79	407	135	\$	1,143	2.0x	33%		
DG	\$127	19,986	4,920	\$	7,104	1.5x	25%		
KRUS	\$83	50	97	\$	429	1.5x	193%		
OLLI	\$96	512	294	\$	1,253	0.9x	57%		
BROS	\$39	600	1,231	\$	2,543	1.3x	205%		
LTH	\$19	171	47	\$	825	0.3x	28%		
GO	\$21	468	269	\$	1,110	(0.3x)	57%		
FIVE	\$114	1,544	1,429	\$	3,295	(0.3x)	93%		
PTLO	\$10	84	51	\$	435	(0.3x)	61%		
EYE	\$13	1,200	368	\$	437	(0.4x)	31%		
LKNCY	\$23	10,628	21,806	\$	13,084	(0.7x)	205%		
YUMC	\$34	12,500	7,178	\$	6,145	(0.5x)	57%		
ASO	\$54	282	120	\$	966	(1.4x)	43%		

Source: FactSet, Quo Vadis Capital, Inc. estimates, DOL-TSE figures in \$CAD, LKNCY estimates are Quo Vadis forecasts



## **VALUATION:**

What could EYE be worth in the future?



#### Our model: How it is Conservative

- 1. Assumed 3-4% comps vs. M-HSD historical
- 2. Assumed 5.3% EBIT margin vs. 6.7% historical
- 3. Assumed 55% new unit productivity
- 4. Assumed \$302M 2.5% convert replaced in after 2025 with 5.75% debt
- 5. Assumed no increase in unit growth



# Our model: How it is Conservative

	PRE-COVID PERFORMANCE				COVID + POST COVID				FUTURE BUSINESS PROFILE					
	2015A	2016A	2017A	2018A	2019A	2020A(1)	2021A	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E	2027E	2028E
Total sales	\$ 1,063	\$ 1,196	\$ 1,375	\$ 1,537	\$ 1,724	\$ 1,712	\$ 2,080	\$ 2,005	\$ 2,126	\$ 1,852	\$ 2,006	\$ 2,138	\$ 2,275	\$ 2,419
% change		12.6%	15.0%	11.7%	12.2%	-0.7%	21.5%	-3.6%	6.0%	-12.9%	8.3%	6.6%	6.4%	6.3%
EBITDA	112.6	133.6	156.6	168.9	196.8	218.0	294.3	180.2	176.7	161.8	187.5	210.1	235.2	258.8
EBITDA margin	10.6%	11.2%	11.4%	11.0%	11.4%	12.7%	14.2%	9.0%	8.3%	8.7%	9.3%	9.8%	10.3%	10.7%
Operating income (EBIT)	\$ 68.5	\$ 81.6	\$ 95.5	\$ 99.4	\$ 118.3	\$ 133.8	\$ 204.7	\$ 86.4	\$ 84.0	\$ 61.8	\$ 81.6	\$ 96.2	\$ 113.3	\$ 128.9
% change		19,1%	17.0%	4.1%	19.0%	13.2%	52.9%	-57.8%	-2.8%	-26.5%	32.0%	10.0%	17.70/	13.8%
EBIT MARGIN	6.4%	6.8%	6.9%	6.5%	6.9%	7.8%	9.8%	4.3%	3.9%	3.3%	4.1%	4.5%	5.0%	5.3%
Diluted EPS	\$0.47	\$0.58	\$0.53	\$0.61	\$0.75	\$0.91	\$1.53	\$0.59	\$0.74	\$0.52	\$0.70	\$0.74	\$0.93	\$1.09
Total stores	858	943	1,013	1,082	1,151	1,205	1,278	1,354	1,413	1,271	1,336	1,401	1,466	1,531
% chg in SSS	11.3%	6.9%	8.4%	7.1%	6.9%	-5.6%	22.4%	-7.5%	3.1%	1.1%	3.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%
Free cash flow			\$ (3.0)	\$ 2	\$ 64	\$ 158	\$ 163	\$ 6	\$ 58	\$ 64	\$ 51	\$ 49	\$ 73	\$ 95
FCF/SHARE	\$0.11	\$0.13	(\$0.05)	\$0.03	\$0.78	\$1.91	\$1.76	\$0.07	\$0.71	\$0.81	\$0.65	\$0.64	\$0.95	\$1.25

Source: Company data, Quo Vadis Capital, Inc. estimates (1453-week Year





OUR ASSUMPTIONS WELL BELOW HISTORICAL PRE-COVID PERFORMANCE



# **Valuation**

- Based on modest comp recovery and MSD EBIT (consistent low end of guide) an 8x EV/ EBITDA multiple gets 1-yr ~40% return.
- 2. Over 3 years, we estimate ~90% return.
- 3. However, if the multiple even modestly rerates (e.g. to 10x vs. historical average of 16x) a 3-year return could be >140%.
- 4. A downside scenario where 2025 is below guide and EV/ EBITDA is 6.5x = 14% Loss



## Return matrix: upside vs downside

	Guidance + Our Model			Near-term		Long-term		Downside Scenario		
Year	20	024E		2026E		2028E		2025E		
Revs \$M	\$	1,852	\$	2,138	\$	2,419	\$	1,906		
D&A	\$	100	\$	114	\$	130	\$	106		
EBIT	\$	62	\$	96	\$	129	\$	77		
EBIT margin		3.3%		4.5%		5.3%		4.0%		
EPS		\$0.52		\$0.74		\$1.09		\$0.65		
Net Cash \$M (one y	ear prior)		\$	(303)	\$	(214)	\$	(321)		
Shs out		78.7		76.5		75.8		77.6		
5 6.5x EV/ EBITDA			\$	14	\$	19	\$	11		
7 7x EV/ EBITDA			\$ \$	15	\$	21	\$	12		
8 8X EV / EBITDA			\$ \$ \$	18	\$	24	\$	15		
9 9X EV / EBITDA			\$	21	\$	28	\$	17		
0 10X EV / EBITDA				23	\$	31	\$	19		
2 12X EV / EBITDA			\$	29	\$	38	\$	24		
Absolute Return Po	tential			1-Year		3-Year		1-Year		
6.5x EV/ EBITDA				7%		49%		-14%		
7x EV/ EBITDA				18%		62%	L	-5%		
8X EV / EBITDA				39%		89%		13%		
9X EV / EBITDA				60%		115%	,	31%		
10X EV / EBITDA				81%		141%		49%		
12X EV / EBITDA				123%		194%		86%		
Source: FactSet, Company Reports, Quo Vadis Capital, Inc. estimates										



# **Summary**

- \$1B retailer of non-discretionary product trading at lowest-ever price and multiple.
- Opportunity is due to Covid and post-Covid
  disruption
- ○Win if replacement cycle resumes normal cadence
- OBUT also can win just on new unit growth adding sales and cash flow
- OAssuming some margin improvement but keeping trough multiple suggests 1 year return ~40%; a 10x EV/ EBITDA (vs. 16x hist. avg) could produce a three-year return of >140%; Downside scenario yielding less than 15% loss.



# Risks

- Current business is soft and recovery-guidance will probably be cut and/ or pushed out.
- 2. Structural change due to inflation and labor dynamics mean margin recovery won't happen or will be disappointing.
- 3. 2/3 of customers are uninsured. This customer group may simply extend replacement cycle leading to lower comp growth.
- 4. Future store openings may underperform.



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# Fun fact:

Nearly 70% of adult Americans require some kind of vision correction.

Only 0.2% of the U.S. pop opt for laser corrective surgery per year.

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