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Balfour Capital Group **Ciena Corporation**

Ciena Corporation is a U.S.-based networking systems, services, and software company headquartered in Hanover, Maryland. The company specializes in providing solutions that facilitate high-speed data transmission over fiber optic networks, which are essential for global internet connectivity. Ciena's offerings include optical networking technology, crucial for applications such as artificial intelligence and cloud computing. Their products and services support the transport and management of voice and data traffic on communications networks.

1. Top 5 Competitors

- Ciena operates in the competitive networking and telecommunications equipment industry. Its primary competitors include:
- Cisco Systems, Inc.: A global leader in networking hardware and software.
- Juniper Networks, Inc.: Specializes in high-performance networking products.
- Nokia Corporation: Offers a wide range of networking and telecommunications equipment.
- Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd.: A major player in telecommunications equipment and consumer electronics.
- Ericsson: Focuses on networking and telecommunications services.

2. Largest Institutional Shareholders

As of January 28, 2025, major institutional shareholders of Ciena include:

- FMR LLC: Holding approximately 21,664,066 shares, valued at around \$1.33 billion.
- Vanguard Group Inc.: Holding approximately 12,072,000 shares, valued at around \$742.61 million.
- BlackRock Inc.: Holding approximately 11,497,000 shares, valued at around \$707.49 million.
- State Street Corp: Holding approximately 4,460,000 shares, valued at around \$273.43 million.
- BNP PARIBAS ASSET MANAGEMENT Holding S.A.: Holding approximately 4,325,000 shares, valued at around \$265.13 million.

These holdings represent significant institutional confidence in Ciena's business prospects.

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3. Management Team

Ciena's leadership team includes:

- Gary Smith: President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO).
- James Moylan: Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (CFO).
- Stephen B. Alexander: Senior Vice President and Chief Technology Officer (CTO).
- Jason Phipps: Senior Vice President, Global Sales and Marketing.
- Scott McFeely: Senior Vice President, Products and Services.

4. Revenue

In fiscal year 2024, Ciena reported revenues of approximately \$4 billion.

5. Institutions with Buy Recommendations:

Several financial institutions have recently issued buy recommendations for Ciena:

- J.P. Morgan: Upgraded Ciena to an Overweight (Buy) rating with a price target of \$88, citing attractive entry points after recent market pullbacks.
- <u>barrons.com</u>
- Bank of America: Analysts have expressed optimism about Ciena's future performance, highlighting the company's strong position in the optical networking market.

6. Summary of Analyst Sentiment:

Ciena has received a consensus rating of "Moderate Buy." This assessment is based on evaluations from multiple analysts, reflecting a generally positive outlook on the company's performance and growth prospects.

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7. Insider Buying and Selling Over the Last 24 Months:

Over the past two years, there has been notable insider activity:

- Insider Buying: Institutional investors have purchased a total of approximately 51.2 million shares, representing transactions valued at around \$2.58 billion.
- Insider Selling: Institutional investors have sold approximately 31.8 million shares, amounting to transactions worth about \$1.61 billion.

This data indicates a net positive insider sentiment, with purchases outweighing sales during this period.

Please note that insider trading activities can be complex and may involve various factors. It's advisable to consult detailed financial reports or a financial advisor for a comprehensive understanding.

For the most current and detailed information, it's recommended to review Ciena's official financial disclosures and consult financial advisors.



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