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# Buying Techniques II Buying Gap-Up Moves in Leading Stocks

Chris Kacher & Gil Morales Managing Directors MoKa Investors, LLC

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#### **Chart Notes**

#### **Moving Averages:**

Magenta = 10-day simple moving average.

**Green** = 20-day simple moving average.

**Blue** = 50-day simple moving average.

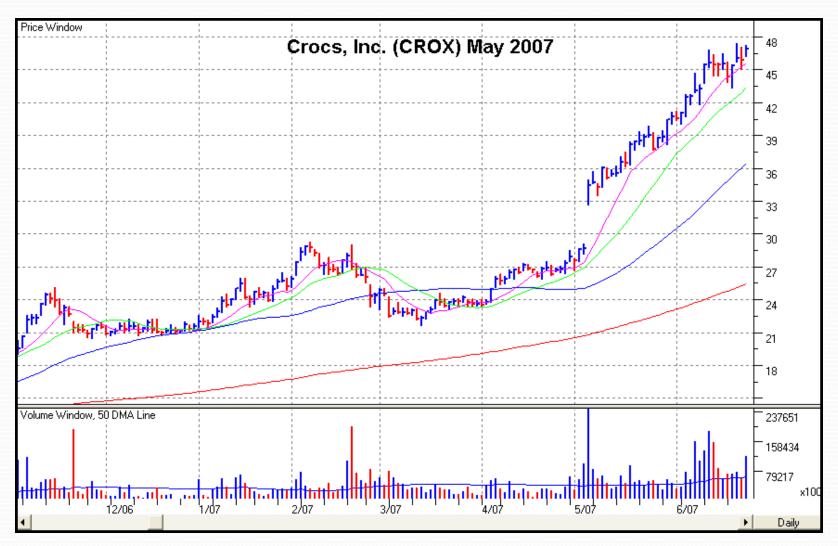
**Black** = 65-day exponential moving average.

All charts courtesy of
HighGrowthStock Investor
and
eSignal, Inc.

#### Gap-up Moves Usually Look too "Crazy" to Buy



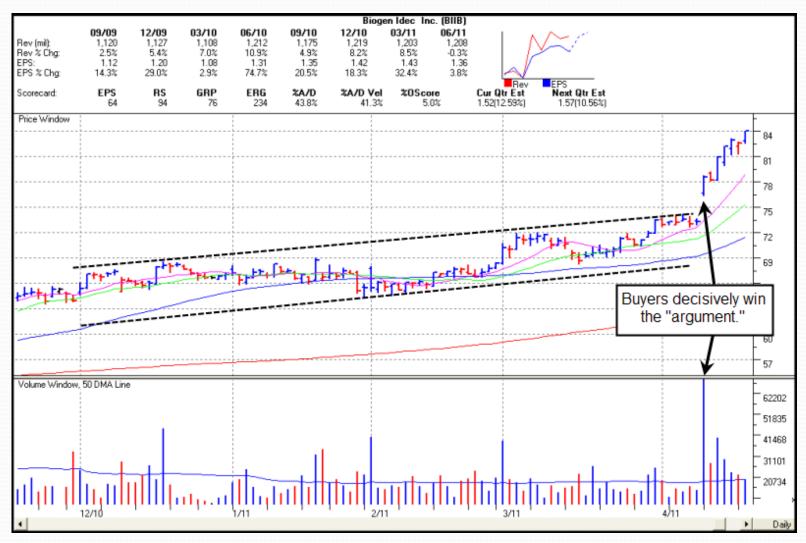
#### But Often One Would be "Crazy" Not to Buy Them.



#### Why Buyable Gap-Ups Work

- When a stock gaps up on tremendous volume, the "argument" has been won decisively by buyers.
- The power or "decisiveness" with which this argument is won is characterized by sharp upside price movement accompanied by a significant increase in trading volume the "signature" of a buyable gap-up.
- This same tremendous buying volume is a clear sign of huge institutional buying done with conviction.
- Buyable gap-ups are aided by a unique "contrarian" aspect in that most investors don't believe the gap and are afraid to buy it because they think it is "too high."

#### The "Argument" is Won Decisively by the Buyers



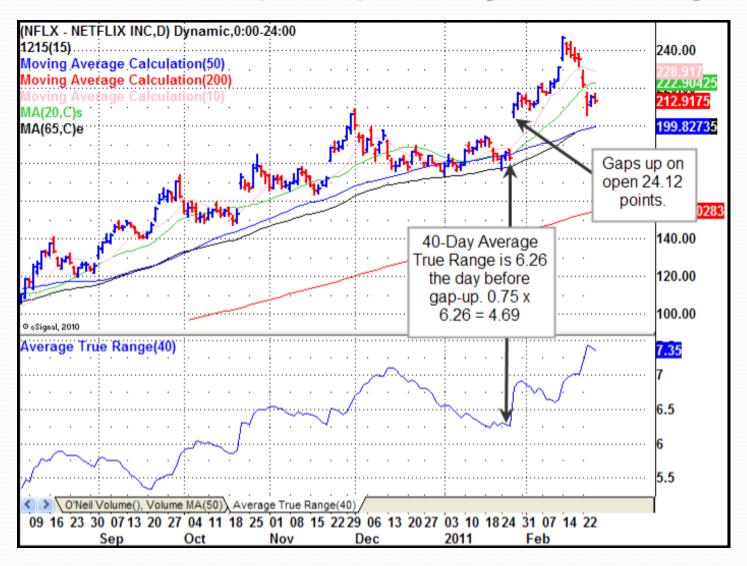
### Huge-Volume Gap-Ups are the Biggest Foot Prints of Institutional Investors



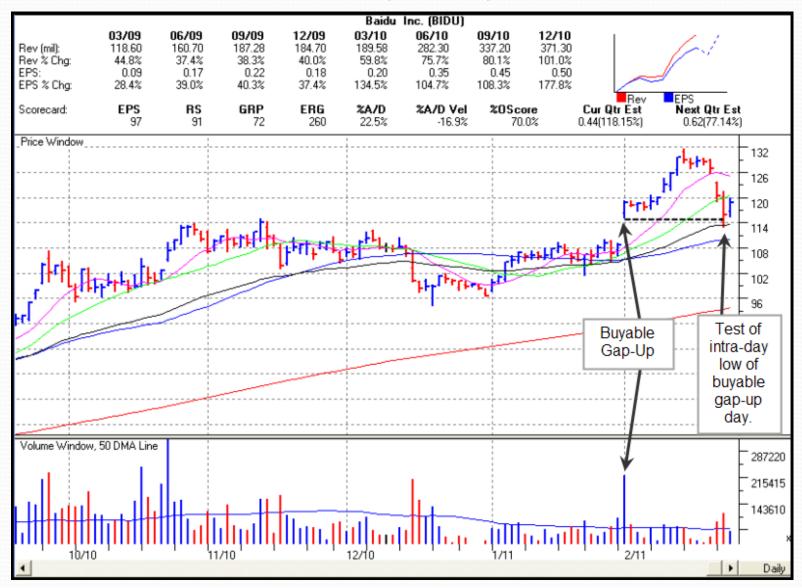
#### **Characteristics of Buyable Gap-Ups**

- 1. Buyable gap-ups should occur in fundamentally strong and sound leading stocks, or there should be a compelling thematic basis for consideration.
- 2. A buyable gap-up move must be at least 0.75 times the stock's 40-day Average True Range.
- 3. A buyable gap-up move must occur on volume that is at least 1.5 times or 150% above the 50-day moving average of daily trading volume.
- 4. Buyable gap-ups should occur within an uptrend or constructive consolidation, not while a stock is in a downtrend.
- 5. A buyable gap-up should hold above the intra-day low of the gap-up day.

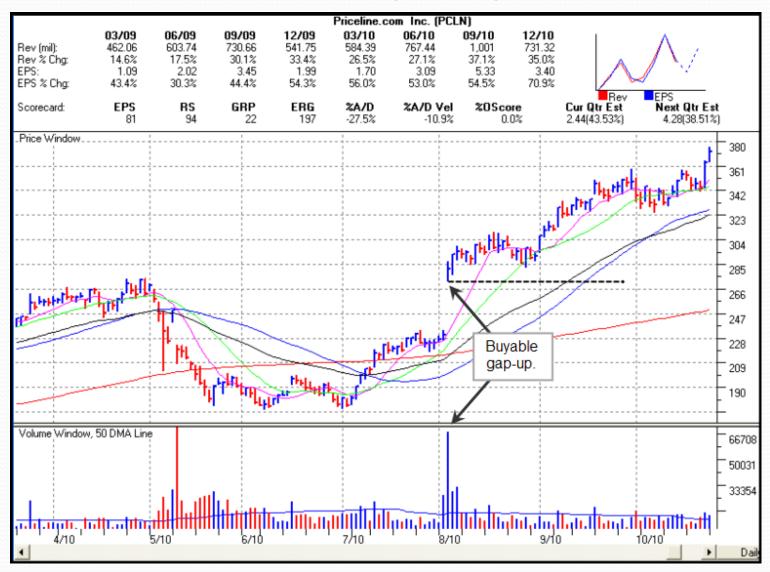
#### Netflix, Inc. (NFLX) Average True Range



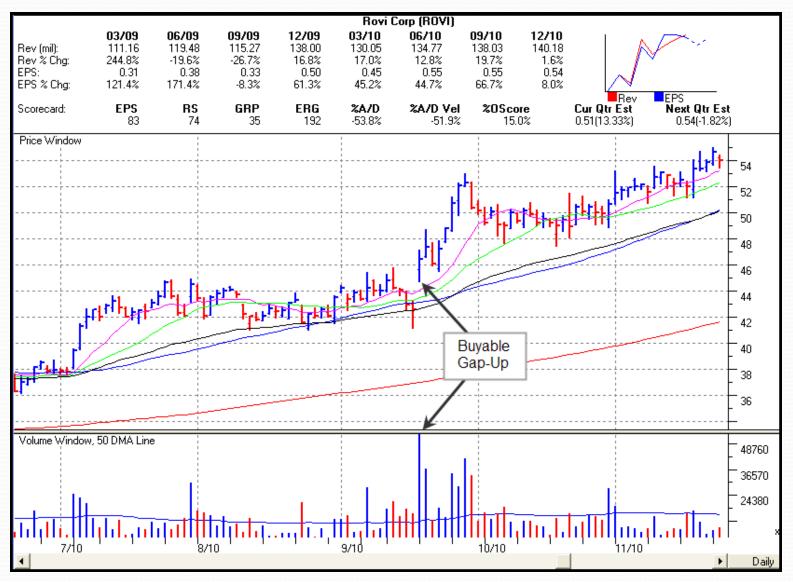
#### Baidu, Inc. (BIDU) - 2011



#### Priceline.com (PCLN) - 2010



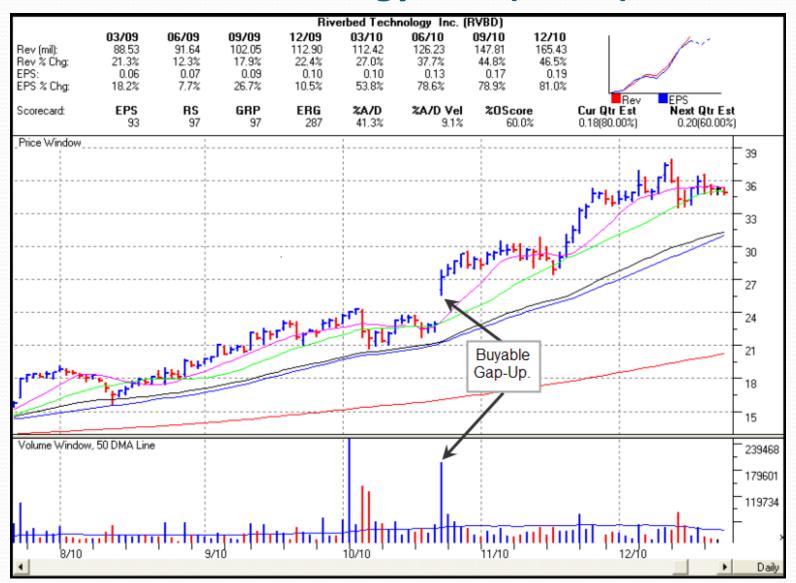
#### Rovi Corp. (ROVI) - September 2010



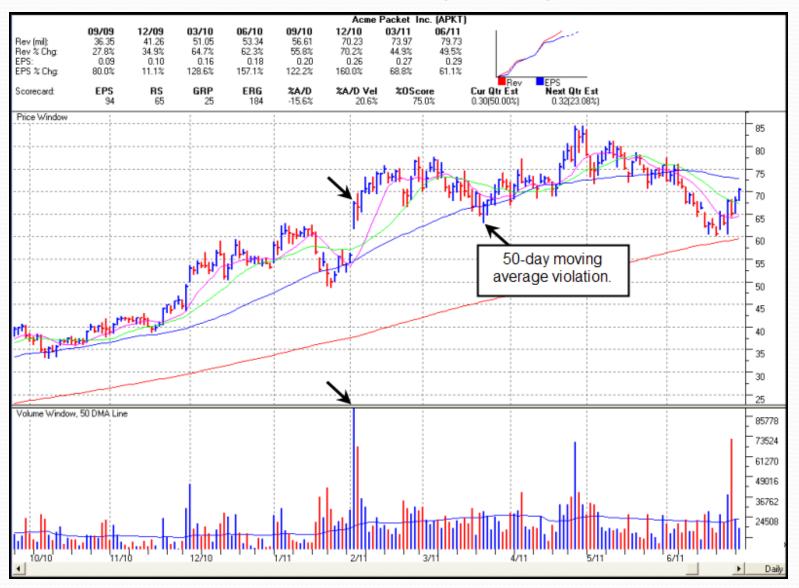
#### Netflix, Inc. (NFLX) - 2011



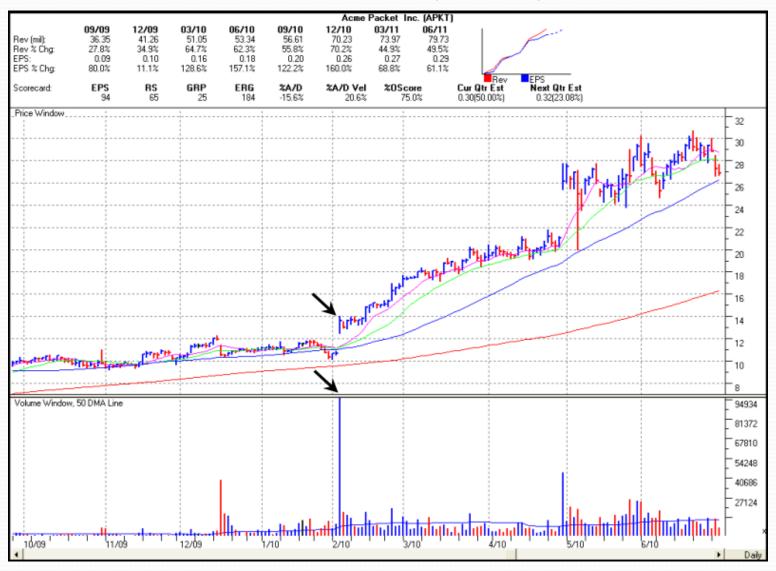
#### Riverbed Technology, Inc. (RVBD) -2010



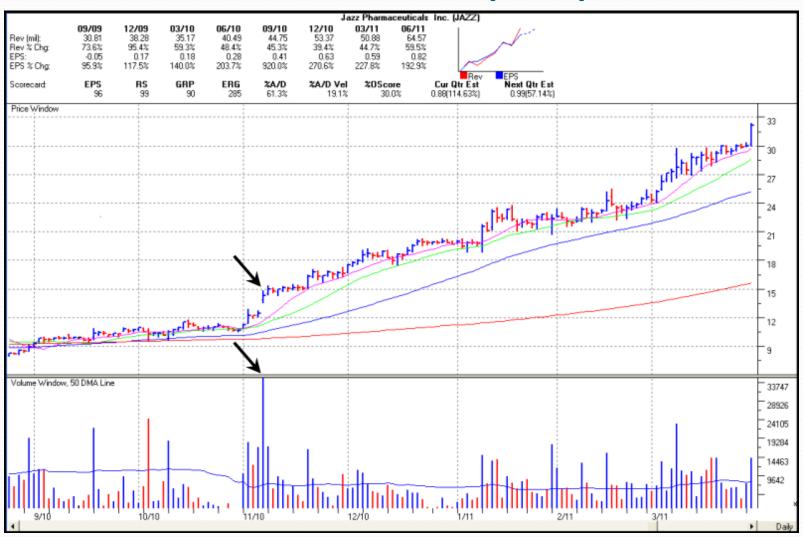
#### Acme Packet, Inc. (APKT) - 2011



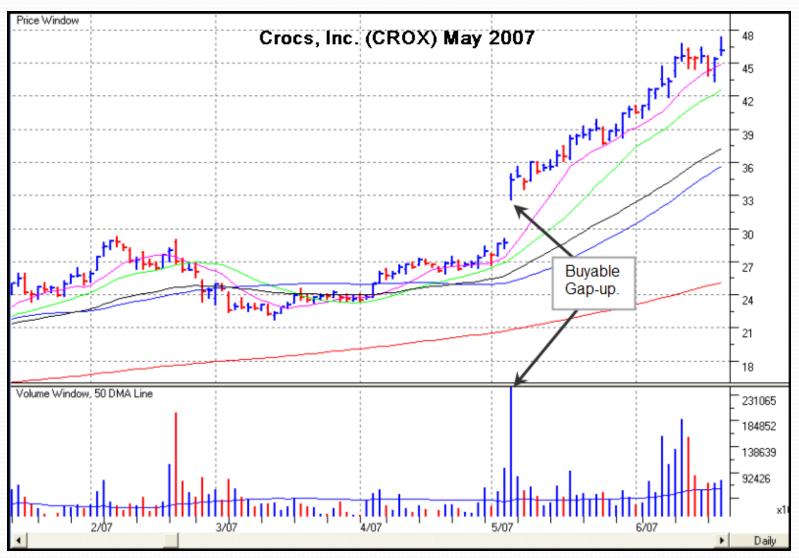
#### Acme Packet, Inc. (APKT) - 2010



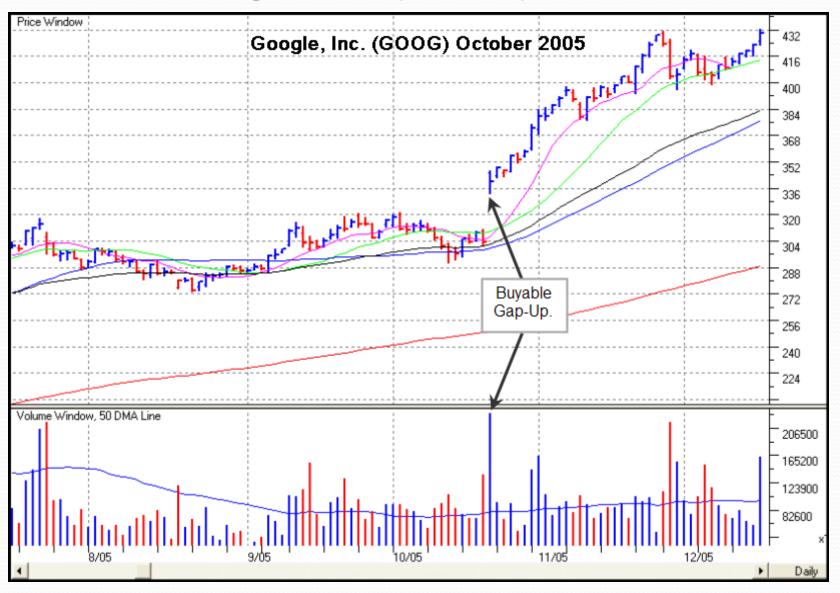
#### Jazz Pharmaceuticals (JAZZ) - 2010



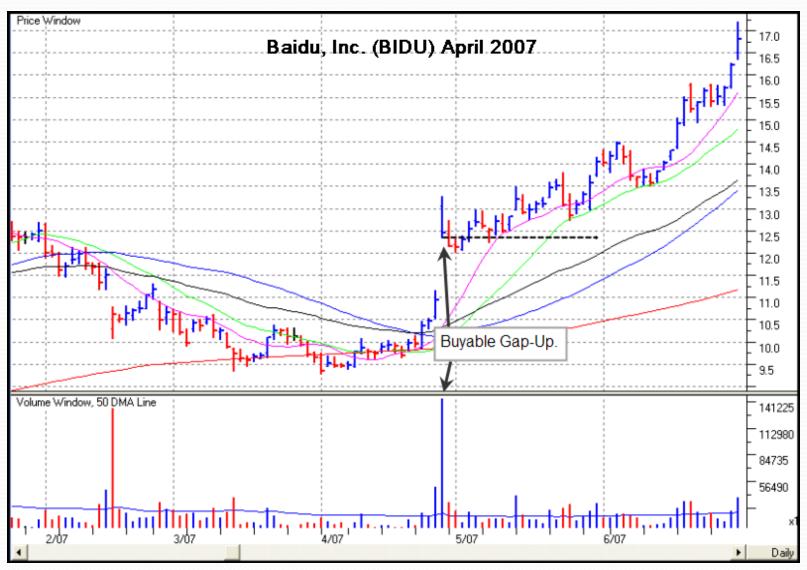
#### Crocs, Inc. (CROX) - May 2007



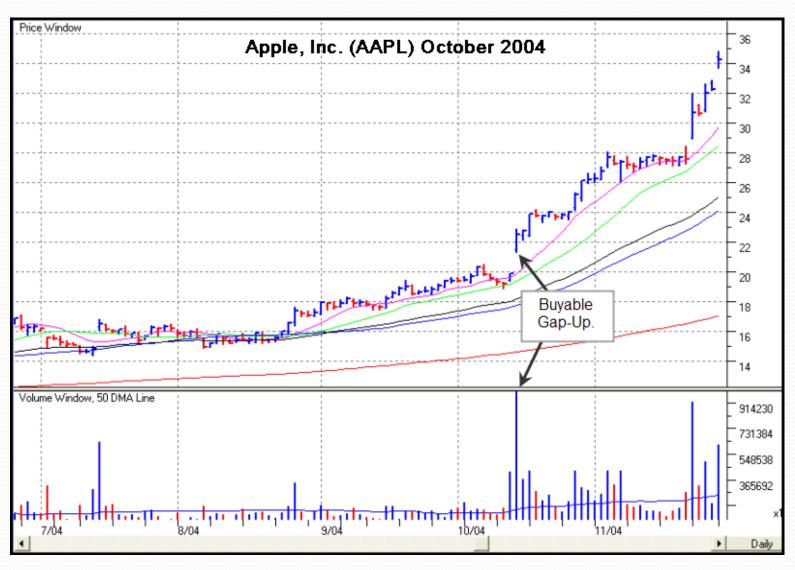
#### Google, Inc. (GOOG) - 2005



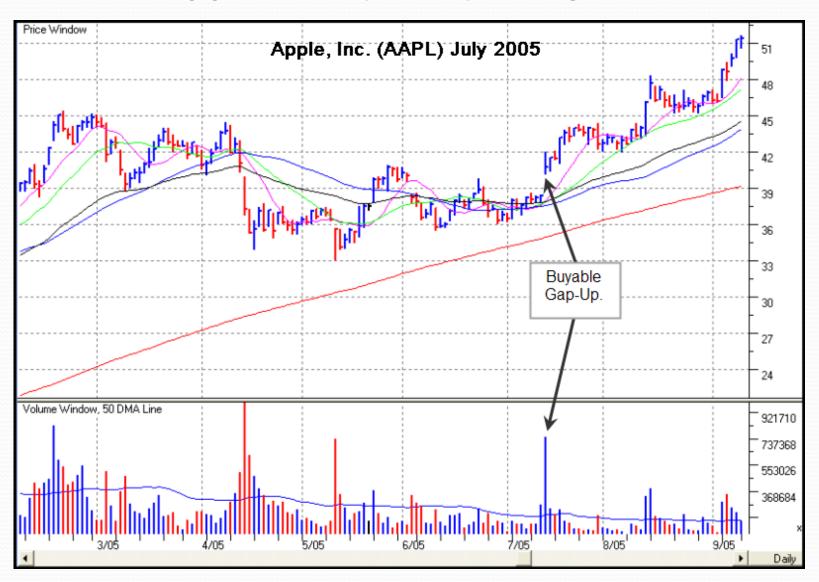
#### Baidu, Inc. (BIDU) - 2007



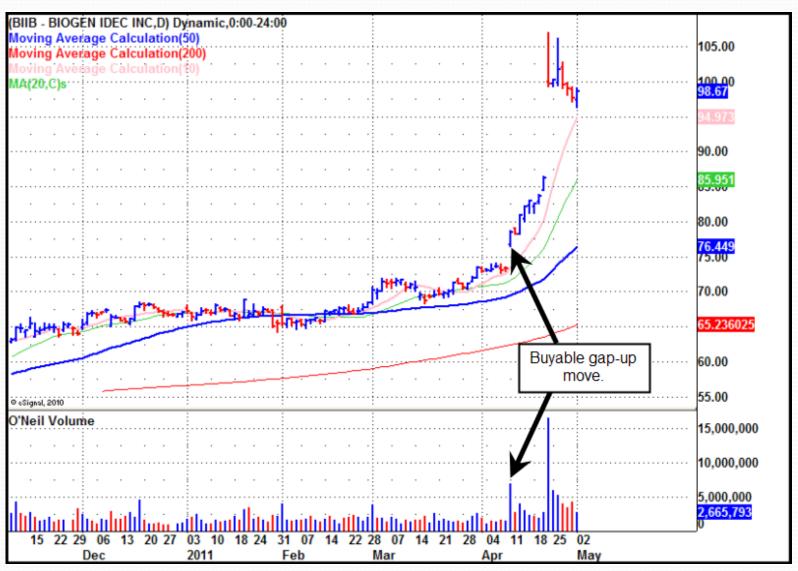
#### **Apple, Inc. (AAPL) – 2004**



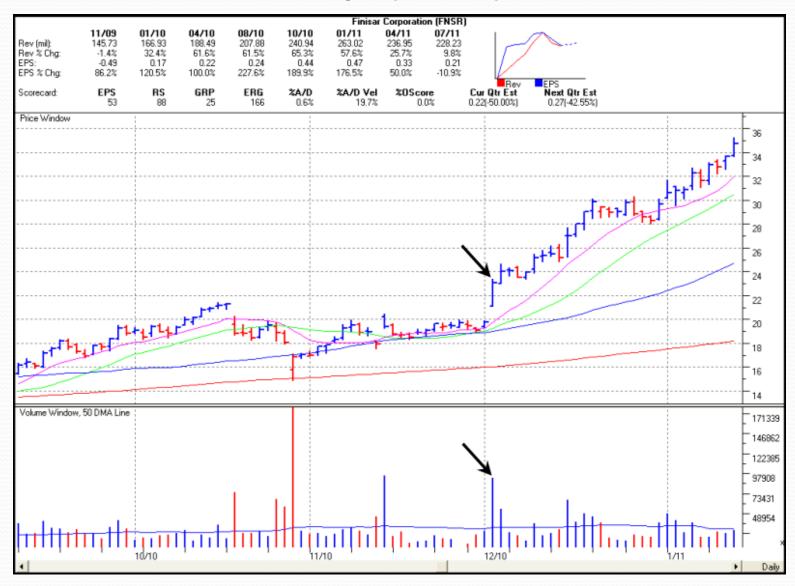
#### Apple, Inc. (AAPL) - July 2005



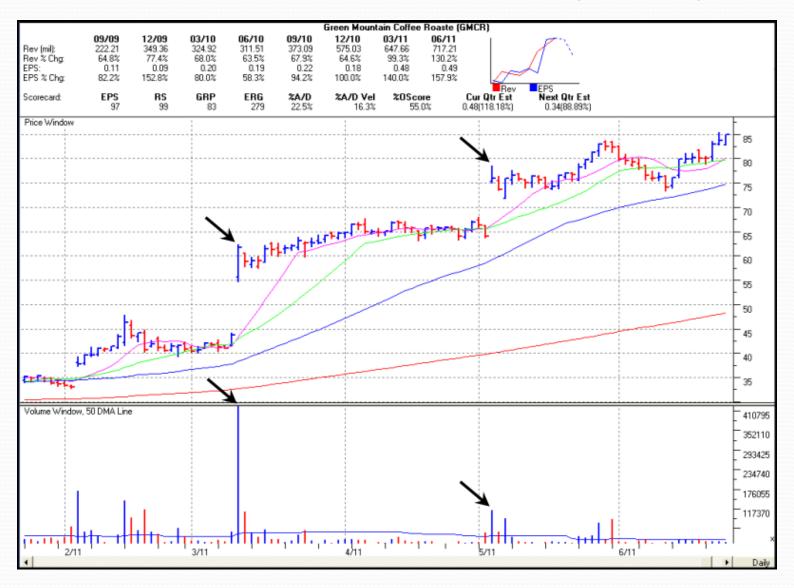
#### Biogen Idec, Inc. (BIIB) - 2011



#### Finisar Corp. (FNSR) - 2010



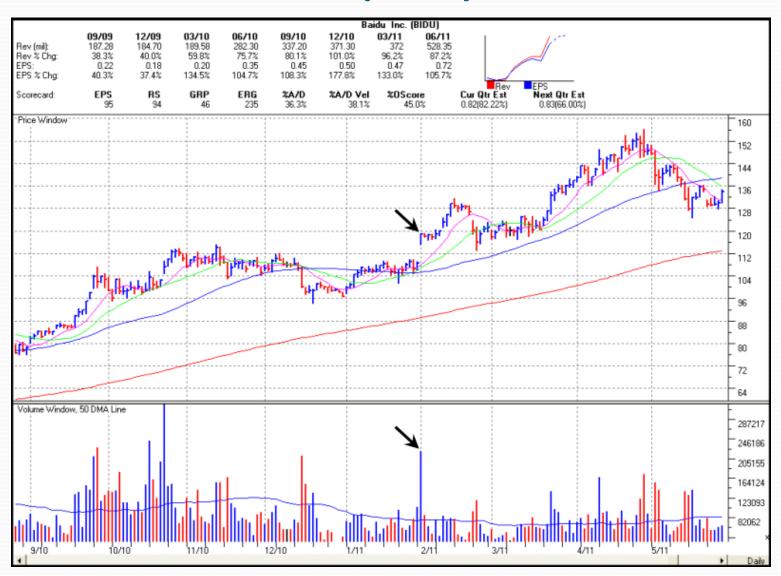
#### Green Mountain Coffee Roasters (GMCR) - 2010



#### Herbalife, Ltd. (HLF) - 2011



#### Baidu, Inc. (BIDU) - 2011

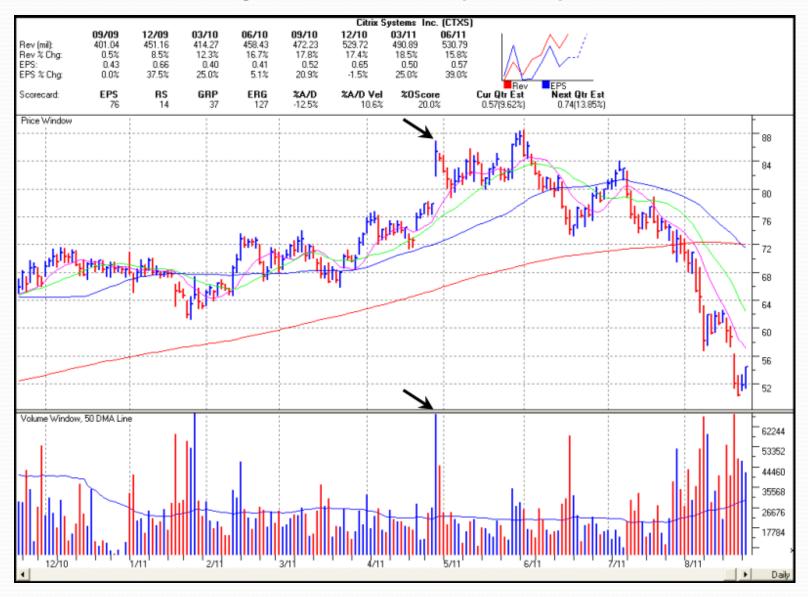


### **Failure Analysis**

#### Green Mountain Coffee Roasters (GMCR) - 2011



#### Citrix Systems, Inc. (CTXS) - 2011



#### Intuitive Surgical, Inc. (ISRG) - 2011



#### Cepheid (CPHD) - 2011

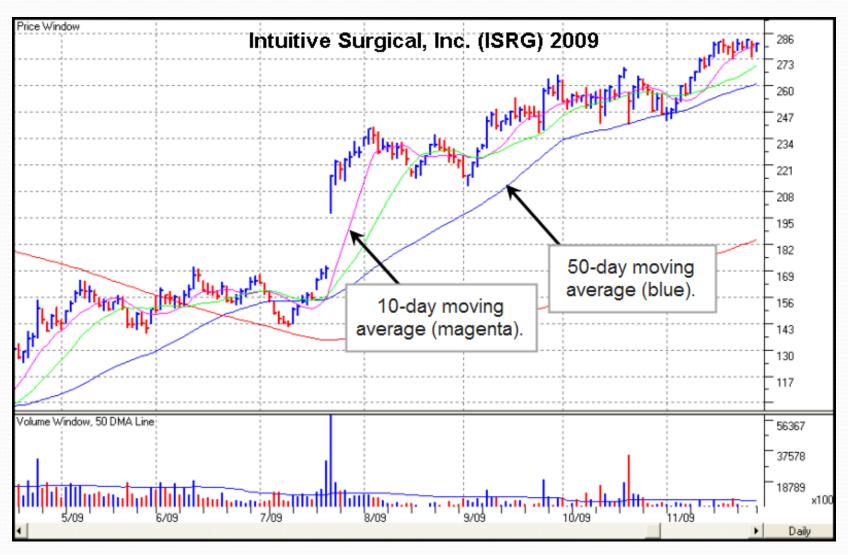


#### The Seven-Week Rule

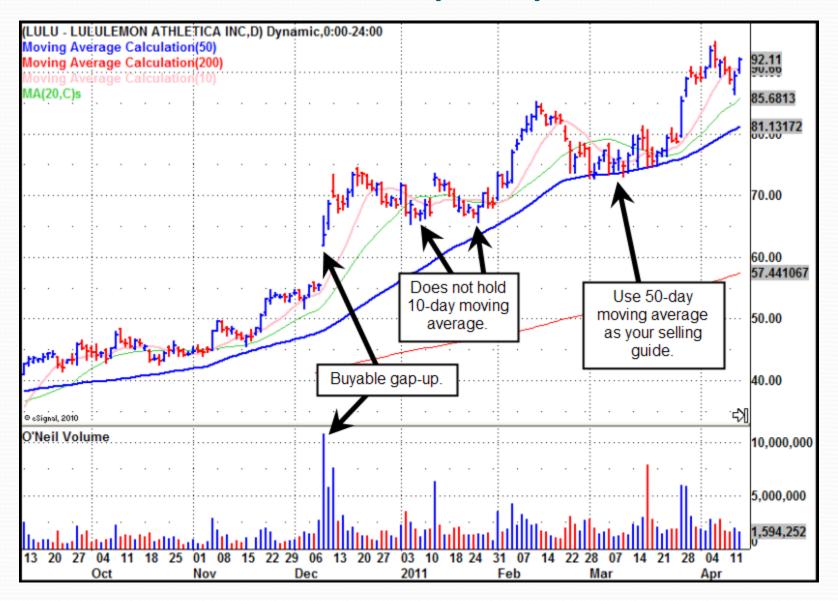
## Selling Guides for Buyable Gap-Ups: Use of the 10-day and 50-day moving averages in conjunction with Buyable Gap-Ups is governed by the "Seven-Week Rule."

- **10-day** = Stocks that have shown a tendency to "obey" or "respect" the 10-day moving average for at least **7 weeks** in an uptrend should often be sold once the stock violates the 10-day line.
- **50-day** = If they don't show such a tendency to obey the 10-day moving average then it is better to use the 50-day moving average as your guide for selling.
- This rule can help prevent you from selling a stock prematurely if it is simply not its nature to hold the 10-day moving average and it tends to drop below the 10-day line often. Our studies indicate that a stock within an uptrend and which is also shown to obey the 10-day moving average for at least 7 weeks following a buy point (e.g., breakout, pocket pivot, buyable gap-up, etc.) should be sold upon its first violation of the 10-day line. A "violation" is defined as a close below the 10-day moving average followed by a move on the next day below the intraday low of the first day.
- More on this later today in the Trading Simulation.

#### Intuitive Surgical, Inc. (ISRG) and the 50-day Moving Average



#### Lululemon Athletica, Inc. (LULU) - December 2010



#### Summary

- Buyable gap-ups are often "too high to buy" and thus increase the contrarian odds of success since the crowd is scared away.
- Buyable gap-ups often lead to sharp, sustained upside price moves, particularly in the earlier stages of a stock's overall price move during a bull market, e.g., coming out of the initial or second-stage base consolidations as the stock starts to make new price highs at or near the start of a new bull market phase.
- Buyable gap-ups that occur in strong, fundamentally thematic leadership have the highest probability of success.