

ing, mining, logging, agriculture, petroleum, and general construction. Products include tractors, scrapers, graders, compactors, loaders, off-highway truck engines, and pipelayers. Also makes diesel & turbine engines and lift trucks. Foreign sales 63% of total;

than 1.0% of common stock; State Street, 10.6%; BlackRock, 6.6% (4/13 proxy). Chairman & Chief Executive Officer: Douglas R. Oberhelman. Inc.: DE. Addr.: 100 Northeast Adams St., Peoria, IL 61629. Tel.: 309-675-1000. Web: www.caterpillar.com.

**ANNUAL RATES** Past Est'd '10-'12 Past 5 Yrs. 6.5% 8.0% 8.0% 10 Yrs. 11.5% to '17-'19 of change (per sh) 4.5% 5.5% 5.5% Sales "Cash Flow" 14.5% 19.0% Earnings Dividends Book Value 10.5% 10.0% 10.0% 11.0% 4.5% 9.0%

38128

8161

9648

10752

28561

42524

12391

10611

29755

6753

38303

11031

27297

6560

9706

**Current Assets** 

Accts Payable Debt Due

Current Liab

Cal- endar	QU Mar.31	JUN.30	SALES (\$ Sep.30	mill.) Dec.31	Full Year
2011	12949	14230	15716	17243	60138
2012	15981	17374	16445	16075	65875
2013	13210	14621	13423	14402	55656
2014	13120	14580	13650	14500	55850
2015	13810	14950	14250	15250	58260
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE A				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2011	1.84	1.72	1.93	2.32	7.81
2012	2.37	2.54	2.54	1.91	9.36
2013	1.31	1.45	1.45	1.58	5.79
2014	1.22	1.50	1.50	1.58	5.80
2015	1.45	1.70	1.65	1.85	6.65
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B=				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2010	.42	.42	.44	.44	1.72
2011	.44	.44	.46	.46	1.80
2012	.46	.46	.52	1.04	2.48
2013		.52	.60	.60	1.72
2014	60				

Caterpillar reported better-thanexpected fourth-quarter results. Sales regressed 10% from the year-earlier total, to \$14.40 billion, while the bottom line fell 17%, to \$1.58 per share. It's worth noting, however, that both figures topped our estimates and Wall Street consensus expectations. The year that just ended was overshadowed by a substantial decline in sales of relatively high-margined mining products. Looking for ways to enhance operating efficiencies, Caterpillar took substantial actions to reduce costs. A lower share count also helped buffer some of the pressure on the bottom line. With the impending completion of a \$7.5 billion sharerepurchase initiative, the company's board of directors has approved a new authorization of \$10 billion.

Management is looking for flattish year-over-year sales comparisons in 2014, with the measure likely approximating \$56 billion. Caterpillar lowered its inventory by \$2.9 billion in 2013, and dealers reduced their inventories by more than \$3 billion. While these inventory reductions were a significant sales and production headwind for Caterpillar in 2013,

we believe the significant impact on sales is largely over. Moreover, CAT is seeing some signs of improvement, which should be positive for sales within the Construction Industries and Power Systems units. Despite an expectation that global mine production will increase in 2014, spending on new equipment is apt to be depressed. Thus, sales in the Resource Industry will probably decline. Excluding restructuring actions, which are expected to reduce share net by \$0.50 to \$0.60 (on an aftertax basis), ČAT is looking for earnings of \$5.85. This outlook includes cost improvement, but little price realization, a continuing negative mix of sales, and a higher tax rate.

The neutrally ranked shares offer subpar total-return potential to 2016-**2018.** There is ample room to lift operating margins closer to previous levels, though, we think a cautious stance is warranted until efforts to rebuild sales at Caterpillar gain traction. Optimism about an eventual rebound in the mining industry has sent the value of these shares materially higher in recent months.

Dominic B. Silva February 21, 2014

(A) Diluted earnings. Excl. net nonrecurring gain (losses): '03, (6¢); '06, (8¢); '07, 5¢; '08, (5¢); '11, (41¢); '12, (88¢). Includes 75¢ of restructuring costs in '09; est'd Health Care

Reform chg of 11¢ in 1Q, '10. Next egs report late April. (B) Div'ds historically paid mid-February, May, August, November. '13 1Q Divd's paid in '12 4Q. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan | basis.

avail. (C) Incl. equip. purch. for leasing.
(D) Incl. intang. In '13: \$10.6 bill., \$16.43/sh.
(E) In mill., adjusted for split. (F) Accelerated

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A+ 50 Price Growth Persistence 80 **Earnings Predictability** 45