|  | $E$ |  | OQ |  |  |  |  | ENT | $3$ | $\mathrm{P} / \mathrm{E}$ RATIC |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Trailit } \\ & \text { Medi } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ng: } 31.6 \\ & \text { an: } 15.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{\|l} \text { RELATIVE } \\ \text { P/E RATIO } \end{array}$ | $1.7$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { DIV’D } \\ & \text { YLD } \end{aligned}$ |  |  | ALUE LINE |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| TIMELIN | $\text { JESS } 3$ | Lowered | $1 / 22 / 23$ | High: Low: | $\begin{array}{r} 25.2 \\ 14.6 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | 20.5 <br> 13.8 | 29.9 17.6 | 33.6 23.0 | 29.7 22.4 | $\begin{aligned} & 44.3 \\ & 28.7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 58.4 \\ & 36.6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 73.5 \\ & 35.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{\|r\|} \hline 138.8 \\ 53.2 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 182.1 \\ & 116.2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 182.9 \\ & 125.9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 198.2 \\ & 124.2 \end{aligned}$ |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Target Pric } \\ & 2026 \end{aligned}$ | Range 2028 |
| SAFE |  | Raised | $7 / 20$ | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline \text { LEGEN } \\ \hline \ldots \\ \hline \ldots \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { NDS } \\ & 3.0 \times \text { "Cash } \\ & \text { elative Price } \end{aligned}$ | $\text { low" } p s$ trength |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $-320$ |
| $\text { BETA } 1 .$ | $.00 \quad 1.00=$ | Market) |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 7-for-1 } \\ & \text { 4-for-1 } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | -200 |
| 18-Mon | Targe | Price | ange | Options: | Yes area ind | recess |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\downarrow$ |  |  | In |  |  |  | - 160 |
| Low-H |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | III |  |  |  |  |  | -120 |
| \$155-\$2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 100 |
|  | 28 PRO | JECTIO |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 60 |
|  |  |  | 1 Total eturn |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ${ }^{111}$ | $\\|\left.^{\prime \prime}\right\|^{11}$ |  |  |  | **-n** |  |  |  | $\begin{array}{r} -60 \\ -40 \end{array}$ |
| $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline \text { High } \\ \text { Low } \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $65$ | $\begin{aligned} & 35 \% \\ & 15 \% \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | III |  |  |  | $\bullet . . . \cdots *$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Institu | tional D | ecisio |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | \% TO | RETURN 11/23 <br> this VLarith |  |
|  | 102023 | 202023 | 302023 | Percen |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{array}{rrr}\text { STOCK } & \text { INDEX } \\ 29.0 & 1.7\end{array}$ |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { to Buy } \\ & \text { to Sell } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1765 \\ & 2317 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1692 \\ & 2507 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1870 \\ & 2385 \end{aligned}$ | shares traded |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 3 yr . | $62.4 \quad 23.1$ |  |
| Hld's(00) | 1305109 | 11688 | 096803 |  |  | Thl | H |  |  |  |  |  | 年 |  |  |  |  | 5 yr . | 342.251 .6 |  |
| 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | © VA | JJE LINE PUB. LLC | 26-28 |
| . 98 | 1.31 | 1.45 | 2.54 | 4.16 | 5.95 | 6.79 | 7.79 | 10.47 | 10.10 | 11.18 | 13.96 | 14.64 | 16.17 | 21.55 | 24.73 | 24.65 | 28.30 | Sales p | rsh ${ }^{\text {A }}$ | 37.60 |
| . 16 | . 21 | . 25 | . 59 | 1.07 | 1.71 | 1.74 | 2.02 | 2.90 | 2.63 | 2.85 | 3.70 | 3.82 | 4.03 | 6.24 | 6.96 | 6.97 | 7.70 | "Cash | low" per sh | 10.25 |
| . 14 | . 19 | . 22 | . 54 | . 99 | 1.58 | 1.42 | 1.61 | 2.31 | 2.08 | 2.30 | 2.98 | 2.97 | 3.28 | 5.61 | 6.11 | 6.13 | 6.50 | Earning | per sh B | 9.00 |
| . |  |  |  |  | . 09 | . 41 | . 45 | . 50 | . 55 | . 60 | . 68 | . 75 | . 80 | . 85 | . 91 | . 95 | 1.06 | Div'ds | Decl'd per sh E | 1.56 |
| . 03 | . 04 | . 05 | . 08 | . 16 | . 32 | . 32 | . 41 | . 50 | . 60 | . 61 | . 70 | . 59 | . 43 | . 65 | 67 | . 70 | . 80 | Cap'I | ending per sh | 1.00 |
| . 60 | . 85 | 1.10 | 1.86 | 2.94 | 4.50 | 4.91 | 4.75 | 5.35 | 6.01 | 6.54 | 5.63 | 5.09 | 3.85 | 3.72 | 3.18 | 4.00 | 4.45 | Book V | lue per sh | 4.65 |
| 24425 | 24873 | 25195 | 25647 | 26020 | 26298 | 25178 | 23465 | 22315 | 21345 | 20505 | 19020 | 17773 | 16977 | 16977 | 15943 | 15500 | 14000 | Commo | Shs Outst'g ${ }^{\text {C }}$ | 12500 |
| 26.3 | 30.4 | 19.2 | 15.2 | 12.4 | 12.0 | 12.3 | 13.0 | 12.8 | 12.6 | 14.9 | 15.3 | 16.1 | 24.7 | 23.4 | 25.9 | 26.4 |  | Avg A | 'I P/E Ratio | 27.0 |
| 1.40 | 1.83 | 1.28 | . 97 | . 78 | . 76 | . 69 | . 68 | . 64 | . 66 | . 75 | . 83 | . 86 | 1.27 | 1.26 | 1.50 | 1.53 |  | Relativ | P/E Ratio | 1.50 |
| .. | .. | . |  | .- | .5\% | 2.3\% | 2.2\% | 1.7\% | 2.1\% | 1.8\% | 1.5\% | 1.6\% | 1.0\% | .6\% | .6\% | .6\% |  | Avg An | 'I Div'd Yield | .6\% |
| CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 9/30/23 <br> Total Debt $\$ 105.1$ bill. Due in $5 \mathrm{Yrs} \$ 50.0$ bill. <br> LT Debt $\$ 95.3$ bill. LT Interest $\$ 4.0$ bill. <br> ( $61 \%$ of Cap') |  |  |  |  |  | 170910 | 182795 | 233715 | 215639 | 229234 | 265595 | 260174 | 274515 | 365817 | 394328 | 383285 | 396350 | Sales | mill) A | 470000 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 32.6\% | 33.1\% | 35.3\% | 32.7\% | 31.2\% | 30.8\% | 29.4\% | 28.2\% | 32.9\% | 33.1\% | 33.5\% | 32.5\% | Operati | $g$ Margin | 33.0\% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 6757.0 | 7946.0 | 11257 | 10505 | 10157 | 10903 | 12547 | 11056 | 11284 | 11104 | 11519 | 11750 | Deprec | ation (\$mill) ${ }^{\text {D }}$ | 12450 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 37037 | 39510 | 53394 | 45687 | 48351 | 59531 | 55256 | 57411 | 94680 | 99803 | 96854 | 96165 | Net Pro | it (\$mill) | 115640 |
| Leases, Uncapitalized Annual rentals $\$ 2.0$ bill. |  |  |  |  |  | 26.2\% | 26.1\% | 26.4\% | 25.6\% | 24.6\% | 18.3\% | 15.9\% | 14.4\% | 13.3\% | 16.2\% | 14.7\% | 16.0\% | Income | Tax Rate | 16.0\% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 21.7\% | 21.6\% | 22.8\% | 21.2\% | 21.1\% | 22.4\% | 21.2\% | 20.9\% | 25.9\% | 25.3\% | 25.3\% | 24.3\% | Net Pro | it Margin | 24.6\% |
| No Defined Benefit Pension Plan |  |  |  |  |  | 29628 | 5083.0 | 8768.0 | 27863 | 27831 | 14473 | 57101 | 38321 | 9355.0 | d28559 | d1742 | 2200 | Workin | Cap'I (\$mill) | 13875 |
| Pfd Stock None |  |  |  |  |  | 16960 | 28987 | 53463 | 75427 | 97207 | 93735 | 91807 | 98667 | 109106 | 98959 | 95280 | 92000 | Long-T | m Debt (\$mill) | 82000 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 123549 | 111547 | 119355 | 128249 | 134047 | 107147 | 90488 | 65339 | 63090 | 50672 | 62146 | 62125 | Shr. Eq | uity (\$mill) | 68050 |
| Common Stock 15,550 mill. shs. |  |  |  |  |  | 26.5\% | 28.4\% | 31.3\% | 23.2\% | 21.8\% | 30.8\% | 31.5\% | 36.5\% | 55.8\% | 67.7\% | 63.0\% | 64.0\% | Return | n Total Cap'l | 79.0\% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 30.0\% | 35.4\% | 44.7\% | 35.6\% | 36.1\% | 55.6\% | 61.1\% | 87.9\% | 150.1\% | 197.0\% | 155.9\% | 155\% | Return | $n$ Shr. Equity | 170\% |
| MARKET CAP: $\$ 3.0$ trillion (Large Cap) |  |  |  |  |  | 21.4\% | 25.4\% | 35.0\% | 26.2\% | 26.5\% | 42.8\% | 45.5\% | 66.3\% | 127.1\% | 167.7\% | 131.7\% | 130\% | Retaine | to Com Eq | 141\% |
| CURRE | NT POSI | ION | 2021 | 2022 | 9/3023 | 29\% | 28\% | 22\% | 27\% | 26\% | 23\% | 26\% | 25\% | 15\% | 15\% | 16\% | 16\% | All Div' | s to Net Prof | 17\% |


| (SMILL.) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cash Assets | 62639 | 48304 | 61555 |
| Receivables | 26278 | 28184 | 29508 |
| Inventory (FIFO) | 6580 | 4946 | 6331 |
| Other | 39339 | 53971 | 46172 |
| Current Assets | 134836 | 135405 | 143566 |
| Accts Payable | 54763 | 64115 | 62611 |
| Debt Due | 15613 | 21110 | 9822 |
| Other | 55105 | 68757 | 72875 |
| Current Liab. | 125481 | 153982 | 145308 |
| ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh) | $\begin{gathered} \text { Past } \\ 10 \text { Yrs. } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{lr} \hline \text { Past } & \text { Est' } \\ 5 \text { Yrs. } & \text { to } \end{array}$ | t'd '20-'22 <br> to '26-'28 |
| Sales | 17.5\% | 14.5\% | 9.5\% |
| "Cash Flow" | 17.5\% | 15.5\% | 8.5\% |
| Earnings | 17.0\% | 17.5\% | 8.5\% |
| Dividends | - | 9.5\% | 11.5\% |
| Book Value | 1.5\% | -9.5\% | 8.0\% |


| Fiscal <br> Year <br> Ends | QUARTERLY SALES (\$ mill.) A <br> Dec.Per Mar.Per Jun.Per |  |  |  | Full |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2020 | 91819 | 58313 | 59685 | 64698 | 274515 |
| Fiscal |  |  |  |  |  |
| Year |  |  |  |  |  |$|$

BUSINESS: Apple Inc., established in 1977, is one of the world's
largest makers of PCs and peripheral and consumer products, such
as the iPhone smartphone, the Apple Watch, the iPad tablet, and its
Mac line of personal computers, for sale primarily to the business,
creative, education, government, and consumer markets. It also
sells operating systems, services like iCloud storage and Apple
Apple closed out fiscal 2023 on an up note (ended September 30th). Although fourth-period sales were down slightly versus the year before, they improved $9.4 \%$ on a sequential basis. Notably, the flagship iPhone set a quarterly record of $\$ 43.8$ billion (up 2.8\%), fueled by strength in emerging markets. Meanwhile, Services revenue hit an all-time high of $\$ 22.3$ billion ( $+16.3 \%$ ), with new records in every category. Altogether, these helped fuel a $13 \%$ rebound in profits, to $\$ 1.46$ a share.
We look for the positive momentum to carry into the current year. To be sure, Apple heads into fiscal 2024 with a number of ongoing challenges, including an uneven macroeconomic environment, underscored by inflation and higher interest rates. On the plus side, the company had a strong product lineup heading into the key holiday season, which has historically accounted for about $30 \%$ of full-year sales. These included the iPhone 15 lineup, the new MacBook Pro, and the Apple Watch Series 9 and Ultra 2. Also, the company continues to win over more fans, with more than half of recent Apple Watch, iPad, and Mac computer sales going to

Pay, and a host of digital content from the popular iTunes store and other portals. Research and development: 7.8\% of '23 sales. Has approximately 161,000 employees. Off./dir. own less than $1.0 \%$ of common stock; Vanguard, 8.0\%; BlackRock, 6.4\% (1/23 Proxy). CEO: Tim Cook. Inc.: CA. Addr.: One Apple Park Way, Cupertino, CA 95014. Tel.: 408-996-1010. Internet: www.apple.com.
customers new to the product. These positives, in addition to ongoing expansion growth in the Services segment (see below) support our call for mid-single-digit earnings growth in fiscal 2024, to a record $\$ 6.50$ a share.
Continued growth in higher-margin services revenues augurs well for the long-term profit outlook. Apple's installed base of active devices clocks in at over two billion, with well over one billion in paid subscriptions, almost double the tally from three years ago. As noted, the company continues to set revenue records across a number of categories, including advertising, the App Store, AppleCare, iCloud, and Apple Music. Altogether, Services accounted for $25 \%$ of the top line in the September quarter, up from $21 \%$ the year before.
So what about Apple stock? These shares have enjoyed an impressive run in 2023, rising nearly $50 \%$ for the year to date. As a result, appreciation potential out to 2026-2028 is considerably less compelling, and most investors will want to wait for a more appealing entry point.
Mario Ferro
December 22, 2023

