

dustry. These mirrors use sensors to detect glare from trailing approaching vehicles and darken to protect the driver's vision. It also makes dimmable aircraft windows for the aviation industry. Sells to most of the major automakers (has 3 customers who each ac-

Vanguard owns 10.2% of common stock; BlackRock, 9.3%; officers and directors, less than 1.0% (4/23 proxy). Pres. and CEO: Steve Downing. Inc.: MI. Address: 600 N. Centennial Street, Zeeland, MI 49464. Telephone: 616-772-1800. Internet: www.gentex.com.

103.0 250.6 **ANNUAL RATES** Past Est'd '20-'22 Past 5 Yrs. 5.0% 4.0% 4.0% of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '26-'28 8.0% 10.0% 10.0% Sales "Cash Flow" 11.0% 12.5% 13.5% Earnings Dividends Book Value 9.0% 9.0%

873.0

98.3

83.4

181.7

Current Assets

Accts Payable Debt Due

Current Liab.

48.3

1055.5

171.4

948.7

151.7

98.9

Cal-	QUARTERLY SALES (\$ mill.)				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2020	453.8	229.9	474.6	529.9	1688.2
2021	483.7	428.1	399.6	419.8	1731.2
2022	468.3	463.5	493.6	493.6	1919.0
2023	550.8	583.5	575.8	549.9	2260
2024	600	620	630	650	2500
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE A				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2020	.36	.02	.47	.58	1.43
2021	.46	.39	.32	.35	1.52
2022	.37	.31	.31	.37	1.36
2023	.42	.47	.45	.46	1.80
2024	.50	.55	.55	.60	2.20
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2019	.11	.115	.115	.115	.455
2020	.115	.12	.12	.12	.475
2021	.12	.12	.12	.12	.48
2022	.12	.12	.12	.12	.48
2023	.12	.12	.12	.12	

Gentex posted strong third-quarter results. Sales increased 17% compared to the previous-year tally. The advance was driven by a 10% rise in total auto-dimming mirror unit shipments, to 12.6 million. Demand for exterior auto-dimming mirrors from international customers was particularly robust, as volumes abroad jumped 19%. Global industry light-vehicle production increased 5% in the company's primary markets of North America, Europe, Japan, South Korea, and China, indicating Gentex outperformed the industry's gain by five percentage points. Margins widened in the period, supported by higher sales, improvements in freight and tariff-related costs, price increases, and an improving product mix. This more than offset elevated raw material and labor costs. This allowed share earnings of \$0.45 to surge 45% compared to the previousyear figure.

We think Gentex will finish 2023 with good results. Management noted that it was seeing a continuation of unit and content growth, which has been driven by the success of its technology platforms and increased take rates of its Full Display Mir-

ror products. The company expects total global light-vehicle production to rise 4% in its core markets in the December quarter. Gentex's top-line guidance for the year implies fourth-quarter sales are expected to increase 10%-12%, implying that the company will likely continue to outperform the broader market by a considerable amount. We think margins will continue to widen this year, driven by the higher sales, ongoing easing supply-chain challenges, price increases, and moderating costs. This ought to drive a big jump in profits this year. Looking to 2024, our estimates call for slowing, but still robust, top- and bottom-line growth. While management currently expects only a 1% rise in total global light-vehicle production, the company should continue to outperform the industry.

Shares of Gentex are ranked to track the broader market averages in the coming six to 12 months. But over the 3- to 5-year period, the stock, which has a Safety rank of 2 (Above Average), offers worthwhile price appreciation potential at the recent quotation.

Iason Dalavagas

December 8, 2023

(A) Diluted earnings. Quarterly earnings may not sum due to rounding. Next earnings report due in early February.

April, July, and October. (C) In millions, adjusted for stock split.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability B++ 95 Price Growth Persistence 80 **Earnings Predictability** 80