

automotive rearview mirrors. Its Night Vision Safety mirrors use sensors and electronic circuitry to detect glare from trailing approaching vehicles at night, and darken accordingly to protect the driver's vision. Sells to most of the major automakers (has 3 customers who each accounted for 10% or more of 2015 total sales).

International sales represent 68% of 2015 sales. Also makes commercial fire protection products. Has approximately 4,757 employees. Officers and directors own 2.9% of common stock, including 2.6% owned by Chairman & CEO Fred Bauer (3/16 proxy). Incorporated: MI. Address: 600 N. Centennial Street, Zeeland, MI 49464. Telephone: 616-772-1800. Internet: www.gentex.com.

Past Est'd '13-'15 ANNUAL RATES Past 5 Yrs. to '19-'21 of change (per sh) Sales "Cash Flow" 11.0% 14.5% 9.0% 21.5% 24.5% 7.0% 11.0% 12.0% 12.0% 7.5% 9.5% Earnings 10.5% 9.5% 8.0% 7.0% 13.5% Book Value QUARTERLY SALES (\$ mill.)

856.6

71.5 7.5

133.4

984.0

66.4

131.0

1108.8

71.0

85.5

156.5

Current Assets

Accts Payable Debt Due

Current Liab.

Cal-	QUALITY OF THE O				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2013	269.5	287.0	288.6	326.8	1171.9
2014	335.7	338.5	350.9	350.4	1375.5
2015	368.9	379.3	389.8	405.6	1543.6
2016	405.6	423.8	429.6	441	1700
2017	440	450	460	470	1820
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE A				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2013	.17	.18	.19	.24	.78
2014	.23	.26	.25	.24	.98
2015	.26	.25	.27	.30	1.08
2016	.28	.30	.32	.30	1.20
2017	.31	.32	.33	.34	1.30
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2012	.065	.065	.065	.065	.26
2013	.07	.07	.07	.07	.28
2014	.07	.08	.08	.08	.31
2015	.08	.085	.085	.085	.335
2016	.085	.085	.09	.09	

Gentex reported solid third-quarter **results.** Sales during the period rose 10% compared to the prior year, driven by a 9% increase in automotive mirror unit shipments, as well as a favorable shift in product mix. The advance was achieved despite a slight decrease in overall light-vehicle production in the company's primary regions. North American demand was modest, with revenues there rising 2%, but international demand was robust, with sales increasing 14%. The company continues to benefit from higher penetration of its interior and exterior auto-dimming mirrors among vehicle manufacturers. Margins during the quarter widened, thanks to purchasing cost reductions and a favorable product mix, which more than offset annual customer price reductions. This allowed share net to rise 19% from the prioryear tally, to \$0.32.

We think Gentex will finish the year with decent results. Management now looks for 2016 total light-vehicle production to rise 2% in North America, to 17.88 million units; climb 3% in Europe, to 21.49 million; and decline 2% in Japan and South Korea, to 12.95 million. These

estimates are all slightly below the guidance provided in the prior quarter. Based on this production forecast, the company slightly lowered the top end of its sales forecast for the year, by \$10 million, to a range of between \$1.68 billion and \$1.71 billion. We are maintaining our share-net estimate of \$1.20 for the year, as ongoing purchasing cost reductions, along with a more favorable mix toward auto-dimming mirrors with advanced features, ought to help support the advance.

We look for 2017 top- and bottom-line growth of 7% and 8%, respectively. Management noted that, despite continued downward revisions in light-vehicle production estimates for the year, it is reaffirming its previous revenue projection. The company will likely continue to outpace industry vehicle production due to the large number of products it expects to launch in the coming year.

Shares of Gentex are ranked to trail the broader market averages in the coming six to 12 months. Over the 3- to 5-year period, these shares offer wide total return potential at the recent quotation.

Iason Dalavagas December 16, 2016

(A) Diluted earnings. Next earnings report due in late January.

(B) Payments typically made in late January, April, July, and October.

(C) In millions, adjusted for stock splits.

Company's Financial StrengthB++Stock's Price Stability35Price Growth Persistence70Earnings Predictability60