

| CURRENT POSITION (\$MILL.) |  |  | 2017 | 2018 | 9/30/19 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cash Assets |  |  | 569.7 | 217.0 | 260.2 |
| Receivables |  |  | 231.1 | 213.5 | 253.1 |
| Inventory (FIFO) |  |  | 216.8 | 225.3 | 238.7 |
| Other |  |  | 166.9 | 195.1 | 235.5 |
| Current Assets |  |  | 184.5 | 850.9 | 987.5 |
| Accts Payable |  |  | 89.9 | 92.8 | 95.3 |
| Debt Due |  |  | 78.0 |  |  |
| Other Current Liab. |  |  | 75.7 | 76.4 | 87.0 |
|  |  |  | 243.6 | 169.2 | 182.3 |
| ANNUAL RATES |  | Past $10 \mathrm{Yrs}$ |  | $\begin{array}{ll} \text { ast } & \text { Est'd } \\ \text { Yrs. } & \text { to } \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { d '16-'18 } \\ & \text { '22'24 } \end{aligned}$ |
| Sales "Cash Flow" |  | 11.5 |  | 1.0\% | 7.0\% |
|  |  | 14.5 |  | .5\% | 8.0\% |
| Earnings |  | 15.0 |  | .0\% | 8.5\% |
| Dividends |  | 7.0 |  | 8.5\% | 8.5\% |
| Book Value |  | 10.5 |  | 2.0\% | 5.5\% |
| Calendar | QUARTERLY SALES (\$ mill.) |  |  |  | Full Year |
|  | Mar. 31 | Jun. 30 | Sep. 30 | Dec. 31 |  |
| 2016 | 405.6 | 423.8 | 429.6 | 419.9 | 1678.9 |
| 2017 | 453.5 | 443.2 | 438.6 | 459.6 | 1794.9 |
| 2018 | 465.4 | 455.0 | 460.3 | 453.4 | 1834.1 |
| 2019 | 468.6 | 468.7 | 477.8 | 444.9 | 1860 |
| 2020 | 490 | 480 | 480 | 480 | 1930 |
| Calendar | EARNINGS PER SHARE A |  |  |  | Ill |
|  | Mar. 31 | Jun. 30 | Sep. 30 | Dec. 31 | Ye |
| 2016 | . 25 | . 31 | . 32 | . 31 | 1.19 |
| 2017 | . 33 | . 31 | . 31 | . 33 | 1.28 |
| 2018 | . 40 | . 40 | . 41 | . 41 | 1.62 |
| 2019 | . 40 | . 42 | . 44 | . 39 | 1.65 |
| 2020 | . 40 | . 40 | . 45 | . 50 | 1.75 |
| Cal- | QUAR | RLY DI | DIVIDENDS | PAID ${ }^{\text {B }}$ | ull |
| end | Mar. 31 | Jun. 30 | Sep. 30 | Dec. 31 | Year |
| 2015 | . 08 | . 085 | . 085 | . 085 | . 335 |
| 2016 | . 085 | . 09 | . 09 | . 09 | . 355 |
| 2017 | . 09 | . 10 | . 10 | . 10 | . 39 |
| 2018 | . 11 | . 11 | . 11 | . 11 | . 44 |
| 2019 | . 11 | . 115 | . 115 | . 115 |  |

BUSINESS: Gentex Corporation manufactures automatic-dimming
automotive rearview mirrors and electronics for the automotive in-
dustry. These mirrors use sensors to detect glare from trailing ap-
proaching 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-
Gentex posted decent third-quarter results. Sales of $\$ 478$ million increased 4\% compared to the previous-year tally, a stellar performance considering the roughly 3\% decline in global light-vehicle production volumes during the period. Automotive mirror unit shipments rose 6\%, to 10.84 million. Demand for exterior mirrors was particularly strong, rising 18\%, to 3.51 million units. Partially offsetting these gains was the General M otors strike, which began in mid-September, that tempered volumes. Domestic demand continued to be strong, particularly for exterior mirrors, but international volumes were solid, as well. Margins widened, thanks to the higher volumes, along with a favorable product mix and better-thanexpected purchasing cost reductions, which more than offset tariff-related expenses. This allowed share earnings for the period to increase $7 \%$ compared to the previous-year tally.
We anticipate a slowdown to finish the year. Management expects a 5\% reduction in total light-vehicle production in
the fourth quarter, to 19.39 million units. It also thinks the General Motors strike
counted for $10 \%$ or more of 2018 total sales). Also makes commercial fire protection products. Has approximately 5,705 employees. BlackRock owns $9.3 \%$ of common stock; Vanguard, $9.1 \%$; officers and directors, less than 1.0\% (3/19 proxy). Pres. and CEO: Steve Downing. Incorp.: MI. Address: 600 N. Centennial Street, Zeeland, MI 49464. Telephone: 616-772-1800. Internet: www.gentex.com.
will decrease sales by between $\$ 7$ million and $\$ 8$ million per week of the strike. As a result, Gentex estimates that Decemberquarter sales will be between $\$ 430$ million and $\$ 455$ million. We have therefore reduced our 2019 top-line forecast by \$40 million, to $\$ 1.86$ billion. Management also lowered the top end of its gross margin guidance. All told, we have reduced our 2019 share-net estimate by a nickel, to \$1.65.
We anticipate decent 2020 top- and bottom-line growth. While management noted that 2020 light-vehide production forecasts have continued to worsen over the past few months, it still expects sales to rise $3 \%-8 \%$ compared to the 2019 estimate. Ongoing trade tensions remain a wild card, however. But continued stock repurchases should provide a boost to share earnings.
Shares of Gentex are ranked to outperform the broader market averages in the coming six to 12 months. The equity, which has a dividend yield of $1.6 \%$, offers about-average price appreciation potential over the 3- to 5-year haul. I ason Dalavagas

December 13, 2019
(A) Diluted earnings. Quarterly earnings may not sum due to rounding. Next earnings report not sum due to roun 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 Strength
Stock's Price Stability
Price Growth Persistence

