S&P Recommendation STRONG BUY $\star \star \star \star$	<b>Price</b>	12-Mo. Target Price	Investment Style			
	\$82.95 (as of Apr 13, 2012)	\$103.00	Large-Cap Blend			
GICS Sector Energy	Summary XOM formed through the merger of Exxon and Mobil in late 1999, is the world					

8 55

9.10

9.7

4,713.2

Market Capitalization(B)

Institutional Ownership (%)

**Dividend Rate/Share** 

Yield (%)

Sub-Industry Integrated Oil & Gas

**Summary** XOM, formed through the merger of Exxon and Mobil in late 1999, is the world's largest publicly owned integrated oil company.

\$390.962

2.27

\$1.88

49

Key Stock Statistics (Source S&P, Vickers, company reports)

52-Wk Range	\$88.13- 67.03	S&P Oper. EPS 2012 <b>E</b>
Trailing 12-Month EPS	\$8.42	S&P Oper. EPS 2013 <b>E</b>
Trailing 12-Month P/E	9.9	P/E on S&P Oper. EPS 2012E
\$10K Invested 5 Yrs Ago	\$11,972	Common Shares Outstg. (M)

## **Price Performance**



Analysis prepared by Equity Analyst Michael Kay on Mar 19, 2012, when the stock traded at \$86.78.

## Highlights

- XOM grew production to 4.53 MMboe/d in 2011, up 1%, as XTO, Qatar and Iraq outweighed the effects of OPEC guotas and production-sharing contracts. XOM recently reduced its production outlook, targeting a 3% decline in 2012 and growth of 1%-2% per year between 2011-2016, with a base decline rate of 3%, driven by liquids. The start-up of 21 major global projects in 2012-2014 should add over 400,000 boe/d (80% liquids) by 2014 and over 1 MMboe/d by 2016. XOM is developing over 35 Bboe in unconventional projects, accounting for over 40% of its total resource base of 87 Bboe. About 87% of the Kearl project construction is complete and expected to add 120 Mboe/d by 2012 and 300 Mboe/d by 2013.
- In the downstream, we see 2012 refining being pressured in the second half as new capacity and slower demand growth affect global supply/demand balances. XOM's refinery units have provided a top-tier cost structure, offsetting some of the impact.
- On higher oil prices, we see EPS of \$8.55 in 2012 and \$9.10 in 2013. XOM sees \$5 billion per quarter in stock repurchases and capex of \$37 billion a year through 2016.

## **Investment Rationale/Risk**

- XOM has enjoyed superior earnings and dividend growth and stability (as evidenced by its S&P Quality Ranking of A+). We believe it will benefit from "big-pocket" upstream growth opportunities in the deepwater, LNG, onshore unconventional, and ventures with state-owned companies. We think XOM's advanced technology permits project development in a timely and cost-efficient manner. In addition, we see its upstream business benefiting from a strong pipeline of long-lived assets with an improving decline rate of 3%, and the downstream unit should benefit over the long term from its complex large refineries, which offer feedstock and product flexibility. We see further expansion of activities in global LNG and frontier regions and targeted divestments across businesses.
- Risks to our recommendation and target price include deterioration in economic, industry and operating conditions, such as difficulty replacing reserves and increased production costs.
- On our DCF (\$102; WACC 5.9%, terminal growth 3%) and relative valuations, including a target enterprise value of 6X our 2012 EBITDA estimate, a premium to the supermajor oil peer average of 4.5X, our 12-month target price is \$103.

Qualitative	Risk Assessment
-------------	-----------------

S&P Credit Rating

**Beta** 

LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH

S&P 3-Yr. Proj. EPS CAGR(%)

**STANDARD** 

0.50

AAA

14

&POOR'S

Our risk assessment reflects our view of the company's diversified and strong business profile in volatile, cyclical and capital-intensive segments of the energy industry. We consider ExxonMobil's earnings stability and corporate governance practices to be above average.

## Quantitative Evaluations

S&P 0	uality	Ranki	ng				A+
D	C	B-	В	B+	A-	Α	A+
Relativ	ve Stre	ength I	Rank			мос	DERATE
			37				
LOWEST	= 1					HIG	HEST = 99

## **Revenue/Earnings Data**

## Revenue (Million \$)

	10	20	30	40	Year
2011	114,000	125,486	125,330	113,119	486,429
2010	90,250	92,490	95,300	105,190	383,221
2009	64,028	74,457	82,260	89,841	310,586
2008	116,854	138,072	137,737	84,696	477,359
2007	87,223	98,350	102,337	116,642	404,552
2006	86,317	96,024	96,268	86,858	377,635

### Earnings Per Share (\$)

2011	2.14	2.18	2.13	1.97	8.42
2010	1.33	1.60	1.44	1.85	6.22
2009	0.92	0.81	0.98	1.27	3.98
2008	2.03	2.22	2.86	1.55	8.69
2007	1.62	1.83	1.70	2.14	7.28
2006	1.37	1.72	1.77	1.76	6.62

Fiscal year ended Dec. 31. Next earnings report expected: NA. EPS Estimates based on S&P Operating Earnings; historical GAAP earnings are as reported.

Dividend Data (Dates: mm/dd Payment Date: mm/dd/yy)											
Amount (\$)	Date Decl.	Ex-Div. Date	Stk. of Record	Payment Date							
0.470	04/27	05/11	05/13	06/10/11							
0.470	07/27	08/10	08/12	09/09/11							
0.470	10/26	11/08	11/10	12/09/11							
0.470	01/25	02/08	02/10	03/09/12							
Dividends have	heen naid sind	e 1882 Sou	rce: Compar	v renorts							

## Business Summary March 19, 2012

CORPORATE OVERVIEW. In late 1999, the FTC allowed Exxon and Mobil to reunite, creating Exxon Mobil Corp. ExxonMobil's businesses include oil and natural gas exploration and production (80% of 2011 segment earnings); refining and marketing (10%); chemicals (10%); and other operations, such as electric power generation, coal and minerals.

Including non-consolidated equity interest, proved oil and gas reserves grew 0.5% in 2011, to 24.9 billion barrels of oil equivalent (boe; 49% petroleum liquids, including oil sands; 65% developed). Oil and gas production rose 1%, to 4.53 million boe/d (54% petroleum liquids). Rising production and reserves primarily reflected the completion of the XTO Energy acquisition. XOM replaced 107% of its 2011 production (116% excluding asset sales). Using data from John S. Herold, we estimate XOM's three-year (2008-2010) reserve replacement at 154%, above the peer average of 145%; three-year finding and development costs at \$19.05 per boe, above the peer average of \$17.52 per boe; proved acquisition costs at \$8.97 per boe, below the peer average of \$16.13 per boe.

At year-end 2011, the company had an ownership interest in 36 refineries with 6.22 million barrels per day (b/d) of atmospheric distillation capacity (U.S. 31%, Europe 28%, Asia Pacific 27%, Canada 8%, and Middle East/Latin America/Other 6%). The marketing operations sell products and services throughout the world. Exxon, Esso and Mobil brands serve customers at over 25,000 retail service stations.

XOM's Chemical segment manufactures and sells petrochemicals, supplying olefins, polyolefins, aromatics, and a wide variety of other petrochemicals. At year-end 2011, XOM had a chemicals complex capacity of 22.1 million metric tons per year.

MARKET PROFILE. Based on a blend of oil and gas assets and production volumes, we estimate that XOM is the largest publicly traded integrated oil company in the world, serving customers in over 200 countries. Africa contributed 25% of 2011 sales, the U.S. 21%, Europe 20%, Asia 20%, Canada/South America 10%, and Australia/Oceania 3%. We believe its global functional organization and substantial diversification help mitigate its exposure to business risk and margin volatility.

XOM maintains the largest portfolio of proved reserves and production in North America, and is the biggest net producer of oil and gas in Europe. Through wholly owned ExxonMobil Canada Ltd. and its 69.6%-owned affiliate Imperial Oil, XOM is one of the largest oil and gas producers in Canada.

XOM believes it is the world's biggest refiner, as well as the largest producer of polyolefins, benzene and paraxylene in the world. Since 1995, XOM has added about 0.5% per annum to its refining capacity, the equivalent of building an average-sized refinery every three years.

CORPORATE STRATEGY. XOM plans to invest about \$185 billion over the next five years, or \$37 billion per year. A total of 21 major oil and gas projects will begin production between 2012 and 2014. In 2012 and 2013, XOM expects to start up nine major projects and anticipates adding over 1 million boe/d by 2016. Of the nine major upstream projects expected to start-up in the next two years, four are in West Africa, and others include the Kashagan Phase 1 in Kazakhstan and the Kearl Oil Sands project in Canada.

IMPACT OF MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS. During 2011, XOM negotiated production-sharing contracts with the regional government of Kurdistan. The Kurdistan Regional Government announced in November the signing of a deal for six exploration blocks with Exxon, the first major oil company to deal directly with the Kurds in northern Iraq. Iraq's central government considers it illegal to deal directly with the Kurds in northern Iraq, and it has threatened to block XOM from bidding on future oil projects and even to reconsider its role at the huge West Qurna-2 field, where XOM won a contract in 2009.

On June 25, 2010, XOM purchased XTO Energy, Inc. in an all-stock deal valued at \$40.5 billion (including \$10.0 billion of long-term debt). The deal added 2,471 million boe (84% natural gas) at an implied value of \$11.51 per proved boe. We believe XOM's technical expertise will unlock additional XTO resource potential in the coming years, and XTO's organization should provide a complementary platform for XOM to expand its unconventional natural gas and oil production worldwide.

FINANCIAL TRENDS. XOM's size gives it economies of scale, and its strong earnings have enabled it to build a cash balance of \$12.7 billion, compared with long-term debt of \$9.3 billion as of December 31, 2011. We believe XOM has enjoyed a superior degree of earnings and dividend growth and stability (evidenced by its S&P Quality Ranking of A+), and an above-average return on capital versus peers.

To fund growth, pre-XTO merger, capital spending was \$27.1 billion in 2009. XOM spent about \$36.8 billion (84% upstream) in 2011 and has budgeted \$37 billion per year through 2016.

XOM has continued its share repurchases, and the company appears to be using buybacks to balance its cash use. XOM's common stock repurchases totaled \$5 billion over the past four quarters, and it plans about \$5 billion of buybacks per quarter. In 2011, XOM repurchased \$20 billion of its shares and expects to repurchase the number of shares it issued for the XTO merger by the end of the first quarter of 2012. STANDARD &POOR'S

## **Corporate Information**

## Office

5959 Las Colinas Boulevard, Irving, TX 75039-2298.

**Telephone** 972-444-1000.

**Fax** 972-444-1348.

## Website

http://www.exxonmobil.com

## Officers

Chrmn, Pres & CEO R.W. Tillerson

Treas R.N. Schleckser

SVP & CFO D.D. Humphreys Secy

D.S. Rosenthal

## Chief Acctg Officer & Cntlr

P.T. Mulva

## **Board Members**

M. J. Boskin P. Brabeck-Letmathe L. R. Faulkner J. S. Fishman H. H. Fore K. C. Frazier W. W. George M. C. Nelson S. J. Palmisano S. S. Reinemund R. W. Tillerson E. E. Whitacre, Jr.

## Domicile

New Jersey

Founded 1870

Employees 82,100

Stockholders 507,028

% Return on Assets

% Return on Equity

Quantitative Evaluation	ıs				Expan	ded Ratio A	nalysis		
S&P Fair Value Rank Fair Value \$85. Calculation	1     2       LOWEST     Based on S&P's prop       from most overvalued       50     Analysis of the stock' quantitative model su \$2.55 or 3.1%.	l (1) to most und s current worth,	ervalued (5). based on S&P's	s proprietary	P/E Rat Avg. Dil	BITDA retax Incom	<b>201</b> 0.9 N/ 5.6 10.0 4,875.	01 0.93 A NA 64 6.76 06 11.76	
Investability				100	Key G	rowth Rates	and Average	es	
Quotient Percentile	LOWEST = 1 XOM scored higher th Report is available.	nan 100% of all c		HIGHEST = 100 hich an S&P	<b>Past Gr</b> Sales Net Inc	owth Rate (°	%)	<b>1 Year</b> 18.19 34.80	<b>3 Years</b> 0.53 1.69
Volatility	LOW	AVERAG	iE I	HIGH		onio		01.00	1.00
Technical NEUTR/ Evaluation Insider Activity	AL Since April, 2012, the NEUTRAL.	technical indica		ve been ORABLE	Net Ma % LT De	<b>nalysis</b> (Anr rgin (%) ebt to Capita on Equity (%	9.07 5.23 27.30	7.74 5.90 22.77	
Company Financials Fi	incel Veer Ended Dee	21							
	iscal feat chueu Dec		2010	2000	2000	2007	2000	2005	2004
Per Share Data (\$) Tangible Book Value Cash Flow Earnings S&P Core Earnings Dividends Payout Ratio Prices:High Prices:Low P/E Ratio:High P/E Ratio:Low Income Statement Analy Revenue Operating Income Depreciation, Depletion Interest Expense Pretax Income Effective Tax Rate Net Income S&P Core Earnings Balance Sheet & Other	and Amortization	2011 32.61 11.62 8.42 8.47 1.85 22% 88.23 67.03 10 8 452,926 NA 15,600 247 73,257 42.4% 41,060 41,327 on \$)	2010 29.49 9.43 6.22 6.48 1.74 28% 73.69 55.94 12 9 383,221 NA 14,760 259 52,959 40,7% 30,460 31,732	2009 23.39 6.44 3.98 4.36 1.66 42% 82.73 61.86 21 16 310,586 NA 11,917 548 34,777 43.5% 19,280 21,109	2008 22.70 11.08 8.69 8.64 1.55 18% 96.12 56.51 11 7 477,359 78,669 12,379 673 81,750 44,7% 45,220 44,959	2007 22.62 9.48 7.28 7.40 1.37 19% 95.27 69.02 13 9 404,552 156,810 12,250 957 71,479 41,8% 40,610 41,250	2006 19.87 8.89 6.62 6.75 1.28 19% 79.00 56.42 12 9 377,635 150,107 11,416 654 654 654 654 654 654 654 654 654 65	2005 18.13 7.34 5.71 5.72 1.14 20% 65.96 49.25 12 9 370,680 59,255 10,253 496 60,231 38,7% 36,130 36,164	2004 15.90 5.38 3.89 4.01 1.06 27% 52.05 39.91 13 10 298,035 45,639 9,767 638 42,017 37,9% 25,330 26,089
Cash Current Assets Total Assets Current Liabilities Long Term Debt Common Equity Total Capital Capital Expenditures Cash Flow Current Ratio % Long Term Debt of Ca		12,664 72,963 331,052 77,505 9,062 154,396 173,237 31,000 56,660 0.9 Nil	7,827 58,984 302,510 62,633 11,923 146,839 170,787 26,871 46,158 0.9 7.0 11.4	10,862 55,235 233,323 52,061 6,761 110,569 123,037 22,491 31,197 1.1 Nil	32,007 72,266 228,052 49,100 7,025 112,965 144,274 19,318 57,599 1.5 4.9	34,500 85,963 242,082 58,312 7,183 121,762 156,126 15,387 52,860 1.5 4.6 17,6	32,848 75,777 219,015 48,817 6,645 113,844 141,340 15,462 50,916 1.6 4.7	28,671 73,342 208,335 46,307 6,220 111,186 138,284 13,839 46,383 1.6 4.4	18,531 60,377 195,256 42,981 5,013 101,756 131,813 11,986 35,097 1.4 3.8

Data as orig reptd.; bef. results of disc opers/spec. items. Per share data adj. for stk. divs.; EPS diluted. E-Estimated. NA-Not Available. NM-Not Meaningful. NR-Not Ranked. UR-Under Review.

13.0

27.3

11.4

23.7

8.4

17.3

19.2

38.5

17.6

34.5

18.5

35.1

17.9

33.9

13.7

26.4



13.69

4.50

3.15

3.03

0.98

31%

41.13

31.58 13

246,738

32,230

9,047

32,660

33.7%

20,960

20,214

10,626

45,960

174,278

38,386

4,756

89,915

12,859 30,007

1.2

4.0

12.8

25.5

118,171

207

10

11.13

2.84

1.61

1.52

0.92

57%

44.58 29.75

28

18

204,506

23,280

17,719

36.7%

11,011

10,418

7,229

38,291

33,175

6,655

74,597

19,321

1.2

6.6

7.4

14.9

100,504 11,437

152,644

8,310

398

	2011	2010	2009	2008
Price/Sales	0.91	0.93	1.06	0.87
Price/EBITDA	NA	NA	NA	5.28
Price/Pretax Income	5.64	6.76	9.51	5.08
P/E Ratio	10.06	11.76	17.15	9.19
Avg. Diluted Shares Outstg (M)	4,875.0	4,897.0	4,848.0	5,203.0

Past Growth Rate (%)	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	9 Years
Sales	18.19	0.53	0.91	7.0
Net Income	34.80	1.69	-4.25	8.7
Ratio Analysis (Annua	l Avg.)			
Net Margin (%)	9.07	7.74	8.55	8.8
% LT Debt to Capitaliza	ntion 5.23	5.90	5.44	4.9
Return on Equity (%)	27.30	22.77	28.26	29.1
2008 2007	2006 2005	2004	2003	200

# **Sub-Industry Outlook**

Our fundamental outlook for the integrated oil & gas sub-industry for the next 12 months is positive. We look for U.S.-based supermajors to benefit from our forecasts of strong crude oil prices and economic growth. S&P Capital IQ believes global GDP expanded 3% in 2011 and will grow 2.8% in 2012 and 3.6% in 2013. We see continued M&A activity, notably in North American onshore and global frontier regions, and we look for renewed Gulf of Mexico drilling. Also, integrated oils continued to shed downstream assets in 2011, and we see further downsizing there in 2012.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) estimates that global oil demand grew by 0.83 million b/d in 2011, to 87.9 million b/d, and, as of March 2012, sees growth of 1.06 MMb/d in 2012, to 88.96 MMb/d, and 1.37 MMb/d in 2013, to 90.33 MMb/d. Reflecting new OPEC capacity, the EIA estimates global oil supply grew by 0.17 MMb/d in 2011, to 87.31 million b/d, and forecasts supply growth of 1.4 MMb/d in 2012 and 1.37 MMb/d in 2013. On disruptions in Libya, OPEC spare production capacity is believed to have fallen to 2.55 MMb/d (ex Iraq and Libya) in the fourth quarter, according to the EIA. OPEC production (ex Iraq and Libya) is 27.17 MMb/d, according to the EIA.

On disruptions in Libya and unrest elsewhere in the Middle East/North Africa, global oil prices have begun to climb once again. After a retreat in prices on tempered global economic data, further geopolitical friction, especially between Iran and the E.U., which has agreed to an embargo of Iran set to begin in July, we see strong oil prices through 2013. As of March 2012, using S&P estimates based on data from IHS Global Insight, West Texas Intermediate (WTI) spot oil prices were projected to average about \$104.50 per barrel in 2012 and \$114.75 in 2013, versus \$95.08 in 2011. Growing volumes of Canadian imports and greater takeaway capacity from shale plays have led to oversupply at Cushing, OK, leading to a price discount for WTI versus Brent and other oils. The differential has risen above \$18 per barrel.

For U.S. natural gas, high inventories following a warm winter and increased production from onshore shale plays have pressured spot prices, and we look for low prices to depress U.S. gas drilling activity in 2012. As of March, based on data from IHS Global Insight, S&P expects Henry Hub spot prices to average \$2.76 per million Btu in 2012 and \$3.75 in 2013, versus \$4.00 in 2011.

Year to date to March 16, the S&P Integrated Oil & Gas Sub-Industry Index was up 3.6%, versus an 11.8% rise in the S&P 1500 Composite Index. In 2011, the sub-industry index was up 11.8%, versus a 0.3% decline for the 1500.

--Michael Kay

# Stock Performance

## GICS Sector: Energy Sub-Industry: Integrated Oil & Gas

# Based on S&P 1500 Indexes

Month-end Price Performance as of 03/30/12



**NOTE:** All Sector & Sub-Industry information is based on the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS)

# Sub-Industry : Integrated Oil & Gas Peer Group\*: Supermajor Integrated Oil & Gas

Peer Group	Stock Symbol	Stk.Mkt. Cap. (Mil. \$)	Recent Stock Price(\$)	52 Week High/Low(\$)	Beta	Yield (%)	P/E Ratio	Fair Value Calc.(\$)	Quality Rankin	S&P IQ g %ile	Return on Revenue (%)	LTD to Cap (%)
Exxon Mobil	XOM	390,962	82.95	88.13/67.03	0.50	2.3	10	85.50	A+	100	9.3	NA
BP p.l.c. ADS	BP	133,180	42.15	48.34/33.62	1.21	4.6	6	47.30	NR	89	NM	21.9
Chevron Corp	CVX	199,239	100.78	112.28/86.68	0.78	3.2	7	105.50	A+	94	11.4	NA
ConocoPhillips	COP	94,224	73.63	81.50/58.65	1.14	3.6	8	NA	B+	99	5.3	NA
Royal Dutch Shell'A'ADS	RDS.A	209,671	67.24	77.97/57.97	1.02	4.2	7	77.60	NR	41	5.6	17.7
Royal Dutch Shell'B'ADR	RDS.B	93,347	68.80	78.81/58.37	1.03	4.9	9	69.10	NR	42	8.3	7.1
Total 'B' ADS	тот	107,683	47.77	64.44/40.00	0.99	4.0	6	51.00	NR	90	7.7	25.3

NA-Not Available NM-Not Meaningful NR-Not Rated. \*For Peer Groups with more than 15 companies or stocks, selection of issues is based on market capitalization.

# S&P Analyst Research Notes and other Company News

## March 1, 2012

Exxon Mobil Corporation announced the election of Henrietta H. Fore to its board of directors. Ms. Fore is chairman and chief executive officer of Holsman International, an investment and management company. Ms. Fore served from November 2007 to January 2009 as the first female administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and as director of U.S. Foreign Assistance. Previously, Ms. Fore served as undersecretary of state for management, the chief operating officer for the Department of State, and as the 37th director of the United States Min in the Department of Treasury and was elected president of the International Mint Directors.

## February 28, 2012

Exxon Mobil Corporation announced retirement of L. J. (Lucille) Cavanaugh of Vice President, Human Resources, effective April 1, 2012. The company anticipated that the board of directors will elect M. (Malcolm) Farrant, as vice president, Human Resources, effective April 1, 2012. Mr. Farrant is currently executive assistant to the chairman, Exxon Mobil Corporation.

## January 31, 2012

UP 0.00 to 85.49... XOM posts \$1.97 vs. \$1.85 Q4 EPS. Capital IQ consensus forecast was \$1.97. Says it recorded strong results while investing at record levels to develop new supplies of energy that are critical to meeting growing world demand.

## January 31, 2012

12:23 pm ET ... S&P MAINTAINS STRONG BUY RECOMMENDATION ON SHARES OF EXXON MOBIL CORPORATION (XOM 83.72\*\*\*\*\*): Q4 EPS of \$1.97, vs. \$1.85, is \$0.13 below our view on refining/chemicals. E&P was in line as prices offset soft volumes (up 1% in '11), impacted by OPEC quotas and production sharing (up 4% ex-impacts). U.S. onshore should ramp in '12, on rigs at Woodford and Bakken, and Permian testing. We see growth in Angola/Nigeria, where it moved a deepwater rig. Kearl project, seen adding 120 MBOE/d by '12, is 87% done. We look for deepwater success and cash flow over \$65B on a production ramp in '12, allowing it to fund a \$37B capex plan. We see '12 EPS of \$8.55 and set '13's at \$9.10. /M. Kay

# January 11, 2012

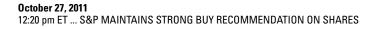
06:15 am ET ... S&P MAINTAINS STRONG BUY RECOMMENDATION ON SHARES OF EXXONMOBIL CORP. (XOM 85.50\*\*\*\*\*): XOM is set to report Q4 results on Jan 31. We see EPS of \$2.10, vs. \$1.85, up 14% on strong upstream fundamentals, refining margins that have nearly tripled since Q4 '10 and renewed chemicals demand. Production was likely up 5% in '11, surpassing a goal of 3%-4% for the year. We look for 4%-5% growth per annum through '14, reflecting acquired onshore U.S. XTO assets, LNG expansion in high-growth Asia-Pacific, and large deepwater and oil sands projects. We see a dividend hike and share repurchases in '12 as cash flow growth benefits from strong oil prices and a production ramp. /M. Kay

# November 29, 2011

Harold R. Cramer, vice president of Exxon Mobil Corporation, has announced his intention to retire effective January 1, 2012, with more than 38 years of service. Mr. Cramer joined Mobil Corporation in May 1973. During his career, he held a wide range of marketing, planning, supply, financial and management positions. These positions included planning manager overseeing Mobil's corporate planning activities; general manager supervising global supply, distribution, trading and sales; president, Mobil South Inc.; president, Mobil Asia Pacific; president, Mobil Europe; executive vice president and chief financial officer of Mobil Corporation; and member of Mobil Oil Corporation's Executive Committee.

# October 27, 2011

XOM posts \$2.13 vs. \$1.14 Q3 EPS (excld special items). Cites higher crude oil and natural gas realizations and improved refining margins. Says in Q3, capital and exploration expenditures were \$8.6 billion, and reached a record level of \$26.7B for first nine months of year as it continues pursing new opportunities to meet growing energy demand while supporting economic growth, including job creation.



OF EXXON MOBIL CORP. (XOM 81.35\*\*\*\*\*): Q3 EPS of \$2.13, vs. \$1.44, is \$0.07 below our forecast, but in line with Capital IQ consensus. U.S. E&P missed on prices, but international margins rose on new projects. Production fell 4%, but we see XOM surpassing 3%-4% '11 growth targets, and a 4%-5% per year ramp through '14. Growth is expected from Qatar, Russia and Iraq (6 rigs), where it has reached 370 MBOE/d (9% of total). It has completed 75% of Kearl construction, expected to add over 300 MBOE/d by '13. XOM runs 65 U.S. onshore rigs. On lower prices, we cut our '11 forecast \$0.20 to \$8.55 and '12's by \$1.15 to \$8.55. /M. Kay

## September 21, 2011

10:16 am ET ... S&P MAINTAINS STRONG BUY RECOMMENDATION ON SHARES OF APACHE CORP (APA 94.52\*\*\*\*\*): APA plans to acquire ExxonMobil's (XOM 71, Strong Buy) Beryl and other North Sea fields for \$1.75B (expected Q4 close), lifting North Sea production and reserves 54% and 44%, respectively (65% liquids). North Sea success at Forties (doubled reserves since '03) should aid to maximize Beryl opportunities. APA boosts exposure to higher-priced Brent crude and UK natural gas. North Sea will represent 11% of production (7% prior). We find APA's balance sheet superior with debt-to-capital of 23%, cash of \$1.1B, and capital flexibility vs. peers, and see valuation as compelling. /M. Kay

## August 30, 2011

11:14 am ET ... S&P MAINTAINS STRONG BUY RECOMMENDATION ON SHARES OF EXXON MOBIL CORP (XOM 73.31\*\*\*\*\*): XOM signs a strategic alliance with Rosneft (Russia's largest oil producer), granting it access to the Arctic, one of the most oil-prolific/unexplored regions. The deal includes a \$3.2B exploration program in the Kara Sea and Black Sea (33% XOM interest), the formation of a research center, joint development in Siberia and a partnership in other global projects. Rosneft had signed a \$4.9B Arctic deal with BP (BP 39 Hold) in January that fell through. We expect more future deals between Super Majors, which maintain technical know-how, and reserve-rich National Oil Companies. /M. Kay

## July 28, 2011

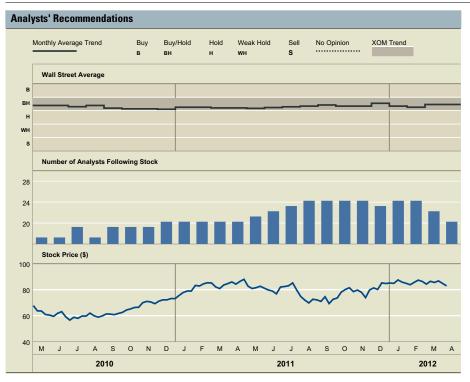
XOM posts \$2.18 vs. \$1.60 Q2 EPS on 36% higher revenue. Capital IQ consensus forecast was \$2.33.

# July 28, 2011

12:09 pm ET ... S&P MAINTAINS STRONG BUY RECOMMENDATION ON SHARES OF EXXON MOBIL CORP. (XOM 82.14\*\*\*\*\*): Q2 EPS of \$2.18, vs. \$1.60, is \$0.03 above our forecast, on oil prices, but missed production targets. Volumes grew 10%, on XTO assets, but were short of our view as oil fell in most regions, excluding Qatar, where projects are ramping. With gas more prominent at XOM, margins eroded in Q2, a minor headwind, in our view. We continue to see double-digit EPS and cash flow growth; we keep our '11 and '12 EPS forecasts at \$8.75 and \$9.70, and our target price of \$103. Our strong buy opinion reflects a positive outlook on oil and our view of superior growth and strong balance sheet. /M. Kay

## July 5, 2011

ExxonMobil Pipeline (a unit of XOM) says a unified command has been established to manage response activities, including recovering oil, monitoring air and water quality, and addressing questions from local residents, following a release of oil into the Yellowstone River in Montana.



Of the total 29 companies following XOM, 21 analysts currently publish recommendations.

	No. of Ratings	% of Total	1 Mo. Prior	3 Mos. Prior
Buy	8	38	9	10
Buy/Hold	3	14	3	3
Hold	9	43	10	9
Weak Hold	0	0	0	1
Sell	0	0	0	1
No Opinion	1	5	0	0
Total	21	100	22	24

## Wall Street Consensus Estimates



A company's earnings outlook plays a major part in any investment decision. Standard & Poor's organizes the earnings estimates of over 2,300 Wall Street analysts, and provides their consensus of earnings over the next two years. This graph shows the trend in analyst estimates over the past 15 months.

STANDARD &POOR'S

## Wall Steet Consensus Opinion

## BUY/HOLD

## **Companies Offering Coverage**

Argus Research Company Axia Financial research BMO Capital Markets, Canadian Equity Research Barclays BofA Merrill Lynch Citigroup Inc **Collins Stewart LLC** Credit Agricole Securities (USA) Inc. **Credit Suisse** Daiwa Securities Capital Markets Co. Ltd. **Deutsche Bank** Goldman Sachs Howard Weil Incorporated ISI Group Inc. JP Morgan Jefferies & Company, Inc. Macquarie Research Moody?s Morgan Stanley Morningstar Inc. Oppenheimer & Co. Inc. **RBC** Capital Markets **Raymond James & Associates** S&P Equity Research Sanford C. Bernstein & Co., Inc. Simmons & Company International Societe Generale Cross Asset Research The Benchmark Company, LLC UBS Investment Bank

#### Wall Street Consensus vs. Performance

For fiscal year 2012, analysts estimate that XOM will earn \$8.29. For fiscal year 2013, analysts estimate that XOM's earnings per share will grow by 8% to \$8.97.

## Glossary

#### S&P STARS

Since January 1, 1987, Standard and Poor's Equity Research Services has ranked a universe of common stocks based on a given stock's potential for future performance. Under proprietary STARS (STock Appreciation Ranking System), S&P equity analysts rank stocks according to their individual forecast of a stock's future total return potential versus the expected total return of a relevant benchmark (e.g., a regional index (S&P Asia 50 Index, S&P Europe 350 Index or S&P 500 Index)), based on a 12-month time horizon. STARS was designed to meet the needs of investors looking to put their investment decisions in perspective. Data used to assist in determining the STARS ranking may be the result of the analyst's own models as well as internal proprietary models resulting from dynamic data inputs.

## S&P 12-Month Target Price

The S&P equity analyst's projection of the market price a given security will command 12 months hence, based on a combination of intrinsic, relative, and private market valuation metrics, including S&P Fair Value.

### Investment Style Classification

Characterizes the stock as Growth or Value, and indicates its capitalization level. Growth is evaluated along three dimensions (earnings, sales and internal growth), while Value is evaluated along four dimensions (book-to-price, cash flow-to-price, dividend yield and sale-to-price). Growth stocks score higher than the market average on growth dimensions and lower on value dimensions. The reverse is true for Value stocks. Certain stocks are classified as Blend, indicating a mixture of growth and value characteristics and cannot be classified as purely growth or value.

#### S&P EPS Estimates

Standard & Poor's earnings per share (EPS) estimates reflect analyst projections of future EPS from continuing operations, and generally exclude various items that are viewed as special, non-recurring, or extraordinary. Also, S&P EPS estimates reflect either forecasts of S&P equity analysts; or, the consensus (average) EPS estimate, which are independently compiled by Capital IQ, a data provider to Standard & Poor's Equity Research. Among the items typically excluded from EPS estimates are asset sale gains; impairment, restructuring or merger-related charges; legal and insurance settlements; in process research and development expenses; gains or losses on the extinguishment of debt; the cumulative effect of accounting changes; and earnings related to operations that have been classified by the company as discontinued. The inclusion of some items, such as stock option expense and recurring types of other charges, may vary, and depend on such factors as industry practice, analyst judgment, and the extent to which some types of data is disclosed by companies.

#### S&P Core Earnings

Standard & Poor's Core Earnings is a uniform methodology for adjusting operating earnings by focusing on a company's after-tax earnings generated from its principal businesses. Included in the Standard & Poor's definition are employee stock option grant expenses, pension costs, restructuring charges from ongoing operations, write-downs of depreciable or amortizable operating assets, purchased research and development, M&A related expenses and unrealized gains/losses from hedging activities. Excluded from the definition are pension gains, impairment of goodwill charges, gains or losses from asset sales, reversal of prior-year charges and provision from litigation or insurance settlements.

#### Qualitative Risk Assessment

The S&P equity analyst's view of a given company's operational risk, or the risk of a firm's ability to continue as an ongoing concern. The Qualitative Risk Assessment is a relative ranking to the S&P U.S. STARS universe, and should be reflective of risk factors related to a company's operations, as opposed to risk and volatility measures associated with share prices.

#### Quantitative Evaluations

In contrast to our qualitative STARS recommendations, which are assigned by S&P analysts, the quantitative evaluations described below are derived from proprietary arithmetic models. These computer-driven evaluations may at times contradict an analyst's qualitative assessment of a stock. One primary reason for this is that different measures are used to determine each. For instance, when designating STARS, S&P analysts assess many factors that cannot be reflected in a model, such as risks and opportunities, management changes, recent competitive shifts, patent expiration, litigation risk, etc.

### S&P Quality Ranking

Growth and stability of earnings and dividends are deemed key elements in establishing S&P's Quality Rankings for common stocks, which are designed to capsulize the nature of this record in a single symbol. It should be noted, however, that the process also takes into consideration certain adjustments and modifications deemed desirable in establishing such rankings. The final score for each stock is measured against a scoring matrix determined by analysis of the scores of a large and representative sample of stocks. The range of scores in the array of this sample has been aligned with the following ladder of rankings:

A+	Highest
Α	High

В	Below Average
В-	Lower
С	Lowest
D	In Reorganizatio

- A-Above Average B+
- Average NR Not Ranked

## S&P Fair Value Rank

Using S&P's exclusive proprietary quantitative model, stocks are ranked in one of five groups, ranging from Group 5, listing the most undervalued stocks, to Group 1, the most overvalued issues. Group 5 stocks are expected to generally outperform all others. A positive (+) or negative (-) Timing Index is placed next to the Fair Value ranking to further aid the selection process. A stock with a (+) added to the Fair Value Rank simply means that this stock has a somewhat better chance to outperform other stocks with the same Fair Value Rank. A stock with a (-) has a somewhat lesser chance to outperform other stocks with the same Fair Value Rank. The Fair Value rankings imply the following: 5-Stock is significantly undervalued; 4-Stock is moderately undervalued; 3-Stock is fairly valued; 2-Stock is modestly overvalued; 1-Stock is significantly overvalued.

#### **S&P Fair Value Calculation**

The price at which a stock should trade at, according to S&P's proprietary quantitative model that incorporates both actual and estimated variables (as opposed to only actual variables in the case of S&P Quality Ranking). Relying heavily on a company's actual return on equity, the S&P Fair Value model places a value on a security based on placing a formula-derived price-to-book multiple on a company's consensus earnings per share estimate.

#### Insider Activity

Gives an insight as to insider sentiment by showing whether directors, officers and key employees who have proprietary information not available to the general public, are buying or selling the company's stock during the most recent six months.

#### **Funds From Operations FFO**

FFO is Funds from Operations and equal to a REIT's net income, excluding gains or losses from sales of property, plus real estate depreciation.

#### Investability Quotient (IQ)

The IQ is a measure of investment desirability. It serves

as an indicator of potential medium-to-long term return and as a caution against downside risk. The measure takes into account variables such as technical indicators, earnings estimates, liquidity, financial ratios and selected S&P proprietary measures.

#### S&P's IQ Rationale: Exxon Mobil

	Raw Score	Max Value
Proprietary S&P Measures	60	115
Technical Indicators	28	40
Liquidity/Volatility Measures	17	20
Quantitative Measures	51	75
IQ Total	156	250

#### Volatility

Rates the volatility of the stock's price over the past year.

## **Technical Evaluation**

In researching the past market history of prices and trading volume for each company, S&P's computer models apply special technical methods and formulas to identify and project price trends for the stock.

### **Relative Strength Rank**

Shows, on a scale of 1 to 99, how the stock has performed versus all other companies in S&P's universe on a rolling 13-week basis.

## **Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS)**

An industry classification standard, developed by Standard & Poor's in collaboration with Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI). GICS is currently comprised of 10 Sectors, 24 Industry Groups, 68 Industries, and 154 Sub-Industries.

#### **S&P Issuer Credit Rating**

A Standard & Poor's Issuer Credit Rating is a current opinion of an obligor's overall financial capacity (its creditworthiness) to pay its financial obligations. This opinion focuses on the obligor's capacity and willingness to meet its financial commitments as they come due. It does not apply to any specific financial obligation, as it does not take into account the nature of and provisions of the obligation, its standing in bankruptcy or liquidation, statutory preferences, or the legality and enforceability of the obligation. In addition, it does not take into account the creditworthiness of the guarantors, insurers, or other forms of credit enhancement on the obligation. The Issuer Credit Rating is not a recommendation to purchase, sell, or hold a financial obligation issued by an obligor, as it does not comment on market price or suitability for a particular investor. Issuer Credit Ratings are based on current information furnished by obligors or obtained by Standard & Poor's from other sources it considers reliable. Standard & Poor's does not perform an audit in connection with any Issuer Credit Rating and may, on occasion, rely on unaudited financial information. Issuer Credit Ratings may be changed, suspended, or withdrawn as a result of changes in, or unavailability of, such information, or based on other circumstances.

## Exchange Type

ASE - American Stock Exchange; AU - Australia Stock Exchange; BB - Bulletin Board; NGM - Nasdaq Global Market; NNM - Nasdaq Global Select Market; NSC -Nasdaq Capital Market; NYS - New York Stock Exchange; OTN - Other OTC (Over the Counter); OTC -Over the Counter; QB - OTCQB; QX - OTCQX; TS - Toronto Stock Exchange; TXV - TSX Venture Exchange; NEX -NEX Exchange.

#### **S&P Equity Research Services**

Standard & Poor's Equity Research Services U.S. includes Standard & Poor's Investment Advisory Services LLC; Standard & Poor's Equity Research Services Europe includes McGraw-Hill Financial Research Europe Limited trading as Standard & Poor's; Standard & Poor's Equity Research Services Asia includes McGraw-Hill Financial Singapore Pte. Limited's

Redistribution or reproduction is prohibited without written permission. Copyright © 2012 Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC. STANDARD & POOR'S, S&P, S&P 500, S&P Europe 350 and STARS are registered trademarks of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC.

In Reorganization

offices in Singapore, Standard & Poor's Investment Advisory Services (HK) Limited in Hong Kong, Standard & Poor's Malaysia Sdn Bhd, and Standard & Poor's Information Services (Australia) Pty Ltd.

Abbreviations Used in S&P Equity Research Reports CAGR- Compound Annual Growth Rate; CAPEX- Capital Expenditures; CY- Calendar Year; DCF- Discounted Cash Flow; EBIT- Earnings Before Interest and Taxes; EBITDA-Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization; EPS- Earnings Per Share; EV- Enterprise Value; FCF- Free Cash Flow; FF0- Funds From Operations; FY- Fiscal Year; P/E- Price/Earnings ; PEG Ratio-P/E-to-Growth Ratic; PV- Present Value; R&D- Research & Development; ROE- Return on Equity; ROI- Return on Investment; ROIC- Return on Invested Capital; ROA-Return on Assets; SG&A- Selling, General & Administrative Expenses; WACC- Weighted Average Cost of Capital

#### Dividends on American Depository Receipts (ADRs) and American Depository Shares (ADSs) are net of taxes (paid in the country of origin).

## **Required Disclosures**

In contrast to the qualitative STARS recommendations covered in this report, which are determined and assigned by S&P equity analysts, S&P's quantitative evaluations are derived from S&P's proprietary Fair Value quantitative model. In particular, the Fair Value Ranking methodology is a relative ranking methodology, whereas the STARS methodology is not. Because the Fair Value model and the STARS methodology reflect different criteria, assumptions and analytical methods, quantitative evaluations may at times differ from (or even contradict) an equity analyst's STARS recommendations. As a quantitative model, Fair Value relies on history and consensus estimates and does not introduce an element of subjectivity as can be the case with equity analysts in assigning STARS recommendations.

## S&P Global STARS Distribution

In North America: As of March 30, 2012, research analysts at Standard & Poor's Equity Research Services North America recommended 34.5% of issuers with buy recommendations, 57.9% with hold recommendations and 7.6% with sell recommendations.

In Europe: As of March 30, 2012, research analysts at Standard & Poor's Equity Research Services Europe recommended 30.1% of issuers with buy recommendations, 49.4% with hold recommendations and 20.5% with sell recommendations.

In Asia: As of March 30, 2012, research analysts at Standard & Poor's Equity Research Services Asia recommended 35.9% of issuers with buy recommendations, 54.3% with hold recommendations and 9.8% with sell recommendations.

Globally: As of March 30, 2012, research analysts at Standard & Poor's Equity Research Services globally recommended 34.0% of issuers with buy recommendations, 56.3% with hold recommendations and 9.7% with sell recommendations.

★★★★ 5-STARS (Strong Buy): Total return is expected to outperform the total return of a relevant benchmark, by a wide margin over the coming 12 months, with shares rising in price on an absolute basis.

★★★★ ★ 4-STARS (Buy): Total return is expected to outperform the total return of a relevant benchmark over the coming 12 months, with shares rising in price on an absolute basis.

★★★★★ 3-STARS (Hold): Total return is expected to closely approximate the total return of a relevant benchmark over the coming 12 months, with shares generally rising in price on an absolute basis.

 $\star$   $\star$   $\star$   $\star$   $\star$  **2-STARS (Sell)**: Total return is expected to

Redistribution or reproduction is prohibited without written permission. Copyright © 2012 Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC.

underperform the total return of a relevant benchmark over the coming 12 months, and the share price not anticipated to show a gain.

★★★★★ 1-STARS (Strong Sell): Total return is expected to underperform the total return of a relevant benchmark by a wide margin over the coming 12 months, with shares falling in price on an absolute basis.

**Relevant benchmarks:** In North America the relevant benchmark is the S&P 500 Index, in Europe and in Asia, the relevant benchmarks are generally the S&P Europe 350 Index and the S&P Asia 50 Index.

For All Regions: All of the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect the research analyst's personal views regarding any and all of the subject securities or issuers. No part of analyst compensation was, is, or will be directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or views expressed in this research report.

### S&P Global Quantitative Recommendations Distribution

In Europe: As of March 30, 2012, Standard & Poor's Quantitative Services Europe recommended 52.0% of issuers with buy recommendations, 19.0% with hold recommendations and 27.0% with sell recommendations.

In Asia: As of March 30, 2012, Standard & Poor's Quantitative Services Asia recommended 35.9% of issuers with buy recommendations, 21.0% with hold recommendations and 32.0% with sell recommendations.

**Globally:** As of March 30, 2012, Standard & Poor's Quantitative Services globally recommended 45.0% of issuers with buy recommendations, 20.0% with hold recommendations and 33.0% with sell recommendations.

## Additional information is available upon request.

# Other Disclosures

This report has been prepared and issued by Standard & Poor's and/or one of its affiliates. In the United States, research reports are prepared by Standard & Poor's Investment Advisory Services LLC ("SPIAS"). In the United States, research reports are issued by Standard & Poor's ("S&P"); in the United Kingdom by McGraw-Hill Financial Research Europe Limited, which is authorized and regulated by the Financial Services Authority and trades as Standard & Poor's; in Hong Kong by Standard & Poor's Investment Advisory Services (HK) Limited, which is regulated by the Hong Kong Securities Futures Commission; in Singapore by McGraw-Hill Financial Singapore Pte. Limited (MHFSPL), which is regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore; in Malaysia by Standard & Poor's Malaysia Sdn Bhd ("S&PM"), which is regulated by the Securities Commission; in Australia by Standard & Poor's Information Services (Australia) Pty Ltd ("SPIS"), which is regulated by the Australian Securities & Investments Commission; and in Korea by SPIAS, which is also registered in Korea as a cross-border investment advisory company.

The research and analytical services performed by SPIAS, McGraw-Hill Financial Research Europe Limited, MHFSPL, S&PM, and SPIS are each conducted separately from any other analytical activity of Standard & Poor's.

Standard & Poor's or an affiliate may license certain intellectual property or provide pricing or other services to, or otherwise have a financial interest in, certain issuers of securities, including exchange-traded investments whose investment objective is to substantially replicate the returns of a proprietary Standard & Poor's index, such as the S&P 500. In cases where Standard & Poor's or an affiliate is paid fees that are tied to the amount of assets that are invested in the fund or the volume of trading activity in the fund, investment in the fund will generally result in Standard & Poor's or an affiliate earning compensation in addition to the subscription fees or other compensation for services rendered by Standard & Poor's. A reference to a particular investment or security by Standard & Poor's and one of its affiliates is not a recommendation to buy, sell, or hold such investment or security, nor is it considered to be investment advice.

Indexes are unmanaged, statistical composites and their returns do not include payment of any sales charges or fees an investor would pay to purchase the securities they represent. Such costs would lower performance. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

Standard & Poor's and its affiliates provide a wide range of services to, or relating to, many organizations, including issuers of securities, investment advisers, broker-dealers, investment banks, other financial institutions and financial intermediaries, and accordingly may receive fees or other economic benefits from those organizations, including organizations whose securities or services they may recommend, rate, include in model portfolios, evaluate or otherwise address.

S&P Capital IQ and/or one of its affiliates has performed services for and received compensation from this company during the past twelve months.

#### Disclaimers

With respect to reports issued to clients in Japan and in the case of inconsistencies between the English and Japanese version of a report, the English version prevails. With respect to reports issued to clients in German and in the case of inconsistencies between the English and German version of a report, the English version prevails. Neither S&P nor its affiliates guarantee the accuracy of the translation. Assumptions, opinions and estimates constitute our judgment as of the date of this material and are subject to change without notice. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results.

Standard & Poor's, its affiliates, and any third-party providers, as well as their directors, officers, shareholders, employees, or agents (collectively S&P Parties) do not guarantee the accuracy, completeness or adequacy of this material, and S&P Parties shall have no liability for any errors, omissions, or interruptions therein, regardless of the cause, or for the results obtained from the use of the information provided by the S&P Parties. S&P PARTIES DISCLAIM ANY AND ALL EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, SUITABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR USE. In no event shall S&P Parties be liable to any party for any direct, indirect, incidental, exemplary, compensatory, punitive, special or consequential damages, costs, expenses, legal fees, or losses (including, without limitation, lost income or lost profits and opportunity costs) in connection with any use of the information contained in this document even if advised of the possibility of such damages. Capital IQ is a business of Standard & Poor's.

Ratings from Standard & Poor's Ratings Services are statements of opinion as of the date they are expressed and not statements of fact or recommendations to purchase, hold, or sell any securities or to make any investment decisions. Standard & Poor's assumes no obligation to update its opinions following publication in any form or format. Standard & Poor's ratings should not be relied on and are not substitutes for the skill, judgment and experience of the user, its management, employees, advisors and/or clients when making investment and other business decisions. Standard & Poor's rating opinions do not address the suitability of any security. Standard & Poor's has obtained information from sources it believes to be reliable,

STANDARD & POOR'S, S&P, S&P 500, S&P Europe 350 and STARS are registered trademarks of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC. The McGraw-Hill Companies



Standard & Poor's does not perform an audit and undertakes no duty of due diligence or independent verification of any information it receives.

Standard & Poor's keeps certain activities of its business units separate from each other in order to preserve the independence and objectivity of their respective activities. As a result, certain business units of Standard & Poor's may have information that is not available to other Standard & Poor's business units. Standard & Poor's has established policies and procedures to maintain the confidentiality of certain non-public information received in connection with each analytical process.

Standard & Poor's Ratings Services did not participate in the development of this report. Standard & Poor's may receive compensation for its ratings and certain credit-related analyses, normally from issuers or underwriters of securities or from obligors. Standard & Poor's reserves the right to disseminate its opinions and analyses. Standard & Poor's public ratings and analyses are made available on its Web sites, www.standardandpoors.com (free of charge), and www.ratingsdirect.com and www.globalcreditportal.com (subscription), and may be distributed through other means, including via Standard & Poor's publications and third-party redistributors. Additional information about our ratings fees is available at www.standardandpoors.com/usratingsfees.

This material is not intended as an offer or solicitation for the purchase or sale of any security or other financial instrument. Securities, financial instruments or strategies mentioned herein may not be suitable for all investors. Any opinions expressed herein are given in good faith, are subject to change without notice, and are only current as of the stated date of their issue. Prices, values, or income from any securities or investments mentioned in this report may fall against the interests of the investor and the investor may get back less than the amount invested. Where an investment is described as being likely to yield income, please note that the amount of income that the investor will receive from such an investment may fluctuate. Where an investment or security is denominated in a different currency to the investor's currency of reference, changes in rates of exchange may have an adverse effect on the value, price or income of or from that investment to the investor. The information contained in this report does not constitute advice on the tax consequences of making any particular investment decision. This material is not intended for any specific investor and does not take into account your particular investment objectives, financial situations or needs and is not intended as a recommendation of particular securities, financial instruments or strategies to you. Before acting on any recommendation in this material, you should consider whether it is suitable for your particular circumstances and, if necessary, seek professional advice.

This document does not constitute an offer of services in jurisdictions where Standard & Poor's or its affiliates do not have the necessary licenses.

For residents of the U.K. - This report is only directed at and should only be relied on by persons outside of the United Kingdom or persons who are inside the United Kingdom and who have professional experience in matters relating to investments or who are high net worth persons, as defined in Article 19(5) or Article 49(2) (a) to (d) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, respectively.

For residents of Singapore - Anything herein that may be construed as a recommendation is intended for general

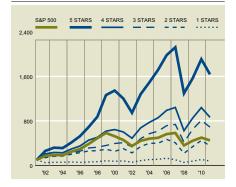
circulation and does not take into account the specific investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any particular person. Advice should be sought from a financial adviser regarding the suitability of an investment, taking into account the specific investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any person in receipt of the recommendation, before the person makes a commitment to purchase the investment product.

For residents of Malaysia - All queries in relation to this report should be referred to Ching Wah Tam.

For residents of Indonesia - This research report does not constitute an offering document and it should not be construed as an offer of securities in Indonesia, and that any such securities will only be offered or sold through a financial institution.

For residents of the Philippines - The securities being offered or sold have not been registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Regulation Code of the Philippines. Any future offer or sale thereof is subject to registration requirements under the Code unless such offer or sale qualifies as an exempt transaction.

U.S. STARS Cumulative Model Performance Hypothetical Growth Due to Price Appreciation of \$100 For the Period 12/31/1986 through 03/31/2012



The performance above represents only the results of Standard & Poor's model portfolios. Model performance has inherent limitations. Standard & Poor's maintains the models and calculates the model performance shown, but does not manage actual assets. The U.S. STARS model performance chart is only an illustration of Standard & Poor's (S&P) research; it shows how U.S. common stocks, ADRs (American Depositary Receipts) and ADSs (American Depositary Shares), collectively "equities", that received particular STARS rankings performed. STARS categories are models only; they are not collective investment funds. The STARS performance does not show how any actual portfolio has performed STARS model performance does not represent the results of actual trading of investor assets. Thus, the model performance shown does not reflect the impact that material economic and market factors might have had on decision-making if actual investor money had been managed. Performance is calculated using a time-weighted rate of return. While model performance for some or all STARS categories performed better than the S&P 500 for the period shown, the performance during any shorter period may not have, and there is no assurance that they will perform better than the S&P 500 in the future. STARS does not take into account any particular investment objective, financial situation or need and is not intended as an investment recommendation or strategy. Investments based on the STARS methodology may lose money. High returns are not necessarily the norm and there is no assurance that they can be sustained. Past model performance of STARS is no guarantee of future performance.

For model performance calculation purposes, the

<u>& POOR'S</u> equities within each STARS category at December 31, 1986 were equally weighted. Thereafter, additions to the composition of the equities in each STARS category are made at the average value of the STARS category at the preceding month end with no rebalancing. Deletions are

**STANDARD** 

composition of the equities in each STARS category are made at the average value of the STARS category at the preceding month end with no rebalancing. Deletions are made at the closing price of the day that the deletion is made. Performance was calculated from inception through March 31, 2003 on a monthly basis. Thereafter, performance is calculated daily. Equities in each STARS category will change over time, and some or all of the equities that received STARS rankings during the time period shown may not have maintained their STARS ranking during the entire period.

The model performance does not consider taxes and brokerage commissions, nor does it reflect the deduction of any advisory or other fees charged by advisors or other parties that investors will incur when their accounts are managed in accordance with the models. The imposition of these fees and charges would cause actual performance to be lower than the performance shown. For example, if a model returned 10 percent on a \$100,000 investment for a 12-month period (or \$10,000) and an annual asset-based fee of 1.5 percent were imposed at the end of the period (or \$1,650), the net return would be 8.35 percent (or \$8,350) for the year. Over 3 years, an annual 1.5% fee taken at year end with an assumed 10% return per year would result in a cumulative gross return of 33.1%, a total fee of \$5,375 and a cumulative net return of 27.2% (or \$27,200). Fees deducted on a frequency other than annual would result in a different cumulative net return in the preceding example.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index is the benchmark for U.S. STARS. The S&P 500 index is calculated in U.S. dollars and does not take into account the reinvestment of dividends. Indexes are unmanaged, statistical composites and their returns do not include payment of any sales charges or fees an investor would pay to purchase the securities they represent. Such costs would lower performance. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. The S&P 500 index includes a different number of constituents and has different risk characteristics than the STARS equities. Some of the STARS equities may have been included in the S&P 500 index for some (but not necessarily all) of the period covered in the chart, and some such equities may not have been included at all. The S&P 500 excludes ADRs and ADSs. The methodology for calculating the return of the S&P 500 index differs from the methodology of calculating the return for STARS. Past performance of the S&P 500 index is no guarantee of future performance.

An investment based upon the models should only be made after consulting with a financial advisor and with an understanding of the risks associated with any investment in securities, including, but not limited to, market risk, currency risk, political and credit risks, the risk of economic recession and the risk that issuers of securities or general stock market conditions may worsen, over time. Foreign investing involves certain risks, including currency fluctuations and controls, restrictions on foreign investments, less governmental supervision and regulation, less liquidity and the potential for market volatility and political instability. As with any investment, investment returns and principal value will fluctuate, so that when redeemed, an investor's shares may be worth more or less than their original cost.

For residents of Australia – This report is distributed by Standard & Poor's Information Services (Australia) Pty Ltd ("SPIS") in Australia. The entirety of this report is approved by Charles Baumann, who has reviewed and authorised its content as at the date of publication.

Any express or implied opinion contained in this report is limited to "General Advice" and based solely on consideration of the investment merits of the financial product(s) alone. The information in this report has not

Redistribution or reproduction is prohibited without written permission. Copyright © 2012 Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC. STANDARD & POOR'S, S&P, S&P 500, S&P Europe 350 and STARS are registered trademarks of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC.

been prepared for use by retail investors and has been prepared without taking account of any particular person's financial or investment objectives, financial situation or needs. Before acting on any advice, any person using the advice should consider its appropriateness having regard to their own or their clients' objectives, financial situation and needs. You should obtain a Product Disclosure Statement relating to the product and consider the statement before making any decision or recommendation about whether to acquire the product. Each opinion must be weighed solely as one factor in any investment decision made by or on behalf of any adviser and any such adviser must accordingly make their own assessment taking into account an individual's particular circumstances.

SPIS holds an Australian Financial Services Licence Number 258896. Please refer to the SPIS Financial Services Guide for more information at www.fundsinsights.com.au.

Redistribution or reproduction is prohibited without written permission. Copyright © 2012 Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC. STANDARD & POOR'S, S&P, S&P 500, S&P Europe 350 and STARS are registered trademarks of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC.