

| Cash Assets | 11129 | 11066 | 9565 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Receivables | 30578 | 31836 | 28002 |
| Inventory (Avg Cst) | 2287 | 2310 | 2356 |
| Other | 5439 | 6138 | 7240 |
| Current Assets | 49433 | 51350 | 47163 |
| Accts Payable | 7952 | 7461 | 5855 |
| Debt Due | 9181 | 6862 | 12876 |
| Other | $\underline{26492}$ | 25831 | 23575 |
| Current Liab. | 43625 | 40154 | 42306 |


| ANNUAL RATES | Past | Past | Est'd '111'13 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| of change (per sh) | 10 Yrs. | 5 Yrs. | to'11.'19 |
| Revenues | $6.5 \%$ | $6.0 \%$ | $2.5 \%$ |
| "Cash Flow" | $10.5 \%$ | $11.0 \%$ | $5.0 \%$ |
| Earnings | $13.0 \%$ | $14.0 \%$ | $5.0 \%$ |
| Dividends | $19.0 \%$ | $17.0 \%$ | $7.5 \%$ |
| Book Value | $2.5 \%$ | $2.5 \%$ | $19.5 \%$ |



BUSINESS: International Business Machines Corporation is a worldwide supplier of advanced information processing technology, communication systems, services, and program products. 2013 revenue breakdown: Global Technology Services, 37\%; Global Business Services, 18\%; Systems and Technology, 14\%; Software, $27 \%$; Global Financing, $4 \%$. Foreign business: $65 \%$ of 2013 reve-
IBM shares fell to a three-year low after the company logged disappointing earnings in the September term and abandoned its 2015 operating earnings target of $\$ 20.00$ a share. (We figure that works out to $\$ 18.00-\$ 19.00$ on a reported earnings basis.) In discussing its recent performance and turnaround efforts, IBM painted a difficult picture.
Revenues and pretax profits fell in all three of its segments in the period. Results were hurt by sales execution issues in software; less-than-expected productivity, a longer transition on new contracts, and price pressure on back office implementations in services; a slowdown in client activity in September that depressed systems revenues; and unfavorable currency shifts.

## Results also reflected the sale of

 IBM's semiconductor manufacturing operation. IBM doesn't have the scale to justify the investment needed for the move to next-generation chip technology. Revenues and reported earnings now exclude the discontinued business, including its operational losses and a transactionnues; Research, 6.2\%. '13 depreciation rate: 11.6\%. Has 431,212 empl. Officers \& directors control less than 1\% of stock; Berkshire Hathaway, 6.3\%; State Street, 5.4\%; BlackRock, 5.4\%; Vanguard Group, $5.1 \%$ (3/14 proxy). Chairman: Samuel J. Palmisano. Pres. \& CEO: Virginia M. Rometty. Inc.: NY. Add.: New Orchard Road, Armonk, NY 10504. Tel.: 914-499-1900. Internet: www.ibm.com.
and \$3.65 in the first nine months of 2014, as well as retirement/acquisition costs.
IBM faces intense competition in its quest to transition to new ways of computing, including the softwaredefined data center and software delivered via subscription. It has strengths in areas like analytics and is creating units to address growth markets. But transitioning will take time, and long-term earnings visibility is limited. We've sharply lowered our share-net estimates and projections. Decemberquarter results will include a \$0.75-ashare gain on the sale of IBM's Systems x line, which may be offset by the loss of the product's profits in that seasonally strong period and a workforce rebalancing charge. All told, the three businesses divested in 2014 had $\$ 7$ billion in annual revenues in 2013 that it will miss (but a combined $\$ 500$ million of losses). Currency may remain a headwind in 2015.
The stock's pullback has created the best entry point in a few years. But investors will need to be very patient, since IBM has a lot of work ahead of it. Theresa Brophy

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[^0]:    (A) Based on diluted shs. Excl. nonrecurring to change in shs. Next earnings report mid-Jan. Incl. Intangibles. As of $9 / 30 / 14, \$ 34.4$ billion, gains (losses), from discontinued operations; (B) Dividends historically paid in early March, $\$ 34.78 / \mathrm{sh}$. (E) In '08, incl. $\$ 15.2$ bill. retirement 03, (\$0.02); '04, (\$0.01); '05, (\$0.02); '06, $\$ 0.05$; '14. (\$3.65). Quarters may not sum due June, September, and December. - Dividend benefit plan loss. (F) For first six months of Company's Financial S Stock's Price Stability
    Price Growth Persistence

