

Cash Assets Other 19025 **Current Assets** 70994 29623 21502 Accts Payable Debt Due 16953 16453 16680 3933 4206 9486 6664 8649 27050 28064 30645 Current Liab.

ANNUAL RATES Past Est'd '12-'14 Past 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. -1.0% -1.0% 6.0% to '18-'20 of change (per sh) 3.0% -0.5% 1.5% Revenues "Cash Flow" 3.0% 1.5% 8.0% Earnings 2.0% Book Value -12.5% 5.0%

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Cal- endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30		Full Year
2012 2013 2014	28242 29420 30818	28552 29786 31483	29007 30279 31586	31065 33192	115846 120550 127079
2015 2016	31984 32600	32224 33100	32968 33100	33949 34200	131125 133000
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE A				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2012 2013 2014 2015 2016	.59 .68 .84 1.02 1.06	.64 .78 .91 1.04	.64 .78 .89 1.04 1.05	.45 1.76 .71 .85	2.32 4.00 3.35 3.95 4.05
Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31	TERLY DIV Jun.30	IDENDS P		Full Year
2011 2012 2013 2014 2015	.488 .50 .515 .53 .55	.488 .50 .515 .53 .55	.488 .50 .515 .55 .565	.50 .515 .53 .55	1.96 2.02 2.08 2.16

BUSINESS: Verizon Communications was created by the merger of Bell Atlantic and GTE in June of 2000. It is a diversified telecom company with a network that covers a population of about 298 million and provides service to nearly 98.2 million. Acquired MCI, 1/06; Alltel, 1/09; Verizon Wireless, 2/14. Also the largest provider of print and on-line directory information. Has a wireline presence in 28

Verizon has consummated the acquisition of AOL Inc. In late June, VZ completed the tender offer to purchase all outstanding shares of AOL for \$50.00 a share in cash. This roughly \$4.4 billion transaction is in keeping with Verizon's desire to build digital and video platforms in order to drive future growth, and the combination of Verizon and AOL will create a scaled, mobile-first platform offering directly targeted at a nearly \$600 billion global advertising industry.

global advertising industry.

The pending sale of certain assets recently cleared another hurdle. Earlier this month, the Federal Communications Commission approved the proposed \$10.54 billion sale of Verizon's local wireline networks assets and operations in California, Florida, and Texas, to Frontier Communications. As a result, the transaction ought to be completed in the first quarter of 2016.

Meanwhile, Verizon continues to ring up strong profits. To wit, VZ posted June-quarter earnings of \$1.04 a share, \$0.04 above our estimate and a 14% improvement on the year-ago figure, on a 2.4% top-line improvement. As is typically

states & Washington, D.C.; a wireless presence in 50 states & D.C.; operations in 19 countries. 2014 revenue breakdown: wireline (includes telecom & business), 31%; domestic wireless, 69%. Has approximately 177,300 employees. Chairman and CEO: Lowell McAdam. Inc.: Delaware. Addr.: 1095 Avenue of the Americas, NY, NY 10036. Tel.: 212-395-1000. Internet: www.verizon.com.

the case, Verizon Wireless was once again responsible for much of the good news. During the June interim, VZ Wireless added 1.1 million retail postpaid net subscribers (as compared to the 565,000 subscribers added to the ranks in the March quarter), bringing its total number of retail connections to 109.5 million. And Wireline division revenues were up by at least 4% for 12 consecutive quarters.

The company's board of directors is surely dedicated to boosting share-holder value. In keeping with its impressive track record of increasing the annual dividend (see above array), the board recently upped the quarterly dividend by \$0.015 a share, to \$0.565, bringing the annual payout to \$2.26 a share.

Investors with a longer-term perspective may wish to consider neutrally ranked Verizon stock. Indeed, at the recent quotation, the issue's 3- to 5-year capital appreciation potential is well above average. Moreover, Verizon stock could well be the darling of income-seeking investors, as its dividend yield is more than double that of *Value Line* median.

Kenneth A. Nugent September 18, 2015

(A) Based diluted shares. Excl. n/r gains (losses): '99, \$0.36; '00, \$1.40; '01, (\$2.86; 02, (\$1.56); '03, (\$1.51); '04, \$0.08; '08, \$0.08; '08, \$0.08. '08, \$0.42). Next earnings report October 20th. (B) MCI pro forma.

Div'd paid in early Feb., May, Aug. & Nov. ■ Div'd reinv. plan avail. (C) In mill. (D) Incl. fin. sub. from '88. (E) '00 GTE pro forma. (F) '06 MCI pro forma

Company's Financial StrengthA++Stock's Price Stability100Price Growth Persistence50Earnings Predictability65