

worldwide supplier of advanced information processing technology, communication systems, services, and program products. 2014 revenue breakdown: Global Technology Services, 38%; Global Business Services, 18%; Systems and Technology, 10%; Software, 32%; Global Financing, 2%. Foreign business: 55% of 2014 reve-

empl. Officers & directors control less than 1% of stock; Berkshire Hathaway, 7.8%; State Street, 5.5%; BlackRock, 5.4%; Vanguard Group, 5.6% (3/15 proxy). Chairman, Pres. & CEO: Virginia M. Rometty. Inc.: NY. Add.: New Orchard Road, Armonk, NY 10504. Tel.: 914-499-1900. Internet: www.ibm.com.

35535 Current Liab. **ANNUAL RATES** Past Est'd '12-'14 Past 10 Yrs. 6.0% 10.5% 13.0% 5 Yrs. 5.0% 9.0% 11.5% of change (per sh) to '18-'20 .5% 2.0% 2.0% Revenues "Cash Flow" Earnings Dividends Book Value 15.0% 8.0% 18.5% 19.5%

51350

7461

6862

25831

40154

49422

6864 5731

27005

39600

45186

5943

5329

24263

Current Assets

Accts Payable Debt Due

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31	TERLY RE Jun.30	VENUES (Sep.30	\$ mill.) Dec.31	Full Year
2012	24673	25783	24747	29304	104507
2013	23408	24924	23720	27699	99751
2014	22236	24047	22397	24113	92793
2015	19590	20813	19800	22297	82500
2016	19000	20500	19500	22500	81500
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE A Full				
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2012	2.61	3.34	3.33	5.13	14.37
2013	2.70	2.91	3.68	5.73	14.94
2014	2.43	4.23	3.46	5.54	15.59
2015	2.43	3.58	3.00	5.24	14.25
2016	2.25	3.40	3.20	5.40	14.25
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B=				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2011	.65	.75	.75	.75	2.90
2012	.75	.85	.85	.85	3.30
2013	.85	.95	.95	.95	3.70
2014	.95	1.10	1.10	1.10	4.25
2015	1.10	1.30	1.30		

For IBM, 2015 is turning out to be a perfect storm. Not only is the company struggling to shift its revenue mix to newer, faster-growing markets, but it also is taking a hit from currency volatility and slower growth in emerging economies.

June-quarter revenues fell 13%, only 1% adjusted for currency and last year's divestitures. On an adjusted basis, revenues were flat in developed nations but fell 5% in emerging economies, with the BRICs (Brazil, Russian, India, and China) down 35% as reported and 18% adjusted. Without the BRICs, total revenues would have risen 1%. Adjusted services revenues (60% of the total) were flattish. Software (which has very high margins) fell 3%. Systems revenues (only 10% of the mix) rose 5%, helped by new System z and Power systems, and the absence of the divested Systems x line. The gross margin benefited from the shift to highervalue offerings, but pretax margins were hurt by investment spending, currency shifts, and workforce rebalancing costs.

Some things are going well, but IBM still faces an uphill climb in its quest to put revenues and earnings back on

a growth track. We now figure share net in 2015 will come in at the low end of IBM's \$14.25-\$15.00 range (including \$1.50 of nonoperating costs), and look for lower revenues and operating margin improvement to result in flat earnings in 2016. Revenues from strategic markets, like analytics, grew at a 30% annual pace in the June quarter, with cloud computing up 70%, but these areas don't yet contribute enough to offset declines in legacy offerings and in developing nations (which may worsen in the difficult year ahead). The currency headwinds are likely to per-Year-ahead earnings prospects depend heavily on revenue picking up in the high-margined software business. The company will need to balance spending on areas of opportunity with savings from productivity improvements.

IBM shares took a significant hit in the August stock market rout. Though very patient investors may want to take advantage of the recent weakness to establish positions, the road to recovery may be long, and the Dow stock's Timeliness rank has slipped a notch, to 4 (Below Average)

Theresa Brophy October 2, 2015

(A) Based on diluted shs. Excl. nonrecurring gains (losses) from discontinued operations; '03, (\$0.02); '04, (\$0.01); '05, (\$0.02); '06. , '04, (\$0.01); '05, (\$0.02); '06, \$0.05; '14. (\$3.65). Quarters may not sum due

to change in shs. Next earnings report mid-Oct.(B) Dividends historically paid in early \$33.5 billion, \$34.17/sh. (E) In '08, incl. \$15.2 March, June, September, and December. | Dividend reinvestment plan available. (C) In

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A++ 90 Price Growth Persistence 55 **Earnings Predictability** 100