

Cash Assets Other 19025 **Current Assets** 70994 29623 22280 Accts Payable Debt Due 19362 16453 16680 3933 6489 6664 8649 9201 27050 28064 35052 Current Liab.

ANNUAL RATES Past Est'd '12-'14 Past 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. -1.0% -1.0% to '19-'21 3.0% 1.5% of change (per sh) 3.0% -0.5% 1.5% Revenues "Cash Flow" 8.0% 6.0% Earnings Dividends Book Value 2.0% 5.0% -12.5%

Cal-	QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.)				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2013	29420	29786	30279	31065	120550
2014	30818	31483	31586	33192	127079
2015	31984	32224	33158	34254	131620
2016	32850	32450	32700	33950	131950
2017	32985	32585	32835		132500
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE A				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2013	.68	.78	.78	1.76	4.00
2014	.84	.91	.89	.71	3.35
2015	1.02	1.04	1.04	.89	3.99
2016	1.06	1.02	1.02	.90	4.00
2017	1.07	1.04	1.04	.90	4.05
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2012	.50	.50	.50	.515	2.02
2013	.515	.515	.515	.53	2.08
2014	.53	.53	.53	.55	2.16
2015	.55	.55	.565	.565	2.23
2016	.565				

(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; '06,

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's bottom line will likely come under a bit of pressure going forward. The company finished 2015 on a high note, posting fourth-quarter earnings of \$0.89 a share, \$0.03 above our estimate and well above the year-ago result, on a 3.2% revenue advance. However, the outlook for the next couple of years is not quite as rosy. The pending sale of its high-margined wireline operations in California, Florida, and Texas to Frontier Communications (which is expected to close at the end of the first quarter), combined with the continued shift of the wireless customer base to device payment plans and the ramping of its new business models, does not augur well for top- nor bottom-line growth going forward. As a result, we now look for Verizon to post a relatively flat bottomline comparison in 2016, with a nickel-ashare advance in the cards for the following year.

Yet, investors seem rather unphased. Indeed, VZ stock is currently testing new highs, after rising approximately 15% in value since our December review (versus a 1.2% drop in the S&P 500 Index over the same period).

operations in 19 countries. 2015 revenue breakdown: wireline (includes telecom & business), 29%; domestic wireless, 71%. Has approximately 177,700 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

Finances are certainly in good shape. Verizon completed the final stanza of last year with approximately \$4.47 billion in cash on its ledger (down from \$10.6 billion a year prior) and long-term debt of \$103.7 billion (down from \$110.5 billion a year earlier). And we remain confident that VZ will use its cash flow to continue to bolster its dividend and make additional acquisitions, as management seems intent on ratcheting up the company's strategic capabilities and bolstering its spectrum assets.

High-quality Verizon stock has something for everyone. The issue's Timeliness rank has moved up a notch since our December review, and it is now pegged to outperform the broader market averages over the coming year. What's more, despite the aforementioned runup in its value, the equity still offers worthwhile capital-appreciation potential through the early years of the coming decade. Finally, Verizon stock could well be the darling of income-seeking investors, as its dividend yield is well above that of the Value Line median.

Kenneth A. Nugent

March 18, 2016

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 (\$0.42). Next earnings report April 21st. (B) MCI pro forma.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A++ 100 Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability** 65