

RECENT
PRICE


Receivables Inventory (Avg Cst)
Other 1954417908

32981
$\qquad$
19792
2181
2181
4897
$\frac{4897}{159851}$
$\overline{159851}$

7390
10121
10121
34102
12914

| Unearned Revenue | 23150 | 23223 | 34102 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Other | $\frac{13043}{}$ | 12560 | 12914 |
| Current Liab. | $\frac{45625}{49858}$ |  |  |


| ANNUAL RATES | Past | Past |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Oft'd '14'-16 |  |  |  |
| of change (per sh) | 10 Yrs. | 5 Yrs. | to' 19.21 |
| Revenues | $11.5 \%$ | $9.0 \%$ | $7.5 \%$ |
| "Cash Flow" | $11.0 \%$ | $7.0 \%$ | $8.5 \%$ |
| Earnings | $9.0 \%$ | $4.5 \%$ | $8.0 \%$ |
| Dividends | $16.5 \%$ | $17.5 \%$ | $9.5 \%$ |
| Book Value | $7.0 \%$ | $12.5 \%$ | $2.0 \%$ |


| Fiscal <br> Year <br> Ynds | QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.)A <br> Sep.30 |  | Full <br> Fulisal <br> Fiscal |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| 2014 | 18529 | 24519 | 20403 | 23382 | 86833 |
| Year |  |  |  |  |  |

BUSINESS: Microsoft Corp. is the largest independent maker of software. It develops and sells software products for a wide range of computing environments in consumer and enterprise markets. Hardware products include the Xbox video game console and Surface tablet. Revenue sources in fiscal 2017: Productivity \& Business Processes, $32 \%$; Intelligent Cloud, 28\%; More Personal Com
Microsoft Corporation ended fiscal
2017 on a strong note. 2017 on a strong note. (Years end J une 30th.) As has been the case for the last 12 to 18 months, the high-tech giant continued experiencing strong demand for its cloud infrastructure and related platform services (e.g., Azure), as well as from cloud-based productivity offerings Office 365 (in both the commercial and consumer markets) and Dynamics 365. Specifically, revenues from Microsoft's commercial cloud businesses finished the fiscal fourth quarter at an annual run rate of $\$ 18.9$ billion, up $56 \%$. Meanwhile, the gross margin in the commercial cloud arena was $52 \%$, up 10 points, with improvements across each of Azure, Office 365, and Dynamics 365. Windows 10 and its associated ecosystem also performed well versus the general PC market in the J une period. This was particularly notable in the commercial arena. Elsewhere, Gaming appears to be shaping up nicely, with good prospects for the holiday season. For its part, Search continued to contribute to corporate results, with advertising revenue advancing $10 \%$ (net of traffic acquisition costs).
puting, $40 \%$. R\&D, $13.5 \%$ of 2017 revenues. Employed 114,000 at $6 / 30 / 16$. Stock owners: William H. Gates, $2.5 \%$;, other offs. \& dirs., $0.5 \%$; The Vanguard Group, $6.1 \%$; BlackRock, Inc., $5.6 \%$; (10/16 proxy). Chrmn: John W. Thompson. CEO: Satya Nadella. Inc.: Washington. Addr.: One Microsoft Way, Redmond, Washington 98052-6399. Tel.: 425-882-8080. Internet: www.microsoft.com.
Microsoft shares have performed well so far this year. On balance, investors seemed to take the latest earnings report in stride, though, as support for the stock weakened slightly with the J une-period release. Indeed, a period of consolidation may be in order, particularly given the gains recorded in the last six to 12 months. That said, the prospects for Mi crosoft as a company remain intact. AIthough investment in the cloud is still required, the company should continue benefiting from the scale of the buildout. Accordingly, revenues and profits from its cloud infrastructure and cloud-based productivity services should remain in rapid growth mode in fiscal 2018. Moreover, Microsoft is demonstrating that it is a very effective competitor in the cloud arena, and will likely continue improving on its position in coming years, as the secular move to doud architecture unfolds. All things considered, though, new commitments to MSFT shares do not appear overly attractive, given the stock's current valuation. If the shares are already owned, we would advise to continue to hold them. Charles Clark

August 11, 2017
(A) Fiscal year ends June 30th.
(B) Diluted earnings. Quarters may not add to total. Excl. nonrec. items: '01, d26c; '02, d23c; otal. Excl. nonrec. items: '01, d26c; '02,
$03, \mathrm{~d} 5 \mathrm{c}$; 04 , d29¢; '05, d4c; '12, d72¢;
'13, d7¢; '15, d\$1.17; '16, d70c; '17, d37c. (E) Dividends historically paid in March, June, Next earnings report, late October. (C) In mill., Sept., and Dec. -Dividend reinvestment plan adjusted for stock split. (D) Includes in- available. Special dividend of $\$ 3.00$ a share adjusted or stock spit. (D) Includes in-
tangibles. In 2017: $\$ 35.1$ billion, $\$ 4.55$ a share.
paid December $2,2004$.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability
Price Growth Persistence
Earnings Predictability
Earnings Predictability
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