

180 countries around the world. Has five reportable segments: Beauty/Hair/Personal care (18% of fiscal 2017 sales); Grooming (10%); Health Care (12%); Fabric Care & Home Care (32%); Baby, Feminine & Family Care (28%). International sales accounted for

own less than 1% of common stock; BlackRock, 5.8%; Vanguard, 6.6% (8/17 proxy). Chairman/President/CEO: David S. Taylor. Inc.: Ohio. Address: 1 Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202. Telephone: 513-983-1100. Internet: www.pg.com

29790 30770 30210 Past Est'd '15-'17 **ANNUAL RATES** Past 5 Yrs. -2.5% 0.5% 0.5% 10 Yrs. 1.5% of change (per sh) to '20-'22 2.5% 6.0% 7.5% Sales "Cash Flow" 3.0% 3.5% Earnings 8.5% 3.5% Dividends Book Value 6.0% 6.5% 2.0%

29646

8257

9512

12021

33782

11653

9325

26494

13554

9632

7024

Current Assets

Accts Payable Debt Due

Current Liab.

Fiscal	QUARTERLY SALES (\$ mill.) A				Full
Year Ends	Sep.30	Dec.31	Mar.31	Jun.30	Fiscal Year
2014	20830	21897	20178	20157	83062
2015	20186	20161	18142	17790	76279
2016	16527	16915	15755	16102	65299
2017	16518	16856	15605	16079	65058
2018	16650	17350	16000	16500	66500
Fiscal	EARNINGS PER SHARE AB				_Full .
Year Ends	Sep.30	Dec.31	Mar.31	Jun.30	Fiscal Year
2014	1.05	1.20	1.02	.95	4.22
2015	1.04	1.06	.92	1.00	4.02
2016	.98	1.04	.86	.79	3.67
2017	1.03	1.08	.96	.85	3.92
2018	1.05	1.15	1.00	1.00	4.20
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID C=				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2013	.562	.602	.602	.602	2.37
2014	.602	.644	.644	.644	2.53
2015	.644	.663	.663	.663	2.63
2016	.663	.67	.67	.67	2.67
2017	.67	.69	.69		

Procter & Gamble may be facing a **proxy fight.** Over the past few months, the consumer goods conglomerate has seen rising pressure from activist investor Nelson Peltz of Trian Fund Management. In August, Mr. Peltz announced that he was seeking a seat on the board (at the upcoming shareholders meeting on October 10th), as part of his plan to drive additional value for stockholders. Meanwhile, P&G has encouraged shareholders to vote against Mr. Peltz appointment, as they feel the hedge fund manager's plans for the company would interfere with its current strategy (discussed below).

The company's transformation is well under way. P&G has been strengthening its business, and streamlining its portfolio. In the last couple of years, the company sold about 100 minor brands, including the sale of its beauty lines to Coty, and the spinoff of its battery business to Berkshire Hathaway. These moves have helped management focus on its remaining brands and categories. Too, it should continue to simplify its organization in order to increase productivity. Management plans to reduce operating expenses by roughly \$10

billion over the next five years. And these savings ought to offset rising input expenses and drive margins. Meanwhile, P&G has also been investing in product innovation and rolling out new offerings to keep up with consumer demand. It may also rely on a strong marketing campaign to bolster its brands and to capture additional market share.

We think the company will make some progress in fiscal 2018. We believe core earnings will continue to grow at a mid- to upper-single-digit clip this year, thanks to ongoing restructuring efforts. What's more, stronger organic sales and better shipment volume should enable the top line to rebound this year.

These shares are unfavorably ranked for year-ahead price performance. Although this blue-chip stock tends to stand out for Price Stability and Financial Strength, the aforementioned proxy fight may lead to some near-term price fluctuations. That said, PG shares hold decent risk-adjusted total return possibilities over the long haul for those willing to shoulder some added volatility.

Orly Seidman September 22, 2017

(A) Fiscal years end June 30th. (B) Diluted core earnings. Excludes nonrecurring: '01, (53¢); '02, (25¢); '03, (19¢); '08, (12¢); '09, (64¢); '10, 58¢; '11, (61¢); '12, (73¢); '13, Aug., and Nov. ■ DRIP available. (D) Includes intangibles. In '17: \$68.9 bill., \$26.98 a share. (E) In millions, adjusted for split.

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