

Intel shares garner our Highest rank (1) for Timeliness. We attribute this to the strong J une-quarter performance and the consequent share-price increase.
The J une quarter was a solid one for
the industry behemoth. Earnings from
operations, which exclude nonrecurring items, clocked in at $\$ 0.72$, a $22 \%$ boost from the previous-year figure. Improvement was broad based as most of the company's segments performed well. On point, Intel's largest unit, the Client Computing group, posted a low double-digit increase at the top line. We attribute the improvement to increased notebook volumes and average selling prices during the interim. What's more, the ramp-up of the company's long-term evolution (LTE) semiconductors has provided a shot in the arm, likely in anticipation of the next iPhone launch.

## We look for the healthy momentum to continue over the remainder of this year and into 2018, assuming the economy remains on solid ground. It appears likely that the company's Internet of Things segment will continue to climb markedly off a relatively small base, as

about $78 \%$ of ' 16 sales. R\&D: $21 \%$ of sales. ' 16 dep. rate: $7.0 \%$. Has 106,000 empl. Off./dir. own less than $1 \%$ of common shares; Andy Bryant. Pres.: Venkata Renduchintala. CEO: Brian Krzanich. 95054. Tel.: 408-765-8080. Internet: www.intc.com.
silicon used in these gadgets continue to grow in popularity. Data Center is a division to keep an eye on too, since it is often viewed as the company's long-term growth engine. Management gave positive guidance for the September period, in aggregate, as it expects the top line to come in at about $\$ 15.7$ billion, while share net should roughly match last year's tally. We had envisioned revenues of $\$ 15.3$ billion just three months ago, so the guidance was a breath of fresh air for investors.
These shares offer worthwhile riskadjusted total return potential for the pull to 2020-2022. While appreciation potential on a stand-alone basis doesn't stick out, when you factor in a good dividend (2.9\% yield) and our Highest (1) Safety score, relative performance potential is quite solid. Conservative investors seeking exposure to the semiconductor industry would do well to consider this sector bellwether. The addition of Mobileye into the mix will result in added diversification and might well provide a boost to profits, given its presence in the potentially lucrative autonomous car market.
Alan G. House
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[^0]:    A) Dil. egs. Excl. nonrecurr. gains (losses): June, September, and December. ■ Dividend '01, (34¢); '02, (5¢); '03, (1¢); '10, (4¢); '16, reinvestment plan available. (C) In millions. (60¢). Next egs. report due late Oct.

