

Intel is firing on all cylinders. The company reported healthy results for the fourth quarter of last year. Specifically, share net, after excluding unusual items, clocked in at $\$ 1.08$, which was $37 \%$ above the previous year's $\$ 0.79$. Results exclude $\$ 1.23$ a share related to the tax reform enacted in December. Going forward, management expects a tax rate of $14 \%$ for this year, a marked reduction from last year's $22.5 \%$. Earnings advances were driven by the company's data-centric businesses, which now account for nearly half of aggregate revenues.
We look for moderate growth in the current year, with likely greater acceleration in 2019. Looking at it with more granularity, management gave promising news for the March quarter and for full-year 2018. First-period revenues are likely to be $\$ 15$ billion, resulting in share net of $\$ 0.70$, while full-year comparisons are likely to be about $\$ 65$ billion and $\$ 3.55$, respectively. Advances should continue to be driven by Intel's data-centric units (Data Center group, Internet of Things division, and Programmable Solutions segment). These units, in aggregate,
about $78 \%$ of ' 16 sales. ReD: $21 \%$ of sales. ' 16 dep. rate: $7.0 \%$. The Vanguard Group, $6.6 \%$; BlackRock, $6.3 \%$. (4/17 proxy). Chair. Andy Bryant. Pres.: Venkata Renduchintala. CEO: Brian Krzanich. 95054. Tel.: 408-765-8080. Internet: www.intc.com.
climbed slightly north of 20\%, year over year, during the fourth quarter of 2017. We look for this rate of ascent to continue over the next couple of years.
Acquisitions ought to continue to be a large part of the longer-term growth equation. The company's relatively recent purchase of Mobileye (automated cars) and data-centric focus ought to provide a nice onetwo punch for the long haul. Recent rumors that the company many try to purchase Broadcom have fizzled some, as the latter's merger with Qualcomm was derailed by the Trump Administration.
Intel shares are on our recommended list for year-ahead price performance. Earnings momentum has been strong in recent quarters, which has helped to propel the stock price higher. Still, total return potential over the pull to 2021-2023 is above the Value Line average. This reflects that we have rolled out our projections by a year, but also that our average annual earnings growth rate for the company has increased. Investors seeking a relatively safe haven in the chip industry should consider these high-quality shares. Alan G. House

March 30, 2018

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[^0]:    A) Dil. egs. Excl. nonrecurr. gains (losses): June, September, and December. ■ Dividend 02, (5¢); '03, (1c); '10, (4¢); '16, (60¢). Next reinvestment plan available. (C) In millions. egs. report due late April.

