

Current Liab. 30340 33037 32329 **ANNUAL RATES** Past Past Est'd '15-'17 of change (per sh) to '21-'23 Revenues "Cash Flow" 0.5% 1.0% -4.5% -3.5% 11.5% 3.0% -11.5% 4.5% 3.5% -8.0% 4.5% 2.0% 8.5% Earnings Dividends Book Value

19593

2645

21232

3453

18560

5466

8303

Accts Payable Debt Due

Other

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31	TERLY RE Jun.30		\$ mill.) Dec.31	Full Year
2015	31984	32224	33158	34254	131620
2016 2017	32171 29814	30532 30548	30937 31717	32340 33955	125980 126034
2018	31772	32203	32500	34250	130725
2019	32150	32450	32875	34450	131925
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE A				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2015	1.02	1.04	1.04	.89	3.99
2016	1.06	.94	1.01	.86	3.87
2017	.95	.96	.98	.85	3.74
2018	1.17	1.20	1.20	1.08	4.65
2019	1.18	1.22	1.23	1.12	4.75
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B=				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2014	.53	.53	.53	.55	2.16
2015	.55	.55	.565	.565	2.23
2016	.565	.565	.58	.58	2.29
2017	.58	.58	.58	.59	2.29
2018	.59	.59	.59		

BUSINESS: Verizon Communications was created by the merger 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 recently completed a changing of the guard. In late June, the company named Chief Technology Officer Hans Vestberg as its new CEO. Mr. Vestberg joined Verizon a year ago, after a sixyear stint at communications equipment manufacturer Ericsson. At Verizon, he headed a group responsible for building out the company's fiber network infrastructure, and we would therefore not be surprised to see Verizon focusing more on building the next-generation 5G network, as opposed to expanding further into media content. Indeed, previous CEO Lowell McAdam said it was a perfect time to hand over the reins, as Verizon was at an "inflection point", holding all the components it needs for 5G, such as fiber and spectrum. Mr. Vestberg became CEO effective August 1st, and Mr. McAdam will continue serving as executive chairman of the board through the end of 2018, and nonexecutive chairman thereafter.

Meanwhile, the company seems poised for record performances both this year and next. To wit, Verizon reported second-quarter earnings of \$1.20 a share, a nickel above our estimate and

states & Washington, D.C.; a wireless presence in 50 states & D.C.; operations in 19 countries. 2017 revenue breakdown: wireline (includes telecom & business), 26%; domestic wireless, 74%. Has about 155,400 employees. Chairman: Lowell McAdam; CEO: Hans Vestberg. Inc.: Delaware. Addr.: 1095 Avenue of the Americas, NY, NY 10036. Tel.: 212-395-1000. Internet: www.verizon.com.

an impressive 25% higher than the yearago result, on a solid 5.4% top-line advance. VZ Wireless reported a 5.5% jump in year-over-year revenues, and service revenues, which had been declining of late, grew 0.8% year over year during the second quarter. What's more, VZ Wireless added 531,000 retail postpaid net additions during the June interim (compared to 614,000 such connections this time last year), bringing Verizon's total number of retail subscribers to 111.6 million, up 2.3% year over year. And total revenues for the Wireline division's FiOS fiber-optic-based services were up 2.0%, thanks to solid demand for high-quality broadband service. Since the good times seem sustainable, we have upped our earnings estimates for this year and next by a nickel, to \$4.65 and \$4.75, respectively.

At the recent quotation, this blue-chip equity offers above-average appreciation potential three to five years hence. What's more, VZ stock could well be the darling of income-seeking investors, as its dividend yield is more than twice that of the Value Line median.

Kenneth A. Nugent September 14, 2018

(A) Based diluted shares. Excl. n/r gains (losses): '02. (\$1.56); '03. (\$1.51); '04. \$0.08; cluding fina '06. (\$0.42). Next earnings report October 23rd. (B) Div'd paid in early Feb., May, Aug. &

Nov. ■ Div'd reinv. plan avail. (C) In mill. (D) Including financial subsidiary. (E) '06 MCI proforma

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 95
Price Growth Persistence 25
Earnings Predictability 65