

films on wafers; epitaxy-forms a pure silicon layer on which circuits are constructed: etch-inscribes circuits on wafers: ion implantation-alters conductivity of wafer regions; chemical mechaniman, President & CEO: Michael R. Splinter. Incorporated: Delaware. Address: 3050 Bowers Avenue, Santa Clara, CA 95052-8039. Tel.: 408-727-5555. Internet: www.appliedmaterials.com.

ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '08-'10 to '14-'16 of change (per sh) 5 Yrs. 3.5% -2.0% 7.5% -2.0% Revenues "Cash Flow" 9.5% 18.0% Earnings 23.0% 7.5% 11.5% -3.0% -3.0% Dividends Book Value 6.0% 1.0%

1058.0

880.2

1939.4

1766.0

1120.6

2887.9

1653

1625

3278

Accts Payable Debt Due

Current Liab.

Fiscal Year Ends		ERLY RE\ Apr.Per		mill.) A Oct.Per	Full Fiscal Year
2008	2087	2150	1848	2044	8129
2009	1333	1020	1134	1527	5014
2010	1849	2296	2518	2886	9549
2011	2686	2862	2787	2265	10600
2012	2200	2250	2350	2500	9300
Fiscal	EAR	NINGS PE	R SHARE	АВ	_Full .
Year Ends	Jan.Per	Apr.Per	Jul.Per	Oct.Per	Fiscal Year
2008	.19	.22	.12	.17	.70
2009	d.10	d.19	d.04	.10	d.23
2010	.13	.22	.29	.36	1.00
2011	.38	.37	.36	.19	1.30
2012	.20	.25	.25	.30	1.00
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID E				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2007	.05	.06	.06	.06	.23
2008	.06	.06	.06	.06	.24
2009	.06	.06	.06	.06	.24
2010	.06	.07	.07	.07	.27
2011	.07	.08	.08		

Applied Materials posted solid results in the fiscal third quarter (ended July 31st, 2011). Revenues increased 11% over the year-earlier figure, driven by continued strong demand for solar products in the Energy & Environmental Solutions segment. Moreover, thanks to solid execution and better fixed-cost leverage, the operating margin widened. All told, share earnings advanced 24%, year over year. Looking forward, management noted a weaker short-term outlook due to persist-ing global economic uncertainties. Indeed, the book-to-bill ratio has been less favorable of late, and several customers have pushed out orders. In order to reflect these concerns, we have pared back our fourthquarter estimates, and now expect the top and bottom lines to decline in fiscal 2012. The company's acquisition of Varian

Semiconductor appears to be on track. The transaction, in which Applied will purchase the company for \$63 per share in cash at a net price of around \$4.3 billion, has been approved by shareholders. Regulatory clear received from Israel, clearance has been Germany, and Taiwan, and is currently being awaited

from the United States and China. The deal, which will likely be accretive to earnings in the first year after its completion, is expected to be closed sometime in October. All told, Applied's market position and earnings prospects both stand to benefit. Applied Materials has a strong bal-

ance sheet, with very little debt and solid cash flow. Investors should note the company's high Safety rank (2).

Longer-term prospects are good. Given the growing role of emerging market consumers, a global appetite for highperformance mobile products, and associated infrastructure investments, demand for semiconductor fabrication equipment ought to remain robust for the foreseeable future. This should augur well for both the top and bottom lines.

These shares are ranked to trail the broader market over the coming six to 12 months. However, given the company's solid earnings potential, the stock's recent sharp decline may present an attractive long-term buying opportunity. Indeed, this equity has strong capital appreciation potential over the pull to 2014-2016. Simon E. Shnayder October 7, 2011

(A) Fiscal year ends last Sunday in October. (B) Diluted earnings. Excl. nonrecurring items: '96, d\$0.02; '97, d\$0.04; '98, d\$0.27; '99, \$0.03; '01, d\$0.25; '02, d\$0.02; '03, d\$0.11;

earnings include stock option expense of \$0.11

'04, d\$0.07; '10, d\$0.30. Incl. \$0.07 inventory writedown in '03. Next earnings report due late November. (C) In mill., adj. for splits. (D) F'06 tangibles. In 2010: 1.57 bill., \$1.18/share.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A 75 Price Growth Persistence 10 **Earnings Predictability** 20