

Ocean Village, AIDA, Ibero Cruises, and P&O Cruises Australia. These brands operate 99 ships with approximately 196,000 lower shares have begun recover from the Costa Concordia disaster. CCL shares are up over 9% in price since our last report, as attention has

moved on from the incident. The company has revised its guidance for 2012 (fiscal year ends November **30th) sharply downward.** In light of the Costa Concordia disaster, the company has reduced earnings guidance for the year to \$1.55 per share from the \$2.70 that was forecast before the incident.

Revenues were actually up in the first quarter of 2012 (ended February 29th). Contrary to the fears of mass cancelations after the disaster, net ticket yields from U.S. brands were up almost 5% due to the slow but continuing recovery in the U.S. economy.

The company's EAA segment has been a different story. Even before the Costa Concordia incident, pricing among European brands was soft due to slowing economies in the region. After the ship's grounding, booking patterns for the EAA segment were hit particularly hard.

Like its competitors, Carnival has suf-fered from higher fuel prices. These ex-

Arison. Incorporated: Republic of Panama. Address: 3655 N.W. 87th Ave., Miami, Florida 33178. Telephone: 305-599-2600. Internet: www.carnivalcorp.com.

penses were up 30% from the same period a year ago, costing an additional \$0.18 per share. Further, higher airfares between North America and Europe have been a challenge for the European programs of the company's North American brands. To offset the volatility of fuel costs, the company has undertaken a program to reduce its fuel consumption relative to revenues.

The *Costa* brand not only stopped marketing its cruises after the disaster, but gave passengers the opportunity to cancel existing bookings. Despite this, cancelations were relatively few. However, the company estimates that it may take up to a year for bookings to stabilize in some of *Costa*'s markets, due to its cessation of advertising

Despite an impressive dividend yield, these shares may be overpriced. Considering the severe hit to 2012 earnings, the market's disregard of the possibility of a prolonged setback may be premature. The P/E ratio of these shares is now significantly above the *Value Line* median. Investors may want to wait for an earnings recovery to materialize.

May 11, 2012 Adam J. Platt

(A) Fiscal year ends November 30th. (B) Diluted earnings. Next earnings report due mid-May. (C) Dividend reinstated 2/10. Dividends paid quarterly in mid-March, June,

Accts Payable

Debt Due

Current Liab

ANNUAL RATES

of change (per sh)

"Cash Flow

Earnings

Dividends

Fiscal Year Ends

2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

Fiscal Year Ends

2009

2010

2011

2012

Cal-

endar

2008

2009

2010

2011

2012

Book Value

2864

3178

3419

3582

3800

.33

.22

.19

Mar.31

.40

.10

.25

Other

Sales

503.0 1353.0

3899.0

5755 0

10 Yrs.

10.5%

7.0% 4.0%

1.5%

QUARTERLY SALES (\$ mill.) AG

Feb.28 May 31 Aug.31 Nov.30

4139

4527

5058

4700

4900

1.33

1.62

1.69

1.30

1.60

Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31

.40

.10

.25

EARNINGS PER SHARE ABE

QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID C.

11.0%

2948

3267

3620

3600

3900

Feb.28 May 31 Aug.31

.32

.26

.05

.40

.10

.25

576.0 1300.0

4229.0

6105.0

Past

6.0%

2.0% -1.5%

3206

3497

3696

3818

3900

Nov.30

.31

.28

.23

.40

.10

.25

-10.0%

5 Yrs.

517.0 1025.0

5002.0

6544 0

Est'd '09-'11

to '15-'17

5.5% 6.5%

17.0%

13157

14469

15793

15700

16500

Full Fisca Year

2.47

2.42

1.60

Full

1.60

.40

1.00

September, and December. ■ Dividend reinof rounding and/or a change in the number of

shares outstanding. (F) Includes intangibles. In vestment plan available. (D) In millions. (E) 2011, \$4,652 million, \$5.91 per share. (G) 2010 Quarterly figures may not add to total because sales restated to reflect accounting change.

Company's Financial Strength B+ Stock's Price Stability Price Growth Persistence 65 35 **Earnings Predictability**