

BUSINESS: Exxon Mobil Corp. is the largest publicly traded oil company. Owns 69.6% of Imperial Oil (Canada). Daily production in 2012: oil, 2.2 mil. barrels (-5% vs. '11); natural gas, 12.3 billion cubic feet (-6% vs. '11). On an oil-equivalent basis, total production fell 6% in 2012. Daily refinery runs in 2012, 5.0 million barrels (-4% vs. '11); product sales, 6.2 mill. bbls (-4% vs. '11). Chemical sales,

24.1 mill. tonnes (-3% vs. '11). Reserves as of 12/31/12: 25.2 billion barrels of oil equivalent, 51% oil, 49% gas. Reserve life: 15 years. 10-year average reserve replacement rate: 121%. Acquired XTO Engry, 2010. Employs 83,600. Chairman and CEO: Rex Tillerson. Inc.: NJ. Address: 5959 Las Colinas Blvd., Irving, TX 75039-2298. Tel.: 972-444-1000. www.exxonmobil.com.

Past Est'd '10-'12 ANNUAL RATES Past 5 Yrs. 7.5% 5.0% 3.5% 10 Yrs. 11.5% of change (per sh) to '16-'18 7.5% 7.0% 6.5% Sales "Cash Flow" 13.0% 14.0% Earnings Dividends Book Value 8.0% 12.0% 8.5% 10.5% 11.5%

72963

57067

12727

77505

64460

50728

64139

3653 9758 62844

52619

11861

72688

8208

**Current Assets** 

Accts Payable Debt Due

Current Liab.

QUARTERLY SALES (\$ mill.)A Cal-Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 endar 2010 80222 82747 85181 93428 341578 107419 433526 112781 111991 2011 101335 110696 104718 103417 101883 420714 2012 99363 390000 2013 99000 96336 95301 102000 104000 106000 108000 420000 2014 EARNINGS PER SHARE B Cal-Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 endar Year 2010 1.33 1.60 1.44 1.85 6.22 2.14 2.18 2.13 1.97 8.42 2011 2012 2.00 1.80 2.09 2.20 8.09 1.98 7.50 2.12 1.85 2013 1.55 2014 2.00 2.10 8.20 2.05 2.05 QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID C=+ Cal-Full endar Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 2009 1.66 .40 .42 .42 .42 2010 .42 .44 .44 .44 1.74 44 47 .47 1.85 2011 47 .47 .57 .57 2012 .57 2.18 2013 .63

Exxon Mobil is headed for lower production and profits this year. Oil output is edging down as fields mature, and natural gas volume is being held back by poor price incentives in North America. Meantime, the refining business is being hurt by lower margins. Assuming these trends remain in place over the balance of 2013, earnings per share may come in about \$0.60 less than in 2013.

The setback should prove temporary, given the company's track record of **building long-term value.** To that end, Exxon is investing huge sums to reinvigorate its oil and natural gas portfolio. Through the end of 2015, projects set to ultimately deliver more than 800,000 barrels a day of oil to Exxon are due to start up. More than half of that is expected to be from Canada. True, field declines and asset sales will likely offset the expected gains to some degree. But the big slug of oil on the way has the potential to shore up earnings and dispel concerns about the gradual tapering off in production. Of course, that is provided that Exxon delivers the projects in a timely fashion and oil prices remain reasonably firm. Out to 2016-2018, oil ventures in Iraq and Kazahkstan offer promise.

Gains on the natural gas side are also due. Exxon Mobil has major initiatives in Australia, Papua New Guinea, and Qatar — where natural gas prices are relatively high — set to come on line in the next couple of years. The North American market retains its long-term promise, too, once exporting facilities in Canada and the United States are constructed.

Downstream, profits appear to be normalizing after an exceptionally strong period. Exxon, like many refiners, benefited greatly from relatively cheap domestic crude oil in 2012. But price differentials between a number of blends have narrowed considerably of late. That puts the focus back on efficiency in refining and chemicals operations, where Exxon typically excels.

The stock's 3- to 5-year total return potential is consistent with the high level of Safety provided, and may suit conservative investors. Meantime, the neutrally ranked shares pulled back a bit after a weak earnings report.

Robert Mitkowski, Jr. September 6, 2013

(A) Net of gasoline excise taxes. (B) Based on diluted shares. Excludes nonrecurring gains (losses): '97, 6¢; '98, (2¢); '99, (7¢); '00, 12¢; '01, 3¢; '02, 7¢; '03, 67¢; '05,

36¢; '06, 7¢; '12, \$1.61. Next earnings report due late October. (C) Dividends historically paid in the second week of March, June, Sep., and Dec.

Dividend reinvestment plan available.

† Stock Purchase Plan available w/o broker.

(D) In mill., adjusted for split.

Company's Financial Strength A++
Stock's Price Stability 100
Price Growth Persistence 70
Earnings Predictability 60