

tries. At 12/28/14, there were 4,663 restaurants, roughly 84% of which were franchised locations. Operates commissaries that distribute ingredients to individual stores. '14 revenue breakdown: company-owned restaurant sales, 44% of total; commissary sales,

mon stock; Neuberger Berman, 5.1%; BlackRock, 6.8% (3/15 Proxy). Chairman and Chief Executive Officer: John Schnatter. Inc.: DE. Address: 2002 Papa Johns Boulevard, Louisville, KY 40299-2367. Telephone: 502-261-7272. Internet: www.papajohns.com

117.9 Strong top-line momentum is support-Past Est'd '12-'14 ing profit growth at Papa John's Into '18-'20 **ternational.** We have pared our share-net call for the year by \$0.02, to \$2.08, due to some labor-related cost pressures and stepped-up investment in fechnology and international expansion. But margins are still widening gradually, mainly because of favorable cheese prices and good same-store sales leverage. What's more, the 1342.7 1439 0 profit picture ought to brighten further in 1598.1 the coming periods, as overseas results improve and the company finishes rolling out 1660

a new point-of-sale system. And . .

We see comps continuing to track in the mid-single digits. This would be pretty impressive, in our view, given the cutthroat nature of the quick-service food space. Papa John's actually appears to be thriving in the competitive environment, using its popular digital ordering platform, focus on food quality, and strategic tie-ups with sports professionals to wrest market share away from large sector rivals, including Pizza Hut and Domino's Pizza, that rely heavily on discounting. Share trends are also benefiting from the generally fragmented state of the pizza segment, which is still cluttered with lots of mom-and-pop shops and small regional chains. Indeed, we still think there is a big consolidation movement under way in fastfood pizza category, one that should benefit Papa John's and its national competitors well into the future.

Overseas markets, from Latin America to Asia, are a significant opportunity for the company. Papa John's international footprint is still fairly small, especially when compared with Pizza Hut's. The company is making solid progress abroad, however, posting encouraging comp growth (6.8% during the second quarter) and continuing to build out its distribution infrastructure and store base. The overseas business is becoming more profitable, too, which is a major reason why we believe that earnings of \$4.00 a share are achievable by late decade.

This issue is a fine choice for investors with a horizon of six months to a year (Timeliness: 2). We like the longterm outlook, as well, but encourage buyand-holders to wait for a more attractive entry point before committing funds. Justin Hellman August 28, 2015

(A) Diluted earnings. Excludes nonrecurring gains (losses): '03, (9¢); '04, (50¢); '05, 4¢; '06, 25¢. Excludes gain from discontinued operations: '05, 3¢. Next earnings report due in early

.125

.14

Current Assets

Accts Payable Debt Due

Current Liab.

ANNUAL RATES

331.3

355.6

401.4

432.3

Mar.31

.35

.42

.45

55

.65

.125

.14

443

of change (per sh)

Revenues "Cash Flow"

Dividends Book Value

Earnings

Cal-

endar

2012

2013

2014

2015

2016

Cal-

endar

2012

2013

2014

2015

2016

Cal-

endar

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

125.0

35.7

97.9

Past

10.0%

9.5%

11.0%

5.5%

QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.)

Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31

EARNINGS PER SHARE A

325.5

346.3

390.4

397.7

422

Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31

.32

.46

.53

.125

.14

.175

318.6

349 2

380.8

399.0

423

39

.40

47

.55

QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID C

Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31

156.0

38.8

68.0

106.8

5 Yrs.

12.0%

12.0%

13.5%

5.5%

367.3

387 9

425.5

431

452

.36

.41

.51

.60

.67

.125

.14

153.2

35.0

82.9

7.5% 13.5%

17.5%

18.5% 17.0%

1740

Full

Year

1.30

P1.55

1.75

2.08

2.40

Year

.25

.53

November. (B) In millions, adjusted for stock splits. (C) Dividend initiated in 8/13. Quarterly payments typically made in March, June, Septem-

ber, and December.
(D) Quarters don't sum due to rounding.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 80 Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability** 95