

Seasonality: Q4 accounted for 34% of '13 revenue. Acquired Internet Movie Database, Bookpages, Telebook, '98; Junglee and

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Current Liab 18751 Past Est'd '11-'13 ANNUAL RATES Past to '17-'19 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. 29.0% 39.0% 30.5% 28.0% 19.0% 27.5% Revenues "Cash Flow" Earnings Dividends -5.5% 64.0% Nil 20.5% **Book Value** 41.0%

579 5105

19002

753 7094

22980

860 7434

Debt due

Other

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31	TERLY RE Jun.30	VENUES Sep.30		Full Year
2011	9857	9913	10876	17431	48077
2012	13185	12834	13806	21268	61093
2013	16070	15704	17092	25586	74452
2014		19340	20800	31019	90900
2015	24000	23500	25000	36700	109200
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE A				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2011	.44	.41	.14	.38	1.37
2012	.28	.01	d.23	.21	.29
2013	.18	d.02	d.09	.51	.59
2014	.23	d.27	d.60	.69	.05
2015	.50	.35	d.05	1.20	2.00
Cal-	Cal- QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID				
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2010					
2011	NO CASH DIVIDENDS				
2012	BEING PAID				
2013					
2014					

reported a wider-than-Amazon expected loss for the second quarter of 2014. Although revenues came in at \$19.34 billion, about 23% higher than the year-earlier figure, the company reported a share loss of \$0.27 for the June interim, versus the \$0.02 deficit logged in the comparable 2013 period. We had been looking for a deficit of just \$0.07 a share for the What's more, management warned that operating expenses in the coming quarters would likely weigh even more heavily on margins than previously anticipated.

It now appears likely that the bottom line will decline sharply in 2014. Despite a probable 22% top-line advance, ramped-up investments in technologies and new offerings may well lead Amazon to report a profit of just \$0.05 a share this year, compared with the \$0.59 logged in 2013. Meantime, investor confidence appears shaken, as the stock has pulled back quite a bit in recent trading. We note, however, that AMZN shares are still up about 5% in value from our May review.

Investments ought to pay off down the line. Amazon continues to generate

strong top-line gains, and the bottom-line pressure is largely a result of the aforementioned spending on technology and products, which are aimed at driving growth over the long haul. We look for a rebound in earnings as early as next year, to \$2.00 a share, on an around 20% gain in revenues. The 3- to 5-year outlook remains quite favorable, with healthy earnings gains achievable, as the top line continues to expand and assuming costs moderate. That said, we note that there is some skepticism surrounding the success of Amazon's recent initiatives, adding an element of risk to our rosy long-term view.

These untimely shares may appeal to buy-and-hold accounts. Although we have reined in our 3- to 5-year profit projections and Target Price Range, this issue still offers worthwhile recovery potential over the pull to 2017-2019, based on the earnings growth we envision in the years ahead. Therefore, patient investors would likely find this issue of interest. That said, conservative accounts may want to take a pass here, given AMZN's lofty valuation. Kathryn M. Drew August 15, 2014

(A) Diluted earnings. Excludes goodwill: '02, (1¢). Includes stock-based compensation: '02, (19¢); '03, (21¢); '04, (14¢); '05, (20¢); '06, (24¢); '07, (44¢); '08, (64¢); '09, (77¢). Ex-

cludes merger/acquisition costs: '02, (11¢); '03, earnings report due late Oct. (32¢). Excludes equity in losses: '02, (01¢). Excludes other nonrecurring items: '04, 54¢; '05, 5¢; '12, (37¢). Qtly. egs. may not sum. Next

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A+ 45 Price Growth Persistence 90 **Earnings Predictability** 35