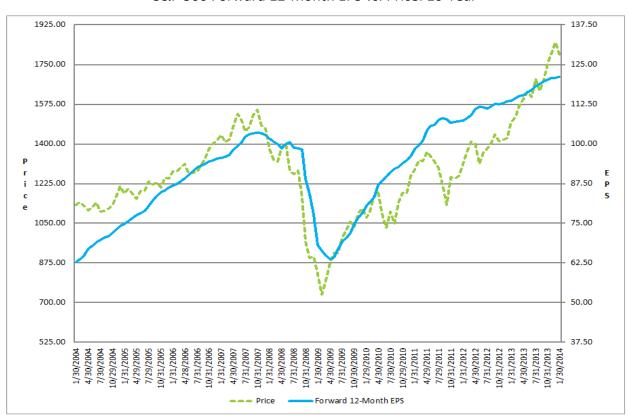


**S&P 500** 

January 31, 2014

# **Key Metrics**

- **+ Earnings Scorecard:** Of the 251 companies that have reported earnings to date for Q4 2013, 74% have reported earnings above the mean estimate and 67% have reported sales above the mean estimate.
- + Earnings Growth: The blended earnings growth rate for Q4 2013 is 7.9%. The Financials sector is reporting the highest earnings growth rate for the quarter, while the Energy sector is reporting the lowest earnings growth rate for the quarter.
- + Earnings Revisions: On December 31, the earnings growth rate for Q4 2013 was 6.3%. Six of the ten sectors have recorded increases in earnings growth rates over this time frame, led by the Materials sector.
- + Earnings Guidance: For Q1 2014, 44 companies have issued negative EPS guidance and 10 companies have issued positive EPS guidance.
- + Valuation: The current 12-month forward P/E ratio is 14.7. This P/E ratio is above the 5-year (13.1) and 10-year (13.9) averages.



S&P 500 Forward 12-Month EPS vs. Price: 10-Year

All data published in this report is available on FactSet. Please contact media\_request@factset.com or 1-877-FACTSET for more information.



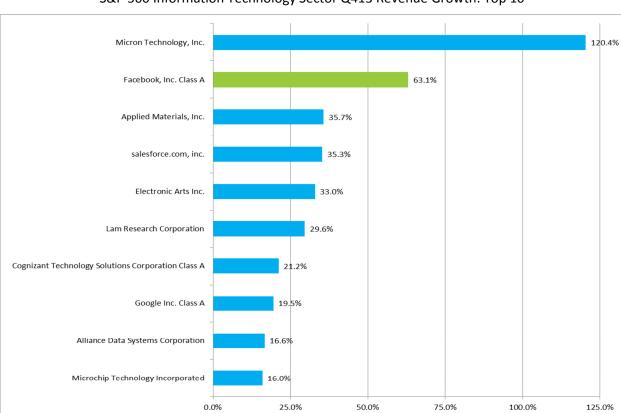
# **Topic of the Week**

# Facebook: 2<sup>nd</sup> Highest Revenue Growth in Information Technology Sector

The Information Technology sector in the S&P 500 was a focus sector for the market this past week, as a number of high profile companies reported earnings for the fourth quarter during this time frame, including Apple, Yahoo!, Facebook, and Google. At this point in time, the Information Technology sector is reporting the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest revenue growth for the fourth quarter of all ten sectors in the index at 4.5%. Which industries and companies within the sector are reporting the highest growth in sales?

At the industry level, five of the eight industries are reporting revenue growth, led by the Internet Software & Services industry (20.2%). Within the Internet Software & Services industry, Facebook has reported the highest revenue growth at 63%. On Wednesday, the company reported revenue of \$2.585 billion for Q4 2013, relative to year-ago actual revenue of \$1.585 billion. The Q4 2013 marked the first time that Facebook reported earnings as a constituent in the S&P 500.

It is interesting to note that Facebook has the second highest revenue growth rate in the Information Technology sector as a whole for the quarter. The only company to report higher revenue growth was Micron Technology. However, sales in Q4 2013 for Micron Technology included the acquisition of Elpida, while the year-ago sales in Q4 2012 were stand alone for Micron Technology.



S&P 500 Information Technology Sector Q413 Revenue Growth: Top 10



# **Q4 2013 Earnings Season: Overview**

### More Companies Beating EPS Estimates and Sales Estimates than Average

With 50% of the companies in the S&P 500 reporting actual results, the percentages of companies reporting earnings and sales above estimates are above the four-year averages.

Percentage of Companies Beating EPS Estimates (74%) Above 4-Year Average

Overall, 251 companies have reported earnings to date for the fourth quarter. Of these 251 companies, 74% have reported actual EPS above the mean EPS estimate and 26% have reported actual EPS below the mean EPS estimate. The percentage of companies reporting EPS above the mean EPS estimate is above the 1-year (71%) average and the 4-year (73%) average.

At the sector level, the Health Care (86%) and Information Technology (84%) sectors have the highest percentages of companies reporting earnings above estimates, while the Utilities (57%) sector has the lowest percentage of companies reporting earnings above estimates.

Earnings Surprise Percentage (+3.6%) Consistent With Recent Quarters

In aggregate, companies are reporting earnings that are 3.6% above expectations. This surprise percentage is above the 1-year (3.3%) average but below the 4-year (5.8%) average.

Companies in the Materials (+16.6%) are reporting the largest upside aggregate differences between actual earnings and estimated earnings. In this sector, companies that have reported actual EPS above estimates by the widest margins include Dow Chemical (+52%) and LyondellBasell Industries (+52%).

On the other hand, companies in the Utilities (-1.0%) sector are reporting the largest downside aggregate differences between actual earnings and estimated earnings. In this sector, companies that have reported actual EPS below the mean EPS estimates by the widest margins include Dominion Resources (-10%) and NextEra Energy (-2%).

Percentage of Companies Beating Revenue Estimates (67%) Above 4-Year Average

In terms of revenues, 67% of companies have reported actual sales above estimated sales and 33% have reported actual sales below estimated sales. The percentage of companies reporting sales above estimates is above the average percentage recorded over the last four quarters (54%) and above the average percentage recorded over the previous four years (59%).

At the sector level, the Telecom Services (100%) and Health Care (86%) sectors have the highest percentages of companies reporting revenue above estimates, while the Materials (33%) and Consumer Staples (46%) sectors have the lowest percentages of companies reporting revenue above estimates.

Low Revenue Surprise Percentage (-0.1%)

In aggregate, companies are reporting sales that are 0.1% below expectations. This percentage is below the 1-year (0.4%) average and below the 4-year (0.6%) average.

Companies in the Health Care (+2.7%) and Industrials (+1.2%) sectors are reporting the largest upside aggregate differences between actual sales and estimated sales, while companies in the Energy (-4.0%) sector are reporting the largest downside aggregate differences between actual sales and estimated sales.

#### Increase in Earnings Growth This Week Due to Upside Earnings Surprises

Upside Earnings Surprises from Multiple Sectors Drive Increase in Growth Rate



The blended earnings growth rate for the fourth quarter is 7.9% this week, above last week's blended earnings growth rate of 6.3%. Upside earnings surprises reported by companies in multiple sectors were responsible for the increase in the overall earnings growth rate this week. Eight of the ten sectors recorded an increase in earnings growth rates during the week, led by the Materials sector. Other sectors that saw improvements in earnings growth rates included the Telecom Services, Energy, Industrials, Health Care, and Information Technology.

In the Materials sector, companies that reported upside earnings surprises this past week that contributed to the rise in the earnings growth rate for the S&P 500 included Dow Chemical (+52%) and LyondellBasell Industries (+52%). As a result, the blended earnings growth rate for the Materials sector improved to 23.4% from 10.2% over this time frame.

In the Telecom Services sector, AT&T reported a 5% upside surprise relative to the mean EPS estimate this past week. As a result, the blended earnings growth rate for the Telecom Services sector rose to 18.1% from 15.3% during this period.

In the Energy sector, companies that reported upside earnings surprises over the previous five days included Marathon Petroleum (+81%), Valero Energy (+85%), Phillips 66 (+21%), and CONSOL Energy (+833%). As a result, the blended earnings growth rate for the Energy sector increased to -8.6% from -11.1% over this time frame.

In the Industrials sector, companies that announced large earnings surprises that added to the increase in the overall earnings growth for the index included Boeing (+20%) and Caterpillar (+21%). As a result, the blended earnings growth rate for the Industrials sector jumped to 16.2% from 13.9% during this period.

In the Health Care sector, companies that reported upside earnings surprises this past week that contributed to the rise in the earnings growth rate for the S&P 500 included Pfizer (+7%) and Vertex Pharmaceuticals (N/A). As a result, the blended earnings growth rate for the Health Care sector improved to 5.3% from 3.4% over this time frame.

In the Information Technology sector, companies with significant earnings surprises that added to the increase in the overall earnings growth rate for the index included Apple (+3%), QUALCOMM (+7%), Facebook (+15%), and Yahoo! (+19%). As a result, the blended earnings growth rate for the Information Technology sector rose to 7.3% from 5.9% during this period.

Materials Sector Has Seen Largest Increase in Earnings Growth since December 31

The blended earnings growth rate for Q4 2013 of 7.9% is also above the estimate of 6.3% at the end of the quarter (December 31). Six of the ten sectors have recorded an increase in earnings growth during this time frame, led by the Materials (to 23.4% from 9.5%) sector. Three of the ten sectors have seen a decline in earnings growth since the end of the quarter, led by the Consumer Discretionary (to 4.1% from 6.2%) sector. The growth rate for the Consumer Staples (2.5%) sector is unchanged over this time frame.

#### Blended Earnings Growth is 7.9%, as the Financials and Materials Sectors Lead Growth

The blended earnings growth rate for Q4 2013 is 7.9%. Eight of the ten sectors are reporting higher earnings relative to a year ago, led by the Financials, Materials, Telecom Services, and Industrials sectors. On the other hand, the Energy sector is reporting the lowest earnings growth of all ten sectors.

Financials: Insurance and Diversified Financial Services Industries Lead Growth

The Financials sector has the highest earnings growth rate (23.7%) of all ten sectors. It is also the largest contributor to earnings growth for the entire index. If the Financials sector is excluded, the earnings growth rate for the S&P 500 falls to 4.9%.



Seven of the eight industries in the sector are reporting earnings growth for the quarter. Four of these seven industries have double-digit growth rates, led by the Insurance (62%) and Diversified Financial Services (36%) industries. If these two industries are excluded, the earnings growth rate for the sector would drop to 7.0%.

The Insurance industry (62%) is reporting the highest earnings growth of all eight industries in the sector. Within this industry, the Multi-line Insurance (247%) and Property & Casualty Insurance (134%) sub-industries are reporting the highest earnings growth. These sub-industries are reporting high earnings growth rates due in part to comparisons to weak earnings in the year-ago quarter, caused by catastrophic losses for Hurricane Sandy. In the year-ago quarter (Q4 2012), the Mutli-line Insurance (-72%) and Property & Casualty Insurance (-45%) sub-industries reported substantial declines in year-over-year earnings growth.

The Diversified Financial Services industry (36%) is reporting the second highest earnings growth of all eight industries in the sector. Within the industry, Bank of America is the largest contributor to earnings growth, due in part to a comparison to weak earnings in the year-ago quarter. The company reported actual EPS of \$0.29 for Q4 2013, relative to year-ago actual EPS of \$0.03.

**Materials: Chemical Industry Paces Growth** 

The Materials sector is reporting the second highest earnings growth rate at 23.4%. Three of the five industries in the sector are reporting earnings growth, led by the Chemicals industry (33%). This industry is also the largest contributor to earnings growth for the sector. If the Chemicals industry is excluded, the earnings growth rate for the Materials sector would fall to 4.5%.

**Telecom Services: Verizon Drives Growth** 

The Telecom Services sector has the third highest earnings growth rate at 18.1%. At the company level, Verizon Communications is the largest contributor to earnings growth for the sector. The company reported actual EPS of \$0.66 for Q4 2013, compared to actual EPS of \$0.45 in the year-ago quarter. If Verizon is excluded, the earnings growth rate for the sector would drop to 5.9%.

**Industrials: Balanced Growth** 

The Industrials sector is reporting the fourth highest earnings growth rate at 16.2%. Growth is broad-based across the sector. Eleven of the twelve industries in the sector are reporting earnings growth. Eight of these industries have double-digit growth rates, led by the Building Products (313%), Airlines (158%), and Construction & Engineering (74%) industries. The only industry reporting a decrease in earnings in the sector is the Air Freight & Logistics (-0.1%) industry.

**Energy: Earnings Weakness in Multiple Sub-Industries** 

The Energy sector is reporting the lowest earnings growth of any sector at -8.6%. Four of the seven sub-industries in this sector are reporting or are expected to report a decline in earnings, led by the Coal & Consumable Fuels (-36%), Oil & Gas Refining & Marketing (-24%), and the Integrated Oil & Gas (-16%) sub-industries.

### Blended Revenue Growth is 0.8%, as the Financials Sector is a Drag on Growth

The blended revenue growth rate for Q4 2013 is 0.8%, above the growth rate of 0.3% at the end of the quarter (December 31). Eight of the ten sectors are reporting revenue growth for the quarter, led by the Health Care and Information Technology sectors. The Financials sector is reporting the lowest revenue growth for the quarter.

**Highest Sales Growth: Health Care and Information Technology** 



The Health Care sector is reporting the highest revenue growth rate at 5.4%. Four of the six industries in the sector are reporting growth in sales, led by the Biotechnology (18%) and Health Care Technology (12%) industries. On the other end of the spectrum, the Health Care Equipment & Supplies industry is reporting the lowest sales growth (-13%).

The Information Technology sector is reporting the second highest revenue growth at 4.5%. Five of the eight industries in the sector are reporting growth in sales, led by the Internet Software & Services (20%) industry. For more details, please see page 2.

**Financials Sector: Largest Detractor to Sales Growth** 

The Financials sector is reporting the lowest revenue growth of all ten sectors (-9.8%), and is the largest detractor to sales growth in the index. If the Financials sector is excluded, the revenue growth rate for the S&P 500 would improve to 2.3%.

However, one company is mainly responsible for the year-over-year decline in sales for the sector: Prudential. For the Q4 2013 quarter, the mean revenue estimate is \$11.5 billion. In the year-ago quarter (Q4 2012), however, the company reported an unusually high revenue number (\$46.1B) due to large pension risk transfer transactions during the quarter. Due to this one-time boost to year-ago revenue, Prudential is not only the largest detractor to revenue growth for the Financials sector, but it also the largest detractor to revenue growth for the entire S&P 500 for Q4 2013. If Prudential is excluded, the blended revenue growth rate for the Financials sector improves to 0.1%, and the blended sales growth rate for the S&P 500 improves to 2.1%.

### Global Concerns: F/X Rates, Europe and China

Less Favorable F/X Rates

The U.S. dollar has strengthened relative to the Japanese yen and other foreign currencies over the past year. In the year-ago quarter (Q4 2012), one dollar was equal to about \$81.15 yen on average. For Q4 2013, one dollar was equal to about \$100.39 yen on average. A number of companies commented on the negative impact of F/X rates on revenues and earnings for the fourth quarter.

"From a currency perspective, the dollar continued to strengthen against most other currencies, particularly the Brazilian real and the Japanese yen. This impact, however, was partially offset by a weaker dollar versus the euro. The net result was a \$0.04 hurt for the quarter." –DuPont (Jan. 28)

"Foreign exchange was an \$0.11 per share headwind for the company in the quarter." —Procter & Gamble (Jan. 24)

"Total revenue was up 11% to \$24.5 billion, and without the impact of foreign exchange, revenue would have been higher by \$196 million or one percentage point."—Microsoft (Jan. 23)

"Johnson & Johnson (NYSE: JNJ) today announced sales of \$18.4 billion for the fourth quarter of 2013, an increase of 4.5% as compared to the fourth quarter of 2012. Operational results increased 6.3% and the negative impact of currency was 1.8%. Domestic sales increased 7.4%, while international sales increased 2.4%, reflecting operational growth of 5.6% and a negative currency impact of 3.2%." –Johnson & Johnson (Jan. 21)

#### Europe

Europe reported a slight improvement in economic growth relative to last year. According to FactSet Economics, the European Union recorded an increase in GDP of 0.1% in Q3 2013, relative to the decline of 0.5% reported in Q3 2012.

Companies have given mixed comments regarding Europe for the fourth quarter. Some companies have stated that economic conditions were still weak in Europe in the quarter. However, other companies stated that conditions may have reached a bottom or have improved.



"So Europe, as we always say, Europe is not a country. And so when you divide it across the various segments, we see some positive areas and then we see some areas that are still difficult. So we are optimistically looking at performance across Europe, but there's still some challenges there." – McDonald's Corp. (Jan. 23)

"Let me move now to Europe, the Middle East and Africa or EMEA where the first quarter represented a continuation of great strides we're making in the region. Revenues of \$340 million in Q1 grew 11% over the prior year. It is truly a great start to the year, in fact the \$33 million in Q1 revenue growth was higher than what we delivered for the entirety of fiscal 2013. There were several contributors to our top line progress; certainly the signs of a slow but positively trending economic recovery, including declining unemployment in the UK have been helpful."—Starbucks (Jan. 23)

"The good news in Europe, if you will, is we have not seen the big continued deterioration that we had been seeing for the last couple of years. So, while it's not exactly stabilized, since it's still down 1%, at least there's some light at the end of the tunnel as the economy has improved." —United Technologies (Jan. 22)

"So moving to segments addressing the International side of things. For the quarter, organic revenues increased 6% and currency was reduced by a little more than 1%. The increase in sales was mainly due to Europe."—Parker-Hannifin (Jan. 22)

#### **Emerging Markets**

Economic growth for some countries in emerging markets regions has also seen some improvement relative to last year. According to FactSet Economics, three of the four "BRIC" countries recorded higher GDP growth in the most recent quarter. For Q3 2012, China, India, and Brazil recorded GDP growth of 7.4%, 2.5%, and 0.9% respectively. By Q3 2013, GDP growth rates for China, India, and Brazil had improved to 7.8%, 5.6%, and 2.2%.

However, comments on business conditions in China and emerging markets continue to be mixed for Q4. Some companies have reported weak conditions, while others have seen strength.

"This comes after a new high-water mark in China for us last quarter. We grew revenues including our retail stores at 31%, and we had some very, very strong sales on iPads, iPads in greater China were up 64% year-over-year; Macs were up 28%.... And so in addition to the great iPhone news with China Mobile and how we're looking there, we really – we really turned in a stellar quarter in greater China overall, and we are very proud of it." –Apple (Jan. 27)

"We have improved our market position for machines over the past three years and had particularly strong gains with excavators in China. In fact, total sales and revenues in China in 2013 were about \$3.5 billion, up more than 20 percent from 2012."—Caterpillar (Jan. 27)

"Turning to China and Asia-Pacific; in Q1, our important, rapidly-expanding China, Asia-Pacific segment currently comprising over 4,000 stores in 14 countries, including 209 net new stores in Q1, delivered strong revenue growth of 25% and exceptional strong comp growth of 8%. These are best-of-class results for any retailer or restaurant operating at our scale in Asia."—Starbucks (Jan. 24)

"As expected, China sales rose about 25% from prior year, fueled by double digit same-store sales and distribution growth. We're very pleased by the continued development of this market, which bodes well for our global travel retail business, where Mainland Chinese tourists plays an increasingly important role."—Coach (Jan. 22)

"Revenues from the company's growth markets decreased 9 percent (down 6 percent, adjusting for currency). Revenues in the BRIC countries — Brazil, Russia, India and China — decreased 14 percent (down 11 percent, adjusting for currency)."—IBM (Jan. 21)



## Q1 Guidance: High Percentage (82%) of Negative Guidance

At this point in time, 54 companies in the index have issued EPS guidance for the first quarter. Of these 54 companies, 44 have issued negative EPS guidance and 10 have issued positive EPS guidance. Thus, the percentage of companies issuing negative EPS guidance to date for the first quarter is 81% (44 out of 54). This percentage is above the 5-year average of 64%, but slightly below the percentage at this same point in time for Q4 2013 (84%).

## Earnings Growth Expected to Improve Each Quarter in 2014

For Q1 2014, analysts are expecting earnings growth of 2.2%. However, earnings growth is projected to improve in each subsequent quarter for the remainder of the year. For Q2 2014, Q3 2014, and Q4 2014, analysts are predicting earnings growth rates of 8.5%, 12.4%, and 11.9%. For all of 2014, the projected earnings growth rate is 9.6%.

## Valuation: Forward P/E Ratio is 14.7, above the 10-Year Average (13.9)

The current 12-month forward P/E ratio is 14.7. At the sector level, the Consumer Discretionary (17.3) has the highest forward 12-month P/E ratio, while the Financials (12.3) and Energy (12.5) sectors have the lowest forward 12-month P/E ratios.

The P/E ratio of 14.7 for the index as a whole is above the prior 5-year average forward 12-month P/E ratio of 13.1, and above the prior 10-year average forward 12-month P/E ratio of 13.9. However, it is below the forward 12-month P/E ratio of 15.2 recorded one month ago. During the past month, the price of the index has declined 2.5%, while the forward 12-month EPS estimate increased by 0.3%.

At the sector level, nine of the ten sectors recorded a decrease in the forward 12-month P/E ratio over the past month, led by the Consumer Discretionary (to 17.3 from 18.4), Consumer Staples (to 16.3 from 17.2), and Industrials (to 15.9 from 16.7) sectors. The only sector that witnessed an increase in the forward 12-month P/E ratio was the Utilities (to 15.2 from 15.0) sector.

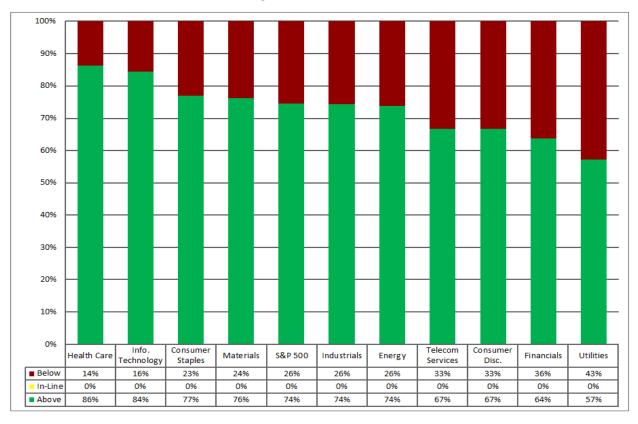
### **Companies Reporting Next Week: 93**

During the upcoming week, two Dow 30 companies and 93 S&P 500 companies are scheduled to report earnings for the fourth quarter.

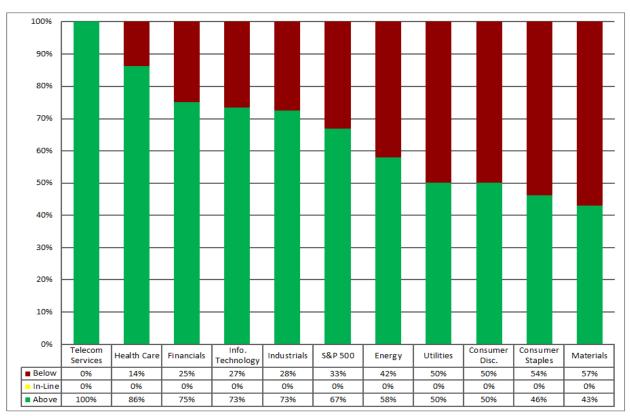


# Q4 2013: Scorecard

Q4 2013 Earnings: Above, In-Line, Below Estimates



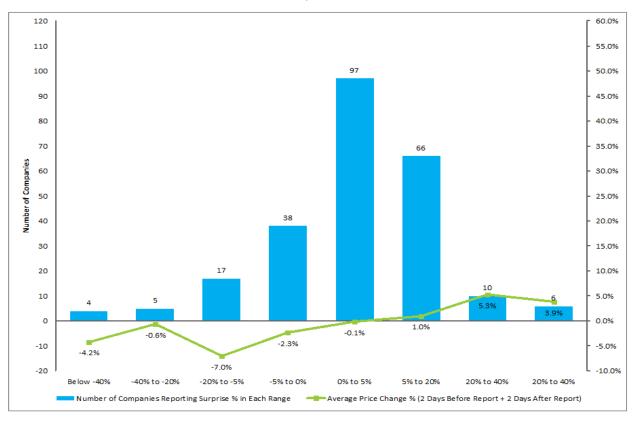
Q4 2013 Revenues: Above, In-Line, Below Estimates



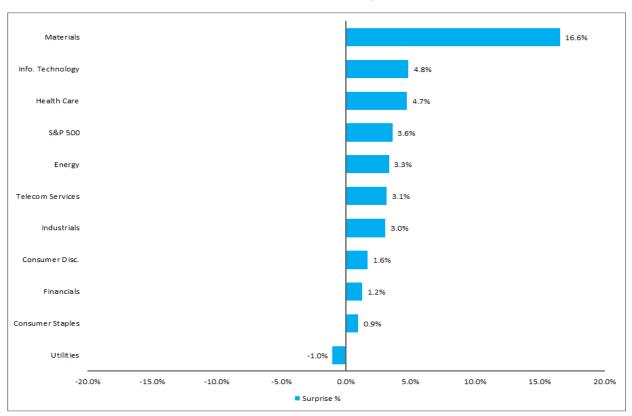


# Q4 2013: Scorecard

Q4 2013: Surprise % Numbers



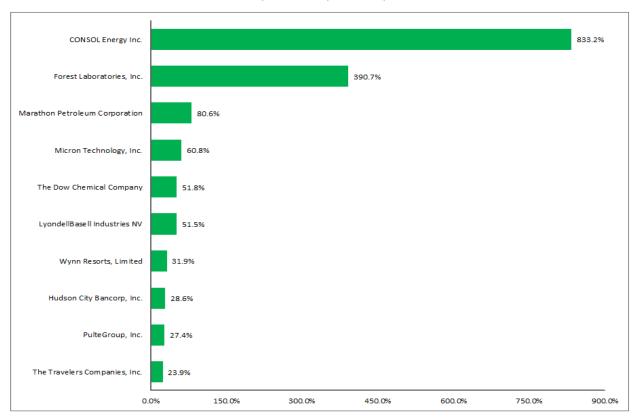
Q4 2013: Sector Level Surprise %



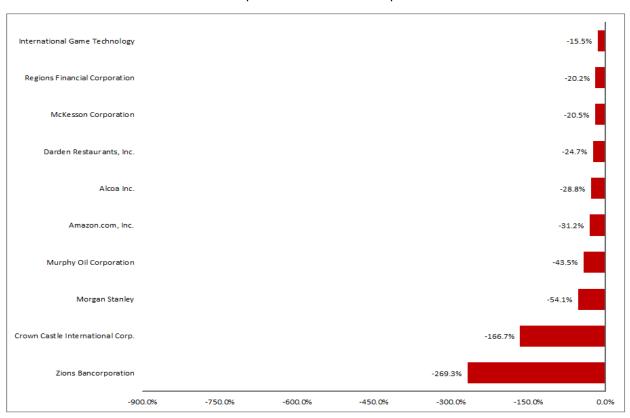


# Q4 2013: Scorecard

EPS Surprise %: Top 10 Companies



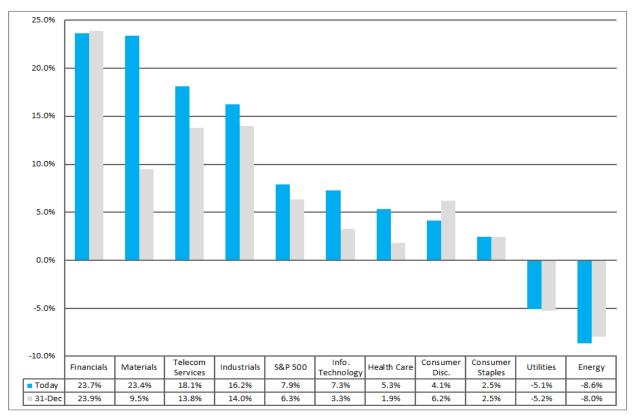
EPS Surprise %: Bottom 10 Companies





# Q4 2013: Growth

## Q4 2013 Earnings Growth



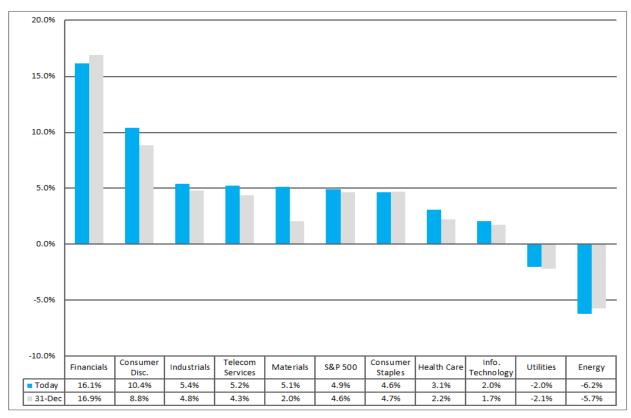
### Q4 2013 Revenue Growth





# CY 2013: Growth

## CY 2013 Earnings Growth



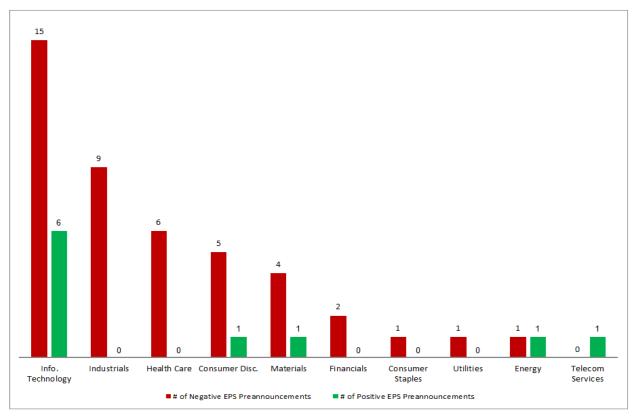
### CY 2013 Revenue Growth





# Q1 2014: Guidance





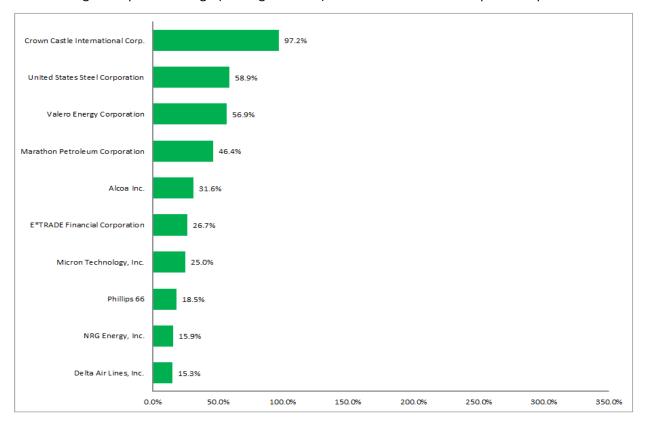
## Percentage of Positive & Negative EPS Preannouncements: Q1 2014



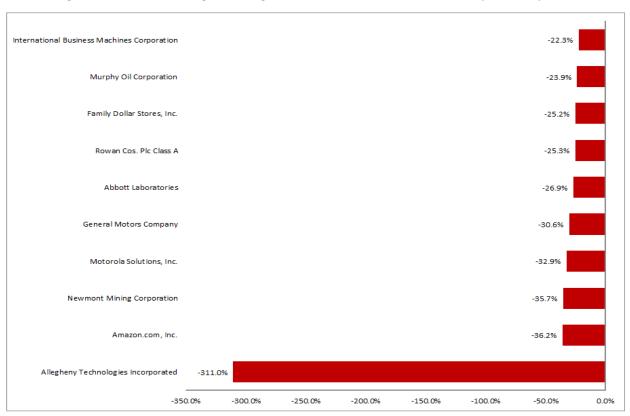


# Q1 2014: EPS Revisions

## Highest Upward Change (Trailing 4-Weeks) in Mean EPS Estimate: Top 10 Companies



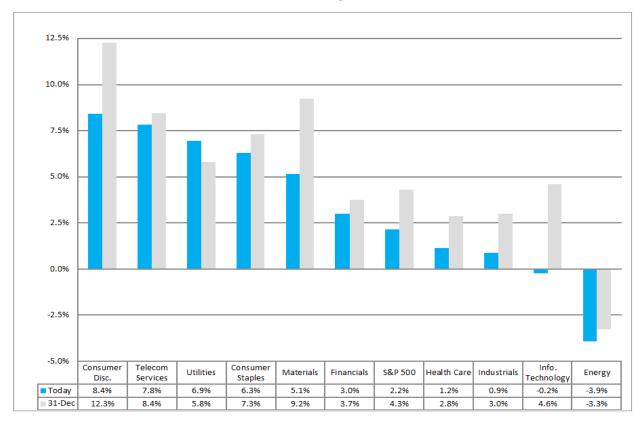
Highest Downward Change (Trailing 4-Weeks) in Mean EPS Estimate: Top 10 Companies



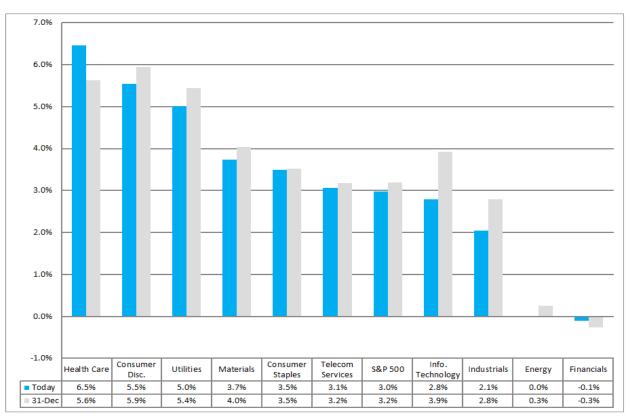


# Q1 2014: Growth

## Q1 2014 Earnings Growth



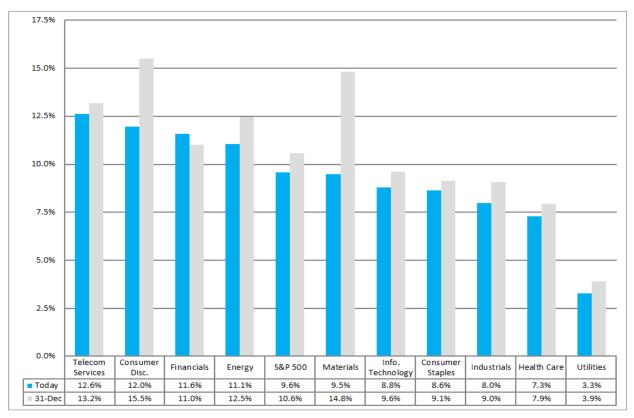
### Q1 2014 Revenue Growth



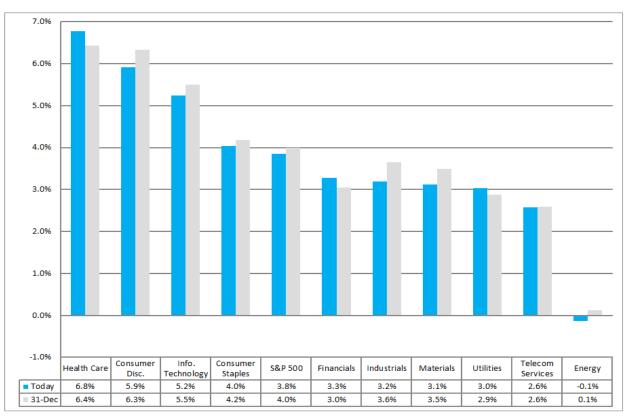


# CY 2014: Growth

## CY 2014 Earnings Growth

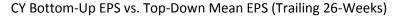


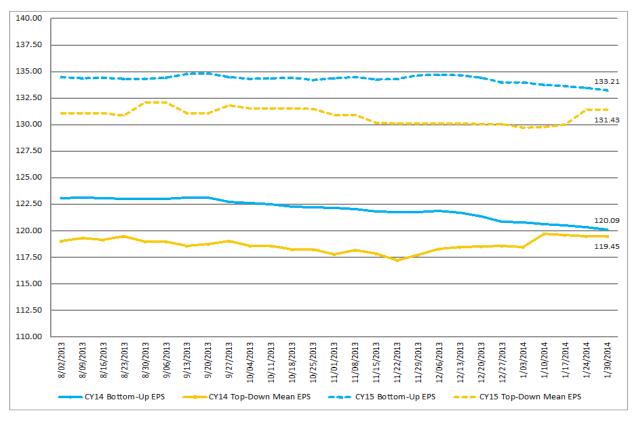
CY 2014 Revenue Growth





# **Bottom-up EPS Estimates: Revisions**





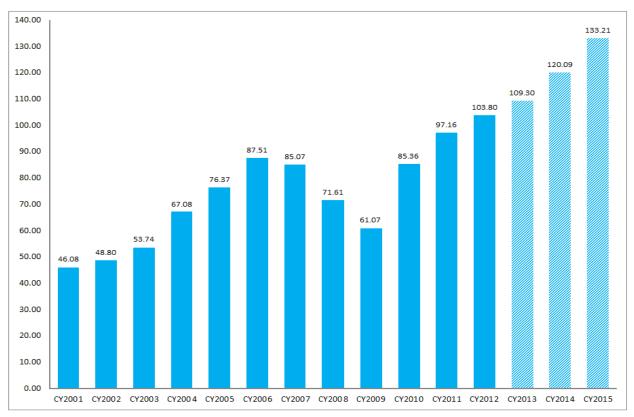
Change in Q413 Bottom-Up EPS vs. Price (Trailing 26-Weeks)



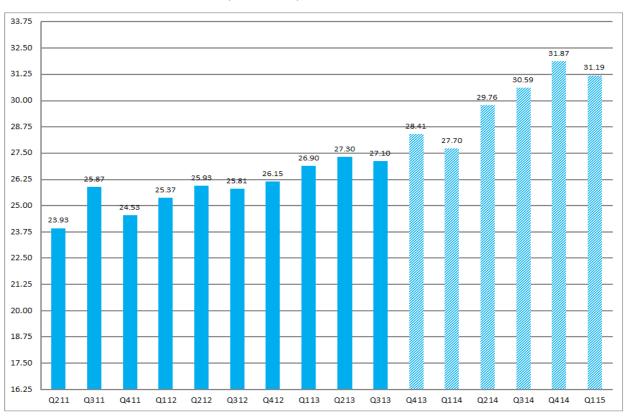


# **Bottom-up EPS Estimates: Current & Historical**



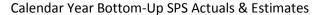


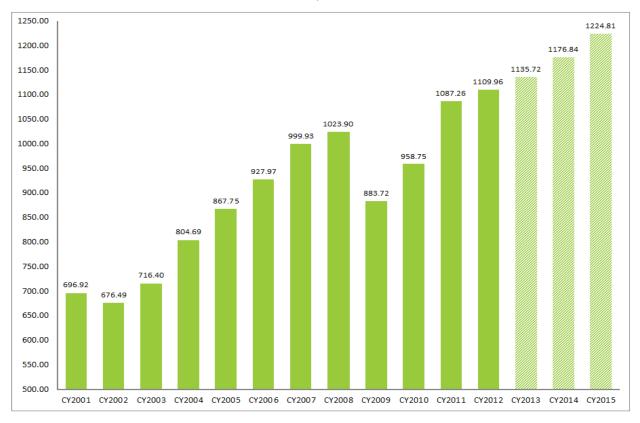
## Quarterly Bottom-Up EPS Actuals & Estimates



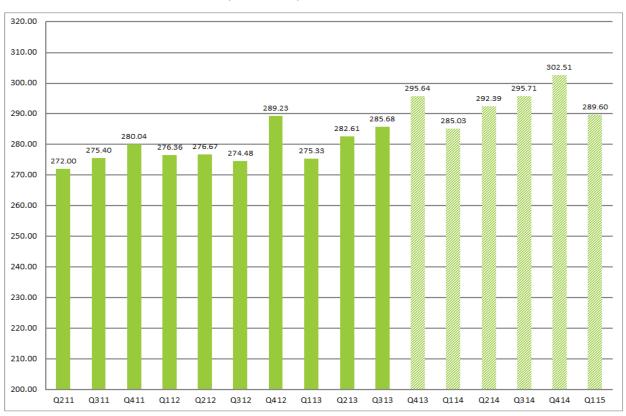


# **Bottom-up SPS Estimates: Current & Historical**





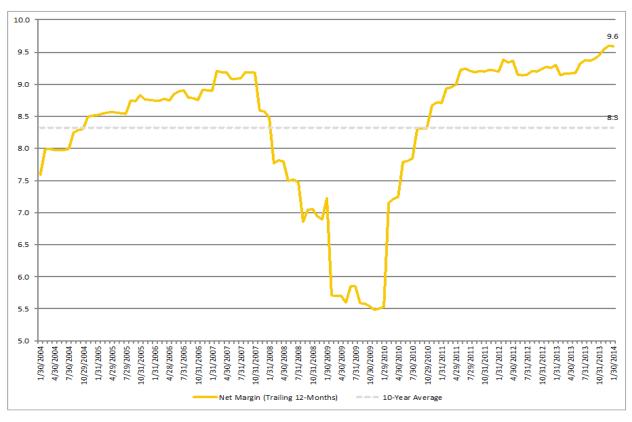
## Quarterly Bottom-Up SPS Actuals & Estimates



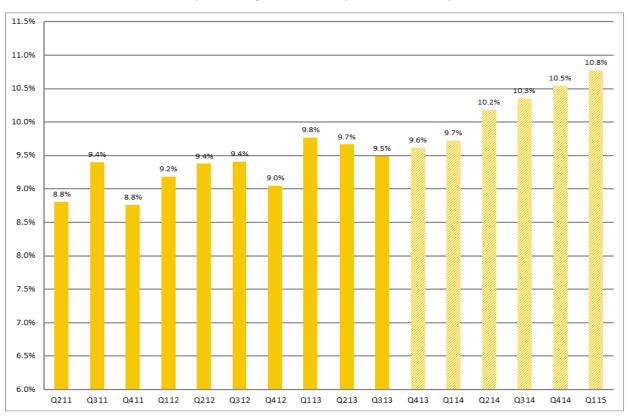


# **Net Margins: Current & Historical**

Trailing 12M Net Margin: 10 Years



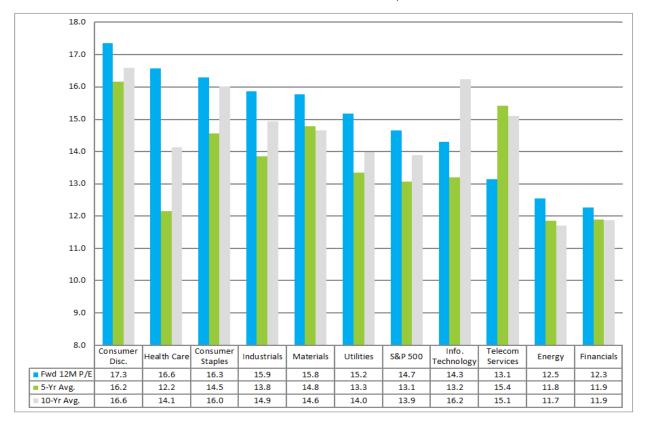
## Quarterly Net Margins (Bottom-Up EPS / Bottom-Up SPS)



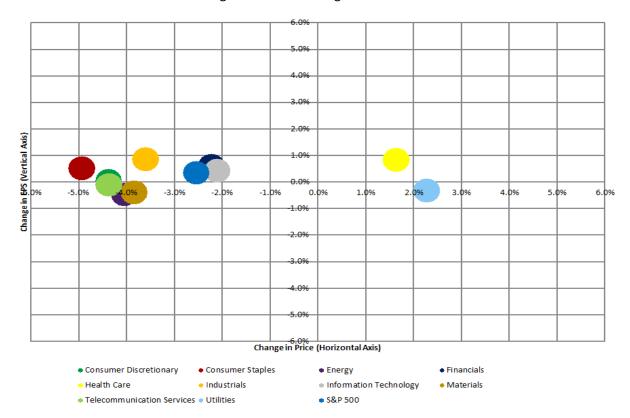


# Forward 12M Price / Earnings Ratio: Sector Level

## Sector-Level Forward 12-Month P/E Ratios



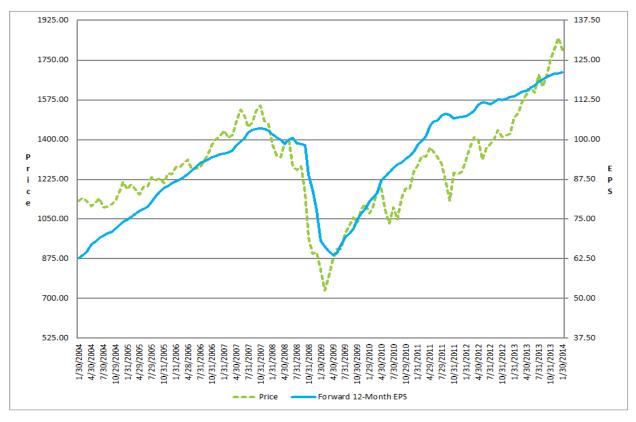
Sector-Level Change in Price vs. Change Forward 12M EPS: 1-Month





# Forward 12M Price / Earnings Ratio: Long-Term Averages



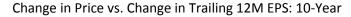


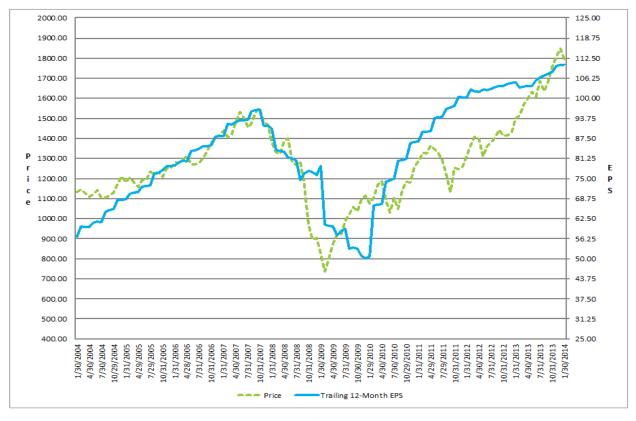
## Forward 12M P/E Ratio: 10-Year





# **Trailing 12M Price / Earnings Ratio: Long-Term Averages**





Trailing 12M P/E Ratio: 10-Year





# **Important Notice**

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