

ments. In fiscal 2023, the company operated in the following primary business segments: Digital Media, Digital Experience, and Publishing and Advertising. Adobe's leading software products include Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign, and Acrobat. R&D spending

proximately 9.0% of stock. Officers & directors own less than 1% (3/24 proxy). Chairman, President, and CEO: Shantanu Narayen. Inc.: DE. Address: 345 Park Avenue, San Jose, CA 95110-2704. Telephone: 408-536-6000. Internet: www.adobe.com.

Past Est'd '21-'23 **ANNUAL RATES** Past 5 Yrs. 20.5% 23.5% of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. to '27-'29 16.0% 20.5% Revenues "Cash Flow" 13.5% 13.5% 23.5% 24.0% 13.5% Earnings Dividends Book Value 13.5% 17.0%

8996

379 500

7249

8128

11084

314

7937

8251

10008

300 1497

7740

9537

Current Assets

Accts Payable Debt Due

Current Liab.

Fiscal Year Ends	QUART Feb.Per	ERLY RE\ May.Per	/ENUES (\$ Aug.Per	mill.) ^A Nov.Per	Full Fiscal Year
2021	3905	3835	3935	4110	15785
2022	4262	4386	4433	4525	17606
2023	4655	4816	4890	5048	19409
2024	5182	5300	<i>5500</i>	5518	21500
2025	5750	5900	6100	6250	24000
Fiscal	EARNINGS PER SHARE A B				Full
Year Ends	Feb.Per	May.Per	Aug.Per	Nov.Per	Fiscal Year
2021	2.61	2.32	2.52	2.57	10.02
2022	2.66	2.49	2.42	2.53	10.10
2023	2.71	2.82	3.05	3.23	11.82
2024	1.36	3.35	3.50	3.54	11.75
2025	3.80	3.80	4.00	4.40	16.00
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2020					
2021	NO CASH DIVIDENDS				
2022	BEING PAID				
2023					

Adobe posted mixed results for the first quarter of fiscal 2024 (year ends **November 29th).** The software company's top line advanced about 11%, to \$5.18 billion for the period. The improvement was driven by healthy demand across the company's two main operating segments (Digital Media and Digital Experience). However, profits fell 50%, to \$1.36 per share, owing to a \$1 billion payment associated with the termination of the Figma acquisition.

We have adjusted our financial outlook at this time. For fiscal 2024, we continue to look for the top line to advance roughly 11%, to \$21.5 billion. However, we have lowered our earnings forecast, to \$11.75 per share, to account for the precharge. mentioned Investors viously should note that we have introduced encouraging figures for fiscal 2025.

Adobe is well positioned in a few key markets. Its Creative Cloud software is heavily used by designers to create content across many categories (graphics, illustration, photography, video, etc.). In addition, Adobe's *Acrobat* technology is widely deployed to create and manage digital

forms. Finally, the Experience Cloud offering, which provides e-commerce, customer engagement, and advertising solutions, is being well received. Lately, Adobe has been making a major push to introduce artificial intelligence (AI)technology through its Firefly and AI Assistant ap-However, plications commercializing these tools may take time.

The balance sheet is a major asset. At the end of the first quarter, Adobe had cash of \$6.3 billion and a manageable amount of debt. Given that the Figma acquisition was derailed, big deals may not be pursued right now. However, Adobe seems set to return capital to shareholders, with a newly approved \$25 billion share-repurchase plan.

Adobe stock has retreated in price since our February repot. Some investors may have been hoping that AI applications would have a larger impact on results. But our projections suggest that this issue holds attractive appreciation potential for the next 3 to 5 years. Conservative investors interested in a technology holding may want to take a look here. Adam Rosner May 3, 2024

(A) Fiscal year ends the Friday closest to No-

(B) Diluted earnings. Egs. may not sum due to rounding. Next earnings report due mid-June.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A+ 65 Price Growth Persistence 85 **Earnings Predictability** 75