

conductor industry. The company offers a prime polished wafer, which is a refined pure wafer with an ultraflat and ultraclean surface: an epitaxial wafer that consists of a thin silicon layer grown on the polished surface of the wafer; and a test/monitor wafer for use

rate: 6.7%. Has approximately 4,900 employees. Off./dir own about .2% of common shares out. (3/08 proxy). Pres. and CEO: Nabeel Gareeb. Incorp.: Delaware. Address: 501 Pearl Drive, PO Box 8, St Peters, MO 63376. Tel.: 636-474-5000. Internet: www.memc.com.

ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '05-'07 to '11-'13 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. Sales "Cash Flow 15.5% 22.5% 13.0% -4.0% -6.0% Earnings Dividends 1.0% 24.5% Nil Book Value -11.0% 28.5%

125.4

5.0 127.4

257.8

168.3

5.3 270.6

159.7

6.0

473.2

Accts Pavable

Debt Due

Other Current Liab

Cal- endar	QU/ Mar.31		SALES (\$ r Sep.30		Full Year
2005	250.9	272.3	280.7	303.5	1107.4
2006	341.6	370.6	407.9	420.5	1540.6
2007	440.4	472.7	472.8	535.9	1921.8
2008	501.4	560	630	668.6	2360
2009	680	715	740	765	2900
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE A Ful				
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2005	.25	.18	.45	.22	1.10
2006	.29	.36	.40	.56	1.61
2007	.58	.71	.65	.97	2.91
2008	.81	1.01	1.15	1.28	4.25
2009	1.24	1.28	1.32	1.36	5.20
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2004					
2005	NO CASH DIVIDENDS				
2006	BEING PAID				
2007					
2008					

MEMC Electronic Materials matched our watered-down expectations for the March quarter. During the period, the company issued a statement that firstquarter revenues and margins wouldn't be within initial guidance due to accelerated chemical deposit buildups inside its new expansion unit at its Pasadena, Texas polysilicon facility. Nevertheless, despite the company's inability to take full advantage of healthy market demand (as utilization 20% below MEMC mod-20% plant was December-quarter levels), estly outpaced both our earnings and sales forecasts for the period. This largely reflected cost-reduction efforts and a more profitable product mix.

We have left our earnings estimates intact for both 2008 and 2009, despite a lackluster domestic economy. Management notes that demand for semiconductor wafers has weakened in recent weeks, which has resulted in price declines relative to first-quarter levels. On the other hand, demand for solar silicon remains quite strong. We are at the high end of management's revenue guidance of \$540 million-\$570 million for the June quarter.

It appears that management may well be somewhat conservative with its expectations for the interim, due to the March period's production problems. We also look for operating expenses to decline to under \$40 million in the June quarter, compared to about \$41 million the prior period.

The company appears to be well positioned for the long pull. Its solar exposure is lucrative, particularly given current conditions in the energy markets. Although the stellar rate of growth in this sector may slow somewhat in the years ahead, it should remain decent, nevertheless. MEMC also has about \$5.60 per share in cash on its ledger, which gives it the financial wherewithal to expand production when it deems fit or to pursue a complementary acquisition. Too, this cash hoard would come in handy if the chip market experiences a prolonged downturn, though we do not predict such an occurrence anytime soon.

These shares are neutrally ranked for **Timeliness.** The stock's long-term gains prospects have been enhanced by the issue's recent moderate price pullback. Alan G. House July 11, 2008

(A) Diluted earnings per share. Excludes non-recurrurring loss: '07, Q1; 13¢. Next egs. report

(B) In millions

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A 15 Price Growth Persistence 60 **Earnings Predictability** 20