

and Supplies (drill pipe, expendable supplies, pumps, pipeline inspection, tool rental), 37% (34%); and Distribution & Transmission Miller, Jr. Inc.: DE. Address: 7909 Parkwood Circle Drive, Houston, Texas 77036. Tel.: (713) 346-7500. Internet: www.nov.com.

ANNUAL RATES Est'd '09-'11 Past **5 Yrs.** 16.0% to '15-'17 11.0% of change (per sh) 10 Yrs. Sales "Cash Flow' Earnings 29.0% 29.5% 14.5% 15.0% NIME Dividends 24.5% 11.5% **Book Value** 

3535

4536

Current Liab.

3535

4536

4085

5445

Cal-	QUARTERLY SALES (\$ mill.)				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun. 30	Sep. 30	Dec. 31	Year
2009	3481	3010	3087	3134	12712
2010	3032	2941	3011	3172	12156
2011	3146	3513	3740	4259	14658
2012	4303	4450	4650	4897	18300
2013	5000	5200	5500	5800	21500
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE A F				
endar	Mar.31	Jun. 30	Sep. 30	Dec. 31	Year
2009	1.13	.76	.92	.94	3.75
2010	1.01	.96	.96	1.05	3.98
2011	.97	1.13	1.25	1.35	4.70
2012	1.42	1.46	1.51	1.56	5.95
2013	1.64	1.69	1.75	1.82	6.90
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B Full				
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2008					
2009				.10	.10
2010	.10	.10	.10	.11	.41
2011	.11	.11	.11	.12	.45
2012	.12				
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National Oilwell is firing cylinders. First-quarter results benefited from increased demand in all three segments as operating profits of the rig technology, petroleum services and supplies, and distribution and transmission divisions jumped 30%, 56%, and 53%, respectively. Business was better both in North America and abroad. Shipments of equipment for offshore and land rigs rose as oil prices recovered from the October low point. A steady North American rig count boosted results at petroleum services and supplies as operators de-emphasized natural gas but raised oil exploration and development activity. The downhole tools line did especially well as horizontal drilling in shale deposits expanded.

The balance of the year looks strong, too. To quote NOV, inquiries and orders for offshore equipment have been very strong in response to the aligned "stars of \$100 crude, high and rising dayrates, and hungry shipyards"; the last refers to lower demand for dry bulk and other carriers, which is reducing delivery time for off-shore drilling rigs. Increased demand for spare blowout preventers in the wake of the BP oil spill in April 2010 is also helping rig technology. After a seasonal decline, demand for petroleum supplies and services should keep growing as operators shift their focus from dry natural gas deposits to the more "oily" shales in the Bakken and Eagle Ford regions.

Momentum will probably persist through 2013. In response to growing demand, National Oilwell has opened several new plants in the last year and will bring another one on line soon. The company made several sizable acquisitions last year and should close another two, at least, in 2012. A new plant in Abu Dhabi, expansion in Russia, and new interest in shale deposits in China, Australia, and Latin America should keep profits rising.

These timely shares have above-

average long-term capital appreciation potential. As the largest maker of drilling equipment, National Oilwell ought to benefit as demand for oil grows, even if conservation and pollution control dampen energy use a bit in the developed world. Acquisitions will no doubt add to the substantial internal growth we foresee. Sigourney B. Romaine, CFA May 11, 2012

(A) Based on diluted shares. Excludes net nonrecurring items: 2009, (23¢). Next earnings report due late July. (B) National Oilwell paid its first regular cash

special dividend of \$1.00 a share. Dividends lions, adjusted for a split. **(E)** Figures prior to are being paid in late March, June, September, 6/05 are pro forma. and December. (C) Incl. intangibles. At

dividend in December 2009 and also paid a 3/31/12: \$10.2 bill., \$24.04 a share. (D) In mil-

Company's Financial Strength B++ Stock's Price Stability Price Growth Persistence 30 75 **Earnings Predictability**