

Airgas, Inc. (ARG)

4QF13: "Self-Help" Key to Earnings Growth Story

BAIRD

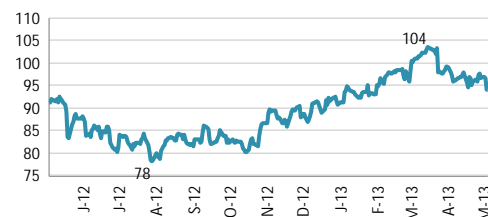
Maintain Outperform rating and \$114 price target. 4QF13 earnings were consistent with revised expectations and consensus is at the high end of the initial F2014 guidance range, which we believe represents a baseline initial view. Even assuming no economic improvement from here, the Airgas "self-help" story should drive at least mid- to high-teens EPS growth in F2014. This dynamic underpins our continued favorable view of ARG, particularly in the current choppy environment, while later-cycle catalysts could drive upside.

- **Maintain Outperform rating and \$114 price target** representing approximately 9.5x EV/C2014E EBITDA.
- **Estimate changes.** Adjusting our F2014 and F2015 EPS estimates to \$5.12 and \$5.90, respectively.
- **4QF13 EPS consistent with revised expectations.** Airgas reported 4QF13 EPS of \$1.14, just above our \$1.13 estimate and consistent with pre-announced levels. Core operating results were slightly below expectations, offset by non-operating items.
- **F2014 guidance captures Street at the high end.** Management provided F2014 EPS guidance of \$5.00-\$5.35 (which we believe represents an initial baseline view), capturing Street consensus of \$5.35 at the high end. While below our prior estimate (\$5.52), guidance includes several transitory issues we did not previously estimate, including a variable compensation reset (\$0.13 delta) and weakness in refrigerants (\$0.05-\$0.10 delta), and also puts net SAP benefits at the low end of expectations (\$0.08 delta).
- **"Self-help" story set to emerge.** Even assuming no economic improvement, the tailwind from SAP benefits/share repurchases alone should drive mid- to high-teens EPS growth in F2014, highlighting the "self-help" dynamic that underpins our favorable view of ARG in the current choppy environment.
- **SAP net benefits at low end of prior F2014 guidance.** Net SAP benefits in F2014 are expected to be \$0.45, in line with the low end of prior \$0.45-\$0.55 guidance. Slightly lower expectations vs. our previous estimate (\$0.53) reflect current slower business conditions and continued elevated training expense near-term.
- **Potential upside/downside.** Upside could come from later-cycle catalysts (especially non-residential construction), acquisitions, SAP outperformance, and/or incremental pricing. We see limited downside risk outside of further economic weakening, a risk not unique to ARG, and offset by the company's "self-help" earnings drivers.
- **4QF13 results.** EPS (ex-items) \$1.14 vs. \$1.13 estimate. Sales \$1.26 vs. \$1.26 billion estimate. Gross margin 54.7% vs. 55.1% estimate. EBIT margin (ex-items) 12.2% vs. 12.6% estimate.

Airgas is the largest US distributor of industrial, medical and specialty gases, and welding, safety and related supplies.

ESTIMATE CHANGE

1-Year Price Chart



Stock Data

Rating:	Outperform
Suitability:	Average Risk
Price Target:	\$114
Price (5/1/13):	\$93.91
Market Cap (mil):	\$7,184
Shares Out (mil):	76.5
Average Daily Vol (mil):	0.52
Dividend Yield:	2.0%

Estimates

FY Mar	2013A	2014E	2015E
Q1	1.13 A	1.18 E	
Q2	1.05 A	1.24 E	
Q3	1.04 A	1.31 E	
Q4	1.14 A	1.38 E	
Fiscal EPS	4.35 A	5.12 E	5.90 E
Previous (FY)	4.34 A	5.52 E	6.40 E
Fiscal P/E	21.6x	18.3x	15.9x
Calendar EPS	4.87 E	5.73 E	
Previous (CY)	5.14 E	6.18 E	
Calendar P/E	19.3x	16.4x	

Chart/Table Sources: Bloomberg and Baird Data

**Please refer to Appendix
- Important Disclosures
and Analyst Certification**

Details

Airgas, Inc. (ARG - NYSE)								
Quarterly Results and Variance Sheet (in millions)								
	Quarterly Results					Percent of Revenue		
	4QF13	4QF12	Change	Baird/	Variance	4QF13	4QF12	Baird/
Net Sales	\$ 1,262.9	\$ 1,241.1	2%	\$ 1,257.5	0%			
Cost of Sales	572.1	572.1	(0%)	564.4	1%			
Gross Profit	690.8	669.0	3%	693.2	(0%)	54.7%	53.9%	55.1%
SG&A	536.9	517.1	4%	534.5	0%	42.5%	41.7%	42.5%
Operating Income	153.9	151.9	1%	158.7	(3%)	12.2%	12.2%	12.6%
Other Exp (Inc)	15.2	15.8	(3%)	20.5	(26%)			
Pretax Income	138.7	136.2	2%	138.2	0%	11.0%	11.0%	11.0%
Taxes	51.5	49.3	5%	52.5	(2%)	37.1%	36.2%	38.0%
Net Income	\$ 87.2	\$ 86.9	0%	\$ 85.7	2%	6.9%	7.0%	6.8%
Diluted EPS	\$ 1.14	\$ 1.11	3%	\$ 1.13	1%			
Diluted Shares	76.5	78.4	(2%)	76.1	1%			

Source: Company reports, Robert W. Baird & Co. estimates

4QF13 results mostly in line with revised expectations

- **EPS.** Airgas reported 4QF13 EPS (ex-items) of \$1.14 vs. \$1.11 y/y, slightly above our \$1.13 estimate (also consensus). EPS excludes a \$0.01 restructuring charge.
- **Sales.** Sales were \$1.26 billion vs. \$1.24 billion y/y, matching our \$1.26 billion estimate (also consensus). Organic same-store sales growth in the quarter was flat (price +5%, volume -5%) vs. our -1.3% estimate with Gas & Rent +4% and Hardgoods -5%. This is very consistent with the recent Baird/Cryogas survey, which indicated continued relative strength in Gas & Rent trends and further declines in Hardgoods growth.
- **Gross margin.** Gross margin of 54.7% was below our 55.1% estimate, reflecting unfavorable mix shift within both Gas & Rent and Hardgoods and higher production costs, partially offset by improved pricing and favorable mix shift towards Gas & Rent from Hardgoods.
- **EBIT margin.** Operating expenses of 42.5% of sales were in line with our 42.5% estimate, reflecting SAP-related benefits more than offset by lower operating leverage on lower volume growth.

Management outlook

- **Overall.** Consistent with our recent Baird/Cryogas survey, management noted a general lack of momentum in underlying business conditions that persisted through March. In particular, deceleration in non-residential construction and non-tech industrial production were cited, though expectations call for a modest recovery in 2HF14 (more on this below).
- **1QF14 guidance/April trends.** Management issued 1QF14 EPS guidance (ex-items) of \$1.14-\$1.20, below our previous \$1.28 estimate (\$1.30 consensus). Guidance assumes a continuation of current lackluster growth translating into flat to low single-digit base business growth, and April trends were cited as consistent with this range.
- **F2014 guidance.** Airgas also provided F2014 EPS guidance of \$5.00-\$5.35 (+19% at the midpoint), placing \$5.35 consensus at the high end of the range but below our previous \$5.52 estimate. Guidance assumes back-end loaded organic sales growth of low-to-mid single-digits, with the high and low range of EPS corresponding to high and low range of organic growth, respectively, and reflects management's expectations for a gradual recovery in non-residential construction as deferred projects should be converted out of backlog moving into 2HF13. Of note, the ~\$(0.35) delta between our prior estimate and the mid-point of guidance reflects the following:
 - **SAP net benefits at low end of prior F2014 guidance.** Management cited slightly elevated SAP-related costs needed fund additional post-conversion support and training through 1HF14 (more on this below). Net SAP-related benefits are now expected to be at the low end of the

\$0.45-\$0.55 guidance range vs. our prior \$0.53 estimate, driving \$(0.08) of the variance vs. our F2014 EPS estimate.

- **Higher variable compensation expense.** As a result of slower-than-budgeted growth in F2013, management expects variable compensation to see an above-average increase in F2014 given easier prior-year comparisons. Currently, \$16 million is targeted in variable compensation, corresponding to a \$(0.13) impact on EPS which was not included in our prior estimate.
- **R-22 refrigerant headwinds.** Lastly, the recent EPA ruling to allow increases in R-22 refrigerant production (vs. industry expectations for mandated declines) is expected to be a \$(0.05)-\$(0.10) headwind in F2014. Specifically, the company cited refrigerant volumes -50% y/y and price -7.5% y/y since the late-March ruling, as many reseller-customers, who had brought inventory ahead of anticipated channel shortages, are expected to withhold from additional purchases in F2014 given expectations for increases in supply. This negative dynamic is further exacerbated given the difficult prior-year comparisons, as these inventory additions which took place in F2013 are expected to reverse in F2014.
- **Acquisitions.** Management is targeting \$150 million in acquired revenues in F2014, consistent with recent years.
- **Share repurchase.** The company's recently completed share repurchase is expected to be \$0.16 accretive to F2014 EPS.
- **Overall.** Even assuming no economic improvement, the tailwind from SAP benefits/share repurchases alone should drive mid- to- high-teens EPS growth in F2014, highlighting the “self-help” dynamic that underpins our favorable view of ARG in the current choppy environment.

Airgas, Inc. (ARG - NYSE)		
Guidance		
	1QF14	F2014
EPS	\$1.14-\$1.20	\$5.00-\$5.35
Same Store Sales	Flat to up low single digits	Up low to mid single digits
Operating Margin		12.8% - 13.3%
Tax Rate		~37.5%
Capital Expenditures		~6.5% of sales

Source: Company reports

SAP implementation update

- **Conversion now complete.** In 4QF13, Airgas successfully brought the final region onto its SAP platform, as planned. Going forward, we view the company's ability to reach this important milestone positively and are encouraged by positive management commentary.
- **SAP net benefits at low end of prior F2014 guidance.** Management expects slightly elevated expenses in 1HF14 as the company funds additional post-conversion support and training. To this end, management now expects F2014 SAP benefits (net of expenses) to be at the low end of \$0.45-\$0.55 guidance (vs. our prior \$0.53 estimate). We believe this temporary near-term headwind is a prudent longer-term investment, as the company moves to realize expected benefits and minimize disruption to the day-to-day business.
- **Earnings progression outlined.** F2014 guidance assumes overall SAP benefits of \$0.63 relative to F2013 (+14% earnings growth), reflecting the previously mentioned \$0.45 net SAP benefits to be realized in F2014 in addition to the \$(0.18) in net expense incurred in F2013. To this point, while net benefits are expected to ramp meaningfully from here (\$0.06 in net benefits expected in 1QF14 vs. \$0.04 in 4QF13), overall benefits (\$0.16 expected in 1QF14) should remain fairly consistent through F2014, as prior-year SAP expenses decline through the year.
- **Sources of additional opportunities.** As only half of the business utilized SAP's pricing enhancement capabilities in F2013, management's expectations for the entire business to utilize

SAP for pricing actions in F2014 is a potential source of upside. Longer term, previously discussed areas of opportunities include cylinder management, e-business, vending, continuous improvement, channel optimization and distribution/logistics efficiencies.

Strategic Products

- **Overall trends.** Strategic products, which make up approximately 40% of Airgas’ revenue, saw +2% y/y organic sales growth – reflecting new business gains in metal fabrication, energy and construction markets partially offset by broad-based slowing in underlying activity. Demand for these products is generally more stable, leading to slightly lower growth in periods of expansion and more stable trends during periods of slower economic activity.
- **Gases see relative strength.** Medical/Bulk gases saw the strongest trends (+4%) due to new customer signings and higher pricing, Specialty Gases and CO2/Dry Ice all saw growth in line with the overall group (+2%) on higher pricing, while Safety (flat y/y) continued to lag reflecting slower underlying activity levels.

Airgas, Inc. (ARG - NYSE)		
Strategic Products		
Segment	Growth	
	4QF13	3QF13
Safety	+0%	+1%
Bulk Gas	+4%	+6%
Medical Sales	+4%	+6%
Specialty Gas	+2%	+4%
CO2 / Dry Ice	+2%	+12%

Source: Company reports

Distribution Segment

- **Segment overview.** Distribution is Airgas’ core business. Products include industrial, medical, and specialty gases distributed in cylinders and bulk containers; process chemicals; cylinder and equipment rental; and welding hardgoods.
- **Sales.** Sales were \$1.12 billion (+1.5% y/y), matching our \$1.12 billion estimate. Organic sales were -1% (price +4%, volume -5%) vs. our -1.3% estimate, comprised of Gas & Rent +3% (price +5%, volume -2%; vs. our flat overall estimate) and hardgoods -5% (price +3%, volume -8%; vs. our -3% overall estimate).
- **Gross margin.** Gross margin was 55.4% vs. 54.5% y/y, reflecting an improved mix of higher-margin Gas & Rent and higher pricing/SAP-related price management benefits, partially offset by unfavorable mix shifts within both Gas & Rent and Hardgoods as well as higher operating and product costs.
- **Operating margin.** Operating margin was 12.8% vs. 13.1% y/y, below our 13.2% estimate. Operating leverage was muted due to y/y declines in volumes, which more than offset the SAP-related benefits.
- **Our outlook.** We are modeling low single-digit organic sales growth in 1QF14, consistent with management’s guidance, improving to mid-single-digit organic growth in 2HF13. Within the distribution business, we expect continued relative strength in Gas & Rent vs. Hardgoods, a typical later-cycle dynamic. Operationally, we continue to see meaningful y/y improvement from here, driven by both higher gross margin (positive sales mix + pricing + SAP pricing benefits) and improved leverage on SG&A in 2HF13 given our outlook for improving trends.

All Other Operations Segment

- **Segment overview.** All Other Operations encompasses six business units; primary products include carbon dioxide, dry ice, nitrous oxide, ammonia, refrigerant gases and bulk / merchant gas.
- **Sales.** Sales were \$144.2 million (+2.9% y/y), above our \$139.4 million estimate. Organic sales

were +3% vs. our -1% estimate, primarily driven by higher ammonia sales (both volume and price) which more than offset volume declines in R-22 refrigerant.

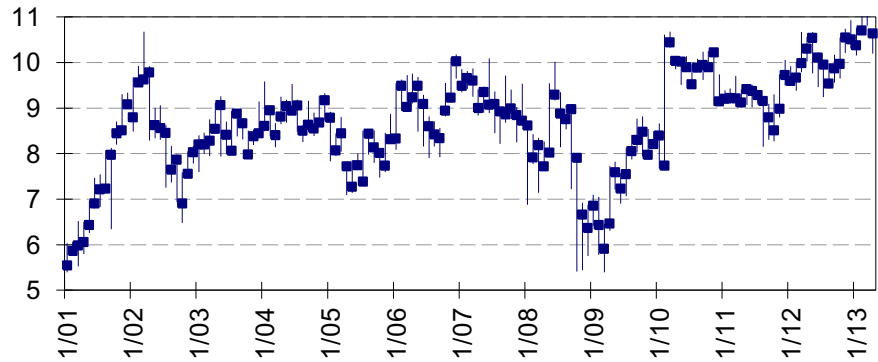
- **Gross margin.** Gross margin of 46.1% was up vs. 45.5% y/y, driven by a favorable mix shift away from refrigerant sales, in addition to favorable mix shift within refrigerants.
- **Operating margin.** Operating margin of 11.1% was up modestly vs. 10.9% y/y, and above our 9.7% estimate on improved gross margin, partially offset by higher outage-related costs in the CO2 business.
- **Our outlook.** We are modeling low single-digit organic sales growth over F2014, reflecting modestly improving underlying growth through the year partially offset by previously mentioned headwinds in the company's R-22 refrigeration business. Additionally, we are modeling modest declines in segment EBIT margins over F2014.

Balance Sheet/Cash Flow

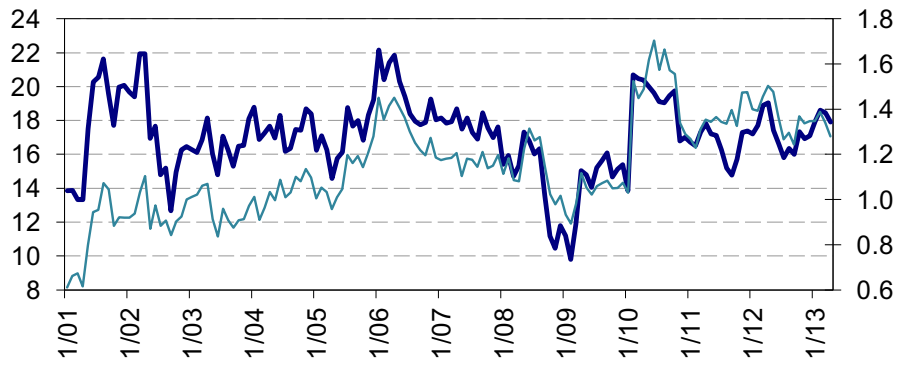
- **Free cash flow.** Free cash flow was \$63.8 million (RWB definition, CFO – Capital expenditures – increases in A/R securitization) vs. \$72.2 million y/y.
- **Cash conversion days.** Cash conversion days (Inventory days + DSO – DPO) were 106 days vs. 108 days y/y and 90 days q/q.
- **ROE.** TTM ROE was 19.2% vs. 19.5% y/y and 18.9% q/q.
- **Debt-to-capital.** Total debt-to-capital was 58.7% vs. 46.4% y/y and 48.5% q/q.
- **Share repurchase program update.** The company recently completed its \$600 million share repurchase program, repurchasing 6.29 million shares at an average price of \$95.37. The net impact is expected to be a \$0.16 benefit to F2014 EPS.

Airgas, Inc. (ARG - NYSE)			
Estimate Changes			
1QF14E	New	Old	Change
Sales (millions)	\$1,294.9	\$1,272.2	\$22.7
Sales Growth	3.0%	1.2%	1.8%
Gross Margin	54.5%	55.3%	(86bp)
Op Ex.	543.0	527.5	\$15.5
Op Ex % of Sales	41.9%	41.5%	47bp
EBIT Margin	12.5%	13.9%	(133bp)
Diluted EPS	\$1.18	\$1.28	(\$0.10)
F2014E	New	Old	Change
Sales (millions)	\$5,207.0	\$5,144.1	\$62.9
Sales Growth	5.0%	3.9%	\$0.0
Gross Margin	55.2%	55.5%	(\$0.0)
Op Ex.	2,178.7	2107.3	\$71.4
Op Ex % of Sales	41.8%	41.0%	\$0.0
EBIT Margin	13.3%	14.6%	(\$0.0)
Diluted EPS	\$5.12	\$5.52	(\$0.4)
F2015E	New	Old	Change
Sales (millions)	\$5,514.0	\$5,389.7	\$124.2
Sales Growth	5.9%	4.8%	1.1%
Gross Margin	55.6%	55.8%	(0bp)
Op Ex.	2,270.4	2166.2	\$104.2
Op Ex % of Sales	41.2%	40.2%	0bp
EBIT Margin	14.4%	15.6%	(0bp)
Diluted EPS	\$5.90	\$6.40	(\$0.50)

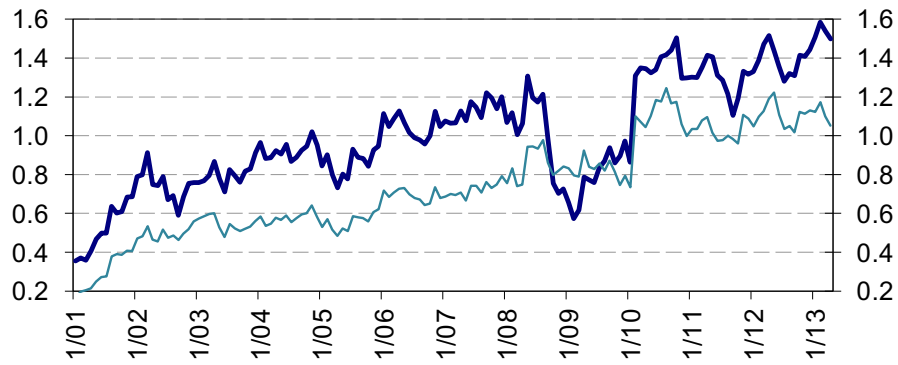
Source: Robert W. Baird & Co. estimates



■ NTM Enterprise Value/EBITDA



— Actual NTM PE (left) — Relative NTM PE (right)



— Actual P/S (left) — Relative P/S (right)

Source: FactSet, Robert W. Baird & Co. estimates

Investment Thesis

The call. We rate ARG Outperform. Our \$114 price target is based on approximately 10x EV/C2014E EBITDA, in line with the one-year 10x NTM average. We remain positive on this self-help story overall, as SAP has now swung to a tailwind. This along with a recently completed share repurchase should drive mid- to high-teens EPS growth, even assuming no economic improvement from here. Exposure

to later-cycle catalysts is positive, however, while acquisition activity also represents potential upside. With growth more weighted towards gases as the cycle progresses, any upside to revenue growth should read through at high incremental profitability. As such, we continue to recommend this long-term value creator and continue to like the stock, particularly on pullbacks.

Airgas is the leader in a large, fragmented market. As the market leader in the US packaged gas industry, Airgas' long-term value proposition is the continued consolidation of this market via both organic growth and acquisition. Airgas is the leader (25% market share) in a large, consolidating market (nearly 400 acquisitions completed since 1982).

Growth initiatives. Over the long term, Airgas should achieve organic sales growth in the high single-digits (augmented by acquisitions) and EPS growth in the mid-teens. Several organic growth initiatives are driving outsized growth vs. the market, including Strategic Accounts, Strategic Products and the Radnor private label line while there are also opportunities to expand further in adjacent distribution modalities (bulk gases, on-site). The company's strategic product sales (construction, private label, safety, strategic accounts, CO₂ and medical, bulk and specialty gas) now constitute over 40% of overall sales and continue to provide support for growth as overall trends remain positive. Strategic account sales also provide support to overall growth, focusing on larger customers with multiple locations. The company also targets \$150 million in acquired revenue targeted annually, complementing organic same-store sales growth.

Transition to single operating platform. The company recently transitioned from 12 regional distribution companies to a single unified platform (supported by four support centers) in conjunction with rolling out an SAP information system. There are significant sales and operational opportunities upon completion of this transition, including accelerated sales growth and structurally higher margins/returns.

Key risks to our Outperform thesis. Fundamental risks include demand and/or pricing outcomes that are worse than expected, risks associated with SAP integration (although we have high confidence in the roadmap), acquisition-related risks, etc.

Risks & Caveats

Economic sensitivity. Because a significant percentage of sales are to manufacturing industries, Airgas is affected by economic factors that impact the US manufacturing economy. However, Airgas is also diversified in medical, specialty, non-residential construction, and infrastructure end markets, among others. Pricing actions can serve as an offset to declining unit volumes.

Core market is finite, moderately sized and growing at approximately a GDP rate. Airgas' target market is \$13+ billion, of which large players currently control about half of the market. Market growth is not much greater than GDP and core demand can be cyclical. Faster-growth and less cyclical market segments like medical and specialty gases, ammonia and refrigeration reclamation should help Airgas grow organically to offset manufacturing cyclicality. Strategic product sales today make up 40% of total sales, and help to buffer weaker economic trends.

SAP integration. While the recently completed conversion to SAP presents a concern given past implementation problems at similarly sized distributors, we believe company-specific risks have mostly passed with the software implementation now complete and additional resources devoted to continued training near term to ensure a smooth transition.

Acquisition integration. Airgas has completed nearly 400 acquisitions since 1982, and although there are integration risks with any acquisition strategy, we view acquisition risk as minimal.

Litigation. While Airgas has been party to asbestos and welding fumes lawsuits from time to time, none have been material nor considered to have merit.

Leverage. Airgas carries a relatively high debt-to-total capitalization (adjusted for AR securitization). Due to strong cash flow, Airgas' coverage ratios should remain solid, even with a higher level of debt.

Company Description

Airgas is the largest US distributor of packaged industrial, medical and specialty gases, and welding, safety and related supplies. The company also produces dry ice, liquid CO₂, nitrous oxide and other atmospheric and specialty gases. Airgas distributes more than 10 million cylinders from over 1,100 locations to more than 1,000,000 customers in a diverse group of industries. With nearly \$5 billion in F2013 sales, Airgas is the leader in the fragmented \$13+ billion market for packaged gases and welding hardgoods.



Airgas, Inc.

(ARG - NYSE)

David J. Manthey, CFA
414.465.8020
Luke L. Junk, CFA
414.298.5084
Elliot B. Strumlauf
414.298.5077

Recent Price \$95.00
Fiscal Year End March
Date Printed May 2, 2013

(\$ in thousands, except per share)

Fiscal Year	Total Distribution Revenue			Gas & Rent Revenue			Hardgoods Revenue			Gross Profit			Operating Income			Total Other Revenue			Gross Profit			Operating Income			
	\$	Chg	Organic	\$	Chg	Organic	\$	Chg	Organic	\$	%	Chg	\$	%	Chg	\$	Chg	Organic	\$	%	Chg	\$	%	Chg	
	2002	1,494,267			707,435			786,832			724,173			111,930			173,594			93,121			21,603		
2003	1,642,076	9.9%	10%	863,975	22.1%	22%	778,101	(1.1%)	-1%	835,756	50.9%	15.4%	133,228	8.1%	19.0%	183,849	5.9%	6%	100,892	54.9%	8.3%	25,348	13.8%	17.3%	
2004	1,702,471	3.7%	3%	882,585	2.2%	2%	819,886	5.4%	4%	857,031	50.3%	2.5%	139,249	8.2%	4.5%	235,926	28.3%	6%	129,756	55.0%	28.6%	31,331	13.3%	23.6%	
2005	2,078,739	22.1%	10%	1,056,661	19.7%	6%	1,022,078	24.7%	14%	1,021,192	49.1%	19.2%	158,018	7.6%	13.5%	385,611	63.4%	7%	211,172	54.8%	62.7%	45,215	11.7%	44.3%	
2006	2,395,938	15.3%	10%	1,238,612	17.2%	10%	1,157,326	13.2%	9%	1,172,503	48.9%	14.8%	208,466	8.7%	31.9%	493,430	28.0%	7%	255,129	51.7%	20.8%	60,292	12.2%	33.3%	
2007	2,691,814	12.3%	8%	1,399,186	13.0%	8%	1,292,628	11.7%	8%	1,336,447	49.6%	14.0%	266,708	9.9%	27.9%	579,671	17.5%	6%	301,514	52.0%	18.2%	74,744	12.9%	24.0%	
2008	3,688,966	37.0%	7%	2,048,068	46.4%	8%	1,640,898	26.9%	5%	1,918,966	52.0%	43.6%	425,922	11.5%	59.7%	343,246	(40.8%)	15%	168,795	49.2%	(44.0%)	49,902	14.5%	(33.2%)	
2009	3,918,376	6.2%	0%	2,239,724	9.4%	3%	1,678,652	2.3%	-4%	2,105,251	53.7%	9.7%	469,888	12.0%	10.3%	457,329	33.2%	2%	199,184	43.6%	18.0%	54,980	12.0%	10.9%	
2010	3,467,327	(11.5%)	-6%	2,106,128	(6.0%)	-5%	1,361,199	(18.9%)	-6%	1,933,162	55.8%	(8.2%)	371,317	10.7%	(21.0%)	420,941	(8.0%)	-23%	198,419	47.1%	(0.4%)	51,716	12.3%	(5.9%)	
2011	3,810,136	9.9%	6%	2,272,215	7.9%	1%	1,537,921	13.0%	15%	2,117,270	55.6%	9.5%	478,735	12.6%	28.9%	472,054	12.1%	-17%	220,107	46.6%	10.9%	64,657	13.7%	25.0%	
Q1	1,030,460	10.6%	11%	604,571	8.6%	7%	425,889	13.5%	13%	568,816	55.2%	9.9%	133,840	13.0%	17.6%	142,966	11.4%	7%	64,704	45.3%	7.6%	19,899	13.9%	(12.3%)	
Q2	1,052,456	11.5%	11%	611,726	8.7%	7%	440,730	15.6%	14%	568,287	54.0%	8.4%	131,559	12.5%	15.8%	145,134	15.7%	7%	66,462	45.8%	8.7%	19,193	13.2%	(10.5%)	
Q3	1,041,729	11.2%	11%	611,005	8.3%	7%	430,724	15.6%	14%	573,730	55.1%	9.1%	135,374	13.0%	16.6%	120,987	14.6%	6%	59,205	48.9%	17.0%	13,057	10.8%	9.7%	
Q4	1,110,224	11.3%	11%	634,930	7.9%	7%	475,294	16.3%	15%	605,281	54.5%	10.1%	145,567	13.1%	7.6%	140,126	24.4%	18%	63,720	45.5%	32.1%	15,315	10.9%	77.9%	
2012E	4,234,869	11.1%	-3%	2,462,232	8.4%	-7%	1,772,637	15.3%	2%	2,316,114	54.7%	9.4%	546,340	12.9%	14.1%	549,213	16.3%	-26%	254,091	46.3%	15.4%	67,464	12.3%	4.3%	
Q1	1,112,601	8.0%	11%	638,610	5.6%	5%	473,991	11.3%	9%	611,988	55.0%	7.6%	138,706	12.5%	3.6%	153,835	7.6%	6%	76,530	49.7%	18.3%	28,634	18.6%	43.9%	
Q2	1,082,891	2.9%	11%	632,598	3.4%	3%	450,293	2.2%	1%	603,939	55.8%	6.3%	134,054	12.4%	1.9%	155,850	7.4%	7%	73,358	47.1%	10.4%	22,193	14.2%	15.6%	
Q3	1,076,102	3.3%	2%	642,884	5.2%	5%	433,218	0.6%	-1%	614,185	57.1%	7.1%	139,725	13.0%	3.2%	139,670	15.4%	14%	66,071	47.3%	11.6%	14,543	10.4%	11.4%	
Q4	1,126,511	1.5%	-1%	663,809	4.5%	3%	462,702	(2.6%)	-5%	624,374	55.4%	3.2%	143,932	12.8%	(1.1%)	144,243	2.9%	3%	66,439	46.1%	4.3%	15,949	11.1%	4.1%	
2013	4,398,105	3.9%	-13%	2,577,901	4.7%	-14%	1,820,204	2.7%	-11%	2,454,486	55.8%	6.0%	556,417	12.7%	1.8%	593,598	8.1%	-36%	282,398	47.6%	11.1%	81,319	13.7%	20.5%	
Q1E	1,149,811	3.3%	11%	671,443	5.1%	3%	478,368	0.9%	-1%	632,396	55.0%	3.3%	138,966	12.1%	0.2%	153,022	(0.5%)	-1%	73,065	47.7%	(4.5%)	23,477	15.3%	(18.0%)	
Q2E	1,127,393	4.1%	11%	664,188	5.0%	3%	463,204	2.9%	1%	631,340	56.0%	4.5%	151,842	13.5%	13.3%	157,798	1.2%	1%	71,119	45.1%	(3.1%)	17,726	11.2%	(20.1%)	
Q3E	1,152,968	7.1%	2%	695,321	8.2%	7%	457,647	5.6%	4%	651,427	56.5%	6.1%	161,441	14.0%	15.5%	143,890	3.0%	3%	68,067	47.3%	3.0%	15,096	10.5%	3.8%	
Q4E	1,202,751	6.8%	-1%	716,914	8.0%	8%	485,837	5.0%	5%	675,946	56.2%	8.3%	168,942	14.0%	17.4%	151,481	5.0%	5%	69,773	46.1%	5.0%	16,926	11.2%	6.1%	
2014E	4,632,923	5.3%	-16%	2,747,867	6.6%	-18%	1,885,056	3.6%	-14%	2,591,109	55.9%	5.6%	621,190	13.4%	11.6%	606,191	2.1%	-41%	282,024	46.5%	(0.1%)	73,224	12.1%	(10.0%)	
2015E	4,907,814	5.9%	-20%	2,933,156	6.7%	-23%	1,974,657	4.8%	-17%	2,759,099	56.2%	6.5%	704,942	14.4%	13.5%	639,561	5.5%	-42%	304,175	47.6%	7.9%	87,886	13.7%	20.0%	

Source: Company reports, Robert W. Baird & Co. estimates

Appendix - Important Disclosures and Analyst Certification



1 Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated makes a market in the securities of ARG.

Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated and/or its affiliates expect to receive or intend to seek investment banking related compensation from the company or companies mentioned in this report within the next three months.

Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated may not be licensed to execute transactions in all foreign listed securities directly. Transactions in foreign listed securities may be prohibited for residents of the United States. Please contact a Baird representative for more information.

Investment Ratings: **Outperform (O)** - Expected to outperform on a total return, risk-adjusted basis the broader U.S. equity market over the next 12 months. **Neutral (N)** - Expected to perform in line with the broader U.S. equity market over the next 12 months. **Underperform (U)** - Expected to underperform on a total return, risk-adjusted basis the broader U.S. equity market over the next 12 months.

Risk Ratings: **L - Lower Risk** - Higher-quality companies for investors seeking capital appreciation or income with an emphasis on safety. Company characteristics may include: stable earnings, conservative balance sheets, and an established history of revenue and earnings. **A - Average Risk** - Growth situations for investors seeking capital appreciation with an emphasis on safety. Company characteristics may include: moderate volatility, modest balance-sheet leverage, and stable patterns of revenue and earnings. **H - Higher Risk** - Higher-growth situations appropriate for investors seeking capital appreciation with the acceptance of risk. Company characteristics may include: higher balance-sheet leverage, dynamic business environments, and higher levels of earnings and price volatility. **S - Speculative Risk** - High-growth situations appropriate only for investors willing to accept a high degree of volatility and risk. Company characteristics may include: unpredictable earnings, small capitalization, aggressive growth strategies, rapidly changing market dynamics, high leverage, extreme price volatility and unknown competitive challenges.

Valuation, Ratings and Risks. The recommendation and price target contained within this report are based on a time horizon of 12 months but there is no guarantee the objective will be achieved within the specified time horizon. Price targets are determined by a subjective review of fundamental and/or quantitative factors of the issuer, its industry, and the security type. A variety of methods may be used to determine the value of a security including, but not limited to, discounted cash flow, earnings multiples, peer group comparisons, and sum of the parts. Overall market risk, interest rate risk, and general economic risks impact all securities. Specific information regarding the price target and recommendation is provided in the text of our most recent research report.

Distribution of Investment Ratings. As of April 30, 2013, Baird U.S. Equity Research covered 677 companies, with 52% rated Outperform/Buy, 47% rated Neutral/Hold and 1% rated Underperform/Sell. Within these rating categories, 13% of Outperform/Buy-rated and 11% of Neutral/Hold-rated companies have compensated Baird for investment banking services in the past 12 months and/or Baird managed or co-managed a public offering of securities for these companies in the past 12 months.

Analyst Compensation. Analyst compensation is based on: 1) The correlation between the analyst's recommendations and stock price performance; 2) Ratings and direct feedback from our investing clients, our institutional and retail sales force (as applicable) and from independent rating services; 3) The analyst's productivity, including the quality of the analyst's research and the analyst's contribution to the growth and development of our overall research effort and 4) Compliance with all of Robert W. Baird's internal policies and procedures. This compensation criteria and actual compensation is reviewed and approved on an annual basis by Baird's Research Oversight Committee.

Analyst compensation is derived from all revenue sources of the firm, including revenues from investment banking. Baird does not compensate research analysts based on specific investment banking transactions.

A complete listing of all companies covered by Baird U.S. Equity Research and applicable research disclosures can be accessed at <http://www.rwbaird.com/research-insights/research/coverage/research-disclosure.aspx>.

You can also call 1-800-792-2473 or write: Robert W. Baird & Co., Equity Research, 24th Floor, 777 E. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

Analyst Certification. The senior research analyst(s) certifies that the views expressed in this research report and/or financial model accurately reflect such senior analyst's personal views about the subject securities or issuers and that no part of his or her compensation was, is, or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific recommendations or views contained in the research report.

Disclaimers

Baird prohibits analysts from owning stock in companies they cover.

This is not a complete analysis of every material fact regarding any company, industry or security. The opinions expressed here reflect our judgment at this date and are subject to change. The information has been obtained from sources we consider to be reliable, but we cannot guarantee the accuracy.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON COMPANIES MENTIONED HEREIN IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

The Dow Jones Industrial Average, S&P 500, S&P 400 and Russell 2000 are unmanaged common stock indices used to measure and report performance of various sectors of the stock market; direct investment in indices is not available.

Baird is exempt from the requirement to hold an Australian financial services license. Baird is regulated by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, FINRA, and various other self-regulatory organizations and those laws and regulations may differ from Australian laws. This report has been prepared in accordance with the laws and regulations governing United States broker-dealers and not Australian laws.

Copyright 2013 Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated

Other Disclosures

The information and rating included in this report represent the Analyst's long-term (12 month) view as described above. The research analyst(s) named in this report may at times, discuss, at the request of our clients, including Robert W. Baird & Co. salespersons and traders, or may have discussed in this report, certain trading strategies based on catalysts or events that may have a near-term impact on the market price of the equity securities discussed in this report. These trading strategies may differ from the analysts' published price target or rating for such securities. Any such trading strategies are distinct from and do not affect the analysts' fundamental long-term (12 month) rating for such securities, as described above. In addition, Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated and/or its affiliates (Baird) may provide to certain clients additional or research supplemental products or services, such as outlooks, commentaries and other detailed analyses, which focus on covered stocks, companies, industries or sectors. Not all clients who receive our standard company-specific research reports are eligible to receive these additional or supplemental products or services. Baird determines in its sole discretion the clients who will receive additional or supplemental products or services, in light of various factors including the size and scope of the client relationships. These additional or supplemental products or services may feature different analytical or research techniques and information than are contained in Baird's standard research reports. Any ratings and recommendations contained in such additional or research supplemental products are consistent with the Analyst's long-term ratings and recommendations contained in more broadly disseminated standard research reports.

UK disclosure requirements for the purpose of distributing this research into the UK and other countries for which Robert W. Baird Limited holds an ISD passport.

This report is for distribution into the United Kingdom only to persons who fall within Article 19 or Article 49(2) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (financial promotion) order 2001 being persons who are investment professionals and may not be distributed to private clients. Issued in the United Kingdom by Robert W. Baird Limited, which has offices at Mint House 77 Mansell Street, London, E1 8AF, and is a company authorized and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. For the purposes of the Financial Services Authority requirements, this investment research report is classified as objective.

Robert W. Baird Limited ("RWBL") is exempt from the requirement to hold an Australian financial services license. RWBL is regulated by the Financial Services Authority ("FSA") under UK laws and those laws may differ from Australian laws. This document has been prepared in accordance with FSA requirements and not Australian laws.

[Ask the analyst a question](#)

[Click here to unsubscribe](#)