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EARNINGS GUIDE INTRODUCTION

The Standard & Poor's Earnings Guide gives investors the Wall Street consensus of earnings estimates. This information, previously available only to professional money managers, reports Wall Street's earnings expectations on over 5,500 publicly traded stocks. The Guide provides high, low and mean estimates as supplied by UB/E/S International, Inc. Additionally, the number of contributors is provided to indicate how many analysts are following each lasue. Prolessional money managers rely on this information in their stock selections. The estimates in the Guide were compiled. From over 2,300 financial analysts, representing more than 200 individual brokerage firms nationwide : 1

Other relevant litems of investment use, such as book value, cash flow, estimated five-year projected earnings growth rate, and annual revenue are included. This data further assists investors in selecting stocks that meet their individual investment criteria.

Finally, estimates are very time sensitive. While prior Guides may be used for research, or to determine trends, the rapidly changing market mandates continuous product updating. This publication will provide up-to-date market data in an easy to use format."

UNIFORM FOOTNOTE EXPLANATIONS

To provide for consistency and eliminate repetition, items recurring frequently that demand footnote explanation have been designated with apacific symbols, which are explained.

EARNINGS PER SHARE are presented on a "Diluted" basis (Indicated with a locinote "v") as available by company, excluding extraordinary items. This policy change from old "Primary" earnings is reflective of all earnings reported after December 15, 1997 (FASB 126), Net asset values are shown for mutual funds. Foreign issues traded ADR are in dollars, converted at

- prevailing exchange rate. Specific footnotes used in earnings columns: △ — Excludes extraordinary income ▲ — Includes extraordinary income
 - □ Excludes extraordinary charge - Includes extraordinary charge
 - f. Primary earnings (includes .) dilutive common equivalents)

How to use handle to the second secon

- Belore tax loss carryforward — Combined various classes.
- Prior year earnings and P/E 45.1
- Next year earnings and P/E - Fully diluted earnings I - Partial year
- d Deficit
- Currency of country of origin
- mergers, etc. P - Preliminary

and the P/E is based on the 2002 estimate. TO EMPHASIZE ESTIMATE CHANGES a bold directional arrow (++) will highlight Pro forma reflecting acquisitions, any annual mean estimate that has changed by 5% or more since the last published estimate. For those estimates that changed 10% or more in the past three months, a

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v - Diluted

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lighter directional arrow (个少) is presented.

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EARNINGS AND ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEARS ending in January, February or March are considered the prior year's earnings. An earning for the fiscal year ending March, 2003, would therefore be considered fiscal 2002, while one ending in April.

When a set of earnings are for next year (fiscal 2003) the symbol ‡ will be placed before the name of the issue. For these issues the last annual is 2003. The next two

When a company has a prior year's earnings (fiscal 2001) the symbol @ will be used.

For these issues, the last annual would be 2001. The estimates are for 2002 and 2003.

estimates are for 2004 and 2005, and the P/E is based on the 2004 estimate.

Standard & Poor's

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