

## Accessing Annual Data

### Calendar Year Data

Standard & Poor's Compustat North America carries many annual market data items (including high, low, and close prices and shares traded) on a calendar year (January through December) rather than a fiscal year basis. The calendar year basis allows you to compare market data among companies based on a particular point in time.

These calendar year items are adjusted for stock splits and dividends that occur at the end of a company's fiscal year and calendar quarter. The cumulative adjustment factor allows you to evaluate market data on a comparable basis.

### New Data Years

Compustat formats present a maximum of 20 years of annual data. During the third calendar quarter of each year, a new data year is added and the earliest year is deleted from these files and added to the Compustat Historical files. This occurs at the August month-end production. Advance notification is given to clients when the addition of a new year is pending.

Compustat Business Information Files formats present 7 years of information per company, when available. As each new year is added to the file to accommodate newly reporting fiscal years, the earliest year is deleted and added to the respective Business Information BackData files. Consecutive years of information are available for companies if the data is publicly available. The number of years of data each company depends on the amount of information that is available to Standard & Poor's.

## Accessing Quarterly Data

### New Data Quarters

During the first production in July, four new quarters of data are added to the quarterly files. The oldest four quarters are then removed from the quarterly files and added to the BackData file.

### Fiscal Quarters

Compustat formats present a maximum of 48 quarters of quarterly data on a fiscal quarter basis. To determine whether quarterly data reflects a fiscal year change, check the period descriptor *Fiscal Year-end Month of Data*.

To make accurate financial analyses, you must understand the concept of current fiscal quarters. The following examples illustrate the months and fiscal quarters for May, June, and December fiscal year companies.

**Example**

For a May (05) fiscal year company, the fiscal quarters for Fiscal Year 1999 would be comprised of the following months:

| Months                                       | Fiscal Year | Fiscal Quarter |
|--|-------------|----------------|
| June, July, and August 2001                  | 2001        | 1              |
| September, October, and November 2001        | 2001        | 2              |
| December 1999, and January and February 2002 | 2001        | 3              |
| March, April, and May 2002                   | 2001        | 4              |

**Example**

For a June (06) fiscal year company, the fiscal quarters for Fiscal Year 1999 would be comprised of the following months:

| Months                               | Fiscal Year | Fiscal Quarter |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| July, August, and September 2000     | 2001        | 1              |
| October, November, and December 2000 | 2001        | 2              |
| January, February, and March 2001    | 2001        | 3              |
| April, May, and June 2001            | 2001        | 4              |

**Example**

For a December (12) fiscal year company, the fiscal quarters for Fiscal Year 1999 would be comprised of the following months:

| Months                               | Fiscal Year | Fiscal Quarter |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| January, February, and March 2001    | 2001        | 1              |
| April, May, and June 2001            | 2001        | 2              |
| July, August, and September 2001     | 2001        | 3              |
| October, November, and December 2001 | 2001        | 4              |

**Calendar Quarters**

A Compustat North America calendar quarter indicates the period in which a fiscal quarter ends. Calendar quarters are determined based on the **ending month** of each fiscal quarter. The months included in each calendar quarter are:

| Calendar Quarter | Calendar Months             |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1                | February, March, April      |
| 2                | May, June, July             |
| 3                | August, September, October  |
| 4                | November, December, January |

Examples:

- ❑ For a company that ends its fiscal year in December (12), the fourth fiscal quarter (comprised of October, November and **December**) corresponds to the fourth calendar quarter. The first fiscal quarter (comprised of January, February and **March**) corresponds to the first calendar quarter. The second fiscal quarter (comprised of April, May and **June**) corresponds to the second calendar quarter. The third fiscal quarter (comprised of July, August and **September**) corresponds to the third calendar quarter.
- ❑ For a company that ends its fiscal year in August (08), the fourth fiscal quarter (comprised of June, July and **August**) corresponds to the third calendar quarter. The first fiscal quarter (comprised of September, October and **November**) corresponds to the fourth calendar quarter. The second fiscal quarter (comprised of December, January and **February**) corresponds to the first calendar quarter. The third fiscal quarter (comprised of March, April and **May**) corresponds to the second calendar quarter.
- ❑ For a fiscal year ending in June (06), the fourth fiscal quarter (comprised of April, May and **June**) corresponds to the second calendar quarter. The first fiscal quarter (comprised of July, August and **September**) corresponds to the third calendar quarter. The second fiscal quarter (comprised of October, November and **December**) corresponds to the fourth calendar quarter. The third fiscal quarter (comprised of January, February and **March**) corresponds to the first calendar quarter.

## Historical and Restated Annual Data

Compustat North America annual files provide both historical and restated data. The historical presentation allows analysts to evaluate a company's actual performance in relation to market data (market data is never restated). The historical data series includes Income Statement items, Balance Sheet items, Statement of Cash Flows items, pension items, and supplementary data.

The restated data series allows analysts to compare current years with prior years that have been restated for mergers or acquisitions, accounting changes or discontinued operations. Restated data is collected from summary presentations reported by the company. Compustat provides up to 10 years of restated data and presents prior years as Not Available. The restated data series contains the most commonly reported Income Statement and Balance Sheet items.

The Business Information Files allow Segment clients to review annual historical restated segment data. The restated information is significant when a company has had a complete change to their segment reporting. Segment clients will get two years with each source year when data is restated.

### Example

Three years of data are presented with each source year. When the Source Year does not match the Data Year, the information presented in that record will be Restated Data.

| Source Year | Source Fiscal Year-end Month | Data Year       | Data Fiscal Year-end Month |
|-------------|------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| 2001        | 12                           | 2001            | 12                         |
| 2001        | 12                           | 2000 (Restated) | 12                         |
| 2001        | 12                           | 1998 (Restated) | 12                         |
| 2000        | 12                           | 1999            | 12                         |