MICHAEL KORS (KORS) 4Q16 RESULTS: DESPITE POSITIVE QUARTER, FLAT 2017 OUTLOOK

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	4Q16	4Q15	YoY Change
Revenues (USD Bil.)	\$1.20	\$1.08	10.9%
Product Gross Margin	59.9%	60.6%	(73) bps
Operating Expenses/Sales	37.8%	34.7%	314 bps
Operating Margin	20.4%	23.7%	(334) bps
EPS	\$0.98	\$0.90	9.2%
Source: Company reports			

- Michael Kors reported fiscal 4Q16 revenues of \$1.20 billion, beating the consensus estimate of \$1.15 billion and representing a 10.9% increase year over year. EPS was \$0.98, beating the consensus estimate by a penny and representing an increase of 8.8% from EPS of \$0.90 in the year-ago quarter.
- Retail net sales increased by 22.0% in the quarter, driven primarily by e-commerce sales from the company's digital flagships. Same-store sales grew by 0.3% in the quarter.
- The company guided for flat revenues for FY17 and for EPS of \$4.56-\$4.64 for the fiscal year. The company announced that it had completed the acquisition of its Greater China licensee for \$500 million in cash.

4Q16 RESULTS

Michael Kors reported fiscal 4Q16 revenues of \$1.20 billion, up 10.9% year over year. On a constant-currency basis, revenue increased by 11.7%.

Retail net sales increased by 22.0% in the quarter, driven primarily by e-commerce sales from the company's digital flagships. Same-store sales grew by 0.3% in the quarter.

On a constant-currency basis, total revenue in the Americas increased by 5.1% and European revenues increased by 18.1%. The strongest growth came from Asia, where revenue grew by 212.1% on a constant-currency basis.

Reported EPS was \$0.98 for the quarter, up eight cents from the year-ago quarter, and beating the consensus of \$0.97.

The company attributed its success in the quarter to refreshed marketing campaigns and diversified product offerings, as well as to strong performance from its digital ecommerce flagships.

FY16 RESULTS

For FY16, the company reported revenues of \$4.7 billion, up 7.8% from FY15. Same-store sales decreased by 4.2%; on a constant-currency basis, though, they decreased by only 0.9%. FY16 EPS was \$4.43, above the consensus of \$4.41.

The company announced that it had purchased Michael Kors (HK) Limited, the exclusive licensee of the company in China and other parts of Asia, for \$500 million in cash. The licensee generated total revenues of \$197 million for FY16.



2017 OUTLOOK

Michael Kors forecasted revenues of \$940–\$950 million for fiscal 1Q17, below expectations of \$1.03 billion, citing a planned reduction in wholesale shipments, decreased same-store sales (expected to be up in the mid-single-digit range), and an increase in operating expenses associated with continued global investments.

The company guided for flat revenues for FY17, despite an expected \$200 million in revenue from the acquisition of the China licensee. EPS is expected to be \$0.70–\$0.74 for 1Q17, and \$4.56–\$4.64 for the fiscal year.

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