SKECHERS (SKX) 4Q15 RESULTS: STRONG PRODUCT DEMAND AND IMPACTFUL MARKETING

- Skechers reported 4Q15 EPS of \$0.19 versus the consensus estimate of \$0.20.
- Total revenue was \$722.7 million, an increase of 26.8% year over year, versus expectations of \$693.5 million. Domestic wholesale sales increased at a highsingle-digit rate, while international wholesale sales and retail segment sales both increased at a double-digit rate. Growth was driven by sales across men's, women's and kids' categories.
- Management provided 1Q16 guidance for EPS of \$0.50-\$0.55 versus consensus of \$0.52. Total revenue is expected to be \$885-\$920 million versus consensus of \$895.7 million. According to the company, 1Q16 started off strong; January sales were up 35% and the first week of February was strong, too. Company-owned retail stores are on track to achieve mid- to high-single-digit comps in January.

Figure 1. Skechers Key Metrics

	4Q15	4Q14	YoY Change
Revenues (USD Mil.)	\$722.7	\$569.7	26.8%
Gross Margin	45.6%	45.2%	40 b.p.
SG&A/Sales	38.6%	39.8%	(120) b.p.
Operating Margin	7.6%	5.8%	180 b.p.
EPS (USD)	\$0.19	\$0.14	35.7%
Source: Company reports			

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Sales have been driven by increased shelf space at existing retailers and growth in the retail channel to 1,300 stores, which are a combination of company-owned and thirdparty-owned outlets. The company's strategy has centered on continued product innovation and expansion into new categories. Skechers believes it will have 1,650 stores by the end of 2016.

Backlog orders were up 9.5% as of the end of December, and were impacted by some distributors pulling forward orders from January to December.

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Deborah Weinswig, CPA

Executive Director—Head of Global Retail & Technology

Fung Business Intelligence Centre

New York: 917.655.6790 Hong Kong: 852 6119 1779 China: 86 186 1420 3016

deborahweinswig@fung1937.com

Filippo Battaini

filippobattaini@fung1937.com

Marie Driscoll, CFA

mariedriscoll@fung1937.com

John Harmon, CFA

johnharmon@fung1937.com

Aragorn Ho

aragornho@fung1937.com

John Mercer

johnmercer@fung1937.com

Shoshana Pollack

shoshanapollack@fung1937.com

Kiril Popov

kirilpopov@fung1937.com

Jing Wang

jingwang@fung1937.com

Steven Winnick

stevenwinnick@fung1937.com

HONG KONG:

10th Floor, LiFung Tower 888 Cheung Sha Wan Road, Kowloon Hong Kong

Tel: 852 2300 2470

NEW YORK:

1359 Broadway, 9th Floor New York, NY 10018 Tel: 646 839 7017

LONDON:

242-246 Marylebone Road London, NW1 6JQ **United Kingdom** Tel: 44 (0)20 7616 8988

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