

Ford reports \$1.3B net for Q3, raises guidance

Updated noon ET with reaction, regional details and share price.

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Ford Motor reports it racked up strong profits in the third quarter, driven by continued strength in North America and smaller operating losses in Europe.

Net income was \$1.3 billion, or 31 cents a share, in the quarter, which was down \$359 million, or 41 cents a share, from the quarter a year ago.

But excluding one-time charges of \$498 million — primarily costs for European restructuring and for Ford's lump-sum pension buyout program — Ford had pre-tax earnings of \$2.6 billion, or 45 cents a share. That handily beat analysts' consensus expectations of 38 cents.

Ford shares were up 24 cents, or 1.37%, at \$ 17.76 in midday trading. ...

Results by region:

- **North America.** Ford generated a \$2.3-billion quarterly profit with an operating margin of 10.6%, down from 12% a year earlier. Ford raised its third-quarter U.S. market share from 14.9%, up slightly.

Ford's F-Series trucks "really gained traction year-to-date over rivals GM and Chrysler as Ford continues to widen market share lead," said David Kudla, CEO of Mainstay Capital Management.

"This is especially critical for a product line that accounts for the majority of the company's earnings in North America," Kudla said. "Other successful product standouts are the Fusion and Fiesta, both up sharply in year-over-year sales."

- **Europe.** Ford more than halved its loss from \$468 million a year earlier to \$228 million and gained market share. The automaker is now expecting to lose less than the \$1.8 billion in the region for the year. ...

- **Asia Pacific Africa.** It was the best quarter ever for this Ford division, with earnings of \$126 million before taxes, up from \$45 million a year earlier. The unit includes China, where Ford says its market share rose eight tenths of a percentage point from a year ago to equal last quarter's 4.3%.

- **South America.** New products drove earnings of \$159 million before taxes, up from just \$9 million in the quarter a year ago. ...