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UPDATE 1-Ebix Q4 tops Street view, shares rise

Mon, Mar 14 2011

* Q4 EPS \$0.42 vs est \$0.33

* Q4 revenue \$35.1 mln vs est \$34.3 mln

* Shares up 4 pct in pre-market trade

March 14 (Reuters) - Ebix Inc posted better-than-expected quarterly results, helped by strong sales of its software aimed at facilitating transactions for the insurance industry.

Fourth-quarter net income rose to \$15.9 million, or 42 cents a share, from \$12.1 million, or 31 cents a share, last year.

The company, which competes with Computer Sciences Corp and InsWeb Corp in the business software services industry, reported a 12 percent jump in revenue to \$35.1 million.

Analysts, on an average, expected a profit of 33 cents a share, on revenue of \$34.3 million, according to Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.

For 2010, revenue at company's exchange segment, which supports a broad range of insurance agencies, brokerages and clearing firms, rose 55 percent to \$94.2 million, making up 71 percent of total sales.

Shares of the Atlanta, Georgia-based company that closed at \$28.13 on Friday, rose 4 percent to \$29.25 in pre-market trade.

They have risen 12 percent since Ebix posted third-quarter results on Nov 9. (Reporting by [Saqib Iqbal Ahmed](#) in Bangalore; Editing by Saumyadeb Chakrabarty)

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