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There's Something about Ebix - cbl

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Robin Raina

By Richard Rabicoff

ATLANTA -- There must be something about **Ebix, Inc.** (NasdaqGS: EBIX). This month the company seems to crop up everywhere you look, including *citybizlist*.

Atlanta-based Ebix, which provides software and e-commerce products to the insurance company, has become the darling of the financial media.

Last week Fortune highlighted Ebix as fourth among "The 8 Fastest-Growing tech companies," and ranked it 19th among the 100 fastest growing companies overall. Fortune cited the company's four acquisitions and its profit of \$59 million, up 66 percent, on \$132 million in revenue.

That's nothing compared to Anh Hoang, who gushes about Ebix in the investment publication GuruFocus. Hoang observes that over the past five years, Ebix posted "an astonishing gain of 60.8% compounded annual return." He also raves that the company is "quite breathtaking in terms of revenue, operating income

and the net income."

Hoang also notes that **Robin Raina**, Ebix president and CEO since 1999, owns more than 10.5 percent of the company stock. He concludes that Ebix's growth "has been quite magnificent," and, as the stock is currently undervalued, it is a bargain for the investor.

Yesterday, The Motley Fool's Anand Chokkavelu rated Ebix second among "The 20 Fastest Growers in Software," based on five-year sales growth, five-year EPS growth, five-year analyst estimates, and return in invested capital.

Ebix added to the euphoria by announcing its first quarterly dividend for stockholders of \$0.04 per outstanding share of the company's common stock.

What could possibly put a damper on the delirium?

Well, the company's stock price has lagged in recent months, from \$20.38 on July 15 to \$16.15 in late afternoon Tuesday trading. The 52-week high is a distant 30.35.

And then there's litigation to spoil the fun.

Class action lawsuits have been filed in the United States District Courts for the Southern District of New York and the Northern District of Georgia on behalf of investors who purchased Ebix stock between May 6, 2009, and June 30, 2011, alleging that the company traded at "artificially inflated prices," that its financial statements were littered with inaccuracies, and that the stock price plummeted when news of these irregularities leaked to the public.

No matter how the month ends, this will be a September to remember for Ebix.

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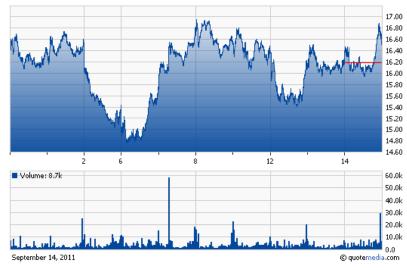
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