

D E A R B O R N

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P A R T N E R S

On September 28, 2017, Accenture plc (ACN) announced a 9.9% increase in its semi-annual cash dividend per share to \$1.33 (\$2.66 annually) from \$1.21 (\$2.42 annually). The cash dividend will be paid on November 15, 2017 to holders of record of Accenture's common stock as of October 19, 2017. This is the 12<sup>th</sup> consecutive annual increase in the dividend paid by Accenture to its shareholders.

From the press release: Pierre Nanterme, Accenture's chairman and CEO, said, "We are pleased with our excellent financial results for both the fourth quarter and the full fiscal year 2017. For the year, we again delivered profitable growth, with broad-based revenue growth of 7 percent in local currency, EPS growth of 11 percent on an adjusted basis and very strong free cash flow.

"Our durable performance over the last few years reflects the successful rotation of our business to high-growth areas such as digital, cloud and security services, which accounted for approximately 50 percent of total revenues in fiscal 2017. Our strategy is clearly differentiating Accenture in the marketplace, enabling us to gain significant market share. With our focused investments and disciplined management of the business, we are confident in our ability to continue delivering value for our clients and shareholders."

Accenture is a leading global professional services company, providing a broad range of services and solutions in strategy, consulting, digital, technology and operations. Combining unmatched experience and specialized skills across more than 40 industries and all business functions – underpinned by the world's largest delivery network – Accenture works at the intersection of business and technology to help clients improve their performance and create sustainable value for their stakeholders. With approximately 425,000 people serving clients in more than 120 countries, Accenture drives innovation to improve the way the world works and lives.

Accenture is in the Information Technology sector of our Dearborn Partners Core Rising Dividend separately managed account (SMA) portfolio. So far this year, 35 of the 49 companies in this portfolio have announced 38 dividend increases. The average of these dividend increases is about 7.4% more than these companies paid a year earlier.

Thank you for your interest in our Dearborn Partners Rising Dividend Strategy.

*There is no assurance that any Rising Dividend portfolio company will increase its dividend, or not reduce its dividend, or not have a significant decrease in its stock price. All investing involves risk.*