

Motorola Solutions 4Q Profit Up, Gov't Sales Rise

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SCHAUMBURG, Ill. (AP) — Motorola Solutions' fourth-quarter net income rose 2 percent and strong government sales energized its revenue, but shares dipped in premarket trading on its guidance.

The company anticipates first-quarter adjusted earnings from continuing operations between 46 and 52 cents per share, well short of the 77 cents that Wall Street was looking for.

Shares slumped 8 percent before the opening bell Wednesday.

Earnings from continuing operations were \$343 million, or \$1.31 per share, for the three months ended Dec. 31. That compares with \$336 million, or \$1.18 per share, a year earlier.

Excluding stock-based compensation expense and other items, earnings from continuing operations were \$1.67 per share, which was four cents better than Wall Street had expected, according to a poll by FactSet.

Revenue climbed 3 percent to \$2.5 billion from \$2.44 billion as government sales increased 4 percent.

For the year, Motorola Solutions Inc. earned \$1.1 billion, or \$4.06 per share. In the previous year it earned \$881 million, or \$2.95 per share.

Adjusted earnings from continuing operations were \$4.73 per share.

Annual revenue was basically flat at \$8.7 billion.

The company expects first-quarter revenue to fall 4 percent to 6 percent from the prior-year period. Motorola Solutions expects 2014 revenue to be between flat and a gain of 2 percent.

Shares fell \$5.56 to \$61.55 in premarket trading.

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