The worst board ever? The Disney Experience - 1997

16

Reveta F. Bowers 1.5

Head of School Center for Early Education

Roy E . Disney 3

Vice Chairman The Walt Disney Company

Michael D. Eisner 3

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer The Walt Disney Company

Stanley P. Gold 4.5

President and Chief Executive Officer Shamrock Holdings, Inc.

Sanford M. Litvack

Senior Executive Vice President and Chief of Corporate Operations The Walt Disney Company

Ignacio E. Lozano, Jr. 1,2,4 Editor-in-Chief, LA OPINION

George J. Mitchell 5

Special Counsel Verner, Liipfert, Bernard, McPherson and Hand

Thomas S. Murphy

Former Chairman Capital Cities/ABC, Inc.

Richard A. Nunis

Chairman Walt Disney Attractions Leo J. O'Donovan, S.J.

President

Georgetown University

Michael S. Ovitz 3

President The Walt Disney Company

Sidney Poitier 2.4

Chief Executive Officer Verdon-Cedric Productions

Irwin E. Russell 2,4

Attorney at Law

Robert A.M. Stern

Senior Partner Productions

E. Cardon Walker 1

Former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer The Walt Disney Company

Raymond L. Watson 1,2,3

Vice Chairman The Irvine Company

Gary L. Wilson 5

Co-Chairman

Northwest Airlines Corporation

- 1 Member of Audit Review Committee
- 2 Member of Compensation Committee
- 3 Member of Executive Committee
- 4 Member of Executive Performance Plan Committee
- 5 Member of Nominating Committee

The Calpers Tests for Independent Boards

- Calpers, the California Employees Pension fund, suggested three tests in 1997 of an independent board:
 - Are a majority of the directors outside directors?
 - Is the chairman of the board independent of the company (and not the CEO of the company)?
 - Are the compensation and audit committees composed entirely of outsiders?
- Disney was the only S&P 500 company to fail all three tests.

Business Week piles on... The Worst Boards in 1997...

THE WORST BOARDS OF DIRECTORS											
EW RANK	OVERALL SCORE	SURNEY SCORE	AMALYSIS SCORE	DETAILS	SHAREHOLDER Accountability	60490	FORMANCE PO BOARD INDEPENDENCE	CORPORATE	GOVERNANCE SHAREHOLDER ACCOUNTABILITY	EOARD	BOARD INDEPENDENC
1. DISNEY	10.3	1.8	8.5	Investors decry board for conflicts; many directors own little if any stock	3.3	4.3	2.0	5.8	-0.4	2.8	2.2
2. AT&T	10.9	-16.6	27.5	Investors scorn board for failing to control succession, not ousting CEO	3.0	4.2	3.5	2.8	2.0	5.2	7.4
3. H.J. HEINZ	15.4	-1.1	16.5	Longtime CEO dominates insider-filled board; resists investor calls for change	2.8	3.7	2.0	4.7	4.4	6.0	1.4
4. ARCHER DANIELS MIDLAND	16.8	-12.2	29.0	Board changes fail to satisfy investors, who say directors still lack independence	2.3	2.1	1.3	3.5	5.6	7.6	5.0
5. DOW JONES	21.1	1.6	19.5	Investors disenchanted with performance; weakest attendance record of any board	2.6	4.6	2.8	2.6	6.0	0.0	5.8
6. DILLARD'S	22.0	5.0	17.0	Board loaded with insiders; lacks an outsider with retail expertise or CEO	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.5	6.4	3.2	2.0
7. ROLLINS International	22.7	1.7	21.0	Board dominated by family members and insiders; lacks nominating panel	1.0	1.0	0,0	2.0	4.0	7.6	4.4
8. OCCIDENTAL Petroleum	24.0	-1.5	25.5	Investors outraged over \$95 million payout to CEO by cozy, aging board	1.3	2.0	1.1	2.0	2.8	6.0	5.8
9. OGDEN	27.2	4.2	23.0	Board has three consultants and a lawyer who do business with company	2.0	1.5	2.0	2.5	2.0	8.4	4.0
10. MAXXAM	28.3	4.3	24.5	Tiny board with little business experience dominated by CEO	1.5	2.0	1.0	3.5	3.6	2.0	6.0

Application Test: Who's on board?

- Look at the board of directors for your firm.
 - How many of the directors are inside directors (Employees of the firm, ex-managers)?
 - Is there any information on how independent the directors in the firm are from the managers?
- Are there any external measures of the quality of corporate governance of your firm?
 - Yahoo! Finance now reports on a corporate governance score for firms, where it ranks firms against the rest of the market and against their sectors.
- Is there tangible evidence that your board acts independently of management?
 - Check news stories to see if there are actions that the CEO has wanted to take that the board has stopped him or her from taking or at least slowed him or her down.

No stockholder approval needed..

So, what next? When the cat is idle, the mice will play

- □ When managers do not fear stockholders, they will often put their interests over stockholder interests
 - Greenmail: The (managers of) target of a hostile takeover buy out the potential acquirer's existing stake, at a price much greater than the price paid by the raider, in return for the signing of a 'standstill' agreement.
 - Golden Parachutes: Provisions in employment contracts, that allows for the payment of a lump-sum or cash flows over a period, if managers covered by these contracts lose their jobs in a takeover.
 - Poison Pills: A security, the rights or cashflows on which are triggered by an outside event, generally a hostile takeover, is called a poison pill.
- by an out:

 Stockholder Approval needed Aswath Damodaran □ Shark Repellents: Anti-takeover amendments are also aimed at dissuading hostile takeovers, but differ on one very important count. They require the assent of stockholders to be instituted.
 - Overpaying on takeovers: Acquisitions often are driven by management interests rather than stockholder interests.

Managerial Self Interest or Stockholder Wealth? Overpaying on takeovers!

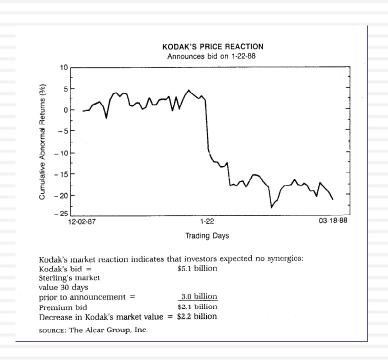
- The quickest and perhaps the most decisive way to impoverish stockholders is to overpay on a takeover.
- The stockholders in acquiring firms do not seem to share the enthusiasm of the managers in these firms. Stock prices of bidding firms decline on the takeover announcements a significant proportion of the time.
- Many mergers do not work, as evidenced by a number of measures:
 - The profitability of merged firms relative to their peer groups, does not increase significantly after mergers.
 - An even more damning indictment is that a large number of mergers are reversed within a few years, which is a clear admission that the acquisitions did not work.

A case study in value destruction: Eastman Kodak & Sterling Drugs

Kodak enters bidding war

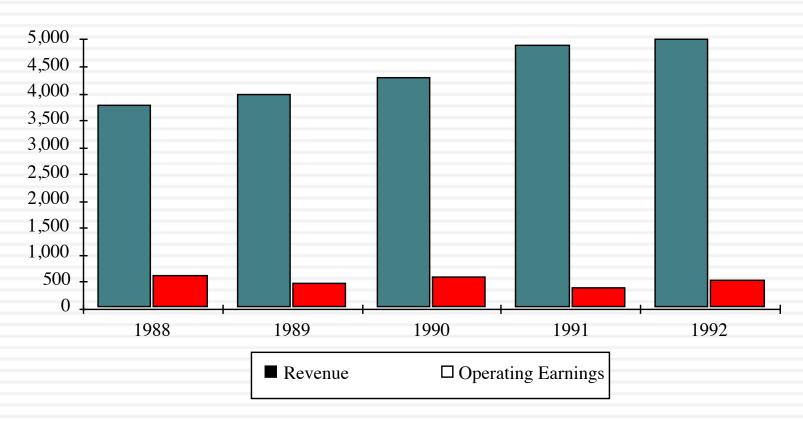
- In late 1987, Eastman Kodak entered into a bidding war with Hoffman La Roche for Sterling Drugs, a pharmaceutical company.
- The bidding war started with Sterling Drugs trading at about \$40/share.
- At \$72/share, Hoffman dropped out of the bidding war, but Kodak kept bidding.
- At \$89.50/share, Kodak won and claimed potential synergies explained the premium.

Kodak wins!!!!



Earnings and Revenues at Sterling Drugs

Sterling Drug under Eastman Kodak: Where is the synergy?

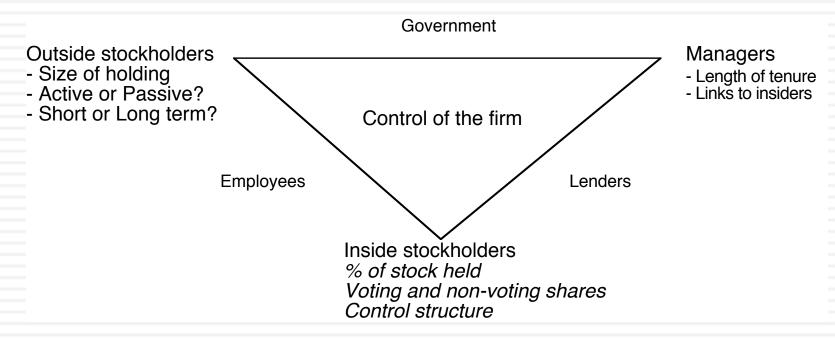


Kodak Says Drug Unit Is Not for Sale ... but...

- □ An article in the NY Times in August of 1993 suggested that Kodak was eager to shed its drug unit.
 - In response, Eastman Kodak officials say they have no plans to sell Kodak's Sterling Winthrop drug unit.
 - Louis Mattis, Chairman of Sterling Winthrop, dismissed the rumors as "massive speculation, which flies in the face of the stated intent of Kodak that it is committed to be in the health business."
- A few months later...Taking a stride out of the drug business, Eastman Kodak said that the Sanofi Group, a French pharmaceutical company, agreed to buy the prescription drug business of Sterling Winthrop for \$1.68 billion.
 - Shares of Eastman Kodak rose 75 cents yesterday, closing at \$47.50 on the New York Stock Exchange.
 - Samuel D. Isaly an analyst , said the announcement was "very good for Sanofi and very good for Kodak."
 - "When the divestitures are complete, Kodak will be entirely focused on imaging," said George M. C. Fisher, the company's chief executive.
 - The rest of the Sterling Winthrop was sold to Smithkline for \$2.9 billion.

Application Test: Who owns/runs your firm?

- Look at: Bloomberg printout HDS for your firm
- Who are the top stockholders in your firm?
- What are the potential conflicts of interests that you see emerging from this stockholding structure?

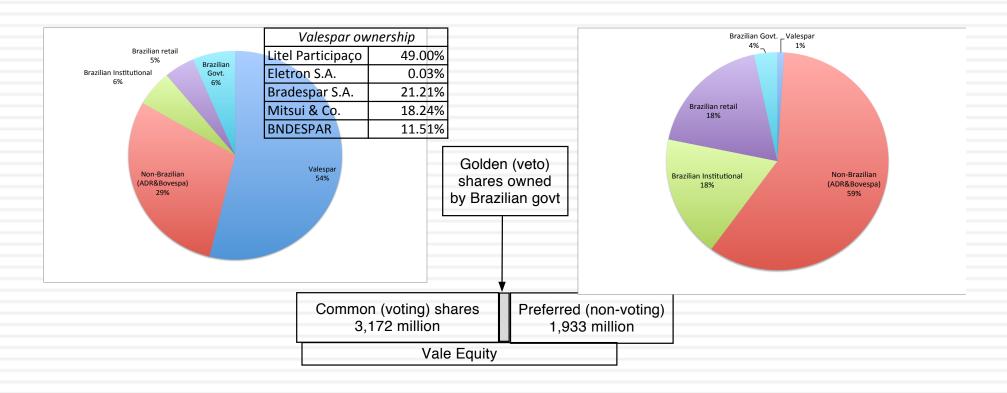


Case 1: Splintering of Stockholders Disney's top stockholders in 2003

01189650224-000 DIS US	HOLDING		CHALT) CO	Pag	SIP 254	/ 100
DIS US	3	DISHEL		ercent L		
Holder name	Portfolio Name	Source		utstd C		
DBARCLAYS GLOBAL	BARCLAYS BANK PLC	- 13F	83,630M		1,750M	
2CITIGROUP INC	CITIGROUP INCORPORAT	13F			4,8118	
	FIDELITY MANAGEMENT	13F	56,125M			
4STATE STREET	STATE STREET CORPORA	13F	54,635M			
SCOUTHEASTRN ASST	SOUTHEASTERN ASSET M	13F	47,333M		14,604M	
DST FARM MU AUTO	STATE FARM MUTUAL AU	13F	41,938M		20,599	
7/YANGUARD GROUP	VANGUARD GROUP INC	13F	34,721M		83,839	
IMELLON BANK N A	MELLON BANK CORP	13F	32,693M		57,489	
SPUTNAM INVEST	PUTNAM INVESTMENT MA	13F	28,153M		11,468M	
IDLORD ABBETT & CO	LORD ABBETT & CO	13F	24,541M	1.202	5,38511	09/0
IDMONTAG CALDWELL	MONTAG & CALDUELL IN	13F	24,466M		11,373H	
IZIDEUTSCHE BANK AK	DEUTSCHE BANK AG	13F	23,239M		-5,002M	
IMORGAN STANLEY	MORGAN STANLEY	13F	19,655M	0.962		
MPRICE T ROWE	T ROWE PRICE ASSOCIA	13F	19,133M			
ISROY EDWARD DISNE		PROXY.	17,547M	0.899-1		12/0
DAXA FINANCIAL	ALLIANCE CAPITAL MAN	13F	14,283H		69,353	
	JP MORGAN CHASE & CO	13F	14,209M	0.696-4		
b-totals for curre			599,159H		W. C. W. C.	23.5

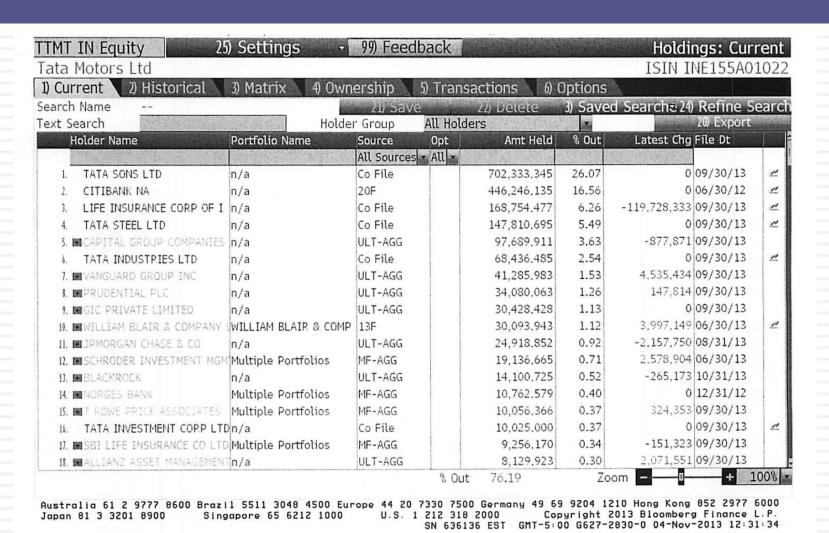
Aswath Damodaran

Case 2: Voting versus Non-voting Shares & Golden Shares: Vale

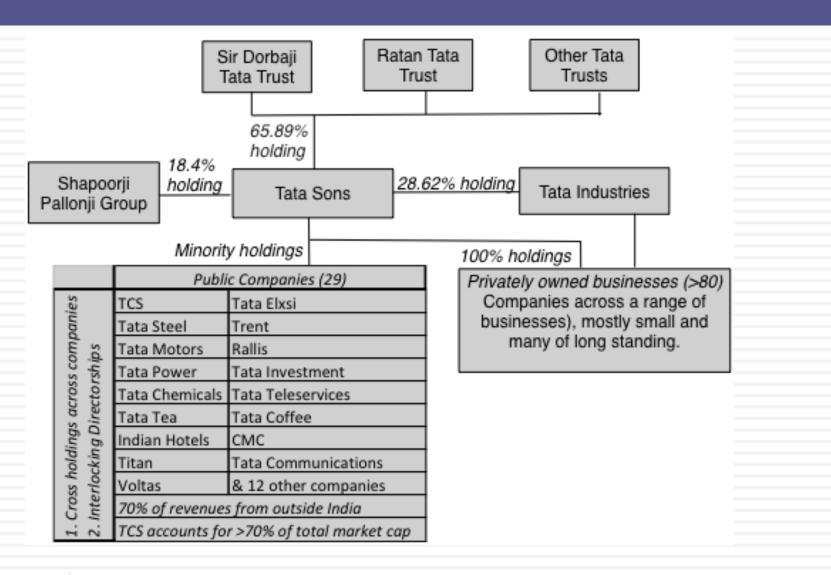


Vale has eleven members on its board of directors, ten of whom were nominated by Valepar and the board was chaired by Don Conrado, the CEO of Valepar.

Case 3: Cross and Pyramid Holdings Tata Motor's top stockholders in 2013



But it is a benevolent family!



Case 4: Legal rights and Corporate Structures: Baidu

- The Board: The company has six directors, one of whom is Robin Li, who is the founder/CEO of Baidu. Mr. Li also owns a majority stake of Class B shares, which have ten times the voting rights of Class A shares, granting him effective control of the company.
- The structure: Baidu is a Chinese company, but it is incorporated in the Cayman Islands, its primary stock listing is on the NASDAQ and the listed company is structured as a shell company, to get around Chinese government restrictions of foreign investors holding shares in Chinese corporations.
- The legal system: Baidu's operating counterpart in China is structured as a Variable Interest Entity (VIE), and it is unclear how much legal power the shareholders in the shell company have to enforce changes at the VIE.

Things change.. Disney's top stockholders in 2009

DIS US \$ ↑ 24.	2422 +.7422	D 2s			Equi	ty HDS
DELAY 14:27 Vol 6,135	5,972 Op 23.81	Z Hi 24.3	4 T Lo 23	8.8 T Va		
DIS US Equity 95)	Saved Searches 🔹	96) Defa	ault Setting	S P	age 1/150 Hold	ings Search
Walt Disney Co/The					CUS	IP 25468710
	22) Types 🔻 🗆	23) Countrie	s 🔻 24)	Metro Are	eas 🕶 25) Adv	anced Filters
Name Filter				Sort By	Mkt Val	v
Holder Name	Portfolio Name	Source	Mkt Val	% Out	Mkt Val Chg	File Dt
1) JOBS STEVEN PAUL	n/a	Form 4	3.34BLN	7.46	0	5/5/06
2) FIDELITY MANAGEMENT &	FIDELITY MANAGEMEN	13F	2.05BLN	4.58	-36.12MLN	9/30/08
3) STATE STREET CORP	STATE STREET CORPO	13F	1.7BLN	3.79	-18.6MLN	9/30/08
4) BARCLAYS GLOBAL INVES	BARCLAYS GLOBAL IN	13F	1.66BLN	3.70	-160.12MLN	9/30/08
5) VANGUARD GROUP INC	VANGUARD GROUP IN	13F	1.38BLN	3.08	-6.82MLN	9/30/08
6) SOUTHEASTERN ASSET M	SOUTHEASTERN ASSE	13F	1.12BLN	2,50	-14.03MLN	9/30/08
7) STATE FARM MUTUAL AU	STATE FARM MUTUAL	13F	1.02BLN	2.28	0	9/30/08
8) WELLINGTON MANAGEMEN	WELLINGTON MANAGE	13F	939.38MLN	2.09	110.6MLN	9/30/08
9) CLEARBRIDGE ADVISORS	CLEARBRIDGE ADVISO	13F	815.91MLN	1.82	-47.04MLN	9/30/08
10) JP MORGAN CHASE & CO	JP MORGAN CHASE &	13F	693.31MLN	1.55	-18.89MLN	9/30/08
11) MASSACHUSETTS FINANCI	MASSACHUSETTS FINA	13F	682.16MLN	1.52	112.29MLN	9/30/08
12) BANK OF NEW YORK MELL	BANK OF NEW YORK	13F	681.68MLN	1.52	-57.13MLN	9/30/08
13) NORTHERN TRUST CORP	NORTHERN TRUST CO	13F	610.26MLN	1.36	-4.81MLN	9/30/08
14) AXA	AXA	13F	486.28MLN	1.08	47.05MLN	9/30/08
15) BLACKROCK INVESTMENT	BLACKROCK INVESTME	13F	476.12MLN	1.06	-47.11MLN	9/30/08
16) JENNISON ASSOCIATES L	JENNISON ASSOCIATE	13F	428.85MLN	0.96	-102.77MLN	9/30/08
17) T ROWE PRICE ASSOCIAT	T ROWE PRICE ASSOC	13F	351.61MLN	0.78	-9.94MLN	9/30/08
	ist Held				% Out on	
Australia 61 2 9777 8600 Brazi Japan 81 3 3201 8900 Sing	1 5511 3048 4500 Europ apore 65 6212 1000	e 44 20 7330 ; U.S. 1 212 ;	7500 Germany 318 2000	Copyright	1210 Hong Kong 8 : 2009 Bloomberg 13-375-0 06-Jan-2	Finance L.P.

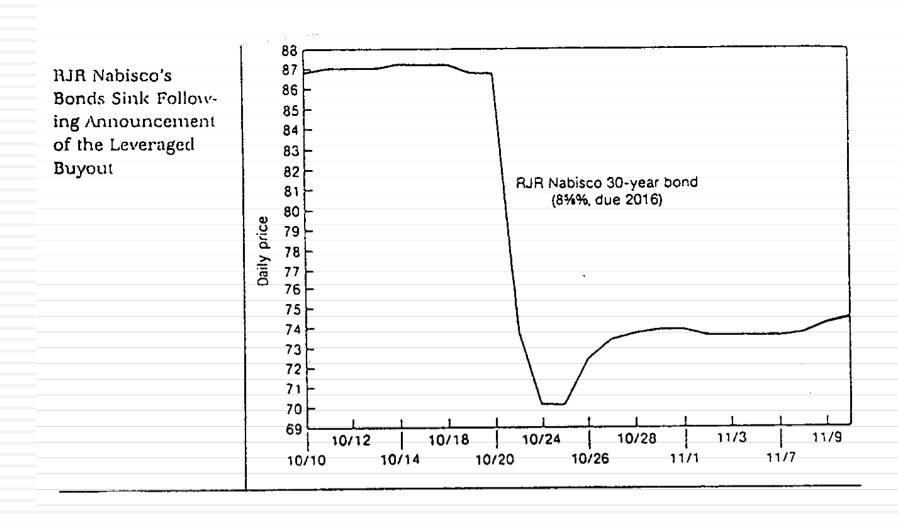
II. Stockholders' objectives vs. Bondholders' objectives

- In theory: there is no conflict of interests between stockholders and bondholders.
- In practice: Stockholder and bondholders have different objectives. Bondholders are concerned most about safety and ensuring that they get paid their claims. Stockholders are more likely to think about upside potential

Examples of the conflict...

- A dividend/buyback surge: When firms pay cash out as dividends, lenders to the firm are hurt and stockholders may be helped. This is because the firm becomes riskier without the cash.
- Risk shifting: When a firm takes riskier projects than those agreed to at the outset, lenders are hurt. Lenders base interest rates on their perceptions of how risky a firm's investments are. If stockholders then take on riskier investments, lenders will be hurt.
- Borrowing more on the same assets: If lenders do not protect themselves, a firm can borrow more money and make all existing lenders worse off.

An Extreme Example: Unprotected Lenders?



III. Firms and Financial Markets

- In theory: Financial markets are efficient. Managers convey information honestly and and in a timely manner to financial markets, and financial markets make reasoned judgments of the effects of this information on 'true value'. As a consequence-
 - A company that invests in good long-term projects will be rewarded.
 - Short term accounting gimmicks will not lead to increases in market value.
 - Stock price performance is a good measure of company performance.
- In practice: There are some holes in the 'Efficient Markets' assumption.

Managers control the release of information to the general public

- Information management (timing and spin): Information (especially negative) is sometimes suppressed or delayed by managers seeking a better time to release it. When the information is released, firms find ways to "spin" or "frame" it to put themselves in the best possible light.
- Outright fraud: In some cases, firms release intentionally misleading information about their current conditions and future prospects to financial markets.

Evidence that managers delay bad news?

