

Daniel W. Roberts,
President

Roberts & Ryan Investments Inc.

Based in San Francisco, we provide "value added" information to our global asset managing clients.

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About Roberts & Ryan

Mr. Roberts, this firm's president, is now running for an open seat in the new Second Congressional District of California. He has been a candidate for public office, so the procedures aren't new to him. He brings a financial conservatism and moderate on social issue to the office. We think this new district will welcome his candidacy.

In order to facilitate our receipt of directed order flow, we show our list of agents as follows:

Global markets:
Merrill Lynch
Societe Generale

Cheuvreaux -
(Pan European only)

HSBC -
(Asia only)

Deutsche Bank -
(Australia only)

US Domestic:
Pershing

The Americas

Schmidt mourns Jobs' death

Google Executive Chairman Eric Schmidt defended his company as a great innovator, contradicting an unflattering portrait drawn by Apple co-founder Steve Jobs before he died. Schmidt told reporters that he is still "very sad and recovering from the sense of loss" from Job's death Oct. 5. He declined to specifically address Job's irate criticism of Mountain View-based Google in a biography that drew upon dozens of interviews with the book's author, Walter Isaacson.

The biography was released Oct. 24. In it, Jobs contends Internet search leader Google stole from Apple iPhone to build many of the features in Google's Android software for rival phones. Jobs also belittled the quality of Android and Google's

other non-search products, which he described in vulgar terms.

"I decided not to comment on comments that are written in the book after his death. I don't think it's right," Schmidt said, describing Jobs as a "fantastic human being" whom he "dearly" misses. Job died at 56 after a battle with cancer. Schmidt served on the Apple board from 2006 to 2009 but quit as Google and Cupertino-based Apple clashed in the mobile market with their competing Android and iPhone products. "Most people would agree that Google is a great innovator, and I would also point out that the Adnroid efforts started before the iPhone efforts. And that's all I have to say," Schmidt said. The Android software evolved from a

startup launched in 2003 by former Apple engineer Andy Rubin. Google bought Android in 2005 for an undisclosed amount and then spent several years working on the mobile software system with Rubin still overseeing the project. During that time, Apple unveiled the touchscreen iPhone in June 2007. The first Android-powered phone debuted more than a year later. While he still was serving on Apple's board, Schmidt also was Google's CEO – a job he surrendered in April after a decadelong stint.

Google co-founder Larry Page is now CEO while Schmidt handles the company's government relations and helps negotiate acquisitions.

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Asia

Board eyeing other options than sale, Yahoo's Yang says



“Yahoo is exploring strategic options after firing CEO Carol Bartz last month.”

Yahoo, the Sunnyvale Web portal exploring strategic options after firing CEO Carol Bartz last month, isn't necessarily up for sale, co-founder Jerry Yang said. “The intent going in is not to put ourselves up for sale,” Yang said at the All Things Digital Asia conference in Hong Kong. “The intent is to look at all options, There's plenty of options for the board, and plenty of options for our shareholders to realize value.” The comments come as Jack Ma, CEO of Alibaba Group, China's biggest e-commerce company, reiterated he is “interested” in buying Yahoo and is awaiting a decision by the company.

Since then “multiple parties” have expressed interest in the company, according to a memo by Yang. When Yang was CEO

in 2008, Yahoo spurned a \$47.5 billion offer by Microsoft. Yahoo now has a market value of \$20 billion. The U.S. Internet company has “plenty of options” and its board is “excited” about the ongoing review, Yang said. “We're waiting for Yahoo's board to tell us what they want to do,” Jack Ma said at the same venue within hours of Yang's speech. “We're waiting for answers. If we don't do it soon, it's not good for all of us.” The intentions of Yahoo, rather than financing present the biggest problem for Alibaba's plans to acquire the U.S. company, Ma said. Alibaba is working with private-equity firms considering possible bids for Yahoo.

In addition, Alibaba, whose biggest shareholder is Yahoo, has discussed a plan with Silver

Lake and Russia's Digital Sky Technologies to make a joint bid, people familiar with the matter have said. Another group that is interested in a possible offer includes Providence Equity Partners and former News Corp. executive Peter Chernin, people said. Silver Lake is working with Canada Pension Plan Investment Board and Microsoft to put together a proposal to buy Yahoo, The Wall Street Journal reported on its website, citing people familiar with the matter it didn't identify.



Robot's capability improves

Honda's human-shaped robot can now run faster, balance itself on uneven surfaces, hop on one foot and pour a drink. Some of its technology may even be used to help out with cleanup operations at the stricken Fukushima nuclear plant. Honda's demonstration of the revamped “Asimo” at its Tokyo suburban research facility was not only to prove that the bubbleheaded childlike machine was more limber and a bit smarter. It was a way to try to answer some critics that Asimo, first shown in 2000, had been of little practical use so far, proving to be nothing more than a glorified toy and cute showcase for the Honda brand.

Honda President Takanobu Ito told reporters some of Asimo's technology was used to develop a robotic arm in just six months with the in-

attention of helping with the nuclear crisis in northeastern Japan. The mechanical arm can open and close valves at Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, which went into meltdown, after the March tsunami, according to Honda. The automaker is working with the utility behind the problem plant, Tokyo Electric Power Co., or Tepco, to try to meet demands to bring the plant under control.

It acknowledged that the first idea was to send in Asimo to help out, but that was not possible because the robot cannot maneuver in rubble, and its delicate computer parts would malfunction in radiation. But in a recent demonstration, Asimo was able to walk without falling over 0.8-inch padded bumps on the floor.

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Europe

HP building servers using ARM designs



“Hewlett-Packard unveiled a new line of servers using energy-efficient processors based on designs from an upstart company.”

Breaking from its long-standing reliance on computer chips from Intel and AMD, Hewlett-Packard unveiled a new line of servers using energy-efficient processors based on designs from an upstart company better known for technology used in mobile phones. The new processors take up less space and consume only a tenth of the electricity needed to power conventional servers, according to the Texas startup Calxeda, which developed the chips from designs it licensed from the British firm ARM Holdings. That could provide huge savings on energy bills for companies that are rapidly expanding their data centers, especially Internet server farms that provide the back-end computing for a growing army of workers and consumers who use smartphones and other mobile devices to access information online, HP executive Paul Santeler said. Traditional server farms use large amounts of power to run the computers and the cooling systems needed to keep them from overheating. HP – which competes with IBM, Dell and other tech giants in the \$100 billion market for data center hardware – is betting its new servers will appeal to customers who want to lower their operating costs. While showing off the new machines at HP’s Palo Alto headquarters, Santeler said they are the first of several HP models that will use power-sipping technology initially developed to let mobile phones and other gadgets run all day on a single battery charge. HP also designed the servers with hardware and software that take advantage of the processors’ compact size and enable them to share other system components such as memory, switching gear and cooling equipment. That further reduces their space and power requirements. It’s unclear how popular the new servers will be, since lower-power chips have not generally been used for extremely complex, high-speed computing in the past.

HP said the first machines, code-named Redstone, will be available for a limited number of customers next year. Initial users may include companies that operate social media sites and other Web-based services, which carry out a limited number of computing tasks on a huge

scale, Santeler said. At least for now, he said, “it’s not for every type of application.” But Forrester analyst Richard Fichera said he expects the technology will evolve and be adopted for wider uses, first in large commercial data centers and later in smaller computer operations. That could be troubling for Intel and AMD, which have been HP’s biggest chip suppliers. Intel makes the processors used in the majority of servers sold by HP and other computer-makers today. Chips that use ARM designs have already emerged as a threat to Intel in another major segment of its business, as smartphones and tablet computers that use ARM-based processors cut into sales of personal computers, which also mostly run on Intel and AMD chips. Intel has developed its own line of energy-efficient chips for mobile computing gadgets, but it has lagged in that market. HP executives were careful to say they don’t plan to stop making traditional machines, often referred to as “x86” servers because of the processor designs they use. “This is in addition to, not a replacement,” Santeler said. HP also plans to build new servers around Intel’s power-efficient Atom chip, he added. An Intel spokesman said his company has been working on so-called microserver designs for several years and noted that startup SeaMicro is already making servers that use Atom processors. Intel sees the market as fairly small for now, added spokesman Radoslaw Walczyk, but he said: “People are always evaluating different approaches.” Unlike Intel, ARM does not make chips but licenses its designs to several manufacturers. Calxeda is a startup funded in by ARM Holdings and other investors.



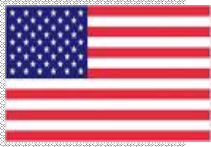
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The Americas

Double dip of innovation for this generation



“81 percent of the world’s Internet audience is outside the United States, with China adding more Internet users between 2007 and 2010 than currently exists in the U.S.”

A bigger share of the world’s population is now connected by a cell-phone signal than is wired into the electrical grid, one reason Silicon Valley has reason to be optimistic about the future, Internet venture capitalist Mary Meeker said in her anticipated annual overview of the online world.

Just as, AM radio was adopted by most households in America during the Great Depression, Meeker noted that the desktop Internet, and now the mobile Web, exploded in popularity during economic downturns. Apple and Google have shot to leadership positions in mobile technology, with U.S. companies now commanding a 64 percent share of the market for smartphone operating systems, up from 5 percent in 2005. The global success of companies like Facebook, Google, Apple and Amazon, Meeker said, means that 81 percent of the world’s Internet audience is outside the United States, with China adding more Internet users between 2007 and 2010 than currently exist in the U.S. Social Networking also is much more active in many other countries, with the average social network user in Israel spending an average 11.1 hours a month on social networks like Facebook, compared with 6.8 hours in the U.S.

“We are living through a very, very special time,” Meeker told an audience at the Web 2.0

Summit, an influential annual gathering of Internet leaders. “What happened once a generation in the past with TV and radio is happening twice in our generation,” she said, referring to the booms in the mobile and desktop Web. Meeker, who moved from Wall Street to Silicon Valley last year, leaving Morgan Stanley after 19 years as an analyst to migrate west to powerful venture capital firm Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers, said society has not fully appreciated the changes that are being driven by the adoption of smartphones and tablet computers. “When people look back at this era we’re living in now, in 10,20,30 or 50 years, they will say this is the time when people got empowered with mobile Internet-connected devices,” she said.

Meeker specializes in assembling data gathered by others and refining it into a tsunami of information. The data she cited came from comScore, Morgan Stanley research, Gartner research, the United Nations and other sources. The pace of adoption for each of Apple’s three recent generations of “I” devices – the iPod, the iPhone and the iPad – has accelerated, Meeker said, quoting data from Apple. But Android has ramped up even faster than iPhone, with a total 152 million Google-powered phones shipped, compared with 129 million iPhones, through the middle of last year.

Android’s adoption has accelerated since then. Google’s mobile search volume has quadrupled in the past four years, Meeker said, citing company data. And there are as many people using social networks today as were using the entire Internet in 2006. All told, in Meeker’s view, “the pace of innovation in Silicon Valley may be unprecedented.” The sheer volume of traffic on social media was the driving force for a new social network launched at the Web 2.0 conference that aims to compete with kingpins Facebook, Twitter and Google+.

The new network, Chime.In, claims to be the first social network organized around subject areas rather than people and attempts to filter out the clutter of social networking by allowing users to limit the posts they see to specific topics they care about from that person. Unlike Facebook, the new network also will allow businesses or groups to keep all of the advertising revenue they earn from traffic to their page. “We’re giving people a big incentive to moderate and curate great content” because they will be able to keep ad revenue from traffic they draw to their page, said Bill Gross, a serial entrepreneur who is CEO of Idealab, a Pasadena company that creates and operates tech companies and that launched Chime.In.

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