

# SOMBOON ADVANCE TECHNOLOGY

THAILAND / AUTOMOTIVES

# SAT TB

# HOLD

UNCHANGED

## Slight uptick in 1Q23E profit

- Expect core profit in 1Q23 to rise 4% q-q but fall 8% y-y after SAT recently began passing through increased costs to clients.
- Cautious on sales outlook, prompting small earnings cuts for 2023-25. Growth outlook is minimally changed from previous forecast.
- Maintain HOLD rating with the same TP of THB22.

TARGET PRICE	THB22.00
CLOSE	THB20.00
UP/DOWNSIDE	+10.0%
PRIOR TP	THB22.00
CHANGE IN TP	UNCHANGED
TP vs CONSENSUS	-7.8%

## KEY STOCK DATA

YE Dec (THB m)	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Revenue	8,931	9,671	10,291	10,555
Net profit	932	1,007	1,091	1,154
EPS (THB)	2.19	2.37	2.57	2.71
vs Consensus (%)	-	(1.0)	(2.3)	1.7
EBITDA	1,399	1,551	1,665	1,745
Core net profit	940	1,007	1,091	1,154
Core EPS (THB)	2.21	2.37	2.57	2.71
Chg. In EPS est. (%)	nm	(3.1)	(4.0)	nm
EPS growth (%)	(1.5)	7.1	8.4	5.8
Core P/E (x)	9.0	8.4	7.8	7.4
Dividend yield (%)	7.5	7.6	8.4	9.0
EV/EBITDA (x)	4.7	4.0	3.5	3.1
Price/book (x)	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9
Net debt/Equity (%)	(25.1)	(28.0)	(31.1)	(34.3)
ROE (%)	12.1	12.4	12.7	12.8

## Expect 1Q23 profit to rebound q-q but dip y-y on costs

After soft earnings in 4Q22 due to a significant drop in the Kubota tractor production volume, a higher electricity expense and elevated steel costs, we expect SAT's 1Q23 core profit to climb 4% q-q to THB238m. SAT has gradually passed on the increased costs to its clients, helping its gross margin to climb to an estimated 17.7% from its nine-quarter low of 16.7% in 4Q22 (but still below 17.9% in 1Q22). Given the higher electricity and steel prices from a year earlier, we expect its 1Q23 core profit to plummet 8% y-y. On the revenue side, we forecast a rise of 9% q-q and 3% y-y in accordance with Thailand's 7% y-y increase in car production during 2M23. However, this is not enough to offset the high costs.

## Modest growth expected in 2023

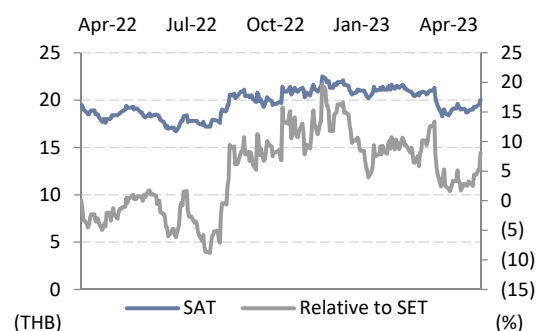
SAT's management expects domestic vehicle production for 2023 to reach 1.90-1.95m units, a modest increase of 1-4% y-y. The Kubota tractor production volume is expected to be flat at around 88,000 units amid concerns over the weather fluctuations, which may disrupt agricultural activities. SAT should recognise additional sales from new orders of around THB400m-500m in 2023. SAT's new business, E-Tuk, operated under its subsidiary Somboon Tron Energy (STRON, not listed), is set to contribute around THB100m in revenue in 2H23.

## Cautious on sales outlook, prompting small earnings cuts

Given management's guidance, we trim our core profit forecasts for 2023-25 by 3%/4%/3%, largely by lowering our sales estimates for agricultural machinery products. For the gross margin, we believe it will slowly improve following the reduced power tariff for businesses during May-August 2023, which is likely to be reduced further, and stabilised steel prices going forward. Note that we assume a miniscule profit from STRON for this year as it is in an early stage of operation.

## Maintain HOLD rating with the same TP of THB22

Based on our new projections, we forecast SAT's core profit to grow 6%/8%/6% in 2023-25, or at a 7% CAGR, insignificantly changed from our previous forecast. Thus, we maintain our TP of THB22, based on 9.3x 2023E P/E, at its five-year historical average, and retain our HOLD rating. With this report, we transfer coverage of SAT to Jitra Amornthum.



Share price performance	1 Month	3 Month	12 Month
Absolute (%)	7.5	(5.2)	6.4
Relative to country (%)	5.5	0.2	11.3
Mkt cap (USD m)	248		
3m avg. daily turnover (USD m)	0.6		
Free float (%)	64		
Major shareholder	Kitapanich Family (44%)		
12m high/low (THB)	22.50/16.60		
Issued shares (m)	425.19		

Sources: Bloomberg consensus; FSSIA estimates


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## Investment thesis

SAT is Thailand's largest manufacturer of axle shafts with an 86% market share in 2022. The company also produces other vehicle parts, namely disc brakes, drum brakes, leaf springs, stabiliser bars, and hot coil springs, which are used for pickup trucks, passenger cars, and agricultural machinery.

Thailand's automotive industry is one of the largest drivers of the nation's economy and one of the industries the government focuses on and supports. Headwinds during 2021-22 such as chip shortages, fluctuations in raw material costs and the power tariff hike should slowly fade in 2023 onward. SAT's operations passed the disappointing earnings period in 2022 with a strong financial position. We recommend HOLD, awaiting signs of a clear improvement in its gross margin in 2Q23.

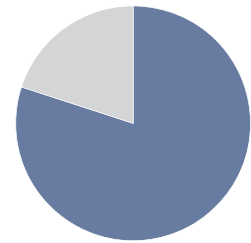
## Company profile

SAT manufactures parts for the motor vehicle industry. These parts are for: passenger cars, pickup trucks, and the agricultural industry. Its major customers are original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) on long-term purchase contracts, as well as the replacement equipment manufacturer (REM) segment.

[www.satpcl.co.th](http://www.satpcl.co.th)

## Principal activities (revenue, 2022)

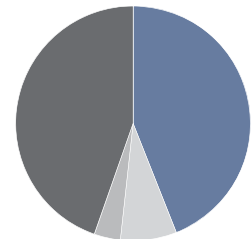
■ Auto - 80.0 % ■ Non-auto - 20.0 %



Source: Somboon Advance Technology

## Major shareholders

■ Kitapanich Family - 44.0 %  
 ■ Thai NVDR - 7.7 %  
 ■ NORTRUST NOMINEES - 3.6 %  
 ■ Others - 44.6 %



Source: Somboon Advance Technology

## Catalysts

Key potential catalysts include 1) stronger demand for vehicles domestically; 2) lower steel prices; and 3) lower electricity tariffs.

## Risks to our call

The key downside and upside risks to our P/E-based TP are the domestic car manufacturing industry recovering slower or faster than expected, a faster-than-expected adoption rate for electric vehicles in Thailand, higher raw material prices, and worse global demand for pickup trucks.

## Event calendar

Date	Event
20 April 2023	Annual General Meeting of Shareholders
11 May 2023	1Q23 results announcement

## Key assumptions

	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Car production growth (%)	11.8	3.5	1.5	1.0
Kubota tractor growth (%)	(14.6)	0.0	5.7	3.5
Gross margin (%)	18.1	18.4	18.7	19.1

Source: FSSIA estimates

## Earnings sensitivity

- For every 1% change in auto parts revenue, we estimate SAT's 2023 net profit to change by 0.5%, all else being equal.
- For every 0.5% change in gross margin, we project SAT's 2023 net profit to change by 4%, all else being equal.

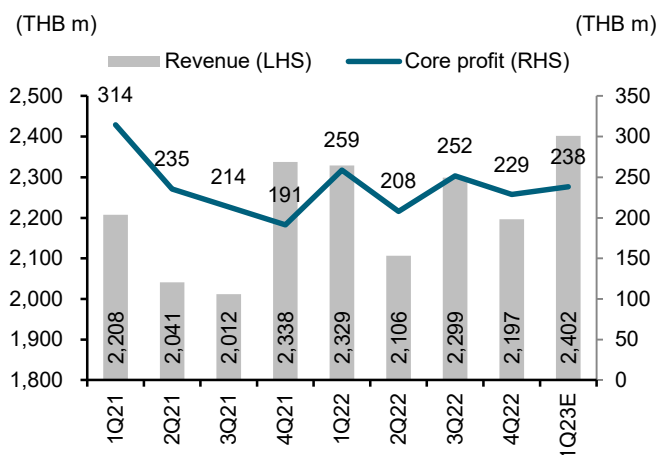
Source: FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 1: 1Q23 results preview

	1Q22	2Q22	3Q22	4Q22	1Q23E	Change		2022	2023E	Change
	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(q-q %)	(y-y %)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(y-y %)
Revenue	2,329	2,106	2,299	2,197	2,402	9.3	3.1	8,931	9,671	8.3
Operating costs	(1,912)	(1,736)	(1,878)	(1,831)	(1,977)	8.0	3.4	(7,316)	(7,892)	7.9
Gross profit	418	371	421	366	425	16.1	1.8	1,616	1,780	10.1
SG&A expenses	(186)	(164)	(184)	(197)	(199)	1.3	7.0	(731)	(731)	0.0
EBIT	231	206	238	169	226	33.3	(2.4)	885	845	(4.5)
Depreciation & amortization	128	128	129	130	130	(0.0)	1.8	515	570	10.7
EBITDA	359	335	366	299	356	18.8	(0.9)	1,399	1,551	10.8
Interest expense	(1)	(1)	(1)	(0)	(0)	24.4	(80.5)	(2)	(2)	1.1
Other income	43	35	19	65	40	(38.6)	(6.0)	162	143	(11.7)
Share of profit from associates	11	1	(4)	30	12	(59.6)	6.6	38	53	39.0
Extra items	0	2	7	(17)	0	nm	nm	(8)	0	nm
Pretax profit	285	243	299	248	278	12.3	(2.6)	1,075	1,176	9.4
Corporate tax	(26)	(33)	(42)	(39)	(42)	8.3	62.3	(140)	(176)	26.3
Minority interests	0	0	(2)	(3)	(3)	(7.4)	nm	(4)	(7)	66.2
<b>Net profit</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>(8.1)</b>	<b>940</b>	<b>1,007</b>	<b>7.1</b>
<b>Core net profit</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>(7.9)</b>	<b>948</b>	<b>1,007</b>	<b>6.2</b>
EPS (THB)	0.61	0.49	0.61	0.50	0.56	12.2	(8.1)	2.21	2.37	7.1
Core EPS (THB)	0.61	0.49	0.59	0.54	0.56	4.3	(7.9)	2.23	2.37	6.2
<b>Margins</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(ppt)</b>	<b>(ppt)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(ppt)</b>
Gross margin	17.9	17.6	20.1	16.7	17.7	1.0	(0.2)	18.1	18.4	0.3
SG&A to sales	8.0	7.8	8.0	9.0	8.3	(0.7)	0.3	8.2	8.3	0.1
Operating margin	9.9	9.8	12.1	7.7	9.4	1.7	(0.5)	12.1	12.2	0.1
EBITDA margin	15.4	15.9	17.7	13.6	14.8	1.2	(0.6)	15.7	16.0	0.4
Core profit margin	11.1	9.9	11.0	10.4	9.9	(0.5)	(1.2)	10.2	10.4	0.2

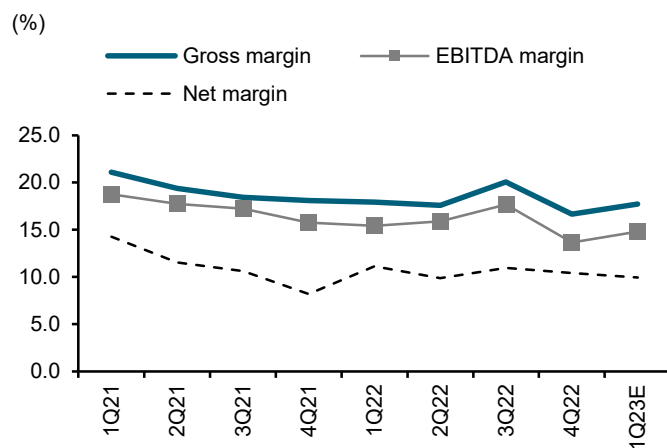
Sources: SAT, FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 2: Revenue and core profit



Sources: SAT, FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 3: Margins



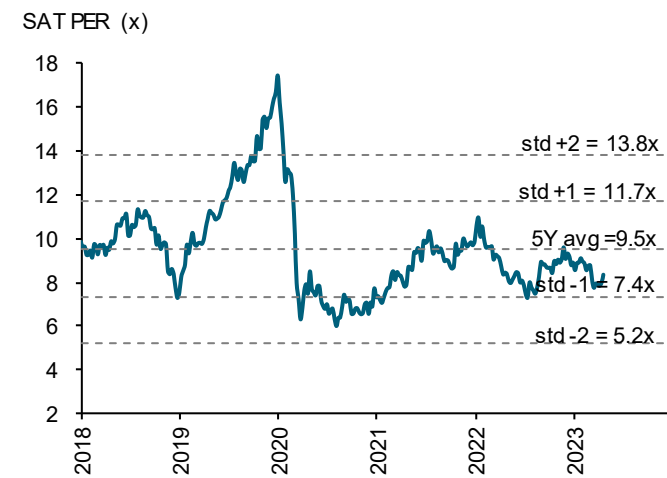
Sources: SAT, FSSIA estimates

**Exhibit 4: Changes in key assumptions**

	Current			Previous			Change		
	2023E (THB m)	2024E (THB m)	2025E (THB m)	2023E (THB m)	2024E (THB m)	2025E (THB m)	2023E (%)	2024E (%)	2025E (%)
Total revenue	9,671	10,291	10,555	9,924	10,542	10,766	(2.5)	(2.4)	(2.0)
Auto parts	7,885	8,403	8,601	7,803	8,315	8,471	1.1	1.1	1.5
Non-auto parts (Kubota)	1,786	1,888	1,954	2,122	2,228	2,295	(15.8)	(15.2)	(14.8)
Cost of goods sold	(7,892)	(8,367)	(8,539)	(8,097)	(8,560)	(8,699)	(2.5)	(2.3)	(1.8)
Gross profit	1,780	1,924	2,016	1,827	1,982	2,067	(2.6)	(2.9)	(2.5)
SG&A	(798)	(840)	(861)	(814)	(862)	(878)	(2.0)	(2.6)	(2.0)
EBITDA	1,551	1,665	1,745	1,583	1,700	1,779	(2.0)	(2.1)	(1.9)
EBIT	1,178	1,296	1,382	1,217	1,341	1,420	(3.2)	(3.4)	(2.7)
Core profit	1,007	1,091	1,154	1,039	1,137	1,187	(3.1)	(4.0)	(2.7)
Net profit	1,007	1,091	1,154	1,039	1,137	1,187	(3.1)	(4.0)	(2.7)
<b>Margins</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(ppt)</b>	<b>(ppt)</b>	<b>(ppt)</b>
Gross margin	18.4	18.7	19.1	18.4	18.8	19.2	(0.0)	(0.1)	(0.1)
EBITDA margin	16.0	16.2	16.5	15.9	16.1	16.5	0.1	0.1	0.0
EBIT margin	12.2	12.6	13.1	10.2	10.6	11.0	2.0	2.0	2.1
Core profit margin	10.4	10.6	10.9	10.5	10.8	11.0	(0.1)	(0.2)	(0.1)
<b>Growth</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(ppt)</b>	<b>(ppt)</b>	<b>(ppt)</b>
Revenue	8.3	6.4	2.6	11.1	6.2	2.1	(2.8)	0.2	0.4
Core profit	6.2	8.4	5.8	12.3	9.8	4.7	(6.1)	(1.3)	1.1

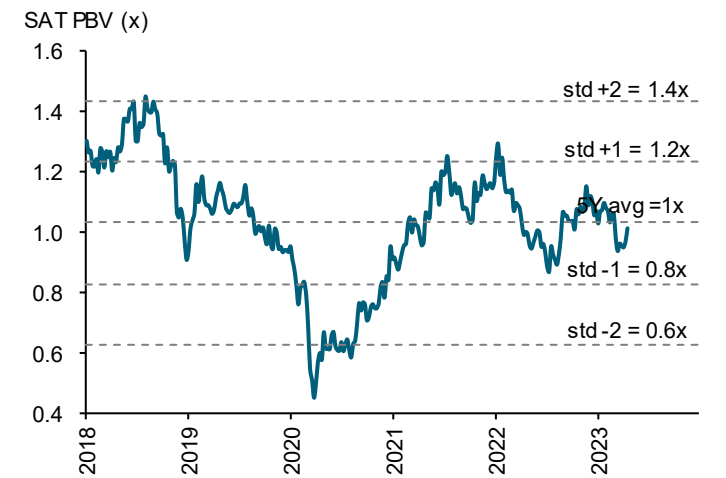
Sources: SAT, FSSIA estimates

**Exhibit 5: Rolling one-year forward P/E band**



Sources: Bloomberg, FSSIA estimates

**Exhibit 6: Rolling one-year forward P/BV band**



Sources: Bloomberg, FSSIA estimates

## Financial Statements

### Somboon Advance Technology

Profit and Loss (THB m) Year Ending Dec	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Revenue	8,598	8,931	9,671	10,291	10,555
Cost of goods sold	(6,371)	(6,801)	(7,322)	(7,786)	(7,949)
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>2,227</b>	<b>2,130</b>	<b>2,349</b>	<b>2,505</b>	<b>2,606</b>
Other operating income	-	-	-	-	-
Operating costs	(737)	(731)	(798)	(840)	(861)
<b>Operating EBITDA</b>	<b>1,490</b>	<b>1,399</b>	<b>1,551</b>	<b>1,665</b>	<b>1,745</b>
Depreciation	(572)	(515)	(570)	(580)	(590)
Goodwill amortisation	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Operating EBIT</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>885</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>1,085</b>	<b>1,155</b>
Net financing costs	(6)	(10)	(2)	0	0
Associates	84	38	53	62	69
Recurring non-operating income	204	200	196	211	227
Non-recurring items	(2)	(8)	0	0	0
<b>Profit before tax</b>	<b>1,114</b>	<b>1,068</b>	<b>1,176</b>	<b>1,296</b>	<b>1,382</b>
Tax	(159)	(140)	(176)	(194)	(207)
<b>Profit after tax</b>	<b>955</b>	<b>928</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,101</b>	<b>1,174</b>
Minority interests	(3)	4	7	(10)	(20)
Preferred dividends	-	-	-	-	-
Other items	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Reported net profit</b>	<b>953</b>	<b>940</b>	<b>1,007</b>	<b>1,091</b>	<b>1,154</b>
<b>Non-recurring items &amp; goodwill (net)</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Recurring net profit</b>	<b>955</b>	<b>948</b>	<b>1,007</b>	<b>1,091</b>	<b>1,154</b>
<b>Per share (THB)</b>					
Recurring EPS *	2.25	2.23	2.37	2.57	2.71
Reported EPS	2.24	2.21	2.37	2.57	2.71
DPS	1.50	1.50	1.53	1.68	1.80
Diluted shares (used to calculate per share data)	425	425	425	425	425
<b>Growth</b>					
Revenue (%)	46.2	3.9	8.3	6.4	2.6
Operating EBITDA (%)	63.7	(6.1)	10.8	7.3	4.8
Operating EBIT (%)	216.1	(3.6)	10.9	10.5	6.5
Recurring EPS (%)	147.7	(1.5)	7.1	8.4	5.8
Reported EPS (%)	156.9	(2.1)	8.0	8.4	5.8
<b>Operating performance</b>					
Gross margin inc. depreciation (%)	19.2	18.1	18.4	18.7	19.1
Gross margin of key business (%)	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Operating EBITDA margin (%)	17.3	15.7	16.0	16.2	16.5
Operating EBIT margin (%)	10.7	9.9	10.2	10.5	10.9
Net margin (%)	11.1	10.5	10.4	10.6	10.9
Effective tax rate (%)	(14.3)	(13.0)	(15.0)	(15.0)	(15.0)
Dividend payout on recurring profit (%)	66.8	67.9	64.5	65.6	66.1
Interest cover (X)	193.8	112.4	589.0	-	-
Inventory days	33.2	36.7	35.5	31.3	31.9
Debtor days	65.0	74.0	68.3	64.0	65.2
Creditor days	86.8	98.1	92.0	83.5	85.1
Operating ROIC (%)	19.3	17.5	19.7	21.8	23.3
ROIC (%)	18.9	17.2	18.7	20.3	21.5
ROE (%)	13.0	12.1	12.4	12.7	12.8
ROA (%)	10.3	9.4	9.6	10.2	10.4
* Pre-exceptional, pre-goodwill and fully diluted					
<b>Revenue by Division (THB m)</b>					
Auto	6,449	7,145	7,885	8,403	8,601
Non-auto	2,150	1,786	1,786	1,888	1,954

Sources: Somboon Advance Technology; FSSIA estimates

## Financial Statements

### Somboon Advance Technology

Cash Flow (THB m) Year Ending Dec	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Recurring net profit	955	940	1,007	1,091	1,154
Depreciation	572	515	570	580	590
Associates & minorities	3	(4)	(7)	10	20
Other non-cash items	(10)	(40)	(16)	10	20
Change in working capital	(157)	(200)	(1)	(70)	(43)
<b>Cash flow from operations</b>	<b>1,363</b>	<b>1,211</b>	<b>1,552</b>	<b>1,622</b>	<b>1,741</b>
Capex - maintenance	(192)	(452)	(357)	(357)	(357)
Capex - new investment	(82)	(194)	(153)	(153)	(153)
Net acquisitions & disposals	8	0	0	0	0
Other investments (net)	(1,002)	471	(53)	(62)	(69)
<b>Cash flow from investing</b>	<b>(1,268)</b>	<b>(174)</b>	<b>(563)</b>	<b>(572)</b>	<b>(579)</b>
Dividends paid	(374)	(629)	(608)	(650)	(716)
Equity finance	0	0	0	0	0
Debt finance	(94)	0	(13)	0	0
Other financing cash flows	(22)	(18)	(23)	0	0
<b>Cash flow from financing</b>	<b>(490)</b>	<b>(648)</b>	<b>(645)</b>	<b>(650)</b>	<b>(716)</b>
Non-recurring cash flows	-	-	-	-	-
Other adjustments	0	8	0	0	0
<b>Net other adjustments</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Movement in cash</b>	<b>(379)</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>447</b>
Free cash flow to firm (FCFF)	100.92	1,038.39	991.28	1,050.42	1,162.86
Free cash flow to equity (FCFE)	(4.93)	1,026.01	952.54	1,050.42	1,162.86

Per share (THB)	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
FCFF per share	0.24	2.44	2.33	2.47	2.73
FCFE per share	(0.01)	2.41	2.24	2.47	2.73
Recurring cash flow per share	3.57	3.32	3.65	3.98	4.20

Balance Sheet (THB m) Year Ending Dec	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Tangible fixed assets (gross)	11,370	11,867	12,367	12,867	13,367
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(8,301)	(8,654)	(9,211)	(9,780)	(10,359)
<b>Tangible fixed assets (net)</b>	<b>3,069</b>	<b>3,213</b>	<b>3,155</b>	<b>3,087</b>	<b>3,008</b>
<b>Intangible fixed assets (net)</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>48</b>
Long-term financial assets	-	-	-	-	-
Invest. in associates & subsidiaries	1,031	1,114	1,167	1,229	1,297
Cash & equivalents	1,602	1,998	2,342	2,743	3,190
A/C receivable	1,751	1,869	1,749	1,861	1,909
Inventories	594	776	649	688	702
Other current assets	1,597	1,188	1,224	1,260	1,298
<b>Current assets</b>	<b>5,543</b>	<b>5,830</b>	<b>5,963</b>	<b>6,552</b>	<b>7,098</b>
Other assets	148	149	150	156	159
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>9,830</b>	<b>10,351</b>	<b>10,487</b>	<b>11,073</b>	<b>11,610</b>
Common equity	7,642	7,951	8,342	8,793	9,252
Minorities etc.	0	16	9	19	39
<b>Total shareholders' equity</b>	<b>7,642</b>	<b>7,966</b>	<b>8,351</b>	<b>8,812</b>	<b>9,291</b>
Long term debt	0	0	0	0	0
Other long-term liabilities	296	330	322	338	355
<b>Long-term liabilities</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>355</b>
A/C payable	1,694	1,961	1,730	1,834	1,872
Short term debt	0	0	0	0	0
Other current liabilities	199	93	84	88	93
<b>Current liabilities</b>	<b>1,892</b>	<b>2,054</b>	<b>1,814</b>	<b>1,922</b>	<b>1,964</b>
<b>Total liabilities and shareholders' equity</b>	<b>9,830</b>	<b>10,351</b>	<b>10,487</b>	<b>11,073</b>	<b>11,610</b>
Net working capital	2,049	1,778	1,807	1,887	1,944
Invested capital	6,336	6,299	6,331	6,408	6,456

\* Includes convertibles and preferred stock which is being treated as debt

Per share (THB)	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Book value per share	17.97	18.70	19.62	20.68	21.76
Tangible book value per share	17.88	18.60	19.50	20.57	21.65

Financial strength	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Net debt/equity (%)	(21.0)	(25.1)	(28.0)	(31.1)	(34.3)
Net debt/total assets (%)	(16.3)	(19.3)	(22.3)	(24.8)	(27.5)
Current ratio (x)	2.9	2.8	3.3	3.4	3.6
CF interest cover (x)	14.3	127.4	553.8	-	-

Valuation	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
<b>Recurring P/E (x) *</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>7.4</b>
<b>Recurring P/E @ target price (x) *</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>8.1</b>
Reported P/E (x)	8.9	9.1	8.4	7.8	7.4
Dividend yield (%)	7.5	7.5	7.6	8.4	9.0
Price/book (x)	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9
Price/tangible book (x)	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9
EV/EBITDA (x) **	4.6	4.7	4.0	3.5	3.1
EV/EBITDA @ target price (x) **	5.2	5.3	4.5	4.0	3.6
EV/invested capital (x)	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8

\* Pre-exceptional, pre-goodwill and fully diluted \*\* EBITDA includes associate income and recurring non-operating income

Sources: Somboon Advance Technology; FSSIA estimates



## Public disclosures related to sustainable development evaluation of Thai listed companies

**Rating** regarding the sustainable development of Thai listed companies, both on the SET and MAI, are publicly available on the website of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Thailand (SEC). Currently, ratings available are 1) "**CG Score**" by the Thai Institute of Directors Association (Thai IOD); 2) "**AGM Checklist**" by the Thai Investors Association (TIA), a "**CAC certified member**" of the Thai Private Sector Collective Action Against Corruption (CAC); and 3) **Sustainability Investment List (THSI)** by the Stock Exchange of Thailand. The ratings are updated on an annual basis. FSS International Investment Advisory Company Limited does not confirm nor certify the accuracy of such ratings.

### CG Score by the Thai Institute of Directors Association (Thai IOD)<sup>1</sup>

The **CG Score** indicates corporate governance (CG) strength in the sustainable development of Thai listed companies. Annually, the Thai IOD, with support from the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET), surveys and assesses the CG practices of companies and publishes the results on the [Thai IOD website](#) in a bid to promote and enhance the CG of Thai listed companies in order to promote compliance with international standards for better investment decisions. The results are from the perspective of a third party, not an evaluation of operations, as of the date appearing in the report, and may be changed after that date.

The **five underlying categories and weighting** used for the CG scoring in 2022 include the rights of shareholders and equitable treatment of shareholders (weight 25% combined), the role of stakeholders (25%), disclosure and transparency (15%), and board responsibilities (35%).

The CGR report rates CG in six categories: 5 for Excellent (score range 90-100), 4 for Very Good (score range 80-89), 3 for Good (Score range 70-79), 2 for Fair (score range 60-69), 1 for Pass (score range 60-69), and not rated (score below 50).

### AGM Checklist by the Thai Investors Association (TIA)<sup>2</sup>

The "**AGM Checklist**" quantifies the extent to which shareholders' rights and equitable treatment are incorporated into business operations and the extent to which information is sufficiently disclosed and the level of its transparency. All the considered factors form important elements of two out of five the CG components. Annually, the TIA, with support from the SEC, leads the project to evaluate the quality of Annual General Meetings of Shareholders (AGMs) and to rate quality of the meetings.

The **Checklist** contains the minimum requirements under law that companies must comply with, or best practices according to international CG guidance. Representatives of the TIA will attend the meetings and perform the evaluation. The assessment criteria cover AGM procedures before the meeting (45%), at the meeting date (45%), and after the meeting (10%). The first assesses 1) advance circulation of sufficient information for voting; and 2) facilitating of how voting rights can be exercised. The second assesses 1) the ease of attending meetings; 2) transparency and verifiability; and 3) openness for Q&A. The third involves the meeting minutes that should contain discussion issues, resolutions and voting results.

The results are classified into four categories: 5 for Excellent (score 100), 4 for Very Good (score 90-99), 3 for Fair (score 80-89), and not rated (score below 79).

### CAC certified member by the Thai Private Sector Collective Action Against Corruption (CAC)<sup>3</sup>

A **CAC certified member** is a listed company whose Checklist satisfies the CAC Certification's criteria and is approved by the CAC Council. The core elements of the Checklist include corruption risk assessment, establishment of key controls, and the monitoring and developing of policies. Note that the CAC does not certify the behaviour of the employees nor whether the companies have engaged in bribery, and Certification is good for three years.

Companies deciding to become a CAC certified member **start with** by submitting a Declaration of Intent signed by the Chairman of the Board to kick off the 18-month deadline for companies to submit the CAC Checklist for Certification. The 18-month provision is for risk assessment, in place of policy and control, training of managers and employees, establishment of whistleblowing channels, and communication of policies to all stakeholders.

The checklist document will be reviewed by the CAC Certification Committee for adequate information and evidence. It is worth noting that the committee consists of nine professionals in business law, corporate governance, internal audit, financial audit and experienced representatives from certified members.

A passed Checklist will move on to the **CAC Council** for granting certification approvals. The CAC Council consists of twelve prominent individuals who are highly respected in professionalism and ethical achievements. Among them are former ministers, a former central bank governor, the former head of the Thai Listed Companies Association, Chairman of Anti-Corruption Organizations (Thailand), Chairman of Thai Institute of Directors, and reputable academic scholars.

### Sustainability Investment (THSI)<sup>4</sup> by the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET)

Thailand Sustainability Investment (**THSI**) quantifies responsibility in **Environmental**, and **Social** issues, by managing business with transparency in **Governance**. The THSI serves as another choice for investors who desire to adopt a responsible investment approach, according to the SET.

Annually, the SET will announce the voluntary participation of the company candidates which pass the preemptive criteria, and whose two key crucial conditions are met, i.e. no irregular trading of the board members and executives and a free float of >150 by the number of shareholders, and combined holding must >15% of paid-up capital. Some key disqualifying criteria include a CG score of below 70%; independent directors and free float violation; executives' wrongdoing related to CG, social and environmental impacts, equity in negative territory, and earnings in the red for more than three years in the last five years. To become eligible for THSI, the candidate must pass three indicators in data declaration: **Economic** (CG, risk management, customer relation management, supply chain management, and innovation); **Environmental** (environmental management, eco-efficiency, and climate risk); **Social** (human rights, talent attraction, operational health & safety, community development, and stakeholder engagement); and the incorporation of ESG in business operations.

To be approved for THSI inclusion, verified data must be scored at a 50% minimum for each indicator, unless the company is a part of the Dow Jones Sustainability Indices<sup>5</sup> (DJSI) during the assessment year. The scoring will be fairly weighted against the nature of the relevant industry and materiality.

Note that, from the **THSI list**, the SET further developed a sustainability **SETTHSI Index** in June 2018 from selected THSI companies whose 1) market capitalisation > THB5b (~USD150b); 2) free float >20%; and 3) liquidity >0.5% of paid-up capital for at least 9 out of 12 months. The SETTHSI Index is a market capitalisation-weighted index, cap 5% quarterly weight at maximum, and no cap for number of stocks.

Sources: [SEC](#); [Thai IOD](#); [Thai CAC](#); [SET](#); FSSIA's compilation

#### Disclaimer:

<sup>1</sup> Thai Institute of Directors Association ([Thai IOD](#)) was established in December 1999 and is a membership organisation that strives to promote professionalism in directorship. The Thai IOD offers directors certification and professional development courses, provides a variety of seminars, forums and networking events, and conducts research on board governance issues and practices. Membership comprises board members from companies ranging from large publicly listed companies to small private firms.

<sup>2</sup> Thai Investors Association ([TIA](#)) was established in 1983 with a mission to promote investment knowledge and to protect the investment rights of Thai investors. In 2002, the association was appointed by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to represent individual shareholders. To obtain information for evaluation, the association recruits volunteer investors to join AGMs and score the meetings. Weightings for each meeting are at a 45:45:10 ratio. They have been applied since 2017 and subject to change.

<sup>3</sup> Thai Private Sector Collective Action against Corruption ([CAC](#)) was founded in 2010 and is 100% privately funded. It is an initiative by the Thai private sector to take part in tackling corruption problems via collective action. The CAC promotes the implementation of effective anti-corruption policies in order to create a transparent business ecosystem by developing a unique certification program for large/medium/small companies to apply for and to control corruption risk systematically and efficiently. The CAC's operations are sponsored by the US-based Center for Private Enterprise (CIPE) and the UK Prosperity Fund.

<sup>4</sup> Sustainability Investment List ([THSI](#)), created by the Stock Exchange of Thailand in 2015, comprises the listed companies that conduct sustainable business operations.

<sup>5</sup> Dow Jones Sustainability Indices – [Wikipedia](#) – Launched in 1999, DJSI evaluates the sustainability performance of companies based on corporate economic, environmental, and social performance.

## GENERAL DISCLAIMER

### ANALYST(S) CERTIFICATION

Jitra Amornthum FSS International Investment Advisory Securities Co., Ltd

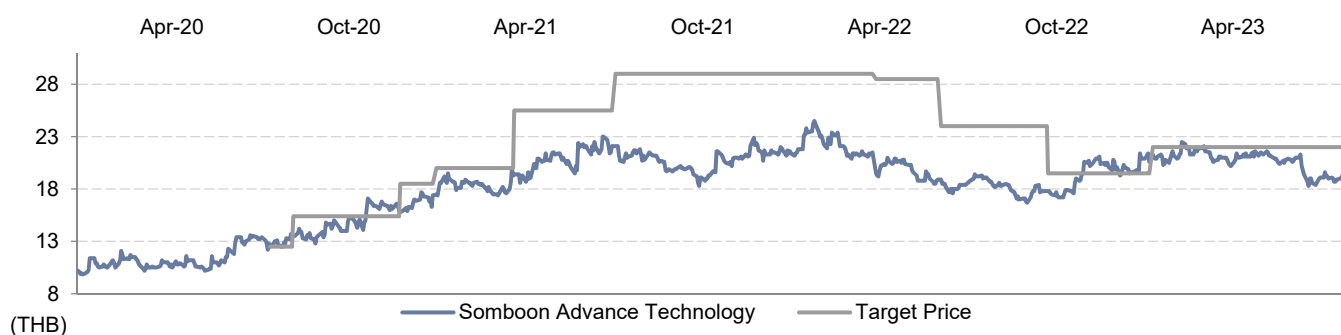
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### History of change in investment rating and/or target price

#### Somboon Advance Technology (SAT TB)



Date	Rating	Target price	Date	Rating	Target price	Date	Rating	Target price
01-Oct-2020	HOLD	12.50	29-Apr-2021	BUY	25.50	01-Aug-2022	HOLD	19.50
21-Oct-2020	BUY	15.40	23-Jul-2021	BUY	29.00	28-Oct-2022	HOLD	22.00
21-Jan-2021	BUY	18.50	04-Mar-2022	BUY	28.50			
19-Feb-2021	BUY	20.00	29-Apr-2022	BUY	24.00			

Jitra Amornthum started covering this stock from 19-Apr-2023

Price and TP are in local currency

Source: FSSIA estimates

Company	Ticker	Price	Rating	Valuation & Risks
Somboon Advance Technology	SAT TB	THB 20.00	HOLD	The key downside and upside risks to our P/E-based TP are the domestic car manufacturing industry recovering slower or faster than expected, a faster-than-expected adoption rate for electric vehicles in Thailand, higher raw material prices, and worse global demand for pickup trucks.

Source: FSSIA estimates

### Additional Disclosures

Target price history, stock price charts, valuation and risk details, and equity rating histories applicable to each company rated in this report is available in our most recently published reports. You can contact the analyst named on the front of this note or your representative at Finasia Syrus Securities Public Company Limited

FSSIA may incorporate the recommendations and target prices of companies currently covered by FSS Research into equity research reports, denoted by an 'FSS' before the recommendation. FSS Research is part of Finasia Syrus Securities Public Company Limited, which is the parent company of FSSIA.

All share prices are as at market close on 18-Apr-2023 unless otherwise stated.



## RECOMMENDATION STRUCTURE

### Stock ratings

Stock ratings are based on absolute upside or downside, which we define as  $(\text{target price}^* - \text{current price}) / \text{current price}$ .

**BUY (B).** The upside is 10% or more.

**HOLD (H).** The upside or downside is less than 10%.

**REDUCE (R).** The downside is 10% or more.

Unless otherwise specified, these recommendations are set with a 12-month horizon. Thus, it is possible that future price volatility may cause a temporary mismatch between upside/downside for a stock based on market price and the formal recommendation.

\* In most cases, the target price will equal the analyst's assessment of the current fair value of the stock. However, if the analyst doesn't think the market will reassess the stock over the specified time horizon due to a lack of events or catalysts, then the target price may differ from fair value. In most cases, therefore, our recommendation is an assessment of the mismatch between current market price and our assessment of current fair value.

### Industry Recommendations

**Overweight.** The analyst expects the fundamental conditions of the sector to be positive over the next 12 months.

**Neutral.** The analyst expects the fundamental conditions of the sector to be maintained over the next 12 months.

**Underweight.** The analyst expects the fundamental conditions of the sector to be negative over the next 12 months.

### Country (Strategy) Recommendations

**Overweight (O).** Over the next 12 months, the analyst expects the market to score positively on two or more of the criteria used to determine market recommendations: index returns relative to the regional benchmark, index sharpe ratio relative to the regional benchmark and index returns relative to the market cost of equity.

**Neutral (N).** Over the next 12 months, the analyst expects the market to score positively on one of the criteria used to determine market recommendations: index returns relative to the regional benchmark, index sharpe ratio relative to the regional benchmark and index returns relative to the market cost of equity.

**Underweight (U).** Over the next 12 months, the analyst does not expect the market to score positively on any of the criteria used to determine market recommendations: index returns relative to the regional benchmark, index sharpe ratio relative to the regional benchmark and index returns relative to the market cost of equity.