EQUITY RESEARCH - ANALYST MEETING



THAILAND / TRANSPORT & LOGISTICS





TARGET PRICE	THB3.70
CLOSE	THB2.70
UP/DOWNSIDE	+37.0%
TP vs CONSENSUS	+7.1%

Key takeaways from analyst meeting

Highlights

- We have a slightly positive view from the 2Q23 analyst meeting given that AAV's recovery is on track.
- Management maintains their 2023 guidance for a passenger volume of 20m and a load factor of 87%. This implies a higher passenger volume of up to 9.8m in 2H23 (vs 9.2m in 1H23).
- AAV has ramped up its China routes from 67 flights/week in 1Q23 to 108 flights/week at the end of 2Q23, equivalent to 78% of the pre-Covid level. AAV's market share was 20% for inbound Chinese tourists in 2Q23, reaching the pre-Covid level.
- Management expects the load factor for China routes in 3Q23 to be similar to the 75% level in 2Q23. The recovery pace may be slightly slower than expected due to China's economic slowdown and the more difficult process to apply for a tourist visa.
- Domestic market share remained strong at 37% as of 2Q23, with a strong load factor of 94%.
- The utilisation rate of its 45 active aircraft reached 12.9 hours/day, exceeding the pre-Covid rate of 12.3 hours/day. AAV plans to resume operating another nine idle aircraft by the end of this year. However, the process is delayed due to a bottleneck at MRO facilities. Management mentioned that they are considering leasing more aircraft to solve the issue.

Recommendation

We maintain our forecast. The 2Q23 results were in line with our estimates, and the company should be in a recovery mode in 2H23. We see the weak share price as a buying opportunity to capture the strong Chinese tourist recovery, especially in 4Q23 (Golden Week) and 1Q24 (Chinese New Year).

KEY STOCK DATA

YE Dec (THB m)	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Revenue	18,012	43,139	47,490	48,664
Net profit	(8,030)	1,284	1,644	1,836
EPS (THB)	(0.66)	0.10	0.13	0.14
vs Consensus (%)	-	6.4	(24.0)	(55.3)
EBITDA	(1,278)	9,376	9,792	10,062
Recurring net profit	(6,946)	1,284	1,644	1,836
Core EPS (THB)	(0.57)	0.10	0.13	0.14
EPS growth (%)	nm	nm	28.0	11.7
Core P/E (x)	(4.7)	27.0	21.1	18.9
Dividend yield (%)	-	1.5	1.9	2.1
EV/EBITDA (x)	(59.3)	7.7	7.1	6.7
Price/book (x)	4.1	3.8	3.3	3.0
Net debt/Equity (%)	540.0	406.1	336.3	283.0
ROE (%)	(49.3)	14.9	16.8	16.8



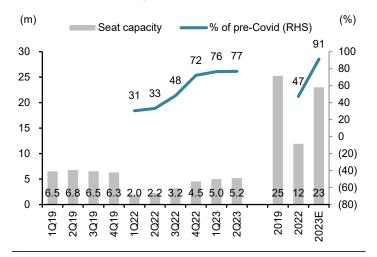
Share price performance	1 Month	3 Month	12 Month
Absolute (%)	3.1	(0.7)	0.7
Relative to country (%)	0.5	1.3	6.5
Mkt cap (USD m)			937
3m avg. daily turnover (USD m)			2.2
Free float (%)			38
Major shareholder	AirAsia A	viation Lim	ited (43%)
12m high/low (THB)			3.30/2.50
Issued shares (m)			12,164.29

Sources: Bloomberg consensus; FSSIA estimates



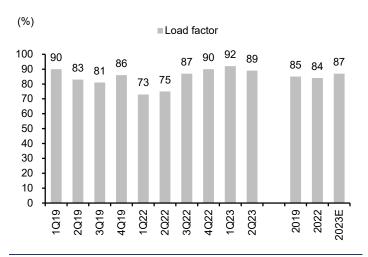
Teerapol Udomvej, CFA Analyst register no. 080523 teerapol.udo@fssia.com, +66 2611 3535

Exhibit 1: Seat capacity



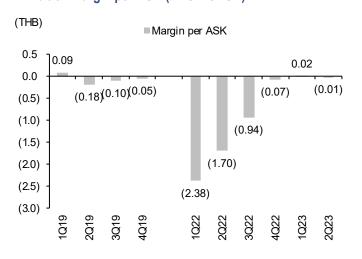
Source: AAV; FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 3: Load factor



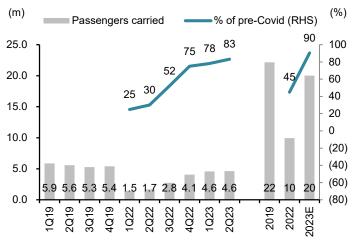
Source: AAV; FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 5: Margin per ASK (RASK-CASK)



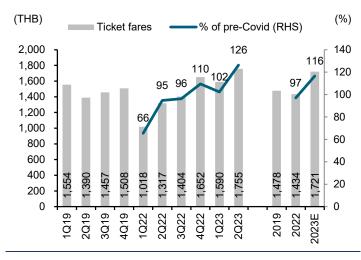
Source: AAV; FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 2: Passengers carried



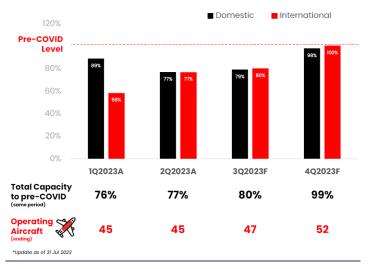
Source: AAV; FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 4: Average ticket fare



Source: AAV; FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 6: Capacity deployment plan



Source: AAV

Financial Statements

Asia Aviation

Profit and Loss (THB m) Year Ending Dec	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Revenue	4,117	18,012	43,139	47,490	48,664
Cost of goods sold	(11,469)	(23,693)	(36,716)	(40,287)	(41,115)
Gross profit	(7,352)	(5,681)	6,423	7,203	7,548
Other operating income	-	-	-	-	-
Operating costs	(1,236)	(1,711)	(2,675)	(3,039)	(3,114)
Operating EBITDA	(3,153)	(1,278)	9,376	9,792	10,062
Depreciation	(5,434)	(6,114)	(5,628)	(5,628)	(5,628)
Goodwill amortisation	-	-	-	-	-
Operating EBIT	(8,587)	(7,392)	3,749	4,164	4,434
Net financing costs	(1,848)	(2,190)	(2,143)	(2,109)	(2,139)
Associates	0	0	0	0	0
Recurring non-operating income	0	0	0	0	0
Non-recurring items	(1,795)	(1,084)	0	0	0
Profit before tax	(12,231)	(10,666)	1,606	2,055	2,295
Tax	1,741	2,452	(321)	(411)	(459)
Profit after tax	(10,490)	(8,214)	1,284	1,644	1,836
Minority interests	5,310	184	0	0	0
Preferred dividends	-	-	-	-	-
Other items	(1,468)	-	-	-	-
Reported net profit	(6,647)	(8,030)	1,284	1,644	1,836
Non-recurring items & goodwill (net)	1,795	1,084	0	0	0
Recurring net profit	(4,853)	(6,946)	1,284	1,644	1,836
Per share (THB)					
Recurring EPS *	(0.49)	(0.57)	0.10	0.13	0.14
Reported EPS	(0.67)	(0.66)	0.10	0.13	0.14
DPS	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.05	0.06
Diluted shares (used to calculate per share data)	9,879	12,164	12,850	12,850	12,850
Growth	(74.0)	007.5	100.5	10.1	
Revenue (%)	(71.3)	337.5	139.5	10.1	2.5
Operating EBITDA (%)	nm	nm	nm	4.4	2.8
Operating EBIT (%)	nm	nm	nm	11.1	6.5
Recurring EPS (%)	nm	nm	nm	28.0	11.7
Reported EPS (%)	nm	nm	nm	28.0	11.7
Operating performance	(470.0)	(0.4.5)	110	45.0	45.5
Gross margin inc. depreciation (%)	(178.6)	(31.5)	14.9	15.2	15.5
Gross margin exc. depreciation (%)	(46.6)	2.4	27.9	27.0	27.1
Operating EBITDA margin (%)	(76.6)	(7.1)	21.7	20.6	20.7
Operating EBIT margin (%)	(208.6)	(41.0)	8.7	8.8	9.1
Net margin (%)	(117.9)	(38.6)	3.0	3.5	3.8
Effective tax rate (%)	16.7	25.6	20.0	20.0	20.0
Dividend payout on recurring profit (%)	- (4.6)	(2.4)	40.0	40.0	40.0
Interest cover (X)	(4.6)	(3.4)	1.7	2.0	2.1
Inventory days	14.2	6.6	3.8	2.8	2.9
Debtor days	122.3	25.4	7.2	6.6	6.4
Creditor days	87.4	34.3	16.3	14.7	15.3
Operating ROIC (%)	(21.3)	(18.9)	13.1	16.6	18.9
ROIC (%)	(12.3)	(10.1)	6.1	7.1 16.9	7.8 16.9
ROE (%)	(28.2)	(49.3)	14.9	16.8	16.8
ROA (%) * Pre exceptional, pre-goodwill and fully diluted	(12.4)	(8.1)	4.6	5.0	5.1
Revenue by Division (THB m)	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Ticket sales	3,174	14,268	34,448	37,857	38,626
Ancillaries	651	3,319	7,406	8,139	8,468
Other revenue Sources: Asia Aviation: FSSIA estimates	292	426	1,285	1,494	1,569

Sources: Asia Aviation; FSSIA estimates

Financial Statements

Asia Aviation

Asia Aviation					
Cash Flow (THB m) Year Ending Dec	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Recurring net profit	(4,853)	(6,946)	1,284	1,644	1,836
Depreciation	5,434	6,114	5,628	5,628	5,628
Associates & minorities	-	-	-	-	-
Other non-cash items	(4,538)	(9,528)	0	0	0
Change in working capital	(1,117)	2,058	2,890	789	304
Cash flow from operations Capex - maintenance	(5,074) (3,885)	(8,302) (31)	9,802 (4,359)	8,061 (4,903)	7,767 (4,914)
Capex - maintenance Capex - new investment	(3,863)	(31)	(4,339)	(4,903)	(4,914)
Net acquisitions & disposals	0	0	0	0	0
Other investments (net)	- -	-	-	-	-
Cash flow from investing	(3,885)	(31)	(4,359)	(4,903)	(4,914)
Dividends paid	0	0	0	(514)	(658)
Equity finance	8,800	4,000	1,200	0	0
Debt finance	6,481	(1,384)	(1,500)	1,000	1,000
Other financing cash flows	(2,073)	1,155	(1,200)	0	0
Cash flow from financing	13,208	3,771	(1,500)	486	342
Non-recurring cash flows Other adjustments	0	0	0	0	0
Net other adjustments	0	0	0	0	0
Movement in cash	4,249	(4,562)	3,943	3,644	3,195
Free cash flow to firm (FCFF)	(7,059.54)	(6,113.25)	7,590.35	5,293.05	5,037.95
Free cash flow to equity (FCFE)	(4,550.79)	(8,561.78)	2,742.86	4,158.04	3,853.01
Per share (THB)					
FCFF per share	(0.58)	(0.50)	0.62	0.44	0.41
FCFE per share	(0.37)	(0.70)	0.23	0.34	0.32
Recurring cash flow per share	(0.40)	(0.85)	0.54	0.57	0.58
Balance Sheet (THB m) Year Ending Dec	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Tangible fixed assets (gross)	43,298	36,791	37,723	39,198	40,684
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(4,234)	(4,010)	(6,210)	(8,410)	(10,610)
Tangible fixed assets (net)	39,064	32,781	31,512	30,787	30,074
Intangible fixed assets (net)	23,688	23,684	23,684	23,684	23,684
Long-term financial assets	-	-	-	-	-
Invest. in associates & subsidiaries	0	0	0	0	0
Cash & equivalents A/C receivable	5,360 1,658	798 854	4,741 854	8,385 854	11,580 854
Inventories	230	401	250	279	285
Other current assets	425	3,184	662	729	747
Current assets	7,673	5,236	6,506	10,246	13,466
Other assets	784	2,984	2,984	2,984	2,984
Total assets	71,208	64,686	64,687	67,702	70,208
Common equity	20,201	7,954	9,239	10,369	11,547
Minorities etc.	(3,372)	0	0	0	0
Total shareholders' equity	16,829	7,954	9,239	10,369	11,547
Long term debt	44,310	42,262	40,762	41,762	42,762
Other long-term liabilities Long-term liabilities	1,182 45,492	734 42,997	734 41,497	734 42,497	734 43,497
A/C payable	1,841	1,464	1,319	1,471	1,506
Short term debt	829	1,493	1,493	1,493	1,493
Other current liabilities	6,216	10,778	11,139	11,873	12,166
Current liabilities	8,887	13,734	13,951	14,836	15,165
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	71,208	64,686	64,687	67,702	70,208
Net working capital	(5,744)	(7,803)	(10,693)	(11,482)	(11,786)
Invested capital * Includes convertibles and preferred stock which is be	57,791	51,646	47,488	45,974	44,956
<u> </u>	ing treated as debt				
Per share (THB) Book value per share	2.04	0.65	0.72	0.81	0.90
Tangible book value per share	(0.35)	(1.29)	(1.12)	(1.04)	(0.94)
Financial strength		, ,	, ,	, ,	, ,
Net debt/equity (%)	236.4	540.0	406.1	336.3	283.0
Net debt/total assets (%)	55.9	66.4	58.0	51.5	46.5
Current ratio (x)	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.9
CF interest cover (x)	(1.5)	(2.9)	2.3	3.0	2.8
Valuation	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Recurring P/E (x) *	(5.5)	(4.7)	27.0	21.1	18.9
Recurring P/E @ target price (x) *	(7.5)	(6.5)	37.0	28.9	25.9
Reported P/E (x)	(4.0)	(4.1)	27.0	21.1	18.9
Dividend yield (%)	-	-	1.5	1.9	2.1
Price/book (x)	1.3	4.1	3.8	3.3	3.0
Price/tangible book (x)	(7.7)	(2.1) (59.3)	(2.4) 7.7	(2.6) 7.1	(2.9)
E\//EDITDA /v\ **		124.41	1.1	7.1	6.7
* *	(20.0)				QΛ
EV/EBITDA (x) ** EV/EBITDA @ target price (x) ** EV/invested capital (x)	(23.1) 1.1	(68.8) 1.5	9.1 1.5	8.4 1.5	8.0 1.5

Sources: Asia Aviation; 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) 1

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).

Corporate Governance Report Disclaimer

The disclosure of the survey result of the Thai Institute of Directors Association ("IOD") regarding corporate governance is made pursuant to the policy of the Office of the Securities and Exchange Commission. The survey of the IOD is based on the information of companies listed on the Stock Exchange of Thailand and the Market of Alternative Investment disclosed to the public and able to be accessed by a general public investor at https://pneckstream.org/. The result, therefore, is from the perspective of a third party. It is not an evaluation of operation and is not based on inside information.

The survey result is as of the data appearing in the Corporate Governance Report of Thai Listed Companies. As a result, the survey result may be changed after that date. **FSSIA** does not confirm nor certify the accuracy of such survey result.

AGM Checklist by the Thai Investors Association (TIA) 2

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)3

A <u>CAC certified member</u> 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 <u>CAC Council</u> 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)⁴ by the Stock Exchange of Thailand (<u>SET</u>)

Thailand Sustainability Investment (THSI) quantifies responsibility in <u>E</u>nvironmental, and <u>S</u>ocial issues, by managing business with transparency in <u>G</u>overnance. 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 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 Indices⁵ (DJSI) during the assessment year. The scoring will be fairly weighted against the nature of the relevant industry and materiality.

Note that, from the <u>THSI list</u>, the SET further developed a sustainability <u>SETTHSI Index</u> 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:

¹ Thai Institute of Directors Association (<u>Thai IOD</u>) 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.

² 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.

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.

⁴ Sustainability Investment List (THSI), created by the Stock Exchange of Thailand in 2015, comprises the listed companies that conduct sustainable business operations.

⁵ 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

Teerapol Udomvej, CFA FSS International Investment Advisory Securities Co., Ltd

The individual(s) identified above certify(ies) that (i) all views expressed in this report accurately reflect the personal view of the analyst(s) with regard to any and all of the subject securities, companies or issuers mentioned in this report; and (ii) no part of the compensation of the analyst(s) was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or views expressed herein.

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History of change in investment rating and/or target price



Date	Rating	Target price	Date	Rating	Target price	Date	Rating	Target price
21-Dec-2020 29-Mar-2021 18-May-2021	BUY BUY BUY	3.40 3.80 3.40	16-Aug-2021 21-Oct-2021 07-Jun-2022	BUY BUY BUY	3.20 3.50 3.40	31-Oct-2022	BUY	3.70

Teerapol Udomvej, CFA started covering this stock from 21-Dec-2020

Price and TP are in local currency

Source: FSSIA estimates

Company	Ticker	Price	Rating	Valuation & Risks
Asia Aviation	AAV TB	THB 2.70	BUY	Downside risks to our P/BV multiple target price include 1) extraordinary events such as political turmoil and natural disasters; 2) higher-than-expected fuel expenses following an increase in oil prices; and 3) the slower-than-expected recovery of international tourist numbers.

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 Finansia 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 Finansia Syrus Securities Public Company Limited, which is the parent company of FSSIA.

All share prices are as at market close on 11-Aug-2023 unless otherwise stated.

RECOMMENDATION STRUCTURE

Stock ratings

Stock ratings are based on absolute upside or downside, which we define as (target price* - current price) / 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.