**EQUITY RESEARCH - RESULTS FLASH** 

# ZEN CORPORATION GROUP

ZEN TB

THAILAND / FOOD & BEVERAGE



THB15.50

**THB9.95** 

+55.8%

+8.6%

## 3Q23 results at first glance

## กำไร 3Q23 ต่ำกว่าคาดถึง 18% ลดลงทั้ง q-q, y-y

#### **Highlights**

- ZEN กำไรสุทธิ 3Q23 เท่ากับ 40 ลบ. (-12.5% q-q, -21.3% y-y) ต่ำกว่าคาดถึง
   18% มาจากอัตรากำไรขั้นตันที่ต่ำกว่าคาด และค่าใช้จ่ายที่มากกว่าคาด
- รายได้รวมทำได้ดีกว่าคาดโดยเติบโต +4% q-q, +11% y-y แม้ SSSG พลิกเป็น 4.5% y-y จาก +3.1% y-y ใน 3Q23 แต่ด้วยรายได้ที่ดีของสาขาใหม่ ทำให้รายได้ ร้านอาหารยังโตสวนทางฤดูกาล +2.9% q-q, +11% y-y กอปรกับรายได้ของธุรกิจ ค้าปลีกยังเร่งขึ้นต่อเนื่อง +21% q-q, +57% y-y ทำให้สัดส่วนรายได้ค้าปลีกขยับ ขึ้นเป็น 15% จาก 10.7% ของรายได้รวมใน 3Q22
- อัตรากำไรขั้นตันต่ำกว่าคาด 60 bps อยู่ที่ 43.1% เป็นการลดลงทั้ง q-q และ y-y ส่วนหนึ่งเป็นผลจาก Product Mix เพราะสัดส่วนรายได้ค้าปลีกที่มาร์จิ้นต่ำกว่า สูงขึ้น และยังถูกกระทบจากต้นทุนวัตถุดิบอาหารที่ปรับตัวสูงขึ้น
- ค่าใช้จ่ายในการขายและบริหารยังปรับขึ้น +5.5% q-q, +4.9% y-y มาจากการ เพิ่มขึ้นของค่าเช่า ค่าสาธารณูปโภค และค่าใช้จ่ายพนักงาน ทำให้ SG&A to sales อยู่ที่ 37.2% สูงขึ้นจาก 36.6% ใน 2Q23 แต่ลดลงจาก 39.3% ใน 3Q22 เพราะรายได้สูงขึ้น

#### Outlook

- บริษัทมีกำไรสุทธิ 9M23 เท่ากับ 120 ลบ. +21% y-y คิดเป็น 70% ของประมาณ การทั้งปี แนวโน้มกำไร 4Q23 น่าจะกลับมาฟื้นตัว q-q แต่อาจทรงถึงปรับลง y-y เพราะฐานสูงในปีก่อน โดยการฟื้น q-q ถือว่าสอดคล้องกับปัจจัยฤดูกาล ที่เป็น High Season ของทั้งธุรกิจร้านอาหารและค้าปลีก รวมถึงคาดหวังเห็นตันทุน วัตถุดิบเริ่มปรับลง โดยเฉพาะปลาแซลมอน หลังใช้สต็อกราคาสูงหมดไป
- เรายังคงประมาณการกำไรสุทธิปี 2023-24 ไว้ตามเดิม 172 ลบ. (+12% y-y) และ
   200 ลบ. (+16% y-y) ตามลำดับ ราคาหุ้นปัจจุบันเทรดที่ PE2024 เพียง 15x

### **KEY STOCK DATA**

YE Dec (THB m)	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Revenue	3,383	3,815	4,139	4,420
Net profit	154	172	200	217
EPS (THB)	0.51	0.57	0.67	0.72
vs Consensus (%)	-	(2.6)	(1.9)	(1.8)
EBITDA	594	687	779	864
Recurring net profit	154	172	200	217
Core EPS (THB)	0.51	0.57	0.67	0.72
EPS growth (%)	nm	11.9	16.0	8.8
Core P/E (x)	19.4	17.3	14.9	13.7
Dividend yield (%)	1.6	1.7	2.0	2.2
EV/EBITDA (x)	6.0	5.3	4.5	3.9
Price/book (x)	2.3	2.1	1.9	1.8
Net debt/Equity (%)	39.5	38.2	26.2	17.1
ROE (%)	12.8	12.8	13.6	13.4

**TARGET PRICE** 

**UP/DOWNSIDE** 

TP vs CONSENSUS

CLOSE



1 Month	3 Month	12 Month
(8.7)	(14.2)	(40.4)
(4.5)	(5.0)	(30.2)
		83
		0.0
		27
AGB Si	bling Holdii	ngs (25%)
		19.20/9.50
		300.00
	(8.7) (4.5)	(8.7) (14.2) (4.5) (5.0) AGB Sibling Holdin

Sources: Bloomberg consensus; FSSIA estimates



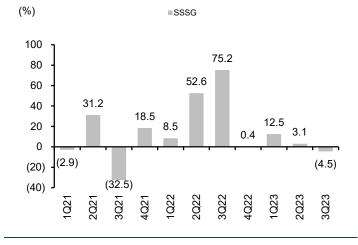
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Exhibit 1: ZEN - 3Q23 results summary

	3Q22	4Q22	1Q23	2Q23	3Q23	Char	nge	9M22	9M23	Change
	(THB m)	(q-q%)	(y-y%)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(y-y%)				
Sales	900	938	907	961	999	4.0	11.0	2,445	2,867	17.2
Cost of sales	480	513	509	543	569	4.8	18.5	1,324	1,621	22.4
Gross profit	420	425	397	418	430	2.9	2.5	1,121	1,246	11.1
SG&A	354	351	347	352	371	5.5	4.9	978	1,071	9.5
Operating profit	76	81	57	72	63	(11.8)	(17.5)	165	191	15.8
Interest expense	8	7	10	10	11	4.8	29.1	26	30	17.6
Tax expense	13	13	8	12	7	(40.5)	(48.3)	26	27	3.2
Reported net profit	51	55	34	46	40	(12.5)	(21.3)	99	120	20.8
Core profit	51	55	34	46	40	(12.5)	(21.3)	99	120	20.8
Key ratios (%)						(ppt)	(ppt)			
Gross margin	46.6	45.3	43.8	43.5	43.1	(0.5)	(3.6)	45.8	43.5	(2.4)
SG&A to sales	39.3	37.5	38.3	36.6	37.2	0.5	(2.2)	40.0	37.4	(2.7)
Operating margin	8.5	8.6	6.2	7.4	6.3	(1.1)	(2.2)	6.7	6.7	(0.1)
Net margin	5.6	5.8	3.8	4.8	4.0	(0.8)	(1.6)	4.1	4.2	0.1
Core margin	5.6	5.8	3.8	4.8	4.0	(0.8)	(1.6)	4.1	4.2	0.1
Operating statistics										
SSSG (%)	75.2	0.4	12.5	3.1	(4.5)			39.9	3.1	
Total stores (no.)	356	345	339	327	329	0.6	(7.6)	356	329	(7.6)
Restaurant sales (THB m)	683	728	706	735	756	2.9	10.7	1,784	2,197	23.2
Franchise sales (THB m)	58	60	52	56	51	(8.9)	(12.1)	171	159	(7.0)
Delivery and catering (THB m)	64	52	47	45	41	(8.9)	(35.9)	199	133	(33.2)
Retail sales (THB m)	96	98	101	125	151	20.8	57.3	291	377	29.6

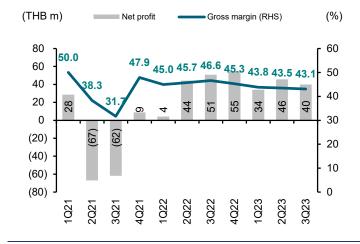
Sources: ZEN; FSSIA's compilation

Exhibit 2: Quarterly same-store-sale growth



Sources: ZEN; FSSIA's compilation

Exhibit 3: Quarterly net profit and gross margin



Sources: ZEN; FSSIA's compilation

## **Financial Statements**

Zen Corporation Group

Profit and Loss (THB m) Year Ending Dec	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Revenue	2,209	3,383	3,815	4,139	4,420
Cost of goods sold	(1,243)	(1,838)	(2,137)	(2,309)	(2,453)
Gross profit	966	1,546	1,679	1,829	1,967
Other operating income	47	30	31	33	35
Operating costs	(1,072)	(1,330)	(1,431)	(1,552)	(1,666)
Operating EBITDA	304	594	687	779	864
Depreciation	(363)	(348)	(408)	(468)	(528)
Goodwill amortisation	0	0	0	0	0
Operating EBIT	(59)	246	279	310	336
Net financing costs	(38)	(33)	(44)	(40)	(37)
Associates	(2)	(2)	0	0	0
Recurring non-operating income	(2)	(2)	0	0	0
Non-recurring items	(13)	0	0	0	0
Profit before tax	(112)	211	234	270	299
Гах	23	(39)	(43)	(49)	(60)
Profit after tax	(89)	172	191	221	239
Minority interests	(3)	(18)	(19)	(21)	(22)
Preferred dividends	-	-	-	-	
Other items	-	-	-	-	
Reported net profit	(92)	154	172	200	217
Non-recurring items & goodwill (net)	13	0	0	0	0
Recurring net profit	(78)	154	172	200	217
Per share (THB)					
Recurring EPS *	(0.26)	0.51	0.57	0.67	0.72
Reported EPS	(0.31)	0.51	0.57	0.67	0.72
DPS .	0.00	0.16	0.17	0.20	0.22
Diluted shares (used to calculate per share data)	300	300	300	300	300
Growth					
Revenue (%)	(3.3)	53.2	12.8	8.5	6.8
Operating EBITDA (%)	(13.0)	95.4	15.6	13.4	11.0
Operating EBIT (%)	nm	nm	13.3	11.5	8.2
Recurring EPS (%)	nm	nm	11.9	16.0	8.8
Reported EPS (%)	nm	nm	11.9	16.0	8.8
Operating performance					
Gross margin inc. depreciation (%)	43.7	45.7	44.0	44.2	44.5
Gross margin exc. depreciation (%)	60.2	56.0	54.7	55.5	56.4
Operating EBITDA margin (%)	13.8	17.6	18.0	18.8	19.5
Operating EBIT margin (%)	(2.7)	7.3	7.3	7.5	7.6
Net margin (%)	(3.5)	4.5	4.5	4.8	4.9
Effective tax rate (%)	20.8	18.4	18.3	18.3	20.0
Dividend payout on recurring profit (%)	-	31.2	30.0	30.0	30.0
nterest cover (X)	(1.6)	7.5	6.3	7.7	9.2
nventory days	43.8	46.6	54.9	54.3	55.7
Debtor days	11.0	8.0	8.2	6.7	5.8
Creditor days	118.4	80.3	72.7	72.4	74.2
Operating ROIC (%)	(3.4)	16.9	21.1	23.2	25.2
ROIC (%)	(2.5)	10.0	10.7	11.6	12.4
ROE (%)	(6.7)	12.8	12.8	13.6	13.4
ROA (%)	(1.7)	7.4	7.9	8.6	8.7
* Pre exceptional, pre-goodwill and fully diluted					
Revenue by Division (THB m)	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
	1,582	2,510	2,900	3,135	3,350
Restaurant			*	*	,
Restaurant Franchise	206	231	229	252	266
	206 321	231 252	229 184	252 193	266 203

Sources: Zen Corporation Group; FSSIA estimates

## **Financial Statements**

Zen Corporation Group

Zen Corporation Group					
Cash Flow (THB m) Year Ending Dec	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Recurring net profit	(78)	154	172	200	217
Depreciation	363	348	408	468	528
Associates & minorities	2	2	0	0	0
Other non-cash items	37	29	2	1	1
Change in working capital	14	(102)	28	32	9
Cash flow from operations	338	431	610	701	755
Capex - maintenance	-	-	-	-	-
Capex - new investment	(158)	0	(480)	(480)	(550)
Net acquisitions & disposals	(42)	(390)	(83)	(32)	(28)
Other investments (net)	-	-	-	-	-
Cash flow from investing	(199)	(390)	(563)	(512)	(578)
Dividends paid	-	0	(52)	(60)	(65)
Equity finance	0	0	0	0	0
Debt finance	(141)	6	(54)	(70)	(70)
Other financing cash flows	2	2 <b>8</b>	(24)	9	(407)
Cash flow from financing	(139)	-	(129)	(121)	(127)
Non-recurring cash flows	0	- 11	0	0	0
Other adjustments  Net other adjustments	<b>0</b>	11	0	0	0
Movement in cash	(1)	60	(82)	68	50
Free cash flow to firm (FCFF)	175.84	73.98	91.50	229.03	213.85
Free cash flow to equity (FCFE)	(1.01)	60.15	(30.61)	127.96	115.41
	(1.01)	55.15	(00.01)	127.00	110.11
Per share (THB)	0.59	0.25	0.31	0.76	0.71
FCFF per share FCFE per share	0.59	0.25 0.20	(0.10)	0.76	0.71
Recurring cash flow per share	1.08	1.78	1.94	2.23	2.49
Balance Sheet (THB m) Year Ending Dec	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
•					
Tangible fixed assets (gross)	2,445	2,124	2,246	2,311	2,388
Less: Accumulated depreciation  Tangible fixed assets (net)	(972) <b>1,472</b>	(1,006)	(1,057)	(1,110) <b>1,201</b>	(1,165) <b>1,223</b>
Intangible fixed assets (net)	290	1,118 353	1,190 353	353	353
Long-term financial assets	4	326	326	326	326
Invest. in associates & subsidiaries	-	-	-	-	520
Cash & equivalents	268	327	245	313	363
A/C receivable	61	88	84	68	73
Inventories	124	256	263	285	302
Other current assets	42	57	46	50	53
Current assets	495	729	638	716	791
Other assets	296	299	382	414	442
Total assets	2,557	2,824	2,888	3,010	3,136
Common equity	1,122	1,281	1,401	1,541	1,693
Minorities etc.	37	66	67	68	69
Total shareholders' equity	1,159	1,346	1,469	1,610	1,763
Long term debt	650	535	485	415	345
Other long-term liabilities	133	135	111	120	128
Long-term liabilities	784	670	596	536	474
A/C payable	319	337	351	380	403
Short term debt	202	324	320	320	320
Other current liabilities	93	147	153	166	177
Current liabilities	614	808	824	865	900
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	2,557	2,824	2,888	3,010	3,136
Net working capital	(185)	(83)	(111)	(143)	(152)
Invested capital  * Includes convertibles and preferred stock which is being	1,878	2,013	2,140	2,152	2,193
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	g treated as debt				
Per share (THB)	0.74	4.07	4.07		<b>5</b> 04
Book value per share	3.74	4.27	4.67	5.14	5.64
Tangible book value per share	2.77	3.09	3.49	3.96	4.47
Financial strength					
Net debt/equity (%)	50.5	39.5	38.2	26.2	17.1
Net debt/total assets (%)	22.9	18.8	19.4	14.0	9.6
Current ratio (x)	0.8 5.2	0.9 2.8	0.8	0.8	0.9
CF interest cover (x)			11.1	16.0	19.2
Valuation	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
	(38.1)	19.4 30.2	17.3	14.9	13.7
Recurring P/E (x) *		30.2	27.0	23.3	<b>21.4</b> 13.7
Recurring P/E @ target price (x) *	(59.4)		47 0		14/
Recurring P/E @ target price (x) * Reported P/E (x)	<b>(59.4)</b> (32.6)	19.4	17.3	14.9	
Recurring P/E @ target price (x) * Reported P/E (x) Dividend yield (%)	(32.6)	19.4 1.6	1.7	2.0	2.2
Recurring P/E @ target price (x) * Reported P/E (x) Dividend yield (%) Price/book (x)	(32.6) - 2.7	19.4 1.6 2.3	1.7 2.1	2.0 1.9	2.2 1.8
Recurring P/E @ target price (x) * Reported P/E (x) Dividend yield (%) Price/book (x) Price/tangible book (x)	(32.6) - 2.7 3.6	19.4 1.6 2.3 3.2	1.7 2.1 2.8	2.0 1.9 2.5	2.2 1.8 2.2
Recurring P/E @ target price (x) * Reported P/E (x) Dividend yield (%) Price/book (x) Price/tangible book (x) EV/EBITDA (x) **	(32.6) - 2.7 3.6 11.9	19.4 1.6 2.3 3.2 6.0	1.7 2.1 2.8 5.3	2.0 1.9 2.5 4.5	2.2 1.8 2.2 3.9
Recurring P/E @ target price (x) * Reported P/E (x) Dividend yield (%) Price/book (x) Price/tangible book (x)	(32.6) - 2.7 3.6	19.4 1.6 2.3 3.2	1.7 2.1 2.8	2.0 1.9 2.5	2.2 1.8 2.2

Sources: Zen Corporation Group; FSSIA estimates

## **Disclaimer for ESG scoring**

	or Loo ocorning									
ESG score	Methodology			Rating						
The Dow Jones Sustainability Indices ( <u>DJSI</u> ) By S&P Global	process based on the from the annual S&P	ies a transparent, rules-bas e companies' Total Sustain Global Corporate Sustaina companies within each indu	ability Scores resulting ability Assessment (CSA).	Be a member and invited to the annual S&P Global Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA) for DJSI. Companies with an S&P Glob ESG Score of less than 45% of the S&P Global ESG Score of the higher scoring company are disqualified. The constituents of the DJSI indices a selected from the Eligible Universe.					ghest	
Sustainability Investment List (THSI) by The Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET)	managing business w Candidates must pas 1) no irregular trading float of >150 shareho up capital. Some key 70%; 2) independent wrongdoing related to	with transparency in Govern s the preemptive criteria, v g of the board members an iders, and combined holdin disqualifying criteria include directors and free float vio to CG, social & environment	oility in Environmental and Social issues by ransparency in Governance, updated annually. The preemptive criteria, with two crucial conditions: the board members and executives; and 2) free s, and combined holding must be >15% of paid-jualifying criteria include: 1) CG score of below ctors and free float violation; 3) executives' is, social & environmental impacts; 4) equity in earnings in red for > 3 years in the last 5 years.			To be eligible for <b>THSI inclusion</b> , verified data must be scored at a minimum of 50% for each indicator, unless the company is a part of DJS during the assessment year. The scoring will be fairly weighted against to nature of the relevant industry and materiality. <b>SETTHSI Index</b> is extended from the THSI companies whose 1) market capitalization > 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 maximum, and no cap for number of stocks.				
oy Thai nstitute of Directors Association Thai IOD)	annually by the Thai I	rength in sustainable devel IOD, with support from the results are from the perspe ations.	Stock Exchange of	Good (80-89), and not rated equitable treat	3 for Good ( for scores be ment of sha (25%); 4) dis	(70-79), 2 for F elow 50. Weigh reholders (weig	air (60-69), 1 tings include <sub>I</sub> ht 25% com	100), 4 for Very for Pass (60-69 : 1) the rights; 2 bined); 3) the ro %); and 5) board	9), 2) an ole o	
AGM level By Thai nvestors Association (TIA) with support from the SEC	treatment are incorportansparent and suffic out of five the CG cor- assessment criteria ce the meeting date (45% advance circulation of surights can be exercised transparency and verifials	at to which shareholders' rigorated into business operationated into business operationated disclosed. All form in a cover AGM procedures before, and after the meeting (ifficient information for voting: a The second assesses 1) the explicitly; and 3) openness for Q&A build contain discussion issues,	ions and information is mportant elements of two annually. The ore the meeting (45%), at (10%). (The first assesses 1) and 2) facilitating how voting ase of attending meetings; 2). The third involves the					cellent (100), 4 ir scores below		
Thai CAC By Thai Private Sector Collective Action Against Corruption (CAC)	establishment of key oplicies. The Certifica (Companies deciding to be Declaration of Intent to kit Certification, including ris	the Checklist include corrucontrols, and the monitorination is good for three years become a CAC certified membrick off an 18-month deadline to ke assessment, in place of policies, establishment of whistleblows to all stakeholders.)	ng and developing of s. er start by submitting a o submit the CAC Checklist for cy and control, training of	passed Check approvals who	list will move se members	e for granting c	ertification by hly respecte	e professionals. r the CAC Coun d individuals in	ncil	
Morningstar Sustainalytics	based on an assessmirisk is unmanaged. So	SG risk rating provides an nent of how much of a com ources to be reviewed include of	npany's exposure to ESG corporate publications and			ng score is the he higher ESG		anaged risk. Th d.	e	
		nd other media, NGO reports/vedback, ESG controversies, isser reviews.		<b>NEGL</b> 0-10	<b>Low</b> 10-20	Medium 20-30	<b>High</b> 30-40	Severe 40+		
ESG Book	positioned to outperfor the principle of financ helps explain future ri	ifies sustainable companie orm over the long term. The cial materiality including info isk-adjusted performance. es with higher materiality a uarterly basis.	e methodology considers ormation that significantly Materiality is applied by	scores using n	nateriality-ba	culated as a we ased weights. T s indicating bet	he score is s	caled between	0	
MSCI			s management of financially g to their exposure to ESG r						gy to	
		10.000 Leader:	leading its industry in r	nanaging the most s	significant ESC	G risks and opport	unities			
		-8.570 -7.142								
		-5.713 <b>Average:</b>	a mixed or unexception	nal track record of m	anaging the n	nost significant ES	SG risks and o	portunities relativ	/e to	
		-4.285	industry peers							
		-2.856 Laggard:	lagging its industry bas	ed on its high expo	sure and failur	e to manage sign	ificant ESG ris	ks		
4		-1.428			1 - <b>f</b> : - ; i:	d incode: 1.11			14	
Moody's ESG solutions	believes that a compa		iles take into account ESG on the sinto its business model ar the medium to long term.							
Refinitiv ESG rating	based on publicly ava	ailable and auditable data.	sure a company's relative ES The score ranges from 0 to gs are 0 to 25 = poor; >25 to 50	100 on relative I	SG perform	nance and insu	fficient degre			
S&P Global			measuring a company's per classification. The score rar			nt of ESG risks	s, opportuniti	es, and impacts	3	
Bloomberg	ESG Score	<u>*</u>	valuating the company's ago		mental, Soci					
		score is based on B	lloomberg's view of ESG finere the weights are determine							

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"; 2) "AGM Level"; 3) "Thai CAC"; and 4) THSI. The ratings are updated on an annual basis. FSSIA does not confirm nor certify the accuracy of such ratings.

Source: FSSIA's compilation

#### **GENERAL DISCLAIMER**

#### ANALYST(S) CERTIFICATION

#### Sureeporn Teewasuwet 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



Sureeporn Teewasuwet started covering this stock from 07-Feb-2023

Price and TP are in local currency

Source: FSSIA estimates

Company	Ticker	Price	Rating	Valuation & Risks
Zen Corporation Group	ZEN TB	THB 9.95	BUY	Downside risks to our P/E-based TP include 1) a slower-than-expected consumption recovery; 2) a potential rise in raw material costs; 3) lower-than-expected new store expansion; and 4) a minimum wage increase and labour shortages.

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.

All share prices are as at market close on 14-Nov-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.