**EQUITY RESEARCH - COMPANY REPORT** 

## ASIA AVIATION AAV TB

THAILAND / TRANSPORT & LOGISTICS

## Accelerating on domestic and Chinese pax

- Expect core earnings to turn profitable in 4Q23, driven by strong domestic passenger volume; momentum to continue in 1Q24, led by improving demand for China routes following visa-free scheme.
- Expect 2024 ticket fares to exceed pre-Covid by 30-35%.
- Maintain BUY with TP of THB2.8/shr, based on 25x 2024E P/E.

## Domestic ticket fares should increase by 15-20% q-q in 4Q23

We believe AAV's strategy to increase the flight capacity of its domestic routes (+15-20% q-q) in 4Q23 worked well and captured the strong demand over the high season. The load factor of domestic routes should remain strong at 93%, with ticket fares increasing to THB1,400-1,500 in 4Q23E (vs cTHB1,200 in 3Q23). Thus, we forecast 4Q23 core profit to turn around to THB0.1b (see page 4). The momentum should continue in 1Q24 with higher demand for China routes premised on the improving load factor of China routes to 91% in Dec-24 from 80% in Sep-23.

## China route flights to recover to 60% of pre-Covid in 1Q24

AAV should be one of the top beneficiaries of a reciprocal visa-free scheme for Thai and Chinese citizens staring in Mar-24. We expect the revenue contribution of China routes to end at 12% in 2023, and should improve to 15-20% in 2024 (vs 21% at pre-Covid level). In addition, the Thai passenger demand for China routes should increase from 10-12% normally to 20-30% per flight. AAV aims to increase the flight capacity of its China routes from 77 flights/week in Dec-23 to an average of 80-90 flights in 1Q24 (vs 140 flights at pre-Covid level). Forward bookings for China routes are still promising at 68% in Jan-24 and 40% in Feb-24 (vs overall international routes at 60% and 33%, respectively).

#### **Expect 2024 earnings to turn profitable**

We expect a core profit of THB1.4b in 2024. Passenger volume should grow from 18.9m in 2023 to 20-21m in 2024 (vs 22.1m in 2019), as AAV plans to increase its fleet from 56 (50 active) in 2023 to 60 (57 active) in 2024. The key growth driver would be ticket fares, which ramped up to cTHB2,000 in 4Q23, and management expects it to be the base in 2024 (vs THB1,478 in 2019 and THB1,770 in 2023E). We conservatively assume THB1,930 in 2024. Our sensitivity analysis suggests that that every THB50 increase would lift our 2024E profit by THB0.8b.

#### Cut 2023E and maintain 2024-25E earnings

We cut our 2023 core profit forecast by THB0.2b to reflect our 4Q23 preview and higher-than-expected maintenance costs. We maintain our 2024-25 forecast. We change our valuation method to P/E multiple as we see a high potential for earnings to turn profitable, and peg it at 25x 2024E P/E to derive a TP of THB2.8/shr.



# BUY

#### **UNCHANGE**

TARGET PRICE	THB2.80
CLOSE	THB2.10
UP/DOWNSIDE	+33.3%
PRIOR TP	THB2.80
CHANGE IN TP	UNCHANGED
TP vs CONSENSUS	+3.5%

#### **KEY STOCK DATA**

YE Dec (THB m)	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Revenue	18,012	42,327	50,055	52,736
Net profit	(8,030)	(243)	1,441	1,770
EPS (THB)	(0.66)	(0.02)	0.11	0.14
vs Consensus (%)	-	nm	(4.3)	(31.4)
EBITDA	(1,278)	6,542	9,120	9,751
Recurring net profit	(6,946)	(196)	1,441	1,770
Core EPS (THB)	(0.57)	(0.02)	0.11	0.14
Chg. In EPS est. (%)	nm	nm	0.0	0.0
EPS growth (%)	nm	nm	nm	22.8
Core P/E (x)	(3.7)	(137.5)	18.7	15.2
Dividend yield (%)	-	-	2.1	2.6
EV/EBITDA (x)	(53.6)	10.1	7.0	6.3
Price/book (x)	3.2	3.5	2.9	2.6
Net debt/Equity (%)	540.0	510.7	402.2	331.4
ROE (%)	(49.3)	(2.5)	17.1	18.2



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Share price performance	1 Month	3 Month	12 Month				
Absolute (%)	5.5	(12.5)	(30.9)				
Relative to country (%)	3.1	(11.2)	(17.3)				
Mkt cap (USD m)			772				
3m avg. daily turnover (USD m)			2.7				
Free float (%)			38				
Major shareholder	AirAsia A	viation Lim	ited (43%)				
12m high/low (THB)	3.14/1.78						
Issued shares (m)			12,164.29				

Sources: Bloomberg consensus; FSSIA estimates



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#### Investment thesis

We believe AAV is on track for a recovery and expect its passenger volume to recover in 2024. AAV should continue to gain more market share in the domestic market following a faster capacity ramp-up than its peers. Meanwhile, AAV should be able to capture the strong recovery of Chinese tourists, whose volume should recover from 31% of the pre-Covid level in 2023 to 50-60% in 2024.

We also expect that its cost structure will be able to support its operational turnaround, especially its staff costs. AAV has reduced its headcount since the Covid pandemic along with aircraft lease payments, as it has negotiated with lessors to restructure lease contracts.

AAV has started to collect fuel surcharges for both domestic and international routes. This should drive ticket fares to exceed the pre-Covid level and offset rising fuel prices.

### Company profile

AAV owns 100% of Thai AirAsia (TAA, not listed), which is the leading low-cost carrier in Thailand. TAA serves travellers throughout Asia, the Middle East and Europe.

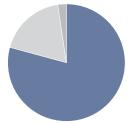
www.aavplc.com

## Principal activities (revenue, 2022)

■ Ticket sales - 79.2 %

Ancillaries - 18.4 %

Other revenue - 2.4 %



Source: Asia Aviation

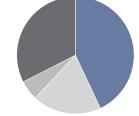
## **Major shareholders**

AirAsia Aviation Limited - 43.0 %

■ Mr.Tassapon Bijleveld - 19.0 %

■ Thai NVDR - 5.5 %

■ Others - 32.5 %



Source: Asia Aviation

### **Catalysts**

Key potential growth drivers include: 1) a higher number of passengers carried following a global tourism recovery; 2) lower jet fuel prices; and 3) strong pent-up demand from Chinese tourists.

#### Risks to our call

Downside risks to our P/E 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.

#### **Event calendar**

Date	Event
Feb 2024	4Q23 results announcement

## Key assumptions

	2023E	2024E	2025E
Number of aircraft (no.)	56	60	60
Pax carried (m)	18.9	20.8	21.6
Load factor (%)	90.0	89.0	89.0
Average ticket fare (THB)	1,781	1,930	1,949
Ancillaries per pax (THB/pax)	404	412	424
Fuel price net hedging (USD/bbl)	110	115	115

Source: FSSIA estimates

#### Earnings sensitivity

- For every 1% increase in load factor, we project a 2024 profit increase of 17% and vice versa, all else being equal.
- For every 1% increase in average ticket fare, we project a 2024 profit increase of 12% and vice versa, all else being equal
- For every 1% increase in Brent spot price, we project a 2024 profit reduction of 5% and vice versa, all else being equal.

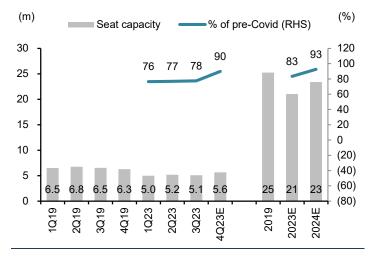
Source: FSSIA estimates

#### **Exhibit 1: Monthly Chinese tourist arrivals**



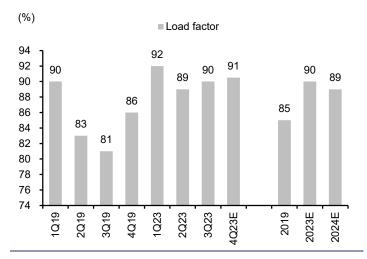
Sources: Ministry of Tourism and Sports (MOTS); FSSIA estimates

#### **Exhibit 3: Seat capacity**



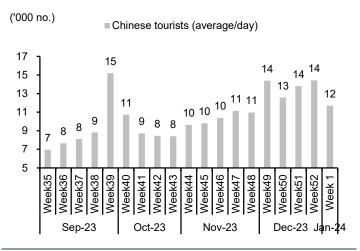
Source: AAV

#### **Exhibit 5: Load factor**



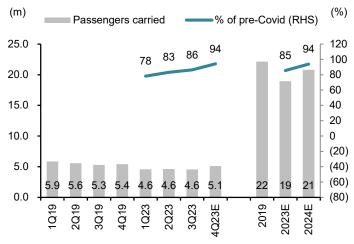
Source: AAV

#### **Exhibit 2: Weekly Chinese tourist arrivals**



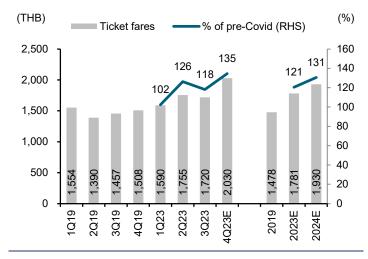
Source: Economic Tourism and Sports Division

#### **Exhibit 4: Passengers carried**



Source: AAV

## **Exhibit 6: Average ticket fare**



Source: AAV

## **4Q23 results preview**

We estimate 4Q23 passenger volume to grow by 12% q-q to 5.1m, accounting for 94% of the pre-Covid level (vs 86% in 3Q23), with domestic and international passenger numbers recovering to 97% and 90% of pre-Covid, respectively. Load factor should remain strong at 91% (vs 86% in 4Q19). We estimate the average ticket fare to grow by 18% q-q to THB2,030, exceeding pre-Covid by 35%.

Overall, we estimate 4Q23 revenue to grow by 28% q-q to THB12.7b, exceeding pre-Covid by 24%. Total expenses should increase by 11% q-q, mainly due to fuel expenses which should jump by 20% q-q. The jet fuel spot price is likely to be flat q-q (USD108/bbl in 4Q23E vs USD110/bbl in 3Q22), but it will be hit by additional excise tax expenses for domestic flights given that AAV has heavily increased the flight capacity of its domestic routes by 15-20% q-q.

As a result, we forecast a core profit of THB0.1b in 4Q23, turning around from a core loss of THB0.8b in 3Q23. In addition, AAV should book a cTHB2.0b FX gain on its lease labilities due to the appreciation of the THB vs USD, resulting in a 4Q23E net profit of THB2.1b.

Exhibit 7: 4Q23 results preview

	4Q22	1Q23	2Q23	3Q23	4Q23E	Chan	ge	2023E
	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(q-q %)	(y-y %)	(THB m)
Sales	8,507	9,252	10,399	9,899	12,674	28	49	42,327
- Passenger revenue	6,709	7,283	8,148	7,835	10,369	32	55	33,717
- Other revenue	1,798	1,969	2,251	2,064	2,305	12	28	8,610
Expense	(8,275)	(8,581)	(9,691)	(10,541)	(11,680)	11	41	(40,595
- Fuel and oil	(3,369)	(3,190)	(3,369)	(4,010)	(4,811)	20	43	(15,382
- Non-fuel operating expenses	(4,905)	(5,391)	(6,322)	(6,531)	(6,869)	5	40	(25,213
Operating Profit	232	671	708	(642)	994	(255)	328	1,732
Interest income	8	7	9	7	7	0	(5)	4
Interest expense	(484)	(494)	(549)	(596)	(596)	0	23	(2,236
Pretax profit	(244)	184	169	(1,231)	405	(133)	(266)	(500
Income Tax	(690)	(140)	289	429	(300)	(170)	(57)	304
Core profit (AAV)	(934)	44	458	(802)	105	113	111	(196
Extraordinaries	4,048	316	(1,470)	(893)	2,000	(324)	(51)	(47
- FX gain (loss)	3,712	563	(1,391)	(813)	2,000	(346)	(46)	349
- Derivative gain (loss)	(81)	(10)	0	0	0			(
- Others	417	(237)	(80)	(79)	0			(396
Minority interest	0	0	0	0	0			(
Reported net profit (AAV)	3,114	359	(1,013)	(1,695)	2,105	224	32	(243
Shares out (end Q, m)	9,879	9,879	9,879	9,879	9,879	0	0	12,850
Core EPS	(0.09)	0.00	0.05	(0.08)	0.01	(113)	(111)	(0.02
EPS	0.32	0.04	(0.10)	(0.17)	0.21	(224)	(32)	(0.02
Depreciation	(1,395)	(1,307)	(1,251)	(1,128)	(1,128)	0	(19)	(4,811
EBITDA	1,627	1,978	1,960	486	2,122	337	30	6,54
Key Ratios	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(ppt)	(ppt)	(%
Operating profit margin	3	7	7	(6)	8	14	5	4
EBITDA margin	19	21	19	5	17	12	(2)	1
Net profit margin	37	4	(10)	(17)	17	34	(20)	(1
Operating stats								
Passengers carried (m)	4.1	4.6	4.6	4.6	5.1			
Load factor (%)	90	92	89	90	91			
RPK (m seats-km)	3,774	4,417	5,148	5,219	0			
ASK (m seats-km)	4,246	4,895	5,940	5,921	6,270			
Average fare (THB)	1,652	1,590	1,755	1,720	2,030			
RASK (THB)	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.6	2.0			
CASK (THB)	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.9	2.0			
CASK ex-fuel (THB)	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.2			
Fuel cost per ASK (THB)	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.8			

Source: AAV; FSSIA estimates

**Exhibit 8: Forecast revisions** 

		Current			Previous		Change (%)			
	2023E	2024E	2025E	2023E	2024E	2025E	2023E	2024E	2025E	
Passengers carried (m)	18.9	20.8	21.6	19.3	21.2	21.5	(1.9)	(2.0)	0.8	
Load factor (%)	90	89	89	90	88	88	0.0	1.0	1.0	
Average fare (THB)	1,781	1,930	1,949	1,721	1,755	1,773	3.5	9.9	9.9	
Fuel price net hedging (USD/bbl)	110	115	115	115	120	120	(4.4)	(4.2)	(4.2)	
Revenue (THB b)	42.3	50.1	52.7	42.2	47.5	48.7	0.2	5.5	8.4	
EBITDA margin (%)	15.5	18.2	18.5	17.3	20.1	20.9	(1.9)	(1.9)	(2.4)	
Core earnings (THB m)	(196)	1,441	1,770	50	1,441	1,770	(494.7)	(0.0)	0.0	

Note: Change of items in percentage terms are represented in ppt change Sources: AAV; FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 9: Domestic passengers carried

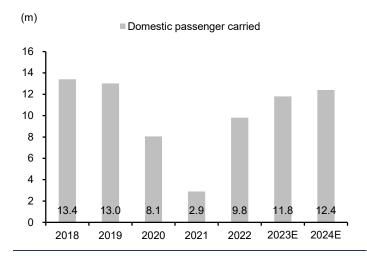
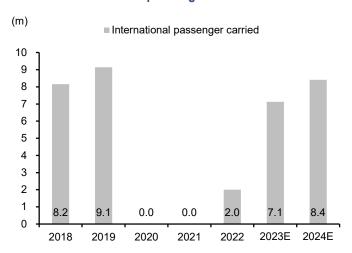


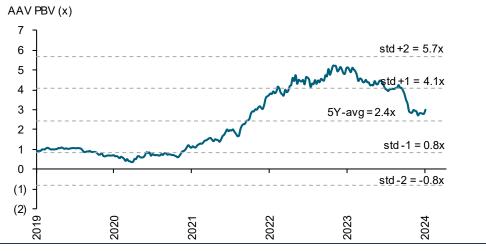
Exhibit 10: International passengers carried



Sources: AAV; FSSIA estimates

Sources: AAV; FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 11: Rolling one-year forward P/BV band



Sources: Bloomberg; FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 12: Peer comparisons, airline sector as of 10 January 2024

Company	BBG	Rec	Share p	rice	Up	Market		PE		PBV		EV/ EBITDA	
			Current	Target	side	сар	23E	24E	25E	23E	24E	23E	24E
			(LCY)	(LCY)	(%)	(USD m)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)
Thailand													
Bangkok Airways	BA TB	BUY	15.30	22.00	43.8	919	14.8	13.7	12.8	1.6	1.5	13.0	11.6
Asia Aviation	AAV TB	BUY	2.10	2.80	33.3	772	(137.5)	18.7	15.2	3.5	2.9	10.1	7.0
Thailand average						1,691	(61.4)	16.2	14.0	2.5	2.2	11.6	9.3
Regional													
Spring Airlines Co Ltd-A	601021 CH	n/a	51.85	n/a	n/a	7,077	19.8	14.2	14.2	3.1	2.6	12.5	9.5
Interglobe Aviation	INDIGO IN	n/a	3,082.15	n/a	n/a	14,202	n/a	19.2	19.2	n/a	n/a	20.8	9.4
Cebu Air Inc	CEB PM	n/a	33.40	n/a	n/a	366	5.3	3.4	3.4	9.1	2.2	6.1	5.1
Singapore Airlines	SIA SP	n/a	6.54	n/a	n/a	14,651	9.8	7.5	7.5	1.3	1.3	4.9	4.7
Japan Airlines	9201 JP	n/a	2,831.50	n/a	n/a	8,544	43.6	14.0	14.0	1.5	1.4	6.6	4.9
Ana Holdings	9202 JP	n/a	3,183.00	n/a	n/a	10,648	25.2	13.7	13.7	1.8	1.6	7.1	5.6
Cathay Pacific Airways	293 HK	n/a	8.06	n/a	n/a	6,589	6.2	7.6	7.6	0.9	8.0	4.8	5.5
Vietjet Aviation	VJC VN	n/a	105,700	n/a	n/a	2,338	66.2	25.0	25.0	3.7	3.2	28.4	15.0
Regional average						64,415	25.2	13.1	13.1	3.1	1.9	11.4	7.5
Global													
Eva Airways	2618 TT	n/a	32.00	n/a	n/a	5,612	8.1	12.4	12.4	1.7	1.6	2.9	3.5
Air New Zealand	AIR NZ	n/a	0.64	n/a	n/a	1,347	5.0	9.6	9.6	1.0	1.0	2.5	3.3
Air Arabia	AIRARABIA UH	n/a	2.95	n/a	n/a	3,748	8.5	8.9	8.9	1.9	1.7	5.6	5.7
Easyjet (UK)	EZJ LN	n/a	509.20	n/a	n/a	4,927	10.8	8.9	8.9	1.4	1.2	3.4	2.9
Gol Linhas Aereas Intel. (Brazil)	GOLL4 BS	n/a	7.93	n/a	n/a	679	n/a	6.3	6.3	n/a	n/a	4.8	4.2
JetBlue Airways (US, Latin AM)	JBLU	n/a	5.11	n/a	n/a	1,701	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.5	0.6	8.4	7.6
Norwegian Air Shuttle (Norway)	NWARF US	n/a	0.93	n/a	n/a	1,115	7.1	7.0	7.0	1.6	1.2	2.9	2.7
Southwest Airlines (US)	LUV US	n/a	29.71	n/a	n/a	17,711	21.6	19.0	19.0	1.6	1.3	6.2	5.4
Global average						36,840	10.2	10.3	10.3	1.4	1.2	4.6	4.4
Overall average						102,946	7.6	12.3	12.1	2.3	1.6	8.4	6.3

Sources: Bloomberg; FSSIA estimates

## **Financial Statements**

Asia Aviation

Profit and Loss (THB m) Year Ending Dec	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Revenue	4,117	18,012	42,327	50,055	52,736
Cost of goods sold	(11,469)	(23,693)	(37,379)	(42,523)	(44,546)
Gross profit	(7,352)	(5,681)	4,949	7,532	8,191
Other operating income	-	-	-	-	-
Operating costs	(1,236)	(1,711)	(3,217)	(3,504)	(3,692)
Operating EBITDA	(3,153)	(1,278)	6,542	9,120	9,751
Depreciation	(5,434)	(6,114)	(4,811)	(5,092)	(5,252)
Goodwill amortisation	-	-	-	-	-
Operating EBIT	(8,587)	(7,392)	1,732	4,028	4,499
Net financing costs	(1,848)	(2,190)	(2,232)	(2,234)	(2,287)
Associates	0	0	0	0	0
Recurring non-operating income	0	0	0	0	0
Non-recurring items	(1,795)	(1,084)	(47)	0	0
Profit before tax	(12,231)	(10,666)	(547)	1,794	2,212
Tax	1,741	2,452	304	(353)	(442)
Profit after tax	(10,490)	(8,214)	(243)	1,441	1,770
Minority interests	5,310	184	0	0	0
Preferred dividends	-	-	-	-	-
Other items	(1,468)	-	-	-	-
Reported net profit	(6,647)	(8,030)	(243)	1,441	1,770
Non-recurring items & goodwill (net)	1,795	1,084	47	0	0
Recurring net profit	(4,853)	(6,946)	(196)	1,441	1,770
Per share (THB)					
Recurring EPS *	(0.49)	(0.57)	(0.02)	0.11	0.14
Reported EPS	(0.67)	(0.66)	(0.02)	0.11	0.14
DPS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.06
Diluted shares (used to calculate per share data)	9,879	12,164	12,850	12,850	12,850
Growth					
Revenue (%)	(71.3)	337.5	135.0	18.3	5.4
Operating EBITDA (%)	nm	nm	nm	39.4	6.9
Operating EBIT (%)	nm	nm	nm	132.6	11.7
Recurring EPS (%)	nm	nm	nm	nm	22.8
Reported EPS (%)	nm	nm	nm	nm	22.8
Operating performance					
Gross margin inc. depreciation (%)	(178.6)	(31.5)	11.7	15.0	15.5
Gross margin exc. depreciation (%)	(46.6)	2.4	23.1	25.2	25.5
Operating EBITDA margin (%)	(76.6)	(7.1)	15.5	18.2	18.5
Operating EBIT margin (%)	(208.6)	(41.0)	4.1	8.0	8.5
Net margin (%)	(117.9)	(38.6)	(0.5)	2.9	3.4
Effective tax rate (%)	16.7	25.6	20.0	19.7	20.0
Dividend payout on recurring profit (%)	-	-	-	40.0	40.0
Interest cover (X)	(4.6)	(3.4)	0.8	1.8	2.0
Inventory days	14.2	6.6	3.7	2.7	2.9
Debtor days	122.3	25.4	7.4	6.2	5.9
Creditor days	87.4	34.3	15.9	14.5	15.1
Operating ROIC (%)	(21.3)	(18.9)	6.0	15.7	18.6
ROIC (%)	(12.3)	(10.1)	2.8	6.8	7.8
ROE (%)	(28.2)	(49.3)	(2.5)	17.1	18.2
ROA (%)	(12.4)	(8.1)	2.5	4.9	5.2
* Pre-exceptional, pre-goodwill and fully diluted					
Revenue by Division (THB m)	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Ticket sales	3,174	14,268	33,717	40,168	42,176
Ancillaries	651	3,319	7,648	8,576	9,184
Other revenue	292	426	961	1,311	1,376

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)	(196)	1,441	1,770
Depreciation	5,434	6,114	4,811	5,092	5,252
Associates & minorities	-	-	-	-	-
Other non-cash items	(4,538)	(9,528)	(396)	0	0
Change in working capital	(1,117)	2,058	2,744	1,633	693
Cash flow from operations Capex - maintenance	<b>(5,074)</b> (3,885)	<b>(8,302)</b> (31)	<b>6,962</b> (3,734)	<b>8,165</b> (5,592)	<b>7,715</b> (4,619)
Capex - maintenance Capex - new investment	(3,003)	(31)	(3,734)	(5,592)	(4,019)
Net acquisitions & disposals	0	0	0	0	0
Other investments (net)	-	-	-	-	_
Cash flow from investing	(3,885)	(31)	(3,734)	(5,592)	(4,619)
Dividends paid	0	0	0	0	(576)
Equity finance	8,800	4,000	1,200	0	0
Debt finance	6,481	(1,384)	(1,500)	2,000	1,000
Other financing cash flows	(2,073)	1,155	(851)	0	0
Cash flow from financing	13,208	3,771	(1,151)	2,000	424
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)	2,077	4,573	3,519
Free cash flow to firm (FCFF)	(7,059.54)	(6,113.25)	5,464.24	4,822.30	5,422.90
Free cash flow to equity (FCFE)	(4,550.79)	(8,561.78)	876.97	4,573.03	4,095.63
Por chara (THP)	<u> </u>				
Per share (THB) FCFF per share	(0.58)	(0.50)	0.45	0.40	0.45
FCFE per share	(0.37)	(0.70)	0.43	0.38	0.43
Recurring cash flow per share	(0.40)	(0.85)	0.33	0.51	0.55
Balance Sheet (THB m) Year Ending Dec	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Tangible fixed assets (gross)	43,298	36,791	37,715	40,215	41,743
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(4,234)	(4,010)	(6,010)	(8,010)	(10,170)
Tangible fixed assets (net)	39,064	32,781	31,704	32,205	31,572
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	5,360	798	2,875	7,448	10,967
A/C receivable	1,658	854	854	854	854
Inventories	230	401	262	301	316
Other current assets	425	3,184	650	768	809
Current assets	7,673	5,236	4,640	9,371	12,946
Other assets Total assets	784	2,984	2,984	2,984	2,984
Common equity	<b>71,208</b> 20,201	<b>64,686</b> 7,954	<b>63,012</b> 7,711	<b>68,244</b> 9,152	<b>71,187</b> 10,345
Minorities etc.	(3,372)	0	0	0	0,040
Total shareholders' equity	16,829	7,954	7,711	9,152	10,345
Long term debt	44,310	42,262	40,762	42,762	43,762
Other long-term liabilities	1,182	734	734	734	734
Long-term liabilities	45,492	42,997	41,497	43,497	44,497
A/C payable	1,841	1,464	1,382	1,588	1,667
Short term debt	829	1,493	1,493	1,493	1,493
Other current liabilities	6,216	10,778	10,930	12,514	13,184
Current liabilities	8,887	13,734	13,805	15,595	16,344
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	71,208	64,686	63,012	68,244	71,187
Net working capital	(5,744)	(7,803)	(10,546)	(12,179)	(12,872)
nvested capital  Includes convertibles and preferred stock which is bei	57,791 ing treated as debt	51,646	47,826	46,694	45,368
Per share (THB)					
Book value per share	2.04	0.65	0.60	0.71	0.81
Tangible book value per share	(0.35)	(1.29)	(1.24)	(1.13)	(1.04)
Financial strength	(5.25)	()	,	,	(/
Net debt/equity (%)	236.4	540.0	510.7	402.2	331.4
Net debt/total assets (%)	55.9	66.4	62.5	53.9	48.2
Current ratio (x)	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.8
CF interest cover (x)	(1.5)	(2.9)	1.4	3.0	2.8
√aluation	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Recurring P/E (x) *	(4.3)	(3.7)	(137.5)	18.7	15.2
Recurring P/E @ target price (x) *	(5.7)	(4.9)	(183.3)	25.0	20.3
Reported P/E (x)	(3.1)	(3.2)	(110.9)	18.7	15.2
Dividend yield (%)	-	-	-	2.1	2.6
			3.5	2.9	2.6
Price/book (x)	1.0	3.2			
Price/book (x) Price/tangible book (x)	(6.0)	(1.6)	(1.7)	(1.9)	(2.0)
Price/book (x) Price/tangible book (x) EV/EBITDA (x) **	(6.0) (18.1)	(1.6) (53.6)	(1.7) 10.1	(1.9) 7.0	(2.0) 6.3
Price/book (x) Price/tangible book (x)	(6.0)	(1.6)	(1.7)	(1.9)	(2.0)

Sources: Asia Aviation; FSSIA estimates

# **Asia Aviation PCL (AAV TB)**



## Exhibit 13: FSSIA ESG score implication

43.83 /100

Rating	Score	Implication
****	>79-100	Leading its industry peers in managing the most significant ESG risks which not only better cost efficiency but also lead to higher profitability.
****	>59-79	A mixed track record of managing the most significant ESG risks and opportunities relative to industry peers.
***	>39-59	Relevant ESG materiality matrix has been constructively addressed, well-managed and incorporated into day-to-day operations, in which targets and achievements are evaluated annually.
**	>19-39	Relevant ESG materiality matrix has been identified with key management in charge for progress to be followed up on and to provide intensive disclosure. Most targets are conventional and achievable.
*	1-19	The company has adopted the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs), established sustainability management guidelines and fully complies with regulations or ESG suggested guidance from related organizations such as the SET and SEC.

Sources: FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 14: ESG – peer comparison

	FSSIA	Domestic ratings						Global ratings						Bloomberg		
	ESG score	DJSI	SET THSI	THSI	CG score	AGM level	Thai CAC	Morningstar ESG risk	ESG Book	MSCI	Moody's	Refinitiv	S&P Global	ESG score	Disclosure score	
SET100	69.20	5.34	4.40	4.40	4.76	4.65	3.84	Medium	51.76	BBB	20.87	58.72	63.91	3.72	28.17	
Coverage	67.12	5.11	4.15	4.17	4.83	4.71	3.53	Medium	52.04	BB	16.97	56.85	62.09	3.40	31.94	
AAV	43.83		Υ	Υ	5.00	4.00		High	48.81			42.50		3.11	48.18	
AOT	77.96	Υ	Υ	Υ	5.00	5.00		Low	64.96	Α	39.00	50.87	77.00	4.19	55.78	
BA	18.75				4.00	4.00		High					16.00			
PSL	55.45		Y	Υ	5.00	5.00	Certified	Medium	59.76	BB			51.00			
RCL	27.51				4.00	4.00		High	41.46			20.37	13.00	.94	30.36	
TTA	65.35		Y	Υ	5.00	5.00	Certified	Medium	56.56	AA		50.79	25.00	3.31	56.20	

Sources: <u>SETTRADE.com</u>; FSSIA's compilation

## Exhibit 15: ESG score by Bloomberg

FY ending Dec 31	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	
ESG financial materiality scores - ESG score	_	_	3.70	3.11	
BESG environmental pillar score	_	_	3.04	1.77	
BESG social pillar score	_	_	4.66	4.21	
BESG governance pillar score	_	_	3.34	3.86	
ESG disclosure score	35.67	43.31	47.08	48.18	
Environmental disclosure score	11.48	27.82	28.99	30.75	
Social disclosure score	19.29	20.86	36.03	37.61	
Governance disclosure score	76.10	81.10	76.10	76.10	
Environmental					
Emissions reduction initiatives	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Climate change policy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Climate change opportunities discussed	No	No	No	Yes	
Risks of climate change discussed	No	No	Yes	Yes	
GHG scope 1	1,947	696	203	663	
GHG scope 2 location-based	2	2	1	1	
GHG Scope 3	_	_	_	143	
Carbon per unit of production	_	_	_	_	
Biodiversity policy	No	No	No	No	
Energy efficiency policy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Total energy consumption	_	_	_	_	
Renewable energy use	_	_	_	_	
Electricity used	3	2	2	2	
Fuel used - natural gas	_	_	_	_	

Sources: Bloomberg; FSSIA's compilation

Exhibit 16: ESG score by Bloomberg (cont.)

FY ending Dec 31	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 202
Fuel used - crude oil/diesel	No	No	No	N
Waste reduction policy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Υe
Hazardous waste	_	0	0	
Total waste	0	0	0	
Waste recycled	_	_	_	
Waste sent to landfills	_	_	_	-
Environmental supply chain management	No	Yes	Yes	Ye
Water policy	No	No	Yes	Ye
Water consumption	16	10	6	
Social				
Human rights policy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Υ
Policy against child labor	No	No	No	1
Quality assurance and recall policy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Y
Consumer data protection policy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Ye
Equal opportunity policy	No	No	Yes	Y
Gender pay gap breakout	No	No	No	١
Pct women in workforce	_	_	36	;
Pct disabled in workforce	_	1	1	
Business ethics policy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Υ
Anti-bribery ethics policy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Y
Health and safety policy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Y
Lost time incident rate - employees	0	0	0	
Total recordable incident rate - employees	_	_	1	
Training policy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Y
Fair remuneration policy	No	No	No	1
Number of employees – CSR	5,974	5,586	5,003	4,6
Employee turnover pct	3	4	4	
Total hours spent by firm - employee training	_	_	150,090	121,60
Social supply chain management	Yes	Yes	Yes	Ye
Governance				
Board size	9	9	12	•
No. of independent directors (ID)	3	3	4	
No. of women on board	0	0	0	
No. of non-executive directors on board	5	5	7	
Company conducts board evaluations	Yes	Yes	Yes	Ye
No. of board meetings for the year	6	7	7	
Board meeting attendance pct	87	98	98	(
Board duration (years)	3	3	3	
Director share ownership guidelines	No	No	No	١
Age of the youngest director	_	46	_	
Age of the oldest director	_	64	_	
No. of executives / company managers	4	4	3	
No. of female executives	0	0	0	
Executive share ownership guidelines	No	No	No	1
Size of audit committee	3	3	3	
No. of ID on audit committee	3	3	3	
Audit committee meetings	5	4	5	
Audit meeting attendance %	87	100	100	10
Size of compensation committee	3	3	3	
No. of ID on compensation committee	3	3	3	
No. of compensation committee meetings	2	2	3	
Compensation meeting attendance %	100	100	100	1
Size of nomination committee	3	3	3	
No. of nomination committee meetings	2	2	3	
No. of nonlination confinitee meetings  Nomination meeting attendance %	100	100	100	1
ryoniniauon meetina auendanee 70	100	100	100	T
Sustainability governance				

 $Sources: Bloomberg; FSSIA's \ compilation$ 

## **Disclaimer for ESG scoring**

		<u> </u>								
ESG score	Methodolog	y			Rating					
The Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (DJSI) By S&P Global	process base from the ann	ed on the com rual S&P Glob	transparent, rules-base npanies' Total Sustaina pal Corporate Sustainab anies within each indus	Be a member and invited to the annual S&P Global Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA) for DJSI. Companies with an S&P Global ESG Score of less than 45% of the S&P Global ESG Score of the highest scoring company are disqualified. The constituents of the DJSI indices are selected from the Eligible Universe.						
Sustainability Investment List (THSI) by The Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET)	THSI quantif managing bu Candidates i 1) no irregula float of >150 up capital. S 70%; 2) inde wrongdoing	usiness with tr must pass the ar trading of the shareholders ome key disquered pendent direct related to CG	preemptive criteria, wine board members and sombined holding ualifying criteria include tors and free float viola, social & environmenta	ance, updated annually. th two crucial conditions: executives; and 2) free g must be >15% of paid- :: 1) CG score of below tition; 3) executives'	To be eligible for <b>THSI</b> inclusion, verified data must be scored at a minimum of 50% for each indicator, unless the company is a part of DJSI during the assessment year. The scoring will be fairly weighted against the nature of the relevant industry and materiality. <b>SETTHSI</b> Index 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 at maximum, and no cap for number of stocks.					
CG Score by Thai Institute of Directors Association (Thai IOD)	annually by t Thailand (SE	he Thai IOD,			Scores are rated in six categories: 5 for Excellent (90-100), 4 for Very Good (80-89), 3 for Good (70-79), 2 for Fair (60-69), 1 for Pass (60-69), and not rated for scores below 50. Weightings include: 1) the rights; 2) and equitable treatment of shareholders (weight 25% combined); 3) the role of stakeholders (25%); 4) disclosure & transparency (15%); and 5) board responsibilities (35%).					
AGM level By Thai Investors Association (TIA) with support from the SEC	treatment and transparent and tof five the criteria cover date (45%), circulation of sexercised. The and verifiability	e incorporated and sufficientle CG componer AGM proced and after the ufficient informatics second assessivity and 3) openner	which shareholders' right into business operation y disclosed. All form implements to be evaluated all unres before the meetin meeting (10%). (The firstition for voting; and 2) facilities to the ease of attending less for Q&A. The third involves, resolutions and voting and voting the same of the control o	The scores are classified into four categories: 5 for Excellent (100), 4 for Very Good (90-99), 3 for Fair (80-89), and not rated for scores below 79.						
Thai CAC By Thai Private Sector Collective Action Against Corruption (CAC)	establishmen policies. The (Companies de Declaration of Certification, ir managers and	ore elements of the Checklist include corruption risk assessment, ishment of key controls, and the monitoring and developing of s. The Certification is good for three years. anies deciding to become a CAC certified member start by submitting a attion of Intent to kick off an 18-month deadline to submit the CAC Checklist for attion, including risk assessment, in place of policy and control, training of and employees, establishment of whistleblowing channels, and including oplicies to all stakeholders.)				The document will be reviewed by a committee of nine professionals. A passed Checklist will move for granting certification by the CAC Council approvals whose members are twelve highly respected individuals in professionalism and ethical achievements.				
Morningstar Sustainalytics	The Sustainalytics' ESG risk rating provides an overall company score based on an assessment of how much of a company's exposure to ESG risk is unmanaged. Sources to be reviewed include corporate publications and regulatory filings, news and other media, NGO reports/websites, multi-sector						score is the sum higher ESG risk	is scored.	ed risk. The	
		mpany teedbac uality & peer rev	k, ESG controversies, issu iews.	er feedback on draft ESG	0-10	10-20	20-30	<b>High</b> 30-40	40+	
ESG Book	positioned to the principle helps explair over-weighti	outperform o of financial m of future risk-a	sustainable companies over the long term. The lateriality including infor djusted performance. N ith higher materiality an erly basis.	The total ESG score is calculated as a weighted sum of the features scores using materiality-based weights. The score is scaled between 0 and 100 with higher scores indicating better performance.						
MSCI	MSCI ESG r	atings aim to	measure a company's i	management of financially to their exposure to ESG r	relevant ESG ris	ks and opport	unities. It uses a	rules-based n	nethodology to	
	AAA	8.571-10.00	00 0	•		, ,		•		
	AA	7.143-8.570	Leader:	leading its industry in n	nanaging the most si	gnificant ESG ri	sks and opportunitie	es		
	Α	5.714-7.142	2							
	ввв	4.286-5.713	Average:	a mixed or unexception industry peers	al track record of ma	anaging the mos	st significant ESG ris	sks and opportu	nities relative to	
	ВВ	2.857-4.285	5	madony poors						
	В	1.429-2.856	3	logging its in decimal	and on its bist	uro ond fall	o monore elifi	of ESC viole		
	ccc	0.000-1.428	<b>Laggard:</b> ∃	lagging its industry bas	eu on its nigh expos	ure and failure t	o manage significar	IL ESG FISKS		
Moody's ESG solutions	believes that	a company ir	ntegrating ESG factors	es take into account ESG o into its business model an e medium to long term.						
Refinitiv ESG rating	based on pu	blicly available	e and auditable data. T	re a company's relative ES he score ranges from 0 to s are 0 to 25 = poor; >25 to 50	100 on relative E	SG performa	nce and insufficie	nt degree of t		
S&P Global				easuring a company's per assification. The score rar			of ESG risks, op	portunities, ar	nd impacts	
Bloomberg	ESG Score  Bloomberg score evaluating the company's aggregated Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) performance. The score is based on Bloomberg's view of ESG financial materiality. The score is a weighted generalized mean (power mean) of Pillar Scores, where the weights are determined by the pillar priority ranking. Values range from 0 to 10; 10 is the best.									
			of Pillar Scores, when	e the weights are determine	ned by the piliar p	nonty ranking	. Values range ii	om o to to, it	) is the best.	

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

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#### 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
29-Mar-2021 18-May-2021 16-Aug-2021	BUY BUY BUY	3.80 3.40 3.20	21-Oct-2021 07-Jun-2022 31-Oct-2022	BUY BUY BUY	3.50 3.40 3.70	01-Nov-2023	BUY	2.80

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

Price and TP are in local currency

Source: FSSIA estimates

#### Bangkok Airways (BA TB) Jan-21 Jul-21 Jan-22 Jul-22 Jan-23 Jul-23 Jan-24 20 15 10 5 Bangkok Airways **Target Price** (THB) Date Target price Target price Rating Date Rating Date Rating Target price 04-Jun-2021 BUY 10.00 20-Oct-2022 BUY 15.60 28-Aug-2023 BUY 22.00 25-Jun-2021 25-Jan-2023 18.00 BUY 16.00 BUY 20.00 BUY 01-Sep-2022 22-May-2023

Teerapol Udomvej, CFA started covering this stock from 04-Jun-2021

Price and TP are in local currency

Source: FSSIA estimates

Company	Ticker	Price	Rating	Valuation & Risks
Asia Aviation	AAV TB	THB 2.10	BUY	Downside risks to our P/E 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.
Bangkok Airways	ВА ТВ	THB 15.30	BUY	Downside risks to our SoTP-based TP 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.

All share prices are as at market close on 10-Jan-2024 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.