## EQUITY RESEARCH – RESULTS FLASH

# MK RESTAURANT GROUP

## M TB

4Q23 results at first glance

## A surprising 4Q23 net profit

## Highlights

- M reported a surprising 4Q23 net profit of THB509m (+31% q-q, +59% y-y), beating our forecast and Bloomberg's consensus estimate by 26% and 43%, respectively, due to lower-than-expected SG&A expenses.
- Its 4Q23 total revenue was in line with our forecast, dropping by 1.3% q-q and 2.6% y-y along with a slower consumption recovery. 4Q23 SSSG turned negative at 3.5% y-y. In particular, it lost more momentum in November before recovering in the second half of December. Also, the company opened only five new branches in 4Q23.
- We are impressed by the high 4Q23 gross margin of 67%, up from 66.7% in 3Q23 and 65% in 4Q22 thanks to the lower pork price.
- SG&A expenses declined by 8.7% q-q and 7.9% y-y, due to lowerthan-expected employee expenses. We note that it may have been caused by the reversal of accrual bonus expenses and declining electricity expenses. SG&A to sales decreased to 53.3% in 4Q23, down from 57.6% in 3Q23 and 56.3% in 4Q22.
- M's 2023 net profit was equal to THB1.68b (+17% y-y). The company announced a 2H23 DPS of THB1, implying a dividend of 2.7%.

## Outlook

- Preliminarily, we expect its 1Q24 net profit to accelerate y-y because of the low base in 1Q23, but gradually recover q-q. The slow q-q growth would mainly come from the higher electricity prices, and M did not join in the E-Receipt campaign.
- However, total revenue should surpass the pre-Covid level from 2024 onwards. Since inflation has passed its peak, we remain optimistic that purchasing power will gradually recover in 2024.
- We maintain our 2024E net profit of THB1.76b, growing slightly by 4.3% y-y. Retain our BUY call with the same target price of THB47 (25x 2024E P/E, maintained).

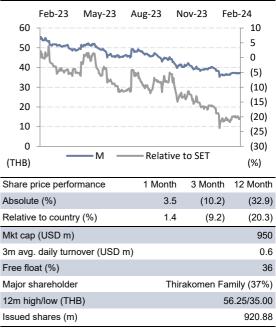
	UNCHANGED
TARGET PRICE	THB47.00
CLOSE	THB37.25
UP/DOWNSIDE	+26.2%
PRIOR TP	THB47.00
CHANGE IN TP	UNCHANGED

TP vs CONSENSUS

+0.3%

## **KEY STOCK DATA**

YE Dec (THB m)	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Revenue	16,661	18,006	18,984	19,810
Net profit	1,682	1,755	1,896	2,024
EPS (THB)	1.83	1.91	2.06	2.20
vs Consensus (%)	-	12.2	9.8	9.3
EBITDA	4,072	4,195	4,367	4,522
Recurring net profit	1,682	1,755	1,896	2,024
Core EPS (THB)	1.83	1.91	2.06	2.20
Chg. In EPS est. (%)	nm	0.0	0.0	nm
EPS growth (%)	16.9	4.3	8.0	6.7
Core P/E (x)	20.4	19.5	18.1	17.0
Dividend yield (%)	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.7
EV/EBITDA (x)	7.1	6.9	6.6	6.5
Price/book (x)	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.3
Net debt/Equity (%)	(41.3)	(39.3)	(38.0)	(34.8)
ROE (%)	12.3	12.6	13.3	13.8



Sources: Bloomberg consensus; FSSIA estimates



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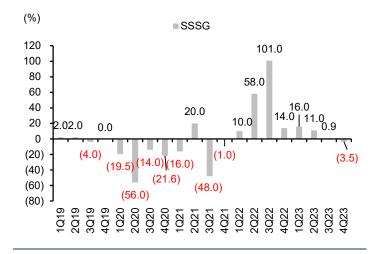


## Exhibit 1: M – 4Q23 results summary

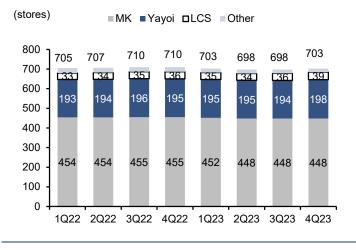
	4Q22	1Q23	2Q23	3Q23	4Q23	Char	ige	2022	2023	Change
	(THB m)	(q-q%)	(y-y%)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(y-y%)				
Sales	4,149	4,089	4,435	4,094	4,042	(1.3)	(2.6)	15,728	16,661	5.9
Cost of sales	1,450	1,426	1,521	1,365	1,336	(2.1)	(7.9)	5,461	5,648	3.4
Gross profit	2,699	2,663	2,914	2,730	2,706	(0.9)	0.3	10,267	11,013	7.3
SG&A	2,337	2,307	2,468	2,360	2,153	(8.7)	(7.9)	8,646	9,288	7.4
-Selling expenses	1,964	1,951	2,090	1,975	1,800	(8.9)	(8.4)	7,347	7,815	6.4
-Admin expenses	373	356	378	385	354	(8.0)	(5.1)	1,298	1,472	13.4
Operating profit	442	424	541	473	653	38.2	47.8	1,870	2,091	11.8
Profit sharing	(9.1)	(7.1)	(3.6)	(0.3)	2.3	nm	nm	(29.1)	(8.8)	nm
Interest expense	23	23	26	20	26	27.2	10.3	87	95	9.7
Tax expense	82	65	47	60	108	81.0	32.2	308	280	(9.0)
Reported net profit	321	325	459	389	509	30.9	58.7	1,439	1,682	16.9
Core profit	321	325	459	389	509	30.9	58.7	1,439	1,682	16.9
Key ratios (%)						(ppt)	(ppt)			
Gross margin	65.0	65.1	65.7	66.7	67.0	0.3	1.9	65.3	66.1	0.8
SG&A to sales	56.3	56.4	55.6	57.6	53.3	(4.4)	(3.0)	55.0	55.7	0.8
Operating margin	10.7	10.4	12.2	11.5	16.2	4.6	5.5	11.9	12.6	0.7
Net margin	7.7	8.0	10.3	9.5	12.6	3.1	4.9	9.1	10.1	0.9
Norm margin	7.7	8.0	10.3	9.5	12.6	3.1	4.9	9.1	10.1	0.9
Operating statistics										
SSSG (%)	14.0	16.0	11.0	0.9	(3.5)			39.0	5.7	
Total stores (no.)	710	703	698	698	703			710	703	
-MK Brand	455	452	448	448	448			455	448	
-Yayoi Brand	195	195	195	194	198			195	198	
-LCS Brand	36	35	34	36	39			36	39	
-Other Brand	24	21	21	20	18			24	18	

Source: M

## **Exhibit 2: Quarterly SSSG**



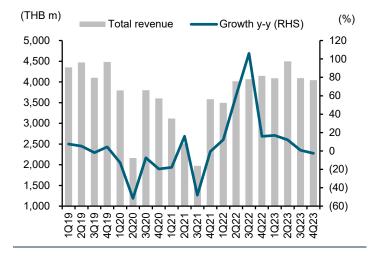
## Exhibit 3: Number of branches – breakdown by brands



Source: M

Source: M

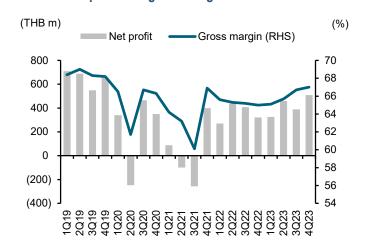
## Exhibit 4: Total revenue and growth



#### Source: M

Source: M

## Exhibit 5: Net profit and gross margin



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27 FEBRUARY 2024

## **Financial Statements**

MK Restaurant Group

Profit and Loss (THB m) Year Ending Dec	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	20265
Revenue	15,728	16,661	18,006	18,984	19,810
Cost of goods sold	(5,461)	(5,648)	(6,086)	(6,379)	(6,617
Gross profit	10,267	11,013	11,920	12,606	13,194
Other operating income	249	365	360	380	396
Operating costs	(8,646)	(9,288)	(10,084)	(10,631)	(11,094
Operating EBITDA	3,867	4,072	4,195	4,367	4,522
Depreciation	(1,997)	(1,980)	(1,998)	(2,013)	(2,025
Goodwill amortisation	0	0	0	0	(_,=
Operating EBIT	1,870	2,091	2,197	2,354	2,490
Net financing costs	(87)	(95)	(92)	(92)	(93
Associates	(29)	(9)	(5)	4	12
Recurring non-operating income	(29)	(9)	(5)	4	12
	(23)	(3)	(3)	4	(
Non-recurring items					
Profit before tax	1,755	1,987	2,100	2,265	2,41
Tax	(308)	(280)	(336)	(362)	(386
Profit after tax	1,447	1,707	1,764	1,903	2,029
Minority interests	(8)	(25)	(9)	(7)	(5
Preferred dividends	-	-	-	-	
Other items	-	-	-	-	
Reported net profit	1,439	1,682	1,755	1,896	2,024
Non-recurring items & goodwill (net)	0	0	0	0	(
Recurring net profit	1,439	1,682	1,755	1,896	2,024
Per share (THB)					
Recurring EPS *	1.56	1.83	1.91	2.06	2.20
Reported EPS	1.56	1.83	1.91	2.06	2.20
DPS	1.40	1.60	1.62	1.65	1.76
Diluted shares (used to calculate per share data)	921	921	921	921	92
Growth					
Revenue (%)	40.7	5.9	8.1	5.4	4.3
Operating EBITDA (%)	74.7	5.3	3.0	4.1	3.5
Operating EBIT (%)	816.8	11.8	5.1	7.2	6.0
Recurring EPS (%)	998.5	16.9	4.3	8.0	6.7
Reported EPS (%)	998.5	16.9	4.3	8.0	6.7
Operating performance	000.0			0.0	0
Gross margin inc. depreciation (%)	65.3	66.1	66.2	66.4	66.6
Gross margin exc. depreciation (%)	78.0	78.0	77.3	77.0	76.8
	24.6		23.3	23.0	22.8
Operating EBITDA margin (%)		24.4			
Operating EBIT margin (%)	11.9	12.6	12.2	12.4	12.0
Net margin (%)	9.1	10.1	9.7	10.0	10.2
Effective tax rate (%)	17.5	14.1	16.0	16.0	16.0
Dividend payout on recurring profit (%)	89.6	87.6	85.0	80.0	80.0
nterest cover (X)	21.2	21.9	23.9	25.5	27.0
nventory days	42.5	40.1	39.8	42.8	42.
Debtor days	3.3	2.5	2.6	2.9	2.9
Creditor days	147.7	154.0	140.5	128.5	127.4
Operating ROIC (%)	230.6	450.4	346.2	247.5	247.3
ROIC (%)	16.1	17.9	18.2	18.7	18.
ROE (%)	10.8	12.3	12.6	13.3	13.
ROA (%)	7.7	8.9	9.0	9.5	9.1
<sup>f</sup> Pre-exceptional, pre-goodwill and fully diluted					0
Revenue by Division (THB m)	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026
MK	11,639	12,455	13,202	13,862	14,41
Yayoi	2,831	2,999	3,462	3,679	3,89
LCS	944	1,000	1,125	1,215	1,25
Other	315	207	218	229	240

Sources: MK Restaurant Group; FSSIA estimates

## **Financial Statements**

MK Restaurant Group

Cash Flow (THB m) Year Ending Dec	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Recurring net profit	1,439	1,682	1,755	1,896	2,024
epreciation	1,997	1,980	1,998	2,013	2,025
ssociates & minorities	37	37	6	2	(7
ther non-cash items	0	0	0	0	(
hange in working capital	295	214	(185)	62	50
Cash flow from operations	3,768	3,914	3,574	3,972	4,093
Capex - maintenance	(1,653)	(1,982)	(2,289)	(2,600)	(2,900
Capex - new investment	-	-	-	-	
let acquisitions & disposals Dther investments (net)	- (691)	(449)	- 19	(41)	(25
Cash flow from investing	(2,344)	(2,431)	(2,270)	(2,641)	(2,925
Dividends paid	(1,197)	(1,270)	(1,492)	(1,517)	(1,619
Equity finance	(1,107)	0	0	0	(1,010)
Debt finance	(187)	(10)	(99)	177	227
Other financing cash flows	51	(118)	23	59	
Cash flow from financing	(1,333)	(1,397)	(1,568)	(1,281)	(1,342
Non-recurring cash flows	-	-	-	-	( )-
Other adjustments	0	0	0	0	(
Net other adjustments	0	0	0	0	C
Novement in cash	91	85	(264)	50	(175
Free cash flow to firm (FCFF)	1,510.24	1,577.48	1,395.86	1,423.69	1,260.45
ree cash flow to equity (FCFE)	1,287.71	1,355.18	1,228.05	1,567.02	1,444.04
er share (THB)					
CFF per share	1.64	1.71	1.52	1.55	1.37
FCFE per share	1.40	1.47	1.33	1.35	1.57
Recurring cash flow per share	3.77	4.02	4.08	4.25	4.39
Palance Sheet (TUP m) Veer Ending Dee	2022	_ 2022	-20245	-20255	
Balance Sheet (THB m) Year Ending Dec	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Tangible fixed assets (gross)	11,913	12,203	12,553	12,853	13,103
ess: Accumulated depreciation	(9,167)	(9,405)	(9,499)	(9,594)	(9,689
Tangible fixed assets (net)	2,747	2,798	3,054	3,259	3,413
ntangible fixed assets (net)	5,533	5,434	5,480	5,862	6,582
ong-term financial assets	-	-	-	-	0.04
nvest. in associates & subsidiaries	2,366	2,840	2,840	2,840	2,840
Cash & equivalents	7,779	7,865	7,601	7,651	7,476
A/C receivable	121	110	148	156	163 544
nventories	414 111	391 76	500 90	524 95	544 99
Dther current assets Current assets					
Other assets	<b>8,426</b> 830	<b>8,441</b> 834	<b>8,339</b> 810	<b>8,427</b> 854	<b>8,28</b> 2 891
Fotal assets	19,901	20,347	20,523	21,242	22,009
Common equity	13,443	13,843	14,118	14,497	14,902
Vinorities etc.	322	351	352	357	362
Fotal shareholders' equity	13,765	14,194	14,470	14,854	15,264
Long term debt	2,023	2,008	1,908	2,008	2,158
Other long-term liabilities	1,175	1,058	1,080	1,139	1,189
.ong-term liabilities	3,198	3,065	2,988	3,147	3,347
A/C payable	1,449	1,646	1,501	1,573	1,631
Short term debt	0	0	0	0	(
Other current liabilities	1,489	1,441	1,564	1,668	1,767
Current liabilities	2,938	3,087	3,065	3,240	3,398
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	19,901	20,347	20,523	21,242	22,009
let working capital	(2,291)	(2,511)	(2,327)	(2,465)	(2,593
nvested capital	9,184	9,395	9,857	10,350	11,134
Includes convertibles and preferred stock which is being	ng treated as debt				
Per share (THB)					
Book value per share	14.60	15.03	15.33	15.74	16.18
angible book value per share	8.59	9.13	9.38	9.38	9.03
Financial strength					
Vet debt/equity (%)	(41.8)	(41.3)	(39.3)	(38.0)	(34.8
Vet debt/total assets (%)	(28.9)	(28.8)	(27.7)	(26.6)	(24.2
Current ratio (x)	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.4
CF interest cover (x)	15.9	15.2	14.4	18.0	16.5
/aluation	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026
Recurring P/E (x) *	23.8	20.4	19.5	18.1	17.0
Recurring P/E @ target price (x) *	30.1	25.7	24.7	22.8	21.4
Reported P/E (x)	23.8	20.4	19.5	18.1	17.0
Dividend yield (%)	3.8	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.7
Price/book (x)	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.3
Price/tangible book (x)	4.3	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.1
EV/EBITDA (x) **	7.5	7.1	6.9	6.6	6.5
EV/EBITDA @ target price (x) **	9.8 3.1	9.3	9.0	8.7	8.5
V/invested capital (x)		3.1	2.9	2.8	2.6

Sources: MK Restaurant Group; FSSIA estimates

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ESG score	Methodolog	У			Rating					
The Dow Jones Sustainability Indices ( <u>DJSI</u> ) By S&P Global	process base from the ann Only the top- inclusion.	ed on the con ual S&P Glob ranked comp	transparent, rules-based npanies' Total Sustainabi pal Corporate Sustainabil panies within each industr	lity Scores resulting ity Assessment (CSA). ry are selected for	Be a member and invited to the annual S&P Global Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA) for DJSI. Companies with an S&P Globa 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 ( <u>THSI</u> ) by The Stock Exchange of Thailand ( <u>SET</u> )	managing bu Candidates r 1) no irregula float of >150 up capital. So 70%; 2) inde wrongdoing r	usiness with tu must pass the ar trading of th shareholders ome key disq pendent direct related to CG	sility in Environmental and ransparency in Governan a preemptive criteria, with the board members and e s, and combined holding jualifying criteria include: ctors and free float violati a, social & environmental earnings in red for > 3 year	ace, updated annually. two crucial conditions: executives; and 2) free must be >15% of paid- 1) CG score of below on; 3) executives' impacts; 4) equity in	To be eligible for <u>THSI inclusion</u> , 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. <u>SETTHSI Index</u> 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.					
CG Score by Thai Institute of Directors Association (Thai IOD)	annually by t Thailand (SE	he Thai IOD,	th in sustainable develop with support from the St Its are from the perspecti Is.	ock Exchange of	Good (80-89), 3 and not rated for equitable treatm	for Good (70 r scores belov ent of shareh 5%); 4) disclos	ories: 5 for Excell -79), 2 for Fair (6 v 50. Weightings olders (weight 25 sure & transpare	0-69), 1 for P include: 1) th % combined	ass (60-69), e rights; 2) and ); 3) the role of	
AGM level By Thai Investors Association (TIA) with support from the SEC	treatment are transparent a out of five the criteria cover date (45%), a circulation of si exercised. The and verifiability	e incorporated and sufficientl e CG compor r AGM proced and after the ufficient informat second assess r; and 3) opennet	which shareholders' right d into business operation ly disclosed. All form imp- nents to be evaluated anr dures before the meeting meeting (10%). (The first a stion for voting; and 2) facilita ses 1) the ease of attending n ess for Q&A. The third involve ues, resolutions and voting re	s and information is ortant elements of two nually. The assessment (45%), at the meeting ssesses 1) advance ting how voting rights can be neetings; 2) transparency as the meeting minutes that	t be					
Thai CAC By Thai Private Sector Collective Action Against Corruption (CAC)	establishmer policies. The (Companies de Declaration of Certification, in managers and	nt of key contr Certification eciding to becor Intent to kick of cluding risk ass employees, est	Checklist include corrupt rols, and the monitoring a is good for three years. me a CAC certified member s f an 18-month deadline to sui sessment, in place of policy a tablishment of whistleblowing all stakeholders.)	and developing of tart by submitting a bmit the CAC Checklist for nd control, training of	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.					
<u>Morningstar</u> Sustainalytics	based on an risk is unmar regulatory filing	assessment naged. Source gs, news and ot	isk rating provides an over of how much of a compa es to be reviewed include corp ther media, NGO reports/web		•	score is the sum higher ESG risk i Medium	•	d risk. The Severe		
		mpany feedbad Jality & peer rev	ck, ESG controversies, issuer views.	feedback on draft ESG	0-10	10-20	20-30	30-40	40+	
ESG Book	positioned to the principle helps explair over-weightir	outperform o of financial m future risk-a	sustainable companies the pover the long term. The me nateriality including inform djusted performance. Ma ith higher materiality and erly basis.	nethodology considers nation that significantly ateriality is applied by	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				anagement of financially their exposure to ESG rise					nethodology to	
	AAA	8.571-10.00	00 Leader:	leading its industry in m	anaging the most sig	nificant ESG ris	ks and opportunitie	s		
	AA	7.143-8.57	0	·····j ·····, ····,				-		
	A	5.714-7.14		a mixed or unexception	al track record of ma	naging the mos	significant ESG ris	ks and opportu	nities relative to	
	BBB BB	4.286-5.71 2.857-4.28	-	industry peers						
	В	1.429-2.85	6							
	ccc	0.000-1.42	Laggard:	lagging its industry base	ed on its high exposu	re and failure to	manage significant	ESG risks		
<u>Moody's ESG</u> solutions	believes that	esses the deg a company i	gree to which companies	take into account ESG o to its business model and medium to long term.						
<u>Refinitiv ESG</u> rating	based on pu	blicly availabl	e and auditable data. The	e a company's relative ES e score ranges from 0 to are 0 to 25 = poor; >25 to 50	100 on relative ES	G performan	ce and insufficier	nt degree of t		
S&P Global				asuring a company's perf ssification. The score ran			of ESG risks, opp	oortunities, ar	d impacts	
Bloomberg	compared to its peers within the same industry classification. The score ranges from 0 to 100.   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.									
				the weights are determin		iority ranking.	Values range fro	om 0 to 10; 10	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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#### History of change in investment rating and/or target price



Sureeporn Teewasuwet started covering this stock from 05-Jan-2023

59.00

12-Oct-2023

BUY

Price and TP are in local currency

Source: FSSIA estimates

22-Mar-2023

Company	Ticker	Price	Rating	Valuation & Risks
MK Restaurant Group	М ТВ	THB 37.25	BUY	Downside risks to our TP include 1) a slower-than-expected consumption recovery and more intense competition; 2) slower-than-expected decreases in raw material costs; 3) a lower-than-expected new store expansion; and 4) a minimum wage increase and labor shortages.

BUY

54.00

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 23-Feb-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.

