

29 JANUARY 2024

# SPOTLIGHT ON THAILAND

## Published Reports

- MINOR INTERNATIONAL (MINT TB) - Solid operations from Europe to Thailand; Maintain BUY TP THB44.00
- MUANGTHAI CAPITAL (MTC TB) - Manageable 4Q23E asset quality; Downgrade to HOLD TP THB43.00

## Economics

- Exporters told to keep tabs on hotspots in the Middle East
- China restricts lending of securities for short selling
- Chinese solar industry supercharged
- China market dents tourism income
- More fuel subsidies ready to launch
- All eyes on global monetary policy
- Asian rally on pause as China news awaited
- New guidelines speed up budget disbursement
- Exports perk up last month, dip in 2023
- Gold price on course to hit record high

## Corporate News

- LH rejigs towards recurring income
- HomePro allots B30bn for expansion drive
- Bitcoin bounces back
- KCar predicts sluggish market this year

Indices	Index as of 26-Jan-24	Change -1D (%)	Change YTD (%)	Net Foreign YTD (USD m)
Thailand SET	1,368	(0.6)	(3.4)	(808)
China SHCOMP	2,910	0.1	(2.2)	
Hong Kong HSI	15,952	(1.6)	(6.4)	
India SENSEX +	70,701	(0.5)	(2.1)	(3,229)
Indonesia JCI	7,137	(0.6)	(1.9)	373
Korea KOSPI	2,479	0.3	(6.7)	1,986
MY FBMKLCI	1,506	0.1	3.5	
PH PCOMP	6,686	0.2	3.7	77
SG FSSTI	3,160	0.4	(2.5)	
Taiwan TWSE	17,995	(0.0)	0.4	1,265
VN VNINDEX	1,176	0.5	4.0	45
MSCI Emerging	985	(0.3)	(3.8)	
Nikkei 225	35,751	(1.3)	6.8	
FTSE 100	7,635	1.4	(1.3)	
CAC 40	7,634	2.3	1.2	
DAX	16,961	0.3	1.3	
Dow Jones	38,109	0.2	1.1	
Nasdaq	15,455	(0.4)	3.0	
S&P 500	4,891	(0.1)	2.5	
Brent	83.55	1.4	8.5	
Dubai	81.35	1.1	6.3	
WTI	78.01	0.8	8.9	
GOLD	2,018.52	(0.1)	(2.2)	
Trade data	Buy	Sell	Net	Share (%)
(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)
Foreign	27,969	30,735	(2,766)	61
Retail	12,411	10,325	2,086	24
Prop Trade	3,812	3,548	264	8
Local Institution	4,087	3,670	417	8
Total Trade	48,278	48,278	0	100
Rates	Last close	1M ago	End last yr	1yr ago
	26/1/2024	26/12/2023	29/12/2023	26/1/2023
THB/USD	35.63	34.58	34.14	32.76
Inflation *	(0.83)	(0.44)	5.89	5.89
MLR **	7.12	7.12	7.12	6.23
1Y Fixed *	1.65	1.65	1.65	0.99
Govt bond 10Y	2.67	2.68	2.68	2.47
Commodity	Last close	1M ago	End last yr	1yr ago
(USD/bbl)	26/1/2024	26/12/2023	29/12/2023	26/1/2023
Brent	83.55	81.07	77.04	87.47
Dubai	81.35	77.99	76.51	83.02
WTI	78.01	75.57	71.65	81.01
Gold	2,019	2,068	2,063	1,929
Baltic Dry	1,518	2,094	2,094	676
(USD/ton)	26-Jan-24	19-Jan-24	25-Dec-20	27-Jan-23
Coal	128.00	129.77	84.45	301.47
% change	(1.4)	(15.2)	51.6	(57.5)

\* chg y-y% last at end of most recent month end; \*\* Avg of 4 major banks;  
Sources: Bloomberg, except coal from BANPU  
+ as of 25 Jan

### FSSIA Thailand Research

Jitra Amornthum, Head of Research  
 Songklod Wongchai, Strategy | +66 2646 9970 | songklod.won@fssia.com  
 Veeravat Virochpoka, Strategy | +66 2646 9965 | veeravat.v@fssia.com  
 Usanee Liuruti, Banks & Finance | +66 2646 9967 | usanee.l@fssia.com  
 Sureeporn Teewasuwet, Foods & Beverage | +66 2646 9972 | sureeporn.t@fssia.com  
 Thanyatorn Songwutti, Property | +66 2646 9963 | thanyatorn.s@fssia.com  
 Teerapol Udomvej, Healthcare, Tourism & Aviation | +66 2646 9969 | teerapol.u@fssia.com  
 Thada Jiracharoenyong, RA | +66 2646 9964 | thada.j@fssia.com  
 Maeta Chersatirakul, RA | +66 2646 9971 | maeta.c@fssia.com  
 Manida Sithiseree | +66 2611 3590/91 | manida.s@fnsyus.com  
 Chaiyon Rerkkriengkrai | +66 2611 3592/93 | chaiyon.r@fnsyus.com  
 Napaporn Klongvanitchakij | +66 2611 3582/83 | napaporn.k@fnsyus.com  
 Rattana Detphattharakoson | +66 2611 3580/71 | rattana.d@fnsyus.com  
 Siriluk Kiattkosolkul | +66 2611 3584/85 | siriluk.k@fnsyus.com

### Thailand Equity Sales:

### Thailand Equity Trading:

## Published Reports

### MINOR INTERNATIONAL (MINT TB) - Solid operations from Europe to Thailand; Maintain BUY TP THB44.00

#### Expect RevPAR of Thai and European hotels to grow 14-17% y-y

We expect strong earnings of THB2.4b (+3% y-y, +7% q-q) in 4Q23 (see preview on pg. 5), despite the low season for European hotels. The key driver is strong RevPAR growth for Thai and European hotels, which we estimate to grow by 14% y-y and 17% y-y, respectively. Food business revenue should also grow by 5% y-y in 4Q, driven by positive SSSG for China restaurants and the strong outlet expansion of Thai restaurants. With the strong 4Q23 projected, the year's core profit should end at THB7.1b, exceeding the pre-Covid level.

#### Promising forward bookings of Thai hotels in Jan-Feb 2024

According to Bloomberg's interview with MINT's chairman, Bill Heinecke, Thai hotels had an OCC rate of 75% in Dec-23, and forward bookings jumped 20-30% in Jan-Feb 2024. Thus, we believe Thai hotels' OCC rate should improve to 75-80% (vs 69% in 4Q23E and 71% in 1Q23). This should provide a cushion in the low season for European hotels, with the potential for MINT to post a profit in 1Q24 (vs THB0.6b loss in 1Q23).

#### Expect core profit to grow by 13% to THB8.0b in 2024

We expect overall RevPAR to grow by 6% in 2024, led by Thai hotels (+10%), while we conservatively estimate the RevPAR of European hotels to grow by only 4%. In our view, the upside for European hotels comes from the recovery of long-haul travelers, the UEFA Euro 2024 hosted by Germany in June-July 2024, and the 2024 Olympics hosted by Paris in July-Aug 2024. Note that hotel rooms in Germany and France account for 26% and 2% of NHH's total owned hotel rooms. Overall, we expect core profit to grow by 13% to THB8.0b with the scope of an upside on lower interest expenses, as MINT plans to prepay its debt over 2024.

#### Revising up profit; laggard compared to global hotel peers

We raise our 2023-25E core profit by 9% to reflect the strong 4Q23E and outlook, and derive a new 2024 DCF-TP of THB44/shr. MINT's share price is 17% below the pre-Covid level and is underperforming global hotel operators whose share prices have exceeded the pre-Covid level by 26%. MINT is now our top pick in the hotel sector as it trades at a cheap valuation of 21x 2024E P/E, compared to its five-year average of 26x, Thai hotel peers' 46x and global hotel peers' 22x.

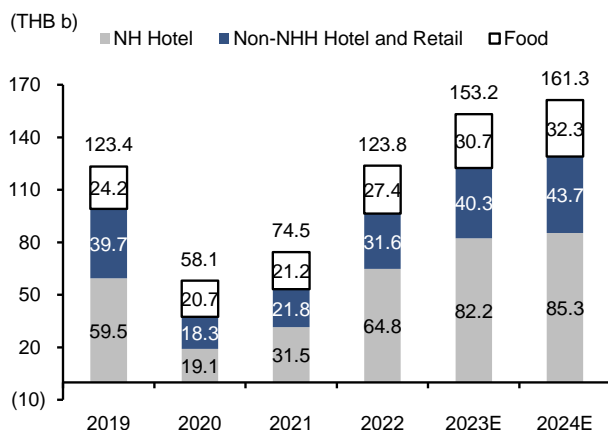
#### Exhibit 1: Changes in key assumptions

	Current			Previous			Change (%)		
	2023E	2024E	2025E	2023E	2024E	2025E	2023E	2024E	2025E
Hotel - OCC (%)	67	69	70	66	69	70	1.0	-	(0.5)
Hotel - RevPAR (THB)	3,831	4,087	4,252	3,700	3,912	4,094	3.5	4.5	3.9
Food - SSSG (%)	7	2	2	7	2	2	-	-	-
Food - TSSG (%)	12	6	5	12	5	5	-	1.0	-
Revenue (THB b)	149.1	158.0	164.5	142.8	150.6	157.7	4.5	4.9	4.4
EBITDA margin (%)	25.2	25.8	26.1	25.0	25.1	25.5	0.2	0.7	0.6
Core earnings (THB b)	7.1	8.0	8.9	6.5	7.4	8.2	9.2	9.0	9.0

Note: Change of items in percentage terms is represented in ppt change

Source: FSSIA estimates

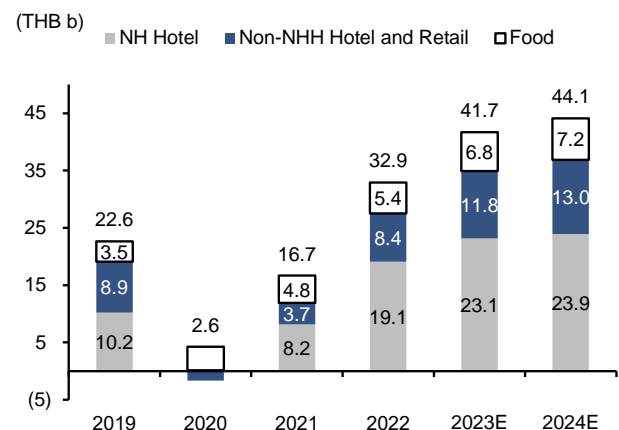
#### Exhibit 2: Revenue forecast breakdown



Note: Revenue includes share income and other income

Sources: NHH; MINT; FSSIA estimates

#### Exhibit 3: EBITDA forecast breakdown



Note: 1) Revenue includes share income and other income; 2) EBITDA in 2019 excludes TFRS-16 accounting standard

Sources: NHH; MINT; FSSIA estimates

## Exhibit 4: 4Q23 results preview

	4Q22	1Q23	2Q23	3Q23	4Q23E	----- Change -----		2023E
	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(q-q %)	(y-y %)	(THB m)
<b>Sales</b>	<b>34,234</b>	<b>31,246</b>	<b>39,634</b>	<b>38,904</b>	<b>38,891</b>	<b>(0)</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>149,150</b>
-Hotel & Mixed-use	26,504	23,357	31,806	31,094	30,934	(1)	17	117,570
-Restaurant	6,989	7,312	7,345	7,275	7,328	1	5	29,336
-Retail	741	577	483	536	630	17	(15)	2,244
<b>COGS (incl. depreciation)</b>	<b>(18,349)</b>	<b>(18,483)</b>	<b>(20,828)</b>	<b>(20,688)</b>	<b>(20,146)</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>(79,077)</b>
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>15,884</b>	<b>12,763</b>	<b>18,806</b>	<b>18,216</b>	<b>18,746</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>70,072</b>
SG&A	(10,886)	(11,941)	(12,321)	(12,798)	(13,105)	2	20	(51,733)
<b>Operating profit</b>	<b>4,999</b>	<b>822</b>	<b>6,486</b>	<b>5,419</b>	<b>5,641</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>18,339</b>
Net other income	457	695	487	545	562	3	23	2,251
Dividend income	2	0	1	18	2			0
Interest income	302	277	363	373	373	0	24	1,401
Interest expense	(2,501)	(2,434)	(2,761)	(2,932)	(2,991)	2	20	(11,050)
<b>Pretax profit</b>	<b>3,259</b>	<b>(640)</b>	<b>4,575</b>	<b>3,423</b>	<b>3,586</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10,941</b>
Income Tax	(724)	(232)	(1,353)	(1,017)	(986)	(3)	36	(3,610)
Associates	46	261	19	47	65	37	40	414
Minority interest	(203)	(35)	(235)	(180)	(223)	24	10	(670)
<b>Core profit</b>	<b>2,379</b>	<b>(647)</b>	<b>3,006</b>	<b>2,273</b>	<b>2,442</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7,074</b>
Extraordinaries, GW & FX	(468)	(329)	249	(129)				
<b>Reported net profit</b>	<b>1,911</b>	<b>(976)</b>	<b>3,255</b>	<b>2,144</b>	<b>2,442</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>7,074</b>
								0
Shares out (end Q, m)	5,259	5,259	5,259	5,259	5,259	0	0	5,259
<b>Core EPS</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>(0.1)</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1.23</b>
<b>EPS</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>(0.2)</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1.26</b>
COGS (excl. depreciation)	(13,535)	(13,665)	(15,909)	(15,994)	(15,357)	(4)	13	(59,782)
Depreciation	(4,814)	(4,818)	(4,919)	(4,695)	(4,788)	2	(1)	(19,295)
EBITDA	10,620	6,872	12,273	11,097	11,431	3	8	37,635
<b>Key Ratios</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(ppt)</b>	<b>(ppt)</b>	<b>(%)</b>
Gross margin	46	41	47	47	48	1	2	47
SG&A/Revenue	32	38	31	33	34	1	2	35
Hotel EBITDA margin	32	21	33	29	30	0	(2)	30
Food EBITDA margin	22	22	21	23	23	0	0	22
Retail EBITDA margin	15	13	10	11	11	0	(4)	11
Total EBITDA margin	30	21	30	28	29	1	(1)	25
Net profit margin	5	(3)	8	5	6	1	1	5
<b>Operating stat</b>	<b>4Q22</b>	<b>1Q23</b>	<b>2Q23</b>	<b>3Q23</b>	<b>4Q23E</b>			
<b>Owned &amp; leased RevPAR (y-y %)</b>								
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>18</b>			
Thailand	206	218	76	36	14			
Maldives	(11)	(15)	(23)	(25)	(24)			
Europe & The Americas (NHH)	64	86	25	7	17			
<b>SSSG (y-y %)</b>								
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>(2)</b>			
Thailand	4	6	8	2	(2)			
China	(26)	15	40	(10)	2			
<b>TSSG (y-y %)</b>								
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>			
Thailand	20	20	17	8	5			
China	(20)	20	99	(9)	0			

Sources: MINT; FSSIA estimates

## MUANGTHAI CAPITAL (MTC TB) - Manageable 4Q23E asset quality; Downgrade to HOLD TP THB43.00

### 4Q23 net profit to drop q-q, pressured by rising OPEX and ECL

We expect MTC to post a 4Q23 net profit of THB1.22b, falling by 4.9% q-q but growing by 8.0% y-y. It should see critical pressure from rising seasonal operating expenses and ECL. Typically, operating expenses would accelerate in 4Q due to management's annual seminar and other costs related to new year activities and increase higher in 1Q from the annual salary adjustment. The 4Q23 cost-to-income ratio would climb to 46.5%, bringing the 2023 ratio to 47.1%, in line with the guidance. In 4Q23, PPOP would equal THB2.87b, slightly down by 1.2% q-q but up by 8.3% y-y. However, the interest spread would dip by 49bp, pressured by an accelerating cost of funds by 44bp to 4.11%, bringing the 2023 cost of funds to 3.75%, in line with its 2023 guidance of 3.60-3.80%. Hence, the 2023 net profit would climb to THB4.79b but still dip by 6.2% y-y, its four-year trough.

### Controllable 2023E asset quality in line with guidance

We expect the 4Q23 NPL ratio to finish at 3.31%, a slight increase from 3.29% in 3Q23, in line with MTC's guidance of not exceeding 3.50%. Meanwhile, we predict 4Q23 credit cost, including losses from sales of repossessed cars of 3.83%, decreasing from 3.87% in 3Q23, in line with the guidance that credit cost has passed its peak in 3Q23 and not exceeding 4%. We expect the 2023 coverage ratio to end at 107.6%, a slight drop from 110.3% in 3Q23, in line with the guidance of not lower than 100% from its continued proactive NPLs management.

### Trim 2024-25E earnings to reflect 2024 guidance

We retain our 2023 earnings forecast. However, we have decreased our 2024-25E earnings by 2.7-3.2% to reflect the 2024 guidance, as shown in Exhibit 3. In particular, we lowered our interest spread assumption, while other items are pretty in line. We expect the 2024-25 earnings growth to remain solid at 24.8% y-y and 29.2% y-y, driven by an average loan growth of 19.1-19.5% and lower credit costs, continually declining to the expected c3% in 2025.

### Downgrade recommendation to HOLD

We have decreased our rating to HOLD (from Buy). MTC is currently fairly valued since it is approaching our 2024 GGM-based TP of THB43 (from THB44), which implies a P/BV of 2.42x (from 2.49x) under expected L-T ROE of 17.3% (from 17.6%) and COE of 10.2%.

### Exhibit 5: MTC – 4Q23 earnings preview

	3Q22	4Q22	1Q23	2Q23	3Q23	4Q23E	Change	Change	2023E	Change
	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(q-q%)	(y-y%)	(THB m)	(y-y%)
Interest income	4,959	5,338	5,397	5,754	6,063	6,300	3.9	18.0	23,514	22.5
Interest expense	(737)	(810)	(848)	(909)	(1,004)	(1,156)	15.1	42.7	(3,917)	39.2
Net interest income	4,222	4,528	4,549	4,845	5,059	5,144	1.7	13.6	19,597	19.6
Fee and other income	226	273	233	287	236	215	(9.0)	(21.3)	972	11.8
Total income	4,448	4,801	4,783	5,132	5,295	5,359	1.2	11.6	20,569	19.2
Operating expenses	(2,008)	(2,152)	(2,352)	(2,463)	(2,391)	(2,491)	4.2	15.8	(9,697)	20.2
PPOP before taxes	2,440	2,649	2,431	2,669	2,904	2,868	(1.2)	8.3	10,872	18.3
Expected credit losses	(959)	(781)	(954)	(1,017)	(965)	(1,010)	4.6	29.3	(3,946)	62.2
Profit after ECL	1,481	1,868	1,477	1,653	1,939	1,858	(4.2)	(0.5)	6,926	2.6
Gain (loss) from car repossessed	35	(493)	(112)	(183)	(334)	(330)	(1.2)	(33.1)	(959)	143.5
Operating profit	1,517	1,375	1,365	1,469	1,605	1,528	(4.8)	11.1	5,967	n/a
Income tax	(312)	(243)	(295)	(269)	(320)	(306)	(4.4)	25.6	(1,190)	(6.1)
<b>Net profit</b>	<b>1,205</b>	<b>1,132</b>	<b>1,070</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>1,285</b>	<b>1,222</b>	<b>(4.9)</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>4,778</b>	<b>(6.2)</b>
EPS (THB)	0.57	0.53	0.50	0.57	0.61	0.58	(4.9)	8.0	2.25	(6.2)
Loans	113,231	119,084	124,200	131,257	137,081	142,663	4.4	21.1	141,483	20.9
Interest bearing debt	93,232	96,143	98,536	106,327	112,329	112,809	5.6	20.5	116,110	20.8
<b>Key ratios</b>	<b>3Q22</b>	<b>4Q22</b>	<b>1Q23</b>	<b>2Q23</b>	<b>3Q23</b>	<b>4Q23E</b>			<b>2023E</b>	
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)			(%)	
Yield on loan	18.08	18.38	17.75	18.02	18.08	18.02			17.97	
Cost of funds	3.27	3.42	3.48	3.55	3.67	4.11			3.75	
Spread	14.81	14.96	14.26	14.47	14.40	13.91			14.22	
Cost to Income ratio	45.14	44.82	49.18	47.99	45.15	46.48			47.14	
Credit cost (included losses from car repossessed)	3.37	4.39	3.50	3.76	3.87	3.83			3.75	
NPL / Loan	2.33	3.00	3.28	3.48	3.29	3.31			3.31	
LLR / Loan	2.38	3.15	3.44	3.66	3.63	3.56			3.56	
Coverage ratio	102.3	105.1	105.0	105.1	110.3	107.6			107.6	
D/E (x)	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.7	3.7	3.6			3.6	
IDBE (x)	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.6	3.7	3.5			3.5	
S/T debt/total debt (x)	7.6	8.3	4.9	5.3	7.7	8.9			8.9	
Loan growth q-q	6.7	5.2	4.3	5.7	4.4	4.1				
Loan growth y-y	35.7	32.2	27.5	23.6	21.1	19.8			19.8	
Loan growth YTD	25.7	32.2	4.3	10.2	15.1	19.8				

Sources: MTC; FSSIA estimates

## Exhibit 6: MTC – Staged loans and ECL, 2020-3Q23

MTC	2020	2021	2022	3Q23	2020	2021	2022	3Q23	
	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)					(THB m)
<b>Loans and accrued interest</b>					<b>Staged loans % of total loans</b>				
Stage 1	65,372	81,837	105,097	120,804	92.6%	93.4%	87.1%	87.1%	
Stage 2	4,489	4,578	12,009	13,526	6.4%	5.2%	10.0%	9.7%	
Stage 3	747	1,187	3,506	4,411	1.1%	1.4%	2.9%	3.2%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>70,607</b>	<b>87,602</b>	<b>120,613</b>	<b>138,741</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	
<b>Expected credit loss (ECL)</b>					<b>ECL % of stage loans</b>				
Stage 1	538	709	767	1,071	0.8%	0.9%	0.7%	0.9%	
Stage 2	307	349	682	1,003	6.8%	7.6%	5.7%	7.4%	
Stage 3	481	729	2,237	2,791	64.4%	61.4%	63.8%	63.3%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,326</b>	<b>1,788</b>	<b>3,686</b>	<b>4,865</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	
<b>LLR / Loans (%)</b>									
Stage 1	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.9					
Stage 2	6.8	7.6	5.7	7.4					
Stage 3	64.4	61.4	63.8	63.3					
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.5</b>					
NPL / TL	1.06%	1.36%	2.91%	3.18%					
NPL vs. Stage 2 loans / TL	7.42%	6.58%	12.86%	12.93%					
LLR / NPL	177.50%	150.59%	105.12%	110.27%					
LLR / (NPL vs. Stage 2 loans)	25.32%	31.01%	23.76%	27.12%					

Sources: MTC; FSSIA's compilation

## Exhibit 7: 2024-26E earnings revision

Key assumptions	Current			Previous			Change		
	2023E	2024E	2025E	2023E	2024E	2025E	2023E	2024E	2025E
Net profit (THB m)	4,778	5,965	7,708	4,778	6,130	7,965	0.0%	-2.7%	-3.2%
EPS (THB)	2.25	2.81	3.64	2.25	2.89	3.76	0.0%	-2.7%	-3.2%
Net profit growth (%)	(6.2)	24.8	29.2	(6.2)	28.3	29.9			
Average yields	18.42%	18.61%	18.62%	18.42%	18.66%	18.87%			
Cost of funds	3.80%	4.20%	4.20%	3.80%	3.95%	4.10%			
Spread (%)	14.62	14.41	14.42	14.62	14.71	14.77			
Loan growth (%)	20.9	19.1	19.5	20.9	19.1	19.5			
Net interest income growth (%)	20.7	18.8	19.4	20.7	20.8	20.0			
Fee growth (%)	28.9	4.0	4.0	28.9	4.0	4.0			
Credit cost (included losses from car repossessed) (%)	3.79	3.48	3.04	3.79	3.48	3.04			
Cost to income (%)	48.0	48.0	48.0	48.0	48.0	48.0			

Source: FSSIA estimates

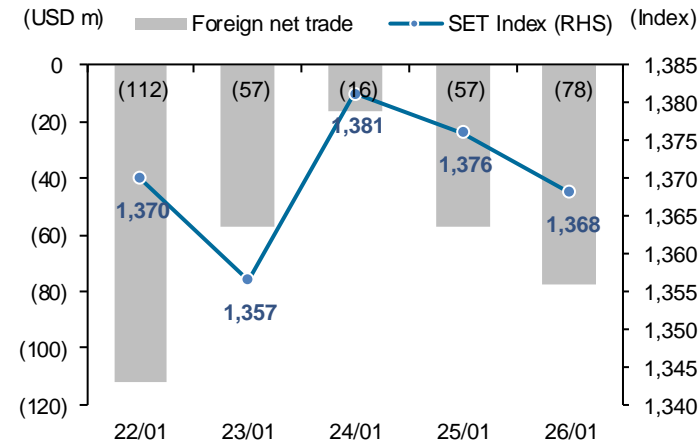
## Economic news

- [Exporters told to keep tabs on hotspots in the Middle East](#) BANGKOK POST: The strategic planning unit of the Commerce Ministry has advised all stakeholders to monitor the attacks in the Red Sea and the Israel-Hamas war to assess the potential impacts. An escalation of the conflicts could adversely affect the Thai economy, both directly and indirectly, said Poonpong Naiyanapakorn, director-general of the Trade Policy and Strategy Office (TPSO).
- [China restricts lending of securities for short selling](#) BANGKOK POST: HONG KONG - China will halt the lending of certain shares for short selling from Monday the securities regulator announced Sunday, in a move to support the country's slumping stock markets. Strategic investors would not be allowed to lend out shares during agreed lock-up periods, the Shanghai Stock Exchange and Shenzhen Stock Exchange said in separate releases following the China Securities Regulatory Commission's statement.
- [Chinese solar industry supercharged](#) BANGKOK POST: China installed more solar panels in 2023 than any other country has built in total, adding to a massive renewable energy fleet that is already leading the world by a wide margin. The country added 216.88 gigawatts of solar power last year, blowing away its previous record of 87.4GW from 2022, the National Energy Administration said in a statement. That's more than the entire solar output of 175.2GW in the United States, the world's second-biggest solar market, according to estimates by BloombergNEF.
- [China market dents tourism income](#) BANGKOK POST: Slower growth of Thai tourism receipts in 2023 compared with Asian peers is attributed to the sluggish Chinese market, which flocked to other countries, as well as Thai hotels' inability to adjust their prices. Tourism revenue from foreign markets tallied 1.2 trillion baht, recovering to only 60% of the 1.9 trillion baht posted in 2019.
- [More fuel subsidies ready to launch](#) BANGKOK POST: Energy authorities are planning more subsidies for gasohol prices by using money from the state Oil Fuel Fund after the ongoing subsidy programme ends on Jan 31. The government has since November last year reduced the prices of gasoline and gasohol, a mix of gasoline and ethanol, by between 0.8 and 2.5 baht a litre, depending on oil types, to ease the burden on motorists.
- [All eyes on global monetary policy](#) BANGKOK POST: The global economic and investment picture at the beginning of 2024 appears to offer a different outlook than in 2023. Every market seems to be more volatile, notably Hong Kong, South Korea, China, Singapore, Thailand, and even the US and Europe. One reason is the market has begun to adjust its expectations for the economic direction and monetary policy. In the US, key indicators show the economy to be performing better than expected. US GDP expanded 3.3% year-on-year in the fourth quarter of 2023.
- [Asian rally on pause as China news awaited](#) BANGKOK POST: RECAP: The rally in most Asian markets was interrupted yesterday, with profit-taking seen in Hong Kong and Shanghai as traders await more guidance on China's plans to support the country's battered economy. Thai shares moved in a range of 1,352.42 and 1,383.51 points this week, before closing yesterday at 1,368.15, down 1% from the previous week, with daily turnover averaging 48.53 billion baht.
- [New guidelines speed up budget disbursement](#) BANGKOK POST: The Comptroller-General's Department, which controls disbursement of the state budget, has issued guidelines to expedite the disbursement of the fiscal 2024 budget, allowing state agencies to proceed with bidding for investment projects even though the budget has not yet been approved by parliament, says Comptroller-General Patricia Mongkhonvanit.
- [Exports perk up last month, dip in 2023](#) BANGKOK POST: Exports rose for a fifth straight month in December, but the figures for the entire year remain in the red, down 1% from a year earlier. The Commerce Ministry reported yesterday customs-based exports rose 4.7% year-on-year in December to US\$22.8 billion, following a 4.9% rise in November.
- [Gold price on course to hit record high](#) BANGKOK POST: The global gold price is expected to hit a new high of US\$2,300 per troy ounce this year because of the possibility of US Federal Reserve policy rate cuts, surging inflation and geopolitics risks. Some investors view gold as a safe-haven asset because of the likelihood of a Fed rate cut in the second quarter of this year, amid persistent high inflation and global geopolitical tensions.

## Corporate news

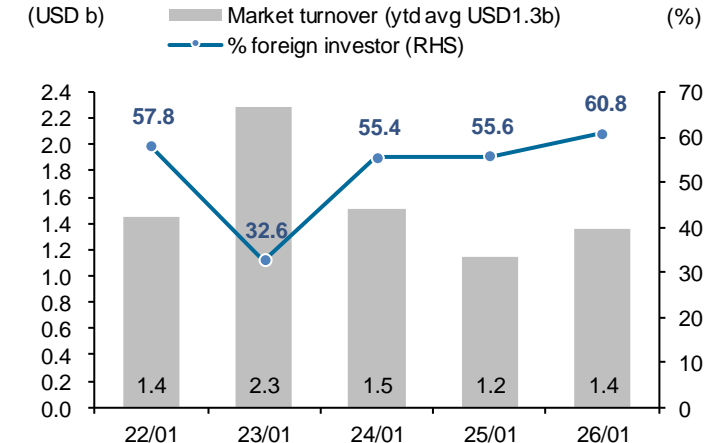
- [LH rejigs towards recurring income](#) BANGKOK POST: SET-listed developer Land & Houses has reshaped its investment portfolio, amplifying its focus on recurring income properties, particularly hotels in Thailand and the US, while reducing investments in residential development. Naporn Sunthornchitcharoen, chairman of the board of directors, said the residential market in Thailand remains under pressure from various negative factors, particularly economic challenges, household debt, and stricter pre- and post-financing conditions.
- [HomePro allots B30bn for expansion drive](#) BANGKOK POST: SET-listed Home Product Center, the operator of home decor and improvement store HomePro, plans to spend 30 billion baht from 2024-2028 to open 50 new branches and improve technology, aiming to achieve 100 billion baht in sales by 2028. Managing director Weerapun Ungsumalee said the sales growth target of 47%, from an expected 68 billion baht in 2023, is mainly from its physical stores, totalling 127 locations nationwide and seven in Malaysia.
- [Bitcoin bounces back](#) BANGKOK POST: Following the US Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC) approval of 11 Bitcoin exchange-traded funds (ETFs), and with a Bitcoin halving expected in April, the cryptocurrency regained the top spot for asset annual return on investment as its price surged more than 150%. Prices jumped to US\$48,494 per Bitcoin in early 2024 before consolidating to around \$42,000 after the US regulator officially endorsed spot Bitcoin ETFs on Jan 10.
- [KCar predicts sluggish market this year](#) BANGKOK POST: Krungthai Car Rent & Lease Plc (KCar) expects the second-hand car and car rental markets to slow as loans remain difficult to obtain from financial institutions. Banks adopted stricter lending criteria for buyers of second-hand cars and companies wanting to lease cars as household debt remains high and people's purchasing power is weak.

## Exhibit 8: Foreign fund flow and SET Index



Source: Bloomberg

## Exhibit 9: Foreign participation



Source: Bloomberg

## Exhibit 10: Index performance

	SET Index		Index performance (% change)									
	Index	(%chg)	Energy	Bank	Comu	Commerce	Food	Property	Construct	Transport	Petrochem	
<b>% of SET Index</b>			21%	10%	9%	9%	5%	6%	3%	8%	2%	
Current	1,368.15	(0.6)	(0.3)	(0.8)	(0.7)	(1.6)	(0.3)	(0.8)	0.6	(0.4)	(0.3)	
-5D	1,382.51	(1.0)	(0.8)	(2.1)	0.5	(2.1)	(1.4)	(0.4)	(0.9)	(1.4)	1.0	
-1M	1,413.45	(3.2)	(2.4)	(3.2)	2.0	(5.5)	(3.3)	(2.6)	(6.6)	(1.2)	(8.8)	
-3M	1,371.22	(0.2)	0.7	(3.3)	1.6	(4.9)	4.6	2.0	(3.4)	(6.1)	0.2	
-6M	1,524.59	(10.3)	(8.1)	(9.3)	(4.0)	(15.2)	(3.1)	(6.8)	(13.0)	(14.4)	(19.3)	
-1Y	1,671.34	(18.1)	(17.7)	(8.1)	(10.2)	(25.7)	(15.9)	(16.3)	(20.6)	(22.2)	(33.1)	
WTD	1,382.51	(1.0)	(0.8)	(2.1)	0.5	(2.1)	(1.4)	(0.4)	(0.9)	(1.4)	1.0	
MTD	1,415.85	(3.4)	(2.5)	(5.3)	1.5	(5.9)	(3.8)	(3.7)	(7.6)	(1.5)	(9.3)	
QTD	1,415.85	(3.4)	(2.5)	(5.3)	1.5	(5.9)	(3.8)	(3.7)	(7.6)	(1.5)	(9.3)	
End of 2022	1,415.85	(3.4)	(2.5)	(5.3)	1.5	(5.9)	(3.8)	(3.7)	(7.6)	(1.5)	(9.3)	

Source: Bloomberg

## Exhibit 11: Trade by investor types

	SET Index		Exchange rate (USD:THB)	SET Index		Equity trading / Net position				Bond Net foreign (USD m)
	Index	Change (y-y%)		Average daily turnover (THB m)	(USD m)	Foreign (USD m)	Retail (USD m)	PropTrade (USD m)	Local Inst (USD m)	
2019	1,579.84	1.0	31.06	52,468	1,689	(1,496)	(662)	477	1,681	(502)
2020	1,449.35	(8.3)	31.29	67,335	2,152	(8,287)	6,873	459	953	(1,005)
2021	1,657.62	14.4	32.00	88,443	2,764	(1,632)	3,630	435	(2,330)	6,550
2022	1,668.66	15.1	34.78	53,589	1,541	5,362	(656)	56	(4,758)	4,111
2023	1,415.85	(15.2)	34.81	51,072	1,467	(5,507)	3,348	(146)	2,305	318
<b>2024YTD</b>	<b>1,368.15</b>	<b>(3.4)</b>	<b>35.16</b>	<b>45,558</b>	<b>1,296</b>	<b>(5,507)</b>	<b>3,348</b>	<b>(146)</b>	<b>2,305</b>	<b>319</b>
1Q23	1,609.17	(5.1)	33.92	63,300	1,866	(1,646)	1,594	(83)	136	612
2Q23	1,503.10	(4.2)	34.48	47,432	1,376	(1,461)	593	(120)	987	(178)
3Q23	1,471.43	(7.4)	35.17	49,809	1,416	(1,420)	825	261	333	(716)
4Q23	1,415.85	(15.2)	35.64	42,734	1,199	(981)	336	(204)	849	601
1Q24	1,368.15	(15.0)	35.16	62,067	1,765	(2,164)	820	11	(22)	(1)
Jul-23	1,556.06	(1.3)	34.61	44,682	1,291	(361)	100	81	181	958
Aug-23	1,565.94	(4.5)	35.04	56,846	1,622	(443)	48	114	280	(1,057)
Sep-23	1,471.43	(7.4)	35.85	47,900	1,336	(616)	677	66	(128)	(618)
Oct-23	1,381.83	(14.1)	36.51	45,582	1,249	(431)	254	(134)	312	458
Nov-23	1,380.18	(15.6)	35.47	44,524	1,255	(548)	300	10	238	474
Dec-23	1,415.85	(15.2)	34.95	38,095	1,090	(2)	(218)	(80)	299	(331)
Jan-24	1,368.15	(18.1)	35.16	62,067	1,765	(562)	820	11	(22)	(1)
<b>2024YTD</b>	<b>1,368.15</b>	<b>(3.4)</b>	<b>35.16</b>	<b>45,558</b>	<b>1,296</b>	<b>(6,202)</b>	<b>820</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>(22)</b>	<b>(1)</b>
22/01/2024	1,369.92		35.67	51,506	1,444	(112)	129	2	(19)	(25)
23/01/2024	1,356.54		35.69	48,638	1,363	(57)	66	(14)	6	(81)
24/01/2024	1,381.19		35.68	53,763	1,507	(16)	2	(10)	24	(43)
25/01/2024	1,376.09		35.73	41,095	1,150	(57)	1	6	50	54
26/01/2024	1,368.15		35.63	48,278	1,355	(78)	59	7	12	49

Source: Bloomberg

## Exhibit 12: Upcoming events

Date Time	Event		Survey	Actual	Prior
01/26/2024 02:30	Foreign Reserves	Jan-19	--	\$221.2b	\$223.5b
01/26/2024 02:30	Forward Contracts	Jan-19	--	\$30.2b	\$29.9b
01/28/2024 22:30	Car Sales	Dec	--	--	61621
01/30/2024 23:00	Mfg Production Index ISIC NSA YoY	Dec	-2.45%	--	-4.71%
01/30/2024 23:00	Capacity Utilization ISIC	Dec	--	--	57.87
01/31/2024 02:00	BoP Current Account Balance	Dec	\$1000m	--	-\$1244m
01/31/2024 02:30	BoP Overall Balance	Dec	--	--	\$1591m
01/31/2024 02:30	Exports	Dec	--	--	\$23100m
01/31/2024 02:30	Imports	Dec	--	--	\$23258m
01/31/2024 02:30	Exports YoY	Dec	--	--	3.90%
01/31/2024 02:30	Imports YoY	Dec	--	--	9.50%
01/31/2024 02:30	Trade Balance	Dec	--	--	-\$159m
01/31/2024 19:30	S&P Global Thailand PMI Mfg	Jan	--	--	45.1
02/01/2024 02:30	Business Sentiment Index	Jan	--	--	49.1
02/02/2024 02:30	Foreign Reserves	Jan-26	--	--	\$221.2b
02/02/2024 02:30	Forward Contracts	Jan-26	--	--	\$30.2b
02/04/2024 22:30	CPI Core YoY	Jan	--	--	0.58%
02/04/2024 22:30	CPI NSA MoM	Jan	--	--	-0.46%
02/04/2024 22:30	CPI YoY	Jan	--	--	-0.83%
02/06/2024 02/13	Consumer Confidence Economic	Jan	--	--	56
02/06/2024 02/13	Consumer Confidence	Jan	--	--	62
02/07/2024 02:05	BoT Benchmark Interest Rate	Feb-07	--	--	2.50%
02/18/2024 21:30	GDP SA QoQ	4Q	--	--	0.80%
02/18/2024 21:30	GDP YoY	4Q	--	--	1.50%

Source: Bloomberg

## Exhibit 13: Management trading

Company	Management	Securities	Transaction	Shares	Price (THB)	Action	Value (THBm)
KCG Corporation (KCG)	Songtham Phianpattanawit	Common Shares	1/25/2024	10,000	8.55	Buy	0.09
Genesis Fertility Center (GFC)	Runglerd Inkkannun	Common Shares	1/25/2024	20,000	10.85	Buy	0.22
CM Organizer (CMO)	Kiti Phuathavornskul	Common Shares	1/25/2024	21,263,824	0.70	Buy	14.88
TSTE (TSTE)	Prapas Chutimaworapan	Common Shares	1/25/2024	5,500	9.90	Buy	0.05
Triton Holding (TRITN)	Louise Taechaubol	Common Shares	1/25/2024	9,000,000	0.13	Buy	1.17
Thonburi Healthcare (THG)	Charuvarn Vanasin	Common Shares	1/25/2024	2,941,666	48.00	Transfer	141.20
Bioscience Animal Health (BIS)	Suchat Worrawutthangkool	Common Shares	1/25/2024	1,900	4.15	Buy	0.01
Prinsiri (PRIN)	Prinya Kovitchindachai	Common Shares	1/25/2024	20,100	2.94	Buy	0.06
PROEN Corp (PROEN)	Kittipan Sri-Bua-lam	Warrant	1/22/2024	48,300	0.12	Sell	0.01
PROEN Corp (PROEN)	Kittipan Sri-Bua-lam	Warrant	1/23/2024	1,611,500	0.09	Sell	0.15
Precise Corporation (PCC)	Kiti Sumrit	Common Shares	1/25/2024	20,000	3.14	Buy	0.06
Srisawad Power 1979 (SAWAD)	Wichit Phayuhanaveechai	Common Shares	1/24/2024	25,000	37.00	Buy	0.93
Eastern Power Group (EP)	Yuth Chinpakkul	Common Shares	1/25/2024	1,100	2.64	Buy	0.00
S&J International Enterprises (S&J)	Daranee Ajaneeyakul	Common Shares	1/25/2024	2,000	51.19	Buy	0.10
S&J International Enterprises (S&J)	Thongsuk Upathambhakul	Common Shares	1/25/2024	2,000	51.19	Buy	0.10
S&J International Enterprises (S&J)	Patchara Pongwichan	Common Shares	1/25/2024	2,000	51.19	Buy	0.10
S.C.L. Motor Part (SCL)	Anantachai Hamontri	Common Shares	1/22/2024	150,000	2.18	Sell	0.33
S.C.L. Motor Part (SCL)	Anantachai Hamontri	Common Shares	1/23/2024	145,000	2.19	Buy	0.32

Source: SEC

## Exhibit 14: Upcoming XR

Symbol	X-Date	Announce Date	Rights for	Subscription Price	Unit	Subscription Ratio (Holding:New)	Subscription Period	Allotted Shares (Shares)
SCN	31/01/2024	15/11/2023	Warrants	-	Baht	3 : 1	-	403056836
FSX	05/03/2024	28/11/2023	Common	2.3	Baht	1 : 1	25/03/2024 - 29/03/2024	867929461

Source: SET



## Exhibit 15: Upcoming XM

Symbol	X-Date	Meeting Date	Agenda	Venue
PICO	01/02/2024	23/02/2024	Omitted dividend payment, Changing The director(s)	Crystal Design Center, CDC Ballroom 1, 888 Pradit Manutham Road, Klongjan, Bangkok, Bangkok 10240
SSS	02/02/2024	01/03/2024	Capital increase, Acquisition and disposition of assets / Acquisition or Disposition of Assets, Connected transaction	Alexander Hotel, 5th Floor Evergreen Roomm, No. 1 Soi Ramkhamhaeng 83/3 Huamark, Bang Kapi Bangkok, Thailand, 10240
SCGD	05/02/2024	25/03/2024	Cash dividend payment, The issuance of debentures, Changing The director(s)	Electronics meeting (E-Meetings)
GLOCON	06/02/2024	20/03/2024	Capital increase, Paid up capital reduction, The issuance of convertible securities	Electronic Extraordinary General Meeting (E-EGM)
SCGP	06/02/2024	26/03/2024	Cash dividend payment	Meeting via electronic means (E-Meeting)
CV	07/02/2024	01/03/2024	Capital increase, Paid up capital reduction, The issuance of convertible securities	electronic meeting
SCC	07/02/2024	27/03/2024	Cash dividend payment	Meeting via electronic means (E-Meeting)
KPNPF	12/02/2024	08/03/2024	Conversion to Reit	Jamjuree Ballroom A, M floor, Pathumwan Princess Hotel, No. 444 Phaya Thai Road, Wang Mai Sub-district, Pathum Wan District, Bangkok 10330

Source: SET

## Exhibit 16: Upcoming XD

Symbol	X-Date	Dividend (per Share)	Unit	Operation Period	Source of Dividend	Payment Date	Price	Div Yield	Par
NOBLE	29/1/2024	0.2	Baht	01/07/2023 - 30/09/2023	Both	15/2/2024	4.10	4.9%	10.5049
PJW	30/1/2024	0.06	Baht	-	RE	14/2/2024	3.36	1.8%	5.68
KTIS	1/2/2024	0.1	Baht	01/10/2022 - 30/09/2023	NP	16/2/2024	3.84	2.6%	1
TSC	1/2/2024	0.8	Baht	01/10/2022 - 30/09/2023	NP	22/2/2024	16.30	4.9%	0.5
STI	2/2/2024	0.1	Baht	01/01/2023 - 30/09/2023	NP	23/2/2024	3.74	2.7%	1
ASML01	5/2/2024	-	Baht	-	-	7/3/2024	-	-	1
METCO	7/2/2024	10	Baht	01/10/2022 - 30/09/2023	NP	22/2/2024	242.00	4.1%	0.5
IRC	8/2/2024	0.4178	Baht	01/10/2022 - 30/09/2023	NP	28/2/2024	13.90	3.0%	10
MSFT80X	14/2/2024	-	Baht	-	-	11/4/2024	-	-	1
KSL	29/2/2024	0.05	Baht	01/11/2022 - 31/10/2023	NP	15/3/2024	2.66	1.9%	-
SCGD	1/4/2024	0.15	Baht	01/01/2023 - 31/12/2023	NP	22/4/2024	9.10	1.6%	0.5
SCGP	2/4/2024	0.3	Baht	01/01/2023 - 31/12/2023	NP	22/4/2024	31.50	1.0%	10
SCC	4/4/2024	3.5	Baht	01/01/2023 - 31/12/2023	NP	23/4/2024	269.00	1.3%	1

Source: SET

## Exhibit 17: New securities

Warrants	Trade Date	Underlying	Market	Maturity Date	Initial Price (Baht)	Exercise Price (Baht)	
RS-W5	29/01/2024	RS	SET	15/01/2026	-	6	
Derivative Warrants	Trade Date	Underlying	Issuer	DW Type	Market	Maturity Date	Exercise Price (Baht)
ALIHEA41C2406A	29/01/2024	ALIHEA	JPM	Call	SET	03/07/2024	3.8
AOT19C2406B	29/01/2024	AOT	YUANTA	Call	SET	13/06/2024	74.5
BCH13P2406A	29/01/2024	BCH	KGI	Put	SET	11/06/2024	15.4
DELTA41P2406A	29/01/2024	DELTA	JPM	Put	SET	12/06/2024	60
GPSC41P2406A	29/01/2024	GPSC	JPM	Put	SET	12/06/2024	37
HKEX28C2407A	29/01/2024	HKEX	MACQ	Call	SET	03/08/2024	265
JD41C2406A	29/01/2024	JD	JPM	Call	SET	03/07/2024	110
KCE19C2406B	29/01/2024	KCE	YUANTA	Call	SET	13/06/2024	62.75
KUAISH41C2406A	29/01/2024	KUAISH	JPM	Call	SET	03/07/2024	55.8
LENOVO41C2406A	29/01/2024	LENOVO	JPM	Call	SET	03/07/2024	13
PINGAN28C2407A	29/01/2024	PINGAN	MACQ	Call	SET	03/08/2024	35.7
SAWAD19C2406A	29/01/2024	SAWAD	YUANTA	Call	SET	13/06/2024	48.25
SET5041C2403I	29/01/2024	SET50	JPM	Call	SET	03/04/2024	925
SUNNY28C2407A	29/01/2024	SUNNY	MACQ	Call	SET	03/08/2024	68
XIAOMI28C2407A	29/01/2024	XIAOMI	MACQ	Call	SET	03/08/2024	16.5

Source: SET