

Industrial Machinery | Singapore | March 8, 2022



Singapore

ADD (no change)

Consensus ratings*:	Buy 3	Hold 0	Sell 0
Current price:			S\$0.80
Target price:			S\$1.00
Previous target:			S\$1.05
Up/downside:			25.0%
CGS-CIMB / Consens	SUS:		-2.0%
Reuters:		I	HLAA.SI
Bloomberg:			HLA SP
Market cap:		USS	\$439.7m
		SS	\$598.4m
Average daily turnove	r:	US	\$\$0.08m
		S	\$\$0.11m
Current shares o/s:			747.8m
Free float: *Source: Bloomberg			23.7%

Key changes in this note

FY22-23F EPS cut by 7.7%-14.7%.



2.3

-3.6

9.3

% held

75.2

Major shareholders Hong Leong Corp Holdings

Relative (%)

Analyst(s)



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Hong Leong Asia

Revving up for a stronger ride in 2022

- 2H21 core PATMI of S\$19.3m (-22% yoy) was in line. Yuchai saw weaker sales post pre-buying ahead of Jul's new engine standard implementation.
- We forecast building materials unit to record 27% PBT growth in FY22F on the back of recovery in construction activity in Singapore.
- Yuchai should also see sequential volume and margin recovery in coming quarters as industry sales gradually normalise. Maintain Add.

2H21: A weaker-than-expected half

HLA reported 2H21 core PATMI of S\$19.3m (-37% hoh, -22% yoy), dragged by weaker diesel engines unit (Yuchai) which saw sales decline after benefiting from strong prebuying in 1H21 as China transitioned to National VI (N6) engines on 1 Jul 2021. FY21 core net profit (excluding S\$10m gain on debt assignment in 1H21) of S\$50m (+10% yoy) was in line with our expectations at 99% of our full-year forecast. The group proposed full year DPS of 2 Scts (vs. FY20: 1 Sct), indicating 2.5% dividend yield.

Riding the construction rebound in Singapore

Building materials unit (BMU) recorded 2H21 PBT of S\$19m (+19% yoy), supported by rising demand for concrete products in Singapore as construction activity recovers. The Building and Construction Authority (BCA) expects further demand recovery for building materials in Singapore in CY22F, and forecasts industry-ready mixed concrete demand to grow 8-21% and precast concrete demand to grow 45-63%. We forecast HLA's building materials segment to see PBT growth of 27% yoy in FY22F, riding on 1) stronger sales volume in Singapore, 2) narrower Tasek losses, and 3) higher profit contribution from associate BRC Asia. Commercialisation of HLA's integrated construction and prefabrication hub (ICPH) in 4Q22F could further boost segment earnings in FY23F.

Sequential recovery ahead for diesel engine unit

Engine unit sales declined 40% hoh to 171k engines in 2H21, mainly dragged by weaker truck engine sales, while engine sales to the bus market and off-road market grew. Management believes that the accumulated distributors' inventory (ahead of new engine standard implementation) has pared down well in 2H21, and we forecast sales volume to improve sequentially in coming quarters as industry sales normalise. Along with volume recovery, we believe PBT margin for FY22F will also improve given the high operating leverage of the segment.

Reiterate Add with lower TP of S\$1.00

Maintain Add; we believe the worst is over for HLA, and expect sequential earnings recovery ahead for both of its key segments. Our FY22-23F EPS is lowered to factor in lower margin assumptions for Yuchai; our SOP-based TP is lowered to S\$1.00 accordingly. Potential catalysts include a stronger rebound in demand for diesel engine and faster recovery in Singapore's construction sector. Downside risks include input price pressure for Yuchai, dragging margin recovery.

Financial Summary	Dec-20A	Dec-21A	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Revenue (S\$m)	4,496	4,933	4,656	4,948	5,135
Operating EBITDA (S\$m)	284.6	233.0	288.8	333.2	358.9
Net Profit (S\$m)	45.26	59.66	63.99	77.01	82.51
Core EPS (S\$)	0.06	0.07	0.09	0.10	0.11
Core EPS Growth	(1.3%)	9.7%	28.9%	20.3%	7.1%
FD Core P/E (x)	13.22	12.05	9.35	7.77	7.25
DPS (S\$)	0.010	0.020	0.021	0.026	0.028
Dividend Yield	1.25%	2.50%	2.67%	3.22%	3.45%
EV/EBITDA (x)	5.54	7.53	6.07	5.00	4.99
P/FCFE (x)	3.37	NA	4.40	2.51	15.07
Net Gearing	(21.4%)	(11.4%)	(13.1%)	(18.1%)	(15.7%)
P/BV (x)	0.68	0.63	0.60	0.56	0.53
ROE	5.50%	5.41%	6.52%	7.45%	7.55%
% Change In Core EPS Estimates			(14.7%)	(7.7%)	
CGS-CIMB/Consensus EPS (x)			0.84	0.86	



Revving up for a stronger ride in 2022

Figure 1: Resu	Its compa	arison			_			_		
FYE Dec (S\$ m)	2H21	2H20	yoy chg (%)	1H21	hoh chg (%)	FY21	FY20	yoy chg (%)	Prev FY21F	Comments
Revenue	2,093.8	2,359.1	(11.2)	2,838.7	(26.2)	4,932.6	4,496.2	9.7	4,784.2	Above expectations on stronger engine sales, FY21 formed 103% of our full-year forecast
Cost of sales	(1,752.7)	(1,963.1)	(10.7)	(2,450.5)	(28.5)	(4,203.2)	(3,776.8)	11.3	(4,093.4)	Below, weaker engine margins
Gross profit	341.2	396.0	(13.8)	388.3	(12.1)	729.4	719.4	1.4	690.7	
GPM (%)	16.3%	16.8%		13.7%	19.1	14.8%	16.0%		14.4%	
Opex	(339.7)	(329.6)	3.1	(302.2)	12.4	(641.9)	(557.3)	15.2	(551.0)	Above, higher than expected R&D expenses for China Yuchai
Operating profit	40.6	101.8	(60.2)	108.3	(62.5)	148.8	206.8	(28.0)	181.0	
OPM (%)	1.9%	4.3%		3.8%	(49.2)	3.0%	4.6%		3.8%	
Associates	(19.5)	(12.1)	61.6	3.2	(714.6)	(16.4)	(11.8)	39.2	3.0	
Profit before tax	21.1	89.8	(76.5)	111.4	(81.1)	132.5	195.1	(32.1)	184.0	
Tax expense	7.4	(16.9)	n.m.	(21.1)	(134.8)	(13.8)	(42.1)	(67.3)	(34.1)	
Effective tax rate	-34.9%	18.9%		18.9%		10.4%	21.6%		18.5%	
Net profit	28.4	72.8	(61.0)	90.3	(68.6)	118.7	153.0	(22.4)	149.9	
NCI	9.1	48.2	(81.1)	50.0	(81.7)	59.1	107.7	(45.2)	89.9	
PATMI	19.3	24.7	(21.8)	40.4	(52.3)	59.7	45.3	31.8	60.0	
Core PATMI	19.3	24.7	(21.8)	30.4	(36.5)	49.7	45.3	9.7	50.0	In line, FY21 formed 99% of our full-year forecast
									SO	URCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

		FY22F			FY23F	
(S\$ m)	Old	New	% change	Old	New	% change
Revenue	4,828.6	4,655.6	-3.6%	4,983.6	4,947.9	-0.7%
Gross profit	842.0	793.3	-5.8%	880.9	871.6	-1.1%
Profit before tax	254.4	198.3	-22.0%	275.3	237.3	-13.8%
PATMI	75.0	64.0	-14.7%	83.5	77.0	-7.7%
Core PATMI	75.0	64.0	-14.7%	83.5	77.0	-7.7%
Basic EPS (Scts)	10.0	8.6	-14.7%	11.2	10.3	-7.7%
Core EPS (Scts)	10.0	8.6	-14.7%	11.2	10.3	-7.7%

Figure 3: Sum-of-parts valuation						
Sum-of-the-parts valuation	CY23F net profit (S\$m)	Implied FY23F P/E (X)	Value (S\$'m)	Per share (S\$)	% of SOP	Comment
Diesel engines			396.4	0.53	47.8%	Based on our target price of CYD US
Building materials	39.3	12.0	471.6	0.63	56.8%	Based on 12x CY23F P/E
Rigid plastic packaging	-0.2	8.0	-1.9	0.00	-0.2%	Based on 8x CY23F P/E
Net cash as of end-FY21F			-36.2	-0.05	-4.4%	
Cash owned by Hong Leong Asia excl. CYD			400.2	0.54		
Less: borrowings of Hong Leong Asia excl. CYD			-436.4	-0.58		
Sum-of-parts valuation			829.9	1.11	100.0%	
No. of shares (mm)			747.9			
Discount to SOP				10%		
Target Price (S\$)				1.00		
					SOURCES: CGS-C	IMB RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS





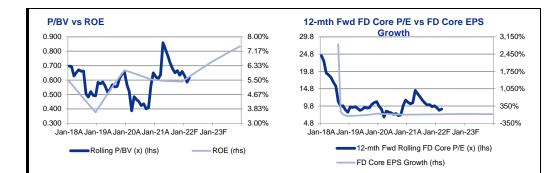
ESG in a nutshell

We are pleased that HLA is actively taking steps to contribute to better environmental protection standards. On its diesel engine front, it has been investing in R&D to develop the next National VI engine products in China to reduce emissions and achieve higher energy efficiency. It also continues to devote resources to develop new energy engine products and green technology. On its building materials unit front, it is also continuously innovating its production processes and exploring the use of alternative raw materials to mitigate and minimise its environmental impact. HLA is also stepping up investments in digitising its systems and processes to speed up the business transformation at its plants to reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions.

Keep your eye on	Implications
In line with China's full implementation of National VI(a) engines by Jul 2021, HLA has already launched a complete range of products that are incompliance with the latest standards. By the end of 2020, Yuchai had a portfolio of engines that was National VI(b) emission standards compliant, even though such emission standards are not scheduled for implementation until Jul 2023.	Given China's growing emphasis on environmental protection management, its emission standards for diesel engines have surpassed that of European standards. We think the continued success of HLA's diesel engine unit is dependent on its ability to fulfil the latest emission standards in China. Continued R&D to keep up with the latest standards, as well as new energy engine products and green technology, is crucial.
ESG highlights	Implications
In Singapore, HLA has successfully completed a commercial project using Portland fly-ash concrete (PFAC) in FY20. PFAC is viewed as a "greener" choice compared to Ordinary Portland Cement (OPC), as it directly reduces the need for clinker production (95% of the material) by 30-50%, and hence helps decrease carbon emissions significantly. The treatment and utilisation of pulverised coal which is incorporated into the mix also helps to optimise recycled materials, reducing the consumption of natural raw materials, water and energy to create a more sustainable construction material.	We like HLA's continual efforts in innovating its production processes, as well as exploring the use of alternative raw materials at its building materials unit to mitigate and minimise its environmental impact. We think this is especially important in Singapore, where the government is taking the lead in green building.
Trends	Implications
In FY20, both energy intensity and scope 1 emissions intensity of HLA were lowered. Overall energy intensity was lowered to 1.59TJ/S\$ million in FY20, compared to 2.07TJ/S\$ million in FY19. Meanwhile, scope 1 emissions intensity also decreased to 339tCO2/S\$ million in FY20, compared to 442tCO2/S\$ million in FY19.	While this is partially due to shorter operating hours amid the Covid-19 pandemic which triggered a nationwide lockdown, we are pleased that HLA continues to take steps to improve its environmental protection standards.



BY THE NUMBERS



Profit & Loss

(S\$m)	Dec-20A	Dec-21A	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Total Net Revenues	4,496	4,933	4,656	4,948	5,135
Gross Profit	719	729	793	872	916
Operating EBITDA	285	233	289	333	359
Depreciation And Amortisation	(122)	(145)	(116)	(124)	(128)
Operating EBIT	162	88	172	209	231
Financial Income/(Expense)	(43)	(32)	(37)	(37)	(36)
Pretax Income/(Loss) from Assoc.	(12)	(16)	15	16	17
Non-Operating Income/(Expense)	88	93	47	48	44
Profit Before Tax (pre-El)	195	132	198	237	257
Exceptional Items					
Pre-tax Profit	195	132	198	237	257
Taxation	(42)	(14)	(37)	(44)	(47)
Exceptional Income - post-tax					
Profit After Tax	153	119	162	194	209
Minority Interests	(108)	(59)	(98)	(117)	(127)
Preferred Dividends					
FX Gain/(Loss) - post tax					
Other Adjustments - post-tax					
Net Profit	45	60	64	77	83
Recurring Net Profit	45	50	64	77	83
Fully Diluted Recurring Net Profit	45	50	64	77	83

Cash Flow

(S\$m)	Dec-20A	Dec-21A	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
EBITDA	284.6	233.0	288.8	333.2	358.9
Cash Flow from Invt. & Assoc.	11.8	16.4	(15.3)	(16.3)	(17.4)
Change In Working Capital	(50.1)	(166.9)	(10.4)	53.9	(164.1)
(Incr)/Decr in Total Provisions					
Other Non-Cash (Income)/Expense					
Other Operating Cashflow	111.5	87.2	33.0	34.9	33.1
Net Interest (Paid)/Received	(3.1)	(1.7)	(3.5)	(3.5)	(3.5)
Tax Paid	(48.6)	(37.2)	(36.6)	(43.8)	(47.3)
Cashflow From Operations	306.1	130.7	256.0	358.4	159.7
Capex	(137.3)	(136.0)	(150.0)	(150.0)	(150.0)
Disposals Of FAs/subsidiaries	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Acq. Of Subsidiaries/investments					
Other Investing Cashflow	(31.4)	(102.6)	30.0	30.0	30.0
Cash Flow From Investing	(168.7)	(238.6)	(120.0)	(120.0)	(120.0)
Debt Raised/(repaid)	39.9	58.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Proceeds From Issue Of Shares	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Shares Repurchased					
Dividends Paid	(7.5)	(7.5)	(16.0)	(19.3)	(20.6)
Preferred Dividends					
Other Financing Cashflow	(158.9)	(136.2)	(61.3)	(61.3)	(61.3)
Cash Flow From Financing	(126.5)	(85.3)	(77.3)	(80.5)	(81.9)
Total Cash Generated	10.9	(193.2)	58.7	157.9	(42.2)
Free Cashflow To Equity	177.3	(49.6)	136.0	238.4	39.7
Free Cashflow To Firm	174.9	(77.8)	169.5	271.9	73.2



BY THE NUMBERS... cont'd

(S\$m)	Dec-20A	Dec-21A	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Total Cash And Equivalents	1,346	1,219	1,278	1,436	1,393
Total Debtors	1,862	1,754	1,818	1,978	1,961
Inventories	968	1,187	824	919	931
Total Other Current Assets	28	8	8	8	8
Total Current Assets	4,204	4,168	3,927	4,340	4,293
Fixed Assets	994	1,013	1,046	1,073	1,095
Total Investments	104	173	188	205	222
Intangible Assets	265	333	333	333	333
Total Other Non-Current Assets	290	307	307	307	307
Total Non-current Assets	1,653	1,825	1,874	1,917	1,957
Short-term Debt	495	724	724	724	724
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt					
Total Creditors	2,163	2,166	1,856	2,165	1,996
Other Current Liabilities	259	206	206	206	206
Total Current Liabilities	2,918	3,096	2,786	3,095	2,926
Total Long-term Debt	328	176	176	176	176
Hybrid Debt - Debt Component					
Total Other Non-Current Liabilities	193	192	192	192	192
Total Non-current Liabilities	521	368	368	368	368
Total Provisions	0	0	0	0	0
Total Liabilities	3,439	3,464	3,154	3,464	3,295
Shareholders' Equity	880	957	1,005	1,063	1,125
Minority Interests	1,538	1,572	1,642	1,731	1,830
Total Equity	2,418	2,529	2,647	2,793	2,954

Key Ratios

	Dec-20A	Dec-21A	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Revenue Growth	9.81%	9.71%	(5.61%)	6.28%	3.78%
Operating EBITDA Growth	2.6%	(18.1%)	23.9%	15.4%	7.7%
Operating EBITDA Margin	6.33%	4.72%	6.20%	6.73%	6.99%
Net Cash Per Share (S\$)	0.69	0.39	0.46	0.68	0.62
BVPS (S\$)	1.18	1.28	1.34	1.42	1.50
Gross Interest Cover	4.32	2.91	5.14	6.25	6.88
Effective Tax Rate	21.6%	10.4%	18.5%	18.4%	18.4%
Net Dividend Payout Ratio	16.5%	12.5%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%
Accounts Receivables Days	145.7	133.8	140.0	140.0	140.4
Inventory Days	75.69	93.56	95.00	78.00	80.22
Accounts Payables Days	189.0	188.0	190.0	180.0	180.5
ROIC (%)	8.1%	3.6%	6.3%	9.2%	10.3%
ROCE (%)	5.17%	2.61%	4.90%	5.74%	6.06%
Return On Average Assets	3.49%	2.44%	3.25%	3.82%	3.91%

Key Drivers					
	Dec-20A	Dec-21A	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Diesel Engines PBT margin (%)	4.7%	2.1%	4.2%	4.8%	5.0%
Building Materials PBT margin (%)	4.4%	6.9%	7.6%	7.5%	7.3%
Rigid Plastic Packaging PBT margin (%)	-1.5%	-2.7%	-1.6%	-0.9%	-0.3%



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Spitzer Chart for stock being researched (2 year data)



Corporate Governance Report of Thai Listed Companies (CGR). CG Rating by the Thai Institute of Directors Association (Thai IOD) in 2021, Anti-Corruption 2021

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