

# Singapore

ADD (no change)

Consensus ratings*: Buy	11 Hold 0 Sell 1
Current price:	S\$6.49
Target price:	S\$7.20
Previous target:	S\$7.20
Up/downside:	10.9%
CGS-CIMB / Consensus:	5.2%
Reuters:	KPLM.SI
Bloomberg:	KEP SP
Market cap:	US\$8,631m
	S\$11,685m
Average daily turnover:	US\$19.68m
	S\$26.63m
Current shares o/s:	1,817m
Free float:	60.0%
*Source: Bloomberg	

#### Key changes in this note

NIL





Konnal Carnarati

# **Keppel Corporation**

# Merger postponed, logistics monetised

- The finalisation of the definitive agreement to merge Keppel O&M and SMM will be postponed to 30 Apr 2022 (from 31 Mar 2022).
- KEP also successfully divested Keppel Logistics for a cash consideration of c.S\$80m. A small loss is expected from the deal.
- Reiterate Add and a TP of S\$7.20 on SOP valuations. Catalysts: expansion into renewables, S\$2bn-3bn of asset monetisation p.a., and accretive M&As.

**Progress, but merger agreement postponed; more details by 30 Apr** Keppel Corporation (KEP) and Sembcorp Marine (SMM) have made progress in the proposed merger between KEP Offshore & Marine and SMM (see our report dated 25 June 2022, *KEP to exit to create mega yard for SMM*). Both parties have been engaging in negotiations, mutual due diligence, and discussions on the transaction structure and exchange ratio. However, more time and deliberation will be required to finalise the definitive legal documentation; hence a revised deadline of 30 Apr 2022 has been set (previously 31 Mar 2022). KEP also updated that significant progress has been made on advancing the sale of KEP O&M's legacy rigs and associated receivables to a separate company (Asset Co) that would be majority owned by external investors. Asset Co transaction and the proposed merger will be inter-conditional and are being pursued concurrently. There is no guarantee that the definitive agreements will be executed.

#### **Divested Keppel Logistics for S\$80m**

Separately, in line with its asset monetisation strategy, Keppel Telecommunications & Transportation (KEP T&T) is divesting its entire shareholding interest in Keppel Logistics (KLOG) to Geodis International SAS (GEODIS) for an aggregate cash consideration of c.\$80m, of which c.S\$70m would be payable in cash on completion and S\$10m would be placed in an escrow account to be released upon fulfilment of certain performance targets in 2022 and 2023. KLOG's net asset and enterprise value as at end-2021 was c.S\$72.6m and S\$150m, respectively. KEP will recognise a small loss for this transaction. Completion of the divestment is scheduled for 2Q22F. Earnings contribution from KLOG is immaterial to KEP's EPS, and the divestment is part of KEP's Vision 2030 plans to be more focused.

#### Share buyback up to 5% (from 2%)

KEP has also proposed to increase its share buyback limit to 5% (from 2%) in its AGM. Note that, in Jan 22, it announced a committed S\$500m share buyback (up to 2% of its issued shares). We see the increase as KEP's commitment and management's response to the discounted valuations. Catalyst for share price outperformance is a faster-than-projected pace of asset recycling, and the proposed merger with SMM at favourable terms. Downside risks include slower-than-expected macro outlook, and unfavourable outcome of the SMM merger.

Analyst(s)



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Financial Summary	Dec-20A	Dec-21A	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Revenue (S\$m)	6,574	8,625	8,788	8,587	8,296
Operating EBITDA (S\$m)	422	1,304	1,481	1,415	1,322
Net Profit (S\$m)	(506)	1,023	859	824	803
Core EPS (S\$)	(0.28)	0.56	0.47	0.45	0.44
Core EPS Growth	(172%)		(16%)	(4%)	(3%)
FD Core P/E (x)	NA	11.54	13.73	14.32	14.70
DPS (S\$)	0.10	0.33	0.26	0.27	0.26
Dividend Yield	1.54%	5.08%	4.01%	4.19%	4.08%
EV/EBITDA (x)	51.63	15.35	14.33	14.76	15.53
P/FCFE (x)	11	2,627	NA	9	9
Net Gearing	85.7%	63.0%	70.1%	65.4%	60.9%
P/BV (x)	1.10	0.98	0.95	0.92	0.90
ROE	(4.61%)	8.98%	7.02%	6.53%	6.21%
CGS-CIMB/Consensus EPS (x)	. ,		0.98	0.88	0.86

SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

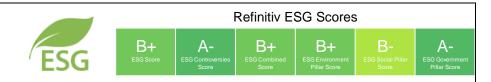


#### Recap of the proposed merger

In Jun 2021, KEP announced two non-binding MOUs to exit from the offshore & marine (O&M) segment. First, it plans to sell the stranded rigs in Rig Co and Dev Co to Asset Co. The estimated book value and receivables for these assets are c.S\$3.8bn (assets: S\$2.9bn, receivables: c.S\$930m). In return, KEP will receive credit notes for the assets sold and a 20% stake in Asset Co. Temasek-owned Kyanite Investment Holdings will seek external investors for the remaining 80% in Asset Co and raise funds to finish the uncompleted assets (previously guided by KEP to be c.S\$500m). Secondly, KEP will transfer the remaining yard assets/liabilities (Op Co) to SMM, forming a new combined entity (CE). The value of Op Co will be determined using DCF basis. The consideration will comprise up to S\$500m in cash and KEP's stake in CE. KEP will then distribute the stake in CE as dividend in specie to KEP's shareholders.

	Bbg		Price	Target Price	Market Cap		P/E (x)		2-year EPS	P/BV	(x)	Recurring ROE (%)	Dividend Yield (%
Company	Ticker	Recom.	(Icl curr)	(Icl curr)	(US\$ m)	CY22F	CY23F	CY24F	CAGR (%)	CY22F	CY23F	CY22F	CY22
Keppel Corporation	KEP SP	Add	6.49	7.20	8,631	13.7	14.3	14.7	-10.5%	0.95	0.92	7.0%	4.0%
Sembcorp Marine	SMM SP	Hold	0.10	0.09	2,295	na	na	na	na	0.86	0.89	-13.0%	0.0%
Singapore offshore - big cap sim	ple average				÷	13.7	14.3	14.7	-10.5%	0.90	0.90	-3.0%	2.0%
COSCO SHIPPING International S	COS SP	NR	0.26	na	414	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	n
Yangzijiang Shipbuilding	YZJSGD SP	Add	1.54	1.78	4,451	8.1	6.1	6.2	12.1%	0.72	0.66	9.2%	3.3%
Chinese Shipbuilder simple avera					1, 101	8.1	6.1	6.2	12.1%	0.72	0.66	9.2%	3.3%
SATS Ltd	SATS SP	Add	4.36	4.77	3.613	51.4	24.0	na	272.8%	3.13	3.05	6.1%	2.19
Sembcorp Industries	SCI SP	Add	2.71	2.96	3,613	11.3	9.8	9.3	32.3%	1.17	1.04	10.9%	2.7%
ST Engineering	STE SP	Add	4.14	4.70	9.534	21.5	18.3	16.7	10.8%	5.14	4.74	24.4%	3.9%
SIA Engineering	SIE SP	Add	2.49	2.92	2.064	41.1	36.8	na	20.4%	1.70	1.72	4.2%	3.29
Industrial conglomerate simple a		Auu	2.43	2.52	2,004	31.3	22.2	13.0	<b>84.1%</b>	2.78	2.64	11.4%	3.0%
CSE Global	CSE SP	Add	0.48	0.57	180	12.2	9.9	8.8	26.9%	1.24	1.18	10.4%	5.89
Ezion Holdings Ltd	EZI SP	NR	0.04	na	160	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	n
Mermaid Maritime PCL	MMT SP	NR	0.08	na	81	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	n
MTQ Corp Ltd	MTQ SP	NR	0.24	na	38	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	n
Singapore OSV owner simple ave	erage					12.2	9.9	8.8	26.9%	1.24	1.18	10.4%	5.8%
Bumi Armada	BAB MK	Add	0.42	0.55	583	4.2	4.2	4.4	-6.4%	0.54	0.48	13.7%	0.0%
Velesto Energy Berhad	VEB MK	Hold	0.11	0.14	205	24.4	13.8	14.1	na	0.37	0.36	1.5%	0.0%
Yinson Holdings	YNS MK	Add	4.55	7.91	1,152	11.3	5.9	6.5	62.3%	1.15	0.98	10.2%	1.3%
Coastal Contracts Bhd	COCO MK	NR	1.81	na	230	9.3	9.1	na	26.1%	na	na	8.3%	n
Dialog Group Bhd	DLG MK	NR	2.71	na	3,650	25.8	23.7	na	8.6%	2.95	2.73	12.0%	1.4%
Malaysia Marine and Heavy Engi	MMHE MK	NR	0.39	na	148	na	39.0	14.4	na	0.36	0.36	1.8%	0.09
Petronas Dagangan Bhd	PETD MK	NR	20.50	na	4,905	28.2	25.7	24.0	22.4%	3.72	3.70	12.6%	3.39
Uzma Bhd	UZMA MK	NR	0.46	na	38	8.4	6.0	na	35.3%	0.31	0.29	4.0%	r
Wah Seong Corp Bhd	YNS MK	NR	0.72	na	137	9.0	7.5	5.3	na	0.75	0.70	9.5%	0.0
Malaysia offshore simple average	e					15.1	15.0	11.5	24.7%	1.27	1.20	8.2%	0.99





# ESG in a nutshell

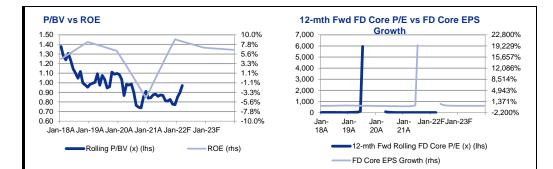
KEP scored AAA by MSCI ESG since 2020 and is a leader among the top 8% of global industrial conglomerates in the MSCI All Country World Index. It scores B+ for its ESG combined score by Refinitiv in 2020 and is ranked 14 among the 91 corporates covered by Refinitiv in Singapore.

As part of Keppel's Vision 2030, sustainability is a core strategy for its growth, with four groups of business focus — Energy & Environment, Urban Development, Connectivity, and Asset Management. It is also apparent that the group has applied the lens of sustainability to the group's strategic review, asset recycling plans and divestments of logistics and offshore & marine businesses in recent years.

Keep your eye on	Implications
Corporate governance is key. Since the settlement of fines with criminal authorities in the US, Brazil, and Singapore in end-2017, KEP's ESG Controversies score has gradually improved from D+ in 2016 to A- in 2020. Note that in Oct-2020, there were still negative news flows pertaining to Keppel FELS former employees by the Singapore Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau (CPIB). KEP noted that the employee was dismissed in 2019 for breaching KEP's code of conduct.	The corruption investigation was a key share price overhang, in addition to weak oil price in 2015-2017. KEP has dealt firmly with the issue. In 2019, KEP O&M became one of the first companies in Singapore to achieve global certification for the ISO 37001 Anti-Bribery Management System, reflecting KEP's zero tolerance for corruption. We think it takes time to restore full confidence in the group. With the pending divestment of its offshore & marine business, the group's investment into new areas of growth, building on the sustainability trend, could eventually rebuild its corporate governance standard.
ESG highlights	Implications
KEP clearly articulates its 2030 vision businesses strategy to address some of the macro ESG trends via the four business areas. Notably, its Energy & Environment strategy addresses the <b>energy transition and climate</b> <b>change trend</b> with infrastructure solutions, such as waste- to-energy and district cooling plants. The decision to halt production of oil rigs and its impending divestment of its offshore & marine division and sale of stranded rigs fit the trend of investors moving away from fossil fuels. In 2020, KEP started to introduce a shadow carbon price in the evaluation of all major investments to better understand the carbon footprint of its business activities. KEP also has a target to grow its portfolio of renewable energy assets to 7 GW by 2030. It is developing a 500MW greenfield solar farm in Australia, starting 2022.	We expect the exit of offshore & marine to improve appetite from investors with high "E" expectations. We have not factored in the capex and earnings contribution for renewable energy assets.
Trends	Implications
KEP's MSCI ESG rating improved from AA rating in 2018- 2019 to AAA in 2020 and retained since then. Its Refinitiv ESG combined score also improved from C in 2017 to B+ in 2020, mainly because of absence of overhang from the Brazilian issue above.	Pending the successful exit from its offshore & marine business, we expect to see further re-rating in KEP's overall ESG scores.
	SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, REFINITIV



## **BY THE NUMBERS**



#### Profit & Loss

(S\$m)	Dec-20A	Dec-21A	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Total Net Revenues	6,574	8,625	8,788	8,587	8,296
Gross Profit	863	906	1,154	1,127	1,089
Operating EBITDA	422	1,304	1,481	1,415	1,322
Depreciation And Amortisation	(414)	(406)	(432)	(416)	(392)
Operating EBIT	8	898	1,048	999	930
Financial Income/(Expense)	(130)	(141)	(140)	(127)	(114)
Pretax Income/(Loss) from Assoc.	(162)	467	328	282	279
Non-Operating Income/(Expense)	29	111	62	64	66
Profit Before Tax (pre-El)	(255)	1,335	1,298	1,218	1,161
Exceptional Items	0	0	0	0	0
Pre-tax Profit	(255)	1,335	1,298	1,218	1,161
Taxation	(253)	(325)	(415)	(361)	(331)
Exceptional Income - post-tax					
Profit After Tax	(508)	1,010	883	857	830
Minority Interests	2	13	(24)	(33)	(27)
Preferred Dividends					
FX Gain/(Loss) - post tax					
Other Adjustments - post-tax					
Net Profit	(506)	1,023	859	824	803
Recurring Net Profit	(506)	1,023	859	824	803
Fully Diluted Recurring Net Profit	(506)	1,023	859	824	803

#### **Cash Flow**

		<b>B</b>			
(S\$m)	Dec-20A	Dec-21A	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
EBITDA	422	1,304	1,481	1,415	1,322
Cash Flow from Invt. & Assoc.					
Change In Working Capital	534	(187)	(1,431)	121	175
(Incr)/Decr in Total Provisions					
Other Non-Cash (Income)/Expense	(378)	(608)	357	284	284
Other Operating Cashflow	0	0	62	64	66
Net Interest (Paid)/Received	(253)	(157)	(140)	(127)	(114)
Tax Paid	(177)	(260)	(415)	(361)	(331)
Cashflow From Operations	147	93	(87)	1,396	1,401
Capex	(488)	(538)	(538)	(538)	(538)
Disposals Of FAs/subsidiaries	332	1,146	0	0	0
Acq. Of Subsidiaries/investments	(0)	(28)	0	0	0
Other Investing Cashflow					
Cash Flow From Investing	(156)	580	(538)	(538)	(538)
Debt Raised/(repaid)	1,081	(668)	400	400	400
Proceeds From Issue Of Shares	0	398	0	0	0
Shares Repurchased					
Dividends Paid	(273)	(346)	(473)	(494)	(482)
Preferred Dividends					
Other Financing Cashflow					
Cash Flow From Financing	808	(615)	(73)	(94)	(82)
Total Cash Generated	799	57	(698)	763	781
Free Cashflow To Equity	1,072	4	(225)	1,257	1,263
Free Cashflow To Firm	376	923	(372)	1,097	1,091

SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



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# BY THE NUMBERS... cont'd

(S\$m)	Dec-20A	Dec-21A	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Total Cash And Equivalents	2,480	3,617	2,845	3,608	4,390
Total Debtors	2,531	2,169	3,515	3,435	3,319
Inventories	7,617	7,774	9,667	9,446	9,126
Total Other Current Assets	1,761	1,287	1,287	1,287	1,287
Total Current Assets	14,389	14,846	17,315	17,776	18,121
Fixed Assets	2,716	2,044	1,866	1,705	1,567
Total Investments	0	0	0	0	0
Intangible Assets	1,609	1,589	1,589	1,589	1,589
Total Other Non-Current Assets	13,393	13,844	14,172	14,454	14,732
Total Non-current Assets	17,717	17,477	17,628	17,748	17,889
Short-term Debt	4,433	4,659	4,659	4,659	4,659
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt					
Total Creditors	4,604	5,099	5,273	5,152	4,978
Other Current Liabilities	3,050	2,200	3,835	3,774	3,687
Total Current Liabilities	12,086	11,958	13,767	13,586	13,324
Total Long-term Debt	7,607	6,796	7,196	7,596	7,996
Hybrid Debt - Debt Component					
Total Other Non-Current Liabilities	1,257	1,127	1,127	1,127	1,127
Total Non-current Liabilities	8,863	7,923	8,323	8,723	9,123
Total Provisions	0	0	0	0	0
Total Liabilities	20,950	19,882	22,090	22,309	22,447
Shareholders' Equity	10,728	12,057	12,443	12,773	13,094
Minority Interests	427	385	409	442	468
Total Equity	11,156	12,441	12,852	13,214	13,562

### Key Ratios

	Dec-20A	Dec-21A	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Revenue Growth	(13.3%)	31.2%	1.9%	(2.3%)	(3.4%)
Operating EBITDA Growth	(66%)	209%	14%	(4%)	(7%)
Operating EBITDA Margin	6.4%	15.1%	16.9%	16.5%	15.9%
Net Cash Per Share (S\$)	(5.26)	(4.31)	(4.96)	(4.76)	(4.55)
BVPS (S\$)	5.90	6.63	6.85	7.03	7.20
Gross Interest Cover	0.03	3.58	4.13	4.16	4.08
Effective Tax Rate	0.0%	24.3%	31.9%	29.7%	28.5%
Net Dividend Payout Ratio	NA	58.7%	55.0%	60.0%	60.0%
Accounts Receivables Days	147.0	99.4	118.0	147.7	149.0
Inventory Days	533.7	363.9	416.9	467.6	471.6
Accounts Payables Days	295.0	229.4	247.9	255.0	257.2
ROIC (%)	0.04%	4.09%	4.90%	4.35%	4.05%
ROCE (%)	0.87%	4.75%	5.03%	4.69%	4.29%
Return On Average Assets	(1.19%)	3.57%	3.04%	2.79%	2.64%

Key Drivers					
	Dec-20A	Dec-21A	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Revenue growth (%)	-29.1%	28.0%	-7.7%	15.3%	-100.0%
EBIT margin (%)	11.6%	0.1%	10.4%	11.9%	11.6%

SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



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Conglomerate | Singapore Keppel Corporation | March 31, 2022

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India	CGS-CIMB Securities (India) Private Limited	Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
Indonesia	PT CGS-CIMB Sekuritas Indonesia	Financial Services Authority of Indonesia
Malaysia	CGS-CIMB Securities Sdn. Bhd.	Securities Commission Malaysia
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South Korea	CGS-CIMB Securities (Hong Kong) Limited, Korea Branch	Financial Services Commission and Financial Supervisory Service
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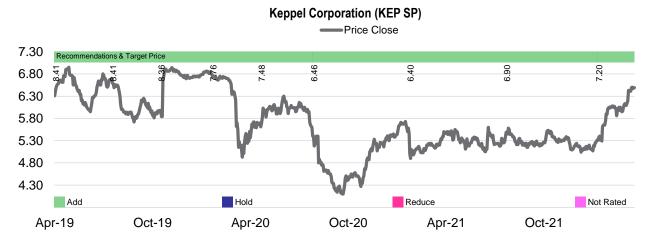
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#### Spitzer Chart for stock being researched ( 2 year data )



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

ADVANC - Excellent, Certified, AMATA - Excellent, Certified, ANAN - Excellent, n/a, AOT - Excellent, n/a, AP - Excellent, Certified, ASP -Excellent, n/a, AWC - Excellent, Declared, AU - Good, n/a, BAM - Very Good, Certified, BAY - Excellent, Certified, BBL - Excellent, Certified, BCH - Very Good, Certified, BCP - Excellent, Certified, BCPG - Excellent, Certified, BDMS - Excellent, n/a, BEAUTY - Good, n/a, BEM -Excellent, n/a BH - Good, n/a, BJC - Very Good, n/a, BLA - Very Good, Certified, BTS - Excellent, Certified, CBG - Very Good, n/a, CCET - n/a, n/a, CENTEL - Excellent, Certified, CHAYO - Very Good, n/a, CHG - Very Good, n/a, CK - Excellent, n/a, COM7 - Excellent, Certified, CPALL -Excellent, Certified, CPF - Excellent, Certified, CPN - Excellent, Certified, CPNREIT - n/a, n/a, CRC - Excellent, Declared, DELTA - Excellent, Certified, DDD - Excellent, n/a, DIF - n/a, n/a, DOHOME - Very Good, Declared, DREIT - n/a, n/a, DTAC - Excellent, Certified, ECL - Excellent, Certified, EGCO - Excellent, Certified, EPG - Excellent, Certified, ERW - Very Good, Certified, GFPT - Excellent, Certified, GGC - Excellent, Certified, GLOBAL - Excellent, n/a, HANA - Excellent, Certified, HMPRO - Excellent, Certified, HUMAN - Good, n/a, ICHI - Excellent, Certified, III - Excellent, Declared, INTUCH - Excellent, Certified, IRPC - Excellent, Certified, ITD - Very Good, n/a, IVL - Excellent, Certified, JASIF - n/a, n/a, JKN - n/a, Certified, JMT - Very Good, n/a, KBANK - Excellent, Certified, KCE - Excellent, Certified, KEX - Very Good, Declared, KKP - Excellent, Certified, KSL - Excellent, Certified, KTB - Excellent, Certified, KTC - Excellent, Certified, LH - Excellent, n/a, LPN - Excellent, Certified, M - Very Good, Certified, MAKRO - Excellent, Certified, MC - Excellent, Certified, MEGA - Very Good, n/a, MINT - Excellent, Certified, MTC - Excellent, Certified, NETBAY - Very Good, n/a, NRF - Very Good, Declared, OR - Excellent, n/a, ORI - Excellent, Certified, OSP - Excellent, n/a, PLANB -Excellent, Certified, PRINC - Very Good, Certified, PR9 - Excellent, Declared, PSH - Excellent, Certified, PTT - Excellent, Certified, PTTEP -Excellent, n/a, PTTGC - Excellent, Certified, QH - Excellent, Certified, RAM - n/a, n/a, RBF - Very Good, n/a, RS - Excellent, Declared, RSP -Good, n/a, S - Excellent, n/a, SAK - Very Good, Declared, SAPPE - Very Good, Certified, SAWAD - Very Good, n/a, SCB - Excellent, Certified, SCC - Excellent, Certified, SCGP - Excellent, Declared, SECURE - n/a, n/a, SHR - Excellent, n/a, SIRI - Excellent, Certified, SPA - Very Good, n/a, SPALI - Excellent, Certified, SPRC - Excellent, Certified, SSP - Good, Certified, STEC - Excellent, n/a, SVI - Excellent, Certified, SYNEX -Very Good, Certified, TCAP - Excellent, Certified, THANI - Excellent, Certified, TIDLOR - n/a, Certified TISCO - Excellent, Certified, TKN - Very Good, n/a, TOP - Excellent, Certified, TRUE - Excellent, Certified, TTB - Excellent, Certified, TU - Excellent, Certified, TVO - Excellent, Certified, VGI - Excellent, Certified, WHA - Excellent, Certified, WHART - n/a, n/a, WICE - Excellent, Certified, WORK - Good, n/a.

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