China / Hong Kong Company Update

Shandong Weigao

Bloomberg: 1066 HK Equity | Reuters: 1066.HK

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DBS Group Research . Equity

18 May 2022

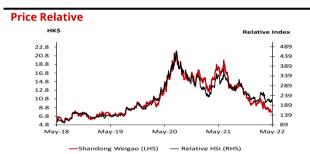
BUY

Last Traded Price (17 May 2022): HK\$7.92 (HSI : 20,603)
Price Target 12-mth: HK\$11.40 (44% upside) (Prev HK\$17.70)
Analyst

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What's New

- FY22F-23F earnings lowered by 14-18% and TP by 36%; 3 out of 5 segments are exposed to risk of price cuts
- With risk of potential price cuts, share price fallen by 58% from peak in 2021; PE & PB trading at 3-year low, at 1 SD below average historical levels, negatives largely priced in
- Potential value of HK\$3.46 per share expected through spin-off of interventional, blood management, and pharma packaging segments, implying 44% upside to share price; Maintain BUY



Forecasts and Valuation	on			
FY Dec (RMBm) Turnover EBITDA Pre-tax Profit Net Profit Net Profit Gth (Pre-ex) (%) EPS (RMB) EPS (HK\$) EPS Gth (%) Diluted EPS (HK\$) DPS (HK\$) BV Per Share (HK\$) PE (X) P/Cash Flow (X) P/Free CF (X) EV/EBITDA (X) Net Div Yield (%) P/Book Value (X) ROAE(%)	2021A 13.152 3.562 2.842 2.245 7.6 0.50 0.58 7.6 0.58 0.17 4.96 13.6 10.0 11.5 7.7 2.1 1.6 CASH 12.0	2022F 13,759 3,530 3,017 2,431 2,431 8,3 0,54 0,63 8,3 0,63 0,19 5,23 12,5 13,9 18,1 7,4 2,4 1,5 CASH 12,3	2023F 14,642 3,755 3,221 2,595 2,595 6,7 0,58 0,68 6,7 0,67 0,20 5,70 11,7 14,5 19,0 6,8 2,5 1,4 CASH 12,2	2024F 15.806 4,044 3,490 2,811 8,3 0,63 0,73 8,3 0,72 0,22 6,22 10,8 14,4 18,9 6,1 2,7 1,3 CASH 12,1
Earnings Rev (%): Consensus EPS (RMB) Other Broker Recs:		(14) 0.58 B:10	(18) 0.65 S:0	New 0.73 H:4

Source of all data on this page: Company, DBS Bank (Hong Kong) Limited ("DBS HK"), Thomson Reuters

Unlocking value through spin-off

Investment Thesis

Negatives largely priced in. Share price has plummeted 58% from its peak less than one year ago due to government-imposed price cuts for bulk procurement. With the stock PE & PB currently trading at a 3-year low and 1SD below average historical levels, we believe negatives are largely priced in.

Potential spin-off of interventional and blood management segments to unlock aggregate value of HK\$0.98 per share. Weigao has been seeking opportunities to spin-off businesses to unlock value. It spun off its orthopaedics segment for IPO in 2021 to raise Rmb1.38bn. It also announced plans to spin off interventional devices as well as blood management segments back in 2020, which could unlock values per share of HK\$0.69 & HK\$0.29 respectively, based on a 43% discount (valuation difference between HK and US market) to the avg mkt cap / EBIT of global peers. A interventional devices spin-off would likely be more receptive as >80% of its sales are from overseas, hence relative immune from the risk of price cuts in China.

Pharma packaging segment alone worth HK\$2.48 per share. Pharma packaging is another potential spin-off candidate, as its profit margin is the best among all segments, with lower price cut risk given its overseas focus. Using avg mkt cap / EBIT of global peers plus a 43% discount, we estimate unlocked value per share of HK\$2.48. The risk of price cuts by China government is limited as tenders target suppliers to hospitals, while this segment serves drug makers.

Valuation:

Our TP of HK\$11.4 is based on sum-of-the-parts (SOTP) valuation of five business segments to reflect the respective value of different segments, which differs from our previous valuation method using 50% discount to industry avg PE.

Where we differ:

We believe the market has underestimated the potential value that can be unlocked should the company manage to spin off its three business segments.

Key Risks to Our View:

Government-imposed price cuts for bulk procurement.

At A Glance

Issued Capital (m shrs)	4,571
Mkt Cap (HKm/US\$m)	36,202 / 4,612
Major Shareholders (%)	
Weigao Holding Co Ltd	46.4
Free Float (%)	53.6
3m Avg. Daily Val. (US\$m)	8.11
GICS Industry: Health Care / Health Care Equipm	ent & Service







WHAT'S NEW

Unlocking value through spin-offs

Lower FY22F-23F earnings by 14-18% and TP by 36% to factor in the risk of price cut. We have reduced our earnings estimates for FY22F-23F by 14% and 18% respectively. This is mainly because we lowered the revenue forecast of three segments in 22F and 23F as they are exposed to the risk of price cuts; namely, orthopaedic devices, blood management devices, and low-value medical devices.

Orthopaedic devices and blood management devices are high-value consumables. We revised down the y-o-y sales growth of orthopaedic devices and blood management devices in 22F/23F from 30%/30% and 14%/14% to -19%/-19% and -19%/-19%, referencing the historical impact of price cuts in national tender. Up to now, among all kinds of high-value medical consumables, only drug eluting stents (DES) a) went through a national tender arranged by the government, which happened in 2020 with an average tender price cut of 93%; and b) has an annual sales figure which reflected the impact of the price cut in 2020. Microport (853 HK) is the largest domestic DES maker and won in the national tender. Although the tender price cut was 93%, the ex-factory price cut should be much smaller plus there were significant sales volume growth. As such, its domestic DES sales dropped by only 19% y-o-y in 2021. We take this as a reference point.

Low-value medical consumables made up 47% of sales in 2021. We adjusted its annual sales growth in 22F/23F from 13%/13% to 10%/10%. Historically, this market has been more competitive than high-value consumables due to larger number of players. In addition, annually there were collective procurements and tenders arranged in many provinces throughout the years. For example, infusion sets in 2020 and 2021 with price cuts of 75%-83%, and intravenous cannulas in 2020 and 2021 with price cuts of 77%-85%. Yet the segment still achieved an annual sales growth of 10% to 27% in 2010 to 2019. Due to risk of a potential national price cut, we take the low end of the range as a reference of the annual sales growth in 22F/23F, which is 10%.

Negatives largely priced in. With share price falling 58% from its peak less than a year ago, it PE valuation is currently at a three-year low and 1SD below its average historical PE. We believe negatives are largely priced in, and that overseas sales ramp-up and other potential spin-offs would boost share price moving forward. With net cash of

Rmb4.3bn as of December 2021, the company will continue to look for M&A targets and spin-off opportunities.

Potential spin-off and IPO of three segments could unlock value of HK\$3.46 per share, implying upside of 44%. Weigao has five business segments; we believe three of them have the potential for spin-off and IPO.

Interventional product segment: Weigao announced a possible spin-off of its interventional product segment in 2020. This segment broke even in FY20. We estimate a successful IPO could unlock a value of HK\$0.69 per share based on 10.4x 22F market capital-to-EBIT, at a 43% discount with comparable peer Merit Medical Systems (MMSI US). Weigao's EBIT CAGR from FY2018-2021 was lower than Merit; thus we believe it should be valued at a discount to Merit. The discount reflects the 43% discount of the P/E of Hang Seng Index compared to the Dow Jones. This segment generates >80% of its revenue from the overseas market, hence the impact of price cuts by the China government would be limited.

Blood management device: In Dec 2020, Weigao approached SFC in Shandong for the spin-off of its blood management device segment (See link: https://m.thepaper.cn/baijiahao 10704367). We estimate that the IPO could unlock a value of HK\$0.29 per share based on 12.4x 22F market capital-to-EBIT, which is at a 43% discount with comparable peers Zhejiang Gongdong Medical (605369 CH) and Haemonetics (HAE US). Weigao's EBIT CAGR from FY2018-2021 was lower than Gongdong, thus we believe it should be valued at a discount to Gongdong. The discount reflects the 43% discount of the P/E of Hang Seng Index compared to the Dow Jones. This segment generates >50% of its revenue from overseas market, hence the impact of price cuts by the China government would be limited.

Pharma packaging segment: Pharma packaging is another potential spin-off candidate, and in terms of profit margins, it is the best among segments. We estimate this business segment could worth HK\$2.48 per share based on 14.2x 22F market capital-to-EBIT, at a 43% discount with comparable peers West Pharmaceutical Services (WST US) and Stevanato (STVN US). Weigao's EBIT CAGR from FY2018-2021 had underperformed both peers, and thus

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Shandong Weigao

we believe it should be valued at a discount. The discount was derived from the 43% discount of P/E of Hang Seng Index compared to Dow Jones.

Maintain BUY with TP HK\$11.4 based on SOP valuation. Previously, our TP was derived from the 50% discount to industry PE. We have now changed to derive our TP from Sum-of-the-parts (SOTP) valuation because this can better

reflect the respective value of its different business segments. (See the following table: "Sum-of-the parts valuation to derive TP of HK\$11.4)

The valuation of the orthopedic segment was calculated by multiplying Weigao Orthopedic's current market cap by Weigao's stake of 72.2%. We value the medical devices

segment (or low-value medical consumables) at Rmb10bn based on 9.9x FY22F market cap-to-EBIT, benchmarked to Kangji Medical (9997 HK), Kindly Medical (1501 HK), and Chimin Health Management (603222 CH). This segment is under pressure from price cuts in China and government tenders. Hence our FY22F market cap-to-EBIT multiple is much lower than the industry average of 17.4x. Based on the valuation above, we derived a new TP of HK\$11.4 Maintain BUY for potential value unlocking through spin-off and IPO.

Sum-of-the-parts valuation to derive a target price of HK\$11.4

Segment	Weigao 22F Segmental EBIT (Rmb m)	Multiple used to derive fair value: 22F Mkt cap/EBIT (x)	Fair value (Rmb m)	Fair value per share (HK\$)
Orthopaedic	615		11,756 ^[1]	3.2
Medical device	1,018	9.9 [2]	10,030	2.7
Blood management	138	12.4 ^[3]	1,702	0.5
Interventional	390	10.4 [4]	4,071	1.1
Pharma packaging	1,030	14.2 ^[5]	14,626	3.9
Total			42,186	11.4

^{(1):} The fair value estimate of Orthopaedic segment takes into account Shandong Weigao's stake in Shandong Weigao Orthopaedics (688161 CH) which is 72.2%, multiplied by market cap of Shandong Weigao Orthopaedics which is Rmb16.3bn.

Source: Shandong Weigao, Thomson Reuters, DBS HK

^{(2):} Derived by taking the low-end of 22F mkt cap/EBIT of comparable peers Kangji Medical (9997 HK), Kindly Medical (1501 HK) and Chimin Health Management (603222 CH).

^{(3):} Derived by taking the average of 22F mkt cap/EBIT of comparable peers Zhejiang Gongdong Medical (605369 CH) and Haemonetics (HAE US), then adding a 43% discount which is the discount of the P/E of Hang Seng Index compared to the Dow Jones.

^{(4):} Derived by taking 22F mkt cap/EBIT of comparable peer Merit Medical Systems (MMSI US), then adding a 43% discount which is the discount of the P/E of Hang Seng Index compared to the Dow Jones.

^{(5):} Derived by taking the average of 22F mkt cap/EBIT of comparable peers West Pharmaceutical Services (WST US) and Stevanato (STVN US), then adding a 43% discount which is the discount of the P/E of Hang Seng Index compared to the Dow Jones.



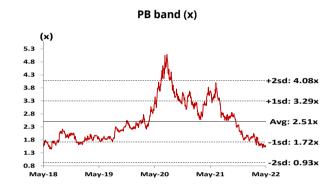


Company Background

Established in 1988 and listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange in 2004, the company is a leading player in China's medical consumables industry, with significant market share in various segments; for example, 20% in devices for blood collection and management, 15% in medical testing consumables, and 15% and anesthesia & surgery consumables.

Historical PE and PB band

Forward PE band (x) (x) 41.5 36.5 31.5 +2sd: 32.3x +1sd: 26.1x Avg: 19.8x 16.5 11.5 6.5 May-18 May-19 May-20 May-21 May-22



Source: Thomson Reuters, DBS HK



Key Assumptions

FY Dec	2020A	2021A	2022F	2023F	2024F
Revenue growth %	11.9	13.2	4.6	6.4	7.9
Gross margin %	62.7	55.9	55.3	54.3	53.3
SGA % in sales	40.2	34.8	32.4	31.2	30.2
Source: Company, DBS HK					

Segmental Breakdown (RMB m)

FY Dec	2020A	2021A	2022F	2023F	2024F
Revenues (RMB m)					
Medical device products	5,749	6,235	6,843	7,510	8,242
Orthopaedic products	1,748	2,127	1,716	1,385	1,118
Interventional products	1,612	1,773	1,950	2,146	2,361
Pharma packaging	1,694	2,040	2,458	2,961	3,566
Blood management	821	977	791	641	519
Others	0	0	0	0	0
Total	11,622	13,152	13,759	14,642	15,806
Operating profit (RMB m)					
Medical device products	1,071	927	1,018	1,117	1,226
Orthopaedic products	529	762	615	496	400
Interventional products	26	151	390	536	708
Pharma packaging	555	855	1,030	1,241	1,495
Blood management	74	170	138	111	90
Others	64	75	75	75	75
Total	2,255	2,866	3,191	3,502	3,920
Operating profit Margins (%)					
Medical device products	18.6	14.9	14.9	14.9	14.9
Orthopaedic products	30.3	35.8	35.8	35.8	35.8
Interventional products	1.6	8.5	20.0	25.0	30.0
Pharma packaging	32.8	41.9	41.9	41.9	41.9
Blood management	9.1	17.4	17.4	17.4	17.4
Others	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	19.4	21.8	23.2	23.9	24.8

Source: Company, DBS HK





Income Statement (RMB m)

FY Dec	2020A	2021A	2022F	2023F	2024F
Revenue	11,622	13,152	13,759	14,642	15,806
Cost of Goods Sold	(5,123)	(5,882)	(6,288)	(6,838)	(7,540)
Gross Profit	6,500	7,269	7,471	7,804	8,267
Other Opng (Exp)/Inc	(3,879)	(4,501)	(4,528)	(4,657)	(4,850)
Operating Profit	2,621	2,769	2,943	3,147	3,416
Other Non Opg (Exp)/Inc	0	0	0	0	0
Associates & JV Inc	9	69	70	70	70
Net Interest (Exp)/Inc	(65)	4	4	4	4
Dividend Income	0	0	0	0	0
Exceptional Gain/(Loss)	0	0	0	0	0
Pre-tax Profit	2,565	2,842	3,017	3,221	3,490
Tax	(358)	(415)	(442)	(473)	(513)
Minority Interest	(120)	(182)	(144)	(154)	(167)
Preference Dividend	0	0	0	0	0
Net Profit	2,087	2,245	2,431	2,595	2,811
Net Profit before Except.	2,087	2,245	2,431	2,595	2,811
EBITDA	3,342	3,562	3,530	3,755	4,044
Growth					
Revenue Gth (%)	11.9	13.2	4.6	6.4	7.9
EBITDA Gth (%)	6.6	6.6	(0.9)	6.4	7.7
Opg Profit Gth (%)	7.4	5.6	6.3	6.9	8.5
Net Profit Gth (%)	12.8	7.6	8.3	6.7	8.3
Margins & Ratio					
Gross Margins (%)	55.9	55.3	54.3	53.3	52.3
Opg Profit Margin (%)	22.6	21.1	21.4	21.5	21.6
Net Profit Margin (%)	18.0	17.1	17.7	17.7	17.8
ROAE (%)	12.2	12.0	12.3	12.2	12.1
ROA (%)	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.8	7.8
ROCE (%)	9.7	9.6	9.5	9.6	9.7
Div Payout Ratio (%)	28.2	28.7	30.0	30.0	30.0
Net Interest Cover (x)	40.5	NM	NM	NM	NM
Source: Company, DBS HK					

Interim Income Statement (RMB m)

FY Dec	2H2019	1H2020	2H2020	1H2021	2H2021
Revenue	5,441	5,216	6,407	6,230	6,922
Cost of Goods Sold	(2,063)	(2,196)	(2,927)	(2,567)	(3,316)
Gross Profit	3,378	3,020	3,480	3,663	3,607
Other Oper. (Exp)/Inc	(2,173)	(1,712)	(2,166)	(2,112)	(2,388)
Operating Profit	1,205	1,308	1,313	1,551	1,218
Other Non Opg (Exp)/Inc	0	0	0	0	0
Associates & JV Inc	46	27	(18)	39	30
Net Interest (Exp)/Inc	(147)	(82)	18	(36)	40
Exceptional Gain/(Loss)	0	0	0	0	0
Pre-tax Profit	1,104	1,253	1,313	1,554	1,288
Tax	(152)	(207)	(152)	(254)	(161)
Minority Interest	(40)	(50)	(70)	(90)	(92)
Net Profit	913	996	1,091	1,209	1,035
Net profit bef Except.	913	996	1,091	1,209	1,035
Growth					
Revenue Gth (%)	16.8	5.5	17.8	19.4	8.0
Opg Profit Gth (%)	17.3	5.9	9.0	18.6	(7.3)
Net Profit Gth (%)	10.9	6.3	19.5	21.4	(5.1)
Margins					
Gross Margins (%)	62.1	57.9	54.3	58.8	52.1
Opg Profit Margins (%)	22.1	25.1	20.5	24.9	17.6
Net Profit Margins (%)	16.8	19.1	17.0	19.4	15.0
Source: Company, DBS HK					





Balance Sheet (RMB m)

FY Dec	2020A	2021A	2022F	2023F	2024F
I I Dec	2020A	20217	20221	20231	202 4 1
Net Fixed Assets	4,372	4,411	4,583	4,737	4,870
Invts in Associates & JVs	1,069	1,139	1,139	1,139	1,139
Other LT Assets	8,151	8,704	7,680	7,493	7,306
Cash & ST Invts	6,475	7,810	8,974	9,842	10,671
Inventory	1,563	1,735	1,977	2,254	2,570
Debtors	5,958	6,046	7,255	8,706	10,447
Other Current Assets	370	524	524	524	524
Total Assets	27,958	30,367	32,133	34,693	37,527
ST Debt	298	601	611	C21	(21
Creditors	298 1,416	1,337	1,524	621 1,737	631 1,981
Other Current Liab	2,884	3,175	3,609	4,012	4,477
LT Debt	3,001	2,463	2,413	2,363	2,313
Other LT Liabilities	1,480	1,884	1,884	1,884	1,884
Shareholder's Equity	18,034	1,004	20,308	22,137	24,136
Minority Interests	845	1,640	1,785	1,938	2,105
Total Cap. & Liab.	27,958	30,367	32,133	34,693	37,527
Total Cap. & Llab.	27,930	30,307	32,133	34,033	31,321
Non-Cash Wkg. Capital	3,591	3,792	4,623	5,734	7,082
Net Cash/(Debt)	3,176	4,746	5,950	6,858	7,727
Debtors Turn (avg days)	167.7	166.6	176.4	198.9	221.1
Creditors Turn (avg days)	91.6	97.4	90.5	94.5	97.2
Inventory Turn (avg days)	116.2	116.7	117.4	122.6	126.1
Asset Turnover (x)	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4
Current Ratio (x)	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.4
Quick Ratio (x)	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.9	3.0
Net Debt/Equity (X)	CASH	CASH	CASH	CASH	CASH
Net Debt/Equity ex MI (X)	CASH	CASH	CASH	CASH	CASH
Capex to Debt (%)	27.7	12.8	16.6	16.9	17.1
Z-Score (X)	5.7	5.7	4.2	4.2	NA
Source: Company, DBS HK					

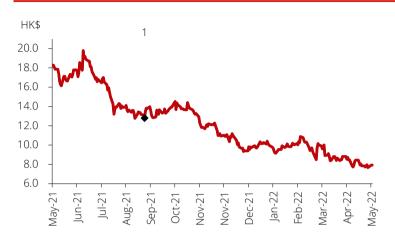
Cash Flow Statement (RMB m)

Cash Flow Statement (RMI	B m)				
FY Dec	2020A	2021A	2022F	2023F	2024F
		0.040	=		
Pre-Tax Profit	2,565	2,842	3,017	3,221	3,490
Dep. & Amort.	712	724	517	538	558
Tax Paid	(381)	(480)	(442)	(473)	(513)
Assoc. & JV Inc/(loss)	(9)	(69)	(70)	(70)	(70)
(Pft)/ Loss on disposal of FAs	0	0	0	0	0
Chg in Wkg.Cap.	(688)	(156)	(831)	(1,111)	(1,348)
Other Operating CF	590	176	(4)	(4)	(4)
Net Operating CF	2,788	3,035	2,188	2,101	2,113
Capital Exp.(net)	(915)	(392)	(502)	(503)	(504)
Other Invts.(net)	(8)	(57)	0	0	0
Invts in Assoc. & JV	0	(1,457)	0	0	0
Div from Assoc & JV	0	0	0	0	0
Other Investing CF	1,306	428	151	160	173
Net Investing CF	384	(1,479)	(351)	(343)	(331)
Div Paid	(701)	(653)	(691)	(756)	(813)
Chg in Gross Debt	(1,887)	(235)	(40)	(40)	(40)
Capital Issues	0	5	0	0	0
Other Financing CF	795	346	59	(95)	(99)
Net Financing CF	(1,794)	(538)	(671)	(891)	(952)
Currency Adjustments	(57)	(54)	0	0	0
Chg in Cash	1,321	963	1,165	867	830
Opg CFPS (RMB)	0.78	0.71	0.67	0.72	0.77
Free CFPS (RMB)	0.42	0.59	0.38	0.36	0.36

Source: Company, DBS HK



Target Price & Ratings History



S.N	o. Date	Closing Price	12-mth Target Price	Rating
1:	31-Aug-21	HK\$13.18	HK\$17.70	Buy

Source: DBS HK

Analyst: Nico Chen

Mark Kong, CFA



DBS HK recommendations are based on an Absolute Total Return* Rating system, defined as follows:

STRONG BUY (>20% total return over the next 3 months, with identifiable share price catalysts within this time frame)

BUY (>15% total return over the next 12 months for small caps, >10% for large caps)

HOLD (-10% to +15% total return over the next 12 months for small caps, -10% to +10% for large caps)

FULLY VALUED (negative total return, i.e., > -10% over the next 12 months)

SELL (negative total return of > -20% over the next 3 months, with identifiable share price catalysts within this time frame)

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Sources for all charts and tables are DBS HK unless otherwise specified.

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