

Advanced Info Service (ADVANC TB)

Measuring the impact of buying TTTBB and JASIF

Not much to worry about TTTBB-JASIF deal: BUY

If ADVANC fails to obtain reduction in rental payment to JASIF, the acquisitions of TTTBB and JASIF would represent 3% downside to ADVANC's FY23E net profit. On the other hand, 15-31% decreases in rent to JASIF would imply 1-4% upside to FY23E net profit. We believe the market has already priced in the lack of decrease in rental payment to JASIF. Reiterate BUY with THB244 TP, which does not factor in the impact of TTTBB-JASIF deal (pending approvals from TTTBB and JASIF approvals on 23 Sep).

Minimal downside if JASIF leases are maintained

ADVANC's share price has dropped by 4% since the announcement of TTTBB-JASIF deal on 4 July (vs SET Index's 4% rise). Investors might have been worried about a profit drag from TTTBB, which generated a net loss of THB1.0b in FY21 (using JAS as a proxy). If there is no reduction in rental payment to JASIF, we believe TTTBB-JASIF purchases would hurt ADVANC's net profit by THB803m, or 3% of FY23E profit, assuming THB105m net profit for TTTBB in FY23E (Bloomberg consensus) and 3.5% interest rate for THB32.4b debt used to finance the acquisitions.

Earnings upside of 1-4% if leases are 15-31% cheaper

As a condition of TTTBB-JASIF acquisitions, ADVANC is proposing to cut TTTBB's annual rental payment to JASIF by 31% (cancellation of Rental Assurance contracts) after the deal is closed. If the proposal is approved at JASIF's EGM on 23 Sep, we expect the TTTBB-JASIF purchases to add THB1.3b to ADVANC's net profit (4% upside to FY23E profit). If the annual rent to JASIF is cut by only 15%, as opposed to 31%, we expect the deal to add THB395m profit (1% upside to FY23E profit).

Reiterate BUY; the worst case is likely priced in

We believe the market has already priced in the lack of reduction in rental payment to JASIF as evidenced in 4% price decline over the past two months (vs 3% downside to FY23E under the worst-case scenario). We reiterate BUY on ADVANC with the same DCF-based TP of THB244 (7.5% WACC, 2.0% TG). Potential re-rating catalysts are i) strong 3Q22 performance and ii) easing mobile competition.

FY20A	FY21A	FY22F	FY23F	FY24E
				198,260
	,	,		97,693
	,	,	,	31,006
	,	,	,	10.43
				2.6
` '	` '	` '		8.86
				18.4
6.9	8.4			5.9
3.9	3.3	3.6	4.5	4.6
37.9	34.2	30.2	34.0	33.2
		7.1		9.5
7.4	8.8	7.4	6.8	6.4
105.2	91.8	68.2	47.7	30.2
-	-	27,140	30,296	34,367
-	-	(6.5)	(0.3)	(9.8)
	3.9 37.9 8.6 7.4 105.2	172,889 181,333 89,553 91,554 27,432 27,038 9.23 9.09 (14.8) (1.4) 6.92 7.69 19.1 25.3 6.9 8.4 3.9 3.3 37.9 34.2 8.6 7.7 7.4 8.8 105.2 91.8	172,889 181,333 184,519 89,553 91,554 90,380 27,432 27,038 25,380 9.23 9.09 8.53 (14.8) (1.4) (6.1) 6.92 7.69 6.91 19.1 25.3 22.4 6.9 8.4 6.6 3.9 3.3 3.6 37.9 34.2 30.2 8.6 7.7 7.1 7.4 8.8 7.4 105.2 91.8 68.2 - 27,140	172,889 181,333 184,519 192,840 89,553 91,554 90,380 94,781 27,432 27,038 25,380 30,214 9,23 9,09 8,53 10,16 (14.8) (1,4) (6,1) 19,0 6,92 7,69 6,91 8,64 19,1 25,3 22,4 18,8 6,9 8,4 6,6 6,3 3,9 3,3 3,6 4,5 37,9 34,2 30,2 34,0 8,6 7,7 7,1 8,7 7,4 8,8 7,4 6,8 105,2 91,8 68,2 47,7 - 27,140 30,296

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BUY

Share Price THB 191.50

12m Price Target THB 244.00 (+32%)

Previous Price Target THB 244.00

Company Description

ADVANC is No.1 mobile operator with 46.3% mobile revenue market share in 2021. Its 5G network had 76% population coverage at end-4021.

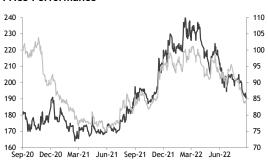
Statistics

52w high/low (THB)	240.00/187.00
3m avg turnover (USDm)	33.7
Free float (%)	34.1
Issued shares (m)	2,974
Market capitalisation	THB569.6B
	USD15.5B

Major shareholders:

Intouch Holdings	40.4%
Singtel Strategic Investments	23.3%
Thai NVDR	8.2%

Price Performance



ADVANC - (LHS, THB) —— ADVANC / Stock Exchange of Thai Index - (RHS, %)

-1M	-3M	-12M
(5)	(12)	2
(7)	(10)	3
	(5)	(5) (12)

Source: FactSet

Terms DEFINED

TTTBB - Triple T Broadband, wholly-owned subsidiary of JAS.

TTTI - Triple T Internet, wholly-owned subsidiary of TTTBB.

Other listed companies mentioned

Jasmine International (JAS TB, CP THB2.40, Not rated).

Jasmine Broadband Internet Infrastructure Fund (JASIF TB, CP THB8.70, HOLD, TP THB8.10).



Maybank Securities

Value Proposition

- ADVANC was the first provider of mobile phone service in Thailand. Two players joined the market, but ADVANC has maintained its lead in the market. It is the largest player in terms of subscriber base and for now it's leading in the introduction of 5G services.
- ADVANC has been moving to diversify its revenue by growing fixed broadband (FBB) & Enterprise Business/Other services.
 By FY23E, it aims to reduce mobile revenue contribution to 60-70% of total from over 90%.
- Cost of services is gradually falling, but declining ARPU is dragging down ROIC.

Quarterly mobile revenue market share

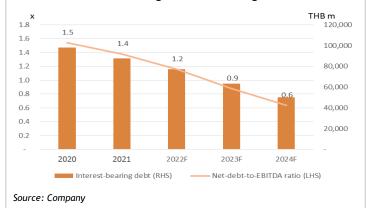


Source: Company

Financial Metrics

- ADVANC has the cleanest balance sheet among the three telcos with only 1.5x net-debt-to-EBITDA ratio (TFRS16 accounting) at end-FY21 (vs TRUE's 6.4x and DTAC's 2.6x).
- Barring substantial investment projects, we forecast ADVANC to be free of interest-bearing debt by FY27E.
- The clean balance sheet has allowed the company to raise its DPR from 75.0% in FY20 to 84.9% in FY21.
- It also had the highest EBITDA margin of 49.2% in FY21 (vs TRUE's 40.2% and DTAC's 36.0%).
- The company also had the highest ROE of 34.2% in FY21 (vs TRUE's -1.7% and DTAC's 15.1%).

ADVANC's interest-bearing debt is declining



Price Drivers



Source: Company, MST

- 1. Share price started to recover from disappointment of high 4G spectrum costs.
- 2. Despite healthy revenue growth (+3.8% YoY), the share price still tanked due to weak market sentiment amid rising interest rates.
- Low-end fixed-speed unlimited data plans in the prepaid market started emerging causing ARPU and revenue to suffer.
- 4. Share price briefly recovered as competition in the prepaid market started easing in 3Q20.
- 5. Share price was boosted by prospects of higher dividend payout, hype around TRUE-DTAC's merger and post-Covid-19 economic recovery.

Swing Factors

Upside

- Easing mobile competition (i.e. increases in price of fixed-speed unlimited data plans).
- Inflation recedes and consumer purchasing power improves as the Russia-Ukraine war ends.
- Joint ventures in data centre and digital lending businesses.
- Stronger-than-expected non-mobile enterprise revenue.

Downside

- Recession.
- Slower-than-expected recovery in tourist arrivals in 2H22





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Risk Rating & Score ¹	20.3 Medium Risk
Score Momentum ²	0.0
Last Updated	1 Jul 2022
Controversy Score ³ (Updated: 8 Aug 2022)	None - no evidence of controversies

Business Model & Industry Issues

- Mobile service is an enabler of many economic activities, including e-commerce, mobile banking, mobile money, cloud services, IoT solutions and more. Digital innovations have high priority in its materiality matrix. However, mobile service is also an enabler of activities that can cause social problems and social ills, such as gambling, pornography and cyberbullying. Data privacy and cyber security is the second highest priority in its materiality matrix.
- The entry of 5G services promises new revenue streams if scalable user cases are found. But it can also scale up potential social risk, especially on vice. Social responsibility will take on more meaning beyond CSR projects such as donations and freebies etc. As the industry leader, ADVANC must take a lead in setting the best practice in cyber wellness and online safety.
- Mobile phone service providers are neither direct major polluters nor highly extractive on natural resources. The important environmental issues to address are the indirect consequence of mounting e-waste as well as the health hazard posed by the EMS, especially amid increasing density of telco towers and base stations. However, as these all involve equipment manufacturers and vendors, these matters are ranked low in its materiality matrix.

Material E issues

- By adopting multiple energy-efficient technologies in the management of base stations nationwide, ADVANC reduced indirect GHG emissions from electricity consumption by 18,743 tCO2e in 2021. This was partly supported by the installation of additional solar panels at 2,744 base stations.
- By 2023, ADVANC aims to have reduced GHG emissions intensity, as calculated by the ratio of direct and indirect emissions to data traffic by 90% compared to the baseline in 2015. It also aims to increase renewable energy usage to 5% of total energy consumption.
- In 2021, waste from ADVANC's operation dropped by 67%. In addition, the operator collected 160k pieces of e-waste and reduced paper usage thanks to 8.4m e-bill accounts. In 2023, ADVANC aims to collect 360k units of obsolete mobile and related electronic waster from proper recycling and reduce non-recyclable e-waste from ADVANC to 5% of total waste from 35 in 2018.

Material S issues

- ADVANC retained 85% of the talent pool and had 85% of the staff in critical roles to undergo new ability training in digital technology in 2021.
- As of end-2021, ADVANC's 5G network covered 76% of Thailand's population. The operator aims to raise the population coverage to 85% by the end of 2022.
- ADVANC's key strength lies in its innovative digital-inclusion projects, including: i) AIS Academy; ii) Aor Sor Mor Online application; and iii) AIS 5G Battling Covid-19.
 - The HR department launched AIS Academy as internal training platform in 2015 before extending the offering to all Thai citizens from 2018 onwards. In 2020, AIS Academy launched an online learning platform called "LearnDi anywhere", which offered free courses in business, technology and finance, among other topics.

Key G metrics and issues

- The 11-member board has two women. Of all board members, 36% were non-executive directors, and 91% were independent directors. Total monetary remuneration for the chairman of the board, independent directors, and non-executive directors totalling 6 people was THB26.8m.
- ADVANC's auditor for the past five years has been Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Jaiyos Audit.
- For data security ADVANC has received certifications from:
 1) ISO27001 Information Security Mgt Systems since 2015;
 2) CSA STAR (Cloud Security Alliance) Self-Assessment since 2016; and 3) PCI DSS (Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard) since 2017.
- In May 2020, ADVANC's 8.3b records related to customers' internet usage were leaked. After a week of data leakage, ADVANC confirmed that it owned the data and apologised for the security lapse. We believe the data breach could be related to the rise in complaints regarding loss of customer data from 171-178 complaints in FY18-19 to 583 complaints in FY20.
- In 2019, the Digital Quotient Promotion programme was rolled out. This measures the digital proficiency of 8-12 years old using metrics recommended by WEF, OECD and IEEE and applied in 110 countries. In 2019 the first year of the rollout the programme was implemented in 24 schools with 3,100 students participating.
- The AIS Secure Net (network protector programme), which was launched in 2019, assists customers at risk of cyber threats. In 2021, there were 131,195 users of the service. Like other operators, ADVANC has several disputes pending from the concessionary era covering 1990-2018. Losing any of the cases could have a negative impact on the enterprise.

1Risk Rating & Score - derived by Sustainalytics and assesses the company's exposure to unmanaged ESG risks. Scores range between 0 - 50 in order of increasing severity with low/high scores & ratings representing negligible/significant risk to the company's enterprise value, respectively, from ESG-driven financial impacts. 2Score Momentum - indicates changes to the company's score since the last update - a negative integer indicates a company's improving risk score; a positive integer indicates a deterioration. 3Controversy Score - reported periodically by Sustainalytics in the event of material ESG-related incident(s), with the impact severity scores of these events ranging from Category 0-5 (0 - no reports; 1 - negligible risks; ...; 5 - poses serious risks & indicative of potential structural deficiencies at the company).



Fig 1: Potential impact of TTTBB-JASIF deal on ADVANC's FY23E net profit and fair value

Assumption of annual rental payment to JASIF	Upside/(downside) to ADVANC's FY23E net profit	Upside/(downside) to ADVANC's TP of THB244
31% decrease (pending JASIF's EGM on 23 Sep)	4.3%	3.9%
15% decrease	1.3%	3.0%
No change	-2.7%	2.7%

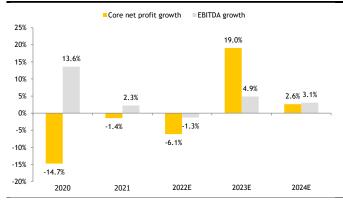
Source: Company, MST

Fig 2: 1-year-forward EV/EBITDA band



 $Source: Bloomberg, \ Company, \ MST$

Fig 3: Core net profit and EBITDA growth



Source: Bangkok Post, Bank of Thailand, MST

Fig 4: DCF valuation for ADVANC

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DCF VALUATION		
Cost of equity assumption (%)		
Risk free rate	3.5%	
Market risk premium	4.3%	
Stock beta	0.956	
Cost of equity , Ke	7.6%	
Cost of debt, Kd	3.5%	
After-tax cost of debt	2.8%	
WACC	7.5%	

Cookflows (TUD m)	EV24E	EVOEE	FV26F	EVOZE	EVOCE	2020	Downstrike
Cashflows (THB m)	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E	2029E	Perpetuity
Period for discounting	1	2	3	4	5	6	6
Cashflows from operation	91,891	94,514	98,131	100,670	103,097	105,464	
Cash payment for lease liabilities	-12,984	-13,373	-13,774	-14,188	-14,613	-15,052	
CAPEX							
PPE	-29,000	-26,861	-26,476	-26,043	-26,592	-27,141	
Licence	-15,689	-15,689	-15,689	-15,689	-15,689	-15,689	
FCFF	39,219	38,592	42,192	44,751	46,204	47,583	878,575
NPV of FCFF	36,474	33,379	33,940	33,479	32,147	30,790	568,515
Sum of NPVs at YE	768,725						
FY22F net debt	43,510						
Equity Value	725,215						
# of shares	2,974						
TP (THB/share)	244.0						
Current share price (THB/share)	191.5						
Upside (downside) to DCF-based TP (%)	27.4%						

Source: Company, MST



FYE 31 Dec	FY20A	FY21A	FY22E	FY23E	FY24E
Key Metrics P/F (reported) (v)	20.6	20.2	22.4	18.8	18.4
P/E (reported) (x) Core P/E (x)	19.1	25.3	22.4	18.8	18.4
P/BV (x)	6.9	8.4	6.6	6.3	5.9
P/NTA (x)	6.9	8.4	6.6	6.2	5.9
Net dividend yield (%)	3.9	3.3	3.6	4.5	4.6
FCF yield (%)	5.9	5.9	8.5	7.8	8.3
EV/EBITDA (x)	7.4	8.8	7.4	6.8	6.4
EV/EBIT (x)	17.5	21.2	18.4	16.7	15.5
INCOME STATEMENT (THB m)					
Revenue	172,889.0	181,332.9	184,519.4	192,840.4	198,260.4
EBITDA	89,553.0	91,554.0	90,380.4	94,780.8	97,692.5
Depreciation	(51,842.0)	(53,374.0)	(53,957.2)	(56,168.1)	(57,738.3)
Amortisation	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EBIT	37,711.0	38,180.0	36,423.2	38,612.6	39,954.2
Net interest income /(exp)	(5,917.0)	(5,626.0)	(5,365.2)	(1,523.4)	(1,886.0)
Associates & JV	10.0	0.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Exceptionals	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other pretax income	722.0	340.0	350.0	360.8	371.9
Pretax profit	32,526.0	32,894.0	31,418.0	37,460.1	38,450.1
Income tax	(5,089.0)	(5,970.0)	(6,037.6)	(7,246.0)	(7,444.0)
Minorities	(3.0)	(2.0)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Discontinued operations	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0 30,214.1	0.0
Reported net profit	27,434.0	26,922.0	25,380.4	•	31,006.1
Core net profit	27,432.0	27,038.1	25,380.4	30,214.1	31,006.1
BALANCE SHEET (THB m)					
Cash & Short Term Investments	18,420.8	12,739.3	13,014.4	13,621.7	12,197.4
Accounts receivable	17,781.2	16,552.3	16,843.1	17,602.7	18,097.4
Inventory	2,372.1	2,104.3	2,129.8	2,215.6	2,285.6
Property, Plant & Equip (net)	122,518.0	117,844.0	120,525.2	122,322.3	122,167.6
Intangible assets	120,223.8	142,639.0	152,384.5	138,705.9	125,027.4
Investment in Associates & JVs	830.6	982.9	982.9	982.9	982.9
Other assets Total assets	68,024.8	63,360.0	52,531.0	43,594.9	33,901.9
ST interest bearing debt	350,171.2 18,748.4	356,221.7 14,131.7	358,410.9 24,131.7	339,046.1 23,131.7	314,660.2 20,131.7
Accounts payable	40,570.7	45,055.4	46,140.4	47,797.6	49,108.2
LT interest bearing debt	79,301.2	73,696.6	48,000.0	34,000.0	21,000.0
Other liabilities	135,862.0	141,514.0	153,494.0	142,864.0	128,500.0
Total Liabilities	274,481.9	274,397.2	271,766.1	247,793.0	218,739.9
Shareholders Equity	75,564.0	81,698.8	86,540.1	91,072.2	95,723.1
Minority Interest	125.4	125.8	125.8	125.8	125.8
Total shareholder equity	75,689.3	81,824.5	86,665.8	91,197.9	95,848.9
Total liabilities and equity	350,171.2	356,221.7	358,431.9	338,991.0	314,588.8
CASH FLOW (THB m)					
Pretax profit	32,526.0	32,894.0	31,418.0	37,460.1	38,450.1
Depreciation & amortisation	51,842.0	53,374.0	53,957.2	56,168.1	57,738.3
Adj net interest (income)/exp	5,917.0	5,626.0	5,365.2	1,523.4	1,886.0
Change in working capital	(88.1)	(1,034.3)	3,247.4	679.4	696.6
Cash taxes paid	(5,089.0)	(5,970.0)	(6,037.6)	(7,246.0)	(7,444.0)
Other operating cash flow	421.8	441.5	1,248.0	530.7	564.0
Cash flow from operations	85,529.8	85,331.2	89,198.3	89,115.6	91,891.0
Capex	(27,947.8)	(25,786.1)	(30,000.0)	(30,000.0)	(29,000.0)
Free cash flow	30,746.9	40,035.9	48,159.1	44,588.0	47,202.4
Dividends paid	(20,218.8)	(21,204.1)	(22,869.5)	(23,120.1)	(26,018.6)
Equity raised / (purchased)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Change in Debt	(8,781.2)	(22,103.3)	(27,935.0)	(27,605.6)	(28,983.8)
Other invest/financing cash flow	(29,797.9)	(21,919.2)	(8,118.7)	(7,782.6)	(9,313.0)
Effect of exch rate changes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net cash flow	(1,215.9)	(5,681.5)	275.1	607.4	(1,424.3)



FYE 31 Dec	FY20A	FY21A	FY22E	FY23E	FY24E
Key Ratios					
Growth ratios (%)					
Revenue growth	(4.4)	4.9	1.8	4.5	2.8
EBITDA growth	14.3	2.2	(1.3)	4.9	3.1
EBIT growth	(8.3)	1.2	(4.6)	6.0	3.5
Pretax growth	(13.0)	1.1	(4.5)	19.2	2.6
Reported net profit growth	(12.0)	(1.9)	(5.7)	19.0	2.6
Core net profit growth	(14.8)	(1.4)	(6.1)	19.0	2.6
Profitability ratios (%)					
EBITDA margin	51.8	50.5	49.0	49.1	49.3
EBIT margin	21.8	21.1	19.7	20.0	20.2
Pretax profit margin	18.8	18.1	17.0	19.4	19.4
Payout ratio	75.0	84.9	80.9	85.0	85.0
DuPont analysis					
Net profit margin (%)	15.9	14.8	13.8	15.7	15.6
Revenue/Assets (x)	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6
Assets/Equity (x)	4.6	4.4	4.1	3.7	3.3
ROAE (%)	37.9	34.2	30.2	34.0	33.2
ROAA (%)	8.6	7.7	7.1	8.7	9.5
Liquidity & Efficiency					
Cash conversion cycle	(83.8)	(86.2)	(92.6)	(92.3)	(92.5)
Days receivable outstanding	37.6	34.1	32.6	32.2	32.4
Days inventory outstanding	11.7	6.6	6.1	6.0	6.1
Days payables outstanding	133.1	126.9	131.2	130.5	131.0
Dividend cover (x)	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
Current ratio (x)	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
Leverage & Expense Analysis					
Asset/Liability (x)	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4
Net gearing (%) (incl perps)	105.2	91.8	68.2	47.7	30.2
Net gearing (%) (excl. perps)	105.2	91.8	68.2	47.7	30.2
Net interest cover (x)	6.4	6.8	6.8	25.3	21.2
Debt/EBITDA (x)	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.4
Capex/revenue (%)	16.2	14.2	16.3	15.6	14.6
Net debt/ (net cash)	79,628.8	75,089.0	59,117.3	43,510.0	28,934.3

Source: Company; Maybank IBG Research



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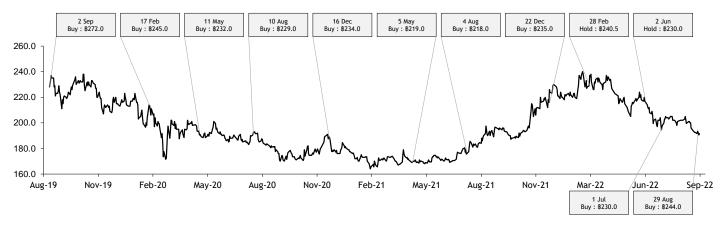
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