Siam Cement (SCC TB)

Good ESG score; aims to achieve net zero by 2050

Good ESG score; ample room to improve

Using Maybank's ESG rating score system, we rate SCC at 64, above the average of 50. The 2019-2021 database reflects SCC's commitment to focusing on the Environment, Society and Governance. SCC has a clear ESG integration plan, elevating its sustainable development approach to ESG 4 Plus. We expect its ESG score to rise above 80 points in the future. We maintain our HOLD rating with a TP of THB340 as SCC's 4Q22 and 1H23 performances will likely remain under pressure from low petrochemical spreads as excess ethylene and propylene supply remains high.

Clear roadmap to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050

SCC has a roadmap to achieve a net zero emission goal by 2050. The 2030 goal is to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions by 20% (from the base year 2020). The key actions toward the transition to net zero include; 1) Energy efficiency by using the best technology; 2) Clean and Green Energy by increasing the share of biomass and renewable energy; 3) Implementing carbon capture and storage technology; 4) Innovating with low-carbon products based on the principles of circular economy across value chain; 5) Natural Climate Solution by collaborating with communities and authorities for reforestation and rehabilitation of carbon sinks.

A high ESG score of 64, above average

1) Quantitative data shows the amount of SCC's greenhouse gas emissions have declined; use of renewable energy increased; water reuse management and waste management and recycling are improving. The number of female employees and female executives are greater than the industry average. The remuneration of top executives compared to profits was lower than that of the industry, and number of independent directors vs overall directors is higher than the industry. 2) Qualitative data was reflected by its concrete ESG policies and plans, and 3) It has clear ESG goals, key supporting factors helping its overall ESG score hit 64, above the Maybank universe average of 50.

ESG score looks set to rise above 80

SCC has a clear ESG integration plan for sustainable growth. Given the adoption of higher measurement standards in 2021, many variables have been reduced, resulting in a score of 67 points. If the 2021 measurement standards are used, the ESG score would rise to 81 points with the ESG 4 Plus plan, which encompasses: 1) Aim for Net Zero, 2) Go Green, 3) Lean Inequality, and 4) Create co-operation to drive ESG with a national body. This points to an ESG score higher than 80 points in the future.

FYE Dec (THB m)	FY20A	FY21A	FY22E	FY23E	FY24E
Revenue	399,939	530,112	591,674	657,547	728,147
EBITDA	68,113	81,685	58,682	67,875	75,162
Core net profit	34,144	47,174	28,520	31,652	37,036
Core EPS (THB)	28.45	39.31	23.77	26.38	30.86
Core EPS growth (%)	0.3	38.2	(39.5)	11.0	17.0
Net DPS (THB)	14.00	18.50	11.41	12.66	14.81
Core P/E (x)	13.3	9.8	14.0	12.6	10.8
P/BV (x)	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.0
Net dividend yield (%)	3.7	4.8	3.4	3.8	4.5
ROAE (%)	11.4	13.7	7.7	8.3	9.2
ROAA (%)	4.9	5.9	3.3	3.7	4.1
EV/EBITDA (x)	10.1	9.6	12.6	11.1	10.1
Net gearing (%) (incl perps)	40.0	52.3	56.5	55.1	52.3
Consensus net profit	-	-	26,505	34,385	47,015
MKE vs. Consensus (%)	-	-	7.6	(7.9)	(21.2)

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Share Price	THB 332.00
12m Price Target	THB 340.00 (+2%)
Previous Price Target	THB 340.00

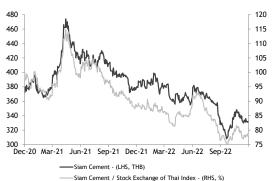
Company Description

The Company operates 3 core businesses consists of investments in the Cement-Building Materials business, chemicals business and packaging business.

Statistics

52w high/low (THB)	399.00/308.00
3m avg turnover (USDm)	23.1
Free float (%)	66.2
Issued shares (m)	1,200
Market capitalisation	THB398.4B
	USD11.5B
Major shareholders:	
King Maha Vajiralongkorn B	33.6%
Thai NVDR	9.0%
Social Security office of Thailand	4.2%

Price Performance



	-1M	-3M	-12M
Absolute (%)	(2)	(0)	(12)
Relative to index (%)	(2)	1	(12)
Source: FactSet			

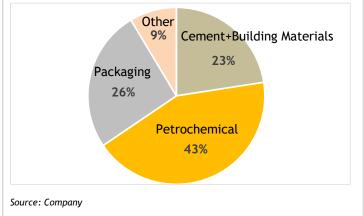




Value Proposition

- Thailand's largest materials & industrial conglomerate. It ranks within the top 3 by market share for every industry where it has a presence in (cement, petrochems and paper).
- SCC creates entry barriers by keeping high capacity that costs THB50-60b/year in capex. Utilization rates of its facilities are at nearly 100%.
- SCC's earnings are highly concentrated in the petrochemical business. Hence, its operating performance is highly leveraged to a change in global demand/supply dynamics of key polymer products than domestic-oriented businesses like cement and building materials.

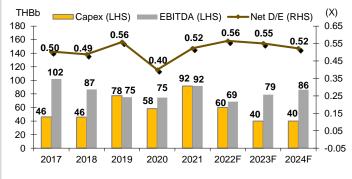
EBITDA - more evenly distributed across divisions



Financial Metrics

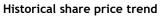
- SCC's earnings are sensitive to the change in H/L/LLDPE and PP over naphtha spreads. Every USD100/t change in HDPEnaphtha margin, changes EBITDA by 15% from the base-case.
- Investment in JVs with companies like Toyota (10%), Kubota (40%) etc generated healthy dividend income of THB11.8b in 2021.
- High EBITDA of THB69-86b in FY22-FY24. Our baseline case is 48% dividend payout ratio in FY22-FY24.

High EBITDA for dividend and further expansion



Source: Company, MST

Price Drivers





Source: Company, MST

- 1. Correction on concerns of weakening economic activity.
- 2. Optimism in relation to the planned listing of SCG Packaging
- 3. Another correction following rising oil prices, which leads to higher feedstock costs for petrochem while high supply leads to a weak pass-on cost mechanism
- 4. Anticipating recovery in three segments: petrochems, CBM and packaging, followed by profit taking in-sync with the SET.
- 5. Depressed performance due to resurgence of pandemic and heightened risk of a slowdown due to the war.

Swing Factors

Upside

- Lower oil price could lead to lower naphtha feedstock cost and better chemicals profitability.
- Delays of start-up of new ethylene/PE capacities in China/US would lead to better ethylene and PE spread over naphtha.
- Residential property demand recovery should lead to better domestic cement demand.

Downside

- Baht appreciation normally hurts SCC's profits as it is a net exporter of cement, paper and petrochemical products.
- Unexpected, deep collapse in petrochemical spreads will affect SCC's profits and returns, adversely.
- Loss of pricing discipline in Thai construction materials market - mainly cement - will also negatively impact the share price.



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Risk Rating & Score ¹	20.9 (Medium risk - 1/112)
Score Momentum ²	0.0
Last Updated	25 May 2021
Controversy Score ³ (Updated: 29 July 2022)	Category 1 - Low

Business Model & Industry Issues

- SCC has to grapple with a multitude of issues relating to ESG as it operates in extractive industries such as cement, building
 materials, packaging and petrochemicals with a broad based distribution network and a regional presence.
- SCC's ESG began from its commitment to the +2°C global target in the Paris Accord by 2030 and this commitment cascades into layers of key sustainability goals in the following areas: GHG, Water, Energy, Product Stewardship, Innovation & Technology, Human Rights, Safety and Customer Experience.
- This is a step process; 2025 is the next milestone for most material variables such as GHGE down by 20%, ECR by 13%. Under ECR, R&D embraces CEP, which has seen 75.68MW of solar power installed to date and a subsequent GHGE reduction of c.48.3K tonnes of CO2/yr.
- As capacity expansion via green and/or brownfield acquisitions is on the cards, SCC has set its ICP at USD18/tonne CO2 as the criteria for project approval. CEP/ICP will embed sustainability goals into the corporate's DNA.

Material E issues

- CBM is a highly extractive industry and interfaces with local counterparties. In mining limestone a mountain wall is maintained to keep in particles and not deface the sides. Reforestation follows post mining; one quarry already hit its targeted biodiversity index (three more on the way). Longterm target is a natural forest zone of 60%.
- Firing the refractory is coal intensive. To reduce coal usage cement plants now have a waste heat generator to capture excess energy and is augmented with RDF and biogas. This year, one industrial waste power plant will start operation and it can process 65k tpa of waste.
- End of 2019, cement used 24% of recycled inputs, building materials 14%, packaging 61%, petrochems only 1%, though this division runs on 12.3% recycled water, 13.6% solar power.
- In 2019, SCC assessed opportunities and risks relating to climate change and its impact with the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures by FSB UNEP. This in turn will allow SCC to incorporate the latter's recommendations to foster sustainable business practices.
- SCC is in the DJSI and also reports to GRI.

Material S issues

- SCC's human rights practices are in accordance with United Nations & International Labour Organization's Declaration on Fundamental Principles & Rights at Work and its own policy.
- In the previous mining licence renewal, SCC met pressures from NGOs relating to environmental effects of mining. This was resolved. To prevent recurrence, SCC engages local communities. Since 2019, 19 communities are now able to manage their own water resources, and 7,139 monkey cheeks dams were built to augment water supply. The group achieved 82% community satisfaction index.
- The SCG Foundation seeded with THB75b in 1963 is the main corporate social responsibility vehicle; 5Y spending ranges THB591-748m covering multiple activities.
- Leveraging on its relationship with Oxford University, it brought together AstraZeneca, Oxford and Siam Bioscience to sign a letter of intent to produce the AZD1222 Covid-19 vaccine to supply to Thailand and the region. SCC has been actively donating medical equipment to hospitals help tackle the pandemic.

Key G metrics and issues

- SCC's 12-member board of directors has six independents, two female directors and three recommended by the major shareholder. Total compensation in 2021 was THB78m, or 0.16% of reported net profit. Its auditor (2018-2022) is KPMG Phoomchai, which has been its auditor for many terms.
- In 2020, SCC announced its diversity and inclusion policy and intention to support gender equality and evaluate gender discrimination.
- Female employees are c.22% of its total and 27% of the managerial level. During 2015-19, between THB1.2-2.0b/year was spent on employee training programmes. Employee engagement had reached 68% in 2019 (target 70% by 2022).
- For now, the 13-member top management are all males.
 SCC has an active whistleblowing policy to control and prevent corruption. So far, 29 cases have been investigated involving compliance laws and violation of internal rules on code of conduct. The total damage was THB0.67m, and 17 employees were dismissed.

<u>Risk Rating & Score</u> - 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. <u>Score Momentum</u> - 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. <u>Controversy Score</u> - 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).

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	Q	uantitative Paramet	ers (Score: 3	(9)		
	Particulars	Unit	2019	2020	2021	Siam City Cement
	Scope 1 GHG emissions	m tCO2e	21.6	30.7	29.8	10.7
	Scope 2 GHG emissions	m tCO2e	2.4	3.2	3.2	0.7
	Total	m tCO2e	24.0	33.9	33.0	11.4
	Scope 3 GHG emissions	m tCO2e	NA	NA	12.1	NA
	Total	m tCO2e	NA	NA	45.1	NA
	Scope 1 emission intensity	kgCO2e/ton	634	616	623	628
Е	Green energy share of power usage	%	13.6%	14.3%	14.8%	11.6%
-	Water recycled as % of usage	%	10.6%	11.6%	11 .9 %	NA
	% of flyash recycled/treated	%	99 %	99 %	99 %	99 %
	% of recycled material used	%	8.3%	10.7%	5.3%	6.6%
	% of debt from green instruments	%	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
	NOx (excluding N2O)	tons	25,720	30,800	34,500	15,118
	SOx	tons	2,750	3,710	3,130	844
	SPM/particulate matter (PM10)	tons	1,360	1,390	1,530	662
	% of women in workforce	%	21.9%	23.0%	22.4%	5.1%
S	% of women in management roles	%	24.7%	24. 9 %	24.8%	18.6%
	Lost time injury frequency rate	number	0.239	0.113	0.175	0.25
	MD/CEO salary as % of net profit	%	NA	NA	NA	NA
G	Top 12 employees salary as % of profit	%	0.8%	0.6%	0.6%	3.5%
0	Independent director tenure <10 years	%	58 %	50%	50%	30%
	Women directors on board	%	17%	17%	17%	20%

Qualitative Parameters (Score: 100)

a) is there an ESG policy in place and whether there is a standalone ESG committee or is it part of a risk committee? Yes - SCC Sustainable Development Committee are tasked with reporting sustainability plan and performance to the Board of Directors.

b) is the senior management salary linked to fulfilling ESG targets?

Yes

c) Does the company follow the task force of climate related disclosures (TCFD) framework for ESG reporting? Yes

e) Does the company have a mechanism to capture Scope 3 emissions - which parameters are captured?

Yes - SCC captures data across most of the 15 Scope 3 categories

f) What are the 2-3 key carbon mitigation/water/waste management strategies adopted by the company?

Installed Terminox GS burner technology for reducing NO2 emission. Manage industrial waste according to the 3Rs and Circular Economy principles within SCC. Rehabilitate the ecosystems related to water resources, and support water supply to community and agriculture. SCC pioneered Thailand's first EV Mixer Truck to deliver concrete.

g) Does carbon offset form part of the net zero/carbon neutrality target of the company?

Yes - Reforestation and rehabilitation of terrestrial forest, mangrove and seagrass as carbon sink is one of the strategies to reach net zero by 2050.

Target (Score: 100)	
Particulars	Target	Achieved
Reduce Scope 1+2 intensity by 2030	20.0%	2.7%
Revenue from SCG Green Choice	66.7%	40.7%
Alternative fuel use by 2022	50.0%	26.2%
Reduction of dust emission by 2025	8.0%	15.2%
Reduction of water withdrawal by 2025	23.0%	22.6%
Net zero GHG emissions by 2050		

Biodiversity net positive by 2052

Assuming carbon price of USD10/50/100 and threshold scope 1 intensity of 550 kgCO2e for cement, the impact on FY21 EBITDA will be 2.1-21.4% and FY21 net profit will be 3.7-37.0%

Overall Score: 69 As per our ESG matrix, Siam Cement (SCC TB) has an overall score of 64.

ESG score	Weights	Scores	Final Score
Quantitative	50%	28	14
Qualitative	25%	100	25
Target	25%	100	25
Total			64

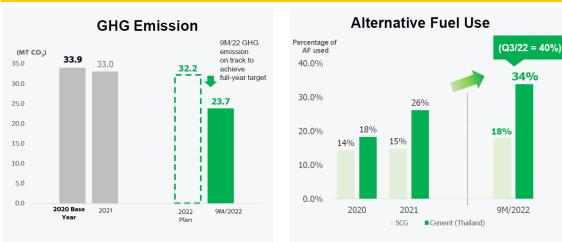


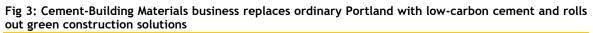
Fig 1: Simultaneously growing and reducing carbon footprint

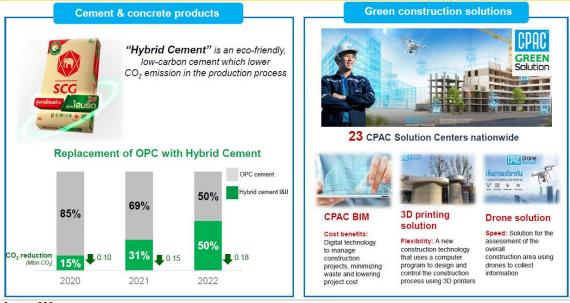
Source: SCC





Source: SCC





Source: SCC

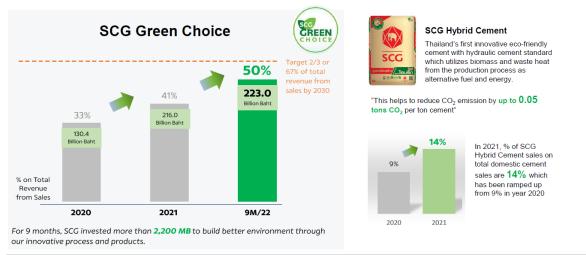
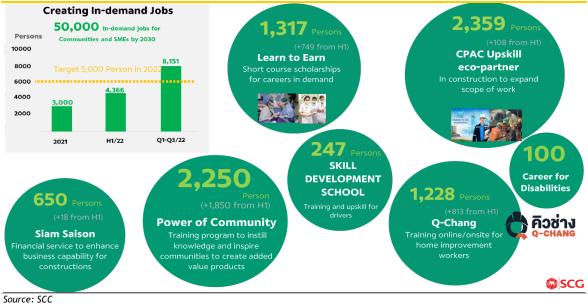


Fig 4: Go Green - For 9 months, revenue from sales of SCG Green Choice totaled Bt223bn, or 50% of total sales

Source: SCC





	Value (THBm)	Determinants	Remarks
Cement+Building Materials	224,143	10x FY23E EV/EBITDA	11x sector average
Petrochemical	134,956	8x FY23E EV/EBITDA	8x regional average
Packaging	191,805	8x FY23 EV/EBITDA	10x regional average
Associates	209,035	1.3x FY23 P/BV	SCC 10-yr avg P/BV=2.2>
Net Debt	-263,400		
Minorities	-88,341		
Equity value	408,198		
No of shares (m)	1,200		
Fair value (THB per share)	340		

Appendix 1

Methodology of our proprietary ESG scoring methodology.

We evaluate the ESG ratings based on quantitative, qualitative and ESG targets. We assign a score for each of these three parameters. The overall rating is based on the weighted average of the scores: quantitative (50%), qualitative (25%) and ESG target (25%).

For the quantitative, qualitative and ESG target, the sub-parameters are assigned a score - '0' for data not available, '+1' for improving trajectory, positive change, 'Yes', better than peers or a positive number if historical is not available and '-1' for declining trajectory, negative change, 'No', lower than peers or a negative number.

The total of the scores of all the sub-parameters is divided by the total number of sub-parameters, to derive the score of each of the three parameters. The sub-parameters may be different for different industries depending on the key areas to monitor for each industry. A company should achieve a minimum score of 50 for an average ESG rating.

FYE 31 Dec	FY20A	FY21A	FY22E	FY23E	FY24
Key Metrics					
P/E (reported) (x)	12.4	10.3	14.0	12.6	10.3
Core P/E (x)	13.3	9.8	14.0	12.6	10.8
P/BV (x)	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.0
P/NTA (x)	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.
Net dividend yield (%)	3.7	4.8	3.4	3.8	4.
FCF yield (%)	10.2	nm	nm	nm	0.
EV/EBITDA (x)	10.1	9.6	12.6	11.1	10.
EV/EBIT (x)	16.9	14.8	24.9	19.5	16.
INCOME STATEMENT (THB m)					
Revenue	399,939.2	530,111.6	591,674.0	657,546.5	728,146.
EBITDA	68,112.5	81,685.4	58,681.9	67,874.5	75,162.
EBIT	40,735.2	52,850.6	29,760.9	38,376.5	45,780.
Net interest income /(exp)	(7,082.4)	(6,757.3)	(6,802.0)	(7,579.0)	(7,519.0
Associates & JV	9,455.8	17,542.7	10,518.0	11,472.2	12,608.
Exceptionals	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.
Other pretax income	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.
Pretax profit	43,108.7	63,635.9	33,476.9	42,269.8	50,869.
Income tax	(5,808.5)	(8,900.0)	(5,402.6)	(6,148.3)	(7,433.6
Winorities	(3,156.3)	(7,561.9)	446.0	(4,469.0)	(6,400.0
Discontinued operations	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	(0,400.0
Reported net profit	34,143.9	47,174.0	28,520.3	31,652.4	37,036.
Core net profit	34,143.9	47,174.0	28,520.3	31,652.4	37,036.
BALANCE SHEET (THB m) Cash & Short Term Investments	102,980.9	67,610.2	26,000.0	27,000.0	28,000.
Accounts receivable	54,842.2	78,951.4	80,135.6	81,337.7	82,557.
		-	84,367.6	-	-
Inventory	54,654.0 0.0	83,120.8 0.0	04,307.0 0.0	85,633.1 0.0	86,917. 0.
Reinsurance assets				442,288.6	
Property, Plant & Equip (net)	363,425.1	410,707.6	426,786.6	,	457,906.
Intangible assets	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.
Investment in Associates & JVs	114,808.4	137,578.8	148,096.8	159,569.0	172,177.
Other assets	58,670.3	83,132.3	83,132.3	83,132.3	83,132.
Total assets	749,380.9	861,101.0	848,518.9	878,960.7	910,691.
ST interest bearing debt	90,927.6	86,390.9	80,809.9	82,767.3	83,431.
Accounts payable	65,273.1	75,025.5	76,150.9	77,293.2	78,452.
Insurance contract liabilities	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.
LT interest bearing debt	170,436.2	216,723.4	202,722.7	207,633.1	209,298.
Other liabilities	26,618.0	32,953.0	32,953.0	32,953.0	32,953.
Total Liabilities	353,254.8	411,092.7	392,636.3	400,646.4	404,134.
Shareholders Equity	320,972.2	365,690.7	372,011.0	389,973.7	411,816.
Minority Interest	75,153.9	84,317.6	83,871.6	88,340.6	94,740.
Total shareholder equity Total liabilities and equity	396,126.0 749,380.9	450,008.3 861,101.0	455,882.6 848,518.9	478,314.3 878,960.7	506,557. 910,691.
rotal habilities and equity	747,380.7	801,101.0	040,510.7	878,900.7	910,091.
CASH FLOW (THB m)					
Pretax profit	43,108.7	63,635.9	33,476.9	42,269.8	50,869.
Depreciation & amortisation	27,377.3	28,834.8	28,921.0	29,498.0	29,382.
Adj net interest (income)/exp	7,082.4	6,757.3	6,802.0	7,579.0	7,519.
Change in working capital	20,167.9	(42,867.4)	(1,305.7)	(1,325.3)	(1,345.2
Cash taxes paid	(5,808.5)	(8,900.0)	(5,402.6)	(6,148.3)	(7,433.6
Other operating cash flow	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.
Cash flow from operations	123,910.0	(26,529.4)	(2,794.6)	41,773.9	45,945.
Capex	(77,618.9)	(98,785.5)	(45,000.0)	(45,000.0)	(45,000.0
Free cash flow	46,291.1	(125,314.9)	(47,794.6)	(3,226.1)	945.
Dividends paid	(14,997.8)	(20,398.0)	(22,200.0)	(13,689.7)	(15,193.2
Equity raised / (purchased)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.
Change in Debt	33,950.4	41,750.5	(19,581.7)	6,867.8	2,328.
Other invest/financing cash flow	(6,484.6)	68,591.7	47,966.2	11,048.0	12,919.
=			0.0	0.0	0.
Effect of exch rate changes	0.0	0.0	U.U	U.U	

FYE 31 Dec	FY20A	FY21A	FY22E	FY23E	FY24E
Key Ratios					
Growth ratios (%)					
Revenue growth	(8.7)	32.5	11.6	11.1	10.7
EBITDA growth	12.3	19.9	(28.2)	15.7	10.7
EBIT growth	11.0	29.7	(43.7)	28.9	19.3
Pretax growth	2.9	47.6	(47.4)	26.3	20.3
Reported net profit growth	6.7	38.2	(39.5)	11.0	17.0
Core net profit growth	0.3	38.2	(39.5)	11.0	17.0
Profitability ratios (%)					
EBITDA margin	17.0	15.4	9.9	10.3	10.3
EBIT margin	10.2	10.0	5.0	5.8	6.3
Pretax profit margin	10.8	12.0	5.7	6.4	7.0
Payout ratio	49.2	47.1	48.0	48.0	48.0
DuPont analysis					
Net profit margin (%)	8.5	8.9	4.8	4.8	5.1
Revenue/Assets (x)	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8
Assets/Equity (x)	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.2
ROAE (%)	11.4	13.7	7.7	8.3	9.2
ROAA (%)	4.9	5.9	3.3	3.7	4.1
Liquidity & Efficiency					
Cash conversion cycle	46.8	44.4	54.3	49.6	45.5
Days receivable outstanding	52.7	45.4	48.4	44.2	40.5
Days inventory outstanding	64.5	58.9	60.1	55.4	51.0
Days payables outstanding	70.4	60.0	54.3	50.0	46.0
Dividend cover (x)	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Current ratio (x)	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.2
Leverage & Expense Analysis					
Asset/Liability (x)	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.3
Net gearing (%) (incl perps)	40.0	52.3	56.5	55.1	52.3
Net gearing (%) (excl. perps)	40.0	52.3	56.5	55.1	52.3
Net interest cover (x)	5.8	7.8	4.4	5.1	6.1
Debt/EBITDA (x)	3.8	3.7	4.8	4.3	3.9
Capex/revenue (%)	19.4	18.6	7.6	6.8	6.2
Net debt/ (net cash)	158,382.9	235,504.1	257,532.6	263,400.4	264,729.

Source: Company; Maybank IBG Research

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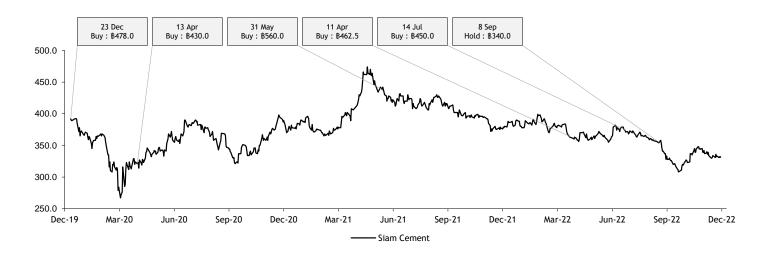
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