

# Xtep (1368 HK)

# Cautiously optimistic after a resilient 2Q24

The sportswear industry remains under great pressure, but we believe Xtep is still one of a few brands that can mildly outperform and improve sequentially in 2H24E, because of: 1) successful new product launches such as the 360X, 2) robust e-commerce sales growth (esp. the Douyin platform), 3) wholesale business nature (therefore drags from operating deleverage is limited), 4) a strong beat in Saucony's sales growth and margin expansion, and 5) reduced losses after the sale of K&P. Plus the attractive valuation (10x FY24E P/E and 15% yield), we maintain BUY.

- 2H24E outlook remains cautiously optimistic. Guidance of Xtep's retail sales growth in FY24E remained the same, at 10%+; however, the listco level sales growth will be adjusted to HSD to low-teens (from 10%+ previously), due to the sale of K&P (a certain amount of sales and net losses will not be consolidated anymore). On one hand, management are very cautious about the unfavorable weather and macro environment, but on the other hand, they are still foreseeing a potential speed-up in sales growth in 2H24E. In our view, that is likely supported by: 1) a low base in 2H23, 2) excellent sales momentum of the 360X series, 3) more new product launches in 2H24E, and 4) robust e-commerce sales growth (thanks to increased supplies of value-for-money products). Margin wise, we think the GP margin could be stable (the increases in retail discounts in online channel could be offset by reduced drags of de-stocking) while the OP margin could improve, thanks to: 1) reduced losses after the sale of K&P (part of the losses will be offset by the disposal gains; therefore we only expect losses of about RMB 70mn in FY24E, instead of RMB 110mn) and 2) a drop in A&P expenses vs last year.
- Saucony's performance was a decent beat in 1H24. Retail sales growth of Saucony was over 50% in 1H24, far better than the guidance of 30%-40% growth in FY24E. We do find it highly impressive, because the growth had outperformed so many other overseas brands and the SSSG was strong at 30% or above. As a result, due to the operating leverage, we believe the net profit margin could also beat our expectation. Thanks to the newly signed brand ambassador, we think the brand awareness can be boosted and the strong sales momentum could continue in 2H24E. The brand opened 20 new stores in 1H24 and it is on track to achieve the guidance of 50 new stores by FY24E.
- Maintain BUY but fine-tune TP to HK\$ 7.32, based on 14x FY24E P/E (unchanged). We have adjusted our FY24E/ 25E/ 26E net profit by -1%/ +1%/ -1%. The stock is now trading at 10x FY24E P/E, fairly attractive vs its 8-years average of 15x, let alone the 15% FY24E dividend yield.

## **Earnings Summary**

(YE 31 Dec)	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Revenue (RMB mn)	12,930	14,346	15,322	15,979	17,494
YoY growth (%)	29.1	10.9	6.8	4.3	9.5
Operating profit (RMB mn)	1,464.3	1,579.9	1,919.7	2,181.7	2,493.5
Net profit (RMB mn)	912.3	1,033.0	1,275.3	1,499.6	1,756.7
EPS (Reported) (RMB)	0.36	0.39	0.46	0.54	0.64
YoY growth (%)	0.6	9.4	18.6	17.6	17.2
P/E (x)	12.4	11.3	9.6	8.1	6.9
P/B (x)	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.1
Yield (%)	3.8	4.1	14.1	5.8	6.8
ROE (%)	11.2	12.0	14.3	16.5	18.0
Net gearing (%)	14.8	7.1	14.7	13.3	13.5

Source: Company data, Bloomberg, CMBIGM estimates

## **BUY (Maintain)**

 Target Price
 HK\$7.32

 (Previous TP
 HK\$7.63)

 Up/Downside
 46.5%

 Current Price
 HK\$5.00

### **China Consumer Discretionary**

Walter WOO (852) 3761 8776 walterwoo@cmbi.com.hk

#### Stock Data

Mkt Cap (HK\$ mn)	13,174.2
Avg 3 mths t/o (HK\$ mn)	49.9
52w High/Low (HK\$)	8.72/3.68
Total Issued Shares (mn)	2634.8

Source: FactSet

### **Shareholding Structure**

Mr Ding Shui Po & Family	49.2%
JPMorgan Chase & Co	4.6%

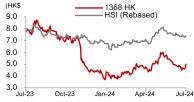
Source: HKEx

#### **Share Performance**

	Absolute	Relative
1-mth	-2.5%	-0.7%
3-mth	4.2%	-0.1%
6-mth	14.9%	5.1%

Source: FactSet

#### 12-mth Price Performance



Source: FactSet

## **Recent Reports:**

Anta Sports (2020 HK) - Stay cautious about FY24E after an inline 2Q24 (9 Jul 24)

Bosideng (3998 HK) - Beautifully executed the solid strategies (28 Jun 24)

Topsports (6110 HK) - This is likely a rocky-road turnaround (24 May 24)

Xtep (1368 HK) - Huge boost in short-run growth with high yield (13 May 24)

Li Ning (2331 HK) - Healthy outlook after a beat in retail discounts (24 Apr 24)

Bosideng (3998 HK) - From winter clothing to all seasons clothing (22 Apr 24)



- 2Q24 retail sales growth beat slightly. Xtep's retail sales growth in 2Q24 was at 10%, inline with CMBI est. of 11%, but better than the market's expectation (investors have turned rather bearish lately after weak numbers in May-Jun, as well as Nike's cautious outlook) and speeded up from the HSD in 1Q24. And Xtep's outperformance, in our view, was due to its successful new product launches and the robust e-commerce sales growth. For example, the 360X (the running shoes equipped with carbon-plate, priced only at RMB 599) was extremely popular, with over 800k pairs sold since its launch in Mar 2024. In terms of channel, offline sales only grew by LSD (SSSG was at negative LSD) while online sales jumped by more than 25% in 2Q24, and both are very similar to 1Q24.
- Both inventory and retail discounts have improved. Inventory to sales ratio went down to just 4 months in 2Q24 from 4 to 4.5 months in 1Q24, reaching the lowest level since 2Q22. Therefore, the retail discounts also improved to 25% off in 2Q24, from 25% to 30% off in 1Q24, but that was the same YoY. In terms of channel, the discounts improved offline but widened online YoY.

# **Earnings revision**

Figure 1: Earnings revision

		New			Old			Diff (%)	
RMB mn	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Revenue	15,322	15,979	17,494	15,371	15,713	17,298	-0.3%	1.7%	1.1%
Gross profit	6,478	6,771	7,456	6,508	6,653	7,366	-0.5%	1.8%	1.2%
EBIT	1,920	2,182	2,493	1,976	2,218	2,557	-2.9%	-1.6%	-2.5%
Net profit att.	1,266	1,489	1,744	1,275	1,479	1,763	-0.7%	0.7%	-1.1%
Diluted EPS (RMB)	0.463	0.545	0.638	0.483	0.560	0.668	-4.0%	-2.7%	-4.4%
Gross margin	42.3%	42.4%	42.6%	42.3%	42.3%	42.6%	-0.1ppt	0ppt	0ppt
EBIT margin	12.5%	13.7%	14.3%	12.9%	14.1%	14.8%	-0.3ppt	-0.5ppt	-0.5ppt
Net profit att. margin	8.3%	9.3%	10.0%	8.3%	9.4%	10.2%	0ppt	-0.1ppt	-0.2ppt

Source: Company data, CMBIGM estimates

Figure 2: CMBIGM estimates vs consensus

		CMBIGM			Consensus			Diff (%)	
RMB mn	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Revenue	15,322	15,979	17,494	15,770	17,197	19,036	-2.8%	-7.1%	-8.1%
Gross profit	6,478	6,771	7,456	6,685	7,305	8,114	-3.1%	-7.3%	-8.1%
EBIT	1,920	2,182	2,493	1,770	2,042	2,318	8.5%	6.8%	7.6%
Net profit att.	1,266	1,489	1,744	1,194	1,382	1,578	6.0%	7.7%	10.6%
Diluted EPS (RMB)	0.463	0.545	0.638	0.457	0.529	0.603	1.4%	2.9%	5.8%
Gross margin	42.3%	42.4%	42.6%	42.4%	42.5%	42.6%	-0.1ppt	-0.1ppt	0ppt
EBIT margin	12.5%	13.7%	14.3%	11.2%	11.9%	12.2%	1.3ppt	1.8ppt	2.1ppt
Net profit att. margin	8.3%	9.3%	10.0%	7.6%	8.0%	8.3%	0.7ppt	1.3ppt	1.7ppt

Source: Company data, Bloomberg, CMBIGM estimates



# **Operating numbers**

Figure 3: Sportswear brands sales growth trend

Operating numbers	1Q21	2Q21	3Q21	4Q21	1022	2022	3Q22	4Q22	1Q23	2Q23	3Q23	4Q23	1Q24	2Q24E	3Q24E	4Q24E
Nike China sales	42%	9%	1%	-24%	-8%	-20%	-13%	6%	1%	25%	12%	8%	6%	7%	-5%	-3%
Adidas China sales	156%	-16%	-15%	-24%	-35%	-35%	-27%	-50%	-9%	16%	6%	37%	8%	5%	5%	5%
Anta brand's SSSG			uvo Low-	+ve Mid-	wo High-		,	,				uvo High-				
Anta brand's retail sales 40%	%-45%	35%-40%	+ve Low- teens	teens	teens	-ve MSD	+ve MSD	-ve HSD	+ve MSD	+ve HSD	+ve HSD	+ve High- teens	+ve MSD	+ve HSD	12%	15%
Core brand 359	%-40%	35%-40%	+ve HSD	+ve MSD	+ve Mid- teens	-ve Low- teens	+ve LSD	-ve Mid- teens	+ve HSD	+ve HSD	+ve HSD	25%-30%	+ve LSD	+ve LSD		
Kids 459	%-50%	Over 20%	+ve MSD	+ve Mid- teens	20%-25%	+ve LSD	+ve HSD	-ve High- teens	+ve MSD	+ve HSD	+ve HSD	30%-35%	Flat	-ve LSD		
Online Ove	er 60%	Over 45%	25%-30%	30%-35%	Over 30%	+ve HSD	+ve HSD	+ve MSD	-ve LSD	+ve MSD	+ve LSD	+ve MSD	20%-25%	20%-25%		
FILA brand's retail sales 75%	%-80%	30%-35%	+ve MSD	+ve HSD	+ve MSD	-ve HSD	+ve Low- teens	-ve Low- teens	+ve HSD	+ve High- teens	+ve Low- teens	25%-30%	+ve HSD	+ve MSD	10%	15%
Classic/ Core brand	80%	Over 20%	Flat	Flat	-ve MSD	-ve DD	-ve LSD	-ve Mid- teens	+ve LSD	+ve MSD	+ve HSD	40%-45%	+ve MSD	+ve HSD		
Kids	100%	Over 40%	+ve Mid-	+ve Mid-	+ve Mid-	+ve HSD	+ve LSD	-ve Low-	-ve HSD	+ve LSD	+ve HSD	30%-35%	-ve LSD	-ve LSD		
Nus	10070	OVEI 4078	teens	teens	teens	+461100	+Ve LOD	teens	-ve Hob	+Ve LOD	TVETIOD	30 70-33 70	-ve LOD			
Fusion	150%	Over 80%	+ve Mid- teens	+ve Low- teens	Over 20%	-ve MSD	+ve LSD	+ve HSD	-ve HSD	+ve LSD	+ve HSD	20%-25%	-ve MSD	+ve MSD		
		Over 40%	20%-25%	25%-30%	Over 20%	+ve MSD	Over 65%	Over 40%	Over 40%	60%-65%	-ve Mid- teens	+ve Mid- teens	20%	20%		
Other brands	115%- 120%	70%-75%	35%-40%	30%-35%	40%-45%	20%-25%	40%-45%	+ve Low- teens	75%-80%	70%-75%	45%-50%	55%-60%	25%-30%	40%-45%		
Descente	150%	100%	50%	40%-45%	40%-45%	Over 20%	Over 35%	+ve Low- teens	70%-75%	60%-65%	40%-45%	50%-55%	20-25%	35%-40%		
Kolon Ove	er 75%	40%	30%	-ve High- teens	40%-45%	Over 20%	Over 55%	+ve High- teens	100%	100%	60%-65%	65%-70%	50%	60%		
Li Ning group's SSSG	n/a	+ve Low 80%	+ve High 20%	+ve Low 20%	+ve Low 20%	-ve Low- teens	+ve HSD	-ve High- teens	-ve HSD	+ve LSD	-ve MSD	+ve Low- teens	-ve MSD			
Direct retail	n/a	+ve Low 90%	+ve Low 30%	+ve Mid 20%	+ve Mid 20%	-ve High- teens	+ve MSD	-ve High	-ve LSD	+ve HSD	+ve MSD	+ve High	-ve LSD			
Wholesales	n/a	+ve Low 70%	+ve Mid 20%	+ve High- teens	+ve Low- teens	-ve High- teens	+ve HSD	-ve Low 20%	-ve LSD	+ve LSD	-ve Low- teens	+ve MSD	-ve Mid- teens			
E- Commerce	n/a	+ve High 80%	+ve Mid 30%	+ve High	+ve Mid	+ve LSD	+ve Low- teens	-ve LSD	-ve Low 20%	+ve LSD	-ve LSD	+ve MSD	+ve Low 20%			
Li Ning group's retail sa +V6	e High	+ve Low	+ve Low	+ve Low	+ve High	-ve HSD	+ve Mid-	-ve Low-	+ve MSD	+ve Mid-	+ve MSD	+ve Low	+ve LSD	7%	3%	17%
	80%	90%	40%	30%	20%	-ve nob	teens	teens		teens		20%	+ve L3D	1 /0	3/0	17 /0
Direct retail +\	ve Low 90%	+ve High 80%	+ve Mid 30%	+ve High 20%	+ve Mid 30%	-ve HSD	+ve Low 20%	-ve Mid- teens	+ve Mid- teens	+ve High 20%	+ve Low 20%	+ve Low 50%	+ve MSD			
Wholesales +\	ve Low 80%	+ve Low 90%	+ve High 30%	+ve High 20%	+ve Low 20%	-ve HSD	+ve Low- teens	-ve Low 20%	+ve MSD	+ve Mid- teens	+ve LSD	+ve High- teens	-ve MSD			
E- Commerce	100%	+ve High 90%	+ve Mid 50%	+ve Low 40%	+ve Mid 30%	+ve MSD	+ve Mid 20%	+ve MSD	-ve Low- teens	+ve Low- teens	-ve LSD	+ve MSD	+ve Low 20%			
Xtep brand's SSSG		0070	0070	1070	3070		2070		100110	100110			2070			
Mic	id 50%-		+ve Mid-			+ve Mid-				+ve High-	+ve High-					
Xtep brand's retail sales	60%	30%-35%	teens	20%-25%	30%-35%	teens	20%-25%	-ve HSD	20%	teens	teens	30%-35%	+ve HSD	10%	10%	16%
361 Degree brand's SSSG	a Uiah		.va Law	ura Hiah	.vo High	.ve Lew	.vo Mid		.va Law	.va Law			.ve High			
361 Degree brand's offli +ve	teens	15%-20%	teens	+ve High- teens	teens	+ve Low- teens	+ve Mid- teens	Flat	teens	+ve Low- teens	15.0%	20.0%	+ve High- teens	10%	13%	12%
Kids 209	%-25%	30%-35%	15%-20%	25%-30%	20%-25%	20%-25%	20%-25%	+ve LSD	20%-25%	20%-25%	25%-30%	40%	20%-25%			
E- Commerce				35%-40%	50%	40%	45%	25%	35%	30%		Over 30%				
Pou Sheng's SSSG	32%	-11%	-25%	-29%	-21%	-25%	-10%	-27%	0%	13%	-3%	12%	-17%	440/	00/	40/
Pou Sheng's sales	48%	-15%	-25%	-27% -ve 20%-	-25% -ve High-	-24% -ve High	-8%	-20% -ve High-	-ve Low-	17% +ve Low-	-1%	9% +ve Low-	-7%	-11% -ve MSD	-3%	4% 0%
Topsports' retail sales				25%	teens	20%	-ve LSD	teens	teens	20%	-ve LSD	teens	+ve LSD	-ve MSD	-3%	U%
Dong Xiang's SSSG +ve	e HSD	+ve Mid to High	-ve High- teens	-ve Mid to High-	-ve MSD	-ve Low to Mid-	-ve Low to Mid SD	-ve Mid- teens	+ve Low to Mid-	+ve Low to Mid-	+ve Low to Mid SD	25% to 30%	-ve HSD			
		SD +velow.	ve Mid to	teens		teens		-ve Mid	teens +ve Low	teens			-ve Low			
				-ve Mid-	-ve MSD	-ve Mid to High-	+ve LSD	-ve Mid 20% to	to Mid-	+ve Mid-	+ve MSD	Mid 40%	-ve Low 10% to			
Dong Xiang's retail sale 60%	%-70%	to Mid-	nign-													
Dong Xiang's retail sale 609	<b>%-70</b> %	to Mid- teens	High- teens	teens	ve mod	teens		30%	teens	teens		to 50%	20%			
	<b>1%-70%</b> 1%-75%			teens	ve mod					teens		to 50%				

Source: Company data, CMBIGM estimates, \*Nike's year end is in May (e.g. 4Q18 calendar year = 2Q19 fiscal year = Sep-Nov 2018)



# **Assumptions**

Figure 4: Major assumptions

Major assumptions	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Sales by segment (RMB mn)					
Shoes	7,760	8,172	8,483	9,055	9,819
Apparels	4,897	5,904	6,553	6,618	7,346
Accessories	273	270	286	306	328
Total	12,930	14,346	15,322	15,979	17,494
Sales by segment growth (%)					
Shoes	30.9%	5.3%	3.8%	6.7%	8.4%
Apparels	26.0%	20.6%	11.0%	1.0%	11.0%
Accessories	38.3%	-1.2%	6.0%	7.0%	7.0%
Total	29.1%	10.9%	6.8%	4.3%	9.5%
Sales by segment (RMB mn)					
Mass market	11,128	11,947	13,291	14,418	15,549
Athleisure	1,403	1,603	826	0	0
Professional sports	400	796	1,205	1,561	1,945
Total	12,930	14,346	15,322	15,979	17,494
Sales by segment growth (YoY)					
Mass market	25.9%	7.4%	11.2%	8.5%	7.8%
Athleisure	44.5%	14.3%	-48.4%	-100.0%	#DIV/0!
Professional sports	99.0%	98.9%	51.5%	29.6%	24.6%
Total	29.1%	10.9%	6.8%	4.3%	9.5%
Sales network					
Xtep	4,493	4,568	4,659	4,753	4,848
Xtep kids	1,520	1,703	1,805	1,895	1,990
Oversea stores	300	300	300	300	300
Total	6,313	6,571	6,765	6,948	7,138
GP margins	40.9%	42.2%	42.3%	42.4%	42.6%
Opex breakdown					
A&P / sales	11.9%	13.7%	12.3%	11.9%	11.9%
Staff costs/ sales	11.3%	10.1%	9.6%	9.2%	9.1%
R&D / sales	2.3%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%
D&A / sales	1.9%	2.1%	2.0%	2.0%	1.9%
Provisions (write-backs) / sales	0.4%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
Rental / sales	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Selling & distribution costs / sales	20.8%	23.5%	21.9%	21.2%	21.0%
Admin expenses / sales	11.2%	10.7%	10.1%	9.7%	9.6%
Total	32.0%	34.2%	31.9%	30.9%	30.6%
OP margins	11.3%	11.0%	12.5%	13.7%	14.3%
Effective tax rate	33.0%	28.7%	30.0%	29.5%	29.0%
Net profit att. margins	7.1%	7.2%	8.3%	9.3%	10.0%
Net profit att. growth (%)	1.5%	11.8%	22.9%	17.6%	17.2%

Source: Company data, CMBIGM estimates



# Valuation

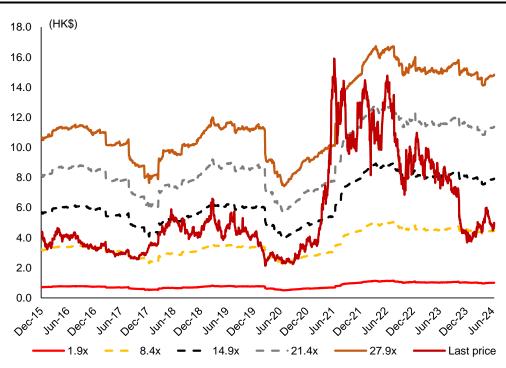
Figure 5: Peers valuation table

			12m TP	Price	Up/ Down-	Mkt. Cap	Year	P/E	(x)	P/B (x)	ROE (%)	3yrs PEG (x)	Yield (%)	YTD perf.
Company	Ticker	Rating	(LC)	(LC)	side	(HK\$mn)	End	FY1E	FY2E	FY2E	FY1E	FY1E	FY1E	FY1E
H share Sports	<u>wear</u>													
Xtep Intl	1368 HK	BUY	7.32	5.00	46%	13,223	Dec-23	9.6	8.1	1.2	12.0	0.5	14.9	13.4
Anta Sports	2020 HK	BUY	101.38	71.80	41%	203,382	Dec-23	14.7	13.4	3.1	23.8	1.0	3.5	(5.2)
Li Ning	2331 HK	BUY	22.17	15.10	47%	39,026	Dec-23	10.6	9.3	1.4	13.1	1.0	4.1	(27.0)
361 Degrees	1361 HK	BUY	6.25	3.93	59%	8,126	Dec-23	6.6	5.6	0.7	11.3	0.5	4.4	13.3
Topsports	6110 HK	BUY	6.78	3.88	75%	24,061	Feb-24	9.3	8.4	2.2	22.5	1.1	9.7	(36.2)
Pou Sheng	3813 HK	NR	n/a	0.61	n/a	3,249	Dec-23	4.7	3.8	n/a	5.9	0.2	7.1	(10.3)
China DX	3818 HK	NR	n/a	0.31	n/a	1,825	Mar-24	n/a	18.0	0.2	(6.8)	0.0	6.9	8.8
							Avg.	9.2	9.5	1.5	11.7	0.6	7.2	(6.2)
							Med.	9.4	8.4	1.3	12.0	0.5	6.9	(5.2)
International Sp	oortswear													
Nike Inc	NKE US	NR	n/a	72.95	n/a	859,574	May-24	22.3	19.6	7.7	40.1	6.1	2.1	(32.8)
Adidas	ADS GY	NR	n/a	225.80	n/a	344,764	Dec-23	72.6	32.3	7.9	2.8	(0.2)	0.5	22.6
Puma	PUM GY	NR	n/a	43.34	n/a	55,448	Dec-23	18.3	14.3	2.4	10.2	0.9	2.0	(14.2)
Under Armour	UAA US	NR	n/a	6.99	n/a	23,462	Mar-24	34.2	20.1	1.4	11.3	(49.8)	0.0	(20.5)
Lululemon	LULU US	NR	n/a	289.29	n/a	282,323	Jan-24	20.2	18.3	6.8	41.9	1.6	0.0	(43.4)
Skechers	SKX US	NR	n/a	67.27	n/a	80,100	Dec-23	16.3	14.0	2.2	15.1	0.9	0.0	7.9
Vf Corp	VFC US	NR	n/a	13.18	n/a	40,031	Mar-24	17.9	12.1	2.8	(42.4)	(0.1)	2.7	(29.9)
Deckers	DECK US	NR	n/a	886.65	n/a	176,119	Mar-24	28.7	25.0	8.9	39.2	2.6	0.0	32.6
On Holding	ONON US	NR	n/a	36.46	n/a	90,735	Dec-23	39.8	35.6	7.3	11.5	0.7	n/a	35.2
Columbia	COLM US	NR	n/a	79.07	n/a	36,498	Dec-23	20.3	18.1	2.3	12.8	3.6	1.5	(0.6)
Wolverine	WWW US	NR	n/a	12.61	n/a	7,869	Dec-23	15.8	10.4	2.9	(25.4)	(0.1)	3.5	41.8
Mizuno Corp	8022 JP	NR	n/a	7570.00	n/a	9,906	Mar-24	12.9	12.1	1.3	10.8	4.3	1.7	92.6
Asics Corp	7936 JP	NR	n/a	2527.00	n/a	94,492	Dec-23	41.9	37.2	10.4	22.5	3.4	1.0	128.8
							Avg. Med.	27.8 20.3	20.7 18.3	4.9 2.9	11.6 11.5	(2.0) 0.9	1.2 1.2	16.9 7.9

Source: Bloomberg, CMBIGM estimates



Figure 6: Forward 12M P/E valuation band



Source: Bloomberg, CMBIGM estimates



# **Financial Summary**

		-	-	_		_
INCOME STATEMENT	2021A	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
YE 31 Dec (RMB mn)						
Revenue	10,013	12,930	14,346	15,322	15,979	17,494
Cost of goods sold	(5,835)	(7,639)	(8,296)	(8,844)	(9,209)	(10,038)
Gross profit	4,178	5,292	6,050	6,478	6,771	7,456
Operating expenses	(3,081)	(4,144)	(4,909)	(4,895)	(4,940)	(5,347)
Selling expense	(1,891)	(2,690)	(3,369)	(3,348)	(3,394)	(3,673)
Admin expense	(937)	(1,155)	(1,142)	(1,118)	(1,099)	(1,184)
R&D expense	(252)	(299)	(398)	(429)	(447)	(490)
Others	0	0	0	0	0	0
Operating profit	1,396	1,464	1,580	1,920	2,182	2,493
Other income	299	317	439	337 24	352	385
Share of (losses)/profits of associates/JV	(46)	(12)	15		62	97
EBITDA  Depreciation	1,480	1,595	1,740	2,106	2,380	2,637
Depreciation Other amortisation	(71) (13)	(117)	(145) (16)	(124) (61)	(127)	(123)
Interest income	(13)	(14) 25	41	(61) 72	(71) 77	(21) 77
Interest income Interest expense	(85)	(117)	(187)	(194)	(194)	(194)
Other income/expense	0	0	0	(194)	(194)	(194)
Pre-tax profit	1,287	1,361	1,449	1,822	2,127	2,474
Income tax	(397)	(449)	(416)	(547)	(627)	(718)
Minority interest	19	9	(3)	(9)	(11)	(12)
Net profit	889	912	1,033	1,275	1,500	1,757
not prom	555	0.2	1,000	1,2.0	1,000	1,101
BALANCE SHEET	2021A	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
YE 31 Dec (RMB mn)						
Current assets	10,432	12,338	12,044	13,252	13,543	14,512
Cash & equivalents	3,930	3,414	3,295	3,969	3,902	4,050
Account receivables	3,528	4,213	4,975	5,314	5,542	6,067
Inventories	1,497	2,287	1,794	1,912	1,991	2,170
Prepayment	1,443	1,371	1,112	1,188	1,238	1,356
ST bank deposits	33	1,047	862	862	862	862
Other current assets	1	6	7	7	7	7
Non-current assets	4,183	4,155	5,281	4,354	4,651	5,079
PP&E	1,119	1,368	1,592	1,883	2,188	2,539
Investment in JVs & assos	365	439	751	775	838	935
Intangibles	671	723	723	(520)	(593)	(614)
Other non-current assets	2,028	1,626	2,214	2,216	2,218	2,219
Total assets	14,615	16,494	17,325	17,606	18,194	19,591
Current liabilities	4,053	6,645	5,851	6,131	6,319	6,747
Short-term borrowings	405	2,231	954	954	954	954
Account payables	2,352	2,772	2,531	2,698	2,809	3,062
Tax payable	123	108	144	144	144	144
Other current liabilities	1,173	1,534	2,222	2,336	2,412	2,588
Non-current liabilities	2,580	1,542	2,552	2,552	2,552	2,552
Long-term borrowings	1,375	193	1,691	1,691	1,691	1,691
Other non-current liabilities	1,205	1,349	860	860	860	860
Total liabilities	6,633	8,187	8,402	8,683	8,870	9,299
Share capital	23	23	23	23	23	23
Retained earnings	5,020	5,126	5,281	4,617	5,393	6,303
Other reserves	2,940	3,157	3,620	4,274	3,888	3,934
Total shareholders equity	7,982	8,307	8,923	8,914	9,304	10,260
Minority interest	0	0	0	9	20	32
Total equity and liabilities	14,615	16,494	17,325	17,606	18,194	19,591



CASH FLOW	2021A	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
/E 31 Dec (RMB mn)						
Operating						
Profit before taxation	1,287	1,361	1,449	1,822	2,127	2,474
Depreciation & amortization	84	131	161	186	198	14
ax paid	(329)	(431)	(531)	(547)	(627)	(718
Change in working capital	(447)	(688)	(21)	(252)	(170)	(393
Others	107	199	197	(24)	(62)	(97
Net cash from operations	701	572	1,255	1,185	1,465	1,410
nvesting						
Capital expenditure	(414)	(365)	(389)	(415)	(433)	(474
Acquisition of subsidiaries/ investments	(3)	(5)	(6)	1,180	0	C
Others	89	(503)	(520)	0 <b>765</b>	0 <b>(433)</b>	(474
let cash from investing	(329)	(873)	(915)	703	(433)	(474
inancing						
Dividend paid	(356)	(550)	(469)	(1,275)	(1,099)	(789
let borrowings	(312)	466	189	0	0	C
Proceeds from share issues	0	0	0	0	0	C
Share repurchases Others	0 764	0 (152)	0 (182)	0	0	(
let cash from financing	96	(236)	(461)	(1,275)	(1, <b>099</b> )	(789
et cash nom manong	30	(230)	(401)	(1,273)	(1,033)	(103
let change in cash						
Cash at the beginning of the year	3,472	3,930	3,414	3,295	3,969	3,90
exchange difference	(11)	21	2	0	0	(
Others	469	(537)	(122)	675	(67)	14
Cash at the end of the year	3,930	3,414	3,295	3,969	3,902	4,05
GROWTH	2021A	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
/E 31 Dec						
Revenue	22.5%	29.1%	10.9%	6.8%	4.3%	9.5%
Gross profit	30.6%	26.7%	14.3%	7.1%	4.5%	10.19
Operating profit EBITDA	52.1% 48.6%	4.9% 7.8%	7.9% 9.1%	21.5% 21.0%	13.6% 13.0%	14.3% 10.8%
Net profit	76.1%	2.6%	13.2%	23.5%	17.6%	17.19
PROFITABILITY	2021A	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
E 31 Dec	ZVZIA	ZUZZA	Z023A	2024L	2023L	20201
Gross profit margin	41.7%	40.9%	42.2%	42.3%	42.4%	42.69
Operating margin	13.9%	11.3%	11.0%	12.5%	13.7%	14.3%
EBITDA margin	14.8%	12.3%	12.1%	13.7%	14.9%	15.19
Return on equity (ROE)	11.6%	11.2%	12.0%	14.3%	16.5%	18.0%
GEARING/LIQUIDITY/ACTIVITIES	2021A	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
E 31 Dec						
let debt to equity (x)	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.
Current ratio (x)	2.6	1.9	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.
Receivable turnover days	128.6	118.9	126.6	126.6	126.6	126.
nventory turnover days	93.7	109.3	78.9	78.9	78.9	78.
Payable turnover days	147.1	132.4	111.3	111.3	111.3	111.
/ALUATION	2021A	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
'E 31 Dec						
P/E	11.5	12.4	11.3	9.6	8.1	6.
P/E (diluted)	11.5	12.4	11.3	9.6	8.1	6.
P/B	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.
P/CFPS	17.0	21.0	9.8	10.7	8.7	9.
Div yield (%)	4.6	3.8	4.1	14.1	5.8	6.
EV	11,309.4	11,948.5	12,575.1	11,900.5	11,967.5	11,819.
EV/Sales	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.1
EV/EBITDA	7.6	7.5	7.2	5.7	5.0	4.5



# **Disclosures & Disclaimers**

#### **Analyst Certification**

The research analyst who is primary responsible for the content of this research report, in whole or in part, certifies that with respect to the securities or issuer that the analyst covered in this report: (1) all of the views expressed accurately reflect his or her personal views about the subject securities or issuer; and (2) no part of his or her compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific views expressed by that analyst in this report.

Besides, the analyst confirms that neither the analyst nor his/her associates (as defined in the code of conduct issued by The Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission) (1) have dealt in or traded in the stock(s) covered in this research report within 30 calendar days prior to the date of issue of this report; (2) will deal in or trade in the stock(s) covered in this research report 3 business days after the date of issue of this report; (3) serve as an officer of any of the Hong Kong listed companies covered in this report; and (4) have any financial interests in the Hong Kong listed companies covered in this report.

### **CMBIGM Ratings**

: Stock with potential return of over 15% over next 12 months BUY HOLD Stock with potential return of +15% to -10% over next 12 months SELL NOT RATED : Stock with potential loss of over 10% over next 12 months

: Stock is not rated by CMBIGM

OUTPERFORM : Industry expected to outperform the relevant broad market benchmark over next 12 months MARKET-PERFORM : Industry expected to perform in-line with the relevant broad market benchmark over next 12 months UNDERPERFORM : Industry expected to underperform the relevant broad market benchmark over next 12 months

## CMB International Global Markets Limited

Address: 45/F, Champion Tower, 3 Garden Road, Hong Kong, Tel: (852) 3900 0888 Fax: (852) 3900 0800

CMB International Global Markets Limited ("CMBIGM") is a wholly owned subsidiary of CMB International Capital Corporation Limited (a wholly owned subsidiary of China Merchants Bank)

#### Important Disclosures

There are risks involved in transacting in any securities. The information contained in this report may not be suitable for the purposes of all investors. CMBIGM does not provide individually tailored investment advice. This report has been prepared without regard to the individual investment objectives, financial position or special requirements. Past performance has no indication of future performance, and actual events may differ materially from that which is contained in the report. The value of, and returns from, any investments are uncertain and are not guaranteed and may fluctuate as a result of their dependence on the performance of underlying assets or other variable market factors. CMBIGM recommends that investors should independently evaluate particular investments and strategies, and encourages investors to consult with a professional financial advisor in order to make their own investment decisions.

This report or any information contained herein, have been prepared by the CMBIGM, solely for the purpose of supplying information to the clients of CMBIGM or its affiliate(s) to whom it is distributed. This report is not and should not be construed as an offer or solicitation to buy or sell any security or any interest in securities or enter into any transaction. Neither CMBIGM nor any of its affiliates, shareholders, agents, consultants, directors, officers or employees shall be liable for any loss, damage or expense whatsoever, whether direct or consequential, incurred in relying on the information contained in this report. Anyone making use of the information contained in this report does so entirely at their own risk.

The information and contents contained in this report are based on the analyses and interpretations of information believed to be publicly available and reliable. CMBIGM has exerted every effort in its capacity to ensure, but not to guarantee, their accuracy, completeness, timeliness or correctness. CMBIGM provides the information, advices and forecasts on an "AS IS" basis. The information and contents are subject to change without notice. CMBIGM may issue other publications having information and/ or conclusions different from this report. These publications reflect different assumption, point-of-view and analytical methods when compiling. CMBIGM may make investment decisions or take proprietary positions that are inconsistent with the recommendations or views in

CMBIGM may have a position, make markets or act as principal or engage in transactions in securities of companies referred to in this report for itself and/or on behalf of its clients from time to time. Investors should assume that CMBIGM does or seeks to have investment banking or other business relationships with the companies in this report. As a result, recipients should be aware that CMBIGM may have a conflict of interest that could affect the objectivity of this report and CMBIGM will not assume any responsibility in respect thereof. This report is for the use of intended recipients only and this publication, may not be reproduced, reprinted, sold, redistributed or published in whole or in part for any purpose without prior written consent of CMBIGM. Additional information on recommended securities is available upon request.

### For recipients of this document in the United Kingdom

This report has been provided only to persons (I)falling within Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005 (as amended from time to time) ("The Order") or (II) are persons falling within Article 49(2) (a) to (d) ("High Net Worth Companies, Unincorporated Associations, etc.,) of the Order, and may not be provided to any other person without the prior written consent of CMBIGM.

## For recipients of this document in the United States

CMBIGM is not a registered broker-dealer in the United States. As a result, CMBIGM is not subject to U.S. rules regarding the preparation of research reports and the independence of research analysts. The research analyst who is primary responsible for the content of this research report is not registered or qualified as a research analyst with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA"). The analyst is not subject to applicable restrictions under FINRA Rules intended to ensure that the analyst is not affected by potential conflicts of interest that could bear upon the reliability of the research report. This report is intended for distribution in the United States solely to "major US institutional investors", as defined in Rule 15a-6 under the US, Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and may not be furnished to any other person in the United States. Each major US institutional investor that receives a copy of this report by its acceptance hereof represents and agrees that it shall not distribute or provide this report to any other person. Any U.S. recipient of this report wishing to effect any transaction to buy or sell securities based on the information provided in this report should do so only through a U.S.-registered broker-dealer.

### For recipients of this document in Singapore

This report is distributed in Singapore by CMBI (Singapore) Pte. Limited (CMBISG) (Company Regn. No. 201731928D), an Exempt Financial Adviser as defined in the Financial Advisers Act (Cap. 110) of Singapore and regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore. CMBISG may distribute reports produced by its respective foreign entities, affiliates or other foreign research houses pursuant to an arrangement under Regulation 32C of the Financial Advisers Regulations. Where the report is distributed in Singapore to a person who is not an Accredited Investor, Expert Investor or an Institutional Investor, as defined in the Securities and Futures Act (Cap. 289) of Singapore, CMBISG accepts legal responsibility for the contents of the report to such persons only to the extent required by law. Singapore recipients should contact CMBISG at +65 6350 4400 for matters arising from, or in connection with the report.