

招商银行全资附属机本

Kingsoft Cloud (KC US)

Bottoming out

KC reported in-line FY4Q21 revenue growth of +38% YoY to RMB2,660mn although adj. EBITDA margin deteriorated on 1) higher IDC costs related to unused bandwidth and 2) consolidation of Camelot business. Looking into FY22E, KC targets to down-size lower-margin CDN business and achieve adj. EBITDA breakeven in FY4Q22. Margin improvement, potential HK dual listing and share repurchase could support share price rating under current undemanding valuation (trading at 1.6x net cash). Maintain BUY.

- FY4Q21 kitchen-sinking. KC reported in-line FY4Q21 revenue growth of +38% YoY to RMB2,660mn. Public Cloud growth slowed to RMB1,530mn (+12% YoY) while Enterprise Cloud business remained strong at RMB1,129mn (+111% YoY). Gross margin missed at 1.0% (-3.8 pct pts YoY, -2.6 pct pts QoQ) due to 1) higher IDC costs (+25.7% YoY) related to lock-up usage of bandwidth redundancy as internet customers' demand was weaker than expected and 2) higher staff costs resulted from Camelot consolidation. Adj. EBITDA margin deteriorated to -10.5% (-9.5 pct pts YoY, -4.6 pct pts QoQ).
- Down-sizing lower-margin CDN business, targets adj. EBITDA to breakeven in FY4Q22. Looking ahead, KC expects FY1Q22 revenue to grow at +13-19% YoY to RMB2.05-2.15bn. CDN services revenue will decline at 20-25% YoY but core cloud services (computing/storage/enterprise cloud) will grow fast at +49-55% YoY. With continuous effort in lowering its CDN revenue contribution (from 40% in FY21 to 20-25% in FY22E), KC expects adj. EBITDA margin to improve sequentially starting from FY1Q22 and achieve breakeven by FY4Q22.
- HK dual listing/ Share repurchase as potential catalysts. KC is trading at 1.6x net cash and we think the share price has overly priced in the macro/geopolitical uncertainties. Meanwhile, any progress in dual listing in HK/ share repurchase program will be positive catalysts to share price.
- Maintain BUY. We largely keep our FY22-23E revenue forecast. We now expect FY22E revenue growth of 12% YoY as the Company is under transition to down-size lower-margin CDN business. We revised up our target price to US\$7.87 (prior US\$6.37) on higher 1.2x (prior 1.0x) FY22E P/S as share price could re-rate on improving adj. EBITDA margins. Maintain BUY.

Earnings Summary

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(YE 31 Dec)	FY20A	FY21A	FY22E	FY23E	FY24E
Revenue (RMB mn)	6,577	9,061	10,188	11,552	13,208
YoY growth (%)	66%	38%	12%	13%	14%
Adj. EBITDA (RMB mn)	(119)	(522)	(192)	158	747
YoY growth (%)	n.a.	n.a.	-63%	-183%	372%
Net income (RMB mn)	(982)	(1,589)	(1,684)	(1,371)	(1,016)
EPS (RMB)	-6.14	-6.92	-6.97	-5.67	-4.20
YoY growth (%)	n.a.	n.a.	1%	-19%	-26%
P/S	1.5	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.7
P/B	1.2	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.3
ROE (%)	-12%	-14%	-17%	-16%	-14%
Net gearing (%)	net cash				

Source: Company data, Bloomberg, CMBIGM estimates

BUY (Maintain)

Target Price US\$7.87 (Previous TP US\$6.37)
Up/Downside +25.5%
Current Price US\$6.27

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Stock Data

Mkt Cap (HK\$ mn)	1,515
Avg 3 mths t/o (HK\$ mn)	36.28
52w High/Low (HK\$)	50.02/ 2.50
Total Issued Shares (mn)	242
Source: Bloomberg	

Shareholding Structure

Kingsoft Group (3888 HK)	42.5%
Xiaomi (1810 HK)	13.4%
Mr. Jun LEI	13.4%

Source: Company data

Share Performance

	Absolute	Relative
1-mth	-11.1%	-15.6%
3-mth	-59.7%	-55.5%
6-mth	-78.9%	-77.6%

Source: Bloomberg

12-mth Price Performance



Source: Bloomberg

Auditor: Ernst & Young Hua Ming

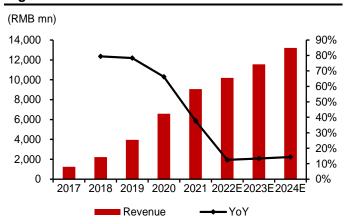
Related Reports

- Kingsoft Cloud (KC US) "Attractive risk reward" – 16 Mar 2022 (link)
- China Software & IT Services "China cloud market to recover in 2022E" – 25 Jan 2022 (link)



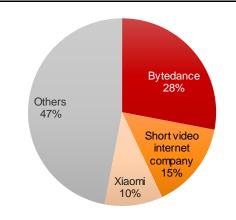
Focus Charts

Figure 1: Revenue and YoY



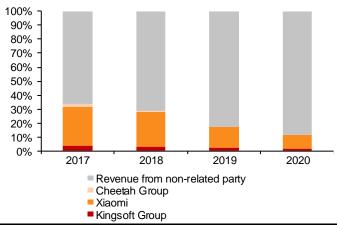
Source: Company data, CMBIGM

Figure 3: Customer mix (FY20)



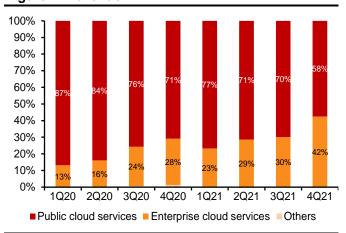
Source: Company data, CMBIGM

Figure 5: Related party transaction (revenue)



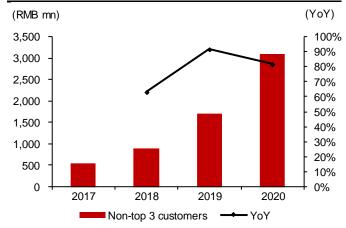
Source: Company data, CMBIGM

Figure 2: Revenue mix



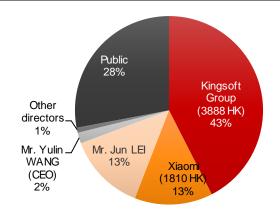
Source: Company data, CMBIGM

Figure 4: Revenue from non-top 3 customers



Source: Company data, CMBIGM

Figure 6: Shareholding structure



Source: Company data, CMBIGM



FY4Q21E results review

- Revenue in-line: RMB2,660mn (+38% YoY, +10% QoQ), in-line with our and consensus estimates.
 - Public Cloud growth slowed: Revenue was at RMB1,530mn (+12% YoY, -9% QoQ)
 - Enterprise Cloud growth remained resilient: Revenue was at RMB1,129mn (+111% YoY, +55% QoQ)
- Gross margin missed: GPM was at 1.0% (-3.8 pct pts YoY, -2.6 pct pts QoQ)
 - Higher IDC costs (+25.7% YoY) related to lock-up usage of bandwidth redundancy as internet customers' demand was weaker than expected.
 - Higher staff costs resulted from Camelot consolidation
- Operating loss widened: -RMB671mn (vs. –RMB469mn in FY3Q21)
- Adj. EBITDA margin deteriorated: -10.5% (-9.5 pct pts YoY, -4.6 pct pt QoQ).
- **Net loss narrowed**: -RMB478mn (vs. –RMB508mn in FY3Q21) above our and consensus forecast given one-off gains amounted to RMB199mn.

Figure 7: FY4Q21E results review

	Dec-20	Sep-21	Dec-21			Dec-21		Dec-21	
	4Q20	3Q21	4Q21			4Q21	versus	4Q21	versus
RMB mn	actual	actual	actual	YoY	QoQ	СМВІ	СМВІ	consensus	consensus
Revenue	1,923	2,414	2,660	38%	10%	2,592	3%	2,599	2%
Gross profit	93	88	28	-70%	-68%	40	-29%	36	-23%
Gross margin	4.8%	3.7%	1.0%	-3.8 pct pts	-2.6 pct pts	1.5%	-0.5 pct pts	1.4%	-0.3 pct pts
Operating profit	-245	-469	-671	-173%	-43%	-638	-5%	-571	-17%
Operating margin	-12.8%	-19.4%	-25.2%	-12.5 pct pts	-5.8 pct pts	-24.6%	-0.6 pct pts	-22.0%	-3.2 pct pts
Adj. EBITDA	-18	-141	-278	-1487%	-98%	-280	1%	-272	-2%
Adj. EBITDA margin	-0.9%	-5.8%	-10.5%	-9.5 pct pts	-4.6 pct pts	-10.8%	0.4 pct pts	-10.4%	0 pct pts
Net non-op	144	-33	192			124		81	
PBT	-102	-502	-478	-370%	5%	-514	7%	-490	2%
Net income	-105	-508	-478	-354%	6%	-519	8%	-669	29%
Net margin	-5.5%	-21.0%	-18.0%	-12.5 pct pts	3.1 pct pts	-20.0%	2.1 pct pts	-25.7%	7.8 pct pts
EPS RMB	-0.03	-0.15	-0.13	-313%	11%	-0.14	8%	-2	95%

Source: Company data, Bloomberg, CMBIGM



Earnings revision

Figure 8: Earnings revision

		2022E				
RMB mn	New	Old	%Diff	New	Old	%Diff
Sales	10,188	9,892	3%	11,552	11,146	4%
Gross profit	444	414	7%	919	841	9%
OP Profit	-1,875	-1,819	3%	-1,429	-1,357	5%
Adj. EBITDA	-192	-201	-5%	158	167	-5%
Net profit	-1,684	-1,664	1%	-1,371	-1,270	8%
EPS	-6.97	-6.88	1%	-5.67	-5.26	8%
Margins						
GM	4.4%	4.2%	17 bps	8.0%	7.5%	41 bps
OPM	-18.4%	-18.4%	-2 bps	-12.4%	-12.2%	-20 bps
Adj. EBITDA margin	-1.9%	-2.0%	15 bps	1.4%	1.5%	-12 bps
Net margin	-16.5%	-16.8%	29 bps	-11.9%	-11.4%	-47 bps

Source: Company data, CMBIGM

Figure 9: CMBI vs. consensus forecast

3		2022E			2023E	
RMB mn	СМВІ	Street	Diff	СМВІ	Street	Diff
Sales	10,188	10,751	-5%	11,552	13,608	-15%
Gross profit	444	704	-37%	919	1,336	-31%
Operating profit	-1,875	-1,458	29%	-1,429	-992	44%
Adj. EBITDA	-192	-312	-38%	158	193	-18%
Net profit	-1,684	-1,289	31%	-1,371	-849	61%
EPS	-6.97	-4.96	40%	-5.67	-3.29	73%
Margins						
GM	4.4%	6.5%	-219 bps	8.0%	9.8%	-186 bps
OPM	-18.4%	-13.6%	-485 bps	-12.4%	-7.3%	-508 bps
Adj. EBITDA margin	-1.9%	-2.9%	102 bps	1.4%	1.4%	-5 bps
Net margin	-16.5%	-12.0%	-454 bps	-11.9%	-6.2%	-563 bps

Source: Company data, CMBIGM



Operating model

Figure 10: KC income statement

RMB mn	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022E	2023E	2024E
Revenues	2,218	3,956	6,577	9,061	10,188	11,552	13,208
Cost of sales	(2,419)	(3,949)	(6,220)	(8,709)	(9,745)	(10,632)	(11,670)
Gross Profit	(200)	8	357	351	444	919	1,538
Gross margin	-9.0%	0.2%	5.4%	3.9%	4.4%	8.0%	11.6%
R&D	(441)	(595)	(775)	(1,044)	(1,157)	(1,095)	(1,167)
SG&A	(339)	(556)	(789)	(1,120)	(1,162)	(1,253)	(1,362)
Operating Income	(979)	(1,144)	(1,207)	(1,812)	(1,875)	(1,429)	(991)
Operating margin	-44.2%	-28.9%	-18.4%	-20.0%	-18.4%	-12.4%	-7.5%
Adi. EBITDA	(520)	(418)	(119)	(522)	(192)	158	747
Adj. EBITDA margin	-23.4%	-10.6%	-1.8%	-5.8%	-1.9%	1.4%	5.7%
Non-Operating Income	(17)	41	260	236	205	70	(18)
Profit Before Tax	(997)	(1,102)	(947)	(1,576)	(1,670)	(1,359)	(1,009)
Income tax (expense) gain	(10)	(9)	(15)	(16)	(14)	(11)	(6)
Minorities	0	(1)	4	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Accretion to redemption value of redeemable convertible preferred shares	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net Income to Shareholders	(1,749)	(1,161)	(982)	(1,589)	(1,684)	(1,371)	(1,016)
Net margin	-79%	-29%	-15%	-18%	-17%	-12%	-8%
EPS (RMB) per share EPS (RMB) per ADS	(2.20) (33.06)	(1.31) (19.58)	(0.41) (6.14)	(0.46) (6.92)	(0.46) (6.97)	(0.38) (5.67)	(0.28) (4.20)

Source: Company Data, CMBIGM

Figure 11: KC income statement (Quarterly)

RMB mn	1Q21	2Q21	3Q21	4Q21	1Q22E	2Q22E	3Q22E	4Q22E
Revenues	1,814	2,174	2,414	2,660	2,054	2,418	2,698	3,018
Cost of sales	(1,697)	(2,055)	(2,325)	(2,632)	(2,015)	(2,347)	(2,566)	(2,816)
Gross Profit	117	118	88	28	39	71	132	202
Gross margin	6.4%	5.5%	3.7%	1.0%	1.9%	2.9%	4.9%	6.7%
R&D	(265)	(232)	(269)	(278)	(308)	(242)	(305)	(302)
SG&A	(204)	(207)	(289)	(420)	(226)	(302)	(311)	(323)
Operating Income	(352)	(320)	(469)	(671)	(495)	(473)	(485)	(422)
Operating margin	-19.4%	-14.7%	-19.4%	-25.2%	-24.1%	-19.6%	-18.0%	-14.0%
Adj. EBITDA	(49)	(55)	(141)	(278)	(128)	(57)	(28)	21
Adj. EBITDA margin	-2.7%	-2.5%	-5.8%	-10.5%	-6.2%	-2.3%	-1.0%	0.7%
Non-Operating Income	(27)	103	(33)	192	(43)	88	(36)	196
Profit Before Tax	(379)	(217)	(502)	(478)	(539)	(385)	(520)	(226)
Net Income to Shareholders	(382)	(220)	(508)	(478)	(543)	(388)	(525)	(228)
Net margin	-21.1%	-10.1%	-21.0%	-18.0%	-26.4%	-16.1%	-19.4%	-7.6%
EPS (RMB) per share	(0.11)	(0.07)	(0.15)	(0.13)	(0.15)	(0.11)	(0.14)	(0.06)
EPS (RMB) per ADS	(1.72)	(0.99)	(2.22)	(1.97)	(2.24)	(1.60)	(2.17)	(0.94)

Source: Company Data, CMBIGM



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Figure 12: KC operating model	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022E	2023E	2024E
Revenue breakdown	2010	2013	LULU	LULI	LULLE	LULUL	- ZUZ-TL
Public cloud services	2,111	3,459	5,167	6,159	6,219	6,534	6,865
Enterprise cloud services	94	486	1,373	2,898	3,964	5,012	6,338
Others	13	11	38	4	4	5	6
Total	2,218	3,956	6,577	9,061	10,188	11,552	13,208
Revenue mix							
Public cloud services	95%	87%	79%	68%	61%	57%	52%
Enterprise cloud services	4%	12%	21%	32%	39%	43%	48%
Others	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Revenue YoY							
Public cloud services	76%	64%	49%	19%	1%	5%	5%
Enterprise cloud services	518%	415%	182%	111%	37%	26%	26%
Others	-27%	-16%	237%	-90%	15%	15%	15%
Total	79%	78%	66%	38%	12%	13%	14%
Key operating metrics Public cloud							
No. of premium customers	139	175	191	221	225	230	235
YoY	24%	26%	9%	16%	2%	2%	2%
Net dollar retention rate of premium customer	161%	155%	147%	120%	70%	105%	105%
Avg. revenue per premium customer (RMB mn)	14.5	19.2	26.4	27.3	27.1	27.9	28.7
YoY	42%	32%	38%	4%	-1%	3%	3%
Computing	663	1,018	1,587	-	-	-	-
Storage	289	298	285	-	-	-	-
Delivery	1,161	2,137	3,318	-	-	-	-
Enterprise cloud							
No. of premium customers	17	67	124	200	250	287	330
Avg. revenue per premium customer (RMB mn)	5.5	7.2	11.0	13.8	15.8	17.4	19.2
Cost of sales breakdown							
IDC costs	1,890	2,857	4,059	5,102	4,145	4,311	4,529
Depreciation and amortization costs	407	599	746	785	1,077	1,245	1,353
Staff costs	24	52	48	518	1,503	1,531	1,661
Other costs	98	440	1,367	2,305	3,020	3,545	4,235
Total	2,419	3,949	6,220	8,710	9,745	10,632	11,778
Cost of sales mix							
IDC costs	78%	72%	65%	59%	43%	41%	38%
Depreciation and amortization costs	17%	15%	12%	9%	11%	12%	11%
Staff costs	1%	1%	1%	6%	15%	14%	14%
Other costs	4%	11%	22%	26%	31%	33%	36%

Source: Company Data, CMBIGM



Valuation

Maintain BUY

We maintain our BUY recommendation on Kingsoft Cloud with new target price of US\$7.87 (prior US\$6.37), based on higher 1.2x (prior 1x) FY22E P/S as share price could re-rate on 1) improving adj. EBITDA margin and 2) dual-listing/ share repurchase program.

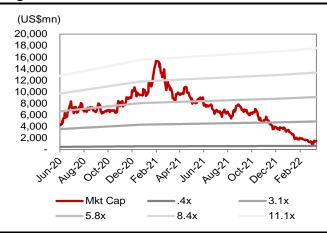
Figure 13: Peers' valuation

			Market Cap	Price	P/	S	EV/s	ales	Sales CAGR	EBITDA margin
Company	Ticker	Rating	(US\$ bn)	(LC)	FY21E	FY22E	FY21E	FY22E	FY20-23E	FY21
Kingsoft Cloud	KC US	BUY	1.5	6.3	1.1	1.0	0.6	0.5	21%	-6%
Ucloud	688158 CH	NR	1.3	18.5	2.2	1.5	1.9	1.3	49%	8%
				Mean	1.6	1.2	1.3	0.9	35%	1%
Agora	API US	NR	1.3	11.6	8.1	7.5	3.6	3.3	21%	5%
Tuya	TUYA US	NR	2.1	3.8	7.0	6.1	3.6	3.1	n.a.	n.a.
Glodon	002410 CH	BUY	9.2	49.2	11.4	9.2	10.8	8.8	23%	12%
Yonyou	600588 CH	NR	12.6	23.4	8.3	7.0	8.2	7.0	16%	13%
Kingsoft Office	688111 CH	NR	14.1	194.7	26.8	19.8	24.4	18.0	37%	36%
Wangsu	300017 CH	NR	2.3	6.0	2.9	2.8	1.9	1.8	-6%	13%
Sangfor	300454 CH	NR	7.6	116.6	6.6	4.9	6.5	4.8	32%	14%
Kingdee	268 HK	NR	7.6	17.1	11.2	9.1	10.5	8.6	25%	4%
MYC	909 HK	BUY	3.0	11.7	8.2	6.4	5.3	4.2	30%	24%
Youzan	8083 HK	NR	0.5	0.2	2.0	1.7	2.0	1.7	12%	-16%
Weimob	2013 HK	NR	1.8	5.5	4.2	3.3	3.6	2.8	25%	4%
				Mean	8.8	7.1	7.3	5.8	22%	11%
Alibaba	BABA US	NR	317.8	117.2	2.9	2.4	2.2	1.8	25%	30%
Tencent	700 HK	NR	462.4	376.4	5.2	4.6	5.5	4.8	15%	38%
Baidu	BIDU US	NR	53.9	154.9	2.8	2.5	2.2	2.0	13%	25%
Amazon	AMZN US	NR	1,663.0	3268.2	3.5	3.1	3.6	3.1	19%	14%
Microsoft	MSFT US	NR	2,245.2	299.5	13.5	11.3	13.2	11.1	17%	46%
Google	GOOG US	NR	1,829.5	2770.1	8.7	7.3	8.2	6.8	26%	43%
Avg.			_	Mean	6.1	5.2	5.8	4.9	19%	33%

Source: Bloomberg, CMBIGM

Figure 14: 12M forward P/S chart

Figure 15: 12M forward P/S band



Source: Bloomberg, CMBIGM

Source: Bloomberg, CMBIGM



Financial Summary

ncome statement						Cash flow summary					
YE Dec 31 (Rmb mn)	FY20A	FY21A	FY22E	FY23E	FY24E	YE Dec 31 (Rmb mn)	FY20A	FY21A	FY22E	FY23E	FY24E
Revenue	6,577	9,061	10,188	11,552	13,208	Net Income	(962)	(1,592)	(1,684)	(1,370)	(1,016)
Cost of sales	(6,220)	(8,709)	(9,745)	(10,632)	(11,670)	Depreciation And	758	856	1,174	1,357	1,474
Gross Profit	357	351	444	919	1,538	Net Change In Working	(300)	-	(273)	(176)	(335)
						Others	213	27	-	-	-
S&M	(409)	(518)	(560)	(576)	(623)	Net cash from operating	(290)	(709)	(783)	(189)	123
G&A	(380)	(602)	(603)	(677)	(739)						
R&D	(775)	(1,044)	(1,157)	(1,095)	(1,167)	Capital Expenditures	(1,560)	-	(1,523)	(746)	(854)
Operating Profit/(Loss)	(1,207)	(1,812)	(1,875)	(1,429)	(991)	Short-term investments	(5,608)	-	-	-	
Adj. EBITDA	-119	-522	-192	158	747	Other Investing Activities	2,854	(422)	(5)	(5)	(5)
						Net cash from investing	(4,314)	(422)	(1,528)	(751)	(859)
Interest income	12	10	21	24	22						
Interest expense	-	(2)	(2)	(4)	(2)	Equity raised	5,934	-	-	-	-
Other non-ops	958	1,478	1,438	1,307	870	Change of debts	178	-	2,100	1,457	(685)
Profit Before Tax	(237)	(326)	(418)	(101)	(102)	Dividend paid	-	-	-	-	1
Income tax	(15)	(16)	(14)	(11)	(6)	Others	11	2,212	-	-	(1)
						Net cash from financing	6,124	2,212	2,100	1,457	(685)
Profit After Tax	(962)	(1,592)	(1,684)	(1,370)	(1,016)	_					
Non Controlling Interest	(0)	3	(0)	(0)	(0)	Net change in cash	1,520	1,082	(212)	516	(1,421)
Others	(20)	-	-	-	-	Cash at beginning of the year	2,023	3,425	4,457	4,245	4,761
Net profit	(982)	(1,589)	(1,684)	(1,371)	(1,016)	Exchange difference	(118)	(50)	-	-	
	. ,				• • •	Cash at the end of the year	3,425	4.457	4,245	4.761	3,341

Balance sheet						Key ratios					
YE Dec 31 (Rmb mn)	FY20A	FY21A	FY22E	FY23E	FY24E	YE Dec 31	FY20A	FY21A	FY22E	FY23E	FY24E
Non-current assets	2,384	8,665	9,020	8,414	7,798	Sales mix (%)					
PPE, net	1,957	2,364	2,769	2,214	1,649	Public cloud services	79%	68%	61%	57%	52%
Intangible assets	17	1,170	1,119	1,068	1,017	Enterprise cloud services	21%	32%	39%	43%	48%
Others	411	5,131	5,131	5,131	5,131	Others	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
						Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Current assets	9,545	12,413	11,723	12,872	12,232						
Cash	3,425	4,457	4,245	4,761	3,341	Growth (YoY)					
Accounts Receivable	2,335	3,571	3,333	3,772	4,317	Revenue	66%	38%	12%	13%	14%
Others	3,785	4,385	4,145	4,339	4,574	Gross profit	4531%	-2%	26%	107%	67%
						Adj. EBITDA	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	-183%	372%
Current liabilities	3,466	7,516	7,485	8,816	8,850	Net profit	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Borrowings	74	-	-	-	-						
Accounts Payable	2,057	2,939	2,695	2,995	3,257	Margins					
Accrued Expenses	845	2,224	1,717	1,873	2,056	Gross margin	5%	4%	4%	8%	12%
Others	489	2,353	3,074	3,948	3,537	Operating margin	-18%	-20%	-18%	-12%	-8%
						Adj. EBITDA margin	-2%	-6%	-2%	1%	6%
Non-current liabilities	224	2,070	3,449	4,031	3,757						
Borrowings	-	-	1,379	1,962	1,688	Balance sheet ratio					
Amounts due	_	473	473	473	473	Net debt / equity ratio (%)	net	net	net	0.0	0.1
						_	cash	cash	cash		
Others	224	1,597	1,597	1,597	1,597	Current ratio	2.8	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.4
Total mezzanine equity	-	-	-	-	-	Returns (%)					
Share capital	23	25	25	25	25	ROE	-12%	-14%	-17%	-16%	-14%
Capital surplus	14,150	18,246	18,246	18,246	18,246	ROIC	-9%	-10%	-11%	-9%	-7%
Retained earnings	-5,864	-7,459	-9,143	-10,513	-11,529						
Others	-68	681	681	681	681	Per ADS					
Total equity	8,240	11,492	9,809	8,438	7,422	EPS (Rmb)	-6.14	-6.92	-6.97	-5.67	-4.20
	-	•	•	•	•	BVPS (Rmb)	51.5	50.1	40.6	34.9	30.7

Source: Company data, CMBIGM estimates



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