

Tuhu Car (9690 HK)

1H26 in line; gaining share amid headwinds

Maintain BUY. Tuhu's 1H26 revenue rose 11.4% YoY to RMB8.8bn, in line with our estimates; while adjusted net profit beat our forecast by 13% to RMB240mn. We continue to view Tuhu as a key beneficiary in China's auto aftermarket consolidation. With record openings (817 net) in 1H26, the company is well positioned to hit its 10,000-store target ahead of its original end-2027 timeline. Robust store economics, emerging NEV/premium growth drivers, and committed share repurchases support our positive outlook.

■ **1H26 results largely in line with adjusted net profit beat.** Tuhu's 1H26 revenue rose 11.4% YoY to RMB8.8bn, in line with [our earnings preview](#). Tire sales volume surged 18% YoY, far outpacing a 2% industrywide decline. Engine oil sales volume rose 12% against a 7% market decline. GPM fell 1.8ppts YoY to 23.3% on a high base, but edged up 0.2ppts HoH despite oil-driven cost pressure. 1H26 net profit fell 40% YoY and rose 63% HoH to RMB184mn, in line with our forecast. Adjusted net profit of RMB240mn beat our estimate by 13%, due to higher-than-expected share-based payment.

■ **Competitive moat strengthens with record store expansion.** As the world's largest automotive service chain, Tuhu added 817 workshops in net in 1H26, the most among peers, to reach a total store count of 8,825, despite widespread industry closures. Management now expects to reach its 10,000-workshop milestone earlier than its original end-2027 timeline. That, along with superb supply chain management and cost reduction efforts, resulted in market share gains in key products: its replacement tire market share rose ~2ppts to 14% in China, and engine oil share reached a mid-to-high single digit in 1H26. We view its long-term target of 25%+ tire market share as achievable, aligning with management's target capacity of 15,000-20,000 workshops nationwide. Store-level economics remain robust and industry-leading, with over 90% of stores open for 6+ months operating profitably and payback period under 36 months.

■ **NEV, premiumization and overseas as new growth drivers.** Out-of-warranty NEV repair revenue surged 250% YoY in 1H26 across 160+ NEV-specialised workshops, supported by a base of 5.3mn NEV transacting users (17.2% of total user mix). Management anticipates a major wave of out-of-warranty NEV repair volume starting around 2027-28E as early cohorts of EV models, including Tesla, exit warranty coverage. Tuhu has also upgraded 20 workshops to serve luxury-car owners, in a bid to expand its addressable market. Overseas expansion is also scaling steadily, anchored by an emerging network of 14 workshops in Malaysia and 7 in Hong Kong.

■ **Earnings/Valuation.** Management guides 2H26E GPM flat HoH. We fine-tune our FY26-28E adjusted net profit forecasts to RMB486mn/626mn/759mn. We maintain BUY and TP of HK\$18.00, based on 20x (unchanged) adjusted FY27E P/E. Key risks include slower network expansion, lower-than-expected revenue/margins, and a sector de-rating.

Earnings Summary

(YE 31 Dec)	FY24A	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Revenue (RMB mn)	14,759	16,462	18,346	20,441	21,817
YoY growth (%)	8.5	11.5	11.4	11.4	6.7
Net profit (RMB mn)	483.8	420.4	347.6	392.7	496.4
Adjusted net profit (RMB mn)	624.1	700.1	486.4	626.3	759.2
P/E (Adjusted) (x)	13.3	11.7	17.4	13.5	11.2
ROE (%)	10.4	8.5	6.4	6.2	6.8

Source: Company data, Bloomberg, CMBIGM estimates

BUY (Maintain)

Target Price	HK\$18.00
Up/Downside	50.1%
Current Price	HK\$11.99

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Stock Data

Mkt Cap (HK\$ mn)	9,877.1
Avg 3 mths t/o (HK\$ mn)	11.9
52w High/Low (HK\$)	20.74/11.44
Total Issued Shares (mn)	823.8

Source: FactSet

Shareholding Structure

Tencent Holdings	19.3%
Mr. Chen Min	10.0%

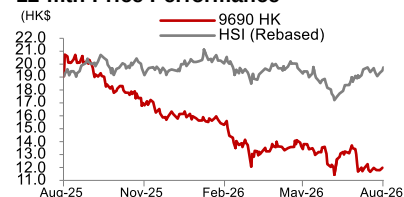
Source: HKEx

Share Performance

	Absolute	Relative
1-mth	-7.9%	-11.0%
3-mth	-10.7%	-12.8%
6-mth	-21.6%	-20.4%

Source: FactSet

12-mth Price Performance



Source: FactSet

Figure 1: Interim results

RMB mn	1H24	2H24	1H25	2H25	1H26	YoY	HoH
Revenue	7,126	7,633	7,877	8,585	8,778	11.4%	2.2%
Gross profit	1,846	1,900	1,982	1,985	2,048	3.3%	3.1%
Operation and support expenses	(283)	(293)	(310)	(372)	(349)	12.8%	-5.9%
R&D expenses	(302)	(338)	(344)	(420)	(366)	6.6%	-12.8%
SG&A expenses	(1,094)	(1,177)	(1,216)	(1,209)	(1,343)	10.5%	11.1%
Operating profit	212	119	222	30	108	-51.4%	256.0%
Net profit	286	198	307	113	184	-40.0%	62.9%
Adj. net profit	358	266	410	290	240	-41.6%	-17.2%
Gross margin	25.9%	24.9%	25.2%	23.1%	23.3%	-1.8 pts	0.2 pts
Operating margin	3.0%	1.6%	2.8%	0.4%	1.2%	-1.6 pts	0.9 pts
Net margin	4.0%	2.6%	3.9%	1.3%	2.1%	-1.8 pts	0.8 pts
Adj. net margin	5.0%	3.5%	5.2%	3.4%	2.7%	-2.5 pts	-0.6 pts

Source: Company data, CMBIGM estimates

Figure 2: Earnings revision

RMB mn	New			Old			Diff (%)		
	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Revenue	18,346	20,441	21,817	18,329	20,433	21,826	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Gross profit	4,263	4,763	5,147	4,222	4,714	5,103	1.0%	1.0%	0.9%
Operating profit	192	259	381	201	260	379	-4.5%	-0.2%	0.6%
Net profit	348	393	496	357	394	512	-2.6%	-0.3%	-3.1%
Adj. net profit	486	626	759	496	628	775	-1.9%	-0.3%	-2.0%
Gross margin	23.2%	23.3%	23.6%	23.0%	23.1%	23.4%	0.2 pts	0.2 pts	0.2 pts
Operating margin	1.0%	1.3%	1.7%	1.1%	1.3%	1.7%	0.0 pts	0.0 pts	0.0 pts
Net margin	1.9%	1.9%	2.3%	1.9%	1.9%	2.3%	-0.1 pts	0.0 pts	-0.1 pts
Adj. net margin	2.7%	3.1%	3.5%	2.7%	3.1%	3.6%	-0.1 pts	0.0 pts	-0.1 pts

Source: CMBIGM estimates

Figure 3: CMBI estimates vs consensus

RMB mn	CMBIGM			Consensus			Diff (%)		
	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Revenue	18,346	20,441	21,817	18,311	20,222	22,179	0.2%	1.1%	-1.6%
Gross profit	4,263	4,763	5,147	4,366	4,883	5,446	-2.4%	-2.5%	-5.5%
Operating profit	192	259	381	300	438	624	-35.9%	-40.8%	-38.9%
Adj. net profit	486	626	759	623	737	900	-21.9%	-15.0%	-15.7%
Gross margin	23.2%	23.3%	23.6%	23.8%	24.1%	24.6%	-0.6 pts	-0.8 pts	-1.0 pts
Operating margin	1.0%	1.3%	1.7%	1.6%	2.2%	2.8%	-0.6 pts	-0.9 pts	-1.1 pts
Net margin	2.7%	3.1%	3.5%	3.4%	3.6%	4.1%	-0.8 pts	-0.6 pts	-0.6 pts

Source: Bloomberg, CMBIGM estimates

Financial Summary

INCOME STATEMENT	2023A	2024A	2025A	2026E	2027E	2028E
YE 31 Dec (RMB mn)						
Revenue	13,601	14,759	16,462	18,346	20,441	21,817
Cost of goods sold	(10,242)	(11,013)	(12,494)	(14,083)	(15,678)	(16,670)
Gross profit	3,359	3,746	3,968	4,263	4,763	5,147
Operating expenses	(3,198)	(3,415)	(3,715)	(4,071)	(4,503)	(4,765)
Selling expense	(1,715)	(1,916)	(2,025)	(2,326)	(2,574)	(2,725)
Admin expense	(420)	(355)	(400)	(385)	(429)	(461)
R&D expense	(580)	(640)	(764)	(766)	(846)	(880)
Other rental related expenses	(600)	(577)	(681)	(759)	(825)	(874)
Others	117	73	154	165	170	175
Operating profit	162	331	252	192	259	381
Other gains/(losses)	6,465	0	0	0	0	0
Share of (losses)/profits of associates/JV	(11)	(12)	6	10	12	12
EBITDA	7,106	819	739	703	802	986
Depreciation	160	156	175	192	204	222
Depreciation of ROU assets	196	154	124	136	148	160
Other amortisation	5	5	5	6	6	7
EBIT	6,744	503	434	369	443	597
Interest income	129	183	176	167	172	204
Interest expense	(19)	(16)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(16)
Pre-tax profit	6,725	487	422	356	429	582
Income tax	(25)	(5)	(3)	(11)	(39)	(87)
After tax profit	6,701	482	419	346	391	494
Minority interest	2	2	1	2	2	2
Net profit	6,703	484	420	348	393	496
Adjusted net profit	481	624	700	486	626	759

BALANCE SHEET	2023A	2024A	2025A	2026E	2027E	2028E
YE 31 Dec (RMB mn)						
Current assets	8,271	8,365	8,883	10,770	12,406	14,144
Cash & equivalents	2,715	1,375	1,924	2,326	3,052	3,950
Restricted cash	1,455	1,109	1,093	1,699	1,925	2,066
Account receivables	218	226	362	302	336	359
Inventories	1,800	2,119	2,373	2,778	3,007	3,197
Financial assets at FVTPL	1,587	3,074	2,759	3,163	3,526	3,975
Other current assets	496	462	371	503	560	598
Non-current assets	3,493	4,432	4,618	4,964	5,480	5,463
PP&E	899	1,046	1,070	1,067	1,052	1,018
Right-of-use assets	467	398	384	406	415	413
Investment in JVs & assos	363	376	379	389	401	413
Intangibles	58	54	24	23	21	19
Goodwill	20	20	24	24	24	24
Financial assets at FVTPL	191	200	200	200	205	210
Other non-current assets	1,495	2,336	2,537	2,855	3,361	3,365
Total assets	11,765	12,797	13,501	15,733	17,885	19,607
Current liabilities	6,602	7,199	7,690	8,910	9,926	10,622
Short-term borrowings	1	8	0	0	0	0
Account payables	3,887	4,458	5,067	5,710	6,357	6,759
Tax payable	120	117	126	115	141	217
Other current liabilities	1,720	1,627	1,661	2,122	2,362	2,512
Lease liabilities	132	119	107	104	108	111
Contract liabilities	743	871	729	859	958	1,023
Non-current liabilities	704	739	757	983	1,118	1,235
Long-term borrowings	8	0	2	52	102	152
Other non-current liabilities	697	739	756	931	1,016	1,083
Total liabilities	7,306	7,938	8,448	9,893	11,044	11,857
Share capital	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other reserves	4,460	4,862	5,056	5,845	6,848	7,759
Total shareholders equity	4,460	4,862	5,057	5,845	6,848	7,760
Minority interest	(2)	(3)	(3)	(5)	(7)	(9)
Total equity and liabilities	11,765	12,797	13,501	15,733	17,885	19,607

CASH FLOW	2023A	2024A	2025A	2026E	2027E	2028E
YE 31 Dec (RMB mn)						
Operating						
Profit before taxation	6,725	487	422	356	429	582
Depreciation & amortization	362	316	304	334	359	389
Tax paid	(5)	(8)	(4)	(12)	(12)	(12)
Change in working capital	269	584	241	89	479	248
Others	(6,330)	(60)	32	10	96	97
Net cash from operations	1,021	1,319	996	777	1,351	1,304
Investing						
Capital expenditure	(362)	(322)	(247)	(205)	(205)	(205)
Acquisition of subsidiaries/ investments	(69)	(10)	(11)	0	0	0
Net proceeds from disposal of short-term investments	(2,108)	(2,191)	(198)	(539)	(863)	(449)
Others	167	95	757	177	182	214
Net cash from investing	(2,372)	(2,428)	302	(567)	(886)	(440)
Financing						
Net borrowings	(1)	(1)	(6)	50	50	50
Proceeds from share issues	1,168	0	0	0	0	0
Share repurchases	0	(248)	(575)	300	375	150
Others	182	8	(147)	(158)	(164)	(166)
Net cash from financing	1,350	(241)	(728)	192	261	34
Net change in cash						
Cash at the beginning of the year	2,686	2,715	1,375	1,924	2,326	3,052
Exchange difference	30	9	(21)	0	0	0
Cash at the end of the year	2,715	1,375	1,924	2,326	3,052	3,950
GROWTH	2023A	2024A	2025A	2026E	2027E	2028E
YE 31 Dec						
Revenue	17.8%	8.5%	11.5%	11.4%	11.4%	6.7%
Gross profit	48.0%	11.5%	5.9%	7.4%	11.7%	8.1%
Operating profit	na	104.9%	(23.8%)	(23.9%)	35.1%	47.1%
EBITDA	na	(88.5%)	(9.8%)	(4.8%)	14.1%	23.0%
EBIT	na	(92.5%)	(13.6%)	(15.0%)	20.1%	34.7%
Net profit	na	(92.8%)	(13.1%)	(17.3%)	13.0%	26.4%
Adj. net profit	na	29.7%	12.2%	(30.5%)	28.8%	21.2%
PROFITABILITY	2023A	2024A	2025A	2026E	2027E	2028E
YE 31 Dec						
Gross profit margin	24.7%	25.4%	24.1%	23.2%	23.3%	23.6%
Operating margin	1.2%	2.2%	1.5%	1.0%	1.3%	1.7%
EBITDA margin	52.2%	5.5%	4.5%	3.8%	3.9%	4.5%
Adj. net profit margin	3.5%	4.2%	4.3%	2.7%	3.1%	3.5%
Return on equity (ROE)	na	10.4%	8.5%	6.4%	6.2%	6.8%
GEARING/LIQUIDITY/ACTIVITIES	2023A	2024A	2025A	2026E	2027E	2028E
YE 31 Dec						
Net debt to equity (x)	(0.9)	(0.5)	(0.6)	(0.7)	(0.8)	(0.8)
Current ratio (x)	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3
Receivable turnover days	5.9	5.6	8.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
Inventory turnover days	64.1	70.2	69.3	72.0	70.0	70.0
Payable turnover days	138.5	147.7	148.0	148.0	148.0	148.0
VALUATION	2023A	2024A	2025A	2026E	2027E	2028E
YE 31 Dec						
P/E	0.5	17.2	19.5	24.4	21.5	17.1
P/E (diluted)	17.2	13.8	12.1	17.8	13.7	11.4
P/B	0.7	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.2	1.1
P/CFPS	3.2	6.3	8.2	10.9	6.3	6.5
Div yield (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: Company data, CMBIGM estimates. Note: The calculation of net cash includes financial assets.

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