

Key Stock News

Food Empire reported an 11% growth in 1Q13 earnings of USD5.6m. Results are in-line with expectations, accounting for 25% of our full year estimates. Sales in Russia grew at a stronger pace of 18% y-o-y vs our forecast of 15% due to a change in business model. Previously the Group would buy ingredients, book sales upon selling them to its main distributor who has an agreement with Food Empire's Russian plant. This agreement was previously set up to alleviate inventory risk. Now it will cut off that layer and only book sales upon finished goods to the distributor. Sales for the quarter were also boosted by a raising of average selling prices (ASPs) for products last year. We also note an expansion in gross margins by 5ppt for the quarter. We maintain our estimates and BUY call with TP of SGD0.84, pegged to 16x FY13F P/E. (OSK/DMG)

Intraco, Tat Hong venture into Myanmar. Intraco, a Singapore listed investment holding company, formed a JV with crane operator Tat Hong and a Myanmar businessman with 40%, 40% and 20% stake respectively. The new venture is in the distribution and rental of cranes in Myanmar. In view of the opening up of the market and the massive infrastructure buildup plans going forward, demand for heavy lifting equipment is expected to soar. As such, we expect the counters to be positively impacted by the news. (SGX, OSK/DMG)

YHI now an official supplier to Formula One. Starting from this year, YHI will sponsor its *Advanti Racing* Alloy Wheels for all the Mercedes AMG Petronas F1 racing cars exclusively. The group is able to display the *Advanti Racing* name on the wheels of the Mercedes F1 cars which will be showcased during the races and tests, as well as auto show. This is expected to greatly enhance YHI's marketing efforts, making its *Advanti Racing* a globally recognised brand. (SGX, OSK/DMG)

Eu Yan Sang increases China exposure. Eu Yan Sang has announced the setting up of a 50:50 JV with Chengdu-based Sichuan Neautus Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) Co to improve the Group's supply chain and margins. The JV will entail the setting up of a TCM decoction pieces (processed herbs) plant in China. Capex for this project is ~SGD8m. To recap, the Group just reported a 54% y-o-y rise in 3Q13 earnings which exceeded expectations largely due to a faster turnaround in its Australian operations which prompted our upgrade from a Neutral to Buy. Pending a discussion with management, we maintain our estimates. Maintain BUY with TP of SGD0.80 based on 18x FY13F earnings. (OSK/DMG)

SIA group's operating losses widens in 4QFY2013. The group reported net profits of SGD68.3m, up from a loss of SGD38.2m from the previous year. However, the reversal was due to a one-time SGD54.7m gain on disposal of equipment. Operating losses actually increased from SGD5.2m a year ago to SGD44.2m during the quarter. The parent airline company was the only one with increased operating profits; SIA engineering, SIA cargo and SilkAir all reported a fall in operating profits. The outlook remains challenging; forward passenger bookings for the next few months remain flat YOY, exacerbated by weak economic sentiment and weakening key revenue-generating currencies. Group EPS for the year stood at 32.2. A final dividend of 17 cents per share has been declared. (Business Times)

RHB Guide to Investment Ratings

Buy: Share price may exceed 10% over the next 12 months

Trading Buy: Share price may exceed 15% over the next 3 months, however longer-term outlook remains uncertain

Neutral: Share price may fall within the range of +/- 10% over the next 12 months

Take Profit: Target price has been attained. Look to accumulate at lower levels

Sell: Share price may fall by more than 10% over the next 12 months

Not Rated: Stock is not within regular research coverage

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