**Change in Numbers** 

# Home Product Center (HMPRO TB)

# A post-lockdown play

We see HMPRO as a clear post-lockdown play as 30% of its closed stores will reopen from 1 September with a swift earnings recovery in 4Q21F. We estimate same-store sales to rebound from -20% y-y in 3Q21F to -5% y-y in 4Q21F. Reaffirm BUY with a new TP of Bt17.5.

## Easing lockdowns in Thailand and Malaysia

We expect HMPRO to benefit from the lockdown relaxation in Thailand from 1 September. All 32 closed stores (30% of its total of 108) are to reopen. Of the 32 closed stores, 29 are HomePro and three are building material-heavy Mega Home outlets. Malaysia has also relaxed its lockdown measures and all seven HomePro branches resumed normal operating hours from late August. Note that the full lockdown in Malaysia began on 1 June.

# E-commerce lessens lockdown impact

HMPRO has not been suffering only from the closed stores but also weak consumer spending and lower traffic during the third COVID wave. We estimate same-store sales (SSS) growth of -20% y-y in 3Q21F. However, e-commerce sales have helped to cushion some of the impact. HMPRO has also adjusted its product mix to better meet consumer demand during this period, eg, home entertainment, cooking appliances, home improvement and cleaners. E-commerce sales grew from 1.0% of sales pre-COVID to 5.0% in 2020 and 6.2% in 1H21. By amount, 1H21 ecommerce sales increased by 11% y-y.

# Swift recovery in 4Q21F

Despite factoring in weaker purchasing power, we expect a quick sales recovery after stores reopen in 4Q21F with SSSG of only -5% y-y vs. -20 y-y in 3Q21F. We estimate 3Q21F net profit of Bt850m, down 39% y-y and 41% q-q. In 4Q21F, we project profit of Bt1,458m, still down 6% y-y but up 72% q-q.

# Cutting our earnings, lowering TP to Bt17.5

Incorporating the lockdown impact, extra costs related to COVID-19 and a lower gross margin assumption from sales promotions, we cut our earnings by 9-12% over 2021-23F and revise down our DCF-based 12-month TP, using a 2022F base year, by 8% to Bt17.5/share from Bt19.0. We reaffirm our BUY rating on HMPRO as a quality play on the post-lockdown story. We also estimate 19-20% EPS growth during 2022-23F assuming no more store closures and an economic recovery. We see HMPRO shares as inexpensive trading at 30.8x PE on a yet-to-normalize earnings level in 2022F and 25.8x in 2023F. This compares with its 29.5x five-year pre-COVID historical average.



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#### **COMPANY VALUATION**

Y/E Dec (Bt m)	2020A	2021F	2022F	2023F
Sales	59,874	60,117	64,353	69,324
Net profit	5,155	5,103	6,114	7,287
Consensus NP	—	5,561	6,389	7,161
Diff frm cons (%)	_	(8.2)	(4.3)	1.8
Norm profit	5,155	5,103	6,114	7,287
Prev. Norm profit		5,810	6,733	7,966
Chg frm prev (%)	_	(12.2)	(9.2)	(8.5)
Norm EPS (Bt)	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6
Norm EPS grw (%)	(16.5)	(1.0)	19.8	19.2
Norm PE (x)	36.5	36.9	30.8	25.8
EV/EBITDA (x)	20.2	19.4	17.0	14.8
P/BV (x)	8.7	8.6	8.0	7.4
Div yield (%)	2.1	2.2	2.6	3.1
ROE (%)	24.1	23.5	27.0	29.8
Net D/E (%)	46.8	39.3	35.6	24.1

### PRICE PERFORMANCE



### **COMPANY INFORMATION**

Price as of 30-Aug-21 (Bt)	14.30
Market Cap (US\$ m)	5,794.0
Listed Shares (m shares)	13,151.2
Free Float (%)	40.8
Avg Daily Turnover (US\$ m)	10.4
12M Price H/L (Bt)	15.60/12.60
Sector	Commerce
Major Shareholder	Land & Houses 30.23%

Sources: Bloomberg, Company data, Thanachart estimates

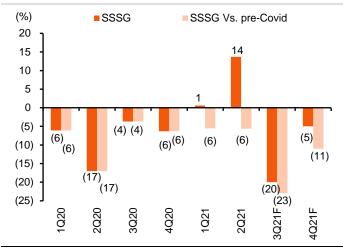
Ex 1: Key Assumptions Changes												
	2021F	2022F	2023F	2024F	2025F	2026F	2027F	2028F	2029F	2030F	2031F	2032F
SSSG (%)												
New	(2.7)	5.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Old	(0.4)	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Gross margin on sales (%)												
New	25.58	25.99	26.39	26.79	27.19	27.60	28.00	28.40	28.80	29.21	29.61	30.01
Old	25.64	26.04	26.43	26.83	27.24	27.64	28.04	28.44	28.84	29.24	29.64	30.04
SG&A/sales (%)												
New	18.9	18.3	17.7	17.0	16.4	15.8	15.2	14.7	14.2	13.7	13.2	12.8
Old	18.2	17.7	16.9	16.3	15.7	15.1	14.6	14.0	13.5	13.0	12.5	12.1
Normalized profit (Bt m)												
New	5,103	6,114	7,287	8,534	9,845	11,118	12,612	14,217	15,972	17,855	19,797	21,747
Old	5,810	6,733	7,966	9,239	10,591	11,939	13,490	15,183	17,033	19,052	21,068	23,086
Change (%)	(12.2)	(9.2)	(8.5)	(7.6)	(7.0)	(6.9)	(6.5)	(6.4)	(6.2)	(6.3)	(6.0)	(5.8)

Source: Thanachart estimates



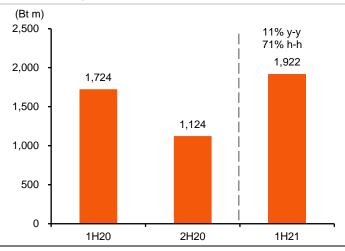
Sources: Company data, Thanachart

#### Ex 4: HMPRO's SSSG

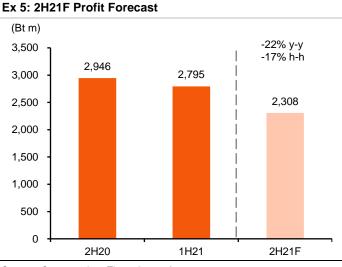


Sources: Company data, Thanachart estimates





Sources: Company data, Thanachart



Sources: Company data, Thanachart estimates

(Bt m)		2022F	2023F	2024F	2025F	2026F	2027F	2028F	2029F	2030F	2031F	2032F	Termina Value
EBITDA		11,260	12,844	14,461	16,134	17,944	19,861	21,905	24,119	26,514	28,955	31,359	value
Free cash flow		5,145	8,122	10,366	11,523	12,988	14,541	16,193	17,979	19,910	22,857	24,755	367,17
PV of free cash flow		5,130	6,975	8,248	8,496	8,679	8,964	9,207	9,431	9,634	10,204	9,709	144,007
Risk-free rate (%)	2.5												
Market risk premium (%)	8.0												
Beta	0.8												
WACC (%)	7.9												
Terminal growth (%)	2.0												
Enterprise value - add	238,683												
Net debt	8,585												
Minority interest	0												
Equity value	230,098												
# of shares (m)	13,151												
Equity value/share (Bt)	17.50												

Source: Thanachart estimates

# **Valuation Comparison**

### Ex 7: Valuation Comparison With Regional Peers

			EPS g	rowth	—— PE		—— P/	′вv ——	EV/EB	ITDA	— Div. yi	eld —
Name	BBG code	Country	21F	22F	21F	22F	21F	22F	21F	22F	21F	22F
			(%)	(%)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(%)	(%)
Marks & Spencer	MKS LN	Britain	(86.7)	na	73.7	11.8	0.9	1.3	8.7	6.3	0.0	0.7
J Sainsbury PLC	SBRY LN	Britain	(44.4)	97.3	25.7	13.0	0.8	0.9	6.7	5.8	5.1	4.0
Tesco	TSCO LN	Britain	(53.0)	83.3	22.7	12.4	1.1	1.4	8.7	7.3	3.5	4.1
Carrefour SA	CA FP	France	13.5	12.4	12.0	10.7	1.3	1.3	6.8	6.4	3.2	3.6
Casino Guichard	CO FP	France	37.0	16.5	11.4	9.8	0.8	0.8	7.3	7.0	4.2	6.4
L'Oreal SA	OR FP	France	19.5	9.8	46.3	42.1	7.3	6.7	28.3	26.2	1.1	1.2
Alimentation Couche	ATD/B CN	Canada	22.7	(3.5)	21.7	22.5	4.8	4.4	10.3	10.6	0.6	0.7
Aeon	8267 JP	Japan	na	na	na	88.5	2.4	2.6	10.5	8.8	1.2	1.2
Kao Corporation	4452 JP	Japan	1.3	10.7	24.7	22.3	3.3	3.2	12.2	11.4	2.2	2.3
Lion Corporation	4912 JP	Japan	(25.7)	6.8	24.7	23.2	2.1	2.0	11.0	10.3	1.3	1.4
Shiseido Co. Ltd	4911 JP	Japan	na	27.7	63.3	49.5	5.6	5.3	26.5	18.7	0.7	0.8
Lawson	2651 JP	Japan	(56.6)	95.4	60.2	30.8	2.0	2.0	4.2	3.7	2.8	2.8
Seven & I Holdings	3382 JP	Japan	(25.7)	44.6	26.5	18.3	1.6	1.5	6.3	5.2	2.1	2.2
Lotte Corp	004990 KS	South Korea	167.9	20.0	11.3	9.4	0.6	0.5	9.1	8.9	3.4	3.8
Shinsegae	004170 KS	South Korea	na	24.3	10.8	8.7	0.7	0.6	8.3	8.1	0.7	0.8
Amore Pacific Group	002790 KS	South Korea	193.6	19.8	25.7	21.5	1.5	1.4	6.0	5.0	0.7	0.7
Best Buy Co Inc	BBY US	USA	22.9	(2.4)	12.1	12.4	7.0	7.1	6.7	7.0	1.9	2.3
Wal-Mart Stores	WMT US	USA	12.7	4.1	23.3	22.4	4.8	4.4	11.9	11.5	1.5	1.5
Home Depot Inc	HD US	USA	21.3	4.2	22.2	21.3	283.7	2,566.5	15.5	15.1	1.9	2.1
Yonghui Superstores	601933 CH	China	(63.7)	85.6	41.9	22.6	1.8	1.8	22.5	16.3	2.7	3.2
Sa International	178 HK	Hong Kong	na	na	na	86.8	3.5	3.2	na	22.6	0.0	1.0
Dairy Farm Intl Hldgs	DFI SP	Hong Kong	(27.0)	57.5	28.1	17.9	3.8	3.5	12.7	11.5	3.1	4.4
President Chain Store	2912 TT	Taiwan	(5.3)	18.1	30.7	26.0	7.6	7.2	12.7	11.8	3.0	3.3
7-Eleven Malaysia	SEM MK	Malaysia	(6.3)	35.6	33.8	24.9	19.7	20.8	9.1	8.9	2.1	2.6
			()									
Berli Jucker *	BJC TB	Thailand	(0.5)	25.7	37.2	29.6	1.2	1.2	14.4	13.9	1.3	1.7
COM7 *	COM7 TB	Thailand	40.8	34.5	40.7	30.3	18.6	15.8	27.0	20.8	2.0	2.7
CP All *	CPALL TB	Thailand	(34.9)	70.9	59.6	34.9	5.7	5.2	16.7	14.4	0.8	1.4
Central Pattana *	CPN TB	Thailand	(44.7)	127.5	83.4	36.6	3.3	3.1	22.7	16.7	0.8	1.4
Central Retail Corp. *	CRC TB	Thailand	na	106.4	75.9	36.8	3.8	3.6	11.4	9.9	0.5	1.1
Siam Global House *	GLOBAL TB		57.3	20.2	32.6	27.1	5.3	4.7	24.4	20.5	1.2	1.5
Home Product*	HMPRO TB	Thailand	(1.0)	19.8	36.9	30.8	8.6	8.0	19.4	17.0	2.2	2.6
Siam Makro *	MAKRO TB		10.2	8.0	27.7	25.6	8.2	7.6	16.0	15.0	2.7	3.1
Mc Group *	MC TB**	Thailand	(20.6)	29.5	21.0	16.2	2.1	2.1	8.3	7.5	4.8	5.9
Average			4.4	37.0	34.4	27.2	12.9	81.9	13.2	11.8	2.0	2.4

Sources: Bloomberg, Thanachart estimates

Note: \* Thanachart estimates using normalized EPS growth, \*\* MC's fiscal year ends in June. The figures shown in the table are for FY22F and FY23F Based on 30 August 2021 closing price

#### **COMPANY DESCRIPTION**

Home Product Center Pcl (HMPRO) is the leader in homeimprovement retailing in Thailand with 40,000 SKUs for HomePro stores and 60,000-80,000 SKUs for Mega Home, and offers a full range of services from design, maintenance, installation and improvement. It operates 86 HomePro stores nationwide, seven Malaysia branches, eight HomePro S stores, and 14 Mega Home outlets. We believe it is capturing the so-called lifestyle trend by focusing more on the home renovation and lifestyle segments.

Source: Thanachart

#### THANACHART'S SWOT ANALYSIS

#### S — Strength

- Leader in the home-improvement business in Thailand with the largest store network and a 24% revenue market share.
- Prime locations are locked in.
- Strong bargaining power reflected in high rebate and other income.

#### **O** — **Opportunity**

- Room to open more stores domestically along with the country's infrastructure development and EEC plan.
- New product coverage and new target groups.
- Expansion opportunities in other countries, starting with Malaysia and followed by Vietnam.

#### **CONSENSUS COMPARISON**

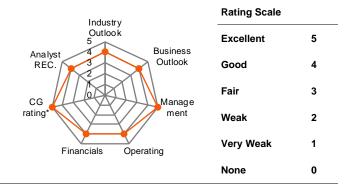
Consensus	Thanachart	Diff
15.79	17.50	11%
5,561	5,103	-8%
6,389	6,114	-4%
BUY: 19	HOLD: 6	SELL: 2
	15.79 5,561 6,389	15.79       17.50         5,561       5,103         6,389       6,114

#### HOW ARE WE DIFFERENT FROM THE STREET?

- Our net profit estimates for 2021-22F are 4-8% lower than the Street's, which we attribute to us having lower SSSG and gross-margin assumptions.
- Our DCF-based TP is 11% above the Bloomberg consensus, likely because we have more aggressive long-term assumptions for gross margin and cost efficiency.

Sources: Bloomberg consensus, Thanachart estimates

#### **COMPANY RATING**



Source: Thanachart; \*CG Rating

#### W — Weakness

- Limited pricing power for some product categories.
- Highly capital-intensive business.

#### T — Threat

- Possible implementation of the Retail and Wholesale Business Act.
- Competition from new entrants.
- Weak Thai economy.

#### **RISKS TO OUR INVESTMENT CASE**

- The key downside risk to our earnings forecasts would be if HMPRO were to fail to open new stores in line with our current expectations.
- Earnings growth could be hindered if competitors become more aggressive in store expansion than we presently expect.
- A prolonged period of the COVID-19 pandemic, an economic slowdown and a property market downturn would represent secondary downside risks.
- If HMPRO is unsuccessful with its stores abroad, this would represent another downside risk.

Source: Thanachart

INCOME STATEMENT					
FY ending Dec (Bt m)	2019A	2020A	2021F	2022F	2023F
Sales	65,253	59,874	60,117	64,353	69,324
Cost of sales	47,470	44,152	44,025	46,781	50,094
Gross profit	17,783	15,722	16,092	17,572	19,231
% gross margin	27.3%	26.3%	26.8%	27.3%	27.7%
Selling & administration expenses	11,927	10,957	11,350	11,791	12,236
Operating profit	7,977	6,641	6,721	7,931	9,346
% operating margin	12.2%	11.1%	11.2%	12.3%	13.5%
Depreciation & amortization	2,942	3,182	3,427	3,632	3,802
EBITDA	10,919	9,822	10,148	11,563	13,148
% EBITDA margin	16.7%	16.4%	16.9%	18.0%	19.0%
Non-operating income	2,171	1,891	1,979	2,151	2,351
Non-operating expenses	(18)	(8)	0	0	0
Interest expense	(405)	(459)	(422)	(383)	(349)
Pre-tax profit	7,604	6,190	6,300	7,548	8,997
Income tax	1,427	1,035	1,197	1,434	1,709
After-tax profit	6,177	5,155	5,103	6,114	7,287
% net margin	9.5%	8.6%	8.5%	9.5%	10.5%
Shares in affiliates' Earnings	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0
Minority interests	0	0	0	0	0
Extraordinary items	0	0	0	0	0
NET PROFIT	6,177	5,155	5,103	6,114	7,287
Normalized profit	6,177	5,155	5,103	6,114	7,287
EPS (Bt)	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6
Normalized EPS (Bt)	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6
	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0
BALANCE SHEET	2019A	2020A	2021F	2022F	2023F
FY ending Dec (Bt m)	2019A	2020A	2021F	20225	20235
ASSETS:	45 000	45.000	45 404	40.007	47 444
Current assets:	15,690	15,828	15,404	16,327	17,114
Cash & cash equivalent	2,860	3,283	3,389	3,542	3,598
Account receivables	1,912	1,769	1,812	1,939	1,899
Inventories	10,421	10,345	9,770	10,381	11,117
Others	496	432	433	464	500
Investments & loans	0	0	0	0	0
Net fixed assets	35,707	28,741	29,611	30,982	30,734
Other assets	652	11,521	11,552	11,647	11,807
Total assets	52,049	56,091	56,567	58,956	59,655
LIABILITIES:					
Current liabilities:	22,289	20,610	20,651	21,624	21,792
Account payables	14,069	13,050	13,268	14,098	15,097
Bank overdraft & ST loans	281	1,249	599	595	485
Current LT debt	6,020	4,075	4,550	4,520	3,688
Others current liabilities	1,919	2,236	2,235	2,412	2,522
Total LT debt	7,072	8,056	6,825	6,779	5,532
Others LT liabilities	1,550	5,860	7,258	7,092	6,944
Total liabilities	30,911	34,526	34,735	35,496	34,268
Minority interest	0	0	0	0	0
Preferreds shares	0	0	0	0	0
Paid-up capital	13,151	13,151	13,151	13,151	13,151
Share premium	646	646	646	646	646
Warrants	0	0	0	0	0
Surplus	(61)	(57)	(57)	(57)	(57)
Retained earnings	7,402	7,824	8,091	9,718	11,645
Shareholders' equity	21,138	21,565	21,832	23,460	25,386
Liabilities & equity	52,049	56,091	56,567	58,956	59,655
	02,040	00,001	00,001	00,000	

Sources: Company data, Thanachart estimates

# Mega Home turned profitable from 2016 and we estimate Malaysia stores to break even from 2023F

We estimate earnings to grow at a 20% CAGR over 2021-23F

Working capital looks manageable despite the expansion of many of its formats

#### CASH FLOW STATEMENT 2019A 2020A 2021F 2022F 2023F FY ending Dec (Bt m) 8,997 Earnings before tax 7,604 6,190 6,300 7,548 (1,404) (998) (1,237) (1,372) (1,673) Tax paid 2,942 3,182 3,427 3,632 3,802 Depreciation & amortization 750 91 303 Chg In working capital (391) (799) (312) 267 (20) 32 Chg In other CA & CL / minorities (9) Cash flow from operations 8,439 7,842 9,219 9,932 11,420 (4,000) (3,254) 3,784 (4,700) (3,250) Capex (6,112) (306) Right of use 0 (15) (15) 0 0 0 0 ST loans & investments 0 0 0 0 0 LT loans & investments 0 0 0 0 0 0 Adj for asset revaluation 269 (371) 1,434 (497) (550) Chg In other assets & liabilities Cash flow from investments (2,985) (2,699) (2,872) (5,212) (3,815) (3,879) (1,405) (2,188) Debt financing (81) 7 Capital increase 0 0 0 0 0 (4,487) (4,866) (4,076) (4,014) (5,361) Dividends paid Warrants & other surplus (0) 5 (822) 0 0 (8,746) (4,064) (6,241) (4,567) (7,549) Cash flow from financing

5,186

11,627

5,219

5,232

8,170

#### VALUATION

Free cash flow

VALUATION					
FY ending Dec	2019A	2020A	2021F	2022F	2023F
Normalized PE (x)	30.4	36.5	36.9	30.8	25.8
Normalized PE - at target price (x)	37.3	44.6	45.1	37.6	31.6
PE (x)	30.4	36.5	36.9	30.8	25.8
PE - at target price (x)	37.3	44.6	45.1	37.6	31.6
EV/EBITDA (x)	18.2	20.2	19.4	17.0	14.8
EV/EBITDA - at target price (x)	22.0	24.5	23.5	20.6	18.0
P/BV (x)	8.9	8.7	8.6	8.0	7.4
P/BV - at target price (x)	10.9	10.7	10.5	9.8	9.1
P/CFO (x)	22.3	24.0	20.4	18.9	16.5
Price/sales (x)	2.9	3.1	3.1	2.9	2.7
Dividend yield (%)	2.7	2.1	2.2	2.6	3.1
FCF Yield (%)	2.8	6.2	2.8	2.8	4.3
(Bt)					
Normalized EPS	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6
EPS	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6
DPS	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4
BV/share	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.9
CFO/share	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9
FCF/share	0.4	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.6

Sources: Company data, Thanachart estimates

Substantial capex to fund HomePro, Mega Home

and HomePro Malaysia

	FINANCIAL RATIOS					
	FY ending Dec	2019A	2020A	2021F	2022F	2023F
	Growth Rate					
	Sales (%)	2.1	(8.2)	0.4	7.0	7.7
We expect strong EPS	Net profit (%)	10.0	(16.5)	(1.0)	19.8	19.2
growth to resume from	EPS (%)	10.0	(16.5)	(1.0)	19.8	19.2
2022F after COVID-19	Normalized profit (%)	10.0	(16.5)	(1.0)	19.8	19.2
	Normalized EPS (%)	10.0	(16.5)	(1.0)	19.8	19.2
	Dividend payout ratio (%)	80.9	76.5	80.0	80.0	80.0
	Operating performance					
	Gross margin (%)	27.3	26.3	26.8	27.3	27.7
We expect gross margins	Operating margin (%)	12.2	11.1	11.2	12.3	13.5
to continue to trend	EBITDA margin (%)	16.7	16.4	16.9	18.0	19.0
	Net margin (%)	9.5	8.6	8.5	9.5	10.5
and view this as one of	D/E (incl. minor) (x)	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4
	Net D/E (incl. minor) (x)	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.2
HMPRO's key earnings- growth drivers	Interest coverage - EBIT (x)	19.7	14.5	15.9	20.7	26.8
gional antoro	Interest coverage - EBITDA (x)	26.9	21.4	24.1	30.2	37.7
	ROA - using norm profit (%)	11.6	9.5	9.1	10.6	12.3
	ROE - using norm profit (%)	30.1	24.1	23.5	27.0	29.8
Best ROE among big-box	DuPont					
retailers, on our estimates	ROE - using after tax profit (%)	30.1	24.1	23.5	27.0	29.8
	<ul> <li>asset turnover (x)</li> </ul>	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2
	- operating margin (%)	12.3	11.1	11.2	12.3	13.5
	- leverage (x)	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.4
	- interest burden (%)	94.9	93.1	93.7	95.2	96.3
	- tax burden (%)	81.2	83.3	81.0	81.0	81.0
	WACC (%)	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9
	ROIC (%)	21.0	17.5	17.2	21.1	23.8
	NOPAT (Bt m)	6,480	5,530	5,444	6,424	7,570
	invested capital (Bt m)	31,651	31,662	30,417	31,811	31,494

Sources: Company data, Thanachart estimates

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