

Hotel Sector – Neutral

Earnings Preview

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Turns to a loss in 1Q22F

- We estimate sector's earnings to turn to a loss in 1Q22F...
 - ...due to the low season in Europe and Omicron impact.
 - Earnings momentum likely to improve in coming quarters.
 - We still like MINT and CENTEL.
- We estimate the hotel sector turned to loss in 1Q22F of Bt1.4bn from a Bt1.5bn profit in 4Q21 due to a loss from MINT's operation. 1Q is normally the low season for the tourism business in Europe. However, the loss declined significantly from the Bt6.2bn loss in 1Q21 due to improved operations for all the hotels under our coverage (CENTEL, ERW and MINT). Details are shown in Exhibit 1.

Ex 1: 1Q22F Earnings Estimates

	Normalized profit (Bt m)			3M as %	– Change (%) –		Positive / Negative factors	Results
	1Q21	4Q21	1Q22F	2022F	Y-Y	Q-Q		announcement date
CENTEL	(476)	152	141	30.6	n.a.	(7.6)	■ 1Q22F RevPar grew by 150% y-y and 12% q-q. SSSG was at 9% in 1Q22F.	17-May-22
ERW	(492)	(346)	(322)	40.1	n.a.	n.a.	■ 1Q22F RevPar of non-HOPINN hotels grew by 156% y-y and 10% q-q	13-May-22
MINT	(5,211)	1,657	(1,231)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	■ 1Q22F RevPar grew by 150% y-y but down 10% q-q. 1Q22F SSSG was 4%.	13-May-22
Sum	(6,179)	1,463	(1,413)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		

Sources: Company data; Thanachart estimates

- **CENTEL:** We estimate CENTEL's operation in 1Q22F to continue to make a profit from 4Q21. Improving y-y earnings have been driven by its hotel and food businesses. The hotel business' improving operation has been driven by a rising occupancy rate and average room rate (ARR) both in Thailand and the Maldives. Meanwhile, we also expect CENTEL's food business to improve y-y and flat q-q. Its total system sales (TSS) grew by 17% y-y and dropped by 1% q-q.
- **ERW:** We estimate ERW's EBITDA to still suffer a loss in 1Q22 but we expect its EBITDA loss to decline both y-y and q-q. The falling loss y-y has been a result of the improving operations both of non-Hop Inn hotels in Thailand and Hop Inn Hotels in Thailand and the Philippines from a rising occupancy rate and ARR. The declining loss q-q has been a result of rising ARR of non-Hop Inn hotels in Thailand.
- **MINT:** We estimate MINT's loss in 1Q22F to decline significantly from 1Q21 due to improving operations of its hotel business in Europe (via NHH), Thailand and other regions. Total system sales (TSS) of its food business grew by the low teens y-y in 1Q22F, mainly driven by TSS growth of its food business in Thailand. Meanwhile, its food business in China and Australia remained bleak in 1Q22 due to Omicron's spread. Falling earnings from 4Q21 have been a result of the low season for the hotel business in Europe and Omicron's spread in early January 2022. But the business momentum of MINT's operation in Europe has improved month by month.

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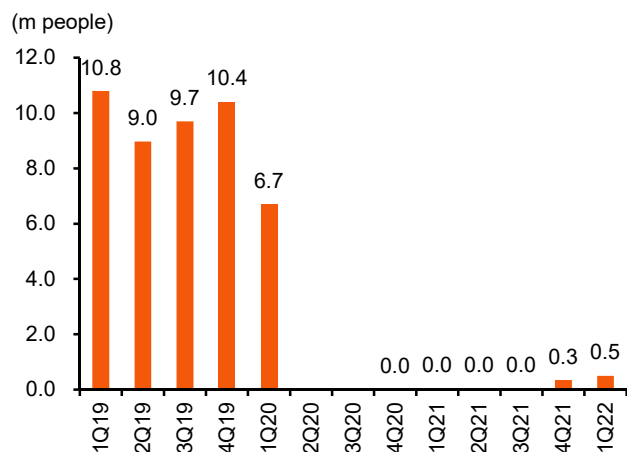
- Looking to the rest of this year, we expect all hotel operators' operations to improve y-y, driven by rising numbers of Thai and international tourists.
- MINT and CENTEL are still our BUY choices. Besides their improving earnings momentum, we see MINT's valuation as the cheapest in the sector. Meanwhile, we believe CENTEL has the strongest financial status in the sector.

Ex 2: Hotel Sector Valuations

	Rating	Current price (Bt)	Target price (Bt)	Upside/ (Downside) (%)	Market cap (Bt m)	Norm EPS growth		Norm PE		Yield	
						2022F (%)	2023F (%)	2022F (x)	2023F (x)	2022F (%)	2023F (%)
CENTEL	BUY	43.25	48.00	11.0	58,388	na	433.0	186.3	35.0	0.0	0.0
ERW	SELL	3.86	2.80	(27.5)	17,492	na	na	na	73.7	0.0	0.3
MINT	BUY	36.00	39.00	8.3	187,858	na	na	na	37.2	0.0	0.5

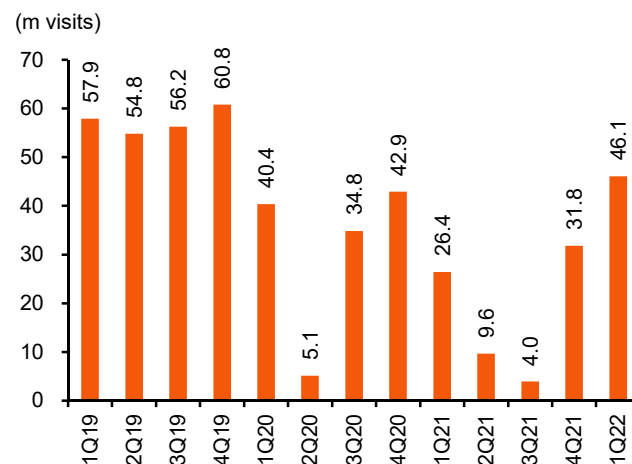
Sources: Bloomberg; Thanachart estimates

Ex 2: International Tourists Visiting Thailand



Source: TAT

Ex 3: # Of Trips By Thai Tourists



Source: TAT