

Wice Logistics Pcl (WICE TB) - BUY, Price Bt17.20, TP Bt28.00**Results Comment**

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Strong 1Q22 as expected

- WICE reported net profit of Bt158m. Excluding FX gain, its normalized profit came out strong as expected at Bt146m, rising 84% y-y but falling 20% q-q on seasonal impact. 1Q22 profit accounted for 22% of our projection. Moving into stronger season in 2H, we expect an improving earnings momentum and reaffirm our BUY call.
- Key earnings growth driver y-y was sea freight and cross-border trucking.
- Sea freight (64% of 1Q22 gross profit) gross profit grew 204% y-y and flat q-q. WICE has been enjoying volume recovery because of the economic rebound of its keys markets, the US and China. Also, there was a strong upward adjustment of freight service rate y-y due to shortage in container ships. The softer freight rate q-q due to seasonality was offset by rising volume.
- Cross-border trucking service (15%) via 51%-stake Euro Total Logistics (ETL): better gross margin was the key driver, which we believe due to better cost management and the use of high-margin Lao-China highspeed rail. Revenue increased only 4% y-y but fell sharply 28% q-q because closure of the border checkpoint in China has hindered the cross-border trucking land transport. Gross margin was 16.2% in 1Q22, rising from 11.2% in 4Q21 and 12.4% in 1Q21.
- Air freight (15%) gross profit dropped 36% y-y and 32% q-q as expected due to normalized freight rate and lower mix of high-priced charter flights.

Income Statement						Income Statement					
(consolidated)						3M as					
Yr-end Dec (Bt m)	1Q21	2Q21	3Q21	4Q21	1Q22	(Bt m)	q-q%	y-y%	% 2022F	2022F	2023F
Revenue	1,285	1,699	2,274	2,379	2,155	Revenue	(9)	68	23	9,174	9,835
Gross profit	219	301	353	370	343	Gross profit	(7)	56	23	1,501	1,709
SG&A	99	142	124	113	154	SG&A	36	56	28	553	587
Operating profit	120	160	229	256	188	Operating profit	(27)	56	20	949	1,121
EBITDA	135	177	248	279	214	EBITDA	(23)	59	20	1,046	1,247
Other income	0	0	0	0	1	Other income	348	428	na	0	0
Other expense	0	0	0	0	0	Other expense					
Interest expense	3	4	2	5	6	Interest expense	24	85	38	17	6
Profit before tax	117	156	227	251	183	Profit before tax	(27)	56	20	932	1,115
Income tax	20	35	46	47	30	Income tax	(35)	54	16	186	223
Equity & invest. income	0	0	(0)	0	0	Equity & invest. income	872	(37)	na	0	0
Minority interests	(18)	(17)	(28)	(22)	(6)	Minority interests	na	na	8	(75)	(105)
Extraordinary items	2	8	9	(2)	11	Extraordinary items	na	423	na	0	0
Net profit	82	111	162	180	158	Net profit	(13)	93	24	671	787
Normalized profit	79	104	153	182	146	Normalized profit	(20)	84	22	671	787
EPS (Bt)	0.13	0.17	0.25	0.28	0.24	EPS (Bt)	(13)	93	24	1.03	1.21
Normalized EPS (Bt)	0.12	0.16	0.23	0.28	0.22	Normalized EPS (Bt)	(20)	84	22	1.03	1.21

Balance Sheet						Financial Ratios					
(consolidated)						1Q21 2Q21 3Q21 4Q21 1Q22					
Yr-end Dec (Bt m)	1Q21	2Q21	3Q21	4Q21	1Q22	(%)	1Q21	2Q21	3Q21	4Q21	1Q22
Cash & ST investment	489	498	804	839	1,006	Sales growth	98.9	63.8	151.1	69.1	67.7
A/C receivable	1,073	1,321	1,551	1,667	1,486	Operating profit growth	165.7	81.9	164.6	144.2	56.4
Inventory	0	0	0	0	0	EBITDA growth	103.8	88.1	134.1	132.5	58.8
Other current assets	53	41	59	66	80	Norm profit growth	260.6	99.8	212.5	161.2	84.2
Investment	0	0	0	0	0	Norm EPS growth	260.6	99.8	212.5	161.2	84.2
Fixed assets	212	227	237	350	355	Gross margin	17.1	17.7	15.5	15.5	15.9
Other assets	450	485	513	573	576	Operating margin	9.4	9.4	10.1	10.8	8.7
Total assets	2,277	2,573	3,164	3,495	3,503	EBITDA margin	10.5	10.4	10.9	11.7	9.9
S-T debt	70	73	91	92	136	Norm net margin	6.2	6.1	6.7	7.7	6.8
A/C payable	805	1,010	1,265	1,280	1,090	D/E (x)	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Other current liabilities	92	122	178	252	322	Net D/E (x)	(0.3)	(0.3)	(0.4)	(0.4)	(0.4)
L-T debt	112	104	166	201	181	Interest coverage (x)	39.6	39.4	106.8	54.8	33.9
Other liabilities	133	162	163	167	129	Interest rate	8.3	10.0	4.3	7.4	8.3
Minority interest	99	116	181	204	192	Effective tax rate	16.9	22.6	20.1	18.6	16.6
Shareholders' equity	966	985	1,120	1,298	1,452	ROA	14.7	17.1	21.3	21.9	16.7
Working capital	268	311	286	387	396	ROE	34.5	42.6	58.1	60.4	42.6
Total debt	182	178	257	293	317						
Net debt	(307)	(321)	(547)	(546)	(689)						

Sources: Company data, Thanachart estimates

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