CP Axtra PcI (CPAXT TB) - Under Review

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A new investment

- CPAXT is to invest in the Happitat project.
- It comprises three shopping malls and an office tower.
- This is out of core business area of CPAXT's.
- And we view this negatively.
- CPAXT has announced its investment of 95% stake in a new subsidiary, Axtra Growth Plus Co Ltd with the rest of 5% stake owned by MQDC Town Corporation Ltd. This Axtra Growth Plus will invest a 100% in the Happitat project, as a part of the Forestias property project owned by a CP Group company. The Happitat is in the process of developing three shopping malls and a 10-storey office tower in the Forestias project.
- Despite the investment is not expected to result in losses that will pull down CPAXT's profit in a meaningful way, we view this move negatively due to 1) the project being out of CPAXT's core business territory, 2) such commercial property type having higher risk profile than CPAXT's current business in our view, and 3) the move increasing risk on ESG given it being the related company transaction under CP Group. We put our TP (currently at Bt41) and our recommendation (currently a Buy) under review.
- Total investment is expected at Bt12bn, of which Bt7.97bn for the 95% stake in Axtra Growth Plus and another Bt4.0bn for future capex to complete the Happitat project. Note that the project's construction is 80% completed by the time of the investment and the project is scheduled to open in 1Q26.
- The Happitat mixed-use project will consist of Lotus's 5,000 sqm flagship store, three shopping malls with net leaseable area of 43,000 sqm and a 10storey office tower with 24,000-sqm rental area.
- Limited balance sheet impact: CPAXT plans for the funding at 80% debt and 20% operating cash flow. Given CPAXT's strong cash flow from its existing business, the investment is of limited concern on its balance sheet or financial status. Actually, before this deal happened, CPAXT just repaid Bt17bn debt in early 4Q24. We expect CPAXT's net gearing to remain relatively the same at 0.23x in 2024F.
- Limited P&L impact: We roughly estimate this investment to pull down CPAXT's 2025F earnings by only Bt413m or 3% of our current 2025F forecast. The Bt413m is from Bt303m interest expense and Bt110m preoperating expense. Once the project opens, loss should be lower in 2026-27F while CPAXT targets the project to start contributing profit in 2028.
- CPAXT targets 85% occupancy rate for malls and 40% for office in the first operating year in 2026.

News Update

Key Valuations

Y/E Dec (Bt m)	2023A	2024F	2025F	2026F
Revenue	486,472	509,687	537,401	563,343
Net profit	8,640	10,292	13,305	16,418
Norm net profit	8,640	10,770	13,305	16,418
Norm EPS (Bt)	0.8	1.0	1.3	1.6
Norm EPS gr (%)	12.3	24.6	23.5	23.4
Norm PE (x)	41.9	33.6	27.2	22.1
EV/EBITDA (x)	13.9	13.0	11.7	10.2
P/BV (x)	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1
Div. yield (%)	1.7	2.0	2.6	3.2
ROE (%)	3.0	3.6	4.3	5.3
Net D/E (%)	22.0	22.7	22.8	21.1

Source: Thanachart estimates

Stock Data

Closing price (Bt)	34.75
Target price (Bt)	U.R.
Market cap (US\$ m)	10,616
Avg daily turnover (US\$ m)	6.2
12M H/L price (Bt)	35.50/31.25

Price Performance



Source: Bloomberg

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As for the project outlook, we are not overly concerned on the shopping malls given its combined area of 43,000 sqm is not large compared to CPN's Central Bangna of 60,000 sqm (85% occupied) and Mega Bangna mall of 169,000 sqm (full occupancy). More concern is on the office tower as Bangna is residential area in Bangkok outskirt and Central Bangna office (10,000 sqm) is only 70% occupied.

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