

BUY
TP: Rs 4,200 | A 15%

AIA ENGINEERING

Capital Goods

06 November 2023

Volume spillover to FY25

- Q2 sales flat YoY but operating leverage enables EBIDTA margin gains of 600bps to 29.5%
- FY24 volume guidance cut from 330,000t to 310,000t with balance likely spilling over to FY25; capacity expansion plans on track
- We revise FY24/FY25 EPS -1%/+5% to bake in guidance and Q2 print;
 retain BUY with revised TP of Rs 4,200 (vs. Rs 4,000)

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Topline flat, margins expand: AIAE's Q2FY24 topline was flattish at Rs 13bn. However, gross/EBITDA margin expanded 110bps/600bps YoY to 57.8%/29.5% due to a reduction in raw material and freight costs combined with a better product mix. PAT grew 32% YoY to Rs 3.2bn.

FY24 volume guidance to be missed by a quarter: AIAE reduced its forecast of incremental volumes of 30,000mt for FY24 to 10,000-15,000mt, totalling to ~310,000mt (330,000t earlier). Of this, 150,000mt of production was achieved in H1FY24. The guidance cut was attributed to international mining orders that take ~1-1.5 years for approval and hence possible delays of 1-2 quarters at most, pushing the incremental volumes to FY25. AIAE continues to guide for a 22-24% EBITDA margin as a bottom range in the medium term.

Capex to spur growth: To capitalise on the conversion trend from forged media to high chrome mill internals in the mining industry, AIAE is expanding capacity from 440,000mt to 520,000mt by the end of FY24 with brownfield capex of Rs 2bn. The company has a healthy balance sheet (net cash of Rs 31.4bn in H1FY24) with negligible leverage and strong free cash flow generation. We believe this will keep ROCE at ~20% for the fiscal.

Brazilian market could open up in near term: The 5Y sunset review for antidumping duty in Brazil has begun. AIAE had supplied 6,000-8,000mt to Brazil in FY23 and expects to export a marginally higher quantity in FY24. Management is not worried about the ruling as the worst possible scenario is a continuation of the status quo, i.e., no duty removal.

Maintain BUY: We adjust our FY24/FY25 EPS estimates by -1%/+5% to incorporate the Q2FY24 numbers as well as volume spillover to FY25. Following rollover of valuations to Sep'25E, we have a revised TP of Rs 4,200 (from Rs 4,000). Our TP is set at an unchanged 30x P/E multiple – a 10% premium to the stock's 5Y average. We retain BUY as we remain positive on AIAE's structural growth story.

Key changes

Target	Rating	
A	∢ ▶	

Ticker/Price	AIAE IN/Rs 3,637
Market cap	US\$ 4.2bn
Free float	42%
3M ADV	US\$ 3.2mn
52wk high/low	Rs 3,830/Rs 2,384
Promoter/FPI/DII	59%/18%/21%

Source: NSE | Price as of 6 Nov 2023

Key financials

Y/E 31 Mar	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E
Total revenue (Rs mn)	49,088	52,304	57,393
EBITDA (Rs mn)	12,406	14,081	15,511
Adj. net profit (Rs mn)	10,559	11,639	12,770
Adj. EPS (Rs)	112.0	123.4	135.4
Consensus EPS (Rs)	112.0	118.8	128.5
Adj. ROAE (%)	20.2	18.9	17.8
Adj. P/E (x)	32.5	29.5	26.9
EV/EBITDA (x)	27.7	24.0	21.8
Adj. EPS growth (%)	70.4	10.2	9.7

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

Stock performance



Source: NSE



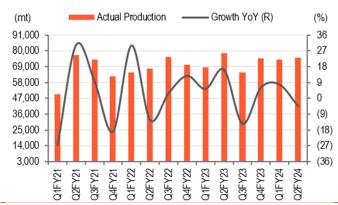


Fig 1 - Quarterly performance

Particulars (Rs mn)	Q2FY24	Q2FY23	YoY (%)	Q1FY24	QoQ (%)	H1FY24	H1FY23	YoY (%)
Revenue	12,948	13,287	(2.5)	12,396	4.5	25,344	24,084	5.2
EBITDA	3,821	3,120	22.5	3,430	11.4	7,251	5,592	29.7
EBITDA Margin (%)	29.5	23.5	600bps	27.7	180bps	28.6	23.2	540bps
Depreciation	245	246	(0.2)	242	1.1	488	454	7.5
Interest	74	39	91.5	75	(1.0)	149	50	200.3
Other Income	623	321	93.9	596	4.7	1,219	528	130.9
PBT	4,125	3,157	30.7	3,708	11.2	7,833	5,616	39.5
Tax	884	708	24.9	983	(10.0)	1,867	1,253	49.0
Adjusted PAT	3,231	2,448	32.0	2,724	18.6	5,966	4,364	36.7
Exceptional item	0	0		0		0	0	
Reported PAT	3,231	2,448	32.0	2,724	18.6	5,954	4,353	36.8
Adj. PAT Margin (%)	25.0	18.4	652.7	22.0	298.0	23.5	18.1	542.2
EPS (Rs)	34.4	26.0	32.3	28.9	18.9	63.3	188.6	(66.5)

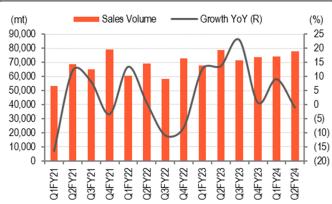
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 2 - Production volumes



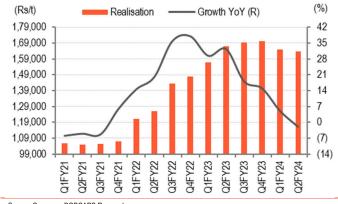
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 3 - Sales volumes



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 4 - Realisations



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 5 - Revenue growth



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research



Fig 6 - EBITDA growth

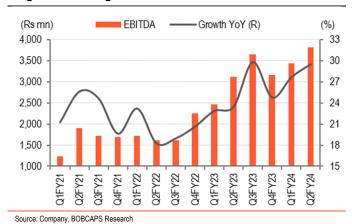
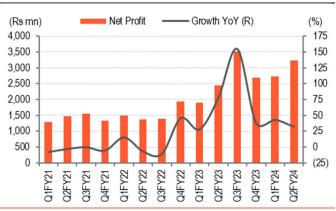


Fig 7 - Profit growth



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Earnings call highlights

- Realisation: AIAE's realisation stood at Rs 160/kg in Q2FY24 as compared to Rs 163/kg in Q1. Management expects a range of Rs 155-160/kg over the next 3-4 quarters given lower raw material costs, which are a pass-through for the company.
- Margin: Management expects a long-term EBITDA margin upward of 22-24%. It believes the 29.5% EBITDA margin achieved during Q2 will subside gradually as the reduced freight costs are passed on to customers.
- Foreign exchange: The rupee depreciated from Rs 79/USD in H1FY23 to Rs 83/USD in H1FY24, which contributed to better operating numbers YoY. Rupee depreciation generally has a positive impact on AIAE's profitability.
- Mill liners: The company is targeting India's 300,000mt mill liners industry with existing capacity of 20,000mt and 50,000mt of greenfield additions.
- Working capital: Working capital improved to 95 days in Q2 as compared to 118-120 days at the peak of freight rates post-Covid.
- Capex: After spending Rs 1bn in H1FY24, management expects to incur Rs 5bn in capex during H2, of which Rs 2bn is earmarked for grinding media, Rs 500mn each for land and captive power, and the balance Rs 2bn for debottlenecking and other expenses.
- **Tax:** AIAE had a tax rate of 26.4% in H1FY24 due to tax refund issues, which management is hopeful will be reversed during the fiscal.



Valuation methodology

AIAE's strategy is to serve as a complete solution provider for grinding media and mill liners. The company has indicated that core client industries remain strong and that it does not anticipate any major macroeconomic challenges for customers in the mining, cement and utilities verticals over the next 12 months.

To capitalise on the conversion trend from forged media to high chrome mill internals in the mining industry, AIAE plans to expand capacity from 440,000mt to 520,000mt by FY24-end through brownfield capex of Rs 2bn. The company has a healthy balance sheet (net cash of Rs 31.4bn as of H1FY24) with negligible leverage and strong free cash flow generation. We believe this will keep ROCE at ~20% for the fiscal.

We adjust our FY24/FY25 EPS estimates by -1%/+5% to incorporate the Q2FY24 numbers as well as volume spillover to FY25. This apart, we introduce FY26 forecasts in this report. Upon rollover of valuations to Sep'25E, we have a revised TP of Rs 4,200 (from Rs 4,000), which is set at an unchanged 30x P/E multiple – a 10% premium to the stock's five-year average. We retain BUY as we remain positive on AIAE's structural growth story.

Fig 8 - Revised estimates

Doutionlare (Do man)	New		Old		Change (%)	
Particulars (Rs mn)	FY24E	FY25E	FY24E	FY25E	FY24E	FY25E
Sales	52,304	57,393	55,246	57,099	(5.3)	0.5
EBITDA	14,081	15,511	14,261	14,713	(1.3)	5.4
PAT	11,639	12,770	11,774	12,173	(1.1)	4.9
EPS	123.4	135.4	124.8	129.1	(1.1)	4.9
EBITDA Margin (%)	26.9	27.0	25.8	25.8	110bps	130bps

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Key risks

Key downside risks to our estimates are:

- continued protectionist measures leading to anti-dumping duties, and
- a slowdown in mining capex.

Sector recommendation snapshot

Company	Ticker	Market Cap (US\$ bn)	Price (Rs)	Target (Rs)	Rating
ABB India	ABB IN	10.8	4,204	4,400	HOLD
AIA Engineering	AIAE IN	4.2	3,637	4,200	BUY
Cummins India	KKC IN	5.8	1,725	2,110	BUY
Hitachi Energy	POWERIND IN	2.3	4,405	4,400	HOLD
KEC International	KECI IN	1.8	582	670	HOLD
Larsen & Toubro	LT IN	50.9	2,975	3,500	BUY
Siemens India	SIEM IN	14.6	3,367	3,900	HOLD
Thermax	TMX IN	4.2	2,895	3,000	HOLD

Source: BOBCAPS Research, NSE | Price as of 6 Nov 2023



Financials

Income Statement	EV.	FVCC	F)/2 /=	E\/^==	F1/4/-
Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Total revenue	35,665	49,088	52,304	57,393	59,729
EBITDA	7,209	12,406	14,081	15,511	16,110
Depreciation	921	930	1,096	1,265	1,321
EBIT	6,288	11,476	12,985	14,246	14,788
Net interest inc./(exp.)	39	201	120	140	140
Other inc./(exp.)	1,563	2,345	2,697	2,967	3,264
Exceptional items	0	0	0	0	0
EBT	7,813	13,620	15,562	17,073	17,912
Income taxes	1,617	3,055	3,917	4,297	4,508
Extraordinary items	0	0	0	0	0
Min. int./Inc. from assoc.	0	(6)	(6)	(6)	(6)
Reported net profit	6,196	10,559	11,639	12,770	13,398
Adjustments	0	0	0	0	0
Adjusted net profit	6,196	10,559	11,639	12,770	13,398
Balance Sheet					
Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Accounts payables	1,967	2.614	2,866	3,145	3,273
Other current liabilities	1,057	1,176	2,149	2,359	2,455
Provisions	0	0	2,143	2,333	2,433
Debt funds	28	4,960	5,285	5.799	6,035
	654			-,	787
Other liabilities	189	649 189	691 189	755 189	
Equity capital					189
Reserves & surplus	47,361	56,725	66,269	76,740	87,727
Shareholders' fund	47,550	56,913	66,457	76,929	87,915
Total liab. and equities	51,256	66,312	77,449	88,986	1,00,465
Cash and cash eq.	15,610	30,595	35,068	43,907	54,347
Accounts receivables	8,001	8,608	11,464	12,579	13,091
Inventories	12,260	12,180	12,897	14,152	14,728
Other current assets	1,395	1,741	2,723	2,988	3,109
Investments	5	8	9	9	10
Net fixed assets	8,000	10,027	11,931	11,666	11,345
CWIP	2,102	1,074	1,145	1,256	1,307
Intangible assets	0	0	0	0	0
Deferred tax assets, net	0	0	0	0	0
Other assets	3,882	2,077	2,214	2,429	2,528
Total assets	51,256	66,312	77,449	88,986	1,00,465
Cash Flows					
Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Cash flow from operations	(392)	8,677	9,413	11,894	13,739
Capital expenditures	(1,253)	(1,924)	(3,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Change in investments	1,490	(10,746)	(71)	(112)	(52)
Other investing cash flows	762	587	(99)	(157)	(72)
Cash flow from investing	999	(12,083)	(3,170)	(1,270)	(1,124)
Equities issued/Others	0	0	0	0	0
Debt raised/repaid	(1,816)	4,932	325	514	236
Interest expenses	0	0	0	0	0
Dividends paid	0	0	0	0	0
Other financing cash flows	(859)	(982)	(2,095)	(2,299)	(2,412)
Cash flow from financing	(2,676)	3,950	(1,770)	(1,784)	(2,176)
Just non monthinancing		544	4,473	8,840	10,440
Chg in cash & cash eq.	(2,069)				

Per Share					
Y/E 31 Mar (Rs)	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Reported EPS	65.7	112.0	123.4	135.4	142.0
Adjusted EPS	65.7	112.0	123.4	135.4	142.0
Dividend per share	9.0	16.0	22.2	24.4	25.6
Book value per share	504.1	603.4	704.6	815.6	932.1
Valuations Ratios					
Y/E 31 Mar (x)	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
EV/Sales	9.6	7.0	6.5	5.9	5.6
EV/EBITDA	47.3	27.7	24.0	21.8	20.9
Adjusted P/E	55.4	32.5	29.5	26.9	25.6
P/BV	7.2	6.0	5.2	4.5	3.9
DuPont Analysis					
Y/E 31 Mar (%)	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Tax burden (Net profit/PBT)	79.3	77.5	74.8	74.8	74.8
Interest burden (PBT/EBIT)	124.2	118.7	119.8	119.8	121.
EBIT margin (EBIT/Revenue)	17.6	23.4	24.8	24.8	24.8
Asset turnover (Rev./Avg TA)	72.2	83.5	72.8	69.0	63.1
Leverage (Avg TA/Avg Equity)	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.1
Adjusted ROAE	13.8	20.2	18.9	17.8	16.3
Ratio Analysis					
Y/E 31 Mar	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
YoY growth (%)					
Revenue	23.8	37.6	6.6	9.7	4.1
EBITDA	10.0	72.1	13.5	10.2	3.9
Adjusted EPS	9.4	70.4	10.2	9.7	4.9
Profitability & Return ratios (%)					
EBITDA margin	20.2	25.3	26.9	27.0	27.0
EBIT margin	17.6	23.4	24.8	24.8	24.8
Adjusted profit margin	17.4	21.5	22.3	22.3	22.4
Adjusted ROAE	13.8	20.2	18.9	17.8	16.3
ROCE	13.0	19.9	19.3	18.3	16.7
NOOL					
Working capital days (days)					
	82	64	80	80	80
Working capital days (days)	82 125	64 91	80 90	80 90	
Working capital days (days) Receivables					80 90 20
Working capital days (days) Receivables Inventory	125	91	90	90	90
Working capital days (days) Receivables Inventory Payables	125	91	90	90	90

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research | Note: TA = Total Assets

12.3

163.3

0.0

6.1

57.1

0.0

6.0

108.2

0.1

6.5

101.8

0.1

7.2 105.6

0.1

Current ratio

Net interest coverage ratio

Adjusted debt/equity



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BUY - Expected return >+15%

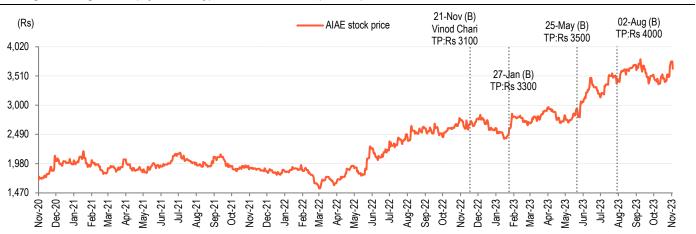
HOLD - Expected return from -6% to +15%

SELL - Expected return <-6%

Note: Recommendation structure changed with effect from 21 June 2021

Our recommendation scale does not factor in short-term stock price volatility related to market fluctuations. Thus, our recommendations may not always be strictly in line with the recommendation scale as shown above.

Ratings and Target Price (3-year history): AIA ENGINEERING (AIAE IN)



 $B-Buy,\,H-Hold,\,S-Sell,\,A-Add,\,R-Reduce$

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