

BUY
TP: Rs 3,900 | A 15%

POLYCAB INDIA

Consumer Durables

15 May 2023

Cables business resilient

- Wires & cables shore up growth in Q4 while FMEG business struggles; international sales at a record high
- On course to achieve Project Leap revenue target of Rs 200bn by FY26, evidenced by FY21-FY23 CAGR of 27%
- We raise FY24/FY25 EPS 15%/18% and roll over to a new TP of Rs 3,900 (vs. Rs 3,300); maintain BUY

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Buoyant performance: Polycab reported an all-round beat in Q4FY23 as revenue and EBITDA at Rs 43.2bn (+9% YoY) and Rs 6.1bn (+28% YoY) surpassed our expectations by 6% and 19% respectively. A better performance in wires & cables led by both domestic and international business underpinned growth. EBITDA margin at 14.1% was above management's guidance of 11-13% on better operating leverage and higher exports. Net profit at Rs 4.2bn (+32% YoY) hit a peak.

W&C traction to persist: The wires & cables (W&C) segment carried forward its strong momentum to Q4 as revenue rose 15% YoY to Rs 40.8bn (4Y CAGR at 17.7%) on healthy volume growth. Management foresees robust order inflows for the domestic business given a strong demand climate led by higher public and private capex. Exports grew 125% YoY in Q4 and 50% in FY23. Prudent price revisions and higher exports resulted in segmental EBIT margin expansion of 290bps YoY.

FMEG finding its feet: Polycab's FMEG business was flat in FY23 (-19.5% YoY in Q4) despite weak consumer sentiments, uncertainty in the fans business amid rating transition, and distribution channel restructuring. The company is adopting a premium product strategy in fans, evident from the higher share of premium launches (~60%) relative to total launches following rating transition. Now that headwinds are largely abating, management expects the FMEG business to rebound, aiding overall performance.

On track to meet Rs 200bn revenue target: Polycab has posted a 27% topline CAGR over FY21-FY23, putting the company on course to meet its FY26 revenue target of Rs 200bn set under 'Project Leap'. We believe it is set to solidify moats in the W&C segment and deliver above-industry growth in the FMEG business.

Maintain BUY: We remain optimistic on Polycab's growth prospects considering the moats in its core W&C business, growth in FMEG and B2C expansion. We raise our FY24/FY25 EPS estimates by 15%/18% to build in the strong FY23 performance and bright outlook. On rolling valuations to Mar'25E, our TP rises to Rs 3,900 (vs. Rs 3,300), based on an unchanged 35x P/E – 50% premium to the 3Y mean. BUY.

Key changes

Target	Rating
A	∢ ▶

Ticker/Price	POLYCAB IN/Rs 3,389
Market cap	US\$ 6.2bn
Free float	34%
3M ADV	US\$ 11.2mn
52wk high/low	Rs 3,400/Rs 2,044
Promoter/FPI/DII	66%/10%/9%

Source: NSE | Price as of 12 May 2023

Key financials

Y/E 31 Mar	FY23P	FY24E	FY25E
Total revenue (Rs mn)	1,41,078	1,62,895	1,82,252
EBITDA (Rs mn)	18,521	21,899	24,645
Adj. net profit (Rs mn)	12,700	14,701	16,539
Adj. EPS (Rs)	84.9	98.2	110.5
Consensus EPS (Rs)	84.9	92.5	107.8
Adj. ROAE (%)	20.9	20.4	19.6
Adj. P/E (x)	39.9	34.5	30.7
EV/EBITDA (x)	27.4	23.2	20.6
Adj. EPS growth (%)	51.8	15.8	12.5

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research | P – Provisional

Stock performance



Source: NSE





Fig 1 – Quarterly performance

Particulars (Rs mn)	Q4FY23	Q4FY22	YoY (%)	Q3FY23	QoQ (%)	FY23	FY22	YoY (%)
Revenue	43,237	39,700	8.9	37,152	16.4	141,078	122,038	15.6
EBITDA	6,095	4,763	28.0	5,038	21.0	18,521	12,652	46.4
EBITDA Margin (%)	14.1	12.0	210bps	13.6	50bps	13.1	10.4	280bps
Depreciation	535	503	-	525	-	2,092	2,015	-
Interest	282	125	-	93	-	598	352	-
Other Income	515	168	-	397	-	1,333	899	-
PBT	5,794	4,304	34.6	4,818	20.3	17,165	11,184	53.5
Tax	1,446	1,047	-	1,202	-	4,250	2,706	-
Adjusted PAT	4,248	3,222	31.8	3,576	18.8	12,700	8,365	51.8
Exceptional item	-	-	-	0	-	0	0	-
Reported PAT	4,248	3,222	31.8	3,576	18.8	12,700	8,365	51.8
Adj. PAT Margin (%)	9.8	8.1	170bps	9.6	20bps	9.0	6.9	210bps
EPS (Rs)	29.1	21.8	33.5	24.2	20.2	86.3	56.7	52.3

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 2 – Actual vs Estimates

Particulars (Rs mn)	Actual	Estimate	Variance (%)
Revenue	43,237	40,881	5.8
EBITDA	6,095	5,122	19.0
EBITDA Margin (%)	14.1	12.5	160 bps
Adj. PAT	4,248	3,298	28.8

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 3 – Segment-wise performance

Particulars (Rs mn)	Q4FY20	Q1FY21	Q2FY21	Q3FY21	Q4FY21	Q1FY22	Q2FY22	Q3FY22	Q4FY22	Q1FY23	Q2FY23	Q3FY23	Q4FY23
Segment revenue													
Wires & Cables	18,605	8,252	18,268	24,073	25,442	16,269	26,281	29,988	35,400	24,057	29,517	33,418	40,783
Growth YoY (%)	(12.3)	(49.6)	(5.0)	11.0	36.7	97.2	43.9	24.6	39.1	47.9	12.3	11.4	15.2
% of sales	84	80	80	80	81	83	80	87	88	85	88	88	90
FMEG	1,833	1,378	2,440	3,055	3,468	1,919	3,429	3,404	3,792	3,082	3,054	3,420	3,052
Growth YoY (%)	(6.2)	(42.6)	24.7	41.0	89.3	39.2	40.6	11.4	9.3	60.6	(11.0)	0.5	(19.5)
% of sales	8	13	11	10	11	10	10	10	9	11	9	9	7
EBIT													
Wires & Cables	2,827	244	2,541	3,074	3,328	1,073	2,305	3,089	4,106	2,773	3,463	4,593	5,896
EBIT margin (%)	15.2	3.0	13.9	12.8	13.1	6.6	8.8	10.3	11.6	11.5	11.7	13.7	14.5
FMEG	1	(56)	196	182	244	(143)	172	63	105	64	(27)	(24)	(70)
EBIT margin (%)	0.1	(4.0)	8.0	5.9	7.0	(7.5)	5.0	1.8	2.8	2.1	(0.9)	(0.7)	(2.3)

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research



Fig 4 - Revenue growth trend

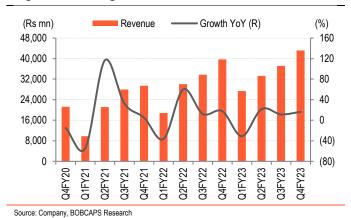
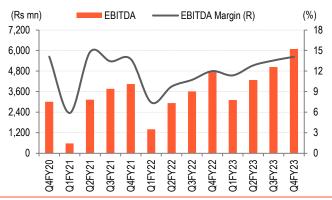


Fig 5 - EBITDA revenue trend



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 6 - W&C segment growth trend

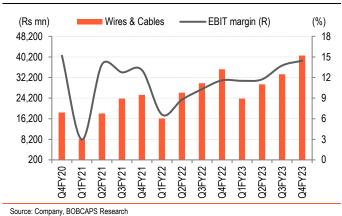
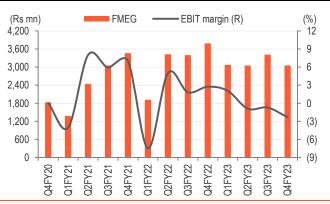
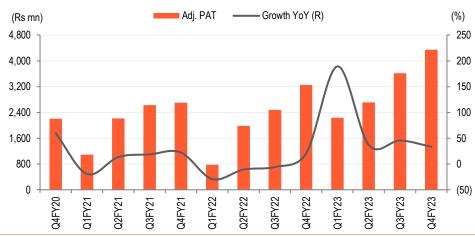


Fig 7 - FMEG segment growth trend



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 8 – Profitability growth trend



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research



Earnings call highlights

- Revenue growth: Polycab expects to grow in double digits in FY24.
- Wires and Cables: W&C EBIT margin improved by 300bps YoY to 14.5% in Q4FY23 due to price revisions and strong growth in international business. The year saw volume growth of 21% with Q4 landing at high single digits, beating our estimates primarily on account of benefits realised from merger of the heavy-duty (HDC) and light-duty cable (LDC) verticals last year.

Per management, the demand environment remains strong, supported by government measures and revival in private capex. The company expects to earn a 11-13% EBIT margin in W&C in the long run. It has a cables-to-wires ratio of 70:30, with dealers and distributors contributing ~90% of cable sales and 100% in wires.

- Raw materials: Polycab requires copper (50%) and aluminium (50%) for its W&C product portfolio. Wires use copper whereas cables require copper and aluminium.
- FMEG (1/3rd of business): The fast-moving electrical goods (FMEG) business was subdued due to a distribution channel rejig undertaken during the year. The fans segment underperformed due to heavy channel stocking ahead of the transition to new Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) rating norms. The business saw negative EBIT in FY23 due to higher A&P spends, staff cost and input cost pressures. With distribution realignment completed, the company is confident of improving the topline and bottomline in the fans business from FY24, and expects to earn a 10-12% EBIT margin by FY26. TPW and ceiling fans will be manufactured at the new Halol factory.
- **Switches and Switchgears:** The company is raising its focus on this subsegment where lower competition translates to higher margins.
- Others business: This consists largely of the engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) business. Annual sustainable operating margin here is guided to be in high single digits over the mid-to-long term.
- Margins: EBITDA margin expanded 50bps YoY in Q4 due to operating leverage and strong growth in international business. For FY23, the margin expanded 270bps primarily due to price revisions and a favourable product mix.
- International business: Exports contributed 9.8% of Q4 sales and have historically held in the region of 10%. Polycab exports to over 70 countries and derives 50-60% of revenue from the US and the balance from others. It expects to add geographies every year. The margin profile in this segment varies by product and ranges from domestic-level margins to those earning 200-400bps more. The company is seeing traction in all types of cables, especially from the renewable and oil & gas sectors.
- International distribution reach: Polycab has started exporting to large institutional and EPC parties, and is setting up a distribution arm worldwide.
- Working capital: The company has a strong supply chain which enables stock replenishment within 24 hours. This enables dealers to store less inventory and prevent build-up. The company has guided for a 55-day working capital cycle but aims to improve this further.
- Capex: Management expects to incur Rs 6bn-7bn in capex during FY24.



Valuation methodology

We remain optimistic on Polycab's growth prospects considering the moats in its core W&C business, growth in FEMG and ongoing B2C expansion. Building in the strong FY23 performance and bright outlook, we raise our FY24/FY25 EPS estimates by 15%/18%. On rolling valuations forward to Mar'25E, our TP rises to Rs 3,900 (vs. Rs 3,300), based on an unchanged 35x P/E – a 50% premium to the stock's three-year average. Maintain BUY.

Fig 9 - Revised estimates

Doutionland (Do way)	Nev	N	Old	i	Change (%)		
Particulars (Rs mn)	FY24E	FY25E	FY24E	FY25E	FY24E	FY25E	
Sales	162,895	182,252	156,626	172,604	4.0	5.6	
EBITDA	21,899	24,645	19,156	21,145	14.3	16.5	
PAT	14,751	16,708	12,748	14,109	15.7	18.4	
EPS (Rs)	98.3	111.3	85.2	94.3	15.3	18.0	
EBITDA Margin (%)	13.4	13.5	12.2	12.3	120bps	130bps	

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Key risks

Key downside risks to our estimates are:

- commodity price volatility, and
- weak FMEG performance.

Sector recommendation snapshot

Company	Ticker	Market Cap (US\$ bn)	Price (Rs)	Target (Rs)	Rating
Amber Enterprises	AMBER IN	0.7	1,816	2,100	HOLD
Blue Star	BLSTR IN	1.7	1,417	1,650	BUY
Crompton Greaves	CROMPTON IN	2.0	255	440	BUY
Dixon Technologies	DIXON IN	2.1	2,868	4,100	BUY
Havells India	HAVL IN	10.0	1,306	1,500	BUY
KEI Industries	KEII IN	2.2	2,034	2,130	BUY
Orient Electric	ORIENTEL IN	0.6	219	240	HOLD
Polycab India	POLYCAB IN	6.2	3,389	3,900	BUY
Syrma SGS	SYRMA IN	0.7	313	400	BUY
V-Guard Industries	VGRD IN	1.3	250	260	HOLD
Voltas	VOLT IN	3.3	809	900	HOLD

Source: BOBCAPS Research, NSE | Price as of 12 May 2023



Financials

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23P	FY24E	FY25E
Total revenue	87,922	1,22,038	1,41,078	1,62,895	1,82,252
EBITDA	11,111	12,652	18,521	21,899	24,645
Depreciation	1,762	2,015	2,092	3,124	3,597
EBIT	9,350	10,637	16,430	18,775	21,048
Net interest inc./(exp.)	(427)	(352)	(598)	(486)	(448)
Other inc./(exp.)	1,193	899	1,333	1,467	1,613
Exceptional items	0	0	0	0	1,010
EBT	10,116	11,184	17,165	19,755	22,213
Income taxes	1,703	2,706	4,250	4.978	5,598
Extraordinary items	0	0	0	0	0,000
Min. int./Inc. from assoc.	6	(26)	(93)	(26)	(26)
Reported net profit	8,380	8,365	12,700	14,701	16,539
Adjustments	0,000	0	0	0	10,000
Adjusted net profit	8,380	8,365	12,700	14,701	16,539
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Balance Sheet					
Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23P	FY24E	FY25E
Accounts payables	13,480	12,175	20,326	26,777	29,959
Other current liabilities	5,776	4.436	4.430	5,922	6,625
Provisions	0,770	0	0	0,022	0,020
Debt funds	1.926	831	1,551	3,243	3,450
Other liabilities	1,425	1,239	1,636	1,831	2,004
Equity capital	1,491	1,494	1,498	1,498	1,498
Reserves & surplus	46,048	53,943	64,814	76,223	89,171
Shareholders' fund	47,539	55,437	66,311	77,720	90,668
Total liab. and equities	70,147	74,119	94,255	1,15,493	1,32,707
Cash and cash eq.	5,313	4,071	6,952	17,446	26,519
Accounts receivables	14,358	12,964	12,466	15,849	16,918
Inventories	19,879	21,996	29,514	31,719	36,808
Other current assets	1,945	4,739	6,650	7,679	8,591
Investments	6,231	7,641	13,505	0	0,001
Net fixed assets	18,261	16,170	20,104	23,480	23,884
CWIP	991	3,755	2,508	2,895	3,240
Intangible assets	94	230	203	203	203
Deferred tax assets, net	0	0	0	0	
Other assets	3,075	2,553	2,352	2,716	3,038
Total assets	70,147	74,119	94,255	1,01,988	1,19,202
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Cash Flows					
Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23P	FY24E	FY25E
Cash flow from operations	12,382	5,116	14,275	19,150	16,951
Capital expenditures	(1,911)	(5,200)	(4,584)	(6,500)	(4,000)
Change in investments	(8,193)	935	0	0	()
Other investing cash flows	(17)	(4)	(7,442)	(556)	(494)
Cash flow from investing	(10,121)	(4,270)	(12,026)	(7,056)	(4,494)
Equities issued/Others	0	0	0	0	(1,111)
Debt raised/repaid	(1,075)	(168)	332	1,691	207
Interest expenses	0	0	0	0	
Dividends paid	(531)	(1,839)	(2,570)	(3,292)	(3,591
Other financing cash flows	0	0	0	0	(0,001
Cash flow from financing	(1,606)	(2,007)	(2,238)	(1,601)	(3,384
Chg in cash & cash eq.	656	(1,160)	11	10,493	9,073
Closing cash & cash eq.	5,313	4,071	6,952	17,446	26,519

Per Share					
Y/E 31 Mar (Rs)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23P	FY24E	FY25E
Reported EPS	56.0	55.9	84.9	98.2	110.5
Adjusted EPS	56.0	55.9	84.9	98.2	110.5
Dividend per share	10.0	14.0	20.0	22.0	24.0
Book value per share	317.8	370.6	443.2	519.4	605.9
Valuations Ratios					
Y/E 31 Mar (x)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23P	FY24E	FY25E
EV/Sales	5.8	4.2	3.6	3.1	2.8
EV/EBITDA	45.6	40.1	27.4	23.2	20.6
Adjusted P/E	60.5	60.6	39.9	34.5	30.7
P/BV	10.7	9.1	7.6	6.5	5.6
DuPont Analysis					
Y/E 31 Mar (%)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23P	FY24E	FY25E
Tax burden (Net profit/PBT)	82.8	74.8	74.0	74.4	74.5
Interest burden (PBT/EBIT)	108.2	105.1	104.5	105.2	105.
EBIT margin (EBIT/Revenue)	10.6	8.7	11.6	11.5	11.
Asset turnover (Rev./Avg TA)	4.8	7.5	7.0	6.9	7.6
Leverage (Avg TA/Avg Equity)	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Adjusted ROAE	19.5	16.2	20.9	20.4	19.6
Ratio Analysis					
Y/E 31 Mar	FY21A	FY22A	FY23P	FY24E	FY25E
YoY growth (%)					
Revenue	(0.4)	38.8	15.6	15.5	11.9
EBITDA	(2.1)	13.9	46.4	18.2	12.5
Adjusted EPS	10.4	(0.2)	51.8	15.8	12.5
Profitability & Return ratios (%)		. ,			
EBITDA margin	12.6	10.4	13.1	13.4	13.5
EBIT margin	10.6	8.7	11.6	11.5	11.5
Adjusted profit margin	9.5	6.9	9.0	9.0	9.
Adjusted ROAE	19.5	16.2	20.9	20.4	19.6
ROCE	19.5	16.3	21.1	20.1	19.2
Working capital days (days)					
Receivables	60	39	32	36	34
Inventory	83	66	76	71	74
Payables	56	36	53	60	60
Ratios (x)					
Gross asset turnover	3.8	4.7	4.9	4.7	4.0
O	0.4	2.0	0.0	0.4	0.4

Adjusted debt/equity 0.0 0.0

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

2.4

21.9

3.0

30.2

2.6

27.5

0.0

2.1

38.6

0.0

2.3

46.9

0.0

Current ratio

Net interest coverage ratio



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BUY - Expected return >+15%

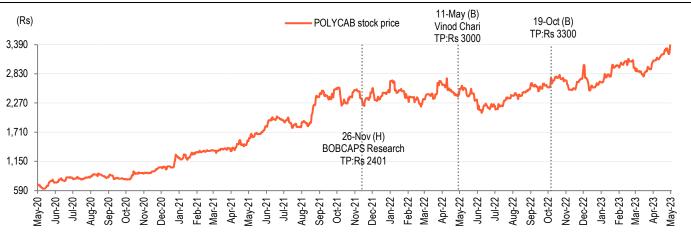
HOLD - Expected return from -6% to +15%

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): POLYCAB INDIA (POLYCAB IN)



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

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