

HOLD TP: Rs 1,400 | ▲ 10%

VOLTAS

Consumer Durables

31 January 2025

Revenue in line with estimates, PAT sees lag

- Topline grew 18% YoY in Q3; EBITDA margin expanded 530bps YoY fueled by better cost efficiencies
- UCP revenue jumped 20% YoY in Q3 amid an unseasonal quarter;
 market share at 20.5% in Q3; EMP business stayed profitable
- Pare our FY25/FY26/FY27 EPS estimates by 8%/11%/14%. We value
 VOLT at P/E of 45x, on rollover to Dec'26 we cut TP to Rs 1,400. HOLD

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Strong Q3 performance with margin expansion: VOLT delivered a strong Q3, with revenue up 18% YoY to Rs 31bn, in line with our estimate of Rs 30bn. Gross margin improved by 180bps YoY to 23.3%, while EBITDA grew ~6x YoY to Rs 1.9bn, due to an 11% reduction in other expenses, now constituting 9.5% of consolidated sales compared to 13% in the prior year. This cost efficiency drove an EBITDA margin increase of 530bps YoY to 6.4%, in line with our estimates of 6.3%. Key to this margin uplift was the continued positive turnaround in the EMP segment, marking its third consecutive quarter of profitability after losses from Q3FY23 to Q4FY24. PAT reached Rs 1.3bn below our estimates due to lower other income.

UCP leads; market share maintained: In what is traditionally an unseasonal quarter, the UCP segment delivered a standout performance, posting 20% topline growth – outpacing peers like Lloyd, which reported 13% YoY growth. UCP sales reached Rs 17.7bn, driven by strong volume expansion. As of Dec'24, VOLT retained its market-leading position with a 20.5% share, maintaining dominance in both split and window room air conditioners (RACs). Despite a 240bps YoY contraction in EBIT margins to 5.9%, the segment's robust growth underscores VOLT's resilience in a competitive market.

EMP posted strong quarter: EMP sales increased by 20% YoY to Rs 12bn, and remained EBIT positive for the third consecutive quarter with EBIT margins at 4.8%. This was due to timely project execution and focused initiatives in completion certifications. International growth, particularly in UAE and Saudi Arabia, added resilience to the performance. The Voltas Beko JV market share stood at 8.3% in washing machines and 5.1% in refrigerator and Beko became the second-largest player in SAWM with market share of 16.7%. Management aims to achieve breakeven in Voltas Beko by next year.

Maintain HOLD: Factoring in Q3, we pare our FY25/FY26/FY27 EPS estimates by 8%/11%/14% to factor in lower other income, and we wait for Voltas Beko to turn around. We now value VOLT at 45x P/E (previously 49x), and upon rollover to Dec'26 our new TP is Rs 1,400 (previously Rs 1,700).

Key changes

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Target	Rating
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Ticker/Price	VOLT IN/Rs 1,269
Market cap	US\$ 4.8bn
Free float	70%
3M ADV	US\$ 33.9mn
52wk high/low	Rs 1,945/Rs 990
Promoter/FPI/DII	30%/21%/33%

Source: NSE | Price as of 30 Jan 2025

Key financials

Y/E 31 Mar	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E
Total revenue (Rs mn)	124,812	151,355	180,788
EBITDA (Rs mn)	4,746	10,647	13,743
Adj. net profit (Rs mn)	2,520	7,626	9,639
Adj. EPS (Rs)	7.6	23.0	29.1
Consensus EPS (Rs)	7.6	24.5	31.0
Adj. ROAE (%)	4.5	12.5	14.3
Adj. P/E (x)	166.7	55.1	43.6
EV/EBITDA (x)	88.5	39.4	30.6
Adj. EPS growth (%)	(33.5)	202.6	26.4

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

Stock performance



Source: NSE





Fig 1 – Quarterly performance

(Rs mn)	Q3FY25	Q3FY24	YoY (%)	Q2FY25	QoQ (%)	9MFY25	9MFY24	YoY (%)	Q3FY25E	Variance (%)
Revenue	31,051	26,257	18.3	26,191	18.6	106,452	82,783	28.6	29,359	5.8
EBITDA	1,974	284	594.5	1,622	21.7	7,834	2,840	175.8	1,861	6.1
EBITDA Margin (%)	6.4	1.1	530bps	6.2	20bps	7.4	3.4	390bps	6.3	0bps
Depreciation	179	128		164		477	358			
Interest	155	135		136		388	351			
Other Income	591	579		1,055		2,448	1,988			
PBT	2,231	599	272.1	2,377	(6.2)	9,416	4,120	128.5		
Tax	599	515		726		2,490	1,743			
Adjusted PAT	1,308	(304)	(530.0)	1,328	(1.6)	6,004	1,356	342.9	1,559	(16.1)
Exceptional item	-	-		0		-	-			
Reported PAT	1,321	(304)	(534.5)	1,340	(1.4)	6,004	1,356	342.9		
Adj. PAT Margin (%)	4.2	(1.2)	540bps	5.1	(90bps)	5.6	1.6	400bps		
EPS (Rs)	4.0	(0.9)	(534.5)	4.0	(1.4)	21	7	191.3		

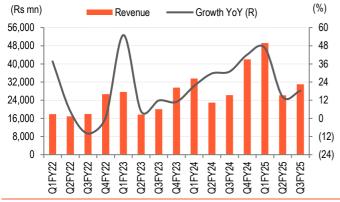
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 2 - Segmental performance

(Rs mn)	Q3FY22	Q4FY22	Q1FY23	Q2FY23	Q3FY23	Q4FY23	Q1FY24	Q2FY24	Q3FY24	Q4FY24	Q1FY25	Q2FY25	Q3FY25
Revenues													
Electro-Mechanical Projects And Services	5,538	6,918	4,547	5,540	6,484	7,458	6,791	9,242	9,819	10,979	9,491	8,799	11,902
YoY growth (%)	(45.5)	(21.0)	(34.0)	3.3	17.1	7.8	49.3	66.8	51.4	47.2	39.8	(4.8)	21.2
Engineering Products And Services	1,247	1,235	1,243	1,374	1,179	1,424	1,423	1,344	1,548	1,564	1,608	1,467	1,297
YoY growth (%)	3.1	26.4	8.1	9.5	(5.4)	15.3	14.5	(2.1)	31.3	9.8	13.0	9.1	(16.2)
Unitary Cooling Products	10,936	18,184	21,622	10,477	12,160	20,486	25,140	12,088	14,826	29,551	38,022	15,822	17,711
YoY growth (%)	30.3	9.9	124.5	4.1	11.2	12.7	16.3	15.4	21.9	44.2	51.2	30.9	19.5
EBIT													
Electro-Mechanical Projects and Services	363	476	(125)	143	(461)	(140)	(519)	(490)	(1,200)	(1,077)	675	462	567
Margin (%)	6.6	6.9	(2.7)	2.6	(7.1)	(1.9)	(7.6)	(5.3)	(12.2)	(9.8)	7.1	5.2	4.8
Engineering Products and Services	400	408	508	480	460	559	541	539	499	478	448	396	368
Margin (%)	32.1	33.0	40.9	35.0	39.0	39.3	38.0	40.1	32.2	30.6	27.9	27.0	28.4
Unitary Cooling Products For Comfort and Commercial Use	1,017	1,919	1,662	765	895	2,057	2,073	928	1,229	2,704	3,270	1,162	1,043
Margin (%)	9.3	10.6	7.7	7.3	7.4	10.0	8.2	7.7	8.3	9.2	8.6	7.3	5.9

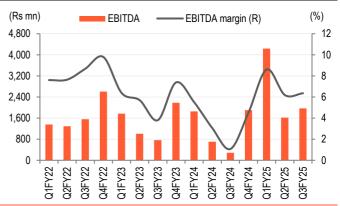
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 3 - Revenue growth trend



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 4 – EBITDA growth trend



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research



Fig 5 - Profit trend

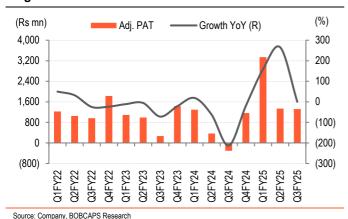
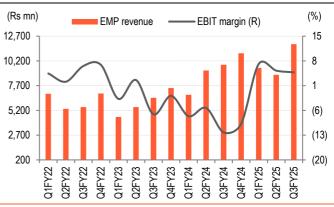


Fig 6 - EMP performance



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 7 - Engineering Products performance

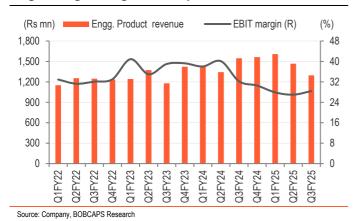
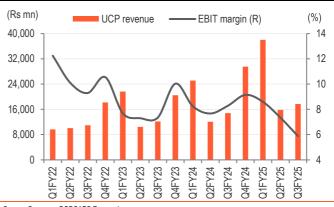


Fig 8 - UCP performance



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Earnings call highlights

Strong growth plans amid margin pressures: VOLT continues to make significant strides in expanding its manufacturing capabilities and strengthening its market position across key segments. With the commercialisation of all factories, annual depreciation is expected to stabilise at Rs 750mn. The UCP segment remains a key focus, with margin guidance set at high single digits. While market share gains and backward integration efforts are progressing well, margin pressures persisted in Q3 due to higher promotional expenses, commodity cost inflation, and currency depreciation.

UCP

• RAC market share and production expansion: VOLT maintained a 20.5% market share in the RAC segment as of Dec'24, reinforcing its leadership position. The company's Chennai AC factory has commenced commercial production following a Rs 4bn capex investment. To further strengthen its supply chain, VOLT has earmarked another Rs 4bn-4.5bn for compressor manufacturing and production ramp-up, with capacity set to increase from 1mn units currently to 1.5mn and eventually 2mn units. The compressor plant alone requires Rs 2.5bn capex, and the company is actively seeking a technology partner.



- Backward integration and PLI benefits: A trading and assembly-based firm with its Pantnagar plant since 2007, VOLT has now evolved into a highly backward-integrated manufacturer with its new Chennai plant and upgraded machinery at Pantnagar. Investments in injection moulding, copper tubing, winding, sheet metal, and heat exchangers are ongoing and will be completed over the next 12-18 months. The company has applied for PLI incentives under Phases 1 and 3, with Chennai plant incentives set to accrue from next year.
- Margin impacted by costs and ad spends: In an effort to drive market share expansion, VOLT significantly increased its advertising and sales promotion expenditure in Q3, including both above the line and below the line campaigns. The company faced 200bps YoY margin erosion due to rising commodity prices and rupee depreciation against the US dollar. While no price hikes were implemented in Q3, VOLT will assess whether to absorb future cost fluctuations through value engineering or pass them on to consumers.
- Air coolers, water heaters and retail expansion: VOLT is now present in 75-80% of modern trade outlets, with a growing emphasis on in-store demonstrators. Unlike previous years when demonstrators were limited to peak summer months, the company now employs them year-round, aided by its expanded air cooler and water heater portfolio. This shift has doubled in-store demonstration costs compared to last year. In Q3, VOLT's air cooler market share stood at 11.1%, while the water heater segment performed well due to strong distributor and sub-dealer partnerships.

Commercial refrigeration

The Commercial Refrigeration (CR) business faced headwinds due to slower inventory liquidation and weak capex spending from customers. The ramp-up of production at the new CR factory remained below expectations, adding to costs. Additionally, teething issues at the new factory and liquidation of aged inventory impacted margins. However, with these challenges being addressed, the segment is expected to recover in the coming quarters.

Commercial AC

The Commercial AC business posted healthy growth, led by strong demand for VRF and ducted ACs. Profitability was supported by an improved sales mix with margin-accretive products, value-engineering initiatives, and higher AMC revenue.

International business

No new international orders were recorded in Q3, keeping the overseas order backlog at Rs 19.6bn. VOLT remains cautious in project selection and is prioritising expedited receivables collection to optimise cash flow. Operations in UAE and Saudi Arabia continue to perform well, supporting profitability in international markets.

Voltas Beko

 Strengthening market position across categories: Voltas Beko continues to expand its presence in the home appliances segment, achieving a YTD-Nov'24 market share of 8.3% in washing machines and 5.1% in refrigerators. The company



has emerged as the second-largest player in the semi-automatic washing machine (SAWM) category, with a 16.7% market share.

- Localisation and profitability focus: The company aims to fully localise
 refrigerator manufacturing in India, reducing import dependency and improving cost
 efficiencies. Efforts to enhance gross margin resulted in a 400bps improvement in
 FY25. Voltas Beko remains on track to achieve breakeven next year.
- Brand investments and channel expansion: Voltas Beko continues to invest in brand building and omnichannel expansion, increasing its presence across multiple distribution channels. While these investments have led to higher costs, they are expected to drive long-term market penetration and revenue growth.



Valuation methodology

Factoring in the Q3 performance, we pare our EPS estimates for FY25 by 8%, FY26 by 11% and FY27 by 14% to factor in lower other income and waiting for Voltas Beko to turn around. We now value VOLT at a P/E of 45x (previously 49x), and upon rollover to Dec'26 our new TP is Rs 1,400 (previously Rs 1,700). Maintain HOLD.

Fig 9 - Revised estimates

(Rs mn) —		New			Old		Change (%)			
	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	
Sales	151,355	180,788	209,065	151,355	180,788	209,065	0.0	0.0	0.0	
EBITDA	10,647	13,743	15,850	11,555	15,190	17,941	(7.9)	(9.5)	(11.7)	
PAT	7,626	9,639	10,864	8,289	10,782	12,598	(8.0)	(10.6)	(13.8)	
EPS (Rs)	23.0	29.1	32.8	25.1	32.6	38.1	(8.0)	(10.6)	(13.8)	
EBITDA Margin (%)	7.0	7.6	7.6	7.6	8.4	8.6	(60bps)	(80bps)	(100bps)	

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Key risks

Key upside and downside risks to our estimates are:

- incremental market share despite a competitive environment, and
- unforeseen changes in foreign currency.



Financials

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Total revenue	94,988	124,812	151,355	180,788	209,065
EBITDA	5,724	4,746	10,647	13,743	15,850
Depreciation	396	476	514	766	1,095
EBIT	5,327	4,270	10,133	12,977	14,755
Net interest inc./(exp.)	(296)	(559)	(586)	(672)	(773)
Other inc./(exp.)	1,685	2,533	2,406	2,406	2,406
Exceptional items	0	0	0	0	2,100
EBT	6,716	6,244	11,953	14,711	16,389
Income taxes	1,709	2,377	3,227	3,972	4.425
Extraordinary items	2,438	0	0,227	0,372	7,720
Min. int./Inc. from assoc.	(1,207)	(1,386)	(1,100)	(1,100)	(1,100)
Reported net profit	1,350	2,520	7,626	9,639	10,864
Adjustments	2,438	2,320	0	9,039	10,004
•				9,639	
Adjusted net profit	3,788	2,520	7,626	9,039	10,864
Balance Sheet					
Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Accounts payables	30,126	38,557	47,687	59,437	65,870
Other current liabilities	10,029	14,060	19,490	22,784	28,639
Provisions	0	0	0	0	C
Debt funds	6,506	7,436	6,298	7,465	8,585
Other liabilities	1,609	2,099	2,473	2,888	3,288
Equity capital	331	331	331	331	331
Reserves & surplus	54,190	57,874	63,349	70,838	79,551
Shareholders' fund	54,521	58,205	63,680	71,168	79,881
Total liab. and equities	102,790	120,357	139,628	163,743	186,263
Cash and cash eq.	7,084	8,523	8,964	10,140	11,093
Accounts receivables	21,919	25,328	27,783	30,214	31,503
Inventories	15,920	21,354	25,295	30,214	34,940
Other current assets	19,543	22,042	23,652	27,260	31,524
Investments	0	0	0	0	01,02
Net fixed assets	3,611	3,902	6,387	9,121	11,526
CWIP	983	3,675	4,457	5,323	6,156
Intangible assets	1,142	1,127	1,366	1,632	1,887
Deferred tax assets, net	0	0	0	0	1,007
Other assets	32,590	34,408	41,725	49,839	57,634
Total assets	102,790	120,357	139,628	163,743	186,263
Total assets	102,790	120,337	133,020	103,743	100,203
Cash Flows					
Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Cash flow from operations	1,594	7,615	14,693	14,492	13,967
Capital expenditures	(1,774)	(2,883)	(3,000)	(3,500)	(3,500)
Change in investments	253	(3,938)	0	0	0
Other investing cash flows	706	1,597	(7,964)	(8,831)	(8,484)
Cash flow from investing	(816)	(5,224)	(10,964)	(12,331)	(11,984)
Equities issued/Others	0	0	0	0	0
Debt raised/repaid	2,728	453	(1,138)	1,166	1,121
Interest expenses	0	0	0	0	(
Dividends paid	(2,177)	(1,616)	(2,151)	(2,151)	(2,151)
Other financing cash flows	0	0	0	0	(=,
Cash flow from financing	550	(1,163)	(3,289)	(984)	(1,030)
Chg in cash & cash eq.	1,328	1,228	440	1,176	953
Closing cash & cash eq.	7,084	8,523	8,964	10,140	11,093

Per Share					
Y/E 31 Mar (Rs)	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Reported EPS	4.1	7.6	23.0	29.1	32.8
Adjusted EPS	11.4	7.6	23.0	29.1	32.8
Dividend per share	4.3	5.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
Book value per share	164.8	175.9	192.5	215.1	241.4
Valuations Ratios					
Y/E 31 Mar (x)	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
EV/Sales	4.4	3.4	2.8	2.3	2.0
EV/EBITDA	73.4	88.5	39.4	30.6	26.5
Adjusted P/E	110.9	166.7	55.1	43.6	38.7
P/BV	7.7	7.2	6.6	5.9	5.3
DuPont Analysis					
Y/E 31 Mar (%)	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Tax burden (Net profit/PBT)	56.4	40.4	63.8	65.5	66.3
Interest burden (PBT/EBIT)	126.1	146.2	118.0	113.4	111.1
EBIT margin (EBIT/Revenue)	5.6	3.4	6.7	7.2	7.1
Asset turnover (Rev./Avg TA)	26.3	32.0	23.7	19.8	18.1
Leverage (Avg TA/Avg Equity)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Adjusted ROAE	6.9	4.5	12.5	14.3	14.4
Ratio Analysis					
Y/E 31 Mar	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
YoY growth (%)					
Revenue	19.7	31.4	21.3	19.4	15.6
EBITDA	(16.0)	(17.1)	124.3	29.1	15.3
Adjusted EPS	(24.8)	(33.5)	202.6	26.4	12.7
Profitability & Return ratios (%)					
EBITDA margin	6.0	3.8	7.0	7.6	7.6
EBIT margin	5.6	3.4	6.7	7.2	7.1
Adjusted profit margin	4.0	2.0	5.0	5.3	5.2
Adjusted ROAE	6.9	4.5	12.5	14.3	14.4
ROCE	6.7	4.5	11.8	13.6	13.6
Working capital days (days)					
Receivables	84	74	67	61	55
Inventory	61	62	61	61	61
Payables	116	113	115	120	115
Ratios (x)					
Ratios (x) Gross asset turnover	16.6	17.9	17.1	14.9	13.4

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

1.4

18.0

0.1

1.3

7.6

0.1

1.2

17.3

0.1

1.1

19.3

0.1

1.1

19.1

0.1

Current ratio

Net interest coverage ratio

Adjusted debt/equity



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Name of the Research Entity: BOB Capital Markets Limited

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Recommendation scale: Recommendations and Absolute returns (%) over 12 months

BUY - Expected return >+15%

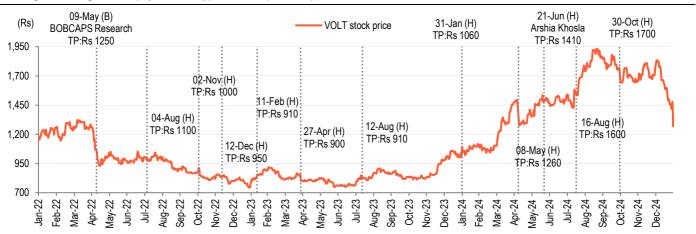
HOLD - Expected return from -6% to +15%

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): VOLTAS (VOLT IN)



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

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