ESSEL PROPACK

Stable quarter; Egypt shines

India Equity Research | Miscellaneous



EDELWEISS RATINGS

Essel Propack's (EPL) Q4FY17 consolidated revenue at INR6.1bn rose 12% YoY driven by Europe, which jumped 41% YoY to INR1.4bn. While AMESA & EAP grew 8% & 10%, respectively, below par US & Mexico performance marred good performance in Americas (declined 3%). India revenues grew 4% YoY; stellar growth in Egypt (revenues up 26% YoY) was a key quarter highlight. While growth in EAP revived, Europe was stable. We expect the impact of one-off's seen in FY17 to fade and estimate EPL to clock 13% revenue CAGR with ~420bps improvement in RoCE over FY17-19 to 22.6%. We maintain our FY19E EV/EBITDA at 9.0x, yielding target price of INR301. We maintain 'BUY'.

Good show in AMESA driven by Egypt; EAP stable

EPL's India operations (standalone) reported only 4% YoY growth as demonetisation impact lingered in Q4FY17 as well, especially during January-February 2017. The company has pegged demonetisation-related revenue and EBIT loss in Q4FY17 at INR195mn and INR69mn, respectively. A key quarter standout was Egypt's stellar performance—revenue jumped 26% YoY—in oral as well as non-oral segments. Growth finally picked up in EAP with 10% YoY spurt in Q4FY17 (9mFY17: -1%). While non-oral was strong, off-take issues at key customers continued to dent oral care. We expect growth in AMESA to pick up as the impact of demonetisation fades, along with continued good show in Egypt, with non-oral being EAP's growth driver.

EDG spurs Europe; Americas stutters

Europe jumped 41% driven by acquisition of Essel Deutschland, Germany (EDG), with improvement in profitability. Americas, yet again, disappointed as US and Mexico (had performed well till date) revenue was impacted by lower-than-planned off take by key customers and discontinuance of plastic tubes. We expect growth in Americas to pick up driven by stabilisation of Colombia operations in FY18 and correction of blip in Mexico's performance.

Outlook and valuations: On growth path; maintain 'BUY'

While FY17 performance was impacted by demonetisation-related one offs, plant issues at Columbia & India and integration of EDG, EPL is confident of resolving them and achieving its 20:20:20 target. We build in 13% revenue CAGR (EPL guidance 15% for FY18) with $^{\sim}420$ bps improvement in RoCE over FY17-19E to 22.6%. We maintain our FY19E EV/EBITDA at 9.0x, yielding target price of INR301. We maintain 'BUY'.

Financials								(INR mn)
Year to March	Q4FY17	Q4FY16	YoY (%)	Q3FY17	QoQ (%)	FY17	FY18E	FY19E
Net Revenues	6,126	5,490	11.6	5,881	4.2	23,023	26,680	29,398
EBITDA	1,199	984	21.8	921	30.1	4,213	5,017	5,803
Adjusted Profit	520	449	15.8	399	30.2	1,792	2,112	2,680
Diluted EPS (INR)	3.3	2.9	15.8	2.5	30.2	11.4	13.4	17.1
Diluted P/E (x)						23.0	19.5	15.4
EV/EBITDA (x)						11.2	9.2	7.7
ROAE (%)						18.3	20.8	22.1

nvestment Characteristics	Growth
MARKET DATA (R: ESSL.BO)	B: ESEL IN)
MP	: INR 259
arget Price	: INR 301
2-week range (INR)	: 276 / 179
nare in issue (mn)	: 157.2
1 cap (INR bn/USD mn)	: 41/630
vg. Daily Vol. BSE/NSE ('00	0): 119.8

	Current	Q2FY17	Q1FY17
Promoters *	57.1	57.0	57.0
MF's, FI's & BKs	4.9	4.6	4.8
FII's	14.4	13.7	12.6

Others 23.7 24.7 25.6

* Promoters pledged shares : NIL
(% of share in issue)

PRICE PERFORMANCE (%)

SHARE HOLDING PATTERN (%)

	BSE Midcap Index	Stock	Stock over Index
1 month	(3.7)	2.3	6.0
3 months	5.1	13.5	8.4
12 months	28.4	33.3	4.9

Nihal Mahesh Jham +91 22 6623 3352

nihal.jham@edelweissfin.com

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Q4FY17 conference call: Key highlights

India

- Performance in the month of March was stable.
- o In Egypt, EPL hiked prices in a timely manner. Egypt has a strong oral care share; focus is to drive beauty and cosmetics.

• EAP (China)

- O China costs are rising faster than revenue.
- Overall industry has been facing pressure.

Europe

- Business development of non-oral care in Europe has not been as per expectation.
 Therefore, performance has been below par.
- o Focus in Europe is on the non-oral market.
- o Targeting 20% plus growth in this region.
- German JV/subsidiary
- In FY18, EPL expects it to turn profitable and by FY19 margin will be at par with rest of Europe.

Americas

- Expects Americas to revert to growth track.
- o Columbia's turnaround in FY18 should drive margin.
- Mexico did well last year; expects it to grow further.
- $\circ\quad$ EPL plans to focus on non-oral care segment in the US .

Other

o GST will not have any impact.

Guidance

o Eyeing 15% overall growth for FY18.

Chart 1: Share of Europe has increased post consolidation of EDG 7,500 6,000 (INR m) 3,000 1,500 0 Q1FY15 Q3FY15 Q4FY14 Q2FY14 Q3FY14 Q2FY15 Q4FY15 Q1FY16 Q1FY17 Q2FY17 EAP AMESA Europe Americas

Chart 2: AMESA saw the highest spurt in margins this quarter

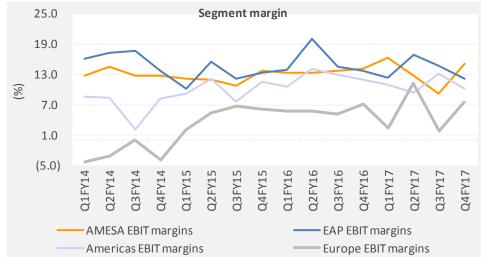
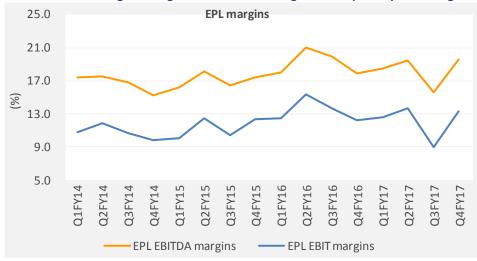


Chart 3: Growth in higher margin AMESA and EAP segments helped improve margins



Source: Company, Edelweiss research

Table 1: Essel Propack TP at INR301 per share at 9.0x FY19E EV/EBITDA

Particulars	
EV/EBITDA (x)	9.0
FY19E EBITDA (INR mn)	5,803
FY18E Target EV (INR mn)	52,223
FY18E Debt (INR mn)	7,439
FY18E Cash (INR mn)	2,599
FY18E Minority Interest adjustment (INR mn)	308
FY18E Investment (INR mn)	200
FY18E Target Equity Value (INR mn)	47,275
Number of shares (mn)	157
Mar '18 Target Price (INR/share)	301

Source: Edelweiss research

Financial snapshot								(INR mn)
Year to March	Q4FY17	Q4FY16	% change	Q3FY17	% change	FY17	FY18E	FY19E
Net revenues	6,126	5,490	11.6	5,881	4.2	23,023	26,680	29,398
Staff costs	1,018	917	11.0	1,061	(4.1)	4,058	4,281	4,495
Direct costs	2,690	2,514	7.0	2,666	0.9	10,079	12,313	13,515
Other expenses	1,220	1,075	13.5	1,233	(1.0)	4,673	5,069	5,586
EBITDA	1,199	984	21.8	921	30.1	4,213	5,017	5,803
Depreciation	379	309	22.6	392	(3.2)	1,415	1,506	1,602
EBIT	820	675	21.4	529	54.8	2,798	3,511	4,201
Other income	56	105	(47.0)	205	(72.8)	353	280	363
Interest	151	153	(1.0)	152	(0.6)	575	488	424
Add: Exceptional items	(83)	(87)	NA	-		157	-	-
Profit before tax	642	541	18.6	582	10.2	2,732	3,303	4,140
Provision for taxes	186	159	17.2	186	0.1	787	941	1,159
Minority interest	-	-		-		53	61	75
Associate profit share	6	5	3.8	3	103.7	11	-	-
Profit- Discontinued Ops								
Reported net profit	461	387	19.0	399	15.5	1,903	2,300	2,906
Adjusted Profit	520	449	15.8	399	30.2	1,792	2,300	2,906
Diluted shares (mn)	157	157		157		157	157	157
Adjusted Diluted EPS	3.3	2.9	15.8	2.5	30.2	11.4	14.6	18.5
Diluted P/E (x)	-	-		-		23.0	17.9	14.2
EV/EBITDA (x)	-	-		-		11.2	9.2	7.7
ROAE (%)	-	-		-		18.3	20.8	22.2
As % of net revenues								
Direct costs	43.9	45.8		45.3		43.8	46.1	46.0
Employee cost	16.6	16.7		18.0		17.6	16.0	15.3
Other expenses	19.9	19.6		21.0		20.3	19.0	19.0
EBITDA	19.6	17.9		15.7		18.3	18.8	19.7
Reported net profit	8.5	8.2		6.8		7.8	8.6	9.9
Tax rate	29.0	29.4		31.9		28.8	28.5	28.0

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Company Description

EPL, earlier known as Essel Packaging, was incorporated in 1982 and is a part of the Essel Group. The company is one of the largest specialty packaging players globally manufacturing laminated plastic tubes, extruded plastic tubes, caps & closures and flexible laminates. Its products are extensively used in packaging of oral care products, cosmetics, food and pharmaceuticals. EPL sells over 6bn tubes to over 400 clients globally. The company's clientele includes the world's biggest oral and non-oral care players such as Colgate, Unilever, P&G and GSK. It has manufacturing operations at 25 facilities in 12 countries across the world.

Investment Theme

Innovation DNA spurring market share gains:

The packaging industry has been innovation driven. EPL has enhanced its laminated tubes market share from ~28% in CYO2 to ~34% currently, a feat it accomplished owing to sizeable investments in innovation. R&D and innovations have been the company's unequivocal hallmarks, enabling it to pioneer the paradigm shift in packaging, redefining the market and unlocking growth potential.

RoE kickers: Non-oral care focus, turn around in subsidiaries

To propel growth, EPL has set sights on the global 22bn tubes non-oral market. We expect strong growth in non-oral revenues, riding conversions in US & Europe and growth in cosmetics, foods & pharma in China & India. Oral care is anticipated to remain the cash cow and log stable revenue growth. Earlier, losses in Americas and Europe had hammered EPL's performance. However, these subsidiaries are now turning around.

Key Risks

Sustained rise in crude prices

EPL's raw materials are crude oil based polymers, which are highly correlated to the movement in crude prices (r=0.78). Though there is a pass through mechanism in its contracts, there is a lag period for the same. In the past too, a significant increase in crude/polymer prices had resulted in contraction in margins.

Pace of adoption/conversion to laminated packaging in non-oral segments

EPL's growth will be driven by the non-oral segment, particularly in China and India. Though the overall non-oral market (food, cosmetics and pharma) is expected to grow at 8% plus levels, the company's higher growth will be dependent on increase in penetration/adoption of laminated packaging.

Financial Statements

Year to March	FY16	FY17	FY18E	FY19E
Macro				
GDP(Y-o-Y %)	7.2	6.5	7.1	7.7
Inflation (Avg)	4.9	4.8	5.0	5.2
Repo rate (exit rate)	6.8	6.3	6.3	6.3
USD/INR (Avg)	65.0	67.5	67.0	67.0
Company				
Rev. growth - AMESA (%)	(12.3)	1.9	12.3	12.8
Revenue growth - EAP (%)	2.3	1.3	6.1	8.8
Rev. growth -Americas(%)	(1.3)	2.3	10.8	8.6
Rev. growth - Europe (%)	(3.1)	25.3	40.7	8.2
EBIT margins - AMESA (%)	13.4	13.0	15.4	16.6
EBIT margins - EAP (%)	15.7	14.1	15.8	16.3
EBIT margins-Americas(%)	12.4	10.9	12.7	13.7
EBIT margins -Europe(%)	6.0	5.6	5.1	6.1
Capex (INR mn)	1,943	2,957	1,629	1,798
Debtor days	61	56	53	52
Inventory days	68	81	74	72
Payable days	57	50	49	53

Income statement				(INR mn)
Year to March	FY16	FY17	FY18E	FY19E
Net revenue	21,275	23,023	26,680	29,398
Materials costs	9,235	10,079	12,313	13,515
Gross profit	12,040	12,944	14,367	15,883
Employee costs	3,744	4,058	4,281	4,495
Other Expenses	4,258	4,673	5,069	5,586
EBITDA	4,038	4,213	5,017	5,803
Depreciation	1,232	1,415	1,506	1,602
EBIT	2,806	2,798	3,511	4,201
Add: Other income	238.2	353.00	280.39	363.48
Less: Interest Expense	609	575	488	424
Add: Exceptional items	23	157	-	-
Profit Before Tax	2,459	2,732	3,303	4,140
Less: Provision for Tax	776	787	941	1,159
Less: Minority Interest	30	53	61	75
Associate profit share	48	11	-	-
Reported Profit	1,701	1,903	2,300	2,906
Exceptional Items	16	111	-	-
Adjusted Profit	1,685	1,792	2,300	2,906
Shares o /s (mn)	157	157	157	157
Adjusted Basic EPS	10.7	11.4	14.6	18.5
Diluted shares o/s (mn)	157	157	157	157
Adjusted Diluted EPS	10.7	11.4	14.6	18.5
Adjusted Cash EPS	18.6	20.9	24.0	28.4
Dividend per share (DPS)	2.2	2.8	3.4	4.3
Dividend Payout Ratio(%)	24.5	23.4	23.4	23.4

Common size metrics

Year to March	FY16	FY17	FY18E	FY19E
Operating expenses	81.0	81.7	81.2	80.3
Materials costs	43.4	43.8	46.1	46.0
Staff costs	17.6	17.6	16.0	15.3
S G & A expenses	20.0	20.3	19.0	19.0
Depreciation	5.8	6.1	5.6	5.4
Interest Expense	2.9	2.5	1.8	1.4
EBITDA margins	19.0	18.3	18.8	19.7
Net Profit margins	8.1	8.0	8.9	10.1

Growth ratios (%)

Year to March	FY16	FY17	FY18E	FY19E
Revenues	(8.4)	8.2	15.9	10.2
EBITDA	3.3	4.3	19.1	15.7
PBT	22.5	11.1	20.9	25.3
Adjusted Profit	24.7	6.3	28.4	26.3
EPS	24.7	6.3	28.4	26.3

Miscellaneous

Balance sheet				(INR mn)	Cash flow metrics				
As on 31st March	FY16	FY17	FY18E	FY19E	Year to March	FY16	FY17	FY18E	FY19E
Share capital	314	314	314	314	Operating cash flow	3,655	5,240	3,417	4,239
Reserves & Surplus	9,334	10,076	11,838	14,063	Investing cash flow	(424)	(2,075)	(1,386)	(1,425)
Shareholders' funds	9,648	10,390	12,152	14,377	Financing cash flow	(3,283)	(1,230)	(506)	(2,509)
Minority Interest	81	57	119	194	Net cash Flow	(52)	1,935	1,525	305
Short term borrowings	1,594	869	2,439	2,534	Capex	(1,943)	(2,579)	(1,629)	(1,798)
Long term borrowings	5,534	6,050	5,000	3,500	Dividend paid	(357)	(445)	(538)	(680)
Total Borrowings	7,128	6,918	7,439	6,034					
Long Term Liabilities	194	233	265	265	Profitability and efficiency ratios				
Def. Tax Liability (net)	197	317	284	243	Year to March	FY16	FY17	FY18E	FY19E
Sources of funds	17,248	17,916	20,259	21,113	ROAE (%)	19.4	18.3	20.8	22.2
Gross Block	25,970	28,927	30,556	32,355	ROACE (%)	17.7	18.4	20.5	22.6
Net Block	9,128	11,167	11,290	11,486	Inventory Days	68	81	74	72
Capital work in progress	512	114	114	114	Debtors Days	61	56	53	52
Intangible Assets	173	707	707	707	Payable Days	57	50	49	53
Total Fixed Assets	9,813	11,988	12,111	12,307	Cash Conversion Cycle	71	87	78	72
Non current investments	304	153	200	200	Current Ratio	3.5	2.3	2.8	2.7
Cash and Equivalents	844	1,028	2,554	2,858	Gross Debt/EBITDA	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.0
Inventories	1,987	2,460	2,530	2,777	Gross Debt/Equity	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.4
Sundry Debtors	3,312	3,766	4,020	4,430	Adjusted Debt/Equity	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.5
Loans & Advances	1,284	1,140	1,250	1,250	Net Debt/Equity	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.2
Other Current Assets	2,538	1,962	2,134	2,352	Interest Coverage Ratio	4.6	4.9	7.2	9.9
Total current assets	9,120	9,328	9,935	10,809					
Trade payable	1,282	1,473	1,855	2,036	Operating ratios				
Other Current Liab	1,551	3,108	2,685	3,025	Year to March	FY16	FY17	FY18E	FY19E
Total Current Liab	2,833	4,581	4,540	5,061	Total Asset Turnover	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4
Net current assets	6,287	4,747	5,394	5,747	Fixed Asset Turnover	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.4
Uses of funds	17,248	17,916	20,259	21,113	Equity Turnover	2.4	2.3	1.7	1.5
BVPS (INR)	61.4	66.1	77.4	91.5					
Contingent Liability	782.6	782.6	782.6	782.6	Valuation parameters				
					Year to March	FY16	FY17	FY18E	FY19E
Free cash flow				(INR mn)	Adj. Diluted EPS (INR)	10.7	11.4	14.6	18.5
Year to March	FY16	FY17	FY18E	FY19E	Y-o-Y growth (%)	24.7	6.3	28.4	26.3
Reported Profit	1,701	1,903	2,300	2,906	Adjusted Cash EPS (INR)	18.6	20.9	24.0	28.4
Add: Depreciation	1,232	1,415	1,506	1,602	Diluted P/E (x)	24.1	22.7	17.7	14.0
Interest (Net of Tax)	417	410	349	306	P/B (x)	4.2	3.9	3.3	2.8
Others	305	1,513	(738)	(574)	EV / Sales (x)	2.2	2.0	1.7	1.5
Less: Changes in WC	(192)	(1,579)	616	353	EV / EBITDA (x)	11.7	11.1	9.1	7.6
Operating cash flow	3,655	5,240	3,417	4,239	Dividend Yield (%)	0.8	1.1	1.3	1.7

Peer comparison valuation

Less: Capex

Free Cash Flow

Teer comparison valuation	Market cap	Diluted P	/r (v)	EV / EBITDA	(V)	ROAE (%	
	iviarket cap	Diluted P	/ E (X)	EV / EDITUR	(X)	RUAE (%)
Name	(USD mn)	FY18E	FY19E	FY18E	FY19E	FY18E	FY19E
Essel Propack	630	19.3	15.2	9.1	7.6	20.8	22.1
AptarGroup	5,206	22.3	19.9	11.2	10.7	19.3	20.1
Bemis Co Inc.	4,077	15.7	14.1	9.3	8.9	19.8	16.3
Median	-	19.3	15.2	9.3	8.9	19.8	20.1
AVERAGE	-	19.1	16.4	9.9	9.1	20.0	19.5

1,798 **2,087**

Source: Edelweiss research

1,943

1,903

2,579

4,240

1,629

1,172

Additional Data

Directors Data

Dr. Subhash Chandra	Non- Executive Chairman	Ashok Goel	Vice Chairman & MD
Atul Goel	Director	Boman Moradian	Independent Director
Mukund Chitale	Independent Director	Radhika Pereira	Independent Director

Auditors - MGB & Co LLP

*as per last available data

Holding - Top10

Perc. Holding		Perc. Holding
Clareville Cap	3.05 Gagandeep Credit Cap	2.21
FIL Ltd	2.15 NTASIAN Discovery Master Fund	1.86
Warburg Invest	1.75 DSP Blackrock	1.33
Amrit Petroleums	1.32 Dimensional Fund Advisors	1.27
UTI Asset Management	1.21 Veena Investments	1.20

*as per last available data

Bulk Deals

Data	Acquired / Seller	B/S	Qty Traded	Price
28 Mar 2017	L N Minerals Llp	Sell	1400000	235.71
28 Mar 2017	Goel Laxmi Narain	Buy	1400000	235.73

*as per last available data

Insider Trades

Reporting Data	Acquired / Seller	B/S	Qty Traded
10 Mar 2017	Ashok Goel	Buy 100000.00	

*as per last available data

Edelweiss Securities Limited, Edelweiss House, off C.S.T. Road, Kalina, Mumbai – 400 098. Board: (91-22) 4009 4400, Email: research@edelweissfin.com

Aditya Narain

Head of Research

aditya.narain@edelweissfin.com

Coverage group(s) of stocks by primary analyst(s): Miscellaneous

Essel Propack

Recent Res	earch				
Date	Company	Title	Price (INR)	Recos
06-Feb-17	Essel Propack	Demonetisation impacts I performance; Result Update	ndia	248	Buy
07-Dec-16	Essel Propack	Focus sustains on innovati margin; Result Update	ion,	245	Buy
28-Oct-16	Essel Propack	India shines again; one-of dent margin; Result Update	fs	245	Buy

Distribution of Ratings / Market Cap					
Edelweiss Research	h Coverag	ge Univer	rse		
		Buy	Hold	Reduce	Total
Rating Distribution * 1stocks under rev		161	67	11	240
	> 50bn	Bet	ween 10bn a	nd 50 bn	< 10bn
Market Cap (INR)	156		62		11

Rating Interpretation				
Rating	Expected to			
Buy	appreciate more than 15% over a 12-month period			
Hold	appreciate up to 15% over a 12-month period			
Reduce	depreciate more than 5% over a 12-month period			



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