

India I Equities

Industrial Consumables Company Update

5 November 2020

KEC International

Non-T&D boost, execution ramp-up; maintaining a Buy

With better execution in its non-T&D business (railways/civil up 45%/306%), KEC's performance beat our expectations. Its T&D business, though better sequentially, was flat y/y at Rs2bn (largely in line with ARe). Management talked of a strong bid pipeline for this segment and we see robust order inflows in coming quarters. The execution rampup, robust revenue assurance (Rs195bn order backlog), strong bid pipeline, focus on reducing interest costs, and cash collection, gives us the required assurance of strong future execution and earnings. We maintain a Buy with an unchanged TP of Rs398 (13x FY23e).

Better execution in non-T&D: The Rs32.6bn Q2 FY21 revenue (up 16% y/y, much ahead of our estimated 5.3%) was mainly driven by higher-than-expected execution in the non-T&D business. Railways revenue was up 45% to Rs8.2bn due to higher execution owing to various automation initiatives. Civil revenue grew 306% y/y driven by execution of a robust order backlog. The Rs2bn T&D revenue was in line. Management expects H2 execution to be better.

Strong bid pipeline: YTD FY21 order inflows were up 16% y/y to Rs43.7bn. Management said that tendering have been robust; awarding, however, is slightly slow. This is reflected in the decline in inflows from key non-T&D segments. Geographically, the company managed to bag overseas orders of Rs25.8bn (59% of inflows). The overall bid pipeline is robust and the company has a strong order backlog + L1 position of over Rs230bn, providing robust revenue assurance for the next 1.5–2 years.

Outlook. The stock trades at 13x/11x FY22e/23e. With operations gradually picking up steam, we are upbeat about the company's execution for the rest of FY21. We expect 8%/12% CAGRs over FY20-23 in revenue/PAT. We maintain our Buy rating with an unchanged target price of Rs398. **Risks**: Slowdown in orders and in pace of execution.

Key financials (YE Mar)	FY19	FY20	FY21e	FY22e	FY23e
Sales (Rs m)	110,005	119,654	121,738	135,616	149,618
Net profit (Rs m)	4,864	5,655	5,580	6,866	7,880
EPS (Rs)	18.9	22.0	21.7	26.7	30.6
PE (x)	15.8	15.4	15.6	12.7	11.0
EV / EBITDA (x)	7.9	8.6	8.9	7.5	6.7
PBV (x)	3.2	3.1	2.7	2.3	2.0
RoE (%)	21.9	21.6	18.5	19.7	19.5
RoCE (%)	26.1	23.5	19.5	20.5	20.9
Dividend yield (%)	0.9	1.2	1.5	1.9	2.2
Net debt / equity (x)	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.3
Source: Company, Anand Rathi Rese	earch				

Rating: **Buy** Target Price: Rs398 Share Price: Rs338

Key data	KECI IN / KECL.NS
52-week high / low	360 / 154
Sensex / Nifty	41340 / 12120
3-m average volume	\$2.1m
Market cap	87bn / \$1167.6m
Shares outstanding	257m

Shareholding pattern (%)	Sep'20	Jun'20	Mar'20
Promoters	51.8	51.7	51.7
- of which, Pledged	-	-	-
Free float	48.2	48.3	48.3
- Foreign institutions	11.0	13.7	13.2
- Domestic institutions	25.6	22.8	22.9
- Public	11.6	11.8	12.2

Estimates revision (%)	FY21e	FY22e	FY23e
Sales	5.3	1.5	0.0
EBITDA	3.1	1.6	0.0
PAT	5.5	2.4	0.0



Ashwani Sharma Research Analyst

Rahul Jain
Research Associate

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Anand Rathi Research India Equities

Quick Glance – Financials and Valuations (consolidated)

Fig 1 – Income statem	ent (Rs	m)			
Year-end:Mar	FY19	FY20	FY21e	FY22e	FY23e
T&D order book	203,070	202,980	216,456	244,584	285,612
Net revenues	110,005	119,654	121,738	135,616	149,618
Growth (%)	9.4	8.8	1.7	11.4	10.3
Material cost	81,230	84,182	86,793	95,203	105,032
Employee & Other expense	17,276	23,128	23,089	26,604	29,324
EBITDA	11,499	12,344	11,856	13,810	15,262
EBITDA margins (%)	10.5	10.3	9.7	10.2	10.2
- Depreciation	1,171	1,472	1,593	1,755	1,917
Other income	226	111	250	280	314
Interest expenses	3,119	3,080	2,762	2,798	2,714
PBT	7,435	7,903	7,750	9,536	10,944
Effective tax rate (%)	34.6	28.4	28.0	28.0	28.0
+ Associates / (Minorities)	-	-	-	-	-
Net Income	4,864	5,655	5,580	6,866	7,880
Adjusted income	4,864	5,655	5,580	6,866	7,880
WANS	257	257	257	257	257
FDEPS (Rs / sh)	18.9	22.0	21.7	26.7	30.6
EPS growth (%)	6.1	16.3	-1.3	23.1	14.8

Fig 2 – Balance shee	t (Ra m)				
Year-end: Mar	FY19	FY20	FY21e	FY22e	FY23e
Share capital	514	514	514	514	514
Net worth	24,351	27,976	32,217	37,435	43,424
Debt	16,968	20,618	23,018	23,318	22,618
Minority interest	-	-	-	-	-
DTL / (Assets)	1,497	751	751	751	751
Capital employed	42,816	49,344	55,985	61,503	66,792
Net tangible assets	8,666	8,942	8,849	9,093	9,176
Net intangible assets	1,121	2,350	2,360	2,370	2,380
Goodwill	2,037	2,226	2,226	2,226	2,226
CWIP (tang. & intang.)	73	840	850	860	870
Investments (strategic)	3,537	4,201	4,711	5,221	5,731
Investments (financial)	132	225	248	272	299
Current assets (ex cash)	98,617	108,856	112,753	124,865	138,576
Cash	2,762	1,130	3,849	6,178	7,274
Current liabilities	74,129	79,425	79,860	89,581	99,739
Working capital	24,488	29,431	32,894	35,284	38,837
Capital deployed	42,816	49,344	55,985	61,503	66,792
Contingent liabilities	11,814	-	-	-	-

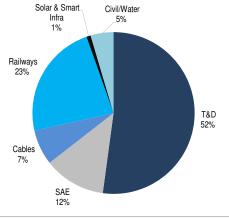
Year-end:Mar	FY19	FY20	FY21e	FY22e	FY23e
PBT	7,435	7,903	7,750	9,536	10,944
+ Non-cash items	4,064	4,441	4,106	4,273	4,318
Oper. prof. before WC	11,499	12,344	11,856	13,810	15,262
- Incr. / (decr.) in WC	6,555	6,054	3,462	2,391	3,553
Others incl. taxes	2,346	2,994	2,170	2,670	3,064
Operating cash-flow	2,653	3,107	6,213	8,739	8,635
- Capex (tang. + intang.)	1,048	3,744	1,520	2,020	2,020
Free cash-flow	1,604	-637	4,693	6,719	6,615
Acquisitions	-	-	-	-	-
- Div.(incl. buyback & taxes)	843	1,222	1,339	1,648	1,891
+ Equity raised	-	-	-	-	-
+ Debt raised	574	3,650	2,400	300	-700
- Fin investments	261	-93	-23	-25	-27
- Misc. (CFI + CFF)	626	3,516	3,057	3,068	2,955
Net cash-flow	449	-1,632	2,719	2,328	1,096

Fig 4 – Ratio analysis					
Year-end:Mar	FY19	FY20	FY21e	FY22e	FY23e
P/E (x)	15.8	15.4	15.6	12.7	11.0
EV / EBITDA (x)	7.9	8.6	8.9	7.5	6.7
EV / Sales (x)	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7
P/B (x)	3.2	3.1	2.7	2.3	2.0
RoE (%)	21.9	21.6	18.5	19.7	19.5
RoCE (%) - after tax	26.1	23.5	19.5	20.5	20.9
RoIC (%) - after tax	19.4	18.5	15.4	16.9	17.5
DPS (Rs / sh)	2.7	4.0	5.2	6.4	7.4
Dividend yield (%)	0.9	1.2	1.5	1.9	2.2
Dividend payout (%) - incl. DDT	17.3	21.6	24.0	24.0	24.0
Net debt / equity (x)	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.3
Receivables (days)	272	277	281	281	284
Inventory (days)	21	24	26	25	24
Payables (days)	178	170	165	168	171
CFO: PAT%	54.5	54.9	111.3	127.3	109.6
Source: Company, Anand Rathi Resear	ch				

Fig 5 - Price movement



Fig 6 - Q2 FY21 revenue break-up



Source: Company, Anand Rathi Research

Result Highlights

Fig 7 – Quarterly to	rend							
(Rs m)	Q2 FY21	Q2 FY20	Y/Y (%)	Q1 FY21	Q/Q (%)	H1 FY21	H1 FY20	Y/Y (%)
Net revenue	32,577	28,088	16.0	22,068	47.6	54,644	52,213	4.7
EBITDA	2,931	2,938	(0.2)	1,949	50.4	4,880	5,451	(10.5)
EBITDA margins (%)	9	10		9		9	10	
Other income	68	36	88.6	69	(2.0)	137	63	116.5
Depreciation	374	347	7.7	391	(4.3)	765	714	7.2
Interest	674	822	(17.9)	663	1.8	1,337	1,617	(17.3)
Profit before tax	1,950	1,805	8.0	964	102.2	2,915	3,184	(8.5)
Tax	525	414		257		781	907	
Adjusted PAT	1,426	1,391	2.5	708	101.3	2,134	2,277	(6.3)
Net margins (%)	4.4	5.0		3.2		3.9	4.4	
EPS (Rs)	5.5	5.4	2.5	2.7	101.3	8.3	8.8	(6.3)
Source: Company, Anand R	athi Researc	h						

Fig 8 - Segn	nent-wise	results (c	onsolida	ated)				
Rsm	Q2 FY21	Q2 FY20	%yoy	Q1 FY21	%qoq	H1 FY21	H1 FY20	%yoy
T&D	16,210	16,220	(0)	11,760	38	27,970	29,160	(4.1)
SAE	3,560	3,560	-	2,780	28	6,340	6,610	(4.1)
Cables	2,490	2,490	-	1,590	57	4,080	5,120	(20.3)
Railways	8,210	5,680	45	5,210	58	13,420	10,900	23.1
Solar	670	190	253	190	253	860	530	62.3
Civil/Water	2,120	520	308	1,030	106	3,150	1,170	169.2
Inter-segment	(680)	(570)	19	(492)	38	(1,172)	(1,280)	(8.4)
Total	32,580	28,090	16	22,068	48	54,648	52,210	4.7
Source: Company,	Anand Rathi	Research						

Fig 9 – Order bo	ook												
(Rs m)	Q3 FY18	Q4 FY18	Q1 FY19	Q2 FY19	Q3 FY19	Q4 FY19	Q1 FY20	Q2 FY20	Q3 FY20	Q4 FY20	Q1 FY21	Q2 FY21	%уоу
Transmission	108,032	103,788	109,146	120,810	129,730	119,811	119,801	105,327	106,753	100,465	100,378	105,381	0.1
SAE	17,148	19,028	18,373	20,135	20,592	20,307	13,311	10,417	13,427	10,252	7,873	5,855	(43.8)
Cables	3,430	3,460	2,547	4,027	4,118	4,061	3,803	3,617	4,182	4,101	3,936	3,903	7.9
Solar & Smart Infra	3,430	1,730	364	2,014	618	2,031	1,902	1,809	2,421	2,050	1,968	1,952	7.9
Railways	36,011	41,515	47,297	50,338	47,362	52,798	47,540	52,447	68,454	59,459	55,110	50,739	(3.3)
Civil/Water	3,430	3,460	4,184	4,027	4,118	4,061	3,803	7,234	24,872	26,654	27,555	27,321	277.7
Total	171,480	172,980	181,910	201,350	206,538	203,070	190,160	180,850	220,110	205,030	205,031	205,032	13.4
Source: Company, Ana.	nd Rathi Rese	earch											

Fig 10 - Order int	ake												
(Rs m)	Q3 FY18	Q4 FY18	Q1 FY19	Q2 FY19	Q3 FY19	Q4 FY19	Q1 FY20	Q2 FY20	Q3 FY20	Q4 FY20	Q1 FY21	Q2 FY21	%yoy
Transmission	25,769	24,307	13,932	36,039	24,041	13,308	5,129	5,037	23,090	11,790	13,517	18,791	273.1
SAE	1,511	2,668	330	6,809	4,391	1,146	1,450	1,591	-	4,630	966	1,218	(23.5)
Cables	2,718	1,529	2,034	4,312	2,878	635	3,680	3,711	3,070	2,560	2,317	1,612	(56.6)
Solar & Smart Infra	25,632	12,474	9,288	8,162	3,304	10,231	-	13,255	21,100	4,490	-	2,183	(83.5)
Railways	(236)	-	110	1,873	323	511	-	106	-	1,040	-	437	311.7
Civil/Water	1,647	9	2,116	1,453	1,043	2,430	892	2,916	18,800	3,140	2,510	109	(96.3)
Total	57,041	40,987	27,810	58,649	35,980	28,260	11,151	26,615	66,060	27,650	19,310	24,350	(8.5)
Source: Company, Anand	Rathi Researci	ከ											

Fig 11 – Cost structure												
Rs m	Q3 FY18	Q4 FY18	Q1 FY19	Q2 FY19	Q3 FY19	Q4 FY19	Q1 FY20	Q2 FY20	Q3 FY20	Q4 FY20	Q1 FY21	Q2 FY21
Sales	24,049	36,624	21,043	24,085	26,466	38,412	24,125	28,088	30,731	36,710	22,068	32,577
Material cost	11,720	21,093	10,123	12,063	12,585	19,326	11,157	13,903	14,388	16,468	10,253	15,205
Employee cost	1,916	2,208	2,034	2,068	2,111	2,109	2,217	2,747	3,014	3,067	2,525	2,704
Erection and sub contracting charges	5,663	6,797	5,140	5,095	6,418	10,481	5,717	5,538	7,035	9,977	5,000	8,349
Other expense	2,310	2,826	1,583	2,327	2,539	2,505	2,520	2,962	3,110	3,492	2,341	3,388
% of sales												
Material cost	48.7	57.6	48.1	50.1	47.6	50.3	46.2	49.5	46.8	44.9	46.5	46.7
Employee cost	8.0	6.0	9.7	8.6	8.0	5.5	9.2	9.8	9.8	8.4	11.4	8.3
Erection and sub contracting charges	23.5	18.6	24.4	21.2	24.2	27.3	23.7	19.7	22.9	27.2	22.7	25.6
Other expense	9.6	7.7	7.5	9.7	9.6	6.5	10.4	10.5	10.1	9.5	10.6	10.4
EBITDA margin	10.2	10.1	10.3	10.5	10.6	10.4	10.4	10.5	10.4	10.1	8.8	9.0
Source: Company, Anand Rathi Research												

Concall highlights

Margin guidance of 10%+ intact

The margin contracted 150bps y/y to 9% on the higher proportion of the non-T&D business, cost escalation in SAE due to depreciation in the Brazilian *real* and Covid-related expenses. In the long run, management continues to talk about 10%+ margins. It expects a double-digit margin from FY23 in its Civil business and hopes to achieve a double-digit margin in the Railways category in FY21.

Order inflow to be watched

The company booked orders of Rs43.7bn YTD FY21; the order backlog and its L1 position is over Rs230bn. The book in Sep'20 was Rs195bn. The T&D contribution to order intake was 79% (incl. SAE: 5%) and this division also has a strong L1 position. Further, the company expects robust order booking in H2 FY21. In terms of a tender pipeline, it has already quoted for orders of Rs300bn in the last three months and would be bidding for orders of another Rs250bn in the next two months.

Internationally, Africa, the Middle East and SAARC are seeing traction in ordering. In the Middle East, orders of Rs100bn-120bn are in the bidding process, expected to close in Q3 FY21. Decent SEB activity can be seen from states like Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, West Bengal, Odisha and Rajasthan. Awarding from PGCIL to EPC operators can be expected by Dec'20 and from private operators by Jan'21. Despite order rollouts being robust, awarding is slightly slow. Four L1 orders in SAE are being negotiated and should be concluded by Q3 or Q4 FY21. These orders are executable from Q1 FY22.

Non-T&D business revenue contribution inched up

The non-T&D business accounted for 41% of Q2 revenue, against 32% a year ago. This figure is expected to climb to 45-46% in FY21. The Railways accounted for 25% of revenue, followed by cables (7.6%) and civil (6.5%). The balance arose from solar and "smart" infra.

Diversification in the railways division

The Railways' Q2 revenue was up 45% to Rs8.2bn, driven by various execution initiatives by KEC in terms of automation and mechanisation. These improved productivity at sites by 2-3x. Management expects Rs35bn revenue in FY21 and hopes for a double-digit margin. The lower Q2 Railways margin was due to the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown.

The company is looking to diversify itself from overhead electrification to other areas of the Railways business such as civil works and metro-rail (OHE and civil: track laying, power supply, etc.). The shift in focus has led to revenue from non-OHE orders rising to two-thirds of the Railways order book. The Railways order inflow in Q2 was Rs1.2bn and its order book was Rs50.7bn in Sep'20.

Civil business expected to pick up significantly

The civil business is also quickly ramping up, with revenue up ~4x to Rs2.1bn in Q2. Driven by significant order wins, its contribution to the order book has climbed to 14% in the last nine months compared to sub-5% before Q2 FY20. Management said that this business is likely to clock Rs14-15bn revenue in FY21. It expects margins in the Civil category to touch double-digits by end-FY22. The order book ahead is expected to

grow robustly. It sees traction from metro civil, water pipeline, warehouses, data centres, industrials (hydrocarbons, auto, cement, chemicals), hospitals and airports. In Q2 it bagged orders in flue-gas de-sulfurization (FGD) and warehousing.

With efficient working-capital management, lower interest cost

Net debt on Sep'20 was Rs24.3bn, within its targeted range of Rs25bn. Interest cost as percent of sales was down to 2.1%, an 80bp reduction y/y. This cost is expected to be below 2% in coming quarters. Rs25bn debt is expected for the next 2-3 years; however, interest cost would come down on account of efficient working-capital management.

The company aims targets to bring down NWC days from 132 to 100-110. Forex gain in Q2 was Rs40m-50m as foreign-currency debt constitutes 60% of borrowings (the rest is rupee debt). The company is switching back to Indian rupee loans due to lower interest rates.

Collections: No headwinds faced

The company is not facing any headwinds in collections from customers and has collected payment from the Railways and private clients in the civil segment. Collections in the Mid-East are also normal.

Other key highlights

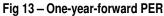
- Execution in Q2 was better on account of more labour available and greater productivity due to mechanisation, automation and digitisation.
- The tower plant in Dubai has been commissioned.
- The withdrawal of MEIS by the government had a minor impact of Rs50m-100m in Q2, expected to be Rs100m-150m in Q3 FY21.

Valuation

With its strong order book and healthy L1 position, KEC's revenue assurance is sound. With increasing traction from the Railways and its civil businesses, its prospects are indeed promising. However, the pace of execution and of order inflows would be key points to monitor. The stock trades at 16x, 13x and 11x respective FY21e, FY22e and FY23e. We maintain our Buy rating, with a TP of Rs398 (13x FY23e earnings).

	Fig	12	-	Ch	ang	ge	in	estimates
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	Old				New	Change %			
	FY21	FY22e	FY23e	FY21	FY2e	FY23e	FY21	FY2e	FY23e
Revenue	115,580	133,610	149,618	121,738	135,616	149,618	5.3	1.5	0.0
EBITDA	11,502	13,588	15,262	11,856	13,810	15,262	3.1	1.6	0.0
EPS (Rs)	20.6	26.1	30.6	21.7	26.7	30.6	5.5	2.4	0.0
Source: Ana	Source: Anand Bathi Research								





Source: Company, Anand Rathi Research

Key risks

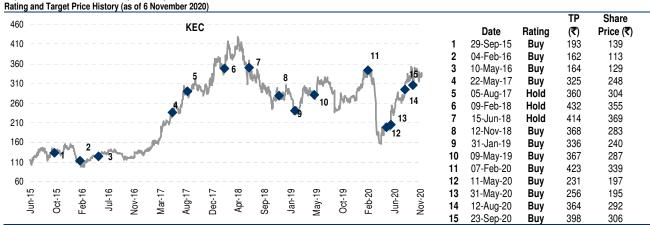
- Slowdown in orders awarded.
- Slower pace of execution.

Appendix

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Ratings Guide (12 months)				
	Buy	Hold	Sell	
Large Caps (>US\$1bn)	>15%	5-15%	<5%	
Mid/Small Caps (<us\$1bn)< td=""><td>>25%</td><td>5-25%</td><td><5%</td><td></td></us\$1bn)<>	>25%	5-25%	<5%	

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