Sterling Tools





Strong operating performance

- STRT reported strong operating performance in Q3FY21. Net revenue grew 31% YoY to Rs 1.1bn, led by recovery in demand across OEM segments. EBITDA was Rs 232mn (+67% YoY) with expanded margin (449bps YoY to 20.9%) due to a favorable product mix (increasing mix of CVs, cost control measures partly offset by higher RM prices.
- We expect margin to taper off in coming quarter due to sharp increase RM prices.
- STRT's addition of Hyundai to its new customer list will lead to incremental revenues from FY22. This along with its long-term relationships with top OEMs, such as Maruti Suzuki, Tata, HMSI, Hero MotoCorp, M&M, Ashok Leyland, Fiat, and Daimler, we expect STRT to emerge as the key beneficiary upturn in Automotive volume (STL's topsix accounts contribute nearly 65% to the total revenue.
- In addition, increasing contribution CVs (high margin business) and special fasteners is likely to boost revenue and profitability in the medium term.
- Overall utilization stands at an optimum level of 75-80% with a strong order book across segments. The benefit of operating leverage and cost control measures will be partially offset by increase in RM prices (+14% QoQ). STRT's key raw material is mild steel wire coil/rod ranging between 5mm to 25mm diameter.
- In absence of any material capex requirement, we expect the company to generate strong FCF ahead (Rs 1.49bn over FY21-23)
- At the CMP, the stock is trading at 16x FY23E EPS. We recommend Buy rating, with TP of Rs 274 (based on 20x FY23E EPS)

Recovery in CVs is key positive

Recovery in CVs volume is positive for revenue as well as margin. Moreover, quicker volume revival in key customers, such as Maruti and HMSI is aiding revenue. In FY20, STRT incurred capex of Rs 500mn for expansion at the Bengaluru manufacturing facility, increasing capacity by 10-12,000MT (current utilization at ~50%) which will help cater to any incremental demand. With all major capex behind, company to incur only maintenance capex of ~Rs 50mn in FY21.

Q3FY21 Result (Rs Mn)

Particulars	Q3FY21	Q3FY20	YoY (%)	Q2FY21	QoQ (%)
Revenue	1,111	849	30.9	952	16.7
Total Expense	878	709	23.8	726	20.9
EBITDA	232	139	66.7	226	2.9
Depreciation	67	65	3.8	65	2.7
EBIT	165	75	121.3	160	2.9
Other Income	14	14	(5.0)	14	(1.1)
Interest	19	18	4.5	20	(5.5)
EBT	160	71	125.1	154	3.7
Tax	38	22	75.2	39	(2.3)
RPAT	122	49	147.3	115	5.7
APAT	122	49	147.3	115	5.7
			(bps)		(bps)
Gross Margin (%)	65.6	62.7	291	67.6	(197)
EBITDA Margin (%)	20.9	16.4	449	23.7	(280)
NPM (%)	11.0	5.8	516	12.1	(114)
Tax Rate (%)	24.0	30.8	(682)	25.4	(147)
EBIT Margin (%)	14.9	8.8	608	16.8	(198)

СМР	Rs 221				
Target / Upside		Rs 274 / 24%			
NIFTY		1	4,982		
Scrip Details					
Equity / FV	Rs 72mn / Rs 2				
Market Cap	Rs 8bn				
	USD 110mn				
52-week High/Low	Rs 232/ 110				
Avg. Volume (no)	39,967				
Bloom Code	STRT IN				
Price Performance	1M 3M 12M				
Absolute (%)	9	14	1		
Rel to NIFTY (%)	5	(2)	(23)		

Shareholding Pattern

	Jun'20	Sep'20	Dec'20
Promoters	65.8	65.8	65.8
MF/Banks/FIs	8.2	8.2	8.2
FIIs	5.3	0.0	0.0
Public / Others	20.8	26.1	26.1

Valuation (x)

	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
P/E	33.5	20.5	16.1
EV/EBITDA	13.8	10.1	8.1
ROE (%)	7.5	11.4	13.2
RoACE (%)	7.5	10.4	11.9

Estimates (Rs mn)

	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
Revenue	3,336	4,185	4,820
EBITDA	592	785	923
PAT	237	388	494
EPS (Rs.)	6.6	10.8	13.7

Analyst: Abhishek Jain Tel: +9122 40969739 E-mail: abhishekj@dolatcapital.com

Associate: Ketul Dalal Tel: +91 22 4096 9770

E-mail: ketuld@dolatcapital.com



Strategic partnerships to help boost margins and profitability

The technological tie up with Medio (Japan), should help STRT make further inroads in the critical fasteners segment. The company is already in the product approval stage with clients such as MSIL, Nissan, Toyota and the production is delayed slightly due to Covid-19 impact. The management also plans to expand inorganically, primarily in automotive non-fasteners products.

STRT has signed a JV agreement with Jiangsu Gtake Electric Company Limited, a company based in China, to manufacture MCU's in India to cater to the Indian OEMs/market which is currently in the R&D phase. The board has approved investment of Rs 100mn in Gtake Electric company in one or more tranches. However, China's share of Rs 50mn is currently not received because of the changed FDI guidelines issued by Government of India requiring approval of DPIIT which is expected to be resolved by Q1FY22.

Exhibit 1: Actual vs DART Estimates

Particulars (Rs mn)	Actual	DART Est	Var (%)	Comments
Revenue	1,111	990	12	Recovery in 2W and PV segments
EBIDTA	232	212	10	RM cost inflation
EBIDTA Margin (%)	20.9	21.4	(50)bps	
APAT	122	112	8	

Source: DART, Company

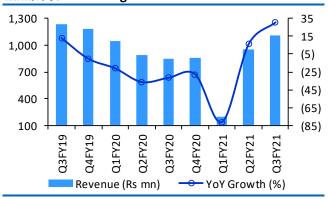
Exhibit 2: Change in Estimates

Particulars (Rs mn)		FY22E			FY23E	
	New	Previous	Chg (%)	New	Previous	Chg (%)
Revenue	4,185	3,801	10.1	4,820	4,885	(1.3)
EBITDA	785	655	19.9	923	884	4.5
EBITDA Margin (%)	18.8	17.2	153bps	19.1	18.1	106bps
PAT	388	303	27.9	494	479	3.1
EPS (Rs)	10.8	8.4	27.9	13.7	13.3	3.1

Source: DART, Company

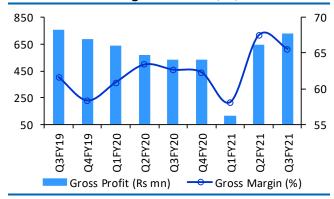


Exhibit 3: Revenue grew 31% YoY



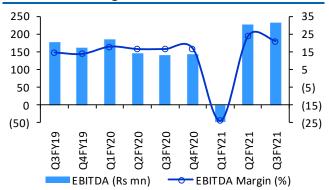
Source: DART, Company

Exhibit 4: Gross Margin declined QoQ



Source: DART, Company

Exhibit 5: EBITDA grew YoY



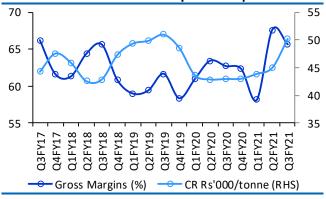
Source: DART, Company

Exhibit 6: P/E Band



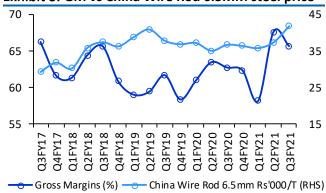
Source: DART, Company

Exhibit 7: Adverse relationship with CR prices



Source: DART, Company

Exhibit 8: GM vs China Wire Rod 6.5MM steel price



Source: DART, Company



(Rs Mn)	FY20A	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
Revenue	3,642	3,336	4,185	4,820
Total Expense	3,029	2,744	3,400	3,897
COGS	1,374	1,168	1,548	1,735
Employees Cost	363	359	395	427
Other expenses	1,292	1,218	1,456	1,735
EBIDTA	614	592	785	923
Depreciation	242	263	272	281
EBIT	372	329	513	642
Interest	63	70	59	51
Other Income	61	58	63	68
Exc. / E.O. items	(33)	0	0	0
EBT	337	317	517	659
Tax	47	79	129	165
RPAT	290	237	388	494
Minority Interest	0	0	0	0
Profit/Loss share of associates	0	0	0	0
APAT	323	237	388	494
Balance Sheet				
(Rs Mn)	FY20A	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
Sources of Funds				
Equity Capital	72	72	72	72
Minority Interest	0	0	0	0
Reserves & Surplus	3,015	3,168	3,471	3,881
Net Worth	3,087	3,240	3,543	3,953
Total Debt	699	799	699	599
Net Deferred Tax Liability	165	165	165	165
Total Capital Employed	3,951	4,204	4,407	4,717
Applications of Funds				
Net Block	2,534	2,471	2,349	2,219
CWIP	6	50	100	100
Investments	336	336	336	336
Current Assets, Loans & Advances	1,578	1,801	2,090	2,571
Inventories	594	530	631	726
Receivables	281	274	344	396
Cash and Bank Balances	108	603	724	1,059
Loans and Advances	46	44	42	39
Other Current Assets	549	350	350	350
Less: Current Liabilities & Provisions	504	454	468	509
Payables	309	283	355	409
Other Current Liabilities	194	171	113	100
sub total				
Net Current Assets	1,075	1,347	1,622	2,062
Total Assets	3,951	4,204	4,407	4,717

E – Estimates



Important Ratios Particulars	FY20A	FV21F	EVANE	FY23E
	FTZUA	FY21E	FY22E	F1230
(A) Margins (%)	62.2	CE O	62.0	C A C
Gross Profit Margin	62.3	65.0	63.0	64.0
EBIDTA Margin	16.9	17.7	18.8	19.1
EBIT Margin	10.2	9.9	12.3	13.3
Tax rate	13.8	25.0	25.0	25.0
Net Profit Margin	8.0	7.1	9.3	10.3
(B) As Percentage of Net Sales (%)				
COGS	37.7	35.0	37.0	36.0
Employee	10.0	10.8	9.4	8.9
Other	35.5	36.5	34.8	36.0
(C) Measure of Financial Status				
Gross Debt / Equity	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Interest Coverage	5.9	4.7	8.6	12.6
Inventory days	60	58	55	55
Debtors days	28	30	30	30
Average Cost of Debt	7.2	9.4	7.9	7.8
Payable days	31	31	31	31
Working Capital days	108	147	141	156
FA T/O	1.4	1.4	1.8	2.2
(D) Measures of Investment				
AEPS (Rs)	9.0	6.6	10.8	13.7
CEPS (Rs)	15.7	13.9	18.3	21.5
DPS (Rs)	0.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Dividend Payout (%)	0.0	30.3	18.6	14.6
BVPS (Rs)	85.7	89.9	98.4	109.7
RoANW (%)	9.8	7.5	11.4	13.2
RoACE (%)	9.7	7.5	10.4	11.9
RoAIC (%)	9.5	8.8	14.1	17.5
(E) Valuation Ratios				
CMP (Rs)	221	221	221	221
P/E	24.6	33.5	20.5	16.1
Mcap (Rs Mn)	7,961	7,961	7,961	7,961
MCap/ Sales	2.2	2.4	1.9	1.7
EV	8,553	8,158	7,936	7,501
EV/Sales	2.3	2.4	1.9	1.6
EV/EBITDA	13.9	13.8	10.1	8.1
P/BV	2.6	2.5	2.2	2.0
Dividend Yield (%)	0.0	0.9	0.9	0.9
(F) Growth Rate (%)				
Revenue	(28.9)	(8.4)	25.5	15.2
EBITDA	(28.6)	(3.6)	32.7	17.6
EBIT	(44.4)	(11.5)	56.1	25.1
PBT	(51.6)	(6.1)	63.2	27.5
APAT	(27.9)	(26.6)	63.2	27.5
EPS	(27.9)	(26.6)	63.2	27.5
	(=:::)	(===)		
Cash Flow				
(Rs Mn)	FY20A	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
CFO	518	793	565	721
CFI	(20)	(244)	(200)	(150)
CFF	(429)	(55)	(244)	(235)
FCFF	21	550	365	571
Opening Cash	39	108	603	724
Closing Cash	108	603	724	1,059



DART RATING MATRIX

Total Return Expectation (12 Months)

Buy	> 20%
Accumulate	10 to 20%
Reduce	0 to 10%
Sell	< 0%

Rating and Target Price History



Month	Rating	TP (Rs.)	Price (Rs.)
Mar-20	Buy	204	141
Mar-20	Buy	204	127
Apr-20	Buy	188	126
Jun-20	Buy	200	167
Aug-20	Accumulate	210	180
Sep-20	Accumulate	210	181
Nov-20	Buy	240	172

^{*}Price as on recommendation date

DART Team

Purvag Shah	Managing Director	purvag@dolatcapital.com	+9122 4096 9747		
Amit Khurana, CFA	Head of Equities	amit@dolatcapital.com	+9122 4096 9745		
CONTACT DETAILS					
Equity Sales	Designation	E-mail	Direct Lines		
Dinesh Bajaj	VP - Equity Sales	dineshb@dolatcapital.com	+9122 4096 9709		
Kapil Yadav	VP - Equity Sales	kapil@dolatcapital.com	+9122 4096 9735		
Yomika Agarwal	VP - Equity Sales	yomika@dolatcapital.com	+9122 4096 9772		
Jubbin Shah	VP - Derivatives Sales	jubbins@dolatcapital.com	+9122 4096 9779		
Ashwani Kandoi	AVP - Equity Sales	ashwanik@dolatcapital.com	+9122 4096 9725		
Lekha Nahar	AVP - Equity Sales	lekhan@dolatcapital.com	+9122 4096 9740		
Equity Trading	Designation	E-mail			
P. Sridhar	SVP and Head of Sales Trading	sridhar@dolatcapital.com	+9122 4096 9728		
Chandrakant Ware	VP - Sales Trading	chandrakant@dolatcapital.com	+9122 4096 9707		
Shirish Thakkar	VP - Head Domestic Derivatives Sales Trading	shirisht@dolatcapital.com	+9122 4096 9702		
Kartik Mehta	Asia Head Derivatives	kartikm@dolatcapital.com	+9122 4096 9715		
Dinesh Mehta	Co- Head Asia Derivatives	dinesh.mehta@dolatcapital.com	+9122 4096 9765		
Bhavin Mehta	VP - Derivatives Strategist	bhavinm@dolatcapital.com	+9122 4096 9705		



Analyst(s) Certification

The research analyst(s), with respect to each issuer and its securities covered by them in this research report, certify that: All of the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect his or her or their personal views about all of the issuers and their securities; and No part of his or her or their compensation was, is, or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific recommendations or views expressed in this research report.

I. Analyst(s) and Associate (S) holding in the Stock(s): (Nil)

II. Disclaimer:

This research report has been prepared by Dolat Capital Market Private Limited. to provide information about the company(ies) and sector(s), if any, covered in the report and may be distributed by it and/or its affiliated company(ies) solely for the purpose of information of the select recipient of this report. This report and/or any part thereof, may not be duplicated in any form and/or reproduced or redistributed without the prior written consent of Dolat Capital Market Private Limited. This report has been prepared independent of the companies covered herein. Dolat Capital Market Private Limited. and its affiliated companies are part of a multi-service, integrated investment banking, brokerage and financing group. Dolat Capital Market Private Limited. and/or its affiliated company(ies) might have provided or may provide services in respect of managing offerings of securities, corporate finance, investment banking, mergers & acquisitions, financing or any other advisory services to the company(ies) covered herein. Dolat Capital Market Private Limited. and/or its affiliated company(ies) might have received or may receive compensation from the company(ies) mentioned in this report for rendering any of the above services. Research analysts and sales persons of Dolat Capital Market Private Limited. may provide important inputs to its affiliated company(ies) associated with it. While reasonable care has been taken in the preparation of this report, it does not purport to be a complete description of the securities, markets or developments referred to herein, and Dolat Capital Market Private Limited. does not warrant its accuracy or completeness. Dolat Capital Market Private Limited. may not be in any way responsible for any loss or damage that may arise to any person from any inadvertent error in the information contained in this report. This report is provided for information only and is not an investment advice and must not alone be taken as the basis for an investment decision. The investment discussed or views expressed herein may not be suitable for all investors. The user assumes the entire risk of any use made of this information. The information contained herein may be changed without notice and Dolat Capital Market Private Limited. reserves the right to make modifications and alterations to this statement as they may deem fit from time to time. Dolat Capital Market Private Limited. and its affiliated company(ies), their directors and employees may; (a) from time to time, have a long or short position in, and buy or sell the securities of the company(ies) mentioned herein or (b) be engaged in any other transaction involving such securities and earn brokerage or other compensation or act as a market maker in the financial instruments of the company(ies) discussed herein or act as an advisor or lender/borrower to such company(ies) or may have any other potential conflict of interests with respect to any recommendation and other related information and opinions. This report is neither an offer nor solicitation of an offer to buy and/or sell any securities mentioned herein and/or not an official confirmation of any transaction. This report is not directed or intended for distribution to, or use by any person or entity who is a citizen or resident of or located in any locality, state, country or other jurisdiction, where such distribution, publication, availability or use would be contrary to law, regulation or which would subject Dolat Capital Market Private Limited. and/or its affiliated company(ies) to any registration or licensing requirement within such jurisdiction. The securities described herein may or may not be eligible for sale in all jurisdictions or to a certain category of investors. Persons in whose possession this report may come, are required to inform themselves of and to observe such restrictions.

For U.S. Entity/ persons only: This research report is a product of Dolat Capital Market Private Limited., which is the employer of the research analyst(s) who has prepared the research report. The research analyst(s) preparing the research report is/are resident outside the United States (U.S.) and are not associated persons of any U.S. regulated broker-dealer and therefore the analyst(s) is/are not subject to supervision by a U.S. broker-dealer, and is/are not required to satisfy the regulatory licensing requirements of FINRA or required to otherwise comply with U.S. rules or regulations regarding, among other things, communications with a subject company, public appearances and trading securities held by a research analyst account.

This report is intended for distribution by Dolat Capital Market Private Limited. only to "Major Institutional Investors" as defined by Rule 15a-6(b)(4) of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Act, 1934 (the Exchange Act) and interpretations thereof by U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in reliance on Rule 15a 6(a)(2). If the recipient of this report is not a Major Institutional Investor as specified above, then it should not act upon this report and return the same to the sender. Further, this report may not be copied, duplicated and/or transmitted onward to any U.S. person or entity.

In reliance on the exemption from registration provided by Rule 15a-6 of the Exchange Act and interpretations thereof by the SEC in order to conduct certain business with Major Institutional Investors, Dolat Capital Market Private Limited. has entered into an agreement with a U.S. registered broker-dealer Ltd StoneX Financial Inc.("StoneX"). Transactions in securities discussed in this research report should be effected through StoneX Financial Inc.("StoneX") or another U.S. registered broker dealer/Entity as informed by Dolat Capital Market Private Limited. from time to time.



Dolat Capital Market Private Limited.

Corporate Identity Number: U65990DD1993PTC009797

Member: BSE Limited and National Stock Exchange of India Limited.

SEBI Registration No: BSE - INZ000274132, NSE - INZ000274132, Research: INH000000685

Registered office: Office No. 141, Centre Point, Somnath, Daman – 396 210, Daman & Diu

Board: +9122 40969700 | Fax: +9122 22651278 | Email: research@dolatcapital.com | www.dolatresearch.com