Strong Recovery; Improved Vertical Outlook

Est. Vs. Actual for Q1FY24: Revenue – MISS; EBITDA Margin – MISS; PAT – INLINE : Deal Wins – INLINE

Changes in Estimates post Q1FY24

FY24E/FY25E: Revenue: 1%/2%; EBITDA: 0.5%/0.5%; PAT: 1%/2%

Recommendation Rationale

- The improved outlook for the vertical business and deepened collaboration with customers strengthen our confidence in the company's growth prospects in the coming quarters.
- TCV of \$193.2 Mn in Q1FY24 indicates stable order intake even in challenging times.
- Management is confident of achieving demand momentum and margin improvement in the medium term, as the company has received numerous orders in recent quarters

Sector Outlook: Cautiously positive

Company Outlook & Guidance: Cyient has given revenue growth guidance of 15-20% in FY24 (in constant currency terms). This will be aided by robust client additions. Moreover, the company's EBIT margins are to improve by 150-250bps in FY24.

Current Valuation: 20x FY25E P/E: Earlier Valuation: 16x FY24E

Current TP: 1,610/share (Earlier TP: Rs 1,260/share)

Recommendation: With strong growth potential backed by robust deal wins and superior execution capabilities, we **maintain** our **BUY** recommendation on the stock.

Financial Performance

In Q1FY24, Cyient reported revenue of Rs 1,69 Cr, up -4% QoQ and 35% YoY. The company's operating margins improved by 283bps QoQ to 14.2%. The Services' operating margins grew by 60bps QoQ to 15.3%, led by efficient execution during the quarter as well as currency translation. The company's net profit for Q1FY24 stood at Rs 177 Cr, registering a growth of 52% YoY. The management expects overall revenue growth in FY24 in the range of 15%-20%, which if materializes, would be indeed strong given the prevailing challenging times. The said growth would be driven by Communications growth (led by Network Transformation), E&U (benefiting from the IG partner's acquisition), and Transportation growth (led by the Rail segment). The deal pipeline continues to look healthy at \$192 Mn.

Outlook

From the long-term perspective, we believe Cyient is a better ER&D player with an improved outlook and better deal wins. The recent recovery is long-term and sustainable over two to three years perspective. However, rising concern over uncertainties from the large economies and supply-side constraints may create uncertainties over the growth prospects of the company.

Valuation & Recommendation

We recommend a **BUY** rating on the stock and assign a 16x P/E multiple to its FY25E earnings of Rs 81.8/share to arrive at a TP of Rs 1,610/share, implying an upside of 10% from the CMP.

Key Financials (Consolidated)

(Rs Cr)	Q3FY23	QoQ (%)	YoY (%)	Axis Est.	Variance
Net Sales	1,687	-4%	37%	1612	5%
EBITDA	315	22%	31%	195	62%
EBITDA Margin	19%	70 bps	(156) bps	12.10%	480 bps
Net Profit	177	0%	18%	120	47%
EPS (Rs)	15.40	0%	18%	11	40%

Source: Company, Axis Research

	(CMP as of 25 July 2023)
CMP (Rs)	1,466
Upside /Downside (%)	10%
High/Low (Rs)	1,553/724
Market cap (Cr)	16,220
Avg. daily vol. (6m)Shrs.	1,01,970
No. of shares (Cr)	11.04

Shareholding (%)

	Mar-22	Jun-22	Sep-22
Promoter	23.4	23.4	23.0
FIIs	34.0	32.7	32.6
MFs / UTI	22.0	22.5	22.5
Banks / Fls	0.0	0.0	0.0
Others	20.6	21.4	21.9

Financial & Valuations

Y/E Mar (Rs Cr)	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Net Sales	5,417	6,230	7,164
EBITDA	728	835	990
Net Profit	593	673	789
EPS (Rs)	52.7	59.8	70.1
PER (x)	22.0	19.4	16.5
P/BV (x)	14.6	13.1	11.4
EV/EBITDA (x)	3.6	3.1	2.7
ROE (%)	16%	16%	16%

Change in Estimates (%)

Y/E Mar	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Sales	5,417	1%	2%
EBITDA	728	1%	1%
PAT	593	1%	2%

ESG disclosure Score**

Environmental Disclosure	N.A.
Social Disclosure Score	N.A.
Governance Disclosure Score	N.A.
Total ESG Disclosure Score	N.A.
Sector Average	N.A.

Source: Bloomberg, Scale: 0.1-100

**Note: This score measures the amount of ESG data a company reports publicly and does not measure the company's performance on any data point. All scores are based on 2020 disclosures

Relative performance



Source: ACE Equity, Axis Securities

Omkar Tanksale

Research Analyst

Email:omkar.tanksale@axissecurities.in



Recommendation Rationale & Key Highlights

- Demand strength to continue in the medium term: The US is relatively better placed; the UK is seeing higher
 cost optimization deals (with faster decision-making) while the Europe market is impacted in the short term. As the
 macro environment stabilizes, the company expects a pick-up in decision-making.
- Broad-based vertical growth: On the vertical front, new growth areas showed a de-growth of 6.5% while
 Communication de-grew by 2.4% QoQ. The Transportation vertical, however, delivered a growth of 3.2% QoQ and
 the Sustainability vertical grew by 4.5% QoQ. On a positive note, the majority of the verticals are likely to witness
 recovery moving forward, supported by a strong deal pipeline in the forthcoming quarters.
- Better DET performance: Cyient Digital, Engineering & Technology (DET) business includes the erstwhile Services business (core services and acquisitions) and a small portion of the Engineering Parts business which was earlier classified under DLM. DET revenue at \$177.1 Mn, growth of 0.3% QoQ and 30.6% YoY in constant currency, driven by growth across the Transportation, Sustainability and Automotive BU's. The normalized Group EBIT margins, at 14.7%, are higher by 322 bps YoY.

Key Risks to our Estimates and TP

- The demand environment is uncertain due to the potential threat of recession from the world's largest economies.
- The rising subcontracting cost and cross-currency headwinds may impact operating margins negatively.



Results Review (Rs Cr)

In Cr	Q1FY24	Q4FY23	Q1FY23	% change (YoY)	% change (QoQ)
Total Revenue	1,687	1,751	1,250	35%	-4%
Total Cost of Sales	1,070	1,086	790		
Gross Profit	617	666	460	34%	-7%
Margin(%)	37%	38%	37%	-21	-143
Selling and marketing Expenses	53	56	40		
G&A expenses	249	288	225		
Total Operating Expenses	302	344	265		
EBITDA	315	322	195	62%	-2%
Margin(%)	19%	18%	16%	29	283
Depreciation	68	73	51		
Operating Income	248	250	144	73%	-1%
Margin(%)	15%	14%	11%	320	43
Total Other Income/(Expense)	10	1	34		
Income Before Income Taxes	230	224	160		
Total Taxes	53	48	44		
ETR (%)	23%	21%	27%	-452	155
Net Profit After Taxes	177	176	116	52%	0%
Non Controlling Interest	0	0	0		
Net Income After Extraordinary Items	177	176	116	52%	0%
Margin(%)	7%	7%	16%	-920	-
EPS	15.40	14.90	10.60	45%	3%

Source: Company, Axis Securities



Financials (consolidated)

Profit & Loss (Rs Cr)

Y/E March	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Net sales	4,534	6,016	7,039	8,235
Employee Expense	2,991	3,850	4,540	5,312
Contribution (%)	6%	6%	6%	6%
Changes in inventory & WIP	188	241	282	329
As % sales	0%	0%	0%	0%
Other Expenses	707	902	1,056	1,235
Operating Profit	630	768	969	1,166
Other income	112	81	85	85
PBIDT	698	1,024	1,161	1,359
Depreciation	176	193	193	193
Interest & Fin Chg.	43	23	23	23
Pre-tax profit	693	827	1,031	1,229
Tax provision	180	203	258	307
PAT	698	565	774	922
(-) Minority Interests	0	0	0	0
Associates	0	0	0	0
Other Comprehensive Income	0	0	0	0
Adjusted PAT	698	565	774	922
Reported PAT	698	565	774	922

Source: Company, Axis Securities

Balance Sheet (Rs Cr)

Y/E March	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Equity capital	55	55	55	55
Reserves & Surplus	3,029	3,542	4,107	4,880
Net worth	3,084	3,597	4,162	4,935
Total debt	573	607	644	683
Deferred tax liability	35	35	35	35
Total Liabilities & Equity	4,829	5,540	6,281	7,254
Net block	1208	1389	1598	1837
Capital WIP	35	35	35	35
Goodwill	618	711	817	940
Total fixed assets	2171	2475	2823	3222
Other Fixed Assets	229	257	288	322
Total non current Assets	2,171	2,475	2,823	3,222
Debtors	839	1071	1253	1467
Cash & bank	1624	1752	1925	2243
Other Current Assets	0	0	0	0
Total Current Assets	2,658	3,065	3,458	4,032
Creditors	25	25	25	25
Provisions	300	300	300	300
Current Liab. & Prov.	2,658	3,065	3,458	4,032
Total Assets	4,829	5,540	6,281	7,254

Source: Company, Axis Securities



Cash Flow (Rs Cr)

Y/E March	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
PBT	693	827	1,031	1,229
Add: Depreciation	193	193	193	193
Other Adjustments	24	23	23	23
Chg in working capital	(262)	(523)	(473)	(670)
CF from operations	660	533	789	789
Change in fixed assets	(238)	(274)	(315)	(362)
Purchase of investment	(2)	(2)	(2)	(3)
Other Adjustments	59	59	59	59
CF from Investing acti.	(206)	(244)	(289)	(340)
Chg in debt	(67)	(69)	(72)	(74)
Chg in Equity capital	(24)	(23)	(23)	(23)
Dividend & dividend tax	150	150	150	150
Interest paid	(24)	(23)	(23)	(23)
Other Adjustments	150	150	150	150
CF from financing acti.	130	129	127	124
Chg in cash	585	418	626	573
Opening cash	1,545	2,129	2,547	3,174
Closing cash	2,129	2,547	3,174	3,747

Source: Company, Axis Securities

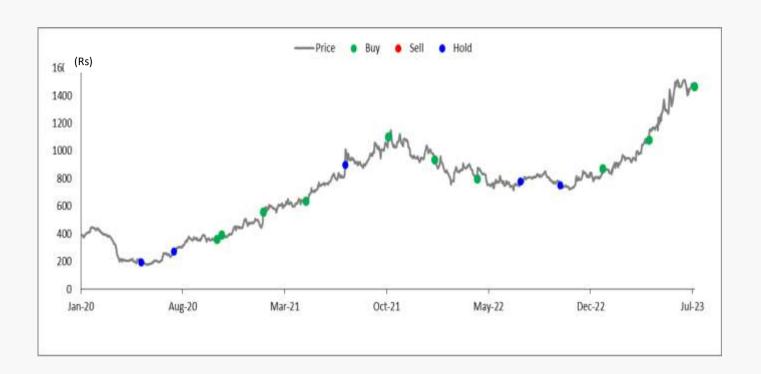
Ratio Analysis (%)

Y/E March	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Fully diluted EPS	45.6	51.1	68.7	81.8
Book Value	273.8	319.4	369.6	438.3
Cash per share	144.2	155.6	171.0	199.2
Valuation Ratio				
P/E	25.4	22.7	16.9	14.1
P/BV	4.2	3.6	3.1	2.6
EV/EBITDA	16.3	13.1	11.6	9.9
EV/Sales	2.85	2.23	1.91	1.63
Growth Ratios				
Sales Growth	14%	28%	17%	17%
EBITDA Growth	17%	24%	13%	17%
Net Profit Growth	40%	10%	37%	19%
EPS Growth	35%	12%	35%	19%
Common Size Ratios				
EBITDA Margin	18%	17%	17%	17%
EBIT margin	15%	14%	15%	15%
PAT margin	11%	9%	11%	11%
Employee cost	64%	64%	65%	65%
Return ratios				
RoNW	17%	16%	19%	19%
RoCE	20%	20%	22%	22%
Turnover ratios (days)				
Debtors (Days)	65	65	65	65
Creditors (Days)	36	36	36	36
Inventory (Days)	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2
Solvency Ratios				
Total Debt/Equity	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1

Source: Company, Axis Securities



Cyient Price Chart and Recommendation History



Date	Reco	TP	Research
08-May-20	Hold	240	Result Update
17-Jul-20	Hold	306	Result Update
16-Oct-20	BUY	440	Result Update
26-Oct-20	BUY	480	Pick of the week
22-Jan-21	BUY	623	Result Update
23-Apr-21	BUY	800	Result Update
16-Jul-21	Hold	1,030	Result Update
18-Oct-21	BUY	1,300	Result Update
21-Jan-22	BUY	1,100	Result Update
22-Apr-22	BUY	1,000	Result Update
22-Jul-22	HOLD	830	Result Update
14-Oct-22	HOLD	830	Result Update
13-Jan-23	BUY	1,050	Result Update
21-Apr-23	BUY	1,260	Result Update
26-Jul-23	BUY	1,610	Result Update

Source: Axis Securities



About the analyst



OmkarTanksale

Research Analyst

omkar.tanksale@axissecurities.in

Call: (022) 4267 1737

Disclosures:

The following Disclosures are being made in compliance with the SEBI Research Analyst Regulations 2014 (herein after referred to as the Regulations).

- 1. Axis Securities Ltd. (ASL) is a SEBI Registered Research Analyst having registration no. INH000000297. ASL, the Research Entity (RE) as defined in the Regulations, is engaged in the business of providing Stock broking services, Depository participant services & distribution of various financial products. ASL is a subsidiary company of Axis Bank Ltd. Axis Bank Ltd. is a listed public company and one of India's largest private sector bank and has its various subsidiaries engaged in businesses of Asset management, NBFC, Merchant Banking, Trusteeship, Venture Capital, Stock Broking, the details in respect of which are available on www.axisbank.com.
- 2. ASL is registered with the Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for its stock broking & Depository participant business activities and with the Association of Mutual Funds of India (AMFI) for distribution of financial products and also registered with IRDA as a corporate agent for insurance business activity.
- 3. ASL has no material adverse disciplinary history as on the date of publication of this report.
- 4. I/We, Omkar Tanksale, MBA-Finance, author/s and the name/s subscribed to this report, hereby certify that all of the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect my/our views about the subject issuer(s) or securities. I/We (Research Analyst) also certify that no part of my/our compensation was, is, or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific recommendation(s) or view(s) in this report. I/we or my/our relative or ASL does not have any financial interest in the subject company. Also I/we or my/our relative or ASL or its Associates may have beneficial ownership of 1% or more in the subject company at the end of the month immediately preceding the date of publication of the Research Report. Since associates of ASL are engaged in various financial service businesses, they might have financial interests or beneficial ownership in various companies including the subject company/companies mentioned in this report. I/we or my/our relative or ASL or its associate does not have any material conflict of interest. I/we have not served as director / officer, employee etc. in the subject company in the last 12-month period. Any holding in stock No
- 5. ASL has not received any compensation from the subject company in the past twelve months. ASL has not been engaged in market making activity for the subject company.
- 6. In the last 12-month period ending on the last day of the month immediately preceding the date of publication of this research report, ASL or any of its associates may have:

Received compensation for investment banking, merchant banking or stock broking services or for any other services from the subject company of this research report and / or:

Managed or co-managed public offering of the securities from the subject company of this research report and / or;

Received compensation for products or services other than investment banking, merchant banking or stock broking services from the subject company of this research

ASL or any of its associates have not received compensation or other benefits from the subject company of this research report or any other third-party in connection with this report.

Term& Conditions:

This report has been prepared by ASL and is meant for sole use by the recipient and not for circulation. The report and information contained herein is strictly confidential and may not be altered in any way, transmitted to, copied or distributed, in part or in whole, to any other person or to the media or reproduced in any form, without prior written consent of ASL. The report is based on the facts, figures and information that are considered true, correct, reliable and accurate. The intent of this report is not recommendatory in nature. The information is obtained from publicly available media or other sources believed to be reliable. Such information has not been independently verified and no guaranty, representation of warranty, express or implied, is made as to its accuracy, completeness or correctness. All such information and opinions are subject to change without notice. The report is prepared solely for informational purpose and does not constitute an offer document or solicitation of offer to buy or sell or subscribe for securities or other financial instruments for the clients. Though disseminated to all the customers simultaneously, not all customers may receive this report at the same time. ASL will not treat recipients as customers by virtue of their receiving this report.



DEFINITION OF RATINGS	
Ratings	Expected absolute returns over 12-18 months
BUY	More than 10%
HOLD	Between 10% and -10%
SELL	Less than -10%
NOT RATED	We have forward looking estimates for the stock but we refrain from assigning valuation and recommendation
UNDER REVIEW	We will revisit our recommendation, valuation and estimates on the stock following recent events
NO STANCE	We do not have any forward looking estimates, valuation or recommendation for the stock

Disclaimer:

Nothing in this report constitutes investment, legal, accounting and tax advice or a representation that any investment or strategy is suitable or appropriate to the recipient's specific circumstances. The securities and strategies discussed and opinions expressed, if any, in this report may not be suitable for all investors, who must make their own investment decisions, based on their own investment objectives, financial positions and needs of specific recipient.

This report may not be taken in substitution for the exercise of independent judgment by any recipient. Each recipient of this report should make such investigations as it deems necessary to arrive at an independent evaluation of an investment in the securities of companies referred to in this report (including the merits and risks involved), and should consult its own advisors to determine the merits and risks of such an investment. Certain transactions, including those involving futures, options and other derivatives as well as non-investment grade securities involve substantial risk and are not suitable for all investors. ASL, its directors, analysts or employees do not take any responsibility, financial or otherwise, of the losses or the damages sustained due to the investments made or any action taken on basis of this report, including but not restricted to, fluctuation in the prices of shares and bonds, changes in the currency rates, diminution in the NAVs, reduction in the dividend or income, etc. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Investors are advice necessarily a guide to future performance. Investors are advice necessarily a guide to future performance. Investors are advice necessarily and the risks associated before investing in the securities markets. Actual results may differ materially from those set forth in projections. Forward-looking statements are not predictions and may be subject to change without notice.

ASL and its affiliated companies, their directors and employees may; (a) from time to time, have long or short position(s) in, and buy or sell the securities of the company(ies) mentioned herein or (b) be engaged in any other transaction involving such securities or 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 investment banker, 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. Each of these entities functions as a separate, distinct and independent of each other. The recipient should take this into account before interpreting this document.

ASL and / or its affiliates do and seek to do business including investment banking with companies covered in its research reports. As a result, the recipients of this report should be aware that ASL may have a potential conflict of interest that may affect the objectivity of this report. Compensation of Research Analysts is not based on any specific merchant banking, investment banking or brokerage service transactions. ASL may have issued other reports that are inconsistent with and reach different conclusion from the information presented in this report. The Research reports are also available & published on AxisDirect website.

Neither this report nor any copy of it may be taken or transmitted into the United State (to U.S. Persons), Canada, or Japan or distributed, directly or indirectly, in the United States or Canada or distributed or redistributed in Japan or to any resident thereof. If this report is inadvertently sent or has reached any individual in such country, especially, USA, the same may be ignored and brought to the attention of the sender. 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 ASL 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 certain category of investors.

The Disclosures of Interest Statement incorporated in this document is provided solely to enhance the transparency and should not be treated as endorsement of the views expressed in the report. The Company reserves the right to make modifications and alternations to this document as may be required from time to time without any prior notice. The views expressed are those of the analyst(s) and the Company may or may not subscribe to all the views expressed therein.

Copyright in this document vests with Axis Securities Limited.

Axis Securities Limited, SEBI Single Reg. No.- NSE, BSE & MSEI – INZ000161633, ARN No. 64610, CDSL-IN-DP-CDSL-693-2013, SEBI-Research Analyst Reg. No. INH 000000297, SEBI Portfolio Manager Reg. No.- INP000000654, Main/Dealing off.- 1st Floor, I-Rise Building, Q Parc, Loma Park, Thane, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400701, Regd. off.- Axis House,8th Floor, Wadia International Centre, PandurangBudhkar Marg, Worli, Mumbai – 400 025. Compliance Officer: AnandShaha, Email: compliance.officer@axisdirect.in, Tel No: 022-49212706