



3R MATRIX

	+	=	-
Right Sector (RS)	✓	■	■
Right Quality (RQ)	✓	■	■
Right Valuation (RV)	■	■	✓
	+ Positive	= Neutral	- Negative

What has changed in 3R MATRIX

	Old		New
RS	■	↔	■
RQ	■	↔	■
RV	■	↔	■

ESG Disclosure Score

NEW

ESG RISK RATING	31.35			
Updated Aug 08, 2023				
High Risk				
NEGL	LOW	MED	HIGH	SEVERE
0-10	10-20	20-30	30-40	40+

Source: Morningstar

Company details

Market cap:	Rs. 1,28,982 cr
52-week high/low:	Rs. 2,917 / 2,251
NSE volume: (No of shares)	3.5 lakh
BSE code:	500331
NSE code:	PIDILITIND
Free float: (No of shares)	15.3 cr

Shareholding (%)

Promoters	69.9
FII	11.8
DII	7.9
Others	10.38

Price chart



Price performance

(%)	1m	3m	6m	12m
Absolute	-3.3	-0.3	10.2	-3.2
Relative to Sensex	-2.3	-5.9	2.0	-13.2

Sharekhan Research, Bloomberg

Building Materials

Sharekhan code: PIDILITIND

Reco/View: Hold



CMP: Rs. 2,537

Price Target: Rs. 2,675

Upgrade ↔ Maintain ↓ Downgrade

Summary

- Pidilite Industries (Pidilite) registered strong y-o-y PAT growth by over 30% in Q1FY2024 as a correction in VAM prices helped OPM surge. Volume growth recovered to double-digit in C&B business.
- Vinyl acetate monomer (VAM) prices have corrected to \$1,150 per tonne from highs of \$2,250 per tonne. The company expects EBIDTA margins to improve substantially in FY2024 to 20-24% (Q1 EBIDTA margins stood at 21.6%).
- Volume growth improved to 12% in Q1FY2024 from 7% in Q4FY2023. Rural demand exceeded urban demand by 1.5x. Volume growth momentum to sustain in the quarters ahead with demand environment improving.
- Stock continues to trade at a premium valuation of 68x/57x its FY2024E/FY2025E. We retain a Hold rating with a revised price target of Rs. 2,675.

**Pidilite registered strong double digit PAT growth driven by strong expansion in the EBIDTA due to correction in vinyl acetate monomer (VAM) prices. Consolidated y-o-y revenue growth stood at 5.6% in Q1FY2024 to Rs. 3,275.1 crore with the domestic consumer bazaar (C&B) business growing by 11% (driven by 11.7% volume growth). International B2B business registered single-digit revenue decline due to lower exports and lower demand from export-oriented industries. With a sharp decline in VAM prices, gross margins and EBIDTA margins improved by 732 bps y-o-y to 49% and 451 bps y-o-y to 21.6%. EBIDTA grew by 34% y-o-y to Rs. 707 crore and PAT grew by 33% y-o-y to Rs. 473.7 crore.**

Key positives

- Domestic C&B volume growth improved to 12% from 7% in Q4FY2023.
- Rural demand stood higher by 1.5x the urban demand.
- VAM prices fell by half to \$1,150 per tonne resulting in sharp gross margin and EBIDTA margin expansion.

Key negatives

- B2B business registered single digit decline in sales due to lower exports.

Management Commentary

- Rural and urban markets grew in double digits in Q1FY24. Rural demand stood ahead of urban demand by 1.5x. Uptick in the real estate sector and private housing space aided good demand for C&B products.
- B2B business declined in Q1 as some of the export segments have seen slowdown due to slowdown in key global markets such as US and Europe. US demand will improve from quarters ahead with signs of revival in the textile and footwear segment while Europe will take some time for revival.
- VAM prices are currently holding ~\$800-900 per tonne. Management expects them to remain at ~\$1,000 per tonne with recent uptick in the crude oil prices. With a reduction in the input prices, the gross margins are expected to remain high y-o-y after passing on required pricing benefits to consumers.
- EBIDTA margins came at 21.6% in Q1FY2024. The management has maintained its guidance of 20-24% EBIDTA margins for quarters ahead depending on volatility in the VAM prices.

**Revision in earnings estimates :** We broadly maintain our earnings estimates for FY2024 and FY2025. We shall keenly monitor the volume growth momentum in the domestic market.

Our Call

**View – Retain Hold with a revised PT of Rs. 2,675:** The management is confident of better growth prospects in FY2024, led by higher demand from the home improvement segment and rising demand from real estate and construction activities in urban markets and a recovery in demand in rural and semi-urban markets. Strong brand portfolio and wider reach will aid market share gains in the construction chemical segment (especially in the waterproofing space) from unorganised players. Entry into the decorative paints category is to complete the portfolio and to showcase itself as complete home improvement company. The stock continues to trade at premium valuations of 68x and 57x its FY2024E and FY2025E earnings. Thus, with limited upside from current levels, we maintain our Hold rating on the stock with a revised PT of Rs. 2,675.

Key Risks

Sustained inflation in raw material prices (including VAM) and a slowdown in the consumer demand will act as risk to our earnings estimates.

Valuation (Consolidated)

Particulars	FY22	FY23	FY24E	FY25E
Revenue	9,921	11,799	13,313	15,249
OPM (%)	18.6	16.8	21.3	21.7
Adjusted PAT	1,207	1,289	1,906	2,263
Adjusted EPS (Rs.)	23.8	25.4	37.5	44.6
P/E (x)	-	-	67.6	57.0
P/B (x)	20.1	17.9	15.0	12.4
EV/EBIDTA (x)	68.8	63.6	44.5	37.6
RoNW (%)	20.1	18.9	24.1	23.9
RoCE (%)	14.8	14.3	18.6	19.1

Source: Company; Sharekhan estimates

## Good Q1 – Revenue growth at 6% y-o-y; EBITDA margin up 451 bps y-o-y

Pidilite's consolidated revenue grew by 5.6% y-o-y to Rs. 3,275 crore lower than our and average street expectation of Rs. 3,479 crore and Rs. 3,457 crore, respectively. Domestic consumer and bazaar (C&B) business grew by 9.2% y-o-y (volume growth of 11.7%) to Rs. 2,661 crore, while business-to-business (industrial) segment declined by 6.1% y-o-y to Rs. 678 crore. Urban and rural markets grew in double-digit with rural markets growing faster, signalling a gradual recovery in the rural economy. However, exports declined due to challenging demand conditions in the overseas markets. A fall in input prices and operational efficiencies led to 732 bps y-o-y improvement in gross margins to 49%. Part of these gains were reinvested in the form of increased A&SP spend and other growth-related initiatives, restricting expansion in EBITDA margin to 451 bps y-o-y to 21.6%, largely in-line with our as well as average street expectation of 21.3%. EBITDA increased by 33.5% y-o-y to Rs. 707 crore. In line with operating profit growth, adjusted PAT grew by 32.5% y-o-y to Rs. 473.7 crore, lagging ours as well as the average street's expectation of Rs. 496-501 crore.

### Domestic C&B business grew by 11%

Consumer and bazaar products (C&B) business reported standalone revenue of Rs. 2,430.9 crore in Q1FY2024, registering an 11% y-o-y growth, with volume growth coming in at 12%. The business' PBIT margin grew by 504 bps y-o-y to 28.3%. PBIT grew by 34.6% y-o-y to Rs. 687 crore.

### Mixed bag quarter for domestic B2B segment

Standalone revenues of the B2B segment decreased by 8.2% y-o-y to Rs. 580.7 crore hit by lower exports and lower demand from businesses dependent on exports. PBIT margins improved by 352 bps y-o-y to 15.4%. The segment's PBIT increased by 19% y-o-y to Rs. 89.2 crore.

### International subsidiaries posted mixed performance

International business revenue declined by 6.6% y-o-y to Rs. 200.9 crore. Within regions, Asia stood flat y-o-y at Rs. 80.8 crore and Middle East and Africa grew by 8.1% y-o-y to Rs. 62.7 crore, while Americas declined by 24% y-o-y to Rs. 57.4 crore. Asia reported a loss of Rs. 2.8 crore against a profit of Rs. 4.5 crore in Q1FY2024. Middle East and Africa's EBITDA margin fell by 649 bps y-o-y to 20.6%, while Americas registered a 695 bps y-o-y EBITDA margin expansion to 8%.

### Key conference call highlights

- ♦ **Rural demand exceeded urban demand:** Rural and urban markets grew in double digits in Q1. Rural demand stood ahead of urban demand by 1.5x, signalling a gradual recovery in the rural economy. An uptick in the real estate sector and private housing space aided good demand for C&B products.
- ♦ **B2B business impacted by slowdown in exports:** B2B business declined in Q1 as some of the export segments have seen slowdown due to a slowdown in key global markets such as US and Europe. US demand will improve from quarters ahead with signs of revival in the textile and footwear segment while Europe will take some time for revival.
- ♦ **VAM prices plunge:** VAM prices are currently holding ~\$800-900 per tonne, correcting from highs of \$2,250 per tonne. Management expects them to remain at ~\$1,000 per tonne with recent uptick in the crude oil prices. With a reduction in the input prices, the gross margins are expected to remain high y-o-y after passing on required pricing benefits to consumers.
- ♦ **EBITDA margin seen at 20-24%:** EBITDA margins came at 21.6% in Q1FY2024. The management has maintained its guidance of 20-24% EBITDA margins for quarters ahead depending on volatility in the VAM prices.

**Results (Consolidated)**

Particulars	Rs cr				
	Q1FY24	Q1FY23	Y-o-Y %	Q4FY23	Q-o-Q %
<b>Revenues</b>	<b>3,275.1</b>	<b>3,101.1</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>2,689.3</b>	<b>21.8</b>
Raw Material Cost	1,669.7	1,808.0	-7.6	1,431.0	16.7
Employee Cost	355.5	315.7	12.6	317.9	11.8
Other Expenses	543.0	447.9	21.2	481.2	12.9
Total Operating Cost	2,568.2	2,571.6	-0.1	2,230.1	15.2
<b>Operating Profit</b>	<b>707.0</b>	<b>529.5</b>	<b>33.5</b>	<b>459.2</b>	<b>54.0</b>
Other Income	23.4	10.7	-	22.8	2.7
Interest & Other Financial Cost	11.9	9.0	31.6	11.8	0.3
Depreciation	73.4	61.3	19.7	76.2	-3.6
<b>Profit Before Tax</b>	<b>645.1</b>	<b>469.8</b>	<b>37.3</b>	<b>394.0</b>	<b>63.7</b>
Tax Expense	170.4	115.7	47.3	106.7	59.8
Adjusted PAT before MI	474.6	354.1	34.0	287.3	65.2
Minority Interest (MI)	-1.0	3.4	-	-1.5	-34.5
Adjusted PAT after MI	473.7	357.5	32.5	285.9	65.7
EPS (Rs)	9.3	7.0	32.5	5.6	65.7
			<b>bps</b>		<b>bps</b>
GPM (%)	49.0	41.7	732	46.8	223
OPM (%)	21.6	17.1	451	17.1	451
NPM (%)	14.5	11.5	293	10.6	383
Tax rate (%)	26.4	24.6	179	27.1	-65

Source: Company; Sharekhan Research

**Domestic segmental performance**

Particulars	Rs cr				
	Q1FY24	Q1FY23	Y-o-Y %	Q4FY23	Q-o-Q %
Consumer & Bazaar	2,660.9	2,435.8	9.2	2,112.8	25.9
Business to Business	678.0	722.0	-6.1	634.0	6.9
Others	21.7	25.8	-16.0	20.7	4.8
(-)Inter-segment	85.5	82.5	3.6	78.2	9.3
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>3,275.1</b>	<b>3,101.1</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>2,689.3</b>	<b>21.8</b>
Consumer & Bazaar	707.8	535.2	32.3	456.0	55.2
Business to Business	91.7	74.8	22.5	70.7	29.6
Others	0.4	1.4	-69.0	0.7	-33.3
<b>Total PBIT</b>	<b>799.9</b>	<b>611.4</b>	<b>30.8</b>	<b>527.3</b>	<b>51.7</b>
Consumer & Bazaar	26.6	22.0	463	21.6	502
Business to Business	13.5	10.4	315	11.2	236
Others	2.0	5.5	-348	3.2	-116
<b>PBIT Margin</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>19.6</b>	<b>481</b>

Source: Company; Sharekhan Research

**International business performance**

Particulars	Rs cr				
	Q1FY24	Q1FY23	Y-o-Y %	Q4FY23	Q-o-Q %
Asia	80.8	81.8	-1.2	80.9	-0.1
Middle East & Africa	62.7	58.0	8.1	71.0	-11.7
Americas	57.4	75.2	-23.7	58.5	-1.9
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>200.9</b>	<b>215.0</b>	<b>-6.6</b>	<b>210.4</b>	<b>-4.5</b>
Asia	-2.8	4.5	-	-4.2	-33
Middle East & Africa	12.9	15.7	-17.8	12.2	6
Americas	4.6	0.8	-	3.4	35
<b>EBIDTA</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>-30.0</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>28.9</b>
Asia	-3.5	5.5	-897	-5.2	173
Middle East & Africa	20.6	27.1	-649	17.2	339
Americas	8.0	1.1	695	5.8	220
<b>EBIDTA Margin</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>-245</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>190</b>

Source: Company; Sharekhan Research

## Outlook and Valuation

### ■ Sector Outlook – Long-term growth prospects of construction chemicals intact

India's construction chemicals industry is at a nascent stage with a market size of Rs. 6,500-7,000 crore, which is just 4-5% of the global construction chemicals market. Increased construction and infrastructure activities with a strong adherence to quality will drive demand for construction chemicals in the near to medium term. Further, growing adoption of green-building concept and increasing government regulations pertaining to the use of high-quality waterproofing systems with low volatile organic compounds (VOC) and insulation would result in a shift to branded products in the medium to long term. With the government focusing on improving growth prospects of the furniture segment and converting it into one of the major exporting hubs, demand for adhesives is expected to increase in the coming years.

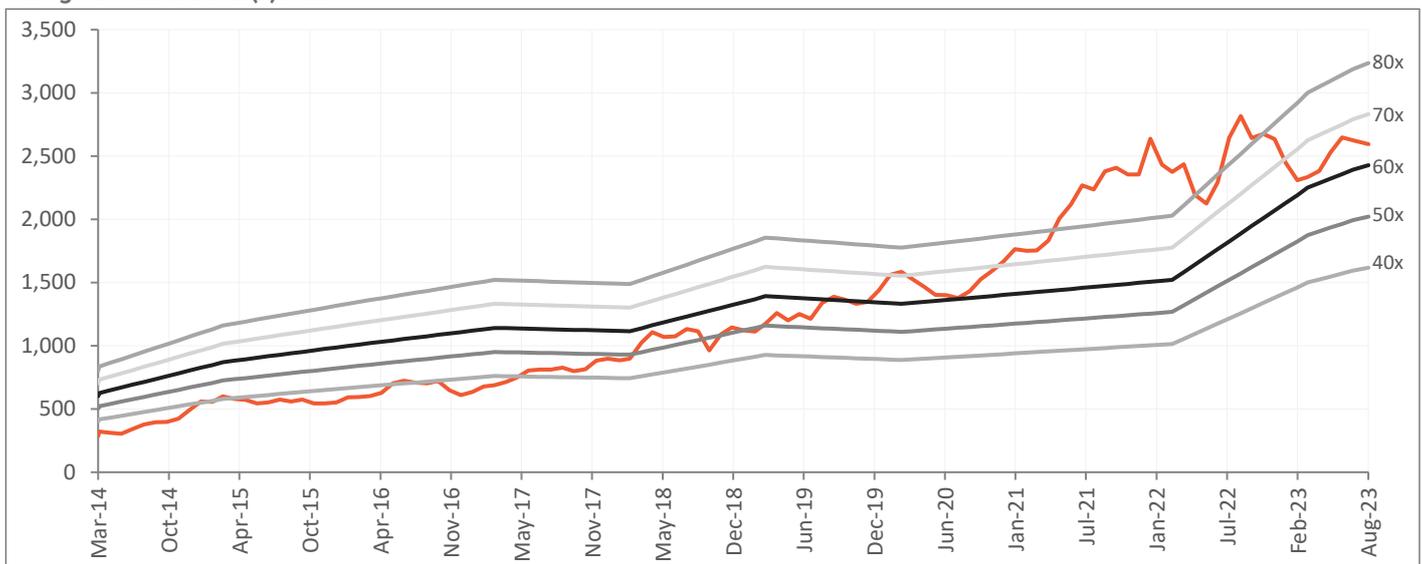
### ■ Company Outlook – Medium-term growth forecast intact

Pidilite registered a strong y-o-y PAT growth of over 30% in Q1FY2024 driven by strong expansion in the OPM driven by correction in VAM prices. Volume growth recovered to double digit in C&B business. VAM prices started softening from its peaks in Q3FY2023 and is currently trading at \$1,100-1,200 per tonne. The management expects EBIDTA margins to be at 20-24% in the stable input price environment. Sustenance of strong demand in new construction (real estate market) and home improvement (renovation space) especially in the tier-1 and tier-2 markets and expected recovery in the rural markets due to receding inflation and higher farm income, the management expects to achieve mid-teens volume growth in the domestic C&B business.

### ■ Valuation – Retain Hold with a revised PT of Rs. 2,675

The management is confident of better growth prospects in FY2024, led by higher demand from the home improvement segment and rising demand from real estate and construction activities in urban markets and a recovery in demand in rural and semi-urban markets. Strong brand portfolio and wider reach will aid market share gains in the construction chemical segment (especially in the waterproofing space) from unorganised players. Entry into the decorative paints category is to complete the portfolio and to showcase itself as complete home improvement company. The stock continues to trade at premium valuations of 68x and 57x its FY2024E and FY2025E earnings. Thus, with limited upside from current levels, we maintain our Hold rating on the stock with a revised PT of Rs. 2,675.

#### One-year forward P/E (x) band



Source: Sharekhan Research

#### Peer Comparison

Particulars	P/E (x)			EV/EBITDA (x)			RoCE (%)		
	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY23	FY24E	FY25E
Asian Paints	72.5	57.2	48.8	45.9	38.0	32.9	22.5	25.2	26.1
Pidilite Industries	-	67.6	57.0	63.6	44.5	37.6	14.3	18.6	19.1

Source: Company, Sharekhan estimates

## About company

Pidilite is a leading manufacturer of adhesives and sealants, construction chemicals, crafts products, DIY products, and polymer emulsions in India. Pidilite has divided its business into two segments – C&B product segment (C&B; includes adhesives, sealants, art and craft material and others, construction, and paint chemicals) and industrial product segment (IP; includes industrial adhesives, synthetic resins, organic pigments, pigment preparations, and surfactants). C&B accounts for ~80% of Pidilite's standalone revenue, while the balance is contributed by the IP segment. The company's brand name, Fevicol, has become synonymous with adhesives to millions in India and is ranked among the most trusted brands in the country. Some of the other major brands are M-Seal, Fevikwik, Fevistik, Roff, Dr. Fixit Fevicryl, Motomax, Hobby Ideas, and Araldite.

## Investment theme

Pidilite has monopoly in the domestic adhesive market on account of its strong product portfolio. Over the years, the company has transformed itself from a B2B to B2C player by consistently introducing consumer-centric products in the domestic market. Though FY2022 was affected by the pandemic situation and FY2023 by sharp increase in the key input prices, Pidilite's long-term growth prospects are intact as the company is continuously launching new products under core brands, entering new categories, expanding into neighbouring countries, and enhancing the domestic distribution reach. Strong cash flows, lean balance sheet, and decent payout make it the safest bet in the volatile market environment.

## Key Risks

- ◆ **Raw-material inflation:** Sustained inflation in key raw-material prices (including VAM) would act as a risk to our earnings estimates.
- ◆ **Slowdown in consumer demand:** Any slowdown in consumption would impact demand and negatively impact revenue growth.
- ◆ **Increased competition:** Any increase in competition from established players would act as a key risk to our earnings estimate in the near to medium term.

## Additional Data

### Key management personnel

Madhukar Balvantray Parekh	Chairman
Bharat Tilakraj Puri	Managing Director
Sandeep Batra	Executive Director-Finance & Chief Financial Officer
Manisha Shetty	Company Secretary & Compliance Officer

Source: Company Website

### Top 10 shareholders

Sr. No.	Holder Name	Holding (%)
1	Life Insurance Corp of India	3.46
2	Axis AMC	2.84
3	BlackRock Inc	1.19
4	Capital Group Cos Inc	1.14
5	New World Fund	1.06
6	Vanguard Group Inc	1.05
7	Norges Bank	0.76
8	Matthews International Capital	0.56
9	First State Investments	0.34
10	Federal Hermes Inc	0.33

Source: Bloomberg

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## Understanding the Sharekhan 3R Matrix

Right Sector	
Positive	Strong industry fundamentals (favorable demand-supply scenario, consistent industry growth), increasing investments, higher entry barrier, and favorable government policies
Neutral	Stagnancy in the industry growth due to macro factors and lower incremental investments by Government/private companies
Negative	Unable to recover from low in the stable economic environment, adverse government policies affecting the business fundamentals and global challenges (currency headwinds and unfavorable policies implemented by global industrial institutions) and any significant increase in commodity prices affecting profitability.
Right Quality	
Positive	Sector leader, Strong management bandwidth, Strong financial track-record, Healthy Balance sheet/cash flows, differentiated product/service portfolio and Good corporate governance.
Neutral	Macro slowdown affecting near term growth profile, Untoward events such as natural calamities resulting in near term uncertainty, Company specific events such as factory shutdown, lack of positive triggers/events in near term, raw material price movement turning unfavourable
Negative	Weakening growth trend led by led by external/internal factors, reshuffling of key management personal, questionable corporate governance, high commodity prices/weak realisation environment resulting in margin pressure and deteriorating balance sheet
Right Valuation	
Positive	Strong earnings growth expectation and improving return ratios but valuations are trading at discount to industry leaders/historical average multiples, Expansion in valuation multiple due to expected outperformance amongst its peers and Industry up-cycle with conducive business environment.
Neutral	Trading at par to historical valuations and having limited scope of expansion in valuation multiples.
Negative	Trading at premium valuations but earnings outlook are weak; Emergence of roadblocks such as corporate governance issue, adverse government policies and bleak global macro environment etc warranting for lower than historical valuation multiple.

Source: Sharekhan Research

# Sharekhan

by BNP PARIBAS

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Registration and Contact Details: Name of Research Analyst - Sharekhan Limited, Research Analyst Regn No.: INH000006183. CIN): - U99999MH1995PLC087498. Registered Office: The Ruby, 18th Floor, 29 Senapati Bapat Marg, Dadar (West), Mumbai – 400 028, Maharashtra, INDIA. Tel: 022-6115000.

Correspondence/Administrative Office: Gigaplex IT Park, Unit No 1001, 10th Floor, Building No.9, TTC Industrial Area, Digha, Airoli-West, Navi Mumbai – 400 708. Tel: 022 61169000 / 61150000, Fax No. 61169699.

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Compliance Officer: Ms. Binkle Oza; Tel: 022-62263303; email id: [complianceofficer@sharekhan.com](mailto:complianceofficer@sharekhan.com)

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