

Thailand Morning Cuppa

said that once open, a new line will also cut the Bangkok to Hua Hin travel time from five to two

hours. (Bangkok Post)

Top Story & Bulletin

STOCK/SECTOR	NEWS	COMMENT	RATING
Construction CH Karnchang CK TB) Sino-Thai Engineering and Construction STEC TB)	Five double-track railway routes, three of them to the South, are set to open this year with the aim of cutting journey times and increasing logistical efficiency. The Government is expediting its upgrade of the rail network nationwide to serve the country's expanding transport system, according to Anucha Burapachaisri, the government spokesman and deputy secretary-general to the prime minister. Anucha said a double-track railway is not only safer but will reduce freight transport	The construction progress of these seven double-track railway routes (two completed and five under construction) should be the key focus for the new round of bids for double-track railway projects, as there are several routes in the State Railway of Thailand's bidding pipeline that will be converted into the double-track railways. Its new pipeline of bids include: i) Khonkaen- Nongkhai (THB29bn), ii) Chira Junction- Ubonratchathani (THB36bn), and iii) Pak Nam	RATING Sector: NEUTRAL Stocks: CK TB, BUY, TP: THB23.30 STEC TB: BUY, TP: THB14.30
Development (ITD TB)	costs and improve the country's competitiveness. Seven double-track rail routes, 985km in all, are being implemented, one of which has been wholly completed – the 106-km Chachoengsao-Klong Sib Kao junction-Kaeng Koi Junction route, which was opened in 2019. A second 187-km stretch, from Thanon Jira Junction to Khon Kaen, opened two years ago with its one remaining incomplete section to be opened by the end of the year.	Pho-Denchai (THB63bn). All these projects are quite large in terms of construction value, and therefore, we expect that all large construction companies will participate in bidding for these construction projects. Although the majority of large construction players currently have strong orderbooks on hand, these types of projects would be a priority. This is as GPM from double- track railway projects have averaged at the moderate level of 5-6%, and there have been no critical obstacles for construction companies in previous projects.	ITD TB: NOT RATED
	The other five are also to be completed this year. They are Lop Buri-Pak Nam Pho (145km), Mab Kabao-Thanon Jira Junction (135km), Nakhon Pathom-Hua Hin (169km), Hua Hin-Prachuap Khiri Khan (76km) and Prachuap Khiri Khan-Chumphon (167km). The three routes covering Nakhon Pathom and Chumphon are in the upper South. Anucha	As they have previously been involved in the construction of double-track railway projects, we expect CH Karnchang, Sino-Thai Engineering and Construction, and Italian-Thai Development to have an upper-hand to win these bids. We maintain the calls and TPs of CK and STEC.	





Thailand Daily 21 September 2022

art 1: SET in	tra-day grapi	h				Table 1: Key market indi	ces (21 Se	p 2022)		
							Index	Chq	Chg (%)	
_ 1,646.0						Thailand (SET)	1638.59	7.02	0.43%	
1,644.0			_			Thailand (SET50)	985.66	4.29	0.44%	
		N	4			Thailand (SET100)	2229.02	9.41	0.42%	
,642.0 -	1					USA (Dow Jones)	30706.23	-313.45	-1.01%	
,640.0 -					Λ	USA (S&P500)	3855.93	-43.96	-1.13%	
1.638.0 -	•		- W	\mathbb{N}	V L	USA (Nasdaq)	11425.05	-109.97	-0.95%	
,030.0 -				V		UK (FTSE)	7192.66	-44.02	-0.61%	
,636.0 -						Singapore (FSSTI)	3266.94	10.63	0.33%	
1,634.0						Hong Kong (Hang Seng)	18781.42	215.45	1.16%	
9:55 10:	30 11:05 11:40 1	12:15 14	4:15 14:50	15:25 16:0	0 16:35	Japan (Nikkei)	27688.42	-152.04	-0.55%	
						Malaysia (KLCI)	1461.10	9.58	0.66%	
ET E (x)		2020 37.27	2021 15.12	2022F 15.78	2023F 14.93	China (SHANGHAI SE)	3122.41	9.50 6.80	0.00%	
/BV (x) ïeld (%)		1.56 2.75	1.77 2.65	1.66 2.78	1.56 3.00	Indonesia (JCI)	7196.95	1.46	0.22%	
ET Value by invest	or Type: Daily	2.15	Buy	Sell	Net	Indonesia (JCI)	/ 190.95	1.40	0.02%	
nstitution	or type. Daily		(THBm) 5,111.59	(THBm) 3,871.95	(THBm) 1,239.64	Foreign Exchange Rates	/ Oil Marke			
roprietary preign			5,602.43 32,886.02	6,077.67 32,376.77	-475.24 509.25	USD Rebt (Onchore)		Closed 37.03	Chg 0.00	
Retail			21,530.36	22,804.00	-1,273.64	Baht (Onshore) Yen		37.03 143.50	-0.25	
SET Value by invest	or Type			MTD	YTD	Euro		1.00	0.20	
nstitution				(THBm) -1,709.47	(THBm) -120,150.02	Oil Price (USD/barrel)				
roprietary				4,262.42	1,821.13	Brent		90.10	-0.10	
oreign Retail					158,816.61 -40,487.69	Nymex-Crude Light		84.04	0.10	
SET50 Index Future	Long	Short	Net	MTD	YTD					
nstitution		54,104	-1,774	-13,651	-3,203					
oreign .ocal		80,215 106,032	8,858 -7,084	-37,571 51,222	114,063 -110,860					
Foreign Fund Flows	(USDm)	i.	MTD	YTD	YoY					
hailand	13.7	-3.6	-428.8	4744.2	8040.3					
ote: *As at 20 Se	o 2022 closing					Note: *As at 20 Sep 2022 closing				





Thailand Daily 21 September 2022

Top BUYs

	ТР	Upside	
	(THB)	(%)	Catalysts
Bangkok Dusit Medical Services (BDMS TB)	32.50	11.11	 A high season for healthcare services may deliver earnings growth YoY and QoQ in 3Q22. This is coupled with an ongoing increase in foreign patient revenue that is approaching pre-pandemic levels of 30% and resurgence of the Omicron variant in Thailand in July to improve the COVID-19 treatment momentum. 2022 core profit may grow strongly by 28% to THB10.15bn, achieving 2019's level. It may also deliver resilient 9-11% earnings growth in 2023-2024.
Berli Jucker (BJC TB)	41.00	25.19	 A healthy demand for BJC's glass and aluminium can products is likely. This will be driven by launches of new items among beverage players, as well as easing pandemic restrictions in Thailand and Vietnam. Big C's improving product sales mix could help limit the impact from the raw material price hikes for BJC's non-retail businesses. Opex management and gradual increases in ASPs may be carried out to cope with the issues. We expect a strong 48% core profit growth in 2022 (2021: -23%), or at two-thirds of 2019's numbers. This is based on +6% SSSG, stronger rental revenues, and +0.8ppts core profit margin.
Central Retail Corporation (CRC TB)	46.50	16.98	 3Q22F earnings may jump from the low base during 3Q21's lockdown. All its business pillars and destinations may deliver robust, positive SSSG. Price adjustments and intensive opex controls may support a wider EBITDA margin. The fashion business may benefit from a rebound in Thai operations and stronger Italian store performance. The hardline segment's product price hikes and better management over private label goods will enhance the segment's SSSG and GPM. Easing restrictions in Vietnam may also boost CRC's food and retail mall wings. We expect a core profit of THB4.90bn for 2022, jumping from an extremely low base of THB189m in 2021, and it will expand 61% to pre-pandemic levels in 2023.
CH Karnchang (CK TB)	23.30	1.75	 After the noticeably slower revenue momentum since FY19, we expect CK to reverse the trend from FY22 onwards due to newly awarded construction projects – including two double-track railway contracts and two Purple Line Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) extension works – that will boost FY22 core revenue. Therefore, we expect full-year core revenue growth of 28% YoY. There are currently two key construction projects lying ahead for CK to add into its orderbook: i) Construction works at the Orange Line MRT extension in case that its affiliated company can win the bid that should be launched within this year and ii) construction works at the Luang Prabang hydropower project in Laos. Put together, CK's orderbook on hand can breach the THB100bn level while its earnings visibility will be extended to more than five years. In addition, CK also has a good chance to pump in more from new bids: i) State Railway of Thailand's Red Line MRT and double-track railway, ii) Department of Highways' three motorway projects, and iii) major Bangkok Metropolitan Administration projects that may be accelerated by the Governor.
Kasikornbank (KBANK TB)	175.00	16.28	 KBANK is ready for the new digital era, as it has business units that are fully equipped with new tech. This will be hidden value waiting to be unlocked in future. Historical price trends suggest its share price should outperform peers when the economy is on a recovery path. KBANK offers lowest CIR in the banking industry, while its asset quality remains manageable.
Land and Houses (LH TB)	9.45	7.39	 Land and Houses will focus on: i) Conservative increases in targets for project sales revenue and presales and ii) a major focus on boosting new project launches that may include new condominiums. This key developer's plan may highlight industry trends for 2022, and its competitors may follow suit by ramping up project launches more aggressively. 1H22 overall presale was in line with FY22 business target at 50% of full-year target. Low-rise project presale in 2Q22 slightly declined 2%YoY while condominium presale jumped strongly 50%YoY from the low-base level. Its presales progress was in line with other leading developers. The country's re-opening will also bode well for the company's recurring income assets including hotel and shopping mall that can start to generate revenue growth from FY23 onwards.
Minor International (MINT TB)	42.50	50.44	 A rapid recovery for its hotel performance in Europe (c.40% of sales) in 3Q22 is expected and it may get stronger towards the high tourism period during this quarter. As the COVID-19 situation improves, pent-up demand for leisure travellers and re-activation of business trips within the region could be the key drivers. Success in average room rate or ARR maintenance for the Minor and NH Hotels should benefit revenue and GPM when OR strongly rebounds. MINT's key restaurant hub in Thailand may carry out strong, positive SSSG throughout the remaining quarters of 2022. It may be able to apply efficient cost control measures and partially pass through food price hikes while a positive local sales outlook should help its operating leverage to get better. We expect core earnings to turn positive to THB1.97bn this year (2021: -THB9.31bn) and jump 3.3x to THB6.60bn in 2023. Its 2Q22 earnings turnaround is likely.



Thailand Daily 21 September 2022

Top BUYs

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	TP (THB)	Upside (%)	Catalysts
PTT Oil and Retail Business (OR TB)	35.00	32.08	 OR plans to have approximately five business investment deals, both acquisitions and equity participations, for the remainder of year 2022, which are likely to be F&B, service businesses, SMEs, and start-ups. The investment budget is expected to be THB96,000m within five years, which will emphasise on non-oil businesses with higher margins than the oil segment, as well as capturing consumption activities in Thailand and neighbouring countries. In 2H22, the recovery of Thai economy will boost consumption demand along OR's oil stations and retail outlets. OR will get benefit from its oil and non-oil retail businesses via more than 2,400 nationwide oil stations and 4,000 outlets with lots of long holiday in 3Q22 and enter high season in 4Q22. The softened oil price is also likely to encourage travelling, transportation and consumption activities. Under the development of several potential businesses to capture future trends, such as EV-related businesses and healthy food products.
Siam Cement (SCC TB)	430.00	27.60	 Despite a challenging 2Q22 and so on, where management had to tackle production costs and slower demand faced by its major segments, we expect Siam Cement to overcome these issues efficiently. After a series of product price revision, the company should be one of major construction material companies that can gain benefit immediately as soon as the production costs tame down. IPO of SCC's subsidiary, SCG Chemicals, will not be delayed beyond the year-end. This should be in line with the commencement of its maiden Long Son project in Vietnam, which is scheduled for 1Q23. Note that the demand for petrochemicals in Vietnam is estimated to grow 8% YoY on average over FY21-26.
TISCO Financial (TISCO TB)	114.00	20.00	 Due to its solid asset quality and healthy capital position, as well as its above-average dividend yields of 7%.
WHA Corp (WHA TB)	4.35	21.51	 WHA's performance is more secure than other peers, as it is highly weighted towards recurring-income businesses (especially electricity and water utilities) and the asset monetisation plan slated for execution in 4Q22. Water utility demand will increase from new clients, especially for value-added products like demineralised, recycling, and clarified water. The power plant business is still facing immediate higher fuel costs and sluggish variable tariff (Ft) revisions. However, the unit's performance should improve in the following quarters due to upward revisions in Ft and lower pressure from coal prices.





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 Take Profit:
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Kuala Lumpur	Singapore
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Jakarta	Bangkok
PT RHB Sekuritas Indonesia Revenue Tower, 11th Floor, District 8 - SCBD JI. Jendral Sudirman Kav 52-53 Jakarta 12190 Indonesia Tel : +6221 509 39 888	RHB Securities (Thailand) PCL 10th Floor, Sathorn Square Office Tower 98, North Sathorn Road, Silom Bangrak, Bangkok 10500 Thailand Tel : +(66) 2 088 9999

