

## Thailand Morning Cuppa

### Top Story

#### **Central Plaza Hotel (CENTEL TB, SELL, TP: THB29.00)**

Another Small, Yet Spicy Deal; Keep SELL

Company Update

Still SELL, with a FY21F DCF-based THB29.00 TP, 21% downside. Central Plaza Hotel's latest acquisition – the 6-outlet Somtam Nua restaurant chain – may be small and without material upsides to this year's earnings, but we expect further growth in the longer term from the opening of new stores and utilising the brand within the Cloud Kitchen platform. We continue to believe CENTEL's hotel wing may remain a drag on FY21 earnings, while the share price has rallied on sentiment over Thailand's planned tourism re-opening models.

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*Today's Report:* [Central Plaza Hotel : Another Small, Yet Spicy Deal; Keep SELL \(1 Apr 2021\)](#)

*Previous Report:* [Central Plaza Hotel : Recovery Sentiment In Share Price; Stay SELL \(12 Mar 2021\)](#)

### Global Economics & Market Strategy

#### **Factory Production Will Turn Positive In March**

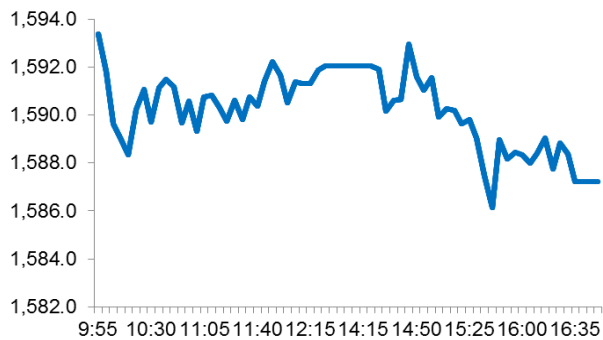
Economics View

- We expect the Manufacturing Production Index (MPI) will turn positive on a %YoY basis next month, supported by a low base effect and the recovery in global demand.
- The Feb 2021 MPI printed -1.08% YoY vs the Bloomberg consensus estimate of 0.1% and January reading of -2.0%.
- We expect a weak recovery this year amidst the lingering impact of the pandemic. The central bank will keep its policy interest rate at a record low of 0.5% for 2021 to support the recovery.

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*Today's Report:* [Factory Production Will Turn Positive In March \(31 Mar 2021\)](#)

*Previous Report:* [We Expect Strong Export Recovery From 2Q21 Onwards \(25 Mar 2021\)](#)

**Chart 1: SET intra-day graph**


SET	2019	2020	2021F	2022F
PE (x)	18.02	25.96	20.39	17.13
P/BV (x)	1.71	1.61	1.76	1.69
Yield (%)	3.28	3.26	2.46	2.77

SET Value by investor Type: Daily	Buy (THBm)	Sell (THBm)	Net (THBm)
Institution	4,402.24	5,990.60	-1,588.36
Proprietary	7,156.97	6,692.39	464.58
Foreign	27,532.00	27,921.27	-389.28
Retail	33,327.27	31,814.22	1,513.05

SET Value by investor Type	MTD (THBm)	YTD (THBm)
Institution	7,303.24	-22,765.95
Proprietary	2,373.88	3,875.15
Foreign	-68.38	-29,669.40
Retail	-9,608.74	48,560.19

SET50 Index Future	Long	Short	Net	MTD	YTD
Institution	18,537	16,900	1,637	-15,195	29,613
Foreign	43,128	45,858	-2,730	30,145	-15,635
Local	50,980	49,887	1,093	-14,950	-13,978

Foreign Fund Flows (USDm)	MTD	YTD	YoY
Thailand	-12.4	113.0	-1.0
			-986.5
			-692.2

Note: \*As at 31 Mar 2021 closing

**Table 1: Key market indices (1 Apr 2021)**

	Index	Chg	Chg (%)	YTD (%)
<b>Thailand (SET)</b>	1587.21	-2.32	-0.15%	9.5%
<b>Thailand (SET50)</b>	971.24	-1.46	-0.15%	6.7%
<b>Thailand (SET100)</b>	2203.56	-3.51	-0.16%	8.2%
<b>USA (Dow Jones)</b>	32981.55	-85.41	-0.26%	7.8%
<b>USA (S&amp;P500)</b>	3972.89	14.34	0.36%	5.8%
<b>USA (Nasdaq)</b>	13246.87	201.48	1.54%	2.8%
<b>UK (FTSE)</b>	6713.63	-58.49	-0.86%	3.9%
<b>Singapore (FSSTI)</b>	3165.34	-25.55	-0.80%	11.3%
<b>Hong Kong (Hang Seng)</b>	28378.35	-199.15	-0.70%	4.2%
<b>Japan (Nikkei)</b>	29178.80	-253.90	-0.86%	6.3%
<b>Malaysia (KLCI)</b>	1573.51	-35.68	-2.22%	-3.3%
<b>China (SHANGHAI SE)</b>	3441.91	-14.77	-0.43%	-0.9%
<b>Indonesia (JCI)</b>	5985.52	-85.92	-1.42%	0.1%

Foreign Exchange Rates / Oil Market			
USD	Closed	Chg	Chg (%)
Baht (Onshore)	31.25	0.01	-0.03
Yen	110.78	0.06	-0.05
Euro	1.17	0.00	-0.06
Oil Price (USD/barrel)			
Brent	62.47	0.06	0.10
Nymex-Crude Light	59.62	0.46	0.78

Note: \*As at 31 Mar 2021 closing

**Top BUYs**

	TP (THB)	Upside (%)	Catalysts
<b>Advance Info Service (ADVANC TB)</b>	220.00	26.80	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outlook should continue to recover with cost management on focus. While we expect the normalisation of prepaid segment demand, subs acquisition activities and easing competition to gradually drive topline to recovery in 2H20, we think a value-to-money strategy through a bundling package should continue to yield additional revenue to the group</li> <li>The toning down of capex guidance should ease investor concern over the imminent margins pressure, We expect the impact from the roll-out of 5G network to be limited, as it should be partially absorbed by network cost saving initiative, staggered payment profile, and tax incentive scheme</li> </ul>
<b>Bangkok Chain Hospital (BCH TB)</b>	17.50	19.05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We still expect to see robust COVID-19 screening services demand throughout 2H20 on the continuous return of students studying abroad, migrant workers, and business travellers after border restrictions are relaxed. The doubling of its capacity under the alternative state quarantine should boost upside from this new revenue stream and bolster FY20 earnings</li> <li>We expect to see strong 2H20 recovery in Social Security Office or SSO revenue, driven by the resumption of pent-up demand from high-cost care, trauma, and dental services. We also think global budget disbursements could bring further upsides this year, thanks to relatively lower insured patients traffic during the pandemic</li> </ul>
<b>Bangkok Expressway &amp; Metro (BEM TB)</b>	11.50	31.43	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Its expressway unit has recovered rapidly in terms of traffic numbers and is currently approaching pre-pandemic levels</li> <li>The Blue-Line Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) is underway towards a recovery towards pre-pandemic levels. Although the recovery seems slow, organic growth in this business will be more aggressive than growth in the expressway unit. This is because the full-loop network of the Blue-Line MRT is currently in operation</li> </ul>
<b>Central Pattana (CPN TB)</b>	66.00	13.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improving sentiment for its retail mall operations, based on indirect benefits from the year-end tax rebate for shopping campaigns</li> <li>Rental rate discounts may marginally improve, with no material impact from temporary political rallies, on store traffic</li> <li>Efficient cost control measures have lowered its variable and fixed costs, mainly utility and marketing expenses, while profit margins are likely on the uptrend on the back of reviving retail mall operations</li> <li>Residential business sees stronger sales momentum in 4Q20 – the industry's high season – based on more high-rise unit transfers, along with low-rise projects in Bangkok and upcountry</li> </ul>
<b>CH Karnchang (CK TB)</b>	22.50	25.70	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The company's orderbooks turnaround can be anticipated within the near term</li> <li>For the construction work of the west side route, as well as the operations and maintenance concessions for the entire route, CK partnered with its associate. It will be the frontrunner due to its experience in constructing and operating underground MRT networks</li> <li>The Luang Prabang hydropower project should be next and negotiations will likely be concluded soon. With a construction size of THB80-90bn – comparable to Xayaburi – this project's construction will span a 7-year period and start contributing to revenue in FY22</li> </ul>
<b>CP ALL (CPALL TB)</b>	77.00	11.19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>V-shaped earnings recovery, with continued opening of new stores, while Siam Makro's operations remain solid</li> <li>As it has the most extensive store network, CPALL may strongly benefit the new normal in terms of facilitating delivery of products and services through its developing omni-channel platform</li> <li>Still the best-in-class retailer with intact new store opening plan. Expect full-year earnings returning to pre-pandemic levels in 2021</li> <li>To finance the acquisition of Tesco Lotus with a combination of debt and perpetual debentures to balance its leverage</li> </ul>
<b>Home Product Center (HMPRO TB)</b>	17.00	14.86	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expecting normalising earnings in FY21 – to be supported by full-year operations of all stores and retail malls vs a temporary closure from late March to mid-May, with profit margins approaching pre-pandemic levels</li> <li>HMPRO's investment in Vietnam may strongly benefit growing urbanisation and a potential rise in the construction sector</li> <li>Quarterly earnings momentum will continue its upward trajectory in 1Q21</li> <li>Rapid improvement in sustainability development may allow the stock to continue trading at a premium</li> </ul>

**Top BUYs**

	TP (THB)	Upside (%)	Catalysts
<b>Krung Thai Bank (KTB TB)</b>	14.30	17.21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We upgrade KTB to BUY from Neutral. The stock has been a laggard due to its weaker asset quality and NIM. But at 0.45 FY21F P/BV against ROE of 5%, we believe much of the negatives have been priced in</li> <li>We expect KTB to be a beneficiary of new investment projects that will be rolled out by the Government next year</li> </ul>
<b>Osotspa PCL (OSP TB)</b>	46.00	30.50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>C-Vitt Vitamin C drinks' popularity and its production hike to strengthen domestic sales amid a U-shaped recovery for OSP's local energy drinks</li> <li>Full-year operations of its beverage filling facilities in Myanmar to improve market penetration and profit margins in 2021, while the highly efficient "Fit Fast Firm" corporate cost-savings programme should continue strengthening its profit margins</li> <li>Seeking inorganic growth via partnerships, as well as both vertical and horizontal integrations</li> </ul>
<b>Ratch Group (RATCH TB)</b>	68.00	32.68	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A laggard play of the sector</li> <li>Provides dividend yield c.4% pa, higher than average peer</li> <li>Share price is undemanding at this level, which discount to peer in term of P/E, while 2021 earnings are expected to grow due to recognition of new projects</li> </ul>
<b>Siam Cement (SCC TB)</b>	440.00	10.28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are three growth drivers, including an upcycle of petrochemical spreads, a series of new infrastructure projects to start the construction process, and growth expansion in the packaging business especially after SCG Packaging raises funds from its IPO</li> <li>Its earnings going forward should rely mainly on petrochemical unit's performance starting to improve in 2H20 and growing stronger on a full-year basis in FY21</li> </ul>
<b>WHA Corp (WHA TB)</b>	3.80	9.20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WHA should be the major local industrial estate player that turns around its industrial land sales business, especially after international travel restrictions are lifted in FY21. This is while its recurring-income units – including utility services and rental spaces – provide downside protection for its earnings prospects</li> <li>Top industries that will dominate the next foreign direct investment cycle include: i) Auto &amp; parts, ii) electronics, iii) consumer products, and iv) medical products. The latter, in our view, will bode well for WHA's premium warehouse spaces, while auto &amp; parts, electronics, and consumer products can spur demand for its industrial land and conventional warehouse spaces</li> </ul>

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