

Thailand Morning Cuppa

Top Story

Home Product Center (HMPRO TB, BUY, TP: THB16.40)

Sluggish 3Q, Seeking a 4Q Rebound; Keep BUY

Company Update

Maintain BUY, new THB16.40 TP from THB17.00, 26% upside and c.3% yields. Home Product Center's 2H21F earnings may be sluggish vs 1H due to the current COVID-19 spread. We expect 3Q to be the weakest quarter, which could be an opportunity to buy. It may still deliver earnings growth of 5% this year and ramp up to 17% in 2022 on likely consumption recovery

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Today's Report: [Home Product Center : Sluggish 3Q, Seeking a 4Q Rebound; Keep BUY \(6 Aug 2021\)](#)

Previous Report: [Home Product Center : A Robust Quarter; Maintain BUY \(29 Jul 2021\)](#)

Chart 1: SET intra-day graph



SET	2018	2019	2020	2021F
PE (x)	16.23	18.10	26.21	28.82
P/BV (x)	1.74	1.70	1.62	1.69
Yield (%)	3.35	3.26	2.75	2.36

SET Value by investor Type: Daily	Buy (THBm)		Sell (THBm)	Net (THBm)
Institution	4,322.54		4,105.35	217.19
Proprietary	8,562.64		8,201.10	361.54
Foreign	32,408.41		37,455.75	-5,047.34
Retail	36,004.41		31,535.79	4,468.62

SET Value by investor Type	MTD (THBm)		YTD (THBm)	
Institution		4,035.52		-40,312.08
Proprietary		376.77		9,837.67
Foreign		-6,070.12		-99,352.40
Retail		1,657.83		129,826.79

SET50 Index Future	Long		Short		Net	MTD	YTD
Institution	34,562	31,836	2,726	-3,654	30,330		
Foreign	64,081	57,717	6,364	16,727	-4,098		
Local	84,621	93,711	-9,090	-13,073	-26,232		

Note: *As at 5 Aug 2021 closing

Table 1: Key market indices (6 Aug 2021)

	Index	Chg	% Chg
SET	1527.66	-18.20	-1.18
SET50	911.53	-14.10	-1.52
SET100	2083.64	-30.93	-1.46
Dow Jones	35064.25	+271.58	+0.78
Nasdaq	14895.12	+114.59	+0.78
S&P500	4429.10	+26.44	+0.60
FTSE	7120.43	-3.43	-0.05
FSSTI	3175.10	-7.80	-0.25
Hang Seng	26204.69	-221.86	-0.84
Nikkei	27728.12	+144.04	+0.52
KLCI	1495.78	+4.45	+0.30
SHANGHAI SE	3466.55	-10.67	-0.31
JCI	6205.42	+46.38	+0.75

Note: *As at 5 Aug 2021 closing

Top BUYs

	TP (THB)	Upside (%)	Catalysts
Airports of Thailand (AOT TB)	73.50	30.09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3QFY21 (Sep) is likely the weakest quarter, as domestic aviation has led AOT's performance and the severe COVID-19 third wave may dampen local tourism activities. Cost optimisation efforts have been implemented effectively since 3QFY20, but variable expenses rose in tandem with a recovery in aeronautical activities post lockdown Regarding the Government's border re-opening scheme from Jul 2021 onwards, we expect some positive sentiment on the Phuket Sandbox Model towards AOT, as Phuket International Airport is its third-largest property As the first-tier tourism player, AOT may strongly underpin the revival of the tourism industry, while the weakening short-term sentiment and earnings present investors with an opportunity to BUY
Home Product Center (HMPRO TB)	17.00	30.77	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 HMPRO's investment in Vietnam may strongly benefit growing urbanisation and a potential rise in the construction sector Quarterly earnings momentum will continue its upward trajectory in 1Q21 Rapid improvement in sustainability development may allow the stock to continue trading at a premium
Kasikornbank (KBANK TB)	150.00	43.54	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One of opening theme plays, given the highest exposure to the small & medium enterprise or SME portion among the banks we cover or TH Banks Investors should look forward to an eventual recovery, as the recovery in the short term is likely to be uneven and take time before reaching pre-COVID-19 levels The bank trends to disrupt itself with new technologies. We believe this strategy will help the bank to improve profitability and quality in the long run FY21F earnings outlook is forecasted to rebound 8.5% in line with sector earnings. This is due to lower provisions and a rebound in net fees income Our valuation is conservative and its share price is trading below -1SD from the historical mean, which is compelling
Mega Lifesciences (MEGA TB)	43.00	4.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rising health consciousness post-COVID-19 and an aging society may be tailwinds for demand on wellness products. These factors may strongly support MEGA's longer-term outlook based on its key strategies: New product launches in consumer and pharmaceutical healthcare, penetration into new markets, and capturing vast growth opportunities at existing underpenetrated destinations Eyeing to launch its hemp-based products (tablets and liquid), with its strength in owned research & development processes. It is waiting for the Government's finalised regulations, likely by 2H21 Operations in Myanmar (c.40% of revenue) may see modest impact from the political unrest. Its Maxxcare distribution business remains operational To continue to deliver YoY profit growth in 2Q21 despite being the weakest quarter, driven by its branded business. Possible recovery in Thailand's local activities and a seasonality effect may improve MEGA's 2H21F earnings momentum vs 1H21F
PTT Exploration & Production (PTTEP TB)	132.00	26.32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We like PTTEP as a good proxy to stronger commodity prices 2Q21 earnings are expected to register stronger results on the back of stronger sales volumes and crude prices
PTT Global Chemical (PTTGC TB)	76.00	32.75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bumper 1H21 earnings expected from robust petrochemical product spreads to translate into a strong FY21F rebound in YoY performance Current uptrend in oil prices also expected to see PTTGC regain its gas-based crackers' relative cost advantage over industry peers operating naphtha-based crackers
Siam Cement (SCC TB)	500.00	20.77	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Petrochemicals is currently in an upcycle. HDPE-naphtha spread in 1Q21 should remain as high as levels recorded in 4Q20, while the polypropylene-naphtha spread reached another high in 1Q21. SCC's polyolefin sales volumes returned to normal levels after the turnaround of the Map Ta Phut olefin cracker was completed in 4Q20 The improvement in cement & building materials business should be noticeable in 1Q21, with cement demand growing 1-2% in Thailand. This would be due to stronger demand from the residential property sector in provincial areas, and continuously solid demand stemming from government infrastructure projects FY21 will start out with strong earnings growth in 1Q21, while the petrochemical division may be driven by higher production volume after de-bottlenecking the Map Ta Phut olefin cracker finishing 2Q21. For 2H21, we expect a brighter outlook for the cement & building materials business especially in ASEAN, when construction activities resume to normal
Tisco Financial (TISCO TB)	111.00	25.78	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Superior asset quality to peers and strong capital base – highest among TH Banks – made TISCO deserve to trade at premium valuation. Its c.7% dividend yield is compelling and relatively highest among TH Banks, with full-year payment basis. We believe TISCO's conservative strategy amidst the pandemic will be proper, allowing the bank to survive post COVID-19 FY21 earnings is expected to rebound 7%YoY mainly on lower provisions and a rebound in net fees income, despite moderated NII and a slight increase in overheads

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