Motilal Oswal

Grasim Industries

STOCK INFO. BSE Sensex: 10,813	BLOOMBERG GRASIM IN	7 Aug	ust 2006									Buy
S&P CNX: 3,151	REUTERS CODE GRAS.BO	Previo	us Recomm	nendatic	on: Buy	,						Rs2,115
Equity Shares (m)	91.7	YEAR	NET SALES	РАТ	EPS	EPS	P/E	P/BV	ROE	ROCE	EV/	EV/
52-Week Range	2,605/1,087	END	(RSM)	(RSM)	(RS)	GROWTH (%)	(X)	(X)	(%)	(%)	SALES	EBITDA
1,6,12 Rel. Perf. (%) 8/30/30	03/06A	100,129	9,403	102.6	-2.7	20.6	3.8	18.5	19.5	2.7	12.5
M.Cap. (Rs b)	193.9	03/07E	119,202	15,139	165.1	61.0	12.8	3.1	24.1	30.6	2.4	8.8
M.Cap. (US\$ b)	4.2	03/08E	125,069	13,189	143.8	-12.9	14.7	2.7	18.6	22.5	2.3	9.4

Grasim's 1QFY07 results were better than expectations. EBITDA at Rs5.1b was better than our estimates of Rs4.7b, driven largely by better-than-expected operating performance of the cement division. Key highlights:

- Revenues up 20.8% YoY to Rs18.8b driven by 37% growth in cement revenues (4.8% up in volumes and 35.3% up in realizations); and 5.6% growth in VSF revenues (realizations up 8% but volumes decline 1.9%). Sponge iron revenues declined by 20.5% (volumes down 1.9%, and realizations lower 14.4%).
- EBITDA was up 37.1% YoY to Rs5.1b. EBITDA margin expanded 320bp to 27.1%. Strong cement division performance drove this margin expansion, which more than compensated for the lower-expected performance of the VSF division. Cement division has delivered strong margin expansion (driven by realization growth) 1,090bp YoY and 623bp QoQ to 34.3%. VSF margins also improved 391bp to 25.9%, but lower than our estimates owing to cost push on account of production shutdown. Sponge iron reported PBIDT of Rs104m v/s Rs692m in 1QFY06 on account of falling realization (down 14.4%) and sharp increase in operating cost per ton.
- Lower interest expenses (declined 11% YoY to Rs235m) and higher other income (86% higher YoY) resulted in recurring standalone PAT moving up by 51.7% YoY to Rs3.1b. Consolidated PAT for the quarter was up 71% to Rs4.35b on account of sharp improvement in operating performance of UltraTech Cemco.
- We expect Grasim to report EPS of Rs165.1 in FY07E and Rs143.8 in FY08E. As near-term cement price outlook is favorable, we believe Grasim will continue to report strong numbers in the forthcoming quarters. The stock quotes at a valuation of 12.8x PER and 8.8x EV/EBITDA FY07E. Grasim as our most preferred bet in cement sector.

Y/E MARCH		FY06			FY07				FY06	FY07E
	1Q	2 Q	3 Q	4 Q	1Q	2QE	3QE	4QE		
Net Sales	15,533	16,391	16,482	18,151	18,770	18,996	19,610	18,712	66,557	76,089
YoY Change (%)	2.4	6.9	5.7	10.5	20.8	15.9	19.0	3.1	6.5	14.3
Total Expenditure	11,789	13,173	13,291	14,086	13,637	14,188	14,761	12,995	52,339	55,582
EBITDA	3,744	3,218	3,191	4,065	5,133	4,808	4,850	5,717	14,218	20,507
Margins (%)	24.1	19.6	19.4	22.4	27.3	25.3	24.7	30.6	21.4	27.0
Depreciation	705	720	733	759	741	732	736	988	2,916	3,197
Interest	265	237	235	236	235	334	324	462	973	1,355
Other Income	201	308	152	575	375	303	242	493	1,237	1,413
PBT before EO Items	2,975	2,570	2,376	3,645	4,532	4,045	4,032	4,760	11,565	17,369
Extraordinary Inc/(Exp)	454	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	454	0
PBT after EO Items	3,429	2,570	2,376	3,645	4,532	4,045	4,032	4,760	12,019	17,369
Тах	919	693	757	1,019	1,413	1,359	1,355	1,188	3,388	5,315
Rate (%)	26.8	27.0	31.9	28.0	31.2	33.6	33.6	25.0	28.2	30.6
Reported PAT	2,510	1,877	1,619	2,627	3,119	2,686	2,677	3,572	8,631	12,054
Adj. PAT	2,056	1,877	1,619	2,627	3,119	2,686	2,677	3,572	8,177	12,054
YoY Change (%)	-6.2	-14.7	-21.5	-3.3	25.6	23.5	39.0	31.9	-14.2	47.4

E: MOSt Estimates

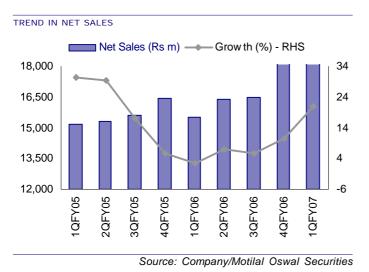
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	1QFY07	1QFY06	% YOY	4QFY06	% QOQ
Revenue Mix					
Fiber	4,411	4,178	5.6	5,007	-11.9
Cement	10,968	8,004	37.0	9,438	16.2
Sponge Iron	1,754	2,205	-20.5	1,098	59.7
Chemical	715	993	-28.0	887	-19.4
Textile	528	505	4.6	778	-32.1
Total	18,770	15,533	20.8	18,151	3.4
PBIT					
Fiber	979	767	27.6	1,381	-29.1
Cement	3,342	1,473	126.9	2,229	49.9
Sponge Iron	56	607	-90.8	-135	-141.5
Chemical	134	331	-59.5	226	-40.7
Textile	1	-6	-116.7	0	-
Total	4,512	3,172	42.2	3,701	21.9
EBIT Margins (%)					
Fiber	22.2	18.4		27.6	
Cement	30.5	18.4		23.6	
Sponge Iron	3.2	27.5		-12.3	
Chemical	18.7	33.3		25.5	
Textile	0.2	-1.2		0.0	
Unallocated	0.0	0.0		0.0	
Total	24.0	20.4		20.4	

Source: Company/Motilal Oswal Securities

Cement business drives revenues

Revenues were up 20.8% YoY to Rs18.8b driven by 37% growth in cement revenues (growth of 4.8% in volumes and 35.3% in realizations), and 5.6% growth in VSF revenues (8% up in realizations but 1.9% volume decline). Sponge iron revenues declined by 20.5% (decline of 1.9% in volumes and 14.4% in realizations).



Operating performance in line with our expectation

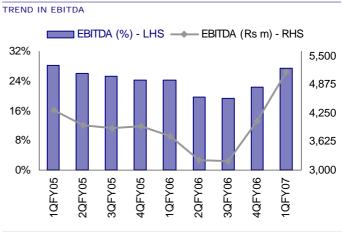
Grasim's 1QFY07 performance was better than our expectation as the significant improvement in the cement division's performance more than compensated for the decline in sponge iron profits. Operating margins improved by 320bp YoY on account of 10.9% margin expansion in cement business and 3.2% margin expansion in VSF.

Revenue mix improved significantly in favor of the core businesses (cement and VSF), which accounted for 81.9% of revenues v/s 78.4% in 1QFY06. Also EBIT mix also improved significantly with core business accounting for 95.7% of EBIT.

EBITDA margins improved

EBITDA was up 37.1% YoY to Rs5.1b. EBITDA margin expanded 320bp to 27.1%. Strong performance of the cement division drove this EBITDA margin expansion, which more than compensated for the lower-expected performance of the VSF division.

Cement division has delivered strong margin expansion (driven by realization growth) of 1,090bp YoY and 623bp QoQ to 34.3%. VSF margins also improved by 391bp to 25.9%, although it was lower than our estimates due to cost push on account of production shutdown. On account of falling realizations (down 14.4%) and sharp increase in operating cost per ton, sponge iron reported PBIDT of Rs104m versus Rs692m in 1QFY06.



Source: Company/Motilal Oswal Securities

Lower interest expenses (declined 11% YoY to Rs235m) and higher other income (86% higher YoY) resulted in recurring standalone PAT moving up by 51.7% YoY to Rs3.1b. Consolidated PAT for the quarter moved up by 71% to Rs4.35b on account of sharp improvement in operating performance of UltraTech Cemco.

Segmentwise performance

VSF division: lower-than-expected volumes due to plant shutdown — Performance of the VSF division was impacted by a 45-day shutdown at the Nagda plant owing to water shortage. This resulted in lower VSF production and thereby 1.9% lower sales volumes. Realizations for the quarter, on the other hand, moved up significantly, by 8% YoY, on account of rising prices for competing fibers.

VSF DIVISION PERFORMANCE

	1QFY07	1QFY06	% YOY	4QFY06	% QOQ
Production (ton)	45,194	52,282	-13.6	64,606	-30.0
Sales Volume (ton)	51,957	52,956	-1.9	60,636	-14.3
Net Turnover (Rs m)	4,411	4,178	5.6	5,007	-11.9
Avg Realiz. (Rs/ton)	78,983	73,102	8.0	77,133	2.4
PBDIT (Rs m)	1,143	918	24.5	1,557	-26.6
PBIDT Margin (%)	25.9	22.0		31.1	
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Source: Company/Motilal Oswal Securities

On account of higher demand and higher prices of competing fibers, Grasim raised VSF prices fromRs79/kg to Rs84/kg, which resulted in improved margins for the quarter. We believe that with higher volumes and better realizations, the outlook for the VSF division remains positive.

Cement: Significant margin expansion due to all-time high cement prices — The grey cement business witnessed sharp margin expansion on the back of all-time high cement prices. Grey cement revenues were up 38.4% on account of a sharp increase in realizations. Realizations moved up 35.3% to Rs2,731/ton while volumes moved up by 4.8% to 3.5m ton. White cement revenues were also higher by 21% to Rs754m. Higher realizations resulted in PBIDT margin expansion of 10.9% to 34.3%.

CEMENT DIVISION PERFORMANCE

	1QFY07	1QFY06	% YOY	4QFY06	% QOQ
A. Grey Cement					
Production (m ton)	3.6	3.35	6.3	3.78	-5.8
Sales Volume (m ton)	3.5	3.34	4.8	3.87	-9.6
Net Turnover (Rs m)	10,214	7,381	38.4	8,580	19.0
Avg Realiz. (Rs/ton)	2,731	2,019	35.3	2,155	26.7
B.White Cement					
Production (ton)	83,045	78,774	5.4	96,260	-13.7
Sales volume (ton)	81,143	79,871	1.6	95,598	-15.1
Net Turnover (Rs M)	754	623	21.0	858	-12.1
Avg Realiz. (Rs/ton)	6,213	5,870	5.8	6,117	1.6
PBDIT (Rs m)	3,765	1,872	101.1	2,651	42.0
PBIDT Margin (%)	34.3	23.4		28.1	
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Source: Company/Motilal Oswal Securities

Near-term cement prices are likely to remain firm; this will result in strong operating performance for the company in coming quarter. However, from 2HFY08, we expect significant addition on the supply side, which will put pressure on cement prices.

Sponge iron: double squeeze continues — Dismal performance of the sponge iron division continued in 1QFY07 also. While production declined by 29.4% YoY, sales volume was down 1.9% to 140,912 tons. Sponge iron realizations also declined 14.4% YoY to Rs12,054/ton. Steep increase in cost on account of 110% YoY increase in natural gas prices and 60% YoY increase in iron ore prices, resulted operating margins falling sharply from 31.4% to 8.1%.

SPONGE IRON DIVISION PERFORMANCE

	-	-			
PBIDT Margin (%)	8.1	31.4		-4.6	
PBDIT (Rs m)	142	692	-79.5	-50	-384.0
Avg Realiz. (Rs/ton)	12,054	14,075	-14.4	10,885	10.7
Net Turnover (Rs m)	1,754	2,205	-20.5	1,098	59.7
Sales volume (ton)	140,912	143,627	-1.9	95,949	46.9
Production (ton)	126,941	179,816	-29.4	109,073	16.4
	1QFY07	1QFY06	% YOY	4QFY06	% QOQ

Source: Company/Motilal Oswal Securities

We believe that Grasim's sponge iron division will continue to perform poorly, as its operating cost per ton is much higher due to poor raw material linkages. We believe that sponge iron realizations, going forward, will remain stable but due to inflated cost structure of the division, it will continue to operate at breakeven levels.

DETAILS OF PROJECT FOR GRASIM (STANDALONE)

PLACE	STATE	CAPACITY	CPP	CAPITAL	COST PER	IMPLEMENTATION
		(M TON)	(MW)	OUTLAY	TON(US\$)	
Kotputli (Greenfield)	Rajasthan	4.0	40.0	12,750	71.6	21 month
Sambhupura (Brownfield)	Rajasthan	4.0	46.0	12,000	67.4	21 month
Modernization, Debottlenecking	All Plant	1.5		11,660.0		24 month
Total				36,410.0		

Source: Company/Motilal Oswal Securities

DETAILS OF CAPEX PLAN FOR CEMCO

PLACE	STATE	CAPACITY	CPP	CAPITAL	COST PER	IMPLEMENTATION
		(M TON)	(MW)	OUTLAY	TON(US\$)	
Tadpatri (Brownfield)	AP	4.0	46.0	12,750	70.8	around 3 years
2 Thermal power plant			142.0	8,100		around 3 years
Others				6,150		around 3 years
Total				27,000		
				-		

Source: Company/Motilal Oswal Securities

Mega expansion plan in cement sector with a capital outlay of Rs63.4b: Grasim has announced capex of Rs63.4b for the cement sector (Rs36.4b in Grasim and Rs27b in Cemco) to expand cement capacity by 13.5m ton, set up a captive power plant and modernize and debottleneck all plants. Post-expansion, Grasim's standalone capacity will increase from 14m ton to 23.5m ton (single largest capacity) by end-FY08. On a consolidated basis, the A.V. Birla group will have direct control of 46m ton of capacity (this is much higher than the Holcim group companies' total capacity of 35m ton).

Upgrading estimates significantly

We have upgraded our earnings estimate for Grasim significantly on account of higher-than-expected increase in cement prices and increase in VSF prices (Rs79/kg to Rs84/ kg). With our revised assumption we have upgraded

Grasim's (standalone) FY07 net profit estimate to Rs12.1b (6.7% upgrade) and FY08 net profit estimate to Rs10.4b (19.3% upgrade). In line with superior standalone performance and significant improvement in UltraTech Cemco's performance, we have revised our consolidated PAT estimate for FY07 to Rs15.1b (5% upgrade) and FY08 net profit to Rs13.2b (14.5% upgrade).

Valuation and view

We expect Grasim to report EPS of Rs165.1 in FY07 and Rs143.8 in FY08. As the near-term outlook on cement prices is extremely favorable, Grasim will continue to report strong numbers in forthcoming quarters. The stock quotes at a valuation of 12.8x PER and 8.8x EV/EBITDA FY07E. Considering the attractive valuation and highest volume growth visibility at economical cost, we maintain Grasim as our most preferred bet in the cement sector.

Grasim Industries: an investment profile

Company description

Grasim is a diversified company with cement and VSF being core business, accounting for 60.4% and 23.1% of FY06 revenue. Its other business includes sponge iron, chemicals and textiles. The acquisition of UltraTech Cement, the cement division of L&T, by Grasim catapulted it to number one position in the Indian cement industry with total capacity under control of 31mt.

Key investment argument

- Being largest player with total capacity of 31MT (existing capacity) under control and highest organic growth visibility, Grasim would be biggest beneficiary of any further increase in cement price.
- Potential cost savings, apart from pricing power, arising out of synergies with UltraTech Cement could be additional Rs1b to the consolidated profits

Key investment risks

- Cement sector is likely to add huge capacities in coming year which can result in significant softening in cement prices.
- Poor performance of non core business will remain a drag on Grasim's overall operating performance.

COMPARATIVE VALUATIONS						
		GRASIM	ACC	GACL		
P/E (x)	FY07E	12.8	17.5	15.8		
	FY08E	14.7	18.5	18.0		
P/BV (x)	FY07E	3.1	5.5	4.5		
	FY08E	2.7	4.5	4.0		
EV/Sales (x)	FY07E	2.4	2.9	3.0		
	FY08E	2.3	2.8	3.0		
EV/EBITDA (x)	FY07E	8.8	11.5	8.9		
	FY08E	9.4	11.3	10.1		

SHAREHOLDING PATTERN (%)

	MAR.06	DEC.05	MAR.05
Promoters	25.0	25.0	22.0
Domestic Institutions	22.2	23.6	19.5
FIIs/FDIs	36.5	34.5	40.0
Others	16.3	16.9	18.5

7 August 2006

Recent development

- Plans to develop wood pulp plantations, over the next 7 years, at Laos
- Company has announced Rs63.4b capex plan in which Grasim will be increasing its group capacity from 31m ton to 46m ton in next three years.

Valuation and view

- The stock quotes at a valuation of 12.8x PER and 8.8x EV/EBITDA FY07E.
- We believe that Grasim will be one of the biggest beneficiary of current upturn in cement prices as well as its organic expansion plan.. Our SOTP based target price is Rs2,694. We maintain Grasim as our most preferred bet in the sector.

Sector view

- Volume expected to grow by 8% driven by continuous momentum in housing and infrastructure projects
- Improved demand supply dynamics due to limited capacity addition in previous years. However, Greenfield capacity addition can disturb the tight demand supply scenario
- Near term outlook for sector remains positive but longer-term prospects will be determined by sector's allocation of cash flow

EPS: MOST FOR	EPS: MOST FORECAST VS CONSENSUS (RS)								
		MOST	CONSENSUS	VARIATION					
	F	ORECAST	FORECAST	(%)					
FY07		165.1	141.9	16.3					
FY08		143.8	162.7	-11.6					
TARGET PRICE AND RECOMMENDATION									
CURRENT		TARGET	UPSIDE	RECO.					
PRICE (RS)	P	RICE (RS)	(%)						
2,115		2,694	27.4	Buy					
STOCK PERFORM	MANCE (1 YEAF	R)							
2,600 2,200 1,800 1,400 1,000	irasim (Rs) - Ll	HS F	Rel. to Sensex ((%) - RHS 60 40 20 0 					
Aug-05	Nov-05	Feb-06	May-06	Aug-06					

MOTILAL OSWAL

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT (Rs Million)									
Y/E MARCH	2004	2005	2006	2007E	2008E				
Net Sales	75,052	90,230	100,129	119,202	125,069				
Change (%)	62.9	20.2	11.0	19.0	4.9				
EBITDA	15,983	19,982	19,979	32,543	30,740				
Margin (%)	21.3	22.1	20.0	27.3	24.6				
Depreciation	5,205	5,155	5,277	5,657	6,527				
Int. and Finance Charges	2,723	2,481	1,868	2,005	1,969				
Other Income - Rec.	2,444	1,905	1,549	1,633	1,699				
PBT & EO items	10,498	14,250	14,383	26,515	23,944				
Change (%)	47.2	35.7	0.9	84.4	-9.7				
Extra Ordinary items	289	-577	454	0	0				
PBT but after EO items	10,787	13,674	14,837	26,515	23,944				
Tax	2,822	4,136	4,067	8,425	8,078				
Tax Rate (%)	26.2	30.2	27.4	31.8	33.7				
Reported PAT	7,966	9,538	10,770	18,091	15,866				
PAT Adj for EO items	7,752	9,940	10,440	18,091	15,866				
Less: Minority Interest	150	281	1,037	2,952	2,676				
Consolidated PAT	7602	9659	9403	15 139	13 189				
Change (%)	46.3	27.1	-2.7	61.0	-12.9				

CONSOLIDATED BALANCI	E SHEET			(Rs	Million)
Y/E MARCH	2004	2005	2006	2007E	2008E
Equity Share Capital	917	917	917	917	917
Preference Share Capital	0	0	0	0	0
Reserves	35,123	42,592	49,919	61,888	69,975
Revaluation Reserves	68	68	68	68	0
Net Worth	36,108	43,577	50,905	62,873	70,892
Loans	20,652	34,747	32,473	30,241	44,431
Deferred liabilities	6,325	11,656	11,983	15,069	17,385
M inority Interest	0	4,434	5,471	8,423	11,099
Capital Employed	63,086	94,414	100,833	116,606	143,808
Gross Block	57,055	107,325	111,793	129,707	153,049
Less: Accum. Deprn.	25,889	48,610	53,584	56,352	62,066
Net Fixed Assets	31,166	58,715	58,209	73,354	90,983
Capital WIP	1,017	2,447	3,436	5,093	4,750
Investments	25,407	8,472	14,321	11,347	12,479
Goodwill	0	17,323	17,323	17,323	17,323
Curr. Assets	14,960	25,073	27,431	33,952	43,788
Inventory	4,595	9,448	10,267	11, 194	11,748
Account Receivables	4,846	7,121	6,250	9,860	9,912
Cash and Bank Balance	2,275	1,317	1,996	6,158	15,275
Others	3,244	7,187	8,919	6,740	6,853
Curr. Liability & Prov.	9,464	17,617	19,888	24,463	25,516
Account Payables	7,521	13,852	16,168	19,332	20,565
Other Liabilities	1,943	3,247	3,546	2,733	2,757
Net Current Assets	5,496	7,456	7,543	9,489	18,273
Appl. of Funds	63,086	94,414	100,833	116,606	143,808
E: MOSt Estimates					

RATIOS					
Y/E MARCH	2004	2005	2006	2007E	2008E
Basic (Rs)					
EPS	82.9	105.3	102.6	165.1	143.8
Cash EPS	115.7	161.9	151.5	218.9	186.3
BV/Share	393.1	474.5	554.4	685.0	773.2
DPS	14.0	16.0	16.0	20.0	20.0
Payout (%)	18.7	16.9	16.0	11.5	13.1
Valuation (x)					
P/E		20.1	20.6	12.8	14.7
Cash P/E		13.1	14.0	9.7	11.4
P/BV		4.5	3.8	3.1	2.7
EV/Sales		2.8	2.6	2.2	2.3
EV/ EBITDA		11.9	12.6	8.2	9.3
Dividend Yield (%)		0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9
Return Ratios (%)					
RoE	21.1	22.2	18.5	24.1	18.6
RoCE	23.3	214	19.5	30.6	22.5
Working Capital Ratios					
Debtor (Days)	24	29	23	30	29
Asset Turnover (x)	12	1.0	1.0	10	0.9
Leverage Ratio					
Debt/Equity	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.6

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLO	OW STAT	EMENT		(Rs	Million)
Y/E MARCH	2004	2005	2006	2007E	2008E
Oper. Profit/(Loss) before Ta	15,983	24,415	21,016	35,495	33,416
Interest/Dividends Recd.	2,444	1,905	1,549	1,633	1,699
Direct Taxes Paid	-2,752	1,195	-3,740	-5,339	-5,762
(Inc)/Dec in WC	1,805	-2,918	592	2,216	334
CF from Operations	17,480	24,598	19,417	34,006	29,687
EO items	-289	577	-454	0	0
CF frm Op. incl EO	17,769	24,021	19,871	34,006	29,687
(inc)/dec in FA	-4,687	-34,135	-5,761	-22,458	-23,813
(Pur)/Sale of Investments	-7,446	-389	-5,849	2,974	-1,132
CF from Investments	- 12, 133	-34,523	-11,610	-19,484	-24,945
Issue of Shares	-183	-393	-1,773	-4,036	-5,761
(Inc)/Dec in Debt	-108	14,095	-2,273	-2,232	14,190
Interest Paid	-2,723	-2,481	-1,868	-2,005	-1,969
Dividend Paid	-1,448	-1,676	-1,669	-2,086	-2,086
CF from Fin. Activity	-4,462	9,545	-7,583	-10,359	4,375
Inc/Dec of Cash	1,174	-958	679	4,163	9,117
Add: Beginning Balance	1,101	2,275	1,317	1,996	6,158
Closing Balance	2,275	1,317	1,996	6,158	15,275

E: MOSt Estimates

NOTES



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