

Equities

3 November 2011 | 11 pages

## Sun TV Network (SUTV.BO)

Weak Revenue Outlook; Uncertainties Aplenty

- 2QFY12 below expectations Moderation in all core business drivers advertising & DTH, cable and international subscription growth were below expectations. The release of 2 movies partially supported overall revenues at Rs4.5bn (+6% yoy) vs. expectations of ~Rs4.6bn. While operating costs were under control, the modest revenue growth led to the profit miss: PAT at Rs1.8bn (+8% yoy) was lower than our/Street estimates of Rs1.87bn. EBIT margins at ~54.9% contracted 190bps yoy & 230bps QoQ on the back of a) higher depreciation (+56% yoy) driven by the capitalization of the new premises & b) amortization (+24% yoy) on account of the new movie releases.
- Advertising growth slows to 2% yoy Mgmt indicated the weak ad growth (to ~Rs2.3bn) was driven by the broad market slowdown. It believes it will continue to outperform market growth given its dominant viewership shares.
- DTH subscription revenues disappoint.... DTH related subscription revenues declined 6% QoQ to Rs790m, significantly lagging overall DTH market growth in India. Mgmt noted yields were negatively impacted as some contracts with DTH operators came up for re-negotiation. The lower rates are following the Supreme Court ruling in April 2011, which provided DTH operators better bargaining power with broadcasters (details on pg 4). Mgmt now guides to ~12-14% yoy growth in DTH revenues in FY12.
- And so do cable subscription revenues The impact of Tamil Nadu government's revival of the discounted state run cable business (Arasu) were visible non DTH pay revenues declined of ~13% yoy to ~Rs470m. Mgmt noted that it is negotiating with Arasu and expects to be on its network in the near future.
- Downside risks to consensus estimates While Sun's positioning in key regional markets & business model are attractive, we remain cautious at this juncture given a) moderating growth & risks to consensus est.; & b) political uncertainties around the promoter family. We pare estimates by ~2-3% over FY12-14E, cutting our revenue forecasts & tweaking operating costs in line with recent trends. Our TP is revised to Rs280 from Rs265 as we roll forward to 12x Mar13E (12x Sept12E earlier).

Year to	Net Profit	Diluted EPS	EPS growth	P/E	P/B	ROE	Yield
31 Mar	(RsM)	(Rs)	(%)	(x)	(x)	(%)	(%)
2010A	5,234	13.28	42.1	20.6	5.7	29.2	2.7
2011A	7,722	19.59	47.5	14.0	4.8	37.3	3.2
2012E	7,899	20.04	2.3	13.6	4.2	32.7	3.7
2013E	9,119	23.14	15.4	11.8	3.7	33.1	4.6
2014E	10,675	27.09	17.1	10.1	3.3	34.3	5.5

Company Update

Target Price Change

Estimate Change

Neutral/High Risk	2H
Price (03 Nov 11)	Rs273.35
Target price	Rs280.00
from Rs265.00	
Expected share price return	2.4%
Expected dividend yield	3.7%
Expected total return	6.1%
Market Cap	Rs107,723M
	US\$2,190M

#### Price Performance (RIC: SUTV.BO, BB: SUNTV IN)



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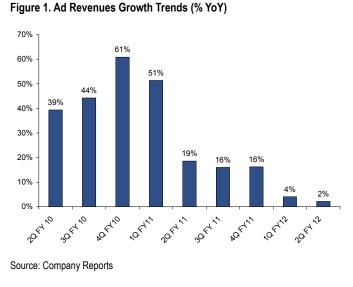
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Fiscal year end 31-Mar	2010	2011	2012E	2013E	2014E
Valuation Ratios					
P/E adjusted (x)	20.6	14.0	13.6	11.8	10.1
EV/EBITDA adjusted (x)	9.4	6.4	6.3	5.5	4.7
P/BV (x)	5.7	4.8	4.2	3.7	3.3
Dividend yield (%)	2.7	3.2	3.7	4.6	5.5
Per Share Data (Rs)					
EPS adjusted	13.28	19.59	20.04	23.14	27.09
EPS reported	13.28	19.59	20.04	23.14	27.09
BVPS	47.85	57.19	65.58	74.16	83.77
DPS	7.50	8.75	10.00	12.50	15.00
Profit & Loss (RsM)					
Net sales	14,528	20,135	20,145	22,436	25,288
Operating expenses	-6,794	-9,137	-8,872	-9,548	-10,269
EBIT	7,735	10,998	11,273	12,888	15,019
Net interest expense	-49	-23	-86	-86	0
Non-operating/exceptionals	350	487	603	920	1,092
Pre-tax profit	8,035	11,463	11,790	13,723	16,111
Tax	-2,991	-3,831	-3,891	-4,528	-5,317
Extraord./Min.Int./Pref.div.	190	90	0	-75	-120
Reported net income	5,234	7,722	7,899	9,119	10,675
Adjusted earnings	5,234	7,722	7,899	9,119	10,675
Adjusted EBITDA	10,944	15,803	15,822	17,510	19,684
Growth Rates (%)					
Sales	39.8	38.6	0.1	11.4	12.7
EBIT adjusted	49.8	42.2	2.5	14.3	16.5
EBITDA adjusted	48.5	44.4	0.1	10.7	12.4
EPS adjusted	42.1	47.5	2.3	15.4	17.1
Cash Flow (RsM)					
Operating cash flow	9,928	10,696	10,373	13,833	15,645
Depreciation/amortization	3,209	4,805	4,549	4,622	4,664
Net working capital	1,596	-1,811	-2,075	17	186
Investing cash flow	-6,159	-5,083	-4,331	-4,580	-4,618
Capital expenditure	-5,618	-4,810	-4,268	-4,580	-4,618
Acquisitions/disposals	-541	-273	-63	0	0
Financing cash flow	-3,056	-3,950	-2,867	-7,539	-7,007
Borrowings	-715	0	1,724	-1,725	0
Dividends paid	-3,449	-4,015	-4,591	-5,739	-6,887
Change in cash	713	1,663	3,175	1,714	4,021
Balance Sheet (RsM)					
Total assets	25,052	28,669	33,258	35,372	39,730
Cash & cash equivalent	4,367	6,030	9,205	10,919	14,939
Accounts receivable	3,292	4,300	5,243	5,225	5,543
Net fixed assets	12,126	12,132	11,850	11,809	11,762
Total liabilities	4,948	4,883	6,164	4,897	5,468
Accounts payable	0	0	0	0	0
Total Debt	1	1	1,725	0	0
Shareholders' funds	20,104	23,786	27,094	30,475	34,263
Profitability/Solvency Ratios (%)					
EBITDA margin adjusted	75.3	78.5	78.5	78.0	77.8
ROE adjusted	29.2	37.3	32.7	33.1	34.3
ROIC adjusted	36.2	49.8	45.5	49.0	57.3
Net debt to equity	-21.7	-25.3	-27.6	-35.8	-43.6
Total debt to capital	0.0	0.0	6.0	0.0	0.0

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## **2QFY12 Results Review**

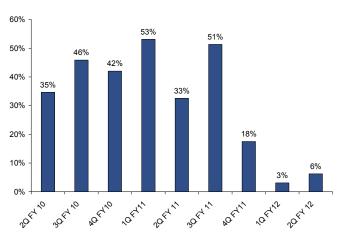


Figure 2. Total Revenue Growth Trends (% YoY)\*

Source: Company Reports and CIRA; \*3QFY11 revenues includes contribution from the movie, *Endhiran* 

#### Figure 3. Sun TV Network (Parent): Reported Results (Rs Mn, %)

	2Q FY 11	2Q FY 12	%yoy
Net Sales	4248	4513	6.2
Total Expenditure	-925	-858	-7.2
Operating Profit	3323	3654	10.0
Operating Margin (%)	78.2	81.0	275 bps
Depreciation and Amortisation	-908	-1176	29.6
EBIT	2415	2478	2.6
EBIT Margin (%)	56.9	54.9	-194 bps
Other Income	93	186	101.3
Interest	-3	-8	153.3
PBT	2505	2657	6.1
Tax	-830	-856	3.0
Tax Rate (%)	33.1	32.2	-95 bps
PAT	1674	1801	7.6
Cost Details			
Cost of Revenues	250	225	-10.0
% of sales	5.9	5.0	-90 bps
Staff Costs	407	414	1.8
% of sales	9.6	9.2	-40 bps
Other Expenditure	268	219	-18.2
% of sales	6.3	4.9	-145 bps
Source: Company Reports			

#### Figure 4. Sun TV Network (Parent): Segmental Revenue Trends (Rs Mn, %)

	2Q FY 11	2Q FY 12	%yoy
Advertising	2300	2350	2.2
Broadcast sales	400	390	-2.5
DTH	700	790	12.9
Non DTH Pay	540	470	-13.0
International Pay	160	180	12.5
Movies/Others	148	333	125.0
Source: Company Reports			

#### Figure 5. Sun TV Network (Parent): Balance Sheet Summary (Rs Mn)

As of End	2Q FY 11	2Q FY 12
Cash and Equivalent	4,308	6,397
Sundry debtors	3,498	4,995
Other current assets	1,650	1,656
Inventories	3	3
Loans and advances	1,240	2,387
Total current assets	10,698	15,437
Current liabilities & provisions	3,578	2,285
Net Current Assets	7,120	13,152
Investments	5,881	5,028
Deferred tax assets	(303)	(379)
Net PPE	10,660	10,139
Non Current Assets	176	175
Total assets	23,534	28,115
Share capital	1,970	1,970
Reserves and surplus	21,564	24,419
Share holders' funds	23,534	26,390
Debt		1,725
Total liabilities and equity	23,534	28,115

#### Figure 6. Sun TV Network (Consolidated): Earnings Revision Summary

Year to 31-Mar	2012E			2013E			2014E			
	Old	New 9	% Chg	Old	New 9	% Chg	Old	New	% Chg	
Sales (Rs Mils.)	20,989	20,145	-4%	23,769	22,436	-6%	26,848	25,288	-6%	
EBITDA (Rs Mils.)	16,291	15,822	-3%	18,283	17,510	-4%	20,498	19,684	-4%	
EBITDA Margin (%)	77.6%	78.5%		76.9%	78.0%		76.3%	77.8%		
Net Profit (Rs Mils.)	8,068	7,899	-2%	9,390	9,119	-3%	10,888	10,675	-2%	
Diluted EPS (Rs)	20.5	20.0	-2%	23.8	23.1	-3%	27.6	27.1	-2%	
Source: Citi Investmer	nt Research	and Analys	sis estima	ates						

#### Appendix – Details of the Supreme Court ruling of April 2011

On 18<sup>th</sup> April 2011, the Supreme Court of India stayed an order of the Telecom Disputes Settlement & Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT), setting aside Telecom Regulatory Authority of India's (TRAI) notification fixing content pricing by DTH operators at 35% of the rates paid by cable for TV channels, and raised the same to 42%. It also added that the agreements between DTH operators and broadcasters, which are already in place, shall prevail.

Historically, DTH companies were expected to pay the broadcasters at 50% of the tariff fixed for cable homes by TRAI. In December 2010, TDSAT had passed an order mandating that broadcasters charge from DTH and IPTV providers up to 35% of the rates paid by cable operators for their channels. On 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010, TRAI had notified that a new wholesale tariff structure would be effective 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2010, whereby broadcasters can charge only at 35% of the rates that they charged from normal cable operators while supplying service providers on platforms such as

DTH, IPTV and HITS. After this, leading broadcasters had moved TDSAT challenging TRAI's tariff order to cap the wholesale price of channels to service providers like DTH and IPTV at 35% of the rates for normal cable operators.

The Supreme Court overruling the 35% formula and setting a higher rate (42%) provides the DTH companies better bargaining power while they renegotiate contracts with broadcasters (like Sun TV Network) going forward.

## Sun TV Network

#### **Company description**

Sun TV Network (Sun) is the dominant broadcaster in the South Indian states of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala, enjoying almost monopolistic advantage in key segments. Sun has the largest broadcasting platform in South India and operates 20 channels in South Indian languages, in key genres like general entertainment, cinema, news, music and kids programs. It began as a single-channel company in Tamil Nadu in 1993, and has evolved into a multi-language and multi-genre broadcaster. Besides TV broadcasting, Sun owns FM radio licenses for 45 cities.

#### Investment strategy

We rate Sun TV shares Neutral / High Risk (2H). It is the dominant South Indian broadcaster, enjoying strong leadership in its markets. We believe Sun TV will be one of the biggest beneficiaries of the pay market (particularly DTH) ramp up in India. Sun has successfully worked with the free commercial time (FCT) model. We expect ~9% advertising revenue CAGR over FY11-FY13E - slower than its historical growth rates and market expectations. Muted subscription revenue growth outlook is an overhang. Further, risks of rising competition in the regional markets and radio business investment could adversely impact profitability. News flow around political uncertainties around the promoter family will prevent a meaningful re-rating in the near term, in our view.

#### Valuation

Our target price of Rs280 is based on 12x March13E consolidated EPS. Our target multiple is around trough levels, factoring in the dual risks of a) moderating growth going forward (we forecast ~10% EPS CAGR over FY11-13E v/s ~44% EPS CAGR over FY09-11) and b) the political uncertainties around the promoter family. We note that our target multiple is much lower than the historical 5-year average multiples (>25x one year forward P/E), and just a tad higher than the trough multiples witnessed around the last downturn (~11x). In relative terms, our target P/E multiple will be at a slight discount to the market, much lower than the historical avg. P/E premium of ~70% to the BSE Sensex.

#### Risks

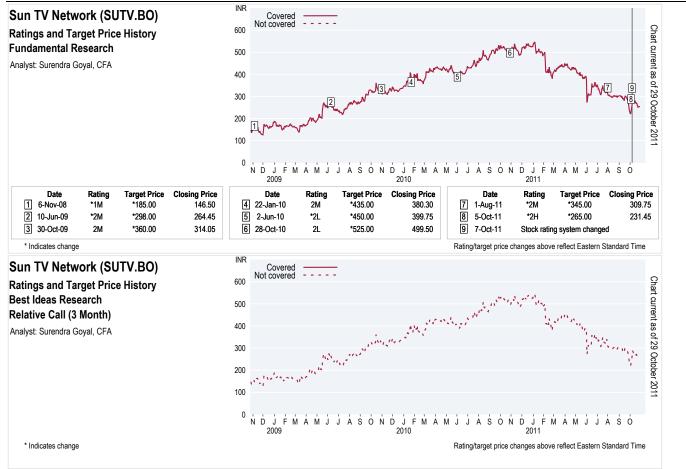
We rate Sun TV Network shares as High Risk given the political uncertainties around the promoter family which may weigh on the stock price. Key downside risks to our target price include: 1) With increasing competitive intensity in various states, Sun TV could lose market share as channel fragmentation would be in play. This also increases the cost of content and may impact operating margins. 2) Higher than estimated funding for the radio ventures could change financials, return ratios and cash flow profile. 3) Adverse political equations could hurt the stock. Upside risks to our target price include: 1) Company could manage issues with cable / DTH operators better and improve its domestic subscription revenues. 2) Movie business could result in high returns, which may provide upside risk to our estimates. 3) With decent cash flows, any increase in dividend payouts could result in a higher yield and positively impact the stock.

# Appendix A-1

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12 Month Rating Relative Rating					
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45%	42%	37%	50%	43%	46%
	<b>Buy</b> 59%	Buy Hold   59% 34%	Buy Hold Sell   59% 34% 7%	Buy Hold Sell Buy   59% 34% 7% 10%	Buy Hold Sell Buy Hold   59% 34% 7% 10% 79%

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