

Company

5 July 2010 | 11 pages

Hindalco Industries (HALC.BO)

 Equity
 Target price change
 Estimate change

Our Preferred Non-Ferrous Play

- Revising TP, maintain Buy** — We revise our TP downwards to Rs175 (from Rs217) on lower LME prices, lower EBITDA/t for Novelis (from \$340/t earlier to \$285-300/t), but more favourable FX rates. We continue to value Hindalco standalone at 8.5x Jun11 PE and other businesses at 7.5x EV/EBITDA. At our TP, Hindalco would trade at 7.4x Jun 2011E EV/EBITDA and 11.2x PE.
- Hindalco is our top non-ferrous pick** — Hindalco is among the lowest-cost aluminium producers globally, well-integrated with captive power, bauxite and 30% of its own coal. We believe that Novelis' conversion margins should remain relatively steady despite recent LME price weakness. While Novelis' volumes could be impacted by the uncertain outlook in Europe, the can sheet business (more than 50% of Novelis' sales) should do relatively better than other sectors.
- Novelis performance should be better** — EBITDA/t was ~\$300 in 3Q & 4Q FY10. Novelis is now more EBITDA-driven and expects higher margins in the coming quarters. Management expects strong demand in Asia/South America (~30% of volumes) and moderate growth in North America/Europe. Management is hopeful of adj. EBITDA crossing \$1bn (we forecast \$850m in FY11 and \$920m in FY12).
- Aluminium: preferred metal** — We expect limited downside price risk as current prices already seem to be discounting a significant economic slowdown. Our new price forecasts: \$2,090/t (FY11) and \$2,273/t (FY12). Key positives: 1) a modest deficit in 2011 and 2012; 2) at current prices (\$1,900/t) about 30% of production is sub-economic; 3) we expect production cuts in China (high end of cost curve) due to falling margins and government measures; 4) Inventory levels are high, but there is good potential for physically backed aluminium ETF.
- Sensitivity to prices** — A 5% change in aluminium LME prices would impact FY11 PAT by 8%. A 5% change in Rs/US\$ rate would impact PAT by 12%.

Buy/Medium Risk	1M
Price (02 Jul 10)	Rs144.10
Target price	Rs175.00
	<i>from Rs217.00</i>
Expected share price return	21.4%
Expected dividend yield	1.2%
Expected total return	22.7%
Market Cap	Rs275,728M
	US\$5,919M

Price Performance (RIC: HALC.BO, BB: HNDL IN)



Figure 1. Hindalco – Statistical Abstract

YE 31 Mar	Net Profit (Rs m)	EPS (Rs)	EPS growth (%)	P/E (x)	EV/EBITDA (x)	ROE (%)
FY07	26,876	26.7	59%	5.4	3.1	21%
FY08	21,678	18.6	-31%	7.8	4.9	13%
FY09	26,692	18.2	-2%	7.9	7.6	17%
FY10E	10,361	5.4	-70%	26.6	7.2	6%
FY11E	29,229	15.3	182%	9.4	6.7	15%
FY12E	32,336	16.9	11%	8.5	6.6	14%

Source: Company Reports and Citi Investment Research and Analysis estimates. Price as on 2 July 2009.

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Fiscal year end 31-Mar	2008	2009	2010E	2011E	2012E
Valuation Ratios					
P/E adjusted (x)	8.2	9.2	26.6	9.4	8.5
EV/EBITDA adjusted (x)	4.9	7.7	6.7	6.0	5.8
P/BV (x)	1.0	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.2
Dividend yield (%)	1.3	0.2	0.5	1.2	1.2
Per Share Data (Rs)					
EPS adjusted	17.67	15.70	5.41	15.27	16.90
EPS reported	17.67	15.70	5.41	15.27	16.90
BVPS	140.94	93.23	89.92	104.24	120.29
DPS	1.85	0.25	0.75	1.75	1.75
Profit & Loss (RsM)					
Net sales	600,128	656,252	601,707	646,575	678,612
Operating expenses	-546,874	-626,647	-561,644	-594,342	-615,031
EBIT	53,254	29,604	40,063	52,232	63,581
Net interest expense	-18,491	-12,323	-11,662	-11,450	-18,191
Non-operating/exceptionals	0	0	0	0	0
Pre-tax profit	34,763	17,281	28,401	40,783	45,390
Tax	-11,889	8,046	-16,368	-11,313	-12,431
Extraord./Min.Int./Pref.div.	-1,196	1,365	-1,672	-241	-623
Reported net income	21,678	26,692	10,361	29,229	32,336
Adjusted earnings	21,678	26,692	10,361	29,229	32,336
Adjusted EBITDA	78,137	59,982	68,055	80,053	95,446
Growth Rates (%)					
Sales	210.7	9.4	-8.3	7.5	5.0
EBIT adjusted	34.0	-44.4	35.3	30.4	21.7
EBITDA adjusted	61.5	-23.2	13.5	17.6	19.2
EPS adjusted	-23.8	-11.2	-65.5	182.1	10.6
Cash Flow (RsM)					
Operating cash flow	53,999	45,812	32,980	70,482	70,612
Depreciation/amortization	24,883	30,378	27,992	27,820	31,865
Net working capital	6,863	18,053	3,976	710	-13,144
Investing cash flow	-152,437	-23,672	-46,833	-105,150	-144,634
Capital expenditure	-27,507	-25,988	-48,486	-109,640	-148,880
Acquisitions/disposals	-133,910	-6,788	-500	-500	-500
Financing cash flow	129,222	-67,303	3,356	33,505	76,826
Borrowings	127,123	-91,954	-10,070	46,075	98,152
Dividends paid	-101	-3,532	-2,686	-1,119	-3,135
Change in cash	35,354	-48,201	-10,497	-1,163	2,804
Balance Sheet (RsM)					
Total assets	726,467	644,672	656,806	735,886	861,007
Cash & cash equivalent	119,349	71,148	61,020	59,498	62,373
Accounts receivable	67,174	66,733	62,657	62,321	62,252
Net fixed assets	292,391	304,744	325,238	407,058	524,072
Total liabilities	537,448	473,270	468,390	518,822	611,864
Accounts payable	108,661	96,078	104,682	104,413	102,752
Total Debt	323,524	283,098	273,028	319,103	417,254
Shareholders' funds	189,019	171,402	188,416	217,064	249,144
Profitability/Solvency Ratios (%)					
EBITDA margin adjusted	13.0	9.1	11.3	12.4	14.1
ROE adjusted	14.4	16.1	6.3	15.7	15.1
ROIC adjusted	14.7	9.7	6.3	9.7	9.7
Net debt to equity	108.0	123.7	112.5	119.6	142.4
Total debt to capital	63.1	62.3	59.2	59.5	62.6

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Estimate Revisions

Figure 2. Hindalco – Estimate Changes, FY11-12E

	FY11E			FY12E		
	Old	New	% chg	Old	New	% chg
Average Aluminium LME (\$/t)	2,350	2,090	-11%	2,416	2,273	-6%
Copper TcRc (US\$/lb)	13.8	13.8	0%	20.0	20.6	3%
Rs/\$ rate	43.5	44.5	2%	41.0	41.5	1%
No. of shares (m)	1,914	1,914	0%	1,914	1,914	0%
Standalone						
Net sales (Rs bn)	236.9	217.9	-8%	253.3	241.4	-5%
EBITDA (Rs bn)	44.4	38.2	-14%	53.3	49.2	-8%
Net profit (Rs bn)	25.9	21.3	-18%	26.3	23.1	-12%
Novelis						
Net sales (Rs bn)	446.2	427.9	-4%	441.3	434.3	-2%
EBITDA (Rs bn)	43.3	37.6	-13%	42.1	38.1	-10%
Consolidated						
Net sales (Rs bn)	683.8	646.6	-5%	697.7	678.6	-3%
EBITDA (Rs bn)	92.0	80.1	-13%	103.9	95.4	-8%
Net profit (Rs bn)	38.0	29.2	-23%	38.6	32.3	-16%
EPS (Rs)	19.9	15.3	-23%	20.2	16.9	-16%

Source: Citi Investment Research and Analysis estimates. Note – EBITDA includes other income

Valuation

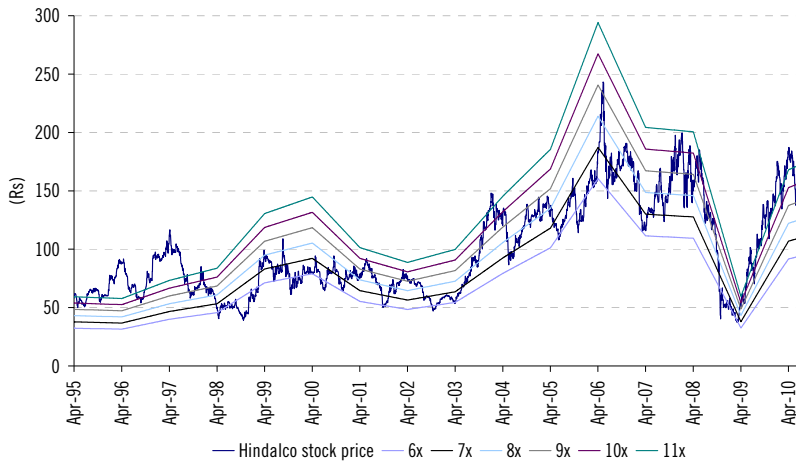
Figure 3. Hindalco – SOTP Valuation

Hindalco standalone	
EPS – Jun11 (Rs)	11.4
Target P/E multiple (x)	8.5
Derived share price (Rs) - A	96.6
EBITDA for other businesses (Rs m)	
EBITDA for other businesses (Rs m)	42,983
Target EV/EBITDA multiple (x)	7.5
Derived EV (Rs m)	322,372
Net debt for other businesses (Rs m)	171,700
Derived market value for other businesses (Rs m)	150,672
Number of shares (m)	1,914
Derived price for other businesses (Rs) - B	78.7
Target price for Hindalco (Rs) – A + B	175

Source: Citi Investment Research and Analysis

The stock price correction offers an opportunity to enter a stock with relatively stable earnings at a time of LME price uncertainty and volatility.

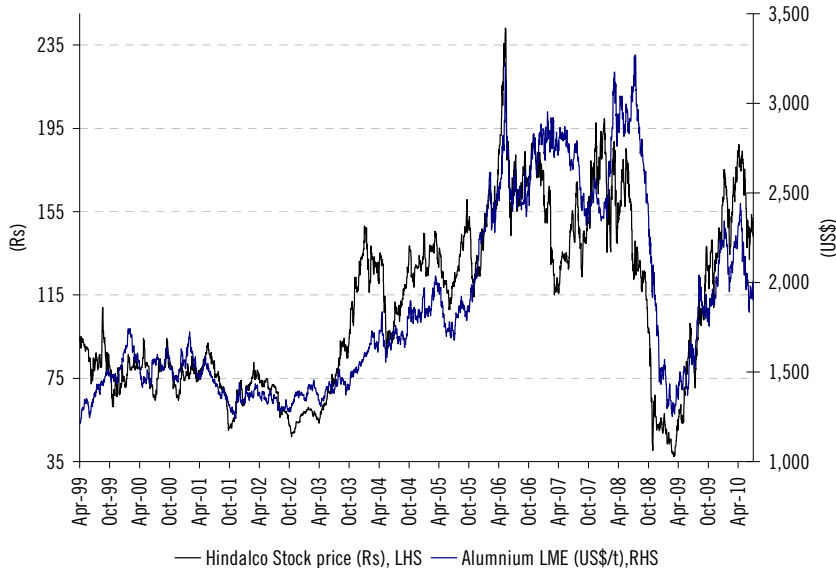
Figure 4. Hindalco Industries -- - Rolling P/E band chart (1-yr fwd)



Source: DataStream, Company Reports and Citi Investment Research and Analysis

Despite its diversification into copper, the profits and stock price performance are largely driven by trends in aluminium prices.

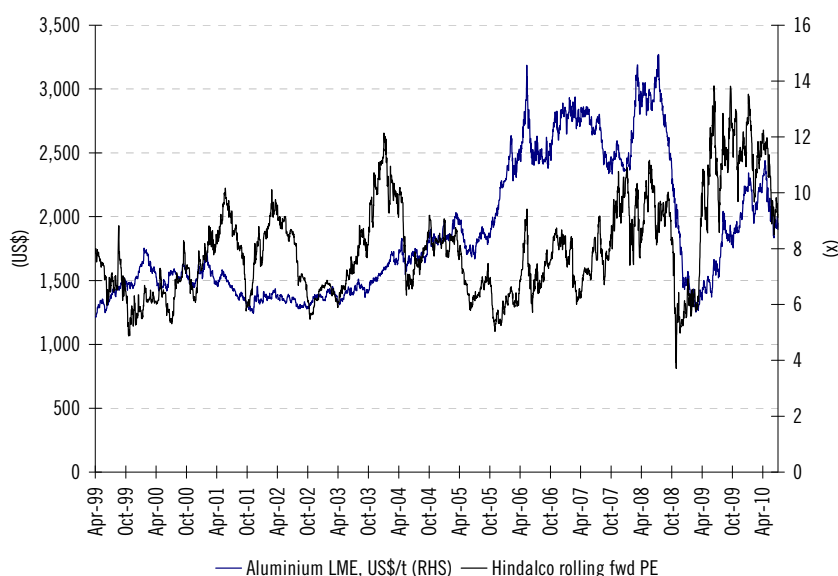
Figure 5. Hindalco stock price (Rs) vs. Aluminium LME (US\$)



Source: Datastream

Figure 6 indicates that except for very brief periods, Hindalco's rolling forward P/E has moved up or down in line with trends in aluminium prices.

Figure 6. Aluminium LME (US\$) vs. Hindalco's rolling fwd P/E



Source: Datastream, Company Reports, Citi Investment Research and Analysis

Takeaways from India Investor Conference in May 2010

- **Novelis: a stable business** — 3Q and 4Q FY10 EBITDA/t was ~\$300 and management believes this is sustainable. 4Q was the first quarter since the downturn that shipments rose in every region on a yoy basis (18% overall to 716kt). 4Q EBITDA was \$164m while adj. EBITDA was \$231m. FY10 reported EBITDA \$1.3bn, Adj EBITDA \$754m. Novelis has been able to re-negotiate higher premiums for its products. Autos are its most lucrative sector, accounting for 15% of volumes. Can sheets account for ~50-55% of volumes de-risking the business to the extent that volumes may not be significantly hit in a downturn. Novelis has announced plans to invest ~\$300m to expand its aluminium rolling operations in Brazil (by >50% to 600ktpa). This is in line with its strategy of growing in more profitable and faster-growing markets such as Asia and Latin America.
- **Cost-saving initiatives at Novelis** — Novelis has shifted focus from being volume driven to EBITDA driven. It has closed some facilities and cut 10% of its manpower over the last 15 months. Other initiatives: 1) centralized procurement; 2) risk management improvement; 3) better supply chain management (has helped reduce inventory levels by 100kt); 4) cutting consultancy costs; 5) transferring facilities from Rogerstone, UK to Hirakud, Orissa.
- **Standalone FY10 update** — FY10 profits impacted by Rs15.5bn vs FY09 - Rs7.5bn on account of lower LME prices/FX changes, Rs7bn on account of lower by-product realizations and the balance due to higher coal costs. The decline would have been higher but for 1) higher volumes (+6% for aluminium, +12% for copper); 2) higher proportion of value added sales - rolled products up 13%, extrusions 8%, wire rods 23%; 3) increased sales in domestic market from 68% to 82% (indicating rising Indian demand).

- **Copper update** — Cash cost of production fell by 39% in FY10. Cathode production rose 12% and rod production was up 7%. Hindalco expects copper EBITDA to remain in a range of Rs7-8bn per annum. Sulphuric acid prices are moving up slowly. Hindalco should gain from higher sulphuric acid prices and higher copper rod production. This will help compensate for lower DAP prices as it is now being sold on a nutrient based formula with price caps vs import parity pricing earlier.
- **Aluminium expansion plans** — The first phase of expansion includes 1) Utkal Alumina - 1.4mtpa, 2QFY12, Rs56bn capex; 2) Mahan Aluminium – 359ktpa, 2QFY12, Rs92bn; 3) Aditya Aluminium – 359ktpa, 4QFY12, Rs92bn; 4) Hirakud expansion from 155ktpa to 216ktpa by 2QFY12.

Hindalco Industries

Company description

In India, Hindalco is a low-cost integrated aluminum producer (capacity ~500,000 tpa) with access to captive power and bauxite. It has a copper smelting capacity of 500,000 tpa and in aluminum has a strong domestic market share with a dominant 60%-65% share in sheet products. It plans to triple its alumina and aluminum capacity by FY14 in stages, with priority given to projects such as Utkal Alumina (Orissa), Aditya Aluminium (Orissa) and Mahan (Madhya Pradesh). Hindalco owns copper mines in Australia through its 51% subsidiary, Aditya Birla Minerals, which should meet ~10%-15% of its ore requirement. On 15 May 2007, it acquired Novelis, the world's leading aluminium rolled products producer (FY09 sales of 2.94m tonnes), and a leader in the can sheet market. Novelis' key markets are North America and Europe (~70% of FY10 shipments) with the rest sold in Asia and South America. Beverage and food cans are the biggest end-use market for Novelis, accounting for more than 50% of volumes.

Investment strategy

We rate Hindalco Buy/Medium Risk (1M). Our global aluminium price forecasts are US\$2,090/t for FY11 and US\$2,273/t for FY12. Aluminium is one of our preferred metals with limited downside price risk as it already seems to be discounting a significant economic slowdown. Key factors in its favour: 1) we expect a modest deficit in 2011 and 2012; 2) at current prices about 30% of aluminium production is sub-economic; 3) we expect production cuts in China (high end of cost curve) due to falling prices and government measures (capacity closures and higher power tariffs); 4) Inventory levels are high but there is good potential for physically backed aluminium ETF. In copper, we expect TC/RC margins to remain sluggish at US\$13.8c/lb in FY11, but improve to US\$20.6c/lb in FY12. Novelis performed well in 3Q and 4Q FY10 with EBITDA/t at ~US\$300. The coming quarters should be better. Management expects to see strong demand in Asia/South America (~30% of volumes) and moderate growth in North America/Europe. Novelis has shifted focus from being volume driven to being EBITDA-driven and the coming quarters should be better with higher margins. Can sheets (more than 50% of volumes) continue to be a very strong sector. Management is hopeful of adj. EBITDA exceeding \$1bn and is spending \$300m to expand in fast-growing markets in South America. Hindalco's net debt to equity is expected to remain around 1.2x in FY10-11 but is likely to rise further based on plans to triple India-based capacity.

Valuation

Our target price of Rs175 is based on SOTP. To value Hindalco standalone we use a P/E of 8.5x on Jun-11 earnings, at the higher end of its trading range (6x to 10x) over the past five years. We use P/E because stocks such as Hindalco are largely driven by commodity price trends, which translate into earnings momentum. The multiple appears justified given our outlook of improving aluminium prices and its position as a low-cost domestic producer. We value Novelis and Hindalco's other businesses at 7.5x EV/EBITDA and we estimate EBITDA/tonne of US\$285 in FY11 and US\$300 in FY12. The valuation is at a small premium to average global multiples, which range from 6x to 9x. We use EV/EBITDA (rather than P/E) because Novelis has a high level of debt. At our target price, Hindalco would trade at a consolidated EV/EBITDA of 7.4x and P/E of 11.2x.

Risks

Our quantitative risk-rating system, which tracks 260-day historical share price volatility, suggests a High Risk rating for Hindalco shares. However, based on its low cost of production for aluminium, its strong presence in the domestic market and its restructured debt-equity, we feel a rating of Medium Risk is more appropriate. Possible upside risks to our target price include: 1) commodity prices (aluminum and alumina) surpassing our forecasts; 2) copper TC/RC margins exceeding our forecasts; 3) depreciation of the rupee; 4) Novelis' operational performance surpassing forecasts; and 5) Increase in aluminium import duty. Downside risks include: 1) commodity prices (aluminum and alumina) coming in below our forecasts; 2) lower EBITDA/t and lower volumes (for Novelis); 3) appreciation of the rupee; 4) lowering of import duties.

Appendix A-1

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Hindalco Industries (HALC.BO)

Ratings and Target Price History

Fundamental Research

Analyst: Pradeep Mahtani

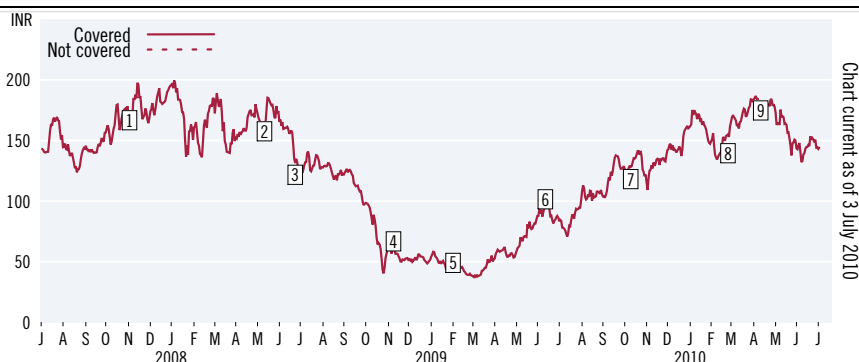


Chart current as of 3 July 2010

Date	Rating	Target Price	Closing Price	Date	Rating	Target Price	Closing Price	Date	Rating	Target Price	Closing Price
1 2-Nov-07	3M	*132.56	170.24	4 10-Nov-08	*3H	*51.00	66.80	7 9-Oct-09	1M	*154.00	128.20
2 12-May-08	*1M	*217.91	158.89	5 2-Feb-09	3H	*34.00	46.10	8 24-Feb-10	1M	*187.00	155.00
3 24-Jun-08	1M	*170.69	131.42	6 11-Jun-09	*1M	*125.00	101.50	9 11-Apr-10	1M	*217.00	178.85

* Indicates change

Rating/target price changes above reflect Eastern Standard Time

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