

Company In-Depth

17 November 2006 | 9 pages

Raymond Ltd (RYMD.BO)

Buy: Poised for Sustained Growth

 Rating change
 Target price change
 Estimate change

- Reiterate Buy** — With growth fundamentals intact, expanding store network offering a proxy to play domestic retailing story, and the company's strong balance sheet with cash reserves of Rs4bn, we reiterate Buy with a lower target price of Rs570 based on 16.5x Sept 07E P/E ascribed to leaders, which is more conservative than the 2x EV/Sales assigned earlier; implied 31% ETR.
- Improved earnings growth visibility** — With most expansions in worsted fabric, denim, shirting-carded woolen fabric and garmenting commissioned – we see improved earnings growth visibility due to focus on richer product mix and higher operating leverage; we forecast earnings CAGR of 28% over FY06-09E.
- Thrust on branded retailing** — The company plans to expand its premium brand portfolio and existing network of around 400 retail outlets by adding 75 new stores. We estimate revenue growth of 15% over FY06-09E and higher EBITDA margins of 14% (vs. 6-7% for peers) given its premium positioning, which should contribute towards earnings growth.
- Garment operations in ramp-up mode** — We see rapid growth in export garment operations of suits, trousers, jeans and shirts (all 100% subs), after initial hiccups, to account for 13% of total revenues by FY09E from 4% in FY06. Healthy order flow in exports and improving capacity utilization to drive earnings of Rs316m for FY09E vs. an Rs183m loss in FY06.
- Other catalysts** — 1) Leadership and strong brand franchise in domestic branded retail market; 2) Management's focus on inorganic initiatives for growth; and 3) any developments on unlocking of real estate assets.

Buy/Low Risk	1L
Price (16 Nov 06)	Rs438.60
Target price	Rs570.00
	<i>from Rs625.00</i>
Expected share price return	30.0%
Expected dividend yield	1.3%
Expected total return	31.2%
Market Cap	Rs26,922M
	US\$595M

Price Performance (RIC: RYMD.BO, BB: RW IN)



See page 7 for Analyst Certification and important disclosures.

Figure 1. Consolidated Statistical Abstract

Year to	Net Profit	FD EPS	EPS Gr.	P/E	EV/EBITDA	P/BV	ROCE
31-Mar	(Rs.Mn)	(Rs)	(%)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(%)
2005	906	14.8	(34.2)	29.7	17.0	2.3	6.1
2006	1,361	22.2	50.2	19.8	12.0	2.1	7.3
2007E	1,847	30.1	35.7	14.6	9.0	1.9	9.0
2008E	2,396	39.0	29.7	11.2	7.3	1.7	10.5
2009E	2,823	46.0	17.8	9.5	6.2	1.4	11.4

Source: Company Reports and Citigroup estimates

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Fiscal year end 31-Mar	2005	2006	2007E	2008E	2009E
Valuation Ratios					
P/E adjusted (x)	29.7	19.8	14.6	11.2	9.5
EV/EBITDA adjusted (x)	16.7	11.7	9.3	7.5	6.4
P/BV (x)	2.3	2.1	1.9	1.7	1.4
Dividend yield (%)	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.4
Per Share Data (Rs)					
EPS adjusted	14.76	22.17	30.09	39.03	45.99
EPS reported	14.76	22.17	30.09	39.03	45.99
BVPS	191.42	207.52	232.11	265.64	305.63
DPS	4.00	5.00	5.50	5.50	6.00
Profit & Loss (RsM)					
Net sales	14,401	17,106	19,862	22,921	25,012
Operating expenses	-13,530	-15,518	-17,487	-19,783	-21,183
EBIT	871	1,588	2,376	3,138	3,828
Net interest expense	-307	-390	-380	-365	-350
Non-operating/exceptionals	869	826	684	751	761
Pre-tax profit	1,432	2,024	2,680	3,524	4,240
Tax	-277	-610	-833	-1,128	-1,417
Extraord./Min.Int./Pref.div.	-250	-54	0	0	0
Reported net income	906	1,361	1,847	2,396	2,823
Adjusted earnings	906	1,361	1,847	2,396	2,823
Adjusted EBITDA	1,578	2,463	3,281	4,148	4,888
Growth Rates (%)					
Sales	14.3	18.8	16.1	15.4	9.1
EBIT adjusted	18.2	82.4	49.6	32.1	22.0
EBITDA adjusted	11.3	56.1	33.2	26.4	17.8
EPS adjusted	-34.2	50.2	35.7	29.7	17.8
Cash Flow (RsM)					
Operating cash flow	1,721	1,961	1,758	2,681	2,636
Depreciation/amortization	707	875	905	1,010	1,060
Net working capital	108	-274	-994	-725	-1,247
Investing cash flow	-2,895	-4,707	-1,212	-2,060	-1,519
Capital expenditure	-2,887	-5,120	-1,574	-3,129	-1,892
Acquisitions/disposals	0	0	0	0	0
Financing cash flow	1,345	2,852	-619	-614	-1,143
Borrowings	1,433	3,002	-361	-302	-800
Dividends paid	-246	-307	-338	-338	-368
Change in cash	170	107	-73	7	-26
Balance Sheet (RsM)					
Total assets	21,906	27,191	28,018	30,549	30,921
Cash & cash equivalent	494	576	415	422	201
Accounts receivable	2,645	3,022	3,377	4,011	4,252
Net fixed assets	6,904	11,196	11,865	13,984	14,816
Total liabilities	10,033	14,230	13,477	13,909	11,876
Accounts payable	1,525	2,296	2,156	2,441	2,415
Total Debt	6,411	9,413	9,052	8,750	7,950
Shareholders' funds	11,873	12,961	14,541	16,640	19,045
Profitability/Solvency Ratios (%)					
EBITDA margin adjusted	11.0	14.4	16.5	18.1	19.5
ROE adjusted	7.9	11.1	13.7	15.7	16.1
ROIC adjusted	5.2	6.7	8.6	9.9	10.6
Net debt to equity	49.8	68.2	59.4	50.0	40.7
Total debt to capital	35.1	42.1	38.4	34.5	29.5

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Key Points

Branded retailing the focus

Raymond is among the few highly profitable players in the domestic branded apparel business. Management has aggressive plans to expand its premium brand portfolio and widen its existing distribution network of around 400 retail outlets (10% are owned, which should increase). This retail build-out is positive, however, with most peers in branded retailing scaling up, new international brands queuing up to enter India, and real-estate prices spiraling, risk of delays in rolling out new stores is high. Additionally, consumer stickiness will be critical for growth, a challenge for retailing business in general.

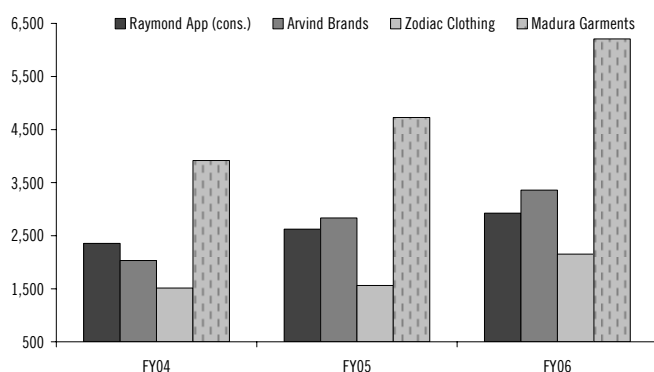
Raymond's strong brand penetration across India would help it tide over these challenges giving it an edge over peers. The company is considering widening its portfolio of brands to focus more on jeans and women's wear, which we believe should enhance customer base. It recently entered into a 50:50 joint venture with Grotto S.p.A of Italy to launch the 'GAS' brand in casual apparels and accessories, particularly jeans wear. The company has also recently acquired the remaining 25.9% stake in Colorplus Fashions, making it a wholly owned subsidiary. It plans to add 75 new stores in FY07 investing Rs450m and is targeting revenue CAGR of 25% over next two years. We forecast healthy revenue growth of 15% over FY06-09E and higher EBITDA margins of c.14% (vs. 6-7% for peers) given its premium positioning, which should contribute towards earnings CAGR of 28%.

Figure 2. Brand Portfolio & Exclusive Store Network of Key Branded Apparel Retailers in India

Company	Key Brands	No of Exclusive Stores
Raymond Apparels	Park Avenue, Parx, Colorplus, Manzoni	75
	Raymond (Fabric retail outlets)	300
Arvind Brands - Intl Brands	Arrow, Lee, Wrangler, Tommy Hilfiger	173
	- Own Brands	38
Zodiac Clothing	Zodiac, Zod	50
Madura Garments	Louis Philippe, Allen Solly, Van Heusen, SF Jeans, Peter England	59

Source: Citigroup Investment Research

Figure 3. 3-yr Revenues of Key Indian Branded Apparel Players



Source: Company, Citigroup Investment Research

Figure 4. 3-yr EBITDA Margins of Key Indian Branded Apparel Players

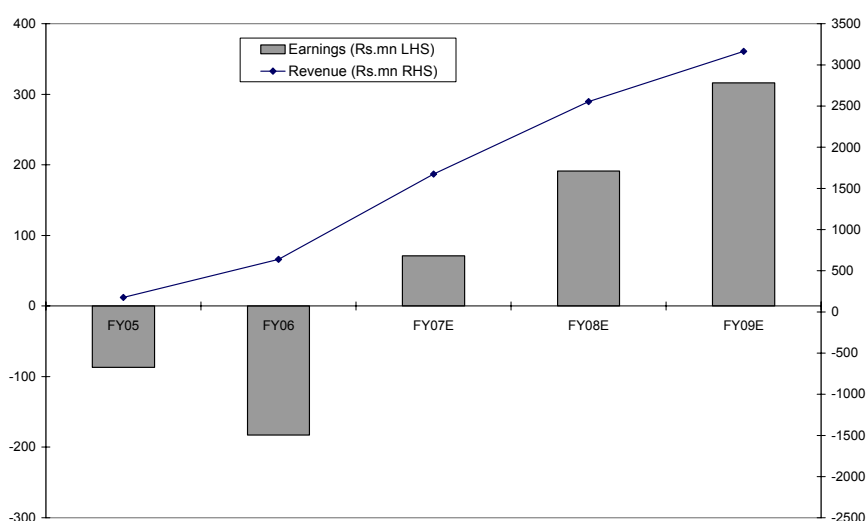


Source: Company, Citigroup Investment Research

Rapid growth prospects in garment exports

We see rapid growth in export garment operations of suits, trousers, jeans and shirts (all 100% subs) after initial hiccups. On our forecasts, garment exports' share of total revenues will rise from 4% in FY06 to 13% by FY09E. With export orders picking up and capacity utilizations expected to increase from 29% in FY06 to 60%-plus levels by FY08E (the company recently renewed its formal men's suits outsourcing arrangement for 150,000 suits per annum with Konaka & Co, largest menswear retailer in Japan), we expect garment operations to turn around and contribute earnings of Rs316m for FY09E vs. a Rs183m loss in FY06.

Figure 5. Garment operations turning around



Source: Company, Citigroup Investment Research estimates

Most of the expansion is operational

Most of expansion in worsted fabric (3m mtrs), denim (10m mtrs), shirting (11.7m mtrs) – carded woolen fabric (1m mtrs) and files has been commissioned. We believe timely scale up of production will be the key growth driver. In addition, the company has announced additional expansion of 3m meters in worsted fabric at VAPI (due 1QFY08) with investment of Rs2bn and plans to further ramp up garmenting capacities. Management is also exploring inorganic growth opportunities

Raymond Ltd

Company description

Raymond is among the top three worsted fabric players in the world, with capacity of 28m meters per annum. In India it is a leader with 60% market share, strong brand equity and a distribution network of 400 retail outlets. It also has a presence in denim and branded apparel garments, which it is looking to ramp-up. In files & tools, a non core engineering business, it is one of the largest producers with a 30% share, and dominates the domestic market with a 70% share. Its thrust on garmenting is a step toward vertically integrating its business model, leveraging off its fabric capacity. It is the flagship company of the Singhania Group, which owns a 35% stake in the company.

Investment thesis

We maintain a Buy (1L) rating on Raymond with lower target price of Rs570 based on 16.5x Sept 07E P/E at premium to sector valuations of 10x. This implies total return of 31% over a 12-month horizon. The premium is attributed to: 1) robust business model with strong brand; 2) a play on domestic branded retailing with wide network of stores; and 3) sustained earnings CAGR of 28% over FY06-09E.

With most of new expansions now operational, its JV in denim set to significantly scale up business, its thrust on vertical integration into garments, and partnerships with global players post quota removals, we believe Raymond offers a robust business model for growth. With growth fundamentals intact, cash reserves of Rs4bn, and potential unlocking of real estate value, we believe Raymond offers multiple growth triggers – and hence is our top sector pick.

Valuation

We are lowering our target price from Rs625 to Rs570. Our revised target price is based on 16.5x Sept 07E P/E. We believe P/E is a suitable valuation tool and more conservative compared to 2x EV/Sales assumed earlier, because it best captures the company's strong earnings growth potential. Our target multiple still places the stock at significant premium to our India textile universe valuations of 10x building for: 1) robust business model with strong brand; 2) a play on domestic branded retailing (45% of FY06 revenues) with wide network of stores; and 3) sustained earnings CAGR of 28% over FY06-09E

The stock is trading at 12.7x Sept 07E P/E towards the lower end of last 2-years trading band of 12-17.5x, which in our view does not completely discount its robust business model. With its premium brand positioning allowing some pricing power, improved earnings growth visibility, we believe the stock offers a re-rating potential and expect valuations to appreciate.

Risks

We rate Raymond Low Risk based on our quantitative risk rating system that measures the stock volatility over a 260-day period. The main company-specific risks are detailed below.

- High priced acquisitions to dilute cash reserves and adversely impact ROCE's. Acquisitions in non-core business would hinder re-rating;

- Delay in ramp up of production at export garment operations would adversely impact our earnings growth estimates;
- Sharp increase in cotton prices by 10-12% from current levels of Rs52/kg and any decline in denim price realization would impact profitability of the denim business (17% of FY06 sales), with cotton costs constituting (43% of denim revenues);
- Strong appreciation of over 5% in Rupee from levels of Rs45.4 would lower export price realizations (18% of FY06 revenues); and
- Any large VRS costs for reducing the work force would reduce its cash surplus of Rs4bn and the returns generated.

If any of these risk factors plays out, Raymond's share price will likely have difficulty attaining our target price.

Analyst Certification Appendix A-1

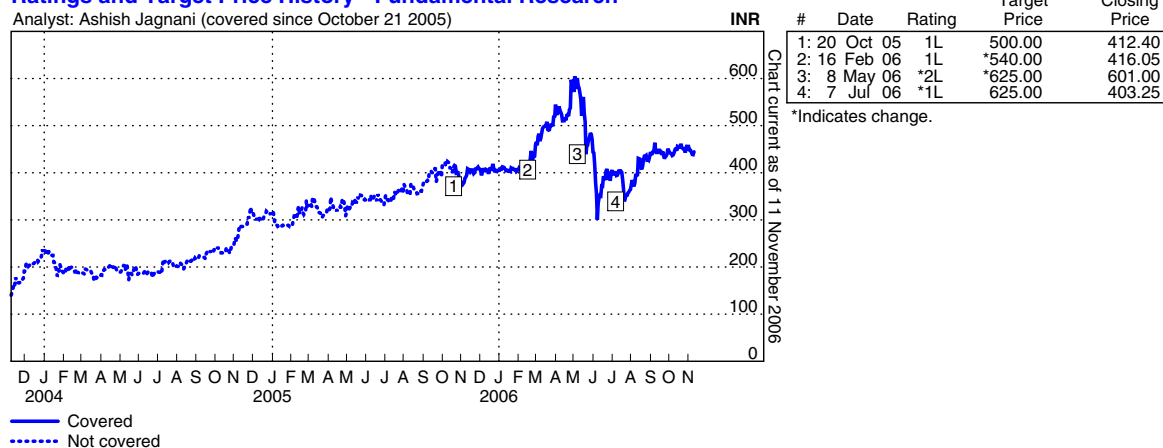
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Raymond Ltd (RYMD.BO)

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Analyst: Ashish Jagnani (covered since October 21 2005)



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