

Ratnamani Metals & Tubes

Buy

19 September 2006

Rs376

Initiating Coverage

Piping hot

We estimate projects pipes demand of Rs51b in the domestic market over the next five years. We are convinced of Ratnamani's competitive edge in project pipes. Its timely capex plans will help drive EPS CAGR of 25% through FY08E. **BUY.**

YEAR END	NET SALES (Rs M)	PAT (Rs M)	EPS (Rs)	EPS GROWTH (%)	P/E (X)	P/BV (X)	ROE (%)	ROCE (%)	EV/SALES (X)	EV/EBITDA (X)
3/06A	3,191	335	37.3	153.1	10.1	4.1	41.1	27.4	1.4	7.0
3/07E	4,454	417	46.3	24.3	8.1	2.8	34.8	27.9	1.0	5.4
3/08E	5,443	528	58.6	26.5	6.4	2.0	31.5	32.0	0.8	4.1

Beneficiary of demand for project pipes

We estimate projects pipes demand of Rs51b in the domestic market over the next five years. This is on the back of power, oil refining, and petrochemical projects worth Rs3,350b (pipe requirement ~1.5%). We expect Ratnamani to enjoy a healthy share of this demand pie.

Ratnamani has competitive edge in project pipes

Ratnamani is a leading manufacturer of carbon steel pipes (SP) and stainless steel tubes and pipes (SSTP). It is the sole domestic vendor to BHEL for projects of over 500mw. It is also an approved vendor with global petrochemical majors, which has helped exports grow from Rs138m in FY04 to Rs544m in FY06. Overall, we are convinced of Ratnamani's competitive edge.

Timely capex to sustain growth and margins

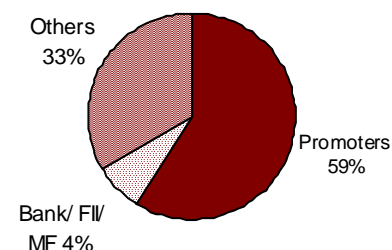
In FY06, Ratnamani commissioned its Rs1.1b facility in Kutch, substantially expanding its SP and SSTP capacities. Moreover, its Rs200m backward integration project for mother pipes is scheduled to commission in October 2006. We expect the expansion to help drive growth and the backward integration to help sustain margins, going forward.

EPS CAGR of 25% through FY08E, valuation reasonable, BUY

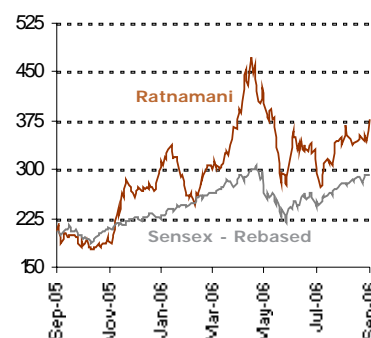
Ratnamani's order book stood at Rs3.5b as on September 1, 2006; this should help the company easily achieve our FY07 sales estimate of Rs4.45b. We expect 31% CAGR in sales, and 25% CAGR in PAT and EPS through FY08E. The stock trades at an attractive 6.4x FY08E EPS of Rs59. Our 18-month target price is **Rs555** (9.5x FY08E), yielding a return CAGR of 30%. **We recommend BUY.**

Sector	Pipes
Bloomberg	RMT IN
Reuters code	RMT.BO
BSE Sensex	11,970
S&P CNX	3,457
Equity Shares (m)	9.0
52-Week H/L (Rs)	498/172
1,6,12 Rel. Perf. (%)	7,16,42
M.Cap. (Rs b)	3.39
Avg. Daily Vol. ('000)	13.9

SHAREHOLDING PATTERN



RATNAMANI VS SENSEX - PAST ONE YEAR



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Investment Argument

We initiate coverage on Ratnamani Metals & Tubes with a **Buy**. Our 18-month target price is Rs555, yielding a return CAGR of 30% from current levels.

Beneficiary of demand for project pipes

We estimate projects pipes demand of Rs51b in the domestic market over the next five years. The main demand drivers are power and oil refining projects worth Rs3,350b (pipe requirement ~1.5%). We expect Ratnamani to enjoy a healthy share of this demand pie.

Power projects

The 11th Five-Year Plan (FY08-13) targets additional thermal power capacity of 46,500mw at an investment of Rs1,860b. At 1.5%, the pipes and tubes demand works out to Rs28b over five years.

Pipes demand from power projects estimated at Rs28b over next five years

Power projects generate demand for pipes from two sources:

- Direct - process pipes from the power generating company (approx. 0.75% of project cost), and
- Indirect - heat exchanger pipes from power equipment manufacturers such as BHEL (0.75% of project cost).

Oil refining projects

Oil refining investments of Rs840b are planned through FY11. At 1.5%, the pipes and tubes demand works out to Rs13b over the next four years.

Pipes demand from oil refining projects estimated at Rs13b over next four years

Oil refineries require a wide variety of pipes and tubes, accounting for as high as 10% of the project cost. Refining companies have several sources for the same, including much of it as part of project imports. We have assumed only 1.5% of the project cost as the addressable market for Ratnamani.

Petrochemical, steel, and others

Various continuous process industries like petrochemicals, distilleries, steel, etc require pipes and tubes of varying value. (For instance, in the steel sector, stainless steel pipes are required for gas transportation and also for heat exchangers in captive power plants.) We estimate Rs10b of pipes demand over the next five years.

Pipes demand from petrochemical, steel, and other projects estimated at Rs10b over next five years

In sum, we expect domestic pipes demand of over Rs51b over the next five years. We believe Ratnamani has the competitive edge to gain a healthy share of this demand pie.

Addressable market for Ratnamani

Sector/Company	Project cost (Rs b)	Commissioning
Refining		
BPCL	83	
Bina	63	2010-11
Kochi Refineries	20	2010-11
HPCL	140	
Mumbai	12	2007-08
Vizag	30	2008-09
Bhatinda	98	2011-12
IOC	278	
Paradip	150	2010-11
Panipat	8	2008-09
Panipat - Petrochem complex	120	2009-10
MRPL	79	2009-10
Reliance Petroleum	260	2008-09
Total Refining Project cost	840	
Pipes demand @ 1.5% [A]	13	
Power		
46,500 mw capacity addition in 11th plan	1,860	2007-12
Pipes demand @ 1.5% [B]	28	
Pipes - Petrochem, steel, etc [C]	10	
TOTAL PIPES DEMAND [A] + [B] + [C]	51	2007-12

Exports to Middle East: a potential opportunity

Various estimates suggest Rs2,700b worth of oil and petrochemical projects planned in the Middle East over the medium term. Going by the same thumb rule of 1.5%, this adds Rs40b to the addressable market.

Company background

Ratnamani Metals and Tubes Ltd is a leading supplier of project pipes, used primarily in continuous process industries such as power, oil refining, and petrochemicals. Incorporated in 1966, Ratnamani has two major divisions: (1) Saw pipes (SP) and (2) Stainless steel tubes and pipes (SSTP), both seamless and welded.

The company has its facilities at Chhatral and Kutch, both in Gujarat. Besides project pipes, the SP division also operates two mobile plants for making large-diameter SAW (submerged arc-welded) pipes at the customer's site. Ratnamani also operates a wind-mill division, with current capacity of 8.5mw. The entire power generated is used only for captive consumption.

Competitive edge in project pipes

Ratnamani is the sole domestic vendor to BHEL for projects of over 500mw. It is also an approved vendor with global petrochemical majors. We are convinced of Ratnamani's competitive edge.

We believe Ratnamani derives its competitive edge from three major factors:

- Wide product profile
- Established track record in the domestic market
- Approval from global vendors.

Wide product profile helps serve various industries

Ratnamani focuses on the niche segment of project pipes and tubes. However, within this niche, it has a wide product profile -

- SS pipes & tubes
 - Seamless
 - Welded
- Large diameter EFSW SS pipes
- Carbon steel SAW pipes.

Wide product profile helps Ratnamani to cater to diverse industries

This helps the company manufacture highly customised pipes for various applications across industries.

Ratnamani's product profile

Product segment	Major applications	User segments
SS pipes & tubes - Seamless - Welded	SS Pipes - conveying fluids for critical high temperature and general corrosion service applications SS tubes - heat transfer process equipment (boilers, super heaters, heat exchangers, etc), general engineering and process instrumentation.	Chemicals, petrochemicals, refineries, nuclear, power, space engineering, dairy, and food-processing
Large diameter EFSW SS pipes	Suitable for corrosive and/or high-temperature service	Chemicals, petrochemicals, power, dairy, food-processing, sugar, sanitary applications, LNG terminals, corrosive chemicals etc
Carbon steel SAW pipes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water and sewage conveyance • High-pressure pipes for high or moderate temperature applications • Oil and gas conveyance • Structurals 	Water supply, Oil and gas, process industries, and ports (as jetty pile pipes)

Source: Company website

Ratnamani's leadership position, wide product profile, and superior product mix is also reflected in its sales volume and average sales realisation compared to some of its competitors.

Competitive edge

	Ratnamani	Suraj Stainless	Rajendra Mechanical
Capacity (tons)			
FY06	14,360	8,800	6,045
FY05	10,160	4,900	4,845
FY04	6,960	4,350	4,545
Sales volume (tons)			
FY06	4,739	4,320	3,591
FY05	4,293	4,542	3,962
FY04	3,382	4,224	3,694
Sales (Rs m)			
FY06	1,466	1,104	857
FY05	1,327	960	844
FY04	812	656	632
Realisation (Rs/ton)			
FY06	309,411	255,529	238,699
FY05	309,084	211,401	213,087
FY04	240,095	155,313	171,188

Source: Company Annual Reports / MOST

Established track record ensures repeat orders

Ratnamani has a well-established track record in the Indian market of supplying quality products on schedule.

Ratnamani is one of the largest suppliers of condenser tubes to BHEL for its power projects. It is the only Indian vendor approved by BHEL to supply tubes for +500mw power projects. (Incidentally, BHEL itself has a three-year order book of around Rs375b.) We are confident that Ratnamani's status as a BHEL-approved supplier will also help it garner orders from other power equipment manufacturers.

The performance of project/in-plant pipes is critical for the smooth operation of a continuous process plant. However, pipes cost is just 1-2% of the overall project cost. Hence, customers prefer quality products regardless of the price. Thus, we believe Ratnamani's successful track record to give it some pricing power as well, sustaining margins.

Finally, an established track record significantly improves the chances of getting replacement orders from existing customers.

Approval from global vendors drives export growth

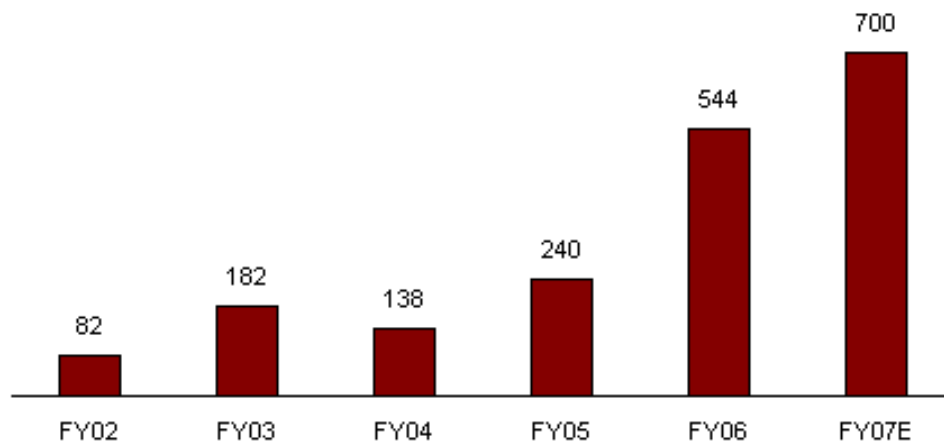
Ratnamani is on the approved vendor list of hydrocarbon majors like Shell, Chevron, Exxon-Mobil, and Dow Chemicals. The company is focused on exports (Rs544m in FY06, expected to increase to Rs700m in FY07E), and has accreditations from various international EPC contractors.

Ratnamani is the only Indian vendor approved by BHEL to supply tubes for +500mw power projects

Approval from global vendors like Chevron and Exxon-Mobil will help exports

Recently, the company received a Rs200m stainless steel tubes order for a de-salination plant in the Middle East. With investments of \$60b planned in the Caspian Sea basin over the next 10 years, exports are a potential growth driver for the company.

Exports (Rs m)



Source: Company Annual Reports; E-MOST Estimate

Timely capex to sustain growth and margins

In FY06, Ratnamani commissioned its new Rs1.1b facility in Kutch. Its Rs200m backward integration project for mother pipes is scheduled to commission in October 2006.

Kutch facility has significantly expanded capacities

In September 2005, Ratnamani commissioned its new Rs1.1b facility in Kutch. The facility expanded Ratnamani's capacity as tabled below.

*Full benefits of Kutch facility
FY07 onwards*

Plant Capacity (tons)

Location	SSTP	SP
Chhatral	6,960	1,00,000
Kutch	7,400	2,00,000
Total	14,360	3,00,000

This expansion enables the company to scale up its operations, as its old plant at Chhatral is already at full capacity. The full benefits of the Kutch facility will be reflected FY07 onwards. The company claims that the expanded capacity will help it scale up to a turnover of Rs10b, its FY09 target.

Backward integration to help sustain margins

Ratnamani is setting up a Rs200m plant with a capacity of 7,000 tons of stainless steel mother pipes. This project is scheduled to commission in October 2006. However, the management feels it may take 9-12 months before this technology-sensitive project is fully stabilised. This project is expected to meet 50-70% of Ratnamani's mother pipes requirement.

*Full benefits of backward
integration mid-FY08
onwards*

Traditionally, the company has imported mother tubes from Japan, Europe, and Korea. Ratnamani will be manufacturing mother pipes from stainless steel billets, and expects a 7-8% higher value-add. The projected payback period for the project is about three years.

Financials & Projections

Ratnamani's financials have improved considerably from FY04 - strong topline growth, healthy margins, and robust profitability. We expect 31% CAGR in sales, and 25% CAGR in PAT and EPS through FY08E.

Major improvement in financials FY04 onwards

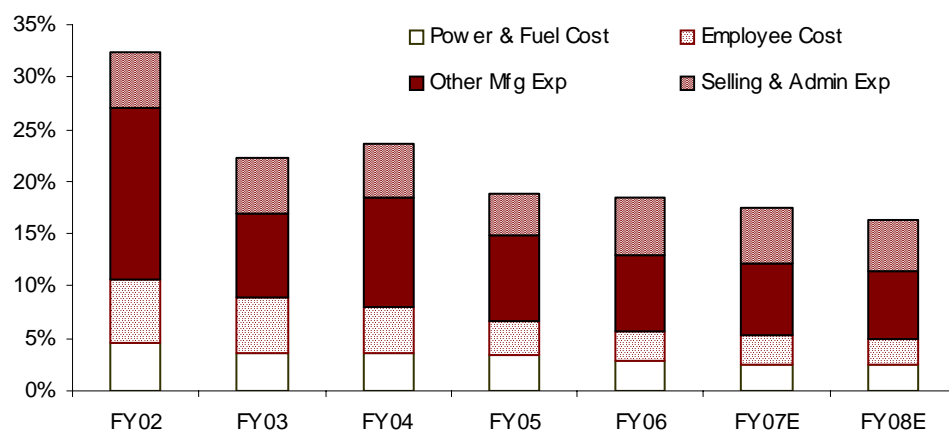
Over FY03-06, Ratnamani has recorded 56% CAGR in sales and 149% CAGR in PAT. For FY06:

- Net sales was Rs3.19b, up 76%
- EBITDA margins increased 370bps to 19.8%; EBITDA was at Rs633m
- PAT was Rs335m, up 153%
- Profitability was robust - RoCE 27% and RoE 41%.

Margins have been improving steadily over the past three years, with the increase in turnover. The decreasing ratio of several expense heads to sales indicates an all-round improvement in profitability. We expect Ratnamani to broadly maintain its margins going forward.

All round improvement in profitability

Expenses (excluding raw material costs) as % of sales



Source: Company Annual Reports; E-MOST Estimate

1QFY07 performance is on track

In 1QFY07, Ratnamani's revenue grew 60% to Rs881m. EBITDA was at Rs190m (EBITDA margins of 21.6% are significantly higher than our projected margin of 19.3% for FY07). Reported PAT at Rs83m is up 103% YoY.

Order book healthy at Rs3.5b

Ratnamani's current order book is around Rs3.5b (SP - Rs1.8b and SSTP - Rs1.7b), which places it in a comfortable position to achieve a turnover of Rs4.35b in FY07.

Order book of Rs3.5b comfortably covers FY07E sales

Order Book (Rs m)

	Domestic	Exports*	Total
SP	190	1,400	1,590
SSTP	1,310	470	1,780
Total	1,500	1,870	3,370

* Exports include deemed exports of around Rs1.5b

EPS CAGR of 25% through FY08E

Going forward, our key assumptions are -

- Sales growth of 40% in FY07 and 22% in FY08
- Small decline in EBITDA margins to 19.3% in FY07 (due to expected higher raw material cost), improving to 19.5% in FY08 (also reflecting benefit of mother pipes project).

We expect Ratnamani to sustain its strong financial performance through FY08E

Based on this, we expect PAT to grow 24% in FY07 and 26% in FY08. With no dilution in equity, FY06-08 EPS CAGR works out to a healthy 25%.

Valuation & Recommendation

The stock trades at an attractive 6.4x FY08E EPS of Rs59. Our 18-month target price is Rs555 (9.5x FY08E), yielding a return CAGR of 30%. We recommend BUY.

Stock is attractively valued

In absolute terms, Ratnamani is currently trading at a PE of 8x FY07E EPS of Rs46 and 6.4x FY08E EPS of Rs59. This we believe is attractive when juxtaposed with our estimated EPS CAGR of 25%.

Ratnamani's valuation compares well relative to peers as tabled below. While its business profile is closer to that of Maharashtra Seamless (captured in margins, RoCE, and RoE), its valuations match Man Industries.

Peer Group Valuation

		Ratnamani	Maharashtra Seamless	Man Industries
EBITDA margin (%)	FY07E	19.3	24.9	10.5
	FY08E	19.5	21.9	10.5
RoCE (%)	FY07E	27.9	27.4	21.6
	FY08E	32.0	22.5	24.5
EV/ EBITDA (x)	FY07E	5.3	8.3	4.3
	FY08E	4.0	8.2	3.4
PE (x)	FY07E	8.1	11.3	6.6
	FY08E	6.4	11.2	5.2
RoE (%)	FY07E	41.4	24.5	20.0
	FY08E	36.7	20.0	20.8

3-pronged basis for target price

We have valued Ratnamani at Rs555 based on the average of three valuation metrics - EV/EBITDA, PE, and Price to book.

EV/EBITDA - At an EV/EBITDA of 6x FY08E, the fair value for Ratnamani works out to Rs615. Maharashtra Seamless currently trades at 8x FY08E and Man at 3.4x FY08E. We believe 6x for Ratnamani is a fair mean.

PE - At 10x FY08E, the fair value for Ratnamani works out to Rs586. Here too, we have assigned the same target PE which we have for Man, although Ratnamani's numbers are superior.

Price to book - At 2.5x FY08E, the fair value works out to Rs465. The 2.5x multiple takes into account Ratnamani's superior RoE of over 30% in FY08E.

Averaging the above three values, our FY08E target price for Ratnamani is Rs555. From current levels, this translates into a return CAGR of 30% over the next 18 months. **We recommend Buy.**

Metric	Multiple	Target
EV/EBITDA	6x	615
PE	10x	586
PB	2.5x	465
Avg target price (Rs)		555

All multiples for FY08E

Investment Concerns

Ratnamani's revenue and profits are exposed to user industry cycles, import threat, and bunching of orders.

Slow down in investments

Ratnamani's profitability is directly linked to the investment cycle of its end-user industries. Hence any decline in investments in industries like power or oil and gas can lead to a decline in revenue and profitability for the company.

Mitigant: Over next five years, we expect Ratnamani's end-industries to be in the up-cycle, given Gol's stress on infrastructure development. Hence, we expect the company to sustain its revenue and profits over the next three years at least.

Import threat

Ratnamani's revenue can decline if its clients opt to import pipes; various infrastructure projects can import equipment duty-free.

Mitigant: We believe Ratnamani's products are competitive even at international rates. Moreover, the company also exports its products extensively to the Middle East; this ensures that its products conform to high quality standards.

Bunching of orders

Ratnamani's sales are dependent on orders for projects. Moreover, the order book is prone to bunching because of a variable flow in orders from Ratnamani's major clients.

Mitigant: Over the next three years, we expect Ratnamani to acquire many orders, given its diverse customer base. This reduces the company's exposure to a few big clients for orders and order bunching.

Despite investment concerns, Ratnamani should maintain its revenue and profits over the next three years

Financials and Projections

INCOME STATEMENT		(Rs M)				
Y/E MARCH	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007E	2008E
Net Sales	847	1,187	1,808	3,191	4,454	5,443
Change (%)	19.3	40.1	52.3	76.5	39.6	22.2
Raw Materials	576	780	1,166	1,959	2,783	3,402
% of net sales	68.0	65.7	64.5	61.4	62.5	62.5
Power & Fuel Cost	30	44	61	89	116	131
% of net sales	3.5	3.7	3.4	2.8	2.6	2.4
Employee Cost	45	51	58	94	122	153
% of net sales	5.4	4.3	3.2	2.9	2.7	2.8
Other Mfg. Expenses	68	125	150	232	316	381
% of net sales	8.0	10.5	8.3	7.3	7.1	7.0
Selling & Admin costs	46	60	70	175	244	298
% of net sales	5.4	5.0	3.9	5.5	5.5	5.5
Miscellaneous expenses	1	5	11	9	13	16
% of net sales	0.1	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.3
EBITDA	82	124	292	633	859	1,063
Change (%)	0.7	51.7	135.9	117.2	35.6	23.7
Depreciation	32	36	44	74	133	156
EBIT	50	88	248	559	726	907
Interest	23	30	44	98	140	163
Other Income	6	4	6	10	10	10
PBT & EO items	32	63	210	471	596	754
Extra-ordinary Inc/ (loss)	0	0	0	0	0	0
PBT & after EO Items	32	63	210	471	596	754
Tax	11	22	78	136	179	226
Rate (%)	33.3	35.4	37.0	28.8	30.0	30.0
REPORTED PAT	21	40	132	336	417	528
ADJUSTED PAT	22	41	133	335	417	528
Change (%)	9.0	87.1	226.4	153.1	24.3	26.5
EBITDA Margin (%)	9.6	10.4	16.1	19.8	19.3	19.5
PAT Margin (%)	2.6	3.4	7.3	10.5	9.4	9.7

31% CAGR in sales up to FY08E

Margins to remain steady

Financials and Projections (contd...)

BALANCE SHEET		(Rs M)				
Y/E MARCH	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007E	2008E
Networth	319	395	507	817	1,198	1,675
Equity Share Capital	67	90	90	90	90	90
Reserves	252	305	417	727	1,108	1,585
Loans	117	130	504	1,061	1,233	964
Net Deferred Tax Liability	73	88	144	203	210	230
Capital Employed	508	613	1,155	2,080	2,641	2,869
Gross Fixed Assets	555	672	1,111	1,970	2,470	2,717
Less: Depreciation	215	250	291	364	497	652
Net Fixed Assets	341	423	820	1,606	1,973	2,064
Capital WIP	4	10	248	2	15	10
Investments	0	0	0	0	0	0
Curr. Assets	423	490	605	1,184	1,643	2,015
Interest Accrued						
Inventory	172	258	235	588	749	940
Debtors	199	156	216	347	604	755
Cash & Bank Balance	22	36	80	101	100	120
Loans & Advances	31	40	75	148	190	200
Current Liab. & Prov.	260	309	518	712	991	1,220
Creditors	241	261	431	508	739	900
Other Liabilities	11	38	56	107	127	165
Provisions	8	10	32	97	125	155
Net Current Assets	164	181	87	472	653	795
Misc. Exp. (not written off)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Application of Funds	508	613	1,155	2,080	2,641	2,869

*Rs1.1b Kutch facility
commissioned in FY06.
Mother tubes plant in FY07E*

E: Inquire Estimates

Financials and Projections (contd...)

RATIOS						
Y/E MARCH	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007E	2008E
Basic (Rs)						
EPS	3.2	4.5	14.7	37.3	46.3	58.6
<i>growth (%)</i>	9.0	40.1	226.4	153.1	24.3	26.5
Cash EPS	7.9	8.5	19.6	45.5	61.1	75.9
Book Value	47.3	43.9	56.3	90.7	133.1	186.1
DPS	1.0	1.0	2.0	2.5	3.5	5.0
Payout (incl. Div. Tax.) (%)	31.5	22.3	13.6	6.7	7.6	8.5
Valuation (X)						
P/E	116.9	83.4	25.6	10.1	8.1	6.4
Cash P/E	47.4	44.4	19.2	8.3	6.2	5.0
Price/Book Value	7.9	8.6	6.7	4.1	2.8	2.0
EV/Sales	6.1	5.8	2.2	1.4	1.0	0.8
EV/EBITDA	63.7	55.9	13.3	7.0	5.4	4.1
Dividend Yield (%)	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.9	1.3
Profitability Ratios (%)						
RoE	6.8	10.3	26.1	41.1	34.8	31.5
RoCE	10.9	15.0	22.0	27.4	27.9	32.0
Turnover Ratios						
Debtors (Days)	86	48	44	40	50	51
Inventory (Days)	109	121	74	110	98	101
Creditors. (Days)	103	83	98	70	73	74
Asset Turnover (x)	1.7	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.9
Leverage Ratio						
Debt/Equity (x)	0.4	0.3	1.0	1.3	1.0	0.6

25% CAGR in EPS through FY08E

Robust profitability

Financials and Projections (contd...)

CASH FLOW STATEMENT		(Rs M)				
Y/E MARCH	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007E	2008E
PBT before EO Items	32	63	210	471	596	754
Add : Depreciation	32	36	44	74	133	156
Interest	23	30	44	98	140	163
Less : Direct taxes paid	11	22	78	136	179	226
(Inc)/Dec in WC	33	-3	138	-364	-182	-122
CF from operations	110	103	358	144	508	724
EO and Misc. Items	0	0	0	0	0	0
CF from Oper. incl. EO Items	109	103	357	144	508	724
(Inc)/Dec in FA	-54	-123	-679	-614	-513	-242
(Pur)/Sale of Investments	0	0	0	0	0	0
CF from investments	-54	-123	-679	-614	-513	-242
(Inc)/Dec in Networth	4	60	53	58	7	20
Inc/(Dec) in Debt	-20	14	374	556	172	-268
Less : Interest Paid	-23	-30	-44	-98	-140	-163
Dividend Paid	-7	-9	-18	-25	-35	-50
CF from Fin. Activity	-45	35	365	492	4	-462
Inc/Dec of Cash	10	14	44	22	-1	20
Add: Beginning Balance	11	22	36	80	101	100
Closing Balance	22	36	80	101	100	120

Strong cash flows from operations



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1. Analyst ownership of the stock	No
2. Group/Directors ownership of the stock	No
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