# Macquarie Research **Equities**





**INDIA** 

## Aban Offshore

#### 4 March 2008

| ABAN IN  | (                           | Outperform                                  |
|--|-----------------------------|---|
| Stock price as of 03 Mar 08<br>12-month target<br>Upside/downside<br>Valuation<br>- DCF (WACC 10.6%) | Rs<br>Rs<br>%<br>Rs         | 3,836.00<br>6,000.00<br>+56.4<br>6,000.00   |
| GICS sector<br>Market cap<br>30-day avg turnover<br>Market cap<br>Number shares on issue             | Rs m<br>US\$m<br>US\$m<br>m | energy<br>144,989<br>15.6<br>3,632<br>37.80 |

#### Investment fundamentals

| Year end 31 Mar   |                            | 2007A   | 2008E  | 2009E   | 2010E  |
|---|----------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| Total revenue<br>EBITDA<br>EBITDA growth<br>EBIT<br>EBIT Growth<br>Reported profit<br>Adjusted profit | m<br>m<br>%<br>m<br>%<br>m | 7,187<br>3,474<br>23.9<br>2,146<br>24.3<br>-140<br>-299 | 27,857<br>16,338<br>370.3<br>12,278<br>472.2<br>4,743<br>4,584 | 52,152<br>31,014<br>89.8<br>25,972<br>111.5<br>16,893<br>16,735 | 64,635<br>38,975<br>25.7<br>32,574<br>25.4<br>23,413<br>23,254 |
| EPS rep   | Rs                         | -3.79   | 122.96   | 438.01  | 607.06   |
| EPS adj   | Rs                         | -8.09   | 118.85   | 433.90  | 602.94   |
| EPS adj growth  | %                          | nmf   | nmf  | 265.1   | 39.0   |
| PE adj  | x                          | nmf   | 32.3   | 8.8   | 6.4  |
| Total DPS   | Rs                         | 3.51  | 9.84   | 35.04   | 48.56  |
| Total div yield   | %                          | 0.1   | 0.3  | 0.9   | 1.3  |
| ROE   | %                          | -6.2  | 47.5   | 77.2  | 58.1   |
| EV/EBITDA   | x                          | 69.3  | 15.8   | 8.4   | 6.7  |
| Net debt/equity   | %                          | 1,794.6   | 809.1  | 331.1   | 143.2  |
| Price/book  | x                          | 26.7  | 10.6   | 5.0   | 2.9  |

### ABAN IN rel SENSEX performance, & rec history



Source: Datastream, Macquarie Research, March 2008 (all figures in INR unless noted)

#### Analyst

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## High debt: Opportunity outweighs risk

Aban leveraged its equity 18x in FY3/07 to nearly triple its fleet by buying Sinvest ASA. Investors consider its large debt of US\$2.2bn to be high risk and a depressant on valuations. We see it as an opportunity because we estimate Aban will generate substantial free cashflow (pre-debt payments) of US\$1.6bn, reducing leverage to 0.6x by FY3/11. Moreover, nearly half its cashflows are firm as it recently locked in half its fleet at ~3.0x earlier rates on 2–3 year contracts.

#### **Impact**

- Debt-equity ratio may fall to 0.6x by FY3/11. Aban could generate robust cashflows after it adds six rigs to its existing fleet of 15 and fully starts operations in the next eight months. In addition, Aban has contracted most of its rigs at high day rates for three years. Hence, there is limited downside risk to our cashflow expectations for the next three years. We expect Aban's FY3/07 debt-to-equity ratio of 18x to improve to 8.0x in FY3/08 and to 0.6x by FY3/11.
- Comfortable and rising solvency and liquidity ratios. We expect Aban's debt servicing capacity ratio to improve from -0.2x in FY3/07 to 2.0x in FY3/08 and to a healthy 6.3x in FY3/11. Similarly, we forecast interest coverage to rise from an estimated 1.6x in FY3/08 to 4.8x in FY3/11. The current ratio could increase from 1.3x forecast for FY3/08 to 2.1x in FY3/11.
- Aban's FY3/09E PAT changes ±6% for ±100bp change in cost of debt. Interest payment is Aban's largest expense, at an estimated 16% of sales in FY3/09. Aban has mobilised debt at lower interest rates through long-term service contracts for its rigs. We estimate Aban's weighted average cost of debt at 7.0% and average tenure at more than five years. Although we do not anticipate a de-rating of Aban's debt, the effect of a 100bp rise in interest rates should be 6% on FY3/09E PAT.
- Aban's domestic exposure shields it from global demand variations. Of Aban's 15 operating rigs, eight are in India, two in the Middle East, one in Africa and four in other Asian countries. We expect Aban to be the key beneficiary of a surge in drilling activities in India. There should be a sharp rise in drilling activity in India as E&P companies move into the second and third phases of their committed exploration.

#### Earnings revision

No change.

#### Price catalyst

- 12-month price target: Rs6,000.00 based on a DCF methodology.
- Catalyst: Asset acquisitions and new contracts for the rigs at high day rates.

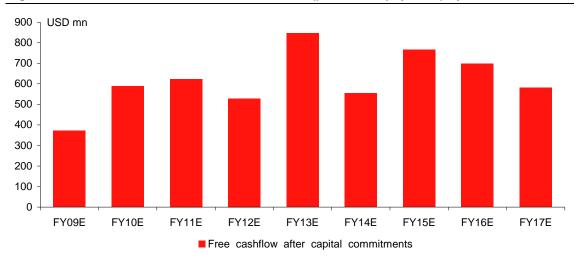
#### **Action and recommendation**

- DCF based target price provides +56% potential. Reaffirm Outperform.
  - ⇒ Aban is poised for 10x growth in EBIT over the next three years as it adds six new rigs and re-prices eight existing rigs at higher day rates in the next eight months.
  - ⇒ Aban trades at a 32% discount to its global peers at 6.4x FY3/10E PER. It also has the most competitive cost structure among its peers.

Please refer to the important disclosures and analyst certification on inside back cover of this document, or on our website www.macquarie.com.au/research/disclosures.

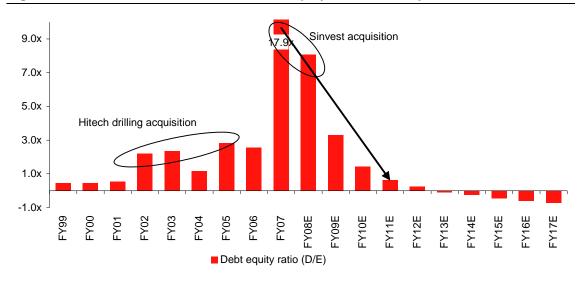
#### Debt-equity ratio could fall to 0.6x by FY3/11

Fig 1 We forecast a US\$1.6bn of free cashflow (pre-debt repayment) by FY3/11



Source: Macquarie Research, March 2008

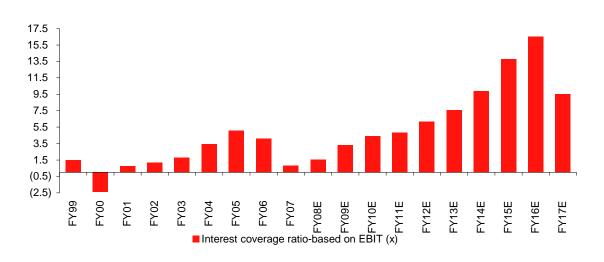
Fig 2 Robust cashflows should lower debt-equity ratio to 0.6x by FY3/11



Source: Macquarie Research, March 2008

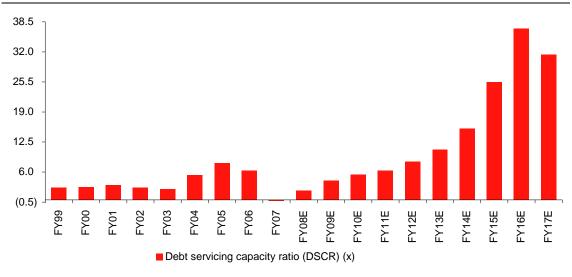
#### Comfortable and rising solvency and liquidity ratios

Fig 3 Aban's interest coverage ratio could steadily increase to 4.8x in FY3/11



Source: Macquarie Research, March 2008

Fig 4 Aban's debt servicing capacity ratio could steadily increase to 6.3x in FY3/11



Source: Macquarie Research, March 2008

5.0 4.5 4.0 3.5 3.0 2.5 2.0 1.5 1.0 0.5 FY05 FY06 FY07 FY08E FY09E FY10E FY13E FY01 ■ Current ratio

Fig 5 Aban's current ratio is expected to stay above 1.0x

Source: Macquarie Research, March 2008

#### Aban's FY3/09E earnings changes ±6% for ±100bp change in cost of debt

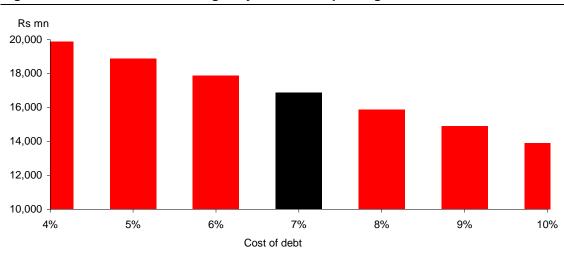


Fig 6 Aban's FY3/09E PAT changes by 6% for 100bp swing in interest cost

Source: Macquarie Research, March 2008

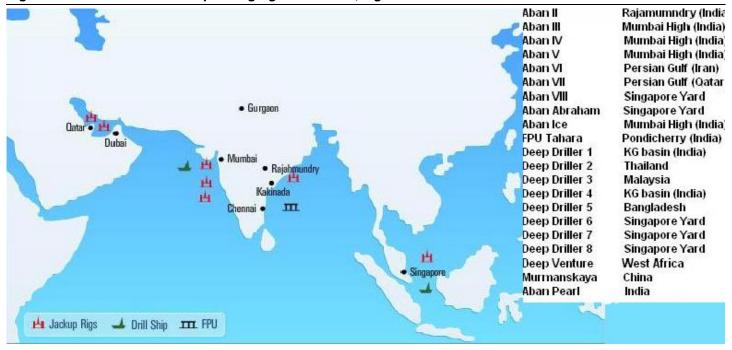
#### Aban's debt has an average duration of ~5.4 years

Fig 7 Aban has funded all its acquisitions through long-term debt

| Issuer Company                   | Coupon (%)        | Maturity  | Amount    | Maturity<br>/Refund Type | Listed     |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|------------|
| Sinvest ASA                      | 8.3               | 13-Aug-09 | US\$34    | CONV/CALL                | Oslo       |
| Sinvest ASA                      | 9.5               | 22-Dec-09 | US\$144   | AT MATURITY              | Oslo       |
| Sinvest ASA                      | NIBOR + 600       | 22-Dec-09 | US\$48    | AT MATURITY              | Oslo       |
| Venture Drilling ASA             | 12.0              | 10-Sep-10 | US\$30    | CALL/SINK                | Not Listed |
| Aban Offshore                    | 0.0               | 15-Apr-11 | US\$113   | CONVERTIBLE              | Singapore  |
| DDI Holding ASA                  | 9.3               | 19-Jan-12 | US\$280   | CALL/SINK                | Oslo       |
| DDI Holding ASA                  | 10.0              | 15-Mar-12 | US\$77    | CALLABLE                 | Oslo       |
| DDI Holding ASA                  | US LIBOR + 475    | 15-Mar-12 | US\$160   | CALL/SINK                | Oslo       |
| DDI Holding ASA                  | 9.3               | 26-Apr-12 | US\$140   | CALL/SINK                | Oslo       |
| Aban Singapore Pte Ltd           | 5.5               | 20-Feb-14 | US\$150   | PUTABLE                  | Not Listed |
| Term Loan from banks             | Floating          | 7 years   | US\$1,200 | NA                       | Not Listed |
| Source: Bloomberg, Macquarie Res | earch, March 2008 |           |           |                          |            |

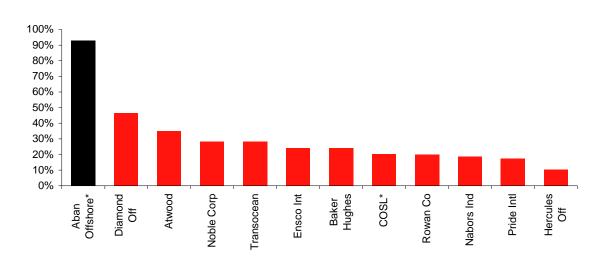
#### Aban's domestic exposure shields it from global demand variations

Fig 8 Fourteen of Aban's 15 operating rigs are in Asia, eight of which are in India



Source: Company Data, Macquarie Research, March 2008

Fig 9 Aban's high gearing should result in largest FY3/09E RoE among its peers



<sup>\*</sup> Macquarie Estimates, others are Bloomberg consensus

Source: Macquarie Research, March 2008

12.0x 21.0x 10.0x Average FY10E PER = 9.4x8.0x 6.0x 4.0x 2.0x 0.0x Baker Hughes Diamond Off Hercules Off Aban Offshore\* Atwood COSL\* Pride Intl Transocean Nabors Ind Rowan Co Ensco Int Noble Corp

Fig 10 Aban is trading at 32% discount to FY3/10E PER of its global peers

Source: Macquarie Research, March 2008

<sup>\*</sup> Macquarie Estimates, others are Bloomberg consensus

| Aban Offshore (ABAN IN, Outperform, Target price: Rs6,000.00) |  |
|---|--|
|---|--|

| Profit & Loss  | AN IIN, | 2003A         | m, rarge<br>2004A | 2005A        | 2006A          | Profit & Loss                                |        | 2007A             | 2008E            | 2009E              | 2010E            |
|--|---------|---------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|--|--------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Revenue  |         | 2,684         | 2,995             | 2,895        | 4,902          | Revenue                                      |        |                   |                  |                    |                  |
| Gross Profit   | m<br>m  | 2,412         | 2,995<br>2,643    | 2,559        | 4,902<br>4,317 | Gross Profit                                 | m<br>m | 7,187<br>6,503    | 27,857<br>25,712 | 52,152<br>48,136   | 64,635<br>59,820 |
| Cost of Goods Sold   | m       | 272           | 352               | 337          | 584            | Cost of Goods Sold                           | m      | 684               | 2,145            | 4,016              | 4,815            |
| EBITDA   | m       | 1,048         | 1,334             | 1,502        | 2,804          | EBITDA                                       | m      | 3,474             | 16,338           | 31,014             | 38,975           |
| Depreciation   | m       | 392           | 444               | 538          | 1,014          | Depreciation                                 | m      | 1,266             | 3,997            | 5,041              | 6,401            |
| Amortisation of Goodwill                                       | m       | 63            | 63                | 63           | 63             | Amortisation of Goodwill                     | m      | 63                | 63               | 0                  | 0                |
| Other Amortisation   | m       | 0             | 0                 | 0            | 0              | Other Amortisation                           | m      | 0                 | 0                | 0                  | 0                |
| EBIT   | m       | 593           | 826               | 902          | 1,727          | EBIT   | m      | 2,146             | 12,278           | 25,972             | 32,574           |
| Net Interest Income  | m       | -370          | -259              | -190         | -436           | Net Interest Income                          | m      | -2,686            | -7,877           | -7,807             | -7,457           |
| Associates   | m       | 0             | 0                 | 0            | 0              | Associates                                   | m      | 204               | 204              | 204                | 204              |
| Exceptionals   | m       | -1<br>0       | -1<br>0           | 0            | 0              | Exceptionals                                 | m      | 0<br>0            | 0                | 0                  | 0                |
| Forex Gains / Losses<br>Other Pre-Tax Income                   | m<br>m  | 82            | 157               | 84           | 148            | Forex Gains / Losses<br>Other Pre-Tax Income | m<br>m | 881               | 1,682            | 2,516              | 3,017            |
| Pre-Tax Profit   | m       | 304           | <b>723</b>        | 796          | 1,438          | Pre-Tax Profit                               | m      | <b>544</b>        | 6,287            | 20,886             | 28,338           |
| Tax Expense  | m       | -269          | -309              | -343         | -678           | Tax Expense                                  | m      | -747              | -1,608           | -3,992             | -4,925           |
| Net Profit   | m       | 35            | 414               | 454          | 760            | Net Profit                                   | m      | -203              | 4,680            | 16,893             | 23,413           |
| Minority Interests   | m       | 0             | 0                 | 0            | 0              | Minority Interests                           | m      | 0                 | 0                | 0                  | 0                |
| Reported Earnings<br>Adjusted Earnings                         | m<br>m  | 98<br>99      | 476<br>477        | 517<br>517   | 823<br>715     | Reported Earnings<br>Adjusted Earnings       | m<br>m | -140<br>-299      | 4,743<br>4,584   | 16,893<br>16,735   | 23,413<br>23,254 |
| EPS (rep)  |         | 2.67          | 12.93             | 14.02        | 22.30          | EPS (rep)                                    |        | -3.79             | 122.96           | 438.01             | 607.06           |
| EPS (adj)  |         | 2.68          | 12.94             | 14.02        | 19.37          | EPS (adj)                                    |        | -8.09             | 118.85           | 433.90             | 602.94           |
| EPS Growth yoy (adj)   | %       | -32.62        | 382.23            | 8.28         | 38.23          | EPS Growth (adj)                             | %      | nmf               | nmf              | 265.1              | 39.0             |
| PE (rep)   |         | 1080.50       | 223.03            | 205.72       | 129.29         | PE (rep)                                     | Х      | nmf               | 31.2             | 8.8                | 6.3              |
| PE (adj)   |         | 1074.23       | 222.76            | 205.72       | 148.82         | PE (adj)                                     | х      | nmf               | 32.3             | 8.8                | 6.4              |
| Total DPS  | %       | 1.13          | 1.70              | 2.28         | 2.96           | Total DPS                                    | 21     | 3.51              | 9.84             | 35.04              | 48.56            |
| Total Div Yield  | %       | 0.0           | 0.1               | 0.1          | 0.1            | Total Div Yield                              | %      | 0.1               | 0.3              | 0.9                | 1.3              |
| Weighted Average Shares Period End Shares                      | %<br>%  | 37<br>37      | 37<br>37          | 37<br>37     | 37<br>37       | Weighted Average Shares Period End Shares    | m      | 37<br>37          | 39<br>39         | 39<br>39           | 39<br>39         |
| Pellod Elid Shares   | 70      | 31            | 31                | 31           | 31             | Pellod Elid Stiales                          | m      | 31                | 39               | 39                 | 39               |
| Profit and Loss Ratios   |         | 2007A         | 2008E             | 2009E        | 2010E          | Cashflow Analysis                            |        | 2007A             | 2008E            | 2009E              | 2010E            |
| Revenue Growth   | %       | 46.6          | 287.6             | 87.2         | 23.9           | EBITDA                                       | m      | 3,474             | 16,338           | 31,014             | 38,975           |
| EBITDA Growth  | %       | 23.9          | 370.3             | 89.8         | 25.7           | Tax Paid                                     | m      | -663              | -755             | -1,631             | -4,001           |
| EBIT Growth  | %       | 24.3          | 472.2             | 111.5        | 25.4           | Chgs in Working Cap                          | m      | 1,286             | -3,065           | -23                | 836              |
| Gross Profit Margin  | %       | 90.5          | 92.3              | 92.3         | 92.5           | Net Interest Paid                            | m      | -2,686            | -7,877           | -7,807             | -7,457           |
| EBITDA Margin  | %       | 48.3          | 58.7              | 59.5         | 60.3           | Other  | m      | 677               | 1,479            | 2,313              | 2,813            |
| EBIT Margin  | %       | 29.9          | 44.1              | 49.8         | 50.4           | Operating Cashflow                           | m      | 2,087             | 6,120            | <b>23,865</b><br>0 | 31,166           |
| Net Profit Margin Payout Ratio                                 | %<br>%  | -2.8<br>nmf   | 16.8<br>8.3       | 32.4<br>8.1  | 36.2<br>8.1    | Acquisitions<br>Capex                        | m<br>m | -3,079<br>-83,653 | 0<br>-28,201     | -6,886             | -5,014           |
| EV/EBITDA  | /o<br>X | 69.3          | 15.8              | 8.4          | 6.7            | Asset Sales                                  | m      | -03,033           | -20,201          | -0,000             | -5,014           |
| EV/EBIT  | X       | 108.4         | 20.9              | 10.0         | 8.0            | Other  | m      | 0                 | 0                | 0                  | 0                |
| 27,23  | ^       |               | 20.0              |              | 0.0            | Investing Cashflow                           | m      | -86,732           | -28,201          | -6,886             | -5,014           |
| Balance Sheet Ratios   |         |               |                   |              |                | Dividend (Ordinary)                          | m      | -288              | -538             | -1,510             | -2,032           |
| ROE  | %       | -6.2          | 47.5              | 77.2         | 58.1           | Equity Raised                                | m      | 1,560             | 3                | 0                  | 0                |
| ROA  | %       | 3.1           | 9.1               | 16.2         | 17.6           | Debt Movements                               | m      | 97,427            | 8,000            | -10,000            | 0                |
| ROIC   | %       | -5.2          | 9.1               | 16.5         | 21.3           | Other  | m      | -128              | 4,459            | 0                  | 0                |
| Net Debt/Equity  | %       | 1,794.6       | 809.1             | 331.1        | 143.2          | Financing Cashflow                           | m      | 98,571            | 11,924           | -11,510            | -2,032           |
| Interest Cover   | Х       | 0.8           | 1.6               | 3.3          | 4.4            |  |        |                   |                  |                    |                  |
| Price/Book<br>Book Value per Share                             | Х       | 26.7<br>143.8 | 10.6<br>362.3     | 5.0<br>761.2 | 2.9<br>1,315.6 | Net Chg in Cash/Debt                         | m      | 13,926            | -10,156          | 5,468              | 24,120           |
|  |         |               |                   |              |                | Balance Sheet                                |        | 2007A             | 2008E            | 2009E              | 2010E            |
|  |         |               |                   |              |                |  |        |                   |                  |                    |                  |
|  |         |               |                   |              |                | Cash   | m<br>m | 13,264            | 3,452            | 9,328              | 33,855           |
|  |         |               |                   |              |                | Receivables<br>Inventories                   | m<br>m | 2,033<br>1,022    | 6,106<br>2,351   | 8,573<br>3,301     | 8,854<br>3,298   |
|  |         |               |                   |              |                | Investments                                  | m      | 1,464             | 1,464            | 1,464              | 1,464            |
|  |         |               |                   |              |                | Fixed Assets                                 | m      | 97,648            | 121,914          | 123,759            | 122,373          |
|  |         |               |                   |              |                | Intangibles                                  | m      | 0,010             | 0                | 0                  | 0                |
|  |         |               |                   |              |                | Other Assets                                 | m      | 6,091             | 14,347           | 24,052             | 29,038           |
|  |         |               |                   |              |                | Total Assets                                 | m      | 121,522           | 149,634          | 170,477            | 198,882          |
|  |         |               |                   |              |                | Payables                                     | m      | 4,539             | 11,753           | 19,804             | 23,747           |
|  |         |               |                   |              |                | Short Term Debt                              | m      | 968               | 968              | 968                | 968              |
|  |         |               |                   |              |                | Long Term Debt                               | m      | 107,557           | 115,557          | 105,557            | 105,557          |
|  |         |               |                   |              |                | Provisions                                   | m      | 325               | 1,087            | 2,035              | 2,441            |
|  |         |               |                   |              |                | Other Liabilities                            | m      | 2,825             | 6,293            | 12,754             | 15,430           |
|  |         |               |                   |              |                | Total Liabilities Shareholders' Funds        | m      | 116,214           | 135,659          | 141,118            | 148,142          |
|  |         |               |                   |              |                | Minority Interests                           | m<br>m | 5,308<br>0        | 13,975<br>0      | 29,358<br>0        | 50,740           |
|  |         |               |                   |              |                | Other  | m<br>m | 0                 | 0                | 0                  | 0                |
|  |         |               |                   |              |                | Total S/H Equity                             | m      | 5,308             | 13,975           | 29,358             | 50,740           |
|  |         |               |                   |              |                | Total Liab & S/H Funds                       | m      | 121,522           | 149,634          | 170,477            | 198,882          |
| All Courses 1: IND   |         |               |                   |              |                |  |        | ,                 | -,               | -,                 | ,                |
| All figures in INR unless noted<br>Source: Macquarie Research, |         | 2008          |                   |              |                |  |        |                   |                  |                    |                  |
|  |         |               |                   |              |                |  |        |                   |                  |                    |                  |

#### Important disclosures:

#### **Recommendation definitions**

#### Macquarie - Australia/New Zealand

Outperform – return >5% in excess of benchmark return (>2.5% in excess for listed property trusts)

Neutral – return within 5% of benchmark return (within 2.5% for listed property trusts)

Underperform – return >5% below benchmark return (>2.5% below for listed property trusts)

#### Macquarie - Asia

Outperform – expected return >+10% Neutral – expected return from -10% to +10% Underperform – expected return <-10%

#### Macquarie First South - South Africa

Outperform – expected return >+10% Neutral – expected return from -10% to +10% Underperform – expected return <-10%

#### Macquarie - Canada

Outperform – return >5% in excess of benchmark return Neutral – return within 5% of benchmark return Underperform – return >5% below benchmark return

#### Macquarie - USA

Outperform – return >5% in excess of benchmark return Neutral – return within 5% of benchmark return Underperform – return >5% below benchmark return

#### Recommendations - 12 months

**Note:** Quant recommendations may differ from Fundamental Analyst recommendations

#### Volatility index definition\*

This is calculated from the volatility of historic price movements.

**Very high-highest risk** – Stock should be expected to move up or down 60–100% in a year – investors should be aware this stock is highly speculative.

**High** – stock should be expected to move up or down at least 40–60% in a year – investors should be aware this stock could be speculative.

**Medium** – stock should be expected to move up or down at least 30–40% in a year.

**Low-medium** – stock should be expected to move up or down at least 25–30% in a year.

**Low** – stock should be expected to move up or down at least 15–25% in a year.

\* Applicable to Australian/NZ stocks only

#### **Financial definitions**

All "Adjusted" data items have had the following adjustments made:

Added back: goodwill amortisation, provision for catastrophe reserves, IFRS derivatives & hedging, IFRS impairments & IFRS interest expense Excluded: non recurring items, asset revals, property revals, appraisal value uplift, preference dividends & minority interests

EPS = adjusted net profit / efpowa\*

ROA = adjusted ebit / average total assets
ROA Banks/Insurance = adjusted net profit /average
total assets

ROE = adjusted net profit / average shareholders funds Gross cashflow = adjusted net profit + depreciation \*equivalent fully paid ordinary weighted average number of shares

All Reported numbers for Australian/NZ listed stocks are modelled under IFRS (International Financial Reporting Standards).

#### Recommendation proportions - For quarter ending 31 December 2007

|              | AU/NZ  | Asia   | RSA    | USA    | CA     |
|--------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Outperform   | 46.39% | 67.98% | 73.08% | 47.06% | 70.00% |
| Neutral      | 41.24% | 16.78% | 21.15% | 41.18% | 26.92% |
| Underperform | 12.37% | 15.24% | 5.77%  | 11.76% | 3.08%  |

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