

Company Focus

15 December 2008 | 12 pages

Gammon India (GAMM.BO)

Business Weakness in a Tougher Environment, Downgrade to Sell

Change in opinion ☒
Rating change ☒
Target price change ☒
Estimate change ☒

- **We are downgrading Gammon to Sell/High Risk** — because of 1) business pressures – 12% of order book has been cancelled/suspended, 15% of remaining OB is to be executed on a "no-margin" basis for subsidiary GIPL – which will suppress margins; 2) lack of clarity on the operating/financial performance of the Italian acquisitions; 3) earnings cut by 23%-40% over FY09E-11E; 4) tougher overall operating environment for construction companies.
- **Cutting estimates by 23%-40% over FY09E-11E** — We have cut our earnings estimates for Gammon + ATSL by 23%-40% over FY09E-11E on the back of a 1) 45%-60% cut in Gammon India's FY09E-11E estimates, and 2) 15%/9% increase in FY09E/10E ATSL estimates respectively. Merger with ATSL boosts overall margins as ATSL margins are at 13% vs Gammon margins of 7%.
- **Cutting target price to Rs.68** — We value Gammon India + ATSL at 4x FY10E earnings, a discount to other construction stocks given lower earnings growth and returns profile. We reduce the interest outgo on acquisition debt for the Italian companies from FY10E PAT. We value the stakes in GIPL and Sadbhav Engg at current market capitalisation less 40% holding company discount. The stock is currently trading at ~5x FY10E and offers limited upside from current levels.
- **Upside risks** — These include 1) higher order inflows, 2) better than expected margins and 3) faster turnaround of Italian subsidiaries.

Sell/High Risk	3H
<i>from Buy/Medium Risk</i>	
Price (12 Dec 08)	Rs63.25
Target price	Rs68.00
<i>from Rs291.00</i>	
Expected share price return	7.5%
Expected dividend yield	0.6%
Expected total return	8.1%
Market Cap	Rs5,533M
	US\$115M

Price Performance (RIC: GAMM.BO, BB: GMON IN)



Figure 1. Statistical Abstract

Year to 31-Mar	Net Profit (Rs mills)	EPS (Rs)	EPS Growth (%)	P/E (x)	ROE (%)	Div. Yield (%)
FY07	984	11.34		5.6	11.2%	0.8%
FY08	883	10.18	-10.2%	6.2	9.4%	0.8%
FY09E	1,261	11.12	9.2%	5.7	10.7%	0.6%
FY10E	1,342	11.83	6.4%	5.3	9.4%	0.6%
FY11E	1,428	12.59	6.4%	5.0	9.1%	0.6%

Source: Company reports, Citi Investment Research, Note – Shaded area denotes post ATSL merger financials

See Appendix A-1 for Analyst Certification and important disclosures.

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¹Citigroup Global Markets India Private Limited

Fiscal year end 31-Mar	2007	2008	2009E	2010E	2011E
Valuation Ratios					
P/E adjusted (x)	5.6	6.2	5.7	5.3	5.0
EV/EBITDA adjusted (x)	3.7	3.9	3.4	3.8	3.8
P/BV (x)	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4
Dividend yield (%)	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6
Per Share Data (Rs)					
EPS adjusted	11.34	10.18	11.12	11.83	12.59
EPS reported	5.13	9.93	14.90	11.83	12.59
BVPS	103.46	112.86	120.60	131.98	144.13
DPS	0.50	0.50	0.38	0.38	0.38
Profit & Loss (RsM)					
Net sales	18,517	23,449	36,313	41,011	44,809
Operating expenses	-17,147	-21,724	-33,573	-37,897	-41,467
EBIT	1,370	1,725	2,740	3,114	3,342
Net interest expense	-136	-264	-852	-1,104	-1,202
Non-operating/exceptionals	197	-68	21	22	23
Pre-tax profit	1,431	1,393	1,910	2,033	2,163
Tax	-447	-510	-649	-690	-734
Extraord./Min.Int./Pref.div.	-539	-22	430	0	0
Reported net income	445	861	1,691	1,342	1,428
Adjusted earnings	984	883	1,261	1,342	1,428
Adjusted EBITDA	1,722	2,187	3,323	3,794	4,119
Growth Rates (%)					
Sales	25.4	26.6	54.9	12.9	9.3
EBIT adjusted	-7.1	26.0	58.9	13.6	7.3
EBITDA adjusted	-6.7	27.0	52.0	14.2	8.6
EPS adjusted	-4.3	-10.2	9.2	6.4	6.4
Cash Flow (RsM)					
Operating cash flow	-252	908	-3,426	-44	1,012
Depreciation/amortization	352	462	583	680	777
Net working capital	-1,083	-408	-5,801	-2,066	-1,193
Investing cash flow	-2,084	-1,497	-3,100	-1,501	-1,501
Capital expenditure	-1,742	-1,393	-3,070	-1,501	-1,501
Acquisitions/disposals	-343	-103	-30	0	0
Financing cash flow	1,954	10	6,603	2,449	949
Borrowings	2,009	56	4,400	2,500	1,000
Dividends paid	-50	-51	-51	-51	-51
Change in cash	-383	-579	77	905	461
Balance Sheet (RsM)					
Total assets	20,796	24,701	40,351	46,015	50,369
Cash & cash equivalent	960	381	458	1,362	1,823
Accounts receivable	3,034	5,172	11,768	13,371	14,642
Net fixed assets	4,487	5,418	7,905	8,727	9,451
Total liabilities	11,821	14,911	26,667	31,039	34,015
Accounts payable	3,066	4,554	9,158	10,320	11,315
Total Debt	3,715	3,771	8,171	10,671	11,671
Shareholders' funds	8,975	9,790	13,684	14,976	16,354
Profitability/Solvency Ratios (%)					
EBITDA margin adjusted	9.3	9.3	9.2	9.3	9.2
ROE adjusted	11.2	9.4	10.7	9.4	9.1
ROIC adjusted	9.2	9.6	11.6	10.2	9.9
Net debt to equity	30.7	34.6	56.4	62.2	60.2
Total debt to capital	29.3	27.8	37.4	41.6	41.6

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Tougher Environment – Downgrade to Sell

We are downgrading Gammon India to Sell/High Risk from Buy/Medium Risk for the following reasons:

A) Cancellation of orders + weakness in order inflows

- **12% of current order book has been cancelled/suspended** – In our recent meeting with the management, they mentioned that out of the total order book of Rs93bn, ~Rs10bn of orders have been suspended. Projects have been cancelled/suspended due to floods in Bihar and security reasons in Assam.
- **15% of the remaining Rs83bn is to be executed on a "no-margin" basis for GIPL** – which means that Gammon India will book margins on only ~Rs71bn of orders. The Rs83bn of orders have an average execution period of 2.5 years. The company is currently the lowest bidder on Rs5bn of orders. It expects fresh order inflows of Rs8-10bn by March 2009. Most of the expected orders are from the hydroelectric sector.
- We expect order inflows to moderate in FY10E on the back of elections and a general slowdown in the economy.

B) Weak margin outlook

- **Margins outlook** – Gammon posted EBITDA margins of 7% in H109 on the back of orders suspended + execution of no-margin orders for GIPL. Going forward, the management said that the margins will definitely be more than 7% and they expect margins to improve to 9.5%-10% over the next 2.5 years. The benefit of softening commodity prices will come with a lag of roughly 6 months. But, they did concede that given a slowdown, smaller players are sacrificing margins for volume growth. Management guided for FY09E revenues between Rs27-28bn with EBITDA margins in the range of 7%-8%.
- **Our view** – Any margin benefit that the industry may be getting due to softer commodity prices will be negated to a large extent by more competitive bidding. Our discussions with other industry players also suggest the same. We therefore do not expect core Gammon India margins to improve beyond 8% in the near term.

C) Lack of clarity on Italian acquisitions

The Italian companies acquired are either loss making or have very low margins which will suppress overall financial performance. Gammon will fund the interest outgo on the acquisition debt and it will be structured as loans/advances to the acquiring subsidiary.

D) Associated Transrails – relatively better positioned

Current OB of the company is Rs22bn. ATSL posted H109 revenues of Rs4.4bn and EBITDA margins of 13%, ahead of expectations. The company guided for revenues of Rs10bn and margins of 13% in FY09E. The current debt of the company was Rs1.65bn. The company is undertaking capex of Rs1bn in FY09E. Debt cost was ~1% more than Gammon India's borrowing cost. Merger with ATSL boosts overall margins as ATSL margins are at 13% vs Gammon margins of 7%.

Given a slowdown, smaller players are sacrificing margins for volume growth. Our discussions with other industry players also suggest the same.

Gammon (standalone) PAT to grow at 3% CAGR over FY09E-11E

We are cutting our earnings estimates for Gammon India (excluding ATSL) by 45%-60% on the back of 1) lower revenues, 2) lower margins and 3) higher interest costs.

- Gammon India's revenues should grow at a sedate pace of ~11% over the next 3 years as ~12% of its current Rs93bn orderbook is suspended/cancelled. Moreover, we expect a decline in order inflows in FY10E – given a slowdown in the overall economy and elections which will push back investments.
- We expect margins to come down from 9.3% in FY08E to 7.7%-7.9% over FY09E-11E given that ~15% of its current orderbook will be executed on no margins for its subsidiary GIPL. Also, incremental orders from GIPL may also be executed on a zero margin basis – which may suppress overall margins.
- Any benefit from reduction in material costs would be offset by more competitive bidding in a tough environment.
- We are increasing our interest cost estimates for Gammon India on the back of higher than expected interest costs in the 1HY09.

Figure 2. Gammon India Standalone Estimates

Year End Mar31 (Rsmn)	FY09E	FY10E	FY11E
Net Sales			
Old	28,600	34,408	42,429
New	26,363	29,569	32,223
% Change	-7.8%	-14.1%	-24.1%
EBITDA			
Old	2,460	2,959	3,691
New	2,030	2,306	2,546
% Change	-17.5%	-22.1%	-31.0%
EBITDA Margins %			
Old	8.6%	8.6%	8.7%
New	7.7%	7.8%	7.9%
Change bps	(90)	(80)	(80)
Recurring PAT			
Old	1,045	1,213	1,521
New	570	593	605
% Change	-45.4%	-51.1%	-60.2%

Source: Citi Investment Research

Gammon + ATSL PAT to grow by 6% CAGR over FY09E-11E

We are cutting our estimates for Gammon + ATSL by 23%-40% over FY09E-11E on the back of

- A cut in Gammon standalone estimates by 45%-60%; and
- An increase in our ATSL estimates by 15%/9% for FY09E/10E given better than expected execution and margins.

Figure 3. Gammon + ATSL

Year End Mar31 (Rsmn)	FY09E	FY10E	FY10E
Net Sales			
Old	38,250	46,729	57,212
New	36,313	41,011	44,809
% Change	-5.1%	-12.2%	-21.7%
EBITDA			
Old	3,666	4,438	5,465
New	3,323	3,794	4,119
% Change	-9.3%	-14.5%	-24.6%
EBITDA Margins %			
Old	9.6%	9.5%	9.6%
New	9.2%	9.3%	9.2%
Change bps	(43)	(25)	(36)
Recurring PAT			
Old	1,646	1,901	2,371
New	1,261	1,342	1,428
% Change	-23.3%	-29.4%	-39.8%

Source: Citi Investment Research

Cutting target price to Rs68

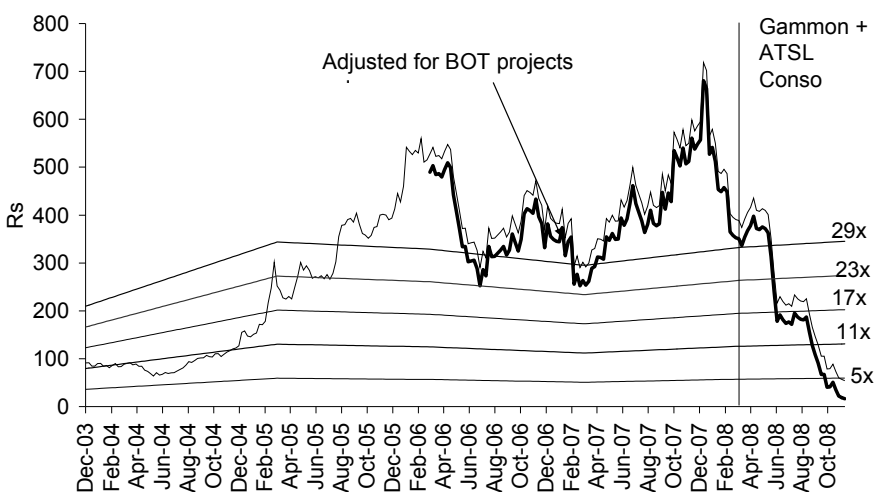
- We value Gammon India + ATSL at 4x FY10E EPS adjusted for interest on acquisitions, at a discount to other construction stocks like IVRCL given lower earnings growth and returns profile.
- We value the stakes in GIPL and Sadbhav Engineering at current market capitalisation less 40% holding company discount vis-a-vis 20% earlier, given that in the current market environment these listed entities could devalue faster than earlier expected.
- We do not value the treasury stock.

Figure 4. Gammon India Valuation Table (Rsmn except per share values)

Methodology		
Gammon India +ATSL		
PAT	FY10E	1,342
Interest on acquisitions	FY10E	(485)
Net PAT		858
No of shares	Fully diluted post ATSL merger	113
EPS		7.56
PE		4
Value of Gammon share		30
Value of GIPL Stake	Current mkt cap less 40% hold co discount	37
Sadbhaav Engineering	Current mkt cap less 40% hold co discount	1
Total Value		68

Source: Citi Investment Research

Figure 5. Gammon PE chart



Source: Citi Investment Research

Increasing risk rating to High, downgrade to Sell

We are increasing the risk rating of Gammon India to High from Medium Risk given:

- The overall tougher operating environment for construction companies; and
- Lack of clarity on the operating /financial performance of the Italian acquisitions.

The stock is currently trading at ~5x FY10E EPS and offers limited upside from current levels. We downgrade the stock to a Sell.

Gammon India

Company description

Gammon is an 86-year-old construction company with cash contracting and build-operate-transfer (BOT) skill-sets in sectors as varied as bridges, flyovers, roads, energy (hydroelectric, nuclear and thermal), tunnels, ports, pipelines (oil, gas and water), water supply and sewage, utilities, ports, harbors, and other marine structures. A presence across sub-sectors provides Gammon with an advantage, as it is in a position to bid, win and implement a wide range of projects in this very active space.

Investment strategy

We rate Gammon shares as Sell/High Risk (3H), with a target price of Rs68.

- **12% of current order book has been cancelled/suspended** – Out of the total OB of Rs93bn, ~Rs10bn of orders have been suspended. Projects have been cancelled/ suspended due to floods in Bihar and security reasons in Assam.
- **15% of the remaining Rs83bn to be executed on a "no-margin" basis for GIPL** – which means that Gammon India will book margins only ~Rs71bn of orders. The Rs83bn of orders have an average execution period of 2.5 years. The company is currently the lowest bidder on Rs5bn of orders. It expects fresh order inflows of Rs8-10bn by March 2009. Most of the expected orders are from the hydroelectric sector.

We expect order inflows to moderate in FY10E on the back of elections and a general slowdown in the economy.

Valuation

We value Gammon's shares at a target price of Rs68 using a sum-of-the-parts (SOTP). We value the merged entity (Gammon India+ ATSL) at a PE of 4x March-10E. We deduct the interest cost of acquisition debt taken for acquiring Italian entities, from the profits of the merged entity. We thus arrive at a core business value of Rs30 per share. We value the GIPL stake at Rs37 per share based on current market value and ascribing a 40% holding company discount. We do not value the treasury stock of 5.7mn shares created from the merger of ATSL. We value the residual stake in Sadbhaav Engineering at current market value less 40% holding company discount – at Rs1 per share.

Risks

We rate Gammon shares High Risk given increased risks to the business including from slowing capex leading to a slowdown in order inflow and lack of clarity on operating and financial performance of Italian subsidiaries. Upside risks to our target price include 1) higher order inflows than we assume, 2) better than expected margins 3) faster turnaround of Italian subsidiaries.

IVRCL Infra & Projects (IVRC.BO; Rs152.80; 1H)

Valuation

We value IVRCL shares at Rs143 based on a sum-of-the-parts (SOTP) given its broad business profile. We value the core construction business at Rs127 based on 8x Dec-09E, a discount to large E&C companies and lower than its average trading band for the last 4 years. We value BOT projects at Rs7 based on P/BV multiple of 1.1x, and a 70% holding company discount. We value the HDO stake at Rs3 based on current market cap, and a 50% holding company discount. We value the IVR Prime Urban stake at Rs5 based on current market cap, and a 50% holding company discount.

Risks

We rate IVRCL shares as High Risk, which we believe is appropriate given increasing operating environment pressures for the sector in terms of tougher financing and a possibility of a push back in investments. Key risks which could prevent the shares from reaching our target price include: 1) Risk associated with BOT projects, 2) Increasing raw material prices, 3) Project execution risks, 4) Shortage of skilled manpower, 5) Higher interest rates, 6) Equity dilution, and 7) Low promoter holding.

Appendix A-1

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Gammon India (GAMM.BO)

Ratings and Target Price History Fundamental Research

Analyst: Deepal Delivala

Covered since August 13 2008

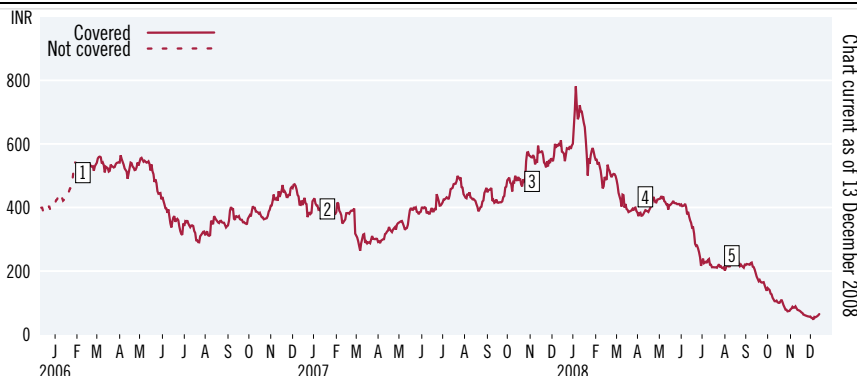


Chart current as of 13 December 2008

	Date	Rating	Target Price	Closing Price
1	9-Feb-06	*3L	*426.00	525.70
2	19-Jan-07	*1L	*461.00	382.20

	Date	Rating	Target Price	Closing Price
3	5-Nov-07	1L	*642.00	557.60
4	11-Apr-08	1L	*477.00	391.45

	Date	Rating	Target Price	Closing Price
5	12-Aug-08	*1M	*291.00	248.15

* Indicates change

Rating/target price changes above reflect Eastern Standard Time

IVRCL Infra & Projects (IVRC.BO)

Ratings and Target Price History Fundamental Research

Analyst: Deepal Delivala

Covered since August 9 2007

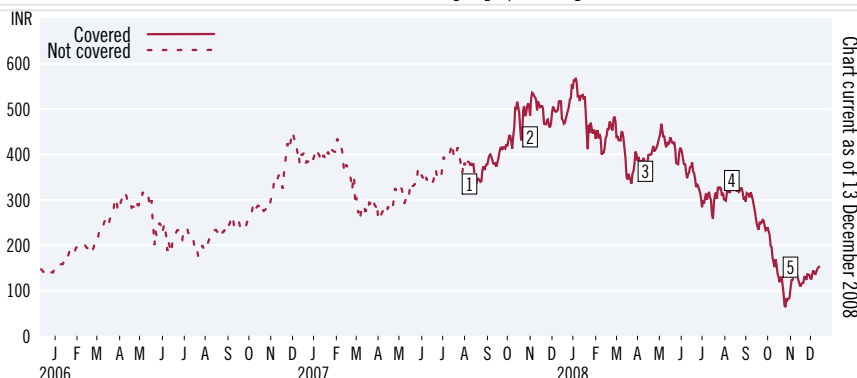


Chart current as of 13 December 2008

	Date	Rating	Target Price	Closing Price
1	8-Aug-07	*1M	*499.00	381.25
2	1-Nov-07	1M	*602.00	485.15

	Date	Rating	Target Price	Closing Price
3	11-Apr-08	1M	*477.00	377.40
4	12-Aug-08	1M	*401.00	339.95

	Date	Rating	Target Price	Closing Price
5	2-Nov-08	*1H	*143.00	84.70

* Indicates change

Rating/target price changes above reflect Eastern Standard Time

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Data current as of 10 Nov 2008

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