

# **Hindustan Unilever Limited**

## Aggressive price increase - ALERT

- HUL fresh product price revisions have been aggressive and ahead of expectations. Average price increases have been in the region of about 7-8% and they affect about 20% of their product portfolio in value terms. Most of the price increases have been in premium products with the exception of few.
- With these price increases, we see upside potential to our earnings estimates and also for Colgate and Godrej Consumer. HUL remains our preferred play in consumer space.

Table 1: Price hikes undertaken by HUL recently

| Category      | Brand & SKUs along with price hikes  |  |  |
|---------------|--|--|--|
| Personal Care | Breeze 50 gm - 20%<br>Pears 75 gm - 9%   |  |  |
| Detergents    | Surf Excel Blue - 11%<br>Surf Excel QW - 6%<br>Surf Excelmatic - 12%<br>Surf Excel Bar - 15% |  |  |
| Oral Care     | Pepsodent - 6%<br>Closeup - 5%   |  |  |
| Hair Care     | Clinic Plus large packs - 7%   |  |  |
| Cosmetics     | Lakme Lipstick - 8%  |  |  |

Source: J.P. Morgan.

## **Neutral**

HLL.BO, HUVR IN Price: Rs233.55 19 November 2008

## **Household Products**

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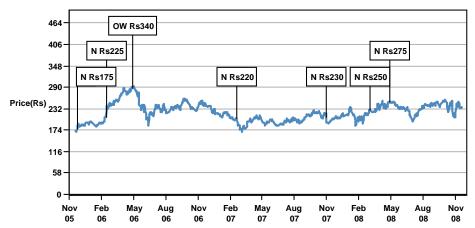
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#### Hindustan Unilever Limited (HLL.BO) Price Chart



| Date      | Rating | Share Price<br>(Rs) | Price Target (Rs) |
|-----------|--------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 25-Nov-05 | N      | 176.75              | 175.00            |
| 14-Feb-06 | N      | 209.45              | 225.00            |
| 01-May-06 | OW     | 287.95              | 340.00            |
| 20-Feb-07 | N      | 205.10              | 220.00            |
| 01-Nov-07 | N      | 207.60              | 230.00            |
| 02-Mar-08 | N      | 227.35              | 250.00            |
| 28-Apr-08 | N      | 249.75              | 275.00            |

Source: Reuters and J.P. Morgan; price data adjusted for stock splits and dividends.

Break in coverage Mar 03, 2004 - Jun 07, 2004. This chart shows J.P. Morgan's continuing coverage of this stock; the current analyst may or may not have covered it over the entire period.

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|                                     | Overweight | Neutral | Underweight |
|-------------------------------------|------------|---------|-------------|
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