

Company In-Depth

10 September 2007 | 7 pages

Hindustan Zinc (HZNC.BO)

Buy: Changing Estimates — Lead Forecasts Hiked

- Changing forecasts, target price Our global commodity forecasts have been revised to account for recent price trends. Following the changes, we have reduced our EPS estimate for HZL by 12% in FY08E, but raised estimates by 3% for FY09E and 9% for FY10E. Our target price has been raised marginally by 3% to Rs1,194 based on 10x FY09E EPS. We maintain Buy/Medium Risk rating.
- Big jump in lead forecasts The substantial upgrade (by 69%-171% for FY08E-FY10E) to lead price forecasts by our global commodity analyst is the key driver to our EPS upgrades. Lead prices have been quite strong in recent months driven by supply disruptions (in Western Australia and USA), strong demand (Chinese demand is up more than 17% ytd) and speculative buying.
- Zinc bullish fundamentals Zinc forecasts have been maintained for FY09E-FY10E. Our forecasts for FY08E have been revised downwards due to weak prices in recent weeks despite steady draw downs in LME stocks and a tightening fundamental market. We remain bullish as we do not expect China to emerge as a major supplier to western markets, and also because increases in mine production are expected to be delayed.
- Reiterate Buy (1M) HZL is an integrated producer that offers exposure to the robust outlook for zinc and lead. It is among the lowest-cost producers globally, and also offers volume growth (capacity being expanded by 63% to 669,000 tpa by 1Q FY09). Based on our outlook for its key products and sector re-rating, our target price is Rs1,194 based on a P/E of 10x for FY09E and at 5.6x EV/EBITDA.

Rating change [

Target price change

Estimate change

✓

Buy/Medium Risk	1M
Price (10 Sep 07)	Rs710.80
Target price	Rs1,194.00
from Rs1,155.00	
Expected share price return	68.0%
Expected dividend yield	0.8%
Expected total return	68.8%
Market Cap	Rs300,336M
	US\$7,416M



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

Figure 1. Hindustan Zinc — Statistical Abstract									
YE	Net Profit	EPS	EPS growth	P/E	EV/EBITDA	EBITDA margin	ROE		
31 Mar	(Rs m)	(Rs)	(%)	(x)	(x)	(%)	(%)		
FY05A	6,553	15.5	6%	45.8	29.5	46%	32%		
FY06A	14,725	34.8	125%	20.4	12.0	62%	43%		
FY07A	44,418	105.1	202%	6.8	3.8	78%	58%		
FY08E	41,821	99.0	-6%	7.2	3.8	73%	36%		
FY09E	50,465	119.4	21%	6.0	2.7	71%	31%		
FY10E	32,471	76.8	-36%	9.2	3.4	62%	17%		

Source: Company Reports, Citigroup Investment Research estimates. Prices as on Sep 10.

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Fiscal year end 31-Mar	2006	2007	2008E	2009E	2010E
Valuation Ratios					
P/E adjusted (x)	20.4	6.8	7.2	6.0	9.2
EV/EBITDA adjusted (x)	12.2	4.1	4.1	3.0	3.8
P/BV (x)	8.8	3.9	2.6	1.8	1.6
Dividend yield (%)	0.4	0.7	8.0	8.0	0.8
Per Share Data (Rs)					
EPS adjusted	34.85	105.12	98.98	119.43	76.85
EPS reported	34.85	105.12	98.98	119.43	76.85
BVPS	81.17	180.51	272.65	385.24	455.25
DPS	2.50	5.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Profit & Loss (RsM)					
Net sales	38,903	85,602	83,193	100,307	76,269
Operating expenses	-16,133	-20,781	-25,014	-32,084	-32,362
EBIT	22,770	64,821	58,179	68,223	43,907
Net interest expense	-474	-284	-70	0	0
Non-operating/exceptionals	0	0	0	0	0
Pre-tax profit	22,296	64,537	58,109	68,223	43,907
Tax	-7,571	-20,119	-16,287	-17,758	-11,436
Extraord./Min.Int./Pref.div.	0	0	0	0	0
Reported net income	14,725	44,418	41,821	50,465	32,471
Adjusted earnings	14,725	44,418	41,821	50,465	32,471
Adjusted EBITDA	24,152	66,382	60,326	71,354	47,496
Growth Rates (%)					
Sales	76.7	120.0	-2.8	20.6	-24.0
EBIT adjusted	145.2	184.7	-10.2	17.3	-35.6
EBITDA adjusted	137.9	174.8	-9.1	18.3	-33.4
EPS adjusted	124.7	201.7	-5.8	20.7	-35.7
Cash Flow (RsM)					
Operating cash flow	12,649	46,711	43,078	49,767	35,238
Depreciation/amortization	1,383	1,561	2,147	3,131	3,589
Net working capital	-5,349	1,001	-4	-2,364	2,024
Investing cash flow	-10,677	-37,984	-18,833	-7,990	1,094
Capital expenditure	-2,143	-10,870	-20,250	-10,180	-2,000
Acquisitions/disposals	-9,170	-27,984	0	0	0 000
Financing cash flow	-1,453	-8,270	-1,306	-2,890	-2,890
Borrowings	-133	-5,576	1 220	0	2 200
Dividends paid Change in cash	-842 519	-2,410 457	-1,236 22,939	-2,890 38,886	-2,890 33,442
	313	437	22,333	30,000	33,442
Balance Sheet (RsM)					
Total assets	48,324	87,548	129,401	179,474	210,403
Cash & cash equivalent	740	1,197	24,136	63,023	96,465
Accounts receivable	6,899	5,566	6,153	8,770	7,798
Net fixed assets	19,181	28,706	46,809	53,859	52,270
Total liabilities	14,026	11,278	14,199	16,698 3,098	18,046 3,398
Accounts payable Total Debt	1,837 5,580	2,065 4	2,424 4	3,096	3,390 4
Shareholders' funds	34,298	76,271	115,202	162,776	192,357
Profitability/Solvency Ratios (%)	-1	-,	,- 	· - · · ·	
EBITDA margin adjusted	62.1	77.5	72.5	71.1	62.3
ROE adjusted	53.5	80.3	43.7	36.3	18.3
ROIC adjusted	62.4	141.3	93.2	86.0	52.7
Net debt to equity	14.1	-1.6	-20.9	-38.7	-50.1
Total debt to capital	14.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
rotal door to oupital	17.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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Figure 2. Hindustan Zinc — Change in forecasts

Source: Citigroup Investment Research estimates

		FY08E			FY09E			FY10E	
	<u>Old</u>	New	% chg	<u> Old</u>	New	% chg	<u> Old</u>	New	% chg
Lead LME (US\$/t)	1,565	2,649	69%	1,047	2,260	116%	854	2,315	171%
Zinc LME (US\$/t)	4,224	3,684	-13%	3,417	3,417	0%	2,315	2,315	0%
Not calca (Da ha)	0.1	0.2	0.0/	0.7	100	10/	71	7.0	70/
Net sales (Rs bn)	91	83	-9%	97	100	4%	71	76	7%
EBITDA (Rs bn)	68	60	-11%	69	71	3%	44	47	8%
Net profit (Rs bn)	47	42	-12%	49	50	3%	30	32	9%
EPS (Rs)	112.1	99.0	-12%	115.5	119.4	3%	70.7	76.8	9%

Hindustan Zinc

Company description

Hindustan Zinc Ltd (HZL) is India's only integrated zinc producer with a 60% share of the Indian market. HZL's lead-zinc ore is mined at their open-pit mines at Rampura Agucha and two underground mines - Rajpura Dariba and Zawar. All its mines are located in Rajasthan in Northwest India. Two of its three smelters are located in Rajasthan - Chanderiya (zinc 275,000 tpa, lead 85,000 tpa), Debari (zinc 80,000 tpa). The third is located at Vizag, Andhra Pradesh in south India (zinc 56,000tpa). One of HZL's biggest advantages is the Rampura Agucha mines based in Rajasthan, which meets 90% of its concentrate requirements. According to Brook Hunt, the mine was estimated to have the third lowest cost globally of producing zinc concentrate in 2006. The Chanderiya smelter (170,000 tpa) was in the lowest cost quartile in terms of cost of production of all zinc smelting operations worldwide in 2006, according to Brook Hunt. HZL's zinc capacity is being expanded by 63% from 411,000 tpa to 669,000 tpa by 1QFY09. This will be accompanied with an increase in its captive power by 83% from 189MW to 346MW.

Investment thesis

We rate Hindustan Zinc shares Buy / Medium Risk (1M) with a target price of Rs1,194. The stock offers exposure to the robust zinc price outlook. An integrated zinc producer, HZL is among the lowest-cost producers in the world largely due to the low cost of mining ore at the Rampura Agucha mine. Given our positive global outlook for zinc, we expect HZL's EBITDA margins to remain around 70% in FY08-FY09E. The substantial volume growth during these robust times due to zinc capacity being expanded by 63% to 669,000 tpa by 1Q FY09 further supports our positive view. Zinc prices have been relatively subdued this year due to concerns over supply trends from China. We expect the supply from China will moderate over the coming months, catalyzing a recovery in prices. HZL also gives exposure to lead, which currently trades at ~US\$3,000/t.

Valuation

We use P/E as our preferred valuation parameter for HZL. The stock is largely driven by commodity price trends. The P/E valuations since April 2006 have moved up to a higher band ranging from 5x to 9x. For a majority of the period the stock has traded between 5x to 7x, but has been driven up to around 9x on surges in LME prices of zinc, particularly when zinc prices have reached or crossed US\$4,000/tonne. In recent times, the dramatic increase in the lead price has also helped keep valuations at higher levels. Based on our outlook that LME prices of zinc should rapidly improve in 2H FY08 to average around US\$4,000/tonne, we expect HZL's valuations to cross its historical P/E range. Our target price of Rs1,194 is arrived at by applying a P/E of 10x to FY09E earnings. This appears justified as zinc has the most robust outlook among base metals and considers the re-rating enjoyed by metal stocks in India and globally following recent M&A activity. HZL's EV/EBITDA has generally traded in a range of 4-5x, and valuations have also crossed 5x for brief periods. Based on our outlook for zinc, we expect valuations to once again cross an EV/EBITDA of 5x. Using an EV/EBITDA of 5x for FY09E would give a target price of Rs1,100, while at our target price, HZL's FY09E EV/EBITDA would be 5.6x.

Risks

We rate HZL shares as Medium Risk based on our quantitative risk rating system, which tracks 260-day historical share price volatility. Risks that could prevent the shares from reaching our target price include: (1) Trends in commodity prices, including weaker zinc and lead prices; (2) Trends in US dollar exchange rates, including a strong rupee; (3) Any disruption at the Rampura Agucha mine which meets 90% of HZL's total mined metal in zinc concentrate during FY07 and accounted for 78% of HZL's total proven and probable reserves as of March 2006; (4) Delays in completing expansions on time would have an adverse impact on our profit forecasts.

Appendix A-1

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