

BSE SENSEX	S&P CNX	CMP: INR163	TP: INR185	Buy								
17,605	5,326											
Bloomberg Equity Shares (m)	MRCO IN 614.4	Year End	Net Sales (INR m)	PAT (INR m)	EPS (INR)	EPS Gr. (%)	P/E (X)	P/BV (X)	RoE (%)	RoCE (%)	EV/ Sales	EV/ EBITDA
52-Week Range (INR)	173/112	03/11A	31,283	2,918	4.7	18.9	34.3	10.9	31.9	29.7	3.4	25.6
1,6,12 Rel. Perf. (%)	-2/3/40	03/12E	40,380	3,331	5.4	14.2	30.1	8.6	28.5	32.8	2.5	20.2
M.Cap. (INR b)	100.1	03/13E	47,042	4,393	7.1	31.9	22.8	6.4	28.3	35.7	2.1	15.5
M.Cap. (USD b)	2.1	03/14E	54,544	5,483	8.9	24.8	18.3	4.9	26.8	35.5	1.7	12.3

- Volume growth momentum continues:** Volume growth momentum continued for Marico (MRCO), led by 16% volume growth in the domestic business; consolidated organic volume growth was 13%. Increased focus on rural markets was a key contributor to volume growth; share of rural sales has increased to 30% for 9MFY12 as against 27% in FY11.
- Gross margin expands after six quarters of contraction:** Consolidated gross margin expanded by 120bp to 48.5% after six consecutive quarters of YoY margin decline; the expansion was led by price increases in the domestic portfolio and fall in copra prices. Consolidated EBITDA margin contracted by 70bp to 11.5% due to higher ad expenses (up 170bp) and staff costs (up 80bp). MRCO has booked prior period expenses of INR130m pertaining to Kaya Middle East in 3Q; excluding this, EBITDA margin would have been higher by 120bp at 12.7%.
- Upgrading estimates, stock recommendation:** We are revising our earnings estimate for FY13 by 12% and are introducing our EPS estimate for FY14 at INR8.9. We are also upgrading our recommendation on the stock to **Buy**. This follows strong operating performance in 3QFY12 and improved visibility of higher medium-term growth. Our SOTP-based target price is INR185 (we have valued the domestic consumer business at 22x FY14E earnings, the international business at 12x FY14E earnings and Kaya at 0.7x sales).

Y/E March	(INR Million)								FY11	FY12E
	FY11				FY12E					
	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4QE		
Volume Growth (%)	16.0	15.0	15.0	5.0	14.0	14.0	13.0	15.0	14.8	13.5
Net Sales	7,901	7,758	8,177	7,473	10,486	9,745	10,578	9,571	31,283	40,380
YoY Change (%)	13.4	12.1	22.1	24.1	32.7	25.6	29.4	28.1	17.6	29.1
COGS	4,033	3,880	4,307	3,960	5,947	5,329	5,451	4,777	16,179	21,504
Gross Profit	3,868	3,879	3,870	3,514	4,539	4,415	5,127	4,795	15,104	18,876
Gross margin (%)	49.0	50.0	47.3	47.0	43.3	45.3	48.5	50.1	48.3	46.7
Other Expenditure	2,813	2,887	2,873	2,726	3,288	3,249	3,909	3,411	11,006	13,857
% to Sales	35.6	37.2	35.1	36.5	31.4	33.3	37.0	35.6	35.2	34.3
EBITDA	1,055	991	997	788	1,251	1,167	1,217	1,384	4,098	5,019
Margins (%)	13.3	12.8	12.2	10.5	11.9	12.0	11.5	14.5	13.1	12.4
YoY Change	9.3	4.1	0.9	-7.3	18.6	17.7	22.1	75.7	8.1	22.5
Depreciation	120	140	146	302	169	177	188	185	708	720
Interest	70	65	76	182	97	91	82	178	393	448
Other Income	44	73	69	93	90	106	92	96	279	385
PBT	909	860	843	398	1,075	1,005	1,039	1,116	3,275	4,236
Tax	162	126	133	428	210	205	178	253	850	847
Rate (%)	17.8	14.7	15.8	107.7	19.6	20.4	17.1	22.7	25.9	20.0
Minority Interest	10	18	14	-8	15	17	20	17	50	58
Adjusted PAT	737	716	695	719	850	783	841	846	2,918	3,331
YoY Change (%)	22.8	14.7	11.8	24.4	15.3	9.4	21.0	17.7	18.9	14.2
Exceptional Items	0	44		755	0	0		0	489	0
Reported PAT	737	760	695	716	850	783	841	846	3,153	3,331

E: MOSL Estimates

- We expect Marico's (MRCO) core business comprising of Parachute Coconut oil to witness uptick in margins as Copra prices have decline from a peak of INR6900/quintal to current levels of INR4900/quintal. MRCO has very limited competition in the branded space in this segment and strong pricing power is depicted in strong volume growth of 11% in rigid packs for 9mFY12 despite 25% price increase in past 15 months.
- Saffola has grown volumes by 15% in the premium edible oil segment and the brand is way ahead of competition (57% market share) with unique positioning on wellness platform. We expect saffola to sustain volume growth despite 8-9% price increase affected in Jan2012.
- MRCO is emerging as one of the most aggressive players in the value added hair oils segment. MRCO has increased volumes by 20% in 3Q and ~26% in 9mFY12 by aggressive pricing, sales promotions and entry in Cooling oil and Ayurvedic Hair oil segment. We believe that MRCO can sustain strong double digit volume growth and market share gain in this segment as segment leaders like Dabur and Emami are operating with fat margins in excess of 20% in these categories.
- Although we remain concerned on lower margins in international business, it contributes 25% to the topline and only 40% of this is inorganic. Bangladesh and Middle East is ~60% of sales with margins in line with domestic margins. We note that Indian consumer companies have done better with organic forays abroad than acquisitions.
- Kaya Sin care has been a positive surprise in the quarter despite pressure on discretionary spends in the domestic market. Reorganization of business model with shift in focus from "Cure" to "Cure+Care" has reduced cyclicity in the business. We see a probability of Kaya business (including Derma Rx) turning profitable by FY14.
- MRCO has been paying a dividend of INR0.7 per year since FY07, we expect MRCO to increase dividend payout which can act as a re-rating trigger.
- We are increasing FY13 estimates by 12% and are introducing FY14 EPS at INR8.9. We are introducing SOTP valuation for MRCO with domestic consumer business valued at 22x FY14E, International business at 12x FY14E and Kaya at 0.7x sales. We upgrade the stock to Buy with a 12 month target price of INR185, a 15% upside.

Concall highlights: Saffola Oats and Parachute Body lotion evoke good response in India, Bangladesh performance to improve with focus on non PCO products.

- Acceleration in volume growth in Parachute has been driven by recruiter packs in rural markets; rural markets now contribute 40% to Parachute sales as against 35% 2 years back.
- Of the new launches, Saffola Oats and Parachute Body Lotion have performed well and now have 10% and 5% market shares respectively. Mgmt expects each brand to register ~INR450-500m sales in FY13 which will be 2x of FY12 sales. Saffola Rice has been under pressure; however MRCO is confident of the long term growth potential of the brand.
- Organic volume growth in the international business has been ~5% due to flat volumes in Bangladesh (40-45% of international sales) mainly due to lower growth in Parachute Coconut oil; with a combination of distribution expansion and new

product introductions, MRCO expects sustained double digit growth in Bangladesh in the coming quarters.

- In Kaya, in spite of the difficult environment, SSS growth has been maintained due to higher product sales and value services offered; mgmt expects this traction to continue as its strategy as a total skin care solutions player pays dividends.

Key Metrics- Domestic Volume growth remains robust despite price increases (Gr. %)

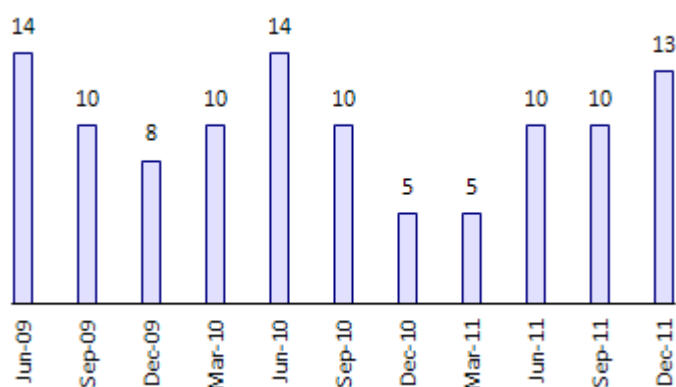
	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	FY11	1Q	2Q	3Q
Domestic Business								
Parachute Rigid	14.0	11.0	5.0	5.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	13.0
Saffola	18.0	18.0	13.0	14.0	16.0	15.0	11.0	15.0
Hair Oils	27.0	14.0	31.0	21.0	17.0	32.0	26.0	20.0
Domestic Business	11.0	9.0	19.0	30.0	17.0	14.0	14.0	16.0
Kaya								
Kaya Sales	3.0	2.0	11.0	11.0	7.0	24.0	7.0	21.0
Kaya SSS	-5.0	-3.0	10.0	6.0	2.0	14.0	16.0	15.0

Source: Company/MOSL

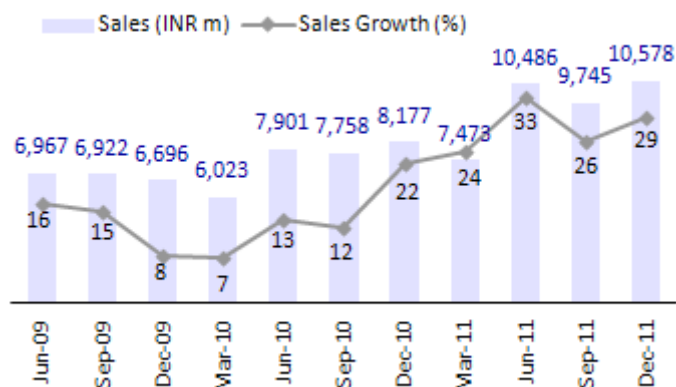
Domestic sales up 21%; volumes up 16% led by strong performance across hair and edible oils

- Volume growth momentum continued for Marico led by 16% volume growth in the domestic business; consolidated organic volume growth was 13% for the quarter.
- Parachute (rigid packs) volumes grew 13%, the highest growth in the last 7 quarters led by market share gains from regional players; volume growth in all packs was 11%. Growth was driven by the smaller recruiter packs and lack of competition from regional players due to the inflationary RM environment.
- Saffola continued to maintain its strong 15% volume growth trajectory. Other hair oils posted a 20% volume growth which is impressive on a high base (31% in 3QFY11), boosted by increasing distribution of Parachute Advanced Ayurvedic oil and Cooling oil as well as market share gains led growth in Shanti Amla (20% avg market share in 3Q).
- Increased focus on rural markets was a key contributor to volume growth; share of rural sales has increased to 30% for 9mFY12 as against 27% in FY11. Modern trade also boosted growth, with sales increasing 44% led by Saffola and value added hair oils.
- Parachute volume growth is expected to stay healthy led by increasing penetration and market share gains. Saffola in the premium edible oil segment is way ahead of competition (57% market share) with unique positioning on wellness platform. We expect Saffola to sustain volume growth despite 8-9% price increase affected in Jan2012.
- MRCO is emerging as one of the most aggressive players in the value added hair oils segment. MRCO has increased volumes by 20% in 3Q and ~26% in 9mFY12 by aggressive pricing, sales promotions and entry in Cooling oil and Ayurvedic Hair oil segment. We believe that MRCO can sustain strong double digit volume growth and market share gain in this segment as various segment leaders like Dabur and Emami are operating with fat margins in excess of 20%.

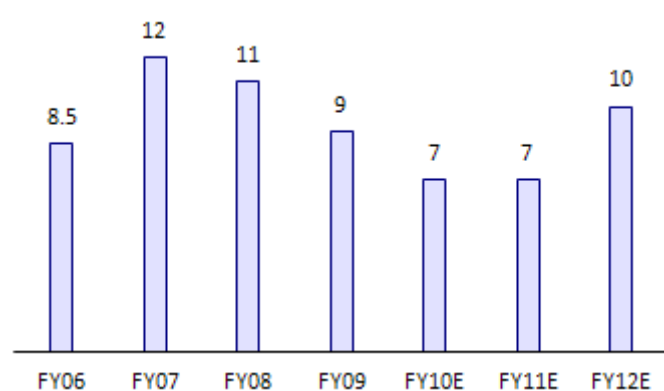
Volume growth sustains at 13%



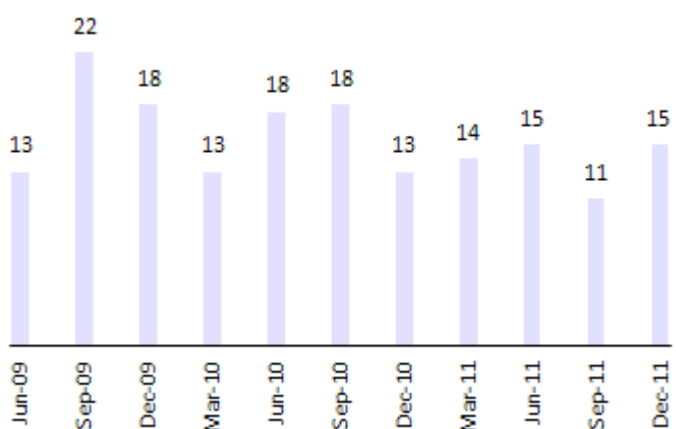
Consol sales led by volumes and price hikes in domestic business



Parachute volumes accelerate at 13%



Saffola volume growth at 15%

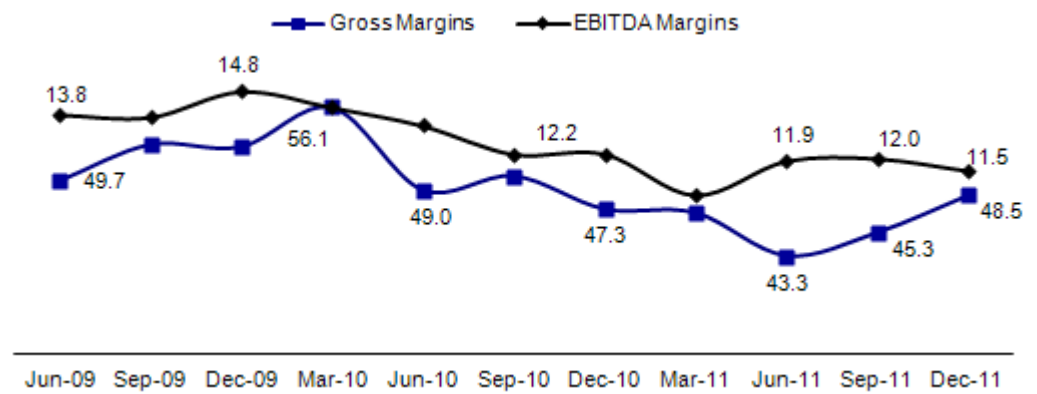


Source: Company/MOSL

Gross margins expand (after six quarters) by 120bp led by price hikes and decline in copra prices; Saffola prices increased by 8-9% in January 2012

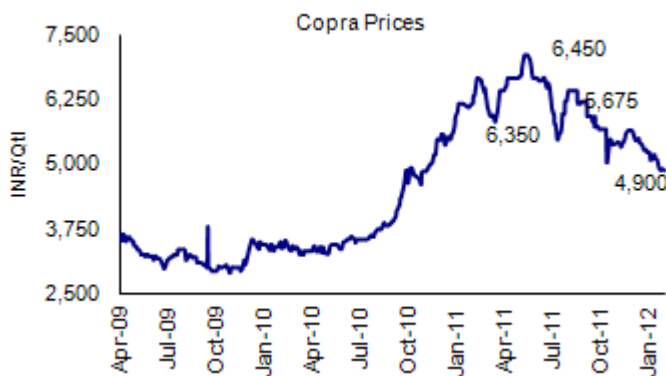
- Consolidated gross margins expanded by 120bp to 48.5% after 6 consecutive quarters of YoY margin decline; expansion was led by price increases in the domestic portfolio and fall in copra prices; average copra prices declined by 9% QoQ but were still up 4% YoY. We note that average copra prices are down 8% in January as compared to their 3Q average. However, edible oil prices continue to increase with kardi and rice bran prices up 28% and 33% respectively.
- Consolidated EBITDA margins contracted by 70bp to 11.5% due to higher ad expenses (up 170bp) and staff costs (up 80bp). MRCO has booked prior period expenses of Kaya Middle East to the tune of INR 130m in 3Q excluding which EBITDA margins would have been higher by 120bp to 12.7%.
- The continued surge in edible oil prices has prompted the company to pass on an 8-9% price hike across Saffola variants. We note that the previous 15-20% price hike over the last 18-24 months passed on in Saffola has not impacted volumes; the brand has posted its 11th consecutive quarter of double digit volume growth.
- We expect core business comprising of Parachute Coconut oil to witness uptick in margins as Copra prices have decline from a peak of INR6900/quintal to current levels of INR4900/quintal. MRCO has very limited competition in the branded space in this segment and strong pricing power is depicted in strong volume growth of 11% in rigid packs for 9mFY12 despite 25% price increase in past 15 months.

Gross margin expansion of 120bp; EBITDA margin contraction of 70bp due to one off expenses

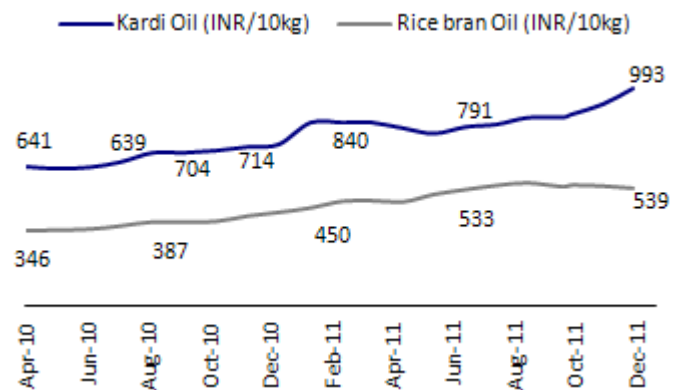


Source: Company/MOSL

Copra prices down 9% QoQ; trending lower

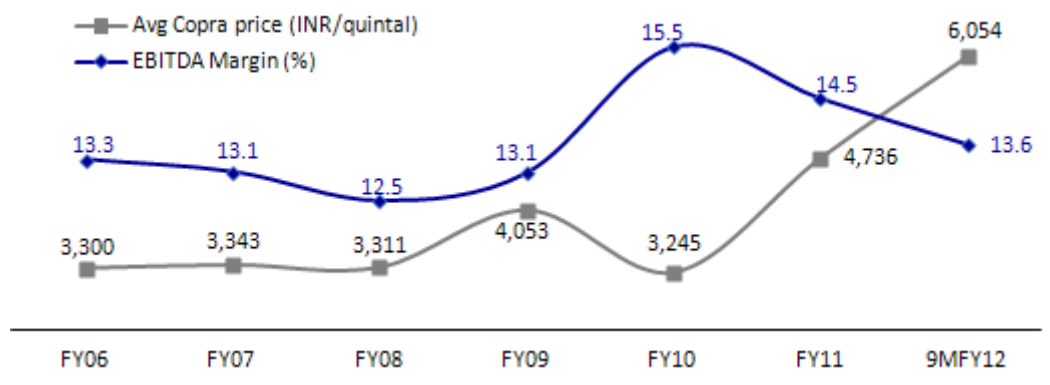


Rice bran and kardi oil prices up 33% and 28% respectively



Source: Bloomberg/Company/MOSL

Margins to expand now with copra prices declining



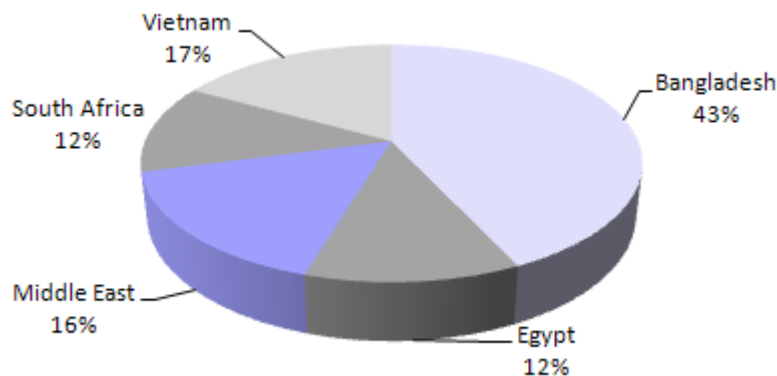
Source: Company/MOSL

International business sales up 39%; organic growth at 16%; Bangladesh business remains under pressure

- Marico’s international business has posted 39% sales growth during the quarter led by new acquisition of ICP in Vietnam; organic growth was 16%.
- Margins in the international business were at 11%; we note that Bangladesh (~45% of international business) posted 1% growth for the quarter with margins declining by 660bp to 9.2% due to higher branding and distribution expenses.
- Market share in Bangladesh for Parachute was at 69%; hair code has maintained share; new launches of Parachute Advanced cooling oil and Parachute Advanced Beli are performing well.

- Although we remain concerned on lower margins in international business, it contributes 25% to the topline and only 40% of this is inorganic. This compares favorably to domestic peers which have a larger share of acquired international businesses. Bangladesh and Middle East is ~60% of sales with margins in line with domestic margins. We note that Indian consumer companies have done better with organic forays abroad than acquisitions as is evident with the performance of Marico in Bangladesh and Egypt and Dabur in GCC and Africa

IBD: Bangladesh and Middle East are 60% of sales



Source: Company/MOSL

Kaya: Healthy 15% SSS growth; adjusted losses only at INR15m

- Kaya Skin Care reported sales growth of 21% at INR750m; SSS growth of 15% and a PBIT loss of INR INR145m. The financials were impacted by change in accounting policy of sales, amortization of intangible assets and one-time prior period expense on Kaya Middle East to the tune of INR130m. Excluding one-time expense, Kaya's EBIT loss is only INR15m as against INR75m in 2QFY12.
- MRCO has strengthened its systems and processes in the entire international business including Kaya to prevent reporting errors.
- Kaya Skin care has been a positive surprise in the quarter despite pressure on discretionary spends in the domestic market. We note that in periods of slowdown in FY09 and FY10, the company had witnessed SSS declines; reorganization of business model with shift in focus from "Cure" to "Cure+Care" has reduced cyclicality in the business. The increase in share of products (from 20% to 23%) has further driven growth.
- We expect SSS growth to be maintained in double digits; though in the near term losses will continue, the business is on a gradual path to achieving profitability and is likely to turnaround by FY14.

Vauation and view - Domestic business on strong footing; Upgrading FY13 EPS by 12%; Upgrade to Buy with target price of INR185

We are upgrading our rating on Marico to Buy. This follows strong operating performance in 3QFY12 and improved visibility on higher growth in the medium term. We are increasing FY13 estimates by 12% and are introducing Fy14 EPS at INR8.9. We are introducing SOTP valuation for MRCO with domestic consumer business valued at 22x FY14E, International business at 12x FY14E and Kaya at 0.7x sales. We upgrade the stock to Buy with a 12 month target price of INR185, a 15% upside.

Marico: an investment profile

Company description

Marico has emerged as a dominant player in the Hair care and edible oil segment. Marico is has also made inroads in the international markets. Entry into skin care clinic reaffirms the management focus on wellness.

Key investment arguments

- We are positive on the long term growth strategy of the company and its successful forays in expanding overseas as well as developing new products for the domestic markets.
- The company has been able to leverage its existing brands by entering in the new categories.
- International operations are gaining traction due to acquisition of Fiancee and Haircode brands in Egypt and entry into South African market.

Key investment risks

- Volume growth to tend lower due to rising inflationary environment, thereby pressurizing consumer wallets.
- Copra price fluctuation poses risk to the profitability in the core business of pure coconut oil despite change in the pricing policy and improved pricing power of the company.

Recent developments

- National launch of parachute Advansed body lotion in the skin care space

Valuation and view

- EPS estimates are INR5.4 for FY12 and INR7.1 for FY13
- The stock trades at 30x FY12E and 23x FY13E. **Buy**

Sector view

- We have a cautious view on the sector given the slower income growth in the economy which might impact volumes as well as profit margins of companies.
- Companies with low competitive pressures and broad product portfolios will be able to better withstand any slowdown in a particular segment.
- Longer term prospects appear bright, given rising incomes and low penetration.

Comparative valuations

		Marico	GCPL	Dabur
P/E (x)	FY12E	30.1	25.5	26.9
	FY13E	22.8	20.1	22.4
P/BV (x)	FY12E	8.6	6.8	9.8
	FY13E	6.4	4.7	8.0
EV/Sales (x)	FY12E	2.5	3.4	3.3
	FY13E	2.1	2.7	2.8
EV/EBITDA (x)	FY12E	20.2	19.2	20.2
	FY13E	15.5	15.0	16.6

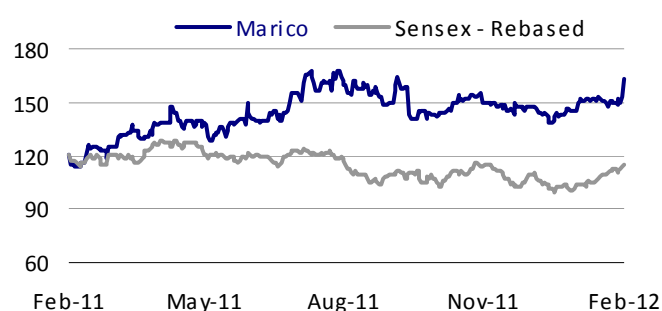
EPS: MOSL forecast v/s consensus (INR)

	MOSL Forecast	Consensus Forecast	Variation (%)
FY12	5.4	5.1	5.5
FY13	7.1	6.6	8.9

Target price and recommendation

Current Price (INR)	Target Price (INR)	Upside (%)	Reco.
163	185	13.7	Buy

Stock performance (1 year)



Shareholding pattern (%)

	Sep-11	Jun-11	Sep-10
Promoter	62.8	62.9	63.0
Domestic Inst	5.1	4.2	5.2
Foreign	25.7	26.4	24.5
Others	6.4	6.5	7.3

Financials and Valuation

Income Statement		(INR Million)				
Y/E March	2010	2011	2012E	2013E	2014E	
Net Sales	26,608	31,283	40,380	47,042	54,544	
Change (%)	11.4	17.6	29.1	16.5	15.9	
COGS	13,021	16,179	21,504	24,317	28,042	
Gross Profit	13,587	15,104	18,876	22,724	26,502	
Margin (%)	51.1	48.3	46.7	48.3	48.6	
Operating Expenses	9,835	11,006	13,857	16,372	18,810	
EBITDA	3,751	4,098	5,019	6,353	7,692	
Change (%)	23.4	9.2	22.5	26.6	21.1	
Margin (%)	14.1	13.1	12.4	13.5	14.1	
Depreciation	601	708	720	831	921	
Int. and Fin. Charges	257	393	448	443	406	
Other Income - Recurrin	183	279	385	495	585	
Profit before Taxes	3,076	3,275	4,236	5,574	6,949	
Change (%)	25.7	6.5	29.3	31.6	24.7	
Margin (%)	11.6	10.5	10.5	11.8	12.7	
Current Tax (excl MAT Er	613	850	805	1,059	1,320	
Deferred Tax	31		42	56	69	
Tax Rate (%)	20.9	25.9	20.0	20.0	20.0	
Minority Interest	-19	-50	-58	-66	-76	
Profit after Taxes	2,414	2,918	3,331	4,393	5,483	
Change (%)	19.4	20.9	14.2	31.9	24.8	
Margin (%)	9.1	9.3	8.2	9.3	10.1	
Extraordinary items	-98	489	0	0	0	
Reported PAT	2,316	2,864	3,331	4,393	5,483	

Balance Sheet		(INR Million)				
Y/E March	2010	2011	2012E	2013E	2014E	
Share Capital	609	614	614	614	614	
Reserves	5,930	8,540	11,068	14,922	19,830	
Net Worth	6,540	9,155	11,683	15,536	20,445	
Loans	4,459	7,718	7,000	6,000	5,500	
Capital Employed	11,124	17,092	18,683	21,536	25,945	
Gross Fixed Assets	4,495	6,177	7,177	8,177	9,177	
Intangibles	797	1,438	1,342	1,247	1,152	
Less: Accum. Deprn.	-2,424	-3,366	-4,085	-4,917	-5,838	
Net Fixed Assets	2,868	4,250	4,435	4,508	4,491	
Capital WIP	1,129	648	1,000	1,500	1,500	
Goodwill	850	3,976	3,976	3,976	3,976	
Investments	827	890	3,500	4,500	5,500	
Curr. Assets, L&A	8,970	12,203	12,445	14,485	18,720	
Inventory	4,448	6,011	5,855	6,821	7,909	
Account Receivables	1,507	1,880	1,857	2,164	2,509	
Cash and Bank Balance	1,115	2,131	2,425	3,062	5,728	
Others	1,900	2,181	2,307	2,439	2,573	
Curr. Liab. and Prov.	4,136	5,175	6,974	7,721	8,503	
Current Liabilities	3,369	4,098	6,255	6,864	7,505	
Provisions	768	1,077	719	857	998	
Net Current Assets	4,833	7,028	5,471	6,764	10,216	
Deferred Tax Liability	616	300	301	288	261	
Application of Funds	11,123	17,091	18,683	21,536	25,945	

E: MOSL Estimates

Ratios		(INR Million)				
Y/E March	2010	2011	2012E	2013E	2014E	
Basic (INR)						
EPS	4.0	4.7	5.4	7.1	8.9	
Cash EPS	4.8	5.8	6.6	8.5	10.4	
BV/Share	10.7	14.9	19.0	25.3	33.3	
DPS	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	
Payout %	16.5	13.9	12.9	10.5	9.0	
Valuation (x)						
P/E	40.8	34.3	30.1	22.8	18.3	
Cash P/E	34.0	28.0	24.7	19.2	15.6	
EV/Sales	3.8	3.4	2.5	2.1	1.7	
EV/EBITDA	27.1	25.6	20.2	15.5	12.3	
P/BV	15.2	10.9	8.6	6.4	4.9	
Dividend Yield (%)	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	
Return Ratios (%)						
RoE	36.9	31.9	28.5	28.3	26.8	
RoCE	40.8	29.7	32.8	35.7	35.5	
Working Capital Ratios						
Debtor (Days)	21	22	17	17	17	
Asset Turnover (x)	2.4	1.8	2.2	2.2	2.1	
Leverage Ratio						
Debt/Equity (x)	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.3	

Cash Flow Statement		(INR Million)				
Y/E March	2010	2011	2012E	2013E	2014E	
OP/(loss) before Tax	3,751	4,098	5,019	6,353	7,692	
Int./Div. Received	183	279	385	495	585	
Interest Paid	-257	-393	-448	-443	-406	
Direct Taxes Paid	-613	-850	-805	-1,059	-1,320	
(Incr)/Decr in WC	-1,066	-1,178	1,851	-657	-785	
CF from Operations	1,998	1,955	6,002	4,689	5,765	
Extraordinary Items	0	0	0	0	0	
(Incr)/Decr in FA	-1,275	-1,842	-1,257	-1,405	-905	
(Pur)/Sale of Investmen	-706	-63	-2,610	-1,000	-1,000	
CF from Invest.	-1,981	-1,905	-3,867	-2,405	-1,905	
Issue of Shares	0	0	0	0	0	
(Incr)/Decr in Debt	716	3,260	-718	-1,000	-500	
Dividend Paid	-470	-472	-503	-539	-575	
Others	-49	-1,394	-2,097	-115	-126	
CF from Fin. Activity	197	1,394	-3,318	-1,654	-1,201	
Incr/Decr of Cash	214	1,444	-1,184	630	2,659	
Add: Opening Balance	902	1,115	2,131	2,425	3,062	
Closing Balance	1,116	2,559	947	3,056	5,721	

N O T E S

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