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#### Company Flash

20 April 2007 | 9 pages

### Wipro (WIPR.BO)

#### Buy: In-Line 4Q; Muted Guidance

- 4Q FY07 results in line Wipro reported in-line 4Q FY07 results revenues of US\$691m and EBIT of Rs7.1bn for Global IT Services were in line with our expectations. Consolidated net profit at Rs.8.6bn (est. Rs7.7bn) was higher than expectation due to higher other income and a lower tax rate.
- Guidance muted Wipro guided to US\$711m revenues for 1Q FY08, implying growth of 3% qoq for Global IT Services. While 1Q guidance has historically been weak (avg. 5.4% qoq for the last four years), the guidance this time around looks even more muted.
- **Pricing trend in line with sector** Wipro witnessed ~60-70bp improvement in pricing in 4Q, in line with sector trends. All the large companies have reported ~60-200bp improvement in pricing on a sequential basis for 4Q.
- BPO back to robust growth trajectory BPO delivered a solid quarter after a long time; revenue growth was 12.4% qoq and EBIT margins improved to 25%, up 280bp qoq.
- Telecom OEM business visibility low Over the past few quarters, Wipro's growth has been impacted by restructuring/M&A at a couple of large clients in the Telecom OEM space. Management indicated that visibility on this part of the business is still low.
- Maintain Buy/Low Risk While 4Q numbers were in line, the guidance does look muted. The stock trades at 23.5x FY08E, maintain Buy/Low risk rating.

Buy/Low Risk	1L
Price (20 Apr 07)	Rs588.80
Target price	Rs730.00
Expected share price return	24.0%
Expected dividend yield	1.4%
Expected total return	25.3%
Market Cap	Rs858,837M
	US\$20,490M

Statistica	I Abstract
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Year to	Net Profit	Diluted EPS	EPS growth	P/E	P/B	ROE	Yield
31 Mar	(RsM)	(Rs)	(%)	(x)	(x)	(%)	(%)
2005A	15,834	11.33	57.6	52.0	14.4	30.7	0.4
2006A	20,270	14.08	24.3	41.8	10.6	29.9	0.8
2007E	28,317	19.53	38.7	30.1	9.1	33.1	1.4
2008E	36,296	25.04	28.2	23.5	7.4	35.1	1.7
2009E	44,894	30.97	23.7	19.0	5.9	35.0	2.0

Source: Powered by dataCentral

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

#### Surendra Goyal, CFA1

+91-22-6631-9870 surendra.goyal@citigroup.com

#### Hitesh Shah<sup>1</sup>

+91-22-6631-9872 hitesh.b.shah@citigroup.com

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#### Other key points

#### **Global IT services**

- Volume growth of 5.4%: IT Services volumes increased 5.4% qoq while pricing was up ~70bp.
- Gross margin increases ~110bps: Gross margins for IT Services improved ~110bps due to improved pricing, profitability of BPO, profitability of acquisitions (+11% improvement qoq) despite the onsite wage increases taken during the quarter.
- EBIT margins down 40bps: Higher SG&A (+100bp qoq) was the key reason for EBIT margins declining 40bp qoq.
- Net profit at Rs8.6bn, up 15.6% qoq: Higher other income at Rs980m and a lower tax rate of 6.5% against 12.7% in 3Q (despite higher other income) resulted in net profits increasing by 15.6% qoq. Management indicated that this quarter saw tax write-backs of Rs700m.
- Addition of ~1600 employees: Wipro Global IT services added ~1600 employees in 4Q with ~1000 employees in IT Services and ~600 employees in BPO. Wipro's IT Services business has added ~34% employees in the past twelve months.
- Offshore utilization up: Offshore utilization improved 200bps to 60.4% while onsite utilization remained flat at 95%.BPO hiring dipped sharply to 63% (68% in 3Q).
- Telecom OEM business still not picking up: The telecom OEM business outlook has not changed much since the last quarter; visibility still continues to be low.

#### Other businesses

- Asia Pac IT continues to deliver: Asia Pacific IT delivered 47% yoy growth with revenues of Rs7.8bn for the quarter. EBITDA margins improved 90bp to 9.9% yoy.
- Consumer business does well: Consumer business witnessed growth of 42% yoy to Rs2.1bn. EBITDA margins improved 120bp yoy to 16.8%.

#### Guidance

1Q guidance muted: Wipro's 1Q guidance of US\$711m implies growth of 3% qoq. The guidance is muted even compared with a historical weak Q1 guidance trend for Wipro.

Figure 1. Key Financials

	4Q06	3Q07	4Q07	QoQ	YoY
Revenue (US\$ m)	677	885	984	11.2%	45.3%
Revenue	30,542	39,636	43,345	9.4%	41.9%
Cost of revenue	21,059	27,360	29,817	9.0%	41.6%
Gross profit	9,482	12,276	13,528	10.2%	42.7%
Gross margin	31.0%	31.0%	31.2%	24bp	16bp
Operating expenses	3,278	4,362	5,332	22.2%	62.7%
Forex gains/(losses)	212	-211	-9	n.a.	n.a.
EBIT	6,416	7,703	8,187	6.3%	27.6%
EBIT margin	21.0%	19.4%	18.9%	-55bp	-212bp
Depreciation and amortization	838	1,096	1,105	0.8%	31.8%
EBITDA	7,255	8,799	9,292	5.6%	28.1%
EBITDA margin	23.8%	22.2%	21.4%	<i>-76bp</i>	-232bp
Other income	402	705	983	39.5%	144.6%
Profit before tax	6,818	8,408	9,170	9.1%	34.5%
Income tax expense	898	1,080	596	-44.8%	-33.7%
Income from operations	5,920	7,328	8,575	17.0%	44.8%
Affiliates/Minority	54	121	39	-67.7%	-27.5%
Net profit	5,974	7,450	8,614	15.6%	44.2%
EPS - basic	4.22	5.21	6.04	15.8%	42.9%
EPS - fully diluted	4.15	5.14	5.96	16.0%	43.6%

Source: Company Reports

Figure 2. Key Financials (Rs in Millions)

	4Q06	3Q07	4Q07	QoQ	YoY
Revenue (US\$ m)	512	641	691	7.8%	34.8%
Revenue	23,104	28,674	30,419	6.1%	31.7%
Cost of revenue	15,193	19,041	19,873	4.4%	30.8%
Gross profit	7,911	9,634	10,546	9.5%	33.3%
Gross margin	34.2%	33.6%	34.7%	107bp	43bp
Operating expenses	2,254	2,801	3,416	22.0%	51.5%
Forex gains/(losses)	212	-211	-9	n.a.	n.a.
EBIT	5,657	6,833	7,130	4.3%	26.1%
EBIT margin	24.5%	23.8%	23.4%	-39bp	-104bp
Depreciation and amortization	744	954	982	2.9%	31.9%
EBITDA	6,401	7,787	8,112	4.2%	26.7%
EBITDA margin	27.7%	27.2%	26.7%	-49bp	-104bp

Source: Company Reports

Figure 3. Key HR and Execution metrics — IT Services

<u> </u>	1Q07	2Q07	3Q07	4Q07
Delivery employees	40,496	45,824	45,824	45,824
- net add	2,841	5,328	3,489	1,041
Support staff	2,518	2,997	3,304	4,041
Sales staff	257	294	317	340
Utilization (inc trainees)				
- Onsite	95.0%	95.0%	95.0%	95.0%
- Offshore	64.8%	61.1%	58.4%	60.4%
- blended	72.0%	69.0%	67.0%	68.0%
Available effort				
Total delivery	104,918	117,920	133,591	137,162
- Onsite	24,380	27,059	29,617	31,064
- Offshore	80,538	90,861	103,974	106,098
Support	7,554	8,991	9,912	12,123
Total	112,472	126,911	143,503	149,285
Billed effort				
Onsite	23,161	25,706	28,136	29,511
Offshore	52,184	55,555	60,689	64,068
Total	75,345	81,261	88,825	93,579
Billed effort distribution				
Onsite	30.7%	31.6%	31.7%	31.5%
Offshore	69.3%	68.4%	68.3%	68.5%
Realization per employee (\$/person-month)				
Onsite	10,979	11,058	11,012	11,254
Offshore	4,251	4,206	4,189	4,214

Source: Company Reports

Figure 4	Kev HR	and Execution	n metrics -	– RPO Services

	1Q07	2Q07	3Q07	4Q07
Delivery employees	15,939	15,355	16,863	17,464
- net add	-148	-584	1,508	601
Support staff	548	639	756	834
Utilization				
- employee	66%	70%	68%	63%
- shift	122%	119%	-	-
Seats - available	13,099	12,923	-	-
Seats - occupied	10,897	11,236	-	-

Source: Company Reports

Figure 5. Revenue Mix

	1Q07	2Q07	3Q07	4Q07
Service Mix				
Technology Infrastructure Services	9.6%	10.0%	11.1%	11.5%
Testing	10.7%	11.1%	11.0%	11.0%
Package Implementation	10.7%	10.8%	11.3%	11.9%
Consulting	1.0%	1.0%	1.1%	1.1%
BP0	8.4%	8.4%	8.3%	8.6%
ADM	59.6%	58.7%	57.2%	55.9%
Vertical Mix				
Telecom, embedded & product engg	29.1%	28.8%	27.5%	26.5%
Telecom service providers	7.0%	6.8%	6.5%	6.6%
Technology Business	36.1%	35.6%	34.0%	33.1%
Financial services	22.4%	22.6%	22.7%	22.9%
Retail	8.4%	9.7%	9.7%	10.0%
Utilities	9.1%	8.0%	9.8%	10.3%
Manufacturing	9.3%	9.1%	9.0%	9.3%
Corporate/govt.	11.5%	11.8%	11.6%	11.2%
Others	3.2%	3.2%	3.1%	3.2%
Enterprise Business	63.9%	64.4%	65.9%	66.9%
Geographic Mix				
North America	64.9%	64.7%	63.9%	63.8%
Europe	30.6%	30.1%	31.6%	31.1%
Japan	3.2%	3.7%	3.3%	3.2%
RoW	1.3%	1.5%	1.5%	1.9%
Source: Company Reports				

Figure 6. Key client metrics

	1Q07	2Q07	3Q07	4Q07
Client relationship				
Total active clients	580	612	606	620
New clients	62	54	37	44
Relationship size				
\$1M+	233	243	253	262
\$1M-\$3M	104	104	107	117
\$3M-\$5M	35	37	45	37
\$5M-\$10M	36	37	31	35
\$10M-\$20M	26	30	31	33
\$20M+	32	35	39	40
Client concentration				
Top customer	3.5%	3.3%	3.2%	3.0%
Top 5	15.0%	14.4%	14.3%	14.0%
Top 10	25.9%	24.7%	24.5%	24.1%
Source: Company Reports				

#### Company description

Wipro is India's leading Indian company with business interests in IT and BPO services exports, domestic hardware, consumer lighting and consumer care. It has one of the widest range of services, including systems integration, IT-enabled services, package implementation, software application development and maintenance, and R&D services. Wipro is the first P CMM Level 5 and SEI CMM Level 5 certified IT services company in the world. It has close to 600 clients spanning the BFSI, Manufacturing, Retail, Utilities and Telecom verticals. Its IT services exports team has more than 49,000 employees and BPO operation has around 16,000 employees.

#### Investment thesis

We rate Wipro as Buy/Low Risk (1L) with a target price of Rs730. Being one of the top three Indian IT services firms, Wipro looks well positioned to benefit from the growing demand for offshore IT services. Apart from economies of scale in offshore delivery, one of Wipro's key strengths is its full-service model. This includes a strong position in the infrastructure/R&D services business, which offers significant long-term growth potential. It has strong exposure to the BPO segment, which should offer above-average growth in the long term. Wipro's management has actively pursued acquisitions to strengthen its service portfolio. We expect Wipro's global IT revenues to grow above the industry average rates over the next 2-3 years. We believe wage inflation will be largely offset by gains from improved employee mix, an improving offshore-onsite ratio and better utilization. We expect a 31.7% revenue CAGR and 30.1% EPS CAGR over FY06-09. For the global IT business, we expect a 30.8% revenue CAGR.

#### Valuation

Our 12-month target price of Rs730 is based on 26x average FY08E-09E EPS—an 8% discount to our target multiple for Infosys. Our target multiple is supported by a P/E-band analysis of Wipro's historical trading pattern and peer group valuations. Over the past five years, Wipro has traded at an average one-year rolling P/E of 27.5x. Because of its small free float, strong exposure to R&D services and a model leveraged to large SI and IT outsourcing deals, Wipro has historically (over the past five years) traded at an average premium of about 22% to Infosys. But now Wipro has started trading at a discount to Infosys due to Wipro's lower growth and RoIC/RoE in the recent past. We think Wipro will continue to trade at a marginal discount to Infosys given expected sub-par growth vs. Infosys in the coming years. We believe P/E is the most appropriate valuation measure given Wipro's profitability and strong earnings visibility. Our target price is also supported by a FY08E Price/Sales multiple of 4.9x, which is within the stock's historical trading range of 3-6x.

#### Risks

Although our quantitative risk-rating system suggests Medium Risk for Wipro, we rate Wipro as Low Risk given its diversified services and vertical portfolio. This is in line with our risk ratings for other large peer-group companies in our coverage universe. The key downside risks to our target price include: high exposure to the telecom/tech sectors (36% of total); risks to earnings from a sharp US slowdown; any significant appreciation of the rupee against the US Dollar/Euro/GBP; a sharp slowdown in the US economy; a slowdown in the banking, financial services and insurance (BFSI) sector; H1B visa quotas; and acquisition-related risks.

#### Appendix A-1

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20 April 2007

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