# J.P.Morgan

# **Ambuja Cements Limited**

Operating earnings disappoint; At \$180/MT; 10.8x EV/EBITDA, trading near all-time high valuations

ACEM reported 4QCY11 EBITDA at Rs4.6bn (+44% q/q and +30% y/y), well below JPMe at Rs5.8bn and consensus at Rs5bn driven by higher than expected operating costs. Given that Q4 is the year end, reported numbers were noisy with reported PAT at Rs3.02bn below JPM estimates. ACEM's stock has moved up 18% since mid-Jan and current valuations are near all-time highs. We do not expect the current cement pricing strength to last through the year. We expect some of the recent demand strength seen in Central/Northern India to reverse.

- Cost pressures continue to weigh on earnings: While volumes (+18% q/q; +10% y/y) and realizations (+8.8% q/q) were inline with our expectations, operating cost/MT increased 6% q/q as against our estimate of -1% q/q. The decline in power cost/MT (-19% q/q; -4% y/y) was driven by lower imported coal costs and shift from DG to grid power. We are surprised by the very sharp increase in raw material cost/MT (+85% y/y). We do find this surprising given that there were no material clinker purchases in the current quarter. We have not got clarification from management on this. Sharply higher raw material costs limited the EBITDA/MT expansion, with EBITDA/MT at Rs828/MT, 24% lower than our estimates and 14% lower than UTCEM's EBITDA/MT in the Dec quarter. The company expects prices to remain volatile in the short term and indicated that cost pressures from RM, power and logistics may continue to impact on margins.
- Other highlights. Interest expenses declined 28% q/q, while OI increased 14% q/q. Depreciation also increased 15% q/q with the full impact of capitalization of Bhatapara and Maratha. ACEM also announced a final dividend of Rs3.2 for CY11, implying payout at 40% (up from 32% in CY10).
- We think valuation remains expensive: At current valuations of EV/MT \$180/MT and EV/EBITDA 10.8x CY12E, we believe the risk reward is not favorable. We remain UW on ACEM with Mar-13E PT of Rs135. Key risks are: a) sharp recovery in cement demand leading to better than expected volumes and prices increases; b) reduction in coal costs could lead to better margins.

Ambuja Cements Limited (Reuters: ABUJ.BO, Bloomberg: ACEM IN)

Rs in mn, year-end Dec	FY10A	FY11A	FY12E	FY13E
Net Sales (Rs mn)	73,902	85,312	93,236	102,709
Net Profit (Rs mn)	12,370.8	12,517.4	14,186.7	16,181.5
EPS (Rs)	8.09	8.18	9.28	10.58
Net profit growth (%)	1.5%	1.2%	13.3%	14.1%
ROE	17.9%	16.3%	16.7%	17.1%
P/E (x)	22.0	21.8	19.2	16.8
P/BV (x)	3.7	3.4	3.1	2.7
EV/EBITDA (x)	14.0	13.2	10.8	9.5
Source: Company data, Bloomber	g, J.P. Morgan estimates.			

# ABUJ.BO, ACEM IN Price: Rs177.00

Underweight

Price Target: Rs135.00 Previous: Rs130.00

# India Cement

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J.P. Morgan India Private Limited

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Company Data	
52-week Range (Rs)	182.00 - 111.60
Market cap (Rs mn)	273,425
Market cap (\$ mn)	5,563
Price (Rs)	178.20
Date Of Price	09 Feb 12
3-mth trading volume (mn)	0.6
3-mth trading value (\$ mn)	1.2
Shares O/S (mn)	1,534
NIFTY	5,412

See page 7 for analyst certification and important disclosures, including non-US analyst disclosures.

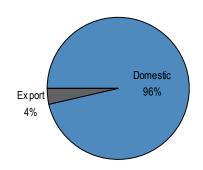
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# **Company description**

Ambuja Cements Limited was earlier known as Gujarat Ambuja Cements Limited (GACL). The group's principal activity is to manufacture and market cement and clinker for both domestic and export markets.

Figure 1: Ambuja—CY10 Customer break-up



Source: Company reports.

Table 2: EPS est—J.P. Morgan vs. consensus

(Rs)	J.P. Morgan	Consensus
2012E	9.3	9.3
2013E	10.6	10.8

Source: Bloomberg, J.P. Morgan estimates.

Table 1: Ambuja—P&L sensitivity metrics

	EBITDA	EPS
CY12E	impact (%)	impact (%)
Sales volume growth assumption		
Impact of each 1%	+/-2%	+/-2%
Average realization growth assumption		
Impact of each 1%	+/-4%	+/-4%
Raw material cost assumption		
Impact of each 5%	+/-2%	+/-3%
Power & energy cost assumption		
Impact of each 5%	+/-3%	+/-4%

Source: J.P. Morgan estimates.

## Price target and valuation analysis

We remain UW with a Mar-13PT of Rs135 (Rs130 previously) based on \$130 CY12E EV/MT. Key upside risks are: a) sharp recovery in cement demand leading to better than expected volumes and prices increases; b) a reduction in coal costs could lead to better margins and higher earnings.

**Table 3: Ambuja Quarterly Earnings Summary** 

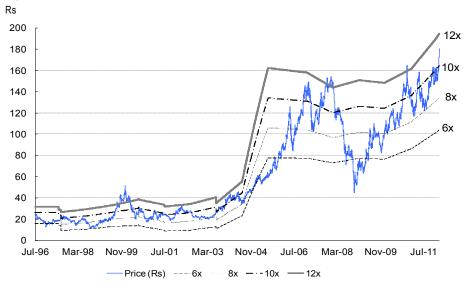
	3QCY10	4QCY10	1QCY11	2QCY11	3QCY11	4QCY11	% q/q	% y/y
Net sales	15,830	18,274	22,225	21,891	18,337	23,577	29%	29%
(Inc) Dec in stock	(592)	177	(163)	(1,204)	105	1,832		
Raw Materials	ì,201	1,476	Ì,446	1,466	1,337	1,525	14%	3%
Staff Costs	989	775	946	1,099	1,032	1,166	13%	50%
Power and fuel	4,426	4,461	4,816	5,633	4,950	4,714	-5%	6%
Freight	3,425	4,079	5,086	4,980	4,161	5,074	22%	24%
Other Expenditure	3,359	3,776	3,823	3,932	3,558	4,681	32%	24%
Total Expenditure	12,809	14,744	15,955	15,906	15,143	18,992	25%	29%
EBITDA	3,022	3,529	6,270	5,984	3,194	4,585	44%	30%
Interest	89	209	138	152	138	99	-28%	-53%
Depreciation	1,018	1,086	1,061	1,074	1,079	1,238	15%	14%
Other Income	305	378	521	562	571	651	14%	72%
Profit before tax	2,220	2,613	5,592	5,320	2,548	3,900	53%	49%
Provn. for tax	699	102	1,517	1,845	834	544	-35%	432%
Recurring Profit	1,521	2,510	4,075	3,475	1,715	3,356	96%	34%
Exceptional	-	65	-	-	, -	(332)		
Reported Profit	1,521	2,575	4,075	3,475	1,715	3,023	76%	17%
EBITDA margin	19.1%	19.3%	28.2%	27.3%	17.4%	19.4%		
Net margin	9.6%	14.1%	18.3%	15.9%	9.4%	14.2%		
Effective Tax Rate	31.5%	3.9%	27.1%	34.7%	32.7%	14.0%		
Cement Sales MT	4.4	5.0	5.6	5.3	4.7	5.54	18%	10%
Realization per tonne	3,639	3,626	3,941	4,138	3,910	4,256	9%	17%
Operating cost/MT	2,945	2,925	2,829	3,007	3,229	3,428	6%	17%
EBITDA/MT	695	700	1,112	1,131	681	828	22%	18%

Source: Company reports.

# Valuations and Key risks

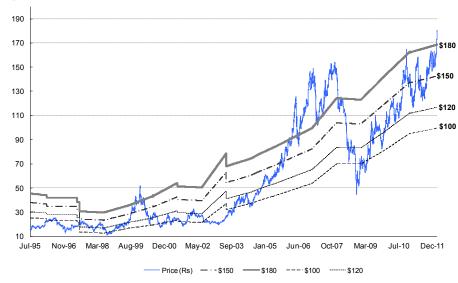
We increase our CY12 estimates by 7% and introduce CY13 estimates. We remain UW with a Mar-13PT of Rs135 based on \$130 CY12E EV/MT. Key risks are: a) sharp recovery in cement demand leading to better than expected volumes and prices increases; b) reduction in coal costs could lead to better margins.

Figure 2: ACEM EV/EBITDA band chart



Source: Company reports and J.P. Morgan estimates.

Figure 3: ACEM EV/MT band



Source: Company reports and J.P. Morgan estimates.

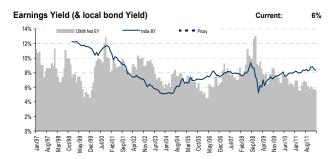
**Table 4: Cement Valuation Summary** 

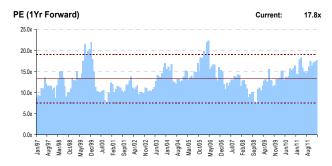
Company	Curr Price	Rating	Year	EPS	EPS Growth	PE	EV/ EBITDA	EV/ Tonne
				(Rs)	(% yoy)	(x)	(x)	(US\$)
Grasim Consol	2,826	OW	FY12E	268	9	10.5	7.1	128
			FY13E	286	7	9.9	6.5	118
			FY14E	308	8	9.2	6.0	112
ACC	1,389	UW	CY11E	70	18	19.7	14.0	169
			CY12E	72	2	19.4	11.2	171
			CY13E	81	13	17.2	10.0	168
Ambuja	178	UW	CY11E	8	1	21.8	12.8	191
•			CY12E	9	13	19.2	10.5	180
			CY13E	11	14	16.8	9.2	168
Ultratech	1,401	N	FY12E	78	53	17.9	9.5	153
			FY13E	85	8	16.6	8.6	146
			FY14E	90	6	15.6	8.2	146

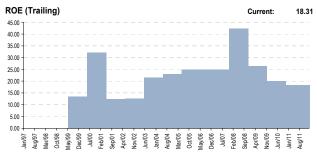
Source: Bloomberg and J.P. Morgan estimates.

JPM Q-Profile Ambuja Cements Ltd. (INDIA / Materials) As 0f: 03-Feb-2012

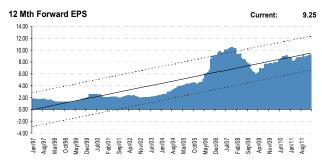






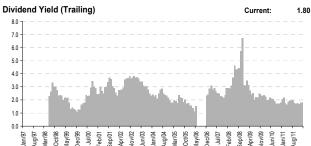


# Global Equity Quantitative Analysis









# Summary

Ambuja Cements Ltd. INDIA Materials	SEDOL	B09QQ11							As Of: Local Price: EPS:		3-Feb-12 164.25 9.25
Materiais	Latest	Min	Max	Median	Average	2 S.D.+	2 S.D	% to Min	% to Max	% to Med	% to Avg
12mth Forward PE	17.76x	7.69	22.43	13.02	13.33	19.17	7.50	-57%	26%	-27%	-25%
P/BV (Trailing)	3.43x	1.02	8.12	2.54	2.93	5.67	0.19	-70%	137%	-26%	-15%
Dividend Yield (Trailing)	1.80	0.00	6.70	2.36	2.43	4.31	0.55	-100%	273%	31%	35%
ROE (Trailing)	18.31	12.27	42.14	22.96	22.65	38.77	6.53	-33%	130%	25%	24%
Implied Value of Growth	57.8%	-0.04	0.72	0.40	0.40	0.67	0.13	-108%	25%	-31%	-31%

Source: Bloomberg, Reuters Global Fundamentals, IBES CONSENSUS, J.P. Morgan Calcs

<sup>\*</sup> Implied Value Of Growth = (1 - EY/Cost of equity) where cost of equity =Bond Yield + 5.0% (ERP)

# **Ambuja Cements Limited: Summary of Financials**

Income Statement					Cash flow statement				
Rs in millions, year end Dec	FY10	FY11	FY12E	FY13E	Rs in millions, year end Dec	FY10	FY11	FY12E	FY13E
Revenues	73,902	85,312	93,236	102,709	Net Income (Pre exceptionals)	12,370.8	12,517.4	14,186.7	16,181.5
% change Y/Y	4.4%	15.4%	9.3%	10.2%	Depr. & amortization	3,872	4,462	4,800	5,040
EBITDA	18,236	19,064	22,617	24,881	Change in working capital	19,911	16,376	17,539	19,801
% change Y/Y	-2.3%	4.5%	18.6%	10.0%	Cash flow from operations	19,911	16,376	17,539	19,801
EBITDA Margin	24.7%	22.4%	24.3%	24.2%					
EBIT	14,364	14,603	17,817	19,841	Net Capex	-7,912	-7,330	-1,575	-7,000
% change Y/Y	NM	1.7%	22.0%	11.4%	Free cash flow	11,999	9,045	15,965	12,801
EBIT Margin	19.4%	17.1%	19.1%	19.3%					
Net Interest	1,989	2,652	2,450	2,950	Equity raised/(repaid)	-	-	-	-
Earnings before tax	16,353	17,255	20,267	22,791	Debt raised/(repaid)	9,682	3,227	9,199	7,148
% change Y/Y	-9.3%	5.5%	17.5%	12.5%	Other	-	-	-	-
Tax	-3,983	-4,738	-6,080	-6,609	Dividends paid	4,625	5,482	5,653	5,653
as % of EBT	24.3%	27.5%	30.0%	29.0%	Beginning cash	8,807	17,482	20,754	30,257
Net Income (Pre exceptionals)	12,370.8	12,517.4	14,186.7	16,181.5	Ending cash	17,482	20,754	30,257	37,405
Minority interest	-	-	-	-	DPS	2.60	3.20	3.30	3.30
PAT (Post minority interest)	-	-	-	-					
EPS-consolidated	8.09	8.18	9.28	10.58					
% change Y/Y	1.2%	1.2%	13.3%	14.1%					
Balance sheet					Ratio Analysis				
Rs in millions, year end Dec	FY10	FY11	FY12E	FY13E	Rs in millions, year end Dec	FY10	FY11	FY12E	FY13E
Inventories	9,019	9,278	11,655	12,839	EBITDA margin	24.7%	22.4%	24.3%	24.2%
Debtors	1,282	2,478	2,331	2,568	Operating margin	19.4%	17.1%	19.1%	19.3%
Cash and cash equivalents	17,482	20,754	30,257	37,405	Net margin	16.7%	14.7%	15.2%	15.8%
Loans and advances	3,406	5,636	5,000	5,000					
Total CA	31,188	38,144	49,242	57,811	Sales growth	4.4%	15.4%	9.3%	10.2%
					EPS growth	1.2%	1.2%	13.3%	14.1%
LT investments	6,260	8,060	8,000	8,000					
Net fixed assets	65,585	68,453	65,228	67,188	Interest coverage (x)	-	-	-	-
Goodwill	-	-	-	-	Net debt to total capital	-24.0%	-25.8%	-34.1%	-38.2%
Total Assets	103,032	114,658	122,470	132,998	Net debt to equity	-23.0%	-24.9%	-32.8%	-36.5%
					Sales/assets	0.77	0.78	0.79	0.80
Liabilities					Assets/equity	1.33	1.42	1.37	1.33
Provisions	70,241	77,578	86,112	96,640	ROE	17.9%	16.3%	16.7%	17.1%
Other current liabilities	10,966	11,069	12,000	12,000	ROCE	20.5%	18.8%	20.8%	20.8%
Total current liabilities	23,942	27,100	27,000	27,000					
Total debt	650	696	1,000	1,000					
Other liabilities	5,309	6,438	5,300	5,300					
Total Liabilities	29,901	34,234	33,300	33,300					
Shareholders' equity	73,301	80,647	89,145	99,674					

Source: Company reports and J.P. Morgan estimates.

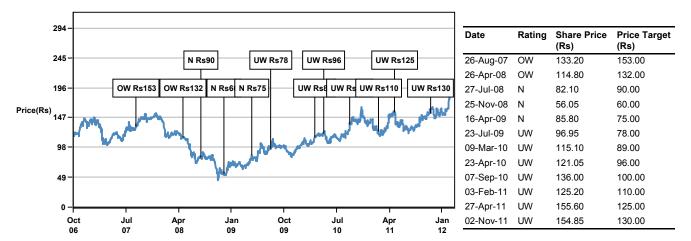
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## Ambuja Cements Limited (ABUJ.BO, ACEM IN) Price Chart



Source: Bloomberg and J.P. Morgan; price data adjusted for stock splits and dividends. Initiated coverage Aug 26, 2007.

The chart(s) show J.P. Morgan's continuing coverage of the stocks; the current analysts may or may not have covered it over the entire period.

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	(buy)	(hold)	(sell)
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IB clients*	52%	45%	36%
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