







Company Update, 2 July 2015

Update

Datasonic Group (DSON MK)

Technology - Hardware & Equipment

Market Cap: USD386m

Buy (Maintained)

Target Price: MYR1.29

> Price: MYR1.08

Value

Macro Risks Growth

Light At The End Of The Tunnel



Source: Bloombera

1.36m/0.37m
19.4
19.7
1.01 - 1.99
39
1,350
37.3
23.4

Share Performance (%)

	YTD	1m	3m	6m	12m
Absolute	(12.2)	5.9	(2.7)	(12.2)	(44.9)
Relative	(9.1)	8.0	3.9	(9.1)	(35.7)

Shariah compliant

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Datasonic's share price underperformance could soon come to an end as management is actively scouting for new business opportunities to expand its presence. We expect to hear more on potential orderbook replenishment over the next 2-3 months. As such, we keep our BUY call and reiterate our TP of MYR1.29 (20% upside), on 25x 2016F P/E.

- Back to the fuel-ture? Currently, RON95 petrol/diesel is sold at retail prices of MYR2.15/MYR2.05 per litre vis-à-vis previous highs of MYR2.30/MYR2.20 in Oct 2014. We are forecasting for crude oil to average at USD75-80 per barrel for 2H15 vis-a-vis USD60 currently. Should the recovery in crude oil prices prove sustainable, we believe the Government may revisit the fuel subsidy rationalisation scheme to ease the burden on lower-income households. Should this materialise, we see Datasonic as one of the frontrunners to bag the job, given its experience in the development of MyKad.
- More passport-related jobs likely. To further strengthen its foothold within the national security identity space, our channel checks indicate that the group could be eyeing the contract to provide smart chips for Malaysian passports to complement its existing procurement of photopages. Under the present arrangement, smart chips are embedded in the back cover of Malaysian passports. We gather that Datasonic is proposing to integrate the contactless chip into the polycarbonate data page, which the group currently supplies, in order to enhance security. This, if materialises, could bring in additional revenue of MYR60m-70m pa. We believe the official award could take place by end-3Q15.
- Long-term prospects. Datasonic was previously involved in the installation of closed-circuit television (CCTV) security camera systems in Penang. Management is currently exploring opportunities to replicate this model in other parts of Malaysia to help combat crime. On top of that, management intends to play a significant role in the country's migration towards pin-based payment cards by Jan 2017. Recall that Bank Negara Malaysia had earlier mandated the migration towards chipand-pin-based payment cards by Jan 2017. This would require re-issuance of existing payment cards, which are currently based on chipand-sign platform. In preparation for this potential influx of demand, Datasonic has recently invested MYR6m to expand and revamp its regional personalisation centre in Petaling Jaya, Selangor.

Forecasts and Valuations	Mar-14	Mar-15	Mar-16F	Mar-17F	Mar-18F
Total turnover (MYRm)	292	229	202	201	206
Reported net profit (MYRm)	85.3	57.6	66.3	71.0	79.0
Recurring net profit (MYRm)	85.3	57.6	66.3	71.0	79.0
Recurring net profit growth (%)	92.1	(32.4)	15.0	7.1	11.3
Recurring EPS (MYR)	0.12	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.06
DPS (MYR)	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03
Recurring P/E (x)	9.3	25.3	22.0	20.5	18.5
P/B (x)	4.45	6.54	5.56	4.84	4.23
P/CF (x)	11.9	16.3	13.0	16.3	15.3
Dividend Yield (%)	2.8	1.5	1.9	2.2	2.4
EV/EBITDA (x)	7.4	15.9	15.4	15.2	13.8
Return on average equity (%)	55.1	28.8	27.3	25.2	24.5
Net debt to equity (%)	56.4	38.3	5.9	net cash	net cash
Our vs consensus EPS (adjusted) (%)			0.0	0.0	0.0



Light At The End Of The Tunnel

Share price has underperformed over the past 12 months. Datasonic's share price has retraced by over 45% over the last 12 months. This followed the delay in the implementation of the fuel subsidy programme in view of the weakness in global crude oil prices, which have declined 40% since Jun 2014. Although the initiative has since been temporarily shelved, we do not discount the possibility of a potential revival of the targeted rationalisation scheme, should global oil prices recover, in order to help ease the rising inflationary impact on domestic households following the implementation of the goods and services tax (GST) in Apr 2015. Currently, RON95 petrol/diesel is sold at retail prices of MYR2.15/MYR2.05 per litre vis-à-vis previous highs of MYR2.30/MYR2.20 in Oct 2014. We are forecasting for crude oil prices to average at USD75-80 per barrel for 2H15 vis-a-vis USD60 currently. Should the recovery in crude oil prices prove sustainable, we believe the Government may revisit the said scheme to ease the burden on lower-income households. Should that materialise, we see Datasonic as one of the frontrunners to bag the job, given: i) its experience in the implementation of MyKad, and ii) its expertise within the security solutions space.

More passport-related jobs likely. For the time being, we expect the group's earnings to be driven by its outstanding orderbook of 6.5m *MyKad* copies and 8.0m units of *MyKad* consumables as of Mar 2015. On top of that, Datasonic has a remaining order of 5.0m national passports' photo-page copies. To further strengthen its foothold within the national security identity space, our channel checks indicate that the group could be eyeing the contract to provide smart chips for Malaysian passports to complement its existing procurement of photo-pages. Under the present arrangement (which is set to expire in May 2016) provided by one of its peers, smart chips are embedded in the back cover of Malaysian passports. We gather that Datasonic is proposing to integrate the contactless chip into the polycarbonate data page, which the group currently supplies, in order to enhance security. This, if materialises, could bring in additional revenue of MYR60m-70m pa. Given Datasonic's position as the sole supplier of the polycarbonate data page, we like its chances of securing this job as we anticipate potential cost synergies. We believe the official award could take place by end-3Q15.

Potential long-term prospects. In the long run, Datasonic aims to further diversify its income stream to help boost its recurring earnings base. It was previously involved in the installation of CCTV security camera systems in Penang. Management is currently exploring opportunities to replicate this model in other parts of Malaysia to help combat crime – in line with the Government's aim to reduce house break-ins by 5% annually in 2013-2015, and to tackle vehicle thefts, which made up 43% of total index crime in 2011.

On top of that, management intends to play a significant role in the country's migration towards pin-based payment cards by Jan 2017. Recall that Bank Negara Malaysia has mandated the migration towards chip-and-pin based payment cards by Jan 2017. This would require re-issuance of existing payment cards, which are currently based on the chip-and-sign platform. In preparation for this potential influx of demand, Datasonic has recently invested MYR6m to expand and revamp its regional personalisation centre in Petaling Jaya, Selangor.

Likely net cash by FY17. As of Mar 2015, Datasonic is sitting on a cash pile of MYR49.0m and total borrowings of MYR134.4m. While its implied net gearing of 38.3% may seem high at first glance, we note that its net receivables amounted to MYR99.5m, with over 95% of the balance due from the Government for its provision of *MyKad* and passport photo pages. We are forecasting for the group to turn into net cash by FY17 as we expect the Government to make payments progressively over the next 6-12 months.

Maintain BUY. We continue to like Datasonic given its unique status as the largest security solutions provider in the country. We expect positive news flow on potential orderbook replenishment over the next 2-3 months. As such, we are maintaining our BUY recommendation with our TP unchanged at MYR1.29, based on 25x 2016 P/E.



Financial Exhibits

Profit & Loss (MYRm)	Mar-14	Mar-15	Mar-16F	Mar-17F	Mar-18F
Total turnover	292	229	202	201	206
Cost of sales	(191)	(162)	(127)	(127)	(125)
Gross profit	101	67	76	74	81
Gen & admin expenses	(0)	(0)	-	-	-
Other operating costs	3	1	1	1	1
Operating profit	104	68	77	75	82
Operating EBITDA	124	97	95	93	100
Depreciation of fixed assets	(20)	(29)	(18)	(18)	(18)
Operating EBIT	104	68	77	75	82
Interest expense	(9)	(7)	(7)	(1)	1
Pre-tax profit	95	61	70	74	82
Taxation	(10)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
Profit after tax & minorities	85	58	66	71	79
Reported net profit	85	58	66	71	79
Recurring net profit	85	58	66	71	79

Source: Company data, RHB

Cash flow (MYRm)	Mar-14	Mar-15	Mar-16F	Mar-17F	Mar-18F
Operating profit	104	68	77	75	82
Depreciation & amortisation	20	29	18	18	18
Change in working capital	(29)	11	28	0	(1)
Other operating cash flow	(8)	(0)	-	-	-
Operating cash flow	87	108	122	94	98
Interest received	1	-	-	-	-
Interest paid	(7)	(7)	(7)	(1)	1
Tax paid	(8)	(11)	(3)	(3)	(3)
Cash flow from operations	72	89	112	89	96
Capex	(90)	(22)	(15)	(15)	(15)
Other new investments	(3)	(8)	-	-	-
Other investing cash flow	4	-	-	-	-
Cash flow from investing activities	(89)	(30)	(15)	(15)	(15)
Dividends paid	(16)	(22)	(27)	(32)	(36)
Increase in debt	32	(12)	(50)	(40)	(30)
Other financing cash flow	0	(1)	-	-	-
Cash flow from financing activities	16	(35)	(77)	(72)	(66)
Cash at beginning of period	42	35	49	69	71
Total cash generated	(1)	24	20	2	15
Implied cash at end of period	41	64	69	71	86

Source: Company data, RHB



Financial Exhibits

Balance Sheet (MYRm)	Mar-14	Mar-15	Mar-16F	Mar-17F	Mar-18F
Total cash and equivalents	38	49	69	71	86
Inventories	2	3	2	2	2
Accounts receivable	128	101	72	71	73
Other current assets	33	41	41	41	41
Total current assets	200	194	184	186	202
Total investments	2	11	11	11	11
Tangible fixed assets	143	141	138	135	132
Intangible assets	4	11	11	11	11
Total other assets	2	10	10	10	10
Total non-current assets	152	172	169	166	163
Total assets	352	366	353	352	365
Short-term debt	24	32	21	11	4
Accounts payable	12	9	6	6	6
Other current liabilities	11	-	-	-	-
Total current liabilities	48	41	27	17	10
Total long-term debt	118	102	63	33	11
Other liabilities	0	0	0	0	0
Total non-current liabilities	118	102	63	33	11
Total liabilities	166	143	91	51	21
Share capital	81	135	135	135	135
Retained earnings reserve	111	99	138	177	221
Other reserves	(5)	(11)	(11)	(11)	(11)
Shareholders' equity	186	223	262	301	345
Minority interests	0	0	0	0	0
Other equity	(0)	-	-	-	-
Total equity	186	223	262	301	345
Total liabilities & equity	352	366	353	352	365

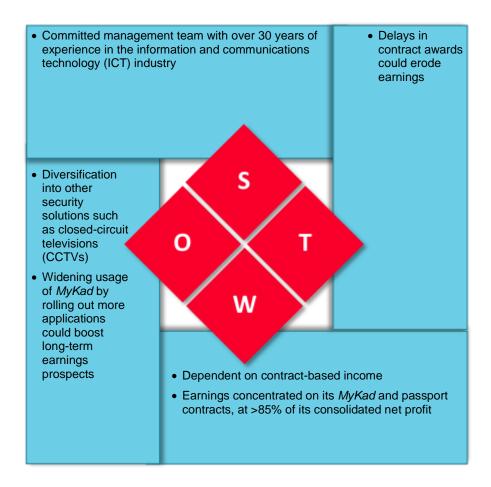
Source: Company data, RHB

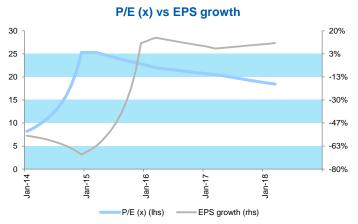
Key Ratios (MYR)	Mar-14	Mar-15	Mar-16F	Mar-17F	Mar-18F
Revenue growth (%)	38.1	(21.6)	(11.5)	(0.6)	2.1
Operating profit growth (%)	84.5	(34.8)	13.1	(1.9)	8.3
Net profit growth (%)	92.1	(32.4)	15.0	7.1	11.3
EPS growth (%)	(57.0)	(63.1)	15.0	7.1	11.3
BVPS growth (%)	(75.5)	(32.0)	17.6	14.9	14.4
Operating margin (%)	35.6	29.6	37.9	37.4	39.7
Net profit margin (%)	29.2	25.2	32.7	35.3	38.5
Return on average assets (%)	27.8	16.1	18.4	20.2	22.0
Return on average equity (%)	55.1	28.8	27.3	25.2	24.5
Net debt to equity (%)	56.4	38.3	5.9	(8.9)	(20.9)
DPS	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03
Recurrent cash flow per share	0.09	0.07	0.08	0.07	0.07

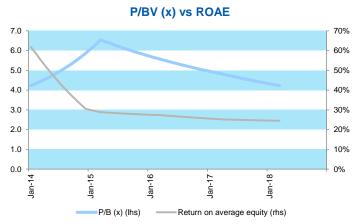
Source: Company data, RHB



SWOT Analysis







Source: Company data, RHB

Source: Company data, RHB

Company Profile

Datasonic Group Bhd is principally involved in the provision of ICT solutions that include smart card personalisation services, customisation of large-scale government ICT solutions, project management and technical consultancy services.



Recommendation Chart



Source: RHB, Bloomberg

Date	Recommendation	Target Price	Price
2015-05-31	Buy	1.29	1.01
2015-03-01	Buy	1.66	1.10
2014-11-28	Buy	2.10	1.12
2014-10-19	Buy	2.10	1.55
2014-08-29	Buy	2.50	1.82
2014-06-26	Buy	2.50	1.99
2014-06-25	Neutral	2.04	2.02
2014-06-01	Neutral	4.08	1.88
2014-04-17	Buy	4.08	1.56
2014-04-10	Neutral	4.08	1.91

Source: RHB, Bloomberg



RHB Guide to Investment Ratings

Buy: Share price may exceed 10% over the next 12 months

Trading Buy: Share price may exceed 15% over the next 3 months, however longer-term outlook remains uncertain

Neutral: Share price may fall within the range of +/- 10% over the next 12 months **Take Profit:** Target price has been attained. Look to accumulate at lower levels

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Not Rated: Stock is not within regular research coverage

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