

January 31, 2024

Q3FY24 Result Update

☑ Change in Estimates | ☑ Target | ■ Reco

Change in Estimates

	Cu	rrent	Pre	vious
	FY25E	FY26E	FY25E	FY26E
Rating	ACCU	MULATE	ACCU	MULATE
Target Price	6	,890	5	,776
Sales (Rs. m)	1,90,808	2,24,408	1,83,228	2,12,156
% Chng.	4.1	5.8		
EBITDA (Rs. n	n) 15,729	18,948	14,554	17,277
% Chng.	8.1	9.7		
EPS (Rs.)	201.9	259.4	189.4	236.2
% Chng.	6.6	9.8		

Key Financials - Consolidated

Y/e Mar	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Sales (Rs. m)	1,43,522	1,61,567	1,90,808	2,24,408
EBITDA (Rs. m)	12,270	15,193	15,729	18,948
Margin (%)	8.5	9.4	8.2	8.4
PAT (Rs. m)	6,377	7,967	8,111	10,419
EPS (Rs.)	166.6	198.3	201.9	259.4
Gr. (%)	148.5	19.0	1.8	28.5
DPS (Rs.)	40.0	59.5	60.6	77.8
Yield (%)	0.7	1.0	1.0	1.3
RoE (%)	32.3	26.4	19.9	22.0
RoCE (%)	49.4	41.8	32.2	34.0
EV/Sales (x)	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.0
EV/EBITDA (x)	18.7	15.3	14.9	12.4
PE (x)	36.4	30.6	30.1	23.4
P/BV (x)	10.4	6.4	5.6	4.8

Key Data	APAR.BO APR IN
52-W High / Low	Rs.6,388 / Rs.1,358
Sensex / Nifty	71,140 / 21,522
Market Cap	Rs.244bn/ \$ 2,933m
Shares Outstanding	40m
3M Avg. Daily Value	Rs.709.06m

Shareholding Pattern (%)

Promoter's	57.77
Foreign	10.97
Domestic Institution	18.62
Public & Others	12.64
Promoter Pledge (Rs bn)	-

Stock Performance (%)

	1M	6M	12M
Absolute	0.3	57.3	331.7
Relative	1.8	46.3	261.1

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Apar Industries (APR IN)

Rating: ACCUMULATE | CMP: Rs6,069 | TP: Rs6,890

Decent quarter ex-US with healthy profit growth

Quick Pointers:

- Ex-US sales grew 17.2% YoY (28.3%/24.1% YoY in Conductors/Cables).
- Conductors order book stood at Rs60.8bn (domestic Rs28.9bn; exports Rs31.9bn), with premium products contributing 40.1%.

We revise our FY24/25/26E EPS estimates by 17.6%/6.6%/9.8%, factoring in strong outlook in the Conductors segment. Apar Industries (APR) reported revenue growth of 1.9% YoY, while EBITDA margin expanded by 138bps YoY. Although US demand remained sluggish due to inventory de-stocking, enquiry levels are picking up with improvement expected in FY25. On the other hand, strong domestic demand continues to offset weak US sales. APR stands to benefit from transition from ACSR to AL-59 alloy conductors given better margin profile and higher technology barriers in making AL-59 conductors. Meanwhile, transformer oils will be the main growth driver in Specialty Oil segment owing to strong electricity demand, healthy order books of global transformer OEMs and APR's market leading position. Cables business outlook is also healthy with growing demand for elastomeric cables from wind, solar, railway, defence, mining, etc.

We believe APR's focus towards value-added products and strong traction in exports business will continue to drive strong topline & profitability in the long run. The stock is currently trading at a P/E of 30.1x/23.4x FY25/26E. We roll forward to Dec-25 and maintain an 'Accumulate' rating with a revised TP of Rs6,890 (Rs5,630 earlier) valuing Conductors/Cables/Specialty Oil segments at 27x/33x/12x Dec-25E (25x/32x/12x Sep-25E earlier) owing to a robust business outlook across segments.

Strong revenue growth ex-US driven by Conductors and Cables: Consolidated revenue grew 1.9% YoY to Rs40.1bn (PLe: Rs38.5bn) due to inventory de-stocking by US customers. Global sales growth ex-US was 17.2% YoY (28.3%/24.1% YoY in Conductors/Cables). Revenue mix for the quarter stood at Conductors ~47%/ Speciality Oil ~30%/ Cables ~22%. Gross margin increased by 48bps YoY to 25.9% (PLe: 24.8%). EBITDA grew 18.0% YoY to Rs4.1bn (PLe: Rs.3.4bn). EBITDA margin expanded by 138bps YoY to 10.1% (PLe: 8.9%) led by lower other expenses (down 141bps YoY as a % of sales to 14.0%). PAT jumped 28.1% YoY to Rs2.2bn (PLe: Rs1.7bn) driven by a strong operating performance and higher other income at Rs210mn (vs Rs66mn in Q3FY23), despite higher interest expenses (up 20.1% YoY to Rs1.1bn).

Conductors EBITDA/MT continues to remain strong: Conductors revenue grew 4.1% YoY to Rs19.9bn, with 13.8% YoY volume growth and 42.0% contribution from premium products. Specialty Oils revenue was flat at Rs12.4bn with 7.6% volume growth. Cables revenue was also flattish at Rs9.2bn. Conductors EBITDA post forex came in strong at Rs41,530/MT due to premiumisation and higher exports. Specialty Oils EBITDA post forex came in at Rs8,157/KL due to better pricing and lower average inventory cost. Conductors EBIT margin came in at 10.5% (down 82bps YoY); Specialty Oils margin came in at 8.7% (vs a low base of 1.7% in Q3FY23); and Cables margin came in at 10.6% (down 37 bps YoY).



Exhibit 1: Better operating profitability and higher other income drive PAT growth of 28.1% YoY

Y/E March	Q3FY23	Q4FY23	Q1FY24	Q2FY24	Q3FY24	YoY gr. (%)	QoQ gr. (%)	9MFY24	9MFY23	YoY gr. (%)
Revenue	39,389	40,886	37,730	39,260	40,132	1.9	2.2	1,17,122	1,02,670	14.1
Total Revenues	39,389	40,886	37,730	39,260	40,132	1.9	2.2	1,17,122	1,02,670	14.1
Expenditure	35,957	36,647	34,269	35,762	36,081	0.3	0.9	1,06,112	94,605	12.2
as % of sales	91.3	89.6	90.8	91.1	89.9			90.6	92.1	
Consumption of RM	29,377	29,820	28,475	29,793	29,738	1.2	(0.2)	88,006	77,268	13.9
as % of sales	74.6	72.9	75.5	75.9	74.1			75.1	75.3	
Employee Cost	515	700	657	724	729	41.5	0.8	2,109	1,505	40.1
as % of sales	1.3	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.8			1.8	1.5	
Other expenditure	6,065	6,127	5,137	5,246	5,614	(7.4)	7.0	15,997	15,832	1.0
as % of sales	15.4	15.0	13.6	13.4	14.0			13.7	15.4	
EBITDA	3,432	4,239	3,462	3,498	4,050	18.0	15.8	11,010	8,065	36.5
Depreciation	261	273	272	282	288	10.6	2.4	842	771	9.3
EBIT	3,171	3,966	3,189	3,216	3,762	18.6	17.0	10,167	7,294	39.4
Other Income	66	107	139	188	210	216.7	11.9	536	233	129.8
Interest	940	791	696	1,031	1,128	20.1	9.4	2,855	2,264	26.1
Extra ordinary items	=	-	-	-	-			=	-	
PBT	2,298	3,282	2,632	2,373	2,844	23.7	19.9	7,848	5,264	49.1
Total Tax	599	855	657	629	667	11.4	6.1	1,953	1,314	48.7
PAT	1,699	2,428	1,975	1,744	2,176	28.1	24.8	5,895	3,950	49.2
(Profit)/loss from JV's/Ass/MI	-	(0.2)	(0.4)	(5.0)	(0.8)			(6.2)	-	-
PAT after JV	1,699	2,427	1,974	1,739	2,176	28.1	25.1	5,889	3,950	49.1
Adjusted PAT	1,699	2,427	1,974	1,739	2,176	28.1	25.1	5,889	3,950	49.1
Adjusted EPS	42.3	60.4	49.2	43.3	54.2	28.1	25.1	146.6	98.3	49.1
Margins (%)	Q3FY23	Q4FY23	Q1FY24	Q2FY24	Q3FY24	bps	bps	9MFY24	9MFY23	bps
Gross	25.4	27.1	24.5	24.1	25.9	48	178	0.0	0.0	(0)
EBITDA	8.7	10.4	9.2	8.9	10.1	138	118	9.4	7.9	154
EBIT	8.1	9.7	8.5	8.2	9.4	132	118	8.7	7.1	158
EBT	5.8	8.0	7.0	6.0	7.1	125	104	6.7	5.1	157
PAT	4.3	5.9	5.2	4.4	5.4	111	99	5.0	3.8	118
Effective Tax rate	26.1	26.0	25.0	26.5	23.5	(260)	(304)	24.9	25.0	(7)

Source: Company, PL

Exhibit 2: Specialty Oil & Lubricants segment witnessed strong improvement in EBITDA (post forex) to Rs8,157/KL

Segmental Performance	Q3FY23	Q4FY23	Q1FY24	Q2FY24	Q3FY24	YoY gr. (%)	QoQ gr. (%)	9MFY24	9MFY23	YoY gr. (%)
Conductor										
Volume (MT)	44,538	49,489	45,565	54,074	50,695	13.8	(6.2)	1,50,334	1,10,642	35.9
Revenue	19,120	21,210	17,742	19,433	19,855	3.8	2.2	57,029	48,990	16.4
EBITDA Adj	2,270	2,820	1,770	2,110	2,110	(7.0)	-	5,990	4,350	37.7
EBITDA margin (%)	11.6	13.5	10.0	10.9	10.6	(98)	(23)	10.5	8.9	162
EBITDA Adj. (Rs/MT)	49,942	58,006	38,740	39,007	41,530	(16.8)	6.5	39,966	39,232	1.9
Speciality Oil & Lubricant										
Volume (KL)	1,26,731	1,31,132	1,30,654	1,33,788	1,36,329	7.6	1.9	4,00,771	3,55,450	12.8
Revenue	12,450	11,790	11,980	11,986	12,442	(0.1)	3.8	36,409	34,890	4.4
EBITDA	270	460	780	660	1,140	322.2	72.7	2,580	2,030	27.1
EBITDA margin (%)	2.2	3.9	6.5	5.5	9.2	699	366	7.1	5.8	127
EBITDA Adj. (Rs/KL)	1,645	3,697	6,035	4,562	8,157	395.9	78.8	6,428	5,670	13.4
Cables										
Revenue	9,210	9,430	9,668	8,823	9,240	0.3	4.7	27,731	23,210	19.5
EBITDA Adj.	1,090	1,170	1,100	980	1,067	(2.1)	8.9	3,147	2,280	38.0
EBITDA margin (%) Adj	11.8	12.4	11.4	11.1	11.5	(29)	44	11.3	9.8	153

Source: Company, PL

January 31, 2024



Exhibit 3: Cables segment accounts for ~54% of SoTP

	Segmental PAT (Rs mn)	Valuation basis	Target multiple (X)	Targeted Value (Rs mn)	Value / Share
Conductors Segment	3,654	P/E	27	98,658	2,578
Cables Segment	4,331	P/E	33	142,931	3,735
Speciality Oil Segment	1,842	P/E	12	22,109	578
Total Target (Rs. Mn)				263,698	6,890

Source: Company, PL

Conference Call Highlights

- Revenue growth was subdued at 1.8% YoY owing to fall in US sales due to inventory de-stocking by US customers. However, strong domestic demand partly offset the drop in US volumes, with global sales ex-US up 17.2% YoY.
- Enquiry levels are picking up in US which is the first good sign that FY25 will see improvement.
- Freight costs have gone up due to re-routing of ships in Red Sea, causing 15day delay in US shipments and even greater impact in Europe and West Africa.
- Conductors volume grew 13.8% YoY with good domestic demand for aluminium & HTLS conductors and rods. However, ~11% decline in aluminium prices led to revenue growth of only 3.8% YoY. EBITDA/MT (post forex) was high at Rs41,530 on the back of premiumisation and higher share of exports.
 - Premium products contributed 42% to conductor sales (HEC ~18.4%)
 - Order book stood at Rs60.8bn (40.1% share of premium products) with inflows of Rs19.0bn in Q3. ~25% of order book is executable after FY25.
 - Management expects ~15% volume growth in FY25 and long-term EBITDA/MT of Rs28,500+. Current capacity of ~205k MT will expand to 225-230k MT by FY25-end, in line with expected volume growth.
- AL-59 alloy conductors have become the standard product over ACRS, as they reduce cost of ownership of transmission lines owing to their lower weight.
 APR has less competition in AL-59 due to higher technology barriers.
- Specialty Oil EBITDA (post forex) grew strongly to Rs8,157/KL on the back of better pricing and lower weighted average cost of inventory (due to shipment delays) which will rise in Q4. Long-term guidance of Rs5,000-6,000/KL.
 - Global transformer oil volume rose ~16% YoY and should grow in double digits going forward, while overall segment volume will grow at ~5%.
 - Lubricants revenue/volume rose 18%/5% YoY to Rs2.8bn/17,945 KL.
- Expect Cables segment to grow at ~25% CAGR over next few years with growing electricity usage. APR is a major player in wind energy, hence it stands to benefit from government scheme to upgrade old wind farms.
- Rs2.25bn out of planned Rs3bn capex in FY24 has been spent. Going forward, expect Rs3bn annual capex with a large portion to be spent on greenfield expansion and de-bottlenecking in Conductors and Cables segments.



Financials

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Income Statement (Rs m) Y/e Mar	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Net Revenues	1,43,522	1,61,567	1,90,808	2,24,408
YoY gr. (%)	54.0	12.6	18.1	17.6
Cost of Goods Sold	1,07,088	1,20,976	1,43,443	1,68,254
Gross Profit	36,434	40,591	47,365	56,154
Margin (%)	25.4	25.1	24.8	25.0
Employee Cost	2,205	2,779	3,015	3,546
Other Expenses	21,960	22,619	28,621	33,661
EBITDA	12,270	15,193	15,729	18,948
YoY gr. (%)	124.0	23.8	3.5	20.5
Margin (%)	8.5	9.4	8.2	8.4
Depreciation and Amortization	1,043	1,245	1,519	1,769
EBIT	11,226	13,947	14,209	17,178
Margin (%)	7.8	8.6	7.4	7.7
Net Interest	3,055	3,910	3,977	3,990
Other Income	375	614	611	741
Profit Before Tax	8,546	10,652	10,844	13,929
Margin (%)	6.0	6.6	5.7	6.2
Total Tax	2,168	2,684	2,733	3,510
Effective tax rate (%)	25.4	25.2	25.2	25.2
Profit after tax	6,377	7,967	8,111	10,419
Minority interest	-	-	-	-
Share Profit from Associate	-	-	-	-
Adjusted PAT	6,377	7,967	8,111	10,419
YoY gr. (%)	148.5	24.9	1.8	28.5
Margin (%)	4.4	4.9	4.3	4.6
Extra Ord. Income / (Exp)	-	-	-	-
Reported PAT	6,377	7,967	8,111	10,419
YoY gr. (%)	148.5	24.9	1.8	28.5
Margin (%)	4.4	4.9	4.3	4.6
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	6,377	7,967	8,111	10,419
Equity Shares O/s (m)	38	40	40	40
EPS (Rs)	166.6	198.3	201.9	259.4

Source: Company Data, PL Research

Balance Sheet Abstract (Rs m)

Balance Sheet Abstract (Rs	m)			
Y/e Mar	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Non-Current Assets				
Gross Block	14,827	18,327	20,827	23,827
Tangibles	14,814	18,314	20,814	23,814
Intangibles	14	14	14	14
Acc: Dep / Amortization	5,320	6,566	8,085	9,854
Tangibles	5,320	6,566	8,085	9,854
Intangibles	-	-	-	-
Net fixed assets	9,507	11,762	12,742	13,973
Tangibles	9,494	11,748	12,729	13,960
Intangibles	14	14	14	14
Capital Work In Progress	991	1,091	1,091	1,091
Goodwill	-	-	-	-
Non-Current Investments	67	42	42	42
Net Deferred tax assets	(217)	(217)	(217)	(217)
Other Non-Current Assets	1,153	1,939	2,480	3,142
Current Assets				
Investments	501	8,501	5,501	3,501
Inventories	25,756	30,100	36,593	43,652
Trade receivables	32,256	37,182	44,957	53,489
Cash & Bank Balance	5,301	6,540	7,379	8,346
Other Current Assets	6,008	6,980	8,777	10,323
Total Assets	82,177	1,04,863	1,20,803	1,39,017
Equity				
Equity Share Capital	383	402	402	402
Other Equity	21,981	37,539	43,217	50,510
Total Networth	22,364	37,941	43,619	50,912
Non-Current Liabilities				
Long Term borrowings	1,514	1,814	1,814	1,664
Provisions	-	-	-	-
Other non current liabilities	-	-	-	-
Current Liabilities				
ST Debt / Current of LT Debt	1,528	1,528	1,528	1,528
Trade payables	52,066	58,430	68,482	79,311
Other current liabilities	4,488	4,934	5,144	5,385
Total Equity & Liabilities	82,177	1,04,863	1,20,803	1,39,017

Source: Company Data, PL Research

January 31, 2024



Cash Flow (Rs m)				
Y/e Mar	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
PBT	8,546	10,652	10,844	13,929
Add. Depreciation	1,043	1,245	1,519	1,769
Add. Interest	1,553	3,910	3,977	3,990
Less Financial Other Income	375	614	611	741
Add. Other	794	-	-	-
Op. profit before WC changes	11,936	15,807	16,339	19,688
Net Changes-WC	(2,763)	(4,284)	(6,858)	(6,946)
Direct tax	2,190	2,684	2,733	3,510
Net cash from Op. activities	6,983	8,839	6,749	9,232
Capital expenditures	(2,467)	(3,600)	(2,500)	(3,000)
Interest / Dividend Income	-	-	-	-
Others	(222)	(8,000)	3,000	2,000
Net Cash from Invt. activities	(2,689)	(11,600)	500	(1,000)
Issue of share cap. / premium	-	-	-	-
Debt changes	(67)	300	-	(150)
Dividend paid	(574)	(2,390)	(2,433)	(3,126)
Interest paid	(1,200)	(3,910)	(3,977)	(3,990)
Others	-	10,000	-	-
Net cash from Fin. activities	(1,841)	4,000	(6,410)	(7,265)
Net change in cash	2,453	1,239	839	967
Free Cash Flow	4,505	5,239	4,249	6,232

Source: Company Data, PL Research

Quarterly Financials (Rs m)

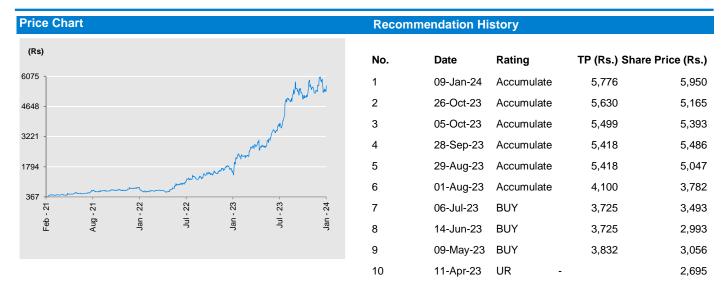
Y/e Mar	Q4FY23	Q1FY24	Q2FY24	Q3FY24
Net Revenue	40,886	37,730	39,260	40,132
YoY gr. (%)	35.7	22.0	21.4	1.9
Raw Material Expenses	29,820	28,475	29,793	29,738
Gross Profit	11,066	9,255	9,467	10,393
Margin (%)	27.1	24.5	24.1	25.9
EBITDA	4,239	3,462	3,498	4,050
YoY gr. (%)	144.3	45.8	54.8	18.0
Margin (%)	10.4	9.2	8.9	10.1
Depreciation / Depletion	273	272	282	288
EBIT	3,966	3,189	3,216	3,762
Margin (%)	9.7	8.5	8.2	9.4
Net Interest	791	696	1,031	1,128
Other Income	107	139	188	210
Profit before Tax	3,282	2,632	2,373	2,844
Margin (%)	8.0	7.0	6.0	7.1
Total Tax	855	657	629	667
Effective tax rate (%)	26.0	25.0	26.5	23.5
Profit after Tax	2,428	1,975	1,744	2,176
Minority interest	-	-	-	-
Share Profit from Associates	-	-	(5)	(1)
Adjusted PAT	2,427	1,974	1,739	2,176
YoY gr. (%)	193.8	61.2	69.4	28.1
Margin (%)	5.9	5.2	4.4	5.4
Extra Ord. Income / (Exp)	-	-	-	-
Reported PAT	2,427	1,974	1,739	2,176
YoY gr. (%)	193.8	61.2	69.4	28.1
Margin (%)	5.9	5.2	4.4	5.4
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	2,427	1,974	1,739	2,176
Avg. Shares O/s (m)	38	38	38	40
EPS (Rs)	63.4	51.6	45.4	54.2

Source: Company Data, PL Research

Key Financial Metrics						
Y/e Mar	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E		
Per Share(Rs)						
EPS	166.6	198.3	201.9	259.4		
CEPS	193.9	229.3	239.7	303.4		
BVPS	584.4	944.5	1,085.9	1,267.4		
FCF	117.7	130.4	105.8	155.1		
DPS	40.0	59.5	60.6	77.8		
Return Ratio(%)						
RoCE	49.4	41.8	32.2	34.0		
ROIC	49.5	57.0	34.0	33.2		
RoE	32.3	26.4	19.9	22.0		
Balance Sheet						
Net Debt : Equity (x)	(0.1)	(0.3)	(0.2)	(0.2)		
Net Working Capital (Days)	15	20	25	29		
Valuation(x)						
PER	36.4	30.6	30.1	23.4		
P/B	10.4	6.4	5.6	4.8		
P/CEPS	31.3	26.5	25.3	20.0		
EV/EBITDA	18.7	15.3	14.9	12.4		
EV/Sales	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.0		
Dividend Yield (%)	0.7	1.0	1.0	1.3		

Source: Company Data, PL Research





Analyst Coverage Universe

Sr. No.	Company Name	Rating	TP (Rs)	Share Price (Rs)
1	ABB India	Accumulate	4,984	4,753
2	Apar Industries	Accumulate	5,776	5,950
3	Bharat Electronics	Accumulate	143	184
4	BHEL UR		-	195
5	Carborundum Universal	BUY	1,408	1,132
6	Cummins India	Hold	1,811	2,005
7	Engineers India	BUY	166	199
8	GE T&D India	UR	-	585
9	Grindwell Norton	BUY	2,604	2,283
10	Harsha Engineers International	Accumulate	415	395
11	Hindustan Aeronautics	BUY	2,266	2,996
12	Kalpataru Projects International	BUY	740	737
13	KEC International	Hold	645	612
14	Larsen & Toubro	BUY	3,437	3,501
15	Praj Industries	Accumulate	611	540
16	Siemens	Accumulate	4,359	4,020
17	Thermax	Hold	2,771	3,200
18	Triveni Turbine	Accumulate	450	407
19	Voltamp Transformers	Hold	7,619	7,910

PL's Recommendation Nomenclature (Absolute Performance)

 Buy
 : > 15%

 Accumulate
 : 5% to 15%

 Hold
 : +5% to -5%

 Reduce
 : -5% to -15%

 Sell
 : < -15%</td>

Not Rated (NR) : No specific call on the stock
Under Review (UR) : Rating likely to change shortly



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