

# Coforge (COFORGE)

# HOLD

Strong revenue growth amidst macro challenges

### **Summary**

Coforge reported strong growth in Q4 due to healthy order book. However, challenging macro has led to slowdown in executable order book leading to 17% YoY growth in FY24 vs 20% YoY growth in last year. This we believe indicates slowdown in revenue growth. We have factored in 10% YoY growth in organic business in FY25E. This coupled with acquisition of Cignity (expected to be completed by Q2FY25E) we have factored in US\$ revenue growth of 19% YoY and 25% YoY in FY25E & FY26E respectively. Hence, we expect PAT & EPS to grow at a CAGR of 35% & 27% over FY24-FY26E. However, on like to like basis we expect EPS to grow at a CAGR of 15%. Further, considering weak revenue profile of acquired company we maintain our Hold rating on the stock with a revised target price of Rs 5495 (25x FY26E EPS).

## **Key Highlights and Investment Rationale**

- Cigniti acquisition to drive vertical & geo expansion: The acquisition of Cigniti will enable the company to add 20% to the company's topline and lead to ~11.5% of dilution (assumption). However, this acquisition will enable the company to achieve US\$ 2 bn target by FY27E and 150 250 bps margin expansion. In addition, the merged firm's Retail vertical will be operating at close to USD 100 Mn per annum in size while the Hi-Tech and Healthcare verticals will be operating at around 50 mn per annum size immediately postmerger. Further, it help expand Coforge's expand in North America and 28 fortune 500 clients. The company will also enable to cross sell its services.
- Long term target to improve margins by 150-200 bps: The Company expects to improve margins by 150-200 bps by FY27E. In near term over FY24-FY26E we expect EBIT margins to expand by 145 bps to 14.4%.

TP Rs	5,495
CMP Rs	4,986
Potential upside/downside	10%
Previous Rating	HOLD

Price Performance (%)							
	-1m	-3m	-12m				
Absolute	(10.2)	(22.4)	20.8				
Ral to Sansay	(11.2)	(25.9)	(n g)				

V/s Consensus		
EPS (Rs)	FY25E	FY26E
IDBI Capital	160	220
Consensus	186	227
% differen3ce	(14.1)	(3.2)

# Key Stock Data

Bloomberg/Reuters	COFORGE IN / NITT.BO
Sector	IT Services
Shares o/s (mn)	62
Market cap. (Rs mn	308,246
3-m daily avg Trd va	alue (Rs mn) 69.3
52-week high / low	6,840 / 4,055
Sensex / Nifty	74,611 / 22,648

Shareholding Pattern (%	5)
Promoters	
FII	35.0
DII	53.5
Public	11 5

## **Financial snapshot**

(Rs mn)

Year	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25E*	FY26E
Revenue	64,320	80,146	91,790	1,10,755	1,38,211
Change (yoy, %)	38	25	15	21	25
EBITDA	11,154	14,053	15,152	18,318	23,600
Change (yoy, %)	42	26	8	21	29
EBITDA Margin(%)	17.3	17.5	16.5	16.5	17.1
Adj.PAT	6,618	6,938	8,180	10,563	15,297
EPS (Rs)	107	114	132	160	220
Change (yoy, %)	34.7	6.6	16.6	21	37
PE(x)	47	44	38	31	23
Dividend Yield (%)	1.0	1.3	1.5	2	3
EV/EBITDA (x)	27.7	21.5	20.3	16.3	12.3
RoE (%)	25	24	24	22	18
RoCE (%)	28	30	28	25	19

Source: IDBI Capital Researc, \*factored in acquisition

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#### **Other Key Concall Highlights**

- Revenue growth in \$ terms was led by BFS which grew by 6.4% QoQ & 17.9% YoY and Insurance grew 5.5% YoY. Transportation and Others (Manufacturing, Med, retail) grew by 1.5% YoY and 5% YoY respectively.
- Adj. EBITDA margin stood at 19% which improved by 102bps QoQ led by higher utilization (up by 230bps) in the quarter. For FY24, Adj. EBITDA margin stood at 17.6% which marginally got impacted by 64bps due to higher sales & solutions cost. Management will continue to invest in business and Q1FY25 would have an impact of salary hikes.
- Fresh order intake during the quarter stood at US\$774 mn (119%/+157% QoQ/YoY). It includes 627 deals from USA, 102 deals from Europe and 46 deals from ROW. 12 months executable order book grew 17.3% YoY to US\$1,019mn. 2 large deals during the quarter are \$400mn in BFS (6yrs) and \$300mn in Insurance (3yrs). Net new 8 logos were added during the quarter.
- Company acquired Cigniti Technologies during the quarter which will get merged and show full impact in H2FY25E post receiving the regulatory approvals. With this merger, company would benefit from below three reasons: 1) The merger will enable to scale the business with creating 3 new verticals and operating in: Retail (\$100mn p.a.), Hi-Tech and Healthcare (\$50mn each p.a.)
  - 2) Geographically, the company would be able to expand their verticals in South-west, Midwest and West USA. It will help in increasing the presence in North America and would help in improving the revenue by 33%. It would increase the customer base by 28 new 500 fortune companies.
  - 3) It would address significant opportunities in AI driven specialized assurance services.
- Company aspires to achieve the target of \$2bn revenue (merged entity) and the synergies of merged entity benefitting by improvement of 150 – 200bps in margins.
- Macro environment uncertainty would persist. BFS vertical shows good traction and would drive growth.
- Management is optimistic about the revenue growth on the back of higher order bookings. In terms of margin, management guided 50bps expansion in gross and EBITDA margins. On organic basis, company expects EBITDA margin to be flat in FY25 and 80-100bps expansion in FY26.



Exhibit 1: Financial snapshot

(Rs mn)

					(1.0 1)
Year-end: March	Q4FY24	Q3FY24	QoQ (%)	Q4FY23	YoY (%)
Revenues (US\$ mn)	287	282	1.7	264	8.5
Revenues	23,585	23,233	1.5	21,700	8.7
COGS	15,543	15,713	(1.1)	14,306	8.6
Gross profit	8,042	7,520	6.9	7,394	8.8
SG&A	3,791	3,508	8.1	3,318	14.3
EBITDA	4,251	4,012	6.0	4,076	4.3
Depreciation & amortization	846	811	4.3	717	18.0
EBIT	3,405	3,201	6.4	3,359	1.4
Other income	-452	-257	75.9	-487	(7.2)
РВТ	2,953	2,944	0.3	2,872	2.8
Tax	564	516	9.3	379	48.8
Minority interest	55	48	14.6	19	189.5
Reported net profit	2,237	2,380	-6	1,148	95
Exceptional items	96	0	n.m	1,326	n.m.
Adjusted net profit	2,333	2,380	-2	2,474	-6
Diluted EPS (Rs)	35.8	38.13	-6	39.63	-10
As % of net revenue					
Gross profit	34.1	32.4		34.1	
SG&A	16.1	15.1		15.3	
EBITDA	18.0	17.3		18.8	
EBIT	14.4	13.8		15.5	
Adjusted net profit	9.5	10.2		5.3	
Tax rate	19.1	17.5		13.2	



**Exhibit 2: Actual vs. estimates** 

Year to March	Q4FY24	Q4FY24E	Variance (%)
Revenue (US\$ mn)	287	282	1.5
Revenue (Rs mn)	23,585	23,529	0.2
EBIT (Rs mn)	3,405	3,220	5.8
EBIT margin (%)	14.4%	13.7%	75 bps
PAT (Rs mn)	2,237	2,353	(4.9)
PAT margin (%)	9.5%	10.0%	-52 bps
EPS (Rs)	35.9	37.7	(4.8)

**Exhibit 3: Earnings Revision** 

		FY25E*				FY26E				
Year-end: March	New	Old	Chg (%)	New	Old	Chg (%)				
Revenue (US\$ mn)	1,334	1,289	3.5	1,664	1507	10.4				
Revenue (Rs bn)	1,10,755	1,07,288	3.2	1,38,211	125498	10.1				
EBIT margin (%)	13.4%	15.4%	-202 bps	14.4%	15.60%	-122 bps				
EPS (Rs/sh)	160.2	194.7	(17.7)	219.5	234.5	(6.4)				

Source: Company; IDBI Capital Research,\* Not comparable as factored in acquisition

**Exhibit 4: Large clients trend** 

No. of large clients	Q4FY22	Q1FY23	Q2FY23	Q3FY23	Q4FY23	Q1FY24	Q2FY24	Q3FY24	Q4FY24
USD1m – USD5m	100	98	97	98	101	102	104	109	112
USD5m – USD10m	19	24	26	23	23	24	23	23	24
USD10m+	18	19	19	21	21	21	23	24	24



Exhibit 5: Q4FY24 revenue growth was above our estimates

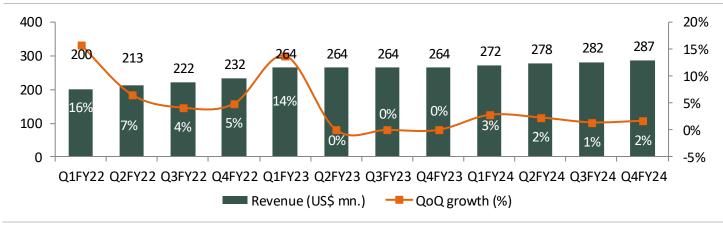


Exhibit 6: EBIT margin remained flat QoQ

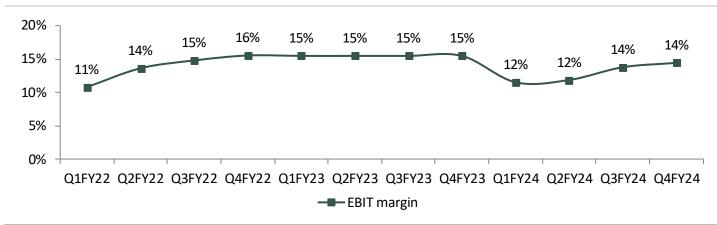




Exhibit 7: 12 month order book continued to be robust

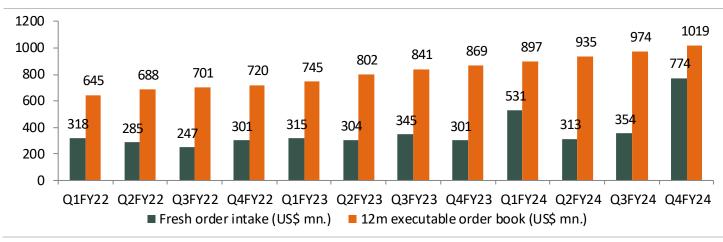


Exhibit 8: Revenue growth across various segments (%)

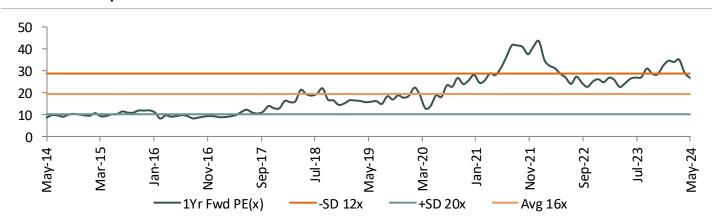
	% of revenue (%)	YoY (%)
Total revenue		9%
by geography		
North America	47.7%	1.6%
Europe	40.1%	4.1%
RoW	12.2%	3.7%
by vertical		
BFS	33.7%	17.9%
Insurance	21.6%	5.5%
Transportation	17.6%	1.5%
Others	27.1%	5.0%



Exhibit 9: Geo wise Adj. EBITDA margin trend

Regions	Q4FY22	Q1FY23	Q2FY23	Q3FY23	Q4FY23	Q1FY24	Q2FY24	Q3FY24	Q4FY24
Americas	18%	16%	18%	15%	13%	15%	18%	19%	20%
Europe	23%	21%	21%	24%	19%	19%	17%	21%	20%
APAC	10%	9%	12%	16%	15%	9%	7%	7%	7%
India	-11%	-17%	-19%	-15%	5%	-22%	-17%	-14%	-16%

**Exhibit 10: One-year forward PER trend** 





(Rs mn)

# **Financial Summary**

### Profit & Loss Account

FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25E*	FY26E
46,628	64,320	80,146	91,790	1,10,755	1,38,211
11.4	38	25	15	21	25
(38,763)	(53,166)	(66,093)	(76,638)	(92,437)	(1,14,611)
7,865	11,154	14,053	15,152	18,318	23,600
9.3	42	26	8	21	29
16.9	17.3	17.5	16.5	16.5	17.1
(1,836)	(2,272)	(2,585)	(3,186)	(3,497)	(3,727)
6,029	8,882	11,468	11,966	14,821	19,873
-	-	-	-	-	-
113	(266)	(630)	(1,156)	(221)	290
6,142	8,616	10,838	10,810	14,600	20,163
(1,302)	(1,468)	(2,061)	(2,093)	(2,993)	(4,061)
21.2	17.0	19.0	19.4	20.5	20.1
(104.0)	(530.0)	(513.0)	(276.0)	(1,044.7)	(805.1)
4,556	6,618	9,590	8,702	10,563	15,297
-	-	-	-	-	-
4,916	6,618	6,938	8,180	10,563	15,297
7.3	35	5	18	29	45
79.1	106.5	113.6	132.4	160.2	219.5
23.6	50.7	65.3	76.0	92.6	126.9
29.8	47.6	57.5	57	58	58
	46,628  11.4 (38,763) 7,865 9.3 16.9 (1,836) 6,029 - 113 6,142 (1,302) 21.2 (104.0) 4,556 - 4,916 7.3 79.1 23.6	46,628       64,320         11.4       38         (38,763)       (53,166)         7,865       11,154         9.3       42         16.9       17.3         (1,836)       (2,272)         6,029       8,882         -       -         113       (266)         6,142       8,616         (1,302)       (1,468)         21.2       17.0         (104.0)       (530.0)         4,556       6,618         -       -         4,916       6,618         7.3       35         79.1       106.5         23.6       50.7	46,628       64,320       80,146         11.4       38       25         (38,763)       (53,166)       (66,093)         7,865       11,154       14,053         9.3       42       26         16.9       17.3       17.5         (1,836)       (2,272)       (2,585)         6,029       8,882       11,468         -       -       -         113       (266)       (630)         6,142       8,616       10,838         (1,302)       (1,468)       (2,061)         21.2       17.0       19.0         (104.0)       (530.0)       (513.0)         4,556       6,618       9,590         -       -       -         4,916       6,618       6,938         7.3       35       5         79.1       106.5       113.6         23.6       50.7       65.3	46,628         64,320         80,146         91,790           11.4         38         25         15           (38,763)         (53,166)         (66,093)         (76,638)           7,865         11,154         14,053         15,152           9.3         42         26         8           16.9         17.3         17.5         16.5           (1,836)         (2,272)         (2,585)         (3,186)           6,029         8,882         11,468         11,966           -         -         -         -           113         (266)         (630)         (1,156)           6,142         8,616         10,838         10,810           (1,302)         (1,468)         (2,061)         (2,093)           21.2         17.0         19.0         19.4           (104.0)         (530.0)         (513.0)         (276.0)           4,556         6,618         9,590         8,702           -         -         -         -           4,916         6,618         6,938         8,180           7.3         35         5         18           79.1         106.5         113.6 </td <td>46,628         64,320         80,146         91,790         1,10,755           11.4         38         25         15         21           (38,763)         (53,166)         (66,093)         (76,638)         (92,437)           7,865         11,154         14,053         15,152         18,318           9.3         42         26         8         21           16.9         17.3         17.5         16.5         16.5           (1,836)         (2,272)         (2,585)         (3,186)         (3,497)           6,029         8,882         11,468         11,966         14,821           -         -         -         -         -           113         (266)         (630)         (1,156)         (221)           6,142         8,616         10,838         10,810         14,600           (1,302)         (1,468)         (2,061)         (2,093)         (2,993)           21.2         17.0         19.0         19.4         20.5           (104.0)         (530.0)         (513.0)         (276.0)         (1,044.7)           4,556         6,618         9,590         8,702         10,563           7.3</td>	46,628         64,320         80,146         91,790         1,10,755           11.4         38         25         15         21           (38,763)         (53,166)         (66,093)         (76,638)         (92,437)           7,865         11,154         14,053         15,152         18,318           9.3         42         26         8         21           16.9         17.3         17.5         16.5         16.5           (1,836)         (2,272)         (2,585)         (3,186)         (3,497)           6,029         8,882         11,468         11,966         14,821           -         -         -         -         -           113         (266)         (630)         (1,156)         (221)           6,142         8,616         10,838         10,810         14,600           (1,302)         (1,468)         (2,061)         (2,093)         (2,993)           21.2         17.0         19.0         19.4         20.5           (104.0)         (530.0)         (513.0)         (276.0)         (1,044.7)           4,556         6,618         9,590         8,702         10,563           7.3

Note: \*factored in acquisition



Balance Sheet						(Rs mn)
Year-end: March	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E
Shareholders' funds	24,661	27,331	30,825	36,266	60,293	85,550
Share capital	606	609	611	618	659	697
Reserves & surplus	24,055	26,722	30,214	35,648	59,634	84,853
Total Debt	5	3,365	3,382	3,399	1,399	1,399
Other liabilities	1,718	5,709	4,028	4,467	9,831	12,268
Curr Liab & prov	8,750	12,156	17,725	15,942	20,081	24,976
Current liabilities	8,525	11,840	17,365	15,525	19,537	24,297
Provisions	225	316	360	417	544	679
Total liabilities	10,473	21,230	25,135	23,808	31,311	38,643
Total equity & liabilities	35,134	49,544	56,834	61,077	93,652	1,27,046
Net fixed assets	10,208	20,835	23,165	23,762	22,480	21,517
Investments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other non-curr assets	3,631	4,809	5,833	9,826	9,826	9,826
Current assets	21,295	23,900	27,836	27,489	61,345	95,703
Inventories	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sundry Debtors	8,895	15,585	17,903	19,503	23,533	29,366
Cash and Bank	8,246	4,535	5,787	3,352	31,304	58,214
Loans and advances	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total assets	35,134	49,544	56,834	61,077	93,652	1,27,046



Cash Flow Statement						(Rs mn
Year-end: March	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E
Pre-tax profit	6,142	8,616	10,838	10,810	14,600	20,163
Depreciation	138	724	2,585	3,186	3,497	3,727
Tax paid	(1,548)	(2,656)	(3,082)	(3,919)	(2,993)	(4,061)
Chg in working capital	272	(3,284)	3,251	(3,383)	110	(939)
Other operating activities	1,969	4,135	(2,833)	(524)	23,017	19,588
Cash flow from operations (a)	6,973	7,535	10,759	6,170	38,231	38,478
Capital expenditure	450	(11,351)	(4,915)	(3,783)	(2,215)	(2,764)
Chg in investments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other investing activities	(2,817)	1,663	-	-	-	-
Cash flow from investing (b)	(2,354)	(9,564)	(4,915)	(3,783)	(2,215)	(2,764)
Equity raised/(repaid)	(19)	3	2	7	41	38
Debt raised/(repaid)	(43)	3,360	17	17	(2,000)	-
Dividend (incl. tax)	(1,467)	(3,150)	(3,989)	(4,699)	(6,105)	(8,841)
Chg in minorities	(104)	453	(622)	(147)	-	-
Other financing activities	(3,898)	(2,224)	-	-	-	-
Cash flow from financing (c)	(5,531)	(1,558)	(4,592)	(4,822)	(8,064)	(8,804)
Net chg in cash (a+b+c)	(912)	(3,587)	1,252	(2,435)	27,952	26,910



## **Financial Ratios**

Year-end: March	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E
Book Value (Rs)	396.7	440	505	587	915	1,228
Adj EPS (Rs)	79.1	106.5	113.6	132.4	160.2	219.5
Adj EPS growth (%)	7.3	35	7	17	21	37
EBITDA margin (%)	16.9	17.3	17.5	16.5	16.5	17.1
Pre-tax margin (%)	13.2	13.4	13.5	11.8	13.2	14.6
Net Debt/Equity (x)	-0.3	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.5	-0.7
ROCE (%)	22.9	28	30	28	25	19
ROE (%)	20.2	25	24	24	22	18
DuPont Analysis						
Asset turnover (x)	1.3	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.1
Leverage factor (x)	1.4	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.5
Net margin (%)	10.5	10.3	8.7	8.9	9.5	11.1
Working Capital & Liquidity ratio						
Inventory days	0	0	0	0	0	0
Receivable days	70	88	82	78	78	78
Payable days	35	45	38	41	41	41

## **Valuations**

Year-end: March	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E
PER (x)	63	47	44	38	31	23
Price/Book value (x)	12.6	11.3	9.9	8.5	5.5	4.1
EV/Net sales (x)	6	5	4	3	3	2
EV/EBITDA (x)	38	28	22	20	16	12
Dividend Yield (%)	0.5	1.0	1.3	1.5	1.9	2.5





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**Key to Ratings Stocks:** 

**BUY:** 15%+; **HOLD:** -5% to 15%; **SELL:** -5% and below.

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