Saudi Ground Services Co.

Result Flash Note 3Q-2018



SGS reported lower than expected set of Q3-18 results. Net income came at SAR92.7mn (EPS SAR 0.49) against our estimates and consensus of SAR144.2mn and SAR132.0mn respectively. The disappointing set of results came from considerably higher than estimated COGS, attributed to higher employee cost, leading to the lowest GP margin. Revenue maintained flat y/y growth, standing inline with our estimates. We should note that the pressure on GP margins partially resulted from higher direct costs (attributed to cost of living allowance) which is a one-off impact for FY18. We expect improvement in gross margins in FY19. We remain "Neutral" on the company with a TP of SAR37.2 per share.

- SGS reported net income of SAR92.7mn (EPS SAR 0.49) compared to SAR160.0mn for the same quarter last year; posting a decline of 42.1% Y/Y and 17.7%Q/Q, standing 35.7% below our estimates and 30.0% below consensus. The company attributed the Y/Y decline to i) increase in COGS by SAR64.7mn associated to cost of living allowance provided to staff (effective January 2018) and other operating expense including fuel and utilities. ii) Increase in G&A by SAR12.3mn due to increase in provisions and consultancy expenses.
- Revenue was flat on Y/Y basis for the quarter, standing at SAR700.7mn, in-line with our estimates of SAR707.4mn, posting a minor increase of 0.5%Y/Y and 6.2%Q/Q mainly due to seasonality. Revised FY18 revenues estimated to stand at SAR2,579.2mn, posting a minor decline of 0.2%Y/Y.
- Gross profit for the quarter stood at SAR166.5mn compared to SAR227.7mn for the same quarter last year; posting 26.9%Y/Y decline. Gross margins stood at 23.8%, recording the lowest level in record on quarterly basis, compared to 28.7% last quarter and 32.6% for the same quarter last year. COGS increased 13.8%Y/Y, followed by pressured margins on all income lines despite the flat growth in revenue.
- Operating income stood at SAR85.5mn, posting 46.3%Y/Y and 23.6%Q/Q decline.
 OPEX increased 17.9%Y/Y and 4.5%Q/Q due to SAR12.3mn increase in G&A attributed to provisions. Tighter margins are expected throughout FY18 on a gross level, estimated to stand at 25.8%.

AJC View: We should note that the pressure on GP margins partially resulted from higher direct costs (attributed to cost of living allowance) which is a one-off impact FY18; therefore, we expect improvement in gross margins FY19. However, we believe the company can potentially enhance its revenue growth driven by fleet expansion from airline operators and higher aircraft traffic. Downside risk to valuation would include further price revisions from Saudia and slower than expected ramp up in number of flights. FY18 DPS is estimated to stand at SAR2.6 per share, at a yield of 7.3% at current prices. Revised FY18 EPS is estimated to stand at SAR1.70 per share, implying 37.0%Y/Y decline. The company currently trades at TTM PE of 16.7x and an estimated forward PE multiple of 21.0x. We remain "Neutral" on SGS company with a TP of SAR37.2 per share.

Results Summary

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SARmn (unless specified)	Q3-2017	Q2-2018	Q3-2018	Change YoY	Change QoQ	Deviation from AJC Estimates
Revenue	697.3	659.9	700.7	0.5%	6.2%	(0.9%)
Gross Profit	227.7	189.4	166.5	(26.9%)	(12.1%)	(25.0%)
Gross Margin	32.6%	28.7%	23.8%	-	-	-
EBIT	159.1	111.9	85.5	(46.3%)	(23.6%)	(40.7%)
Net Profit	160.0	112.7	92.7	(42.1%)	(17.7%)	(35.7%)
EPS	0.85	0.60	0.49	-	-	-

Source: Company reports, Aljazira Capital

Neutral

Target Price (SAR)	37.2

Source: Tadawul *prices as of 1st of November 2018

3.9%

Key Financials

Upside / (Downside)*

SARmn (unless specified)	FY16	FY17	FY18E
Revenue	2,726.7	2,585.5	2,579.2
Gross Profit	924.2	872.3	665.5
Net Profit	685.8	501.5	318.9
EPS	3.65	2.67	1.70

Source: Company reports, Aljazira Capital

Key Ratios

SARmn (unless specified)	FY16	FY17	FY18E
Gross Margin	33.9%	33.7%	25.8%
Net Margin	25.2%	19.4%	12.4%
P/E	18.1x	14.7x	21.0x
P/B	4.2x	2.6x	2.5x
Dividend Yield	3.9%	6.6%	7.3%

Source: Company reports, Aljazira Capital

Key Market Data

Market Cap (mn)	1,880.0
YTD %	(14.4%)
Shares Outstanding (mn)	188.0
52 Week (High / Low)	41.7 / 30.6

Source: Company reports, Aljazira Capital

Price Performance



Source: Tadawul, Aljazira Capital

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- 2. Underweight: This rating implies that the stock is currently trading at a premium to its 12 months price target. Stocks rated "Underweight" would typically decline by over 10% from the current price levels over next twelve months.
- 3. Neutral: The rating implies that the stock is trading in the proximate range of its 12 months price target. Stocks rated "Neutral" is expected to stagnate within +/- 10% range from the current price levels over next twelve months.
- 4. Suspension of rating or rating on hold (SR/RH): This basically implies suspension of a rating pending further analysis of a material change in the fundamentals of the company.

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