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BILLION RINGGIT Club

CELEBRATING CORPORATE MALAYSIA'S TOP PERFORMERS



Welcome to this special supplement published to celebrate the sixth instalment of *The Edge* Billion Ringgit Club (BRC) 2015 awards.

This year, 166 companies listed on Bursa Malaysia qualified as members of BRC by virtue of having a market value of at least RM1 billion as at March 31, 2015. This is 12 companies or 6.7% fewer than the 178 companies last year when, thanks to a market rally, there were more than the usual few that made it purely on short-term share price gains without the necessary financial performance to stay on as members.

An analysis of our past membership also shows that repeat BRC members and winners tend to outperform their peers over the long term.

Combined, this year's 166 BRC members had a market capitalisation of RM1.54 trillion as at March 31, 2015, about the same as last year and up from RM1.32 trillion in 2013. BRC members made up the top 18.3% of all companies listed on Bursa and their market capitalisation added up to 88.88% of Bursa's total market capitalisation.

The combined revenue of the BRC 2015 members was RM708.8 billion, up 6.6% from RM665 billion the previous year. This year's BRC members also made a collective pre-tax profit of RM119 billion. They are

also big taxpayers, paying an estimated RM31 billion in corporate taxes in FY2014. This means the companies represented here are among those that paid 23.5% of the RM134 billion in taxes that the Inland Revenue Board collected in 2014.

The BRC members are, therefore, a very important group of companies, and those who attended our luncheon on Oct 26 are among the best of the best. A total of 19 companies scooped up 27 awards that were given out, including two for best corporate responsibility initiatives. Six companies took home multiple awards.

Tenaga Nasional Bhd took home the coveted Company of the Year for 2015 and three other sectoral awards, an added recognition for the company that just made its best-ever profit of RM6.4 billion in FY2014. The company is also in the spotlight because it is widely expected to take over the power assets of one strategic development fund. It has promised not to overpay.

DiGi.Com Bhd, which was BRC 2013's Company of the Year, won the Most Profitable Company award in the big-cap category as well as the trading/services, hotel, IPC and technology sector.

Gamuda Bhd, AEON Credit Service (M) Bhd, TSHResources Bhd and Sunway Bhd also took home more than one award this year.

Apart from recognising the top perform-

ers for profitability and stock price, the BRC also pays tribute to companies for their corporate responsibility programmes. We believe that profits must be shared with the less fortunate to promote socio-economic inclusiveness. This year, the top CR awards went to Malayan Banking Bhd and Sunway Bhd.

Congratulations to all winners.

At this point, I wish to acknowledge the understanding and continuous support of our main sponsor, OCBC Bank, that made the BRC awards and luncheon possible. I would also like to thank and welcome this year's supporting sponsor Jaeger-LeCoultre and official airline partner Qatar Airways.

We would also like to acknowledge the panel of judges for the corporate responsibility component and our auditor Deloitte Malaysia, which ensured compliance with the award parameters.

To our readers and the investing public, we hope you will find the information in this supplement a useful guide to the performance of Malaysia's leading public listed companies.

Ho Kay Tat

Publisher & Group CEO
The Edge Media Group

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WINNERS OF THE EDGE BILLION RINGGIT CLUB CORPORATE AWARDS 2015

COMPANY OF THE YEAR Tenaga Nasional Bhd

COMPANIES WITH MORE THAN RM10 BILLION MARKET CAPITALISATION
MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY
Highest return on equity over three years
DiGi.Com Bhd

HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY
Highest compound growth in profit before tax over three years
Tenaga Nasional Bhd

BEST PERFORMING STOCK
Highest returns to shareholders over three years
Tenaga Nasional Bhd

CONSTRUCTION SECTOR
MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY
Highest return on equity over three years
Gamuda Bhd

HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY
Highest compound growth in profit before tax over three years
IJM Corp Bhd

BEST PERFORMING STOCK
Highest returns to shareholders over three years
Gamuda Bhd

BEST CR INITIATIVES (BIG CAP)
FIRST PLACE
Malayan Banking Bhd

BEST CR INITIATIVES (BELOW RM10 BIL MARKET CAP)
FIRST PLACE
Sunway Bhd

CONSUMER PRODUCTS SECTOR
MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY
Highest return on equity over three years
British American Tobacco (M) Bhd

HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY
Highest compound growth in profit before tax over three years
Goldis Bhd

BEST PERFORMING STOCK
Highest returns to shareholders over three years
QL Resources Bhd

FINANCE SECTOR
MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY
Highest return on equity over three years
AEON Credit Service (M) Bhd

HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY
Highest compound growth in profit before tax over three years
AEON Credit Service (M) Bhd

BEST PERFORMING STOCK
Highest returns to shareholders over three years
Hong Leong Capital Bhd

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS SECTOR
MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY
Highest return on equity over three years
Hartalega Holdings Bhd

HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY
Highest compound growth in profit before tax over three years
Press Metal Bhd

BEST PERFORMING STOCK
Highest returns to shareholders over three years
Cahaya Mata Sarawak Bhd

PLANTATION SECTOR
MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY
Highest return on equity over three years
IOI Corp Bhd

HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY
Highest compound growth in profit before tax over three years
TSH Resources Bhd

BEST PERFORMING STOCK
Highest returns to shareholders over three years
TSH Resources Bhd

PROPERTY AND REIT SECTORS
MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY
Highest return on equity over three years
Sunway Bhd

HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY
Highest compound growth in profit before tax over three years
Tropicana Corp Bhd

BEST PERFORMING STOCK
Highest returns to shareholders over three years
Eco World Development Group Bhd

TRADING/SERVICES, HOTEL, IPC AND TECHNOLOGY SECTORS
MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY
Highest return on equity over three years
DiGi.Com Bhd

HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY
Highest compound growth in profit before tax over three years
Tenaga Nasional Bhd

BEST PERFORMING STOCK
Highest returns to shareholders over three years
My E.G. Services Bhd

METHODOLOGY

Membership of this elite group is automatic and complimentary for all companies listed on Bursa Malaysia as at March 31, 2015, with a market capitalisation of at least RM1 billion. There are 166 members in the club this year.

As recognition is the best reward for accomplishments, it is *The Edge's* hope that the awards continue to encourage more companies to strive even harder for excellence.

THE AWARDS

The awards given are:

- One Company of the Year award;
- Value Creator(s): Outstanding CEO(s) of Malaysia award(s) [optional];
- One Best Corporate Responsibility (CR) Initiatives award for two categories; and
- 24 sectoral corporate awards – three categories for seven Bursa-designated sectors plus a category for large companies with over RM10 billion market capitalisation. The sectoral awards are:
 - *The Edge* BRC Most Profitable Company – for the highest return on equity;
 - *The Edge* BRC Highest Profit Growth Company – for the highest compound growth in profit before tax over three years; and
 - *The Edge* BRC Best Performing Stock – for the highest returns to shareholders.

The eight sectors are:

- Big-cap companies – those with over RM10 billion market capitalisation;
- Construction;
- Consumer products;
- Finance;
- Industrial products;
- Plantations;
- Property and REITs; and
- Trading and services, hotel, IPC and technology.

THE EDGE BRC SECTORAL CORPORATE AWARDS

To be eligible for the corporate awards, a member of *The Edge* BRC must have been listed at least four calendar years before the end-March cut-off date in the current year, as companies are evaluated for their financial

performance over a three-year period.

The methodology for the corporate awards is both stringent and transparent, with the results audited by Deloitte Malaysia. The data used in determining the companies that qualify for *The Edge* BRC membership and winners of *The Edge* BRC corporate awards is provided by The Edge Markets Sdn Bhd.

The Edge BRC Highest Profit Growth Company award is presented to the member with the highest compound growth over three years and *The Edge* BRC Most Profitable Company award is given to the member with the highest weighted return on equity (ROE) over three years. Members eligible for the latter must be profitable every year throughout the evaluation period. For this year, the evaluation period is between FY2011 and FY2014.

Winners for *The Edge* BRC Best Performing Stock award are judged purely on their share price gains and dividends over three years – between March 31, 2011, and March 31, 2015. This award is presented to members with the highest compound returns to shareholders, comprising growth in share price and dividends received over the past three years, adjusted for any rights/bonus issues, distribution of treasury shares, dividend in specie and capital repayment.

THE EDGE BRC BEST CR INITIATIVES AWARD

Eligible companies are assessed by a panel of judges on their CR initiatives over a four-year period. *The Edge* BRC Best CR Initiatives award is presented to companies with the top average scores in two categories: the Big Cap category (companies with over RM10 billion market capitalisation) and companies with less than RM10 billion market capitalisation.

The CR initiatives are judged by the panel selected by *The Edge* and evaluated based on the four focal areas according to Bursa's CSR Framework for Public-listed Companies – community, the environment, marketplace and workplace.

CR scores account for 30% of evaluation for *The Edge* BRC Company of the Year award.

THE EDGE BRC COMPANY OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award recognises the year's best company, based on the following factors:

Evaluation component

Weightage to overall score

QUANTITATIVE

Returns to shareholders over three years	20%
Growth in profit before tax over three years	30%
ROE over three years	20%

QUALITATIVE

Corporate responsibility initiatives	30%
--------------------------------------	-----

The final decision on *The Edge* BRC Company of the Year takes into account other qualitative elements as determined by *The Edge*.

VALUE CREATOR: OUTSTANDING CEO OF MALAYSIA

The winner(s) of this award is determined by *The Edge*, based on an assessment of the person's contribution to value creation for his/her company. Here, value creation is reflected in the company's market valuation, returns to shareholders and stakeholders, and revenue and profit growth as well as employment creation. To be chosen, the CEO must have achieved outstanding success in all these areas. Assessment starts from when the person became CEO of the company. *The Edge* has absolute discretion on this exclusive award and can choose not to name a winner for this award – as the case for 2011 and this year.

In 2010, the award went to Tan Sri Teh Hong Piow and Datuk Seri Nazir Razak for their outstanding contributions to their respective banking groups, Public Bank Bhd and CIMB Group Holdings Bhd.

In 2012, the recipients were AmBank Group founder and chairman Tan Sri Azman Hashim and AirAsia Bhd co-founder and group CEO Tan Sri Tony Fernandes. Azman remains a financier for all seasons while Fernandes won for his role in transforming Asia's aviation industry.

In 2013, the award went to Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Abdul Wahid Omar and Tan Sri Liew Kee Sin, former president and CEO of S P Setia Bhd. Abdul Wahid was recognised for his leadership during his tenure as CEO of Renong Bhd (2001 to 2004), Telekom Malaysia Bhd (2004 to 2008) and Malayan Banking Bhd (2008 to 2013) while Liew won for his contribution at S P Setia, a company he left in April this year (after about 18 years) for niche developer Eco World Development Holdings Bhd.

Last year, the award went to Sunway Group founder and executive chairman Tan Sri Jeffrey Cheah and Axiata Group Bhd president and group CEO Datuk Seri Jamaludin Ibrahim for having shown exemplary leadership in building businesses and creating value for all stakeholders.

BILLION RINGGIT Club

SUHAIMI YUSUF/THE EDGE



CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

BY CINDY YEAP

This year's 166 *The Edge* Billion Ringgit Club (BRC) members made up 18.3% of the number of companies listed on Bursa Malaysia as at March 31, 2015 – the membership cut-off date. They collectively command a market capitalisation of RM1.536 trillion or 88.88% of the entire market value at the date.

The combined revenue of BRC 2015 members was RM708.8 billion, up 6.6% from RM665 billion the previous year. The BRC members also made a collective pre-tax profit of RM119 billion and combined net profit of RM88.7 billion in FY2014. They are also big taxpayers, paying an estimated RM31 billion in corporate taxes for FY2014 – 23.5% of

the RM134 billion taxes the Inland Revenue Board collected last year.

With Malaysia's GDP growth projected to slow from 6% in 2014 to between 4.5% and 5% this year and 4% to 5% in 2016, these companies will be harder pressed to better their past performance.

Already, much has changed since March 31 this year.

For one, the ringgit was hovering at 3.7035 to the US dollar and 2.693 to the Singapore dollar. At the time of writing, the ringgit was going for 4.30 to the greenback and 3.0628 to the Singapore dollar.

Apart from the uncertainties over the impact of the impending US Federal Reserve's rate hike – the first in a decade – on emerging market

CONTINUES NEXT PAGE

MEMBERSHIP

	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
No of BRC companies	166 (18.3% of 906 listed cos)	178 (19.06% of 934 listed cos)	144 (15.4% of 937 listed cos)	144 (15% of 937 listed cos)	185 (19% of 955 listed cos)
BRC combined market cap as at end-March (bil)	RM1,536.644 0.5% y-o-y	RM1,544.761 17.0% y-o-y	RM1,320.444 10.3% y-o-y	RM1,197.413 2.8% y-o-y	RM1,165.216 25.5% y-o-y
BRC combined market representation (as at end-March)	88.88% total market cap of Bursa-listed companies	90.91% total market cap of Bursa-listed companies	90.6% total market cap of Bursa-listed companies	88% total market cap of Bursa-listed companies	89% total market cap of Bursa-listed companies

BILLION RINGGIT Club

CONSISTENT WINNERS OUTPERFORM THEIR PEERS

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

economies and currencies, an oversupply situation halved global oil prices to US\$48 a barrel.

With Malaysia's bellwether FBM KLCI down 8.9% the past seven months from 1,830-point levels at end-March to 1,667 points at the time of writing, it is no surprise that six of the 166 BRC 2015 members have seen their respective market capitalisations slip below the requisite RM1 billion mark for membership.

The 166 BRC members' combined market capitalisation was also down nearly 6% to RM1.45 trillion as at Oct 28, 2015.

Our internal analysis of the top companies on the annual BRC list from 2010 to 2015 show that BRC members that repeatedly emerge tops in the quanti-

tative and qualitative criteria to select the Company of the Year tend to outperform peers in the long run. This will be elaborated in greater detail in future to help investors make better investment decisions.

For a foretaste, it is worth noting that DiGi.Com Bhd – *The Edge* BRC's Company of the Year in 2013 – is the only company that has made it to our internal BRC top 20 list in all the six years that we have had the BRC.

In the same vein, Nestlé (M) Bhd and Guinness Anchor Bhd appeared on the top 20 list in five of the past six annual rankings while CIMB Group Holdings Bhd, Carlsberg Brewery Malaysia Bhd and Dialog Group Bhd appeared in four of the six years.

It would be interesting to see if these companies can continue to stay resilient. ■

HIGHLIGHTS

- 166 BRC members in 2015, down from 178 in 2014 but higher than 144 in 2013.
- The 166 command a market capitalisation of RM1.536 trillion or 88.88% of the combined market capitalisation of all Bursa Malaysia-listed companies. This is 0.5% lower than the RM1.544 trillion (90.9%) last year but above the RM1.32 trillion (90.6%) in 2013.
- The combined revenue of BRC 2015 members was RM708.8 billion, up 6.6% from RM665 billion the previous year.
- This year's BRC members also made a collective pre-tax profit of RM119 billion in FY2014.
- They also made a combined net profit of RM88.7 billion in FY2014.
- BRC members are also big taxpayers, paying an estimated RM31 billion in corporate taxes in FY2014. This is 23.5% of the RM134 billion taxes the Inland Revenue Board collected in 2014. The IRB collected RM129 billion in taxes in 2013.
- Nine new members, including two from sizeable IPOs – Boustead Plantations Bhd and 7-Eleven Malaysia Holdings Bhd.
- DiGi.Com Bhd – *The Edge* BRC's Company of the Year in 2013 – is the only company that has made to *The Edge* BRC Top 20 list every year for the past six years.
- Nestlé (M) Bhd and Guinness Anchor Bhd appeared on the top 20 list in five of the past six annual rankings while CIMB Group Holdings Bhd, Carlsberg Brewery Malaysia Bhd and Dialog Group Bhd appeared in four of the six years.

BEHIND THE SCENES

In its sixth instalment, *The Edge* Media Group publisher and group CEO Ho Kay Tat headed this year's *The Edge* Billion Ringgit Club (BRC) team with executive editor Kathy Fong and editor Cindy Yeap.

As in previous years, the process started in early April, with the determination of BRC members. This year, the analyses of their earnings were done by Asia Analytica Sdn Bhd head of research Linda Koh and *The Edge* Markets data research team.

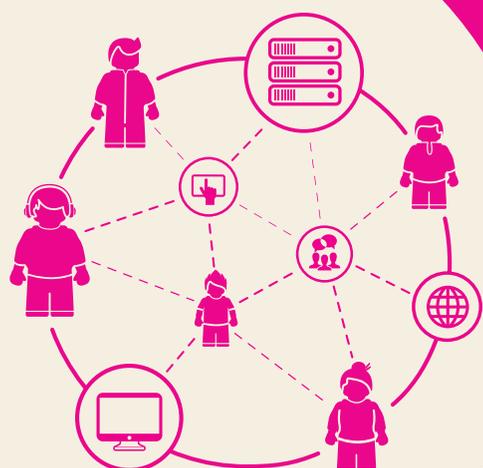
Research manager (news library) Tan Wellyoung collated the corporate responsibility (CR) information packs for the panel of four CR judges – Bursa Malaysia chief regulatory officer Selvarany Rasiah, OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Bhd corporate banking senior vice-president and head Jeffrey Teoh, *The Edge* Education Foundation CEO Dorothy Teoh and World Vision International board member Philip Koh, who is also senior partner at Mah-Kamariyah & Philip Koh – who meticulously and tirelessly evaluated the merits of CR initiatives by the 166 BRC members this year.

Deloitte Malaysia audited the numbers tabulation, paperwork and results for accuracy and transparency. Partner Stanley Teo led the audit team.

Here, we express our deepest appreciation to the CR judges and auditors as well as many unsung members of *The Edge* editorial, production, marketing, corporate communications and events management team who helped make this year's event another success. ■



Deloitte's Teo and team at work



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MOVING BEYOND CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY CHECKLISTS TO SUSTAINABILITY PRACTICES



From left: Jeffrey Teoh, The Edge Communications deputy managing director Lim Shiew Yui, OCBC Bank's Leong Mei Sim, Dorothy Teoh and Koh

BY MEENA LAKSHANA

Smaller capitalised companies are showing more improvement than their larger peers where corporate responsibility (CR) efforts are concerned, the panel of judges for the CR component of *The Edge* Billion Ringgit Club (BRC) Company of the Year award concludes about submissions for this year.

Among other things, the judges noticed that more companies have a better grasp of the four CR areas prescribed by the Bursa Malaysia CSR Framework for public-listed companies that corporations should focus on the environment, community, marketplace and workplace.

To be sure, part of the reason smaller companies are deemed to have improved more is because of a lower base, while the judges' expectations on what larger companies should be doing have grown because the CR concept is mature.

"There seems to be no innovation. It is the same submission every year," says a member of the judging panel. "Some of them could well be doing good work but it is just not communicated

well, at least not in the annual reports," another judge says. Apart from measuring the success of a CR programme, good communication can spur peers to do the same to benefit the community around them, or even to do a better job.

According to the judges, not only are most companies pursuing rather staid CR initiatives but also many seem to be treating CR as a checklist that must be complied with. "The same reporting template is being used, with figures just being updated," one judge remarks.

Like last year, the judges reiterate that more companies need to raise the bar on their CR initiatives, stressing that there is still a lot of room for them to push the envelope by incorporating sustainable principles in their operations instead of repeated one-off philanthropic activities.

OCBC Bank (M) Bhd corporate and commercial banking senior vice-president and head Jeffrey Teoh says companies should remember that CR is more than just one-off philanthropic activities.

"It serves us well to remember that CR isn't just about philanthropy but also a business value proposition that aligns itself through corporate strategies," he says.

That's not to say there is no room for philanthropy, but measures should be put in place to check the effectiveness of the money spent and whether more can be done to achieve the goal.

The judges also want to see more companies selecting a director or a member of the company's senior management to be in charge of tracking the effectiveness of every CR initiative.

Ultimately, the aim should be to incorporate CR as part of a sustainable business model. These companies, they say, will become more efficient, have better brand following and, in turn, become more profitable.

"Companies must not see CR as a cost centre but an area that could make businesses better," a judge says.

Another example of this is advocating good employee healthcare, well-being and education as a CR effort that not only is beneficial to a company — as it improves productivity and can help retain talent — but also lifts the quality of a country's talent pool.

Similarly, policies that promote whistleblowing, anti-corruption and anti-fraud ultimately plug leakages, build integrity and im-

TOP 10 CR INITIATIVES (BIG CAP)

WINNER:

Malayan Banking Bhd

THE REST ON THE LIST:

Axiata Group Bhd

CIMB Group Holdings Bhd

DiGi.Com Bhd

Nestlé (M) Bhd

Petronas Chemicals Group Bhd

Sime Darby Bhd

Telekom Malaysia Bhd

Tenaga Nasional Bhd

YTL Corp Bhd

TOP 10 CR INITIATIVES (BELOW RM10 BILLION MARKET CAP)

WINNER:

Sunway Bhd

THE REST ON THE LIST:

Allianz Malaysia Bhd

Carlsberg Brewery Malaysia Bhd

Fraser & Neave Holdings Bhd

Guinness Anchor Bhd

KPJ Healthcare Bhd

Kulim (M) Bhd

S P Setia Bhd

Star Media Group Bhd

(formerly Star Publications (M) Bhd)

United Plantations Bhd

prove employee and customer loyalty as well as better management of funds.

Among the smaller companies that have done a good job in incorporating the principles of sustainability in their operations is Malaysia Marine and Heavy Engineering Holdings Bhd, which imposed strict ethical codes for its suppliers and policies against corruption.

Petronas Chemicals Group Bhd's setting up of a wastewater treatment facility using wetland vegetation and microorganisms to reduce the amount of pollutants in the effluents from its operations was cited as another notable example.

In recognition of the importance of CR, the component constitutes 30% of the score for the Company of the Year award.

Returning to the panel of judges this year are Bursa Malaysia chief regulatory officer Selvarany Rasiah, *The Edge* Education Foundation CEO Dorothy Teoh and World Vision International board member Philip Koh, who is also senior partner at Mah-Kamariyah & Philip Koh. The fourth member of the panel is OCBC Bank's Teoh, who took over the baton from CEO Ong Eng Bin.



**Congratulations to the trailblazers of
The Edge Billion Ringgit Club 2015 Awards**

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BILLION RINGGIT Club

BEST CR INITIATIVES

BIG CAP COMPANIES

MALAYAN BANKING

Touching lives and empowering communities

BY VASANTHA GANESAN

Malayan Banking Bhd, the country's largest bank, believes the financial sustainability of the group goes hand in hand with the development of the communities in which it operates.

To achieve this, the Maybank Foundation was set up as the main vehicle for corporate responsibility across the group.

The foundation focuses on investing for impact in the areas of education, environmental diversity, disaster relief, healthy living, arts and culture and community empowerment. Through activities and funding of these initiatives, it hopes to create a meaningful, measurable and sustainable impact, which complements its long-term aspiration to humanise financial services. In fact, a Community Impact Road Map, which began five years ago, has begun to show results. It aims to expand the foundation's impact across the region, touching lives where Maybank operates, and empowering communities to build a better future.

In the area of education, for example, a programme called P.E.E.R.S, or Promoting Educa-

tional Excellence in Rural Schools, benefited 4,800 students from 15 schools resulting in a 52.36% pass rate, which was higher than in the previous year. The foundation also disbursed RM13.76 million to 65 new scholars in 2014, with a target to support another 75 new scholars with a total of RM15 million in 2015.

Its contributions have not gone unnoticed. The group has won at least two awards in the area of education – the 6th Global CSR Summit & Awards, Excellence in the Provision of Literacy and Education; and Global CSR Award 2014 in Bali for *CashVille Kids*, a TV series for children in Malaysia that teaches financial literacy through play.

Maybank's emblem is the tiger, and the group is playing its role in maintaining environmental diversity through tiger conservation. A total of RM1.2 million was spent across Asean, particularly on this initiative, and the foundation also contributed to the upkeep of the tigers in Zoo Negara, Kuala Lumpur.

In the area of healthy living, the group is helping to make healthcare more affordable. It has contributed RM1 million to Selangor Hospital to extend financial assistance for liver transplant surgeries. The banking group also



Students from P.E.E.R.S participating in a TV series for children called *CashVille Kids*

sponsors badminton and golf events, including junior development in golf.

Last year, the foundation assisted in air-freighting essentials to aid some of the communities most affected by natural disasters. Customers who were affected by the floods, and had paid back part of their loans, were allowed to redraw up to RM50,000 from their loan accounts. Another RM300 million in emergency financing facilities was allocated to help affected customers.

Following the unusually destructive floods

in Malaysia, the banking group has set up an intervention programme through its partnership with MERCY Malaysia to deploy emergency medical supplies and developing Disaster Risk Reduction Preparedness programmes. Maybank Foundation has committed RM1 million annually as part of this three-year partnership.

Supporting the foundation is its flagship Cahaya Kasih Programme, which challenges staff members from across the globe to identify and propose community projects for it to support. Cahaya Kasih is considered a key strategy for achieving lasting change towards building stronger and healthier communities. In 2014, over 26,200 volunteers spent 142,900 man-hours on this programme.

The annual Global CR Day is part of the Cahaya Kasih Programme. In 2014, a three-day charity bazaar was held in Malaysia to create awareness of people with learning disabilities and the promotion of products and crafts made by the group. Globally over 20,000 employees participated in the event.

This year, the foundation will review and re-define its initiatives into distinct themes in order to engage with communities region-wide. ■

BEST CR INITIATIVES

BELOW RM10 BIL MARKET CAP

SUNWAY

Ensuring the sustainability and well-being of society

Sunway Bhd, which is in property development, construction, education, hospitality and healthcare, strongly believes that corporate responsibility (CR) initiatives are an inseparable part of doing business.

It advocates that it is only when an organisation plays an active role in ensuring the sustainability and well-being of the communities it operates in that the business itself gains an opportunity to grow and prosper.

The group's CR programmes essentially focuses on three central areas – education, healthcare and Community Aid, Reachout and Enrichment (C.A.R.E) projects.

In education, the group and the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation, named after Sunway's founder Tan Sri Dr Jeffrey Cheah, continued to collaborate and provide access to education to all and to uplift the standard of education in Malaysia. The initiative included provision of scholarships, school adoption and restoration works, job training programmes for special students and sponsorship of causes such as Teach for

Malaysia, which is an NGO that seeks to reduce the gap between rural and urban schools.

Another education-related project is the Hearts of GOLD (Generating Opportunities for the Learning Disabled) – a social business enterprise devoted to developing business models aimed at equipping special needs youth with skills that will help them through life.

In the area of healthcare, Sunway promotes the importance of raising healthcare standards in Malaysia and cultivating healthy living. This is done through education, screening and support. One such move that has already won the group recognition is the effort to make Sunway Resort City a 100% smoke-free township by 2018. In November 2014, Cheah received the Blue Ribbon Outstanding Achievement Award at The Blue Ribbon Campaign organised by the Malaysian Health Promotion Board.

The group's healthcare facility, Sunway Medical Centre, last year organised a "Give A Heart" campaign to raise awareness of the threat of heart disease among women. This CR campaign provided free CT coronary angio-



Fundraising ... Sunway promotes the importance of raising healthcare standards in the country

grams for financially disadvantaged women. The hospital also raised donations from a portion of the payments received from CT scans done at the hospital between June to December 2014.

The Sunway Resort City developer is also making a contribution to communities in the township by improving the infrastructure in the area. Over 500,000 residents from Subang Jaya, Bandar Sunway and USJ are benefitting from Prasarana's Bus Rapid Transit-Sunway Line, the link to KESAS Highway, expansion of the New Pantai Expressway and the Canopy

Walk that links the various components of Sunway Resort City.

Moreover, the group is continuously working on measures to improve public safety within its townships and developments, foster national unity through shared festive celebrations and highlight the importance of environmental preservation.

Sunway played an active role when five states in Peninsular Malaysia were hit by massive floods. Some 300 volunteers from its workforce came together to aid the flood victims. The group also managed to collect RM240,000 and 40 tonnes of essential supplies for the victims.

In December 2014, Sunway was selected as one of just 24 constituents of the FTSE4Good Bursa Malaysia Index, which recognises companies that distinguish themselves by consistently demonstrating socially responsible business practices. This inclusion reinforced Sunway's credentials as one of the leading corporations that adopt sound environmental, social and governance, validating its efforts in making a difference at the workplace, marketplace, community and environment. ■



BILLION RINGGIT Club



Winners of *The Edge* Billion Ringgit Club (BRC) Awards 2015 were feted at a special luncheon at Hilton Kuala Lumpur on Oct 26, where 27 financial achievement and corporate responsibility awards were presented to 19 companies. The men looked sophisticated in bespoke suits and the women in chic business wear.

OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Bhd returned as the main sponsor for the event. Jaeger-LeCoultre was supporting sponsor and Qatar Airways debuted as the official airline partner.

Guests began filling the cocktail area at 11.30am and soft music complemented the warm backdrop in the adjacent ballroom, decked in the BRC's signature black, white and silver theme. A string quartet serenaded the guests over lunch.

The Edge Media Group publisher and group CEO Ho Kay Tat welcomed partners and representatives from the winning BRC member companies for 2015. Also present were OCBC Bank Malaysia CEO Ong Eng Bin, The Edge Communications Sdn Bhd managing director Au Foong Yee, *The Edge* senior managing editor Azam Aris and *The Edge* managing editor Anna Taing.



BILLION RINGGIT Club



THE EDGE BILLION RINGGIT CLUB 2015 AWARDS LUNCHEON



A string quartet serenading the guests during the lunch

Fairuz Helmi and Stefano Clini of British American Tobacco (M)

From left: Datuk Soam Heng Choon (IJM Corp), Tan Ai Chin (OCBC Bank), Lee Chun Fai (IJM Corp) and Ong Eng Bin (OCBC Bank)

BILLION RINGGIT Club

PHOTOGRAPHY BY SUHAIMI YUSUF, SHARIN YAHYA



Kuan Kam Hon (Hartalega Holdings)(left) with Ho Kay Tat (The Edge Media Group)



From left: Ubull Din Om (Gamuda), Datuk Soam Heng Choon (IJM Corp), Datuk Richard Curtis (Cahaya Mata Sarawak), Datuk Paul Ha (Gamuda) and Sarena Cheah (Sunway)



Tan Lei Cheng (Goldis) (left) with Au Foong Yee (The Edge Communications)



From left: Lee Jim Leng (Hong Leong Capital), Au Foong Yee (The Edge Communications), Wong Sheue Yann and Liew Tian Xiong (both from Eco World Development Group)



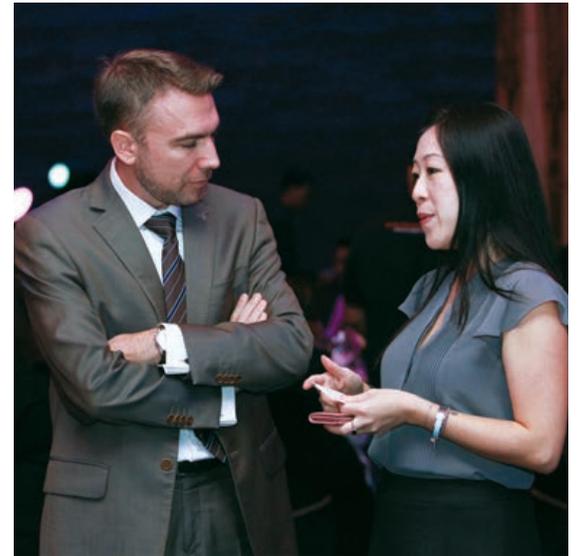
From left: Datuk Ngeow Voon Yean (Sunway), Datuk Yau Kok Seng (Tropicana Corp) and Datuk Chang Khim Wah (Eco World Development Group)



From left: Azwar Majid Anwar Batcha (OCBC Bank) with Jamel Ibrahim, Basaria Ahayanutheen and Anida Ishak (all from Tenaga Nasional)



From left: Datuk Yau Kok Seng (Tropicana Corp), Datuk Abdul Farid Alias (Malayan Banking), Datuk Paul Ha, Ubull Din Om (both from Gamuda), Lee Chun Fai and Datuk Soam Heng Choon (both from IJM Corp)



Emmanuel Oswald (Qatar Airways) with Reena Tan (Jaeger-LeCoultre Malaysia)



From left: Datuk Edmund Kong (Tropicana Corp) with Chia Song Kooi, Dr Chia Song Kun and Mrs Chia Bak Lang (all from QL Resources)



From left: Sharon Teh (The Edge Communications) with Leong Mei Sim, Rodney Tay and Chong Lee Ying (all from OCBC Bank)

BILLION RINGGIT Club

BEST OF THE BEST



Recipients of the awards with CEO of OCBC Bank (M) Bhd Ong Eng Bin and publisher & group CEO of The Edge Media Group Ho Kay Tat

- 1. Jamel Ibrahim, senior general manager of Tenaga Nasional
- 2. Datuk Tan Aik Sim, group managing director of TSH Resources
- 3. Frederick Tan, director of strategy & planning of TSH Resources
- 4. Lee Kit Seong, executive director & chief financial officer of AEON Credit Service (M)
- 5. Albern Murty, CEO of DiGi.Com
- 6. Stefano Cline, managing director of British American Tobacco (M)
- 7. Datuk Richard Curtis, group managing director of Cahya Mata Sarawak
- 8. Datuk Paul Ha, deputy group managing director of Gamuda





London City Island, London



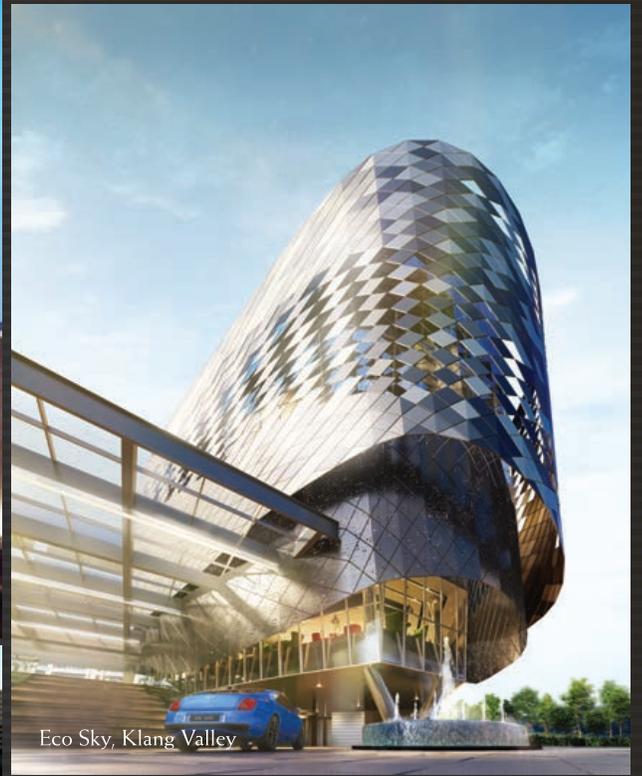
Wardian, London



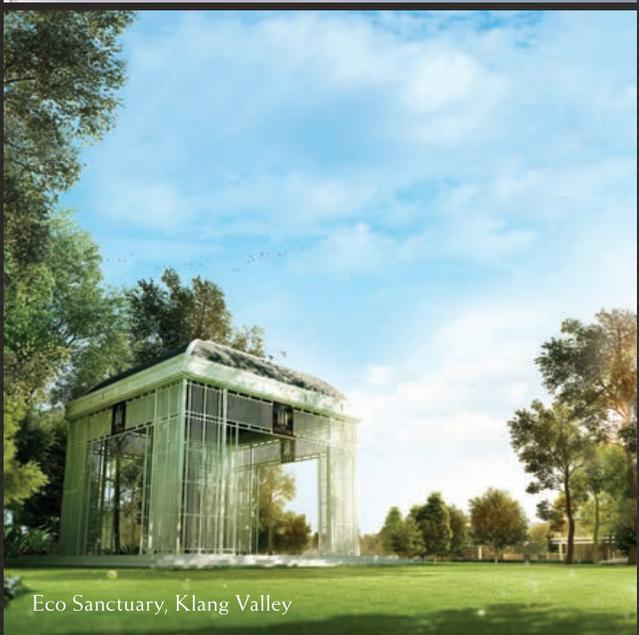
Eco Majestic, Klang Valley



Eco Spring, Iskandar Malaysia



Eco Sky, Klang Valley



Eco Sanctuary, Klang Valley



Eco Botanic, Iskandar Malaysia



Eco Meadows, Penang

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BILLION RINGGIT Club

BEST OF THE BEST



9



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19

Recipients of the awards with CEO of OCBC Bank (M) Bhd Ong Eng Bin and publisher & group CEO of The Edge Media Group Ho Kay Tat

- 9. Tan Lei Cheng, CEO of Goldis
- 10. Lee Jim Leng, group managing director & CEO of Hong Leong Capital
- 11. Kuan Kam Hon, executive chairman of Hartalega Holdings
- 12. Datuk Chang Khim Wah, president & CEO of Eco World Development Group
- 13. Sarena Cheah, managing director of Sunway
- 14. Dr Chia Song Kun, managing director of QL Resources
- 15. Chong Chien Ming, financial controller of My E.G. Services
- 16. Prakash Mukherjee, executive vice-president & head of Communications, Media Relations & Publications, Group Corporate Affairs & Sustainability of Malayan Banking
- 17. Datuk Lee Yeow Chor, CEO of IOI Corp
- 18. Datuk Soam Heng Choon, CEO & managing director of IJM Corp
- 19. Datuk Yau Kok Seng, group CEO of Tropicana Corp
- 20. The winners with their awards



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YBhg. Tan Sri A K Nathan
 Vice President, Master Builders Association Malaysia (MBAM)
 Executive Chairman and Group Managing Director, Eversendai Corporation Berhad



Dr. Nungsari Ahmad Radhi
 Managing Director, Prokhas Sdn Bhd (former Executive Director, Khazanah Research and Investment Strategy)



Sivaram Nagappan
 Head of Tax, Malaysia Airlines Berhad



Manvinder Singh
 Vice President, Head of Group In-House Tax, Felda Global Ventures Holdings Berhad



Khoo Hsu Chuang
 Presenter - BFM 89.9

Deloitte panel of experts



Yee Wing Peng
 Country Tax Leader



Ang Weina
 Global Employer Services Leader



Tan Hooi Beng
 International Tax Leader



Michelle Lai
 Global Employer Services Director



Bruce Hamilton
 GST Director



Robert Tsang
 Asia Pacific Indirect Tax Leader



Sim Kwang Gek
 M&A Tax Service Leader



Tan Eng Yew
 Indirect Tax Leader



Theresa Goh
 Transfer Pricing Leader



Senthuran Elalingam
 GST Director



Chow Kuo Seng
 Business Tax Audit & Investigation Leader



Ian Clarke
 Transfer Pricing Partner



Hisham Halim
 Incentive, BMO and Transfer Pricing Partner



Chee Pei Pei
 Financial Services Industry Leader

For more information and registration:

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BILLION RINGGIT Club

MEMBERS OF THE EDGE BILLION RINGGIT CLUB 2015

COMPANY (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)	MARKET CAPITALISATION AS AT MARCH 31, 2015 (RM MIL)	REVENUE FY2014 (RM MIL)	PROFIT BEFORE TAX FY2014 (RM MIL)	COMPANY (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)	MARKET CAPITALISATION AS AT MARCH 31, 2015 (RM MIL)	REVENUE FY2014 (RM MIL)	PROFIT BEFORE TAX FY2014 (RM MIL)
AEON Co. (M) Bhd	4,155.8	3,705.5	301.3	IGB Real Estate Investment Trust	4,592.8	461.8	317.6
AEON Credit Service (M) Bhd	1,897.9	672.8	233.9	IHH Healthcare Bhd	49,174.0	7,344.0	1,221.2
Affin Holdings Bhd	5,731.7	3,318.7	825.3	IJM Corporation Bhd	10,799.3	6,006.5	1,416.3
AirAsia Bhd	6,623.5	5,415.7	22.7	IJM Land Bhd (delisted on April 15, 2015)	5,456.0	2,046.2	701.0
AirAsia X Bhd	1,090.4	2,936.7	(605.4)	IJM Plantations Bhd	2,958.8	647.0	109.1
Alliance Financial Group Bhd	7,415.4	2,171.7	749.4	Inari Amertron Bhd	2,390.8	793.7	106.9
Allianz Malaysia Bhd	2,108.3	4,376.2	423.5	IOI Corporation Bhd	29,201.6	11,910.6	1,670.8
AMMB Holdings Bhd	19,170.2	7,115.2	2,448.2	IOI Properties Group Bhd	8,237.9	1,454.4	1,120.4
Amway (M) Holdings Bhd	1,811.5	855.8	134.6	Jaya Tiasa Holdings Bhd	1,606.9	1,033.3	79.9
Astro Malaysia Holdings Bhd	16,645.5	4,790.7	569.2	JCY International Bhd	1,435.1	1,867.2	122.8
Atlan Holdings Bhd	1,230.2	758.4	139.3	Karex Bhd	2,044.9	219.9	41.5
Axiata Group Bhd	60,832.9	18,711.8	3,114.5	Keck Seng (M) Bhd	1,952.1	1,086.5	166.4
Axis Real Estate Investment Trust	1,933.6	140.0	110.5	Kian Joo Can Factory Bhd	1,368.0	1,334.8	144.0
Batu Kawan Bhd	7,432.0	11,499.7	1,417.3	KLCC Property Holdings Bhd			
Berjaya Auto Bhd	3,074.0	1,450.8	179.8	– Stapled Securities	12,619.3	1,353.5	1,280.5
Berjaya Corporation Bhd	1,886.9	8,729.0	523.9	KNM Group Bhd	1,253.6	1,865.1	118.2
Berjaya Land Bhd	3,642.3	5,021.3	535.2	Kossan Rubber Industries Bhd	3,625.8	1,301.7	186.7
Berjaya Sports Toto Bhd	4,517.2	4,340.8	509.7	KPJ Healthcare Bhd	4,408.4	2,639.1	218.1
BIMB Holdings Bhd	6,323.1	2,967.5	815.4	KSL Holdings Bhd	2,059.5	8,010	431.8
Bintulu Port Holdings Bhd	3,266.0	851.4	192.6	Kuala Lumpur Kepong Bhd	24,259.9	11,130.0	1,317.7
Boustead Holdings Bhd	4,757.2	10,608.2	685.7	Kulim (M) Bhd	3,612.2	1,093.7	95.5
Boustead Plantations Bhd	2,192.0	717.3	89.8	Kumpulan Europlus Bhd	1,032.8	13.9	(32.9)
British American Tobacco (M) Bhd	19,604.5	4,796.0	1,218.8	Lafarge Malaysia Bhd	8,369.5	2,743.1	345.2
Bumi Armada Bhd	6,042.3	2,397.3	309.2	Lingkar Trans Kota Holdings Bhd	1,928.1	373.9	171.7
Bursa Malaysia Bhd	4,577.6	503.8	271.8	LPI Capital Bhd	5,006.4	1,169.7	341.9
Cahaya Mata Sarawak Bhd	4,676.0	1,673.9	341.5	Magnum Bhd	3,832.1	2,886.5	373.7
Capitamalls Malaysia Trust	2,597.3	315.4	236.4	Mah Sing Group Bhd	3,956.2	2,904.7	455.0
Carlsberg Brewery Malaysia Bhd	4,177.5	1,635.1	274.3	Malayan Banking Bhd	86,971.9	30,609.4	9,111.6
CB Industrial Product Holding Bhd	1,083.9	600.9	107.0	Malaysia Airports Holdings Bhd	11,563.0	3,343.7	834.2
CIMB Group Holdings Bhd	52,395.7	21,549.4	4,276.4	Malaysia Building Society Bhd	5,941.7	1,638.6	932.6
Coastal Contracts Bhd	1,540.3	877.2	190.9	Malaysia Marine And Heavy Engineering Holdings Bhd	1,936.0	2,700.5	119.1
Datasonic Group Bhd	1,539.0	NA	NA	Malaysian Bulk Carriers Bhd	1,210.0	255.7	18.3
Dayang Enterprise Holdings Bhd	2,043.6	876.9	217.7	Malaysian Pacific Industries Bhd	1,392.3	1,291.8	64.8
Dialog Group Bhd	7,949.7	2,551.7	276.5	Malaysian Resources Corporation Bhd	2,233.2	1,514.8	220.6
DiGi.Com Bhd	48,982.5	7,018.5	2,645.2	Matrix Concepts Holdings Bhd	1,292.0	598.8	244.8
DRB-Hicom Bhd	3,808.5	14,200.7	796.6	Maxis Bhd	53,978.0	8,388.5	2,436.0
Dutch Lady Milk Industries Bhd	3,057.9	1,000.2	148.4	MBM Resources Bhd	1,285.4	1,774.1	132.2
Eastern & Oriental Bhd	2,445.3	497.1	167.2	Media Chinese International Ltd	1,147.3	468.7	68.6
Eco World Development Group Bhd	3,664.6	148.4	12.1	Media Prima Bhd	1,885.6	1,507.0	101.4
Far East Holdings Bhd	1,173.5	428.3	129.2	MISC Bhd	37,897.6	9,296.3	2,410.3
Felda Global Ventures Holdings Bhd	7,916.5	16,369.3	826.4	MKH Bhd	1,153.4	806.5	162.6
Fraser & Neave Holdings Bhd	6,649.8	3,818.8	315.5	MMC Corporation Bhd	7,704.0	8,765.5	885.6
Gamuda Bhd	11,981.6	2,229.6	851.6	MPHB Capital Bhd	1,401.4	370.1	278.9
Gas Malaysia Bhd	3,325.6	2,773.5	213.1	MSM Malaysia Holdings Bhd	3,585.2	2,281.5	344.3
GD Express Carrier Bhd	1,982.2	158.7	24.3	My E.G. Services Bhd	3,353.9	109.9	50.7
Genting Bhd	33,461.4	18,216.5	4,262.3	NCB Holdings Bhd	1,161.5	831.0	18.6
Genting Malaysia Bhd	23,986.0	8,229.4	1,524.5	Nestle (M) Bhd	17,282.7	4,808.9	701.2
Genting Plantations Bhd	7,816.7	1,642.9	519.8	Oriental Holdings Bhd	4,169.1	3,464.8	486.5
Globetronics Technology Bhd	1,478.8	355.0	76.2	OSK Holdings Bhd	2,082.6	59.9	215.6
Goldis Bhd	1,410.0	1,289.0	450.2	Panasonic Manufacturing Malaysia Bhd	1,409.3	899.2	105.2
Guinness Anchor Bhd	4,289.8	1,610.6	265.8	Parkson Holdings Bhd	2,311.0	3,553.9	384.2
Hap Seng Consolidated Bhd	9,754.7	3,768.0	1,024.6	Pavilion Real Estate Investment Trust	4,614.4	402.1	510.5
Hap Seng Plantations Holdings Bhd	2,079.2	495.6	176.1	Petronas Chemicals Group Bhd	45,114.4	14,597.0	3,551.0
Hartalega Holdings Bhd	6,946.4	1,107.2	309.0	Petronas Dagangan Bhd	19,869.1	32,341.0	709.3
Hong Leong Bank Bhd	25,651.0	7,026.6	2,613.2	Petronas Gas Bhd	45,550.4	4,391.7	2,354.5
Hong Leong Capital Bhd	2,518.4	259.9	78.3	Pharmaniaga Bhd	1,553.3	2,122.9	125.6
Hong Leong Financial Group Bhd	17,854.9	7,851.3	3,009.2	Pos Malaysia Bhd	2,840.9	1,426.9	223.4
Hong Leong Industries Bhd	1,431.2	2,021.5	237.7	PPB Group Bhd	18,233.0	3,701.0	1,028.1
Hume Industries Bhd	1,700.8	40.5	(6.1)				
IGB Corporation Bhd	3,737.7	1,173.8	422.2				

CONTINUES NEXT PAGE



BILLION RINGGIT Club

TOP 20 RANKED BY REVENUE

RANK 2015	2014		COMPANY	REVENUE FY2014 (RM MIL)
1	1	-	Sime Darby Bhd	43,908
2	2	-	Tenaga Nasional Bhd	42,792
3	4	▲	Petronas Dagangan Bhd	32,341
4	3	▼	Malayan Banking Bhd	30,609
5	5	-	CIMB Group Holdings Bhd	21,549
6	6	-	YTL Corporation Bhd	19,269
7	7	-	Axiata Group Bhd	18,712
8	8	-	Genting Bhd	18,217
9	17	▲	Felda Global Ventures Holdings Bhd	16,369
10	10	-	Public Bank Bhd	15,182
11	14	▲	UMW Holdings Bhd	14,932
12	11	▼	Petronas Chemicals Group Bhd	14,597
13	9	▼	YTL Power International Bhd	14,437
14	13	▼	Shell Refining Co (F.O.M.) Bhd	14,263
15	16	▲	DRB-Hicom Bhd	14,201
16	15	▼	IOI Corporation Bhd	11,911
17	NA	▲	Batu Kawan Bhd	11,500
18	19	▲	Telekom Malaysia Bhd	11,235
19	21	▲	Kuala Lumpur Kepong Bhd	11,130
20	18	▼	Boustead Holdings Bhd	10,608

TOP 20 RANKED BY PROFIT BEFORE TAX

RANK 2015	2014		COMPANY	PROFIT BEFORE TAX FY2014 (RM MIL)
1	1	-	Malayan Banking Bhd	9,111.6
2	2	-	Tenaga Nasional Bhd	7,114.7
3	4	▲	Public Bank Bhd	5,814.3
4	3	▼	CIMB Group Holdings Bhd	4,276.4
5	7	▲	Genting Bhd	4,262.3
6	6	-	Sime Darby Bhd	3,964.6
7	5	▼	Petronas Chemicals Group Bhd	3,551.0
8	8	-	Axiata Group Bhd	3,114.5
9	9	-	Hong Leong Financial Group Bhd	3,009.2
10	14	▲	YTL Corporation Bhd	2,811.6
11	12	▲	RHB Capital Bhd	2,735.1
12	17	▲	DiGi.Com Bhd	2,645.2
13	13	-	Hong Leong Bank Bhd	2,613.2
14	16	▲	AMMB Holdings Bhd	2,448.2
15	11	▼	Maxis Bhd	2,436.0
16	15	▼	MISC Bhd	2,410.3
17	18	▲	Petronas Gas Bhd	2,354.5
18	10	▼	IOI Corporation Bhd	1,670.8
19	22	▲	UMW Holdings Bhd	1,621.5
20	20	-	Genting Malaysia Bhd	1,524.5

TOP 20 RANKED BY MARKET CAPITALISATION

RANK 2015	2014		COMPANY	MARKET CAPITALISATION AS AT MARCH 31, 2015 (RM MIL)
1	1	-	Malayan Banking Bhd	86,971.9
2	3	▲	Tenaga Nasional Bhd	81,042.3
3	2	▼	Public Bank Bhd	72,867.3
4	5	▲	Axiata Group Bhd	60,832.9
5	6	▲	Sime Darby Bhd	57,577.4
6	8	▲	Maxis Bhd	53,978.0
7	4	▼	CIMB Group Holdings Bhd	52,395.7
8	12	▲	IHH Healthcare Bhd	49,174.0
9	10	▲	DiGi.Com Bhd	48,982.5
10	9	▼	Petronas Gas Bhd	45,550.4
11	7	▼	Petronas Chemicals Group Bhd	45,114.4
12	14	▲	MISC Bhd	37,897.6
13	11	▼	Genting Bhd	33,461.4
14	13	▼	IOI Corporation Bhd	29,201.6
15	22	▲	Telekom Malaysia Bhd	27,039.8
16	17	▲	Hong Leong Bank Bhd	25,651.0
17	18	▲	Kuala Lumpur Kepong Bhd	24,259.9
18	19	▲	Genting Malaysia Bhd	23,986.0
19	21	▲	RHB Capital Bhd	20,373.9
20	15	▼	Petronas Dagangan Bhd	19,869.1

1) The revenue and profit before tax figures are as at March 31, 2015, and may be audited or unaudited, depending on whether the Annual Report has been released by that date.
2) Where there is a change in financial year-end, the revenue and profit before tax figures are annualised.

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

COMPANY (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)	MARKET CAPITALISATION AS AT MARCH 31, 2015 (RM MIL)	REVENUE FY2014 (RM MIL)	PROFIT BEFORE TAX FY2014 (RM MIL)
Press Metal Bhd	4,285.0	4,091.0	304.1
Prestariang Bhd	1,258.4	78.8	20.3
Public Bank Bhd	72,867.3	15,182.2	5,814.3
Puncak Niaga Holdings Bhd	1,106.5	606.6	(8.9)
QL Resources Bhd	4,892.3	2,457.2	203.8
RHB Capital Bhd	20,373.9	10,413.2	2,735.1
Sapurakencana Petroleum Bhd	14,141.5	8,378.8	1,207.8
Sarawak Oil Palms Bhd	2,237.5	2,874.7	160.1
Scientex Bhd	1,529.1	1,590.5	186.3
Scomi Energy Services Bhd	1,217.7	1,416.0	127.9
Selangor Properties Bhd	1,889.9	101.0	214.9
Shangri-La Hotels (M) Bhd	2,992.0	513.7	119.5
Shell Refining Co (F.O.M.) Bhd	1,458.0	14,262.8	(1,223.5)
Sime Darby Bhd	57,577.4	43,908.0	3,964.6
S P Setia Bhd	8,794.3	3,810.1	722.4
Star Publications (M) Bhd	1,808.0	1,013.7	153.4
Sunway Bhd	6,317.4	4,558.1	960.2
Sunway Real Estate Investment Trust	4,608.8	427.8	411.1
Supermax Corporation Bhd	1,421.8	1,004.4	128.3
Syarikat Takaful Malaysia Bhd	2,112.6	1,658.8	186.7
Ta Ann Holdings Bhd	1,445.1	1,011.6	168.4
TA Enterprise Bhd	1,283.9	870.7	191.3
TA Global Bhd	1,703.0	692.4	116.8
Tan Chong Motor Holdings Bhd	1,977.9	4,760.6	170.8
Tasek Corporation Bhd	1,986.7	656.1	136.3
TDM Bhd	1,163.1	386.1	68.4

COMPANY (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)	MARKET CAPITALISATION AS AT MARCH 31, 2015 (RM MIL)	REVENUE FY2014 (RM MIL)	PROFIT BEFORE TAX FY2014 (RM MIL)
Telekom Malaysia Bhd	27,039.8	11,235.1	1,105.5
Tenaga Nasional Bhd	81,042.3	42,792.4	7,114.7
TH Plantations Bhd	1,405.3	488.9	58.2
Time Dotcom Bhd	3,397.3	596.3	179.3
Top Glove Corporation Bhd	3,377.3	2,275.4	216.3
Tropicana Corporation Bhd	1,467.4	1,972.4	451.5
TSH Resources Bhd	3,077.5	1,071.0	167.7
Tune Protect Group Bhd (formerly Tune Ins Holdings Bhd)	1,503.5	451.1	81.3
UEM Edgenta Bhd (formerly Faber Group Bhd)	2,684.6	3,089.3	324.5
UEM Sunrise Bhd	6,261.7	2,661.7	609.2
UMW Holdings Bhd	12,664.3	14,932.5	1,621.5
UMW Oil & Gas Corporation Bhd	4,972.6	1,014.9	284.2
Unisem (M) Bhd	1,469.8	1,038.3	84.5
United Malacca Bhd	1,338.5	244.3	84.1
United Plantations Bhd	5,402.6	1,021.8	355.6
UOA Development Bhd	3,162.5	1,077.8	460.7
WCT Holdings Bhd	1,655.4	1,662.2	149.5
Westports Holdings Bhd	13,708.2	1,562.1	578.8
Yinson Holdings Bhd	2,902.2	941.9	78.8
YTL Corporation Bhd	17,399.1	19,269.2	2,811.6
YTL Hospitality REIT	1,364.1	425.1	195.1
YTL Power International Bhd	10,551.6	14,436.6	1,126.6
7-Eleven Malaysia Holdings Bhd	1,973.4	1,440.7	72.8

Notes:

1) The revenue and profit before tax figures are as at March 31, 2015 and may be audited or unaudited, depending on whether the Annual Report has been released by that date.
2) Where there is a change in financial year-end, the revenue and profit before tax figures are annualised.

BILLION RINGGIT Club

COMPANY OF THE YEAR

HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY

BEST PERFORMING STOCK

COMPANIES WITH MORE THAN RM10 BILLION MARKET CAPITALISATION
TRADING/SERVICES, HOTELS, IPC & TECHNOLOGY

TENAGA NASIONAL

Continuing to create value for its shareholders



Tenaga Nasional



About the company

Utility company Tenaga Nasional Bhd serves 8.6 million customers in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Labuan. Its core business spans the entire value chain of electricity production and supply, encompassing power generation, transmission and distribution.

BY BEN SHANE LIM

Running a public listed government-linked company (GLC) is never easy as one has to strike a balance between social responsibility and profit. However, Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB) president and CEO Datuk Seri Azman Mohd would probably tell you that managing a GLC like TNB is even tougher.

Being the country's sole distributor of electricity to 8.6 million customers, TNB (fundamental: 1.30; valuation: 1.80) does not have to worry much about sales. However, as it has seen in the past, there are factors that can drag the utility into quarterly losses. The fluctuations in fuel cost and shortage of natural gas are sufficient to wipe out a sizeable portion of its earnings.

Worse still, TNB was not allowed to pass on the cost increment to end-users before the implementation of the imbalance cost pass-through (ICPT) mechanism last year.

While its profitability came under strain, the utility still managed to create value for its shareholders. The group's earnings had been on an upward trend between the financial year ended Aug 31, 2012 (FY2012) and FY2014, and the higher earnings were reflected in its share price. For the three years through March 31, 2015, TNB's share price rose 136.32%.

Over the past three financial years, TNB has generated a compound annual rate of return of 88%. Its net profit ballooned from RM965 million in FY2011 to RM6.467 billion in FY2014. The group's

earnings were hit hard by the natural gas shortage in 2011 and 2012, forcing it to burn more expensive fuel for power generation. But Petrolia Nasional Bhd (Petronas) and the Malaysian government had absorbed part of the additional cost, which amounted to over RM3 billion, as the utility could not pass on the cost increment to end-users then that kept TNB in profit, albeit much lower.

The government's move to raise electricity tariffs at the start of last year removed the dent caused by fluctuations in fuel cost from TNB's earnings in the second half of FY2014. The hike in the base tariff provided the utility with more money for capital expenditure on its transmission and distribution operations. The fall in global fuel prices, for instance coal prices, was also to TNB's favour. Coal prices have slid to record low levels while liquefied natural gas (LNG) prices have fallen in tandem with crude oil prices, providing the utility with a much lower fuel bill.

That said, TNB's operations were not without hiccups. The group had to bear higher fuel costs last year as a result of a high number of unplanned outages in coal-fired power plants operated by independent power producers. Again, this forced TNB to burn more natural gas, rather than the cheaper alternative — coal.

Fortunately, TNB was able to pass most of these costs to end-users thanks to ICPT. The mechanism allows the group to pass on additional fuel costs as well as savings to the public.

It is noteworthy that its earnings in FY2014 were partly lifted by the timing mismatch of the ICPT. TNB would have recognised higher profits



from the ICPT, only to pass on the savings to consumers after an approximate lag time of six months, once the tariff is revised downwards.

Given its consistent earnings growth, it is not a surprise that TNB has bagged four awards from *The Edge* Billion Ringgit Club, namely Company of the Year, Highest Profit Growth Company and Best Performing Stock for the category of companies with more than RM10 billion market capitalisation, and Highest Profit Growth Company for the trading/services, hotels, IPC and technology sector. It is the one company that has won the most awards this year.

TNB's market capitalisation has grown from around RM35 billion to over RM72.2 billion in a span of three years. In fact, its share price is one of the biggest movers in the FBM KLCI, with a weightage of about 9% in September.

The ICPT has been a key game changer for TNB, preventing it from being choked by high fuel costs.

Despite its steady earnings from transmission and distribution, TNB has not become complacent. It has had a good run over the past few years, securing new power plant projects for its power generation arm.

The utility has managed to win two open tenders — the 1,071MW gas-fired plant in Prai, Penang, and a 1,000MW coal-fired plant in Janamanjung, Perak. It also took over the tender for Project 3B — a 2,000MW coal-fired power plant project, which it did not win initially — after 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) was unable to execute the project. That puts over 4,000MW of new generation capacity in TNB's pipeline.

The group has put in a bid for 1MDB's 13 power assets — a significant acquisition that would enable TNB to control almost 70% of the country's generation capacity, meaning a big boost to its generation division's earnings.

The bid is being watched closely not only by its shareholders but also politicians and the public due to controversies swirling around the cash-strapped and debt-laden 1MDB.

Azman has reiterated that the bid for 1MDB's power assets is a commercial decision without interference from any party. Many do agree that the acquisition is a logical strategic move, but only if TNB pays a fair price. That will hinge on Azman's negotiating power, the outcome of which would decide if the asset acquisition brings TNB to greater heights or puts it in a bad light. ■



THANK YOU TO THE REAL STARS OF THIS WIN. YES, ALL OF YOU.

We're right up there with the best and we have you to thank for it, yes every one of our customers, partners and stakeholders. You have made our win in The Edge Billion Ringgit Club Awards 2015 so much more meaningful. This year we proudly hold the titles of The Most Profitable Company in the Companies With More Than RM10 billion Market Capitalisation category, as well as The Most Profitable Company in the Trading/Services, Hotels, IPC and Technology sectors of Bursa Malaysia.



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BILLION RINGGIT Club

MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY

CONSUMER PRODUCTS

BRITISH AMERICAN TOBACCO

Steady growth despite tough environment

BY KAMARUL AZHAR

British American Tobacco (M) Bhd (BAT) has been on a steady growth path over the past three years despite the fact that the operating environment is getting more challenging due to the implementation of the Goods and Services Tax, the increase in excise duty and the growing popularity of e-cigarettes.

Furthermore, cigarette makers are facing restrictions on marketing activities and the gazetted non-smoking public areas are expanding.

For its remarkable resilience, BAT took home *The Edge* Billion Ringgit Club's award for the most profitable company with the highest return on equity (ROE) from the financial year ended Dec 31, 2012 (FY2012), to FY2014.

BAT's net profit grew at a three-year compound annual growth rate of 7.7% between FY2012 and FY2014. In FY2014, the group posted a net profit of RM898.1 million, up from RM719.6 million in FY2011.

Because of the increase in excise duty, BAT has had no less than three price hikes since 2012 to partially pass on the taxes to smokers. The price increases have helped the group maintain its profitability despite a decline in sales volume.

BAT's shareholders are getting more bang



for their buck. The group has consistently recorded ROE of more than 150% over the last three years. In FY2014, its ROE was 171.3%.

Besides, its shareholders are receiving higher dividends given BAT's high dividend payout ratio. The group has declared dividends of no less than RM8.63 per share between FY2012 and FY2014.

This is not hard to fathom why the share price of BAT, which is considered expensive in terms of absolute value, has been climbing steadily from RM41 in January 2012 to a record high of RM70.42 in December 2014.

For an investor who has bought 10,000 BAT shares at RM41 apiece, or RM410,000 in total, his investment value would have ris-

en to RM628,000 as at end-2014, a gain of RM218,000 or 53% in capital appreciation alone.

BAT (fundamental: 1.35; valuation: 1.50) is the only public listed tobacco product manufacturer in Malaysia after JT International Bhd (JTI) was delisted in June last year. It is the largest of the three major cigarette manufacturers in the country, in terms of market share and revenue. Besides JTI, BAT's other rival is Philip Morris (M) Sdn Bhd.

It is estimated that the legal cigarette market is 11 billion sticks this year. BAT's market share is about 60% of the total market.

GST seems to have eaten into the cigarette maker's profit. BAT's core net profit in the first half ended June 30, 2015 (1HFY2015), dropped 2.2% year on year to RM463.1 million. Revenue was relatively flat at RM2.36 billion, compared with RM2.38 billion in the previous corresponding period.

In a July 29 research report, Maybank Investment Bank says BAT's domestic volume shrank 9% y-o-y in 1HFY2015 due to weaker demand post-GST and more smokers going for illicit cigarettes.

It expects 2HFY2015 to be more challenging for BAT due to weaker consumer sentiment.

In addition, the proliferation of e-cigarettes, especially among the youth, is perceived to be a threat to BAT. The Ministry of Health has not come up with any regulation on e-cigarettes yet, so this could mean a wider target market

British American Tobacco (M)



About the company

British American Tobacco (M) Bhd is the only public-listed tobacco product manufacturer in Malaysia. It has had a presence in the country for more than a century. It controls more than 60% of the legal cigarette market in Malaysia. Its brands include Dunhill, Pall Mall and Kent. BAT's dominant position has, to some extent, allowed it to be a price leader. British American Tobacco plc is the largest shareholder of BAT Malaysia, with a 50% stake.

than traditional cigarettes.

It is estimated that there are 400,690 adult vapers in the country. Based on Bank Negara Malaysia's statistics and World Health Organization's survey estimates, the estimated adult smoking population in Malaysia is 4.6 million.

It would be interesting to see how BAT defends its turf going forward. **E**

HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY

CONSTRUCTION

IJM CORP

Poised to ride mega infrastructure projects

BY KAMARUL ANWAR

Construction giant IJM Corp Bhd, would not have been able to grow its bottom line by an average of 39.67% a year in the past three years had it not been for its property development division, which contributed a third to the group's revenue last year.

The diversified group's profit before tax grew an average of 29% a year the past three years to RM1.43 billion in the financial year ended March 31, 2014 (FY2014), from RM659.73 million in FY2011.

Of its five main business segments, property — parked under IJM Land Bhd — enjoyed the highest pre-tax profit compound annual growth rate (CAGR) between FY2011 and

FY2014. At 37.24%, the average growth rate was far superior to infrastructure's, at 19.56%.

IJM's other divisions are manufacturing and quarrying (with a 10.12% CAGR), plantation (17.75%), and construction, which made a pre-tax loss in FY2011 because of impairment charges. Project rollouts were slow then as the construction sector was still recovering from the debilitating blow of the 2008 financial crisis.

During those four years, IJM's property division was the largest contributor to the group's profit before tax, although its share fell over the years from 43.91% to 33.09%. In FY2015, the segment's pre-tax profit dropped by 33.93% year on year to RM494.66 million.

However, IJM managing director and CEO Datuk Soam Heng Choon said in the group's FY2015 annual report that the division's pre-



tax profit drop would have only fallen 2% if one were to exclude the revaluation gains and investment and land disposal proceeds that had boosted profits the year before.

Today, despite being able to consolidate all of IJM Land's profits after privatising the 64.2%-owned unit effective March 31 this year, the division's contribution to group profits has fallen with policy cooling measures curbing demand.

Here's where having multiple core busi-

nesses is beneficial. When one division slows down, another division picks up.

That was the case with IJM's infrastructure division, whose core earnings doubled year on year in 1QFY2016 (April-June 2015), and offset lower earnings from the property development and construction divisions, says AmResearch analyst Mak Hoy Ken in a recent note.

The construction division is also set to recover in the months ahead.

BILLION RINGGIT Club

MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY

PLANTATION SECTOR

IOI CORP

Resilient in the face of dampened industry prospects

BY YEN NE FOO

Oil palm planters have not had an easy time in recent years. An environment of high stockpiles, plus subdued crude palm oil (CPO) prices, have piled the pressure on the headline figures of plantation firms.

CPO prices slid from the peak of RM3,590 per tonne in April 2012 and have hovered below RM2,500 most of the time since. The on-and-off-speculation over the possible occurrence of an El Niño weather phenomenon has been proven wrong in the past three years so far, and failed to support CPO prices. Naturally, the plantation sector has fallen out of investors' favour.

Despite being caught in the middle of the sector's downtime, IOI Corp's shareholders should find comfort in the group's history of resilient earnings and steady returns to shareholders.

Between the financial year ended June 30, 2012 (FY2012) and FY2014, IOI Corp's profits have been growing consistently.

In FY2012, IOI Corp registered a net profit of RM1.79 billion and revenue of RM15.64 billion. Its net profit swelled to RM3.39 billion in FY2014 on the back of RM12.66 billion in revenue. This means that for FY2014, IOI Corp's return on shareholders' equity reached 34.27%, a significant improvement from FY2013's 15.03% and FY2012's 14.62%.



IOI Corp's remarkable earnings performance for FY2014 was in part due the demerger exercise it carried out. In January 2014, the company demerged and relisted its property unit on Bursa Malaysia, under IOI Properties Group Bhd, as part of its strategy to unlock the intrinsic value of its overall businesses and to create additional shareholders' wealth.

From the exercise, IOI Corp registered a net gain of RM1.89 billion. Excluding the demerger gain and foreign currency translation differences, IOI Corp's net profit from its continuing operations for FY2014 still stood at an impressive RM1.3 billion.

For the same reason, FY2012 to FY2014 was a particularly rewarding period for IOI Corp's shareholders. The plantation giant declared dividends per share of 15.5 sen for FY2012 and FY2013. Then in FY2014, it declared two tranches of interim dividends totalling 20 sen per share, or RM1.27 billion in total. The dividends represented about a 38% payout ratio of the group's net profit.

This was in addition to the distribution-in-specie of 2.11 billion IOI Properties shares to entitled shareholders arising from the demerger.

PublicInvest Research, which met with IOI Corp's management recently, is expecting a positive outlook in the current financial year ending June 30, 2016.

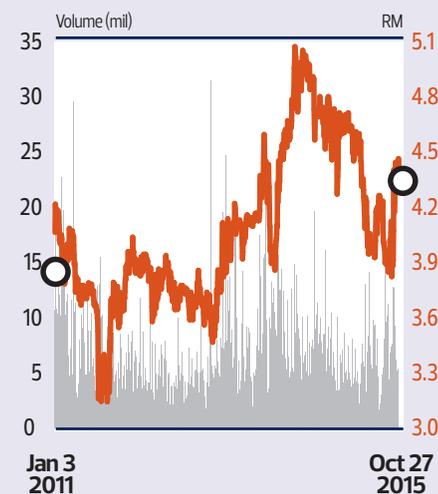
Despite the current weak CPO prices, PublicInvest Research pointed out that the company was least affected among plantation players thanks to its exposure to the downstream segment.

Recently, IOI Corp proposed to acquire Cremer Oleo GMBH & Co KG's oleochemicals production facilities in Germany for €8.4 million. Public Research has a "neutral" rating on IOI Corp, giving it a target price of RM4.86 as at Oct 13.

"Management guided about RM350 million capital expenditure for FY2016, which will mainly be used for infrastructure and new planting activities. The construction of a 100,000 tonne speciality oils and fats plant in Xiamen, China, has commenced and will be ready by June 2016. On the cost structure, it expects to maintain its current cost of production of RM1,200 per tonne and the fertiliser cost for 1HFY2016 has been locked in since the beginning of this year," it says in a Sept 22 note.

Moving forward, PublicInvest Research says the group is looking for landbank opportunities in Indonesia, given that it will complete its new

IOI Corp



About the company

IOI Corp, under the stewardship of Tan Sri Lee Shin Chin, has grown by leaps and bounds over the past 15 years. It is now fully integrated with a presence in both plantations and downstream activities. The plantation business covers Malaysia and Indonesia with a landbank of more than 230,000ha, making it one of the largest plantation owners in the industry. The resource-based manufacturing business comprises three segments: refineries, oleochemicals and speciality oils and fats. IOI Corp has manufacturing facilities in Malaysia, the Netherlands, the US and Canada. Currently, its downstream products are exported to more than 85 countries worldwide.

planting activities in Indonesia by next year. Apart from that, IOI Corp (fundamental: 1.05; valuation: 0.50) is also trying to search for strategic tie-ups with local players in South America and Russia for the downstream venture. **E**

"IJM is poised to ride a new wave of infrastructure spending in Malaysia ahead of the 11th Malaysia Plan. This is in addition to further job prospects from the West Coast Expressway and the Kuantan Port expansion, where IJM is already involved in the initial phases," says Mak, who has a RM4.10 target price and "buy" recommendation on the stock that closed at RM3.39 last Tuesday. He is the most bullish among 16 analysts with a "buy" call while six others have a "hold", and two recommend a "sell".

Last month, IJM won an award to build the 52-storey Equatorial Plaza mixed development on Jalan Sultan Ismail for RM455.5 million. HLIB Research estimated IJM's construction order book at RM6.7 billion — a record high — as at Sept 21. Maybank IB Research, however, placed the figure at RM7.26 billion. That's 5.93 times FY2015's construction revenue.

"Going forward, IJM's construction order book would be supported by the upcoming mega rail projects riding on IJM's strong delivery performance in the KVMRT 1 project. More

job wins could also emanate from highway projects such as the West Coast Expressway's remaining RM2.2 billion packages," says Maybank analyst Chai Li Shin.

In 1HFY2016, IJM's net profit grew 152.55% to RM336.87 million, buoyed by its infrastructure division and the disposal of a 74% stake in an Indian toll concessionaire Jaipur Mahua Tollway Pte Ltd.

Analysts are projecting IJM's dividend per share to be nine sen in FY2016, Bloomberg data shows. At last Tuesday's close of RM3.29, IJM's stock would theoretically have a yield of 2.74%.

Between FY2011 and FY2014, IJM's shares appreciated by 24.29% to RM6.14, its closing price on March 31. This was prior to the one-for-one bonus shares distributed last month. Including dividends, an investor would have made a 36.25% gain over the three years. This trumps the FBM KLCI's 17.57% rise over the same period, or 23.15% with dividends. If the company can repeat its feat despite slower economic growth in 2016, its stock will likely remain a winning bet. **E**

IJM Corp



About the company

IJM Corp Bhd, with a market capitalisation of RM12 billion, is Malaysia's largest listed construction conglomerate. Named after the initials of three merged entities — IGB Construction Sdn Bhd, Jurutama Sdn Bhd and Mudajaya Sdn Bhd — the diversified group's businesses since its 1983 merger include property development, concessions, building materials and plantations. The group has highway assets in India and a water treatment plant in Vietnam, and has completed property projects in the UK and Australia, apart from Malaysia.

Note: The Edge Research's fundamental score reflects a company's profitability and balance sheet strength, calculated based on historical numbers. The valuation score determines if a stock is attractively valued or not, also based on historical numbers. A score of 3 suggests strong fundamentals and attractive valuations. Visit www.theedgemarkets.com for more details on a company's financial dashboard.

BILLION RINGGIT Club

MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY

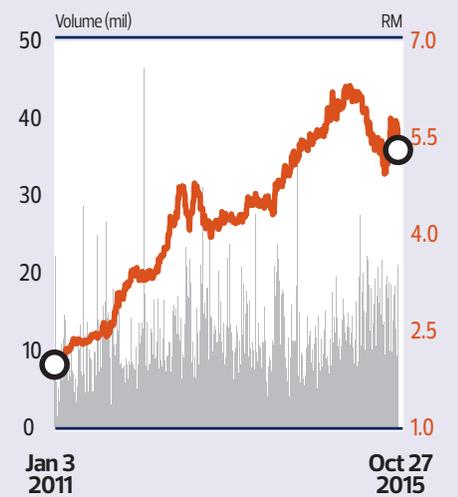
COMPANIES WITH MORE THAN RM10 BILLION MARKET CAPITALISATION
TRADING/SERVICES, HOTELS, IPC & TECHNOLOGY

DIGI.COM

Delivering sustainable returns



DiGi.Com



About the company

DiGi.Com Bhd, which is 49%-owned by Norwegian company Telenor ASA, is Malaysia's third largest mobile operator in terms of subscriber base. It was named *The Edge* Billion Ringgit Club's Company of the Year in 2013. Relative to its two larger peers, DiGi was a latecomer to the 3G network scene in Malaysia as it was only in 2009 that it managed to get the 3G spectrum initially allocated to TIME dotcom Bhd through a corporate exercise that also saw Telenor paring its holding from 61% to 49% today. Albern Murty took over as DiGi CEO on April 1 after having served 13 years in various senior executive roles at the company. He replaced Lars Norling, who is now CEO at Telenor's Thai unit, Total Access Communication PCL.

BY ESTHER LEE

DiGi.Com Bhd is no stranger to *The Edge* Billion Ringgit Club awards. In 2013, it was named the Company of the Year while last year, it was the Most Profitable Company in its sector, having achieved the highest return on equity (ROE) over three years.

This year, DiGi again beat its peers and other companies with more than RM10 billion market capitalisation by delivering stellar ROE for the three years to FY2014. In fact, our records show that DiGi is one of a handful of companies that have emerged among the top 20 in the running for the Company of the Year award in the last five years.

The telecommunications company's ROE surged from 88.9% in its financial year ended Dec 31, 2011 (FY2011) to 300% in FY2014. This can be attributed to its growing net profit and smaller shareholders' equity — as it returned excess capital to shareholders — on top of the free cash flow it generated even as its profit grew.

Net profit climbed an average of 62.4% a year to RM2.03 billion in FY2014 from RM1.25 billion in FY2011 while revenue rose to RM7.02 billion in FY2014 from RM5.96 billion in FY2011.

Since 2007, DiGi has returned over 100% of its earnings to shareholders without relying on earnings. In FY2014, its payout ratio was almost 100% at 26 sen per share.

Given its generous dividends at a time yields were sought during the global ultra-low interest rate era, DiGi is one of those stocks investors wish they had bought six years ago. An investor who paid about RM2.20 apiece for 1,000 DiGi shares at the start of 2010 would be holding 10,000 of them today worth more than RM70,000 if the dividends paid over the past six years were included, according to Bloomberg data. Some of these gains were a result of DiGi's 1-to-10 stock split in November 2011.

DiGi CEO Albern Murty, who was appointed to his post in April after having served 13 years in various senior executive roles at the telco, including as chief operating officer, said *The Edge* Billion Ringgit Club awards were an added recognition to employees' dedication to excellence and customer service.

"There really is a big group of people that is driving the company forward and the things that we look for are continuous growth, a round customer focus and talent. These are the three things that we believe helped us get the awards today, in addition to the efforts made by previous CEOs who put in place a lot of things for the company," he told *The Edge Financial Daily* after receiving the awards at the BRC luncheon on Oct 26.

To stay a winner, Murty noted, the group continuously looks at innovative ways of finding revenue growth and managing costs. "We are in a challenging period, both from a consumer sentiment perspective and an economic posi-



tion, but I think we will get out of it and when it happens, we hope we will be the consumer brand that everyone works with," he said, adding that winning the awards was a great motivating factor to continue to do well.

Given the headwinds the telecoms industry is facing and the recent market rout, DiGi's share price has come off its 52-week high of RM6.28 in February. It closed at RM5.30 last Tuesday.

At the time of writing, analysts recommend a "buy" on DiGi (fundamental: 1.35; valuation:

1.50) were in the minority — only seven of them compared with 12 calling a "hold" and another 12 calling a "sell". Their target prices ranged from as little as RM3.30 to RM6.80, averaging at RM5.39, according to Bloomberg data.

UOB Kay Hian Research, for instance, on Oct 27 downgraded DiGi to a "hold" and reduced its target price to RM5.95 from RM6.30 following the release of the telco's third-quarter earnings and margins, which were hit by accelerated depreciation charges, intense price competition and higher traffic cost on the ringgit's 16.5% slide against the US dollar during the period.

That said, the research house expects better performance in the "seasonally stronger" fourth quarter when it expects "positive customer acquisitions and monetisation of internet growth to yield positive results". UOB Kay Hian sees RM5 as an entry price for DiGi.

Kenanga Research is more sanguine, retaining its "outperform" call on DiGi while lowering its target price to RM6.05 from RM6.10 apiece after the company maintained its guidance of "low to mid single-digit service revenue growth" with Ebitda margins sustained at around FY2014's 45%.

Whether DiGi can surprise on the upside hinges on whether it can again beat market expectations of how much value it can deliver to customers as well as shareholders. Based on its past performance, DiGi is one company worth keeping an eye on.

RM5 000 000 000

5 Years On, 5 Fold

This visual may be familiar to you. We created it in 2010 when QL's market capitalization achieved RM 1Billion mark and first debut as Top 10 Companies of Billion Ringgit Club. In 2011, QL was awarded Billion Ringgit Club Company of The Year.

5 years on, our market capitalization has grown to RM5 Billion mark and The Edge has awarded us Best Performing Stock under Consumer Products Sector. It's a great honour for all of us at QL Resources. Every day we produce and process nourishing products for the world's food chain, all the while building sustainable and win-win relationships with farmers, fisherman, customers, consumers, investors,

employees and the communities. This award is a testament to our corporate mission—'with values for all'.

QL Resources is Malaysia's leading agro-food company. From humble origins we have built value-chains in Farming, Fisheries and Agriculture across Southeast Asia. If you want to get to know us better, please visit our website www.ql.com.my

QL—Your dependable partner in the agro-based food industry.



BILLION RINGGIT Club

MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY

PROPERTY AND REIT

SUNWAY

Construction, real estate developments contribute to strong growth

BY KAMARUL AZHAR

One of the country's largest integrated property development companies, Sunway Bhd's expertise and resources kept it busy over the last three years with sizeable construction jobs as well as real estate developments, contributing to its strong revenue and profit growth.

In the last three years, Sunway's year-on-year (y-o-y) net profit has seen a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 29% on average to reach RM734 million for the financial year ended Dec 31, 2014 (FY2014).

The group has delivered double-digit return on equity every year for the past three years, with ROE in FY2013 being exceptionally high at 27.97%. Sunway's (fundamental: 1.50; valuation: 2.40) numbers benefited from the listing of Sunway Pyramid and other commercial assets in a real estate investment trust (REIT).

In FY2013, Sunway's other operating income jumped to RM1.28 billion from RM328.6 million in the previous year. Its profit before tax (PBT) more than doubled to RM1.9 billion from RM839.6 million in FY2012.

Sunway's numbers also bear testimony to a property boom. Its property development and investment division recorded RM591.6 million profit after tax (PAT) in FY2014, having grown an average of 14.3% a year for the past three years, from RM396 million in FY2011.

Sunway's notable land acquisitions in recent years include 276.4ha in Medini Iskandar Ma-



aysia, Johor, for RM745.3 million in December 2011, followed by 24.5 acres of land in Penang for RM267.4 million in December 2013.

In May this year, Sunway announced that it was acquiring four parcels measuring 17 acres in Kelana Jaya for RM286 million. With the latest acquisition, Sunway's landbank will increase to 3,380 acres with a potential gross development value (GDV) of RM50.8 billion.

While Sunway's large landbank will prove beneficial over the long term, the sector-wide property slowdown will have an adverse affect and it will be tougher for the company to outperform in the near term.

"Sunway's focus on sustainable township

development has resulted in stable property sales (RM1.7 billion to RM1.8 billion in FY2012 to FY2014). However, weak sentiment in the property market in Malaysia and Singapore may make it challenging for Sunway to meet its FY15 sales target of RM1.7 billion," notes AllianceDBS research analyst Quah He Wei in a Sept 14 research report.

He says Sunway recorded only RM478 million in property sales in the first half of FY2015, which was y-o-y decline of 41% over the previous corresponding period. However, Sunway's unbilled property sales remain healthy at RM2.3 billion, or about 1.9 times its FY2015 property revenue, states Quah.

According to Thomas Soon, an analyst with AmResearch, a 10% decline in property revenue could result in a 5% dip in property earnings. However, the expected dip in property earnings this year is not going to be a long-term issue for Sunway, Soon says in a July 15 report.

This is because earnings from its other businesses, including the construction arm, may offset the dip in its property development division's earnings. On Sept 14, Sunway announced that it had been awarded a RM1.6 billion construction contract to build government buildings in Putrajaya.

The latest contract win by Sunway Construction Group Bhd (SCGB) has boosted its construction order book to RM4.3 billion, which is sufficient to sustain the group's earnings for two years. Sunway owns 54% of SCGB.

The construction arm of the Sunway group is also expected to benefit from the govern-

Sunway



About the company

Sunway Bhd is mainly involved in property development and construction businesses. The group also has a presence in other business segments, including quarrying, trading in and manufacturing building materials, hospitality, leisure and healthcare. It has two listed subsidiaries – Sunway Real Estate Investment Trust and Sunway Construction Group Bhd. The group is the master developer of Bandar Sunway in Petaling Jaya, a self-sustaining township which contains the four million sq ft Sunway Pyramid mall, Sunway Lagoon Theme Park, Sunway University College and Sunway Medical Centre. Its largest shareholder is Tan Sri Jeffrey Cheah with a 55.7% stake.

ment's continued spending on infrastructure, including the LRT 3 (Bandar Utama–Klang) and the MRT 2 (Sungai Buloh–Serdang–Putrajaya) lines, say analysts.

If the upside seen in its construction business more than makes up for a slower property business, it won't be a surprise to see Sunway high up on the winners list again. **E**

HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY

PROPERTY AND REIT

TROPICANA CORP

Driving earnings growth by unlocking asset values

BY JANICE MELISSA THEAN

Unlocking asset values to create shareholder value – this is what Tropicana Corp Bhd has done to drive its earnings growth besides having property launches.

Thanks to impeccable timing and a pool of prime assets, the group saw its earnings grow substantially between the financial year ended Dec 31, 2012 (FY2012), and FY2014.

Over the last three years, revenue has grown fivefold to RM1.97 billion in FY2014. Net profit surged at a three-year compound annual growth rate of 63% to RM333.9 mil-

lion from RM77.01 million in FY2011.

This was reflected in the company's return on equity, which grew 12.1% as at end-2014, compared with 7.41% in FY2011.

Tropicana (fundamental: 1; valuation: 1.50) has been able to strengthen its presence in major locations in the Klang Valley, Iskandar Malaysia and Penang following an asset injection in 2012, when founder Tan Sri Danny Tan Chee Sing put in RM1.1 billion worth of his family's assets.

In sync with flourishing sales, the company undertook a major rebranding exercise that saw a change of name from Dijaya Corp Bhd.

In early 2013, Datuk Yao Kok Seng took



over as CEO while Danny's eldest son, Datuk Dickson Tan, stepped up to the role of deputy group CEO.

In June 2015, Danny retired from his position as group executive chairman, making way for his third son, Dion Tan, to take on the role.

Last year, Tropicana shifted gears, focusing on paring down its borrowings after the rapid expansion that elevated it to a large-scale property developer.

It has slowed down on the aggressive launches amid a cooling property market, but has still met its sales targets so far.

BILLION RINGGIT Club

BEST PERFORMING STOCK

PROPERTY AND REIT

ECO WORLD DEVELOPMENT

The celebrity effect

BY KAMARUL ANWAR

Baby boomers might pick John Lennon or Paul McCartney as the most famous member of The Beatles. Millennials could be arguing over whether NSYNC's Justin Timberlake or Destiny's Child's Beyoncé was their generation's biggest breakout star.

In Corporate Malaysia today, when it comes to naming the sole bona fide celebrity emerging in the property sector, many would have Tan Sri Liew Kee Sin in mind.

As soon as the market deduced that Liew was taking over the then Focal Aims Holdings Bhd to be his new business vehicle once he exited S P Setia Bhd, investors jumped on Focal Aims bandwagon and drove the share price up more than tenfold in a seven-month span to RM5.50.

That was in late 2013. Between Sept 30, 2011, which was Focal Aims' FY2011 end date, and March 31, 2015, Eco World shares skyrocketed to RM1.86 each, after adjusting for their enlarged share base, from 9.6 sen. Since the reverse takeover, Eco World has had share placement and rights issue to raise more capital.

Liew's rock star status was built during his time heading S P Setia. Akin to any famous chart-topper, Liew's celebrity was solidified by the performance of Setia Alam, a thriving township S P Setia built in Shah Alam that spans 2,525 acres.

S P Setia then amazed investors by announcing ambitious annual sales for its developments locally and abroad. Although it could be argued that demand was strong during the early 2010s



property market bull run, to constantly outdo its annual sales record, peaking at RM8.24 billion, is by no means a small feat.

But it's a different landscape in 2015, what with cooling measures and softer economic conditions affecting developers' launch plans. Liew, who left S P Setia in April 2014 before his contract was set to expire, not only had to overcome souring market sentiment but also rebuild a company.

While his role in Eco World (fundamental: 0.85; valuation: 0.90) is that of non-executive chairman, the company is ingrained with the Liew/S P Setia DNA. His 24-year-old son, Liew Tian Xiong, is an executive director and the largest shareholder.

And just like S P Setia, Eco World — on its own or through its associate or joint ventures — undertakes redevelopments of iconic buildings (Pudu Prison) and ventures into overseas

markets, exceeding its annual sales target for financial year ended Oct 31, 2014 (FY2014), of RM2 billion. It has undeveloped landbank of 4,200 acres across Malaysia.

Eco World's swift rise to a large-cap property developer and aggressive landbanking exercise, however, has resulted in the accumulation of debt to levels beyond the sector's ideal ceiling 0.5 times equity. Earlier this month, it announced plans to form a partnership to buy and develop a 2,198.4-acre tract in Ijok, Selangor, for RM1.18 billion. The land has a gross development value of RM15 billion.

Subsequently, Kenanga Investment Bank Bhd projected EcoWorld's gearing level could rise to 0.78 times in FY2016. This was after paring its net debt to 0.3 times equity as at 3QFY2015, via a series of fundraising exercises.

However, analysts seem to have faith in Liew's vision. All but two research houses have given

Eco World Development



About the company

Eco World Development Group Bhd is Malaysia's fastest-rising property developer, with many of its top management coming from established S P Setia Bhd, including the latter's former group president and CEO Tan Sri Liew Kee Sin. A builder of high-quality townships and high-rise residential properties, EcoWorld has accumulated over 7,000 acres of land over the past three years across Malaysia, including in Johor's Iskandar Malaysia. It also has a 40% stake in the redevelopment of Pudu Prison. The group will hold a 30% stake in Eco World International Bhd, once the developer in the London property market goes for listing.

the stock a "buy" call. They also estimate EcoWorld's FY2016 net profit to triple year on year to RM101.8 million, according to Bloomberg data.

"We believe Liew will be able to replicate his past success at S P Setia with Eco World, but within a much shorter timeframe," says CIMB's head equity research Terence Wong in an Oct 9 note. **E**

As part of the degearing exercise, the company completed at least half a billion ringgit worth of land sales the past year, including Canal City for RM471 million. And it is in the midst of completing more divestments.

Moving forward, Tropicana will continue to divest its non-core assets, such as shopping malls and hotels, while it refocuses on property development in the central and northern regions of Peninsular Malaysia.

This year, it will launch projects with a total gross development value (GDV) of RM2.7 billion in the central region — Tropicana Aman (GDV: RM756 million), The Residences KLCC (GDV: RM839 million), Tropicana Heights-Parkfield Residences (GDV: RM499 million) and Tropicana Metropark (GDV: RM635 million).

Tower F of Tropicana Bay Residences in Penang World City, with a GDV of RM169 million, is also slated for launch this year.

As at March 2015, Tropicana's unbilled

sales stood at RM2.6 billion, with 56% and 31% accruing from the central and northern region respectively.

Tropicana Danga Bay (GDV: RM7.6 billion) and Tropicana Danga Cove (GDV: RM9.5 billion) in Johor contributed 12% to unbilled sales while the remaining 1% came from Tropicana Landmark (GDV: RM118 million) in Sabah.

Tropicana has an estimated available GDV of RM65 billion over the next 15 to 20 years, half of which will come from planned projects in the southern region — including Tropicana Danga Bay and Tropicana Danga Cove.

Tropicana's share price slipped to 97 sen in October in line with the weak sentiment across the bourse.

At current price levels, analysts see upside to the stock. Of the analysts covering the stock, 60% have a "buy" rating while 40% have a "hold" call. The consensus 12-month target price of RM1.46 indicates a 50.5% upside to last Tuesday's closing price of 97 sen. **E**

Tropicana Corp



About the company

Tropicana Corp Bhd, formerly known as Djijaya Corp Bhd, was founded by Tan Sri Danny Tan Chee Sing almost two decades ago. Apart from property development, the group holds investment properties, including shopping malls, office blocks and hotels. It has an undeveloped landbank of 1,866 acres with an estimated gross development value of RM65 billion in hot spots in the Klang Valley, Iskandar Malaysia and Penang.

Note: The Edge Research's fundamental score reflects a company's profitability and balance sheet strength, calculated based on historical numbers. The valuation score determines if a stock is attractively valued or not, also based on historical numbers. A score of 3 suggests strong fundamentals and attractive valuations. Visit www.theedgemarkets.com for more details on a company's financial dashboard.

BILLION RINGGIT Club

BEST PERFORMING STOCK

TRADING/SERVICES, HOTELS, IPC & TECHNOLOGY

MY E.G. SERVICES

Ideal for an investment portfolio

BY ESTHER LEE

Shareholders of My E.G. Services Bhd (MyEG) should have little to complain about in terms of investment returns. In fact, it can be said that the information, communications and technology (ICT) company knows how to make investors' money sweat.

MyEG's share price has skyrocketed almost 10 times in just three years, from barely 31 sen in March 2012 to RM3.04 in March this year. Who wouldn't want the stock in their portfolio?

With a market capitalisation of over RM3 billion, MyEG was judged by *The Edge* Billion Ringgit Club as the best performing stock with the highest returns to shareholders in the trading/services, hotels, IPC and technology sector.

In terms of earnings growth and return on equity, the ICT company delivered impressive numbers as well. Net profit shot up from RM22.13 million in its financial year ended June 30, 2011 (FY2011), to RM50.11 million in FY2014, which means a compound annual growth rate of more than 20% over the three years. ROE rose from 25% in FY2012 to 31.7% in FY2014.

Shareholders' equity did not stay stagnant, increasing from RM99.97 million in FY2011 to RM176.66 million in FY2014. On top of that, revenue doubled to RM109.87 million in FY2014 from RM58.83 million in FY2011.

MyEG's outstanding earnings growth has been due to its fruitful efforts to secure e-government contracts. The company signed a con-

cession agreement for online road tax, auto insurance and driver's licence renewal, and payment of PDRM summons in 2000. The only e-government solutions provider, MyEG offers these services through the same portal.

Things can only get better for MyEG as internet penetration in the country rises each year while consumers become more appreciative of the convenience of renewing their important documents online in the comfort of their own homes.

As at end-2013, Malaysia had achieved over 67% household broadband penetration, according to MyEG's 2014 annual report.

In July last year, MyEG was given a five-year extension of the e-government concession, which means it will continue to derive profits from it until May 2020.

According to its 2014 annual report, about 80% of the company's revenue came from e-government and related services while the remaining

20% was from enterprise solutions.

It is noteworthy that MyEG has diversified to include more e-government services in its portfolio, such as online maid permit renewal under the Immigration Department.

The company was also awarded the contract for foreign worker permit renewal (FWPR) and illegal foreign worker registration in Malaysia this year.

In an August report, CIMB Research says MyEG's contract to register illegal foreign workers will boost its online FWPR transactions. "There are currently about 2.5 million documented and four million to five million illegal foreign workers in the country. Working with the authorities, we estimate that MyEG (fundamental: 2.30; valuation: 1.10) will at least register an additional million undocumented workers over the next few months," it notes.

This, CIMB estimates, will boost MyEG's revenue by RM100 million a year, or its net profit by RM47 million. Nevertheless, the research house believes MyEG will have to postpone custom service tax monitoring to mid-2016 from end-2015. "We are assuming the launch of CSTM will be from mid-2016. Earnings-wise, the additional FWPR revenue should more than compensate for the loss of CSTM revenue as a result of its delayed launch.

MyEG's current share price looks expensive at a price-earn-

My E.G. Services



About the company

My E.G. Services Bhd is the concessionaire for a Malaysian e-government MSC flagship application. The company builds, operates and owns the electronic channels to deliver services from various government agencies to the public and businesses.

It is well known for its online road tax, driver's licence and auto insurance renewal service. So convenient are its services that Malaysians can even pay PDRM summons via its portal, thanks to its contracts with the relevant authorities. MyEG's single largest shareholder is its managing director Wong Thean Soon, who holds 7.41% direct equity interest and 33.43% indirect equity interest through his shareholding in Asia Internet Holdings Sdn Bhd, Asia Internet E-Services Holdings Sdn Bhd and Radio Port Ltd.

ings ratio of 48.6 times. However, CIMB Research believes there is still upside potential for the stock and gives it a target price of RM3.92.

Macquarie Research has an "outperform" call on the stock and a target price of RM3.17. **E**



BEST PERFORMING STOCK

CONSUMER PRODUCTS

QL RESOURCES

Expansion drives its earnings growth

BY YEN NE FOO

QL Resources Bhd's share price performance is a dream come true for the company's shareholders.

Over the last three years, QL (fundamental: 1.30; valuation: 1.10) has seen its share price climb rapidly, doubling from the RM2 level in 2012 to a high of RM4.31 in July 2015. The company's market capitalisation currently stands at over RM5 billion, having grown some 21% this year alone. It is worth noting that when QL was named *The Edge* Billion Ringgit Club Company of the Year for 2011, its market capitalisation was only RM2.6 billion.

That the counter has performed so resilient-

ly should come as no surprise. The company, which operates in three distinct agribusiness segments — marine product manufacturing (MPM), integrated livestock farming (ILF) and palm oil activities — has a strong earnings track record.

In the financial year ended March 31, 2011 (FY2011), QL's net profit stood at RM124.55 million on the back of RM1.77 billion in revenue. Its net profit and revenue then continued to increase and reached RM159.93 million and RM2.5 billion respectively in FY2014, recording a return on equity of 14.7 sen.

Needless to say, its shareholders are grinning from ear to ear. For FY2014, the company declared total dividends of 3.5 sen per share, representing a payout ratio of 27.3%.



Much of this earnings growth in the past three years can be attributed to QL's appetite for expansion. Analysts expect the company to maintain the upward trajectory as it continues to execute its growth strategies.

In fact, QL's earnings growth continued to pick up steam in FY2015. Its net profit increased 19% to RM191.4 million on higher revenue of RM2.7 billion.

It is noteworthy that the company has a comprehensive plan to grow its MPM segment, which specialises in surimi-based products, over a 10-year period. It began investing in integrated marine prawn aquaculture activities in 2013, building a shrimp farming factory in Kudat, Sabah. It then acquired a prawn hatcheries business called Kembang Subur Sdn Bhd in February this year and has allocated RM25

BILLION RINGGIT Club

MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS

HARTALEGA HOLDINGS

Dream run continues

BY LIEW JIA TENG

Since it was listed in 2008, Hartalega Holdings Bhd has seen unbroken revenue growth, probably making the investors who subscribed for its initial public offering the envy of others.

Hartalega's revenue hit the RM1 billion mark in its financial year ended March 31, 2013 (FY2013), after it had recorded RM931.06 million in FY2012. The pioneer nitrile glove maker's revenue continued to grow in FY2014, hitting RM1.11 billion. Profit before tax in FY2014 came in at RM309.16 million, up 1.7% from the year before.

Hartalega also scored high in terms of return on equity (ROE). It achieved 36.18% in FY2012, 33.74% in FY2013 and 27.29% in FY2014, becoming the most profitable company with the highest ROE for three consecutive financial years, starting from FY2012, in the industrial products sector.

According to theedgemarkets.com, the glove maker provides a rolling 12-month ROE of 19.74%.

It is worth noting that Hartalega (fundamental: 2.60; valuation: 0.50) was picked by The Edge Research as a stock with momentum on Oct 1. Since going ex-bonus on Sept 14, the company's share price has climbed 21%, valuing it at RM8.5 billion. The stock rose to an all-time high of RM5.35 on Oct 26.

Hartalega's payout ratio is a minimum 45%. It declared a dividend per share (DPS) of 14.5 sen for FY2014, which translates into a dividend yield



Demand for nitrile gloves remains strong and this bodes well for Hartalega

of 2.6%. The company also paid out DPS of 14.5 sen for FY2013, after paying 21.5 sen for FY2012.

For the first quarter ended June 30 (1QFY2016), the company's revenue grew 14.8% to RM320.5 million on higher sales volume and a strengthening US dollar.

The strong greenback helped mitigate the drop in the selling price of gloves, arising from stiff competition and lower raw material cost. Net profit, however, grew at a slower pace, climbing 9.8% to RM62.7 million in 1QFY2016 as higher maintenance and natural gas costs ate into operating margin.

"We expect the company to post stronger earnings in the sequential quarters on its rising

capacity at Plant 1 and 2, the construction of Plant 3 and 4, as well as margin improvement from higher productivity and better industry average selling prices," Maybank IB Research says in an Aug 5 note.

It maintains its "hold" call on the company with an ex-bonus target price of RM4.25.

Hartalega produces 16 billion pieces of gloves a year and most of its sales are denominated in US dollars because it exports to 39 countries.

It started construction on two more plants and supporting facilities at its Next Generation Integrated Glove Manufacturing Complex (NGC) in 1QFY2016. Two plants have already been completed and are contributing

positively to the company's earnings.

Upon completion by FY2020, the NGC plants will contribute about 28.5 billion pieces to Hartalega's installed capacity, which will increase significantly to a total of 42 billion pieces a year. This will also bring its total projected output to 35.3 billion pieces in FY2020.

Although market conditions remain challenging, the demand for nitrile gloves remains strong. This bodes well for Hartalega as it scales up production capacity. The company is unfazed by concerns about oversupply, anticipating continued robust demand.

"Hartalega is operating at full capacity with a high utilisation rate of 80% to 90% on our pro-

Hartalega Holdings



About the company

Hartalega is the world's largest nitrile glove manufacturer. Its nitrile glove sales have increased 15-fold in the last eight years. The company was founded by Kuan Kam Hon, 68, who was appointed executive chairman and managing director in 2007. In 2012, he passed the baton to his son Mun Leong but continues to play an integral role in the group as executive chairman.

Mun Leong, 39, was appointed an executive director of the group in 2007 and was later appointed deputy managing director, before he was appointed managing director. Over the years, the Kuan family has successfully turned Hartalega into a major glove maker with 90% of sales coming from nitrile gloves.

duction lines in order to meet the heightened demand for our quality gloves. Glove makers are also building capacity at a moderate pace on a staggered basis, which should cater to steady demand growth year on year," the company says in the 2015 annual report. **E**

million to construct a prawn processing plant in Tuaran, Sabah.

Another RM10 million was used to purchase a 900-acre parcel in the state in Kota Belud for the second phase of development in its growth strategy.

CIMB Research, which has an "add" call and a target price of RM4.93 on QL, forecasts that the company's shrimp farming business alone will report RM8 million in profit in FY2016.

Besides that, the market leader in the manufacturing of surimi-based products is making plans to expand in this segment. It currently has a production capacity of 40,000 tonnes of surimi. It built a factory for frozen surimi-based products in Hutan Melintang, Perak, at end-2013 and is now looking to acquire a parcel nearby to increase its capacity. The company also wants to increase the capacity of its factory in Surabaya, Indonesia, by 50% to capture the local market.

As for its ILF business, QL has just completed a new feed mill plant in Bekasi, Jakarta,

which will improve the margins of its eggs. Also, it has invested in a new air-conditioned egg house — with a new egg grading machinery — in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, which will improve its efficiency.

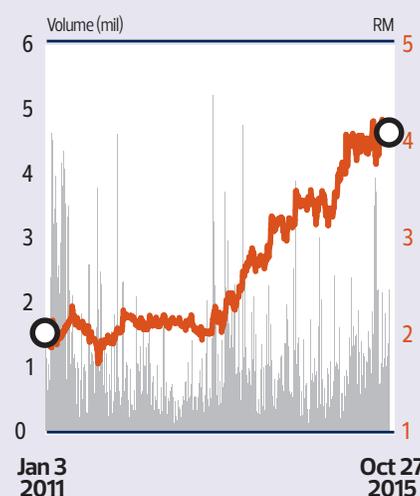
The company is expected to increase its production from 4.4 million eggs per day in FY2015 to 5.25 million eggs by FY2017.

JF Apex Securities, in a research note dated Aug 27, has a "hold" call and a target price of RM4.08 on QL. It expects the company's earnings to grow by 16% in FY2016, on the back of the ongoing regional expansion in its ILF and MPM divisions.

It says, "We also expect resilient demand for surimi-based products to bode well for the MPM division going forward."

In an Aug 27 note, BIMB Securities says it has a target price of RM4.59 and a "buy" call on QL, based on a target price-earnings ratio of 25 times over FY2016 earnings per share, due to its resilient growth with solid fundamentals and its defensive nature. **E**

QL Resources



About the company

QL Resources Bhd was founded in 1987 by Dr Chia Song Kun and his brothers. From harvesting calcium-infused shells of dead molluscs in their home village, QL Resources has grown into a transcontinental agribusiness firm. It operates in three sectors: integrated livestock farming, which includes poultry farming, feedstuff trading and consumer brands; marine product manufacturing, such as surimi and fishmeal processing and consumer brands; and palm oil activities, including milling, plantations and biomass clean energy. QL is the largest producer of surimi-based products in Asia.

Note: The Edge Research's fundamental score reflects a company's profitability and balance sheet strength, calculated based on historical numbers. The valuation score determines if a stock is attractively valued or not, also based on historical numbers. A score of 3 suggests strong fundamentals and attractive valuations. Visit www.theedgemarkets.com for more details on a company's financial dashboard.

BILLION RINGGIT Club

BEST PERFORMING STOCK

HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY

PLANTATIONS

TSH RESOURCES

Low production cost helps plantation company



TSH Resources



About the company

TSH Resources Bhd was founded in 1963 by Tan Soon Hong as a resource-based company with its business in coconut and cocoa trading. With a foothold in Sabah, the company later ventured into oil palm plantations under the leadership of Tan's son, the current chairman Datuk Kelvin Tan. The company was initially listed on the Second Board of Bursa Malaysia in 1994, and later graduated to the Main Market in 2000. Kelvin has more than 20 years' experience in the resource-based industry and was appointed to TSH's board of directors in 1986. For his work in environmental conservation and forestry, he received an honorary Doctor of Philosophy (Agroforestry) from Universiti Malaysia Sabah in 2006. Kelvin created the The Datuk Kelvin Tan welfare fund in 2007 to take care of the welfare of TSH employees.

BY JANICE MELISSA THEAN

TSH Resources Bhd is looking good — topping two categories in this year's *The Edge* Billion Ringgit Club awards. The Sarawak-based plantation group is the highest profit growth company and the best performing stock for 2015. This is the third consecutive year the group is taking home an award.

TSH stands out among the big-cap oil palm planters in terms of profit growth and share price performance. This speaks well for the plantation group, which has generated a positive compound annual growth rate between FY2011 and FY2014— compared to a contraction among most of its plantation peers due to soft crude palm oil (CPO) prices.

While the sluggish market for CPO has affected planters across the board, the group has a factor in its favour — the low average cost of production. TSH's production cost is RM830 per tonne, compared with the current industry average ranging from RM1,200 to RM1,500 per tonne.

Although its cost is already among the lowest in the industry, TSH doesn't think that is low enough. It is targeting to bring down its cost of production by more than 15% over the next five years to RM700 per tonne, leveraging higher fresh fruit bunch (FFB) yields and

higher-yielding fruit from a self-developed tissue culture — the Wakuba ramet.

The targeted RM700 per tonne would translate into 70% gross margins at current CPO prices of about RM2,300 per tonne.

To be fair, TSH's (valuation: 0.50; fundamental: 0.30) earnings haven't remained unscathed in the current soft CPO price environment. However, its low production cost has helped mitigate the adverse impact.

The group's earnings were volatile between FY2011 and FY2014. Its net profit was 18% lower at RM123.76 million in FY2014 against RM150.5 million the year before. However, excluding a RM85.3 million gain on disposal of Pontian United Plantations Bhd, recognised in FY2013, the group's core net profit was higher.

Core operating profit grew 23% year-on-year to RM177 million, mainly because its average CPO price came to RM2,339 per tonne, compared with RM2,251 in FY2013 while FFB production also grew 18% to 641,000 tonnes in 2014.

TSH's net profit saw a 1.88% three-year compound annual growth rate from RM117.03 million in FY2011 to 123.76 million in FY2014.

Whether or not CPO prices see a marked rebound, TSH chairman Datuk Kelvin Tan is fairly confident that the group's profits can remain on the growth path in the next two to three years as more of the group's young oil palm trees are expected to reach peak production.

"We have done all the hard work and the

next three to five years will be when we will achieve a steady income stream," managing director Datuk Tan Aik Sim tells *The Edge* in a recent interview.

TSH is committed to its planting schedule of between 4,000ha and 5,000ha a year. Some 30% of its total landbank are young matured trees on the verge of peak production years. Another 45% of its trees are immature, ensuring a steady stream of newly maturing oil palm trees. On average, its trees are five to six years old.

This year, the group bought 9,000ha of land in Kalimantan and 5,000ha in Sabah.

Due to its aggressive buying spree over the past few years, its borrowings have been rising. However, this is not a major concern as some 65,000ha, or 55% of TSH's 119,000ha landbank, remains unplanted and will take over a decade to plant up.

Its share price performance should be rewarding as the plantation stock has almost doubled in price to RM2.24 as at March 31, 2015, from RM1.21 in early January 2012, which is quite a contrast to the weak CPO prices.

On top of its annual dividends, the group had a one-for-two bonus issue to reward shareholders last year. And three years ago, in 2011, TSH had a one-for-one bonus issue also lending support to its share price.

With the bar now higher, TSH will need to work harder to stay in top form. **E**



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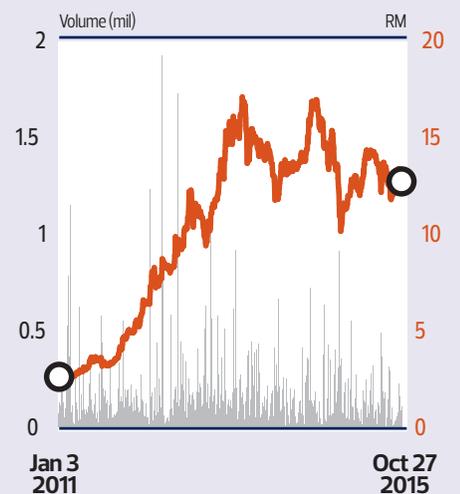
FINANCE

AEON CREDIT SERVICE (M)

Growth driven by easy payment schemes



AEON Credit Service (M)



About the company

AEON Credit Service (M) Bhd specialises in micro credit financing. It commenced business in 1997 by providing easy payment schemes for the purchase of consumer durables through appointed retail merchants and chain stores. In later years, its business expanded to include credit cards, financing for vehicles and personal use as well as insurance.

Listed on the Main Market of Bursa Malaysia in December 2007, it currently has 55 branches and service centres in major shopping centres and towns. It is a subsidiary of AEON Financial Service Co Ltd Japan, which belongs to the AEON group of companies – a global retail and financial services group.

BY ADELINE PAUL RAJ

AEON Credit Service (M) Bhd (ACSB), a provider of micro credit financing, has seen stellar profit growth over the last few years, driven by its motorcycle easy payment, personal financing and general easy payment (GEP) schemes.

The group's net profit expanded 176.4% over the last three years to RM175.35 million in the financial year ended Feb 20, 2014 (FY2014), from RM63.43 million in FY2011. Its return on equity over the period improved to 35.98% from 23.82%. Both feats earned the company multiple awards in *The Edge* Billion Ringgit Club 2015 that measured corporate performance over the three years.

But as the Malaysian economy and consumer sentiment weakens, the group, like other lenders, is expected to see its profit growth moderate as loan growth tapers, analysts say.

Already, in its latest financial period from Feb 21, 2014 to Feb 28, 2015 (FY2015) – it changed its year-end to match that of its ultimate holding company – net profit grew a decent 23% to RM215.73 million but the pace was slower compared with 30.7% in FY2014, 40.3% in FY2013 and 50.7% in FY2012.

It has maintained a dividend payout ratio of 38% in the last few years.

"ACSB's loan growth should continue to be driven by the vehicle easy payment seg-

ment (predominantly motorcycle and used car financing). Nevertheless, we expect growth to slow on the back of weak consumer sentiment and softer consumer loan approvals and applications in the industry," AllianceDBS Research says in an Oct 16 report.

The group's loan growth has been robust, exceeding 50% in FY2013 and FY2014. It then tapered to 27% in FY2015 as consumer sentiment started to wane. AllianceDBS sees loan growth slowing further to 18% this year, pointing to the fact that the Consumer Sentiment Index had plunged to a six-year low of 71.7, reflecting a weak outlook for the country.

"As a provider of micro credit financing, ACSB's growth is particularly vulnerable to slowing consumer financing in Malaysia," it notes.

There was a slight deterioration in the company's overall asset quality with its non-performing loan ratio rising to 2.76% as at February this year from 2.14% a year earlier. Prior to FY2014, it had managed to maintain a stable NPL ratio of under 2%.

Bank Negara Malaysia's tighter measures in recent years in the personal loan and credit card space will also weigh on ACSB's loan growth momentum.

The motorcycle easy payment scheme makes up the biggest portion of ACSB's loan book with a 32.4% share as at FY2015, followed by car easy payments (23.5%), personal financing (18.8%), GEP (12.3%) and credit cards (11.8%). GEP refers to financing



for household appliances.

Managing director Kenji Fujita, in ACSB's 2015 annual report, acknowledges that this year will be tougher for the group, given the expectation of weaker economic growth and consumer pessimism.

"Nevertheless, the company targets to maintain performance (in FY2016) through business strategies to capitalise on available market opportunities. The key focus areas for the year include enhancing brand awareness, enhanced utilisation of customers' database for cross selling, development of new application channels with faster approval for cus-

tomers, expansion of ACSB branch network and number of active merchants, and expansion of SME financing business," he says.

ACSB had 55 branches and over 8,700 merchants as at end-February. Its card member base stood at 3.04 million, of which 178,000 were credit cards.

In January this year, anticipating promising retail finance growth prospects in the Philippines, the company spent RM13 million subscribing for Aeon Credit Services (Philippines) Inc's irredeemable convertible preference shares. It also has a 20% stake in Aeon Credit Service India Private Ltd.

In May, ACSB said it planned to raise up to RM1 billion in Islamic bonds via a seven-year sukuk programme for working capital, repayment of debt and to provide financing for its customers. The first issuance of RM150 million was made in August.

For now, analysts are split on how much upside there is for the stock. Bloomberg data shows three with a "buy" recommendation and another three with a "hold". Target prices range between RM12.60 and RM17.80 and average at RM14.70, which implies an upside potential of 13.8% from the company's closing price of RM12.92 last Tuesday for those leaning towards the higher end of valuations.

If ACSB manages to grow its profits at the kind of pace that placed it above its peers from 2011 to 2014, while keeping its books in check, the consensus will likely swing towards the upside. ■



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BEST PERFORMING STOCK

FINANCE

HONG LEONG CAPITAL

Buyout boost for value stock

BY ADELINE PAUL RAJ

Hong Leong Capital Bhd's (HLCap) minority investors are on tenterhooks waiting to see what controlling shareholder Tan Sri Quek Leng Chan plans to do about the stock's trading impasse.

After a spectacular run-up that was driven by the expectation that the savvy billionaire banker would try again to take the company private after a failed attempt in January 2013, the stock was suspended from trading on March 26, 2015.

Bursa Malaysia imposed the suspension on HLCap as it had failed to meet a listing requirement to have at least 25% of its total shares in the hands of public shareholders. Prior to that, the regulator had given HLCap numerous extensions of time to rectify the shortfall in its public shareholding spread. As at June 30, the public spread stood at just 18.67%.

In a stock exchange filing on Aug 26, HLCap said it has yet to identify "a satisfactory plan" to address the problem. Until it complies with the shareholding spread, the trading suspension cannot be lifted.

Will Quek take another shot at privatising the company? While he's certainly keeping his cards close to his chest, analysts believe Quek's Hong

Leong Financial Group (HLFG), which owns 81.3% of HLCap, is more likely to be the next privatisation target within the group.

"We believe a corporate streamlining within the group would be imminent. It is inefficient to have so many listed entities in the group, especially if the counters have low trading liquidity, in our view. We identify HLFG as the next privatisation target within the group," AllianceDBS Research says in an Oct 12 report on HLFG.

HLCap, which peaked at RM14.44 on June 17 last year — just over a year after Quek attempted to buy out minority shareholders at RM1.71 a share (a 20% premium back then) — was last traded at RM10.21 on March 25. On that last day of trading alone, the stock jumped by about 24% on unusually heavy volume.

It would be a much more expensive affair to take the company private now. HLCap's stock has appreciated almost ninefold from RM1.157 three years ago on March 26, 2012, prior to the trading suspension. That quantum of gains was unmatched by peers.

Quek's privatisation bid fell flat in February 2013, after Datuk Dr Yu Kuan Chon, chairman of developer YNH Property Bhd and a stock market investor, famously acquired a large enough block of HLCap shares on the open market to thwart the attempt — catapulting Yu's name

to stardom. Although the deal failed, HLCap's shares continued to soar in anticipation that Quek, an astute banker and dealmaker, would raise his offer. He did not.

Yu seemed determined to keep HLCap listed, going by how he sold small stakes on the open market whenever there was a shortfall in the free float. As at Aug 27 last year, he ceased to be a substantial shareholder, with just a 4.77% stake left.

The stock, however, continued trading at lofty levels, with the daily average at RM12.73 last year, on expectation that there would be another privatisation attempt. The stock exchange has twice queried the company over the unusual rise in its share price, once in March 2013 and again in January 2014.

The high prices provided opportunity for some of HLCap staff to cash in on their employees share option scheme shares last year.

HLCap also started paying out dividends in the financial year ended June 30, 2014 (FY2014). It paid shareholders a net dividend of five sen a share that year, and in the following year, eight sen a share.

HLCap, which derives the bulk of its earnings from investment banking and stockbroking activities as well as investment holding, saw net profit swell to RM118.81 million in FY2014 compared with about RM39 million in FY2011. Its return on equity

Hong Leong Capital



About the company

Hong Leong Capital Bhd, part of Tan Sri Quek Leng Chan's Hong Leong Group, is the holding company for Hong Leong Investment Bank Bhd and Hong Leong Asset Management Bhd, providing investment banking, stock and futures broking as well as fund management services across the region.

HLCap was incorporated on Feb 25, 1991 under the name of Zalik Bhd and later changed its name to HLG Capital Bhd on Dec 1, 1995, before assuming its present name on Nov 4, 2010. It was listed on the Main Market of Bursa Securities on Jan 30, 1992. It had total assets of RM3.72 billion as at June 30, 2015.

grew to RM19.7% from 11.3% over the same period. Net profit, however, fell to RM76.34 million in FY2015 amid a more challenging year.

With the stock currently suspended, it would be tough for HLCap to achieve a hat-trick on this award next year. But a clever proposal that lifts the stock suspension could give it another shot. **E**

HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY

CONSUMER PRODUCTS

GOLDIS

Banking on a larger property portfolio

BY KAMARUL ANWAR

In just a year, the family of real estate tycoon Tan Chin Nam has reversed its decade-old move to spin off its property development and investment businesses. By mopping up most of IGB Corp Bhd's shares, in what was seen as a half-hearted voluntary takeover offer last year, the Tans expanded their grip on the business they know best.

Goldis (fundamental: 0.65; valuation: 2) shares were floated in May 2002, when it took over Tan & Tan Developments Bhd's listing status after the latter merged with IGB Corp (fundamental: 1.05; valuation: 2). The Tan family then used Goldis as their platform for private equity investment — with businesses from various sectors such as telecommunications and dermatological and healthcare coming in and out of Goldis' stable of investments. The corporate exercise

resulted in the Tans' Goldis holding a 29.53% stake in IGB Corp — making the latter a mere associate company.

Goldis' decision to make a voluntary offer for the IGB Corp shares it did not own at RM2.88 apiece on July 18, 2014, raised eyebrows and was deemed unattractive. At the end of the four-month window of the takeover exercise, however, Goldis' stake in IGB Corp increased to 73.32% from 30.66% — plus the combined stake of 20.49% held by the people acting in concert.

It made for a bigger Goldis. Its net assets per share at the end of the financial year ended Dec 31, 2014 (FY2014) grew 12.5% to RM3.15, from end-FY2013's RM2.80. Between FY2011 and FY2014, its pre-tax profit grew at an average of 139.3%.

It then paid some of the debts owed by IGB Real Estate Investment Trust (IGB REIT), a 51.92%-owned subsidiary of IGB Corp, through proceeds from a rights issue for RM455.7 mil-

lion redeemable convertible cumulative preference shares.

Whatever the future holds for its new core business, property development and investment, Goldis stands tall among this year's 166 members of *The Edge* Billion Ringgit Club, having won the award for the highest profit growth in the consumer products sector for a second consecutive year.

To be sure, there's room for improvement. Owing to a tight shareholding spread — with its top 30 largest shareholders owning 87.11% of the company as at Dec 31, 2014 — Goldis shares are barely traded. This is perhaps a reason Goldis' capital appreciation rate was not as robust as its profit growth. Closing at RM2.21 last Tuesday, the stock is only up 18% from where it was three years ago — an average of 5.73% a year for the past three years. An improvement on this front could well help deliver an even better performance in the coming years. **E**

Goldis



About the company

Goldis Bhd has private equity investments in Malaysia and China, focusing on areas such as life sciences, information communications technology, water and wastewater treatment, aquaculture, property investment and other emerging market investments. Goldis and IGB Corp Bhd are controlled by the family of Datuk Tan Chin Nam and his late brother Tan Kim Yeow. Chin Nam's daughter, Lei Ching, is currently Goldis executive chairman and CEO while Kim Yeow's son Datuk Robert Tan Chung Meng helms IGB.

BILLION RINGGIT Club

HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS

PRESS METAL

Recovering lost ground

BY LIEW JIA TENG

Press Metal Bhd's earnings took a beating in the financial year ended Dec 31, 2013 (FY2013), due to a state-wide blackout in Sarawak. However, its profit rebounded strongly in the following year.

The aluminium product maker's net profit soared 14 times to RM214.9 million in FY2014 – the highest it had ever achieved. Its earnings had plunged from RM183.9 million in FY2012 to barely RM14.9 million in FY2013 due to provisions for damage caused by the power outage.

The big leap in Press Metal's earnings in FY2014 was partly due to the record high prices of aluminium at the London Metal Exchange.

The stronger results were also attributed to the higher output from its smelter in Samalaju Industrial Park, Sarawak, which achieved full production capacity, as well as the resumption of full operation at its Mukah smelter after the state-wide power outage in June 2013.

Nevertheless, Press Metal (fundamental:

0.80; valuation: 2) experienced another hiccup in May this year. A fire broke out at the Samalaju smelting plant, which belongs to its 80%-owned subsidiary, Press Metal Bintulu Sdn Bhd.

In short, it was the second unscheduled shutdown for the group in two years. As a result of the Mukah plant shutdown, it had to make provisions of RM40.5 million for assets written off in FY2013. The plant was able to resume full production in April last year.

In the first half ended June 30, 2015 (1HFY2015), Press Metal saw its earnings decline 23% to RM68 million, partly due to the lower selling price of aluminium as well as the temporary partial shutdown of its Samalaju plant.

Excluding extraordinary items, such as partial machinery impairment loss and provision for unrealised foreign exchange losses, the company would have reported a core net profit of RM232 million for 1HFY2015, compared with RM88 million in 1HFY2014.

Moving forward, Press Metal will have additional capacity that will contribute to its future earnings growth. In the last quarter of 2014,

the company signed a power purchase agreement for the supply of an additional 500MW of electricity for 25 years and kick-started Phase 3 of its aluminium smelter project in Samalaju Industrial Park.

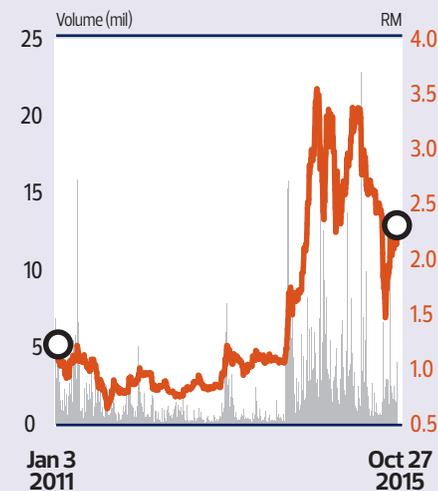
Phase 3, which is expected to commence operation by the last quarter of this year, will add 320,000 tonnes to its current capacity of 440,000 tonnes.

While AmResearch has trimmed Press Metal's earnings for FY2015 to FY2017 by 7% to 42% to reflect the depressed aluminium prices and premiums caused by an oversupply of the metal, Kenanga Research forecast the company will see an earnings growth of 33% in FY2016, driven by capacity expansion at Phase 3.

Press Metal paid a total dividend per share of 16 sen for FY2014, compared with two sen for FY2013. In 1HFY2015, the company declared a dividend payment of 4.5 sen per share.

Year to date, the counter has declined 9% to RM2.35, bringing its market capitalisation to RM3.05 billion. **E**

Press Metal



About the company

Press Metal Bhd is the largest integrated aluminium producer in Southeast Asia, with a smelting capacity of 440,000 tonnes and an extrusion capacity of 190,000 tonnes per annum. In 2009, the company built a smelter in Mukah, Sarawak – the first aluminium smelting plant in Malaysia. Two years later, it started the development of Phase 2 – an aluminium smelter in Samalaju Industrial Park, Bintulu, Sarawak, which has a larger production capacity of 320,000 tonnes per annum.

Continuing its successful expansion path, Press Metal has kick-started the development of Phase 3 in Samalaju to complement its smelters in Mukah and Samalaju. Upon completion, its smelting capacity will increase to 760,000 tonnes per annum.

BEST PERFORMING STOCK

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS

CAHYA MATA SARAWAK

Going from strength to strength

BY JOSE BARROCK

Cahya Mata Sarawak Bhd (CMS) has come a long way from its humble beginnings as a cement manufacturer some 40 years ago. It has morphed into a conglomerate with interests in infrastructure development, financial services, steel fabrication works and mining, to name but a few.

The stock has been gaining traction since January 2012 and had surged over seven times from 60.5 sen in January 2012 to RM4.427 as at March 31, 2015. It continued climbing after March, hitting a record high of RM5.843 in July.

The strong rally in its share price and the creation of highest returns to shareholders over three years won the group *The Edge* Billion Ringgit Club's best performing stock award in the industrial products sector.

The conglomerate's share price gains were matched by its uninterrupted double-digit earnings growth between its financial year ended Dec 31, 2012 (FY2012), and FY2014.

In FY2011, CMS raked in a net profit of RM120 million, which grew 13% to RM135.7

million in FY2012 and soared 29% to RM175.1 million in FY2013. Net profit expanded another 26.4% to RM221.3 million in FY2014.

Comparing the earnings from FY2011 to FY2014, net profit increased at a compound annual growth rate of 22.6%.

In 2011, CMS's earnings were given a shot in the arm by its construction and road maintenance division, after the acquisition of CMS Roads Sdn Bhd and CMS Pavement Tech Sdn Bhd in early March 2011 for RM82 million from construction outfit Putrajaya Perdana Bhd.

Profit in FY2012 was boosted by the Samalaju development division while gains in 2013 were a result of the company's cement, construction and road maintenance divisions, which contributed a combined 84% to CMS's profit before tax. Similarly in FY2014, these divisions posted strong gains and accounted for 82% of CMS's profit before tax.

Much of the increase in profit was reflected in the company's dividend payments. For FY2014, it declared a dividend per share of 8.5 sen while for FY2013 and FY2012, it paid out a bumper dividend of 17 sen per share.

Among CMS's investments are a 21% stake

in investment bank K&N Kenanga Holdings Bhd, a 20% stake in construction and steel fabricator KKB Engineering Bhd, a 25% stake in manganese and ferrosilicon alloy plant operator OM Materials (Sarawak) Sdn Bhd, full ownership of maintenance companies CMS Roads and CMS Pavement Tech, and a 51% stake in PPES Works (Sarawak) Sdn Bhd.

It is noteworthy that last year, CMS carried out a share split and bonus issue.

More recently, CMS has been attracting attention for its 25% stake in OM Materials, whose ferrosilicon plant commenced operation in September last year and is likely to be fully commissioned in the second half of next year.

OM Materials could be among the catalysts for CMS's future earnings, although it only has a minority stake in the company. The rest of OM Materials is owned by Australia-listed OM Holdings Ltd.

Analysts who cover CMS believe its holding in OM Materials will bump up its bottom line by RM50 million a year and see further upside if commodity prices come out of their current trough. **E**

Cahya Mata Sarawak



About the company

Cahya Mata Sarawak Bhd has 35 companies in its stable and is a proxy for economic development in Malaysia's largest state, Sarawak. The company has prospered from its humble beginnings as a cement manufacturer in 1974. As a well-diversified entity today, CMS has a market capitalisation of more than RM5 billion. Its business interests include building materials, trading, construction, road maintenance, property development, financial services, smelting and education. Not surprisingly, the company plays a leading role in the state's rapid growth.

BILLION RINGGIT Club

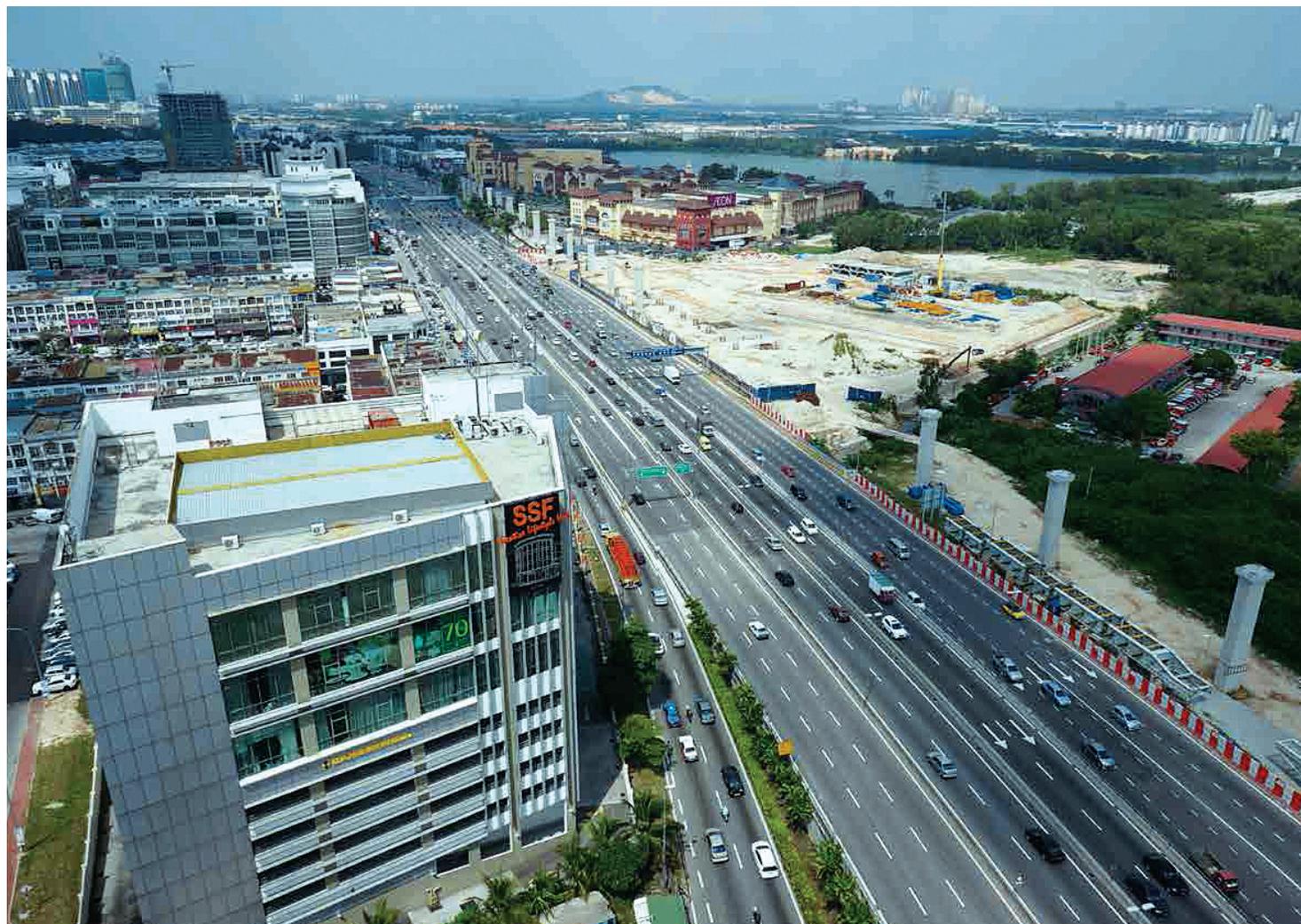
BEST PERFORMING STOCK

MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY

CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

GAMUDA

Turning 40 and on a roll



Gamuda



About the company

Founded in 1976, Gamuda has grown from a construction-based enterprise to become Malaysia's leading infrastructure and property developer. From a bridge and road builder, Gamuda has over the years evolved to become Malaysia's largest infrastructure construction and property development company by market capitalisation in Bursa Malaysia.

BY JOSE BARROCK

Next year, Gamuda Bhd will turn 40. The civil engineering and construction outfit, which also has a hand in toll roads, water treatment and property development, will have a lot to cheer about.

Before popping the bubbly for the anniversary, Gamuda has another reason to celebrate now. The construction giant took *The Edge* Billion Ringgit Club's award for the most profitable company with highest return on equity in the construction sector.

Gamuda (fundamental: 1.30; valuation: 1.40) has fared rather well between its financial years ended July 31, 2012 (FY2012) and FY2014. Its profit expanded to RM719 million in FY2014 from RM425 million in FY2011, representing a three-year compound annual growth rate of 19% each year.

FY2014 was a good year for the group, with net profit jumping 33% to RM719.4 million from RM541.4 million. The improved earnings were mainly due to better results from its activities and overall encouraging business environment. All three divisions, namely engineering and construction, property development, and water and expressway concessions, achieved the targets according to their respective growth



plans for the financial year.

Gamuda's diversified earnings were riding high on the government's infrastructure building, for instance, mass rapid transit (MRT), and the country's property boom. Meanwhile, the group's water and highway concessions, which serve as a cushion for any slowdown in the construction or property sectors, are generating steady recurring income.

Water and expressway concessions are the largest contributor to the group's pre-tax profit of RM852 million for FY2014. The

division generated RM367 million, or 43%, of the group's total, while engineering and construction contributed RM260 million or 31%, and property development, RM225 million or 26%.

The group has declared 12 sen dividend per share for the past three financial years, starting in FY2012. Its share price has gained 52.7% for the period. From FY2012 to FY2014, Gamuda's return on equity has been an impressive 14%, 11% and 13% respectively.

Analysts estimate Gamuda's outstand-

ing order book to be in the region of RM1.5 billion, excluding its project delivery partner (PDP) order book, which is also substantial at about RM12 billion.

The group completed the 329km Electrified Double Track Project (Ipoh to Padang Besar) in 2014.

Partnering MMC, the company won the project delivery partner (PDP) role for the RM36 billion MRT Sungai Buloh-Kajang MRT Line in January 2011 and the two companies also secured the 9.5km underground tunnelling contract for this rail job, valued at RM8.2 billion. In June last year, the Gamuda-MMC joint venture won the PDP role for the Sungai Buloh-Serdang-Putrajaya Line or Line 2 of the MRT Project, valued at RM23 billion.

Apart from the above, the RM27 billion Penang Transport Master Plan, which is slated to kick off by 2017, has also been a catalyst. The impending sale of its 40% unit, Syarikat Pengeluar Air Selangor Holdings Bhd, to Selangor, which at one time book value could fetch RM2.8 billion or RM1.1 billion for Gamuda, based on its 40% stake, has also put the company in the limelight.

The group's earnings have also been stellar.

The recent toll hike is expected to benefit Gamuda, which is the concession owner of four highways: Stormwater Management and Road Tunnel or Smart, the Damansara-Puchong highway, Kemuning-Shah Alam highway and Western Kuala Lumpur Traffic Dispersal Scheme or Sprint. All four have raised toll rates by 30% to 50%.

The company's share price seems to have moved in tandem with its fortunes.

Gamuda's stock hit a record high of RM5.28 at end-February this year, and ended trading on March 31 at RM5.04. ■



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COMPANY OF THE YEAR
Tenaga Nasional Bhd

BIG CAP COMPANIES
(COMPANIES WITH MORE THAN
RM10 BILLION MARKET CAPITALISATION)
MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY | DiGi.Com Bhd
HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY | Tenaga Nasional Bhd
BEST PERFORMING STOCK | Tenaga Nasional Bhd

CONSTRUCTION SECTOR
MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY | Gamuda Bhd
HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY | IJM Corporation Bhd
BEST PERFORMING STOCK | Gamuda Bhd

CONSUMER PRODUCTS SECTOR
MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY | British American Tobacco (M) Bhd
HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY | Goldis Bhd
BEST PERFORMING STOCK | QL Resources Bhd

FINANCE SECTOR
MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY | AEON Credit Service (M) Bhd
HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY | AEON Credit Service (M) Bhd
BEST PERFORMING STOCK | Hong Leong Capital Bhd

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS SECTOR
MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY | Hartalega Holdings Bhd
HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY | Press Metal Bhd
BEST PERFORMING STOCK | Cahya Mata Sarawak Bhd

PLANTATION SECTOR
MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY | IOI Corporation Bhd
HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY | TSH Resources Bhd
BEST PERFORMING STOCK | TSH Resources Bhd

PROPERTY AND REIT SECTORS
MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY | Sunway Bhd
HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY | Tropicana Corporation Bhd
BEST PERFORMING STOCK | Eco World Development Group Bhd

TRADING/SERVICES, HOTEL, IPC AND TECHNOLOGY SECTORS
MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY | DiGi.Com Bhd
HIGHEST PROFIT GROWTH COMPANY | Tenaga Nasional Bhd
BEST PERFORMING STOCK | My E.G. Services Bhd

BEST CR INITIATIVES
(BIG CAP)
Malayan Banking Bhd

BEST CR INITIATIVES
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