

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

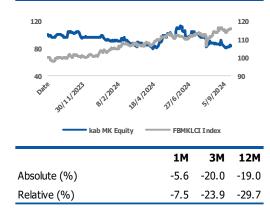
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Recommendation:	Not Rated
Current Price:	RM 0.34
Previous Target Price:	RM 0.44
Target Price:	N/A
Upside/Downside:	N/A
Stock information	
Board	ACE
Sector	Digital Services
Bursa / Bloomberg Code	0176 / KAB MK
Syariah Compliant	Yes
FTSE4Good Index	N/A
FTSE ESG Rating	N/A
Bloomberg ESG Rating	N/A
Shares issued (m)	890.4
Market Cap (RM' m)	302.7
52-Week Price Range (RM)	0.48-0.33
Beta (x)	0.9
Free float (%)	33.8
3M Average Volume (m)	0.7
3M Average Value (RM' m)	0.3
Top 3 Shareholders	(%)
Oversea-Chinese Banking Corp Ltd	38.3
Tan Jeck Min	13.4

Share	Price	Performance	•

Desert Streams Inv Ltd



11.5

Kronologi Asia Berhad

Cease Coverage

Summary

We are ceasing coverage on Kronologi due to the reallocation of internal resources. As a result, we will no longer be updating our financial forecasts, especially after the company's performance has fallen below our expectations. Consequently, we are reclassifying our recommendation from HOLD to NOT RATED and our last target price was at RM0.44. Investors are advised not to rely on our previous earnings forecasts and recommendations when making investment decisions.

- Results review. Kronologi's 2QFY25 net profit reported RM1.6m which increased by 12.8% gog, primarily driven by a RM1.0m tax gain from the reversal of deferred tax liabilities. However, yoy performance saw a 46.6% decline in core net profit, which offset 4.7% yoy revenue growth, due to a more competitive business environment and a shift towards lower-margin product mix. Revenue for the quarter rose by 4.7% yoy and 44.3% goq to RM83.3m.
- Profit missed expectations. In 1HFY25, core net profit came in at RM3.1m, representing only 13% of our full-year forecast, despite revenue meeting expectations. The shortfall was largely driven by a lower-than-expected contribution from the EDM As-A-Service (AAS) division, which typically delivers higher margins. Additionally, the EDM Infrastructure Technology division reported weaker margins due to intense competition and higher operating costs, including depreciation from the newly established premises and solution center.
- **Outlook**. While we remain optimistic over Kronologi's longer-term prospects, premised to the growing demand for AI development and the need for enterprises to expand data storage capacity, we highlighted several near-term challenges. As a system integrator, Kronologi faces stiff competition, which could pressure margins. Additionally, the uneven recovery across markets, including China's ongoing economic uncertainties and slower customer spending, could dampen short-term growth. The Group also faces hurdles in scaling its EDM As-A-Service (AAS) division, which is critical for providing a sustainable income stream and is seen as the main growth driver.
- Valuation. We are ceasing coverage on Kronologi due to the reallocation of internal resources. As a result, we will no longer be updating our financial forecasts, especially after the company's performance has fallen below our expectations. Consequently, we are reclassifying our recommendation from HOLD to NOT RATED. Investors are advised not to rely on our previous earnings forecasts and recommendations when making investment decisions.



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RESEARCH RECOMMENDATION FRAMEWORK

STOCK RECOMMENDATIONS

BUY: Total returns* are expected to exceed 10% within the next 12 months. **HOLD**: Total returns* are expected to be within +10% to – 10% within the next 12 months. **SELL**: Total returns* are expected to be below -10% within the next 12 months. **TRADING BUY**: Total returns* are expected to exceed 10% within the next 3 months. **TRADING SELL**: Total returns* are expected to be below -10% within the next 3 months. **TRADING SELL**: Total returns* are expected to be below -10% within the next 3 months. *Capital gain + dividend yield

SECTOR RECOMMENDATIONS

OVERWEIGHT: The industry defined by the analyst is expected to exceed 10% within the next 12 months. **NEUTRAL**: The industry defined by the analyst is expected to be within +10% to -10% within the next 12 months. **UNDERWEIGHT**: The industry defined by the analyst, is expected to be below -10% within the next 12 months.

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