## **Company Update**

Tuesday, 21 Jan, 2025



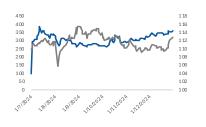
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Recommendation:		BUY
Current Price:		RM 0.88
Previous Target Price:		RM 1.10
Target Price:	$\leftrightarrow$	RM 1.10
Capital Upside/Downside:		25.0%
Dividend Yield (%):		1.1%
Total Upside/Downside:		26.8%

Stock information	
Board	ACE
Sector	Industrial
Bursa / Bloomberg Code	0310 / UUE MK
Syariah Compliant	Yes
ESG Rating	***
Shares issued (m)	608.3
Market Cap (RM' m)	532.3
52-Week Price Range (RM)	0.965-0.595
Beta (x)	#N/A N/A
Free float (%)	26.7
3M Average Volume (m)	3.2
3M Average Value (RM' m)	2.5

Top 3 Shareholders	(%)
Datuk Dr Ting	50.9
Hin Wai Mun	8.2
Datuk Ting Meng Pheng	7.3

### **Share Price Performance**



	1M	3M	12M
Absolute (%)	7.4	36.7	N/A
Relative (%)	6.3	37.2	N/A

# UUE Holdings Bhd

## **Secured Two Contract Extensions and Renewals**

## **Executive Summary**

- UUE secured RM36.5m in contract extensions and renewals from TNB, boosting unbilled orders to RM253.5m, equivalent to 2.0x of FY24 revenue.
- Positive momentum is expected to extend, driven by the growing demand for HDD solutions. Currently tender book >RM200m, involving in Malaysia and Singapore.
- We maintain our BUY recommendation with an unchanged target price of RM1.10, pegged to a 20.0x PER on FY26F fully diluted EPS of 5.5sen, and appraised with a three-star ESG rating.

**Contract Extensions & Renewals.** UUE has secured the extension and renewal of two contracts from TNB, totalling RM36.5m, for the provision of underground utility solutions. Of this, 60% is allocated to 33kV systems in Terengganu and Kelantan, with works set to commence until Oct 2025. The remaining 40% is assigned to 11kV systems across Peninsular Malaysia, with completion targeted by Dec 2025.

**Our Take.** Assuming a conservative GP margin of 25%, this could translate to an annual GP of c.RM9.1m, which would represent 18.7% of our forecasted Group GP for the year. This latest win increases UUE's unbilled order book to RM253.5m, equivalent to 2.0x of FY24 revenue, providing strong earnings visibility through FY27F.

**Outlook.** We are positive over this development as it further strengthens UUE's position in East Coast Malaysia, which now accounts for c.47% of the order book, representing the second-largest contributing region after the Southern region. Looking ahead, we believe order replenishment momentum will continue, driven by the rising demand for HDD solutions, which are critical for modern grid connectivity. Currently the Group holds a tender book >RM200m, with c.5.0% of the tenders related to DC, 5% related to subsea, while the remainder is for utility infrastructure in Malaysia and Singapore.

**Earnings revision.** No change to our earnings forecasts as the contract win is within our order book replenishment assumption of RM100m.

Valuation & Recommendation. We maintain our BUY recommendation with an unchanged target price of RM1.10, pegged to a 20.0x PER on FY26F fully diluted EPS of 5.5 sen, and appraised with a three-star ESG rating. We like UUE for its (i) specialisation in HDD solutions as its niche with high margins, (ii) strong proxies to benefit from TNB's grid upgrade plan, leveraging relationships with key main contractors, and (iii) expansion into subsea development, which is expected to drive margin expansion.

**Risk**. Heavy reliance on its top three customers. Risk of subcontractor non-performance. Inability to secure new contracts.

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Income Statement					
FYE Feb (RM m)	FY23	FY24	FY25F	FY26F	FY27F
Revenue	88.7	125.7	164.6	205.1	276.8
Gross Profit	26.6	37.8	50.5	62.8	86.5
EBITDA	21.3	26.7	39.7	50.5	72.6
Depreciation & Amortisation	-2.7	-3.7	-4.2	-4.7	-4.6
EBIT	18.6	23.1	35.6	45.8	67.9
Net Finance Income/ (Cost)	-1.3	-1.6	-1.6	-1.8	-2.1
Associates & JV	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pre-tax Profit	17.3	21.5	34.0	44.0	65.8
Tax	-3.1	-5.3	-8.1	-10.5	-15.7
Profit After Tax	14.2	16.2	25.9	33.5	50.2
Minority Interest	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net Profit	14.2	16.2	25.9	33.5	50.2
Exceptionals	1.2	-2.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Core Net Profit	13.0	19.1	25.9	33.5	50.2

Key Ratios					
FYE Feb (RM m)	FY23	FY24	FY25F	FY26F	FY27F
EPS (sen)	2.1	3.1	4.3	5.5	8.2
P/E (x)	38.1	25.9	19.2	14.8	9.9
P/B (x)	10.2	7.9	4.3	3.5	2.7
EV/EBITDA (x)	23.2	18.4	12.7	9.8	7.0
DPS (sen)	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.9	1.4
Dividend Yield (%)	0.8%	0.6%	0.9%	1.1%	1.7%
EBITDA margin (% )	24.0%	21.3%	24.1%	24.6%	26.2%
EBIT margin (% )	21.0%	18.3%	21.6%	22.3%	24.5%
PBT margin (% )	19.5%	17.1%	20.6%	21.4%	23.8%
PAT margin (% )	16.1%	12.9%	15.7%	16.3%	18.1%
NP margin (%)	16.1%	12.9%	15.7%	16.3%	18.1%
CNP margin (% )	14.7%	15.2%	15.7%	16.3%	18.1%
ROE (%)	26.8%	30.4%	22.4%	23.4%	27.1%
ROA (%)	15.2%	16.0%	14.6%	15.7%	18.7%
Gearing (%)	35.0%	36.4%	21.2%	19.2%	17.1%
Net gearing (%)	3.6%	7.5%	Net Cash	Net Cash	Net Cash

Valuations	FY26F
Core EPS (RM)	0.055
P/E multiple (x)	20.0
Fair Value (RM)	1.10
ESG premium/discount	0.0%
Implied Fair Value (RM)	1.10

Source: Company, Apex Securities



Balance Sheet					
FYE Feb (RM m)	FY23	FY24	FY25F	FY26F	FY27F
Cash	15.3	18.1	31.6	28.7	45.6
Receivables	22.0	32.4	38.9	46.7	56.0
Inventories	2.4	3.5	3.8	4.1	4.5
Other current assets	24.1	40.7	61.6	78.1	106.5
Total Current Assets	63.8	94.8	135.9	157.6	212.6
Fixed Assets	10.9	13.7	30.5	45.6	46.2
Intangibles	11.1	10.9	10.5	10.2	10.0
Other non-current assets	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Current Assets	22.0	24.6	41.0	55.8	56.2
Short-term debt	12.8	20.1	20.8	23.4	27.0
Payables	8.2	17.4	20.5	25.6	34.2
Other current liabilities	4.2	8.8	8.8	9.4	10.4
Total Current Liabilities	25.2	46.3	50.2	58.4	71.6
Long-term debt	4.2	2.8	3.7	4.1	4.8
Other non-current liabilities	7.9	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4
Total Non-Current Liabilities	12.1	10.1	11.0	11.5	12.1
Shareholder's equity	48.5	62.9	115.7	143.5	185.1
Minority interest	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Equity	48.5	62.9	115.7	143.5	185.1

Cash Flow					
FYE Feb (RM m)	FY23	FY24	FY25F	FY26F	FY27F
Pre-tax profit	17.3	21.5	34.0	44.0	65.8
Depreciation & amortisation	2.7	3.7	4.2	4.7	4.6
Changes in working capital	4.1	17.4	24.6	19.0	28.5
Others	-12.0	-35.6	-55.7	-46.7	-70.5
Operating cash flow	12.1	7.0	7.1	21.0	28.4
Net capex	-3.2	-3.0	-20.6	-19.5	-5.0
Others	4.9	-1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Investing cash flow	1.7	-4.9	-20.6	-19.5	-5.0
Dividends paid	-3.8	-2.8	-4.4	-5.7	-8.5
Others	-7.4	0.7	31.4	1.3	2.1
Financing cash flow	-11.3	-2.1	27.0	-4.4	-6.5
Net cash flow	2.6	-0.1	13.5	-2.9	17.0
Forex	0.5	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Others	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Beginning cash	8.6	11.6	12.2	25.6	22.7
Ending cash	11.6	12.2	25.6	22.7	39.6

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#### **ESG Matrix Framework:**

### **Environment**

Parameters	Rating	Comments
Climate	***	Kum Fatt Engineering Sdn Bhd organised a tree planting initiative at their office premises, planting six trees as part of their
		effort to contribute to environmental sustainability.
Waste & Effluent	***	Ensure responsible waste management and disposal.
Energy	***	Invested RM346,200 in a solar energy project by Premier Plastic Sdn Bhd to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
Water	***	Usage of rainwater at its factory which minimise water consumption.
Compliance	***	Adhere to all relevant environmental regulatory and legal requirements.

#### Social

Diversity	***	Workforce is balanced with c.50% young employees and 50% experienced and mid-career professionals.
Human Rights	***	Compliant with the Employment Act 1955, ensuring employee rights are protected.
Occupational Safety and Health	***	Participated in the NASAM Happy Walk 2023, with 29 staff members joining stroke survivors to raise awareness about stroke
		recovery.
Labour Practices	***	Committed to providing fair and competitive compensation to all employees.

#### Governance

CSR Strategy	***	Donated RM30,000 to Yayasan Sultanah Fatimah for the renovation of classrooms and to promote inclusive education at
		SJK(C) Chien Chi.
Management	***	Actively involved in UUE's sustainability initiatives.
Stakeholders	***	Contributed RM10,000 to Pertubuhan Kebajikan Komuniti Masyarakat Negeri Melaka to support 100 impoverished families
		by providing essential food supplies like rice, cooking oil, and sugar.

Overall ESG Scoring: ★★★

#### **Recommendation Framework:**

**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.

 $\textbf{TRADING SELL:} \ Total\ returns \star \ are\ expected\ to\ be\ below\ -10\%\ within\ the\ next\ 3\ months.$ 

\*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.

#### **ESG Rating Framework:**

★★★★★: Appraised with 3% premium to fundamental fair value

\*\*\* : Appraised with 1% premium to fundamental fair value

\*\*\*: Appraised with 0% premium/discount to fundamental fair value

★★: Appraised with -1% discount to fundamental fair value

★: Appraised with -5% discount to fundamental fair value

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(a) nil.