Tuesday, 02 Sep, 2025



(603) 7890 8888 (ext 2069)

research.dept@apexsecurities.com.my

Recommendation:		BUY
Current Price:		RM 1.02
PreviousTarget Price:		RM 1.39
Target Price:	Į.	RM 1.27
Capit al Upside/ Downside:		24.5%
Dividend Yield (%):		3.3%
Total Upside/Downside:		27.8%

Stock information

MAIN
EMS
5302/ATECHMK
Yes

1,300.6
1,326.6
1.21-0.9
0.8
64.3
1.2
1.3

Top 3 Shareholders	(%)
Aberdeen Group Plc	21.1
Main Stream Holdings Sdn. Bhd	11.3
Kumpulan Wang Persaraan Diperbadan	5.1

Share Price Performance



1M	3 M	12 M
-4.7	-7.0	1.7
-7.2	-10.9	8.3
	-4.7	-4.7 -7.0

Earnings summary

FYE (Dec)	FY24	FY25F	FY26F
Revenue (RM'm)	600.7	661.8	733.1
PATAMI (RM'm)	61.0	73.8	82.1
CNP (RM'm)	64.4	73.8	82.1
EPS-core(sen)	5.2	5.7	6.3
P/E(x)	19.7	18.0	16.2

Source: Company, Apex Securities



Solid showing

- ATECH recorded 2QFY25 core earnings of RM20.2m (+32% QoQ, +22% YoY), bringing 1HFY25 core bottom line to RM35.5m (+20% YoY). The results were inline with our (49%) and street (49%) expectations.
- 2Q25/1H25 core net profit escalated +22% YoY/+20% YTD mainly due to stronger revenue contribution from Communication and IoT products (+10% YoY/+19% YTD; increased order allocation from its key communication customer) as well as improved core net margin.
- Maintain BUY rating with a lower TP of RM1.27 (from RM1.39), based on 20x (from 25x) on rolled over FY26F EPS of 6.3 sen.

Results inline. ATECH recorded 2QFY25 core earnings of RM20.2m (+32% QoQ, +22% YoY), bringing 1HFY25 core bottom line to RM35.5m (+20% YoY). The results were inline with our (49%) and street (49%) expectations.

QoQ. Revenue rose 10% thanks to stronger sales in Communication & IoT segment (+9%; higher volume loading from its main communication customer and automotive clients) and Electronic Devices (+25%; likely due to incremental order from newly onboarded fintech customer). However, core earnings grew at a faster clip (+32%) attributed to gross margin expansion (+0.8%pts) resulting from better economies of scale and product mix.

YoY/YTD. Core net profit escalated (+22% YoY/+20% YTD) mainly due to stronger revenue contribution from Communication and IoT products (+10% YoY/+19% YTD; increased order allocation from its key communication customer, partially owing to market share gains) as well as improved core net margin (+1.52%-pts YoY/+0.8%-pts YTD; aided by better economies of scale and cost optimisation efforts).

Dividend. Declared second interim dividend of 0.85 sen per share (ex-date: 23 Sep) (none in 2QFY24), bringing 1HFY25 DPS declared to 2.05 sen per share (after adjusting for two-for-one bonus issue).

Outlook. Despite the prevailing forex headwinds stemmed from appreciation of RM against USD, we expect the impact to be cushioned by stronger loading volume from its key US-based communication customer, supported by steady rise in demand for mission-critical communication devices from the US as well as increased order allocation to ATECH from the client. Additionally, we expect continued positive momentum for Customer F (semiconductor component) due to planned expansion in new customer-consigned production lines. We note that ATECH is the sole contract manufacturer for Customer F outside of China, positioning the group as a beneficiary of the customer's supply chain diversification strategy. The group's orderbook stood at RM436m as at mid-August versus RM495m as at mid-May 2025.

Earnings Revision. With the change of analyst, we have revamped our financial model and revised our FY25/26 forecasts to RM73.8m/RM82.1m, representing a slight adjustment of +2.3%/+3.8%, respectively against our previous projections. Also, we introduce the FY27F earnings at RM90.2m.

Valuation. Post earnings adjustments, we maintain BUY rating but with a lower TP of RM1.27 (from RM1.39), based on 20x (from 25x) on rolled over FY26F EPS of 6.3 sen, with a 0% ESG premium/discount reflecting its three-star ESG rating. Our ascribed 20x PE valuation is in line with its 2-year historical mean and implies a c.20% premium to an average 16.5x forward PE among Bursa-listed EMS peers. We like ATECH as an industrial-centric EMS provider with resilient earnings profile, backed by stable demand growth from its key customer and production ramp for its new semiconductor client.

Risk. Prolonged USD weakness against RM and delays in production ramp for Customer F.

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	parison

FYE Sep (RM m)	2Q F Y 25	2Q F Y 24	уоу (%)	1Q F Y 25	qoq (%)	6MFY25	6MFY24	уоу (%)	Comments
Revenue	162.9	152.3	7.0	147.9	10.2	310.8	278.0	11.8	
Gross Profit	26.0	23.4	11.1	22.5	15.5	48.6	43.6	11.3	
Pre-tax profit	20.8	21.3	(2.3)	20.8	(0.2)	41.6	42.3	(1.6)	
Netprofit	16.4	16.0	2.1	16.1	1.6	32.5	31.8	2.2	
Core net profit	20.2	16.5	21.9	15.3	31.8	35.5	29.5	20.2	
Core EPS (sen)	1.5	1.3	21.9	1.2	31.8	2.7	2.3	20.2	
DPS (sen)	0.85	=	nm	12	(29.2)	2.1	0.9		
GP margin (%)	16.0	15.4		15.2		15.6	15.7		
PBT margin (%)	12.7	14.0		14.1		13.4	15.2		
Core net profit margin (%)	12.4	10.9		10.3		11.4	10.6		

Source: Company, Apex Securities

Segmental Breakdown

FYE Dec (RM m)	2Q F Y 25	2QFY24	yoy (%)	1Q F Y 25	qoq (%)	6MFY25	6MFY24	yoy (%)	Comments
Revenue									
Communication and IoT products	135.5	123.0	10.1	124.6	8.8	260.1	218.3	19.2	
Electronics devices	19.1	22.4	(14.7)	15.2	25.3	34.3	47.3	(27.5)	
Semiconductor Components	8.3	6.8	21.4	8.1	3.1	16.4	12.4	32.5	
Total	162.9	152.3	7.0	147.9	10.2	310.8	278.0	11.8	
G eographical									
Revenue									
Malaysia	35.7	45.1	(20.9)	33.3	7.3	69.0	77.0	(10.4)	
Americans	102.3	76.8	33.3	88.1	16.1	190.4	140.1	35.9	
Asia Pacific (excluding Malaysia)	16.9	20.5	(17.9)	17.6	(3.9)	34.4	40.0	(14.0)	
Europe	8.1	9.8	(17.9)	8.9	(9.3)	17.0	20.7	(18.2)	
Total	162.9	152.3	7.0	147.9	10.2	310.8	277.8	11.9	

Source: Company, Apex Securities

Peer comparison

Stock	Price (26-Aug)	Rating	FYE	EF	· s	P/E	(x)	в۷	PS	P /B	(x)	DPS	Yield	DPS	Yield
	, ,,			FY 25	FY 26	FY 25	FY26								
V.S. Industry	0.69	NR	Jul	0.03	0.052	23.0	13.3	0.608	0.632	11	1.1	0.01	1.9%	0.02	3.3%
SKP Resources*	0.90	NR	Mar	0.09	0.101	10.0	8.9	0.657	0.703	1.4	1.3	0.05	5.1%	0.05	5.7%
PIE Industrial	3.38	NR	Dec	0.14	0.223	24.1	15.2	1.79	1.97	1.9	1.7	0.06	1.7%	0.08	2.2%
Nationgate	1.22	NR	Dec	0.096	0.103	12.7	11.8	0.495	0.57	2.5	2.1	0.02	2.0%	0.03	2.0%
Uchi Technologies	3.27	NR	Dec	0.213	0.225	15.4	14.5	0.44	0.493	7.4	6.6	0.22	6.7%	0.22	6.8%
EG Industries	1.16	NR	Jun	0.083	0.115	14.0	10.1	0.545	0.665	2.1	1.7	NA	NA	NA	NA
Average						16.5	12.3			2.7	2.4		3.5%		4.0%

Source: Bloomberg, Apex Securities

*refers to FY26 and FY27

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Financial Highlights

Income Statement					
FYE Dec (RM m)	FY23*	FY24	FY25F	FY26F	FY27F
Revenue	385.6	600.7	661.8	733.1	793.6
Gross Profit	49.9	82.9	105.9	119.5	129.4
Other income	6.6	6.6	5.1	4.5	3.5
Administrative expenses	-12.0	-21.6	-22.2	-24.9	-26.2
Selling and Distribution expenses	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3	-0.4	-0.4
Operating Profit	44.2	66.2	87.9	97.7	107.8
Finance income/(costs)	3.3	4.7	4.8	5.5	5.5
Pre-tax Profit	45.8	70.2	92.2	102.7	112.7
Tax	-7.5	-9.2	-18.4	-20.5	-22.5
Profit After Tax	38.2	61.0	73.8	82.1	90.2
Minority Interest	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net Profit	38.2	61.0	73.8	82.1	90.2
Exceptionals	0.7	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Core Net Profit	39.0	64.4	73.8	82.1	90.2

Key Ratios					
FYE Sep	FY23*	FY24	FY25F	FY26F	FY27F
Core EPS (sen)	3.3	5.2	5.7	6.3	6.9
P/E (x)	30.9	19.7	18.0	16.2	14.7
BVPS (sen)	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5
P/B (x)	4.0	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.3
DPS (sen)	1.6	2.9	3.4	3.8	4.2
Dividend Yield (%)	1.5%	2.7%	3.2%	3.5%	3.9%
GP margin (%)	12.9%	13.8%	16.0%	16.3%	16.5%
Operating margin (%)	11.5%	11.0%	13.3%	13.3%	13.6%
PBT margin (%)	11.9%	11.7%	13.9%	14.0%	14.2%
PAT margin (%)	9.9%	10.2%	11.1%	11.2%	11.4%
NP margin (%)	9.9%	10.2%	11.1%	11.2%	11.4%
CNP margin (%)	10.1%	10.7%	11.1%	11.2%	11.4%
ROE (%)	11.8%	13.2%	14.2%	14.9%	15.4%
ROA (%)	8.0%	9.8%	10.4%	10.7%	11.1%
Gearing (%)	6.6%	0.7%	1.6%	5.2%	3.1%
Net gearing (%)	Net Cash				

Valuations	FY26F
Core EPS (RM)	0.063
P/E multiple (x)	20.0
Fair Value (RM)	1.27
ESG premium/discount	0.0%
Implied Fair Value (RM)	1.27

Source: Company, Apex Securities

Balance Sheet					
FYE Dec (RM m)	FY23*	FY24	FY25F	FY26F	FY27F
Cash and cash equivalent	88.8	159.7	156.6	200.0	206.4
Receivables	108.1	148.2	163.2	171.4	185.5
Inventories	153.7	134.6	148.2	155.7	168.5
Other current assets	12.8	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0
Total Current Assets	363.3	460.5	486.1	545.1	578.4
Fixed Assets	122.3	199.5	223.6	225.7	232.6
Other non-current assets	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Non-current assets	123.2	199.5	223.6	225.7	232.6
Short-term Debt	5.1	1.6	4.1	14.1	9.1
Payables	120.2	149.0	164.1	172.3	186.5
Other Current Liabilities	1.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1
Total Current Liabilities	126.6	154.6	172.3	190.5	199.7
Long-term Debt	16.8	1.9	4.4	14.4	9.4
Other non-current liabilities	13.9	27.8	12.7	5.2	20.2
Total Non-current Liabilities	30.7	29.6	17.1	19.6	29.6
Shareholder's equity	330.3	488.3	517.8	550.7	586.8
Minority interest	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Equity	330.3	488.3	517.8	550.7	586.8

Cash Flow					
FYE Dec (RM m)	FY23*	FY24	FY25F	FY26F	FY27F
Pre-tax profit	45.8	70.2	92.2	102.7	112.7
Depreciation	11.7	12.9	16.0	17.9	18.1
Changes in working capital	13.2	8.0	-13.6	-7.4	-12.8
Income tax paid	-2.80	-6.62	-18.45	-20.53	-22.54
Others	-2.8	-8.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Operating cash flow	65.1	75.6	76.1	92.6	95.5
Net capex	-17.7	-89.5	-40.0	-20.0	-25.0
Others	-25.5	24.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Investing cash flow	-43.1	-65.3	-40.0	-20.0	-25.0
Changes in borrowings	-4.1	-18.4	5.0	20.0	-10.0
Issuance of shares	77.1	130.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dividends paid	-16.9	-33.9	-44.3	-49.3	-54.1
Others	-69.0	-0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Financing cash flow	-12.8	77.8	-39.3	-29.3	-64.1
Net cash flow	9.1	88.1	-3.1	43.4	6.4
Forex	-0.6	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Beginning cash	41.7	50.2	139.3	136.2	179.5
Ending cash	50.2	139.3	136.2	179.5	185.9
Fixed deposits/short-term investments	38.5	20.5	20.5	20.5	20.5
Cash and Bank equivalents	88.8	159.7	156.6	200.0	206.4

^{*11} months data due to change in FYE to 31 Dec

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ESG Matrix Framework:

Environment

Parameters	Rating	Comments
Climate	***	Disclosed Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions (3,588.06 tCO ₂ e); emissions intensity per revenue tracked; aligned with
	~~~	Bursa Malaysia's Sustainability Reporting Guide.
Waste & Effluent	***	Identified waste as a material sustainability matter; disclosed general initiatives (e.g., scheduled waste management) but
	~~~	lacks detailed breakdown of waste type or recycling rates.
Energy	***	Monitored energy consumption, particularly from electricity and diesel; reported usage figures; no mention of renewable
	~~~	energy initiatives.
Water	***	Water use is briefly acknowledged as part of environmental impact, but lacks specific data or conservation efforts.
Compliance	***	No environmental non-compliance incidents or fines recorded; demonstrates adherence to environmental laws and
		standards.

## Social

Diversity	***	Promotes an inclusive workplace with equal opportunities and fair employment practices.
Human Rights	***	Upholds freedom of association, minimum wage compliance, and anti-discrimination policies; no reported violations.
Occupational Safety and Health	**	Reported zero workplace fatalities; OSH Committee established; incident data tracked and addressed (2 minor injuries); certified to ISO 45001.
Labour Practices	***	Conducted 3,956 training hours in FYE 2024 across all staff levels; strong emphasis on upskilling with fair employment policies and workplace inclusiveness.

#### Governance

CSR Strategy	***	Community engagement mainly through corporate donations and ad-hoc initiatives; no structured long-term CSR roadmap.
Management	***	ESG risks identified through materiality matrix; Board oversight via Sustainability Committee; integrated ESG metrics into risk management.
Stakeholders	***	4x analyst briefings per annum, 1x AGM per annum.

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.

 $\textbf{TRADING BUY:} \ \textbf{Total returns*} \ are \ \textbf{expected to exceed 10\%} \ within \ \textbf{the next 3 months}.$ 

**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.

 $\textbf{NEUTRAL:} \ \text{The industry defined by the analyst is expected to be within + 10\% to - 10\% within the next 12 months.}$ 

 $\textbf{UNDERWEIGHT:} \ \text{The industry defined by the analyst, is expected to be below -10\% within the next 12 months.}$ 

## ESG Rating Framework:

 $\bigstar \star \star \star \star \star$  : 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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As of **Monday, 01 Sep, 2025**, the analyst(s), whose name(s) appears on the front page, who prepared this report, has interest in the following securities covered in this report:
(a) nil.