Deutsche Bank Markets Research



<mark>Asia</mark> China

Industrials Manufacturing

ters	Bloomberg
179.SZ	002179 CH

JONHON Optronic

Exchange Ticker SHZ 002179

Luoyang HQ visit reaffirms earnings uptrend; raising target price

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Company

Order momentum picking up; Buy on multi-year earnings upcycle ahead We visited Jonhon Optronic's Luoyang headquarters last week and came back with positive takeaways. Despite lagging revenue conversion in 3Q, the strong pick-up in new orders, along with new capacity expansion, should accelerate earnings growth to 26% yoy in 2H17 (vs. 11% in 1H17) and 30%+ starting 2018. With similar drivers ahead, the 2013-15 earnings upcycle - when the stock outperformed its benchmark (SZCOMP) by 100% on strong earnings growth looks likely to be repeated. We raise our target price by 23% to Rmb43 and maintain Buy.

Strong new order pipeline

Management guided for a back-end loaded 2017 at the beginning of this year and expects growth for defence and NEV to speed up in 2H. Since the beginning of 3Q, the company has indeed been seeing a strong new order pipeline from its customers for both segments though the actual signing of contracts may come a bit later than expected due to military reform (hence organizational reshuffle) and stricter subsidy scheme (hence reevaluation of subsidy eligibility required). Given capacity constraints (for NEV) and defense customers' delivery schedules, we believe deliveries could be very skewed towards 4Q17 with revenue conversion of some orders potentially delayed to 1H18.

Multi-year earnings upcycle in sight, with upside potential

During a 5-year plan (FYP) period, Jonhon's earnings growth tends to pick up from the third year and accelerate sharply into the final two years. With accelerating weapon modernization, next-generation mobile network (5G in this FYP period), vehicle electrification and new capacity expansion, we project a 33% earnings CAGR over 2017-19 (vs. a 29% CAGR over 2012-14). Taking into account the high base, our current projection assumes constant growth acceleration (30% +) towards 2020 but we see upside potential from: 1) successful development of integrated systems for defense applications (high value and high margin); 2) overseas expansion; 3) new products (e.g., high-speed backplane connector, liquid cooling system, etc.); 4) further penetration into Tesla's supply chain. These additional growth drivers, if they materialize, could potentially push 2019-20 earnings growth to a level comparable to that of 2014-15 (+39-67%).

Lowering earnings but lifting target price by 23%; risks

Our earnings estimate cuts of 4-6% for 2017-19 reflect: 1) delayed revenue recognition for NEV and defense business for 2017; 2) lower telecom growth, driven by slower-than-expected Huawei business; and 3) better-than-expected

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Date 13 September 2017 Forecast Change

Price at 13 Sep 2017 (CNY)	34.13
Price target - 12mth (CNY)	43.00
52-week range (CNY)	35.63 - 27.20
Shenzhen Index	2,078

Valuation & Risks

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Key changes

Rey changes			
ТР	35.00 to 43.00	Ŷ	22.9%
Sales (FYE)	7,140 to 6,400	\downarrow	-10.4%
Op prof margin (FYE)	15.7 to 16.7	Î	6.4%
Net profit (FYE)	923.1 to 865.4	\downarrow	-6.2%
Source: Deutsche Bank			

Price/price relative



- JONHON Optronic - Shenzhen Index (Rebased)

Performance (%)	1m	3m	12m
Absolute	4.3	12.7	11.6
Shenzhen Index	7.8	6.8	-0.2
Source: Deutsche Bank			
Key indicators (FY1)			
ROE (%)			19.2
Net debt/equity (%)			-11.3
Book value/share (CNY)			6.19
Price/book (x)			5.5
Net interest cover (x)			31.5
Operating profit margin (%)			16.7
Source: Deutsche Bank			

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13 September 2017 Manufacturing JONHON Optronic

margin performance in 1H17, driven by stringent cost control and favorable product mix. Despite the earnings decrease, we raise our target price by 23% to Rmb43 as we roll forward our valuation time frame. We base our target price on a 2018E P/E of 30x, supported by an earnings CAGR of 33% over 2017-19E. Key risks: further delay in military orders and higher-than-expected opex.

Forecasts and ratios					
Year End Dec 31	2015A	2016A	2017E	2018E	2019E
Sales (CNYm)	4,725.2	5,854.8	6,400.2	8,270.9	10,807.6
EBITDA (CNYm)	855.1	1,041.3	1,248.2	1,598.6	2,091.2
Reported NPAT (CNYm)	568.4	733.8	865.4	1,142.3	1,531.5
DB EPS FD(CNY)	0.73	0.94	1.09	1.44	1.94
OLD DB EPS FD(CNY)	0.73	0.94	1.17	1.52	2.01
% Change	0.0%	0.0%	-6.2%	-4.7%	-3.9%
DB EPS growth (%)	67.4	29.1	16.8	32.0	34.1
PER (x)	35.3	31.0	31.2	23.6	17.6
EV/EBITDA (x)	23.6	22.1	21.5	16.8	12.8
Source: Deutsche Bank estimates, company data					

1H17 results review

NP largely in line despite slower-than-expected top-line growth

1H net profit of Rmb442m was up 11% yoy on flattish top-line growth (+1% yoy). 1H NP achieved 48% of our previous full-year estimate, largely in line with the historical average.

The slow top-line growth was mainly due to the high comparison base as 1) some rush military orders placed towards end-2015 were delivered in 1H16 (when sales rose 36% yoy), and 2) strong NEV momentum was sustained into 1H16 before cooling down in 2H16 on subsidy uncertainties.

GP margin expansion of c.3ppt yoy to 36.8% (vs. 2017DBe: 33.8%) is better than expected, driven by stringent cost control and favorable product mix (higher contribution from high-margin products).

For 2Q alone, sales reverted to positive growth (+5% yoy) from a 3% drop in 1Q, with margin further expanded to 38.2% vs. 35.2% in 1Q. NP growth accelerated slightly to 12% as strong margin expansion was partly offset by higher opex (+13% yoy mainly driven by R&D expenses).





Net profit

Defense still held up firm; NEV weak as expected while telecom disappointed While no detailed breakdown by end-market was disclosed, at the investor meeting management mentioned that the defense segment still managed to grow, albeit at a slower pace due to the high base. By end-market, aviation, shipbuilding, and weaponry still saw double-digit growth while electronics and nuclear recorded negative growth.

Sales of NEV segment were down c.50% yoy in 1H, largely in line with the industry trend. On the other hand, the telecom business recorded only single-digit growth with strong export growth (+40% yoy) largely offset by slow domestic business. We note that Huawei's telecom/datacom equipment business (carrier and enterprise network on a combined basis) was up only 5% yoy in 1H, a visible slowdown from 25%+ in 2015-2016. On the other hand, Jonhon has successfully penetrated into the supply chains of foreign telecom equipment players, including



----- Net profit growth (%)



13 September 2017 Manufacturing JONHON Optronic

Samsung and Nokia, which drove a 100% yoy increase in its overseas orders in 1H. The rising contribution of export sales also bodes well for profitability as its GPM is higher at 25-30% (vs. 10-20% for domestic telecom business).

Order momentum picking up in 2H

Since the beginning of 3Q, the company has indeed been seeing a strong new order pipeline from its customers for both defense and NEV segments. While the trend has been well anticipated, the timing of orders was actually a bit later than the company had expected.

- For defense, the delay was mainly due to military reform, which has resulted in an organizational reshuffle within the weapon procurement department.
- For NEV, the delay was mainly because of the additional time it takes for customers to go through the re-evaluation process in order to be eligible for incentives as a stricter subsidy scheme is imposed.

The outcome is that customers would place orders very close to end-3Q (vs. early-3Q normally in the past). For NEV, its NEV production line is already operating at full utilization now, which means capacity constraints could impact revenue conversion heading into 4Q with deliveries of some orders potentially delayed to 1H18. Similarly, for defense, due to customers' strict delivery schedules, we believe a risk of delayed revenue conversion (into 1H18) also exists.

Taking into account the risks above, we are now expecting 26% earnings growth in 2H17, lowered from our previous forecast of 43% growth. In particular, we expect growth to significantly accelerate starting 4Q with strong momentum likely persisting into 2018.

Military reform and stricter NEV subsidy scheme are the two causes for the delay in contract signing.

Given capacity constraints and defense customers' delivery schedules, we believe deliveries could be very skewed towards 4Q17 with revenue conversion of some orders potentially delayed to 1H18.





The 2013-15 earnings upcycle will likely be repeated in 2018-20

The defense sector is largely policy driven and heavily planned by the government. As a result, Jonhon's defense business has showed a clear pattern within a fiveyear-plan period. The first two years are typically slow in terms of growth as new equipment models are mostly at the R&D stage. Growth normally speeds up from the third year towards the final two years (i.e., the fourth and the fifth year) on accelerating new equipment procurement by the military.

Similarly, its telecom business is also subject to the telecom capex cycle although in recent years the company managed to achieve counter-cyclical growth, leveraging on Huawei's successful overseas expansion and through its penetration into foreign telecom equipment players' supply chains. In the previous FYP period, the 4G capex upcycle boosted its telecom business in 2014-2015. In this FYP period, we expect similar story to play out in the final two years, driven by the 5G network build-out.

In short, we believe similar growth drivers could continue to play out in the final three years of this FYP period, including: 1) accelerating weapon modernization; 2) next-generation mobile network build-out; and 3) strong NEV sales. These positive drivers, along with a similar capacity expansion pace (Luoyang Phase II in 2014 vs. Luoyang Phase III in 2019), should drive a multi-year earnings uplift towards 2020.

Taking into account the high base, our current projections assume a constant growth acceleration (30%+) towards 2020 but we see upside potential from: 1) successful development of integrated systems for defense applications (high value and high margin); 2) overseas expansion; 3) new products (e.g., high-speed backplane connector, liquid cooling system, etc.); and 4) further penetration into Tesla's supply chain. These additional growth drivers, if they materialize, could potentially push 2019-20 earnings growth to a level comparable to that of 2014-15 (+39-67%).



Growth of defense segment is typically backend loaded within a five-year-plan period.

Telecom capex cycle also has a significant impact on Jonhon's earnings.

We see very similar growth drivers in 2018-20 compared to 2013-15, the earnings upcycle in the previous FYP period

We see upside potential to our current projections if these additional growth drivers materialize.

We believe the 2013-15 earnings upcycle will likely be repeated in 2018-20.



Earnings revisions, valuation and risks

Earnings revisions

Our earnings cuts of 4-6% for 2017-19 factor in: 1) delayed revenue recognition for NEV and defense business for 2017; 2) lower growth for telecom business, driven by slower-than-expected Huawei business; and 3) better-than-expected margin performance in 1H17, driven by stringent cost control and favorable product mix.

		2017E			2018E			2019E	
Rmb mn	New	Old	% chg	New	Old	% chg	New	Old	% chg
Revenue	<u>6,400</u>	<u>7,140</u>	<u>-10%</u>	<u>8,271</u>	<u>8,792</u>	<u>-6%</u>	<u>10,808</u>	<u>11,072</u>	-2%
yoy chg%	9%	22%	-13%	29%	23%	6%	31%	26%	5%
<u>Military</u>	<u>3,472</u>	<u>3,863</u>	<u>-10%</u>	4,565	<u>4,749</u>	<u>-4%</u>	<u>6,075</u>	<u>6,083</u>	<u>0%</u>
yoy chg%	8%	20%	-12%	31%	23%	9%	33%	28%	5%
Aviation defense	1,040	1,130	-8%	1,404	1,469	-4%	1,965	1,984	-1%
yoy chg%	15%	25%	-10%	35%	30%	5%	40%	35%	5%
Non-aviation defense	2,432	2,733	-11%	3,161	3,279	-4%	4,110	4,099	0%
yoy chg%	5%	18%	-13%	30%	20%	10%	30%	25%	5%
<u>Civil</u>	<u>2,929</u>	<u>3,277</u>	<u>-11%</u>	<u>3,706</u>	<u>4,044</u>	<u>-8%</u>	<u>4,733</u>	<u>4,989</u>	<u>-5%</u>
yoy chg%	11%	24%	-13%	27%	23%	3%	28%	23%	4%
Telcommunication	1,549	1,697	-9%	1,859	2,036	-9%	2,324	2,545	-9%
yoy chg%	5%	15%	-10%	20%	20%	0%	25%	25%	0%
New energy vehicle	737	938	-21%	1,106	1,266	-13%	1,548	1,583	-2%
yoy chg%	10%	40%	-30%	50%	35%	15%	40%	25%	15%
Railway	255	255	0%	281	281	0%	314	314	0%
yoy chg%	50%	50%	0%	10%	10%	0%	12%	12%	0%
Medical	150	150	0%	195	195	0%	244	244	0%
yoy chg%	40%	40%	0%	30%	30%	0%	25%	25%	0%
Industrial	94	94	0%	108	108	0%	129	129	0%
yoy chg%	15%	15%	0%	15%	15%	0%	20%	20%	0%
Others	144	144	0%	158	158	0%	174	174	0%
yoy chg%	10%	10%	0%	10%	10%	0%	10%	10%	0%
Gross profit	2,225	2,410	-8 %	2,828	2,965	-5%	3,707	3,741	-1%
GP margin (%)	34.8%	33.8%	1.0%	34.2%	33.7%	0.5%	34.3%	33.8%	0.5%
Expense ratio (%)									
Business taxes	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%
Selling expenses	4.7%	4.7%	0.0%	4.6%	4.6%	0.0%	4.5%	4.5%	0.0%
Admin expenses	13.4%	13.4%	0.0%	12.8%	12.8%	0.0%	12.7%	12.2%	0.5%
R&D expenses	7.5%	7.5%	0.0%	7.0%	7.0%	0.0%	7.0%	6.5%	0.5%
Non-R&D admin expenses	5.9%	5.9%	0.0%	5.8%	5.8%	0.0%	5.7%	5.7%	0.0%
Impairment loss of assets	0.5%	0.5%	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%	0.0%
Non-operating expenses	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
Net profit	865	923	-6%	1,142	1,199	-5%	1,531	1,593	-4%
voy chg%	18%	26%	-8%	32%	30%	2%	34%	33%	1%

Valuation

Despite the cut to earnings estimates, we raise our target price by 23% to Rmb43 as we roll forward our valuation time frame. We base our target price on a 2018E P/E of 30x, supported by an earnings CAGR of 33% over 2017-19E.





Risks

Key downside risks include: 1) an unexpected slowdown in China's weapon spending; 2) intensifying competition from electronic component suppliers of other Chinese defense groups or potential new non-SOE entrants as a result of the promotion of military-civil integration; 3) an unexpected increase in raw material costs; and 4) slower-than-expected market share expansion in civil markets.

13 September 2017 Manufacturing JONHON Optronic

Model updated: 10 September 2017

Running the numbers	F
Asia	DE
China	Re DF
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JONHON Optronic

Reuters: 002179.SZ Bloomberg: 002179 CH

Buy

Price (13 Sep 17)	CNY 34.13
Target Price	CNY 43.00
52 Week range	CNY 27.20 - 35.63
Market cap (m)	CNYm 26,997 USDm 4,132.4

Company Profile

JONHON Optronic, headquartered in Luoyang, Henan Province, is one of the largest professional interconnect solution provider as well as the largest professional designer and manufacturer of optical, electrical and fluid connectors in China. The company's products are widely used in aviation, aerospace, weapons, navy, telecommunications, railway, power supply, electric, urban mass transit, new energy, and other military and civil fields.









Fiscal year end 31-Dec	2014	2015	2016	2017E	2018E	2019E
Financial Summary						
DB EPS (CNY) Reported EPS (CNY) DPS (CNY) BVPS (CNY)	0.43 0.43 0.10 6.2	0.73 0.73 0.10 5.6	0.94 0.94 0.13 6.8	1.09 1.09 0.11 6.2	1.44 1.44 0.14 7.5	1.94 1.94 0.19 9.3
Weighted average shares (m) Average market cap (CNYm) Enterprise value (CNYm)	783 9,198 9,585	783 20,086 20,220	783 22,769 22,965	791 26,997 26,835	791 26,997 26,877	791 26,997 26,797
Valuation Metrics						
P/E (DB) (x) P/E (Reported) (x) P/BV (x)	27.1 27.1 2.24	35.3 35.3 5.15	31.0 31.0 4.08	31.2 31.2 5.52	23.6 23.6 4.54	17.6 17.6 3.66
FCF Yield (%) Dividend Yield (%)	nm 0.9	1.9 0.4	nm 0.4	1.9 0.3	0.4 0.4	1.0 0.6
EV/Sales (x) EV/EBITDA (x) EV/EBIT (x)	2.7 16.7 20.9	4.3 23.6 28.2	3.9 22.1 26.0	4.2 21.5 25.0	3.2 16.8 19.2	2.5 12.8 14.4
Income Statement (CNYm)						
Sales revenue Gross profit EBITDA Depreciation Amortisation EBIT Net interest income(expense) Associates/affiliates Exceptionals/extraordinaries Other pre-tax income/(expense) Profit before tax Income tax expense Minorities Other post-tax income/(expense) Net profit	3,491 1,146 573 97 18 458 -35 16 0 -1 438 63 35 0 340	4,725 1,592 855 109 30 716 -51 21 0 9 695 91 35 0 568	5,855 1,976 1,041 126 30 884 -42 28 0 18 890 113 43 0 734	6,400 2,225 1,248 141 35 1,072 -34 15 0 0 1,053 137 50 0 865	8,271 2,828 1,599 164 38 1,397 -22 15 0 0 1,389 181 67 0 1,142	10,808 3,707 2,091 192 41 1,858 -11 16 0 0 1,863 242 89 0 1,531
DB adjustments (including dilution) DB Net profit	0 340	0 568	0 734	0 865	0 1,142	0 1,531
Cash Flow (CNYm)						
Cash flow from operations Net Capex Free cash flow Equity raised/(bought back) Dividends paid Net inc/(dec) in borrowings Other investing/financing cash flows Net cash flow Change in working capital	153 -158 -4 2 -121 -52 -131 -305 -419	624 -243 380 1 -127 -50 31 235 -182	231 -247 -16 -139 38 107 6 -754	898 -392 506 0 -78 -302 -34 91 -214	661 -542 119 0 -87 -160 -22 -150 -757	720 -442 278 0 -114 -436 -11 -283 -1,129
Balance Sheet (CNYm)						
Cash and other liquid assets Tangible fixed assets Goodwill/intangible assets Associates/investments Other assets Total assets Interest bearing debt Other liabilities Total liabilities Shareholders' equity Minorities Total shareholders' equity <i>Net debt</i>	1,155 1,228 295 55 3,507 6,240 1,173 1,783 2,956 2,861 423 3,284 19	1,396 1,414 280 70 4,303 7,464 1,140 2,466 3,606 3,397 461 3,858 -256	1,404 1,508 293 89 5,216 8,510 1,183 2,714 3,898 4,107 505 4,612 -221	1,495 1,717 302 103 5,649 9,267 881 2,936 3,817 4,894 556 5,450 -614	1,345 2,053 308 118 7,220 11,044 721 3,752 4,472 5,950 622 6,572 -624	1,062 2,261 310 134 9,411 13,177 285 4,814 5,099 7,367 711 8,079 -778
Key Company Metrics						
Sales growth (%) DB EPS growth (%) EBITDA Margin (%) EBIT Margin (%) Payout ratio (%) ROE (%) Capex/depreciation (x) Net debt/equity (%) Net interest cover (x)	nm na 16.4 13.1 23.1 12.5 4.5 1.4 0.6 12.9	35.3 67.4 18.1 15.2 13.8 18.2 5.2 1.8 -6.6 14.0	23.9 29.1 17.8 15.1 13.9 19.6 4.2 1.6 -4.8 21.3	9.3 16.8 19.5 16.7 10.0 19.2 6.1 2.2 -11.3 31.5	29.2 32.0 19.3 16.9 10.0 21.1 6.6 2.7 -9.5 64.0	30.7 34.1 19.3 17.2 10.0 23.0 4.1 1.9 -9.6 175.6

Source: Company data, Deutsche Securities estimates



Appendix 1

Important Disclosures

*Other information available upon request

Disclosure checklist			
Company	Ticker	Recent price*	Disclosure
JONHON Optronic	002179.SZ	34.13 (CNY) 13 Sep 2017	NA

*Prices are current as of the end of the previous trading session unless otherwise indicated and are sourced from local exchanges via Reuters, Bloomberg, and other vendors. Other information is sourced from Deutsche Bank, subject companies, and other sources. For disclosures pertaining to recommendations or estimates made on securities other than the primary subject of this research, please see the most recently published company report or visit our global disclosure look-up page on our website at <a href="http://gm.db.com/ger/disclosure/bisclo

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Historical recommendations and target price. JONHON Optronic (002179.SZ)

Equity Rating Key

Buy: Based on a current 12- month view of total share-holder return (TSR = percentage change in share price from current price to projected target price plus pro-jected dividend yield), we recommend that investors buy the stock.

Sell: Based on a current 12-month view of total share-holder return, we recommend that investors sell the stock.

Hold: We take a neutral view on the stock 12-months out and, based on this time horizon, do not recommend either a Buy or Sell.

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Equity rating dispersion and banking relationships





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