Rating Hold

Asia China

Automobiles & Components 000625.

000625.SZ

Company

Bloomberg 000625 CS

Chang'an Auto

Exchange Ticker SHZ 000625

A weak 3Q17 with intense margin pressure is a miss to us

47% YoY 3Q17 net profit decline on margin contraction, despite flattish sales Chang'an Auto released its 3Q17 results earlier today. The company's 3Q17 net revenue increased 1.5% YoY to RMB17.3bn despite an 11.1% YoY drop in local brand vehicle sales volume to 286k units, probably due to increasing SUV sales mix, in our view. However, Chang'an's 3Q17 gross profit margin eroded by 10.6ppt YoY, probably due to fierce competition, in our view, offset the 6.7ppt YoY drop in the SG&A ratio. In addition, there was an 27.2% YoY earnings contribution decline from its JVs/associates, driven by a 14.4% YoY sales volume drop at Chang'an Ford, probably due to an aging product portfolio, in our view. Altogether, Chang'an's 3Q17 net profit fell by 47.1% YoY to RMB2.4bn. On a 9M17 basis, Changan's net profit of RMB5.8bn was down 24.9% YoY and accounted for 64% of our original FY17 earnings forecasts of RMB9.0bn. Therefore, we consider the results a miss to our expectations.

Deutsche Bank view - competitive pressure makes us more downbeat

With the originally popular products' sales momentum weakening and limited new 'killer' products in sight, especially at the major earnings contributor Chang'an Ford, we doubt that Chang'an can stage a strong earnings rebound in the upcoming quarters. Although we raise our FY17-19 net revenue forecast by 2.8-8.6% on higher local brand sales and higher SUV mix assumption, we cut our FY17-19E net profit by 8.0-9.1%, mainly on lower margin assumptions for the local brands and the JVs amid competitive pressure.

We value Chang'an at 7.5x FY18E P/E (from 7.0x, considering the sector rerating over the past few months), which is below the company's historical trading average. In our view, this is justified, as we expect Chang'an to suffer net profit decline going forward (-4% FY16-19E CAGR) vs. strong growth in the past (45% FY13-16 CAGR). Given a lack of share price upside potential vs. our target price, we maintain our Hold rating. Key downside risks include: 1) weaker-thanexpected vehicle sales, 2) pricing pressure and 3) worse-than-expected local brand profitability. Key upside risks include: 1) better-than-expected new and old models sales and 2) a stronger-than-expected earnings rebound at the local brand.

Date 25 October 2017 Forecast Change

Price at 25 Oct 2017 (CNY)	14.31
Price target - 12mth (CNY)	13.50
52-week range (CNY)	16.77 - 13.40
Shenzhen Index	2,102

Valuation & Risks

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Key changes			
TP	13.75 to 13.50	\downarrow	-1.8%
Sales (FYE)	71,191 to 73,212	î	2.8%
Op prof margin (FYE)	-1.1 to -1.6	\downarrow	42.3%
Net profit (FYE)	9,038.1 to 8,218.0	\downarrow	-9.1%
Source: Deutsche Bank			

Price/price relative



Shenzhen Index	2.3	8.7	-3.3
Source: Deutsche Bank			

Deutsche Bank AG/Hong Kong

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Figure 1: Chang'an Auto - quarterly results summary

	1Q16	2Q16	3Q16	4Q16	1Q17	2Q17	3Q17
Net revenue (RMBm)	18,459	15,768	17,010	23,675	16,845	15,266	17,269
YoY (%)	6.5%	11.3%	17.7%	32.5%	-8.7%	-3.2%	1.5%
Gross profit (RMBm)	2,184	2,176	2,480	3,585	1,855	1,464	691
YoY (%)	16.2%	-8.5%	10.2%	-8.4%	-15.1%	-32.7%	-72.1%
Gross profit margin (%)	11.8%	13.8%	14.6%	15.1%	11.0%	9.6%	4.0%
JVs/associates contribution (RMBm)	2,418	2,787	2,357	2,002	2,223	1,608	1,716
YoY (%)	4.1%	7.6%	55.8%	-33.6%	-8.0%	-42.3%	-27.2%
Net profit (RMBm)	2,673	2,818	2,248	2,546	2,401	2,219	1,190
YoY (%)	7.2%	8.8%	35.8%	-20.7%	-10.2%	-21.2%	-47.1%

Source: Company data, Deutsche Bank

Figure 2: Chang'an Auto - summary of Deutsche Bank's forecasts and revisions

'	2017E	2018E	2019E
Sales volume (units)			
New	2,885,881	3,091,739	3,242,844
Old	2,869,337	3,028,404	3,166,163
% Chg	0.6%	2.1%	2.4%
Net revenue (RMBm)			
New	73,212	83,623	89,942
Old	71,191	77,868	82,830
% Chg	2.8%	7.4%	8.6%
JVs/associates contribution (RMBr	n)		
New	7,544	7,727	7,871
Old	7,826	8,075	8,287
% Chg	-3.6%	-4.3%	-5.0%
Net profit (RMBm)			
New	8,218	8,650	9,006
Old	9,038	9,439	9,790
% Chg	-9.1%	-8.4%	-8.0%
Source: Deutsche Bank estimates			

Forecasts and ratios					
Year End Dec 31	2015A	2016A	2017E	2018E	2019E
Sales (CNYm)	63,830.0	74,912.8	73,211.9	83,623.2	89,942.0
EBITDA (CNYm)	2,470.3	2,110.1	1,390.7	1,816.7	2,261.5
Reported NPAT (CNYm)	9,952.7	10,285.3	8,218.0	8,650.4	9,006.1
Reported EPS FD (CNY)	2.13	2.14	1.71	1.80	1.88
DB EPS FD (CNY)	2.05	1.97	1.71	1.80	1.88
OLD DB EPS FD (CNY)	2.05	1.97	1.88	1.97	2.04
% Change	0.0%	0.0%	-9.1%	-8.4%	-8.0%
DB EPS growth (%)	31.3	-4.0	-13.0	5.3	4.1
PER (x)	8.6	7.6	8.4	7.9	7.6
EV/EBITDA (x)	20.5	14.9	16.4	10.7	5.3
DPS (net) (CNY)	0.64	0.64	0.51	0.54	0.56
Yield (net) (%)	3.6	4.3	3.6	3.8	3.9
Source: Deutsche Bank estimates, company data					

Key indicators (FY1)

ROE (%)	17.8
Net debt/equity (%)	-60.5
Book value/share (CNY)	10.14
Price/book (x)	1.4
Net interest cover (x)	-
Operating profit margin (%)	-1.6
Source: Deutsche Bank	

Model updated: 25 October 2017

Running the numbers Asia	
China	
Automobiles & Compor	nents
Chang'an Auto	
Reuters: 000625.SZ	Bloomberg: 000625 CS
Hold	
Price (25 Oct 17)	CNY 14.31
Target Price	CNY 13.50
52 Week range	CNY 13.40 - 16.77
Market cap (m)	CNYm 68,726 USDm 10,356

Company Profile

Chang'an is one of China's largest auto manufacturers. The company's major businesses include the manufacture of whole serial passenger vehicles, commercial vehicles, auto parts and components, as well as vehicle manufacturing equipment. It has JV partnerships with Ford, Mazda, Suzuki and Peugeot.







Fiscal year end 31-Dec	2014	2015	2016	2017E	2018E	2019E
Financial Summary						
DB EPS (CNY)	1.56 1.62	2.05 2.13	1.97 2.14	1.71	1.80 1.80	1.88 1.88
Reported EPS (CNY) DPS (CNY)	0.25	0.64	0.64	1.71 0.51	0.54	0.56
BVPS (CNY)	5.5	7.4	9.1	10.1	11.4	12.8
Weighted average shares (m) Average market cap (CNYm)	4,663 55,354	4,663 82,177	4,803 71,353	4,803 68,726	4,803 68,726	4,803 68,726
Enterprise value (CNYm)	34,372	50,518	31,369	22,866	19,465	12,082
Valuation Metrics						
P/E (DB) (x) P/E (Reported) (x)	7.6 7.3	8.6 8.3	7.6 6.9	8.4 8.4	7.9 7.9	7.6 7.6
P/BV (x)	2.82	2.20	1.65	1.41	1.25	1.12
FCF Yield (%) Dividend Yield (%)	2.8 2.1	2.9 3.6	nm 4.3	2.4 3.6	nm 3.8	3.4 3.9
EV/Sales (x)	0.7	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.0
EV/EBITDA (x)	25.2	20.5	14.9	16.4	10.7	5.3
EV/EBIT (x)	nm	88.7	nm	nm	nm	nm
Income Statement (CNYm)						
Sales revenue Gross profit	50,849 7,583	63,830 10,423	74,913 10,425	73,212 7,421	83,623 8,519	89,942 9,210
EBITDA	1,363	2,470	2,110	1,391	1,817	2,262
Depreciation Amortisation	1,627 252	1,619 281	1,780 328	1,960 612	2,150 722	2,363 852
EBIT	-516	570	3	-1,181	-1,055	-954
Net interest income(expense) Associates/affiliates	-66 7,991	151 9.440	305 9,564	552 7,544	664 7,727	792 7,871
Exceptionals/extraordinaries	0	3,440 0	0,504 0	0,544	0	0
Other pre-tax income/(expense) Profit before tax	130 7,539	-148 10,012	478 10,350	1,414 8,328	1,504 8,840	1,600 9,308
Income tax expense	21	89	73	6,326 78	167	9,308
Minorities	-43	-30	-9 0	31	22	14
Other post-tax income/(expense) Net profit	0 7,561	0 9,953	0 10,285	0 8,218	0 8,650	0 9,006
DB adjustments (including dilution)	-282	-393	-837	0	0	0
DB Net profit	7,279	9,560	9,449	8,218	8,650	9,006
Cash Flow (CNYm)						
Cash flow from operations Net Capex	3,780 -2,211	5,415 -3,017	2,287 -4,642	5,518 -3,885	2,734 -4,378	7,268 -4,941
Free cash flow	1,569	2,398	-2,355	1,634	-1,643	2,327
Equity raised/(bought back) Dividends paid	0 -660	0 -1,283	1,984 -3,111	0 -3,081	0 -2,461	0 -2,590
Net inc/(dec) in borrowings	-3,198	-40	158	-3,001	-2,401	-2,550
Other investing/financing cash flows Net cash flow	7,709 5,420	7,288 8,363	8,592 5,268	6,215 4,775	6,360 2,264	6,472 6,217
Change in working capital	1,933	2,309	-1,096	3,669	1,490	2,702
Balance Sheet (CNYm)						
Cash and other liquid assets	9,693	18,035	24,783	29,557	31,821	38,038
Tangible fixed assets	15,849 3,517	16,982 3 947	19,310 4,566	20,377 5,058	21,567 5,632	22,896 6,302
Goodwill/intangible assets Associates/investments	13,168	3,947 15,437	15,176	16,315	17,482	18,670
Other assets Total assets	27,460 69,687	35,013	42,676 106,510	45,983 117,290	50,115 126,618	52,929 138,836
Interest bearing debt	2,061	89,414 2,025	100,510	202	209	217
Other liabilities	42,171	53,215	62,962	68,562	71,666	77,441
Total liabilities Shareholders' equity	44,232 25,637	55,240 34,385	63,157 43,574	68,764 48,716	71,875 54,910	77,658 61,331
Minorities Total shareholders' equity	-182 25,455	-212 34,174	-221 43,353	-189 48,526	-167 54,743	-153 61,178
Net debt	-7,632	-16,010	-24,588	-29,356	-31,612	-37,821
Key Company Metrics						
Sales growth (%)	34.3	25.5	17.4	-2.3	14.2	7.6
DB EPS growth (%) EBITDA Margin (%)	133.3 2.7	31.3 3.9	-4.0 2.8	-13.0 1.9	5.3 2.2	4.1 2.5
EBIT Margin (%)	-1.0	0.9	0.0	-1.6	-1.3	-1.1
Payout ratio (%)	15.4	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0
ROE (%) Capex/sales (%)	34.0 4.4	33.2 4.7	26.4 6.2	17.8 5.7	16.7 5.6	15.5 5.8
Capex/depreciation (x)	1.2	1.6	2.2	1.6	1.6	1.6
Net debt/equity (%) Net interest cover (x)	-30.0 nm	-46.8 nm	-56.7 nm	-60.5 nm	-57.7 nm	-61.8 nm
. /						

Source: Company data, Deutsche Securities estimates

Appendix 1

Important Disclosures

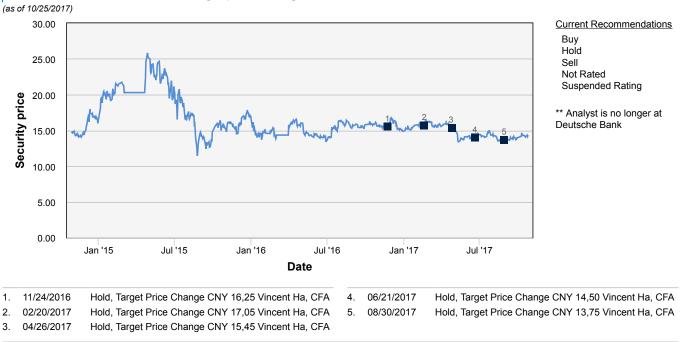
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Disclosure checklist			
Company	Ticker	Recent price*	Disclosure
Chang'an Auto	000625.SZ	14.31 (CNY) 25 Oct 2017	NA

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Historical recommendations and target price. Chang'an Auto (000625.SZ)



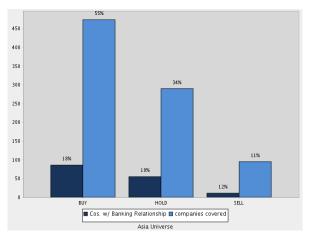
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