

Weichai Power (000338 CH)

4Q23 net profit +58% YoY; Payout increased to 50%; Higher earnings forecast on margin

Weichai's net profit in 2023 surged 84% YoY to RMB9bn, which is in line with the profit range of RMB8.58-9.32bn announced in Jan. In 4Q23, net profit grew 58% YoY to RMB2.5bn. It's worth noting that Weichai has declared a final dividend of RMB0.293/shr. This, together with the interim dividend, implies that the payout ratio has reached 50% (up from 45% in 2022). We revise up our 2024E/25E earnings forecast by 19%/20%, mainly due to higher margin assumptions across different segments. We maintain our positive stance on Weichai (sector top pick) as we see (1) the replacement cycle, (2) higher sales contribution of gas trucks, and (3) exports offering certainty on HDT industry sales growth in 2024E. We revise up our SOTP-based TP for Weichai H/A to HK\$22/RMB20.4 from HK19.4/RMB17.8. Maintain BUY.

- **Key highlights in 4Q23.** Net profit grew 58% YoY to RMB2.5bn, driven by 20% YoY revenue growth (to RMB53.6bn) and 3.3ppt YoY gross margin expansion (to 23.7%). The gross margin in 4Q23 is the highest one since 4Q18.
- Strong engine growth in 2023. The segment revenue grew 55% YoY to RMB60.8bn, driven by a 28% increase in engine sales and increase in blended ASP (due to more contribution of HDT engines based on our estimate). The segment profit surged 1.7x YoY to RMB7.7bn, driven by 5.5ppt YoY expansion of segment margin.
- Automobiles & components turned to profit in 2H23. The segment (mainly includes HDTs and parts) recorded RMB610mn of segment profit in 2H23 (vs RMB24mn in 2H22 and -RMB16mn in 1H23), driven by operating leverage.
- Forklifts & supply chain solution (KION's operation) continued to see recovery. The segment profit surged 10x YoY to RMB4.9bn in 2023 from a low base. According to KION's latest guidance, the adjusted EBIT is expected to grow 0-19% YoY in 2024E.
- Agricultural machinery helped by better margin. While the segment revenue dropped 9% YoY to RMB16.2bn in 2023, the segment margin expanded 1ppt YoY to 4.1%. This helped boost the segment profit by 23% YoY.
- **Risk factors:** 1) weakness in engine export; 2) lower-than-expected replacement demand; 3) an increase in component costs.

Earnings Summary

Larmings Gammary											
(YE 31 Dec)	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E						
Revenue (RMB mn)	175,158	213,958	236,291	250,085	260,023						
YoY growth (%)	(13.9)	22.2	10.4	5.8	4.0						
Adjusted net profit (RMB mn)	4,905.5	9,013.9	12,116.6	13,051.3	13,768.2						
EPS (Reported) (RMB)	0.56	1.03	1.39	1.50	1.58						
YoY growth (%)	(47.0)	83.8	34.4	7.7	5.5						
Consensus EPS (RMB)	na	1.02	1.28	1.45	0.00						
P/E (x)	21.8	12.1	11.7	10.9	10.3						
P/B (x)	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.4						
Yield (%)	2.1	4.1	4.3	4.6	0.0						
Net gearing (%)	(35.8)	(62.0)	(66.1)	(79.1)	(91.5)						
Source: Company data, Bloomber	Source: Company data, Bloomberg, CMBIGM estimates										

BUY (Maintain)

 Target Price
 RMB20.40

 (Previous TP
 RMB17.80)

 Up/Downside
 25.4%

 Current Price
 RMB16.27

China Capital Goods

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Stock Data

Mkt Cap (RMB mn)	141,981.1
Avg 3 mths t/o (RMB mn)	834.4
52w High/Low (RMB)	16.88/11.22
Total Issued Shares (mn)	8726.6
Source: FactSet	<u>.</u>

Shareholding Structure

Weichai Holdings Group	16.3%
Weifang Investment Group	3.4%

Source: HKEx

Share Performance

	Absolute	Relative
1-mth	-0.1%	-1.6%
3-mth	18.5%	11.9%
6-mth	29.7%	36.0%

Source: FactSet

12-mth Price Performance



Source: FactSet

Related reports:

Capital Goods – Expansion of gas/diesel price spread likely to boost natural gas HDT sales in the near term – 5 Mar 2024 (link)

Capital Goods – Equipment replacement proposed in Central government meeting; positive to HDT sector – 26 Feb 2024 (link)

Weichai Power – 4Q23E earnings surged 31-71% YoY, above expectation (A: <u>link</u>) (H: link)

China Heavy Duty Truck – Multi-cylinder diesel engine sales +29% YoY in Dec – 15 Jan 2024 (<u>link</u>)



Figure 1: Weichai's quarterly results

(RMB mn)	1Q22	1Q23	Chg (YoY)	2Q22	2Q23	Chg (YoY)	3Q22	3Q23	Chg (YoY)	4Q22	4Q23	Chg (YoY)
Revenue	41,104	53,434	30%	45,636	52,701	15%	43,783	54,248	24%	44,634	53,575	20%
Cost of sales	(33,445)	(43,442)	30%	(37,924)	(42,062)	11%	(37,080)	(42, 439)	14%	(35,561)	(40,900)	15%
Gross profit	7,659	9,992	30%	7,712	10,639	38%	6,704	11,809	76%	9,073	12,675	40%
Other income	168	126	-25%	202	215	7%	254	588	131%	498	846	70%
Other gains and losses	139	116	-16%	505	195	-61%	599	281	-53%	224	(458)	n/a
S&D expenses	(2,553)	(2,866)	12%	(2,459)	(3,339)	36%	(2,799)	(3,385)	21%	(2,850)	(3,820)	34%
Administrative expenses	(1,878)	(2,295)	22%	(2,000)	(2,329)	16%	(2,007)	(2,363)	18%	(2,207)	(2,469)	12%
R&D expenses	(1,828)	(1,833)	0%	(1,860)	(1,888)	2%	(1,827)	(1,929)	6%	(2,217)	(2,395)	8%
Taxes and surcharges	(82)	(126)	54%	(139)	(206)	48%	(100)	(192)	92%	(159)	(224)	41%
Impairment loss of assets	(220)	(337)	53%	(420)	(218)	-48%	(277)	(395)	43%	(370)	(536)	45%
EBIT	1,405	2,777	98%	1,539	3,069	99%	549	4,414	704%	1,990	3,619	82%
Other expenses	(39)	(41)	6%	(20)	(16)	-22%	(24)	(32)	34%	(79)	(64)	-18%
Net finance cost	156	(52)	n/a	371	31	-92%	67	(505)	n/a	316	(34)	n/a
Share of profit of JV and associates	58	(33)	n/a	(51)	13	n/a	(59)	15	n/a	(92)	(7)	-92%
Pretax profit	1,579	2,651	68%	1,839	3,097	68%	533	3,891	631%	2,135	3,513	65%
Income tax	(270)	(405)	50%	(196)	(557)	184%	252	(679)	n/a	(189)	(299)	58%
After tax profit	1,309	2,245	72%	1,643	2,540	55%	784	3,212	309%	1,947	3,215	65%
MI	(258)	(389)	51%	(307)	(497)	62%	141	(610)	n/a	(353)	(701)	99%
Net profit	1,051	1,856	77%	1,335	2,043	53%	925	2,602	181%	1,594	2,513	58%
Key ratios			Chg (ppt)			Chg (ppt)			Chg (ppt)			Chg (ppt)
Gross margin	18.6%	18.7%	0.1	16.9%	20.2%	3.3	15.3%	21.8%	6.5	20.3%	23.7%	3.3
S&D expense ratio	6.2%	5.4%	-0.8	5.4%	6.3%	0.9	6.4%	6.2%	-0.2	6.4%	7.1%	0.7
Administrative expense ratio	4.6%	4.3%	-0.3	4.4%	4.4%	0.0	4.6%	4.4%	-0.2	4.9%	4.6%	-0.3
R&D expense ratio	4.4%	3.4%	-1.0	4.1%	3.6%	-0.5	4.2%	3.6%	-0.6	5.0%	4.5%	-0.5
Effective tax rate	17.1%	15.3%	-1.8	10.7%	18.0%	7.3	-47.3%	17.5%	64.7	8.8%	8.5%	-0.3
	21014											

Source: Company data, CMBIGM

Figure 2: KION's latest guidance for 2024E

	2021	2022	2023		guidance	
(EUR mn)				Low-end	High-end	
Order intake	12,482	11,708	10,876	-	-	
Growth (YoY)	32%	-6%	-7%	-	-	
Revenue	10,294	11,136	11,434	11,200	12,000	
Growth (YoY)	23%	8%	3%	-2%	5%	
Adjusted EBIT	842	292	791	790	940	
Growth (YoY)	54%	-65%	171%	0%	19%	
Adjusted EBIT margin	8.2%	2.6%	6.9%	7.1%	7.8%	
Net income	568	106	314	-	-	
Growth (YoY)	169%	-81%	197%	-	-	

Source: Company data, CMBIGM

Figure 3: KION's quarterly financials

(EUR mn)	4Q22	1Q23	2Q23	3Q23	4Q23
Order intake	2,536	2,444	2,864	2,621	2,947
Growth (YoY)	-27%	-16%	-24%	4%	16%
Revenue	2,893	2,781	2,836	2,730	3,086
Growth (YoY)	5%	2%	1%	1%	7%
Adjusted EBIT	82	156	192	224	219
Growth (YoY)	-46%	-8%	36%	n/a	167%
Adjusted EBIT margin	2.8%	5.6%	6.8%	8.2%	7.1%
Net income	39	74	73	82	86
Growth (YoY)	-72%	-8%	-9%	n/a	121%

Source: Company data, CMBIGM



Figure 4: Change in key assumptions for Weichai

		2024E			2025E			2026E	
Sales volume (unit)	Old	New	Change	Old	New	Change	Old	New	Change
Engine total	987,647	885,924	-10.3%	1,051,911	944,050	-10.3%	-	972,494	-
HDT (Shaanxi Heavy-duty Motor)	134,560	135,720	0.9%	142,634	143,863	0.9%	-	148,179	-
Gear box (Shaanxi Fast Gear Company)	781,750	921,800	17.9%	813,020	967,890	19.0%	-	987,248	-
(RMB mn)									
Revenue									
Diesel engines	67,654	72,646	7.4%	72,056	77,412	7.4%	-	79,744	-
Automobiles and major components	64,142	72,123	12.4%	66,896	75,822	13.3%	-	77,436	_
Forklift trucks & supply chain solution	87,101	90,147	3.5%	92,327	95,556	3.5%	-	101,289	-
Agricultural machinery	20,481	17,820	-13.0%	21,505	18,711	-13.0%	-	19,646	-
Intersegment sales	(10,945)	(16,444)	50.2%	(10,408)	(17,415)	67.3%	-	(18,093)	-
Total revenue	228,433	236,291	3.4%	242,376	250,085	3.2%	-	260,023	-
Segment profit									
Diesel engines	7,780	9,299	19.5%	8,142	9,909	21.7%	-	10,207	-
Automobiles and major components	834	938	12.4%	937	1,062	13.3%	-	1,084	-
Forklift trucks & supply chain solution	3,658	5,409	47.9%	3,878	5,733	47.9%	-	6,077	-
Agricultural machinery	942	820	-13.0%	968	842	-13.0%	-	884	-
Intersegment sales	(109)	(872)	696.3%	(104)	(923)	786.9%	-	(959)	-
Total segment profit	13,105	15,593	19.0%	13,820	16,623	20.3%	-	17,294	=,
Segment margin			Chg (ppt)			Chg (ppt)			Chg (ppt)
Diesel engines	11.5%	12.8%	1.3	11.3%	12.8%	1.5	-	12.8%	-
Automobiles and major components	1.3%	1.3%	0.0	1.4%	1.4%	0.0	-	1.4%	-
Forklift trucks & supply chain solution	4.2%	6.0%	1.8	4.2%	6.0%	1.8	-	6.0%	-
Agricultural machinery	4.6%	4.6%	0.0	4.5%	4.5%	0.0	-	4.5%	-
Average	5.7%	6.6%	0.9	5.7%	6.6%	0.9	-	6.7%	=,
Net profit	10,172	12,117	19.1%	10,908	13,051	19.6%	-	13,768	

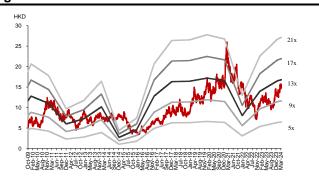
Source: Company data, CMBIGM estimates

Figure 5: SOTP valuation

SOTP valuation	Valuation methodology	Target multiple	EBITDA	Estimated EV	Net cash / (Net debt)	Equity value	Equity value breakdown
		(x)	2024E				
			(RMB mn)	(RMB mn)		(RMB mn)	
Weichai core business	EV/EBITDA	6.5	14,481	94,126	58,484	152,611	85.8%
KION Group	Proportionate market value	-	-	-	-	23,166	13.0%
Ballard Power Systems	Proportionate market value	-	-	-	-	1,202	0.7%
Ceres Power	Proportionate market value	-	-	-	-	462	0.3%
Share of JV/associates	P/B	1.4	-	-	-	7,244	4.1%
Minority interest in core business						(6,757)	-3.8%
Total NAV						177,928	100.0%
NAV per share (RMB)						20.4	
NAV per share (HK\$)						22.0	

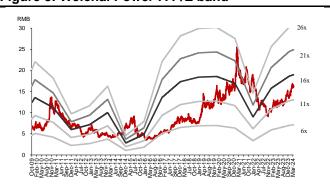
Source: Company data, CMBIGM estimates
Note 1: Weichai owns 46.5% interest in KION, 20% interest in Ballard Power and 20% interest in Ceres Power.
Note 2: Share of JV/associates excludes Ballard Power and Ceres Power

Figure 6: Weichai Power-H P/E band



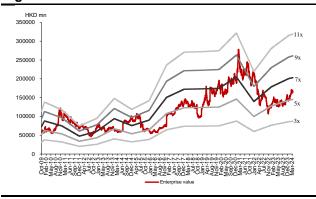
Source: Bloomberg, company data, CMBIGM estimates

Figure 8: Weichai Power-A P/E band



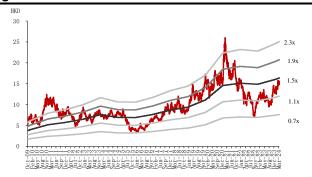
Source: Bloomberg, company data, CMBIGM estimates

Figure 10: Weichai Power EV/EBITDA band



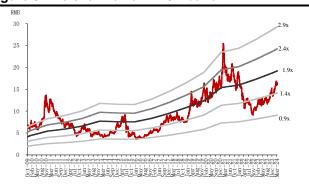
Source: Bloomberg, company data, CMBIGM estimates

Figure 7: Weichai Power-H P/B band



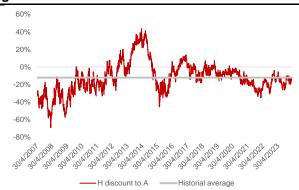
Source: Bloomberg, company data, CMBIGM estimates

Figure 9: Weichai Power-A P/B band



Source: Bloomberg, company data, CMBIGM estimates

Figure 11: Weichai Power H discount to A



Source: Bloomberg, CMBIGM



Financial Summary

INCOME STATEMENT	2021A	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
YE 31 Dec (RMB mn)						
Revenue	203,548	175,158	213,958	236,291	250,085	260,023
Cost of goods sold	(163,947)	(144,011)	(168,842)	(185,725)	(196,317)	(204,118)
Gross profit	39,601	31,147	45,116	50,566	53,768	55,905
Operating expenses	(26,038)	(25,664)	(31,238)	(33,436)	(35,585)	(37,053)
Operating profit	13,563	5,482	13,878	17,131	18,183	18,852
Share of (losses)/profits of associates/JV	187	(144)	(13)	182	169	172
EBITDA	24,160	16,630	25,867	27,886	29,765	31,181
Depreciation	10,597	11,148	11,989	10,756	11,582	12,329
Interest income	1,724	2,359	2,818	3,105	3,511	4,077
Interest expense	(1,274)	(1,450)	(3,378)	(1,665)	(1,668)	(1,672)
Net Interest income/(expense)	450	909	(560)	1,441	1,843	2,405
Other income/expense	(145)	(162)	(154)	(284)	(300)	(312)
Pre-tax profit	14,055	6,086	13,151	18,470	19,895	21,117
Income tax	(2,493)	(403)	(1,940)	(3,325)	(3,581)	(3,907)
Minority interest	(2,307)	(778)	(2,198)	(3,029)	(3,263)	(3,442)
Adjusted net profit	9,255	4,906	9,014	12,117	13,051	13,768
BALANCE SHEET	2021A	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
YE 31 Dec (RMB mn)	_•					
Current assets	160,638	168,484	197,925	208,102	232,765	246,112
Cash & equivalents	75,043	70,842	92,857	101,234	118,206	136,588
Account receivables	18,191	21,419	23,754	24,152	27,921	24,796
Inventories	31,585	33,374	37,930	39,413	43,417	41,586
Prepayment	1,570	1,473	1,691	1,610	1,529	1,448
Other current assets	34,249	41,378	41,693	41,693	41,693	41,693
Non-current assets	116,406	125,182	136,322	132,626	128,097	122,823
PP&E	33,188	37,892	44,073	41,286	37,839	33,732
Investment in JVs & assos	6,713	5,341	5,175	5,253	5,326	5,400
Intangibles	20,908	22,760	23,071	22,084	20,930	19,689
Goodwill	22,847	24,019	24,858	24,858	24,858	24,858
Other non-current assets	32,750	35,171	39,145	39,145	39,145	39,145
Total assets	277,044	293,666	334,247	340,727	360,863	368,935
Current liabilities	115,382	119,743	146,215	142,076	151,956	149,344
Short-term borrowings	12,982	15,824	16,949	17,049	17,149	17,249
Account payables	39,596	45,560	60,127	55,888	65,667	62,955
Other current liabilities	62,803	58,358	69,139	69,139	69,139	69,139
Non-current liabilities	58,700	69,813	75,346	75,346	75,346	75,346
Long-term borrowings	18,839	28,839	26,745	26,745	26,745	26,745
Other non-current liabilities	39,861	40,973	48,601	48,601	48,601	48,601
Total liabilities	174,083	189,555	221,561	217,422	227,302	224,690
Total shareholders equity	70,907	73,184	79,335	86,925	93,918	101,161
Minority interest	32,055	30,926	33,351	36,380	39,642	43,085
Total equity and liabilities	277,044	293,666	334,247	340,727	360,863	368,935



CASH FLOW	2021A	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
YE 31 Dec (RMB mn)						
Operating						
Profit before taxation	14,055	6,086	13,151	18,470	19,895	21,117
Depreciation & amortization	10,537	11,065	11,909	10,675	11,501	12,248
Tax paid	(2,493)	(403)	(1,940)	(3,325)	(3,581)	(3,907)
Change in working capital	(8,767)	(20,324)	6,089	(6,120)	2,007	2,243
Others	1,325	1,227	(1,738)	1,563	1,580	1,581
Net cash from operations	14,658	(2,350)	27,471	21,264	31,402	33,282
Investing						
Capital expenditure	(3,610)	(5,242)	(4,633)	(6,900)	(6,900)	(6,900)
Acquisition of subsidiaries/ investments	(3,578)	(309)	(156)	0	0	0
Others	1,779	(2,995)	(947)	104	96	98
Net cash from investing	(5,409)	(8,545)	(5,737)	(6,796)	(6,804)	(6,802)
Financing						
Dividend paid	(4,715)	(3,930)	(4,175)	(4,526)	(6,058)	(6,526)
Net borrowings	(5,913)	12,842	(969)	100	100	100
Proceeds from share issues	14,050	1,676	92	0	0	0
Others	(298)	(5,736)	(7,977)	(1,665)	(1,668)	(1,672)
Net cash from financing	3,123	4,852	(13,029)	(6,091)	(7,627)	(8,097)
Net change in cash						
Cash at the beginning of the year	62,216	75,043	70,842	92,857	101,234	118,206
Exchange difference	455	1,841	13,310	0	0	0
Cash at the end of the year	75,043	70,842	92,857	101,234	118,206	136,588
GROWTH	2021A	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
YE 31 Dec						
Revenue	3.1%	(13.9%)	22.2%	10.4%	5.8%	4.0%
Gross profit	3.8%	(21.3%)	44.8%	12.1%	6.3%	4.0%
Operating profit	5.5%	(59.6%)	153.1%	23.4%	6.1%	3.7%
EBITDA	11.3%	(31.2%)	55.5%	7.8%	6.7%	4.8%
Adj. net profit	0.5%	(47.0%)	83.8%	34.4%	7.7%	5.5%
PROFITABILITY YE 31 Dec	2021A	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
Gross profit margin	19.5%	17.8%	21.1%	21.4%	21.5%	21.5%
Operating margin	6.7%	3.1%	6.5%	7.2%	7.3%	7.3%
EBITDA margin	11.9%	9.5%	12.1%	11.8%	11.9%	12.0%
Adj. net profit margin	4.5%	2.8%	4.2%	5.1%	5.2%	5.3%
GEARING/LIQUIDITY/ACTIVITIES	2021A	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
YE 31 Dec						
Net debt to equity (x)	(0.6)	(0.4)	(0.6)	(0.7)	(0.8)	(0.9)
Current ratio (x)	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.6
Receivable turnover days	30.1	41.3	38.5	37.0	38.0	37.0
Inventory turnover days	69.9	82.3	77.1	76.0	77.0	76.0
Payable turnover days	94.7	107.9	114.2	114.0	113.0	115.0
VALUATION	2021A	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
YE 31 Dec						
P/E	17.4	21.8	12.1	11.7	10.9	10.3
P/B	2.3	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.4
Div yield (%)	1.9	2.1	4.1	4.3	4.6	0.0

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Source: Company data, CMBIGM estimates. Note: The calculation of net cash includes financial assets.



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