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Tianneng Power (819 HK)

Net earnings up 10% yoy in 1H19 due to decline in lead price

1H19 net earnings up 10% yoy

Tianneng Power (Tianneng) reported (30 August) its financial results for 1H19: total revenue increased by 39% yoy to RMB20.1bn and NPAT rose by 10% yoy to RMB564mn. The high growth in sales revenue was mainly because of a jump in the trading segment which started from 2H18. Revenue from lead-acid battery manufacturing sales declined by 6% yoy to RMB13.6bn due to lower lead prices and lower average selling price (ASP). The trading segment contributed sales revenue of RMB6.5bn in 1H19, but sales were margin dilutive. Tianneng is China's biggest lead-acid battery manufacturer, and we believe it will benefit from rising demand for lead-acid batteries for electric bikes going forward. The results were good overall, and we maintain BUY.

Higher margin on battery sales due to lower material costs

The cost of lead makes up over 70% of the total production cost of lead-acid batteries. In 1H19, lead price declined by around 15%, which led to the ASP decline and margin improvement in the battery manufacturing segment. In 1H19, total revenue from battery sales declined by 6% yoy to RMB13.5bn, and GPM for the battery manufacturing segment improved from 11.8% in 1H18 to 13.5%. Other than the decline in lead price, advanced factory management and cost control measures also contributed to the margin expansion in 1H19.

Tianneng benefiting from market consolidation

Starting from 15 April, new regulations on electric bikes have been implemented nationwide limiting the maximum size and body weight of electric bikes. The new regulations pushed the consolidation of the lead-acid battery industry as the smaller players don't have adequate R&D capabilities to upgrade their products to comply with the new regulations. In addition, the strict regulations on battery assembly, waste disposal and material recycling further propelled market integration. Tianneng is the biggest suppliers of lead-acid batteries for electric bikes in China. We believe the company will manage to gain market share from smaller players by leveraging its large scale, strong R&D resources and quality customer portfolios.

A-share listing should strengthen Tianneng's competitiveness

Tianneng has a strong balance sheet and it was net cash by end-June. It recently reorganized its battery manufacturing business for listing on the China A-share market. We believe the A-share listing should: 1) give Tianneng more financial resources for development of new products in the long run; and 2) improve its brand awareness in mainland China and enable further market share gains.

Maintain BUY on its leading market position

The 1H19 results were good, in our view. We believe Tianneng, as the biggest manufacturer of lead-acid batteries, will continue to gain market share by leveraging its large scale and outstanding R&D and managerial capabilities, and deliver steady returns to shareholders. Maintain BUY.

🏠 華泰金融控股 (香港)有限公司

Huatai Research

1 September 2019

Equity | China | Auto Parts

BUY | TP HKD12.00 Maintained

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Key data

Closing price (HKD as of 30 Aug)	6.19
Mkt cap (USDmn)	910
6m avg daily val (USDmn)	2.25
52wk price range (HKD)	9.75/5.89
BVPS (RMB)	4.92

Share performance



Source: FactSet

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Valuation methodology and risks statement

Our target price of HKD12.00 is based on an average of DCF and PE valuations.

Risks: 1) weaker-than-expected sales and profit margins; and 2) disruptive technologies or products that will replace lead-acid batteries.

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Analyst Certification

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