

HOLD
TP: Rs 2,100 | ▲ 3%

**AMBER ENTERPRISES** 

Consumer Durables

24 January 2023

## Strong topline but margins remain muted

- Q3 topline grew 38% YoY but EBITDA margin disappoints at 5.8% (6.2% est.), dragging PAT well below expectations
- Capex guided to normalise to Rs 2.5bn from FY24 after spends in excess of Rs 6bn in FY23
- We cut FY23/FY24 EPS by 26%/10% on margin underperformance; TP unchanged at Rs 2,100 post rollover – retain HOLD

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**Mixed performance:** Amber reported strong Q3FY23 topline growth of 38% YoY to Rs 13.5bn, ahead of our estimate (Rs 11.7bn). However, EBITDA margin and adj. PAT disappointed at 5.8% and Rs 151mn vs. our forecasts of 6.2% and Rs 251mn respectively. While the standalone room air conditioner (RAC) and component business led the topline, better profitability at subsidiaries propped up operational performance for the quarter.

Ancillary business taking centerstage: Amber is focused on diversifying toward the electronics and motors division given its healthy growth prospects as well as the structural downshift in the core RAC business due to increased insourcing by OEMs. The company has acquired two marquee clients for its electronics business in its newer verticals of hearables and wearables. Further, it has started providing PCBA support for the BLDC motors used in fans. Management anticipates 50% revenue growth in electronics and 30-40% in the motors business in FY24.

Capex drive to normalise in FY24E: Amber expects capex to exceed Rs 6bn for FY23 with the addition of four new facilities along with the Sri City plant. Thereafter, capex is guided to moderate to ~Rs 2.5bn in FY24. The intensive capex has resulted in increased debt, elevated finance cost and higher depreciation, which is visible in the quarter. Net debt stood at Rs 9bn as at end-Q3FY23, and management aims to bring it down to Rs 4bn-4.5bn by FY23-end.

**Retain HOLD:** A thrust on diversifying away from the core RAC business toward the high-growth electronics and motors segments will help Amber mitigate the structural overhang arising from insourcing of AC production by OEMs. That said, delayed margin recovery leads us to cut our FY23/FY24 EPS estimates by 26%/10% and reiterate our HOLD rating. We maintain our TP of Rs 2,100 as we roll valuations over to Dec'24E, valuing the stock at an unchanged P/E multiple of 27x - a 50% discount to the 3Y average on 2Y forward basis.

## Key changes

Target	Rating	
<b>∢</b> ▶	< ▶	

Ticker/Price	AMBER IN/Rs 2,043
Market cap	US\$ 843.2mn
Free float	60%
3M ADV	US\$ 1.7mn
52wk high/low	Rs 4,026/Rs 1,843
Promoter/FPI/DII	40%/27%/12%

Source: NSE | Price as of 24 Jan 2023

#### **Key financials**

Y/E 31 Mar	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E
Total revenue (Rs mn)	42,064	56,605	73,303
EBITDA (Rs mn)	2,754	3,428	4,966
Adj. net profit (Rs mn)	1,113	1,281	1,992
Adj. EPS (Rs)	33.0	38.0	59.1
Consensus EPS (Rs)	33.0	53.7	83.0
Adj. ROAE (%)	6.7	7.1	10.2
Adj. P/E (x)	61.8	53.7	34.6
EV/EBITDA (x)	25.0	20.1	13.9
Adj. EPS growth (%)	33.7	15.1	55.5

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

## Stock performance



Source: NSE



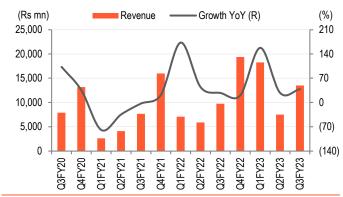


Fig 1 - Quarterly performance

Particulars (Rs mn)	Q3FY23	Q3FY22	YoY (%)	Q2FY23	QoQ (%)	9MFY23	9MFY22	YoY (%)
Revenue	13,483	9,743	38.4	7,504	79.7	39,244.8	22,697.0	72.9
EBITDA	785	736	6.6	367	114.2	2,144.3	1,501.0	42.9
EBITDA Margin (%)	5.8	7.6	(170bps)	4.9	90bps	5.5	6.6	(110bps)
Depreciation	363	271	-	318	-	1,002.8	776.7	-
Interest	289	123	-	244	-	743.6	278.7	-
Other Income	89	86	-	122	-	339.7	238.6	-
PBT	222	428	(48.2)	(73)	NA	737.5	684.1	7.8
Tax	71	99		(50)	-	180.8	163.9	-
Adjusted PAT	151	321	(53.1)	(23)	NA	556.8	520.2	7.0
Exceptional item	-	-	-	0	-	0.0	0.0	-
Reported PAT	142	321	(55.9)	(30)	NA	532.2	519.8	2.4
Adj. PAT Margin (%)	1.1	3.3	(220bps)	(0.3)	NA	1.4	2.3	(90bps)
EPS (Rs)	4.5	9.8	(54.2)	(0.7)	NA	16.5	15.4	7.0

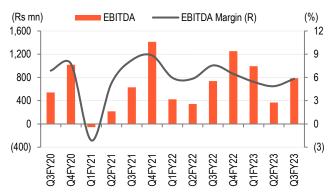
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 2 - Revenue growth rebounded...



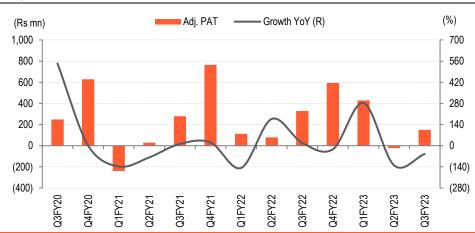
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 3 – ...while EBITDA margin remained muted



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 4 - PAT remains weak



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research



## Earnings call highlights

- Electronics: Amber has added two new categories in its electronics division hearables and wearables and also garnered two marquee clients for these products. Hearables, wearables and telecom contribute 70-75% of revenue in the vertical with ACs bringing in the balance. The company expects a ~50% increase in electronics business revenue for FY24. Its new facility in South India aims to cater to the new clients, with another four client additions expected in FY24.
- Mobility: Growth in the mobility business is being led by the government's thrust on railways. In addition to rail, the metro, defence and bus AC-led segments are aiding growth. Amber commands ~50% market share for HVAC panels, 60-70% share for defence related products and 5% share in bus ACs under its mobility vertical.
- Motors: In the motors business, the company is providing printed circuit board assembly (PCBA) support for brushless DC motors (BLDC) and has received approval from a few clients. Management expects the business to grow by 30-40% in FY24.
- RAC: RAC players were optimistic going into Q3FY23 but demand proved to be muted. October and November were weak months though demand did rise from mid-December. The industry has already undertaken price hikes for most AC models, in the range of Rs 1,200-1,300, due to the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) rating change.
- RAC contribution: After contributing a bulk of Amber's revenues (~80%) over the last 4-5 years, RAC share has come down to 40% in FY23 YTD. RAC is guided to remain at 35-40% of the mix for the next 2-3 years.
- Guidance: Amber aims to sustain its 26-28% market share in RAC manufacturing, with a ~30% growth in EBITDA. Management remains bullish on demand recovery with the advent of the summer season, and also maintained its double-digit growth guidance for the RAC industry over the long term.
- Capex: Amber has added four new facilities in FY23 (operating at 25-30% utilisation which is guided to rise to 50-60% in FY24), taking capex for the year in excess of Rs 6bn. In addition to Sri City, the company has added a facility in Tamil Nadu. Management expects moderate capex of Rs 2.5bn-2.75bn for FY24.
- **Finance cost:** Finance cost and depreciation rose in Q3FY23 due to higher capex and interest rates. Net debt was inflated at Rs 9bn on account of higher inventory levels. Management is targeting a reduction to Rs 4bn-4.5bn by FY23-end.
- Exports: Amber is using a two-pronged export strategy (i) expanding its
  components business exports have begun in the motor division and management
  expects 30-40% growth in FY24, and (ii) exporting finished goods where the
  company has received initial approvals but is awaiting final clearances.
- Sub-assembly business: Although sub-assemblies yield lower margins, they add volume to the business and increase customer engagement at no additional capex.



# Valuation methodology

Diversification away from the core RAC business toward the high-growth electronics and motors segments will help Amber mitigate the structural overhang arising from insourcing of AC production by OEMs who are looking to avail of PLI benefits. That said, delayed margin recovery leads us to cut our FY23/FY24/FY25 EPS estimates by 26%/10%/6% and reiterate our HOLD rating. Our TP remains at Rs 2,100 as we roll valuations over to Dec'24E, valuing the stock at an unchanged P/E multiple of 27x – a 50% discount to the three-year average on a two-year forward basis.

Fig 5 - Revised estimates

(Do)		New			Old			Change (%)	
(Rs mn)	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Sales	56,605	73,303	88,712	57,923	73,729	87,481	(2.3)	(0.6)	1.4
EBITDA	3,428	4,966	6,023	4,043	5,239	6,186	(15.2)	(5.2)	(2.6)
PAT	1,281	1,992	2,763	1,737	2,203	2,947	(26.3)	(9.5)	(6.2)
EPS (Rs)	38.0	59.1	82.0	51.6	65.4	87.5	(26.3)	(9.5)	(6.2)
EBITDA Margin (%)	6.1	6.8	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.1	(90bps)	(30bps)	(30bps)

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

## **Key risks**

- Increased insourcing by OEMs poses a threat to growth in the RAC business.
- Ancillary business diversification can yield lower growth than expected, presenting a downside risk to our estimates.
- Better than expected market share gain in RAC pose an upside risk to estimates

## Sector recommendation snapshot

Company	Ticker	Market Cap (US\$ bn)	Price (Rs)	Target (Rs)	Rating
Amber Enterprises	AMBER IN	0.8	2,043	2,100	HOLD
Blue Star	BLSTR IN	1.5	1,246	1,350	HOLD
Crompton Greaves	CROMPTON IN	2.6	339	500	BUY
Dixon Technologies	DIXON IN	2.5	3,477	5,200	BUY
Havells India	HAVL IN	9.2	1,193	1,500	BUY
KEI Industries	KEII IN	1.7	1,514	1,900	BUY
Orient Electric	ORIENTEL IN	0.7	264	280	HOLD
Polycab India	POLYCAB IN	5.2	2,817	3,300	BUY
Syrma SGS	SYRMA IN	0.6	265	390	BUY
V-Guard Industries	VGRD IN	1.3	251	250	HOLD
Voltas	VOLT IN	3.2	778	950	HOLD

Source: BOBCAPS Research, NSE | Price as of 24 Jan 2023



# **Financials**

Income Statement Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Total revenue				73,303	
EBITDA	<b>30,305</b> 2,203	42,064	<b>56,605</b> 3,428		88,712
Depreciation	923	2,754	,	4,966 2,147	6,023
<u>'</u>		1,079	1,364		2,162
EBIT	1,280	1,675	2,064	2,819	3,861
Net interest inc./(exp.)	(410)	(464)	(834)	(734)	(863)
Other inc./(exp.)	331	332	482	578	694
Exceptional items	0	0	0	0	0
EBT	1,201	1,543	1,712	2,662	3,693
Income taxes	369	429	431	670	929
Extraordinary items	0	0	0	0	0
Min. int./Inc. from assoc.	0	0	0	0	0
Reported net profit	833	1,113	1,281	1,992	2,763
Adjustments	0	0	0	0	0
Adjusted net profit	833	1,113	1,281	1,992	2,763
Balance Sheet					
Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Accounts payables	13,169	17,021	22,952	29,723	35,971
Other current liabilities	1.402	2,263	3,045	3,944	4,773
Provisions	0	2,203	0,043	0,344	4,773
Debt funds	3,843	10,318	11,913	14,690	17,252
Other liabilities	1,410			3,512	4,169
	337	2,180 337	2,800 337	337	337
Equity capital					
Reserves & surplus	15,704	17,005	18,232	20,157	22,819
Shareholders' fund	16,041	17,342	18,569	20,494	23,156
Total liab. and equities	35,866	49,125	59,280	72,363	85,321
Cash and cash eq.	2,899	5,626	1,400	3,174	6,461
Accounts receivables	10,690	13,149	17,679	22,904	27,713
Inventories	7,163	8,408	11,321	14,657	17,740
Other current assets	1,207	2,497	3,360	4,351	5,266
Investments	0	0	0	0	0
Net fixed assets	7,864	10,791	15,427	15,529	14,868
CWIP	288	1,056	1,421	1,840	2,227
Intangible assets	3,721	4,487	4,487	4,487	4,487
Deferred tax assets, net	0	0	0	0	0
Other assets	2,033	3,110	4,186	5,420	6,560
Total assets	35,866	49,125	59,280	72,363	85,321
Cash Flows					
Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Cash flow from operations	2,051	1,418	1,053	2,257	3,195
Capital expenditures	(1,845)	(4,137)	(6,000)	(2,250)	(1,500)
Change in investments	(1,433)	(1,482)	0	0	0
Other investing cash flows	(1,531)	(1,365)	(820)	(942)	(869)
Cash flow from investing	(4,810)	(6,984)	(6,820)	(3,192)	(2,369)
Equities issued/Others	0	0	0	0	(_,,==,
Debt raised/repaid	4,097	6,031	1,595	2,777	2,562
Interest expenses	0	0	0	0	0
Dividends paid	(397)	(476)	(54)	(67)	(101)
Other financing cash flows	0	0	0	0	(101)
Caron midnioning cash nows					0.404
Cach flow from financina	3 7nn	h hhh			
Cash flow from financing Chg in cash & cash eq.	3,700 941	5,555 (11)	1,541 (4,226)	2,709 1,774	2,461 3,287

Per Share					
Y/E 31 Mar (Rs)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Reported EPS	24.7	33.0	38.0	59.1	82.0
Adjusted EPS	24.7	33.0	38.0	59.1	82.0
Dividend per share	1.6	1.6	1.6	2.0	3.0
Book value per share	476.1	514.7	551.1	608.2	687.3
Valuations Ratios					
Y/E 31 Mar (x)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
EV/Sales	2.3	1.6	1.2	0.9	0.0
EV/EBITDA	31.2	25.0	20.1	13.9	11.4
Adjusted P/E	82.7	61.8	53.7	34.6	24.9
P/BV	4.3	4.0	3.7	3.4	3.0
DuPont Analysis					
Y/E 31 Mar (%)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Tax burden (Net profit/PBT)	69.3	72.2	74.8	74.8	74.8
Interest burden (PBT/EBIT)	93.9	92.1	82.9	94.5	95.0
EBIT margin (EBIT/Revenue)	4.2	4.0	3.6	3.8	4.4
Asset turnover (Rev./Avg TA)	3.9	3.9	3.7	4.7	6.0
Leverage (Avg TA/Avg Equity)	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.8	0.
Adjusted ROAE	6.1	6.7	7.1	10.2	12.
Ratio Analysis					
Y/E 31 Mar	FY21A	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
YoY growth (%)					
Revenue	(23.5)	38.8	34.6	29.5	21.0
EBITDA	(28.8)	25.0	24.5	44.9	21.3
Adjusted EPS	(49.3)	33.7	15.1	55.5	38.
Profitability & Return ratios (%)					
EBITDA margin	7.3	6.5	6.1	6.8	6.8
EBIT margin	4.2	4.0	3.6	3.8	4.4
Adjusted profit margin	2.7	2.6	2.3	2.7	3.
Adjusted ROAE	6.1	6.7	7.1	10.2	12.
ROCE	6.4	6.0	6.5	7.7	8.9
Working capital days (days)					
Receivables	129	114	114	114	114
Inventory	86	73	73	73	7:
Payables	159	148	148	148	148
Ratios (x)					
Gross asset turnover	2.8	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.
O t t'-	4.0	4.4	4.0	4.0	4.0

Adjusted debt/equity 0.2 0.6

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research | Note: TA = Total Assets

1.3

3.1

1.1

3.6

1.0

2.5

0.6

1.0

3.8

0.7

1.0

4.5

0.7

Current ratio

Net interest coverage ratio



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HOLD - Expected return from -6% to +15%

SELL - Expected return <-6%

Note: Recommendation structure changed with effect from 21 June 2021

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