

**BUY**TP: Rs 3,590 | ▲ 16%

**L&T INFOTECH** 

IT Services

21 October 2020

## Robust growth and pipeline; margin shines

L&T Infotech's (LTI) Q2FY21 revenue beat estimates, with 2.3% QoQ CC growth due to an uptick in the manufacturing and BFS verticals. Operating margins stood at a record high of 19.9% backed by increased offshoring and tight SG&A cost control. We raise FY21/FY22/FY23 EPS by 12%/10%/9% given LTI's strong revenue mix, favourable offshore presence, client mining skills and robust leadership. Rolling valuations over, we move to a new Sep'21 TP of Rs 3,590 (vs. Rs 3,290), set at an unchanged target P/E of 27x. BUY.

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Record high EBIT margin: In line with the V-shaped recovery across the sector, LTI's 2.3% QoQ CC revenue growth (against 1.4% est.) was driven by traction in BFS and manufacturing. The top client continues to grow well. Insurance, retail, CPG, pharma and hi-tech remained weak due to the Covid impact. Two key areas of emerging demand are cloud (partnership with hyperscalers such as AWS and Google Cloud) and data-driven products. EBIT margin stood at an all-time high of 19.9% (17.8% est.), increasing 240bps QoQ amid LTI completing five years of operations.

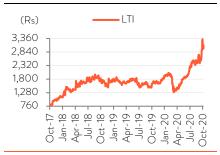
**TCV recovery:** Q2 TCV stood at US\$ 40mn, recovering QoQ but still down 60% YoY. As per management, large deals are taking longer to close post Covid-19. Q2 deal wins came from hi-tech, manufacturing and BFS, including new Fortune-500 clients. A total of 20 new logos were added across verticals.

**Increased FY21 visibility:** Management outlook remains cautiously positive on the back of a healthy deal pipeline and strong client mining. The Q3FY21 outlook is upbeat as revenue has already crossed Q4FY20 figures QTD. PAT margin guidance for FY21 is in the range of 14-15%, despite salary hikes and hiring starting from Jan'21, as LTI will continue leveraging offshoring of work.

Ticker/Price	LTI IN/Rs 3,100
Market cap	US\$ 7.4bn
Shares o/s	176mn
3M ADV	US\$12.3mn
52wk high/low	Rs 3,513/Rs 1,210
Promoter/FPI/DII	75%/8%/10%

Source: NSE

### STOCK PERFORMANCE



Source: NSE

#### **KEY FINANCIALS**

Y/E 31 Mar	FY19A	FY20A	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
Total revenue (Rs mn)	94,458	108,786	126,041	156,270	180,528
EBITDA (Rs mn)	18,835	20,291	26,757	30,740	35,306
Adj. net profit (Rs mn)	15,157	15,198	18,419	21,656	24,988
Adj. EPS (Rs)	86.5	86.4	105.0	123.4	142.4
Adj. EPS growth (%)	36.1	0.0	21.5	17.6	15.4
Adj. ROAE (%)	34.6	29.5	31.0	30.5	29.6
Adj. P/E (x)	35.9	35.9	29.5	25.1	21.8
EV/EBITDA (x)	28.8	26.7	20.3	17.7	15.2

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research



# Other highlights

- LTI's CEO believes that the dichotomy between economic indicators and technology spend is increasing post Covid. Technology has proven to be a redeeming factor in current difficult times. Organisations now need to reimagine their operating models, incorporating digital transformation to remain relevant in the marketplace. This in turn is driving growth in the digital and cloud business.
- Management is hopeful of sustaining margin benefits from the pandemic by continued leveraging of parameters such as offshoring and increased operational efficiency.
- In keeping with the likes of Infosys and HCL Tech, LTI launched Canvas
  PolarSled, a cloud migration framework to help enterprises accelerate their
  data transition to Snowflake, the company's cloud data platform.
- Europe posted sharp growth at 16% QoQ USD in Q2 as enterprises began recovering from lockdown.
- DSO improved substantially, standing at 62 days vs. 70 days in Q1.
- The board has declared first interim dividend for FY21, at Rs 15/sh.

FIG 1 - QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE

(Rs mn)	Q2FY21	Q2FY20	Y <sub>0</sub> Y (%)	Q1FY21	Q <sub>0</sub> Q (%)
Revenues (US\$ mn)	404.5	363.8	11.2	390.3	3.6
Revenue	29,984	25,707	16.6	29,492	1.7
Operating Expenditure	23,128	21,050	9.9	23,570	(1.9)
Cost of revenues	19,537	17,525	11.5	19,916	(1.9)
as % of sales	65.2	68.2	-	67.5	-
SG&A expenses	3,591	3,525	1.9	3,654	(1.7)
as % of sales	12.0	13.7	-	12.4	-
EBITDA	6,856	4,657	47.2	5,922	15.8
Depreciation	899	664	35.4	781	15.1
EBIT	5,957	3,993	49.2	5,141	15.9
Other Income	174	739	-	450	-
PBT	6,131	4,732	29.6	5,591	9.7
Total Tax	1,563	1,130	38.3	1,425	9.7
Reported PAT	4,568	3,602	26.8	4,166	9.6
Reported EPS	26.0	20.5	26.9	23.7	9.6
Margins (%)			(bps)		(bps)
EBITDA	22.9	18.1	470	20.1	280
EBIT	19.9	15.5	430	17.4	240
EBT	20.4	18.4	200	19.0	150
PAT	15.2	14.0	120	14.1	110
Effective Tax rate	25.5	23.9	160	25.5	-

Source: BOBCAPS Research



## FIG 2 - OPERATING METRICS

C. LICO.	Q2FY21	Growth		
(in US\$ terms)	(% Contr. to Revenue)	Q <sub>0</sub> Q (%)	Y <sub>0</sub> Y (%)	
Revenue by Vertical				
BFS	29.9	11.9	22.7	
Insurance	16.0	(3.6)	(4.9)	
Manufacturing	16.2	6.3	9.8	
Energy & Process	10.6	1.7	(2.6)	
CPG, Retail & Pharma	11.0	(0.9)	6.4	
High-Tech, Media & Entertainment	10.6	(5.3)	9.1	
Others	5.7	9.4	81.1	
Revenue by Geography				
North America	68.7	0.6	11.2	
Europe	16.1	15.9	9.2	
India	6.9	3.6	27.9	
RoW	8.2	7.6	2.4	
Client Contribution to Revenue				
Top 5 clients	30.0	1.9	5.2	
Top 10 clients	42.9	2.4	4.8	
Top 20 clients	57.8	2.9	4.7	
Non top 20 client revenues	42.2	4.6	21.6	
Digital Revenues	42.9	5.9	18.4	

Source: BOBCAPS Research



# Valuation methodology

Overall, LTI has outperformed management's earlier conservative outlook for Q2FY21. We increase FY21/FY22/FY23 EPS estimates by 12%/10%/9% to factor in the Q2 performance. Rolling valuations forward, our Sep'21 target price increases from Rs 3,290 to Rs 3,590, based on an unchanged one-year forward P/E multiple of 27x.

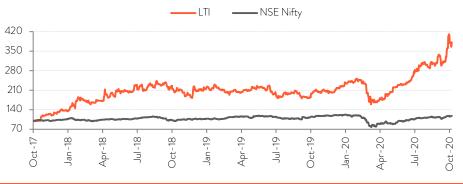
Our BUY rating is justified by LTI's best-in-class fundamentals among IT mid-caps. The company continues to exhibit strong growth leadership amid current challenging times backed by a robust sales engine, marquee clientele and evolving service offerings, which will pave the way for a swift growth rebound post crisis. The share price has risen 31% QoQ in Q2FY21 and we see further upside potential.

FIG 3 - REVISED ESTIMATES

(D. )		FY21E			FY22E			FY23E	
(Rs mn) —	Old	New	Change (%)	Old	New	Change (%)	Old	New	Change (%)
Revenues (US\$ mn)	1,597	1,673	4.8	1,843	2,003	8.7	2,110	2,314	9.7
YoY growth (%)	4.7	9.8	-	15.4	19.7	-	14.5	15.5	-
Revenues	121,780	126,041	3.5	143,715	156,270	8.7	164,544	180,528	9.7
EBITDA	23,412	26,757	14.3	27,922	30,740	10.1	32,180	35,306	9.7
EBITDA margins (%)	19.2	21.2	-	19.4	19.7	-	19.6	19.6	-
Net profits	16,378	18,419	12.5	19,723	21,656	9.8	22,874	24,988	9.2
EPS (Rs)	93.3	105.0	12.5	112.4	123.4	9.8	130.3	142.4	9.2

Source: BOBCAPS Research

FIG 4 - RELATIVE STOCK PERFORMANCE



Source: NSE

# Key risks

- Steady large deal wins are critical for the company to sustain its strong growth traction. An inability to do so may derail growth.
- Unsustainable margins



### **FINANCIALS**

## Income Statement

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY19A	FY20A	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
Total revenue	94,458	108,786	126,041	156,270	180,528
EBITDA	18,835	20,291	26,757	30,740	35,306
Depreciation	1,471	2,731	3,677	3,907	4,513
EBIT	17,364	17,560	23,080	26,833	30,793
Net interest income/(expenses)	0	0	0	0	0
Other income/(expenses)	2,915	2,463	1,556	2,042	2,525
Exceptional items	0	0	0	0	0
EBT	20,279	20,023	24,635	28,875	33,318
Income taxes	5,122	4,825	6,216	7,219	8,329
Extraordinary items	0	0	0	0	0
Min. int./Inc. from associates	0	0	0	0	0
Reported net profit	15,157	15,198	18,419	21,656	24,988
Adjustments	0	0	0	0	0
Adjusted net profit	15,157	15,198	18,419	21,656	24,988

### **Balance Sheet**

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY19A	FY20A	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
Accounts payables	0	0	0	0	0
Other current liabilities	15,291	23,618	27,364	33,927	39,193
Provisions	2,402	2,908	3,369	4,177	4,826
Debt funds	0	7,571	7,571	7,571	7,571
Other liabilities	56	101	101	101	101
Equity capital	171	174	174	174	174
Reserves & surplus	48,772	53,877	64,534	77,064	91,523
Shareholders' fund	48,943	54,051	64,708	77,238	91,697
Total liabilities and equities	66,692	88,249	103,114	123,015	143,388
Cash and cash eq.	4,150	5,252	11,377	23,598	34,761
Accounts receivables	23,845	27,541	34,532	38,532	44,514
Inventories	0	0	0	0	0
Other current assets	10,878	10,442	12,086	14,985	17,311
Investments	17,402	22,186	22,186	22,186	22,186
Net fixed assets	8,031	19,788	19,892	20,674	21,576
CWIP	0	0	0	0	0
Intangible assets	0	1,316	1,316	1,316	1,316
Deferred tax assets, net	2,386	3,039	3,039	3,039	3,039
Other assets	0	0	0	0	0
Total assets	66,692	88,248	103,113	123,014	143,387

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research



### Cash Flows

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY19A	FY20A	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
Net income + Depreciation	16,628	17,929	22,096	25,563	29,501
Interest expenses	(1,089)	(342)	(1,422)	(1,560)	(2,293)
Non-cash adjustments	0	0	0	0	0
Changes in working capital	(2,665)	5,573	(4,427)	472	(2,392)
Other operating cash flows	1,010	(6,887)	0	0	0
Cash flow from operations	13,884	16,273	16,246	24,475	24,816
Capital expenditures	(4,221)	(5,480)	(3,781)	(4,688)	(5,416)
Change in investments	(4,324)	0	0	0	0
Other investing cash flows	1,089	(3,287)	1,422	1,560	2,293
Cash flow from investing	(7,456)	(8,767)	(2,359)	(3,129)	(3,123)
Equities issued/Others	0	0	0	0	0
Debt raised/repaid	0	0	0	0	0
Interest expenses	0	0	0	0	0
Dividends paid	(5,911)	(6,404)	(7,762)	(9,126)	(10,530)
Other financing cash flows	0	0	0	0	0
Cash flow from financing	(5,911)	(6,404)	(7,762)	(9,126)	(10,530)
Changes in cash and cash eq.	517	1,102	6,125	12,221	11,163
Closing cash and cash eq.	4,150	5,252	11,377	23,598	34,761

## Per Share

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs)	FY19A	FY20A	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
Reported EPS	86.5	86.4	105.0	123.4	142.4
Adjusted EPS	86.5	86.4	105.0	123.4	142.4
Dividend per share	28.0	30.2	36.7	43.2	49.8
Book value per share	279.2	307.3	368.7	440.1	522.5

## Valuations Ratios

Y/E 31 Mar (x)	FY19A	FY20A	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
EV/Sales	5.7	5.0	4.3	3.5	3.0
EV/EBITDA	28.8	26.7	20.3	17.7	15.2
Adjusted P/E	35.9	35.9	29.5	25.1	21.8
P/BV	11.1	10.1	8.4	7.0	5.9

## **DuPont Analysis**

Y/E 31 Mar (%)	FY19A	FY20A	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
Tax burden (Net profit/PBT)	74.7	75.9	74.8	75.0	75.0
Interest burden (PBT/EBIT)	116.8	114.0	106.7	107.6	108.2
EBIT margin (EBIT/Revenue)	18.4	16.1	18.3	17.2	17.1
Asset turnover (Revenue/Avg TA)	156.8	140.4	131.7	138.2	135.5
Leverage (Avg TA/Avg Equity)	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6
Adjusted ROAE	34.6	29.5	31.0	30.5	29.6

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



## Ratio Analysis

Y/E 31 Mar	FY19A	FY20A	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
	FTI9A	F12UA	FIZIE	FIZZE	F1Z3E
YoY growth (%)					
Revenue	29.3	15.2	15.9	24.0	15.5
EBITDA	58.6	7.7	31.9	14.9	14.9
Adjusted EPS	36.1	0.0	21.5	17.6	15.4
Profitability & Return ratios (%)					
EBITDA margin	19.9	18.7	21.2	19.7	19.6
EBIT margin	18.4	16.1	18.3	17.2	17.1
Adjusted profit margin	16.0	14.0	14.6	13.9	13.8
Adjusted ROAE	34.6	29.5	31.0	30.5	29.6
ROCE	43.4	34.7	39.3	43.9	48.9
Working capital days (days)					
Receivables	89	86	90	85	84
Inventory	0	0	0	0	0
Payables	11	11	12	11	11
Ratios (x)					
Gross asset turnover	14.2	7.8	6.4	7.7	8.5
Current ratio	2.2	1.6	1.9	2.0	2.2
Net interest coverage ratio	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Adjusted debt/equity	(0.1)	0.0	(0.1)	(0.2)	(0.3)

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research



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### Recommendations and Absolute returns (%) over 12 months

BUY - Expected return >+15%

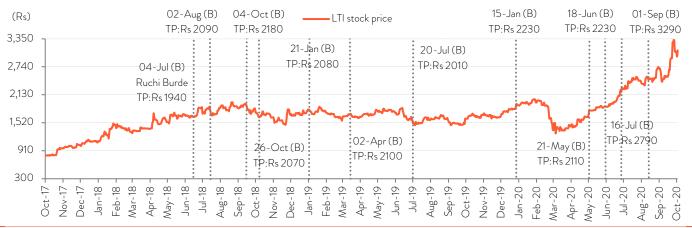
ADD - Expected return from >+5% to +15%

**REDUCE** - Expected return from -5% to +5%

SELL - Expected return <-5%

Note: Recommendation structure changed with effect from 1 January 2018 (Hold rating discontinued and replaced by Add / Reduce)

## RATINGS AND TARGET PRICE (3-YEAR HISTORY): L&T INFOTECH (LTI IN)



B - Buy, A - Add, R - Reduce, S - Sell

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