

**BUY**TP: Rs 460 | ▲ 15%

## **MAHINDRA LOGISTICS**

Logistics

05 February 2020

## Auto weakness persists, non-auto on steady footing

Mahindra Logistics' (MLL) Q3FY20 consolidated revenue/EBITDA declined 7%/20% YoY (adj. for Ind-AS 116), marginally below estimates. While revenue from Mahindra Group continued to plummet (–18% YoY), healthy growth in focus non-auto verticals (+25% YoY), strong warehousing momentum (+30%) and new client wins were key positives. The PV slowdown may have bottomed, per management, but broad-based recovery in the auto segment is still a few quarters away. We prune FY20-FY22 EPS by ~4% but maintain our Mar'21 TP of Rs 460.

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**Slump in anchor client segment continues:** SCM revenue declined 7% YoY owing to plunging anchor/non-anchor revenue in the auto vertical (-17%/-7% YoY). While this was on the cards, the dip in PTS revenue (-9% YoY) was a disappointment. Management sees some green shoots in PV demand, but expects CV recovery to be more protracted. Auto logistics is likely to exhibit some uptick in Q4 due to BS-VI channel filling and expected pre-buying.

Non-auto verticals on steady footing: The non-Mahindra, non-auto sales print (+12% YoY) was healthy, notwithstanding a high base (+16% YoY in Q3FY19), and loss of a large bulk client in Q1FY20. Key verticals of consumer, pharma and e-commerce sustained strong momentum (+25% YoY). Non-Mahindra warehousing grew apace at 30%. Robust client wins and increasing wallet share is expected to drive continued growth for the non-Mahindra, non-auto vertical.

**EBITDA** margin contracts: Higher warehousing and value-added contribution led to lower opex (-205bps YoY, adj. for Ind-AS 116). But margins dipped 50bps YoY to 3.1% as the revenue decline led to lower absorption of fixed expenses.

**Reiterate BUY:** We prune FY20-FY22 EPS by  $\sim$ 4% but move to a target P/E of 26x (vs. 25x) as we expect gradual recovery in FY21. Our TP stays at Rs 460.

Ticker/Price	MAHLOG IN/Rs 400
Market cap	US\$ 400.6mn
Shares o/s	71mn
3M ADV	US\$ 0.2mn
52wk high/low	Rs 578/Rs 317
Promoter/FPI/DII	58%/17%/12%
C NCE	

Source: NSE

### STOCK PERFORMANCE



Source: NSE

### **KEY FINANCIALS**

Y/E 31 Mar	FY18A	FY19A	FY20E	FY21E	FY22E
Total revenue (Rs mn)	34,161	38,513	36,566	41,070	47,280
EBITDA (Rs mn)	1,197	1,512	1,171	1,518	1,937
Adj. net profit (Rs mn)	640	856	715	980	1,258
Adj. EPS (Rs)	9.0	12.0	10.0	13.7	17.6
Adj. EPS growth (%)	34.1	33.2	(16.5)	37.0	28.3
Adj. ROAE (%)	16.7	18.7	13.6	16.6	19.1
Adj. P/E (x)	44.4	33.3	39.9	29.1	22.7
EV/EBITDA (x)	23.0	18.4	23.6	17.9	13.8



FIG 1 – QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE – CONSOLIDATED (ADJUSTED FOR IND-AS 116 IMPACT)

Y/E Mar (Rs mn)	Q3FY20	Q3FY19	Y <sub>0</sub> Y (%)	Q2FY20	Q <sub>0</sub> Q (%)	9MFY20	9MFY19	Y <sub>0</sub> Y (%)
Total revenues	9,081	9,811	(7.4)	8,526	6.5	26,598	28,367	(6.2)
Operating expenses	7,795	8,626	(9.6)	7,322	6.5	22,890	24,873	(8.0)
% of sales	85.8	87.9	(207bps)	85.9	(4bps)	86.1	87.7	(162bps)
Employee expenses	802	686	16.9	764	4.9	2,311	1,924	20.1
% of sales	8.8	7.0	184bps	9.0	(14bps)	8.7	6.8	191bps
Other expenses	198	141	41.1	194	2.0	571	466	22.4
% of sales	2.2	1.4	75bps	2.3	(10bps)	2.1	1.6	50bps
Total expenditure	8,795	9,452	(7.0)	8,281	6.2	25,772	27,263	(5.5)
EBITDA	286	359	(20.4)	245	16.7	826	1,104	(25.2)
EBITDA margin (%)	3.1	3.7	(51bps)	2.9	27bps	3.1	3.9	(79bps)
Depreciation	65	57	13.7	58	11.5	177	159	11.4
EBIT	221	302	(26.8)	187	18.3	648	945	(31.4)
Interest expenses	11	9	20.7	9	20.7	28	25	15.5
Other income	20	16	27.7	18	8.8	108	57	88.3
РВТ	230	309	(25.4)	196	17.3	728	977	(25.5)
PBT margin (%)	2.5	3.1	(61bps)	2.3	23bps	2.7	3.4	(71bps)

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

FIG 2 - QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE - CONSOLIDATED (AS PER IND-AS 116)

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Y/E Mar (Rs mn)	Q3FY20	Q3FY19	Y <sub>0</sub> Y (%)	Q2FY20	Q <sub>0</sub> Q (%)	9MFY20	9MFY19	Y <sub>0</sub> Y (%)
Total revenues	9,079	9,811	(7.5)	8,524	6.5	26,594	28,367	(6.2)
Operating expenses	7,668	8,626	(11.1)	7,200	6.5	22,541	24,873	(9.4)
% of sales	84.5	87.9	(346bps)	84.5	(1bps)	84.8	87.7	(292bps)
Employee expenses	802	686	16.9	764	4.9	2,311	1,924	20.1
% of sales	8.8	7.0	184bps	9.0	(14bps)	8.7	6.8	191bps
Other expenses	185	141	31.8	182	1.8	539	466	15.8
% of sales	2.0	1.4	61bps	2.1	(9bps)	2.0	1.6	39bps
Total expenditure	8,655	9,452	(8.4)	8,146	6.2	25,391	27,263	(6.9)
EBITDA	424	359	18.2	378	12.3	1,203	1,104	9.0
EBITDA margin (%)	4.7	3.7	101bps	4.4	24bps	4.5	3.9	63bps
Depreciation	188	57	229.6	177	6.3	514	159	223.3
EBIT	236	302	(21.8)	201	17.6	689	945	(27.1)
Interest expenses	43	9	390.8	42	2.9	120	25	388.6
Other income	20	16	29.7	19	8.6	109	57	90.0
PBT	213	309	(30.9)	178	20.1	678	977	(30.7)
PBT margin (%)	2.4	3.1	(80bps)	2.1	27bps	2.5	3.4	(90bps)
Extraordinary income/(expense)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Income tax	57	115	(50.8)	65	(12.4)	221	350	(36.8)
Effective tax rate (%)	26.6	37.4	(1,078bps)	36.4	(984bps)	32.6	35.8	(318bps)
Reported PAT – before profit/(loss) from JVs/Minority/Associates	157	193	(19.0)	113	38.7	457	627	(27.2)
Profit/(loss) from JVs/Minority/Associates	1	2	NM	1	NM	1	5	NM
Reported PAT – after profit/(loss) from JVs/Minority/Associates	158	195	(19.1)	114	38.5	458	632	(27.5)
Adjustments	=	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adjusted PAT	158	195	(19.1)	114	38.5	458	632	(27.5)
Adjusted PAT margin	1.7	2.0	(25bps)	1.3	40bps	1.7	2.2	(51bps)

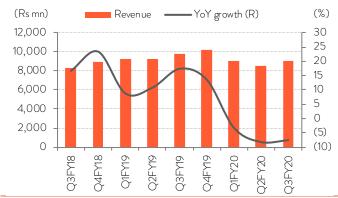


FIG 3 - SEGMENT-WISE REVENUE BREAK-DOWN - CONSOLIDATED

Y/E Mar (Rs mn)	Q3FY20	Q3FY19	Y <sub>0</sub> Y (%)	Q2FY20	Q <sub>0</sub> Q (%)	9MFY20	9MFY19	Y <sub>0</sub> Y (%)
Supply Chain Management (SCM) segment (A)	8,169	8,812	(7.3)	7,553	8.2	23,732	25,484	(6.9)
Mahindra Group	4,243	5,167	(17.9)	4,185	1.4	13,318	15,571	(14.5)
Non-Mahindra clients	3,926	3,645	7.7	3,368	16.6	10,414	9,913	5.1
Total SCM - Service-wise break-up								
Transportation	6,537	7,448	(12.2)	5,972	9.5	19,127	21,682	(11.8)
Warehousing	1,632	1,364	19.6	1,581	3.2	4,604	3,804	21.0
Total SCM - Industry-wise break-up								
Auto	4,993	5,908	(15.5)	4,850	2.9	15,485	17,882	(13.4)
Non-auto	3,176	2,904	9.4	2,703	17.5	8,246	7,604	8.4
Non-Mahindra SCM - Service-wise break-up								
Transportation	2,707	2,704	0.1	2,221	21.9	7,088	7,354	(3.6)
Warehousing	1,219	941	29.5	1,147	6.3	3,326	2,559	30.0
Non-Mahindra SCM - Industry-wise break-up								
Auto	801	865	(7.4)	709	13.0	2,320	2,546	(8.9)
Non-auto	3,125	2,780	12.4	2,659	17.5	8,094	7,367	9.9
Mahindra Group SCM - Service-wise break-up								
Transportation	3,830	4,744	(19.3)	3,751	2.1	12,039	14,328	(16.0)
Warehousing	413	423	(2.4)	434	(4.8)	1,278	1,245	2.7
Mahindra Group SCM - Industry-wise break-up								
Auto	4,192	5,043	(16.9)	4,141	1.2	13,165	15,336	(14.2)
Non-auto	51	124	(58.9)	44	15.9	152	237	(35.9)
People Transport Solution (PTS) segment (B)	911	1,000	(8.9)	971	(6.2)	2,863	2,881	(0.6)
Total consolidated revenue (A+B)	9,081	9,811	(7.4)	8,526	6.5	26,598	28,367	(6.2)
Source: Company BORCADS Posearch								

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

FIG 4 – CONSOLIDATED REVENUE DECLINED 7% YOY TO RS 9.1BN



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

FIG 5 – SCM REVENUE DECLINED 7.3% YOY...

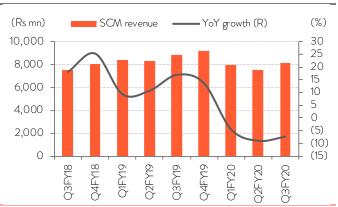
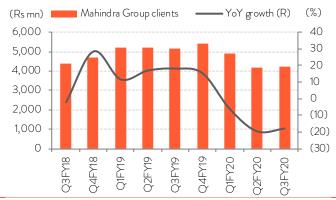


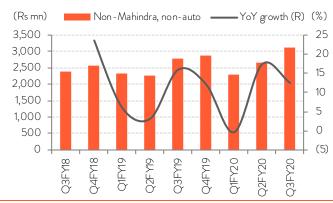


FIG 6 – ...DUE TO A SHARP 18% YOY DROP IN REVENUE FROM ANCHOR CLIENT SEGMENT



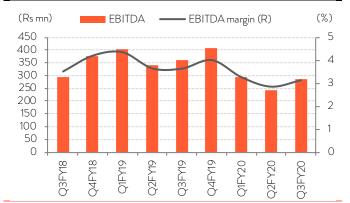
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

FIG 7 – BUT NON-MAHINDRA, NON-AUTO VERTICAL MAINTAINED GROWTH TRAJECTORY (+12% YOY)



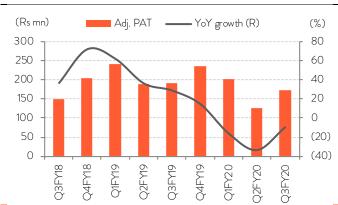
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

FIG 8 – LOWER REVENUE LED TO A 20% YOY DROP IN EBITDA (ADJ. FOR IND-AS 116)



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

FIG 9 - ADJ. PAT (AFTER MINORITY) FELL 19% YOY





# Earnings call highlights

- Auto production and distribution logistics may see some uptick in Q4FY20 led by channel filling for new BS-VI inventory and expected pre-buying. However, OEMs are facing supply chain issues for BS-VI models which poses a risk.
- The slowdown in the PV segment appears to have bottomed out with retail sales picking up. CV demand, however, is likely to remain tepid. Tractor demand should improve, but management does not expect high growth in the segment in the near-to-medium term. For MLL, PV is the largest segment, followed by farm equipment and CV.
- During the quarter, the decline in revenue from anchor client Mahindra & Mahindra (MM; -18% YoY) was steeper than MM's own volume decline (-6.5% domestic sales). This was due to (1) a fall in inbound logistics as MM reduced purchases to lower BS-IV inventory, and (2) a drop in lead distance for outbound transportation, with rail gaining share in long-distance deliveries.
- MLL added several clients during the quarter two tier-I automotive component manufacturers with multi-product portfolios, large apparel brands, and a leading pharma company. It has set up a temperature-controlled warehouse in North India for the latter.
- Focus verticals within the non-Mahindra, non-auto SCM segment − pharma, consumer and e-commerce − continued to grow at a fast clip (+25% YoY). Wallet share gain in existing client accounts contributed to ~50% of this incremental revenue, while new clients accounted for the rest.
- Leading FMCG players are gradually consolidating their supply chain network, as per management. The company believes it is well placed to take advantage of this trend.
- MLL remains a critical service provider to its non-anchor clients. It is one of the top two service providers for its 20 largest client accounts.
- PTS revenues declined as two large customers scaled down their operations.
  The company has added some new customers and expects to bounce back to growth from Q1FY21 onwards.
- The freight forwarding business (Lords subsidiary) has witnessed healthy growth as MLL was successful in cross-selling its 3PL and freight forwarding offerings to some clients.
- Management is targeting the addition of 1.5-2mn sq ft of warehousing space per year going forward.



# Valuation methodology

We cut our FY20-FY22 revenue and earnings estimates by  $\sim 3\%$  and  $\sim 4\%$  each respectively, considering the prolonged cyclical downturn in the key auto industry ( $\sim 65\%$  of total SCM revenue in 9MFY20). We increase our target P/E multiple slightly to 26x (vs. 25x earlier) considering that Q4FY20 growth is likely to be slightly better, with a more broad-based recovery in FY21. Consequently, we maintain our Mar'21 target price at Rs 460.

Reiterate BUY as we remain positive on MLL's long-term prospects given (1) its entrenched competitive positioning in India's burgeoning 3PL industry, (2) robust clientele and increasing presence in the key auto, consumer and pharma verticals within the 3PL industry, (3) impressive return ratios (ROIC of ~35% in FY19), and (4) strong, net-cash balance sheet.

FIG 10 - REVISED ESTIMATES - CONSOLIDATED

(Rs mn)		FY20E			FY21E			FY22E	
	Old	New	Change (%)	Olq	New	Change (%)	Old	New	Change (%)
Revenues	37,531	36,566	(2.6)	42,247	41,070	(2.8)	48,673	47,280	(2.9)
EBITDA	1,220	1,171	(4.0)	1,587	1,518	(4.3)	2,025	1,937	(4.4)
EBITDA margin (%)	3.2	3.2	(5bps)	3.8	3.7	(6bps)	4.2	4.1	(6bps)
PAT	747	715	(4.2)	1,019	980	(3.8)	1,312	1,258	(4.1)
PAT margin (%)	2.0	2.0	(3bps)	3.0	2.4	(57bps)	3.2	2.7	(53bps)

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

FIG 11 - RELATIVE STOCK PERFORMANCE



Key risks

Key downside risks to our estimates are:

- lower-than-estimated traction in the non-Mahindra client segment,
- high churn in the non-anchor client segment, and
- delayed recovery in auto demand.



## **FINANCIALS**

## Income Statement

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY18A	FY19A	FY20E	FY21E	FY22E
Total revenue	34,161	38,513	36,566	41,070	47,280
EBITDA	1,197	1,512	1,171	1,518	1,937
Depreciation	197	220	239	297	353
EBIT	1,000	1,293	932	1,221	1,583
Net interest income/(expenses)	(38)	(35)	(40)	(18)	(8)
Other income/(expenses)	59	76	129	132	126
Exceptional items	0	0	0	0	0
EBT	1,021	1,334	1,021	1,335	1,702
Income taxes	(368)	(468)	(296)	(342)	(425)
Extraordinary items	0	0	0	0	0
Min. int./Inc. from associates	(13)	(10)	(9)	(13)	(18)
Reported net profit	640	856	715	980	1,258
Adjustments	0	0	0	0	0
Adjusted net profit	640	856	715	980	1,258

## **Balance Sheet**

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY18A	FY19A	FY20E	FY21E	FY22E
Accounts payables	4,863	6,001	6,011	6,751	7,772
Other current liabilities	205	419	301	338	389
Provisions	180	215	204	229	264
Debt funds	346	377	235	115	40
Other liabilities	0	0	0	0	0
Equity capital	711	715	715	715	715
Reserves & surplus	3,554	4,325	4,861	5,596	6,225
Shareholders' fund	4,266	5,039	5,576	6,311	6,940
Total liabilities and equities	9,860	12,051	12,327	13,744	15,405
Cash and cash eq.	1,161	1,475	2,032	1,939	2,083
Accounts receivables	5,200	6,317	6,512	7,314	8,420
Inventories	0	0	0	0	0
Other current assets	1,480	2,046	1,942	2,181	2,511
Investments	0	38	38	38	38
Net fixed assets	605	660	797	849	846
CWIP	6	26	0	0	0
Intangible assets	54	53	53	53	53
Deferred tax assets, net	141	187	187	187	187
Other assets	1,213	1,250	767	1,183	1,268
Total assets	9,860	12,051	12,327	13,744	15,405



## Cash Flows

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY18A	FY19A	FY20E	FY21E	FY22E
Net income + Depreciation	837	1,076	955	1,278	1,611
Interest expenses	38	35	40	18	8
Non-cash adjustments	(9)	(46)	0	0	0
Changes in working capital	(614)	(332)	273	(655)	(414)
Other operating cash flows	0	0	0	0	0
Cash flow from operations	252	732	1,267	640	1,206
Capital expenditures	(240)	(294)	(350)	(350)	(350)
Change in investments	0	(38)	0	0	0
Other investing cash flows	0	0	0	0	0
Cash flow from investing	(240)	(332)	(350)	(350)	(350)
Equities issued/Others	31	3	0	0	0
Debt raised/repaid	3	31	(142)	(120)	(75)
Interest expenses	(38)	(35)	(40)	(18)	(8)
Dividends paid	(129)	(155)	(179)	(245)	(629)
Other financing cash flows	197	72	0	0	0
Cash flow from financing	66	(84)	(360)	(383)	(712)
Changes in cash and cash eq.	78	316	557	(93)	144
Closing cash and cash eq.	1,161	1,475	2,032	1,939	2,083

## Per Share

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs)	FY18A	FY19A	FY20E	FY21E	FY22E
Reported EPS	9.0	12.0	10.0	13.7	17.6
Adjusted EPS	9.0	12.0	10.0	13.7	17.6
Dividend per share	1.5	1.8	2.5	3.4	8.8
Book value per share	59.0	69.7	77.4	87.8	96.9

## Valuations Ratios

Y/E 31 Mar (x)	FY18A	FY19A	FY20E	FY21E	FY22E
EV/Sales	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.6
EV/EBITDA	23.0	18.4	23.6	17.9	13.8
Adjusted P/E	44.4	33.3	39.9	29.1	22.7
P/BV	6.8	5.7	5.2	4.5	4.1

## **DuPont Analysis**

Y/E 31 Mar (%)	FY18A	FY19A	FY20E	FY21E	FY22E
Tax burden (Net profit/PBT)	62.7	64.2	70.1	73.4	73.9
Interest burden (PBT/EBIT)	102.1	103.2	109.6	109.4	107.5
EBIT margin (EBIT/Revenue)	2.9	3.4	2.5	3.0	3.3
Asset turnover (Revenue/Avg TA)	7.8	7.4	6.3	6.5	6.9
Leverage (Avg TA/Avg Equity)	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0
Adjusted ROAE	16.7	18.7	13.6	16.6	19.1

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

# **MAHINDRA LOGISTICS**



## Ratio Analysis

Y/E 31 Mar	FY18A	FY19A	FY20E	FY21E	FY22E
YoY growth (%)					
Revenue	28.1	12.7	(5.1)	12.3	15.1
EBITDA	57.0	26.3	(22.6)	29.6	27.6
Adjusted EPS	34.1	33.2	(16.5)	37.0	28.3
Profitability & Return ratios (%)					
EBITDA margin	3.5	3.9	3.2	3.7	4.1
EBIT margin	2.9	3.4	2.5	3.0	3.3
Adjusted profit margin	1.9	2.2	2.0	2.4	2.7
Adjusted ROAE	16.7	18.7	13.6	16.6	19.1
ROCE	23.6	25.8	16.6	19.9	23.6
Working capital days (days)					
Receivables	56	60	65	65	65
Inventory	0	0	0	0	0
Payables	54	59	62	62	62
Ratios (x)					
Gross asset turnover	33.3	32.4	24.4	22.1	21.4
Current ratio	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6
Net interest coverage ratio	26.5	37.2	23.4	69.7	203.8
Adjusted debt/equity	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.3)	(0.3)	(0.3)



## Disclaimer

### 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)

### HISTORICAL RATINGS AND TARGET PRICE: MAHINDRA LOGISTICS (MAHLOG IN)



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

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