

HOLD

TP: Rs 389 | ▲ 11%

**NUVOCO VISTAS
CORPORATION**

| Cement

| 16 January 2026

Focus on growth sharpens, valuations factor in; Maintain HOLD

- Revenue growth at ~12% YoY, driven by 7% cement realisation gains as volumes pick up by ~6% YoY to 5.0mt
- EBITDA at Rs 767/t partially, due to weak base and 7% realisation gains YoY that offsets cost inflation. EBITDA margin improved YoY to 14.2%
- Revenue/EBITDA CAGR of ~4%/13% over FY23-28E, earnings adjusted for capex delay; value Nuvoco at 9x EV/EBITDA 1YF; maintain HOLD

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Revenue growth on volume, realisation under pressure: NUVOCO reported revenue growth of ~12%/10% YoY/QoQ in Q3FY26, led by a pickup in volumes of ~6%/16% YoY/QoQ to 5.0mt. Cement realisations supported well with ~7% jump YoY to Rs4,867/tn. However, QoQ prices fell 4%, indicating deeper discounts over the GST rate reduction to maintain market share. RMC revenues grew ~5% YoY and remained flat QoQ. Trade mix stayed stable at 71% YoY, while the premium segment share improved to 44% from 39% YoY, helping pricing gains; though remained flat QoQ,

Cost inflates; Energy cost decline partially offsets: Average total cost increased ~4% YoY (~2% QoQ) to Rs 4,635/t. Raw material cost rose sharply by ~17%/1% YoY/QoQ to Rs 870/t, driven by higher input prices and mix changes. This was partly offset by a ~8%/5% YoY/QoQ decline in energy cost to Rs 997/t, driven by prudent fuel mix and lower clinker production. Freight cost edged up ~2.3% YoY (-5% QoQ), while other expenses went up ~6%/7% YoY/QoQ, pressuring the overall cost structure. Overall cost discipline on energy helped soften the broader inflation up to some extent.

Capacity expansion progress on track: The Vadraj Cement plant refurbishment continues to progress as per schedule, with commissioning expected in H2FY27. In addition, the company plans to add 4mtpa of capacity in the Eastern region in a phased manner, following completion of railway siding projects at the Sonadih and Odisha cement plants, targeting total cement capacity of ~35mtpa by FY27.

Maintain HOLD with revised estimates: We marginally revise our EBITDA and PAT estimates down FY28 2%/6% to factor in the delay in capacity. We build a revenue/EBITDA CAGR of ~4%/13% over FY23-28E backed by new capacities and cost efficiencies. Nuvoco's performance is recovering post the steady growth phase between FY22 and FY25. Growth has been bumpy post capacity addition (organic/inorganic) and will follow the same trend post new acquisition (Vadraj Cement) in the West region. We continue to value the stock at 9x EV/EBITDA (1 YF) with revised TP of Rs389 (earlier Rs427). Maintain HOLD

Key changes

Target	Rating
▼	◀ ▶

Ticker/Price	NUVOCO IN/Rs 350
Market cap	US\$ 789.4mn
Free float	28%
3M ADV	US\$ 1.9mn
52wk high/low	Rs 478/Rs 287
Promoter/FPI/DII	72%/4%/19%

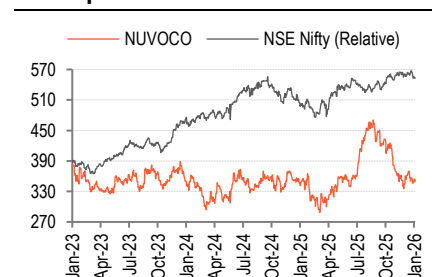
Source: NSE | Price as of 16 Jan 2026

Key financials

Y/E 31 Mar	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E
Total revenue (Rs mn)	1,03,567	1,11,220	1,20,686
EBITDA (Rs mn)	13,720	17,972	20,230
Adj. net profit (Rs mn)	218	3,431	4,325
Adj. EPS (Rs)	0.6	9.6	12.1
Consensus EPS (Rs)	12.0	11.6	14.2
Adj. ROAE (%)	0.2	3.8	4.5
Adj. P/E (x)	572.3	36.4	28.9
EV/EBITDA (x)	7.3	5.5	5.4
Adj. EPS growth (%)	(85.2)	1471.0	26.1

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

Stock performance



Source: NSE



Fig 1 – Earnings Call Highlights

Parameter	Q3FY26	Q2FY26	Our view
Volumes and realisations	<p>Cement sales volume reached 5.0mt, the highest-ever Q3, growing ~6% YoY (~16% QoQ). December delivered particularly strong volume growth (~20% YoY).</p> <p>Premium product share sustained at 44% of trade volumes (flat QoQ, up from 39% YoY), with 9MFY26 average at 43% (up ~300 bps vs FY25 average of 40%).</p> <p>Realisations moderated due to GST rate pass-through (28% to 18%) and competitive environment, but Nuvoco have taken a price hike in early January across most markets (non-trade and trade channels in East & North). Sustainability of the hike will be clearer in 1–2 weeks; early indications are positive.</p> <p>Clinker-to-cement ratio at 1.72x overall (9M FY26); East ~1.95-2.0x, North 1.3-1.35x (headroom to push towards 2.1-2.3x through blended cement).</p> <p>Management continues to target above-industry volume growth (industry expected ~7–8% in H2 FY26).</p>	<p>Cement sales volume in Q2FY26 was 4.3mt. Incremental volume of 1.75-2mt is expected in FY26, driven by Jojobera (1mt expansion in Q3FY26) and Panagarh (1mt in Q4FY26).</p> <p>Premiumisation reached a share of 44% (vs. 43% YoY), with Concreto and Duraguard brand gaining traction. North region premium sales currently came at ~16-18% vs 7-8%. Microfiber products fetch Rs 20/t premium over base products. Pricing remained flattish QoQ, with no major revisions post-GST cut (28% to 18%). Clinker-to-cement ratio operated was close to 2.1x, with headroom to increase further to 2.3x for blended cement push. Management expects the industry to grow by 7% and targets above-industry growth rate.</p>	<p>Focus will stay on volume as it will be challenging for Nuvoco to maintain market share, given its presence in crowded markets.</p>
Margins	<p>Blended fuel cost improved significantly to Rs1.41/Mcal recent petcoke price uptick. Reduced petcoke share (41% on kiln, down from 48% YoY), increased domestic open market coal usage (15%), higher linkage coal (34%), and AFR (~10%, target 13–15% by Q1FY27). Use of power plant rejected coal reduced CPP coal cost to ~Rs 0.78/Mcal.</p> <p>Freight cost moderated with lead distance down to 326 km (from 327km/331 km YoY/QoQ) driven by secondary freight optimisation). Rail share at 37%, road 63% (9MFY26 and Q3). Other expenses normalised post-shutdowns; full benefit expected from November onwards with all kiln maintenance completed.</p>	<p>Blended fuel cost for Q2FY26 was Rs 1.46/kcal, up due to an uptick in petcoke prices and shutdowns. AFR consumption remains ~ 10%, and the management is targeting to increase to 12% by Q4FY26, with fuel cost expected to drop to Rs 1.43/kcal. Lead distance was stable at 331km vs 330km in Q2FY25, with 60% road and 40% rail mix; new railway sidings (Sonadih commissioned, Jajpur/Panagarh by Q4FY26) are expected to reduce freight costs further. The sharp increase in other expenses was on account of shutdowns in 2QFY26. Management indicated that the normalisation is expected by November as all kiln maintenance will be completed, with new GST rate fully implemented and operational efficiencies.</p>	<p>Focus on controlling cost is commendable. However, cost headwinds may lead to some mid-term pressure in the next 2-3 quarters.</p>
Balance sheet health	<p>Raised Rs 6bn through NCDs in Q3FY26, used to replace equivalent short-term bridge financing. Another Rs 6bn tranche in final stages to complete the refinancing of remaining bridge funding.</p> <p>Cost of borrowing remained ~8% in Q3FY26. Management reiterated comfort with net debt range of Rs 35–40bn for next phase of growth.</p>		<p>No change in the stance on debt or maintaining the balance sheet health. This can lead to stress in the scenario of a slow pickup in demand.</p>

Parameter	Q3FY26	Q2FY26	Our view
Capacity	<p>East expansion plan of 4mtpa progressing well at Arasmeta, Jojobera, Panagarh and Odisha with target to add 1mtpa every quarter by FY27. East plants run at 85% utilization during peak season necessitating increase.</p> <p>Vadraj refurbishment progressing as per plan with clinker unit and grinding unit expected to be operational between Q3FY27 and Q1FY28.</p> <p>Kutch railway siding: Detailed project report submitted; execution orders are in advanced stages, with completion targeted by H1FY27.</p> <p>Preferred bidder status for JMK-R2 (Jhak Murkasani) limestone block in Jodhpur & Pali (Rajasthan) adds ~205 mt resources for long-term security.</p> <p>Acquired a 50 MW CPP near Vadraj (completion by Q3FY26); signed LOI for hybrid solar+wind plant (50 MW) in Rajasthan for Nimbol (group captive, expected to be operational in 12-18 months).</p>	<p>NUVOCO commenced East expansion of 4mtpa with new Arasmeta plant and enhancements (Jojobera, Panagarh, Odisha) with plans to add 1mtpa capacity every quarter. East capacities are typically at ~85% utilisation during peak months, necessitating expansion to serve additional demand during season. Vadraj unit equipment check is completed and orders for critical goods are released. Additionally, initial approval for railway siding at Kutch has been received. CPP (50MW) acquisition near Vadraj premises is in final stages and is expected to be completed by Q3FY26. Post East expansion new expansion, either in North or South will be formalised.</p>	<p>Focus on capacity expansion will help maintain market share beyond increasing presence in different regions. Capex on railway sidings and WHRS will be cost effective.</p>
Capex	<p>FY26 capex guidance stands at Rs 6.2-6.7bn with Rs 3.2bn already spent till Dec 25. Capex for FY27 is guided at Rs 10-10.5bn and for FY28 at Rs 6.5-7bn</p>	<p>Routine capex will be in the Rs 1-1.5bn range and new capex will be Rs 18bn, phased in 3 equal parts over FY26-FY28, including East railway sidings. FY26 total capex is expected to be ~Rs 6bn, covering East expansion and Vadraj groundwork. Bridge financing of Rs12bn will be converted to CCDs (two Rs 6bn tranches, with average maturity of 3-6 years) issued for Vadraj expansion.</p>	<p>No major change in stance, except for some delays in the capacity expansion. This may impact FY28 earnings.</p>
Other key points	<p>Customer portal now handles 99% of cement orders.</p> <p>New ZeroM Unnati app launched under the MBM segment to drive engagement and growth.</p> <p>Furthermore, transporter portal rolled out across all plants for inbound and outbound logistics visibility.</p>	<p>Cement GST rate cut (28% to 18%) was completely passed on to customers, enhancing affordability. Festive season disruption and rate-cut transition dampened the demand in Q2FY26, though steady demand is expected from Q3FY26 onwards.</p> <p>In Q2FY26, net debt reduced by Rs 10bn YoY to Rs 34.9bn, while QoQ net debt increased by Rs 180mn, as the company managed to control WC requirement. Interest costs are expected to remain flat or fall in Q3FY26.</p>	<p>New initiatives are commendable and will help business efficiency beyond adding new markets</p>

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 1 – Key quarterly metrics

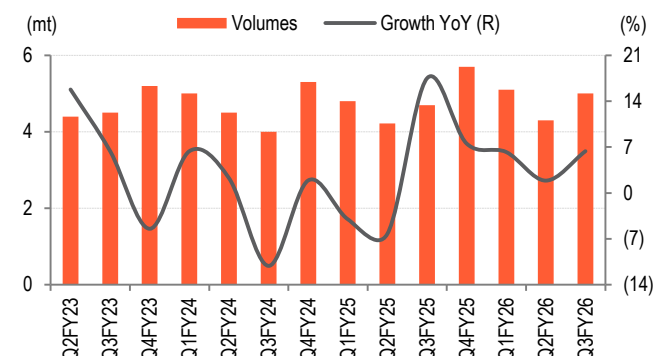
	Q3FY26	Q3FY25	YoY (%)	Q2FY26	QoQ (%)	Q3FY26E	Deviation (%)
Volumes (mn mt)	5.0	4.7	6.4	5.1	(2.0)	5.03	(0.6)
Cement realisations (Rs/t)	4,867	5,126	(5.1)	5,110	(4.7)	4,719	3.1
Operating costs (Rs/t)*	4,635	4,427	4.7	4,471	3.7	4,498	3.0
EBITDA/t (Rs)	767	549	39.7	1,017	(24.5)	698	10.0

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research | *Aggregate cost

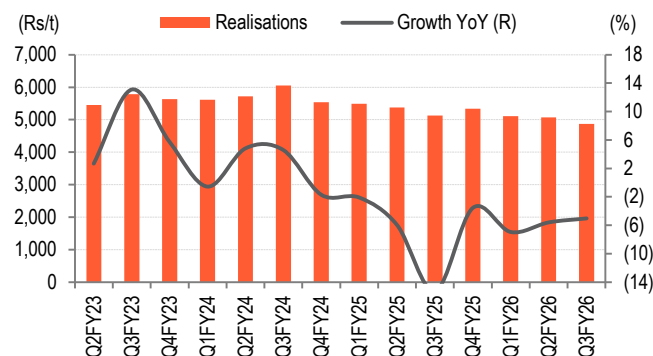
Fig 2 – Quarterly performance

(Rs mn)	Q3FY26	Q3FY25	YoY (%)	Q2FY26	QoQ (%)	Q3FY26E	Deviation (%)
Net Sales	27,013	24,094	12.1	24,576	9.9	26,131	3.4
Expenditure							
Change in stock	250	(606)	(141.3)	(236)	(206.0)	(135)	
Raw material	4,099	4,105	(0.1)	3,931	4.3	4,632	(11.5)
purchased products	729	705	3.3	605	20.4	585	24.5
Power & fuel	4,987	5,104	(2.3)	4,536	9.9	4,768	4.6
Freight	7,186	6,605	8.8	6,471	11.1	6,790	5.8
Employee costs	1,825	1,724	5.9	1,783	2.4	1,778	2.7
Other exp	4,100	3,874	5.8	3,816	7.4	4,203	(2.5)
Total Operating Expenses	23,176	21,511	7.7	20,906	10.9	22,622	2.4
EBITDA	3,837	2,583	48.6	3,670	4.6	3,509	9.3
EBITDA margin (%)	14.2	10.7	349bps	14.9	(73bps)	13.4	78bps
Other Income	28	2	1,625.0	39	(28.9)	41	(32.7)
Interest	987	1,257	(21.5)	1,016	(2.9)	1,001	(1.4)
Depreciation	2,233	2,174	2.7	2,181	2.4	2,131	4.8
PBT	645	(847)	(176.2)	512	26.1	418	54.4
Non-recurring items	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
PBT (after non recurring items)	645	(847)	(176.2)	512	26.1	418	54.4
Tax	152	(233)	(165.0)	148	2.8	117	29.6
Reported PAT	494	(614)	(180.4)	364	35.5	301	64.0
Adjusted PAT	494	(614)	(180.4)	364	35.5	301	64.0
NPM (%)	1.8	(2.5)	437bps	1.5	35bps	1.2	68bps
Adjusted EPS (Rs)	1.4	(1.7)	(180.4)	1.0	35.5	0.8	64.0

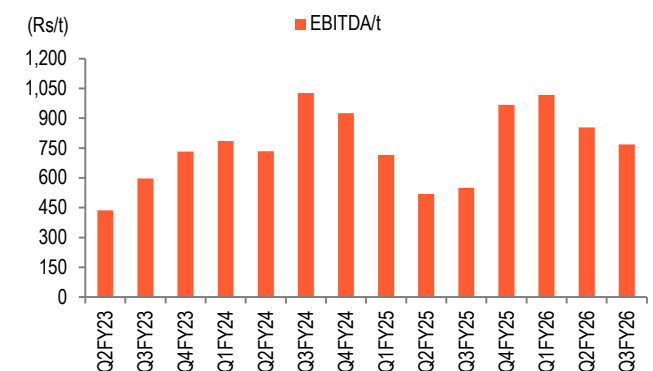
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 3 – Volume muted amid seasonal slowdown


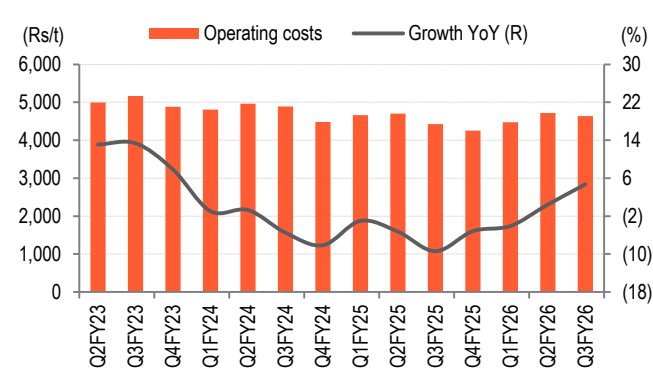
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 4 – Healthy trade mix support realization


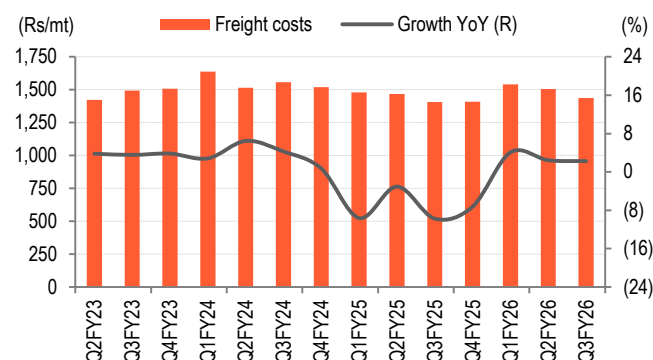
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 5 – Low base and 7% YoY cement realization gain aid EBITDA/t


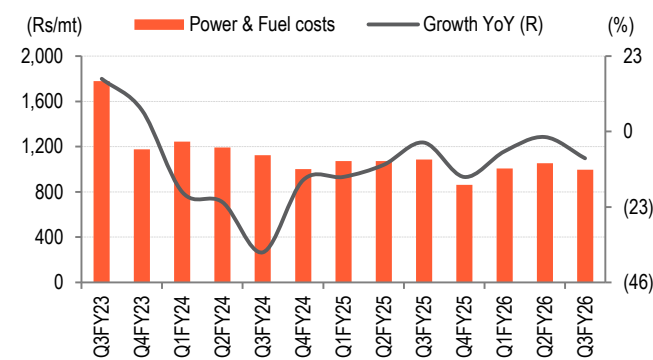
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 6 – Operating Cost in check due to lower fuel cost and fall in logistic cost QoQ


Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 7 – Freight cost stay range bound as lead distance was stable, falls QOQ due to lower lead distance


Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 8 – Energy cost rationalisation to continue aided by green energy sources


Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Valuation Methodology

Nuvoco's growth is largely secured (assuming healthy industry growth), contributed dominantly by the Cement segment (~90%+) and the RMC and building material (BM) segment of ~10%. We marginally revise our EBITDA and PAT estimates down for FY28 2%/6% to factor in delay in capacity. We build a revenue CAGR of ~4% and EBITDA CAGR of ~13% over FY25-28E.

With improving efficiencies helping generate healthy cashflows, Nuvoco is expected to attempt to rationalise the debt (as optically seen in FY25). However, the next leg of capex (of Rs18bn for Vadraj Cement) will effectively imply debt concerns resurfacing as the net debt moves back to Rs50bn. The leveraged balance sheet preference has also kept the ROCE and ROE at sub-par levels, hovering 7-9% and 4-6% respectively. Its performance is on recovery mode post the steady growth rate phase between FY22 and FY25. Growth has been bumpy post capacity addition (organic/inorganic) and will follow the same trend post new acquisition (Vadraj Cement) in the western region.

With this in the backdrop, we continue to value Nuvoco at 9x EV/EBITDA 1YF earnings with revised TP of Rs389 (earlier Rs427). At our TP, the stock trades at a replacement cost of ~Rs7bn, indicating higher debt weighs heavily on the valuations. We continue to assign a HOLD rating on the stock.

Fig 9 – Revised estimates

(Rs mn)	New			Old			Change (%)		
	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E*	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Revenue	1,11,220	1,20,686	1,29,776	1,11,220	1,20,686	1,31,059	0.0	0.0	(1.0)
EBITDA	17,972	20,230	21,961	17,972	20,297	22,491	0.0	(0.3)	(2.4)
Adj PAT	3,431	4,325	5,202	3,431	4,372	5,548	0.0	(1.1)	(6.2)
Adj EPS (Rs)	9.6	12.1	14.6	9.6	12.2	15.5	0.1	(0.7)	(6.0)

Source: BOBCAPS Research

Fig 10 – Key assumptions

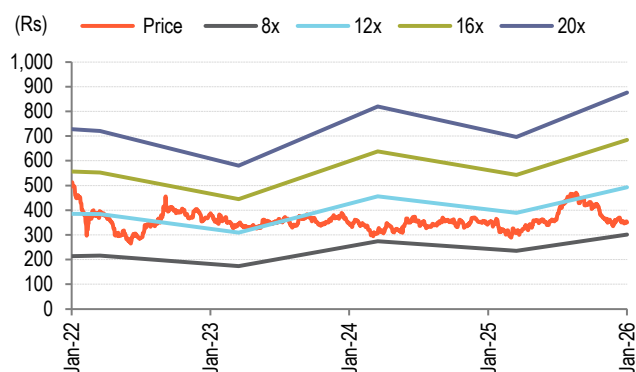
Parameter	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Volumes (mt)	19.4	20.7	22.4	23.7
Realisations (Rs/t)	4,858	4,870	4,919	5,017
Operating costs (Rs/t)	4,629	4,505	4,491	4,539
EBITDA/t (Rs/t)	707	868	905	927

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

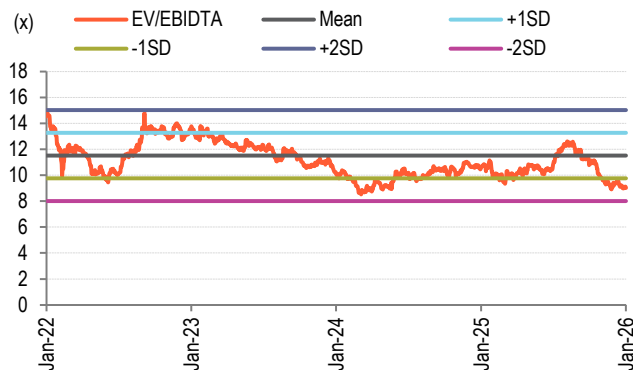
Fig 11 – Valuation summary

Business (Rs mn)	FY28E
Target EV/EBITDA (x)	9.0
EBITDA	21,961
Target EV	1,87,769
Total EV	1,87,769
Net debt	45,582
Target market capitalisation	1,42,188
Target price (Rs/sh)	389
Weighted average shares (mn)	357.2

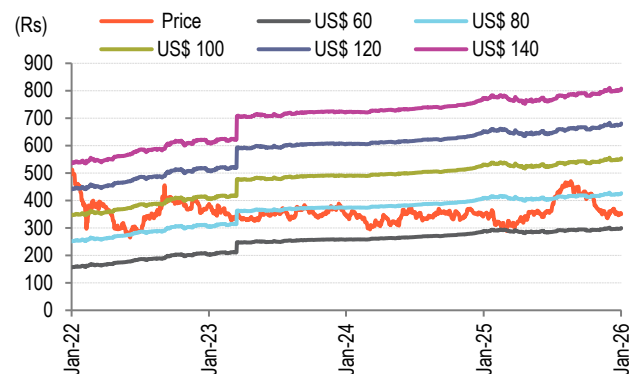
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research Note: Valuations based (December 2027 earnings)

Fig 12 – EV/EBITDA band: Valued at 9x as elevated debt remains a key concern


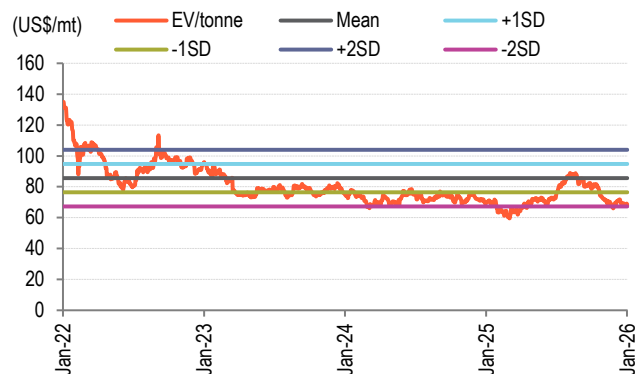
Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 13 – EV/EBITDA 1YF: Forward earnings reflect fair valuation


Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 14 – EV/Tonne band: Balance sheet concerns weigh on the replacement cost valuation


Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 15 – V/EBITDA 1YF: Apt reflection of earnings in valuations


Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

Key risks

Key risks to our estimates:

- Faster than expected improvements in the cement prices pose and upward risks to earnings
- Delayed execution of capex is a downside risk to earnings
- Faster than expected moderation of fuel prices will be an upward risk to earnings

Financials

Income Statement

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY24A	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Total revenue	1,07,329	1,03,567	1,11,220	1,20,686	1,29,776
EBITDA	16,237	13,720	17,972	20,230	21,961
Depreciation	(9,186)	(8,685)	(8,589)	(8,965)	(8,960)
EBIT	7,386	5,229	9,561	11,527	13,390
Net interest inc./(exp.)	(5,326)	(4,964)	(4,433)	(5,101)	(5,686)
Other inc./(exp.)	335	194	178	263	389
Exceptional items	0	0	0	0	0
EBT	2,059	265	5,128	6,426	7,704
Income taxes	(586)	(47)	(1,697)	(2,101)	(2,502)
Extraordinary items	0	0	0	0	0
Min. int./Inc. from assoc.	0	0	0	0	0
Reported net profit	1,474	218	3,431	4,325	5,202
Adjustments	0	0	0	0	0
Adjusted net profit	1,474	218	3,431	4,325	5,202

Balance Sheet

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY24A	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Accounts payables	16,860	15,875	15,584	16,789	18,018
Other current liabilities	35,608	36,631	36,997	37,367	37,741
Provisions	0	0	0	0	0
Debt funds	33,061	27,539	35,572	44,151	50,256
Other liabilities	11,736	11,854	11,972	12,092	12,213
Equity capital	3,572	3,572	3,572	3,572	3,572
Reserves & surplus	86,184	86,087	89,518	93,843	99,045
Shareholders' fund	88,660	88,643	93,089	97,415	1,02,616
Total liab. and equities	1,85,924	1,80,541	1,93,215	2,07,813	2,20,845
Cash and cash eq.	1,070	1,823	5,300	993	4,674
Accounts receivables	5,907	6,601	5,942	6,778	7,289
Inventories	9,467	7,617	6,704	7,605	8,178
Other current assets	15,500	14,634	15,619	16,793	18,088
Investments	8	8	0	0	0
Net fixed assets	82,621	78,972	76,238	98,771	1,11,681
CWIP	4,708	3,825	16,000	9,000	2,500
Intangible assets	66,644	67,061	67,412	67,872	68,434
Deferred tax assets, net	0	0	0	0	0
Other assets	0	0	0	0	0
Total assets	1,85,924	1,80,541	1,93,215	2,07,813	2,20,845

Cash Flows

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY24A	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Cash flow from operations	10,277	8,250	16,616	16,750	19,925
Capital expenditures	(7,024)	(1,740)	(22,197)	(29,635)	(22,349)
Change in investments	(8)	0	8	0	0
Other investing cash flows	0	0	0	0	0
Cash flow from investing	(7,033)	(1,740)	(22,189)	(29,635)	(22,349)
Equities issued/Others	(252)	80	1,016	0	0
Debt raised/repaid	(3,847)	(5,521)	8,033	8,579	6,105
Interest expenses	0	0	0	0	0
Dividends paid	0	0	0	0	0
Other financing cash flows	(107)	(316)	0	0	0
Cash flow from financing	(4,206)	(5,757)	9,049	8,579	6,105
Chg in cash & cash eq.	(962)	754	3,476	(4,307)	3,681
Closing cash & cash eq.	1,070	1,823	5,299	993	4,674

Per Share

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs)	FY24A	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Reported EPS	4.1	0.6	9.6	12.1	14.6
Adjusted EPS	4.1	0.6	9.6	12.1	19.0
Dividend per share	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Book value per share	247.2	247.1	259.6	271.7	286.3

Valuations Ratios

Y/E 31 Mar (x)	FY24A	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
EV/Sales	0.4	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9
EV/EBITDA	2.8	7.3	5.5	5.4	5.3
Adjusted P/E	84.8	572.3	36.4	28.9	18.4
P/BV	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2

DuPont Analysis

Y/E 31 Mar (%)	FY24A	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Tax burden (Net profit/PBT)	71.6	82.4	66.9	67.3	67.5
Interest burden (PBT/EBIT)	27.9	5.1	53.6	55.7	57.5
EBIT margin (EBIT/Revenue)	6.9	5.0	8.6	9.6	10.3
Asset turnover (Rev./Avg TA)	57.2	56.5	59.5	60.2	60.6
Leverage (Avg TA/Avg Equity)	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Adjusted ROAE	1.7	0.2	3.8	4.5	5.2

Ratio Analysis

Y/E 31 Mar	FY24A	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
YoY growth (%)					
Revenue	1.4	(3.5)	7.4	8.5	7.5
EBITDA	34.1	(15.5)	31.0	12.6	8.6
Adjusted EPS	(65.1)	(85.2)	1471.0	26.1	20.3
Profitability & Return ratios (%)					
EBITDA margin	15.1	13.2	16.2	16.8	16.9
EBIT margin	6.9	5.0	8.6	9.6	10.3
Adjusted profit margin	1.4	0.2	3.1	3.6	4.0
Adjusted ROAE	1.7	0.2	3.8	4.5	5.2
ROCE	5.5	4.0	7.1	7.8	8.4

Working capital days (days)

Receivables	20	23	20	21	21
Inventory	32	27	22	23	23
Payables	68	64	61	61	61

Ratios (x)

Gross asset turnover	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4
Current ratio	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7
Net interest coverage ratio	1.4	1.1	2.2	2.3	2.4
Adjusted debt/equity	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5

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

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BUY – Expected return >+15%

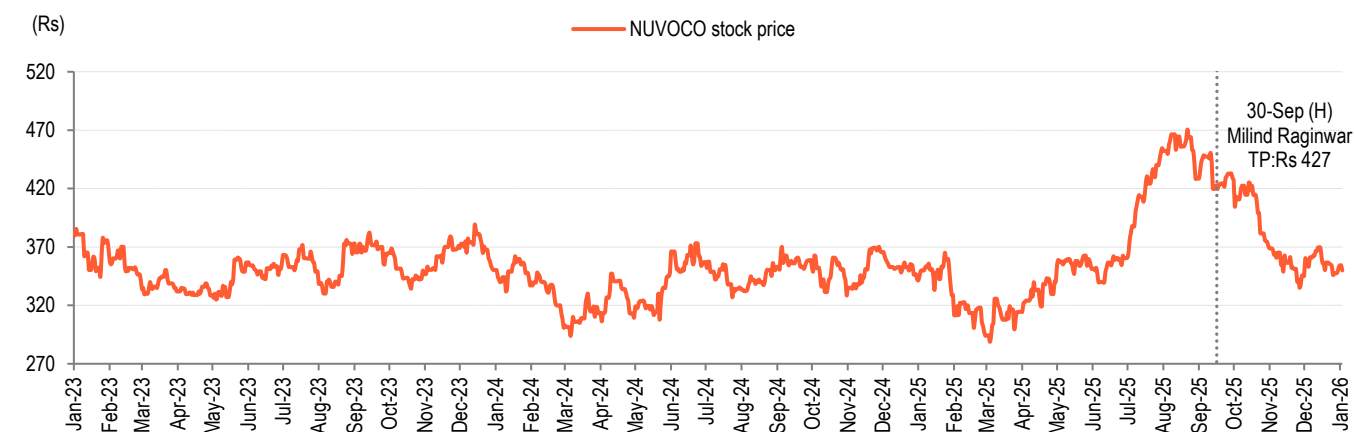
HOLD – Expected return from -6% to +15%

SELL – Expected return <-6%

Note: Recommendation structure changed with effect from 21 June 2021

Our recommendation scale does not factor in short-term stock price volatility related to market fluctuations. Thus, our recommendations may not always be strictly in line with the recommendation scale as shown above.

Ratings and Target Price (3-year history): NUVOCO VISTAS CORPORATION (NUVOCO IN)



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