

Singapore

HOLD (previously ADD)

Consensus ratings*:	Buy 1	Hold 4	Sell 1
Current price:	_		S\$2.62
Target price:			S\$2.74
Previous target:			S\$2.88
Up/downside:			4.6%
CGS-CIMB / Consens	sus:		3.8%
Reuters:		S	PRM.SI
Bloomberg:			SPH SP
Market cap:		USS	\$3,042m
		SS	\$4,188m
Average daily turnove	er:	US	\$\$8.35m
		SS	\$11.44m
Current shares o/s:			1,599m
Free float: *Source: Bloomberg			95.7%

Key changes in this note

- FY19F EPS decreased by 6.1%.
- FY20F EPS decreased by 7.9%.



Major shareholders	% held
Vanguard Group	2.2
Blackrock	1.9
Toronto-Dominion Ban	0.8



Singapore Press Holdings

Playing monopoly deal

- FY18 bottomline boosted by higher investment income; media EBIT fell 9.7% yoy, in tandem with the lower revenue.
- We expect higher property income in FY19F, particularly from its UK PBSA acquisition and upcoming sales launch of the Woodleigh project.
- Downgrade from Add to Hold as we see limited upside and catalysts, with 5% dividend yield as near-term share price support.

FY18 core net profit boosted by investment income

SPH's FY8/18 core net profit of S\$268.6m was ahead at 112%/123% of our/consensus expectations, thanks to higher investment income of S\$115.2m. This excludes non-operational items from impairment, retrenchment costs and fair value gain on investment property. FY18 topline fell 4.4% yoy to S\$982.6m on weaker media revenue (-9.6% yoy), in line with our/consensus full-year forecasts. The group declared final DPS of 7 Scts, bringing full-year DPS to 13 Scts, slightly below our estimated 15 Scts.

New digital initiatives take time

FY18 revenue from display ads and classifieds saw a continued decline of 12-15% yoy. Growth in digital revenue was also slow and contributed 15% of total media revenue (3Q18: 14%), while average monthly e-paper readership was slightly higher at 39k (from 3Q18's 37k). The key positive for media was FY18 core EBIT margin of 15.8%, similar to FY17, as a result of staff cost savings, and lower newsprint consumption that offset the hike in average newsprint charge-out price.

Stronger recurring property contribution in FY19F

Stripping out the fair value change on investment properties, FY18 property PBT was impacted by financing costs pertaining to Woodleigh development and professional fees, falling S\$11.2m. Apart from the S\$63.2m acquisition of the Rail Mall by SPH REIT (70%-owned subsidiary) and increased stake in Chinatown Point (30.68%), we expect the recent purchase of purpose-built student accommodation (PBSA) in the UK and upcoming launch of the Woodleigh project to contribute more substantially in FY19F, thereby mitigating weakness in media operations.

Downgrade to Hold, with 5% yield as near-term support

We cut our FY19-20F EPS by 6.1-7.9% mainly on lower media revenue, higher staff costs (from digital talent investment) and financing expenses, as well as introduce our FY21F numbers. We lower our SOP-based TP due to lower valuation for SPH REIT, as well as reduced net cash position. We also downgrade the stock from Add to Hold as we see limited near-term catalysts and upside. Risks include poor ad revenue and weak overseas execution.

Analyst(s)



NGOH Yi Sin T (65) 6210 8604 E yisin.ngoh@cgs-cimb.com

Financial Summary	Aug-17A	Aug-18A	Aug-19F	Aug-20F	Aug-21F
Revenue (S\$m)	1,033	983	958	941	923
Operating EBITDA (S\$m)	239.1	277.1	310.0	301.5	290.6
Net Profit (S\$m)	350.1	281.1	212.8	210.8	206.5
Core EPS (S\$)	0.13	0.17	0.13	0.13	0.13
Core EPS Growth	(19.7%)	32.0%	(24.3%)	(0.9%)	(2.1%)
FD Core P/E (x)	19.89	15.07	19.91	20.10	20.52
DPS (S\$)	0.15	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13
Dividend Yield	5.73%	4.96%	4.96%	4.96%	4.96%
EV/EBITDA (x)	23.94	21.76	19.17	19.89	20.89
P/FCFE (x)	14.61	13.47	11.32	20.82	22.88
Net Gearing	19.5%	26.6%	31.3%	31.7%	32.6%
P/BV (x)	1.21	1.22	1.27	1.30	1.34
ROE	6.08%	8.08%	6.26%	6.41%	6.44%
% Change In Core EPS Estimates			(6.07%)	(7.93%)	
CIMB/consensus EPS (x)			0.97	0.91	

SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



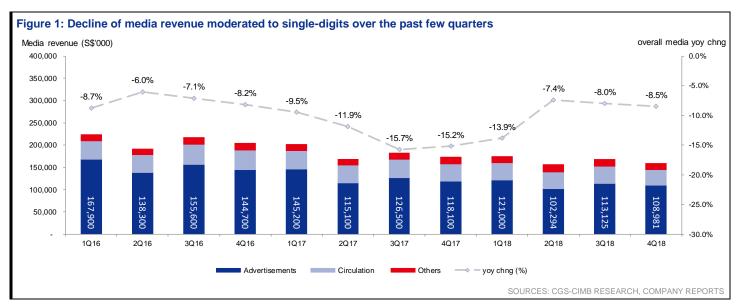


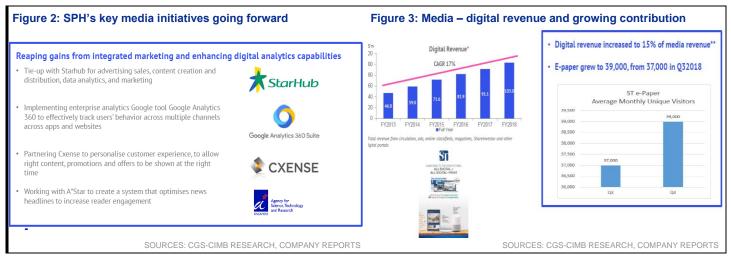
Not all doom and gloom for media

More wins for media and digital to take time >

In FY18, media revenue and profit-before-tax (PBT) fell 9.6% and 14.5% yoy respectively, on the back of weaker advertisement (-11.8%) and circulation numbers (-7.3%). On a quarterly basis, the topline declines moderated to high single-digits (Figure 1), while core EBIT margins held steady at 15.8% for FY17-18. As the group continues to strike strategic partnerships with key stakeholders and enhance its digital analytics capabilities (Figure 2), we believe its digital revenue contribution could grow gradually (from 15% of total media revenue currently). SPH has also, over the years, built a good track record through delivering wins from both its digital portfolio and S\$1bn investible fund (prev. S\$1.1bn), whose divestment gains and net investment income have helped shore up earnings since FY10. The group recorded net investment income of S\$54m and S\$115m in FY17 and FY18, respectively, on top of a S\$150m gain from the sale of 701Search in FY17.

However, these initiatives will require time and more investments, which could weigh on its dividend-paying capability and underpins our Hold call for the stock. We are likely to turn more positive upon greater visibility of a turnaround in the media segment, faster capital recycling through overseas property asset management, and successful collaboration with Keppel on the business transformation of M1.









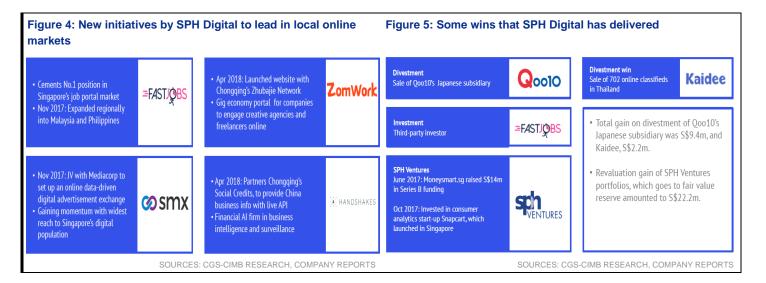


Figure 6: Results	Compa	rison							
FYE Aug (S\$m)	4QFY18	4QFY17	yoy %	qoq %	4QFY18	4QFY17	yoy %	Prev.	
			chg	chg	Cum	Cum	chg	FY18F	Comments
									4Q/12MFY18 formed 24% and 99% of our full-year numbers
Revenue	240.0	256.3	-6%	-4%	982.6	1,032.5	-5%	995	respectively. FY18: Media -9.6% yoy, Property -0.7% yoy, Others
									+34.0% yoy.
Operating costs	(176.9)	(168.5)	5%	7%	(672.3)	(697.4)	-4%	(687.5)	
EBITDA	63.2	87.8	-28%	-25%	310.3	335.1	-7%	307.4	
EBITDA margin (%)	26%	34%	-23%	-22%	32%	32%	-3%	31%	In line
Depn & amort.	(8.5)	(9.4)	-9%	4%	(33.2)	(37.8)	-12%	(33.1)	In line
EBIT	54.6	78.4	-30%	-29%	277.0	297.3	-7%	274.2	
Interest expense	(9.9)	(8.2)	21%	2%	(37.5)	(31.3)	20%	(36.9)	In line
Interest & invt inc	71.6	27.3	163%	227%	115.2	53.9	114%	51.7	Above due to disposal gain of investment
Associates' contrib	0.3	(0.2)	nm	-88%	3.3	0.6	484%	3.2	In line
Exceptionals	45.7	57.4	-20%	nm	12.5	111.1	-89%	(32.7)	FY18: S\$11m one-off retrenchment costs, S\$22m impairment and S\$46m fair value property gain. FY17: S\$96m impairment, S\$150m divestment gain and S\$57m fair value property gain
Pretax profit	162.3	154.6	5%	137%	370.5	431.5	-14%	292.3	
Tax	(15.7)	(7.3)	116%	33%	(46.5)	(36.3)	28%	(43.9)	
Tax rate (%)	-10%	-5%	105%	-44%	-13%	-8%	49%	-15%	Slightly above
Minority interests	(13.5)	(16.8)	-20%	47%	(42.9)	(45.1)	-5%	(40.5)	
Net profit	133.1	130.5	2%	180%	281.1	350.1	-20%	207.9	
Core net profit	87.4	73.1	19%	25%	268.6	239.0	12%	240.6	Excluding non-recurring items, 4Q/12MFY18 core net profit formed 36%/ 112% of our full-year forecasts, thanks to net profit on disposal of investment
EPS (cts)	8.2	8.1	2%	180%	17.4	21.7	-20%	12.9	
Core EPS (cts)	5.4	4.5	19%	25%	16.6	14.8	12%	14.9	SOURCES: CGS-CIMB. COMPANY REPORTS

	Ne	ew	0	Old		Old		ange
S\$m	FY19F	FY20F	FY19F	FY20F	FY19F	FY20F		
Revenue	958	941	971	953	-1.3%	-1.2%		
Media	621	597	630	605	-1.4%	-1.3%		
Property	250	254	252	257	-0.7%	-1.1%		
Others	87	89	88	91	-1.4%	-1.4%		
Total expenses	(748)	(742)	(739)	(733)	1.2%	1.2%		
Operating profit	235	224	256	245	-8.4%	-8.6%		
Net profit	213	211	227	229	-6.1%	-7.9%		





Figure 8: Sum of Part	s valuat	ion		
	Stake	Valuation Methodology	Valuation (S\$m)	Per share (S\$)
Core media operations	100%	DCF (WACC: 7%; g: 0%)	1,342	0.84
Healthcare	100%	20x FY19F P/E	120	0.08
SPH REIT	69%	CIMB TP	1,803	1.13
Seletar Mall	70%	Carrying value	342	0.21
Bidadari Development	50%	25% discount to RNAV	460	0.29
Mindchamps	20%	Market value	29	0.02
Asset management	100%	15x FY19F P/E	240	0.15
Investments and net cash		As of end FY18	43	0.03
Sum of parts (SOP) value			4,379	2.74
CIMB Target Price			4,379	2.74
			SOURCES: CIMB,	COMPANY REPORTS

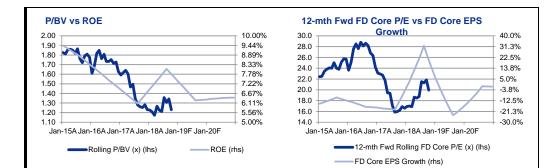
	Bloomberg		Price	Target Price	Market Cap	Core P	/E (x)	3-year EPS	P/BV	(x)	Recu	ring ROE	(%)	EV/EBIT	DA (x)	Dividend	Yield (%)
Company	Ticker	Recom.	(Icl curr)	(Icl curr)	(US\$ m)	CY2018	CY2019	CAGR (%)	CY2018	CY2019	CY2018	CY2019	CY2020	CY2018	CY2019	CY2018	CY201
Singapore Press Holdings	SPH SP	HOLD	2.62	2.74	3,042	16.4	20.0	-3.8%	1.24	1.28	7.6%	6.3%	6.4%	20.3	19.2	5.0%	5.04
Media Chinese Int'l	MCIL MK	Reduce	0.25	0.27	99	10.3	10.2	-4.9%	0.53	0.52	5.1%	5.2%	5.1%	2.0	2.0	5.5%	4.9
Star Media Group Bhd	STAR MK	Hold	0.74	1.04	131	17.6	18.1	4.9%	0.63	0.64	3.6%	3.5%	3.5%	2.8	3.5	5.4%	4.04
Simple average						14.8	16.1	-1.3%	0.76	0.78	2.0%	2.8%	4.4%	12.0	8.8	4.0%	3.5%
Weighted average						18.0	20.8	4.1%	1.12	1.15	6.2%	5.5%	5.9%	17.6	16.6	4.8%	4.8%

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BY THE NUMBERS



Profit & Loss

(S\$m)	Aug-17A	Aug-18A	Aug-19F	Aug-20F	Aug-21F
Total Net Revenues	1,052	1,006	983	967	950
Gross Profit	1,052	1,006	983	967	950
Operating EBITDA	239	277	310	302	291
Depreciation And Amortisation	(38)	(33)	(34)	(35)	(35)
Operating EBIT	201	244	276	267	255
Financial Income/(Expense)	(31)	(38)	(41)	(42)	(53)
Pretax Income/(Loss) from Assoc.	1	3	8	13	27
Non-Operating Income/(Expense)	111	161	59	63	64
Profit Before Tax (pre-El)	282	371	302	300	293
Exceptional Items	150	0	0	0	0
Pre-tax Profit	431	371	302	300	293
Taxation	(36)	(47)	(43)	(41)	(37)
Exceptional Income - post-tax					
Profit After Tax	395	324	259	258	256
Minority Interests	(45)	(43)	(46)	(48)	(50)
Preferred Dividends					
FX Gain/(Loss) - post tax					
Other Adjustments - post-tax					
Net Profit	350	281	213	211	206
Recurring Net Profit	213	281	213	211	206
Fully Diluted Recurring Net Profit	213	281	213	211	206

Cash Flow

(S\$m)	Aug-17A	Aug-18A	Aug-19F	Aug-20F	Aug-21F
EBITDA	239.1	277.1	310.0	301.5	290.6
Cash Flow from Invt. & Assoc.					
Change In Working Capital	3.2	5.4	161.1	(1.4)	(1.4)
(Incr)/Decr in Total Provisions					
Other Non-Cash (Income)/Expense					
Other Operating Cashflow	90.6	37.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net Interest (Paid)/Received	(31.3)	(37.5)	(41.0)	(42.5)	(53.2)
Tax Paid	(58.5)	(48.7)	(43.4)	(41.5)	(37.4)
Cashflow From Operations	243.1	233.3	386.7	216.2	198.6
Capex	(12.3)	(22.7)	(12.5)	(12.7)	(13.4)
Disposals Of FAs/subsidiaries	312.2	403.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Acq. Of Subsidiaries/investments	(302.6)	(276.1)	(300.0)	0.0	0.0
Other Investing Cashflow	(149.5)	(131.4)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cash Flow From Investing	(152.2)	(27.0)	(312.5)	(12.7)	(13.4)
Debt Raised/(repaid)	199.0	108.1	300.0	0.0	0.0
Proceeds From Issue Of Shares	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Shares Repurchased	(4.5)	(3.5)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dividends Paid	(316.4)	(285.3)	(242.3)	(210.2)	(210.2)
Preferred Dividends					
Other Financing Cashflow	(30.3)	(35.2)	(41.0)	(42.5)	(53.2)
Cash Flow From Financing	(152.2)	(215.9)	16.7	(252.7)	(263.4)
Total Cash Generated	(61.3)	(9.6)	91.0	(49.2)	(78.2)
Free Cashflow To Equity	290.0	314.4	374.3	203.5	185.2
Free Cashflow To Firm	122.3	243.8	115.2	246.0	238.4

SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS





BY THE NUMBERS... cont'd

(S\$m)	Aug-17A	Aug-18A	Aug-19F	Aug-20F	Aug-21F
Total Cash And Equivalents	677	481	613	606	581
Total Debtors	314	293	123	121	119
Inventories	22	23	18	18	18
Total Other Current Assets	18	0	0	0	0
Total Current Assets	1,032	797	755	746	718
Fixed Assets	235	225	162	139	118
Total Investments	4,626	4,752	5,052	5,052	5,052
Intangible Assets	204	176	176	176	176
Total Other Non-Current Assets	9	247	247	247	247
Total Non-current Assets	5,074	5,400	5,637	5,614	5,593
Short-term Debt	972	295	295	295	295
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt					
Total Creditors	241	231	218	214	210
Other Current Liabilities	48	50	50	50	50
Total Current Liabilities	1,261	575	562	558	554
Total Long-term Debt	528	1,313	1,613	1,613	1,613
Hybrid Debt - Debt Component					
Total Other Non-Current Liabilities	45	42	42	42	42
Total Non-current Liabilities	573	1,355	1,655	1,655	1,655
Total Provisions	49	39	39	39	39
Total Liabilities	1,883	1,969	2,256	2,252	2,248
Shareholders' Equity	3,488	3,467	3,328	3,253	3,158
Minority Interests	735	761	807	855	905
Total Equity	4,223	4,228	4,136	4,108	4,063

Key Ratios

	Aug-17A	Aug-18A	Aug-19F	Aug-20F	Aug-21F
Revenue Growth	(8.17%)	(4.84%)	(2.46%)	(1.80%)	(1.92%)
Operating EBITDA Growth	(37.3%)	15.9%	11.9%	(2.7%)	(3.6%)
Operating EBITDA Margin	23.2%	28.2%	32.3%	32.0%	31.5%
Net Cash Per Share (S\$)	(0.51)	(0.70)	(0.80)	(0.80)	(0.82)
BVPS (S\$)	2.16	2.14	2.06	2.01	1.95
Gross Interest Cover	6.43	6.50	6.73	6.28	4.80
Effective Tax Rate	8.4%	12.6%	14.4%	13.8%	12.7%
Net Dividend Payout Ratio	137%	86%	99%	100%	102%
Accounts Receivables Days	79.8	112.8	79.3	47.6	47.5
Inventory Days	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Accounts Payables Days	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
ROIC (%)	84.5%	47.5%	40.4%	58.2%	58.4%
ROCE (%)	4.49%	6.17%	5.60%	5.43%	5.30%
Return On Average Assets	4.59%	5.88%	4.77%	4.72%	4.88%

Key Drivers

	Aug-17A	Aug-18A	Aug-19F	Aug-20F	Aug-21F
Adex rev. grth (%, main newsppr)	-16.8%	-11.8%	-6.7%	-4.6%	-4.6%
ASP (% chg, main newsppr)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Circulation grth (%, main newsppr)	-5.1%	-7.3%	-4.0%	-4.0%	-4.0%
Adex rev. grth (%, 2ndary newsppr)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
ASP (% chg, 2ndary newsppr)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Circulation grth (%, 2ndary newsppr)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Adex rev. grth (%, tertiary newsppr)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
ASP (% chg, tertiary ppr)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Circulation grth (%, tertiary newsppr)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Newsprint Cost (% Change)	-5.7%	-8.6%	-5.5%	-4.5%	-3.2%

SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS





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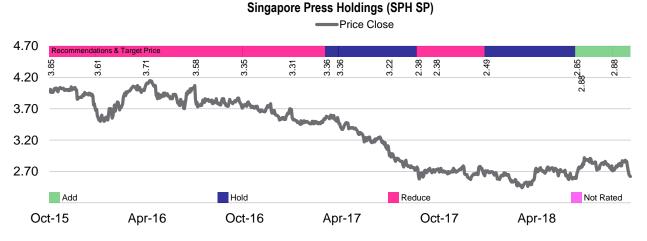
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Corporate Governance Report of Thai Listed Companies (CGR). CG Rating by the Thai Institute of Directors Association (Thai IOD) in 2017, Anti-Corruption 2017

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