

COMPANY RESULTS

iFAST Corporation (IFAST SP)

4Q24: Hong Kong Segment Results Ahead Of Guidance; Another Record AUA Set

iFAST delivered strong 4Q24 results, with 2024 PATMI of S\$67m 6%/7% above our/consensus expectations. This is mainly due to a better-than-expected performance from its Hong Kong operations and another record AUA of S\$25b (+26% yoy, +6% qoq). Management targets to reach S\$100b in AUA by 2028-30. A 14% higher final DPS of 1.6 S cents was proposed. Maintain HOLD with a 2% higher target price of S\$8.30 (S\$8.17 previously) on richer valuations compared with its peers.

4Q24/2024 RESULTS

Year to 31 Dec (S\$m)	4Q24	qoq% chg	yoy % chg	2024	yoy % chg
Revenue	104.1	5.0	26.7	383.9	49.3
Net revenue	64.8	1.3	13.6	248.4	53.6
Net revenue margin (%)	65.8	(2.3ppt)	(7.3ppt)	64.7	+1.7ppt
PATMI	19.0	13.0	46.3	66.6	135.7
PATMI margin (%)	21.8	+1.3ppt	+2.2ppt	17.4	+6.3ppt

Source: iFAST

RESULTS

- 4Q24 results above expectations.** iFAST Corporation (iFAST) registered higher 4Q24 PATMI of S\$19m (+46% yoy; +13% qoq), bringing 2024 PATMI to S\$66.6m (+136% yoy). This outperformed our/consensus estimates by 6%/7% respectively, due to stronger-than-expected contributions from its Hong Kong (HK) operations. The strong PATMI growth was driven by HK ePension contributions and improvements in its core wealth management business, especially in Singapore (+44% yoy).
- A higher final DPS** of 1.6 S cents was proposed (4Q23: 1.4 S cents). This brings total DPS to 5.9 S cents (2023: 4.8 S cents) and translates to a 26% payout ratio (2023: 50%). Management shared that it intends to pay out around this level moving forward.
- Another record AUA.** iFAST's assets under administration (AUA) set new record of S\$25.1b as of end-Dec 24 (+26% yoy; +6% qoq). 4Q24 net inflows of S\$1b (+306% yoy; +25% qoq) contributed to 2024 net inflows of S\$3b, reflecting a recovery from 2022-23 levels (S\$2.0b-2.1b). iFAST continues to target reaching S\$100b in AUA by 2028-30, which will require a CAGR of 26-32%.
- 4Q24 HK contribution stable qoq; expects sequential growth in 2025.** Net revenue of S\$28.1m and pre-tax profit of S\$13.1m from HK were largely flat qoq, while its AUA rose more significantly by 9% qoq and 28% yoy, crossing S\$3b as of end-Dec 24. We expect the ePension division to contribute more significantly in 2025 as it ramps up the onboarding of trustees in ascending order of AUM. As of 13 Dec 24, five of 24 schemes have been onboarded, while 12 are tentatively scheduled for 1Q/2Q25, two for 2Q/3Q25 and the remaining five for 3Q/4Q25.

KEY FINANCIALS

Year to 31 Dec (S\$m)	2023	2024	2025F	2026F	2027F
Net turnover	257	383	585	694	858
EBITDA	66	141	192	221	256
Operating profit	42	114	155	175	200
Net profit (rep./act.)	28	67	98	114	135
Net profit (adj.)	28	67	98	114	135
EPS (S\$ cents)	9.6	22.4	32.2	37.4	44.3
PE (x)	84.4	35.9	24.5	21.0	17.8
P/B (x)	9.3	7.3	6.0	5.0	4.1
EV/EBITDA (x)	25.9	12.0	8.9	7.7	6.6
Dividend yield (%)	0.6	0.7	1.3	1.5	1.7
Net margin (%)	11.1	17.4	16.7	16.4	15.7
Net debt/(cash) to equity (%)	(130.0)	(160.0)	(167.5)	(149.8)	(131.1)
Interest cover (x)	82.9	99.5	47.1	63.9	83.2
ROE (%)	12.0	23.5	27.9	26.8	26.3
Consensus net profit	-	-	104	113	147
UOBKH/Consensus (x)	-	-	0.94	1.01	0.92

Source: Bloomberg, UOB Kay Hian

HOLD

(Maintained)

Share Price	S\$7.87
Target Price	S\$8.30
Upside	+5.5%
(Previous TP)	S\$8.17)

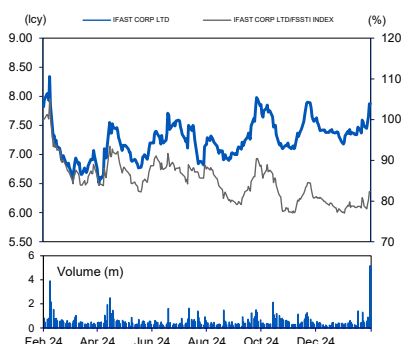
COMPANY DESCRIPTION

iFAST is a wealth management fintech platform headquartered in Singapore. It provides a comprehensive range of investment products and services to financial advisory firms, financial institutions, banks, internet companies, multinational companies, as well as retail and high net worth investors in Asia.

STOCK DATA

GICS sector	Financials			
Bloomberg ticker:	IFAST SP			
Shares issued (m):	298.4			
Market cap (S\$ m):	2,348.1			
Market cap (US\$m):	1,739.8			
3-mth avg daily t'over (US\$m):	3.1			
Price Performance (%)				
52-week high/low	S\$ 8.50/S\$ 6.50			
1mth	3mth	6mth	1yr	YTD
9.0	10.1	10.4	2.2	6.2
Major Shareholders				%
Lim Chung Chun (CEO)				20.0
Singapore Press Holdings				11.9
Lim Wee Kian				6.6
FY24 NAV/Share (S\$)				1.31
FY24 Net Cash/Share (S\$)				2.19

PRICE CHART



Source: Bloomberg

ANALYST(S)

Heidi Mo
+65 6590 6630
heidimo@uobkayhian.com

John Cheong
+65 6590 6623
johncheong@uobkayhian.com

STOCK IMPACT

- **iGB moves into the black in less than three years.** UK-based iFAST Global Bank (iGB) became profitable in 4Q24, achieving S\$0.3m in profit vs S\$0.8m loss in 3Q24. This was driven by a strong growth in customer deposits, which rose 26% qoq and 183% yoy to S\$1b, and effective cost management by the team. The bank has also continued to expand its offerings, such as its recent launch of a debit card for locals. Management anticipates a full-year of profitability in 2025, supported by accelerated growth from net interest income as its deposit base expands.
- **ePension contributions to see uptick; ORSO to contribute in 2Q25.** As aforementioned, we expect ePension contributions to grow sequentially as onboarding ramps up during the year. The HK operations posted a pre-tax profit of HK\$309m (about S\$54m), surpassing management's guidance of >HK\$250m (about S\$43m). We note the launch of the Occupation Retirement Schemes Ordinance (ORSO) platform has been delayed from 1Q25 to 2Q25, due to further testing for a smooth rollout for one client. As at end-Dec 24, total assets under the ORSO schemes stood at HK\$259b (around S\$45b). Furthermore, preparations are underway for a potential partnership in its pension business expansion in Macau.
- **Exploring growth opportunities.** For the Singapore market, the China desk was introduced in Dec 24, designed to establish a connection between Chinese clients and iFAST Global Markets Singapore. This aims to deliver solutions to address the offshore wealth allocation needs of Chinese clients. iFAST is also exploring opportunities to expand into other markets, such as applying for a banking licence in the EU.

EARNINGS REVISION/RISK

- **We raise our 2025/26 earnings forecasts by 2%/16% respectively**, after factoring in higher AUA growth and profits from iGB as it achieved profitability during the quarter. We now project around 25% yoy growth in AUA for 2025/26 to S\$31b/S\$38b. We also introduce 2027 forecasts.

VALUATION/RECOMMENDATION

- **Maintain HOLD with a 2% higher PE-based target price of S\$8.30 (S\$8.17 previously)**, based on 25x 2025 EPS valuation. This is pegged to 0.5SD below its historical mean, as valuations appear rich. The stock has a lower ROE yet trades at a lofty 35x 2024F PE in comparison to its peers' average of 26x.

SHARE PRICE CATALYST

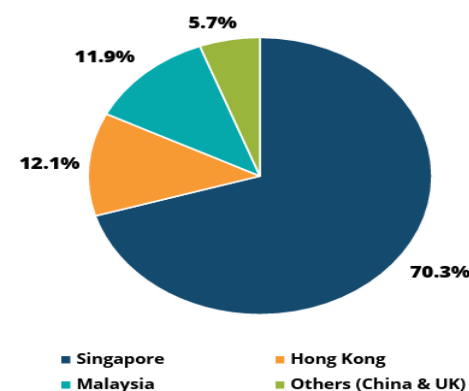
- Accelerated onboarding of trustees to the eMPF platform.
- Higher-than-expected growth in AUA.

PEER COMPARISON

Company	Ticker	Price @ 13 Feb 25 (lcy)	Market Cap (US\$m)	PE			PB			EV/EBITDA			ROE 2025 (%)	Yield 2025 (%)
				2024 (x)	2025 (x)	2026 (x)	2024 (x)	2025 (x)	2026 (x)	2024 (x)	2025 (x)	2026 (x)		
Singapore Exchange	SGX SP	325.80	53,031	32.0	30.5	29.3	7.8	7.6	7.3	6.4	6.0	5.8	25.0	2.9
Hong Kong Exchanges & Clearing	388 HK	13.47	10,685	24.1	23.1	22.2	7.3	6.8	6.1	19.8	17.1	16.4	30.8	2.7
Bursa Malaysia	BURSA MK	8.25	1,497	21.5	21.8	20.9	7.6	7.5	7.2	6.6	6.4	6.2	35.3	4.3
Average				25.9	25.2	24.1	7.6	7.3	6.9	10.9	9.9	9.5	30.4	3.3
iFAST	IFAST SP	7.87	1,740	35.1	24.9	n.a.	7.4	6.4	n.a.	12.1	10.6	n.a.	28.4	1.2

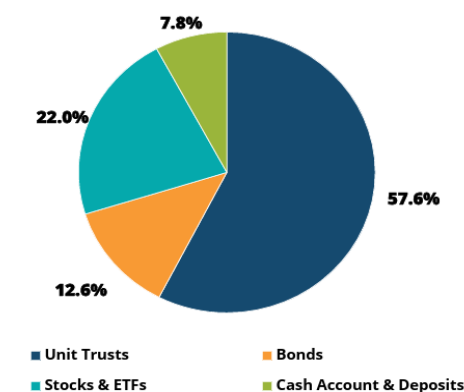
Source: iFAST, Bloomberg, UOB Kay Hian

AUA BY MARKET AS AT 31 DEC 24



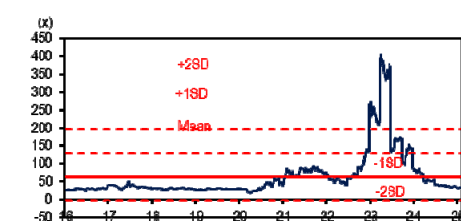
Source: iFAST

AUA BY PRODUCT AS AT 31 DEC 24



Source: iFAST

HISTORICAL PE BAND



Source: Bloomberg, UOB Kay Hian

PROFIT & LOSS

Year to 31 Dec (\$m)	2024	2025F	2026F	2027F
Net turnover	383.0	585.4	694.0	858.2
EBITDA	141.4	192.0	220.7	256.3
Deprec. & amort.	27.8	36.7	46.1	56.0
EBIT	113.6	155.3	174.6	200.3
Total other non-operating income	(28.9)	(28.9)	(28.9)	(28.9)
Associate contributions	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)
Net interest income/(expense)	(1.4)	(4.1)	(3.5)	(3.1)
Pre-tax profit	83.2	122.3	142.2	168.3
Tax	(17.2)	(25.3)	(29.4)	(34.8)
Minorities	0.7	1.0	1.1	1.4
Net profit	66.7	98.0	113.9	134.9
Net profit (adj.)	66.7	98.0	113.9	134.9

CASH FLOW

Year to 31 Dec (\$m)	2024	2025F	2026F	2027F
Operating	671.3	76.8	149.5	154.0
Pre-tax profit	83.2	122.2	142.1	168.2
Tax	(4.6)	(25.3)	(29.4)	(34.8)
Deprec. & amort.	21.3	36.7	46.1	56.0
Associates	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Working capital changes	560.5	(100.3)	(52.8)	(78.9)
Non-cash items	14.3	12.5	12.5	12.5
Other operating cashflows	(3.3)	30.9	30.9	30.9
Investing	(465.4)	(47.8)	(57.2)	(71.2)
Capex (growth)	(25.6)	(47.8)	(57.2)	(71.2)
Investments	(439.6)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Proceeds from sale of assets	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Others	(0.2)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Financing	51.3	(41.5)	(41.5)	(45.6)
Dividend payments	(17.0)	(29.4)	(34.2)	(40.4)
Proceeds from borrowings	46.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Loan repayment	(64.2)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Others/interest paid	86.1	(12.2)	(7.3)	(5.1)
Net cash inflow (outflow)	257.2	(12.5)	50.8	37.2
Beginning cash & cash equivalent	359.8	622.8	610.3	661.1
Changes due to forex impact	5.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ending cash & cash equivalent	622.8	610.3	661.1	698.3

BALANCE SHEET

Year to 31 Dec (\$m)	2024	2025F	2026F	2027F
Fixed assets	49.9	62.6	71.3	69.3
Other LT assets	222.1	191.2	205.9	223.5
Cash/ST investment	622.8	761.5	812.3	849.5
Other current assets	808.4	845.6	903.0	1,027.7
Total assets	1,703.3	1,861.0	1,992.5	2,170.1
ST debt	16.8	16.8	16.8	16.8
Other current liabilities	1,244.1	1,340.6	1,397.6	1,484.4
LT debt	99.1	99.1	99.1	99.1
Other LT liabilities	28.3	21.0	15.8	12.2
Shareholders' equity	316.8	385.3	465.0	559.4
Minority interest	(1.8)	(1.8)	(1.8)	(1.8)
Total liabilities & equity	1,703.3	1,861.0	1,992.5	2,170.1

KEY METRICS

Year to 31 Dec (%)	2024	2025F	2026F	2027F
Profitability				
EBITDA margin	36.9	32.8	31.8	29.9
Pre-tax margin	21.7	20.9	20.5	19.6
Net margin	17.4	16.7	16.4	15.7
ROA	5.3	5.5	5.9	6.5
ROE	23.5	27.9	26.8	26.3
Growth				
Turnover	49.3	52.8	18.6	23.7
EBITDA	115.1	35.8	14.9	16.1
Pre-tax profit	126.8	46.9	16.3	18.4
Net profit	134.9	46.9	16.3	18.4
Net profit (adj.)	134.9	46.9	16.3	18.4
EPS	134.9	46.9	16.3	18.4
Leverage				
Debt to total capital	26.9	23.2	20.0	17.2
Debt to equity	36.6	30.1	24.9	20.7
Net debt/(cash) to equity	(160.0)	(167.5)	(149.8)	(131.1)
Interest cover (x)	99.5	47.1	63.9	83.2

Disclosures/Disclaimers

This report is prepared by UOB Kay Hian Private Limited ("UOBKH"), which is a holder of a capital markets services licence and an exempt financial adviser in Singapore.

This report is provided for information only and is not an offer or a solicitation to deal in securities or to enter into any legal relations, nor an advice or a recommendation with respect to such securities.

This report is prepared for general circulation. It does not have regard to the specific investment objectives, financial situation and the particular needs of any recipient hereof. Advice should be sought from a financial adviser regarding the suitability of the investment product, taking into account the specific investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any person in receipt of the recommendation, before the person makes a commitment to purchase the investment product.

This report is confidential. This report may not be published, circulated, reproduced or distributed in whole or in part by any recipient of this report to any other person without the prior written consent of UOBKH. This report is not directed to or intended for distribution to or use by any person or any entity who is a citizen or resident of or located in any locality, state, country or any other jurisdiction as UOBKH may determine in its absolute discretion, where the distribution, publication, availability or use of this report would be contrary to applicable law or would subject UOBKH and its connected persons (as defined in the Financial Advisers Act, Chapter 110 of Singapore) to any registration, licensing or other requirements within such jurisdiction.

The information or views in the report ("Information") has been obtained or derived from sources believed by UOBKH to be reliable. However, UOBKH makes no representation as to the accuracy or completeness of such sources or the Information and UOBKH accepts no liability whatsoever for any loss or damage arising from the use of or reliance on the Information. UOBKH and its connected persons may have issued other reports expressing views different from the Information and all views expressed in all reports of UOBKH and its connected persons are subject to change without notice. UOBKH reserves the right to act upon or use the Information at any time, including before its publication herein.

Except as otherwise indicated below, (1) UOBKH, its connected persons and its officers, employees and representatives may, to the extent permitted by law, transact with, perform or provide broking, underwriting, corporate finance-related or other services for or solicit business from, the subject corporation(s) referred to in this report; (2) UOBKH, its connected persons and its officers, employees and representatives may also, to the extent permitted by law, transact with, perform or provide broking or other services for or solicit business from, other persons in respect of dealings in the securities referred to in this report or other investments related thereto; (3) the officers, employees and representatives of UOBKH may also serve on the board of directors or in trustee positions with the subject corporation(s) referred to in this report. (All of the foregoing is hereafter referred to as the "Subject Business"); and (4) UOBKH may otherwise have an interest (including a proprietary interest) in the subject corporation(s) referred to in this report.

As of the date of this report, no analyst responsible for any of the content in this report has any proprietary position or material interest in the securities of the corporation(s) which are referred to in the content they respectively author or are otherwise responsible for.

IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES FOR U.S. PERSONS

This research report was prepared by UOBKH, a company authorized, as noted above, to engage in securities activities in Singapore. UOBKH is not a registered broker-dealer in the United States and, therefore, is not subject to U.S. rules regarding the preparation of research reports and the independence of research analysts. This research report is provided for distribution by UOBKH (whether directly or through its US registered broker dealer affiliate named below) to "major U.S. institutional investors" in reliance on the exemption from registration provided by Rule 15a-6 of the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). All US persons that receive this document by way of distribution from or which they regard as being from UOBKH by their acceptance thereof represent and agree that they are a major institutional investor and understand the risks involved in executing transactions in securities.

Any U.S. recipient of this research report wishing to effect any transaction to buy or sell securities or related financial instruments based on the information provided in this research report should do so only through UOB Kay Hian (U.S.) Inc ("UOBKHUS"), a registered broker-dealer in the United States. Under no circumstances should any recipient of this research report effect any transaction to buy or sell securities or related financial instruments through UOBKH.

UOBKHUS accepts responsibility for the contents of this research report, subject to the terms set out below, to the extent that it is delivered to and intended to be received by a U.S. person other than a major U.S. institutional investor.

The analyst whose name appears in this research report is not registered or qualified as a research analyst with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") and may not be an associated person of UOBKHUS and, therefore, may not be subject to applicable restrictions under FINRA Rules on communications with a subject company, public appearances and trading securities held by a research analyst account.

Analyst Certification/Regulation AC

Each research analyst of UOBKH who produced this report hereby certifies that (1) the views expressed in this report accurately reflect his/her personal views about all of the subject corporation(s) and securities in this report; (2) the report was produced independently by him/her; (3) he/she does not carry out, whether for himself/herself or on behalf of UOBKH or any other person, any of the Subject Business involving any of the subject corporation(s) or securities referred to in this report; and (4) he/she has not received and will not receive any compensation that is directly or indirectly related or linked to the recommendations or views expressed in this report or to any sales, trading, dealing or corporate finance advisory services or transaction in respect of the securities in this report. However, the compensation received by each such research analyst is based upon various factors, including UOBKH's total revenues, a portion of which are generated from UOBKH's business of dealing in securities.

Reports are distributed in the respective countries or jurisdictions by the respective entities and are subject to the additional restrictions listed in the following table.

General	This report is not intended for distribution, publication to or use by any person or entity who is a citizen or resident of or located in any country or jurisdiction where the distribution, publication or use of this report would be contrary to applicable law or regulation.
Hong Kong	This report is distributed in Hong Kong by UOB Kay Hian (Hong Kong) Limited ("UOBKHHK"), which is regulated by the Securities and Futures Commission of Hong Kong. Neither the analyst(s) preparing this report nor his associate, has trading and financial interest and relevant relationship specified under Para. 16.4 of Code of Conduct in the listed corporation covered in this report. UOBKHHK does not have financial interests and business relationship specified under Para. 16.5 of Code of Conduct with the listed corporation covered in this report. Where the report is distributed in Hong Kong and contains research analyses or reports from a foreign research house, please note: (i) recipients of the analyses or reports are to contact UOBKHHK (and not the relevant foreign research house) in Hong Kong in respect of any matters arising from, or in connection with, the analysis or report; and (ii) to the extent that the analyses or reports are delivered to and intended to be received by any person in Hong Kong who is not a professional investor, or institutional investor, UOBKHHK accepts legal responsibility for the contents of the analyses or reports only to the extent required by law.
Indonesia	This report is distributed in Indonesia by PT UOB Kay Hian Sekuritas, which is regulated by Financial Services Authority of Indonesia ("OJK"). Where the report is distributed in Indonesia and contains research analyses or reports from a foreign research house, please note recipients of the analyses or reports are to contact PT UOBKH (and not the relevant foreign research house) in Indonesia in respect of any matters arising from, or in connection with, the analysis or report.
Malaysia	Where the report is distributed in Malaysia and contains research analyses or reports from a foreign research house, the recipients of the analyses or reports are to contact UOBKHM (and not the relevant foreign research house) in Malaysia, at +603-21471988, in respect of any matters arising from, or in connection with, the analysis or report as UOBKHM is the registered person under CMSA to distribute any research analyses in Malaysia.
Singapore	This report is distributed in Singapore by UOB Kay Hian Private Limited ("UOBKH"), which is a holder of a capital markets services licence and an exempt financial adviser regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Where the report is distributed in Singapore and contains research analyses or reports from a foreign research house, please note: (i) recipients of the analyses or reports are to contact UOBKH (and not the relevant foreign research house) in Singapore in respect of any matters arising from, or in connection with, the analysis or report; and (ii) to the extent that the analyses or reports are delivered to and intended to be received by any person in Singapore who is not an accredited investor, expert investor or institutional investor, UOBKH accepts legal responsibility for the contents of the analyses or reports only to the extent required by law.
Thailand	This report is distributed in Thailand by UOB Kay Hian Securities (Thailand) Public Company Limited, which is regulated by the Securities and Exchange Commission of Thailand.
United Kingdom	This report is being distributed in the UK by UOB Kay Hian (U.K.) Limited, which is an authorised person in the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act and is regulated by The Financial Conduct Authority. Research distributed in the UK is intended only for institutional clients.
United States of America ('U.S.')	This report cannot be distributed into the U.S. or to any U.S. person or entity except in compliance with applicable U.S. laws and regulations. It is being distributed in the U.S. by UOB Kay Hian (US) Inc, which accepts responsibility for its contents. Any U.S. person or entity receiving this report and wishing to effect transactions in any securities referred to in the report should contact UOB Kay Hian (US) Inc. directly.

Copyright 2025, UOB Kay Hian Pte Ltd. All rights reserved.

<http://research.uobkayhian.com>

RCB Regn. No. 197000447W