

Wednesday, 27 September 2023

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KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Keppel Corp (KEP SP): Trading SELL	
Sembcorp Industries (SCI SP): Trading SELL	
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Small/Mid Cap Highlights	

	Prev Close	1D %	1W %	1M %	YTD %
DJIA	33618.9	(1.1)	(2.6)	(2.1)	1.4
S&P 500	4273.5	(1.5)	(3.8)	(3.0)	11.3
FTSE 100	7625.7	0.0	(0.5)	3.9	2.3
AS30	7238.3	(0.6)	(2.1)	(1.3)	0.2
CSI 300	3692.9	(0.6)	(0.7)	(0.4)	(4.6)
FSSTI	3215.1	(0.0)	(0.8)	0.8	(1.1)
HSCEI	6030.8	(1.6)	(3.3)	(2.3)	(10.1)
HSI	17466.9	(1.5)	(2.9)	(2.7)	(11.7)
JCI	6923.8	(1.1)	(0.8)	0.4	1.1
KLCI	1445.6	0.1	(0.8)	0.1	(3.3)
KOSPI	2463.0	(1.3)	(3.8)	(2.2)	10.1
Nikkei 225	32315.1	(1.1)	(2.8)	2.2	23.8
SET	1494.0	(0.9)	(1.9)	(4.2)	(10.5)
TWSE	16276.1	(1.1)	(2.2)	(1.2)	15.1
BDI	1694	5.0	11.0	56.9	11.8
CPO (RM/mt)	3677	0.9	(0.5)	(3.4)	(9.2)
Brent Crude (US\$/bbl)	94	0.7	(0.4)	11.2	9.4

Source: Bloomberg

TOP VOLUME

			voiume
Company	Price (S\$)	Chg (%)	('000s)
Seatrium	0.13	0.0	227,618
ESR-LOGOS REIT	0.28	(9.8)	59,793
Yangzijiang Shipbuilding	1.66	(2.9)	21,930
Genting Singapore	0.84	0.0	18,462
Thai Beverage	0.59	(0.8)	16.759

TOP GAINERS

Company	Price (S\$)	Chg (%)	Volume ('000s)
OUE Commercial REIT	0.24	9.3	11,286
UMS Holdings	1.28	2.4	12,051
Thomson Medical Group	0.06	1.7	3,509
Sinarmas Land	0.19	1.6	35
Hutchison Port Holdings Trust	0.16	1.3	1.284

TOP LOSERS

			Volume
Company	Price (S\$)	Chg (%)	('000s)
ESR-LOGOS REIT	0.28	(9.8)	59,793
Sri Trang Agro-Industry	0.63	(5.3)	0
Yangzijiang Shipbuilding	1.66	(2.9)	21,930
Keppel Infrastructure Trust	0.48	(2.1)	15,155
Golden Agri-Resources	0.26	(1.9)	11,559

KEY ASSUMPTIONS

GDP (% yoy)		2022	2023F	2024F
US		2.1	2.0	1.0
Euro Zone		3.5	0.5	0.8
Japan		1.0	1.5	1.0
Singapore		3.6	0.7	3.0
Malaysia		8.7	4.0	4.6
Thailand		2.6	3.1	3.5
Indonesia		5.4	5.1	5.2
Hong Kong		-3.5	4.6	3.0
China		3.0	5.0	4.6
CPO	(RM/mt)	5,088	4,000	4,200
Brent (Average)	(US\$/bbl)	99.0	81.0	84.0

Source: Bloomberg, UOB ETR, UOB Kay Hian

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SMALL/MID CAP HIGHLIGHTS

Elite Commercial REIT (ELITE SP)

A Visit To Elite's Buildings In The UK

Elite is Singapore's first and only UK-focused S-REIT, with a portfolio of mostly freehold office spaces in the UK. Our visit of 14 properties covered London, North West and Scotland, and these were mainly leased to the UK government's DWP which made up 92% of its 1H23 gross rental income. According to Bloomberg, Elite currently trades at above average yield of 14.4% vs its peers.

WHAT'S NEW

- Recession-proof REIT with stable cashflow. We visited the office premises of 14 properties in Elite Commercial REIT's (Elite) portfolio across three regions. These are a mostly a mix of Jobcentre Plus and back offices for its key tenant, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). The DWP, which generated 92% of 1H23 gross rental income, is the UK's largest public service department administering pension services and welfare benefits to over 20m persons. The UK government is rated AA and Aa3 by S&P and Moody's respectively and has one of the lowest debt-to-GDP ratios among the G7 countries, ensuring credit stability for Elite. On top of this, the weighted average lease expiry (WALE) was 4.5 years as at end-1H23, providing strong income visibility.
- Strong asset mix. Elite's portfolio of 155 buildings as of 30 Jun 23 is geographically diversified across the UK with total NLA of 3.9m sf and site area of 72ha. Around 97% of its properties are freehold, and portfolio valuation as at 31 Dec 22 stood at £466.2m, while the majority of its gross rental income is derived from triple net leases.
- Prioritising vacant asset management, capital management and portfolio future-proofing. In Elite's portfolio, a total of 12 assets have been vacated, of which two have been divested at an overall 14.4% premium above valuation as of 31 Jul 23, and three in advanced stages of divestment. A portion of the recycled gross proceeds was subsequently been used to improve gearing to 46.0% as of 1H23 (1Q23: 46.6%). During our visit, we observed that physical occupancy at front-facing Jobcentre Plus remains high, as the services provided require claimants to be physically present. Services provided by the DWP are highly essential to local communities, and Elite's strategically located assets (ie easily accessible by bus or train) allow the DWP to serve the public effectively.
- Positive rental reversions despite some challenges. Meanwhile, back offices such as call centres have lower physical occupancy due to the hybrid work model, where staff are only required to be in office at least twice a week. We note that management has reduced rent across 11 properties to effectively retain the tenant, and is actively sourcing for potential tenants for unused spaces in the meantime. Despite this, there is a net annualised rent increase of approximately 13.1% across the remaining portfolio, cushioning the negative impact from vacated assets and rental cuts.
- Trading at above average yield. Elite's 2023 yield of 14.4% is higher than 5.1% for peers investing in UK commercial properties and 6.2% for SGX-listed office REITS.

KEY FINANCIALS

Year to 31 Dec (£m)	2020*	2021	2022	1H23
Net turnover	21	35	37	21
EBITDA	16	29	32	18
Operating profit	16	29	32	18
Net profit (rep./act.)	7	23	23	11
Net profit (adj.)	7	23	23	11
EPU (GBP pence)	2.2	5.2	4.8	4.6
DPU (GBP pence)	4.4	5.4	4.8	3.6
PE (x)	11.2	4.8	5.2	6.9
P/B (x)	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5
DPU YId (%)	17.8	21.7	19.2	14.4
Net margin (%)	35.6	66.1	62.1	51.7
Net debt/(cash) to equity (%)	37.6	70.7	85.9	88.5
Interest cover (x)	6.6	6.0	4.3	3.1
ROE (%)	n.a.	9.1	8.6	4.1
Consensus DPU	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
UOBKH/Consensus (x)	-	-	-	-

^{*} Period from 6 Feb 20 to 31 Dec 20.

Source: Elite Commercial REIT, Bloomberg, UOB Kay Hian

NOT RATED

Share Price	£0.25
Target Price	n.a.
Upside	n.a.

COMPANY DESCRIPTION

Elite is the first UK-focused S-REIT listed on the SGX. It principally invests in commercial real estate in the UK.

STOCK DATA

GICS sector	Real Estate
Bloomberg ticker:	ELITE SP
Shares issued (m):	483.0
Market cap (£m):	120.7
Market cap (US\$m):	147.1
3-mth avg daily t'over (US\$m):	0.1

Price Performance (%)

52-week l	high/low		£0.5	50/£0.240
1mth	3mth	6mth	1yr	YTD
(2.0)	(15.3)	(39.0)	(52.4)	(46.8)
Major S	hareholde	rs		%
Exor Ned	erland			22.6
Ho Lee Group Trust 7.				
Sunway F	RE Capital			5.6
FY23 NA	V/Share (£)			0.51
FY23 Net	Cash/Share		0.43	

PRICE CHART



Source: Bloomberg

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Singapore Daily

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PROPERTIES VIEWED ON SITE VISIT

		Valuation	NLA
Building	Region	(GBPm)	(sf)
Collyer Court, Peckham	London	7.8	16,786
Peckham High Street	London	9.0	17,470
Crown House, Romford	London	10.2	35,119
High Road, Ilford	London	6.2	18,741
Oates House, Stratford	London	8.0	14,424
Great Western House, Birkenhead	North West	8.7	80,141
Peel Park, Blackpool	North West	25.0	156,542

		Valuation	NLA
Building	Region	(GBPm)	(sf)
Tomlinson House, Blackpool Norcross Lane	North West	10.6	93,502
Duchy House, Preston	North West	3.2	43,217
Palatine House, Preston	North West	2.7	36,522
Whitburn Road, Bathgate	Scotland	1.9	31,484
Parklands, Falkirk	Scotland	9.3	81,350
Heron House, Falkirk	Scotland	3.1	25,454
Glasgow Benefits Centre, Glasgow	Scotland	30.0	137,287

CROWN HOUSE, ROMFORD



Source: Elite Commercial REIT, UOB Kay Hian

OATES HOUSE, STRATFORD



Source: Elite Commercial REIT, UOB Kay Hian

GREAT WESTERN HOUSE, BIRKEN HEAD



Source: Elite Commercial REIT, UOB Kay Hian

PEEL PARK, BLACKPOOL



Source: Elite Commercial REIT, UOB Kay Hian

PEER COMPARISON

				Price @	Target	Market		Yield		Debt to	Debt to	
Company	Ticker	Rec	Curr	26 Sep 23	Price	Cap	2022	2023F	2024F	Equity	Assets	P/NAV
				(lcy)		(US\$m)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(%)	(%)	(x)
UK												
Great Portland Estates	GPE LN	NR	£	430.2	n.a.	1,330.3	2.9	2.9	3.0	27.5	21.0	0.57
Land Securities Group	LAND LN	NR	£	608.2	n.a.	5,518.1	6.3	6.5	6.6	50.5	32.3	0.64
British Land	BLND LN	NR	£	321	n.a.	3,625.6	7.1	6.9	7.1	43.4	28.9	0.54
Derwent London	DLN LN	NR	£	1905	n.a.	2,605.7	4.1	4.2	4.3	30.6	22.7	0.55
Average							5.1	5.1	5.2	38.0	26.2	0.58
SINGAPORE												
CapitaLand Comm	CICT SP	BUY	S\$	1.86	2.20	9,050.4	5.7	5.7	5.9	68.3	40.4	0.88
Keppel REIT	KREIT SP	BUY	S\$	0.87	1.12	2,398.1	6.8	6.6	6.7	73.2	39.2	0.65
Average							6.2	6.1	6.3	70.7	39.8	0.76
Elite Commercial REIT	ELITE SP	NR	£	0.25	n.a.	147.1	19.2	14.4	14.8	90.9	46.0	0.49

Source: Bloomberg, UOB Kay Hian



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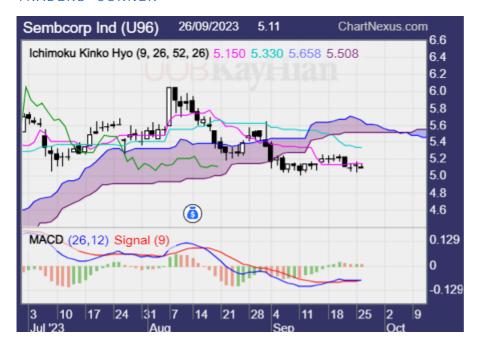
PROFIT & LOSS				BALANCE SHEET			
Year to 31 Dec (£m)	2020*	2021	2022	Year to 31 Dec (£m)	2020*	2021	2022
Net turnover	21.0	34.7	37.1	Fixed assets	311.9	501.3	460.0
EBITDA	15.6	29.2	32.0	Other LT assets	0.0	0.5	0.1
Deprec. & amort.	0.0	0.0	0.0	Cash/ST investment	20.2	19.5	7.4
EBIT	15.6	29.2	32.0	Other current assets	0.9	12.0	19.3
Net interest income/(expense)	(2.4)	(4.9)	(7.4)	Total assets	332.9	533.4	486.8
Pre-tax profit	13.2	24.3	24.5	ST debt	0.0	6.6	7.2
Tax	(5.7)	(1.4)	(1.5)	Other current liabilities	7.9	15.4	15.2
Net profit	7.5	23.0	23.0	LT debt	101.9	217.3	213.1
Net profit (adj.)	7.5	23.0	23.0	Other LT liabilities	5.9	5.0	3.4
				Shareholders' equity	217.2	289.0	247.9
				Total liabilities & equity	332.9	533.4	486.8
CASH FLOW				KEY METRICS			
Year to 31 Dec (£m)	2020*	2021	2022	Year to 31 Dec (%)	2020*	2021	2022
Operating	16.5	22.7	27.9	Profitability			
Pre-tax profit	29.1	(3.4)	(16.8)	EBITDA margin	74.2	84.1	86.2
Tax	(2.6)	(2.9)	(2.4)	Pre-tax margin	63.0	70.1	66.2
Working capital changes	(2.5)	(6.3)	(1.7)	Net margin	35.6	66.1	62.1
Non-cash items	(14.4)	30.7	41.4	ROA	n.a.	5.3	4.5
Other operating cashflows	6.9	4.6	7.4	ROE	n.a.	9.1	8.6
Investing	0.0	(9.4)	(7.4)				
Capex (growth)	0.0	(9.4)	(7.4)	Growth			
Capex (maintenance)	0.0	0.0	0.0	Turnover	n.a.	65.7	6.7
Financing	(15.6)	(14.1)	(33.2)	EBITDA	n.a.	87.5	9.5
Distribution to unitholders	(16.3)	(17.6)	(22.8)	Pre-tax profit	n.a.	84.2	0.8
Issue of shares	130.9	0.0	0.0	Net profit	n.a.	207.5	0.3
Proceeds from borrowings	(105.6)	8.6	(3.4)	Net profit (adj.)	n.a.	207.5	0.3
Others/interest paid	(24.6)	(5.1)	(7.0)	EPU	n.a.	131.5	(7.3)
Net cash inflow (outflow)	0.8	(8.0)	(12.7)				
Beginning cash & cash equivalent	18.1	20.2	19.5	Leverage			
Restricted cash	1.2	0.1	0.7	Debt to total capital	31.9	43.6	47.0
Ending cash & cash equivalent	20.2	19.5	7.4	Debt to equity	46.9	77.5	88.9
				Net debt/(cash) to equity	37.6	70.7	85.9

^{*} Period from 6 Feb 20 to 31 Dec 20.

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TRADERS' CORNER

Singapore



Daily

Sembcorp Industries (SCI SP)

Trading sell range: S\$5.10-5.12

Last price: S\$5.11
Target price: S\$4.65
Protective stop: S\$5.30

The price is trading below the cloud, keeping the downtrend intact. Conversion and base lines remain in a bearish crossover. The MACD is bearish and a bearish crossover is likely. These could increase chances of the stock price continuing to move lower.

The potential downside target is S\$4.65. Stoploss could be placed at S\$5.30.

Approximate timeframe on average: 1-2 weeks (initiate this trade idea if the stock hits the entry price range within three trading days)

Our institutional research has a fundamental BUY and target price of S\$7.20.



Keppel Corp (KEP SP)

Trading sell range: S\$6.78-6.80

Last price: S\$6.79
Target price: S\$6.30
Protective stop: S\$6.93

The price is currently sitting at the key cloud support. A violation of this support will turn the chart outlook to bearish. A bearish conversion and base lines crossover are likely. The MACD is bearish. These could increase chances of the stock price moving lower.

The potential downside target is \$\$6.30. Stoploss could be placed at \$\$6.93.

Approximate timeframe on average: 1-2 weeks (initiate this trade idea if the stock hits the entry price range within three trading days)

Our institutional research has a fundamental BUY and target price of \$\$9.09.

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