

Equity Research Nutrition / China

Megan Jin

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Company Update

BUY

UNCHANGED

Close price: HK\$13.42 Target Price: HK\$19.20 (+43%)

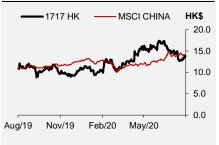
Prior TP: HK\$19.20

Key Data

HKEx code		1717 HK
12 Months High	(HK\$)	17.78
12 Month Low	(HK\$)	8.57
3M Avg Dail Vol.	(mn)	7.68
Issue Share	(mn)	1,615.42
Market Cap	(HK\$mn)	21,678.94
Fiscal Year		12/2019
Major shareholder	· (s)	CITIC Agri Fund (23.53%)

Source: Company data, Bloomberg, OP Research Closing price are as of 17/08/2020

Price Chart



	1mth	3mth	6mth
Absolute %	-9.2	-15.6	23.7
Rel. MSCI CHINA %	-11.2	-30.3	14.0

PΕ



Company profile

Ausnutria Dairy Corporation Ltd is a pediatric milk formula company. It markets and sells dairy products to the People's Republic of China, Europe, North America, the Middle East, and other overseas countries.

Ausnutria Dairy (1717 HK)

2Q20 fluctuations to be under control by 4Q20

- Ausnutria recorded 23%/32% rev/adj. net earnings growth in 1H20 to RMB 3,859 mn/575 mn. Fluctuations in 2Q20 due to commodities fleeing are expected to be under control by 4Q20.
- Overhangs on goat IMF are easing in August and we maintain our outlook for whole year rev/net earnings growth of 25%/29% for FY20E.
- Reiterate BUY with TP unchanged at HK\$19.20, on same 18x FY21E P/E. The stock is trading at 33% discount to Feihe and Yashili.

2Q20 fluctuations in goat IMF expect to be under control by 4Q20. The Company registered 18% revenue growth in 2Q20, with goat IMF/cow IMF up 13%/17% respectively, slowing down from 37%/36% in 1Q20. While cow IMF deceleration was more an issue of frontloading in 1Q20, the disappointing goat IMF growth was caused by 1) amplified commodities fleeing caused by hiked consumer popularity and relatively less POS, 2) new client development was disrupted by lack of small pack products, e.g. limited Netherland production line during pandemic). With new shipment from July to be coated with classification code, the company believes stock fleeing will be under control by 4Q20. **Both overhangs on goat IMF are easing in August** as channel inventories see returning to normal levels (~2 mths). 1H20 recorded 23%/32% rev/adj. net earnings growth to RMB 3,859 mn/575 mn, in line with profit alert and consensus. **Whole year outlook thus remained unchanged**, as the company guided 25%/40%-50%/30%/flat growth in Kabrita/Hyproca/Puredo/Allnutria for FY20E.

Multiple drivers for this fast growing premium IMF brand as distribution network scale up. Upon brand restructuring of Puredo and Allnutria, we expect decent growth from 2H20E onwards, in addition to current pillars of Kabrita and Hyproca. Nutrients are also expected to take off with the launch of Aunulife that is est. to grow by 30%+ from FY21E. With still small distribution network (POS: Kabrita 28k, Hyproca 10k, vs 100k of Feihe), we believe Ausnutria has ample upside as one of the few premium Chinese IMF brand. We fine-tuned FY20E /FY21E forecasts and remain robust yoy adj. earnings growth outlook of 20%/49% on 25%/23% rev growth and blended GPM expansion. We reiterate BUY rating on Ausnutria with TP unchanged at HK\$19.20 on 23x/18x FY20E/21E P/E. The stock is currently trading at 33% discount to Feihe and Yashili

Risks: (1) channel inventory build-up; (2) slower than expected recovery in goat IMF products growth; (3) fiercer than expected premium market competition

Exhibit 1: Forecast and	Exhibit 1: Forecast and Valuation													
Year to Dec (RMB mn)	FY18	FY19	FY20E	FY21E	FY22E									
Revenue	5,389.6	6,736.2	8,423.6	10,372.0	12,264.4									
Growth (%)	37.3	25.0	25.1	23.1	18.2									
Adjusted net profit	581.5	942.0	1,219.2	1,568.5	1,876.3									
Growth (%)	88.7	62.0	29.4	28.7	19.6									
Adj. diluted EPS (HK\$)	0.512	0.670	0.830	1.068	1.281									
Growth (%)	75.2	30.8	23.8	28.7	20.0									
Change to previous EPS (%)			(3.3)	0.0										
Consensus EPS (HK\$)			0.800	1.030										
ROE (%)	25.4	24.2	24.0	29.5	28.6									
P/E (x)	26.2	20.0	16.2	12.6	10.5									
P/B (x)	5.4	4.7	4.1	3.3	2.7									
Yield (%)	1.1	1.6	2.2	2.8	3.3									
DPS (HK\$)	0.150	0.220	0.290	0.374	0.448									

Source: Bloomberg, OP Research



Eyhih	ıt 7·	Farnings	revision

	FY20E			FY21E			
(RMB mn)	New	Old	% Chg	New	Old	% Chg	OP Comments
Revenue	8,424	8,451	(0.3)	10,372	10,133	2.4	
Gross profit	4,503	4,533	(0.7)	5,579	5,449	2.4	
Gross margin	53.5%	53.6%	(0.2)	53.8%	53.8%	0.0	
Opex	(3,175)	(2,988)	6.2	(3,597)	(3,534)	1.8	Factor in FV changes in financial derivatives
EBIT	1,359	1,576	(13.8)	2,013	1,946	3.4	
Adjusted Net Profit	1,219	1,261	(3.3)	1,568	1,568	0.0	
Diluted EPS (HK\$)	0.830	0.858	(3.3)	1.068	1.067	0.0	

Source: OP Research



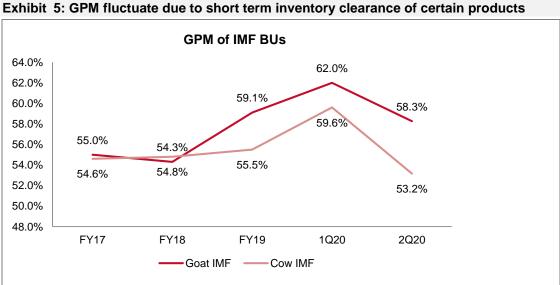
Exhibit 3: 1H20 result summary													
(RMB mn)	1H19	2H19	1H20A	1H20E	Act./Est.	2H20E	OP Comments	FY20E					
Revenue	3,148	3,589	3,859	3,825	0.9%	4,564		8,424					
COGS	(1,508)	(1,694)	(1,837)	(1,913)	-4.0%	(2,084)		(3,921)					
Gross profit	1,639	1,894	2,022	1,913	5.7%	2,481		4,503					
Other income & gains	39	3	30	15	94.7%	1		31					
Selling exp	(863)	(909)	(985)	(995)	-0.9%	(1,254)		(2,239)					
Admin exp	(246)	(313)	(321)	(306)	5.1%	(361)		(682)					
Other opex	(198)	59	(214)	(80)	167.0%	(39)	Incl. FV loss financial	(253)					
							derivative of RMB 165.9 mn						
Operating profit (EBIT)	371	735	532	547	-2.8%	827		1,359					
Provisions or other items	0	0	0	0	n.a.	0		C					
Interest income	0	27	17	18	-5.1%	19		36					
Finance costs	(12)	(21)	(15)	(18)	-17.5%	(21)		(35)					
Profit after financing costs	359	741	534	547	-2.4%	825		1,360					
Associated cos	2	5	15	3	345.8%	(8)		7					
Jointly controlled cos	0	0	0	0	n.a.	0		C					
Pre-tax profit	361	746	549	551	-0.2%	817		1,366					
Tax	(107)	(122)	(130)	(113)	14.9%	(183)		(313)					
Minority interests	6	(6)	(11)	(0)	n.a.	11		(0)					
Net profit	260	618	409	438	-6.6%	645		1,053					
One-off items	(174)	111	(166)	(166)	0.0%		FV changes of financial derivative that will no longer exist from 2H20	(166)					
Adjusted net profit	435	507	575	604	-4.8%	645		1,219					
НоН%													
Revenue	12%	14%	8%										
Gross profit	12%	16%	7%										
Adjusted net profit	-15%	137%	13%										
YoY%													
Revenue	22%	28%	23%					25.1%					
Gross profit	37%	29%	23%					27.4%					
Adjusted net profit	64%	60%	32%					29.4%					
Key ratios				(in ppts)								
GPM	52.1%	52.8%	52.4%	50.0%	2.40	50.0%		53.5%					
Selling exp	27.4%	25.3%	25.5%	26.0%	(0.47)	27.0%		26.6%					
5 1		8.7%	8.3%	8.0%	0.33	8.0%		8.1%					
Admin exp	7.8%	0.770											
Admin exp EIT	7.8% 29.5%	16.3%	23.6%	20.5%	3.10	20.5%		23.0%					

Source: Company, OP Research

Quarterly rev of key BUs RMB mn 1,200 983 1,000 938 844 800 718 600 636 400 200 36 35 30 0 1Q18 2Q18 3Q18 4Q18 1Q19 2Q19 3Q19 4Q19 1Q20 2Q20 Goat IMF Cow IMF -Nutrition products

Exhibit 4: Quarterly segment revenue trend

Source: Company, OP Research



Source: Company, OP Research

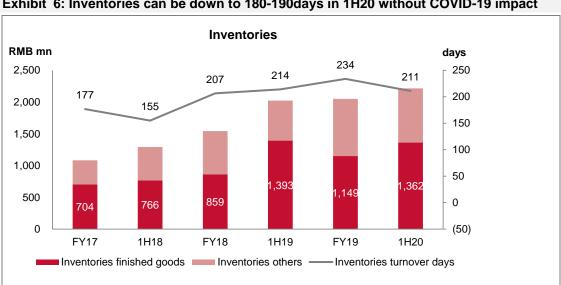


Exhibit 6: Inventories can be down to 180-190days in 1H20 without COVID-19 impact

Source: Company, OP Research



Financial Summary

Year to Dec	FY18	FY19	FY20E	FY21E	FY22E	Year to Dec	FY18	FY19	FY20E	FY21E	FY22E
Income Statement (RMB mn)						Ratios					
Own branded formulas	4,401	6,023	7,647		11,328	Gross margin (%)	49.4	52.5	53.5	53.8	53.6
Private label	338	202	182		163	Operating margin (%)	14.5	16.4	16.1	19.4	19.5
Nutrition products	136	119	154	201	261	Net margin (%)	11.8	13.0	12.5	15.1	15.3
Others	514	392	440	475	512	Selling & dist'n exp/Sales (%)	26.8	26.3	26.6	26.2	26.3
Turnover	5,390	6.736	8.424	10.372	12,264	Admin exp/Sales (%)	8.6	8.3	8.1	7.5	7.0
YoY%	37	25	25	23	18	Payout ratio (%)	32.7	36.1	35.0	35.0	35.0
COGS	_	_	_	_	(5,688)	Effective tax (%)	18.9	20.7	23.0	23.0	23.0
Gross profit	2,661	3,533	4,503			Total debt/equity (%)	33.1	30.0	25.3	20.4	16.7
•	,	,			•	. , ,				_	_
Gross margin		52.5%			53.6%	Net debt/equity (%)				Net cash	
Other income	88		31	31	31	Current ratio (x)	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.9
Selling & distribution	(1,444)	(1,772)	(2,239)	(2,718)	(3,225)	Quick ratio (x)	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3
Admin	(462)	(558)	(682)	(776)	(863)	Inventory T/O (days)	207	234	200	190	190
Other opex	(60)	(139)	(253)	(104)	(123)	AR T/O (days)	24	23	23	23	23
Total opex	(1.966)	(2.469)	(3.175)	(3.597)	(4,211)	AP T/O (days)	38	39	39	39	39
Operating profit (EBIT)	783	,	1,359			Cash conversion cycle (days)	193	218	184	174	174
Operating margin	14.5%	,	,		19.5%	Asset turnover (x)	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0
Provisions	0		0		0	Financial leverage (x)	2.5	2.1	2.1	2.0	1.9
Interest Income	26		36	-	68	EBIT margin (%)	14.5	16.4	16.1	19.4	19.5
Finance costs	(30)	(33)	(35)	(35)	(35)	Interest burden (x)	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Profit after financing costs	779	1,100	1,360	2,029	2,429	Tax burden (x)	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Associated companies & JVs	13	7	7	7	7	Return on equity (%)	25.4	24.2	24.0	29.5	28.6
Pre-tax profit	792		1,366		2,436	ROIC (%)	25.7	30.1	33.9	53.5	62.9
•	(147)	(228)		(467)	(559)	KOIC (%)	23.1	30.1	33.9	33.3	02.9
Tax	` ,	` ,	(313)	` ,	, ,	Veer to Dee	EV40	EV40	EVOOE	EV04E	EVOOE
Minority interests	(9)	(1)	(0)	(1)	(1)	Year to Dec	FY18	FY19	FY20E	FY21E	FY22E
Net profit	635		1,053	,	1,876	Balance Sheet (RMB mn)					
YoY%	106	38	20	49	20	Fixed assets	1,868	1,761	1,935	2,149	2,392
Adjusted net profit	582	942	1,219	1,568	1,876	Right of use assets	0	349	349	349	349
Adjusted net margin	10.8%	14.0%	14.5%	15.1%	15.3%	Intangible assets & goodwill	408	398	317	246	205
EBITDA	934	1,314	1,603	2,285	2,685	Associated companies & JVs	262	272	486	492	499
EBITDA margin	17.3%	-			21.9%	Long-term investments	0	366	159	159	159
EPS (RMB)	0.427		0.754		1.165	Other non-current assets	153	223	223	223	223
			24	29	20						
YoY%	75	_			_	Non-current assets	2,690	3,369	3,469	3,618	3,827
DPS (HK\$)	0.150	0.220	0.290	0.374	0.448	Lanca de Maria	4 5 4 4	0.054	0.440	0.405	0.004
v . =	->//-	->//-		->	->/	Inventories	1,544	2,051	2,148	2,495	2,961
Year to Dec	FY18	FY19	FY20E	FY21E	FY22E	AR	353	420	525	647	765
Cash Flow (RMB mn)						Prepayments & deposits	364	432	541	666	787
EBITDA	934	1,314	1,603	2,285	2,685	Plege deposits	428	396	396	396	396
Chg in working cap	(261)	(264)	276	89	(38)	Other current assets	0	0	0	0	0
Others	` 7	. ,	0	0	Ò	Cash	1,450	1,675	2,684	3,921	5,096
Operating cash	679		1,879	2,374	2,647	Current assets	4,139	4,974	6,294	8,124	10,004
Interest received	30		36		68	Our cit assets	4,100	4,574	0,204	0,124	10,004
						A.D.	204	220	44.4	500	000
Tax	(147)	(202)	(216)	(313)	(467)	AP	284	338	414	506	600
Net cash from operations	562	985	1,699	2,112	2,248	Tax	137	216	313	467	559
						Accruals & other payables	1,571	2,038	2,549	3,139	3,711
Capex	(307)	(208)	(337)	(415)	(491)	Bank loans & leases	659	420	420	420	420
Investments	(40)	(261)	Ó	Ó	Ó	CB & othe debts	0	0	0	0	0
Dividends received	Ò	` ,	0		0	Other current liabilities	2	1	1	1	1
Sales of assets	0		0		0	Current liabilities	2,653	3,013	3,696	4,532	5,291
Interests paid	(30)		(35)	_	(35)	Janoni nabililos	2,000	3,313	3,330	+,002	J,2J I
•	, ,	` ,			` ,	Dank Janes 9 Janes	440	704	70.4	704	704
Others	575					Bank loans & leases	416	784	784	784	784
Investing cash	198	٠,	(372)		(526)	CB & othe debts	0	0	0	0	0
FCF	759		1,327	1,662	1,722	Deferred tax & others	365	482	482	482	482
Issue of shares	1,173	36	0	0	0	MI	141	48	49	49	50
Buy-back	0	(25)	0	0	0	Non-current liabilities	922	1,315	1,315	1,316	1,317
Minority interests	(39)		0		0		-	,	,	,	,
Dividends paid	(173)	` ,	(317)	(425)		Total net assets	3,254	4,016	4,752	5,895	7,224
•	` ,	` ,	(317)		(347)	Total fiet assets	5,254	7,010	7,132	5,055	1,224
Net change in bank loans	(854)		-	-		Chanabaldanisit	2.254	4 040	4 750	F 00F	7 00 4
Others	(1)		0		0	Shareholder's equity	3,254	4,016	4,752	5,895	7,224
Financing cash	105	(254)	(317)	(425)	(547)	Share capital	137	140	140	140	140
						Reserves	3,116	3,876	4,612	5,755	7,084
Net change in cash	864	271	1,009	1,237	1,175						
Exchange rate or other Adj	(50)		0		0	BVPS (HK\$)	2.47	2.87	3.24	4.03	4.93
Opening cash	636	` '	_	_		\			T		
Closing cash	1,450		2,684			Total debts	1,075	1,204	1,204	1,204	1,204
Ciosing cash	1,450	1,075	2,004	J,72 I	3,090	TOTAL UEDIS	1,075	1,204	1,204	1,204	1,204
CEDS (HK¢)	0.495	0.701	1.156	1.438	1.535						
CFPS (HK\$)		0.701	1.136	1.438	1.535						
Source: Company OP Research											

Source: Company, OP Research



Exhibit 7: Peers Comparison

600887 CH

1230 HK

1112 HK

6186 HK

2319 HK

NESN SW

ABT US

A2M AU

				3-mth				EPS	EPS							EV/	EV/	Net	Gross	Net			Sh px	Sh px
			Mkt cap	avg t/o	PER	PER	PER	FY1	FY2	3-Yr EPS	PEG	Div yld	Div yld	P/B P	/B FY1	Ebitda	Ebitda	gearing	margin	margin	ROE	ROE	1-mth	3-mth
Company	Ticker	Price	(US\$m)	(US\$m)	Hist (x)	FY1 (x)	FY2 (x)	YoY%	YoY%	Cagr (%)	(x)	Hist (%)	FY1 (%)	Hist (x)	(x)	Hist	Cur Yr	Hist (%)	Hist (%)	Hist (%)	Hist (%)	FY1 (%)	%	%
Ausnutria	1717 HK	13.42	2,797.17	15.02	20.02	16.17	12.57	29.43	28.65	22.04	0.73	1.64	2.16	4.68	4.14	15.79	12.32	Net cash	52.45	13.04	24.17	24.03	(9.20)	(12.19)
HSI		25,347.34			12.07	11.92	10.09	1.24	18.15	10.49	1.14	3.66	3.28	1.05	0.99						8.66	8.31	1.03	6.51
HSCEI		10,385.90			8.67	8.97	7.99	(3.27)	12.22	6.62	1.35	3.88	3.77	1.09	1.01						12.55	11.28	1.79	7.35
CSI300		4,815.23			18.34	15.87	13.62	15.50	16.52			1.80	1.93	2.16	2.01						11.80	12.66	5.95	23.06
Greater China Peers																								
Adjusted sector avg*					26.29	30.84	23.43	(1.16)	28.29	16.03	2.17	1.71	1.31	5.18	4.39	15.41	14.63	20.17	48.70	3.74	10.33	15.95	9.25	30.81
Beingmate Co L-A	002570 CH	8.49	1250.3	35.5	N/A	169.80	56.60	N/A	200.00	(235.72)	N/A	N/A	N/A	4.90	N/A	116.70	N/A	66.61	50.09	(3.70)	(5.58)	N/A	26.53	33.07
Bright Dairy-A	600597 CH	19.36	3414.3	68.5	47.22	44.40	37.02	6.34	19.95	14.78	3.00	0.67	0.71	4.27	3.89	14.27	12.33	6.24	31.28	2.21	7.83	8.80	28.81	45.24

9.98 3.55

15.52 1.76

17.96 0.86

24.76 1.01

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16.05 3.52

4.33 5.93

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575.7

521.3

81.3

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21.65

17.97

30.87

30.23

36.81

25.31

48.30

N/A

35.42

27.35

15.46

24.95

37.44

32.36

25.67

31.02

40.39

26.94 (13.22)

19.24 (20.83)

24.99 (19.26)

16.24

23.75

27.14

(1.42)

55.70

N/A

12.90

19.47

28.19

23.99

25.67

34.93

31.46

42.11

19.84

28.11

49.82

14.50

7.03

20.85

15.63

Source: Bloomberg, OP Research

Inner Mong Yil-A

Health And Happi

China Feihe Ltd

Mengniu Dairy

Global Peers
Adjusted sector avg*

Nestle Sa-Reg

A2 Milk Co Ltd

Abbott Labs

Yashili Int'L

^{*} Outliners and "N/A" entries are in excl. from the calculation of averages

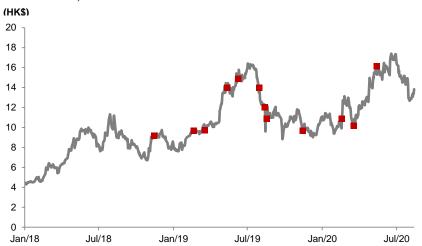


Our recent reports

Date	Company / Sector	Ticker	Title	Rating	Analyst
17/08/2020	Li-Ning	2331	Well positioned to capture consumption recovery	BUY	Megan Jin
12/08/2020	China Youzan	8083	Robust momentum kept up	BUY	Megan Jin
30/07/2020	Viva Biotech	1873	Biotech PE model to reap more long term return	NR	Kevin Tam
21/07/2020	361 Degrees Intl	1361	Slow recovery in 2Q20 retail sales	BUY	Megan Jin
16/07/2020	Anta Sports	2020	More visible outlook of full revival	BUY	Megan Jin
10/07/2020	Digital China	861	Thrive on data servicing capabilities	NR	Kevin Tam
02/07/2020	S-Enjoy Service	1755	New share incentives with strong commitment	BUY	Megan Jin
02/07/2020	TCL Electronics	1070	Inject smartphone business at start of 5G replacement cycle	BUY	Dallas Cai
30/06/2020	Yeahka	9923	From payment to Fintech	BUY	Kevin Tam
19/06/2020	Powerlong CM	9909	Moving into the fast lane	NR	Dallas Cai
11/06/2020	Xtep Intl	1368	More promising prospect from FY21E	BUY	Megan Jin
08/06/2020	Edvantage Group	382	Campus capacity enlarged further	BUY	Megan Jin
04/06/2020	S-Enjoy Service	1755	Robust expansion continues	BUY	Megan Jin
04/06/2020	Greentown Services	2869	Placing for new growth initiatives - city services most likely	HOLD	Dallas Cai
28/05/2020	A-Living	3319	Positive read-across from April property sales	BUY	Dallas Cai
25/05/2020	HKBN	1310	Challenging to becoming BN leader	NR	Kevin Tam
18/05/2020	Skyworth	751	The sky getting clear	NR	Kevin Tam
14/05/2020	Ausnutria Dairy	1717	Premium products brought up GPM in 1Q20	BUY	Megan Jin/Dallas Cai
14/05/2020	China Youzan	8083	1Q loss narrowed as economies of scale kicking in	BUY	Dallas Cai
05/05/2020	HKTV	1137	HK based ecommerce on the rise	BUY	Kevin Tam/Megan Jin
23/04/2020	Edvantage Group	382	License fee saving may come earlier	BUY	Megan Jin/Dallas Cai
22/04/2020	361 Degrees Intl	1361	1Q20 retail sales in line	BUY	Megan Jin
21/04/2020	Xtep Intl	1368	1Q20 sales performance better than feared	BUY	Megan Jin/Dallas Cai
20/04/2020	Li-Ning	2331	1Q20 delivered satisfactory retail sales	BUY	Megan Jin/Dallas Cai
16/04/2020	Anta Sports	2020	Robust online FILA sales to drive 1Q20 sales beat	BUY	Dallas Cai/Megan Jin
15/04/2020	China Youzan	8083	FY19 GMV saw growth acceleration	BUY	Dallas Cai
02/04/2020	Greentown Services	2869	FY19 results largely in line	HOLD	Dallas Cai

Historical recommendations and target price: Ausnutria Dairy (1717 HK)





Date	Rating	TP (HK\$)	Close (HK\$)		Date	Rating	TP (HK\$)	Close (HK\$)
1 20 Mar 2019	BUY	12.50	9.97	6	19 Aug 2019	BUY	14.40	9.92
2 14 May 2019	BUY	16.00	14.34	7	15 Nov 2019	BUY	14.40	9.95
3 11 Jun 2019	BUY	16.00	15.06	8	20 Feb 2020	BUY	15.60	11.00
4 31 Jul 2019	BUY	16.00	14.20	9	19 Mar 2020	BUY	15.50	10.78
5 15 Aug 2019	BUY	14.40	14.20	10	14 May 2020	BUY	19.20	16.14



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Buy (B) We expect this stock outperform the relevant benchmark greater than 15% over the next 12 months. **Hold (H)** We expect this stock to perform in line with the relevant benchmark over the next 12 months.

Sell (S) We expect this stock to underperform the relevant benchmark greater than 15% over the next 12 month.

Relevant Benchmark Represents the stock closing price as at the date quoted in this report.

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