

India

Overweight (no change)

Highlighted Companies

APL Apollo Tubes ADD, TP Rs1611, Rs1720 close

We expect the meaningful ramp-up of its Raipur plant to result in better sales mix and a higher share of value-added products. We expect EBITDA/t at Rs4,700, flat qoq, in 2QFY24F.

KEI Industries ADD, TP Rs2598, Rs2684 close

We expect a steady 2QFY24F performance, with the cable segment's revenue growth at +20% yoy and a stable EBITDA margin of 10.4%. Status update on Gujarat capex to be a key monitorable parameter.

Summary Valuation Metrics

P/E (x)	Mar22-A	Mar23-A	Mar24-F
APL Apollo Tubes	77.26	74.3	54.47
KEI Industries	64.3	50.67	40.35
D/DV (w)	Mar22-A	Mar23-A	Mar24-F
P/BV (x)	Warzz-A	Warzs-A	Marz4-F
APL Apollo Tubes	18.93	15.8	12.88
KEI Industries	11.45	9.44	7.76
Dividend Yield	Mar22-A	Mar23-A	Mar24-F
APL Apollo Tubes	0.2%	0.29%	0.41%
KEI Industries	0.09%	0.11%	0.15%

Industrial - Overall

2Q preview: Durables and building materials

- An eroded base quarter would lead to strong EBITDA/PAT growth yoy. Sales volume to drive revenue growth vs. pricing in 2QFY24F, in our view.
- Cable and wire, structural steel tube, PVC products and sanitaryware/faucet sales continued to do well in 2Q. Durables, tiles and wood panels were weak.
- Good 2Q: Polycab, KEI Inds., Astral, Supreme Inds., APL Apollo and Cera.
 Weak 2Q: CG Consumer, Orient Electric, Kajaria and Century Plyboards.

Strong EBITDA/PAT growth yoy on the back of a weak base quarter

We expect our consumer durable and building materials coverage universe to report strong EBITDA/PAT growth yoy owing to a weak base quarter (impacted by weak B2C demand, volatile/expensive input prices). Sector demand-supply trends have been similar qoq with cable and wire, structural steel tubes, PVC products and sanitaryware/faucet businesses continuing to do well in 2QFY24F, based on our management interactions and channel check. B2B/B2G demand has been relatively stronger vs. B2C, which still is reeling under the high inflation impact. Large/small domestic appliances, durables, tiles and wood panels witnessed weak incremental demand momentum. Real estate launches continued at a good pace in 2Q, and 2HFY24F should see demand revival, especially for those products, the application of which starts when projects near completion.

Expectations from consumer durable companies

Our coverage universe reported sub-optimal revenue and margins in 2QFY23 (base quarter) owing to weak demand and inability to pass on higher input prices. On such an eroded base, we expect cumulative revenue/EBITDA/PAT growth of 19%/24%/34% yoy, respectively, largely driven by volume growth vs. pricing. Within products, switches/switchgear, B2B lighting, housing wire, fan and room air-conditioners or ACs saw average demand trend qoq while B2C lighting and small domestic appliances demand remained weak. We expect Havells/V-Guard to improve their EBITDA margin as input prices decline and the old high-cost inventory impact reduces further while Orient Electric, Polycab, KEI Industries and Finolex Cables are likely to maintain stable margins.

Expectations from building material companies

We expect cumulative revenue/EBITDA/PAT growth at 11%/103%/129% yoy, respectively, for our coverage universe. The sales volume growth is expected to be 15-25% yoy for structural steel and PVC-based products and weak for tiles and wood panels. Sanitaryware and faucet demand remained steady qoq. Revenue growth is likely to be lower than volume growth due to lower hot rolled coil or HRC steel/PVC prices yoy leading to lower realization. EBITDA/PAT growth is on the back of higher margins in 2QFY24F yoy (base quarter impacted due to inventory losses). Supreme Industries and Astral are likely to report the best set of numbers and Century Plyboards the weakest in our coverage universe.

What do we prefer?

Based on P/E-G matrix, we prefer APL Apollo & KEI Industries over the next 12 months.

Figure 1: 2QFY24F earnings summary (Rs m)										
	Revenue	% yoy	EBITDA	% yoy	PAT	% yoy				
Havells India	41,204	12.0	4,162	45.1	2,878	53.9				
CG Consumer	17,885	5.2	1,699	-12.0	1,004	-20.2				
V-Guard Industries	11,590	17.5	956	31.5	533	22.1				
Orient Electric	6,032	18.1	392	237.7	167	NM				
Polycab India	41,195	23.6	5,581	30.5	3,810	42.3				
Finolex Cables	11,790	8.1	1,326	34.4	1,430	155.8				
KEI Industries	18,942	17.8	1,960	22.1	1,343	25.7				
Astral	13,994	19.4	2,393	66.2	1,452	106.3				
Supreme Industries	22,542	8.0	3,618	145.9	2,572	213.6				
Finolex Industries	9,482	0.8	1,541	NM	1,410	NM				
APL Apollo Tubes	45,490	14.6	3,162	36.4	1,983	32.0				
Kajaria Ceramics	11,626	7.9	1,872	44.6	1,166	58.6				
Cera Sanitaryware	4,870	17.1	791	16.5	609	20.0				
Century Plyboards	9,218	2.4	1,429	-5.2	913	-16.3				
Total	2,65,860	13.2	30,882	56.0	21,271	73.3				
			SOUR	RCE: INCRED RES	SEARCH, COMPA	NY REPORTS				

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Figure 2: Coverage universe - valua	tion summary													
			Market cap	Closing ₇	Target Price	Upside —	P/E (x	:)	EV/E (x)	CAGR % (FY	23-25F)	FY25	F
Company Name	Bblg ticker	Rating	US\$m	price ' Rs/share	Rs/share	[%]	FY24F	FY25F	FY24F	FY25F	Revenue	EPS	RoE (%)	RoCE (%)
Building Materials														
Astral	ASTRA IN	HOLD	7,211	1,949	2,002	2.7	88.7	73.0	53.0	44.2	12.1	23.2	20.3	25.4
Supreme Industries	SIIN	ADD	7,590	4,339	3,949	-9.0	52.6	43.9	37.4	30.6	13.0	20.4	22.7	25.9
APL Apollo Tubes	APAT IN	ADD	6,567	1,720	1,611	-6.3	54.5	38.4	34.5	25.4	17.0	39.0	30.2	36.8
Kajaria Ceramics	KJC IN	HOLD	2,838	1,294	1,462	13.0	42.5	33.6	25.4	20.8	15.0	33.3	21.9	27.1
Finolex Industries	FNXP IN	REDUCE	1,920	225	177	-21.3	16.4	22.9	17.3	15.5	2.7	55.9	10.7	13.2
Century Plyboards	CPBI IN	HOLD	1,951	638	662	3.9	37.7	33.7	24.8	21.5	13.6	7.1	17.2	19.7
Cera Sanitaryware	CRS IN	ADD	1,612	9,001	8,780	-2.4	45.0	36.9	31.4	25.6	17.0	22.6	21.7	27.4
Simple Average							48.2	40.4	32.0	26.2	12.9	28.8	20.7	25.1
Electricals														
Havells India	HAVL IN	ADD	12,205	1,414	1,488	5.2	62.4	52.3	40.5	33.9	14.5	25.8	21.5	27.1
Polycab India	POLYCAB IN	ADD	11,199	5,421	4,792	-11.6	50.6	45.2	33.7	29.3	19.0	19.3	21.0	27.8
KEI Industries	KEII IN	ADD	3,334	2,684	2,598	-3.2	40.4	34.1	27.2	22.8	16.4	21.9	20.4	26.8
Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals	CROMPTON IN	HOLD	2,649	300	307	2.3	36.9	29.3	23.8	19.7	10.4	17.1	20.8	22.1
Finolex Cables	FNXC IN	REDUCE	2,032	965	841	-12.8	18.9	17.0	17.8	14.4	15.6	31.2	16.1	16.6
V-Guard Industries	VGRD IN	REDUCE	1,797	301	290	-3.8	45.4	37.4	27.8	23.2	16.1	35.8	17.7	20.9
Orient Electric	ORIENTEL IN	HOLD	670	228	250	9.8	45.4	31.8	21.9	15.8	14.5	41.8	21.4	30.2
Simple Average							42.8	35.3	27.5	22.7	15.2	27.6	19.8	24.5
											SOURCE: I	NCRED RESE	ARCH, COMPA	NY REPORTS

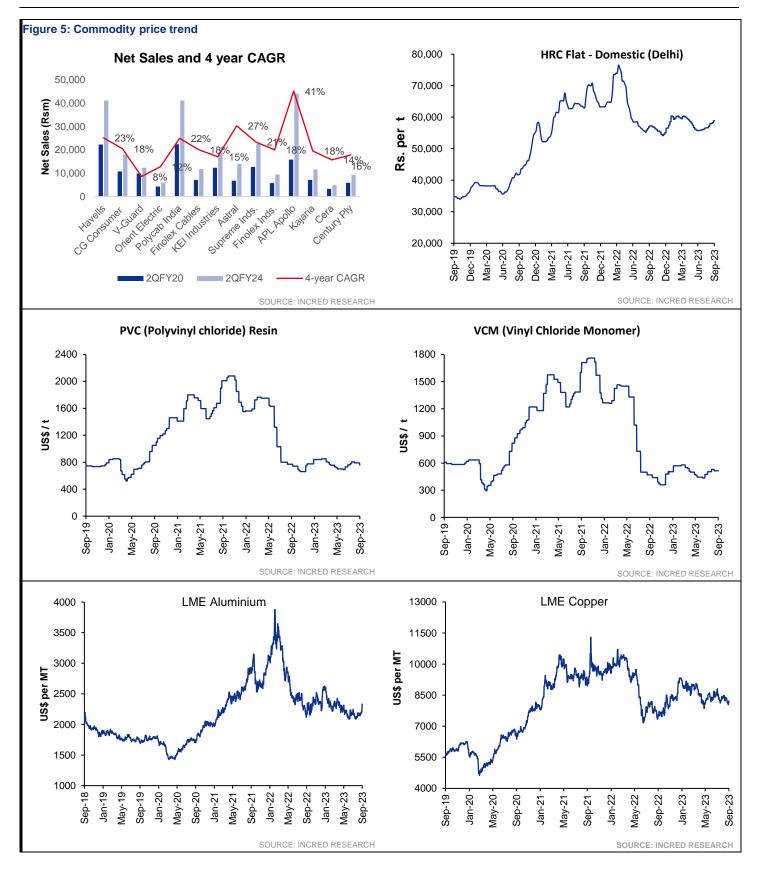


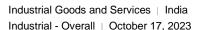
	2QFY24F	2QFY23	1QFY23 —	Change		Comments
FMFO (D)	24.12-1	241 120	141120	yoy	qoq	Commonto
FMEG (Rs m)						
Havells India						# Base quarter saw the high inflation impact leading to sub-optimal gross/EBITDA
Net Sales	41,204	36,795	48,338	12.0		margins. We expect continued margin recovery towards pre-Covid levels. # B2E
EBITDA	4,162	2,868	4,020	45.1		continues to see relatively higher demand vs. B2C during 2QFY24F.
EBITDA margin (%)	10.1	7.8	8.3	230bp		# Switchgear/switches, cable/wire and Lloyd to drive topline growth. B2C lighting and
Consolidated PAT	2,878	1,870	2,871	53.9	0.2	ECD businesses had an average quarter. # Fans and room ACs saw varied monthly sales trend due to excessive rains in North India. # We expect Lloyd's EBIT loss at ~Rs650m in 2QFY24F.
CG Consumer (consolid	ated including	Butterfly Ga	andhimathi)			100001111124112111
Net Sales	17,885	16,995	18,769	5.2	-4.7	# Contrary to peers, CG Consumer had a relatively stable base quarter. Hence, we
EBITDA	1,699	1,931	1,858	-12.0	-8.5	expect a sub-optimal performance in 2QFY24F.
EBITDA margin (%)	9.5	11.4	9.9	-186bp	146bp	# 2Q is relatively a weak quarter for CG Consumer's standalone EBITDA margin. #
Consolidated PAT	1,004	1,258	1,184	-20.2	-15.2	Within segments, we expect the ECD segment's revenue growth at +12% yoy while
	1,004	1,200	1,104		10.2	the lighting segment and Butterfly to report revenue decline yoy. # LED price erosion is expected to lead to weak consumer luminaire sales in 2QFY24F. # 2Q for Butterfly is the strongest quarter within a fiscal. We expect a flattish performance yoy due to a heavy base quarter. Revenue/EBITDA to decline by 5%/2% yoy, respectively, in 2QFY24F.
V-Guard (including Sunf	lame)					
Net Sales	11,590	9,861	12,148	17.5	-4.6	# We expect the electronics segment's revenue growth at +20% yoy.
EBITDA	956	727	1,048	31.5		# Electricals (mainly wires) and ECD segments' revenue growth is estimated at 5-
EBITDA margin (%)	8.2	7.4	8.6	88bp		10% yoy. # For Sunflame, 3Q is the strongest quarter within a fiscal. 2QFY24F
Consolidated PAT	533	437	642	22.1		revenue: Rs726m, +15% qoq. #2Q margins fall qoq due to seasonality. # Old high- cost inventory (mainly voltage stabilizers, water heaters) has declined and should lead to higher EBITDA margin yoy.
Orient Electric						
Net Sales	6 000	F 100	7.056	10.1	115	# Board on monogenest's goal of everying higher than ECD industry's revenue
	6,032	5,106	7,056	18.1		# Based on management's goal of growing higher than ECD industry's revenue
EBITDA	392	116	440	237.7		growth in FY24F, Orient Electric could surprise positively on ECD sales growth. We
EBITDA margin (%) Consolidated PAT	6.5 167	2.3 -3	6.2 197	423bp NM		expect ECD revenue of +26% yoy. # Lighting and switchgear (L&S) segment's sales to remain sub-optimal due to price cuts for bulbs/battens across the industry. We expect L&S revenue of +6% yoy in 2QFY24F. # Opex will continue to remain high due to reinvestments into strategic areas. Hence, the EBITDA margin should remain range-bound qoq.
C&W (Rs m)						
Polycab						
Net Sales	41,195	33,324	38,894	23.6	5.9	# Average copper prices in 2QFY24 rose +5% yoy while they declined 5% qoq. # We
EBITDA	5,581	4,276	5,486	30.5	1.7	expect the C&W segment's sales to continue to report strong growth. We expect the
EBITDA margin (%)	13.5	12.8	14.1	71bp	-127bp	C&W segment's revenue growth at 26.5% yoy.# The FMEG segment's revenue
Consolidated PAT	3,810	2,678	3,993	42.3	-4.6	growth is expected at 6% yoy due to sub-optimal demand trend for B2C electrical products in 2QFY24F. # The EBITDA margin should hold the latest trend, but we expect some softness qoq. # Intent on utilization of surplus cash (Rs15bn+) will be a key parameter to track.
Einelen Oak!						
Finolex Cables	4. =0.5	40.000	40.010			# Mr. and # and the state of th
Net Sales	11,790	10,908	12,043	8.1		# We expect the electrical cable segment's revenue growth at +12% yoy,
EBITDA	1,326	987	1,465	34.4		communication cable segment -11% yoy and FMEG segment -5% yoy in 2QFY24F.
EBITDA margin (%) Consolidated PAT	11.3 1,430	9.0 554	12.2 1,604	221bp 158.2		# Base quarter had abnormally weak gross/EBITDA margins due to volatile copper prices. We expect a strong recovery yoy. # The share of profit from Finolex Industries (32.5% equity stake) should improve qoq, at +29% qoq.
KEI Industries						
Net Sales	18,942	16,081	17,826	17.8	6.3	# Cable and wire business continued to see healthy demand from B2B/B2G
EBITDA	1,960	1,606	1,783	22.1		customers in 2QFY24F. # We expect the cable segment's revenue growth at +20%
EBITDA margin (%)	10.4	10.0	10.0	37bp		yoy. # The progress on status of EHV order execution, exports to USA and capacity
Consolidated PAT	1,343	1,069	1,214	25.7		expansion in Gujarat are key parameters to track in 2QFY24F.
Cumulative Financials						
Net Sales	1,48,638	1,29,070	1,55,072	15.2	-4.1	
EBITDA	16,077	12,511	16,098	28.5	-0.1	
EBITDA margin (%)	10.8	9.7	10.4	112bp	-69bp	
Consolidated PAT	11,165	7,862	11,704	42.0	-4.6	



	2QFY24F 2QFY23A 1			Change	(%)	— Comments				
	2QF124F	ZQF1Z3A	1QFY23A	yoy	qoq	Comments				
Plastic Pipes (Rs m)										
Astral	13.994	11 716	12.831	10.4	0.1	# The base questor was severally imposted due to a shorm fell in DVC price				
Net Sales EBITDA	-,	11,716	,	19.4		# The base quarter was severely impacted due to a sharp fall in PVC prices leading to high inventory losses and channel destocking. This will lead to ven				
	2,393	1,440	2,016	66.2	_	0 0 ,				
EBITDA margin (%)	17.1	12.3	15.7	481bp		strong yoy performance due to an abnormally low base. # Average PVC prices in India are down 32% yoy and 7% qoq. CPVC resin prices have been gradually				
Consolidated APAT	1,452	704	1,198	106.3		in India are down 32% yoy and 7% qoq. CFVC tesin pices have been gradually declining since Apr 2023. # We expect plastic products' sales volume at 52.7kt +29% yoy/+10% qoq. # We expect plastic product unit EBITDA at Rs38.5/kg in 2QFY24F. # We expect adhesives and related products' revenue/EBITDA growth at 12%/20% yoy, respectively. # ERP implementation disrupted pain sales in 1Q.				
Supreme Industries										
Net Sales	22,542	20,866	23,686	8.0	10	# The base quarter was severely impacted due to a sharp fall in PVC prices				
EBITDA			3,216	145.9		leading to high inventory losses and channel destocking, and thus resulting ir				
	3,618	1,471				strong yoy growth. # We expect plastic pipes sales volume at 99kt, +25% yoy. ‡				
EBITDA margin (%)	16.1	7.1	13.6	900bp						
Consolidated APAT	2,572	820	2,155	213.6		For all other segments, we expect sales volume growth of 5-10% yoy. # With a correction in PVC prices yoy and qoq, we expect lower consolidated revenue growth of 8% yoy. # The share of profit from Supreme Petrochem to recover qoq. Consolidated profit Rs327m, +75% yoy/+50% qoq.				
Finolex Industries										
Net Sales	9,482	9,411	11,792	0.8	-19.6	# We expect PVC resin sales volume at 70kt, +30% yoy, while realization to				
EBITDA	1,541	-1,427	1,525	NM		decline by 10% yoy. # We expect a good performance from the pipes and fittings				
EBITDA margin (%)	16.3	-15.2	12.9	3141bp		division, with a sales volume of 69kt, +17% yoy. # PVC-EDC and PVC-VCN				
Consolidated APAT	1,410	-954	1,153	NM	22.3	spreads have improved on a qoq basis. Hence, gross margin to be higher qoo for the PVC resin division. # Higher non-agri pipe sales mix qoq should lead to a higher blended EBIT/t for pipes (~Rs12k/t).				
Steel Pipes (Rs m)										
APL Apollo Tubes										
Net Sales	45,490	39,692	45,449	14.6	0.1	# Sales volume of 675kt, +12% yoy, was disclosed in the quarterly business				
EBITDA	3,162	2,319	3,072	36.4	2.9	update of the company on 3 Oct 2023. Raipur plant's sales volume was not				
EBITDA margin (%)	6.9	5.8	6.8	111bp	19bp	disclosed separately. # HRC prices were flat yoy while they were down marginally				
Consolidated APAT	1,983	1,502	1,936	32.0		by 3% qoq. We expect flattish realization/kg at Rs65-66 in 2QFY24F. # We estimate EBITDA/t of approx. Rs4,700, flat qoq.				
Sanitaryware & Tiles (Rs m)										
Kajaria Ceramics										
Net Sales	11,626	10,778	10,642	7.9		# We expect tile sales volume of 26.8msm, +7.5% yoy.				
EBITDA	1,872	1,294	1,692	44.6		# Based on our channel check, there was no price cut for tiles in 2Q. Channe				
EBITDA margin (%)	16.1	12.0	15.9	409bp	-026	incentives continued qoq to aid sales volume of Kajaria Ceramics. We expect fla				
Consolidated APAT	1,166	735	1,075	58.6		net realization in the case of tile per msm yoy while 2% up qoq based on a bette, sales mix in favour of GVT tile sales. # We estimate bathware and plywood revenue at Rs862m, +16% yoy and Rs175m, down 10% yoy, respectively, ir 2QFY24F. # Adhesive sales, albeit on a low base, is expected at Rs145m, +50% yoy and qoq. # The EBITDA margin should hold at ~16%.				
Cera Sanitaryware										
Net Sales	4,870	4,159	4,289	17.1	13.5	# We expect sanitaryware, faucet and tile revenue growth at 13%, 21% and 29%				
EBITDA	791	679	704	16.5		yoy, respectively. # We expect a dip in gross margin due to seasonality and				
EBITDA margin (%)	16.3	16.3	16.4	-8bp	-16bp	based on the historical trend, both yoy and qoq. However, the EBITDA margin				
Consolidated APAT	609	507	563	20.0	0.2	will remain stable at ~16%. # We will look for an update on the sanitaryware expansion project and ramp-up progress of the recently commissioned fauce plant.				
Plywood (Rs m) Century Plyboards										
Net Sales	9,218	9,002	8,824	2.4	4.5	# We expect flat plywood sales volume yoy and laminate sales volume growth a				
EBITDA	1,429	1,507	1,302	-5.2		8.5% yoy. # We expect MDF sales volume at 51,875cbm, +15% yoy and +8%				
EBITDA margin (%)	15.5	16.7	14.8	-124bp		qoq, driven by new capacity addition and good demand trend. # We expec				
Consolidated APAT	913	1,090	841	-16.3	8.5	particle board sales volume at 17,241cbm, down 9-10% yoy and qoq, due to weak demand. # We expect a reduction in gross margin of plywood, MDF and PB segments due to further hardening of timber prices qoq.# The laminate segment's EBITDA margin to recover qoq.				
Cumulative Financials										
Net Sales	1,17,222	1,05,624	1,17,513	11.0	-0.2					
EBITDA	14,805	7,284	13,527	103.3	9.5					
EBITDA margin (%)	12.6	6.9	11.5	573bp	112bp					
Consolidated APAT	10,105	4,405	8,922	129.4	13.3					
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