22 April 2020

RHB**4** 

China Aviation Oil (CAO SP)

# **1Q20 Brief Financial Update Disappoints**

- Keep BUY, with SGD1.30 TP, 28% upside and c.5% yield. China Aviation Oil reported disappointing net profit for 1Q20. A slump in aviation traffic amidst COVID-19 and sharp oil price fall had impacted 1Q business operations. We see CAO as a good proxy to Chinese aviation traffic, which we expect to improve in 2H20. Moreover, a strong net cash balance sheet enables CAO to undertake large acquisitions. Nevertheless, we place our rating and TP under review pending further management updates.
- Reason for disappointing 1Q20 financial performance. In a brief financial update, CAO reported disappointing 1Q20 net profit of USD10.8m (-59% YOY, -49% QoQ). This was due to significantly lower attributable profit of USD5.6m (-68% YOY, -58% QoQ) from Shanghai Pudong International Airport Aviation Fuel Supply Company (SPIA), a 33%-owned associate company of CAO. Historically, SPIA has accounted for c.65% of CAO's PBT. CAO's three other subsidiaries that have business operations in Hong Kong, US and Europe were also adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. CAO did not provide more details on 1Q20 performance as the group has switched to reporting its financial performance for the half-year ended 30 Jun 2020 on 30 Jul 2020.
- How does this compare with our expectations? While we had anticipated weak 1H20 earnings, 1Q20 profit came in below our expectations. We were expecting CAO to report 1Q20 earnings of USD15m (-40% YoY, -30% QoQ) on the back of a USD10m contribution from SPIA (-42% YoY, -25% QoQ) during the quarter.
- Valuations are still compelling. CAO is trading below its net tangible asset value per share of USD0.95 (c.SGD1.30) and at 6.9x 2020F P/E (ex-cash 2020 P/E of just 2.7x).
- **Risks to our rating.** Key downside risks to our rating and TP are losses at its trading business despite all the risk control measures, opening up of the Chinese aviation fuel market risking CAO's monopoly, and a higher-than-estimated aviation traffic decline in 2020.

Forecasts and Valuation	Dec-18	Dec-19	Dec-20F	Dec-21F	Dec-22F
Total turnover (USDm)	20,612	20,343	13,029	17,110	17,557
Recurring net profit (USDm)	94	100	88	97	105
Recurring net profit growth (%)	9.8	6.4	(11.6)	10.2	7.5
Recurring P/E (x)	6.53	6.14	6.95	6.30	5.86
P/B (x)	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6
P/CF (x)	4.19	12.29	9.05	43.51	20.28
Dividend Yield (%)	4.7	4.6	4.8	4.7	4.8
EV/EBITDA (x)	8.76	4.98	3.94	3.22	1.60
Return on average equity (%)	12.6	12.4	10.2	10.5	10.5
Net debt to equity (%)	net cash				
Services Company data DUD					

Source: Company data, RHB

# Energy & Petrochemicals | Oil & Gas Services

# Buy (Maintained)

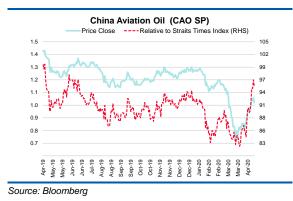
SGD1.30 (28%)
SGD1.02
USD613m
0.68m/0.49m

# Analyst

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## Share Performance (%)

	YTD	1m	3m	6m	12m
Absolute	(19.7)	28.3	(19.7)	(15.7)	(29.2)
Relative	1.1	22.4	1.7	3.0	(5.4)
52-wk Price lo	w/high (SGD	)		0.73	8 – 1.43





# 22 April 2020

# **Financial Exhibits**

# Asia

Singapore
Energy & Petrochemicals
China Aviation Oil
CAO SP
Buy

## Valuation basis

Our TP is derived from an average of forward P/E, P/BV, EV/adjusted EBITDA, and DCF of adjusted free cash flow.

#### Key drivers

- i. Continued growth in international air traffic in China;
- ii. Steady volume growth for its jet fuel supply business, which is based on a fixed cost-plus model;iii. Steady growth in earnings from its associates,
- Steady growth in earnings from its associates, especially SPIA.

#### Key risks

- Losses at its trading business, despite all the risk control measures;
- Opening up of the Chinese aviation fuel market, risking CAO's monopoly;
- iii. Lower-than-estimated aviation traffic growth.

## **Company Profile**

CAO supplies jet fuel to foreign and domestic airlines flying through Chinese and international airports. The company also trades in other oil products, such as fuel oil and gas oil. Its state-owned parent is Asia-Pacific's largest physical jet fuel trader and sole supplier of imported jet fuel for China's civil aviation market.

Energy & Petrochemicals	Oil & Gas Services

Financial summary (USD)	Dec-18	Dec-19	Dec-20F	Dec-21F	Dec-22F
Recurring EPS	0.11	0.12	0.10	0.11	0.12
DPS	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
BVPS	0.89	0.96	1.03	1.11	1.20
Return on average equity (%)	12.6	12.4	10.2	10.5	10.5
Valuation metrics	Dec-18	Dec-19	Dec-20F	Dec-21F	Dec-22F
Recurring P/E (x)	6.53	6.14	6.95	6.30	5.86
P/B (x)	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6
FCF Yield (%)	23.8	8.1	11.0	2.2	4.9
Dividend Yield (%)	4.7	4.6	4.8	4.7	4.8
EV/EBITDA (x)	8.76	4.98	3.94	3.22	1.60
EV/EBIT (x)	9.05	6.65	4.45	3.53	1.70
	D 40	D 40	D 005	D 045	D
Income statement (USDm)	Dec-18	Dec-19	Dec-20F	Dec-21F	Dec-22F
Total turnover	20,612	20,343	13,029	17,110	17,557
Gross profit	50	58	51	54	57
EBITDA	29	48	42	41	41
Depreciation and amortisation	(1)	(12)	(5)	(4)	(2)
Operating profit	28	36	37	37	39
Net interest	1	7	8	10	11
Pre-tax profit	101	106	94	104	112
Taxation	(7)	(7)	(6)	(7)	(7)
Reported net profit	94	100	88	97	105
Recurring net profit	94	100	88	97	105
Cash flow (USDm)	Dec-18	Dec-19	Dec-20F	Dec-21F	Dec-22F
Change in working capital	143	5	33	(18)	(2)
Cash flow from operations	146	50	68	14	30
Capex	(1)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Cash flow from investing activities	63	11	33	52	65
Dividends paid	(29)	(28)	(29)	(29)	(29)
Cash flow from financing activities	(152)	(41)	(30)	(30)	(30)
Cash at beginning of period	300	358	379	450	486
Net change in cash	57	20	71	36	65
Ending balance cash					
	358	379	450	486	551
Balance sheet (USDm)	358 Dec-18	379 Dec-19	450 Dec-20F	486 Dec-21F	551 Dec-22F
Balance sheet (USDm) Total cash and equivalents					
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Dec-18	Dec-19	Dec-20F	Dec-21F	Dec-22F
Total cash and equivalents	<b>De c-18</b> 358	<b>Dec-19</b> 379	<b>Dec-20F</b> 450	<b>Dec-21F</b> 486	<b>Dec-22F</b> 551
Total cash and equivalents Tangible fixed assets	<b>De c-18</b> 358 5	<b>Dec-19</b> 379 20	<b>Dec-20F</b> 450 15	<b>Dec-21F</b> 486 12	<b>Dec-22F</b> 551 10
Total cash and equivalents Tangible fixed assets Total investments	<b>Dec-18</b> 358 5 311	Dec-19 379 20 362	Dec-20F 450 15 387	<b>Dec-21F</b> 486 12 404	Dec-22F 551 10 414
Total cash and equivalents Tangible fixed assets Total investments Total assets	De c-18 358 5 311 1,653	Dec-19 379 20 362 1,868	Dec-20F 450 15 387 1,617	Dec-21F 486 12 404 1,858	<b>Dec-22F</b> 551 10 414 1,952
Total cash and equivalents Tangible fixed assets Total investments Total assets Total liabilities	Dec-18 358 5 311 1,653 884	Dec-19 379 20 362 1,868 1,033	Dec-20F 450 15 387 1,617 724	Dec-21F 486 12 404 1,858 896	Dec-22F 551 10 414 1,952 915
Total cash and equivalents Tangible fixed assets Total investments Total assets Total liabilities Total equity	De c-18 358 5 311 1,653 884 769	Dec-19 379 20 362 1,868 1,033 835	Dec-20F 450 15 387 1,617 724 894	Dec-21F 486 12 404 1,858 896 962	Dec-22F 551 10 414 1,952 915 1,037
Total cash and equivalents Tangible fixed assets Total investments Total assets Total liabilities Total equity Total liabilities & equity	De c-18 358 5 311 1,653 884 769 1,653	Dec-19 379 20 362 1,868 1,033 835 1,868	Dec-20F 450 15 387 1,617 724 894 1,617	Dec-21F 486 12 404 1,858 896 962 1,858	Dec-22F 551 10 414 1,952 915 1,037 1,952
Total cash and equivalents Tangible fixed assets Total investments Total assets Total liabilities Total equity Total liabilities & equity Key metrics	De c-18 358 5 311 1,653 884 769 1,653 De c-18	Dec-19 379 20 362 1,868 1,033 835 1,868 Dec-19	Dec-20F 450 15 387 1,617 724 894 1,617 Dec-20F	Dec-21F 486 12 404 1,858 896 962 1,858 Dec-21F	Dec-22F 551 10 414 1,952 915 1,037 1,952 Dec-22F
Total cash and equivalents         Tangible fixed assets         Total investments         Total assets         Total liabilities         Total equity         Total liabilities & equity         Key metrics         Revenue grow th (%)	Dec-18 358 5 311 1,653 884 769 1,653 Dec-18 26.7	Dec-19 379 20 362 1,868 1,033 835 1,868 Dec-19 (1.3)	Dec-20F 450 15 387 1,617 724 894 1,617 Dec-20F (36.0)	Dec-21F 486 12 404 1,858 896 962 1,858 Dec-21F 31.3	Dec-22F 551 10 414 1,952 915 1,037 1,952 Dec-22F 2.6
Total cash and equivalents         Tangible fixed assets         Total investments         Total assets         Total liabilities         Total equity         Total liabilities & equity         Key metrics         Revenue grow th (%)         Recurrent EPS grow th (%)	Dec-18 358 5 311 1,653 884 769 1,653 Dec-18 26.7 9.8	Dec-19 379 20 362 1,868 1,033 835 1,868 Dec-19 (1.3) 6.4	Dec-20F 450 15 387 1,617 724 894 1,617 Dec-20F (36.0) (11.6)	Dec-21F 486 12 404 1,858 896 962 1,858 Dec-21F 31.3 10.2	Dec-22F 551 10 414 1,952 915 1,037 1,952 Dec-22F 2.6 7.5
Total cash and equivalents         Tangible fixed assets         Total investments         Total assets         Total liabilities         Total equity         Total liabilities & equity         Key metrics         Revenue grow th (%)         Recurrent EPS grow th (%)         Gross margin (%)	Dec-18 358 5 311 1,653 884 769 1,653 Dec-18 26.7 9.8 0.2	Dec-19 379 20 362 1,868 1,033 835 1,868 Dec-19 (1.3) 6.4 0.3	Dec-20F 450 15 387 1,617 724 894 1,617 Dec-20F (36.0) (11.6) 0.4	Dec-21F 486 12 404 1,858 896 962 1,858 Dec-21F 31.3 10.2 0.3	Dec-22F 551 10 414 1,952 915 1,037 1,952 Dec-22F 2.6 7.5 0.3
Total cash and equivalents Tangible fixed assets Total investments Total assets Total liabilities Total equity Total liabilities & equity Key metrics Revenue grow th (%) Recurrent EPS grow th (%) Gross margin (%) Operating EBITDA margin (%)	Dec-18 358 5 311 1,653 884 769 1,653 Dec-18 26.7 9.8 0.2 0.1	Dec-19 379 20 362 1,868 1,033 835 1,868 Dec-19 (1.3) 6.4 0.3 0.2	Dec-20F 450 15 387 1,617 724 894 1,617 Dec-20F (36.0) (11.6) 0.4 0.3	Dec-21F 486 12 404 1,858 896 962 1,858 Dec-21F 31.3 10.2 0.3 0.2	Dec-22F 551 10 414 1,952 915 1,037 1,952 Dec-22F 2.6 7.5 0.3 0.2
Total cash and equivalents Tangible fixed assets Total investments Total assets Total liabilities Total equity Total liabilities & equity Key metrics Revenue grow th (%) Recurrent EPS grow th (%) Gross margin (%) Operating EBITDA margin (%) Net profit margin (%)	Dec-18 358 5 311 1,653 884 769 1,653 Dec-18 26.7 9.8 0.2 0.1 0.5	Dec-19 379 20 362 1,868 1,033 835 1,868 Dec-19 (1.3) 6.4 0.3 0.2 0.5	Dec-20F 450 15 387 1,617 724 894 1,617 Dec-20F (36.0) (11.6) 0.4 0.3 0.7	Dec-21F 486 12 404 1,858 896 962 1,858 Dec-21F 31.3 10.2 0.3 0.2 0.6	Dec-22F 551 10 414 1,952 915 1,037 1,952 Dec-22F 2.6 7.5 0.3 0.2 0.6



# Energy & Petrochemicals | Oil & Gas Services

# 22 April 2020

# **Recommendation Chart**



Date	Recommendation	Target Price	Price
2020-03-11	Buy	1.30	0.97
2020-01-21	Buy	1.55	1.27
2019-11-04	Buy	1.55	1.24
2019-09-02	Buy	1.50	1.14
2019-08-13	Buy	1.50	1.15
2019-08-07	Buy	1.60	1.23
2019-07-17	Buy	1.60	1.33
2019-07-10	Buy	1.60	1.30
2019-06-11	Buy	1.60	1.32

Source: RHB, Bloomberg



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Trading Buy:	Share price may exceed 15% over the next 3 months, however
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Neutral:	Share price may fall within the range of +/- 10% over the next
	12 months
Take Profit:	Target price has been attained. Look to accumulate at lower levels
Sell:	Share price may fall by more than 10% over the next 12 months
Not Rated:	Stock is not within regular research coverage

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Analyst	Company
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