

Malaysia Results Review

25 April 2025

Industrials | Industrial Products

## **Buy** (Maintained)

Target Price (Return): MYR1.58 (+92%) Price (Market Cap): MYR0.83 (USD22.0m) ESG score: 3.0 (out of 4)

## **Analysts**

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Avg Daily Turnover (MYR/USD)



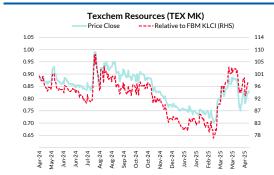
0.08m/0.02m

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## **Share Performance (%)**

	YTD	1m	3m	6m	12m
Absolute	9.3	(4.1)	11.5	(7.8)	(7.3)
Relative	17.9	(3.9)	16.1	0.2	(2.8)
52-wk Price lo	w/high (M	1YR)		0.70	-0.99



Source: Bloomberg

# **Texchem Resources** (TEX MK)

## Holding Up Well Despite Soft Seasonality; Still BUY

- Maintain BUY and SOP-derived MYR1.58 TP, 92% upside and c.6% yield. 1Q25 results were in line with expectations. We expect earnings to improve further, supported by continued volume recovery and contributions from new businesses, which should drive operating leverage. Current 5.8x FY25F P/E presents an attractive entry point into Texchem Resources' diverse businesses, backed by a solid balance sheet and strong cash flow generation.
- Within expectations. 1Q25 core profit of MYR2.3m (1Q24: -MYR1.3m) came in at 13% of our full-year forecast. We deem the results to be in line, as we anticipate stronger earnings ahead across all business units, driven by better seasonality and continued recovery. Note that we adjusted for unrealised FX losses of MYR1.4m to derive our core earnings.
- Results review. YoY, 1Q25 revenue rose 2.5% to MYR282.4m, driven by strong volume recovery in the polymer engineering business (+25.5%), while the industrial (-3.2%), food (-3.8%), and restaurant (-0.3%) businesses remained flattish. EBITDA margin expanded by 2.1ppts YoY to 8.5%, supported by operating leverage from higher sales. QoQ, revenue increased by 5.9%, underpinned by volume recovery across all businesses, except the restaurant business, which was affected by softer seasonality during Ramadan. Nevertheless, core profit declined 67.6% QoQ to MYR2.3m, impacted by weaker seasonality and more unfavourable FX movement.
- Outlook. The polymer engineering business should continue to see recovery driven by improving demand in the hard disk drive (HDD) and semiconductor sectors, steady growth from medical and life science clients, and contributions from new high-margin businesses. We understand the group has no direct exposure to the US, and is therefore not affected by Trump's reciprocal tariffs, while management sees minimal demand disruption at this stage. In the industrial segment, the focus on bulk chemicals should continue yielding positive results leading to higher sales and market share gains. The food business diversified its supply chain to Thailand in FY24 to mitigate the impact of FX control measures, and management remains hopeful for further easing of FX restrictions. Meanwhile, the restaurant business is expected to benefit from better seasonality ahead, with plans to enhance the menu, expand into more profitable suburban areas, close underperforming outlets and optimise operating efficiencies. Lastly, dividend payout should recommence in FY25 post earnings turnaround and completion of the MYR102.2m payment for the 28% stake in Sushi King acquired in 2022.
- Forecast and ratings. We maintain our earnings forecasts and MYR1.58 TP (including a 0% ESG premium/discount), as results were in line. Our TP implies a blended 11.1x FY25F P/E. Key risks: Escalation of input costs, weaker-than-expected sales/orders, fluctuation of chemical prices, and unfavourable FX rates.

Forecasts and Valuation	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25F	Dec-26F	Dec-27F
Total turnover (MYRm)	994	1,118	1,169	1,221	1,278
Recurring net profit (MYRm)	(10)	11	17	22	24
Recurring net profit growth (%)	(132.6)	-	49.4	31.2	8.4
Recurring P/E (x)	na	8.64	5.78	4.41	4.07
P/B (x)	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4
P/CF (x)	2.27	3.05	2.74	2.19	2.11
Dividend Yield (%)	na	na	6.1	8.0	8.7
EV/EBITDA (x)	2.94	2.36	2.18	1.73	1.33
Return on average equity (%)	(5.7)	3.8	9.0	11.1	11.2
Net debt to equity (%)	45.6	60.0	55.7	41.2	25.8

Source: Company data, RHB

Overall ESG Score: 3.0 (out of 4)

E Score: 3.0 (GOOD) S Score: 3.0 (GOOD) G Score: 3.0 (GOOD)

Please refer to the ESG analysis on the next page

Small cap stocks are defined as companies with a market capitalisation of less than USD0.5bn.



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## **Emissions And ESG**

Trend	

TEX will continue deploying solar-based energy in its operations to reduce emissions.

5.00pc 1	Emissions (tCO2e)	Dec-22	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25
Scope 3	Scope 1	-	-	-	-
·	Scope 2	1,528	2,585	-	-
Total emissions 1.528 2.585 na	Scope 3	-	-	-	-
	Total emissions	1,528	2,585	na	na

Source: Company data, RHB

## **Latest ESG-Related Developments**

Developments at TEXa have contributed to a reduction in fossil energy consumption, resulting in a decrease in CO2 emissions.

The group entered into Power Purchase Agreements for the procurement of electricity generated from solar photovoltaic (PV) systems installed on the rooftops of its building sites.

## **ESG Unbundled**

Overall ESG Score: 3.0 (out of 4)

Last Updated: 24 April 2025

E Score: 3.0 (GOOD)

TEX remains committed to its efforts towards environmental sustainability through the development of biopolymer TEXa which reduces carbon footprint and is energy saving. TEXa recorded reduction of 2.8m MJ of fossil energy vs virgin PP compared to 1.9m MJ in 2020.

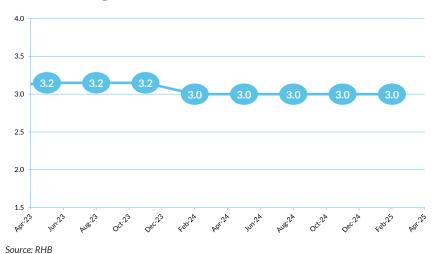
## S Score: 3.0 (GOOD)

Employee and customer safety is a top priority in TEX's operations. The four key areas of focus are: Food safety, halal, employee safety, and COVID-19 prevention. In 2021, TEX achieved 'zero' food poisoning cases and no food safety issues in these operations. It will continue to monitor diligently, identify potential food safety issues, and tighten the risk controls to maintain the status quo.

## G Score: 3.0 (GOOD)

TEX has applied and adopted the majority of the best practices of the Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance. Directors are skilled and from diverse backgrounds. Women are also represented, at more than 30% of the Board. It provides timely, consistent, and accurate information to shareholders.

## **ESG Rating History**





## **Financial Exhibits**

Asia
Malaysia
Industrials
Texchem Resources
TEX MK
Buy

### Valuation basis

SOP

## Key drivers

- i. Volume recovery;
- ii. New business/contracts win.

### Key risks

- i. Escalation of raw material cost;
- ii. Fluctuation of chemical prices;
- iii. Competition.

## Company Profile

Founded in 1973, Texchem Resources is a Malaysia-based multinational group that comprises five diverse businesses – Industrial, Polymer Engineering, Restaurant, Food and Venture Business – that encompass the trading of industrial chemicals, design and manufacturing of various polymer-related parts and components, packaging solutions, managing a restaurant chain, processing and marketing of marine products, aquaculture activities, and R&D.

Financial summary (MYR)	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25F	Dec-26F	Dec-27F
Recurring EPS	(0.09)	0.10	0.14	0.19	0.20
DPS	-	-	0.05	0.07	0.07
BVPS	1.52	1.54	1.63	1.75	1.88
Return on average equity (%)	(5.7)	3.8	9.0	11.1	11.2

Valuation metrics	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25F	Dec-26F	Dec-27F	
Recurring P/E (x)	na	8.64	5.78	4.41	4.07	
P/B (x)	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	
FCF Yield (%)	27.9	15.9	21.0	30.2	31.8	
Dividend Yield (%)	-	-	6.1	8.0	8.7	
EV/EBITDA (x)	2.94	2.36	2.18	1.73	1.33	
EV/EBIT (x)	12.89	5.60	4.84	3.75	2.90	

Income statement (MYRm)	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25F	Dec-26F	Dec-27F
Total turnover	994	1,118	1,169	1,221	1,278
Gross profit	248	275	274	293	312
EBITDA	70	92	99	110	120
Depreciation and amortisation	(54)	(53)	(54)	(59)	(65)
Operating profit	16	39	45	51	55
Net interest	(19)	(21)	(16)	(17)	(18)
Pre-tax profit	(2)	15	28	34	37
Taxation	(8)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Reported net profit	(11)	7	17	22	24
Recurring net profit	(10)	11	17	22	24

Cash flow (MYRm)	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25F	Dec-26F	Dec-27F
Change in working capital	25.3	(13.4)	(7.0)	(3.8)	(4.6)
Cash flow from operations	42.9	31.8	35.4	44.2	45.8
Capex	(15.8)	(16.4)	(15.0)	(15.0)	(15.0)
Cash flow from investing activities	(44.2)	(44.5)	(14.0)	(15.0)	(15.0)
Dividends paid	0.0	0.0	(5.9)	(7.7)	(8.4)
Cash flow from financing activities	(42.5)	(26.9)	(42.8)	(34.7)	(36.8)
Cash at beginning of period	96.0	89.2	92.1	114.6	159.5
Net change in cash	(43.7)	(39.6)	(21.5)	(5.5)	(5.9)
Ending balance cash	52.3	49.6	70.6	109.1	153.6

Balance sheet (MYRm)	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25F	Dec-26F	Dec-27F
Total cash and equivalents	89	92	115	160	210
Tangible fixed assets	312	315	306	291	272
Total investments	5	20	19	19	19
Total assets	738	768	790	831	875
Short-term debt	142	162	162	162	162
Total long-term debt	38	51	71	91	111
Total liabilities	539	567	579	606	634
Total equity	200	201	212	226	241
Total liabilities & equity	738	768	790	831	875

Key metrics	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25F	Dec-26F	Dec-27F
Revenue growth (%)	(13.1)	12.5	4.5	4.5	4.7
Recurrent EPS growth (%)	(132.8)	0.0	49.4	31.2	8.4
Gross margin (%)	24.9	24.6	23.4	24.0	24.4
Operating EBITDA margin (%)	7.0	8.2	8.4	9.0	9.4
Net profit margin (%)	(1.1)	0.6	1.4	1.8	1.9
Dividend payout ratio (%)	0.0	0.0	35.2	35.2	35.2
Capex/sales (%)	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.2
Interest cover (x)	0.85	1.86	2.86	2.99	2.99

Source: Company data, RHB



## **Results At a Glance**

Figure 1: Earnings review

FYE Dec (MYRm)	1Q24	4Q24	1Q25	QoQ (%)	YoY (%)	Comments
Revenue	275.7	266.8	282.4	5.9	2.5	Recovery in polymer engineering division
Gross Profit	65.6	70.2	71.5	1.8	9.0	
GP margin (%)	23.8	26.3	25.3			
Adjusted EBITDA	17.8	28.2	24.1	(14.8)	35.0	
Adjusted EBITDA margin (%)	6.5	10.6	8.5			Improving margins, thanks to stronger sales, leading to operating leverage
Depreciation	(13.4)	(13.9)	(12.6)	(9.2)	(5.4)	
Adjusted EBIT	4.4	14.3	11.4	(20.3)	156.5	
EBIT margin (%)	1.6	5.4	4.0			
Interest Expense	(5.0)	(5.6)	(5.2)	(6.3)	5.5	
Share of associate	0.4	0.5	(0.0)	n.m.	n.m.	
EI/Others	0.0	(1.0)	(1.4)	43.5	n.m.	Unrealised FX losses
Reported PBT	(0.1)	8.2	6.1	(25.2)	n.m.	
Тах	(1.3)	(3.1)	(3.5)	13.1	163.0	
Effective tax rate (%)	(1,157.4)	37.6	56.9			
Minority Interest	0.1	0.9	(0.4)	n.m.	n.m.	
Net Profit	(1.3)	6.0	0.9	(85.5)	n.m.	
Core Profit	(1.3)	6.9	2.3	(67.6)	n.m.	Within expectations
Core net margin (%)	(0.5)	2.6	0.8			

Source: Company data, RHB

Figure 2: Segmental earnings

FYE Dec	1Q24	4Q24	1Q25	QoQ	YoY	Comments
(MYRm)				(%)	(%)	
Revenue						
Industrial	124.1	109.0	120.1	10.1	(3.2)	Gradual recovery of global trade
Polymer Engineering	49.1	60.4	61.6	2.1	25.5	Robust demand from its main business segments in semiconductor, hard disk drive, and medical /life sciences
Food	34.2	27.9	32.9	17.9	(3.8)	Adverse impact of FX control in Myanmar
Restaurant	67.0	68.7	66.8	(2.8)	(0.3)	Softer sales due to the earlier timing of Ramadan
Venture Business	0.5	0.3	0.1	(53.5)	(74.0)	
Others	0.8	0.5	0.9	89.6	11.9	
Total	275.7	266.8	282.4	5.9	2.5	
Adjusted PBT						
Industrial	2.1	1.4	1.3	(4.2)	(37.0)	
Polymer Engineering	3.0	7.2	4.6	(36.3)	55.6	Better product margins and improvements in operational efficiencies
Food	(0.9)	(0.3)	0.4	n.m.	n.m.	
Restaurant	(2.5)	1.5	0.2	(84.4)	n.m.	Improvements in product margins and efforts to optimise operating efficiencies
Venture Business	(0.7)	(8.0)	(0.7)	(9.9)	(1.6)	•
Others	(1.1)	(0.9)	(1.0)	18.0	(5.2)	
Total	(0.1)	9.2	7.5	(18.0)	(6645.2)	
PBT Margin						
Industrial	1.7	1.3	1.1			
Polymer Engineering	6.0	12.0	7.5			
Food	(2.5)	(1.1)	1.1			
Restaurant	(3.8)	2.3	0.4			
Venture Business	(150.9)	(294.9)	(571.4)			
Others	(134.8)	(183.6)	(114.2)			
Total	(0.0)	3.4	2.7			

Source: Company data, RHB



**Industrials** | Industrial Products

Figure 3: SOP valuation

	FY25F EPS (sen)	Ascribed P/E (x)	Value (MYR)
Food	0.00	17	0.03
Industrial	0.07	8	0.47
Polymer engineering	0.12	13	1.54
Restaurant	0.00	15	0.05
Value per share			2.09
Net debt at holding company			-0.11
20% conglomerate discount			-0.40
Value per share			1.58
ESG premium (+0%)			0.00
TP			1.58

Source: RHB

## **Recommendation Chart**



Source: RHB, Bloomberg

Date	Recommendation	Target Price	Price
2025-02-28	Buy	1.58	0.79
2024-05-02	Buy	1.44	0.88
2024-02-28	Buy	1.44	0.91
2023-10-27	Buy	1.50	0.84
2023-07-28	Buy	2.23	1.04
2023-05-22	Buy	2.77	1.03
2023-03-03	Buy	3.60	1.76
2023-02-24	Buy	3.60	1.71
2023-02-09	Buy	3.67	1.99
2022-11-03	Buy	4.40	2.42
2022-08-11	Buy	5.00	3.50
2022-05-11	Not Rated	na	2.84

Source: RHB, Bloomberg



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Trading Buy: Share price may exceed 15% over the next 3 months, however longer-

term outlook remains uncertain

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

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