

# Powerlong Commercial Management (PCM) Significant margin improvement

- 1H20 net profit rose 66%YoY to RMB 145mn driven by 16% YoY revenue growth and significant SG&A cost savings
- Gross margin increased 2.9ppt YoY to 29.3%, driven by fast-growing CVAS business from residential property management services (RPMS)
- Mall occupancy went down 2.3ppt YoY to 87.1% in 1H20, but July's traffic and retail sales resumed to ~90% of normal levels
- Maintain BUY with revised TP of HK\$ 28.00 based on DCF

Impressive cost control. PCM's revenue rose 16% YoY to RMB 869mn in 1H20, driven by 13% YoY growth in commercial operational services (COS) and 32%YoY growth in RPMS. Net profit soared 66% YoY to RMB 145mn as SG&A expenses were down 13% YoY in 1H20. Due to COVID-19 outbreak in early 2020, PCM slashed promotional activities when shops were shut down. Mall occupancy fell 2.3ppt YoY to 87.1% in 1H20. Recovery was swift, however –in July, traffic and retail sales rebounded back to ~90% of those in July 2019. GFA under management in 1H20 rose 9.5% YoY to 7.0mn sqm for shopping malls and 10.2% YoY to 11.6mn sqm for residential property management. Project pipeline is accelerating - contracted GFA, which included undelivered projects, jumped 32% YoY to 9.9mn sqm for shopping malls and 17% YoY to 19.9mn sqm for residential property management. Revenue from third-party projects increased 89% YoY to RMB 53mn, accounting for 6.1% of total revenue.

Fast-growing CVAS business drives margin of RPMS. Overall gross margin increased 2.9ppt YoY to 29.3%, driven by fast-growing Other VAS (CVAS) from RPMS. In particular, revenue from CVAS, which normally entails a higher margin, rose 117% YoY to RMB 43mn. Revenue from presales management also increased 34%YoY to RMB 9.2mn, driven by increasing presales activities of parent group. Despite significant elevation in gross profit margin from 12.4% in 1H19 to 21.9% to 1H20, we believe room for improvement still exists given average gross margin among peers was ~30% in 2019.

Acquisition of Zhejiang Xinghui Commercial management (Xinghui) helps penetrate into the market of shopping street management. In July, PCM acquired a 60% stake in Xinghui at RMB 40.55mn, or 10x 2020 P/E. Xinghui, who specializes in shopping street management, has a GFA under management of 0.89mn sqm. Xinghui was ranked first in Zhejiang among the asset-light commercial management companies by GFA.

**Maintain BUY with revised TP at HK\$ 28.00.** Factoring in the better-than-expected cost savings and CVAS revenue growth, we raise our 2020E and 2021E core profit forecasts by 22.8% and 27.4%. Our DCF-based TP (WACC: 10%; terminal growth: 1%, unchanged) to HK\$ 28.00 (from HK\$ 13.40). Maintain **BUY.** 

**Risk factors:** 1) Fail to renew COS contracts; 2) Lack of M&A experience; 3) Uncertain development of global coronavirus pandemic.

#### **Results and Valuation**

FY ended Dec 31	2018A	2019A	2020E	2021E	2022E
Revenue (RMB mn)	1,200	1,620	1.969	2,670	3,450
Chg (%, YoY)	23.4	35.0	21.5	35.5	29.2
Core net profit (RMB mn)*	133	208	326	497	686
Chg (%, YoY)	69.7	56.0	56.5	52.6	38.0
Core EPS (RMB)	0.21	0.33	0.52	0.80	1.10
Chg (%, YoY)	69.7	56.0	56.5	52.6	38.0
BVPS (RMB)	0.37	2.55	2.85	3.41	4.22
Chg (%, YoY)	138.6	590.3	11.9	19.5	23.8
Core P/E (x)	95.2	61.0	39.0	25.5	18.5
P/B (x)	55.2	8.0	7.1	6.0	4.8
ROE (%)	81.7	19.7	19.4	25.6	29.0
ROA (%)	6.8	6.8	9.8	12.8	14.6
DPS(HK\$)	-	0.20	0.22	0.24	0.29
Yield (%)	-	0.88	0.96	1.06	1.27
Net Cash (RMBmn)	406	2,616	3,012	3,694	4,577

Note. RMB /HKD: 1.12 \*Excluding listing expenses

Source(s): Bloomberg, ABCI Securities estimates

# Company Report

Aug 20, 2020 Rating: BUY TP: HK\$ 28.00

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Share price (HK\$)	22.85
Est. share price return	22.5%
Est. dividend yield	1.0%
Est. total return	23.5%
Previous Rating & TP	BUY; HK\$13.40
Previous Report Date	Mar 11, 2020

Source(s): Bloomberg, ABCI Securities estimates

# Key Data

52Wk H/L(HK\$)	24.00/9.05
Issued shares (mn)	622
Market cap (HK\$ mn)	14,201
3-mth Avg daily turnover	23.31
(HK\$ mn)	

Major shareholder(s)

(%):

Powerlong Holdings 65.06% Huihong Management 7.23%

Source(s): Bloomberg, ABCI Securities

### **Share Performance (%)**

	<u>Absolute</u>	Relative*
1-mth	19.3	18.7
3-mth	48.8	43.5
6-mth	101 1	120.8

\*Relative to HSI

Source(s): Bloomberg, ABCI Securities

### **Share performance (HK\$)**



Source(s): Bloomberg, ABCI Securities



Exhibit 1: PCM's 1H20 financial performance

P&L	1H20	1H19	YoY Chg	Balance sheet	Jun-20	Dec-19	Yo
	RMBmn	RMBmn	(%)		RMBmn	RMBmn	
Revenue	869	749	16	Gross debt	-	-	
Cost of Sales	(614)	(551)	11	Cash	2,950	2,616	
Gross Profit	255	198	29				
Gross Margin (%)	29.3	26.4	2.9ppt				
Selling and distribution costs	(10)	(17)	(43)		1H20	1H19	YoY
Administrative expense	(46)	(47)	(2)		RMBmn	RMBmn	
EBIT	199	134	49	Total revenue	869	749	
EBIT Margin (%)	22.9	17.9	5.0ppt	Commercial operational services (COS)	700	621	
				<ul> <li>Market research and positioning, tenant sourcing and opening preparation services</li> </ul>	91	49	
Other income	11	9	30	- Commercial operation and management services	515	459	
Net impairment losses on financial assets	(20)	(4)	449	- Property leasing services	95	114	(
Other net gains	-	-	Na	Residential property management (RPMS)	168	128	
Share of associate	(1)	-	Na	- Pre-sale management services	9.2	7	
Finance income/ (cost)	4	(19)	Na	- Property management services	116	101	
Profit before tax	193	120	61	- Other value-added services (CVAS)	43	20	
Tax	(48)	(33)	47				
Profit after tax	145	87	66	Gross margin	29.3%	26.4%	2
Minority Interest	-	-	NA	<ul> <li>Commercial operational services (COS)</li> </ul>	31.1%	29.3%	1
Net profit	145	87	66	- Residential Property management services (RPMS)	21.9%	12.4%	9
Net margin	16.7	11.6	5.1ppt				
				Operating statistics	1H20	1H19	Yo
				GFA Under management (mn sqm)	18.6	16.9	
				- COS	7.0	6.4	
				- RPMS	11.6	10.6	
				Contracted GFA (mn sqm)	29.8	24.6	
				- COS	9.9	7.5	
( ) = 0				- RPMS	19.9	17.1	

Source(s): The Company, ABCI Securities

**Exhibit 2: Changes in TP and profit forecasts** 

	New	Old	Change	Reason
TP (HK\$)	28.00	13.40	109.0%	<ul> <li>Upward revision of core profit forecast; WACC of 10% and terminal growth of 1% assumption unchanged</li> </ul>
Core profit (RMBmn)				
- 2020E	326	265	22.8%	- Better-than-expected SG&A saving and gross margin improvement from RPMS
- 2021E	497	390	27.4%	- Better-than-expected SG&A saving and gross margin improvement from RPMS



# **Financial statements**

# Consolidated income statement (2018A-2022E)

FY Ended Dec 31 (RMB mn)	2018A	2019A	2020E	2021E	2022E
Revenue	1,200	1,620	1,969	2,670	3,450
Cost of services	(875)	(1,192)	(1,391)	(1,851)	(2,349)
Gross Profit	326	428	579	819	1,101
Selling and marketing expenses	(31)	(42)	(44)	(55)	(70)
Administrative expenses	(80)	(88)	(91)	(109)	(136)
EBIT	214	299	444	655	895
Other income	14	17	17	17	17
Finance income	11	8	28	34	41
Finance expenses	(55)	(40)	(28)	(28)	(28)
Net impairment losses	(3)	(7)	(25)	(11)	(6)
Other (losses)/gains-net	1	(29)	-	-	=
Profit before tax	183	247	435	666	919
Tax	(50)	(69)	(109)	(167)	(230)
Profit after tax	133	179	327	500	689
Minority interest	-	-	(1)	(3)	(3)
Net profit	133	179	326	497	686
Less: exceptional items	0	29	0	0	0
Core net profit*	133	208	326	497	686
Growth %					
Revenue	23.4%	35.0%	21.5%	35.5%	29.2%
Gross Profit	28.6%	31.5%	35.1%	41.6%	34.5%
EBIT	52.4%	39.5%	48.5%	47.5%	36.7%
Core profit	69.7%	56.0%	56.5%	52.6%	38.0%
Margin %					
Gross margin	27.1%	26.4%	29.4%	30.7%	31.9%
EBIT margin	17.8%	18.4%	22.5%	24.5%	25.9%
Core Net margin	11.1%	12.8%	16.5%	18.6%	19.9%
Revenue breakdown					
Commercial operational services	980	1,335	1,575	2,116	2,671
Property management services	221	285	394	554	779
Total	1,200	1,620	1,969	2,670	3,450
Key assumptions					
Contracted GFA (mn sqm)	21.7	28.4	36.5	45.8	57.6
- COS	6.9	8.9	10.8	12.1	13.4
- RPMS	14.8	19.5	25.7	33.7	44.1
GFA under management (mn sqm)	16.6	18.5	22.9	31.1	40.3
- COS	6.4	7.0	7.7	8.8	9.8
- RPMS	10.2	11.5	15.2	22.3	30.5

<sup>\*</sup> Excluding listing expenses



ABCI SECURITIES COMPANY LIMITED

# Consolidated balance sheet (2018A-2022E)

As of Dec 31 (RMB mn)	2018A	2019A	2020E	2021E	2022E
Current assets	1,458	2,824	3,238	3,956	4,880
Bank balances and cash	553	2,616	3,012	3,694	4,577
Restricted cash	487	0	0	0	0
Prepayments and other receivables	334	91	109	145	186
Operating lease and trade receivables	82	114	114	114	114
Income tax recoverable	3	3	3	3	3
Other current assets	0	0	0	0	0
Non-current assets	719	267	307	303	295
Property, plant and equipment	173	7	11	14	15
Investment properties	156	207	202	196	187
Deferred tax assets	56	48	48	48	48
Other non-current assets	334	5	45	45	45
Total Assets	2,178	3,091	3,545	4,259	5,175
Current Liabilities	1,597	1,313	1,578	1,943	2,350
Advances from leasees	30	27	27	27	27
Contracted and lease liabilities	339	489	489	489	489
Trade payables	648	763	1,028	1,393	1,800
Borrowings	526	0	0	0	0
Other current liabilities	54	34	34	34	34
Non-current liabilities	351	190	190	190	190
Bank and other borrowings	108	0	0	0	0
Lease liabilities	236	190	190	190	190
Deferred Tax Liabilities	7	0	0	0	0
Total Liabilities	1,948	1,504	1,768	2,133	2,541
Net Assets	230	1,587	1,777	2,126	2,634
Shareholders' Equity	230	1,587	1,776	2,122	2,627
Minority Interest	0	0	1	4	7
Total Equity	230	1,587	1,777	2,126	2,634
Key ratio					
Gross debt (RMB mn)	634	-	-	-	-
Net debt/ (cash) (RMB mn)	(406)	(2,616)	(3,012)	(3,694)	(4,577)
Net gearing (%)	-177%	-165%	-170%	-174%	-174%



## Consolidated cash flow statement (2018A-2022E)

As of Dec 31 (RMB mn)	2018A	2019A	2020E	2021E	2022E
EBITDA	323	404	454	669	913
Change in Working Capital	68	74	246	329	367
Tax payment	(35)	(69)	(109)	(167)	(230)
Operating Cash flow	356	410	592	831	1,050
Purchase of PP&E	(3)	(10)	(10)	(10)	(10)
Purchase of intangible assets	· -	` -	(41)	· -	` -
Restricted cash for bank borrowing	(485)	-	` -	-	-
Cash advance to related parties	(1,481)	-	-	-	-
Repayment of related parties	1,935	202	-	-	-
Others	2	341	28	34	41
Investing Cash flow	(31)	533	(22)	24	31
Repayments of borrowings	(271)	(634)	-	-	-
Interest paid	(55)	(40)	(28)	(28)	(28)
Equity raised	-	1,389	-	-	_
Payment to shareholders	-	(112)	(137)	(151)	(181)
Others	(75)	516	(8)	6	11
Financing Cash flow	116	1,120	(173)	(173)	(198)
Net cash inflow/ (outflow)	441	2,063	396	682	883
Cash- beginning	113	553	2,616	3,012	3,694
Cash- year-end	553	2,616	3,012	3,694	4,577



# **Disclosures**

## **Analyst Certification**

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#### **Definition of equity rating**

Rating	Definition
Buy	Stock return ≥ Market return rate (10%)
Hold	<ul> <li>Market return (-10%) ≤ Stock return &lt; Market return rate (10%)</li> </ul>
Sell	Stock return < - Market return (-10%)

Notes: Stock return rate: expected percentage change of share price plus gross dividend yield over the next 12 months Market return rate: average market return rate since 2008 (HSI total return index 2008-19 CAGR at 10%)

Time horizon of share price target: 12-month

Stock rating, however, may vary from the stated framework due to factors including but not limited to: corporate governance, market capitalization, historical price volatility relative to corresponding benchmark index, average daily turnover of the stock relative to market capitalization of the stock, competitive advantages in corresponding industry, etc.

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