



May 12, 2011 Mumbai

# CRISIL Equities assigns fundamental grade 3/5 to Hitech Plast Ltd

CRISIL Equities has assigned a CRISIL IER fundamental grade of 3/5 (pronounced three on five) to Hitech Plast Ltd (Hitech). The grade indicates that the company's fundamentals are 'good' relative to other listed equity securities in India. CRISIL Equities has assigned a valuation grade of 5/5, indicating that market price has 'strong upside' from the current levels. Our one-year fair value of the stock is Rs 132. The stock is currently trading at Rs 95 per share. The grades are not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold the graded instrument, or a comment on the graded instrument's future market price or its suitability for a particular investor.

The assigned fundamental grade takes into account Hitech's established position as a leading manufacturer of rigid polymer containers used in the packaging of paints, chemicals and FMCG products. The grade factors in Hitech's leadership – with ~35% market share – in the paints packaging market. Asian Paints, India's largest paint manufacturer, is one of Hitech's key clients contributing ~45% to Hitech's revenues. The grade also factors in Hitech's foray into manufacturing of small polymer containers used in packaging of pesticides and FMCG products. The company has a strong client base in this segment which includes players like Hindustan Unilever, Procter & Gamble, Pidilite and Reckitt Benckiser. We believe Hitech is well positioned to benefit from healthy growth in the end user industries like paints, chemicals and FMCG, where it has a strong client base. We also expect Hitech to gain from the integration in FMCG operations, resulting in an improvement in margins. An experienced and professional management with a sound knowledge of the polymer packaging industry further supports the grade.

The grade is constrained by the volatility in raw material prices, especially polymers, which are derivatives of crude oil. Further, the lag in passing on of raw material price increases to end users may put a pressure on margins. Hitech's business is also dependent on the growth of its end-user industries. Any slowdown in the paints, chemicals, and FMCG industries may have an impact on the company's performance. Also, any delay in commissioning of new capacities for medium and small containers pose a risk to our growth estimates.

## **Financial outlook**

CRISIL Equities expects Hitech's revenues to grow at a three-year CAGR of 22% to Rs 4.8 bn in FY13. PAT is estimated to increase at a three year CAGR of 12% to Rs 202 mn in FY13 primarily due to pressure on EBITDA margins and increased interest costs. EPS is expected to increase from Rs 11.3 in FY10 to Rs 15.3 in FY13. We expect RoE of ~16% in FY13 from 19% in FY10.

#### **Valuation**

CRISIL Equities has used the discounted cash flow method to value Hitech and arrived at a one-year fair value of Rs 132 per share. At this value, the implied P/E multiples are 9.8x FY12 EPS and 8.6x FY13 EPS.

## About the company

Incorporated in 1991, Mumbai-based Hitech Plast was promoted by Mr. Ashwin Dani, currently non executive Vice Chairman of Asian Paints. The company started operations by manufacturing plastic containers for the packaging of paints. Hitech diversified its clientele and forayed into extrusion blow moulding technology with the acquisition of Clear Plastics in FY03 and Mipak Polymers in FY07. Hitech has a pan-India presence with five manufacturing units for paint containers and eight manufacturing units for FMCG packaging.

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### About CRISIL Fundamental and Valuation (CFV) Matrix

The CFV matrix addresses two important aspects in investment making decision - analysis of fundamentals (addressed through fundamental grade) and analysis of returns (valuation grade). CRISIL's fundamental grade represents an overall assessment of the fundamentals of the company graded in relation to other listed equity securities in India. The grade facilitates easy comparison of fundamentals between companies, irrespective of the size or the industry they operate in. A CRISIL IER fundamental grade of '5/5' indicates 'excellent' fundamentals and a fundamental grade of '1/5' indicates 'poor' fundamentals relative to other listed equity securities in India. CRISIL's valuation grade represents an assessment of the fair value of the company's stock for an equity investor over a 12-month period. The grade is assigned on a five-point scale from grade 5 (indicating strong upside from the current market price (CMP) to grade 1 (strong downside from the CMP). A CRISIL IER grading should not be construed as a recommendation to invest in the graded security, nor a comment on suitability of a particular investment for the reader.

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