

# **Sector Report**

# Chemicals (JUBLINGR / LXCHEM)

**Radical Shift to Specialty** 

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### **Investment Summary**

We initiate coverage on Jubilant Ingrevia Ltd (JUBLINGR) and Laxmi Organic Industries Ltd (LXCHEM), pivoting around acetyls and radically shifting to specialty. Together, JUBLINGR and LXCHEM have large common business interests as 1) both generate more than 50% revenue from acetyls (ethyl acetate, acetic anhydride etc.) and fuel grade ethanol and 2) both plan to scale their presence in specialty chemicals (diketene derivatives, fluorochemicals and others). JUBLINGR is a leading global player of acetic anhydride, pyridine & its derivatives along with other products across three business segments - Specialty Chemicals (SPCM), Nutrition & Health Solutions (NHS) and Chemical Intermediates (CI). With an expertise in 35 technology platforms, the company is steadily expanding its product portfolio by leveraging business synergies. LXCHEM, on the other hand, a leading Acetyl Intermediates (AI) player is leveraging its core chemistry to scale up Specialty Intermediates (SI) portfolio (ketene/ diketene derivatives), while its fluorochemicals (FI) plant is facing time and cost overruns and will gradually scale up once commissioned in H2FY23, in our view.

We believe that strong underlying global demand environment in agrochemicals and pharmaceuticals along with China+1 tailwinds and improved prospects of CDMO (long term contracts from leading global innovators; sticky business) will drive JUBLINGR and LXCHEM's high value business\* EBITDA CAGR of 22% and 30% over FY22-FY25E with an increase in FY25E EBITDA contribution to 67%/70% (53%/55% in FY22). Increased focus on structural growth areas and commensurate investments augur well for both JUBLINGR and LXCHEM, as balance sheets remain healthy despite large capex outflows over FY22-25E. While we like both companies' stronghold in respective businesses and growth efforts, we believe JUBLINGR is a rerating candidate, while most positives are factored in LXCHEM's valuations. Initiate 'BUY' for JUBLINGR and 'HOLD' for LXCHEM at SOTP based TP of Rs860 and Rs335 respectively.

#### Moving up the value chain through large capital allocation towards high value segments

- JUBLINGR's global market leadership in various products across acetyls and pyridine derivatives, enables it to move up the value chain in CDMO, diketene derivatives, agro actives & advanced intermediates, pharma, cosmetic-grade vitamins, vitamin premixes etc. We expect revenue/ EBITDA CAGR of 26%/27% in SPCM and 11%/11% in NHS, aided by capex outlay of ~Rs15 bn (of total Rs20.5bn) over FY22-25E (~Rs13bn for SPCM and ~Rs2bn for NHS segment).
- LXCHEM is also diversifying into Fluorochemicals through asset acquisition of Miteni, Italy (relocating to India; to be commissioned in H2FY23) and capitalising on its R&D and portfolio capabilities (>100 products with an initial basket of 10 products in R&D and scale-up stages). LXCHEM's thrust to rejig SI product basket by ramping up newer products (higher margin) and rising share of high value products like Esters (end use in pharma), augur well for operating margins. We expect SI EBITDA to grow at ~22% CAGR topped with FI earnings commencing in FY23.

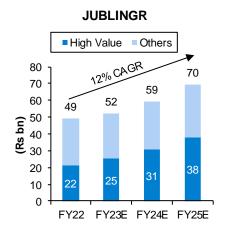
#### Commoditised business concentration to reduce, aiding business profile improvement and reduced earnings volatility

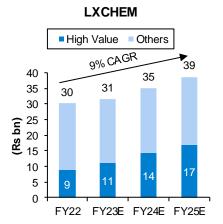
- CI and AI, the commodity segments of JUBLINGR and LXCHEM are expected to witness muted EBITDA CAGR of 1%/5% over FY22-25E (on normalisation of realisation and spreads from elevated base of FY22), driving reduction in CI/ AI's EBITDA contribution to 33%/30% by FY25E, despite volume growth. Improved performance in FY22 was on favorable market conditions/ pricing for key products like Ethyl Acetate and Acetic Anhydride^
- Acetic Acid (key RM) prices have corrected to ~USD 450/ton currently (reverted to long term average) from record highs of ~USD 1400/ton in FY22. We believe that this volatility will eventually subside and balanced global demand/ supply environment will prevail in the medium term (ref page 12). Hence we forecast sustainable EBITDA margins at 12-13% for JUBLINGR and 8-9% for LXCHEM over FY23-25E (in-line with historical average).

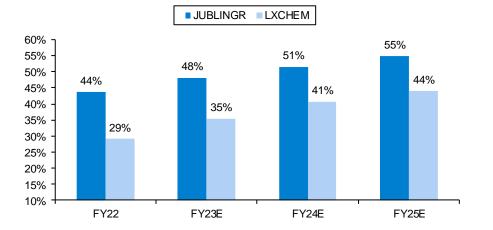
## JUBLINGR and LXCHEM poised for healthy growth and better EBITDA mix

#### Topline growth trajectory of JUBLINGR and LXCHEM over FY22-25E

Rising share of higher value segments revenue for both companies



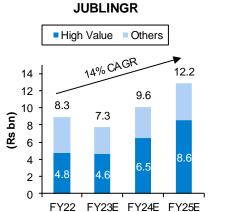


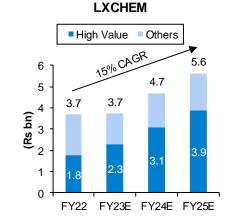


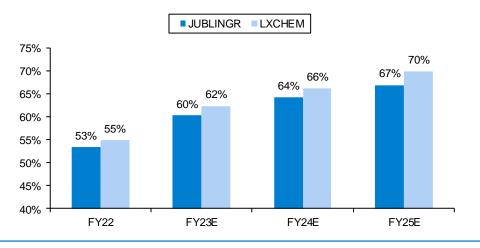
FY22 base is elevated given improved YoY performance (Rev/EBITDA growth 42%/36% YoY for JUBLINGR and 74%/ 70% YoY for LXCHEM) on favorable market conditions for key products (Ethyl Acetate, Acetic Anhydride etc). Normalising the cyclical impact in FY22, Rev/EBITDA CAGR over FY21-25E is 19%/ 19% for JUBLINGR and 22%/27% for LXCHEM.

Healthy EBITDA growth despite near term challenges and elevated base...

... aided by rising earnings contribution from higher value segments



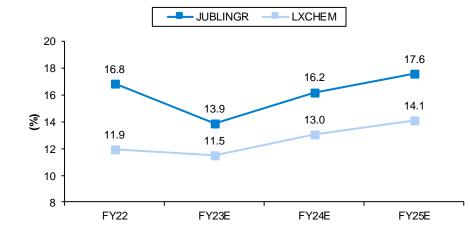


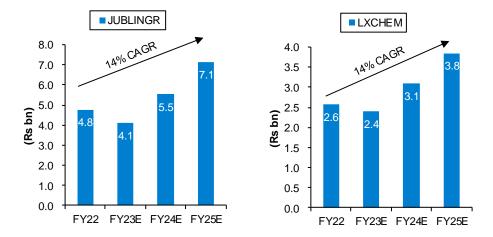


### JUBLINGR scores over LXCHEM on margin profile and RoCE

Earnings mix improvement to drive margin profile and reduce volatility

Healthy PAT growth over FY22-25E despite likely decline in FY23

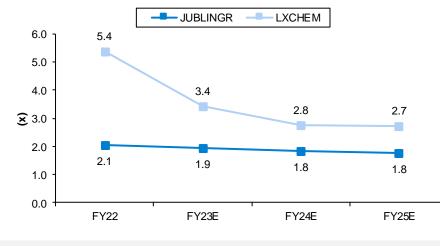




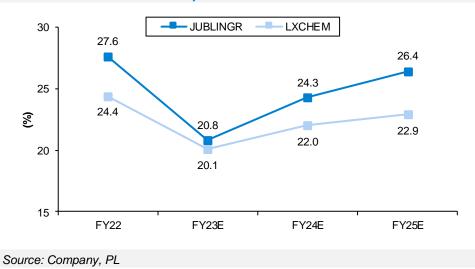
Source: Company, PL FY21-25E CAGR is 23% for JUBLINGR and 32% for LXCHEM

Source: Company, PL

#### LXCHEM's higher fixed asset turn is on larger commodity rev contribution



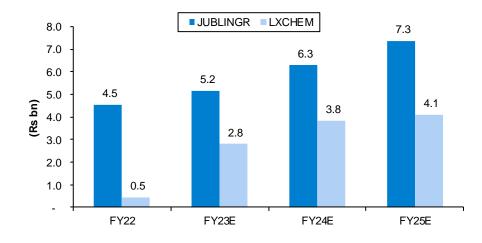
#### JUBLINGR has a better RoCE profile vs LXCHEM

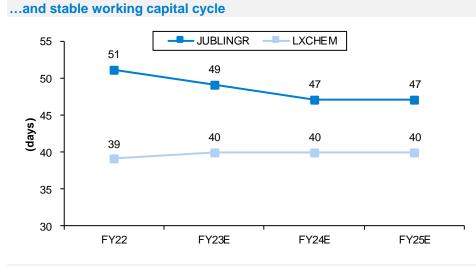


Source: Company, PL

### Healthy balance sheets despite large capex outlay, largely self-funded

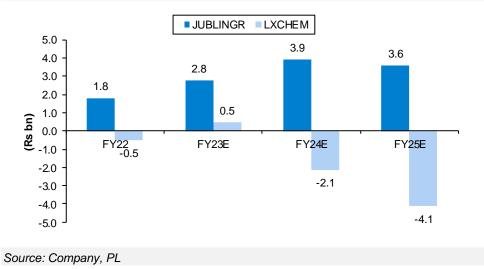
Strong OCF generation aided by healthy earnings growth...





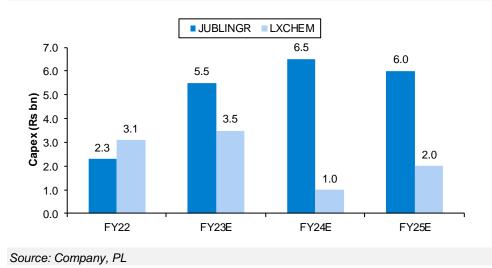
Source: Company, PL

#### JUBLINGR net debt comfortable; LXCHEM net cash BS aided by IPO funds



Source: Company, PL

#### Cash flow and BS remain strong despite large capex outlay over FY22-25E



#### Jubilant Ingrevia (JUBLINGR) – Initiate BUY with TP Rs 860

#### Laxmi Organic Industries (LXCHEM) - Initiate HOLD with TP Rs 335

SOTP	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	CAGR (FY22-25E)
EBITDA (Rs mn)					
Specialty Chemicals	3,120	3,271	4,669	6,366	27%
Nutrition & Health Solutions	1,650	1,355	1,821	2,244	11%
Chemical Intermediates	4,170	3,132	3,607	4,248	1%
Segment EBITDA - Total	8,940	7,758	10,097	12,858	13%
Less: Unallocable items	(625)	(483)	(463)	(645)	
Consolidated EBITDA (Rs mn)	8,315	7,275	9,635	12,212	14%

EV/EBITDA Target Multiple (x)	Sep-24
Specialty Chemicals	16
Nutrition & Health Solutions	12
Chemical Intermediates	8
Unallocable items	8

Enterprise Value (Rs mn)	Sep-24	Per Share
Specialty Chemicals	88,670	558
Nutrition & Health Solutions	24,386	153
Chemical Intermediates	31,421	198
Less: Unallocable items	(4,432)	(28)
Enterprise Value (Rs mn)	140,045	881
Less: Net Debt and Investments	(3,329)	(21)
Equity Value / MCap (Rs mn)	136,716	860
Target Price (Rs/ sh)	860	

**Specialty Chemicals (SPCM):** Valued at 16x 1-year fwd EV/EBITDA (~30% discount to domestic specialty chemicals sector avg) given presence of building blocks revenue and we also await a large capex execution (right execution can drive re-rating).

**Nutrition & Health Solutions (NHS):** Valued at 12x 1-year fwd EV/EBITDA (in-line with global peer avg - Lonza, Koninklijke DSM N.V., Glanbia PLC, BASF), while focus increases on niche segments like pharma & cosmetic-grade vitamins.

**Chemical Intermediates (CI):** Commoditized business, valued at 8x 1-year fwd EV/EBITDA (in-line with global peer avg - Celanese, Eastman, Daicel).

SOTP	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	CAGR (FY22-25E)
EBITDA (Rs mn)					
Specialty Intermediates	1,754	2,283	2,683	3,147	22%
Fluorochemicals	-	18	400	750	
Acetyl Intermediates	1,441	1,355	1,540	1,645	5%
Subsidiaries & Others	483	64	67	71	
Consolidated EBITDA (Rs mn)	3,677	3,720	4,691	5,613	15%
EV/EBITDA Target Multiple (x)				Sep-24	
Specialty Intermediates				22	
Fluorochemicals				18	
Acetyl Intermediates				8	
Subsidiaries & Others				6	
Enterprise Value (Rs mn)				Sep-24	Per Share
Specialty Intermediates				63,983	243
Fluorochemicals				10,350	39
Acetyl Intermediates				12,743	48
Subsidiaries & Others				415	2
Enterprise Value (Rs mn)				87,491	332
Less: Net Debt and Investments				824	3
Equity Value / MCap (Rs mn)			_	88,314	335

**Specialty Intermediates (SI):** Valued at 22x 1-year fwd EV/EBITDA (~10% discount to domestic specialty chemicals sector avg) given presence of Acetic Anhydride (commoditized product – JUBLINGR classifies it under CI segment).

Fair Value / Target Price (Rs)

**Fluorochemicals (FI):** Valued at 18x 1-year fwd EV/EBITDA (~50% discount to NFIL, a pure-play on fluorine), as there may be execution risks in ramping a new business area, and commercial success is gradual post commissioning (facing time and cost overrun).

**Acetyl Intermediates (AI):** Commoditized business, valued at 8x 1-year fwd EV/EBITDA (in-line with global peer avg - Celanese, Eastman, Daicel).

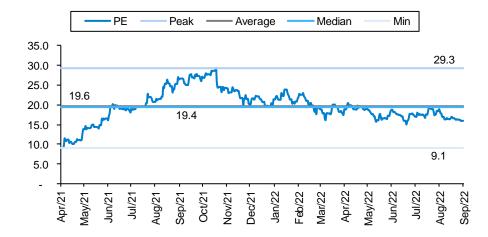
335

### **Peer Valuations**

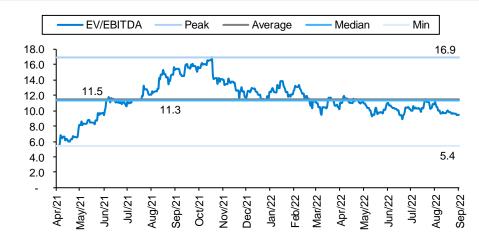
Figures in bn			F	Revenue			EBITDA		EBIT	DA Marg	in		PAT		PE		(x)	EV/EBITD	A	(x)	ROE		(%)
Domestic companies (Rs bn)	Rating	Мсар	FY22 F	Y19-22 F	Y22-25E	FY22	FY19-22	Y22-25E	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	FY22	FY19-22 F	Y22-25E	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	FY23E	FY24E F	Y25E
Aarti Industries Ltd	ACC	308	70	19%	13%	13.2	11%	20%	20.6%	21.8%	22.5%	7.0	12%	22%	35	28	24	21	18	15	14	15	15
Alkyl Amines Chemicals	NR	152	15	22%	31%	3.3	26%	50%	23.6%	25.8%	28.0%	2.2	38%	50%	50	39	31	NA	NA	NA	27	28	28
Atul Ltd	NR	271	51	8%	22%	9.1	6%	31%	18.8%	20.2%	20.6%	6.0	12%	35%	36	30	25	25	20	17	16	16	18
Balaji Amines Ltd	NR	112	23	35%	27%	6.2	47%	32%	27.1%	27.0%	28.8%	3.7	47%	36%	24	20	16	NA	NA	NA	29	26	25
Clean Science & Technology Ltd	NR	191	7	20%	39%	3.0	30%	38%	42.3%	43.2%	42.7%	2.3	33%	36%	64	51	45	48	44	NA	34	33	28
Deepak Nitrite Ltd	NR	273	68	36%	14%	16.0	57%	19%	22.5%	23.8%	25.4%	10.7	83%	20%	25	21	18	16	14	11	28	26	24
Fine Organic Industries Ltd	HOLD	192	19	21%	16%	3.6	16%	25%	23.1%	23.6%	24.5%	2.6	24%	27%	40	40	35	29	29	25	40	29	26
Galaxy Surfactants Ltd	NR	116	37	10%	14%	4.0	4%	-99%	12.3%	13.0%	0.0%	2.6	11%	20%	35	32	27	23	NA	NA	19	19	20
Jubilant Ingrevia Ltd	BUY	74	49	12%	12%	8.3	26%	14%	13.9%	16.2%	17.6%	4.8	NA	14%	18	13	10	11	8	6	16	18	20
Laxmi Organic Industries Ltd	HOLD	87	31	25%	9%	3.7	34%	15%	11.5%	13.0%	14.1%	2.6	52%	14%	36	28	22	23	18	15	17	19	20
Navin Fluorine International Ltd	NR	212	15	13%	52%	3.5	18%	65%	25.5%	27.6%	28.5%	2.6	21%	60%	58	42	31	41	29	22	18	22	24
Neogen Chemicals Ltd	NR	38	5	27%	41%	0.9	26%	47%	18.0%	19.4%	19.1%	0.4	29%	59%	58	41	32	33	24	19	14	17	18
NOCIL Ltd	ACC	47	16	15%	9%	2.9	-1%	13%	19.0%	19.5%	20.3%	1.8	-2%	16%	21	19	17	13	12	11	15	15	15
Privi Speciality Chemicals Ltd	NR	54	14	2%	43%	1.9	-3%	62%	12.8%	17.0%	17.8%	1.0	1%	66%	60	24	20	26	15	NA	11	22	22
SRF Ltd	NR	777	124	21%	25%	31.0	33%	26%	25.5%	25.5%	25.6%	18.9	43%	26%	34	29	25	22	19	16	24	22	21
Sudarshan Chemical Industries Ltd	NR	32	22	11%	21%	2.7	11%	33%	12.9%	7.6%	15.1%	1.3	-1%	40%	23	16	13	12	9	8	15	20	22
Tatva Chintan Pharma Chem Ltd	NR	55	4	28%	37%	1.1	47%	41%	23.8%	25.8%	26.5%	1.0	67%	31%	58	38	34	45	30	26	18	23	20
Vinati Organics Ltd	NR	233	16	13%	45%	4.3	1%	52%	27.9%	29.0%	29.8%	3.5	7%	48%	52	40	31	39	30	NA	22	24	25
Sector Average				19%	26%		22%	27%			]		28%	35%	40	31	25	27	21	16	21	22	22
Global Companies	Curr	Мсар	FY22 F	Y19-22 F	Y22-25E	FY22	FY19-22	Y22-25E	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	FY22	FY19-22 F	Y22-25E	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	FY23E	FY24E F	Y25E
Albemarle Corp	USD	30	3	0%	58%	1.1	-1%	78%	46.0%	44.1%	41.4%	0.1	-44%	341%	12	11	13	10	8	9	35	34	16
BASF SE	EUR	39	80	9%	2%	10.8	5%	-3%		11.9%	12.2%	5.5	5%	-7%	7	8	7	5	6	6	11	11	12
Celanese Corp	USD	12	9	6%	8%	2.4	12%	12%		27.7%	29.6%	1.9	16%	-2%	6	7	6	7	6	5	39	28	27
Chemours Co/The	USD	5	6	-1%	11%	1.1	-10%	29%	22.0%	21.8%	22.4%	0.6	-15%	29%	6	5	5	5	4	4	75	58	47
Clariant AG	CHF	6	4	0%	11%	0.7	4%	20%	16.5%	16.9%	17.7%	0.3	1%	13%	16	15	14	8	8	7	15	13	12
Croda International PLC	GBP	9	2	11%	0%	0.6	13%	4%	31.0%	30.8%	31.2%	0.3	10%	7%	26	27	25	16	17	15	21	15	15
Daicel Corp	JPY	267	468	0%	13%	78.9	-1%	12%	14.8%	15.8%	16.7%	31.3	-4%	11%	7	7	7	6	6	5	13	12	12
Eastman Chemical Co	HKD	11	10	1%	3%	1.9	-4%	10%	19.7%	20.2%	20.7%	0.9	-7%	23%	9	9	8	7	7	7	21	24	21
Ecolab Inc	USD	46	13	1%	11%	2.4	0%	20%	19.8%	21.5%	22.4%	1.1	-8%	29%	34	28	24	19	17	15	18	21	22
Glanbia PLC	HKD	3	4	10%	17%	0.3	-5%	25%	7.1%	7.4%	7.7%	0.2	-11%	39%	13	12	11	10	9	8	15	15	15
International Flavors & Fragrances In	dUSD	27	12	43%	8%	1.9	36%	26%	20.0%	21.3%	22.1%	0.3	-7%	150%	19	17	15	15	13	12	6	6	8
Kerry Group PLC	EUR	18	7	4%	12%	1.2	10%	11%	14.4%	14.9%	15.4%	0.8	12%	10%	23	21	19	16	15	13	13	13	13
Koninklijke DSMNV	EUR	27	9	0%	6%	1.7	-1%	10%	18.2%	18.9%	19.8%	1.7	16%	-21%	27	25	22	16	14	13	10	9	9
Lonza Group AG	CHF	38	5	-1%	19%	1.3	-2%	43%	31.3%	32.3%	33.9%	2.9	74%	-28%	34	29	25	20	17	15	10	11	12
Symrise AG	EUR	14	4	7%	14%	0.8	9%	15%	20.9%	20.9%	21.2%	0.4	11%	19%	32	29	26	17	16	14	13	13	13
Wanhua Chemical Group Co Ltd	CNY	287	146	25%	14%	38.6	16%	9%	20.9%	23.6%	24.2%	24.6	17%	10%	13	11	10	9	8	7	26	26	24
Zhejiang NHU Co Ltd	CNY	76	15	20%	19%	6.4	18%	19%	43.7%	43.8%	43.0%	4.3	12%	23%	15	13	11	11	9	8	20	20	19
Ex-Indial Average				8%	13%		6%	20%					5%	38%	18	16	15	12	11	10	21	19	18
																			16	13			

### **Valuation Bands**

#### Jubilant Ingrevia – One Year Forward Price to Earnings

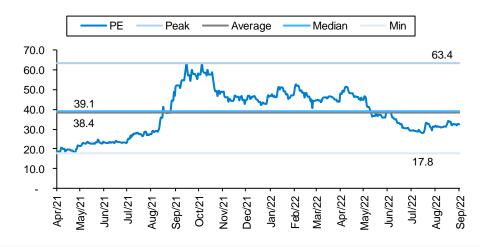


#### Jubilant Ingrevia – One Year Forward EV to EBITDA



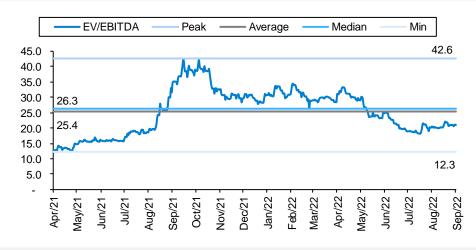
Source: Company, PL

#### Laxmi Organic Industries – One Year Forward Price to Earnings



Source: Company, PL

#### Laxmi Organic Industries – One Year Forward EV to EBITDA



Source: Company, PL

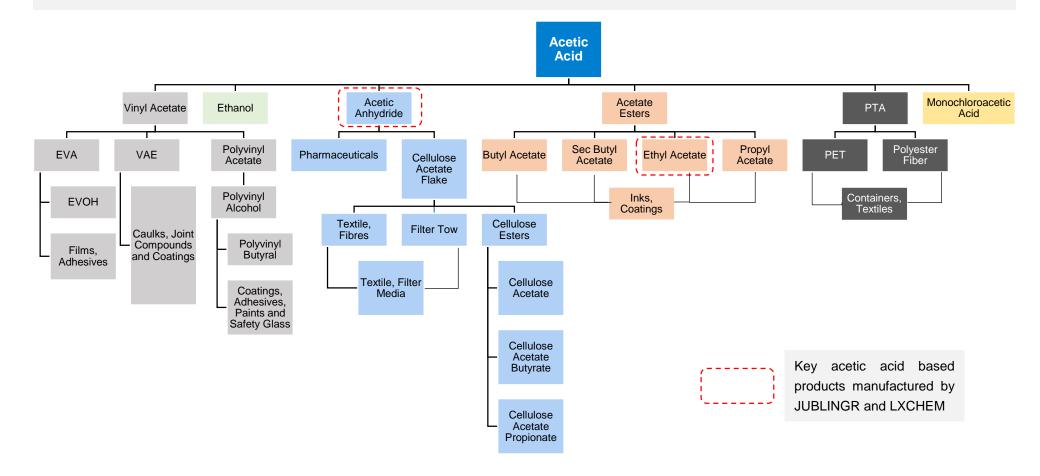
Source: Company, PL

**Acetyl Industry Overview** 



### Acetic acid – Major organic chemical and key RM for JUBLINGR & LXCHEM

Acetic acid (also known as ethanoic acid/ ethylic acid) is a major organic chemical with annual global demand of over 15mn mtpa, and is largely petrochemically derived. The methanol carbonylation route constitutes ~85% of global acetic acid active capacity, given lower production costs vs other technologies like acetaldehyde route (oxidation of ethanol to form acetaldehyde and further oxidation to form acetic acid). Almost all acetic acid derivatives are expected to grow at or above GDP rates. Acetic acid is a key raw material for JUBLINGR and LXCHEM, for their chemical intermediates and acetyl intermediates segments respectively, in addition to ketene/ diketene derivatives.



### Acetic acid demand growth to be steady; price volatility may subside

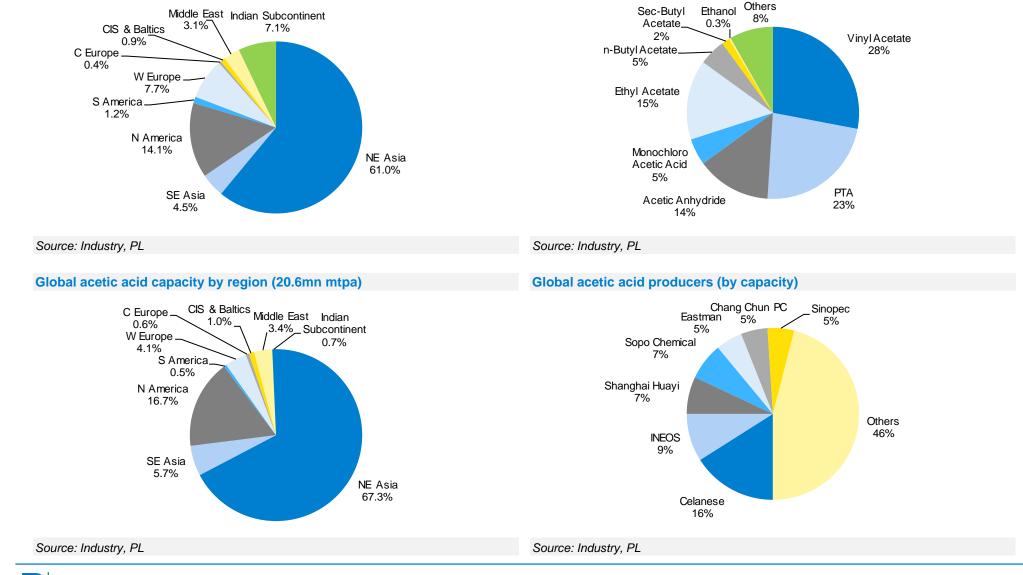
- Steady demand growth over next decade led by end user industries: Global demand growth for acetic acid is forecasted at >3% over next decade, led by
  demand growth for Monochloroacetic acid (MCA), Vinyl Acetate Monomer (VAM) and Ethylene Vinyl Acetate (EVA).
- Price volatility may subside: Currently acetic acid prices have corrected to ~USD 450/ton (reverted to long term average) from record highs of ~USD 1400/ton in 2021. We believe, volatility will eventually subside and a balanced global demand/supply environment will prevail in the medium term.
- Input cost pressures to support prices: Underlying cost pressures for acetic acid include high feedstock prices (natural gas, coal), higher catalyst prices (rhodium, iridium) and reduced production from marginal producers to lend support to prices.
- Upcoming capacities to keep prices in check over the medium term: Amongst key capacity expansions, Celanese Clear Lake Site in US Gulf (~1 mn mtpa) will come onstream in H12023, while Ineos/Zhejiang PC and Hualu Hengsheng new capacity in China is expected to come up in ~2-3 years. Supplies to increase in-line with growing demand will keep prices under check, while elevated production costs will support prices.
- Higher operating rates on slow capacity additions: Acetic acid witnessed tight market conditions in 2021 on (1) post-covid demand recovery, (2) winter storm (Uri) impact on US Gulf coast production, (3) Lyondell La-porte's unit incident, (4) Extended maintenance outage at Ineos's acetic acid unit in Hull (5) High freight costs and container availability issues resulting in lower inventories and record high prices. Only 1 new plant (0.5mn mtpa) started in Qinzhou city, China (Jul'21) and another unit (0.7mn mtpa) to commission by end of 2022 (same location), which partially offset closure of older and less efficient capacities.

Acetic Acid	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022E
Production (world, 000's mtpa)	11436	11885	12334	12920	13377	13442	13798	14328	14650	13827	14632	15429
China	4596	4650	4953	5529	5970	6008	6520	6956	7187	6785	7187	7710
North America	2592	2783	2800	2752	2772	2703	2549	2572	2686	2539	2656	2831
Rest of World	4248	4452	4581	4639	4635	4731	4729	4800	4777	4503	4789	4888
Capacity (world, 000's mtpa)	16106	17455	17560	18244	19083	18799	18878	19029	19335	19605	19505	19405
China	7514	8454	9029	9639	10359	9964	9964	10014	10264	10464	10364	10264
North America	2775	2880	2869	2869	2869	2984	3064	3169	3175	3315	3315	3315
Rest of World	5817	6121	5662	5736	5855	5851	5850	5846	5896	5826	5826	5826
Global Operating Rate %	71%	68%	70%	71%	70%	72%	73%	75%	76%	71%	75%	80%
China	61%	55%	55%	57%	58%	60%	65%	69%	70%	65%	69%	75%
North America	93%	97%	98%	96%	97%	91%	83%	81%	85%	77%	80%	85%
Rest of World	73%	73%	81%	81%	79%	81%	81%	82%	81%	77%	82%	84%

#### Global Acetic Acid capacity and production: China controls >50% of global capacity and is also the largest consumer

Source: Bloomberg, PL

### Global acetic acid demand, capacity and key players



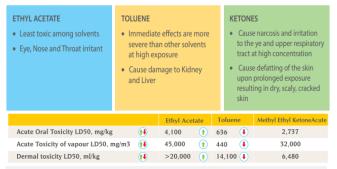
Global acetic acid demand by applications

Global acetic acid demand by region (15.5mn mt)

**P** 13

### Ethyl Acetate – A preferred solvent; LXCHEM and JUBLINGR are key players

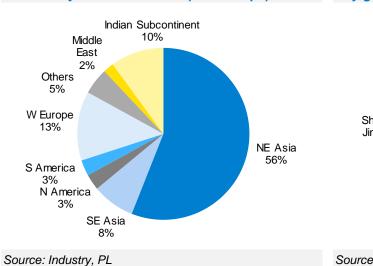
- Preferred solvent in several applications with no drop in substitutes: Faster evaporation rate and quick drying time, lower toxicity, less odour and cost efficiency make ethyl acetate a preferred solvent across paints & coatings, inks & printing, flexible packaging, adhesives, pharmaceuticals etc. In 2015, REACH banned products including glues containing toluene, chloroform or benzene.
- Steady demand growth led by end user industries: Ethyl acetate demand is estimated at 3.4mn mt in 2021 (+10.2% YoY) and is expected to grow at 3.9% CAGR over 2021-31. Global operating rates are expected to increase gradually (56% in 2021 vs 54% in 2020), given limited new capacities.
- Large inter-regional trade, given concentrated capacities: ~70% of global ethyl acetate capacity is located in North East Asia, whereby top 7 producers constitute 45% of the global capacity. ~65% of ethyl acetate volumes are traded inter regionally. North America is the biggest net exporter followed by Indian subcontinent, while South East Asia and West Europe are biggest net import regions.



\*Lesser the values, higher the toxicity

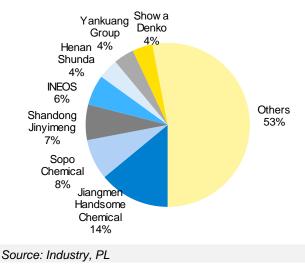
\*Toluene is 100 times more toxic than Ethyl Acetate, in terms of its vapour exposure as solvent application.

Solvents such as Toluene, MIBK, MEK, Acetone, Cyclohexane, etc. are getting replaced with greener solvent ethyl acetate in industrial applications.



Global ethyl acetate demand (3.4mn mtpa)

#### Key global ethyl acetate producers (6.1mn mt)



#### Leading domestic ethyl acetate manufacturers

Company	Plant Location	Capacity (ktpa)				
Laxmi Organics (incl YCPL)	Maharashtra	188				
Jubilant Ingrevia	Nira MS & Gajraula UP	150				
Godavari Biorefineries	Sakarwadi, Maharashtra	105				
IOL Chemicals	Barnala, Punjab	87				
GNFC	Bharuch, Gujarat	55				
Dhampur Alcochem	Bijnor, UP	50				
Satyam Petrochemicals	Karad, Maharashtra	50				
Ester India	Sahibabad, UP	12				
Others (Shatabdi etc)	Ghaziabad, UP	19				
Source: Laxmi Organics DRHP, PL						

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#### September 7, 2022

### Acetic Anhydride – A key intermediate in industrial and pharma applications

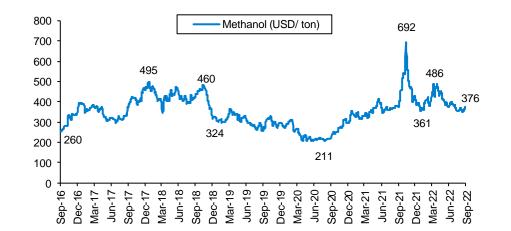
- Acetic anhydride is a colourless liquid that is formulated from organic synthesis and dehydration of acetic acid. Acetic anhydride is manufactured primarily by the ketene route or by carbonylation of methyl acetate.
- Industrial and pharmaceutical applications constitute ~79% and ~14% of the total Acetic Anhydride market, followed by agrochemicals and nutrition
  - Industrial Cellulose acetate (cigarette filter tow, plastic films, fibre), detergents (TAED), artificial sweeteners, acetylated wood, industrial starches.
  - Pharmaceutical An important intermediate in production of about 20 APIs, which include Analgesic, Antipyretic, Anti-inflammatory drugs like Paracetamol, Ibuprofen, Aspirin and various other APIs like Prazoles and Caffeine.
  - Agrochemicals and Nutrition A critical intermediate for traditional and new generation agro chemicals like Acephate, Azoxystrobin, Glufosinate and s-metolachlor. It also used in food & nutritional applications like Vitamin A and Vitamin E.
- Healthy demand recovery: Global acetic anhydride demand witnessed healthy recovery in 2021 after a Covid led fall. Operating rates improved to 74% (vs 70% in 2020). Acetic Anhydride market demand is estimated at 2.1mn mt (+7.5% YoY) in 2021 and is expected to grow at 3.4% CAGR over 2021-31.
- Limited inter-regional trade: 2 players (Celanese and Eastman) control ~42% of the nameplate capacity (0.64 mn mtpa and 0.58 mn mtpa). Only~10% of acetic anhydride volumes are traded inter-regionally, as its movement is strictly controlled due to its possible application in explosives and drugs.



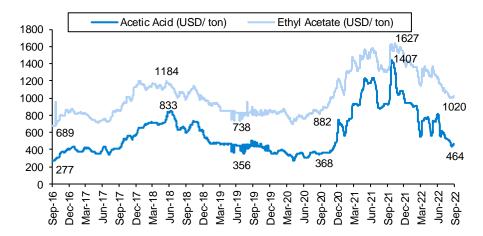
#### Key global acetic anhydride producers (capacity 2.9mn mtpa)

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### **Global pricing & spreads – A cyclical peak behind us**



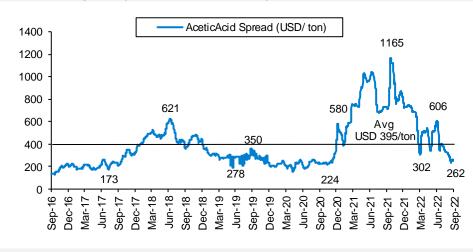
#### Acetic Acid and Ethyl Acetate price trend



#### Source: Bloomberg, PL

#### Acetic Acid Spread (Methanol: Acetic Acid)

Methanol price trend (key input for Acetic Acid)



Source: Bloomberg, PL

#### Source: Bloomberg, PL

#### Ethyl Acetate Spread (Acetic Acid + Ethanol : Ethyl Acetate)



# Companies



### **Jubilant Ingrevia (JUBLINGR IN)** Rating: BUY | CMP: Rs463 | TP: Rs860 | Mcap: Rs73.6bn

	Y/e March	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Net Sales	49,494	52,468	59,457	69,581
	Growth (%)	623.4	6.0	13.3	17.0
	EBITDA	8,318	7,275	9,635	12,212
Income Statement (Rs m)	Growth (%)	610.2	-12.5	32.4	26.8
, en	Margin (%)	16.8	13.9	16.2	17.6
e State (Rs m)	EBIT	7,084	5,981	8,174	10,409
e S (Rs	Net Interest	309	162	220	228
ы	Other Income	315	220	165	298
ЪС	PBT	7,090	6,040	8,120	10,479
_	Total Tax	2,322	1,933	2,598	3,353
	Adj. PAT	4,767	4,107	5,521	7,125
	Growth (%)	608.3	-13.9	34.5	29.0
	Gross Block	24,697	29,197	35,697	42,697
	Investments	67	67	67	67
eet	Inventories	9,112	9,344	10,263	12,010
n Sh	Trade receivables	5,809	6,181	7,005	8,197
ince (Rs	Cash & Bank Balance	485	360	301	516
Balance Sheet (Rs m)	Equity Share Capital	159	159	159	159
Ba	Total Netw orth	24,331	27,727	32,293	38,186
	Borrow ings	2,288	3,117	4,202	4,094
	Trade payables	7,978	8,457	9,584	11,216
≥	Net cash from Op. activities	4,527	5,158	6,282	7,350
<u>e</u> (E	Net Cash from Invt. activities	-718	-5,280	-6,335	-5,702
ish Flo (Rs m)	Net cash from Fin. activities	-4,166	-3	-7	-1,432
Cash Flow (Rs m)	Net change in cash	-357	-125	-60	216
<u> </u>	Free Cash Flow	2,226	-342	-218	1,350
	EPS (Rs)	30.0	25.8	34.7	44.8
	Growth (%)	609.6	-13.9	34.5	29.0
	BPVS (Rs)	153.0	174.4	203.1	240.2
6	DPS (Rs)	5.0	4.5	6.0	7.8
Key Ratios	RoCE (%)	27.6	20.8	24.3	26.4
Rai	RoE (%)	21.9	15.8	18.4	20.2
ey	Net Debt : Equity (x)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
×	Net Working Capital (Days)	51.2	49.2	47.2	47.2
	PE (x)	15.4	17.9	13.3	10.3
	P/B(x)	3.0	2.7	2.3	1.9
	EV / EBITDA (x)	9.1	10.5	8.0	6.3
	Dividend Yield (%)	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.7

Key Data	JUBN.BO   JUBLINGR IN
52-W High / Low	Rs.878 / Rs.401
Sensex / Nifty	59,197 / 17,656
Market Cap	Rs.74bn/ \$ 924m
Shares Outstanding	159m
3M Avg. Daily Value	Rs.239.55m
Shareholding Pattern (%)	
Shareholding Pattern (%) Promoter's	51.67
• • • • •	
Promoter's	10.19
Promoter's Foreign	51.67 10.19 0.70 37.44

#### Stock Performance (%)

	1M	6M	12M
Absolute	-5.7	-0.8	-37.6
Relative	-7.0	-8.9	-38.6

#### **Price Chart**



### **Investment Summary**

We initiate coverage on Jubilant Ingrevia Ltd (JUBLINGR) with 'BUY' rating at SOTP based TP of Rs 860 (implied 13x Sep'24 EV/EBITDA and 22x Sep'24 PE). JUBLINGR is a leading global player of acetic anhydride, pyridine & its derivatives along with other products that cater to pharmaceuticals, agrochemicals, packaging etc. across three business segments - Specialty Chemicals (SPCM), Nutrition & Health Solutions (NHS) and Chemical Intermediates (CI), The company exports to over 50 countries contributing 36% revenues with over 25% sales in regulated markets. With an expertise in 35 technology platforms (incl. Ammoxidation, Grignard, Halogenation Ketene/Diketene & others), JUBLINGR is steadily expanding its product portfolio by leveraging several business synergies. EBITDA contribution from higher value segments (SPCM + NHS) is expected to increase to ~67% by FY25E from ~53% in FY22, as SPCM/NHS EBITDA grow at ~27%/11% CAGR over FY22-25E. We believe JUBLINGR is well placed to capitalize on long term growth opportunities given (1) 60 new products pipeline (2) strong traction in CDMO (3) import substitution (4) China+1 policy adopted by global clients and (5) commensurate capex outlay of Rs20.5bn over FY22-25 (of which Rs9bn is committed). CI segment (commoditised business) is expected to witness muted EBITDA CAGR of 1% over FY22-25E on realisation and margin normalisation (from elevated base of FY22). Yet strong balance sheet (Net Debt/Equity at 0.1x) despite ~Rs18bn cash outflow on capex over FY23-25E, and earnings mix improvement led by higher value and structural growth segments will drive rerating in the stock, in our view. Initiate 'BUY'.

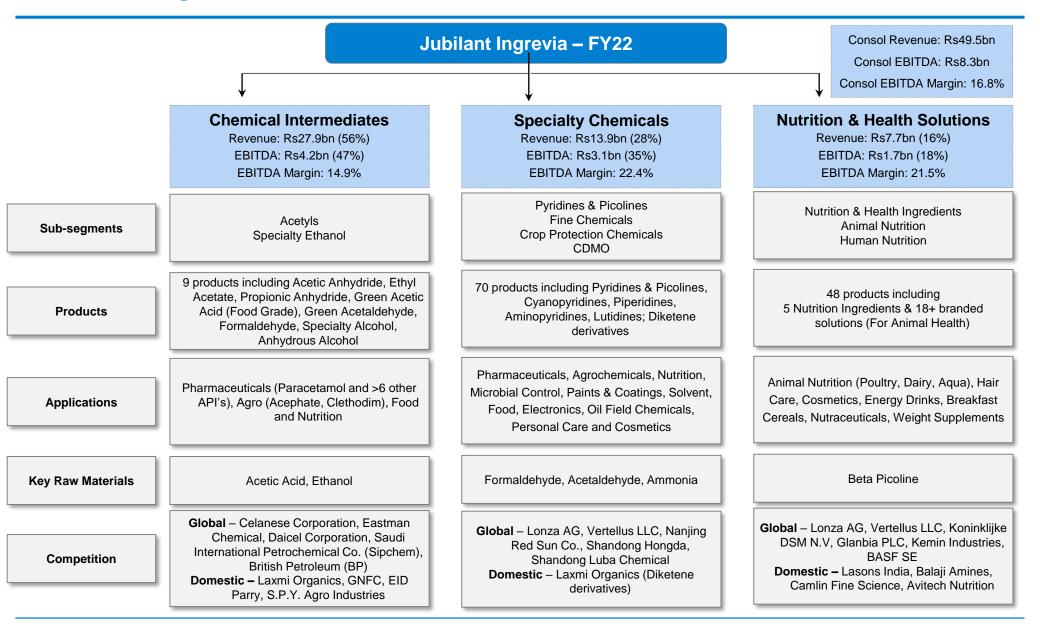
Integrated business model enables global leadership: JUBLINGR's vertical integration across value chain enables cost and market leadership (global top 2 in pyridine-beta, vitamin B3, and acetic anhydride) as 37% of CI volume is consumed in-house by SPCM segment and 52% of Pyridine & Picoline volume is consumed captively for value added products in SPCM and Vitamin B3. 100% Beta Picoline volume (key RM for Vitamin B3) is sourced from SPCM. JUBLINGR's leadership position within key products facilitates in leveraging customer relationships and enhancing revenue potential from new products/cross selling. Robustness of the business model is fortified by entry barriers, like (1) long gestation in SPCM (3-5 years for product approvals and facility audits), (2) expertise in handling multi-step chemistries (~13 steps) at commercial scale and (3) capability of handling large ketene volumes (ketene is unstable and cannot be stored).

<u>Specialty chemicals to lead earnings growth aided by highest capital allocation</u>: JUBLINGR's market leadership in various products across acetyls and pyridine derivatives, enables it to move up the value chain. It has already committed capex of ~Rs6bn, while ~Rs7bn is still under evaluation in (1) Diketene Derivatives Phase-1 (already commercialised in Q4FY22) (2) GMP and Non-GMP MPP's for CDMO Pharma and Crop Protection (to be commissioned by Q3FY23) and (3) MPP's for insecticides, fungicides and herbicides (to commence by Q3FY24) as it moves up the value chain for agro actives and advanced intermediates, aiding revenue/ EBITDA CAGR of 26%/27% over FY22-25E and driving up segment revenue/ EBITDA share of 28%/35% in FY22 to 40%/ 50% in FY25E.

Focus on higher value added areas and entry into regulated markets: JUBLINGR plans to diversify from animal feed nutrition and focus on higher value added areas i.e. pharma and cosmetic-grade vitamins in regulated markets like North America, EU & Japan (facilities to be upgraded to US DMF & European CEP standards compliance). We expect revenue/EBITDA CAGR of 11%/11% over FY22-FY25E, aided by capex outlay of Rs2bn by FY25E for expansion of Vitamin B3 capacity by ~20% and launch of various value-added grades of Vitamin B3.

<u>Chemical intermediates segment earnings concentration to reduce:</u> Improved performance in FY22 (Revenue/ EBITDA increased +61%/+77%) was on favorable market conditions/ pricing for key products like Acetic Anhydride and Ethyl Acetate, as margins rose to 14.9% (vs 13.6% in FY21) despite higher RM prices. We expect normalisation of spreads, hence we forecast sustainable EBITDA margins for the segment at 12-13% for FY23-25E (in-line with historical average) and CI revenue/ EBITDA share to decline from 56%/ 47% in FY22 to 45%/ 33% by FY25E, despite continuing capex (outlay of ~Rs5bn by FY25).

### **Jubilant Ingrevia – Business overview**



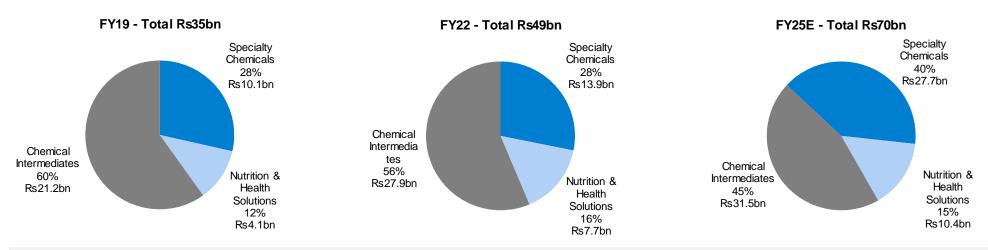
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# **Story in charts**



### **Rising contribution of higher value segments...**

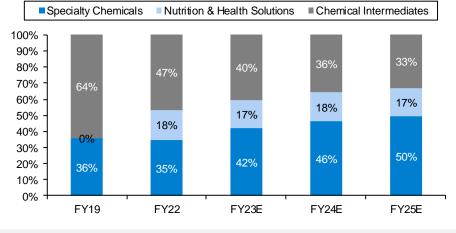
Revenue share of higher value segments (Specialty Chemicals + Nutrition & Health Solutions) to increase to 55% by FY24E (from 44% in FY22)

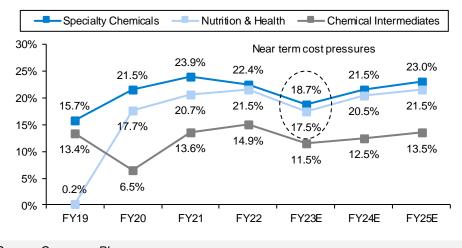


Source: Company, PL

#### EBITDA mix improvement with high value segments share at 67% by FY25E

#### Margins to normalize in CI and remain steady in higher value segments



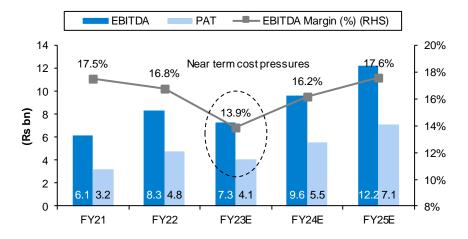


#### Source: Company, PL

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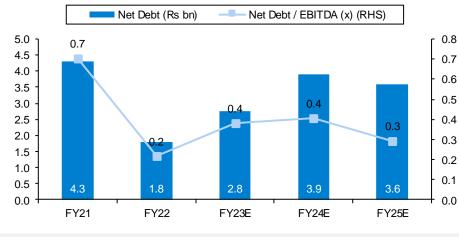
### ...to drive earnings quality improvement and strong cash flow generation

#### Steady profitability despite earnings normalization in CI segment



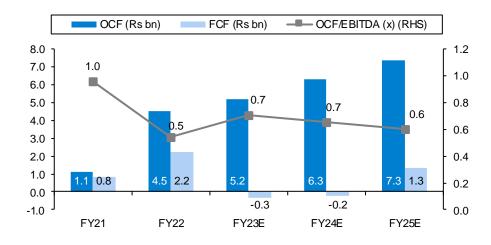
Source: Company, PL ^FY21 proforma financials

#### Debt metrics to remain healthy despite large capex



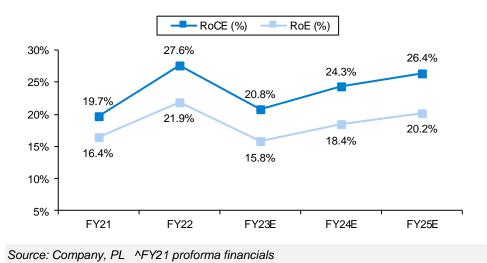
Source: Company, PL ^FY21 proforma financials

#### Strong OCF generation of Rs19bn (FY23-25E) to aid self sustained capex



Source: Company, PL ^FY21 pertains to 2 months reported cash flows

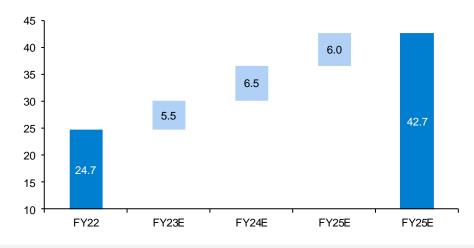
#### Healthy return ratios (cyclical high in FY22 led by CI segment)

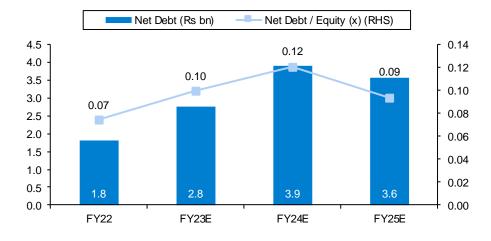


### **Distributed capex over 3 years to aid growth without impacting BS**

Gross Block to increase to Rs43bn led by ~Rs20bn capex over FY22-25E

...without impacting Balance Sheet





Source: Company, PL

Source: Company, PL

#### Project commissioning timeline and capex rationale – Diketene Derivatives (Phase 1) and Food Grade Acetic Acid plants commissioned as per schedule

Project	Segment	Expected Commissioning	Capex rationale
Diketene investment (Phase 1)	Specialty Chemicals	Q4FY22 (done)	Moving up the value chain of Ketene, growing demand and exit of the old leading producer
Food Grade Acetic Acid	Chemical Intermediates	Q1FY23 (done)	Green Acetic Acid for food applications
CDMO (GMP) Multi Purpose Plant	Specialty Chemicals	Q3FY23	For pharma intermediates
CDMO (Non-GMP) Multi Purpose Plants	Specialty Chemicals	Q3FY23	2 MPP's for pharma and agro intermediates
Acetic Anhydride capacity expansion	Chemical Intermediates	Q4FY23	Growing demand and geographic expansion
MPP Agro Active Plant (Insecticides/ Fungicides/ Herbicides)	Specialty Chemicals	Q3FY24	Moving up the value chain of Crop Protection actives and growing customer demand
Diketene investment (Phase 2)	Specialty Chemicals	Q3FY24	Moving up the value chain of Ketene, Growing demand and exit of the old leading producer
Niacinamide capacity expansion	Nutrition & Health Solutions	Q3FY24	Geographic expansion and value added end uses

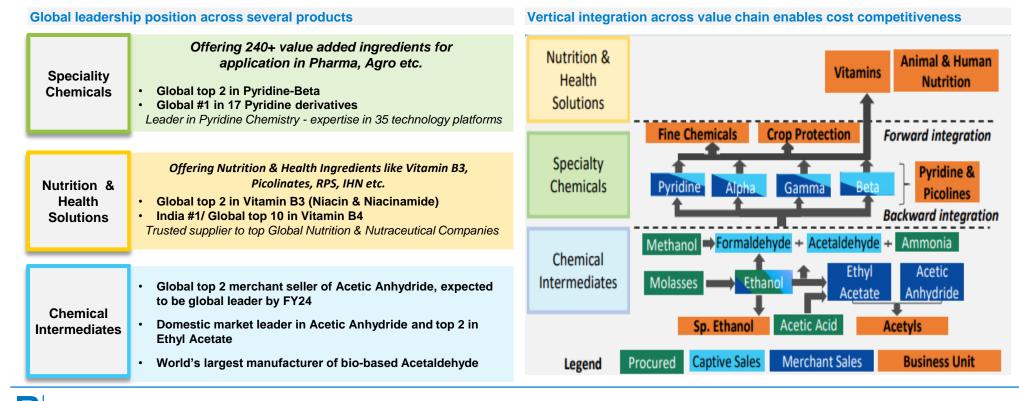
Source: PL

### Integrated business model enables global leadership

### Integrated business model with high entry barriers

**JUBLINGR's vertical integration across value chain enables cost and market leadership as** 37% of Chemical Intermediates (CI) volume is consumed inhouse by Specialty Chemicals (SPCM) segment and 52% of Pyridine & Picoline volume is consumed captively for value added products in SPCM and Vitamin B3. 100% Beta Picoline volume (key RM for Vitamin B3) is sourced from SPCM segment. **High entry barriers add to robustness of the business model**.

- Specialty Chemicals (SPCM) (1) Cost leadership in production of pyridine, beta and value added products (2) Lengthy approval processes of customers which takes ~3-5 years for product approvals and facility audits (3) Capabilities in handling multi-step chemistries (~13 steps) upto commercial scale.
- Nutrition & Health Solutions (NHS) (1) Differentiated niche technology (air oxidation) for manufacturing of niacinamide along with complete backward integration to key RM i.e. Beta Picoline enabling cost leadership (2) Deep reach to farmers for animal nutrition and health products.
- Chemical Intermediates (CI) (1) Capability of handling large ketene volumes (ketene is extremely flammable, reacts violently with water, alcohol, ammonia, it readily polymerizes and cannot be shipped or stored) (2) Strong capabilities to manage controlled substances.



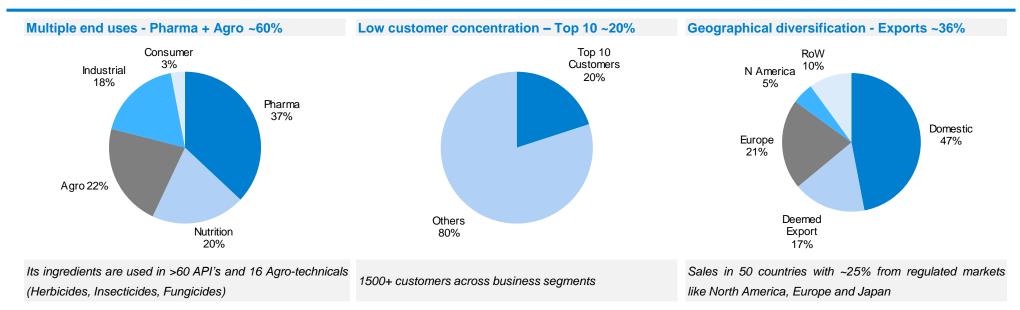
### Long term growth and market leadership aided by R&D focus

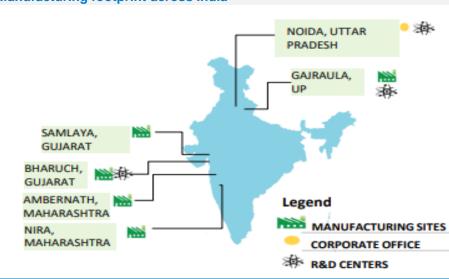
- R&D focus enables long term growth and market leadership: R&D initiative is one of the critical success factors for long term growth and market leadership, whereby JUBLINGR has developed expertise in 35 technology platforms (incl. Ammoxidation, Grignard, Halogenation Ketene/Diketene & others) at large commercial scale, along with expertise in multi-step chemistries (upto ~13 steps) at commercial scale.
- Strong R&D team & facilities: Its Research Development & Technology (RDT) team consists of 92 scientists and engineers including 22 Ph.D's operating from 3 RDT centres in Noida, Gajraula and Bharuch. JUBLINGR has a full-fledged kilo lab and pilot plant facility with various reactors (20-1000L, operable at -70° to 300°C) and other equipments for scale-up studies to ensure smooth operations and safety.
- In-house catalyst manufacturing facility to service internal commercial requirement of customized and tailored made catalysts. JUBLINGR also has scientists
  in catalysis R&D to develop vapour phase, fixed/ fluidise bed, heterogeneous catalytic reactions for making Pyridine, Picolines, Cyanopyridines, Lutidines etc.
- 94 patents: 94 of its 152 active patent applications have been granted. Its focus is on product development and cost reduction through process innovation.
- Continuous new product introductions: The company developed and commercialised 9 new products during FY22 2 in CDMO and rest in Fine Chemicals and Crop Protection and targets 60+ new products by FY26, including 36 in SPCM, 24 in NHS and 7 in CI.

Key technology platforms			Key focus areas for RDT		
1000s MT	100s MT	MTs	Optimization	Existing product's process to remain globally competitive	
Ammoxidation	Bromination	Bu-Li Reaction	optimization		
Aromatization	Chichibabin	Chiral Synthesis		Focus on Agro, Nutrition CDMO & Antimicrobials - New Product Development	
Chlorination	EO Reaction	De-alkylation	Expansion		
Fermentation	Esterification	Hoffman Re-arrangement			
Ketene Technology	Fluorination	Iodination	Academic Collaboration	New technologies by academia collaboration / expanding internal infrastructure	
Oxidation	Grignard	Methoylation			
Photo chlorination	Hydrogenation	N-Formylation			
Vapour Phase Reactions	Methylation		Scientific Advisory Board	Strong Scientific advisory board to support RDT	
	Quarternisation				
	Sandmeyer		Centre of Excellence	For Bio catalysis, Flow chemistry, Chemo catalysis, Gas phase Catalytic Chemistry	
	Thiol Handling				
Source: Company, PL			Source: Company, PL		

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### **Diversification benefits**





Manufacturing footprint across India

- Diversified and comprehensive product portfolio for various applications and a large global customer base lowers concentration risks.
- It has 125+ products of which 70+ belong to Specialty Chemicals, 48 to Nutrition & Health Solution and 9 to Chemical Intermediates.
- Over 25% of revenue generation is from regulated markets like US, Europe, Japan while the export footprint is in 50+ countries.
- Since revenue is not concentrated on few molecules, end-uses or clients, the company is shielded from any industry slowdown.

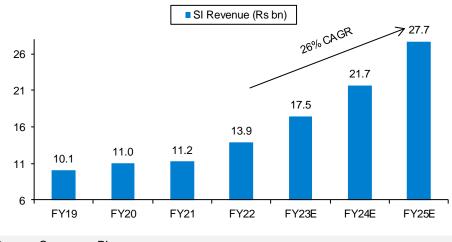
Specialty chemicals to drive earnings growth aided by highest capital outlay



Speciality Chemicals (SPCM) segment contributes 28% to JUBLINGR'S revenue. It comprises of (1) Pyridines & Picolines, (2) Fine Chemicals, (3) Crop Protection Chemicals and (4) CDMO. The company is the largest manufacturer in Pyridine-based value chain, offering 240+ value added products using renewable starting material i.e Acetaldehyde. SPCM capex outlay is the highest among its three segments (~Rs 13bn/ Rs20bn), whereby various capacity expansions are committed for Fine Chemicals, Crop Protection and CDMO on rising demand in end applications coupled with 36 new products in pipeline. Key investments:

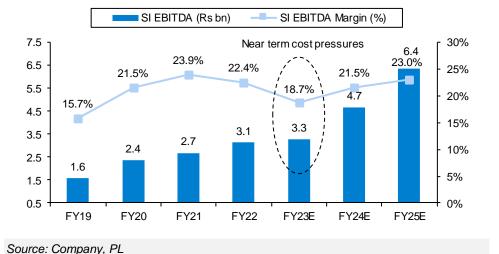
- Diketene Derivatives (forward integration of Ketene capability) investment is in two phases with phase 1 commercialised in Q4FY22 and phase 2, to commence in H2FY24. It launched diketene and 2 derivatives (building blocks) and plans to launch 15 more derivatives over next 3 years.
- GMP and Non-GMP multi-product facility (MPP) for CDMO Pharma and Crop Protection customers- Both facilities to be commissioned by Q3FY23. The company expects commercialisation of 7 molecules (5 in pharma and 2 in agrochemicals) soon.
- Multi Purpose Plants (MPP's) for insecticides, fungicides and herbicides to commence by Q3FY24 as it moves up the value chain for agro actives and
  advanced intermediates to enable enhancing market share with global customers (de-risking their supply chains).

Strong outlook aided by investments in value added projects: A strong underlying global demand environment in agrochemicals and pharmaceuticals in addition to China+1 tailwinds (as global supply chains get de-risked) and improved prospects of CDMO business (Rs2.7bn, 3 year contract from a leading global pharma innovator) are likely to drive 26% revenue CAGR over FY22-25E, in our view. Further, improving product mix (rising agro-actives and CDMO contribution) as company moves up the value chain will aid margin improvement with newer capacities ramping up (after an inflation-led dip in FY23). 27% EBITDA CAGR (FY22-25E) to enhance specialty chemicals EBITDA contribution in the business to 50% (from 35% in FY22).



#### Revenue CAGR of 26% over FY22-25E aided by ~Rs13bn capex

#### EBITDA CAGR of 27% over FY22-25E; Margins to recover after a dip in FY23



Source: Company, PL

30

### Pyridine and pyridine derivatives gaining traction

- Pyridine (C5H5N) a basic heterocyclic organic compound, is synthesized from acetaldehyde, ammonia, and formaldehyde. Commonly used reactions for pyridine synthesis include Chichibabin, Bönnemann cyclization and Cobalt-catalyzed alkyne-nitrile cyclotrimerization.
- Pyridine is an excellent solvent and is completely soluble in water, benzene, ether and alcohol. It finds large scale application in popular herbicides (paraquat, diquat), various pharmaceutical products (incl. vitamin B3), for manufacturing of personal care products, paints, dyes, rubber products, adhesives etc.
- Agricultural and nutrition sectors have been the key volume drivers for pyridine as a key ingredient. Of overall global market estimated at 0.1mn tons (USD253mn) in 2020, agrochemicals and nutrition are the largest end use of pyridine (~70% contribution) followed by pharmaceutical, consumer and industrial.
- Increasing demand for pyridine derivatives on rising R&D in healthcare and chemical sectors: Pyridine was typically used only as a solvent earlier, but pyridine derivatives are now increasingly being used as starting materials in agrochemicals, pharmaceuticals, food-flavouring additives, denaturant for anti freeze mixtures etc. Some key derivatives of pyridine are beta picoline (3-picoline), alpha picoline (2-picoline), gamma picoline (4-picoline), and others.
- Pyridine Industry (including derivatives) is estimated at USD1.1bn (in 2021, 7.1% CAGR over 2016-20) by industry research and projected to grow at 8.2% CAGR (2021-31) to USD2.5bn, led by new product launches in pharma and agrochemicals and higher capacity utilization of derivatives.

Applications of some of the key products and services

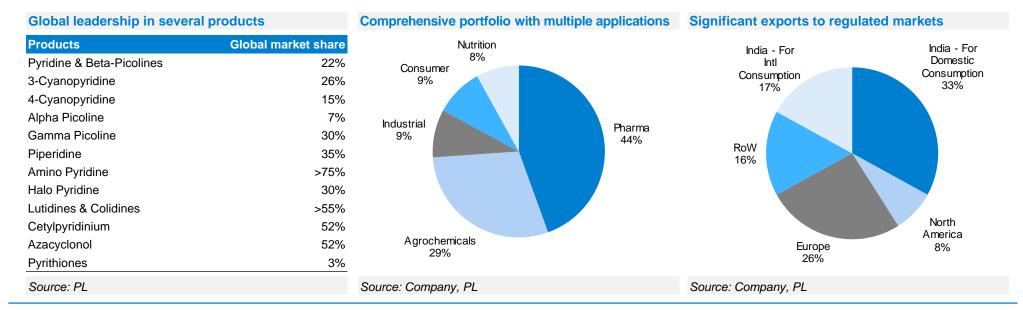
Sub-business unit	Products	Select Products	Application
Pyridines & Picolines	<ul> <li>Pyridines</li> <li>Picolines</li> <li>Piperidines</li> <li>Cyanopyridines</li> <li>Oil Field Chemicals</li> </ul>	Lutidines & Collidines	Pharma: Esomeprazole, Lansoprazole and other prazoles (anti-Ulcer), Etoricoxib (anti-inflammatory)
		Amino Pyridines	Pharma: Dabigatran (anti-coagulant/blood thinner), Pirfenidone (Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis), Resperidone (anti-psychotic), Rifaximine (IBS - irritable bowel syndrome), Sulfasalazine (anti-arthritis)
Fine Chemicals Crop Protection Chemicals	<ul> <li>Halogenated Pyridines</li> <li>Alkyl Pyridines</li> <li>Amino Pyridines</li> <li>Hydrogenated Derivatives</li> </ul>	Halo Pyridines	Pharma: Abirateron acetate, Venetoclax (anti-cancer), Vonoprazan (anti-ulcer), Palbociclib (anti-breast cancer), Lasmiditan (anti- migraine), Edoxaban (anti-coagulant/ blood thinner) Agro: Rynaxpyr (insecticide), Picoxystrobin (fungicide), Fluroxypr (hebicide), Nitrapyrin (nitrification inhibitor), Picloram, Clopyralid, Aminopyralid (herbicide)
СДМО	<ul> <li>Anti-microbial Products</li> <li>Pyridine Aldehydes</li> <li>Pyridine Carboxylic acids</li> <li>Pyridine Quaternary Salts</li> <li>Acetyl of Pyridine</li> </ul>	Picolines	Pharma: Isoniazid (anti-TB), Fexofenadine (anti-histamine), Bromazepam (anti-anxiety) Agro: Haloxyfop, Fluazifop (herbicide), Pymetrozine, Flonicamid (insecticide) Nutrition: Vitamin B3, Chromium and Zinc Picolinate Industrial: 2-Vinyl Pyridine Latex
	<ul> <li>Chromium Picolinate</li> <li>Zinc Picolinate</li> <li>Other speciality derivatives</li> </ul>	Pyridine	Agro: Paraquat, Diquat (Herbicide)
		Pyrithiones	Consumer: Anti-microbial for paints, personal care

#### JUBLINGR's Specialty Chemicals Segment

### Revenue sustainability led by market leadership in existing products

JUBLINGR's market leadership in pyridine and its derivatives (amongst top 2 global leaders in pyridines and No.1 in 17 pyridine derivatives) is ascribed to its complete integration, comprehensive product portfolio, product innovation, adherence to stringent client specifications and customisation along with strong R&D capabilities with expertise in ~35 key technology platforms. It counts 15/20 top global pharma and 7/10 top agrochemical companies among its clients, while serving 420 global customers through its offices in US, Europe, Japan & China with 42% exports to regulated markets (within 50% exports) aiding revenue sustainability. 20+ proprietary products have been developed in the last decade, beyond pyridine value-chain.

- Global cost leadership in pyridine offers significant long term advantage Complete forward and backward integration in the pyridine based value chain enables cost leadership, quality and consistency, thereby achieving sustainable global leadership position.
- 52% of Pyridine & Picoline volumes used captively for value added products 2 Chloropyridine (produced using captive Pyridine), Vitamin B3 (produced using captive Beta Picoline & 3-Cyano Pyridine; ~70% of Beta Picoline finds application in Vitamin B3) and Nitrapyrin intermediate (produced using captive Alpha Picoline). The company's strong R&D capabilities extend to CDMO, supported through vertical integration.
- Products used in important therapeutic segments Anti-ulcerative (Esomeprazol, Rabiprazol), anti-viral (Remdesivir), anti-diabetic (Alogliptin, Linagliptin), anti-malarial (Pyramax), anti-thrombotic (Dabigartan), anti-retroviral, anti-histamine (Fexofenadine), anti-neoplastic (Palbociclib, Ribociclib), Anti-Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (Perfenidone) etc.



### Leveraging on inherent strengths for moving up the value chain

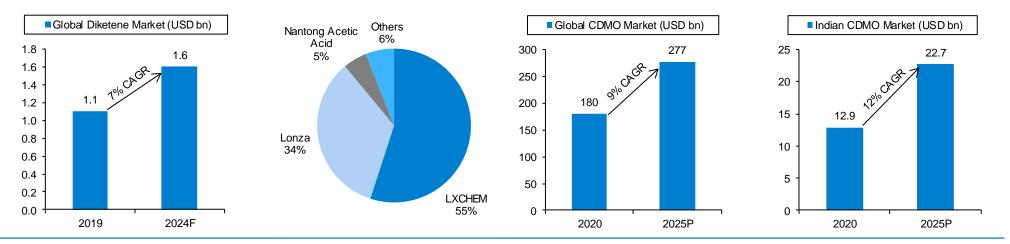
JUBLINGR's market leadership in various pyridine derivatives with 20-75% global market share, enables to move up the value chain. The company is investing ~Rs13bn (Rs6bn committed and ~Rs7bn proposed) over FY22-25E for (1) Diketene derivatives, GMP & Non-GMP MPP's for pharma & agro and MPP for agrochemicals (2) Expansion of diketene derivatives, new plants for CDMO GMP, fluorination derivatives and agro-actives (fungicides).

Diketene derivatives: Strong presence in ketene chemistry, now forward integrated into diketene derivatives:

- JUBLINGR has presence in ketene chemistry for long (acetic anhydride) and has now forward integrated into diketene derivatives to tap into ~45% of the
  domestic market demand, which is currently met via imports. LXCHEM is the only other diketene derivatives manufacturer (~55% market share).
- Its proven ability to handle large ketene volumes provides confidence of it being able to fast scale up its newly commissioned plant. Ketene is extremely
  flammable, reacts violently with water, alcohols, ammonia, readily polymerizes and cannot be shipped or stored, plus mixture with air is explosive.

#### CDMO services for pharma & agro: Sufficiently demonstrated capabilities in process development, optimisation and scale up of complex chemistries

- Its CDMO services ranges from (1) Process R&D (2) Scale Up (3) Commercial Manufacturing and caters to global pharma and agro customers given its strong synthetic, organic chemistry and manufacturing capabilities (17+ collaborations on late-phase and launch products with pharma and biotech companies).
- Current pipeline includes (1) 5 molecules in pharma CDMO of which 3 in Phase III for anti-retroviral, anti-cancer and anti-diabetic applications and 2 in Phase
   II for anti-cancer and anti-thrombotic applications (2) 3 molecules in agrochemical CDMO of which all are in Stage IV for insecticides/ fungicides.
- New contract with a global pharma innovator: JUBLINGR announced Rs 2.7bn (3 year) contract with a global innovator, to whom it will supply two key GMP intermediates for one of its patented drugs. Both these products involve a 7 step chemistry with commercial supplies starting in FY23.



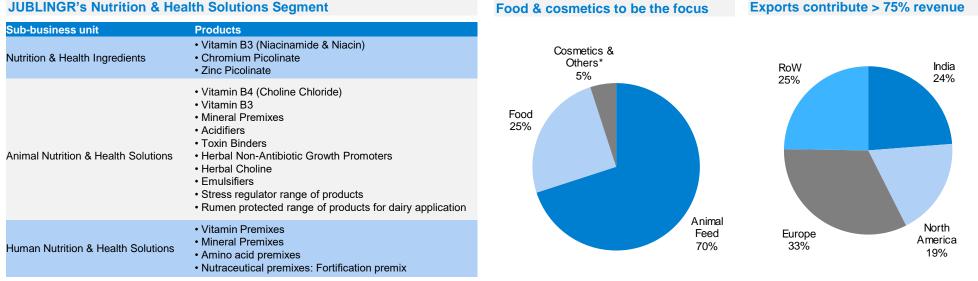
#### **Global & Indian diketene and diketene derivatives market**

#### **CDMO** market growing fast

### Nutrition and Health Solutions to grow on newer value added products

### Strengthening leadership position in key products and markets

- Nutrition & Health Solutions segment contributes 16% to JUBLINGR's revenue and comprises of (1) Nutrition & Health Ingredients (2) Animal Nutrition & Health Solutions and (3) Human Nutrition & Health Solutions.
- Vitamin B3 is a key product in Nutrition & Health Ingredients, and among eight B-complex vitamins, significant in multiple physiological functions. Its used in animal feed (increases nutrient absorption, thereby weight gain and better feed utilization), human nutrition (food premixes, dietary supplements, flour and rice fortification, energy drinks), personal care (skin and hair care), technical (metal plating for uniform surfaces) and agrochemicals (insecticides).
- JUBLINGR is amongst top 2 global manufacturers of Vitamin B3 (Niacinamide & Niacin) with ~20% market share. Vitamin B3's global market is ~60,000 mtpa with major application in animal feed (~60%), human food (~25%) and cosmetics & others (~15%). Exports to regulated market contribute >50% revenue, thereby providing sustainability. Vitamin B4 is a major feed supplement in Poultry, Diary, Swine and Aqua and it is a domestic leader in Vitamin B4 (69% share).
- Complete backward integration across product chain of Niacinamide is a key advantage. It has 100% in-house sourcing of Beta Picoline (key raw material) from specialty chemicals (manufacturing vitamin B3 via green route).
- Strong new product pipeline: In Animal Nutrition & Health Solutions, JUBLINGR has 5 nutrition ingredients and 18+ branded solutions (animal health) and 18 new products pipeline over next 3-4 years.



#### **JUBLINGR's Nutrition & Health Solutions Segment**

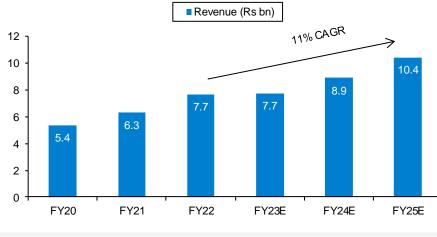
### Leveraging specialty chemicals for steady growth in nutraceuticals

JUBINGR is expected to leverage robust growth in specialty chemicals for its nutrition business to diversify from animal feed nutrition and move towards higher value added areas i.e. pharma and cosmetic-grade vitamins. Focus will be on market share enhancement in **niche segments like food & cosmetics & regulated markets like North America, EU and Japan**. With capex outlay of Rs2bn by FY25E and expected launch of various value-added grades of Vitamin B3 coupled with entry in regulated markets like US and Europe, we expect revenue/EBITDA CAGR of 11%/11% over FY22-FY25E. JUBLINGR plans on:

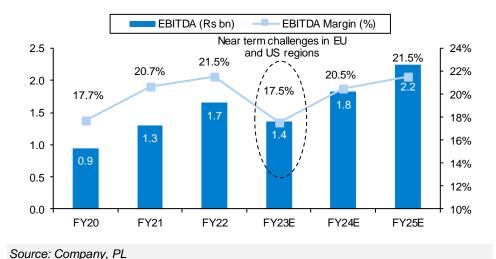
- Expansion of Vitamin B3 capacity by ~20% from current 13,000 MT/ year and launch various value-added grades of Vitamin B3.
- Upgrade facilities to US DMF & European CEP standards compliance and enter regulated pharma market of Niacinamide.
- Enhance the product portfolio with value-added premixes and investment for premix plant expansion.

	Raw Materials	Health Ingredients	Formulations / Premixes	Performance Ingredients	End-Products
Nutritio Value Cha	<ul> <li>Cvano Pyrigines</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Vitamin B3 (Niacinamide &amp; Niacin)</li> <li>Vitamin B4 (Choline Chloride)</li> <li>Riboflavin Phosphate Sodium</li> <li>Inositol Hexa Nicotinate</li> <li>Picolinates (Chromium &amp; Zinc)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>*AD2 Premix for Fortification</li> <li>*ACE Premix for Beverages</li> <li>Gut Health solution</li> <li>Amino acids</li> <li>Egg quality enhancers</li> <li>and other 18+ branded products</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Toxin Binders &amp; Emulsifiers</li> <li>Acidifier</li> <li>Soy Lecithin</li> <li>Aspartame</li> <li>Citric Acid, Maleic Acid</li> </ul>	

#### Revenue CAGR of 11% over FY22-25E aided by Rs 2 bn capex



EBITDA CAGR of 11% over FY22-25E aided by steady margin

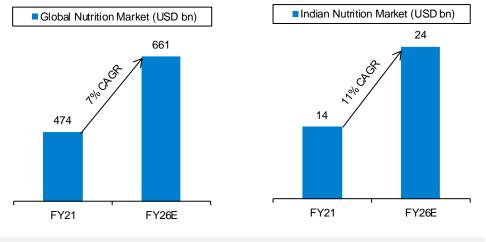


Source: Company, PL

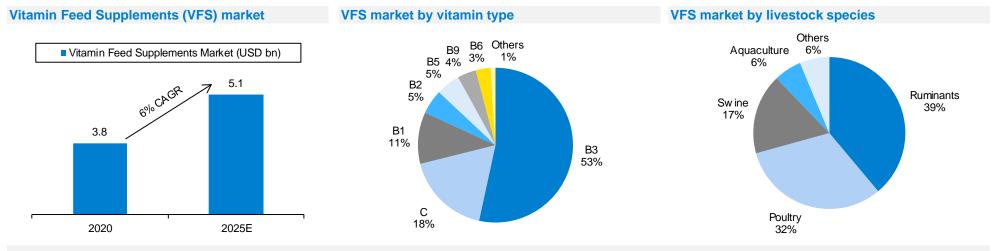
# **Rapid growth in nutrition industry**

- JUBLINGR is well placed to ride on the fast growth in nutrition industry given increasing health & wellness trend, rising demand for fortified food products and supplements in tablets & capsules (especially post covid era).
- Chemicals like Vitamin B3, chromium picolinate and inositol hexa-nicotinate (IHN) are utilized for manufacturing nutraceutical products.
- Animal nutrition products market is growing steadily globally on rising demand for animal protein in daily diets of consumers. Rise in meat consuming population is driving higher demand for red and white meat.
- Also, growing concern for food safety drives need for increasing intake of vitamins and minerals.
- The global vitamin feed supplements market is estimated to be at USD5.1bn by 2025 (~6% CAGR over 2020-25), while Indian market is estimated at USD295mn (~7% CAGR over 2020-25; ~6% of global market).

#### Nutrition market growing at a healthy pace globally and in India



Source: Industry, PL



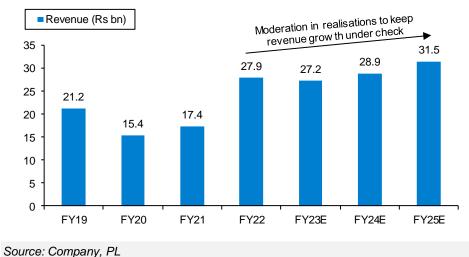
Asia Pacific market forms ~28% of the Vitamin Feed Supplements market and is expected to grow at ~7% CAGR (2020-25) (1) Increasing industrialization in poultry, swine and aquaculture in the region aided by govt. support and (2) rising awareness and adoption of international feeding practices to drive demand.

**Chemical Intermediates (CI) segment earnings concentration to reduce** 

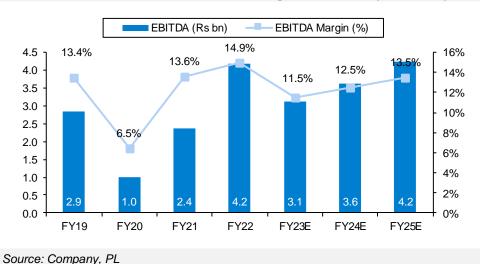


# Segment earnings to consolidate (FY22-25E) despite continuing capex

- Chemical Intermediates segment (contributes 56% to JUBLINGR's revenue) offers building block ingredients based on Acetyls and Ketene chemistry with applications in pharmaceuticals, agrochemicals, food & nutrition, packaging, paints & coatings, adhesives, dye intermediates and solvents.
- Key growth drivers: (1) Food grade acetic acid capacity set up, (2) Acetic anhydride capacity expansion, (2) Value added anhydrides and aldehydes addition and (3) Higher volumes in speciality ethanol. 37% of overall volume of Chemical Intermediates is consumed in-house by Speciality Chemicals segment.
- Capex outlay of Rs2.5bn to be completed by FY23 includes food grade acetic acid plant (started in Q1FY23) and acetic anhydride capacity expansion (expected by Q4FY23), while additional ~Rs3bn capex is proposed for grain based green specialty ethanol. 7 new products form part of expansion pipeline.
- Improved performance in FY22 on favorable market conditions is led by key end products like Acetic Anhydride and Ethyl Acetate. FY22 revenue increased 61% to Rs27.9bn, while EBITDA increased 77% YoY to Rs4.2bn as margins rose to 14.9% (vs 13.6% in FY21) despite higher RM prices.
- CI segment concentration to reduce over FY22-25E: With higher growth in value added segments (SPCM + NHS) and normalization in RM prices & spreads, we expect CI revenue/ EBITDA share to decline from 56%/ 47% in FY22 to 45%/ 33% by FY25E (despite ~Rs5.5bn capex).
- EBITDA margins to converge towards historical average of 12-13%: Acetic acid prices are likely to remain balanced, as supplies increase on one hand and input costs remain elevated. This will result in normalisation of margins vs. peak witnessed in FY22 as spreads reduce (acetic acid: ethyl acetate/ acetic anhydride etc). Hence for FY23-25E we forecast sustainable EBITDA margins for the segment at 12-13% (in-line with historical average).



#### Revenue to grow at muted 4% CAGR (FY22-25E) despite ~Rs 5.5 bn capex



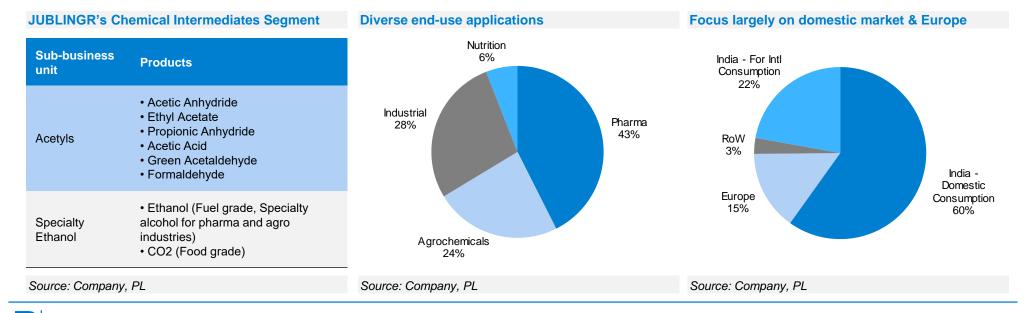
#### EBITDA to be flattish over FY22-25E as margins normalize, post FY22 peak

Source. Company,

39

## Diverse applications and growing consumption augurs well over long term

- Food-grade Acetic acid provides healthier option for food preservation requirements vs. Acetic acid produced through petroleum route. JUBLINGR's food-grade Acetic acid plant commissioned in Q1FY23 (rated capacity of 25,000 mtpa) will use Green Ethanol (via natural bio-based feedstock) as input.
- Acetic Anhydride is an important intermediate in production of about 20 APIs which include Analgesic, Antipyretic and Anti-inflammatory drugs like Paracetamol, Ibuprofen, Aspirin and various other APIs like Prazoles & Caffeine, which are growing at ~3%.
- Acetic Anhydride is also a critical intermediate for traditional and new generation agro chemicals like Acephate, Azoxystrobin, Glufosinate and smetolachlor. It is also used in food & nutritional applications like Vitamin A, Vitamin E, artificial sweetener, emulsifier, modified starch & flavours and fragrances.
- Ethyl Acetate is a preferred solvent to manufacture wide range of APIs like new generation ARVs, statins, anti-ulcer drugs & antibiotics. It is also used for food packaging, coating, ink & resins. JUBLINGR manufactures it through bioethanol route vs. petrochemical route, thereby giving it a lower carbon footprint.
- Propionic Anhydride is used for manufacturing of perfumes, oils, resins, dyestuffs, drugs and cellulose esters.
- European Union is a major deficit market for Acetic Anhydride (~90% import dependent) and Ethyl Acetate (~70% import dependent). JUBLINGR is globally no. 2 and domestically no. 1 in Acetic Anhydride merchant market and amongst top 2 in domestic Ethyl Acetate (LXCHEM being the leader).



Financials Outlook & Valuation Key Risks

# Rising contribution of higher value business to drive better earnings quality

#### High value (SPCM+NHS) revenue contribution to rise to 55% by FY25E



Chemical

Intermediates

33%

Rs4.2bn

Nutrition &

**Health Solutions** 

17%

Rs2.2bn

Specialty

Chemicals

35%

Rs3.1bn

Nutrition &

Health Solutions

18%

Rs1.7bn

FY25E

Specialty

Chemicals

50%

Rs6.4bn

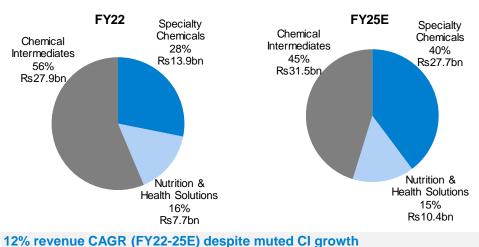
**FY22** 

Chemical

Intermediates

47%

Rs4.2bn



Gross Margin (%)

43.7%

59.5

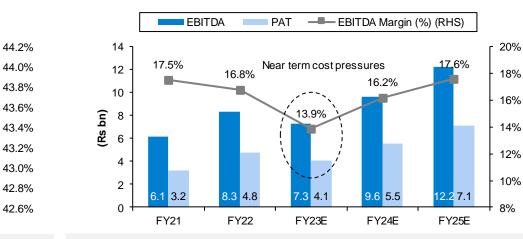
FY24E

44.1%

69.6

FY25E

### Steady profitability growth despite earnings normalization in CI segment



JUBLINGR's SPCM/ NHS/ CI revenue to grow at 26%/ 11%/ 4% over FY22-25E aided by Rs20bn capex, as it moves up the value chain and expands its product portfolio by leveraging business synergies. CI growth is muted (4% CAGR) despite higher volume (as product prices normalize from elevated base of FY22).

52.5

FY23E

EBITDA contribution from higher value segments (SPCM + NHS) is expected to increase to ~67% by FY25E from ~53% in FY22, as SPCM/ NHS/ CI EBITDA grow at ~27%/ 11%/ 1% CAGR (FY22-25E). Rising share of higher value business to reduce earnings volatility, as PAT grows of 14% CAGR(FY22-25E).

Consol Revenue (Rs bn)

43.5%

49.5

**FY22** 

80

70

60

50

40

10

0

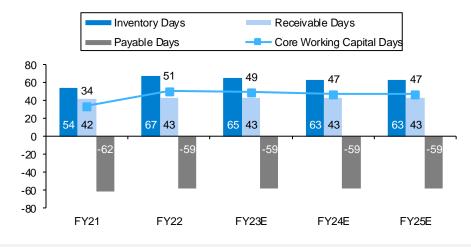
34.9

**FY21** 

42 Source: Company, PL ^FY21 proforma financials – Gross Margin not available

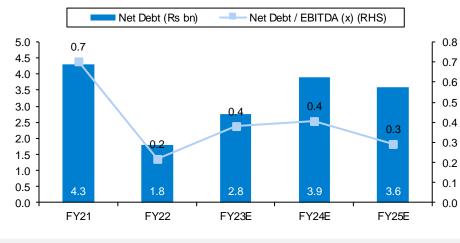
# Strong cash flow aided by healthy profitability; return ratios to improve

#### Stable working capital days



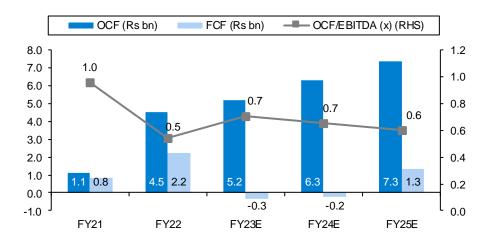
Source: Company, PL ^FY21 proforma financials

#### Debt metrics to remain healthy despite large capex outlay



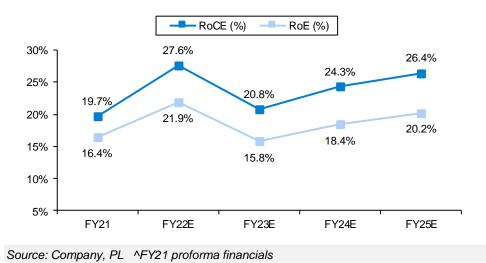
Source: Company, PL ^FY21 proforma financials

#### Strong OCF generation of Rs19bn (FY23-25E) to aid self sustained capex



Source: Company, PL ^FY21 pertains to 2 months reported cash flows

#### Healthy return ratios (cyclical high in FY22 led by CI segment)



### **Valuation - SOTP**

We value JUBLINGR on SoTP basis given the difference in business dynamics and growth prospects of its three business segments. Initiate coverage with 'BUY' rating at target price of Rs860 (implied consol Sep'24E EV/EBITDA of 13x and PE of 22x).

- Specialty Chemicals (SPCM): We value JUBLINGR's SPCM business at 16x 1-year forward EV/EBITDA (~30% discount to domestic specialty chemicals sector average) given presence of building blocks revenue within the segment, and we await execution of a large capex outlay of ~Rs13bn over FY22-25E, which will enable it to move up the value chain (right execution can drive re-rating). While JUBLINGR's market leadership in various pyridine derivatives provides comfort, a strong underlying global demand environment in agrochemicals and pharmaceuticals in addition to China+1 tailwinds and improved prospects of CDMO are likely to drive 26% revenue CAGR (FY22-25E). Improving product mix (rising agroactives and CDMO contribution) will aid margin improvement, driving 27% EBITDA CAGR (FY22-25E).
- Nutrition & Health Solutions (NHS): We value JUBLINGR's Nutrition & Health Solutions business at 12x 1-year forward EV/EBITDA (in-line with global peer average Lonza, Koninklijke DSM N.V., Glanbia PLC, BASF). We expect revenue/ EBITDA CAGR of 11% each over FY22-FY25E, aided by capex outlay of Rs2bn by FY25E for expansion of Vitamin B3 capacity by ~20% and launch of various value-added grades of Vitamin B3 (focus on pharma and cosmetic-grade vitamins in regulated markets).
- Chemical Intermediates (CI): We value JUBLINGR's commoditized CI business at 8x 1-yr forward EV/EBITDA (in-line with global peer average -Celanese, Eastman, Daicel). We expect normalization of spreads, hence forecast EBITDA margin for the segment at 12-13% for FY23-25E (in-line with historical average) and EBITDA CAGR of 4% (over FY22-25E).

#### Jubilant Ingrevia (JUBLINGR) – Initiate BUY with TP Rs 860

EBITDA (Rs mn) Specialty Chemicals	3,120				
Specialty Chemicals	3,120				
		3,271	4,669	6,366	27%
Nutrition & Health Solutions	1,650	1,355	1,821	2,244	11%
Chemical Intermediates	4,170	3,132	3,607	4,248	1%
Segment EBITDA - Total	8,940	7,758	10,097	12,858	13%
Less: Unallocable items	(625)	(483)	(463)	(645)	
Consolidated EBITDA (Rs mn)	8,315	7,275	9,635	12,212	14%
EV/EBITDA Target Multiple (x)				Sep-24	
Specialty Chemicals				16	
Nutrition & Health Solutions				12	
Chemical Intermediates				8	
Unallocable items				8	
Enterprise Value (Rs mn)				Sep-24	Per Share
Specialty Chemicals		~~~~~~		88,670	558
Nutrition & Health Solutions				24,386	153
Chemical Intermediates				31,421	198
Less: Unallocable items				(4,432)	(28)
Enterprise Value (Rs mn)				140,045	881
Less: Net Debt and Investments				(3,329)	(21)
Equity Value / MCap (Rs mn)				136,716	860
Target Price (Rs/ sh)				860	

Source: PL

### **Key Risks**

- Demand risk The company is undergoing significant capex across business verticals (Rs9bn committed and ~Rs 11 bn under evaluation) in existing and new products. Any major demand reversal from end-use industries, especially global pharmaceuticals and agrochemicals could impact financials adversely. Unutilized capacities in Pyridine, Picoline and Acetyl Derivatives in China may lead to competitive pressure on company's products.
- Earnings risk Our earnings assumptions would be at risk if the segments fail to deliver forecasted volume/revenue growth. Due to import dependence on feedstock, sometimes finished products also face volatility in supply chain decisions, which can be a competitive risk. Chinese manufacturers, who gain from economies of scale, favourable policies and lower cost etc. may affect company's ability to maintain market leadership.
- Supply chain disturbances Any disturbance in supply chain impacting movement of goods globally, can adversely impact the business. Multiple logistics challenges persist, including shortage of containers/ higher turnaround time and elevated costs.
- Exchange risk –Company's foreign currency exposures due to exports and imports may lead to credit risks in some markets. Imposition of price controls or restrictions on conversion of foreign currencies can have an adverse impact on financial performance.

# Appendix



## Key management personnel and board of directors

- JUBLINGR has a strong and well experienced Board, supported by functional heads and key managerial personnel who actively participate in strategies, operations and business development. Mr. Shyam S. Bhartia and Mr. Hari S. Bhartia, the company's promoters, have over 4 decades of industry experience individually. They are responsible for formulating growth plans and are involved in all strategic business decisions.
- The company's executive leadership team comprises of experienced and qualified professionals, associated with group for ~15-20 years with experience in domestic and international companies including areas of R&D, regulatory affairs, manufacturing, quality control, sales, marketing and finance.

#### **Board of Directors**

### **Executive leadership team**

	-							
Board members	Designation	Board members	Designation	Members	Designation	Industry Exp. (Years)		
Shyam S. Bhartia	Chairman	Sudha Pillai	Independent Director	Rajesh Srivastava	CEO and Managing Director	35		
Hari S. Bhartia	Co-Chairman	Sushil Kumar Roongta	Independent Director	Anil Khubchandani	Co-CEO and Whole-Time Director - Specialty Chemicals	30		
Priyavrat Bhartia	Non-executive Director	Arun Seth	Independent Director	Chandan Singh	Co-CEO - Chemical Intermediates	36		
Arjun Shanker Bhartia Non-executive Director		Pradeep Banerjee	Independent Director	Sumit Das	SVP - Nutrition & Health Ingredients	30		
•		Tradeep Daneijee	independent Director	Ashish Kumar Sinha	VP - Animal & Human Nutrition & Health Solutions	24		
Rajesh Kumar Srivastava	CEO and Managing	Siraj Azmat Chaudhry	Independent Director	Prakash Bisht	President & CFO	33		
Shvastava	Director			Vijay Kumar Srivastav	a President- Chief of Operations	23		
Anil Khubchandani	Co- CEO and Whole-time	Ameeta Chatterjee	Independent Director	Vinita Koul	SVP & Head - HR	26		
Director				Prasad Joglekar	EVP & Head - Supply Chain	29		
Source: Company, P	L			Source: Company,	PL			

#### Source: Company, PL

#### 5 out of 7 key committees led by independent directors

Audit Committee	Sustainability &CSR Committee	Stakeholders Relationship Committee	Nomination, Remuneration & Compensation Committee	Risk Management Committee	Finance Committee	Listing Compliance Committee
Sushil Kumar Roongta*	Sudha Pillai*	Siraj Azmat Chaudhry*	Pradeep Banerjee*	Arun Seth*	Shyam S. Bhartia*	Shyam S. Bhartia*
Arun Seth	Hari S. Bhartia	Sushil Kumar Roongta	Shyam S. Bhartia*	Ameeta Chatterjee	Hari S. Bhartia	Hari S. Bhartia
Pradeep Banerjee	Arun Seth	Arun Seth	Hari S. Bhartia	Sudha Pillai	Priyavrat Bhartia	Rajesh Kumar Srivastava
Siraj Azmat Chaudhry	Sushil Kumar Roongta	Rajesh Kumar Srivastava	Sudha Pillai	Sushil Kumar Roongta	Rajesh Kumar Srivastava	
Ameeta Chatterjee	Pradeep Banerjee		Siraj Azmat Chaudhry	Pradeep Banerjee	Arjun Shanker Bhartia	
Arjun Shanker Bhartia	Ameeta Chatterjee		Ameeta Chatterjee	Siraj Azmat Chaudhry		
	Priyavrat Bhartia			Rajesh Kumar Srivastava		
	Rajesh Kumar Srivastava			Prakash Chandra Bisht		
	Arjun Shanker Bhartia			Arjun Shanker Bhartia		
				Priyavrat Bhartia		

Source: Company, PL

\*Chairperson of the Committee, Underlined personnel are independent members

# **Multi Location Manufacturing**

Manufacturing facilities - 50 plants across 5 sites in 3 states with enough land available at existing sites for future expansions



Gajraula, Uttar Pradesh, India

Integrated facility for Speciality Chemicals & Chemical Intermediates



Bharuch, Gujarat, India Speciality Chemicals, Nutrition & Health Ingredients & Chemical Intermediates facility located in SEZ



Nira, Maharashtra, India Chemical Intermediates



Samlaya, Gujarat, India Animal Nutrition & Health Solutions



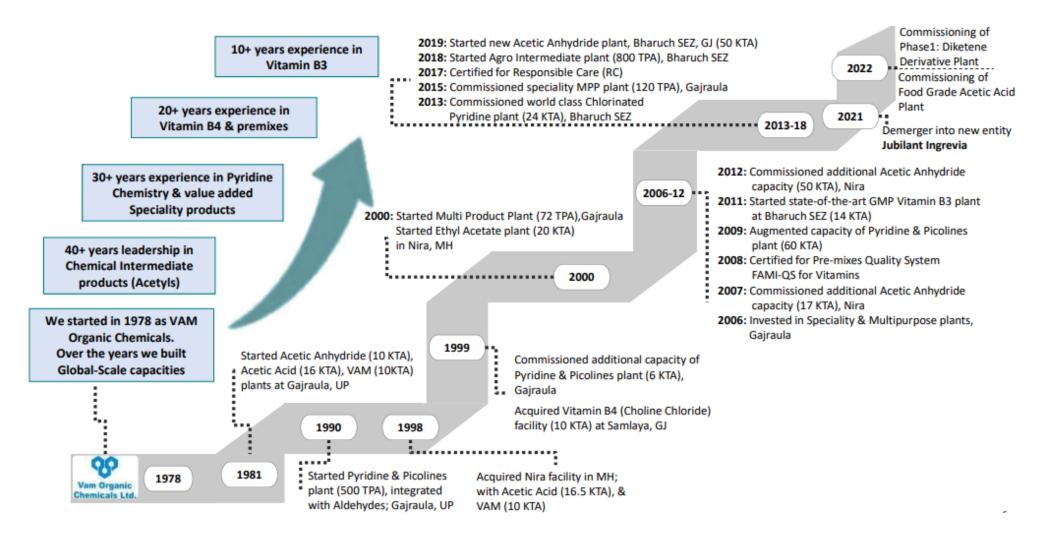
Ambernath, Maharashtra, India Speciality Chemicals

#### Source: Company, PL

#### **Operational highlights**

Multi-Chemistry, Multi-Product and Process Condition handling expertise	World Class GMP facility at Bharuch Temp, Humidity & Differential Pressure Controlled Areas with ISO-8 (Class 100,000) Clean rooms	Cryogenic & Plug Flow	In-house Utilities Captive Power Plant (Gajraula), Own Steam Generating Boilers, Chilled Water & Brine Unit	Ecologically Harmonized Practices Incinerators, ETPs, Multi Effect Evaporators, Reverse Osmosis, Water Polishing Plants	Health & Safety: benchmarking global performance by Chilworth Dekra- FY'07 & Chola MS- FY'21
Large capacities in Continuous & Batch processes					Compliance: 3,800+ compliance items through 'EY' Conformity tool

Source: Company, PL



### **Income Statement & Balance Sheet**

Y/e Mar	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	Y/e Mar	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Net Revenues	49,494	52,468	59,457	69,581	Non-Current Assets				
YoY gr. (%)	623.4	6.0	13.3	17.0					
Cost of Goods Sold	27,941	29,820	33,472	38,930	Gross Block	24,697	29,197	35,697	42,697
Gross Profit	21,552	22,648	25,985	30,651	Tangibles	24,473	28,973	35,473	42,473
Margin (%)	43.5	43.2	43.7	44.1	Intangibles	224	224	224	224
Employee Cost	3,273	3,463	3,865	4,523					
Other Expenses	9,961	11,910	12,486	13,916	Acc: Dep / Amortization	6,714	8,008	9,468	11,271
					Tangibles	6,583	7,876	9,337	11,140
EBITDA	8,318	7,275	9,635	12,212	Intangibles	131	131	131	131
YoY gr. (%)	610.2	(12.5)	32.4	26.8					
Margin (%)	16.8	13.9	16.2	17.6	Net fixed assets	17,983	21,189	26,229	31,426
					Tangibles	17,890	21,097	26,137	31,334
Depreciation and Amortization	1,234	1,293	1,460	1,803	Intangibles	93	93	93	93
EBIT	7,084	5,981	8,174	10,409	Capital Work In Progress	1,742	2,742	2,742	1,742
Margin (%)	14.3	11.4	13.7	15.0	Goodwill	-	-	-	-
					Non-Current Investments	67	67	67	67
Net Interest	309	162	220	228	Net Deferred tax assets	(1,220)	(1,220)	(1,220)	(1,220)
Other Income	315	220	165	298	Other Non-Current Assets	385	385	385	385
Profit Before Tax	7,090	6,040	8,120	10,479	Current Assets				
Margin (%)	14.3	11.5	13.7	15.1	Investments	-	-	-	-
					Inventories	9,112	9,344	10,263	12,010
Total Tax	2,322	1,933	2,598	3,353	Trade receivables	5,809	6,181	7,005	8,197
Effective tax rate (%)	32.8	32.0	32.0	32.0	Cash & Bank Balance	485	360	301	516
					Other Current Assets	2,235	2,370	2,685	3,142
Profit after tax	4,768	4,107	5,522	7,126	Total Assets	37,972	42,792	49,830	57,641
Minority interest	-	-	-	-					
Share Profit from Associate	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	Equity				
					Equity Share Capital	159	159	159	159
Adjusted PAT	4,767	4,107	5,521	7,125	Other Equity	24,172	27,568	32,134	38,027
YoY gr. (%)	608.3	(13.9)	34.5	29.0	Total Networth	24,331	27,727	32,293	38,186
Margin (%)	9.6	7.8	9.3	10.2					
Extra Ord. Income / (Exp)	-	-	-	-	Non-Current Liabilities				
		=			Long Term borrowings	997	997	1,897	1,397
Reported PAT	4,767	4,107	5,521	7,125	Provisions	679	719	802	939
YoY gr. (%)	777.0	(13.9)	34.5	29.0	Other non current liabilities	67	67	67	67
Margin (%)	9.6	7.8	9.3	10.2					
					Current Liabilities				
Other Comprehensive Income	899	-	-	-	ST Debt / Current of LT Debt	1,291	2,120	2,305	2,697
Total Comprehensive Income	5,666	4,107	5,521	7,125	Trade payables	7,978	8,457	9,584	11,216
Equity Shares O/s (m)	159	159	159	159	Other current liabilities	1,259	1,335	1,513	1,771
EPS (Rs)	30.0	25.8	34.7	44.8	Total Equity & Liabilities	37,972	42,792	49,830	57,641

# **Cash Flow & Key Ratios**

Y/e Mar	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	Y/e Mar	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
РВТ	7,089	6,039	8,120	10,478	Per Share(Rs)				
Add. Depreciation	1,234	1,293	1,460	1,803	EPS	30.0	25.8	34.7	44.8
Add. Interest	309	162	220	228	CEPS	37.7	34.0	43.9	56.2
Less Financial Other Income	315	220	165	298	BVPS	153.0	174.4	203.1	240.2
Add. Other	188	(220)	(165)	(298)	FCF	14.0	(2.2)	(1.4)	8.5
Op. profit before WC changes	8,821	7,274	9,634	12,212	DPS	5.0	4.5	6.0	7.8
Net Changes-WC	(3,012)	(198)	(789)	(1,558)	Return Ratio(%)				
Direct tax	(1,281)	(1,918)	(2,564)	(3,303)	RoCE	27.6	20.8	24.3	26.4
Net cash from Op. activities	4,527	5,158	6,282	7,350	ROIC	19.2	14.4	16.7	18.2
Capital expenditures	(2,276)	(5,500)	(6,500)	(6,000)	RoE	21.9	15.8	18.4	20.2
Interest / Dividend Income	13	220	165	298	Balance Sheet				
Others	1,544	-	-	-	Net Debt : Equity (x)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Net Cash from Invt. activities	(718)	(5,280)	(6,335)	(5,702)	Net Working Capital (Days)	51	49	47	47
Issue of share cap. / premium	(183)	-	-	-	Valuation(x)				
Debt changes	(3,188)	830	1,085	(108)	PER	15.4	17.9	13.3	10.3
Dividend paid	(452)	(710)	(955)	(1,233)	P/B	3.0	2.7	2.3	1.9
Interest paid	(330)	(162)	(220)	(228)	P/CEPS	12.3	13.6	10.5	8.2
Others	(14)	39	83	137	EV/EBITDA	9.1	10.5	8.0	6.3
Net cash from Fin. activities	(4,166)	(3)	(7)	(1,432)	EV/Sales	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.1
Net change in cash	(357)	(125)	(60)	216	Dividend Yield (%)	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.7
Free Cash Flow	2,226	(342)	(218)	1,350					

### Laxmi Organic Industries (LXCHEM IN) Rating: HOLD | CMP: Rs329 | TP: Rs335 | Mcap: Rs86.7bn

Net Sales         15,341         17,684         30,842         32,353         36,003         39,822         52-W High / Lo           Crowth (%)         2.2         15.2         74.4         4.0         14.2         10.6         52-W High / Lo	)w		
		Rs.628 / Rs.274	ŀ
Growth (%) -2.2 15.3 74.4 4.9 11.3 10.6 Sensex / Nifty	,	59,197 / 17,656	
EBITDA 1,135 2,167 3,677 3,720 4,691 5,613 Market Car		Rs.87bn/ \$ 1,09	1m
Growth (%) -25.3 90.9 69.7 1.2 26.1 19.7			
Margin (%) 7.4 12.3 11.9 11.5 13.0 14.1 Shares Outsta	-	265m	
Imagin (%)       7.4       72.3       71.9       71.3       73.0       74.7         Imagin (%)       647       1,702       3,184       3,078       3,776       4,521       3M Avg. Daily V         Imagin (%)       Net Interest       140       164       154       141       69       9	Value	Rs.491.38m	
ິ <u>ູ</u> ຍັ Net Interest 140 164 154 141 69 9			
<b>6</b> Other Income 45 46 149 60 149 298 Shareholding	Pattern (%)		
PBT 808 1,584 3,179 2,996 3,855 4,810 Promoter's			72.53
Total Tax 106 313 614 599 771 962			0.6
Auj. FA 1 444 1,270 2,304 2,397 3,064 3,646			
Growth (%) -38.6 185.9 101.8 -6.5 28.7 24.7 Domestic Inst			3.22
Gross Block 4,839 5,166 6,294 12,532 13,532 15,532 Public & Other	rs		23.66
Investments 145 507 218 218 218 218 Promoter Plea	dge (Rs bn)		-
b Inventories 1,519 2,033 3,736 3,989 4,439 4,910			
δ         €         Trade receivables         3,594         4,346         6,684         6,648         7,398         8,183         Stock Perform	nance (%)		
ខ្ម័ន្ល Cash & Bank Balance 363 5,394 1,822 616 2,169 4,172	1M	6M	12M
Equity Share Capital 450 527 527 527 527 527			
Total Netw orth 4,269 10,346 13,007 15,164 17,940 21,403 Absolute	5.3		-32.9
Borrow ings 1,588 1,411 1,333 1,141 77 77 Relative	3.9	-25.8	-33.9
Trade payables         4,116         4,750         7,117         7,091         7,891         8,728			
Net cash from Op. activities 1,955 1,062 457 2,803 3,838 4,094 Price Chart			
<b>Ê Ê</b> Net Cash from Invt. activities -559 -6,410 738 -2,448 -851 -1,702			
Net cash from Fin. activities         -1,232         5,274         -1,242         -569         -1,434         -389         (Rs)			
Net cash from Op. activities       1,955       1,062       457       2,803       3,838       4,094       Price Chart         Net Cash from Invt. activities       -559       -6,410       738       -2,448       -851       -1,702         Net cash from Fin. activities       -1,232       5,274       -1,242       -569       -1,434       -389       (Rs)         Net change in cash       165       -75       -47       -214       1,553       2,003         Free Coach Flow       1484       90       2,625       607       2,838       2,004       600			
Free Cash Flow         1,184         -89         -2,635         -697         2,838         2,094           EPS (Rs)         9.9         4.8         9.7         9.1         11.7         14.6	When		
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	1 pour pour		
BPVS (Rs) 94.8 39.2 49.3 57.5 68.0 81.2	1 man pro man	( <sup>C</sup> M	
DPS (Rs) - 0.3 0.5 0.9 1.2 1.5	p in th	har .	
	[	- Land	
Solution         RoCE (%)         10.7         19.3         24.4         20.1         22.0         22.9           RoE (%)         10.1         17.4         22.0         17.0         18.6         19.6           Net Debt : Equity (x)         0.3         -0.4         -0.0         0.0         -0.1         -0.2           Net Working Capital (Days)         23.7         33.6         39.1         40.0         40.0         40.0	~~~~	~	
Net Debt : Equity (x) 0.3 -0.4 -0.0 0.0 -0.1 -0.2			
Net Working Capital (Days) 23.7 33.6 39.1 40.0 40.0 40.0			
ŇŇ	- 21	Jun - 22 Aug - 22	
PE (x)         33.3         68.2         33.8         36.2         28.1         22.5           P/B (x)         3.5         8.4         6.7         5.7         4.8         4.0	Sep- Mar-	Jun	
EV / EBITDA (x) 14.1 38.1 23.4 23.4 18.0 14.7			
Dividend Yield (%) - 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.4			

### **Investment Argument**

We initiate coverage on Laxmi Organic Industries Ltd (LXCHEM) with 'HOLD' rating at SOTP based target price of Rs335 (implied consol Sep'24E EV/EBITDA of 17x and PE of 25x). LXCHEM, a leading Acetyl Intermediates (AI) player, is moving up the value chain through Specialty Intermediates (SI) as it leverages its core chemistry and strong portfolio of ketene/ diketene derivatives with applications across agro, pharma, pigments etc. Moreover, the company is diversifying into fluorochemicals (FI) after acquiring assets of Miteni, Italy (erstwhile manufacturer of organic fluorospecialties and electrochemical fluorination). While SI revenue visibility increases through long term contracts from global majors, FI business faces time and cost overruns, and is likely to scale up gradually once commissioned in H2FY23. Acetyls and Specialty intermediates (AI & SI) will remain LXCHEM's core businesses in the medium term, while Fluorochemicals will be a long term earnings driver. We believe, EBITDA contribution from higher value segments (SI+FI) will increase to ~70% by FY25E from ~55% in FY22 as SI EBITDA grows at ~22% CAGR and FI earnings commence in H2FY23. Al (commoditised business) to witness moderate EBITDA growth of ~5% CAGR over FY22-25E (on realisation and margin normalisation from elevated base of FY22), despite healthy volume growth driven by YCPL acquisition and debottlenecking. While we like LXCHEM's stronghold in both AI and SI business, we believe that FI scale up will be gradual, while most positives are factored in its valuations. Initiate 'HOLD'.

- Specialty Intermediates to drive business mix improvement: LXCHEM is India's only manufacturer of diketene derivatives with technology to offer complete product range across segments (JUBLINGR entered this space in Q4FY22). Its domestic market share stands at ~55% (balance with MNCs) and its well positioned to substitute imports from other countries like Europe and China. Thrust to rejig SI product basket with ramp up in newer products (higher margin) and rising share from high value products like Esters (end use in pharma) augur well for operating margin. SI revenue visibility increased through long-term contracts for such high-value products, including an agreement for sale of an intermediate to a large global innovator. This could drive a steep jump in the company's revenue and earnings. We expect SI revenue/EBITDA to grow at 17%/22% CAGR (FY22-25E), led by margin accretive value added products.
- Fluorochemicals to be a long term earnings driver: LXCHEM is diversifying into Fluorochemicals with acquisition of assets of Miteni, Italy and capitalising on its R&D and portfolio (capabilities for >100 products with an initial basket of 10 products in R&D and scale-up stages with 14 patents and 41 REACH registrations). Its strategy is to leverage existing relationships in agro and pharma sector for entry into fluorochemicals and to capture market share of Miteni, utilizing its existing chemistries and past customer base. While the technical knowhow to make fluorochemicals has been acquired, commercial success will be achieved only over the longer term, as re-establishing Miteni's lost market share (non-operational for >4 years) or establishing own presence through understanding of customers production processes, products approvals and alignment with customers supply chains, will be gradual.
- Acetyl Intermediates business is a cash cow: LXCHEM is one of the largest manufacturers of Ethyl Acetate (ETAC) with >33% domestic market share, and added 29k mtpa post YCPL acquisition while debottlenecking added 32k mtpa, thereby taking total ETAC capacity to 188k mtpa (total AI capacity to 232k mtpa). ETAC, a highly versatile solvent with applications across multiple high growth industries like pharma, agro-chemicals, flexible packaging, auto coatings and printing inks is estimated to grow at ~4% CAGR over 2021-31 (globally). It is preferred over traditional petro-based solvents given (a) its lower toxicity to humans (bio-based origin) (b) higher evaporation rate among solvents and (c) low impact input (in terms of relative cost in final product). Al is a cash cow for LXCHEM, whereby it can leverage infrastructure and scale for cost synergies. We expect revenue to remain flat over FY22-25E despite increase in volume, as product prices normalise, while EBITDA growth to be ~5% CAGR over FY22-25E.

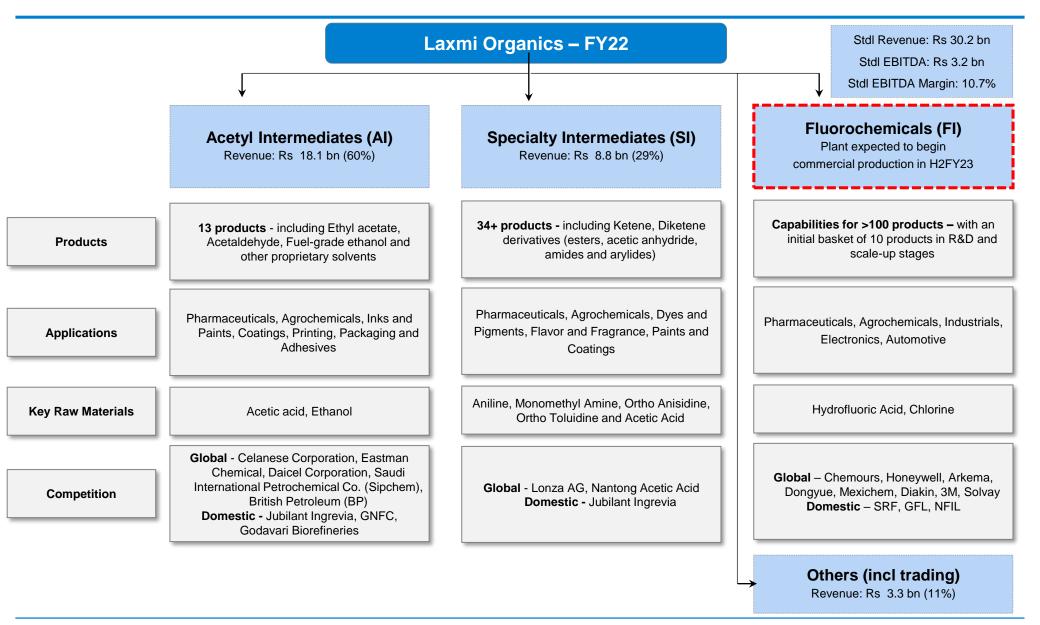
### About the company

- Laxmi Organic Industries Limited (LXCHEM) is a leading manufacturer of Acetyl Intermediates (AI) and Specialty Intermediates (SI). The company started with acetaldehyde and acetic acid in 1992, moved to ethyl acetate in 1996 and currently has three decades of large scale chemical manufacturing experience. It pursued growth by leveraging scale and size in the AI segment and R&D in SI segment to move up the value chain.
- It is amongst the largest Indian manufacturers and exporters of ethyl acetate with >33% domestic market share post capacity enhancement through acquisition of Yellowstone Chemicals (YCPL) adding 29k mtpa and debottlenecking adding 32k mtpa. Its also among the leading suppliers of fuel grade ethanol to OMCs under oil blending program of the government.
- LXCHEM entered the SI space in 2010 through acquisition of Clariant's diketene business. Until JUBLINGR entered diketene derivatives in FY22,
   LXCHEM was the only domestic manufacturer of diketene derivative products with ~55% market share having one of the largest portfolios of diketene products.
- Currently, LXCHEM is diversifying into fluorochemicals through acquisition of Miteni's assets (manufacturer of organic fluorospecialties and electrochemical fluorination) relocating to its new manufacturing facility in India, to be commissioned in H2FY23.

#### LXCHEM's journey

1992	1996	2004-06	2008	2010	2011	2012-13	2018-19	2020	2021	2022
Al manufacturing - Glacial Acetic Acid	Ethyl Acetate manufacturing	• 2 windmills of 0.6MW each (Karnataka) and 1 windmill of 1.25MW (Maharashtra), ISO 9001-2000 certification	Expansion of ETAC to 51k mtpa, Distillery setup in Jarandeshwar	Clariant's Diketene business acquired, expansion into Diketene and its derivatives (SI facility commissioned)		Incorporation of subsidiaries LOBV (Europe), Laxmi	Hydro Power Project: at Yedgaon, 2 <sup>nd</sup> R&D centre at Rabale	from Miteni, Italy – Entry into	agreement for YCPL acquisition, Listing	up US subsidiary,

### **Business overview**

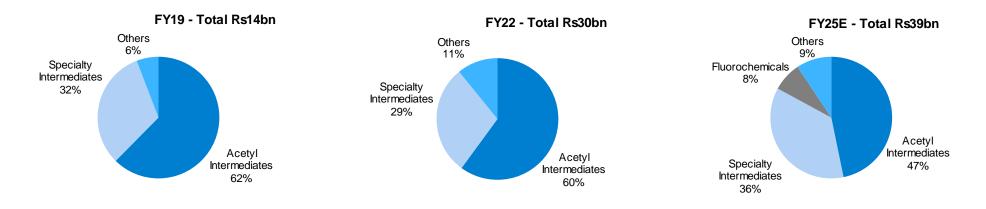


# **Story in charts**



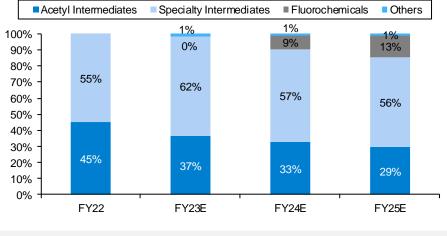
# Rising contribution of higher value business to reduce earnings volatility

Revenue share of higher value segments (Specialty Intermediates + Fluorochemicals) to increase to 44% in FY25E from 29% in FY22



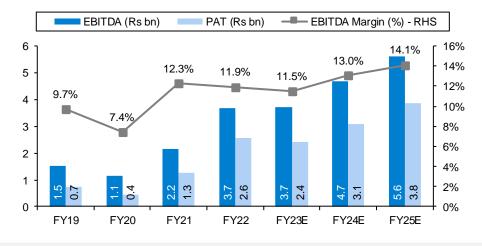
Source: Company, PL

#### EBITDA mix improvement with high value business share at 70% by FY25E



Source: Company, PL Segment wise EBITDA as per our assumptions (not reported by company)

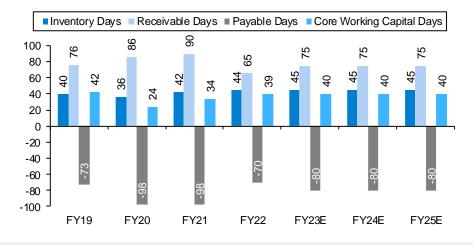
Gradual improvement in margin profile with lower AI concentration



#### Source: Company, PL

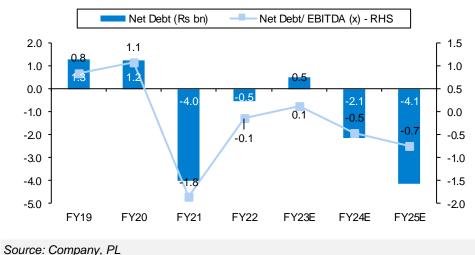
# Strong cash flow aided by healthy profitability; return ratios to improve

#### Stable working capital days

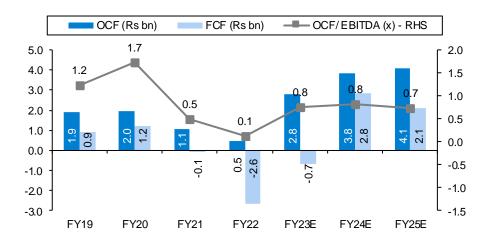


Source: Company, PL

#### Debt metrics comfortable despite ~Rs 10 bn capex over FY22-25E

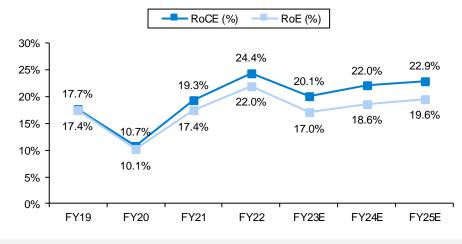


#### Strong OCF generation (~Rs 11 bn over FY23-25E) to aid capex



Source: Company, PL

#### Steady return ratios (cyclical high in FY22 led by AI business)



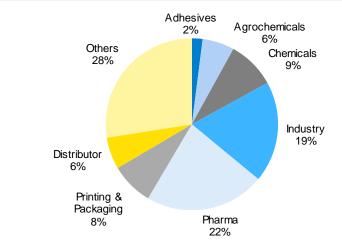
#### Source: Company, PL

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### **De-risked business model with diversified end-use segments**

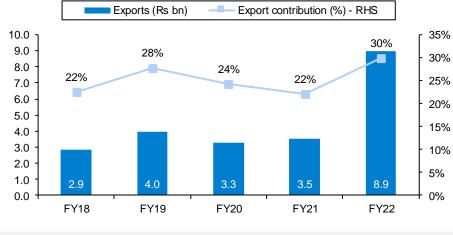
- LXCHEM has a diversified portfolio of >50 products catering to pharma, agro, paints & coatings, printing & packaging, dyes & pigments etc.
- Domestic demand for underlying industries is growing at mid double digit levels over last 5 years and expected to maintain its trajectory over next 5 years, while global demand is growing at ~ 7% CAGR.
- It has a global footprint with offices in Europe, China, Middle-East with stock points in key markets and marguee customers in >40 countries.
- Its top 10 customers contribute to 41% of its revenues.



#### Diversified customer base (% of rev from sale of manufactured products)

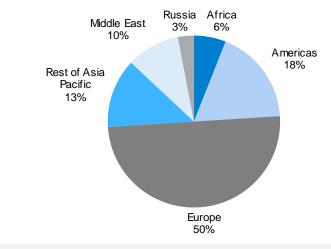


### Rising export contribution...









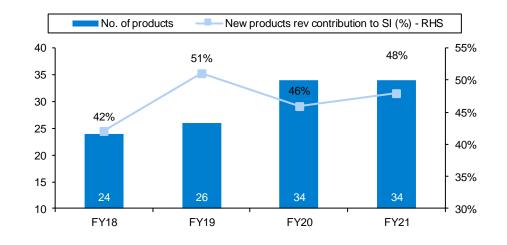
Source: Company, PL

**Specialty Intermediates (SI) to drive business mix improvement** 



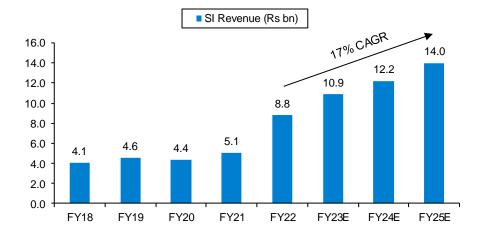
### Specialty Intermediates (SI) scaling up through new products addition...

- Specialty Intermediates commenced by acquiring Clariant's diketene business in 2010 to capitalise on synergies between SI and AI business. It has scaled up over the years through addition of capacity and new products through R&D efforts (20 new products) contributing ~48% to SI revenue.
- LXCHEM is amongst few companies worldwide with technology that can cater to a complete range of diketene derivatives having versatile and high growth applications in pharmaceuticals, agrochemicals, dyes, pigments, vitamins, flavours & fragrance, paints & coatings, stabilizers for PVC and polyester.
- Substitution of import mainly from Europe and China, has been the key strategy, thereby rapidly gaining domestic market share (~55%) through R&D efforts and customer relationships. LXCHEM was the only diketene derivatives manufacturer in India, until recently (JUBLINGR being the new entrant).
- LXCHEM has acquired crucial international business, as its recent long-term contracts in high value products (intermediates for large global innovators) provide incremental revenue visibility. Its in the process of expanding its SI manufacturing capacity for these products (partly commenced in Q1FY23, balance expected by Q3FY23). Successful implementation of these capexes will drive increase in exports and contract manufacturing business.
- Growing revenue share from contract manufacturing for global and local customers to be company's primary focus given its sticky business nature. The business will also get traction from changes in sourcing strategies of global customers on geopolitical realignment. We expect SI revenue to grow at 17% CAGR (over FY22-25E) led by new and value added products, whereby new projects (long term contracts) will contribute ~15% of SI revenue from FY23E onwards.



#### Continuous new product additions\* backed by R&D

### New product additions and long term contracts to drive 17% revenue CAGR



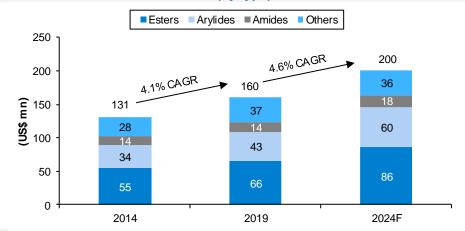
### ...and moving up in the value chain

**Endeavour to constantly move up the value chain:** Unlike the acetyls, endeavour in SI is to constantly move up the value chain, develop & perfect chemistry adjacencies, leverage R&D and scale-up expertise. It's a multiproduct business built on multiple synergies.

#### Focus on high value SI products, with stronghold in ketene/diketene:

- LXCHEM is focused on high value SI products like Esters (end use in pharma) which led its revenue growth and margin improvement over last few years v/s high volume products like Arylides (end use in pigments).
- It has a stronghold in ketene and its dimer diketene, which serve as starting material for many intermediates mainly used for production of pigments, drugs, agrochemicals, paper etc.

#### Indian diketene derivatives market (by type)

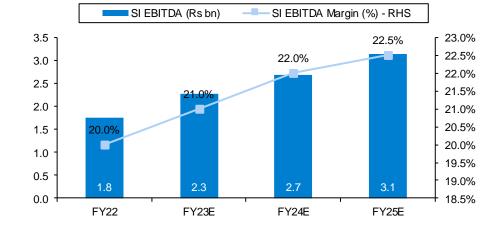


Source: Industry, PL **Applications:** Amides > Agrochemicals, Arylides > Colours and pigments, Acetic anhydride > Multiple uses including pharma, Esters > Pharma

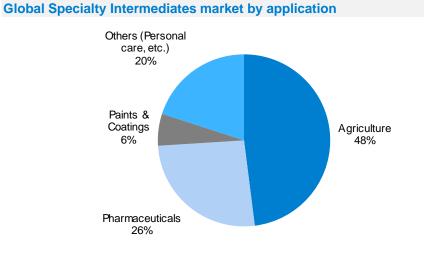
#### Efficient and well synergised operations

- <u>Raw material & process synergies:</u> Acetic acid and ethanol are common RMs for both AI and SI, thereby driving lower effective costs (volume discounts). Additionally, LXCHEM has process synergies for new products.
- <u>Supply chain synergies:</u> Its manufacturing facilities (including YCPL) are located close to each other, thereby ensuring greater logistic synergies and operational efficiencies. Its power facilities (co-gen, windmills, hydro) ensure steady supply of steam for AI and power for SI.
- <u>Similar customer base</u>: Further, it benefits from synergies in customer base between AI and SI businesses, as both cater to similar industries (pharmaceuticals, agro-chemicals, paints & coatings etc).

#### EBITDA margin to improve with rising contribution of high value products



# Industry well poised for growth

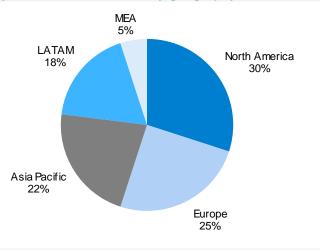


#### Growth trend of Global Specialty Intermediates market

Global Specialty Intermediates Market US\$bn	FY14	FY19	FY24F F	CAGR Y 19-FY24F
Pharmaceutical Intermediates	23	30	40	6-7%
Agrochemical Intermediates	45	58	74	5-6%
Pigment Intermediates	4	5	7	5.5-6.5%
Others (personal care, etc.)	18	22	27	4.5-5.5%
Total	90	115	148	5%
India Specialty Intermediates Market US\$bn	FY14	FY19	FY24F F	CAGR Y 19-FY24F
Pharma Intermediates	2.5	4.2	7.1	11.30%
Agrochemical Intermediates	1.0	1.5	2.3	8.90%
Pigment Intermediates	0.3	0.5	0.8	9.20%
Others	0.2	0.4	0.6	6.40%
	4.0	6.6	10.8	10.4%

Source: Industry, PL

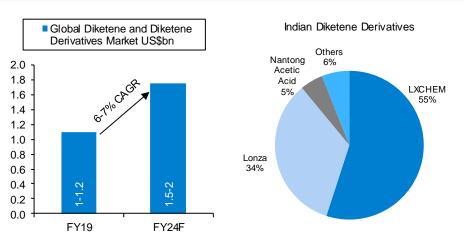
#### **Global Specialty Intermediates market by geography**



Source: Industry, PL

### Source: Industry, PL

#### **Diketene and Diketene Derivatives Market**



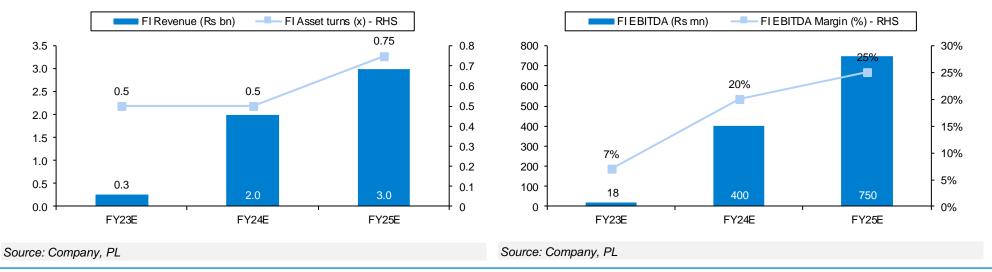
Source: Industry, PL

# Fluorochemicals (FI) to be a long term earnings driver

# Diversifying into fluorochemicals through acquisition of Miteni, Italy

- Entry into fluorochemicals: LXCHEM is diversifying into fluorochemicals through acquisition of assets of Miteni, Italy (erstwhile manufacturer of organic fluorospecialties and electrochemical fluorination), to be relocated to its new manufacturing facility at Lote Parshuram, Maharashtra.
- Access to technology, equipments and patents: Miteni acquisition gives access to technology, equipments and a library of >100 products including products in R&D and scale-up stages with 14 patents, 41 REACH registrations, formulations, production and R&D data.
- Strategy to regain Miteni's market share: LXCHEM's strategy is to leverage existing customer relationships in agrochemicals, pharma, dyes & pigments, cosmetics, flavours and fragrances for its fluorochemicals market entry and to capture Miteni's market share utilizing its chemistries and past customer base.
- Thrust on R&D: R&D kilo lab in India has commenced with several trial runs completed and samples for 8-10 products approved by customers.
- De-risk its current dependence on highly volatile raw materials: The local availability of raw materials (including chlorine and hydrofluoric acid) helps to derisk its current dependence on highly volatile raw materials, especially acetic acid and ethanol and associated high foreign currency exposure (imports).
- Project under implementation, to commence in H2FY23: Civil and structural work is close to completion at its new site at Lote Parshuram, Maharashtra, while technology transfer from Italy progresses well (aided by R&D and Kilo lab facility). Till FY22, total spend was Rs 2.05 bn.

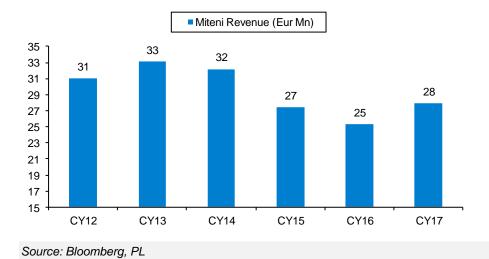
EBITDA margin to be inline with Indian fluorochemicals peer group



#### Fluorochemicals revenue ramp up to be gradual

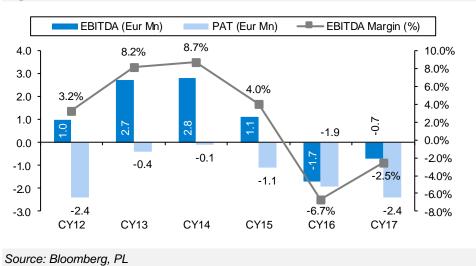
# Miteni's history and the way forward for LXCHEM

- Steady revenue and contribution margin: Miteni generated revenue of over Eur25mn/ year and >30% contribution margin prior to bankruptcy which was due to (1) high environmental litigation cost and (2) high manpower cost.
- Background: Miteni was controlled by the International Chemical Investors Group (ICIG), which acquired it from Japanese Mitsubishi Corp. in 2009. The company was originally Rimar Chimica (R&D arm of Marzotto Textile Group which later expanded to electrochemical fluorination) and was acquired jointly by Mitsubishi (49%) and an Italian company Enichem (51%) then renamed Miteni. In 1996, Mitsubishi acquired Enichem's 51% stake and got complete control.
- Environment litigation and bankruptcy: Miteni shut down and an Italian court declared it bankrupt in 2018. In 2013, the Italian government's National Research Council produced a study implicating Miteni in large-scale water pollution and water contamination across the Veneto Region in northeast Italy (large quantities of Per and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) leaking into water sources around the chemical manufacturing plant, contaminating drinking water).
- Returns only over long term: While LXCHEM acquired the technical knowhow to make fluorochemicals through Miteni's acquisition, commercial success is likely to be achieved only over long term, as establishing itself and re-establishing Miteni's lost market share (non-operational for >4 years) may be a tall task. Fluorochemicals involves developing strong understanding of customers production processes, alignment with customers supply chains and long approval cycles. While fluorine based organic and inorganic chemical products are gaining traction in the Indian market, it continues to remain highly competitive with presence of established players like SRF, Navin Fluorine and GFL.



#### Miteni generated over Eur25mn/ year prior to bankruptcy

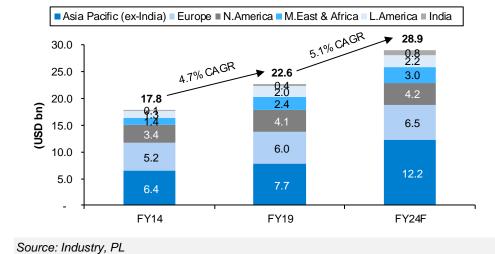
#### Higher environment related overheads led to losses



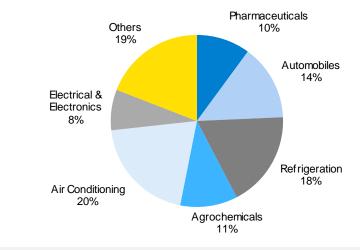
# Fluorine derivatives find extensive usage in high growth applications

- Fluorine derivatives find extensive use in multiple applications like agrochemicals, pharma, electronics, textile, paints and coatings and are a strong local play in terms of raw materials (AHF and Chlorine) and markets (Pharmaceuticals and Agrochemicals).
- Fluorine chemistry gaining traction: As per industry reports, ~20% of pharmaceuticals contain a fluorine atom and ~50% of agrochemical molecules developed recently also contain fluorine. In future, 1 in every 3 new APIs will be based on fluorine chemistry and thus fluorine based organic and inorganic chemicals are gaining traction in the Indian market.
- Fluorine based intermediates are expected to grow fastest (>15%) LXCHEM's presence in intermediates augurs well, as India is moving towards in-house manufacturing of many actives and intermediates, substituting imports from China.



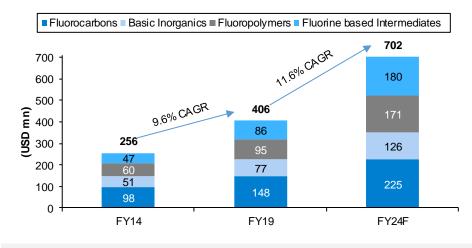






Source: Industry, PL

#### Indian Fluorochemicals market (by type)



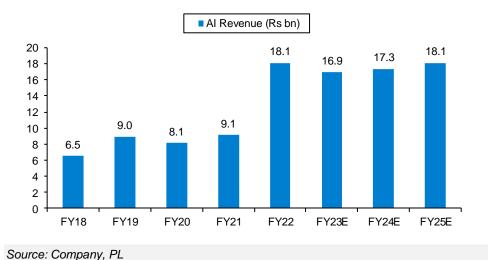
Source: Industry, PL

Acetyl Intermediates (AI) business is a cash cow



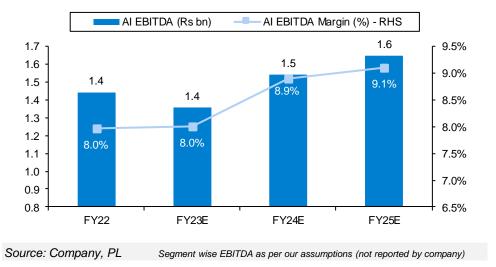
# **LXCHEM** is the largest Indian player in Ethyl Acetate and top 6 globally

- Ethyl Acetate (ETAC) is the largest revenue contributor to Al segment: LXCHEM's Al segment comprises of 13 products including ETAC, acetaldehyde and fuel-grade ethanol, while ETAC is largest contributor to revenue (>80% of Al). ETAC, a highly versatile solvent with applications across multiple high growth industries like pharma, agro-chemicals, flexible packaging, auto coatings and printing inks, is estimated to grow at ~3.9% CAGR over 2021-31.
- LXCHEM is amongst the largest Indian manufacturers and exporters of ETAC: LXCHEM's domestic ETAC market share stands enhanced (>33%) with completion of YCPL acquisition adding 29k mtpa and debottlenecking adding 32k mtpa, taking total ETAC capacity to 188k mtpa (total AI capacity to 232k mtpa). Its also the largest exporter of ETAC from India and among largest exporters to Europe since 2012 (only Indian company with direct presence in Europe).
- Strategically located manufacturing facilities and supply chain efficiencies: Its manufacturing facilities are in proximity to several ports including Nhava Sheva and Mumbai Port, ensuring ready port access, given its high raw material import dependence (especially acetic acid).
- Distillery operations provide effective control over raw materials and reduce external dependence for ethanol: It's two in-house distilleries in Satara and Kolhapur support both ethyl acetate and ethanol for oil blending businesses, acting as feeder plants to both AI and SI businesses.
- Al is a cash cow for LXCHEM, whereby it can leverage infrastructure and scale for cost synergies: This vertical involves high volume, low value/ margin products, whereby LXCHEM's strategy is to maintain/gradually increase market share (low capex). We expect revenue to remain flat over FY22-25E despite increase in volume as product prices normalise, while EBITDA growth to be ~5% CAGR over FY22-25E. While the company doesn't disclose segment wise profitability separately, these estimates are as per our best judgement and workings.



#### FY22-25E revenue growth to be flat despite healthy volume growth

#### 6% EBITDA CAGR (FY22-25E); % margin normalization on lower realizations



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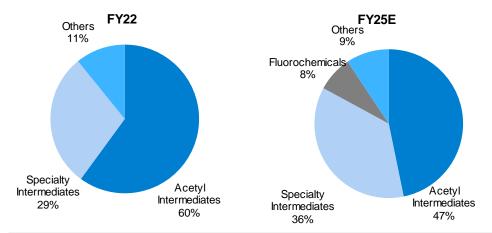
Financials Outlook & Valuation Key Risks



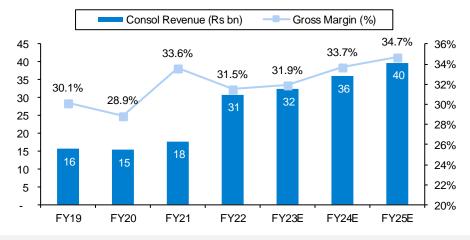
# Rising contribution of higher value business to reduce earnings volatility

High value business (SI+FI) revenue contribution to rise to 44% by FY25E

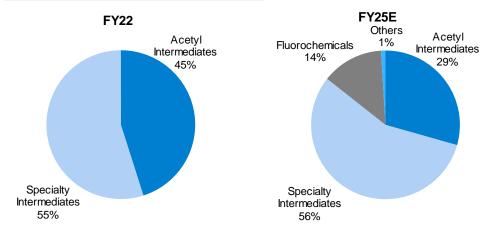
High value business (SI+FI) EBITDA contribution to rise to 70% by FY25E



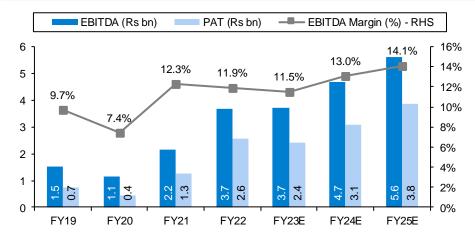
#### 9% revenue CAGR (FY22-25E) despite flat AI rev; GM to improve steadily



SI revenue to grow at 17% CAGR (FY22-25E) and FI to add Rs 3bn to revenue in FY25E, while AI revenue remains flat over FY22-25E despite increase in volume, (as product prices normalize from elevated base of FY22). Rising contribution of high value business (SI+FI) to aid steady gross margin improvement.



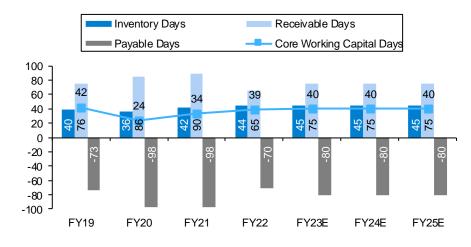
#### Gradual improvement in overall margin profile with lower AI concentration



SI EBITDA to grow at ~22% CAGR (FY22-25E) and FI to add ~Rs0.8bn in FY25, while AI witnesses moderate 5% EBITDA CAGR aided by higher volume. Higher share of higher value businesses (SI+FI) to aid reduced earnings volatility while LXCHEM registers PAT growth of 14% CAGR (FY22-25E).

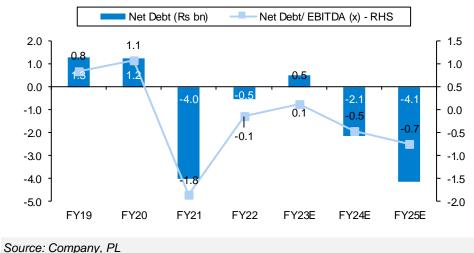
# Strong cash flow aided by healthy profitability; return ratios to improve

#### Stable working capital days

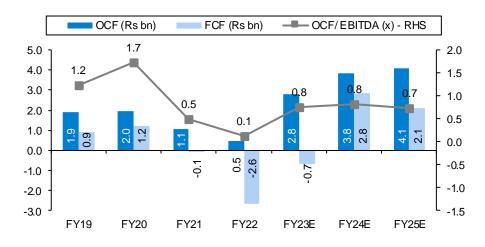


Source: Company, PL

#### Debt metrics comfortable despite ~Rs 10 bn capex over FY22-25E

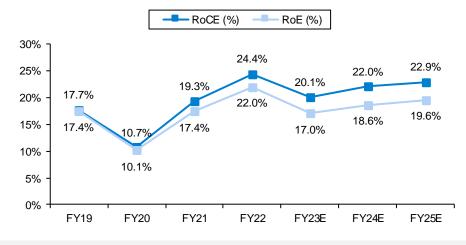


#### Strong OCF generation (~Rs 11 bn over FY23-25E) to aid capex



Source: Company, PL

#### Steady return ratios (cyclical high in FY22 led by Al business)



#### Source: Company, PL

Source. Company,

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### **Valuation - SOTP**

We value LXCHEM on SoTP basis, given the difference in business dynamics and growth prospects of its three business segments, and initiate coverage with 'HOLD' rating at target price of Rs335 (implied consol Sep'24E EV/EBITDA of 17x and PE of 25x)

- Specialty Intermediates (SI): We value LXCHEM's SI business at 22x 1year forward EV/EBITDA (~10% discount to domestic specialty chemicals sector average) given presence of Acetic Anhydride (commoditized product – JUBLINGR classifies it under CI segment). LXCHEM's strength in diketene derivatives (~55% market share) coupled with increasing revenue visibility in SI through long-term contracts from global innovators, gives comfort. Ramp up in newer products and higher share from high value sub-segments like esters augur well for operating margins. We expect SI revenue/EBITDA to grow at 17%/22% CAGR (FY22-25E), led by margin accretive value added products.
- Fluorochemicals (FI): We value LXCHEM's fluorochemicals business at 18x 1-yr forward EV/EBITDA implying ~50% discount to Navin Fluorine (pure-play on fluorination), as there may be execution risks in ramping a new business area, and may involve challenges in terms of plant commissioning and acceptance/approvals by customers for its products. Cost and time overruns may also impact return profile (expected commissioning in H2FY23). We believe, commercial success is likely to be achieved only over long term as establishing itself and re-establishing Miteni's lost market share (non-operational for >4 years) to be gradual.
- Acetyl Intermediates (AI): We value the commoditized Acetyl Intermediates business at 8x 1-yr forward EV/EBITDA, largely in-line with comparable global peers (Celanese, Eastman, Daicel). We expect revenue to remain flat (over FY22-25E) despite increase in volume, as product prices normalize, while EBITDA growth to be ~5% CAGR.

#### Laxmi Organic Industries (LXCHEM) - Initiate HOLD with TP Rs 335

SOTP	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	CAGR (FY22-25E)
EBITDA (Rs mn)					
Specialty Intermediates	1,754	2,283	2,683	3,147	22%
Fluorochemicals	-	18	400	750	
Acetyl Intermediates	1,441	1,355	1,540	1,645	5%
Subsidiaries & Others	483	64	67	71	
Consolidated EBITDA (Rs mn)	3,677	3,720	4,691	5,613	15%
EV/EBITDA Target Multiple (x)				Sep-24	
Specialty Intermediates				22	
Fluorochemicals				18	
Acetyl Intermediates				8	
Subsidiaries & Others				6	
Enterprise Value (Rs mn)				Sep-24	Per Share
Specialty Intermediates				63,983	243
Fluorochemicals				10,350	39
Acetyl Intermediates				12,743	48
Subsidiaries & Others				415	2
Enterprise Value (Rs mn)				87,491	332
Less: Net Debt and Investments				824	3
Equity Value / MCap (Rs mn)				88,314	335
Fair Value / Target Price (Rs)				335	
Source: PL					

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### **Key Risks**

- Execution risks in Fluorochemicals: There may be execution risks in ramping up fluorochemicals as its a new product line and may involve challenges in terms of plant commissioning and acceptance/approvals by customers for its products. Further cost and time overruns may also impact return profile.
- Raw material concentration risk: Acetic acid, a common raw material for AI & SI business has witnessed significant volatility in prices historically. Further, availability and pricing of ethanol may also impact margin. LXCHEM typically does not enter into long-term contracts with suppliers, thus may witness earnings impact. Despite covering purchases to an extent, its still exposed and has to absorb fluctuations in the RM prices (if any), which may adversely impact margins, though SI acts as a partial buffer for AI.
- Geographic concentration of all manufacturing facilities: All of its plants (including CPP housed in Al plant) are located in Mahad, Maharashtra. Further, it is
  also in the process to set up fluorospecialty chemicals facility in Lote Parshuram, Maharashtra. It also has two distilleries located in Maharashtra.
- Handling of hazardous chemicals: Some raw materials (eg. acetic acid) and finished products (eg. acetic anhydride) are corrosive and flammable and require expert handling and storage.
- Foreign exchange risks: Financial losses due to unfavorable movement in any currency, especially Europe, North America and Asia.

# Appendix



### Key management personnel and board of directors

- LAXMI has a strong and well experienced Board, supported by functional heads and key managerial personnel who actively participate in strategies, operations
  and business development. The company's promoter, Ravi Goenka, who is also its Chairman and Managing Director, has extensive experience in chemicals
  industry and has played a significant role in development of the business.
- Company's key managerial personnel are experienced across various functions such as finance, legal and secretarial and business development, while its Independent Directors are experienced and qualified professionals from varied fields such as the securities market, banking and human resources.

Key Managerial Personnel

Board of Directors		Rey Managenal Personnel			
Board members	Designations	Members	Designation		
Ravi Goenka	Chairman and Managing Director	Ravi Goenka	Chairman and Managing Director		
Satej Nabar	Executive Director and CEO	Satej Nabar	Executive Director and CEO		
Harshvardhan Goenka	Executive Director - Strategy and Business Development	Harshvardhan Goenka	Executive Director - Strategy and Business Development		
Rajeev Goenka	Non-Executive Director	Partha Roy Chowdhury^	President Corporate and CFO		
Manish Chokhani	Independent Director	Tanushree Bagrodia <sup>^</sup>	CFO		
O.V. Bundellu	Independent Director	Aniket Hirpara	Company Secretary & VP		
Sangeeta Singh	Independent Director	Source: Company DI			
Dr. Rajeev Vaidya	Independent Director	Source: Company, PL			
Dr. Rajiv Banavali	Independent Director				

#### **Board of Directors**

Source: Company, PL

#### 5 out of 6 key committees led by independent directors

Audit Committee	CSR Committee	Stakeholders Relationship Committee	Nomination and Remuneration Committee	Risk Management Committee	Finance Committee
O.V. Bundellu*	Ravi Goenka*	Manish Chokhani*	Sangeeta Singh*	<u>Dr. Rajeev Vaidya*</u>	O.V. Bundellu*
Sangeeta Singh	Sangeeta Singh	Ravi Goenka	Manish Chokhani	Satej Nabar	Ravi Goenka
Ravi Goenka	Rajeev Goenka	Harshvardhan Goenka	<u>Dr. Rajeev Vaidya</u>	Harshvardhan Goenka	Satej Nabar
				<u>Dr. Rajiv Banavali</u>	

Source: Company, PL \*Chairperson of the Committee, Underlined personnel are independent members

### **Income Statement & Balance Sheet**

Y/e Mar	- V ') ')	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	Y/e Mar	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Net Revenues	FY22 30,842	32,353	36,003	39,822	Non-Current Assets	F122	FIZJE	FIZ4L	FIZJE
YoY gr. (%)	74.4	4.9	11.3	10.6	Non-Ourient Assets				
Cost of Goods Sold	21,125	22,037	23,879	25,997	Gross Block	6,294	12,532	13,532	15,532
Gross Profit	9,717	10,316	12,124	13,825	Tangibles	6,269	12,507	13,507	15,507
Margin (%)	31.5	31.9	33.7	34.7	Intangibles	26	26	26	26
Employee Cost	1,244	1,394	1,645	1,809	initiality.coo	_0	20		
Other Expenses	4,796	5,202	5,789	6,403	Acc: Dep / Amortization	2,383	3,026	3,940	5,033
	,	-, -	-,	-,	Tangibles	2,365	3,008	3,922	5,015
EBITDA	3,677	3,720	4,691	5,613	Intangibles	18	18	18	18
YoY qr. (%)	69.7	1.2	26.1	19.7	5				
Margin (%)	11.9	11.5	13.0	14.1	Net fixed assets	3,911	9,506	9,592	10,500
					Tangibles	3,903	9,499	9,584	10,492
Depreciation and Amortization	493	642	915	1,092	Intangibles	8	8	8	8
					-				
EBIT	3,184	3,078	3,776	4,521	Capital Work In Progress	3,738	1,000	1,000	1,000
Margin (%)	10.3	9.5	10.5	11.4	Goodwill	33	33	33	33
					Non-Current Investments	178	178	178	178
Net Interest	154	141	69	9	Net Deferred tax assets	(215)	(215)	(215)	(215)
Other Income	149	60	149	298	Other Non-Current Assets	63	63	63	63
Profit Before Tax	3,179	2,996	3,855	4,810	Current Assets				
Margin (%)	10.3	9.3	10.7	12.1	Investments	40	40	40	40
0 ( )					Inventories	3,736	3,989	4,439	4,910
Total Tax	614	599	771	962	Trade receivables	6,684	6,648	7,398	8,183
Effective tax rate (%)	19.3	20.0	20.0	20.0	Cash & Bank Balance	1,822	616	2,169	4,172
					Other Current Assets	768	806	395	436
Profit after tax	2,565	2,397	3,084	3,848	Total Assets	22,675	24,663	27,288	31,704
Minority interest	1	-	-	-					
Share Profit from Associate	-	-	-	-	Equity				
					Equity Share Capital	527	527	527	527
Adjusted PAT	2,564	2,397	3,084	3,848	Other Equity	12,479	14,637	17,412	20,875
YoY gr. (%)	101.8	(6.5)	28.7	24.7	Total Networth	13,007	15,164	17,940	21,403
Margin (%)	8.3	7.4	8.6	9.7					
Extra Ord. Income / (Exp)	-	-	-	-	Non-Current Liabilities				
					Long Term borrowings	99	77	77	77
Reported PAT	2,564	2,397	3,084	3,848	Provisions	37	41	49	54
YoY gr. (%)	101.8	(6.5)	28.7	24.7	Other non current liabilities	44	44	44	44
Margin (%)	8.3	7.4	8.6	9.7					
					Current Liabilities				
Other Comprehensive Income	(11)	-	-	-	ST Debt / Current of LT Debt	1,235	1,064	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	2,553	2,397	3,084	3,848	Trade payables	7,117	7,091	7,891	8,728
Equity Shares O/s (m)	264	264	264	264	Other current liabilities	894	938	1,044	1,155
EPS (Rs)	9.7	9.1	11.7	14.6	Total Equity & Liabilities	22,675	24,663	27,288	31,704

# **Cash Flow & Key Ratios**

Y/e Mar	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	Y/e Mar	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
РВТ	3,178	2,996	3,855	4,810	Per Share(Rs)				
Add. Depreciation	493	642	915	1,092	EPS	9.7	9.1	11.7	14.6
Add. Interest	63	141	69	9	CEPS	11.6	11.5	15.2	18.7
Less Financial Other Income	149	60	149	298	BVPS	49.3	57.5	68.0	81.2
Add. Other	212	(60)	(149)	(298)	FCF	(10.0)	(2.6)	10.8	7.9
Op. profit before WC changes	3,946	3,720	4,691	5,613	DPS	0.5	0.9	1.2	1.5
Net Changes-WC	(2,929)	(331)	(114)	(591)	Return Ratio(%)				
Direct tax	(561)	(586)	(739)	(928)	RoCE	24.4	20.1	22.0	22.9
Net cash from Op. activities	457	2,803	3,838	4,094	ROIC	27.3	17.5	19.2	21.9
Capital expenditures	(3,083)	(3,500)	(1,000)	(2,000)	RoE	22.0	17.0	18.6	19.6
Interest / Dividend Income	114	60	149	298	Balance Sheet				
Others	3,707	992	-	-	Net Debt : Equity (x)	0.0	0.0	(0.1)	(0.2)
Net Cash from Invt. activities	738	(2,448)	(851)	(1,702)	Net Working Capital (Days)	39	40	40	40
Issue of share cap. / premium	-	-	-	-	Valuation(x)				
Debt changes	(1,033)	(193)	(1,064)	-	PER	33.8	36.2	28.1	22.5
Dividend paid	(132)	(240)	(308)	(385)	P/B	6.7	5.7	4.8	4.0
Interest paid	(48)	(141)	(69)	(9)	P/CEPS	28.4	28.5	21.7	17.5
Others	(29)	4	7	5	EV/EBITDA	23.4	23.4	18.0	14.7
Net cash from Fin. activities	(1,242)	(569)	(1,434)	(389)	EV/Sales	2.8	2.7	2.3	2.1
Net change in cash	(47)	(214)	1,553	2,003	Dividend Yield (%)	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4
Free Cash Flow	(2,635)	(697)	2,838	2,094	· · ·				

## **Notes**

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