

Institutional Research

Fineotex Chemicals Ltd.

Greenfield expansion to drive growth, Inorganic acquisition awaited, NR

18 December 2024

Sector – Speciality Chemicals Sector Outlook - Positive

CAGR FY20-FY24 70.5% 63.7% 43.7% 30.5% **EBITDA** PBT PAT Sales

Stock Recommendation	NR
CMP (₹)	345
52 Week H / L ₹	458/305
BSE 30	80,684

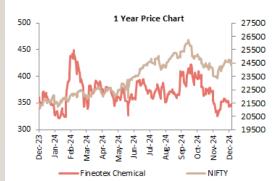
Key Data

No.of Shares, mn.	114.6
Mcap, ₹ mn	39520
Mcap,USD mn @ ₹84.9	465
2 W Avg Qty (BSE+NSE)	1,55,907

Shareholding, Sep'24

Promoters	62.9
FII	3.3
DII	3.6
Public & Others	30.2

Performance	1 M	3 M	6 M	1 Y
Stock Return %	3.2	-11.1	-11.8	-4.7
Relative Return %	-0.5	-5.4	-14.3	-18.0



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We visited the Ambernath facility of Fineotex Chemical Limited (FCL) including the nearby under-construction plant. We interacted with the management: Mr. Sanjay Tibrewala, CFO and Executive Director and Ms Aarti Jhunjhunwala, Executive Director. FCL is a leading manufacturer of specialty chemicals with a focus on Textile Chemicals. Over the years, the company has successfully diversified into the Cleaning and Hygiene chemicals, Drilling, and other specialties. The company has a production capacity of 1,04,000 MTPA spread across state-of-the-art manufacturing plants situated in Mahape, Navi Mumbai (36,500 MTPA), Ambernath (61,000 MTPA) and Selangor, Malaysia (6,500 MTPA). The Ambernath plant is fungible and can manufacture products for both textile chemical and cleaning & hygiene segments. In addition, the company has additional factory land premises of 7 acres at additional Ambernath MIDC for future growth. In Q2FY25, the company derived ~70% of revenue from the Domestic market with the rest 30% from Exports. The company offers 470+ products and has a presence in ~70 countries. The company has 34+ technical marketing experts and 100+ dealers in Indian and International markets. FCL successfully commissioned a 100kWp solar power plant at the Ambernath facility in FY24. FCL's subsidiary Biotex, Malaysia spearheads the R&D solutions, application research, and product development. Biotex specializes in high-end specialty finishing textile chemicals like water & oil repellents, and antimicrobials for textiles and also has a presence in a few segments of the paint sector. The company's JV with Health Guard enhances its geographic reach and will provide durable antimicrobial and anti-viral sustainable chemistries in the market. The company is expanding organically at additional Ambernath, once completed will drive additional volumes and growth. Moreover, FCL has already raised growth capital worth ~₹ 3.4bn and is exploring opportunities in the inorganic space. Currently, at ₹ 345 FCL is trading at a 33x/27x forward P/E for FY25E and FY26E, vs historical average PE of 28x.

Collaborations to expand product profile and geographical reach: The company has a strategic collaboration with Eurodye-CTC, Belgium, to commercialize specialty chemicals for the Indian market and a Strategic collaboration with HealthGuard, Australia to become the exclusive global marketing and sales channel partner with joint operations from Malaysia. The company is also setting up a state-of-the-art R&D center in collaboration with Sasmira Institute, Mumbai to develop a first-of-its-kind Support and Solution Centre for technical service to catalyze innovation and focus on sustainable chemistry.

Greenfield expansion to drive future growth: FCL has acquired land at additional Ambernath MIDC Thane for ~₹ 350 mn and is expanding its capacities by 15k TPA in Phase 1. The additional Ambernath land is twice the size of the existing Ambernath plant and should take care of all the future organic expansion that the company intends to undertake. Total capex for Phase 1 is expected to be ₹ ~600-700 mn and is expected to be commissioned in H1FY26. Incremental revenue from Phase 1 is expected to be ₹~1000 mn at peak capacity utilization assuming an asset turn of ~1.5x.

Fund raised to undertake inorganic acquisition: The company has already raised ~₹ 3.4bn via preferential allotment from promoters (contribution ~₹ 450mn) and non-promoters to explore inorganic expansion either in the domestic or the international markets.

Outlook and Valuation: FCL is a niche player in specialty chemicals with a focus on Textiles and has successfully diversified into Cleaning and Hygiene, Drilling, and Water Treatment chemicals. The company has a very strong EBITDA margin profile of 25% margins. With the commissioning of Phase-1 capex in H1FY26 at the new additional Ambernath plant, we expect volumes to improve with margins to remain in a similar range. With the raising of growth capital behind us the company is actively evaluating to buy out a suitable company which would add strength to the long-term growth vision of the company. We expect Revenue/EBITDA/PAT to grow at 10%/11%/8% CAGR over FY24-FY26E. At the CMP of ₹ 345 stock is available at 33x/27x of FY25/FY26E estimates.

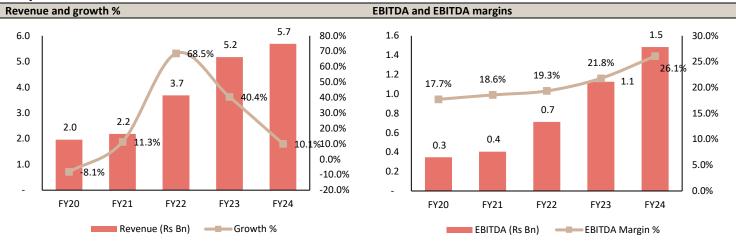
Key Risks: Demand slowdown, delay in commissioning of new capacities.

Financials	Revenue	EBITDA	PAT	Adj. EPS	P/E	EV/EBITDA	RoE
	₹mn	₹mn	₹mn	₹	х	х	%
FY21	2,185	406	446	4.0	85.8	92.9	22.7%
FY22	3,682	712	569	5.1	67.2	52.8	23.4%
FY23	5,170	1,126	896	8.1	42.7	33.3	28.7%
FY24	5,690	1,484	1,210	10.9	31.6	25.4	29.9%

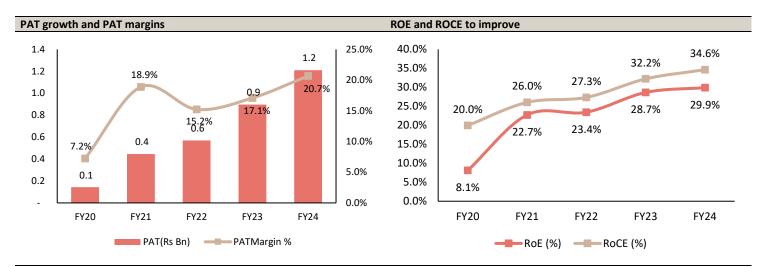
Source: Company, Sunidhi Research



Story in Charts

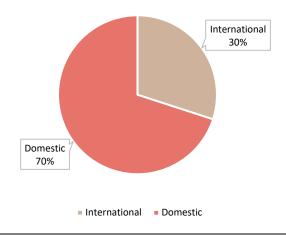


Source: Company, Sunidhi Research



Source: Company, Sunidhi Research

Revenue Mix (Q2FY25)



Source: Company, Sunidhi Research



Fineotex Chemical Ltd Plant Visit Key Highlights

Ambernath Plant 1 (Existing Plant)

- 1. The plant was constructed in 2021. Capacity of plant is 61,000 MTPA (60% of total capacity)
- The capacity can further be increased by 20%. Currently they have 11 reactors and can increase it to 14.
- 3. The capacity of reactors varies from 1KL (pilot) to 30 KL.
- 4. There are some raw materials which are procured from China, but no major competition from China. They decide on import or domestic procurement of raw materials solely based on prices.
- 5. Acrylic acid, Maleic Anhydride are some of the RM.
- Building 1 had 2 reactors of 30 KL with raw material and finished goods storage area with solar panel installed on rooftop of Building 1.
- 7. Building 2 had reactors of the range 3 KL -15 KL.
- 8. Plant undergoes preventive maintenance every month.
- Plant has a QC Lab, R&D Lab, Analytical Development Laboratory, Raw material and finished goods storage area and Boiler room.

Ambernath Plant 2 (Additional Ambernath – New plant under construction)

- 1. Ambernath plant 2 has a 7-7.5 Acres land and is twice the size of existing Ambernath Plant 1
- 2. In Phase 1, FCL is coming up with a capacity of 15,000 TPA which is extendable in different phases upto 50,000 TPA and beyond.
- 3. Company expects commissioning of Phase 1 by H1FY26.
- 4. The plant will have 21 reactors of different sizes.
- 5. The land and building was originally of Huhtamaki PPL, acquired by FCL for ~₹ 350 mn.
- The plant will have new products (specifically Oil and Gas Specialities) and existing products at the new plant.

Other Highlights

- 1. FCL caters to mainly 3 segments- Textile, Cleaning & Hygiene and oil & gas.
- 2. Company is engaged in producing not only specialty chemicals but also provides sustainable solutions, products and technical services to customers.
- 3. The company is adding more product lines for existing customers and is focused where chemistry is overlapping.
- 4. Textile specialty chemicals core business.
- 5. Other segment: FMCG, cleaning & hygiene chemicals in which company provides solutions to detergent companies and institutional sales (selling sanitizers, handwashes and dishwashers to B2B customers).
- 3rd vertical Oil & Gas segment where company mentioned that it is a registered vendor to ONGC since 2007.
- 7. Company is also entering Water treatment chemicals as these chemistries overlap with existing chemistries in textile segment.
- 8. 4 processes in textile: Pre-treatment, dyeing, printing, finishing. Total process requires around 25 chemicals. FCL mainly focusses on finishing (60% of revenue of textile comes from finishing).
- Total chemical cost is around 3-4%, per chemical cost is 0.13%. So, client will not change chemicals for saving the cost, so more stickiness.
- 10. There are also high barriers to work with textile companies. Eg: Raymond does not give entry easily to chemical companies.
- 11. FCL products are like salt to food; no body changes easily.
- 12. FCL is here to solve problems of customer. Clients come with problems, and we will provide solutions. More customized products depending on needs.
- 13. Huge opportunity in oil and gas industry. Indian exporters will benefit going ahead. FCL manufactures chemicals for extraction, drilling etc. started working with global players who has turnover of 1.75 lakh crores.
- 14. Raised ₹ 3.4bn for preferential allotment of which promoters contributed ₹ 450 mn. Fund raise mainly for inorganic acquisition in India or international.
- 15. In CY24 ~₹100cr used for Ambernath 2 and another office in Andheri (Mumbai).



Tailored solutions across the textile value chain with a focus on realisations



Source: Company Presentation, Sunidhi Research

Developed technical expertise to enter attractive new markets



Key Products



Cleaning and Hygiene Chemicals

Non-textile segments will drive volume and value growth going forward

Source: Company Presentation, Sunidhi Research



Experienced management team with multi decade expertise in speciality chemicals industry



Surendra Kumar Tibrewala Education: B.Com and LLB

Managing Director



Sanjay Tibrewala Education: B.Com and P.G. in Textile Chemicals and Processing



Aarti Jhunjhunwala Education: B.Com and M.Com



Arindam Choudhuri Education: B.Tech and Marketin Management

CEO (Textile



Noa N. Ouakass Education: M. Sc., MBA

CEO - Biote



Kedhar Sankar Sonai Education: M.Tech. MBA



Madhukar Shenoy Education: BE Chemical Engineering and Certified in Business & Climate Change





Raman Perumal Education: Diploma in Boiler Engineering

oduction Director - Biote



Wong Lai Yoon



Tang Chai Yean Education: Diploma in Chemistry nior R&D Manager - Biotex





Purva Rane Education: MSc in Analytical Chemistry Responsible for: Technical Service Lab and Product Compliances Assistant Manager - Fineotex





Biotex - Malaysia

Source: Company Presentation, Sunidhi Research

Successful acquisition and realisation of synergies with Biotex



value chain: pre-treatment to finishing



Niche product portfolio (50+ categories) High end super speciality textile chemical applications



Focus Areas

Focused on textiles and rapidly entering other fast growing sectors

Fineotex - India

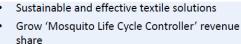
Applications primarily across the entire textile

Textile, Cleaning and Hygiene, Drilling and Other

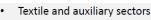
High profile India customer base













'Mosquito Life Cycle Controller', an eco friendly non toxic solution for mosquito outbreaks used primarily across developing countries



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Competitive Edge

Business Segments

- Strong brand recall in Indian markets
- Reputation for diverse product portfolio
- Deep customer relationships

Specialities



Strong brand recall in International markets

Solutions for finishing process in textile

Strong R&D capabilities

Source: Company Presentation, Sunidhi Research



Recent collaborations to expand product profile and geographical reach







Strategic collaboration with Eurodye-CTC, Belgium, to commercialize specialty chemicals for the Indian market

Strategic collaboration with HealthGuard, Australia to become the exclusive global marketing and sales channel partner with joint operations from Malaysia Setting up a state of art Research & Development center in collaboration with Sasmira Institute, one of India's premier textile institutes

Facilitates an efficient production system and distribution network across the Indian textile market

HealthGuard® will concentrate on developing cuttingedge solutions, that will be marketed and channelized across the world by Fineotex-Biotex Develop a first-of-its-kind Support and Solution Centre for technical service in Sasmira to catalyze innovation and focus on sustainable chemistry

Eurodye-CTC has REACH registration, Bluesign certification & GOTS 6 certification for a large selection of its product range

Synergy will provide durable metal-free sustainable chemistry solutions that are anti-microbial and antiviral

Focus on new sustainable solutions and chemicals to reduce water, time and energy consumption for the textile wet processing industry

Fineotex is committed to sustainable practices and Eurodye-CTC is also an environmentally conscious company

Range of products over several industries - textile, detergent, leather and allied industries

Provide the much-needed exposure for students and help provide practical experience, which will benefit the industry in the long term

Source: Company Presentation, Sunidhi Research



Quarterly Performance

₹Mn	Q2FY24	Q3FY24	Q4FY24	Q1FY25	Q2FY25	YoY (%)	QoQ (%)	H1FY25	H1FY24	YoY %
Revenue	1,453	1,385	1,530	1,419	1,457	0.3	2.7	2,876	2,775	3.6
COGS	891	810	952	871	900	1.0	3.3	1,772	1,726	2.7
Gross Profit	562	574	578	548	557	(0.8)	1.7	1,105	1,049	5.3
Employee Expenses	50	55	55	56	61	21.1	9.1	117	102	15.2
as % of sales	3.5%	3.9%	3.6%	3.9%	4.2%			4.1%	3.7%	
Other Expenses	129	116	140	139	132	2.3	(5.0)	271	250	8.3
as % of sales	8.9	8.4	9.1	9.8	9.1			9.4	9.0	
EBITDA (Excl OI)	382	404	383	353	364	(4.8)	3.2	716	697	2.7
Depreciation & Amortization	(14)	(14)	(19)	(22)	(24)	68.8	5.5	(46)	(27)	68.7
Other Income	38	49	41	49	69	na	41.5	118	75	57.9
EBIT	406	439	406	379	409	0.7	8.0	788	745	5.8
Interest Expenses	3	3	6	2	2	(18.5)	(12.6)	5	5	2.1
PBT	404	436	400	376	407	0.9	8.2	783	740	5.9
Total Tax	(89)	(106)	(95)	(85)	(86)	(2.5)	2.1	(171)	(164)	4.4
Reported PAT	315	329	305	292	321	1.8	9.9	612	576	6.3

Margins (%)						(bps)	(bps)			(bps)
Gross Margin	38.7	41.5	37.8	38.6	38.2	-44	-36	38.4	37.8	59
EBITDA	26.3	29.1	25.0	24.8	25.0	-133	13	24.9	25.1	-22
EBIT	28.0	31.7	26.5	26.7	28.1	12	138	27.4	26.8	57
EBT	27.8	31.5	26.1	26.5	27.9	15	141	27.2	26.7	57
PAT	21.7	23.8	19.9	20.6	22.0	32	144	21.3	20.8	53
Effective Tax Rate	22.0	24.4	23.8	22.5	21.2	-73	-125	21.8	22.1	-31

Source: Company, Sunidhi Research



Financial Snapshot

Valuations & Ratios					(Rs. Mn)
Year End-March	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24
Data Per Share					
EPS	1.3	4.0	5.1	8.1	10.9
CEPS	1.4	4.2	5.4	8.5	11.5
BVPS	15.8	19.5	24.3	32.1	40.9
DPS	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.8	1.6
Valuation (x)					
P/E	268.3	85.8	67.2	42.7	31.6
P/BV	21.8	17.7	14.2	10.7	8.4
EV/EBITDA	110.0	93.4	53.1	33.5	25.5
Dividend yield (%)	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.5%
EBIDTA Margin	17.7%	18.6%	19.3%	21.8%	26.1%
PAT Margin	7.2%	18.9%	15.2%	17.1%	20.7%
ROAE	8.1%	22.7%	23.4%	28.7%	29.9%
ROACE	20.0%	26.0%	27.3%	32.2%	34.6%
Leverage Ratios (x)					
Total D/E	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net Debt/Equity	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)
Interest Coverage	55.9	78.2	80.4	140.9	119.3
Current ratio	3.7	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.2
Growth Ratios (%)					
Topline growth	na	11.3%	68.5%	40.4%	10.1%
EBITDA growth	na	16.6%	75.5%	58.1%	31.8%
PAT growth	na	211.4%	27.7%	57.4%	35.1%
Turnover Ratios (x)					
F.A Turnover	6.3	4.0	5.0	5.8	4.3
Working Capital Days	96	125	111	72	74
Inventory Days	39	48	59	33	32
Debtors Days	100	138	110	72	89
Payable days	43	62	58	33	47

Profit & Loss Statement					
Year End-March	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24
Revenues	1,963	2,185	3,682	5,170	5,690
Op. Expenses	1,615	1,779	2,970	4,044	4,206
EBITDA	348	406	712	1,126	1,484
Other Income	16	175	55	73	165
Depreciation	12	15	25	43	60
EBIT	352	566	742	1,156	1,589
Interest	6	7	9	8	13
Exceptional Item	(126)	-	-	-	-
PBT	220	559	733	1,148	1,576
Tax	77	113	164	252	365
Reported PAT	143	446	569	896	1,210
PAT	143	446	569	896	1,210
EPS	1.3	4.0	5.1	8.1	10.9

Source: Sunidhi Research

Balance Sheet					(Rs. Mn)
Year End-March	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24
Equity and Liabilities					
Share Capital	223	221	221	221	222
Reserves and Surplus	1,537	1,939	2,472	3,335	4,314
Total Shareholders' funds	1,760	2,161	2,694	3,557	4,536
Long Term Borrowings	-	-	-	-	-
Long Term Liab/ Provisions	1	1	1	0	3
Other Non-current Liabilities	5	12	19	32	48
Current Liabilities					
Short Term Borrowings	28	35	19	73	52
Trade Payables	234	368	588	474	728
Other CL/Short Term Prov.	51	93	74	92	114
Grand Total	2,078	2,670	3,395	4,227	5,482
Assets	-	-			
Non-Current Assets					
Fixed Assets	313	541	740	892	1,310
Goodwill / Intangible	61	61	61	61	61
Other Non-current Assets	550	411	276	1,035	1,252
Current Assets					
Inventories	211	288	596	473	501
Trade Receivables	538	827	1,109	1,014	1,388
Cash and Cash Equivalents	179	339	381	596	399
Bank	-	-	-	-	-
Short Term Loans and Advance	-	-	-	-	-
Other Current Assets	225	203	233	157	570
Grand Total	2,078	2,670	3,395	4,227	5,482
Cash flow Statement					
Year End-March	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24
PBT	220	559	733	1,148	1,576
Depreciation	12	15	25	43	60
Interest (Net)	6	7	9	8	13
Others	119	(154)	(41)	(44)	(151)
OCF before Working Capital	357	426	726	1,155	1,498
Inc/dec in Working Capital	4	(230)	(371)	104	(148)
Inc/dec in other items	3	(7)	(50)	78	13
Taxes paid	(80)	(96)	(171)	(264)	(389)
Net CF From Operations	284	92	134	1,073	974
Capex	(63)	(242)	(225)	(194)	(479)
Other Income	(119)	154	41	44	151
Others	(8)	22	176	(868)	(141)
CF from Investing Activities	(190)	(65)	(7)	(1,018)	(468)
Change in Equity	-	(24)	-	-	(0)
Cl I D I	(4)				

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(5)

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Change in Borrowings

CF from Fin Activities

Net inc /(dec) in cash

Interest Paid

Dividend

Others

Others

Closing Cash



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Sunidhi's Rating Rationale

The price target for a large cap stock represents the value the analyst expects the stock to reach over next 12 months. For a stock to be classified as **Outperform**, the expected return must exceed the local risk free return by at least 5% over the next 12 months. For a stock to be classified as **Underperform**, the stock return must be below the local risk free return by at least 5% over the next 12 months. Stocks between these bands are classified as **Neutral**.

(For Mid & Small cap stocks from 12 months perspective)

BUY Absolute Return >20%
HOLD Absolute Return Between 0-20%
SELL Absolute Return Negative

Apart from Absolute returns our rating for a stock would also include subjective factors like macro environment, outlook of the industry in which the company is operating, growth expectations from the company vis a vis its peers, scope for P/E re-rating/de-rating for the broader market and the company in specific.

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