: Not Rated Reco **CMP** : INR 243

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Market data

Sensex	:	59,727
Sector	:	Sp. Chemicals
Market Cap (INR bn)	:	27.0
Market Cap (USD bn)	:	0.329
O/S Shares (mn)	:	110.7
52-wk HI/LO (INR)	:	409/150
Avg. Daily Vol ('000)	:	257
Bloomberg	:	FTXC IN

Source: Bloomberg

Valuation

valoanon			
	FY20	FY21	FY22
EPS (INR)	2.3	3.8	5.0
P/E (x)	105.2	63.2	48.8
P/BV (x)	15.9	12.9	10.3
EV/EBITDA (x)	70.0	59.6	34.0
Dividend Yield (%	0.0	-	0.2

Source: Bloomberg

Return	ıs (%)			
	1m	3m	6m	12m
Absolute	11	0	(35)	13
Relative	8	2	(36)	7

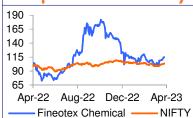
Source: Bloomberg

Shareholding pattern

Promoters		65%
	•	
Public	:	35%
Others	:	0%

Source: Bloomberg

Price performance vs Nifty



Indexed to 100 Source: Bloomberg

COMPANY UPDATE

Fineotex Chemical

Scouting for newer areas of growth

Fineotex Chemical (FCL), specialty performance chemical producer, distinguishes its business model where the products are backed up by customized technical solutions. It caters to the entire textile industry value chain. An increase in demand for chemical treatments like water and oil repellant, and anti-microbial properties along with tailored solutions bodes well for the company in the near term. With similar chemistry and fungibility of the manufacturing plant capacity, FCL has also forayed into a FMCG segments like cleaning and hygiene and has been sadding newer clients recently. With strong demand in these segments and growing demand in its current business, FCL has expanded its Ambernath plant capacity to 61 KMT from 40 KMT in FY22, taking the overall capacity to 104 KMT. FCL's revenue and PAT have grown at 24% and 19% CAGR over FY17–22. We believe that the company can show strong growth momentum in the near term driven by wallet share gain in textile chemicals, traction in newer segments, and capacity addition. We do not have a rating on the stock.

Targeting a high wallet share in the textile segment

FCL and its subsidiary Biotex, Malaysia, in which it owns 72%, has a diverse product portfolio (450+ products) that finds application in the entire textile industry value chain. Strong relationship with major textile clients in India and globally, innovative product portfolio, and technology assistance from Biotex Malaysia, has enabled the company to consistently gain wallet share. The cost of chemicals for any textile company, starting from pre-treatment to finishing, is not more than 3% for about 25 products. This creates a high entry barrier for new players, limiting competitive intensity. Additionally, if anything goes wrong due to change in the chemical composition or product mix, it can lead to fabric damage resulting in huge losses for textile companies, making clients sticky in nature. Thus, the gestation period to onboard a client is long.

Foray into new segments

The company is now leveraging its expertise in textile specialties to successfully foray into nontextile segments like cleaning and hygiene, and drilling specialty chemicals. It has been able to bag orders from leading detergent companies for their polymer requirements. In FY23, it received orders worth ~INR 3.5 bn in the cleaning and hygiene segment, which will start contributing to top-line from FY24 onwards. As of 9MFY23, cleaning and hygiene contributed 40% to the top-line. Moreover, the company is also looking at providing customized solutions for drilling in oil exploratory processes. This shift will enable the company to diversify its product portfolio and drive value and volume growth going forward.

Capacity expansion to support growth

During 3QFY22, FCL set up a greenfield facility in Ambernath and has now expanded its capacity to 61 KMT with a capital outlay of INR 550 mn through internal accruals. With this, the company's overall capacity, including the Navi Mumbai and Malaysia plants, have risen to 104 KMT from 43 KMT in two years. Management envisages to run the plant at optimum capacity utilization (~85%) in 1HFY24 against the current 47%, on the back of expected increased traction and order inflow from the cleaning and hygiene segment. Additionally, it is planning to further expand capacity at Ambernath by 20-30 KMT in FY24 at a capex of INR 150–200 mn. The company expects asset turnover from the new facility in Ambernath to be >8x with superior margin. Given that product lines are fungible, it will allow for saving time for changeover of product line for different solutions.

Valuation and Outlook

Diversified revenue, product, and geographic mix across clients and segments coupled with technical expertise has resulted in revenue/EBITDA/PAT CAGR of 17%/25%/26% over FY12–22. Domestic business/ exports contributed 59%/41% of its total revenue in FY22. FCL boasts of healthy RoE/RoCE of 23%/30% with net cash balance of INR 289 mn as of FY22. Going forward, the company believes its robust earnings growth momentum will continue, driven by expansion and ramp-up in utilization at its new facility in Ambernath. With capacity expansion, improving utilization levels, and increasing traction in new segments, the company's revenue/EBITDA/PAT has grown at a CAGR of 24%/17%/19% between FY17-22. Currently, the stock is trading at 34xTTM EPS.

Textile chemicals—targeting a high wallet share

FCL manufactures the entire value chain for the textile industry, including pre-treatment, dyeing, printing, and finishing process. Textile contributes a substantial ~85% part of its overall revenue, while the balance comes from the other sectors. FCL has a strong global footprint with presence across 60+ countries, majorly in Europe and Asia, and enjoys longstanding relations with marquee clients in the domestic markets also. For textiles, the top 10 clients and products contribute 27% and 18% of its overall revenue, respectively.

FCL has been focusing on becoming a one-stop-shop for its clients in the textile space by expanding its portfolio and thus increasing wallet share by having a diversified product range and more solutions for textile companies. The cost of chemicals for any textile company, starting from pre-treatment to finishing, is not more than 3% for about 25 products. This creates a high entry barrier for new players, limiting competitive intensity. Additionally, if anything goes wrong due to change in the chemical composition or product mix, it can lead to fabric damage resulting in huge losses for textile companies, making clients sticky in nature. Given such a scenario, the gestation period to onboard a client is long.

Dyeing, Rotary De-sizing Exhaust Printing, Scouring, Washing. Process Padding **Table Printing** Bleach Fixing Enzymes, Dyes, Acids, Dyes, Binder Softeners. Wetting & Thickener, Fixer Product **Polymers** Silicones, Detergent, Levelling. Detergent, Categories Softeners Polymers, Detergent Loop Sequestering Resins Additives Fixer accelerator ICT LIMITED **Key Customer** Name Group of Companies Himatsingka

Exhibit 1: Becoming a one-stop-shop for clients in the textile space

Synergies with Biotex

Biotex, a Malaysia-based subsidiary in which FCL holds 78% stake and its Founder and MD Dr. Cedric Veniat, a technocrat with over 25 years of work experience, holds the remaining 28%. Biotex's niche portfolio of 50+ products find application in high-end super specialty textile chemicals. This subsidiary provides FCL access to high margin specialty products along with its high profile international client base.

Exhibit 2: Synergistic model with Biotex



Source: Company, Antique

Foray into newer segments

The company is now leveraging its expertise in textile specialties to successfully foray into nontextile segments like cleaning and hygiene, and drilling specialty chemicals. This will enable the company in diversifying its product portfolio and is expected to drive value and volume growth going forward. It has been able to bag orders from leading detergent companies in the country for their polymer requirements. In FY23, it received orders worth ~INR 3.5 bn in the cleaning and hygiene segment, which will start contributing to the top-line FY24 onwards. As of 9MFY23, cleaning and hygiene segment contributed 40% to the top-line. Moreover, the company is also looking at providing customized solutions for drilling in oil exploratory processes. This shift will aid the company in diversifying its product portfolio and drive value and volume growth going forward.

Exhibit 3: Details of the new segments



Enhanced capacity coupled with better utilization at existing plants to drive growth

During 3QFY22, FCL has set-up a greenfield facility in Ambernath and has expanded its capacity to 61 KMT, for a capital outlay of INR 550 mn through internal accruals. With this, the company's overall capacity, including the Navi Mumbai and Malaysia plants, have risen to 104 KMT from 43 KMT in two years. Management envisages to run the plant at optimum capacity utilization (~85%) in 1HFY24 against the current 47%, on the back of expected increased traction and order inflow from the cleaning and hygiene segment. Additionally, it is planning to further expand capacity at Ambernath by 20–30 KMT in FY24 at a capex of INR 150-200 mn. The company expects asset turnover from the new facility in Ambernath to be >8x with superior margin. Given that the product lines are fungible, it will allow for saving time for changeover of product line for different solutions.

Exhibit 4: Details of plants and capacities

Location	Operating Facts	Strategic Advantages
Navi Mumbai and Ambernath, Mumbai, India	Total Production Capacity: 97 KMT.Navi Mumbai Plant: 36 KMTAmbernath Plant: 61 KMT	 Plant located near key port close to Mumbai with logistical advantages to textile hubs across North, West, South, and Central India.
Selangor, Malaysia	· Total Production Capacity: 6.5 KMT	 Easy access to high raw quality materials in the region. Malaysian plant provides raw materials to Indian facilities. Cost benefits due to Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with important regional markets like Vietnam, China, and India.

Source: Company, Antique

Strategic partnerships to boost product development

FCL has a JV with Healthquard, Australia which will concentrate on developing cutting-edge solutions that will be marketed and channelized by FCL-Biotex. Company's anti-microbial product is US EPA approved. The synergy is expected to provide durable metal free sustainable chemistry solutions that are anti-microbial and anti-viral. This JV offers a range of products with wider application across several industries like textiles, detergent, leather, and allied industries. Further, FCL has set-up an R&D center in collaboration with Sasmira Institute, which is India's premier textile institute. Recently, FCL entered into a strategic collaboration with Eurodye-CTC, Belgium to commercialize specialty chemical product for the Indian market. We believe that the collaboration will help FCL expand product profile, geographical reach, and develop sustainable practices.

Exhibit 5: Partnerships details



ESG accreditations

The company has been awarded various certifications like Green Screen certificate, Beehive Certificate, Bluesign, ECO Passport, to name a few. These certifications pertaining to sustainability standard quarantee the highest level of security for clients and considers the chemical composition of textile products to ensure healthy and safe materials.

Exhibit 6: ESG accreditations

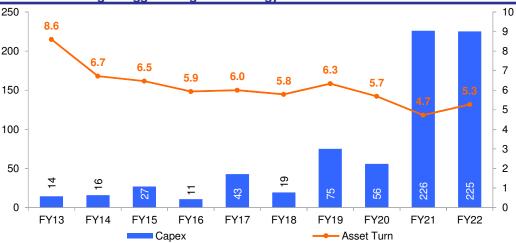


Source: Company, Antique

Product innovation to add value and support margins

FCL has been focusing on becoming a one-stop-shop for clients in the textile space by expanding its portfolio and thus increasing wallet share by having a diversified product range and more solutions for textile companies. Thus, the company has been focusing on developing value added products that will aide textile companies reduce water and energy consumption. Additionally, changing client preference and expectations for fabrics to be water and dust repellent, anti-microbial, and increasing demand for sustainable products in the textile market have resulted in an increase in the addressable market for the company. This in turn has increased the demand for its products, helping it garner more market share. Furthermore, in partnership in Biotex, FCL has developed a unique 'Mosquito Life Cycle Controller' product, which is non-toxic and eco-friendly in nature. The product has already been approved by the Ministry of Health Malaysia, Singapore PUB, European Union, NSF and relevant authorities in Vietnam and Cambodia. The growing share of value-added products will make it possible for the company to enhance margin of the business.

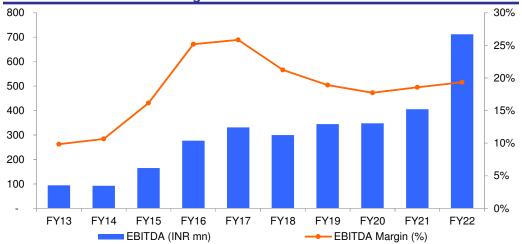
Exhibit 7: Pursuing an aggressive growth strategy



Continued focus on high margin specialty chemicals

FCL posted consolidated revenue stream growth CAGR of 17% from FY12-22 and EBITDA recorded significant growth CAGR of 25% during same period, with EBITDA margin expanding to 19% in FY22 from 9% in FY12. Expansion in margin was primarily backed by superior product mix. Going forward, the company is confident of healthy revenue growth on the back of enhanced capacities coming on-stream in the near term, which are high yielding products fetching better margins.





Source: Company, Antique

Net cash balance sheet

FCL has net cash company of INR 289 mn as of FY22 and a comfortable balance sheet to support organic and inorganic growth. Further, the company has recorded healthy OCF, which would aid to grow its operations. We believe that a healthy balance sheet would in turn help the company to execute further growth plans. According to recent ratings assigned by CRISIL, FCL's long-term rating stands at A-Stable and short-term rating at A2+, which further demonstrates the company's strong balance sheet.

Exhibit 9: Healthy OCF to aid future growth plans

Source: Company, Antique

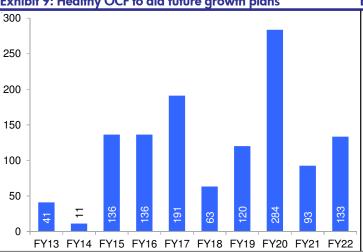
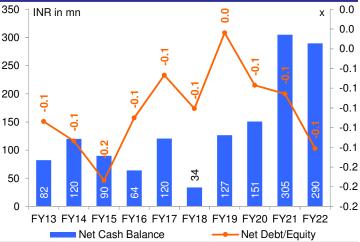


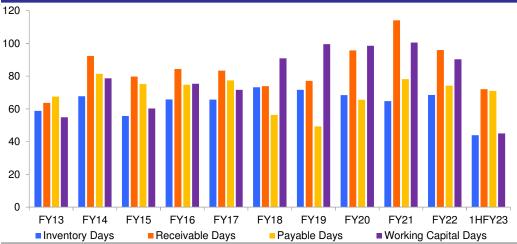
Exhibit 10: FCL is a net debt free company



Improvement in Working Capital

With its foray in FMCG business, the company has been able to improve its working capital cycle. As on 1HFY23, company's working capital stood at 45 days, down from 90 days as on FY22. The improvement was largely on the back of improvement in receivable inventory and receivable days which stood at 44/72 days as on 2HFY23, vs. 69/96 days as on FY22.





Source: Company, Antique

Company Background

Mumbai-based Fineotex group was founded by Mr. Surendra Tibrewala in 1979. Fineotex group is one of the leading manufacturers of chemicals for textiles, construction, water-treatment, fertilizer, leather, and paint industry. Fineotex manufactures and provides an entire range of products for pre-treatment, dyeing, printing, and finishing for textile processing to clients across the globe. The company has a diverse product portfolio (450+ categories) across business segments with business in 70+ countries across the globe. The company has manufacturing facilities, located at Mahepe-Navi Mumbai, Ambernath (Maharashtra) and Selangor, Malaysia with combined production capacity of 104 KTM. The company recently forayed into the home care and hygiene division with products across house-keeping, kitchen care, and disinfectant categories. FCL has two R&D laboratories in Mumbai with all modernage equipment. The company has a network of 100+ dealers in Indian and international markets.

Exhibit 11: Revenue and revenue growth (%)

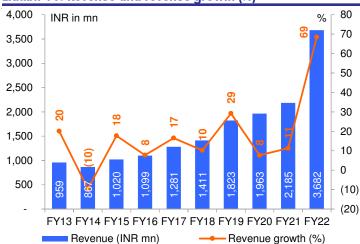
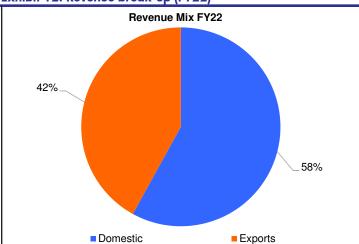


Exhibit 12: Revenue break-up (FY22)



Source: Company, Antique

Source: Company, Antique

Exhibit 13: EBITDA and EBITDA growth (%)

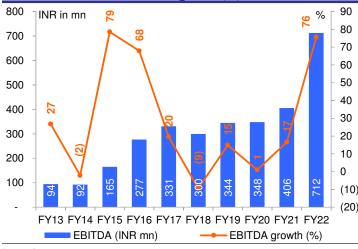
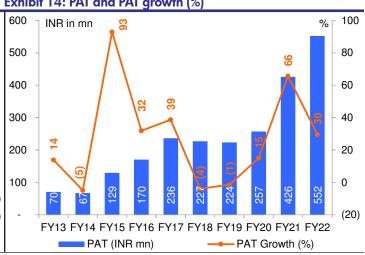


Exhibit 14: PAT and PAT growth (%)



Source: Company, Antique

Source: Company, Antique

Exhibit 15: Return ratios

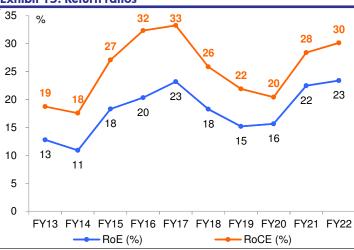
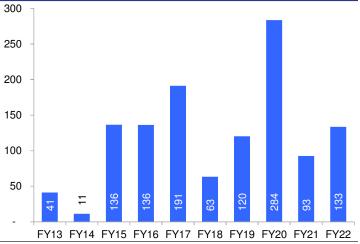


Exhibit 16: FCF generation to increase with enhanced capex



Source: Company, Antique

Financials

Profit and loss account (INR mn)

Year ended 31 Mar	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22
Net Revenue	1,411	1,823	1,963	2,185	3,682
Op. Expenses	1,111	1,479	1,615	1,779	2,970
EBITDA	300	344	348	406	712
Depreciation	7	10	12	15	25
EBIT	293	334	336	391	687
Other income	52	9	16	175	55
Interest Exp.	6	8	6	7	9
Extra Ordinary Items -gain/(loss	-	(2)	126	-	-
Reported PBT	339	333	472	559	733
Tax	100	93	77	113	164
Reported PAT	240	240	396	446	569
Minority Int./Profit (loss) From A	sso. 13	18	12	20	17
Net Profit	252	258	408	465	586
Adjusted PAT	227	224	257	426	552
Adjusted EPS (INR)	2.0	2.0	2.3	3.8	5.0

Balance sheet (INR mn)

Year ended 31 Mar	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22
Share Capital	223	223	223	221	221
Reserves & Surplus	1,135	1,365	1,474	1,872	2,400
Networth	1,357	1,588	1,697	2,093	2,621
Debt	46	21	28	34	19
Minority Interest	62	57	63	67	73
Net deferred Tax liabilities	(2)	2	(5)	7	11
Capital Employed	1,464	1,667	1,783	2,202	2,724
Gross Fixed Assets	266	345	403	605	813
Accumulated Depreciation	13	23	35	49	74
Capital work in progress	1	1	6	46	-
Net Fixed Assets	255	323	374	602	740
Goodwill	-	-	-	-	101
Investments	585	519	563	362	173
Non Current Investments	585	519	563	362	173
Current Assets, Loans & Ad	dv. 769	1,105	1,136	1,707	2,383
Inventory	211	251	211	288	596
Debtors	279	491	538	827	1,109
Cash & Bank balance	80	147	179	339	308
Loans & advances and others	199	215	207	254	370
Current Liabilities & Prov.	146	280	290	469	673
Liabilities	109	209	234	368	588
Provisions	37	71	56	101	85
Net Current Assets	624	825	846	1,238	1,710
Application of Funds	1,464	1,667	1,783	2,202	2,724

Per share data

Year ended 31 Mar	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22
No. of shares (mn)	111	111	111	111	111
Diluted no. of shares (mn)	111	111	111	111	111
BVPS (INR)	12.2	14.3	15.2	18.9	23.7
CEPS (INR)	2.2	2.2	3.7	4.2	5.4
DPS (INR)	0.2	0.1	0.1	-	0.4

Source: Company, Antique

Cash flow statement (INR mn)

Year ended 31 Mar	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22
PBT	339	336	220	559	733
Depreciation & amortization	7	10	12	15	25
Interest expense	6	8	6	7	9
(Inc)/Dec in working capital	(148)	(128)	6	(237)	(422)
Tax paid	(92)	(96)	(80)	(96)	(171)
Less: Interest/Div. Income Recd.	(5)	(3)	(7)	(16)	(10)
Other operating Cash Flow	(43)	(7)	126	(138)	(31)
CF from operating activities	63	120	284	93	133
Capital expenditure	(25)	(79)	(63)	(242)	(225)
Inc/(Dec) in investments	(90)	107	(134)	263	173
Add: Interest/Div. Income Recd.	20	14	7	(86)	45
CF from investing activities	(94)	42	(190)	(65)	(8)
Inc/(Dec) in share capital	-	-	-	(18)	-
Inc/(Dec) in debt	2	(1)	(1)	-	-
Dividend Paid	(34)	(26)	(32)	(13)	(50)
Others	(4)	(8)	(6)	(20)	7
CF from financing activities	(36)	(34)	(39)	(52)	(42)
Net cash flow	(67)	128	55	(24)	84
Opening balance	103	80	147	179	339
Closing balance	80	147	179	339	308

Growth indicators (%)

Year ended 31 Mar	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22
Revenue	10.2	29.2	7.7	11.3	68.5
EBITDA	(9.4)	14.9	1.0	16.6	75.5
Adj PAT	(3.9)	-1.5	15.0	65.6	29.6
Adj EPS	(3.9)	-1.5	15.0	66.5	29.6

Valuation (x)

Year ended 31 Mar	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22
P/E (x)	119.2	121.0	105.2	63.2	48.8
P/BV (x)	19.9	17.0	15.9	12.9	10.3
EV/EBITDA (x)	81.6	70.7	70.0	59.6	34.0
EV/Sales (x)	17.3	13.4	12.4	11.1	6.6
Dividend Yield (%)	0.1	0.0	0.0	-	0.2

Financial ratios

Year ended 31 Mar	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22
RoE (%)	18.3	15.2	15.7	22.5	23.4
RoCE (%)	25.9	21.9	20.4	28.4	30.1
Asset/T.O (x)	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.7
Net Debt/Equity (x)	(0.0)	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)
EBIT/Interest (x)	60.6	41.2	55.9	78.2	80.4

Margins (%)

Year ended 31 Mar	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22
EBITDA Margin (%)	21.2	18.9	17.7	18.6	19.3
EBIT Margin (%)	20.8	18.3	1 <i>7</i> .1	17.9	18.7
PAT Margin (%)	15.5	12.2	13.0	18.0	14.8

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