



Vietnam

ADD (no change)

Sell 0 Consensus ratings*: Buy 10 Hold 2

Current price: VND32,250 Target price: VND40.500 Previous target: VND27,300 25.6% Up/downside: CGS-CIMB / Consensus: 21.6%

HPG.HM Reuters: **HPG VN** Bloombera: US\$4,611m Market cap:

> VND106.853.368m US\$17.37m

Average daily turnover: VND408,976m

Current shares o/s: 2,761m Free float: 67.3% *Source: Bloomberg

Key changes in this note

FY20F-22F Core EPS increased by 22.7-



Source:	Bloomberg
e performance 1M 3M 10.8 33.8 10.1 (10.1 10.1 10.1 10.1 10.1 10.1 10.	12M 70.9 75.2
` '	3.8 3.2

Major shareholders	% held
Tran Dinh Long	25.4
Vu Thi Hien	7.3

Hoa Phat Group

Encouraging growth momentum

- HPG's 9M20 net profit was above at 89.9% of our full-year forecast, driven by the robust performance of the steel segments.
- We lift our FY20-22F EPS forecasts by 22.7-38.4% on the back of higher steel sales volume and lower coking coal price assumptions.
- We reiterate our Add call with a higher TP of VND40,500.

What is behind HPG's impressive uptrend in recent 3 months

HPG's share price increased by 33.8% in the past three months, nearly double the increase of VNIndex (+20.2%). In 3Q20, domestic steel rebar average selling price (ASP) fell 10.4% yoy to VND10.7m/tonne and iron ore price rose 14.3% yoy to a 6-year peak of US\$100.2/tonne. HPG's net profit surged 115.0% yoy to VND3,773bn in 3Q20, 30% above market consensus. We think that production volume of Dung Quat Steel Complex (DQSC) jumped tenfold yoy, contributing 56.9% of HPG's total sales volume in 3Q20 (compared with 11.4% in 3Q19), which helped DQSC achieve earlier-than-expected economies of scale. 9M20 net profit soared 57.4% yoy to VND8,801bn, fulfilling 89.9% of our previous full-year forecast.

What make us confident in HPG for the next two years

We are now more optimistic about DQSC, thanks to 1) DQSC Phase 1's higher-thanexpected utilisation rate of 98.6%, based on our estimate; 2) blast furnace No.3 and Hot Rolled Coil (HRC) factory of DQSC Phase 2 produced 340,000 tonnes of HRC from Aug 20 till end-Oct 2020 (equivalent to 160% monthly production volume of our previous forecast), and 3) better-than-expected EBITDA margin which helped DQSC surpass pretax breakeven level in 9M20, after just two years in operation. We estimate DQSC's EBITDA margin was 22.5% in 9M20, approaching other factories' EBITDA margin of 25.1%. Thus, we raise our FY20/21/22F EPS by 22.7/34.1/38.4% to reflect: 1) higher sales volume due to a combination of better demand (quickening public investment spending) and more contributions from DQSC; and 2) lower coking coal price assumptions due to weak demand in major importing countries (India, Japan) in 1H20.

Has HPG's growth potential been fully priced in?

HPG now trades at 8.9x/7.4x FY20/21F P/E vs. regional peer's 7.9x FY20F median P/E. However, we believe that HPG deserves to be rerated thanks to its robust earnings outlook and superior profitability vs regional peers.

Reiterate Add with a higher target price of VND40,500

We raise our TP to VND40,500 to reflect the increases in our FY20-22F EPS. Our valuation is based on an equal weighting of: (1) a forward P/E of 9.0x on FY21F EPS; and (2) a DCF valuation over a 10-year projection period. Downside risk: slower-than-expected steel demand growth. Re-rating catalyst: lower-than-expected iron ore price.

Analyst(s)



Trung TRAN T (84) 97 665 3885

E trung.tranba@vndirect.com.vn

Financial Summary	Dec-18A	Dec-19A	Dec-20F	Dec-21F	Dec-22F
Revenue (VNDb)	55,836	63,658	88,801	108,502	114,427
Operating EBITDA (VNDb)	12,524	11,914	21,493	25,361	27,066
Net Profit (VNDb)	8,392	7,318	11,996	14,439	16,412
Core EPS (VND)	2,533	2,209	3,621	4,358	4,953
Core EPS Growth	7.2%	(12.8%)	63.9%	20.4%	13.7%
FD Core P/E (x)	12.73	14.60	8.91	7.40	6.51
DPS (VND)	2	0	500	500	1,000
Dividend Yield	0.01%	0.00%	1.55%	1.55%	3.10%
EV/EBITDA (x)	9.98	11.56	5.94	4.65	3.73
P/FCFE (x)	NA	58.63	31.65	32.98	9.37
Net Gearing	44.5%	64.3%	31.6%	13.4%	(6.6%)
P/BV (x)	2.64	2.24	1.64	1.35	1.15
ROE	23.1%	16.6%	21.3%	20.0%	19.0%
% Change In Core EPS Estimates			22.7%	34.1%	38.4%
CGS-CIMB/Consensus EPS (x)			1.10	1.07	1.09
		COLIDOES	VAIDIDECT DECL	TARCH COMPAN	IV DEDODES

SOURCES: VNDIRECT RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS







Encouraging growth momentum

Vietnam's steel industry: leveraging on recent public investment expansion

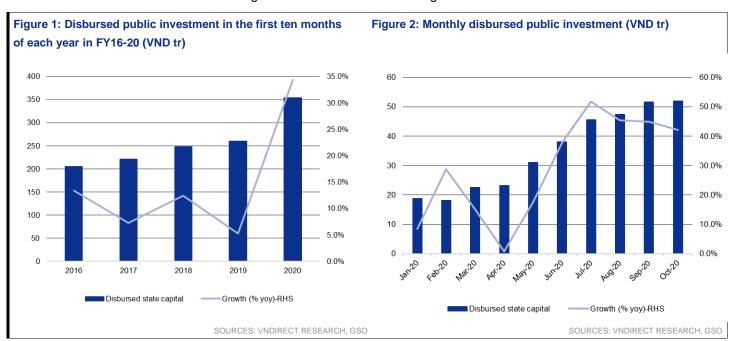
Public investment took off in 10M20 ➤

In a bid to reverse the downtrend in GDP growth, the government has been stepping up public investment to counter the slowdown in other growth engines. According to General Statistics Office of Vietnam (GSO), disbursed state capital rose 34.4% yoy to VND354.6tr in 10M20, equivalent to 69.8% of the revised full-year target.

On 30 Sep, the Ministry of Transport began construction of three subprojects under the North-South Expressway Project, including Mai Son-National Highway 45, Vinh Hao - Phan Thiet and Phan Thiet - Dau Giay expressways.

The government is investing VND54,000bn (45% of the total investment value of the North-South Expressway) in these three subprojects. The National Assembly has approved the financing of these subprojects via public investment instead of public-private partnerships (PPP).

Hence, we expect public investment to increase in 4Q20F and the full-year disbursed investment under the state budget to meet 95-100% of the government's 2020 revised target.



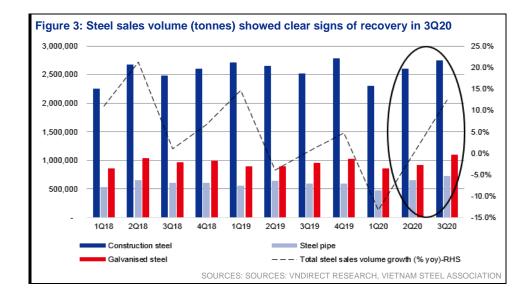
Vietnam steel sales volume to rebound strongly in 3Q20 ➤

The Covid-19 pandemic dampened steel demand in 1H20. Vietnam's total steel sales volumes fell 13.2% yoy to 3.6m tonnes (including construction steel, steel pipe, and galvanised steel) in 1Q20 and dipped 0.4% yoy to 4.2m tonnes in 2Q20. However, steel sales volume rose 12.4% yoy to 4.6m tonnes in 3Q20, due to 23.4% yoy rise in steel pipe products. We believe the improvement in steel sales volumes could be attributed to state investment disbursement since Jul 2020, which focuses on infrastructure development.



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Big players grabbed market share in 9M20 ➤

Though Covid-19 cast a shadow over the country's steel industry, steel producers with strong pricing power, healthy financial capability and large economies of scale seized this opportunity to grab market share.

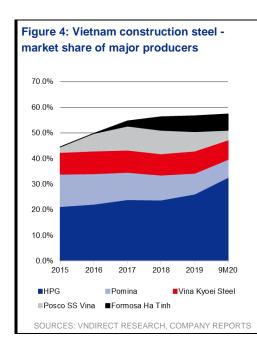
We observe that HPG, the largest local steel maker, has increased its market share in construction steel from 26.2% at end-FY19 to 32.6% at end-Sep 20. Its 9M20 construction steel sales volume rose 26.4% yoy to 2.5m tonnes in 9M20. Meanwhile, construction steel sales in Vietnam decreased 3.1% yoy to 7.6m tonnes.

Similarly, the leader in galvanised steel sheet market share - Hoa Sen Group (HSG VN, HOSE) also gained 2.8% market share to 32.4% in 9M20 from 29.6% in 9M19 and 29.6% in FY19.

In the steel pipe market, the four leading companies, i.e. HPG, HSG, Minh Ngoc (Not listed), and TVP Steel (Not listed)) gained market share from smaller competitors. Their collective market share was 66.7% in 9M20, up from just 60.9% in FY17.

HPG's products are used in key infrastructure projects, including the North-South expressway, runway upgrade projects at Noi Bai and Tan Son Nhat international airports and many thermal plants projects. Hence, we believe that HPG is a big beneficiary from the increase in public investment.

Figure 5: Vietnam galvanised steel - market Figure 6: Vietnam steel pipe - market share



share of major producers of major producers 80.0% 70.0% 60.0% 50.0% 40.0% 30.0% 20.0% 10.0% 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 9M20 ■Hoa Sen ■Ton Dong A ■Ton Nam Kim ■Ton Phuong Nam

70.0% 60.0% 50.0% 40.0% 30.0% 20.0% 10.0% 0.0% 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 9M20 ■HPG ■Hoa Sen ■Minh Ngoc ■TVP Steel

SOURCES: VNDIRECT RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



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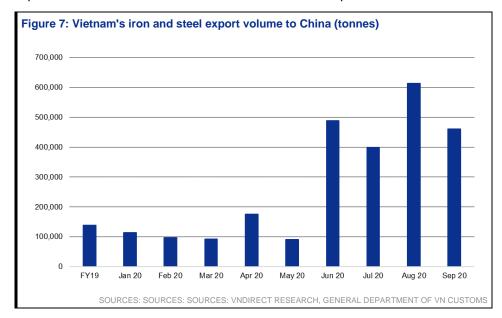


China's commitment to fast-track infrastructure spending supports demand for steel products

Since 2Q20, China's efforts to approve new infrastructure projects and accelerate construction, combined with fiscal stimulus measures in recent months, look set to help boost steel demand from the infrastructure sector. We expect this trend to continue at least until the end of 1H21, thereby boosting demand for steel imports into China.

According to S&P Global Platts, China approved 14 airport projects with a total investment of Rmb105.7bn (US\$15.3bn) in Jan-Jul 2020, i.e. 13% higher than the value of total approvals in FY19. In addition, 22 railway and urban rail transport projects were approved in 7M20, with 16 more expected to be approved soon. The length of these projects combined is 5,801 km, almost the same as the total length approved in 2019. S&P Global Platts expects work on most of these projects to start in 2H20. We estimate that steel consumption from these newly approved projects and from the construction of major rail and airport projects approved in 2016-19, should rise 24% yoy to about 23m tonnes in FY20.

Consequently, Vietnam's iron and steel exports to China have started to increase sharply since Jun 2020. According to the preliminary statistics from the General Department of Vietnam Customs, China surpassed ASEAN to become Vietnam's largest steel and steel importer, at 2.53m tonnes (+1,732% yoy) in 9M20. This is equivalent to 36.2% of total Vietnam's iron and steel export.



HPG's steel sales volume climbed in 3Q20

Record construction steel sales volume >

HPG's construction steel sales volume jumped 56.7% you in 3Q20 thanks to improved domestic demand,

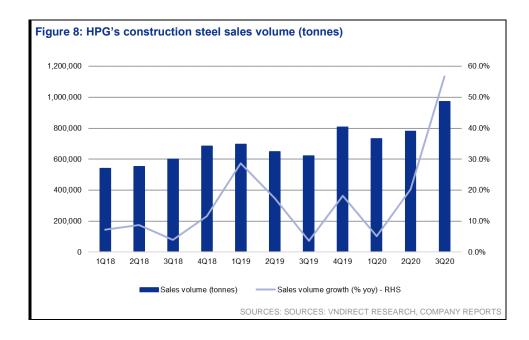
However, construction steel sales volume in Oct 2020 declined by 26.6% mom due to the impact of severe flooding in Vietnam's central provinces, which caused difficulties in transporting goods and lowered domestic demand. In 10M20, HPG sold 2.7m tonnes of construction steel (+25.1% yoy).

HPG's success is mainly thanks to 1) the rapid expansion of market share in the Southern Vietnam market, and 2) sharp growth in export sales. HPG's Southern sales volumes almost doubled to 651,460 tonnes in 10M20 from 328,136 tonnes in 10M19, while total export sales grew 211.6% yoy to 435,549 tonnes.





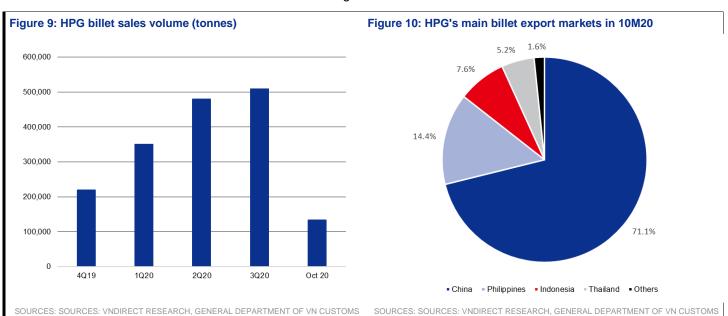




Solid billet sales driven by China demand ➤

In 3Q20, billet sales volume increased to 509,000 tonnes, up 6.0% qoq. As HPG had not started selling billets in 3Q19, construction steel and billet combined sales volume grew by 138.6% yoy in 3Q20. Based on HPG's reported crude billet output of about 4.03m tonnes in 9M20, we estimate the blended utilisation rate of all existing steel facilities (including Hai Duong, Hung Yen and DQSC Phase 1) was at about 98.6% in 9M20. HPG also recorded 133,000 tonnes of billet sales volume in Oct 2020, up threefold from 41,988 tonnes in Oct 2019.

HPG's billet sales were fuelled by demand from China, which accounted for 71.1% of HPG's billet export volume in 10M20, on the back of strong public investment in the world's largest steel market.



On the other hand, steel pipe sales volume only edged up by 3.5% yoy to 569,078 tonnes in 9M20.



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3Q20 Recap: Steel business recorded strong performance in terms of both sales volume and margin

							vs full year	
	3Q20	3Q19	% yoy	9M20	9M19	yoy		Comment
Total revenue	24,686	15,087	63.6%	64,340	45,683	40.8%	74.6%	
Steel	21,127	12,291	71.9%	54,071	36,426	48.4%	76.3%	
Industrial production	574	725	-20.8%	1,887	2,532	-25.5%	57.4%	
Agriculture	2,791	1,816	53.7%	7,834	5,378	45.7%	73.3%	In line with our expectation.
Real estates	193	255	-24.2%	549	1,347	-59.3%	40.6%	
Gross profit	5,169	2,702	91.3%	12,638	8,350	51.4%	81.7%	
								Per HPG's management, the company has stockpiled iron ore at prices favourable for production in 3Q20 compared to benchmark iron ore prices (62% Fe - delivered to Qingdao - China) on average US\$114/tonne in 3Q20. This helped the steel segment's gross margin beat our forecast
Gross profit margin	20.9%	17.9%	3.0% pts	19.6%	18.3%	1.4% pts	1.7% pts	in 3Q20.
SG&A expense	462	377	22.5%	1,287	1,067	20.7%	62.4%	
EBITDA	5,904	2,977	98.3%	14,778	9,132	61.8%	78.2%	
Interest expense	541	266	103.4%	1,545	666	131.9%	80.9%	
Pretax profit	4,272	2,161	97.7%	10,025	6,812	47.2%	88.5%	
Net profit	3,773	1,755	115.0%	8,801	5,591	57.4%	89.9%	
Net margin	15.3%	11.6%	3.7% pts	13.7%	12.2%	1.4% pts	2.3% pts	
EBITDA margin	23.9%	19.7%	4.2% pts	23.0%	20.0%	3.0% pts	1.1% pts	
SG&A as % of revenue	1.9%	2.5%	-0.6% pts	2.0%	2.3%	-0.3% pts	-0.4% pts	
Sale volume (tonne)	1,705,058	810,377	110.4%	4,395,258	2,519,083	74.5%	84.1%	
Construction steel	974,080	621,554	56.7%	2,486,917	1,967,160	26.4%	69.2%	
Steel billets	509,000	-	NA	1,339,263	-	NA	152.2%	
Steel pipe	221,978	188,823	17.6%	569,078	551,923	3.1%	75.6%	

Rosier outlook for HPG in 2021-22F

DQSC Phase 2 to drive HPG's steel sales volume growth in 2021F ➤

Blast furnace 3 (produces HRC) at DQSC Phase 2 commenced operation on 24 Aug 2020. All HRC products produced were used to meet internal demand for HPG's steel pipe and galvanised steel divisions in 3Q20. HPG will deliver HRC commercially from Nov 2020.

We estimate HPG's total HRC production volume of 575,000 tonnes in FY20F vs. just 230,000 tonnes in 3Q20. This comprises 230,000 tonnes to meet internal demand in FY20F and 345,000 tonnes for sale in FY20F. The 4th blast furnace at DQSC Phase 2 should commence operations from the beginning of next year, according to HPG's management.

We estimate HPG's total steel sales volume (including construction steel, billet, steel pipe, galvanised steel and HRC) to rise 17.4% yoy to 7.5m tonnes in FY21F, supported by the DQSC ramping up operation for Phase 1 and full-year contribution of Phase 2. HRC sales volume should jump by 288.7% yoy to 1.3m tonnes in FY21F.

Real estate segment should contribute more to the company's earnings in FY21-23F ➤

With no major real estate projects handed over in FY20F, HPG will launch Pho Noi urban project in 1H21F (total investment of VND4,000bn) and lease Pho Noi A industrial park expansion 2 in 4Q20F. The company is also planning to manage 1,500ha of industrial park in 2025F. We estimate the real estate segment to have a revenue CAGR of 40.1% in FY21-23F.



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Figure 11: HPG's real estate development plan										
		Occupancy								
Projects	Area (ha)	rate (%)	Notes							
Industrial parks	1,509									
Pho Noi A	687									
Pho Noi A	390	95%								
Pho Noi A expansion 1	204	97%								
Pho Noi A expansion 2	93		Expected for lease by the end of 2020.							
Yen My II	384									
Yen My II - Phase 1	98	82%								
Yen My II - Phase 2	70		Expected for lease in 2022F.							
Yen My II expansion	216		Legal procedures are being finalised.							
Hoa Mac	439	66%								
6 An Thi	308		Legal procedures are being finalised.							
Residential properties	296									
Pho Noi	262		Under construction, expected to launch in 1H21F.							
Pho Noi expansion	32		Legal procedures are being finalised.							
Yen So - Hoang Mai Complex	1.7		Legal procedures are being finalised.							
			SOURCES: VNDIRECT RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS							

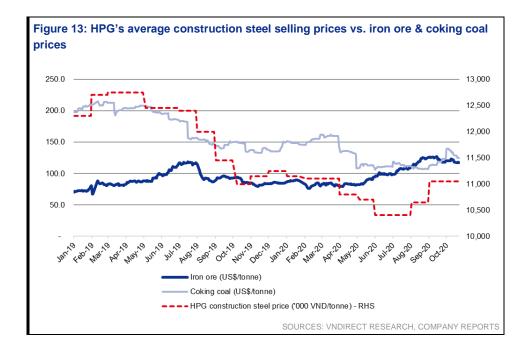
Steel selling price started to recover in Aug, supporting HPG's steel segment's gross profit margin in 2H20F ➤

- Construction steel price: Construction steel price declined industrywide due to weak domestic steel demand in 1H20. HPG's ASP also declined as it prioritised expanding its market share amid the launch of DQSC in FY20F.
 - HPG's construction steel ASP slid to VND10.8m/tonne in 9M20 compared to VND12.4m/tonne in 9M19 and VND12.1m/tonne in 2019. We expect ASP to reach VND11.2m/tonne (-7.1% yoy) in 2020F, before increasing to VND11.3m/tonne (+1% yoy) in 2021F.
- Iron ore price: Iron ore price has surged from end-2Q20 due to high demand from China and a supply shortage in Brazil. However, HPG's average iron ore cost has not increased significantly qoq in 3Q20 due to its inventory purchased at a low cost from 2Q20. The high pressure from iron ore prices will be more evident in 4Q20F. We estimate that the average iron ore cost/tonne of HPG should surge by 15.0% qoq in 4Q20F. For 2021F, we believe that the average iron ore price should drop to around US\$85/tonne (-10.5% yoy) thanks to 1) recovering seaborne supply from Brazil, and 2) ongoing solid performances from the Pilbara mines in Australia.
- Coking coal price: Coking coal price fell to a 4-year low of US\$115/tonne in 1H20 due to weak demand in major coking coal importing countries (Japan, India). Although there were signs of recovery at end-3Q20, major China steel mills stopped importing coking coal from Australia since 12 Oct 2020 due to trade tensions between these two countries. Accordingly, coking coal prices have fallen significantly since then. We estimate HPG's coking coal cost for 4Q20F to be flat qoq at US\$120/tonne. We expect average annual price of coke coal to increase by 12.5% yoy to US\$135/tonne in 2021F as import markets resume production activities after Covid-19.



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Changes to our FY20-22F forecasts ➤

We expect HPG to benefit from 1) increase in public investment spending in FY21F, and 2) recovery in steel industry post pandemic. We raise our FY20/21/22F core EPS by 22.7%/34.1%/38.4% to reflect: 1) 65.5%/17.4%/0.3% yoy growth in total steel sales volume (vs. our previous forecasts of 52.2%/15.0%/7.9% yoy growth); and 2) a 27.2%/15.6%/3.1% decrease in average coking coal prices.



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	Ol	d forecast	S	Ne	w forecas	ts		erence be nd old for		Comments
	2020F	2021F	2022F	2020F	2021F	2022F	2020F	2021F	2022F	
Total revenue	86,215	100,221	109,132	88,801	108,502	114,427	3.0%	8.3%	4.9%	1
Steel	70,883	84,236	92,359	74,715	92,607	96,346	5.4%	9.9%	4.3%	We raise our FY20/21F steel revenue forecasts by 5.4%/9.9% as increases of 8.8%/11.0% in total sales volume offset decreases of 3.1%/1.0% in ASP vs. our previous forecasts.
Industrial production	3,289	3,476	3,720	2,498	2,647	2,846	-24.0%	-23.9%	-23.5%	
Agriculture	10,691	10,962	12,014	10,781	11,203	12,147	0.8%	2.2%	1.1%	
Real estate	1,351	1,547	1,039	806	2,045	3,088	-40.3%	32.2%	197.2%	
Gross profit	15,474	16,754	17,756	18,049	21,097	22,927	16.6%	25.9%	29.1%	
Gross profit margin	17.9%	16.7%	16.3%	20.3%	19.4%	20.0%	2.4% pts	2.7% pts	3.8% pts	We raise our FY20/21/22F GPM assumption b 2.4%/2.7%/3.8% pts thanks to 1) 27.3%/15.6%/3.1% lower than expected coking coal price, offsetting 10.9%/13.3%/7.1% higher than-expected iron ore price and 2) higher-than expected utilisation rate of DQSC Phase 2, supporting flat steel gross profit margin.
SG&A expense	2,064	2,399	2,612	1,776	2,170	2,289	-13.9%	-9.5%	-12.4%	
EBITDA	18,890	20,820	21,590	21,493	25,361	27,066	13.8%	21.8%	25.4%	
Interest expense	1,911	1,711	1,182	1,955	1,710	1,089	2.3%	-0.1%	-7.9%	
Pretax profit	11,325	12,387	13,646	14,133	16,928	19,212	24.8%	36.7%	40.8%	
Net profit	9,792	10,803	11,938	12,306	14,811	16,834	25.7%	37.1%	41.0%	
Net margin	11.4%	10.8%	10.9%	13.9%	13.7%	14.7%	2.5% pts	2.9% pts	3.8% pts	
EBITDA margin	21.9%	20.8%	19.8%	24.2%	23.4%	23.7%	2.3% pts	2.6% pts	3.9% pts	
SG&A as % of revenue	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	-0.4% pts	-0.4% pts	-0.4% pts	
Core EPS (VND)	2,951	3,250	3,579	3,621	4,358	4,953	22.7%	34.1%	38.4%	
Sale volume ('000 tonne)	5,844	6,723	7,257	6,357	7,460	7,481	8.8%	11.0%	3.1%	
Construction steel	3,591	4,041	4,266	3,341	4,048	4,223	-7.0%	0.2%	-1.0%	We lower our FY20F construction steel sales wolume assumption by 7.0% as the company boosts sales of billet this year.
Steel billet	880	426	197	1,730	1,045	566	96.6%	145.2%		We raise our billet sales volume assumption thanks to higher-than-expected utilisation rate of DQSC Phase 1.
Steel pipe	753	828	869	790	869	913	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	
Galvanised steel	120	126	132	150	158	165	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	
HRC	500	1,302	1,792	345	1,341	1,614	-31.0%	3.0%	-9.9%	

_		ombined im net profit (•	anges in iro	on ore price	e and cokir	ng coal prid	ce on
				Iron	ore (US\$/ton	ne)		
	-	77.5	80.0	82.5	85.0	87.5	90.0	92.5
	120.0	17,672.6	17,101.3	16,530.4	15,959.7	15,389.2	14,819.0	14,249.0
= -	125.0	17,289.3	16,718.1	16,147.2	15,576.6	15,006.2	14,436.1	13,866.2
Coking coal (US\$/tonne)	130.0	16,906.1	16,335.0	15,764.1	15,193.6	14,623.2	14,053.2	13,483.4
ng of	135.0	16,522.9	15,951.9	15,381.1	14,810.6	14,240.3	13,670.3	13,100.6
oki US\$	140.0	16,139.8	15,568.8	14,998.1	14,427.6	13,857.5	13,287.6	12,717.9
0 =	145.0	15,756.7	15,185.8	14,615.1	14,044.7	13,474.7	12,904.8	12,335.3
	150.0	15,373.7	14,802.8	14,232.2	13,661.9	13,091.9	12,522.2	11,952.8
	•				SOURCES: VI	NDIRECT RESE	ARCH, COMPA	NY REPORTS







	FY19A	FY20F	FY21F	FY22F
Total revenue	63,658	88,801	108,502	114,427
Steel	50,179	74,715	92,607	96,346
Gross profit	11,185	18,049	21,097	22,927
Gross profit margin	17.6%	20.3%	19.4%	20.0%
SG&A expense	1,442	1,776	2,170	2,289
EBITDA	11,914	21,493	25,361	27,066
Interest expense	937	1,955	1,710	1,089
Pretax profit	9,097	14,133	16,928	19,212
After-tax profit	7,578	12,376	14,881	16,905
Net profit	7,508	12,306	14,811	16,834
Net margin	11.8%	13.9%	13.7%	14.7%
EBITDA margin	18.7%	24.2%	23.4%	23.7%
SG&A as % of revenue	2.3%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%
Revenue growth	14.0%	39.5%	22.2%	5.5%
Net profit growth	-12.4%	63.9%	20.4%	13.7%
Sales volume ('000 tonne)	3,840	6,357	7,460	7,481
Construction steel	2,775	3,341	4,048	4,223
Steel billet	220	1,730	1,045	566
Steel pipe	753	790	869	913
Galvanised steel	92	150	158	165
HRC	-	345	1,341	1,614

Reiterate Add with a higher TP of VND40,500 ➤

We raise our TP to VND40,500 to reflect the better outlook for FY21-22F and as we roll forward our valuation base year to 2021. Our TP is based on an equal weighting of 1) a forward P/E of 9.0x on EPS FY21F, and 2) a DCF valuation over a 10-year projection period. Downside risks to our call include: 1) lower-than-expected steel demand growth, and 2) lower-than-expected utilisation rate at HRC plant. We use new P/E valuation of 9.0x from 8.0x of previous valuation, to reflect HPG's strong earnings growth in FY21-22F and DQSC's high utilisation rate.

Figure 17: DCF model - key assumpti	ons
General assumptions	
Risk free rate (10-year VGB yield)	4.0%
Equity risk premium	11.0%
Beta (source: BB, 1-y adj. beta)	1.1
Cost of equity	16.2%
Long-term growth rate	1.0%
Cost of Debt	5.0%
WACC	12.9%
(in VND bn, otherwise noted)	
PV of DCF (10 years)	89,209
PV of Terminal value	60,152
Enteprise value	149,361
Less: Total Debt	27,276
Plus: Cash and Cash equiv.	16,606
Less: Minority Interest	324
Implied EV	138,367
No. of o/s shares (mn shares)	3,313
Implied value per share (VND)	41,761
	SOURCES: VNDIRECT RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS





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Figure 18: P/E method assumpt	ions	Figure 19: Blended target price, based on our estimates						
EPS 2021	4,358	Method	Implied value per	Weight (%)	Weighted price			
Industry average multiple	9.3		share (VND)		(VND)			
Premium	-3.2%	DCF	41,761	50%	20,881			
Target multiple	9.0	P/E	39,220	50%	19,610			
Implied value per share (VND)	39.220							
		Target price (V	ND, rounded)		40,500			
SOURCES	S: VNDIRECT RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS		SOURCES: VND	IRECT RESEARCH,	COMPANY REPORTS			

Company	Ticker	Recom.	m. Price	TP	Mkt cap	P/E (x)		3-year EPS	P/BV (x)		EV/EBITDA (x)		ROE	(%)
		-	LC\$	LC\$	US\$ m	CY20F	CY21F	CAGR (%)	CY20F	CY21F	CY20F	CY21F	CY20F	CY21F
Regional listed steel produce	ers													
Sansteel Minguang Co Ltd -A	002110 CH	n/a	7.07	8.0	2,637	6.8	6.2	78.9	0.8	0.8	5.3	5.1	12.2	12.3
Xinxing Ductile Iron Pipes-A	000778 CH	na	3.88	4.5	2,356	9.2	8.7	68.9	0.7	0.7	6.2	5.9	7.6	7.6
Xinyu Iron & Steel Co Ltd-A	600782 CH	n/a	4.62	4.8	2,241	5.8	5.7	179.9	0.6	0.5	6.9	6.3	10.1	9.2
Nanjing Iron & Steel Co-A	600282 CH	na	3.29	3.7	3,076	8.4	7.7	322.5	1.0	0.9	5.6	5.2	12.1	11.9
Liuzhou Iron & Steel Co-A	601003 CH	n/a	5.07	5.5	1,977	7.3	6.9	327.1	1.1	1.0	8.4	7.9	13.8	13.3
Angang Steel Co Ltd-A	000898 CH	n/a	2.98	3.0	4,132	16.4	12.8	87.1	0.5	0.5	6.0	5.5	3.2	3.7
Xinyu Iron & Steel Co Ltd-A	600782 CH	n/a	4.62	4.8	2,241	5.8	5.7	179.9	0.6	0.5	6.9	6.3	10.1	9.2
Hyundai Steel	004020 KS	n/a	33,100	33,263	3,994	na	20.2	(48.7)	0.3	0.3	9.2	7.5	(0.8)	1.3
JFE Holidng Inc	5411 JP	n/a	901	1087.1	5,301	na	10.8	na	0.3	0.3	17.8	8.2	(7.1)	2.8
Tata Steel	TATA IN	Add	492.2	503.1	7,556	217.0	9.5	50.0	0.8	0.7	9.1	6.2	0.5	8.2
Jindal Steel & Power Ltd	JSP IN	Add	216.4	277.5	2,964	10.5	10.0	58.5	0.7	0.6	4.6	4.7	6.5	6.4
NMDC Ltd	NMDC IN	Add	94	112.2	3,865	7.3	7.1	14.4	1.0	0.9	5.2	4.9	13.5	13.0
Average					3,492	29.6	9.3	176.6	0.7	0.7	7.4	6.0	7.5	8.8
Median					3,020	7.9	8.2	78.9	0.7	0.7	6.1	5.7	8.8	8.7
Hoa Phat Group	HPG VN	Add	32,250	40,500	4,610	11.2	9.3	4.5	1.6	1.3	5.6	4.4	21.3	20.0



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(VNDb)	Dec-18A	Dec-19A	Dec-20F	Dec-21F	Dec-22F
Total Net Revenues	55,836	63,658	88,801	108,502	114,427
Gross Profit	11,671	11,185	18,049	21,097	22,927
Operating EBITDA	12,524	11,914	21,493	25,361	27,066
Depreciation And Amortisation	(2,206)	(2,417)	(5,507)	(6,840)	(6,840)
Operating EBIT	10,318	9,498	15,987	18,521	20,226
Financial Income/(Expense)	(245)	(465)	(1,824)	(1,579)	(958)
Pretax Income/(Loss) from Assoc.	0	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Non-Operating Income/(Expense)	(1)	66	(28)	(12)	(54)
Profit Before Tax (pre-EI)	10,071	9,097	14,133	16,928	19,212
Exceptional Items					
Pre-tax Profit	10,071	9,097	14,133	16,928	19,212
Taxation	(1,471)	(1,518)	(1,757)	(2,047)	(2,308)
Exceptional Income - post-tax					
Profit After Tax	8,601	7,578	12,376	14,881	16,905
Minority Interests	(28)	(71)	(71)	(71)	(71)
Preferred Dividends					
FX Gain/(Loss) - post tax					
Other Adjustments - post-tax	(181)	(189)	(309)	(372)	(423)
Net Profit	8,392	7,318	11,996	14,439	16,412
Recurring Net Profit	8,392	7,318	11,996	14,439	16,412
Fully Diluted Recurring Net Profit	8,392	7,318	11,996	14,439	16,412

Cash Flow					
(VNDb)	Dec-18A	Dec-19A	Dec-20F	Dec-21F	Dec-22F
EBITDA	12,524	11,914	21,493	25,361	27,066
Cash Flow from Invt. & Assoc.	0	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Change In Working Capital	(2,766)	(8,494)	(5,432)	(7,499)	433
(Incr)/Decr in Total Provisions	(73)	(6)	0	0	0
Other Non-Cash (Income)/Expense	0	0	0	0	0
Other Operating Cashflow	(86)	(8)	(134)	(128)	(383)
Net Interest (Paid)/Received	(540)	(937)	(1,955)	(1,710)	(1,089)
Tax Paid	(1,416)	(1,518)	(1,757)	(2,047)	(2,308)
Cashflow From Operations	7,642	949	12,213	13,976	23,718
Capex	(27,594)	(21,622)	(7,000)	(6,000)	(5,000)
Disposals Of FAs/subsidiaries	65	22	0	0	0
Acq. Of Subsidiaries/investments	6,148	2,350	(7,559)	0	0
Other Investing Cashflow	849	41	0	0	0
Cash Flow From Investing	(20,533)	(19,209)	(14,559)	(6,000)	(5,000)
Debt Raised/(repaid)	11,137	20,082	5,722	(4,736)	(7,317)
Proceeds From Issue Of Shares	11	0	5,522	0	0
Shares Repurchased					
Dividends Paid	(6)	(13)	(1,657)	(1,657)	(3,313)
Preferred Dividends					
Other Financing Cashflow					
Cash Flow From Financing	11,143	20,069	9,587	(6,393)	(10,630)
Total Cash Generated	(1,748)	1,810	7,241	1,583	8,088
Free Cashflow To Equity	(1,754)	1,822	3,376	3,240	11,401
Free Cashflow To Firm	(12,351)	(17,323)	(390)	9,686	19,807

SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



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Balance Sheet					
(VNDb)	Dec-18A	Dec-19A	Dec-20F	Dec-21F	Dec-22F
Total Cash And Equivalents	6,240	5,939	15,124	16,606	24,788
Total Debtors	3,210	3,575	6,812	8,918	8,203
Inventories	14,115	19,412	23,261	29,668	31,664
Total Other Current Assets	1,743	1,546	2,156	2,634	2,778
Total Current Assets	25,309	30,472	47,353	57,826	67,432
Fixed Assets	50,852	68,992	70,485	69,644	67,803
Total Investments	67	26	26	26	26
Intangible Assets	217	269	250	231	212
Total Other Non-Current Assets	1,778	2,032	4,440	5,425	5,721
Total Non-current Assets	52,914	71,319	75,201	75,326	73,762
Short-term Debt	11,495	16,838	14,146	8,918	3,503
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt					
Total Creditors	8,707	6,178	8,723	10,776	12,843
Other Current Liabilities	2,435	3,982	5,328	6,249	6,401
Total Current Liabilities	22,636	26,998	28,197	25,944	22,747
Total Long-term Debt	12,811	19,842	21,587	18,358	15,146
Hybrid Debt - Debt Component					
Total Other Non-Current Liabilities	2,153	7,163	7,548	9,223	9,726
Total Non-current Liabilities	14,964	27,005	29,135	27,580	24,872
Total Provisions	0	0	0	0	0
Total Liabilities	37,600	54,003	57,332	53,524	47,619
Shareholders' Equity	40,496	47,605	64,968	79,304	93,181
Minority Interests	127	183	253	324	394
Total Equity	40,623	47,788	65,222	79,628	93,575

Key Ratios					
	Dec-18A	Dec-19A	Dec-20F	Dec-21F	Dec-22F
Revenue Growth	21.0%	14.0%	39.5%	22.2%	5.5%
Operating EBITDA Growth	9.7%	(4.9%)	80.4%	18.0%	6.7%
Operating EBITDA Margin	22.4%	18.7%	24.2%	23.4%	23.7%
Net Cash Per Share (VND)	(5,452)	(9,278)	(6,220)	(3,220)	1,853
BVPS (VND)	12,222	14,368	19,608	23,935	28,123
Gross Interest Cover	19.11	10.14	8.18	10.83	18.57
Effective Tax Rate	14.6%	16.7%	12.4%	12.1%	12.0%
Net Dividend Payout Ratio	0.1%	NA	12.0%	10.0%	17.7%
Accounts Receivables Days	31.92	19.45	21.41	26.46	27.31
Inventory Days	106.9	116.6	110.4	110.5	122.3
Accounts Payables Days	53.44	51.77	38.54	40.71	47.11
ROIC (%)	27.9%	13.0%	16.3%	17.4%	17.9%
ROCE (%)	19.2%	13.3%	17.4%	17.9%	18.6%
Return On Average Assets	15.4%	10.3%	13.7%	14.0%	14.3%

Key Drivers					
	Dec-18A	Dec-19A	Dec-20F	Dec-21F	Dec-22F
ASP (% Change)	14.6%	-8.8%	-7.1%	1.0%	1.0%
Unit Sales Growth (%)	6.4%	21.1%	65.5%	17.4%	0.3%
Utilisation Rate (%)	84.7%	71.1%	107.7%	108.1%	101.7%

SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



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GUNKUL, HANA, HMPRO, INTUCH, IRPC, IVL, JAS, JMT, KBANK, KCE, KKP, KTB, KTC, LH, MAJOR, MBK, MEGA, MINT, MTC, ORI, OSP, PLANB, PRM, PSH, PTG, PTT, PTTEP, PTTGC, QH, RATCH, ROBINS, RS, SAWAD, SCB, SCC, SGP, SIRI, SPALI, SPRC, STA, STEC, SUPER, TASCO, TCAP, THAI, THANI, TISCO, TKN, TMB, TOA, TOP, TPIPP, TRUE, TTW, TU, TVO, WHA.

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The survey result is as of the date appearing in the Corporate Governance Report of Thai Listed Companies. As a result, the survey result may be changed after that date. CGS-CIMB Thailand does not confirm nor certify the accuracy of such survey result.

Score Range:	90 - 100	80 – 89	70 - 79	Below 70 or	No Survey Result
Description:	Excellent	Very Good	Good	N/A	

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Distribution of stock ratings and investment banking clients for quarter ended on 30 September 2019		
777 companies under coverage for quarter ended on 30 September 2019		
	Rating Distribution (%)	Investment Banking clients (%)
Add	58.8%	0.9%
Hold	26.3%	0.0%
Reduce	14.9%	0.1%



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Spitzer Chart for stock being researched (2 year data)

Hoa Phat Group (HPG VN) ----Price Close 36,000 33,100 26,136,900 31,000 26,000 21,000 16,000 Add Hold Not Rated Reduce Nov-17 May-18 Nov-18 May-19 Nov-19 May-20



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Corporate Governance Report of Thai Listed Companies (CGR). CG Rating by the Thai Institute of Directors Association (Thai IOD) in 2018, Anti-Corruption 2018

ADVANC - Excellent, Certified, AEONTS - Good, n/a, AH - Very Good, n/a, AMATA - Excellent, Declared, ANAN - Excellent, Declared, AOT -Excellent, Declared, AP - Excellent, Certified, ASP - Very Good, Certified, BANPU - Excellent, Certified, BAY - Excellent, Certified, BBL - Very Good, Certified, BCH - Good, Certified, BCP - Excellent, Certified, BCPG - Excellent, Certified, BEM - Very Good, n/a, BDMS - Very Good, n/a, BEAUTY - Good, n/a, BEC - Very Good, n/a, , BGRIM - Very Good, Declared, BH - Good, n/a, BJC - Very Good, Declared, BJCHI - Very Good, Certified, BLA - Very Good, Certified, BPP - Very Good, Declared, BR - Good, Declared, BTS - Excellent, Certified, CBG - Very Good, n/a, CCET - Good, n/a, CENTEL - Very Good, Certified, CHG - Very Good, Declared, CK - Excellent, n/a, COL - Excellent, Declared, CPALL - Very Good, Certified, CPF - Excellent, Certified, CPN - Excellent, Certified, DELTA - Excellent, n/a, DEMCO - Excellent, Certified, DDD - Very Good, Declared, DIF - not available, n/a, DREIT - not available, n/a, DTAC - Excellent, Certified, EA - Excellent, n/a, ECL - Very Good, Certified, EGCO - Excellent, Certified, EPG - Very Good, n/a, ERW - Very Good, n/a, GFPT - Excellent, Certified, GGC - Excellent, Certified, GLOBAL - Very Good, n/a, GLOW - Very Good, Certified, GPSC - Excellent, Certified, GULF - Very Good, n/a, GUNKUL - Excellent, Certified, HANA - Excellent, Certified, HMPRO - Excellent, Certified, HREIT - Excellent, Certified ICHI - Excellent, Declared, HUMAN - not available, n/a, III - Good, n/a, INTUCH -Excellent, Certified, IRPC - Excellent, Certified, ITD* - Very Good, n/a, IVL - Excellent, Certified, JASIF - not available, n/a, JWD - Very Good, n/a, KBANK - Excellent, Certified, KCE - Excellent, Certified, KKP - Excellent, Certified, KSL - Excellent, Certified, KTB - Excellent, Certified, KTC - Excellent, Certified, LH - Very Good, n/a, LPN - Excellent, Certified, M - Very Good, Certified, MACO - Very Good, n/a, MAJOR - Very Good, n/a, MAKRO - Excellent, Declared, MALEE - Very Good, Certified, MC - Very Good, Certified, MCOT - Excellent, Certified, MEGA - Very Good, n/a, MINT - Excellent, Certified, MTC - Excellent, Declared, NETBAY - Good, n/a, OSP - not available, n/a, PLANB - Excellent, Declared, PLAT - Very Good, Certified, PR9 - not available, n/a, PSH - Excellent, Certified, PSTC - Good, Certified, PTT - Excellent, Certified, PTTEP -Excellent, Certified, PTTGC - Excellent, Certified, QH - Excellent, Certified, RATCH - Excellent, Certified, ROBINS - Excellent, Certified, RS -Very Good, n/a, RSP - not available, n/a, S - Very Good, n/a, SAMART - Excellent, n/a, SAPPE - Very Good, Declared, SAT - Excellent, Certified, SAWAD - Very Good, n/a, SC - Excellent, Declared, SCB - Excellent, Certified, SCC - Excellent, Certified, SCN - Very Good, Certified, SF -Good, n/a, SIRI - Very Good, Certified, SPA - Good, n/a, SPALI - Excellent, n/a, SPRC - Excellent, Certified, STA - Very Good, Certified, STEC Excellent, n/a, SVI - Excellent, Certified, SYNEX - Very Good, Declared, TASCO - Excellent, Certified, TCAP - Excellent, Certified, THANI -Excellent, Certified, TIPCO - Very Good, Certified, TISCO - Excellent, Certified, TKN - Very Good, Declared, TMB - Excellent, Certified, TNR -Very Good, Declared, TOP - Excellent, Certified, TPCH - Good, n/a, TPIPP - Good, n/a, TRUE - Excellent, Certified, TU - Excellent, Certified, TVO - Very Good, Declared, UNIQ - Good, n/a, VGI - Excellent, Certified, WHA - Excellent, Certified, WHART - not available, n/a, WICE - Very Good, Certified, WORK - Good, n/a.

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Add	The stock's total return is expected to reach 15% or higher over the next 12 months.
Hold	The stock's total return is expected to be between negative 10% and positive 15% over the next 12 months.
Reduce	The stock's total return is expected to fall below negative 10% over the next 12 months.
The total expected ret	turn of a stock is defined as the sum of the:(i) percentage difference between the target price and the current price a

The total expected return of a stock is defined as the sum of the:(i) percentage difference between the target price and the current price and (ii) the forward net dividend yields of the stock. Stock price targets have an investment horizon of 12 months.

Sector Ratings	Definition:
Overweight	An Overweight rating means stocks in the sector have, on a market cap-weighted basis, a positive absolute recommendation.
Neutral	A Neutral rating means stocks in the sector have, on a market cap-weighted basis, a neutral absolute recommendation.
Underweight	An Underweight rating means stocks in the sector have, on a market cap-weighted basis, a negative absolute recommendation.
Country Ratings	Definition:
Overweight	An Overweight rating means investors should be positioned with an above-market weight in this country relative to benchmark.
Neutral	A Neutral rating means investors should be positioned with a neutral weight in this country relative to benchmark.
Underweight	An Underweight rating means investors should be positioned with a below-market weight in this country relative to benchmark.

Hien Tran Khanh – Deputy Head of Research

Email: hien.trankhanh@vndirect.com.vn

Trung TRAN - Analyst

Email: trung.tranba@vndirect.com.vn



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VNDIRECT Securities Corporation

1 Nguyen Thuong Hien Str – Hai Ba Trung Dist – Ha Noi | Tel: +84 2439724568

Email: research@vndirect.com.vn | Website: https://vndirect.com.vn