

Thailand Morning Cuppa

Top Story

PTT Exploration & Production (PTTEP TB, BUY, TP: THB147.00)

Strong 35% YoY Growth In 2019F Net Profit
Results Preview

Reiterate BUY with new TP of THB147.00 from THB144.00, 12% upside plus c.4% yield. 2019F net profit is expected to come in at a strong THB49bn (+35% YoY) on higher ASP and stronger sales volume, where its Partex and Murphy acquisitions have started to fully contribute in 4Q19F. For 2020F, earnings should remain resilient with recent acquisitions, while its largest natural gas discovery in Malaysia (SK410B) has yet to be included.

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Today's Report: [PTT Exploration & Production : Strong 35% YoY Growth In 2019F Net Profit \(23 Jan 2020\)](#)

Previous Report: [PTT Exploration & Production : Robust Growth Ahead; Keep BUY \(17 Dec 2019\)](#)

Economic Research

Dec 2019 Exports Better Than Expected But Remain In a Decline

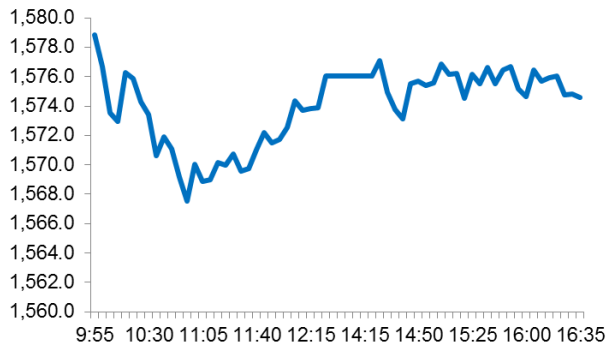
- Exports continued to decline in Dec 2019, by 1.3% YoY. However, this was an improvement from -7.4% YoY in the previous month, and better than the -2.1% YoY expected by the Consensus. Shipments of electronic items turned positive, while the resumption of oil refineries' operations helped to offset the sharp drop in rice exports.
- Imports turned around to record 2.5% YoY growth in Dec 2019, ie the first time since Jul 2019, as imports of raw materials, capital goods as well as fuel goods increased YoY.
- We expect export growth to recover gradually 2.2% YoY this year, vs a decline of 2.7% in 2019 – which marked the first annual contraction since 2015. The contraction was due to the low base effect, stabilising THB, a more pronounced trade diversion impact, as well as improved sentiment following the recent phase-1 trade deal between the US and China.

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Today's Report: [Dec 2019 Exports Better Than Expected But Remain In a Decline \(23 Jan 2020\)](#)

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Chart 1: SET intra-day graph



SET	2017	2018	2019	2020F
PE (x)	17.60	16.25	15.60	14.48
P/BV (x)	2.03	1.74	1.65	1.57
Yield (%)	2.80	3.35	3.20	3.42

SET Value by investor Type: Daily

	Buy (THBm)	Sell (THBm)	Net (THBm)
Institution	9,426.20	11,628.38	-2,202.18
Proprietary	9,477.05	8,875.17	601.88
Foreign	27,312.33	27,219.55	92.79
Retail	26,697.39	25,189.87	1,507.52

SET Value by investor Type

	MTD (THBm)	YTD (THBm)
Institution	-11,214.33	-11,214.34
Proprietary	3,668.06	3,668.06
Foreign	-4,099.06	-4,099.06
Retail	11,645.33	11,645.33

SET50 Index Future

	Long	Short	Net	MTD	YTD
Institution	26,702	27,843	-1,141	-8,238	-8,238
Foreign	59,756	70,463	-10,707	-51,792	-51,792
Local	95,985	84,137	11,848	60,030	60,030

Foreign Fund Flows (USDm)

	Daily	WTD	MTD	YTD	YoY
Thailand	3.1	16.5	-135.2	-135.2	7114.7

Note: *As at 22 Jan 2020 closing

Table 1: Key market indices (23 Jan 2020)

	Index	Chg	% Chg	% YTD
SET	1574.59	-0.35	-0.02%	-0.3%
SET50	1063.33	1.07	0.10%	-0.5%
SET100	2321.48	-0.35	-0.02%	-0.9%
Dow Jones	29186.27	-9.77	-0.03%	2.3%
S&P500	3321.75	0.96	0.03%	2.8%
Nasdaq	9383.77	12.96	0.14%	4.6%
FTSE	7571.92	-38.78	-0.51%	0.4%
FSSTI	3253.93	6.76	0.21%	1.0%
Hang Seng	28341.04	355.71	1.27%	0.5%
Nikkei	24031.35	166.79	0.70%	1.6%
KLCI	1577.98	-9.35	-0.59%	-0.7%
SHANGHAI SE	3060.75	8.61	0.28%	0.3%
JCI	6233.45	-4.70	-0.08%	-1.0%

Key Statistics

Foreign Exchange Rates / Oil Market

	Closed	Chg.	%Chg.
USD			
Baht (Onshore)	30.38	-0.02	0.08
Yen	109.73	-0.11	0.10
Euro	1.11	0.00	0.03
Oil Price (USD/barrel)			
Brent	62.17	-1.75	-2.74
Nymex-Crude Light	56.17	-0.57	-1.00

Note: *As at 22 Jan 2020 closing

Top BUYs

	TP (THB)	Upside (%)	Catalysts
Advance Info Service (ADVANC TB)	250.00	14.16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better profitability due to the TOT litigation settlement (for towers and 2G equipment) that could decrease its network opex by THB3.2bn pa. Strong convergence services portfolio, with a low base of fixed broadband customers who should benefit from the shift in the industry's acquisition trends. Solid balance sheet and cash flow that could be a safeguard against uncertainties during the spectrum auction.
Bangkok Bank (BBL TB)	205.00	35.76	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved sustainable earnings growth prospects, underpinned by continued loan growth, lower provisions, and efficient cost management. Sustainable earnings growth prospects, underpinned by continued loan growth, lower provisions, and efficient cost management. Moderate fee income growth is supported by the collaboration with AIA and less impact from the online fee waiver. ROE is trending up to 9-9.2% in 2019-2020 from the low level at 8.5% in 2017. As the top corporate lender, BBL is likely to gain the most benefits from the infrastructure investment cycle to shore up loans growth.
Bangkok Chain Hospital (BCH TB)	21.50	36.94	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A leading private hospital and the Social Security Office (SSO) scheme's largest service provider. Enhanced its customer base to capture the upper-end and international patient segments. Key growth drivers are upcoming price adjustment and clearer payment policy from the SSO, higher revenue intensity from larger portion of cash patients who come for complicated cases, as well as better volume growth from upcoming new facilities and higher utilisation of World Medical Centre.
Central Pattana (CPN TB)	83.50	32.01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following the online retail trend, the malls of Central Pattana – Thailand's No.1 shopping mall developer – are likely to become the centre of consumer lifestyle and activities. Expect better YoY earnings growth in 4Q19F compared to the previous quarter, to be driven by the major transfer of its three sold-out, high-rise residential projects. Loans refinancing may lower Grand Canal Land's cost of debts by c.0.5ppts by the final quarter this year, benefitting Central Pattana's interest expenses. Potentially, c.THB1.75bn net extra gains from the asset spin-offs to its REIT may be recorded in 1H20.
CP All (CPALL TB)	95.00	27.09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Its 7-Eleven convenience store outlook is likely on track – CP All continues to open new stores at the same 700 outlets pa rate it has undertaken so far, to enjoy sales from ongoing launches of new merchandise and the attractive stamp campaign, along with a recovery of service income thanks to rising transactions of its banking agent service. Siam Makro's product and customer developments play vital roles for the improvement of its operations, which have boosted sales and operating leverage. The factors help limit the impact of rising opex due to its overseas expansion. Expect stronger earnings growth of 13% in 2020F to be driven by both the 7-Eleven and Siam Makro segments.
CH Karnchang (CK TB)	26.00	39.04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With a small orderbook worth about THB37bn, the company has three construction projects. Remaining orders that can generate significant revenue in the near term include the mechanical & engineering system procurement contract for the Blue-Line Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) extension, Orange-Line MRT construction works under a JV with Sino-Thai Engineering & Construction, and the Xayaburi hydropower project in Laos. CK has signed new orderbooks worth about THB6bn from the Rama III-Dao Khanong Expressway. The company's opportunity to grow its orderbook will arise when high-speed railway network linking three international airports is scheduled for an upcoming contract signing.

Top BUYs

	TP (THB)	Upside (%)	Catalysts
Electricity Generating (EGCO TB)	394.00	16.57	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We like this company for its relatively low gearing of 1x D/E and cash on hand of THB20.6bn, which we believe will support further growth in the overseas market. We expect 2020F earnings to be boosted by 10% to THB12.8bn, as two large scale projects have already commenced in 4Q19: The 500MW San Buenaventura Power in the Philippines and 1,285MW Xayaburi hydro-electric power plant in Laos.
Osotspa (OSP TB)	49.00	5.39	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Osotspa's organisational streamlining by its new management team has effectively turned the company from a family business to a professionally run entity. Local and overseas activities to help driving topline sales, the launch of new products to capture consumer demands, expansion of production facilities, and distribution coverage abroad – mainly in Myanmar – to strengthen its leading position there. Its key business strategy – premiumisation of new products and corporate cost-savings programme – should be the key factors that help boost GPM and keep opex under control. Expect stronger earnings growth of 16% in 2020F vs 14% in 2019F.
PTT Explore & Production (PTTEP TB)	147.00	12.21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The company's products are both directly and indirectly linked to crude oil prices, so it remains South-East Asia's best proxy to crude oil prices. We expect higher sales volume while costs remain stable. Its Leng Lebah (SK410B) field currently has estimated total resources at 2tcf. PTTEP expects to drill another nearby well in 2Q20. It is possible that another 2-3tcf can be found. This project could potentially be commercialised by 1Q25, as it could use shared existing facilities within the area. Assuming 30%-100% of 2tcf is proved reserves, this project could add c.TH3.50-11.50 per share to PTTEP's current valuation.
Siam Cement (SCC TB)	460.00	28.13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Among Siam Cement's major businesses, the cement & building materials division – along with the packaging wing – will somehow mitigate the heavy impact on the petrochemical business. This is based on management's guideline of proactive long-term measures to cope with macroeconomic uncertainties, eg the US-China trade war. While demand for cement has picked up since 3Q18, the company should leverage on this situation by introducing new high-value-added products in building materials and expanding its retail outlet network via partnerships made in major provincial cities.
Star Petroleum Refining (SPRC TB)	12.70	53.01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We like this company as share price has been depressed for most of 2019F due to its 45-day planned maintenance shutdown in 4Q19. After planned maintenance, we will see its refining capacity increase from 165kbpd to 175kbpd. We see earnings are set for a rebound, from net loss THB1.9bn for 2019F to net profit of THB5.0bn. The company has minimal debt, currently at USD51.8m temporary short-term debt. With its strong financial position, we believe the company is well placed for further expansion or diversification. We believe SPRC will make an announcement of its plans to expand into new business in 2Q20F. This new business, we believe, will be within its core competence and possibly downstream petrochemicals business.
WHA Corp (WHA TB)	4.85	55.45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WHA is the proxy in industrial estates to benefit from e-commerce in Thailand. After the company's successful deal with Alibaba, its key strength in premium warehouses should make it an attractive option for e-commerce players, especially from China. The stronger inflow of foreign direct investments (FDIs) into Thailand should bear fruit in 2019, when investors make decisions on the Eastern Economic Corridor's 10 target industries. Good signals from Chinese FDI investors, as they are requesting visits to WHA's project sites, especially for smart electronics, auto parts for electric vehicles, robotics, and food for the future.

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