

# **Photo-Me International**

# Laundry opportunities and Japanese restructuring

Photo-Me's (PHTM's) FY18 results confirmed a successful business model divided by mutually exclusive sectors. A choppy market in Asia squeezed segment revenues but restructuring plans potentially improve profitability beyond FY19. FX headwinds and reduced tax benefited margins, although politically driven tax breaks can't be assumed to be permanent. The aggressive laundry unit roll-out helped to drive the top line with segment revenue mix shifting in Portugal and Ireland. We expect consensus to be downgraded temporarily but expansion in underpenetrated markets supports low single-digit growth over coming years.

### FY18 results: Earnings per share overshoot

Results surprised the market with PBT (underlying) growth of 4.4% but EPS growth of 14.2% on lower tax. Group revenue was up 7.1% to £229.8m, driven primarily by the rapid expansion of Laundry. The Japanese market proved challenging with the ID card programme failing to gain the anticipated momentum, which led to a decline of 35.7% in Asia segment operating profit (c 22.0% share of group vending units). Strategic acquisitions, organic growth and favourable exchange rates resulted in EBITDA growth of 2.8%; however, EBITDA margin decreased 130bp to 30.9%

## Laundry: Undemanding 2020 laundry unit target

Year-on-year revenue from laundry operations rose 69.1%, contributing 16% of total revenue (FY17: 10%) – a key driver of revenue with higher margins. Synergies from acquiring La Wash Group (May 2018) should contribute, with B2B and launderette expertise raising barriers to entry in the Spanish market. On a quest to expand B2B exposure, PHTM will seek acquisition opportunities in continental Europe supported by its cash-generative model. Compound annual laundry unit growth over the past four years has been c 42%, against which the target of 6,000 units by FY20 (FY18: 4,449) looks undemanding.

# Valuation: Upsides despite high payout ratio

Consensus PBT is set to remain flat from FY18 to FY20, although this factors in restructuring costs in Japan. Consensus FY19e DPS is 8.2p; however, a high FY19 dividend payout ratio of 0.9 raises sustainability concerns. While the FY19 P/E valuation looks low relative to c 15.0x for the 2018 FTSE All-Share Consumer Goods index, continued delivery versus consensus could see the discount begin to close.

Consensus estimates						
Year end	Revenue (£m)	PBT (£m)	EPS (p)	DPS (p)	P/E (x)	Yield (%)
04/17	214.7	48.0	9.3	7.0	11.9	6.3
04/18	229.8	50.2	10.6	8.4	10.5	7.6
04/19e	239.8	45.5	9.2	8.2	12.1	7.4
04/20e	253.5	50.4	10.2	8.4	10.9	7.6

Source: PHTM, Bloomberg

### **Consumer goods**

19 July 2018





# Share details Code PHTM Listing LSE Shares in issue 377.5m

### **Business description**

Photo-Me provides instant service vending equipment operating through three main segments: Identification, Laundry and Kiosks. The company has approximately 48,000 units in operation across 18 countries sited in high footfall locations such as shopping malls and public transport facilities.

### Bull

- High barriers to entry in the Identification and laundry markets.
- High-margin laundry business is a key revenue driver
- Effective B2B launderette acquisition and integration strategy.

### Bear

- Dividend uncovered by cash.
- Lack of cross-synergies between markets.
- Risk of government centralisation of ID photo production.

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