

Indigo Paints Ltd.

Outperforming the industry amidst demand headwinds

In Q1 FY25, Indigo Paints Ltd (IPL) reported a topline growth of ~7.8% on a YoY basis, outperforming the industry by ~9%. Putty and Cement Paints being consistent throughout the year grew by ~8.2% in volume and ~0.7% in realization, on a YoY basis. Emulsion reported a volume growth of 0.4% and realization decline of ~3.5%, on a YoY basis, due to price cuts observed in the industry since last year. Enamels and wood coatings volume grew by ~5% and its realization degrew by ~6%, on a YoY basis. Primers, Distempers & Others volume grew by 24.4% and realization grew by ~4.2% on a YoY basis. The Company reported industry-leading gross margins at ~47%. The subsidiary Apple Chemie recorded a growth rate of ~47%, increasing its contribution from ~4% to 5%+ on a YoY basis.

Outperforming industry

During the quarter, the Company delivered a topline growth of ~7.8%, whereas the industry degrew by ~1.6%, on a YoY basis. On the other hand, its larger peer Asian Paints Ltd (APL) reported a degrowth of ~2%. This is despite Kerela, the state that contributes significantly to the Company's business, undergoing unascertainable demand headwinds. The outperformance continues the Company's track record for the past 5 years, where its sales grew at a CAGR of ~20%, while the industry grew at ~3% and top players like APL and BPLI grew at ~13% between FY19-24.

Growth initiatives for next 4-5 years

The Company is expanding its capacity for Liquid-base by $^{\sim}64\%$ from 1,60,000 KLPA to $^{\sim}2,62,000$ KLPA and Powder-base by 100% from 1,38,000 MTPA to 2,76,000 MTPA. The Company also increased its sales force by $^{\sim}35\%$ in the previous year, to gear up its growth approach. The no. of dealers also were increased by $^{\sim}11\%$ to over 10,000 in the quarter on a YoY basis. Additionally, the Company plans to consolidate its position in tier 2-4 cities and enter tier 1 cities.

View & Valuation

After the price undercutting for several quarters, the management has observed the pattern breaking for demand and realization. However, with competition increasing from new incumbents, we conservatively estimate a growth of ~18% on topline. Consequently, we revise our estimates and change our rating from BUY to NEUTRAL on IPL. Ascribing a PE of ~42x on FY25E EPS, we arrive at a target price of ~1,457, which suggests and upside of ~2%.

12th August 2024

NEUTRAL

CMP Rs. 1,433

TARGET Rs. 1,457 (+2%)

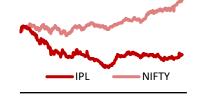
Company Data

| Bloomberg Code | INDIGOPN IN |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| MCAP (Rs. Mn) | 68,784 |
| O/S Shares (Mn) | 48 |
| 52w High/Low | 1,618/1,253 |
| Face Value (Rs.) | 10 |
| Liquidity (3M) (Rs. Mn) | 139 |

Shareholding Pattern %

| | Jun 24 | Mar 24 | Dec 23 |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Promoters | 53.9 | 53.9 | 53.9 |
| Fils | 8.3 | 7.7 | 8.8 |
| DIIs | 1.1 | 2.0 | 1.8 |
| Non- Institutional | 36.7 | 36.4 | 35.5 |

IPL vs Nifty



| Aug, 21 | Aug, 22 | Aug, 23 | Aug, 24 |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|---------|---------|---------|---------|

Source: Keynote Capitals Ltd.

| Key Financial Data | | | | | | |
|--------------------|------|-------|-------|--|--|--|
| (Rs Bn) | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E | | | |
| Revenue | 13 | 15 | 18 | | | |
| EBITDA | 2 | 3 | 3 | | | |
| Net Profit | 1 | 2 | 2 | | | |
| Total Assets | 13 | 15 | 17 | | | |
| ROCE (%) | 17% | 17% | 17% | | | |
| ROE (%) | 18% | 17% | 17% | | | |

Source: Company, Keynote Capitals Ltd. estimates

Karan Galaiya, Research Analyst karan@keynotecapitals.net





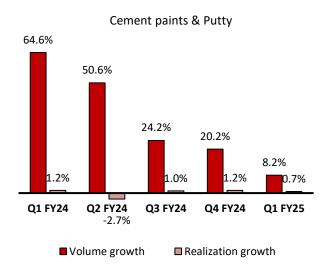
Q1 FY25 Result Update

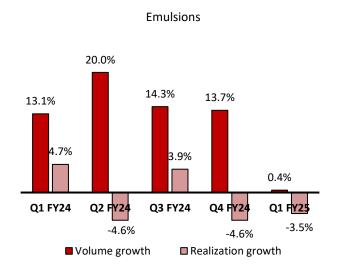
Result Highlights (Rs. Mn)

| Particulars | Q1 FY25 | Q1 FY24 | Change % (Y-o-Y) | Q4 FY24 | Change % (Q-o-Q) | FY24 |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|---------------------|---------|---------------------|--------|
| Revenue | 3,110 | 2,884 | 8% | 3,849 | -19% | 13,061 |
| Gross Profit | 1,449 | 1,365 | 6% | 1,881 | -23% | 6,222 |
| Gross Profit % | 47% | 47% | -73 bps | 49% | -226 bps | 48% |
| Employee Cost | 302 | 243 | 24% | 234 | 29% | 995 |
| Other Expenses | 673 | 631 | 7% | 801 | -16% | 2,846 |
| EBITDA | 474 | 491 | -4% | 846 | -44% | 2,381 |
| EBITDA % | 15% | 17% | -179 bps | 22% | -675 bps | 18% |
| Depreciation | 152 | 101 | 51% | 156 | -2% | 516 |
| EBIT | 321 | 390 | -18% | 690 | -53% | 1,865 |
| Finance Cost | 6 | 5 | 31% | 5 | 39% | 21 |
| Other Income | 42 | 38 | 10% | 42 | 1% | 142 |
| PBT | 357 | 423 | -16% | 727 | -51% | 1,986 |
| Tax | 90 | 108 | -17% | 183 | -51% | 498 |
| Non-controling Interest | 5 | 5 | -6% | 8 | -41% | 15 |
| PAT | 262 | 310 | -16% | 537 | -51% | 1,473 |
| EPS | 5.5 | 6.5 | -16% | 11.3 | -51% | 30.9 |

Source: Company, Keynote Capitals Ltd.

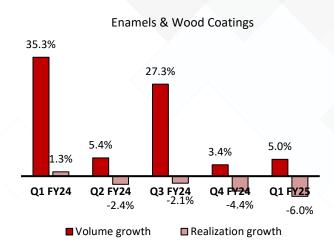
Business Progression

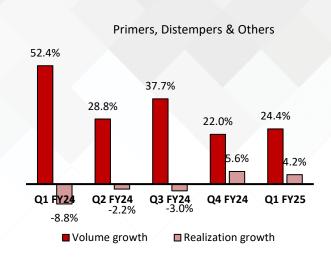


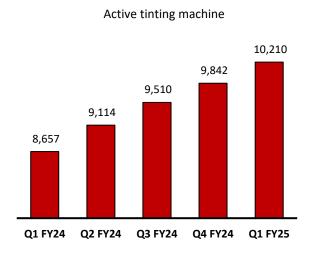


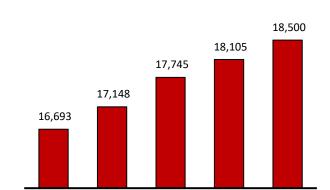
Source: Company, Keynote Capitals Ltd.











Q3 FY24

Q4 FY24

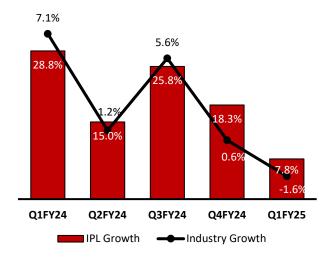
Q1 FY25

Q1 FY24

Q2 FY24

Active Dealer Count

IPL vs Industry Growth



Source: Company, Keynote Capitals Ltd.





Q1 FY25 Conference Call Takeaways

- The Company reported its fifth consecutive quarter of industry-leading growth despite subdued market conditions.
- The slowdown in growth was attributed to a significant decline in Kerala, a key contributor to the Company's revenue. Kerala experienced negative growth across all paint players, as reported by the Company's on-ground sales team. However, strong performance in other states helped offset the underperformance in Kerala.
- The Company maintained its leading position in industry gross margins, but due to price cuts, higher channel discounts, and a temporary spike in raw material costs, gross margins slightly declined in Q1 FY25.
- The WPCC segment currently contributes 5-6% to the Company's standalone revenue, with expectations to increase this to 8-10% within the next 1-1.5 years, aided by quality and technology edge from subsidiary ACIL.

Distribution

- The marginal decrease in EBITDA was due to a sharp rise in employee costs, as the Company expanded its sales force by 35-40% since Q2 FY24 to increase on-ground presence in most states. This also resulted in employee cost increasing by ~24% on a YoY basis.
- Going forward, the Company plans to supplement TV advertising with increased digital media spending. While initiatives are already underway, overall A&SP spending will rise at a slower rate than revenue growth, leading to a slight decline in A&SP as a percentage of revenue.
- Once the new capacities in Jodhpur are operational, they will fulfill the Company's CapEx needs for the next four years.
- The Company expects to increase its throughput per dealer by deploying tinting machines to boost sales, expanding its wholesale dealer base, and loyalty programs.
- The Company will continue adding 1,300-1,500 tinting machines annually, charging nominally to ensure their effective use rather than giving them away for free.
- The management believes that new entrants haven't impacted the industry yet due to high entry barriers and the dominance of established players in the Indian decorative paint sector.
- The Company maintains a positive outlook for the coming quarters, having experienced strong growth in July'24 despite the monsoon season. Industry price hikes in July-Aug'24 are expected to enhance gross margins.



Indigo Paints Ltd. | Quarterly Update

- For the past few quarters, the demand has been muted, but the Company witnessed pattern breaking in the first half of Q2 FY25.
- For Emulsion, product demonstrations often involve showcasing wall emulsions using simple tools to highlight coverage and brightness, making them easier to present. However, waterproofing products require sophisticated lab equipment, which isn't portable, complicating field demonstrations. To address this, makeshift methods like using a tea strainer are employed to test water leakage and demonstrate technical superiority, despite equipment limitations in the field.
- The Tamil Nadu plant, commissioned towards the end of Q2 FY24, has led to higher depreciation expenses due to its state-of-the-art facilities, where ~Rs. 3 Bn were spent on CapEx, affecting EBITDA. This impact shall repeat in the subsequent quarter, normalizing by Q3 FY25.
- The product mix experiences significant seasonality. Distempers and Enamels have strong sales in Q2, before the festive season. Emulsions are weak in Q2 during monsoons, but witness incrementally better sales in Q3, followed by Q4. Primers and Putty observe consistent sales throughout the year.





Financial Statement Analysis

| Income Statement | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Y/E Mar, Rs. Mn | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E | FY27E |
| Net Sales | 10,733 | 13,061 | 14,987 | 17,535 | 20,604 |
| Growth % | 18% | 22% | 15% | 17% | 18% |
| Raw Material Expenses | 5,952 | 6,839 | 7,718 | 9,031 | 10,611 |
| Employee Expenses | 731 | 995 | 1,199 | 1,403 | 1,648 |
| Other Expenses | 2,235 | 2,846 | 3,222 | 3,770 | 4,430 |
| EBITDA | 1,815 | 2,381 | 2,848 | 3,332 | 3,915 |
| Growth % | 33% | 31% | 20% | 17% | 18% |
| Margin% | 17% | 18% | 19% | 19% | 19% |
| Depreciation | 343 | 516 | 669 | 714 | 740 |
| EBIT | 1,472 | 1,865 | 2,178 | 2,617 | 3,175 |
| Growth % | 41% | 27% | 17% | 20% | 21% |
| Margin% | 14% | 14% | 15% | 15% | 15% |
| Interest Paid | 14 | 21 | 33 | 33 | 33 |
| Other Income & exceptional | 101 | 142 | 160 | 160 | 160 |
| PBT | 1,559 | 1,986 | 2,305 | 2,745 | 3,302 |
| Tax | 239 | 498 | 576 | 686 | 825 |
| PAT | 1,319 | 1,488 | 1,729 | 2,058 | 2,476 |
| Others (Minorities, | 0 | 15 | -58 | -68 | -68 |
| Associates) | U | 13 | -30 | -00 | -08 |
| Net Profit | 1,319 | 1,503 | 1,671 | 1,990 | 2,408 |
| Growth % | 57% | 14% | 11% | 19% | 21% |
| Shares (Mn) | 47.6 | 47.6 | 47.6 | 47.6 | 47.6 |
| EPS | 27.73 | 30.94 | 35.11 | 41.82 | 50.61 |

| Ra | lanco | Shoot |
|----|-------|-------|

| Y/E Mar, Rs. Mn | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E | FY26E |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Cash, Cash equivalents & | 488 | 329 | 2,307 | 4,494 | 7,072 |
| Bank | 400 | 329 | 2,307 | 4,494 | 7,072 |
| Current Investments | 1,317 | 1,667 | 1,667 | 1,667 | 1,667 |
| Debtors | 2,001 | 2,231 | 2,473 | 2,981 | 3,503 |
| Inventory | 1,177 | 1,706 | 1,930 | 2,258 | 2,653 |
| Short Term Loans & | 187 | 265 | 265 | 265 | 265 |
| Advances | | | | | |
| Other Current Assets | 18 | 48 | 48 | 48 | 48 |
| Total Current Assets | 5,187 | 6,246 | 8,689 | 11,713 | 15,207 |
| Net Block & CWIP | 5,156 | 6,085 | 5,641 | 5,190 | 4,759 |
| Long Term Investments | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Non-current Assets | 273 | 373 | 373 | 373 | 373 |
| Total Assets | 10,616 | 12,704 | 14,703 | 17,275 | 20,339 |
| a | | | | | |
| Creditors | 1,991 | 2,290 | 2,502 | 2,948 | 3,467 |
| Provision | 216 | 36 | 36 | 36 | 36 |
| Short Term Borrowings | 0 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| Other Current Liabilities | 434 | 527 | 527 | 527 | 527 |
| Total Current Liabilities | 2,641 | 2,861 | 3,073 | 3,520 | 4,039 |
| Long Term Debt | 0 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| Deferred Tax Liabilities | 69 | 200 | 200 | 200 | 200 |
| Other Long Term Liabilities | 145 | 606 | 606 | 606 | 606 |
| Total Non Current Liabilities | 214 | 821 | 821 | 821 | 821 |
| Paid-up Capital | 476 | 476 | 476 | 476 | 476 |
| Reserves & Surplus | 7,285 | 8,545 | 10,274 | 12,332 | 14,809 |
| Shareholders' Equity | 7,761 | 9,021 | 10,750 | 12,808 | 15,285 |
| Non Controlling Interest | 0 | 0 | 58 | 126 | 194 |
| Total Equity & Liabilities | 10,616 | 12,704 | 14,703 | 17,275 | 20,339 |

Cash Flow

| Y/E Mar, Rs. Mn | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E | FY27E |
|--|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| Pre-tax profit | 1,559 | 1,986 | 2,305 | 2,745 | 3,302 |
| Adjustments | 351 | 494 | 601 | 655 | 681 |
| Change in Working Capital | -505 | -377 | -254 | -390 | -398 |
| Total Tax Paid | -244 | -593 | -576 | -686 | -825 |
| Cash flow from operating Activities | 1,161 | 1,510 | 2,076 | 2,324 | 2,759 |
| Net Capital Expenditure | -1,970 | -1,041 | -225 | -263 | -309 |
| Change in investments | 1,100 | -506 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other investing activities | 25 | 30 | 160 | 160 | 160 |
| Cash flow from investing activities | -844 | -1,517 | -65 | -103 | -149 |
| Equity raised / (repaid) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Debt raised / (repaid) | 0 | -64 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dividend (incl. tax) | -143 | -167 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other financing activities | -58 | -2 | -33 | -33 | -33 |
| Cash flow from financing activities | -201 | -232 | -33 | -33 | -33 |
| Net Change in cash | 116 | -239 | 1,977 | 2,188 | 2,578 |

Valuation Ratios

| valuation Ratios | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E | FY27E |
| Per Share Data | | | | | |
| EPS | 28 | 31 | 35 | 42 | 51 |
| Growth % | 57% | 12% | 13% | 19% | 21% |
| Book Value Per Share | 163 | 190 | 227 | 272 | 325 |
| Return Ratios | | | | | |
| Return on Assets (%) | 13% | 13% | 12% | 12% | 13% |
| Return on Equity (%) | 19% | 18% | 17% | 17% | 17% |
| Return on Capital Employed (%) | 19% | 17% | 17% | 17% | 17% |
| Turnover Ratios | | | | | |
| Asset Turnover (x) | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| Sales / Gross Block (x) | 3.0 | 2.3 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 2.5 |
| Working Capital / Sales (x) | 27% | 23% | 30% | 39% | 47% |
| Receivable Days | 63 | 59 | 57 | 57 | 57 |
| Inventory Days | 72 | 77 | 86 | 85 | 84 |
| Payable Days | 123 | 106 | 110 | 106 | 106 |
| Working Capital Days | 13 | 30 | 33 | 35 | 36 |
| Liquidity Ratios | | | | | |
| Current Ratio (x) | 2.0 | 2.2 | 2.8 | 3.3 | 3.8 |
| Interest Coverage Ratio (x) | 114.3 | 94.6 | 69.9 | 84.6 | 101.6 |
| Total Debt to Equity | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Net Debt to Equity | -0.1 | 0.0 | -0.2 | -0.3 | -0.5 |
| Valuation | | | | | |
| PE (x) | 36.4 | 32.6 | 35.8 | 30.0 | 24.8 |
| Earnings Yield (%) | 3% | 3% | 3% | 3% | 4% |
| Price to Sales (x) | 4.5 | 3.7 | 4.0 | 3.4 | 2.9 |
| Price to Book (x) | 6.2 | 6.6 | 5.6 | 4.7 | 3.9 |
| EV/EBITDA (x) | 26.2 | 25.0 | 20.9 | 17.9 | 15.2 |
| EV/Sales (x) | 4.4 | 4.6 | 4.0 | 3.4 | 2.9 |

Source: Company, Keynote Capitals Ltd. Estimates

KEYNOTE Rating History

| Date | Rating | Market Price at Recommendation | Upside/Downside |
|------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 4 th July 2024 | виу | 1,381 | +15.4% |
| 12 th August 2024 | NEUTRAL | 1,433 | +2% |





Rating Methodology

| Rating | Criteria |
|--|---|
| BUY | Expected positive return of > 10% over 1-year horizon |
| NEUTRAL | Expected positive return of > 0% to < 10% over 1-year horizon |
| REDUCE | Expected return of < 0% to -10% over 1-year horizon |
| SELL | Expected to fall by >10% over 1-year horizon |
| NOT RATED (NR)/UNDER REVIEW (UR)/COVERAGE SUSPENDED (CS) | Not covered by Keynote Capitals Ltd/Rating & Fair value under Review/Keynote Capitals Ltd has suspended coverage |

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Keynote Capitals Limited (CIN: U67120MH1995PLC088172)

Compliance Officer: Mr. Jairaj Nair; Tel: 022-68266000; email id: jairaj@keynoteindia.net

Registered Office: 9th Floor, The Ruby, Senapati Bapat Marg, Dadar West, Mumbai – 400028, Maharashtra. Tel: 022 – 68266000.

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