

Buy

(Maintained)

Last Price (Rp)	376				
Target Price (Rp)	530				
Previous Target Pr	ice (Rp)		560		
Upside/Downside			+41.0%		
No. of Shares (mn)		107,995		
Mkt Cap (Rpbn/US	s\$mn)	40,	606/2,495		
Avg, Daily T/O (Rpbn/US\$mn)	Avg, Daily T/O				
Free Float (%)		28.6			
Major Shareholde	r (%)		49.9		
PT MERDEKA Thohir Gribaldi			11.1		
THOMI Gribalai					
EPS Consensus (US	\$\$cents)				
	2024F	2025F	2026F		
BRIDS	0.0	0.1	0.1		
Consensus	0.0	0.1	0.2		
BRIDS/Cons (%)	0.0	(17.7)	(35.6)		

MBMA relative to JCI Index



Source: Bloombera

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Merdeka Battery Materials (MBMA IJ) Growth is imminent, subject to AIM's delivery

- Management targets flattish NPI/HGNM output in FY25, but it could potentially suspend HGNM production if it is not economically feasible.
- SCM's limonite ore production is poised to grow by +24%-49% in FY25, which will be sold to ESG HPAL and Meiming after FPP is ready in 2H25.
- We lowered our FY24-26F earnings forecasts by -14%/-35%/-26% and TP to Rp530; reiterate Buy rating on upsides from growth projects.

Possible matte production suspension

4Q24 NPI performance excelled as cash margin rose to its highest since 1Q23 at US\$1,850/t, supported by declining cash cost of -7% qoq, at US\$10k/t. We believe the decline was due to the overhaul in BSI smelter, which made it more efficient. Furthermore, the weaker LME price has also subdued ore price as material cost. On the other hand, its nickel matte facility recorded a weaker negative cash margin of US\$1,083/t from the decline in LME price, bringing FY24 cash margin to only US\$223/t, -73% yoy. Moving into FY25, MBMA has guided for similar production and cash cost as in FY24 for both NPI and HGNM, though it guides that, should the matte facility's margin remain unattractive, production could possibly be suspended and restarted when prices improve.

Solid growth from SCM mine

SCM has expanded its mining operation as limonite ore production grew from 4mt in FY23 to 10.1mt in FY24. Following a larger scale operation, its cash cost also decreased -14% yoy to US\$10.4/wmt, well below the guided US\$12/wmt. Thus, its cash margin improved by +20% yoy to US\$6.1/wmt. In FY25, management guided for a production of 12.5-15mt, +24%-49% yoy, to fulfill additional demand from newly operating HPALs. By Dec24, MBMA's JV with GEM, ESG HPAL, commenced phase-1 of production in Dec24 at 20ktpa, while phase-2 of 10ktpa is expected to follow suit in 1Q25. At the moment, the HPAL feeds ore from a FPP in IMIP, though it will switch to SCM's slurry pipe in 2H25.

AIM project's process and progress

AIM has 4 interconnected plants that feed off from 1mtpa of pyrite ore sent from Wetar. As per 4Q24, [1] the pyrite plant processed 147kt of pyrite ore and produced 110kt concentrate for [2] the acid plant, which had produced 165kt of acid and 225kt of steam used in HPALs. The calcine residue is then processed in [3] the chloride plant, which had produced wet iron pellets, and in Jan25 have extracted its first sponge copper. Finally, [4] the copper cathode plant, which extracts copper, gold, and silver, is scheduled to complete by 1H25.

Maintain Buy rating with a slightly lower TP of Rp530

We lowered our FY24-26F earnings estimates by -14%/-35%/-26% as we adjust our assumptions based on FY25 guidance and potential delays in AIM contribution. We maintain our **Buy** rating on valuation upsides from key growth projects. Key risks include a higher cash cost, lower ASP, and project delays.

Key Financials

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Year to 31 Dec	2022A	2023A	2024F	2025F	2026F
Revenue (US\$mn)	456	1,328	1,836	2,286	2,548
EBITDA (US\$mn)	48	97	117	290	391
Net Profit (US\$mn)	22	7	20	89	139
EPS (US\$cents)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
BVPS (US\$cents)	0.9	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.6
PER (x)	115.2	360.1	123.0	28.1	17.9
PBV (x)	2.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.4
EV/EBITDA	58.9	27.7	24.4	10.3	7.7

Source: MBMA, BRIDS Estimates



Exhibit 1. MBMA 4Q24 operational results

Operational data	4Q23	3Q24	4Q24	q-q (%)	y-y (%)	FY23	FY24	у-у (%)
NPI production (t)	22,141	20,557	18,823	-8.4%	-15.0%	65,117	82,161	26.2%
NPI sales (t)	22,472	18,900	18,831	-0.4%	-16.2%	64,526	80,199	24.3%
NPI ASP (USD/t)	12,097	12,041	11,887	-1.3%	-1.7%	13,537	11,608	-14.2%
NPI cash cost (USD/t)	10,774	10,776	10,037	-6.9%	-6.8%	12,095	10,307	-14.8%
NPI Cash Margin	1,323	1,265	1,850	46.2%	39.8%	1,442	1,301	-9.8%
Matte production (t)	12,684	12,979	11,893	-8.4%	-6.2%	30,333	50,315	65.9%
Matte sales (t)	11,700	13,192	12,005	-9.0%	2.6%	28,130	52,406	86.3%
Matte ASP (USD/t)	14,216	13,350	13,229	-0.9%	-6.9%	15,592	13,770	-11.7%
Matte cash cost (USD/t)	14,183	13,820	14,312	3.6%	0.9%	14,755	13,547	-8.2%
Matte cash margin	33	- 470	- 1,083	130.4%		837	223	-73.4%
Limonite ore production (Mn wmt)	1.6	3.7	3.4	-8.1%	112.5%	4.0	10.1	152.9%
Limonite ore sales (Mn wmt)	0.9	3.5	4.1	18.8%	332.9%	0.9	11.0	1065.7%
Limonite ore ASP (USD/t)	17.2	15.3	17.9	17.0%	4.1%	17.2	16.5	-4.1%
Limonite ore cash cost + haulage (USD/t)	10.2	9.9	9.0	-9.1%	-11.8%	12.1	10.4	-14.0%
Limonite cash margin	7.0	5.4	8.9	64.8%	27.1%	5.1	6.1	19.6%
Saprolite ore production (Mn wmt)	1.4	1.0	3.0	200.0%	114.3%	2.3	4.9	113.0%
Saprolite ore sales (Mn wmt)	0.7	1.2	1.4	16.7%	100.0%	0.8	4.9	512.5%
Saprolite ore ASP (USD/t)	34.3	28.8	27.4	-4.9%	-20.1%	34.6	29.1	-15.9%
Saprolite ore cash cost + haulage (USD/t)	28.0	23.8	21.6	-9.2%	-22.9%	28.7	23.4	-18.5%
Saprolite cash margin	6.3	5.0	5.8	16.0%	-7.9%	5.9	5.7	-3.4%

Source: Company, BRIDS

Exhibit 2. MBMA 4Q24 Forecast

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	9M24A	3Q24A	4Q24F	% QoQ	FY23A	FY24F	% YoY
Revenue	1,380	458	456	0%	1,328	1,836	38%
NPI	707	228	224	-2%	874	931	7%
Matte	564	177	159	-10%	439	723	65%
Limonite ore	107	52	73	41%	16	181	1037%
COGS	- 1,300	- 442	- 461	4%	- 1,251	- 1,761	41%
Gross profit	79	16	- 5	-130%	77	74	-4%
Opex	- 21	- 7	- 7	0%	- 30	- 28	-6%
EBIT	58	9	- 12	-234%	48	46	-2%
D&A	56	22	14	-37%	50	70	40%
EBITDA	114	31	2	-94%	97	116	19%

Source: Company, BRIDS estimates



Exhibit 3. MBMA FY25 Guidance

Operational data	FY23A	FY24A	FY25 Guidance	FY25 % YoY
NPI production (t)	65,117	82,161	80,000-87,000	-2.6% to 5.9%
NPI cash cost (USD/t)	12,095	10,307	<11,000	6.7%
NPI AISC (USD/t)	12,252	10,483	<11,200	6.8%
Matte production (t)	30,333	50,315	50,000-55,000	-0.6% to 9.3%
Matte cash cost (USD/t)	14,755	13,547	<13,500	-0.3%
Matte AISC (USD/t)	14,807	13,576	<13,500	-0.6%
Limonite ore production (mn wmt)	4.0	10.1	12.5-15.0	23.8% to 48.5%
Limonite ore cash cost (USD/t)	12.1	10.4	<11	5.8%
Saprolite ore production (mn wmt)	2.3	4.9	6.0-7.0	22.4% to 42.9%
Saprolite ore cash cost	28.7	23.4	<23	-1.7%
MHP production (t)			25,000-30,000	
MHP cash cost (USD/t)			<9,000	

Source: Company, BRIDS

Exhibit 4. Earnings estimates revision

	202	4F	202	5F	202	6F		Changes	
in US\$mn	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New	2024	2025	2026
Revenue	1,791	1,836	2,426	2,286	2,598	2,548	2.5%	-5.8%	-1.9%
Gross profit	99	75	374	219	451	324	-24.3%	-41.6%	-28.2%
Operating profit	72	47	339	185	413	286	-34.3%	-45.4%	-30.7%
Net profit	24	20	138	89	188	139	-13.9%	-35.4%	-26.0%

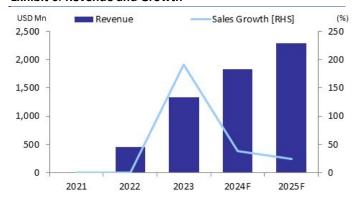
Source: Company, BRIDS estimates

Exhibit 5. Valuation Summary Table

DCF	EV (US\$ mn)	Valuation
SCM	1,096	
RKEF (BSI, CSI, ZHN, HNMI)	902	DCF
HPAL (ESG, Meiming, CATL)	1,198	DCF
AIM	823	
Total	4,018	
Net (debt)/cash	- 480	
Shares outstanding (Bn shares)	108	
Target price (IDR/sh)	530	

Source: BRIDS Estimates

Exhibit 6. Revenue and Growth



Source: Company, BRIDS Estimates

Exhibit 8. Margins



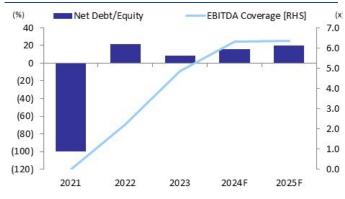
Source: Company, BRIDS Estimates

Exhibit 7. Net Profit and Growth



Source: Company, BRIDS Estimates

Exhibit 9. Gearing Level



Source: Company, BRIDS Estimates



Exhibit 10. Income Statement

Year to 31 Dec (US\$mn)	2022A	2023A	2024F	2025F	2026F
Revenue	456	1,328	1,836	2,286	2,548
COGS	(411)	(1,251)	(1,761)	(2,067)	(2,224)
Gross profit	44	77	75	219	324
EBITDA	48	97	117	290	391
Oper. profit	30	48	47	185	286
Interest income	0	6	6	2	4
Interest expense	(22)	(20)	(19)	(46)	(70)
Forex Gain/(Loss)	0	0	0	0	0
Income From Assoc. Co's	1	0	0	0	0
Other Income (Expenses)	27	0	0	0	0
Pre-tax profit	37	33	35	141	221
Income tax	0	0	(3)	(14)	(22)
Minority interest	(16)	(26)	(11)	(38)	(60)
Net profit	22	7	20	89	139
Core Net Profit	22	7	20	89	139

Exhibit 11. Balance Sheet

Year to 31 Dec (US\$mn)	2022A	2023A	2024F	2025F	2026F
Cash & cash equivalent	280	290	83	220	273
Receivables	68	121	127	158	176
Inventory	79	288	251	313	349
Other Curr. Asset	42	85	85	85	85
Fixed assets - Net	0	0	0	0	0
Other non-curr.asset	1,952	2,479	2,664	2,829	2,994
Total asset	2,422	3,263	3,211	3,606	3,877
ST Debt	20	2	2	2	2
Payables	110	262	226	282	314
Other Curr. Liabilities	35	94	94	94	94
Long Term Debt	595	490	454	704	804
Other LT. Liabilities	102	105	105	105	105
Total Liabilities	862	954	882	1,187	1,319
Shareholder's Funds	957	1,532	1,552	1,641	1,780
Minority interests	602	778	778	778	778
Total Equity & Liabilities	2,422	3,263	3,211	3,606	3,877



Exhibit 12. Cash Flow

Year to 31 Dec (US\$mn)	2022A	2023A	2024F	2025F	2026F
Net income	22	7	20	89	139
Depreciation and Amort.	18	50	70	105	105
Change in Working Capital	(77)	(68)	(6)	(37)	(22)
OtherOper. Cash Flow	(361)	(56)	0	0	0
Operating Cash Flow	(399)	(67)	84	157	223
Capex	(1,469)	(542)	(255)	(270)	(270)
Others Inv. Cash Flow	0	0	0	0	0
Investing Cash Flow	(1,469)	(542)	(255)	(270)	(270)
Net change in debt	610	(124)	(36)	250	100
New Capital	1,539	743	0	0	0
Dividend payment	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fin. Cash Flow	(2)	0	0	0	0
Financing Cash Flow	2,148	619	(36)	250	100
Net Change in Cash	280	10	(207)	137	53
Cash - begin of the year	0	280	290	83	220
Cash - end of the year	280	290	83	220	273

Exhibit 13. Key Ratio

Year to 31 Dec	2022A	2023A	2024F	2025F	2026F
Growth (%)					
Sales	0.0	191.5	38.2	24.5	11.5
EBITDA	n/a	102.6	20.6	146.8	35.0
Operating profit	n/a	55.9	(0.3)	290.3	54.6
Net profit	n/a	(68.0)	192.7	338.4	56.6
Profitability (%)					
Gross margin	9.7	5.8	4.1	9.6	12.7
EBITDA margin	10.5	7.3	6.4	12.7	15.4
Operating margin	6.7	3.6	2.6	8.1	11.2
Net margin	4.8	0.5	1.1	3.9	5.5
ROAA	1.8	0.2	0.6	2.6	3.7
ROAE	4.5	0.6	1.3	5.6	8.1
Leverage					
Net Gearing (x)	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Interest Coverage (x)	1.4	2.4	2.6	4.1	4.1

Source : MBMA, BRIDS Estimates



Equity Research – Company Update

Monday, 10 February 2025

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INVESTMENT RATING

BUYExpected total return of 10% or more within a 12-month periodHOLDExpected total return between -10% and 10% within a 12-month periodSELLExpected total return of -10% or worse within a 12-month period

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