Market Data	
52-week high/low	SAR 36.50 / 26.65
Market Cap	SAR 19,763 mln
Shares Outstanding	733.3 mln
Free Float	88.95%
12-month ADTV	1,662,468
Bloomberg Code	SIPCHEM AB



## Prices Sink Profits While Expansion Provides Potential Upside October 23, 2024

Upside to Target Price59.6%RatingBuyExpected Dividend Yield3.70%Last PriceSAR 26.95Expected Total Return63.3%12-mth targetSAR 43.00

SIPCHEM	3Q2024	3Q2023	Y/Y	2Q2024	Q/Q	RC Estimate
Sales	1,627	1,789	(9%)	1,770	(8%)	1,854
Gross Profit	330	458	(28%)	321	3%	426
Gross Margins	20%	26%		18%		23%
Operating Profit	152	305	(50%)	190	(20%)	250
Net Profit	103	233	(56%)	122	(15%)	169

(All figures are in SAR mln)

- SIPCHEM recorded revenues of SAR 1.6 bln in 3Q24 (-9% Y/Y, -8% Q/Q), lower than our estimate of SAR 1.9 bln, driven by a Y/Y downward shift of sales volumes, despite some higher sales prices realized. Sequentially, VAM prices moved lower again, down by -11% Q/Q and -11% Y/Y. Notably, Methanol prices decreased this quarter, by -1% Q/Q and EVA prices decreased overall, down -6% Q/Q and -29% Y/Y. Both gross margin and gross profit decreased Y/Y in 3Q24, as gross profits declined Y/Y by -28%; while slightly increasing by +3% Q/Q. The increase in gross margin and gross profit in 3Q24 on a Q/Q basis was driven by the relief from previous plant shutdowns. We speculate the decrease Y/Y is influenced by the continued pressures from raw material costs and overall price increases Y/Y in Natural Gas, Ethane, Butane, Ethylene, and Propane.
- Net profit came in at SAR 103 mln (-56% Y/Y and -15% Q/Q), lower than our optimistic estimate of SAR 169 mln. These results were driven yet again, by lower margins Y/Y and the sequential decrease in SIPCHEM's profits from associates and JVs; net margin decreased to 6% versus 7% last quarter as well. We note that the previously announced (1Q24) shut downs in 2Q24, do not appear to have had a material effect on 3Q24 results, which is concerning.
- SIPCHEM's announcement in August, relating to the Al Waha plant expansion, supports our confidence in management's
  dedication to growth, while also noting its enhanced capacity would add 72,000 tons of Propylene and 150,000 tons of
  Polypropylene. Thus, we maintain our target price and rating. However, we shift our overall view to accommodate a cautious
  approach regarding the maintenance turnaround for (IPC) International Polymers Company, announced on October 21, 2024.

## **Brennan Eatough**



## Disclaimer

## Stock Rating

Buy	Neutral	Sell	Not Rated
Expected Total Return Greater than +15%	Expected Total Return between -15% and +15%	Expected Total Return less than -15%	Under Review/ Restricted

The expected percentage returns are indicative, stock recommendations also incorporate relevant qualitative factors For any feedback on our reports, please contact research@riyadcapital.com

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