

GICS: Information Technology/Communications Equipment

Business Summary: Based in Malaysia and listed on the SGX Main Board since 2004, Unified Communications Holdings Limited (UCOM) provides customized software and technology solutions to mobile telecommunications network operators and service providers.

Country of Incorporation: Singapore

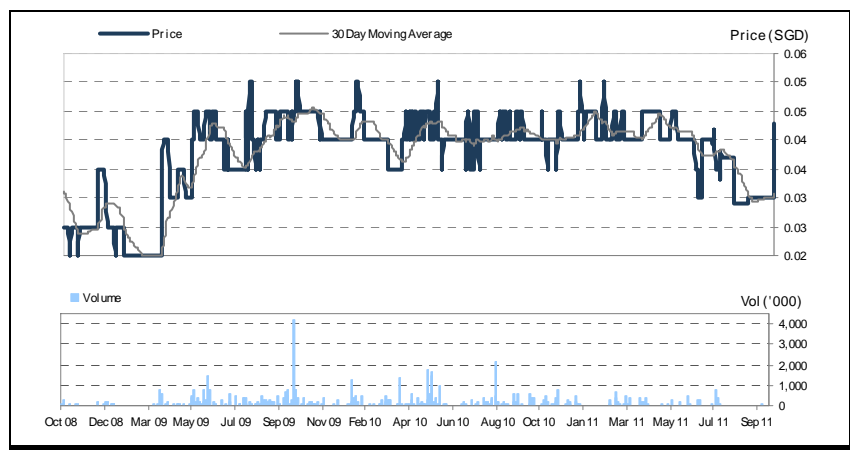
Head Office Location: 168 Jalan Bukit Merah, Connection 1 Tower 3, 04-08A, Singapore 150168

Place of Operations: South East Asia, Greater China, South Asia, the Middle East and Africa.

Website: www.unifiedcomms.com

IR Contact: Ng Sai Kit | saikit_ng@unifiedcomms.com | +603 5163 2836

Analyst: Lorraine Tan, CFA / Kum Seng, Wan



Results Review

- UCOM will be acquiring the remaining 60% stake in Ahead Mobile Sdn. Bhd (AMSB) it does not own for a maximum of MYR22.5 mln (SGD9.1 mln). AMSB is a Malaysian-based provider of location-based services platform, intelligent message conversion system and location-based point-of-interest application services for mobile networks.
- The acquisition will be entirely in cash with the first payment totaling MYR12.5 mln to be paid upon the completion of the acquisition in late 2011 or early 2012. The remaining MYR10.0 mln, meanwhile, is contingent upon the fulfillment of certain conditions, including AMSB securing a new service contract before end-2013 and its 2012 and 2013 income meeting predefined parameters.
- We view the acquisition positively as it will allow UCOM to consolidate AMSB's earnings, which are lucrative as EBITDA margins have averaged 70% over the past three years. AMSB has been generating an average net profit of MYR6.5 mln over the past two years and its earnings trend is likely to be sustained in 2011, based on its reported 1H11 net profit of MYR3.3 mln. AMSB's earnings are also secured as it has revenue sharing contracts with its client and this will add resilience to UCOM's longer-term earnings.
- We also think the acquisition price is decent at an implied PER of 5.6x, based on AMSB's 2010 net profit of MYR6.7 mln.

Earnings Outlook / Estimates Revision

- Although we leave our 2011 and 2012 earnings forecast unchanged pending the completion of the acquisition and further details on AMSB, we note that there will be an immediate earnings contribution as AMSB has a proven earnings track record. Assuming AMSB's earnings are stable and consolidated from next year onwards, UCOM's 2012 net profit forecast could be enlarged by 62.5%.
- Being the largest source of group revenue, we believe UCOM will concentrate on its South East Asian and South Asian markets over the medium term as it continues to be its operational bright spot. Its Middle East and African operations, however, continue to be challenging due to the weaker global economic outlook that could slow the sales of its systems.

Investment Risks

- Against the backdrop of intensifying competition in its key markets UCOM will have to work harder to defend its market position in many of its more mature products and technologies.
- The group's lack of size and scale makes it difficult to attract and retain talent required to support its growth and development, especially in the face of increased competition for talent in Southeast Asia and the Middle East.

Key Stock Statistics

52-week Share Price Range (SGD)	0.03 - 0.05
Avg Vol - 12 months ('000 shares)	55.6
Price Performance (%)	
- 1 month	43.3
- 3 month	10.3
- 12 month	7.5
No. of Outstanding Shares (mln)	319.6
Free Float (%)	35.7
Market Cap (SGD mln)	13.7
Enterprise Value (SGD mln)	-3.9
Major Shareholders (%)	
Advance Synergy Berhad	58.3
Wong Tze Leng	6.0

Per Share Data

FY Dec.	2009	2010	2011E	2012E
Book Value (SG cents)	8.15	8.87	9.42	10.09
Cash Flow (SG cents)	1.4	1.0	1.0	1.1
Reported Earnings (SG cents)	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.8
Dividend (SG cents)	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Payout Ratio (%)	0.0	15.5	15.3	13.1
PER (x)	4.7	6.6	6.6	5.6
P/Cash Flow (x)	3.2	4.2	4.2	3.8
P/Book Value (x)	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4
Dividend Yield (%)	0.0	2.3	2.3	2.3
ROE (%)	11.7	7.6	7.2	7.8
Net Gearing (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

All required disclosures and analyst certification appear on the last two pages of this report. Additional information is available upon request.

Earnings Performance

FY Dec. / SGD mln	2Q11	2Q10	% Change
Reported Revenue	4.0	2.8	42.2
Reported Operating Profit	0.1	-0.1	NM
Depreciation & Amortization	-0.3	-0.3	12.3
Net Interest Income / (Expense)	0.1	0.2	-61.6
Reported Pre-tax Profit	0.5	0.4	11.6
Reported Net Profit	0.3	0.5	-40.1
Reported Operating Margin (%)	3.0	-4.3	-
Reported Pre-tax Margin (%)	12.2	15.5	-
Reported Net Margin (%)	7.9	18.9	-

Source: Company data

Profit & Loss

FY Dec. / SGD mln	2009	2010	2011E	2012E
Reported Revenue	19.0	18.2	17.8	19.8
Reported Operating Profit	2.1	1.2	1.2	1.6
Depreciation & Amortization	-1.4	-1.2	-1.2	-1.2
Net Interest Income / (Expense)	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.4
Reported Pre-tax Profit	3.3	2.8	2.8	3.3
Effective Tax Rate (%)	1.6	11.7	12.0	12.0
Reported Net Profit	2.9	2.1	2.1	2.4
Reported Operating Margin (%)	10.9	6.8	6.9	7.8
Reported Pre-tax Margin (%)	17.3	15.4	16.0	16.8
Reported Net Margin (%)	15.3	11.3	11.8	12.4

Source: Company data, S&P Equity Research

Required Disclosures

Standard & Poor's Equity Research Services – Standard & Poor's Equity Research Services U.S. includes Standard & Poor's Investment Advisory Services LLC; Standard & Poor's Equity Research Services Europe includes McGraw-Hill Financial Research Europe Limited trading as Standard & Poor's; Standard & Poor's Equity Research Services Asia includes Standard & Poor's LLC's offices in Singapore, Standard & Poor's Investment Advisory Services (HK) Limited in Hong Kong, Standard & Poor's Malaysia Sdn Bhd, and Standard & Poor's Information Services (Australia) Pty Ltd.

Required Disclosures

All of the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect the research analyst's personal views regarding any and all of the subject securities or issuers. No part of analyst compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or views expressed in this research report.

Additional information is available upon request.

This company is not a customer of S&P or its affiliates.

Other Disclosures

This report has been prepared and issued by Standard & Poor's and/or one of its affiliates. In the United States, research reports are prepared by Standard & Poor's Investment Advisory Services LLC ("SPIAS"). In the United States, research reports are issued by Standard & Poor's ("S&P"); in the United Kingdom by McGraw-Hill Financial Research Europe Limited which is authorized and regulated by the Financial Services Authority and trades as Standard & Poor's; in Hong Kong by Standard & Poor's Investment Advisory Services (HK) Limited, which is regulated by the Hong Kong Securities Futures Commission; in Singapore by Standard & Poor's LLC, which is regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore; in Malaysia by Standard & Poor's Malaysia Sdn Bhd ("S&PM"), which is regulated by the Securities Commission; in Australia by Standard & Poor's Information Services (Australia) Pty Ltd ("SPIS"), which is regulated by the Australian Securities & Investments Commission; and in Korea by SPIAS, which is also registered in Korea as a cross-border investment advisory company.

The research and analytical services performed by SPIAS, McGraw-Hill Financial Research Europe Limited, S&PM, and SPIS are each conducted separately from any other analytical activity of Standard & Poor's.

A reference to a particular investment or security by Standard & Poor's and/or one of its affiliates is not a recommendation to buy, sell, or hold such investment or security, nor is it considered to be investment advice.

Standard & Poor's and its affiliates provide a wide range of services to, or relating to, many organizations, including issuers of securities, investment advisers, broker-dealers, investment banks, other financial institutions and financial intermediaries, and accordingly may receive fees or other economic benefits from those organizations, including organizations whose securities or services they may recommend, rate, include in model portfolios, evaluate or otherwise address.

SGX Equity Research Insights ("SERI")

This report has been prepared by S&P LLC for purposes of SERI administered by Singapore Exchange ("SGX"). S&P will receive total compensation of SGD12,000 each year for providing research coverage on each participating listed company under SERI.

Disclaimers

With respect to reports issued to clients in Japan and in the case of inconsistencies between the English and Japanese version of a report, the English version prevails. With respect to reports issued to clients in German and in the case of inconsistencies between the English and German version of a report, the English version prevails. Neither S&P nor its affiliates guarantee the accuracy of the translation. Assumptions, opinions and estimates constitute our judgment as of the date of this material and are subject to change without notice. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results.

Standard & Poor's, its affiliates, and any third-party providers, as well as their directors, officers, shareholders, employees or agents (collectively S&P Parties) do not guarantee the accuracy, completeness or adequacy of this material, and S&P Parties shall have no liability for any errors, omissions, or interruptions therein, regardless of the cause, or for the results obtained from the use of the information provided by the S&P Parties. S&P PARTIES DISCLAIM ANY AND ALL EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, SUITABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR USE. In no event shall S&P Parties be liable to any party for any direct, indirect, incidental, exemplary, compensatory, punitive, special or consequential damages, costs, expenses, legal fees, or losses (including, without limitation, lost income or lost profits and opportunity costs) in connection with any use of the information contained in this document even if advised of the possibility of such damages. Capital IQ is a business of Standard & Poor's.

Ratings from Standard & Poor's Ratings Services are statements of opinion as of the date they are expressed and not statements of fact or recommendations to purchase, hold, or sell any securities or to make any investment decisions. Standard & Poor's assumes no obligation to update its opinions following publication in any form or format. Standard & Poor's ratings should not be relied on and are not substitutes for the skill, judgment and experience of the user, its management, employees, advisors and/or clients when making investment and other business decisions. Standard & Poor's rating opinions do not address the suitability of any security. Standard & Poor's does not act as a fiduciary. While Standard & Poor's has obtained information from sources it believes to be reliable, Standard & Poor's does not perform an audit and undertakes no duty of due diligence or independent verification of any information it receives.

Standard & Poor's keeps certain activities of its business units separate from each other in order to preserve the independence and objectivity of their respective activities. As a result, certain business units of Standard & Poor's may have information that is not available to other Standard & Poor's business units. Standard & Poor's has established policies and procedures to maintain the confidentiality of certain non-public information received in connection with each analytical process.

Standard & Poor's Ratings Services did not participate in the development of this report. Standard & Poor's may receive compensation for its ratings and certain credit-related analyses, normally from issuers or underwriters of securities or from obligors. Standard & Poor's reserves the right to disseminate its opinions and analyses. Standard & Poor's public ratings and analyses are made available on its Web sites, www.standardandpoors.com (free of charge), and www.ratingsdirect.com and www.globalcreditportal.com (subscription), and may be distributed through other means, including via Standard & Poor's publications and third-party redistributors. Additional information about our ratings fees is available at www.standardandpoors.com/usratingsfees.

This material is not intended as an offer or solicitation for the purchase or sale of any security or other financial instrument. Securities, financial instruments or strategies mentioned herein may not be suitable for all investors. Any opinions expressed herein are given in good faith, are subject to change without notice, and are only current as of the stated date of their issue. Prices, values, or income from any securities or investments mentioned in this report may fall against the interests of the investor and the investor may get back less than the amount invested. Where an investment is described as being likely to yield income, please note that the amount of income that the investor will receive from such an investment may fluctuate. Where an investment or security is denominated in a different currency to the investor's currency of reference, changes in rates of exchange may have an adverse effect on the value, price or income of or from that investment to the investor. The information contained in this report does not constitute advice on the tax consequences of making any particular investment decision. This material is not intended for any specific investor and does not take into account your particular investment objectives, financial situations or needs and is not intended as a recommendation of particular securities, financial instruments or strategies to you. Before acting on any recommendation in this material, you should consider whether

Required Disclosures

it is suitable for your particular circumstances and, if necessary, seek professional advice.

This document does not constitute an offer of services in jurisdictions where Standard & Poor's or its affiliates do not have the necessary licenses.

For residents of the U.K. - This report is only directed at and should only be relied on by persons outside of the United Kingdom or persons who are inside the United Kingdom and who have professional experience in matters relating to investments or who are high net worth persons, as defined in Article 19(5) or Article 49(2) (a) to (d) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, respectively.

For residents of Singapore - Anything herein that may be construed as a recommendation is intended for general circulation and does not take into account the specific investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any particular person. Advice should be sought from a financial adviser regarding the suitability of an investment, taking into account the specific investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any person in receipt of the recommendation, before the person makes a commitment to purchase the investment product.

For residents of Malaysia - All queries in relation to this report should be referred to Weng Jin Ching.

For residents of Indonesia - This research report does not constitute an offering document and it should not be construed as an offer of securities in Indonesia, and that any such securities will only be offered or sold through a financial institution.

For residents of the Philippines - The securities being offered or sold have not been registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Regulation Code of the Philippines. Any future offer or sale thereof is subject to registration requirements under the Code unless such offer or sale qualifies as an exempt transaction.

STANDARD & POOR'S, S&P, S&P 500, S&P Europe 350 and STARS are registered trademarks of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC.