# Leverage on IR/PR during M&A exercises

By Danny Choong 18 November 2009

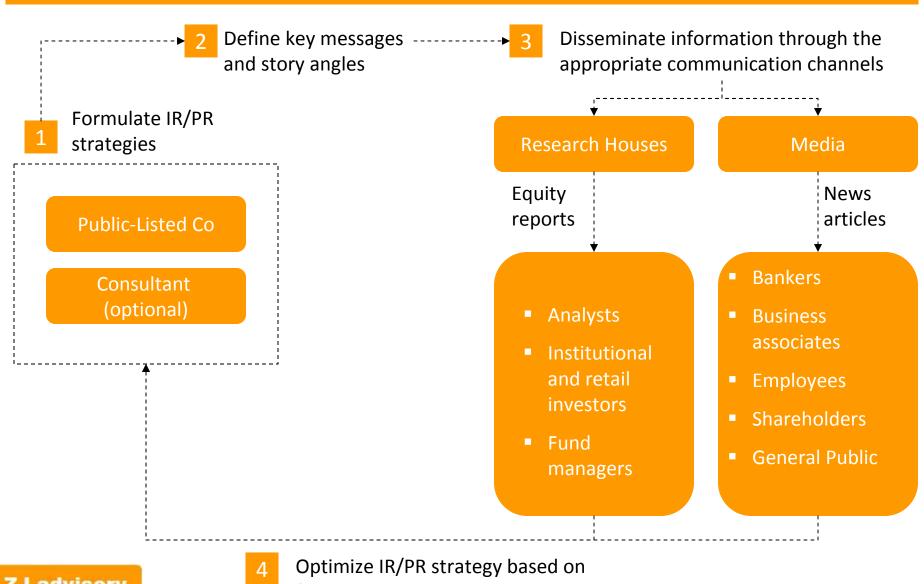
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### **Table of Contents**

- 1) About IR/PR
- 2) Reasons for M&A
- 3) The M&A process
- 4) Case study

## 1) About IR/PR

### Overview of IR/PR framework



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feedback gathered

### Why & When is IR/PR used?

#### WHY

- Public Relations
  - Credibility
  - Cost Effectiveness
  - Exposure
  - Flexibility
- Investor Relations
  - Increase corporate awareness
  - Build credible corporate reputation
  - Fair value discovery

#### WHEN

- New listing
  - Initial Public Offering (IPO)
- Raise funds
  - Private Placements
  - Rights Issue
  - Bond issuance
- Corporate deals
  - Joint Venture
  - Reverse takeover
  - Privatization
  - M&A

### Target audience

### Investors &



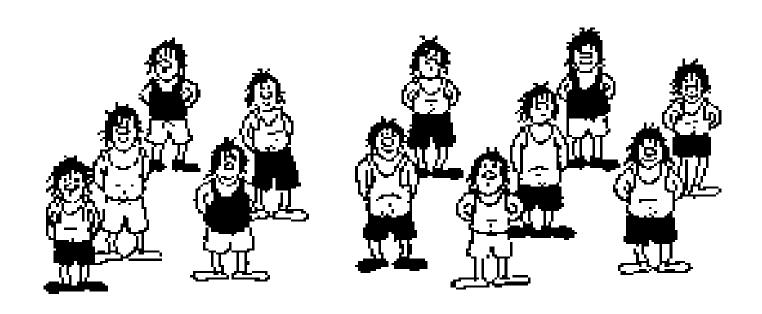
### **Public**

- Bankers
- Rating agencies
- Analysts
- Fund Managers
- Retail Investors
- Shareholders

- Media
- Employees
- General Public
- Industry Associations
- Business Associates

## 2) Reasons for M&A

### Creating value – getting 13 from 12



### Sun Tzu Art of War (Chapter 5) Excerpt

- The musical notes are only five in number, but their combination gives rise to numerous melodies that one cannot hear them all
- The primary colours are only five in number, but their combinations are so infinite that one cannot visualise them all
- The flavours are one five in number, but their blends are so various that one cannot taste them all
- In battle, there are only the normal and extraordinary forces, but their combinations are limitless; none can comprehend them all

孙子兵法 势篇第五

战势不过奇正,奇正之变, 色不过五, 五色之变, 五声之变, 五味之变, 不可胜尝也。 不可胜听也。 不可胜穷也。

**SYNERGY** 

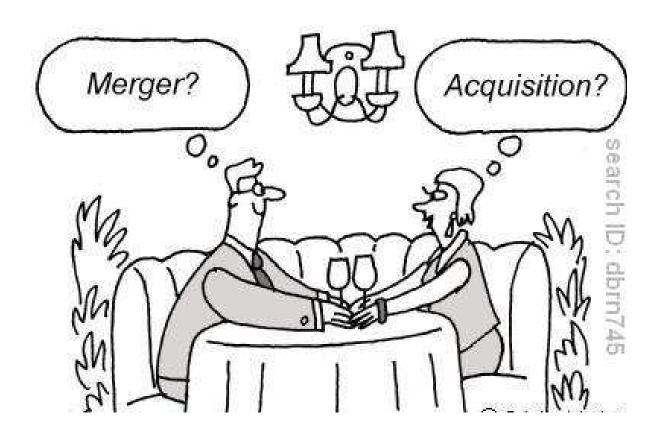
### Reasons for M&A

- For growth
- To acquire skilled personnel
- Forming cartels
- Technology transfer
- Market positioning
- Market penetration
- Advancing on competitors

## 3) The M&A process

### Setting the right expectation

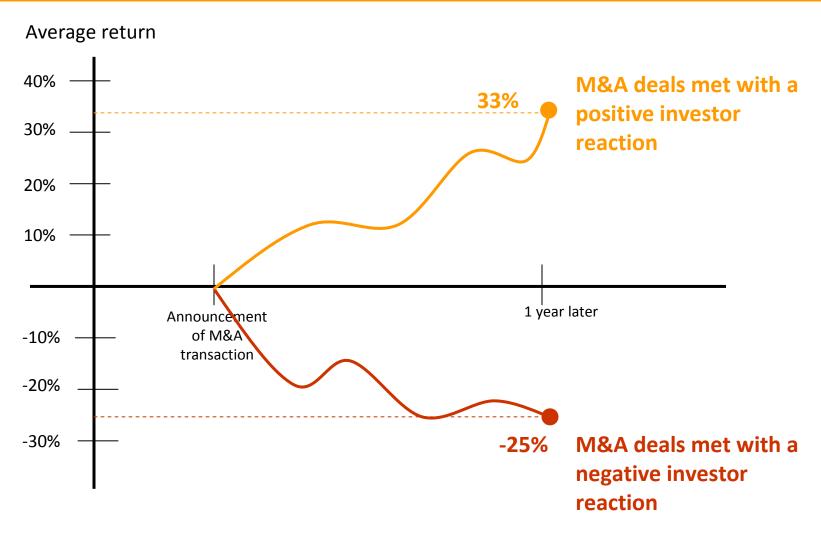
A comprehensive communications program ensures credibility and success of M&A transactions



### Overview of the M&A process

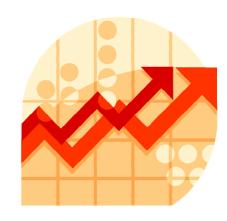
|                   | PRE  | EXECUTION  | POST   |  |
|-------------------|--|--|--|--|
| What will happen? | <ul> <li>Signing of MOU</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Signing of Sale and<br/>Purchase Agreement</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Completion of Acquisition</li> <li>Fulfillment of Conditions         Precedent         Approvals Received     </li> </ul> |  |
| Who to tell?      | <ul> <li>M&amp;A Committee<br/>comprising of Legal,<br/>Public Relations and<br/>Investor Relations<br/>Personnel (acquirer,<br/>acquiree and external<br/>consultants)</li> </ul> | <ul><li>Everyone</li></ul>                                     | <ul> <li>Everyone</li> </ul>   |  |
| What to tell?     | <ul><li>Intentions to acquire</li><li>Estimated size of target</li></ul>   | Refer to LR Appendix 10A for contents of                       |  |  |
| What not to tell? | <ul><li>Name of target</li><li>Details of structure</li></ul>  | announcement   |  |  |
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### Important to obtain POSITIVE investor perception



Source: Boston Consulting Group (based on a survey of 302 large M&A transactions)

### Focus of the transaction and key takeaways



**Growth prospects** 



Management's capability



Synergy potential



Technology transfer

Others:- employee retention, environment impact, etc

#### What do your target audience want to know? (5W + 2H)

- Why?
  Why are we acquiring?
- What? —— What benefits expected after M&A?
- Where? Where are the plant locations?
- Which?
  Which businesses will be absorbed?
- How?
  How will the deal be funded?
- How much? —— How much are we paying to acquire?

### Stage 1: Pre

PRE

- Period between MOU date → Signing of documents
- Dealing with confidential information (LR 9.06)
  - Limit number of people with access to material info
  - Ensure security of all confidential documents
  - If any news leak or rumours occur, make announcement <u>immediately</u> to Bursa

### Stage 1: Pre

PRE

- Preparation of documents
  - Prepare execution timetable
  - Decide if an announcement is required Calculate percentage ratios of transaction (LR 10.05 – 10.07)
  - Draft announcement (LR Appendix 10A)
  - Draft circular to shareholders, if required (LR Appendix 10B)
  - Prepare FAQ on transaction distribute to company spokesperson
  - Prepare press release and presentation materials on M&A exercise
- Articulate communications strategy
  - Identify and analyze target audience
  - Identify key messages



### Dealing with rumours

PRE

- When clarifying a rumour, if discussions are ongoing, do not DENY the transaction
- Instead, mention that discussions are on-going and that any future developments will be announced accordingly



"This morning a rumour that we would buy the Arpex Corp. drove our stock up \$3. Around noon a rumour that Arpex would buy us drove it up another \$3. And in the afternoon a rumour that we have nothing to do with Arpex drove it up \$3 more."

### Stage 2: Execution



- Follow Bursa guidelines when making announcement (LR 9.08)
  - Announcement after market closes (after 5pm)
  - If announcement is made during trading hours, Bursa may impose a trading halt or suspension
  - Announcement to media on an embargoed basis is not allowed
- After announcing to Bursa, send out press release to newspapers and newswires













### Stage 2: Execution

>EXE

- Meet with target audience
  - Organize media briefing
  - Organize analyst briefing (Best practice: Upload presentation and materials online to limit selective disclosure)
  - Don't limit communication to selected parties only
- Try to get positive statements from third parties such as industry analysts, industry associations and media



Assign a company spokesperson to engage in regular dialogues with target audiences

#### Ideal candidate:

- Chief Executive Officer
- Investor Relations Officer

### Stage 3 : Post

POST

- Gather feedback on M&A exercise from news articles and analyst reports
- Update on developments relating to transaction such as
  - Status of completion
  - Approvals received
- Keep target audience updated on status of integration between acquirer and acquiree relating to
  - Staff
  - Technology
  - Products



### Announcing bad news



- Address the "Whatifs":-
  - What if deals fail to close is aborted by either party?
  - What if you are unable to raise the funding?
  - What if you do not get the necessary approvals?
  - What if you face some regulatory obstacles?
  - What if post M&A, the desired results were not met?



"The acquisition fell through.

The only thing I acquired was an ulcer."

### Other Considerations

#### VALUATION

- What valuation method is used?
  - P/Book Value, PER, EV/EBITDA (Enterprise Value/Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization), Discounted Cash Flow
- Why is this method used?
- Is the valuation fair? Compare with other M&A transactions of the same industry

#### TRANSACTION STRUCTURE

- How much debt is being absorbed?
- How much additional borrowings to fund the transaction?
- Post M&A, how much will gearing increase to?

#### TIMING

Why are we pursuing the M&A now?

### Overview of IRPR activities during M&A process

#### PRE

#### EXECUTION

#### **POST**

#### **TEASE**

- One-on-one media interviews
  - Indicate company is on an acquisition trial
  - Reasons to diversify or expand because of attractive industry

#### **ANNOUNCE**

- Media coverage hype
  - Press conference
  - One-on-one media interview
- Analyst briefing
- Fund-manager meeting

#### **UPDATE**

- Press releases on developments of M&A relating to:-
  - Status of completion
  - Status of integration
  - Approvals sought / received
  - Developments in country of operation
  - Political / environmental issues

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## 4) Case study

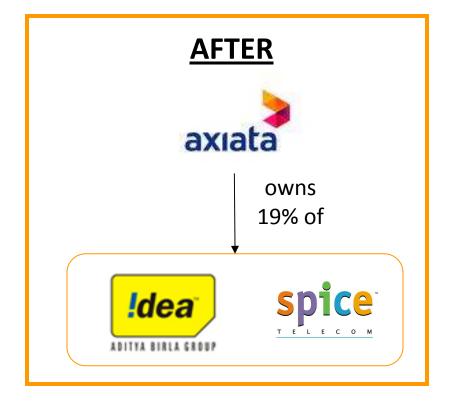
### Overview of transaction





- Spice and Idea were going to merge, resulting in an "enlarged Idea", making it the
   5th largest mobile player in India with 47 million customers in 18 service centres
- Axiata to purchase 15% equity stake in Idea for a cash consideration of RM 5.5 billion. Post merger, Axiata's shareholding will be 19% of "enlarged Idea"

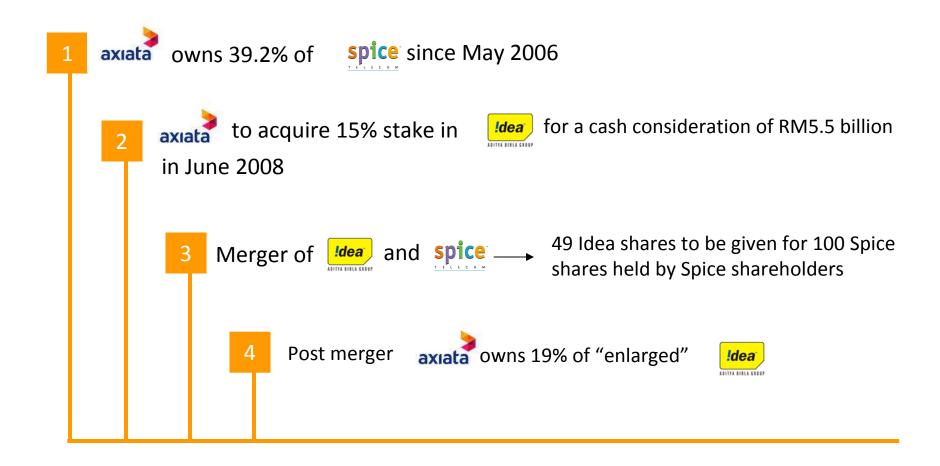




### Chronology of events







### Description of Axiata

| GRAB At 11:45 Vol 815,900 Op 3.11 K Hi 3.11 K Lo 3.09 K ValTrd 2532842  DESCRIPTION Page 1/10  AXIATA MK AXIATA GROUP BERHAD Telecommunication Equip 98) Generate Report  Axiata Group Berhad is a telecommunication company. The Company's main activities is the establishment, maintenance, and provision of telecommunications and related services. |                                    |   |                                 |   |   |  |
|--|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|---|---|--|
| STOCK  | DATA                               |   | MYR                             | DIVIDENDS                               | None  |  |
| 1)GPO  |                                    |   |                                 | 5)DVD Indicate                          |   |  |
|  |                                    | 9/23/2009                               | 3.27                            |   |   |  |
|  | 52Wk Low                           | 3/17/2009                               | 1.451                           |   | Туре  | Grs Amt                                      |
|  | YTD change                         |   | .635                            |   | 21  |  |
|  | YTD % Chang                        | ie –                                    | 25.76%                          | 4/ 8/09                                 | Rights  | 5 per 4                                      |
|  | Trade Lot                          |   | 100                             |   |   |  |
| 2)FA   |                                    | 11/ 2/2009                              | 8445.155M                       | EARNINGS                                |   | MYR  |
|  | Market Cap                         | MYR                                     | 26179.98M                       | <b>6)ERN</b> Ann Date                   | 11/25/09 (C)  |  |
|  | Float                              |   | 2509.84M                        | Trailing                                | 12mo EPS  | .019   |
| 3)TRA  | 1 Yr Total                         | Return                                  | 12.12%                          |   |   | . 167  |
|  |                                    |   |                                 | P/E                                     | 161.98 LT Growth  | 7.13   |
| 4)OMON   | No Options                         | Available                               |                                 | Est P/E                                 | 18.56 Est PEG   | 2.60   |
| COMPA  | NY SPUN-OFF                        | FROM TELEKOM                            | MALAYSIA E                      | SHD {NXTW CACX                          | 31244680 SEED}.   |  |
| Austral<br>Japan 8   | ia 61 2 9777 8600<br>1 3 3201 8900 | Brazil 5511 3048 4<br>Singapore 65 6212 | 500 Europe 44 20<br>: 1000 U.S. | ) 7330 7500 Germany 4<br>1 212 318 2000 | 9 69 9204 1210 Hong Kong 85<br>Copyright 2009 Bloomberg F<br>H186–435–0 16–Nov- | 52 2977 6000<br>Finance L.P.<br>-09 11:46:25 |

### Axiata current share prices as at 13 Nov 09



#### Axiata Share Prices and Volumes from April 08 to Nov 09





### Parties of transaction









Holding company with strategic telecommunications operations and investments in 10 countries and over 90 million subscribers



















- 6th largest mobile telecommunication company in India
- 24 million subscribers representing a 9.4% market share in India



- 8th largest mobile telecommunication company in India
- 4.2 million subscribers representing a 1.6% market share in India
- Existing operations in 2 circles only (Punjab and Karnataka)

### **Transaction Rationale**







| Why?<br>(Reason)     | <ul> <li>India – huge growth potential</li> <li>Mobile penetration in India is one of the lowest in the region (20-30%)</li> <li>Future growth is expected to be strong with approx. 200-300 million net additional subscribers over the next 3 years</li> </ul> |
|----------------------|--|
| What?<br>(Benefits)  | <ul> <li>Earnings accretive in the first full year of operations</li> <li>Yield approx. 15-20% of consolidated profits in 2012</li> <li>Project IRR of mid-high teens in a 5-year time horizon</li> </ul>  |
| When?<br>(Timeline)  | <ul> <li>Why is NOW the best time</li> <li>By 2012, penetration would reach the 50-60% level, beyond 2012, growth is expected to slow down</li> <li>Expected to be completed by 3Q2009</li> </ul>  |
| Where?<br>(Location) | <ul> <li>Idea has licenses for all remaining circles and national rollout is in the pipeline</li> <li>"Enlarged Idea" would have presence in 13 circles covering 70% of population</li> </ul>  |

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### Transaction Rationale (cont'd)



| Which?                  | <ul> <li>India's wireless telecommunication market</li> </ul>  |  |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| (Businesses)            |  |  |
|                         | <ul> <li>Axiata to subscribe to 15% of Idea Cellular for RM5.5 billion</li> </ul>  |  |
|                         | Idea will purchase 40.8% stake in Spice for RM2.1 billion  |  |
|                         | TMI, Idea and Birla will make an MGO for the remaining Spice shares  |  |
| How?                    | <ul> <li>Spice will be merged into Idea via a share swap, Spice shareholders will<br/>receive 49 Idea shares for every 100 Spice shares</li> </ul> |  |
| (Structure,<br>Funding) | <ul> <li>Consequently, TMI which owns 39.2% of Spice, will increase its stake in Idea<br/>to 19%</li> </ul>  |  |
|                         | <ul> <li>TMI has a further call option for Birla's Spice shares obtained via the MGO,<br/>increase stake in Idea to 20%</li> </ul>                 |  |
|                         | Funding via bridging loan  |  |
| How much?               | <ul> <li>Total cash consideration of INR73.0 billion (RM5.5 billion) or INR 157.0<br/>(RM11.91) per Idea share</li> </ul>                          |  |







## Clarification to a Bursa query (before official announcement)

ARTICLE ENTITLED "TM INTERNATIONAL SETS SIGHTS ON REGIONAL GROWTH"
We refer to the Bursa Malaysia Securities
Berhad's letter dated 12 June 2008 in relation to the above article which appeared in the New Straits Times, Biz News on Thursday, 12 June 2008, with particular reference to the following:
(i) "TMI is not a seller of Spice to a third party, but we are open to industry consolidation..."

- (ii) "...TMI may merge its Indian mobile assets with that country's sixth largest mobile player, Idea Cellular Ltd, via a preference share deal..."
- (iii) "...TMI will own not more than 15 percent of Idea..."

With respect to item (i) above, we wish to confirm that the statement is true as TMI has no intention to exit from India and has been open to consolidation.

In light of the above and with respect to items (ii) and (iii) above, we wish to clarify that TMI has had discussions with various parties on opportunities to increase our participation in the Indian mobile telecommunications industry either through organic rollout/infrastructure sharing or through inorganic means. However, no firm decisions have been made with respect to such expansion.

In the event of any conclusive and final decisions being made by TMI, we will release the relevant announcement to Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad.

### Reports upon official announcement

#### **3 POSITIVES**

- Bloomberg (TA Asset Management Bhd)
- AmResearch
- ECM Libra

#### **2 NEGATIVES**

- Bloomberg (Credit Suisse Group)
- Kenanga









## Positive reports (1) (upon official announcement)

25 June 2008, Bloomberg – Idea offers to Buy Control of Spice for \$757 million

"By taking over Spice they enhance their position and secondly, they become a dominant player" in India, said Choo Swee Kee, who counts TM International shares among the \$202 million he manages at TA Asset Management Bhd. in Kuala Lumpur.

"For TM International, to hold a smaller stake in a bigger ocean is better than to hold a larger stake in a pond."

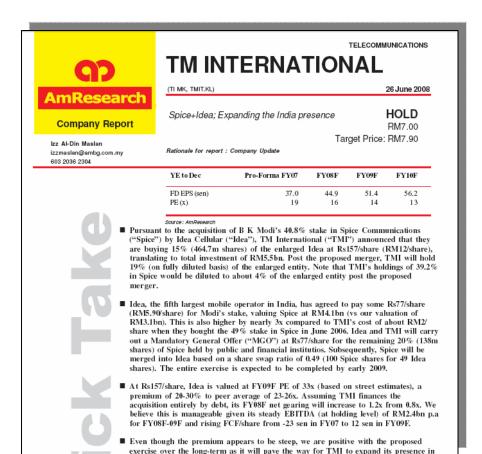








## Positive reports (2) (upon official announcement)



26 June 2008, AmResearch - Even though the premium appears to be steep, we are positive with the proposed exercise over the longterm as it will pave the way for TMI to expand its presence in the lucrative Indian mobile market.

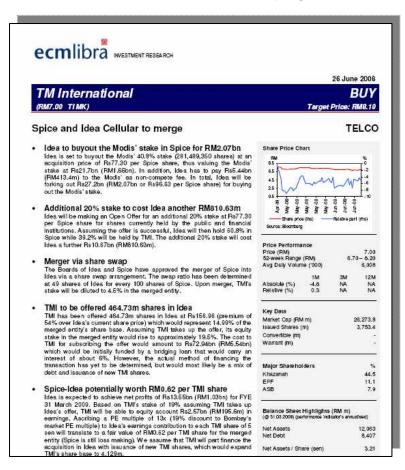








## Positive reports (3) (upon official announcement)



26 June 2008, ECM Libra

On the surface, TMI appears to be paying too much for the 15% stake in idea to boost its overall holdings in the merged entity to 19% due to the hefty premium for new Idea shares... The Indian market appears too attractive to exit given the high growth potential, and time will tell if the hefty premium paid for Idea shares will be justified.









## Negative News reports (1) (upon official announcement)

 Bloomberg, 26 June 2008 – TM Shares drop on concern it's overpaying for Idea

TM International Berhad, Malaysia's second biggest mobile-phone carrier, had its second biggest fall in Kuala Lumpur trading on concern the company is paying too much for a minority stake in India's Idea Cellular Ltd.

TM, which resumed trading after being suspended for half a day yesterday for the announcement, **tumbled 4.3%** to close at RM6.70 on Malaysia's stock exchange, **the second biggest decline since it began trading** on April 28. It lost 4.6% on April 29.

Credit Suisse Group today cut its 12-month share price estimate for TM by 6.4% to RM8.13, saying in a report the company "significantly" overpaid for Idea.









## Negative News reports (2) (upon official announcement)



#### Company Update

26 June 2009

#### HOLD RM7.00

Target Price: RM7.35

#### Stock data

Market cap (RMm): 26,278.8 Issued shares (m): 3,783.4 S2-week range: RM6.70-R.M6.20 3-mth avg daily volume: 6,008,450 shrs Bloombers code: TI MK

Sparian Yes
Since listing price chg: -7.3%
YTD KLCI chg: -16.3%
Est. free float: 56.46%
Major shareholders: Khazanari Nasionat 44.51%
ESP: 11.13%

ASB: Consensus

| FYE31 Dec         | 2008E   | 2009    |
|-------------------|---------|---------|
| Net profit (RMm): | 1,652.2 | 1,922.6 |
| EP5 (sen):        | 43.9    | 51.2    |

#### Forecast revision

FYE 31 Dec 2008E 2009E
Prev. net profit (RMm): 1,586.7 1,895.1
Revision (%) - - Net profit (RMm): 1,586.7 1,895.1

#### Share price chart



The Research Team
Tel: 603-2713 2292
research@kenanga.com.my

#### TM International

#### Expensive

- TMI's announced that its 39.20% owned Indian unit Spice will be merging with the 6<sup>th</sup> largest operator in Iodia — Idea Cellular to further their ambition in becoming a fighting force in the world's fastest growing market.
- Three step process. After subscribing for a 14.99% stake in Idea for cash of RM5.530billion, MGO and reversal of Spice into the newly merged Idea/Spice entity, TMI will then end up with an effective stake of 19%.
- Outlay of USD1,820m being USD1,641m for the new Idea shares and USD176m original cost of TMI's investment in Spice implies an EV of USD10,293m for the newly merged entity or 12.5x 2009 EV/EBITDA. Compare that with Bharti's 10.7x, the valuation for the new Idea is at a 10% premium which we believe is rich. The use of historical accounting costing of USD176m for TMI's 38.2% stake in the original Spice is contentious given that the basis for valuing Spice for the above deal is some 68% higher based on Idea's Rs77.30 offer to Modi the 40.8% original shareholder of Spice. Using that as a benchmark, the EV/EBITDA is actually 13.2x or 23% higher than Bharti's.
- Further cash injection of USD1,060m into the new entity to further rollout in the
  new circles. This is another sore point for a lot of investors given the fact that idea's
  backer billionaire kumar Mangalam Birla controls a sprawling entity with interest
  ranging from garment to cement with market capitalization in excess of
  USD30billion.
- Gearing to balloon to 1.5x post merger. This is inclusive of the RM4billion internoo loan due to Telekom Malaysia (TM) by April 2 009. While the current undertaking will be financed via a bridging loan, ultimately, a cash call will be most likely to be needed should TMI furthers its ambition in other emerging countries including Vietnam. During the teleconference, management did intit that possible strategic investors could be roped in at the TMI level to alleviate the current high gearing but timing and choice will be critical.
- Earnings to be equity accounted with TMI getting 1 out of the 10 board seats.
   Whether the board representation is sufficient to wield much influence remain a question mark.
- Rude awakening. While the need for a Pan-Indian presence is well-known, the
  cost of getting one is likely to leave a bitter after taste for most investors. This is the
  risk when one invests in TMI given that all celco assets can never come cheap with
  major markets fast inching towards saturation. Investors will have to take clear
  cognizance of this reality.
- Short-term pain from the merger. While growth prospect is exciting, so is the risk given the high valuation that for the recent deals transacted. Based on the mood during the teleconference last evening, consensus is one of negative given the premium and the supposedly lost management control. Immediate share price weakness in the short-term cannot be discounted.
- While concurring with the consensus that the deal is rich and TMI share price could languish in the near term, the longer term picture could however be different given

Kenanga Research, 26 June 2008 – Expensive

Short-term pain from the merger. While growth prospect is exciting, so is the risk given the high valuation for the recent deals transacted. Based on the mood during the teleconference last evening, consensus is one of negative given the premium and the supposedly lost management control. Immediate share price weakness in the short-term cannot be discounted. While concurring with the consensus that the deal is rich and TMI share price could languish in the near term, the longer term picture could however be different given the strong latent potential that the Indian market offers.









#### Follow-up remarks by TM International

- Star, 27 June 2008 Analysts : Price for TMI's Idea buy on high side
  - TMI officials defended the deal saying "it was a window of opportunity that should not be missed".
  - "We may be paying a premium now so that we would be in the best situation to compete with bigger players in the fast growing Indian market."
  - Even without the deal, TMI would have to spend US1.5 billion to roll out services in India. The new transaction, he added, would place TMI on a better footing with its Indian investment.
  - From being an investor in the eighth player with 1.6% market share in India, this new transaction will see TMI being elevated to the fifth largest player that has access to 700 million population and an 11% market share.









#### **Update on country of operations**

The Star, 8 October 2009 - India's new mobile billing plan may have negative impact on Axiata

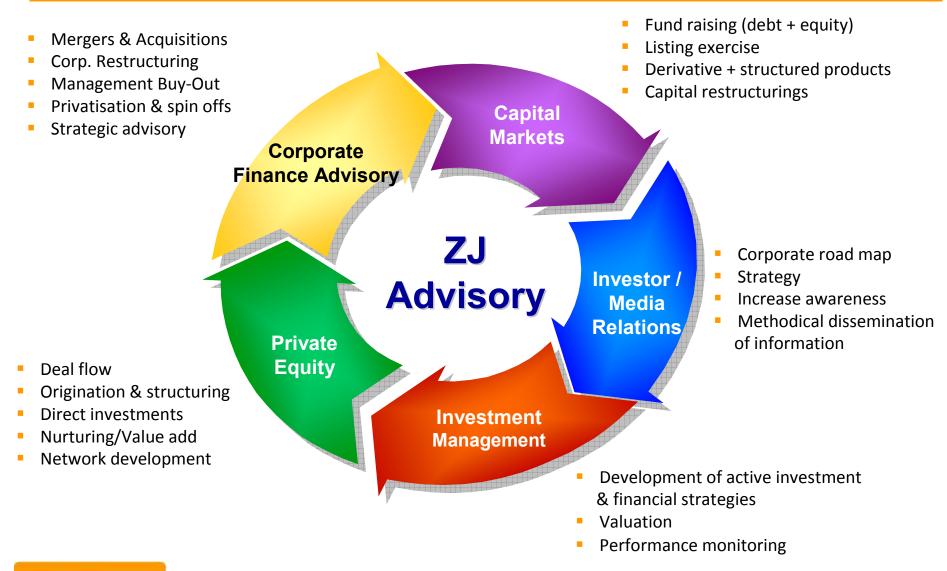
India's anticipated move to implement per-second billing instead of the current per minute basis for mobile phone charges is expected to have "some negative impact" on Axiata Group Bhd's future earnings.

✓ Business Times, 14 October 2009 – Axiata sees long-term gain from India price war

Axiata Group Bhd said a price war and the potential introduction of per second billing in India will hurt earnings initially but it will be beneficial in the long run."

"In the medium term, it could be good, because it will force a shakeout of the industry faster than otherwise. Now, it will be tougher for newcomers, and it will really be the survival of the fittest," said Axiata president and chief executive officer Datuk Seri Jamaludin Ibrahim on the sidelines of the Frost & Sullivan Growth, Innovation and Leadership Congress 2009 in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

### **About ZJ Advisory**



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## Thank You



#### **CONTACT DETAILS**

ZJ Advisory Sdn Bhd, Suite 22B, 22nd Floor, Wisma Denmark, No. 86 Jalan Ampang, 50450 Kuala Lumpur Malaysia

Tel: +6-03-2032-2328 Fax: +6-03-2032-1328 E-mail: danny@zj.com.my Web: www.zj.com.my