

Digiworld (DGW) Recovering from 2023's low bases

Analyst Nguyen Truong Giang March 19, 2024 giangnt1@kbsec.com.vn Business results were subdued due Digiworld (DGW) achieved 4Q23 net revenue of VND4,849 billion (+19% YoY) to slow recovery in purchasing thanks to the contribution of iPhone 15. Gross profit hit VND521 billion with GPM reaching 10.7% (-0.8ppts YoY). NPAT decreased 42% YoY to VND90 billion due to power advertising and promotion costs for retailers. 2023 NPAT fell 47% YoY. The ICT industry will slowly recover The ICT segment with smartphones and laptops witnessed a sharp decline due to in 2024 from 2023 low bases weakening demand for non-essential products, but the level of decrease has gradually narrowed by the end of 2023. For 2024, the industry will have a slow recovery from a low base in the context of slow recovery in purchasing power and the gradual saturation of ICT market. The remaining industries continue The remaining segments continue to maintain growth thanks to continuously to maintain growth expanding new product categories and brands. The office and industrial equipment segment with large market potential and additional contributions from Achison is expected to grow further. The household appliance and FMCG industries maintain growth by promoting old products while continuously expanding new product and brand portfolios. HOLD recommendation - Target We forecast DGW's 2024 net revenue and NPAT will reach VND21,941 billion (+17% YoY) and VND492 billion (+36% YoY). DGW has a positive prospect of profit price VND68,800 recovery, but the price partly reflects expectations. We give a HOLD rating to DGW shares with a target price of VND68,800.

Hold maintain

Target price	VND68,800
Upside	7%
Current price (Mar 19, 2024)	VND64,200
Consensus target price	VND57,626
Market cap (VNDtn/USDbn)	10.7/0.44

Trading data	
Free float	55.49
3M avg trading value (VNDb	n/USDmn) 132/5.
Foreign ownership	259
Major shareholder	Created Future (32.8%

Share price performance

(%)	1M	3M	6M	12M
Absolute	13.1	30.5	10.4	84.8
Relative	10.6	15.2	8.2	56.2



Source: Bloomberg, KB Securities Vietnam

Forecast earnings & valuation								
FY-end	2022	2023	2024F	2025F				
Net sales (VNDbn)	22,028	18,817	21,941	25,395				
Operating income (VNDbn)	868	469	620	845				
NPAT (VNDbn)	684	354	489	668				
EPS (VND)	4,188	2,168	2,944	4,006				
EPS growth (%)	4%	-48%	36%	36%				
P/E (x)	15.7	30.3	21.9	16.1				
Р/В (х)	4.4	4.1	3.6	3.1				
ROE (%)	33%	14%	18%	21%				
Dividend yield (%)	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%				

Investment opinion & risks Base-case scenario: catalysts ▲ 1) Revenue grows 17% VND 320,000 2) NPAT margin reaches 2.2% Bull-case scenario (6.5% ROE; 5.2% cost of equity) Bull-case scenario: upside risk 1) Revenue grows 20% VND 295,400 Base-case scenario (target price) 2) NPAT margin reaches 2.4% (5.0% ROE; 6.7% cost of equity) Bear-case scenario: downside risk VND 205,000d Current price 1) Revenue grows 14% 2) NPAT margin reaches 2.0% VND 120,200 Bear-base scenario (3.5% ROE; 8.2% cost of equity)

Source: Bloomberg, KB Securities Vietnam

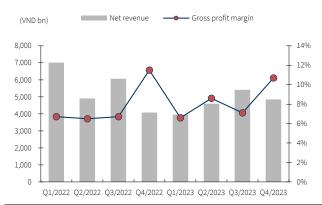
2023 business performance

Table 1. DGW - 2023 business results

	4Q22	4Q23	+/-%Yo Y	2022	2023	+/-%Yo Y	Notes
Revenue (VNDbn)	4,075	4,849	19.0%	22,028	18,817	-14.6%	
Laptops & tablets	1,188	1,072	-9.8%	7,027	5,906	-16.0%	Due to economic difficulties, consumers tend to limit spending on non- essential devices such as laptops.
Smartphones	1,777	2,204	24.0%	10,759	8,067	-25.0%	The launch of iPhone 15 helped boost sales, but the large revenue growth did not completely reflect the situation because the iPhone 14 suffered from supply chain congestion in 4Q22 and had to wait until 1Q23 for normal sales.
Office equipment	794	1,124	41.6%	3,320	3,441	3.6%	The office equipment segment achieved strong growth thanks to the company consolidating Achison's revenue.
Home appliance	179	234	30.7%	556	728	30.9%	Growth is attributable to the contribution of new brands, while old brands continue to maintain growth, expand markets, and find new
Consumer goods	137	215	56.9%	397	676	70.3%	partners.
Gross profit (VNDbn)	470	521	10.9%	1,662	1,560	-6.2%	GPM decreased slightly due to the shortage of iPhones in the same period in 2022, so selling prices were pushed up. GPM for the whole year continued to improve thanks to the increasing contribution of new
Gross profit margin (%)	11.5%	10.7%	-0.8ppts	7.5%	8.3%	0.8ppts	industries with higher profit margins such as household appliance and FMCGs.
Financial income (VNDbn)	68	66	-2.9%	209	195	-6.9%	
Financial expenses (VNDbn)	-74	-28	-62.2%	-144	-138	-4.1%	
SG&A (VNDbn)	-263	-435	65.4%	-858	-1,142	33.2%	Selling expenses increased sharply because the company had to support advertising support for retailers and implement many promotions and discounts to boost sales. New brands must also increase sales expenses, promotions, and discounts in the initial period to attract customers and expand the market.
Operating income (VNDbn)	200	120	-40.0%	868	469	-46.0%	
PBT (VNDbn)	198	118	-40.4%	862	471	-45.4%	
NPAT (VNDbn)	156	90	-42.3%	684	363	-46.9%	NPAT dropped sharply due to weak demand and higher selling expenses.

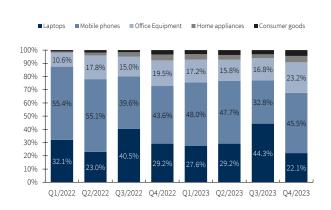
Source: Digiworld, KB Securities Vietnam

Fig 2. DGW - Net revenue & GPM (VNDbn, %)

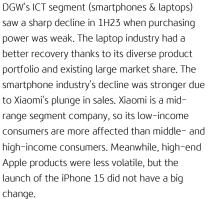


Source: Digiworld, KB Securities Vietnam

Fig 3. DGW - Revenue by product line (%)



Source: Digiworld, KB Securities Vietnam

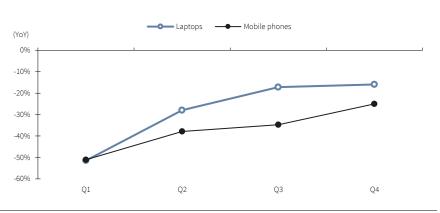


change.

ICT industry may continue to slowly recover

New product lines should maintain

Fig 4. DGW - Revenue growth of ICT segment in 2023 (%)



Source: Digiworld, KB Securities Vietnam

Looking at the revenue plan recently set by giant MWG, we can see that the ICT industry will continue to face difficulties due to slow recovery in purchasing power next year. In general, macro indicators such as exports and PMI will rebound and help increase jobs, thereby improving people's income and purchasing power.

The laptop industry is forecast to only have a single-digit growth since: (1) There are not many sudden factors. (2) DGW's market share in laptop and tablet products is also quite high (about 40%). (3) Most major companies in the Vietnamese market are partners of DGW, the growth mainly comes from improved product prices and maintaining output due to replacement cycle.

The smartphone product line is expected to grow stronger than the laptop industry thanks to: (1) lower base growth; (2) strong recovery of models in Xiaomi's low-end and mid-range segments; and (3) benefits from the upcoming shut-off of 2G waves.

The remaining industries should maintain growth thanks to general benefits from recovering purchasing power and expanding new product lines and brands.

The office and industrial equipment segment will benefit from the recovery in spending by businesses, agencies, and schools. DGW will also strive to continue expanding the market as its market share in this industry is still guite small (about 5%). In addition, with contributions from Achison (this company benefits from cross-selling products in the DGW ecosystem and continuously expands its product portfolio and new brands), it is expected that the office and industrial equipment industry will continue to grow in the near future and begin to contribute significantly to the company's overall revenue.

growth

For home appliance and FMCG industries, old products and brands that have been well received by consumers after a period of time on the market will continue to be promoted (ABInbev & Xiaomi) while the product portfolio will be diversified. In particular, Xiaomi ecosystem products are positively received by consumers thanks to their good quality and reasonable prices. With a longstanding relationship with Xiaomi, DGW predicts that it will continue to have exclusive distribution contracts for Xiaomi products in the near future.



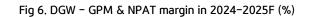
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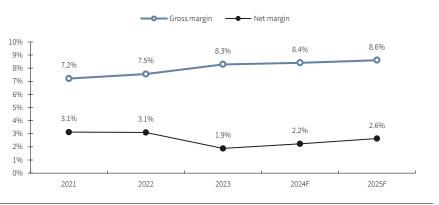
Source: Digiworld, KB Securities Vietnam

The business plan with NPAT reaching VND490 billion is feasible amid the current market situation (1) GPM is forecast to improve in 2024 thanks to the increasing contribution from industries with higher profit margins such as household appliances and FMCGs, in addition to the recovery of Xiaomi's mid-range smartphones with higher profit margins than Apple's high-end segment handsets.

(2) It is predicted that when purchasing power slowly recovers, DGW will continue to have to spend more on sales, promotions, and discounts to promote new products and support sales with retailers. Therefore, we forecast that DGW's NPAT margin will only improve slightly in the near future but will still be much smaller than the 2021–2022 period.

Due to the above factors, DGW set a business plan with expected revenue of VND23,000 billion (+22% YoY) and NPAT of VND490 billion (+38% YoY), corresponding to a profit margin of 2.1%. Although there is high growth over the same period, revenue is only equal to 2022's and profit is only about 70% of the year. According to KBSV's assessment, this plan is feasible thanks to the simultaneous improvement in revenue and profit margin as mentioned above.





Source: Digiworld, KB Securities Vietnam

The M&A deal with Vietmoney is expected to resonate with DGW's ecosystem In the last quarter of 2023, DGW raised its ownership to 72.8% in Vietmoney company. This is a company in the non-bank financial services industry, operating in areas such as pawn lending, small credit, and used goods trading with a customer base that needs quick money without the need for complicated declarations but still ensures safety while still requiring collaterals. Vietmoney currently has 16 branches across the country.

We assess that the move to acquire the Vietmoney chain is expected to have resonance with the current DGW ecosystem as it can help provide solutions to promote customer shopping needs with existing products (Xiaomi, Apple, Dell...) via buying and selling used goods, exchanging old goods, pawning, and granting credit. In addition, DGW also aims to penetrate the used product market. This is a market with potential and large scale, but contains many complex problems, so no large enterprises have yet participated. If DGW can solve the remaining problems, this will be a potential business segment in the coming time.

Forecast & valuation

2024F performance

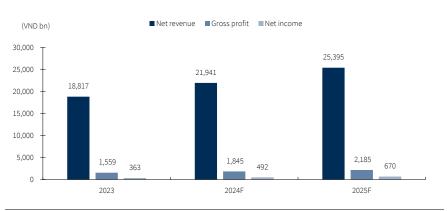
We believe that purchasing power will continue to recover at a slow pace in 2024, affecting the recovery speed of DGW's ICT industry. The remaining industries are in the process of expansion, expected to start adding revenue to the entire company. We forecast that in 2024, DGW will achieve net revenue of VND21,941 billion (+17% YoY) and gross profit of VND1,845 billion, equivalent to a GPM of 8.4% (+0.1ppts YoY). NPAT should reach VND492 billion (+36% YoY), close to the company's target.

Table 7. DGW - 2024-2025F results

	2023	2024F	+/- YoY	2025F	+/- YoY	Notes
Revenue (VNDbn)	18,817	21,941	17%	25,302	15%	Adjusted revenue decreases by about VND1,000 billion compared to the old forecast due to the recovery speed of the ICT industry being lower than expected.
Laptops & tablets	5,906	6,378	8%	7,016	10%	It grows from a low base thanks to recovering purchasing power and product
Smartphones	8,067	8,954	11%	10,029	12%	replacement cycle.
Office equipment	3,441	4,645	35%	5,342	15%	Strong growth is attributable to new contributions from Achison and big growth potential (the current market share is still small with lots of room for development).
Home appliance	728	983	35%	1,376	40%	DGW will continue to promote old products and brands and seek business
Consumer goods	676	980	45%	1,539	57%	opportunities in new products and brands.
Gross profit (VNDbn)	1,559	1,845	18%	2,174	18%	Gross profit is adjusted to increase by 0.4ppts compared to the old forecast thanks to better-than-expected profit margin in 2023, GPM should continue to improve
Gross profit margin (%)	8.3%	8.4%	0.1ppts	8.6%	0.2ppts	thanks to the contribution from new products with higher profit margins.
SG&A (VNDbn)	(1,142)	(1,273)	11%	(1,392)	9%	
Operating income (VNDbn)	593	768	30%	1,002	30%	
PBT (VNDbn)	471	623	32%	842	35%	
NPAT (VNDbn)	363	492	36%	665	35%	Adjusted 2024 NPAT decreases compared to the old forecast of VND160 billion due to revenue recovering more slowly than expected and higher selling expenses to
· ·						support retailers and promote new brands and products.

Source: Digiworld, KB Securities Vietnam

Fig 8. DGW - 2023-2025F results (VNDbn)



Source: Digiworld, KB Securities Vietnam

Valuation: HOLD recommendation - Target price VND68,800

We price DGW stock with two methods: (1) FCFF and (2) comparables: (1) With FCFF, we use the discounted free cash flow method in the FCFF business with the assumptions stated below. The target price of DGW for this method is VND78,800/share.

(2) With the comparables method, we use a target P/E of 20x, close to the fiveyear average P/E +1SD, but still very conservative compared to the current P/E of 30x, based on the forecast that DGW will have significant profit growth in the coming years. Target EPS is VND2,944/share. The target price for this method is VND58,900/share.

With the proportion used in the valuation model for each method being 50-50, we set a target price for DGW stock at VND68,800/share. Despite the prospect of recovery and growth in the coming years, expectations have been partly reflected in the price in recent times. As a result, we recommend HOLDING DGW shares with a target price of VND68,800, 7% higher than the closing price on March 19, 2024.

Table 9, DGW - FCFF valuation & assumption

Cost of equity	13.82%	Present value of terminal value	10,998
Cost of debt	6.00%	Present value of FCFF	2,942
Risk-free rate	4.70%	Cash and cash equivalents	1,774
Beta	1.2	Short-term investments	-
Terminal growth	4.0%	Enterprise value	15,714
Duration	5	Loan debt	2,545
WACC	12.02%	Equity value	13,169
		Outstanding shares	167,072,974
Target price			78.800

Target price

Source: KB Securities Vietnam

Fig 10. DGW - P/E in 2019-2024 (x)



Source: Bloomberg, KB Securities Vietnam

Table 11. DGW - Final valuation

Valuation method	Forecast price	Weighting	Weighted price
FCFF	78,800	50%	39,400
Comparables approach	58,900	50%	29,400
Target price			68,800
Source: KB Securities Vietnam			

DGW - 2022A-2025F financials

Income statement					Balance sheet				
(VNDbn)	2022	2023	2024F	2025F	(VNDbn)	2022	2023	2024F	2025
Net sales	22,028	18,817	21,941	25,395	Total assets	6,355	7,501	7,421	8,43
Cost of sales	(20,365)	(17,258)	(20,097)	(23,210)	Current assets	5,782	6,842	6,801	7,83
Gross Profit	1,663	1,559	1,845	2,185	Cash & equivalents	828	1,450	1,761	2,24
Financial income	209	195	204	222	ST investments	0	0	0	
Financial expenses	(144)	(138)	(156)	(165)	Accounts receivable	1,496	1,982	1,865	2,15
of which: interest expenses	(94)	(122)	(146)	(160)	Inventory	3,445	3,130	2,962	3,17
Gain/(loss) from joint ventures	(2)	(4)	-	-	Long-term assets	573	659	620	60
Selling expenses	(722)	(944)	(1,053)	(1,143)	LT trade receivables	22	17	19	2
General & admin expenses	(136)	(199)	(219)	(254)	Fixed assets	95	131	151	16
Operating profit/(loss)	868	469	620	845	Investment properties	0	15	0	
Net other income/(expenses)	(6)	1	3	3	Liabilities	3,932	4,874	4,469	4,98
Pretax profit/(loss)	862	471	623	848	Current liabilities	3,882	4,858	4,454	4,96
Income tax	(175)	(92)	(131)	(178)	Trade accounts payable	1,210	1,557	1,426	1,65
Net profit/(loss)	684	363	492	670	Advances from customers	96	139	66	1
Minority interests	(0)	8	3	2	ST borrowings	1,915	2,321	2,540	2,79
Net profit after MI	684	354	489	668	Long-term liabilities	50	16	15	_,
					LT payables	0	0	0	-
					LT borrowings	9	11	10	
Operating ratios	2022	2023	2024F	2025F	Other LT liabilities	41	6	5	1
Gross profit margin	7.5%	8.3%	8.4%	8.6%	Shareholders' equity	2,423	2,627	2,952	3,45
EBITDA margin	4.4%	8.3% 3.4%	8.4% 3.5%	8.6% 4.0%	Paid-in capital	2,423	2,627	2,952	3,4:
EBIT margin					Share premium				
-	4.3%	3.2%	3.5%	4.0%	Undistributed earnings	61	61	61	
Net Operating margin Pre-tax profit margin	3.9%	2.5%	2.8%	3.3%	Reserve & others	707	867	1,188	1,6
Net profit margin	3.9%	2.5%	2.8%	3.3%	Minority interest	0	0	0	
Net pront margin	3.1%	1.9%	2.2%	2.6%	Minority interest	29	32	36	:
Cash flow statement					Key ratio				
(VNDbn)	2022	2023	2024F	2025F	(x, %, VND)	2022	2023	2024F	2025
Net profit	862	471	623	848	Multiple				
Plus: depreciation & amort	9	42	50	48	P/E	15.7	30.3	21.9	16
Plus: investing (profit)/loss	-44	-87	0	0	P/E diluted	15.7	30.3	21.9	16
Interest Expense	94	120	146	160	P/B	4.4	4.1	3.6	З
Change in working capital	922	546	819	1,056	P/S	0.5	0.6	0.5	C
(Inc)/dec - receivables	335	-566	232	-320	P/Tangible Book	4.5	4.2	3.8	3
(Inc)/dec - inventory	-488	322	168	-212	P/Cash Flow	17.2	34.5	22.1	60
Inc/(dec) - payables	-1,732	575	-608	236	EV/EBITDA	13.1	20.5	16.2	12
Inc/(dec) - advances	-18	-15	16	-3	EV/EBIT	13.3	22.0	17.3	13
Other adj for operations	0	0	0	0					
Operating cash flow	-1,110	568	279	430	Operating Performance				
Purchase of Fixed Assets and long-term assets	-8	-30	-20	-30	ROE%	32.5%	14.0%	17.5%	20.8
Proceeds from disposal of fixed assets	0	0	0	0	ROA%	10.6%	5.1%	6.6%	8.4
Loans granted, purchases of debt instruments	-24	-48	0	0	ROIC%	15.6%	7.2%	8.9%	10.7
Collection of loans, proceeds from sales of debts			-	-					
instruments	6	30	0	0	Financial Structure				
Investments in other entities	-307	-153	0	0	Cash ratio	0.2	0.3	0.4	(
Proceed from divestment in other entities	0	9	0	0	Quick Ratio	0.6	0.8	0.9	(
Dividends and interest received	48	75	0	0	Current Ratio	1.5	1.4	1.5	
Investing cash flow	-285	-117	-20	-30	LT Debt/Equity	0.0	0.0	0.0	(
Proceeds from issue of shares	22	40	0	0	LT Debt/Total assets	0.0	0.0	0.0	(
Payment for share returns and repurchase	0	0	0	0	ST Debt/Equity	0.8	0.9	0.9	0
Proceeds from borrowings	9,943	10,602	10,313	12,190	ST Debt/Total assets	0.3	0.3	0.3	0
Repayment of borrowings	-9,145	-10,304	-10,093	-11,936	ST liabilities/Equity	0.8	1.0	0.6	0
Finance lease principal payments	-9,145	-10,304	-10,093	-11,936	ST liabilities/Total asset	0.8	0.3	0.8	0
Dividends paid					Total liabilities/Equity			0.3	(
Interests, dividends, profits received	-91	-167	-167	-167		0.8	1.0		
Financing cash flow	0	0	0	0	Total liabilities/Total assets	0.3	0.3	0.3	(
Net increase in cash & equivalents	729	171	52	87	Activity Ratio				
•	623	311	486	177	Account receivable turnover	14.7	9.5	11.8	11
Cash & equivalents - beginning	1,494	828	1,450	1,761	Inventory turnover Account payable turnover	5.9	5.5	6.8	7
Cash & equivalents - ending	828	1,450	1,761	2,248		17.3	10.9	14.0	14

Source: Digiworld, KB Securities Vietnam

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Investment ratings & definitions

Investment Ratings for Stocks

(based on expectations for absolute price gains over the next 6 months)						
Buy:	Hold:	Sell:				
+15% or more	+15% to -15%	-15% or more				

Investment Ratings for Sectors

(based on expectations for absolute price gains over the next 6 months)		
Positive:	Neutral:	Negative:
Outperform the market	Perform in line with the market	Underperform the market

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