AEM Holdings Ltd

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DBS Group Research 19 September 2025

Laying the foundation for future growth

What's New

- Intel set to build multi-generations of custom data center and client CPUs in partnership with NVIDIA
- Collaboration improves Intel's competitiveness and turnaround, reinforcing AEM's outlook
- Implications for AEM while net positive in the medium term and will be subject to volume growth and ramp-up timing
- Maintain BUY with TP SGD2.10

Investment Overview

Retains technological superiority in system level test. AEM is a pioneer in providing SLT (system level test) solutions and is currently around one generation ahead of its competitors. Given its technological superiority, we believe AEM is well positioned to ride on the growing SLT market that has benefitted from increased complexity of chips and increased test coverage requirements, alongside the need for advanced heterogeneous packaging.

New technology drives growth in test spend, leading to higher demand for AEM's offerings in the long term. Notwithstanding near-term volatility, the semiconductor industry is well poised for growth, owing to the push towards digitalisation. McKinsey projects that the semiconductor industry will become a trillion-dollar industry by 2030. Industry megatrends such as artificial intelligence (AI), 5G, and Internet of Things (IoT) will pave the way for growth in test spend, owing to higher test volumes and test times. Longer test times would also require more of AEM's consumables due to wear and tear

At the cusp of a multi-year rollout for new customers. In the past few years, AEM announced several customer wins. Notably, the AMPS-BI product won an additional project to test next-generation data centre devices in 4Q24. The PiXL thermal management solution is also deployed for the company's AI customer while AEM also expanded its installed base for its memory customer to test the GDDR6 device. We believe that AEM is near an inflection point and foresee its customer diversification strategy yielding more significant returns in the years ahead.

Maintain BUY with higher TP of SGD2.10 (vs. SGD1.50 previously). Our target price is based on 25x blended FY26F earnings vs previous peg of 20x on FY25/26 earnings to reflect a rerating in Singapore small-mid caps supported by the equity market development programme (EQDP) and AEM's turnaround story in FY26.

Risks

Key Risks: Single-customer concentration risk, geopolitical events, prolonged slowdown in the macroeconomy.

Company Overview

AEM Holdings (AEM SP) is a solutions provider for the back-end testing of the semiconductor manufacturing process. The company's key customer develops its own testers and AEM works with this customer by providing customised test handlers for burn-in tests, functional tests, and system-level tests.

Analyst

Amanda Tan | amandatankh@dbs.com

Key Financial Data (FY Dec)

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Bloomberg Ticker	AEM SP
Sector	Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment
Share Price(SGD)	1.57
DBS Rating	BUY
12-mth Target Price (SGD)	2.10
Market Cap (USDbn)	0.39
3m Avg. Daily Val (USDmn)	4.51
Dividend yield (%)	na
Fwd. P/E (x)	20.75
P/Book (x)	1.01
ROE (%)	2.44

Closing Price as of 18/09/202.

AEM Holdings Ltd Share Price



Source: Twelve Data

19 Sep 2025

Tailwind for AEM as Nvidia Intel tie up accelerates Intel's comeback

- Intel set to build multi generations of custom data center and client CPUs in partnership with NVIDIA
- · Collaboration improves Intel's competitiveness and turnaround, reinforcing AEM's outlook
- Implications for AEM while net positive in the medium term and will be subject to volume growth and ramp up timing
- Maintain BUY with TP SGD2.10

Intel-NVIDIA collaboration improves Intel's competitiveness and reinforces AEM's outlook. For data centers, Intel will build custom x86 CPUs that Nvidia will integrate into its AI infrastructure platforms. For personal computing, Intel will build x86 system on chips that integrate Nvidia RTX GPU chiplets. In addition, the substantial USD5bn equity investment by Nvidia in Intel, is a strong vote of confidence in Intel's long term outlook and provides capital to accelerate execution of its roadmap, in our view. Together, these developments should strengthen Intel's positioning in the x86 market, supporting its turnaround story and creating downstream demand for testing, where AEM is the plan of record provider for Intel's testing and stands to benefit from higher test requirements.

Implications for AEM are positive, though we note the benefit will be volume dependent and subject to ramp-up timing. The extent of the uplift will hinge on production scale and the speed of execution, but we believe the outlook for the group brightens. If Intel successfully scales up on these new architectures with Nvidia, AEM could see higher demand for test equipment and consumables. While no product release timelines have been disclosed, there could be a time lag as new designs are qualified and production ramps, suggesting the impact on AEM will be more visible in the medium term. Nonetheless, given NVIDIA's scale in the data center market, the collaboration is likely to be meaningful, and particularly relevant for AEM once the current non-cancellable purchase orders with Intel are fully drawn down through FY27. There could also be additional upside if the partnership were to extend to NVIDIA outsourcing chip manufacturing to Intel Foundry, which would drive further demand for AEM's solutions, though there is currently no indication that Foundry involvement will materialise. Maintain BUY, TP SGD 2.10.



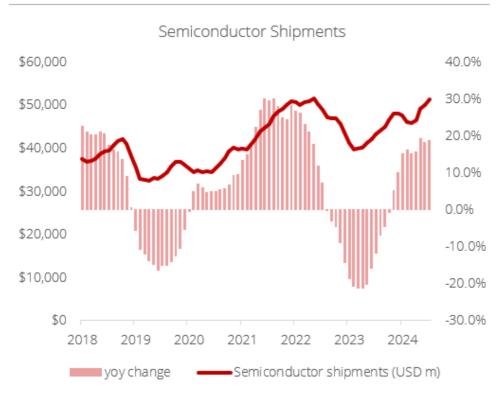
Principal Share Price Drivers

Semiconductor Shipments

Semiconductor shipments appears to be picking up and has recorded a fourth consecutive m-o-m growth in June

Global semiconductor shipments emerged from its trough in February 2023. As of July 2024, we saw further improvement in shipment data, marking the ninth month of yoy increases, forming the right side of the U-shaped recovery since May 2023. We remain positive that shipment data will trend higher in 2024 which will be positive for its key customer, translating to a brighter outlook for AEM.

Semiconductor shipments



Source: SIA

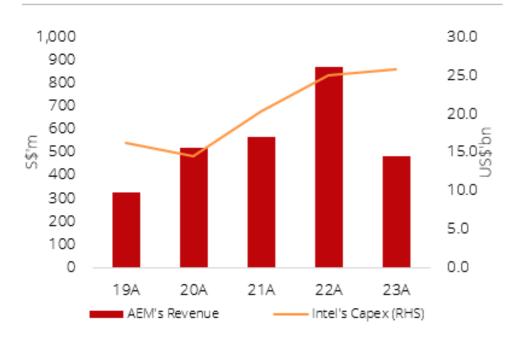
Intel's (Key Customer) Operating Metrics

We believe that AEM is positioned in the right space within Intel to benefit from its goals. AEM has been working closely with Intel to develop the HDMT which allows for system-level tests, a method that is required to test chips used in new technology.

According to our estimates, Intel, AEM's key customer contributes c.60-70% to group revenue. We believe Intel's spending on AEM's semiconductor test handlers and services are parked under Intel's capex budgets, which has historically shown a positive correlation with AEM's revenue and share price.

Consensus estimates Intel's capex – a key driver of AEM's revenue – at US\$22.4bn for FY24, c.13% below US\$25.8bn in FY23. Overall, we believe uncertainties persist into 2024, especially with regard to the timing of new customer product ramps and the pace of industry recover.





Semiconductor Chip Test Times

New technology and smaller nodes to drive a structural increase in test times.



Company profile

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Business Segments

- Revenue Drivers
 - More than 60% of AEM's revenue is derived from its key customer, Intel, and we believe this is largely captured in Intel's capex. As such, a key revenue driver for AEM is Intel's capex plans.
 - The state of the semiconductor industry, which we approximate through the US 3-month semiconductor equipment billings, the sales and inventory levels of top US chip makers, is a good gauge of the momentum in the industry.
- Cost Structure
 - Raw material cost accounts for c.60-65% of its revenue
 - Other operating costs (largely administrative expenses) account for c.20% of its revenue
- · Competitive Positioning.
 - AEM is a key partner to Intel, who is one of the leading chipmakers
 - Intel is growing its total addressable market (TAM) and is moving in the direction that supports and utilizes AEM's system-level tests

Operating Assets

AEM has five manufacturing plants which are located in Singapore, Malaysia (Penang), China (Suzhou), Finland (Lieto), and France. Its network of sales and field service offices, associates and distributors allow it to have a global market presence.

Valuation summaries

Maintain BUY with higher TP of SGD2.10 (vs. SGD1.50 previously). Our target price is based on 25x blended FY26F earnings vs previous peg of 20x on FY25/26 earnings to reflect a rerating in Singapore small-mid caps supported by the equity market development programme (EQDP) and AEM's turnaround story in FY26.



Forecasts and Valuation (SGD, mn)

FY Dec	FY2022(A)	FY2023(A)	FY2024(A)	FY2025(F)	FY2026(F)
Revenue	870.5	481.3	380.4	382.1	427.0
EBITDA	183.5	65.5	42.1	48.7	62.6
Pre-tax Profit	158.7	7.59	14.1	18.9	32.4
Net Profit	127.3	(1.16)	11.6	15.7	26.9
Net Pft (Pre Ex.)	127.3	25.5	11.6	15.7	26.9
Net Pft Gth (Pre-ex) (%)	38.2	(79.9)	(54.6)	35.0	71.5
EPS (S cts)	41.2	(0.37)	3.71	5.01	8.59
EPS Pre Ex. (S cts)	41.2	8.21	3.71	5.01	8.59
EPS Gth Pre Ex (%)	29.5	(80.1)	(54.8)	35.0	71.5
Diluted EPS (S cts)	41.2	(0.37)	3.71	5.01	8.59
Net DPS (S cts)	10.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.86
BV Per Share (S cts)	157.1	150.3	155.2	160.2	167.9
PE (x)	8.3	(924.2)	38.8	33.8	19.7
PE Pre Ex. (x)	8.3	42.1	38.8	33.8	19.7
P/Cash Flow (x)	(15.6)	72.1	(11.3)	2.9	5.3
EV/EBITDA (x)	5.9	16.9	12.1	8.3	4.9
Net Div Yield (%)	3.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.5
P/Book Value (x)	2.2	2.3	0.9	1.1	1.0
Net Debt/Equity (x)	0.0	0.1	0.1	cash	cash
ROAE (%)	28.7	(0.2)	2.4	3.2	5.2
Source: DBS					

Income Statement (SGD, mn)

FY Dec	FY2022(A)	FY2023(A)	FY2024(A)	FY2025(F)	FY2026(F)
Revenue	870.5	481.3	380.4	382.1	427.0
Cost of Goods Sold	(596.8)	(352.0)	(282.8)	(282.7)	(313.8)
Gross Profit	273.7	129.3	97.6	99.3	113.2
Other Opng (Exp)/Inc	(113.4)	(88.8)	(79.6)	(77.6)	(79.4)
Operating Profit	160.3	40.5	18.0	21.7	33.7
Other Non Opg (Exp)/Inc	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Associates & JV Inc	(0.28)	(0.64)	(0.33)	0.00	0.00
Net Interest (Exp)/Inc	(1.31)	(5.53)	(3.58)	(2.85)	(1.37)
Exceptional Gain/(Loss)	0.00	(26.7)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pre-tax Profit	158.7	7.59	14.1	18.9	32.4
Tax	(31.4)	(8.75)	(2.46)	(3.21)	(5.50)
Minority Interest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Preference Dividend	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net Profit	127.3	(1.16)	11.6	15.7	26.9
Net Profit before Except.	127.3	25.5	11.6	15.7	26.9
EBITDA	183.5	65.5	42.1	48.7	62.6
Revenue Gth (%)	53.9	(44.7)	(21.0)	0.4	11.8
EBITDA Gth (%)	46.4	(64.3)	(35.7)	15.7	28.4
Opg Profit Gth (%)	43.3	(74.8)	(55.6)	20.9	55.3
Net Profit Gth (Pre-ex) (%)	38.2	(79.9)	(54.6)	35.0	71.5
Gross Margins (%)	31.4	26.9	25.7	26.0	26.5
Opg Profit Margin (%)	18.4	8.4	4.7	5.7	7.9
Net Profit Margin (%)	14.6	(0.2)	3.1	4.1	6.3
ROAE (%)	28.7	(0.2)	2.4	3.2	5.2
ROA (%)	16.8	(0.2)	1.7	2.3	3.9
ROCE (%)	22.0	3.2	1.3	2.1	4.2
Div Payout Ratio (%)	25.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.0
Net Interest Cover (x)	122.2	7.3	5.0	7.6	24.7
Source: DRS					



Balance Sheet (SGD, mn)

FY Dec	FY2022(A)	FY2023(A)	FY2024(A)	FY2025(F)	FY2026(F)
Net Fixed Assets	40.0	40.3	35.8	26.2	18.3
Invts in Associates & JVs	15.2	8.82	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other LT Assets	159.8	167.6	153.4	151.0	148.1
Cash & ST Invts	127.8	101.8	43.8	208.7	306.6
Inventory	367.7	328.6	296.8	213.0	150.5
Debtors	92.9	60.1	142.7	68.0	76.0
Other Current Assets	2.15	1.58	0.78	0.78	0.78
Total Assets	805.6	708.9	673.2	667.7	700.2
ST Debt	13.7	83.9	78.5	60.0	60.0
Creditor	118.9	74.8	53.7	54.2	60.2
Other Current Liab	35.6	18.8	16.2	13.1	15.4
LT Debt	129.7	42.5	15.9	15.9	15.9
Other LT Liabilities	14.3	14.5	16.6	16.6	16.6
Shareholder's Equity	485.0	467.5	485.7	501.4	525.6
Minority Interests	8.40	6.93	6.62	6.62	6.62
Total Cap. & Liab.	805.6	708.9	673.2	667.7	700.2
Non-Cash Wkg. Capital	308.2	296.7	370.3	214.6	151.7
Net Cash/(Debt)	(15.5)	(24.5)	(50.6)	132.8	230.7
Debtors Turn (avg days)	46.3	58.0	97.3	100.6	61.6
Creditors Turn (avg days)	95.5	108.4	90.8	77.0	73.3
Inventory Turn (avg days)	182.3	389.5	441.8	363.8	232.8
Asset Turnover (x)	1.1	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Current Ratio (x)	3.5	2.8	3.3	3.9	3.9
Quick Ratio (x)	1.3	0.9	1.3	2.2	2.8
Net Debt/Equity (x)	0.0	0.1	0.1	cash	cash

Source: DBS

Cash Flow Statement (SGD, mn)

FY Dec	FY2022(A)	FY2023(A)	FY2024(A)	FY2025(F)	FY2026(F)
Pre-Tax Profit	158.7	7.59	14.1	18.9	32.4
Dep. & Amort.	23.5	25.7	24.5	27.0	28.8
Tax Paid	(21.6)	(28.9)	(2.08)	(6.33)	(3.21)
Assoc. & JV Inc/(loss)	0.28	0.64	0.33	0.00	0.00
Chg in Wkg.Cap.	(198.3)	31.9	(73.6)	158.9	60.5
Other Operating CF	5.30	3.85	19.3	0.00	0.00
Net Operating CF	(32.1)	40.8	(17.5)	198.4	118.5
Capital Exp.(net)	(35.6)	(25.9)	(22.3)	(15.0)	(18.0)
Other Invts.(net)	(1.59)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Invts in Assoc. & JV	0.00	5.12	6.63	0.00	0.00
Div from Assoc & JV	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Investing CF	(1.23)	0.55	6.91	0.00	0.00
Net Investing CF	(38.4)	(20.2)	(8.79)	(15.0)	(18.0)
Div Paid	(36.2)	(11.1)	0.00	0.00	(2.69)
Chg in Gross Debt	34.6	(15.9)	(19.6)	(18.5)	0.00
Capital Issues	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Financing CF	(17.1)	(20.4)	(12.2)	0.00	0.00
Net Financing CF	(17.9)	(46.5)	(31.8)	(18.5)	(2.69)
Currency Adjustments	0.74	0.91	0.01	0.00	0.00
Chg in Cash	(88.4)	(25.9)	(58.1)	164.9	97.8
Opg CFPS (S cts)	53.8	2.88	17.9	12.6	18.5
Free CFPS (S cts)	(21.9)	4.80	(12.7)	58.6	32.1

Source: DBS





#[Date of Report	Closing Price	12-m Target Pric	e Rating
1	07 Nov'24	1.27	1.67	Buy
2	14 Nov'24	1.42	1.67	Buy
3	15 Nov'24	1.39	1.72	Buy
4	02 Mar'25	1.33	1.69	BUY
5	14 May'25	1.21	1.50	BUY
6	24 Jul'25	1.70	2.10	BUY

Source: DBS Analyst: Amanda Tan

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BUY (>15% total return over the next 12 months for small caps, >10% for large caps)

HOLD (-10% to +15% total return over the next 12 months for small caps, -10% to +10% for large caps)

FULLY VALUED (negative total return, i.e., > -10% over the next 12 months)

SELL (negative total return of > -20% over the next 3 months, with identifiable share price catalysts within this time frame)

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