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Singapore Exchange Limited

Riding on the wave of structural global growth in derivatives

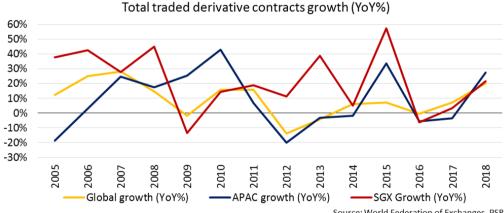
SINGAPORE | FINANCE | UPDATE

- Globally, derivative volumes have been growing at CAGR of 10% in the past 5 years.
- . FTSE China A50 Index Futures remain the main driver of SGX's volume, accounting for 44% of total trading volume in FY2019.
- Diversification efforts have seen derivative volumes from non-equity FX futures and Iron ore -grow from virtually non-existent in FY2014 to 15% of total volumes in FY2019.
- HKEX's launch of MSCI China A-share futures contract yet to be approved.
- SGX and NSE to end arbitration, and launch IFSC-SGX Connect in GIFT City by end FY2020.
- We maintain ACCUMULATE at a higher TP of S\$8.60 (previously S\$8.07). We peg our TP to 22x P/E, 0.5 SD below SGX's 5-year mean (previously 21x). The higher TP is due to an upward adjustment in our FY20-21 DDAV forecast by +2% and +4% respectively.

Structural growth in derivatives in Asia 1.

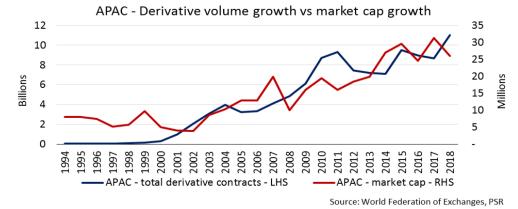
The rising popularity of derivatives is a trend observed in emerging markets in the Asia Pacific region (APAC) and not just in Singapore (Figure 1). In our opinion, the growth of derivatives will be sustained by ever-increasing interconnectedness and globalisation of markets, and institutions that require risk management and hedging tools. SGX's diversified product suite allowed investors to access otherwise hard-to-reach onshore market in emerging markets, namely SGX's India and China equity derivatives.

Figure 1: SGX's derivative volume growth will be underpinned by global demand.



Source: World Federation of Exchanges, PSR

Figure 2: Trend of derivatives volume rising in line with total equity market capitalisation of APAC markets.



1 October 2019

StocksBnB.com

Accumulate (Maintained)

LAST DONE PRICE	SGD 8.47
FORECAST DIV	SGD 0.32
TARGET PRICE	SGD 8.60
TOTAL RETURN	5.2%

COMPANY DATA

BLOOMBERGTICKER	SGX SP
O/S SHARES (MN) :	1,071
MARKET CAP (USD mn / SGD mn) :	6579/9103
52 - WK HI/LO (SGD) :	8.61/ 6.72
3M Average Daily T/O (mn) :	2.69

MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS (%)

SEL Holdings Pte Ltd	23.3%
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PRICE PERFORMANCE (%)

	1MTH	3MTH	1YR
COMPANY	3.3	6.9	18.5
STIRETURN	0.48	(4.72)	(0.49)

PRICE VS. STI



Source: Bloomberg, PSR

KEY FINANCIALS

Y/EJune	FY18	FY19	FY20e	FY21e
Revenue (SGD mn)	845	910	975	1,030
EBITDA (SGD mn)	486	524	536	558
NPAT (SGD mn)	363	391	420	444
EPS (Cents)	33.9	36.5	39.2	41.5
PER, (X)	25.0	23.2	21.6	20.4
P/BV, (X)	8.8	8.3	8.3	7.6
DPS (Cents)	30.0	30.0	31.5	32.5
Div Yield	3.5%	3.5%	3.7%	3.8%
ROE	34.1%	35.8%	36.7%	38.1%

Source: Bloomberg, Company, PSR

Valuation Method

P/E Multiple @22x

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Figure 3: Total derivatives volume in Asia grew at CAGR of 23% between 2000-2018.

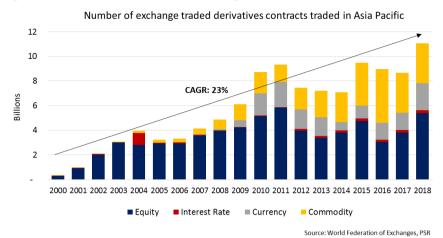
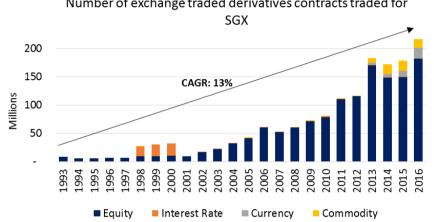


Figure 4: Room for SGX's interest, currency and commodities futures contracts to grow as compared to APAC in Figure 3.



Number of exchange traded derivatives contracts traded for

Source: World Federation of Exchanges, PSR

Derivatives the main contributor to SGX's revenue 2.

Revenue contribution from derivatives grew from 30% in FY2014 to 51% in FY2019, while total revenue grew 32% during the same period (Figure 5). Derivatives revenue tripled to \$\$460mn in the last decade with CAGR of 11%. Ten years ago, securities dominated SGX's revenues and accounted for 40% of revenue (FY19: 20%) (Figure 6).

Figure 5: Revenue from derivatives surpassed all other segments in FY2019.

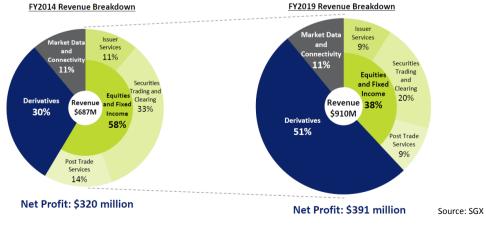
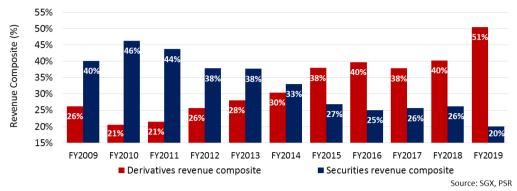


Figure 6: Derivatives revenue tripled in 10 years and supported earnings when the securities business struggled.

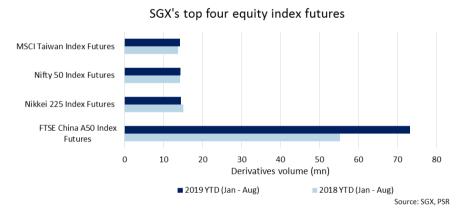


SGX's Derivatives & Securities revenue as % of total

3. FTSE China A50 Index Futures still the main driver of SGX's derivatives volume

The FTSE China A50 Index Futures remain the main driver of SGX's volume (Figure 5), accounting for 44% of total derivatives volume in FY19. It makes SGX vulnerable in the face of competition from Hong Kong Stock Exchange (HKEX)'s proposed MSCI A futures contract. A loss of revenue from China A50 has the potential to impact earnings. Among all of SGX's equity index futures, the FTSE China A50 Index futures contributed the most - at 56% of total equity index futures in FY19, due to SGX being the only offshore futures contract tracking the China A-share market.

Figure 7: SGX depends heavily on China futures





In March 2019, HKEX announced plans to launch futures contracts on the MSCI China A Index. Till date, the China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC) has yet to approve the launch of futures contracts on the MSCI China A Index which was subject to regulatory approvals and market conditions. This makes SGX's product the only A-share futures available for offshore investors currently.

(ii) Difference between HKEX's and SGX's China A-shares futures products

The FTSE China A50 index selects the 50 largest companies among all A-share stocks. On the other hand, the MSCI China A-share index will comprise 421 large and mid-cap China-listed A shares, representing Chinese companies whose principal business interest is on the mainland.

Disadvantages

- HKEX will be the preferred source for contracts for international investors in China given its proximity, giving it an advantage in gaining traction in volumes.
- The MSCI A-share index is much more representative of the A-share market, giving HKEX an advantage in market share.
- Potential pricing competition through aggressive rebates from HKEX during the initial period to ramp up volume.

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Advantages

- The constituents of the MSCI A-Index is subject to changes over time (e.g. changes in foreign ownership percentage) which creates uncertainty and risks for investors.
- HKEX's plans to create a larger ecosystem for China equity derivatives should deepen liquidity and generate additional volume with potential arbitrage between the two exchanges.
- SGX offers margin offsets across correlated products, creating cross margining efficiencies. A vast majority of SGX's clients trade a range of products and SGX expects its long track record to be strong enough to retain clients.
- SGX's contracts have a much longer history and deeper liquidity as the first mover.
 While HKEX will take months to build up liquidity and on-board its clients' systems.

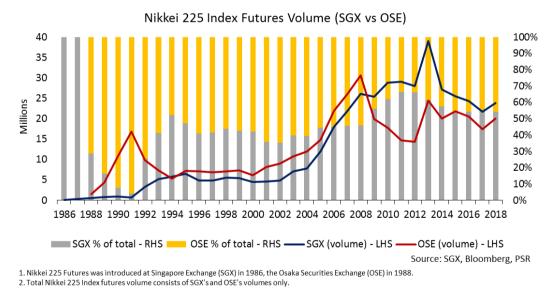
Our View

While we will keep an eye out on this new MSCI product, the threat and launch is not confirmed. Political considerations may add another layer of uncertainty. Hence, we are not too concerned on HKEX's move to launch its China A products at the moment, with SGX having the upper hand as the first-mover in China futures contracts offerings with deep liquidity.

Similar precedence – Nikkei 225 Index Futures

A similar event occurred in 1986 when SGX was the first-mover to introduce the Nikkei 225 Index futures. Shortly after in 1988, OSE (Osaka Securities Exchange) introduced their own Nikkei 225 Index futures for its domestic market. As seen from Figure 8, SGX managed to maintain a larger market share than OSE despite losing volumes at the start to OSE. In our view, we do not expect HKEX's plans to have a significant impact on SGX in the near term for FY20. Absolute volume for China A50 to be impacted and market share may decrease in the initial stages but we expect a regain in momentum as the overall pie increases with HKEX as a competitor.

Figure 8: SGX managed to maintain a larger market share and higher volume despite competition from OSE, who introduced its own Nikkei 225 Index futures a few years after SGX.



4. Steady diversification in derivatives to offset competitive pressures

SGX continues to diversify its revenue streams not just away from the securities business but within derivatives as well. While equity derivatives remain the heavy-weight, we see other segments catching up (e.g. FX Futures and Iron ore contributed 17% and 5% respectively to the growth in FY19). Derivative volumes from FX futures and Iron ore grew from virtually non-existent in FY2014 to 15% of total volumes in FY2019 (Figure 9). Moving forward, top-line growth will largely depend on derivative product diversification.



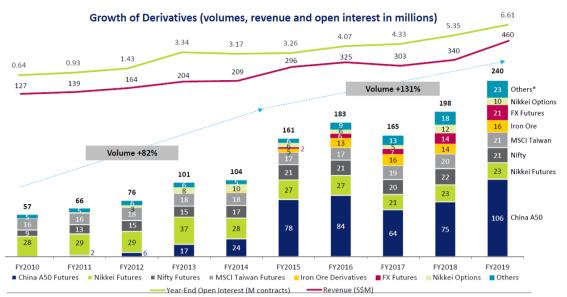


Figure 9: Steady rise in diversification within the derivatives business offerings

Source: SGX

5. Other Updates

(i) End of the spat between SGX and NSE

In August 2019, SGX and NSE announced that they are discontinuing the arbitration. In the meanwhile, both parties agreed to jointly launch the trading of derivatives based on the Nifty 50 stock index and its constituents at the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT), through a platform called the NSE International Financial Service Centre (IFSC)-SGX Connect by end FY2020. The joint proposal will include a revenue-sharing model and more will be unveiled by end FY2020. Nifty 50 Index Futures accounted for 9% of total trading volume in FY19 (Figure 9). We expect minimal CAPEX of around S\$5mn to operationalise the IFSC-SGX Connect to fall within the S\$45-50mn guidance for FY2020. Assuming the IFSC-SGX Connect takes off with no hiccups by end FY2020, there is potential for the partnership to boost SGX's Nifty 50 Index Futures volume.

(ii) HKEX's bid for London Stock Exchange (LSE) a potential negative for SGX

HKEX's bid to takeover LSE for US\$36.6bn was contingent on LSE terminating its proposed US\$27bn acquisition of financial data analytics provider, Refinitiv Holdings Ltd. LSE views Refinitive to be of high strategic merit as they aim to expand their financial data capabilities, and of lower risk as compared to the political risks that come with HKEX's bid. In our view, given that HKEX's move to takeover LSE came at a time of high tension in Hong Kong regarding China's political influence, it could be subjected to a high level of political objection. A successful takeover of LSE by HKEX may not be good news for SGX as LSE owns the FTSE Indexes from which SGX licenses the FTSE China A50 Index Futures.

(iii) SGX's Organisational Restructuring

On 27 June 2019, SGX announced a new business realignment that consists of four main business units. We do not expect the restructuring to be of significant change to business fundamentals. The new financial statement outlook will be implemented on 1 July 2019 and 1Q20's financials will disclose the new outlook. The restructuring is not expected to incur additional costs nor disrupt staff headcount. Instead, it aims to achieve potential cost efficiencies. Efforts will be put into the DCI and FICC business units to double in size in the next 5 years.

- Fixed Income, Currencies & Commodities (FICC) Bond listing business and commodities, FX and Index derivatives.
- Equities (Cash & Equities Derivatives) Equities will be focused as a single asset class to form an enlarged platform.
- (iii) Data, Connectivity and Indices (DCI) Renamed from the old Market Data & Connectivity unit.
- (iv) Global Sales and Origination (GSO) Combines the equities and debt capital markets.

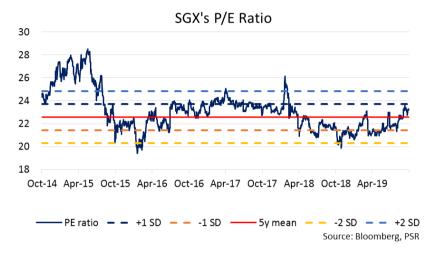


Investment Actions

We maintain ACCUMULATE at a higher TP of S\$8.60 (previously S\$8.07). We peg our TP to 22x P/E, 0.5 SD below SGX's 5-year mean (previously 21x).

The higher TP is due to an upward adjustment in our FY20-21 DDAV forecast by +2% (to 1,140k) and +4% (to 1,283k) respectively. Our new FY20 and FY21 DDAV forecasts represent growth of 15% YoY and 13% YoY respectively, as compared to FY19's 22% YoY.

Figure 10: SGX's 5 year P/E



Rationale: We are positive that SGX's diversified suite of derivative products will sustain growth in 2020. Some of the structural tailwinds SGX is benefiting includes the increased global flows into Asian equities, currency transaction moving into exchange platform and broader range of commodity futures products.

Figure 11: SGX is superior in dividend yield and ROE

		Last Price	Market										Divid	lend			
		(Local	Сар	For	ward P	Έ	Foi	rward I	Р/В	EV	/EBITC	DA	Yield	l (%)	F	ROE (%))
Stock	Currency	Currency)	(USDmn)	Yr O	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr O	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr O	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr O	Yr 1	Yr 2
Asian Exchanges																	
SGX	SGD	8.49	6,571	21.7	22.1	21.1	8.3	7.8	7.2	16.1	15.1	14.3	3.8	3.9	35.8	36.3	35.9
BURSA MALAYSIA BHD	MYR	6.13	1,182	24.6	24.6	22.9	5.6	5.9	5.9	12.6	11.4	10.9	3.8	4.1	21.8	23.4	25.3
JAPAN EXCHANGE GROUP INC	JPY	1,741.00	8,627	21.5	20.7	20.0	3.4	NA	NA	10.6	10.8	10.3	2.9	3.0	18.0	16.5	15.5
ASX LTD	AUD	81.40	10,621	32.4	31.3	30.1	4.0	4.1	4.0	23.6	22.1	21.0	2.9	3.0	12.5	13.0	13.4
	Market Ca	ap Weighted	Average:	26.0	25.4	24.4	4.9	3.8	3.6	17.1	16.3	15.5	3.2	3.3	20.3	20.2	20.1
Large-Cap Asian Exchange																	
HKEX	HKD	230.00	37,006	30.2	29.9	26.7	6.6	6.7	6.4	15.6	15.4	13.8	3.0	3.4	22.4	23.0	25.1
US and European Exchanges																	
LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE GROUP	GBp	7,308.00	31,399	29.4	37.0	32.7	7.4	8.6	5.6	24.8	21.9	20.1	0.9	1.0	13.9	17.0	16.6
DEUTSCHE BOERSE AG	EUR	143.25	29,634	23.5	24.0	22.2	5.4	5.0	4.6	18.9	16.1	14.9	2.1	2.2	19.1	21.1	21.7
EURONEXT NV	EUR	75.05	5,720	16.2	20.0	17.9	6.5	5.6	4.8	18.1	15.5	14.0	2.3	2.7	27.6	29.2	29.4
CBOE GLOBAL MARKETS INC	USD	114.91	12,833	24.7	25.7	22.9	3.9	3.8	3.6	17.4	17.6	16.1	1.2	1.3	12.5	27.2	33.9
CME GROUP INC	USD	211.34	75,680	29.7	31.2	28.7	2.9	2.8	2.8	26.6	24.5	22.4	2.6	2.8	7.3	8.7	9.4
NASDAQ INC	USD	99.35	16,362	18.6	20.1	18.6	3.0	2.8	2.7	15.2	14.9	14.2	1.9	2.0	9.7	14.6	15.6
INTERCONTINENTAL EXCHANGE IN	USD	92.27	51,709	22.8	24.4	22.1	3.0	3.0	2.9	17.9	17.7	16.6	1.2	1.3	11.9	11.8	12.4
	Market Ca	ap Weighted	Average:	25.8	28.1	25.5	4.0	4.1	3.5	21.7	20.1	18.5	1.8	2.0	11.9	14.2	15.1

Source: Bloomberg, PSR

Extracted as of: 1-Oct-19



Financials

Income Statement

Y/E Jun, SGD mn	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20e	FY21e
Securities	205	221	182	174	173
Derivatives	303	340	460	549	620
Others	293	284	268	251	238
Operating revenue	801	845	910	975	1,030
Operating expenses	399	420	449	482	509
Operating profit	402	425	461	493	521
Othergains/(losses)	6	11	13	16	18
Associates & JVs	1	1	(2)	(2)	(2)
Profit Before Tax	409	437	473	508	537
Taxation	(69)	(74)	(82)	(88)	(93)
Net Income, reported	340	363	391	420	444
Net Income, adj.	340	363	391	420	444

Per share data (SGD Cents)					
Y/E Jun	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20e	FY21e
EPS, reported	32	34	37	39	42
DPS	28	30	30	32	33
BVPS	92	96	102	102	112
Payout ratio	88%	88%	82%	80%	78%

Cash Flow					
Y/E Jun, SGD mn	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20e	FY21e
<u>CFO</u>					
Profit before tax and Assoc.&JV	407	436	474	509	539
Depreciation & Amortisation	58	61	63	43	38
WC changes	(21)	(7)	(46)	2	18
Others	3	2	(2)	(6)	(8)
Cash generated from ops	447	492	490	548	587
Tax paid	(67)	(65)	(80)	(88)	(93)
Cashflow from ops	380	427	410	461	494
<u>CFI</u>					
CAPEX, net	(60)	(79)	(47)	(50)	(50)
Others	(87)	(11)	(41)	16	18
Cashflow from investments	(147)	(90)	(89)	(34)	(32)
<u>CFF</u>					
Loans, net of repayments	0	0	0	0	0
Dividends	(300)	(300)	(401)	(321)	(337)
Others	(9)	(8)	(10)	0	0
Cashflow from financing	(308)	(308)	(411)	(321)	(337)
Net change in cash	(76)	29	(90)	106	126
CCE, end	736	832	667	711	802

Source: Company, PSR

Balance Sheet					
Y/E Jun, SGD mn	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20e	FY21e
ASSETS					
PPE	80	72	61	42	40
Software	159	174	182	197	201
Intangible assets	64	61	58	56	56
Goodwill	88	89	85	85	85
Others	37	39	169	169	169
Total non-current assets	429	435	555	550	552
Accounts receivables	815	827	885	800	828
Cash	736	772	607	711	878
Securities clearing funds	60	60	60	60	60
Others	1	22	25	25	25
Total current assets	1,613	1,680	1,577	1,596	1,791
Total Assets	2,041	2,115	2,132	2,146	2,343
LIABILITIES					
Accounts payables	892	891	912	813	887
Others	82	95	90	90	283
Total current liabilities	973	986	1,001	903	1,170
Others	35	33	40	40	40
Total non-current liabilities	35	33	40	40	40
Total Liabilities	1,009	1,019	1,041	943	1,210
EQUITY					
Non-controlling interests	0	0	0	0	0
Shareholder Equity	1,033	1,096	1,091	1,199	1,131

Y/E Jun	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20e	FY21e
P/E (X), adj.	26.7	25.0	23.2	21.6	20.4
Р/В (Х)	9.2	8.8	8.3	8.3	7.6
EV/EBITDA (X), adj.	10.6	10.0	9.3	8.9	8.5
Dividend Yield	3.3%	3.5%	3.5%	3.7%	3.8%
Growth & Margins					
Growth					
Revenue	-2.1%	5.5%	7.7%	7.2%	5.6%
EBITDA	-2.0%	5.7%	7.8%	2.4%	5.8%
EBIT	-2.1%	5.5%	8.5%	7.0%	5.5%
Net profit, adj.	-2.7%	6.9%	7.7%	7.4%	5.8%
Margins					
EBITDA margin	57.4%	57.5%	57.5%	55.0%	54.2%
EBIT margin	50.2%	50.3%	50.7%	50.6%	50.5%
Net profit margin	42.4%	43.0%	43.0%	43.1%	43.1%
Key Ratios					
ROE	33.6%	34.1%	35.8%	36.7%	38.1%
ROA	16.4%	17.5%	18.4%	19.6%	19.8%
Net Gearing (X)	Net Cash	vet Cash	Net Cash	Net Cash	Net Casl







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