MERISTEM

Increased Sugar Sales Spur Topline Growth

Summary: BUAFOODS's revenue grew by 11.29% YoY to NGN168.85bn in H1:2022. This strong topline growth was propelled by the increased sales generated from its sugar segment (+13.76% YoY), which contributes 64.38% to total revenue. Cost of sales increased by 16.12% YoY to NGN116.79 in H1:2022. Consequently, the cost to sales ratio deteriorated to 69.17% in H1:2022 (vs. 66.29% in H1:2021).

Operating profit inched up by 8.13% YoY to NGN45.90bn in H1:2022, owing to a decline in operating expenses (-29.14% YoY). Interest income, which was non-existent in the prior period, increased to NGN760.00mn in H1:2022. Similarly, finance cost increased by 4.52% YoY to NGN4.09bn in H1:2022 (vs. NGN3.91bn in H1:2021). Overall, Profit Before Tax (PBT) and Profit After to Tax (PAT) ticked up by 10.78% YoY to NGN42.70bn and 13.74% YoY to NGN39.31bn, respectively in H1:2022.

Positive: Net margin improved to 23.28% in H1:2022 (vs. 22.78% in H1:2021).

Negatives: Gross margin worsened to 30.83% in H1:2022 (vs. 33.71% in H1:2021). Operating margin declined to 27.71% in H1: 2022 (vs. 27.98% in H1:2021)

luation		Stock Highlights	
iling EPS	4.14	Yr Hi	66.00
PS	13.33	Yr Lo	40.00
	13.17	YTD return	36.25%
3V	4.09	Beta	0.19
get PE	14.18x	Adjusted Beta	0.46
c-2022 Exp. EPS	4.74	Shares outstanding	
c 2022 Target		Shares outstanding	18.00bn
ce	NGN67.23	Market cap [NGN]	1.08trn
rrent Price	NGN59.95	Financial year end	December

Sensitivity Analysis of Dec-2022 Target Price to key model inputs						
				EPS		
		4.64	4.69	4.74	4.79	4.84
	14.08x	65.35	66.05	66.75	67.46	68.16
	14.13x	65.58	66.29	66.99	67.70	68.40
Target PE	14.18x	65.81	66.52	67.23	67.94	68.65
	14.23x	66.04	66.75	67.47	68.18	68.89
	14.28x	66.27	66.99	67.70	68.42	69.13

Nigeria | Equities | BUAFOODS | H1:2022 August 22, 2022

Recommendation: BUY TP: 67.23 CP: 59.95 UPP: +12.14%



Min 65.35 Max 69.13
Max 69.13

Financial Highlight (NGN'000)				
Profit and Loss Account	H1:2022	H1:2021	Y/Y Growth	
Revenue	168,854,513	151,731,133	+11.29%	
Cost of sales	116,788,996	100,579,994	+16.12%	
OPEX	6,168,524	8,704,687	-29.14%	
Operating Profit	45,896,993	42,446,251	+8.13%	
Finance Cost	4,090,527	3,913,545	+4.52%	
PBT	42,701,704	38,547,012	+10.78%	
PAT	39,308,670	34,561,432	+13.74%	
Balance Sheet	H1:2022	2021A	Y/Y Growth	
Property, Plant and Equipment	322,073,037	321,675,653	+0.12%	
Total Asset	645,358,368	593.469.515	+8.74%	
Total Equity	240,027,340	200,718,673	+19.58%	
Total Debt	249,947,113	253,226,445	-1.30%	
Total Liabilities	405,331,027	392,750,842	+3.20%	

Key Metrics			
Profitability Ratio	2022T	2021A	3-yr Hist. Avg
ROA	12.03%	14.42%	9.74%
ROE	33.81%	42.07%	27.68%
Net Margin	21.27%	20.93%	16.70%
Efficiency Ratio	H1:2022	2021A	3-yr Hist. Avg
Asset Turnover	0.27	0.69	0.54
Cash Conversion Cycle	44	24	0
Liquidity Ratio	H1:2022	2021A	3-yr Hist. Avg
Current Ratio	0.92	0.79	0.96
Quick Ratio	0.85	0.72	0.87
Cash Ratio	0.12	0.09	0.09
Solvency Ratio	H1:2022	2021A	3-yr Hist. Avg
Solvency Ratio Interest Coverage	H1:2022 10.85	2021A 15.83	3-yr Hist. Avg 11.07
			, ,

*TP=Target Price, CP= Current Price, UPP=Upside Potential, EPS= Earnings Per Share, BVPS= Book Value Per Share, P/E=Price to *Earnings, P/BV= Price to Book Value, T= Trailing, A= Actuals*

Analysts' Certification and Disclaimer

This research report has been prepared by the research analyst(s), whose name(s) appear(s) on the cover of this report. Each research analyst hereby certifies, with respect to each security or issuer covers in this research that:

(1) all of the views expressed in this report accurately reflect his or her personal views about any and all of the subject securities or issuers (the Issuer); and

(2) no part of any of the research analyst's compensation was, is, or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific recommendations or views expressed by the research analyst(s) in this report. Research analysts' compensation is determined based upon activities and services intended to benefit the investor clients of Meristem Securities Limited (the Firm). Like all of the Firm's employees, research analysts receive compensation that is impacted by overall Firm profitability, which includes revenues from other business units within the Firm.

(3) each research analyst and/or persons connected with any research analyst may have interacted with sales and trading personnel, or similar, for the purpose of gathering, synthesizing and interpreting non-material non-public or material public market information.

As at the date of this report, any ratings, forecasts, estimates, opinions or views herein constitute a judgment, and are not connected to research analysts' compensations. In the case of non-currency of the date of this report, the views and contents may not reflect the research analysts' current thinking. This document has been produced independently of the Issuer. While all reasonable care has been taken to ensure that the facts stated herein are accurate and that the ratings, forecasts, estimates, opinions and views contained herein are fair and reasonable, neither the research analysts, the Issuer, nor any of its directors, officers or employees, shall be in any way responsible for the contents hereof, and no reliance should be placed on the accuracy, fairness or completeness of the information contained in this document. No person accepts any liability whatsoever for any loss howsoever arising from any use of this document or its contents or otherwise arising in connection therewith.

Analysts' Compensation

The equity research analysts responsible for the preparation of this report receive compensation based upon various factors, including the quality and accuracy of research, client feedback, competitive factors, and overall firm revenues, which include revenues from, among other business units, Investment Banking.

Investment Ratings

Fair Value Estimate

We estimate stock's fair value by computing a weighted average of projected prices derived from discounted cash flow and relative valuation methodologies. The choice of relative valuation methodology (ies) usually depends on the firm's peculiar business model and what in the opinion of our analyst is considered as a key driver of the stock's value from a firm specific as well as an industry perspective. However, we attach the most weight to discounted cash flow valuation methodology.

Target Price Estimate

While we believe that the fair value is underpinned by the future benefits stream and growth outlooks, which are primary drivers of value, the market might not align to the fair value estimate within the estimated investment horizon. Thus, we do not derive our target price from the fair value but from a trading perspective using the year projected earnings or book value and the respective target multiples. Notwithstanding, we are of the opinion that the variance between the two should not be too significant.

Ratings Specification

BUY: Target Price of the stock is above the current market price by at least 10 percent

HOLD: Target Price of the stock ranges between -10 percent and 10 percent from the current market price.

SELL: Target Price of the stock is more than 10 percent below the current market price.

Movements in Price Target

Company Name: Presco Plc

		Previous	Target	New Target	Previous	
Date	Price (N)	Price(N)		Price (N)	Recommendation	New Recommendation
22-August						
2022	59.95	67.23		67.23	BUY	BUY

Company disclosures

Meristem or the analyst(s) responsible for the coverage may have financial or beneficial interest in securities or related investments discussed in this report, which could, unintentionally, affect the objectivity of this report. Material interests, which Meristem or the analyst(s) have with companies or in securities discussed in this report, are disclosed below:

Company	
BUA Foods Plc	

The analyst(s) hold(s) personal positions (directly or indirectly) in a class of а. the common equity securities of the company. The analyst responsible for this report, as indicated on the front page, is a b. board member, officer or director of the company Meristem beneficially owns 1% or more of the equity securities of the С. company

Meristem has been the lead manager or co-lead manager of any publicly d. disclosed offer of securities of the company over the past 12 months.

Meristem beneficially holds a major interest in the debt of the company e. Meristem has received compensation for investment banking activities from the company within the last 12 months Meristem intends to seek, or anticipates receipt of compensation for g. investment banking services from the company in the next 3 months The content of this research report has been communicated with the h. company, following which this research has been materially amended before its distribution

The company is a client of the stock broking division of the Meristem İ. group.

The company is a client of the investment banking division of the Meristem group.

Meristem is the registrar to the company. k.

The company owns more than 5% of the issued share capital of Meristem

Meristem has other financial or other material interest in the company. m.

Disclosure

Brokerage and Retail Services

topeoludimu@meristemng.com (+234 905 569 0627) isaaconaolapo@meristemng.com (+234 803 234 8275) contact@meristemng.com

Investment Banking/Corporate Finance

<u>rasakisalawu@meristemng.com</u> (+234 806 022 9889) seunlijofi@meristemng.com (+234 808 536 5766)

Wealth Management

funmilolaadekola-daramola@meristemng.com (+234 803 355 0008) crmwealth@meristemng.com (+234 01 738 9948)

Registrars

muboolasoko@meristemregistrars.com (+234 803 324 7996) (+234 802 303 1783) martinaosague@meristemregistrars.com www.meristemregistrars.com (+23401-280 9250)

Corporate websites:	ww.meristemng.com
---------------------	-------------------

Meristem Research can also be accessed on the following platforms:

Meristem Research Portal: research.meristemng.com **Bloomberg**: MERI <GO> Capital IQ: www.capitaliq.com **Reuters**: www.thomsonreuters.com **ISI Emerging Markets**: www.securities.com/ch.html?pc=NG FactSet: www.factset.com

CONTACT INFORMATION

Group Business Development

	+234 802 454 65 +234 802 394 29
Trust Services <u>damilolahassan@meristemng.com</u> <u>trustees@meristemng.com</u>	(+234 803 613
Investment Research research@meristemng.com	
<u>praiseihansekhien@meristemng.com</u>	(+234 817 00
<u>damilareojo@meristemng.com</u>	(+234 816 89
Analyst Coverage:	
mosunmolaadeoye@meristemng.com	(+23481211
<u>rilwanatsalami@meristemng.com</u>	(+23481628

Client Services

adefemitaiwo@meristemng.com (+234 803 694 3034) (+23401-280 9250) car@meristemng.com

www.meristemwealth.com

www.meristemregistrars.com

575) 967)

13 9123)

07 1512) 890 2771)

105615)

852225)