

# Wednesday,14 October 2020 Not Rated

# Last price (IDR) 2,120 Stock Statistics Sector Telco Bloomberg Ticker No of Shrs (mn) 2,751 Mkt. Cap (IDRbn/USDmn) Avg. daily T/O (IDRbn/USDmn) 5.95/0.41

36.99

29.04

33.97

### Estimated free float

Major shareholders (%)

Asia Link Dewa Pte Ltd

PT First Media Tbk

### LINK relative to JCI Index



Source: Bloomberg



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## Link Net (LINK)

### Share price recovery due

From our virtual meeting with LINK's CEO and its management we noted the company's determination to drive subscriber & ARPU growth by further strengthening the quality of its network & customer service. We expect to see decelerating homepass additions as the company focuses solely on network migration off PLN poles. Addressing key risks, we see share price recovery is due.

LINK's new "Big Sister" called Sally. LINK delivered sequential qtr subscriber growth of +7.1%qoq, still adding 54k net subs at a higher level. LINK stands tall facing its main competitor Indihome, boasting strong customer service e.g. 3-4hrs response time to network issues, a 24hr call center and dedicated lines. A pick-up in the 1Q20 churn rate to 2.6-2.7% has normalized back to guided churn of 2.4% in 2Q20 & 3Q20 balanced by strong gross adds in these last 2 quarters. Sally, LINK's revamped CRM program, encompasses LINK's already strong customer-oriented approach and significantly higher effort from sales workforce of #2,276 (+28% from a year ago), showing solid results in subscriber pick-up and churn rate.

LINK claims to have done well despite the pandemic with +50% growth in traffic (cagr @34% 2010-20), handling pressures from OTT consumption and W/SFH. The company operates at +60% capacity utilization, and welcomes more OTT providers streaming through First Media. Cord-cutting trends have not affected LINK's pay-TV sales, as bundling sales with the Fixed BB are as high as ever at a 96.6% rate.

Turning in more revenues with Sally. LINK added more homepasses (HP) in 3Q20 (+30,700 to reach 2,651,761 total HP). While the new 54k subs came in from penetrating existing and new HPs driving HP penetration to 30.8%. LINK thus far has added 183k new homepasses ytd in 9M20 increasing its new coverage in Central Java. LINK is further optimizing its already aggressive CRM model with Sally, employing new tactics and data analytics pooled by on-the-ground teams. This latest expansion weighed on LINK's ARPU which trended down to Rp369k but we are confident that it will recover to "Rp400k as the latest subscriber adds mature.

LINK's share price recovery is due with a focus on network migration. After a period of accelerated expansion in home passes, we now expect a significant slowdown in HP adds as LINK now focuses on network migration. In the last months of 2019 LINK was plagued with uncertainty over whether it could negotiate network pole sharing contract renewal with PLN (50% of LINK's network relies on these poles), and its share price suffered +100% devaluation since then. Now, however, LINK has reversed the trend having a new 2yr PLN contract in place till 2022 (although 2x more expensive). We understand there are 2 checkpoints in the agreement timeline until 2022 in which the migration progress will be evaluated.

**Growth and no imminent risks.** LINK aims to be network self-reliant as the pole sharing agreement is expensive and there is the underlying risk of not getting it extended. LINK will need to spend Rp3tn in capex in this process till 2022 incurring debt, expecting, however, a comfortable leverage position based on LINK's profits. As we expect more subs and ARPU growth in the coming quarters, and having addressed the potential risks, we see no reason why LINK's valuation cannot recover to at least halfway to 2019's levels.

### **Key Financials**

| ,                      |         |         |         |         |         |
|------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Year to 31 Dec (IDRbn) | 2017    | 2018    | 2019    | 1H19    | 1H20    |
| Revenue (IDRbn)        | 3,399   | 3,728   | 3,755   | 1,806   | 1,930   |
| EBITDA (IDRbn)         | 2,001   | 1,863   | 2,166   | 1,080   | 1,059   |
| EBITDA Growth (%)      | 16      | (7)     | 16      | (1)     | (2)     |
| Net profit (IDRbn)     | 1,007   | 895     | 895     | 527     | 456     |
| EPS (IDR)              | 366     | 287     | 325     | 192     | 166     |
| EPS growth (%)         | 23      | (22)    | 13      | (33)    | (13)    |
| BVPS (IDR)             | 1,644.2 | 1,726.7 | 1,692.3 | 1,629.0 | 1,568.4 |
| DPS (IDR)              | 104     | 183     | 245     | 245     | -       |
| PER (x)                | 5.8     | 7.4     | 6.5     | 5.5     | 6.4     |
| PBV (x)                | 0.6     | 0.6     | 0.6     | 0.7     | 0.7     |
| Dividend yield (%)     | 4.9     | 8.6     | 11.6    | 11.6    | -       |
| EV/ERITDA (v)          | 3.2     | 3.5     | 3.0     | 3 0     | 3.0     |

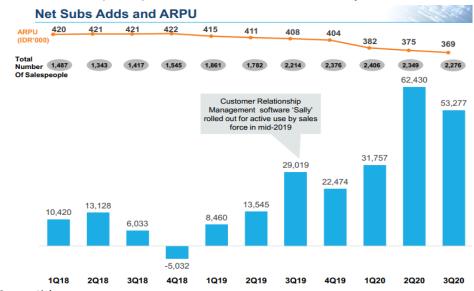


Exhibit 2. Link Net (LINK IJ) 3Q20 operational KPIs

|                           | 3Q19       | 2Q20      | 3Q20  | Δ% qoq | Δ% yoy |
|---------------------------|------------|-----------|-------|--------|--------|
| Operating KPIs ('000)     |            |           |       |        |        |
| BB Internet subscribers   | 646        | 762       | 816   | 7.1    | 26.3   |
| Net Subs adds             | 29         | 62        | 54    | (13.0) | 84.4   |
| Subscriber Churn rate (%) | 2.50       | 2.40      | 2.42  | 0.0    | (0.1)  |
| ARPU (IDR'000)            | 408        | 375       | 369   | (1.6)  | (9.6)  |
|                           |            |           |       |        |        |
| Home passes (HPs)         | 2,397      | 2,621     | 2,652 | 1.2    | 10.6   |
| Net HP adds               | <i>8</i> 5 | <i>79</i> | 31    | (61.1) | (63.7) |
| HomePass Penetration (%)  | 27.0       | 29.1      | 30.8  | 1.7    | 3.8    |

Source : Linknet

Exhibit 3. Link Net (LINK IJ) Subscribers additions & ARPU development



Source : Linknet



### **Exhibit 4. Income Statement**

| Year to 31 Dec (IDRbn)  | 2017  | 2018  | 2019  | 1H19  | 1H20  |
|-------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Revenue                 | 3,399 | 3,728 | 3,755 | 1,806 | 1,930 |
| COGS                    | (707) | (775) | (748) | (334) | (404) |
| Gross profit            | 2,693 | 2,954 | 3,008 | 1,472 | 1,527 |
| EBITDA                  | 2,001 | 1,863 | 2,166 | 1,080 | 1,059 |
| Oper. profit            | 1,357 | 1,144 | 1,281 | 702   | 635   |
| Interest income         | 25    | 36    | 19    | 13    | 7     |
| Interest expense        | (43)  | (60)  | (59)  | (15)  | (58)  |
| Forex Gain/(Loss)       | -     | -     |       | (0)   |       |
| Income From Assoc. Co's | -     | -     | -     | -     | -     |
| Other Income (Expenses) | -     | -     | -     | 1     | -     |
| Pre-tax profit          | 1,339 | 1,120 | 1,240 | 700   | 584   |
| Income tax              | (332) | (332) | (346) | (173) | (128) |
| Minority interest       | 0     | -     | -     | -     | -     |
| Net profit              | 1,007 | 789   | 895   | 527   | 456   |
| Core Net Profit         | 1,007 | 789   | 1005  | 527   | 456   |

### **Exhibit 5. Balance Sheet**

| Year to 31 Dec (IDRbn)     | 2017  | 2018  | 2019  | 1H19  | 1H20  |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Cash & cash equivalent     | 766   | 600   | 298   | 296   | 695   |
| Receivables                | 399   | 408   | 513   | 487   | 532   |
| Inventory                  | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Other Curr. Asset          | 69    | 70    | 87    | 93    | 151   |
| Fixed assets - Net         | 4,117 | 4,568 | 4,994 | 4,715 | 5,287 |
| Other non-curr.asset       | 415   | 378   | 760   | 511   | 893   |
| Total asset                | 5,766 | 6,024 | 6,653 | 6,102 | 7,558 |
| ST Debt                    | 37    | 43    | 471   | 247   | 552   |
| Payables                   | 887   | 1,002 | 886   | 477   | 1,361 |
| Other Curr. Liabilities    | 45    | 42    | 56    | 392   | 403   |
| Long Term Debt             | 94    | 58    | 420   | 381   | 755   |
| Other LT. Liabilities      | 179   | 128   | 164   | 124   | 172   |
| Total Liabilities          | 1,242 | 1,273 | 1,997 | 1,620 | 3,243 |
| Shareholder's Funds        | 4,524 | 4,751 | 4,656 | 4,482 | 4,316 |
| Minority interests         | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Total Equity & Liabilities | 5,766 | 6,024 | 6,653 | 6,102 | 7,558 |



### **Exhibit 6. Cash Flow**

| Year to 31 Dec (IDRbn)    | 2017  | 2018   | 2019   | 1H19 | 1H20  |
|---------------------------|-------|--------|--------|------|-------|
| Net income                | 1,007 | 789    | 895    | 527  | 456   |
| Depreciation and Amort.   | 644   | 719    | 775    | 378  | 426   |
| Change in Working Capital | -111  | 214    | 88     | -252 | 172   |
| OtherOper. Cash Flow      | 0     | 0      | 0      | 0    | 0     |
| Operating Cash Flow       | 1,540 | 1,722  | 1,758  | 654  | 1,055 |
| Capex                     | -971  | -1,116 | -1,724 | -684 | -726  |
| Others Inv. Cash Flow     | 0     | 0      | -70    | 0    | 0     |
| Investing Cash Flow       | -971  | -1,116 | -1,794 | -684 | -726  |
| Net change in debt        | -49   | -39    | 753    | 529  | 413   |
| New Capital               | -15   | -224   | -310   | -122 | -305  |
| Dividend payment          | -286  | -503   | -674   | -674 | 0     |
| Other Fin. Cash Flow      | 0     | -6     | -35    | -7   | -40   |
| Financing Cash Flow       | -351  | -772   | -265   | -274 | 68    |
| Net Change in Cash        | 219   | -166   | -302   | -304 | 397   |
| Cash - begin of the year  | 547   | 766    | 600    | 600  | 298   |
| Cash - end of the year    | 766   | 600    | 298    | 296  | 695   |

### **Exhibit 7. Key Ratios**

| Year to 31 Dec (IDRbn) | 2017  | 2018  | 2019 | 1H19  | 1H20   |
|------------------------|-------|-------|------|-------|--------|
| Growth (%)             | _     | _     | _    | _     |        |
| Sales                  | 15.1  | 9.7   | 0.7  | (2.1) | 6.9    |
| EBITDA                 | 15.9  | (6.9) | 16.3 | (0.9) | (1.9)  |
| Operating profit       | 21.0  | -15.7 | 11.9 | (4.8) | (9.5)  |
| Net profit             | 23.1  | -21.7 | 13.4 | (3.6) | (13.5) |
| Profitability (%)      |       |       |      |       |        |
| Gross margin           | 79.2  | 79.2  | 80.1 | 81.5  | 79.1   |
| EBITDA margin          | 58.9  | 50.0  | 57.7 | 59.8  | 54.9   |
| Operating margin       | 0.0   | 0.0   | 34.1 | 38.9  | 32.9   |
| Net margin             | 0.0   | 0.0   | 23.8 | 29.2  | 23.6   |
| ROAA                   | 18.6  | 13.4  | 14.1 | 16.5  | 12.8   |
| ROAE                   | 23.7  | 17.0  | 19.0 | 23.1  | 20.3   |
| Leverage               |       |       |      |       |        |
| Net Gearing (x)        | (0.1) | (0.1) | 0.1  | 0.1   | 0.1    |
| Interest Coverage (x)  | 31.6  | 19.2  | 21.6 | 46.6  | 10.9   |

Source : Linknet

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