

CORPORACIÓN MOCTEZUMA, S.A.B. DE C.V.

CMOCTEZ*



BUY							
2023-IV Targ	P\$67.00						
04/27/2023 (P\$59.90						
Expected Ret	11.85%						
Market Cap (P\$51,531						
Qrtly Max	\$57.03	EV/EBITDA	22.31x				
Qrtly Min	\$54.62	ROE	14.70%				
% Qrtly Chg	4.41%	ROIC	56.33%				
P\$ mn	2022-I	2023-I	Δ% y/y				
Sales	3,831	4,850	26.58%				
EBITDA	1,743	2,310	32.52%				

Analysis

Cementos Moctezuma S.A.B. de C.V. delivered a positive first quarter 2023 earnings report. The company is primarily engaged in the sale and distribution of concrete and cement and has three main plants located in San Luis, Morelos, and Veracruz serving clients in northern, central, and southern Mexico as well as the peninsula and lowland regions of the country. More than 30 distribution centers distribute concrete and cement to 30 states and the company also has a presence in more than 10.

Moctezuma continues to experience an upturn in **revenues**, **which grew +26.58% y/y and amounted to P\$4.850 bn**. Domestic concrete and cement sales rose +27% y/y, which is noteworthy in terms of revenue share by region, since Cementos Moctezuma's operation focuses mainly on the local market (99.88% of the total), the rest consisting exclusively of cement exports (Table 1).

Table 1 Income by Product (Figures in P\$ mn)

Origin of Sales	Income 2023	Income 2022	Weighting 2023	Weighting 2022
Origin of Sales	IIICOIIIE 2023	IIICOIIIE 2022	Weighting 2023	Weighting 2022
Domestic	4,844.2	3,820.53	99.88%	99.71%
International	5.66	11.01	0.12%	0.29%
Total	4.849.86	3.831.54		

Source: Signum Research and Cementos Moctezuma's 2Q23 results









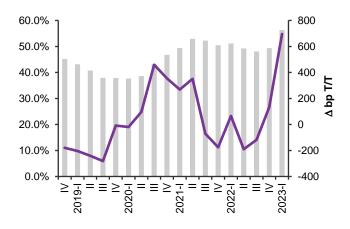


Gross profit amounted to P\$1.315 bn and the gross margin grew 64.64%, +370 bp y/y, due to better control over the cost of sales. By comparison, selling general and administrative expenses rose +33.86% and +8.89%, respectively, y/y.

Operating profit grew +35.86% y/y and amounted to P\$2.159 bn, while the operating margin rose +304 bp y/y to 44.51%. There was a very strong increase in financial income compared to the prior year (+192.79% y/y) driven by interest earned. **EBITDA totaled P\$2.310 bn, +32.52\% y/y, and the EBITDA margin was 47.63\%, 214 bp above the same year-earlier quarter.**

Net profit totaled P\$1.569 bn, +38.54% y/y, as construction sector profitability is currently being underpinned by Mexico's current development phase. As a result, ROIC was 56.33% for the period.

Chart 1. Quarterly ROIC (NOPAT/Invested Capital)



Source: Signum Research and Cementos Moctezuma's 2Q23 results

Cementos Moctezuma continues to figure among companies offering shareholders the best returns. Its zero-debt policy in a high interest rate environment translates into stable earnings, which is also reflected in cash and equivalents of P\$6.036 bn, +17.19% compared to 2022, making it an appealing investment option.

In sum, given attractive returns, a zero-debt strategy, solid reinvestments, and a favorable outlook for short-term local concrete and cement demand, we rate the stock Buy with an end-2023 target price of P\$67.00 per share.

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