

Company Report

Sunday, 11 January 2015

Qatar Gas Transport Co./Nakilat (QGTS)

Recommendation	MARKET PERFORM	Risk Rating	R-3
Share Price	QR23.00	Target Price	QR24.70
Implied Upside	7.4%		

A Play on Qatar's LNG; Revising Estimates

We remain positive on Nakilat given its steady operating model and solid dividend yield. QGTS remains Qatar's primary LNG carrier and benefits from stable/visible revenue and cash flow through 25-year fixed (price and quantity) charter contracts with the state-controlled LNG producers, Qatargas and RasGas. With fleet expansion completed in 2010, we expect strong FCF generation to allow QGTS to meet its debt repayments (9M2014 debt: QR23.3bn/\$6.4bn) comfortably and lead to EPS accretion. Further, the shipyard business could surprise positively in 2015/2016. QGTS also trades at an attractive 2015 dividend yield of 5.7%.

Highlights

- Qatar's LNG carrier. With ~77 MTPA in capacity, Qatar is the #1 global LNG player. Nakilat, the world's largest LNG fleet owner (~15% share), forms a vital link between Qatar's gas output and its monetization as LNG exports. QGTS carries virtually all Qatari LNG exports. The state has shown strong support for Nakilat and owns a ~19% stake through 100%-owned government entities.
- A state-of-the-art fleet: Since its formation in 2004, QGTS has invested around \$11bn to own 58 state-of-the-art LNG carriers, 25 of which are wholly owned. Roughly, 75% of these vessels are of the Q-Max and Q-Flex type, which have the largest capacity in the world. QGTS also jointly owns four LPG ships (along with Milaha). An April 2014 deal adds a further 3 JV-held LNG vessels bringing the count to 61 (one each in 2015 and 2016).
- Stable revenue due to exclusive government contracts. These LNG agreements result in stable revenue and flattish absolute EBITDA.
- Revising estimates: Post 9M2014 results, we have upped our 2014 EPS by 4.7% primarily due to upside from LPG-driven JV income. We have trimmed our 2015 & 2016 earnings forecast by 2.0% and 2.2%, respectively, factoring in lower top-line/margin estimates for the wholly-owned business, partially offset by higher JV income from fleet additions and growth in ship building/repairs.

Catalysts

Refinancing, fleet expansion and upside from the shipyard: During 2013, QGTS refinanced \$917mn in bank debt at attractive rates. We note Nakilat retains the ability to expand its fleet targeting international clients without expending much capex (e.g., the Maran Nakilat deal, which allowed QGTS to double JV fleet size to 8 LNG tankers, while upping stake to 40% through a \$1.33bn refinancing). The April 2014 \$807mn refinancing is also of a similar nature. We are also positive longer-term on the ship building/repair business.

Recommendation, Valuation and Risks

- Recommendation and valuation: We rate Nakilat a Market Perform with a QR24.70 price target. Our previous price target was QR25.30. QGTS trades at 2015 P/E and EV/Adj. EBITDA of 13.4x and 11.2x, respectively.
- Risks: Declining oil prices remain a substantial risk to regional equity prices. For QGTS, further escalation of operating costs of wholly-owned vessels and execution risks in shipyard remain the major risk.

Key Financial Data and Estimates

	FY2013	FY2014e	FY2015e	FY2016e
Revenue (Adj., QR mn)	3,384	3,541	3,601	3,650
Revenue Growth	0.4%	4.6%	1.7%	1.3%
EPS (QR)	1.32	1.65	1.72	1.83
EPS Growth	(4.8%)	25.3%	4.0%	6.7%
P/E (x)	17.5	13.9	13.4	12.6
DPS (QR)	1.10	1.20	1.30	1.40
Dividend Payout	83.6%	72.8%	75.8%	76.5%
Dividend Yield	4.8%	5.2%	5.7%	6.1%
ROE	16.8%	19.7%	19.3%	19.5%

Source: Company data, QNBFS estimates; Note: All data based on current number of shares

Key Data

Current Market Price (QR)	23.00
Dividend Yield – 2015 (%)	5.7
Bloomberg Ticker	QGTS QD
ADR/GDR Ticker	N/A
Reuters Ticker	QGTS.QA
ISIN	QA000A0KD6L1
Sector*	Transportation
52wk High/52wk Low (QR)	25.90/18.80
3-m Average Volume ('000)	395.2
Mkt. Cap. (\$ bn/QR bn)	3.5/12.9
Shares Outstanding (mn)	560.0
FO Limit* (%)	25.0
Current FO* (%)	10.4
1-Year Total Return (%)	16.7
Fiscal Year End	December 31

Source: Bloomberg (as of January 11, 2015), *Qatar Exchange (as of January 11, 2015); Note: FO is foreign ownership

Saugata Sarkar +974 4476 6534 saugata.sarkar@qnbfs.com.qa

Detailed Financial Statements

Income Statement (In QR mn)	FY2013	FY2014e	FY2015e	FY2016e
Revenue – Wholly-Owned Ships	3,015	3,038	3,068	3,099
Income from Marine & Agency Services	47	58	61	64
Share of Profits from Joint Ventures	301	430	457	471
Vessels Sub-Chartering & Other Income	21	15	16	16
Adjusted Net Revenue	3,384	3,541	3,601	3,650
Direct Costs	(650)	(673)	(713)	(756)
Gross Profit	2,734	2,867	2,888	2,893
General and Administrative Expenses	(103)	(112)	(115)	(115)
Interest, Dividend & Profit from Islamic Banks	37	39	24	24
EBITDA	2,667	2,795	2,797	2,803
Depreciation	(606)	(660)	(673)	(687)
EBIT	2,061	2,134	2,124	2,116
Finance Costs	(1,306)	(1,248)	(1,173)	(1,101)
Gain/(Loss) on Derivatives from Joint Ventures	(26)	28	0	0
Profit Before Tax	730	915	951	1,015
Income Tax Expense	0	0	0	0
Profit After Tax	730	915	951	1,015
Minority Interest	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Profit for Equity Shareholders	729	913	950	1,013
EPS (QR)	1.32	1.65	1.72	1.83

Source: Company data, QNBFS estimates

Balance Sheet (In QR mn)	FY2013	FY2014e	FY2015e	FY2016e
Non-Current Assets				
Property, Plant and Equipment	24,855	24,337	23,787	23,224
Investment in Joint Venture Companies	2,641	2,826	2,992	3,164
Loans to Joint Venture Companies	805	414	414	414
Available-for-Sale Investments	176	195	195	195
Total Non-Current Assets	28,477	27,772	27,388	26,996
Current Assets				
Receivables, Inventories and Due from Joint Ventures	285	345	348	350
Cash and Bank Balances	1,931	3,268	3,008	2,764
Total Current Assets	2,216	3,613	3,355	3,115
Total Assets	30,693	31,385	30,743	30,111
Equity				
Equity Attributable to the Parent	4,340	4,643	4,921	5,207
Minority Interest	7	8	9	11
Total Equity	4,346	4,652	4,931	5,218
Non-Current Liabilities				
Borrowings	22,274	21,813	20,851	19,890
Fair Value of Interest Rate Swaps	2,824	3,416	3,416	3,416
Provision for End of Service Benefits	18	100	100	100
Total Non-Current Liabilities	25,116	25,328	24,367	23,406
Current Liabilities				
Borrowings	844	741	741	741
Accounts Payables/Accruals & Due to Related Parties	386	665	704	747
Total Current Liabilities	1,230	1,405	1,445	1,487
Equity and Liabilities	30,693	31,385	30,743	30,111

Source: Company data, QNBFS estimates

Recommendations

Based on the range for the upside / downside offered by the 12month target price of a stock versus the current market price

OUTPERFORM	Greater than +20%
ACCUMULATE	Between +10% to +20%
MARKET PERFORM	Between -10% to +10%
REDUCE	Between -10% to -20%
UNDERPERFORM	Lower than -20%

Risk Ratings

Reflecting historic and expected price volatility versus the local market average and qualitative risk analysis of fundamentals

R-1	Significantly lower than average
R-2	Lower than average
R-3	Medium / In-line with the average
R-4	Above average
R-5	Significantly above average

Contacts

Saugata Sarkar Head of Research Tel: (+974) 4476 6534 saugata.sarkar@qnbfs.com.qa

Sahbi Kasraoui Manager – HNWI Tel: (+974) 4476 6544 sahbi.alkasraoui@qnbfs.com.qa Abdullah Amin, CFA Senior Research Analyst Tel: (+974) 4476 6569 abdullah.amin@qnbfs.com.qa

Ahmed Al-Khoudary
Head of Sales Trading – Institutional
Tel: (+974) 4476 6548
ahmed.alkhoudary@qnbfs.com.qa

Shahan Keushgerian
Senior Research Analyst
Tel: (+974) 4476 6509
shahan.keushgerian@qnbfs.com.qa

QNB Financial Services SPC Contact Center: (+974) 4476 6666 PO Box 24025 Doha, Qatar

Disclaimer and Copyright Notice: This publication has been prepared by QNB Financial Services SPC ("QNBFS") a wholly-owned subsidiary of QNB SAQ ("QNB"). QNBFS is regulated by the Qatar Financial Markets Authority and the Qatar Exchange QNB SAQ is regulated by the Qatar Central Bank. This publication expresses the views and opinions of QNBFS at a given time only. It is not an offer, promotion or recommendation to buy or sell securities or other investments, nor is it intended to constitute legal, tax, accounting, or financial advice. QNBFS accepts no liability whatsoever for any direct or indirect losses arising from use of this report. Any investment decision should depend on the individual circumstances of the investor and be based on specifically engaged investment advice. We therefore strongly advise potential investors to seek independent professional advice before making any investment decision. Although the information in this report has been obtained from sources that QNBFS believes to be reliable, we have not independently verified such information and it may not be accurate or complete. QNBFS does not make any representations or warranties as to the accuracy and completeness of the information it may contain, and declines any liability in that respect. For reports dealing with Technical Analysis, expressed opinions and/or recommendations may be different or contrary to the opinions/recommendations of QNBFS Fundamental Research as a result of depending solely on the historical technical data (price and volume). QNBFS reserves the right to amend the views and opinions expressed in this publication at any time. It may also express viewpoints or make investment decisions that differ significantly from, or even contradict, the views and opinions included in this report. This report may not be reproduced in whole or in part without permission from QNBFS.