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# Best in Class, But Fully Priced In! : Shree Cement Ltd

May 15, 2025 | CMP: INR 30,632| Target Price: INR 27,000

Expected Share Price Return: -11.9% | Dividend Yield: 0.4% | Expected Total Return: -11.5%

#### Sub-optimal capital structure with limited room for value addition

We downgrade Shree Cement Ltd (SRCM) from HOLD to SELL. SRCM trades at

Change in Estimates	✓
Target Price Change	<b>~</b>
Recommendation	✓
Company Info	
BB Code	SRCM IN EQUITY
Face Value (INR)	10.0
52 W High/Low (INR)	31,400/23,500
Mkt Cap (Bn)	INR 1,105/ \$12.9
Shares o/s ( Mn)	36.1
3M Avg. Daily Volume	34,141
Change in Estimates	

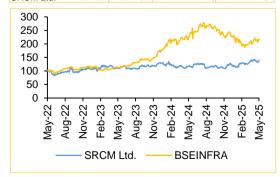
FY26E Old	Dev. (%)	Marrid	FY27E	
Old	Doy (%)	Marrie		
	Dev. (70)	New	Old	Dev. (%)
188.2	7.7	216.9	201.5	7.7
47.2	3.2	53.1	55.1	(3.6)
25.1	(106) bps	24.5	27.4	(287) bps
17.6	(13.6)	16.4	23.1	(28.8)
487.0	(13.6)	455.6	639.5	(28.8)
	47.2 25.1 17.6	47.2 3.2 25.1 (106) bps 17.6 (13.6)	47.2 3.2 53.1 25.1 (106) bps 24.5 17.6 (13.6) 16.4	47.2 3.2 53.1 55.1   25.1 (106) bps 24.5 27.4   17.6 (13.6) 16.4 23.1

Actual vs Consensus							
INR Bn	Q4FY25A	Consensus Est.	Dev.%				
Revenue	52.4	50.3	4.2				
EBITDA	13.8	13.1	4.9				
EBITDAM %	26.4	26.2	16 bps				
PAT	5.6	5.2	6.8				
Key Financials							

Rey I mancials					
INR Bn	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Revenue	194.8	180.4	202.7	217.0	232.3
YoY (%)	15.7	(7.4)	12.4	7.1	7.1
EBITDA	43.6	38.4	48.7	53.1	58.8
EBITDAM %	22.4	21.3	24.0	24.5	25.3
Adj PAT	24.7	12.0	15.2	16.4	19.4
EPS	684.2	331.5	420.7	455.6	536.5
ROE %	12.1%	5.6%	6.7%	6.7%	7.4%
ROCE %	15.5%	7.2%	9.3%	9.4%	10.2%
PE(x)	37.5	93.1	73.4	67.7	57.5
EV/EBITDA	19.1	26.2	16.4	16.1	15.7
EV/IC	4.5	5.5	4.2	4.1	4.0

Shareholding Pattern (%)							
	Mar-25	Dec-24	Sep-24				
Promoters	62.56	62.56	62.56				
FII	9.70	9.88	10.39				
DII	15.07	14.78	14.22				
Public	12.67	12.78	12.83				
Relative Performa	uce (%)						

YTD	3Y	2Y	1Y
BSE Infra	118.4	92.9	(2.1)
SRCM Ltd.	40.4	24.8	18.6



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#### **Q4FY25 Cement Result Preview**

**Sector View: Positive** 

Choice

SELL

We downgrade Shree Cement Ltd (Strom) non HOED to SELE. Strom trades at
FY27E EV/EBITDA & EV/CE multiples of 16.2x /4.5x, making it amongst the
richest valued cement stocks under our coverage. At 6.7%/7.6% (FY26E),
SRCM's RoE/RoCE don't cover its cost of equity and cost of capital at
12.5%/12.4%, even under optimistic operational assumptions. SRCM's capital
structure is sub-optimal with cash & equivalents on books (which includes cash &
bank balance, current investments & cash-like components in non-current
investments at FY25 end) at ~INR118 Bn (forming ~10.6% of current market cap).
We believe this high level of cash is an overhang.
That apart, there is limited scope for SRCM's best-in-class management to
improve its RoCE by cost take-out initiatives, which its other less efficient
peers are implementing. SRCM's cost structure is already amongst the most

Т ir p efficient in the industry, with high levels of renewable/green power penetration (~60%) and limited scope to save on logistics, raw materials, and other aspects. In our view, there are hardly any low-hanging fruits that the management can capitalise on, to improve its return profile.

Despite such high levels of cash on books, SRCM doesn't have a commensurate capacity growth pipeline. Management doesn't intend to grow capacity beyond 80 Mnt by FY28E. Cash will continue to remain elevated at INR117 Bn by FY28E. There is no denial that SRCM is amongst the Best in Class in terms of corporate governance, management quality, brand equity, cost excellence, EBITDA/t etc, it's just that things are too good to get better, at a time when its valuation is demanding.

We now incorporate a robust EV to CE (Enterprise Value to Capital Employed) based valuation framework (Exhibit 3), which allows us a rational basis to assign the right valuation multiple to value SRCM.

We forecast SRCM's EBITDA to grow at a CAGR of 15.3% over FY25-28E based on our volume growth assumptions of 6%/6%/6%, and realisation growth of 6.0%/1.0%/1.0% in FY26E/27E/28E, respectively.

We arrive at a 1-year forward TP of INR 27,000/share for SRCM. We now value SRCM on our EV/CE framework - we generously assign an EV/CE multiple of 3.4x/3.4x for FY27E/28E. Although SRCM's ROCE is expected to expand from 7.2% in FY25 to 10.2% in FY28E, it doesn't cover capital cost even in FY28E. We do a sanity check of our EV/CE TP using the implied EV/EBITDA multiple. On our TP of INR 27,000, FY27E implied EV/EBITDA multiple is 16.1x, which is quite high given its return profile. Risk to our Sell rating includes stronger-than-expected sector tailwinds, lack of investor apathy towards its valuation multiple.

#### Q4FY25 Results: EBITDA in line with expectations

SRCM reported Q4FY25 Revenue and EBITDA of INR52,402 Mn (+3.3% YoY, 23.7% QoQ) and INR13,183 Mn (+4.1% YoY, +45.9% QoQ) vs CEBPL estimates of INR50,007 Mn and INR13,860 Mn, respectively. In our view, the market expectation of Q4FY25 EBITDA was INR 12,500-14,000 Mn, so the reported numbers are in line with street expectations. Total volume for Q4 stood at 9.8 Mnt (vs CEBPL est. 10.1 Mnt), up 3.3% YoY and 12.2% QoQ.

Blended Realization/t came in at INR5,325/t (flat YoY and +10.3% QoQ), which is better than CEBPL's est of INR4,974/t. Total cost/t came at INR3,922/t (-0.2% YoY and +4.6% QoQ). As a result, EBITDA/t came in at INR 1,404/t, (+0.8% YoY and 30.1% QoQ), which is strong but in-line with expectations.

Q4FY25 Result Update

## **Management Call - Highlights**

- Premium Products: Share of premium products in trade sales volume increased to 15.6% in Q4FY25, up from 11.9% in Q4FY24.
- Capacity: In April 2025, SRCM added two cement grinding units 3.00 MTPA in Etah, Uttar Pradesh, and 3.40 MTPA in Baloda Bazar, Chhattisgarh. With this, its total cement capacity in India stands at 62.8 MTPA.
- Capacity expansion plan: SRCM's upcoming integrated cement units at Jaitaran (Rajasthan) and Kodla (Karnataka) are slated for commissioning by the end of Q1FY26 and Q2FY26, respectively. Additionally, of the two cement mills (totaling 6.0 MTPA) initially planned for Jaitaran, only one will be commissioned as part of the current phase, while the second will be taken up at a later stage.
- **Clinker Unit:** During the quarter, SRCM upgraded its clinker unit at Nawalgarh, Rajasthan, increasing its capacity from 3.80 MTPA to 4.50 MTPA.
- Renewable Energy: In Q4FY25, green electricity accounted for 60.2% of its total power consumption — among the highest in the Indian cement industry. SRCM continues to scale up its green power capacity, which reached 582 MW by the end of Q4FY25, marking a 21% increase from 480 MW at the start of FY25.
- Dividend: The Board of Directors has recommended a final dividend of INR60 per share for FY25, in addition to the interim dividend of INR50 per share declared in January 2025.
- **Cement Industry Growth:** In FY26, cement demand is expected to grow by 6.5%–7.5%, driven by infrastructure development, rural recovery, and continued momentum in the real estate sector.
- Realisations: On a YoY basis, realizations have increased by 3% in the North, 1% in the East, and declined by 5–6% in the South. QoQ, realizations rose by 4% in the North, 8% in the East, and 2% in the South.
- **Capex:** For FY26, SRCM is targeting a **capex of INR 30 Bn**. This investment is likely aligned with the company's ongoing growth strategy.
- Depreciation: Management has guided for FY26 depreciation in the range of INR 30 Bn to 32 Bn.

INR Mn	Q4FY25	Q4FY24	YoY (%)	Q3FY25	QoQ (%)	CEBPL Est.	Dev. (%)
Volumes (in INR Mnt)	9.8	9.5	3.3	8.8	12.2	10.1	(2.1)
Revenues	52,402	50,727	3.3	42,355	23.7	50,007	4.8
COGS	5,598	3,540	58.1	5,404	3.6		
Power and Fuel Cost	11,531	14,274	(19.2)	9,134	26.2		
Freight Exp.	11,558	10,451	10.6	9,918	16.5		
Employee Cost	2,594	2,352	10.3	2,371	9.4		
Other Expenses	7,307	6,838	6.9	6,062	20.5		
EBITDA	13,813	13,272	4.1	9,466	45.9	13,860	(0.3)
EBITDA Margins (%)	26.4	26.2	20 bps	22.3	401 bps	27.7	(136)bps
Depreciation	7,470	6,281	18.9	7,496	(0.4)		
EBIT	6,343	6,991	NA	1,970	NA	6,400	
EBIT Margin (%)	12.1	13.8	NA	4.7	NA	12.8	
Other Income	1501	1379	8.9	1149	30.7		
Interest	417	648	(35.6)	529	(21.1)		
РВТ	7,428	7,722	(3.8)	2,590	186.8		
Tax	1,868	1,105	69.1	296	531.3		
PAT	5,560	6,618	(16.0)	2,294	142.4	5,567	(0.1)
Basic EPS (INR)	154.1	183.4	(16.0)	63.6	142.4	154.3	(0.1)

## Exhibit 1: EBITDA in line with expectations

## Exhibit 2: Gradual Uptick in EBITDA/t (INR/t)

Cho	ice	Update
_		
	FY28E	Result
	42.8	5
	5,433	Q4FY2
	608	ð
	299	
	1,102	

Particulars (INR)	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Volume (Mnt)	31.9	35.5	35.9	38.1	40.3	42.8
Realisation/t	5,285	5,482	5,024	5,326	5,379	5,433
COGS/t	380	619	563	596	602	608
Employee Cost/t	272	264	276	293	296	299
Power & Fuel Cost/t	1,740	1,569	1,246	1,196	1,148	1,102
Freight Expenses/t	1,299	1,135	1,157	1,204	1,252	1,277
Other Expenses/t	672	667	714	756	764	771
Total Cost/t	4,363	4,254	3,956	4,045	4,062	4,058
EBITDA/t	922	1,228	1,069	1,280	1,317	1,375
Revenue (INR Mn)	1,68,375	1,94,767	1,80,373	2,02,667	2,16,976	2,32,294
EBITDA (INR Mn)	29,366	43,636	38,368	48,727	53,123	58,793
PAT (INR Mn)	13,276	24,685	11,962	15,179	16,438	19,356

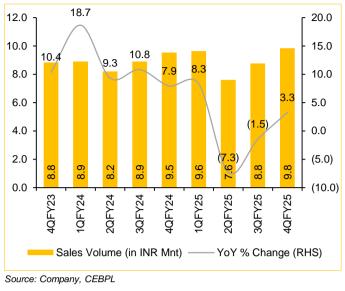
## Exhibit 3: Introducing EV/CE Valuation Framework

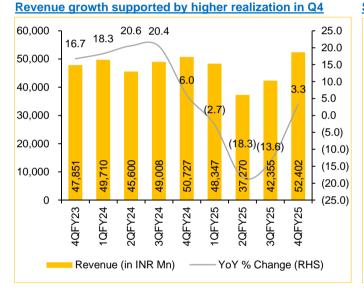
INR Mn	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
RoCE	17.3%	9.9%	15.5%	7.2%	9.3%	9.4%	10.2%
WACC	12.5%	12.5%	12.5%	12.5%	12.5%	12.5%	12.5%
RoCE less WACC %	4.8	(2.6)	3.0	(5.3)	(3.2)	(3.1)	(2.3)
EV	7,87,578	8,42,645	8,31,619	10,03,537	7,98,845	8,56,265	9,25,271
Capital Employed	1,81,872	1,85,534	2,14,069	2,22,504	2,35,683	2,52,621	2,72,977
EV/CE	4.33	4.54	3.88	4.51	3.39	3.39	3.39
Target EV/CE					3.4	3.4	3.4
Target EV					7,98,967	8,56,386	9,25,393
Gross Debt					6,164	6,664	7,664
Cash & Equivalents					1,18,738	1,17,765	1,16,834
Net Debt					(1,12,573)	(1,11,100)	(1,09,170)
LT Provision					122	122	122
EQUITY VALUE					9,11,419	9,67,365	10,34,441
EQUITY VALUE PER SHARE					25,261	26,812	28,671
1 yr forward TP (INR/sh)							27,000
Implied Multiples							
EV/EBITDA					16.4	16.1	15.7
P/BV					4.0	4.0	3.9
P/E					60.0	58.8	53.4

Quarterly Charts Choice

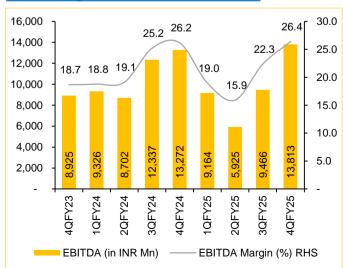
# Q4FY25 Result Update







Source: Company, CEBPL

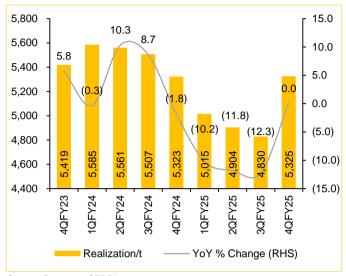


### **EBITDA Margin remained flat on a YoY basis**

Source: Company, CEBPL

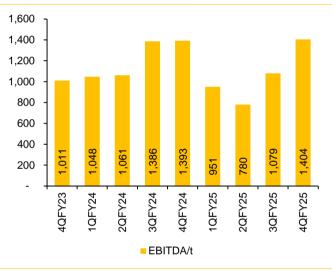
\*All figures are in INR Million

## Robust improvement in realization/t for Q4FY25



Source: Company, CEBPL

## Strong realisation drives EBITDA/t



Source: Company, CEBPL

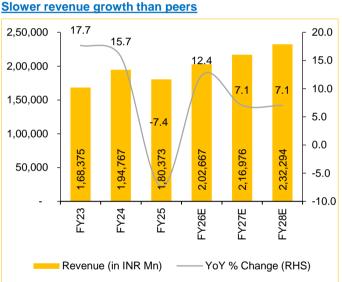
#### 15.0 8,000 16.0 13.0 7,000 14.0 11.7 11.4 10.8 6,000 10.6 12.0 5,000 10.0 4,000 8.0 6.6 5.4 3,000 6.0 2,000 2.5 4.0 6,618 915 342 5,560 2 1,000 2.0 ŝ 5 4 c 2QFY24 4QFY23 3QFY25 4QFY25 **IQFY24 3QFY24** 4QFY24 **IQFY25 2QFY25** PAT (in INR Mn) PAT Margin (%) RHS

## Robust PAT growth

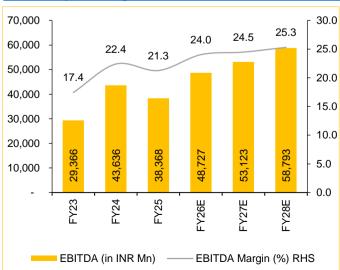
Volume is expected to grow to 42.8 Mnt by FY28







Source: Company, CEBPL



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Realisation/t expected to be strong

#### 5,600 8.0 6.0 5,500 6.0 3.7 5,400 4.0 2.3 1.0 1.0 5,300 2.0 5.200 0.0 5,100 (2.0)(8.3) 5,000 (4.0)4,900 (6.0)5,433 5,285 5,482 024 326 379 4.800 (8.0)5,0 5 5 C 4,700 (10.0)FY23 FY27E FY28E FY24 FY25 FY26E YoY % Change (RHS) Realization/t

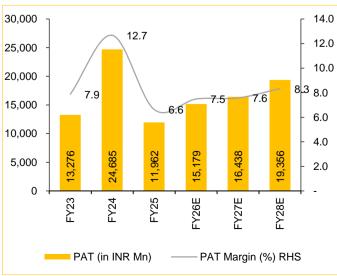
Source: Company, CEBPL

#### Gradual uptick in EBITDA/t 1,600 1,400 1,200 1,000 800 600 400 1,317 ,375 228 0690 280 200 922 0 FY23 FY24 FY25 FY26E FY28E FY27E EBITDA/t

Source: Company, CEBPL

Source: Company, CEBPL

## EBITDA expected to grow at a CAGR of 15.3% over FY25-28 Steady improvement in PAT



## Income statement (Standalone in INR Mn)

•			· ·	
FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
1,94,767	1,80,373	2,02,667	2,16,976	2,32,294
1,72,774	1,60,166	1,79,969	1,92,674	2,06,277
43,636	38,368	48,727	53,123	58,793
16,147	28,080	31,932	34,876	37,470
27,490	10,288	16,794	18,247	21,323
5,611	5,772	5,067	5,424	6,504
2,643	2,086	1,541	1,666	1,916
30,457	13,974	20,320	22,005	25,912
24,685	11,962	15,179	16,438	19,356
684.2	331.5	420.7	455.6	536.5
	1,94,767 1,72,774 43,636 16,147 27,490 5,611 2,643 30,457 24,685	1,94,7671,80,3731,72,7741,60,16643,63638,36816,14728,08027,49010,2885,6115,7722,6432,08630,45713,97424,68511,962	1,94,7671,80,3732,02,6671,72,7741,60,1661,79,96943,63638,36848,72716,14728,08031,93227,49010,28816,7945,6115,7725,0672,6432,0861,54130,45713,97420,32024,68511,96215,179	1,94,7671,80,3732,02,6672,16,9761,72,7741,60,1661,79,9691,92,67443,63638,36848,72753,12316,14728,08031,93234,87627,49010,28816,79418,2475,6115,7725,0675,4242,6432,0861,5411,66630,45713,97420,32022,00524,68511,96215,17916,438

Source: Company, CEBPL

Ratio Analysis	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Growth Ratios					
Revenues	15.7	(7.4)	12.4	7.1	7.1
EBITDA	48.6	(12.1)	27.0	9.0	10.7
PAT	85.9	(51.5)	26.9	8.3	17.8
Margins					
Gross Profit Margin	88.7	88.8	88.8	88.8	88.8
EBITDA Margin	22.4	21.3	24.0	24.5	25.3
Tax Rate	19.0	14.4	25.3	25.3	25.3
PAT Margin	12.7	6.6	7.5	7.6	8.3
Profitability					
Return On Equity (ROE)	12.1	5.6	6.7	6.7	7.4
Return On Invested Capital (ROIC)	11.6	4.5	6.1	6.1	6.4
Return On Capital Employed (ROCE)	15.5	7.2	9.3	9.4	10.2
Financial leverage					
OCF/EBITDA (x)	0.8	1.3	0.8	0.9	0.9
OCF / IC (%)	17.7	27.7	20.3	21.6	21.8
EV/EBITDA (x)	19.1	26.2	16.4	16.1	15.7
Earnings					
EPS	684.2	331.5	420.7	455.6	536.5
Shares Outstanding	36	36	36	36	36
Working Capital					
Inventory Days (x)	59	42	47	52	57
Receivable Days (x)	17	16	20	25	30
Creditor Days (x)	20	25	20	20	20
Working Capital Days	56	33	47	57	67

Source:	Company,	CEBPL
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## Balance sheet (Standalone in INR Mn)

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Particulars	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Net Worth	2,03,845	2,12,114	2,27,293	2,43,731	2,63,087
Borrowings	14,737	8,164	6,164	6,664	7,664
Deferred Tax	1,359	1,274	1,274	1,274	1,274
Other Liabilities & Provisions	43,611	43,899	43,899	43,899	43,899
Total Net Worth & Liabilities	2,63,551	2,65,451	2,78,630	2,95,568	3,15,924
Net Block	70,987	68,980	72,047	82,171	94,701
Capital WIP	18,328	31,115	31,115	31,115	31,115
Goodwill & Intangible Assets					
Investments	1,06,753	1,15,962	1,15,962	1,15,962	1,15,962
Cash & Cash Equivalents	2,971	2,310	2,775	1,802	872
Loans & Other Assets	34,392	30,633	30,633	30,633	30,633
Net Working Capital	30,120	16,451	26,097	33,884	42,640
Total Assets	2,63,551	2,65,451	2,78,630	2,95,568	3,15,924
	•				

Source: Company, CEBPL

Cash Flows (INR Mn)	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Cash Flows From Operations	33,036	50,630	39,006	45,193	49,985
Cash Flows From Investing	(13,503)	(36,379)	(35,000)	(45,000)	(50,000)
Cash Flows From Financing	(17,937)	(14,632)	(3,541)	(1,166)	(916)
Source: Company, CEBPL					

DuPont Analysis	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Tax Burden	81.0%	85.6%	74.7%	74.7%	74.7%
Interest Burden	110.8%	135.8%	121.0%	120.6%	121.5%
EBIT Margin	14.1%	5.7%	8.3%	8.4%	9.2%
Asset Turnover	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Equity Multiplier	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2
ROE	12.1%	5.6%	6.7%	6.7%	7.4%

## \_\_\_\_\_

## Historical share price chart: Shree Cement Limited



Date	Rating	Target Price
February 01,2024	ADD	30,920
May 15, 2024	REDUCE	27,055
August 08, 2024	SELL	24,765
November 12, 2024	HOLD	26,186
February 01,2025	HOLD	29,760
May 15,2025	SELL	27,000

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Large Cap*	
BUY	The security is expected to generate upside of 15% or more over the next 12 months
ADD	The security is expected to show upside returns from 5% to less than 15% over the next 12 months
REDUCE	The security is expected to show upside or downside returns by 5% to -5% over the next 12 months
SELL	The security is expected to show downside of 5% or more over the next 12 months
Mid & Small Cap*	
BUY	The security is expected to generate upside of 20% or more over the next 12 months
ADD	The security is expected to show upside returns from 5% to less than 20% over the next 12 months
REDUCE	The security is expected to show upside or downside returns by 5% to -10% over the next 12 months
SELL	The security is expected to show downside of 10% or more over the next 12 months
Other Ratings	
NOT RATED (NR)	The stock has no recommendation from the Analyst
UNDER REVIEW (UR)	The stock is under review by the Analyst and rating may change
Sector View	
POSITIVE (P)	Fundamentals of the sector look attractive over the next 12 months
NEUTRAL (N)	Fundamentals of the sector are expected to be stable over the next 12 months
CAUTIOUS (C)	Fundamentals of the sector are expected to be challenging over the next 12 months
*Large Cap: More Than INP 20	000 Cr. Market Cap

\*Large Cap: More Than INR 20,000 Cr Market Cap \*Mid & Small Cap: Less Than INR 20,000 Cr Market Cap

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