Rebuilding the category, reviving its legacy



Consumer Durables ➤ Management Meet Update ➤ January 8, 2025

Consumer Surusies / Flanagement Fleet Oparite / Suriating of 2020

We recently engaged with the management of Eureka Forbes (EFL) to delve into its organizational reboot. KTAs: 1) EFL is transforming its product, service, and operational verticals, unlocking significant growth in its core categories of water purification/vacuum cleaning (which it pioneered), and where it continues to enjoy leadership with ~40%/60% market share; it recently entered the air purification vertical; 2) EFL, via various strategic initiatives, has been addressing category-growth barriers, with focus on i) increasing affordability (targeting non-users), ii) building relevance (category-creating consumer campaigns), and iii) improving availability (distribution expansion), thereby driving double-digit category growth; 3) driving premiumization by leveraging the extensive customer base through R&D-led product introductions; 4) a revamped approach toward its service business, including affordable tiered AMC contracts and digital capabilities (achieved ~50% of the service revenue via digital platforms, significant rise in app-based engagements); 5) with gross margin expansion now largely having played out, EFL remains focused on optimizing EBITDA margins; EFL's EBITDA margin expanded to ~11% in H1FY25 (vs ~6% in FY23) and is now in a cash surplus position (vs net debt in FY23). EFL trades at 134x TTM PER (61x Sep-24 annualized).

Eureka Forbes: Financial S	napshot (Conso	olidated)	
Y/E Mar (Rs mn)	FY23	FY24	
Revenue	20,845	21,893	
EBITDA	1,450	1,986	
Adj. PAT	665	1,108	
Adj. EPS (Rs)	3.4	5.7	
EBITDA margin (%)	7.0	9.1	
EBITDA growth (%)	690.8	37.0	
Adj. EPS growth (%)	911.9	261.3	
RoE (%)	1.6	2.7	
RoIC (%)	1.2	2.0	
P/E (x)	171.7	103.0	
EV/EBITDA (x)	79.0	56.9	
P/B (x)	2.8	2.7	
FCFF yield (%)	1.5	1.5	

Source: Company, Emkay Research, FY21 & FY22 Financials are not comparable due to restructuring activity

Addressing category-growth barriers uplifting the growth trajectory

EFL's leadership position in the highly underpenetrated categories (~6% penetration in water purifiers, ~1% penetration in vacuum cleaners) gives it an immense growth headroom. Leveraging its competitive strengths around market leadership, strong service network, product innovation pipeline, and digital initiatives, EFL has been strategically focusing on addressing category barriers for driving double-digit category growth (vs 2-3% over the past decade), with focus on increased affordability, building relevance, and improving availability. Key initiatives like affordable water purifiers (starting at Rs6.5K/unit) and premium models (higher ASPs of Rs15K-20K; 1.7-2x ASP of the existing range) have driven significant volume growth across price segments. EFL has also addressed challenges in its vacuum cleaner (launched product across price points; also introduced robotic vacuum cleaners) business, leading to renewed adoption (56% of customers acquired in the last 2 years). Its strong innovation pipeline aided by diversified R&D spends (98% higher in FY24) across product categories has delivered several industry-first products, thus addressing the evolving consumer needs.

Transformation under way in the service business; digitization to act as a catalyst

EFL has revamped its product and service offerings, moving beyond just AMC, to deliver tailored solutions driven by customer insights and market understanding. Such efforts address broader customer needs (eg *ad hoc* part replacements) while enhancing customer experience, which has led to 30% increase in appointments through improved cross-selling and up-selling. Digitization, including slot-based appointments and technician tracking, has significantly increased app-based service engagements to 80% from 30%, with approximately 50% of service revenues now generated via the digital platform. However, only a small portion of EFL's installed base utilizes its services, primarily due to limited awareness, perceived high costs of parts like filters, and the convenience of local providers. To address this, EFL has implemented initiatives such as tiered AMC contracts starting at Rs599 to reduce ownership costs, QR-coded filters for authenticity, and a one-hour service quarantee.

Renewed focus on product profitability; indigenization to reduce import dependency Since Advent's takeover, EFL has driven multiple layers of cost efficiencies and strategic investments in marketing, digitalization, and R&D, leading to revenue growth and margin expansion (~11% in H1FY25 vs ~6% in FY23), along with a cash-surplus position (vs net debt in FY23). With gross margin expansion now having played out, EFL is focusing on optimizing EBITDA margin and targeting growth across the entry, mid, and premium segments, to ensure sustainable profitability and return on investment. Additionally, the company is exploring local manufacturing opportunities to reduce dependency on Chinese imports, particularly in segments like robotics and upright vacuum cleaners. Further, enhanced service capabilities, including digitized processes and direct technician management, will improve operational efficiency and cash conversion cycles.

Accredited Investors as defined in the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore.

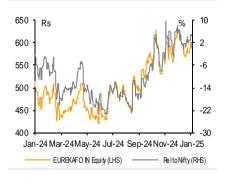
TARGET PRICE (Rs): Not Rated

Target Price – 12M	Sep-25
Change in TP (%)	NA
Current Reco.	NOT RATED
Previous Reco.	NOT RATED
Upside/ (Downside) (%)	NA
CMP (08-Jan-25) (Rs)	598.4

Stock Data	Ticker
52-week High (Rs)	648
52-week Low (Rs)	397
Shares outstanding (mn)	193.4
Market-cap (Rs bn)	116
Market-cap (USD mn)	1,348
Net-debt, (Rs mn)	
ADTV-3M (mn shares)	-
ADTV-3M (Rs mn)	207.5
ADTV-3M (USD mn)	2.4
Free float (%)	37.4
Nifty-50	23,689
INR/USD	85.9
Shareholding, Sep-24	
Promoters (%)	62.6
FPIs/MFs (%)	12.7/6.7

Price Performance					
(%)	1M	3M	12M		
Absolute	(4.3)	7.9	19.8		
Rel. to Nifty	(0.4)	13.9	8.8		

1-Year share price trend (Rs)



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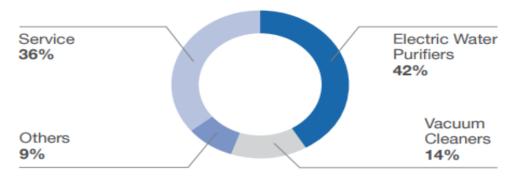
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Exhibit 1: EFL's revenue mix for FY24 - Well spread across verticals

Revenue Contribution



Note: 1. Revenue Contribution for Continuing Business in FY24. 2. Other Revenue include Non-electric Water Purifiers, Air, Softener, B2B Water Products. 3. Service Revenue includes Sale of AMC, Filter and Spares.

Source: Company, Emkay Research

Exhibit 2: Quarterly financials - Sustained double-digit revenue growth momentum; profitability also improves

(Rs mn)	Q4 FY23	Q1 FY24	Q2 FY24	Q3FY24	Q4 FY24	Q1 FY25	Q2 FY25
Revenue	5,086	5,048	5,915	5,394	5,536	5,534	6,731
Growth YoY (%)		-4.1	2.7	13.9	8.8	9.6	13.8
RM Cost	2,003	1,936	2,495	2,200	2,255	2,158	2,923
Gross Profit	3,082	3,112	3,420	3,194	3,281	3,376	3,808
Gross Margin (%)	60.6	61.7	57.8	59.2	59.3	61.0	56.6
Employee Expenses	621	759	859	832	849	852	842
Other Expenses	2,024	1,848	2,040	1,935	2,051	1,961	2,236
EBITDA	437	505	521	427	381	563	731
EBITDA Margin (%)	8.6	10.0	8.8	7.9	6.9	10.2	10.9
Growth YoY (%)	118	10	-721	81	-13	11	40
Depreciation	132	134	132	134	140	138	141
EBIT	306	371	389	294	241	425	590
Other income	40	20	18	31	19	23	34
Interest	36	35	29	18	16	17	17
EBT	309	357	378	306	244	432	607
Tax	104	102	119	76	31	110	160
Minority Interest	-0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.1	0.3
Adj PAT	206	255	258	230	214	321	447
Adj PAT margin (%)	4.0	5.0	4.4	4.3	3.9	5.8	6.6
Growth YoY (%)	348	28	-224	233	4	26	73
Exceptional items	-91	0	0	0	-152	0	30
Reported PAT	115	255	258	230	62	321	477
Reported PAT margin (%)	2.3	5.0	4.4	4.3	1.1	5.8	7.1
Growth YoY (%)	149	28	-170	-383	-46	26	85
EPS (Rs)	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.7	2.5

Addressing category-growth barriers uplifting the growth trajectory

- EFL's leadership position in the highly underpenetrated categories (~6% penetration in water purifiers, ~1% penetration in vacuum cleaners) gives the company an immense headroom for growth.
- Leveraging its competitive strengths around market leadership, strong service network, product innovation pipeline, and digital initiatives, EFL has been strategically focusing on addressing category barriers for driving double-digit category growth (vs 2-3% over the past decade), with focus on increased affordability, building relevance, and improving availability.
- Key initiatives like affordable water purifiers (starting at Rs6.5K/unit) and premium models (higher ASPs of Rs15K-20K; 1.7-2x ASP of existing range) have driven significant volume growth across price segments.
- EFL has also addressed challenges in its vacuum cleaner (launched product across price points; also introduced robotic vacuum cleaners) business, leading to renewed adoption (56% of customers acquired in last 2 years).
- The company's strong innovation pipeline aided by diversified R&D spends (98% higher in FY24) across product categories has delivered several industry-first products, thereby addressing the evolving consumer needs.

Exhibit 3: EFL's total addressable market expected to see 13% CAGR - More-than-doubling its growth to Rs234bn over FY23-30



Source: Company, Emkay Research; Note: 1 crore = 10 million

Exhibit 4: The water purifier industry is expected to see 13% CAGR over FY23-28E, owing to significantly lower penetration and positive macros (improved electricity and water supply)

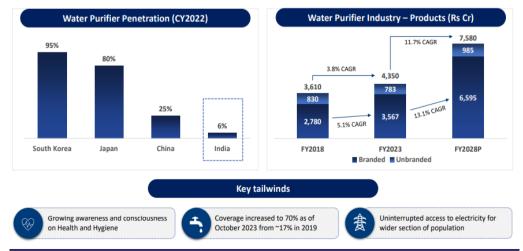
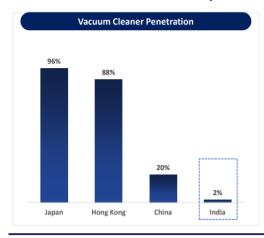


Exhibit 5: The vacuum cleaner industry in India is expected to double over FY23-28



Vacuum Cleaner Industry (Rs Cr) 14.2% CAGR → 987 6.0% CAGR 509 FY2018 FY2023 FY2028P

Source: Company, Emkay Research

Exhibit 6: EFL's enhanced focus on premiumization is visible in the newly launched range of water purifiers, with ahead of industry innovation



Source: Company, Emkay Research

Exhibit 7: EFL has also taken several category building initiatives for its vacuum cleaner products, coupled with several innovative launches



Source: Company, Emkay Research

Exhibit 8: EFL has entered the air purification space



Convenient and Cordless Cleaning Uprights to Robotics

Differentiated Portfolio Forbes Buddy Pet Grooming Kit

Affordable Premium Products Surround 360 Range of Air Purifiers

Strong growth in new segments

Exhibit 9: EFL's recently-launched advertising campaign to promote its affordable water purifier under the Aquaguard brand

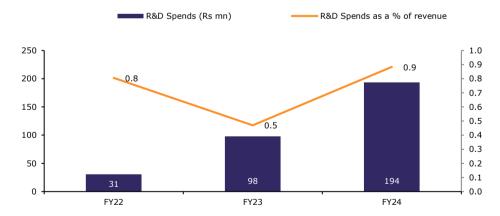
Jab Nal Se Kapda Hatega, Tabhi Sar ka Kapda Hatega



Terms and conditions apply. "As per standard testing conditions, water strained through cloth show 0% reduction in E.Coll, MS2 Phage. *Prices are indicative and may differ as per model and state.

Source: Company, Emkay Research

Exhibit 10: EFL's R&D spends have grown 6x over the last 2 years



Transformation under wav in the service business: digitization to act as a catalyst

- EFL has revamped its product and service offerings, moving beyond just AMC, to deliver tailored solutions driven by customer insights and market understanding. These efforts address broader customer needs (eg ad hoc part replacements) while enhancing the customer experience, which has led to a 30% increase in appointments through improved cross-selling and up-selling.
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Authentication Affordability Awareness Access Service Campaign Filter Design with QR Code Tiered AMC 1-Hour Service

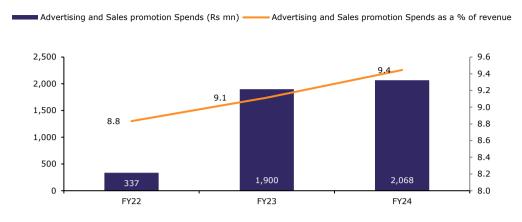
Exhibit 11: EFL is also transforming its service vertical via multiple innovative means

Source: Company, Emkay Research

Exhibit 12: EFL, centered around a 'Customer First' approach, aims to provide best-in-class service and customer experience



Exhibit 13: Advertising spends have grown ~6x over FY22-24



Source: Company, Emkay Research

Exhibit 14: EFL has an omni-channel presence with an extensive reach and distribution network spanning across the country

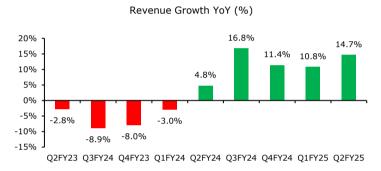


Renewed focus on product profitability; indigenization to reduce import dependency

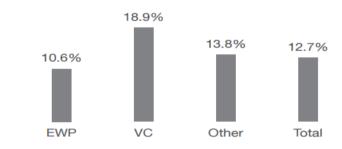
- Since Advent's takeover, EFL has driven multiple layers of cost efficiencies and strategic investments in marketing, digitalization, and R&D, leading to revenue growth and margin expansion (~11% in H1FY25 vs ~6% in FY23), along with a cash surplus position (vs net debt in FY23).
- With the gross margin expansion now having played out, EFL is focusing on optimizing the EBITDA margin and targeting growth across entry, mid, and premium segments, to ensure sustainable profitability and return on investment.
- Additionally, the company is exploring local manufacturing opportunities to reduce dependency on Chinese imports, particularly in segments like robotics and upright vacuum cleaners.
- Further, enhanced service capabilities, including digitized processes and direct technician management will improve operational efficiency and cash conversion cycles.

Exhibit 15: EFL has posted strong double digit revenue growth over the past 5 quarters...

Exhibit 16: ...with double-digit growth across product verticals in FY24



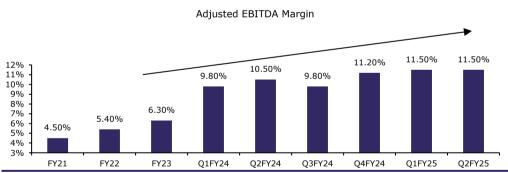
Product Revenue Growth



Source: Company, Emkay Research

Source: Company, Emkay Research

Exhibit 17: EFL's EBITDA margin has expanded by 520bps over FY23-Q2FY25



Source: Company, Emkay Research

Exhibit 18: EFL has consistently maintained a net cash position over the last 6 quarters vs net-debt position in FY23

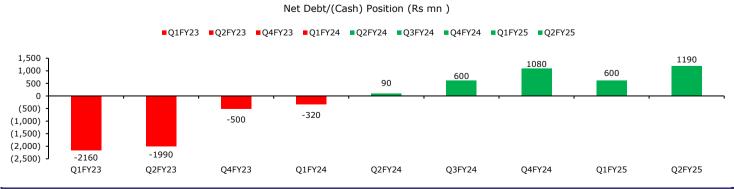
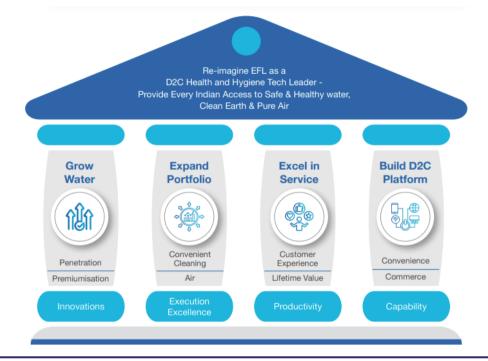


Exhibit 19: EFL's FY24 performance indicates a clear breakout from long-term historical trends

	Long-Term (FY12 - FY22)	FY 23	FY 24
Volume growth - Product*	Negative	Low single digit	Strong double digit
Revenue Growth	Low single digit	2.2% 6.1%**	5.2% 7.9%**
Adj EBITDA %	3.8% (avg)	6.30%	10.30%
Net Surplus/ (Debt)	Net Debt	₹ (50) cr	₹ 108 Cr
Market Share	Decline	Decline	Gain

Source: Company, Emkay Research

Exhibit 20: EFL is undergoing an organization-level reboot, while strengthening its leadership



Source: Company, Emkay Research

Exhibit 21: EFL has outlined its business model for long-term value creation

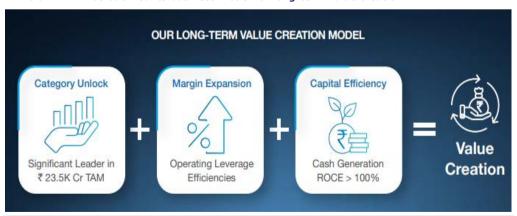


Exhibit 22: FY22 financials on pro forma basis for the purpose of comparison

Particulars (Rs. Cr)	Q4FY23	Q4FY22*	YoY (%)	FY23	FY22*	YoY (%)
Revenue	508.1	552.3	-8.0%	2,080.4	2,036.0	2.2%
Employee Benefit Expenses	-61.6	-74.4	-17.2%	-300.6	-295.9	1.6%
Service Charges	-77.1	-89.3	-13.7%	-297.6	-317.7	-6.3%
Other Expenses	-117.6	-119.5	-1.6%	-505.3	-476.5	6.0%
Total Expenses	-256.3	-283.2	-9.5%	-1,103.4	-1,090.1	1.2%
Total Expenses % of Revenue	-50.4%	-51.3%	85	-53.0%	-53.5%	51
EBITDA	47.4	35.0	35.6%	131.7	109.7	20.0%
EBITDA %	9.3%	6.3%	300	6.3%	5.4%	94
Finance Cost	-3.5	-6.7	-47.9%	-19.9	-26.1	-24.0%
Depreciation	-12.9	-11.1	16.6%	-55.3	-31.0	78.3%
Other Income	4.0	-1.4	394.6%	10.4	3.5	201.5%
PBT Before Exceptional items	35.0	15.8	120.9%	67.0	56.0	19.5%
Exceptional Items	-9.1	0.0	n.m	-40.0	-10.3	286.9%
PBT after Exceptional items	25.8	15.8	63.3%	26.9	45.7	-41.0%
PAT	16.3	8.2	98.0%	17.1	26.3	-35.0%

- FY23 revenue up 2.2%; Q4FY23 revenue decline owing to weak market conditions
- Q4FY23 EBITDA margin expanded by +300bps; EBITDA grew +35.6% YoY
- PBT pre-exceptional items (EI) charge grew +120.9% YoY
- Cost rationalization projects implemented across several areas
- Lower finance costs enabled by continuing reduction in borrowings
- Exceptional items include one-time costs related to portfolio rationalization

Source: Company, Emkay Research; Note: 1 crore = 10 million

^{*} The erstwhile Eureka Forbes Limited's (EFL) health, hygiene, safety products and services undertaking was demerged into Forbes Enviro Solutions Limited (FESL) with prospective effect from 1st February 2022. Previous year numbers are on a proforma basis to depict the results of the combined entity (erstwhile EFL and FESL) had the acquisition of the business occurred as on 01 April 2021.

Eureka Forbes: Consolidated Financials and Valuations

Profit & Loss		
Y/E Mar (Rs mn)	FY23	FY24
Revenue	20,845	21,893
Revenue growth (%)	446.0	5.0
EBITDA	1,450	1,986
EBITDA growth (%)	690.8	37.0
Depreciation & Amortization	565	540
EBIT	886	1,446
EBIT growth (%)	867.1	63.3
Other operating income	0	0
Other income	102	88
Financial expense	203	98
РВТ	785	1,436
Extraordinary items	(400)	(151)
Taxes	120	328
Minority interest	0	0
Income from JV/Associates	0	0
Reported PAT	265	956
PAT growth (%)	911.9	261.3
Adjusted PAT	665	1,108
Diluted EPS (Rs)	3.4	5.7
Diluted EPS growth (%)	911.9	261.3
DPS (Rs)	0.0	0.0
Dividend payout (%)	0.0	0.0
EBITDA margin (%)	7.0	9.1
EBIT margin (%)	4.2	6.6
Effective tax rate (%)	15.3	22.9
NOPLAT (pre-IndAS)	750	1,116
Shares outstanding (mn)	193.5	193.5

Source: Company, Emkay Research, FY21 & FY22 Financials are not comparable due to restructuring	activity

Cash flows		
Y/E Mar (Rs mn)	FY23	FY24
PBT	785	1,436
Others (non-cash items)	416	1,649
Taxes paid	(62)	(14)
Change in NWC	322	(418)
Operating cash flow	1,806	1,945
Capital expenditure	(132)	(250)
Acquisition of business	(135)	(87)
Interest & dividend income	0	0
Investing cash flow	(263)	(316)
Equity raised/(repaid)	(5)	0
Debt raised/(repaid)	(1,346)	(1,105)
Payment of lease liabilities	0	0
Interest paid	(184)	(95)
Dividend paid (incl tax)	0	0
Others	0	0
Financing cash flow	(1,535)	(1,201)
Net chg in Cash	8	428
OCF	1,806	1,945
Adj. OCF (w/o NWC chg.)	1,484	2,362
FCFF	1,674	1,695
FCFE	1,471	1,597
OCF/EBITDA (%)	124.6	97.9
FCFE/PAT (%)	555.8	167.0
FCFF/NOPLAT (%)	223.2	151.9

Source: Company, Emkay Research, FY21 & FY22 Financials are not comparable due to restructuring activity

Balance Sheet		
Y/E Mar (Rs mn)	FY23	FY24
Share capital	1,935	1,935
Reserves & Surplus	39,042	40,322
Net worth	40,976	42,256
Minority interests	12	12
Deferred tax liability (net)	8,190	8,114
Total debt	1,399	387
Total liabilities & equity	50,578	50,769
Net tangible fixed assets	0	0
Net intangible assets	0	0
Net ROU assets	0	0
Capital WIP	25	12
Goodwill	20,588	20,588
Investments [JV/Associates]	0	0
Cash & equivalents	969	1,525
Current assets (ex-cash)	4,502	5,128
Current Liab. & Prov.	9,727	10,525
NWC (ex-cash)	(5,225)	(5,397)
Total assets	50,578	50,769
Net debt	431	(1,138)
Capital employed	50,578	50,769
Invested capital	49,584	49,232
BVPS (Rs)	211.8	218.4
Net Debt/Equity (x)	0.0	0.0
Net Debt/EBITDA (x)	0.3	(0.6)
Interest coverage (x)	0.2	0.1
RoCE (%)	1.9	3.0

Source: Company, Emkay Research, FY21 & FY22 Financials are not comparable due to restructuring activity

Valuations and key Ratios		
Y/E Mar	FY23	FY24
P/E (x)	171.7	103.0
P/CE(x)	92.8	69.3
P/B (x)	2.8	2.7
EV/Sales (x)	5.5	5.2
EV/EBITDA (x)	79.0	56.9
EV/EBIT(x)	129.4	78.1
EV/IC (x)	2.3	2.3
FCFF yield (%)	1.5	1.5
FCFE yield (%)	1.3	1.4
Dividend yield (%)	0.0	0.0
DuPont-RoE split		
Net profit margin (%)	3.2	5.1
Total asset turnover (x)	0.4	0.4
Assets/Equity (x)	1.3	1.2
RoE (%)	1.6	2.7
DuPont-RoIC		
NOPLAT margin (%)	3.6	5.1
IC turnover (x)	0.4	0.4
RoIC (%)	1.2	2.0
Operating metrics		
Core NWC days	(91.5)	(90.0)
Total NWC days	(91.5)	(90.0)
Fixed asset turnover	0.4	0.4
Opex-to-revenue (%)	53.1	50.3

Source: Company, Emkay Research, FY21 & FY22 Financials are not comparable due to restructuring activity

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