#### **Sagar Cements** ADD

# In-line quarter; leverage to remain elevated



Cement > Result Update > July 19, 2024

**TARGET PRICE (Rs): 250** 

Sagar Cements reported an in-line performance in Q1FY25, with EBITDA increasing 53% YoY/declining 32% QoQ to Rs467mn (Emkay est: Rs446mn). On a sequential basis, EBITDA/t fell by Rs66 to Rs356 as realizations dipped by Rs222 QoQ. Volume growth was steady at 9% YoY, to 1.28mt (in line with estimates). The management maintained volume guidance of 6.5mt, with FY25 EBITDA/t ranging at Rs540-575, which looks challenging in our view. Net debt increased by Rs1.2bn sequentially to Rs13bn, as of Jun-24, and we expect it to maintain similar levels for a couple of years on the back of increase in capex intensity. Factoring in the lower realization, we cut FY25-26E EBITDA by 10-17% and introduce our forecast for FY27. We maintain ADD on the stock, with unchanged Jun-25E TP of Rs250/share (10x EV/E) post quarterly roll-over. At CMP, the stock is trading at FY26E EV/t of US\$46.

Sagar Cements: Financial Snapshot ( Consolidated)										
Y/E March (Rs mn)	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E					
Revenue	22,295	25,046	27,210	32,695	36,814					
EBITDA	1,532	2,459	2,871	4,156	5,520					
Adj. PAT	(1,390)	(582)	(555)	357	1,301					
Adj. EPS (Rs)	2.2	(3.3)	(4.2)	2.7	10.0					
EBITDA margin (%)	6.9	9.8	10.6	12.7	15.0					
EBITDA growth (%)	(44.5)	60.5	16.8	44.8	32.8					
Adj. EPS growth (%)	(62.2)	(249.3)	28.0	(164.3)	264.7					
RoE (%)	(9.6)	(3.2)	(2.9)	1.9	6.6					
RoIC (%)	(0.1)	0.7	1.4	4.4	7.3					
P/E (x)	(22.6)	(53.9)	(56.5)	87.9	24.1					
EV/EBITDA (x)	28.7	17.5	15.2	10.5	7.7					
P/B (x)	1.9	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.5					
FCFF yield (%)	(6.0)	4.4	2.3	3.5	5.9					

Source: Company, Emkay Research

#### **Result Summary:**

Volumes increased 9% YoY to 1.28mt (excluding clinker volumes of ~84k) on account of ramping up of capacities in the recently acquired Andhra Cements. Overall capacity utilization during the quarter was ~50%. Given weak cement prices for the southern region, realization declined 5% QoQ to Rs4,170/t in Q1FY25. Total cost/t was down 12% YoY/4% QoQ to Rs3,814, mainly due to decline of 5% QoQ in RM+P&F costs. Average lead distance declined marginally QoQ to 255km (Q4FY24: 258km; Q1FY24: 261km). During the quarter, net debt increased by Rs1.2bn QoQ to Rs13bn as of Jun-24, and we expect it to remain at similar levels for the next couple of years on the back of increased capex intensity (cumulative capex of Rs7bn in FY25E-27E). Of the upcoming projects, the company has proposed to expand cement capacities of the Gudipadu and Jeerabad plants by 0.25mt and 0.5mt, respectively, by FY26. Besides, the mgmt. aims to expand clinker capacity, from 1.85mt to 2.31mt, and cement capacity to 3mt from 2.25mt at the Dachepalli plants by end-FY26. The proposed capex for expansion is likely to be Rs4.7bn.

What we like: Better than industry volume growth

What we did not like: Increase in net debt

#### **Key Concall Takeaways:**

i) The management maintained its volume guidance of 6.5mt (+18% YoY) for FY25, implying 20% growth run-rate for remaining Quarters. Besides, it has guided to absolute EBITDA of Rs3.5-3.75bn, with EBITDA/t to range at Rs540-575 in FY25. ii) The management does not expect prices to improve till mid-Q3FY25. iii) Cement prices have further declined by Rs5/bag since the end of Jun-24. iv) Fuel costs broadly are likely to be stable in coming quarters. v) Capex spends stood at Rs300mn in Q1FY25 and the management has guided to Rs3bn for FY25. vi) The management expects to see breakeven in Andhra Cements by Q1FY26. viii) Net debt is likely to be capped in the Rs12-13bn range. ix) Sagar expects incentives of ~Rs300mn in FY25, for its Jeerabad plant.

Target Price – 12M	Jun-25
Change in TP (%)	-
Current Reco.	ADD
Previous Reco.	ADD
Upside/(Downside) (%)	4.2
CMP (19-Jul-24) (Rs)	240.0

Stock Data	Ticker
52-week High (Rs)	305
52-week Low (Rs)	190
Shares outstanding (mn)	130.7
Market-cap (Rs bn)	31
Market-cap (US\$ mn)	375
Net-debt, FY22E (Rs mn)	5,682
ADTV-3M (mn shares)	-
ADTV-3M (Rs mn)	64.6
ADTV-3M (US\$ mn)	0.8
Free float (%)	-
Nifty-50	24,531
INR/US\$	83.7
Shareholding, Jun-24	
Promoters (%)	48.3
FPIs/MFs (%)	2.6/17.1

Price Performance									
(%)	1M	3M	12M						
Absolute	(4.8)	11.5	14.0						
Rel. to Nifty	(8.8)	0.6	(7.9)						



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# **Quarterly Analysis**

Exhibit 1: Actual vs. Estimates (Q1FY25)

(Rs mn)	Actual	Esti	mates	Variat	ion (%)	Comment
	Actual	Emkay	Consensus	Emkay	Consensus	
Net sales	5,606	5,369	5,666	4.4	(1.1)	
EBITDA	467	446	438	4.8	6.7	Broadly in-line quarter
PAT	(284)	(357)	(359)	NA	NA	
Volumes (mt)	1.28	1.27		0.8		
Cement realization (Rs/ton)*	4,170	4,216		(1.1)		
EBITDA (Rs/ton)*	356	350		1.7		

Source: Bloomberg, Emkay Research; \*adjusted for cement

**Exhibit 2: Quarterly Financial Highlights (Consolidated)** 

(Rs mn)	Q1FY24	Q2FY24	Q3FY24	Q4FY24	Q1FY25	YoY (%)	QoQ (%)
Revenue	5,397	5,868	6,694	7,087	5,606	3.9	(20.9)
Expenditure	5,092	5,266	5,824	6,406	5,139	0.9	(19.8)
Total RM costs	999	759	1,078	1,281	1,005	0.5	(21.5)
Power & Fuel costs	2,093	2,393	2,496	2,540	2,043	(2.4)	(19.6)
Freight costs	1,017	1,117	1,215	1,371	1,083	6.5	(21.0)
Staff costs	268	299	299	307	304	13.3	(0.8)
Other expenditure	714	698	736	908	704	(1.5)	(22.5)
EBITDA	305	602	871	681	467	53.2	(31.5)
Depreciation	496	513	562	561	562	13.3	0.2
EBIT	(191)	90	309	120	(95)	(50.4)	(178.7)
Other Income	39	27	37	437	83	112.3	(81.0)
Interest	437	468	489	455	464	6.2	1.9
РВТ	(589)	(351)	(143)	103	(476)		
Total Tax	(166)	(98)	(41)	(13)	(154)		
Adjusted PAT	(422)	(253)	(102)	116	(322)		
(Profit)/loss from JV's/Ass/MI	(25)	(21)	(24)	(17)	(38)		
PAT after MI	(398)	(232)	(77)	133	(284)		
Extra ordinary items	-	148	-	-	-		
Reported PAT	(398)	(84)	(77)	133	(284)		
Adjusted EPS (Rs)	(3.4)	(2.0)	(0.7)	1.1	(2.4)		

(%)	Q1FY24	Q2FY24	Q3FY24	Q4FY24	Q1FY25	YoY (bps)	QoQ (bps)
EBITDAM	5.6	10.3	13.0	9.6	8.3	47.5	(13.3)
EBITM	(0.4)	(3.5)	1.5	4.6	1.7	NA	(63.1)
EBTM	(6.7)	(10.9)	(6.0)	(2.1)	1.5	NA	NA
PATM	(11.3)	(7.8)	(4.3)	(1.5)	1.6	NA	NA
Effective Tax rate	(68.5)	28.3	27.9	28.7	(12.5)		

Source: Company, Emkay Research

Exhibit 3: Quarterly analysis on a per-ton basis

(Rs/ton)	Q1FY24	Q2FY24	Q3FY24	Q4FY24	Q1FY25*	YoY (%)	QoQ (%)
Volumes (mt)	1.18	1.31	1.41	1.61	1.28	8.8	(20.5)
Blended Realization	4,575	4,471	4,757	4,392	4,170	(8.9)	(5.0)
Raw Material costs	847	578	766	793	780	(7.9)	(1.7)
Power & Fuel costs	1,774	1,823	1,773	1,574	1,470	(17.2)	(6.6)
Freight costs	862	851	864	850	844	(2.1)	(0.6)
Staff costs	228	228	213	190	225	(1.1)	18.4
Other expenditure	605	532	523	563	495	(18.2)	(12.0)
Operating cost	4,317	4,012	4,138	3,969	3,814	(11.6)	(3.9)
EBITDA	258	459	619	422	356	37.7	(15.8)

Source: Company, Emkay Research; adjusted for Cement

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Exhibit 4: We cut our EBITDA estimates by 10-17% for FY25-26

Earnings revision		FY25E		FY26E				
Lamings revision	Old	New	Change (%)	Old	New	Change (%)		
Revenue (Rs mn)	28,815	27,210	(5.6)	34,061	32,695	(4.0)		
EBITDA (Rs mn)	3,455	2,871	(16.9)	4,590	4,156	(9.5)		
PAT (Rs mn)	(244)	(555)	127.6	558	357	(36.1)		

Source: Emkay Research

Exhibit 5: We maintain ADD on the stock, with TP of Rs250/share, based on Jun-26E EV/E of 10x

EV/E valuation	
Jun-26E EBITDA (Rs bn)	4.5
EV/E (x)	10.0
Enterprise Value (Rs bn)	45
Net debt (Jun-25E; Rs bn)	12
Equity value (Rs bn)	33
No. of shares (mn)	131
Jun-25E Target Price (Rs/share)	250

Source: Emkay Research

**Exhibit 6: Annual Financials** 

	EV40	EV20	EV24	EV22	EVAN	EV24	EVALE	EVACE	EVATE	CAGR	(%)
	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY19-24	FY24-27E
Key Assumptions											
Capacity (mt)	5.8	5.8	5.8	8.3	8.3	10.5	10.5	11.3	12.0	12.8	4.6
Volumes (mt)	3.3	3.1	3.2	3.6	4.8	5.5	6.2	7.2	7.9	11.1	12.6
Utilization (%)	57	54	55	44	58	53	59	64	66		
Blended Realization (Rs/ton)	3,742	3,753	4,339	4,431	4,628	4,543	4,407	4,526	4,675	4.0	1.0
EBITDA/ton (Rs/ton)	459	592	1,267	765	318	446	465	575	701	(0.6)	16.3
P&L (Rs bn)											
Revenue	12.2	11.8	13.7	16.0	22.3	25.0	27.2	32.7	36.8	15.5	13.7
EBITDA	1.5	1.9	4.0	2.8	1.5	2.5	2.9	4.2	4.6	10.5	22.9
Adj. Net Profit	0.1	0.3	1.9	0.7	(1.4)	(0.6)	(0.6)	0.4	1.3	NA	NA
Balance Sheet (Rs bn)											
Equity	8.4	9.7	12.0	12.6	16.4	19.4	18.9	19.2	20.5		
Net Debt	4.9	4.8	5.6	10.3	12.6	11.8	12.3	12.2	11.1		
Net Debt: EBITDA	3.3	2.6	1.4	3.7	8.2	4.8	4.3	2.9	2.4		
Net Debt: Equity	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.5		
Cash Flow (Rs bn)											
OCF before NWC change	0.9	1.1	3.1	2.0	2.0	1.5	1.6	2.7	3.8		
Change in NWC	(0.1)	0.3	0.2	(1.7)	0.2	1.5	(0.3)	(0.2)	(0.2)		
Capex	(2.0)	(2.3)	(4.6)	(3.6)	(4.4)	(2.0)	(2.0)	(2.5)	(2.5)		
FCF	(1.2)	(0.9)	(1.3)	(3.4)	(2.8)	0.5	(1.1)	(0.4)	0.7		
Return ratios (%)											
RoE	1.7	3.0	17.2	5.6	(9.6)	(3.2)	(2.9)	1.9	6.6		
RoCE	3.8	4.1	11.8	4.8	2.5	2.0	2.4	5.0	7.6		
RoIC	4.2	4.3	15.2	5.6	(0.1)	0.7	1.4	4.4	7.3		
Valuations (x)											
PER							NA	87.9	24.1		
EV/EBITDA							15.0	10.5	7.9		
EV/ton (US\$)							49	46	43		

Source: Company, Emkay Research

Exhibit 7: Annual analysis on a per-ton basis

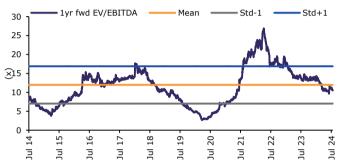
(Rs/ton)	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Blended realization	3,742	3,753	4,339	4,431	4,628	4,543	4,407	4,526	4,675
YoY (%)	(4.6)	0.3	15.6	2.1	4.4	(1.8)	(3.0)	2.7	3.3
Raw-material costs	734	726	758	625	876	747	737	748	759
Power and fuel costs	1,115	987	827	1,431	1,855	1,727	1,597	1,596	1,589
Freight costs	776	715	741	773	807	856	860	870	880
Staff costs	181	207	242	237	206	213	203	186	191
Other expenses	477	526	503	599	566	554	545	550	555
Total Opex	3,283	3,161	3,072	3,666	4,310	4,097	3,942	3,950	3,974
YoY (%)	(2.1)	(3.7)	(2.8)	19.3	17.6	(4.9)	(3.8)	0.2	0.6
Blended EBITDA	459	592	1,267	765	318	446	465	575	701
YoY (%)	(19.7)	29.0	113.9	(39.6)	(58.4)	40.3	4.2	23.7	21.8

Source: Company, Emkay Research



Source: Bloomberg, Emkay Research

Exhibit 9: One-year forward EV/EBITDA



Source: Bloomberg, Emkay Research

## **Sagar Cements: Consolidated Financials and Valuations**

Profit and Loss					
Y/E Mar (Rs mn)	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Revenue	22,295	25,046	27,210	32,695	36,814
Revenue growth (%)	39.6	12.3	8.6	20.2	12.6
EBITDA	1,532	2,459	2,871	4,156	5,520
EBITDA growth (%)	(44.5)	60.5	16.8	44.8	32.8
Depreciation & Amortization	1,558	2,141	2,309	2,411	2,562
EBIT	(26)	318	562	1,745	2,958
EBIT growth (%)	(101.4)	0.0	76.8	210.4	69.5
Other operating income	0	0	0	0	0
Other income	547	541	406	422	439
Financial expense	2,016	1,848	1,856	1,799	1,736
PBT	(1,495)	(989)	(888)	369	1,660
Extraordinary items	1,680	148	0	0	0
Taxes	100	(321)	(225)	93	420
Minority interest	(205)	(87)	(109)	(81)	(61)
Income from JV/Associates	0	0	0	0	0
Reported PAT	290	(434)	(555)	357	1,301
PAT growth (%)	(58.0)	(249.3)	0.0	0.0	264.7
Adjusted PAT	(1,390)	(582)	(555)	357	1,301
Diluted EPS (Rs)	2.2	(3.3)	(4.2)	2.7	10.0
Diluted EPS growth (%)	(62.2)	(249.3)	28.0	(164.3)	264.7
DPS (Rs)	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dividend payout (%)	31.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EBITDA margin (%)	6.9	9.8	10.6	12.7	15.0
EBIT margin (%)	(0.1)	1.3	2.1	5.3	8.0
Effective tax rate (%)	(6.7)	32.4	25.3	25.3	25.3
NOPLAT (pre-IndAS)	(28)	215	420	1,304	2,209
Shares outstanding (mn)	130.7	130.7	130.7	130.7	130.7

Source: Company, Emkay Research

Cash Flows					
Y/E Mar (Rs mn)	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
PBT	(1,495)	(989)	(888)	369	1,660
Others (non-cash items)	0	0	0	0	0
Taxes paid	(148)	(96)	225	(93)	(420)
Change in NWC	197	1,537	(293)	(180)	(207)
Operating cash flow	1,752	4,155	3,020	4,046	5,015
Capital expenditure	(4,400)	(2,258)	(2,000)	(2,500)	(2,500)
Acquisition of business	0	0	0	0	0
Interest & dividend income	1,670	126	406	422	439
Investing cash flow	2,392	(1,076)	(1,697)	(2,181)	(2,164)
Equity raised/(repaid)	3,429	0	0	0	0
Debt raised/(repaid)	(5,206)	(339)	0	0	(1,000)
Payment of lease liabilities	(18)	(20)	0	0	0
Interest paid	(1,779)	(1,756)	(1,856)	(1,799)	(1,736)
Dividend paid (incl tax)	(92)	(92)	0	0	0
Others	(18)	(20)	0	0	0
Financing cash flow	(3,666)	(2,206)	(1,856)	(1,799)	(2,736)
Net chg in Cash	478	872	(533)	67	115
OCF	1,752	4,155	3,020	4,046	5,015
Adj. OCF (w/o NWC chg.)	1,554	2,618	3,313	4,226	5,222
FCFF	(2,648)	1,897	1,020	1,546	2,515
FCFE	(7,854)	1,558	1,020	1,546	1,515
OCF/EBITDA (%)	114.3	169.0	105.2	97.3	90.9
FCFE/PAT (%)	565.2	(267.9)	(183.9)	433.3	116.4
FCFF/NOPLAT (%)	9,585.2	882.7	242.9	118.6	113.8

Source: Company, Emkay Research

<b>Balance Sheet</b>					
Y/E Mar (Rs mn)	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Share capital	261	261	261	261	261
Reserves & Surplus	16,114	19,151	18,596	18,953	20,254
Net worth	16,375	19,412	18,857	19,214	20,515
Minority interests	514	785	785	785	785
Deferred tax liability (net)	104	(325)	(325)	(325)	(325)
Total debt	14,721	14,390	14,390	14,390	13,390
Total liabilities & equity	31,715	34,263	33,708	34,064	34,366
Net tangible fixed assets	27,518	31,528	29,719	28,674	30,112
Net intangible assets	573	573	573	573	573
Net ROU assets	133	133	133	133	133
Capital WIP	992	147	1,647	2,647	1,147
Goodwill	416	416	416	416	416
Investments [JV/Associates]	0	0	0	0	0
Cash & equivalents	2,105	2,621	2,082	2,170	2,327
Current assets (ex-cash)	6,224	6,873	6,807	8,507	9,854
Current Liab. & Prov.	5,540	7,895	7,537	9,056	10,197
NWC (ex-cash)	684	(1,022)	(729)	(549)	(342)
Total assets	31,715	34,263	33,708	34,064	34,366
Net debt	12,616	11,769	12,308	12,220	11,063
Capital employed	31,715	34,263	33,708	34,064	34,366
Invested capital	28,618	31,494	29,978	29,247	30,892
BVPS (Rs)	125.3	148.5	144.3	147.0	157.0
Net Debt/Equity (x)	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.5
Net Debt/EBITDA (x)	8.2	4.8	4.3	2.9	2.0
Interest coverage (x)	0.3	0.5	0.5	1.2	2.0
RoCE (%)	1.7	2.6	2.8	6.4	9.9

Source: Company, Emkay Research

Valuations and Key R	atios				
Y/E Mar	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
P/E (x)	(22.6)	(53.9)	(56.5)	87.9	24.1
P/CE(x)	186.6	20.1	17.9	11.3	8.1
P/B (x)	1.9	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.5
EV/Sales (x)	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.3	1.2
EV/EBITDA (x)	28.7	17.5	15.2	10.5	7.7
EV/EBIT(x)	(1,698.2)	135.7	77.7	25.0	14.3
EV/IC (x)	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.4
FCFF yield (%)	(6.0)	4.4	2.3	3.5	5.9
FCFE yield (%)	(17.9)	3.6	2.3	3.5	3.6
Dividend yield (%)	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
DuPont-RoE split					
Net profit margin (%)	(6.2)	(2.3)	(2.0)	1.1	3.5
Total asset turnover (x)	0.7	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.1
Assets/Equity (x)	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7
RoE (%)	(9.6)	(3.2)	(2.9)	1.9	6.6
DuPont-RoIC					
NOPLAT margin (%)	(0.1)	0.9	1.5	4.0	6.0
IC turnover (x)	0.9	0.8	0.9	1.1	1.2
RoIC (%)	(0.1)	0.7	1.4	4.4	7.3
Operating metrics					
Core NWC days	11.2	(14.9)	(9.8)	(6.1)	(3.4)
Total NWC days	11.2	(14.9)	(9.8)	(6.1)	(3.4)
Fixed asset turnover	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8
Opex-to-revenue (%)	74.2	73.7	72.7	70.8	68.8

Source: Company, Emkay Research

## **RECOMMENDATION HISTORY - DETAILS**

Date	Closing Price (INR)	TP (INR)	Rating	Analyst
01-Jul-24	252	250	Add	Dharmesh Shah
10-Jun-24	270	250	Add	Dharmesh Shah
15-May-24	219	250	Add	Dharmesh Shah
01-Apr-24	220	300	Add	Dharmesh Shah
04-Mar-24	252	300	Add	Dharmesh Shah
25-Jan-24	269	300	Add	Dharmesh Shah
05-Jan-24	288	310	Add	Dharmesh Shah
30-Nov-23	267	250	Reduce	Dharmesh Shah
30-Nov-23	267	250	Hold	Dharmesh Shah
20-Oct-23	258	250	Hold	Dharmesh Shah
28-Sep-23	226	220	Hold	Dharmesh Shah
18-Sep-23	229	220	Hold	Dharmesh Shah
28-Jul-23	209	220	Hold	Dharmesh Shah
03-Jun-23	210	220	Hold	Dharmesh Shah
11-May-23	209	220	Hold	Dharmesh Shah
04-May-23	192	240	Hold	Dharmesh Shah
02-Mar-23	208	240	Hold	Dharmesh Shah
19-Feb-23	218	240	Hold	Dharmesh Shah
05-Feb-23	219	240	Hold	Dharmesh Shah
30-Jan-23	222	240	Hold	Dharmesh Shah
29-Dec-22	229	220	Buy	Dharmesh Shah
05-Dec-22	241	220	Buy	Dharmesh Shah
05-Nov-22	209	220	Buy	Dharmesh Shah
20-Oct-22	192	220	Buy	Dharmesh Shah
04-Oct-22	199	225	Buy	Dharmesh Shah
04-Sep-22	201	225	Buy	Dharmesh Shah
21-Jul-22	178	225	Buy	Dharmesh Shah
04-Jul-22	166	225	Buy	Dharmesh Shah
28-Jun-22	174	225	Buy	Dharmesh Shah
12-May-22	203	265	Buy	Dharmesh Shah
27-Mar-22	255	280	Buy	Dharmesh Shah
16-Mar-22	227	280	Buy	Dharmesh Shah
31-Jan-22	238	305	Buy	Dharmesh Shah
31-Dec-21	270	360	Buy	Dharmesh Shah
02-Dec-21	258	360	Buy	Dharmesh Shah
28-Oct-21	265	360	Buy	Dharmesh Shah
27-Oct-21	270	360	Buy	Dharmesh Shah

Source: Company, Emkay Research

### **RECOMMENDATION HISTORY - TREND**



Source: Company, Bloomberg, Emkay Research

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