ABSL benefits from AUM mix change, which is

not really structural

Result Highlights (See "Our View" below for elaboration and insight)

- **Revenue**: Revenue from operations at Rs 3,350mn was up 7.7%/7.7% QoQ/YoY, leading/lagging QAAUM growth of 4.7%/10% QoQ/YoY.
- Share of Equity in AUM: Share of Equity in AUM (including Hybrid funds) at 41.9% was up 194 bps QoQ but down -27 bps YoY (calculated on rounded off figures)
- Share of B-30 in AUM: Share of B-30 in AUM at 17.3% was up 130bps QoQ and 100bps YoY
- Channel mix: Share of MFDs, Banks, NDs and Direct was 32%, 9%, 17% and 42%, respectively in overall AUM (Ex-ETF)
- **Operating profit margin**: Operating profit margin for the quarter, at 57.3%, was up 267 bps QoQ but down -130 bps YoY

Our view - AUM mix change is not really a structural factor

Calculated overall revenue yield inched up ~1bp sequentially: The improvement in overall yield has been due to change in asset class mix. There has been a rise in the share of equity funds in the total MF QAAUM by 194bps QoQ. There has also been a slight uptick in debt fund yield during the quarter. It may be noted that, while on-book equity yield is about 70 bps, the incremental equity yield is about 55-60 bps.

The company has been taking steps to arresting decline in equity market share: The performance of most equity funds has improved. Furthermore, the company has appointed a co-CIO for equity, Mr. Harish Krishnan. The performance for Large Cap, Flexi Cap and Small Cap funds for the company has improved and hence, the company has witnessed incremental flows here. The share in gross flows have improved by 3-4% in these schemes as compared to previous quarters.

We maintain 'NEUTRAL' rating on ABSL with a revised price target of Rs 475: We value ABSL at 18.6x FY25 P/E, at which the stock would trade at an FY25 P/B of 4.1x.

(See Comprehensive con call takeaways on page 2 for significant incremental colour.) Exhibit 1: Result table

Rs mn	Q2FY24	Q2FY23	YoY	Q1FY24	QoQ
Revenue from operation	3,350	3,111	7.7%	3,112	7.7%
As % of QAUM^	0.43%	0.44%	-1bps	0.42%	1bps
Fees and Commission Expenses	82	44	89.2%	82	0.7%
As % of revenue	2.5%	1.4%	106bps	2.6%	-17bps
Employee Benefit Expenses	798	712	12.1%	774	3.2%
As % of revenue	23.8%	22.9%	94bps	24.9%	-103bps
Other Expenses	550	533	3.3%	557	-1.2%
As % of revenue	16.4%	17.1%	-70bps	17.9%	-148bps
Total Expense	1,431	1,288	11.1%	1,412	1.3%
Operating Profit	1,919	1,823	5.3%	1,700	12.9%
As % of QAUM^	0.2%	0.3%	-1bps	0.2%	2bps
As % of revenue	57.3%	58.6%	-130bps	54.6%	267bps
Other Income	557	766	-27.3%	778	-28.4%
Finance cost	17	10	68.9%	8	112.7%
Depreciation	92	84	8.5%	66	38.4%
Profit before Tax	2,368	2,494	-5.1%	2,403	-1.5%
Tax Expense	587	577	1.7%	557	5.3%
Profit After Tax	1,781	1,917	-7.1%	1,846	-3.5%
As % of QAUM^	0.2%	0.3%	-4bps	0.2%	-2bps
As % of revenue	53.2%	61.6%	-846bps	59.3%	-615bps

Source: Company, YES Sec-Research, ^Annualised

For important information about YES Securities (India) Ltd. and other disclosures, refer to the end of this material.



Recommendation	:	NEUTRAL
Current Price	:	Rs 438
Target Price	:	Rs 475
Potential Return	:	+8%

Stock data (as on October 27, 2023)

Nifty	19,047
52 Week h/l (Rs)	472/307
Market cap (Rs/USD mn)	127993/1537
Outstanding Shares (mn)	288
6m Avg t/o (Rs mn):	37
Div yield (%):	2.4
Bloomberg code:	ABSLAMC IN
NSE code:	ABSLAMC

Stock performance



Shareholding pattern (As of Sept'23 end)

Promoter	86.5%
FII+DII	6.4%
Others	7.1%

Δ in stance		
(1-Yr)	New	Old
Rating	NEUTRAL	NEUTRAL
Target Price	475	450

Financial Summary FY24E FY25E FY26E Rs mn Net Revenue 13.161 14.560 16.185 11.2% YoY Growth 7.3% 10.6% EBIDTA Margin 55.5% 55.7% 56.1% PAT 6.566 7.365 8.317 YoY Growth 10.1% 12.2% 12.9% 24.2% 23.5% 23.1% ROE EPS (Rs) 228 25.6 28.9 P/E(x)19.2 17.1 15.2 101.1 133.7 BV (Rs) 116.4 P/BV (x) 3.8 3.3 4.3

Δ in earnings estimates

EPS (New)	22.8	25.6	28.9
EPS (Old)	22.7	25.4	28.7
% change	0.4%	0.5%	0.5%

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SIDDHARTH RAJPUROHIT, Analyst



COMPREHENSIVE CON-CALL TAKEAWAYS

Revenue yield

- Asset class-wise on-book yield
 - Equity 70 bps
 - Debt 24-25 bps
- Yield on new flows
 - Equity 55-60 bps
- Reasons for improvement in overall yield
 - The improvement in overall yield has been due to change in asset class mix.
 - There has been a rise in the share of equity funds in the total MF QAAUM (up 194bps QoQ).
 - There has also been a slight uptick in debt funds yield in the quarter.

Equity business

- Steps taken to arrest the fall in equity market share
 - The performance of most funds has improved.
 - The company has appointed a co-CIO for equity, Mr. Harish Krishnan.
- Gross flows
 - The performance for Large Cap, Flexi Cap and Small Cap funds for the company has improved and hence, the company has witnessed incremental flows here.
 - The share in gross flows have improved by 3-4% in these schemes as compared to previous quarters.
- On Lump Sum flows
 - Between SIP and Lump sum flows, the lump sum flows are not growing in the same manner as they were growing earlier.
- On proposed high-risk mutual fund
 - On the news that SEBI is discussing on a high-risk segment, the management said that AIF was created with that intention and so, they are not sure how much weightage is to be given to this news.

SIP business

- Steps taken to arrest the fall in SIP market share
 - The company has launched a series of SIP products including Sampoorna SIP.
 - The ticket size has improved due to the Sampoorna SIP.
 - Funds have moved up in star ranking due to improved performance.
 - The company is engaging with online platforms which are aggressive on building SIP.
 - The company has also increased engagement with MFD partners.
- SIP Flows
 - With regard to SIP gross flows, significant incremental flows for the industry are coming from the digital platform, contributed by flows from Fintechs such as Groww, Paytm, Kubera. etc.
 - Of the total SIP flows in 2Q for the industry, around 37-38% is coming from the digital platform.
 - The incremental SIP flows from digital platform are largely from millennials and are relatively less sticky.

(Con call takeaways continue on the next page)



Channel growth

The company has separate team of 30 people to drive growth in the direct channel.

NFOs

- Recent launches
 - The company has launched US bond yield FoF investing in US treasury ETFs with duration of 1-3 years and 3-10 years
 - The total limit for the industry for this is 800mn and the company has a limit of 200mn (presumably USD).
 - The company has also launched the Aditya Birla Sun Life Transportation and Logistics Fund.
- NFO Pipeline
 - The company already has funds in the major SEBI categories, so there is limited scope for new NFOs.
 - The company has planned for a Quant fund, subject to approval from SEBI.
 - It will be driven by the new Head of Equity supported by a Quant manager, to be onboarded soon.

Operating expenses

- Total expenses
 - The total operating expense stood at Rs. 1.9bn, up by 5.3% YoY and 12.9% QoQ.
- Employee expenses
 - The employee expense for the quarter was up by 12.1% YoY and 3.2% QoQ.
 - The employee cost has gone up due to increments that have happened in 2Q.
 - Employee base as of September 2023 was 1,437 as against 1,449 as of June 2023.
 - Guidance
 - The employee cost to remain around a similar range but will also depend on incremental hiring going forward.
- Non-employee expenses
 - Other operating expense was up by 3.3% YoY but was down -1.2% QoQ.
 - The YoY increase in other operating expenses was due to increase in fees and commissions, which was towards the AIF commission.
 - For the MF business, the company generally shares 55-60% of TER.

Key AUM aspects

- Total company AUM
 - The total company average AUM was Rs 3,235bn, up 5% QoQ.
- Total mutual fund AUM
 - The mutual fund quarterly average AUM was Rs 3,109bn, up 5% QoQ.
- Equity mutual fund AUM
 - The equity mutual fund average AUM was Rs 1,302bn for the quarter, comprising 41.9% of total mutual fund AUM.
- Folios serviced
 - The outstanding folio count serviced amounts to 7.89mn.

(Con call takeaways continue on the next page)



SIP business

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- Monthly SIP inflows were at Rs 9.68bn.
- Currently, 3.23mn live SIP accounts are being serviced.
- The total SIP AUM is about Rs 608.14bn.
- B-30 AUM
 - The share of B-30 AUM has risen to 17.3% of total mutual fund AUM.

Passive Fund

- AUM
 - The total passive fund AUM was at Rs 284 bn as of September 2023, up 68% YoY.
- Products offered
 - ABSL AMC now has total of 40 products in the passive segment.
- Folios

•

• Number of folios served are 0.54mn.

Alternative assets

- PMS/AIF
 - The total QAAUM in the PMS and AIF segment was Rs.23.24 bn.
 - New Launches
 - Fund raising is currently underway for ABSL India Special Opportunities Fund (CAT III AIF)
 - AIF pipeline
 - ABSL Structured Opportunities Fund (CAT II AIF)
- Offshore
 - The total QAAUM in the Offshore segment was Rs.97.33 bn.
 - New Launches
 - Fund raising is currently underway for ABSL Global Emerging Market Equity Fund (IFSC) Cat II AIF (Global Equity FoF AIF) domiciled in GIFT City.



Exhibit 2: Other Business Parameters

Rs mn	Q2FY24	Q2FY23	YoY	Q1FY24	QoQ
MFQAAUM	3,108,991	2,825,799	10.0%	2,969,371	4.7%
Individual share	51%	51% 46br		51%	62bps
Monthly SIP Book	9,680	9,309	4%	9,870	-2%
AAUM Mix					
Alternate and Offshore - Others	9,000	10,000	-10%	9,000	0%
Domestic - Liquid	563,000	562,000	0%	571,000	-1%
Domestic - Fixed Income	1,244,000	1,073,000	16%	1,213,000	3%
Alternate and Offshore - Equity	117,000	102,000	15%	106,000	10%
Domestic - Equity	1,302,000	1,191,000	9%	1,186,000	10%
QAAUM Mix (% proportion)					
Alternate and Offshore - Others	0.3%	0.3%	-6bps	0.3%	-1bps
Domestic - Liquid	17.4%	19.1%	-173bps	18.5%	-111bps
Domestic - Fixed Income	38.5%	36.5%	193bps	39.3%	-86bps
Alternate and Offshore - Equity	3.6%	3.5%	14bps	3.4%	18bps
Domestic - Equity	40.2%	40.5%	-29bps	38.4%	180bps
Channel Mix – Ex-ETF (% proportion)					
Bank	9%	8%	100bps	9%	Obps
National Distributor	17%	17%	Obps	17%	Obps
MFDs	32%	32%	Obps	32%	Obps
Direct	42%	43%	-100bps	42%	Obps
Geographical Spread					
T-30	83%	84%	-100bps	84%	-130bps
B-30	17%	16%	100bps	16%	130bps

Source: Company, YES Sec – Research

Exhibit 3: Quarterly Actuals Vs Estimates

Actuals	Estimates	Diff, %
3,350	3,309	1.2
1,919	1,807	6.2
1,781	1,605	11.0
	3,350 1,919	3,3503,3091,9191,807

Source: Company, YES Sec - Research



ANNUAL CONSOLIDATED FINANCIALS

Exhibit 4: Balance sheet statement

(Rs mn)	FY22	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Share Capital	1,440	1,440	1,440	1,440	1,440
Share Warrants & Outstanding	0	0	0	0	0
Total Reserves	20,525	23,730	27,670	32,088	37,079
Shareholder's Funds	21,965	25,170	29,110	33,528	38,519
Minority Interest	0	0	0	0	0
Trade Payables	304	482	506	531	558
Lease liabilities	544	480	564	637	699
Other financial liabilities	659	506	531	558	586
Total Financial Liabilities	1,507	1,468	1,601	1,726	1,842
Current tax liabilities	0	107	112	118	124
Provisions	375	412	433	454	477
Deferred Tax Liabilities (net)	252	348	365	383	402
Other non-financial liabilities	249	377	396	416	436
Total Non-Financial Liabilities	876	1,243	1,305	1,371	1,439
TOTAL LIABILITIES	24,347	27,881	32,016	36,625	41,800
Cash and Bank	979	1,266	1,647	1,983	2,287
Trade receivables	262	245	258	270	284
Loans	0	0	0	0	0
Investments	21,210	23,592	27,130	31,200	35,880
Other Financial assets	183	598	628	659	692
Total Financial Assets	22,634	25,701	29,662	34,112	39,143
Current tax assets (net)	305	420	441	463	486
Property, plant and equipment	137	187	205	220	230
Right of use assets	485	427	511	584	645
Capital Work in Progress	15	10	11	12	12
Intangible assets under development	14	10	11	11	12
Other intangible assets	98	88	86	80	70
Other non-financial assets	659	1,038	1,089	1,144	1,201
Total Non-Financial Assets	1,714	2,180	2,354	2,513	2,657
TOTAL ASSETS	24,347	27,881	32,016	36,625	41,800

Source: Company, YES Sec – Research

Exhibit 5: Profit & Loss statement

(Rs mn)	FY22	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Revenue excl. treasury income	12,930	12,266	13,161	14,560	16,185
Operating Expense					
Fees and Commission	198	229	371	415	464
Employee Expense	2,532	2,772	3,049	3,354	3,690
Other Expenses	2,003	2,215	2,437	2,681	2,949
Total Expenses	4,733	5,216	5,857	6,450	7,103
Operating Profit	8,196	7,050	7,304	8,111	9,082
Other Income	1,156	1,271	1,852	2,130	2,450
Depreciation	356	343	360	378	397
Finance Cost	49	39	41	43	45
Profit before Tax	8,947	7,939	8,755	9,819	11,090
Тах	2,219	1,975	2,189	2,455	2,772
Net Profit	6,728	5,964	6,566	7,365	8,317

Source: Company, YES Sec - Research



Exhibit 6: Cash flow statement

(Rs mn)	FY22	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
PBT	8,947	7,939	8,755	9,819	11,090
Depreciation	356	343	144	151	159
Change in working cap	(738)	(1,293)	12	12	13
Tax paid	(2,337)	(1,795)	(2,189)	(2,455)	(2,772)
Others	(596)	(820)	(1,811)	(2,087)	(2,405)
Cash flow from operations	5,632	4,373	4,911	5,441	6,084
Capex	(160)	(186)	(161)	(161)	(161)
Change in investments	(2,940)	(1,292)	(3,539)	(4,070)	(4,680)
Others	115	135	(103)	(108)	(113)
Cash flow from investments	(2,985)	(1,343)	(3,803)	(4,339)	(4,954)
Equity raised/(repaid)	0	0	0	0	0
Debt raised/(repaid)	0	0	0	0	0
Dividend (incl tax)	(2,318)	(3,125)	(2,626)	(2,946)	(3,327)
Others	(241)	(222)	1,899	2,179	2,501
Cash flow from financing	(2,560)	(3,347)	(727)	(767)	(826)
Net change in cash	87	(316)	381	336	304

Source: Company, YES Sec - Research

Exhibit 7: Change in annual estimates

V/a 24 May (Damm)	Revised Estimate		Earlier Estimate			% Revision			
Y/e 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Revenue	13,161	14,560	16,185	13,125	14,513	16,128	0.3	0.3	0.4
Operating Profit	7,304	8,111	9,082	7,267	8,062	9,024	0.5	0.6	0.6
Profit After Tax	6,566	7,365	8,317	6,538	7,328	8,274	0.4	0.5	0.5

Source: Company, YES Sec – Research



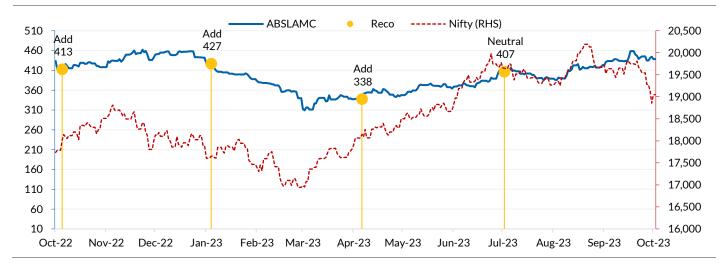
Exhibit 8: Ratio analysis

Y/e 31 Mar	FY22	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Growth ratios (%)					
AAUM	5.2%	-10.3%	10.3%	11.8%	11.9%
Revenue excl. investment income	21.1%	-5.1%	7.3%	10.6%	11.2%
Total Expenses	1.4%	10.2%	12.3%	10.1%	10.1%
Operating Profit	36.4%	-14.0%	3.6%	11.0%	12.0%
Profit Before Tax	28.6%	-11.3%	10.3%	12.2%	12.9%
Net profit	27.8%	-11.4%	10.1%	12.2%	12.9%
As a % of Avg AUM					
Revenue excl. investment income	0.41%	0.44%	0.43%	0.42%	0.42%
Operating Expense	0.15%	0.19%	0.19%	0.19%	0.18%
Operating Profit	0.26%	0.25%	0.24%	0.23%	0.23%
PBT	0.29%	0.28%	0.28%	0.28%	0.29%
Net profit	0.22%	0.21%	0.21%	0.21%	0.21%
Operating Ratios					
Operating Profit Margin	63.4%	57.5%	55.5%	55.7%	56.1%
PBT Margin	69.2%	64.7%	66.5%	67.4%	68.5%
PAT Margin	52.0%	48.6%	49.9%	50.6%	51.4%
ROE	34.5%	25.3%	24.2%	23.5%	23.1%
Dividend Payout Ratio	49.0%	49.5%	40.0%	40.0%	40.0%
Per share					
EPS, Rs.	23.4	20.7	22.8	25.6	28.9
Book Value, Rs.	76.3	87.4	101.1	116.4	133.7
Malas the Dation					
Valuation Ratios	40.0	04.0	10.0	474	45.0
P/E, x	18.8	21.2	19.2	17.1	15.2
P/BV, x	5.7	5.0	4.3	3.8	3.3
Mcap to AUM, %	4.0%	4.5%	4.1%	3.7%	3.3%
Dividend Yield, %	2.6%	2.3%	2.1%	2.3%	2.6%

Source: Company, YES Sec - Research



Recommendation Tracker





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Registration Nos.: CIN: U74992MH2013PLC240971 | SEBI Single Registration No.: NSE, BSE, MCX & NCDEX : INZ000185632 | Member Code: BSE - 6538, NSE - 14914, MCX - 56355 & NCDEX - 1289 | CDSL & NSDL: IN-DP-653-2021 | MERCHANT BANKER: INM000012227 | RESEARCH ANALYST: INH00002376 | INVESTMENT ADVISER: INA000007331 | Sponsor and Investment Manager to YSL Alternates Alpha Plus Fund (CAT III AIF) SEBI Registration No.: IN/AIF3/20-21/0818 | AMFI ARN Code - 94338.

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DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

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The analyst hereby certifies that opinion expressed in this research report accurately reflect his or her personal opinion about the subject securities and no part of his or her compensation was, is or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific recommendation and opinion expressed in this research report.

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2	Research Analyst or his/her relative or YSL's actual/beneficial ownership of 1% or more securities of the subject company(ies) at the end of the month immediately preceding the date of publication of the Research Report	No
3	Research Analyst or his/her relative or YSL has any other material conflict of interest at the time of publication of the Research Report	No
4	Research Analyst has served as an officer, director or employee of the subject company(ies)	No
5	YSL has received any compensation from the subject company in the past twelve months	No
6	YSL has received any compensation for investment banking or merchant banking or brokerage services from the subject company in the past twelve months	No
7	YSL has received any compensation for products or services other than investment banking or merchant banking or brokerage services from the subject company in the past twelve months	No
8	YSL has received any compensation or other benefits from the subject company or third party in connection with the research report	No
9	YSL has managed or co-managed public offering of securities for the subject company in the past twelve months	No
10	Research Analyst or YSL has been engaged in market making activity for the subject company(ies)	No

Since YSL and its associates are engaged in various businesses in the financial services industry, they may have financial interest or may have received compensation for investment banking or merchant banking or brokerage services or for any other product or services of whatsoever nature from the subject company(ies) in the past twelve months or associates of YSL may have managed or co-managed public offering of securities in the past twelve months of the subject company(ies) whose securities are discussed herein.

Associates of YSL may have actual/beneficial ownership of 1% or more and/or other material conflict of interest in the securities discussed herein.





RECOMMENDATION PARAMETERS FOR FUNDAMENTAL REPORTS

Analysts assign ratings to the stocks according to the expected upside/downside relative to the current market price and the estimated target price. Depending on the expected returns, the recommendations are categorized as mentioned below. The performance horizon is 12 to 18 months unless specified and the target price is defined as the analysts' valuation for a stock. No benchmark is applicable to the ratings mentioned in this report.

BUY: Upside greater than 20% over 12 months ADD: Upside between 10% to 20% over 12 months NEUTRAL: Upside between 0% to 10% over 12 months REDUCE: Downside between 0% to -10% over 12 months SELL: Downside greater than -10% over 12 months NOT RATED / UNDER REVIEW

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