REDUCE

Choice

Acquisition synergies and high order intake to drive growth

Coforge reported robust Q2FY25 revenues at \$369.4mn, up 26.3% QoQ and 33.0% YoY in cc (+26.8% QoQ and +32.8% YoY in USD terms) led by broad based growth across verticals. INR revenue for the quarter stood at INR30,623mn, up 27.5% QoQ and 34.5% YoY. The company recorded a total order intake of \$516mn (\$67mn from Cigniti) for Q2FY25. The total order book executable over the next 12 months is at \$1.31bn, up 40.0% YoY. APAT (excl. minority) for the quarter came at INR2,552mn, up 35.6% YoY with Basic EPS at INR30.3.

- Outlook: Looking ahead, a 27% sequential dollar growth, with the organic business expanding by 6.3% sequentially, growth accompanied by a notable 145bps expansion in EBITDA for H1, marking the second consecutive quarter of significant net headcount additions, the large deal pipeline appearing robust, and the next 12-month signed order book which is now 40% higher YoY suggest strong confidence in robust and sustained growth in the upcoming quarters. The growth and the margin expansion at Cigniti are a preview of sustained growth and further and further increases in margin to follow. The medium-term guidance of hitting the \$2bn mark, and delivering a concurrent material expansion in EBITDA is intact.
- GenAl opportunities: Company is increasingly collaborating with clients to implement real-life AI programs that extend beyond proof of concepts. AI capabilities are rapidly expanding, with new solutions being launched regularly. The development of QE 360, a platform designed to automate the testing lifecycle through AI, aims to disrupt the testing landscape. Key features include AI-based test case generation, low code/no code automation creation, AI-driven test data management, automation self-healing, and AI-based visual testing. Additionally, the company keeps adding AI specialists to its team, highlighting ongoing opportunities in GenAI and Advanced Analytics.
- Margins to improve: Adj. EBITDA margins for Q2 came at 16.5% (-90bps YoY) after rolling out wage hikes. Profitability was also impacted to the extent of 2.3% due to acquisition and integration related expenses which is expected to normalize in coming quarters. Management expects Cigniti EBITDA margins to reach 18% by Q4 from current 16.2% levels.

Valuation: With the Cigniti business leadership now operating under Coforge's operational control, company remains committed to delivering robust growth across both organizations, both in the short and the long term. We have introduced FY27E and expect Revenue/EBIT/PAT to grow at a CAGR of 21.9%/29.1%/29.7% respectively over FY24-FY27E. The stock has rallied 10% recently and therefore we downgrade our rating to **REDUCE** to arrive at a revised target price of INR7,809 implying a P/E of 32x on Sep-FY27E EPS of INR244.

Financial Snapshot

Year end: March	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Revenue (INR Mn.)	80,146	91,790	1,18,463	1,43,046	1,66,321
Gross Profit (INR Mn.)	26,087	29,930	39,248	48,032	55,955
Gross Profit Margin (%)	32.5	32.6	33.1	33.6	33.6
EBIT (INR Mn.)	11,468	11,866	15,904	20,754	25,518
EBIT Margin (%)	14.3	12.9	13.4	14.5	15.3
EPS (INR)	113.8	131.6	149.4	222.7	264.0

Source: Company, CEBPL

	Oct 23, 2024
CMP (Rs.)	7,561
Target Price (Rs.)	7,809
Potential Upside (%)	3.3

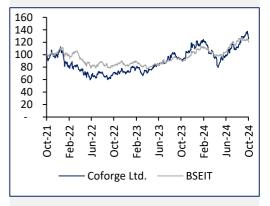
BB Code	COFORGE IN Equity
ISIN	INE591G01017
Face Value (Rs.)	10
52 Week High (Rs.)	7,632.8
52 Week Low (Rs.)	4,291.1
Mkt Cap (Rs bn.)	504.3
Mkt Cap (\$ Mn.)	6.0
Shares o/s (Mn.)/Float	66.7/99
FY24 EPS (Rs.)	131.6
FY27E EPS (Rs.)	264.0

Shareholding	Pattern	(%)
	Son-2	2/1

	Sep-24	Jun-24	Mar-24
Promoters	0.00	0.00	0.00
FII's	42.09	41.43	35.00
DII's	48.15	47.29	54.30
Public	9.76	11.28	10.70

Relative Performa			
YTD	3Y	2 Y	1Y
BSE IT	22.7	48.1	35.4
Coforgo Itd	20.7	05.0	F2 7

Rebased Price Performance



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Sequential Operating Performance

Sequential Operating Perio						
Luciona Chah	1QFY24	2QFY24	3QFY24	4QFY24	1QFY25	2QFY25
Income Statement	22.212	22 = 22		22.505	2	22.522
Revenues (INR Mn.)	22,210	22,762	23,233	23,585	24,008	30,623
Gross Profit (INR mn.)	6,809	7,388	7,690	8,042	7,911	9,922
Gross Margin (%)	30.7	32.5	33.1	34.1	33.0	32.4
EBIT (INR mn.)	2,559	2,701	3,201	3,405	3,272	3,598
EBIT Margin (%)	11.5	11.9	13.8	14.4	13.6	11.7
PAT (INR mn.)	1,653	1,809	2,380	2,238	1,332	2,022
Basic EPS (INR)	27.1	29.6	38.6	36.2	20.9	30.3
Operating Metrics						
Revenue - Geography (%)						
North America	49.7	49.4	46.6	47.7	49.9	55.1
EMEA	38.6	38.8	40.0	40.1	38.7	33.8
Rest of the world	11.7	11.8	13.4	12.2	11.4	11.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Revenue - Verticals (%)						
Insurance	22.6	22.6	22.0	21.6	21.4	19.1
BFS	31.1	31.6	32.2	33.7	31.8	29.4
Travel, Transportation and Hospitality	18.5	18.5	17.8	17.6	18.1	18.1
Government (Overseas)	7.6	-	-	7.6	7.8	7.6
Others	20.2	27.3	28.0	19.5	20.9	25.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Revenue - Service Category (%)						
Product Engineering	35.0	8.9	7.8	35.1	32.1	42.4
Intelligent Automation	11.5	12.1	11.3	11.2	11.7	9.1
Data and Integration	24.0	24.5	25.7	25.2	27.4	23.2
Cloud and Infrastructure Management	20.0	18.5	18.9	19.1	19.2	17.2
Application Development and Maintenance	0.0	26.6	27.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Business Process Management	9.5	9.5	9.2	9.4	9.4	8.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Revenue - Delivery Mix (%)						
Onsite	49.0	48.0	47.8	47.5	48.0	46.2
Offshore	51.0	52.0	52.2	52.5	52.0	53.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Revenue - Project Type (%)						
Fixed Price	48.9	49.3	51.0	51.5	50.4	42.5
Time & Materials	51.1	50.7	49.0	48.5	49.6	57.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Fresh Order Intake (\$ Mn)	531	313	354	774	314	516
USA	29.2	37.7	31.1	81.0	40.1	47.5
EMEA	65.2	44.1	48.6	13.2	30.6	35.7
Rest of the world	5.6	18.2	20.3	5.9	29.3	16.7
Executable Order Book over Next 12 Months (\$ Mn)	897	935	974	1,019	1,070	1,305
Repeat Business (%)	96	95	94	93	97	96
Employee Metrics						
Total Headcount	24,224	24,638	24,607	24,726	26,612	32,483
Utilization (%)	81.0	80.0	79.4	81.7	81.6	82.2
Attrition Rate LTM (%)	13.3	13.0	12.1	11.5	11.4	11.7

Source: Company, CEBPL

CEBPL Estimates vs Actual for Q2FY25 (after merging Cigniti)

			_		_	-	
Coforge (INR Mn.)	Q2FY25	Q2FY24	YoY(%)	Q1FY25	QoQ (%)	CEBPL Est.	Dev. (%)
Revenue (USD mn.)	369	278	32.8	291	26.8	305	21.2
Revenues (INR mn.)	30,623	22,762	34.5	24,008	27.6	25,134	21.8
Employee Cost	20,701	15,374	34.7	16,097	28.6		
Gross Profit (INR mn.)	9,922	7,388	34.3	7,911	25.4	8,194	21.1
Gross Margin (%)	32.4	32.5	(6) bps	33.0	(55) bps	32.6	(20) bps
Other costs	5,081	3,911	29.9	3,824	32.9		
Depreciation	1,243	772	61.0	815	52.5		
EBIT (INR mn.)	3,598	2,701	33.2	3,272	10.0	3,265	10.2
EBIT Margin (%)	11.7	11.9	(12) bps	13.6	(188) bps	13.0	(124) bps
Other Income	-173	-295	(41.4)	-272	(36.4)		
PBT (INR mn.)	3,135	2,406	30.3	2,047	53.2		
Tax	799	528	51.3	654	22.2		
Adj. PAT (INR mn.)	2,022	1,809	11.8	1,332	51.8	2,350	(14.0)
Basic EPS (INR)	30.3	29.6	2.4	20.9	45.1	38.0	(20.3)

Source: Company, CEBPL

Change in Estimates

Income Statement	FY25E				FY27E		
(INR Mn.)	Old	New	Dev. (%)	Old	New	Dev. (%)	New
Revenues	1,02,880	1,18,463	15.1	1,21,391	1,43,046	17.8	1,66,321
Gross Profit Margin (%)	33.2	33.1	(5) bps	33.6	33.6	0 bps	33.6
EBIT	14,142	15,904	12.5	17,612	20,754	17.8	25,518
EBIT Margin (%)	13.7	13.4	(32) bps	14.5	14.5	0 bps	15.3
EPS	148.1	149.4	0.9	203.5	222.7	9.5	264.0

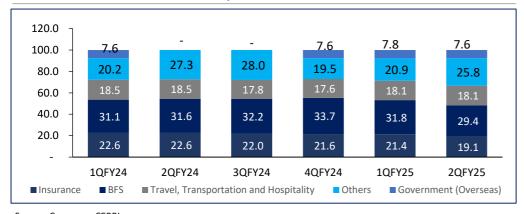
Source: Company, CEBPL

Historical 1 Yr Fwd PE Band



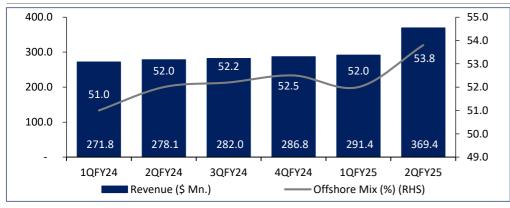
Source: Company, CEBPL

Insurance & BFS vertical remain under pressure



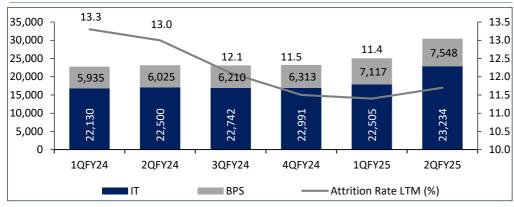
Source: Company, CEBPL

Exceptional revenue growth (after merging Cigniti)



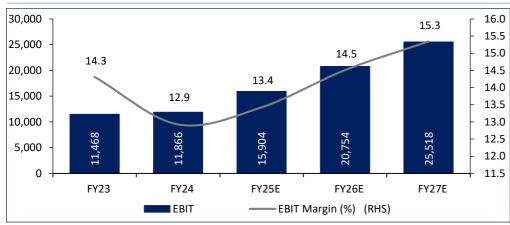
Source: Company, CEBPL

Huge expansion in Headcount driven by Cigniti



Source: Company, CEBPL

Improving EBIT margins



Source: Company, CEBPL

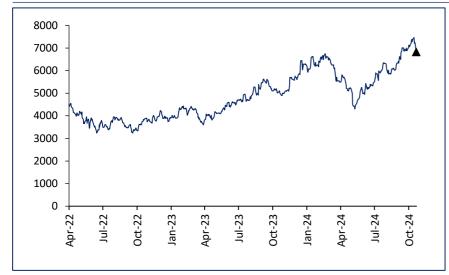
Management Call Highlights

- During Q2FY25, the BFS vertical grew by 25.2% YoY, contributing 29.4% to the revenue mix. The insurance vertical saw a 13.7% YoY growth, accounting for 19.1% of the revenue mix. The travel vertical experienced a 31.6% YoY increase, contributing 18.1% to the total revenue. The new vertical, government excluding India, made up 7.6% of the revenue mix. Additionally, other emerging verticals grew by 27.1% YoY in Q2, contributing 25.9% to the total revenue mix.
- Coforge order executable book, representing the total value of locked orders over the next 12 months, has improved to \$1,310mn, reflecting a 40.0% YoY increase. Additionally, the company signed 13 new logos during the quarter.
- The headcount for the quarter was 32,483, with a net addition of 5,871 employees. Utilization, including trainees, was 82.2%, up from 80.0% in Q2FY24. The TTM attrition rate for the quarter stood at 11.7%.
- In Q1FY25, the company reported cash flow generation of \$10.9mn, compared to \$20.0mn in Q2FY24. The OCF to EBITDA ratio stood in the range of 67% to 70% for Q2FY25.
- DSO for the quarter stood at 60 days as compared to 64 days from Q2FY24.
- Organic EBIT is reported at 12.9%, reflecting an increase of 114bps. In H1FY25, the company faced acquisition and integration-related expenses, which had a 2.3% adverse impact on profitability. These effects are expected to normalize in the upcoming quarters.
- Coforge granted ESOPs to the leadership team toward the end of Q2 FY25, with an anticipated incremental cost impact of 120bps.
- Coforge have received the SEBI approval on the open offer and it is expected to be closed by mid-November.
- The Board has recommended an interim dividend of INR 19/- per share for the quarter

Financial Summary (Consolidated in INR Mn.)

Income Statement (INR Mn.)	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Revenue	80,146	91,790	1,18,463	1,43,046	1,66,321
Gross profit	26,087	29,930	39,248	48,032	55,955
EBITDA	14,649	16,205	21,189	26,828	32,173
Depreciation	2,585	3,186	4,228	4,721	5,489
EBIT	11,468	11,866	15,904	20,754	25,518
Other income (net)	(630)	(1,156)	(1,083)	(1,709)	(1,719)
Exceptional Item	1,326	261	1,243	-	-
PAT	6,938	8,080	9,902	14,855	17,612
EPS (Rs)	113.8	131.6	149.4	222.7	264.0
Balance Sheet (INR Mn.)	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Fixed Assets	6,866	7,629	9,136	10,943	13,108
Goodwill & Intangible assets	16,299	16,133	18,069	20,237	22,666
Cash & Cash equivalents	5,787	3,352	5,649	6,893	8,081
Receivables	17,903	19,503	21,843	24,465	27,400
Other Assets	6,222	8,877	9,942	11,135	12,472
Deferred Tax Assets	3,757	5,583	5,821	6,301	6,178
Total Assets	56,834	61,077	70,460	79,973	89,904
Net Worth	30,825	36,266	41,712	49,883	59,569
Bank Borrowings	3,382	4,366	3,929	3,536	3,183
Non Controlling Interest	874	1003	937	937	937
Deferred Tax Liability	583	466	489	514	539
Other Liabilities	13,469	16,348	20,764	22,476	24,209
Future Acquisition Liability	7,701	2,628	2,628	2,627	1,466
Total Equity & Liabilities	56,834	61,077	70,460	79,973	89,904
Cash Flows (INR Mn.)	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Cash Flows (INR Mn.) Cash flows from Operations	FY23 9,505	FY24 9,034	FY25E 8,949	FY26E 16,052	
	9,505		8,949	16,052	18,413
Cash flows from Operations		9,034			18,413 (6,094)
Cash flows from Operations Cash flows from Investing Cash flows from financing	9,505 (2,716) (5,582)	9,034 (2,478) (8,870)	8,949 (6,754) (5,979)	16,052 (1,922) (8,913)	18,413 (6,094) (14,089)
Cash flows from Operations Cash flows from Investing Cash flows from financing Ratio Analysis	9,505 (2,716)	9,034 (2,478)	8,949 (6,754)	16,052 (1,922)	18,413 (6,094) (14,089)
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Cash flows from Operations Cash flows from Investing Cash flows from Investing Cash flows from financing Ratio Analysis Growth Ratios (%) Revenues Gross Profit EBITDA EBIT Margin Ratios (%) Gross Profit Margin EBITDA Margin EBIT Margin Profitability (%) Return on equity	9,505 (2,716) (5,582) FY23 24.6 26.7 21.5 29.1 32.5 18.3 14.3	9,034 (2,478) (8,870) FY24 14.5 14.7 10.6 3.5 32.6 17.7 12.9	8,949 (6,754) (5,979) FY25E 29.1 31.1 30.8 34.0 33.1 17.9 13.4	16,052 (1,922) (8,913) FY26E 20.8 22.4 26.6 30.5 33.6 18.8 14.5	18,413 (6,094) (14,089) FY27E 16.3 16.5 19.9 23.0 33.6 19.3 15.3
Cash flows from Operations Cash flows from Investing Cash flows from financing Ratio Analysis Growth Ratios (%) Revenues Gross Profit EBITDA EBIT Margin Ratios (%) Gross Profit Margin EBITDA Margin EBIT Margin Profitability (%) Return on equity Return on invested capital	9,505 (2,716) (5,582) FY23 24.6 26.7 21.5 29.1 32.5 18.3 14.3	9,034 (2,478) (8,870) FY24 14.5 14.7 10.6 3.5 32.6 17.7 12.9	8,949 (6,754) (5,979) FY25E 29.1 31.1 30.8 34.0 33.1 17.9 13.4	16,052 (1,922) (8,913) FY26E 20.8 22.4 26.6 30.5 33.6 18.8 14.5	18,413 (6,094)
Cash flows from Operations Cash flows from Investing Cash flows from financing Ratio Analysis Growth Ratios (%) Revenues Gross Profit EBITDA EBIT Margin Ratios (%) Gross Profit Margin EBITDA Margin EBIT Margin Profitability (%)	9,505 (2,716) (5,582) FY23 24.6 26.7 21.5 29.1 32.5 18.3 14.3	9,034 (2,478) (8,870) FY24 14.5 14.7 10.6 3.5 32.6 17.7 12.9	8,949 (6,754) (5,979) FY25E 29.1 31.1 30.8 34.0 33.1 17.9 13.4	16,052 (1,922) (8,913) FY26E 20.8 22.4 26.6 30.5 33.6 18.8 14.5	18,413 (6,094) (14,089) FY27E 16.3 16.5 19.9 23.0 33.6 19.3 15.3
Cash flows from Operations Cash flows from Investing Cash flows from financing Ratio Analysis Growth Ratios (%) Revenues Gross Profit EBITDA EBIT Margin Ratios (%) Gross Profit Margin EBITDA Margin EBITDA Margin EBIT Margin EBIT Margin EBIT Margin Profitability (%) Return on equity Return on invested capital Return on capital employed	9,505 (2,716) (5,582) FY23 24.6 26.7 21.5 29.1 32.5 18.3 14.3	9,034 (2,478) (8,870) FY24 14.5 14.7 10.6 3.5 32.6 17.7 12.9	8,949 (6,754) (5,979) FY25E 29.1 31.1 30.8 34.0 33.1 17.9 13.4	16,052 (1,922) (8,913) FY26E 20.8 22.4 26.6 30.5 33.6 18.8 14.5	18,413 (6,094) (14,089) FY27E 16.3 16.5 19.9 23.0 33.6 19.3 15.3
Cash flows from Operations Cash flows from Investing Cash flows from Investing Cash flows from financing Ratio Analysis Growth Ratios (%) Revenues Gross Profit EBITDA EBIT Margin Ratios (%) Gross Profit Margin EBITDA Margin EBIT Margin Profitability (%) Return on equity Return on invested capital Return on capital employed Valuation OCF / Net profit (%)	9,505 (2,716) (5,582) FY23 24.6 26.7 21.5 29.1 32.5 18.3 14.3 22.5 17.9 17.4	9,034 (2,478) (8,870) FY24 14.5 14.7 10.6 3.5 32.6 17.7 12.9 22.3 16.6 16.5	8,949 (6,754) (5,979) FY25E 29.1 31.1 30.8 34.0 33.1 17.9 13.4 23.7 18.9 19.0	16,052 (1,922) (8,913) FY26E 20.8 22.4 26.6 30.5 33.6 18.8 14.5 29.8 22.4 22.5	18,413 (6,094) (14,089) FY27E 16.3 16.5 19.9 23.0 33.6 19.3 15.3 29.6 23.4 23.2
Cash flows from Operations Cash flows from Investing Cash flows from financing Ratio Analysis Growth Ratios (%) Revenues Gross Profit EBITDA EBIT Margin Ratios (%) Gross Profit Margin EBITDA Margin EBIT Margin Profitability (%) Return on equity Return on invested capital Return on capital employed Valuation	9,505 (2,716) (5,582) FY23 24.6 26.7 21.5 29.1 32.5 18.3 14.3 22.5 17.9 17.4	9,034 (2,478) (8,870) FY24 14.5 14.7 10.6 3.5 32.6 17.7 12.9 22.3 16.6 16.5	8,949 (6,754) (5,979) FY25E 29.1 31.1 30.8 34.0 33.1 17.9 13.4 23.7 18.9 19.0	16,052 (1,922) (8,913) FY26E 20.8 22.4 26.6 30.5 33.6 18.8 14.5	18,413 (6,094) (14,089) FY27E 16.3 16.5 19.9 23.0 33.6 19.3 15.3

Historical recommendations and target price: Coforge Ltd.



COTO	rge Lta.		
1.	06-04-2022	Outperform,	Target Price 5,610
2.	12-05-2022	Outperform,	Target Price 5,047
3.	25-07-2022	Outperform,	Target Price 4,600
4.	27-10-2022	Outperform,	Target Price 4,925
5.	20-01-2023	Outperform,	Target Price 5,608
6.	29-04-2023	Add,	Target Price 4,633
7.	21-07-2023	Neutral,	Target Price 4,960
8.	25-09-2023	Neutral,	Target Price 5,375
9.	21-10-2023	Add,	Target Price 5,595
10.	23-01-2024	Add,	Target Price 6,895
11.	18-03-2024	Add,	Target Price 6,426
12.	03-05-2024	Buy,	Target Price 6,007
13.	23-07-2024	Buy,	Target Price 6,665

Reduce,

Target Price 7,809

23-10-2024

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CHOICE RATING DISTRIBUTION & METHODOLOGY

OUTPERFORM The security is expected to generate more than 25% returns over the next 12 months

BUY The security is expected to generate greater than 5% to less than 25% returns over the next 12 months

REDUCE The security expected to show downside or upside returns by 0% to 5% over the next 12 months

SELL The security expected to show Below 0% next 12 months

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