

# McCormick & Co.

# Sometimes "mild" is just fine; raising estimates and PO post 4Q23

Reiterate Rating: BUY | PO: 82.00 USD | Price: 68.23 USD

## Raising estimates flowing through 4Q23's beat

We view yesterday's positive stock reaction (+4.3%) post 4Q23 results as a reflection of 1) gross margin upside in 4Q which now serves as a higher starting point for FY24 estimates and 2) a relatively prudent FY24 sales and EPS outlook. MKC acknowledged volume/share issues in some of its core categories and is addressing through increased marketing, promo/merchandizing & managing price gap on core items like Black Pepper, Vanilla & recipe mixes in the US. In our view, this should help recapture share from both private label & insurgent branded competitors. We raise our FY24/25 adj. EPS to \$2.80 & \$3.00 from \$2.70 & \$2.90 respectively & introduce FY26 adj. EPS estimate of \$3.15. While greatest pushback we receive is on multiple expansion from here, we believe an inflection in scanner data over the next few months could drive a re-rating. Reit Buy.

## Quarterly puts and takes for FY24 by sub-segment

Americas Consumer: Hispanic Peppers DSD (direct store distribution) exit impacts 1Q (~2pt hit). Though recent Nielsen data has yet to show meaningful volume improvement, we model a sequential step up. In 4Q, <u>EMEA</u> saw greater volume softness than expected in both Consumer and Flavor Solutions from elevated pricing and MKC anticipates this softness to continue into FY24. Recall that <u>EMEA Flavor Solutions</u> will also see a ~3pt hit in 1-3Q24 each from the Giotti canning divestiture and a 1-2pt hit in 1Q24 volumes from exiting private label business. <u>APAC Consumer</u> is expected so see slower demand in 1H24 with China consumer sales comparable to 2023 for the year.

# Other modeling callouts for FY24 & 1Q24

Gross margin expansion of +50-100bps reflect cost savings initiatives, improved cost inflation outlook (LSD for FY24, HSD in 1Q) and a benefit in 2H24 from reducing dual running costs in the UK. Brand marketing spend is expected to increase HSD in FY24, concentrated in 1H24 and weighted towards 1Q24.

## Reiterate Buy & raise PO to \$82

Reiterate Buy rating and raise our PO to \$82 from \$80 now based on a CY2025e P/E multiple of 27x (prior 28x), within its five-year historical valuation range of 19x-42x and in-line with average of 29.5x. Our lowered multiple reflects a tempered view around US volume recovery, which when achieved could mean multiple expansion from here.

Estimates (Nov) (US\$)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
EPS	2.53	2.69	2.80	3.00	3.15
GAAP EPS	2.52	2.52	2.80	3.00	3.15
EPS Change (YoY)	-17.0%	6.3%	4.1%	7.1%	5.0%
Consensus EPS (Bloomberg)			2.86	3.08	3.34
DPS	1.50	1.59	1.69	1.79	1.89
Valuation (Nov)					
P/E	27.0x	25.4x	24.4x	22.7x	21.7x
GAAP P/E	27.1x	27.1x	24.4x	22.7x	21.7x
Dividend Yield	2.2%	2.3%	2.5%	2.6%	2.8%
EV / EBITDA*	18.4x	16.7x	16.4x	15.8x	15.3x
Free Cash Flow Yield*	2.1%	5.3%	3.0%	3.7%	3.9%
* For full definitions of <i>IQ</i> method <sup>SM</sup> measures, see page 5.					

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Refer to important disclosures on page 6 to 8. Analyst Certification on page 4. Price
Objective Basis/Risk on page 4.

Timestamp: 26 January 2024 10:44AM EST

#### 26 January 2024

#### Equity

Key Changes		
(US\$)	Previous	Current
Price Obj.	80.00	82.00
2024E Rev (m)	6,732.4	6,627.5
2025E Rev (m)	6,917.5	6,809.8
2026E Rev (m)	NA	6,997.1
2024E EPS	2.70	2.80
2025E EPS	2.90	3.00
2026E EPS	NA	3.15
2024E DPS	1.68	1.69

Peter T. Galbo, CFA Research Analyst BofAS +1 646 743 0175 peter.galbo@bofa.com

Bryan D. Spillane Research Analyst BofAS +1 646 855 1979 bryan.spillane@bofa.com

Yasmine Deswandhy Research Analyst BofAS +1 646 855 3745 yasmine.deswandhy@bofa.com

#### **Stock Data**

Price	68.23 USD
Price Objective	82.00 USD
Date Established	26-Jan-2024
Investment Opinion	B-1-7
52-Week Range	59.13 USD - 94.39 USD
Mrkt Val (mn) / Shares Out	18,408 USD / 269.8
(mn)	
Free Float	98.4%
Average Daily Value (mn)	129.15 USD
BofA Ticker / Exchange	MKC / NYS
Bloomberg / Reuters	MKC US / MKC.N
ROE (2024E)	14.4%
Net Dbt to Eqty (Nov-2023A)	83.5%
ESGMeter™	High

ESGMeter is not indicative of a company's future stock price performance and is not an investment recommendation or rating. ESGMeter is independent of BofA Global Research's equity investment rating, volatility risk rating, income rating, and price objective for that company. For full details, refer to "BofA ESGMeter Methodology".

# *iQ*profile<sup>™</sup> McCormick & Co.

<b>Q</b> method <sup>™</sup> – <b>Bus Performance*</b>					
(US\$ Millions)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026
Return on Capital Employed	6.5%	7.3%	7.5%	7.6%	7.79
Return on Equity	15.0%	14.9%	14.4%	14.6%	14.49
Operating Margin	14.4%	15.4%	15.9%	16.1%	16.4
Free Cash Flow	390	973	550	687	72
i <b>Q</b> method <sup>™</sup> – <b>Quality of Earnings*</b>					
(US\$ Millions)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026
Cash Realization Ratio	1.0x	1.7x	1.1x	1.2x	1.2
Asset Replacement Ratio	1.3x	1.3x	1.4x	1.3x	1.3
Tax Rate	20.9%	22.0%	22.1%	22.0%	22.0
Net Debt-to-Equity Ratio	102.5%	83.5%	76.6%	68.3%	60.6
Interest Cover	6.2x	4.9x	5.2x	5.8x	6.0
ncome Statement Data (Nov)					
(US\$ Millions)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026
Sales	6,351	6,662	6,628	6,810	6,99
% Change	0.5%	4.9%	-0.5%	2.8%	2.8
Gross Profit	2,275	2,503	2,541	2,624	2,7
% Change	-9.2%	10.0%	1.5%	3.3%	3.4
EBITDA	1,265	1,387	1,416	1,470	1,51
% Change	-10.3%	9.7%	2.1%	3.8%	3.4
Net Interest & Other Income	(100)	(164)	(169)	(146)	(14
Net Income (Adjusted)	684	727	756	810	84
· •			3.9%	7.2%	4.8
% Change Free Cash Flow Data (Nov)	-17.0%	6.3%	3.5%	7.2%	4.0
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov) (US\$ Millions)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	202
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov)  (US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)	<b>2022A</b> 646	<b>2023A</b> 671	<b>2024E</b> 691	<b>2025E</b> 743	<b>202</b>
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov) (US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)  Depreciation & Amortization	<b>2022A</b> 646 201	<b>2023A</b> 671 199	<b>2024E</b> 691 210	<b>2025E</b> 743 210	<b>202</b> 0 78 21
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)  Depreciation & Amortization  Change in Working Capital	<b>2022A</b> 646 201 (256)	<b>2023A</b> 671 199 269	<b>2024E</b> 691 210 (94)	<b>2025E</b> 743 210 (19)	<b>202</b> 78 2
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)  Depreciation & Amortization  Change in Working Capital  Deferred Taxation Charge	2022A 646 201 (256) 22	<b>2023A</b> 671 199 269 (5)	<b>2024E</b> 691 210 (94) 0	<b>2025E</b> 743 210 (19) 0	<b>202</b> 78 2 (1
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)  Depreciation & Amortization  Change in Working Capital  Deferred Taxation Charge  Other Adjustments, Net	<b>2022A</b> 646 201 (256) 22 39	<b>2023A</b> 671 199 269 (5) 103	<b>2024E</b> 691 210 (94) 0 34	<b>2025E</b> 743 210 (19) 0 33	<b>202</b> 78 2 (1
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)  Depreciation & Amortization  Change in Working Capital  Deferred Taxation Charge  Other Adjustments, Net  Capital Expenditure	2022A 646 201 (256) 22 39 (262)	2023A 671 199 269 (5) 103 (264)	2024E 691 210 (94) 0 34 (290)	2025E 743 210 (19) 0 33 (280)	202 78 2 (1
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)  Depreciation & Amortization  Change in Working Capital  Deferred Taxation Charge  Other Adjustments, Net  Capital Expenditure  Free Cash Flow	2022A 646 201 (256) 22 39 (262) 390	2023A 671 199 269 (5) 103 (264) 973	2024E 691 210 (94) 0 34 (290) 550	2025E 743 210 (19) 0 33 (280) 687	202 78 2 (1 
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov) (US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP) Depreciation & Amortization Change in Working Capital Deferred Taxation Charge Other Adjustments, Net Capital Expenditure Free Cash Flow % Change	2022A 646 201 (256) 22 39 (262) 390 -29.2%	2023A 671 199 269 (5) 103 (264) 973 149.9%	2024E 691 210 (94) 0 34 (290) 550 -43.5%	2025E 743 210 (19) 0 33 (280) 687 24.9%	202 78 22 (1) (28 72 5.3
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)  Depreciation & Amortization  Change in Working Capital  Deferred Taxation Charge  Other Adjustments, Net  Capital Expenditure  Free Cash Flow  % Change  Share / Issue Repurchase	2022A 646 201 (256) 22 39 (262) 390 -29.2%	2023A 671 199 269 (5) 103 (264) 973 149.9% (19)	2024E 691 210 (94) 0 34 (290) 550 -43.5% 20	2025E 743 210 (19) 0 33 (280) 687 24.9% 20	202 78 2 (1 (28 72 5.3
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)  Depreciation & Amortization  Change in Working Capital  Deferred Taxation Charge  Other Adjustments, Net  Capital Expenditure  Free Cash Flow  % Change  Share / Issue Repurchase  Cost of Dividends Paid	2022A 646 201 (256) 22 39 (262) 390 -29.2% 3 (397)	2023A 671 199 269 (5) 103 (264) 973 149.9% (19) (417)	2024E 691 210 (94) 0 34 (290) 550 -43.5% 20 (455)	2025E 743 210 (19) 0 33 (280) 687 24.9% 20 (482)	202 78 21 (1 3 (28 72 5.3
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov) (US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP) Depreciation & Amortization Change in Working Capital Deferred Taxation Charge Other Adjustments, Net Capital Expenditure Free Cash Flow % Change Share / Issue Repurchase Cost of Dividends Paid Change in Debt	2022A 646 201 (256) 22 39 (262) 390 -29.2%	2023A 671 199 269 (5) 103 (264) 973 149.9% (19)	2024E 691 210 (94) 0 34 (290) 550 -43.5% 20	2025E 743 210 (19) 0 33 (280) 687 24.9% 20	202 78 21 (1 3 (28 72 5.3
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)  Depreciation & Amortization  Change in Working Capital  Deferred Taxation Charge  Other Adjustments, Net  Capital Expenditure  Free Cash Flow  % Change  Share / Issue Repurchase  Cost of Dividends Paid  Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Nov)	2022A 646 201 (256) 22 39 (262) 390 -29.2% 3 (397) (74)	2023A 671 199 269 (5) 103 (264) 973 149.9% (19) (417) (737)	2024E 691 210 (94) 0 34 (290) 550 -43.5% 20 (455) 0	2025E 743 210 (19) 0 33 (280) 687 24.9% 20 (482) 0	202 78 2 (1 3 (28 72 5.3 (51
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)  Depreciation & Amortization  Change in Working Capital  Deferred Taxation Charge  Other Adjustments, Net  Capital Expenditure  Free Cash Flow  % Change  Share / Issue Repurchase  Cost of Dividends Paid  Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)	2022A 646 201 (256) 22 39 (262) 390 -29.2% 3 (397) (74)	2023A 671 199 269 (5) 103 (264) 973 149.9% (19) (417) (737)	2024E 691 210 (94) 0 34 (290) 550 -43.5% 20 (455) 0	2025E 743 210 (19) 0 33 (280) 687 24.9% 20 (482) 0	202 78 2 (1 3 (28 72 5.3 (51
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)  Depreciation & Amortization  Change in Working Capital  Deferred Taxation Charge  Other Adjustments, Net  Capital Expenditure  Free Cash Flow  % Change  Share / Issue Repurchase  Cost of Dividends Paid  Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Cash & Equivalents	2022A 646 201 (256) 22 39 (262) 390 -29.2% 3 (397) (74)	2023A 671 199 269 (5) 103 (264) 973 149.9% (19) (417) (737)	2024E 691 210 (94) 0 34 (290) 550 -43.5% 20 (455) 0	2025E 743 210 (19) 0 33 (280) 687 24.9% 20 (482) 0	202 78 2 (1 (28 72 5.3 (51
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)  Depreciation & Amortization  Change in Working Capital  Deferred Taxation Charge  Other Adjustments, Net  Capital Expenditure  Free Cash Flow  % Change  Share / Issue Repurchase  Cost of Dividends Paid  Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Cash & Equivalents  Trade Receivables	2022A 646 201 (256) 22 39 (262) 390 -29.2% 3 (397) (74)	2023A 671 199 269 (5) 103 (264) 973 149.9% (19) (417) (737)  2023A 167 588	2024E 691 210 (94) 0 34 (290) 550 -43.5% 20 (455) 0	2025E 743 210 (19) 0 33 (280) 687 24.9% 20 (482) 0	202 78 2 (1 3 (28 72 5.3 (51 202 74
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Free Cash Flow Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)  Depreciation & Amortization  Change in Working Capital  Deferred Taxation Charge  Other Adjustments, Net  Capital Expenditure  Free Cash Flow  % Change  Share / Issue Repurchase  Cost of Dividends Paid  Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Cash & Equivalents  Trade Receivables  Other Current Assets  Property, Plant & Equipment	2022A 646 201 (256) 22 39 (262) 390 -29.2% 3 (397) (74)  2022A 334 574 1,479 1,198	2023A 671 199 269 (5) 103 (264) 973 149.9% (19) (417) (737)  2023A 167 588 1,248 1,325	2024E 691 210 (94) 0 34 (290) 550 -43.5% 20 (455) 0  2024E 282 599 1,297 1,405	2025E 743 210 (19) 0 33 (280) 687 24.9% 20 (482) 0  2025E 507 616 1,325 1,475	202 78 2 (1 3 (28 72 5.3 (51 202 74 63 1,35 1,54
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)  Depreciation & Amortization  Change in Working Capital  Deferred Taxation Charge  Other Adjustments, Net  Capital Expenditure  Free Cash Flow  % Change  Share / Issue Repurchase  Cost of Dividends Paid  Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Cash & Equivalents  Trade Receivables  Other Current Assets  Property, Plant & Equipment  Other Non-Current Assets	2022A 646 201 (256) 22 39 (262) 390 -29.2% 3 (397) (74)  2022A 334 574 1,479 1,198 9,540	2023A 671 199 269 (5) 103 (264) 973 149.9% (19) (417) (737)  2023A 167 588 1,248 1,325 9,536	2024E 691 210 (94) 0 34 (290) 550 -43.5% 20 (455) 0  2024E 282 599 1,297 1,405 9,552	2025E 743 210 (19) 0 33 (280) 687 24.9% 20 (482) 0  2025E 507 616 1,325 1,475 9,569	202 78 2 (1 3 (28 72 5.3 (51 202 74 63 1,39 1,54 9,58
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)  Depreciation & Amortization  Change in Working Capital  Deferred Taxation Charge  Other Adjustments, Net  Capital Expenditure  Free Cash Flow  % Change  Share / Issue Repurchase  Cost of Dividends Paid  Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Cash & Equivalents  Trade Receivables  Other Current Assets  Property, Plant & Equipment  Other Non-Current Assets  Total Assets	2022A 646 201 (256) 22 39 (262) 390 -29.2% 3 (397) (74)  2022A 334 574 1,479 1,198 9,540 13,125	2023A 671 199 269 (5) 103 (264) 973 149.9% (19) (417) (737)  2023A 167 588 1,248 1,325 9,536 12,862	2024E 691 210 (94) 0 34 (290) 550 -43.5% 20 (455) 0  2024E 282 599 1,297 1,405 9,552 13,135	2025E 743 210 (19) 0 33 (280) 687 24.9% 20 (482) 0  2025E 507 616 1,325 1,475 9,569 13,492	202 78 2 (1 (28 72 5.3 (51 202 74 61 1,38 1,55 9,58 13,88
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)  Depreciation & Amortization  Change in Working Capital  Deferred Taxation Charge  Other Adjustments, Net  Capital Expenditure  Free Cash Flow  % Change  Share / Issue Repurchase  Cost of Dividends Paid  Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Nov)  US\$ Millions)  Cash & Equivalents  Trade Receivables  Other Current Assets  Property, Plant & Equipment  Other Non-Current Assets  Total Assets  Short-Term Debt	2022A 646 201 (256) 22 39 (262) 390 -29.2% 3 (397) (74)  2022A 334 574 1,479 1,198 9,540 13,125 1,507	2023A 671 199 269 (5) 103 (264) 973 149.9% (19) (417) (737)  2023A 167 588 1,248 1,325 9,536 12,862 1,072	2024E 691 210 (94) 0 34 (290) 550 -43.5% 20 (455) 0  2024E 282 599 1,297 1,405 9,552 13,135 1,072	2025E 743 210 (19) 0 33 (280) 687 24.9% 20 (482) 0  2025E 507 616 1,325 1,475 9,569 13,492 1,072	202 78 2 (1 (28 72 5.3 (51 202 74 61 1,38 1,55 9,58 1,01
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov)  (US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)  Depreciation & Amortization  Change in Working Capital  Deferred Taxation Charge  Other Adjustments, Net  Capital Expenditure  Free Cash Flow  % Change  Share / Issue Repurchase  Cost of Dividends Paid  Change in Debt  (US\$ Millions)  Cash & Equivalents  Trade Receivables  Other Current Assets  Property, Plant & Equipment  Other Non-Current Assets  Total Assets  Short-Term Debt  Other Current Liabilities	2022A 646 201 (256) 22 39 (262) 390 -29.2% 3 (397) (74)  2022A 334 574 1,479 1,198 9,540 13,125 1,507 1,925	2023A 671 199 269 (5) 103 (264) 973 149.9% (19) (417) (737)  2023A 167 588 1,248 1,325 9,536 12,862 1,072 2,027	2024E 691 210 (94) 0 34 (290) 550 -43.5% 20 (455) 0  2024E 282 599 1,297 1,405 9,552 13,135 1,072 1,994	2025E 743 210 (19) 0 33 (280) 687 24.9% 20 (482) 0  2025E 507 616 1,325 1,475 9,569 13,492 1,072 2,020	2020 78 21 (11 3 (28 72 5.3 (51 202) 74 63 1,35 1,54 9,58 13,85
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov)  (US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)  Depreciation & Amortization  Change in Working Capital  Deferred Taxation Charge  Other Adjustments, Net  Capital Expenditure  Free Cash Flow  % Change  Share / Issue Repurchase  Cost of Dividends Paid  Change in Debt  (US\$ Millions)  Cash & Equivalents  Trade Receivables  Other Current Assets  Property, Plant & Equipment  Other Non-Current Assets  Total Assets  Short-Term Debt  Other Current Liabilities  Long-Term Debt	2022A 646 201 (256) 22 39 (262) 390 -29.2% 3 (397) (74)  2022A 334 574 1,479 1,198 9,540 13,125 1,507 1,925 3,642	2023A 671 199 269 (5) 103 (264) 973 149.9% (19) (417) (737)  2023A 167 588 1,248 1,325 9,536 12,862 1,072 2,027 3,340	2024E 691 210 (94) 0 34 (290) 550 -43.5% 20 (455) 0  2024E 282 599 1,297 1,405 9,552 13,135 1,072 1,994 3,340	2025E 743 210 (19) 0 33 (280) 687 24.9% 20 (482) 0  2025E 507 616 1,325 1,475 9,569 13,492 1,072 2,020 3,340	2020 78 21 (11 3 (28 72 5.3 (51 202) 74 63 1,35 1,54 9,58 13,85 1,07 2,04 3,34
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov) (US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP) Depreciation & Amortization Change in Working Capital Deferred Taxation Charge Other Adjustments, Net Capital Expenditure Free Cash Flow % Change Share / Issue Repurchase Cost of Dividends Paid Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Nov) (US\$ Millions) Cash & Equivalents Trade Receivables Other Current Assets Property, Plant & Equipment Other Non-Current Assets Short-Term Debt Other Current Liabilities Long-Term Debt Other Non-Current Liabilities	2022A 646 201 (256) 22 39 (262) 390 -29.2% 3 (397) (74)  2022A 334 574 1,479 1,198 9,540 13,125 1,507 1,925 3,642 1,351	2023A 671 199 269 (5) 103 (264) 973 149.9% (19) (417) (737)  2023A 167 588 1,248 1,325 9,536 12,862 1,072 2,027 3,340 1,340	2024E 691 210 (94) 0 34 (290) 550 -43.5% 20 (455) 0  2024E 282 599 1,297 1,405 9,552 13,135 1,072 1,994 3,340 1,340	2025E 743 210 (19) 0 33 (280) 687 24.9% 20 (482) 0  2025E 507 616 1,325 1,475 9,569 13,492 1,072 2,020 3,340 1,340	2020 78 21 (11 3 (28 72 5.3 (51 202 74 63 1,34 1,54 9,58 13,85 1,07 2,04 3,34 1,34
Free Cash Flow Data (Nov) (US\$ Millions)  Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP) Depreciation & Amortization Change in Working Capital Deferred Taxation Charge Other Adjustments, Net Capital Expenditure Free Cash Flow % Change Share / Issue Repurchase Cost of Dividends Paid Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Nov) (US\$ Millions) Cash & Equivalents Trade Receivables Other Current Assets Property, Plant & Equipment Other Non-Current Assets Total Assets Short-Term Debt Other Current Liabilities Long-Term Debt	2022A 646 201 (256) 22 39 (262) 390 -29.2% 3 (397) (74)  2022A 334 574 1,479 1,198 9,540 13,125 1,507 1,925 3,642	2023A 671 199 269 (5) 103 (264) 973 149.9% (19) (417) (737)  2023A 167 588 1,248 1,325 9,536 12,862 1,072 2,027 3,340	2024E 691 210 (94) 0 34 (290) 550 -43.5% 20 (455) 0  2024E 282 599 1,297 1,405 9,552 13,135 1,072 1,994 3,340	2025E 743 210 (19) 0 33 (280) 687 24.9% 20 (482) 0  2025E 507 616 1,325 1,475 9,569 13,492 1,072 2,020 3,340	

### **Company Sector**

Food Processors

#### **Company Description**

With around \$6.6b in annual sales, McCormick is a leader in the global spices, seasonings and flavors industry. The company operates in two business segments: Consumer (57% of total sales) and Flavor Solutions (43%). MKC is one of the most geographically diverse companies within our coverage universe, with 40% of sales outside of the United States across 150 different countries.

#### **Investment Rationale**

We rate MKC shares at Buy. We expect FY24 to begin to see volume growth as it laps easy compares and executes on its initiatives. We also expect MKC to build on the gross margin expansion momentum we saw in FY23 as cost inflation continues to ease. Our Buy rating is predicated on relative valuation to the market and peers.

#### **Stock Data**

Average Daily Volume 1,892,929

#### **Quarterly Earnings Estimates**

	2023	2024
Q1	0.59A	0.56E
Q2	0.60A	0.57E
Q3	0.65A	0.73E
Q4	0.85A	0.94E



\* For full definitions of  $\emph{iQ}$  method  $^{\text{SM}}$  measures, see page 5.

# **Income statement**

# **Exhibit 1: MKC summary income statement** We raise our FY24 adj. EPS estimate to \$2.80

ĺ	Nov-22	Feb-23	May-23	Aug-23	Nov-23	Nov-23	Feb-24	May-24	Aug-24	Nov-24	Nov-24	Nov-25	Nov-26
Nov Year End	2022	1023	<b>2Q23</b>	3Q23	4Q23	2023	1Q24E	2Q24E	3Q24E	4Q24E	2024E	2025E	2026E
Net Sales	\$6,350.5	\$1,565.5	\$1,659.2	\$1,684.7	\$1,752.8	\$6,662.2	\$1,548.8	\$1,624.0	\$1,681.0	\$1,773.8	\$6,627.5	\$6,809.8	\$6,997.1
Cost of Goods Sold	4,076.0	1,002.6	1,043.7	1,061.9	1,051.5	4,159.7	983.5	1,021.5	1,040.5	1,041.2	4,086.7	4,185.5	4,283.1
Gross Profit	\$2,274.5	\$562.9	\$615.5	\$622.8	\$701.3	\$2,502.5	\$565.3	\$602.5	\$640.4	\$732.6	\$2,540.8	\$2,624.3	\$2,714.0
Selling General & Administrative	1,357.1	336.1	380.5	371.7	390.0	1,478.3	348.5	381.6	367.3	387.6	1,485.0	1,525.8	1,567.8
Operating income (adjusted)	\$917.4	\$226.8	\$235.0	\$251.1		\$1,024.2	\$216.8	\$220.9	\$273.2		\$1,055.9		\$1,146.2
Interest expense	149.1	50.6	52.2	52.7	52.7	208.2	51.1	51.1	51.1	51.1	204.2	190.2	190.2
Other income (expense), net	48.7	11.1	12.5	7.1	13.2	43.9	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	35.0	44.0	44.0
Earnings before income taxes	\$817.0	\$187.3	\$195.3	\$205.5	\$271.8	\$859.9	\$174.5	\$178.6	\$230.9	\$302.7	\$886.6	\$952.3	\$1,000.0
Income tax expense	170.9	40.9	43.5	44.0	60.6	189.0	40.1	41.1	49.6	65.1	195.9	209.5	220.0
Adjusted net income from consolidated ops	\$646.1	\$146.4	\$151.8	\$161.5	\$211.2	\$670.9	\$134.4	\$137.5	\$181.2		\$690.7	\$742.8	\$780.0
Income from unconsolidated ops	37.8	14.0	10.3	13.4	18.7	56.4	16.3	16.3	16.3		65.0	67.0	69.0
Net income attributable to MKC	\$683.9	\$160.4	\$162.1	\$174.9	\$229.9	\$727.3	\$150.6	\$153.7	\$197.5	\$253.9	\$755.7	\$809.8	\$849.0
Non-recurring items	(1.9)	(21.3)	(10.0)	(4.8)	(10.6)	(46.7)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GAAP net income	\$682.0	\$139.1	\$152.1	\$170.1	\$219.3	\$680.6	\$150.6	\$153.7	\$197.5	\$253.9	\$755.7	\$809.8	\$849.0
G/WW Mee meetine	\$45.36	Ç133.1	Ψ13 <u>2.</u> 1	\$170.1	QZ 13.3	Ç000.0	\$150.0	Ç133.7	ψ137.3	Q233.3	ψ1 33.1	Ç003.0	\$0.15.0
GAAP EPS	\$2.52	\$0.52	\$0.56	\$0.63	\$0.81	\$2.52	\$0.56	\$0.57	\$0.73	\$0.94	\$2.80	\$3.00	\$3.15
Adjusted EPS	\$2.53	\$0.59	\$0.60	\$0.65	\$0.85	\$2.69	\$0.56	\$0.57	\$0.73	\$0.94	\$2.80	\$3.00	\$3.15
VA Consensus	7-100	7 - 1 - 1	4 - 11 - 1	70.00	7	7=.00	\$0.58	\$0.61	\$0.71	\$0.92	\$2.82		\$3.30
Weighted avg diluted shares	270.3	269.8	269.8	270.1	269.9	269.9	269.9	269.9	269.9		269.9		269.9
Weighted avg diluted shares	270.5	203.0	203.0	270.1	203.3	203.3	203.3	200.5	203.3	203.3	203.3	203.3	200.5
Dividends Per share	\$1.50	\$0.39	\$0.39	\$0.39	\$0.42	\$1.59	\$0.41	\$0.41	\$0.41	\$0.45	\$1.69	\$1.79	\$1.89
YoY growth Dividend	10%	5%	5%	5%	8%	6%	6%	6%	6%		6%		6%
Tot grower bividend	1070	3 /0	570	5 /0	0 /0	0 70	0,0	0 /0	0 70	0,0	0 70	0 /0	0 70
EBITDA calculation													
Adjusted Operating Profit (revenue driver)	\$917.4	\$226.8	\$235.0	\$251.1	\$311.3	\$1.024.2	\$223.8	\$232.2	\$267.3	\$331.7	\$1,055.0	\$1,104.4	\$1,152.3
Adjusted Operating Profit	\$917.4	\$226.8	\$235.0	\$251.1	\$311.3	\$1,024.2	\$216.8	\$220.9	\$273.2	\$345.0	\$1,055.9	\$1,098.5	\$1,146.2
(+) Other income	48.7	11.1	12.5		13.2	43.9	8.8	8.8	8.8		35.0	44.0	44.0
(+) Income from unconsolidated ops	37.8	14.0	10.3	13.4	18.7	56.4	16.3	16.3	16.3	16.3	65.0		69.0
(+) Stock-based comp	60.3	11.8	26.7	12.6	12.3	63.4	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	50.0	50.0	50.0
Adjusted EBIT	\$1,064.2	\$263.7	\$284.5	\$284.2		\$1,187.9	\$254.3	\$258.4	\$310.7	\$382.5			\$1,309.2
(+) Depreciation & Amortization	200.6	47.8	48.8	53.8	48.9	199.3	52.5	52.5	52.5	•	210.0	210.0	210.0
Adjusted EBITDA	\$1,264.8	\$311.5	\$333.3	\$338.0	\$404.4		\$306.8	\$310.9	\$363.2	\$435.0		\$1,469.5	
Margin Analysis	\$1,204.0	-86.60	113.96	-12.82	304.23	\$1,367.2	-351.03	60.00	100.00		\$1,413.5	\$1,405.5	31,313.2
Gross Margin	35.8%	36.0%	37.1%	37.0%	40.0%	37.6%	<b>36.5%</b>	37.1%	38.1%	41.3%	38.3%	38.5%	38.8%
Total SG&A % Sales	21.4%	21.5%	22.9%	22.1%	22.3%	22.2%	22.5%	23.5%	21.9%	21.9%	22.4%	22.4%	22.4%
Operating Margin	14.4%	14.5%	14.2%	14.9%	17.8%	15.4%	14.0%	13.6%	16.3%	19.5%	15.9%	16.1%	16.4%
Operating Margin (revenue driver)	14.4%	14.5%	14.2%	14.9%	17.8%	15.4%	14.4%	14.3%	15.9%	18.7%	15.9%	16.1%	16.5%
Adjusted EBIT margin	16.8%	16.8%	17.1%	16.9%	20.3%	17.8%	16.4%	15.9%	18.5%	21.6%	18.2%	18.5%	18.7%
Adjusted EBITDA margin	19.9%	19.9%	20.1%	20.1%	20.5%	20.8%	19.8%	19.1%	21.6%	24.5%	21.4%	21.6%	21.7%
,	12.9%	12.0%	11.8%	12.2%	15.5%	12.9%	11.3%	11.0%	13.7%	17.1%	13.4%	14.0%	14.3%
Pre-tax Margin	10.2%	9.4%					8.7%	8.5%				10.9%	
Net Margin (continuing ops)			9.1%	9.6%	12.0%	10.1%			10.8%	13.4%	10.4%		11.1%
Tax rate	20.9%	21.8%	22.3%	21.4%	22.3%	22.0%	23.0%	23.0%	21.5%	21.5%	22.1%	22.0%	22.0%
YoY % Change	0.50	2.004	0.007	F 661	2.401	4.007	1.10/	2.10	0.201	1 201	0.50	2.00/	2.70
Sales	0.5%	II.	8.0%		3.4%	4.9%	-1.1%	-2.1%	-0.2%		-0.5%		2.7%
Gross Profit	-9.2%		17.7%		12.3%	10.0%	0.4%	-2.1%	2.8%		1.5%		3.4%
SG&A	-3.3%	0.8%	9.0%		12.6%	8.9%	3.7%	0.3%	-1.2%		0.5%		2.8%
Operating Profit	-16.7%	-0.1%	35.2%		12.0%	11.6%	-4.4%	-6.0%	8.8%		3.1%		4.3%
Pre-tax Profit	-16.8%	-6.4%	33.4%		12.4%	5.3%	-6.8%	-8.6%	12.3%		3.1%		5.0%
Net Income (continuing ops)	-17.7%	-8.9%	27.3%	-10.3%	13.5%		-8.2%	-9.4%	12.2%		l l		5.0%
Adjusted EPS	-17.1%	-5.4%	25.4%	-6.7%	16.9%	6.5%	-6.1%	-5.2%	13.0%	10.4%	3.9%	7.2%	4.8%

**Source:** BofA Global Research estimates, MKC

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH



# Price objective basis & risk

#### McCormick & Co. (MKC)

Our \$82 PO for MKC shares is based on a CY2025e P/E multiple of 27x, within its five-year historical valuation range of 19x-42x and in-line with average of 29.5x. In our view, MKC deserves to trade in-line to its 5 year average multiple given continued China recovery, initiatives to improve Americas Consumer volumes and improved cost outlook and margin trajectory.

Downside risks to our price objective are 1) slower-than-expected category growth, 2) a loss of a major customer, 3) increased competitive activity and expanding price gaps from private label, 4) strengthening of the US dollar, 5) lower-than-expected cost savings/debt paydown, 6) disruption from implementation of the company's new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system.

Upside risks to our price objective: 1) faster-than-expected category growth, 2) rational competitive activity from private label, 3) lack of rotation from growth/momentum stocks to value stocks, 4) a weaker US dollar positively impacting reported international results, 5) greater-than-expected cost savings through its Comprehensive Continuous Improvement (CCI) program.

# **Analyst Certification**

I, Peter T. Galbo, CFA, hereby certify that the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect my personal views about the subject securities and issuers. I also certify that no part of my compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or view expressed in this research report.

**US - Consumables Coverage Cluster** 

Investment rating	Company	BofA Ticker	Bloomberg symbol	Analyst
BUY				
	BellRing Brands Inc	BRBR	BRBR US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Coca-Cola Europacific Partners plc	CCEP	CCEP US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Colgate-Palmolive Company	CL	CL US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Constellation Brands	STZ	STZ US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Coty Inc.	COTY	COTY US	Anna Lizzul
	e.l.f. Beauty	ELF	ELF US	Anna Lizzul
	Freshpet, Inc.	FRPT	FRPT US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Kenvue Inc.	KVUE	KVUE US	Anna Lizzul
	Keurig Dr Pepper	KDP	KDP US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Kraft Heinz Company	KHC	KHC US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Lamb Weston Holdings Inc	LW	LW US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	McCormick & Co.	MKC	MKC US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	Mondelez International	MDLZ	MDLZ US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Monster Beverage Corporation	MNST	MNST US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	PepsiCo	PEP	PEP US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Philip Morris International	PM	PM US	Lisa K. Lewandowski
	Pilgrim's Pride Corp.	PPC	PPC US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	The Coca Cola Company	KO	KO US	Bryan D. Spillane
	The Procter & Gamble Company	PG	PG US	Bryan D. Spillane
NEUTRAL				
	Altria Group	MO	MO US	Lisa K. Lewandowski
	Celsius Holdings Inc	CELH	CELH US	Jonathan Keypour
	Church & Dwight	CHD	CHD US	Anna Lizzul
	Clorox	CLX	CLX US	Anna Lizzul
	Conagra Brands, Inc.	CAG	CAG US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	Estee Lauder Companies Inc.	EL	EL US	Bryan D. Spillane
	General Mills	GIS	GIS US	Bryan D. Spillane
	JM Smucker Company	SJM	SJM US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	Kellanova	K	KUS	Peter T. Galbo, CFA

#### **US - Consumables Coverage Cluster**

Investment rating	Company	BofA Ticker	Bloomberg symbol	Analyst
	Molson Coors Beverage Company	TAP	TAP US	Bryan D. Spillane
	The Duckhorn Portfolio, Inc.	NAPA	NAPA US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	The Hershey Company	HSY	HSY US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Utz Brands	UTZ	UTZ US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	WK Kellogg Co	KLG	KLG US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
UNDERPERFORM				
	Brown-Forman Corporation	BFB	BF/B US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Campbell Soup Company	CPB	CPB US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	Canopy Growth	YWEED	WEED CN	Lisa K. Lewandowski
	Canopy Growth	CGC	CGC US	Lisa K. Lewandowski
	Cronos Group	YCRON	CRON CN	Lisa K. Lewandowski
	Cronos Group	CRON	CRON US	Lisa K. Lewandowski
	Dole plc	DOLE	DOLE US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Herbalife Nutrition Ltd	HLF	HLF US	Anna Lizzul
	Hormel Foods Corp.	HRL	HRL US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	Kimberly-Clark	KMB	KMB US	Anna Lizzul
	Tyson Foods, Inc.	TSN	TSN US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
RSTR				
	The Vita Coco Company, Inc.	COCO	COCO US	Bryan D. Spillane

# *IQ*method<sup>™</sup> Measures Definitions

Numerator

**Business Performance** 

Return On Capital Employed	NOPAT = (EBIT + Interest Income) $\times$ (1 - Tax Rate) + Goodwill Amortization	Total Assets – Current Liabilities + ST Debt + Accumulated Goodwill
		Amortization
Return On Equity	Net Income	Shareholders' Equity
Operating Margin	Operating Profit	Sales
Earnings Growth	Expected 5 Year CAGR From Latest Actual	N/A
Free Cash Flow	Cash Flow From Operations — Total Capex	N/A
Quality of Earnings	Numerator	Denominator
Cash Realization Ratio	Cash Flow From Operations	Net Income
Asset Replacement Ratio	Capex	Depreciation
Tax Rate	Tax Charge	Pre-Tax Income
Net Debt-To-Equity Ratio	Net Debt = Total Debt - Cash & Equivalents	Total Equity
Interest Cover	EBIT	Interest Expense
Valuation Toolkit	Numerator	Denominator
Price / Earnings Ratio	Current Share Price	Diluted Earnings Per Share (Basis As Specified)
Price / Book Value	Current Share Price	Shareholders' Equity / Current Basic Shares
Dividend Yield	Annualised Declared Cash Dividend	Current Share Price
Free Cash Flow Yield	Cash Flow From Operations – Total Capex	Market Cap = Current Share Price × Current Basic Shares
Enterprise Value / Sales	EV = Current Share Price × Current Shares + Minority Equity + Net Debt +	Sales
	Other LT Liabilities	
EV / EBITDA	Enterprise Value	Basic EBIT + Depreciation + Amortization

Denominator

Manethod 3<sup>34</sup> is the set of BofA Global Research standard measures that serve to maintain global consistency under three broad headings: Business Performance, Quality of Earnings, and validations. The key features of iQmethod are: A consistently structured, detailed, and transparent methodology. Guidelines to maximize the effectiveness of the comparative valuation process, and to identify some common pitfalls.

\*\*Relatabase\*\* is our real-time global research database that is sourced directly from our equity analysts' earnings models and includes forecasted as well as historical data for income statements, balance sheets, and cash flow statements for companies covered by BofA Global Research.

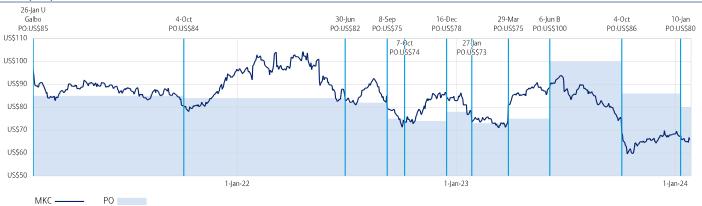
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# **Disclosures**

# **Important Disclosures**

#### McCormick (MKC) Price Chart



B: Buy, N: Neutral, U: Underperform, PO: Price Objective, NA: No longer valid, NR: No Rating

The Investment Opinion System is contained at the end of the report under the heading "Fundamental Equity Opinion Key". Dark grey shading indicates the security is restricted with the opinion suspended. Medium grey shading indicates the security is under review with the opinion withdrawn. Light grey shading indicates the security is not covered. Chart is current as of a date no more than one trading day prior to the date of the report.

#### Equity Investment Rating Distribution: Food Group (as of 31 Dec 2023)

Coverage Universe	Count	Percent	Inv. Banking Relationships R1	Count	Percent
Buy	33	49.25%	Buy	16	48.48%
Hold	17	25.37%	Hold	10	58.82%
Sell	17	25.37%	Sell	8	47.06%

#### Equity Investment Rating Distribution: Global Group (as of 31 Dec 2023)

Coverage Universe	Count	Percent	Inv. Banking Relationships R1	Count	Percent
Buy	1895	53.62%	Buy	1083	57.15%
Hold	832	23.54%	Hold	454	54.57%
Sell	807	22.84%	Sell	383	47.46%
Discourse and the second secon					

R1 Issuers that were investment banking clients of BofA Securities or one of its affiliates within the past 12 months. For purposes of this Investment Rating Distribution, the coverage universe includes only stocks. A stock rated Neutral is included as a Hold, and a stock rated Underperform is included as a Sell.

FUNDAMENTAL EQUITY OPINION KEY: Opinions include a Volatility Risk Rating, an Investment Rating and an Income Rating. VOLATILITY RISK RATINGS, indicators of potential price fluctuation, are: A - Low, B - Medium and C - High. INVESTMENT RATINGS reflect the analyst's assessment of both a stock's absolute total return potential as well as its attractiveness for investment relative to other stocks within its Coverage Cluster (defined below). Our investment ratings are: 1 - Buy stocks are expected to have a total return of at least 10% and are the most attractive stocks in the coverage cluster; 2 - Neutral stocks are expected to remain flat or increase in value and are less attractive than Buy rated stocks and 3 - Underperform stocks are the least attractive stocks in a coverage cluster. An investment rating of 6 (No Rating) indicates that a stock is no longer trading on the basis of fundamentals. Analysts assign investment ratings considering, among other things, the 0-12 month total return expectation for a stock and the firm's guidelines for ratings dispersions (shown in the table below). The current price objective for a stock should be referenced to better understand the total return expectation at any given time. The price objective reflects the analyst's view of the potential price appreciation (depreciation).

# Investment rating Total return expectation (within 12-month period of date of initial rating) Ratings dispersion guidelines for coverage cluster<sup>R2</sup>

Buy	≥ 10%	≤ 70%
Neutral	≥ 0%	≤ 30%
Indernerform	N/A	> 20%

Ratings dispersions may vary from time to time where BofA Global Research believes it better reflects the investment prospects of stocks in a Coverage Cluster.

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