

Boise Cascade Company

4Q Flash: LVL and I-joists vols better, driving Wood Products

Maintain Rating: UNDERPERFORM | PO: 132.00 USD | Price: 135.87 USD

BCC EPS of \$2.44 vs. BofA at \$2.37 & Street at \$2.58

Boise Cascades (BCC; U/P) reported 4Q EPS of \$2.44 which was above BofAE at \$2.37 but lower than the Street at \$2.58 (Visible Alpha). Adj. EBITDA of \$160.6mn was in line our forecast at \$160.8mn (Street at \$166.0mn). We maintain our Underperform rating on BCC as we anticipate earnings will decline somewhat into '24 and '25 on lower wood pricing and slower homebuilding/remodeling activity.

'24 Guide: higher capital expenditures...

Looking out for 1Q and 2024, BCC stated that even though renovation spending looks to be improving, it is still forecasting mid-single digit declines in spending for 2024. BCC is optimistic for y/y growth in single-family starts and the possibility of future decreases in rates. Along with the normal "macro" commentary, BCC's share price will likely be impacted by investors' views of the 1Q24 step-off point for the building season and whether Wood can hold margins. Additionally, accretion from the recently-closed Brockway-Smith Company (BROSCO) acquisition will likely continue to be a factor for the shares. Overall, for 1Q24, we expect \$2.50 in EPS along with \$167.9mn in EBITDA. As for guidance, BCC expects 2024 capital expenditures of \$250-270mn (vs. BofAE currently at ~\$150mn). We plan to inquire during BCC's conference call.

Wood products drove the quarter

At the segment level, Wood Products EBITDA was \$92.7mn vs. our forecast at \$80.2mn est, a +15.5% variance. Wood products revenue was driven by higher sales volumes for I-joists and LVL which were ahead of forecasts. In Building Materials Distribution (BMD), EBITDA of \$80.6mn was \$9.5mn lower than our forecast of \$90.1mn. EBITDA margin was also lower than our estimates by 60bps. BMD's revenue trend was driven by a sales volume increase of 13% y/y, while sales price decreased -10% y/y. By product line, commodity sales decreased by -32%, general line sales decreased by -4%, and EWP sales decreased by -16%. Separately, corporate adj. EBITDA was (-\$12.7mn) vs. our (\$9.8mn) estimate.

20 February 2024

Equity

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Stock Data

 Price
 135.87 USD

 Price Objective
 132.00 USD

 Date Established
 2-Jan-2024

 Investment Opinion
 B-3-7

 52-Week Range
 54.49 USD - 143.56 USD

 Mrkt Val (mn) / Shares Out
 5,373 USD / 39.5

(mn)

Free Float 98.7%
Average Daily Value (mn) 29.53 USD
BofA Ticker / Exchange BCC / NYS
Bloomberg / Reuters BCC US / BCC.N
ROE (2023E) 22.7%
Net Dbt to Eqty (Dec-2022A) -26.9%

ESGMeterTM Medium

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Refer to important disclosures on page 3 to 5. Analyst Certification on page 2. Price
Objective Basis/Risk on page 2.

Timestamp: 20 February 2024 06:55PM EST

Price objective basis & risk

Boise Cascade Company (BCC)

Our \$132 PO is based on the average of (a) a free cash flow (FCF) valuation based on our estimate of \$400mn in FCF, a calculated cost of equity of 11% and forecast rate of growth of 3%, (b) a sum-of-the-parts (SOTP) value that values BCC's Wood segment at 6x EBITDA (which is consistent with Wood multiples at this stage of the cycle) and 0.8x sales while its Building Materials Distribution segment will be valued at 8x and 0.5x, respectively. We then discount this valuation back to derive our 12 month PO.

Downside risks to our price objective being achieved are: (1) a slower housing recovery, (2) downwards commodity pricing volatility, (3) demand, supply-chain, (4) distribution business inventory and inflation trends, (5) potential volatility in actual performance relative to consensus given operating and financial leverage, (6) potential increases in Brazilian exports of plywood to the US.

Upside risks are: (1) increases in single and multi-family construction, and/or greater-than-expected usage of BCC products in construction, (2) upwards commodity pricing volatility, (3) reduced imports of plywood from Brazil.

BCC is impacted by numerous macro, inflation, currency and other considerations. To the extent that the points above are more negative than expected, BCC's results and stock price could wind up below our forecasts. Similarly, to the extent that the points above are more positive than expected, BCC results and stock price could wind up above our forecasts.

Analyst Certification

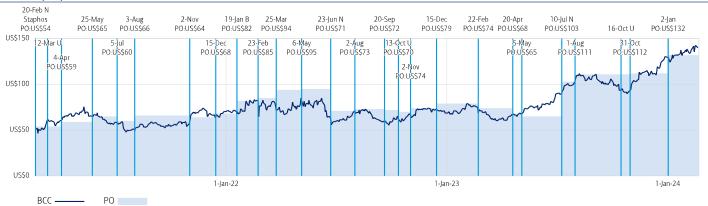
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Boise Cascade (BCC) Price Chart



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

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Equity Investment Rating Distribution: Paper/Forest Products Group (as of 31 Dec 2023)

Coverage Universe	Count	Percent	Inv. Banking Relationships R1	Count	Percent
Buy	9	45.00%	Buy	8	88.89%
Hold	2	10.00%	Hold	1	50.00%
Sell	9	45.00%	Sell	5	55.56%

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%

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Investment rating Total return expectation (within 12-month period of date of initial rating) Ratings dispersion guidelines for coverage cluster^{R2}

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

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