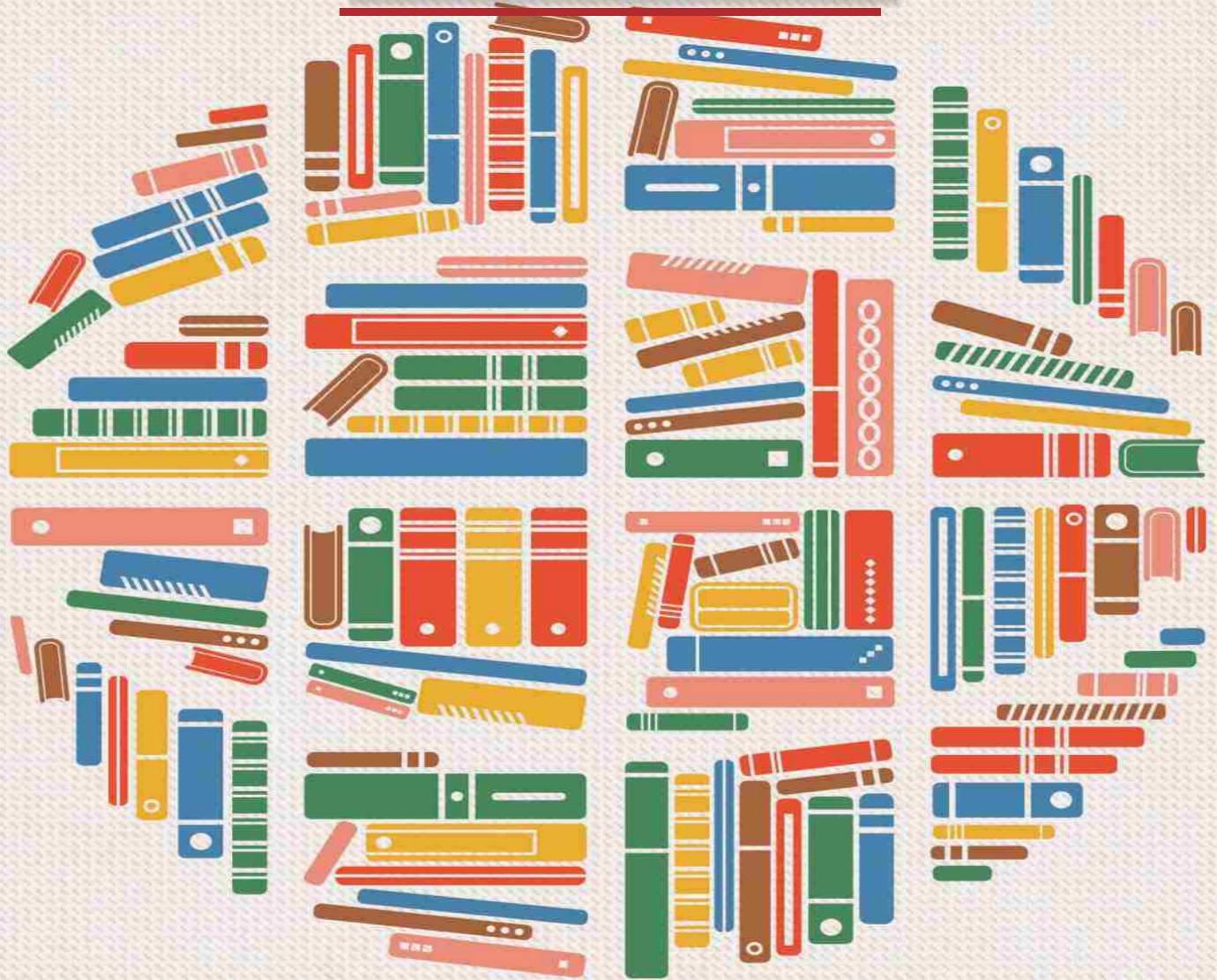


Stock TALES



Stock Tales are concise, holistic stock reports across wider spectrum of sectors. Updates will not be periodical but based on significant events or change in price.

Rail business to enhance financial performance...

GDL has a diversified presence in logistics verticals like container train operators (CTO), cold chain logistics, container freight stations. Expected commissioning of Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) will position its CTO business in a sweet spot with multiple improvement in operational parameters enabling sustained revenue growth coupled with improved margins owing to enhanced operational efficiencies. Also, a gradual recovery of CFS segment and enhanced profitable growth in cold chain logistics (enhanced utilisation & better profitability owing to increased focus on pharma, other value added user industries) would lead to improved financial performance in FY20-23E. We estimate a revenue, EBITDA, PAT CAGR of 5%, 9%, 15% to ₹ 1493 crore, ₹ 406 crore, ₹ 159 crore, respectively, with accentuated margin profile of 27% in FY23E (vs. 24% in FY20).

CTO segment to augment profitability

DFC is expected to be connected to Pipavav port and Mundra port in Gujarat by Q1FY22 and end of Q3FY22, respectively. This should benefit CTOs like GDL in terms of higher volume growth. DFC is likely to enhance the operational metrics of CTOs with enhanced visibility on delivery time due to time tabled freight trains and higher share of double stacked trains enabling better operational efficiencies, among other triggers. GDL's CTO segment is seeing stronger profitability owing to better turnaround time (EBITDA per TeU expected at ~₹ 8300 in FY21). We expect GDL's rail volumes to grow at a CAGR of 8% in FY20-23E and EBITDA per TeU to be in the range of ~₹ 9000-9200 in FY20-23E, enabling a rail EBITDA CAGR of 17%.

Deleveraging to improve return ratios

GDL has been actively lowering its gross debt position, which reached a high of ~ ₹ 740 crore in FY19 (due to buyback of Blackstone's entire stake in the rail segment for ₹ 850 crore) and is expected at ~₹ 500 crore in FY21. A strong balance sheet combined with strategically located infrastructure will help GDL to capitalise on future growth opportunities and improve its return ratios. We expect the RoE and RoCE profile to improve from 7.2%, 11.8% in FY20 to 10.4%, 17.8% in FY23E, respectively.

Valuation & Outlook

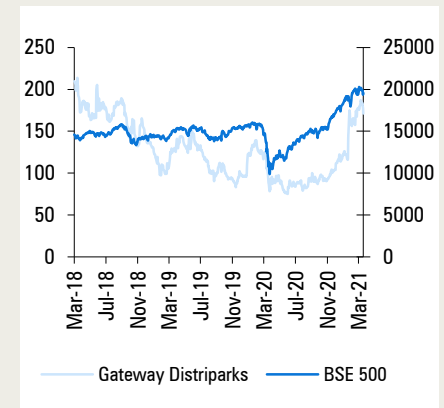
Post a rebound in port container volumes from October 2020 onwards, the container rail segment has witnessed normalisation in YoY performance (seeing double digit growth in Exim segment since November). GDL's capex is expected to remain in a rangebound territory (₹ 50-150 crore) and will be mainly spent in developing secondary feeder terminals, as DFC continues to build efficiency into rail transportation (same volume of cargo can be carried in lesser number of trains with higher turnaround times, increased speed and double stacking). Stable revenue growth and enhanced margins would translate into strong FCF generation (>11% yield in FY23E) and debt reduction (D/E: 0.2x in FY23E). We expect RoCE augmentation of 600 bps over FY20-23E to 17.8%. Gateway Distriparks stays a structural long term growth story in the logistics landscape. We ascribe a **BUY** rating to the stock with a target price of ₹ 240 (19x FY23E EPS).



Particulars

Market Capitalisation (₹ cr)	2,247.0
Debt (FY20) (₹ cr)	698.4
Cash (FY20) (₹cr)	8.6
EV (₹ cr)	2,936.9
52 Week High / Low (₹)	189/69
Equity Capital (₹ cr)	124.8
Face Value (₹ cr)	10.0

Price Performance



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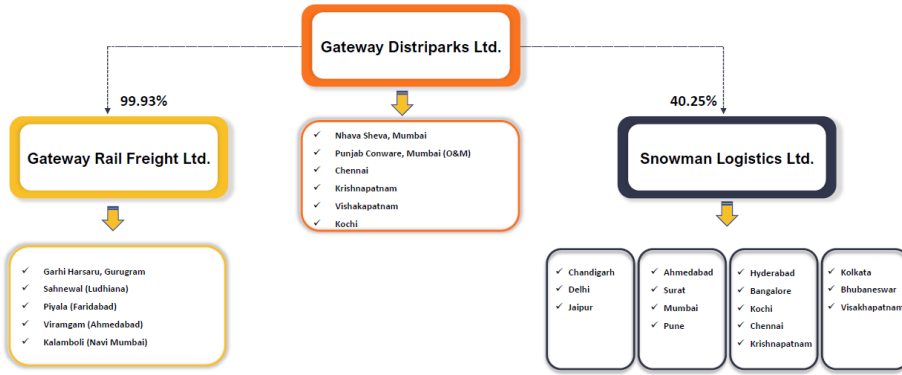
Key Financial Summary

₹ crore	FY19	FY20	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E	CAGR
Net Sales	430.6	1,292.0	1,119.8	1,287.1	1,493.3	36.5%
EBITDA	82.4	313.4	293.4	347.5	406.2	49.0%
PAT	365.1	103.0	67.2	112.7	158.5	-18.8%
P/E (x)	6.2	21.8	33.4	19.9	14.2	
M.Cap/Sales (x)	5.2	1.7	2.0	1.7	1.5	
RoCE (%)	3.0	11.8	11.5	14.8	17.8	
RoE (%)	6.4	7.2	5.0	8.0	10.4	

Company Background

Incorporated in 1994, Gateway Distriparks (GDL) is a leading integrated intermodal logistics facilitator in India. GDL operates in varied segments of logistics industry viz. container freight stations (CFS), container train operations (CTO) and cold chain logistics.

Exhibit 1: Business structure



Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 2: Facilities: ICDs and CFS



Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 3: Asset base

Key Metrics	Equipment Bank
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CFS Capacity – 7,00,000 lacs TEUs p.a. ICD Capacity – 7,00,000 lacs TEUs p.a. Close & Open Total Warehouse Capacity – ~1,60,000 sq. mt. Reefer Plug Points – 500 Employee Strength - ~590 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train Sets – 31 (21 owned) Tractor Trailers – 531 Reach Stackers – 50 Hydra Cranes – 9

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

GDL operates six container freight stations (CFS) in Nhava Sheva, Chennai, Vishakhapatnam, Kochi and Krishnapatnam. Through its CFS, GDL offers transportation, storage, bonded & general warehousing, empty handling & storage, refer containers and several value added services (VAS). It has a total capacity of 7,20,000 TEU at key Indian ports, which serve as a gateway to India.

Exhibit 4: CFS infrastructure

	Nava Sheva, Mumbai	Punjab Conware, Mumbai (O&M)	Chennai	Vishakhapatnam	Kochi	Krishnapatnam
Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plot area of ~1,41,700 sqmt; Paved area: 87,000 sqmt; Covered warehouse area: 43,000 sqmt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paved area 60,000 sqmt 4 covered warehouses: 3 6,000 sqmt Bonded warehouse: 5,120 sqmt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paved area: 6,00,000 sqft Covered warehouse area: 70,000 sqft 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paved Area: 60,000 sqmt Open yard for empty container: 4000 sqmt Ultra modern warehouse: 28,000 sqft 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plot Area of ~26,300 sqmt Covered area of 13,500 sqft for export and import cargo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land area ~93,000 acres Paved area 2,15,600 sqft
Capacity (TEU's)	216,000	1,20,000	1,50,000	70,000	50,000	50,000
Warehouse Capacity (in Sq. mtr.)	~43,000	~41,200	6,500	3,000	1,000	~4,600
Bonded Warehouse	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Reefer Points	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

On the container train operators segment, GDL diversified into container train operations after the sector opened to private players in 2007. Since then, it has become the largest private container train operator among 15 other players. It operates its rail and inland container depot (ICD) businesses through a subsidiary – Gateway Rail Freight (GRFL) – which has a fleet of 31 rakes (21 owned), 531 owned road trailers, and four ICDs in Gurgaon, Faridabad, Mumbai and Ludhiana. It operates regular container train service from ICDs to the maritime ports at Nhava Sheva, Mundra and Pipavav, transporting Exim as well as domestic containers. GRFL also operates a dedicated refrigerated container train service between NCR and Navi Mumbai. All its facilities are in the north-west region of India, which contributes to significant portion of container traffic on the west coast.

Exhibit 5: ICD infrastructure

	Garhi Harsaru, Gurugram	Piyala, Faridabad	Sahnewal, Ludhiana	Viramgam, Ahmedabad	Kalamboli Domestic Terminal, Navi Mumbai
Land (Acres)	90	65	60	40	15
Installed Capacity (TEU's)	2,50,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	1,00,000	50,000
Design Capacity (TEU's)	5,00,000	3,00,000	3,00,000	2,00,000	1,00,000
Warehouse Capacity (in Sq. mtr.)	21,500	14,370	4,500	2,400	4,500
Bonded Warehouse	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Reefer Points	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Train Services	Daily Service to Mundra and Pipavav Alternate Day Service to Nhava Sheva Alternate Day Service to Kalamboli			-	-
Coverage	North India Hub; NCR, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh particularly Gurgaon, Manesar, Bhiwadi, Bawal, Dharuhera Industrial areas	Delhi Agra Industrial belt including Faridabad, Palwal, NOIDA, Greater Noida	Punjab, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, Uttrakhand and Uttar Pradesh	Second Hub in western part closer to the Port locations	Terminal in Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) for empty container sourcing and Domestic / Cabotage Cargo
Market Share	~13%		~35%		

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

GDL also has a presence in cold chain logistics through its associate company Snowman Logistics (SLL), which got listed on the stock exchanges in 2014. SLL is India’s leading integrated temperature-controlled logistics service provider. Snowman has state of the art infrastructure at prime locations across 15 cities. The current capacity is ~ 107000 pallets with owned fleet of 300 refrigerated vehicles.

Exhibit 6: Cold chain infrastructure



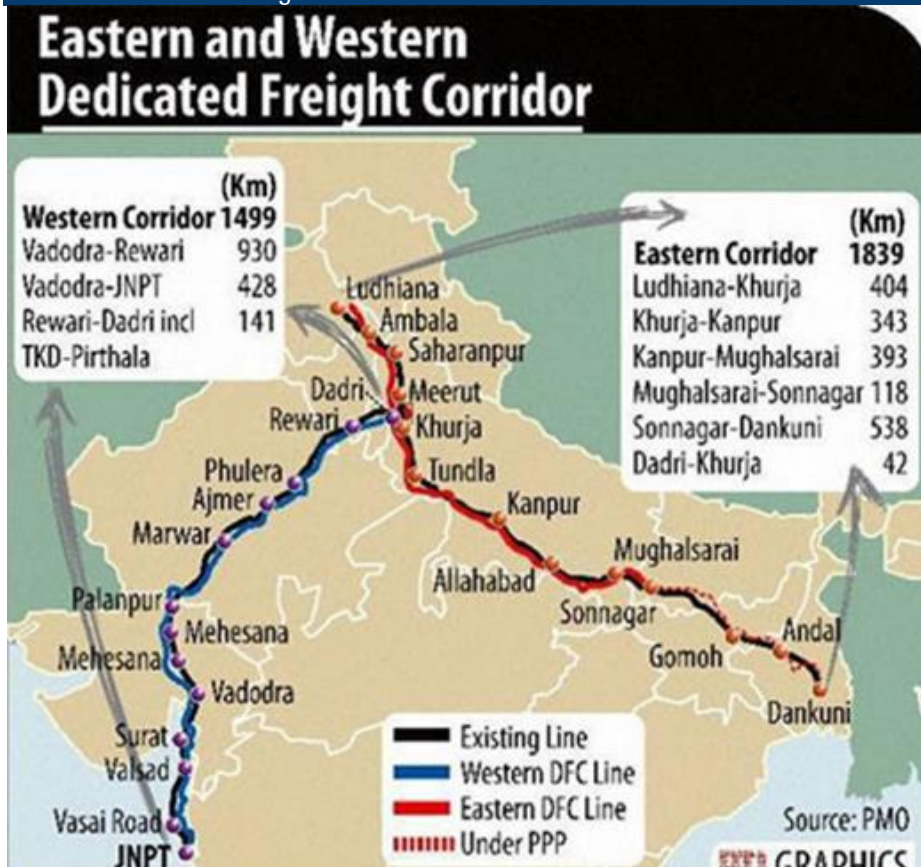
Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Investment rationale

Western dedicated freight corridor to provide multiple triggers

In a move, which reflected readiness of CTOs along the DFC, GDL deployed its double stacked train in a python configuration (1.5 km) along with another operator on electrified section between New Ateli (Haryana) and New Kishangarh (Rajasthan) station on the Western DFC route. The entire route once ready would link up major ports in western India (Adani Ports, Gujarat Pipavav, JNPT, etc) to the northern hinterlands of India. Domestic manufacturing industries would get faster and cheaper access to the national and international markets. Commercialisation of the WDFC network, along-with feeder route connectivity to Gujarat Pipavav Port is expected to commence in Q1FY22.

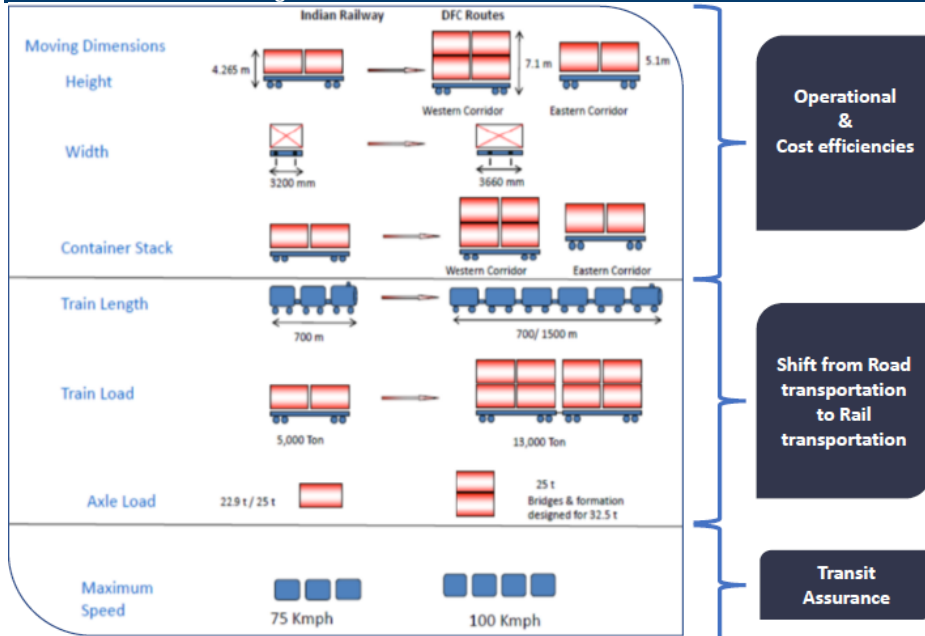
Exhibit 7: Dedicated Freight Corridors



Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

During FY21, the pandemic provided a snapshot of DFC, due to lower passenger traffic along the conventional Indian railways network. Turnaround times came down from 72 hours to ~48 hours including at the terminal end. System turnaround time also came down from 7.2 to 4.8 days. DFC, once commercialised, would provide additional advantage in further lowering of turnaround times. Also, double stacking of containers with increased speed is expected to aid on the margins front (lower empties and higher operating leverage). Further, higher lead distance is expected to further drive improvement in margins.

Exhibit 8: Dedicated freight corridors

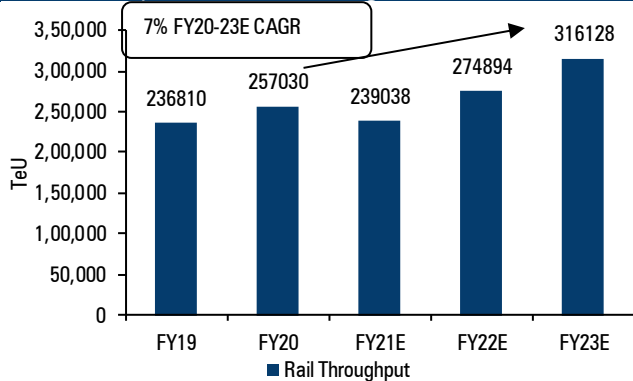


Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Shift in road to rail traffic to aid in stronger volume growth

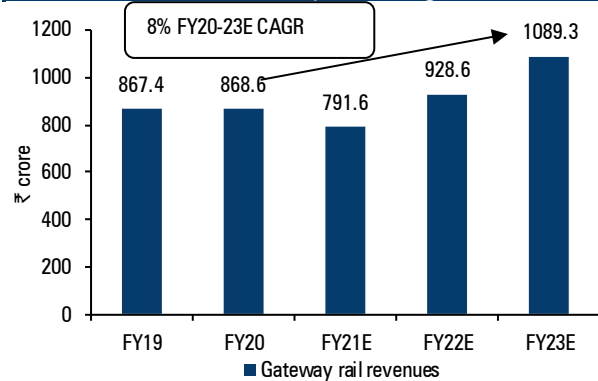
Better turnaround times, higher speed, time tabled running of freight trains would provide incentive for shipping lines to push higher volumes of cargo towards rail. Currently, the share of rail in overall cargo is at 30-35%, which is expected to reach 45% in coming years. Rising diesel prices is further helping CTOs over road players due to greater value provided by rail to customers over longer distances (more efficiency and lower costs). Time-tabled operations and multiple ICDs in the hinterland would provide easy access and more control to customers (more real-time information, proximity to operations/manufacturing sites, etc), leading to greater push by shipping lines towards rail ICDs in the hinterlands. Also, instead of getting service directly from the port via DPD (which requires returning of empty containers back to the port in 14 days) the customer can make use of the 14 days free period at the nearest ICDs provided by shipping lines. We expect GDL's rail volumes, revenues to grow at 7%, 8% CAGR (FY20-23E) to 3.2 lakh TeUs, ₹ 1089 crore, respectively.

Exhibit 9: Expect rail volumes to grow at 7% CAGR



Source: ICICI Direct Research, Company

Exhibit 10: Rail revenues expected to grow at 8% CAGR



Source: ICICI Direct Research, Company

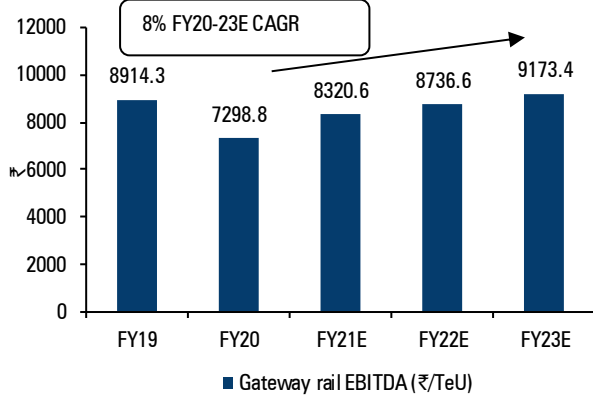
Strategically located ICDs enabling sustained business growth

GDL has five intermodal terminals built on owned lands at strategic locations, on the Indian railway network to enable double stack container movement. It is also close to manufacturing hubs at Gujarat, NCR and Punjab. GDL regularly runs trains between JNPT, Mundra, Pipavav and hinterlands ICDs in North India. The terminals have further scope of expansion (double the existing installed capacity of 7 million TeUs). Terminals at key North-West locations also allow for greater lead distances for GDL, thereby contributing to higher realisations for the company (30000+ /TeUs), compared to its bigger competitor. Reliable service by GDL to its customers through ICDs at Garhi Harsaru, Faridabad, Ludhiana and Virangam has been pivotal in maintaining GDL's market-share at 13% (NCR) and 35% (Ludhiana), in spite of the rising competition.

EBITDA/TeU double that of biggest competitor

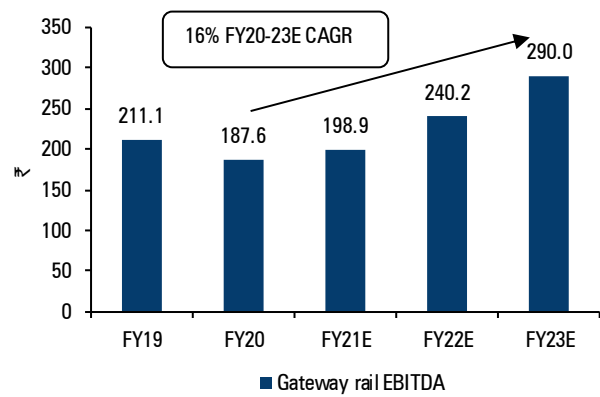
EBITDA/TeU in GDL's rail business reached ₹ 9000 in Q3FY21 (more than double its bigger competitor Concor), due to continued volume improvement and turnaround times (a one-time rebate by Indian rail on haulage charges also contributed, applicable till April 2021). In the near term, the management expects the EBITDA/TeU to revert to ₹ 8200 given current circumstances of both better turnaround times and organised movement between Garhi Harsaru to Virangam to Mundra Port and Pipavav. More double stack due to higher volumes, will further save on haulage charges (calculated on per train basis) and also reduce empty container charges, thereby positively impacting EBITDA. We expect the rail EBITDA/TeU and absolute rail EBITDA to grow at 8%, 16% CAGR (FY20-23E) to ₹ 9174/TeU and ₹ 290 crore, respectively.

Exhibit 11: Gateway rail EBITDA/TeU expected at ₹ 9000/level



Source: ICICI Direct Research, Company

Exhibit 12: Rail EBITDA expected to grow at 16% CAGR

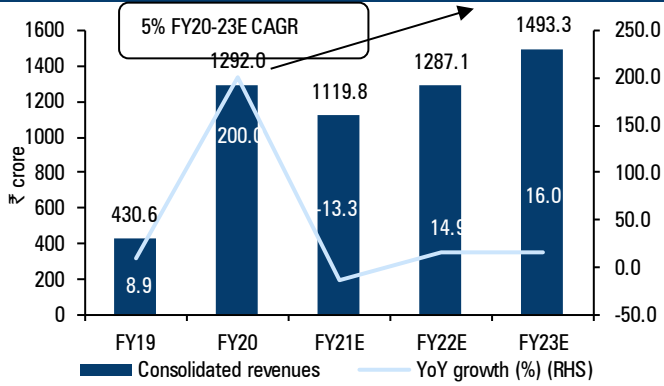


Source: ICICI Direct Research, Company

Snowman performance expected to remain on strong footing

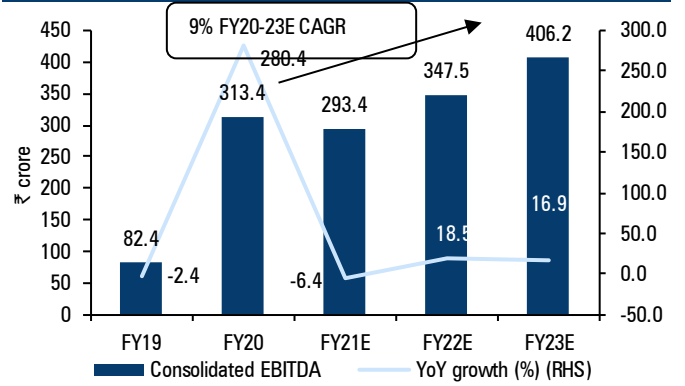
Capacity utilisation levels for Snowman Logistics continued to remain healthy in FY21YTD, at 80-85% levels. Further, Snowman continues to improve its business MoM. The company is undertaking expansion plans at Siliguri, Coimbatore, Krishnapatnam and Mumbai, adding 10600 palletes to the existing capacity of more than 1.07 lakh pallets (35 warehouses) and 260+ refrigerated trucks. It operationalised the third warehouse with Amazon (back and fulfilment) in the Delhi region (first two are in Mumbai and Pune) and is in further discussion with Amazon to add extra facilities for them. It has also, developed Snowlink technology platform for aggregating refrigerated freight owners in India and integrating with Snowman operations. We expect value added services like pharma, QSR chains, processed foods, seafood to contribute greater share of Snowman’s topline.

Exhibit 13: Consolidated revenue expected to grow at 5% CAGR



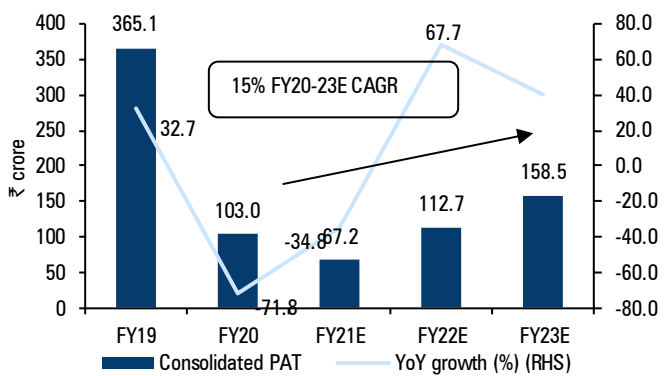
Source: ICICI Direct Research, Company

Exhibit 14: Consolidated EBITDA expected to grow at 9% CAGR



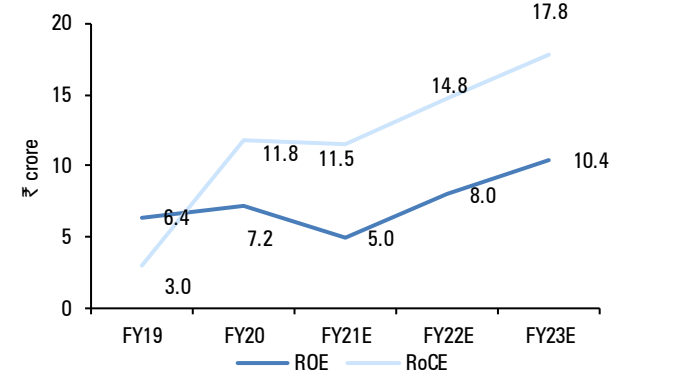
Source: ICICI Direct Research, Company

Exhibit 15: Consolidated PAT expected to grow at 15% CAGR



Source: ICICI Direct Research, Company

Exhibit 16: Return ratios showing improving trend



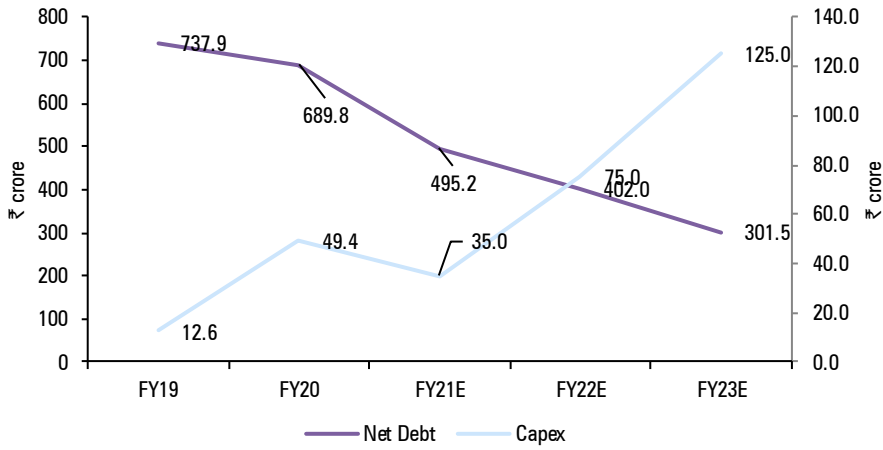
Source: ICICI Direct Research, Company

Continued debt reduction amid rangebound capex

GDL currently has a fleet size of 21 owned trains and 10 leased trains. With better utilisation and higher turnaround times, the company would require fewer trains to move the current volume of cargo. The management has also delayed the acquisition of upgraded wagons until they get certified to run at 100 km/hr (current fleet can carry up to 22.9 tonnes load per axle and run at 100 km/hr). From the point of view of ICDs, GDL plans to invest in two to three terminals (total ₹ 200 crore) in the next two to three years. The proceeds would be used to develop satellite terminals (35 acres terminal), which will feed into primary double stack hub at Garhi Harsaru (NCR).

On the debt side, consolidated net-debt was at ₹ 494 crore as on December 31, 2020 vs. ₹ 681 crore as on April 1, 2020, well ahead of planned reduction. The company is making efforts to bring it down further. We further expect the D/E ratio to move towards a comfortable 0.2x in FY23.

Exhibit 17: Movement of capex and net debt



Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Key risk & concerns

Increase in competitive intensity

Though Gateway Distriparks is the largest private player in the CTO segment, it faces competition from industry leader Container Corporation and other players like Adani Logistics who are looking to expand their presence in the segment. An increase in competitive intensity either through aggressive pricing/discounting could impact revenue growth and profitability of Gateway Distriparks.

Delay in commissioning of DFC, other DFC related issues

Any delay in execution of DFC can negatively impact the expected volume growth for GDL. Also, if railways decide to levy a higher-than-expected charge for DFC, it could impact the expected profitability. However, since the focus of IR is expected to enhance its market share, we believe IR would keep the rates competitive.

Improvement in road infrastructure can delay modal shift from road to rail

Enhanced investment in improving the country's road infrastructure can improve the competitiveness of road vs. rail as better road infrastructure can enable road players to improve transit times and offer competitive rates. The same can negatively impact the expected modal shift from road to rail.

Financial Summary

Exhibit 18: Profit & loss statement

(Year-end March)/ (₹ crore)	FY20	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
Total Operating Income	1,292.0	1,119.8	1,287.1	1,493.3
Growth (%)	200.0	-13.3	14.9	16.0
Operating expenses	819.8	677.5	772.3	896.0
Gross Profit	472.3	442.3	514.8	597.3
Gross Profit Margins (%)	36.6	39.5	40.0	40.0
Employee Expenses	59.8	63.8	69.5	77.6
Other Expenditure	99.1	85.1	97.8	113.5
Total Operating Expenditure	978.6	826.4	939.6	1,087.1
EBITDA	313.4	293.4	347.5	406.2
Growth (%)	280.4	-6.4	18.5	16.9
Interest	102.6	78.3	66.2	54.1
Depreciation	133.3	138.7	148.8	161.4
Other Income	17.6	14.6	19.3	22.4
PBT before Exceptional Items	95.1	91.0	151.8	213.1
Less: Exceptional Items	-8.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
PBT after Exceptional Items	103.1	91.0	151.8	213.1
Total Tax	-6.3	22.9	38.2	53.6
PAT before MI	109.4	68.1	113.6	159.4
Minority Interest	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Profit from Associates	-5.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
PAT	103.0	67.2	112.7	158.5
PAT Growth (%)	-65.7	-34.8	67.7	40.7
EPS (Adjusted)	7.6	5.4	9.0	12.7

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 19: Cash flow statement

(Year-end March)/ (₹ crore)	FY20	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
Profit/(Loss) after taxation	103.0	67.2	112.7	158.5
Add: Depreciation & Amortization	133.3	138.7	148.8	161.4
Add: Interest Paid	102.6	78.3	66.2	54.1
Net Increase in Current Assets	-3.8	84.2	-18.3	-22.6
Net Increase in Current Liabilities	13.1	2.8	16.1	19.3
Others	-38.1	2.1	-5.4	-5.4
CF from Operating activities	310.1	373.3	320.0	365.4
(Purchase)/Sale of Fixed Assets	-49.4	-35.0	-75.0	-125.0
Long term Loans & Advances	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Investments	30.1	20.0	0.0	0.0
Others	-109.3	-100.9	-125.4	-175.8
CF from Investing activities	-79.1	-80.9	-125.4	-175.8
(inc)/Dec in Loan	-69.4	-190.0	-100.0	-100.0
Dividend & Dividend tax	-52.4	-50.8	-50.8	-50.8
Less: Interest Paid	-86.5	-63.0	-50.6	-38.2
Other	-44.0	16.1	0.0	0.0
CF from Financing activities	-252.4	-287.7	-201.4	-189.0
Net Cash Flow	-21.4	4.6	-6.8	0.5
Cash and Cash Equivalent at the beginning	30.0	8.6	13.2	6.4
Cash and Cash Equivalent at the end	8.6	13.2	6.4	6.9

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 20: Balance Sheet

(Year-end March)	FY20	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
Equity Capital	108.7	124.8	124.8	124.8
Reserve and Surplus	1,208.0	1,224.4	1,286.3	1,394.1
Total Shareholders funds	1,316.7	1,349.2	1,411.1	1,518.9
Minority Interest	10.6	10.6	10.6	10.6
Total Debt	698.4	508.4	408.4	308.4
Deferred Tax Liability	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8
Long-Term Provisions	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
Other Non Current Liabilities	201.2	182.8	186.5	190.2
Source of Funds	2,232.1	2,056.3	2,021.8	2,033.3
Gross Block - Fixed Assets	2,196.4	2,251.4	2,366.4	2,531.4
Accumulated Depreciation	236.5	375.2	524.0	685.3
Net Block	1,959.9	1,876.2	1,842.4	1,846.0
Capital WIP	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4
Fixed Assets	1,965.3	1,881.6	1,847.8	1,851.4
Investments	31.8	11.8	11.8	11.8
Goodwill on Consolidation	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Deferred Tax Assets	32.0	38.4	38.4	38.4
Other non-Current Assets	192.0	195.9	199.8	203.8
Inventory	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Debtors	129.8	122.7	141.1	163.6
Loans and Advances	59.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other Current Assets	17.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cash	8.6	13.2	6.4	6.9
Total Current Assets	215.5	135.9	147.4	170.6
Creditors	91.5	92.0	105.8	122.7
Provisions	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other Current Liabilities	113.0	115.2	117.5	119.9
Total Current Liabilities	204.4	207.3	223.3	242.6
Net Current Assets	11.0	-71.4	-75.9	-72.1
Application of Funds	2,232.1	2,056.3	2,021.8	2,033.3

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 21: Key ratios

(Year-end March)	FY20	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
Per share data (₹)				
Reported EPS	8.3	5.4	9.0	12.7
BV per share	105.5	108.1	113.0	121.7
Cash per Share	0.7	1.1	0.5	0.6
Dividend per share	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1
Operating Ratios (%)				
Gross Profit Margins	36.6	39.5	40.0	40.0
EBITDA margins	24.3	26.2	27.0	27.2
PAT Margins	7.3	6.0	8.8	10.6
Inventory days	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Debtor days	36.7	40.0	40.0	40.0
Creditor days	25.8	30.0	30.0	30.0
Asset Turnover	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6
Return Ratios (%)				
RoE	7.2	5.0	8.0	10.4
RoCE	11.8	11.5	14.8	17.8
RoIC	11.0	10.8	13.8	16.7
Valuation Ratios (x)				
P/E	21.8	33.4	19.9	14.2
EV / EBITDA	9.4	9.3	7.6	6.3
EV / Net Sales	2.3	2.4	2.1	1.7
Market Cap / Sales	1.7	2.0	1.7	1.5
Price to Book Value	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.5
Solvency Ratios				
Debt / EBITDA	2.2	1.7	1.2	0.8
Debt / Equity	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2
Current Ratio	1.0	0.6	0.6	0.7

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

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Buy: >15%

Hold: -5% to 15%;

Reduce: -15% to -5%;

Sell: <-15%



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