



A GOOD PERFORMANCE

1H05 US GAAP RESULTS

Net Income Exceeds Expectations. Sibneft reported better than expected 1H05 US GAAP results yesterday. Sales rose by 43% YoY to \$5.7 bln (almost in line with our estimates), EBITDA increased by 29% YoY to \$1.9 bln (only somewhat lower than our expectations) and net income increased by 44% YoY to \$1.4 bln, surpassing our estimates by 6%.

Fundamentally Sound, Gazprom = Opportunity, Or Risk – Spec Buy.

The strong 1H05 results confirm our positive view on the company, and reaffirm our view that fundamentally the stock is undervalued. Despite of our hopes that Gazprom ownership will not impair the fundamental value of the company, and may even result in a Western strategic investors, we are aware that Gazprom as an owner may deter investors and consequently we maintain our Speculative buy recommendation.

STEADY OPERATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Output, Throughput Flat, YoY. Crude and refined product output posted essentially flat YoY at 16.6 mln tons and 8.7 mln tons, respectively.

Crude Export Volumes Rise. Crude export volumes rose 12% YoY to 7.3 mln tons and refined products export volumes rose 14% YoY to 3 mln tons.

REVENUES UP ON HIGHER EXPORTS ...

Better Prices In 2005. Higher international crude oil prices contributed to the company's 43% top line growth.

Revenues Higher Exports, Domestic Crude Sales. Export revenues surged 56% YoY to \$2.3 bln on higher export sales volumes and oil prices.

... BUT COSTS TRACK REVENUES

Costs – In Line With Our Estimates. Sibneft's total costs rose by 47% YoY to \$4.12 bln, in line with our expectation of \$4.10 bln.

Operating Expenses – Nominally Higher Than Expected. Operating expenses rose 31% YoY to \$1.2 bln, exceeding our estimates of \$1.1 bln.

SG&A Pleasantly Surprised. SG&A expenses increased by 22% YoY to \$0.7 bln, less than we had forecasted.

Taxes – A Big Bite. Taxes other than income tax surged 91% YoY to \$1.8 bln due to a boost in the mineral extraction tax and export tariffs.

STILL, STEADILY PROFITABLE

EBITDA Margin Deteriorated EBITDA increased 29% YoY to \$1.9 bln, while EBITDA margin declined to 34% from 37% in 1H04.

Strong Bottom Line Growth. Net income rose by 44% YoY to \$1.4 bln benefiting from the top line growth and non-operating items.

SPEC BUY

| | | | | |
|------------|----------|------------------|----------|------|
| Price, \$ | 3.60 | Target Price, \$ | 4.10 | |
| 52 Wk Hi | 4.00 | 52 Wk Lo | 2.60 | |
| MC, \$ mln | 17,069 | sh, mln | 4,741.30 | |
| P/S | 1.9 | P/B | 2.4 | |
| Reuters | SIBN.RTS | Bloomberg | SIBN RU | |
| | 03 | 04 | 05E | 06E |
| EPS, \$/sh | 0.48 | 0.43 | 0.49 | 0.43 |
| P/E | 7.5 | 8.3 | 7.4 | 8.3 |
| EV/EBITDA | 6.1 | 4.4 | 4.0 | 4.4 |

Source: RTS, URALSIB estimates

Net Income Above Expectations 1H05 US GAAP Results, \$ Mln

| | 1H04 | 1H05 | % YoY | 1H05E | % Diff | Cons. | % Diff to Cons. |
|---------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-----------------|
| Sales | 4,014 | 5,728 | 43 | 5,758 | (1) | 5,304 | 8 |
| EBITDA* | 1,505 | 1,944 | 29 | 2,010 | (3) | 1,839 | 6 |
| EBITDA margin | 35 | 34 | | 35 | | 35 | |
| Net income | 988 | 1,422 | 44 | 1,346 | 6 | 1,230 | 16 |
| Net margin | 34 | 25 | | 24 | | 23 | |

* Excl. Slavneft

Source: Sibneft, Bloomberg, URALSIB

Riding Gazprom Sibneft Vs RTS, \$



Source: RTS

Note: Market data as of 4 October 2005

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5 October 2005



STEADY OPERATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Production, Throughput Growth Flat, YoY. Sibneft struggled to prevent production from declining. Partially successful, production posted flat YoY at 16.6 mln tons in 1H05. Additionally, refined product output also came in essentially flat YoY at 8.74 mln tons.

Crude Export Volumes Rise ... On the back of high international oil prices, Sibneft continued to export a large portion of its crude output, exporting 44% in 1H05. Crude export volumes rose by 12% YoY to 7.3 mln tons and oil product export volumes rose by 14% YoY to 3 mln tons.

... Expecting 2005 Production To Stay Flat. The 1H05 production results confirm the comments made earlier this year by company officials who said that the company's production would stay flat this year. After 2005, output growth will return to mid-single digits, due to exploration of Priobskoe field, according to the company's representatives. This is in line with our current estimates.

REVENUES UP ON HIGHER EXPORTS ...

Better Prices In 2005. The average price for Urals blend increased by 50% YoY in 1H05, which contributed to the healthy top line growth. The average realized price for crude oil exports rose by 39% YoY to \$43/bbl, while the average realized price for export oil products rose by 30% YoY to \$51/bbl.

Revenues Increase On Higher Crude Exports, Domestic Sales. Crude oil export revenues surged by 56% YoY to roughly \$2.3 bln on the back of higher export sales volumes and oil prices. Revenues from refined product exports increased by 49% YoY to \$1.12 bln, also contributing to top line growth. Additionally, oil products domestic revenues rose by 32% YoY as the average realized price for domestic refined product rose by 26% YoY to \$33/bbl. Total company's revenues increased by 43% YoY to \$5.7 bln, matching our estimates.

... BUT COSTS TRACK REVENUES

Costs – In Line With Our Estimates. Sibneft's total costs rose by 47% YoY to \$4.12 bln, almost in line with our estimates of \$4.10 bln. The main cost drivers have been growth in the taxes other than income tax that rose by 91% YoY.

Operating Expenses – Nominally Higher Than Expected. Operating expenses increased by 31% YoY to \$1.2 bln in 2004, slightly higher than our estimates of \$1.1 bln, driven primarily by higher utility costs and growth in workover operations. The lifting costs of Noyabrskneftegas, Sibneft's core production subsidiary, rose by 1.24% YoY to \$2.44 bbl in 1H05.

Exploratory Drilling 100% 'Wet'. Sibneft reported zero exploratory expenses in 1H05 against the \$54 mln in 1H04. Having virtually no exploratory expenses in 2004 implies that Sibneft drilling activities were 100% efficient in that it did not drill any dry wells in the period, as exploratory costs are expensed only when the company drills a dry well, otherwise exploratory expenses are capitalized through capex.

Strong Exports Drive Revenues Sales Breakdown, 1H05

| | 1H04 | 1H05 | % Chg YoY |
|--|--------------|--------------|-----------|
| Operations, mln. tons | | | |
| Crude production | 16.6 | 16.6 | - |
| Crude exports | 6.5 | 7.3 | 12 |
| Distillate exports | 2.6 | 3.0 | 14 |
| Domestic distillate sales | 5.5 | 5.7 | 5 |
| Revenues, \$ mln | | | |
| Crude Exports | 1,456 | 2,268 | 56 |
| Distillates exports | 753 | 1,120 | 49 |
| Crude (domestic+CIS) | 303 | 279 | (8) |
| Distillates Domestic | 1,040 | 1,369 | 32 |
| Total oil and distillates sales | 3,950 | 5,643 | 43 |

Source: Sibneft, URALSIB estimates

Total costs rose by 47% YoY to \$4.1 bln, almost in line with our expectations



SG&A Pleasantly Surprised. SG&A expenses increased by 22% YoY to \$0.7 bln – lower than our estimates – largely due to the absence of growth in social expenses.

Taxes – A Big Bite. Taxes other than income tax increased by 91% YoY to \$1.8 bln. The increase in production volumes and exports as well as higher oil prices combined to boost the mineral extraction tax. The total income tax increased by 32% YoY to \$457 mln, reducing the effective tax rate to 24% in 1H05 comparing with 26% in 1H04, anyway much higher than previous 7%, those the company used with offshore tax paying schemes. Although Russian tax authorities are currently reviewing the operations of the company for 2002-03, the management expressed an opinion in the disclosures to the 2004 financials that the ultimate resolution of this matter will not have a material impact on the company's financials.

STILL, STEADILY PROFITABLE

Margins Slightly Decline. EBITDA (excluding Slavneft) increased by 29% YoY to \$1.9 bln in the period, somewhat lower than we estimated, while EBITDA margin fell to 34% compared with 37% in 1H04. Including effect from Slavneft operations EBITDA increased by 30% YoY to \$2.3 bln, EBITDA margin also declined from 44% to 40% in the previous period.

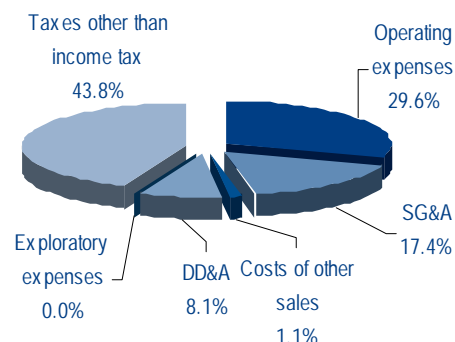
Bottom Line Rising. Sibneft's net income rose by 44% YoY in 1H05 to \$1.4 bln. The increase primarily stemmed from top line growth and non-operating income growth. The net income margin was flat at 25%.

HIGHER CAPEX, STRONG CASH FLOW

Capital Investments Up 43% YoY. Total capex increased by 43% YoY to \$480 mln, as the company invested more in exploration and production to improve production at existing wells. Sibneft expects capex to be about \$0.9-1 bln in 2005.

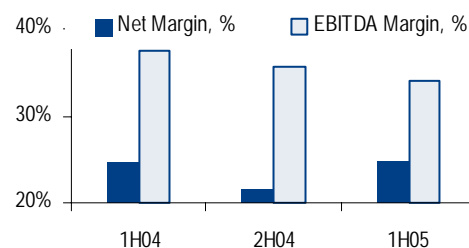
High Oil Price Boosts Cash Flow. Operating cash flow increased by 28% YoY to \$765 mln, while the total cash position of the company was \$1.5 bln.

High Taxes, Operating Expenses 1H05 Cost Breakdown



Source: Sibneft, URALSIB estimates

EBITDA Margin Declines Net, EBITDA Margins



Source: Sibneft, URALSIB estimates



Taxes Other Than Income Raise Costs

1H05 US GAAP Results, \$ Mln

| | 1H04 | 1H05 | % Chg YoY |
|--|--------------|--------------|-----------|
| Total Revenues | 4,014 | 5,728 | 43 |
| Costs and other deductions | | | |
| Operating expenses | 935 | 1,220 | 31 |
| SG&A | 587 | 717 | 22 |
| Costs of other sales | 42 | 46 | 8 |
| DD&A | 282 | 332 | 18 |
| Exploratory expenses | - | - | nm |
| Taxes other than income tax | 946 | 1,802 | 91 |
| Total | 2,792 | 4,116 | 47 |
| Operating Income | 1,222 | 1,612 | 32 |
| <i>Operating margin, %</i> | 30 | 28 | (8) |
| Interest received and other income | 4 | 11 | 165 |
| Income from sale of equity investees | (0.1) | (15) | |
| Interest paid and other expense | (67) | (65) | (3) |
| Non-operating income | 271 | 366 | 35 |
| Other non-operating items, net | (98) | (17) | (83) |
| Minority interest | - | - | |
| Currency transaction gain (loss) | 2 | (14) | nm |
| Income before income taxes | 1,333 | 1,879 | 41 |
| Income tax | 345 | 457 | 32 |
| Net inc.(excl. comp. Losses) \$ mln | 988 | 1,422 | 44 |
| Comprehensive income (loss) | 4 | - | |
| Net income | 988 | 1,422 | 44 |
| <i>Net margin, %</i> | 25 | 25 | |
| EBITDA (Including Slavneft) | 1,776 | 2,310 | 30 |
| <i>EBITDA margin, %</i> | 44 | 40 | |
| Reported EBITDA | 1,505 | 1,944 | 29 |
| <i>Reported EBITDA margin, %</i> | 37 | 34 | |

Source: Sibneft, URALSIB estimates

No Surprises

Balance Sheet, \$ Mln

| | 1H04 | 1H05 | % Chg YoY |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|------------|
| ASSETS | | | |
| Current assets | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 1,140 | 1,483 | 30 |
| Loans receivable | 31 | 25 | (18) |
| Accounts receivables, net | 1,752 | 2,131 | 22 |
| Inventories, net | 292 | 391 | 34 |
| Prepaid expenses | 19 | 58 | 208 |
| Total current assets | 3,234 | 4,089 | 26 |
| LT financial investments | 2,220 | 2,568 | 16 |
| Oil & gas properties, net | 3,927 | 4,001 | 2 |
| Property, Plant and Equip., net | 691 | 748 | 8 |
| Construction in progress | 181 | 203 | 12 |
| Other non current assets | 10 | 9 | (7) |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 10,263 | 11,616 | 13 |
| LIA., SH.HOLDERS EQUITY | | | |
| Current liabilities | | | |
| ST loans | 35 | 34 | (3) |
| Acc'ts payable, accrued liabilities | 537 | 481 | (10) |
| Related party payable | 164 | 297 | 81 |
| Income and other taxes payable | 578 | 394 | (32) |
| Other current liabilities | 65 | 46 | (30) |
| Current part of LT liabilities | 345 | 344 | (0) |
| Total current liabilities | 1,724 | 1,596 | (7) |
| Dividends payable | 1 | 1 | (22) |
| Assets retirement obligation | 284 | 295 | 4 |
| LT debt | 1,068 | 1,118 | 5 |
| Total LT liabilities | 1,353 | 1,414 | 4 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | 3,077 | 3,009 | (2) |
| Shareholders equity | | | |
| Common stock | 2 | 2 | - |
| Additional paid-in capital | 859 | 859 | - |
| Reserves | 1,867 | 1,867 | - |
| Retained earnings | 4,457 | 5,879 | 32 |
| Accum. other comprehensive loss | - | - | |
| Total shareholders equity | 7,185 | 8,607 | 20 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES & SE | 10,263 | 11,616 | 13 |

Source: Sibneft, URALSIB estimates



Strong Operating Cash Flow

Cash Flow, \$ Mln

| | 1H04 | 1H05 |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Cash flow from operating activities | | |
| Net income | 988 | 1,422 |
| DD&A | 282 | 332 |
| Effect of change on acc't principle | - | |
| Asset retirement oblig. Accret'n exp. | 8 | 11 |
| Accrued equity acc'ting income | (263) | (366) |
| Interest expenses | - | |
| Loss on disposal or impair't of assets | 8 | (5) |
| Loss (Profit) from sale of LT fin. Invest's | 0 | 15 |
| Impairment of goodwill | - | - |
| Minority interest | - | - |
| Change in current assets and liabilities | | |
| (Increase) accounts receivables | (381) | (374) |
| Increase on bad debts reseves | 12 | (6) |
| Inventories | 10 | (98) |
| Future periods exp. (prepaid exp.) | (8) | (39) |
| Other non current assets | (0) | 1 |
| Acc'ts payable, accrued liabilities | (72) | 77 |
| Income and other taxes | 17 | (185) |
| Other current liabilities | (2) | (19) |
| Net cash flow from op. activities | 598 | 765 |
| Cash flow from invest. activities | | |
| Financial investments expenses | (67) | (18) |
| Loans receivable redemption | 24 | 6 |
| Purchase of shares in subsidiaries | - | - |
| Proceeds: sale of LT investments | - | - |
| Proceeds from sales of assets | 1 | 23 |
| Capital expenditures | (337) | (480) |
| Net cash flow from invest. activities | (379) | (470) |
| Cash flow from financial activities | | |
| Net ST loans | (92) | 201 |
| Net LT loans | (60) | (153) |
| Dividends paid | (92) | (0.2) |
| Net cash flow from fin.l activities | (244) | 48 |
| Net change in cash flow | (24) | 343 |
| Cash, cash equiv. at year beginning | 105 | 1,140 |
| Cash, cash equiv. at year end | 81 | 1,483 |

Source: Sibneft, URALSIB estimates



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