

Research Report

BC Iron Limited (BCI)

Drilling results and Management Discussion

Resource Drilling to increase mine life

- The latest drilling results from the Nullagine Iron Ore JV (50/50 BCI/FMG) point towards a reserve upgrade and an increase in mine life. The current reserve is 35Mt @ 57% Fe, mine life ~8 years. We see an extension to a 10+ year mine life as likely.
- Cash position continues to grow, \$35.6m (Sep Qtr \$16.2m). As the ramp up process continues we would expect cash costs to come down towards the guidance of A\$40-A\$45/t.
- FY12 sales guidance remains at 3.5Mt, after discussion with management on mining rates achievable in the coming half we remain confident that guidance can be met, bearing in mind the risk that cyclones pose to production.

Cyclones could blow sales targets

Drilling Results - The recent drilling is part of an infill program at the Bonnie East deposit (8.6Mt @ 57% Fe) designed to lift the resource from the inferred category to reserve level, potentially adding ~1.5 years extra mine life (~8 years currently). Existing infrastructure will be used in the development of the deposit.

Resource modelling and mine planning are underway with the results expected to be released in the March quarter.

Given that the Bonnie East deposit is hosted within the same palaeochannel as the current mining operations we had built in the increased reserves and modelled a 10+ year mine life.

Additionally there is scope for the low grade material to be beneficiated on site through a simple screening process to additionally upgrade the reserve.

Quarterly Highlights

Iron ore shipped during the quarter was 0.63Mt, taking the 1H12 shipped ore to 1.1Mt, as previously guided. The ramp up process is continuing as new bulk haulage trucks are brought on-line and additional crushing capacity is also introduced.

Guidance on cash costs is not given however we see that as volumes increase costs will approach guidance of \$40-\$45/t, our current assumption has C1 cash costs in the mid-high \$50/t range.

Cash increased to \$35.6m (Sep Qtr \$16.2m), our FY12e is \$76m.

Sales Guidance

Given the successful track record of management in delivering on targets we remain confident that FY12 sales guidance can be met. BCI has indicated that there is a risk to guidance from possible weather delays, associated with cyclone activity in the Pilbara.

Stockpiles built up during the commissioning phase act as a buffer to possible interruptions and also enable BCI to meet sales targets as mine production ramps up to the 5Mtpa rate. At the time of our site visit in late 2011 stockpiles totalled \sim 480kt.

31 January 2012

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Recommendation	Buy
Previous Recommendation	Buy
Risk Rating	High
Current Share Price	\$2.68
12 Month Price Target	\$3.36
Price Target Methodology	NAV
Total Return (Capital + Yield)	29.9%
NAV / Share	\$3.36
Market capitalisation	\$255m
Liquidity – Daily Value	\$0.3m

Financial Forecasts & Valuation Metrics

Y/e Jun (\$m)	2011A	2012F	2013F	2014F
Revenue	22	213	304	325
NPAT	1.0	75.1	120.5	129.1
EPS (cps)	1.1	72.7	116.0	124.3
EPS Growth	139%	>100%	60%	7%
DPS (c)	0.0	12.6	24.3	25.3
EV / EBITDA (x)	na	2.1	0.9	0.3
PER (x)	na	3.7	2.3	2.2
Dividend Yield	0.0%	4.7%	9.1%	9.4%
Gearing	2%	na	na	na
Interest Cover (x)	2.5	na	na	na

Source: Austock Securities estimates

Summary

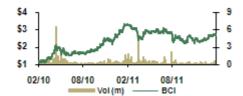
- BCI continue to deliver on their objectives in respect to resource upgrades and production. At a PE of 3.7x FY12 and 2.3x FY13 they are cheap.
- Growth options available beyond Nullagine are a question that remains to be answered. Management have reported that they are currently looking into development options. We see that with a healthy balance sheet and a proven management team BCI will be in strong position to make the next stage in their growth.



BC Iron Limited	
BCI.AX	
Price Information	

Price (\$/share)	2.68
Mkt Cap (\$m)	258
Enterprise Value (\$m)	221

Share Price & Volume Chart



Commodity / FX forecasts

Commodity / 1 / 1016cdata			
	FY12F	FY13F	LT
Iron Ore Fines(US\$/t 62% benchmark FOB)	149.38	130.00	70
Iron Ore Fines(USc/% Fe benchmark FOB)	240.93	209.68	113
Exchange Rate (AUD:USD)	1.01	0.96	0.85

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Total

Production / Costs			
	FY12F	FY13F	FY14F
Production - 100% JV (Mt)	3.5	5.0	5.0
Production - BCI (Mt)	1.7	2.5	2.5
EBIT Margin (A\$/t)	48.0	55.8	55.8

Business Summary

BCI is a producer of DSO grade (57% Fe) iron ore from the Pilbara region of Western Australia. When production reaches full capacity in mid CY12 the mine will be running at 5.0Mtpa.

The mine is a 50/50 JV with Fortescue Metals (FMG). FMG provide rail and port access and also marketing services.

	_NPV by parts			
		A\$m	Per Share	
Ĩ	Nullagine Iron Ore Mine	333.71	3.23	
	Cash	75.78	0.73	1
	Debt	-19.85	-0.19	
	Corporate	-43.01	-0.42	
	Total	346.63	3.36	

FINANCIAL SUMMARY					
Year End - Jun	FY10A	FY11A	FY12F	FY13F	FY14F
KEY METRICS					
EPS Growth (%) PER (x) Dividend Yield (%) EV/EBITDA (x) EV (\$m) ROE (%) ROA (%) ROIC (%)	-99.4 0.0 na 210.1 -7.5 -12.5 -9.3	139 255.0 0.0 na 254.4 1.9 1.8 2.4	6,816 3.7 4.7 2.1 220.9 77.4 91.1 104.8	60 2.3 9.1 0.9 145.2 73.8 156.2 178.1	7 2.2 9.4 0.3 61.5 53.9 176.0 203.8
PROFIT & LOSS (AUD \$m)					
Revenue EBITDA Depreciation & Amortisation EBIT Net Interest Expense Income Tax Expense NPAT Reported NPAT Adjusted	2 -2 0 -2 0 -1 -2	22 2 0 2 -1 0 1	213 107 5 102 0 -27 75 75	304 171 7 164 0 -43 120 120	325 181 7 174 0 -45 129 129
PER SHARE DATA (cps)					
Shares on Issue (m) EPS Reported EPS Adjusted DPS	84 -1 -3 0	94 1 1 0	103 73 73 13	104 116 116 24	104 124 124 25
BALANCE SHEET (AUD \$m) Cash	29	18	76	149	228
Debtors & Inventory PP&E Intangibles Total Assets Borrowings Creditors Total Liabilities Net Assets	5 17 0 55 14 2 16 39	18 62 0 103 19 16 36 67	13 61 0 155 20 7 28 127	13 57 0 224 16 8 24 200	13 53 0 300 11 8 20 279
BALANCE SHEETS RATIOS Gearing - Debt/Equity (%)	-38.0	2.2	-44.1	-66.6	-77.6
Interest Cover (x) NTA per Share (cps)	-38.0 na 46.5	2.2 2.5 71.4	-44.1 na 122.6	-00.0 na 192.4	na 268.9
CASH FLOW (AUD \$m)					
EBITDA Interest & Tax Working Capital Change Operating Cash Flow Maintenance Capex Free Cash Flow Expansion Capex Equity Issues / (Buy Backs) Proceeds from Borrowings Other Net Cash Flow	-2 1 0 -1 -1 -12 14 0 -9 -8	-1 1 0 3 -1 3 -50 20 0 -16 -42	96 -26 0 70 -3 67 0 11 -5 -3 58	148 -40 0 108 -3 105 0 1 -5 -3 73	156 -39 0 117 -3 114 0 -6 -3 79
Resource Statement			017		
Category Measured Inferred Indicated Total	Mt 1.8 68.1 32.9	Fe % 54.1 53.9 54.5	SiO2% 5.1 4.5 3.9	Al2O3 % 4.0 3.1 4.6 2.6	P% 0.02 0.017 0.018

102.9

54.1

4.3

3.6

0.014



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Enzo Salvatore Patrick Trindade		Samuel James Gavin Loduwick Stuart McClure	613 8601 2649 617 3149 8630
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Investment View

Austock Securities Investment View is based on an absolute 1-year total return equal to capital appreciation plus yield.

Buy	Hold	Sell
>20%	20% – 5%	<5%

A Speculative recommendation is when a company has limited experience from which to derive a fundamental investment view.

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