COMPANY UPDATE

Fortress Investment Group LLC (FIG)

Neutral



Lowering ests, PT on significant redemptions & potential fee breaks

What's changed

We are lowering our 2008/2009/2010 DEPS estimates for Fortress to \$0.10/\$0.04/\$0.44 from \$0.11/\$0.10/\$0.57 reflective of \$3.5bn in redemptions and our expectations for potential fee breaks in the Liquid segment. Management indicated that the firm's Global Macro fund is expected to decline to \$3.65 bn by 1/1/09, down 54% from the end of September. Assuming limited redemptions in the \$1.1 bn Commodities fund, FIG's Liquid AuM will likely decline to \$4.5 bn by the end of 1Q09 down 50% from 3Q08. Although suspending redemptions will limit additional outflows for the time being, we believe FIG will have to accommodate existing investors by potentially waiving or reducing management fees on remaining AuM.

Implications

The firm's liquid business is currently running at a 44% redemption level -significantly worse than expected, underscoring the "over-funded" theme highlighted in our 11/25/08 "Alternative Asset Managers -- What to do now and what's next?" report. Investors in alternative asset classes continue to seek liquidity wherever it is available. Even though Fortress' temporary suspension of redemptions will help in the near-term, we believe the remaining \$4.5 bn in Liquid AuM is in jeopardy. Moreover, we view suspending redemptions hampering Fortress' ability to raise capital in Hybrid and Private Equity even though the two segments are not directly affected by today's announcement.

Valuation

Based on our DCF analysis and public multiples on our reduced estimates, we lower our 12-month price target to \$2.50 from \$3.50. This implies 12.5X our 2009 fee-related earnings estimate (\$0.20 per share), a 16% discount to average P/E of traditional managers.

Key risks

Weaker than expected performance, fee reductions, further redemptions.

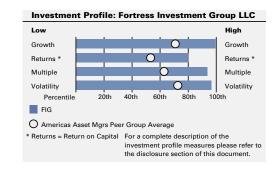
INVESTMENT LIST MEMBERSHIP

Neutral

Coverage View: Neutral

United States:

Brokers & Asset Managers



Key data				Current
Price (\$)				1.87
12 month price target (\$)				2.50
Market cap (\$ mn)				798.0
	12/07	12/08E	12/09E	12/10E
Revenue (\$ mn) New	1,081.0	621.5	322.5	466.6
Revenue (\$ mn) Old	1,081.0	624.8	432.6	713.3
EPS (\$) New	0.98	0.10	0.04	0.44
EPS (\$) Old	0.98	0.11	0.10	0.57
P/E (X)	1.9	18.2	42.1	4.2
EV/EBITDA (X)	17.9	5.4	11.4	6.6
ROE (%)	265.0	30.6	20.7	125.1
	9/08	12/08E	3/09E	6/09E
EPS (\$)	(0.03)	(0.06)	(0.03)	0.00



Share price performance (%)	3 month	6 month	12 month			
Absolute	(81.5)	(86.6)	(89.5)			
Rel. to S&P 500	(72.9)	(78.9)	(82.2)			
Source: Company data, Goldman Sachs Research estimates, FactSet. Price as of 12/03/2008 close.						

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Fortress Investment Group LLC: Summary financials

					-					
Profit model (\$ mn)	12/07	12/08E	12/09E	12/10E	Balance sheet (\$ mn)	12/07	12/08E	12/09E	12/10E	
Total revenue	1,081.0	621.5	322.5	466.6	Cash & equivalents	100.4	216.9	283.7	140.5	
Cost of goods sold					Accounts receivable	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
SG&A	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Inventory	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
R&D					Other current assets	198.7	51.9	63.1	66.:	
Other operating profit/(expense)	(537.5)	(361.2)	(186.6)	(236.0)	Total current assets	299.1	268.8	346.8	206.	
ESO expense	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Net PP&E	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
EBITDA	543.5	260.3	135.9	228.5	Net intangibles	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Depreciation & amortization	(8.5)	(9.3)	(8.0)	(2.0)	Total investments	1,107.9	997.3	1,282.5	1,410.8	
EBIT	535.0	251.0	127.9	228.5	Other long-term assets	582.8	602.1	626.4	652.	
Net interest income/(expense)					Total assets	1,989.8	1,868.3	2,255.7	2,269.	
Income/(loss) from associates	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Total assets	1,303.0	1,000.5	2,233.7	2,203.	
Others	17.0	(193.0)	(100.0)	50.0	Accounts payable	455.7	395.5	395.5	423.	
Pretax profits	552.0	58.0	27.9	278.5	Short-term debt	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·						269.3		215.6	232.	
Provision for taxes	(139.1)	(14.2)	(6.8)	(68.2)	Other current liabilities		158.4			
Minority interest	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Total current liabilities	725.1	553.9	611.1	656.	
Net income pre-preferred dividends	412.9	43.8	21.0	210.3	Long-term debt	535.0	800.0	1,000.0	800.	
Preferred dividends	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Other long-term liabilities	210.3	243.9	362.1	400.	
Net income (pre-exceptionals)	412.9	43.8	21.0	210.3	Total long-term liabilities	745.3	1,043.9	1,362.1	1,200.	
Post tax exceptionals	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Total liabilities	1,491.6	1,597.8	1,973.1	1,856.	
Net income (post-exceptionals)	412.9	43.8	21.0	210.3						
					Preferred shares	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
EPS (basic, pre-except) (\$)	1.03	0.10	0.05	0.47	Total common equity	190.1	95.6	107.7	228.	
EPS (diluted, pre-except) (\$)	0.98	0.10	0.04	0.44	Minority interest	308.0	174.9	174.9	184.9	
EPS (basic, post-except) (\$)	1.03	0.10	0.05	0.47						
EPS (diluted, post-except) (\$)	0.98	0.10	0.04	0.44	Total liabilities & equity	1,989.8	1,868.3	2,255.7	2,269.	
Common dividends paid	(70.4)	(113.9)	(15.8)	(15.8)						
DPS (\$)	0.74	0.45	0.00	0.33						
Dividend payout ratio (%)	71.7	448.4	0.0	70.9	Additional financials	12/07	12/08E	12/09E	12/10	
					Net debt/equity (%)	87.2	215.6	253.5	159.6	
					Interest cover (X)					
Growth & margins (%)	12/07	12/08E	12/09E	12/10E	Inventory days				-	
Sales growth	48.1	(42.5)	(48.1)	44.7	Receivable days	18.5	NM	NM	NN	
EBITDA growth	61.8	(52.1)	(47.8)	68.2	BVPS (\$)	0.45	0.21	0.23	0.4	
EBIT growth	62.6	(53.1)	(49.1)	78.7						
Net income (pre-except) growth	66.0	(89.4)	(51.9)	899.6	ROA (%)	3.2	2.3	1.0	9.3	
EPS growth	66.0	(90.3)	(53.2)	898.0	CROCI (%)				-	
Gross margin										
EBITDA margin	50.3	41.9	42.1	49.0	Dupont ROE (%)	82.9	16.2	7.4	50.9	
EBIT margin	49.5	40.4	39.6	49.0	•		7.0	6.5	45.	
	.0.0		00.0	.0.0			0.3	0.1	0.2	
Cash flow statement (\$ mn)	12/07	12/08E	12/09E	12/10E	Leverage (X)	4.0	6.9	8.0	5.	
Net income	(60.0)	(219.0)	27.9	278.5	Ectorage (X)	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.	
D&A add-back (incl. ESO)	8.5	9.3	8.0	2.0	Free cash flow per share (\$)	(3.04)	0.49	0.37	0.7	
Minority interest add-back	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Free cash flow yield (%)	(13.1)	26.0	20.0	39.	
Net (inc)/dec working capital	113.6	26.4	59.0	45.5	Tiec cash now yield (70)	(13.1)	20.0	20.0	33.	
		379.7	72.9	6.7						
Other operating cash flow	(1,271.5)	379.7 221.6		332.7						
Cash flow from operations	(1,209.4)	221.6	167.7	332.7						
Capital expenditures	(8.4)	(9.1)	0.0	0.0						
Acquisitions	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0						
Divestitures	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0						
Others	(438.9)	28.6	(285.2)	(128.2)						
Cash flow from investing	(416.6)	19.6	(285.2)	(128.2)						
	(+10.0)	13.0	(203.2)	(120.2)						
cash now from investing			(45.0)	(157.7)						
·	(70.4)	(113.9)	(15.8)							
Dividends paid (common & pref)	(70.4) 97.5	(113.9) 265.0	(15.8) 200.0							
Dividends paid (common & pref)	97.5	265.0	200.0	(200.0)						
Dividends paid (common & pref) Inc/(dec) in debt Other financing cash flows	97.5 2,745.3	265.0 (275.8)	200.0 0.0	(200.0) 10.0						
Dividends paid (common & pref) Inc/(dec) in debt Other financing cash flows Cash flow from financing	97.5 2,745.3 1,665.3	265.0 (275.8) (124.6)	200.0 0.0 184.2	(200.0) 10.0 (347.7)						
Dividends paid (common & pref) Inc/(dec) in debt Other financing cash flows Cash flow from financing Total cash flow	97.5 2,745.3	265.0 (275.8)	200.0 0.0	(200.0) 10.0	National					
Dividends paid (common & pref) Inc/(dec) in debt Other financing cash flows Cash flow from financing	97.5 2,745.3 1,665.3	265.0 (275.8) (124.6)	200.0 0.0 184.2	(200.0) 10.0 (347.7)	Note: Last actual year may include reported Source: Company data, Goldman Sachs Re					

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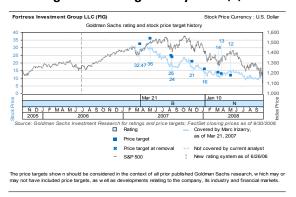
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Price target and rating history chart(s)



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