March 15, 2018 08:00 AM GMT

## UPDATE

#### **Cathay Pacific Airways**

# Recovery On Track; Raise PT to HK\$15.34

We raise our earnings estimates and PT after Cathay's betterthan-expected results in 2H17, as we expect the positive momentum to be sustained in 2018-19 driven by further business turnaround.



Cathay Pacific Airways (0293.HK)	From	То
Price Target	HK\$13.95	HK\$15.34

**Positive 2H17 results**: Cathay's 2H17 results returned to profit of HK\$792mn, after a significant net loss of HK\$2bn in 1H17. This was mainly driven by a 19% surge in cargo revenues, which saw an 11.3% YoY recovery in yield, and robust cargo volumes (RFTK: +9% YoY). In addition, thanks to management's execution of its business transformation programme, unit costs (ex-fuel costs) remained flat.

Raising 2018-19e earnings: Given better-than-expected earnings performance in 2H17, we raise our 2018-19 net profit forecasts by 10% and 2% to HK\$1.28bn and HK\$4.08bn, and introduce a 2019e net profit of HK\$4bn, supported by: 1) further recovery in passenger and cargo yields, 2) less fuel hedging losses amid increasing crude oil prices and 3) more contributions from Air China (18.13% owned by Cathay Pacific).

**Remain EW**: We raise our price target to HK\$15.34 from HK\$13.95, to reflect our increased earnings forecasts, but we remain EW given limited 10% upside potential from the current share price. Cathay's stock price has rallied 14% YTD (vs. +5% for the Hang Seng Index). We believe the market has factored in the business turnaround potential, while uncertainties remain on the outlook for export demand growth. More importantly, we are still concerned about: 1) Cathay's strategic position as a Hong Kong-based transit-driven carrier facing intense competition from other countries/regions, and 2) potential traffic diversions after the launch of Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link in 3Q18.

**Potential risks**: Upside: 1) Stronger-than-expected profit turnaround; 2) Recovery in premium travel and potential stabilization or recovery in cargo demand; Downside: 1) Sustained yield pressure led by market competitions; 2) Exogenous events.

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#### Cathay Pacific Airways ( 0293.HK, 293 HK )

Hong Kong/China Transportation & Infrastructure / Hong Kong

Stock Rating Industry View	Equal-weight In-Line
Price target	HK\$15.34
Up/downside to price target (%)	11
Shr price, close (Mar 14, 2018)	HK\$13.78
52-Week Range	HK\$14.22-10.20
Sh out, dil, curr (mn)	3,934
Mkt cap, curr (mn)	HK\$54,208
EV, curr (mn)	HK\$114,222
Avg daily trading value (mn)	HK\$85

Fiscal Year Ending	12/17	12/18e	12/19e	12/20e
ModelWare EPS (HK\$)	(0.38)	0.32	1.04	1.01
Prior ModelWare EPS (HK\$)	(0.49)	0.29	1.02	-
Consensus EPS (HK\$)§	(0.56)	0.19	0.87	-
Revenue, net (HK\$ mn)	97,284	105,228	107,303	111,373
EBITDA (HK\$ mn)	10,291	13,957	17,684	18,308
ModelWare net inc (HK\$ mn)	(1,503)	1,281	4,084	4,003
P/E	NM	42.4	13.3	13.6
P/BV	0.7	8.0	8.0	0.7
RNOA (%)	0.7	2.7	4.7	4.6
ROE (%)	(2.6)	2.0	6.2	5.8
EV/EBITDA	10.5	8.8	7.2	7.7
Leverage (EOP) (%)	93.3	103.2	106.1	117.4

Unless otherwise noted, all metrics are based on Morgan Stanley ModelWare framework

§ = Consensus data is provided by Thomson Reuters Estimates

e = Morgan Stanley Research estimates

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# CPA: Financial Summary

Exhibit 1: CPA: Financial Summary, 2015-20E

(in HK\$mil)	2015	2016	2017	2018E	2019E	2020E
Passenger revenue	73,047	66,926	66,408	72,507	73,748	76,662
Cargo revenue	23,122	20,063	23,903	26,298	27,005	27,914
Other revenue	6,173	5,762	6,973	6,422	6,549	6,797
Total Revenue	102,342	92,751	97,284	105,228	107,303	111,373
Labor	18,990	19,770	19,962	19,172	19,747	20,339
Fuel	32,968	27,953	31,112	33,958	30,752	31,787
Depre/Amort	8,859	8,550	9,354	9,890	10,202	10,511
Operating leases	4,334	4,458	5,286	5,815	6,396	7,036
Other expenses	30,527	32,545	33,849	35,349	36,558	37,892
Total Operating Exp	95,678	93,276	99,563	104,184	103,655	107,566
Operating Profit	6,664	(525)	(2,279)	1,044	3,647	3,808
Net interest inc/(exp)	(1,164)	(1,301)	(1,761)	(2,156)	(2,649)	(3,059)
Other inc/(exp)	1,965	2,049	2,630	3,023	3,834	3,989
Pre-tax profit	7,465	223	(580)	1,911	4,833	4,738
Taxation	1,157	497	308	296	749	734
Minority interest	308	301	371	334	0	0
Net profit	6,000	(575)	(1,259)	1,281	4,084	4,003
EBITDA	17,488	10,074	9,705	13,957	17,684	18,308
EBITDAR	21,822	14,532	14,991	19,772	24,080	25,344
Adj for C EPS (HK\$)	1.53	(0.15)	(0.32)	0.33	1.04	1.02
ModelWare EPS (HK\$)	1.53	(0.15)	(0.38)	0.32 e	1.04 e	1.01 e

(in HK\$mil)	2015	2016	2017	2018E	2019E	2020E
Net fixed assets	100,552	106,456	111,182	117,928	123,171	136,186
Long-term investments	27,947	27,902	32,212	34,388	37,132	39,984
Intangible assets	10,606	10,934	11,221	11,674	12,044	12,414
Other non-current assets	497	737	928	928	928	928
Total Non-Curr Assets	139,602	146,029	155,543	164,917	173,275	189,512
Cash	12,727	15,173	10,941	7,970	7,155	6,868
Other assets	7,920	5,117	8,153	8,153	8,153	8,153
Non-cash assets	12,578	11,102	13,741	14,810	15,062	15,633
Total Current Assets	33,225	31,392	32,835	30,933	30,371	30,654
Current borrowings	13,782	11,263	8,888	12,509	13,259	15,059
Other current liabilities	35,995	32,829	32,390	33,830	33,665	34,883
Total Curr Liabilities	49,777	44,092	41,278	46,339	46,924	49,942
Net Assets	123,050	133,330	147,101	149,513	156,722	170,225
Long-term debt	49,867	58,906	69,506	70,885	75,135	85,335
Other long-term liabilities	25,116	18,897	16,322	16,322	16,322	16,322
Shareholders equity	47,927	55,365	61,101	62,151	65,265	68,567
Minority interests	140	161	171	154	0	0
Capital Employed	123,050	133,330	147,101	149,513	156,722	170,225

(in HK\$mil)	2015	2016	2017	2018E	2019E	2020E
Pretax profit	7,465	223	(580)	1,911	4,833	4,738
Depreciation	8,859	8,550	9,354	9,890	10,202	10,511
Profit asset sales	(159)	40	(546)	(50)	(50)	(50)
Tax paid	(469)	(750)	(308)	(296)	(749)	(734)
Other non-cash items	(813)	(265)	(1,841)	(2,116)	(2,684)	(2,793)
Gross Cash Flow	14,883	7,798	6,079	9,339	11,552	11,672
Capex	(13,179)	(14,886)	(15,931)	(18,013)	(15,916)	(23,996)
Working capital adj	1,112	(1,690)	(3,743)	371	(417)	647
Free Cash Flow	2,816	(8,778)	(13,595)	(8,303)	(4,781)	(11,677)
Sale fixed assets/invmts	(1,814)	4,805	1,524	975	150	150
Share issues	0	0	0	0	0	0
Purchase invmts/subsids	0	(60)	(60)	(60)	(214)	(60)
Share repurchases	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dividends paid	(2,329)	(1,447)	(326)	(582)	(970)	(701)
Net borrowings/repayt	(1,826)	6,777	8,225	5,000	5,000	12,000
Others	149	1,149	0	0	0	0
Net Cash Flow	(3,004)	2,446	(4,232)	(2,971)	(815)	(288)
Beginning Cash	15,731	12,727	15,173	10,941	7,970	7,155
Ending Cash	12,727	15,173	10,941	7,970	7,155	6,868

Source: Company Data, Morgan Stanley Research (E) estimates

	2015	2016	2017	2018E	2019E	2020E
Growth (%)						
Passenger revenue	(3.5)	(8.4)	(0.8)	9.2	1.7	4.0
Cargo revenue	(9.0)	(13.2)	19.1	10.0	2.7	3.4
Total revenue	(3.4)	(9.4)	4.9	8.2	2.0	3.8
Operating profit	50.3	n.m.	n.m.	(145.8)	249.2	4.4
Pretax profit	84.4	(97.0)	(360.1)	NM	152.9	(2.0)
Net profit	90.5	(109.6)	NM	NM	218.8	(2.0)
EBITDA	29.1	(42.4)	(3.7)	43.8	26.7	3.5
EBITDAR	23.1	(33.4)	3.2	31.9	21.8	5.3
Adj for C EPS	90.5	(109.6)	NM	NM	218.8	(2.0)
ModelWare EPS	90.5	(109.6)	161.4	(185.0)	218.8	(2.0)
Margins (%)						
EBITDA margin	17.1	10.9	10.0	13.3	16.5	16.4
EBITDAR margin	21.3	15.7	15.4	18.8	22.4	22.8
Operating margin	6.5	(0.6)	(2.3)	1.0	3.4	3.4
Net profit margin	5.9	(0.6)	(1.3)	1.2	3.8	3.6
Return (%)						
ModelWare ROE	11.3%	(1.2%)	(2.6%)	2.0% e	6.2% e	5.8% e
ModelWare RNOA	7.3%	1.4%	0.7%	2.7% e	4.7% e	4.6% e
Gearing (%)						
Net Debt/Equity	88.2%	87.1%	93.3%	103.2% e	106.1% e	117.4% e
Long-term Debt/Equity	104.0	106.4	113.8	114.1	115.1	124.5
Total Debt/Equity	132.8	126.7	128.3	134.2	135.4	146.4
Net Interest Coverage	7.4	1.2	0.2	1.0	2.8	2.5

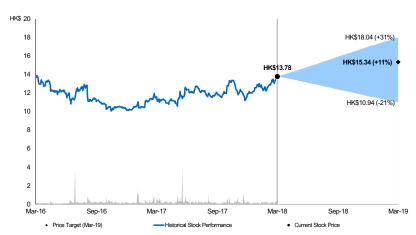
	2015	2016	2017	2018E	2019E	2020E
Pax Capacity (mil ASKs)	142,680	146,086	150,138	156,594	162,858	171,001
Pax Traffic (mil RPKs)	122,330	123,478	126,663	133,105	138,429	145,351
Pax Load Factor (%)	85.7	84.5	84.4	85.0	85.0	85.0
Pax Yield (HK\$/RPK)	0.60	0.54	0.52	0.54	0.53	0.53
Cargo Capacity (mil AFTKs)	16,481	16,572	17,163	17,849	18,206	18,570
Cargo Traffic (mil RFTKs)	10,586	10,675	11,633	12,227	12,471	12,813
Cargo Load Factor (%)	64.2	64.4	67.8	68.5	68.5	69.0
Cargo Yield (HK\$/RFTK)	1.90	1.62	1.81	1.91	1.93	1.95
Overall Capacity (mil ATKs)	30,048	30,462	31,439	32,759	33,712	34,851
Overall Traffic (mil RTKs)	22,019	22,215	23,471	24,666	25,409	26,398
Unit Cost (HK\$/ATK)	3.14	3.02	3.12	3.14	3.03	3.04
Growth (%)						
Pax Capacity	5.9	2.4	2.8	4.3	4.0	5.0
Pax Traffic	9.0	0.9	2.6	5.1	4.0	5.0
Pax Load Factor	2.9	(1.4)	(0.2)	0.8	0.0	0.0
Pax Yield	(11.5)	(9.2)	(3.3)	3.9	(2.2)	(1.0)
Pax Traffic	9.0	0.9	2.6	5.1	4.0	5.0
Pax Load Factor	2.9	(1.4)	(0.2)	0.8	0.0	0.0
Pax Yield	(11.5)	(9.2)	(3.3)	3.9	(2.2)	(1.0)
Cargo Capacity	5.4	0.6	3.6	4.0	2.0	2.0
Cargo Traffic	5.4	0.8	9.0	5.1	2.0	2.7
Cargo Yield	(15.5)	(14.7)	11.3	6.0	1.0	1.0
Overall Capacity	5.7	1.4	3.2	4.2	2.9	3.4
Overall Traffic	7.2	0.9	5.7	5.1	3.0	3.9
Unit Cost	5.5	(3.8)	3.4	0.4	(3.3)	0.4

Valuation									
	2015	2016	2017	2018E	2019E	2020E			
P/E (Basic, rep't)	8.8	NM	NM	42.4	13.3	13.6			
P/BV (Baisc, rep't)	1.1	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.7			
EV/EBITDA (Basic, rep't)	5.5	9.0	10.5	8.8	7.2	7.7			
Dividend Yield (Basic, rep't) (%)	4.0	0.5	0.4	0.8	2.6	2.6			



#### Risk-Reward Snapshot: Cathay Pacific Airways (0293.HK, HK\$12.64, EW, PT HK\$15.34)

Benefiting from Air China's earnings improvement, but strategic position is still a major concern



Source: Thomson Reuters, Morgan Stanley Research

#### Price Target HK\$15.34

EV/EBITDA multiples, probability-weighted bull (20%), bear (10%), and base case (70%) scenarios.

#### Bull HK\$18.04

1.1x 2018e base case P/BV

**Yield recovery**: Better-than-expected yield (+3%) with improving pax and cargo traffic demand, and higher load factors (PLF +2pt; FLF +2pt).

#### Base HK\$15.20

1.0x 2018e base case P/BV

**Slight pick up in traffic growth; Yield improvement in 2018:** For 2018-20e, ASK grows at 4.3%, 4.0% and 5.0% p.a., respectively; RPK to increase by 5.1%, 4.0% and 5.0% p.a., respectively; passenger yield rose 3.9% in 2018, followed by 2.2% and 1% declines over 2019-20e. Higher Brent Prices at US\$65-72.50/bbl in 2018-20e

#### Bear HK\$10.94

0.7x 2018e base case P/BV

**Yield plunge**: Further 5% yield weakness led by demand contraction and currency weakness from CPA's exposures to GBP, AUD, EUR, etc.

#### **Investment Thesis**

- Considering the strong performance in 2H17, less hedging loss and significant earnings contribution from its associate Air China (18.13% owned by Cathay Pacific) we raise our 2018-19e net profit by 2-10%. Our revised earnings are 107% and 19% above consensus in 2018-19, respectively, but 8% below consensus in 2020e.
- Nevertheless, we are still concerned about Cathay's strategic position as a Hong Kongbased transit-driven carrier facing intense competition from other countries/regions and potential traffic diversion from Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link.
- We maintain our EW rating on CPA and raise our PT by 10% to HK\$15.34, which implies 11% upside potential. Current valuation implies 8.8x 2018eEV/EBITDA, inline with its historical mean from 2009.

#### **Key Value Drivers**

- Passenger yield and volumes;
- Cargo yield and volumes;
- Jet fuel price.

#### Key Upside Risks

- Sooner-than-expected profit turnaround;
- Recovery in premium travel and potential stabilization or recovery in cargo demand.

## Key Downside Risks

- Sustained weakness in demand and yields;
- Exogenous events (e.g., wars, natural disasters, epidemics, etc.).



# Analysis of 2017 Earning Results

Cathay reported a net loss of HK\$2bn in 1H17, but in 2H17 its profit turned around to HK\$792mn.

**Strong revenue growth in 2H17:** 2017 saw 4.9% YoY revenue growth, which implied acceleration in 2H17 (+9.3% YoY, vs. 0.4% YoY in 1H17). This was mainly driven by a further recovery in the cargo business (+25.7% YoY in 2H17, vs. +11.7%YoY in 1H17) and improvement in catering, recoveries and other services (+28.5% YoY in 2H17 vs. 13.4% YoY in 1H17).

**Flat unit cost excluding fuel costs:** 2017 booked a significant fuel loss of HK\$6.4bn. However, unit cost per ATK (excl. fuel cost and before exceptional items) held flat, which could be attributable to the successful execution of the company's three-year transformation program. Specifically, unit staff costs and unit route operating costs dropped 2.2% and 1.6%, respectively, while unit aircraft maintenance and unit depreciation and operating leases grew 6.4% and 14.9%, respectively.

**Significant contribution from investment income:** Associates' income contributed HK\$2.63bn in 2017, representing 28.4% YoY growth, thanks to earnings improvement at Air China and other associates (i.e. AHK Air Hong Kong Limited, Asia Miles Limited).

**Dividend in line:** Despite the net loss in 2017, the company declared a full-year DPS of HK\$0.05, in line with our estimate.

Exhibit 2: 2017 Financial Results

(111/4)	2047	2040	0/ Ch	01147	01146	0/ Ob	41147	41146	0/ Ob
(HK\$ mn)	2017	2016	% Chg	2H17	2H16	%Chg	1H17	1H16	%Chg
Operating Revenue	66,408	66,926	-0.8%	34.303	22 542	2.4%	32.105	33,413	-3.9%
Passenger & Exc Baggage					33,513				
Freight & Mail	23,903	20,063	19.1%	13,388	10,648	25.7%	10,515	9,415	11.7%
Other	6,973	5,762	21.0%	3,735	2,907	28.5%	3,238	2,855	13.4%
Total Oper. Rev.	97,284	92,751	4.9%	51,426	47,068	9.3%	45,858	45,683	0.4%
Operating Expenses									
Salaries	19,962	19,770	1.0%	10,117	9,903	2.2%	9,845	9,867	-0.2%
Depreciaton	8,824	8,035	9.8%	4,542	4,148	9.5%	4,282	3,887	10.2%
Operating Leases	5,286	4,458	18.6%	2,869	2,309	24.3%	2,417	2,149	12.5%
Route Operating Costs	15,225	14,985	1.6%	7,918	7,609	4.1%	7,307	7,376	-0.9%
Aircraft Fuel	31,112	27,953	11.3%	16,175	14,694	10.1%	14,937	13,259	12.7%
Maintenance	9,607	8,856	8.5%	5,146	4,686	9.8%	4,461	4,170	7.0%
Commissions	681	700	-2.7%	361	329	9.7%	320	371	-13.7%
BRortization - Goodwill & Intangible	530	515	2.9%	276	272	1.5%	254	243	4.5%
Others	8.336	8.004	4.1%	3.767	4.307	-12.5%	4.569	3.697	23.6%
Total Oper. Exp.	99,563	93,276	6.7%	51,171	48,257	6.0%	48,392	45,019	7.5%
Operating Income	(2,279)	(525)	334.1%	255	(1,189)	nm	(2,534)	664	nm
Operating Margin	-2.3%	-0.6%	-1.8ppt	0.5%	-2.5%	3.0ppt	-5.5%	1.5%	-7.0ppt
Non-operating Items									
Net Int Inc. (Exp.)	(1,761)	(1,301)	35.4%	(947)	(694)	36.5%	(814)	(607)	34.1%
Profit on Sale of Inv	586	(1,301)	33.4 /0 nm	(547)	(054)	n.m.	586	(001)	n.m.
Exceptional Item	244		nm			n.m.	244		n.m.
Assoc Co Inc (Air China)	2.630	2.049	28.4%	2.097	1.366	53.5%	533	683	-22.0%
Pretax Income	(580)	223	-360.1%	1,405	(517)	00.070 nm	(1,985)	740	-22.070 nm
Fretax iricome	(380)	223	-300.176	1,403	(317)	11111	(1,303)	740	11111
Taxes	308	497	-38.0%	392	260	50.8%	(84)	237	-135.4%
Profit/(loss) after tax and before M.I.	(888)	(274)	224.1%	1,013	(777)	nm	(1,901)	503	nm
Minority Interests	371	301	23.3%	221	151	46.4%	150	150	0.0%
Net Income	(1,259)	(575)	119.0%	792	(928)	nm	(2,051)	353	nm
Net Margin	-1.3%	-0.6%	-0.7ppt	1.5%	-2.0%	3.5ppt	-4.5%	0.8%	-5.2ppt
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Source: Company Data, Morgan Stanley Research



# Business Turnaround set to Continue; Raising PT & Earnings

#### Raise PT to HK\$15.34 Maintain EW

We are raising our PT by 10% to HK\$15.34 based on revised earnings assumptions, implying 11% upside potential. While we are impressed with the company's better-than-expected performance in turning the business around, we are still concerned about its long-term strategic position and uncertainties led by the expected launch of Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong HSR services in 3Q18. Therefore, we maintain our EW rating.

Exhibit 3: CPA: Morgan Stanley Estimates vs. Consensus

Year to Dec 31		2018E	2019E	2020E
CPA (0293.HK)				
MS estimates	HKD mn	1,281	4,084	4,003
Consensus estimates	HKD mn	620	3,444	4,369
% variance		106.7%	18.6%	-8.4%

Source: Thomson Reuters Consensus, Morgan Stanley Research (E) estimates

We raise our 2018e and 2019e net earnings to HK\$1.28bn and HK\$4.08bn, and introduce 2019e with a net profit of HK\$4bn, mainly thanks to further improvement in cargo and passenger revenues and significant earnings contribution from its associate – Air China. Our estimates are 107% and 19% above consensus in 2018-19e, respectively, but 8% below consensus in 2020e.

We continue to value CPA shares using a scenario weighted-average approach. We maintain our probability weightings for bull (20%), base (70%) and bear (10%) cases. The higher bull than bear case weighting reflects our expectation that CPA's earnings will recover gradually over in the next few years.

We continue to use EV/EBITDA multiples to value airlines in an earnings recovery phase, but we cross-check that against implied P/BV multiples vs. historical means.

#### Base Case: 70% weighting (unchanged)

Exhibit 4: CPA: Probability-weighted Price Target

HK\$	Val.	Prob.	Prob-wt Val	P/BV
Bull case	18.04	20%	3.61	1.1
Base case	15.20	70%	10.64	1.0
Bear case	10.94	10%	1.09	0.7
Price target		100%	15.34	1.0

Source: Morgan Stanley Research

Scenario Value: HK\$15.20 from HK\$14.12

We lower our forward EV/EBITDA multiple to 9.7x from 10x previously, as we think a small discount is appropriate to reflect the greater contribution from non-core investment income. In addition, we cross check that with P/B multiples, which implies a 2018e P/B of 1.0x, the same as our previous assumption at 1.0x.

We assume capacity growth at 4.3%, 4.0% and 5.0% for 2017-19e, with PLF remaining stable at 85%. We also assume 3.9%, -2.2% and -1% change in passenger yield in 2017-19e, to account for changes in fuel surcharges.

**Bull Case: 20% weighting (unchanged)** 

Scenario Value: HK\$18.40 from HK\$15.83

Our bull-case scenario value reflects better-than-expected yield (+3%) and higher load factors (PLF +2pt; FLF +2pt), led by improving pax and cargo traffic demand. Our bull-case value implies 10.5x EV/EBITDA on our 2018 estimate, which is unchanged.

Bear Case: 10% weighting (unchanged)

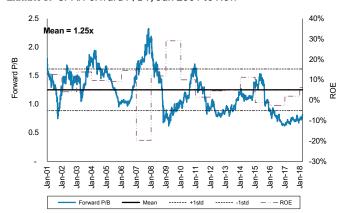


#### Scenario Value: HK\$10.94 from HK\$8.99

Our bear-case scenario value assumes further 5% yield weakness led by demand contraction and currency weakness from CPA's exposures to GBP, AUD, EUR, etc. It also implies 8.5x EV/EBITDA, in line with the historical average since 2012. As we cross-check with an implied 0.6x P/BV multiple, we see limited downside risk in our bear case value.

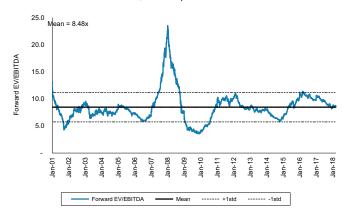
Our bear, bull and base case values increase by 22%, 14% and 8%, respectively. Specifically, although our EV changes are the same as the value changes for EBITDA multiplied by EV/EBITDA (4%/4%/1% for bear/ bull/base cases), we assume the same net debt and minority interest under all scenarios. Therefore, this sees our calculated market cap change by 22%/14%/8%, respectively, which in turn is reflected in our bear/bull/base cases.

Exhibit 5: CPA: Forward P/BV, Jan 2001 to Now



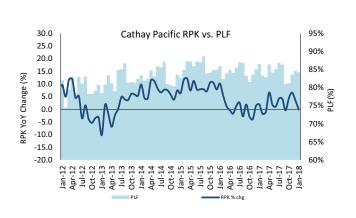
Source: Bloomberg, company data, Morgan Stanley Research

Exhibit 6: CPA: Forward EV/EBITDA, Jan 2001 to Now



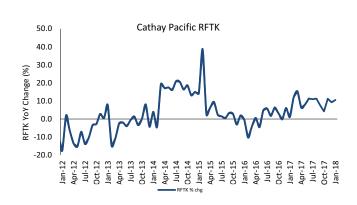
Source: Bloomberg, company data, Morgan Stanley Research

Exhibit 7: CPA: RPK and PLF, Jan, 2012-Now



Source: Company data, Morgan Stanley Research

Exhibit 8: CPA: RFTK and RFTK change, Jan, 2012-Now



Source: Company data, Morgan Stanley Research



Exhibit 9: CPA: New vs. Old Estimates, 2018-19

Example 91 Of 71. New Yor Old Ed		2018E			2019E	
HK\$ mn	New Est	Old Est	% Diff	New Est	Old Est	% Diff
	HOW LOT	Old Lot	70 2	HOW LOT	Old Lot	70 Dill
Operating Revenue						
Passenger & Exc Baggage	72,507	69,537	4.3%	73,748	73,041	1.0%
Freight & Mail	26,298	23,090	13.9%	27,005	24,017	12.4%
Other	6,422	6,021	6.7%	6,549	6,309	3.8%
Total Oper. Rev.	105,228	98,647	6.7%	107,303	103,367	3.8%
Operating Expenses						
Salaries	19,172	18,161	5.6%	19,747	18,706	5.6%
Depreciaton	9,365	9,229	1.5%	9,677	9,506	1.8%
Operating Leases	5,815	5,394	7.8%	6,396	5,934	7.8%
Route Operating Costs	16,023	15,991	0.2%	16,654	16,623	0.2%
Aircraft Fuel	33,958	29,568	14.8%	30,752	28,347	8.5%
Maintenance	10,111	9,638	4.9%	10,509	10,018	4.9%
Commissions	798	765	4.3%	811	803	1.0%
Amortization - Goodwill & Intangible	525	525	0.0%	525	525	0.0%
Others	8,418	7,892	6.7%	8,584	8,269	3.8%
Total Oper. Exp.	104,184	97,163	7.2%	103,655	98,731	5.0%
Operating Income	1.044	1,485	-29.6%	3,647	4,636	-21.3%
Operating Margin	1.0%	1,403	-51.2%	3.4%	4.5%	-24.2%
Operating Margin	1.076	1.5%	-01.270	3.4%	4.5%	-24.270
EBITDA	13,957	13,459	3.7%	17,684	17,100	3.4%
Non-operating Items						
Net Int Inc. (Exp.)	(2,156)	(1,976)	9.1%	(2,649)	(2,310)	14.7%
Forex Gain (Loss)	0	0	NM	0	0	NM
Profit on Sale of Inv	0	0	na	0	0	na
Exceptional Item	0	0	na	0	0	na
Assoc Co Inc (Air China)	3,023	2,221	36.1%	3,834	2,433	57.6%
Pretax Income	1,911	1,729	10.5%	4,833	4,758	1.6%
Taxes	296	268	10.5%	749	737	1.6%
Minority Interests	334	298	12.1%	0	0	n.m.
Net Income	1,281	1,163	10.1%	4,084	4,021	1.6%
Net Margin	1.2%	1.2%	.0ppt	3.8%	3.9%	-2.2%

Source: Morgan Stanley Research (E) estimates



# Airlines: Valuation Comparisons

Exhibit 10: Airlines: Valuation Comparisons

		Last px	Target	MS	Mkt Cap	Mkt Cap	Share	Price Pe	rf.		52-wk			P/E (x)		E	P/BV (x)	
Company	CURR	3/12/18	Price	Rating	(LC Mn)	(USD Mn)	1-mo	3-mo	12-mo	YTD	High	Low	17E	18E	19E	17E	18E	19E
Chinese Airlines																		
Air China-H	HKD	11.60	13.30	0	216,623	27,643	13%	43%	105%	22%	12.86	5.63	10.9	10.5	7.5	1.3	1.4	1.2
CEA-H	HKD	6.66	7.85	0	124,429	15,878	15%	46%	62%	17%	7.43	3.75	10.3	10.4	6.8	1.2	1.2	1.0
CSA-H	HKD	10.26	11.55	0	131,549	16,787	19%	42%	116%	27%	11.00	4.72	10.4	13.1	8.5	1.3	1.5	1.3
Air China-A	CNY	13.27	12.21	E	174,940	27,643	10%	23%	67%	8%	14.58	7.85	17.1	14.9	10.7	2.0	2.0	1.7
CEA-A	CNY	7.69	8.15	E	100,486	15,878	4%	3%	7%	-6%	8.85	6.42	17.8	14.8	9.7	2.1	1.8	1.5
CSA-A	CNY	11.83	12.36	E	106,236	16,787	9%	6%	54%	-1%	12.95	7.45	18.5	18.7	12.2	2.4	2.1	1.9
Spring Airlines	CNY	34.26	48.70	0	27,428	4,334	8%	-9%	-8%	-8%	41.84	30.01	24.1	19.0	12.6	3.5	2.3	2.0
Cathay Pacific Airways	HKD	13.92	15.34	E	54,759	6,988	14%	24%	20%	15%	13.92	10.20	NM	47.2	13.7	0.9	1.0	1.0
Foreign FSCs																		
Singapore Airlines	SGD	11.16	12.11	0	13,192	10,021	4%	6%	13%	5%	11.50	9.66	15.7	19.0	16.8	1.0	0.9	0.9
Japan Airlines	JPY	4,243	4,900	0	1,494,763	14,000	7%	-1%	16%	-4%	4,504	3,225	10.7	9.6	10.8	1.4	1.3	1.2
ANA Holdings	JPY	4,224	3,800	U	1,479,373	13,856	0%	-9%	25%	-10%	4,783	3,220	11.7	11.5	11.1	1.4	1.3	1.2
Korean Air Lines Co Ltd	KRW	33,850	40,000	E	3,210,500	3,016	-6%	7%	20%	0%	39,500	27,600	3.8	12.2	3.5	1.1	1.0	0.8
Air France-KLM	EUR	9	13	E	4,006	4,929	-12%	-26%	25%	-31%	14.65	6.88	NM	4.8	4.3	1.1	0.9	0.7
Delta Air Lines, Inc.	USD	56	64	0	40,788	40,788	11%	5%	19%	0%	60.79	43.81	9.6	7.8	7.0	2.9	2.5	2.2
American Airlines Group Inc	USD	56.07	59.00	E	27,569	27,569	16%	10%	29%	8%	59.08	39.21	7.7	7.0	6.7	6.8	4.5	3.2
Median													10.2	9.6	7.0	1.4	1.3	1.2
Foreign LCCs																		
Air Asia	MYR	4.08	4.00	0	13,656	3,492	-1%	27%	42%	22%	4.75	2.74	7.6	8.3	7.8	1.3	1.4	1.2
easyJet	GBp	1,563	1,880.00	0	620,511	8,592	-1%	7%	60%	7%	1,699	942	14.9	12.5	11.1	1.7	2.0	1.9
Ryanair	EUR	16	20.00	0	20,340	25,028	3%	-9%	13%	7%	20	14	13.6	13.3	12.5	4.1	3.7	3.1
Southwest Airlines	USD	59.70	74.00	0	36,738	36,738	8%	-6%	6%	-9%	66.98	49.76	16.8	10.6	8.6	3.9	3.4	3.2
Median													14.3	11.6	9.8	2.8	2.7	2.5
Median - Total													11.7	12.2	9.7	1.4	1.5	1.3
		ROE (%)			EV/EBITDA (x		EV/E	BITDAR (	×)	Div	vidend Yield (%	)	RPK Y	oY Growth	ı (%)	Net (	Gearing (%	6)

		<u> </u>			EBITDA (x)			BITDAR (x			lend Yield (%)			Y Growth			Gearing (%	
Company	17E	18E	19E	17E	18E	19E	17E	18E	19E	17E	18E	19E	17E	18E	19E	17E	18E	19E
Chinese Airlines																		
Air China-H	14%	14%	17%	8.3	7.2	5.4	9.8	8.3	6.8	2.1	2.2	3.1	6.6	9.0	6.3	95%	80%	63%
CEA-H	13%	13%	17%	9.8	8.6	6.3	9.6	8.4	6.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.2	11.1	10.7	231%	209%	182%
CSA-H	14%	13%	16%	8.6	7.8	5.6	8.2	6.8	4.8	1.9	1.5	2.3	11.8	11.2	8.0	68%	73%	59%
Air China-A	14%	14%	17%	8.3	7.2	5.4	9.8	8.3	6.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.6	9.0	6.3	95%	80%	63%
CEA-A	13%	13%	17%	9.8	8.6	6.3	9.6	8.4	6.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.2	11.1	10.7	231%	209%	182%
CSA-A	14%	13%	16%	8.6	7.8	5.6	8.2	6.8	4.8	1.1	1.0	1.6	11.8	11.2	8.0	68%	73%	59%
Spring Airlines	16%	15%	17%	16.7	10.8	7.8	16.0	13.2	9.4	0.4	0.5	0.8	23.4	12.0	15.8	52%	25%	28%
Cathay Pacific Airways	-3%	2%	7%	11.9	9.6	8.3	11.3	7.8	6.2	0.4	0.7	2.6	2.5	5.1	4.0	110%	127%	142%
Foreign FSCs																		
Singapore Airlines	6%	5%	5%	4.5	5.5	6.0	3.7	3.5	3.2	3.2	2.6	3.0	3.1	0.4	0.4	0%	23%	41%
Japan Airlines	13%	12%	10%	4.9	4.6	4.5	4.8	4.3	4.2	2.6	2.7	2.8	na	na	na	5%	6%	7%
ANA Holdings	14%	11%	10%	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.2	5.0	1.4	1.7	1.9	6.4	3.4	8.0	55%	58%	56%
Korean Air Lines Co Ltd	35%	8%	24%	7.2	7.4	6.1	7.6	7.7	6.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	na	na	na	438%	411%	308%
Air France-KLM	-12%	24%	22%	3.1	2.3	1.8	2.4	2.4	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.3	3.5	na	81%	52%	25%
Delta Air Lines, Inc.	27%	28%	27%	6.2	6.2	5.5	6.2	6.4	6.2	1.8	2.2	2.5	na	na	na	441%	324%	152%
American Airlines Group Inc	56%	63%	47%	5.2	5.2	4.9	5.4	5.5	5.3	0.9	0.9	1.0	na	na	na	394%	224%	156%
Median	14%	12%	22%	5.2	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.2	5.0	1.4	1.7	1.9				81%	58%	56%
Foreign LCCs																		
Air Asia	22%	17%	17%	6.2	6.8	5.2	7.8	7.5	6.8	6.0	4.9	1.9	8.4	7.4	10.0	89%	66%	34%
easyJet	11%	13%	17%	6.6	7.4	6.5	8.4	7.2	6.4	3.4	3.1	4.4	10.0	5.8	6.0	2%	9%	5%
Ryanair	33%	30%	27%	8.8	8.7	8.0	9.9	9.1	8.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.8	8.6	6.1	8%	3%	1%
Southwest Airlines	22%	29%	34%	7.4	5.7	4.7	6.8	6.1	5.6	0.7	0.9	1.0	na	na	na	13%	14%	16%
Median	22%	23%	22%	7.0	7.1	5.9	8.1	7.3	6.6	2.0	2.0	1.5				11%	11%	11%
Median - Total	14%	13%	17%	7.4	7.2	5.6	8.2	7.2	6.2	0.9	0.9	1.6				81%	73%	59%

Source: Note: Prices as of March 12, 2018; Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Results shown do not include transaction costs. Source: Thomson Reuters, Morgan Stanley Research; E = Morgan Stanley Research Estimates, NM=Not Meaningful, na/NA=Not Available



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(as of February 28, 2018)

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	COVERAGE UI	NIVERSE	INVESTMEN	IT BANKING CLIE	OTHER MATERIAL INVESTMENT SERVICES CLIENTS (MISC)		
STOCK RATING	COUNT	% OF	COUNT	% OF	% OF	COUNT	% OF
CATEGORY		TOTAL		TOTAL IBC	RATING		TOTAL
				(	CATEGORY	OTHE	
							MISC
Overweight/Buy	1175	37%	315	41%	27%	555	39%
Equal-weight/Hold	1369	43%	357	47%	26%	643	45%
Not-Rated/Hold	53	2%	5	1%	9%	7	0%
Underweight/Sell	552	18%	87	11%	16%	222	16%
TOTAL	3,149		764			1427	

Data include common stock and ADRs currently assigned ratings. Investment Banking Clients are companies from whom Morgan Stanley received investment banking compensation in the last 12 months. Due to rounding off of decimals, the percentages provided in the "% of total" column may not add up to exactly 100 percent.

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Overweight (O). The stock's total return is expected to exceed the average total return of the analyst's industry (or industry team's) coverage universe, on a risk-adjusted basis, over the next 12-18 months.

Equal-weight (E). The stock's total return is expected to be in line with the average total return of the analyst's industry (or industry team's) coverage universe, on a risk-adjusted basis, over the next 12-18 months.

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Unless otherwise specified, the time frame for price targets included in Morgan Stanley Research is 12 to 18 months.

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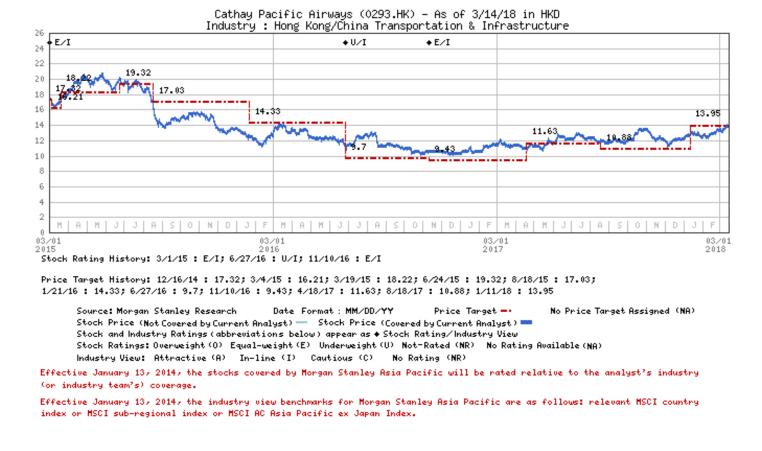
Attractive (A): The analyst expects the performance of his or her industry coverage universe over the next 12-18 months to be attractive vs. the relevant broad market benchmark, as indicated below.

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Cautious (C): The analyst views the performance of his or her industry coverage universe over the next 12-18 months with caution vs. the relevant broad market benchmark, as indicated below.

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#### INDUSTRY COVERAGE: Hong Kong/China Transportation & Infrastructure

COMPANY (TICKER)	RATING (AS OF)	PRICE* (03/14/2018)
Edward H Xu, CFA		
Air China Limited (601111.SS) Air China Limited (0753.HK) BOC Aviation (2588.HK) Cathay Pacific Airways (0293.HK) China Eastern Airlines (600115.SS) China Eastern Airlines (600115.SS) China Southern Airlines (600029.SS) China Southern Airlines (1055.HK) Daqin Railway Co. Ltd. (601006.SS) Guangshen Railway (0525.HK) Guangshen Railway (6525.HK) Guangshen Railway (601333.SS) Kerry Logistics Network (0636.HK) S.F. Holding Co Ltd (002352.SZ) Shenzhen International Holdings (0152.HK) Sinotrans Air Transportation Development (600270.SS) Sinotrans Limited (0598.HK) SITC International Holdings Company (1308.HK) Spring Airlines (601021.SS) TravelSky Technology (0696.HK) ZTO Express (ZTO.N)	E (01/11/2018) O (01/11/2018) O (07/05/2016) E (11/10/2016) E (01/11/2018) O (01/11/2018) O (01/11/2018) O (01/11/2018) O (02/08/2018) O (02/08/2018) O (02/08/2018) O (02/08/2018) O (05/27/2014) O (05/27/2014) E (08/21/2017) O (05/27/2014) E (08/21/2017) O (08/31/2015) E (04/20/2017) O (11/21/2016)	Rmb13.06 HK\$11.38 HK\$43.55 HK\$13.78 Rmb7.47 HK\$6.51 Rmb11.39 HK\$10.20 Rmb9.00 HK\$5.10 Rmb4.79 HK\$10.80 Rmb52.00 HK\$15.50 Rmb17.28 HK\$4.77 HK\$8.50 Rmb34.04 HK\$26.05 US\$15.23
Qianlei Fan, CFA  Beijing Capital Int'l Airport (0694.HK) China Merchants Port Holdings (0144.HK) COSCO SHIPPING Energy Transportation (1138.HK) COSCO SHIPPING Energy Transportation (600026.SS) COSCO Shipping Holdings Ltd (601919.SS) COSCO Shipping Holdings Ltd (1919.HK) COSCO SHIPPING Ports Limited (1199.HK) Guangzhou Baiyun Int'l Airport (600004.SS) Hutchison Port Holdings Trust (HPHT.SI) Orient Overseas Int'l Limited (0316.HK) Pacific Basin Shipping (2343.HK) Shanghai International Airport (600009.SS) Shanghai International Port Group Co Ltd (600018.SS) Shenzhen Airport Company (000089.SZ)	E (12/17/2013) E (12/07/2017) E (10/18/2016) U (10/18/2016) U (10/26/2017) E (02/22/2017) U (12/07/2017) U (08/29/2017) U (10/26/2017) U (10/18/2017) O (10/18/2016) O (08/28/2015) E (12/07/2017) O (01/27/2016)	HK\$11.18 HK\$18.30 HK\$4.34 Rmb5.72 Rmb6.28 HK\$4.24 HK\$7.21 Rmb15.94 US\$0.34 HK\$73.45 HK\$2.27 Rmb49.84 Rmb7.41

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