

Lok'nStore Group 86.5p Continuing Occupancy & Price Increases

28 July 2010

Share Price: 86.5p



Shares in Issue: 25m fully diluted

12m High: 105.5p 12m Low: 56.5p Shares In Issue: 25m Market Cap: 22m

NAV/Share: 210p with properties at valuation

Gearing: 65% with properties at valuation (46%

ignoring deferred tax liability)

Interest Cover: 1.8X

EPIC Code: LOK.L
Sector: Support Services
Market: London AIM
Broker: Arbuthnot Securities

PR: Financial Dynamics +44 (0) 207 831 3113

Website: www.loknstore.co.uk

Description: Lok'nStore is the fourth largest self-storage group in the UK with a c. 5% market share. It owns 23 self-storage centres in the affluent South East of England, 21 of which are open. The freehold/leasehold sq ft split is 64/36. The household/business revenue (£) split is

Analyst: Rae Ellingham Tel: 0207 929 3565

Email: research@hardmanandco.com

Lok'nStore Group plc (Lok'nStore) has released a pre-close trading update in which the company reports that "trading has been good" and its results for the full year to 31 July 2010 will be in line with market expectations. We currently expect the company to report a full year profit before tax of circa £300k on group sales of £10.3m.

Key points from the statement are:

- Occupancy up 3%
- Prices up 5% over the twelve month period
- A continued focus on cash generation with cash at £5m cf cash of £3.9m at 31 January 2010
- Further asset management gains with leases on two stores being extended on significantly improved terms.

Despite the uncertainty inherent in the economy storage occupancy has continued to grow. This growth in part reflects an active investment in sales training, in order that Lok'nStore's staff can both generate more enquiries and convert these enquiries into new business.

Price increases have also been implemented at a number of stores. We believe that there is continued scope for further increases with Lok'nStore's average prices historically lower than those of its competitors.

With Lok'nStore's cost base largely fixed the combination of occupancy and price increases has led to margin improvement year on year.

On the asset base side, a cautious approach to new capital expenditure is being maintained – and this will likely remain the case until there is clear evidence that the UK is in an economic recovery. Meanwhile, where possible Lok'nStore will look to generate gains from its portfolio as it has recently demonstrated at two stores.

Full year results for the year to 31 July 2010 will be released on 8 November. If the good news flow continues to come we expect that we may well be looking at an upgrade.

Y/E	Group Sales	Group EBITDA	Declared Profit/(Loss)	Adjusted Profit/(Loss)	Adjusted EPS	Mkt Cap/ EBITDA	Divi	Yield
July	£m	£m	£m	£m	Р	X	Р	%
2008A	10.8	2.7	(0.74)	(0.31)	(1.5)	8.4	1.00	1.1
2009A	10.0	2.5	(0.66)	(0.66)	(2.4)	9.4	1.00	1.1
2010E	10.3	2.7	0.30	0.30	1.2	8.5	1.00	1.1
2011E	11.1	3.3	0.55	0.55	2.19	7.0	1.00	1.1



Lok'nStore Group

28 July 2010



Lok'nStore Group

28 July 2010

Management	Major Shareholders				
Chairman: Simon Thomas	Andrew Jacobs: 20.8%				
Chief Executive Officer: Andrew Jacobs	Audley Capital: 16.7%				
Finance Director: Ray Davies	Laxey Partners 9.4%				
Acquisitions Director: Colin Jacobs	Simon Thomas: 8.4%				
Non-Executive Director: Richard Holmes	Oliver Bernard Ellingham: 5.2%				
Non-Executive Director: Edward Luker	Charles Stanley 5.0%				
Non-Executive Director: Charles Peal					
Key Dates	Key Milestones				
Full Year Results: November 2010	April 1997: Floated on OFEX raising £1.1m at 38p March 2008: Second fundraising raised £1.15m at				
	60p/share November 1999: Takeover approach from ACCESS rejected. ACCESS takes 29% stake in co for £4.8m				
	June 2000: Lok'nStore moved to AIM				
	July 2002: Share placing at 155p per share raises £10m				
	January 2004: Second cash bid at 115p/share rejected				
	February 2007 : First purpose-build freehold store opened in Farnborough.				
	March 2007: Kingston unit sold to a residential developer for £10m (NBV: £0.98m)				
	January 2008 : Residential planning permission granted for existing Reading store.				
	April 2009 : Confirms an early stage expression of interest in the group from a third party				
	July 2009: Offer talks terminated				



Lok'nStore Group

28 July 2010

Disclaimer

The conclusions and opinions expressed in the investment research accurately reflect the views of the first named analyst. Hardman & Co provides professional independent research services and the companies researched pay a set fee in order for this research to be made available. While the information in the research is believed to be correct, this cannot be guaranteed. There are no other conflicts of interest.

Neither Hardman & Co nor the analysts responsible for this research own shares in the companies analysed in this research note. Neither do they hold any other securities or derivatives (including options and warrants) in the companies concerned. Hardman & Co does not transact corporate finance and therefore does not earn corporate finance fees. It does not buy or sell shares, and does not undertake investment business either in the UK or elsewhere

Hardman & Co does not make recommendations. Accordingly we do not publish records of our past recommendations. Where a Fair Value price is given in a research note this is the theoretical result of a study of a range of possible outcomes, and not a forecast of a likely share price.

Our research is issued in good faith but without legal responsibility and is subject to change or withdrawal without notice. Members of the professional investment community are encouraged to contact the analyst concerned.

This research is provided for the use of the professional investment community, market counterparties and sophisticated and high net worth investors as defined in the rules of the regulatory bodies. It is not intended to be made available to unsophisticated individuals. In the UK, any such individual who comes into possession of this research should consult their properly authorized professional adviser, or undertake one of the 'self certified' sophisticated investor tests that are available.

This research is not an offer to buy or sell any security.

Past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future and the price of shares, and the income derived from them, may fall as well as rise and the amount realised may be less than the original sum invested. For AIM and PLUS shares, it is the opinion of the regulator that risks are higher. Furthermore the marketability of these shares is often restricted.

This document must not be accessed or used in any way that would be illegal in any jurisdiction.

In some cases research is only issued electronically and in some cases printed research will be received by those on our distribution lists later than those receiving research electronically.

The report may be reproduced either whole or in part on condition that attribution is given to Hardman & Co, and on condition that Hardman & Co accepts no liability whatsoever for the actions of third parties in this respect.

Hardman & Co is not regulated by the Financial Services Authority (FSA).

© Hardman & Co.

Hardman & Co

4-5 Castle Court London EC3V 9DL United Kingdom

Tel: +44(0)20 7929 3399 Fax: +44(0)20 7929 3377

www.hardmanandco.com



www.hardmanandco.com