[Korea] Media March 8, 2023

Studio Dragon

(253450 KQ)

1Q23 review: Enhanced earnings fundamentals



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1Q23 review

Revenue of W211.1bn (+74% YoY) and OP of W21.6bn (+19% YoY)

- Revenue beat the consensus (W166.6bn) and our estimate (W170.3bn) by 27% and 24%, respectively.
- Operating profit beat the consensus (W20.2bn) and our estimate (W18.7bn) by 7% and 16%, respectively.
- Overall top-line growth was driven by licensing revenue, which jumped 113% YoY on increased sales of OTT originals and new titles. Profits were boosted by a higher number of simultaneously aired titles and a better recoup rate compared to last year.

2Q23 and 2H23 outlook

Growth prospects look stronger in 2H23

- For 2Q23, we expect revenue of W188.3bn (+20% YoY) and operating profit of W25.8bn (-5% YoY).
- While fewer titles will be aired in 2Q23 (77) than in 1Q23 (112), we expect robust margins, supported by an increase in simultaneous releases on global OTTs (*Family, Tale of the Nine Tailed 1938*. etc.)
- While there are growing uncertainties surrounding the domestic business environment (e.g., a
 weak ad market and the captive channel's tentative suspension of the Wednesday/Thursday
 drama slot), an increase in licensing revenue should partially offset weaker programming
 revenue.
- We continue to expect the company to see stable margin expansion in 2023, backed by: 1) customer diversification and an increased number of titles supplied to OTTs; 2) volume growth resulting from bigger budgets per title; and 3) more favorable terms with a global OTT.

Valuation

Maintain Buy and TP of W88,000

- In addition to improved recoup rates resulting from volume deals with Netflix and Disney+, we
 expect the company to see revenue from new and existing titles through customer
 diversification (to platforms like Amazon Prime).
- For 2023, we foresee operating profit of W84.5bn (+30% YoY). Higher selling prices (backed by a strong track record) should bolster profit margins of individual titles and give rise to IP leverage effects.

Key data 110 100 90 80 70 60 5.22 9.22 1.23 5.23

| Current price (5/4/23, W) | 68,000 | Market cap (Wbn) | 2,044 |
|---------------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|
| OP (23F, Wbn) | 84 | Shares outstanding (mn) | 30 |
| Consensus OP (23F, Wbn) | 88 | Free float (%) | 45.2 |
| EPS growth (23F, %) | 26.9 | Foreign ownership (%) | 8.8 |
| P/E (23F, x) | 31.8 | Beta (12M) | 0.34 |
| Market P/E (23F, x) | 15.0 | 52-week low (W) | 59,100 |
| KOSDAQ | 845.06 | 52-week high (W) | 88,900 |

Share performance

| (%) | 1M | 6M | 12M |
|----------|------|-------|-------|
| Absolute | -4.0 | 4.6 | -20.3 |
| Relative | -2.6 | -14.1 | -15.1 |

Earnings and valuation metrics

| (Dec.) | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023F | 2024F | 2025F |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Revenue (Wbn) | 526 | 487 | 698 | 860 | 958 | 1,067 |
| OP (Wbn) | 49 | 53 | 65 | 84 | 104 | 117 |
| OP margin (%) | 9.3 | 10.9 | 9.3 | 9.8 | 10.9 | 11.0 |
| NP (Wbn) | 30 | 39 | 51 | 64 | 79 | 91 |
| EPS (W) | 1,044 | 1,301 | 1,684 | 2,137 | 2,644 | 3,031 |
| ROE (%) | 5.7 | 6.0 | 7.5 | 9.6 | 11.0 | 11.3 |
| P/E (x) | 88.7 | 69.9 | 51.1 | 31.8 | 25.7 | 22.4 |
| P/B (x) | 4.6 | 4.0 | 3.9 | 3.0 | 2.7 | 2.4 |
| Div. yield (%) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

Notes: Under consolidated K-IFRS; NP is attributable to owners of the parent

Source: Company data, Mirae Asset Securities Research estimates



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Table 1. 1Q23 review (Wbn)

| | | | | 1Q | 23 | | | |
|-------------|-------|------|--------|---------------------------|--------|-----------|------|-------|
| | 1Q22 | 4Q22 | Actual | Mirae Asset Securities | Diff. | Consensus | YoY | QoQ |
| Revenue | 121 | 191 | 211 | 170 | 24% | 167 | 74% | 11% |
| Programming | 35 | 54 | 43 | 54 | -20% | | 22% | -20% |
| Licensing | 78 | 133 | 166 | 108 | 54% | | 113% | 25% |
| Other | 8 | 4 | 2 | 9 | -74% | | -71% | -38% |
| OP | 18 | 1 | 22 | 19 | 16% | 20 | 19% | 1731% |
| OP margin | 15.0% | 0.6% | 10.2% | 11.0% | -0.8%p | 12.1% | | |
| NP | 16 | -8 | 18 | 16 | 18% | 17 | 18% | TTB |

Source: Company data, QuantiWise, Mirae Asset Securities Research

Table 2. Quarterly/annual earnings and forecasts (revised)

(Wbn)

| | 1Q22 | 2Q22 | 3Q22 | 4Q22 | 1Q23 | 2Q23F | 3Q23F | 4Q23F | 2022 | 2023F | 2024F |
|-------------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|
| Revenue | 121 | 157 | 229 | 191 | 211 | 188 | 227 | 234 | 698 | 860 | 958 |
| Programming | 35 | 44 | 59 | 54 | 43 | 32 | 58 | 43 | 193 | 176 | 189 |
| Licensing | 78 | 104 | 166 | 133 | 166 | 143 | 159 | 182 | 480 | 649 | 732 |
| Other | 8 | 10 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 13 | 9 | 10 | 25 | 35 | 37 |
| OP | 18 | 27 | 19 | 1 | 22 | 26 | 27 | 10 | 65 | 84 | 104 |
| OP margin | 15% | 17% | 8% | 1% | 10% | 14% | 12% | 4% | 9% | 10% | 11% |
| NP | 16 | 26 | 18 | -8 | 18 | 21 | 21 | 3 | 51 | 64 | 79 |
| YoY | 3% | 49% | 97% | 29% | 74% | 20% | -1% | 23% | 43% | 23% | 11% |
| Programming | -19% | 55% | 64% | 2% | 22% | -27% | -2% | -21% | 19% | -9% | 7% |
| Licensing | 23% | 54% | 155% | 66% | 113% | 37% | -4% | 37% | 74% | 35% | 13% |
| Other | -22% | -5% | -75% | -75% | -71% | 38% | 151% | 164% | -50% | 39% | 5% |
| ОР | 1% | 96% | 30% | -81% | 19% | -5% | 44% | 727% | 24% | 30% | 23% |

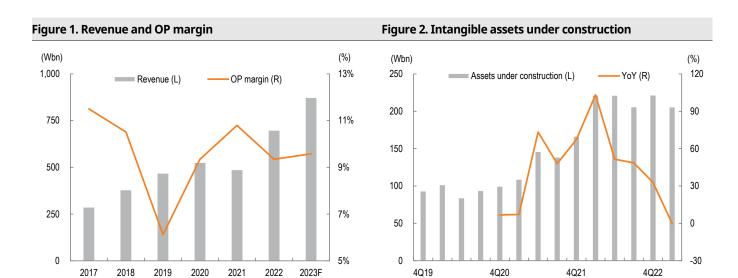
Source: Company data, Mirae Asset Securities Research

Table 3. Earnings forecast revisions

(Wbn)

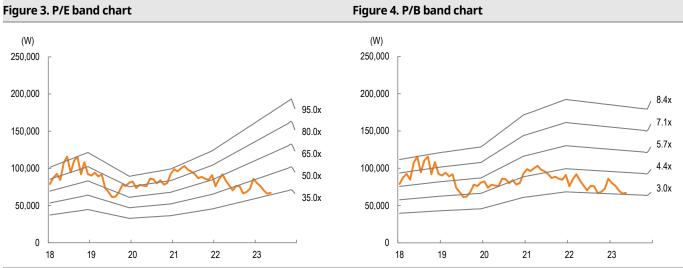
| | | Previous | | | Revised | | | % chg. | |
|-------------|-------|----------|-------|-------|---------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| | 2Q23F | 2023F | 2024F | 2Q23F | 2023F | 2024F | 2Q23F | 2023F | 2024F |
| Revenue | 202 | 873 | 982 | 188 | 860 | 958 | -7% | -1% | -2% |
| Programming | 39 | 208 | 229 | 32 | 176 | 189 | -17% | -15% | -18% |
| Licensing | 149 | 624 | 714 | 143 | 649 | 732 | -4% | 4% | 3% |
| Other | 13 | 41 | 39 | 13 | 35 | 37 | 0% | -16% | -6% |
| OP | 27 | 84 | 102 | 26 | 84 | 104 | -6% | 1% | 2% |
| NP | 22 | 57 | 64 | 21 | 64 | 79 | -6% | 12% | 24% |

Source: Mirae Asset Securities Research



Source: Mirae Asset Securities Research

Source: Mirae Asset Securities Research



Source: QuantiWise, Mirae Asset Securities Research

Source: QuantiWise, Mirae Asset Securities Research

Table 4. Studio Dragon: 2023 pipeline

| | Channel/platform | Title | Air dates | No. of episodes | Notes |
|----|------------------|---|------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| 1 | | Alchemy of Souls (part 2) | 12/10/22-1/8/23 | 10 | Simultaneous (Netflix) |
| 2 | | Missing: The Other Side (season 2) | 12/19/22-1/31/23 | 14 | |
| 3 | | Poong, the Joseon Psychiatrist (season 2) | 1/11/23-2/9/23 | 10 | |
| 4 | | Crash Course in Romance | 1/14/23-/5/23 | 16 | Simultaneous (Netflix) |
| 5 | tvN | Our Blooming Youth | 2/6/23-4/11/23 | 20 | |
| 6 | LVIN | The Heavenly Idol | 2/15/23-3/23/23 | 12 | |
| 7 | | Pandora: Beneath the Paradise | 3/11/23-4/30/23 | 16 | Simultaneous (Disney+) |
| 8 | | Stealer: The Treasure Keeper | 4/12/23-5/18/23 | 12 | |
| 9 | | Family | 4/17/23-5/23/23 | 12 | Simultaneous (Disney+) |
| 10 | | Tale of the Nine Tailed 1938 | 5/6/23-6/11/23 | 12 | |
| 11 | | Delightfully Deceitful | 5/29/23-7/18/23 | 16 | |
| 12 | | See You in My 19th Life | 6/23 | 12 | Simultaneous (Netflix) |
| 13 | | Truth | 6/23 | 16 | |
| 14 | | The Uncanny Counter (season 2) | 7/23 | | |
| 15 | TVING | Arthdal Chronicles: The Sword of Aramoon | 2023 | 12 | |
| 16 | IVING | Queen of Tears | 2023 | | |
| 17 | | Island (part 1) | 12/30/22-1/13/23 | 6 | Original |
| 18 | | Island (part 2) | 2/24/23-3/10/23 | 6 | Original |
| 19 | | Duty After School (part 1) | 3/31/23 | 6 | Original |
| 20 | | Duty After School (part 2) | 4/1/23 | 4 | Original |
| 21 | | The Glory (part 2) | 3/10/23 | 8 | Original |
| 22 | | Celebrity | 2023 | 12 | Original |
| 23 | Netflix | Song of the Bandits | 2023 | | Original |
| 24 | Neulix | Gyeongseong Creature (season 1) | 2023 | 10 | Original |
| 25 | | Doona! | 2023 | 8 | Original |
| 26 | | Sweet Home (season 2) | 2023 | | Original |
| 27 | Disney+ | Shadow Detective (season 2) | 7/23 | | Original |
| 28 | Apple T/ | The Big Door Prize (season 1) | 3/31/23-5/17/23 | 10 | 2H22 |
| 29 | Apple TV+ | The Big Door Prize (season 2) | 2023 | | |
| 30 | Coupang Play | Decoy(part 1) | 1/27/23-2/10/23 | 6 | |
| 31 | Coupang Play | Decoy(part 2) | 4/7/23-4/21/23 | 6 | 1Q23 |

Source: Mirae Asset Securities Research

Studio Dragon (253450 KQ)

Income statement (summarized)

| (Wbn) | 2022 | 2023F | 2024F | 2025F |
|-------------------------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| Revenue | 698 | 860 | 958 | 1,067 |
| Cost of revenue | 598 | 736 | 808 | 900 |
| GP | 100 | 124 | 150 | 167 |
| SG&A expenses | 35 | 40 | 45 | 50 |
| OP (adj.) | 65 | 84 | 104 | 117 |
| OP | 65 | 84 | 104 | 117 |
| Non-operating profit | -6 | -3 | -3 | -5 |
| Net financial income | -3 | -4 | 9 | 20 |
| Net income from associates | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pretax profit | 59 | 81 | 101 | 112 |
| Income tax | 8 | 17 | 22 | 21 |
| Profit from continuing operations | 51 | 64 | 79 | 91 |
| Profit from discontinued operations | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NP | 51 | 64 | 79 | 91 |
| Attributable to owners | 51 | 64 | 79 | 91 |
| Attributable to minority interests | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total comprehensive income | -26 | 64 | 79 | 91 |
| Attributable to owners | -26 | 64 | 79 | 91 |
| Attributable to minority interests | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| EBITDA | 219 | 231 | 196 | 188 |
| FCF | -67 | 203 | 155 | 132 |
| EBITDA margin (%) | 31.4 | 26.9 | 20.5 | 17.6 |
| OP margin (%) | 9.3 | 9.8 | 10.9 | 11.0 |
| Net margin (%) | 7.3 | 7.4 | 8.2 | 8.5 |

Balance sheet (summarized)

| Dalarice Street (Sarrii larizea) | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| (Wbn) | 2022 | 2023F | 2024F | 2025F |
| Current assets | 400 | 591 | 723 | 871 |
| Cash & equivalents | 124 | 252 | 380 | 489 |
| AR & other receivables | 142 | 174 | 177 | 197 |
| Inventory | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other current assets | 134 | 165 | 166 | 185 |
| Non-current assets | 691 | 579 | 530 | 509 |
| Investments in associates | 13 | 16 | 16 | 18 |
| PP&E | 11 | 13 | 16 | 21 |
| Intangible assets | 378 | 261 | 209 | 181 |
| Total assets | 1,091 | 1,170 | 1,254 | 1,380 |
| Current liabilities | 416 | 473 | 477 | 512 |
| AP & other payables | 84 | 104 | 105 | 117 |
| Short-term financial liabilities | 173 | 174 | 174 | 175 |
| Other current liabilities | 159 | 195 | 198 | 220 |
| Non-current liabilities | 14 | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| Long-term financial liabilities | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| Other non-current liabilities | 5 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Total liabilities | 430 | 487 | 492 | 527 |
| Equity attributable to owners | 661 | 682 | 762 | 853 |
| Capital stock | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| Capital surplus | 473 | 473 | 473 | 473 |
| Retained earnings | 213 | 277 | 356 | 447 |
| Minority interests | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Shareholders' equity | 661 | 682 | 762 | 853 |

Cash flow statement (summarized)

| (Wbn) | 2022 | 2023F | 2024F | 2025F |
|-------------------------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| Operating cash flow | -63 | 207 | 160 | 138 |
| NP | 51 | 64 | 79 | 91 |
| Non-cash income/expenses | 176 | 165 | 103 | 71 |
| Depreciation | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Amortization | 150 | 144 | 90 | 70 |
| Other | 23 | 19 | 12 | 0 |
| Chg. in working capital | -280 | -6 | 0 | -3 |
| Chg. in AR & other receivables | -35 | -33 | -3 | -20 |
| Chg. in inventory | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Chg. in AP & other payables | 12 | 4 | 0 | 2 |
| Income tax | -10 | -17 | -22 | -21 |
| Cash flow from investing activities | -43 | -14 | -12 | -7 |
| Chg. in PP&E | -4 | -4 | -5 | -6 |
| Chg. in intangible assets | -3 | -28 | -38 | -42 |
| Chg. in financial assets | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | -36 | 18 | 31 | 41 |
| Cash flow from financing activities | 165 | -19 | -20 | -20 |
| Chg. in financial liabilities | 172 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Chg. in equity | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dividends | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | -10 | -20 | -20 | -20 |
| Chg. in cash | 59 | 128 | 128 | 110 |
| Beginning balance | 65 | 124 | 252 | 380 |
| Ending balance | 124 | 252 | 380 | 489 |

Source: Company data, Mirae Asset Securities Research estimates

Key valuation metrics/ratios

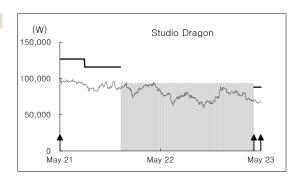
| ncy valuation metrics/ratios | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | 2022 | 2023F | 2024F | 2025F |
| P/E (x) | 51.1 | 31.8 | 25.7 | 22.4 |
| P/CF(x) | 11.4 | 8.9 | 11.2 | 12.6 |
| P/B (x) | 3.9 | 3.0 | 2.7 | 2.4 |
| EV/EBITDA (x) | 12.1 | 8.5 | 9.4 | 9.2 |
| EPS (W) | 1,684 | 2,137 | 2,644 | 3,031 |
| CFPS (W) | 7,544 | 7,629 | 6,067 | 5,391 |
| BPS (W) | 21,982 | 22,694 | 25,338 | 28,369 |
| DPS (W) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dividend payout ratio (%) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Dividend yield (%) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Revenue growth (%) | 43.3 | 23.3 | 11.3 | 11.3 |
| EBITDA growth (%) | 44.1 | 5.6 | -15.0 | -4.2 |
| OP growth (%) | 24.0 | 29.5 | 23.6 | 11.8 |
| EPS growth (%) | 29.4 | 26.9 | 23.7 | 14.6 |
| AR turnover (x) | 5.3 | 5.4 | 5.5 | 5.7 |
| Inventory turnover (x) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| AP turnover (x) | 36.1 | 40.8 | 40.3 | 42.2 |
| ROA (%) | 5.1 | 5.7 | 6.6 | 6.9 |
| ROE (%) | 7.5 | 9.6 | 11.0 | 11.3 |
| ROIC (%) | 12.1 | 13.8 | 20.2 | 25.5 |
| Debt-to-equity ratio (%) | 65.1 | 71.5 | 64.6 | 61.8 |
| Current ratio (%) | 96.1 | 125.0 | 151.6 | 170.2 |
| Net debt-to-equity ratio (%) | 8.9 | -10.8 | -26.4 | -36.4 |
| Interest coverage ratio (x) | 13.2 | 4.3 | 5.2 | 5.8 |
| | | | | |

Appendix 1

Important disclosures and disclaimers

Two-year rating and TP history

| Company | Date | Rating | TP (W) |
|------------------------|----------|-------------|---------|
| Studio Dragon (253450) | 04/13/23 | Buy | 88,000 |
| | 12/15/21 | No Coverage | |
| | 08/06/21 | Buy | 116,000 |
| | 05/07/21 | Buv | 127.000 |



| Stock ratings | | Sector ratings | | |
|---------------|--|----------------|--|--|
| Buy | Expected 12-month performance: +20% or greater | Overweight | Expected to outperform the market over 12 months | |
| Trading Buy | Expected 12-month performance: +10% to +20% | Neutral | Expected to perform in line with the market over 12 months | |
| Hold | Expected 12-month performance: -10% to +10% | Underweight | Expected to underperform the market over 12 months | |
| Sell | Expected 12-month performance: -10% or worse | | | |

Rating and TP history: Share price (−), TP (−), Not Rated (□), Buy (▲), Trading Buy (■), Hold (♦), Sell (♦)

- * Our investment rating is a guide to the expected return of the stock over the next 12 months.
- * Outside of the official ratings of Mirae Asset Securities Co., Ltd., analysts may call trading opportunities should technical or short-term material developments arise.
- *The TP was determined by the research analyst through valuation methods discussed in this report, in part based on estimates of future earnings.
- *TP achievement may be impeded by risks related to the subject securities and companies, as well as general market and economic conditions.

Ratings distribution and investment banking services

| | Buy | Trading Buy | Hold | Sell |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------------|------|------|
| Ratings distribution | 85.7% | 10.7% | 2.9% | 0.7% |
| Investment banking services | 87.5% | 12.5% | 0% | 0% |

^{*} Based on recommendations in the last 12-months (as of March 31, 2023)

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