

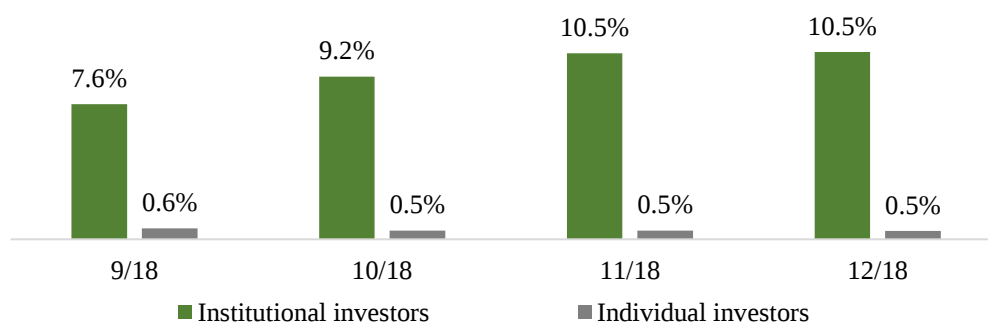
SBT COMPLETED PROCEDURES FOR PAYMENT OF CASH DIVIDENDS, CONTINUES TO PROCEED PAYMENT OF STOCK DIVIDENDS

On December 27, 2018, Thanh Thanh Cong Bien Hoa Joint Stock Company (TTC Bien Hoa, Company, SBT) received approval from the State Securities Commission (SSC) on the issuance of 29,725,066 shares for dividend payment of Fiscal year (FY) 16-17, equivalent to 6% of the outstanding shares with a total value of over VND 297 billion. The ex-right date is on January 14, 2019, the record date is January 15, 2018 and the dividend payment is expected to take place in the first quarter of 2019 as committed by the Board of Directors. In the year 2018-2019, SBT has set a plan to increase its net revenue to 12%, equivalent to VND 11,545 billion and profit before tax is VND 680 billion, equivalent to the FY 17-18 in the context of the world Sugar Industry is gradually improve again. The expansion of the scale of capital through issuance shares for dividend payment will also be one of the resources for the Company to implement the strategy of product diversification, especially Organic Sugar products will play a key role in the highly competitive product group and providing added value to the Company and customers to catch up with the global market trend.

In addition to the plan to pay dividends in shares, the commitment to pay advance dividends in cash of 4% for FY 17-18 is also implemented quickly by SBT. The ex-right date is December 24, 2018, which is also the day when SBT's price is adjusted, however, the closing price of SBT still reached 20,300 VND/share, up 1% compared to the opening price. The Company will officially transfer dividends to shareholders' accounts from January 25, 2019 with each share will be received VND 400.

In the last 3 months, SBT was traded actively when the liquidity always fluctuated approximately 3.9 million shares/session, much higher than other companies in the sugar industry when these companies only reached about 300 thousand shares/session. In 2018, Vietnam's securities market suddenly became one of ten markets with the deepest decline in the world at 9.32%, the first time it fell after 6 consecutive years of high growth also foreign investors continue selling for several consecutive sessions. However, at the end of 2018, SBT still grew by nearly 46%, reached VND 20,800, compared to the lowest price at the time of May 2018 at the price of VND 14,250. In addition, SBT is among the stocks that foreign investors have placed their trust in thanks to its leading position in the industry, market share, export diversification and growth in the period of sugar industry recovering. Specifically, from September 1, 2018 to December 28, 2018, foreign investors spent VND 467 billion to buy more than 21.9 million SBT shares. At the end of 2018, foreign investors owned 11.0%, equivalent to nearly 61.3 million shares, up 2.8% about 15.4 million shares compared to September 28, 2018. Especially, in November, SBT for the first time appeared a major shareholder as a foreign organization, holding 5.7% of the total shares of the Company.

Proportion of owning SBT shares of foreign investors



Source: SBT

SBT's official announcement of the participation of foreign strategic investors has dispelled market doubts about the possibility of success of this deal. On December 19, 2018, HSC – one of the leading securities company in Vietnam also provided information related to SBT's strategic investors, in particular, SBT has not announced the name of new strategic partners because it is still in the process of making procedures with the SSC, however, according to rumors in the market, HSC believes that strategic partners are European investment funds. Besides, HSC also continued to make positive comments about SBT. Accordingly, HSC continued to maintain a HOLD rating for SBT with a fair value of VND21,724. HSC assesses SBT's long-term outlook to be positive thanks to the following factors: 1) It is the biggest player in the domestic sugar market with a 40% market share, and is in a favorable position to win more market share in almost all sugar subsegments by reasonable price strategy; 2) Economies of scale may reduce production costs to more competitive levels; 3) The Company boasts a wide product range portfolio and local flexibility to meet different requirements across all customers from cafes, cafes, small and medium enterprises to multinational corporations; and 4) Biomass electricity price is being considered to increase from 5.8 cents / kWh to 7.5 cents / kWh to support enterprises producing bagasse electricity such as SBT.

The Sugar Industry is also receiving a lot of attention and supports from the State and Department agencies. On November 22, 2018, Vietnam Sugar Industry in general, as well as Sugar enterprises and sugarcane farmers in particular received good news when the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) officially issued the Decision on planning to improve competitiveness of Sugar Industry 2018-2020. Accordingly, the MARD has directed to ensure the interests of sugarcane farmers through the implementation of preferential policies to support the contract of production and consumption of sugarcane products of farmers like to support the construction of associated projects and infrastructure. In order to achieve the set objectives, MARD will restructure the Sugarcane Sector in all three aspects: Raw Material Area; Products according to market requirements; System of Sugar factories; Ensure the combined efficiency of Sugar processing. For SBT, the Company is leading the Industry in these indicators including Raw Material Area with 58,600 ha, accounting for 25% of nationwide; 46+ Sugar products are in circulation; 9 Sugar Factories with a total production capacity of 620,000 tons of Sugar/year; focusing on developing Organic Sugar to export to European partners, ED&F MAN who signed SBT's commitment to consume products.

Previously, on October 17, 2018, Vietnam Sugar Industry also received a positive information when the European Commission adopted two EU-Vietnam agreements related to trade and investment, paving the way for signing EU- Viet Nam Free Trade Agreement (EVFTA) in early 2019. Right after the EVFTA was signed, commercial activities from Vietnam to EU will be tax-free after 7 years. EU devotes priority mechanism to import from Vietnam products such as rice, sugar cane and these products will not be taxed as well as quota ... These supports play an important role to support Vietnam Sugar Industry opportunities to develop strong export markets in the EU to diversify the revenue structure.

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