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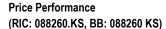
REITs
Asia | South Korea

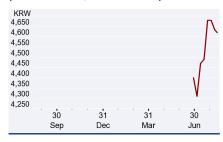
E Kocref CR-REIT (088260.KS - Not Rated)

Plans to Pay c7% Div Yield Based on Master Lease Contract

- Company Overview E Kocref CR-REIT (EKR) is an anchor REIT (Real Estate Investment Trust) with Eland Retail (unlisted) holding a 75% stake in the company. EKR is a paper company that owns five outlet buildings in Seoul metropolitan area (please see figure 3) which are all master-leased to Eland Retail for 16-20 years (until 2032 to 2038) with triple-net conditions (utility, insurance and tax-related costs) borne by the lessee, Eland Retail. The business model sees EKR collect annual rent from Eland Retail and pays out dividends after netting costs. The business operation of EKR, including asset management and rent collection, is done by KORAMCO (Korea Real Asset Management Company), the largest REIT management company in Korea. KORAMCO collects 0.2% of EKR's NAV annually as management fees.
- NAV of five stores Official appraisal values of its five stores total W827bn as of July 2017. EKR estimates its NAV at around W381bn (W6,015 per share) by considering the addition of W25bn net cash and deduction of W450bn bank loan and W21bn deposits after acquiring five building assets.
- Revenue and expenses The revenue is simply the rent collection from its five stores which are cW40bn annually (based on 2016 rent). Major operating expenses include 1) interest expenses (from W450bn debt) and 2) management fees to KORAMCO. Due to its master-lease contract with triple-net conditions, EKR does not bear any other rent-related expenses. The annual rent of cW40bn (based on 2016 rent) is CPI-adjusted (by a max. of 1.5-2.5% depending on the store) every year. The annual interest expense will be cW18bn (c4% interest rate) and management fees will be cW0.76bn (0.2% of EKR's NAV), according to the company. EKR plans to pay all of its earnings as dividend and expects an annual average of 7.2% yield for the next five years based on the share price of W5000 (IPO price). EKR announced that it will pay dividends twice (Mar and Sep) annually.
- Business Strategy EKR plans to increase its asset size through more acquisitions of commercial buildings. According to the company, the acquisitions would be funded through rights offering and/or increasing debt. Rather than limited-life project based REITs which are common in Korea, EKR targets to position as an ongoing REIT through further acquisitions.
- Industry Overview Korea REITs market showed strong growth of 24.1% CAGR during 2010-2017 to W34.5trn thanks to high investment yield and the stable nature of its assets. The market grew mainly through private institutional investors. As of end 2017, there were only 4 listed REITs and the remaining 189 were all private closed REITs. However, the current government is supportive of public REITs providing real-estate investment opportunities to individual investors and KORAMCO expects public REITs to show rapid growth in the coming years.

Price (14 Aug 18 15:45)	W4,620
Shares Outstanding	63M
Free Float (%)	100
Fiscal Year End	30 Jun
Market Cap	W292,005M
	US\$258M





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See Appendix A-1 for Analyst Certification, Important Disclosures and non-US research analyst disclosures.

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Prepared for JOHN YU

- Competitive Analysis EKR is the biggest market cap REIT in Korea. EKR is a REIT that secures long-term master lease contracts and is operated by the proven REITs management company, KORAMCO.
- Recent Results In 1Q18, EKR recorded W6.9bn revenue and W5.1bn OP. Notably this is based on three stores (Yatap, Ilsan and Pyungchon). EKR acquired two more stores (Seoul Chunggye and Bundang) in Aug through IPO proceeds.
- **Strengths** EKR has a high visible revenue profile through 16-20 years of master-lease contracts.
- Weakness EKR is exposed to the business performance of the lessee, Eland Retail. If Eland Retail is not able to pay the rent, EKR's revenue stream would be hurt.
- **Shareholders** Eland Retail holds 75% stake in EKR. The stock has 0.1% of foreign ownership.

Figure 1. Higher Yield of REITS vs. Safe Assets

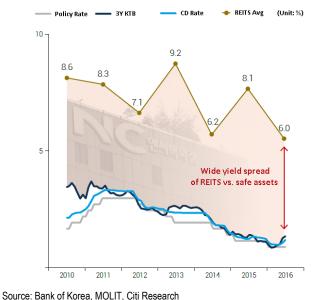
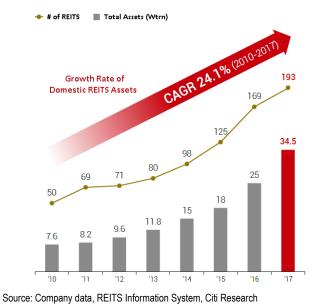


Figure 2. Market Size of Domestic REITS



Category	Note
1) NC Department Store (Yatap)	
Location	356, Yatap-dong, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyungki province
Floor areas	26,211.9 sqm (7,943 pyung)
# of floors	8 floors + 7 basement floors
Appraisal value (Jul 2017)	W228.2bn
# of population within 2km radius	50K households with 130K population
2) New Core Outlet (Ilsan)	
Location	797, Madu-dong, Ilsandong-gu, Goyang-si, Gyungki province
Floor areas	24,987.6 sqm (7,572 pyung)
# of floors	10 floors + 7 basement floors
Appraisal value (Jul 2017)	W149.3bn
# of population within 2km radius	60K households with 160K population
3) New Core Outlet (Pyungchon)	
Location	1039-3, Hogye-dong, Dongan-gu, Anyang-si, Gyungki province
Floor areas	28,725.6 sgm (8,705 pyung)
# of floors	12 floors + 7 basement floors
Appraisal value (Jul 2017)	W188.1bn
# of population within 2km radius	130K households with 350K population
4) 2001 Outlet (Joonggye)	
Location	509, Joonggye-dong, Nowon-gu, Seoul
Floor areas	31,709.1 sqm (9,592 pyung)
# of floors	8 floors + 4 basement floors
Appraisal value (Jul 2017)	W119.2bn
# of population within 1km radius	30K households
5) 2001 Outlet (Bundang)	
Location	11-1, Gumi-dong, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyungki province
Floor areas	45,765.3 sqm (13,884 pyung)
# of floors	8 floors + 4 basement floors
Appraisal value (Jul 2017)	W142.2bn
# of population within 1km radius	20K households

Appendix A-1

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	12 Month Rating			Catalyst Watch		
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