



Thermax Limited

Partnering to Build a Clean World for Better Tomorrow





Accumulate

Key Data	
DATE	13.07.2023
Reco Price (Rs.)	2300-2325
Target Price (Rs.)	2,935
Sector	Capital Goods
BSE Code	500411
NSE Code	THERMAX
EPS (FY23)	37.79
Face Value (Rs.)	2.00
Market Cap (Mn)	2,76,389
52-week High/Low (Rs)	2,678.50 / 1,830.35

Source: NSE. BSE

Shareholding pattern (June-2023)	%
Promoters	61.99
DIIs	15.50
FIIs	12.35
Public	4.67
Others	5.49
Total	100.00

Source : NSE. BSE



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Thermax Limited

Company Background

Thermax Limited (THERMAX) is a multinational engineering conglomerate that is involved in clean air, clean energy, and clean water solutions. Headquartered in Pune, it has emerged as a leading conglomerate in the energy and environment sector. The company has strategically spread its operations to markets worldwide and catering to a gamut of industries. The Company's portfolio includes boilers and heaters, absorption chillers/ heat pumps, power plants, solar equipment, air pollution control equipment/ system, water and waste recycle plants, ion exchange resins and performance chemicals, and related services. THERMAX operates globally through 34 international offices, 22 domestic offices, and 14 manufacturing facilities of which 10 are in India and one each in Denmark, Indonesia, Poland, and Germany.

The company's presence spans in terms of installation in 90+ countries and it supports customers through an extensive sales and service network spread over Asia, South East Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Europe, and America. The group consists of 17 wholly-owned domestic subsidiaries and 20 wholly-owned overseas subsidiaries.

Outlook and Valuation

Thermax Limited provides equipment and services solutions in the areas of energy and environment which comprises heating, cooling, power, water & waste management, air pollution control, and chemicals. The company's focus on energy and environment-friendly solutions and products led to growth which is supported by changing emission norms and growing demand for green-energy solutions. The future of Thermax is closely aligned with the needs of a cleaner, greener, and healthier world. The Company is committed to its philosophy of 'Conserving Resources, Preserving the Future' with more sustainable projects in clean air, clean energy, and clean water. We believe Thermax Limited is well-placed to capitalize on these opportunities. Going ahead, we expect the company's revenue to grow at a CAGR of ~9.3% over FY23-FY26E. Hence, we recommend Thermax Limited with a target price of Rs 2935 based on FY26E EPS of Rs 58.7 with a forward PE valuation multiple of 50. It looks like a value buy with growth potential for medium to long-term investment. Hence, we recommend ACCUMULATE rating for the long term.

Financial Snapshot

Particulars (in Mn.)	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E	CAGR % (FY23 - FY26E)	
Sales	80,898.1	88,178.9	96,555.9	1,05,728.7	9.3%	
EBITDA	5,973.3	6,789.8	7,724.5	8,881.2	14.1%	
EBITDA Margin %	7.4%	7.7%	8.0%	8.4%		
PAT	4,507.0	5,060.3	5,896.6	6,996.6	15.8%	
PAT Margin %	5.6%	5.7%	6.1%	6.6%		
EPS	37.8	42.5	49.5	58.7	15.8%	
ROE %	11.6%	12.2%	13.2%	13.8%		
ROCE %	13.6%	14.9%	16.1%	17.4%		
Source: Company, ACMIIL Retail Research						



Company at a glance

- · Five decades of deep domain expertise in understanding the energy matrix and a team of dedicated engineers.
- · Sales and Service Presence in 30+ Countries
- · 3,767 Permanent Employees Globally
- The company has benefitted from clients' increasing focus on energy efficiency and carbon footprint reduction.
- Thermax is investing in green and clean technology and expanding its product portfolio.
- The company is setting up its first heat recovery waste to energy boiler in the UK.

Company Business and Products

Thermax Limited is an India-based company, which offers solutions to the energy, environment, and chemical sectors. It operates through four segments as below. The Company designs, builds, and commissions boilers for steam and power generation, turnkey power plants, industrial and municipal wastewater treatment plants, waste heat recovery systems, and air pollution control projects.

Segment	Businesses Covered
Industrial Products	Boilers & Heating equipment (small capacity), Absorption Chillers / Heat Pumps, Air Pollution Control Equipment/Systems, Water & Waste recycling, Including Associated Services and Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC).
Industrial Infra	EPC of Power Plants, Boiler & Heater (high capacity) Plants, Infra Projects, and Flue Gas Desulphurisation Projects (Includes Associated Services).
Green Solutions	Build, Own, and Operate (BOO) model of Green Solutions for Energy and Environment Utilities.
Chemical	Ion Exchange Resins, Performance Chemicals, Construction Chemicals, Water Treatment Chemicals, Oil Field Chemicals, Paper Chemicals, Construction Chemicals, and Related Services.
Source: Company, ACMIIL Retail R	esearch

The product portfolio of different segments include:

1. Industrial Products:

The Company's Industrial Products segment comprises its largest portfolio. Under Clean Energy, this segment supplies packaged boilers and fired heaters, in addition to offering turnkey solutions for process heating using various heating media such as steam, thermic fluid, hot water, and hot air. Moreover, it provides biomass-fired equipment for the combustion of green fuels, including agricultural waste and industrial process waste. The segment also offers heat recovery solutions for clean energy production and is supported by steam engineering products and accessories. Furthermore, it specializes in providing air pollution control systems for both particulate and gaseous exhaust. The Company's expertise extends to offering comprehensive solutions for environmental protection, covering products and systems for air pollution control (APC) as well as retrofit and rebuild services.

2. Industrial Infra:

Industrial Infra covers Projects and Energy Solutions (P&ES) and Thermax Babcock & Wilcox Energy Solutions (TBWES) businesses. P&ES offers captive power plants, cogeneration systems, waste heat recovery power plants, and independent power plants in the utility space on an EPC basis. The business provides captive and independent power plants operating on a variety of renewable fuels. It also offers equipment and solutions based on conventional fuels (solid, liquid, and gaseous). Cogeneration is a system that produces heat and electricity in a single plant powered by a single energy source.

3. Green Solutions:

The Green Solutions segment includes Thermax Onsite Energy Solutions Limited (TOESL) which provides green utilities such as steam, heat, treated water, chilled water, and cogeneration power, along with other utilities on a long-term basis (build-own-operate model). The Company has recently entered into a partnership for green hydrogen projects for commercial and industrial customers in India. The production of green hydrogen at an industrial scale would be a major step forward in decarbonizing hard-to-abate industries such as refineries, fertilizers, and steel.



4. Chemical:

The Chemical segment manufactures and markets a wide range of specialty chemicals to help improve processes and water use efficiency across a spectrum of industries. Thermax is recognized as Asia's leading manufacturer and exporter of ion exchange resins and is a pioneer in water and wastewater treatment chemicals. It also manufactures construction and oil-field chemicals. With these specialty chemicals and its strong dealer network, it serves several industrial sectors and customers globally. The company has equipped with modern research, state-of-the-art manufacturing facilities, and qualified professionals to offer customized solutions. The USA is an important market for this business.

Subsidiaries:

Thermax Babcock & Wilcox Energy Solutions Limited (TBWES)

TBWES, a 100% subsidiary of Thermax, provides steam generation solutions for process and power needs, using fuel as well as waste heat. Additionally, it offers renovation and modernization along with upgrades for old boilers and furnaces. To expand its green portfolio in conjunction with the trend toward clean energy, TBWES has developed newer technologies and formed strategic partnerships focused on waste to energy, municipal solid waste (MSW) incineration, and waste heat recovery, all of which are gaining traction. One of the most recent additions is the newly-launched FlexiSource multifuel boiler.

Thermax Onsite Energy Solutions Limited (TOESL)

TOESL is a sustainable utility provider that uses the build-own-operate (BOO) business model to deliver utilities such as steam, heat, treated water, and cogeneration power.

First Energy Private Limited (FEPL)

First Energy Private Limited (FEPL), is commissioned as solar and solar-wind hybrid farms to fulfil Company's customers' captive renewable power requirements.

Other Key Overseas Subsidiaries:

- 1. PT Thermax International, Indonesia (PT TII).
- 2. Thermax Europe
- 3. Danstoker Group
- 4. Thermax Inc., USA

Industries Catered

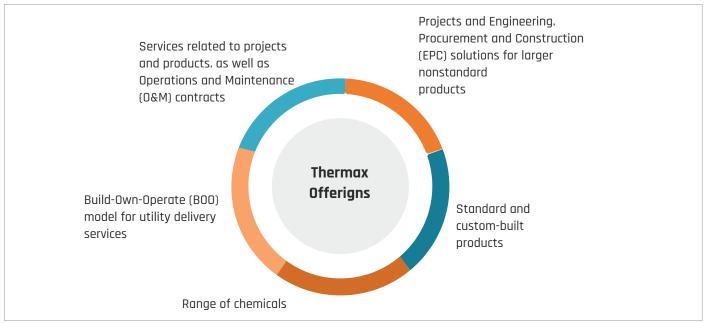
Thermax has a rich experience of working across industries –



Source: Company, ACMIIL Retail Research



Thermax Offerings



Source: Company, ACMIIL Retail Research

Investment Rationale

Adoption of Environmental Solution technologies

Private Capex revival with increased new investments by industries towards improving their sustainability performance with the adoption of environmental solution technologies. They are focused on minimizing carbon and water footprints and optimizing resource consumption with efficiency improvement solutions, renovation and modernization projects, and adopting energy-efficient technologies. Thermax with its heating, cooling, power, and diverse environmental solutions is well-positioned to address this need.

Capturing new opportunities

The company remains to capture opportunities in waste heat recovery, CFBC boilers, and biomass in both domestic and export markets. The Company is also contemplating opportunities across newer and green technologies such as solar, biomass, and green hydrogen which will provide the next leg of growth.

Ample growth opportunities

Industries such as steel and cement are undergoing capacity expansion, which bodes well for Thermax. The Indian Government's Union Budget announcement for infrastructure development and the PLI package will support demand in the coming years. The government's National Infrastructure Plan (NIP), which projects a total capital expenditure of ~Rs. 111 lakh crore during FY2020-2025, also augurs well for the growth of capital goods players. The significant allocation towards infrastructure is expected to provide healthy growth opportunities for the company.

Pursuing other alternate energy options

Thermax is also working on waste to energy, which is its forte. It has wide offerings and technological capabilities in desalination. The company has also solutions & Expertise in coal gasification, gas segregation and gas cleaning.

Diverse product portfolio and geographical presence leading to the stable revenue stream

Thermax is a leading player in several product segments, including vapor absorption chillers, low- and medium-capacity boilers, and electrostatic precipitators. Additionally, the company has been steadily expanding its global footprint, with approximately 25% of its revenue derived from overseas markets across various geographies.

Scope of margin improvement

The better product mix, revenue growth, and the softening of commodity prices, in general, are expected to lead to a high possibility of improving overall margins moving forward. The management anticipates a profit after tax (PAT) margin in the range of 6% to 8% in the coming years.

Growth in biomass

The company is in line with a plan to do better and establish itself as a leader in biomass, waste to energy, and municipal solid waste. The company is also focused on continuously innovating and staying ahead of the game for sustained growth. Thermax, with its range of solutions like biomass-fired boilers and heaters, municipal solid waste (MSW) boilers, multi-fuel-fired boilers, and electric boilers, is well positioned to address the need.



Bio-CNG Plant as another growth opportunity

Proposal by the Indian Government to establish 5,000 bio-CNG plants within five years, creating a potential market worth Rs. 25,000 crores. Moreover, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has also introduced a supportive Sustainable Alternative towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) policy, which guarantees market-linked pricing and financial assistance. This presents a promising opportunity with a favorable environment for Thermax.

New Products

The Company is working on low-emission air pollution control in which they are developing multiple new products in absorption chiller for a larger industrial cooling business. Thermax will also be getting into industrial heat pumps, not just absorption-based heat pumps, but electrical heat pumps for multiple applications. Later in the year, Company is also planning to come out with a different RO product. This will be a vibrant space for Thermax where they want to continuously be investing & coming up with new things.

Green Hydrogen to give an edge

Currently, green hydrogen is in a nascent stage, Thermax wants to be an end-to-end EPC player in a hydrogen project. They have an interest in the electrolyzer and biomass to hydrogen side. Thermax recently entered the green hydrogen market in partnership with Fortescue Future Industries (FFI), an Australia-based green energy and green technology company, have signed an MOU to explore green hydrogen projects including new manufacturing facilities in India.

Leveraging its brand

The Company is in line with a focus on leveraging its brand to strengthen current relationships through new offerings, enhancing capital allocation, margin improvement, and seeking new development options with worldwide partnerships.

Additional Key Growth Drivers

- The company has a robust outstanding order book of around 9752 cr as of 31.03.2023 indicating Revenue visibility for coming Quarters.
- The Company has a large order pipeline in waste heat recovery for the cement and steel industries, besides orders for FGDs, waste to energy, and build-own-operate based solutions.
- Thermax has benefitted from clients' increasing focus on energy efficiency and carbon footprint reduction. The Company is investing in green and clean technology and expanding its product portfolio.
- The global and domestic shift towards renewable energy aligns well with the company's solutions in waste-to-energy, waste heat recovery, and renewables. These offerings cater to the needs of both local and international enterprises.
- The Company's technological know-how, customized solutions, and well-trained field engineering staff have aided the expansion of the Green Solution segment. It has a full-fledged in-house R&D setup, including testing equipment, prototypes, pilot plants, and shop floor plant installation to validate product performance.
- THERMAX is going to focus on urban and commercial segments to offer sewage recycling solutions with newer compact products based on membrane bioreactor (MBR) and sequential batch reactor (SBR) technologies.
- The Company's strong emphasis on zero liquid discharge (ZLD) systems with advanced multi-effect evaporators gives new avenues for future growth.
- THERMAX is having a continuous increase in demand for solvent-free and low total organic carbon (TOC) resins for ultrapure water applications in industries such as food, pharma, and electronics.
- The company has widened the market reach of water treatment chemicals by focusing on digitalization and remote monitoring of water treatment products and systems.
- THERMAX is in line with new business development collaborations and industrial associations, OEMs, process licensors, and consultants in important markets.
- Thermax plans to invest INR 500-600 crores of equity and INR 1,500-2,000 crores of additional debt in its Green Solutions and TOESL segments over the next two years.
- With India's commitment to COP26, aiming to reduce carbon intensity to less than 45% by the end of the decade and achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2070, the company is well-positioned to seize opportunities in the emerging areas related to clean and sustainable energy.
- Tightened ESG standards, decarbonization, and energy transition would create opportunities for Thermax, with its expertise in heating, cooling, power, and diverse environmental solutions, putting it in a good position to capitalize.
- The company's state-of-the-art facilities in India, equipped with modularized equipment and offering significant value addition, are receiving positive responses from overseas customers.



Industry Overview

India's Capital Goods manufacturing industry serves as a strong base for its engagement across sectors such as Engineering, Construction, Infrastructure, and Consumer goods, amongst others.

The engineering sector is the largest among the industrial sectors in India and holds immense strategic importance to the country's economy due to its close association with the manufacturing and infrastructure sectors.

India exports transport equipment, capital goods, other machinery/equipment, and light engineering products such as castings, forgings, and fasteners to various countries of the world.

The demand for services in the engineering sector is being driven by capacity expansion in various industries such as cement, automotive and auto ancillaries, electricity, mining, oil and gas, refinery, steel, chemicals, sugar, and consumer durables. India holds a competitive advantage in terms of manufacturing costs, market knowledge, technology, and innovation in various engineering sub-sectors. The engineering sector in India has experienced remarkable growth in recent years.

Furthermore, the Indian government's policies and reforms aimed at boosting manufacturing, such as the Make in India initiative and the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes, are beginning to show positive outcomes. These initiatives are expected to contribute to the overall sustainable GDP growth of the country throughout this decade, as noted by many experts.

In June 2023, India's Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) recorded a robust figure of 58.5, reaching a level close to its highest point. This indicates strong manufacturing activities supported by overall demand and order inflow across various sectors. The government's budget for the current period included a capital expenditure (capex) outlay of 10 lakh crore, providing a significant impetus for the country's infrastructure and construction development. Such public capex initiatives and government policies are expected to stimulate private capex revival across industries and contribute to the overall GDP growth of the country.

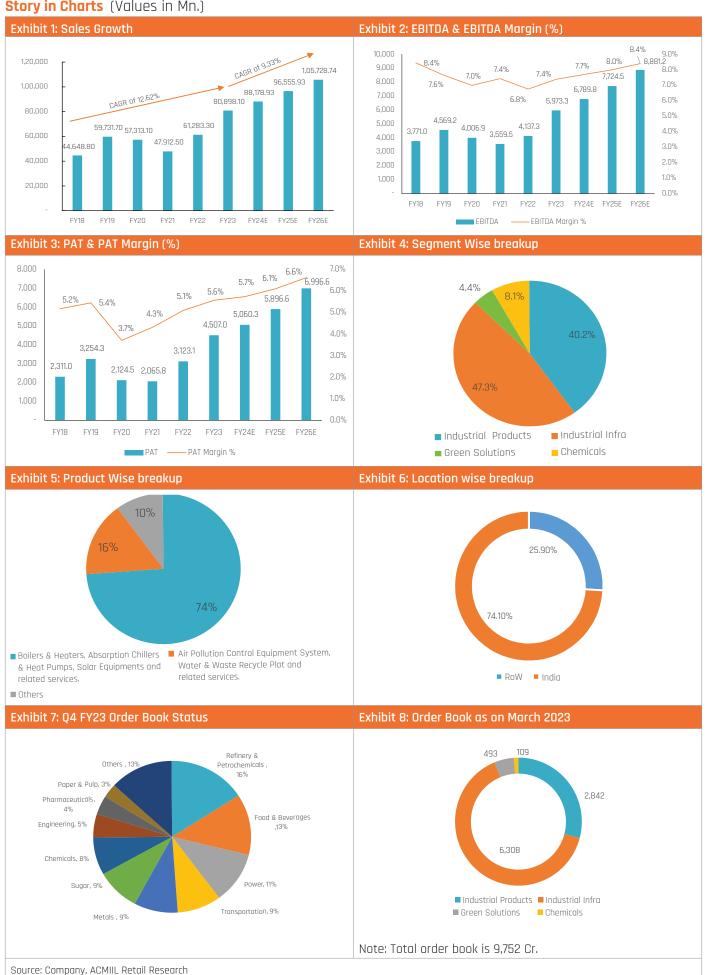
The government has also introduced several policies aimed at promoting the adoption of environmental solution technologies in new capex projects across industries. In addition, incentives and schemes have been implemented to encourage the use of renewables and alternative energy sources in industries, along with importation benefits.

Industry Growth Drivers

- Emphasis on clean energy driving a shift in the energy mix, creating opportunities for Greenfield projects and brownfield replacements.
- Increasing demand for EPC, renewable energy, waste to energy, waste heat recovery plants, and biofuels due to focus on sustainability and energy-efficient solutions.
- Increase in demand for dry cooling solutions and adiabatic cooling towers on account of sustainability and water consumption regulations.
- Development of new air pollution control technologies to manage diverse versions of gaseous pollutants and enable agrobased fuel combustion.
- Energy transition and action on climate change are major priorities of governments globally.
- Increasing demand for EPC, renewable energy, waste to energy, waste heat recovery plants, and biofuels due to focus on sustainability and energy-efficient solutions.
- Increase in demand for dry cooling solutions and adiabatic cooling towers on account of sustainability and water consumption regulations.
- In FY 2022-23, as a part of government borrowing, sovereign green bonds are to be launched to fund green infrastructure.
- Enforcement of air pollution emission norms globally.
- Government's mandate to power companies on installation of FGD systems within a stipulated timeframe to mitigate SOx emissions.



Story in Charts (Values in Mn.)





Financial Statements

Consolidated Profit & Loss Statement:

Particulars (in Mn.)	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Sales	44,648.8	59,731.7	57,313.1	47,912.5	61,283.3	80,898.1	88,178.9	96,555.9	1,05,728.7
Expenses	40,877.8	55,162.5	53,306.2	44,353.0	57,146.0	74,924.8	81,389.2	88,831.5	96,847.5
EBITDA	3,771.0	4,569.2	4,006.9	3,559.5	4,137.3	5,973.3	6,789.8	7,724.5	8,881.2
EBITDA Margin %	8.4%	7.6%	7.0%	7.4%	6.8%	7.4%	7.7%	8.0%	8.4%
Other Income	1,150.4	597.9	1,054.9	544.5	1,347.8	1,601.8	1,762.0	1,936.0	2,129.6
Depreciation	824.4	920.2	1,166.3	1,145.7	1,132.4	1,168.6	1,303.2	1,275.9	1,228.5
Interest	128.5	143.2	150.2	206.4	251.7	375.9	501.5	522.5	453.5
PBT	3,968.5	4,103.7	3,745.3	2,751.9	4,101.0	6,030.6	6,747.1	7,862.1	9,328.8
Tax	1,657.5	849.4	1,620.8	686.1	977.9	1,523.6	1,686.8	1,965.5	2,332.2
PAT	2,311.0	3,254.3	2,124.5	2,065.8	3,123.1	4,507.0	5,060.3	5,896.6	6,996.6
PAT Margin %	5.2%	5.4%	3.7%	4.3%	5.1%	5.6%	5.7%	6.1%	6.6%
EPS	19.4	27.3	17.8	17.3	26.2	37.8	42.5	49.5	58.7
ROE %	8.51%	10.80%	7.02%	6.35%	8.94%	11.65%	12.27%	13.21%	13.82%
ROCE %	13.90%	13.05%	11.96%	8.27%	11.28%	13.63%	14.93%	16.11%	17.46%
Source: Company, ACMIIL Retail	Source: Company, ACMIIL Retail Research								

Balance Sheet:

Particulars (In. Mn.)	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Liabilities:			1	'	1				
Equity Share Capital	225.2	225.2	225.2	225.2	225.2	225.2	225.2	225.2	225.2
Reserves	26,922.2	29,917.7	30,053.8	32,288.7	34,699.7	38,455.5	41,015.8	44,412.4	50,409.0
Borrowings	2,337.2	2,402.6	2,302.9	3,278.9	3,677.1	8,305.3	7,305.3	7,405.3	5,405.3
Other Liabilities	29,801.0	35,354.9	26,932.9	29,205.8	35,978.2	41,400.1	64,044.2	54,466.7	67,320.6
Total Liabilities	59,285.6	67,900.4	59,514.8	64,998.6	74,580.2	88,386.1	1,12,590.5	1,06,509.6	1,23,360.0
Assets:	'	'	,	,	,				
Net Block	9,726.8	13,118.6	12,829.8	12,420.4	11,947.4	12,481.7	13,178.5	12,902.6	12,424.1
Capital Work in Progress	1,033.7	401.2	560.0	241.6	443.2	4,337.7	2,337.7	1,337.7	587.7
Investments	14,717.3	8,293.4	8,752.0	2,344.6	14,765.3	16,260.8	18,760.8	21,260.8	22,260.8
Other Assets	30,867.9	42,396.6	32,558.1	30,600.0	37,889.3	43,990.1	59,231.0	52,565.1	63,485.3
Cash & Bank	2,939.9	3,690.6	4,814.9	19,392.0	9,535.0	11,315.8	19,082.6	18,443.3	24,602.1
Total Assets	59,285.6	67,900.4	59,514.8	64,998.6	74,580.2	88,386.1	1,12,590.5	1,06,509.6	1,23,360.0
Source: Company, ACMIIL Retai	Source: Company, ACMIIL Retail Research								

Risks and Concerns

- Economic slowdown due to external and internal factors can affect the overall GDP growth of the Country.
- · Any kind of unexpected change in government policies and Regulations.
- The slowdown in private capex would lead to the muted order booking.
- Geopolitical tensions and supply chain disruptions leading to volatility in commodity prices and higher logistics costs. Such fluctuations in key raw material prices impact may impact the overall business & profitability of the company



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