## GMT Research Accounting Screen

Short Name
GICS Ind Name
GICS Industry
Cntry of Dom
Most Recent Balance Sheet Period
Ticker
Latest Period
Current Fiscal Year
Well known audito
Country of incorporation:
Country of financials:

Textiles, Apparel \& Luxury Goods
252,030

| CN |
| :--- | :--- |
| $2017 ~ Y ~$ |

2331 HK

| Y |
| :--- |
| 2017 |

2017
Pricewaterhouse Coopers
Country of incorporation (Cayman Islands) is different from domicile (China) Currency of financials (Yuan Renminbi) is same as country of risk (China).

## Description:

i Ning Company Limited researches, designs, manufactures, distributes, and retails sports footwear, apparel and accessories for sport and leisure use.

Relevant GMT Research Reports (please go to our website and login):

|  |  |
| :--- | :--- |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Short-Seller's Report (for Asian companies only) |  |
|  | Low risk: Montier. |
| Summary of accounting risk for Y/FY17 | Strong: Piotrioski. |
| - Profit manipulation | Normal |
| - Financial position | No evidence |
| - General accounting | Low |
| - Shenanigans | Accounting risk: |

Profit Manipulation
Profit Manipulation: Beneish M-Score (See App 1)
Cooking the Books: Montier's C-Score (App 2)
Financial Position
Strength of Financial Position: Piotroski F-Score (App 3)
Risk of Default: Altman Z-Score (App 4)
Accounting Shenanigans

Acquisition Accounting (App 5 )
Window Dressing (App 6)
Fake Cash Fraud: Overly profitable (App 7
Excess Capital Raising (App 8)
Debt Reconciliation (App 9)
Other Financial Items
Number of Red Flags (Out of a possible 75)
Cash Balance
Restricted Cash
Receivables
Doubtful Debts
Payables
Inventory
Profit Manipulation: Gross Working Capital
Cash Extraction Fraud: Prepaid Expenses
Capitalisation of Expenses
Affiliate Investments
Auditing Costs
Deferred Tax Assets
Deferred Tax Liabilities
Derivatives
Other Large Curious Assets and/or Liabilities
Depn \& Amort
Interest Cove
Leverage
Related Party Fraud
Other Tests:

Lastest financials for 31/12/2017 incomplete
Beneish M-Score of -3.15 in Y/FY17 suggests no profit manipulation.
A C-Score of $1 / 6$ implies strong financials and unlikely manipulating profit.
An F-Score of 8/9 suggests are very strong and improving.
An Altman Z-Score of 9.12 is in the Safe Zone: Financially sound

## No evidence of acquisition accounting.

No evidence of window dressing
Scores $0 / 4$ in $\mathrm{Y} / \mathrm{FY} 17.64 \%$ of companies score similarly and just $2.4 \%$ of frauds. Rest easy. Triggered Fake Cash Flow in last 5yrs?: None
Net flows over 5yrs at 4\% of Sales are normal
Material unreconcilable change of debt in 1 of the last 5 years.
Triggers 13 red flags in the last financial period which is normal.
Cash \& STI of CNY2.5bn is extremely high at $25 \%$ of sales, in the $81 \%$ ile relative to peers, which is a trait of fake cash flow frauds. Restricted Cash of CNYObn is within normal range.
Receivables of CNY1.1bn are equal to $14 \%$ of Sales which is in within normal range.
Delinquency at $0 \%$ of total receivables are within normal range.
Large Payables of CNY2.1bn equal to $22 \%$ of Sales are in the $94 \%$ ile relative to peers, can be a sign of hidden debt
Inventories of CNY1.1bn are equal to $12 \%$ of Sales which is within normal range
No evidence of profit/cash flow manipulation through working capital.
Prepaid Expenses of CNYO.3bn are large relative to sales (3.8\%) and inventory (30.8\%), raising the risk of illegal cash extraction fraud.
Capitalised expenses relative to pre-tax profits ( $0 \%$ ) are within normal range.
Investments in Associates of CNYO.7bn are high at 14\% of equity and 17\% of OP, raising concerns over related party transactions, transparency and corporate governance.
Auditing expenses of 6.4 bp of sales within normal range.
Deferred Tax Assets/Sales of 3\% are within normal range.
Deferred Tax Liabilities/Sales of $1 \%$ are within normal range.
Derivatives equal to $0 \%$ of equity within normal range.
Within normal range
Within normal range
EBIT Interest Cover of $26.4 x$ is within normal range.
Total Debt/Profit of $0.1 x$ and assets to equity of $1.4 x$ are within normal range
No evidence of related party transactions.
No or new CFO.

## GMT Research Accounting Screen



## GMT Research Accounting Screen

| Ratios | Global/Sector/ | Li Ning Co Ltd Ratios |  |  | Ratio Change |  | Peer Group Comparison Ratios |  |  | Percentiles and Red Flags |  |  |  | Red Flag Comment |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Country | Y/FY17 | Y/FY16 | Y/FY14 | -1yr Chg | -3yr Chg | 20th \%ile | 50th \%ile | 80th \%ile | No of Peers | Y/FY17 | -1yr Chg | -3yr Chg |  |
| Cash Flow |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | (0-100\%) | (+/-50\%) | (+\|-50\%) |  |
| CFO/Net Profit (x) | GICS Industry | 2.4 | 1.5 | Loss | +0.9 | na | 0.3 | 1.1 | 2.2 | 1,697 | 18\% | -25\% | na |  |
| Cash Interest Exp./CFO (\%) | GICS Industry | na | 5.9 | -20.4 | na | na | 0.2 | 4.8 | 25.8 | 271 | na | na | na |  |
| Capex/Sales (\%) | GICS Industry | 4.8 | 4.8 | 4.0 | +0.0 | +0.8 | 1.4 | 3.2 | 7.2 | 371 | 64\% | +1\% | +16\% |  |
| Decrease Investments/Sales (\%) | GICS Industry | 0.0 | 1.7 | 0.0 | -1.7 | +0.0 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 4.8 | 141 | na | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ |  |
| Other Investing Activities/Sales (\%) | GICS Industry | 0.3 | 1.1 | 1.4 | -0.8 | -1.1 | 0.1 | 1.1 | 4.4 | 292 | 27\% | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ |  |
| Debt Repay/ST Debt-1FY (\%) | Global | 25 | 85 | 120 | -60.0 | -95.1 | 20.0 | 88.4 | 210.9 | 10,373 | 22\% | -33\% | -36\% |  |
| Free Cash Flow Margin (\%) | GICS Industry | 8.9 | 7.0 | -12.1 | +1.8 | +21.0 | -4.2 | 2.4 | 8.7 | 377 | 20\% | -9\% | -43\% |  |
| FCF--Divs/Sales (\%) | Global | na | na | na | na | na | -7.2 | 0.9 | 6.8 | 10,563 | na | na | na |  |
| No. of Mat. Capital Inc -5yrs | Global |  | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 9,451 | 98\% | $\longrightarrow$ | $\longrightarrow$ | No. of Mat. Capital Inc -5yrs high. |
| Other Fin. Activities/Sales (\%) | GICS Industry | 0.5 | 3.0 | 0.4 | -2.6 | +0.1 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 1.4 | 329 | 60\% | $\sum$ | $\xrightarrow{2}$ |  |
| Corporate Governance |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | (0-100\%) | (+/-50\%) | (+/-50\%) |  |
| Auditing Exp//sales (bp) | GICS Industry | 6.4 | ${ }_{3}$ | $\square$ | $\stackrel{\square}{3}$ | $\xrightarrow{\square}$ | 2.5 | 6.3 | 13.2 | 179 | 50\% | $\xrightarrow{1}$ | $\stackrel{\square}{\square}$ |  |
| RPT Balances/Equity (\%) | Global | 0.0 | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | 0.3 | 1.9 | 11.0 | 1,434 | na | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ |  |
| Number of Acq\&Disp -5yrs | Global | 2 | , | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\rightarrow$ | 0.0 | 3.0 | 5.0 | 12,251 | 46\% | $\checkmark$ | $\bigcirc$ |  |
| Acq\&Disp Con./Sales Av. -5yrs (\%) | Global | 0.0 | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\leqslant$ | $\bigcirc$ | 0.2 | 1.4 | 6.9 | 12,251 | 2\% | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ |  |
| Executive Comp/sales (bp) | GICS Industry | na | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\rightarrow$ | $\longrightarrow$ | 7.4 | 22.6 | 73.1 | 84 | na | 3 | $\bigcirc$ |  |
| Executive Comp/PTP (bp) | GICS Industry | na | < | $\bigcirc$ | $\checkmark$ | $\bigcirc$ | 67.6 | 188.6 | 669.0 | 84 | na | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ |  |
| CEO Tenure (yrs) | Global | 3.2 | $\checkmark$ | $\xrightarrow{3}$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\longrightarrow$ | 1.4 | 4.5 | 10.8 | 5,466 | 37\% | $\bigcirc$ | $\checkmark$ |  |
| CFO Tenure (yrs) | Global | na | $\checkmark$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\checkmark$ | 1.1 | 3.3 | 8.3 | 716 | na | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ |  |
| Av. Executive Tenure (yrs) | Global | na | $\bigcirc$ | 3 | $\rightarrow$ | $\longrightarrow$ | 4.1 | 7.4 | 11.9 | 3,291 | na | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  |
| Av. Board Tenure (yrs) | Global | 10.8 | $\sim$ | - | $\leq$ | $\bigcirc$ | 3.9 | 6.4 | 9.9 | 3,672 |  | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | Av. Board Tenure (yrs) high. |

Source: GMT Research, Bloomberg

Summary of financials in Y/FY17
Average Ratio Percentile Score ( 0 is good, 100 is bad

- Percentile vs Industry Peers ( $0 \%$ is good, $100 \%$ is bad)

Number of Red Flags (Out of a possible 75)

- Percentile vs Global Peers ( $0 \%$ is good, $100 \%$ is bad)

Summary of change in financials over 1 year
Number of Red Flags (Out of a possible 62)

- Percentile vs Global Peers ( $0 \%$ is good, $100 \%$ is bad)

Summary of change in financials over 3 yrs Number of Red Flags (Out of a possible 62)

- Percentile vs Global Peers ( $0 \%$ is good, $100 \%$ is bad)

Result: Scores within normal range. Number of red flags normal. $\qquad$
48\% In Y/FY17, Li Ning Co Ltd recorded an average percentile score (0 is good, 100 is
$38 \%$ bad) of $48 \%$ across all 75 financial ratios listed below. This places it in a percentile
13 of 38 relative to around 379 GICS industry peers globally, which is a moderat
$51 \%$ result. The company triggered a total of 13 red flags out of 75 placing it in a percentile of 51 relative to our sample of 16,000 companies globally, which is a moderate result.

Result: Few red flags.
Over the financial year prior to $\mathrm{Y} / \mathrm{FY} 17$, Li Ning Co Ltd triggered a total of 3 red
$10 \%$ flags out of 62 placing it in a percentile of 10 relative to our sample of 16,000 companies globally, which is a very good result. Result: Number of red flags normal.
ver the 3 financial years prior to $\mathrm{Y} / \mathrm{FY} 17$, Li Ning Co Ltd triggered a total of 7 red . 22 placing in a percentle of 5 relative to our sample of 16,000 companies globally, which is a moderate result.

## Explanation

Each of the 50 financial ratios listed below is percentile ranked relative to an appropriate peer group drawn from 16,000 companies globally between 2010 and 2015. In general, low percentile scores ar good while high scores are poor. Red flags are mainly triggered when a company's ratio is above the Red flags are highlighted below in red.

## Explanation

Red flags are normally triggered by a score between +30 and +50 which suggests an aggressively Red lags are normally trggered by a score between +30 and +50

Explanation
Red flags are normally triggered by a score between +30 and +50 which suggests an aggressively deteriorating financial ratio. These are highlighted in red below

## GMT Research Accounting Screen

Appendices
Appendix 1: Beneish M-Score

|  | Calculation | FY13 | FY14 | FY15 | FY16 | FY17 | Y/FY17 | Index Calculation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Days Sales in Receivables Index | +(0.92*0.81) | 0.91 | 0.89 | 0.88 | 0.92 | 0.81 | 0.81 | ( Net Receivables $_{\text {d }} /$ Sales $_{t}$ / Net $^{\text {Receivables }}$ t-1 $/$ Sales $_{t_{-1}}$ ) |
| Gross Margin Index | $+(0.528 * 0.98)$ | 0.85 | 0.99 | 1.00 | 0.97 | 0.98 | 0.98 |  |
| Asset Quality Index | $+(0.404 * 0.98)$ | 1.02 | 0.92 | 0.62 | 2.10 | 0.98 | 0.98 |  |
| Sales Growth Index | +(0.892*1.11) | . 87 | 1.04 | 1.17 | 1.13 | 1.11 | 1.11 | Sales $/$ / sles $_{\text {t-1 }}$ |
| Depreciation Index | +(0.115*0.90) | 1.08 | 1.04 | 0.59 | 0.91 | 0.90 | 0.90 |  |
| SG\&A Index | -(0.172*1.00) | 1.28 | 0.89 | 1.30 | 1.02 | 1.00 | 1.00 |  |
| Total Accruals to Total Assets | -(4.679*0.09) | -0.06 | -0.06 | -0.10 | -0.14 | -0.09 | -0.09 | Profit from Continuing Opsst - Cash Flows from Ops ${ }_{\text {t }} /$ / Total Assets |
| Leverage Index | -(0.327*1.35) | 1.36 | 0.80 | 1.25 | 1.23 | 1.35 | 1.35 |  |
| Beneish M-Score for Y/FY17 | -4.84 = | -3.18 | -2.76 | -3.25 | -2.77 | -3.15 | -3.15 | An M-Score of $>-2.22$ signals that the company is likely to be a manipulator |

## Comments on latest perios <br> Receivables of 52 days have fallen by 12 days YoY

12 m Trailing Gross Margin of $47.1 \%$ has improved by 0.8 ppts YoY Other LT Assets/Total Assets of $17.7 \%$ has fallen by 0.3 ppts 12 m Trailing Sales have risen $11 \%$ YoY
12 m Trailing Depreciation/Sales of $28.8 \%$ has risen by 2.8 ppts YoY
Total Accruals (Net Profit less CFO/Te risen by 0.2 ppts Yo
LT Debt + Current Liabilities/Total Assets of $30 \%$ have fallen by 10.5 ppts Yoy
Beneish M -Score of -3.15 in $\mathrm{Y} / \mathrm{FY}$ /17 suggests no profit manipulation

|  | FY13 | FY14 | FY15 | FY16 | FY17 | Y/FY17 | Point Calculation | Comments |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Profit | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | A growing divergence between Profit and Operating Cash Flow (1 point) | 12 m Trailing Accruals Margin of $7.9 \%$ has improved from 3.8\% YoY |
| Receivables | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Receivable Days are increasing (1 point) | Receivables of 51 days have fallen by 12 days Yoy |
| Inventory | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | Inventory Days are increasing (1 point) | Inventory of 12 days has risen by 0 days Yoy |
| Other current assets | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Other Current Assets to Sales are increasing (1 point) | Other Current Assets/Sales of 4\% have fallen by 6.2ppts YoY |
| Depreciaton | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | na | na | Depreciation relative to PPE jobs usfa bs | na |
| Asset growth | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | , | , | High asset growth in excess of 10\% (1 point) | Asset growth of 8\% is below $10 \%$ |

Montier's C-Score


High asset growth in excess of $10 \%(1$ point)
Appendix 3: Piotroski F-Score

## Point Calculation Positive Return on Assets in the current year (1 point)

Positive Return on Assets in the current year (1 point)
Positive Operating Cash Flow in the current year (1 point) igher Return on Assets than previous year (1 point) Lower ratio of Long Term Debt than previous year (1 point) Higher Current Ratio this year compared to the previous year (1 point) new shares were issued in the last year (1 point) A higher Gross Margin compared to the previous year (1 point) high Asset Turnover ratio compared to the previous year (1 poin

A C-Score of $1 / 6$ implies strong financials and unlikely manipulating profit

Appendix 4: Altman Z-Score

|  | FY13 | FY14 | FY15 | FY16 | Fr17 | Y/FY17 | Altman Z -Score for a company in emerging markets | Comments |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Solvency | 3.47 | 2.32 | 2.98 | 2.00 | 2.77 | 2.77 | Working Capital (Current Assets less Current Liabilities)/Tangible Assets | Ability to meet short term obligations |
| Cumulative profitability | 0.34 | -0.12 | -0.09 | 0.23 | 0.31 | 0.31 | Retained Earnings/Tangible Assets | Determines cumulative historic profitability |
| Profitability | -0.20 | -0.77 | 0.16 | 0.40 | 0.42 | 0.42 | EBIT/Tangible Assets | Measures earnings away from the effects of taxes and leverage |
| Market confidence | na | na | na | na | na | na | Market Capitalisation/Total Liabilities | Whether a firm's value able to cover liabilities |
| Efficiency | na | na | na | na | na | na | Sales/Tangible Assets | An asset turnover metric to measure efficiency |
| Leverage | 0.97 | 0.59 | 1.03 | 1.51 | 2.37 | 2.37 | Book Value of Equity/Total Liabilities | Leverage |
| Altman Z -Score for Y/FY17 | 7.83 | 5.27 | 7.32 | 7.38 | 9.12 | 9.12 | Anything <1.81 for a manufacturer or <1.11 for other companies is problematic | Safe Zone: Financially sound |

Appendix 5: Acquisition Accounting

| Point Calculation | FY13 | FY14 | FY15 | FY16 | FY17 | Y/FY17 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 point | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 point | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 point | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
|  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
|  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 |  |


| Point Calculation <br> An acquisition in excess of $5 \%$ of sales. <br> Either a rise in Intangible Assets over 1 year Or Intangibles are >=50\%ile relative to peers Either a rise in Deferred Tax Asset over 1 year Or a large Deferred Tax Asset in the 80\%ile relative to industry peers A score of $\mathbf{3}$ suggests possibility of acquisition accounting to inflate |
| :---: |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

## 12 m Triiling Return on Assets of 7 .48

12 m Trailing CFO Margin of $13.7 \%$
2 m Triling ROA has sise to $7,4 \%$ from $-0.5 \%$ Yor
12 m Trailing CFO Margin of $13.7 \%$ is above Net Profit Margin of $5.8 \%$ LT Debt/Total Assets has fallen to $1 \%$ from $13 \%$ Yoy Current Ratio has risen to 2.4 x from $1.74 \times$ Yoy Increased number of shares by $2 \%$
12 m Trailing Gross Margin of $47.1 \%$ has improved by 0.8 ppts Yoy Asset turnover has risen to 1.26 x from 1.17 x YoY An F -Score of $8 / 9$ suggests are very strong and improving

| Material acquisition? |
| :--- |
| Rise in intangible assets -1yr? |
| Material intangibles on balance sheet? |
| Rise if defrred tax assets-1yr? |
| Large deferred tax assets |
| Acquisition Accounting |

## GMT Research Accounting Screen



Appendix 8: Excess Capital Raising



|  | (\%) | Active Versus Passive |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Investment Advisor | 61 | Free Float (\%) | 80 |
| Corporation | 19 | No. Instit. Owners | 168 |
| Other | 9 | Institutional (\%) | 57 |
| Hedge Fund Manager | 9 | - Passive Instit. (ETFs) (\%) | 8 |
| Sovereign Wealth Fund |  | Active Ins | 49 |

Appendix 11: Insiders (latest Bloomberg data)

| Insider Shares $\mathrm{O} / \mathrm{S}(\%)$ | 0.40 | Comment |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Chg Insider HIlds $-6 \mathrm{~m}(\%)$ | 0.00 | Changes in insider holdings can be due to options, etc. as opposed to actively buying or selling |
| Number of Insider Shares Purchased $(\mathrm{m})$ | +0.0 | shares |
| Number of Insider Shares Sold ( m ) | +0.0 |  |
| Average Purchase Price of Insider Shares | 0.00 | Current share price is HKD9.29 |
| Average Sell Price of Insider Shares | 0.00 |  |
| Shares Outstanding m ) | 2,033 |  |
| Insider Shares Traded $-6 \mathrm{~m} /$ Total Shares (\%) | 0.00 |  |

Appendix 12: Comprehensive Income (latest Bloomberg data)

|  | (CNYM) | Comment |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Comprehensive Income | 511 |  |
| Less: |  |  |
| Net Income/Net Profit (Losses) | 515 |  |
| Other comprehensive income comprised of: |  |  |
| Foreign Currency Trans. Adj. | (4) | Other comprehensive income is $-1 \%$ of income which is within normal range. Able to fully |
| na | na | reconcile other comprehensive income. |
| na | na |  |
| na | na |  |
| na | na |  |
| na | na |  |
| na | na |  |
| Amount unable to reconcile: | 0 |  |

