

# **Hitit Bilgisayar**

# A challenger in aviation software

- Initiating with an overweight rating... We set our ex-dividend target price at TL63.0/share, implying a 25% upside potential in US\$ based. Reasons for our recommendation: i) New AnadoluJet contract (%15 potential contribution to revenues) ii) Solid US\$ based growth potential (2023-2030 %20 CAGR), iii) Positive contribution of the per passenger agreement model together with the strong recovery in aviation. IV) Favorable Revenue- Cost structure. Hitit currently trades at 2023E EV/EBITDA of 17.8x and P/E of 30.5x.
- Potential contribution of the new Anadolu Jet contract... In Feb-23, Hitit signed an agreement with Turkish Airlines for its AnadoluJet brand. Within the scope of the agreement, various Hitit's airline solutions, especially the Crane PSS Reservation and Passenger Services System (PSS), will be offered as" Software as a Service" for 5 years. Hitit has already started to implement the software. We anticipate that the installation will be completed by 4Q23 and the main impact on financials will begin by 2024. Based on our current passenger estimations, we calculate that the new contract will contribute approximately US\$3.2mn to Hitit's revenues, indicating a 15% y/y increase. Considering Anadolu Jet targets within Turkish Airlines' 2033 growth vision, we believe that AnadoluJets' contribution to the company will be critical in the upcoming period.
- New client acquisitions and passenger-based revenue model... Hitit's number of customers reached 64 in 2022, representing a 33% y/y increase. As of 1Q23, Hitit added another customer, reaching 65. Hitit starts to generate revenue from its SaaS customers when the implementation period is completed, 6-8 months after the signing of the contract. This indicates that the impact of new customer acquisitions in 2022 should be reflected onto financials in 2023. In addition, the rapid recovery in passenger numbers continues. According to IATA data in May-23, the number of passengers reached 87% of pre-pandemic levels. Hitit generates 57% of its revenues from SaaS revenues which is directly linked to the number of passengers. In light of these developments, we expect a 39% increase in US\$ based revenues in 2023 and a 37% CAGR between 2022-2025.
- Guidance points to strong growth... The company guidance indicates a top-line growth range of 33%-38 % (Tera est.: 38.5%) and EBITDA margin will be approximately 43%-48% in 2023E (Tera Est.:45.5%). The company is also guiding a 25%-30% net margin (Tera Est.:30.2%) and Capex/Revenue to be between 30%-35% in 2023E (Tera Est.:35% or US\$9.1mn).
- Key risks... 1) Volatility in passenger numbers, 2) Aggressive pricing by competitors with economies of scale.

# **OVERWEIGHT**

# Aug 02, 2023

Current Price (TL, 01-Aug-23)				50.50
Current Mcap (TLmn)				6,439
Current Mcap (US\$ mn)				239
Target Price (TL/share)				63.00
Target Mcap (TLmn)				8,032
Return Potential				25%
Dividend yield				0%
Financials (US\$ mn)	2021	2022	2023E	2024
Revenues	14.5	18.8	26.0	37.:
% ch y/y		30	38	43
EBITDA	5.4	8.1	11.8	18.
% ch y/y		50	47	56
Net Income	2.8	3.6	7.8	12.9
% ch y/y		29	116	64
Margins (%)	2021	2022	2023E	2024
EBITDA Margin	37.1	43.0	45.5	49.8
Net Margin	19.5	19.4	30.1	34.
Gross Dividend Yield	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.
Ratios	2021	2022	2023E	2024
P/E (US\$, x)	84.6	65.7	30.5	18.
EV/EBITDA (US\$, x)	20.4	11.9	17.8	11.
Net Debt/EBITDA (US\$, x)	-0.5	-2.0	-1.4	-1.
ROE (US\$,%)	14.2	7.8	14.5	19.
Stock Data				
Ticker	F	ITTBT.IS		HTTBT T
Sector			Aviatio	n Softwar
#of Shares (mn)				12
3M Av. Trd. Vol. (mn)				US\$0.0
52-week Range	TI	_13.89 -		TL52.50
Market Data				
BIST-100				7,16
TL/US\$				26.932
Price Chart				
TL HTTBT	BIST	-100 Relativ	ve (indexed, RH	S)
mmm	burn	Jan Contraction	www.	- 15 - 14 - 13 - 12 - 11 - 10 - 90 - 80

Price Performance	1M	3M	YTD	YoY
TL Absolute	17%	84%	82%	261%
BIST-100 Relative	-6%	15%	40%	33%
Major Shareholders				
PEGASUS				37%
Fatma Nur Gökman				23%
Privately Held				14%
Free Float				26%

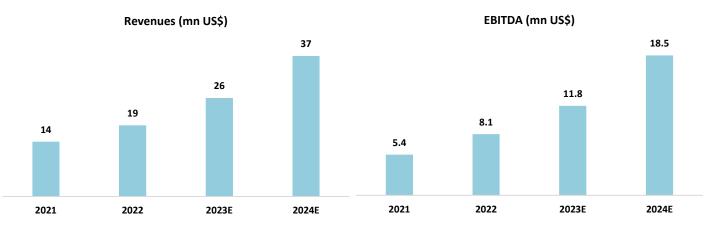
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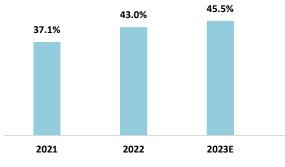
Please see the important disclosures at the end of this report.



**HITIT in a nutshell** 



**EBITDA Margin** 49.8%



34.7% 30.1% 19.5% 19.4%

2023E

2022

2021

Net Margin



2024E

Number of Passenger (mn)

2024E



#### VALUATION

We value Hitit (HTTBT) based on DCF analysis and reach a target price of TL63.0 per share, indicating a 25% upside potential. In DCF analysis, we assume constant 12.3% WACC derived from a US\$ risk-free rate of 7.5%, equity risk premium of 5.5% and beta of 1.0. We use a 6% real terminal growth. We expect 41% CAGR growth in FCF between 2023-2030.

Exhibit: HTTBT	–DCF Model							
'000 US\$	2023E	2024E	2025E	<b>2026</b> E	2027E	2028E	2029E	2030E
Revenues	26,028	37,139	48,778	55,785	63,811	73,004	83,538	95,609
EBITDA	11,840	18,498	25,505	29,853	34,718	40,191	46,375	53,580
Тах	-338	-612	-873	-1,036	-1,216	-1,419	-1,646	-1,913
CAPEX	-9,110	-10,770	-12,194	-13 <i>,</i> 946	-15,953	-18,251	-20,885	-22,946
Chg in NWC	103	-1,280	-1,148	-569	-623	-680	-742	-806
FCF	2,495	5,835	11,290	14,302	16,926	19,840	23,103	27,914
Revenue Growth y/y	38%	43%	31%	14%	14%	14%	14%	14%
EBITDA Growth y/y	47%	56%	38%	17%	16%	16%	15%	16%
EBITDA Margin	45%	50%	52%	54%	54%	55%	56%	56%
FCF Margin	10%	16%	23%	26%	27%	27%	28%	29%
WACC	12.3%	12.3%	12.3%	12.3%	12.3%	12.3%	12.3%	12.3%
Terminal Growth rate	6%							
Enterprise Value (000 US\$)	282,032			HT	TBT Target P	rice (TL/Sha	re)	
Net debt ('000 US\$)	-16,213	Terminal Growth Rate				Rate		
Target Mcap ('000 US\$)	298,245			%		4.0	6.0	8.0
US\$/TL Spot	26.93			W	ACC +1%	45.79	74.06	68.59
Target Price (TL)	63.00			W	ACC	51.67	63.00	84.92
Upside	24.75%			W	ACC -1%	59.21	75.39	111.3

# **Peer Analysis**

While creating our peer analysis, we used Aviation Software companies and Accommodation Solutions companies that are in competition with Hitit in the tender processes abroad. Since there is no similar publicly traded company in Turkey, we used public offering software companies that offer software solutions. We use our assumptions of US\$11.8mn EBITDA and US\$7.9mn net income for 2023T. HTTBT, 2023E EV/EBITDA and P/E multipliers are trading at a premium of 20% and 68%, respectively, compared to their peers. Considering that Hitit is a growth company, we believe that it deserves higher multiples than its peers.



#### Exhibit: Company Peers

Peer Group								
		Мсар		EV/EBITDA	<b>\</b>		P/E	
Company	Region	US\$mn	2023E	2024E	2025E	2023E	2024E	2025E
Amadeus	Western Europe	33,513	15.13	12.62	11.51	27.88	22.46	19.98
Sabre	North America	1,342	17.39	8.55	6.05	-6.88	18.66	4.48
Travelsky	Asia Pacific	5 <i>,</i> 333	14.88	12.06	9.82	20.83	14.28	11.10
Booking Holdings	North America	106,877	15.42	13.32	11.79	21.11	18.44	16.31
Airbnb	North America	94,396	29.79	26.13	22.30	37.64	32.61	28.94
TripAdvisor	North America	2,470	6.08	4.42	3.77	15.46	11.19	8.91
Logo	Turkey	292	8.50	5.26	3.56	10.23	7.68	5.75
Expedia	North America	17,305	6.41	5.05	4.57	12.94	10.69	9.11
Trivago	Western Europe	473	1.14	0.28	0.26	8	7.00	6.44
Unisky	North America	375	2.80	2.51	-	-	-	-
Median of Entire Gro	oup		14.88	8.55	7.94	18.15	16.36	10.10
Hitit Bilgisayar			17.84	11.42	8.28	30.47	18.55	13.50
Premium/Discount			20%	33%	4%	68%	13%	34%

Source:Bloomberg,

Tera Estimates

# Estimates

**Strong earnings growth in 2023-2025...** We foresee a 37% CAGR in revenues until 2025, mostly driven by PSS based SaaS revenues. We expect that the acquisition of new customers from major competitors will continue and the increasing trend in the number of customers will continue strongly. We project an EBITDA of US\$11.8mn in 2023E, corresponding to an EBITDA Margin of 45.5% (+2.5pps y/y).

('000 US\$)	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Revenues	14,484	18,796	26,028	37,139	48,778
COGS	-7,926	-8,586	-12,233	-16,341	-21,462
Gross Profit	6,558	10,211	13,795	20,798	27,316
EBIT	3,265	4,667	6,767	12,240	17,460
Depreciation	2,299	3,273	4,425	5,571	7,317
EBITDA	5,373	8,081	11,840	18,498	25,505
Net Other Income	-191	141	648	687	728
Net Financial Income	183	-423	1,260	1,357	1,467
Profit Before Tax	3,258	4,386	8,675	14,285	19,656
Тах	-432	-746	-826	-1,386	-1,924
Net Income	2,826	3,639	7,850	12,898	17,732
Revenue Growth	14%	30%	38%	43%	31%
Gross Margin	45%	54%	53%	56%	56%
EBITDA Margin	37%	43%	45%	50%	52%
Net Margin	20%	19%	30%	35%	36%

#### Exhibit: Tera Estimates

Source: Company Data, Tera Estimates



## Hitit at a glance:

Hitit is a software solution provider to the aviation and travel industry... For the past 30 years, Hitit has been providing solution-oriented services to aviation and travel industry aiming at development and improvement. Hitit is the world's third largest software company in its field.

A comprehensive product that can be adjusted to customer needs... Hitit develops software solutions under six main headings with the "Crane" brand for companies operating in the air transportation and travel sectors, especially airline companies. The company offers these solutions to its customers under the "Software as a Service" ("SaaS") model. The comprehensive program caters to different needs of the airline industry. The program has six modules including Passenger Services System (PSS), Operational Planning, Virtual Merchandising, Travel Solutions, Accounting and Cargo. Hitit Bilgisayar provides services to a total of 65 airline and travel sector companies operating in 6 continents and 47 countries.

SaaS product generates additional revenue above the guaranteed minimum passenger volume... SaaS contracts consist of guaranteed and variable portions. When the passenger number exceeds the contractually guaranteed amounts (approximately 70% of SaaS passenger volumes are guaranteed), SaaS revenues increase parallel to the growth in passenger volumes. In 2022, revenues from Pegasus accounted for 21% of revenues. Hitit earns its revenues from Pegasus through fixed monthly payments based on hourly wages on personnel working hours and maintenance income. Therefore, revenue generation for Pegasus is not directly linked to the number of boarding passengers as it is the case for SaaS. Installation and Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) accounted for 16% of total revenues in 2022. For new clients, Hitit charges a fixed pre-setup fee under the SaaS contract. Setup revenues depend on the number of new contracts. laaS revenues consist of hosting services to Amadeus under its loyalty program.

	CRANE	
	PSS	
Reservation and Ticketing System Internet Booking Engine Mobile Application Charter Management System.	Departure Control System Weight& Balance Baggage Reconciliation Itinerary	Consumer Care Layer Communication Module Loyalty Layer
Accounting		Operations Planning
Revenue Accounting Cost Accounting Crane Business Performance Index		Schedule Planning Crew Planning Operations Control
Travel Solutions	Cargo	Virtual Merchandising
Online Travel Agency Agent Portal System	Reservation and Cargo Services Domestic Cargo Services	Airlines Digital Store
Source: Company Data		

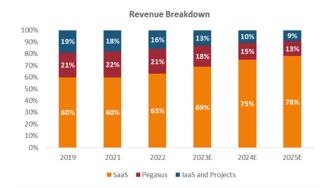
#### Exhibit: Hitit Product Portfolio

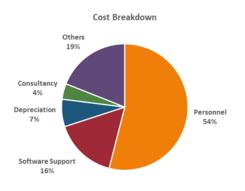


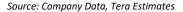
Advantages of operating out of a technopark... Hitit continues its activities in Istanbul Technical University (ITU) Technopark within the scope of R&D projects. Technoparks benefit from various tax and social security advantages in accordance with the "Technology Development Zones Law". Income from R&D businesses conducted at technoparks are exempt from VAT and corporate tax. R&D staff and 10% of support staff are exempt from payroll tax. Companies also benefit from various government supports and technology grants.

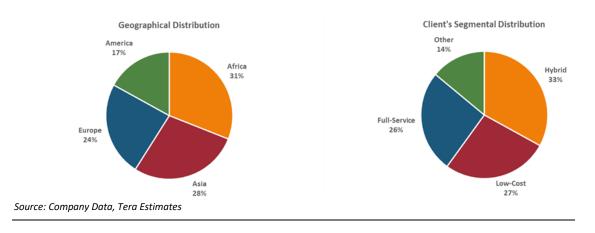
**Breakdown of cost items:** Personnel expense is the main cost item and constitutes 54% of total expenses. The majority of personnel expense is based in Turkish Lira. In addition, operating out of a technopark also helps the company to offer competitive salary to its R&D employees and help to retain its qualified workforce. Similar to other software companies, Hitit capitalizes R&D expenditures and accounts them as developed software under intangible assets which are later on depreciated in 10 years. The depreciation expense and software support expense have a share of 7% and 16% in costs, respectively.

**Balanced breakdown of revenues by geography and airline type...** Hitit's customer portfolio has a distribution that minimizes geographical risk. 31% of revenues are generated in Africa, followed by 28% in Asia and 24% in Europe. It also has a balanced distribution between airline segments. Hybrid airlines account for 33% of total revenues while low cost airlines represent 27% and full service 26%.











## **FX Exposure**

Hitit's revenues consists of 69% US\$, 16% EUR while only 13% of costs are based in US\$ and 3% in EUR. The company has a favorable cost base against hard currency revenues. Looking at the operational FX exposure of Hitit, the company is negatively affected from TL appreciation against US\$. We believe that Hitit's US\$ based revenue generation, the high portion of TL-based costs and the high growth status of their operations will support the margins in an environment where TL depreciates.



Hitit raised US\$23.1mn equity capital from its initial public offering in Feb-22. The company used funds generated via the IPO for 1) R&D to produce its own product 2) new business lines (such as Agency Distribution system (ADS)), 3) International expansion (New Office in Amsterdam, MENA, CIS and Africa regions and some marketing activities), 4) Cloud infrastructure.





Shareholders	Paid-in-Capital				
mn Shares	Before	%	After	%	
Fatma Nur Gokmen	31.5	32%	29.6	23%	
Dilek Ovacik	6.5	7%	6.1	5%	
Hakan Unlu	6.0	6%	5.6	4%	
Ozkan Dulger	6.0	6%	5.6	4%	
Pegasus	50	50%	46.9	37%	
Other	0.0	0%	33.6	26%	
Total	100.0		127.5		
Source:Company Data					

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#### **Tera Yatirim Stock Ratings**

Rating	Definition
OVERWEIGHT	The analyst expects that the stock will generate a return above that of the BIST-100 index over the next twelve months.
MARKETWEIGHT	The analyst expects that the stock will generate a return in line with that of the BIST-100 index over the next twelve months.
UNDERWEIGHT	The analyst expects that the stock will generate a return below that of the BIST-100 index over the next twelve months.

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