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23 AUG, 2019

Affin Hwang keeps 's e I I' call on MSM





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WEAK SUGAR PRICES

Affin Hwang keeps 'sell' call on MSM

KUALA LUMPUR: MSM Malaysia Holdings Bhd has reported a poor set of interim results that fell short of expectations.

Affin Hwang Capital said MSM's net losses widened substantially in the second quarter ended June 30, while its six-month revenue dropped 14 per cent due to weaker sugar prices as competition intensified and export remained subdued.

MSM was also affected by capitalised costs from the new Johor refinery, which continued to drag on group earnings, it added.

It announced a net loss of RM67.33 million in the second-quarter from a net profit of RM14.33 million in the same period a year ago.

Affin Hwang expects MSM to continue facing headwinds in the second half.

"Although domestic average selling prices may gradually pick up, margins are expected to remain pressured by the weakened ringgit and high operating leverage from its new refinery."

The firm kept its "sell" call on MSM with a revised target price of RM1.05, from RM1.10 previously.



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SUMMARIES

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