

Nam Kim Steel (NKG)

Nam Kim Phu My is a long-term driver

May 28, 2024	Analyst Nguyen Duong Nguyen nguyennd1@kbsec.com.vn
1Q24 profit completed 45% of the full-year target	Nam Kim Steel JSC (NKG) recorded VND150 billion in 1Q NPAT (vs a loss worth VND40 billion in 1Q last year) as (1) its steel consumption gained 31% YoY, and exported volume rose 65% YoY and (2) GPM increased 757bps from the low base after selling high-priced inventory out in 2023.
Consumption is boosted by export channels and rebounding domestic demand	2Q steel consumption output of NKG may gain 10% QoQ to 280,000 tons. KBSV estimated the steel consumption for the whole year 2024 at 1.03 million tons (equal to 103% of the plan set by NKG), driven by higher export sales and recovering domestic consumption from 2H24.
Steel prices are about to enter a new increasing cycle	We expect steel prices to enter a new increasing cycle from 2H24 with the following arguments (1) HRC prices have formed a medium-term bottom around USD530-550/ton; (2) Chinese real estate market is recovering thanks to the government's supportive policies; (3) domestic demand will rise more strongly in 2H24 thanks to higher demand for construction and machinery production.
Nam Kim Phu My steel mill should start manufacturing from 1Q26	The construction of Nam Kim Phu My Steel Mill (VND4,500 billion in investment capital) should start from April this year and make products from 1Q26. The management expected the steelworks to operate at 100% capacity and reach a total capacity of 2 million tons/year by 2027.
BUY rating with target price VND31,000/share	KBSV gave a BUY rating to NKG shares with a target price of VND31,000 apiece, 24% higher than the closing price on May 28, 2024.



Forecast earnings & valuation

Operating income/loss (VNDbn)

Net revenue (VNDbn)

NPAT-MI (VNDbn)

EPS growth (%)

Dividend yield (%)

FY-end

EPS (VND)

P/E (x)

P/B (x)

ROE (%)

Target price	VND31,000		
Upside	24%		
Current price (May 28, 2024)	VND25,050		
Consensus target price	VND24,700		
Market cap (VNDtn/USDbn)	0.67/0.26		

2022A

23,071

-46

-67

-253

-102%

-48.3

0.6

-1%

8.4%

2023A

18,596

177

117

446

56.2

1.3

2%

0.0%

-276%

Trading data		
Free float		76%
3M avg trading value (VNDbn/	USDmn)	213.63/8.55
Foreign ownership		14.8%
Major shareholder	Chairman	Ho Minh Quang
		(14.2%)

2024F

22,340

496

413

917

106%

27.3

1.7

7%

5.8%

2025F

24,200

547

465

1,034

13%

24.2

1.6

7%

0.0%

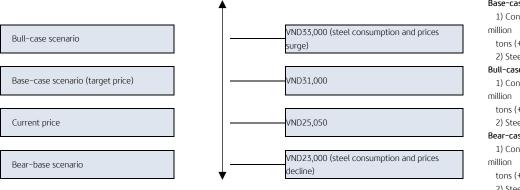
(%)	1M	3M	6M	12M
Absolute	20	6	13	73
Relative	11	2	-2	52



Source: Bloomberg, KB Securities Vietnam



Investment opinion & risks



Base-case scenario: catalysts

1) Consumption output in 2024 reaches 1

tons (+20%YoY)

2) Steel prices gain 2% YoY on average

Bull-case scenario: upside risks

1) Consumption output in 2024 reaches 1.2

tons (+40%YoY)

2) Steel prices gain 5% YoY on average Bear-case scenario: downside risks

1) Consumption output in 2024 reaches 0.9

tons (+5%YoY)

2) Steel prices decrease 2% YoY on average

Revised earnings estimates

	Revised		Previous		Change	
(VNDbn, %)	2024E	2025E	2024E	2025E	2024E	2025E
Revenue	18,974	22,916	22,340	24,200	18%	6%
EBIT	478	512	732	847	53%	66%
NP after MI	297	338	413	465	39%	38%

Source: KB Securities Vietnam

KBSV estimate vs consensus

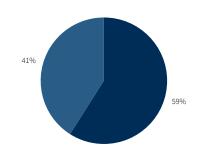
	KBSV estimates		Consensus		Difference	
(VNDbn, %)	2024E	2025E	2024E	2025E	2024E	2025E
Revenue	22,340	24,200	21,237	23,514	5%	3%
EBIT	732	847	657	901	11%	-6%
NP after MI	413	465	433	631	-5%	-26%

Export

Domestic

Source: Bloomberg, KB Securities Vietnam

Revenue composition (2023)



Business operation

NKG is one of the largest steel manufacturers in Vietnam, operating in producing galvanized steel and steel pipes with a capacity of 1.2 million tons/year. Its main market is concentrated in the Southern region. By the end of 2023, NKG is in the top three largest coated steel sheet manufacturers in Vietnam with 16.9% market share.

Source: Nam Kim Steel, KB Securities Vietnam

1Q24 performance updates

Table 1. NKG - 1Q24 business results

(VNDbn, %)	1Q23	1Q24	+/-%YoY	Notes
Revenue	4,375	5,291	21%	Revenue increased by 21% YoY thanks to consumption output increasing by 31% YoY, driven by exports.
COGS	-4,237	-4,724	11%	
Gross profit	138	567	312%	
Gross profit margin	3%	11%	757bps	GPM gained 757bps YoY after (1) high-priced inventory was completely sold out in 2023; and (2) 1Q capacity was estimated to reach 79% (compared to 62% in 1Q23).
Financial income	57	66	14%	
Financial expenses	-128	-121	-5%	
Profits from affiliates	0	0		
SG&A	-117	-324	177%	Selling expenses spiked 253% YoY due to export volume increasing 65% YoY.
Operating profit/loss	-49	188		
Other income	0	0		
РВТ	-49	188		
PBT margin	-1%	4%	468bps	
CIT expenses	0	-38		
NPAT	-49	150		
NPAT margin	-1%	3%	396bps	
NP after MI	-49	150		

Source: Nam Kim Steel, KB Securities Vietnam

Table 6, NKG - Steel consumption (ton)

	onsumption (ton)			
(tons)	1Q23	1Q24	+/-%YoY	Notes
Galvanized steel	154,807	228,033	47%	Export volume of galvanized steel surged 65% YoY.
Steel pipes	39,891	26,470	-34%	
Total	194,698	254,503	31%	

Source: Nam Kim Steel, KB Securities Vietnam

KBSV estimated 2024 steel consumption at NKG at 1.03 million tons (+20% YoY)

1Q sales of NKG hit VND5,291 billion (+19% QoQ, 21% YoY) with consumption reaching 254,503 tons (+15% QoQ, +31% YoY), gradually rebounding to the peak in the 2021-2022 period. Export volume was 172,703 tons (+38% QoQ, +65% YoY), earning VND3,710 billion in revenue (+40% QoQ, +75% YoY). Some of NKG's main export markets include the US, Mexico, and the EU. According to management, sales volume in 2Q24 could increase by 10% QoQ. KBSV expected 2024 consumption output of the steel maker to reach 1.03 million tons (103% of the year's plan), of which revenue from export channels will still contribute a large proportion of total revenue thanks to the large price gap between the US and EU markets (Figure 5). Besides, we believe that domestic consumption will also continue its recovery trend in the coming time when construction and production of machinery, electronic equipment, and home appliance increase (Figure 6).



Fig 3. NKG – Export volume and revenue contribution (ton, %)

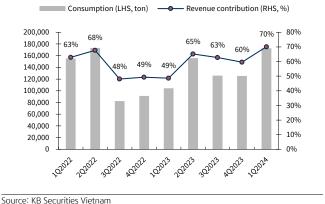
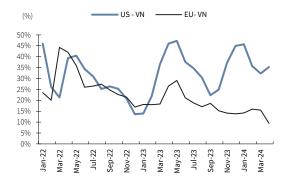


Fig 5. NKG – HRC price difference between the US-EU and Vietnam (%)



Source: KB Securities Vietnam

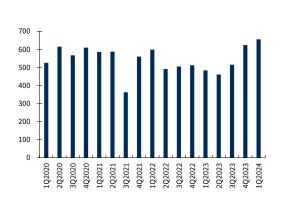
Steel prices increase again when entering a new cycle

(USD mn) =4M2024 =4M2023 America EU Asia Oceania 0 20 40 60 80 100 120

Fig 4. NKG - 4M24 export sales to foreign markets (USDmn)

Source: Bloomberg, KB Securities Vietnam

Fig 6. NKG – Domestic consumption of galvanized steel (thousand tons)



Source: Vietnam Steel Association, FiinPro, KB Securities Vietnam

1Q GPM rose 757bps YoY, reflecting (1) a recovery from a low base after highpriced inventory was handled in 2023 and (2) a strong improvement in operating capacity compared to 1Q last year (79% vs 62%). We believe that the steel industry is entering a new cycle, and steel prices will rebound from 2H24 thanks to (1) higher domestic prices with rebounding consumption and (2) recovering China real estate market, boosting prices for the global steel market in the period 2024–2026. KBSV projected GPM of NKG would be 8.7% and 8.5% for 2024 and 2025 respectively.



Fig 7. NKG – Galvanized steel and steel pipes prices – VAT included (VND/kg)

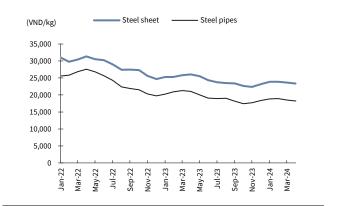
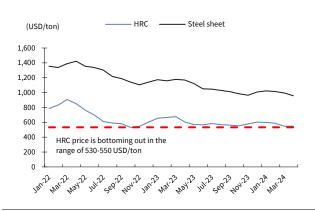


Fig 8. NKG - HRC prices vs input costs (VND/kg)



Source: KB Securities Vietnam

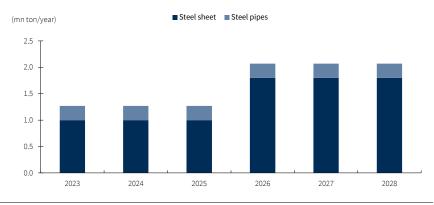
Nam Kim Phu My should start production from 1Q26

Source: Bloomberg, KB Securities Vietnam

According to the management, Nam Kim Phu My Steel Mill should begin construction from April 2024 and start production from 1Q26. The project has a designed capacity of 800,000 tons/year and should help increase NKG's total capacity to 2,000,000 tons/year (+67% compared to current) when it operates at its full capacity. The steelworks will focus on making high quality products to participate in new fields such as industry, automobiles and household appliances (which have higher prices and help to improve GPM for NKG).

Investment capital for the project is VND4,500 billion, and the debt-to-equity ratio is 70 - 30., NKG has paid VND500 billion on site clearance and application for a construction permit. To raise capital for the steel mill, NKG plans to issue 131 million shares (50% of the outstanding) to existing shareholders for VND12,000/share or 2,500,000 ESOP shares for par value of VND10,000/share. Both above options are expected to be implemented in 2024-2025. Once completed, it would mobilize VND1,605 billion (equivalent to 36% of investment capital for Nam Kim Phu My).





Source: Nam Kim Steel, KB Securities Vietnam

Forecast & valuation

Table 10. NKG - 2024-2025F business results

(VNDbn, %)	FY2023	FY2024	+/-%YoY	FY2025	+/-%YoY	Notes
						Revenue in 2024 should grow 20% thanks to (1) export volume
Revenue	18,596	22,340	20%	24,200	8%	remaining high, supported by price differences between markets and
						(2) recovering domestic consumption.
COGS	-17,484	-20,402	17%	-22,143	9%	
Gross profit	1,112	1,937	74%	2,057	6%	
						GPM may gain 269bps in 2024 after high-priced inventory has been
Gross profit margin	6%	9%	269bps	9%	-17bps	handled in 2023. It is expected that steel prices will enter a new
		20	0.01	45		increasing cycle from 2H24.
Deposits	19	20	8%	17	-14%	
Interest expenses	-293	-296	1%	-367	24%	
FX gain/loss, others	77	41	-47%	50	23%	
Profits from affiliates	0	0		0		
SG&A	-739	-1,206	63%	-1,210	0%	SG&A should surge as the recovery in consumption causes transportation costs to climb.
Operating profit/loss	177	496	180%	547	10%	
Other income	0	0		0		
PBT	177	497	180%	547	10%	
PBT margin	1%	2%	127bps	2%	4bps	
CIT expenses	-60	-84	40%	-82	-2%	
NPAT	117	413	251%	465	13%	
NPAT margin	1%	2%	122bps	2%	8bps	
NP after MI	117	413	251%	465	13%	

Source: Nam Kim Steel, KB Securities Vietnam

Valuation: BUY rating with target price VND31,000/share

NKG stock price has increased by 6% YTD. At times, it rose nearly 20% after the market correction in April, reflecting the prosperous 1Q24 business results and expectations about a strong bounce-back this year. We expect the upward trend of steel prices will support continued improvement in the performance of the company. Besides, NKG's long-term prospects are also strengthened when Nam Kim Phu My Steel Mill goes into operation from 1Q26. We determine the target price of NKG to be VND31,000/share, corresponding to EV/EBITDA and P/B forward valuations of 7.1x and 1.2x, respectively, with an expected return of 24% compared to the closing price on May 28, 2024.

Table 11. NKG – FCF estimates

	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
EBIT	732	847	1,210	1,391	1,471
D&A	396	422	454	460	465
Changes in NWC	-609	-661	-755	-535	-682
CAPEX	-1,589	-1,640	-2,076	-274	-290
UFCF	-1,070	-1,031	-1,167	1,042	964

Source: KB Securities Vietnam



Table 12. NKG – DCF valuation

	Unit	Value
Beta	х	1.8
Risk-free rate	%	4.70%
Risk premium	%	7.60%
WACC	%	14%
EV	VNbn	2,670
Cash and short-term investments	VNDbn	777
Short-term and long-term borrowings	VNDbn	5,451
Equity value	VNDbn	7,344
Number of shares	Million	263
Target price	VND/share	27,900
ource: KB Securities Vietnam		

Table 13. NKG - EV/EBITDA valuation (x)

	Unit	Value
EBITDA	VNDbn	1,228
Target EV/EBITDA	х	8
EV	VNDbn	9.024
Number of shares	Million	263
Target price	VND/share	34,275

Source: KB Securities Vietnam

Table 14. NKG - Final valuation & target price (VND)

Method	Valuation	Weighet	Target price
FCFF	VND27,900	50%	VND13,950
EV/EBITDA	VND34,275	50%	VND17,150
Target price			VND31,000

Source: KB Securities Vietnam

NKG - 2022A-2025F financials

Income Statement				
(bn. VND)				
(Standard Report)	2021	2022	2023F	2024F
Net Revenue	23,071	18,596	22,340	24,200
Cost of Goods Sold	-21,529	-17,484	-20,402	-22,143
Gross Profit	1,542	1,112	1,937	2,057
Financial Income	29	19	20	17
Financial Expenditure	-262	-293	-296	-36
Including: Cost of Borrowing	33	77	41	5
Profit/(loss) from affiliated companies	0	0	0	(
SG&A	-1,388	-739	-1,206	-1,21
Profit/(loss) from operating	-46	177	496	54
Net Other Income	0	0	0	(
Profit/(loss) from affiliated companies	0	0	0	
Profit/(loss) before tax	-46	177	497	547
Tax	-21	-60	-84	-8
Profit/(loss) after tax	-67	117	413	46
Minority Interest	0	0	0	
NPATMI	-67	117	413	46

	2021	2022	2023F	2024
TOTAL ASSET	13,522	12,235	16,746	18,68
CURRENT ASSETS	10,476	9,429	13,097	14,17
Cash and cash equivalents	1,005	785	2,128	1,47
Short-term investments	252	290	217	21
Accounts receivable	1,517	2,033	2,882	3,41
nventories	7,061	5,719	7,033	8,23
ONG-TERM ASSETS	3,046	2,807	3,649	4,50
ong-term trade receivables	2	2	0	
Fixed assets	2,588	2,359	1,958	1,53
ong-term incomplete assets	220	204	1,437	2,72
ong-term investments	8	3	18	1
Good will (before 2015)	0	0	0	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	8,144	6,812	9,666	11,49
Current liabilities	8,109	6,784	9,077	10,62
Trade accounts payable	2,544	1,631	3,183	4,25
Short-term borrowings	5,111	4,768	5,385	5,91
Other short-term liabilities	453	385	509	45
ong-term liabilities	35	28	588	86
Long-term trade payables	0	0	0	
Other long-term liabilities	3	0	560	84
Long-term borrowings	32	28	28	2
DWNER'S EQUITY	5,378	5,423	7,080	7,18
Paid-in capital	2,633	2,633	4,501	4,50
Share premium	786	786	786	78
Other funds	273	273	10	1
Undistributed earnings	1,686	1,731	1,784	1,88
State capital	0	0	0	
Interest of non-controlling shareholders	0	0	0	
Main Ratios				
x, %, VND)	2022	2023F	2024F	2024

-48.3

0.6

0.0

1.4

-3.9

13.8

47.5

-1%

0%

-1%

0.1

0.3

1.3

0.0

0.0

1.0

0.4

0.6

0.2

0.6

0.2

13.5

2.8

4.7

56.2

1.3

0.0

3.3

23.7

14.1

28.2

2%

1%

1%

0.1

0.5

1.4

0.0

0.0

0.9

0.4

0.4

0.2

0.4

0.2

10.5

2.7

9.8

27.3

1.7

0.0

7.0

123.3

13.4

20.6

7%

3%

4%

0.2

0.6

1.4

0.1

0.0

0.8

0.3

0.5

0.2

0.5

0.2

9.1

3.2

8.5

24.2

1.6

0.0

9.4

63.7

13.0

19.5

7%

3%

3%

0.1

0.5

1.3

0.1

0.0

0.8

0.3

0.7

0.3

0.7

0.3

7.7

2.9

6.0

Balance Sheet (bn. VND) (Standard Report)

> P/E (diluted) P/B

P/Tangible Book

Management Efficiency ROE%

P/Cash Flow

EV/EBITDA

EV/EBIT

ROA%

ROIC%

Quick Ratio

Current Ratio

Long-term borrowing/Owner's Equity

Short-term borrowing/Owner's Equity

Long-term borrowing/Total Asset

Short-term borrowing/Total Asset

Short-term payables/Owner's Equity

Short-term payables/Total Asset

Total payables/Owner's Equity

Total payables/Total Asset

Operating Ratios Receivables turnover

Inventory turnover

Payables turnover

Financial Ratios Cash Ratio

P/S

Operating Ratios				
	2021	2022	2023F	2024F
Gross Profit Margin	6.7%	6.0%	8.7%	0.0%
EBITDA Margin	1.3%	2.6%	3.8%	0.0%
EBIT Margin	-0.3%	0.5%	2.0%	0.0%
PBT Margin	-0.2%	1.0%	2.2%	0.0%
Opearating Profit Margin	-0.2%	1.0%	2.2%	0.0%
Net Profit Margin	-0.3%	0.6%	1.8%	0.0%

Cash Flow Statement				
(Standard Report)	2022	2023F	2024F	2024F
PBT	-46	177	497	547
Depreciation	377	376	396	422
Profit/(loss) from investing	-28	-19	0	0
Cost of borrowing	262	293	296	367
Profit/(loss) before changes in WC	436	622	1,189	1,337
(Increase)/decrease in receivables	547	-469	-847	-528
(Increase)/decrease in inventory	1,350	1,488	-1,314	-1,206
Increase/(decrease) in payables	-2,744	-1,048	1,552	1,073
(Increase)/decrase in pre-paid expenses	-22	-11	0	0
Sellable securities, cost of borrowing, tax	-395	-304	-488	-499
Opearting Cash Flow	-827	278	91	177
Purchases of fixed assets and other long term assets	-210	-130	-1,589	-1,640
Proceeds from disposal of fixed assets	13	0	0	0
Loans granted, purchases of debt instruments	-87	-48	0	0
Collection of loans, proceeds from sales of debts instruments	295	10	58	0
Investments in other entities	0	0	0	0
Proceeds from divestment in other entities	0	0	0	0
Dividends and interest received	23	18	0	0
Investing Cash Flow	33	-151	-1,531	-1,640
Proceeds from issue of shares	10	0	1,868	0
Payments for share returns and repurchases	0	0	0	0
Proceeds from borrowings	19,311	18,152	1,177	809
Repayment of borrowings	-18,041	-18,465	0	0
Finance lease principal payments	-9	-34	0	0
Dividends paid	-222	0	-263	0
Interests, dividends, profits received	0	0	0	0
Financing Cash Flow	1,048	-347	2,782	809
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	254	-220	1,342	-654
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning o period	751	1,005	785	2,128
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of period	1,005	785	2,128	1,473

Source: Nam Kim Steel, KB Securities Vietnam

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Investment ratings & definitions

Investment Ratings for Stocks

(based on expectations for absolute price gains over the next 6 months)			
Buy:	Neutral:	Sell:	
+15% or more	+15% to -15%	-15% or more	

Investment Ratings for Sectors

(based on expectations for absolute price gains over the next 6 months)			
Positive:	Neutral:	Negative:	
Outperform the market	Perform in line with the market	Underperform the market	

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