# FORSYTH BARR



NEW ZEALAND EQUITY RESEARCH TECHNOLOGY 23 APRIL 2025

SY ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT & INSTRUMENTS

# **ikeGPS** Pole-Driven Gains Aids FY26 Growth Outlook

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ikeGPS (IKE) reported a solid 4Q25 performance update, with total revenue for FY25 growing +19% on FY24, albeit modestly missing prior expectations on contract timing. Faster growth in Subscription revenues compared to Transactional revenues has seen a favourable lift in overall gross margins. As of FY25, net cash sits at NZ\$10.3m, up +NZ\$1.1m in the quarter—aided by prepayments of multi-year subscription contracts. We modestly cut our medium-term revenue expectations due to (1) the mild FY25 revenue miss, (2) three consecutive quarters of essentially flat total revenues (on reduced Transactional revenues), and (3) management's new FY26 guidance. The significant tech sector de-rating impacts our blended spot valuation despite rolling forward.

NZX code	IKE	Financials: Mar/	24A	25E	26E	27E	Valuation (x)	24A	25E	26E	27E
Share price	NZ\$0.75	Rev (NZ\$m)	21.5	25.6	30.6	37.6	PE	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Spot Valuation	NZ\$0.89 (from 0.92)	NPAT* (NZ\$m)	-15.0	-11.0	-5.6	-1.4	EV/EBIT	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Risk rating	High	EPS* (NZc)	-9.4	-6.8	-3.3	-0.8	EV/EBITDA	n/a	n/a	n/a	32.5
Issued shares	161.1m	DPS (NZc)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Price / NTA	16.4	n/a	n/a	n/a
Market cap	NZ\$121m	Imputation (%)	100	0	0	0	Cash div yld (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Avg daily turnover	55.6k (NZ\$32k)	*Based on normali	sed profi	ts			Gross div yld (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

### What's changed?

- Earnings: Minor cuts to revenue estimates offset by an uplift in gross margins.
- Spot valuation: Falls -3cps to NZ\$0.89 on the net of 1) modestly lowered near-term revenue estimates, 2) higher gross margin assumptions, but mostly 3) the recent tech sector sell-off.

### FY25 performance update

IKE's 4Q25/FY25 update highlighted subscription revenue as the primary driver, reaching NZ\$14.4m, up +34% against the prior year. Transactional revenue rose to NZ\$7.6m (+3%), reflecting project variability, while hardware and other services delivered NZ\$3.2m (+5%). The shift towards higher-margin subscription income supported a +900bp expansion in gross margin, lifting to 69% for FY25. Customer numbers fell with the discontinuation of the legacy PoleForeman product, leading to the loss of around 40 lower-revenue customers—collectively contributing only NZ\$0.1m in ARR—who did not transition to the new offering.

### Operational developments highlight accelerating progress within existing customers

Significant enterprise deals in 4Q25 yielded approximately 1,300 new subscription seat licences, lifting the total to >8,000–up +103% against the prior year. Since the launch of the updated PoleForeman product in late 2023, total contract value has exceeded NZ\$17.0m, reflecting IKE's deeper penetration among tier-1 electric utilities in the United States. Several of these operators are standardising on IKE's platform for distribution network structural analysis, prompted by newly introduced AI-driven features. The sticky nature of these customers underpins high retention rates and underscores meaningful long-term revenue potential.

### Ongoing momentum sets upbeat FY26 management outlook

IKE's FY25 subscription revenue exit run rate rose by +48% against the prior year, reflecting the full transition to PoleForeman and the boost from macro-driven infrastructure spending. With these tailwinds, IKE forecasts FY26 ARR to grow by +35% or more. We view management's plan to increase gross margins (via a combination of mix and segment margin uplift) as highly constructive—our estimate assumes a +500bp rise from FY25 to reach 74% in FY26, on total revenue growth of +20%.

### ikeGPS Group (IKE)

Priced as at 22 Apr 2025					0.75
52 week high / low					0.82/0.40
Market capitalisation (NZ\$m)					120.8
Key WACC assumptions					
Risk free rate					5.00%
Equity beta					1.30
WACC Terminal growth					11.5% 2.0%
Profit and Loss Account (NZ\$m)	2023A	2024A	2025E	2026E	2027E
Revenue	31.1	21.5	25.6	30.6	37.6
Normalised EBITDA	(2.1)	(10.7)	(6.7)	(1.1)	3.4
Depreciation and amortisation	(3.6)	(4.6)	(4.4)	(4.6)	(4.8)
Normalised EBIT	(7.8)	(15.2)	(11.1)	(5.6)	(1.3)
Net interest	(0.1)	0.2	0.1	0.1	(0.0)
Associate income	0	0	0	0	0
Тах	0.0	0	0	0	0
Minority interests	0	0	0	0	0
Normalised NPAT	(7.9)	(15.0)	(11.0)	(5.6)	
Abnormals/other	0	0	0	0	
Reported NPAT	(7.9)	(15.0)	(11.0)	(5.6)	
Normalised EPS (cps) DPS (cps)	(4.9) 0	(9.4) 0	(6.8) 0	(3.3) 0	(0.8) 0
DP3 (cps)	0	0	0	0	0
Growth Rates	2023A	2024A	2025E	2026E	2027E
Revenue (%)	93.9	-30.7	18.7	19.7	22.9
EBITDA (%)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
EBIT (%) Normalised NPAT (%)	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	n/a n/a
Normalised EPS (%)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Ordinary DPS (%)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cash Flow (NZ\$m)	2023A	2024A	2025E	2026E	2027E
EBITDA	(2.1)	(10.7)	(6.7)	(1.1)	3.4
Working capital change	(1.3)	2.4	7.7	(1.7)	(2.6)
Interest & tax paid	(0.1)	0.2	0.1	0.1	(0.0)
Other	0.9	6.2	0	0	0
Operating cash flow	(2.6)	(1.8)	1.1	(2.7)	0.8
Capital expenditure	(5.1)	(3.8)	(1.2)	(2.9)	(2.7)
(Acquisitions)/divestments	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
Funding available/(required)	(7.6)	(5.5)	0.0	(5.4)	
Dividends paid	0	0	0	0	
Equity raised/(returned) (Increase)/decrease in net debt	0 (7.6)	0 (5.5)	0 <b>0.0</b>	0 (5.4)	0 (1.8)
Balance Sheet (N7¢m)	2023A	2024A	2025E	2026E	2027E
Balance Sheet (NZ\$m) Working capital	2023A 5.4	2024A 5.8	2025E 6.3	2026E 2.9	2027E 4.5
Fixed assets	2.8	5.8 2.9	6.3 2.2	2.9	
Intangibles	13.1	13.1	10.9	10.1	
Right of use asset	0	1.2	1.0	0.8	
Other assets	1.6	1.7	0.9	0.9	
Total funds employed	22.9	24.6	21.3	16.4	
Net debt/(cash)	(18.0)	(10.2)	(10.3)	(4.8)	(3.1)
Lease liability	0	1.0	1.0	0.8	
Other liabilities	7.0	13.4	21.6	16.6	15.6
Shareholder's funds	33.9	20.4	8.9	3.8	2.9
Minority interests	0	0	0	0	0
Total funding sources	22.9	24.6	21.3	16.4	16.3

DCF valuation summarv Total firm value 128.4 (Net debt)/cash 9.2 -4.7 Less: Capitalised operating leases 132.8 Value of equity Valuation Ratios 2023A 2024A 2025E 2026E 2027E EV/Sales (x) 3.2 5.1 3.0 4.4 3.7 EV/EBITDA (x) n/a n/a n/a n/a 32.5 EV/EBIT (x) n/a n/a n/a n/a n/a PE (x) n/a n/a n/a n/a n/a Price/NTA (x) 5.8 n/a 16.4 n/a n/a Free cash flow vield (%) -04 -49 -66 -50 -19 Adj. free cash flow yield (%) -2.3 -1.8 0.6 -25 0.4 Gross dividend yield (%) 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 Net dividend yield (%) 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 2023A 2024A 2025F 2026F 2027F Capital Structure Interest cover EBIT (x) n/a 76.6 >100x >100x n/a Interest cover EBITDA (x) 53.7 74.8 20.5 88.9 n/a Net debt/ND+E (%) -113.5 -100.6 745.0 462.8 1.593.6 Net debt/EBITDA (x) 8.6 1.0 1.5 4.6 n/a Key Ratios 2023A 2024A 2025E 2026E 2027E Return on assets (%) -179 -422 -331 -24.3 -62 Return on equity (%) -232 -737 -123.3 -146.6 -472 Return on funds employed (%) 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 EBITDA margin (%) -6.8 -49.6 -26.2 -3.5 9.1 -25.0 -70.8 EBIT margin (%) -43.3 -18.4 -3.5 Capex to sales (%) 165 178 47 95 72 Capex to depreciation (%) 378 248 74 177 161 Imputation (%) 100 0 0 0 0 Pay-out ratio (%) 0 0 0 **Operating Performance** 2023A 2024A 2025F 2026F 2027F 26.5 20.0 Subscriptions revenue 8.8 10.7 14.4 Transactions revenue 18.7 7.3 7.6 7.2 7.9 Hardware revenue 33 31 32 30 28 **Total Revenues** 30.8 21.1 25.2 30.3 37.3 9.2 23.9 7.7 12.7 18.0 Subscriptions gross profit Transactions gross profit 72 18 25 24 27 Hardware gross profit 1.4 1.7 2.2 2.1 1.9

Spot valuation (NZ\$)

EV/sales relative

DCF

Total gross profit 16.3 12.7 17.4 22.4 28.5 Subscriptions gross margin (%) 87.5 86.1 88.7 897 90.2 38.4 23.9 32.3 33.1 33.8 Transactions gross margin (%) Hardware gross margin (%) 43.9 56.0 68.0 68.3 68.5 Total gross margin (%) 53.1 60.1 69.0 74.0 76.6

\* Forsyth Barr target prices reflect valuation rolled forward at cost of equity less the next 12months dividend\*\* Information on Forsyth Barr's Carbon and ESG (CESG) ratings can be found at

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0.89

0.84

0.94

0

0



### **Earnings revisions**

We have revised our FY25 estimates to align with IKE's latest revenue performance update. In FY26 and FY27, we now anticipate a more gradual recovery in Transaction revenue, reflecting potential shifts in US fibre deployment—particularly if policy trends favour satellite over ground-based infrastructure. This adjustment reduces total revenue growth forecasts, despite continuing subscription gains. The mix shift towards higher-margin subscriptions nevertheless provides a degree of earnings insulation, leaving our EBITDA forecasts essentially unchanged for FY25 and FY26, though slightly lower for FY27. We still expect IKE to achieve monthly EBITDA break-even during 2H26, albeit with a full-year loss for that period, and maintain our outlook for EBITDA break-even in the FY27 year. IKE is likely to release its FY25 result on or around 29 May 2025.

### Figure 1. Earnings revisions

		FY25			FY26			FY27	
	Old	New	Change	Old	New	Change	Old	New	Change
Operating Revenue	26.3	25.2	-4%	33.5	30.3	-10%	41.7	37.3	-11%
Cost of sales	(8.2)	(7.8)	-4%	(9.4)	(7.9)	-17%	(10.8)	(8.7)	-19%
Gross profit	18.2	17.4	-4%	24.1	22.4	-7%	30.9	28.5	-8%
Total other income	0.4	0.4	n/a	0.4	0.4	n/a	0.4	0.4	n/a
"Support costs" / Other operating expenses	(1.4)	(1.4)	+0%	(1.4)	(1.4)	+0%	(1.5)	(1.5)	+0%
Sales & marketing expenses	(9.5)	(9.1)	-4%	(11.1)	(10.0)	-10%	(11.7)	(10.4)	-11%
Research & engineering expenses	(11.3)	(10.8)	-4%	(10.1)	(9.7)	-5%	(10.8)	(10.8)	-0%
"Corporate Costs" / General & Admin expenses	(7.1)	(7.1)	+0%	(7.3)	(7.3)	+0%	(7.5)	(7.5)	+0%
Total operating expenses	(29.2)	(28.4)	-3%	(29.9)	(28.4)	-5%	(31.5)	(30.2)	-4%
Operating profit (loss)	(11.1)	(11.0)	-1%	(5.8)	(6.0)	+3%	(0.6)	(1.7)	+168%
Finance costs	0.1	0.1	n/a	(0.1)	0.1	n/a	(0.1)	(0.0)	n/a
Profit (loss) before income tax	(11.1)	(11.0)	n/a	(5.5)	(5.6)	n/a	(0.4)	(1.4)	n/a
Income tax	0.0	0.0	n/a	0.0	0.0	n/a	0.0	0.0	n/a
Net Profit (Loss) for the Year	(11.1)	(11.0)	n/a	(5.5)	(5.6)	n/a	(0.4)	(1.4)	n/a
Reconciliation Operating profit (loss) to EBITDA									
NPAT (\$m)	(11.1)	(11.0)	n/a	(5.5)	(5.6)	n/a	(0.4)	(1.4)	n/a
add back Income tax paid (\$m)	0.0	0.0	n/a	0.0	0.0	n/a	0.0	0.0	n/a
add back Finance costs paid (\$m)	(0.1)	(0.1)	n/a	0.1	(0.1)	n/a	0.1	0.0	n/a
add back Depreciation (\$m)	1.3	1.3	n/a	1.3	1.3	n/a	1.4	1.4	n/a
add back Lease depreciation (\$m)	0.3	0.3	n/a	0.3	0.3	n/a	0.3	0.3	n/a
add back Amortisation (\$m)	2.7	2.7	n/a	2.9	2.9	n/a	3.0	3.1	n/a
remove adjustments (\$m)	0.0	0.0	n/a	0.0	0.0	n/a	0.0	0.0	n/a
Operating EBITDA (\$m)	(6.8)	(6.7)	n/a	(0.9)	(1.1)	n/a	4.5	3.4	-23%

Source: Forsyth Barr analysis

### Figure 2. IKE – Operating revenue (NZ\$m)

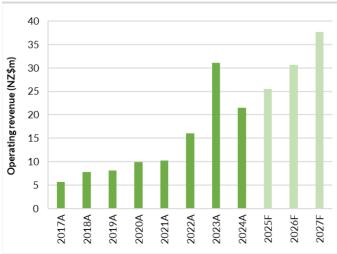
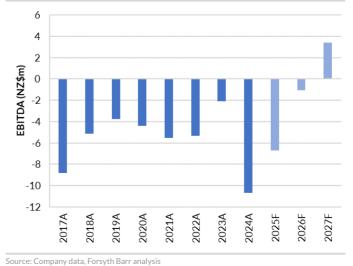


Figure 3. IKE – EBITDA (NZ\$m)



Source: Company data, Forsyth Barr analysis

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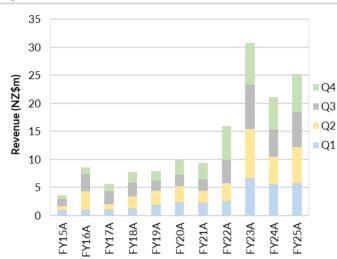
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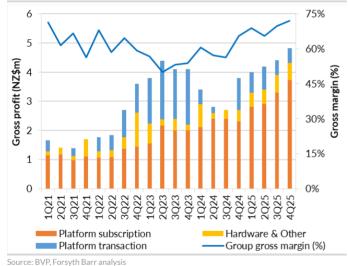
### **Key charts**

Figure 4. IKE – Quarterly revenue



Source: Company, Forsyth Barr Analysis

### Figure 6. IKE – Quarterly gross profit by segment





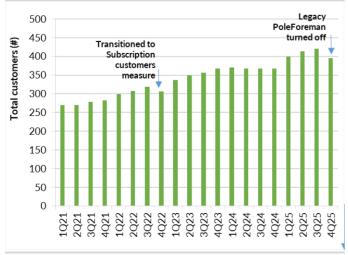
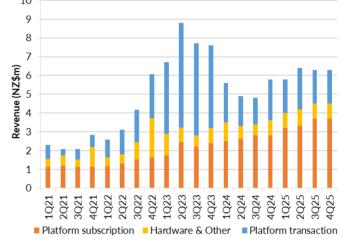
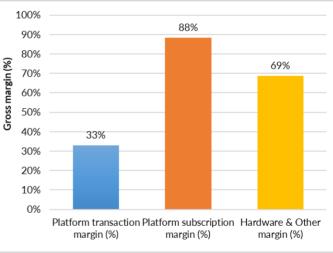


Figure 5. IKE – Quarterly revenue by segment 10



Source: Company, Forsyth Barr Analysis

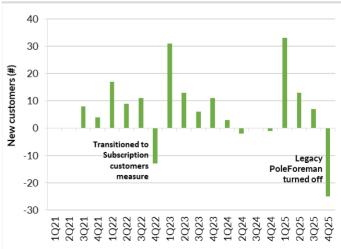
Figure 7. IKE - Gross margin by segment FY25 (%)



Source: BVP, Forsyth Barr analysis

Source: Company, Forsyth Barr Analysis

#### Figure 9. IKE - Net new customers by quarter



Source: Company, Forsyth Barr Analysis

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### **Additional data**

### Figure 10. Share price performance

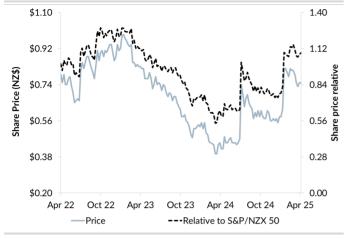


Figure 11. Substantial shareholders

Shareholder	Latest Holding
Wilson Family Trust	16.6%
TEK Trust	8.2%
Scobie Ward	7.9%

Source: NZX, Forsyth Barr analysis, NOTE: based on SPH notices only

Source: LSEG, Forsyth Barr analysis

### Figure 12. International valuation comparisons using consensus data (one and two year forward)

Company	Code	Price	Mkt Cap	PE		EV/EBITDA		EV/EBIT		Cash Yld	
			(m)	1yr	2yr	1yr	2yr	1yr	2yr	1yr	
IkeGPS	IKE NZ	NZ\$0.75	NZ\$121	<0x	<0x	<0x	26.9x	<0x	<0x	0.0%	
Autodesk	ADSK US	US\$254.27	US\$54,160	25.8x	22.5x	21.0x	18.5x	21.0x	18.5x	0.0%	
Altair Engineering	ALTR US	US\$111.85	US\$9,596	>75x	65.6x	50.1x	45.1x	60.0x	54.3x	0.0%	
Ansys	ANSS US	US\$297.94	US\$26,115	25.7x	23.2x	19.2x	18.1x	19.8x	18.0x	0.0%	
Bentley Systems	BSY US	US\$42.41	US\$14,114	35.2x	30.5x	29.0x	25.6x	29.9x	26.2x	0.6%	
Dassault Systemes	DSY FP	€32.84	€44,030	23.1x	21.1x	18.0x	16.7x	20.2x	18.5x	0.9%	
Hexagon	HEXAB SS	€88.60	€239,705	>75x	>75x	>75x	>75x	>75x	>75x	0.2%	
Rockwell Automation	ROK US	US\$226.93	US\$25,660	22.5x	19.2x	17.0x	15.2x	19.3x	16.9x	2.3%	
Roper Technologies	ROP US	US\$539.27	US\$57,910	26.4x	24.0x	20.8x	18.9x	28.5x	25.7x	0.6%	
Trimble	TRMB US	US\$56.22	US\$13,818	18.8x	16.2x	14.8x	13.2x	15.6x	13.9x	0.0%	

Source: Forsyth Barr analysis, Bloomberg, NOTE: all multiples based on Bloomberg consensus estimates, EV = market cap+net debt+lease liabilities+min interests-investments



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