Uniparts India Ltd — FY 2023 Annual Report Analysis

Annual Report Analysis (Consolidated)

Investor Snapshot

#	Analytical point	Sentiment
1	**Uniparts India maintains a dominant 16.68% global market share in 3PL systems, leveraging 15+ year OEM relationships and a "Dual-Shore" model to capture "China+1" structural shifts.**	—
2	**Revenue grew 11.29% YoY to □1,366 Cr, driven by market expansion in North American retail aftermarkets and the commencement of the Ludhiana production facility.**	—
3	***Operating margins face headwinds from demand softness in the North American small-agriculture segment, a key cyclical risk for the current fiscal year.***	—
4	**PAT increased 22% to □205 Cr, though earnings quality was slightly impacted by a non-recurring □13.12 Cr US Employee Retention Credit.**	—
5	**The company achieved a significant milestone by moving to a net-cash position, repaying □116 Cr of debt to reach a conservative D/E ratio of 0.07x.**	—
6	**Cash flow generation is exceptional, with CFO surging to □253 Cr (1.23x PAT), supported by a 20% reduction in trade receivables despite topline growth.**	—
7	**Capital efficiency remains a core strength with ROCE sustained at 32%, comfortably funding both growth CAPEX and □54 Cr in dividend payouts.**	—
8	***Working capital intensity remains a structural concern as inventory days sit at 352 days, with 299.86 Cr tied up in finished goods and in-transit stock.***	—
9	**Governance standards are high with a 10/10 rating, characterized by zero promoter pledges, 57% board independence, and clean related-party transactions (0.23% of revenue).**	—
10	***Regulatory and litigation risks have escalated as income tax demands tripled during the year to 13.02 Cr, requiring close monitoring.***	—
11	**The outlook is anchored by a US$ 200M UTV market opportunity and new capacity in Ludhiana, providing visible long-term growth levers beyond the current ag-cycle softness.**	—
12	**Investment View: ACCUMULATE; the thesis rests on superior financial resilience and deleveraging, with key monitorables being inventory levels (threshold: 400 days) and OPM stability.**	—

1. Business overview (In Bullet Points)

- **Core Business & Market Position:** Specialized global manufacturer of engineered systems for the Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) market. Holds a dominant 16.68% global market share in 3-Point Linkage Systems (3PL) and 5.92% in Precision Machined Parts (PMP).
- **Revenue Drivers:** Heavily skewed toward OEMs (83.8%), with the Aftermarket accounting for 16.2%. Growth is driven by a transition from component supply to "end-to-end solutions" (design, prototyping, and testing).
- **Cost Drivers:** Steel is the primary raw material. Logistics (ocean freight) and energy (transitioning from diesel to PNG/Electric) are significant OpEx variables.
- **Industry Position:** Evolved from a "wage arbitrage" supplier to a Tier-1 integrated systems provider embedded in the long-term product lifecycles of global OEMs.

- **Expansion Plans & Capacity:** Commenced production at a new facility in Ludhiana (Gripwel Conag) during FY23. Management is targeting a US$ 200 million+ opportunity in the Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV) market.
- **Geographical Presence:** Operates 6 Indian plants and 1 US plant (Iowa), supported by warehouses in the US and Germany. Sales span 25 countries, with key markets in North America, Europe, and Asia (Japan/ South Korea).
- **Segment Performance:** 3PL and PMP remain core; seeking growth in adjacent verticals like Power Take-Off (PTO) systems, hydraulic cylinders, and fabrications.
- **Acquisitions:** Management remains "opportunity-focused" regarding strategic acquisitions or alliances, backed by a net-cash position post-IPO.

2. Management commentary & outlook

- Management reports "robust" new inquiries and conversions specifically attributed to global OEMs seeking to de-risk from China, viewing the "China + 1" strategy as a structural tailwind for growth.
- The company identified a US$ 200 million+ additional market opportunity by developing 3PL solutions for Utility Terrain Vehicles (UTVs), moving beyond traditional tractor applications.
- Strategic push to diversify the Aftermarket segment beyond traditional distributors by adding the second-largest North American farm equipment retail group.
- Identified South Korea as a high-potential market in the Asia-Pacific region to complement existing Japanese operations.
- Bullish outlook on global food security and farm mechanization due to labor shortages, though management flagged short-term softness in the North American small agriculture segment.
- Positive outlook for the Construction/CFM segment, catalyzed by the US$ 1 Trillion US Infrastructure Bill and similar outlays in India and China.
- Admitted to "transient inventory level rebalancing" in the US and Europe aftermarket, which slowed demand as logistics normalized post-pandemic.
- Successfully mitigated steel and freight volatility through price actions and internal efficiencies; significant emphasis on "Business Intelligence" tools for predictive forecasting and inventory management.
- Aggressive transition from oil-fired furnaces to electric/induction and PNG to remain compliant with tightening ESG procurement standards of global OEMs like John Deere and Caterpillar.
- Management displays "Founder-Operator" discipline, evidenced by the swift utilization of IPO proceeds to become net debt-free. They are avoiding "growth at any cost," instead focusing on high-margin, complex assemblies where they have a dominant market share. The tone is transparent regarding sectoral softness, which adds credibility to their long-term optimistic projections for the "China + 1" transition.

3. Financial analysis

3.1 Financial statements

P&L statement (□Cr)

Line item	Mar 2023	Mar 2022
Sales	1,366	1,227
Sales Growth %	11.29	35.91
Expenses	1,068	959
Material Cost %	35.69	32.72
Raw material cost	497	501
Change in inventory	-9	-100
Manufacturing Cost %	16.54	17.34
Employee Cost %	17.57	17.91
Other Cost %	8.40	10.19
Operating Profit	298	268
OPM %	22	22
Other Income	15	3
Exceptional items	-0.86	-0.13
Other income normal	16.22	3.62
Interest	6	6
Depreciation	39	37
Profit before tax	268	229
Tax %	24	26
Net Profit	205	169
Exceptional items AT	-1	0
Profit excl Excep	206	169
Profit for PE	206	169
Profit for EPS	205	169
Profit Growth %	22	84
EPS (□)	45.40	37.40
Dividend Payout %	31	24

Balance sheet (□Cr)

Line item	Mar 2023	Mar 2022
Equity Capital	45	45
Reserves	786	641
Borrowings	61	158
Long term Borrowings	9	5
Short term Borrowings	8	122
Lease Liabilities	44	31
Other Borrowings	0	0
Other Liabilities	182	205
Trade Payables	70	90
Advance from Customers	0	0
Other liability items	112	115
Total Liabilities	1,074	1,048
Fixed Assets	337	325
Land	33	33
Building	146	128
Plant Machinery	339	346
Equipments	12	14
Computers	16	15
Furniture n fittings	6	5
Vehicles	10	11
Intangible Assets	66	62
Other fixed assets	20	20
Gross Block	648	632
Accumulated Depreciation	311	308
CWIP	7	2
Investments	25	0
Other Assets	705	721
Inventories	470	459
Trade receivables	155	194
Cash Equivalents	39	14
Loans n Advances	9	7
Other asset items	32	48
Total Assets	1,074	1,048

Cash flow statement (□Cr)

Line item	Mar 2023	Mar 2022
Cash from Operating Activity	253	85
Profit from operations	301	259
Receivables	37	-25
Inventory	-11	-103
Payables	-19	-1
Loans Advances	0	0
Other WC items	8	14
Working capital changes	15	-114
Direct taxes	-63	-61
Cash from Investing Activity	-53	-32
Fixed assets purchased	-32	-35
Fixed assets sold	2	0
Investments purchased	0	0
Interest received	1	1
Dividends received	0	0
Other investing items	-24	1
Cash from Financing Activity	-175	-49
Proceeds from borrowings	7	0
Repayment of borrowings	-116	-1
Interest paid fin	-5	-5
Dividends paid	-54	-40
Financial liabilities	-7	-4
Net Cash Flow	25	3
Free Cash Flow	223	50
CFO/OP	106	54

Key ratios

Line item	Mar 2023	Mar 2022
Debtor Days	42	58
Inventory Days	352	417
Days Payable	53	81
Cash Conversion Cycle	340	393
Working Capital Days	136	122
ROCE %	32	30

3.2 Financial analysis summary

- **Revenue** from operations grew by 11.29% to ₹1,366.00 Cr, primarily driven by Sale of Products (96.09% of total) and supported by ₹8.76 Cr in Export Incentives; this growth was achieved despite a sharp 20.03% reduction in Trade Receivables to ₹155.00 Cr, indicating superior collection efficiency as Debtor Days improved from 58 to 42 days.
- **Operating Profit** margins remained stable at 22.00%, as the company successfully offset a rise in Material Cost % (from 32.72% to 35.69%) through efficiencies in Other Cost %, which fell from 10.19% to 8.40%, aided by an 11% reduction in Freight and Forwarding costs to ₹92.36 Cr.
- **Net Profit** increased by 22% to ₹205.00 Cr, but earnings quality is slightly impacted by a one-time Other Income item of ₹13.12 Cr from a US Employee Retention Credit; this non-recurring gain, combined with a lower effective Tax % of 24%, helped boost the PAT Margin % to 15.01%.
- **CFO** saw a massive surge to ₹253.00 Cr from ₹85.00 Cr, resulting in a very strong CFO / PAT ratio of 1.23, primarily driven by a ₹15.00 Cr release from Working Capital changes due to the stabilization of Inventory levels compared to the previous year's stock-building.
- **Inventory** remains a significant portion of the Balance Sheet at ₹470.00 Cr, with Inventory Days at a high 352 days; 66% of this (₹299.86 Cr) is Finished Goods, including goods at port, which exposes the company to price and obsolescence risks typical of an export-heavy model.
- **Total Debt** was aggressively reduced from ₹158.00 Cr to ₹61.00 Cr, as the company utilized its strong CFO to repay ₹116.00 Cr of borrowings, bringing the Debt / Equity ratio down to a negligible 0.07 and improving Interest Coverage to 45.67x.
- **Fixed Assets** grew marginally to ₹337.00 Cr, supported by Capex of ₹32.00 Cr; while Gross Block reached ₹648.00 Cr, Repairs and Maintenance for Plant & Machinery increased to ₹15.34 Cr, suggesting higher utilization of existing capacity.
- **Lease Liabilities** increased by 42% to ₹44.00 Cr due to ₹19.57 Cr in new additions, contributing to the rise in Depreciation to ₹39.00 Cr and indicating an expansion in physical infrastructure or warehousing not fully captured in the Fixed Assets line.
- **Capital Allocation** was focused on deleveraging and shareholder returns, with Dividends paid increasing to ₹54.00 Cr (31% payout); the company generated a substantial Free Cash Flow of ₹223.00 Cr, proving the business is now entirely self-funding.
- **ROCE %** improved to 32.00%, reflecting high capital efficiency driven by an improvement in Asset Turnover to 1.27 and the maintenance of high OPM %, even as the Net Worth expanded to ₹831.00 Cr.
- Analytical review of other assets shows **GST/Customs/Excise Balances** of ₹10.84 Cr, while other expenses were impacted by Stores, Spares and Tools at ₹73.35 Cr and a moderating net exchange gain of ₹8.38 Cr (down from ₹14.67 Cr).
- **Uniparts India demonstrated a high-quality financial performance in FY23, characterized by strong Revenue growth and a massive surge in CFO that enabled complete deleveraging to a net-cash position.**

3.3 Contingent liabilities & commitments

- **Income Tax Demands:** Nearly tripled to ₹**13.02 Cr** (from ₹4.66 Cr), suggesting aggressive tax positions being challenged by authorities.
- **BSE Limited Guarantee:** A massive one-time contingent item of ₹**536.00 Cr** related to IPO and listing requirements.
- **Capital Commitments:** Increased to ₹**5.84 Cr** (net of advances), signaling ongoing investment in capacity expansion.

- **Other Bank Guarantees:** Stood at □**0.59 Cr**.
- **Corporate Guarantee:** Provided by the parent for Gripwel Conag's □**6.61 Cr** term loan.

3.9 Earnings quality & forensic checks

#	Check	Impact	Status	Notes detail
1	PAT vs CFO trend	Profit ↑ — high cash conversion; CFO of □253 Cr significantly exceeds PAT of □205 Cr.	—	Strong earnings quality; CFO/PAT ratio is 1.23x due to working capital release.
2	Receivables & channel-stuffing signal	Revenue ↑ — high quality growth; receivables fell 20% despite 11.3% revenue growth, reducing risk.	—	99.7% of receivables are undisputed and <6 months old, indicating excellent collection.
3	Revenue timing	Neutral — standard recognition; minimal customer advances of □0.25 Cr suggest a pull-based demand model.	—	Revenue recognized at point in time based on Incoterms; auditor focused on cut-off [KAM 1].
4	Revenue from related parties %	Neutral — low governance risk; RPTs primarily involve IPO-related shareholding changes and minor loans.	—	Related party transactions are not a significant driver of revenue or operating costs.
5	Inventory vs revenue growth	Profit ↑ — efficient operations; inventory grew only 2.5% vs 11.3% sales growth, improving turnover.	—	Finished goods comprise 66% of stock; inventory days improved from 417 to 352.
6	Inventory valuation method change	Neutral — consistent accounting; FIFO method maintained for raw materials ensures no valuation-led profit manipulation.	—	No change in inventory valuation policy reported during the financial year.
7	Exceptional items in operating profit	Profit ↑ — non-recurring gain; □13.12 Cr US tax credit artificially boosts PAT by approximately 6.4%.	—	One-time US subsidiary credit is non-sustainable and inflates reported net profit.
8	Depreciation rate vs useful life policy	Profit ↑↓ — management discretion; internal technical life estimates for machinery allow flexibility in depreciation charges.	—	Plant & Machinery lives are based on internal evaluations rather than standard Schedule II.
9	Provision reversals boosting PAT	Profit ↑ — minor provision release; □0.31 Cr reduction in inventory obsolescence provision provides negligible boost.	—	Provision for obsolescence remained largely stable, suggesting no aggressive reversal to pad earnings.
10	Tax rate consistency + cash tax vs P&L tax	Profit ↑ — lower effective tax; rate fell to 23.6% via Section 80M deductions, boosting PAT.	—	Effective tax rate reduction driven by dividend set-offs and US tax adjustments.
11	CWIP age and stalling projects	Neutral — active expansion; CWIP remains low at □7 Cr, suggesting no major stalled capital projects.	—	Increase in CWIP aligns with capital commitments of □5.84 Cr for capacity expansion.
12	Deferred tax asset recognition adequacy	Neutral — standard accounting; deferred tax movements align with timing differences in depreciation and benefits.	—	Deferred tax assets are recognized based on reasonable certainty of future taxable profits.
13	RPT quantum and trend	Neutral — low exposure; interest-free loan to ESOP trust is small relative to □786 Cr reserves.	—	Loan recovery depends on employee exercise; represents minimal risk to the overall balance sheet.
14	Dividend paid vs FCF adequacy	Profit ↑ — sustainable payouts; FCF of □223 Cr easily covers □54 Cr dividends with surplus.	—	Dividend payout of 31% is well-supported by strong free cash flow generation [Cash Flow Table].
15	Auditor Key Audit Matters	Neutral — procedural focus; Revenue cut-off and ECL on receivables identified as KAMs with robust management response.	—	Auditor performed testing on Incoterms and aging-based provision models; no material weaknesses noted.
16	US Employee Retention Credit	Profit ↑ — non-recurring; □13.12 Cr credit from US subsidiaries boosted PAT.	—	This is a non-sustainable item that artificially inflates the current year's earnings quality.

4. Management & governance

A. Auditor report & key audit matters

- **Audit Opinion:** Unqualified.
- **KAM 1: Revenue Recognition:** Focused on the variety of shipment terms (Incoterms) across markets affecting the timing of transfer of control. Management responded with robust internal control testing from order initiation to collection.
- **KAM 2: Trade Receivables:** Focus on collectability of unsecured receivables from OEMs and subjectivity in Expected Credit Loss (ECL) estimations. Management utilizes an aging-based provision model.
- **Internal Controls:** Deemed effective; no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies noted.
- **Auditor Fees:** Total fees of □0.91 Cr (□0.40 Cr Audit, □0.51 Cr Non-audit/IPO). Non-audit fees exceed audit fees due to one-time IPO activities.

B. Related party transactions

Party	Relationship	Nature	Amount (□ Cr)	Concern
Uniparts ESOP Trust	Entity with common control	Interest-free Loan Balance	3.21 Cr	Minor risk if share price falls below exercise price
Gurdeep Soni	Promoter/CMD	Remuneration (via GFPL)	Not disclosed	Informational
Paramjit Singh Soni	Promoter/VC	Remuneration (via UUL)	Not disclosed	Informational
Gripwel Conag	Subsidiary	Corporate Guarantee	6.61 Cr	Standard support for subsidiary debt

- **RPT Verdict:** Clean. RPTs are minimal (0.23% of Revenue). Most material transactions are remuneration-based or related to the ESOP trust, with no evidence of tunneling.

C. Shareholding

- **Promoter & Promoter Group:** 65.79%
- **FIIs / Institutions:** 17.54%
- **DIIs:** 0.00%
- **Public / Non-Institutions:** 15.10%
- **Pledged Shares:** 0.00%

D. Board composition + KMP compensation

- **Total Directors:** 7 (57.14% Independent; 1 Woman Director).
- **KMP Compensation:** Total KMP compensation grew 10.86% YoY to □1.23 Cr, closely correlating with EBITDA growth of 11.19%.
- **Family Compensation:** Gurdeep Soni (CMD) and Paramjit Singh Soni (VC) are siblings; they draw zero remuneration from the parent company, receiving pay from subsidiaries (Gripwel Fasteners and Uniparts USA).

F. Capital allocation & capex

Action	FY current (□Cr)	FY prior (□Cr)	% of CFO	Signal
Dividends	54.00	40.00	21.34	—
Capex	32.00	35.00	12.65	—
Net Debt Change	-97.00	109.00	-38.34	—
Interest Payments	5.00	5.00	1.98	—
Income Tax Demands	13.02	4.66	5.15	—

- **CFO Coverage of Capex:** 7.91x, indicating massive self-funding capacity.
- **Nature of Capex:** Primarily growth-oriented, including the **commencement of production at a new facility in Ludhiana**.
- **Deployment Efficiency:** Revenue grew 11.29% while Gross Block increased by only 2.53%, suggesting **high asset sweat and efficient incremental capacity deployment**.
- **Key Takeaways:** Capital allocation is highly conservative, prioritizing debt clearance and organic growth.

H. Risks

- ***Commodity Price (High):*** Steel price volatility directly impacts margins if not passed to OEMs.
- ***Forex Risk (Medium):*** High export exposure (□774 Cr); Rupee appreciation could hurt competitiveness.
- ***Customer Concentration (Medium):*** Reliance on marquee global OHV OEMs (83.8% of sales).
- ***Tax Litigation (Low):*** Income tax demands tripled to □13.02 Cr.
- ***Inventory Obsolescence (Medium):*** High finished goods/in-transit stock (□299.86 Cr) carries write-down risk.

5. Scorecard & verdict

Part a: scorecard

Dimension	Rating (1–5)	Delta	Key evidence	One-line rationale
Business quality	4	→	16.68% global 3PL share; 15+ yr OEM ties	Strong niche dominance and high switching costs with global giants.
Financial health	5	↑	D/E 0.07x; CFO/PAT 1.23x; Net Cash	Exceptional deleveraging and self-funding capability.
Earnings quality	4	→	CFO > PAT; Receivables -20%	High cash backing, though aided by one-time US tax credit.
Management & governance	4	→	Zero pledge; 57% Ind. Board; Clean RPT	Disciplined "Founder-Operator" model with transparent disclosures.
Capital allocation & earnings visibility	4	↑	ROCE 32%; New Ludhiana plant	High returns on capital with visible growth from "China+1" inquiries.

Business positives (for this company this year) * **Deleveraging:** Successfully moved to a net-cash position by repaying □116 Cr of debt. * **Cash Flow Strength:** CFO surged to □253 Cr, representing a 1.23x coverage of PAT. * **Collection Efficiency:** Trade Receivables fell 20% to □155 Cr despite 11% revenue growth. * **Capital Efficiency:** Maintained a high ROCE of 32% while expanding the gross block. * **Market Expansion:** Commenced production at the Ludhiana facility and entered the North American retail aftermarket.

Business negatives / concerns (for this company this year) * **One-off Income:** PAT was boosted by a non-recurring ₹13.12 Cr US Employee Retention Credit. * **Inventory Risk:** Inventory days remain high at 352 days, with ₹299.86 Cr in finished goods/in-transit. * **Tax Litigation:** Income tax demands nearly tripled during the year to ₹13.02 Cr. * **Sectoral Softness:** Management acknowledged demand softness in the North American small-ag segment.

Overall scorecard summary Uniparts India exhibits exceptional financial strength, characterized by a transition to a net-cash position and robust free cash flow generation that comfortably funds both growth and dividends. Earnings quality is high, evidenced by a CFO/PAT ratio of 1.23x and superior receivable management, although the current year's profit was slightly aided by a non-recurring US tax credit. Governance remains stable with a clean audit and disciplined capital allocation, placing the company on an improving trajectory as it leverages the "China + 1" structural shift.

Part b: governance check matrix

#	Check	Status
1	Audit opinion clean?	—
2	Promoter pledge = 0?	—
3	KMP pay < 5% of PAT?	—
4	RPT quantum < 5% of revenue?	—
5	Board > 50% independent?	—
6	At least 1 woman director?	—
7	No statutory dues outstanding?	—
8	No fraud reported?	—
9	Audit trail enabled?	—
10	Frequent Auditor change	—

Total: 10/10 — Governance Rating: 5

Part c: investor verdict

Thesis: A dominant niche player in the OHV engineered systems market, transitioning from a component supplier to a net-cash, high-ROCE integrated solutions provider benefiting from global supply chain de-risking. **Overall stance:** ACCUMULATE **Rationale:** Strong financial resilience and "China + 1" tailwinds outweigh transient cyclical softness in small-ag segments. **Re-evaluate when:** Inventory Days exceed 400 or OPM drops below 18% for two consecutive quarters. **BULL CASE:** Rapid conversion of the US$ 200M UTV market opportunity and sustained "China + 1" OEM shifts drive 20%+ topline growth. **BEAR CASE:** Prolonged downturn in global agriculture CAPEX cycles leads to significant inventory write-downs and margin compression. **Key monitorable:** Inventory Days: 352 → Watch threshold: 400.