

George Kent 4Q profit jumps 114%, plans share split

Author: [moneyKing](#) | Publish Date: 21 Mar 2017, 7:04 PM

By [Wong Ee Lin](#) / The Edge Financial Daily | March 21, 2017 : 8:53 AM MYT

Tan says the group has announced 'yet another set of record results for the year'.



This article first appeared in *The Edge Financial Daily*, on March 21, 2017.

KUALA LUMPUR: George Kent (M) Bhd, which is planning a two-to-three share split, posted a 114% surge in net profit for the fourth quarter ended Jan 31, 2017 (4QFY17), to RM42.15 million from RM19.66 million a year earlier, as gross profit improved, while cost of sales shrank.

It also recorded a higher unrealised gain on foreign exchange of RM1.85 million on foreign currencies held. But its quarterly revenue was down 29% to RM189.14 million, from RM265.58 million a year ago, mainly due to lower contributions from its construction and metering segments.

In a filing with Bursa Malaysia yesterday, the group recommended a final dividend of five sen per share for FY17, payable on a date to be announced.

For the full year, its net profit doubled to RM101.41 million from RM50.07 million a year ago, while revenue climbed 12% to RM598.97 million from RM536.21 million.

The significantly higher earnings were due to improved revenue and record contributions from its engineering and metering segments, said George Kent.

In a separate filing, George Kent also proposed to undertake a subdivision of every two existing George Kent shares into three George Kent shares, which will increase the number of its shares in issue from 375.51 million to 563.27 million.

“The lower adjusted ex-price of George Kent shares will make the shares more affordable and improve the liquidity of the shares traded on the Main Board of Bursa Securities,” George Kent said, adding that the entitlement date will be fixed later. It expects the proposed share split to be completed by the third quarter of 2017.

Meanwhile, George Kent chairman Tan Sri Tan Kay Hock said the group had announced “yet another set of record results for the year”.

“There was all-round improvement in contribution from all divisions. These included the rail projects, water infrastructure projects, turnkey hospital projects and the supply of water meters,” he added.