

Symphony in elite league as M-cap crosses ₹10k cr

The company's shares closed at ₹2,870.55 on BSE on Thursday, almost 6% higher over the previous close of ₹2,709

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Ahmedabad: Ahmedabad-based Symphony Limited has entered an elite league. The market capitalisation of the world's largest manufacturer of air coolers crossed the Rs10,000 crore mark for the first time on Thursday. The fact that the company was almost on the brink a few years ago makes the feat all the more amazing.

On Thursday, Symphony shares touched a life high of Rs2,890 on the Bombay Stock Exchange, achieving market capitalisation of Rs10,108 crore. The share closed at Rs2,870.55 at the end of trading, giving the company a market valuation of Rs10,040 crore. The company's valuation shot up by more than Rs600 crore during the session.

"This is a proud day for all of us at Symphony and we will continue to reward all our stakeholders with even better results on all fronts in the coming years," Symphony's chairman & managing director, Achal Bakeri, who recently debuted on the Forbes Billionaires' List, said.

From being a sick company, Symphony has achieved a dramatic, almost unparalleled, turnaround in little over a decade. On April 7, 2005, the company's shares were quoting at Rs1.35. This means that in a decade, the share has risen by a staggering 2,126 times. In other words, Rs10,000 invested in Symphony shares on April 7, 2005, would be worth Rs2.12 crore today.

Interestingly, Symphony touching Rs10,000 crore market valuation coincides with the company moving to a new office. The building is de-

FROM BEING A SICK UNIT, THE AHMEDABAD-BASED COMPANY'S SHARE HAS RISEN BY OVER 2,100 TIMES IN A DECADE, MAKING IT POSSIBLY THE BEST PERFORMING STOCK

signed as per Green Building guidelines, and the company is in the process of applying for Leadership in Energy & Environment Design (LEED) building certification.

Symphony is the market leader in the air cooler market in India with 50% share of the organised sector. The company sold more than seven lakh coolers across 60 countries in 2013-14, and is expected to cross sales of 10 lakh units in 2014-15. Bakeri told dna in an interview recently that many of Symphony's problems in the past were because of diversification into other

products such as air conditioners, washing machines and other durables. However, he is very clear now that Symphony would remain an air cooler company.

"The strategy of 'One Product Many Markets' has paid off well over the last decade, and we plan to keep it that way," he said.

Bakeri also said that the residential air cooler market in India and globally has the potential to grow much more.

"We have only scratched the industrial and commercial air cooler market in India and we see a significant contribution to our revenues from the residential market," he said.



This is a proud day for all of us at Symphony and we will continue to reward all our stakeholders with even better results on all fronts in the coming days

ACHAL BAKERI, CMD, Symphony

MAJOR JUMP

₹1.35

Symphony share's price on April 7, 2005

₹2,870

closing price of the share on April 9, 2015

2,126

times, the increase in the share price in the last ten years

35%

rise in Symphony shares in the last one month

300%

increase in Symphony share price in the last one year

7 lakh

number of air coolers sold by the company in 2013-14

10 lakh

number of air coolers it is expecting to sell in 2014-15

OTHER LOCAL COS HAVING MARKET CAP OF ₹10K CRORE OR MORE

(Market cap in rupees in crores; Source: BSE)

Adani Enterprises

70,333

Adani Ports & SEZ

65,506

Cadila Healthcare

37,688

Torrent Pharma

20,888

UPL

20,136

Adani Power

14,187

AIA Engineering

11,770