

ABO Wind AG

Deutschland / Cleantech
 Börse München
 Bloomberg: AB9 GR
 ISIN: DE0005760029

AG or KGaA?

RATING

PRICE TARGET

Return Potential
 Risk Rating

BUY

€ 118.00

102.7%
 High

THINKING OUT LOUD ABOUT A CHANGE OF LEGAL FORM

ABO Wind is guiding towards a net result of well over €20m in 2023 and further increases in the following years, as the acceleration of the energy transition in Germany and other countries will boost business development. If ABO Wind succeeds in significantly improving its equity base, the board believes that a doubling of the net result to around €50m is achievable by 2027 (2022: just under €25m). Since the company's founders Ahn and Bockholt, who currently hold 52% of the shares, do not want to relinquish control over the company even in the event of further dilution and want to continue the tradition of a family-run company with a corresponding corporate culture, they are considering a change of legal form. The stock corporation (Aktiengesellschaft (AG)) could become a partnership limited by shares (Kommanditgesellschaft auf Aktien (KGaA)), which would allow the founders to determine the management and thus the course of the company even with a smaller share of the votes. The initial reaction of investors was negative, however, and the share price lost about 10% during the day after the ad hoc announcement. Overall, the share price has fallen by almost 40% since reaching its all-time high of just under €97 – despite steadily improving prospects. The founders' desire to retain control is understandable, but there is a danger that the change of legal form will not be to the taste of many investors who may not only want to participate in the positive business development, but also influence the business policy with their votes. In our view, this is more difficult in the legal form of a KGaA than in an AG. This could make access to equity more difficult and more expensive for ABO Wind. Thus, it will be crucial for ABO Wind to convince enough (potential) investors that an investment in an ABO Wind KGaA is also very attractive. An updated DCF model still yields a €118 price target. We confirm our Buy recommendation.

FINANCIAL HISTORY & PROJECTIONS

| | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023E | 2024E | 2025E |
|--------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Revenue (€m) | 149.16 | 127.11 | 231.66 | 267.25 | 304.13 | 343.06 |
| Y-o-y growth | 18.1% | -14.8% | 82.3% | 15.4% | 13.8% | 12.8% |
| EBIT (€m) | 22.46 | 22.45 | 43.12 | 42.02 | 47.83 | 52.24 |
| EBIT margin | 15.1% | 17.7% | 18.6% | 15.7% | 15.7% | 15.2% |
| Net income (€m) | 13.12 | 13.80 | 24.59 | 23.95 | 27.16 | 31.10 |
| EPS (diluted) (€) | 1.54 | 1.50 | 2.67 | 2.60 | 2.95 | 3.37 |
| DPS (€) | 0.45 | 0.49 | 0.54 | 0.54 | 0.62 | 0.66 |
| FCF (€m) | 40.53 | -54.05 | -19.10 | 1.32 | 7.73 | 13.62 |
| Net gearing | 5.3% | 45.0% | 55.0% | 54.7% | 51.3% | 45.8% |
| Liquid assets (€m) | 52.80 | 18.47 | 87.08 | 78.81 | 97.26 | 103.35 |

RISKS

Main risks are project development, supply chain, financing, interest rate, and regulation.

COMPANY PROFILE

ABO Wind is a project developer for renewable energies and has developed green power and storage projects with a total capacity of ca. 5 GW since its establishment in 1996. The company also offers the management of wind farms, solar plants and storages. ABO Wind has ca. 1.000 employees. Its headquarters are in Wiesbaden, Germany.

MARKET DATA

As of 08 Jun 2023

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Closing Price | € 58.20 |
| Shares outstanding | 9.22m |
| Market Capitalisation | € 536.66m |
| 52-week Range | € 50.60 / 96.60 |
| Avg. Volume (12 Months) | 4,033 |

| Multiples | 2022 | 2023E | 2024E |
|------------|------|-------|-------|
| P/E | 21.8 | 22.4 | 19.8 |
| EV/Sales | 2.6 | 2.3 | 2.0 |
| EV/EBIT | 14.0 | 14.4 | 12.6 |
| Div. Yield | 0.9% | 0.9% | 1.1% |

STOCK OVERVIEW



COMPANY DATA

As of 30 Jun 2022

| | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Liquid Assets | € 10.72m |
| Current Assets | € 316.70m |
| Intangible Assets | € 1.43m |
| Total Assets | € 334.71m |
| Current Liabilities | € 72.90m |
| Shareholders' Equity | € 155.17m |

SHAREHOLDERS

| | |
|------------------|-------|
| Familie Ahn | 26.0% |
| Familie Bockholt | 26.0% |
| Mainova | 10.0% |
| Free Float | 38.0% |



Strong Q1 and prospects for further growth The Management Board expressed its satisfaction with the development in the first quarter. In the first five months of the current year, ABO Wind received permits for more than 70 MW of wind power capacity in Germany and expects further wind power permits, with domestic permits alone amounting to around 200 MW for the full year 2023. The main reason for this good development is growth in the number of permits issued, especially in Germany. According to the German Wind Energy Agency, permits for 324 new turbines (1,784 MW) were registered in the first quarter of 2023. Thus, approved wind power capacity grew by 61% compared to the same period last year (1,110 MW). The growth drivers are legislative changes passed by the “traffic light” coalition, which accelerate approval processes and are increasingly having an impact. Several of the company’s ongoing wind power projects have already benefitted from the amendments because the courts and authorities have drawn the appropriate consequences.

Fortunate situation: Finance is the only thing still needed for further growth ABO Wind's number and size of projects ready for construction are currently increasing significantly. To be able to construct as many wind and solar parks as possible in European core markets itself, the company simply needs greater financial leeway, as the capital requirement during the construction phase is high. Building many projects in parallel requires corresponding liquidity, and currently more MW are in the turnkey construction phase than ever before. In its home market Germany alone, ABO Wind has 19 renewable energy projects with around 200 MW of capacity under implementation. The projects are either already under construction or about to be. A further seven wind power projects with more than 100 MW have been approved. In addition, there are further wind power projects with more than 100 MW, for which approvals are expected this year, as well as solar projects with a further capacity of more than 100 MW, for which construction is scheduled to start in the next 13 months. The invested funds will flow back to the company after completion of the project financing and sale. In order to realise these projects quickly, the Executive Board is currently examining various financing options, including the issue of new shares.

Excellent future prospects The International Energy Agency (IEA) expects green power plants with a capacity of around 2,400 GW to be installed in the next five years. Previously, it took 20 years to install the same capacity. This means that the speed of additions will quadruple. We see ABO Wind with

- its broad international footprint on four continents in 16 countries with a total of 28 offices, nine of which are in Germany,
- its proven expertise in the key technologies of wind power, photovoltaics, battery storage and hydrogen (approx. 5 GW developed and sold, half of which it built itself),
- the very large project pipeline (21 GW of green power projects plus 20 GW of hydrogen-based green power projects),
- the extensive in-house expertise and resources (about 1,000 employees),
- the strong balance sheet (€170m equity, equity ratio of 38%),
- the high profitability (net profit 2022: almost €25m, net margin: 10.6%, long-standing profitability track record),

as excellently positioned to be a major beneficiary from the acceleration of the energy transition.



Equity requirement of around €25m per year In the current environment, CEO Karsten Schlageter can envision capital increases averaging around €25m annually over the next few years. In addition to the growth in the development of projects to construction maturity, ABO Wind could then also implement significantly more and larger wind and solar parks on a turnkey basis in the future.

AG or KGaA? The families of the company's founders, Dr. Jochen Ahn and Matthias Bockholt, as majority owners, have declared that they want to maintain their majority influence and will not allow themselves to be diluted below 50%. Under the current legal form, this severely limits the possibilities for further capital increases. The change of legal form to a partnership limited by shares (Kommanditgesellschaft auf Aktien (KGaA)) would partially compensate for the loss of influence that the families would suffer in the event of dilution below 50%. An Ahn & Bockholt family partnership as general partner (Komplementär) could determine the management of a future KGaA. In this constellation, the families would be prepared to agree to further capital increases. For the minority shareholders, this means that they have no significant influence on the management and thus on the operational business strategy. However, they do have a say in key decisions such as the dividend payout quota or future capital increases at the Annual General Meeting. ABO Wind plans to tie the influence of the founding families to their financial commitment. It is therefore planned in the articles of the KGaA to link the general partner function of the families to a minimum share of the limited liability capital in the articles of association of the KGaA, which have yet to be drafted. It would be conceivable for the general partner to lose its powers as soon as the general partner's share of the limited partner's capital falls below a yet to be defined threshold.

Studies show that (listed) family businesses are more successful than non-family businesses

The study "Wirtschaftliche Entwicklung großer Familien- und Nichtfamilienunternehmen (Economic development of major family and non-family businesses)" concludes that major family businesses were more profitable (return on assets and return on equity) than major non-family businesses overall, as well as in each individual year in the period from 2008 to 2012. The study, published by the Institut für Mittelstandsforschung Bonn, was released in 2014.

The 2019 study "Börsennotierte Familienunternehmen in Deutschland (Listed Family Businesses in Germany)" shows that listed family businesses perform significantly better than non-family businesses in terms of sales, employment, return on assets and return on equity. When weighted on the basis of the company's respective market capitalisation, an examination of average annual returns on equity shows a slightly higher return of 17.2% for family businesses identified according to the founding family definition than for non-family businesses at 15.0%. Family businesses in the narrower sense even achieved an annual return of 23.2%. The study, published by the Center for Entrepreneurial and Financial Studies at the Technical University of Munich (TUM) under the direction of Prof. Dr. Dr. Ann-Kristin Achleitner, Prof. Dr. Reiner Braun and Prof. Dr. Christoph Kaserer, looks at the period from 2009 to 2018. Notably, the positive performance of family businesses increases with family influence.

The study "Benchmark Familienunternehmen 2022 (Benchmark Family Businesses 2022)" published by the Institute for SME Research Mannheim 2022 proves that measured by the key figure "return on assets", the median family business outperforms the median non-family businesses in all 11 German metropolitan regions. The median family businesses uses its available resources more efficiently, operates more profitably and tends to invest more. The study examines 253,552 businesses from Germany's 11 metropolitan regions using descriptive median comparisons for the period 2009 to 2018.

The three studies support the founding families' policy of continuing the family-run structure, maintaining the existing corporate culture (flat hierarchies, fast and unbureaucratic decision-making, value-based entrepreneurial action) and securing significant influence on business strategy by converting to a KGaA.



Negative investor reaction The 10% share price slide on the day of publication of the ad hoc news on the envisaged change of legal form shows that investors view the proposal with distrust. Feedback from several investors towards First Berlin was also consistently negative. Investors see various risks, in particular a governance risk, a liquidity risk, and a reputational risk:

- **Governance risk:** In an AG, there are clear rules and structures for corporate governance, such as a management board and supervisory board. In a KGaA, the limited liability shareholders (Kommanditisten) would have less influence on the management and thus on the operational business policy. This can lead to governance risks, especially if the control and co-determination rights of the shareholders are impaired.
- **Liquidity risk:** A KGaA has more complex corporate and ownership structures than an AG. This can have a negative impact on the liquidity of the limited liability shareholders, especially if it is more difficult to sell their shareholding. Increased liquidity risk may result in limited tradability of the limited partnership shares (Kommanditaktien).
- **Reputational risk:** A change of legal form may pose a reputational risk to the company. If the reasons for the change are not clearly communicated or are negatively received by stakeholders, this may affect stakeholder confidence and have a negative impact on the company's reputation.

If ABO Wind does not succeed in convincing (potential) investors of its planned move, raising capital is likely to become significantly more difficult and expensive. This would reduce growth opportunities.

Buy reiterated at unchanged price target It is not yet clear whether the capital market will approve of the planned conversion into a KGaA. It is true that scientific research indicates that maintaining the structure and culture of a family-run company with strong influence of the owner families is good for the company's operating performance in the long term. However, continued investor scepticism towards the change in legal form could make equity financing more difficult and expensive, which would reduce ABO Wind's growth potential. Given ABO Wind's excellent competitive position and the enormous growth opportunities in the coming years and decades, we maintain our clear Buy recommendation at an unchanged €118 price target.



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VALUATION MODEL

| DCF valuation model | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--|
| All figures in EUR '000 | | | | | | | | | |
| | 2023E | 2024E | 2025E | 2026E | 2027E | 2028E | 2029E | 2030E | |
| Net sales | 267,249 | 304,129 | 343,058 | 384,225 | 461,070 | 509,273 | 558,579 | 608,344 | |
| NOPLAT | 30,224 | 34,454 | 38,913 | 45,573 | 54,351 | 58,824 | 63,870 | 68,107 | |
| + depreciation & amortisation | 2,464 | 2,689 | 3,100 | 3,530 | 4,000 | 4,598 | 5,195 | 5,790 | |
| Net operating cash flow | 32,688 | 37,143 | 42,013 | 49,103 | 58,351 | 63,422 | 69,065 | 73,897 | |
| - total investments (CAPEX and WC) | -31,372 | -29,415 | -28,392 | -31,649 | -51,918 | -34,699 | -35,585 | -36,047 | |
| Capital expenditures | -3,741 | -4,258 | -4,803 | -5,379 | -6,350 | -6,898 | -7,439 | -7,964 | |
| Working capital | -27,631 | -25,157 | -23,589 | -26,270 | -45,568 | -27,801 | -28,146 | -28,083 | |
| Free cash flows (FCF) | 1,316 | 7,728 | 13,621 | 17,454 | 6,433 | 28,723 | 33,479 | 37,850 | |
| PV of FCF's | 1,270 | 6,986 | 11,544 | 13,869 | 4,792 | 20,055 | 21,915 | 23,227 | |

| All figures in thousands | |
|---|---------------|
| PV of FCFs in explicit period (2023E-2037E) | 287,554 |
| PV of FCFs in terminal period | 892,215 |
| Enterprise value (EV) | 1,179,768 |
| + Net cash / - net debt | -93,505 |
| + Investments / minority interests | 36 |
| Shareholder value | 1,086,299 |
| Number of shares (diluted) | 9,221 |
| Fair value per share in EUR | 117.81 |

| | |
|----------------------|-------|
| Terminal growth | 3.5% |
| Terminal EBIT margin | 13.5% |

| WACC | | Terminal growth rate | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| | | 2.0% | 2.5% | 3.0% | 3.5% | 4.0% | 4.5% | 5.0% | |
| Cost of equity | 10.5% | 5.2% | 153.60 | 173.99 | 203.80 | 251.49 | 340.06 | 561.48 | 2111.46 |
| Pre-tax cost of debt | 4.0% | 5.7% | 127.17 | 140.63 | 159.12 | 186.16 | 229.42 | 309.76 | 510.60 |
| Tax rate | 30.0% | 6.2% | 107.26 | 116.53 | 128.73 | 145.50 | 170.01 | 209.23 | 282.06 |
| After-tax cost of debt | 2.8% | 6.7% | 91.76 | 98.36 | 106.76 | 117.81 | 133.00 | 155.21 | 190.75 |
| Share of equity capital | 50.0% | 7.2% | 79.38 | 84.20 | 90.17 | 97.78 | 107.79 | 121.55 | 141.66 |
| Share of debt capital | 50.0% | 7.7% | 69.29 | 72.88 | 77.24 | 82.65 | 89.53 | 98.59 | 111.04 |
| Price target in EUR | 118.00 | 8.2% | 60.93 | 63.65 | 66.90 | 70.84 | 75.73 | 81.95 | 90.14 |

* for layout purposes the model shows numbers only to 2030, but runs until 2037



INCOME STATEMENT

| All figures in EUR '000 | 2020A | 2021A | 2022A | 2023E | 2024E | 2025E |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Revenues | 149,155 | 127,109 | 231,658 | 267,249 | 304,129 | 343,058 |
| Changes in inventory | 20,206 | 60,346 | 76,434 | 72,157 | 82,115 | 88,166 |
| Own work | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total output | 169,361 | 187,455 | 308,092 | 339,406 | 386,244 | 431,224 |
| Cost of goods sold | 72,592 | 78,280 | 148,807 | 170,238 | 198,292 | 228,134 |
| Gross profit | 96,769 | 109,175 | 159,285 | 169,169 | 187,952 | 203,090 |
| Personnel costs | 50,776 | 63,397 | 77,730 | 86,586 | 96,200 | 103,800 |
| Other operating income | 6,362 | 5,141 | 5,111 | 5,612 | 6,083 | 6,861 |
| Other operating expenses | 17,593 | 20,440 | 29,694 | 33,406 | 36,496 | 39,452 |
| EBITDA | 34,762 | 30,479 | 56,972 | 54,789 | 61,339 | 66,700 |
| Depreciation and amortisation | 1,649 | 1,929 | 3,002 | 2,464 | 2,689 | 3,100 |
| Depreciation of current assets | 10,653 | 6,102 | 10,846 | 10,304 | 10,819 | 11,360 |
| Operating income (EBIT) | 22,460 | 22,448 | 43,124 | 42,021 | 47,832 | 52,240 |
| Net financial result | -1,755 | -1,485 | -4,887 | -6,273 | -7,294 | -7,815 |
| Pre-tax income (EBT) | 20,705 | 20,963 | 38,238 | 35,747 | 40,538 | 44,425 |
| Income taxes | 7,589 | 7,152 | 13,661 | 11,797 | 13,377 | 13,327 |
| Minority interests | 4 | -6 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Net income / loss | 13,120 | 13,804 | 24,590 | 23,951 | 27,160 | 31,097 |
| Diluted EPS (in €) | 1.54 | 1.50 | 2.67 | 2.60 | 2.95 | 3.37 |
| Ratios | | | | | | |
| Gross margin on total output | 57.1% | 58.2% | 51.7% | 49.8% | 48.7% | 47.1% |
| EBITDA margin on revenues | 23.3% | 24.0% | 24.6% | 20.5% | 20.2% | 19.4% |
| EBIT margin on revenues | 15.1% | 17.7% | 18.6% | 15.7% | 15.7% | 15.2% |
| EBT margin on revenues | 13.9% | 16.5% | 16.5% | 13.4% | 13.3% | 12.9% |
| Net margin on revenues | 8.8% | 10.9% | 10.6% | 9.0% | 8.9% | 9.1% |
| Tax rate | 36.7% | 34.1% | 35.7% | 33.0% | 33.0% | 30.0% |
| Expenses as % of revenues | | | | | | |
| Personnel costs | 34.0% | 49.9% | 33.6% | 32.4% | 31.6% | 30.3% |
| Depreciation and amortisation | 1.1% | 1.5% | 1.3% | 0.9% | 0.9% | 0.9% |
| Depreciation of current assets | 7.1% | 4.8% | 4.7% | 3.9% | 3.6% | 3.3% |
| Other operating expenses | 11.8% | 16.1% | 12.8% | 12.5% | 12.0% | 11.5% |
| Y-Y Growth | | | | | | |
| Revenues | 18.1% | -14.8% | 82.3% | 15.4% | 13.8% | 12.8% |
| Operating income | 14.3% | -0.1% | 92.1% | -2.6% | 13.8% | 9.2% |
| Net income/ loss | 15.1% | 5.2% | 78.1% | -2.6% | 13.4% | 14.5% |



BALANCE SHEET

| All figures in EUR '000 | 2020A | 2021A | 2022A | 2023E | 2024E | 2025E |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Assets | | | | | | |
| Current assets, total | 236,761 | 282,609 | 437,621 | 461,223 | 508,678 | 542,444 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 52,798 | 18,472 | 87,075 | 78,808 | 97,262 | 103,351 |
| Short-term investments | 9,331 | 11,684 | 8,775 | 8,775 | 8,775 | 8,775 |
| Receivables | 34,020 | 10,860 | 26,502 | 40,270 | 45,828 | 51,694 |
| Inventories | 64,398 | 133,019 | 124,152 | 142,253 | 165,696 | 187,507 |
| Other current assets | 74,825 | 105,708 | 187,664 | 187,664 | 187,664 | 187,664 |
| Non-current assets, total | 12,501 | 14,451 | 13,643 | 14,920 | 16,489 | 18,192 |
| Property, plant & equipment | 5,653 | 7,234 | 9,043 | 10,179 | 11,569 | 13,059 |
| Goodwill & other intangibles | 1,116 | 1,474 | 1,574 | 1,715 | 1,895 | 2,107 |
| Financial assets | 5,732 | 5,743 | 3,026 | 3,026 | 3,026 | 3,026 |
| Other assets | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total assets | 249,262 | 297,060 | 451,264 | 476,144 | 525,168 | 560,636 |
| Shareholders' equity & debt | | | | | | |
| Current liabilities, total | 44,700 | 56,483 | 97,545 | 103,453 | 128,034 | 108,491 |
| Short-term debt | 8,594 | 8,997 | 10,331 | 12,000 | 32,000 | 8,000 |
| Accounts payable | 7,081 | 14,034 | 19,081 | 23,320 | 27,163 | 31,251 |
| Current provisions | 19,634 | 21,355 | 36,695 | 36,695 | 36,695 | 36,695 |
| Other current liabilities | 9,391 | 12,097 | 31,438 | 31,438 | 32,176 | 32,545 |
| Long-term liabilities, total | 64,446 | 90,713 | 183,661 | 183,661 | 186,661 | 216,661 |
| Long-term debt | 51,662 | 76,950 | 170,249 | 170,249 | 173,249 | 203,249 |
| Deferred revenue | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other liabilities | 12,784 | 13,763 | 13,412 | 13,412 | 13,412 | 13,412 |
| Minority interests | 30 | 41 | 36 | 36 | 36 | 36 |
| Shareholders' equity | 140,086 | 149,823 | 170,022 | 188,993 | 210,437 | 235,448 |
| Share capital | 9,221 | 9,221 | 9,221 | 9,221 | 9,221 | 9,221 |
| Capital reserve | 45,490 | 45,490 | 45,490 | 45,490 | 45,490 | 45,490 |
| Other reserves | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Loss carryforward / retained earnings | 85,671 | 95,329 | 115,401 | 134,372 | 155,816 | 180,827 |
| Total consolidated equity and debt | 249,262 | 297,060 | 451,264 | 476,144 | 525,168 | 560,636 |
| Ratios | | | | | | |
| Current ratio (x) | 5.30 | 5.00 | 4.49 | 4.46 | 3.97 | 5.00 |
| Quick ratio (x) | 3.86 | 2.65 | 3.21 | 3.08 | 2.68 | 3.27 |
| Net debt | 7,458 | 67,475 | 93,505 | 103,441 | 107,987 | 107,898 |
| Net gearing | 5.3% | 45.0% | 55.0% | 54.7% | 51.3% | 45.8% |
| Book value per share (in €) | 16.47 | 16.25 | 18.44 | 20.50 | 22.82 | 25.53 |
| Equity ratio | 56.2% | 50.4% | 37.7% | 39.7% | 40.1% | 42.0% |
| Return on equity (ROE) | 9.4% | 9.2% | 14.5% | 12.7% | 12.9% | 13.2% |
| Return on assets (ROA) | 6.2% | 5.4% | 6.7% | 6.5% | 6.6% | 7.0% |
| Return on investment (ROI) | 5.3% | 4.6% | 5.4% | 5.0% | 5.2% | 5.5% |
| Return on average capital employed (ROCE) | 14.2% | 12.1% | 17.7% | 14.9% | 15.4% | 15.6% |
| Days of sales outstanding (DSO) | 83.3 | 31.2 | 41.8 | 55.0 | 55.0 | 55.0 |
| Days inventory outstanding (DIO) | 323.8 | 620.2 | 304.5 | 305.0 | 305.0 | 300.0 |
| Days in payables (DIP) | 35.6 | 65.4 | 46.8 | 50.0 | 50.0 | 50.0 |



CASH FLOW STATEMENT

| All figures in EUR '000 | 2020A | 2021A | 2022A | 2023E | 2024E | 2025E |
|---------------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| EBIT | 22,460 | 22,448 | 43,111 | 42,021 | 47,832 | 52,240 |
| Depreciation and amortisation * | 1,649 | 1,929 | 3,002 | 2,464 | 2,689 | 3,100 |
| EBITDA | 24,109 | 24,377 | 46,113 | 44,485 | 50,520 | 55,340 |
| Changes in working capital | 28,412 | -68,555 | -61,723 | -27,631 | -25,157 | -23,589 |
| Other adjustments | -10,048 | -6,558 | 1,761 | -11,797 | -13,377 | -13,327 |
| Operating cash flow | 42,473 | -50,736 | -13,850 | 5,058 | 11,985 | 18,424 |
| Investments in PP&E | -1,774 | -2,941 | -4,597 | -3,207 | -3,650 | -4,117 |
| Investments in intangibles | -173 | -375 | -654 | -534 | -608 | -686 |
| Free cash flow | 40,526 | -54,052 | -19,101 | 1,316 | 7,728 | 13,621 |
| Acquisitions & disposals, net | 7 | 462 | 249 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other investments | -1,651 | -1,004 | 2,872 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Investment cash flow | -3,591 | -3,858 | -2,130 | -3,741 | -4,258 | -4,803 |
| Debt financing, net | -16,575 | 26,764 | 94,375 | 1,669 | 23,000 | 6,000 |
| Equity financing, net | 27,145 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dividends paid | -3,558 | -4,149 | -4,518 | -4,979 | -4,979 | -5,717 |
| Other financing | -2,573 | -2,328 | -5,650 | -6,273 | -7,294 | -7,815 |
| Financing cash flow | 4,438 | 20,287 | 84,207 | -9,584 | 10,727 | -7,532 |
| FOREX & other effects | -170 | 19 | 376 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Net cash flows | 43,150 | -34,288 | 68,603 | -8,267 | 18,455 | 6,089 |
| Cash, start of the year | 9,648 | 52,798 | 18,472 | 87,075 | 78,808 | 97,262 |
| Cash, end of the year | 52,798 | 18,510 | 87,075 | 78,808 | 97,262 | 103,351 |
| EBITDA/share (in €) | 4.09 | 3.31 | 6.18 | 5.94 | 6.65 | 7.23 |
| Y-Y Growth | | | | | | |
| Operating cash flow | n.m. | n.m. | n.m. | n.m. | 137.0% | 53.7% |
| Free cash flow | n.m. | n.m. | n.m. | n.m. | 487.0% | 76.3% |
| Financial cash flow | -84.8% | 357.1% | 315.1% | n.m. | n.m. | n.m. |
| EBITDA/share | 14.2% | -19.1% | 86.9% | -3.8% | 12.0% | 8.7% |

* Depreciation of current assets are booked in "Changes in working capital".

Imprint / Disclaimer

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The recommendations determined in accordance with the share price trend anticipated by First Berlin in the respectively indicated investment period are as follows:

| Category | | 1 | 2 |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------|-------------|
| Current market capitalisation (in €) | | 0 - 2 billion | > 2 billion |
| Strong Buy ¹ | An expected favourable price trend of: | > 50% | > 30% |
| Buy | An expected favourable price trend of: | > 25% | > 15% |
| Add | An expected favourable price trend of: | 0% to 25% | 0% to 15% |
| Reduce | An expected negative price trend of: | 0% to -15% | 0% to -10% |
| Sell | An expected negative price trend of: | < -15% | < -10% |

¹ The expected price trend is in combination with sizable confidence in the quality and forecast security of management.

Our recommendation system places each company into one of two market capitalisation categories. Category 1 companies have a market capitalisation of €0 – €2 billion, and Category 2 companies have a market capitalisation of > €2 billion. The expected return thresholds underlying our recommendation system are lower for Category 2 companies than for Category 1 companies. This reflects the generally lower level of risk associated with higher market capitalisation companies.

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| Report No.: | Date of publication | Previous day closing price | Recommendation | Price target |
|----------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Initial Report | 12 April 2017 | €7.80 | BUY | €14.00 |
| 2...24 | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ |
| 25 | 7 December 2021 | €57.00 | BUY | €79.00 |
| 26 | 29 March 2022 | €58.40 | BUY | €95.00 |
| 27 | 11 July 2022 | €56.20 | BUY | €92.00 |
| 28 | 2 September 2022 | €56.20 | BUY | €109.00 |
| 29 | 5 December 2022 | €63.00 | BUY | €112.00 |
| 30 | 26 January 2023 | €83.00 | BUY | €118.00 |
| 31 | 2 March 2023 | €74.60 | BUY | €118.00 |
| 32 | 21 March 2023 | €72.00 | BUY | €118.00 |
| 33 | Today | €58.20 | BUY | €118.00 |

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