

aventron AG

Switzerland / Renewable Energy

Berner Börse

Bloomberg: AVEN SW

ISIN: CH0023777235

Final figures for 2017

RATING**PRICE TARGET**

Return Potential

Risk Rating

BUY**CHF 13.00**

31.3%

low

NEXT LARGE EXPANSION STEP PLANNED

aventron's final 2017 figures largely correspond to preliminary reported numbers. Sales grew by 59% y/y to CHF 77.1m and EBIT rose by 74% y/y to CHF 23.9m. The EBIT margin climbed from 28.4% to 31.0%. Thanks to lower taxes and minority interests, the net result was significantly above our estimate and amounted to CHF 8.3m (FBe: CHF 6.1m) versus CHF 3.0m in 2016 (+ 181%). Earnings per share grew from CHF 0.12 to CHF 0.25. The management proposes a 9.5% increased dividend of CHF 0.23. This corresponds to a dividend yield of 2.3%. For 2018, aventron is guiding towards sales of approx. CHF 85m with an EBIT margin of ca. 30%. Since the targeted 2020 capacity target of 500 MW will likely be reached already in 2019, management is planning the next medium-term expansion target. By 2030, aventron plans to expand its green power portfolio to a total capacity of 1,000 MW, thus producing 2,200 GWh of electricity. As a first step, a capital increase of up to CHF 147m is planned for this year. The issue price is CHF 9.80. The measure would increase the number of shares from the current 34.1m by a maximum of 15m to 49.1m. After the convincing final figures for 2017 and the clear guidance for 2018E, we are increasing our estimates, which do not yet consider the new expansion target. An updated DCF model still yields a price target of CHF 13.00. We confirm our Buy recommendation.

Very successful 2017 In 2017, aventron increased its green power capacity by 36 MW to 386 MW (+11%). For the first time, the wind and solar power plants acquired in 2016 made a 12 month contribution to the result in 2017. This explains why sales (+59%), EBITDA (+71%) and EBIT (+74%) rose so strongly. Economies of scale and an improved product mix led to an EBITDA margin increase from 66.1% to 71.0%. The EBIT margin increased from 28.4% to 31.0%. Thanks to the improvement in financing terms...

(p.t.o.)

FINANCIAL HISTORY & PROJECTIONS

	2015	2016	2017	2018E	2019E	2020E
Revenue (CHF m)	23.85	48.46	77.14	84.71	93.90	101.67
Y-o-y growth	61.7%	103.2%	59.2%	9.8%	10.8%	8.3%
EBIT (CHF m)	7.01	13.77	23.92	25.42	27.70	29.12
EBIT margin	29.4%	28.4%	31.0%	30.0%	29.5%	28.6%
Net income (CHF m)	1.94	2.97	8.34	8.57	9.04	9.28
EPS (diluted) (CHF)	0.11	0.12	0.24	0.25	0.27	0.27
DPS (CHF)	0.21	0.21	0.23	0.23	0.24	0.25
FCF (CHFm)	-27.56	7.38	25.35	-25.51	-90.69	35.79
Net gearing	251.5%	170.8%	227.5%	243.5%	293.4%	276.4%
Liquid assets (CHFm)	19.29	33.54	39.43	44.11	25.57	53.18

RISKS

The main risks are technological risks, regulatory risks, financing risks, acquisition risks, and currency risks.

COMPANY PROFILE

aventron AG is an owner and operator of small hydro power, wind power, and solar power plants. The portfolio comprises ca. 386 MW and is geographically diversified over Switzerland, France, Italy, Germany, Norway, and Spain. The company is located in Switzerland near Basel and is listed on the BX Berne eXchange.

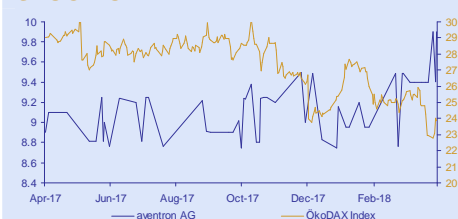
MARKET DATA

As of 06 Apr 2018

Closing Price	CHF 9.90
Shares outstanding	34.10m
Market Capitalisation	CHF 337.64m
52-week Range	CHF 8.75 / 9.90
Avg. Volume (12 Months)	956

Multiples	2017	2018E	2019E
P/E	38.5	37.4	35.5
EV/Sales	9.6	8.8	7.9
EV/EBIT	31.1	29.3	26.9
Div. Yield	2.3%	2.3%	2.4%

STOCK OVERVIEW



COMPANY DATA

As of 31 Dec 2017

Liquid Assets	CHF 39.43m
Current Assets	CHF 79.35m
Intangible Assets	CHF 10.02m
Total Assets	CHF 686.92m
Current Liabilities	CHF 67.04m
Shareholders' Equity	CHF 185.97m

SHAREHOLDERS

EBM-Gruppe	46.2%
ewb-Gruppe	15.1%
Stadtwerk Winterthur	10.0%
Other investors	12.8%
Free Float	15.9%



...the financial result only decreased by CHF 4.0m to CHF -13.1m. The income tax burden of CHF 1.9m was well below our estimate of CHF 3.2m. Net income increased significantly from CHF 3.0m to CHF 8.3m (+181%). The net margin rose from 7.9% to 10.8%, double-digit for the first time. Despite the increase in the average number of shares from 24.9m to 34.0m (+37%), earnings per share more than doubled to CHF 0.25 (see figure 1). aventron has once again proven that it can manage strong growth and make value-add investments.

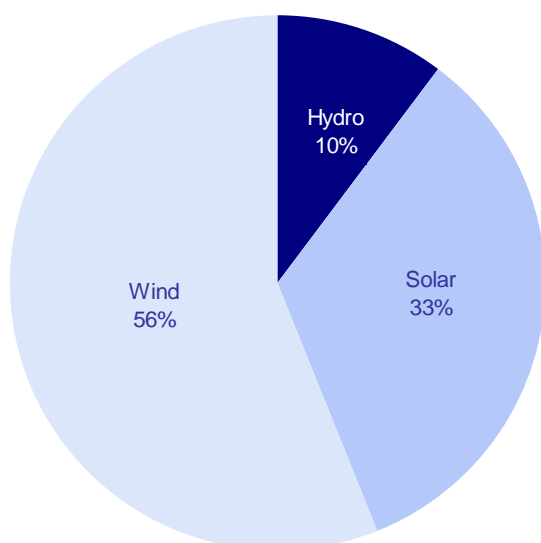
Figure 1: Reported numbers and forecasts

All figures in CHFm	2017A	2017E	Delta	2016	Delta
Sales	77.14	77.10	0.1%	48.46	59.2%
EBIT	23.92	23.88	0.2%	13.77	73.8%
margin	31.0%	31.0%	-	28.4%	-
Net income	8.34	6.11	36.5%	2.97	180.9%
margin	10.8%	7.9%	-	6.1%	-
EPS (diluted, in CHF)	0.25	0.18	36.2%	0.12	106.0%

Source: First Berlin Equity Research, aventron AG

Wind segment dominates In 2017, the Wind segment contributed 56% (2016: 49%), Solar 33% (2016: 31%) and Hydro 10% (2016: 19%) to total sales (see figure 2). The sharp decline in the share of hydropower sales is attributable to drought-induced adverse production conditions.

Figure 2: Percentage share of sales in 2017

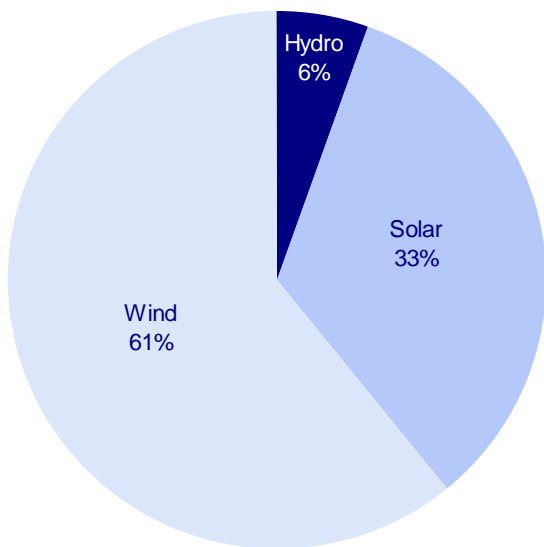


Source: First Berlin Equity Research, aventron AG



In terms of EBIT, distribution is even more dominated by wind power (see figure 3). Here, the share of wind power is 61% (2016: 48%), while the PV share remained largely stable (33% versus 32% in 2016). The share of hydropower in terms of EBIT was only 6% (2016: 20%).

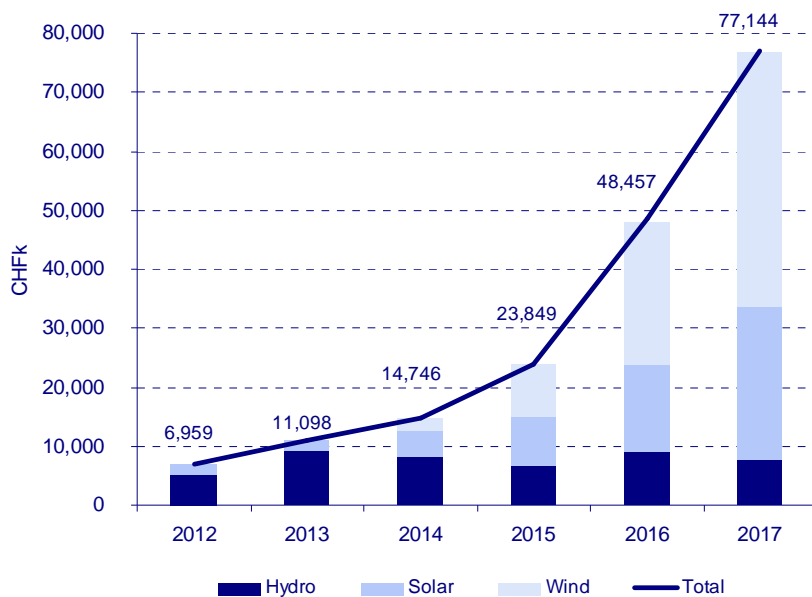
Figure 3: EBIT shares of the segments in percent in 2017



Source: First Berlin Equity Research, aventron AG

Figure 4 shows the strong sales growth of recent years and the growing importance of solar and especially wind power.

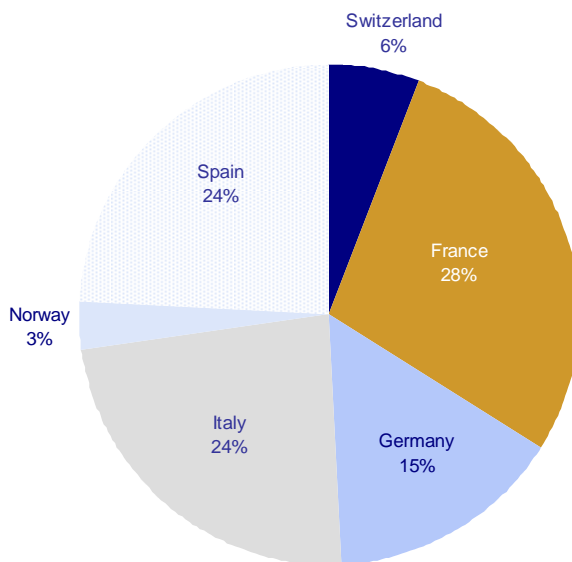
Figure 4: Sales development 2012-2017



Source: First Berlin Equity Research, aventron AG

Geographical revenue distribution shows increasing regional diversification aventron produces electricity in six countries. While France was still quite dominant in recent years (2016: 38%), revenue generation in 2017 was much more balanced. Although the largest share still came from France (28%), Italy and Spain followed closely with 24% each (see figure 5).

Figure 5: Regional sales distribution in percent in 2017



Source: First Berlin Equity Research, aventron AG

Wind power was the dominant sales and earnings driver In 2017, wind power production increased from 210 GWh to 390 GWh (+86%). Segment sales climbed by 80% y/y to CHF 43.1m. EBITDA rose by 86% to CHF 32.6m. The EBITDA margin reached 75.7%, following 73.1% in 2016 (see figure 6 overleaf). Segment EBIT amounted to CHF 15.6m, more than double the previous year's figure of CHF 7.6m. The EBIT margin increased to 36.2% from 31.7% in 2016. Economies of scale, better wind conditions and efficiency gains through the digitization of asset management were the key margin drivers.

Solar power with a significant jump in sales and earnings The solar segment increased its electricity production from 70 GWh to 107 GWh (+53%). Sales increased by 74% to CHF 25.8m. EBITDA rose by 79% to CHF 20.3m. The EBITDA margin was 78.8% after 76.4% in 2016 (see figure 6 overleaf). EBIT amounted to CHF 8.6m, an increase of 70% over the previous year's figure. The EBIT margin was 33.2% after 34.0% in 2016. The main reason for the decline was a change in the conditions for subsidies in Switzerland that will come into effect in 2018, which also affects plants already in operation. This change resulted in an impairment of CHF 1.8m at the Swiss subsidiary Birseck Solar AG.

Hydropower segment suffered from drought Electricity production from hydropower declined from 172 GWh to 160 GWh (-7%). Lower electricity prices led to a significant decline in sales of 14% to CHF 7.8m. EBITDA fell by 34% to CHF 3.4m. The EBITDA margin slid from 56.2% to 43.5% (see figure 6 overleaf). The EBIT margin also fell sharply to 18.2% after 35.2% in 2016.

**Figure 6: Sales and EBITDA by segment**

All figures in CHFm	2017A	2016A	delta
Hydropower			
Sales	7.81	9.12	-14.4%
EBITDA	3.40	5.12	-33.6%
margin	43.5%	56.2%	-
Wind			
Sales	43.10	23.98	79.7%
EBITDA	32.63	17.52	86.2%
margin	75.7%	73.1%	-
Solar			
Sales	25.80	14.87	73.5%
EBITDA	20.33	11.36	79.0%
margin	78.8%	76.4%	-
Holding			
Sales	2.82	2.13	32.4%
EBITDA	-1.57	-1.95	n.m.
margin	n.m.	n.m.	-
Consolidation			
Sales	-2.37	-1.64	-
EBITDA	0.00	0.00	-
margin	-	-	-
Group			
Sales	77.14	48.46	59.2%
EBITDA	54.79	32.05	70.9%
margin	71.0%	66.1%	

Source: First Berlin Equity Research, aventron AG

Balance sheet total grows to CHF 687m The acquisition of additional green power plants increased the value of property, plant and equipment by 18% to CHF 545m. Cash and cash equivalents increased from CHF 34m to CHF 39m. On the liabilities side, short-term financial liabilities doubled to CHF 42m. Non-current financial liabilities increased from CHF 336m to CHF 420m. Overall, financial debt rose to CHF 462m. Net financial debt amounted to CHF 423m (2016: CHF 323m). Net gearing increased from 171% to 228% and is thus rather moderate for this type of business model. Equity decreased slightly from CHF 189m to CHF 186m. The equity ratio fell from 33% to 27%. Despite this decline, the equity ratio remains high given the stability of the business model.

High operating cash flow Operating cash flow amounted to CHF 50.6m after CHF 29.8m in 2016. Investments in property, plant and equipment and the acquisition of consolidated participations totalled CHF 60.7m. Overall, the cash outflow for investing activities amounted to CHF 67.7m. Cash flow from financing activities was CHF 20.7m. Aventron received CHF 37.4m in debt and paid CHF 7.1m in dividends and CHF 12.0m in interest.

Capacity of the green power portfolio increased by 36 MW to 386 MW in 2017 aventron purchased PV systems in Italy (13 MW) and in Switzerland (8 MW) and commissioned hydropower plants in Norway (16 MW). At the end of 2017, the company's power production capacity was 201 MW of wind power, 97 MW of PV and 88 MW of hydropower.



Guidance for 2018: sales growth with largely stable margin aventron is planning for 2017 sales of approx. € 85m with an EBIT margin of ca. 30%, assuming average weather conditions. The green power portfolio is to be expanded by approx. 40 MW. In view of the existing project pipeline, management expects to achieve the 2020 target of a 500 MW portfolio capacity as early as 2019.

Capital increase planned for further growth aventron is planning a capital increase of CHF 147m. The issue price per share is CHF 9.80. This would correspond to a maximum of approximately 15m new shares. The current number of shares is 34.1m. By 2030, aventron intends to increase its green power portfolio to 1,000 MW, thus producing 2,200 GWh of electricity.

Growth strategy with limited risk aventron will continue to focus on the geographic and technological diversification of its investment portfolio to reduce risk. The share of revenue from wind power is to amount to a maximum of 50%, while the share of revenue from solar and hydro power should each amount to around 25%. As the portfolio expands, aventron will continue to focus on the markets of Switzerland, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and Norway in the coming years. None of these countries should generate more than 40% of group sales. In the long term, aventron wants to be one of Europe's leading independent green power producers.

Estimates for 2018E and subsequent years increased We have updated our revenue model. Based on estimates of electricity production and electricity prices in the three segments wind, solar, and water, the revenue forecast for 2018E is CHF 84.7m. Assuming an EBIT margin of 30%, EBIT is expected to reach CHF 25.4m. The revised estimates for 2019E & 2020E assume that the 500 MW threshold is reached by the end of 2019 (see figure 7).

Figure 7: Revisions to forecasts

All figures in CHFm	2018E			2019E			2020E		
	Old	New	Delta	Old	New	Delta	Old	New	Delta
Sales	80.39	84.71	5.4%	88.35	93.90	6.3%	95.66	101.67	6.3%
EBIT	23.08	25.42	10.2%	25.82	27.70	7.3%	28.64	29.12	1.7%
margin	28.7%	30.0%		29.2%	29.5%		29.9%	28.6%	
Net income	7.07	8.57	21.2%	8.06	9.04	12.1%	8.98	9.28	3.3%
margin	8.8%	10.1%		9.1%	9.6%		9.4%	9.1%	
EPS (diluted, in CHF)	0.21	0.25	21.2%	0.22	0.27	18.7%	0.25	0.27	9.4%

Source: First Berlin Equity Research, aventron AG

Buy recommendation and price target confirmed An updated DCF model still yields a price target of CHF 13.00. We confirm our Buy recommendation. The model does not yet consider the new medium-term target (green power portfolio of 1,000 MW by 2030). We will analyse the envisioned strategy and the planned capital increase in a separate publication.



VALUATION MODEL

DCF valuation model								
All figures in CHF '000	2018E	2019E	2020E	2021E	2022E	2023E	2024E	2025E
Net sales	84,714	93,904	101,667	102,684	103,711	104,748	105,795	106,853
NOPLAT	23,107	25,214	26,578	26,609	27,014	27,421	27,828	28,237
+ depreciation & amortisation	32,629	33,534	36,576	36,527	36,273	36,018	35,761	35,503
Net operating cash flow	55,736	58,748	63,154	63,136	63,288	63,439	63,590	63,739
- total investments (CAPEX and WC)	-67,410	-134,161	-10,967	-37,143	-36,872	-36,592	-36,310	-36,025
Capital expenditures	-67,637	-134,669	-10,980	-37,349	-37,075	-36,799	-36,521	-36,241
Working capital	226	508	13	205	203	207	211	216
Free cash flows (FCF)	-11,674	-75,413	52,187	25,993	26,416	26,847	27,280	27,714
PV of FCF's	-11,370	-70,853	47,296	22,725	22,279	21,843	21,410	20,983

All figures in thousands	
PV of FCFs in explicit period (2018E-2032E)	209,967
PV of FCFs in terminal period	626,221
Enterprise value (EV)	836,188
+ Net cash / - net debt	-423,018
+ Investments / minority interests	30,134
Shareholder value	443,304

Fair value per share in CHF	13.00
-----------------------------	-------

WACC	3.7%
Cost of equity	6.4%
Pre-tax cost of debt	3.0%
Tax rate	20.0%
After-tax cost of debt	2.4%
Share of equity capital	31.5%
Share of debt capital	68.5%

Fair value per share in CHF	13.00
-----------------------------	-------

		Terminal growth rate						
		0.4%	0.6%	0.8%	1.0%	1.2%	1.4%	1.6%
WACC	2.9%	17.44	19.40	21.74	24.59	28.13	32.64	38.57
	3.1%	15.04	16.67	18.57	19.97	23.62	27.06	31.43
	3.3%	12.99	14.34	15.92	17.77	19.98	22.67	26.01
	3.5%	11.20	12.34	13.66	15.19	16.99	19.14	21.75
	3.7%	9.63	10.61	11.72	13.00	14.48	16.23	18.32
	3.9%	8.25	9.08	10.03	11.11	12.35	13.80	15.50
	4.1%	7.01	7.74	8.55	9.47	10.52	11.73	13.13
	4.3%	5.91	6.54	7.24	8.03	8.93	9.95	11.12

* for layout purposes the model shows numbers only to 2025, but runs until 2032



INCOME STATEMENT

All figures in CHF '000	2014A	2015A	2016A	2017A	2018E	2019E	2020E
Revenues	14,746	23,849	48,457	77,144	84,714	93,904	101,667
Cost of goods sold	3,243	4,603	9,184	11,759	14,401	17,091	18,808
Gross profit	11,503	19,246	39,273	65,385	70,313	76,813	82,859
Personnel costs	681	1,145	1,750	2,161	2,412	2,904	3,435
Other operating income	543	897	1,000	1,653	1,694	1,878	2,033
Other operating expenses	3,229	4,047	6,469	10,317	11,541	14,555	15,758
EBITDA	8,136	14,951	32,054	54,787	58,054	61,232	65,699
Depreciation and amortisation	4,272	7,946	18,289	30,869	32,629	33,534	36,576
Operating income (EBIT)	3,864	7,005	13,765	23,918	25,425	27,698	29,123
Net financial result	-2,026	-3,381	-9,036	-12,937	-13,838	-15,275	-16,398
Non-operating expenses	129	321	-25	-361	0	0	0
Pre-tax income (EBT)	1,967	3,945	4,704	10,620	11,587	12,423	12,725
Income taxes	817	1,052	759	1,937	2,317	2,485	2,545
Minority interests	-418	-957	-976	-342	-700	-900	-900
Net income / loss	732	1,936	2,969	8,341	8,570	9,038	9,280
EPS (diluted, in CHF)	0.06	0.11	0.12	0.24	0.25	0.27	0.27
Ratios							
Gross margin on revenues	78.0%	80.7%	81.0%	84.8%	83.0%	81.8%	81.5%
EBITDA margin on revenues	55.2%	62.7%	66.1%	71.0%	68.5%	65.2%	64.6%
EBIT margin on revenues	26.2%	29.4%	28.4%	31.0%	30.0%	29.5%	28.6%
Net margin on revenues	5.0%	8.1%	6.1%	10.8%	10.1%	9.6%	9.1%
Tax rate	41.5%	26.7%	16.1%	18.2%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%
Expenses as % of revenues							
Personnel costs	4.6%	4.8%	3.6%	2.8%	2.8%	3.1%	3.4%
Depreciation and amortisation	29.0%	33.3%	37.7%	40.0%	38.5%	35.7%	36.0%
Other operating expenses	21.9%	17.0%	13.3%	13.4%	13.6%	15.5%	15.5%
Y-Y Growth							
Revenues	32.9%	61.7%	103.2%	59.2%	9.8%	10.8%	8.3%
Operating income	-0.7%	81.3%	96.5%	73.8%	6.3%	8.9%	5.1%
Net income/ loss	-21.5%	164.5%	53.4%	180.9%	2.7%	5.5%	2.7%



BALANCE SHEET

All figures in CHF '000	2014A	2015A	2016A	2017A	2018E	2019E	2020E
Assets							
Current assets, total	30,056	39,070	62,993	79,354	87,082	70,104	99,012
Cash and cash equivalents	16,413	19,293	33,538	39,433	44,105	25,572	53,176
Short-term investments	1,177	845	663	463	463	463	463
Receivables	3,294	2,400	9,096	10,998	13,926	15,436	16,712
Inventories	72	87	83	109	237	281	309
Other current assets	9,100	16,445	19,613	28,351	28,351	28,351	28,351
Non-current assets, total	166,122	268,546	514,393	607,562	642,570	743,705	718,109
Property, plant & equipment	134,825	232,392	461,399	544,538	579,369	680,263	654,376
Goodwill & other intangibles	3,117	3,602	6,052	10,024	10,201	10,442	10,733
Other assets	28,180	32,552	46,942	53,000	53,000	53,000	53,000
Total assets	196,178	307,616	577,386	686,916	729,651	813,808	817,121
Shareholders' equity & debt							
Current liabilities, total	21,907	32,068	40,676	67,040	68,350	70,754	72,412
Short-term debt	2,162	14,996	20,211	41,972	40,000	40,000	40,000
Accounts payable	6,908	4,493	6,603	7,766	11,048	13,111	14,428
Current provisions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other current liabilities	12,837	12,579	13,862	17,302	17,302	17,643	17,984
Long-term liabilities, total	99,186	199,994	347,595	433,908	473,908	553,908	553,908
Long-term debt	95,292	194,333	336,408	420,479	460,479	540,479	540,479
Deferred revenue	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other liabilities	3,894	5,661	11,187	13,429	13,429	13,429	13,429
Minority interests	6,466	6,983	26,008	29,671	30,371	31,271	32,171
Shareholders' equity	68,619	68,571	163,107	156,297	157,023	157,876	158,629
Share capital	17,082	19,451	34,105	34,105	34,105	34,105	34,105
Capital reserve	106,174	120,015	229,732	216,912	216,912	216,912	216,912
Other reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Treasury stock	-56	-100	-204	-622	-622	-622	-622
Loss carryforward / retained earnings	-54,581	-70,795	-100,526	-94,098	-93,372	-92,519	-91,766
Total consolidated equity and debt	196,178	307,616	577,386	686,916	729,651	813,808	817,121
Ratios							
Current ratio (x)	1.37	1.22	1.55	1.18	1.27	0.99	1.37
Quick ratio (x)	1.37	1.22	1.55	1.18	1.27	0.99	1.36
Net debt	81,041	190,036	323,081	423,018	456,374	554,907	527,303
Net gearing	107.9%	251.5%	170.8%	227.5%	243.5%	293.4%	276.4%
Net debt/EBITDA	10.0	12.7	10.1	7.7	7.9	9.1	8.0
Book value per share (in CHF)	4.02	3.53	4.78	4.58	4.60	4.63	4.65
Return on equity (ROE)	1.1%	2.8%	1.8%	5.3%	5.5%	5.7%	5.9%
Return on investment (ROI)	0.4%	0.6%	0.5%	1.2%	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%
Return on assets (ROA)	1.5%	2.1%	2.2%	3.3%	3.2%	3.1%	3.3%
Return on capital employed (ROCE)	3.1%	3.3%	3.5%	4.2%	4.0%	3.9%	3.9%
Days sales outstanding (DSO)	81.5	36.7	68.5	52.0	60.0	60.0	60.0
Days inventory outstanding (DIO)	8.1	6.9	3.3	3.4	6.0	6.0	6.0
Days payables outstanding (DPO)	777.5	356.3	262.4	241.1	280.0	280.0	280.0



CASH FLOW STATEMENT

All figures in CHF '000	2014A	2015A	2016A	2017A	2018E	2019E	2020E
EBIT	3,864	7,326	13,765	23,918	25,425	27,698	29,123
Depreciation and amortisation	4,272	7,946	18,289	30,869	32,629	33,534	36,576
EBITDA	8,136	15,272	32,054	54,787	58,054	61,232	65,699
Changes in working capital	-4,170	-1,392	-1,928	-3,461	226	508	13
Other adjustments	-2,828	-3,982	-350	-742	-16,155	-17,760	-18,943
Operating cash flow	1,138	9,898	29,776	50,584	42,125	43,981	46,769
CAPEX	-25,965	-36,838	-20,854	-25,216	-66,959	-133,918	-10,167
Investments in intangibles	-861	-619	-1,542	-19	-678	-751	-813
Free cash flow	-25,688	-27,558	7,380	25,349	-25,512	-90,689	35,789
Acquisitions & Disposals, net	464	-13,539	-31,348	-40,511	0	0	0
Other Investments	-7,579	-5,203	110	-1,999	0	0	0
Cash flow from investing	-33,941	-56,198	-53,634	-67,745	-67,637	-134,669	-10,980
Debt financing, net	27,937	46,118	-2,742	37,428	38,028	80,000	0
Equity financing, net	16,371	5,837	55,004	2,463	0	0	0
Other financing	-1,624	-2,089	-4,790	-7,185	-7,844	-7,844	-8,185
Cash flow from financing	42,684	49,866	38,420	20,696	30,184	72,156	-8,185
Forex & other effects	-141	-686	-317	2,360	0	0	0
Net cash flows	9,740	2,880	14,245	5,895	4,672	-18,533	27,604
Cash, start of the year	6,673	16,413	19,293	33,538	39,433	44,105	25,572
Cash, end of the year	16,413	19,293	33,538	39,433	44,105	25,572	53,176
EBITDA/share (in CHF)	0.69	0.83	1.29	1.61	1.70	1.80	1.93
Y-Y Growth							
Operating cash flow	-85.1%	769.8%	200.8%	69.9%	-16.7%	4.4%	6.3%
Free cash flow	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	243.5%	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.
EBITDA/share	-34.2%	19.8%	54.8%	24.8%	6.0%	5.5%	7.3%

FIRST BERLIN RECOMMENDATION & PRICE TARGET HISTORY

Report No.:	Date of publication	Previous day closing price	Recommendation	Price target
Initial Report	20 May 2015	CHF8.00	Buy	CHF10.50
2...9	↓	↓	↓	↓
10	26 April 2017	CHF9.10	Buy	CHF13.00
11	9 November 2017	CHF9.20	Buy	CHF13.00
12	8 March 2018	CHF9.49	Buy	CHF13.00
13	Today	CHF9.90	Buy	CHF13.00

Authored by: Dr Karsten von Blumenthal, Analyst

Company responsible for preparation:

First Berlin Equity Research GmbH

Mohrenstraße 34
10117 Berlin

Tel. +49 (0)30 - 80 93 96 85 Fax +49 (0)30 - 80 93 96 87

info@firstberlin.com

www.firstberlin.com

Person responsible for forwarding or distributing this financial analysis: Martin Bailey

Copyright© 2018 First Berlin Equity Research GmbH No part of this financial analysis may be copied, photocopied, duplicated or distributed in any form or media whatsoever without prior written permission from First Berlin Equity Research GmbH. First Berlin Equity Research GmbH shall be identified as the source in the case of quotations. Further information is available on request.

INFORMATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 34B OF THE GERMAN SECURITIES TRADING ACT [WPHG], TO REGULATION (EU) NO 596/2014 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL OF APRIL 16, 2014, ON MARKET ABUSE (MARKET ABUSE REGULATION) AND TO THE GERMAN ORDINANCE ON THE ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS [FINANV]

First Berlin Equity Research GmbH (hereinafter referred to as: "First Berlin") prepares financial analyses while taking the relevant regulatory provisions, in particular the German Securities Trading Act [WpHG], Regulation (EU) No 596/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of April 16, 2014, on market abuse (market abuse regulation) and the German Ordinance on the Analysis of Financial Instruments [FinAnV] into consideration. In the following First Berlin provides investors with information about the statutory provisions that are to be observed in the preparation of financial analyses.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

In accordance with Section 34b Paragraph 1 of the German Securities Trading Act [WpHG] and Regulation (EU) No 596/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of April 16, 2014, on market abuse (market abuse regulation) financial analyses may only be passed on or publicly distributed if circumstances or relations which may cause conflicts of interest among the authors, the legal entities responsible for such preparation or companies associated with them are disclosed along with the financial analysis.

First Berlin offers a range of services that go beyond the preparation of financial analyses. Although First Berlin strives to avoid conflicts of interest wherever possible, First Berlin may maintain the following relations with the analysed company, which in particular may constitute a potential conflict of interest (further information and data may be provided on request):

- The author, First Berlin, or a company associated with First Berlin holds an interest of more than five percent in the share capital of the analysed company;
- The author, First Berlin, or a company associated with First Berlin provided investment banking or consulting services for the analysed company within the past twelve months for which remuneration was or was to be paid;
- The author, First Berlin, or a company associated with First Berlin reached an agreement with the analysed company for preparation of a financial analysis for which remuneration is owed;
- The author, First Berlin, or a company associated with First Berlin has other significant financial interests in the analysed company;

In order to avoid and, if necessary, manage possible conflicts of interest both the author of the financial analysis and First Berlin shall be obliged to neither hold nor in any way trade the securities of the company analyzed. The remuneration of the author of the financial analysis stands in no direct or indirect connection with the recommendations or opinions represented in the financial analysis. Furthermore, the remuneration of the author of the financial analysis is neither coupled directly to financial transactions nor to stock exchange trading volume or asset management fees.

If despite these measures one or more of the aforementioned conflicts of interest cannot be avoided on the part of the author or First Berlin, then reference shall be made to such conflict of interest.

INFORMATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 64 OF THE GERMAN SECURITIES TRADING ACT [WPHG] (2ND FINANOG) OF 23 JUNE 2017, DIRECTIVE 2014/65/EU OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL OF 15 MAY 2014 ON MARKETS IN FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND AMENDING DIRECTIVE 2002/92/EC AND DIRECTIVE 2011/61/EU, ACCOMPANIED BY THE MARKETS IN FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS REGULATION (MIFIR, REG. EU NO. 600/2014)

First Berlin notes that it has concluded a contract with the issuer to prepare financial analyses and is paid for that by the issuer. First Berlin makes the financial analysis simultaneously available for all interested security financial services companies. First Berlin thus believes that it fulfils the requirements of section 64 WpHG for minor non-monetary benefits.

PRICE TARGET DATES

Unless otherwise indicated, current prices refer to the closing prices of the previous trading day.

AGREEMENT WITH THE ANALYSED COMPANY AND MAINTENANCE OF OBJECTIVITY

The present financial analysis is based on the author's own knowledge and research. The author prepared this study without any direct or indirect influence exerted on the part of the analysed company. Parts of the financial analysis were possibly provided to the analysed company prior to publication in order to avoid inaccuracies in the representation of facts. However, no substantial changes were made at the request of the analysed company following any such provision.

ASSET VALUATION SYSTEM

First Berlin's system for asset valuation is divided into an asset recommendation and a risk assessment.

ASSET RECOMMENDATION

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

STRONG BUY: An expected favourable price trend of more than 50% combined with sizeable confidence in the quality and forecast security of management.

BUY: An expected favourable price trend of more than 25% percent.

ADD: An expected favourable price trend of between 0% and 25%.

REDUCE: An expected negative price trend of between 0% and -15%.

SELL: An expected negative price trend of more than -15%.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The First Berlin categories for risk assessment are low, average, high and speculative. They are determined by ten factors: Corporate governance, quality of earnings, management strength, balance sheet and financial risk, competitive position, standard of financial disclosure, regulatory and political uncertainty, strength of brandname, market capitalisation and free float. These risk factors are incorporated into the First Berlin valuation models and are thus included in the target prices. First Berlin customers may request the models.

INVESTMENT HORIZON

Unless otherwise stated in the financial analysis, the ratings refer to an investment period of twelve months.

UPDATES

At the time of publication of this financial analysis it is not certain whether, when and on what occasion an update will be provided. In general First Berlin strives to review the financial analysis for its topicality and, if required, to update it in a very timely manner in connection with the reporting obligations of the analysed company or on the occasion of ad hoc notifications.

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

The opinions contained in the financial analysis reflect the assessment of the author on the day of publication of the financial analysis. The author of the financial analysis reserves the right to change such opinion without prior notification.

Legally required information regarding

- key sources of information in the preparation of this research report
- valuation methods and principles
- sensitivity of valuation parameters

can be accessed through the following internet link: <http://firstberlin.com/disclaimer-english-link/>

SUPERVISORY AUTHORITY: Bundesanstalt für Finanzdienstleistungsaufsicht (German Federal Financial Supervisory Authority) [BaFin], Graurheindorferstraße 108, 53117 Bonn and Lurgiallee 12, 60439 Frankfurt

EXCLUSION OF LIABILITY (DISCLAIMER)

RELIABILITY OF INFORMATION AND SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The information contained in this study is based on sources considered by the author to be reliable. Comprehensive verification of the accuracy and completeness of information and the reliability of sources of information has neither been carried out by the author nor by First Berlin. As a result no warranty of any kind whatsoever shall be assumed for the accuracy and completeness of information and the reliability of sources of information, and neither the author nor First Berlin, nor the person responsible for passing on or distributing the financial analysis shall be liable for any direct or indirect damage incurred through reliance on the accuracy and completeness of information and the reliability of sources of information.

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES AND FORECASTS

The author of the financial analysis made estimates and forecasts to the best of the author's knowledge. These estimates and forecasts reflect the author's personal opinion and judgement. The premises for estimates and forecasts as well as the author's perspective on such premises are subject to constant change. Expectations with regard to the future performance of a financial instrument are the result of a measurement at a single point in time and may change at any time. The result of a financial analysis always describes only one possible future development – the one that is most probable from the perspective of the author – of a number of possible future developments.

Any and all market values or target prices indicated for the company analysed in this financial analysis may not be achieved due to various risk factors, including but not limited to market volatility, sector volatility, the actions of the analysed company, economic climate, failure to achieve earnings and/or sales forecasts, unavailability of complete and precise information and/or a subsequently occurring event which affects the underlying assumptions of the author and/or other sources on which the author relies in this document. Past performance is not an indicator of future results; past values cannot be carried over into the future.

Consequently, no warranty of any kind whatsoever shall be assumed for the accuracy of estimates and forecasts, and neither the author nor First Berlin, nor the person responsible for passing on or distributing the financial analysis shall be liable for any direct or indirect damage incurred through reliance on the correctness of estimates and forecasts.

INFORMATION PURPOSES, NO RECOMMENDATION, SOLICITATION, NO OFFER FOR THE PURCHASE OF SECURITIES

The present financial analysis serves information purposes. It is intended to support institutional investors in making their own investment decisions; however in no way provide the investor with investment advice. Neither the author, nor First Berlin, nor the person responsible for passing on or distributing the financial analysis shall be considered to be acting as an investment advisor or portfolio manager vis-à-vis an investor. Each investor must form his own independent opinion with regard to the suitability of an investment in view of his own investment objectives, experience, tax situation, financial position and other circumstances.

The financial analysis does not represent a recommendation or solicitation and is not an offer for the purchase of the security specified in this financial analysis. Consequently, neither the author nor First Berlin, nor the person responsible for passing on or distributing the financial analysis shall as a result be liable for losses incurred through direct or indirect employment or use of any kind whatsoever of information or statements arising out of this financial analysis.

A decision concerning an investment in securities should take place on the basis of independent investment analyses and procedures as well as other studies including, but not limited to, information memoranda, sales or issuing prospectuses and not on the basis of this document.

NO ESTABLISHMENT OF CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

By taking note of this financial analysis the recipient neither becomes a customer of First Berlin, nor does First Berlin incur any contractual, quasi-contractual or pre-contractual obligations and/or responsibilities toward the recipient. In particular no information contract shall be established between First Berlin and the recipient of this information.

NO OBLIGATION TO UPDATE

First Berlin, the author and/or the person responsible for passing on or distributing the financial analysis shall not be obliged to update the financial analysis. Investors must keep themselves informed about the current course of business and any changes in the current course of business of the analysed company.

DUPLICATION

Dispatch or duplication of this document is not permitted without the prior written consent of First Berlin.

SEVERABILITY

Should any provision of this disclaimer prove to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable under the respectively applicable law, then such provision shall be treated as if it were not an integral component of this disclaimer; in no way shall it affect the legality, validity or enforceability of the remaining provisions.

APPLICABLE LAW, PLACE OF JURISDICTION

The preparation of this financial analysis shall be subject to the law obtaining in the Federal Republic of Germany. The place of jurisdiction for any disputes shall be Berlin (Germany).

NOTICE OF DISCLAIMER

By taking note of this financial analysis the recipient confirms the binding nature of the above explanations.

By using this document or relying on it in any manner whatsoever the recipient accepts the above restrictions as binding for the recipient.

QUALIFIED INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS

First Berlin financial analyses are intended exclusively for qualified institutional investors.

This report is not intended for distribution in the USA, Canada and/or the United Kingdom (Great Britain).