

BASF SE

Germany | Chemicals | MCap EUR 40,557m

19 September 2024

UPDATE



Rumored Agricultural IPO would Unlock Value; BUY

What's it all about?

Speculation is swirling around BASF, with rumors hinting at a major strategic shift that could be unveiled during its Capital Markets Day on September 26-27. The buzz suggests a potential IPO of its Agricultural Solutions division, valued at up to EUR 18bn based on an 8x EV/EBITDA multiple. This would represent about 45% of BASF's current market capitalization, despite contributing only 15% of total revenue and around 30% of total EBITDA. Given BASF's current valuation gap compared to peers like Corteva, an IPO could help highlight the true worth of its agricultural segment. Additionally, with its Coatings business contributing 6.5% of revenue and being less integrated into BASF's core operations, a divestment could streamline the portfolio while freeing up capital for growth areas like battery materials and sustainability-driven innovations. We maintain our BUY rating with an unchanged price target of EUR 62.00.

BUY (BUY)

Target price	EUR 62.00 (62.00)
Current price	EUR 45.44
Up/downside	36.5%

 **ResearchHub**



MAIN AUTHOR

Abed Jarad

a.jarad@mwb-research.com
+49 40 309 293-54

BASF SE

Germany | Chemicals | MCap EUR 40,557m | EV EUR 61,798m

BUY (BUY)

Target price EUR 62.00 (62.00)
Current price EUR 45.44
Up/downside 36.5%

MAIN AUTHOR

Abed Jarad
a.jarad@mwb-research.com
+49 40 309 293-54

Rumored Agricultural IPO would Unlock Value; BUY

Speculation. Rumors have been spreading since yesterday about BASF potentially planning a major strategic shift, which may be revealed at its upcoming Capital Markets Day. Investors speculate on a potential IPO of its Agricultural Solutions division and possible divestments or partnerships for its Coatings business. Investors are watching closely as BASF appears poised for a significant transformation.

Unlocking value for Shareholders. The rumored IPO of the Agricultural Solutions division could unlock substantial value. Peers like Corteva are valued at 12.7x EV/EBITDA 24E and the acquisition multiple of Syngenta even was 15x EV/EBITDA. Cautiously assuming an 8x EBITDA multiple, BASF's Agricultural Solutions segment would be valued at around EUR 18bn, representing about 45% of BASF's current market capitalization, despite contributing only 15% of total revenue and ~30% of total EBITDA. Given that BASF is undervalued compared to peers like KWS Saat and Bayer Crop Science, this IPO could help highlight the true worth of its agricultural segment. Similarly, exploring divestment options for the Coatings business (6.5% of revenue) makes strategic sense—this unit is profitable but less integrated into BASF's core operations. Offloading it would simplify the business and generate significant cash, allowing BASF to reinvest in future growth areas such as battery materials and sustainability-driven solutions.

Proactive Transformation? BUY. While these strategic adjustments remain speculative, they would signal a proactive approach by BASF to unlock shareholder value while sharpening its focus on future growth drivers. If these moves materialize, they could uncover the true intrinsic value of BASF, and a divestment of the Coatings business would streamline operations and free up capital for high-growth areas like battery materials, which are pivotal in the transition to electric vehicles and sustainability-focused solutions. These potential actions would reinforce BASF's commitment to becoming a more agile and innovation-driven company. Consequently, we reiterate our BUY rating with an unchanged price target of EUR 62.00.



Source: Company data, mwb research

High/low 52 weeks 54.93 / 40.17
Price/Book Ratio 1.1x

Ticker / Symbols

ISIN DE000BASF111
WKN BASF11
Bloomberg BAS:GR

Changes in estimates

		Sales	EBIT	EPS
2024E	old	69,763	4,709	3.32
	Δ	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
2025E	old	72,798	5,787	4.37
	Δ	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
2026E	old	75,710	6,019	4.53
	Δ	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Key share data

Number of shares: (in m pcs) 892.64
Book value per share: (in EUR) 39.52
Ø trading vol.: (12 months) 2,425,096

Major shareholders

Vanguard 3.5%
Norges Bank IM 1.8%
Blackrock 1.7%
Free Float 91.3%

Company description

BASF SE is a Germany-based chemical company. The Company operates through six segments, which include Chemicals, Materials, Industrial Solutions, Surface Technologies, Nutrition & Care and Agricultural Solutions. BASF is acting globally and is known for its VERBUND system.

BASF SE	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Sales	78,598	87,327	68,902	69,763	72,798	75,710
Growth yoy	32.9%	11.1%	-21.1%	1.3%	4.3%	4.0%
EBITDA	12,257	5,889	9,903	8,335	9,481	9,799
EBIT	7,823	632	3,187	4,709	5,787	6,019
Net profit	5,658	-218	1,388	2,968	3,899	4,042
Net debt (net cash)	15,430	17,426	17,890	16,832	15,207	13,167
Net debt/EBITDA	1.3x	3.0x	1.8x	2.0x	1.6x	1.3x
EPS reported	6.16	-0.24	1.55	3.32	4.37	4.53
DPS	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.32	3.52	3.52
Dividend yield	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	7.3%	7.7%	7.7%
Gross profit margin	25.2%	23.6%	23.8%	24.0%	24.9%	25.0%
EBITDA margin	15.6%	6.7%	14.4%	11.9%	13.0%	12.9%
EBIT margin	10.0%	0.7%	4.6%	6.8%	8.0%	8.0%
ROCE	11.1%	0.9%	5.0%	6.9%	8.6%	8.7%
EV/EBITDA	5.1x	10.4x	6.2x	7.4x	6.3x	6.1x
EV/EBIT	8.0x	96.9x	19.4x	13.1x	10.4x	9.9x
PER	7.4x	-187.9x	29.2x	13.7x	10.4x	10.0x
FCF yield	17.3%	18.8%	20.0%	12.8%	13.0%	14.6%

Source: Company data, mwb research

The following table displays the quarterly performance of **BASF SE**.

P&L data	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024	Q2 2024
Sales	21,946.0	19,324.0	19,991.0	17,305.0	15,735.0	15,871.0	17,553.0	16,111.0
yoy growth in %	11.6%	-2.3%	-13.4%	-24.7%	-28.3%	-17.9%	-12.2%	-6.9%
Gross profit	4,884.0	4,342.0	5,247.0	4,143.0	3,608.0	3,704.0	4,949.0	4,191.0
Gross margin in %	22.3%	22.5%	26.2%	23.9%	22.9%	23.3%	28.2%	26.0%
EBITDA	2,434.0	1,899.0	2,883.0	1,908.0	1,322.0	1,099.0	2,655.0	1,563.0
EBITDA margin in %	11.1%	9.8%	14.4%	11.0%	8.4%	6.9%	15.1%	9.7%
EBIT	1,460.0	918.0	1,785.0	1,007.0	722.0	292.0	1,689.0	969.0
EBIT margin in %	6.7%	4.8%	8.9%	5.8%	4.6%	1.8%	9.6%	6.0%
EBT	1,045.0	-1.0	1,930.0	851.0	-38.0	-1,323.0	1,772.0	398.0
taxes paid	287.0	258.0	326.0	296.0	171.0	248.0	361.0	-72.0
tax rate in %	27.5%	na	16.9%	34.8%	-450.0%	-18.7%	20.4%	-18.1%
net profit	910.0	-4,847.0	1,562.0	499.0	-249.0	-1,587.0	1,411.0	430.0
yoy growth in %	-29.8%	-644.0%	27.9%	-76.1%	-127.4%	-67.3%	-9.7%	-13.8%
EPS	1.01	-5.36	1.75	0.56	-0.28	-1.78	1.53	0.48

Source: Company data; mwb research

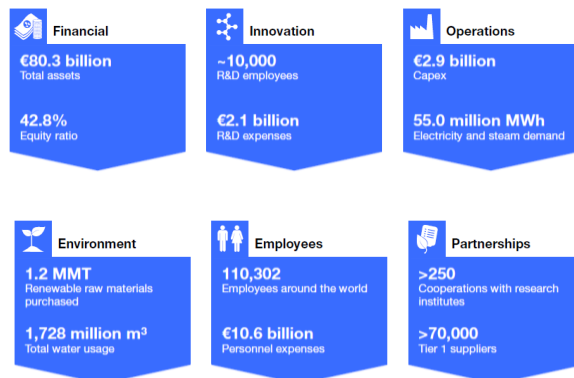
Investment case in six charts

World's #1 Chemicals Maker 2021

1	BASF Germany/Diversified	11 -3	ExxonMobil US/Petrochemicals
2	Sinopec China/Petrochemicals	12 -1	Air Liquide France/Industrial gases
3	Dow US/Diversified	13	Petrochina China/Petrochemicals
4 +2	Ineos UK/Diversified	14	DuPont US/Diversified
5 -1	SABIC Saudi Arabia/Petrochemicals	15 +11	Hengli Petrochemical China/Petrochemicals
6 -1	Formosa Plastics Taiwan/Petrochemicals	16 +1	Sumitomo Chemical Japan/Petrochemicals
7 +5	LG Chem South Korea/Diversified	17 -2	Toray Industries Japan/Diversified
8 -1	Mitsubishi Chemical Japan/Diversified	18 +1	Shin-Etsu Chemical Japan/Diversified
9 +1	Linde UK/Industrial gases	19 -1	Evonik Industries Germany/Diversified
10 -1	LyondellBasell Industries US/Petrochemicals	20 -4	Reliance Industries India/Petrochemicals

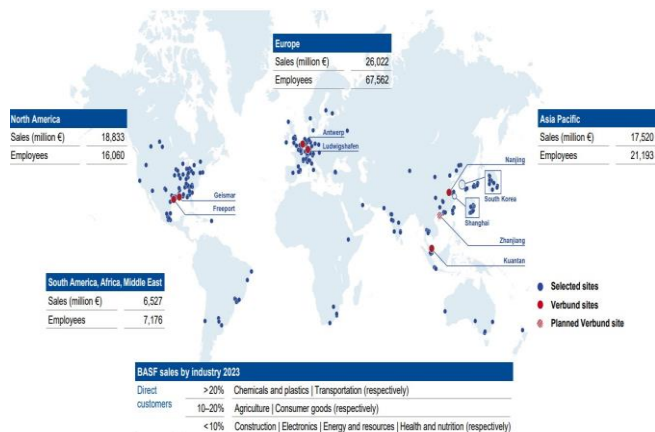
Source: c&en

Unmatched Resources



Source: BASF

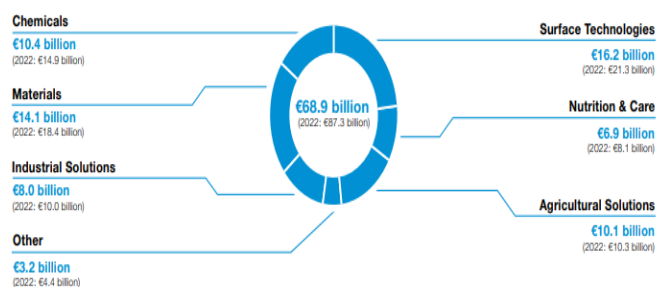
Global Footprint



Source: BASF

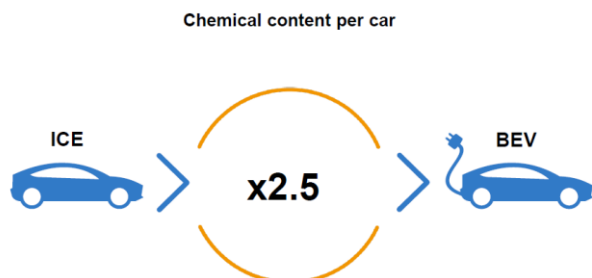
Segments

Sales by segment and Other



Source: BASF

Growth Opportunity Electromobility



Source: BASF

Source: Company data; mwb research

Integrated Value Chain (Verbund)



Source: BASF

SWOT analysis

Strengths

- Largest chemicals company in the world with top 3 market position in most business units
- Cost-efficient and resources-saving fully integrated production sites (Verbund)
- Attractive and stable dividend

Weaknesses

- Breadth of product portfolio and customer industries makes it difficult to decouple from GDP cycle

Opportunities

- Tailwinds from recovering end markets / GDP
- Growth opportunity in electromobility and Asia, esp. China
- Active portfolio management streamlining business and reducing cyclicality

Threats

- Exposure to volatile raw material supplies (e.g. natural gas)
- Low-cost Asian competitors
- Growing exposure to China could be vulnerable in trade wars

Valuation

DCF Model

The DCF model results in a **fair value of EUR 62.06 per share:**

Top-line growth: We expect BASF SE to grow revenues at a CAGR of 2.8% between 2024E and 2031E. The long-term growth rate is set at 2.0%.

ROCE. Returns on capital are developing from 6.9% in 2024E to 7.1% in 2031E.

WACC. Starting point is a historical equity beta of 1.23. Unlevering and correcting for mean reversion yields an asset beta of 0.87. Combined with a risk-free rate of 2.0% and an equity risk premium of 6.0% this yields cost of equity of 9.2%. With pre-tax cost of borrowing at 5.0%, a tax rate of 25% and target debt/equity of 0.5 this results in a long-term WACC of 7.4%.

[illegible]

DCF per share derived from	
Total present value	64,631
Mid-year adj. total present value	67,015
Net debt / cash at start of year	17,890
Financial assets	9,627
Provisions and off b/s debt	3,351
Equity value	55,401
No. of shares outstanding	892.6
Discounted cash flow / share	62.06
upside/(downside)	36.6%
Share price	45.44

DCF avg. growth and earnings assumptions	
Planning horizon avg. revenue growth (2024E-2031E)	2.8%
Terminal value growth (2031E - infinity)	2.0%
Terminal year ROCE	7.1%
Terminal year WACC	7.4%
Terminal WACC derived from	
Cost of borrowing (before taxes)	5.0%
Long-term tax rate	25%
Equity beta	1.23
Unlevered beta (industry or company)	0.87
Target debt / equity	0.5
Relevered beta	1.20
Risk-free rate	2.0%
Equity risk premium	6.0%
Cost of equity	9.2%

Sensitivity analysis DCF

Change in WACC (%points)	Long term growth					Share of present value	
	1.0%	1.5%	2.0%	2.5%	3.0%		
2.0%	40.4	42.2	44.2	46.5	49.2	2024E-2027E	23.8%
1.0%	46.5	48.9	51.7	55.0	59.0	2028E-2031E	14.7%
0.0%	54.4	57.9	62.1	67.0	73.1	terminal value	61.5%
-1.0%	65.4	70.6	77.1	85.2	95.6		
-2.0%	81.2	89.8	100.8	115.7	136.9		

Source: mwb research

FCF Yield Model

Due to the fact that companies rarely bear sufficient resemblance to peers in terms of geographical exposure, size or competitive strength and in order to adjust for the pitfalls of weak long-term visibility, an Adjusted Free Cash Flow analysis (Adjusted FCF) has been conducted.

The adjusted Free Cash Flow Yield results in a fair value between EUR 59.16 per share based on 2024E and EUR 75.41 per share on 2028E estimates.

The main driver of this model is the level of return available to a controlling investor, influenced by the cost of that investors' capital (opportunity costs) and the purchase price – in this case the enterprise value of the company. Here, the adjusted FCF yield is used as a proxy for the required return and is defined as EBITDA less minority interest, taxes and investments required to maintain existing assets (maintenance capex).

FCF yield in EURm	2024E	2025E	2026E	2027E	2028E
EBITDA	8,335	9,481	9,799	9,123	9,524
- Maintenance capex	3,626	3,693	3,780	4,171	4,791
- Minorities	92	80	62	50	47
- tax expenses	863	1,122	1,157	931	889
= Adjusted FCF	3,754	4,586	4,800	3,971	3,796
Actual Market Cap	40,612	40,612	40,612	40,612	40,612
+ Net debt (cash)	16,832	15,207	13,167	13,281	13,094
+ Pension provisions	4,186	4,368	6,057	6,238	6,363
+ Off b/s financing	0	0	0	0	0
- Financial assets	8,217	8,217	8,217	8,217	8,217
- Acc. dividend payments	3,035	5,998	9,138	12,280	15,283
<i>EV Reconciliations</i>	9,765	5,361	1,869	-978	-4,042
= Actual EV'	50,378	45,973	42,482	39,634	36,570
Adjusted FCF yield	7.5%	10.0%	11.3%	10.0%	10.4%
base hurdle rate	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%
ESG adjustment	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
adjusted hurdle rate	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%
Fair EV	62,572	76,430	79,998	66,181	63,274
- <i>EV Reconciliations</i>	9,765	5,361	1,869	-978	-4,042
Fair Market Cap	52,806	71,069	78,129	67,159	67,316
No. of shares (million)	893	893	893	893	893
Fair value per share in EUR	59.16	79.62	87.53	75.24	75.41
Premium (-) / discount (+)	30.2%	75.2%	92.6%	65.6%	66.0%

Sensitivity analysis fair value					
Adjusted hurdle rate	4.0%	94	122	132	112
	5.0%	73	97	105	90
	6.0%	59	80	88	75
	7.0%	49	67	75	65
	8.0%	42	58	65	58

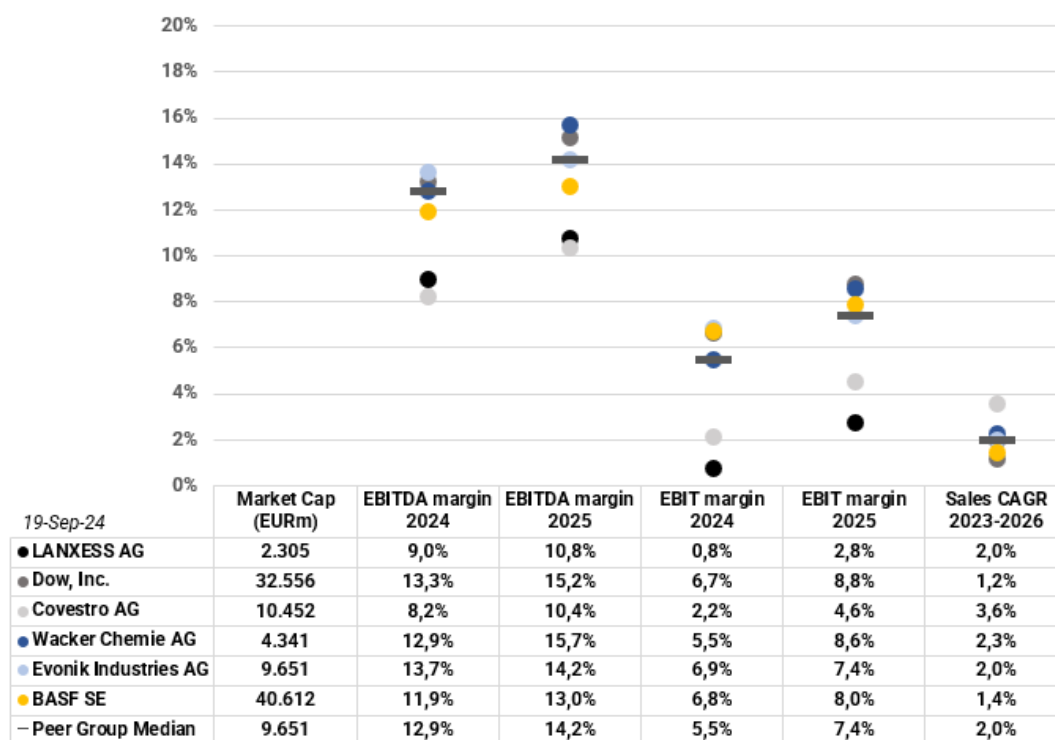
Source: Company data; mwb research

Simply put, the model assumes that investors require companies to generate a minimum return on the investor's purchase price. The required after-tax return equals the model's hurdle rate of 6.0%. Anything less suggests the stock is expensive; anything more suggests the stock is cheap. **ESG adjustments might be applicable. A high score indicates high awareness for environmental, social or governance issues and thus might lower the overall risk an investment in the company might carry. A low score on the contrary might increase the risk of an investment and might therefore trigger a higher required hurdle rate.**

Peer group analysis

A peer group or comparable company (“comps”) analysis is a methodology that calculates a company’s relative value – how much it should be worth based on how it compares to other similar companies. Given that **BASF SE** differs quite significantly in terms of size, focus, financial health and growth trajectory, we regard our peer group analysis merely as a support for other valuation methods. The peer group of BASF SE consists of the stocks displayed in the graphs below. As of 19 September 2024 the median market cap of the peer group was EUR 9,651m, compared to EUR 40,557m for BASF SE. In the period under review, the peer group was more profitable than BASF SE. The expectations for sales growth are higher for the peer group than for BASF SE.

Peer Group – Key data

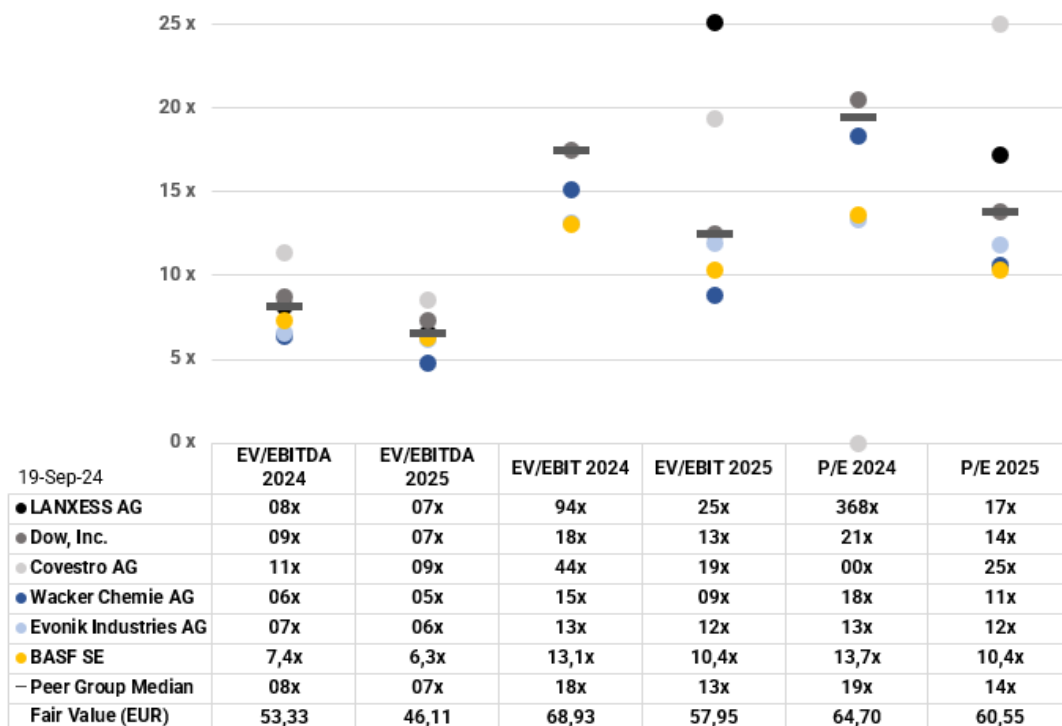


Source: FactSet, mwb research

Comparable company analysis operates under the assumption that similar companies will have similar valuation multiples. We use the following multiples: EV/EBITDA 2024, EV/EBITDA 2025, EV/EBIT 2024, EV/EBIT 2025, P/E 2024 and P/E 2025.

Applying these to BASF SE results in a range of fair values from EUR 46.11 to EUR 68.93.

Peer Group – Multiples and valuation

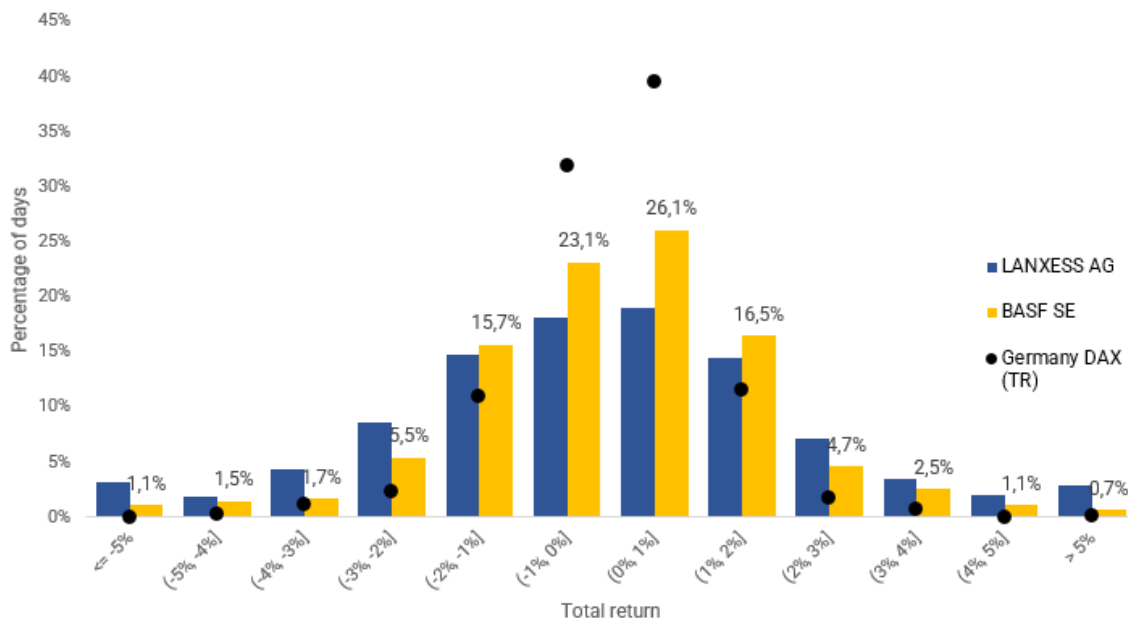


Source: FactSet, mwb research

Risk

The chart displays the **distribution of daily returns of BASF SE** over the last 3 years, compared to the same distribution for LANXESS AG. We have also included the distribution for the index Germany DAX (TR). The distribution gives a better understanding of risk than measures like volatility, which assume that log returns are normally distributed. In reality, they are skewed (down moves are larger) and have fat tails (large moves occur more often than predicted). Also, volatility treats up and down moves the same, while investors are more worried about down moves. For BASF SE, the worst day during the past 3 years was 24/02/2023 with a share price decline of -7.9%. The best day was 09/03/2022 when the share price increased by 10.1%.

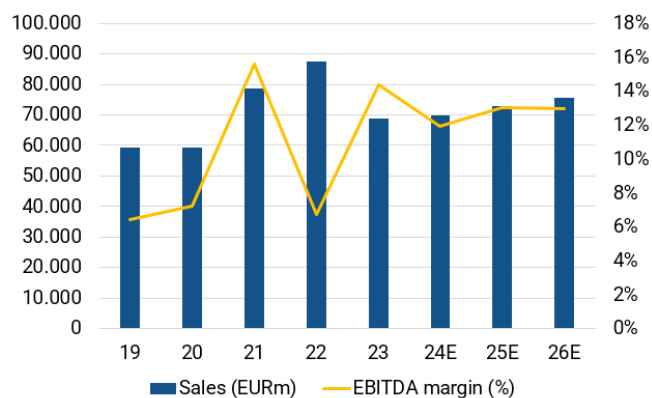
Risk – Daily Returns Distribution (trailing 3 years)



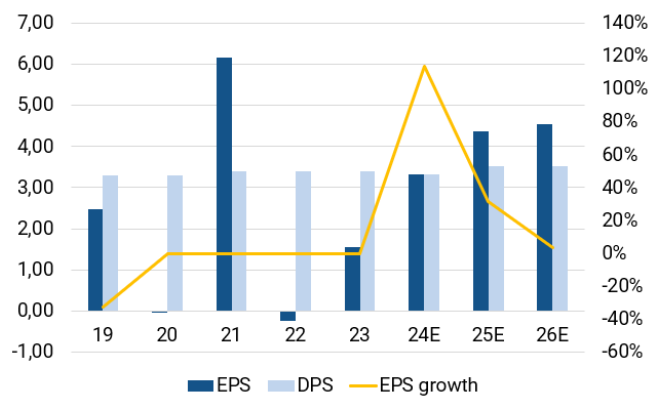
Source: FactSet, mwb research

Financials in six charts

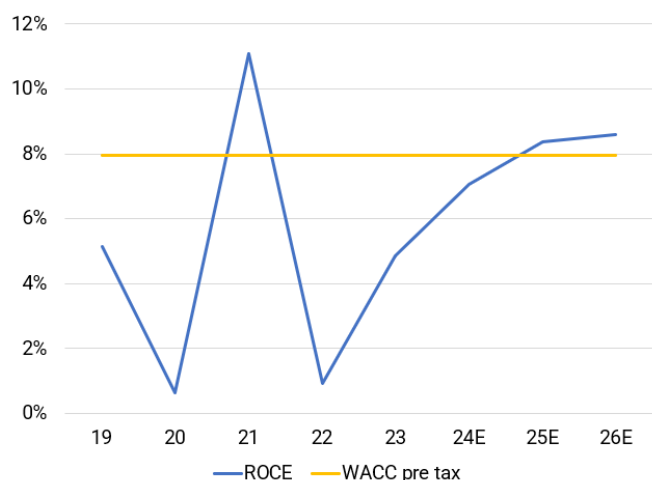
Sales vs. EBITDA margin development



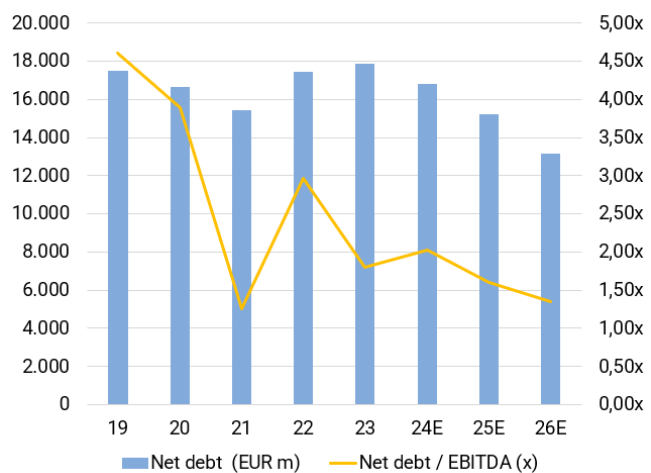
EPS, DPS in EUR & yoy EPS growth



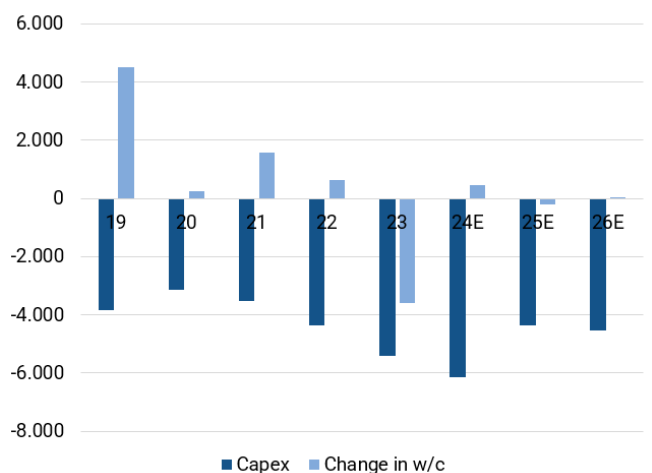
ROCE vs. WACC (pre tax)



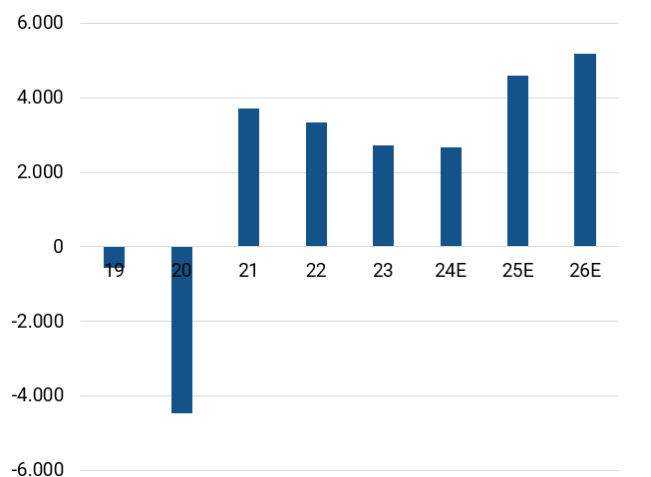
Net debt and net debt/EBITDA



Capex & chgn in w/c requirements in EURm



Free Cash Flow in EURm



Source: Company data; mwb research

Financials

Profit and loss (EURm)	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Sales	78,598	87,327	68,902	69,763	72,798	75,710
Sales growth	32.9%	11.1%	-21.1%	1.3%	4.3%	4.0%
Cost of sales	58,801	66,697	52,506	53,020	54,708	56,782
Gross profit	19,797	20,630	16,396	16,743	18,090	18,927
SG&A expenses	9,897	11,128	10,224	8,895	9,828	10,334
Research and development	2,216	2,298	2,130	2,093	2,038	2,120
Other operating expenses (income)	-139	6,572	855	1,046	437	454
EBITDA	12,257	5,889	9,903	8,335	9,481	9,799
Depreciation	135	409	1,163	3,130	3,251	3,385
EBITA	8,435	1,280	3,799	5,204	6,230	6,415
Amortisation of goodwill and intangible assets	612	648	612	495	443	396
EBIT	7,823	632	3,187	4,709	5,787	6,019
Financial result	-240	967	-604	-787	-687	-758
Recurring pretax income from continuing operations	7,583	1,599	2,583	3,922	5,100	5,261
Extraordinary income/loss	0	0	0	0	0	0
Earnings before taxes	7,583	1,599	2,583	3,922	5,100	5,261
Taxes	1,430	1,581	1,041	863	1,122	1,157
Net income from continuing operations	6,153	18	1,542	3,060	3,978	4,104
Result from discontinued operations (net of tax)	-36	0	0	0	0	0
Net income	6,117	18	1,542	3,060	3,978	4,104
Minority interest	-459	-236	-154	-92	-80	-62
Net profit (reported)	5,658	-218	1,388	2,968	3,899	4,042
Average number of shares	918.48	901.75	892.64	892.64	892.64	892.64
EPS reported	6.16	-0.24	1.55	3.32	4.37	4.53

Profit and loss (common size)	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Sales	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Cost of sales	75%	76%	76%	76%	75%	75%
Gross profit	25%	24%	24%	24%	25%	25%
SG&A expenses	13%	13%	15%	13%	14%	14%
Research and development	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%
Other operating expenses (income)	-0%	8%	1%	2%	1%	1%
EBITDA	16%	7%	14%	12%	13%	13%
Depreciation	0%	0%	2%	4%	4%	4%
EBITA	11%	1%	6%	7%	9%	8%
Amortisation of goodwill and intangible assets	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
EBIT	10%	1%	5%	7%	8%	8%
Financial result	-0%	1%	-1%	-1%	-1%	-1%
Recurring pretax income from continuing operations	10%	2%	4%	6%	7%	7%
Extraordinary income/loss	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Earnings before taxes	10%	2%	4%	6%	7%	7%
Taxes	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%
Net income from continuing operations	8%	0%	2%	4%	5%	5%
Result from discontinued operations (net of tax)	-0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Net income	8%	0%	2%	4%	5%	5%
Minority interest	-1%	-0%	-0%	-0%	-0%	-0%
Net profit (reported)	7%	-0%	2%	4%	5%	5%

Source: Company data; mwb research

Balance sheet (EURm)	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Intangible assets (exl. Goodwill)	5,979	5,577	4,716	4,216	3,768	3,367
Goodwill	7,520	7,696	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500
Property, plant and equipment	21,553	22,967	24,080	27,089	28,206	29,364
Financial assets	17,280	10,810	9,627	8,217	8,217	8,217
FIXED ASSETS	52,332	47,050	45,923	47,022	47,691	48,448
Inventories	13,868	16,028	13,876	13,800	13,939	14,001
Accounts receivable	11,942	12,055	10,414	11,468	11,568	12,031
Other current assets	5,471	5,354	3,699	3,699	3,699	3,699
Liquid assets	2,832	2,748	2,677	6,868	5,993	7,033
Deferred taxes	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deferred charges and prepaid expenses	938	1,237	806	698	728	757
CURRENT ASSETS	35,051	37,422	31,472	36,533	35,927	37,520
TOTAL ASSETS	87,383	84,472	77,395	83,554	83,617	85,968
SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY	40,792	39,573	35,277	35,302	36,317	37,281
MINORITY INTEREST	1,289	1,350	1,368	1,368	1,368	1,368
Long-term debt	14,842	16,330	18,385	18,700	17,700	16,700
Provisions for pensions and similar obligations	6,621	3,233	3,351	4,186	4,368	6,057
Other provisions	3,758	3,546	3,143	3,488	4,368	4,543
Non-current liabilities	25,221	23,109	24,879	26,374	26,436	27,299
short-term liabilities to banks	3,420	3,844	2,182	5,000	3,500	3,500
Accounts payable	7,826	8,434	6,741	6,682	6,895	7,156
Advance payments received on orders	72	90	74	698	728	757
Other liabilities (incl. from lease and rental contracts)	3,062	3,005	3,090	4,186	4,368	4,543
Deferred taxes	1,499	1,543	1,140	1,140	1,140	1,140
Deferred income	4,202	3,524	2,644	1,395	1,456	1,514
Current liabilities	20,081	20,440	15,871	19,101	18,086	18,610
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY	87,383	84,472	77,395	82,144	82,207	84,558

Balance sheet (common size)	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Intangible assets (excl. Goodwill)	7%	7%	6%	5%	5%	4%
Goodwill	9%	9%	10%	9%	9%	9%
Property, plant and equipment	25%	27%	31%	32%	34%	34%
Financial assets	20%	13%	12%	10%	10%	10%
FIXED ASSETS	60%	56%	59%	56%	57%	56%
Inventories	16%	19%	18%	17%	17%	16%
Accounts receivable	14%	14%	13%	14%	14%	14%
Other current assets	6%	6%	5%	4%	4%	4%
Liquid assets	3%	3%	3%	8%	7%	8%
Deferred taxes	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Deferred charges and prepaid expenses	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
CURRENT ASSETS	40%	44%	41%	44%	43%	44%
TOTAL ASSETS	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY	47%	47%	46%	42%	43%	43%
MINORITY INTEREST	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Long-term debt	17%	19%	24%	22%	21%	19%
Provisions for pensions and similar obligations	8%	4%	4%	5%	5%	7%
Other provisions	4%	4%	4%	4%	5%	5%
Non-current liabilities	29%	27%	32%	32%	32%	32%
short-term liabilities to banks	4%	5%	3%	6%	4%	4%
Accounts payable	9%	10%	9%	8%	8%	8%
Advance payments received on orders	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%
Other liabilities (incl. from lease and rental contracts)	4%	4%	4%	5%	5%	5%
Deferred taxes	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Deferred income	5%	4%	3%	2%	2%	2%
Current liabilities	23%	24%	21%	23%	22%	22%
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY	100%	100%	100%	98%	98%	98%

Source: Company data; mwb research

Cash flow statement (EURm)	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Net profit/loss	5,523	-627	225	3,060	3,978	4,104
Depreciation of fixed assets (incl. leases)	3,687	4,200	4,941	3,130	3,251	3,385
Amortisation of goodwill	0	0	0	0	0	0
Amortisation of intangible assets	0	0	0	495	443	396
Others	-398	4,767	-662	2,590	1,062	1,864
Cash flow from operations before changes in w/c	8,812	8,340	4,504	9,275	8,733	9,748
Increase/decrease in inventory	-3,304	-1,991	1,896	76	-139	-62
Increase/decrease in accounts receivable	-1,272	2,145	1,443	-1,054	-100	-463
Increase/decrease in accounts payable	0	0	-1,544	-59	213	261
Increase/decrease in other w/c positions	3,002	-791	1,812	579	243	233
Increase/decrease in working capital	-1,574	-637	3,607	-458	216	-30
Cash flow from operating activities	7,238	7,703	8,111	8,817	8,949	9,718
CAPEX	-3,532	-4,375	-5,395	-6,134	-4,363	-4,537
Payments for acquisitions	-600	-13	-5	0	0	0
Financial investments	-994	-1,273	-1,099	0	0	0
Income from asset disposals	1,474	1,192	1,476	0	0	0
Cash flow from investing activities	-3,652	-4,469	-5,023	-6,134	-4,363	-4,537
Cash flow before financing	3,586	3,234	3,088	2,683	4,587	5,180
Increase/decrease in debt position	-3,145	566	259	3,133	-2,500	-1,000
Purchase of own shares	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capital measures	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dividends paid	-3,031	-3,072	-3,034	-3,035	-2,963	-3,140
Others	-281	-176	0	0	0	0
Effects of exchange rate changes on cash	131	-19	-106	0	0	0
Cash flow from financing activities	-6,326	-2,701	-2,881	98	-5,463	-4,140
Increase/decrease in liquid assets	-2,740	533	207	2,781	-876	1,040
Liquid assets at end of period	2,624	2,516	2,624	5,405	4,530	5,570

Source: Company data; mwb research

Regional sales split (EURm)	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Domestic	0	0	0	0	0	0
Europe (ex domestic)	30,531	33,922	26,022	26,347	27,493	28,593
The Americas	20,867	23,869	18,833	19,068	19,898	20,694
Asia	21,234	21,823	17,520	17,739	18,511	19,251
Rest of World	5,966	7,713	6,527	6,609	6,896	7,172
Total sales	78,598	87,327	68,902	69,763	72,798	75,710

Regional sales split (common size)	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Domestic	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Europe (ex domestic)	38.8%	38.8%	37.8%	37.8%	37.8%	37.8%
The Americas	26.5%	27.3%	27.3%	27.3%	27.3%	27.3%
Asia	27.0%	25.0%	25.4%	25.4%	25.4%	25.4%
Rest of World	7.6%	8.8%	9.5%	9.5%	9.5%	9.5%
Total sales	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Source: Company data; mwb research

Ratios	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Per share data						
Earnings per share reported	6.16	-0.24	1.55	3.32	4.37	4.53
Cash flow per share	7.88	8.54	9.09	5.82	5.89	6.65
Book value per share	44.41	43.88	39.52	39.55	40.69	41.76
Dividend per share	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.32	3.52	3.52
Valuation						
P/E	7.4x	-187.9x	29.2x	13.7x	10.4x	10.0x
P/CF	5.8x	5.3x	5.0x	7.8x	7.7x	6.8x
P/BV	1.0x	1.0x	1.1x	1.1x	1.1x	1.1x
Dividend yield (%)	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	7.3%	7.7%	7.7%
FCF yield (%)	17.3%	18.8%	20.0%	12.8%	13.0%	14.6%
EV/Sales	0.8x	0.7x	0.9x	0.9x	0.8x	0.8x
EV/EBITDA	5.1x	10.4x	6.2x	7.4x	6.3x	6.1x
EV/EBIT	8.0x	96.9x	19.4x	13.1x	10.4x	9.9x
Income statement (EURm)						
Sales	78,598	87,327	68,902	69,763	72,798	75,710
yoy chg in %	32.9%	11.1%	-21.1%	1.3%	4.3%	4.0%
Gross profit	19,797	20,630	16,396	16,743	18,090	18,927
Gross margin in %	25.2%	23.6%	23.8%	24.0%	24.9%	25.0%
EBITDA	12,257	5,889	9,903	8,335	9,481	9,799
EBITDA margin in %	15.6%	6.7%	14.4%	11.9%	13.0%	12.9%
EBIT	7,823	632	3,187	4,709	5,787	6,019
EBIT margin in %	10.0%	0.7%	4.6%	6.8%	8.0%	8.0%
Net profit	5,658	-218	1,388	2,968	3,899	4,042
Cash flow statement (EURm)						
CF from operations	7,238	7,703	8,111	8,817	8,949	9,718
Capex	-3,532	-4,375	-5,395	-6,134	-4,363	-4,537
Maintenance Capex	0	0	0	3,626	3,693	3,780
Free cash flow	3,706	3,328	2,716	2,683	4,587	5,180
Balance sheet (EURm)						
Intangible assets	13,499	13,273	12,216	11,716	11,268	10,867
Tangible assets	21,553	22,967	24,080	27,089	28,206	29,364
Shareholders' equity	40,792	39,573	35,277	35,302	36,317	37,281
Pension provisions	6,621	3,233	3,351	4,186	4,368	6,057
Liabilities and provisions	28,641	26,953	27,061	31,374	29,936	30,799
Net financial debt	15,430	17,426	17,890	16,832	15,207	13,167
w/c requirements	17,912	19,559	17,475	17,888	17,884	18,119
Ratios						
ROE	15.0%	0.0%	4.4%	8.7%	11.0%	11.0%
ROCE	11.1%	0.9%	5.0%	6.9%	8.6%	8.7%
Net gearing	37.8%	44.0%	50.7%	47.7%	41.9%	35.3%
Net debt / EBITDA	1.3x	3.0x	1.8x	2.0x	1.6x	1.3x

Source: Company data; mwb research

Conflicts of interest

Disclosures regarding research publications of mwb research AG pursuant to section 85 of the German Securities Trading Act (WpHG) and distributed in the UK under an EEA branch passport, subject to the FCA requirements on research recommendation disclosures. It is essential that any research recommendation is fairly presented and discloses interests of and indicates relevant conflicts of interest. Pursuant to section 85 of the German Securities Trading Act (WpHG) a research report has to point out possible conflicts of interest in connection with the analyzed company. Further to this, under the FCA's rules on research recommendations, any conflicts of interest in connection with the recommendation must be disclosed. A conflict of interest is presumed to exist in particular if mwb research AG

- (1) or its affiliate(s) (either in its own right or as part of a consortium) within the past twelve months, acquired the financial instruments of the analyzed company,
- (2) has entered into an agreement on the production of the research report with the analyzed company,
- (3) or its affiliate(s) has, within the past twelve months, been party to an agreement on the provision of investment banking services with the analyzed company or have received services or a promise of services under the terms of such an agreement,
- (4) or its affiliate(s) holds a) 5% or more of the share capital of the analyzed company, or b) the analyzed company holds 5% or more of the share capital of mwb research AG or its affiliate(s),
- (5) or its affiliate(s) holds a net long (a) or a net short (b) position of 0.5% of the outstanding share capital of the analyzed company or derivatives thereof,
- (6) or its affiliate(s) is a market maker or liquidity provider in the financial instruments of the issuer,
- (7) or the analyst has any other significant financial interests relating to the analyzed company such as, for example, exercising mandates in the interest of the analyzed company or a significant conflict of interest with respect to the issuer,
- (8) The research report has been made available to the company prior to its publication. Thereafter, only factual changes have been made to the report.

Conflicts of interest that existed at the time when this research report was published:

Company	Disclosure
BASF SE	

Important disclosures

1. General Information/Liabilities This research report has been produced for the information purposes of institutional investors only, and is not in any way a personal recommendation, offer or solicitation to buy or sell the financial instruments mentioned herein. The document is confidential and is made available by mwb research AG, exclusively to selected recipients [in DE, GB, FR, CH, US, UK, Scandinavia, and Benelux or, in individual cases, also in other countries]. A distribution to private investors in the sense of the German Securities Trading Act (WpHG) is excluded. It is not allowed to pass the research report on to persons other than the intended recipient without the permission of mwb research AG. Reproduction of this document, in whole or in part, is not permitted without prior permission mwb research AG. All rights reserved. Under no circumstances shall mwb research AG, any of its employees involved in the preparation, have any liability for possible errors or incompleteness of the information included in this research report – neither in relation to indirect or direct nor consequential damages. Liability for damages arising either directly or as a consequence of the use of information, opinions and estimates is also excluded. Past performance of a financial instrument is not necessarily indicative of future performance.

2. Responsibilities This research report was prepared by the research analyst named on the front page (the "Producer"). The Producer is solely responsible for the views and estimates expressed in this report. The report has been prepared independently. The content of the research report was not influenced by the issuer of the analyzed financial instrument at any time. It may be possible that parts of the research report were handed out to the issuer for information purposes prior to the publication without any major amendments being made thereafter.

3. Organizational Requirements mwb research AG took internal organizational and regulative precautions to avoid or accordingly disclose possible conflicts of interest in connection with the preparation and distribution of the research report. All members of mwb research AG involved in the preparation of the research report are subject to internal compliance regulations. No part of the Producer's compensation is directly or indirectly related to the preparation of this financial analysis. In case a research analyst or a closely related person is confronted with a conflict of interest, the research analyst is restricted from covering this company.

4. Information Concerning the Methods of Valuation/Update The determination of the fair value per share, i.e. the price target, and the resultant rating is done on the basis of the adjusted free cash flow (adj. FCF) method and on the basis of the discounted cash flow – DCF model. Furthermore, a peer group comparison is made. The adj. FCF method is based on the assumption that investors purchase assets only at a price (enterprise value) at which the operating cash flow return after taxes on this investment exceeds their opportunity costs in the form of a hurdle rate. The operating cash flow is calculated as EBITDA less maintenance capex and taxes. Within the framework of the DCF approach, the future free cash flows are calculated initially on the basis of a fictitious capital structure of 100% equity, i.e. interest and repayments on debt capital are not factored in initially. The adjustment towards the actual capital structure is done by discounting the calculated free cash flows with the weighted average cost of capital (WACC), which takes into account both the cost of equity capital and the cost of debt. After discounting, the calculated total enterprise value is reduced by the interest-bearing debt capital in order to arrive at the equity value. Detailed information on the valuation principles and methods used and the underlying assumptions can be found at <https://www.mwb-research.com>.

mwb research AG uses the following three-step rating system for the analyzed companies:

- **Speculative (Spec.) BUY:** Sustainable upside potential of more than 25% within 12 months, above average risk
- **BUY:** Sustainable upside potential of more than 10% within 12 months
- **SELL:** Sustainable downside potential of more than 10% within 12 months.
- **HOLD:** Upside/downside potential is limited. No immediate catalyst visible.

NB: The ratings of mwb research AG are not based on a performance that is expected to be "relative" to the market.

The decision on the choice of the financial instruments analyzed in this document was solely made by mwb research AG. The opinions and estimates in this research report are subject to change without notice. It is within the discretion of mwb research AG whether and when it publishes an update to this research report, but in general updates are created on a regular basis, after 6 months at the latest. A sensitivity analysis is included and published in company's initial studies.

5. Date and time of first publication of this financial analysis
19-Sep-24 11:21:20

6. Risk information

- Stock exchange investments and investments in companies (shares) are always speculative and involve the risk of total loss.
- This is particularly true in respect of investments in companies which are not established and/or small and have no established business or corporate assets.
- Share prices may fluctuate significantly. This is particularly true for shares with low liquidity (market breadth). Even small orders can have a significant impact on the share price.
- In the case of shares in narrow markets, it may also happen that there is no or very little actual trading there and that published prices are not based on actual trading but have only been provided by a stockbroker.
- In such markets a shareholder cannot expect to find a buyer for his shares at all and/or at reasonable prices. In such narrow markets there is a very high possibility of manipulating prices and in such markets there are often considerable price fluctuations.
- An investment in shares with low liquidity and low market capitalization is therefore highly speculative and represents a very high risk.
- There is no regulated market for unlisted shares and securities and a sale is not possible or only possible on an individual basis.

7. Major Sources of Information Part of the information required for this research report was made available by the issuer of the financial instrument. Furthermore, this report is based on publicly available sources (such as, for example, Bloomberg, Reuters, VWD-Trader and the relevant daily press) believed to be reliable. mwb research AG has checked the information for plausibility but not for accuracy or completeness.

8. Competent Supervisory Authority mwb research AG are under supervision of the BaFin – German Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (Bundesanstalt für Finanzdienstleistungsaufsicht), Graurheindorfer Straße 108, 53117 Bonn and Marie-Curie-Straße 24 – 28, 60439 Frankfurt a.M. This document is distributed in the UK under a MiFID EEA branch passport and in compliance with the applicable FCA requirements.

9. Specific Comments for Recipients Outside of Germany This research report is subject to the law of the Federal Republic of Germany. The distribution of this information to other states in particular to the USA, Canada, Australia and Japan may be restricted or prohibited by the laws applicable within this state.

10. Miscellaneous According to Article 4(1) No. i of the delegated regulation 2016/958 supplementing regulation 596/2014 of the European Parliament, further information regarding investment recommendations of the last 12 months are published free of charge under <https://www.mwb-research.com>.

Contacts

mwb research AG
Mittelweg 142
20148 Hamburg
Germany

Tel.: +49 40 309 293-52
Email: contact@mwb-research.com
Website: www.mwb-research.com
Research: www.research-hub.de

Research

HARALD HOF
Senior Analyst
Tel: +49 40 309 293-53
E-Mail: h.hof@mwb-research.com

LEON MÜHLENBRUCH
Analyst
Tel: +49 40 309 293-57
E-Mail: l.muehlenbruch@mwb-research.com

ABED JARAD
Junior Analyst
Tel: +49 40 309 293-54
E-Mail: a.jarad@mwb-research.com

JENS-PETER RIECK
Junior Analyst
Tel: +49 40 309 293-54
E-Mail: jp.riek@mwb-research.com

THOMAS WISSLER
Senior Analyst
Tel: +49 40 309 293-58
E-Mail: t.wissler@mwb-research.com

DR. OLIVER WOJAHN, CFA
Senior Analyst
Tel: +49 40 309 293-55
E-Mail: o.wojahn@mwb-research.com

ALEXANDER ZIENKOWICZ
Senior Analyst
Tel: +49 40 309 293-56
E-Mail: a.zienkowicz@mwb-research.com

Sales

HOLGER NASS
Head of Sales
Tel: +49 40 309 293-52
E-Mail: h.nass@mwb-research.com

Team Assistant

HANNAH GABERT
Team Assistant
Tel: +49 40 309 293-52
E-Mail: h.gabert@mwb-research.com

mwb fairtrade
Wertpapierhandelsbank AG
Rottenbucher Straße 28
82166 Gräfelfing

Tel: +49 89 85852-0
Fax: +49 89 85852-505
Website: www.mwbfairtrade.com
E-Mail: info@mwbfairtrade.com

Sales / Designated Sponsoring / Corporate Finance

ALEXANDER DEUSS
Institutional Sales
Tel: +49 40 36 0995-22
E-Mail: adeuss@mwbfairtrade.com

SASCHA GUENON
Head of Designated Sponsoring
Tel: +49 40 360 995-23
E-Mail: sguenon@mwbfairtrade.com

JAN NEYNABER
Institutional Sales
Tel: +49 69 1387-1255
E-Mail: jneynaber@mwbfairtrade.com

DIRK WEYERHÄUSER
Corporate Finance
Tel: +49 69 1387-1250
E-Mail: dweyerhaeuser@mwbfairtrade.com

Locations

HAMBURG (Research)
Mittelweg 142
20148 Hamburg
+49 40 309 293-52

HAMBURG (Corporates & Markets)
Kleine Johannisstraße 4
20457 Hamburg
+49 40 360 995-0

FRANKFURT A.M.
Unterlindau 29
60323 Frankfurt am Main
+49 40 360 995-22

MUNICH
Rottenbucher Str. 28
82166 Gräfelfing
+49 89-85852-0

BERLIN
Kurfürstendamm 151
10709 Berlin

HANNOVER
An der Börse 2
30159 Hannover

Our research can be found at

ResearchHub
Bloomberg
FactSet
Thomson Reuters / Refinitiv
CapitalIQ

www.research-hub.de
www.bloomberg.com
www.factset.com
www.refinitiv.com
www.capitaliq.com