

We accompanied management on a roadshow to Frankfurt-based investors and with this update we flag the main discussion points arising. We see the group as on the right path in addressing the loss-making UK operations, which should trigger a good profit recovery over the next 2 years. Our Buy rating is confirmed with EUR 9.5 TP.

Q3 German revenues just compensate for the international drop

Group revenues increased by 1.4% in Q3-19, in line with Pareto forecasts. Within that, domestic business was better than modelled, increasing 12% and indicates that the hoped-for second half recovery is now well underway. On the other hand, UK operations slumped more than feared, down 34%, with other segments down 20%.

The UK continues to burden profitability, but the worse has passed

Q3-19 EBIT of EUR 1.4m (-23%) made for a margin of 8.4% (from 11.1% in Q3-18). German EBIT at EUR 1.8m (+1% for 14.1% margin) is viewed as reasonable. As foreseen with the recent forecast reduction, there was a sizeable loss in the UK (EUR 0.9m at 9M) although this includes maybe EUR 0.5m one-off in nature which will yield future savings and support good profit recovery over the next two years.

Price target at EUR 9.5 and Buy rating confirmed

We continue to refer to the DCF model is setting our EUR 9.5 TP. We prefer to err on the side of caution with respect to sales development and margin recovery and this may be conservative. The shares are seen as cheap but lacking a near-term trigger.

EURm	2017	2018	2019 e	2020e	2021e
Revenues	61	66	65	69	75
EBITDA	6	8	10	12	13
EBIT	4	6	5	6	7
EPS	0.39	0.35	0.28	0.34	0.39
EPS adj	0.39	0.35	0.28	0.34	0.39
DPS	0.38	0.39	0.25	0.30	0.35
EV/EBITDA	25.5	12.6	12.8	11.3	10.1
EV/EBIT	38.5	16.9	25.0	20.6	17.5
P/E adj	29.2	22.9	28.1	23.2	20.1
P/B	2.70	2.00	2.04	2.05	2.07
ROE (%)	9.4	8.5	7.1	8.8	10.2
Div yield (%)	3.4	4.9	3.1	3.8	4.3
Net debt	6	(5)	26	25	22

Source: Pareto



Target price (EUR)	9.5
Share price (EUR)	7.9

Forecast changes			
%	2019e	2020e	2021e
Revenues	(1)	(3)	(3)
EBITDA	(3)	(1)	(2)
EBIT adj	(5)	(3)	(3)
EPS reported	(6)	(2)	(3)
EPS adj	(6)	(2)	(3)

Source: Pareto

Ticker	SYZG.DE, SYZ GY
Sector	Media
Shares fully diluted (m)	13.5
Market cap (EURm)	107
Net debt (EURm)	26
Minority interests (EURm)	0
Enterprise value 19e (EURm)	133
Free float (%)	49

Performance



Source: Factset

Pareto Securities AS has been paid by the issuer to produce this research report. This material is considered by Pareto Securities to qualify as an acceptable minor non-monetary benefit according to the EU MIFID 2 directive.

Analysts

Mark Josefson

+49 69 58997 437, mark.josefson@paretosec.com

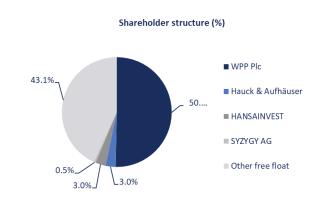
Investment case in six charts

Exhibit 1: A three pillar business model in digital

SIZIGI The Human Experience Company Activation Strategy Product **Business Innovation** Product & Service Campaigns & Story Design Telling Brand & Communication Creative Production & Experience Design & Creative Technology **Editorial Planning** Content & Media Software Engineering Performance Technology & Data Marketing & Media & Technical Team Enablement Implementation Maintenance and Operations

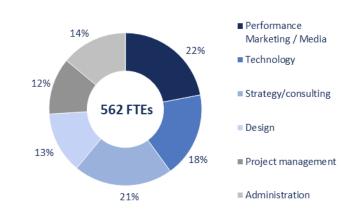
Source: Company data; Pareto

Exhibit 2: With a large and stable parent investor



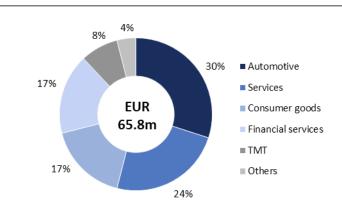
Source: Statista; Pareto

Exhibit 3:Employees: 562 FTEs plus 48 freelancers



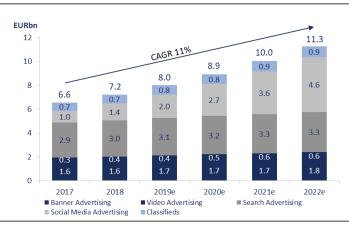
Source: Pareto

Exhibit 4: With a broad spread of client interests



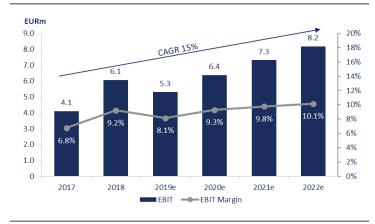
Source: Pareto

Exhibit 5: A growing digital advertising market



Source: Pareto

Exhibit 6:But Syzygy itself needs to recover margin



Source: Pareto

Key discussion issues for investors

Following the announcement of Q3 results, we accompanied management on a roadshow to Frankfurt-based investors. In this update we flag the main discussion points arising. In our view the two Board members presented well, were pretty honest with respect to questions put to them and did not shy away from addressing soar points with the investors seen.

The search for new CEO of SYZYGY AG has just started

It was recently announced that CEO Lars Lehne, who has been Chief Executive Officer of Syzygy since 2016, will leave the group by mutual agreement in March 2020. During his tenure, Mr. Lehne has successfully integrated strategically important acquisitions and aligned the group for its future development. However, across these three years sales and EBIT have tracked sideways, with margins under pressure and net income declined in a background environment which should have been supportive for the group's development.

Until his departure, the Executive Board, consisting of Lars Lehne, Frank Ladner and Erwin Greiner, will continue to manage the business together with the local management. The Supervisory Board will use this time to find a successor for the CEO position. Both Greiner (Chief Financial Officer) and Ladner (Chief Technical Officer) were present during our Frankfurt roadshow and were able to reassure that the main subsidiary operations will continue to function successfully during the period whilst the search for a new CEO progresses.

The direct search for suitable CEO candidates is likely to extend well into 2020. It was stressed that Syzygy is not anticipating any loss of business following the departure of Lehne, with no major contract up for renewal in the near-term, indeed the recent winning of Lufthansa as a new account could develop into a major client for the group. Nonetheless it was stressed that the new CEO should have a marketing bias, demonstrating the ability to win new clients for the group.

Does WPP need Syzygy?

The parent shareholder was a discussion in all meetings. In 2015 UK-listed WPP, then with near-30% stake in Syzygy AG, offered EUR 9 per share for outstanding shares and narrowly secured majority control. Subsequently, there has been a couple of periods of heavy speculation suggesting that WPP will increase its shareholding, but it remains four years later with a 50.3% stake.

Many investors have been surprised that WPP has not invested further and taken control of Syzygy. WPP is a global media conglomerate with numerous investments in German companies, but Syzygy is far its largest digital services asset in Germany – the largest media market in Europe. Other WPP businesses located in Germany include the local offices of several of its global brands including Group M, Hogarth, Ogilvy, VMLY&R, or Wunderman Thompson.

WPP is currently in the multi-year process of streamlining its operations (merging agencies, integrating product offerings) which has recently impacted competitors of Syzygy (Wunderman merged with J. Walther Thompson and VML merged with Y&R) but has so far left Syzygy untouched. The WPP 2018 Report suggests that the group will continue to simplify group structures. Meanwhile Publicis Deutschland appears to undertake a similar process with its German assets.

Still too reliant on the automotive branch

In recent years, Syzygy's biggest exposure has been to the automotive branch with several global brands having multiple contracts with different group companies. This peaked at 40% in 2014 and was as low as 29% in 2017, rising again to 30% last year. Another key branch is consumer goods (e.g. Nestle, O₂,

Samsung), but this has slipped from accounting for 29% in 2015 to just 17% last year. By contrast clients from financial services (Commerzbank, Deutsche Bank, PayPal) have increased from 8% to 17% over the same period.

Exhibit 7: Syzygy: clients by sector, 2013-18

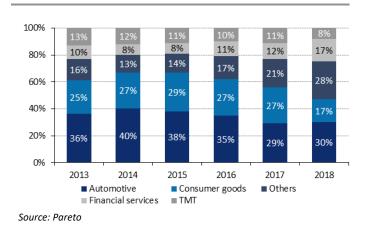
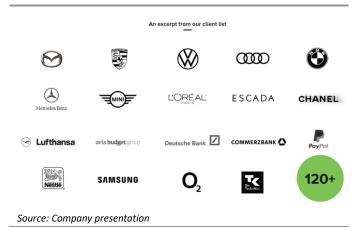


Exhibit 8: Syzygy: 2018 client importance by sector



There was the fear by some investors that the group could be adversely by its exposure to automotive groups, particularly in the light of the marked slowdown that the industry is facing today. During the meetings it was disclosed that the exposure to automotive actually increased in the 9-months to September 2019 to 32% (from 29% at 9M-18), which by our calculation indicates EUR 1.3m additional revenues from this client segment in the current year to date.

In a ranking by Nielsen of the industries with the highest advertising expenditures in Germany in H1-18, the auto sector had the second highest spend at EUR 825m. Over the same period data from OVK indicated that online advertising for the automobile sector amounted to EUR 147m. It is the latter sub-segment on which Syzygy tends to focus which its EUR 20m of annual revenues attributable to automobile clients.

The point made by management is that different companies from the automotive industry are clients of all three of Syzygy's business segments (Strategy, Product and Activation – see Exhibit 1) and several of these clients are serviced by teams in different Syzygy offices. For example, there are different contracts for Mazda UK, Mazda Europe, Mazda Japan, etc. Thus, many of the contracts are negotiated on a local basis and not globally sourced by the large OEMs. In sum, management view the group's exposure to the automotive sector as likely to remain an important pillar of the group's future development.

The UK profitability drag should turn significantly in 2020e

With respect to the operational segments, the UK peaked in terms of group importance in 2014 when it generated EUR 16.3m sales, at the time close to 35% of the group total. In the same year it contributed EUR 2.4m EBIT, representing 14.9% margin and accounting for 63% of reported EBIT.

The loss of a couple of major clients has meant that UK sales have declined substantially, albeit that some of this business was transferred to Syzygy subsidiaries in Germany and in Poland. As a result, UK accounted for EUR 14.1m sales in 2018 (21% of the group total) and made a small loss (EUR 41k) at the EBIT level.

Perhaps the most disappointing news with the 9-months results was the disclosure that sales in the UK had dropped 27% (equivalent to EUR 2.7m and thus the primary reason for the slight decline in group sales). More worryingly, there was an EBIT loss of EUR 923k accruing to the UK operations, some of which

was one-off in nature. There has therefore been a downsizing of the UK operations, with 35 FTE leaving over the past year, most in the last six months. It is also planned to sublet London office space no longer required.

Exhibit 9: UK might account for 15% 2019e sales

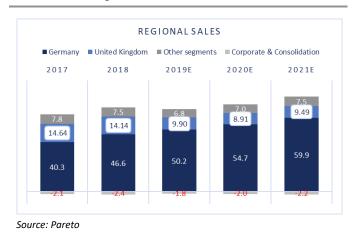
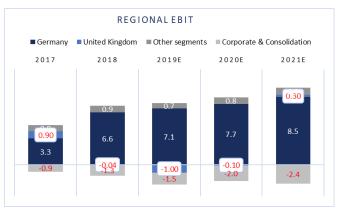


Exhibit 10: UK could lose EUR 1m in 2019e



Source: Pareto

The view from management is that the worse has passed. Yes, there is likely to be a small loss in Q4-19e and probably also in Q1-20e, but thereafter the reduced costs base (employment costs and office rental) should be sufficient to bring the segment back to break-even. Importantly the costs of implementing these measures have already been charged against the group's accounts and thus we would anticipate EUR 1m turnaround on a 12-months view. Any future client wins would then help the UK segment to grow profitability.

The current focus is to strengthen the group's position in Germany

Partly representing the other side of the UK coin, the domestic operations increased sales in 9M-19 by 6% or EUR 2m, representing 79% of the group total. We estimate that around of the increase was organic for the German operations, with about EUR 1m of revenues stemming from the transfer of operations out of the UK.

From a low of EUR 3.3m in 2017 (8.2% EBIT margin), domestic profitability doubled last year and continues to develop positively in 2019. During the meetings management was clear that German operations will continue to be a key focus over the coming years. Here, we model slightly improving margins on rising sales.

Exhibit 11: Focus Germany for digital media



Source: Company presentation

Exhibit 12: German margins have recovered well



Source: Pareto

Pareto model with only minor amendments: TP at EUR 9.50

Although the 9M-19 results were largely in line with our estimates (and management's own expectations) we have edged our full year estimates down fractionally to reflect a slowing ad market in Germany in recent weeks. We run this into 2020e and lower our sales estimates by 3%.

However, we continue to model a good improvement in EBIT margin in 2020e. The key assumption here is a stable margin in Germany, but a significant reduction in UK losses, reflecting the cost reduction program that has been under-taken in recent months. The UK alone could add EUR 1m to EBIT over a 12-month period running into 2021e.

We continue to refer to the DCF model in setting our EUR 9.5 TP. Within our model, we assume that the UK operations continue to depress group sales next year before growing again thereafter. Given likely developments in the digital communications market, it could be that our sales estimates are a little conservative. Likewise, with our assumption of modest margin growth towards the mid-term target of 10.5%.

Exhibit 13: DCF model points to EUR 9.50 target price for Syzygy

			Phase I					Phase II			Phase III
EUR m	2019e	2020e	2021e	2022e	2023e	2024e	2025e	2026e	2027e	2028e	
Revenues	65.1	68.7	74.8	80.7	86.7	92.8	99.0	105.4	114.1	121.3	
growth rate	-1.1%	5.5%	8.9%	7.9%	7.5%	6.8%	6.2%	5.7%	5.2%	4.8%	
EBIT	5.3	6.4	7.3	8.2	8.9	9.7	10.4	11.2	12.2	13.1	
EBIT margin	8.1%	9.3%	9.8%	10.1%	10.3%	10.4%	10.5%	10.6%	10.7%	10.5%	
Tax	-1.3	-1.7	-2.0	-2.3	-2.4	-2.7	-2.9	-3.2	-3.4	-3.6	
Tax rate	26%	27%	27%	27%	27%	27%	27%	27%	27%	27%	
Depr. & Amort.	5.1	5.3	5.4	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.9	5.9	6.0	
% of sales	7.8%	7.6%	7.2%	6.9%	6.6%	6.2%	5.9%	5.5%	5.2%	4.9%	
Capex	-2.0	-1.9	-2.0	-2.2	-2.3	-2.5	-2.6	-2.8	-3.0	-3.2	
% of sales	3.1%	2.7%	2.7%	2.7%	2.7%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%	
Change in WC	-2.5	0.8	1.0	-0.3	-0.8	-1.2	-1.5	-1.8	-2.2	-2.7	
% of sales	3.8%	-1.1%	-1.3%	0.3%	0.9%	1.2%	1.5%	1.7%	1.9%	2.2%	
Free Cash Flow	4.6	8.8	9.7	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.2	9.4	9.5	9.6	16
growth rate	nm	93.1%	9.9%	-6.6%	0.6%	-0.1%	1.5%	1.8%	0.8%	1.3%	2.0%
Present Value FCF	4.5	8.1	8.2	7.1	6.6	6.1	5.8	5.4	5.1	4.8	8:
PV Phase I		35			Risk free	e rate	3.50%		Targ. eq	uity ratio	80%
PV Phase II		27			Premiun	n Equity	5.00%		Beta		1.3
PV Phase III		81			Premiun	n Debt	2.00%		WACC		8.0%
Enterprise value		143									
- Net Debt (Cash)		-5									
- Pension Provisions		0			Sensitiv	ity		Grov	wth in ph	ase III	
- Minorities & Peripherals		0					1.0%	1.5%	2.0%	2.5%	3.0%
+ MV of financial assets		11				7.2%	9.8	10.4	11.1	11.9	12.9
- Paid-out dividends for las	st FY	-5				7.6%	9.2	9.7	10.2	10.9	11.7
+/- Other EV items		-25			WACC	8.0%	8.6	9.0	9.5	10.1	10.8
						8.4%	8.1	8.5	8.9	9.4	9.9
Equity value		128				8.8%	7.6	8.0	8.3	8.7	9.2
Number of shares		13.5				_					
Value per share (€)		9.5									
Current Price (€)		7.8									
Upside		22.3%									

PROFIT & LOSS (fiscal year) (EURm)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019e	2020e	2021e
Revenues	47	57	64	61	66	65	69	75
EBITDA	5	7	7	6	8	10	12	13
Depreciation & amortisation	(1)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(5)	(5)	(5)
EBIT	4	5	6	4	6	5	6	7
Net interest	1	2	1	1	0	(0)	0	0
Other financial items	1	1	1	1	0	-	-	_
Profit before taxes	6	7	7	6	7	5	6	7
Taxes	(1)	(2)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(2)
Minority interest	0	(0)	(0)	1	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Net profit	4	5	5	5	5	4	5	5
EPS reported	0.35	0.37	0.39	0.39	0.35	0.28	0.34	0.39
EPS adjusted	0.35	0.37	0.39	0.39	0.35	0.28	0.34	0.39
DPS	0.28	0.37	0.38	0.38	0.39	0.25	0.30	0.35
BALANCE SHEET (EURM)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019e	2020e	2021e
Tangible non current assets	3	3	3	8	7	34	33	
Other non-current assets	26	27	35	59	59	58	58	58
Other current assets	42	43	36	31	32	23	24	23
Cash & equivalents	13	4	7	7	12	15	14	16
Total assets	83	102	81	105	110	130	129	128
Total equity	51	51	50	56	54	52	51	50
Interest-bearing non-current debt	7	2	7	22	17	44	43	43
Interest-bearing current debt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Debt	26	49	24	27	39	34	35	35
Total liabilites & equity	83	102	81	105	110	130	129	128
CASH FLOW (EURm)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019e	2020e	2021e
Cash earnings	10	7	5	2	6	7	8	9
Change in working capital	4	(9)	1	3	11	(3)	1	1
Cash flow from investments	(5)	(3)	2	(4)	(5)	5	(5)	(3)
Cash flow from financing	(4)	(4)	(5)	(0)	(7)	(7)	(5)	(5)
Net cash flow	6	(9)	3	0	5	3	(1)	3
CAPITALIZATION & VALUATION (EURm)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019e	2020e	2021e
Share price (EUR end)	6.4	8.8	11.6	11.3	8.0	7.9	7.9	7.9
Number of shares end period	13	13	13	14	14	14	14	14
Net interest bearing debt	(10)	(20)	(15)	6	(5)	26	25	22
Enterprise value	71	92	132	158	103	133	131	128
EV/Sales	1.5	1.6	2.1	2.6	1.6	2.0	1.9	1.7
EV/EBITDA	14.1	12.5	18.0	25.5	12.6	12.8	11.3	10.1
EV/EBIT	18.5	17.5	23.7	38.5	16.9	25.0	20.6	17.5
P/E reported	18.3	24.1	29.7	29.2	22.9	28.1	23.2	20.1
P/E adjusted	18.3	24.1	29.7	29.2	22.9	28.1	23.2	20.1
P/B	1.6	2.2	3.0	2.7	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1
FINANCIAL ANALYSIS & CREDIT METRICS	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019e	2020e	2021e
ROE adjusted (%)	8.8	9.1	9.9	9.4	8.6	7.1	8.9	10.4
Dividend yield (%)	4.4	4.2	3.3	3.4	4.9	3.1	3.8	4.3
EBITDA margin (%)	10.8	12.9	11.5	10.2	12.4	16.0	16.9	17.0
EBIT margin (%)	8.2	9.2	8.7	6.8	9.2	8.1	9.3	9.8
NIBD/EBITDA	(1.90)	(2.72)	(2.07)	0.95	(0.66)	2.48	2.15	1.74
EBITDA/Net interest	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

PROFIT & LOSS (fiscal year) (EURm)	1Q'18	2Q'18	3Q'18	4Q'18	1Q'19	2Q'19	3Q'19	4Q'19e
Revenues	15	17	16	18	16	16	16	17
EBITDA	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	3
Depreciation & amortisation	(0)	(1)	(0)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
EBIT	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
Net interest	0	0	0	0	(0)	(0)	(0)	0
Other financial items	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-
Profit before taxes	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
Taxes	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Minority interest	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	0
Net profit	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
EPS reported	0.07	0.10	0.10	0.09	0.08	0.07	0.06	0.06
EPS adjusted	0.07	0.10	0.10	0.09	0.08	0.07	0.06	0.06
DPS	-	0.38	-	-	-	0.39	-	-
BALANCE SHEET (EURm)	1Q'18	2Q'18	3Q'18	4Q'18	1Q'19	2Q'19	3Q'19	4Q'19e
Tangible non current assets	8	7	7	7	27	32	35	34
Other non-current assets	59	58	59	59	59	58	58	58
Other current assets	30	32	34	32	37	27	25	23
Cash & equivalents	9	5	8	12	0	5	4	15
Total assets	105	102	107	110	123	122	122	130
Total equity	57	51	53	54	56	51	51	52
Interest-bearing non-current debt	21	20	19	17	39	42	44	44
Interest-bearing current debt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Debt	27	31	35	39	29	30	27	34
Total liabilites & equity	105	102	107	110	123	122	122	130
CASH FLOW (EURm)	1Q'18	2Q'18	3Q'18	4Q'18	1Q'19	2Q'19	3Q'19	4Q'19e
Cash earnings	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	2
Change in working capital	2	0	3	5	(11)	2	(2)	9
Cash flow from investments	(2)	2	(1)	(3)	(2)	8	(0)	(1)
Cash flow from financing	-	(6)	(0)	(1)	(0)	(6)	(1)	-
Net cash flow	2	(4)	3	4	(11)	5	(1)	11
CAPITALIZATION & VALUATION (EURm)	1Q'18	2Q'18	3Q'18	4Q'18	1Q'19	2Q'19	3Q'19	4Q'19e
Share price (EUR end)	10.8	10.0	8.8	8.0	9.1	9.7	9.4	7.9
Number of shares end period	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
Net interest bearing debt	2	6	2	(5)	26	34	36	26
P/E reported	29.3	28.3	25.6	22.9	25.0	28.6	31.0	28.1
P/E adjusted	29.3	28.3	25.6	22.9	25.0	28.6	31.0	28.1
P/B	2.5	2.6	2.2	2.0	2.2	2.5	2.4	2.0
FINANCIAL ANALYSIS & CREDIT METRICS	1Q'18	2Q'18	3Q'18	4Q'18	1Q'19	2Q'19	3Q'19	4Q'19e
Dividend yield (%)	3.4	3.8	4.3	4.7	4.2	4.0	4.1	4.9
EBITDA margin (%)	9.6	14.4	13.9	11.5	16.9	16.5	17.0	17.2
EBIT margin (%)	7.2	10.1	11.1	8.6	9.2	8.6	8.4	6.5
NIBD/EBITDA	0.46	0.53	0.48	0.12	0.77	1.49	2.27	2.78
EBITDA/Net interest	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Disclaimer and legal disclosures

Origin of the publication or report

This publication or report originates from Pareto Securities AS ("Pareto Securities"), reg. no. 956 632 374 (Norway), Pareto Securities AB, reg. no. 556206-8956 (Sweden) or Pareto Securities Limited, reg. no. 3994976, (United Kingdom) (together the Group Companies or the "Pareto Securities Group") acting through their common unit Pareto Securities Research. The Group Companies are supervised by the Financial Supervisory Authority of their respective home countries.

Content of the publication or report

This publication or report has been prepared solely by Pareto Securities Research.

Opinions or suggestions from Pareto Securities Research may deviate from recommendations or opinions presented by other departments or companies in the Pareto Securities Group. The reason may typically be the result of differing time horizons, methodologies, contexts or other factors.

Sponsored research

Please note that if this report is labelled as "sponsored research" on the front page, Pareto Securities has entered into an agreement with the company about the preparation of research reports and receives compensation from the company for this service. Sponsored research is prepared by the Research Department of Pareto Securities without any instruction rights by the company. Sponsored research is however commissioned for and paid by the company and such material is considered by Pareto Securities to qualify as an acceptable minor non-monetary benefit according to the EU MIFID II Directive.

Basis and methods for assessment

Opinions and price targets are based on one or more methods of valuation, for instance cash flow analysis, use of multiples, behavioral technical analyses of underlying market movements in combination with considerations of the market situation and the time horizon. Key assumptions of forecasts, price targets and projections in research cited or reproduced appear in the research material from the named sources. The date of publication appears from the research material cited or reproduced. Opinions and estimates may be updated in subsequent versions of the publication or report, provided that the relevant company/issuer is treated anew in such later versions of the publication or report.

Pareto Securities Research may provide credit research with more specific price targets based on different valuation methods, including the analysis of key credit ratios and other factors describing the securities creditworthiness, peer group analysis of securities with similar creditworthiness and different DCF-valuations. All descriptions of loan agreement structures and loan agreement features are obtained from sources which Pareto Securities Research believes to be reliable, but Pareto Securities Research does not represent or warrant their accuracy. Be aware that investors should go through the specific complete loan agreement before investing in any bonds and not base an investment decision based solely on information contained in this publication or report.

Pareto Securities Research has no fixed schedule for updating publications or reports.

Unless otherwise stated on the first page, the publication or report has not been reviewed by the issuer before dissemination. In instances where all or part of a report is presented to the issuer prior to publication, the purpose is to ensure that facts are correct.

Validity of the publication or report

All opinions and estimates in this publication or report are, regardless of source, given in good faith and may only be valid as of the stated date of this publication or report and are subject to change without notice.

No individual investment or tax advice

The publication or report is intended only to provide general and preliminary information to investors and shall not be construed as the basis for any investment decision. This publication or report has been prepared by Pareto Securities Research as general information for private use of investors to whom the publication or report has been distributed, but it is not intended as a personal recommendation of particular financial instruments or strategies and thus it does not provide individually tailored investment advice, and does not take into account the individual investor's particular financial situation, existing holdings or liabilities, investment knowledge and experience, investment objective and horizon or risk profile and preferences. The investor must particularly ensure the suitability of an investment as regards his /her financial and fiscal situation and investment objectives. The investor bears the risk of losses in connection with an investment.

Before acting on any information in this publication or report, we recommend consulting your financial advisor.

The information contained in this publication or report does not constitute advice on the tax consequences of making any particular investment decision. Each investor shall make his/her own appraisal of the tax and other financial merits of his/her investment.

Sources

This publication or report may be based on or contain information, such as opinions, recommendations, estimates, price targets and valuations which emanate from Pareto Securities Research' analysts or representatives, publicly available information, information from other units or companies in the Group Companies, or other named sources.

To the extent this publication or report is based on or contains information emanating from other sources ("Other Sources") than Pareto Securities Research ("External Information"), Pareto Securities Research has deemed the Other Sources to be reliable but neither the companies in the Pareto Securities Group, others associated or affiliated with said companies nor any other person, guarantee the accuracy, adequacy or completeness of the External Information.

Ratings

Equity ratings: "Buy" Pareto Securities Research expects this financial instrument's total return to exceed 10% over the next12 months

"Hold" Pareto Securities Research expects this financial instrument's total return to be between -10% and 10% over the next 12 months
"Sell" Pareto Securities Research expects this financial instrument's total return to be negative by more than 10% over the next 12 months

Analysts Certification

The research analyst(s) whose name(s) appear on research reports prepared by Pareto Securities Research certify that: (i) all of the views expressed in the research report accurately reflect their personal views about the subject security or issuer, and (ii) no part of the research analysts' compensation was, is, or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific recommendations or views expressed by the research analysts in research reports that are prepared by Pareto Securities Research.

The research analysts whose names appears on research reports prepared by Pareto Securities' esearch received compensation that is based upon various factors including Pareto Securities' total revenues, a portion of which are generated by Pareto Securities' investment banking activities.

Limitation of liability

Pareto Securities Group or other associated and affiliated companies assume no liablity as regards to any investment, divest ment or retention decision taken by the investor on the basis of this publication or report. In no event will entities of the Pareto Securities Group or other associated and affiliated companies be liable for direct, indirect or incidental, special or consequential damages resulting from the information in this publication or report.

Neither the information nor any opinion which may be expressed herein constitutes a solicitation by Pareto Securities Research of purchase or sale of any securities nor does it constitute a solicitation to any person in any jurisdiction where solicitation would be unlawful. All information contained in this research report has been compiled from sources believed to be reliable. However, no representation or warranty, express or implied, is made with respect to the completeness or accuracy of its contents, and it is not to be reliable upon as authoritative.

Risk information

The risk of investing in certain financial instruments, including those mentioned in this document, is generally high, as their market value is exposed to a bit of different factors such as the operational and financial conditions of the relevant company, growth prospects, change in interest rates, the economic and political environment, foreign exchange rates, shifts in market sentiments etc. Where an investment or security is denominated in a different currency to the investor's currency of reference, changes in rates of exchange may have an adverse effect on the value, price or income of or from that investment to the investor. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Estimates of future performance are based on assumptions that may not be realized. When investing in individual shares, the investor may lose all or part of the investments.

Conflicts of interest

Companies in the Pareto Securities Group, affiliates or staff of companies in the Pareto Securities Group, may perform services for, solid business from, make a market in, hold long or short positions in, or otherwise be interested in the investments (including derivatives) of any company mentioned in the publication or report.

In addition Pareto Securities Group, or affiliates, may from time to time have a broking, advisory or other relationship with a company which is the subject of or referred to in the relevant Research, including acting as that company's official or sponsoring broker and providing investment banking or other financial services. It is the policy of Pareto to seek to act as corporate adviser or broker to some of the companies which are covered by Pareto Securities Research. Accordingly companies covered in any Research may be the subject of marketing initiatives by the Investment Banking Department.

To limit possible conflicts of interest and counter the abuse of inside knowledge, the analysts of Pareto Securities Research are subject to internal rules on sound ethical conduct, the management of inside information, handling of unpublished research material, contact with other units of the Group Companies and personal account dealing. The internal rules have been prepared in accordance with applicable legislation and relevant industry standards. The object of the internal rules is for example to ensure that no analyst will a buse or cause others to abuse confidential information. It is the policy of Pareto Securities Research that no link exists between revenues from capital markets activities and individual analyst remuneration. The Group Companies are members of national stockbrokers' associations in each of the countries in which the Group Companies have their head offices. Internal rules have been developed in accordance with recommendations issued by the stockbrokers associations. This material has been prepared following the Pareto Securities Conflict of Interest Policy.

The guidelines in the policy include rules and measures aimed at achieving a sufficient degree of independence between various departments, business areas and sub-business areas within the Pareto Securities Group in order to, as far as possible, avoid conflicts of interest from arising between such departments, business areas and sub-business areas as well as their customers. One purpose of such measures is to restrict the flow of information between certain business areas and sub-business areas within the Pareto Securities Group, where conflicts of interest may arise and to safeguard the impartialness of the employees. For example, the Investment Banking departments and certain other departments included in the Pareto Securities Group are surrounded by arrangements, so-called Chinese Walls, to restrict the flows of sensitive information from such departments. The internal guidelines also include, without limitation, rules aimed at securing the impartialness of, e.g., analysts working in the Pareto Securities Research departments, restrictions with regard to the remuneration paid to such analysts, requirements with respect to the independence of analysts from other departments within the Pareto Securities Group rules concerning contacts with covered companies and rules concerning personal account trading carried out by analysts.

Distribution restriction

The securities referred to in this publication or report may not be eligible for sale in some jurisdictions and persons into whose possession this document comes should inform themselves about and observe any such restrictions. This publication or report is not intended for and must not be distributed to private customers in the US, or retail clients in the United Kingdom, as defined by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

This research is only intended for and may only be distributed to institutional investors in the United States and U.S entities seeking more information about any of the issuers or securities discussed in this report should contact Pareto Securities Inc. at 150 East 52nd Street, New York, NY 10022, Tel. 212 829 4200.

Pareto Securities Inc. is a broker-dealer registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and is a member of FINRA &SPC. U.S. To the extent required by applicable U.S. laws and regulations, Pareto Securities Inc. accepts responsibility for the contents of this publication. Investment products provided by or through Pareto Securities Inc. or Pareto Securities not FDIC insured, may lose value and are not guaranteed by Pareto Securities Inc. or Pareto Securities Research. Investing in non-U.S. securities may entail certain risks. This document does not constitute or form part of any offer for sale or subscription, nor shall it or any part of it form the basis of or be relied on in connection with any contract or commitment whatsoever. The securities of non-U.S. issuers may not be registered with or subject to SEC reporting and other requirements. The information available about non-U.S. companies may be limited, and non-U.S. companies are generally not subject to the same uniform auditing and reporting standards as U.S. companies. Market rules, conventions and practices may differ from U.S. markets, adding to transaction costs or causing delays in the purchase or sale of securities. Securities of some non-U.S. companies may not be as liquid as securities of comparable U.S. companies. Fluctuations in the values of national currencies, as well as the potential for governmental restrictions on currency movements, can significantly erode principal and investment returns.

Pareto Securities Research may have material conflicts of interest related to the production or distribution of this research report which, with regard to Pareto Securities Research, are disclosed herein.

Distribution in Singapore

Pareto Securities Pte Ltd holds a Capital Markets Services License is an exempt financial advisor under Financial Advisers Act, Chapter 110 ("FAA") of Singapore and a subsidiary of Pareto Securities AS.

This report is directed solely to persons who qualify as "accredited investors", "expert investors" and "institutional investors" as defined in section 4A(1) Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 ("SFA") of Singapore. This report is intended for general circulation amongst such investors and does not take into account the specific investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any particular person. You should seek advice from a financial adviser regarding the suitability of any product referred to in this report, taking into account your specific financial objectives, financial situation or particular needs before making a commitment to purchase any such product. Please contact Pareto Securities Pte Ltd, 16 Collyer Quay, # 27-02 Income at Raffles, Singapore 049318, at +65 6408 9800 in matters arising from, or in connection with this report.

Additional provisions on Recommendations distributed in the Canada

Canadian recipients of this research report are advised that this research report is not, and under no circumstances is it to be construed as an offer to sell or a solicitation of or an offer to buy any securities that may be described herein. This research report is not, and under no circumstances is lit to be construed as, a prospectus, offering memorandum, advertisement or a public offering in Canada of such securities. No securities commission or similar regulatory authority in Canada has reviewed or in any way passed upon this research report or the merits of any securities described or discussed herein and any representation to the contrary is an offence. Any securities described or discussed within this research report may only be distributed in Canada in accordance with applicable provincial and territorial securities laws. Any offer or sale in Canada of the securities described or discussed herein will be made only under an exemption from the requirements to file a prospectus with the relevant Canadian securities regulators and only by a dealer properly registered under applicable securities laws or, alternatively, pursuant to an exemption from the dealer registration requirement in the relevant province or territory of Canada in which such offer or sale is made. Under no circumstances is the information contained herein to be construed as investment advice in any province or territory of Canada nor should it be construed as being tailored to the needs of the recipient. Canadian recipients are advised that Pareto Securities AS, its affiliates and its authorized agents are not responsible for, nor do they accept, any liability whats oever for any direct or consequential loss arising from any use of this research report or the information contained herein.

Distribution in United Kingdom

This publication is issued for the benefit of persons who qualify as eligible counterparties or professional clients and should be made available only to such persons and is exempt from the restriction on financial promotion in s21 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 in reliance on provision in the FPO.

Copyright

This publication or report may not be mechanically duplicated, photocopied or otherwise reproduced, in full or in part, under applicable copyright laws. Any infringement of Pareto Securities Research's copyright can be pursued legally whereby the infringer will be held liable for any and all losses and expenses incurred by the infringement.

Appendix A

Disclosure requirements pursuant to the Norwegian Securities Trading Regulations section 3-10 (2) and section 3-11 (1), letters a-b

The below list shows companies where Pareto Securities AS - together with affiliated companies and/or persons – own a portion of the shares exceeding 5 % of the total share capital in any company where a recommendation has been produced or distributed by Pareto Securities AS.

Companies	No. of shares Holdi	ngs in %	Companies	No. of shares Holdi	ngs in %
Helgeland Sparebank	2,010,630	9.63%	SpareBank 1Østfold Akersl	1,140,010	9.20%
Pareto Bank ASA	13,685,885	19.59%	Sparebanken Vest	4,507,960	7.64%

Pareto Securities AS or its affiliates own as determined in accordance with Section 13(d) of the US Exchange Act, 1% or moreof the equity securities of:

Companies	No. of shares Hold	lings in %	Companies	No. of shares H	oldings in %
Helgeland Sparebank	2,010,630	9.63%	SpareBank 1Østfold Akersl	1,140,010	9.20%
Pareto Bank ASA	13,685,885	19.59%	Sparebanken Møre	305,239	3.09%
Selvaag Bolig ASA	2,172,147	2.32%	Sparebanken Sør	433,149	2.77%
SpareBank 1BV	1,650,920	2.62%	Sparebanken Vest	4,507,960	7.64%
SpareBank 1Nord-Norge	3,240,880	3.23%	Totens Sparebank	79,246	1.29%
SpareBank 1SMN	1,878,192	1.45%			

Pareto Securities AS may hold financial instruments in companies where a recommendation has been produced or distributed by Pareto Securities AS in connection with rendering investment services, including Market Making.

Please find below an overview of material interests in shares held by employees in Pareto Securities AS, in companies where arecommendation has been produced or distributed by Pareto Securities AS. "By material interest" means holdings exceeding a value of NOK 50 000.

Company	A nalyst holdings*	Total holdings	Company	A nalyst holdings*	Total holdings	Company	A nalyst holdings*	Total holdings
AF Gruppen	0	18,475	Höegh LNG	0	3,890	Sandnes Sparebank	0	24,251
Aker	0	1,021	Jæren Sparebank	0	500	Scatec Solar	0	35,675
AkerBP	0	7,829	Komplett Bank	0	106,656	Schibsted ASA B Aksjer	0	453
AKVA Group	0	2,100	Kongsberg Gruppen	0	34,051	Seadrill	0	9,819
Atlantic Sapphire	0	3,805	KWS	75	75	Selvaag Bo lig	0	3,000
A vance Gas	0	4,580	Lerøy Seafood	0	4,880	SpareBank 1BV	0	17,700
Axactor	0	8,709	Mowi	0	2,619	SpareBank 1Nord-Norge	0	26,500
BASF	270	270	NORBIT	0	18,864	SpareBank 1Ringerike Hade	0	500
Bonheur	0	49,085	Nordic Semiconductor	0	6,000	SpareBank 1SM N	0	15,490
BRABank	0	1,371,000	Norsk Hydro	0	96,051	SpareBank 1SR-Bank	0	29,573
DNB	0	31,285	Northern Drilling	0	5,060	Sparebank 1Østfold Akersh	0	450
DNO	0	400,998	Norwegian Air Shuttle	0	40,447	SpareBank 1Østlandet	0	2,891
DNO Bull ETN	0	7,000	Norwegian Energy Company	0	300	Sparebanken Sør	0	15,840
Entra	0	31,627	Ocean Yield	0	34,967	Sparebanken Vest	0	1,900
Equinor	0	6,431	Odfjell Drilling	0	2,244	Sparebanken Øst	0	1,500
Europris	0	14,750	Okeanis Eco Tankers	0	2,228	Stolt-Nielsen	0	41,277
Fjord1	0	51,250	Orkla	0	19,148	Storebrand	0	5,565
Fjordkraft Holding	0	8,000	Panoro Energy	0	6,170	Subsea 7	0	1,162
FlexLNG	0	1,032	Pareto Bank	0	1,196,275	Telenor	0	1,911
Frontline	0	11,730	Pioneer Property	0	2,050	TGS-NOPEC	0	2,000
Gjensidige Forsikring	0	6,712	Protector Forsikring	0	14,385	XXL	0	8,879
Golden Ocean Group	0	1,744	REC Silicon	0	32,776	Yara International	0	13,545
Grieg Seafood	0	970	SalMar	0	280	Zenterio	0	78,865
Helgeland Sparebank	0	4,127						

This overview is updated monthly (last updated 18.11.2019).

 $^{{}^*\!}Analyst\,holdings refers to position sheld by the Pareto Securities AS\,analyst\,covering the company.$

Appendix B

Disclosure requirements pursuant to the Norwegian Securities Trading Regulation § 3-11, letters e-f, ref the Securities Trading Act Section 3-10

Overview over issuers of financial instruments where Pareto Securities AS have prepared or distributed investment recommendation, where Pareto Securities AS have been lead manager/co-lead manager or have rendered publicly known not immaterial investment banking services over the previous 12 months:

2020Bulkers Genel Energy Nouveau Monde Graphite

 Advanzia Bank
 Gfinity Plc
 Ocean Yield

 African Petroleum
 GG. St. Kongensgade 100 og 106
 OKEA

 Agder Energi
 Haf slund E-CO
 Okeanis Eco Tankers

 American Tanker
 HKN Energy Ltd
 Otiga Group

 Andfjord Salmon
 Hunter Group ASA
 Panoro Energy

 APC Forsikringsmæglere A/S
 Hör mann Industries
 Pareto Bank

BelshipsASA | Ice Group | Petroleum Geo-Services

Bluewater Holding Jactel AS PetroTal

BRAbank Klaveness Ship Holding Pioneer Property Group LifeFit Central Nic Group Point Resources AS DNO Lundin Pet roleum Quest erre Energy Dof Subsea Magseis Rødovre Port Holding A/S Eco Atlantic Oil and Gas Monobank ASA Shamaran Petroleum Euromicron AG Navig8 Sparebank 1Øst landet Exmar NV Navigator Holdings Stolt Nilsen

Filo Mining Corp NGEx Resources TEMPTON Dienst leist ungen

Flex LNG Norbit ASA Vantage Drilling

Floatel Norwegian Air Shuttle

This overview is updated monthly (this overview is for the period 31.10.2018 – 31.10.2019).

Appendix C

Disclosure requirements pursuant to the Norwegian Securities Trading Regulation § 3-11(4)

Distribution of recommendations

Recommendation	% distribution
Buy	62%
Hold	33%
Sell	4%

$Distribution\ of\ recommendations\ (transactions^*)$

Recommendation % distribution

 Buy
 84%

 Hold
 11%

 Sell
 5%

This overview is updated monthly (last updated 18.11.2019).

^{*} Companies under coverage with which Pareto Securities Group has on-going or completed public investment banking services in the previous 12 months

Appendix D

This section applies to research reports prepared by Pareto Securities AB.

Disclosure of positions in financial instruments

The beneficial holding of the Pareto Group is 1 % or more of the total share capital of the following companies included in Pareto Securities AB's research coverage universe: None

The Pareto Group has material holdings of other financial instruments than shares issued by the following companies included in Pareto Securities AB's research coverage universe: None

Disclosure of assignments and mandates

Overview over issuers of financial instruments where Pareto Securities AB has prepared or distributed investment recommendation, where Pareto Securities AB has been lead manager or co-lead manager or has rendered publicly known not immaterial investment banking services over the previous twelve months:

Azelio Green Landscaping Holding Mentice AB Sedana Medical
Bionvent IRRAS AB Pledpharma AB ShaMaran Petroleum

Climeon Jetpak Top Holding AB

Members of the Pareto Group provide market making or other liquidity providing services to the following companies included in Pareto Securities AB's research coverage universe:

Cibus Nordic Real Estate Saltängen Property Invest Sedana Medical Tethys Oil

Isofol Medical SciBase Holding ShaMaran Petroleum Vostok Emerging Finance

Members of the Pareto Group have entered into agreements concerning the inclusion of the company in question in Pareto Securities AB's research coverage universe with the following companies: None

Member of the Pareto Group is providing Business Management services to the following companies:

Bosjö Fastigheter ABBråviken LogistikHalmslättenMälaråsenBonäsuddenDelarkaLogistriSydsvenska Hem

Members of the Pareto Group have entered into agreements concerning the inclusion of the company in question in Pareto Securities AB's research coverage universe with the following companies: None This overview is updated monthly (last updated 15.11.2019).

Appendix E

Disclosure requirements pursuant to the Norwegian Securities Trading Regulation § 3-11, letter d, ref the Securities Trading Act Section 3-10

Designated Sponsor

Pare o Securities acts as a designated sponsor for the following companies, including the provision of bid and ask offers. Therefore, we regularly possess shares of the company in our proprietary trading books. Pareto Securities receives a commission from the company for the provision of the designated sponsor services.

SCOUT24 2G Energy * Gesco * MAX Automation SE GFT Technologies Siemens Healthineers AG Aixtron Merkur Bank M LP * Baywa Gigaset 1 SMT Scharf AG * Biotest Heidelberg Pharma* M OBOTIX AG Surteco Group * OVB Holding AG Syzygy AG * Brenntag Hypoport AG CORESTATE Capital Holding S.A. Procredit Holding * TAKKT AG PSI SOFTWARE AG * Daldrup & Söhne Intershop Communications AG Vapiano PWO* Demire ISRA Vision va-Q-tec * Epigenomics AG* Leif heit RIB Software* Viscom* Euromicron AG * Logwin * S&T AG * windeln.de Eyemaxx Real Estate Manz AG * Schaltbau Holding AG *

Appendix F

 $\underline{\textbf{Disclosure requirements pursuant to the Norwegian Securities Trading Regulation § 3-11, letter \textit{g. ref the Securities Trading Act Section 3-10}}$

Sponsored Research

Pareto Securities has entered into an agreement with these companies about the preparation of research reports and—in return - receives compensation.

Adler ModemaerkteEyemaxx Real EstateIntershop Communications AGOHB SEBaywaFirst SensorLeifheitOVB Holding AGBB BiotechGodewind Immobilien AGMAX Automation SESchaltbau Holding AGB.R.A.I.N.Hypoport AGMerkur BankSiegfried Holding AG

comdirect init MOBOTIX AG Vapiano

Daldrup & Söhne

This overview is updated monthly (last updated 18.11.2019).

^{*} The designated sponsor services include a contractually agreed provision of research services.