SFC Energy AG

Germany / Energy Primary exchange: Frankfurt Bloomberg: F3C GR ISIN: DE0007568578

Final 2015 figures

RATING	BUY
PRICE TARGET	€5.30
Return Potential	34.9%
Risk Rating	High

BACK ON THE GROWTH PATH IN 2016

On 28 April, SFC Energy reported final 2015 figures which corresponded to preliminary numbers. Revenues (\in 47.3m) and EBIT (\in 40.6m) were below the previous year's figures. The main reasons were the weak oil & gas market and a postponed large defence project. For 2016, SFC is guiding towards increased sales (\in 50-52m) and significantly improved earnings. The main growth and earnings drivers are regional expansion, new products, and cost reductions. We stick to our 2016E forecast and reiterate our Buy rating. The price target remains at \in 5.30.

2015 figures burdened by oil price and defence business Revenues amounted to \leq 47.3m (2014: \leq 53.6m, -12% y/y, FBe: \leq 47.3m). The main reasons for the decline were lower revenues in the Oil & Gas segment (\leq 26.0m vs. \leq 29.3m) and in the Security and Industry segment (\leq 17.6m vs. \in 20.2m). The declining oil price resulted in reduced CAPEX budgets of the oil & gas industry. In the Security and Industry segment, a large defence project was postponed into 2016.

EBIT fell from €-4.3m to €-10.6m. All segments delivered negative EBIT contributions and the subsidiary PBF had an impairment loss of €3.5m. The underlying EBIT (adjusted for one-off costs) amounted to €-4.4m vs. €1.2m in 2014. Despite the revenue decline in the oil & gas business the segment's adjusted EBIT remained slightly positive. The net result came in at €-10.7m vs. €-4.8m in the previous year. EPS were €-1.24 vs. €-060 in 2014.

Guidance for 2016 suggests growth SFC is guiding towards sales of €50-52m and significantly improved earnings. Growth will be driven by regional expansion and new products. Cost reductions and the large defence contract postponed into 2016 will support earnings.

Increased order backlog a promising sign The order backlog increased 11% y/y to €11.8m from €10.6m. We expect strong demandfor SFC's...

(p.t.o.)

FINANCIAL HISTORY & PROJECTIONS

	2013	2014	2015	2016E	2017E	2018E
Revenue (€m)	32.41	53.63	47.31	52.03	60.98	70.00
Y-o-y growth	3.7%	65.5%	-11.8%	10.0%	17.2%	14.8%
EBIT (€m)	-8.84	-4.27	-10.64	-1.02	0.45	2.45
EBIT margin	-27.3%	-8.0%	-22.5%	-2.0%	0.7%	3.5%
Net income (€m)	-8.91	-4.83	-10.67	-1.40	0.06	1.96
EPS (diluted) (€)	-1.16	-0.60	-1.24	-0.16	0.01	0.22
DPS (€)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FCF (€m)	-7.98	-4.19	-3.21	-2.29	-2.69	-1.26
Net gearing	-10.3%	-4.9%	3.0%	18.4%	36.0%	27.0%
Liquid assets (€m)	7.43	6.41	3.71	3.71	3.02	3.05

RISKS

The main risks are financing, internationalisation, unfavourable EUR/CAD exchange rate changes, technological innovations, and increasing competition.

COMPANY PROFILE

SFC Energy AG is a leading provider of integrated power solutions for mobile and stationary off-grid applications. The company is a pioneer in developing and commercialising fuel cells which provide reliable, efficient, and clean power for its energy solutions. Main markets are oil & gas, security & industry, and leisure. SFC is headquartered near Munich in Germany.

MARKET DA	ГА	As of 02	2 May 2016				
Closing Price		€ 3.9					
Shares outstand	ding	8.61n					
Market Capitalis	ation	€ 33.84n					
52-week Range		€ 3.	47 / 5.19				
Avg. Volume (12	2 Months)		3,403				
Multiples	2015	2016E	2017E				
P/E	n.a.	n.a.	578.1				
EV/Sales	0.7	0.7	0.6				
EV/EBIT	n.a.	n.a.	77.9				
Div. Yield		0.0%	0.0%				

STOCK OVERVIEW



COMPANY DATA	As of 31 Dec 2015
Liquid Assets	€ 3.71m
Current Assets	€ 21.15m
Intangible Assets	€ 12.77m
Total Assets	€ 35.89m
Current Liabilities	€ 13.04m
Shareholders' Equity	€ 16.56m
SHAREHOLDERS	
HPE	24.5%
DWS	9.2%
Havensight	8.9%
Other	17.6%
Free Float	39.8%

... new products, such as the large 500W fuel cell EFOY Pro 12000, and the JENNY 1200.

Oil & Gas segment still profitable on adjusted basis Despite the revenue decline of more than 11% y/y (see figure 2 overleaf), adjusted segment EBIT was \in +0.1m. SFC's subsidiary Simark thus continued its history of profitability. Further cost reduction rounds in January and March 2016 have adjusted the cost level to the new low oil price environment. We expect another weak year with a slight decline in revenues, but believe that oil & gas companies will have to increase spending towards the end of the year. During the year, "debottlenecking" of existing production sites, i.e. the increase of efficiency and reduction of production costs, looks set to support SFC's Canadian business.

Security & Industry suffered from postponement of large defence project Segment revenues declined to €17.6m from €20.2m (-13% y/y) as a large defence project was postponed into 2016 and industry demand was weak. Due to an improved product mix (more defence business) the segment gross margin increased to 36.8% from 35.1% in 2015. Adjusted EBIT amounted to €-3.1m vs. €-1.8m in 2015. The figures however hide strategic successes which will spur future growth. A new partnership agreement with Toyota Tsusho Corporation is a key to growth in Japan and a breakthrough for the internationalisation of the business and brand awareness in Asia. Furthermore, SFC launched the EFOY Pro 12000, a 500W fuel cell. This new product is the most powerful fuel cell in SFC's portfolio and looks set to open up new markets such as the telecom power backup business. Although the large defence project was postponed into 2016, the defence business has significantly picked up again. SFC delivered the EMILY fuel cell to the German army and received two further orders from an international defence force. The order volume of the three contracts was €3.2m. Thanks to the postponed large defence project we expect another revenue jump in the defence business in 2016E to ca. €8-9m. Due to the high gross margins of the defence business this will have a very positive effect on the group's gross margin (FBe: 35.6%). Growing defence budgets in many countries are a very good basis for further increases in SFC's defence business.

Consumer business stabilising at higher gross margin Although segment sales slid to \in 3.8m vs. \in 4.1m (-8.5% y/y), the segment gross margin increased from 22.6% to 25.8%. This resulted in a slightly higher gross profit of \in 0.97m vs. \in 0.93m in 2014. We believe that SFC's new mobile power outlet EFOY GO! will support revenues and margins in 2016E. The company expects sales at least on the previous year's level.

Balance sheet strained by impairment loss Due mainly to an impairment loss of €3.5m at the Dutch subsidiary PBF and scheduled depreciation of €2.0m, intangible assets declined from €17.8m to €12.8m. An extremely efficient working capital management resulted in a working capital requirement of only €9.0m vs. €13.5m in 2014. The main driver was lower trade receivables (€6.8m vs. €11.5m in 2014). The cash position declined to €3.7m vs. €6.4m in 2014. As a result of these effects the balance sheet total fell to €35.9m vs. €47.3m in the previous year.

The net loss of €10.7m burdened equity which fell to €16.6m vs. €27.6m in 2014. The equity ratio declined to 46.1% from 58.8% in the previous year. SFC lowered long-term financial debt to €2.2m (2014: €3.0m). Short-term financial debt remained stable at €2.0m. Due to the lower cash position SFC now has a net debt position of €0.6m. At the end of 2014, the company had a net cash position of €1.2m.

Improved operating cash flow Despite the high net loss SFC managed to improve its operating cash flow to €-1.9m (2014: €-3.6m). The main reason was the significantly lower working capital requirement. The cash outflow from investment activity increased €1.5m from €0.6m in 2014. The main reason is higher CAPEX (€1.3m vs. €0.5m in 2014) for the new products EFOY Pro 12000 and JENNY 1200. Negative operating and investing cash

flows were financed with cash (the cash position declined by $\in 2.8$ m) and by the issue of a convertible bond ($\in 1.5$ m).

Estimates largely unchanged The 2016E guidance increases the visibility for the current year and supports our almost unchanged forecast. We expect sales growth, significant gross margin improvement and improved EBIT of €-1.0m. We anticipate a strong H2 due to the expected large defence contract and a recovering oil & gas business.

Buy reiterated at unchanged price target An updated DCF model still yields a price target of €5.30. We reiterate our Buy rating.

Figure 1: Reported figures versus forecasts

All figures in €m	Q4-15A	Q4-15E	Delta	Q4-14	Delta	2015	2014	Delta
Sales	10.97	10.97	0.0%	16.31	-32.7%	47.31	53.63	-11.8%
EBITDA	-1.05	-1.14	-	0.97	-	-4.65	-1.18	-
margin	-9.6%	-10.4%		5.9%		-9.8%	-2.2%	
EBITDA adjusted	-0.40	-0.50	-	1.64	-	-2.98	0.38	-
margin	-3.6%	-4.6%		10.1%		-6.3%	0.7%	
EBIT	-5.19	-1.95	-	-0.09	-	-10.64	-4.27	
margin	-47.3%	-17.8%		-0.6%		-22.5%	-8.0%	
EBIT adjusted	-0.98	-1.10	-	1.23	-	-4.39	-1.22	-
margin	-8.9%	-10.0%		7.5%		-9.3%	-2.3%	
Net income	-5.16	-2.08	-	-0.30	-	-10.67	-4.83	-
margin	-47.0%	-19.0%		-1.8%		-22.6%	-9.0%	
EPS (diluted)	-0.60	-0.24	-	-0.04	-	-1.24	-0.60	-

Source: First Berlin Equity Research, SFC Energy AG

Figure 2: Reported segment figures versus segment forecasts

All figures in €m	Q4-15A	Q4-15E	Delta	Q4-14	Delta	2015	2014	Delta
Oil & Gas								
Sales	5.91	6.23	-5.2%	8.62	-31.4%	25.98	29.34	-11.5%
Gross profit	1.31	1.95	-32.8%	2.49	-47.4%	5.80	7.64	-24.1%
margin	22.2%	31.3%		28.9%		22.3%	26.0%	
Security & Industry								
Sales	4.31	3.84	12.2%	6.78	-36.4%	17.57	20.19	-13.0%
Gross profit	1.59	1.78	-10.7%	2.30	-30.9%	6.46	7.09	-8.9%
margin	36.9%	46.4%		33.9%		36.8%	35.1%	
Consumer								
Sales	0.76	0.90	-15.6%	0.92	-17.4%	3.76	4.11	-8.5%
Gross profit	0.21	0.23	-8.7%	0.04	425.0%	0.97	0.93	4.3%
margin	27.6%	25.6%		4.3%		25.8%	22.6%	
Group								
Sales	10.97	10.97	0.0%	16.31	-32.7%	47.30	53.63	-11.8%
Gross profit	3.11	3.96	-21.5%	4.83	-35.6%	13.23	15.66	-15.5%
margin	28.3%	36.1%		29.6%		28.0%	29.2%	

Source: First Berlin Equity Research, SFC Energy AG

VALUATION MODEL

All figures in EUR '000	2016E	2017E	2018E	2019E	2020E	2021E	2022E	2023E
Net sales	52,030	60,979	70,004	79,595	89,725	100,272	111,083	121,979
NOPLAT	-1,021	450	2,347	4,364	5,923	6,747	7,511	8,239
+ depreciation & amortisation	1,591	762	478	526	582	643	709	779
Net operating cash flow	569	1,212	2,825	4,890	6,505	7,389	8,219	9,018
 total investments (CAPEX and WC) 	-2,472	-3,511	-3,691	-4,290	-3,578	-3,798	-3,982	-4,120
Capital expenditures	-676	-793	-840	-955	-1,069	-1,185	-1,303	-1,419
Working capital	-1,796	-2,718	-2,851	-3,335	-2,510	-2,613	-2,679	-2,700
Free cash flows (FCF)	-1,903	-2,298	-865	600	2,927	3,591	4,238	4,898
PV of FCF's	-1,775	-1,929	-653	408	1.789	1,976	2,098	2,182

19,979
27,438
47,417
-593
0
46,824

Fair value per share in EUR	5.30								
					Terminal g	growth rate			
WACC	11.1%		1.5%	2.0%	2.5%	3.0%	3.5%	4.0%	4.5%
Cost of equity	12.2%	7.1%	11.71	12.29	13.00	13.88	15.00	16.49	18.54
Pre-tax cost of debt	7.0%	8.1%	9.20	9.54	9.94	10.41	10.98	11.70	12.61
Tax rate	<u>عا</u> 30.0%	9.1%	7.41	7.61	7.84	8.11	8.43	8.82	9.28
After-tax cost of debt	4.9%	10.1%	6.07	6.20	6.34	6.50	6.69	6.91	7.16
Share of equity capital	_{85.0%} ≥	11.1%	5.04	5.12	5.21	5.31	5.43	5.56	5.70
Share of debt capital	15.0%	12.1%	4.23	4.29	4.34	4.41	4.48	4.56	4.65
		13.1%	3.59	3.62	3.66	3.70	3.74	3.79	3.85
Fair value per share in EUR	5.30	14.1%	3.06	3.08	3.11	3.13	3.16	3.19	3.23

 * for layout purposes the model shows numbers only to 2023, but runs until 2030

INCOME STATEMENT

All figures in EUR '000	2012A	2013A	2014A	2015A	2016E	2017E	2018E
Revenues	31,260	32,413	53,631	47,310	52,030	60,979	70,004
Cost of goods sold	18,497	21,773	37,970	34,083	33,507	40,246	46,973
Gross profit	12,763	10,640	15,661	13,227	18,523	20,733	23,031
S&M	5,862	8,233	10,540	12,499	10,720	11,010	11,201
G&A	3,555	3,860	4,872	5,806	4,820	5,020	5,040
R&D	4,257	6,149	4,530	5,546	3,900	4,130	4,200
Other operating income	749	1,041	170	142	156	183	210
Other operating expenses	362	2,275	159	161	260	305	350
Operating income (EBIT)	-524	-8,836	-4,269	-10,645	-1,021	451	2,450
Net financial result	80	-128	-298	-315	-397	-391	-390
Non-operating expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pre-tax income (EBT)	-445	-8,964	-4,567	-10,959	-1,418	60	2,060
Income taxes	-19	-52	259	-290	-14	1	103
Minority interests	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net income / loss	-426	-8,912	-4,826	-10,669	-1,404	60	1,957
Diluted EPS (in €)	-0.06	-1.16	-0.60	-1.24	-0.16	0.01	0.22
EBITDA	730	-4,474	-1,177	-4,651	569	1,213	2,928
Ratios							
Gross margin	40.8%	32.8%	29.2%	28.0%	35.6%	34.0%	32.9%
EBIT margin on revenues	-1.7%	-27.3%	-8.0%	-22.5%	-2.0%	0.7%	3.5%
EBITDA margin on revenues	2.3%	-13.8%	-2.2%	-9.8%	1.1%	2.0%	4.2%
Net margin on revenues	-1.4%	-27.5%	-9.0%	-22.6%	-2.7%	0.1%	2.8%
Tax rate	4.3%	0.6%	-5.7%	2.6%	1.0%	1.0%	5.0%
Expenses as % of revenues							
S&M	18.8%	25.4%	19.7%	26.4%	20.6%	18.1%	16.0%
G&A	11.4%	11.9%	9.1%	12.3%	9.3%	8.2%	7.2%
R&D	13.6%	19.0%	8.4%	11.7%	7.5%	6.8%	6.0%
Other operating expenses	1.2%	7.0%	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
Y-Y Growth							
Revenues	n.a.	3.7%	65.5%	-11.8%	10.0%	17.2%	14.8%
Operating income	n.a.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	443.3%
Net income/ loss	n.a.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	3173.7%

BALANCE SHEET

All figures in EUR '000	2012A	2013A	2014A	2015A	2016E	2017E	2018E
Assets							
Current assets, total	33,598	25,934	27,542	21,154	21,746	24,994	29,084
Cash and cash equivalents	22,911	7,428	6,407	3,712	3,713	3,024	3,047
Short-term investments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Receivables	3,696	9,258	12,766	7,490	9,978	12,530	15,343
Inventories	5,815	7,713	7,653	8,782	6,885	8,270	9,523
Other current assets	1,118	1,426	711	742	742	742	742
Non-current assets, total	14,020	21,715	19,714	14,736	13,821	13,852	14,214
Property, plant & equipment	2,400	2,296	1,601	1,390	1,285	1,455	1,654
Goodwill & other intangibles	11,000	19,054	17,813	12,768	11,958	11,819	11,982
Other assets	619	365	300	578	578	578	578
Total assets	47,617	47,650	47,256	35,889	35,568	38,846	43,298
Shareholders' equity & debt							
Current liabilities, total	7,662	12,669	13,371	13,041	13,123	15,712	14,558
Short-term debt	372	2,139	2,013	2,014	3,300	4,671	2,300
Accounts payable	3,033	5,087	6,872	7,263	6,059	7,277	8,494
Current provisions	999	802	686	667	667	667	667
Other current liabilities	3,258	4,641	3,800	3,097	3,097	3,097	3,097
Long-term liabilities, total	3,562	5,918	6,296	6,291	7,291	7,920	9,920
Long-term debt	0	2,282	3,045	2,203	3,203	3,832	5,832
Deferred revenue	0	2,202	0,040	2,200	0,200	0,002	0,002
Other liabilities	3,562	3,636	3,251	4,088	4,088	4,088	4,088
Minority interests	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shareholders' equity	36,394	29,063	27,589	16,558	15,154	15,214	18,821
1		29,003 8,020			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	8,611	
Share capital	7,503 67,879	69,570	8,611 71,955	8,611 72,017	8,611 72,017	72,017	8,882 73,397
Capital reserve Other reserves	07,879	09,570	0	12,017	12,017	12,017	13,397
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Treasury stock Loss carryforward / retained earnings	-38,951	-47,863	-52,689	-63,358	-64,762	-64,702	-62,745
Total consolidated equity and debt	47,617	47,650	47,256	35,889	35,568	38,846	43,298
Ratios							
Current ratio (x)	4.39	2.05	2.06	1.62	1.66	1.59	2.00
Quick ratio (x)	3.63	1.44	1.49	0.95	1.13	1.06	1.34
Net cash	22,539	3,007	1,349	-505	-2,790	-5,479	-5,084
Net gearing	-61.9%	-10.3%	-4.9%	3.0%	18.4%	36.0%	0.0%
Book value per share (€)	4.85	3.79	3.44	1.92	1.76	1.77	2.12
Return on equity (ROE)	-1.2%	-30.7%	-17.5%	-64.4%	-9.3%	0.4%	10.4%
		104.3	86.9	57.8	70.0	75.0	80.0
Days of sales outstanding (DSO)	4.5 /						
Days of sales outstanding (DSO) Days of inventory turnover	43.2 114.7	129.3	73.6	94.0	70.0	75.0 75.0	74.0

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

All figures in EUR '000	2012A	2013A	2014A	2015A	2016E	2017E	2018E
EBIT	-524	-8,836	-4,269	-10,645	-1,021	451	2,450
Depreciation and amortisation	1,255	4,362	3,093	5,994	1,591	762	478
EBITDA	730	-4,474	-1,177	-4,651	569	1,213	2,928
Changes in working capital	85	-2,188	-2,015	3,216	-1,796	-2,718	-2,851
Other adjustments	443	-649	-361	-429	-383	-391	-493
Operating cash flow	1,258	-7,311	-3,553	-1,864	-1,609	-1,896	-415
CAPEX	-561	-345	-181	-294	-312	-427	-490
Investments in intangibles	-318	-327	-452	-1,055	-364	-366	-350
Free cash flow	380	-7,984	-4,186	-3,213	-2,286	-2,689	-1,255
Debt financing, net	-388	-1,469	826	699	2,286	2,000	-371
Equity financing, net	0	0	3,263	0	0	0	1,650
Other changes in cash	191	-6,029	-923	-332	0	0	0
Net cash flows	183	-15,482	-1,020	-2,845	0	-689	24
Cash, start of the year	0	22,911	7,143	6,407	3,712	3,713	3,024
Cash, end of the year	183	7,428	6,123	3,562	3,713	3,024	3,047
EBITDA/share (in €)	0.10	-0.58	-0.15	-0.54	0.07	0.14	0.33
Y-Y Growth							
Operating cash flow	n.a.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.
Free cash flow	n.a.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.
EBITDA/share	n.a.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	113.1%	134.1%

Report No.:	Date of publication	Previous day closing price	Recommendation	Price target
Initial Report	23 June 2014	€4.84	Buy	€7.40
211	\downarrow	\downarrow	\downarrow	Ļ
12	13 November 2015	€4.60	Buy	€6.10
13	21 December 2015	€4.60	Buy	€6.10
14	8 March 2016	€3.53	Buy	€5.30
15	Today	€3.93	Buy	€5.30

FIRST BERLIN RECOMMENDATION & PRICE TARGET HISTORY

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- key sources of information in the preparation of this research report
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