

SFC Energy AG

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

Preliminary Q2 2022 figures RATING PRICE TARGET

BUY € 37.00

Return Potential 70.1% Risk Rating High

23% GROWTH IN H1 – BUY CONFIRMED

SFC Energy's preliminary H1/22 figures showed strong sales growth (+23% y/y) and slightly lower adjusted EBITDA of ${\leqslant}3.1\text{m}$. The company confirmed full-year guidance (sales: ${\leqslant}75\text{m}-{\leqslant}83\text{m}$ and adjusted EBITDA of ${\leqslant}6.0\text{m}-{\leqslant}9.1\text{m}$). Given the high order backlog of ${\leqslant}65\text{m}$ at the end of H1/22 and continued high demand for SFC's fuel cell-based energy solutions, we see SFC well on track to reach guidance and our full-year forecasts despite the looming recession. An updated DCF model still yields a ${\leqslant}37$ price target. We confirm our Buy recommendation.

Strong group sales increase due to buoyant Clean Energy segment In H1, group sales rose 23% y/y to €38.2m (FBe: €37.6m), driven by very strong Clean Energy segment sales (+38% y/y to €26.6m), which benefitted from high demand for methanol and hydrogen fuel cells. The Clean Power Management segment suffered from a persistently challenging procurement environment for electric components resulting in segment sales decreasing 2% y/y to €11.5m (see figure 1 overleaf).

Adjusted H1 EBITDA below prior year figure Adjusted EBITDA (AEBITDA) declined 10% y/y to €3.1m, but was ahead of our forecast of €2.8m. The AEBITDA margin declined from 11.1% to 8.2%. Adjusted EBIT amounted to €0.7m (H1/21: €1.4m). Margins suffered from a tense supply chain situation, and higher transport prices.

Mounting growth momentum While sales growth was subdued in Q1 (5% y/y), it reached 43% y/y in Q2 and was driven by exceptionally strong Q2 Clean Energy segment sales (+55% y/y).

Margin rebound in H2 expected SFC has increased its product prices, built up inventory and shortened supply routes. We thus expect margins to rebound in H2 and stick to our full-year AEBITDA forecast of €7.1m (AEBITDA margin: 8.9%).

(p.t.o.)

FINANCIAL HISTORY & PROJECTIONS

	2019	2020	2021	2022E	2023E	2024E
Revenue (€m)	58.54	53.22	64.32	79.84	114.17	165.55
Y-o-y growth	-5.1%	-9.1%	20.9%	24.1%	43.0%	45.0%
EBIT (€m)	-1.29	-4.50	-5.11	1.55	9.59	16.55
EBIT margin	-2.2%	-8.5%	-7.9%	1.9%	8.4%	10.0%
Net income (€m)	-1.93	-5.18	-5.83	0.95	6.99	12.06
EPS (diluted) (€)	-0.17	-0.39	-0.40	0.06	0.40	0.69
DPS (€)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FCF (€m)	-4.95	-4.87	-2.70	-6.84	-2.26	-8.32
Net gearing	-15.2%	-37.7%	-34.8%	-62.1%	-56.1%	-44.2%
Liquid assets (€m)	21.19	31.75	25.01	76.56	72.98	64.63

RISKS

The main risks are internationalisation, technological innovations, and increasing competition.

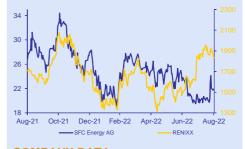
COMPANY PROFILE

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, defence & security, industry, and clean energy & mobility. SFC is headquartered near Munich in Germany.

MARKET DATA	As of 31 Aug 2022
Closing Price	€ 21.75
Shares outstanding	17.36m
Market Capitalisation	€ 377.66m
52-week Range	€ 19.13 / 34.39
Avg. Volume (12 Months)	66,972

Multiples	2021	2022E	2023E
P/E	n.a.	397.3	54.0
EV/Sales	5.6	4.5	3.2
EV/EBIT	n.a.	233.9	37.8
Div. Yield	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

STOCK OVERVIEW



COMPANY DATA	As of 31 Mar 2022
Liquid Assets	€ 19.93m
Current Assets	€ 56.74m
Intangible Assets	€ 18.15m
Total Assets	€ 86.35m
Current Liabilities	€ 22.79m
Shareholders' Equity	€ 49.27m
CHAREHOLDERS	

SHAREHOLDERS

Acatis	5.7%
Hansainvest	3.0%
DWS	2.9%
Conduit Ventures	2.5%
Free Float	85.9%

Figure 1: Reported preliminary figures

	H1/22A	H1/22E	Delta	H1/21A	Delta
Group sales	38,16	37,60	1,5%	31,13	22,6%
of which Clean Energy segment	26,65	26,00	2,5%	19,36	37,7%
of which Clean Power Management segment	11,51	11,60	-0,8%	11,78	-2,3%
Adjusted EBITDA	3,11	2,80	11,1%	3,44	-9,6%

Source: First Berlin Equity Research, SFC Energy AG

Strong order entry and high order backlog In H1, order entry was €72.5m (Q1: €44.3m) resulting in an order backlog of €65.2m (H1/21: €17.1m). The order backlog thus almost quadrupled y/y.

Structural growth trend for fuel cells trumps looming recession Despite the recessionary environment, we expect SFC to continue on its growth trajectory and expect a strong H2, as demand for SFC's fuel cell-based energy solutions remains high and supply chain constraints look set to ease in H2.

Buy confirmed at unchanged price target An updated DCF model still yields a €37 price target. We confirm our Buy recommendation.



VALUATION MODEL

DCF valuation model								
All figures in EUR '000	2022E	2023E	2024E	2025E	2026E	2027E	2028E	2029E
Net sales	79,840	114,171	165,548	240,045	294,382	355,239	421,701	492,317
NOPLAT	1,252	7,173	12,092	19,821	24,688	29,666	34,942	40,397
+ depreciation & amortisation	4,943	5,430	6,084	7,024	8,327	9,890	11,655	13,561
Net operating cash flow	6,195	12,604	18,177	26,845	33,015	39,556	46,597	53,958
- total investments (CAPEX and WC)	- 13,038	- 14,860	-26,501	-36,136	-31,858	-35,956	-39,697	-42,816
Capital expenditures	-8,383	-8,563	- 10,595	- 13,443	- 15,736	- 18,085	-20,395	-22,557
Working capital	-4,655	-6,298	- 15,906	-22,694	- 16,122	- 17,871	- 19,302	-20,259
Free cash flows (FCF)	-6,843	-2,257	-8,324	-9,291	1,157	3,600	6,901	11, 142
PV of FCF's	-6,673	-2,044	-6,997	-7,252	839	2,422	4,310	6,462

All figures in thousands	
PV of FCFs in explicit period (2022E-2036E)	101,587
PV of FCFs in terminal period	471,444
Enterprise value (EV)	573,031
+ Net cash / - net debt (pro forma)	71,949
+ Investments / minority interests	0
Shareholder value	644,980
Diluted number of shares	17,507
Fair value per share in EUR	36.84

Terminal growth rate:	3.0%
Terminal EBIT margin:	11.0%

WACC	7.7%
Cost of equity	10.5%
Pre-tax cost of debt	5.0%
Tax rate	30.0%
After-tax cost of debt	3.5%
Share of equity capital	60.0%
Share of debt capital	40.0%
Price target in EUR	37.00

Terminal grow th rate									
	1.5%	2.0%	2.5%	3.0%	3.5%	4.0%	4.5%		
6.2%	45.12	48.77	53.40	59.47	67.79	79.90	99.13		
6.7%	39.43	42.15	45.51	49.79	55.40	63.08	74.27		
7.2%	34.81	36.88	39.39	42.50	46.45	51.63	58.74		
7.7%	31.00	32.61	34.52	36.84	39.71	43.36	48.15		
8.2%	27.82	29.09	30.57	32.34	34.48	37.14	40.51		
8.7%	25.14	26.14	27.31	28.68	30.31	32.30	34.75		
9.2%	22.85	23.66	24.58	25.66	26.93	28.44	30.27		

 $^{^{\}ast}$ for layout purposes the model shows numbers only to 2029, but runs until 2036



INCOME STATEMENT

All figures in EUR '000	2018A	2019A	2020A	2021A	2022E	2023E	2024E
Revenues	61,704	58,538	53,223	64,320	79,840	114,171	165,548
Cost of goods sold	40,623	38,410	35,307	41,682	52,694	75,353	109,262
Gross profit	21,082	20,128	17,915	22,638	27,146	38,818	56,286
S&M	10,792	12,438	12,122	15,051	13,573	16,441	21,687
G&A	5,230	5,994	7,125	10,292	8,623	7,992	10,761
R&D	3,525	3,104	2,843	3,257	3,400	4,795	7,284
Other operating income	320	178	157	904	240	343	497
Other operating expenses	529	57	483	48	240	343	497
Operating income (EBIT)	1,325	-1,288	-4,501	-5,105	1,550	9,590	16,555
Net financial result	-737	-752	-443	-410	-301	-186	-28
Non-operating expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pre-tax income (EBT)	588	-2,040	-4,945	-5,515	1,249	9,405	16,527
Income taxes	589	-113	239	315	299	2,417	4,462
Minority interests	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net income / loss	-1	-1,927	-5,184	-5,829	951	6,988	12,065
Diluted EPS (in €)	0.00	-0.17	-0.39	-0.40	0.06	0.40	0.69
Adjusted EBITDA (AEBITDA)	3,705	3,631	2,936	6,233	7,141	15,020	22,639
One-off costs / earnings (-/+)	-1,227	-1,589	-3,922	-7,030	-648	0	0
EBITDA	2,478	2,042	-986	-797	6,493	15,020	22,639
Adjusted EBIT (AEBIT)	2,553	-2,877	-579	1,925	2,198	9,590	16,555
Ratios				***	•	***	•
Gross margin	34.2%	34.4%	33.7%	35.2%	34.0%	34.0%	34.0%
EBITDA margin on revenues	4.0%	3.5%	-1.9%	-1.2%	8.1%	13.2%	13.7%
Adjusted EBITDA margin on revenues	6.0%	6.2%	5.5%	9.7%	8.9%	13.2%	13.7%
EBIT margin on revenues	2.1%	-2.2%	-8.5%	-7.9%	1.9%	8.4%	10.0%
Adjusted EBIT margin on revenues	4.1%	-4.9%	-1.1%	3.0%	2.8%	8.4%	10.0%
Net margin on revenues	0.0%	-3.3%	-9.7%	-9.1%	1.2%	6.1%	7.3%
Tax rate	100.1%	5.5%	-4.8%	-5.7%	23.9%	25.7%	27.0%
Expenses as % of revenues							
S&M	17.5%	21.2%	22.8%	23.4%	17.0%	14.4%	13.1%
G&A	8.5%	10.2%	13.4%	16.0%	10.8%	7.0%	6.5%
R&D	5.7%	5.3%	5.3%	5.1%	4.3%	4.2%	4.4%
Other operating expenses	0.9%	0.1%	0.9%	0.1%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
Y-Y Growth							
Revenues	13.7%	-5.1%	-9.1%	20.9%	24.1%	43.0%	45.0%
Operating income	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	518.7%	72.6%
Net income/ loss	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	635.0%	72.7%



BALANCE SHEET

All figures in EUR '000	2018A	2019A	2020A	2021A	2022E	2023E	2024E
Assets							
Current assets, total	28,289	47,818	58,447	58,724	115,952	122,395	135,523
Cash and cash equivalents	7,805	21,192	31,750	25,008	76,561	72,981	64,630
Short-term investments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Receivables	10,158	13,773	13,031	17,851	17,499	25,024	36,285
Inventories	9,753	12,032	12,617	14,185	20,212	22,709	32,928
Other current assets	573	822	1,049	1,680	1,680	1,680	1,680
Non-current assets, total	13,776	25,040	27,882	28,641	32,081	35,214	39,725
Property, plant & equipment	1,596	9,869	9,985	8,887	8,422	9,158	10,017
Goodwill & other intangibles	11,497	13,921	15,999	17,698	21,160	23,557	27,208
Other assets	684	1,250	1,898	2,056	2,499	2,499	2,499
Total assets	42,065	72,859	86,330	87,365	148,033	157,609	175,247
Shareholders' equity & debt							
Current liabilities, total	18,865	20,514	18,780	20,998	23,420	26,008	31,582
Short-term debt	7,154	5,352	4,340	2,735	4,137	3,000	3,000
Accounts payable	7,093	8,090	4,742	7,642	8,662	12,387	17,961
Current provisions	972	1,263	1,583	2,020	2,020	2,020	2,020
Liabilities under finance leases	44	2,278	1,353	1,860	1,860	1,860	1,860
Other current liabilities	3,602	3,531	6,762	6,741	6,741	6,741	6,741
Long-term liabilities, total	4,996	12,085	12,711	16,348	17,212	17,212	17,212
Long-term debt	3,056	3,953	209	0	863	863	863
Liabilities under finance leases	54	5,755	6,548	4,891	4,891	4,891	4,891
Other liabilities	1,886	2,376	5,954	11,458	11,458	11,458	11,458
Minority interests	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shareholders' equity	18,204	40,260	54,838	50,018	107,401	114,389	126,454
Share capital	10,250	12,950	14,470	14,470	17,364	17,364	17,364
Capital reserve	79,498	100,417	119,118	119,637	173,175	173,175	173,175
Other reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Treasury stock	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Loss carryforw ard / retained earnings	-70,520	-72,447	-77,631	-83,461	-82,510	-75,523	-63,458
Total consolidated equity and debt	42,065	72,859	86,330	87,365	148,033	157,609	175,247
Ratios		,					
Current ratio (x)	1.50	2.33	3.11	2.80	4.95	4.71	4.29
Quick ratio (x)	0.98	1.74	2.44	2.12	4.09	3.83	3.25
Net cash	-2,405	6,132	20,653	17,382	66,670	64,227	55,875
Net gearing	13.2%	-15.2%	-37.7%	-34.8%	-62.1%	-56.1%	-44.2%
Book value per share (€)	1.79	3.50	4.14	3.46	6.85	6.59	7.28
Equity ratio	43.3%	55.3%	63.5%	57.3%	72.6%	72.6%	72.2%
Return on equity (ROE)	0.0%	-4.8%	-9.5%	-11.7%	0.9%	6.1%	9.5%
Return on investment (ROI)	0.0%	-2.6%	-6.0%	-6.7%	0.6%	4.4%	6.9%
Return on assets (ROA)	1.8%	-1.6%	-5.5%	-6.2%	0.8%	4.6%	7.0%
Return on capital employed (ROCE)	6.1%	-4.2%	-11.2%	-11.7%	3.1%	16.3%	22.5%
Days of sales outstanding (DSO)	60.1	85.9	89.4	101.3	80.0	80.0	80.0
Days of inventory turnover	87.6	114.3	130.4	124.2	140.0	110.0	110.0
Days in payables (DIP)	63.7	76.9	49.0	66.9	60.0	60.0	60.0



CASH FLOW STATEMENT

All figures in EUR '000	2018A	2019A	2020A	2021A	2022E	2023E	2024E
EBIT	1,325	-1,288	-4,501	-5,105	1,550	9,590	16,555
Depreciation and amortisation	1,153	3,330	3,516	4,308	4,943	5,430	6,084
EBITDA	2,478	2,042	-986	-797	6,493	15,020	22,639
Changes in working capital	-1,417	-5,026	-4,300	-5,086	-4,655	-6,298	-15,906
Other adjustments	945	1,723	4,691	6,961	-299	-2,417	-4,462
Operating cash flow	2,005	-1,261	-595	1,078	1,540	6,306	2,271
Investments in PP&E	-928	-1,110	-943	-1,021	-3,992	-3,768	-3,973
Investments in intangibles	-1,445	-2,582	-3,336	-2,762	-4,391	-4,795	-6,622
Free cash flow	-368	-4,952	-4,874	-2,705	-6,843	-2,257	-8,324
Acquisitions & disposals, net	0	64	0	9	0	0	0
Other investments	0	0	0	-99	0	0	0
Investing cash flow	-2,373	-3,628	-4,279	-3,873	-8,383	-8,563	-10,595
Debt financing, net	-1,786	-5,258	-2,953	-654	2,265	-1,137	0
Equity financing, net	4,220	27,000	19,665	0	56,432	0	0
Dividend paid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other financing	1,045	-3,467	-1,280	-3,392	-301	-186	-28
Financing cash flow	3,479	18,275	15,432	-4,046	58,396	-1,323	-28
Forex & other effects	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net cash flows	3,111	13,387	10,558	-6,842	51,553	-3,579	-8,352
Cash, start of the year	4,409	7,520	21,192	31,464	25,008	76,561	72,981
Cash, end of the year	7,520	20,907	31,464	24,622	76,561	72,981	64,630
EBITDA/share (in €)	0.24	0.18	-0.07	-0.06	0.41	0.87	1.30
Y-Y Growth							
Operating cash flow	17.7%	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	42.8%	309.5%	-64.0%
Free cash flow	n.m.						
EBITDA/share	160.5%	-27.2%	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	108.8%	50.7%



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PRICE TARGET DATES

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ASSET VALUATION SYSTEM

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

ASSET RECOMMENDATION

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

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

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

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

RISK ASSESSMENT

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

RECOMMENDATION & PRICE TARGET HISTORY

Report No.:	Date of publication	Previous day closing price	Recommendation	Price target
Initial Report	23 June 2014	€4.84	Buy	€7.40
249	↓	↓	\downarrow	↓
50	11 May 2021	€20.15	Buy	€44.00
51	25 May 2021	€23.85	Buy	€44.00
52	23 August 2021	€27.45	Buy	€44.00
53	16 November 2021	€33.00	Buy	€44.00
54	15 February 2022	€20.80	Buy	€44.00
55	31 March 2022	€26.80	Buy	€44.00
56	19 May 2022	€25.10	Buy	€41.00
57	2 August 2022	€19.74	Buy	€37.00
58	Today	€21.75	Buy	€37.00

INVESTMENT HORIZON

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



UPDATES

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

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Legally required information regarding

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

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

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