

# **Knaus Tabbert AG**

Germany / Leisure Vehicles Xetra Bloomberg: KTA GR ISIN: DE000A2YN504

Q1/23 results

RATING PRICE TARGET

BUY € 71.00

Return Potential 38.7% Risk Rating High

## HITTTING ITS PRODUCTION STRIDE

Q1 reporting confirmed preliminary KPIs. Headline figures were well ahead of the street and FBe, thanks to a much improved production mix that now leans heavily into motorised vehicles (53% of Q1 total). Strong market share gains in Germany and the EU are keeping the order books full (backlog: €1.2bn), and dealers will soon be taking orders for 2024 models. The 8.9% EBITDA margin in Q1 also topped the upper end of confirmed 2023 guidance (7.5% to 8.5%) and supports FBe of 8.4%. Knaus Tabbert has now delivered strong back-to-back quarters demonstrating the operating potential of the business. We remain Buy-rated on KTA with a €71 target price.

Another record quarter After racking up record sales of €356m in Q4, revenue for Q1 reached €368m vs FBe of €292m (street: €305m) and €222m (+6%) in the prior year period. EBITDA of €32.7m also beat the street handily (€27m; +21%). The company points to its bolstered chassis supply chain that has paved the way for a shift in the production mix towards higher margin motor vehicles.

Backlog stable at €1.2bn New orders were down in Q1 (overleaf) after KTA brass made the strategic decision to pump the order intake brakes in January in February. With wait times still ranging from 12 to 18 months (Morello uo to 3 years) and the high backlog filled up with the current model year, management wanted to reserve sufficient production capacity for the 2024 models, including the high number of 2024 demo-vehicles needed to populate dealer showrooms. These restrictions have been removed, and we expect a seasonal Q2 surge in orders.

Market share wins underscore upside potential Knaus now ranks as the #1 mobile home brand in both Germany and the EU, thanks to a 135% Y/Y uptick (+1,020 units) in motorhome and camper van registrations in the January-to-March period, while the Weinsberg brand sits at. . . (p.t.o.)

#### **FINANCIAL HISTORY & PROJECTIONS**

	2020	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Revenue (€m)	794.59	862.62	1049.52	1237.69	1366.99	1506.30
Y-o-y growth	1.8%	8.6%	21.7%	17.9%	10.4%	10.2%
EBIT (€m)	46.56	38.39	45.47	73.88	98.21	114.62
EBIT margin	5.9%	4.4%	4.3%	6.0%	7.2%	7.6%
Net income (€m)	31.33	25.90	29.62	49.05	67.04	79.21
EPS (diluted) (€)	7.63	2.50	2.85	4.73	6.46	7.63
DPS (€)	1.50	1.50	1.40	2.40	3.20	3.80
FCF (€m)	50.89	-20.69	-69.89	13.47	101.04	41.10
Net gearing	44.1%	74.8%	136.1%	113.6%	59.9%	48.0%
Liquid assets (€m)	8.94	9.68	12.61	-17.89	13.99	11.67

### RISKS

Risks include, but are not limited to: supply chain, labour, macro-economic, competitive, and regulatory factors

#### **COMPANY PROFILE**

Knaus Tabbert AG manufactures vehicles for the European leisure vehicle industry. One of the industry's top 3 players, Knaus Tabbert participates in all vehicle segments: caravans, motorhomes, camper vans and luxury motorhomes. The company has four manufacturing facilities, of which three are undergoing expansion to keep pace with flourishing demand.

MARKET DATA	As of 10 May 2023
Closing Price	€ 51.20
Shares outstanding	10.38m
Market Capitalisation	€ 531.30m
52-week Range	€ 24.10 / 53.00
Avg. Volume (12 Months)	7,907

Multiples	2022	2023E	2024E
P/E	17.9	10.8	7.9
EV/Sales	0.7	0.6	0.5
EV/EBIT	16.0	9.8	7.4
Div. Yield	2.7%	4.7%	6.3%

#### **STOCK OVERVIEW**



COMPANY DATA	As of 31 Mar 2023
Liquid Assets	€ 12.40m
Current Assets	€ 394.80m
Intangible Assets	€ 23.40m
Total Assets	€ 615.00m
Current Liabilities	€ 317.00m
Shareholders' Equity	€ 164.80m

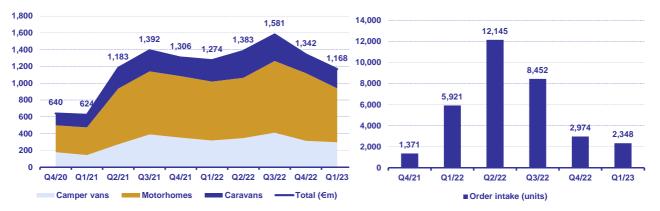
## SHAREHOLDERS

H.T.P. Investments1 B.V.	38.0%
Catalina Capital Ptnrs B.V.	25.0%
Free Float	37.0%

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... #3 in Germany. The market share gains validate the company's strategy of offering an unrivalled variety of brands for all ages und budgets. Now new capacity is coming online to capitalise on this robust demand.

Figure 1: Order backlog and intake developments



Source: First Berlin Equity Research; Knaus Tabbert AG

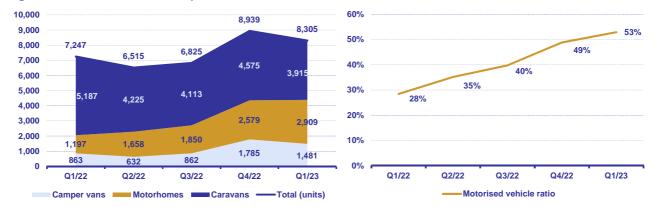
Table 1: First quarter vs FBe and prior year

All figures in €m	Q1/23	Q1/23E	variance	Q1/22	variance
Revenue	369	292	26%	222	66%
Gross profit	99	82	20%	67	47%
Margin	26.7%	28.1%	-	30.2%	-
EBITDA	33	23	43%	16	102%
Margin	8.9%	6.1%	-	7.3%	-
AEBITDA	33	23	42%	16	102%
Margin	8.9%	7.9%	-	7.3%	-

Source: First Berlin Equity Research; Knaus Tabbert AG

Another record breaking quarter Sales rose 66% Y/Y and topped the previous quarterly record set in Q4. We had expected a strong Y/Y uptick in Q1, thanks to an abundance of chassis now on hand, owing to a bolstered chassis supply chain that now includes blue chip names such as VW and Mercedes. But we had also anticipated a sequential drop-off from Q4 that was supercharged by catch-up effects and a workforce committed to overtime shifts. The repeat three month performance is encouraging and suggests KTA production is hitting its stride with the right mix.

Figure 2: Production mix developments



Source: First Berlin Equity Research; Knaus Tabbert AG

Earnings likewise surged in the January-to-March period on the improved production mix that featured a 53% motor vehicle component vs 28% in the prior year quarter (figure 2). The EBITDA margin was helped by greatly improved capacity utilisation that allowed KTA to compress the personnel cost ratio down to 11% (Q1/22: 15%). Other operating expenses also dipped 60 basis points Y/Y to 7.3% of turnover.

Table 2: Q1 financial highlights

All figures in €m	Q1/23	2022	variance
Cash & liquid assets	12	13	-2%
Financial debt (short- and long-term)	207	213	-3%
Net debt	195	200	-3%
Total assets	615	557	10%
Total equity	165	147	12%
Equity ratio	27%	26%	-
Net gearing	118%	136%	-
Net debt / EBITDA*	2.2x	2.8x	-
*adjusted EBITDA			

Source: First Berlin Equity Research; Knaus Tabbert AG

Working capital ratio steady at 18% (Q4: 17%) Inventory levels remained high in Q1 at €284m (YE22: €253m), due to the stockpiling of chassis and other components, The finished and unfinished vehicles figure dipped Q/Q but still stood at around €59m (YE22: €92m), due to a shortage of components on hand. Management said this is traced to a mixed bag of parts, and that nothing in particular is acute. While WC will likely tie up potential FCF this year, we expect the picture to improve in 2024.

**Table 3: Cash flow developments** 

All figures in €m	Q1/23	Q1/22	variance
Net operating cash flow	11	26	-58%
Cash flow from investing	-10	-22	n.a.
Cash flow from financing	-2	3	n.a.
Net cash flows	-1	8	-109%
Free cash flow (FCF)	1	5	-76%
FCFPS (€)	0.11	0.44	-76%

Source: First Berlin Equity Research; Knaus Tabbert AG

## **VALUATION MODEL**

**Staying Buy-rated on KTA with a €71 TP** Consecutive record quarters underscore our view that Knaus Tabbert is set be a dominant player in the European motorhome, camper van, and towed caravan segments with an unrivalled variety of brands for all ages und budgets.

In EUR '000			2023E	2024E	2025E	2026E	2027E	2028E	2029E	2030E
Sales			1,237,690	1,366,995	1,506,303	1,647,242	1,790,537	1,895,194	1,996,586	2,079,306
NOPLAT			52,455	69,728	81,381	93,718	106,805	117,268	127,627	137,706
(+) depreciation & amortisation			29,467	31,772	36,416	40,545	45,933	51,745	57,635	61,847
Net operating cash flow			81,922	101,500	117,796	134,263	152,737	169,013	185,262	199,553
(-) Total investments (CAPEX and WC)			-61,764	-6,592	-83,040	-87,118	-108,450	-119,819	-123,430	-99,193
(-) Capital expenditures			-61,884	-58,781	-64,771	-70,831	-94,898	-109,921	-115,802	-89,410
(-) Working capital			121	52,189	-18,269	-16,286	-13,551	-9,897	-7,628	-9,783
Free cash flows (FCF)			20,158	94,908	34,756	47,145	44,288	49,195	61,832	100,360
PV of FCF's			18,786	79,237	25,996	31,590	26,585	26,456	29,789	43,316
						Terminal EE	SIT margin			
In EUR '000				9.8%	10.3%	10.8%	11.3%	11.8%	12.3%	12.8%
PV of FCFs in explicit period	532,832		8.6%	109.06	114.97	120.88	126.79	132.70	138.62	144.53
(+) PV of FCFs in terminal period	408,000	Ö	9.6%	89.50	94.03	98.56	103.08	107.61	112.14	116.67
Enterprise value (EV)	940,832	WACC	10.6%	74.63	78.17	81.70	85.24	88.77	92.31	95.84
(+) Net cash / (-) net debt	-199,996	>	11.6%	62.99	65.79	68.59	71.39	74.19	76.99	79.79
(+) Investments / minority interests	0		12.6%	53.64	55.89	58.13	60.38	62.62	64.87	67.12
Shareholder value	740,836		13.6%	46.00	47.82	49.64	51.46	53.28	55.09	56.91
Fair value per share (€)	71.0		14.6%	39.65	41.14	42.62	44.11	45.59	47.08	48.56
						Term inal gr	owth rate			
				0.5%	1.0%	1.5%	2.0%	2.5%	3.0%	3.5%
Cost of equity	13.4%		8.6%	110.40	115.14	120.56	126.79	134.05	142.61	152.86
Pre-tax cost of debt	4.5%	ပ္ပ	9.6%	91.81	95.13	98.86	103.08	107.91	113.46	119.93
Tax rate	29.0%	WACC	10.6%	77.23	79.62	82.28	85.24	88.57	92.33	96.63
After-tax cost of debt	3.2%	>	11.6%	65.57	67.32	69.26	71.39	73.76	76.40	79.37
Risk free rate	2.4%		12.6%	56.06	57.38	58.81	60.38	62.10	64.01	66.12
Terminal growth rate	2.0%		13.6%	48.20	49.20	50.28	51.46	52.74	54.14	55.69
WACC	11.6%		14.6%	41.61	42.38	43.21	44.11	45.08	46.13	47.28

 $<sup>^*</sup>$ Please note our model runs through 2036 and we have only shown the abbreviated version for formatting purposes and  $^*$ Please note our model runs through 2036 and we have only shown the abbreviated version for formatting purposes.



Knaus Tabbert AG

# **INCOME STATEMENT**

All figures in EURm	2020	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Revenues	795	863	1,050	1,238	1,367	1,506
Cost of goods sold	-558	-625	-776	-890	-980	-1,080
Gross profit	245	261	296	348	387	427
Personnel expenses	-111	-127	-142	-152	-159	-171
Other OpEx	-71	-78	-91	-98	-104	-111
Other income	3	3	6	5	5	6
EBITDA	66	59	69	103	130	151
Depreciation & amortisation	-19	-21	-24	-29	-32	-36
Operating income (EBIT)	47	38	45	74	98	115
Net financial result	-2	-1	-4	-5	-4	-3
Other financial result	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pre-tax income (EBT)	44	37	42	69	94	111
Income taxes	-13	-11	-12	-20	-27	-32
Minority interests	0	0	0	0	0	1
Net income / loss	31	26	30	49	67	80
Diluted EPS (in €)	7.6	2.5	2.9	4.7	6.5	7.6
AEBITDA	68	61	70	104	131	152
Ratios	***************************************	***************************************				
Gross margin	30.8%	30.3%	28.2%	28.1%	28.3%	28.3%
EBITDA margin on revenues	8.3%	6.9%	6.6%	8.4%	9.5%	10.0%
EBIT margin on revenues	5.9%	4.4%	4.3%	6.0%	7.2%	7.6%
AEBITDA margin on revenues	8.5%	7.0%	6.7%	8.4%	9.6%	10.1%
Net margin on revenues	3.9%	3.0%	2.8%	4.0%	4.9%	5.3%
Tax rate	28.7%	28.9%	29.9%	29.1%	28.9%	28.9%
Expenses as % of revenues						
Personnel expenses	14.0%	14.8%	13.5%	12.3%	11.6%	11.3%
Other OpEx	8.9%	9.0%	8.7%	7.9%	7.6%	7.4%
Depreciation & amortisation	2.4%	2.4%	2.3%	2.4%	2.3%	2.4%
Y-Y Growth						
Revenues	1.8%	8.6%	21.7%	17.9%	10.4%	10.2%
Operating income	1.5%	-17.6%	18.5%	62.5%	32.9%	16.7%
Net income/ loss	0.5%	-17.3%	14.3%	65.6%	36.7%	19.7%

# **BALANCE SHEET**

All figures in EURm	2020	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Assets						
Current assets, total	161	191	344	274	256	275
Cash and equivalents	9	10	13	-18	14	12
Other ST assets	16	24	38	38	39	40
Trade receivables	11	7	33	27	30	33
Inventories	124	145	253	219	166	183
Tax receivables	2	6	7	7	7	7
Non-current assets, total	124	154	214	246	274	302
Property, plant and equipment	103	131	184	213	236	260
Intangible assets	16	18	23	27	31	36
Deferred tax assets	3	3	5	5	5	5
Other LT assets	2	2	2	2	2	2
Total assets	286	345	557	520	530	577
Shareholders' equity & debt						
Current liabilities, total	128	179	279	209	177	177
Trade payables	35	38	113	73	75	77
ST debt	49	93	90	67	27	20
Provisions	6	8	18	18	18	19
Other current liabilities	37	40	59	51	56	62
Long-term liabilities, total	34	32	132	130	130	130
LT provisions	13	14	5	5	6	6
LT debt	6	2	103	100	100	100
Deferred tax	7	8	10	10	10	10
Other non-current liabilities	9	8	14	14	14	14
Shareholders' equity	124	134	147	181	224	270
Total consolidated equity and debt	286	345	557	520	530	577
Ratios						
Current ratio (x)	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.6
Quick ratio (x)	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.5
Equity ratio	43%	39%	26%	35%	42%	47%
Net debt / (net cash)	55	100	200	206	134	129
Net gearing	44%	75%	136%	114%	60%	48%
Net debt / EBITDA	8.0	1.7	2.9	2.0	1.0	0.9
Return on equity (ROE)	25%	19%	20%	27%	30%	29%
Capital employed (CE)	219	262	381	413	388	435
Return on capital employed (ROCE)	21%	15%	12%	18%	25%	26%



All figures in EURm	2020	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Net income	31	26	30	49	67	79
Depreciation & amortisation	19	21	24	29	32	36
Change to LT accruals	3	2	2	0	0	0
Other non-cash items	0	1	3	-8	5	5
Asset disposals	1	0	0	0	0	0
Income tax	12	11	12	20	27	32
Net interest expense	2	1	3	5	4	3
Operating cash flow	69	63	73	95	135	156
Change in working capital	11	-24	-58	0	52	-18
Tax paid	-10	-11	-12	-20	-27	-32
Net operating cash flow	71	27	3	75	160	106
CapEx	-14	-41	-66	-52	-48	-53
Proceeds from disposals	0	0	0	0	0	0
Investments in intangible assets	-6	-7	-7	-10	-11	-12
Interest income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash flow from investing	-20	-48	-73	-62	-59	-65
Equity inflow, net	25	0	0	0	0	0
Debt inflow, net	-39	41	94	-25	-40	-7
Interest paid	-3	-1	-3	-5	-4	-3
Dividend paid to shareholders	-30	-16	-16	-15	-25	-33
Other financial cash flow	-3	-3	-3	0	0	0
Cash flow from financing	-50	21	72	-44	-69	-43
Net cash flows	1	0	3	-31	32	-2
Cash, start of the year	2	3	3	6	-25	7
Cash, end of the year	3	3	6	-25	7	5
Cash on deposit	6	7	7	7	7	7
Free cash flow (FCF)	51	-21	-70	13	101	41
FCF/share (in €)	4.9	-2.0	-6.7	1.3	9.7	4.0



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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 <sup>1</sup>	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%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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	13 January 2022	€57.00	Buy	€95.00
24	<b>↓</b>	$\downarrow$	$\downarrow$	<b>↓</b>
5	9 June 2022	€30.10	Buy	€87.00
6	4 August 2022	€30.20	Buy	€77.00
7	11 August 2022	€31.30	Buy	€77.00
8	20 September 2022	€28.30	Buy	€77.00
9	21 November 2022	€25.70	Buy	€77.00
10	16 February 2023	€45.10	Buy	€77.00
11	5 April 2023	€44.05	Buy	€71.00



12	28 April 2023	€45.85	Buy	€71.00
13	Today	€51.20	Buy	€71.00

#### **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/

SUPERVISORY AUTHORITY: Bundesanstalt für Finanzdienstleistungsaufsicht (German Federal Financial Supervisory Authority) [BaFin], Graurheindorferstraße 108, 53117 Bonn and Marie-Curie-Straße 24-28, 60439 Frankfurt am Main

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