Industrials - Germany



Buy (old: Buy) 19.04.2024

EUR 8.20 (old: EUR 8.20)

### Positive long-term prospects for Vecoplan and bdtronic

Topic: In recent years, two of the current six portfolio companies (continuing operations only) became increasingly important. These two companies, bdtronic and Vecoplan, accounted for 71% of FY23 sales. Enough reason to have a closer look at their prospects.

Vecoplan: As a global specialist for shredding, conveying, and processing of raw materials in the recycling industry, Vecoplan can benefit from the latest EU regulation. Until today, a lot of waste in the EU is exported to third countries like Turkey, Indonesia, and Malaysia. In February 2024, the European Parliament adopted tougher rules for waste shipments. Plastic waste exports to non-OECD countries will be prohibited, while those to OECD countries will be subject to stricter conditions. This forces EU member countries to adopt better recycling strategies benefiting demand for Vecoplan's products. Vecoplan showed a dynamic revenue growth of 10% p.a. over the last five years. We expect sales to grow by 6.0% p.a. until 2030e with low double-digit EBITDA margins (eNuW), outpacing the growth of the global waste management market of 5% according to Polaris Market Research.

Bdtronic: In 2023, the EU banned the sale of new CO2-emitting cars by 2035, including petrol and diesel-driven cars, which increases the demand for electric vehicles. In addition, major automotive manufacturers set internal electrification targets. For instance, Volkswagen aims for a fully electric production by 2033 within Europe. With 2/3 of bdtronic's sales coming from the EU, this could have a material impact on its impregnation segment. Bdtronic's trickle impregnation machines used for the impregnation of electric motors are sold to Tier1-suppliers and OEMs and are suited for large scale production. The strong demand for bdtronic's products has already shown up in the numbers with a five-year revenue CAGR of 14% and a similar development in order intake. We expect bdtronic to grow by 9.4% p.a. until 2030e with EBITDA margins north of 15% (eNuW).

Mind you, in addition to the positive operating performance, a successful divestment of the subsidiary MA micro, which is part of discontinued operations (company news 08.09.2023) should be a notable share price catalyst, as it is seen to underpin that the value of the "parts" clearly exceeds the current Enterprise Value of the group (eNuW). A strategic buyer could be willing to pay at least 10x EBITDA for this highly profitable and return-rich speciality business, implying a purchase price of more than € 93m (eNuW). Reiterate BUY with an unchanged € 8.20 PT based on DCF.

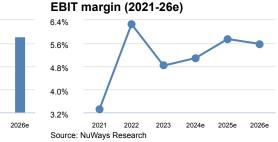
2021 349.1	2022	2023	2024e		
	342.7	397.4	425.0	2025e 459.0	2026e 496.1
					8.1%
	,				39.6
					41.0
				-	25.8
					1.0
		• • • • •			0.32
					8.0%
5.5%	9.6%	8.3%	8.3%	9.1%	9.2%
0.7	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5
9.8	9.3	9.1	8.7	6.8	5.9
-121.5	13.5	15.7	28.4	19.6	18.0
4.6%	8.3%	7.0%	7.7%	9.0%	8.3%
	9.8 -121.5	25.7 29.4 81.5 53.1 20.9 -12.1 3.2 1.8 -0.05 0.43 7.4% 8.6% 5.5% 9.6% 0.7 0.8 9.8 9.3 -121.5 13.5	25.7         29.4         34.6           81.5         53.1         77.1           20.9         -12.1         6.4           3.2         1.8         2.2           -0.05         0.43         0.14           7.4%         8.6%         8.7%           5.5%         9.6%         8.3%           0.7         0.8         0.8           9.8         9.3         9.1           -121.5         13.5         15.7	25.7         29.4         34.6         32.7           81.5         53.1         77.1         45.0           20.9         -12.1         6.4         31.8           3.2         1.8         2.2         1.4           -0.05         0.43         0.14         0.20           7.4%         8.6%         8.7%         7.7%           5.5%         9.6%         8.3%         8.3%           0.7         0.8         0.8         0.7           9.8         9.3         9.1         8.7           -121.5         13.5         15.7         28.4	25.7         29.4         34.6         32.7         37.9           81.5         53.1         77.1         45.0         19.4           20.9         -12.1         6.4         31.8         25.6           3.2         1.8         2.2         1.4         0.5           -0.05         0.43         0.14         0.20         0.29           7.4%         8.6%         8.7%         7.7%         8.2%           5.5%         9.6%         8.3%         8.3%         9.1%           0.7         0.8         0.8         0.7         0.6           9.8         9.3         9.1         8.7         6.8           -121.5         13.5         15.7         28.4         19.6

Source: Company data, NuWays, Close price as of 17.04.2024

2023

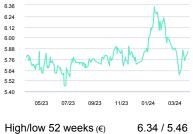
2024e

2025e



# **EBIT margin (2021-26e)**

### ROCE (2021-26e) 7.2% 6.0% 4 8% 2021 2022 2023 2024e 2025e 2026e Source: NuWays Research



**Share Performance** 

High/low 52 weeks (€)	6.34 / 5.46
3m rel. performance	-4.9%
6m rel. performance	-9.8%
12m rel. performance	-4.1%

### Market data

Share price (in €)	5.84
Market cap (in € m)	237.7
Number of shares (in m pcs)	41.1
Enterprise value (in € m)	283.3
Ø trading volume (6 months)	5,854

### Identifier

Bloomberg	MXHN GR
Reuters	MAXG
WKN	A2DA58
ISIN	DE000A2DA588

### Key shareholders

Günther Group	59.0%
Free Float	13.3%
Loys	10.5%
H&A Fund Services	8.0%
BWVA	5.0%
Werner Weber	4.2%

### Fetimates changes

	Lottinatoo onangoo					
	<u>2024e</u>	<u>2025e</u>	<u>2026e</u>			
Sales	0%	0%	0%			
EBIT	0%	0%	0%			
EPS	0%	0%	0%			

### Comment on changes

### **Company description**

2022

2021

Source: NuWays Research

Sales (2021-26e)

600.0m 450.0m 300.0m

150.0m

0.0m

MAX Automation is an expert for automation, production and assembly solutions, mostly serving niche applications across various end-markets. The subsidiaries operate in technology and innovative fields including e-mobility, medical, electronics and environmental.

### Guidance

- Sales: € 390-450m
- EBITDA: € 31-38m

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### **Financials**

Profit and loss (EUR m)	2021	2022	2023	2024e	2025e	2026
Net sales	349.1	342.7	397.4	425.0	459.0	496.
Sales growth	13.7%	-1.8%	16.0%	7.0%	8.0%	8.19
ncrease/decrease in finished goods and work-in-process	4.8	21.3	9.2	7.2	7.7	0.
otal sales	353.8	364.0	406.6	432.3	466.7	496.
Other operating income	19.8	9.3	6.7	11.1	13.8	14.
Material expenses	174.7	186.1	199.5	212.5	227.2	244.
Personnel expenses	122.5	107.0	122.4	141.5	154.2	163.
Other operating expenses	50.7	50.9	56.9	56.6	61.2	63.
Total operating expenses	328.1	334.6	372.0	399.6	428.8	457.
EBITDA	25.7	29.4	34.6	32.7	37.9	39.
Depreciation	5.0	4.8	5.8	5.1	5.5	6.
EBITA	20.7	24.5	28.8	27.6	32.4	32
Amortisation of goodwill	0.0	0.0	5.2	0.0	0.0	0.
Amortisation of intangible assets	9.2	3.1	4.4	6.0	6.0	5
mpairment charges	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
EBIT (inc revaluation net)	11.6	21.5	19.2	21.6	26.4	27
nterest income	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.4	0
nterest expenses	8.3	8.8	12.8	11.5	11.0	11
nvestment income	0.0	2.7	4.6	1.4	1.5	1
inancial result	-8.3	-5.7	-8.1	-9.7	-9.1	-8
Recurring pretax income from continuing operations	3.2	15.8	11.1	11.9	17.2	18
Extraordinary income/loss	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
arnings before taxes	3.2	15.8	11.1	11.9	17.2	18
ncome tax expense	4.1	-0.8	5.5	3.5	5.1	5
let income from continuing operations	-0.9	16.6	5.6	8.4	12.1	13
ncome from discontinued operations (net of tax)	0.0	1.6	-9.6	0.0	0.0	0
let income	-0.9	15.0	15.2	8.4	12.1	13
Ainority interest	0.5 <b>-1.4</b>	0.3 <b>14.7</b>	0.0 <b>15.2</b>	0.0 <b>8.4</b>	0.0 <b>12.1</b>	0
Net profit (reported)	-1.4 29.5	38.0	41.1	<b>8.4</b> 41.1	41.1	13
verage number of shares  EPS reported	- <b>0.05</b>	0.39	0.37	0.20	0.29	41
er 3 reported	-0.05	0.39	0.37	0.20	0.29	0.3
Profit and loss (common size)	2021	2022	2023	2024e	2025e	2020
let sales	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0
Sales growth	13.7%	-1.8%	16.0%	7.0%	8.0%	8.1
ncrease/decrease in finished goods and work-in-process	1.4%	6.2%	2.3%	1.7%	1.7%	0.1
otal sales	101.4%	106.2%	102.3%	101.7%	101.7%	100.1
Other operating income	5.7%	2.7%	1.7%	2.6%	3.0%	3.0
Material expenses	50.0%	54.3%	50.2%	50.0%	49.5%	49.3
Personnel expenses	35.1%	31.2%	30.8%	33.3%	33.6%	33.0
other operating expenses	14.5%	14.9%	14.3%	13.3%	13.3%	12.8
otal operating expenses	94.0%	97.7%	93.6%	94.0%	93.4%	92.1
BITDA	7.4%	8.6%	8.7%	7.7%	8.2%	8.0
epreciation	1.4%	1.4%	1.5%	1.2%	1.2%	1.4
BITA	5.9%	7.2%	7.2%	6.5%	7.1%	6.6
mortisation of goodwill	0.0%	0.0%	1.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0
mortisation of intangible assets	2.6%	0.9%	1.1%	1.4%	1.3%	1.0
npairment charges	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0
BIT (inc revaluation net)	3.3%	6.3%	4.8%	5.1%	5.7%	5.6
nterest income	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1
nterest expenses	2.4%	2.6%	3.2%	2.7%	2.4%	2.2
nvestment income	0.0%	0.8%	1.2%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3
inancial result	neg.	neg.	neg.	neg.	neg.	ne
ecurring pretax income from continuing operations	0.9%	4.6%	2.8%	2.8%	3.8%	3.8
xtraordinary income/loss	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0
arnings before taxes	0.9%	4.6%	2.8%	2.8%	3.8%	3.8
ax rate	127.6%	-5.1%	25.0%	30.0%	30.0%	30.0
Not income from continuing operations	_0.3%	1 80/	1 /10/	2 0%	2 6%	2.7

-0.3%

0.0%

-0.3%

0.1%

-0.4%

4.8%

0.5%

4.4%

0.1%

4.3%

Net profit (reported)
Source: Company data, NuWays

Net income

Minority interest

Net income from continuing operations

Income from discontinued operations (net of tax)

NuWays AG 2

1.4%

-2.4%

3.8%

0.0%

3.8%

2.0%

0.0%

2.0%

0.0%

2.0%

2.6%

0.0%

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2.7%

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2.7%

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2.7%

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Balance sheet (EUR m)	2021	2022	2023	2024e	2025e	2026e
Intangible assets	54.4	54.5	37.8	33.0	27.1	20.9
Property, plant and equipment	43.2	46.1	50.7	53.3	56.1	58.1
Financial assets	7.1	42.6	47.4	47.4	47.4	47.4
FIXED ASSETS	104.8	143.2	135.9	133.7	130.6	126.4
Inventories	53.5	89.6	92.5	88.5	94.7	101.9
Accounts receivable	31.9	40.1	49.8	46.7	50.4	54.5
Other assets and short-term financial assets	37.2	52.1	41.6	44.6	43.0	43.0
Liquid assets	30.2	35.7	26.6	43.2	58.8	84.6
Deferred taxes	10.6	15.6	16.0	16.5	16.9	17.1
Deferred charges and prepaid expenses	9.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CURRENT ASSETS	173.0	233.1	249.1	239.5	264.2	301.2
TOTAL ASSETS	277.8	376.3	385.0	373.3	394.8	427.5
SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY	39.8	93.1	114.9	123.3	151.3	178.7
MINORITY INTEREST	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Provisions for pensions and similar obligations	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Other provisions and accrued liabilities	14.7	14.4	15.2	15.2	15.6	16.5
Short-term liabilities to banks	86.3	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Accounts payable	32.2	62.9	52.2	47.9	51.0	55.1
Advance payments received on orders	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other liabilities (incl. from lease and rental contracts)	62.1	61.4	38.3	38.6	38.6	38.6
Deferred taxes	7.9	10.3	9.7	10.1	10.1	10.4
Deferred income	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CURRENT LIABILITIES	94.2	124.3	90.6	86.5	89.6	93.7
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY	277.8	376.3	385.0	373.3	394.8	427.5
Balance sheet (common size)	2021	2022	2023	2024e	2025e	2026e
Intangible assets	19.6%	14.5%	9.8%	8.9%	6.9%	4.9%
Property, plant and equipment	15.6%	12.2%	13.2%	14.3%	14.2%	13.6%
Financial assets	2.6%	11.3%	12.3%	12.7%	12.0%	11.1%
FIXED ASSETS	37.7%	38.1%	35.3%	35.8%	33.1%	29.6%
Inventories	19.3%	23.8%	24.0%	23.7%	24.0%	23.8%
Accounts receivable	11.5%	10.6%	12.9%	12.5%	12.8%	12.8%
Other assets and short-term financial assets	13.4%	13.8%	10.8%	11.9%	10.9%	10.1%
Liquid assets	10.9%	9.5%	6.9%	11.6%	14.9%	19.8%
Deferred taxes	3.8%	4.2%	4.2%	4.4%	4.3%	4.0%
Deferred charges and prepaid expenses	3.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
CURRENT ASSETS	62.3%	61.9%	64.7%	64.2%	66.9%	70.4%
TOTAL ASSETS	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY	14.3%	24.7%	29.8%	33.0%	38.3%	41.8%
MINORITY INTEREST	0.3%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Provisions for pensions and similar obligations	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Other provisions and accrued liabilities	5.3%	3.8%	3.9%	4.1%	4.0%	3.9%
Short-term liabilities to banks	31.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%
Accounts payable	11.6%	16.7%	13.6%	12.8%	12.9%	12.9%
Advance payments received on orders	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other liabilities (incl. from lease and rental contracts)	22.3%	16.3%	10.0%	10.3%	9.8%	9.0%
Deferred taxes	2.8%	2.7%	2.5%	2.7%	2.6%	2.4%
Deferred income	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
CURRENT LIABILITIES	33.9%	33.0%	23.5%	23.2%	22.7%	21.9%
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Company data, NuWays

Update - 19.04.2024



					0005	
Cash flow statement (EUR m)  Net profit/loss	-0.9	2022 15.0	2023 15.2	2024e 8.4	2025e 12.1	2026e 13.2
Depreciation of fixed assets (incl. leases)	-0.9 5.0	4.9	5.8	5.1	5.5	6.9
Amortisation of fixed assets (incl. leases)	9.2	6.5	10.2	6.0	6.0	5.0
Other costs affecting income / expenses	21.0	0.3	19.8	19.8	19.8	19.8
Cash flow from operating activities	18.0	-13.5	7.1	30.9	22.9	22.8
Increase/decrease in inventory	-10.2	-29.7	-7.3	4.0	-6.1	-7.2
Increase/decrease in accounts receivable	-4.8	-8.3	-12.8	3.1	-3.7	-4.1
Increase/decrease in accounts payable	8.5	8.4	-22.1	-4.3	3.1	4.1
Increase/decrease in other working capital positions	0.0	0.0	8.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Increase/decrease in working capital	-6.6	-29.6	-33.7	2.7	-6.8	-7.2
Cash flow from operating activities	27.7	-2.8	17.2	42.0	36.7	37.7
CAPEX	6.8	9.3	10.8	10.2	11.0	11.9
Payments for acquisitions	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Financial investments	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Income from asset disposals	3.6	1.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cash flow from investing activities	-3.3	-8.4	-9.1	-10.2	-11.0	-11.9
Cash flow before financing	24.4	-11.2	8.2	31.8	25.6	25.8
Increase/decrease in debt position	-37.0	23.8	-5.9	-15.5	-10.0	0.0
Purchase of own shares	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Capital measures	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dividends paid	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Others	-5.0 0.1	-8.5	-11.4	0.3	0.0	0.0
Effects of exchange rate changes on cash	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cash flow from financing activities	-42.0	16.3	-17.3	<b>-15.2</b>	<b>-10.0</b>	0.0
Increase/decrease in liquid assets Liquid assets at end of period	-17.5 <b>30.2</b>	5.6 <b>35.7</b>	-9.1 <b>26.6</b>	16.6 <b>43.2</b>	15.6 <b>58.8</b>	25.8 <b>84.6</b>
Liquid assets at end of period	30.2	33.1	20.0	43.2	30.0	04.0
Key ratios (EUR m)	2021	2022	2023	2024e	2025e	2026e
P&L growth analysis						
Sales growth	13.7%	-1.8%	16.0%	7.0%	8.0%	8.1%
EBITDA growth	354.7%	14.1%	17.7%	-5.5%	15.9%	4.6%
EBIT growth	-159.3%	85.7%	-10.7%	12.8%	22.1%	4.9%
EPS growth	-94.7%	-914.0%	-4.7%	-44.8%	44.9%	8.7%
Efficiency Sales per employee	218.9	215.1	245.4	250.0	257.2	267.3
EBITDA per employee	16.1	18.4	21.3	19.2	21.2	21.3
No. employees (average)	1,595	1,593	1,619	1,700	1,785	1,856
Balance sheet analysis	1,555	1,000	1,010	1,700	1,700	1,000
Avg. working capital / sales	14.7%	16.6%	18.0%	18.1%	20.1%	19.0%
Inventory turnover (sales/inventory)	3.6	2.6	2.2	2.4	2.4	2.4
Accounts receivable turnover	11.8	9.5	8.8	9.1	9.1	9.1
Accounts payable turnover	12.5	7.2	6.9	8.9	9.0	9.0
Cash flow analysis						
Free cash flow	20.9	-12.1	6.4	31.8	25.6	25.8
Free cash flow/sales	6.0%	-3.5%	1.6%	7.5%	5.6%	5.2%
FCF / net profit	neg.	neg.	42.5%	379.7%	211.4%	195.7%
Capex / sales	2.0%	2.7%	2.7%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%
Solvency						
Net debt	81.5	53.1	77.1	45.0	19.4	41.0
Net Debt/EBITDA	3.2	1.8	2.2	1.4	0.5	1.0
Dividend payout ratio	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Interest paid / avg. debt	6.0%	6.3%	9.4%	8.6%	8.0%	8.4%
ROCE	5.5%	9.6%	8.3%	8.3%	9.1%	9.2%
ROE	-3.5%	15.8%	13.2%	6.8%	8.0%	7.4%
Adjusted FCF yield	4.6%	8.3%	7.0%	7.7%	9.0%	8.3%
		0.570		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
•		0.0%	0.0%			
Dividend yield	0.0%	0.0% 0.0	0.0% 0.0			0.0
Dividend yield DPS	0.0% 0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0 0.32
Dividend yield DPS EPS reported	0.0% 0.0 -0.05	0.0 0.39	0.0 0.37	0.0 0.20	0.0 0.29	0.32
Dividend yield DPS	0.0% 0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Dividend yield DPS EPS reported Average number of shares	0.0% 0.0 -0.05 29.5	0.0 0.39	0.0 0.37	0.0 0.20	0.0 0.29	0.32
Dividend yield DPS EPS reported Average number of shares Valuation ratios	0.0% 0.0 -0.05	0.0 0.39 38.0	0.0 0.37 41.1	0.0 0.20 41.1	0.0 0.29 41.1	0.32 41.1
Dividend yield DPS EPS reported Average number of shares Valuation ratios P/BV	0.0% 0.0 -0.05 29.5	0.0 0.39 38.0	0.0 0.37 41.1 2.1	0.0 0.20 41.1 1.9	0.0 0.29 41.1	0.32 41.1 1.3
Dividend yield DPS EPS reported Average number of shares Valuation ratios P/BV EV/sales	0.0% 0.0 -0.05 29.5 4.3 0.7	0.0 0.39 38.0 2.4 0.8	0.0 0.37 41.1 2.1 0.8	0.0 0.20 41.1 1.9 0.7	0.0 0.29 41.1 1.6 0.6	0.32 41.1 1.3 0.5

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Company	Disclosures
MAX Automation SE	2

Historical target price and	rating changes for MAX Aut	tomation SE			
Company	Date	Analyst	Rating	Target Price	Close
MAX Automation SE	30.11.2023	Wunderlich, Tim	Buy	EUR 8.20	EUR 5.74
	30.11.2023	Khare, Vaishnavi	Buy	EUR 8.20	EUR 5.74
	09.11.2023	Wunderlich, Tim	Buy	EUR 7.30	EUR 5.90
	09.11.2023	Khare, Vaishnavi	Buy	EUR 7.30	EUR 5.90

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ment towards the actual capital structure is done by discounting the calculated free cash flows with the weighted average cost of capital (WACC), which takes into account both the cost of equity capital and the cost of debt. After discounting, the calculated total enterprise value is reduced by the interest-bearing debt capital in order to arrive at the equity value.

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