Software - Germany

Buy (old: Buy)

EUR 20.00 (old: EUR 32.00)

Weak H1 but mid-term prospects remain intact; chg.

After VOQUZ has shown stellar top-line growth in the past (2019-'22 CAGR of 38%), the company reported a weak set of H1, clearly reflecting the deteriorating macro environment.

Despite a 14% yoy increase in order intake, H1 sales only grew by 3% yoy to € 1.9m (eNuW: € 2.5m) following prolonged sales cycles. Moreover, a higher share of consulting orders, which in general have a longer revenue recognition period, weighed on top-line development.

Following the uninspiring sales development, H1 EBITDA turned negative with € -0.5m (vs € 0.1m at H1'22). The main reason for this were rapidly increasing personnel expenses (+93% yoy to € 1.1m) which is due to the incorporation of a subsidiary in Romania as well as increased sales and marketing capacities. Following the intensified marketing efforts (e.g. conferences in US, Australia) other operating expenses also increased by 16% yoy to € 1.2m.

Although the seasonally strong H2 (especially Q4) is seen to show an improved operating performance with a sequential growth acceleration (eNuW: +7.5%) and a slightly positive EBITDA (eNuW: € 0.3m), VOQUZ looks set to report negative FY EBITDA of € 0.2m.

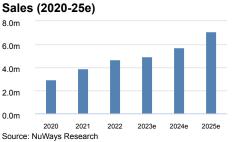
However, the company's mid-term prospects remain intact, in our view. Especially with regards to the still lagging SAP S/4HANA migration (33% as of Q2'23). As adoption rates are seen to exponentially increase, VOQUZ looks set to be one of the main beneficiaries with its new software solution VisoryQ, which helps clients to set up an efficient ERP strategy. On top of this, promising cross- and up-selling potentials are in the books, which is becomes visibile in the high share of existing customers in order intake. Against this backdrop, we expect dynamic top-line development combined with steadily expanding margins going forward on the back of economies of scale.

In light of the recent weakness as well as the strong underlying mid-term trends combined with the scalability of the capital-light business model, the stock looks undervalued trading at only 1.3x EV/Sales '23e.

Reiterate BUY with a reduced PT of € 20.00 (old: € 32.00) based on DCF.

Y/E 31.12 (EUR m)	2020	2021	2022	2023e	2024e	2025e
Sales	3.0	3.9	4.7	5.0	5.7	7.1
Sales growth	66.4%	31.3%	21.4%	5.7%	14.5%	24.8%
EBITDA	0.7	1.0	0.6	-0.2	0.6	1.5
Net debt (if net cash=0)	-0.1	-1.0	-0.1	0.1	-0.3	-1.3
FCF	0.4	0.6	-0.3	-0.1	0.5	0.9
Net Debt/EBITDA	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1.0	0.0	0.0
EPS pro forma	n.a.	0.46	0.06	-0.67	0.15	0.67
EBITDA margin	22.4%	24.7%	13.2%	-3.1%	11.0%	20.5%
ROCE	70.6%	37.0%	10.4%	-24.0%	9.7%	34.1%
EV/sales	-0.0	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.3	0.9
EV/EBITDA	-0.2	7.2	12.3	-52.2	11.9	4.5
PER	n.a.	16.2	116.8	-11.2	48.9	11.2
Adjusted FCF yield	-266.3%	9.4%	3.2%	-4.3%	6.0%	15.0%

Source: Company data, NuWays, Close price as of 20.11.2023



EBIT margin (2020-25e) 16.0% 8.0% 0.0% -8.0% 16 0% 2020 2021 2022 2023e 2024e 2025e Source: NuWays Research





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High/low 52 weeks (€)	15.00 / 7.00
3m rel. performance	-20.3%
6m rel. performance	-41.9%
12m rel. performance	-57.5%

Market data	
Share price (in €)	7.45
Market cap (in € m)	7.8
Number of shares (in m pcs)	1.1
Enterprise value (in € m)	8.0
Ø trading volume (6 months)	25

	Identifier
Bloomberg	HC7 GR
Reuters	HC7.DE
WKN	A3CSTW
ISIN	DE000A3CSTW4

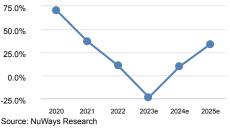
Key shareholders	
VOQUZ Technology GmbH	75.6%
Peter Rattey	11.4%
Free Float	13.0%

Estimates changes					
Sales EBIT EPS	<u>2023e</u> -25% -162% -208%	<u>2024e</u> -36% -87% -87%	<u>2025e</u> -39% -69% -69%		

Comment on changes

· We significantly adjust our estimates to account for the weak H1 results as well as the reduced visibility amidst macro uncertainties.

ROCE (2020-25e)



Company description

VOQUZ is a leading developer and provider of Software Asset Management (SAM) solutions with a clear focus on SAP license and authorization management.

Guidance

- Sustained double digit sales growth
- Mid-term: > 20% EBITDA margin

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Financials

Profit and loss (EUR m)	2020	2021	2022	2023e	2024e	2025e
Net sales	3.0	3.9	4.7	5.0	5.7	7.1
Sales growth	66.4%	31.3%	21.4%	5.7%	14.5%	24.8%
Increase/decrease in finished goods and work-in-process	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5
Total sales	3.1	4.2	5.0	5.3	6.1	7.6
Other operating income	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Material expenses	0.6	0.7	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.1
Personnel expenses	0.6	0.9	1.4	2.0	1.7	1.8
Other operating expenses	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total operating expenses	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EBITDA	0.7	1.0	0.6	-0.2	0.6	1.5
Depreciation	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5
EBITA	0.5	0.6	0.3	-0.6	0.2	1.0
Amortisation of goodwill	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Amortisation of intangible assets	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Impairment charges	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EBIT (inc revaluation net)	0.5	0.6	0.3	-0.6	0.2	1.0
Interest income	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Interest expenses	0.0	-0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Investment income	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Financial result	-0.0	0.0	-0.0	-0.0	0.0	0.0
Recurring pretax income from continuing operations	0.4	0.6	0.3	-0.6	0.2	1.0
Extraordinary income/loss	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Earnings before taxes	0.4	0.6	0.3	-0.6	0.2	1.0
Income tax expense	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3
Net income from continuing operations	0.4	0.5	0.1	-0.7	0.2	0.7
Income from discontinued operations (net of tax)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net income	0.4	0.5	0.1	-0.7	0.2	0.7
Minority interest	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net profit (reported)	0.4	0.5	0.1	-0.7	0.2	0.7
Average number of shares	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
EPS reported	n.a.	0.46	0.06	-0.67	0.15	0.67

Profit and loss (common size)	2020	2021	2022	2023e	2024e	2025e
Net sales	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Sales growth	66.4%	31.3%	21.4%	5.7%	14.5%	24.8%
Increase/decrease in finished goods and work-in-process	5.8%	7.1%	5.2%	5.5%	7.0%	7.0%
Total sales	105.8%	107.1%	105.2%	105.5%	107.0%	107.0%
Other operating income	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Material expenses	18.8%	17.8%	20.3%	18.3%	18.0%	16.0%
Personnel expenses	19.7%	23.0%	28.9%	39.9%	30.0%	25.0%
Other operating expenses	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total operating expenses	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
EBITDA	22.4%	24.7%	13.2%	-3.1%	11.0%	20.5%
Depreciation	7.1%	8.7%	7.7%	8.5%	7.0%	6.5%
EBITA	15.3%	15.9%	5.5%	-11.6%	4.0%	14.0%
Amortisation of goodwill	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Amortisation of intangible assets	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Impairment charges	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
EBIT (inc revaluation net)	15.3%	15.9%	5.5%	-11.6%	4.0%	14.0%
Interest income	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Interest expenses	0.1%	-0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Investment income	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Financial result	neg.	0.2%	neg.	neg.	0.0%	0.0%
Recurring pretax income from continuing operations	15.2%	16.1%	5.5%	-11.7%	4.0%	14.0%
Extraordinary income/loss	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Earnings before taxes	15.2%	16.1%	5.5%	-11.7%	4.0%	14.0%
Tax rate	2.0%	22.8%	74.2%	-20.2%	30.0%	30.0%
Net income from continuing operations	14.8%	12.4%	1.4%	-14.0%	2.8%	9.8%
Income from discontinued operations (net of tax)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Net income	14.8%	12.4%	1.4%	-14.0%	2.8%	9.8%
Minority interest	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Net profit (reported)	14.8%	12.4%	1.4%	-14.0%	2.8%	9.8%
Source: Company data, NuWays						

Source: Company data, NuWays

Update - 21.11.2023



Balance sheet (EUR m)	2020	2021	2022	2023e	2024e	2025e
Intangible assets	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Property, plant and equipment	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Financial assets	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
FIXED ASSETS	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Inventories	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Accounts receivable	1.0	1.8	2.5	2.1	2.0	2.0
Other assets and short-term financial assets	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Liquid assets	0.1	1.0	0.3	0.2	0.7	1.6
Deferred taxes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Deferred charges and prepaid expenses	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
CURRENT ASSETS	1.2	2.9	3.0	2.5	2.9	3.8
TOTAL ASSETS	2.8	4.4	4.5	4.0	4.4	5.3
SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY	0.7	1.9	2.0	1.3	1.6	2.4
MINORITY INTEREST	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Provisions for pensions and similar obligations	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other provisions and accrued liabilities	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3
Short-term liabilities to banks	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Accounts payable	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.7
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)	1.0	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Deferred taxes	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Deferred income	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
CURRENT LIABILITIES	1.3	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.1
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY	2.8	4.4	4.5	4.0	4.4	5.3
Balance sheet (common size)	2020	2021	2022	2023e	2024e	2025e
Intangible assets	54.4%	34.1%	33.3%	37.3%	33.9%	27.9%
Property, plant and equipment	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Financial assets	3.7%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
FIXED ASSETS	58.2%	34.2%	33.4%	37.5%	34.0%	28.0%
Inventories	1.1%	1.1%	0.0%	1.6%	1.6%	1.7%
Accounts receivable	34.6%	40.3%	56.7%	51.4%	44.6%	36.6%
Other assets and short-term financial assets	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Liquid assets	3.7%	21.8%	6.2%	5.6%	16.1%	30.7%
Deferred taxes	0.0%	0.8%	0.8%	1.0%	0.9%	0.7%
Deferred charges and prepaid expenses	2.4%	1.7%	2.7%	3.1%	2.8%	2.3%
CURRENT ASSETS	41.8%	65.8%	66.6%	62.5%	66.0%	72.0%
TOTAL ASSETS	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY	23.7%	44.3%	44.3%	33.0%	37.1%	45.2%
MINORITY INTEREST	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	43.2 %
Provisions for pensions and similar obligations	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other provisions and accrued liabilities	10.3%	0.0 <i>%</i> 7.5%	0.0% 4.5%	0.0% 5.8%	0.0% 5.8%	0.0% 5.2%
Short-term liabilities to banks	0.0%	0.0%	4.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Accounts payable	10.3%	8.3%	11.9%	12.0%	12.5%	12.8%
Advance payments received on orders	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other liabilities (incl. from lease and rental contracts)	37.3%	18.9%	0.0% 8.4%	0.0% 9.4%	0.0 <i>%</i> 8.6%	7.1%
Deferred taxes	7.8%	5.2%	5.3%	9.4 <i>%</i> 6.0%	5.4%	4.5%
Deferred income	10.6%	12.1%	5.3 <i>%</i> 15.7%	17.6%	16.0%	13.1%
CURRENT LIABILITIES						
	47 6%	27 7%	20.3%	21 5%	21 0%	10.0%
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY	47.6% 100.0%	27.7% 100.0%	20.3% 100.0%	21.5% 100.0%	21.0% 100.0%	19.9% 100.0%

Source: Company data, NuWays

Update - 21.11.2023



Cash flow statement (EUR m)	2020	2021	2022	2023e	2024e	2025e
Net profit/loss	0.4	0.5	0.1	-0.7	0.2	0.7
Depreciation of fixed assets (incl. leases)	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5
Amortisation of goodwill & intangible assets	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Others	0.1	0.0	-0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cash flow from operating activities	0.3	0.4	-0.1	0.0	0.6	1.1
Increase/decrease in inventory	0.3	0.5	0.0	-0.1	-0.0	-0.0
Increase/decrease in accounts receivable	-0.8	-0.8	-0.8	0.5	0.1	0.0
Increase/decrease in accounts payable	0.2	0.1	0.2	-0.1	0.1	0.1
Increase/decrease in other working capital positions	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Increase/decrease in working capital	-0.2	-0.2	-0.6	0.4	0.2	0.1
Cash flow from operating activities	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.7	1.3
CAPEX	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.4
Payments for acquisitions	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Financial investments	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
Income from asset disposals	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cash flow from investing activities	-0.6	-0.2	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2	-0.4
Cash flow before financing	-0.2	0.4	-0.3	-0.3	0.5	0.9
Increase/decrease in debt position	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Purchase of own shares	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Capital measures	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dividends paid	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Others	0.1	0.0	-0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Effects of exchange rate changes on cash	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cash flow from financing activities	0.1	0.4	-0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0
Increase/decrease in liquid assets	-0.0	0.8	-0.7	-0.1	0.5	0.9
Liquid assets at end of period	0.1	1.0	0.3	0.2	0.7	1.6
Key ratios (EUR m)	2020	2021	2022	2023e	2024e	2025e
P&L growth analysis	2020	2021	LULL	20230	20240	20230
Sales growth	66.4%	31.3%	21.4%	5.7%	14.5%	24.8%
EBITDA growth	414.2%	44.8%	-34.9%	-124.4%	-511.7%	132.5%
EBIT growth	-2326.0%	37.2%	-57.9%	-321.2%	-139.6%	336.7%
EPS growth	-2320.0% n.a.	n.a.	-37.9%	-1146.4%	-122.8%	336.7%
Efficiency	11.a.	n.a.	-00.170	-1140.470	-122.070	550.7 /0
Sales per employee	98.8	129.7	135.0	116.1	118.3	134.2
EBITDA per employee	22.1	32.0	135.0	-3.6	13.0	27.5
No. employees (average)	30	32.0	35	-3.0 43	48	53
Balance sheet analysis	50		55	45	40	50
Avg. working capital / sales	24.1%	26.5%	28.8%	30.7%	30.5%	21.0%
Inventory turnover (sales/inventory)	92.6	20.3 <i>%</i> 77.8	20.0% n.a.	80.0	80.0	21.07
Accounts receivable turnover	119.6	164.9	196.0	150.0	125.0	100.0
Accounts receivable turnover	35.6	34.0	41.2	35.0	35.0	35.0
Cash flow analysis	35.0	54.0	41.2	55.0	55.0	55.0
Free cash flow	0.4	0.6	-0.3	-0.1	0.5	0.9
Free cash flow/sales	13.6%	14.8%	-6.2%	-1.1%		13.0%
Free cash how/sales FCF / net profit	91.4%	14.6%		-1.1% 8.1%	8.5% 303.5%	132.7%
•			neg.			
Capex / sales	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a
Solvency	0.1	1.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	4 7
Net debt	-0.1	-1.0	-0.1	0.1	-0.3	-1.3
Net Debt/EBITDA	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1.0	0.0	0.0
Dividend payout ratio	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Interest paid / avg. debt	n.a.	-21.8%	0.6%	1.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Returns	70.00/	07.00/	10 10/	04.00/	0.7%	04.40/
ROCE	70.6%	37.0%	10.4%	-24.0%	9.7%	34.1%
	66.1%	25.0%	3.4%	-53.4%	9.8%	29.0%
Adjusted FCF yield	-266.3%	9.4%	3.2%	-4.3%	6.0%	15.0%
Dividend yield		-0.0%	-0.0%	-0.0%	-0.0%	-0.0%
DPS	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EPS reported	n.a.	0.46	0.06	-0.67	0.15	0.67
Average number of shares	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.(
Valuation ratios						
P/BV	n.a.	4.1	4.0	6.0	4.8	3.2
EV/sales	-0.0	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.3	0.9
EV/EBITDA	-0.2	7.2	12.3	-52.2	11.9	4.5
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EV/EBIT	-0.2	11.1	29.6	-13.8	32.7	6.6

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Disclosures

Disclosures regarding research publications of NuWays AG pursuant to section 85 of the German Securities Trading Act (WpHG)

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Conflicts of interest that existed at the time when this research report was published:

Company	Disclosures
VOQUZ Labs AG	2,8

Historical target price	and rating changes for V	OQUZ Labs AG			
Company	Date	Analyst	Rating	Target Price	Close
VOQUZ Labs AG	24.04.2023	Sennewald, Philipp	Buy	EUR 32.00	EUR 13.00

Update - 21.11.2023

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