

# WCM Beteiligungs- und Grundbesitz-AG

Germany / Financial Services Frankfurt Stock Exchange Bloomberg: WCMK GR ISIN: DE000A1X3X33

Q1/17 Results RATING PRICE TARGET

ADD € 3.36

Return Potential Risk Rating 6.6% High

## FIRST QUARTER RESULTS IN LINE; GUIDANCE CONFIRMED

First quarter results were in line with our forecasts with headline figures continuing to grow. Thanks to the portfolio expansion, rental income (RI) increased 41% Y/Y to €10.8m and FFO I climbed 32% Y/Y to €5.8m. The first quarter performance puts the company on track to hit our full year targets and management's confirmed guidance (RI: €42m-€44m; FFO I: €23m-€24m). Last week, WCM signed a business combination agreement (BCA) with TLG Immobilien AG to form a €3bn (Gross Asset Value) pan-German commercial real estate company. We see fair value at €3.36 per share; in line with the takeover price. Our rating remains Add.

Strong business performance underscores reasoning behind pending combination Management have done a commendable job in building a quality commercial portfolio from scratch with the company re-launch in late 2014. WCM is off to a strong start in 2017 and on pace for top line growth north of 30% Y/Y with solid conversion into FFO I. Given the tightening supply environment in Germany, the quality of WCM's current €796m portfolio, as well as its €300m deal pipeline, the corporate activity involving WCM comes as little surprise. Management have already endorsed the TLG bid and will recommend that shareholders also accept it. We expect final closure of the transaction in October this year (see Table 4 overleaf for timetable summary).

Revenue +41% Y/Y to €10.8m; further portfolio expansion The top line result edged our estimate (FBe: €10.7m) with growth spurred by portfolio expansion. The fair value adjustments to investment properties totalled €14.6m in the first three months (Q1/16: €0.6m). The spike can be traced to bargain buy effects from the purchase of 4 retail properties. We note that the next fair value assessment of the portfolio is slated to take place 30 June 2017. Net income amounted to €15.0m in Q1 vs €1.7m in the prior year period and equated to diluted EPS of €0.08 (Q1/16: €0.01). (p.t.o.)

## **FINANCIAL HISTORY & PROJECTIONS**

|                     | 2014  | 2015   | 2016   | 2017E  | 2018E  | 2019E  |
|---------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Rental income (€m)  | 0.00  | 10.45  | 32.61  | 42.95  | 51.96  | 57.46  |
| Y/Y growth          | n.a.  | n.a.   | 212.2% | 31.7%  | 21.0%  | 10.6%  |
| Adj. EBITDA (€m)    | -0.67 | 10.73  | 25.17  | 33.18  | 38.81  | 42.60  |
| Net income          | 1.21  | 57.68  | 18.56  | 55.34  | 67.26  | 75.51  |
| EPS (diluted) (€)   | 0.08  | 0.72   | 0.12   | 0.37   | 0.41   | 0.44   |
| EPRA NAV (€m)       | 31.81 | 290.61 | 345.40 | 444.88 | 528.70 | 606.95 |
| DPS (€)             | 0.00  | 0.00   | 0.10   | 0.11   | 0.12   | 0.13   |
| FFO I (€m)          | 0.00  | 7.93   | 18.03  | 23.29  | 26.33  | 28.88  |
| FFOPS I             | 0.09  | 0.10   | 0.14   | 0.16   | 0.17   | 0.18   |
| Liquid assets (€ m) | 19.64 | 11.31  | 10.20  | 12.77  | 11.79  | 12.82  |

## RISKS

Risks include, but are not limited to, unfavourable interest rate developments, unfavourable macroeconomic developments, and the departure of key personnel.

#### **COMPANY PROFILE**

WCM Beteiligungs- und Grundbesitz-AG is a real estate company focused on the acquisition and management of commercial properties, particularly offices and retail properties located in Germany's major commercial districts.

| MARKET DATA             | As of 16 May 2017 |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Closing Price           | € 3.15            |
| Shares outstanding      | 131.96m           |
| Market Capitalisation   | € 415.82m         |
| 52-week Range           | € 2.50 / 3.29     |
| Ava. Volume (12 Months) | 364 037           |

| Multiples   | 2016 | 2017E | 2018E |
|-------------|------|-------|-------|
| P/FFO I     | 22.7 | 19.2  | 18.6  |
| P/EPRA NAV  | 1.2  | 1.1   | 0.9   |
| FFO I/Yield | 4.4% | 5.2%  | 5.4%  |
| Div Yield   | 3.1% | 3.6%  | 3.8%  |

## STOCK OVERVIEW



| COMPANY DATA        | As of 31 Mar 2017 |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Liquid Assets       | € 32.30m          |
| Current Assets      | € 53.20m          |
| EPRA NAV            | € 371.80m         |
| Total Assets        | € 869.70m         |
| Current Liabilities | € 68.20m          |
| Total Equity        | € 337.60m         |
|                     |                   |

## SHADERUI DEDS

| SHAREHULDERS      |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| DIC OF RE 2 GmbH  | 26.0% |
| Karl P. Ehlerding | 4.9%  |
| John F. Ehlerding | 4.9%  |
| Karl Ehlerding    | 4.2%  |
| Stavros Efremidis | 2.6%  |
| Free Float        | 57.5% |



Table 1: Q1 results vs forecasts

| in €'000        | Q1 2017 | Q1 2017E | % delta | Q1 2016 | % delta |
|-----------------|---------|----------|---------|---------|---------|
| Rental income   | 10,849  | 10,737   | 1.0%    | 7,764   | 40%     |
| Adjusted EBITDA | 8,353   | 8,299    | 0.7%    | 5,965   | 40%     |
| Margin (%)      | 77.0%   | 77.3%    | -       | 76.8%   | -       |
| FFO             | 5,782   | 4,524    | 27.8%   | 4,381   | 32%     |

Source: First Berlin Equity Research; Company

Adjusted EBITDA, which reflects recurring operating profit and excludes non-cash effects, climbed some 40% Y/Y in Q1/17 to €8.4m (Q1/16: €6.0m). This improvement reflects the underlying portfolio growth over the past year. The company incurred one-off transaction expenses of €1.9m and non-cash receivable write downs traced to acquired properties of €0.4m. Personnel expenses increased to €1.0m (Q1/16: €0.9m) in line with the portfolio growth.

The key FFO I metric used to measure bottom line profits climbed some 32% Y/Y in Q1/17 to €5.8m compared to €4.4m in the prior year period This strong conversion of adj. EBITDA into FFO I reflects the excellent financing conditions. FFO I per share amounted to €0.04 matching the prior year figure due to the higher share count. Thanks to the positive results and portfolio expansion, EPRA NAV rose to €371m or €2.75 per share (Q4/17: €345m; €2.62).

Table 2: Portfolio development and KPIs

|                            | Q1/16   | Q4/16   | Q1/17   |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Number of properties       | 51      | 53      | 57      |
| Market value (€'000)       | 530,540 | 662,100 | 796,200 |
| WALT in years              | 9.4     | 8.9     | 8.2     |
| EPRA vacancy               | 4.8%    | 3.8%    | 4.3%    |
| Rental income p.a. (€'000) | 33,300  | 38,300  | 47,500  |
| Gross yield                | 6.2%    | 5.8%    | 6.0%    |
| Net debt (€m)              | 276,089 | 351,851 | 460,000 |
| Net LTV                    | 52.0%   | 53.1%   | 57.0%   |
| Average cost of debt       | 2.1%    | 2.0%    | 1.9%    |

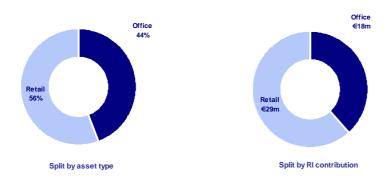
Source: First Berlin Equity Research; Company

WCM reported investment properties totalling €796m compared to €531m in Q1/16 and €662m in Q4/16. The growth includes the closure of two sizable transactions in Q1. As expected, a retail centre in Jena, Thuringia was acquired for €21m. The purchase price was financed by the issuance of a mandatory convertible note to the seller, cash, and the assumption of an existing loan (€13m). The note carries a 1.5% coupon, is convertible into 2.1m new shares, and matures on 30 June 2017.

The company also closed the announced deal to acquire three further retail centres in the Federal States of Baden-Wuerttemberg and Saxony-Anhalt for €98.2m. The deal was financed with a combination of cash and mortgage lending.



Figure 1: Portfolio split by market value and rental income contributions



Source: First Berlin Equity Research; Company

**Table 3: Financial highlights** 

| in €'000              | Q1/17   | 2016    | delta  |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Cash & liquid assets  | 32,251  | 10,013  | 222.1% |
| Investment property   | 796,303 | 662,073 | 20.3%  |
| Total assets          | 869,682 | 710,273 | 22.4%  |
| Total equity          | 337,647 | 315,933 | 6.9%   |
| EPRA NAV              | 371,800 | 345,366 | 7.7%   |
| Interest bearing debt | 482,743 | 361,864 | 33.4%  |
| Net debt              | 450,492 | 351,851 | 28.0%  |
| Loan-to-Value (LTV)   | 56.6%   | 54.7%   | -      |
| Equity ratio          | 38.8%   | 44.5%   | -      |

Source: First Berlin Equity Research; Company

Balance sheet stable over three month period; ample cash position WCM reported cash and liquid assets of €32.3m for the period ended 31 March compared to €10m at the end of 2016. Net debt climbed to €470m vs €352m at the end of 2016. The increase in interest bearing debt stems from portfolio growth and the recent closings. The debt portfolio features a 1.9% cost of debt (Q4/16: 2.0%) and a maturity north of five years. The company reported an LTV of 57% at the end of the quarter compared to 55% at end 2016. This is slightly above management's targeted range of 45%—55%.

The increase in net operating cash flow to €5.5m (Q1/16: 1.9m) stems from the Y/Y portfolio growth and associated rise in rental and operating income. Cash flow from investing was below the prior year level at €-47m (Q1/16: €-56m). Cash flow from financing totalled €64m vs €76m in the prior year period. The cash position thus increased some €22m to €32m at the end of the period. In our view, the company has ample liquidity to react to market opportunities.



## **APPENDIX**

**Table 4: Timetable summary** 

|  | date             |
|--|------------------|
| Expected approval of tender offer by BaFin   | 27 June          |
| Offer period   | 28 June - 6 Sept |
| Expected publication of the statement of the Management and Supervisory Board of WCM in support of the offer | 5 July           |
| Expected publication of the Tender Offer results and start of 2-<br>week additional acceptance period        | 13 Sept          |
| Additional acceptance period   | 14 - 27 Sept     |
| Expected publication of the final results of tender offer  | 5 Oct            |
| Transaction closing  | Oct 2017         |

Source: First Berlin Equity Research; Company



## **INCOME STATEMENT**

| All figures in EUR '000                                     | 2014   | 2015    | 2016    | 2017E  | 2018E   |
|---|--------|---------|---------|--------|---------|
| Rental income   | 0      | 10,445  | 32,613  | 42,947 | 51,963  |
| Property OpEx   | 0      | -885    | -2,817  | -3,650 | -4,417  |
| Net rental income   | 0      | 9,560   | 29,796  | 39,296 | 47,546  |
| Disposals   | 0      | 0       | 799     | 0      | 0       |
| Capital gains, property revaluations & gains from disposals | 0      | 54,904  | 29,213  | 37,974 | 44,540  |
| Other operating income                                      | 996    | 3,012   | 1,454   | 1,400  | 1,400   |
| Pesonnel expenses   | -180   | -1,530  | -4,576  | -4,724 | -4,677  |
| Other operating expenses                                    | -1,489 | -6,715  | -12,853 | -7,633 | -7,823  |
| Depreciation & amortisation                                 | 0      | -359    | -1,086  | -1,074 | -1,247  |
| Operating income (EBIT)                                     | -673   | 58,872  | 42,747  | 65,240 | 79,739  |
| Net financial result  | -209   | -2,076  | -7,138  | -8,900 | -11,317 |
| Other financial expenses                                    | 1      | 0       | 0       | 0      | 0       |
| Pre-tax income (EBT)  | -881   | 56,796  | 35,609  | 56,340 | 68,422  |
| Income taxes  | 2,087  | 879     | -17,048 | -995   | -1,164  |
| Net income / loss   | 1,206  | 57,675  | 18,561  | 55,344 | 67,257  |
| Minority interests  | 0      | 3,383   | 2,763   | 3,321  | 4,035   |
| Net income after minorities                                 | 1,206  | 54,292  | 15,798  | 52,024 | 63,222  |
| Basic EPS (in €)  | 0.08   | 0.72    | 0.12    | 0.37   | 0.41    |
| Diluted EPS (in €)  | 0.08   | 0.72    | 0.12    | 0.37   | 0.41    |
| Adjusted EBITDA   | -673   | 10,731  | 25,165  | 33,181 | 38,813  |
| Ratios  |        |         |         |        |         |
| Adjusted EBITDA margin                                      | n.m.   | 102.7%  | 77.2%   | 77.3%  | 74.7%   |
| Tax rate  | 4.0%   | 3.0%    | 3.0%    | 3.0%   | 3.0%    |
| Expenses as % of revenues                                   |        |         |         |        |         |
| Property OpEx   | n.m.   | 8.5%    | 8.6%    | 8.5%   | 8.5%    |
| Pesonnel expenses   | n.m.   | 14.6%   | 14.0%   | 11.0%  | 9.0%    |
| Y-Y Growth  |        |         |         |        |         |
| Revenues  | n.m.   | n.m.    | 212.2%  | 31.7%  | 21.0%   |
| Operating income  | n.m.   | n.m.    | -27.4%  | 52.6%  | 22.2%   |
| Adjusted EBITDA   | n.m.   | n.m.    | 134.5%  | 31.9%  | 17.0%   |
| Net income/ loss  | n.m.   | 4682.3% | -67.8%  | 198.2% | 21.5%   |



## **BALANCE SHEET**

| All figures in EUR '000               | 2014    | 2015    | 2016    | 2017E   | 2018E     |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Assets                                |         |         |         |         |           |
| Current assets, total                 | 23,311  | 30,446  | 31,735  | 34,413  | 33,476    |
| Cash and cash equivalents             | 19,376  | 11,136  | 10,013  | 12,582  | 11,590    |
| Property held for sale                | 0       | 4,185   | 0       | 0       | 0         |
| Trade receivables                     | 0       | 309     | 132     | 235     | 285       |
| Other current assets                  | 3,935   | 14,816  | 21,590  | 21,596  | 21,601    |
| Non-current assets, total             | 20,578  | 520,478 | 678,538 | 959,354 | 1,123,078 |
| Property, plant & equipment           | 483     | 4,807   | 3,692   | 3,766   | 3,841     |
| Investment property                   | 17,337  | 501,546 | 662,073 | 942,117 | 1,105,011 |
| Other LT assets                       | 2,758   | 14,125  | 12,773  | 13,470  | 14,226    |
| Total assets                          | 43,889  | 550,924 | 710,273 | 993,767 | 1,156,554 |
| Shareholders' equity & debt           |         |         |         |         |           |
| Current liabilities, total            | 5,879   | 88,877  | 39,999  | 68,789  | 79,115    |
| Short-term debt                       | 1,966   | 76,316  | 22,169  | 48,010  | 54,874    |
| Trade payables                        | 3,628   | 10,733  | 15,077  | 17,339  | 19,939    |
| Provisions & current liabilities      | 285     | 1,828   | 2,753   | 3,441   | 4,302     |
| Long-term liabilities, total          | 6,201   | 192,465 | 354,341 | 498,539 | 571,638   |
| Long-term debt                        | 6,201   | 187,815 | 339,695 | 480,096 | 548,741   |
| Deferred tax liabilities              | 0       | 4,650   | 14,646  | 18,443  | 22,897    |
| Minority interests                    | 1,050   | 8,223   | 11,977  | 15,298  | 19,333    |
| Shareholders' equity                  | 30,759  | 261,359 | 303,956 | 411,141 | 486,468   |
| Loss carryforward / retained earnings | -16,799 | 62,420  | 78,396  | 117,801 | 164,723   |
| Total consolidated equity and debt    | 43,889  | 550,924 | 710,273 | 993,767 | 1,156,554 |
| Ratios                                |         |         |         |         |           |
| Current ratio (x)                     | 3.97    | 0.34    | 0.79    | 0.50    | 0.42      |
| Equity ratio                          | 72.5%   | 48.9%   | 44.5%   | 42.9%   | 43.7%     |
| Financial leverage                    | -36.4%  | 96.8%   | 115.8%  | 125.4%  | 121.7%    |
| EPRA NAV                              | 1.97    | 3.45    | 2.34    | 2.89    | 3.13      |
| EPRA NAV per share (€)                | 0.94    | 2.41    | 2.62    | 2.94    | 3.33      |
| Net debt                              | -11,209 | 252,995 | 351,851 | 515,523 | 592,025   |
| Return on equity (ROE)                | 3.9%    | 22.1%   | 6.1%    | 13.5%   | 13.8%     |
| Loan-to-value (LTV)                   | 47.1%   | 52.2%   | 54.7%   | 56.1%   | 54.6%     |
| Net LTV                               | n.a.    | 50.0%   | 53.1%   | 54.7%   | 53.6%     |



## **CASH FLOW STATEMENT**

| All figures in EUR '000                      | 2014   | 2015     | 2016    | 2017E    | 2018E   |
|--|--------|----------|---------|----------|---------|
| Net income                                   | 1,206  | 57,675   | 18,561  | 55,344   | 67,257  |
| Capital gains, property revaluations & other | 0      | -54,904  | -29,212 | -37,974  | -44,540 |
| Depreciation & amortisation                  | 0      | 359      | 1,086   | 1,074    | 1,247   |
| Net financial result                         | 0      | 2,076    | 7,138   | 8,900    | 11,317  |
| Tax result                                   | 0      | 722      | 388     | 995      | 1,164   |
| Operating cash flow                          | 1,206  | 5,928    | -2,039  | 28,339   | 36,446  |
| Proceeds from disposal of trading properties | 0      | 0        | 0       | 0        | 0       |
| Changes in working capital                   | 2,348  | -11,850  | 189     | 2,008    | 2,398   |
| Provisions and other liabilities             | -1,868 | 3,324    | 23,988  | 3,933    | 4,707   |
| Tax paid                                     | 0      | 12       | -799    | -995     | -1,164  |
| Net operating cash flow                      | 1,686  | -2,586   | 21,339  | 33,285   | 42,386  |
| CapEx/ intangibles                           | 0      | -4,748   | -424    | -1,148   | -1,322  |
| Outflows for investment property             | -3,086 | -347,658 | -89,345 | -174,291 | -89,949 |
| Inflows from disposal of PP&E                | 319    | 66       | 14,002  | 0        | 0       |
| Cash flow from investing                     | -2,767 | -352,340 | -75,767 | -175,438 | -91,271 |
| Debt financing, net                          | 2,860  | 176,133  | 62,552  | 166,241  | 75,510  |
| Equity financing, net                        | 17,593 | 172,765  | -2,415  | 0        | 0       |
| Interest paid                                | 0      | -2,212   | -6,832  | -8,900   | -11,317 |
| Dividends paid                               | 0      | 0        | 0       | -12,619  | -16,300 |
| Cash flow from financing                     | 20,453 | 346,686  | 53,305  | 144,723  | 47,892  |
| Net cash flows                               | 19,372 | -8,240   | -1,123  | 2,570    | -992    |
| Cash, start of the year                      | 4      | 19,376   | 11,136  | 10,013   | 12,583  |
| Cash, end of the year                        | 19,376 | 11,136   | 10,013  | 12,583   | 11,591  |
| Adjusted EBITDA/share (in €)                 | n.m.   | 0.14     | 0.19    | 0.23     | 0.25    |
| FFO I  | 1,414  | 7,931    | 18,027  | 23,286   | 26,332  |
| FFO I/share                                  | 0.09   | 0.10     | 0.14    | 0.16     | 0.17    |
| Y-Y Growth                                   |        |          |         |          |         |
| EBITDA/share                                 | n.m.   | n.m.     | 36.8%   | 20.3%    | 7.0%    |
| FFO I  | n.m.   | 460.9%   | 127.3%  | 29.2%    | 13.1%   |
| FFOPS I                                      | n.m.   | 15.8%    | 32.6%   | 17.9%    | 3.4%    |



## FIRST BERLIN RECOMMENDATION & PRICE TARGET HISTORY

| Report<br>No.:    | Date of publication | Previous day closing price | Recommendation | Price<br>target |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Initial<br>Report | 8 December 2015     | €2.59                      | Buy            | €3.60           |
| 26                | $\downarrow$        | $\downarrow$               | $\downarrow$   | 1               |
| 7                 | 22 March 2017       | €3.03                      | Buy            | €3.70           |
| 8                 | 28 April 2017       | €3.14                      | Buy            | €4.00           |
| 9                 | 12 May 2017         | €3.22                      | Add            | €3.36           |
| 10                | Today               | €3.15                      | Add            | €3.36           |

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First Berlin Equity Research GmbH (hereinafter referred to as: "First Berlin") prepares financial analyses while taking the relevant regulatory provisions, in particular the German Securities Trading Act [VVpHG], Regulation (EU) No 596/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of April 16, 2014, on market abuse (market abuse regulation) and the German Ordinance on the Analysis of Financial Instruments [FinAnV] into consideration. In the following First Berlin provides investors with information about the statutory provisions that are to be observed in the preparation of financial analyses.

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In accordance with Section 34b Paragraph 1 of the German Securities Trading Act [WpHG] and Regulation (EU) No 596/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of April 16, 2014, on market abuse (market abuse regulation) financial analyses may only be passed on or publicly distributed if circumstances or relations which may cause conflicts of interest among the authors, the legal entities responsible for such preparation or companies associated with them are disclosed along with the financial analysis.

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## PRICE TARGET DATES

Unless otherwise indicated, current prices refer to the closing prices of the previous trading day.

## AGREEMENT WITH THE ANALYSED COMPANY AND MAINTENANCE OF OBJECTIVITY

The present financial analysis is based on the author's own knowledge and research. The author prepared this study without any direct or indirect influence exerted on the part of the analysed company. Parts of the financial analysis were possibly provided to the analysed company prior to publication in order to avoid inaccuracies in the representation of facts. However, no substantial changes were made at the request of the analysed company following any such provision.



## **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:

STRONG BUY: An expected favourable price trend of more than 50% combined with sizeable confidence in the quality and forecast security of management.

BUY: An expected favourable price trend of more than 25% percent.

ADD: An expected favourable price trend of between 0% and 25%.

REDUCE: An expected negative price trend of between 0% and -15%.

SELL: An expected negative price trend of more than -15%.

#### 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.

#### **INVESTMENT HORIZON**

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#### UPDATES

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