

PNE AG

Germany / Cleantech
 Primary exchange: Frankfurt
 Bloomberg: PNE3 GR
 ISIN: DE000A0JBPG2

H1 figures

RATING

PRICE TARGET

Return Potential
 Risk Rating

BUY

€ 3.80

51.7%
 High

Q2 EBIT ABOVE EXPECTATION – BUY REITERATED

PNE reported Q2 figures which were above the previous year's numbers and our forecast. EBIT amounted to €4.2m (Q2/17: €5.3m, FBe: €2.3m) and the net result was €2.7m vs. €4.5m in Q2/17. In H1, PNE was awarded projects with a total capacity of 49 MW in German onshore tenders. On 30 June, onshore wind projects with a total capacity of 66 MW were under construction. Furthermore, PNE received a €4m milestone payment for its offshore wind project Gode Wind 3. The company reiterated its 2018 guidance (EBIT €10-16m, EBITDA €2026m). Given another expected offshore milestone payment and expected proceeds from the Chilocco project rights sale (200 MW) in the US in H2, we forecast PNE will reach the upper end of its EBIT guidance. The stock is trading below book value and thus remains attractively valued. Based on unchanged estimates we confirm our Buy rating and the €3.80 price target.

Strong Q2 due to milestone payment PNE generated sales of €17.5m (Q2/17: €19.0m). EBIT amounted to €4.2m (Q2/17: €5.3m, FBe: €2.3m). The €4m milestone payment for Gode Wind 3 was a strong earnings driver. The net result came in at €2.7m (Q2/17: €-4.5m, FBe: €-1.1m). EPS amounted to €0.04 versus €-0.06 in Q2/17 (see figure 1 overleaf).

H1 figures also show much improved operating profitability. H1 EBIT was €4.1m (H1/17: €-5.0m) and the H1 net result was only slightly negative at €-0.3m (H1/17: €-6.5m).

Balance sheet remains strong The repayment of the €100m bond in June reduced debt significantly. Despite the placement of a €50m bond in April financial debt declined from €180m at the beginning of the year to €141m at the end of H1. As the cash position fell from €194m to €115m, net debt increased to €26m. Equity declined slightly to €230m from €235m at the end of 2017. Due to a lower balance sheet total (€433m vs. €493m) the equity ratio increased from 48% to a healthy 53%.

FINANCIAL HISTORY & PROJECTIONS

	2015	2016	2017	2018E	2019E	2020E
Revenue (€m)	109.52	248.58	114.08	125.70	198.69	268.10
Y-o-y growth	-48.2%	127.0%	-54.1%	10.2%	58.1%	34.9%
EBIT (€m)	9.77	97.04	23.13	15.53	19.39	104.54
EBIT margin	8.9%	39.0%	20.3%	12.4%	9.8%	39.0%
Net income (€m)	3.47	68.97	17.08	9.37	10.94	79.12
EPS (diluted) (€)	0.05	0.88	0.22	0.12	0.14	1.01
DPS (€)	0.04	0.12	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.13
FCF (€m)	-105.38	-44.27	-47.39	-85.37	-92.87	272.11
Net gearing	98.1%	-12.6%	-5.8%	29.8%	66.2%	-30.3%
Liquid assets (€m)	86.08	147.69	193.98	68.45	89.52	248.57

RISKS

Risks to our price target include, but are not limited to: changes in legislation, project financing risks, project delays, and project approval risks.

COMPANY PROFILE

PNE AG is an international wind energy project developer for on- and offshore wind farms. It has begun to develop into a clean energy solution provider active in wind, PV, storage, power-to-heat, energy supply management, and energy services. The company is based in Cuxhaven, Germany.

MARKET DATA

As of 09 Aug 2018

Closing Price	€ 2.50
Shares outstanding	76.56m
Market Capitalisation	€ 191.77m
52-week Range	€ 2.25 / 3.18
Avg. Volume (12 Months)	286,726

Multiples	2017	2018E	2019E
P/E	11.5	21.1	18.0
EV/Sales	1.6	1.4	0.9
EV/EBIT	7.7	11.4	9.2
Div. Yield	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%

STOCK OVERVIEW



COMPANY DATA

As of 30 Jun 2018

Liquid Assets	€ 114.89m
Current Assets	€ 253.77m
Intangible Assets	€ 66.47m
Total Assets	€ 433.38m
Current Liabilities	€ 77.47m
Shareholders' Equity	€ 229.70m

SHAREHOLDERS

Internat. Kapitalanlageges. mbH	10.1%
Active Ownership Fund SCS	5.1%
Axxion S.A.	3.2%
Other investors	6.1%
Free Float	75.6%


Figure 1: Reported figures versus forecasts

All figures in €m	Q2-18A	Q2-18E	Delta	Q2-17A	Delta	H1 2018	H1 2017	Delta
Sales	17.47	26.06	-33.0%	19.03	-8.2%	28.41	39.45	-28.0%
EBIT	4.25	2.49	70.5%	-5.29	-	4.05	-4.95	-
margin	24.3%	9.6%		-27.8%		14.3%	-12.6%	
Net income	2.70	-1.06	-	-4.49	-	-0.27	-6.48	-
margin	15.5%	-4.1%		-23.6%		-1.0%	-16.4%	
EPS (diluted) in €	0.04	-0.01	-	-0.06	-	0.00	-0.08	-

Source: First Berlin Equity Research, PNE AG

Cash flow burdened by project development activity The operating cash outflow was €36m due mainly to inventory build-up of €24m and a decrease in trade and other liabilities (€14m). This is the typical seasonal pattern and should be reversed in H2 with cash inflow from project sales. Free cash flow amounted to almost €-38m due to CAPEX of €1.4m. The investing cash flow was €-3.4m. Financing cash flow totalled €-39m resulting in net cash flow of €-79m.

Onshore activity on track In H1, onshore wind farms with a total capacity of 38 MW were commissioned. At the end of the period, 66 MW were under construction in France, Germany, and Sweden. In the first two German onshore tenders, PNE was awarded three projects with a total capacity of 49 MW. Construction of Gerdau-Schwienau (21.6 MW) has already started and we expect construction of Kittlitz (21 MW) and Schlenzer (6.5 MW) in H2. In France, PNE received the permit for a 14 MW project.

€4m milestone payment for Gode Wind 3 Due to progress at the Gode Wind 3 project, PNE received a €4m milestone payment from Oersted. The project was successful in the first German offshore tender in April 2017. In the German 2018 offshore tender, the Gode Wind 4 project was awarded to Oersted. This project was also developed by PNE, which stands to receive further milestone payments in the future. In H2, PNE looks set to receive a €4.1m milestone payment for Borkum Riffgrund II as Oersted has started construction and the milestone is due after the first turbine is commissioned.

Development of 200 MW wind farm portfolio postpones profits into the future PNE has been developing a 200 MW onshore wind portfolio which is to be sold in 2020E. Since 2017, EBT accrued in this portfolio has amounted to ca. €18.8m, of which ca. €6.5m have been generated in H1/18. Profits will be realised when the project is sold. Currently, the portfolio comprises the operating Kührstedt-Alfstedt wind farm (43.2 MW). The Gerdau-Schwienau wind farm (21.6 MW) will be added after commissioning. This would increase the portfolio to almost 64 MW or almost one third of the planned total size.

Power production generated EBITDA of €3.7m in H1 Currently, 69 MW of own wind farms are in operation and generated H1 EBITDA of €3.7m and EBIT of €1.5m. EBITDA contributions from own power production look set to rise in coming quarters as this portfolio continues to grow.

€50m bond successfully placed in April The bond has a 4% coupon resulting in annual interest payments of €2m. In June, PNE redeemed the €100m bond which had an 8% coupon. As a result, interest payments will c.p. be lowered by €6m p.a.

Stake in WKN increased to 100% in July The complete takeover of WKN looks set to lower costs (FBe: €0.5-1.0m p.a.) and increase synergies. The costs for purchasing the remaining 10.9% amounted to ca. €6.2m.



H2 to benefit from offshore milestone payment and US project rights sale Apart from the mentioned expected milestone payment for Borkum Riffgrund 2, we believe that PNE will be able to sell the rights for the 200 MW Chilocco project. Both transactions look set to be key H2 earnings drivers.

Very attractive valuation At the end of H1/18, equity amounted to €229.7m or €3.00 per share. Deducting intangibles & goodwill (€66.5m) we arrive at a tangible book value of €163.2m or €2.13 per share. At a share price of €2.5, the stock is currently trading 17% below its book value and 17% above its tangible book value.

Buy rating confirmed at unchanged price target An updated DCF model yields an unchanged price target of €3.80. We confirm our Buy rating.



VALUATION MODEL

DCF valuation model								
All figures in EUR '000								
	2018E	2019E	2020E	2021E	2022E	2023E	2024E	2025E
Net sales	125,700	198,686	268,095	201,667	205,700	209,814	214,011	218,291
NOPLAT	13,896	17,369	85,469	12,982	13,521	14,152	14,096	14,040
+ depreciation & amortisation	10,068	14,034	20,002	7,726	8,101	8,424	8,697	8,925
Net operating cash flow	23,963	31,403	105,472	20,707	21,622	22,575	22,793	22,965
- total investments (CAPEX, WC, other)	-101,960	-114,995	176,825	-4,463	-12,387	-12,201	-12,002	-11,790
Capital expenditures	-81,705	-105,304	160,857	-11,898	-11,688	-11,463	-11,226	-10,974
Working capital	-20,255	-9,691	14,968	6,436	-1,699	-1,738	-1,776	-1,816
Free cash flows (FCF)	-77,997	-83,591	282,297	16,245	9,235	10,374	10,791	11,175
PV of FCF's	-75,925	-75,981	239,557	12,872	6,833	7,168	6,960	6,731

All figures in thousands	
PV of FCFs in explicit period (2018E-2032E)	177,169
PV of FCFs in terminal period	118,735
Enterprise value (EV)	295,904
+ Net cash / - net debt	14,125
+ Investments / minority interests	-7,679
Shareholder value	302,350

Fair value per share in EUR	3.84
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WACC		7.1%
Cost of equity	11.8%	
Pre-tax cost of debt	7.0%	
Tax rate	25.0%	
After-tax cost of debt	5.3%	
Share of equity capital	28.0%	
Share of debt capital	72.0%	
Price target in EUR	3.80	

		Terminal growth rate						
		0.5%	1.0%	1.5%	2.0%	2.5%	3.0%	3.5%
WACC	4.1%	6.21	6.69	7.36	8.34	9.95	13.03	21.29
	5.1%	4.95	5.19	5.50	5.90	6.46	7.29	8.63
	6.1%	4.14	4.27	4.43	4.63	4.89	5.22	5.69
	7.1%	3.56	3.64	3.73	3.84	3.98	4.14	4.36
	8.1%	3.13	3.27	3.23	3.30	3.38	3.47	3.58
	9.1%	2.79	2.82	2.86	2.90	2.95	3.00	3.07
	10.1%	2.52	2.54	2.56	2.59	2.62	2.65	2.69

* for layout purposes the model shows numbers only to 2025, but runs until 2032



INCOME STATEMENT

All figures in EUR '000	2014A	2015A	2016A	2017A	2018E	2019E	2020E
Revenues	211,268	109,524	248,577	114,076	125,700	198,686	268,095
Change in inventories	19,078	116,096	1,591	63,331	0	0	0
Other operating income	3,603	7,707	9,075	9,483	6,419	6,961	7,210
Total aggregate output	233,949	233,327	259,244	186,890	132,119	205,647	275,305
Cost of goods sold	-170,496	-154,934	-96,951	-108,381	-56,565	-117,225	-93,833
Gross profit	59,850	70,686	153,218	5,695	69,135	81,461	174,262
Personnel costs	-27,041	-29,254	-25,423	-25,789	-26,821	-27,893	-28,730
Other operating expenses	-25,206	-29,504	-26,946	-24,125	-23,138	-27,102	-28,200
EBITDA	11,206	19,635	109,924	28,595	25,595	33,427	124,542
Depreciation and amortisation	-8,526	-9,870	-12,884	-5,466	-10,068	-14,034	-20,002
Operating income (EBIT)	2,680	9,765	97,040	23,129	15,527	19,393	104,539
Interest Expense	-14,934	-16,381	-17,331	-10,709	-8,872	-11,069	-11,261
Interest Income	2,422	1,743	1,111	619	503	795	1,072
Income from participations & ass. companies	-5,334	-86	736	1,022	1,000	1,000	1,000
Pre-tax income (EBT)	-15,166	-4,959	81,556	14,061	8,158	10,119	95,350
Income taxes	-3,131	3,570	-14,476	174	-1,632	-2,024	-19,070
Minority interests	5,305	4,863	1,893	2,840	2,840	2,840	2,840
Net income / loss	-12,992	3,474	68,973	17,075	9,367	10,935	79,120
Diluted EPS (in €)	-0.21	0.05	0.88	0.22	0.12	0.14	1.01

Ratios

Gross margin	28.3%	64.5%	61.6%	5.0%	55.0%	41.0%	65.0%
EBITDA margin on revenues	5.3%	17.9%	44.2%	25.1%	20.4%	16.8%	46.5%
EBIT margin on revenues	1.3%	8.9%	39.0%	20.3%	12.4%	9.8%	39.0%
Net margin on revenues	-6.1%	3.2%	27.7%	15.0%	7.5%	5.5%	29.5%
Tax rate	-20.6%	72.0%	17.7%	-1.2%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%

Expenses as % of revenues

Personnel costs	12.8%	26.7%	10.2%	22.6%	21.3%	14.0%	10.7%
Depreciation and amortisation	4.0%	9.0%	5.2%	4.8%	8.0%	7.1%	7.5%
Other operating expenses	11.9%	26.9%	10.8%	21.1%	18.4%	13.6%	10.5%

Y-Y Growth

Revenues	46.7%	-48.2%	127.0%	-54.1%	10.2%	58.1%	34.9%
Operating income	-93.8%	264.4%	893.7%	-76.2%	-32.9%	24.9%	439.1%
Net income/ loss	n.m.	n.m.	1885.4%	-75.2%	-45.1%	16.7%	623.5%



BALANCE SHEET

All figures in EUR '000	2014A	2015A	2016A	2017A	2018E	2019E	2020E
Assets							
Current assets, total	265,935	236,033	289,776	308,379	196,399	227,836	370,639
Cash and cash equivalents	72,175	86,075	147,686	193,984	68,447	89,520	248,566
Short-term investments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Receivables	20,098	7,969	13,187	5,119	12,053	19,052	22,035
Inventories	152,389	121,177	112,946	86,361	92,984	96,349	77,123
Other current assets	21,273	20,812	15,957	22,915	22,915	22,915	22,915
Non-current assets, total	150,900	252,231	142,218	184,905	257,038	348,307	167,447
Property, plant & equipment	73,655	167,347	39,230	103,872	175,429	266,698	85,839
Goodwill & other intangibles	63,926	63,105	67,400	66,825	67,400	67,400	67,400
Long-term investments / ass. companies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other assets	13,319	21,779	35,588	14,208	14,208	14,208	14,208
Total assets	416,835	488,264	431,994	493,285	453,437	576,142	538,086
Shareholders' equity & debt							
Current liabilities, total	95,034	84,858	73,922	179,150	85,343	126,016	91,631
Short-term debt	34,940	35,857	2,163	107,109	20,000	60,000	20,000
Accounts payable	21,476	16,852	15,692	25,295	18,597	19,270	17,995
Current provisions	3,908	6,291	3,968	4,858	4,858	4,858	4,858
Other current liabilities	34,710	25,858	52,099	41,888	41,888	41,888	48,778
Long-term liabilities, total	161,606	237,478	128,685	78,915	129,410	206,410	136,410
Long-term debt	141,207	215,975	115,860	72,751	122,751	199,751	129,751
Deferred revenue	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other liabilities	20,399	21,503	12,825	6,163	6,658	6,658	6,658
Minority interests	33	-3,102	-5,393	-7,679	-10,519	-13,359	-16,199
Shareholders' equity	160,162	169,030	234,781	242,899	249,203	257,076	326,244
Share capital	71,975	76,555	76,556	76,556	76,556	76,556	76,556
Capital reserve	77,803	82,287	82,288	82,288	82,288	82,288	82,288
Other reserves	-296	-724	-997	-908	-908	-908	-908
Treasury stock	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Retained earnings	10,680	10,912	76,934	84,962	91,266	99,139	168,307
Total consolidated equity and debt	416,835	488,264	431,994	493,285	453,437	576,142	538,086
Ratios							
Current ratio (x)	2.80	2.78	3.92	1.72	2.30	1.81	4.04
Quick ratio (x)	1.19	1.35	2.39	1.24	1.21	1.04	3.20
Net cash	-103,972	-165,757	29,663	14,124	-74,304	-170,232	98,814
Net gearing	64.9%	98.1%	-12.6%	-5.8%	29.8%	66.2%	-30.3%
Book value per share (€)	2.60	2.16	2.92	2.99	3.03	3.10	3.94
Tangible book value per share (€)	1.62	1.37	2.11	2.18	2.23	2.29	3.13
Equity ratio (incl. minorities)	38.4%	34.0%	53.1%	47.7%	52.6%	42.3%	57.6%
Return on equity (ROE)	-8.1%	2.1%	29.4%	7.0%	3.8%	4.3%	24.3%
Return on assets (ROA)	0.5%	4.1%	20.0%	5.6%	4.0%	3.8%	16.8%
Return on investment (ROI)	-3.1%	0.7%	16.0%	3.5%	2.1%	1.9%	14.7%
Return on capital employed (ROCE)	0.9%	3.1%	34.3%	10.5%	5.7%	5.2%	32.7%
Days sales outstanding (DSO)	34.7	26.6	19.4	16.4	35.0	35.0	30.0
Days inventory outstanding (DIO)	326.2	285.5	425.2	290.8	600.0	300.0	300.0
Days payables outstanding (DPO)	46.0	39.7	59.1	85.2	120.0	60.0	70.0



CASH FLOW STATEMENT

All figures in EUR '000	2014A	2015A	2016A	2017A	2018E	2019E	2020E
EBIT	2,681	9,765	97,040	23,129	15,527	19,393	104,539
Depreciation and amortisation	8,554	9,898	12,884	5,466	10,068	14,034	20,002
EBITDA	11,235	19,663	109,924	28,595	25,595	33,427	124,542
Changes in working capital	-28,886	-74,556	58,583	12,292	-20,255	-9,691	14,968
Other adjustments	-11,845	-47,582	-104,081	-18,257	-9,001	-11,298	-28,259
Operating cash flow	-29,496	-102,475	64,426	22,630	-3,661	12,438	111,251
Investments in PP&E	-4,829	-2,903	-108,699	-70,015	-81,705	-105,304	160,857
Investments in intangibles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Free cash flow	-34,325	-105,378	-44,273	-47,385	-85,366	-92,865	272,108
Acquisitions & disposals, net	-81	23,258	106,876	51,300	0	0	0
Other investments	0	-255	-418	-7,535	0	0	0
Cash flow from investing	-4,910	20,100	-2,241	-26,250	-81,705	-105,304	160,857
Debt financing, net	11,137	97,715	23,171	59,106	-37,109	117,000	-110,000
Equity financing, net	33,435	9,454	0	0	0	0	0
Dividends paid	-8,229	-3,062	-3,062	-9,187	-3,062	-3,062	-3,062
Other financing	-2,302	-2,221	0	0	0	0	0
Cash flow from financing	34,041	101,886	20,109	49,919	-40,171	113,938	-113,062
Forex and other changes in cash	-4,862	-5,611	-20,684	-1	0	0	0
Net cash flows	-5,227	13,900	61,609	46,298	-125,537	21,072	159,046
Cash, start of the year	77,402	72,175	86,076	147,686	193,984	68,447	89,520
Cash, end of the year	72,175	86,075	147,686	193,984	68,447	89,520	248,566
EBITDA/share (in €)	0.18	0.26	1.40	0.36	0.33	0.42	1.58
Operating cashflow/share (in €)	-0.48	-1.33	0.82	0.29	-0.05	0.16	1.41
Y-Y Growth							
Operating cash flow	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	-64.9%	n.m.	n.m.	794.4%
Free cash flow	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.
EBITDA/share	-81.2%	40.4%	447.5%	-74.0%	-10.5%	30.6%	272.6%

FIRST BERLIN RECOMMENDATION & PRICE TARGET HISTORY

Report No.:	Date of publication	Previous day closing price	Recommendation	Price target
Initial Report	31 March 2008	€2.38	Buy	€4.50
2...90	↓	↓	↓	↓
91	23 November 2017	€2.82	Buy	€3.80
92	12 April 2018	€2.48	Buy	€3.80
93	14 May 2018	€2.49	Buy	€3.80
94	Today	€2.50	Buy	€3.80

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

Category		1	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 €0 – €2 billion, and Category 2 companies have a market capitalisation of > €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.

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- key sources of information in the preparation of this research report
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