

34/2021/GPW (123) November 16, 2021

This report is prepared for the Warsaw Stock Exchange SA within the framework of the Analytical Coverage Support Program. 3.0.
This is an excerpt from the Polish version of DM BOŚ SA's research report.

Analyst: Maciej Wewiórski

Sector: Construction materials
Fundamental rating: Buy (→)
Market relative: Overweight (→)
Price: PLN 16.82
12M EFV: PLN 23.30 (↑)

Market Cap: US\$ 63 m
Bloomberg code: GRN PW
Av. daily turnover: US\$ 0.17 m
12M range: PLN 10.15-17.46
Free float: 34.2%

Grodno

Recent developments vital for the Company

On November 15 the Company released selected preliminary financial results for 2Q21 (encompassing the period since July 1 till September 30).

2Q21 sales constituted no surprise as the Company releases the monthly data regularly, at the beginning of the following month. Grodno claims that materially higher yoy sales in the RES segment and in the segment of cables and wires exerted the biggest positive impact on the revenues and income items. Besides, the Company has been experiencing a growth of revenues in all the remaining business segments with the EBITDA margin at 5.1% comparable to the high 1Q21 level (vs 2.5% in 2Q20), which became a positive surprise. When analyzing the improvement in the released financials, it should be remembered that in 1H20 Grodno obtained financial aid in the amount of PLN 3.5 million within the government 'Anti-crisis Shield', which affected positively the results then. Additionally, a positive impact in the previous year came from shifting the bonus payments for employees to subsequent periods in 2020.

Fig. 1. Grodno; 2Q21 financial results

	2Q21	2Q20	yoy chg	1-2Q21	1-2Q20	yoy chg
Sales	300.6	187.0	61%	541.9	335.7	61%
EBITDA	15.5	4.7	226%	27.8	13.4	107%
	5.1%	2.5%	-	5.1%	4.0%	-
EBIT	13.8	3.3	318%	24.5	10.6	131%
	4.6%	1.8%	-	4.5%	3.2%	-
Net income	11.0	2.6	323%	19.3	8.4	130%
	3.7%	1.4%	-	3.6%	2.5%	-

Source: Company, DM BOŚ SA

Guide to adjusted profits

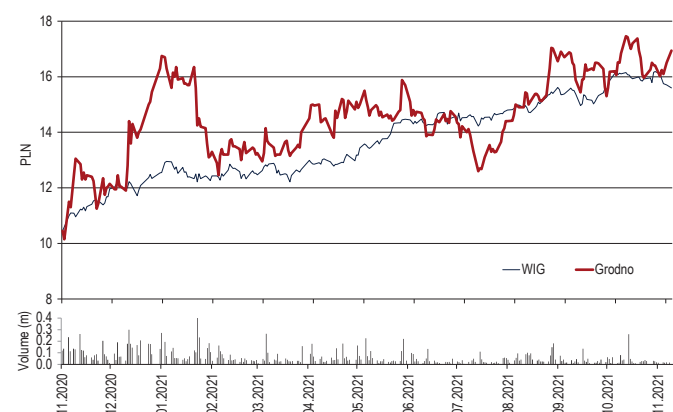
No factors necessitating adjustments.

Key data

IFRS consolidated		2020/21	2021/22E	2022/23E	2023/24E
Sales	PLN m	711.7	1,089.4	1,198.3	1,294.2
EBITDA	PLN m	24.6	55.6	56.0	57.2
EBIT	PLN m	18.8	48.4	47.9	49.2
Net income	PLN m	13.7	36.8	36.1	37.5
EPS	PLN	0.89	2.39	2.35	2.44
EPS yoy chg	%	19.0	167.4	-1.7	3.7
Net debt	PLN m	63.9	82.9	78.7	60.0
P/E	x	18.8	7.0	7.2	6.9
P/CE	x	13.2	5.9	5.9	5.7
EV/EBITDA	x	13.1	6.2	6.0	5.6
EV/EBIT	x	17.2	7.1	7.0	6.5
EV/Sales	x	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.2
Gross dividend yield	%	0.5	1.2	4.3	4.2
DPS	PLN	0.08	0.21	0.72	0.70
No. of shares (eop)	m	15.4	15.4	15.4	15.4

Source: Company, DM BOŚ SA estimates

Stock performance



Source: Bloomberg

Upcoming events

1. Release of the financial report for 1H21/22: December 16, 2021
2. Release of the financial report for 3Q21/22: February 15, 2022

Forecasts review

2Q21 results are good indeed and prompt us to revise our financial forecasts. The best way to do this would be to prepare a separate forecast for each business segment (6), as the growth profile for each of them is different. Unfortunately, the Company does not reveal the historical data split by segments due to the trade secret and, therefore, our sales forecast encompasses all the segments.

It seems certain that the growth driver for the Company will be the RES segment, though the electrotechnical, heating and lightening segments should grow as well.

Valuation

With the upgrade of financial forecasts, our 12M EFV has increased.

We implement two methods in the valuation of the Company: DCF FCFF method and peer-relative

valuation based on the EV/EBITDA, EV/EBIT and P/E multiples. In the peer-relative valuation we compare Grodno against a set of Polish companies listed on the WSE.

In our DCF model we implement the following assumptions:

- the residual growth at 1.5% (no change),
- unleveraged Beta at 1.1% (no change),
- the market risk premium at 6.0% (previously 6.5%),
- the risk free rate at 2.9% (previously 2.0%).

Our 12M DCF EFV implies PLN 25.4 per share. The peer-relative exercise is based on domestic peers and forward multiples for 2021-23E: P/E, EV/EBITDA and EV/EBIT. The peer-implied EFV yields PLN 21.2 per share. Ultimately, our 12M target EFV calculated as the arithmetic average of both valuations stands at PLN 23.3 per share.

Catalysts

1. Warehouse space optimization
2. Rising electricity prices for end-users
3. New support programs for the RES segment investors
4. Further acquisitions of peer companies (to-date Grodno has concluded 10 takeovers)
5. Automation of warehouse storage and distribution processes
6. Successful development of e-commerce channel in B2C and B2B segments

Risk factors

1. Rising generation costs of suppliers because of raw materials prices growth and lack of possibility to transfer the prices growth onto customers
2. Pressure on wages growth
3. Sales seasonality
4. Dependence on main suppliers
5. Insolvency of buyers
6. Bad inventories management
7. IT system crashes
8. Impact of the majority shareholders controlling 79.3% of the votes on the GSA
9. Inability to reach strategic goals (annual growth of sales at 10% by 2024/25) Withdrawal from/ limits imposed on the government support programs for the RES segment investors
10. Inability to continue further lucrative acquisitions of peer companies
11. COVID-19 pandemic (shortages of components necessary for the production or lack of goods due to broken supply chains)

Competitive advantages

1. Strong geographic diversification (one of the most extensively developed sales network among independent distributors of electrotechnical materials)
2. Exposure to the fast growing segments of the electrotechnical market (photovoltaics and heat pumps currently, earlier LED lighting)
3. Comprehensive offer including consulting services, design and construction
4. Numerous acquisitions all of which proved to be value accretive
5. A vast client base including households, SMES, local and regional government units, and industrial plants as well
6. Lack of dependence on one/few suppliers
7. Multiple points of sale (suppliers more willing to cooperate with the big partner with a well-developed logistic base)

BASIC DEFINITIONS

A/R turnover (in days) = $365/(\text{sales}/\text{average A/R})$
Inventory turnover (in days) = $365/(\text{COGS}/\text{average inventory})$
A/P turnover (in days) = $365/(\text{COGS}/\text{average A/P})$
Current ratio = $(\text{current assets} - \text{ST deferred assets})/\text{current liabilities}$
Quick ratio = $(\text{current assets} - \text{ST deferred assets} - \text{inventory})/\text{current liabilities}$
Interest coverage = $(\text{pre-tax profit before extraordinary items} + \text{interest payable})/\text{interest payable}$
Gross margin = $\text{gross profit on sales}/\text{sales}$
EBITDA margin = $\text{EBITDA}/\text{sales}$
EBIT margin = EBIT/sales
Pre-tax margin = $\text{pre-tax profit}/\text{sales}$
Net margin = $\text{net profit}/\text{sales}$
ROE = $\text{net profit}/\text{average equity}$
ROA = $(\text{net income} + \text{interest payable})/\text{average assets}$
EV = $\text{market capitalization} + \text{interest bearing debt} - \text{cash and equivalents}$
EPS = $\text{net profit}/\text{no. of shares outstanding}$
CE = $\text{net profit} + \text{depreciation}$
Dividend yield (gross) = $\text{pre-tax DPS}/\text{stock market price}$
Cash sales = $\text{accrual sales corrected for the change in A/R}$
Cash operating expenses = $\text{accrual operating expenses corrected for the changes in inventories and A/P, depreciation, cash taxes and changes in the deferred taxes}$

DM BOŚ S.A. generally values the covered non bank companies via two methods: comparative method and DCF method (discounted cash flows). The advantage of the former is the fact that it incorporates the current market assessment of the value of the company's peers. The weakness of the comparative method is the risk that the valuation benchmark may be mispriced. The advantage of the DCF method is its independence from the current market valuation of the comparable companies. The weakness of this method is its high sensitivity to undertaken assumptions, especially those related to the residual value calculation. Please note that we also resort to other valuation techniques (e.g. NAV-, DDM- or SOTP-based), should it prove appropriate in a given case.

KEY TO INVESTMENT RANKINGS

This is a guide to expected price performance in absolute terms over the next 12 months:

Buy – fundamentally undervalued (upside to 12M EFV in excess of the cost of equity) + catalysts which should close the valuation gap identified;
Hold – either (i) fairly priced, or (ii) fundamentally undervalued/overvalued but lacks catalysts which could close the valuation gap;
Sell – fundamentally overvalued (12M EFV < current share price + 1-year cost of equity) + catalysts which should close the valuation gap identified.

This is a guide to expected relative price performance:

Overweight – expected to perform better than the benchmark (WIG) over the next quarter in relative terms
Neutral – expected to perform in line with the benchmark (WIG) over the next quarter in relative terms
Underweight – expected to perform worse than the benchmark (WIG) over the next quarter in relative terms

The recommendation tracker presents the performance of DM BOŚ S.A.'s recommendations. A recommendation expires on the day it is altered or on the day 12 months after its issuance, whichever comes first.

Relative performance compares the rate of return on a given recommended stock in the period of the recommendation's validity (i.e. from the date of issuance to the date of alteration or – in case of maintained recommendations – from the date of issuance to the current date) in a relation to the rate of return on the benchmark in this time period. The WIG index constitutes the benchmark. For recommendations that expire by an alteration or are maintained, the ending values used to calculate their absolute and relative performance are: the stock closing price on the day the recommendation expires/ is maintained and the closing value of the benchmark on that date. For recommendations that expire via a passage of time, the ending values used to calculate their absolute and relative performance are: the average of the stock closing prices for the day the recommendation elapses and four directly preceding sessions and the average of the benchmark's closing values for the day the recommendation expires and four directly preceding sessions.

Distribution of DM BOŚ's current recommendations

	Buy	Hold	Sell	Suspended	Under revision	Not rated
Numbers	50	23	5	9	0	2
Percentage	56%	26%	6%	10%	0%	2%

Distribution of DM BOŚ's current market relative recommended weightings

	Overweight	Neutral	Underweight	Suspended	Under revision	Not rated
Numbers	36	33	9	9	0	2
Percentage	40%	37%	10%	10%	0%	2%

Banks

Net Interest Margin (NIM) = $\text{net interest income}/\text{average assets}$
Non interest income = $\text{fees\&commissions} + \text{result on financial operations (trading gains)} + \text{FX gains}$
Interest Spread = $(\text{interest income}/\text{average interest earning assets})/(\text{interest cost}/\text{average interest bearing liabilities})$
Cost/Income = $(\text{general costs} + \text{depreciation})/(\text{profit on banking activity} + \text{other net operating income})$
ROE = $\text{net profit}/\text{average equity}$
ROA = $\text{net income}/\text{average assets}$
Non performing loans (NPL) = loans in 'basket 3' category
NPL coverage ratio = $\text{loan loss provisions}/\text{NPL}$
Net provision charge = $\text{provisions created} - \text{provisions released}$

DM BOŚ S.A. generally values the covered banks via two methods: comparative method and fundamental target fair P/E and target fair P/BV multiples method. The advantage of the former is the fact that it incorporates the current market assessment of the value of the company's peers. The weakness of the comparative method is the risk that the valuation benchmark may be mispriced. The advantage of the fundamental target fair P/E and target fair P/BV multiples method is its independence of the current market valuation of the comparable companies. The weakness of this method is its high sensitivity to undertaken assumptions, especially those related to the residual value calculation. Assumptions used in valuation can change, influencing thereby the level of the valuation. Among the most important assumptions are: GDP growth, forecasted level of inflation, changes in interest rates and currency prices, employment level and change in wages, demand on the analysed company products, raw material prices, competition, standing of the main customers and suppliers, legislation changes, etc. Changes in the environment of the analysed company are monitored by analysts involved in the preparation of the recommendation, estimated, incorporated in valuation and published in the recommendation whenever needed.

Distribution of DM BOŚ's current recommendations for the companies which DM BOŚ has supplied with material investment services within the last 12 months

	Buy	Hold	Sell	Suspended	Under revision	Not rated
Numbers	13	2	0	1	0	2
Percentage	72%	11%	0%	6%	0%	11%

Distribution of DM BOŚ's current market relative recommended weightings for the companies which DM BOŚ has supplied with material investment services within the last 12 months

	Overweight	Neutral	Underweight	Suspended	Under revision	Not rated
Numbers	9	5	1	1	0	2
Percentage	50%	28%	6%	6%	0%	11%

LT fundamental recommendation tracker

Analyst	Recommendation	Report date	Reiteration date	Distribution date	Expiry date	Performance	Relative performance	Price at issue/reiteration*	EFV (12 months)	
Grodno										
Maciej Wewiórski	Buy	31.08.2021	-	31.08.2021	Not later than 31.08.2022	11%	9%	15.34	20.60	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	31.08.2021	31.08.2021	-	-	15.86	20.60	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	07.10.2021	07.10.2021	-	-	15.60	20.60	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	01.11.2021	02.11.2021	-	-	15.96	20.39	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	04.11.2021	04.11.2021	-	-	16.42	20.39	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	16.11.2021	17.11.2021	-	-	16.82	23.30	-

* prices at issue/reiteration are the closing prices at the report or reiteration date

Market-relative recommendation tracker

Analyst	Relative Recommendation	Report date	Reiteration date	Distribution date	Expiry date	Price at issue/reiteration*	Relative performance
Grodno							
Maciej Wewiórski	Overweight	31.08.2021	-	31.08.2021	Not later than 31.08.2022	15.34	9%
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	31.08.2021	31.08.2021	15.86	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	07.10.2021	07.10.2021	15.60	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	01.11.2021	02.11.2021	15.96	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	04.11.2021	04.11.2021	16.42	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	16.11.2021	17.11.2021	16.82	-

* prices at issue/reiteration are the closing prices at the report or reiteration date

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This report constitutes a recommendation within the meaning of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/958 of 9 March 2016 supplementing Regulation (EU) No 596/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to regulatory technical standards for the technical arrangements for objective presentation of investment recommendations or other information recommending or suggesting an investment strategy and for disclosure of particular interests or indications of conflicts of interest. This report is for information purposes only.

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The report was not shown to the analyzed company before the distribution of the report.

Stockbrokers

Piotr Kalbarczyk
tel.: +48 (22) 504 32 43
p.kalbarczyk@bossa.pl

Research

Sobiesław Pająk, CFA
(Equity strategy, TMT)

Sylwia Jaśkiewicz, CFA
(Construction materials, Consumer staples & discretionary, Health care)

Tomasz Rodak, CFA
(Consumer discretionary, Video games)

Lukasz Prokopiuk, CFA
(Chemicals, Mining, Mining – machinery, Oil & gas)

Michał Sobolewski, CFA, FRM
(Financials)

Jakub Viscardi
(Telco, Consumer staples & discretionary, IT – hardware distribution, Utilities)

Maciej Wewiórski
(Residential construction, Construction, Real estate)

Mikołaj Stępień
Associate

Michał Zamel
Associate

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**Dom Maklerski Banku Ochrony
Środowiska Spółka Akcyjna**
ul. Marszałkowska 78/80
00-517 Warszawa
www.bossa.pl
Information: (+48) 0 801 104 104