

**49/2024/GPW (112)** December 1, 2024

This report is prepared for the Warsaw Stock Exchange SA within the framework of the Analytical Coverage Support Program 4.0.

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# Grodno

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**Analyst:** Maciej Wewiórski

**Sector:** Construction materials

**Fundamental rating:** Buy (→)

**Market relative:** Neutral (→)

**Price:** PLN 9.62

**12M EFV:** PLN 12.4 (→)

**Market Cap:** US\$ 36 m

**Bloomberg code:** GRN PW

**Av. daily turnover:** US\$ 0.1 m

**12M range:** PLN 9.62-12.28

**Free float:** 34.2%

# Grodno

## Key points

■ **Slowdown on the electric power market.** This year warehouses with electrotechnical products have been selling less yoy. Investors curbed their projects which is corroborated by a low number of the construction permits issued. Nevertheless, we expect some recovery on this market in 2025-26. The cable industry should finally witness an inflow of funds within the framework of the European Economic Recovery Plan some of which should be spent on the modernization of electric transmission networks. PSE have already announced an extensive program for the network redevelopment and Grodno should become the beneficiary of these investments. In the RES industry the Mój Prąd 6.0 program of subsidies will be based on the energy storages which Grodno has in stock while there is a shortage of them on the market. Payments of subsidies from the Czyste Powietrze program have been resumed.

■ **Growth via acquisitions.** The growth pace of Grodno's revenues and profits accelerated with 11 acquisitions carried out to date. We consider the Company's takeover transactions as successful and value-adding and believe we may see more attractive acquisitions in the future given favorable pricing of smaller competitors.

At the moment, Grodno's priority seems to be its market position's strengthening, albeit the pressure exerted by the competition is strong. Grodno estimates its market share at 12-13%. After the acquisition of TIM and Kaczmarek Electric the Würth Group's share in the Polish market reached c. 25%. Grodno intends to use the market slowdown for its consolidation as the downturn should favor this kind of activities and

## Guide to adjusted profits

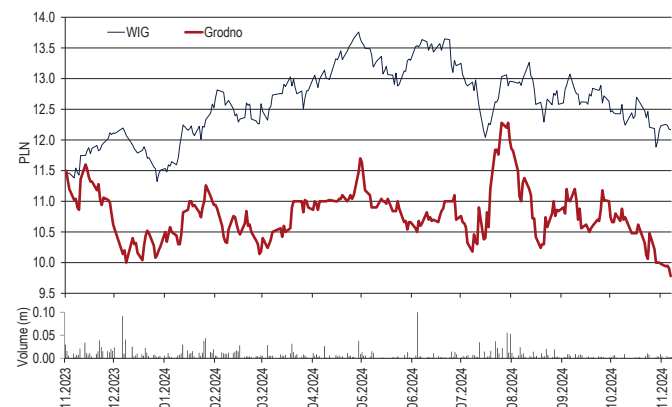
No factors necessitating adjustments.

## Key data

IFRS consolidated		2023/24	2024/25E	2025/26E	2026/27E
Sales	PLN m	1,186.1	1,202.6	1,238.7	1,275.8
EBITDA	PLN m	27.0	37.0	47.8	48.9
EBIT	PLN m	16.9	26.5	37.2	38.3
Net income	PLN m	6.2	16.0	26.7	28.2
EPS	PLN	0.40	1.04	1.74	1.83
EPS yoy chg	%	-72.2	158.2	66.6	5.5
Net debt	PLN m	85.2	71.4	57.4	46.9
P/E	x	24.5	9.5	5.7	5.4
P/CE	x	9.4	5.7	4.1	3.9
EV/EBITDA	x	8.8	6.0	4.4	4.1
EV/EBIT	x	14.0	8.5	5.6	5.2
EV/Sales	x	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Gross dividend yield	%	0.0	0.0	5.3	8.8
DPS	PLN	0.00	0.00	0.52	0.87
No. of shares (eop)	m	15.4	15.4	15.4	15.4

Source: Company, DM BOŚ SA estimates

## Stock performance



Source: Bloomberg

## Recent events

1. Release of the financial report for FY23/24: July 25, 2024
2. Release of the financial report for 1Q24/25: August 22, 2024

## Upcoming events

1. Release of the financial report for 1H24/25: December 12, 2024
2. Release of the financial report for 3Q24/25: February 13, 2025

help strengthen the Company's position in the future. The Company plans more acquisitions. There are quite a few enterprises on the market generating revenues below PLN 100 million and troubled by both, diminishing earnings and succession issues.

- **2Q24/25 financial results preview.** We expect a slight results improvement both, in yoy and qoq terms. According to the Company, in 2Q24/25 sales grew to PLN 319 million from PLN 306 million in 2Q23/24. Last year witnessed a strong decline of photovoltaic panels prices that stopped in December. The current small contractions of prices do not disturb the distributors' operations any more. However, we fear that some material yoy and qoq improvement of 2Q24/25 financial results may be somehow curbed by the announced already efforts to acquire new clients and increase the Company's market share.
- **Financial forecasts.** Our forecasts (modified in August) stay intact.
- **Valuation.** Our 12M EFV (upgraded in August) stays intact.
- **Risk to financial forecasts.** High volatility of product prices and disruptions in demand/supply do not support the stabilization of profitability. Hence, the visibility of Grodno's financial results in the upcoming quarters will not be high, we believe.
- **Recommended action.** We maintain our positive approach towards the Company. We believe that recent turbulences on the electrotechnical/electrical assembly market and resulting profitability decline should be the good opportunity for investors with the mid- or long-term investment horizon to accumulate Grodno's shares.

### 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. Clients insolvency
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)
10. Withdrawal from/ limits imposed on the government support programs for the RES segment investors
11. Inability to continue further lucrative acquisitions of peer companies

### 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** = gross profit on sales/sales  
**EBITDA margin** = EBITDA/sales  
**EBIT margin** = EBIT/sales  
**Pre-tax margin** = pre-tax profit/sales  
**Net margin** = net profit/sales  
**ROE** = net profit/average equity  
**ROA** =  $(\text{net income} + \text{interest payable})/\text{average assets}$   
**EV** = market capitalization + interest bearing debt – cash and equivalents  
**EPS** = net profit/ no. of shares outstanding  
**CE** = net profit + depreciation  
**Dividend yield** (gross) = pre-tax DPS/stock market price  
**Cash sales** = accrual sales corrected for the change in A/R  
**Cash operating expenses** = 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	44	28	5	5	0	5
Percentage	51%	32%	6%	6%	0%	6%

### Distribution of DM BOŚ's current market relative recommended weightings

	Overweight	Neutral	Underweight	Suspended	Under revision	Not rated
Numbers	27	41	9	5	0	5
Percentage	31%	47%	10%	6%	0%	6%

## Banks

**Net Interest Margin (NIM)** = net interest income/average assets  
**Non interest income** = fees&commissions + result on financial operations (trading gains) + 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** = net profit/average equity  
**ROA** = net income/average assets  
**Non performing loans (NPL)** = loans in 'basket 3' category  
**NPL coverage ratio** = loan loss provisions/NPL  
**Net provision charge** = provisions created – 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	4	5	0	1	0	2
Percentage	33%	42%	0%	8%	0%	17%

### 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	3	5	1	1	0	2
Percentage	25%	42%	8%	8%	0%	17%

LT fundamental recommendation tracker

Analyst	Recommendation	Report date	Reiteration date	Distribution date	Expiry date	Performance	Relative performance	Price at issue/reiteration*	EFV (12 months)	
<b>Grodno</b>										
Maciej Wewiórski	Buy	31.08.2021	-	31.08.2021	16.08.2022	4%	30%	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	↑
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	05.12.2021	06.12.2021	-	-	-	16.10	23.30	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	16.01.2022	17.01.2022	-	-	-	17.24	23.30	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	07.02.2022	07.02.2022	-	-	-	18.10	23.30	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	28.02.2022	28.02.2022	-	-	-	15.50	23.30	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	14.04.2022	14.04.2022	-	-	-	19.98	23.30	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	24.04.2022	25.04.2022	-	-	-	19.80	26.60	↑
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	26.05.2022	26.05.2022	-	-	-	17.48	26.60	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	07.06.2022	08.06.2022	-	-	-	17.28	26.60	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	15.07.2022	15.07.2022	-	-	-	16.14	26.60	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	08.08.2022	09.08.2022	-	-	-	15.16	26.60	→
Maciej Wewiórski	Buy	16.08.2022	-	16.08.2022	09.08.2023	-25%	-40%	15.74	26.60	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	02.09.2022	02.09.2022	-	-	-	15.80	26.60	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	07.10.2022	07.10.2022	-	-	-	15.12	26.60	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	28.10.2022	28.10.2022	-	-	-	15.34	26.60	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	14.11.2022	14.11.2022	-	-	-	16.28	24.30	↓
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	01.12.2022	01.12.2022	-	-	-	15.72	24.30	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	04.12.2022	05.12.2022	-	-	-	15.18	24.30	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	22.12.2022	23.12.2022	-	-	-	12.90	17.30	↓
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	13.01.2023	13.01.2023	-	-	-	13.38	17.30	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	03.02.2023	03.02.2023	-	-	-	13.96	17.30	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	10.02.2023	10.02.2023	-	-	-	13.64	17.30	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	02.03.2023	02.03.2023	-	-	-	13.22	17.30	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	10.03.2023	10.03.2023	-	-	-	12.98	17.30	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	13.04.2023	13.04.2023	-	-	-	14.38	17.30	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	29.05.2023	29.05.2023	-	-	-	14.76	17.30	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	14.07.2023	14.07.2023	-	-	-	14.88	17.30	→
Maciej Wewiórski	Hold	09.08.2023	-	09.08.2023	06.08.2024	-12%	-21%	11.82	14.90	↓
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	31.08.2023	31.08.2023	-	-	-	10.90	14.90	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	12.10.2023	12.10.2023	-	-	-	10.70	14.90	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	06.11.2023	06.11.2023	-	-	-	10.86	14.90	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	04.12.2023	04.12.2023	-	-	-	11.60	14.90	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	10.12.2023	11.12.2023	-	-	-	11.32	14.90	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	19.12.2023	19.12.2023	-	-	-	10.98	11.80	↓
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	09.01.2024	09.01.2024	-	-	-	10.28	11.80	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	01.02.2024	01.02.2024	-	-	-	10.48	11.80	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	29.02.2024	29.02.2024	-	-	-	10.32	11.80	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	04.04.2024	04.04.2024	-	-	-	10.60	11.80	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	06.05.2024	06.05.2024	-	-	-	11.00	11.80	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	29.05.2024	29.05.2024	-	-	-	10.90	11.80	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	12.07.2024	12.07.2024	-	-	-	11.00	11.80	→
Maciej Wewiórski	Buy	06.08.2024	-	06.08.2024	Not later than 06.08.2025	-8%	-9%	10.40	12.40	↑
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	12.08.2024	12.08.2024	-	-	-	11.84	12.40	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	24.09.2024	24.09.2024	-	-	-	10.80	12.40	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	11.10.2024	11.10.2024	-	-	-	10.60	12.40	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	04.11.2024	04.11.2024	-	-	-	10.48	12.40	→
Maciej Wewiórski	-	-	01.12.2024	02.12.2024	-	-	-	9.62	12.40	→

\* 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
<b>Grodno</b>								
Maciej Wewiórski	Overweight	←	31.08.2021	-	31.08.2021	16.08.2022	15.34	30%
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	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	05.12.2021	06.12.2021	-	16.10	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	16.01.2022	17.01.2022	-	17.24	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	07.02.2022	07.02.2022	-	18.10	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	28.02.2022	28.02.2022	-	15.50	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	14.04.2022	14.04.2022	-	19.98	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	24.04.2022	25.04.2022	-	19.80	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	26.05.2022	26.05.2022	-	17.48	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	07.06.2022	08.06.2022	-	17.28	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	15.07.2022	15.07.2022	-	16.14	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	08.08.2022	09.08.2022	-	15.16	-
Maciej Wewiórski	Overweight	→	16.08.2022	-	16.08.2022	22.12.2022	15.74	-19%
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	02.09.2022	02.09.2022	-	15.80	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	07.10.2022	07.10.2022	-	15.12	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	28.10.2022	28.10.2022	-	15.34	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	14.11.2022	14.11.2022	-	16.28	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	01.12.2022	01.12.2022	-	15.72	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	04.12.2022	05.12.2022	-	15.18	-
Maciej Wewiórski	Neutral	↓	22.12.2022	-	23.12.2022	10.12.2023	12.90	-35%
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	13.01.2023	13.01.2023	-	13.38	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	03.02.2023	03.02.2023	-	13.96	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	10.02.2023	10.02.2023	-	13.64	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	02.03.2023	02.03.2023	-	13.22	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	10.03.2023	10.03.2023	-	12.98	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	13.04.2023	13.04.2023	-	14.38	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	29.05.2023	29.05.2023	-	14.76	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	14.07.2023	14.07.2023	-	14.88	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	09.08.2023	09.08.2023	-	11.82	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	31.08.2023	31.08.2023	-	10.90	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	12.10.2023	12.10.2023	-	10.70	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	06.11.2023	06.11.2023	-	10.86	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	04.12.2023	04.12.2023	-	11.60	-
Maciej Wewiórski	Neutral	→	10.12.2023	-	11.12.2023	04.11.2024	11.32	-12%
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	19.12.2023	19.12.2023	-	10.98	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	09.01.2024	09.01.2024	-	10.28	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	01.02.2024	01.02.2024	-	10.48	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	29.02.2024	29.02.2024	-	10.32	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	04.04.2024	04.04.2024	-	10.60	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	06.05.2024	06.05.2024	-	11.00	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	29.05.2024	29.05.2024	-	10.90	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	12.07.2024	12.07.2024	-	11.00	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	06.08.2024	06.08.2024	-	10.40	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	12.08.2024	12.08.2024	-	11.84	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	24.09.2024	24.09.2024	-	10.80	-
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	11.10.2024	11.10.2024	-	10.60	-
Maciej Wewiórski	Neutral	→	04.11.2024	-	04.11.2024	Not later than 04.11.2025	10.48	-6%
Maciej Wewiórski	-	→	-	01.12.2024	02.12.2024	-	9.62	-

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

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