Update Note



# Strong increase in full year guidance



#### Share data

Reuters	VBKG.DE
No. of shares (m)	63.0
Daily volume (3m)	218,969
Free float	28.1%
Market cap. (m)	2,280.6
EV (m)	2,224.0
Sales 17/18-21/22e	9.5%

Valuation	20/21e	21/22e
EV/Sales	2.4	2.2
EV/ EBITDA	14.7	15.7
EV/EBIT	18.1	20.0
PER	27.0	30.2
Div. yield	0.6%	0.7%
RoCE	28.3%	23.2%
RoE	18.3%	14.4%

# AnalystsForecaSales (€EBITEEBITEEBITEEBITEEBITEHartmut MoersTel.: +49 228 227 99 240hartmut.moers@matelan.deFree CE

#### Investment case

An improved margin situation has led to an increase in FY EBITDA guidance to EUR150m. Based on current forwards, we feel that this is well achievable and have adjusted our estimates accordingly. So far, we do not yet change our estimates for 2021/22. Here, the further expansion of the company will be quintessential and we would expect a further update on this side with the release of full Q3 results on March, 6<sup>th</sup>. With an upside of almost 40% we stick to our Buy recommendation.

## FY GUIDANCE RAISED TO EUR150M

Ahead of the publication of Q3 results, management has raised its FY guidance from EUR130m to EUR150m in EBITDA and EUR65m in net cash. While the company has already produced EUR80m in EBITDA in the first half of the year, the second half has started with rather moderate sales prices. However, pricing has recently picked up in both divisions and improved margin levels so that H2 might come in not too far from H1.

## ▶ HIGHER MARGINS EXPECTED FOR Q3 AND Q4

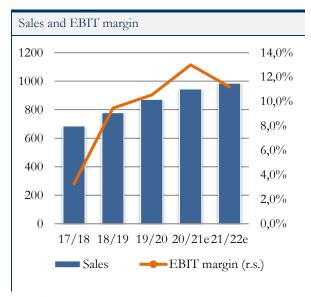
We thus feel that reaching EUR150m is not unrealistic. We believe that in particular the biodiesel activities could have performed better than so far anticipated for Q3. Here, prospects for Q4 remain favourable. Improved pricing in bioethanol should add to this in Q4. We would thus expect an EBITDA level of slightly below EUR35m in Q3 and slightly above EUR35m in Q4.

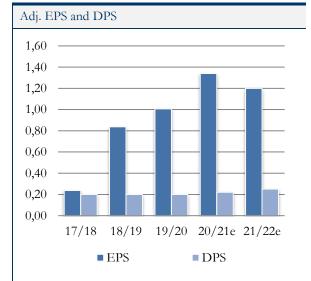
## FAIR VALUE STILL SHOWS HIGH UPSIDE

We thus raise our FY 2020/21 EBITDA estimate to EUR150m. The impact on our fair value is only marginal. The release of Q3 full accounts on May, 6<sup>th</sup>, will allow for more detailed adjustments.

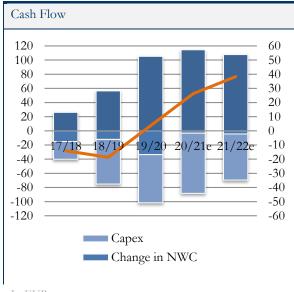
For additional disclosures please refer to the appendix

Forecasts	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21e	21/22e
Sales (€m)	685.9	779.3	872.4	945.1	985.2
EBITDA (€m)	44.8	95.1	122.1	150.9	140.3
EBIT (€m)	22.4	73.7	91.9	122.9	110.3
Adj. EPS (€)	0.24	0.84	1.01	1.34	1.20
Dividend (€)	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.22	0.25
Oper. CF (€m)	11.1	44.3	71.7	111.3	103.3
Free CF (€m)	-14.1	-18.7	3.7	26.3	38.3

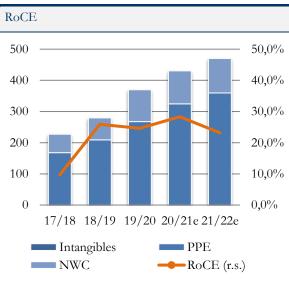




In EURm





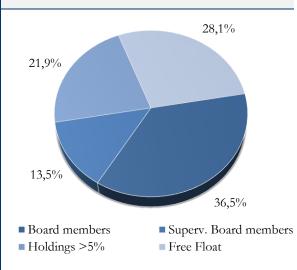


In EURm





In EURm



In EURm

# P & L

IUL					
EURm	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21e	2021/22e
Sales	685.9	779.3	872.4	945.1	985.2
Growth		13.6%	11.9%	8.3%	4.2%
Material costs	-591.0	-618.4	-673.5	-712.2	-765.1
Gross profit	94.9	160.9	198.9	232.9	220.1
Gross margin	13.8%	20.7%	22.8%	24.6%	22.3%
Other operating costs	-23.4	-28.6	-31.9	-37.0	-35.8
EBITDA	44.8	95.1	122.1	150.9	140.3
Margin	6.5%	12.2%	14.0%	16.0%	14.2%
Depreciation	-22.4	-21.4	-30.2	-28.0	-30.0
EBIT	22.4	73.7	91.9	122.9	110.3
Margin	3.3%	9.5%	10.5%	13.0%	11.2%
Financial result	-0.2	-0.6	-0.9	-2.0	-2.0
EBT	22.2	73.1	91.0	120.9	108.3
Taxes	-7.1	-21.4	-27.2	-36.3	-32.5
Net profit	15.1	51.7	63.8	84.6	75.8
Minorities / Discon. Op.	-0.2	1.1	-0.4	-0.2	-0.2
Net profit a.m.	14.9	52.8	63.4	84.4	75.6
Growth	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	<i>n.m</i> .	n.m.
No of shares	63.0	63.0	63.0	63.0	63.0
EPS	0.24	0.84	1.01	1.34	1.20
Adj. EPS	0.24	0.84	1.01	1.34	1.20
Growth	<i>n.m</i> .	<i>n.m</i> .	n.m.	<i>n.m</i> .	n.m.
Dividend	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.22	0.25

Cash Flow					
EURm	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21e	2021/22e
EBIT	22.4	73.7	91.9	122.9	110.3
Depreciation	22.4	21.4	30.2	28.0	30.0
Other non-cash items	-5.1	-13.4	-3.2	0.0	0.0
Cash taxes	-13.6	-25.2	-13.5	-36.3	-32.5
Cash earnings	26.1	56.5	105.3	114.6	107.8
Change in NWC	-15.0	-12.2	-33.7	-3.3	-4.5
CF from operations	11.1	44.3	71.7	111.3	103.3
Capex	-25.2	-63.0	-68.0	-85.0	-65.0
Other investm./divestm.	2.1	2.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
CF from investing	-23.1	-61.0	-67.7	-85.0	-65.0
CF from fin. and other	-14.2	-8.8	6.8	-14.3	-16.3
Change in cash	-26.2	-25.5	10.8	12.0	22.0

# Valuation multiples

L	-				
	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21e	2021/22e
Share price	7.28	6.56	9.35	36.20	36.20
x No of shares	63.0	63.0	63.0	63.0	63.0
Market Capitalisation	458.6	413.3	589.1	2.280.6	2.280.6
+ Net financial debt	-88.2	-53.0	-43.6	-55.6	-77.6
+ Pension provision	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
+ Minorities	1.2	-0.3	1.7	1.8	1.9
- Participations	-0.1	-0.1	-2.8	-2.8	-2.8
Enterprise Value	371.8	360.0	544.4	2.224.0	2.202.1
Sales	685.9	779.3	872.4	945.1	985.2
Adj. EBITDA	44.8	95.1	122.1	150.9	140.3
Adj. EBIT	22.4	73.7	91.9	122.9	110.3
Adj. Net profit a.m.	14.9	52.8	63.4	84.4	75.6
EV / Sales	0.5	0.5	0.6	2.4	2.2
EV / EBITDA	8.3	3.8	4.5	14.7	15.7
EV / EBIT	16.6	4.9	5.9	18.1	20.0
PE	30.7	7.8	9.3	27.0	30.2

Source: Verbio, Matelan Research

Balance Sheet					
EURm	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21e	2021/22e
Intangible assets	0.3	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.6
Tangible assets	168.0	209.3	267.6	324.6	359.6
Participations	0.1	0.1	2.8	2.8	2.8
Other non-current assets	3.4	3.9	2.7	2.8	5.8
Non-current assets	171.7	214.2	273.8	330.8	368.8
Inventories	45.2	63.1	78.8	93.4	97.3
Receivables	45.2	48.5	64.7	45.8	47.7
Cash	88.6	63.1	73.9	85.9	107.9
Other current assets	15.3	36.1	38.1	40.0	42.0
Current Assets	194.2	210.8	255.4	265.1	295.0
Total assets	366.0	424.9	529.2	595.9	663.8
Equity	299.0	339.2	389.1	461.1	523.1
Minorities	1.2	-0.3	1.7	1.8	1.9
Total equity	300.2	338.9	390.8	462.9	525.0
LT financial liabilities	0.0	0.1	30.1	30.1	30.1
Pension provisions	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
OtherLT liabilities	7.5	6.9	19.1	18.5	19.0
Non-current liabilities	7.7	7.1	49.3	48.7	49.2
ST financial liabilities	0.4	10.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Payables	31.2	41.3	41.1	33.5	34.9
Other ST liabilities	26.5	27.6	47.8	50.6	54.5
Current liabilities	58.1	78.9	89.1	84.2	89.6
Total liabilities	366.0	424.9	529.2	595.9	663.8

## Segments and adjusted earnings

0	)		0		
EURm	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21e	2021/22e
Biodiesel	456.8	514.5	588.2	617.7	665.9
Bioethanol/-methan	219.1	254.7	275.2	317.2	308.1
Other	15.7	16.7	16.2	16.2	17.2
Consolidation	-5.7	-6.6	-7.2	-6.0	-6.0
Sales	685.9	779.3	872.4	945.1	985.2
Growth		13.6%	11.9%	8.3%	4.2%
Biodiesel	24.5	70.7	46.1	68.7	63.0
Bioethanol/-methan	19.9	23.8	74.0	81.3	77.2
Other	0.4	0.6	2.0	0.9	0.1
Consolidation	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EBITDA	44.8	95.1	122.1	150.9	140.3
Margin	6.5%	12.2%	14.0%	16.0%	14.2%

# Key operational indicators

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21e	2021/22e
Equity ratio	82.0%	79.8%	73.9%	77.7%	79.1%
Gearing	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Asset turnover	4.0	3.6	3.2	2.9	2.7
NWC / sales	8.6%	9.0%	11.7%	11.2%	11.2%
Payable days outst.	16.6	19.4	17.2	12.9	12.9
Receivable days outst.	24.1	22.7	27.1	17.7	17.7
Fix operating assets	171.7	214.1	270.9	328.0	366.0
NWC	59.2	70.3	102.4	105.7	110.2
Capital employed	230.9	284.4	373.3	433.7	476.1
RoE	5.0%	15.3%	16.3%	18.3%	14.4%
RoA	6.1%	17.3%	17.4%	20.6%	16.6%
RoCE	9.7%	25.9%	24.6%	28.3%	23.2%
Gross margin	13.8%	20.7%	22.8%	24.6%	22.3%
EBITDA margin	6.5%	12.2%	14.0%	16.0%	14.2%
EBIT margin	3.3%	9.5%	10.5%	13.0%	11.2%
Net profit margin	2.2%	6.8%	7.3%	8.9%	7.7%

# ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURES

This report has been prepared by Matelan Research GmbH, Koblenzer Str. 79, 53177 Bonn. All rights are reserved. Copyrights and database rights protection exists in this publication. It may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior express permission of Matelan.

## (1) Analyst certification

The analysts responsible for the content of this research report hereby certify that (1) all views expressed in this report accurately reflect their views about any and all of the subject securities or issuers and (2) no part of their compensation was, is or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific recommendation(s) or view(s) of this report.

Matelan may have sent extracts of this research report to the subject company for the purpose of verifying factual accuracy. The information provided by the latter was taken into consideration in the report. However, this entailed no change of the assessment.

#### (2) Disclosures about potential conflicts of interest

Matelan Research GmbH has/will receive(d) compensation for advisory services provided in the current calendar year from the company under review.

## (3) Rating definitions

Security firms use a variety of rating terms and systems. Investors should carefully read the definitions of the rating system used in each research report. In addition, since the research report contains more complete information concerning analyst's views, investors should carefully read the entire research report and not infer its contents from the ratings alone. In any case, ratings (or research) should not be used or relied upon as investment advice. An investor's decision to buy or sell a stock should depend on individual circumstances (such as the investor's existing holdings) and other considerations.

MATELAN Research GmbH uses an absolute rating system, which varies considerably from relative rating systems (such as "Overweight", "Equal Weight" or "Underweight"). Stock ratings are defined as follows:

Strong Buy:	In the next 6 to 12 months, we expect a potential absolute change in value of over 20% with high
	forecast certainty.
Buy:	In the next 6 to 12 months, we expect a potential absolute change in value of more than 10%.
Neutral:	In the next 6 to 12 months, we expect a potential absolute change in value of over 0% up to a
	maximum of 10%.
Reduce:	In the next 6 to 12 months, we expect a potential absolute negative change in value of up
	to -10%.
Sell:	In the next 6 to 12 months, we expect a potential absolute negative change in value of over
	-10 % with high forecast certainty.

The change in stock price results from the difference between the current share price and the analyst's performance expectations, which are generally based on a fair value calculation performed on the basis of a discounted cash flow model and a key comparison analysis but can also consider other effects such as market sentiment.

## (4) Rating distribution

Stock ratings within the coverage universe of MATELAN Research GmbH as of the publication date of this report are distributed as follows:

Strong Buy:	0.0%
Buy:	62.5%
Neutral:	37.5%
Reduce:	0.0%
Sell:	0.0%

## (5) Recommendation history

Stock ratings for the company covered in this report have developed as follows:

Verbio				
Date	Rating			
12/12/18	Buy			
09/11/18	Strong Buy			
12/02/18	Buy			
29/03/16	Neutral			
05/02/15	Buy			
10/02/12	Neutral			

## (6) Additional information for clients in Germany and other countries

This research report has been produced in Germany. It was approved and distributed by MATELAN Research GmbH, which is supervised by the Bundesanstalt für Finanzdienstleistungsaufsicht (BaFin). Laws and regulations in other countries may also restrict the distribution of this report. Persons in possession of this document should inform themselves about possible legal restrictions and observe them accordingly. In particular, this document may not be distributed in the United States, Canada, Australia or Japan or to any U.S. person.

# DISCLAIMER

This research publication has been prepared by MATELAN analysts based on publicly available data that is believed to be accurate and complete. While reasonable care has been taken to ensure that the information contained herein is not untrue or misleading at the time of publication, MATELAN provides no representation or warranty in relation to its accuracy, completeness or reliability. Possible errors or incompleteness of the information do not constitute grounds for liability, either with regard to indirect or to direct or consequential damages. In particular, MATELAN is not liable for the statements, plans or other details contained in the information concerning the examined companies, strategies, economic situations, market and competitive situations, regulatory environment, etc.

Neither MATELAN nor its employees are liable for the accuracy and completeness of the statements, estimates and conclusions derived from the information contained in this report. To the extent this research report is being transmitted in connection with an existing contractual relationship, e.g. financial advisory or similar services, the liability of MATELAN shall be restricted to gross negligence and wilful misconduct. In any case, the liability of MATELAN is limited to typical, foreseeable damages and liability for any indirect damages is excluded.

This report does not constitute an offer to sell, or a solicitation of an offer to purchase, any security. MATELAN may perform services to other companies mentioned in this report. Directors or employees of MATELAN may serve on the board of directors of companies mentioned in this report. Any opinions contained herein are subject to change without notice.

The analysis contained herein is based on numerous assumptions. Different assumptions could result in materially different results. MATELAN does not accept any liability for any loss or damage out of the use of all or any part of this report. Additional information will be made available upon request.

Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results. Investors should make their own investment decisions without relying on this publication. Only investors with sufficient knowledge and experience in financial matters to evaluate the merits and risks should consider an investment in any issuers or market discussed herein and other persons should not take any action on the basis of this publication.

Any investments referred to herein may involve significant risk, are not necessarily available in all jurisdictions, may be illiquid and not be suitable for all investors. The price of securities may decrease or increase and as a result investors may lose the amount originally invested. Changes in exchange rates may also cause the value of investments to decrease or increase. Any documents or information we provide is solely for informational purposes and directed only to persons we reasonably believe to be investment professionals.

All such communications and any activity to which they relate are available only to such investment professionals; any activity arising from such communications will only be carried out with investment professionals. Persons who do not have professional experience in matters relating to investments shout not rely upon such communications.

# CONTACT DATA

For further information please contact:

Matelan Research GmbH	Head Analyst:
Koblenzer Straße 79	Hartmut Moers
53177 Bonn	Tel: +49 228 227 99 240
www.matelan.de	e-mail: hartmut.moers@matelan.de