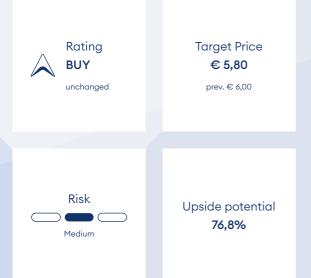
## UPDATE

# FOS

#### Euronext Growth Milan | ICT | Italy

Production 11/10/2023, h. 18:30 Published 12/10/2023, h. 07:00



FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
21,6	26,5	29,6	33,0
3,9	4,5	5,5	6,5
2,2	2,3	3,0	3,9
1,3	1,5	1,9	2,5
(0,04)	(0,09)	(0,99)	(2,29)
17,9%	17,0%	18,6%	19,7%
10,1%	8,7%	10,0%	11,8%
6,2%	5,7%	6,3%	7,6%
	21,6 3,9 2,2 1,3 (0,04) 17,9% 10,1%	21,6 26,5   3,9 4,5   2,2 2,3   1,3 1,5   (0,04) (0,09)   17,9% 17,0%   10,1% 8,7%	21,6 26,5 29,6   3,9 4,5 5,5   2,2 2,3 3,0   1,3 1,5 1,9   (0,04) (0,09) (0,99)   17,9% 17,0% 18,6%   10,1% 8,7% 10,0%

## EQUITY RESEARCH



#### Stocks performance relative to FTSE Italia Growth



## Stock Data Price

Price	€ 3,28
Target price	€ 5,80
Upside/(Downside) potential	76,8%
Ticker	FOS IM
Market Cap (€/mln)	€ 22,43
EV (€/mln)	€ 22,39
Free Float	38,10%
Share Outstanding	6.839.384
52-week high	€ 4,14
52-week low	€ 2,86
Average daily volumes (3 months)	2.950

Mattia Petracca | mattia.petracca@integraesim.it Alessandro Colombo | alessandro.colombo@integraesim.it

Stock performance	1M	3M	6M	1Y
Absolute	-7,34%	-2,96%	-13,68%	14,69%
to FTSE Italia Growth	0,92%	8,27%	1,16%	23,76%
to Euronext STAR Milan	-2,27%	6,54%	0,65%	13,08%
to FTSE All-Share	-6,56%	-3,44%	-15,52%	-19,52%
to EUROSTOXX	-6,09%	-0,96%	-10,63%	-11,07%
to MSCI World Index	-4,60%	-0,75%	-16,93%	-6,84%
Main Ratios	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
EV/EBITDA	5,8 x	5,0 x	4,1 x	3,4 x
EV/EBIT	10,3 x	9,7 x	7,6 x	5,7 x
P/E	16,8 x	15,0 ×	12,1 ×	9,0 x

## FY22A Results

The value of production in 1H23A amounted to  $\in$  13.66 million, up by 44.6% compared to the figure for 1H22A, equal to  $\in$  9.45 million. EBITDA for the half-year was  $\in$  2.34 million, marking an increase of 41.7% compared to the 1H22A figure, equal to  $\in$  1.65 million. The EBITDA Margin for the half-year was 17.1%, not far off the 1H22A figure of 17.4%. EBIT amounted to  $\in$  1.46 million, an increase of 39.2% compared to the 1H22A figure, equal to  $\in$  1.05 million. Net Income came in at  $\in$  0.80 million, up 38.7% compared to the 1H22A figure, equal to  $\in$  0.58 million. The NFP for the group is cash positive at  $\in$  0.49 million, showing an improvement compared to the 2022 end-of-year figure, cash positive by  $\in$  0.04 million.

## **Estimates Update**

In light of the results published in the half-year report for 1H23A, we have adjusted our estimates for both the current year and the coming years. In particular, we now estimate a FY23E value of production of  $\textcircled$  26.50 million, and an EBITDA of  $\textcircled$  4.50 million, corresponding to a margin of 17.0%. In the following years, we expect the value of production to rise to  $\textcircled$  33.00 million (CAGR 22A-25E: 15.2%) in FY25E, with EBITDA equal to  $\textcircled$  6.50 million (corresponding to a margin of 19.7%), up compared to  $\textcircled$  3.86 million in FY22A (corresponding to an EBITDA margin of 17.9%).

# Valuation Update

We conducted our valuation of the equity value of FOS on the basis of the DCF method and multiples of a sample of comparable companies. The DCF method (including, for prudential purposes, a specific risk of 2.5% in the calculation of the WACC) returned an equity value of  $\in$  48.5 million. Using market multiples, the equity value of FOS was calculated as  $\in$  30.8 million (including a 25% discount). The results give an average equity value of approximately  $\in$  39.7 million. The target price is  $\in$  5.80, with a BUY rating and MEDIUM risk.



# **Economics & Financials**

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT (€/mln)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Revenues	14,84	18,40	23,00	25,80	29,00
Other Revenues	2,76	3,17	3,50	3,80	4,00
Value of Production	17,60	21,56	26,50	29,60	33,00
COGS	1,12	2,16	2,50	2,90	3,20
Use of Asset owned by Others	0,17	0,36	0,50	0,50	0,50
Services	4,90	5,86	6,70	7,80	8,80
Employees	8,12	9,20	12,10	12,60	13,60
Other Operating Expenses	0,14	0,13	0,20	0,30	0,40
EBITDA	3.14	3,86	4,50	5,50	6,50
EBITDA Margin	17,9%	17,9%	17,0%	18,6%	19,7%
D&A	1,54	1,69	2,20	2,55	2,60
EBIT	1,61	2,17	2,30	2,95	3,90
EBIT Margin	9,1%	10,1%	8,7%	10,0%	11,8%
Financial Management	(0,14)	(0,15)	(0,20)	(0,20)	(0,20)
EBT	1,47	2,02	2,10	2,75	3,70
Taxes	0,40	0,69	0,60	0,90	1,20
Net Income	1,07	1,34	1,50	1,85	2,50
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET (€/mln)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Fixed Asset	6,25	10,12	10,40	10,00	9,50
Account receivable	6.97	10.36	13 70	15 10	1700

## TABLE 1 - ECONOMICS & FINANCIALS

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET (€/mln)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Fixed Asset	6,25	10,12	10,40	10,00	9,50
Account receivable	6,97	10,36	13,70	15,10	17,00
Inventories	0,38	0,98	1,00	1,20	1,40
Account payable	2,86	4,71	6,15	6,90	7,50
Operating Working Capital	4,49	6,63	8,55	9,40	10,90
Other Receivable	2,79	3,51	3,70	4,50	5,00
Other Payable	4,32	5.76	6,60	6,80	7,00
Net Working Capital	2,96	4,37	5,65	7,10	8,90
Severance Indemnities & Provision	1,49	2,10	2,20	2,30	2,40
NET INVESTED CAPITAL	7,71	12,40	13,85	14,80	16,00
Share Capital	1,59	1,71	1,71	1,71	1,71
Reserves and Retained Profits	6,76	9,39	10,73	12,23	14,08
Net Profit	1,07	1,34	1,50	1,85	2,50
Equity	9,42	12,44	13,94	15,79	18,29
Minorities Equity	0,02	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
Cash and Cash Equivalent	8,16	9,67	9,59	10,19	10,89
Short-Term Financial debt	1,38	2,68	3,00	3,50	4,00
ML Term Financial Debt	5,05	6,96	6,50	5,70	4,60
Net Financial Position	(1,73)	(0,04)	(0,09)	(0,99)	(2,29)
TOTAL SOURCES	7,71	12,40	13,85	14,80	16,00



CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW (€/mln)	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
EBIT	2,17	2,30	2,95	3,90
Taxes	0,69	0,60	0,90	1,20
NOPAT	1,48	1,70	2,05	2,70
D&A	1,69	2,20	2,55	2,60
Change in receivable	(3,39)	(3,34)	(1,40)	(1,90)
Change in inventories	(0,60)	(0,02)	(0,20)	(0,20)
Change in payable	1,84	1,44	0,75	0,60
Other Changes	0,72	0,65	(0,60)	(0,30)
Change in NWC	(1,42)	(1,28)	(1,45)	(1,80)
Change in Provision	0,61	0,10	0,10	0,10
OPERATING CASH FLOW	2,36	2,73	3,25	3,60
Сарех	(5,56)	(2,48)	(2,15)	(2,10)
FREE CASH FLOW	(3,20)	0,25	1,10	1,50
Financial Management	(0,15)	(0,20)	(0,20)	(0,20)
Change in Payable to Banks	3,21	(0,13)	(0,30)	(0,60)
Change in Equity	1,66	0,00	0,00	0,00
FREE CASH FLOW TO EQUITY	1,51	(0,09)	0,60	0,70

Source: FOS and Integrae SIM estimates

## **Company Overview**

FOS is an Italian tech company operating across the digital and engineering space, with a strong drive for the technological transfer of innovations to the market, and the role of systems integrator in the digital and innovative transformation of its clients.

In the Digital market, it operates as a system integrator in two macro areas: Software House, regarding the design, development and management of software and applications; and Digital Infrastructures.

Also, in the Engineering market, it operates as a system integrator in two macro areas: Integrated Electronic Systems, regarding the design, development and management of integrated electronic systems; and Research & Innovation, regarding the design and management of research and innovation projects.

FOS's mission is to help customers build strong, successful, durable businesses by integrating digital services and products into their value chain based on sustainability and continuous innovation.



€/mln	VoP	EBITDA	EBITDA %	EBIT	Net Income	NFP
1H23A	13,66	2,34	17,1%	1,46	0,80	(0,49)
1H22A	9,45	1,65	17,4%	1,05	0,58	(0,04)*
Change	44,6%	41,7%	-0.3%	39,2%	38,7%	N/A

#### TABLE 2 - 1H23A VS 1H22A

\*NFP as of 31/12/2022

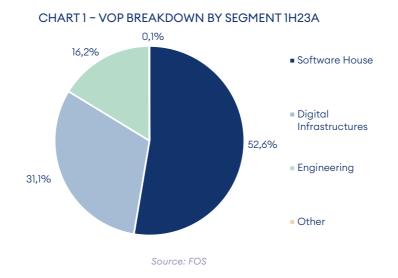
Source: Integrae SIM

In the results press release, the CEOs Enrico Botte and Matteo Pedrelli commented: "We are very satisfied with the results of the first half of 2023, and with the growth path that the Group has undertaken to date. We note the double-digit organic growth, due to the expansion of recurring technological services, and even more so to proprietary products and platforms. In parallel, the integration of Inrebus and Naes is in line with expectations, and is bringing in encouraging results based on a business model focused on people and local areas. Investments in personnel, particularly in young people in the Academy, the constant commitment to research and development, and the continuous work on M&A operations, allow us to look ahead with confidence to significant growth in the future."

The value of production in 1H23A amounted to  $\notin$  13.66 million, up by 44.6% compared to the figure for 1H22A, equal to  $\notin$  9.45 million. This positive result is attributable to a series of factors, in particular:

- The expansion of the customer base of the Communications Technology line;
- The marketing of products coming from research and development (Microcosmo and Eye-trap);
- Developments in the Home Automation field;
- The excellent performance of the resale of storage and backup solutions;
- The contribution of the new Data Center business line, relating to the Digital Infrastructures macro area, thanks to the acquisition of the company NAeS Solutions.





The value of the production for the Group, in 1H23A, is attributable to three business areas as follows: the Software House area contributed 52.6%; the Digital Infrastructures area contributed 31.1%; and the Engineering area contributed 16.2%.

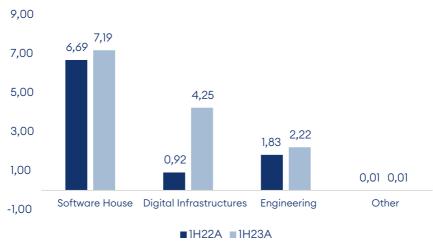


CHART 2 - VOP BREAKDOWN BY BU 1H22A VS 1H23A

Source: FOS

We note that all business areas saw an increase in the value of production compared to 1H22A. The greatest change was seen in the Digital Infrastructures area, which marked an extraordinary growth of 359.3%, while the Software House and Engineering areas reported, respectively, an increase of 7.5% and 21.4%.

In particular, the Software House business reported a production value of  $\in$  7.19 million, compared to  $\in$  6.69 million in 1H22A. The growth came mainly from home automation solutions activities, the development of proprietary platforms, the provision of IT services and software



applications via outsourcing, and the supply of third-party solutions.

The Digital Infrastructures area generated a value of production amounting to  $\in$  4.25 million, marking a strong growth compared to the 1H22A figure of  $\in$  0.92 million. The result mainly comes from the aggregation of the Communications Technology business lines and the new Data Center line, fruit of the acquisition of NAeS Solutions Srl. The Group's Multivendor Center has expanded its electronic equipment diagnostic, intervention and testing activities in relation to various telecommunications operators, in order to effectively respond to the evolution in the technologies under management. Furthermore, through the new acquisition, the Group has consolidated its business activities in the Data Center and Networking sectors, which will allow it to present itself to the market as an "all-in-one" operator, capable of managing all the phases of the process, from design through to data transmission and use.

The Engineering business generated a value of production of  $\in$  2.22 million, an improvement compared to the 1H22A figure of  $\in$  1.83 million. Making a significant impact in the half-year were sales of products and services developed in the business' research and development laboratories. In particular, the products "Microcosmo" and "Eye-trap" were marketed in the Education sector, while the tech biofilter called "Aura" entered production and will be on sale in the second half of the current financial year.

EBITDA for the half-year was  $\leq$  2.34 million, marking an increase of 41.7% compared to the 1H22A figure, equal to  $\leq$  1.65 million. The positive trend is due in large part to the Group's ability to leverage the synergies deriving from new acquisitions, to make further integrations to its offerings, and to bring in cost efficiency measures. Furthermore, a significant impact on margins came from the marketing of proprietary platforms and products that had emerged from research, development and innovation activities in the Engineering area. The EBITDA Margin for the half-year was 17.1%, not far off the 1H22A figure of 17.4%.

EBIT amounted to  $\in$  1.46 million, an increase of 39.2% compared to the 1H22A figure, equal to  $\in$  1.05 million. This result is affected by D&A equal to  $\in$  0.88 million (vs.  $\in$  0.60 million in 1H22A), increasing due to the amortization of goodwill generated in the acquisition of NAeS. Net Income came in at  $\in$  0.80 million, up 38.7% compared to the 1H22A figure, equal to  $\in$  0.58 million.

The NFP for the Group is cash positive at  $\in$  0.49 million, showing an improvement compared to the 2022 end-of-year figure, cash positive by  $\in$  0.04 million. This change is attributable to the results of the various businesses of the Group, even though it is affected by the buy-back carried out during the year, by expenses incurred for the capital increase of the start-up Mr. Pot Still, and, to a lesser extent, by the works carried out at the new site. The Adjusted NFP, excluding the debt to the selling partners of the newly acquired NAeS, is cash positive by  $\in$ 1.96 million, an improvement compared to the Adjusted NFP of the group for FY22A, equal to  $\notin$  1.47 million.



## FY23E – FY25E Estimates

€/mln	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
VoP			
New	26,50	29,60	33,00
Old	25,00	28,00	31,50
Change	6,0%	5,7%	4,8%
EBITDA			
New	4,50	5,50	6,50
Old	5,30	6,30	7,50
Change	-15,1%	-12,7%	-13,3%
EBITDA %			
New	17,0%	18,6%	19,7%
Old	18,6%	19,8%	21,1%
Change	-1,6%	-1,2%	-1,4%
EBIT			
New	2,30	2,95	3,90
Old	2,80	3,75	4,90
Change	-17,9%	-21,3%	-20,4%
Net Income			
New	1,50	1,85	2,50
Old	1,75	2,30	3,10
Change	-14,3%	-19,6%	-19,4%
NFP			
New	(0,09)	(0,99)	(2,29)
Old	(0,29)	(0,99)	(2,49)
Change	N/A	N/A	N/A

#### TABLE 3 - ESTIMATES UPDATES FY23E-25E

Source: Integrae SIM

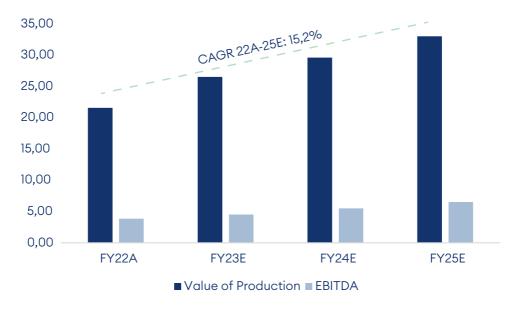
In light of the results published in the half-year report for 1H23A, we have adjusted our estimates for both the current year and the coming years.

In particular, we now estimate an FY23E value of production of  $\leq$  26.50 million, and an EBI-TDA of  $\leq$  4.50 million, corresponding to a margin of 17.0%. In the following years, we expect the value of production to rise to  $\leq$  33.00 million (CAGR 22A-25E: 15.2%) in FY25E, with EBI-TDA equal to  $\leq$  6.50 million (corresponding to a margin of 19.7%), up compared to  $\leq$  3.86 million in FY22A (corresponding to an EBITDA Margin of 17.9%).

On the balance sheet, we estimate a cash positive NFP of  $\bigcirc$  2.29 million for FY25E.



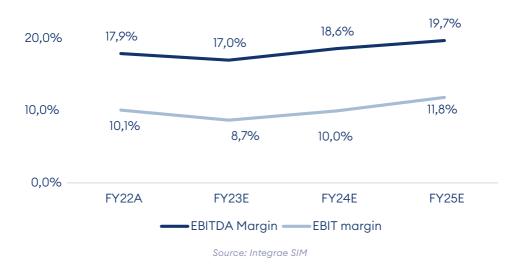
#### CHART 3 - VOP AND EBITDA FY22A-25E



Source: Integrae SIM

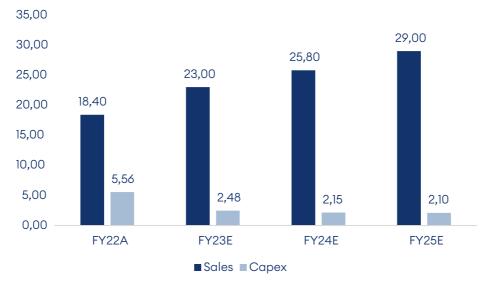
CHART 4 - MARGIN FY22A-25E

30,0%



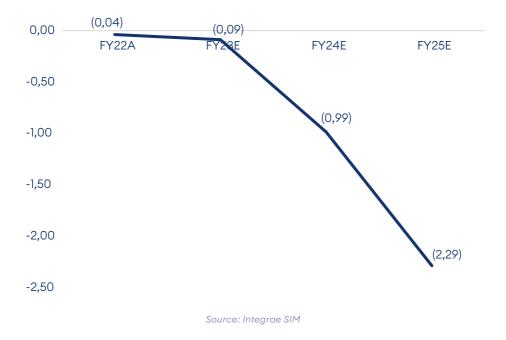






Source: Integrae SIM

CHART 6 - NFP FY22A-25E





# Valuation

We conducted our valuation of the equity value of FOS on the basis of the DCF method and multiples of a sample of comparable companies.

## **DCF** Method

#### TABLE 4 - WACC

WACC			8,20%
D/E	Risk Free Rate	β Adjusted	α (specific risk)
<b>81,82%</b>	<b>3,85%</b>	<b>0,85</b>	<b>2,50%</b>
К <sub>а</sub>	Market Premium	β Relevered	K <sub>。</sub>
2,50%	<b>8,33%</b>	1 <b>,36</b>	13,45%

Source: Integrae SIM

For prudential purposes, we included a specific risk of 2.5%. The result is therefore a WACC of 8.20%.

## TABLE 5 - DCF VALUATION

DCF		% of EV
FCFO actualized	5,7	12%
TV actualized DCF	42,7	88%
Enterprise Value	48,5	100%
Enterprise Value NFP (FY22A)	<b>48,5</b> 0,0	100%

Source: Integrae SIM

With the above data and taking our estimates and assumptions as a reference, the result is an *equity value* of € 48.5 million.

## TABLE 6 - EQUITY VALUE - SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

€/mln	WACC								
		6,7%	7,2%	7,7%	8,2%	8,7%	9,2%	9,7%	
	2,5%	82,5	73,3	65,9	59,7	54,6	50,2	46,5	
	2,0%	74,4	66,8	60,6	55,4	51,0	47,1	43,8	
Growth Rate	1,5%	67,8	61,5	56,2	51,7	47,8	44,5	41,5	
(g)	1,0%	62,4	57,0	52,4	48,5	45,1	42,1	39,4	
	0,5%	57,8	53,2	49,2	45,7	42,7	40,0	37,6	
	0.0%	54,0	49,9	46,4	43,3	40,6	38,1	36,0	
	-0,5%	50,6	47,1	43,9	41,1	38,7	36,5	34,5	

Source: Integrae SIM



## **Market multiples**

Our panels are made up of companies operating in the same sector as FOS, but many with larger capitalizations. These companies are the same used to calculate Beta for the *DCF method*. The panels consist of:

Company Name	EV/EBITDA			EV/EBIT		
Company Name	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Bouvet ASA	10,8 x	10,1 x	9,4 x	13,2 x	12,3 x	11,3 x
Net One Systems Co., Ltd.	10,3 x	9,0 x	8,2 x	10,9 x	9,5 x	8,6 x
CGI, Inc.	12,4 x	11,7 x	11,2 x	15,1 x	14,2 x	13,3 x
Reply S.p.A.	10,1 x	9,0 x	8,4 x	12,4 x	11,0 x	9,9 x
Eurotech S.p.A.	12,0 x	5,7 x	3,9 x	125,7 x	7,8 x	4,6 x
Peer median	10,8 x	9,0 x	8,4 x	13,2 x	11,0 x	9,9 x

#### TABLE 7.1 - MARKET MULTIPLES IT

Source: Infinancials

## TABLE 7.2 - MARKET MULTIPLES TLC

Company Name	EV/EBITDA			EV/EBIT		
Company Name	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Cisco Systems Inc.	9,7 x	9,6 x	9,3 x	10,6 x	10,3 x	10,0 x
Juniper Networks Inc.	8,0 x	7,9 x	7,3 x	9,7 x	9,2 x	8,6 x
F5 Networks Inc.	9,2 x	8,4 x	8,2 x	10,4 x	9,5 x	8,7 x
Accton Technology Corp.	23,7 x	20,5 x	18,0 x	26,2 x	22,2 x	19,4 x
Viavi Solutions Inc.	9,4 x	8,2 x	N/A	11,2 x	8,3 x	7,4 x
HMS Networks AB	23,2 x	23,7 x	22,3 x	27,2 x	28,1 x	26,2 x
Spirent Communications plc	4,3 x	4,1 x	3,8 x	5,0 x	4,7 x	4,3 x
Peer Median	9,4 x	8,3 x	7,8 x	10,6 x	9,5 x	8,7 x

Source: Infinancials



#### TABLE 8 - MARKET MULTIPLES VALUATION

€/mln	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Enterprise Value (EV)			
EV/EBITDA	45,5	47,7	52,5
EV/EBIT	27,4	30,3	36,4
Equity Value			
EV/EBITDA	45,6	48,7	54,8
EV/EBIT	27,5	31,3	38,7
Equity Value post 25% discount			
EV/EBITDA	34,2	36,5	41,1
EV/EBIT	20,6	23,5	29,0
Average	27,4	30,0	35,0

Source: Integrae SIM

Using EV/EBITDA and EV/EBIT market multiples, the equity value of FOS is approximately  $\leq$  41.1 million. To this value, we have applied a 25% discount. The result is therefore an **equity value of**  $\leq$  30.8 million.



# **Equity Value**

#### TABLE 9 - EQUITY VALUE

Average Equity Value (€/mln)	39,7
Equity Value DCF (€/mln)	48,5
Equity Value multiples (€/mln)	30,8
Target Price (€)	5,80

Source: Integrae SIM

The results give an average equity value of approximately  $\in$  39.7 million. The target price is therefore  $\in$  5.80 (prev.  $\in$  6.00). We confirm a BUY rating and MEDIUM risk.

#### TABLE 10 - TARGET PRICE IMPLIED VALUATION MULTIPLES

Multiples	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
EV/EBITDA	10,3 x	8,8 ×	7,2 x	6,1 x
EV/EBIT	18,2 x	17,2 x	13,4 x	10,2 x

Source: Integrae SIM

#### TABLE 11 - CURRENT PRICE IMPLIED VALUATION MULTIPLES

Main Ratios	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
EV/EBITDA	5,8 x	5,0 x	4,1 x	3,4 x
EV/EBIT	10,3 x	9,7 x	7,6 x	5,7 x

Source: Integrae SIM



## Disclosure Pursuant to Delegated Regulation UE n. 2016/958

#### Analyst/s certification

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05/04/2023	3,72	Buy	6,00	Medium	Update
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Equity Total Return (ETR) for different risk categories						
Rating	Low Risk	Medium Risk	High Risk			
BUY	ETR >= 7.5%	ETR >= 10%	ETR >= 15%			
HOLD	-5% < ETR < 7.5%	-5% < ETR < 10%	0% < ETR < 15%			
SELL	ETR <= -5%	ETR <= -5%	ETR <= 0%			
U.R.	Rating e/o target price Under Review					
N.R.	Stock Not Rated					

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