

# ABO Wind AG

Deutschland / Cleantech  
 Börse München  
 Bloomberg: AB9 GR  
 ISIN: DE0005760029

2021 Annual Report

**RATING**  
**BUY**

**PRICE TARGET**  
**€ 95.00**

Return Potential 62.7%  
 Risk Rating High

## THE PROJECT PIPELINE IS GROWING AND GROWING!

ABO Wind generated a net profit of €13.8m in 2021, thus meeting guidance and slightly exceeding our forecast of €13.5m. For 2022, the company is guiding towards a double-digit percentage increase in total output and a net profit of at least €13.8m. ABO Wind was particularly successful in project acquisition. 6.8 GW of new projects increase the volume of the project pipeline consisting of wind, solar and storage projects to 19 (!) GW. We assume that the German pipeline (1.9 GW) will benefit from the measures initiated by the German government to accelerate the energy transition. Despite supply chain problems caused by the pandemic and the Russian invasion of Ukraine, we believe ABO Wind is very well positioned for further profitable growth in 2022. The enlarged project pipeline and the accelerating expansion of renewable energy due to the fossil fuel supply crisis in Europe lead us to increase our price target from €79 to €95. We reiterate our Buy recommendation.

**Net income increased again** Although sales fell by 15% y/y to €127m, total output rose by 11% to €187m due to a strong increase in inventories of €60m. This resulted in EBIT of €22.4m, which was almost unchanged from the previous year despite higher personnel expenses (+25% y/y to €63m, partly due to the acquisition of the maintenance segment of VSB Group, approx. +50 employees as well as anniversary payments to employees), and in line with our estimate. The higher EBIT margin (17.7% vs. 15.1% in the previous year) stems from a more favourable product mix. The higher-margin planning & rights sales business increased its sales share to 37% from 32% in the previous year. Net income increased by 5% to €13.8m, but earnings per share decreased by 2% to €1.50 due to the capital increases carried out in 2020, which resulted in a rise of the average number of shares to 9.2m in 2021 (see figure 1 overleaf).

(p.t.o.)

### FINANCIAL HISTORY & PROJECTIONS

	2019	2020	2021	2022E	2023E	2024E
Revenue (€m)	126.27	149.16	127.11	212.39	267.25	304.13
Y-o-y growth	-16.0%	18.1%	-14.8%	67.1%	25.8%	13.8%
EBIT (€m)	19.64	22.46	22.45	23.85	38.15	48.03
EBIT margin	15.6%	15.1%	17.7%	11.2%	14.3%	15.8%
Net income (€m)	11.40	13.12	13.80	14.25	23.97	30.60
EPS (diluted) (€)	1.48	1.54	1.50	1.55	2.60	3.32
DPS (€)	0.42	0.45	0.49	0.49	0.57	0.65
FCF (€m)	-24.42	40.53	-54.05	-3.56	19.09	21.32
Net gearing	63.0%	5.3%	45.0%	49.4%	38.2%	27.8%
Liquid assets (€m)	9.65	52.80	18.47	36.20	49.94	64.67

### RISKS

Main risks are project development, supply chain, financing, interest rate, and regulatory risks.

### COMPANY PROFILE

ABO Wind is a project developer for renewable energies and has developed green power projects with a total capacity of more than 4 GW since its establishment in 1996. The company also offers the management of wind farms, solar and biogas plants. ABO Wind has more than 900 employees. Its headquarters are in Wiesbaden, Germany.

### MARKET DATA

As of 28 Mar 2022

Closing Price	€ 58.40
Shares outstanding	9.22m
Market Capitalisation	€ 538.51m
52-week Range	€ 43.10 / 63.60
Avg. Volume (12 Months)	2,912

Multiples	2021	2022E	2023E
P/E	39.0	37.8	22.5
EV/Sales	4.8	2.9	2.3
EV/EBIT	27.0	25.4	15.9
Div. Yield	0.8%	0.8%	1.0%

### STOCK OVERVIEW



### COMPANY DATA

As of 31 Dec 2021

Liquid Assets	€ 18.47m
Current Assets	€ 279.04m
Intangible Assets	€ 1.47m
Total Assets	€ 297.06m
Current Liabilities	€ 35.13m
Shareholders' Equity	€ 149.86m

### SHAREHOLDERS

Familie Ahn	26.0%
Familie Bockholt	26.0%
Mainova	10.0%
Free Float	38.0%



Figure 1: Reported figures versus forecasts

All figures in €m	2021A	2021E	Delta	2020A	Delta
Sales	127.1	167.6	-24%	149.2	-15%
EBIT	22.4	22.3	1%	22.5	0%
margin	17.7%	13.3%		15.1%	
Net income	13.8	13.5	2%	13.1	5%
margin	10.9%	8.1%		8.8%	
EPS (diluted)	1.50	1.47	2%	1.54	-3%

Source: First Berlin Equity Research, ABO Wind AG

**Higher debt basis for business expansion** In 2021, ABO Wind issued a €30m subordinated bond (interest rate: 3.5%) and later expanded the volume to €50m. At the end of the year, the volume amounted to €40m. Although non-current liabilities to banks were reduced by €15m to €37m, overall financial debt increased by almost €26m to €86m. The reduction in cash from €53m to €19m led to a significant increase in net debt from €8m to €68m (see figure 2). Equity increased by 7% to €150m mainly due to the net profit. Because of the balance sheet expansion (+19% to €297m), the equity ratio decreased from 56% to 50% and thus remains at a high level. With the existing cash as well as the additional borrowed capital, ABO mainly increased inventories and receivables from affiliated companies. Inventories rose from €64m to €133m and receivables from affiliated companies from €62m to €90m. We see both balance sheet items as indicators of higher business activity during the current year. Their increase should lead to higher sales and gross profits in 2022.

Figure 2: Balance sheet development

in €m	2021A	2020A	Delta
<b>Non-current assets</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>16%</b>
Inventories	133.0	64.4	107%
Trade receivables	10.9	34.0	-68%
Receivables from affiliated companies	90.0	62.4	44%
Securities	11.7	9.3	25%
Liquid funds	18.5	52.8	-65%
<b>Current assets</b>	<b>279.0</b>	<b>234.9</b>	<b>19%</b>
Equity	149.9	140.1	7%
Equity ratio	50.4%	56.2%	-5.8 PP
Mezzanine capital	13.7	12.6	9%
Provisions	21.4	19.6	9%
Bonds	40.3	0.0	n.a.
Financial debt, long-term	36.6	51.7	-29%
Financial debt, short-term	9.0	8.6	5%
Total financial debt	85.9	60.3	43%
Net debt	67.5	7.5	805%
Net gearing (Net debt/equity in %)	45.0%	5.3%	+39.7 PP
Trade payables	14.0	7.1	98%
<b>Balance sheet total</b>	<b>297.1</b>	<b>249.3</b>	<b>19%</b>

Source: First Berlin Equity Research, ABO Wind AG

**Strong expansion of project pipeline leaves its mark on cash flow statement** The expansion of the project pipeline led to a strong increase in inventories (€-67m), which contributed significantly to the operating cash flow of €-51m (see figure 3). Cash flow from investing activities amounted to €-4m and includes payments for the acquisition of the maintenance segment of VSB Group, new wind measurement towers and the modernisation of office and business equipment. Cash flow from financing activities amounted to €20m and was dominated by inflows from the subordinated bond (€40m), the scheduled repayment of borrowings (€-26m) and the dividend payment (€-4m). Net cash flow amounted to €-34m.

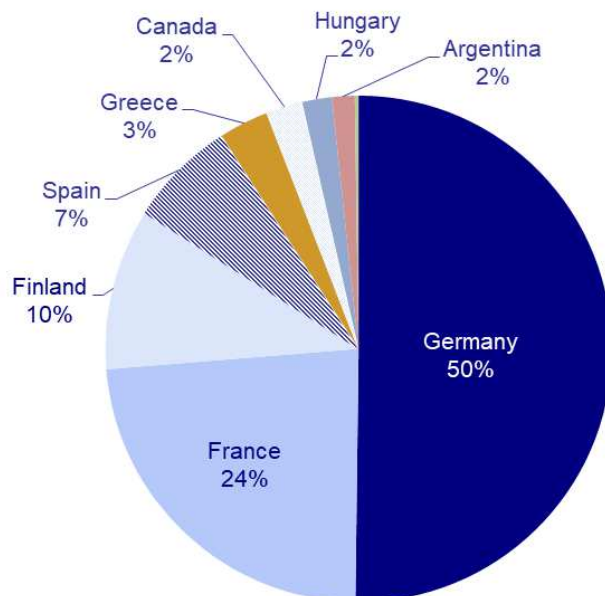
**Figure 3: Cash flow statement**

in €m	2021A	2020A
Operating cash flow	-50.7	42.5
CAPEX	-3.3	-2.0
Free cash flow	-54.1	40.5
Cash flow from investing	-3.9	-3.6
Cash flow from financing	20.3	4.4
Net cash flow	-34.3	43.3

Source: First Berlin Equity Research, ABO Wind AG

**Foreign sales share at 50%** In 2021, Germany was by far the most important market for ABO Wind with a sales share of 50%. Next came France (24%) followed by Finland (10%). In total, the company generated significant sales in eight markets. The first sales contributions in Canada are worth highlighting. With a foreign share of sales of 50% and activity in 16 markets, ABO Wind remains an internationally well and broadly positioned project developer.

**Figure 4: Regional sales split 2021**



Source: First Berlin Equity Research, ABO Wind AG



**Lower construction activity leads to decline in sales** For 2021, ABO Wind had expected a construction output of up to 200 MW. The outcome was the turnkey construction and invoicing of 72 MW. Segment revenues fell by 25% y/y to €67m (see figure 5). The revenues of the segment "Planning & Rights Sales" remained largely unchanged and reached €47m. ABO Wind sold 300 MW of project rights and completed 279 MW of project development. The service business grew strongly by 13% y/y to almost €13m. In the wind segment, ABO Wind had 1,743 MW under operational management (previous year: 1,257 MW, +39% y/y) and 466 wind turbines in service (previous year: 130, +258%). Last year, the solar business segment serviced 13 plants (2020: 10). ABO Wind now also acts as a service provider for construction and connected three Finnish wind farms (163 MW) to the grid in 2021.

**Figure 5: Segment sales development**

Segment sales in €m	2021A	2020A	Delta
Construction	67.2	90.1	-25%
Planning & Rights' Sales	47.1	47.8	-1%
Services	12.8	11.3	13%
<b>Total sales</b>	<b>127.1</b>	<b>149.2</b>	<b>-15%</b>

Source: First Berlin Equity Research, ABO Wind AG

**Battery storage division already a success story after two years** Only two years after its establishment, the Hybrid Energy and Battery Storage Systems division is working on advanced projects with a capacity of around 300 MWh which are already being implemented and have secured tariffs or production licenses. The division is focusing on so-called co-location projects, i.e. battery storage systems built together with wind or solar farms, as well as stand-alone storage projects. Combining wind and PV with storage facilitates better matching of volatile power production with demand and, given enormous short-term fluctuations in electricity prices, is also economically advantageous. The first large stand-alone storage project (50 MW), currently under construction in Northern Ireland, was sold by ABO Wind 2021 to a Swiss energy fund. ABO Wind will build further battery storage facilities with a total capacity of 20 MWh in combination with photovoltaic plants in Germany by 2023. In addition, three stand-alone battery projects with up to 44 MW/44MWh capacity are being built to balance peak loads in German distribution grids. In Greece, projects for up to 200 MWh have been secured.

**Service business strengthened and expanded internationally** Through the acquisition of the maintenance division of the VSB Group, ABO Wind has doubled its service business. More than 100 employees from 21 locations now maintain wind turbines, replace large components and repair gearboxes and generators. In addition, ABO Wind now has expertise in the full and partial maintenance of Enercon turbines. The expansion of the service business brings significant scaling advantages, as technicians spend less time in their cars due to the denser network of locations. In the area of operations management, the workforce in Finland was further expanded in 2021. In addition, preparations were made for market entry in Poland and Northern Ireland, where ABO Wind's own operations managers are to be hired in 2022.

**Very strong new business** New project business is significantly above plan at a total of 6.8 GW, in equal parts within and outside Europe. Two thirds of the new business is accounted for by wind projects, one-third by PV and storage.



**19 GW pipeline of wind, solar and storage projects** Strong new business expanded the project pipeline from 14.8 GW to 18.9 GW (see figure 6). Approximately 65% (12.4 GW) is wind, 30% (5.7 GW) is solar, and 5% (0.9 GW) is storage. ABO Wind's project pipeline remains broad-based: The company continues to operate in 16 countries on four continents. The largest pipeline expansion was in Finland. Here, the pipeline grew from 3 to 5 GW. The Polish pipeline was also significantly increased from 70 to 400 MW.

**Figure 6: Project pipeline March 2022**

Country	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	Sum
Germany	1,700	100	100	1,900
France	1,380	60	60	1,500
Finland	4,870	0	130	5,000
Ireland	330	40	30	400
Spain	1,000	400	100	1,500
Greece	760	40	50	850
Poland	380	0	20	400
Hungary	75	25	0	100
Great Britain	315	35	50	400
The Netherlands	90	0	0	90
Argentina	750	950	0	1,700
Colombia	500	100	0	600
Canada	300	500	0	800
South Africa	2,600	1,000	0	3,600
Tanzania	50	0	0	50
Tunisia	0	20	0	20
<b>Sum</b>	<b>15,100</b>	<b>3,270</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>18,910</b>

*Phase I: site secured, approval in the works, phase II: approval received, ready for construction*

*Phase III: under construction*

Source: First Berlin Equity Research, ABO Wind AG

**Strong personnel base** In 2021, the average number of employees increased from 772 to 955. This year, ABO Wind is expected to employ more than 1,000 people for the first time. In view of the worsening shortage of skilled workers in many areas due to demographic change, we see ABO Wind's strategy of keeping and expanding all essential competencies internally as a clear competitive advantage over players who source many competencies externally. For example, ABO Wind has its own electrical engineering department and its own wind measurement department.

**First large wind farm (87 MW) under construction on own account** With the 100 MW wind farm in Finland, which was connected to the grid last year, and the 100 MW wind farm in Spain, which will go into operation this year, ABO Wind has shown that it can also construct large wind farms on a turnkey basis. Both wind farms were already sold in the planning phase. In the meantime, the company has the confidence to construct large turnkey wind farms on its own account due to the experience gained and the expanded financial basis resulting from the capital measures. The company is currently demonstrating this with the Finnish "Pajuperänkangas" wind farm (87 MW), which is scheduled for commissioning in summer 2023. The wind farm is the largest project to date in which ABO Wind covers the complete value creation from planning to turnkey construction. A milestone in the company's history.



**Success in the first German onshore wind tender 2022** ABO Wind was awarded three projects with a total capacity of 27 MW in the February tender. Two of the projects have already been sold to Trianel, for whom ABO Wind is acting as a service provider.

**Further international successes in Hungary and Argentina** Last year, ABO Wind secured a price-indexed feed-in tariff of 16.7 forints/kWh (approx. 4.5 €Cent/kWh) in Hungary. The contract for the "Szarvas" solar park, which has an output of 18 MWp, runs over 15 years. The park is expected to have a capacity of 24 MWp and go online in 2023. ABO Wind additionally plans to conclude a power purchase agreement (PPA). In parallel, ABO Wind plans to build the Barcs solar park with a capacity of 23 MWp in Hungary.

In 2021, ABO Wind also won an important contract in Argentina. This is remarkable success in view of the considerable economic difficulties, which the country is facing. ABO Wind initially secured capacity for the "La Buena Ventura" wind farm in a grid tender and sold the project to an Argentine oil and gas group. ABO Wind has already received a payment for the sale of the project rights. Further payments will be made as the project, which is scheduled to go into operation in 2023, progresses.

**Higher dividend** The Executive and Supervisory Boards will propose a 9% increase in the dividend to €0.49 to the Annual General Meeting. With an average number of shares of 9.2m, earnings per share in 2021 were €1.50. This brings the pay-out ratio to 33%. The dividend yield is currently just under 1%.

**Company guidance: further growth targeted for 2022** In view of the positive development in many country markets, ABO Wind expects a double-digit percentage increase in total output for 2022 compared to 2021. Consolidated net income in 2022 should at least reach the level of the previous year (€13.8m, see figure 7).

**Figure 7: Company guidance for 2022**

Guidance for 2022	
Total output	double-digit growth
Net profit	≥ €13.8m

Source: First Berlin Equity Research, ABO Wind AG

**Medium-term forecast 2022 - 2024 shows great potential until 2024** Average annual new business of 2 GW during 2022-2024 should allow the project pipeline to grow further (see figure 8). In terms of completed project developments, ABO Wind expects an average volume of 150 to 350 MW p.a. The sale of project rights and portfolios is expected to be in the range of or above the completed project developments. In terms of completed construction output, ABO Wind expects up to 200 MW per year. Individual large projects could also shift this figure significantly upwards during this period.

**Figure 8: Mid-term guidance 2022-24**

2022-24 (in MW)	Ø p.a.
New business	≥ 2000
Completed project development	150-350
Project rights / portfolio sale	≥ 150-350
Completed construction	≤ 200

Source: First Berlin Equity Research, ABO Wind AG



**German government is accelerating energy transition** The German government plans to increase the share of renewable energies (RE) in electricity consumption to 80% by 2030 (target so far: 65%). The basis for calculating the share of RE is a significantly higher electricity consumption forecast (680-750 TWh, previously: 658 TWh). This results in a dual effect: the higher percentage meets a higher reference value. This necessitates a strong acceleration of new installations of wind and PV plants. If the target is successfully implemented, green power production will increase from 224 TWh in 2021 to 544 - 600 TWh. This corresponds to 2.4 - 2.7 times or a compounded annual growth rate of over 10%.

According to the draft of the EEG, electricity production is to come almost entirely from renewable sources by 2035 (previously: by 2050). Various measures are planned to achieve this:

- An increase in the annual new installation of onshore wind power from about 3 GW this year to 10 GW in 2027. This level is to be maintained until 2035.
- Annual new installations of solar PV are projected to be 7 GW in 2022, increasing to 20 GW per year by 2028, and then maintained through 2035. In total, this would result in 300 GW of solar power capacity.

**Forecasts revised** Based on the figures for 2021, we have revised our forecasts for the subsequent years. This has resulted in only slight deviations from our previous estimates (see figure 9).

**Figure 9: Revisions to forecasts**

All figures in €m	2022E			2023E			2024E		
	Old	New	Delta	Old	New	Delta	Old	New	Delta
Sales	212.4	212.4	0.0%	267.2	267.2	0.0%	304.1	304.1	0.0%
EBIT	23.8	23.9	0.3%	36.7	38.2	4.0%	46.6	48.0	3.0%
margin	11.2%	11.2%		13.7%	14.3%		15.3%	15.8%	
Net income	14.4	14.3	-1.1%	23.6	24.0	1.6%	30.4	30.6	0.7%
margin	6.8%	6.7%		8.8%	9.0%		10.0%	10.1%	
EPS (diluted)	1.56	1.55	-1.1%	2.56	2.60	1.6%	3.29	3.32	0.7%

Source: First Berlin Equity Research

**Buy confirmed with higher price target** An updated DCF model yields a new price target of €95 (previously: €79). We reiterate our Buy recommendation.



## VALUATION MODEL

DCF valuation model								
All figures in EUR '000	2022E	2023E	2024E	2025E	2026E	2027E	2028E	2029E
<b>Net sales</b>	<b>212,390</b>	<b>267,249</b>	<b>304,129</b>	<b>343,058</b>	<b>383,913</b>	<b>426,213</b>	<b>469,377</b>	<b>512,730</b>
<b>NOPLAT</b>	<b>17,448</b>	<b>27,880</b>	<b>34,920</b>	<b>39,246</b>	<b>43,822</b>	<b>48,394</b>	<b>52,857</b>	<b>57,274</b>
+ depreciation & amortisation	2,105	2,233	2,527	2,952	3,415	3,893	4,383	4,879
Net operating cash flow	19,553	30,114	37,447	42,199	47,237	52,287	57,240	62,153
- total investments (CAPEX and WC)	-23,117	-11,028	-16,130	-29,555	-28,895	-30,301	-31,371	-32,039
Capital expenditures	-2,973	-3,741	-4,258	-4,803	-5,288	-5,773	-6,251	-6,712
Working capital	-20,143	-7,286	-11,872	-24,752	-23,608	-24,528	-25,119	-25,327
Free cash flows (FCF)	-3,564	19,086	21,318	12,644	18,342	21,986	25,869	30,115
<b>PV of FCF's</b>	<b>-3,400</b>	<b>17,107</b>	<b>17,947</b>	<b>9,999</b>	<b>13,627</b>	<b>15,345</b>	<b>16,958</b>	<b>18,545</b>

All figures in thousands			
PV of FCFs in explicit period (2022E-2036E)	258,265		
PV of FCFs in terminal period	686,414		
Enterprise value (EV)	944,679		Terminal growth
+ Net cash / - net debt	-67,475		Terminal EBIT margin
+ Investments / minority interests	41		
Shareholder value	877,245		
Number of shares (diluted)	9,221		
<b>Fair value per share in EUR</b>	<b>95.14</b>		

WACC		Terminal growth rate						
		1.5%	2.0%	2.5%	3.0%	3.5%	4.0%	4.5%
4.5%	10.1%	153.29	174.42	206.37	260.37	371.20	728.33	-6057.08
5.0%	4.0%	125.99	139.43	158.35	186.97	235.33	334.60	654.46
5.5%	30.0%	105.79	114.76	126.78	143.71	169.31	212.57	301.36
6.0%	2.8%	90.27	96.49	104.51	115.24	130.36	153.22	191.86
6.5%	50.0%	78.02	82.44	87.99	95.14	104.71	118.19	138.58
7.0%	50.0%	68.13	71.34	75.28	80.21	86.58	95.10	107.10
7.5%		59.99	62.36	65.22	68.72	73.10	78.75	86.32
8.0%		53.19	54.97	57.08	59.61	62.71	66.59	71.61
<b>Fair value per share in EUR</b>	<b>95.00</b>							

\* for layout purposes the model shows numbers only to 2029, but runs until 2036





## INCOME STATEMENT

All figures in EUR '000	2019A	2020A	2021A	2022E	2023E	2024E
<b>Revenues</b>	<b>126,273</b>	<b>149,155</b>	<b>127,109</b>	<b>212,390</b>	<b>267,249</b>	<b>304,129</b>
Changes in inventory	22,752	20,206	60,346	38,230	46,769	51,702
Own work	233	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total output</b>	<b>149,258</b>	<b>169,361</b>	<b>187,455</b>	<b>250,620</b>	<b>314,018</b>	<b>355,831</b>
Cost of goods sold	66,582	72,592	78,280	131,257	172,376	197,684
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>82,676</b>	<b>96,769</b>	<b>109,175</b>	<b>119,363</b>	<b>141,642</b>	<b>158,147</b>
Personnel costs	41,361	50,776	63,397	67,422	71,546	76,032
Other operating income	3,451	6,362	5,141	4,248	5,345	6,083
Other operating expenses	17,143	17,593	20,440	22,301	26,725	28,892
<b>EBITDA</b>	<b>27,623</b>	<b>34,762</b>	<b>30,479</b>	<b>33,888</b>	<b>48,716</b>	<b>59,305</b>
Depreciation and amortisation	1,542	1,649	1,929	2,105	2,233	2,527
Depreciation of current assets	6,437	10,653	6,102	7,933	8,329	8,746
<b>Operating income (EBIT)</b>	<b>19,644</b>	<b>22,460</b>	<b>22,448</b>	<b>23,851</b>	<b>38,154</b>	<b>48,033</b>
Net financial result	-1,570	-1,755	-1,485	-3,197	-3,909	-4,325
<b>Pre-tax income (EBT)</b>	<b>18,074</b>	<b>20,705</b>	<b>20,963</b>	<b>20,654</b>	<b>34,244</b>	<b>43,708</b>
Income taxes	6,668	7,589	7,152	6,403	10,273	13,112
Minority interests	-4	4	-6	0	0	0
<b>Net income / loss</b>	<b>11,402</b>	<b>13,120</b>	<b>13,804</b>	<b>14,251</b>	<b>23,971</b>	<b>30,595</b>
<b>Diluted EPS (in €)</b>	<b>1.48</b>	<b>1.54</b>	<b>1.50</b>	<b>1.55</b>	<b>2.60</b>	<b>3.32</b>
<b>Ratios</b>						
Gross margin on total output	55.4%	57.1%	58.2%	47.6%	45.1%	44.4%
EBITDA margin on revenues	21.9%	23.3%	24.0%	16.0%	18.2%	19.5%
EBIT margin on revenues	15.6%	15.1%	17.7%	11.2%	14.3%	15.8%
EBT margin on revenues	14.3%	13.9%	16.5%	9.7%	12.8%	14.4%
Net margin on revenues	9.0%	8.8%	10.9%	6.7%	9.0%	10.1%
Tax rate	36.9%	36.7%	34.1%	31.0%	30.0%	30.0%
<b>Expenses as % of revenues</b>						
Personnel costs	32.8%	34.0%	49.9%	31.7%	26.8%	25.0%
Depreciation and amortisation	1.2%	1.1%	1.5%	1.0%	0.8%	0.8%
Depreciation of current assets	5.1%	7.1%	4.8%	3.7%	3.1%	2.9%
Other operating expenses	13.6%	11.8%	16.1%	10.5%	10.0%	9.5%
<b>Y-Y Growth</b>						
Revenues	-16.0%	18.1%	-14.8%	67.1%	25.8%	13.8%
Operating income	-11.6%	14.3%	-0.1%	6.2%	60.0%	25.9%
Net income/ loss	-10.5%	15.1%	5.2%	3.2%	68.2%	27.6%



## BALANCE SHEET

All figures in EUR '000	2019A	2020A	2021A	2022E	2023E	2024E
<b>Assets</b>						
<b>Current assets, total</b>	<b>232,427</b>	<b>236,761</b>	<b>282,609</b>	<b>324,422</b>	<b>351,083</b>	<b>381,158</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	9,648	52,798	18,472	36,196	49,937	64,674
Short-term investments	17,665	9,331	11,684	11,684	11,684	11,684
Receivables	20,678	34,020	10,860	34,913	43,931	49,994
Inventories	80,171	64,398	133,019	133,055	136,956	146,232
Other current assets	102,749	74,825	105,708	105,708	105,708	105,708
<b>Non-current assets, total</b>	<b>10,132</b>	<b>12,501</b>	<b>14,451</b>	<b>15,320</b>	<b>16,828</b>	<b>18,559</b>
Property, plant & equipment	5,208	5,653	7,234	8,047	9,403	10,946
Goodwill & other intangibles	1,298	1,116	1,474	1,530	1,682	1,870
Financial assets	3,626	5,732	5,743	5,743	5,743	5,743
Other assets	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>242,559</b>	<b>249,262</b>	<b>297,060</b>	<b>339,742</b>	<b>367,911</b>	<b>399,717</b>
<b>Shareholders' equity &amp; debt</b>						
<b>Current liabilities, total</b>	<b>69,146</b>	<b>44,700</b>	<b>56,483</b>	<b>80,349</b>	<b>79,803</b>	<b>84,007</b>
Short-term debt	19,362	8,594	8,997	28,917	22,000	22,000
Accounts payable	10,380	7,081	14,034	17,980	23,613	27,080
Current provisions	24,572	19,634	21,355	21,355	21,355	21,355
Other current liabilities	14,832	9,391	12,097	12,097	12,835	13,572
<b>Long-term liabilities, total</b>	<b>69,837</b>	<b>64,446</b>	<b>90,713</b>	<b>99,796</b>	<b>109,796</b>	<b>112,796</b>
Long-term debt	55,487	51,662	76,950	86,033	96,033	99,033
Deferred revenue	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other liabilities	14,350	12,784	13,763	13,763	13,763	13,763
<b>Minority interests</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Shareholders' equity</b>	<b>103,539</b>	<b>140,086</b>	<b>149,823</b>	<b>159,556</b>	<b>178,271</b>	<b>202,873</b>
Share capital	8,071	9,221	9,221	9,221	9,221	9,221
Capital reserve	19,495	45,490	45,490	45,490	45,490	45,490
Other reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0
Loss carryforward / retained earnings	76,213	85,671	95,329	105,062	123,777	148,379
<b>Total consolidated equity and debt</b>	<b>242,559</b>	<b>249,262</b>	<b>297,060</b>	<b>339,742</b>	<b>367,911</b>	<b>399,717</b>
<b>Ratios</b>						
Current ratio (x)	3.36	5.30	5.00	4.04	4.40	4.54
Quick ratio (x)	2.20	3.86	2.65	2.38	2.68	2.80
Net debt	65,201	7,458	67,475	78,754	68,096	56,359
Net gearing	63.0%	5.3%	45.0%	49.4%	38.2%	27.8%
Book value per share (in €)	13.42	16.47	16.25	17.30	19.33	22.00
Equity ratio	42.7%	56.2%	50.4%	47.0%	48.5%	50.8%
Return on equity (ROE)	11.0%	9.4%	9.2%	8.9%	13.4%	15.1%
Return on assets (ROA)	5.5%	6.2%	5.4%	5.2%	7.7%	8.9%
Return on investment (ROI)	4.7%	5.3%	4.6%	4.2%	6.5%	7.7%
Return on average capital employed (ROCE)	13.4%	14.2%	12.1%	10.4%	15.6%	18.8%
Days of sales outstanding (DSO)	59.8	83.3	31.2	60.0	60.0	60.0
Days inventory outstanding (DIO)	439.5	323.8	620.2	370.0	290.0	270.0
Days in payables (DIP)	56.9	35.6	65.4	50.0	50.0	50.0



## CASH FLOW STATEMENT

All figures in EUR '000	2019A	2020A	2021A	2022E	2023E	2024E
<b>EBIT</b>	<b>19,644</b>	<b>22,460</b>	<b>22,448</b>	<b>23,851</b>	<b>38,154</b>	<b>48,033</b>
Depreciation and amortisation	1,542	1,649	1,929	2,105	2,233	2,527
<b>EBITDA</b>	<b>21,186</b>	<b>24,109</b>	<b>24,377</b>	<b>25,955</b>	<b>40,387</b>	<b>50,560</b>
Changes in working capital	-37,895	28,412	-68,555	-20,143	-7,286	-11,872
Other adjustments	-5,086	-10,048	-6,558	-6,403	-10,273	-13,112
<b>Operating cash flow</b>	<b>-21,795</b>	<b>42,473</b>	<b>-50,736</b>	<b>-590</b>	<b>22,827</b>	<b>25,576</b>
Investments in PP&E	-1,965	-1,774	-2,941	-2,549	-3,207	-3,650
Investments in intangibles	-661	-173	-375	-425	-534	-608
<b>Free cash flow</b>	<b>-24,421</b>	<b>40,526</b>	<b>-54,052</b>	<b>-3,564</b>	<b>19,086</b>	<b>21,318</b>
Acquisitions & disposals, net	91	7	462	0	0	0
Other investments	282	-1,651	-1,004	0	0	0
<b>Investment cash flow</b>	<b>-2,253</b>	<b>-3,591</b>	<b>-3,858</b>	<b>-2,973</b>	<b>-3,741</b>	<b>-4,258</b>
Debt financing, net	34,323	-16,575	26,764	29,003	3,083	3,000
Equity financing, net	0	27,145	0	0	0	0
Dividends paid	-3,211	-3,558	-4,149	-4,518	-4,518	-5,256
Other financing	-1,948	-2,573	-2,328	-3,197	-3,909	-4,325
<b>Financing cash flow</b>	<b>29,164</b>	<b>4,438</b>	<b>20,287</b>	<b>21,288</b>	<b>-5,345</b>	<b>-6,581</b>
FOREX & other effects	15	-170	19	0	0	0
<b>Net cash flows</b>	<b>5,131</b>	<b>43,150</b>	<b>-34,288</b>	<b>17,724</b>	<b>13,741</b>	<b>14,737</b>
Cash, start of the year	4,517	9,648	52,798	18,472	36,196	49,937
<b>Cash, end of the year</b>	<b>9,648</b>	<b>52,798</b>	<b>18,510</b>	<b>36,196</b>	<b>49,937</b>	<b>64,674</b>
<b>EBITDA/share (in €)</b>	<b>3.58</b>	<b>4.09</b>	<b>3.31</b>	<b>3.68</b>	<b>5.28</b>	<b>6.43</b>
<b>Y-Y Growth</b>						
Operating cash flow	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	12.0%
Free cash flow	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	11.7%
Financial cash flow	694.2%	-84.8%	357.1%	4.9%	n.m.	n.m.
EBITDA/share	-15.6%	14.2%	-19.1%	11.2%	43.8%	21.7%

## Imprint / Disclaimer

### First Berlin Equity Research

First Berlin Equity Research GmbH ist ein von der BaFin betreffend die Einhaltung der Pflichten des §85 Abs. 1 S. 1 WpHG, des Art. 20 Abs. 1 Marktmissbrauchsverordnung (MAR) und der Markets Financial Instruments Directive (MiFID) II, Markets in Financial Instruments Directive (MiFID) II Durchführungsverordnung und der Markets in Financial Instruments Regulations (MiFIR) beaufsichtigtes Unternehmen.

First Berlin Equity Research GmbH is one of the companies monitored by BaFin with regard to its compliance with the requirements of Section 85 (1) sentence 1 of the German Securities Trading Act [WpHG], art. 20 (1) Market Abuse Regulation (MAR) and Markets in Financial Instruments Directive (MiFID) II, Markets in Financial Instruments Directive (MiFID) II Commission Delegated Regulation and Markets in Financial Instruments Regulations (MiFIR).

Anschrift:

First Berlin Equity Research GmbH  
Mohrenstr. 34  
10117 Berlin  
Germany

Vertreten durch den Geschäftsführer: Martin Bailey

Telefon: +49 (0) 30-80 93 9 680

Fax: +49 (0) 30-80 93 9 687

E-Mail: [info@firstberlin.com](mailto:info@firstberlin.com)

Amtsgericht Berlin Charlottenburg HR B 103329 B

UST-Id.: 251601797

Ggf. Inhaltlich Verantwortlicher gem. § 6 MDStV

First Berlin Equity Research GmbH

**Authored by: Dr. Karsten von Blumenthal, Analyst**

**All publications of the last 12 months were authored by Dr. Karsten von Blumenthal.**

**Company responsible for preparation: First Berlin Equity Research GmbH, Mohrenstraße 34, 10117 Berlin**

The production of this recommendation was completed on 29 March 2022 at 10:38

**Person responsible for forwarding or distributing this financial analysis: Martin Bailey**

**Copyright© 2022 First Berlin Equity Research GmbH** No part of this financial analysis may be copied, photocopied, duplicated or distributed in any form or media whatsoever without prior written permission from First Berlin Equity Research GmbH. First Berlin Equity Research GmbH shall be identified as the source in the case of quotations. Further information is available on request.

### **INFORMATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 85 (1) SENTENCE 1 OF THE GERMAN SECURITIES TRADING ACT [WPHG], TO ART. 20 (1) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 596/2014 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL OF APRIL 16, 2014, ON MARKET ABUSE (MARKET ABUSE REGULATION) AND TO ART. 37 OF COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) NO 2017/565 (MIFID) II.**

First Berlin Equity Research GmbH (hereinafter referred to as: "First Berlin") prepares financial analyses while taking the relevant regulatory provisions, in particular section 85 (1) sentence 1 of the German Securities Trading Act [WpHG], art. 20 (1) of Regulation (EU) No 596/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of April 16, 2014, on market abuse (market abuse regulation) and art. 37 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) no. 2017/565 (MiFID II) into consideration. In the following First Berlin provides investors with information about the statutory provisions that are to be observed in the preparation of financial analyses.

### **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

In accordance with art. 37 (1) of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) no. 2017/565 (MiFID) II and art. 20 (1) of Regulation (EU) No 596/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of April 16, 2014, on market abuse (market abuse regulation) investment firms which produce, or arrange for the production of, investment research that is intended or likely to be subsequently disseminated to clients of the firm or to the public, under their own responsibility or that of a member of their group, shall ensure the implementation of all the measures set forth in accordance with Article 34 (2) lit. (b) of Regulation (EU) 2017/565 in relation to the financial analysts involved in the production of the investment research and other relevant persons whose responsibilities or business interests may conflict with the interests of the persons to whom the investment research is disseminated. In accordance with art. 34 (3) of Regulation (EU) 2017/565 the procedures and measures referred to in paragraph 2 lit. (b) of such article shall be designed to ensure that relevant persons engaged in different business activities involving a conflict of interests carry on those activities at a level of independence appropriate to the size and activities of the investment firm and of the group to which it belongs, and to the risk of damage to the interests of clients.

In addition, First Berlin shall pursuant to Article 5 of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/958 disclose in their recommendations all relationships and circumstances that may reasonably be expected to impair the objectivity of the financial analyses, including interests or conflicts of interest, on their part or on the part of any natural or legal person working for them under a contract, including a contract of employment, or otherwise, who was involved in producing financial analyses, concerning any financial instrument or the issuer to which the recommendation directly or indirectly relates.

With regard to the financial analyses of ABO Wind AG the following relationships and circumstances exist which may reasonably be expected to impair the objectivity of the financial analyses: The author, First Berlin, or a company associated with First Berlin reached an agreement with the ABO Wind AG for preparation of a financial analysis for which remuneration is owed.

Furthermore, First Berlin offers a range of services that go beyond the preparation of financial analyses. Although First Berlin strives to avoid conflicts of interest wherever possible, First Berlin may maintain the following relations with the analysed company, which in particular may constitute a potential conflict of interest:

- The author, First Berlin, or a company associated with First Berlin owns a net long or short position exceeding the threshold of 0.5 % of the total issued share capital of the analysed company;
- The author, First Berlin, or a company associated with First Berlin holds an interest of more than five percent in the share capital of the analysed company;

- The author, First Berlin, or a company associated with First Berlin provided investment banking or consulting services for the analysed company within the past twelve months for which remuneration was or was to be paid;
- The author, First Berlin, or a company associated with First Berlin reached an agreement with the analysed company for preparation of a financial analysis for which remuneration is owed;
- The author, First Berlin, or a company associated with First Berlin has other significant financial interests in the analysed company;

First Berlin F.S.B. Investment-Beratungsgesellschaft mbH (hereafter FBIB), a company of the First Berlin Group, holds a stake of under 0.5% of the shares in the company which has been covered in this analysis. The analyst is not subject to any restrictions with regard to his recommendation and is therefore independent, so that we believe there is no conflict of interest.

With regard to the financial analyses of ABO Wind AG the following of the aforementioned potential conflicts of interests or the potential conflicts of interest mentioned in Article 6 paragraph 1 of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/958 exist: The author, First Berlin, or a company associated with First Berlin reached an agreement with the ABO Wind AG for preparation of a financial analysis for which remuneration is owed.

In order to avoid and, if necessary, manage possible conflicts of interest both the author of the financial analysis and First Berlin shall be obliged to neither hold nor in any way trade the securities of the company analyzed. The remuneration of the author of the financial analysis stands in no direct or indirect connection with the recommendations or opinions represented in the financial analysis. Furthermore, the remuneration of the author of the financial analysis is neither coupled directly to financial transactions nor to stock exchange trading volume or asset management fees.

**INFORMATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 64 OF THE GERMAN SECURITIES TRADING ACT [WPHG], DIRECTIVE 2014/65/EU OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL OF 15 MAY 2014 ON MARKETS IN FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND AMENDING DIRECTIVE 2002/92/EC AND DIRECTIVE 2011/61/EU, ACCOMPANIED BY THE MARKETS IN FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS REGULATION (MIFIR, REG. EU NO. 600/2014).**

First Berlin notes that it has concluded a contract with the issuer to prepare financial analyses and is paid for that by the issuer. First Berlin makes the financial analysis simultaneously available for all interested security financial services companies. First Berlin thus believes that it fulfils the requirements of section 64 WpHG for minor non-monetary benefits.

**PRICE TARGET DATES**

Unless otherwise indicated, current prices refer to the closing prices of the previous trading day.

**AGREEMENT WITH THE ANALYSED COMPANY AND MAINTENANCE OF OBJECTIVITY**

The present financial analysis is based on the author's own knowledge and research. The author prepared this study without any direct or indirect influence exerted on the part of the analysed company. Parts of the financial analysis were possibly provided to the analysed company prior to publication in order to avoid inaccuracies in the representation of facts. However, no substantial changes were made at the request of the analysed company following any such provision.

**ASSET VALUATION SYSTEM**

First Berlin's system for asset valuation is divided into an asset recommendation and a risk assessment.

**ASSET RECOMMENDATION**

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 <sup>1</sup>	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%

<sup>1</sup> 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.

**RISK ASSESSMENT**

The First Berlin categories for risk assessment are low, average, high and speculative. They are determined by ten factors: Corporate governance, quality of earnings, management strength, balance sheet and financial risk, competitive position, standard of financial disclosure, regulatory and political uncertainty, strength of brandname, market capitalisation and free float. These risk factors are incorporated into the First Berlin valuation models and are thus included in the target prices. First Berlin customers may request the models.

**RECOMMENDATION & PRICE TARGET HISTORY**

Report No.:	Date of publication	Previous day closing price	Recommendation	Price target
Initial Report	12 April 2017	€7.80	BUY	€14.00
2...17	↓	↓	↓	↓
18	22 June 2020	€20.80	BUY	€30.00
19	19 August 2020	€23.40	BUY	€30.50
20	26 November 2020	€34.00	BUY	€54.00
21	24 February 2021	€42.40	BUY	€55.00
22	18 March 2021	€45.40	BUY	€63.00
23	4 August 2021	€48.00	BUY	€66.00
24	6 September 2021	€48.10	BUY	€73.00
25	7 December 2021	€57.00	BUY	€79.00
26	Today	€58.40	BUY	€95.00

### INVESTMENT HORIZON

Unless otherwise stated in the financial analysis, the ratings refer to an investment period of twelve months.

### UPDATES

At the time of publication of this financial analysis it is not certain whether, when and on what occasion an update will be provided. In general First Berlin strives to review the financial analysis for its topicality and, if required, to update it in a very timely manner in connection with the reporting obligations of the analysed company or on the occasion of ad hoc notifications.

### SUBJECT TO CHANGE

The opinions contained in the financial analysis reflect the assessment of the author on the day of publication of the financial analysis. The author of the financial analysis reserves the right to change such opinion without prior notification.

#### Legally required information regarding

- key sources of information in the preparation of this research report
- valuation methods and principles
- sensitivity of valuation parameters

can be accessed through the following internet link: <https://firstberlin.com/disclaimer-english-link/>

**SUPERVISORY AUTHORITY:** Bundesanstalt für Finanzdienstleistungsaufsicht (German Federal Financial Supervisory Authority) [BaFin], Graurheindorferstraße 108, 53117 Bonn and Marie-Curie-Straße 24-28, 60439 Frankfurt am Main

### EXCLUSION OF LIABILITY (DISCLAIMER)

#### RELIABILITY OF INFORMATION AND SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The information contained in this study is based on sources considered by the author to be reliable. Comprehensive verification of the accuracy and completeness of information and the reliability of sources of information has neither been carried out by the author nor by First Berlin. As a result no warranty of any kind whatsoever shall be assumed for the accuracy and completeness of information and the reliability of sources of information, and neither the author nor First Berlin, nor the person responsible for passing on or distributing the financial analysis shall be liable for any direct or indirect damage incurred through reliance on the accuracy and completeness of information and the reliability of sources of information.

#### RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES AND FORECASTS

The author of the financial analysis made estimates and forecasts to the best of the author's knowledge. These estimates and forecasts reflect the author's personal opinion and judgement. The premises for estimates and forecasts as well as the author's perspective on such premises are subject to constant change. Expectations with regard to the future performance of a financial instrument are the result of a measurement at a single point in time and may change at any time. The result of a financial analysis always describes only one possible future development – the one that is most probable from the perspective of the author – of a number of possible future developments.

Any and all market values or target prices indicated for the company analysed in this financial analysis may not be achieved due to various risk factors, including but not limited to market volatility, sector volatility, the actions of the analysed company, economic climate, failure to achieve earnings and/or sales forecasts, unavailability of complete and precise information and/or a subsequently occurring event which affects the underlying assumptions of the author and/or other sources on which the author relies in this document. Past performance is not an indicator of future results; past values cannot be carried over into the future.

Consequently, no warranty of any kind whatsoever shall be assumed for the accuracy of estimates and forecasts, and neither the author nor First Berlin, nor the person responsible for passing on or distributing the financial analysis shall be liable for any direct or indirect damage incurred through reliance on the correctness of estimates and forecasts.

#### INFORMATION PURPOSES, NO RECOMMENDATION, SOLICITATION, NO OFFER FOR THE PURCHASE OF SECURITIES

The present financial analysis serves information purposes. It is intended to support institutional investors in making their own investment decisions; however in no way provide the investor with investment advice. Neither the author, nor First Berlin, nor the person responsible for passing on or distributing the financial analysis shall be considered to be acting as an investment advisor or portfolio manager vis-à-vis an investor. Each investor must form his own independent opinion with regard to the suitability of an investment in view of his own investment objectives, experience, tax situation, financial position and other circumstances.

The financial analysis does not represent a recommendation or solicitation and is not an offer for the purchase of the security specified in this financial analysis. Consequently, neither the author nor First Berlin, nor the person responsible for passing on or distributing the financial analysis shall as a result be liable for losses incurred through direct or indirect employment or use of any kind whatsoever of information or statements arising out of this financial analysis.

A decision concerning an investment in securities should take place on the basis of independent investment analyses and procedures as well as other studies including, but not limited to, information memoranda, sales or issuing prospectuses and not on the basis of this document.

#### NO ESTABLISHMENT OF CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

By taking note of this financial analysis the recipient neither becomes a customer of First Berlin, nor does First Berlin incur any contractual, quasi-contractual or pre-contractual obligations and/or responsibilities toward the recipient. In particular no information contract shall be established between First Berlin and the recipient of this information.

#### NO OBLIGATION TO UPDATE

First Berlin, the author and/or the person responsible for passing on or distributing the financial analysis shall not be obliged to update the financial analysis. Investors must keep themselves informed about the current course of business and any changes in the current course of business of the analysed company.

#### DUPLICATION

Dispatch or duplication of this document is not permitted without the prior written consent of First Berlin.

#### SEVERABILITY

Should any provision of this disclaimer prove to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable under the respectively applicable law, then such provision shall be treated as if it were not an integral component of this disclaimer; in no way shall it affect the legality, validity or enforceability of the remaining provisions.

#### APPLICABLE LAW, PLACE OF JURISDICTION

The preparation of this financial analysis shall be subject to the law obtaining in the Federal Republic of Germany. The place of jurisdiction for any disputes shall be Berlin (Germany).

#### NOTICE OF DISCLAIMER

By taking note of this financial analysis the recipient confirms the binding nature of the above explanations.

By using this document or relying on it in any manner whatsoever the recipient accepts the above restrictions as binding for the recipient.

**QUALIFIED INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS**

First Berlin financial analyses are intended exclusively for qualified institutional investors.

**This report is not intended for distribution in the USA and/or Canada.**