Berentzen-Gruppe (BEZ GY) | Consumer Goods

October 23, 2024

Final 9M/24 results showed no deviations from prelims

Berentzen's final results for 9M/24 met preliminary figures, which have been released on 15 October. Moreover, the group confirmed its 2024 guidance with the midpoint of the revenue, adj. EBIT and adj. EBITDA targets being in-line with our estimates. Sales in 9M/24 and Q3/24 were broadly stable YoY despite the persistent weakness in consumer spending. 9M/24 sales in the Non-alcoholic Beverages segment declined by 4% YoY as higher selling prices could not entirely offset weaker sales volumes. On the positive front, the Mio Mio core brand continued its success story with 9M/24 and Q3/24 sales up by 1% YoY and 6% YoY, respectively. Sales in the Spirits division declined by 2% YoY in 9M/24 with a divergent development of the two core brands. While sales of Berentzen brand products increased by 9% YoY in 9M/24 - thanks to strong demand for the 'Minis' format and the newly launched 'Smoothie Shots' -, sales of Puschkin brand products (-22% YoY) suffered from temporary marketing suspensions by some German food retailers, a general weakness in the liqueurs/ vodka product categories and price-aggressive competitors campaigns. The group's 9M/24 reporting underlined that the "Building BERENTZEN 2028" strategy is bearing fruit. Despite the largely unchanged top-line, the gross profit margin improved by 320bps YoY to 46.0% in 9M/24 driven by the increase of selling prices and declines in material prices. This resulted in an improvement of the adj. EBIT by 52% YoY and an expansion of the adj. EBIT margin by 190bps YoY (to 5.5%) in 9M/24.

 We leave our estimates for 2024e-2026e unchanged and re-iterate our BUY rating and DCF-based price target of EUR 8.20.

Fundamentals (in EUR m) ¹	2021	2022	2023	2024e	2025e	2026e
Sales	146	174	186	190	192	200
EBITDA	15	17	16	14	20	23
EBIT	7	8	8	5	11	13
EPS adj. (EUR)	0.39	0.22	0.09	-0.12	0.42	0.61
DPS (EUR)	0.22	0.22	0.09	0.00	0.21	0.31
BVPS (EUR)	5.20	5.34	5.06	4.83	5.25	5.66
Net Debt incl. Provisions	-0	-3	15	18	17	17
Ratios ¹	2021	2022	2023	2024e	2025e	2026e
EV/EBITDA	3.9	3.1	4.4	4.3	2.9	2.6
EV/EBIT	8.9	6.2	9.1	11.5	5.4	4.5
P/E adj.	16.3	25.6	63.4	-36.9	10.7	7.4
Dividend yield (%)	3.5	3.8	1.5	0.0	4.7	6.8
EBITDA margin (%)	10.5	9.6	8.6	7.5	10.6	11.5
EBIT margin (%)	4.6	4.8	4.2	2.8	5.8	6.7
Net debt/EBITDA	-0.0	-0.2	0.9	1.3	0.8	0.7
PBV	1.2	1.1	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.8

¹Sources: Bloomberg, Metzler Research

Buy

EPS

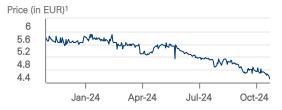


Price* EUR 4.52

Price target EUR 8.20 (unchanged)

* XETRA trading price at the close of the previous day unless stated otherwise in the Disclosures

Market Cap (EUR m) ¹	42
Enterprise Value (EUR m) ¹	61
Free Float (%) ¹	79.4



Performance (in %) ¹	1m	3m	12m
Share	-6.0	-11.4	-21.4
Rel. to Prime All Share	-8.9	-15.2	-39.0
Changes in estimates (in %)1	2024e	2025e	2026e
Sales	0.0	0.0	0.0
EBIT	0.0	0.0	0.0

0.0

0.0

0.0

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Author: Stephan Bauer
Financial Analyst Equities
+49 69 2104-4363
Stephan.Bauer@metzler.com

Our investment case remains intact

The fact that the strong YoY margin development in 9M/24 was not driven by a recovery of the beverage market but due to self-help measures is positive, in our view. It should increase investors' confidence with regard to Berentzen's medium-term earnings and margin potential, which can be achieved in the context of a (potential) recovery of consumer budgets.

Looking at the long-term investment case, we think Berentzen is an attractive selfhelp story. Under the umbrella of the 'Building BERENTZEN 2028' transformation plan, several building blocks have been put in place to drive improvements in terms of margin expansion over the next few years. By 2028, Berentzen targets to increase the EBITDA margin to 12% from 8.6% in 2023 and the EBIT margin to 8% from 4.1% in 2023 with the main driving factors including 1) Reshaping and increasing profitability of the Non-alcoholic Beverages segment, 2) Increasing the value of the core brands, 3) Running a highly efficient private label spirits business and 4) Setting-up new ventures. We continue to believe that the 'Building BERENTZEN 2028' strategy will not only be the right step towards a more focused beverage company but also improve agility and enable the group to respond more quickly to changing market conditions, while also allowing for higher profitability and better predictability of the financial performance. We see a good chance that the new corporate structure with a more stable, higher margin and improved cash conversion profile relative to history will lead to a re-rating of the share. Clearly, Berentzen faces near-term challenges due to ongoing consumer restraint, but it appears that the all-important core brands, Berentzen & Puschkin (Spirits segment) and Mio Mio (Non-alcoholic Beverage segment) are holding up well and should provide a cushion against (potential) declines elsewhere.

Key Data

Company profile

CEO: Oliver Schwegmann CFO: Ralf Bruehoefner

Haselünne, Germany

Berentzen, headquartered in Haselünne (Germany) is a leading beverage company in Germany and one of the oldest producers of spirits with a history going back to 1758. The business activities of the company include the production and distribution of spirits, non-alcoholic beverages, fresh juice systems as well as tourist and event activities at the Berentzen-Hof in Haselünne

Major shareholders

Marchmain Invest NV (5.5%), MainFirst Bank AG (8.5%), Lazard Frères Gestion SAS (5.1%)

Key	figures	

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P&L (in EUR m)	2021	%	2022	%	2023	%	2024e	%	2025e	%	2026e	%
Sales	146	-5.5	174	19.2	186	6.6	190	2.5	192	1.0	200	4.0
Gross profit on sales	68	0.0	79	15.8	77	-2.5	83	8.1	86	2.8	90	5.2
Gross margin (%)	46.9	7.9	45.5	-2.9	41.6	-8.5	43.9	5.5	44.7	1.8	45.2	1.1
EBITDA	15	9.5	17	8.4	16	-3.9	14	-11.0	20	42.9	23	12.4
EBITDA margin (%)	10.5	15.9	9.6	-9.1	8.6	-9.8	7.5	-13.1	10.6	41.5	11.5	8.1
EBIT	7	31.4	8	24.2	8	-7.6	5	-31.9	11	111.3	13	20.2
EBIT margin (%)	4.6	39.0	4.8	4.2	4.2	-13.3	2.8	-33.5	5.8	109.2	6.7	15.6
Financial result	-1	50.5	-4	-195.4	-6	-34.5	-6	-8.9	-5	11.5	-5	5.6
EBT	5	135.0	4	-21.3	2	-49.6	-1		6	767.7	8	44.6
Taxes	2	60.2	2	26.3	1	-40.2	0	-75.7	2	469.0	2	44.6
Tax rate (%)	30.9	n.a.	49.6	n.a.	58.8	n.a.	-35.2	n.a.	30.0	n.a.	30.0	n.a.
Net income	4	197.0	2	-42.6	1	-58.8	-1	-233.2	4	445.7	6	44.6
Minority interests	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	n.a.
Net Income after minorities	4	197.0	2	-42.6	1	-58.8	-1	-233.2	4	445.7	6	44.6
Number of shares outstanding (m)	9	0.0	9	0.0	9	0.0	9	0.0	9	0.0	9	0.0
EPS adj. (EUR)	0.39	195.5	0.22	-42.5	0.09	-58.8	-0.12	-232.9	0.42	445.7	0.61	44.6
DPS (EUR)	0.22	69.2	0.22	0.0	0.09	-59.1	0.00	-100.0	0.21	n.a.	0.31	44.6
Dividend yield (%)	3.5	n.a.	3.8	n.a.	1.5	n.a.	0.0	n.a.	4.7	n.a.	6.8	n.a.
Cash Flow (in EUR m)	2021	%	2022	%	2023	%	2024e	%	2025e	%	2026e	%
Gross Cash Flow	13	13.4	13	-5.8	3	-73.2	9	180.5	11	19.4	14	27.3
Increase in working capital	-0	n.a.	8	n.a.	6	n.a.	1	n.a.	-0	n.a.	1	n.a.
Capital expenditures	7	44.4	9	24.0	9	4.2	10	2.2	9	-2.1	10	2.1
D+A/Capex (%)	119.0	n.a.	92.3	n.a.	88.3	n.a.	93.7	n.a.	98.5	n.a.	99.6	n.a.
Free cash flow (Metzler definition)	6	-49.3	-5	-174.4		-174.2	-1	94.1	2	416.9	4	51.5
Free cash flow yield (%)	10.2	n.a.	-8.4	n.a.	-22.7	n.a.	-1.7	n.a.	5.5	n.a.	8.3	n.a.
Dividend paid	1	-53.6	2	69.3	2	0.0	1	-59.1	0	-100.0	2	n.a.
Free cash flow (post dividend)	5	-48.0	-7	-235.3	-15	-119.8	-2	89.1	2	247.0	2	-34.4
Balance sheet (in EUR m)	2021	%	2022	%	2023	%	2024e	%	2025e	%	2026e	%
Assets	142	-2.1	146	2.9	145	-0.6	145	-0.2	150	3.5	156	3.8
Goodwill	6	0.0	6	0.0	9	50.2	9	0.0	9	0.0	9	0.0
Shareholders' equity	49	3.4	50	2.6	47	-5.5	45	-4.2	49	8.8	53	7.6
Equity/total assets (%)	34.4	n.a.	34.2	n.a.	32.6	n.a.	31.3	n.a.	32.9	n.a.	34.1	n.a.
Net Debt incl. Provisions	-0	-112.1	-3	n.m.	15	696.3	18	19.8	17	-5.0	17	-0.6
thereof pension provisions	9	-2.7	7	-17.8	8	16.9	8	0.0	8	0.0	8	0.0
Gearing (%)	-0.4	n.a.	-5.1	n.a.	31.9	n.a.	39.9	n.a.	34.9	n.a.	32.2	n.a.
Net debt/EBITDA	-0.0	n.a.	-0.2	n.a.	0.9	n.a.	1.3	n.a.	0.8	n.a.	0.7	n.a.

Structure

Revenue by segment 2023



Sources: Bloomberg, Metzler Research

Disclosures

Recommendation history

Recommendations for each financial instrument or issuer - mentioned in this docu ment - published by Metzler in the past twelve months

Date of dissemination Metzler recommendation * Current price ** Price target * Author ***

Previous Current

Issuer/Financial Instrument (ISIN): Berentzen-Gruppe (DE0005201602) 16.10.2024 Buy Buy 4.68 EUR 8.20 EUR Bauer, Stephan 16.08.2024 4.97 EUR Buy Buy 8.20 EUR Bauer, Stephan 07.05.2024 8.00 EUR Bauer, Stephan Buy Buy 5.56 EUR 05.04.2024 Buy 5.38 EUR 8.00 EUR Bauer, Stephan Buy 22.02.2024 Buv Buv 5.60 EUR 8.00 EUR Bauer, Stephan 8.00 EUR Bauer, Stephan 06.02.2024 Buy Buy 5.70 EUR 18.01.2024 Buy Buy 5.75 EUR 8.00 EUR Bauer, Stephan

- * Effective until the price target and/or investment recommendation is updated (FI/FX recommendations are valid solely at the time of publication)
- ** XETRA trading price at the close of the previous day unless stated otherwise herein
- *** All authors are financial analysts

Berentzen-Gruppe

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Metzler Capital Markets

B. Metzler seel. Sohn & Co. AG Untermainanlage 1 60329 Frankfurt/Main, Germany Phone +49 69 2104-extension Fax +49 69 2104-679 www.metzler.com Mario Mattera

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