USU Software AG Germany - Software

Buy (old: Buy)

Price target: EUR 29.00 (old: EUR 29.00)

Price:	EUR 17.80	Next result:	Q3-22 24.11.22
Bloomberg:	OSP2 GR	Market cap:	EUR 191.0 m
Reuters:	OSPGk.DE	Enterprise Value:	EUR 183.1 m

Roadshow feedback – full focus on SaaS

Transformation fully on track: Since entering the transformation process in 2017, USU has **continuously increased its share of SaaS revenues** (2018-21'CAGR: 29.6%) thus also increasing the share of recurring revenues (Maintenance + SaaS) to 31.2% (H2-22). While 45% of new customers already opt for the SaaS option, the company aims to increase that figure by >10pp p.a. in order to become a **SaaS only company within the next four years**. As it typically takes three years for SaaS payments to match the upfront license payment of an on premise solution, all **revenues thereafter come at de facto no further cost.** We therefore expect USU to keep on **increasing profitability** going forward (eHAIB: 15.2% EBITDA margin in 2024). Moreover, based on a 100% SaaS business model, margins above 20 % should be well achievable in the long term (eHAIB).

M&A: With \in 26.2m cash on hand, USU is screening the market for possible M&A targets. Here, the company is eyeing mature, founder-led companies with sales in the lower double-digit area (\in 10-20m). Moreover, the target should provide technology with a significant value-add to USU's portfolio, likely in the segments of cloud optimization/monitoring or data technology. However, we do not expect any execution before 2023, as multiples for private tech-companies have not fully cooled off yet.

Public sector's darling: USU continues to be successful among public sector institutions, which make up c. 30% of the company's revenues. Just last week, the city of Dortmund was announced as a new customer. More importantly though, the company won **one of the biggest IT Service Management (ITSM) projects in Europe** earlier this year, as it will create an ITSM platform for the BWI (German Army) with an estimated **volume of € 20m** over the next seven years (eHAIB). With that, USU not only proved the ability to win major tenders, the company also once again underpinned its **leading position in the European ITSM market**, where it has a clear cost advantage over larger US competitors like ServiceNow.

Moreover, recent project wins lead to a **record order backlog of € 78m** (SaaS contracts accounted for one year), supporting strong visibility.

Overall, a reassuring roadshow, which fully confirmed our positive view on the stock. Valuation continues to look relatively attractive at 24.2x PE'22 vs 32x on a 3y historic average. Hence, we reiterate our **BUY recommendation with an unchanged PT of € 29.00** based on DCF.

Y/E 31.12 (EUR m)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022E	2023E	2024E
Sales	90.5	95.6	107.3	111.9	124.0	136.4	147.3
Sales growth	7 %	6 %	12 %	4 %	11 %	10 %	8 %
EBITDA	5.5	9.9	13.4	14.4	16.2	18.8	22.4
EBIT	2.7	4.1	7.0	9.7	11.5	14.0	17.2
Net income	1.0	5.3	5.5	6.8	8.4	10.0	12.1
Net debt	-8.3	-1.7	-1.3	-7.5	-9.3	-11.6	-18.0
Net gearing	-14.0 %	-2.8 %	-2.0 %	-11.6 %	-13.5 %	-15.6 %	-21.9 %
Net Debt/EBITDA	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EPS pro forma	0.18	0.70	0.72	0.68	0.84	1.00	1.20
CPS	0.06	0.63	1.38	1.04	0.85	1.01	1.25
DPS	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40
Dividend yield	2.0 %	2.0 %	2.0 %	2.0 %	2.0 %	2.0 %	2.0 %
Gross profit margin	51.9 %	51.7 %	52.7 %	50.2 %	51.3 %	51.8 %	52.0 %
EBITDA margin	6.1 %	10.4 %	12.5 %	12.9 %	13.1 %	13.8 %	15.2 %
EBIT margin	3.0 %	4.2 %	6.5 %	8.6 %	9.3 %	10.3 %	11.7 %
ROCE	3.9 %	5.7 %	9.3 %	12.1 %	13.2 %	15.4 %	17.7 %
EV/sales	2.3	2.2	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.3
EV/EBITDA	37.9	21.6	16.1	14.5	12.7	10.9	8.9
EV/EBIT	77.1	52.8	30.6	21.6	17.9	14.6	11.5
PER	111.6	29.2	28.2	29.9	24.2	20.4	17.0
Adjusted FCF yield	1.1 %	3.8 %	4.1 %	4.4 %	5.2 %	6.1 %	7.4 %

Source: Company data, Hauck Aufhäuser Investment Banking Close price as of: 09.09.2022

Please refer to important disclosures at the end of the report



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10/21 12/21 02/22 04/22 06/22 08/22 Source: Company data, Hauck Aufhäuser Investment Banking

High/low 52 weeks:	26.10/15.85
Price/Book Ratio:	2.7
Relative performance	(SDAX):
3 months	4.4 %
6 months	-5.2 %
12 months	-4.2 %

Changes in estimates

	,			
		Sales	EBIT	EPS
2022	old:	124.0	11.5	0.84
2022	Δ	-	-	-
2023	old:	136.4	14.0	1.00
2023	Δ	-	-	-
2024	old:	147.3	17.2	1.20
2024	Δ	-	-	-

Key share data:

Number of shares: (in m pcs)	10.5
Authorised capital: (in € m)	2.6
Book value per share: (in €)	6.5
Ø trading volume: (12 months)	6,300

Major shareholders:

AUSUM GmbH (Udo Strehl)	51.2 %
Free Float	41.6 %
MainFirst SICAV	6.3 %
Peter Scheufler	4.7 %
USU board (excl. Udo	2.5 %
Strehl)	

Company description:

USU develops and distributes IT software and service solutions to more than 1000 customers.

Financials

Sales 90.5 95.6 107.3 111.9 124.0 136.4 147.3 Sales growth 7.3 % 5.7 % 12.2 % 4.3 % 10.0 % 6.0 % Gross profit 43.6 46.2 50.8 55.7 60.4 65.7 70.7 Gross profit 46.9 49.5 56.5 56.2 63.6 70.6 76.6 Sales and marketing 10.6 12.2 14.3 10.2 11.8 12.5 22.9 22.5 27.3 General and administration 10.6 12.2 11.3 10.5 2.1 2.3 2.5 Research and development 1.2 1.9 1.3 1.5 2.1 2.3 2.5 Other operating income 1.2 1.9 1.3 1.4 14.2 1.1 1.1 1.1 Other operating expenses 0.7 0.5 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0	Profit and loss (EUR m)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022E	2023E	2024E
Cost of sales 43.6 46.2 50.8 55.7 60.4 65.7 70.7 Gross profit 46.9 46.9 56.5 56.2 63.6 70.6 76.6 Sales and marketing 18.8 18.9 20.4 20.5 22.9 25.2 27.3 General and administration 10.6 12.2 14.3 10.2 11.8 12.5 15.8 Research and development 15.3 15.8 15.4 16.7 18.6 20.2 21.1 Other operating expenses 0.7 0.5 0.7 0.6 0.9 1.0 1.0 Unusul or infrequent items 0.0	Sales	90.5	95.6	107.3	111.9	124.0	136.4	147.3
Gross profit 46.9 49.5 56.5 56.2 63.6 70.6 76.6 Sales and marketing 18.8 18.9 20.4 20.5 22.9 22.2 27.3 General and administration 10.6 12.2 14.3 10.2 11.8 12.5 12.5 Research and development 1.2 1.9 1.3 1.5 2.1 2.3 2.5 Other operating expenses 0.7 0.5 0.7 0.6 0.9 0.0<	Sales growth	7.3 %	5.7 %	12.2 %	4.3 %	10.8 %	10.0 %	8.0 %
Sales and marketing 18.8 18.9 20.4 20.5 22.9 25.2 27.3 General and administration 10.6 12.2 14.3 10.2 11.8 12.5 12.5 Research and development 15.3 15.8 15.4 16.7 18.6 20.2 21.1 Other operating income 1.2 1.9 1.3 1.5 2.1 2.3 Other operating expenses 0.7 0.5 0.7 0.6 0.9 0.0 0.0 Dunusual or infrequent items 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 BEITDA 55 99 13.4 14.4 16.2 18.8 22.4 Depreciation 1.2 1.5 1.4 1.2 1.1 1.1 1.1 EBITA 4.3 8.4 12.0 10.3 0.0 0.0 0.0 Amortisation of intangible assets 1.6 4.3 5.0 3.5 3.6 3.7 4.0 Impairment charges 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0	Cost of sales	43.6	46.2	50.8	55.7	60.4	65.7	70.7
General and administration 10.6 12.2 14.3 10.2 11.8 12.5 12.5 Research and development 15.3 15.8 15.4 16.7 18.6 20.2 21.1 Other operating expenses 0.7 0.5 0.7 0.6 0.9 1.0 1.0 Unusual or infrequent items 0.0	Gross profit	46.9	49.5	56.5	56.2	63.6	70.6	76.6
Research and development 15.3 15.8 15.4 16.7 18.6 20.2 21.1 Other operating income 1.2 1.9 1.3 1.5 2.1 2.3 2.5 Other operating expenses 0.7 0.5 0.7 0.6 0.9 1.0 1.0 Unusual or infrequent items 0.0<	Sales and marketing	18.8	18.9	20.4	20.5	22.9	25.2	27.3
Other operating income 1.2 1.9 1.3 1.5 2.1 2.3 2.5 Other operating expenses 0.7 0.5 0.7 0.6 0.9 1.0 1.0 Unusual or infrequent items 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 BBTDA 5.5 9.9 13.4 14.4 16.2 18.8 22.4 Depreciation 1.2 1.5 1.4 1.2 1.1 1.1 1.1 EBTA 4.3 8.4 12.0 13.2 15.1 17.7 21.3 Amortisation of intangible assets 1.6 4.3 8.0 0.0 <td< td=""><td>General and administration</td><td>10.6</td><td>12.2</td><td>14.3</td><td>10.2</td><td>11.8</td><td>12.5</td><td>12.5</td></td<>	General and administration	10.6	12.2	14.3	10.2	11.8	12.5	12.5
Other operating expenses 0.7 0.5 0.7 0.6 0.9 1.0 1.0 Unusual or infrequent items 0.0 <td>Research and development</td> <td>15.3</td> <td>15.8</td> <td>15.4</td> <td>16.7</td> <td>18.6</td> <td>20.2</td> <td>21.1</td>	Research and development	15.3	15.8	15.4	16.7	18.6	20.2	21.1
Unusual or infrequent items 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 EBITDA 55 9.9 13.4 14.4 16.2 18.8 22.4 Depreciation 1.2 1.5 1.4 1.2 1.1 1.1 1.1 EBITA 4.3 8.4 12.0 13.2 15.1 17.7 21.3 Amortisation of goodwill 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 Impairment charges 1.6 4.3 5.0 3.5 3.6 3.7 4.0 Interest income 2.7 4.1 7.0 9.7 11.5 14.0 17.2 Interest income 2.2 0.1 0.1 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 Interest income 0.2 0.1 0.1 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 Interest income from continuing operations 2.8 4.0 6.8 9.7 11.6 14.1	Other operating income	1.2	1.9	1.3	1.5	2.1	2.3	2.5
EBITDA5.59.913.414.416.218.822.4Depreciation1.21.51.41.21.11.11.1EBITA4.38.412.013.215.117.721.3Amortisation of goodwill0.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Amortisation of intangible assets1.64.35.03.53.63.74.0Impairment charges0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0EBIT (inc revaluation net)2.74.17.09.711.514.017.2Interest expenses0.10.10.10.20.20.20.20.2Interest expenses0.10.10.30.10.10.10.20.00.0Cher financial result0.10.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Financial result0.10.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Extraordinary income/loss0.84.06.89.711.614.117.3Extraordinary income/loss1.9-1.21.33.03.24.15.2Net income from continuing operations1.05.35.56.88.410.012.1Result from discontinued operations (net of tax)1.02.12.10.40.50.50.5Net income0.00.0	Other operating expenses	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.9	1.0	1.0
Depreciation1.21.51.41.21.11.11.1EBITA4.38.412.013.215.117.721.3Amortisation of goodwill0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Amortisation of intangible assets1.64.35.03.53.63.74.0Impairment charges0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0EBIT (inc revaluation net)2.74.17.09.711.514.017.2Interest income0.20.10.10.20.20.20.20.20.2Interest expenses0.10.10.30.10.10.10.20.00.0Cher financial result0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Financial result0.10.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Extraordinary income/loss0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Earnings before taxes1.9-1.21.33.03.24.15.25.56.88.410.012.1Net income from continuing operations1.05.35.56.88.410.012.11.012.11.012.11.11.11.11.11.11.11.11.11.11.11.11.11.1	Unusual or infrequent items	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EBITA4.38.412.013.215.117.721.3Amortisation of goodwill0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Amortisation of intangible assets1.64.35.03.53.63.74.0Impairment charges0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0EBIT (inc revaluation net)2.74.17.09.711.514.017.2Interest income0.20.10.10.30.10.10.20.20.20.2Interest expenses0.10.10.30.10.10.10.20.00.0Cher financial result0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Financial result0.10.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Extraordinary income/loss2.84.06.89.711.614.117.313.214.117.3Taxes1.9-1.21.33.03.24.15.215.56.88.410.012.1Net income from continuing operations1.02.12.10.40.5	EBITDA	5.5	9.9	13.4	14.4	16.2	18.8	22.4
Amortisation of goodwill0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Amortisation of intangible assets1.64.35.03.53.63.74.0Impairment charges0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0EBIT (inc revaluation net)2.74.17.09.711.514.017.2Interest income0.20.10.10.20.20.20.20.2Interest expenses0.10.10.30.10.10.10.2Other financial result0.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Financial result0.10.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Recurring pretax income from continuing operations2.84.06.89.711.614.117.3Extraordinary income/loss0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Earnings before taxes1.9-1.21.33.03.24.15.2Net income from continuing operations1.05.35.56.88.410.012.1Net income1.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.50.5Net income1.05.35.56.88.410.012.1Average number of shares10.510.510.510.510.510.510.5	Depreciation	1.2	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1
Amortisation of intangible assets1.64.35.03.53.63.74.0Impairment charges0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0EBIT (inc revaluation net)2.74.17.09.711.514.017.2Interest income0.20.10.10.20.20.20.20.2Interest expenses0.10.10.30.10.10.10.2Other financial result0.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Financial result0.10.0-0.20.10.10.10.1Recurring pretax income from continuing operations2.84.06.89.711.614.117.3Extraordinary income/loss0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Earnings before taxes2.84.06.89.711.614.117.3Taxes1.9-1.21.33.03.24.15.2Net income from continuing operations1.05.35.56.88.410.012.1Net income from continuing operations1.05.35.56.88.410.012.1Minority interest0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Net income1.05.35.56.88.410.012.1Minority interest0.00.00.00.0	EBITA	4.3	8.4	12.0	13.2	15.1	17.7	21.3
Impairment charges0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0EBIT (inc revaluation net)2.74.17.09.711.514.017.2Interest income0.20.10.10.20.20.20.20.2Interest expenses0.10.10.30.10.10.10.10.2Other financial result0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Financial result0.10.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Financial result0.10.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Financial result0.10.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Financial result0.10.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Financial result0.10.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Recurring pretax income from continuing operations2.84.06.89.711.614.117.3Extraordinary income/loss0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Earnings before taxes2.84.06.89.711.614.117.3Taxes1.9-1.21.33.03.24.12.2Net income from continuing operations1.02.12.10.40.50.50.5Net income <th< td=""><td>Amortisation of goodwill</td><td>0.0</td><td>0.0</td><td>0.0</td><td>0.0</td><td>0.0</td><td>0.0</td><td>0.0</td></th<>	Amortisation of goodwill	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EBIT (inc revaluation net)2.74.17.09.711.514.017.2Interest income0.20.10.10.20.20.20.20.2Interest expenses0.10.10.30.10.10.10.20.20.2Other financial result0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Financial result0.10.0-0.20.10.10.10.10.1Recurring pretax income from continuing operations2.84.06.89.711.614.117.3Extraordinary income/loss0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Earnings before taxes2.84.06.89.711.614.117.3Taxes1.9-1.21.33.03.24.15.2Net income from continuing operations1.05.35.56.88.410.012.1Minority interest0.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Net income1.05.35.56.88.410.012.1Minority interest0.00.00.00.00.00.00.0Net profit (reported)1.05.35.56.88.410.012.1Average number of shares10.510.510.510.510.510.510.5	Amortisation of intangible assets	1.6	4.3	5.0	3.5	3.6	3.7	4.0
Interest income 0.2 0.1 0.1 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 Interest expenses 0.1 0.1 0.3 0.1 0.1 0.2 Other financial result 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 Financial result 0.1 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 Recurring pretax income from continuing operations 2.8 4.0 6.8 9.7 11.6 14.1 17.3 Extraordinary income/loss 0.0	Impairment charges	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Interest expenses 0.1 0.1 0.3 0.1 0.1 0.2 Other financial result 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 Financial result 0.1 0.0 -0.2 0.1 0.1 0.1 0.1 Recurring pretax income from continuing operations 2.8 4.0 6.8 9.7 11.6 14.1 17.3 Extraordinary income/loss 0.0 0	EBIT (inc revaluation net)	2.7	4.1	7.0	9.7	11.5	14.0	17.2
Other financial result 0.0	Interest income	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Financial result 0.1 0.0 -0.2 0.1 0.1 0.1 0.1 Recurring pretax income from continuing operations 2.8 4.0 6.8 9.7 11.6 14.1 17.3 Extraordinary income/loss 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 Earnings before taxes 2.8 4.0 6.8 9.7 11.6 14.1 17.3 Taxes 2.8 4.0 6.8 9.7 11.6 14.1 17.3 Net income from continuing operations 1.9 -1.2 1.3 3.0 3.2 4.1 5.2 Net income from continuing operations (net of tax) 1.0 2.1 2.1 0.4 0.5 0.5 0.5 Net income 1.0 2.1 2.1 0.4 0.5 0.5 0.5 Net income 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 Ninority interest 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 <td>Interest expenses</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>0.3</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>0.2</td>	Interest expenses	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Recurring pretax income from continuing operations 2.8 4.0 6.8 9.7 11.6 14.1 17.3 Extraordinary income/loss 0.0 1.1 17.3 17.3 17.3 17.3 17.3 17.3 17.3 17.3 17.3 17.3 17.3 17.3 17.3 17.3 17.4 17.3 17.4 17.3 17.4 17.3 17.4 17.3 17.4 17.3 17.4 17.4 17.4 17.4 17.4 17.4	Other financial result	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Extraordinary income/loss 0.0 <td>Financial result</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>-0.2</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>0.1</td>	Financial result	0.1	0.0	-0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Earnings before taxes 2.8 4.0 6.8 9.7 11.6 14.1 17.3 Taxes 1.9 -1.2 1.3 3.0 3.2 4.1 5.2 Net income from continuing operations 1.0 5.3 5.5 6.8 8.4 10.0 12.1 Result from discontinued operations (net of tax) 1.0 2.1 2.1 0.4 0.5 0.5 0.5 Net income 1.0 5.3 5.5 6.8 8.4 10.0 12.1 Minority interest 0.0	Recurring pretax income from continuing operations	2.8	4.0	6.8	9.7	11.6	14.1	17.3
Taxes 1.9 -1.2 1.3 3.0 3.2 4.1 5.2 Net income from continuing operations 1.0 5.3 5.5 6.8 8.4 10.0 12.1 Result from discontinued operations (net of tax) 1.0 2.1 2.1 0.4 0.5 0.5 0.5 Net income 1.0 2.1 2.1 0.4 0.5 0.5 0.5 Net income 1.0 5.3 5.5 6.8 8.4 10.0 12.1 Minority interest 0.0	Extraordinary income/loss	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net income from continuing operations 1.0 5.3 5.5 6.8 8.4 10.0 12.1 Result from discontinued operations (net of tax) 1.0 2.1 2.1 0.4 0.5 0.5 0.5 Net income 1.0 5.3 5.5 6.8 8.4 10.0 12.1 Minority interest 0.0	Earnings before taxes	2.8	4.0	6.8	9.7	11.6	14.1	17.3
Result from discontinued operations (net of tax) 1.0 2.1 2.1 0.4 0.5 0.5 0.5 Net income 1.0 5.3 5.5 6.8 8.4 10.0 12.1 Minority interest 0.0 <td>Taxes</td> <td>1.9</td> <td>-1.2</td> <td>1.3</td> <td>3.0</td> <td>3.2</td> <td>4.1</td> <td>5.2</td>	Taxes	1.9	-1.2	1.3	3.0	3.2	4.1	5.2
Net income 1.0 5.3 5.5 6.8 8.4 10.0 12.1 Minority interest 0.0 <td>Net income from continuing operations</td> <td>1.0</td> <td>5.3</td> <td>5.5</td> <td>6.8</td> <td>8.4</td> <td>10.0</td> <td>12.1</td>	Net income from continuing operations	1.0	5.3	5.5	6.8	8.4	10.0	12.1
Minority interest 0.0	Result from discontinued operations (net of tax)	1.0	2.1	2.1	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5
Net profit (reported) 1.0 5.3 5.5 6.8 8.4 10.0 12.1 Average number of shares 10.5	Net income	1.0	5.3	5.5	6.8	8.4	10.0	12.1
Average number of shares 10.5 1	Minority interest	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Net profit (reported)	1.0	5.3	5.5	6.8	8.4	10.0	12.1
EPS reported 0.09 0.50 0.52 0.64 0.79 0.95 1.15	Average number of shares	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5
	EPS reported	0.09	0.50	0.52	0.64	0.79	0.95	1.15

Profit and loss (common size)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022E	2023E	2024E
Sales	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %
Cost of sales	48.1 %	48.3 %	47.3 %	49.8 %	48.7 %	48.2 %	48.0 %
Gross profit	51.9 %	51.7 %	52.7 %	50.2 %	51.3 %	51.8 %	52.0 %
Sales and marketing	20.8 %	19.7 %	19.0 %	18.4 %	18.5 %	18.5 %	18.5 %
General and administration	11.7 %	12.7 %	13.3 %	9.2 %	9.5 %	9.2 %	8.5 %
Research and development	16.9 %	16.5 %	14.4 %	14.9 %	15.0 %	14.8 %	14.3 %
Other operating income	1.3 %	2.0 %	1.2 %	1.4 %	1.7 %	1.7 %	1.7 %
Other operating expenses	0.7 %	0.5 %	0.6 %	0.5 %	0.7 %	0.7 %	0.7 %
Unusual or infrequent items	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %
EBITDA	6.1 %	10.4 %	12.5 %	12.9 %	13.1 %	13.8 %	15.2 %
Depreciation	1.3 %	1.6 %	1.3 %	1.1 %	0.9 %	0.8 %	0.8 %
EBITA	4.8 %	8.8 %	11.2 %	11.8 %	12.2 %	13.0 %	14.4 %
Amortisation of goodwill	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %
Amortisation of intangible assets	1.8 %	4.5 %	4.6 %	3.1 %	2.9 %	2.7 %	2.7 %
Impairment charges	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %
EBIT (inc revaluation net)	3.0 %	4.2 %	6.5 %	8.6 %	9.3 %	10.3 %	11.7 %
Interest income	0.2 %	0.1 %	0.0 %	0.2 %	0.2 %	0.2 %	0.2 %
Interest expenses	0.1 %	0.1 %	0.3 %	0.1 %	0.1 %	0.1 %	0.1 %
Other financial result	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %
Financial result	0.1 %	neg.	neg.	0.1 %	0.1 %	0.1 %	0.1 %
Recurring pretax income from continuing operations	3.1 %	4.2 %	6.3 %	8.7 %	9.4 %	10.4 %	11.8 %
Extraordinary income/loss	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %
Earnings before taxes	3.1 %	4.2 %	6.3 %	8.7 %	9.4 %	10.4 %	11.8 %
Tax rate	65.8 %	-30.2 %	19.3 %	30.5 %	28.0 %	29.0 %	30.0 %
Net income from continuing operations	1.1 %	5.5 %	5.1 %	6.0 %	6.7 %	7.4 %	8.2 %
Result from discontinued operations (net of tax)	1.1 %	2.2 %	2.0 %	0.4 %	0.4 %	0.4 %	0.4 %
Net income	1.1 %	5.5 %	5.1 %	6.0 %	6.7 %	7.4 %	8.2 %
Minority interest	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %
Net profit (reported)	1.1 %	5.5 %	5.1 %	6.0 %	6.7 %	7.4 %	8.2 %

USU Software AG

Balance sheet (EUR m)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022E	2023E	2024E
Intangible assets	48.1	46.3	44.0	43.4	40.4	37.3	33.8
Property, plant and equipment	2.2	10.8	19.7	19.7	23.4	28.1	31.6
Financial assets	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
FIXED ASSETS	51.0	57.9	64.6	63.9	64.5	66.2	66.2
Inventories	5.0	3.9	5.0	5.3	5.9	6.5	7.0
Accounts receivable	20.4	20.9	16.9	14.9	16.5	18.1	19.6
Other current assets	1.9	0.9	1.3	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Liquid assets	9.5	10.4	18.5	24.3	26.1	28.4	34.8
Deferred taxes	5.9	8.8	7.0	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9
Deferred charges and prepaid expenses	1.4	1.7	2.2	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8
CURRENT ASSETS	44.1	46.5	50.8	52.2	56.1	60.7	69.1
TOTAL ASSETS	95.1	104.5	115.5	116.0	120.6	126.9	135.3
SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY	59.7	60.2	61.8	64.4	68.6	74.4	82.3
MINORITY INTEREST	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Long-term debt	0.3	8.6	16.4	16.8	16.8	16.8	16.8
Provisions for pensions and similar obligations	2.3	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6
Other provisions	4.0	3.8	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
Non-current liabilities	6.6	13.7	21.2	21.7	21.8	21.8	21.9
short-term liabilities to banks	0.9	0.1	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Accounts payable	3.7	4.8	4.2	4.5	4.8	5.3	5.7
Advance payments received on orders	6.6	5.0	5.1	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2
Other liabilities (incl. from lease and rental contracts)	7.6	7.4	9.5	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Deferred taxes	2.2	2.9	1.3	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Deferred income	8.0	10.5	11.6	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.3
Current liabilities	28.9	30.6	32.5	29.9	30.2	30.7	31.1
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY	95.1	104.5	115.5	116.0	120.6	126.9	135.3

Balance sheet (common size)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022E	2023E	2024E
Intangible assets	50.5 %	44.3 %	38.1 %	37.4 %	33.5 %	29.4 %	25.0 %
Property, plant and equipment	2.3 %	10.3 %	17.1 %	17.0 %	19.4 %	22.1 %	23.4 %
Financial assets	0.8 %	0.8 %	0.7 %	0.6 %	0.6 %	0.6 %	0.6 %
FIXED ASSETS	53.6 %	55.4 %	56.0 %	55.0 %	53.4 %	52.2 %	48.9 %
Inventories	5.2 %	3.7 %	4.3 %	4.6 %	4.9 %	5.1 %	5.2 %
Accounts receivable	21.4 %	20.0 %	14.6 %	12.8 %	13.7 %	14.3 %	14.5 %
Other current assets	2.0 %	0.8 %	1.1 %	0.8 %	0.8 %	0.8 %	0.7 %
Liquid assets	9.9 %	10.0 %	16.1 %	20.9 %	21.6 %	22.4 %	25.7 %
Deferred taxes	6.2 %	8.4 %	6.0 %	4.2 %	4.0 %	3.8 %	3.6 %
Deferred charges and prepaid expenses	1.5 %	1.6 %	1.9 %	1.6 %	1.5 %	1.4 %	1.3 %
CURRENT ASSETS	46.4 %	44.5 %	44.0 %	45.0 %	46.6 %	47.8 %	51.1 %
TOTAL ASSETS	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %
SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY	62.7 %	57.6 %	53.5 %	55.5 %	56.9 %	58.6 %	60.8 %
MINORITY INTEREST	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %
Long-term debt	0.3 %	8.2 %	14.2 %	14.5 %	13.9 %	13.3 %	12.4 %
Provisions for pensions and similar obligations	2.4 %	1.2 %	1.1 %	1.2 %	1.2 %	1.2 %	1.1 %
Other provisions	4.2 %	3.7 %	3.0 %	3.0 %	2.9 %	2.8 %	2.6 %
Non-current liabilities	6.9 %	13.1 %	18.3 %	18.7 %	18.0 %	17.2 %	16.2 %
short-term liabilities to banks	0.9 %	0.1 %	0.7 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %
Accounts payable	3.9 %	4.6 %	3.6 %	3.8 %	4.0 %	4.1 %	4.2 %
Advance payments received on orders	6.9 %	4.8 %	4.4 %	2.7 %	2.6 %	2.5 %	2.3 %
Other liabilities (incl. from lease and rental contracts)	8.0 %	7.1 %	8.3 %	8.7 %	8.3 %	7.9 %	7.4 %
Deferred taxes	2.3 %	2.7 %	1.2 %	0.8 %	0.8 %	0.7 %	0.7 %
Deferred income	8.5 %	10.1 %	10.0 %	9.7 %	9.4 %	8.9 %	8.3 %
Current liabilities	30.4 %	29.3 %	28.2 %	25.8 %	25.1 %	24.2 %	23.0 %
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %

USU Software AG

Cash flow statement (EUR m)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022E	2023E	2024E
Net profit/loss	1.0	5.3	5.5	6.8	8.4	10.0	12.1
Depreciation of fixed assets (incl. leases)	1.2	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1
Amortisation of goodwill	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Amortisation of intangible assets	1.6	4.3	5.0	3.5	3.6	3.7	4.0
Others	1.1	-3.3	3.6	-0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Cash flow from operations before changes in w/c	4.8	7.8	15.4	11.4	13.1	14.9	17.4
Increase/decrease in inventory	-1.0	1.1	-1.1	-0.4	-0.6	-0.6	-0.5
Increase/decrease in accounts receivable	-1.9	-0.5	4.0	2.0	-1.6	-1.6	-1.5
Increase/decrease in accounts payable	0.1	1.1	-0.6	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
Increase/decrease in other working capital positions	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Increase/decrease in working capital	-2.8	1.7	2.3	1.9	-1.8	-1.8	-1.6
Cash flow from operating activities	2.0	9.5	17.7	13.3	11.3	13.1	15.8
CAPEX	1.1	1.9	2.4	0.9	5.3	6.5	5.2
Payments for acquisitions	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Financial investments	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Income from asset disposals	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cash flow from investing activities	-1.1	-1.8	-2.4	-0.8	-5.3	-6.5	-5.2
Cash flow before financing	0.9	7.7	15.3	12.5	6.0	6.5	10.6
Increase/decrease in debt position	-0.1	7.6	8.6	-0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Purchase of own shares	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Capital measures	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dividends paid	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2
Others	0.1	-10.2	-11.4	-2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Effects of exchange rate changes on cash	0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cash flow from financing activities	-4.2	-6.8	-7.0	-7.0	-4.2	-4.2	-4.2
Increase/decrease in liquid assets	-3.3	1.0	8.1	5.8	1.8	2.3	6.4
Liquid assets at end of period	9.5	10.4	18.5	24.3	26.1	28.4	34.8

Source: Company data, Hauck Aufhäuser Investment Banking

Regional split (EUR m)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022E	2023E	2024E
Domestic	62.4	64.6	69.8	71.6	79.4	87.3	94.3
yoy change	3.2 %	3.4 %	8.1 %	2.7 %	10.8 %	10.0 %	8.0 %
Rest of Europe	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	2.0	3.0
yoy change	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	100.0 %	50.0 %
NAFTA	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	2.0	3.0
yoy change	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	100.0 %	50.0 %
Asia Pacific	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	2.0	3.0
yoy change	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	100.0 %	50.0 %
Rest of world	28.1	31.1	37.6	39.2	43.4	47.7	51.6
yoy change	17.5 %	10.8 %	20.9 %	4.3 %	10.8 %	10.0 %	8.0 %
TTL	90.5	95.6	107.3	111.9	124.0	136.4	147.3
yoy change	7.3 %	5.7 %	12.2 %	4.3 %	10.8 %	10.0 %	8.0 %

USU Software AG

Key ratios (EUR m)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022E	2023E	2024E
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022E	2023E	20246
P&L growth analysis							
Sales growth	7.3 %	5.7 %	12.2 %	4.3 %	10.8 %	10.0 %	8.0 %
EBITDA growth	-19.5 %	80.2 %	143.0 %	45.1 %	21.4 %	30.8 %	37.8 %
EBIT growth	-16.0 %	49.8 %	159.4 %	138.4 %	64.2 %	45.3 %	49.5 %
EPS growth	-71.5 %	448.7 %	470.7 %	28.2 %	52.3 %	48.4 %	45.1 %
Efficiency							
Total operating costs / sales	48.9 %	47.5 %	46.1 %	41.6 %	42.0 %	41.5 %	40.3 %
Sales per employee	148.0	145.7	153.0	149.9	156.7	163.0	167.1
EBITDA per employee	9.0	15.1	19.1	19.3	20.5	22.5	25.4
Balance sheet analysis							
Avg. working capital / sales	14.7 %	15.8 %	12.9 %	12.3 %	10.9 %	10.6 %	10.9 %
Inventory turnover (sales/inventory)	18.1	24.8	21.7	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0
Trade debtors in days of sales	82.2	79.9	57.5	48.6	48.6	48.6	48.6
A/P turnover [(A/P*365)/sales]	30.9	37.8	30.0	29.2	29.2	29.2	29.2
Cash conversion cycle (days)	93.2	72.6	63.1	54.3	55.1	55.5	55.6
Cash flow analysis							
Free cash flow	0.9	7.7	15.3	12.5	6.0	6.5	10.6
Free cash flow/sales	0.9 %	8.0 %	14.2 %	11.2 %	4.8 %	4.8 %	7.2 %
FCF / net profit	88.6 %	145.4 %	278.8 %	184.8 %	72.0 %	65.2 %	87.6 %
Capex / depn	40.9 %	31.6 %	38.5 %	18.1 %	112.7 %	136.6 %	100.0 %
Capex / maintenance capex	77.7 %	43.6 %	75.7 %	35.5 %	202.8 %	245.9 %	180.0 %
Capex / sales	1.3 %	1.9 %	2.3 %	0.8 %	4.3 %	4.8 %	3.5 %
Security							
Net debt	-8.3	-1.7	-1.3	-7.5	-9.3	-11.6	-18.0
Net Debt/EBITDA	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net debt / equity	neg.						
Interest cover	33.8	37.5	25.8	81.2	87.5	96.9	110.0
Dividend payout ratio	438.0 %	79.8 %	76.8 %	62.3 %	50.4 %	42.0 %	34.7 %
Asset utilisation							
Capital employed turnover	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4
Operating assets turnover	5.2	3.7	3.3	3.5	3.3	3.1	3.0
Plant turnover	42.0	8.9	5.4	5.7	5.3	4.9	4.7
Inventory turnover (sales/inventory)	18.1	24.8	21.7	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0
Returns	10.1	21.0	2	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0
ROCE	3.9 %	5.7 %	9.3 %	12.1 %	13.2 %	15.4 %	17.7 %
ROE	1.6 %	8.8 %	8.9 %	10.5 %	12.2 %	13.5 %	14.7 %
Other	1.0 /0	0.0 /0	0.0 /0	10.0 /0	12.2 70	10.0 %	11.1 /0
Interest paid / avg. debt	7.0 %	2.2 %	3.0 %	0.9 %	0.8 %	0.9 %	0.9 %
No. employees (average)	612	657	702	747	792	837	882
Number of shares	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5
DPS	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
EPS reported	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	1.15
Valuation ratios	0.09	0.50	0.52	0.04	0.79	0.95	1.15
	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.2	2.4	2.0	2.6
P/BV	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.3	3.1	2.9	2.6
EV/sales	2.3	2.2	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.3
EV/EBITDA	37.9	21.6	16.1	14.5	12.7	10.9	8.9
EV/EBITA	48.0	25.5	17.9	15.9	13.7	11.6	9.3
EV/EBIT	77.1	52.8	30.6	21.6	17.9	14.6	11.5
EV/FCF	245.2	27.9	14.0	16.7	34.4	31.3	18.7
Adjusted FCF yield	1.1 %	3.8 %	4.1 %	4.4 %	5.2 %	6.1 %	7.4 %
Dividend yield	2.0 %	2.0 %	2.0 %	2.0 %	2.0 %	2.0 %	2.0 %

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Company	Disclosure
USU Software AG	2

Historical target price and rating changes for USU Software AG in the last 12 months



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The determination of the fair value per share, i.e. the price target, and the resultant rating is done on the basis of the adjusted free cash flow (adj. FCF) method and on the basis of the discounted cash flow – DCF model. Furthermore, a peer group comparison is made.

The adj. FCF method is based on the assumption that investors purchase assets only at a price (enterprise value) at which the operating cash flow return after taxes on this investment exceeds their opportunity costs in the form of a hurdle rate of 7.5%. The operating cash flow is calculated as EBITDA less maintenance capex and taxes.

Within the framework of the DCF approach, the future free cash flows are calculated initially on the basis of a fictitious capital structure of 100% equity, i.e. interest and repayments on debt capital are not factored in initially. The adjustment towards the actual capital structure is done by discounting the calculated free cash flows with the weighted average cost of capital (WACC), which takes into account both the cost of equity capital and the cost of debt. After discounting, the calculated total enterprise value is reduced by the interest-bearing debt capital in order to arrive at the equity value.

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Buy: Sustainable upside potential of more than 10% within 12 months Sell: Sustainable downside potential of more than 10% within 12 months.

Hold: Upside/downside potential is limited. No immediate catalyst visible.

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