

Daily Market Opinion

Key facts at a glance | 19. June 2020

Swiss company news

SLI

- Swiss Re⁷ («Market Perform»): Personnel and organisational changes. Neutral.
- Zurich Insurance Group («Outperform»): Share price is still too low. *Positive.*

Non-SLI

- GAM Holding² («Market Perform»): Now the goodwill from the last millennium is due. *Negative*.
- SoftwareONE² («Outperform»): Secondary placement of further 11 percent of shares. *Slightly negative*.
- Stadler Rail^{2, 7} («Market Perform»): First ETCS approval and adoption in the area of vehicle control systems. *Positive*.
- VP Bank² («Outperform»): Management change after review of the credit process. *Neutral*.

Contact and disclaimer

Swiss Re (SREN)⁷

Personnel and organisational changes

Rating:	Market Perform			
Sector: Analyst:	Reinsurance Georg Marti		+4	41 44 292 35 48
In CHF		2019	2020	E 2021E
EPS		2.46	7.4	5 10.45
P/E		30.3x	10.0	x 7.1x
P/B		0.8x	0.8	8x 0.8x
Dividend		5.90	6.2	0 6.50

Source: Zürcher Kantonalbank

Facts / Assessment: This morning Swiss Re has announced changes in terms of both personnel and its business. There will be a change in the executive committee. Swiss Re's current Chief Underwriting Officer (CUO), Edi Schmid, will step down from his position as at the end of August 2020, but will continue to advise Swiss Re in the future. According to Swiss Re, his reasons for resigning from the executive board are of a personal nature. Edi Schmid has been with Swiss Re for many years in various important functions – since 1991.

Since 2017, Edi Schmid has been acting in his current role as CUO of the Group, with responsibility for the entire underwriting process of Swiss Re. Despite making negative headlines at Swiss Re with its US liability business, Edi Schmid is highly regarded among investors as a very reliable specialist and manager. His successor as CUO will be Thierry Léger, who has also worked for Swiss Re for many years, since 1997, and has also held various important positions. Thierry Léger is currently CEO of the Life Capital business unit, which also

Swiss company news - Other

Zurich Insurance Group (ZURN)

Share price is still too low

Rating:	Outperform			
	Expected relative performance: 8%			
Sector:	Multi-line Insura	ance		
Analyst:	Georg Marti		+41 44	4 292 35 48
In CHF		2019	2020E	2021E
EPS		27.51	22.10	29.80
P/E		12.1x	15.1x	11.2x
P/B		1.4x	1.5x	1.5x
Dividend		20.00	21.00	22.50

Source: Zürcher Kantonalbank

Facts / Assessment: Insurance stocks continue to be adversely affected by the current uncertainties resulting from the Covid 19 crisis, which are attributable on the one hand to the financial markets and on the other to operating activities. This also applies to Zurich Insurance, whose share price has also recovered somewhat since the lows in March of this year. However, in our view, the share price should be higher.

According to our current calculations, a target share price of around CHF 390 can be justified. Our calculations are based on a ROE of 14%, which we believe Zurich Insurance will achieve - not in 2020, but later, no later than 2020 - as planned. We also base our calculations on an equity cost of 8%, which is derived from a normalised risk-free interest rate of 2.5% and an equity market premium of 5.5%, as specified for equity research by Zürcher Kantonalbank.

Regarding book value per share, we assume that this has declined



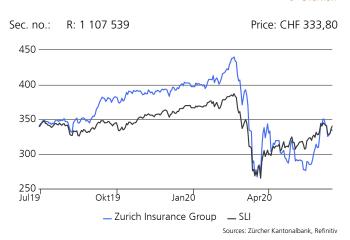


Sources: Zürcher Kantonalbank, Refinitiv

includes the ReAssure unit which will be sold to the UK Phoenix Group in mid-2020.

Life Capital is to be dissolved as a business unit. The open book businesses is to be allocated elsewhere for organisational purposes. elipsLife (life and health insurance business for corporates) is to be allocated to the Corporate Solutions unit as of the end of September 2020; iptiQ (white labelling digital platform) is to report directly to the Group CEO, starting 1.1.2021.





somewhat in the course of the year-to-date albeit not significantly, primarily because the credit spreads have been shrinking again considerably since March 2020. In addition, the stock markets are not performing as poorly, so a large extent of the market value losses have dissipated again since March. We estimate that Zurich Insurance's book value per share is currently hovering at roughly CHF 221. With ROE of 14% and capital costs of 8%, we derive a relevant book value multiple of 1.75x (14/8) and therefore a target share price of around CHF 390 (1.75 x CHF 221). The target price could be higher with future assumptions, which are not advisiable at present, however

The dividend situation remains favourable (>6% yield). We do not expect any cuts - nor in the case of the other Swiss insurers - although there is currently a certain amount of external pressure from the regulatory authorities that also affects the insurance sector.

Rating:

GAM Holding (GAM)²

Market Perform

Now the goodwill from the last millennium is due

5				
Sector:	Asset Manageme	ent & Cus	tody Banks	
Analyst:	Michael Kunz		+41	44 292 35 28
In CHF		2019	2020E	2021E
EPS old		0.03	0.01	0.02
EPS new		0.03	-2.55	0.02
P/E		76.9x	na	125.6x
P/B		2.3x	2.5x	2.4x
Dividend		0.00	0.00	0.00

Source: Zürcher Kantonalbank

Facts / Assessment: GAM today issued a profit warning about its first-half results. The fund house expects an IFRS-based loss of CHF 400 mn (following a loss of CHF 50 mn in 1H19). This was triggered by a "non-cash impairment charge of CHF 410 mm" after tax on goodwill, which still stems from the acquisitions of the fund manager by UBS in 1999 (!) and Julius Baer in 2005. In total, GAM still carried CHF 713 mn in intangible assets on its balance sheet as at 31 December 2019. In operational terms, however, only a moderate pre-tax loss of CHF 3 mn is expected. Assets under management in the Investment Management division stood at CHF 36.6 bn as at the end of May, slightly above the CHF 35.7 bn reported at the end of March. At least the bleeding of the asset base seems to have stopped.

Conclusion: Operationally, the indications for the first half of the year are within the scope of our previous forecasts, with outflows

Swiss company news - Secondary placement

SoftwareONE (SWON)²

Secondary placement of further 11 percent of shares

Rating: Sector:	Outperform Expected relative performa Internet Software & Service		
Jector.			
Analyst:	Andreas Müller CFA +41 44 292 21 54		
In CHF	2019	2020E	2021E
EPS	0.83	0.83	0.95
P/E	29.5x	29.6x	25.9x
P/B	5.9x	5.4x	4.7x
Dividend	0.21	0.21	0.27

Source: Zürcher Kantonalbank

Facts / Assessment: Key shareholders of SoftwareONE took advantage of the recent strong share price performance to place another 17 mn shares, or 11% of the outstanding shares, at CHF 22.50. The private equity group KKR, Raiffeisen Informatik and the heirs of Patrick Winter are the selling parties, as in the placement of 13 May. Beat Curti had at that time committed himself to a 12-month lockup. KKR loses one of the two seats in the board and Raiffeisen Informatik loses its one seat.

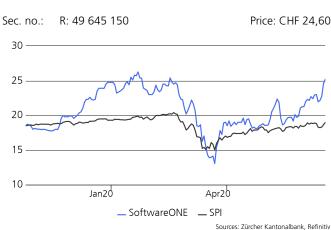
Conclusion: With this placement, we expect the free float after the transaction to increase to around 43% based on the latest SIX announcement and to 55% according to SoftwareONE (calculated without shares under lock-up). The shareholders are committing to a lock-up of 90 days (exceptions possible). After this placement, KKR will hold 5.2%, Raiffeisen Informatik 2.8% and the Winter heirs 2.8%. Beat Curti's holding will remain at 10.1%. Co-founders Rene Gilli (approx. 8%) and Daniel von Stockar (approx. 11%) will hold on



Sources: Zürcher Kantonalbank, Refinitiv

having come to a standstill and the break-even point having barely been reached. We had not factored in any goodwill write-downs, of course. It should be noted that the goodwill from the 1999 and 2005 transactions survived the financial crisis unscathed and only now had to be written down. At least this further reduces the threat of future write-downs.

As long as GAM is unable to attract significant net new money, however, we do not believe that an investment in the fund manager's securities will be necessary.





The share is fairly valued (DCF value of CHF 24.5). Comparex will be fully integrated in 2020, which will help it to participate in the strong growth expected on the market from 2021 onward. In addition, growth and the additional synergies from Comparex should improve the margin profile. We would take advantage of any price weaknesses to make purchases. Our rating remains "Outperform".

Overview

Stadler Rail (SRAIL)^{2, 7}

First ETCS approval and adoption in the area of vehicle control systems

Rating:	Market Perform			
Sector: Analyst:	Railroads Richard Frei		±/11	44 292 34 20
Analyst.	Nichard Hei		741	44 292 54 20
In CHF		2019	2020E	2021E
EPS		1.27	1.55	2.04
P/E		31.0x	25.4x	19.3x
P/B		4.6x	4.5x	4.1x
Dividend		0.69	1.20	1.25

Source: Zürcher Kantonalbank

Facts / Assessment: Stadler announced that Guardia – the ETCS railway security system of the Stadler joint venture AngelStar – has obtained operational approval for the first time. The approval was granted for FLIRT trains of Poland-based operator Koleje Mazowieckie equipped with Guardia. The trains are therefore equipped at the ETCS levels 1 and 2. In addition to this achievement, the company also announced the acquisition of Germany-based VIPCO GmbH. VIPCO focuses on development of software and hardware components for vehicle steering and the retrofit business. The company comprising roughly 50 engineers specialises especially in applications and technologies, where electronics are subject to external environmental conditions. No details were disclosed regarding the acquisition.

Conclusion: The first ETCS approval confirms that Stadler can successfully implement the investments made in the area of train safety

Swiss company news - Management change

Verwaltungs- & Privatbank Vaduz (VPBN)²

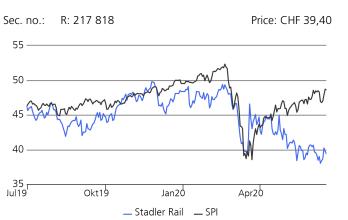
Management change after review of the credit process

Rating:	Outperform			
	Expected relative perform	nance: 8%		
Sector:	Asset Management & Custody Banks			
Analyst:	José Javier Lodeiro	+41	+41 44 292 24 07	
In CHF	2019	2020E	2021E	
EPS	12.32	8.65	12.04	
P/E	10.4x	14.8x	10.6x	
P/B	0.8x	0.7x	0.7x	
Dividend	5.50	4.33	6.02	

Source: Zürcher Kantonalbank

Facts / Assessment: On 30 March, VP Bank announced it was recording an impairment charge of CHF 20 mn from the lombard lending business. To us this amount seemed a bit too high for the size of VP Bank. The new CEO initiated an investigation two months ago, and today the measures taken were announced. The credit sector is being realigned. CFO Siegbert Näscher is leaving VP Bank, as is the General Counsel & Chief Risk Officer, Monika Vicandi. Both vacancies will be filled internally on an ad interim basis. Apart from this, the CEO of VP Bank (Luxembourg) SA Thomas Steiger has decided to step down early, as planned on 1 November 2020, in order to enable the accelerated implementation of the strategic measures.

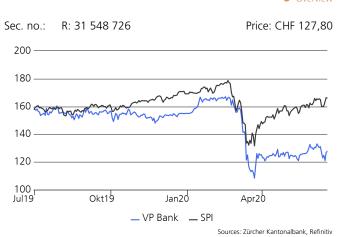
Conclusion: The reason for the staff change of CFO and CRO is certainly the said Lombard loan. The events were never properly explained to the public. The lending process is essential for a bank such as VP Bank, especially with its Lombard loan portfolio. We welcome a reorganisation of this process. We see the change in leadership as a



Sources: Zürcher Kantonalbank, Refinitiv

systems to reduce dependence on suppliers such as Alstom or Siemens. The acquisition of VIPCO should strengthen the company's technological competence, especially in the field of train digitisation.





consequence of this reorganisation.

At VP Bank, the CEO plays an extremely important role, far more so than the CFO. We therefore see no reason to change our investment thesis. The share's valuation is extremely favourable. The new strategy adopted in March is being implemented. We expect a lot of net new money from the Chinese distribution partner Hyvin Wealth. Even if the turbulence on the market is not conducive to development, client assets should have increased since March as the market rallied. Financial investments are unlikely to have suffered much from the declining markets. We confirm our "Outperform" rating.

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Underperform	6	6.7%	54.5%

The table is updated at the beginning of each quarter and reflects the data at that time. 31.03.2020

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SoftwareONE

05.12.2019 Outperform (19.8 CHF)

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