

#### Construction

Key data	
Price (EUR)	7.70
Country	Finland
Bloomberg	KREATE FH
Reuters	KREATE.HE
Free float	100.0%
Market cap (EURm)	68
Net debt (current Y/E) (EURm)	29
No. of shares (m)	8.9
Next event	03: 25-0ct

\* Price as at 12:00 EET on 16 July 2024

CEO Timo Vikström CFO Mikko Laine

#### Company description

Kreate is an infrastructure construction company with a service offering in structural engineering and traffic routes. Kreate specialises in complex projects in challenging environments, for example construction in areas with existing buildings, infrastructure, people and raffic as well as projects that require minimising disruptions to surrounding buildings and traffic. Kreate primarily acts as a contractor in the project execution phase, but is also increasingly involved in the planning phase.

Ownership structure

bug	24E	25E	26E
Estimate changes	5		
Kre			
ate		,	
Source: Company	/ data (30 J	une 2024)	
Source: Company			4.0%
Z Valtonen Seppo			4.6%
			4.7%
N.			
Tirinom Oy			11.1%
Harjavalta Oy			19.9%
D			

Sales	-2.8%	5.7%	7.4%
ဖု EBITDA	1.9%	2.4%	4.3%
EBIT (adj.)	9.7%	5.2%	5.6%
EPS (adj.)	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.
10			

Source: Danske Bank Equity Research estimates

s repor

Analust(s)

Mika Karppinen

Find our research here: https://research.danskebank.com

Important disclosures and certifications are contained from page 10 of this report

# Kreate Group

## Order activity starting to pick up

Kreate reported a third consecutive quarter with margin improvement in Q2 after a clearly weaker development seen in recent years. Also, order activity has started to pick up compared to previous quarters, improving volume visibility for the coming years. The share is valued at a widened discount to peers. We reiterate our fair value range of EUR8.0-9.4.

- Impact on the investment case. Kreate reported a third consecutive quarter of improving
  margins in Q2. In our view the weakened margins have been a burdening factor for the case
  over the past two years. Good operational performance, the completion of older problem
  projects combined with stabilised inflation supported margins during Q2 despite a clear
  decline in sales, which is arising from the weakened order backlog.
- Order book development starting to improve. Weaker market conditions had led to a decrease in Kreate's order book but in Q2 the trend turned upwards driven by the railway and Swedish markets. The order book improved q/q, coming in at EUR200m versus EUR184m in Q1 24 and EUR265m a year ago. Management indicates that there are significant projects in the tendering phase, supporting the outlook. In our view Q2 order announcements (for example a EUR200m rail yard project, which is not included in the order book yet) clearly indicate a turn in market activity. We believe that further bigger railway project announcements, for example, can be expected in H2 24, acting as a possible trigger for the share. On the negative side, possible delays in the bigger project starts can cause some volatility in performance in the short term.
- Estimate changes. We increase our EBITA estimates for 2024-26 by 1%, 3% and 6%, respectively.
- Valuation. Kreate is trading at EV/EBITA 2024E multiple of 9.4x, which implies a 47% discount to the peer group.

Year-end Dec (EUR)	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E					
Revenues (m)	274	320	278	308	325	9.0 U A S O		E M	AM	<u> </u>
Revenues growth	15.3%	16.9%	-13.0%	10.6%	5.6%	8.5		- W		5
EBITDA (m)	13.7	14.0	14.3	16.8	18.1		m	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	1 M	
EBIT adj. (m)	8.0	7.0	9.0	10.9	12.1	8.0 -	, man	استه ما	m.m	n.Ar
EBIT growth	-17.4%	-12.5%	29.3%	20.9%	10.1%	7.5 MM M	′ "N	J. S. C		7V''
Pre-tax profit (m)	6.6	4.7	6.6	9.6	10.8	7.0 how		N.		
EPS adj.	0.62	0.44	0.61	0.88	0.97	7.0	r**			
						6.5 - Nr.H	1			
DPS	0.46	0.48	0.48	0.55	0.58	6.0				
Dividend yield	5.7%	6.6%	6.3%	7.1%	7.6%	0.0				
FCFE yield (pre-IFRS16)	-5.6%	35.4%	-11.0%	12.1%	12.9%		KREATE.	HE		
EBIT margin (adj.)	2.9%	2.2%	3.3%	3.6%	3.7%					
Net debt/EBITDA (x)	2.5	1.2	2.0	1.6	1.3		1M	ЗM	12M	5Y
ROIC	9.3%	8.3%	10.9%	11.9%	13.1%	Absolute	-2%	0%	6%	n.m.
EV/sales (x)	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	Rel. local market	-1%	-2%	6%	n.m.
EV/EBITDA (adj.) (x)	7.3	5.3	6.1	5.2	4.6	Rel. EU sector	-8%	1%	-3%	n.m.
EV/EBITA (adj.) (x)	11.6	9.6	9.4	7.5	6.5					
EV/EBIT (adj.) (x)	11.9	10.1	9.6	7.6	6.6					
P/E (adj.) (x)	13.1	16.4	12.6	8.7	7.9					

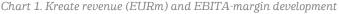
Source: Company data, Danske Bank Equity Research estimates

Source: FactSet

## Investment case

Kreate is an infrastructure construction company in the Finnish market, specialising in complex projects in challenging environments that require special competence in infrastructure construction. Kreate is the number four player in the Finnish infrastructure construction market, with a strong track record of growth and decent profitability. It reported 2017-23 revenue CAGR of 14% with an average EBITA margin of 4%, driven by successful execution of projects. Kreate's financial targets include sales growth of 5-10%, EBITA-margin of over 5%, net debt / EBITDA < 2.5x and over 50% of net earnings as dividends.





Source: Company data, Danske Bank Equity Research estimates

#### Table 1. Kreate estimates

						DBER estimates								
EURm	Q1 23	Q2 23	Q3 23	Q4 23	Q1 24	Q2 24	Q3 24E 0	24 24E	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E		
Sales	65.8	85.7	88.3	80.2	54.4	68.0	76.0	80.0	320.0	278.4	307.8	325.1		
EBITA	-0.4	2.6	2.9	2.7	0.3	2.6	3.1	3.2	7.9	9.2	11.7	12.9		
EBIT	-0.4	2.5	2.8	2.6	0.2	2.6	3.1	3.2	7.6	9.0	11.5	12.7		
EBITA margin	-0.7%	3.0%	3.3%	3.4%	0.5%	3.9%	4.1%	4.0%	2.5%	3.3%	3.8%	4.0%		
EBIT margin	-0.7%	2.9%	3.2%	3.3%	0.4%	3.8%	4.0%	4.0%	2.4%	3.3%	3.8%	3.9%		
PTP	-0.9	1.9	1.7	1.9	-0.6	2.1	2.5	2.6	4.7	6.6	9.6	10.8		
Net profit	-0.7	1.5	1.4	1.6	-0.5	1.6	2.1	2.2	3.9	5.4	7.8	8.6		
EPS	-0.08	0.17	0.16	0.18	-0.06	0.18	0.24	0.25	0.44	0.61	0.88	0.97		
DPS									0.48	0.48	0.55	0.58		
a a i														

Source: Company data, Danske Bank Equity Research (DBER) estimates

The Finnish infrastructure construction market, worth slightly less than EUR7bn in 2023 according to Kreate, has historically been quite resilient - 2008-23 CAGR of 1.2%, with limited correlation to GDP growth. The overall market outlook for the coming years is slightly negative. The market is supported by the Finnish state's 12-year plan for transport infrastructure, which started in 2021. However, the recently increased uncertainty in the markets after the COVID-19 pandemic, the Finnish state's budget cuts, weakening municipality finances, and the private sector's cautiousness, are limiting investment in the short term. Kreate operates in segments with an addressable market of around EUR5bn, which are poised to benefit from structural drivers, such as urbanisation and a large renovation backlog. For example, the rail construction part of the market, in which Kreate has been strongly investing in recent years, looks set to perform well in the long term, driven by efforts to improve public transportation, even though in the short term there have been delays in this segment.

#### Competitive advantage in complex projects with satisfied customers

Kreate is a medium-sized company with a broad offering in infrastructure construction. Kreate believes that it has a key competitive advantage in complex urban projects, which require expertise in multiple disciplines. According to the company, Kreate is the market leader (by revenue share) in two of five disciplines – foundations and ground engineering, and bridges. Within the disciplines of rock engineering, and roads and streets, Kreate is number two to three, and in railways Kreate is a challenger with a position of number three to five. According to Kreate, the company's customer satisfaction is high, driven by successful execution of previous projects. The customer base is diverse, with 58% of revenues from the public sector, of which 69% arises from the Finnish state.

#### Q2 24 results review

Kreate's Q2 sales declined 21% to EUR68m (-8% to consensus) with EBITA of EUR2.6m (+4% to consensus, EUR 2.5m). EBITA-margin was 3.8% versus 3% a year ago and consensus of 3.4%. The good thing was that the margin improvement continued in Q2 despite a slightly bigger sales decline. We believe that the margin improvement was supported by the easing cost inflation and completion of underperforming older projects in which index clauses have not been in use. Margins improved, even though Kreate's associate company KFS's performance has clearly weakened recently due to lower volumes (EUR-0.2m result in Q2). However, the improvement in the infra market is expected to start supporting KFS's performance in the coming quarters.

The order book improved q/q, coming in at EUR200m versus EUR184m in Q1 24 and EUR265m a year ago. It seems that especially railway and Swedish markets supported the order backlog development. The Q2 figures included a slightly bigger EUR36m order from the Helsinki-Riihimäki railway project. During Q2 Kreate also won the Tampere passenger rail yard project, with an immediate start of the development phase. This project, worth EUR200m of which we estimate Kreate's share to be some EUR180m, will be added to the order backlog during H1 25 if the project proceeds to implementation. Management indicated that there are significant projects in the offer calculation, supporting the outlook. In our view Q2 order announcements clearly indicated a turn in order activity, enabling an improvement in the order backlog in Q2 compared to the previous quarter. We expect the favourable order development to continue during H2 24.

Kreate's cash flow totalled EUR-6.5m versus EUR1.7m year ago. Cash flow was burdened by the change in trade payables. We believe that this was mainly a timing issue in cash flow generation. However, we also need to remember that Kreate's cash flow in 2023 was exceptionally strong due to the release of net working capital.

	Reported	DBER		Consensus		Actual	Change
EURm	Q2 24	Q2 24E	Dev.	(Factset)	Dev.	Q2 23	y/y
Sales	68	68.0	0%	73.6	-8%	85.7	-21%
EBITA	2.6	2.6	-1%	2.5	4%	2.6	0%
EBIT	2.6	2.6	0%	2.3	13%	2.5	4%
EBITA margin	3.8%	3.9%		3.4%		3.0%	1р.р
EBIT margin	3.8%	3.8%		3.1%		2.9%	1р.р
PTP	2.1	2.1	0%	1.8	17%	1.9	11%
Net profit	1.6	1.6	0%	1.5		1.5	7%
EPS	0.16	0.18	-11%	0.16	0%	0.17	-5%

Table 2. Kreate Q1 figures

Source: Company data, Danske Bank Equity Research (DBER) estimates

### Outlook and financial targets update

Guidance was reiterated. For 2024 Kreate is guiding revenues of EUR270-300m with EBITA in the range of EUR8-11m.

At the conference call management was confident that the order inflow development will start to improve during H2 as it expects certain bigger projects to progress and high tendering activity to materialise.

We have increased our EBITA estimates for 2024-26 by 1%, 3% and 6%, respectively, driven mainly by the Tampere passenger rail yard project that should start to contribute to performance in 2025.

### Valuation

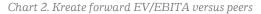
We reiterate our fair value range of EUR8.0-9.4 for Kreate's share. The mid-point implies 10.4x 2024E EV/EBITA, which is in line with the historical forward EV/EBITA multiple for the peer group. The multiple would also imply a 34-47% discount to the peer group EV/EBITA multiples for 2024-26. In our view a discount valuation to peers is justified due to smaller size and higher expected earnings leverage in the peer company cases. Currently the share is trading at EV/EBITA 2024E multiple of 9.4x, a 47% discount to the peer group. The valuation discount to peers has clearly widened recently, as the share prices in many peer companies have started to recover on expectations of gradually recovering building construction. During the past years, Kreate's share price has been holding up much better due to exposure to more stable infra construction, we believe.

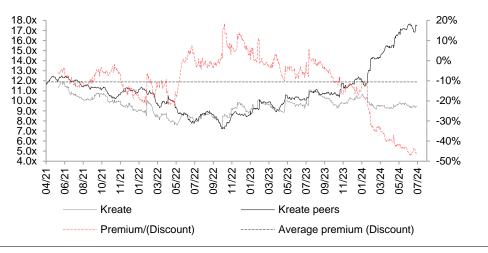
Table 3. Peer group valuation

		Mkt											Div	FCF
		cap	Price*	E	V/Sales		E	V/EBITA			P/E		yield	yield
Company	Ticker	EURm	(Icl ccy)	2024	2025E	2026E	2024	2025E	2026E	2024	2025E	2026E	2024	2024
AF Gruppen	AFG-NO	1,255	137.2	0.6	0.5	0.5	12.3	10.7	9.9	17.1	15.1	13.9	5.3	5.5
Bonava	BONAV.B-SE	248	8.8	0.9	1.3	0.9	26.5	42.9	13.3	n.a.	n.a.	46.3	0.0	-2.3
Consti	CONSTI-FI	78	9.8	0.3	0.2	0.2	7.7	6.3	5.6	10.5	8.5	7.5	6.6	7.3
JM	JM-SE	1,221	218.6	2.3	2.4	2.0	45.0	35.4	24.0	40.0	23.5	14.9	2.5	11.7
Lehto Group	LEHTO-FI	3	0.0	76.4	76.4	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	0.0	n.a.
NCC	NCC.B-SE	1,355	157.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	10.8	10.3	10.0	10.6	10.1	9.7	5.5	10.8
NRC Group	NRC-NO	66	10.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	50.8	8.7	6.5	56.8	7.7	5.0	0.0	20.3
Peab	PEAB.B-SE	1,899	74.2	0.7	0.6	0.6	17.7	16.3	14.2	14.1	12.9	11.1	3.1	12.1
Selvaag Bolig	SBO-NO	299	37.5	2.4	2.1	1.3	26.3	27.1	13.1	23.2	26.1	13.1	3.8	12.5
Skanska	SKA.B-SE	7,416	204.0	0.5	0.5	0.5	13.1	11.4	10.7	13.4	11.9	11.2	3.8	5.3
SRV	SRV1V-FI	84	5.0	0.3	0.3	0.3	17.6	10.6	7.8	22.4	8.3	5.0	0.5	-5.9
Veidekke	VEI-NO	1,357	118.4	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	13.4	12.9	12.1	7.2	10.4
YIT	YIT-FI	550	2.4	0.7	0.7	0.7	50.2	23.7	16.1	n.a.	68.7	15.6	0.0	34.9
Median				0.6	0.6	0.5	17.7	11.4	10.7	15.6	12.9	11.7	3.1	10.6
Kreate by DBER	KREATE-FI	64	7.70	0.3	0.3	0.2	9.4	7.5	6.5	12.6	8.7	7.9	6.3	6.3

\*Prices as at 12:00 EET on 16 July 2024

Source: Company data, FactSet, Danske Bank Equity Research estimates





Prices as at 12:00 EET on 16 July 2024

Source: FactSet, Danske Bank Equity Research (DBER) estimates

#### Key risks

We consider the governance of operational project management a key risk for Kreate in lowmargin infrastructure construction. While Kreate has a good track record of generating quite good margins, margins are currently at a low level, and therefore history is no guarantee for the future. We find the following factors mitigating the typical project risk.

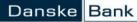
- In infrastructure markets, costs from changes / surprises are typically borne by the customer.
- Contract prices are typically fixed, but the customer is responsible for designs and risk related to quantities.
- The infrastructure contractor usually has independent responsibilities.
  - The infrastructure contractor is usually a sole provider in a work phase, whereas in building construction there can be several contractors working in overlapping phases.
  - The infrastructure contractor works more independently and with fewer dependencies on others, compared with building construction.
- Thorough risk assessment and pricing of risks.
- Incentives aligned with responsibility for project profitability is a key parameter.
- Transparent and frequent monitoring in a lean organisation.
- Heavily increasing construction costs can cause fluctuation in margins.
- In infrastructure construction, the lead times between the signing and the start of the project are usually shorter than in building construction, enabling the company to hedge its sourcing volumes better.

Key personnel leaving the company poses a risk for continuity. The operational competence is held by project directors, project managers, tender calculators, and everyday worksite management. We believe the high level of employee ownership and incentive culture could mitigate the risk.

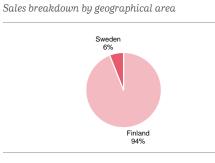
A high share of public sector revenue may cause a risk if public finances were to deteriorate significantly. However, the public sector is usually viewed as a mitigating factor for risk levels. In times of economic downturn, governments usually stimulate the economy through monetary and fiscal policy.



Kreate is exposed to the construction cycle, even though cyclicality is more limited in infrastructure construction than in building construction. The competitive landscape is naturally always tight, but in the most demanding projects requiring special expertise, competition has remained more moderate.



## Company summary



Company information

### Kreate Group

18.0

16.0

14.0

12.0

10.0

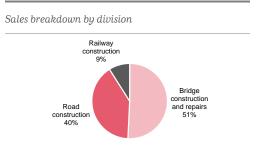
8.0

6.0

4.0

2.0

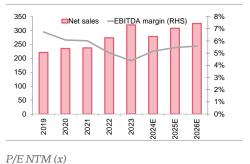
Haarakaari 42, 04360 Tuusula Finland www.kreate.fi



#### Main shareholders

Name	Votes (%)	Capital (%)
Harjavalta Oy	19.9%	19.9%
Tirinom Oy	11.1%	11.1%
Ilmarinen	4.7%	4.7%
Valtonen Seppo	4.6%	4.6%
Varma	4.0%	4.0%

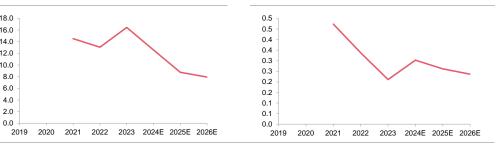
#### Net sales and EBITDA margin (EURm)



EBIT and EBIT margin (EURm)







Source: FactSet, Company data, Danske Bank Equity Research estimates



Danske Bank

## Summary tables

INCOME STATEMENT										
Year end Dec, EURm	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E
	2016	144	192	2019	2020	2021	2022	320	2024E	308
Net sales										
Cost of sales & operating costs		-136 <b>7.5</b>	-182	-206	-221	-223	-260	-306	-264	-291
EBITDA			10.7	14.9	14.3	14.3	13.7	14.0	14.3	16.8
EBITDA, adj.		7.2	9.2	13.9	13.1	13.6	13.1	13.4	14.3	16.2
Depreciation		-2.2	-2.4	-3.2	-3.7	-3.7	-5.0	-6.1	-5.1	-5.1
EBITA		5.3	8.3	11.7	10.6	10.6	8.8	7.9	9.2	11.7
EBIT incl. EO, bef. ass.		4.5	7.7	11.5	10.4	10.4	8.6	7.6	9.0	11.5
EBIT, adj.		4.2	6.2	10.5	9.2	9.7	8.0	7.0	9.0	10.9
Financial items, net	0.0	-2.9	-3.0	-1.2	-1.1	-2.1	-2.0	-2.9	-2.4	-2.0
Pre-tax profit		1.6	4.7	10.3	9.3	8.3	6.6	4.7	6.6	9.6
Taxes		-0.6	-0.9	-1.6	-1.5	-1.3	-1.1	-0.8	-1.2	-1.7
Net profit, rep.		1.0	3.8	8.7	7.8	7.0	5.5	3.9	5.4	7.8
Net profit, adj.		1.0	3.8	8.7	7.8	7.9	5.5	3.9	5.4	7.8
CASH FLOW										
EURm	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E
EBITDA		7.5	10.7	14.9	14.3	14.3	13.7	14.0	14.3	16.8
Change in working capital		11.5	-1.9	5.6	1.6	-4.5	-5.1	17.1	-12.6	1.5
Net interest paid		0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-1.4	-1.9	-2.9	-2.4	-2.0
Taxes paid		0.3	-1.0	-1.0	-1.3	-2.1	-1.1	-0.7	-1.2	-1.7
Other operating cash items		-0.7	-0.1	0.0	-0.4	-0.2	0.7	2.4		
Cash flow from operations		18.5	6.2	18.3	13.2	5.4	6.0	29.6	-1.9	14.3
Capex		-2.0	-3.7	-5.0	-4.6	-5.6	-4.6	-6.9	-5.7	-6.1
Div to min		2.0	0.1	0.0		0.0		0.0	0.1	0.1
Free cash flow		16.5	2.5	13.3	8.6	-0.2	1.4	22.7	-7.6	8.3
Disposals/(acquisitions)		-13.4	-0.9	1.3	0.0	0.6	-5.5		-1.0	0.0
Free cash flow to equity		3.1	1.6	14.6	8.6	0.4	-4.1	22.7	-7.6	8.3
Dividend paid		5.1	1.0	14.0	0.0	-4.0	-4.0	-4.1	-4.3	-4.3
Share buybacks						-4.0	-4.0	-4.1	-4.5	-4.0
,						44.0	-0.5	-0.5		
New issue common stock					6.4	11.2	40.0	2.0		
Incr./(decr.) in debt					6.1	-8.6	-16.8	-3.0		-2.0
Minorities & other financing CF		0.7	-0.5	-0.6	-1.1	-0.8	28.5	-0.8	-0.6	-0.6
Cash flow from financing		0.7	-0.5	-1.7	-13.2	-2.2	7.2	-8.4	-4.8	-6.9
Disc. ops & other				0.1	0.1	0.2				
Incr./(decr.) in cash		3.8	-0.1	6.6	-4.6	-1.8	3.1	14.3	-12.4	1.4
BALANCE SHEET										
EURm	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E
Cash & cash equivalents		6.2	6.1	12.7	8.1	6.3	9.4	23.7	11.3	12.7
Inventory		0.1	0.1	0.0						
Trade receivables		21.8	31.6	32.1	30.4	34.2	49.8	34.6	44.5	47.7
Other current assets		0.0		0.3	0.1	0.6	0.4	0.7		
Goodwill		35.6	35.6	35.6	35.6	35.6	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0
Other intangible assets		1.4	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.4
Fixed tangible assets		10.2	12.1	14.1	15.8	17.9	19.9	20.4	21.5	22.9
Associated companies		7.4	7.9	7.6	8.4	8.9	10.0	10.5	10.5	10.8
Other non-current assets		0.2	0.3	0.5	0.4	1.1	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3
Total assets		82.9	96.0	105	101	107	135	135	132	139
Shareholders' equity		8.1	12.7	20.2	26.6	41.1	42.5	42.8	44.0	47.5
Of which minority interests		-		-						
Current liabilities		27.5	31.9	38.6	38.0	37.2	47.7	49.9	46.5	51.2
Interest-bearing debt		47.1	32.3	28.4	34.5	25.7	39.9	37.5	37.5	35.5
Pension liabilities		47.1	02.0	20.7	04.0	20.1	00.0	57.5	57.5	55.5
Oth non-curr. liabilities		0.2	0.4	0.5	07	1 1	15	1 5	1 5	
		0.3	0.4	0.5	0.7	1.1	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Total liabilities		74.9	65.9	69.1	74.7	65.5	92.0	91.8	88.5	91.3
Total liabilities and equity Net debt		<b>82.9</b> 40.9	96.0 43.5	105 31.9	101 26.4	107 19.4	135 30.5	135 13.8	132 26.2	22.8

Source: Company data, Danske Bank Equity Research estimates

Danske Bank

## Summary tables

PER SHARE DATA	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025
No. of shares, fully diluted (y.e.) (m)	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	8.9	8.9	8.9	8
No. of shares, fully diluted (avg.) (m)	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	8.9	8.9	8.9	8
EPS (EUR)	0.00	0.11	0.43	0.97	0.87	0.78	0.62	0.44	0.61	0.
EPS adj. (EUR)	0.00	0.11	0.43	0.97	0.87	0.88	0.62	0.44	0.61	0.
DPS (EUR)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.44	0.45	0.46	0.48	0.48	0.
CFFO/share (EUR)	0.0	2.0	0.5	1.9	1.3	0.6	0.7	3.3	-0.2	1
Book value/share (EUR)	0.00	0.90	1.41	2.24	2.96	4.57	4.78	4.81	4.94	5.3
MARGINS AND GROWTH	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	202
EBITDA margin		5.2%	5.6%	6.7%	6.1%	6.0%	5.0%	4.4%	5.2%	5.5
EBITA margin		3.7%	4.3%	5.3%	4.5%	4.5%	3.2%	2.5%	3.3%	3.8
EBIT margin		3.2%	4.0%	5.2%	4.4%	4.4%	3.1%	2.4%	3.3%	3.8
EBIT adj margin		2.9%	3.2%	4.7%	3.9%	4.1%	2.9%	2.2%	3.3%	3.6
Sales growth			33.7%	14.9%	6.4%	1.0%	15.3%	16.9%	-13.0%	10.6
EBITDA growth			43.4%	38.7%	-4.0%	-0.1%	-3.8%	2.0%	2.4%	17.1
EBITA growth			56.6%	41.0%	-9.4%	-0.2%	-16.9%	-10.0%	16.9%	27.0
EPS adj growth			n.m.	n.m.	-10.7%	1.5%	-29.7%	-29.2%	39.5%	43.8
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	202
ROIC (after tax, incl. GW, adj.)		13.8%	9.3%	15.0%	13.6%	13.2%	9.3%	8.3%	10.9%	11.9
ROIC (after tax, excl. GW, adj.)		49.9%	27.7%	41.3%	39.2%	33.7%	20.4%	20.1%	27.1%	26.0
ROE (adj.) ROIC (adj.) - WACC		24.4% 4.6%	20.1% 0.1%	26.3% 5.8%	24.8% 4.3%	23.4% 4.0%	13.3% 0.1%	9.2% -1.0%	12.5% 1.7%	17.1 2.7
MARKET VALUE	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E 7.70	202
Share price (EUR)	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	11.4 9.0	8.09 8.9	7.22 8.9	8.9	7.
No. shares reduced by buybacks (m)	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0 102	0.9 72	64	68	
Mkt cap used in EV (m)		41	45	22	00		33	<b>64</b> 17	29	
Net debt, year-end (m)		-7	45 -8	33 -8	28 -8	21 -9	-10	-11	-11	-
MV of min/ass and oth (m)		-7	-8	-8	-8				-11	
Enterprise value (m)						114	95	70	87	
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	<b>2021</b> 0.48	2022	2023	2024E	202
EV/sales (x)							0.35	0.22	0.31	0.
EV/EBITDA (x) EV/EBITA (x)						8.4 11.5	7.3 11.6	5.3 9.6	6.1 9.4	5
EV/EBIT (x)						11.5	11.0	9.0 10.1	9.4 9.6	-
						14.5	13.1	16.4	12.6	
P/E (reported) (x)						14.5	13.1	16.4	12.6	8
P/E (adj.) (x) P/BV (x)						2.48	1.69	1.50	12.6	1.
										1.
EV/invested capital (x)						4.3	2.6	3.5	2.6	
Dividend yield Total yield (incl. buybacks)						3.96% 3.96%	5.69% 6.38%	6.65% 7.43%	6.28% 6.28%	7.09 7.09
FCFE-yield						-0.20%	6.38% 1.95%	35.35%	6.28% -11.10%	12.05
FINANCIAL RATIOS										
Net debt/EBITDA (x)										
Net debt/equity (x), year-end										
Dividend payout ratio										
Interest coverage (x)										
Cash conversion (FCF/net profit)										
Capex/sales										
NWC/sales										
QUARTERLY P&L			Q1 23	Q2 23	Q3 23	Q4 23	Q1 24	Q2 24	Q3 24E	Q4 2
Sales (m)			65.8	85.7	88.3	80.2	54.4	68.0	76.0	8
EBITDA (m)			1.0	4.0	4.0	5.0	1.6	4.0	4.3	
EBIT before non-recurring items (m)			-0.6	2.5	2.6	2.5	0.6	2.8	2.9	:
Net profit (adj.) (m)			-0.9	1.5	1.2	2.1	-0.1	1.8	1.9	
EPS (adj.) (EUR)			-0.10	0.17	0.13	0.23	-0.01	0.20	0.21	0.
EBITDA margin			1.5%	4.7%	4.5%	6.3%	2.9%	5.9%	5.6%	5.

## Disclosures

This commissioned research report has been prepared by Equity Research, a division of Danske Bank A/S ('Danske Bank'). The author of this research report is Mika Karppinen.

This commissioned research report should be considered marketing material, as it has been requested and paid for by Kreate Group and has therefore not been prepared in accordance with the legal requirements designed to promote the independence of investment research. However, the report is still subject to prohibition on dealing ahead of the dissemination of the report.

#### Analyst certification

Each research analyst responsible for the content of this commissioned research report certifies that the views expressed in the research report accurately reflect the research analyst's personal view about the financial instruments and issuers covered by the research report.

#### Regulation

Danske Bank is authorised and regulated by the Danish Financial Services Authority (Finanstilsynet). Danske Bank is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority in the UK and subject to regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority and limited regulation by the Prudential Regulation Authority. Details about the extent of our regulation by the Prudential Regulation Authority are available from us on request.

Danske Bank's commissioned research reports are prepared in accordance with the recommendations of Capital Market Denmark.

#### Conflicts of interest

Danske Bank has established procedures to prevent conflicts of interest and to ensure the provision of high-quality research based on research objectivity and independence from outside influences. These procedures are documented in Danske Bank's research policies. Employees within Danske Bank's Research Departments have been instructed that any request that might impair the objectivity of research and independence from outside influence of research shall be referred to Research Management and the Compliance Department. Danske Bank's Research Departments are physically separated from other business areas within Danske Bank and surrounded by arrangements (Chinese Walls) to restrict the flows of sensitive information.

Research analysts are remunerated in part based on the overall profitability of Danske Bank, which includes investment banking revenues, but do not receive bonuses or other remuneration linked to specific corporate finance or debt capital transactions.

Danske Bank, its affiliates, subsidiaries and staff may perform services for or solicit business from Kreate Group and may hold long or short positions in, or otherwise be interested in, the financial instruments mentioned in this research report. The Equity and Corporate Bonds analysts of Danske Bank and persons in other departments of Danske Bank with which the relevant analysts have close links are not permitted to invest in 1) financial instruments that are covered by the relevant Equity or Corporate Bonds analyst and 2) the research sector within the geographical area (the Nordics) to which the analyst is linked.

Danske Bank, its affiliates and subsidiaries are engaged in commercial banking, securities underwriting, dealing, trading, brokerage, investment management, investment banking, custody and other financial services activities, may be a lender to Kreate Group and have whatever rights as are available to a creditor under applicable law and the applicable loan and credit agreements. At any time, Danske Bank, its affiliates and subsidiaries may have credit or other information regarding Kreate Group that is not available to or may not be used by the personnel responsible for the preparation of this report, which might affect the analysis and opinions expressed in this research report.

Danske Bank is a market maker and a liquidity provider and may hold positions in the financial instruments of the issuer(s) mentioned in this research report.

No parts of this research report have been disclosed to Kreate Group for factual check.

As an investment bank, Danske Bank, its affiliates and subsidiaries provide a variety of financial services, including investment banking services. It is possible that Danske Bank and/or its affiliates and/or its subsidiaries might seek to become engaged to provide such services to Kreate Group in the next three months.

#### Financial models and/or methodology used in this research report

Investment views and opinions in this research report are formed on the basis of a combined selection of discounted cash flow analysis, industry knowledge, peer group analysis and company-specific and market technical elements (events affecting both the financial and operational profile of the company). Forecasting of company sales and earnings is based on segmented bottom-up models using subjective views of relevant future market developments. In addition, the expected macroeconomic environment is taken into account. The output is aggregated into models for group profil and loss, balance sheets and cash flow estimates – all taking into account the recent development in historical research reports.

More information about the valuation and/or methodology and the underlying assumptions is accessible via www.danskebank.com/equityresearch.

#### Risk warning

Major risks connected with investment views or opinions in this research report, including a sensitivity analysis of relevant assumptions, are stated throughout the text.

#### Expected updates

This research product will be updated on a semi-annual basis as a minimum.

#### Completion and first dissemination

The completion date and time in this research report mean the date and time when the author hands over the final version of the research report to Danske Bank's editing function for legal review and editing.

The date and time of first dissemination mean the date and estimated time of the first dissemination of this research report. The estimated time may deviate up to 15 minutes from the effective dissemination time due to technical limitations.

See the back page of this research report for the date and time of first dissemination.

#### Recommendation structure

This report does not have a target price or a buy/sell recommendation but it does include a valuation discussion and a suggested valuation range.

#### Validity time period

This communication as well as previous communications referred to below are valid until the earlier of (a) dissemination of a superseding communication by the author, or (b) significant changes in circumstances following its dissemination, including events relating to the market or the issuer, which can influence the price of the issuer or financial instrument.

## General disclaimer

This commissioned research report has been prepared by Danske Bank A/S. It is provided for informational purposes only and should not be considered investment, legal or tax advice. It does not constitute or form part of, and shall under no circumstances be considered as, an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to purchase or sell any relevant financial instruments (i.e. financial instruments mentioned herein or other financial instruments of any issuer mentioned herein and/or options, warrants, rights or other interests with respect to any such financial instruments) ('Relevant Financial Instruments').

This commissioned research report has been prepared independently and solely on the basis of publicly available information that Danske Bank A/S considers to be reliable but Danske Bank A/S has not independently verified the contents hereof. While reasonable care has been taken to ensure that its contents are not untrue or misleading, no representation or warranty, express or implied, is made as to and no reliance should be placed on the fairness, accuracy, completeness or reasonableness of the information, opinions and projections contained in this commissioned research report and Danske Bank A/S, its affiliates and subsidiaries accept no liability whatsoever for any direct or consequential loss, including without limitation any loss of profits, arising from reliance on this commissioned research report.

The opinions expressed herein are the opinions of the research analysts and reflect their opinion as of the date hereof. These opinions are subject to change and Danske Bank A/S does not undertake to notify any recipient of this research report of any such change nor of any other changes related to the information provided in this commissioned research report.

This commissioned research is not intended for, and may not be redistributed to, retail customers in the United Kingdom and may under no circumstances be distributed in the United States.

This research report is protected by copyright and is intended solely for the designated addressee. It may not be reproduced or distributed, in whole or in part, by any recipient for any purpose without Danske Bank A/S's prior written consent.

# Disclaimer related to distribution in the United Kingdom

In the United Kingdom, this document is for distribution only to (I) persons who have professional experience in matters relating to investments falling within article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005 (the 'Order'); (II) high net worth entities falling within article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Order; or (III) persons who are an elective professional client or a per se professional client under Chapter 3 of the FCA Conduct of Business Sourcebook (all such persons together being referred to as 'Relevant Persons'). In the United Kingdom, this document is directed only at Relevant Persons, and other persons should not act or rely on this document or any of its contents.

# Disclaimer related to distribution in the European Economic Area

This document is being distributed to and is directed only at persons in member states of the European Economic Area ('EEA') who are 'Qualified Investors' within the meaning of Article 2(e) of the Prospectus Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2017/1129) ('Qualified Investors'). Any person in the EEA who receives this document will be deemed to have represented and agreed that it is a Qualified Investor. Any such recipient will also be deemed to have represented and agreed that it has not received this document on behalf of persons in the EEA other than Qualified Investors or persons in the UEA and member states (where equivalent legislation exists) for whom the investor has authority to make decisions on a wholly discretionary basis. Danske Bank A/S will rely on the truth and accuracy of the foregoing representations and agreements. Any person in the EEA who is not a Qualified Investor should not act or rely on this document or any of its contents.

Report completed: 16 July 2024 at 13:40 CET Report disseminated: 16 July 2024 at 14:00 CET