

Construction

Key data	
Price (EUR)	8.44
Country	Finland
Bloomberg	KREATE FH
Reuters	KREATE.HE
Free float	100.0%
Market cap (EURm)	75
Net debt (current Y/E) (EURm)	29
No. of shares (m)	8.9
Next event	Q4: 5-Feb

* Price as at 13:25 on 25 October 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 traffic 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.

SOwnership structure

· ·	
Harjavalta Oy	1
Tirinom Oy	1
Ilmarinen	
Valtonen Seppo	
Varma	
Source: Company data (20)	Sontombor 2024

9.9%

1.1%

4.6% 4.0%

Source: Company data (30 September 2024)

24E	25E	26E
-1.8%	1.8%	2.0%
-0.6%	0.5%	0.9%
-2.0%	1.9%	2.1%
n.m.	n.m.	n.m.
	-1.8% -0.6% -2.0%	-1.8% 1.8% -0.6% 0.5% -2.0% 1.9%

Source: Danske Bank Equity Research estimates

is repo

Analyst(s)

Mika Karppinen

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

Important disclosures and certifications are contained from page 9 of this report

Kreate Group

Improving margin trend

Kreate continued to report improving margins in Q3 after a clearly weaker development seen in recent years. In the short term, the market outlook has weakened slightly, but the company's recent wins in certain bigger railway projects indicate a major volume improvement for H2 25E. The share is valued at a wide discount to peers. We reiterate our fair value range of EUR8.0-9.4.

- Impact on the investment case. Kreate continued to report a clearly improving margin trend in Q3. In our view, the weakened margins have been a burdening factor on the case over the past two years. The margin improvement is driven by easing inflation, completion of older problem projects and tight selectiveness in new orders. Sales volumes continued to decline in Q3, as expected burdened by the lower contribution from certain bigger projects, but the volume outlook has recently clearly improved for H2 25E and beyond.
- Market weakness in the short term, but longer-term outlook much brighter. Kreate's order book declined heavily in Q3, down to EUR153.1m vs. EUR200m in Q2 24. However, the order book does not yet include the already announced major wins in certain railway-related projects, which could be worth EUR300m-400m for Kreate. These projects will be included in the order book mainly in 2025E. In the short term, the market outlook has weakened due to the delays in timing of certain public projects. This weakness could put some pressure on Kreate's performance in H1 25E, but the quite flexible cost base should continue to protect margins even then. The longer-term outlook continues to be robust, as indicated by these recent projects wins, driven by the railway projects, the green transition and safety and security-related projects, and we expect a clear volume improvement starting in H2 25.
- Estimate changes. We have lowered our EBITA estimate for 2024 by 2% due to a slightly more cautious view on Q4 volumes, but for 2025-26 our EBITA estimates are each up by 1%, driven by the project wins.
- Valuation. Kreate is trading at 2024E EV/EBITA of 10.4x, a 23% discount to the peer group.

Year-end Dec (EUR)	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E					
Revenues (m)	274	320	273	313	332	9.0 0 N D J		M 1		
Revenues growth	15.3%	16.9%	-14.6%	14.6%	5.8%	8.5 -	F M A	IVI J	JA	5 0
EBITDA (m)	13.7	14.0	14.3	16.9	18.3					1000
EBIT adj. (m)	8.0	7.0	8.9	11.2	12.3	8.0	and an o	wh.N	Man	
EBIT growth	-17.4%	-12.5%	26.7%	25.8%	10.3%	7.5 - n	pagno	M	Y . Y .	
Pre-tax profit (m)	6.6	4.7	6.5	9.7	11.0	7.0 -	5	1	M who	Y.
EPS adj.	0.62	0.44	0.59	0.89	0.99	7.0 1		W	14	
						6.5 -				
DPS	0.46	0.48	0.47	0.55	0.59	6.0 J				
Dividend yield	5.7%	6.6%	5.5%	6.5%	7.0%					
FCFE yield (pre-IFRS16)	-5.6%	35.4%	-10.3%	10.9%	11.8%		KREATE.	HE		
EBIT margin (adj.)	2.9%	2.2%	3.2%	3.6%	3.7%					
Net debt/EBITDA (x)	2.5	1.2	2.1	1.6	1.3		1M	ЗM	12M	5Y
ROIC	9.3%	8.3%	10.7%	12.1%	13.3%	Absolute	4%	8%	34%	n.m
EV/sales (x)	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	Rel. local market	6%	5%	21%	n.m
EV/EBITDA (adj.) (x)	7.3	5.3	6.6	5.5	4.9	Rel. EU sector	7%	7%	18%	n.m
EV/EBITA (adj.) (x)	11.6	9.6	10.4	8.0	7.0					
	11.9	10.1	10.6	8.1	7.0					
EV/EBIT (adj.) (x)	11.5									

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 a 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%, an EBITA margin of over 5%, net debt / EBITDA < 2.5x and over 50% of net earnings as dividends.

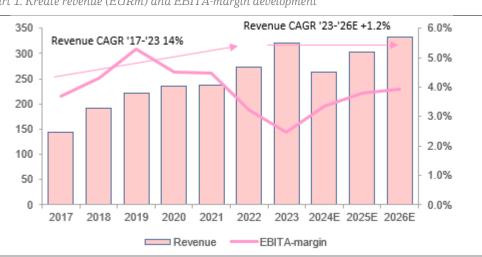


Chart 1. Kreate revenue (EURm) and EBITA-margin development

Source: Company data. Danske Bank Equity Research estimates

Table 1. Kreate estimates

									D	BER est	imates	
EURm	Q1 23	Q2 23	Q3 23	Q4 23	Q1 24	Q2 24	Q3 24	Q4 24E	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Sales	65.8	85.7	88.3	80.2	54.4	68.0	77.6	73.4	320.0	273.4	313.4	331.6
EBITA	-0.4	2.6	2.9	2.7	0.3	2.6	3.1	3.1	7.9	9.2	11.9	13.0
EBIT	-0.4	2.5	2.8	2.6	0.2	2.6	3.1	3.1	7.6	9.0	11.8	12.9
EBITA margin	-0.7%	3.0%	3.3%	3.4%	0.5%	3.9%	4.0%	4.2%	2.5%	3.4%	3.8%	4.9%
EBIT margin	-0.7%	2.9%	3.2%	3.3%	0.4%	3.8%	4.0%	4.2%	2.4%	3.3%	3.8%	3.9%
PTP	-0.9	1.9	1.7	1.9	-0.6	2.1	2.4	2.6	4.7	6.5	9.7	11.0
Net profit	-0.7	1.5	1.4	1.6	-0.5	1.6	1.9	2.4	3.9	5.2	7.9	8.8
EPS	-0.08	0.17	0.16	0.18	-0.06	0.18	0.20	0.26	0.44	0.59	0.89	0.99
DPS									0.48	0.47	0.55	0.59

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 guite 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.

Q3 24 results review

Kreate's Q3 sales declined by 12% y/y to EUR77.6m (+2% vs LSEG Data & Analytics consensus) with EBITA of EUR3.1m (in line with consensus). The EBITA margin was 4.0% vs. 3.3% a year ago and consensus of 4.1%. EBITA grew by 7% y/y. The good thing was that the margin improvement continued also in Q3 despite the sales decline. We believe that the margin improvement was supported by the easing cost inflation, completion of underperforming older projects in which index clauses have not been in use, and tighter selectiveness in new orders. The good thing in the report was also the improved performance in Kreate's associate company, KFS, which has been underperforming for some time (EUR0.4m positive contribution vs. losses in the previous quarters).

The order book declined clearly to EUR153.1m in Q3 vs. EUR200m in Q2 24 and EUR222m a year ago. The order intake was really modest in Q3, EUR18m. However, the order book does not yet include the announced bigger railway project wins, which are still in the development phase, and the value of these projects could be worth EUR300m-400m in total (Tampere, Vantaa tramway and Koskela). These projects will be included in the order book mainly during 2025E.

Kreate's cash flow totalled EUR5.9m vs. EUR8m a year ago.

	Reported	DBER		Consensus		Actual	Change
EURm	Q3 24	Q3 24E	Dev.	(LSEG)	Dev.	Q3 23	y/y
Sales	77.6	76.0	2%	76.0	2%	88.3	-12%
EBITA	3.1	3.1	0%	3.1	0%	2.9	7%
EBIT	3.1	3.1	2%	3.0	3%	2.8	11%
EBITA margin	4.0%	4.1%		4.1%		3.3%	
EBIT margin	4.0%	4.0%		3.9%		3.2%	
PTP	2.4	2.5	-4%	2.5	-4%	1.7	41%
Net profit	1.9	2.1	-10%	2.0		1.4	36%
EPS	0.20	0.24	-15%	0.21	-5%	0.16	27%

Table 2. Kreate Q3 figures

Source: Company data, LSEG Data & Analytics, Danske Bank Equity Research (DBER) estimates

Outlook and financial targets update

Guidance was reiterated. For 2024, Kreate is guiding for revenues of EUR270m-300m (LSEG Data & Analytics consensus est. at EUR276.5m) with EBITA in the range of EUR8m-11m (consensus estimate EUR9.2m in 2024). After Q1-Q3, Kreate has generated sales of EUR200m, therefore at least EUR70m is required for Q4. The current order book should contribute sales of EUR61m in Q4, therefore some new orders for Q4 are still needed to reach the guidance.

The infra market is expected to turn to volume growth of 2% in 2025. Kreate's view on the shortterm market development was a bit more cautious than earlier, as the infra market will be weighed down by delays in the timing of public projects. Kreate expects a positive market

turnaround to start in H2 2025, which is also supported by the announced project win in the railway segment, being more visible in the performance then.

We have lowered our 2024E EBITA by 2% due to a slightly more cautious view on Q4 volumes, but for 2025-26 our EBITA estimates are each up by 1%, driven by the project wins.

Valuation

We reiterate our fair value range of EUR8.0-9.4 for Kreate's share. The mid-point implies 10.6x 2024E EV/EBITA, which is in line with the historical forward EV/EBITA multiple for the peer group. It would also imply a 21-34% discount to consensus 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 2024E EV/EBITA of 10.4x, a 23% discount to the peer group. The valuation discount to peers has recently narrowed slightly, as the share prices of many peer companies have been under pressure due to the delayed recovery in the building construction segment, while Kreate's share price has increased slightly.

Table 3. Peer group valuation

		Mkt											Div	FCF
		cap	Price*	E	V/Sales		E	V/EBITA			P/E		yield	yield
Company	Ticker	Lcl ccy	(Icl ccy)	2024	2025E	2026E	2024	2025E	2026E	2024	2025E	2026E	2024	2024
AF Gruppen	AFG-NO	13409	137.2	0.6	0.5	0.5	12.3	10.7	9.9	21.1	15.1	13.9	4.5	7.6
Bonava	BONAV.B-SE	3015	8.8	0.9	1.2	1.0	54.1	37.0	9.8	n.a.	n.a.	46.3	0.0	-15.9
Consti	CONSTI-FI	89	9.8	0.3	0.3	0.3	9.0	7.3	6.5	12.4	9.8	8.7	5.6	n.a
JM	JM-SE	11,250	218.6	2.1	2.2	2.0	15.3	28.8	12.7	34.4	21.3	13.3	3.2	n.a
NCC	NCC.B-SE	17,532	168.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	12.2	11.6	10.2	11.7	11.3	10.5	4.6	6.6
NRC Group	NRC-NO	609	3.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	50.8	8.7	6.5	56.8	7.7	5.0	0.0	n.a
Peab	PEAB.B-SE	22,219	72.0	0.6	0.6	0.6	15.1	13.4	12.1	13.6	12.9	11.1	3.3	12.5
Selvaag Bolig	SBO-NO	3,263	34.2	1.9	1.9	1.4	26.3	27.1	13.1	15.8	23.3	12.5	2.6	22.2
Skanska	SKA.B-SE	90,657	21.8	0.5	0.5	0.5	12.7	10.0	9.8	14.7	13.1	12.1	3.5	4.1
SRV	SRV1V-FI	90	5.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	14.2	8.6	6.3	21.2	9.7	5.3	0.0	-0.8
Veidekke	VEI-NO	16,789	124.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	10.3.	9.2	9.1	13.4	12.9	12.1	6.6	9.6
YIT	YIT-FI	555	2.4	0.7	0.7	0.7	57.0	26.3	14.3	n.a.	68.7	15.6	0.0	26.2
Median				0.5	0.5	0.5	13.5	12.5	10.0	13.6	12.7	12.2	3.3	6.6
Kreate by DBER	KREATE-FI	6754	8.46	0.3	0.3	0.2	10.4	8.0	7.0	14.3	9.6	8.5	5.5	5.5

*Prices as at 13:00 EET on 25 October 2024

ource: Company data, LSEG Data & Analytics, Danske Bank Equity Research (DBER) estimates for Kreate





Prices as at 13:00 EET on 25 October 2024

Source: LSEG Data & Analytics, Danske Bank Equity Research estimates estimates for Kreate

Key risks

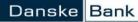
We consider the governance of operational project management a key risk for Kreate in lowmargin infrastructure construction. While Kreate has a good track record of generating quite good margins, margins are currently at a low level, and therefore history is no guarantee for the future. We find the following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

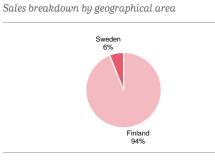
Key personnel leaving the company poses a risk for continuity. The operational competence is held by project directors, project managers, tender calculators, and everyday worksite management. We believe the high level of employee ownership and incentive culture could mitigate the risk.

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

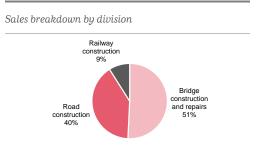
8.0

6.0

4.0

2.0

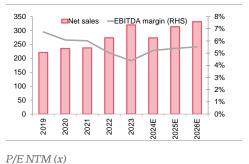
Haarakaari 42, 04360 Tuusula Finland www.kreate.fi



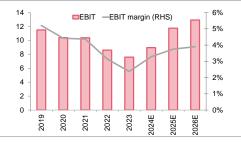
Main shareholders

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%

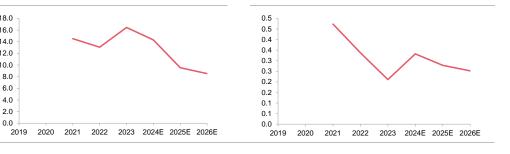
Net sales and EBITDA margin (EURm)



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
Net sales		144	192	221	235	238	274	320	273	313
Cost of sales & operating costs		-136	-182	-206	-221	-223	-260	-306	-259	-297
EBITDA		7.5	10.7	14.9	14.3	14.3	13.7	14.0	14.3	16.9
EBITDA, adj.		7.2	9.2	13.9	13.1	13.6	13.1	13.4	14.2	16.3
Depreciation		-2.2	-2.4	-3.2	-3.7	-3.7	-5.0	-6.1	-5.1	-5.0
EBITA		5.3	8.3	-3.2	10.6	10.6	-3.0 8.8	7.9	9.2	-5.0
		4.5	8.3 7.7	11.5	10.6	10.6	8.6	7.6	9.2	11.9
EBIT incl. EO, bef. ass.										
EBIT, adj.	0.0	4.2 -2.9	6.2	10.5	9.2	9.7	8.0	7.0	8.9	11.2
Financial items, net	0.0		-3.0	-1.2	-1.1	-2.1	-2.0	-2.9	-2.5	-2.0
Pre-tax profit		1.6	4.7	10.3	9.3	8.3	6.6	4.7	6.5	9.7
Taxes		-0.6	-0.9	-1.6	-1.5	-1.3	-1.1	-0.8	-1.2	-1.8
Net profit, rep.		1.0	3.8	8.7	7.8	7.0	5.5	3.9	5.2	7.9
Net profit, adj.		1.0	3.8	8.7	7.8	7.9	5.5	3.9	5.2	7.9
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	16.9
Change in working capital		11.5	-1.9	5.6	1.6	-4.5	-5.1	17.1	-12.6	1.6
Net interest paid		0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-1.4	-1.9	-2.9	-2.5	-2.0
Taxes paid		0.3	-1.0	-1.0	-1.3	-2.1	-1.1	-0.7	-1.2	-1.8
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	-2.1	14.3
Capex		-2.0	-3.7	-5.0	-4.6	-5.6	-4.6	-6.9	-5.6	-6.2
Div to min										
Free cash flow		16.5	2.5	13.3	8.6	-0.2	1.4	22.7	-7.7	8.1
Disposals/(acquisitions)		-13.4	-0.9	1.3		0.6	-5.5			
Free cash flow to equity		3.1	1.6	14.6	8.6	0.4	-4.1	22.7	-7.7	8.1
Dividend paid		0.1	1.0	14.0	0.0	-4.0	-4.0	-4.1	-4.3	-4.1
Share buybacks						4.0	-0.5	-0.5	4.0	4.1
New issue common stock						11.2	-0.5	-0.5		
					6.1	-8.6	-16.8	-3.0		-2.0
Incr./(decr.) in debt		0.7	0.5	-0.6	-1.1			-3.0	0.0	
Minorities & other financing CF		0.7	-0.5			-0.8	28.5		-0.6	-0.6
Cash flow from financing		0.7	-0.5	-1.7	-13.2	-2.2	7.2	-8.4	-4.8	-6.7
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	-12.6	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	11.1	12.5
Inventory		0.1	0.1	0.0						
Trade receivables		21.8	31.6	32.1	30.4	34.2	49.8	34.6	43.7	48.6
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	0.5
Fixed tangible assets		10.2	12.1	14.1	15.8	17.9	19.9	20.4	21.4	22.9
Associated companies		7.4	7.9	7.6	8.4	8.9	10.0	10.5	10.6	10.9
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	131	140
Shareholders' equity		8.1	12.7	20.2	26.6	41.1	42.5	42.8	43.8	47.5
Of which minority interests										
Current liabilities		27.5	31.9	38.6	38.0	37.2	47.7	49.9	45.7	52.1
Interest-bearing debt		47.1	32.3	28.4	34.5	25.7	39.9	37.5	37.5	35.5
Pension liabilities										200
		0.3	0.4	0.5	0.7	1.1	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
			0.4	0.0	5.1					
Oth non-curr. liabilities		74 9	65.9	69.1	74 7	65 5	92.0	91.8	87 7	92 2
		74.9 82.9	65.9 96.0	69.1 105	74.7	65.5 107	92.0 135	91.8 135	87.7	92.2

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	0.59	0.
EPS adj. (EUR)	0.00	0.11	0.43	0.97	0.87	0.88	0.62	0.44	0.59	0.
DPS (EUR)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.44	0.45	0.46	0.48	0.47	0.
CFFO/share (EUR)	0.0	2.0	0.5	1.9	1.3	0.6	0.7	3.3	-0.2	
Book value/share (EUR)	0.00	0.90	1.41	2.24	2.96	4.57	4.78	4.81	4.92	5.
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%	5.4
EBITA margin		3.7%	4.3%	5.3%	4.5%	4.5%	3.2%	2.5%	3.4%	3.
EBIT margin		3.2%	4.0%	5.2%	4.4%	4.4%	3.1%	2.4%	3.3%	3.
EBIT adj margin		2.9%	3.2%	4.7%	3.9%	4.1%	2.9%	2.2%	3.2%	3.0
Sales growth			33.7%	14.9%	6.4%	1.0%	15.3%	16.9%	-14.6%	14.
EBITDA growth			43.4%	38.7%	-4.0%	-0.1%	-3.8%	2.0%	1.8%	18.
EBITA growth			56.6%	41.0%	-9.4%	-0.2%	-16.9%	-10.0%	15.9%	29.3
EPS adj growth			n.m.	n.m.	-10.7%	1.5%	-29.7%	-29.2%	34.4%	50.
PROFITABILITY	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%	10.7%	12.
ROIC (after tax, excl. GW, adj.)		49.9%	27.7%	41.3%	39.2%	33.7%	20.4%	20.1%	26.6%	26.
ROE (adj.)		24.4%	20.1%	26.3%	24.8%	23.4%	13.3%	9.2%	12.1%	17.
ROIC (adj.) - WACC		4.6%	0.1%	5.8%	4.3%	4.0%	0.1%	-1.0%	1.4%	2.
MARKET VALUE	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	202
Share price (EUR)	_010	-017	2010	2010	-010	11.4	8.09	7.22	8.44	- 202
No. shares reduced by buybacks (m)	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	8.9	8.9	8.9	0
Mkt cap used in EV (m)	3.0	3.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	102	72	64	75	
Net debt, year-end (m)		41	45	33	28	21	33	17	29	
MV of min/ass and oth (m)		-7	-8	-8	-8	-9	-10	-11	-11	
Enterprise value (m)		-7	-0	-0	-0	-9 114	-10 95	70	94	
VALUATION	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024E	202
EV/sales (x)	2010	2017	2010	2013	2020	0.48	0.35	0.22	0.34	0
EV/EBITDA (x)						8.4	7.3	5.3	6.6	0
EV/EBITA (x)						11.5	11.6	9.6	10.4	
EV/EBIT (x)						11.8	11.9	10.1	10.4	
P/E (reported) (x)						14.5	13.1	16.4	14.3	
P/E (adj.) (x)						14.5	13.1	16.4	14.3	
P/BV (x)						2.48	1.69	1.50	14.3	1
EV/invested capital (x)									2.8	
1 ()						4.3	2.6	3.5		
Dividend yield						3.96%	5.69%	6.65%	5.52%	6.5
Total yield (incl. buybacks) FCFE-yield						3.96% -0.20%	6.38% 1.95%	7.43% 35.35%	5.52% -10.32%	6.5 10.8
	2016	2017	2010	2010	2020	2024	2022	2022	20245	202
FINANCIAL RATIOS Net debt/EBITDA (x)	2016	2017 5.7	2018 3.9	2019 1.8	2020 2.1	2021 1.5	2022	2023 1.2	2024E 2.1	202
	n.m.		3.9 2.9							
Net debt/equity (x), year-end		5.1	2.9 0.0%	1.3	1.0	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.7	
Dividend payout ratio	n.m.	0.0%		0.0%	50.7%	57.6%	74.2%	109.3%	79.0%	62.
Interest coverage (x)		1.5	2.5	9.4	8.8	5.0	4.4	2.6	3.6	400
Cash conversion (FCF/net profit)		n.m.	65.7%	152.4%	110.3%	-2.8%	25.3%	581.4%	-147.6%	102.
Capex/sales NWC/sales		1.4% -3.9%	1.9% -0.1%	2.2% -2.8%	2.0% -3.2%	2.4% -1.0%	1.7% 0.9%	2.2% -4.6%	2.1% -0.7%	2. -1.
QUARTERLY P&L Sales (m)			Q1 23 65.8	Q2 23 85.7	Q3 23 88.3	Q4 23 80.2	Q1 24 54.4	Q2 24 68.0	Q3 24 77.6	Q4 2 7
EBITDA (m)			1.0	4.0	4.0	5.0	1.6	4.0	4.7	'
			-0.6	2.5	2.6	2.5	0.6	2.8	2.7	
FBIT before non-recurring items (m)			-0.8	2.5	1.2	2.5	-0.1	2.8	1.4	
							-0.1			
EBIT before non-recurring items (m) Net profit (adj.) (m) EPS (adi.) (EUR)										^
			-0.10 1.5%	0.17	0.13 4.5%	0.23 6.3%	-0.01 2.9%	0.20 5.9%	0.16 6.1%	0 5.

Source: Company data, Danske Bank Equity Research estimates

This report is for Niina Streng @ Kreate. Unauthorized redistribution of this report is prohibited.

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 UK 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: 25 October 2024 at 13:02 CET Report disseminated: 25 October 2024 at 16:15 CET