Profit warning after weak Q3 prelims

Preliminary results for Q3 fell short of both our expectations (c.9% at revenues and c.26% at EBIT) and the company's expectations, which is why GESCO has reduced its guidance for FY 2023e. It seems that the demand for short-term business has collapsed. The order situation after H1 was still largely reassuring. As a cyclically sensitive company, GESCO is facing the effects of macroeconomic uncertainty, which could still be felt in H1 2024e, in our view. In accordance with the new guidance, we reduced our estimates. With a new TP of EUR 29.00 (prev. EUR 36.50), we continue to rate the shares a Buy.

Preliminary Q3 figures

With a revenue decrease of 3.8% yoy to EUR 138.6m, GESCO not only reported the second decline in a row, but also a significant shortfall of c.9% of our estimate of EUR 151.9m. The reasons for the weak development were price declines that depressed topline and the continuing poor demand in the construction industry. GESCO had already reported similar negative factors in Q2. However, we have to keep in mind, that the first three quarters in 2022 were strongly influenced by price increases, especially for raw materials, which consequently led to a high basis that was difficult to achieve. On the back of weak revenues, Q3 EBIT almost halved to EUR 8.4m (PASe: EUR 11.3m) from EUR 15m. The final Q3 results are due on 10 November.

Reduced guidance implies yoy decline in revenue and earnings

The new revenue guidance range of EUR 555-575m (prev. lower end of EUR 600-620m) implies at the mid-point a yoy decline for 2023e of c.3% and an accelerated decline of c.9% for Q4e. More importantly, the overall weak market outlook for the segment Healthcare and Infrastructure Technology leads to impairments in the amount of EUR 5-6m in 2023e. Taking this into account, the new guidance for the net income calls for EUR 19.5-21.5m (prev. EUR 32-34m). In 2022, GESCO achieved a net income of EUR 33.8m. With our reduced revenue estimate of EUR 558m and net income estimate of EUR 19.8m, we are at the lower end of the guidance ranges. We are also more cautious for FY 2024e. On the back of the lowered estimates and reduced peer group multiples, we derive from our DCF and peer group valuation a new blended TP of EUR 29.00 (prev. EUR 36.50).

EURm	2021	2022	2023e	2024e	2025e
Revenues	488	582	558	605	648
EBITDA	62	68	50	66	70
EBIT	45	49	32	47	50
EPS	2.48	3.12	1.83	2.67	2.88
EPS adj	-	-	-	-	-
DPS	0.98	1.00	1.00	1.05	1.10
EV/EBITDA	4.9	4.6	5.4	3.9	3.6
EV/EBIT	6.9	6.3	8.4	5.5	5.0
P/E adj	-	-	-	-	-
P/B	1.14	0.99	0.87	0.82	0.77
ROE (%)	11.7	13.3	7.4	10.2	10.4
Div yield (%)	3.8	4.1	4.5	4.8	5.0
Net debt	19	40	23	7	(4)

Source: Pareto Securities

Target price (EUR) Share price (EUR)	29 22	A	BUY
		-	HOLD
		\blacksquare	SELL

Forecast changes

%	2023e	2024e	2025e
Revenues	(8)	(7)	(8)
EBITDA	(24)	(8)	(9)
EBIT adj	(32)	(11)	(11)
EPS reported	(37)	(12)	(12)
EPS adj	NM	NM	NM

Source: Pareto Securities

Ticker	GSC1N.DE, GSC1 GY
Sector	Industrials
Shares fully diluted (m)	10.8
Market cap (EURm)	238
Net debt (EURm)	23
Minority interests (EURm)	11
Enterprise value 23e (EURm)	272
Free float (%)	64

Performance



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Analysts

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PROFIT & LOSS (fiscal year) (EURm)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023e	2024e	2025e
Revenues	580	440	397	488	582	558	605	648
EBITDA	68	44	33	62	68	50	66	70
Depreciation & amortisation	(26)	(21)	(17)	(18)	(18)	(18)	(19)	(20)
EBIT	42	23	17	45	49	32	47	50
Net interest	(2)	(2)	(4)	(2)	0	(3)	(2)	(2)
Other financial items	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Profit before taxes	40	22	13	43	49	29	44	48
Taxes	(14)	(8)	(6)	(13)	(13)	(9)	(13)	(14)
Minority interest	(3)	(1)	(1)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(2)
Net profit	23	12	(17)	27	34	20	29	31
EPS reported	2.08	1.14	(1.53)	2.48	3.12	1.83	2.67	2.88
EPS adjusted	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DPS	0.90	0.23	-	0.98	1.00	1.00	1.05	1.10
BALANCE SHEET (EURm)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023e	2024e	2025e
Tangible non current assets	158	172	105	106	105	101	98	97
Other non-current assets	52	49	52	79	76	75	74	74
Other current assets	286	254	185	207	257	246	260	278
Cash & equivalents	29	31	49	58	36	54	70	80
Total assets	525	506	391	450	474	475	501	529
Total equity	251	250	228	256	275	284	305	327
Interest-bearing non-current debt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest-bearing current debt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Debt	275	256	163	194	199	191	197	203
Total liabilites & equity	525	506	391	450	474	475	501	529
CASH FLOW (EURm)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023e	2024e	2025e
Cash earnings	(1)	51	108	39	(10)	53	31	27
Change in working capital	15	(13)	(48)	13	46	(12)	11	14
Cash flow from investments	(41)	(14)	(4)	(32)	(10)	(13)	(15)	(19)
Cash flow from financing	25	(1)	(78)	(6)	(11)	(11)	(11)	(11)
Net cash flow	(9)	2	18	8	(21)	18	16	10
VALUATION (EURm)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023e	2024e	2025e
Share price (EUR end)	21.8	18.9	18.4	25.5	24.1	22.0	22.0	22.0
Number of shares end period	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Net interest bearing debt	121	127	33	19	40	23	7	(4)
Enterprise value	372	346	244	307	311	272	258	250
EV/Sales	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4
EV/EBITDA	5.4	7.9	7.3	4.9	4.6	5.4	3.9	3.6
EV/EBIT	8.8	14.8	14.6	6.9	6.3	8.4	5.5	5.0
P/E reported	10.5	16.5	-	10.3	7.7	12.0	8.3	7.6
P/E adjusted	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
P/B	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8	8.0
FINANCIAL ANALYSIS	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023e	2024e	2025e
ROE adjusted (%)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividend yield (%)	4.1	1.2	-	3.8	4.1	4.5	4.8	5.0
EBITDA margin (%)	11.8	10.0	8.4	12.7	11.6	9.0	10.8	10.8
EBIT margin (%)	7.3	5.3	4.2	9.1	8.5	5.8	7.7	7.8
NIBD/EBITDA	1.76	2.89	1.00	0.30	0.59	0.45	0.10	(0.05)
EBITDA/Net interest								

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Pareto Securities Research expects this financial instrument's total "Hold" return to be between -10% and 10% over the next 12 months

Pareto Securities Research expects this financial instrument's total return to be negative by more than 10% over the next 12 months

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Appendix A

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The below list shows companies where Pareto Securities AS - together with affiliated companies and/or persons - owns a net long position of the shares exceeding 0,5 % of the total issued share capital in any company where a recommendation has been produced or distributed by Pareto Securities AS.

Companies	No. of shares	Holdings in %	
Austevoll Seafood	1,052,265	0.52 %	
Bonheur	243,588	0.57 %	
Pareto Bank	16,119,470	23.08 %	
Pexip Holding	812,095	0.78 %	
Sparebank 1Nord-Norge	5,006,421	4.99 %	
Sparebank 1SM N	2,944,385	2.27 %	
Sparebank 1SR-Bank	2,439,627	0.95 %	
SpareBank 1Østfold Akershus	1,228,074	9.91%	
SpareBank 1Østlandet	6,990,591	6.58 %	
Sparebanken Møre	426,833	0.86 %	
Sparebanken Vest	8,797,550	8.02 %	
SpareBank 1Sørøst-Norge	2,760,852	4.38 %	

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Company	Analyst holdings*	Total holdings
2020 Bulkers		534
2G Energy		340
ABB Ltd.		580
Adevinta		19,000
AkerASA	500	1,377
AkerBP		11,820
Aker Carbon Capture		8,976
Aker Horizons		502,071
AMSC ASA		3,600
Aprila Bank		22,675
Austevoll Seafood		3,548
Bakkafrost		600
BB Biotech		460
Belships		20,000
BioInvent		15,000
BlueNord		1,000
Bonheur		30,718
Borregaard ASA		518
Bouvet		5,500
BW Energy		83,427
BW Offshore		3,000
Cloudberry Clean Energy		8,690
Cool Company		5,305
Crayon		6,042
Dermapharm Holding SE		750
DNB		17,235
DNO		72,361
Edda Wind		5,000
Elkem		59,520
Elmera Group ASA		36,565

Company	Analyst holdings*	Total holdings
Embracer Group		32,520
Encavis AG		630
Eneti		525
Equinor		5,336
Europris		17,868
Evolution		52
Flex LNG		595
Frontline		12,820
Gaming Innovation Group		10,000
Getinge		260
GFT Technologies		270
Gjensidige Forsikring	519	3,540
Grieg Seafood		13,201
Hafnia Ltd.		82,050
HydrogenPro		3,622
Hö egh Autoliners		10,923
International Petroleum Corp		7,786
Kahoot		1,918
Kambi Group plc		430
Kinnevik AB		495
Kitron		12,314
Kongsberg Gruppen		490
Kontron AG		350
Lea bank		16,355
Lerøy Seafood Group		114,350
MorrowBank		121,200
Mowi		9,512
M P C Container Ships		7,190
Multitude		2,443
Mutares SE & Co. KGaA		433
NorAm Drilling		6,883
NORBIT ASA		1,154
Nordic Semiconductor		10,277
Norsk Hydro		77,351
Norske Skog		85,606
Northern Ocean		8,400
Norwegian Air Shuttle		64,009
Odfjell Drilling		2,186
Okeanis Eco Tankers		7,340
Orkla		7.626
Otovo ASA		35,400
Panoro Energy		34.533
Pareto Bank		762,986
PetroTal		74,000
Pexip Holding		812.095
Protector Forsikring		9,436
PSI Software		300
QleanAir		3,498
Quantafuel		16,665
REC Silicon		32,539
SalMar		224
		2.500
Sandnes Sparebank Scatec		2,500
Scatec Seadrill Ltd		
Seadriii Ltd Siem Offshore		10,300 2,000
Solstad Offshore	725	124,000 744
Sparebank 1Nord-Norge	/25	
Sparebank 1SM N		6,023
Sparebank 1SR-Bank		6,797
SpareBank 1Sørøst-Norge		3,000
SpareBank 1Østlandet	1,100	1,100
Sparebanken Møre		1,080
Sparebanken Sør		15,000
Sparebanken Vest		966
Standard Supply		20,000
Stolt-Nielsen		3,500
Stora Enso		1,396
Storebrand	100	2,600
Storytel		17,115
Subsea 7		20,805
Telenor		3,833
TGS		10,595
Thule Group		350
Transocean		10,000
Valaris		3,100
Vestas Wind Systems		1,225
Viscom		1,300
Vår Energi		253,158
Yara		17,674
Zaptec		19,800
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This overview is updated monthly (last updated 17.10.2023).

 $^{{}^{\}star}\text{Analyst holdings refers to positions held by the Pareto Securities AS analyst covering the company.}$

Appendix B

Disclosure requirements in accordance with Article 6(1)(c)(iii) of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/958

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Seacrest Petroleo

Seacrest Petroleo Shamaran Petroleum Skandia GreenPower Standard Supply Tasik Toba Subsea AS Treasure ASA

Viking Venture 28 AS

Wattif FV

Waldorf Production Ltd.

Vantage Drilling International

Alva Industrier AS AMSC ASA APKAG Archer Archer
Austevoll Seafood
Beerenberg Services AS
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Dolphin Drilling Edda Wind

EdR Certified Origin Physical Gold Plc Eidesvik Offshore

EIK Servering AS Endur A SA Energy Drilling Pte. Ltd. Fertiberia Corporate S.L.U. First Camp Group Fishbase Group AS

Floatel Fredrikstad Energi AS FrøvASA

Gjensidige Forsikring ASA Golar LNG Golden Energy Offshore Services AS

Grøntvedt AS Hafnia Ltd.

Hertha BSC GmbH & Co. KGaA House of Control

HydrogenPro HÖRMANN Industries GmbH

ldavang A/S Instabank ASA

International Petroleum Corp. ("IPC")

Katies International GmbH&CO Kezzler AS

Klaveness Combination Carriers ASA

KMC Properties Kraft Bank Kron AS Krow Bidco AS

Kruse Smith LoneStar Group LoneStar Group
Maha Energy
Mime Petroleum
Mintra Group
MorrowBank
Mutares SE & Co. KGaA

NEXT Biometrics Group ASA

NorAm Drilling

Nordic Unmanned Norlandia Health & Care Group

Norse Atlantic Northern Ocean OKEA Pareto Bank

PGS PHM Group Holding Point Resources Holding AS

Prosafe
Proximar Seafood
PulPac AB

Quality Living Residential AS

This overview is updated monthly (this overview is for the period 01.10.2022 - 30.09.2023).

Appendix C

Disclosure requirements pursuant to the Norwegian Securities Trading Regulation § 3-11 (4)

Distribution of recommendations

Recommendation	% distribution
Buy	74%
Hold	25%
Sell	1%
Distribution of recommendations (transactions*)	

Recommendation Buy

% distribution Hold 0%

*Companies under coverage with which Pareto Securities Group has on-going or completed public investment

services in the previous 12 months This overview is updated monthly (last updated 17.10.2023).

Appendix D

This section applies to research reports prepared by Pareto Securities AB.

Disclosure of positions in financial instruments

The beneficial holding of the Pareto Group is 1 % or more of the total share capital of the following companies included in Pareto Securities AB's research coverage universe: None

The Pareto Group has material holdings of other financial instruments than shares issued by the following companies included in Pareto Securities AB's research coverage universe: None

Disclosure of assignments and mandates

Overview over issuers of financial instruments where Pareto Securities AB has prepared or distributed investment recommendation, where Pareto Securities AB has been lead manager or co-lead manager or has rendered publicly known not immaterial investment banking services over the previous twelve months:

ADDvise Group AB Adtraction Group AB Artificial Solutions International AB Cinis Fertilizer AB Hanza AB Hexicon AB Renewcell AB Xbrane Biopharma AB Xspray Pharma AB Linkfire A/S Azelio AB Vicore Pharma Holding AB Boule Diagnostics AB Media & Games Invest plc VNV Global AB Cibus Nordic Real Estate AB NGEx Minerals Ltd

 $\label{lem:maket_making} \mbox{Members of the Pareto Group provide market making or other liquidity providing services to the following companies included in Pareto Securities AB's research coverage universe:$

Adtraction AE Media & Games Invest plc. Sedana Medical AB Implantica AG Linkfire Signup Software AB Modelon AB

Lundin Gold

Members of the Pareto Group have entered into agreements concerning the inclusion of the company in question in Pareto Securities AB's research coverage universe with the following companies: None

 $Member\ of\ the\ Pareto\ Group\ is\ providing\ Business\ Management\ services\ to\ the\ following\ companies:$

Aarhus Rssidentials Hallsell Property Invest AB Korsängen Fastighets AB (publ) M älaråsen A B One Publicus Fastighets AB Backaheden Fastighets AB Bonäsudden Holding AB (publ) Krona Public Real Estate AB Origa Care AB (publ) Borglanda Fastighets AB Logistri Fastighets AB Preservium Property AB

Members of the Pareto Group have entered into agreements concerning the inclusion of the company in question in Pareto Securities AB's research coverage universe with the following companies: None

This overview is updated monthly (last updated 16.10.2023).

Appendix E

Disclosure requirements in accordance with Article 6(1)(c)(i) of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/958

Designated Sponsor

Pareto Securities acts as a designated sponsor for the following companies, including the provision of bid and ask offers. Therefore, we regularly possess shares of the company in our proprietary trading books. Pareto Securities receives a commission from the company for the provision of the designated

2G Energy AG ad pepper media International N.V. Biotest AG IVU Traffic A G Kontron A G Pryme B.V. PSI AG Pyrum Innovations AG Leifheit AG Biotest AG Pfd. Logwin AG Salmones Camanchaca S.A Corestate Capital Holding S.A manzAG Seven Principles AG manz AG
MAX Automation SE
Merkur Privatbank AG
Meta Wolf AG
MLP SE
MPC Container Ships ASA Daldrup & Söhne AG SHOP APOTHEKE EUROPE N.V. Daldrup & Söhne AG
DEM IRE AG
DF Deutsche Forfait AG
epigenomics AG
Foris AG
Gesco AG SMT Scharf AG Surteco AG Syzygy AG TTL Beteiligungs- und Grundbesitz AG Uzin Utz SE M uehlhahn AG VERIANOS SE Mutares SE & Co. KGaA GFT Technologies SE Gigaset AG
Heidelberg Pharma AG
INTERSHOP Communications AG OVB Holding AG
ProCredit Holding AG
Progress-Werk Oberkirch AG Viscom AG WPU - Waste Plastic Upcycling AS

Appendix F

Disclosure requirements in accordance with Article 6(1)(c)(iv) of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/958

Pareto Securities has entered into an agreement with these companies about the preparation of research reports and – in return - receives compensation.

2G Energy AG BayWa AG BB Biotech AG Expres2ion Biotech Holding AB Gesco AG GFT Technologies SE MLP SE Mutares SE & Co. KGaA Mynaric AG Biotest AG Gigaset AG OHB SE Biotest AG Pfd. Heidelberg Pharma AG ProCredit Holding AG Cliq Digital AG INTERSHOP Communications AG Daldrup & Söhne AG Delignit PSIAG Siegfried Holding AG SMT Scharf AG Surteco AG Kontron AG Dermapharm Holding SE Enapter AG Leifheit AG Logwin AG MAX Automation SE Merkur Privatbank AG epigenomics AG exceet Group Syzygy AG Viscom AG

This overview is updated monthly (last updated 16.10.2023).