Amper



EQUITY - SPAIN

Sector: Technology - Information Tech.

Report date: 27 Feb 2020 Distribution time: 15:00 **12m Results 2019**Closing price: EUR 0.26 (26 Feb 2020)

12m Results 2019

Opinion ⁽¹⁾: Above expectations. **Impact** ⁽¹⁾: We will raise our estimates.

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Business description

Amper (AMP) is a provider of all kinds of technological solutions, focused on the supply of the hardware and software needed to roll out communications networks. In 2017 it acquired Nervión, a group which assembles and maintains industrial installations (mainly in Spain). Currently, after the restructuring of the business, sales outside Spain represent 13% of the total.

Market Data

Market Cap (Mn EUR and USD)	276.3 300.7
EV (Mn EUR and USD) (2)	296.7 322.8
Shares Outstanding (Mn)	1,075.3
-12m (Max/Med/Mín EUR)	0.30 / 0.26 / 0.24
Daily Avg volume (-12m Mn	0.77
Rotation ⁽³⁾	70.6
Thomson Reuters / Bloomberg	APE.MC / AMP SM
Close fiscal year	31-Dec

Shareholders Structure (%)

José Luis Martinavarro Dealbert	5.1
Board of Directors	2.0
Free Float	92.9

Relative performance -5y (Base 100)



Stock performance

_(%)	-1m	-3m	-12m	-5Y
Absolute	-9.0	-11.1	-6.7	218.1
vs Ibex 35	-6.6	-11.0	-7.6	280.3
vs Ibex Small Cap Index	-4.3	-10.4	-5.5	154.3
vs Eurostoxx 50	-3.9	-7.9	-14.2	217.8
vs Sector benchmark(4)	-3.9	-13.0	-22.7	99.8

- (1) The opinion about results is in respect of reported EBITDA and its relation to our estimate for the year (12m). The impact reflects whether, as a consequence of these results, we envisage a significant (>5%) upgrade or downgrade to our EBITDA estimates (for any of the estimated years).
- (2) Please refer to Appendix 2.
- (3) Rotation represents the % of the capitalisation traded 12m.
- (4) vs TRBC Europe Technology Index.

(*) Unless otherwise indicated, all the information contained in this report is based on: The Company, Thomson Reuters and Lighthouse

High growth in all P&L lines (driven by M&A)

2019 results show an evident turning point in operating terms that puts an end to AMP's tough restructuring process: (i) core businesses now show double-digit growth, (ii) the corporate transactions carried out in 2018 and 2019 are starting to bear fruit and (iii) there is a net cash position (albeit almost exhausted). We highlight:

THE ORDER BOOK HAS INCREASED DRAMATICALLY (EUR 144.5MN; +48.5% VS 2018), mainly due to the incorporation of the businesses acquired during the year which doubled the Telecoms and Security division's portfolio (Núcleo, acquired in July 2019 contributed a portfolio of EUR 32Mn).

STRONG REVENUE GROWTH: +25.9% (EUR 168.7MN VS EUR 134.0MN 2018) underpinned by: (i) organic growth of all business lines (+12% vs 2018) and (ii) the incorporation of the new businesses acquired in the previous year (2 in 4Q18 and 8 in 2019) which contributed c. EUR 19Mn (c. 55% of revenue growth; although the full impact of the latest acquisitions made from 1H19 has yet to be seen).

WITH A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN THE EBITDA MARGIN (10.6%; + 3.7P.P. VS 2018; +2.4 P.P. VS ESTIMATED), mainly due to a larger contribution by tech businesses to the revenue mix (33% vs 27% 2018; and that AMP expects to reach c. 50% of the mix in 2020), that have very high margins (EBITDA margin of c. 27% as a whole; vs 19% in 2018) and (ii) the small improvement in the industrial business's margin (2.5% 2019 vs 2.3% 2018), boosting 2019 EBITDA to EUR 18Mn (with an impact of IFRS 16 < EUR 1Mn; c. 5.5% of EBITDA).

... THAT WAS FULLY TRANSLATED TO EBIT 2019 (EUR 21.4MN; +66% VS 2018): driven strongly (46% of the improvement in EBIT) by the capitalisation of R+D expenses with an impact of EUR 10.3Mn in 2019 and EUR 6.4Mn in 2018.

AND (STILL) WITH A NET CASH PILE (EUR 6.5MN vs proforma net cash in 2018 of EUR 33Mn) that fell vs 2018 as a result of: (i) the corporate transactions carried out in 2019 (self-financed acquisition of 8 companies; impact of EUR 19.1Mn) and (ii) a business that is intensive in working capital which, logically, has a significant impact on FCF and ND. Trade receivables increased by EUR 39Mn vs 2018 (due to the stepup in size of the business), to EUR 88.3Mn (52% of 2019 revenue; vs c. 36% in 2018). If we include pledged future payments for the M&A activity (EUR 14Mn), ND would be EUR 7.5Mn.

IN CONCLUSION: Results that exceed our expectations both in terms of revenue (+9.6% vs estimated) and EBITDA (EBITDA/sales +2.4p.p. vs estimated; very significant margin improvement). Accordingly, we expect to upgrade our EBITDA and FCF estimates for 2020e-2022e. There is still capacity for growth via acquisitions as the quickest way to gain size (although this has decreased vs 2018, there is still additional financing capacity up to a theoretical limit of ND/EBITDA 2.3x). In 2020e the challenge is to make the acquisitions made in this period profitable.





Appendix 1. Results table

EUR Mn	12m19 Real	12m18	12m19 Real vs 12m18	2019e	12m19 Real vs 2019e
LOKIVIII	iteai	1211110	V3 1211110	20150	V3 2015C
Total Revenues ¹	168.7	134.0	25.9%	153.9	9.6%
Telecom and Security	39.2	23.3	68.2%	28.5	37.4%
Industrial	113.5	97.7	16.1%	100.7	12.7%
Integrator	16.1	13.0	23.5%	24.7	-35.0%
Recurrent EBITDA	13.3	6.5	104.2%	9.9	35.3%
Rec. EBITDA/Revenues	7.9%	4.9%	3.0 p.p.	6.4%	1.5 p.p.
EBITDA ¹	18.0	9.3	93.6%	12.7	41.5%
EBITDA/Revenues	10.6%	6.9%	3.7 p.p.	8.2%	2.4 p.p.
EBIT	21.4	12.9	66.2%	16.9	26.8%
NP	20.6	40.7	-49.3%	15.1	36.2%
Ordinary NP ²	16.0	2.1	n.a.	12.9	24.3%
Net Debt	-6.8	11.3	n.a.	-39.8	-82.8%
ND / EBITDA	-0.4 x	1.2 x	n.a.	-3.1 x	2.8 x

⁽¹⁾ Revenue and EBITDA adjusted to strip out the capitalisation of R+D expenses. In 2019 AMP's R+D activities had an impact of EUR 14.9Mn on reported revenues and EUR 10.3Mn on reported EBITDA (EUR 9.2Mn and EUR 6.3Mn, respectively in 2018). Including the capitalisation of R+D expenses above EBITDA would result in 2019 revenue of EUR 183.7Mn (+28% vs 2018) and EBITDA of EUR 28.3Mn (+81% vs 2018; EBITDA margin of 15%).

Appendix 2. EV breakdown at the date of this report

	EUR Mn	Source
Market Cap	276.3	
+ Minority Interests	2.2	12m Results 2019
+ Provisions & Other L/T Liabilities ³	24.0	12m Results 2019
+ Net financial debt	(6.8)	12m Results 2019
- Financial Investments	3.0	12m Results 2019
+/- Others ⁴	4.0	12m Results 2019
Enterprise Value (EV)	296.7	

⁽³⁾ Other L/T liabilities are mainly pledged future payments for M&A activity (c. EUR 10Mn).

^{(2) 2018} ordinary NP before profit (loss) from discontinued operations and other non-recurrent items.

⁽⁴⁾ Current liabilities associated with the M&A activity (EUR 4Mn; LH estimate).

Amper (APE.MC / AMP SM) Report date: 27 Feb 2020

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Recommendation History

Date of report	Recommendation	Price (EUR)	Target price (EUR)	Period of validity	Reason for report	Analyst
27-Feb-2020	n.a.	0.257	n.a.	n.a.	12m Results 2019	David López Sánchez
13-Nov-2019	n.a.	0.268	n.a.	n.a.	9m Results 2019	David López Sánchez
11-Sep-2019	n.a.	0.280	n.a.	n.a.	6m Results 2019	David López Sánchez
09-May-2019	n.a.	0.268	n.a.	n.a.	3m Results 2019	David López Sánchez
04-Apr-2019	n.a.	0.262	n.a.	n.a.	Initial Coverage	David López Sánchez