

# Research

Poland | Equity Research

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# Voxel

# Positive diagnosis of organic growth

From the beginning of 2023, Voxel experienced a period of intense growth in financial results and a moment of business consolidation after the COVID pandemic. The revenue growth was driven by an increased number of diagnostic procedures (CT, MRI, SPECT), supported by favourable reimbursed pricing by NFZ. In our view, the company's momentum still remains attractive due to strong forecasts of Polish imaging diagnostic market development and reimbursement procedures.

We anticipate that projected increase in the NFZ budget for imaging studies, as well as the expansion of reimbursement areas to include high-margin CT and MRI scans will continue to play a pivotal role in VOX's segments earnings (~8-11% growth of sales'24-26). We also assume that performed disinvestment in non-rental COVID-19 diagnostic segment (Vito-Med sales) and more feasible sales mix will translate into EBITDA margin progression ('23-25 by ~2%). In the long-term we expect Voxel to face challenges such as growing competition, rising costs and limited room for expansion, which will impact the growth trajectory and put pressure on the EBIT margin (EBIT margin >2031 –0.9-1.4p.p. vs 2026). Nevertheless, the Group's improving financial results should allow for a sound FCF generation (FCF yield'26 ~11%). We therefore initiate a recommendation for the company with "Buy" and a 12-month target price of 119 PLN per share (+30% upside), based on 100% DCF method.

2024 – strong VOX's results outlook. Looking ahead to the 2024, we assume that VOX will maintain strong sales dynamics, supported by higher year-over-year volumes of diagnostic tests and favorable reimbursement of CT and MRI procedures. In our forecasts, we estimate the VOX's revenues dynamics'24-26 at 8-11%, conditioned by the organic growth in number of diagnostics and therapy procedures, as well as by increase in service reimbursement policy.

Diagnostic segment– strong perspectives with both organic growth and feasible reimbursement policy. In the 2024F-2033F, we assume the sales dynamics in diagnostic at the average annual level of 10% y/y. In our forecasts, In our forecasts, we have included an increase in the reimbursement budget for imaging studies by an additional 2-3%, in line with the new plans of the Ministry of Health from March 2024. This reimbursement raise will led to increase od services pricing by 4% for CT and MRI, 10% for PET and 7% for SPECT procedures compared to the first half of 2023 (detailed market environment section is presented in the report on page 25).

Favorable level of contracting PET-CT examinations from the National Health Fund. The level of contracting PET-CT tests by the National Health Fund has increased in 2007-2023 from 4.1 to over 80 thousand procedures. In 2023, expenditures for this purpose are expected to amount to PLN 137bln. Importantly, according to the government's plans, health care spending is expected to increase from 6% of GDP to 7% of GDP (by 2027). In our view, further planned increases in public funds for public healthcare will constitute a significant upside for VOX business in the diagnostics segment, representing the factor for growing diagnostic procedures by 5-10% y/y up to 2034F.

Operating margins improvement by COVID-19 segment disinvestment and moderating cost pressures. Starting from 1st November 2023, Voxel is no longer consolidating the hospital's segment (Vitomed), which in our model will positively impact its operating margins in subsequent periods (EBIT margin lowering by 2-3% in 2022-2023). In our opinion, easing cost pressures are expected to benefit VOX's EBIT profitability in '24-25 (EBIT margin '24 +0.9p.p. y/y, '25 +1.4p.p. y/y) by stabilization of energy prices and SG&A costs. On the other hand, rising minimum wages (especially in CEE) and labour costs in medical sector will increase VOX payroll and other employee benefits costs (+0.9 p.p '24 y/y; +1.3 p.p. '25 y/y). However, this effects should be overpassed by growing number of diagnostics procedures and higher reimbursement rates for services, which occurred in 2H23. Reimbursement rates for diagnostic procedures were raised by approximately 5% at that time.

**Improving FCF generation.** Strong sales growth in diagnostic segment, supported by feasible reimbursement policy and further recovery in profitability after disinvestment in COVID-19 diagnostic segment should allow Voxel to improve operating margins by 2-3% in the perspective of 2024F-2030F. Company should be also able to generate double-digit FCF after 2025 (FCF yield'25 ~7.0%, '26 ~10.8%) and contribute to improving of dividend yields (DY from 2.0% in '23 to 5.7% in '26).

Valuation. The DCF approach implies the 12M target price of Voxel shares at PLN 119 (+30% upside). Using the comparative valuation method, we value Voxel's shares at PLN 120 / share. Due to the different Voxel's business model compared to other listed companies, we use the DCF method as the main method for the VOX valuation.

Risk factors: 1) lower than expected sales dynamics, especially in diagnostic segment, 2) termination of NFZ agreements, 3) competition impact; 4) introduction of innovative diagnostic/treatment methods. The description is presented on page 29.

PLNm	2021	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Revenues	443	415	451	485	538	573
EBITDA	134	106	147	164	183	193
EBIT	98	68	108	122	141	150
Net profit	69	44	74	88	103	110
EPS (PLN)	3.2	6.6	4.2	7.0	8.3	9.8
P/E (x)	13.9	21.7	13.1	11.0	9.4	8.8
EV/EBITDA (x)	7.6	9.6	6.7	6.1	5.4	4.9
P/BV (x)	4.2	4.0	3.3	2.8	2.4	2.1
DY (%)	2.2%	3.3%	2.0%	4.1%	5.2%	5.7%

Source: Company, Trigon DM

# Buy

Initiation

Target price: 119 PLN upside potential: +30%

#### **FACT SHEET**

Ticker			VOX
Sector	BioTech & MedTech		
Price (PLN)	91.60		
52wk Range (PLN)	41.8 / 99.2		
Number of share (m )			10.5
Market Cap (mPLN)			962
Free-float			7%
Avg Vol 3M (mPLN)			0.6
Drice nerformence	1M	3M	1Y
Price performance	-4.0%	12.5%	115.0%

#### RELATIVE SHARE PRICE PERFORMANCE



RECOMMENDATION HISTORY Date Price

SHAREHOLDERS	Share %
Voxel International	37.4%
PZU TFI	14.6%
Allianz OFE	6.6%
Pro Partners Holding	6.0%
Labcentrum LC	6.0%
Other	29.4%

## **IMPORTAND DATES**

1Q24 report	02.05.2024
1H24 report	26.08.2024
3Q24 report	25.11.2024

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capitalisation - market price multiplied by the number of a company's shares

free float (%) – percentage of a company's shares held by shareholders with less than 5% of total voting rights attached to the shares, reduced by treasury shares held by the company

min/max 52 wks – lowest/highest share price over the previous 52 weeks

average turnover - average volume of share trading over the previous month

EBIT - operating profit

EBITDA – operating profit before depreciation and amortisation

adjusted profit - net profit adjusted for one-off items

CF - cash flow

CAPEX - sum of investment expenditures on fixed assets

OCF - cash generated through a company's operating activities

FCF - cash generated by a company after accounting for cash outflows to support its operations and maintain capital assets

ROA - rate of return on assets

ROE - rate of return on equity

ROIC - rate of return on invested capital

NWC - net working capital

cash conversion cycle – length of time it takes for a company to convert its cash investments in production inputs into cash revenue from sale of its products or services gross profit margin – ratio of gross profit to net revenue

EBITDA margin - ratio of the sum of operating profit and depreciation/amortisation to net revenue

EBIT margin - ratio of operating profit to net revenue

net margin – ratio of net profit to net revenue

EPS – earnings per share

DPS - dividend per share

P/E - ratio of market price to earnings per share

P/BV - ratio of market price to book value per share

EV/EBITDA - ratio of a company's EV to EBITDA

EV – sum of a company's current capitalisation and net debt

DY - dividend yield, ratio of dividends paid to share price

RFR - risk free rate

WACC - weighted average cost of capital

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Issuer - VOXEL S.A.

BUY – we expect the total return on an investment to reach at least 10%

HOLD - we expect the price of an investment to be largely stable, with potential upside of up to 10%

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Document prepared by: Katarzyna Kosiorek

#### Valuation methods used

SOTP - sum-of-the-parts method, which consists in valuing a company by valuing its individual business lines separately and then summing them up.

Advantages: different valuation methods can be applied to diverse business lines; the approach is useful for assessing the value of a company e.g. in the case of planned acquisition or restructuring.

Disadvantages: the peer group for individual business lines is usually limited, the method does not adequately account for synergies between business segments.

# Risk-adjusted net present value method (rNPV)

Advantages: accounting for probabilities assigned to future cash flows, providing a more realistic assessment of the present value of future cash flows and reflecting business-specific factors, especially in the case of innovative companies.

Disadvantages: subjectivity involved in the adoption of a discount rate, significant reliance on a number of assumptions, high level of complexity in the calculations and exclusion of qualitative factors from the valuation.

## Discounted residual income method (DRI)

Advantages: valuation based on the excess of income over risk-adjusted opportunity cost to owners of capital, the method can be applied to companies that do not pay dividends or generate positive FCF.

Disadvantages: significant reliance on subjective judgements and assumptions, as well as sensitivity of the valuation to any changes in those variables.

# Discounted dividend model (DDM)

Advantages: accounting for real cash flows to equity owners, the model works best for companies with a long history of dividend distribution.

Disadvantages: the method can be applied to dividend-paying companies only, it is not suitable for companies with a short history of dividend distribution.

# Net asset value method (NAV)

Advantages: the approach is particularly relevant to holding companies with significant property, plant and equipment assets, the calculation of NAV is relatively straightforward. Disadvantages: the method neglects future revenue or earnings potential and may not properly reflect the value of intangible assets.

# Target multiple method

Advantages: the method can be applied to any company.

Disadvantages: it involves a high degree of subjectivity.

# Replacement value method – it assesses the value of a company based on the costs of replacing its assets.

Advantages: the method is particularly relevant to companies with significant property, plant and equipment assets.

Disadvantages: it may be hard to capture the value of a company's intangible assets, reputation and market potential.

Liquidation value method - the sum of prices that the business would receive upon selling its individual assets on the open market.

Advantages: the method can capture the lowest threshold of a company's value.

Disadvantages: it may be hard to capture the value of a company's intangibles.



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