Equity Research from Kepler Cheuvreux

Release date: 11 April 2024

Deutsche Rohstoff Buy

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Germany | Oil & gas

Beta Profile:





MCap: EUR196.1m

Target Price: EUR42.00 Bloomberg: DR0 GR Reuters: DR0G.DE **Current Price:** EUR39.20 Free float 90% Avg. daily volume (EURm) 0.4 Up/downside: YTD abs performance 20.8% Market data: 10 April 2024 52-week high/low (EUR) 39.20/26.00

Capitalising on the favourable oil market

Key points:

- Deutsche Rohstoff has revised up its FY 2024 sales and EBITDA guidance, along with expanding its drilling programme and further capitalising on the oil price environment by increasing its hedge book.
- Once again, the group has provided an agile response to market conditions and proven its commitment to growth by expanding its production, with targeted investments in 2024 increased from EUR110m to EUR145-165m, along with also prudently securing an extensive hedge book that covers over 1.8m barrels for the remainder of 2024 and 2025 at a WTI of USD75/barrel.
- The company's adept manoeuvring through market dynamics, coupled with a focused investment in growth-oriented projects, positions it favourably for sustained success in FY 2024 and beyond. We reiterate our Buy rating.

Higher oil prices, increased guidance, expanding production, and expanding its already extensive hedge book

- Deutsche Rohstoff has revised up its financial outlook for 2024, showcasing a bullish stance amid a favourable market environment, contrary to our update at end-January in which we expected the drivers of oil demand growth to fade in 2024.
- Brent is now trading above USD90/bbl on the back of various geopolitical tensions, in addition to demand proving to be more resilient, onshore inventories declining, trade routes being disrupted in the Red Sea, and further cuts in production by various players. Our in-house projections for oil prices are inclined towards a higher valuation bias.
- Deutsche Rohstoff's updated guidance anticipates revenues to reach between EUR210 and EUR230m, up from the previous estimate of EUR175-195m. Similarly, EBITDA forecasts have been adjusted to EUR160-180m, a notable increase from the earlier range of EUR130-145m.
- Management's WTI and exchange rate assumptions for FY 2024, however, remain unchanged, at USD75/bbl and a EUR/USD exchange rate of 1.12. The group's gas price assumption is even lowered from USD3/MMBtu previously to USD2/MMBtu.
- Deutsche Rohstoff's financial outlook for FY 2024 is further buoyed by an increased price scenario that assumes an oil price of USD85/barrel and a gas price of USD3.0/MMBtu, envisaging even higher potential revenues and EBITDA in the range of EUR235-255m and EUR180-200m, respectively. The increased price scenario rests on unchanged assumptions for the exchange rate and a gas price forecast of USD3/MMBtu.
- The group's optimistic revision is attributed to a confluence of factors. Primarily, the surge in WTI oil prices has played a critical role, coupled with the strategic expansion of drilling activities across the company's subsidiaries. This expansion not only reflects the current positive market dynamics but also aligns with the robust production figures observed in Q1 and an enhanced oil price hedge strategy. Deutsche Rohstoff has secured an extensive hedge book that covers over 1.8m barrels for the remainder of 2024 and 2025 at a WTI price of USD75/barrel.
- Production-wise, the group has decided to expand its drilling programme from 2-3 wells previously at 1876 resources to 8-10 wells (average working interest of 70%). As previously communicated, three wells will also be drilled at Bright Rock Energy (now expected to be completed in late April, earlier than expected), and ten wells drilled by Salt Creek as part of the JV with Occidental have recently started production.
- Deutsche Rohstoff has thus signalled a strong production forecast for 2024, expecting to achieve 14,700 to 15,700 barrels of oil equivalent per day (BOEPD), versus our projection of c. 13,500 BOEPD, a significant increase of c. 20% over the previous year. Production in Q1 was 14% higher than anticipated.
- In light of the recent upward revision in guidance, it has become apparent that our initial estimates fall short of the company's projected performance. Consequently, we are in the process of re-evaluating our forecasts, which are anticipated to lead to an increase in our projections. We reiterate our Buy rating.

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Last model update: 29 January 2024

Appendix 1: Research framework

Investment case

- As one of the few European companies offering direct exposure to US shale, DRAG has extensive experience as an operator in the field. There are also a large number of manufacturing companies offering optimal opportunities for non-operative activities and participations.
- Assuming a c. 30% success rate for the acquired acreage in Wyoming's Powder River Basin (+100 well locations), our play-by-play model suggests this could lead to a sustainable high production level for DRAG in the medium term.
- The minority stake in Almonty Industries, which is expected to ramp up production at one of the largest tungsten mines outside China in the coming years, should generate stable, long-term returns.

Catalysts

- Higher-than-assumed economic viability in Wyoming in terms of development area or asset sale.
- Price movements in the WTI benchmark.
- Production start at Almonty's Sangdong mine in S. Korea.

Valuation Methodology

- Our valuation is based on an SOP of its oil & gas assets,
 Deutsche Rohstoff's minority investments in metals, and its investment portfolio.
- We value the group's core oil and gas assets by US state using a 25-year NPV model with a 10% WACC.
- Under our current long-term WTI oil price assumption of USD68/bbl, our SOP points to a fair value of EUR42.0.

Risk to our rating

- Weaker-than-expected US dollar. Each USD0.05 move in our long-term EUR/USD assumption impacts our SOP by up to EUR3 per share.
- Lower demand leading to negative price movements in the WTI benchmark. Each USD3/bbl move in our long-term WTI oil price assumptions impacts our SOP by up to EUR2 per share.

Appendix 2: Company description

Deutsche Rohstoff is a Germany-based holding company that specialises in investing in resource projects. The current portfolio is mainly focused on the oil & gas sector, but it also holds minority stakes in high-tech metals such as tungsten. Its management team has longstanding expertise in the sector, and the group focuses on well-explored areas in the US.



Ownership Free float: 90.00% | Management and Supervisory Board: 9.00%

Appendix 3: share price perf.



Appendix 4: SWOT analysis

Strengths

- Solid oil and gas asset portfolio with an extensive drilling pipeline.
- Diversified portfolio
- Expert management with experience in resource-based activities

Opportunities

- Efficiency gains in drilling could allow additional costs savings
- New land acquisitions
- Investments in electro mobility

Weaknesses

- No control over non-operating wells
- Lower transparency compared to US oil and gas peers.
- The majority of mining investments are not producing yet.

Threats

- Price increases from field services companies leading to higher capex
- Direct competition from extractor Oil & Gas in land purchase.
- Euro/US dollar currency fluctuations, economic deterioration.

Appendix 5: Key financials

Last model update: 29 January 2024

Market data date: 10 April 2024

FY to 31/12 (EUR)	12/17	12/18	12/19	12/20	12/21	12/22	12/23E	12/24E	12/25E	na
Income Statement (EURm)										
Sales	53.7	109.1	41.2	38.7	73.3	165.4	190.2	168.0	150.1	na
% Change	486.1%	103.0%	-62.2%	-6.1%	89.5%	125.6%	15.0%	-11.7%	-10.7%	na
EBITDA adjusted	36.1	98.0	22.7	20.4	48.4	125.1	157.1	123.1	104.6	na
EBITDA adj. margin (%)	67.2%	89.8%	55.2%	52.8%	66.0%	75.6%	82.6%	73.3%	69.7%	na
EBIT adjusted	5.3	32.7	5.6	-19.6	14.9	77.4	105.7	69.7	56.8	na
EBIT adj. margin (%)	9.9%	30.0%	13.7%	-50.8%	20.3%	46.8%	55.6%	41.5%	37.9%	na
Net financial items & associates	-4.0	-6.2	-5.4	-6.4	-5.5	-5.5	-4.7	-4.2	-3.3	na
Others	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	na
Tax	6.4	-8.5	-0.1	6.4	-0.7	-19.8	-25.3	-16.4	-13.4	na
Net profit from continuing operations	7.7 0.0	18.0	0.2	-16.1	26.4 0.0	66.2	75.8 0.0	49.1 0.0	40.2	na
Net profit from discontinuing activities Net profit before minorities	7.7	0.0 18.0	0.0 0.2	0.0 -16.1	26.4	0.0 66.2	75.8	49.1	0.0 40.2	na
Net profit reported	5.5	13.9	0.2	-15.5	24.8	60.8	69.6	45.1	36.9	na na
Net profit adjusted	5.5	13.9	0.3	-19.0	7.1	46.8	69.6	45.1	36.9	na
Net prome dajusted	3.3	13.3	0.5	15.0	7.1	10.0	03.0	13.1	30.3	iia
Cash Flow Statement (EURm)	47.7	07.4	20.0	44.0	70.5	140.4	127.0	20.0	04.7	
Levered post tax CF before capex	47.7	87.4	30.0	-11.3	78.5	148.4	137.6	90.9	81.7	na
Capex	-51.7	-66.2	-28.7	-36.8	-52.8	-88.9	-153.0	-55.6	-65.0	na
Free cash flow Acquisitions & divestments	-4.0 0.0	21.2 0.0	1.3 0.0	-48.2 0.0	25.7 0.0	59.5 6.0	-15.4 13.5	35.3 0.0	16.7 0.0	na na
Dividend paid	-3.0	-3.2	-3.2	-0.5	0.0	-3.0	-6.5	-6.8	-5.4	na
Others	-20.7	12.4	-28.2	6.3	-10.2	-20.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	na
Change in net financial debt	27.6	-30.5	30.1	42.3	-15.5	-42.3	8.4	-28.4	-11.3	na
Balance Sheet (EURm) Intangible assets	33.8	16.9	22.1	21.9	29.8	33.9	33.9	33.9	33.9	na
Tangible assets	114.5	110.1	139.6	112.8	149.1	192.6	280.7	282.9	300.2	na
Financial & other non-current assets	24.0	36.3	42.1	50.3	43.8	40.7	40.7	40.7	40.7	na
This is a series from current assets	2	00.0	.2.12	00.0	.0.0					110
Total shareholders' equity	56.7	73.8	71.5	45.6	80.1	132.4	201.6	244.0	278.7	na
Pension provisions	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	na
Liabilities and provisions	156.9	151.0	207.4	161.1	184.9	218.0	233.7	217.2	207.1	na
Net debt	78.2	47.7	77.8	120.2	104.7	62.4	70.8	42.4	31.1	na
Net financial debt	78.2	47.7	77.8	120.2	104.7	62.4	70.8	42.4	31.1	na
IFRS 16 debt	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	na
Net working capital	-9.3	-22.4	-29.3	-11.9	-19.0	-39.6	-45.1	-37.8	-35.2	na
Invested capital	108.5	89.3	111.9	102.2	131.3	154.2	236.8	246.2	266.1	na
Per share data (EUR)										
EPS adjusted	1.10	2.74	0.06	-3.74	1.40	9.35	13.91	9.02	7.37	na
EPS adj and fully diluted	1.10	2.74	0.06	-3.74	1.40	9.35	13.91	9.02	7.37	na
% Change	5328.9%	150.5%	-97.8%	-chg	+chg	569.6%	48.8%	-35.2%	-18.3%	na
EPS reported	1.10	2.74	0.06	-3.05	4.88	12.15	13.91	9.02	7.37	na
Cash flow per share	9.42	17.27	5.91	-2.23	15.44	29.67	27.50	18.16	16.33	na
Book value per share	9.73	12.99	12.66	7.76	14.31	25.78	38.38	46.04	52.32	na
Dividend per share	0.65	0.70	0.10	0.00	0.60	1.30	1.36	1.08	0.96	na
Number of shares, YE (m)	5.06	5.06	5.08	5.08	5.08	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	na
Ratios										
ROE (%)	10.5%	24.2%	0.5%	-36.6%	12.7%	46.4%	43.3%	21.4%	15.0%	na
ROIC (%)	4.6%	24.8%	4.2%	-13.8%	9.6%	40.7%	40.6%	21.6%	16.6%	na
ND(F+IFRS16) / EBITDA (x)	2.2	0.5	3.4	5.9	2.2	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.3	na
Gearing (%)	138.0%	64.7%	108.9%	263.6%	130.7%	47.2%	35.1%	17.4%	11.2%	na
Valuation										
P/E adjusted	18.6	7.7	na	na	11.6	2.8	2.8	4.3	5.3	na
P/E adjusted and fully diluted	18.6	7.7	na	na	11.6	2.8	2.8	4.3	5.3	na
P/BV	2.1	1.6	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.7	na
P/CF	2.2	1.2	2.7	na	1.0	0.9	1.4	2.2	2.4	na
Dividend yield (%)	3.2%	3.3%	0.6%	0.0%	3.7%	4.9%	3.5%	2.8%	2.5%	na
Dividend yield preference shares (%) FCF yield (%)	0.0% -5.9%	0.0% 16.0%	0.0% 1.8%	0.0% -99.1%	0.0% 29.3%	0.0% 41.0%	0.0% -11.0%	0.0% 15.9%	0.0% 6.8%	na
EV/Sales	-5.9% 3.5	1.5	4.0	-99.1% 4.5	29.3%	1.0%	1.3	13.9%	1.4	na na
EV/EBITDA adj.	5.2	1.7	7.3	8.5	4.0	1.4	1.6	1.8	2.1	na
EV/EBIT adj.	35.6	5.0	29.4	na	13.0	2.2	2.4	3.2	3.8	na
, y	55.5	0.0			10.0			0.2	0.0	



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Rating Breakdown	A	В
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Reduce	9%	8%
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Total	100%	100%

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	02/10/2023 04:41	Equity Research	Buy	45.00	30.00
	27/11/2023 05:35	Equity Research	Buy	48.00	34.10
	29/01/2024 05:31	Equity Research	Buy	42.00	32.10

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