

DOM MAKLERSKI BANKU OCHRONY ŚRODOWISKA S.A.

This report is prepared for the Warsaw Stock Exchange SA within the framework of the Analytical Coverage Support Program 4.0.

590R/2024/AR/October 18, 2024

Company	LT fundamental recommendation	12M EFV (PLN)	ST market-relative bias	Analyst
Brand24		Discontinuation of coverage		Sobiesław Pająk, CFA +48 506 142 766

Event: Coverage discontinued.

We discontinue the coverage of Brand24's shares within the framework of the Analytical Coverage Support Program 4.0.

Justification:

We are concerned that we would not be able to prepare reliable financial forecasts for the Company (in our understanding, 'reliable forecasts' are those with an acceptable margin of error) and consequently, to prepare a fair valuation.

The Company's management responded to the tender offer announced by Semrush and sold all Brand24's shares they held which implies that the focus on the high market price stopped being the management's key priority. No longer are the management board's members owners of Brand24, they are just employed by Semrush and Semrush's interests which are to buy Brand24's shares in the tender as cheep as possible (and it announced that it would not raise again a price offered in the tender (the price was raised from PLN 45.5 to PLN 47.0 per share)) are in contradiction with the interests of the minority investors who did not accept the conditions of the tender and demanded a higher price. So, first, we have conflicting interests of the current minority shareholders and the controlling shareholder and second, the management has no longer the motivation to strive to maximize the Company's share market price on the WSE.

Potential sale synergies (cross-selling to Semrush clients) and effects of scale of the cooperation with Semrush pose some upside risk regarding Brand24's revenues; they may contribute to a (potentially significant) clients' base growth and, in consequence, to a growth of Brand24's sales which on the other hand may require a material expansion of the Company's OPEX (the management announced a significant increase in the employment) exerting a pressure on profits (this is a downside risk in the short term (several quarters) and in the long term (several years) as well). The priority of American tech companies (to which Semrush belongs) often seems to be fast expansion of the operations scale at the expense of the current profitability. We have a reasonable theory that Brand24's profit growth resulting from synergies with Semrush may be delayed in time. Besides, from the perspective of the majority shareholder targeting a control over 100% shares it is rational to pursue this goal at the lowest possible cost. Thus, in the interests of Semrush it would be *ceteris paribus* a recognition of these incremental profits outside the subsidiary whose remaining shares Semrush wants to take over, with the incremental costs recognized right by this subsidiary. This may not be the case regarding Semrush and Brand24, but we would like to point out that such a possibility cannot be excluded.

All in all, after Semrush has taken over Brand24, the uncertainty related to financial results of the latter may increase materially, in our view. This, in turn, makes us uncomfortable to endorse our forecasts for the Company as reliable (in our understanding, as the forecasts with an acceptable scale of possible error). Therefore, we discontinue the coverage of Brand24 shares within the framework of the Analytical Coverage Support Program 4.0.

Regarding the potential sources of conflict of interest, please refer to the disclaimer section of the attached research report.

BASIC DEFINITIONS

A/R turnover (in days) = 365/(sales/average A/R)) Inventory turnover (in days) = 365/(COGS/average inventory)) A/P turnover (in days) = 365/(COGS/average A/P)) Current ratio = ((current assets - ST deferred assets)/current liabilities) Quick ratio = ((current assets - ST deferred assets - inventory)/current liabilities) Interest coverage = (pre-tax profit before extraordinary items + interest payable/interest payable) Gross margin = gross profit on sales/sales EBITDA margin = EBITDA/sales EBIT margin = EBIT/sales Pre-tax margin = pre-tax profit/sales Net margin = net profit/sales ROE = net profit/average equity ROA = (net income + interest payable)/average assets EV = market capitalization + interest bearing debt - cash and equivalents EPS = net profit/ no. of shares outstanding CE = net profit + depreciation Dividend yield (gross) = pre-tax DPS/stock market price Cash sales = accrual sales corrected for the change in A/R Cash operating expenses = accrual operating expenses corrected for the changes in inventories and A/P, depreciation, cash taxes and changes in the deferred taxes

DM BOŚ S.A. generally values the covered non bank companies via two methods: comparative method and DCF method (discounted cash flows). The advantage of the former is the fact that it incorporates the current market assessment of the value of the company's peers. The weakness of the comparative method is the risk that the valuation benchmark may be mispriced. The advantage of the DCF method is its independence from the current market valuation of the comparable companies. The weakness of this method is its high sensitivity to undertaken assumptions, especially those related to the residual value calculation. Please note that we also resort to other valuation techniques (e.g. NAV-, DDM- or SOTP-based), should it prove appropriate in a given case.

KEY TO INVESTMENT RANKINGS

This is a guide to expected price performance in absolute terms over the next 12 months:

Buy - fundamentally undervalued (upside to 12M EFV in excess of the cost of equity) + catalysts which should close the valuation gap identified;

Hold - either (i) fairly priced, or (ii) fundamentally undervalued/overvalued but lacks catalysts which could close the valuation gap;

Sell - fundamentally overvalued (12M EFV < current share price + 1-year cost of equity) + catalysts which should close the valuation gap identified.

This is a guide to expected relative price performance: **Overweight** – expected to perform better than the benchmark (WIG) over the next quarter in relative terms **Neutral** – expected to perform in line with the benchmark (WIG) over the next quarter in relative terms

Underweight - expected to perform worse than the benchmark (WIG) over the next quarter in relative terms

The recommendation tracker presents the performance of DM BOŚ S.A.'s recommendations. A recommendation expires on the day it is altered or on the day 12 months after its issuance, whichever comes first. Relative performance compares the rate of return on a given recommended stock in the period of the recommendation's validity (i.e. from the date of issuance to the date of alteration or – in case of maintained recommendations – from the date of issuance to the current date) in a relation to the rate of return on the benchmark in this time period. The WIG index constitutes the benchmark. For recommendations that expire by an alteration or are maintained, the ending values used to calculate their absolute and relative performance are: the stock closing price on the day the recommendation expires/ is maintained and the closing value of the benchmark on that date. For recommendations that expire by an alteration expire via a passage of time, the ending values used to calculate their absolute and relative performance are: the average of the stock closing prices for the day the recommendation expires shores and the average of the benchmark's closing values of the day the recommendation expires and four directly preceding sessions.

	Buy	Hold	Sell	Suspended	Under revision	Not rated		
Numbers	44	26	8	5	0	4		
Percentage	51%	30%	9%	6%	0%	5%		

Distribution of DM BOS's current recommendations for the companies which DM BOS has supplied with material investment services within the last 12 months

	Buy	Hold	Sell	Suspended	Under revision	Not rated
Numbers	4	5	0	1	0	1
Percentage	36%	45%	0%	9%	0%	9%

Distribution of DM BOŚ's current market relative recommended weightings

	Overweight	Neutral	Underweight	Suspended	Under revision	Not rated		
Numbers	27	40	11	5	0	4		
Percentage	31%	46%	13%	6%	0%	5%		

Distribution of DM BOS's current market relative recommended weightings for the companies which DM BOS has supplied with material investment services within the last 12 months

	Overweight	Neutral	Underweight	Suspended	Under revision	Not rated
Numbers	2	6	1	1	0	1
Percentage	18%	55%	9%	9%	0%	9%

Banks

Net Interest Margin (NIM) = net interest income/average assets

Non interest income = fees&commissions + result on financial operations (trading gains) + FX gains Interest Spread = (interest income/average interest earning assets)/ (interest cost/average interest bearing liabilities) Cost/Income = (general costs + depreciation)/ (profit on banking activity + other net operating income) ROE = net profit/average equity ROA = net income/average assets Non performing loans (NPL) = loans in 'basket 3' category NPL coverrage ratio = loan loss provisions/NPL

Net provision charge = provisions created - provisions released

DM BOŚ S.A. generally values the covered banks via two methods: comparative method and fundamental target fair P/E and target fair P/BV multiples method. The advantage of the former is the fact that it incorporates the current market assessment of the value of the company's peers. The weakness of the comparative method is the risk that the valuation benchmark may be mispriced. The advantage of the fundamental target fair P/E and target fair P/BV multiples method is its independence of the current market valuation of the comparable companies. The weakness of this method is its high sensitivity to undertaken assumptions, especially those

related to the residual value calculation. Assumptions used in valuation can change, influencing thereby the level of the valuation. Among the most important assumptions are: GDP growth, forecasted level of inflation, changes in interest rates and currency prices, employment level and change in wages, demand on the analysed company products, raw material prices, competition, standing of the main customers and suppliers, legislation changes, etc. Changes in the environment of the analysed company are monitored by analysts involved in the preparation of the recommendation, estimated, incorporated in valuation and published in the recommendation whenever needed.

Recommendation tracker

Analityk	Fundamental	Relative	Report	Reiteration	Distribution	Price at issue/	EFV	
•	Recommendation	Recommendation	date	date	date	reiteration*	(12 months)	
rand24								
obiesław Pająk	Not rated	Not rated	15.08.2021	-	16.08.2021	24.80	32.10	-
obiesław Pająk	-	-	-	31.08.2021	31.08.2021	25.90	32.10	-
obiesław Pająk	-	-	-	01.10.2021	01.10.2021	25.00	31.30	,
obiesław Pająk	-	-	-	07.10.2021	07.10.2021	25.50	31.30	-
obiesław Pająk	-	-	-	04.11.2021	04.11.2021	21.80	31.30	-
obiesław Pająk	-	-		05.12.2021	06.12.2021	21.90	31.30	-
obiesław Pająk	-	-		16.01.2022	17.01.2022	25.50	31.30	-
obiesław Pająk	-	-		07.02.2022	07.02.2022	23.60	31.30	-
obiesław Pająk	-	-		28.02.2022	28.02.2022	21.90	31.30	-
obiesław Pajak	-	-		14.04.2022	14.04.2022	25.00	31.30	-
obiesław Pajak	-	-		10.05.2022	10.05.2022	24.20	30.50	
obiesław Pająk	-	-		26.05.2022	26.05.2022	23.80	30.50	_
obiesław Pajak	-	-		15.07.2022	15.07.2022	21.90	30.50	
obiesław Pająk	-	-		16.08.2022	16.08.2022	22.40	30.50	
obiesław Pająk	-	-		02.09.2022	02.09.2022	19.95	30.50	
obiesław Pająk	_	_		28.09.2022	29.09.2022	19.35	28.20	
obiesław Pająk				07.10.2022	07.10.2022	23.00	28.20	
obiesław Pająk	-			28.10.2022	28.10.2022	22.00	28.20	
biesław Pająk				04.12.2022	05.12.2022	23.50	31.60	
biesław Pająk	-	-		13.01.2023		23.50	31.60	
	-	-		03.02.2023	13.01.2023	24.00	31.60	
obiesław Pająk	-	-			03.02.2023			
obiesław Pająk	-	-		10.03.2023	10.03.2023	26.90	31.60	
biesław Pająk	-	-		30.03.2023	30.03.2023	25.70	37.20	
obiesław Pająk	-	-		29.05.2023	29.05.2023	33.70	37.20	
obiesław Pająk	-	-		14.07.2023	14.07.2023	36.90	37.20	
obiesław Pająk	-	-		31.08.2023	31.08.2023	33.50	37.20	
obiesław Pająk	-	-		03.10.2023	03.10.2023	36.00	48.80	
obiesław Pająk	-	-		12.10.2023	12.10.2023	37.00	48.80	
obiesław Pająk	-	-		06.11.2023	06.11.2023	35.90	48.80	
obiesław Pająk	-	-		10.12.2023	11.12.2023	36.30	48.80	-
obiesław Pająk	-	-		09.01.2024	09.01.2024	36.90	48.80	
obiesław Pająk	-	-		01.02.2024	01.02.2024	44.80	48.80	
obiesław Pająk	-	-		29.02.2024	29.02.2024	40.50	48.80	
obiesław Pająk	-	-		04.04.2024	04.04.2024	47.20	48.80	
obiesław Pająk	-	-		09.04.2024	09.04.2024	48.80	56.20	
biesław Pająk	-	-		06.05.2024	06.05.2024	44.40	56.20	
biesław Pająk	-	-		29.05.2024	29.05.2024	45.20	56.20	-
obiesław Pająk	-	-		12.07.2024	12.07.2024	47.00	56.20	-
biesław Pająk	-	-		12.08.2024	12.08.2024	46.30	56.20	
obiesław Pająk	-	-		24.09.2024	24.09.2024	46.00	56.20	_
obiesław Pająk	-	-		11.10.2024	11.10.2024	47.00	56.20	_
obiesław Pająk	Discontinued		18.10.2024		18.10.2024	47.30		

* prices at issue/reiteration are the closing prices at the report or reiteration date

This report has been prepared by Dom Maklerski Banku Ochrony Środowiska SA registered in Warsaw (hereinafter referred to as DM BOŚ SA) and commissioned by the Warsaw Stock Exchange SA (hereinafter referred to as WSE SA) pursuant to the agreement on the research report preparation between DM BOŚ SA and WSE SA within the framework of the Analytical Coverage Support Program 4.0 described on the WSE SA website: https://www.gpw.pl/gpwpa (hereinafter referred to as the Agreement). DM BOŚ SA will receive a remuneration for the research report in accordance with the Agreement.

The production of the report was completed on October 18, 2024 at 5.30 p.m. The report was distributed on October 18, 2024 at 5.40 p.m.

The report is an investment research within the meaning of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/565 of 25 April 2016 supplementing Directive 2014/65/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards organizational requirements and operating conditions for investment firms and defined terms for the purposes of that Directive.

This report constitutes a recommendation within the meaning of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/958 of 9 March 2016 supplementing Regulation (EU) No 596/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to regulatory technical standards for the technical arrangements for objective presentation of investment recommendations or other information recommending or suggesting an investment strategy and for disclosure of particular interests or indications of conflicts of interest. This report is for information purposes only.

This report constitutes neither investment advice nor provides investment service as referred to in Article 76 of the Act on Financial Instruments Trading as of 29 July 2005 (Journal of Laws, 2018, Item 2286 as amended), hereinafter referred to as the Act on Trading; it does not constitute any legal or tax advice, neither does it constitute an indication whether an investment is suitable or appropriate in an individual situation of an investor. In particular this report is not a personal recommendation based on any individual needs or situation of any investor. DM BOŚ SA informs that the investment advice services exclusively consist in the preparation of a personal recommendation based on individual needs and situation of a given client and transferring it to them. To receive this type of a recommendation an agreement on providing investment advice services must be signed with an investments company offering these services.

Neither the information nor the opinions expressed in the report constitute a solicitation or an offer to buy or sell any securities referred herein. The opinions expressed in the report reflect independent, current judgment of DM BOŚ SA.

This report was prepared with due diligence and scrutiny. The information used in the report is based on all public sources such as press and branch publications, company's financial statements, current and periodic reports, as well as meetings and telephone conversations with company's representatives prior to the date of report's release. We believe the above mentioned sources of information to be reliable, however we do not guarantee their accuracy and completeness. All estimates and opinions included herein represent our judgment as of the date of the issue. All opinions, forecasts, calculations and estimates herein constitute the author's subjective assessment as of the date of the issue and can be modified at any time without prior notice. DM BOŚ SA informs that this report will be updated in the manner as referred to in the Agreement, at least once a year.

DM BOŚ SA is an investment firm within the meaning of the Act on Financial Instruments Trading. The legal entity supervising DM BOŚ SA is Polish Financial Supervision Authority in Warsaw (Komisja Nadzoru Finansowego, KNF in Polish abbreviation). DM BOŚ SA, its management and supervisory bodies and employees do not take any responsibility for decisions taken on the basis of this report and opinions stated herein. Investors bear all responsibility for investment decisions taken on the basis of the contents of this report. The report is intended solely for private use of investors.

Copyrights to this report belong to the WSE. The rules for use of this report have been specified in the Agreement. This report mustn't be redistributed, reproduced or conveyed in any manner or form conflicting with the rules defined in the Agreement.

This report is made available on the day of its issue in the public domain on the website https://bossa.pl/analizy/wsparcie-pokrycia-analitycznego-gpw#brand24.

DM BOŚ SA is entitled to conveying or translation of the report into foreign languages on behalf of their clients and this shall not be sooner than making the report available on its website https://bossa.pl/analizy/wsparcie-pokrycia-analitycznego-gpw#brand24.

DM BOŚ SA follows internal regulations for handling of conflicts of interest which include in particular internal organizational and administration arrangements as well as information barriers established for prevention and avoidance of conflicts of interest related to recommendations. A special organizational arrangement that constitutes an information barrier is so called Chinese walls prohibiting an uncontrolled flow of information among particular organizational units or employees of DM BOŚ SA. Where justified, DM BOŚ SA can create Chinese walls upon the realization of a particular project. Potential conflicts of interests referring to a specific recommendation which is made available to the public or to a wide range of persons are disclosed either in the recommendation or in the document attached. The person(s) preparing this report receive(s) variable compensation indirectly based upon the financial results of DM BOŚ SA which in turn depend – among other factors – on the result on the brokerage activity.

DM BOS SA has not held any long or short position net exceeding 0.5% of the issuer's basic capital in total with respect to the company/companies indicated.

DM BOŚ SA is the market maker and liquidity provider with respect to financial instruments for the stock of Brand24.

During the last 12 months DM BOS SA rendered investment services on behalf of Brand24 pursuant to the agreement signed and received a remuneration by virtue of this.

Apart from the mentioned above cases, there are neither ties of any kind between DM BOŚ SA, the analyst/ analysts involved in the preparation of the report and the issuer(s) of securities as referred to in the report nor circumstances that can justifiably be expected to have a negative impact on objectivity of the recommendation with regard to interests or conflicts of interests on their part or on the part of any natural person or legal entity which pertains to the financial instrument or the issuer.

The report was not shown to the analyzed company before the distribution of the report.

The history of all recommendations issued by DM BOŚ SA in the last 12 months can be found at the following link: <u>https://bossa.pl/analizy/rekomendacje</u>

Stockbrokers

Piotr Kalbarczyk tel.: +48 (22) 504 32 43 p.kalbarczyk@bossa.pl

Research

Sobiesław Pająk, CFA (Equity strategy, TMT)

Sylwia Jaśkiewicz, CFA (Construction materials, Consumer discretionary, Health care & biotechnology)

Tomasz Rodak, CFA (Consumer discretionary, Video games)

Łukasz Prokopiuk, CFA (Commodities (Chemicals, Energy, Mining))

> Michał Sobolewski, CFA, FRM (Financials)

Jakub Viscardi (Telco, Consumer staples & discretionary, IT – hardware distribution, Utilities)

> *Maciej Wewiórski* (Residential construction, Construction, Real estate)

> > *Mikołaj Stępień* Junior Analyst

> > > Michał Zamel Junior Analyst

Copyright © 2024 by DM BOS S.A.

Dom Maklerski Banku Ochrony Środowiska Spółka Akcyjna ul. Marszałkowska 78/80 00-517 Warszawa www.bossa.pl Information: (+48) 0 801 104 104