**KEY STATISTICS** 



# **ASBISC ENTERPRISES PLC**

(WSE: ASB)

Founded in 1990, Cyprus-based ASBISc Enterprises PLC is a leading value-added distributor, developer, and provider of information technology (IT) and internet of things (IoT) products, solutions, and services to markets primarily in Europe and the Middle East and Africa (EMEA). It has local operations in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS, former countries of the Soviet Union), Central and Eastern Europe, the Baltic Republics, the Middle East, and North and South Africa.

#### **COMPANY HIGHLIGHTS**

- \* Diversified Geographic Footprint: ASBISc operates in 34 countries and sells to customers in approximately 60 countries. In our view, this has helped the company to navigate disruptions that began in early 2022 with the onset of the Russia/Ukraine war, which led to ASBISc exiting the Russia market. ASBISc has decisively shifted to expand sales in unaffected and fast-growing regions in Eastern and Central Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and other locations.
- \* Diverse Product Mix: We see ASBISc driving revenue growth from a diverse product mix that it has shifted to capitalize on global trends. Smart phones have been a key driver in recent years, notably through the sale of Apple products. Most recently, ASBISc has significantly expanded sales of servers and server blocks, high-growth categories as companies rapidly expand artificial intelligence (AI) infrastructure and data centers. We expect ASBISc to continue to drive organic revenue growth by reselling premium brands like Apple and from its Breezy unit, which resells electronic products.
- \* Accelerating Revenue Growth: In 1H25, ASBISc generated 24% revenue growth (47% in 2Q), driving record sales in every month of the second quarter. Despite lower gross margins due to higher sales in the server/server block categories, net profit doubled to \$12.1 million from \$6.1 million in 2Q24. It has finalized new distribution agreements with leading global suppliers and manufacturers across

(continued on next page)



KET STATISTICS	
Key Stock Statistics	
Recent price (8/21/25), (PLN)	27.98
Fair Value Estimate (PLN)	42.00
52 week high/low (PLN)	29.80/16.35
Shares oustanding (M)	55.5
Market cap (M, PLN)	1552.9
Dividend (\$)	0.50
Yield	6.6%
Sector Overview	
Sector	Information Technology
Sector % of S&P 500	34.0%
Financials (\$M, as of 6/30/2	•
Cash & Mkt Securities	93.1
Debt	294.9
Working Capital	238.1
Current Ratio	1.3
Total Debt/Equity (%)	103.3%
Payout ratio (TTM)	51.7%
Revenue, TTM	3335.1
Net Income, TTM	53.7
Net Margin, TTM	1.6%
Risk	
Beta	0.31
Inst. ownership	7%
Valuation	
P/E forward EPS	8.6
Price/Sales (TTM)	0.1
Price/Book (TTM)	1.4
Top Holders	
Fundacja Zbigniewa Juroszka	•
Powszechne Towarzystwo Er	
Nationale-Nederlanden Pows	zechne Towarzystwo
Management	
CEO	Mr. Siarhei Kostevitch
Deputy CEO	Mr. Constantinos Tziamalis
CFO	Mr. Marios Christou
	https://www.asbis.com
Company website	nttps.//www.aspis.com

COMPANY SPONSORED REPORT. SEE LAST PAGE FOR DISCLOSURES.



multiple product categories. Over time, we expect ASBISc to drive a recovery in gross margins from bundling IT products and related services.

- \* Investing Private-Label and Innovative Products: In recent years, ASBISc has introduced new, higher-margin products and IT solutions, and ASBISc has been reshaping its product development pipeline to focus on innovative, private-label products, including home appliances, gaming products and accessories, industrial robotic solutions, and green energy solutions. We see much of the investment phase for these initiatives being completed, which should foster scalable and revenue-generating growth opportunities.
- \* Healthy Balance Sheet: As of June 30, 2025, ASBISc had \$93.1 million in cash and equivalents on its balance sheet, compared with \$155 million at the end of 2024, which we attribute to seasonality and working capital investments to support sales growth and new product launches. We view ASBISc as well positioned to maintain positive operational cash flow and a dividend program that returned a record \$0.50 per share to investors from profits in 2023 and 2024 and currently yields about 6.6%.
- \* Fair Value: ASBISc's valuation gap to global technology distributor peers had narrowed somewhat over the past few years but again widened across 2024 and to date in 2025. Still, we think its strong fundamentals, shareholder returns, and attractive growth prospects remain underappreciated by investors. Based on our forward P/E analysis, we arrive at a fair value estimate of 42 Polish zloty (PLN) per share, well above the current share price around 28 PLN.

#### COMPANY/INDUSTRY BACKGROUND

Founded in 1990, Cyprus-based ASBISc Enterprises specializes in the distribution of computer hardware and software, mobile solutions, and other IT products and digital equipment. ASBISc currently sells products to customers in approximately 60 countries, including those purchased from leading global technology manufacturers such as Apple Inc., Intel Corp., Advanced Micro Devices Inc., Micron Technology Inc., Samsung Electronics Co., NVIDIA Corp., Microsoft Corp., Dell Technologies Inc., Logitech International SA, and Lenovo Group Ltd.

As of August 2025, ASBISc had 31 warehouses and subsidiaries in 34 countries. In recent years, it has opened new subsidiaries in new high-growth markets including Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Morocco, and South Africa. We see these new local operating entities improving the company's business-to-business

(B2B) sales efforts. ASBISc is also an official distributor of Apple products in 11 countries of the former Soviet Union, excluding Russia and Belarus.

By the end of 2024, the company's footprint included distribution among 16,000 resellers, IoT solutions to more than 19,000 enterprises, and consumer distribution across 7,400 points of sale. It is also expanding its retail presence with more than 40 internally operated branded locations, including Apple (33 iSpace stores in seven countries) and premium audio brand Bang & Olufsen (seven stores in four countries).

The company also generates revenue from the sale of legacy private-label products, including Prestigio (tablets, external storage, GPS devices, car DVRs, multiboards, etc.) and Canyon (power banks, networking products, and other peripheral devices), with several new brands recently launched.

ASBISc's centralized distribution platform promotes greater efficiency, lower transportation costs, and higher margins. Its two main distribution centers in Prague and Dubai receive products from vendors and then distribute these products in individual countries. In 2022, the company opened regional centers in Tbilisi, Georgia, and Johannesburg, South Africa.

In late 2023, the company expanded existing warehouse capacity and commenced the construction of a new distribution center in Kazakhstan, which it expects will be up and running sometime in 2025. In total, we foresee warehouse space of around 80,000 square meters at that time, up 30% from previous levels. We think this infrastructure is pivotal to helping ASBISc's distribution mix to mitigate disruptions.

In recent years, ASBISc's top four markets have been Kazakhstan (16% in 2024, down from 23% in 2022/23), Ukraine (12% in 2024, 12-13% in 2022/23), United Arab Emirates (11% in 2024, up from 10% and 9% in 2023 and 2022, respectively), and Slovakia (9% in all periods). Prior to 2022, Russia was ASBISc's largest market, but that country's subsidiary was divested and closed in 2023.

Regionally, in 2024, CIS countries accounted for approximately 42% of revenue, down from 51% in 2023 and 58% in 2020, as ASBISc has diversified its geographic sales footprint. This trend continued in the first half of 2025 (with CIS countries accounting for 32% of revenues). Its next largest operating regions have been expanding their contribution to the revenue mix: Central and Eastern Europe rose to 29% in 2024 from 26% in 2023 (28.5% in 1H25), Middle East and Africa expanded to 16% in 2024 from 14% in 2023 (22% in 1H25), and Western Europe increased to 11% in 2024 from 8% in 2023 (15% in 1H25).

(continued on next page)

PEER COMPARISON											
Company	Ticker	Recent Price (\$)	52-Week High (\$)	52-Week Low (\$)	Mkt. Cap (\$MIL)	1-yr Price Change (%)	1-yr Rev Growth (%)	1 YR EPS Growth (%)	P/E Ratio	Beta	Yield (%)
ASBISC ENTERPRISES PLC	WSE: ASB	27.98*	29.80*	16.35*	1552*	39	NM	2	6.1	0.31	6.6
ARROW ELECTRONICS INC	NYSE: ARW	124.22	137.80	86.50	6398	-6	NM	NM	17.0	1.10	NA
AVNET INC	NASDAQ: AVT	52.82	59.24	39.22	3922	-4	NM	NM	19.2	1.08	2.5
INSIGHT ENTERPRISES INC	NASDAQ: NSIT	128.43	225.38	115.68	4042	-38	NM	NM	19.6	1.21	NA
* Stock Statistics in PLN											



ASBISc's product portfolio consists of over 110,000 products. We view positively ASBISc's participation in higher-growth categories and operating market geographies, as well as its ability to shift its product mix based on global trends. Smartphones have become its largest category, increasing from 29% in 2021 to nearly 42% in 2024. In 1H25, this has moderated to around 36.5%, due to the impact of illicit product markets in Kazahkstan and the Ukraine war. ASBISc has more than tripled (+258%) its sales of servers and server blocks to capitalize on the growing demand as companies focus on their AI infrastructure and call center capabilities. This category represented 18.4% of 1H25 revenues, compared with 6.4% in the same period in 2024. Central processing units (10.5% in 2024 and 9.8% in the first half of 2025) and laptops (7.3% in 2024 and 7.6% in 1H25) are the next two largest product categories.

For the long term, we see the smartphone category being boosted by ASBISc's status as an authorized distributor of Apple products in 11 countries and as an operator of 33 iSpace stores in high-growth markets. In January 2025, ASBISc reopened a showroom in Azerbaijan with Apple's Premium Partner status, marking the second location to secure this distinction, joining a location in Kazakhstan. In 4Q23, ASBISc signed a distribution agreement with Apple that authorized the company to become a distributor in South Africa.

In 2021, ASBISc launched its Breezy subsidiary to support electronics retailers and telecom operators that seek to implement a sustainable approach to electronics. The unit purchases used electronic devices that have retained value, in exchange for discounts on new purchases through its partner network. It then resells these products in secondary markets. Breezy has a physical presence in nine countries to date and has been expanding rapidly.

Breezy works with over 50 local and global partners, including nationally recognized electronics retailers and telecom operators such as Apple, Samsung, Vodafone Group PLC, and Kcell and retail chains Rozetka.ua, Sulpak, Mechta, and Technodom and across more than 4,500 retail locations. In the first quarter of 2025, Breezy launched operations in South Africa, marking its first market operating under a franchise format. ASBISc has estimated that Breezy could generate \$100 million in 2025 revenues, which we would view positively given its still early commercial scale.

Breezy employs an omnichannel approach, utilizing e-commerce with brick-and-mortar Breezy Experience Centers. In December 2024, Breezy unveiled a cutting-edge facility in Raszyn, Poland, that uses AI and robotic solutions to efficiently grade and upgrade pre-owned smartphones. In 1H25, Breezy integrated Apple's automatic diagnostic tool for MacBooks into its trade-in system and successfully rolled out Apple's iPhone diagnostic tool in 2024, making it the first company in Europe to do so.

The Poland facility's production line can grade up to 1 million devices and refurbish up to 320,000 smartphones per year, doubling its 2023 refurbishing count of approximately 160,000 phones, while reducing carbon dioxide equivalent emissions. We note that Breezy is already being recognized for its sustainability, as it aims to ensure that electronic devices get extended life cycles, thus delaying their being discarded in landfills.

### **INVESTMENT THESIS**

In our view, ASBISc is well positioned for long-term growth, supported by its expanding geographic footprint and entry into highgrowth countries. We expect ASBISc to benefit from the strong relationships it has developed with key IT vendors over more than 30 years and to continue to source high-demand products thanks to its robust distribution network. In our view, this established history is important, as many technology leaders have recently undertaken cost-cutting measures by limiting their own distribution networks and adjusting pricing structures, and we see ASBISc's preferred status helping to mitigate some of these challenges.

Amid recent challenges from new legislation and illicit product trading in leading market Kazakhstan and other Central Asia countries and geopolitical escalations in the Middle East, which contributed to a modest revenue decline in 2024, ASBISc has further diversified its footprint by increasing sales in Central Europe, Africa, and other markets. We view positively ASBISc's diversification strategy for long-term growth and are encouraged by its return to revenue growth in early 2025 and robust acceleration in 2Q, despite a continued challenging macroeconomic environment.

In 2022, gross margin peaked at an all-time high of 8.5%, which was up from 7.1% in 2021 and 5.8% in 2020. This expansion was driven by a favorable geographic sales mix, product shortages in the market, expansion of the smartphone category, an increase in online transactions, and an optimized supply chain. However, gross margins have pulled back over the past several years, amid normalizing industry supply and pricing dynamics, the impact of the Kazakhstan market and Ukraine war, and a less favorable product mix. The 1H25 gross margin was 6.8%, compared with 8.1% in the prior-year period. ASBISc expects these levels to represent a nadir.

We think that ASBISc has made great strides investing in value-added-distributor capabilities. The company is focused on expanding its product portfolio to support customers that are upgrading their digitization and remote capabilities. In our view, ASBISc is well positioned to expand its gross margin potential over the long term, despite a near-term reset. The company has expanded sales of servers and server blocks, fast-growing categories that carry lower gross margins than smartphones and other categories in ASBISc's portfolio. Over the long term, we think ASBISc should have opportunities to return to gross margin expansion through IT product and service bundling.

Longer term, we see the company's strategy shifting to focus on the development and commercialization of new internally developed private label brands, complementing its legacy Prestigio and Canyon brands and driving enhanced margins over the long term

In 2021, ASBISc launched a new brand called AENO in the small household appliances segment, contributing to a low-power-consuming "smart home" concept. Among its initial products are eco-friendly smart heaters, robotic vacuum cleaners, and, most recently, its flagship CR1S GastroLab smart body scales, which have expanded into new markets. We see these products as positioned for solid commercial uptake, given the company's strong existing distribution channels and vendor relationships. At the end of 2024, AENO's global footprint included 27 countries



and prominent retailers. In 1H25, AENO expanded into the beauty category, with a line of hair stylers and dryers, and also added a new line of home toasters.

In 2021, the company launched gaming brand Lorgar, featuring a new line of gaming accessories, including mice, keyboards, chairs, microphones, web cameras, headsets, and other peripherals, which are marketed as a comprehensive gaming product suite. In 3Q24, Lorgar completed a brand refresh and doubled the number of product lines in the brand to capitalize on favorable long-term gaming industry growth trends globally. The line now features over 30 new products across nine different categories. ASBISc has cited 2Q25 as Lorgar's best 2Q in its history.

ASBISc continues to expand its legacy brands as well, including Canyon and Prestigio. To date in 2025, both brands have seen new partnerships to enter new markets as well as the launch of new products.

In late 2022, ASBISc launched a robotic solution now called AROS Engineering. In our view, the robotics market is poised for expansion beyond its current portfolio of brands and represents a compelling opportunity for further sales and market expansion over the coming years. AROS is targeting commercial applications, including robotic beverage kiosks and modular custom robotic palletizing products that support warehouse production lines, as well as AI-driven factory applications, as Breezy is using it to inspect pre-owned smartphones.

We view positively ASBISc's decisive action to shift toward optimizing its robotics strategy by focusing on scalable commercial applications with potential to contribute to its profitability and sustainable growth. While its initial focus included more customized R&D solutions, which carried higher ongoing capital and personnel requirements, we think the commercial focus is prudent and note that these primary applications are largely completed in terms of development costs. Thus, we see the rollout of robotics-based products reducing SG&A costs as a percentage of revenues moving forward.

ASBISc has also made approximately 15 corporate venture investments in various high-growth markets, including medical devices, regenerative medicine, and clean energy. Most recently, in July 2024, ASBISc launched a Green Energy Solutions segment and expanded its product portfolio to include products such as photovoltaic modules, photovoltaic inverters, and battery energy storage systems and electric vehicle (EV) chargers. The initial market for these products is Hungary, which has one of the highest levels of installation of solar energy products in Central Europe.

In December 2021, ASBISc invested 1 million euros to take a 20% stake in privately held EMBIO Diagnostics Ltd., which develops and commercializes medical devices for professional (B2B) and individual (B2C) settings. EMBIO recently entered commercialization for its CE mark–issued, innovative, biosensor-based breakthrough device B.EL.D. for rapid diagnostics in the fields of food safety, air quality testing, and environmental research. In 2022, the company invested 800,000 euros for a 16% stake in Cyprus-based Promed Bioscience Ltd., which is developing advanced collagen biomaterials for research and clinical applications. The funds are expected to be used to expand production capacity, and ASBISc has cited a strong commercial backlog emerging for the products.

We also view positively ASBISc's recognition as a socially responsible company, with its inclusion in the WIG-ESG index, which includes Warsaw Stock Exchange—listed (WSE-listed) companies cited as being socially responsible, specifically in regard to environmental, social, economic, and corporate governance issues. Since 2020, ASBISc has been selected among a small group of WSE-listed companies with the highest ratings and cited as a "Climate Aware Company" in the exchange's annual Companies Climate Awareness Survey. It advanced seven positions among the top 13 WSE-listed companies in 2024.

## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

ASBISc shares trade on the WSE under the ticker "ASB." Year-to-date in 2025, the shares have risen by 52%, compared with a 38% increase for the WIG 20.

In August 2025, ASBISc reported financial results for the second quarter of 2025, highlighted by revenue growth of 47% to \$949.3 million. First half revenues increased 24%. For the second quarter, gross margin was 6.7%, compared with 8.0% in the prior-year period due to a less favorable product mix. Net profit was \$12.1 million (\$0.22 per share) million, compared to \$6.1 million (\$0.11) in 2024.

In July 2025, ASBISc's Breezy subsidiary signed a cooperation agreement with Nedbank, one of Africa's largest financial services groups. Under the agreement, Breezy will provide trade-in solutions to the Nedbank-owned Avo Super Shop platform, which currently serves nearly 3 million customers.

In June 2025, ASBISc opened a new flagship Bang & Olufsen store in Milan, Italy, the first in Southern Europe and seventh store overall. It expects additional stores in western Europe as well as in the U.S.

In May 2025, ASBISc signed a letter of intent under which procedures have started for the acquisition of the Samsung Brand Store retail chain in Poland. The transaction is expected to close by the end of 2025.

In May 2025, ASBISc declared a final dividend payment from 2024 profits of \$0.30 per share that was paid in June 2025. The total dividend for 2024 of \$0.50 per share equals the highest dividend in the company's history.

In March 2025, ASBISc announced a strategic distribution agreement with iLera, a leader in the premium protection segment for Apple devices. Under this partnership, ASBISc will distribute a range of innovative iLera accessories across 31 countries.

In December 2024, ASBIS Robotic Solutions opened a 24/7 ROBO CAFÉ in the United Arab Emirates' Dubai Festival City, IKEA's outdoor seasonal restaurant. The solution offers end users barista-quality coffee, with greater efficiency, scalability, and return on investment than manually staffed solutions.

In late 2024, ASBISc's Breezy subsidiary launched a unique, robotic production line in Poland using AI to classify and modernize used smartphones, which will allow for the classification of up to 1 million devices and the modernization of 320,000 smartphones per year.

In October 2024, ASBISc announced that it had doubled the number of product lines of its own gaming brand Lorgar and entered the rapidly developing segment of racing games.



During 3Q24, ASBISc finalized a distribution partnership with China-based manufacturer Blackview through which ASBISc will distribute Blackview products including tablets, keyboards, smart watches, smartphones, and TWS Bluetooth headsets across 60 countries, spanning the CIS, Eastern Europe, and Adriatic region, as well as the Middle East and Africa.

In July 2024, ASBISc launched a Green Energy Solutions segment, which will add green energy products, including photovoltaic modules, photovoltaic inverters, and battery energy storage systems and EV chargers, to its product portfolio. Its initial focus will be in Hungary, which has one of the highest levels of solar energy product installations in Central and Eastern Europe.

## **EARNINGS & GROWTH ANALYSIS**

In 2024, ASBISc's revenues declined by 1.7% to \$3.0 billion. We forecast revenue of \$3.6 billion in 2025 and \$3.96 billion in 2026, representing growth of 20% and 10%, respectively. We are encouraged by the resilient and accelerating revenue growth to date in 2025, as ASBISc successfully shifted to servers and server blocks amid higher demand for AI-optimized servers, data centers, and clouds. This demand also helped ASBISc to navigate challenges in Kazakhstan and Ukraine and to report record revenues for each month since January 2025. While we expect smartphones to continue to drive revenue growth, we view positively ASBISc's ability to adjust its product mix to meet changes in global demand trends.

We see ASBISc benefiting from diversification of its geographic mix, as strong growth in United Arab Emirates, Slovakia, Germany, and Poland have complemented Kazakhstan among its top markets, while the latter continues to navigate the impacts of an illicit smartphone market trade. We also see South Africa emerging as a key market, as ASBISc has entered into distribution agreements with Apple and launched Breezy operations there as well in early 2025.

Over the longer term, we expect the product portfolio to include new, private-label brands, including robotic solutions, and see its rapidly expanding Breezy unit supporting an attractive long-term growth profile.

Over time, we expect gross margins to return to the 2022 high watermark of 8.5% and closer to a peer group average near 9% but see near-term margins being pressured by a less favorable product mix, as increased sales of items such as server-related products carry lower margins compared with smartphones; lower prices from its main supplier; and the operational challenges in Kazakhstan and Ukraine. We see investments in new growth initiatives waning and nearing scalable revenue generation phases but expect gross margin pressures to last longer than previously forecast.

Thus, we project gross margins of 6.9% in 2025 and 7.1% in 2026. We see SG&A expenses as a percentage of sales declining from the 4.8% in 2024 to around 4.4% of revenues in 2025 and 2026. We view positively ASBISc's decisive action to better align its cost structure to cut redundancies and optimize for divisions that underperformed expectations. We expect ASBISc to focus on managing its cost structure in order to protect investor returns

On a lower gross margin outlook more than offsetting accelerating revenue growth, we forecast EPS of \$0.88 in 2025 and \$1.14 in 2026, down from \$1.00 and \$1.37, previously. This would represent a 10% EPS decline in 2025, but 30% growth in 2026.

### FINANCIAL STRENGTH & DIVIDEND

Our financial strength rating for ASBISc is High. As of June 30, 2025, the company had \$93.1 million in cash and equivalents on its balance sheet, compared with \$155 million at the end of 2024, which reflects the seasonality of a weaker 1Q and increased investment in working capital to support accelerating revenue growth, including prepayments for new server contracts and new product launches. In the first half of 2025, cash used by operations was \$58.8 million, narrower than the \$66.1 million used in the same period in 2024. We note that ASBISc achieved positive operational cash flow in 2024 and has stated its goal to achieve the same in 2025.

As of June 30, 2025, ASBISc had positive working capital of \$238.1 million and a current ratio of 1.3, which has been largely stable since 2015. However, we note that it is below the peer average of 1.6. At year-end 2024, the total debt/capitalization ratio was 50.2%, well below its recent peak above 60% at the end of 2020 but above the peer average around 36%.

We view the company's liquidity position as strong and underappreciated by investors, as more than 90% of its debt relates to short-term borrowing to help finance the expansion of inventory and product distribution. With liquidity supported by positive operating cash flow generation and access to borrowed capital, we believe that ASBISc is well capitalized for the foreseeable future.

Prior to 2022, ASBISc's cash conversion metrics were positive compared with its peer group, underscoring the efficiency of its selling infrastructure and strong relationships with suppliers. In 2022, however, ASBISc increased its inventory, which raised the average cash conversion cycle to 55.8 days, compared with 33-34 days over the prior three years. In 2024, this figure was 53.4 days, which is in line with its global peer group. Average days sales outstanding were 45.2 days in 2024, up from 40.2 days for 2023 but well below the peer average of 69 days.

Average days of sales outstanding were 61.5 in 2024, up from 60.3 days in 2023, which is below the peer average of 74 days. We view this metric as important given that tech products can quickly become obsolete as new products reach the market. Last, average days payable outstanding were 53.3 days, up from 49.6 in 2023. While up, this figure remains well below the peer average of 69 days.

In 2024, net cash generated from operations totaled \$26.7 million, down from net cash generated of \$45.4 million in 2023. Net cash used by investing activities was \$18.1 million in 2024, compared with net cash used of \$11.7 million in 2023. Net cash used by financing activities was \$11.5 million in 2024, compared with net cash used of \$17.7 million in 2023.

In addition to investing in growth initiatives, ASBISc has focused on shareholder returns, which we view as a significant positive. Over the past few years, the company has distributed around 50% of net profits as dividends. In 2023, it declared a total dividend of \$0.50 per share (approximately \$27.8 million), which was matched in 2024, despite ongoing operational challenges. The dividend currently yields about 6.6%.

In recent years, the company's weighted average cost of debt has been elevated due to variable borrowing costs in various operating markets. In 2023, this cost exceeded 11%. We view

#### **EQUITY RESEARCH REPORT**



positively ASBISc's engagements with its lenders that have limited financing costs, which has helped reduce the company's weighted average cost of debt to 9.9% in 2024 and 8.3% in 1H25.

#### MANAGEMENT

Siarhei Kostevitch is the founder, president, and CEO of ASBISc. Mr. Kostevitch received a master's degree in radio engineering design at the Radio Engineering University of Minsk in 1987. Between 1987 and 1992, he worked at the Research Centre at the Radio Engineering University. Mr. Kostevitch, through KS Holdings Ltd., holds approximately 37% of the company's shares and voting power.

The company's board has eight directors. The board has three independent directors, two of whom chair the company's audit and compensation committees.

#### **RISKS**

Risks for ASBISc include increased competition from both established companies and new entrants, including nonofficial "gray market" products that can impact ASBISc's pricing power; the potential for economic and political developments that are currently impacting business conditions in major markets such as Kazakhstan and Ukraine and, thus, possibly limiting the ability to expand to new countries; the potential for unfavorable changes to its product selections and quality, inventory, prices, customer services, and credit availability; and changes in foreign exchange rates and fluctuations in the weighted average cost of debt.

ASBISc's reporting currency is the U.S. dollar, which typically accounts for around 90% of its trade payables and half of its operating expenses (the other half being in euros/others). As such, a stronger U.S. dollar in recent years has pressured both revenues and gross profits. We see potential for customer concentration risk in this industry but view ASBISc positively in this regard as well, given its expanding network and diversification strategies.

# **VALUATION**

In our view, ASBISc's current valuation remains compelling and does not fairly reflect its strong underlying fundamentals, attractive shareholder returns, and growth prospects, near-term uncertainties notwithstanding. We think these factors remain underappreciated by investors.

Although the shares are trading at the upper end of their 52-week range near 28 PLN, its recent market capitalization around \$420 million (1.55 billion PLN) implies an enterprise value multiple below 0.2-times our 2025 revenue estimate of \$3.6 billion. That is below an average multiple of 0.4 for a group of global electronics distribution peers.

ASBISc's valuation gap to global technology distributor peers had narrowed somewhat over the past few years but again widened across 2024 and to date in 2025. The stock also trades at a trailing-12-month enterprise value/EBITDA around 6.5-times, below the peer average over 10-times. Last, ASBISc is trading at a forward P/E below 9-times our 2025 EPS estimate of \$0.88, well below the peer group's recent average above 17-times.

We think that recent initiatives (including reselling Apple products, expanding Breezy, increasing server-related products that can drive future bundling and service opportunities, and focusing on marketing innovative, private-label products) are likely to leverage ASBISc's robust infrastructure network across Europe and should enhance the company's reputation among investors over time.

Further, we view the company's overall liquidity position as strong, as most of its debt relates to short-term borrowing to help finance inventory purchases and product distribution. We believe that as its inventory is sold through and reduced, and as ASBISc weathers higher borrowing costs over the near term, its results will benefit from its strong revenue growth and supply-chain efficiency, thus improving cash flow. Last, we see the solid dividend, recently yielding about 6.6% after a 50% year-to-date stock appreciation, as underappreciated.

Although we think that ASBISc warrants a discount to the peer average, given the ongoing difficult geopolitical climate across the company's European footprint, challenges in navigating industry supply dynamics and reliance on establishing a presence for its newer products, we think the shares should trade closer to the peer average given the accelerating revenue growth profile that is emerging. Thus, applying a 13-times multiple to our 2025 EPS estimate of \$0.88 (3.23 PLN, using a 90-day average PLN-to-USD exchange rate of 3.67:1, noting that the U.S. dollar has declined by more than 10% year-to-date), we arrive at what we view as a fair value estimate for ASB of 42 PLN per share, well above the current price around 28 PLN.

Steve Silver, Argus Research Analyst



Growth Analysis (\$MIL)	2021	2022	2023	2024	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q3 2025E	Q4 2025E	2025E	Q1 2026E	Q2 2026E	Q3 2026E	Q4 2026E	2026E
Revenue	3078.0	2690.0	3061.2	3008.5	736.4	949.3	838.1	1076.2	3600.0	818.1	996.8	938.7	1206.4	3960.0
Gross Profit	218.5	227.8	252.3	240.2					249.4					279.4
SG&A	104.8	116.8	139.8	145.9					157.9					172.6
R&D	NA	NA	NA	NA					NA					NA
Operating Income	113.7	111.00	112.5	94.3					91.5					106.6
Interest Expense	-17.0	-22.2	-32.2	-31.2					-34.1					-32.0
Pretax Income	94.3	91.1	65.0	65.0					59.7					77.0
Tax Rate (%)	18	17	18	17					19					18
Net Income	77.1	75.9	53.0	54.4					48.8					63.1
Diluted Shares	55.5	55.3	55.5	55.5					55.5					55.5
EPS	1.39	1.37	0.96	0.98	0.13	0.22	0.17	0.36	0.88	0.18	0.26	0.27	0.43	1.14
Dividend	0.30	0.45	0.50	0.50					0.50					0.50
Growth Rates (%)														
Revenue	30	NM	14	NM					20					10
Operating Income	101	NM	1	NM					NM					17
Net Income	111	NM	NM	1					NM					29
EPS	111	NM	NM	0					NM					30
Valuation Analysis														
Price (PLN): High	28.2	25.96	32.50	30.16					NA					NA
Price (PLN):Low	6.10	8.60	20.78	16.35					NA					NA
PE: High	NA	NA NA	NA NA	NA NA					NA					NA
PE: Low	NA	NA	NA	NA					NA					NA
PS: High	NA	NA	NA	NA					NA					NA
PS: Low	NA	NA	NA	NA					NA					NA
Yield: High	NA	NA	NA	NA					NA					NA
Yield: Low	NA	NA	NA	NA					NA					NA
Tiold. Low	101	101	101	14/					101					101
Financial & Risk Analysis (\$MIL)  Cash	184.6	134.6	143.6	155.0					NA					NA
				237.4					NA					
Working Capital	147.5	194.7	253.5											NA
Current Ratio	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3					NA NA					NA
LTDebt/Equity (%)	2.7	3.8	5.2	8.8					NA					NA
Total Debt/Equity (%)	112	95.2	90.1	95.0					NA					NA
Ratio Analysis														
Gross Profit Margin	7.1%	8.5%	8.2%	8.0%					6.9%					7.1%
Operating Margin	3.7%	4.1%	3.7%	3.1%					2.5%					2.7%
Net Margin	2.5%	2.8%	1.7%	1.8%					1.4%					1.6%
Return on Assets (%)	8.3	9.7	6.8	5.3					NA					NA
Return on Equity (%)	47.4	48.5	20.2	18.7					NA					NA
Op Inc/Int Exp	6.7	5.0	3.5	3.0					2.7					3.3
Div Payout	36%	37%	52%	51%					NA					NA



# **DISCLAIMER**

Argus Research Co. has received a flat fee from the company discussed in this report as part of a "Sponsored Research" agreement between Argus and the company. No part of Argus Research's compensation is directly or indirectly related to the content of this assessment or to other opinions expressed in this report. Argus Research provides a suite of Sponsored Research services including but not limited to initial reports with ongoing coverage and updates; proprietary Argus Research earnings estimates; distribution to Argus Research's clients; a license to enable the company to proactively use and distribute the report; a press release announcing our initial coverage and updates; and access to the Vickers Research database. The price for this suite of services generally ranges from \$22,000 to \$35,000 depending on the level of services selected. Argus Research receives no part of its compensation in the form of stock or other securities issued by the company discussed in this report, and has no long equity position or short sale position in the company's stock. Argus Research is not involved in underwriting securities for the subject company, and will receive no proceeds or other financial benefit from any securities offering by the company. Argus Research; its officers, directors, and affiliates; and the author of this report have no financial interest in, or affiliation with, the subject firm. The report is disseminated primarily in electronic form and is made available at approximately the same time to all eligible recipients.

Argus Research Co. (ARC) is an independent investment research provider whose parent company, Argus Investors' Counsel, Inc. (AIC), is registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Argus Investors' Counsel is a subsidiary of The Argus Research Group, Inc. Neither The Argus Research Group nor any affiliate is a member of the FINRA or the SIPC. Argus Research is not a registered broker dealer and does not have investment banking operations. The Argus trademark, service mark and logo are the intellectual property of The Argus Research Group, Inc. The information contained in this research report is produced and copyrighted by Argus Research Co., and any unauthorized use, duplication, redistribution or disclosure is prohibited by law and can result in prosecution. The content of this report may be derived from Argus research reports, notes, or analyses. The opinions and information contained herein have been obtained or derived from sources believed to be reliable, but Argus makes no representation as to their timeliness, accuracy or completeness or for their fitness for any particular purpose. In addition, this content is not prepared subject to Canadian disclosure requirements. This report is not an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any security. The information and material presented in this report are for general information only and do not specifically address individual investment objectives, financial situations or the particular needs of any specific person who may receive this report. Investing in any security or investment strategies discussed may not be suitable for you and it is recommended that you consult an independent investment advisor. Nothing in this report constitutes individual investment, legal or tax advice. Argus may issue or may have issued other reports that are inconsistent with or may reach different conclusions than those represented in this report, and all opinions are reflective of judgments made on the original date of publication. Argus is under no obligation to ensure that other reports are brought to the attention of any recipient of this report. Argus shall accept no liability for any loss arising from the use of this report, nor shall Argus treat all recipients of this report as customers simply by virtue of their receipt of this material. Investments involve risk and an investor may incur either profits or losses. Past performance should not be taken as an indication or guarantee of future performance. Argus has provided independent research since 1934. Argus officers, employees, agents and/or affiliates may have positions in stocks discussed in this report. No Argus officers, employees, agents and/or affiliates may serve as officers or directors of covered companies, or may own more than one percent of a covered company's stock. Argus Investors' Counsel (AIC), a portfolio management business based in New York, NY, is a customer of Argus Research Co. (ARC), also based in New York. Argus Investors' Counsel pays Argus Research Co. for research used in the management of the AIC core equity strategy and model portfolio and UIT products, and has the same access to Argus Research Co. reports as other customers. However, clients and prospective clients should note that Argus Investors' Counsel and Argus Research Co., as units of The Argus Research Group, have certain employees in common, including those with both research and portfolio management responsibilities, and that Argus Research Co. employees participate in the management and marketing of the AIC core equity strategy and UIT and model portfolio products. Recipients of the Research reports in Singapore should contact the Intermediary of the Research Reports in respect to any matters arising from, or in connection with, the analysis of the report. Where the recipient is not an accredited, expert or institutional investor as defined by the Securities and Futures Act, the Intermediary accepts legal responsibility for the contents of Research Reports in respect of such recipient in accordance with applicable law. When reports are distributed by Intermediaries in Singapore, the Intermediary, and not Argus Research, is solely responsible for ensuring that the recipients of the Research Reports understand the information contained in the Research Reports and that such information is suitable based on the customer's profile and investment objectives. Laws and regulations of other countries may also restrict the distribution of this report. Persons in possession of this document should inform themselves about possible legal restrictions and observe them accordingly. This content is not prepared subject to Canadian disclosure requirements.