

Chemicals/Finland, May 6, 2019 Spot comment

Q1 tailwinds

Exel Composites recorded Q1 sales and EBIT above our estimates as organic growth came in higher than we expected, while DSC also contributed more than we had projected. We make minor adjustments to our estimates. We retain our target price of EUR 5 per share. Our rating remains BUY. Exel is valued at ca. 7x EV/EBITDA '19e.

Q1 topped our estimates due to high wind energy volumes

Exel recorded an 8% organic growth in Q1. DSC (a U.S. company acquired in Apr 2018) contributed another 18%, bringing the total top line increase to 26% y/y. Construction & Infrastructure revenues doubled due to the DSC contribution (the unit has a high wind energy exposure) and strong organic wind energy growth. European sales were stable; the growth was attributable to Rest of the World and APAC geographies. Industrial Applications revenues declined by 18% y/y as the telecommunications market continued challenging.

Cost program helped to lift EBIT from the recent lows

Exel recorded Q1 adj. operating margin at 7.2% (vs. 8.3% a year ago). The margin averaged 2.5% in H2'18 as the DSC acquisition diluted profitability. Exel says it managed cost savings according to its own plans, expecting DSC to reach break-even profitability during 2019. In addition to improving DSC's performance, Exel has implemented cost savings throughout the group e.g. by closing the German plant in April. Exel expects further synergy savings between the company's two Chinese production plants, both located in the city of Nanjing. The group-wide cost savings program targets EUR 3m in annual savings and the measures are expected to be fully effective in 2020.

We make minor revisions, reiterate BUY rating and TP

Our growth and profitability estimates do not change materially. We continue to expect Exel to achieve an organic top line growth of around 7% in the coming years, and therefore gradual improvement in operating margins. Our rating remains BUY, our target price being EUR 5 per share.



■ BUY □ HOLD ■ SELL

KEY FIGU	IRES									
	Sales EURm	EBIT EURm	EBIT %	Ptx profit EURm	EPS EUR	P/E (x)	EV/Sales (x)	P/CF (x)	EV/EBIT (x)	DPS EUR
2017	86	6	7.1%	5	0.35	18.6	1.0	12.9	14.2	0.30
2018	97	2	2.4%	2	0.04	95.2	0.7	-17.0	31.5	0.18
2019E	106	7	6.4%	6	0.40	10.5	0.7	6.4	11.0	0.20
2020E	113	7	6.5%	7	0.44	9.7	0.7	5.9	10.0	0.20
2021E	120	9	7.1%	8	0.52	8.1	0.6	5.3	8.3	0.25
Market car	o, EURm		51 E	BV per share 201	9E, EUR		2.4 CAGR	EPS 2018-2	1, %	132.0
Net debt 2	019E, EURm		24 F	Price/book 2019	Ē		1.8 CAGR	sales 2018-	21, %	7.5
Enterprise	value, EURm		75 [Dividend yield 20)19E, %		4.7 ROE 20)19E, %		17.7
Total asset	s 2019E, EURr	n	79 1	Tax rate 2019E, % 20.0 ROCE 201						12.2
Goodwill 2	2019E, EURm		13 E	Equity ratio 2019	9E, %			0.9		

Telephone

All the important disclosures can be found on the last pages of this report.

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Estimates summary

Exel Composites	2017	Q1/'18	Q2/'18	Q3/'18	Q4/'18	2018	Q1/'19	Q2/'19E	Q3/'19E	Q4/'19E	2019E	2020E	2021E
Industrial Applications	48.2	11.3	11.2	8.8	8.6	39.9	9.3	11.8	9.7	9.0	39.8	41.8	43.9
Construction & Infrastructure	21.3	5.6	8.6	9.8	12.9	36.9	11.3	9.5	10.3	12.7	43.8	48.1	52.9
Other Applications	16.7	4.7	5.4	4.6	5.2	19.9	6.5	5.5	4.7	5.4	22.1	22.7	23.4
Revenue	86.3	21.5	25.2	23.2	26.7	96.6	27.1	26.7	24.7	27.1	105.6	112.6	120.2
change, %	18 %	6 %	9 %	13 %	19 %	12 %	26 %	6 %	7 %	1 %	9 %	7 %	7 %
Adjusted EBIT	6.3	1.8	2.0	0.5	0.8	5.0	2.0	1.7	1.5	1.7	6.8	7.4	8.6
EBIT	6.1	1.6	1.3	0.5	-1.2	2.2	0.4						
-margin, %	7.3 %	8.4 %	7.8 %	2.1 %	2.9 %	5.2 %	7.2 %	6.3 %	6.0 %	6.3 %	6.4 %	6.6 %	7.2 %
-margin (reported), %	7.0 %	7.4 %	5.2 %	2.0 %	-4.3 %	2.3 %	1.5 %						

Source: Evli Research, Exel Composites

	MCAP		EV/EBITDA			EV/EBIT			EBIT-%		
EXEL COMPOSITES PEER GROUP	MEUR	19	20	21	19	20	21	19	20	21	
Gurit Holding	446	9.2x	8.4x	8.2x	12.0x	10.8x	10.6x	9.0 %	9.9 %	9.9 %	
Hexagon Composites	743	15.1x	12.3x	9.4x	23.2x	17.4x	12.3x	8.6 %	9.9 %	11.9 %	
Hexcel	5412	12.5x	11.6x	11.1x	16.8x	15.4x	14.6x	17.9 %	18.4 %	18.8 %	
PolyOne	1943	8.7x	8.0x	7.7x	11.3x	10.2x	9.0x	8.7 %	9.2 %	10.2 %	
SGL Carbon	997	8.7x	7.4x	6.6x	18.2x	13.6x	11.3x	6.3 %	7.8 %	8.7 %	
TPI Composites	793	7.9x	5.4x	4.4x	14.7x	8.2x	5.9x	4.4 %	6.4 %	7.4 %	
Peer Group Average	1722	10.3x	8.9x	7.9x	16.0x	12.6x	10.6x	9.1 %	10.3 %	11.1 %	
Peer Group Median	895	8.9x	8.2x	8.0x	15.7x	12.2x	10.9x	8.6 %	9.5 %	10.0 %	
Exel Composites (Evli est.)	51	6.9x	6.5x	5.7x	11.0x	10.0x	8.3x	6.4 %	6.5 %	7.1 %	

-29 %

-30 %

-18 %

-24 %

-25 %

-32 %

-29 %

-21 %

-23 %

Exel Composites prem./disc. to peer median

Source FactSet, Evli Research

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VALUATION RESULTS	BASE CASE DETAILS	VALUATION ASSUMPTIONS	ASSUMPTIONS FOR WACC	
Current share price	4.25 PV of Free Cash Flow	39 Long-term growth, %	1.5 Risk-free interest rate, %	2.25
DCF share value	5.35 PV of Horizon value	52 WACC, %	8.5 Market risk premium, %	5.8
Share price potential, %	25.8 Unconsolidated equity	0 Spread, %	0.5 Debt risk premium, %	3.3
Maximum value	6.0 Marketable securities	5 Minimum WACC, %	8.0 Equity beta coefficient	1.00
Minimum value	4.8 Debt - dividend	-32 Maximum WACC, %	9.0 Target debt ratio, %	10
Horizon value, %	57.5 Value of stock	64 Nr of shares, Mn	11.9 Effective tax rate, %	21

DCF valuation, EURm	2018	2019E	2020E	2021E	2022E	2023E	2024E	2025E	2026E	2027E	2028E	Horizon
Net sales	97	106	113	120	127	135	142	146	150	153	155	157
Sales growth, %	11.9	9.3	6.6	6.7	6.0	6.0	5.0	3.0	2.5	2.0	1.5	1.5
Operating income (EBIT)	2	7	7	9	9	9	10	10	10	11	11	11
EBIT margin, %	2.4	6.4	6.5	7.1	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
+ Depreciation+amort.	6	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
- Income taxes	-2	-1	-1	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	
- Change in NWC	-9	-2	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	
NWC / Sales, %	17.4	17.4	17.4	17.4	17.4	17.4	17.4	17.4	17.4	17.4	17.4	
+ Change in other liabs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
- Capital Expenditure	-9	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5
Investments / Sales, %	9.7	4.2	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.0
- Other items	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
= Unlevered Free CF (FCF)	-12	3	4	5	5	6	6	7	7	8	8	115
= Discounted FCF (DFCF)		3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	52
		•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•		
= DFCF min WACC		3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	59
= DFCF max WACC		3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	46

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INTERIM FIGURES

EVLI ESTIMATES, EURm	2018Q1	2018Q2	2018Q3	2018Q4	2018	2019Q1	2019Q2E	2019Q3E	2019Q4E	2019E	2020E	2021E
Net sales	22	25	23	27	97	27	27	25	27	106	113	120
EBITDA	3	2	2	1	8	3	3	3	3	11	11	13
EBITDA margin (%)	11.6	8.7	7.8	4.9	8.1	11.1	9.7	10.1	10.0	10.2	10.1	10.4
EBIT	2	1	1	-1	2	2	2	2	2	7	7	9
EBIT margin (%)	7.4	5.1	2.2	-4.1	2.4	7.4	6.0	6.1	6.3	6.4	6.5	7.1
Net financial items	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	-1	-1
Pre-tax profit	1	2	1	-1	2	2	1	1	2	6	7	8
Tax	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	-1	-2
Tax rate (%)	25.0	33.3	80.0	-7.1	72.2	16.7	21.4	23.1	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
Net profit	1	1	0	-1	1	2	1	1	1	5	5	6
EPS	0.08	0.08	0.01	-0.13	0.04	0.13	0.09	0.08	0.10	0.40	0.44	0.52
EPS adjusted (diluted no. of shares)	0.08	0.08	0.01	-0.13	0.04	0.13	0.09	0.08	0.10	0.40	0.44	0.52
Dividend per share	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.25
SALES, EURm												
Exel Composites	22	25	23	27	97	27	27	25	27	106	113	120
Total	22	25	23	27	97	27	27	25	27	106	113	120
SALES GROWTH, Y/Y %												
Exel Composites	5.9	9.5	13.2	18.7	11.9	26.0	5.5	6.9	1.5	9.3	6.6	6.7
Total	5.9	9.5	13.2	18.7	11.9	26.0	5.5	6.9	1.5	9.3	6.6	6.7
EBIT, EURm												
Exel Composites	2	1	1	-1	2	2	2	2	2	7	7	9
Total	2	1	1	-1	2	2	2	2	2	7	7	9
EBIT margin, %										·	·	
Exel Composites	7.4	5.1	2.2	-4.1	2.4	7.4	6.0	6.1	6.3	6.4	6.5	7.1
Total	7.4	5.1	2.2	-4.1	2.4	7.4	6.0	6.1	6.3	6.4	6.5	7.1

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INCOME STATEMENT, EURm	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019E	2020E	2021E
Sales	79	80	73	86	97	106	113	120
Sales growth (%)	14.4	1.1	-8.9	18.1	11.9	9.3	6.6	6.7
Costs	-67	-73	-69	-77	-89	-95	-101	-108
Reported EBITDA	13	7	4	9	8	11	11	13
Extraordinary items in EBITDA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
EBITDA margin (%)	15.8	9.1	5.2	10.8	8.1	10.2	10.1	10.4
Depreciation	-3	-3	-3	-3	-5	-4	-4	-4
EBITA	9	4	1	6	2	7	7	9
Goodwill amortization / writedown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reported EBIT	9	4	1	6	2	7	7	9
EBIT margin (%)	11.9	5.5	0.8	7.1	2.4	6.4	6.5	7.1
Net financials	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1
Pre-tax profit	9	4	1	5	2	6	7	8
Extraordinary items	0	0	-2	0	0	0	0	0
Taxes	-3	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	-2
Minority shares	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net profit	6	2	-1	4	1	5	5	6
BALANCE SHEET, EURm								-
Assets								
Fixed assets	13	15	17	16	21	21	22	22
% of sales	17	19	24	19	22	20	19	18
Goodwill	10	10	10	13	13	13	13	13
% of sales	12	12	13	16	13	12	11	11
Inventory	10		9			17		
•		10		12	15		18	19
% of sales	13	12	12	<i>14</i>	<i>16</i>	16	16	<i>16</i>
Receivables	11	12	10	15	20	22	23	25
% of sales	14	14	14	17	21	21	21	21
Liquid funds	8	8	7	8	5	5	6	6
% of sales	10	10	10	9	5	5	5	5
Total assets Liabilities	52	54	54	64	75	79	82	85
Equity	30	31	27	29	26	28	31	35
% of sales	38	38	36	33	27	27	28	29
Deferred taxes	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
% of sales	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Interest bearing debt	6	8	14	16	30	29	28	27
% of sales	7	11	18	19	31	28	25	22
Non-interest bearing current liabilities	16	14	12	18	18	20	22	23
% of sales	20	17	17	21	19	19	19	19
Other interest free debt	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
% of sales	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
Total liabilities	52	54	54	64	75	79	82	85
CASH FLOW, EURm								
+ EBITDA	13	7	4	9	8	11	11	13
- Net financial items	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	-1	-1
- Taxes	-2	-1	0	-2	-2	-1	-1	-2
- Increase in Net Working Capital	0	-3	1	-1	-9	-2	-1	-1
+/- Other	0	0	-2	0	0	0	0	0
= Cash flow from operations	9	3	3	6	-3	7	8	9
- Capex	-5	-4	-6	-6	-9	-4	-4	-4
- Acquisitions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
+ Divestments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
= Net cash flow	4	-2	-3	0	-12	3	4	5
+/- Change in interest-bearing debt	-7	3	-5 5	3	13	0	-1	-2
+/- New issues/buybacks	1	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0
- Paid dividend	0	-2	-3	-1 -1	-4	-2	-2	-2
+/- Change in loan receivables	0	-2 0	-3 0	-1	0	-2 0	-2 0	-2 0
Change in cash	-2	0	-1	1	-3	0	0	0
Change III Casii	-2	U	- 1	ı	-3	U	U	U

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KEY FIGURES	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019E	2020E	2021E
M-cap	77	60	78	48	51	51	51
Net debt	1	6	9	25	24	23	21
Enterprise value	78	66	87	72	75	73	71
Sales	80	73	86	97	106	113	120
EBITDA	7	4	9	8	11	11	13
EBIT	4	1	6	2	7	7	9
Pre-tax	4	1	5	2	6	7	8
Earnings	3	0	4	1	5	5	6
Book value	31	27	29	26	28	31	35
Valuation multiples							
EV/sales	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6
EV/EBITDA	10.7	17.3	9.3	9.3	6.9	6.5	5.7
EV/EBITA	17.7	109.9	14.2	31.5	11.0	10.0	8.3
EV/EBIT	17.7	109.9	14.2	31.5	11.0	10.0	8.3
EV/operating cash flow	24.1	14.6	14.3	-25.9	9.5	8.5	7.5
EV/cash earnings	13.5	18.5	12.6	12.8	8.5	7.9	6.9
P/E	27.3	164.3	18.6	95.2	10.5	9.7	8.1
P/E excl. goodwill	27.3	164.3	18.6	95.2	10.5	9.7	8.1
P/B	2.5	2.2	2.7	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.4
P/sales	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4
P/CF	23.9	13.2	12.9	-17.0	6.4	5.9	5.3
Target EV/EBIT	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.3	11.2	9.4
Target P/E	28.9	31.4	<i>19.7</i>	14.1	12.4	11.4	9.5
Target P/B	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	1.9	1.7
Per share measures							
Number of shares	11,897	11,897	11,897	11,897	11,897	11,897	11,897
Number of shares (diluted)	11,897	11,897	11,897	11,897	11,897	11,897	11,897
EPS	0.24	0.03	0.35	0.04	0.40	0.44	0.52
EPS excl. goodwill	0.24	0.03	0.35	0.04	0.40	0.44	0.52
Cash EPS	0.48	0.30	0.58	0.47	0.74	0.78	0.86
Operating cash flow per share	0.27	0.38	0.51	-0.24	0.66	0.73	0.80
Capital employed per share	2.62	2.76	3.15	4.25	4.42	4.55	4.68
Book value per share	2.57	2.24	2.42	2.16	2.39	2.63	2.95
Book value excl. goodwill	1.77	1.43	1.29	1.09	1.31	1.55	1.88
Dividend per share	0.22	0.10	0.30	0.18	0.20	0.20	0.25
Dividend payout ratio, %	92.5	327.2	85.0	428.3	49.6	45.4	47.6
Dividend yield, %	3.4	2.0	4.6	4.5	4.7	4.7	5.9
Efficiency measures							
ROE	9.4	1.3	15.2	1.8	17.7	17.6	18.8
ROCE	12.1	1.8	14.6	4.8	12.2	12.7	14.3
Financial ratios							
Capex/sales, %	5.6	7.8	6.9	9.7	4.2	3.8	3.6
Capex/depreciation excl. goodwill,%	156.6	177.6	66.8	183.2	109.8	107.6	108.2
Net debt/EBITDA, book-weighted	0.1	1.6	0.9	3.2	2.2	2.0	1.6
			0.0	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5
Debt/equity, market-weighted	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Debt/equity, market-weighted Equity ratio, book-weighted	0.1 56.7	0.2 49.5	44.7	34.5	36.1	38.2	41.1
-							
Equity ratio, book-weighted	56.7	49.5	44.7	34.5	36.1	38.2	41.1
Equity ratio, book-weighted Gearing	56.7 0.02	49.5 0.23	44.7 0.30	34.5 0.96	36.1 0.85	38.2 0.73	41.1 0.59

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COMPANY DESCRIPTION: Exel Composites designs, manufactures and markets composite profiles and tubes for industrial applications.

INVESTMENT CASE:

OWNERSHIP STRUCTURE	SHARES	EURm	0/0
Nordea Bank ABP (Nom. reg.)	2,082,507	8.851	17.5%
Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB (Nom. reg.)	1,389,274	5.904	11.7%
Sijoitusrahasto Taaleritehdas Mikro Markka	650,000	2.762	5.5%
OP-Finland Small Firms Fund	498,259	2.118	4.2%
OP-Finland Value Fund	417,449	1.774	3.5%
Phoebus Fund	290,000	1.233	2.4%
Danske Invest Finnish Institutional Equity Fund	265,000	1.126	2.2%
Ilmarinen Mutual Pension Insurance Company	242,733	1.032	2.0%
Matti Suutarinen	231,821	0.985	1.9%
Nelimarkka Heikki Antero	230,495	0.980	1.9%
Ten largest	6,297,538	26.765	53%
Residual	5,599,305	23.797	47%
Total	11,896,843	50.562	100%

July 23, 2019 October 30, 2019 Q2 report Q3 report

OTHER EVENTS

COMPANY MISCELLANEOUS

CEO: Riku Kytömäki CFO: Mikko Kettunen IR: Noora Koikkalainen Mäkituvantie 5 01510 Vantaa Tel: +358 20 7541 200

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DEFINITIONS

N.E.	i FDC
P/E	EPS
Price per share	Profit before extraordinary items and taxes
Earnings per share	– income taxes + minority interest
	Number of shares
P/Sales	DDC
•	DPS Dividend for the financial period pershare
Market cap	Dividend for the illiancial period per share
Sales	
P/BV	CEPS
Price per share	Gross cash flow from operations
Shareholders' equity + taxed provisionsper share	Number of shares
P/CF	EV/Share
Price per share	Enterprise value
Operating cash flow per share	Number of shares
EV (Enterprise value)	Sales/Share
Market cap + net debt + minority interest at market value	Sales
 – share of associated companies at market value 	Number of shares
N. A. J. L.	FDITDA/Classes
Net debt Interest bearing debt – financial assets	EBITDA/Share
interest bearing debt — financial assets	Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation
	Number of shares
EV/Sales	EBIT/Share
Enterprise value	Operating profit
Sales	Number of shares
	
EV/EBITDA	EAFI/Share
Enterprise value	Pretax profit
Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation	Number of shares
D//FDIT	O'tall'Sh
EV/EBIT Enterprise value	Capital employed/Share Total assets – non interest bearing debt
<u>-</u>	Number of shares
Operating profit	Number of Strates
Div yield, %	Total assets
Dividend per share	Balance sheet total
Price per share	
Payout ratio, %	Interest coverage (x)
. Total dividends	Operating profit
$\overline{\text{Earnings before extraordinary items and taxes} - \text{income taxes} + \text{minority interest}}$	Financial items
N. J. J.C.	A
Net cash/Share	Asset turnover (x)
Financial assets – interest bearing debt	Turnover
Number of shares	Balance sheet total (average)
ROA, %	Debt/Equity, %
Operating profit + financial income + extraordinary items	Interest bearing debt
Balance sheet total — interest free short termdebt	Shareholders' equity + minority interest + taxed provisions
 long term advances received and accounts payable (average) 	S. dictionals equity i minority interest + taxed provisions
— Tong term auvances receiveu anu accounts payaore (average)	
ROCE, %	Equity ratio, %
Profit before extraordinary items + interest expenses + other financial costs	Shareholders' equity + minority interest + taxed provisions
Balance sheet total — noninterest bearing debt(average)	Total assets – interest free loans
ROE, %	CAGR, %
Profit before extraordinary items and taxes – income taxes	Cumulative annualgrowth rate = Averagegrowth peryear
Shareholders' equity + minority interest + taxed provisions (average)	

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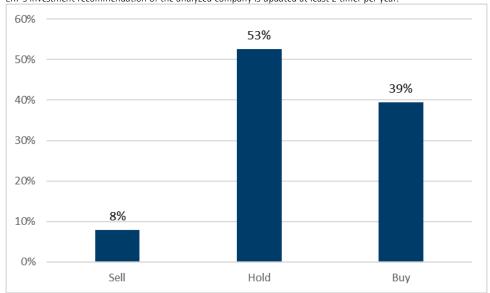
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Target price compared to share price Recommendation

< -10 % SELL -10 - (+10) % HOLD > 10 % BUY

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Name(s) of the analyst(s): Ilvonen

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Contact information SALES, TRADING AND RESEARCH

Equity Sales		Trading		ETFs and Derivatives	
Ari Laine Lauri Ahokanto Niclas Henelius	+358 9 4766 9115 +358 9 4766 9117 +358 9 4766 9116	Lauri Vehkaluoto (Head) Pasi Väisänen Antti Kässi	+358 9 4766 9130 +358 9 4766 9120 +358 9 4766 9120	Tobias Björk (Head) Joachim Dannberg Kimmo Lilja Sami Järvinen	+358 9 4766 9130 +358 9 4766 9123 +358 9 4766 9130 +358 9 4766 9110
Structured Investments		Equity Research			
Heikki Savijoki Aki Lakkisto	+358 9 4766 9726 +358 9 4766 9123	Jonas Forslund Joonas Ilvonen Jerker Salokivi Anna-Liisa Rissanen	+358 9 4766 9314 +358 44 430 9071 +358 9 4766 9149 +358 40 157 9919		
Evli Investment Solutions					
Johannes Asuja Markku Reinikainen	+358 9 4766 9205 +358 9 4766 9669				



EVLI BANK PLC
Aleksanterinkatu 19 A
P.O. Box 1081
FIN-00101 Helsinki, FINLAND
Phone +358 9 476 690
Fax +358 9 634 382
Internet www.evli.com
E-mail firstname.lastname@evli.com

EVLI BANK PLC, STOCKHOLMSFILIAL Regeringsgatan 67 P.O. Box 16354 SE-103 26 Stockholm Sverige stockholm@evli.com Tel +46 (0)8 407 8000 Fax +46 (0)8 407 8001