REDEYE Equity Research Transtema 12 August 2021

# Transtema Q2'2021 Review: Expect M&A Going Forward

Redeye remains positive to Transtema following a solid Q2 report, conforming the successful transformation to a profitable company. The new financial targets suggest we shall expect M&A going forward, which, if successful, would add a growth dimension to the case. We raise our forecasts and Base case.

- 2021E and 2022E EBITA raised by 22% and 25%
- New Base case SEK 35 (30)
- Trading at 9x EBITA 2021E

Yet another quarter with excellent EBITA margins confirms our assumption of Transtema's successful transformation. In conjunction with the report, Transtema released new financial targets, focusing on M&A, which, if successful, could open a new dimension to the case. As the profitability is healthy, we believe it makes sense to start focusing on growth. We raise our Base case to SEK 35 (30).

## 02 2021

	Q2E 2021	Q2A 2021	Diff	Q2A 2020
Revenues	419.3	448.1	6.9%	343.7
Y/Y Growth (%)	22.0%	30.4%		(4.7%)
Fross Profit	278.9	287.8	3.2%	195.1
Gross Profit Margin (%)	66.5%	64.2%		56.8%
Other external costs	(50.8)	(52.3)	2.9%	(43.8)
Y/Y Growth (%)	16.0%	19.3%		8.8%
Personnel expenses	(185.2)	(183.6)	(0.9%)	(134.1)
Y/Y Growth (%)	38.1%	36.9%		(11.6%)
EBITA	25.3	36.5	44.2%	(0.1)
EBIT Margin (%)	6.0%	8.2%		(0.0%)
EPS	0.41	0.50	22.6%	(0.14)

Source: Transtema & Redeye Research

Sales grew by 30% y/y (organic growth was 38%), about 7% above our forecast. The expected boost from the several major contracts Transtema signed last year took place as we assumed. However, the inflow of small- and mid-sized deals was likely somewhat higher than our expectations, resulting in sales beating our forecast.

Like in Q1 2021, Transtema had an EBITA margin above 8% during the quarter, beating its target of >5%. The 8.2% was significantly above our forecast of 6%, and combined with the slightly higher sales than expected, EBITA beat our forecast by 44%. While H2 2020 and Q1 2021 showed that Transtema's new strategy was paying off, yet another quarter with EBITA margins at the 8% level make us even more confident in the "new" Transtema.

Several positive statements by management accompany the solid numbers. First, although the 5G framework agreement did not generate any substantial revenue in Q2, management expects gradually increasing volumes during H2 2021. As a framework agreement does not guarantee any volumes, we believe the statement indicates Transtema will receive meaningful volumes. For the reasons mentioned above, our previous forecasts did not

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include any substantial volumes from the agreement. Second, management sees solid demand in general and stable inflow of inquiries.

Management states that Transtema's planned move to the main market is proceeding according to plan.

## New Financial Targets - Focus on M&A

In conjunction with the report, Transtema released new financial targets. Transtema raises its annual sales growth target from >3% to >10%. However, unlike the old one, the new target also includes M&A. The new targets also include a dividend policy, stating that Transtema will reinvest its cash flows – the policy will be reviewed before every annual meeting. The >5% EBITA margin and the >2x net debt/EBITDA targets remain unchanged.

Given that management has identified interesting M&A opportunities, which we believe it has, we argue that investing cash flow into M&A is a good move. We like what we interpret as an opportunistic approach to M&A/dividends rather than the common x% of net profit method. While Transtema has a mixed M&A track record, Transtema is another business today, and our impression is that management has learned a lot from previous downfalls.

As described in our Initiating report on pages 12-13, we see mainly two types of acquisitions going forward: complementing businesses in the Swedish market and "Transtema-like" businesses in a neighboring country. Considering its close to zero current net debt/EBITDA, Transtema has almost SEK 400m available for purchases before hitting the 2x mark.

## **Financial Forecasts**

	FYE 2021	Old	Change	FYE 2022	Old	Change
Revenues	1 688.4	1 638.0	3.1%	1 761.8	1 699.0	3.7%
Y/Y Growth (%)	20.2%	16.6%		4.3%	3.7%	
Gross Profit	1 116.1	1 097.0	1.7%	1 159.2	1 131.0	2.5%
Gross Profit Margin (%)	66.1%	67.0%		65.8%	66.6%	
Other external costs	(206.5)	(205.0)	0.7%	(210.7)	(209.0)	0.8%
Y/Y Growth (%)	17.6%	16.7%		2.0%	2.0%	
Personnel expenses	(711.3)	(717.0)	(0.8%)	(748.4)	(748.0)	0.1%
Y/Y Growth (%)	29.1%	30.1%		5.2%	4.3%	
EBITA	131.3	108.0	21.6%	130.5	104.0	25.5%
EBITA Margin (%)	7.8%	6.6%		7.4%	6.1%	
EPS	2.20	1.72	28.1%	2.21	1.67	32.6%

Source: Transtema & Redeye Research

We increase our sales forecasts by 3-4% for 2021E and 2022E for two reasons. First, the underlying demand for small- and mid-sized orders seems to have been stronger than we expected, and based on management's statements, we believe the trend is likely to continue. Second, we add some volumes from the 5G framework agreement with Ericsson.

We raise our EBITA forecasts by 22% and 25% for 2021E and 2022E, respectively. That might seem high considering the modest increases in sales forecasts. However, an EBITA margin raise by just over one percentage point has a significant impact at these rather low absolute levels. Considering two consecutive quarters with >8%

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EBITA margins and solid momentum in the business, we believe a 7-8% level rather than a 6-7% level is reasonable going forward.

2020	2021Q1	2021Q2	2021Q3	2021Q4	2021	2022	2023	2024
1 405	388	448	380	472	1 688	1 762	1 815	1 869
(6.2%)	13.2%	30.4%	25.0%	14.0%	20.2%	4.3%	3.0%	3.0%
(602)	(112)	(160)	(135)	(165)	(572)	(603)	(624)	(643)
803	276	288	245	307	1 116	1 159	1 190	1 226
57.1%	71.2%	64.2%	64.4%	65.1%	66.1%	65.8%	65.6%	65.6%
(176)	(52)	(52)	(41)	(61)	(207)	(211)	(215)	(219)
(551)	(176)	(184)	(158)	(194)	(711)	(748)	(769)	(792)
9	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2
118	48	53	46	53	201	202	208	217
8.4%	12.4%	11.7%	12.2%	11.3%	11.9%	11.5%	11.5%	11.6%
(75)	(16)	(16)	(19)	(19)	(69)	(72)	(72)	(72)
42	32	37	28	35	131	131	136	144
3.0%	8.3%	8.2%	7.3%	7.4%	7.8%	7.4%	7.5%	7.7%
(26)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(13)	(14)	(14)	(14)
16	29	33	24	31	118	117	123	131
1.2%	7.5%	7.4%	6.4%	6.7%	7.0%	6.6%	6.8%	7.0%
(10)	(3)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(10)	(8)	(8)	(8)
8	26	31	22	29	108	109	115	123
15	0	(11)	(5)	(6)	(24)	(24)	(25)	(27)
(200.5%)	(1.9%)	35.6%	22.0%	22.0%	22.0%	22.0%	22.0%	22.0%
0	0	(0)	-	-	(0)	-	-	-
4	26	19	17	23	85	85	90	96
	1 405 (6.2%) (602) 803 57.1% (176) (551) 9 118 8.4% (75) 42 3.0% (26) 16 1.2% (10) 8 15 (200.5%)	1 405       388         (6.2%)       13.2%         (602)       (112)         803       276         57.1%       71.2%         (176)       (52)         (551)       (176)         9       1         118       48         8.4%       12.4%         (75)       (16)         42       32         3.0%       8.3%         (26)       (3)         16       29         1.2%       7.5%         (10)       (3)         8       26         15       0         (200.5%)       (1.9%)         0       0	1 405       388       448         (6.2%)       13.2%       30.4%         (602)       (112)       (160)         803       276       288         57.1%       71.2%       64.2%         (176)       (52)       (52)         (551)       (176)       (184)         9       1       1         118       48       53         8.4%       12.4%       11.7%         (75)       (16)       (16)         42       32       37         3.0%       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(176)         (184)         (158)         (194)         (711)         (748)         (769)           9         1         1         1         2         2         2           118         48         53         46         53         201         202         208           8.4%         12.4%         11.7%         12.2%         11.3%         11.9%         11.5%         11.5%           (75)         (16)         (16)         (19)

Source: Transtema & Redeye Research

While we believe Transtema will start acquiring business soon considering the revised financial targets, we do not include future M&A in our forecasts at this point. We leave our long-term sales growth forecasts of 3% per annum intact. In line with the increases for 2021E and 2022E, we raise our long-term EBITA margin assumptions by about one percentage point.

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Company N	125	125	125

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