Deutsche Bank Research



Rating Hold

North America United States

Industrials

Paper & Forest Products

Company Glatfelter

Bloomberg

GLT UN

Reuters GLT.N Exchange Ticker NYS GLT

Date 31 July 2018

Company Update

Price at 27 Jul 2018 (USD)	20.15
Price target	24.00
52-week range	23.70 - 16.33

O2'18 First Read

O2 miss largely due to higher raws; FY consensus estimates likely move down

GLT reported Q2 EBIT of -\$5.0M, which compared to DBe of \$0.4M and consensus of \$1.1M (3 estimates). While GLT was able to recognize higher pricing, the company pointed to "significantly higher" input costs relative to guidance and our model. Operational issues within Specialty Papers were also a headwind. In addition, Q3 guidance commentary appears to be pointing to EBIT well below consensus of \$39M due to inflationary costs and a revised outlook for Airlaid volumes. There was no new news on the strategic alternatives GLT is considering for its Specialty Paper assets, which posted volume declines below expectations. Given the miss and weaker-than-expected guide, we expect pressure on shares of GLT today.

Call at 11AM ET. Dial in: (888) 335-5539; conference ID 6158757

Three key points

- * Miss in Composite Fibers and Specialty Papers. Composite Fibers reported Q2 EBIT of \$13.2M vs. DBe of \$16.4M with the miss driven by lower price realization and higher raw materials. Volumes were also below target (down 3.5% y/y vs. DBe +0.4%) due to weakness in wallcover and metalized products. Specialty papers Q2 EBIT of -\$20.9M missed our estimate of -\$15.8M, as inflation and maintenance (slower-than-expected restart) were both higher than we anticipated. Volumes were down 5.9% y/y (DBe -2.8% y/y) and fell short of GLT's guidance of -5.0% q/q by dropping 8.1% q/q. Advanced Airlaid Q2 EBIT of \$7.6 compared to DBe of \$7.0M. Volumes were up 5.9% y/y (DBe +6.2% y/y) and in line with GLT's Q2 volume guidance.
- * Revised Airlaid outlook and higher raw materials to be call focus. The company is pointing to a delay in the customer qualification process within Advanced Airlaids, which led GLT to negatively revise its volume outlook for the segment from 10-12% y/y to 6-8% y/y. Sequential Q3 guidance points to a continued price/cost pressure. Other items that will likely be discussed call include: (1) GLT's acquisition of Georgia-Pacific's European nonwovens business, (2) update on the strategic alternatives being sought out for Specialty Papers, (3) additional insight on volume delays from customer qualification process, (4) recourse for passing through inflationary pressures, (5) drivers of weakness in wallcover and metalized products in Composite Fibers, (6) puts and takes of guidance, (7) drivers behind lower 2018 capex guide, and (8) thoughts on some of the pricing initiatives in the marketplace (we note IP announced late yesterday

Valuation & Risks

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- a \$40-60/ton price increase for the end of August on its Specialty, Envelope and Forms grades).
- * Q3 guide appears below consensus. Looking through GLT's Q2 earnings deck, we believe the company is pointing to Q3 EBIT of \sim \$30M to \$35M, which is below consensus Q3 EBIT of \$39M. Aforementioned delays in Airlaid customer qualifications at Fort Smith led the company to revise FY volume growth expectations to +6%-8% y/y vs. its previous +10-12% y/y guide. In addition, GLT is now pointing to a tax rate of 35% in the back half of the year, which is ahead of its previous FY guide of 33.0% and may have a modest impact on EPS. 2018 Capex guidance was lowered from a range of \$67M \$72M to a new range of \$60M \$62M. The revision to capex guide is unclear.



Appendix 1

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Company	Ticker	Recent price*	Disclosure
Glatfoltor	GITN	20.26 (LISD) 30. Jul 2018	2 14

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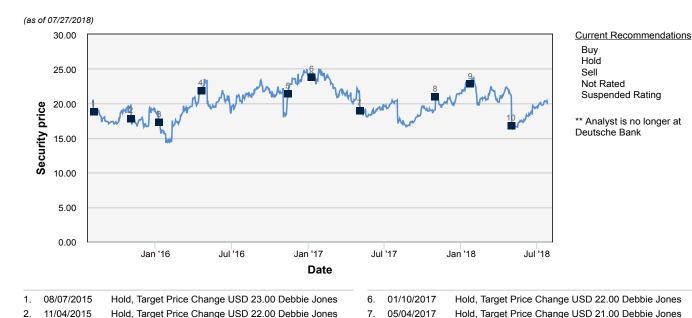
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Historical recommendations and target price. Glatfelter (GLT.N)



11/01/2017

01/24/2018

10. 05/02/2018

8.

9.

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01/11/2016

04/20/2016

11/14/2016

3.

4.

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Hold, Target Price Change USD 20.00 Debbie Jones

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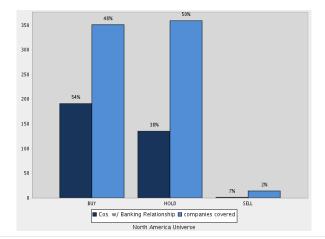
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