28th June 2016

Food & Beverages

Nestlé

Price CHF71.10

Bloomberg Reuters 12-month High / Low (CHF) Market Cap (CHF) Avg. 6m daily volume (000)			NESN VX NESZn.VX 76.8 / 67.5 221,274 5 941	
	1 M	3 M	6 M 3	1/12/15
Absolute perf.	-4.2%	0.6%	-3.1%	-4.6%
Food & Bev.	-5.4%	-2.1%	-6.1%	-6.2%
DJ Stoxx 600	-11.7%	-7.9%	-15.7%	-15.6%
	2015	2016e	2017e	2018e
P/E	21.5x	20.3x	19.0x	17.6x
Div yield (%)	3.2%	3.2%	3.3%	4.7%

Former CEO of Fresenius to replace Mr Paul Bulcke from January 2017

Fair Value CHF80 (+13%)

ANALYSIS

- Mr Ulf Mark Schneider is to join Nestlé in September 2016 and become CEO of the group from 1st January 2017. Fresenius announced the resignation of its CEO on Sunday. Mr Paul Bulcke will become chairman of Nestlé in April 2017 as Mr Brabeck-Letmathe will have reached the mandatory age of retirement.
- This appointment comes a bit as a surprise as the market was expecting the CEO to come from the inside, as it is usually the case. Mme Wang Ling Martello, former CFO and current CEO of AOA, was considered as the most probable successor.
- We think this appointment shows the group's aim to intensify its exposure to Health segments. In yesterday's release, Nestlé also announced its decision to fully integrate Nestlé Health Science and Nestlé Skin Health (which account for a total of 5% of the group's sales) into the Nestlé organisation, reporting directly to the CEO of the group from 1st January 2017.
- This could also signal a push for acquisitions. Fresenius made more than a dozen acquisitions since 2003 under Mr Schneider, including Helios Kliniken (2005), APP pharma (2008) and Rhoen Klinikum (2013).

VALUATION

At yesterday's share price, the stock is trading at 2016e P/E of 20.3x vs 19.9x for Danone and 21.0x for Unilever.

NEXT CATALYSTS

Unilever's H1 2016 results on 21st July / Danone's H1 2016 results on 28th July

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Positive opinion for a stock where we expect a favourable performance in absolute terms over a period of 6 months from the publication of a recommendation. This opinion is based not only on the FV (the potential upside based on valuation), but also takes into account a number of elements that could include a SWOT analysis, momentum, technical aspects or the sector backdrop. Every subsequent published update on the stock will feature an introduction outlining the key reasons behind the opinion.

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Opinion recommending not to trade in a stock short-term, neither as a BUYER or a SELLER, due to a specific set of factors. This view is intended to be temporary. It may reflect different situations, but in particular those where a fair value shows no significant potential or where an upcoming binary event constitutes a high-risk that is difficult to quantify. Every subsequent published update on the stock will feature an introduction outlining the key reasons behind the opinion.

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