

Klaveness Combination Carriers

Q2 26: Solid Q2 supports deleveraging, bond upside with likely SPT miss

KCC delivered a solid Q2 26 result, albeit slightly below consensus, with the exception of EBITDA, which was in line and up 31% q/q. This was driven by firm product tanker and dry bulk markets, added newbuild capacity and a one-off loss-of-hire insurance payment. The misses on EBIT and net income vs. cons. were largely attributable to higher depreciation and finance costs related to newbuildings. Net debt/EBITDA declined to 2.4x from 3.1x in Q1, as stronger LTM earnings more than offset the newbuilding-driven debt increase in the previous quarter. Management's near-term tone appears constructive, supported by a fully delivered and available fleet, alongside elevated rates. That said, management highlighted moderating product tanker rates and therefore expects fleet-wide TCE earnings to be 6% lower in Q3 26. Nevertheless, the result still points to a backdrop of continued deleveraging and robust credit metrics. We maintain our Overweight recommendation despite the benign spread, as we see potential spread upside from an SPT miss, which would materially improve the risk/reward.

Fleet expansion completed, allowing further deleveraging

KCC took delivery of the final CABU newbuilding, completing its newbuilding programme in a strong shipping market, which has helped keep leverage in check. It has also refinanced its 2027/28 debt facilities with a 6-year facility. With limited capex commitments and extended maturities, there is room for further deleveraging as well as dividends. Separately, KCC's EEOI and updated trajectory is tracking behind the bond's SPTs at all observation dates, making a 1.5% increase in the KCC05 redemption price increasingly likely and offering spread upside.

Key figures

USDm	Q2 25	Q1 26	Q2 26	y/y	q/q
Total sales	34	47	52	53.0%	10.8%
EBITDA (rep.)	18	29	39	112.9%	31.3%
EBITDA (adj.)	18	29	39	112.9%	31.3%
Net income	7	16	21	208.6%	33.1%
FFO (rep.)	18	29	39	112.9%	32.7%
FFO (adj.)	14	26	34	135.0%	31.7%
Equity	354	377	382	7.8%	1.3%
Net debt	205	287	280	36.7%	-2.7%
Net debt (adj.)	205	287	280	36.7%	-2.7%
Ratios	Q2 25	Q1 26	Q2 26	y/y	q/q
EBITDA margin	53%	62%	74%	21pp	11pp
Net debt/EBITDA (x)	2.4	3.1	2.4	0.1	-0.6
Adj. net debt/adj. EBITDA (x)	2.4	3.1	2.4	0.1	-0.6
FFO/net debt	42%	33%	41%	-1pp	8pp
Adj. FFO/adj. net debt	33%	27%	35%	2pp	8pp
Net debt/total capital	34%	40%	38%	5pp	-1pp

Source: Company data, Danske Bank Credit Research

Overweight

Shipping, Transportation

Corporate ticker:

Equity ticker: KCC NO

Market cap (USDm): 6,236

Ratings:

S&P: NR / NR

Moody's: NR / NR

Fitch: NR / NR

ESG rating:

Sustainalytics ESG Risk Rating: NR

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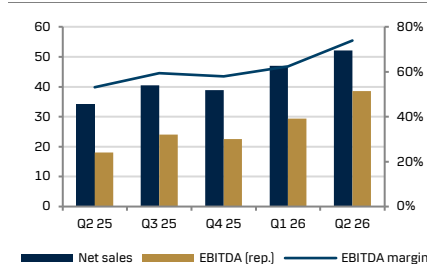
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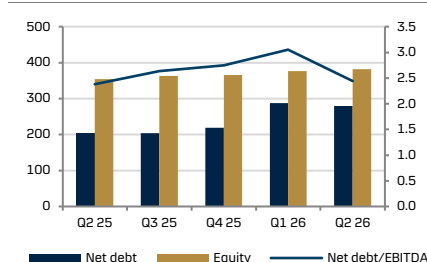
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Profitability (USDm)



Source: Company data, Danske Bank Credit Research

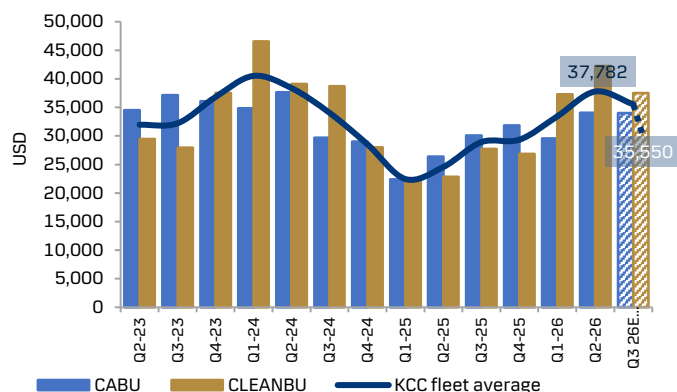
Financial metrics (USDm)



Source: Company data, Danske Bank Credit Research

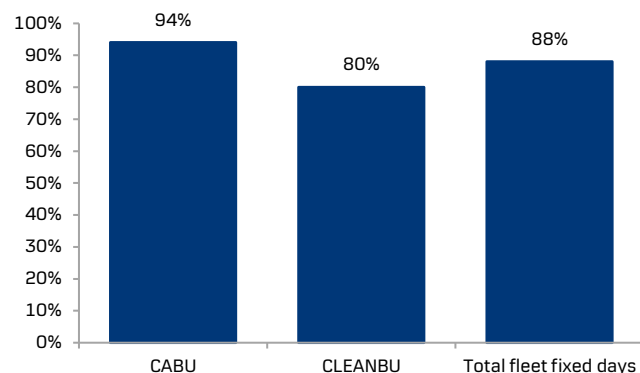
Quarterly development in charts

Chart 1. KCC guides for c.6% lower TCE earnings/day in Q3 26 vs Q2 26, driven by a moderating product market



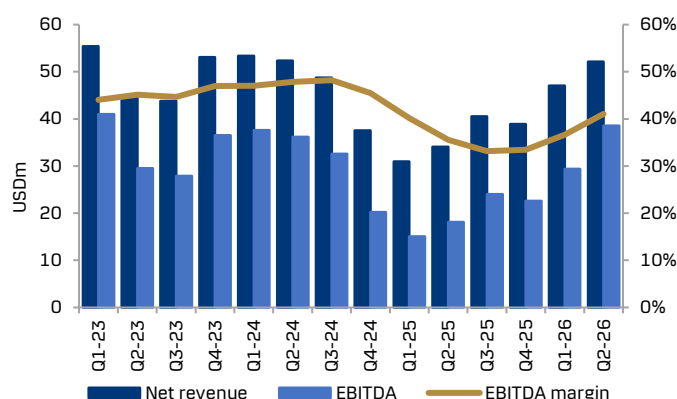
Source: Company data, Danske Bank Credit Research

Chart 2. Covered capacity for Q3 26



Source: Company data, Rystad, Danske Bank Credit Research

Chart 3. Strong product tanker and dry bulk markets, and to some extent added newbuild capacity driving 2026 earnings



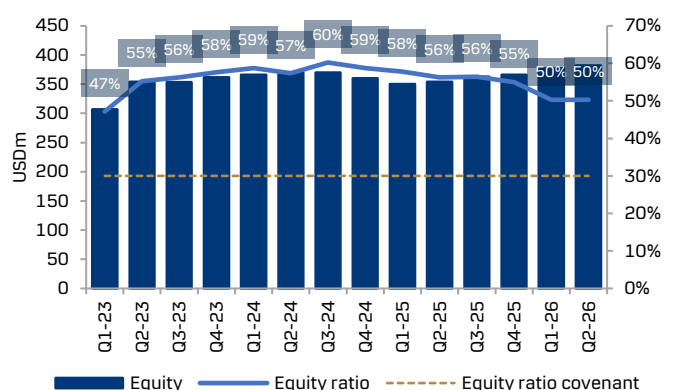
Source: Company data, Danske Bank Credit Research estimates

Chart 4. Leverage already peaked in 2026 as added newbuild debt offset by stronger earnings



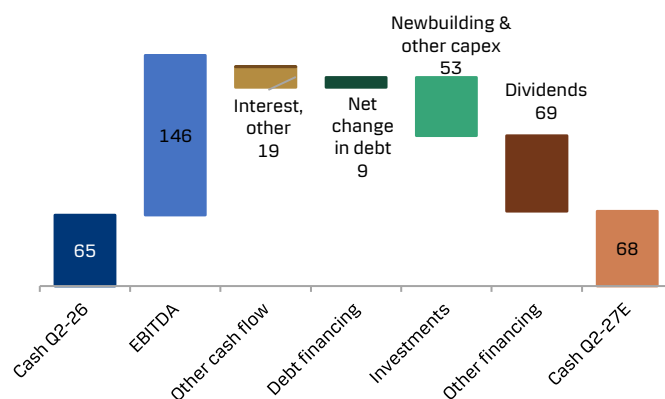
Source: Company data, Danske Bank Credit Research estimates

Chart 5. Equity at a comfortable level with significant headroom to bond covenant. Unlikely to get any better as KCC distributes most excess earnings



Source: Company data, Danske Bank Credit Research estimates

Chart 6. More modest capital needs ahead allows for further deleveraging, and likely higher dividends



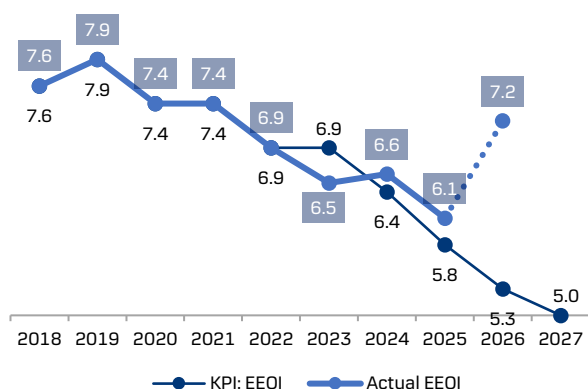
Source: Company data, Danske Bank Credit Research estimates

KCC is behind its SPT and its updated EEOI trajectory suggests SPT unlikely to be met

KCC reported an EEOI (Energy Efficiency Operating Indicator) of 7.2 [grams of CO₂ per tonne of cargo per nautical mile] as of H2 26, which is tracking behind its SPT (Sustainability Performance Target), according to its 2023 sustainability-linked financing framework linked to the outstanding bond (see Chart 7). However, this does not constitute an immediate breach, as the target observation date is 2027 or any call date, as set out in clause 10.2(b).

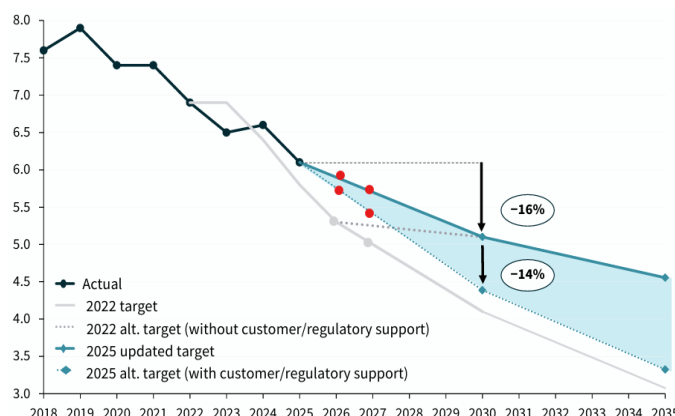
Under KCC's recently updated EEOI trajectory, presented at the CMD in December 2025, neither its base case nor its alternative case meets the bond's SPTs on any future observation date (see Chart 8). If KCC fails to meet the relevant SPT for the preceding year at the required observation dates, the redemption price of the KCC05 bond will increase by 1.5% of the nominal amount. We view this as the base case.

Chart 7. EEOI development and trajectory according to bond's SPT (2026 figure is as of YTD 2026)



Source: Company data, Danske Bank Credit Research

Chart 8. Updated EEOI target and alternative scenario, (red dots) fall short of the SPT (grey dots)



Source: Company data, Danske Bank Credit Research

While management revised down its carbon intensity targets at the recent Capital Markets Day, it remains clearly committed to reducing emissions. According to management, the revised targets mainly reflect: 1) the originally assumed significant adoption of biofuels, which has not materialised and is no longer included in the base case, 2) slower-than-anticipated implementation of energy efficiency technologies and 3) lower-than-expected impact from certain energy efficiency measures.

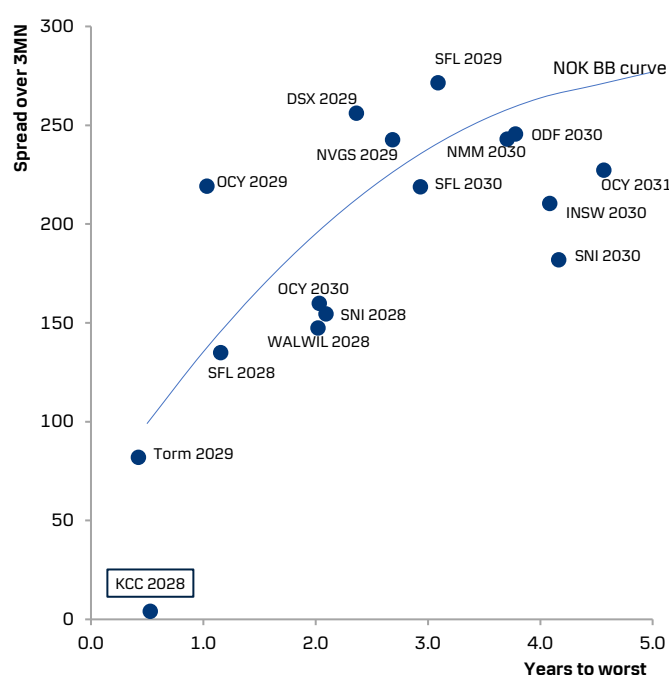
KCC's fleet EEOI rose to 8.0 in Q2 26 (+22% q/q; H1 26: 7.1), its highest in years and as the Strait of Hormuz closure disrupted efficient combination trading. With H1 intensity at 7.1 versus the bonds relevant target of 5.3 for 2026, the SPT breach now looks even more likely.

Recommendation

KCC's senior unsecured NOK-denominated 2028 bond is quoted around 103.3 (mid-price to first call), implying a DM of 1bps, which we view as unappealing on its own. However, in our base case, in which KCC does not meet its SPT, the redemption price would step up by 1.5% of nominal to 102.87 at first call. At the current price, this would equate to a spread of roughly 270bps, making the bond markedly more attractive. We therefore maintain our Overweight recommendation.

This scenario rests on two assumptions: 1) KCC fails to meet the SPT on the relevant observation dates, as discussed above and 2) it calls the bond. On the first point, while we consider it unlikely, particularly for the SPT relevant to the first call date, KCC could still meet its target, for example by selling older vessels. On the second point, we consider a first-call redemption likely, as we believe KCC could achieve better terms through either a bond or bank debt refinancing. However, should KCC not call the bond, the SPT upside still exists. Should neither assumption materialise, every extension scenario offers a better DM than the first call and one broadly in line with our NOK BB curve (see chart below).

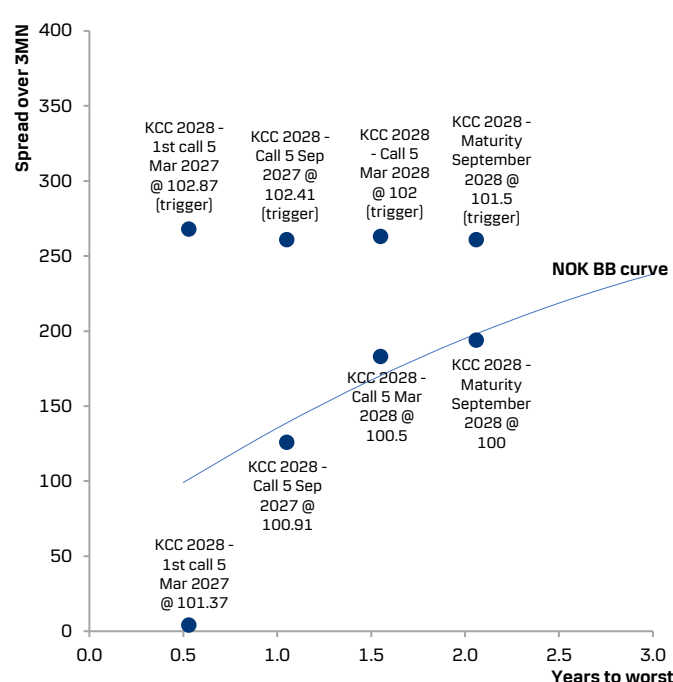
Chart 9. Relative value



*Discount margin for NOK FRN, ASW spread for foreign currency

Source: Bloomberg (as of 25 August 2026), Danske Bank Credit Research

Chart 10. Call structure under different scenarios



*Discount margin for NOK FRN, ASW spread for foreign currency

Source: Bloomberg (as of 25 August 2026), Danske Bank Credit Research

Company summary

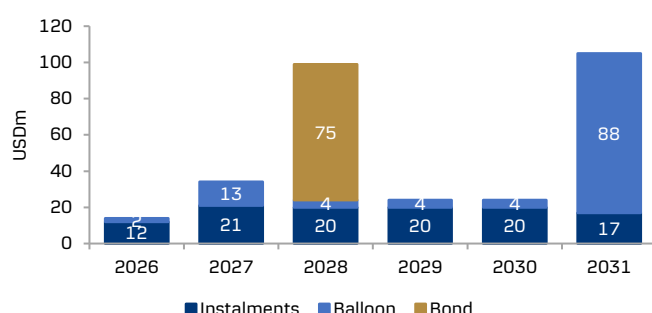
Company description

Klaveness Combination Carriers (KCC) is a pioneer in combination carriers, operating vessels that can switch between dry bulk and wet product cargoes. This flexible model supports high utilisation by maximising laden voyages and reducing ballast days. Combination carriers have historically generated stronger earnings than conventional product tankers and dry bulk vessels, giving KCC a competitive advantage. The company is headquartered in Oslo, Norway, and listed on the Oslo Stock Exchange.

Key credit strengths

- Diversification through dual segment exposure
- Earnings superior and more resilient to those of traditional vessels
- Vessel design and contract portfolio serve as market barriers
- Proven track-record of combination trading
- Conservative funding policy

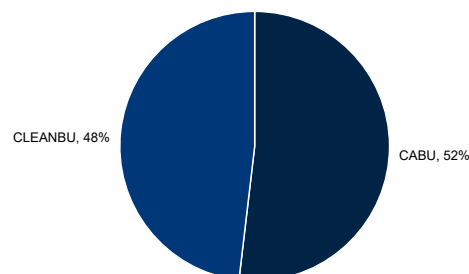
Debt maturity profile



Selected outstanding bonds

ISIN	Issuer	Crncy	Outstanding	Maturity	Coupon
N00013008656	KCC	NOK	800m	2028	3MN+365

EBITDA breakdown, segments



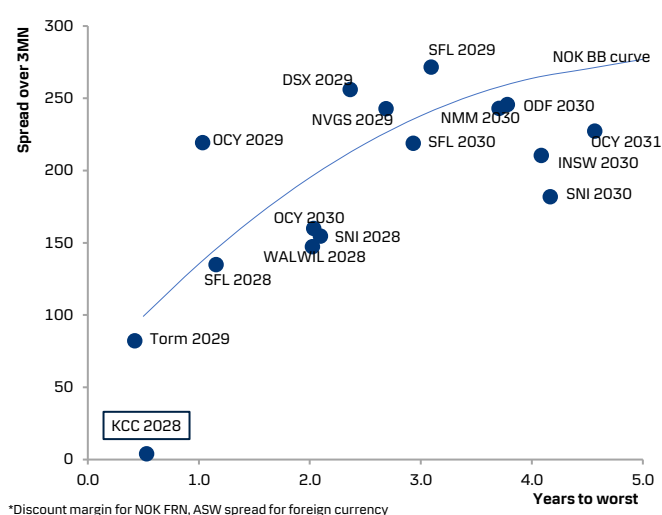
Key credit challenges

- Exposure cyclical shipping markets
- Rather concentrated counterparty risk
- Dependent on clients' policy exemptions (i.e. acceptance of combination trade that carries a higher cargo contamination risk)
- Capital-intensive business currently in an investment phase, with three newbuildings scheduled for delivery in FY26
- Geopolitical, environmental, and operational risk exposure

Main shareholders

Name	Votes [%]	Capital [%]
Rederiaksjeselskapet Torvald Klaveness	54.7%	54.7%
Nordea Funds	5.8%	5.8%
Hundred Roses Corp	4.0%	4.0%
ODIN	3.6%	3.6%
Carnegie Funds	3.0%	3.0%

Relative valuation



Source: Company data, Bloomberg, Danske Bank Credit Research [all charts and tables]

Summary table

Income statement (USDm)	2024	2025	2026E	2027E	2028E
Total sales	192	144	217	205	192
Operating expenses	-65	-65	-70	-78	-77
EBITDA	127	80	147	127	115
EBITDA adjusted	127	80	147	127	115
Depreciation and amortisation	-30	-35	-46	-48	-48
EBIT	96	45	101	79	67
EBIT adjusted	96	45	101	79	67
Net interest	-15	-12	-18	-18	-17
Pre-tax profit	81	33	83	60	51
Tax	0	0	0	0	0
Net income	81	33	83	60	51
Balance sheet (USDm)	2024	2025	2026E	2027E	2028E
Fixed assets	513	565	655	622	591
Goodwill					
Associates					
Other non-current assets	5	6	7	7	7
Working capital assets	36	42	66	67	63
Cash and cash equivalents	56	50	66	64	79
of which restricted cash					
Other current assets	3	3	3	3	3
Total assets	612	665	798	763	743
Total assets (adj.)	612	665	798	763	743
Total interest-bearing debt	224	269	371	337	313
Total interest-bearing debt adjusted	224	269	371	337	313
Net interest-bearing debt	168	219	304	273	234
Net interest-bearing debt adjusted	168	219	304	273	234
Working capital liabilities	22	30	33	33	31
Other current liabilities	0	1	1	1	1
Other non-current liabilities	5	0	0	0	0
Total equity	360	366	393	392	398
Total equity and liabilities	612	665	798	763	743
Total equity and liabilities (adj.)	612	665	798	763	743
Cash flow statement (USDm)	2024	2025	2026E	2027E	2028E
EBITDA	127	80	147	127	115
Tax paid	0	0	0	0	0
Other cash flow from operations	-0	0	-0	0	0
Funds from operations (FFO)	126	80	146	127	115
FFO (adjusted)	107	65	127	106	95
Change in working capital	4	2	-22	-0	2
Operating cashflow (CFO)	136	84	127	130	120
CFO (adjusted)	117	68	108	108	101
Capex	-28	-85	-135	-16	-16
Divestments/acquisitions of businesses					
Free operating cashflow (FOCF)	108	-1	-8	114	104
FOCF (adjusted)	89	-16	-28	92	85
Dividend paid	-79	-18	-55	-61	-45
Share buyback	-1	-7	0	0	0
Free cashflow (FCF)	28	-26	-63	53	59
Other investing activities	0	0	0	0	0
Debt repayment	-37	-70	-139	-34	-24
Funding shortfall	-9	-96	-202	19	35
New debt	39	107	240	0	0
New equity	0	0	0	0	0
Other financing activities	-159	-112	-215	-116	-89
Change in cash	-12	-6	17	-3	15

Source: Company data, Danske Bank Credit Research estimates

Summary table

Adjusted ratios (USDm)	2024	2025	2026E	2027E	2028E
Sales growth	-2%	-25%	50%	-6%	-6%
EBITDA margin	65.9%	55.2%	67.7%	62.1%	60.0%
Adj. EBITDA margin	65.9%	55.2%	67.7%	62.1%	60.0%
EBIT margin	50.0%	31.2%	46.4%	38.5%	35.2%
Adj. EBIT margin	50.0%	31.2%	46.4%	38.5%	35.2%
EBITDA interest coverage (x)	6.3	5.4	7.2	6.1	6.0
Adj. EBITDA interest coverage (x)	6.3	5.4	7.2	6.1	6.0
EBIT interest coverage (x)	4.8	3.1	5.0	3.8	3.6
Adj. EBIT interest coverage (x)	4.8	3.1	5.0	3.8	3.6
FFO interest coverage (x)	6.3	5.4	7.2	6.1	6.0
Adj. FFO interest coverage (x)	5.4	4.4	6.3	5.1	5.0
CFO interest coverage (x)	6.7	5.6	6.3	6.2	6.2
Adj. CFO interest coverage (x)	5.8	4.6	5.3	5.2	5.2
Net debt/EBITDA (reported) (x)	1.3	2.8	2.1	2.1	2.0
Net debt/EBITDA (x)	1.3	2.8	2.1	2.1	2.0
Adj. net debt/adj. EBITDA (x)	1.3	2.8	2.1	2.1	2.0
Debt/EBITDA (x)	1.8	3.4	2.5	2.6	2.7
Adj. debt/adj. EBITDA (x)	1.8	3.4	2.5	2.6	2.7
Debt/EBITDA (reported) (x)	1.8	3.4	2.5	2.6	2.7
FFO/net debt	75.1%	36.5%	48.1%	46.5%	49.3%
Adj. FFO/adj. debt	47.8%	24.0%	34.3%	31.4%	30.5%
Adj. FFO/adj. net debt	63.8%	29.4%	41.8%	38.7%	40.8%
FFO/debt	56.3%	29.7%	39.5%	37.7%	36.8%
Adj. total debt/total capital					
Net debt/total capital	28.8%	34.5%	39.9%	37.5%	32.9%
Adj. net debt/adj. total capital					
Quarterly overview (USDm)	Q2 25	Q3 25	Q4 25	Q1 26	Q2 26
Net sales	34	40	39	47	52
EBITDA	18	24	23	29	39
Adj. EBITDA	18	24	23	29	39
EBIT	9	15	14	19	26
Net income	7	12	10	16	21
Capex	-21	-19	-27	-39	-51
FFO	18	24	23	29	39
Total debt	251	253	269	346	345
Net debt	205	204	219	287	280
Adjusted net debt	205	204	219	287	280
Equity (incl. minorities)	354	363	366	377	382
Ratios					
Net debt/EBITDA (x)	2.4	2.6	2.8	3.1	2.4
Adj. net debt/EBITDA (x)	2.4	2.6	2.8	3.1	2.4
FFO/net debt	42%	38%	36%	33%	41%
Adj. FFO/net debt	33%	30%	29%	27%	35%

Source: Company data, Danske Bank Credit Research estimates

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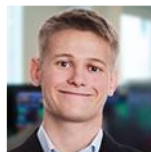
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Recommendation structure

Investment recommendations are based on the expected development in the credit profile as well as relative value compared with the sector and peers.

As at 30 June 2026, Danske Bank Credit Research had investment recommendations on 189 corporate bond issuers. The distribution of recommendations is represented in the distribution of recommendations column below. The proportion of issuers corresponding to each of the recommendation categories above to which Danske Bank provided investment banking services in the previous 12 months ending 30 June 2026 is shown below.

Rating	Anticipated performance	Time horizon	Distribution of recommendations	Investment banking relationships
Overweight	Outperformance relative to peer group	6 months	26%	50%
Marketweight	Performance in line with peer group	6 months	60%	62%
Underweight	Underperformance relative to peer group	6 months	13%	44%

Changes to recommendation in the past 12 months:

Date	Old rec.	New rec.
17 Feb 2026	Marketweight	Overweight

Validity time period

This communication and the communications in the list referred to below are valid until the earlier of (a) dissemination of a superseding communication by the author, or (b) significant changes in circumstances following its dissemination, including events relating to the market or the issuer, which can influence the price of the issuer or financial instrument.

Investment recommendations disseminated in the preceding 12-month period

A list of previous investment recommendations disseminated by the lead analyst(s) of this research report in the preceding 12-month period can be found at <https://danskeci.com/ci/research/disclosures-and-disclaimers>. Select Credit Research recommendation history – Recommendation history.

Other previous investment recommendations disseminated by Danske Bank Credit Research are also available in the database.

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