

DOLMEN WEEKLY TRADER



Weekly Market Commentary August 23rd 2010

Growth concerns over the US remain, with initial jobless claims of 500k an indicator of 0% growth according to some commentators. There were some suggestions that the jobless numbers were impacted by an anomaly relating to welfare payments nevertheless the figure combined with Philly Fed does show that growth is slowing. For the week ahead economic data will be focused on German IFO, US Durable Goods & Personal Consumption, Eurozone PMIs and US Housing data. Any further deterioration in the data will lead to further speculation of QE and bond markets are likely to remain strong in this environment. Commodity markets showed some weakness with supply/demand in oil suggesting further weakness. Gold buoyed by flight to quality trade and copper is holding in due to concerns over supply demand mismatch. In equities, continued downgrades to 2011 earnings estimates due to slower growth prospects in major economies is being offset by aggressive M&A. This trend seems set to continue into the final quarter with the largest 1000 companies worldwide excluding Banks having amassed \$2.8 trillion in cash. August M&A is set to reach \$285bn. We see equities remaining caught in this seesaw while near term we may trade to the lower end of ranges.

Trading Recommendations

Tesco - Buy Previous Close (400p) Target (465p) **Analyst:** Stephen Taylor

We are buyers of Tesco as our preferred UK retail play. Economic data out of the UK including last week's better than expected retail sales figure highlights the UK economy is holding firm and that the consumer is still buying. With a stable unemployment rate at 7.8% (below that in the US and Europe) and signs of food inflation creeping back into the market represents a positive operating environment for the company. Other positives include the c.30% of revenue generated outside of the UK, particularly the 14% generated in Asia. Near term catalysts also include the recent additional purchases of shares by Warren Buffet's Berkshire Hathaway taking its shareholding in Tesco to over 3%.

Vodafone - Buy Previous Close (150p) Target (160p) **Analyst:** Stephen Taylor

We are happy to purchase Vodafone below 150p. Organic revenue growth has continued into the second half of the year driven by strong growth in data. Increased smartphone usage will be a key driver of earnings over the coming years. Emerging markets remain a key focus for Vodafone with India and Turkey showing strong growth. Vodafone also benefits from a strong asset base and any signs of sales including SFR in France or a dividend payment from Verizon Wireless would be a catalyst for the stock. This is also reflected in increased dividend payments as Vodafone confirmed it will increase its dividend by 7% per annum. The current dividend yield is 5.53%.

Intel - Buy Previous Close (\$18.92) Target (\$25.00) **Analyst:** Stephen Taylor

Technology M&A continued last week when Intel announced the purchase of McAfee for c. \$7.6bn. The share price weakness (-3%) following this announcement is a buying opportunity. The deal diversifies the group's business away from PCs and supports its strategic initiative combining its hardware technology to include software and services. Initial weakness focused on the perceived lack of cost synergy and the price paid. The deal uses up c.50% of Intel's cash hoard of c. \$15bn but will enhance Intel's gross margins as McAfee gross margins at c.78% as is typical for a high end software company with renewal income. This is the reason that the price to sales is high as these sales translate into a high level of cash flow. The deal is expected to be EPS accretive by c. 7c. With the stock trading at just over 4x 2011 EBITDA we would be buyers at the current level.

Kerry - Buy Previous Close (€24.20) Target (€27.50) **Analyst:** Oliver Gilvarry

Half year results are due from Kerry Group on August 31st with consensus forecast of €0.76 EPS for the half, versus Dolmen forecast of €0.78, on forecast sales of €2.35bn. We also expect positive guidance for the remainder of the year through tight cost control, advantageous currency moves and the passing on of higher commodity costs through beneficial customer contracts. Results will be a positive catalyst and we recommend buying ahead of results.

Tullow Oil - Buy Previous Close (1296p) Target (1470p) **Analyst:** Brian Gallagher

Tullow Oil will report its H1 results on Wednesday. Of themselves the results should not be a price catalyst but any operational update on recent exploration activities could be such a catalyst. Tullow Oil will continue to be a beneficiary of recent M&A including Dana and Cairn bids given its emerging market exploration focus. The price per barrel being paid in these transactions is supportive of our price target and we see it outperforming the market in the second half of the year as it completes its busy drilling schedule.

CRH - Buy Previous Close (€13.89) Target (€20.00) **Analyst:** Stephen Taylor

CRH is due to report first half results tomorrow. We are recommending that clients hold off on adding to existing positions pre results as we believe they will highlight the current challenges the materials sector is facing. Nevertheless, much of this weakness has been priced in over the last number of weeks as CRH's international peers reported results. Therefore, we see limited downside from here and we expect CRH to trade soft in the first half of the week before seeing support come in as we head into the weekend. We expect the company to post a 20% drop in EBITDA to c.€530m, with sales declining by c. 10% to €7.59bn. At the company's most recent trading statement, CRH indicated that it expects the sales decline for the full year 2010 to be greater than previously anticipated. Key will be in relation to its outlook and if it has seen further deterioration since July. Also in focus will be comments surrounding any M&A activity as CRH recently indicated there was a potentially strong pipeline for deal flow. Any large deals could potentially provide a positive catalyst for the stock. Also important will be the outlook for its materials business in the US and its stimulus benefit.

This Week's Market Events

MONDAY

Corporate

Kingspan (Interim), Bovis Homes (Interim), Amilin (Interim), Petrofac (Interim)

Economics

German PMI, EU PMI, Chicago Fed

TUESDAY

Corporate

CRH (Interim), Antofagasta (Interim), Persimmon (Interim)

Economics

German GDP, EU Industrial new orders, Richmond Fed, Existing Home Sales

WEDNESDAY

Corporate

Glanbia (Interim), FBD Holdings (Interim), Paddy Power (Interim), Heineken (Interim), Tullow Oil (Interim), JDSU (Q4)

Economics

German IFO, Durable Goods, New Home Sales

THURSDAY

Corporate

Credit Agricole (Q2), Kazakhmys (Q2), William Hill (Interim), Diageo (Full year)

Economics

Initial Jobless, Continuing Claims

FRIDAY

Corporate

Independent News & Media (Interim), Tiffany & Co (Q2)

Economics

UK GDP, US GDP, Personal Consumption, Core PCE, Michigan Confidence

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