

# SERI INDUSTRIAL

**BUY**

Sector: Industrials

Price: Eu9.77 - Target: Eu14.30

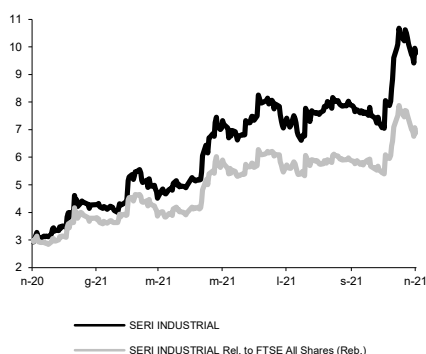
## Charging Up the Next Transformational Chapter

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### Stock Rating

<b>Rating:</b>	Unchanged		
<b>Target Price (Eu):</b>	from 7.50 to 14.30		
	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>
<b>Chg in Adj EPS</b>	-117.3%	-32.6%	-7.7%

### SERI INDUSTRIAL - 12M Performance



### Stock Data

 Reuters code: SERK.MI  
 Bloomberg code: SERI IM

Performance	1M	3M	12M
Absolute	36.3%	29.4%	226.8%
Relative	29.2%	21.3%	184.7%
12M (H/L)	10.68/2.94		
3M Average Volume (th):	228.80		

### Shareholder Data

No. of Ord shares (mn):	48
Total no. of shares (mn):	48
Mkt Cap Ord (Eu mn):	470
Total Mkt Cap (Eu mn):	470
Mkt Float - Ord (Eu mn):	182
Mkt Float (in %):	38.7%
Main Shareholder:	
Civitillo Family	61.3%

### Balance Sheet Data

Book Value (Eu mn):	116
BVPS (Eu):	2.42
P/BV:	4.0
Net Financial Position (Eu mn):	-106
Enterprise Value (Eu mn):	576

- 1H21 results: strong recovery in as-is business, net profit penalised by T1 and T2.** In 1H21, SERI reported a positive performance with revenue and EBITDA coming in above 1H19 levels, benefitting from recovering demand in both divisions.
- Teverola 1 set to produce first revenues in 4Q21.** The T1 plant was completed at YE20, but first revenues are envisaged in 4Q21. In a recent update, the company revealed that it is facing some delays in cell-forming activity due to a Japanese supplier, while it expects to solve the problem by November. Plant capacity of 330 MWh/year on a 12-month basis and an ASP of €400/KWh, targeting special applications in the motive power, naval, military and storage markets, have been confirmed. Based on these indications, we project the plant will register a VoP of €27mn in 2021 before fully ramping up to €90/120mn in revenue in 2022/23.
- Teverola 2: green light by YE, ramp-up in mid-2024, revenue target of €1.3-1.8bn.** The Italian Ministry of Economic Development should issue the concession decree by the end of the year, giving the green light to the T2 project for which SERI was awarded €505mn in EU grants in 2019. Completion is envisaged by YE23 with ramp-up in mid-2024. With a projected capacity of 7-8 GWh and ASP of €180-220/KWh, SERI forecasts the plant will generate €1.3-1.8bn in revenues by 2025 (consistent with the group's €2bn revenue ambition). Targeted applications will be the same as T1 plus the possibility of serving mass markets such as automotive, commercial and public transport applications.
- Teverola 2: project has significant potential value even when discounted for risks.** Based on more conservative assumptions, we value T2 at ~€400mn or €6.9 per share. Our key assumptions envisage the plant beginning production in 2025 with 100% of capacity reached in 2 years, a starting ASP of €200/KWh and then steadily declining, with a target EBIT margin of 12.5% (like scaled battery manufacturing and industrial players). While the project has significant potential value, well above SERI's current market cap, we believe that given its transformational magnitude the risks must not be ignored, driving our start-up-like WACC to 15%. These risks surround execution, demand, pricing, profitability, financing, and technology.
- Change in estimates.** We are adjusting our estimates to reflect a slower-than-previously expected start for T1, while the as-is business is on average unchanged in 2021-23, with higher revenues offsetting lower margins. We are not including T2 in our explicit estimates, as production should start from mid-2024 with a neutral impact on SERI numbers, nor are we including the JV with Unilever, pending developments.
- BUY, TP from €7.50 to €14.30.** We began coverage of SERI one year ago with a positive view, supported by our thesis that the market was only discounting the value of the as-is business (PM and L-AB), while overlooking value offered by the ramp-up of the T1 lithium battery plant. One year on, with the as-is business returning to rather more normal trading and T1 plant ready to churn out products and results, the stock price has more than tripled from €3.4 to €9.8. In our view, this price suggests that not only does the market fully recognise the value of the as-is business and T1 plant, it is starting to discount the potential value from the game-changing T2 project. While the T2 project was already known last year, recent developments, with the imminent clearing of the last bureaucratic hurdle for the investment to start, lead us to include T2 in our target price of €14.30 (this is the driver of our TP increase; while removal of the liquidity discount offsets lower short-term estimates). As the new energy economy will create tremendous growth potential for lithium batteries, we remain positive on SERI. Our valuation doesn't include Pozzilli project pending more visibility.

Key Figures & Ratios	2019A	2020A	2021E	2022E	2023E
Sales (Eu mn)	157	134	192	262	299
EBITDA Adj (Eu mn)	22	5	22	41	51
Net Profit Adj (Eu mn)	5	-8	-1	12	19
EPS New Adj (Eu)	0.107	-0.163	-0.029	0.253	0.401
EPS Old Adj (Eu)	0.107	-0.163	0.170	0.375	0.434
DPS (Eu)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
EV/EBITDA Adj	6.9	nm	26.5	13.8	10.8
EV/EBIT Adj	14.6	nm	nm	26.8	17.9
P/E Adj	91.3	nm	nm	38.6	24.4
Div. Yield	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Net Debt/EBITDA Adj	3.1	19.5	4.9	2.4	1.6

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**SERI INDUSTRIAL – Key Figures**

<b>Profit &amp; Loss (Eu mn)</b>	<b>2018A</b>	<b>2019A</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>
Sales	133	157	134	192	262	299
EBITDA	19	19	2	22	41	51
EBIT	5	7	-11	2	21	31
Financial Income (charges)	-4	-3	-4	-4	-5	-4
Associates & Others						
Pre-tax Profit	1	3	-15	-2	17	26
Taxes	4	-1	11	1	-4	-7
Tax rate	-294.8%	43.4%	69.8%	27.0%	27.0%	27.0%
Minorities & Discontinued Operations	-0	-0	0	0	0	0
Net Profit	5	2	-4	-1	12	19
EBITDA Adj	15	22	5	22	41	51
EBIT Adj	2	10	-6	2	21	31
Net Profit Adj	-2	5	-8	-1	12	19
<b>Per Share Data (Eu)</b>	<b>2018A</b>	<b>2019A</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>
Total Shares Outstanding (mn) - Average	45	47	47	48	48	48
Total Shares Outstanding (mn) - Year End	45	47	47	48	48	48
EPS f.d	0.119	0.033	-0.092	-0.029	0.253	0.401
EPS Adj f.d	-0.049	0.107	-0.163	-0.029	0.253	0.401
BVPS f.d	2.674	2.540	2.410	2.422	2.674	3.075
Dividend per Share ORD	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Dividend per Share SAV						
Dividend Payout Ratio (%)						
<b>Cash Flow (Eu mn)</b>	<b>2018A</b>	<b>2019A</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>
Gross Cash Flow	19	-18	9	19	32	39
Change in NWC	-11	42	-5	-13	-10	-2
Capital Expenditure	-39	-39	-23	-15	-17	-18
Other Cash Items	-5	5	-9	-5	0	0
Free Cash Flow (FCF)	-31	-14	-19	-9	6	19
Acquisitions, Divestments & Other Items	-3	-8	1	-0	0	0
Dividends	0	0	0	0	0	0
Equity Financing/Buy-back	17	-2	0	4	0	0
Change in Net Financial Position	-22	-18	-27	-10	6	19
<b>Balance Sheet (Eu mn)</b>	<b>2018A</b>	<b>2019A</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>
Total Fixed Assets	128	164	184	184	180	178
Net Working Capital	48	39	56	68	78	81
Long term Liabilities	5	14	29	29	29	29
Net Capital Employed	171	189	210	223	229	229
Net Cash (Debt)	-51	-69	-96	-106	-101	-81
Group Equity	120	120	114	116	129	148
Minorities	2	2	0	0	0	0
Net Equity	118	118	114	116	128	147
<b>Enterprise Value (Eu mn)</b>	<b>2018A</b>	<b>2019A</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>
Average Mkt Cap	160	83	141	470	470	470
Adjustments (Associate & Minorities)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net Cash (Debt)	-51	-69	-96	-106	-101	-81
Enterprise Value	211	152	237	576	570	551
<b>Ratios (%)</b>	<b>2018A</b>	<b>2019A</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>
EBITDA Adj Margin	11.4%	14.1%	3.7%	11.3%	15.8%	17.0%
EBIT Adj Margin	1.7%	6.7%	nm	1.1%	8.1%	10.3%
Gearing - Debt/Equity	42.4%	57.4%	84.2%	91.2%	78.3%	55.1%
Interest Cover on EBIT	1.4	2.0	nm	0.5	4.6	7.0
Net Debt/EBITDA Adj	3.3	3.1	19.5	4.9	2.4	1.6
ROACE*	2.9%	3.7%	-5.7%	0.8%	9.4%	13.4%
ROE*	-1.9%	4.3%	-6.7%	-1.2%	10.0%	14.0%
EV/CE	1.2	0.8	1.2	2.7	2.5	2.4
EV/Sales	1.6	1.0	1.8	3.0	2.2	1.8
EV/EBITDA Adj	13.8	6.9	nm	26.5	13.8	10.8
EV/EBIT Adj	nm	14.6	nm	nm	26.8	17.9
Free Cash Flow Yield	-6.5%	-2.9%	-4.0%	-2.0%	1.2%	4.1%
<b>Growth Rates (%)</b>	<b>2018A</b>	<b>2019A</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>
Sales		17.3%	-14.4%	43.2%	36.6%	14.0%
EBITDA Adj		44.4%	-77.7%	341.3%	90.3%	23.0%
EBIT Adj		370.1%	nm	nm	868.6%	44.8%
Net Profit Adj		-71.2%	nm	nm	nm	58.6%
EPS Adj		nm	nm	nm	nm	58.6%
DPS						

\*Excluding extraordinary items

Source: Intermonte SIM estimates

## 1H21 results

**1H21 results: strong recovery in as-is business, bottom line penalised by D&A relating to T1 and T2 projects.** In 1H21 SERI reported a sharp surge in revenue to €84.4mn (+46% YoY) thanks to the recovery in market demand in both the Plastic Materials (62% of revenue) and Lead-Acid batteries (38% of revenue) divisions. Both divisions were also up vs. 1H19 (+6%/+11% respectively), and growth was achieved despite the stoppage of the smelting plant (recovery of exhausted lead batteries), which had a €-1.7mn impact in 1Q21 (the plant is now up and running). A stable overall gross margin (up in EA, down in PM) and operating leverage on fixed costs, enabled adj. EBITDA to reach €8.2mn, significantly up vs. €0.6mn last year, with profitability back at the 1H19 level of almost 10%. Adj. EBIT was negative to the tune of €-1.0mn, as it was burdened by D&A relating to Teverola 1 (no revenue in 1H) and rental costs for Teverola 2. Net of this effect, EBIT would have been €3.4mn (a 4.0% margin). For the same reason, the net loss amounted to €-4.1mn. Net debt was €104.2mn vs. €96.0mn as at YE20, following slightly negative FCF generation and €4mn of new IFRS16 debts.

**3Q21 revenue: as-is business showed a positive trend.** Last 28<sup>th</sup> of October, SERI reported its 3Q21 revenue that showed a positive trend with a +29% increase YTD and a 3Q up +3%. By division: Plastic Materials (63% of the total) recorded an increase of +42% from the beginning of the year and of +11% in Q3 with all subgroups contributing to the growth; Lead-Acid batteries (37% of the total) showed an increase of +12% from the beginning of the year, but a decrease of -8% in the third quarter due to a difficult basis of comparison.

### Revenue and EBITDA breakdown by division

	1H19A	2H19A	2019A	1H20A	2H20A	2020A	1H21A	2H21E	2021E
El. Acc. (lead-acid)	29.4	32.4	61.8	25.7	31.4	57.0	32.5	33.8	66.4
Plastics materials	49.7	45.3	95.1	33.1	45.3	78.3	52.6	47.4	100.0
Corporate, Other & Elim.	(0.1)	(0.2)	(0.3)	(0.7)	(0.6)	(1.3)	(0.7)	(1.0)	(1.7)
<b>Business as-is</b>	<b>79.0</b>	<b>77.6</b>	<b>156.5</b>	<b>58.0</b>	<b>76.0</b>	<b>134.0</b>	<b>84.4</b>	<b>80.2</b>	<b>164.7</b>
Teverola 1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	27.2	27.2
<b>Group revenue</b>	<b>79.0</b>	<b>77.6</b>	<b>156.5</b>	<b>58.0</b>	<b>76.0</b>	<b>134.0</b>	<b>84.4</b>	<b>107.4</b>	<b>191.8</b>
El. Acc. (lead-acid)			-11.2%	-12.7%	-3.3%	-7.8%	+26.8%	+7.8%	+16.4%
Plastics materials			+53.2%	-33.5%	-0.2%	-17.6%	+59.1%	+4.7%	+27.7%
Corporate, Other & Elim.			-118.9%	+475.0%	+176.4%	+282.5%	-3.2%	+61.9%	+27.1%
<b>Business as-is</b>			<b>+17.3%</b>	<b>-26.6%</b>	<b>-2.0%</b>	<b>-14.4%</b>	<b>+45.6%</b>	<b>+5.6%</b>	<b>+22.9%</b>
Lithium batteries			+0.0%	+0.0%	+0.0%	+0.0%	+0.0%	+0.0%	+0.0%
<b>Group revenue</b>			<b>+17.3%</b>	<b>-26.6%</b>	<b>-2.0%</b>	<b>-14.4%</b>	<b>+45.6%</b>	<b>+41.3%</b>	<b>+43.2%</b>
El. Acc. (lead-acid)	4.2	10.9	15.2	0.2	0.6	0.9	2.4	4.9	7.3
Plastics materials	4.1	3.8	7.9	1.1	3.6	4.7	6.1	5.2	11.3
Corporate, Other & Elim.	(0.4)	(0.6)	(1.0)	(0.7)	0.0	(0.6)	(0.3)	(0.3)	(0.6)
<b>Business as-is</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>17.9</b>
Teverola 1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8	3.8
<b>Adj. EBITDA</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>21.7</b>
El. Acc. (lead-acid)	14.4%	33.7%	24.5%	0.8%	2.0%	1.5%	7.5%	14.4%	11.0%
Plastics materials	8.2%	8.4%	8.3%	3.3%	8.0%	6.0%	11.6%	10.9%	11.3%
Corporate, Other & Elim.	352.4%	248.4%	285.4%	92.7%	-4.7%	47.3%	47.2%	30.4%	37.2%
<b>Business as-is</b>	<b>10.0%</b>	<b>18.3%</b>	<b>14.1%</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>9.7%</b>	<b>12.1%</b>	<b>10.9%</b>
Teverola 1	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	14.0%	14.0%
<b>Adj. EBITDA</b>	<b>10.0%</b>	<b>18.3%</b>	<b>14.1%</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>9.7%</b>	<b>12.6%</b>	<b>11.3%</b>

Source: Company data & Intermonte SIM Estimates

**Income statement and net financial position**

	1H19A	2H19A	2019A	1H20A	2H20A	2020A	1H21A	2H21E	2021E
<b>Revenues</b>	<b>79.0</b>	<b>77.6</b>	<b>156.5</b>	<b>58.0</b>	<b>76.0</b>	<b>134.0</b>	<b>84.4</b>	<b>107.4</b>	<b>191.8</b>
YoY growth	+0.0%	+21.4%	+17.3%	-26.6%	-2.0%	-14.4%	+45.6%	+41.3%	+43.2%
- Operating costs	(71.1)	(66.0)	(137.1)	(57.8)	(73.9)	(131.7)	(76.0)	(93.8)	(169.9)
+ Non-recurring	0.0	2.7	2.7	0.5	2.1	2.6	(0.2)	0.0	(0.2)
<b>Adj. EBITDA</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>21.7</b>
YoY growth	+0.0%	-7.1%	+44.4%	-91.8%	-69.8%	-77.7%	+1174.2%	+216.3%	+341.3%
Adj. EBITDA margin %	10.0%	18.3%	14.1%	1.1%	5.6%	3.7%	9.7%	12.6%	11.3%
- D&A (only recurring)	(5.8)	(5.9)	(11.6)	(5.2)	(6.0)	(11.2)	(9.2)	(10.3)	(19.5)
<b>Adj. EBIT</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>(4.5)</b>	<b>(1.7)</b>	<b>(6.2)</b>	<b>(1.0)</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>2.2</b>
YoY growth	+0.0%	+275.6%	+370.1%	-315.3%	-120.8%	-159.9%	-77.8%	-284.8%	-135.2%
Adj. EBIT margin %	2.7%	10.7%	6.7%	-7.8%	-2.3%	-4.7%	-1.2%	3.0%	1.1%
- Non-recurring (incl. D&A)	(0.7)	(3.0)	(3.7)	(1.3)	(3.9)	(5.2)	(0.4)	0.0	(0.4)
-/+ Net fin. exp./inc.	(1.6)	(1.8)	(3.4)	(1.5)	(2.2)	(3.7)	(1.8)	(2.0)	(3.8)
<b>Pre-tax income</b>	<b>(0.2)</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>(7.4)</b>	<b>(7.8)</b>	<b>(15.2)</b>	<b>(3.1)</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>(1.9)</b>
Tax rate %	-491.8%	8.0%	43.4%	-3.9%	139.1%	69.8%	-31.9%	-126.5%	27.0%
- Tax income	(1.1)	(0.3)	(1.4)	(0.3)	10.9	10.6	(1.0)	1.5	0.5
<b>Net income</b>	<b>(1.4)</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>(7.6)</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>(4.6)</b>	<b>(4.1)</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>(1.4)</b>
YoY growth	+0.0%	-39.8%	-65.4%	+457.1%	-5.2%	-347.6%	-45.9%	-10.9%	-69.3%
Net income margin %	-1.7%	4.2%	1.2%	-13.2%	4.0%	-3.4%	-4.9%	2.5%	-0.7%
<b>Adj. net income</b>	<b>(1.4)</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>(7.65)</b>	<b>(0.1)</b>	<b>(7.7)</b>	<b>(3.8)</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>(1.4)</b>
YoY growth	+0.0%	-390.2%	-328.2%	+457.1%	-101.2%	-252.7%	-50.5%	-3186.3%	-81.7%
Net income margin %	-1.7%	8.3%	3.2%	-13.2%	-0.1%	-0.2%	-4.5%	2.2%	4.2%
<b>Net debt/(cash)</b>	<b>40.4</b>	<b>69.0</b>	<b>69.0</b>	<b>72.1</b>	<b>96.0</b>	<b>96.0</b>	<b>104.2</b>	<b>106.2</b>	<b>106.2</b>
Net debt/EBITDA	1.7 x	4.9 x	3.1 x	4.9 x	22.4 x	19.5 x	8.4 x	7.8 x	4.9 x

Source: Company data & Intermonte SIM Estimates

## Teverola 1

**Teverola 1 set to produce first revenues in 4Q21.** The T1 plant was completed at YE20, with first revenues planned from 4Q21. While the company expected to sell 50% of the available capacity (~9 months at 330 MWh/year), it recently gave an update that it is facing some delays in cell-forming activity due to a Japanese supplier. It will only be possible to form cells in stock as of November, and then proceed with the assembly of modules and batteries. Estimated production value at year-end will be lower than expected at the start of the year. Targeting special applications in the motive power, naval, military and storage markets the expected ASP is €400/KWh between 2021-25. Based on that indications, we project the plant to register a VoP of €27mn in 2021 before fully ramping up in 2022/23 to €90/120mn in revenue. We remind that the ASP of €400/KWh is not comparable with numbers reported by the press (BNEF reports that the price for a KWh was \$137 in 2020) for two main reasons: i) BNEF refers to the price of a “battery cell”, while SERI is offering the battery pack (battery pack = battery cells + modules + Battery Management System); ii) BNEF refers to mass market application, while SERI targets niche applications.

**If successful, the current R&D partnership with Fincantieri should increase visibility on capacity absorption.** Last August, SERI signed a contract for €8.9mn with Fincantieri for the design, development, and certification of a prototype of cells and modules for lithium-iron-phosphate electric accumulators for the propulsion of U212 NFS submarines. If this R&D phase is successfully completed, SERI will have the exclusive right to supply Fincantieri cells and modules, not only for submarines but also for other applications. Though hard to quantify at the moment, the contract should increase visibility on capacity absorption for T1.

**NewCo with F&F to produce and market BESS.** Last September, SERI set up a JV called F&F in which it owns 60% with Friem SpA at 40%. Friem has been operating for over 70 years in the global market for power converters for high-power plants. F&F will build integrated systems for electric accumulators / converters (battery energy storage systems) that will be offered on the global market: (i) to service energy production plants from renewable sources; (ii) for the stabilisation of electricity grids; and (iii) to service mini grid (non-domestic) and off-grid networks.

Here follows a recap of the technological aspects of battery packs manufactured at T1:

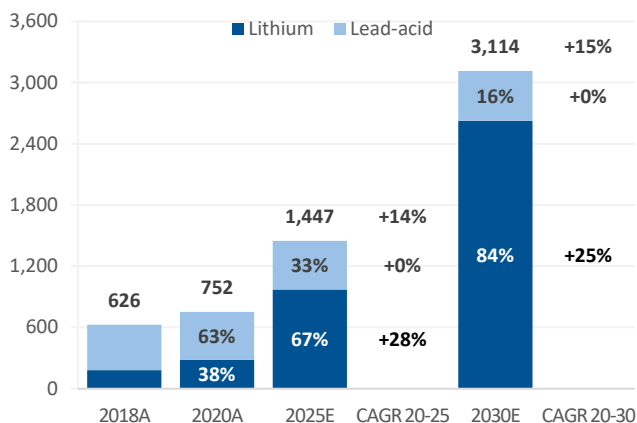
- Cathode: lithium-iron-phosphate
- Anode: graphite
- Cell format: soft pouch
- Slurry: water-based dispersion
- Capacity: 52 Ah (actual) up to 60 Ah (LFP high energy)
- Energy density: 310 Wh / dm<sup>3</sup> up to 360 Wh / dm<sup>3</sup>
- Voltage: 3.2V
- Max discharge current: 2 C
- Max charge current: 1 C
- Module: up to 128 V serial mode, 2080 Ah parallel mode - integrated heating / cooling system
- BMS: distributed on the module

## Global battery outlook

**Batteries: a key technology to realise the energy transition.** Batteries are a core technology to realise the energy transition and broaden energy access around the world as they enable: i) decarbonisation of transport through electrification; ii) the shift from fossil fuel to renewable power generation as they can store electric energy produced intermittently; iii) electricity access for off-grid communities. Batteries can therefore fundamentally reduce GHG emissions in the transport and power sectors, which currently comprise ~40% of global GHG emissions.

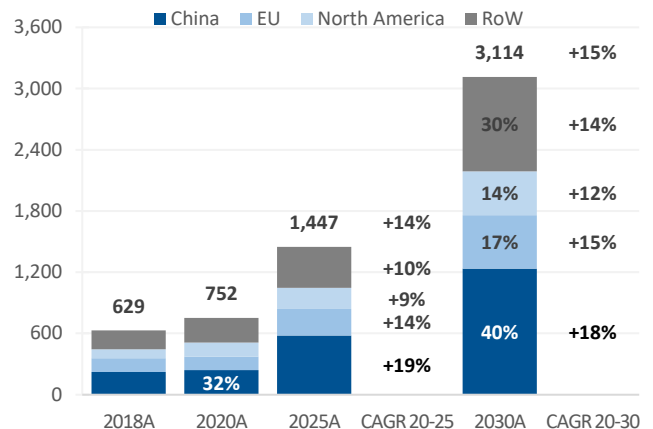
**New energy economy to create tremendous growth potential for lithium batteries.** Over the next decade, the global battery market is estimated to grow significantly from ~0.75 TWh in 2020 to ~3.1 TWh in 2030, a +15% CAGR. The main drivers of demand growth are the electrification of the transportation sector and the deployment of batteries in electricity grids. While lead-acid batteries are expected to remain broadly stable, global battery demand growth will be powered by the surge of lithium batteries. From ~0.3 TWh in 2020 (38% of total), demand is projected to grow at CAGRs of +28%/+25% to 2025/30 to ~1.0/2.6 TWh. The worldwide leader in batteries is China with 32% of overall volume in 2020 (for lithium batteries China represents 50% of the market) expected to grow to 40% in 2030, while Europe is seen reaching 17% (+15% CAGR).

**Global battery demand by technology (GWh)**



Source: World Economic Forum, Global Battery Alliance, McKinsey

**Global battery demand by geography (GWh)**



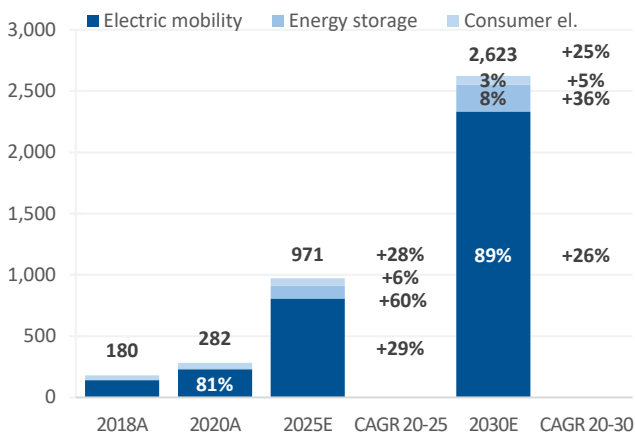
Source: World Economic Forum, Global Battery Alliance, McKinsey

### Lithium batteries

**Growth of lithium batteries driven by their characteristics.** Despite the higher price per unit of energy compared to lead-acid batteries, lithium batteries are, and are expected to remain, the fastest-growing segment of the rechargeable battery market by technology thanks to their internal characteristics. Indeed, lithium batteries have: i) higher energy density, saving physical space; ii) higher depth of discharge (i.e. power); iii) longer lifespan lowering the total cost of ownership (TCO). The expected technological and manufacturing improvements as well as greater availability of raw materials will continue to enhance the TCO for lithium batteries, supporting market demand.

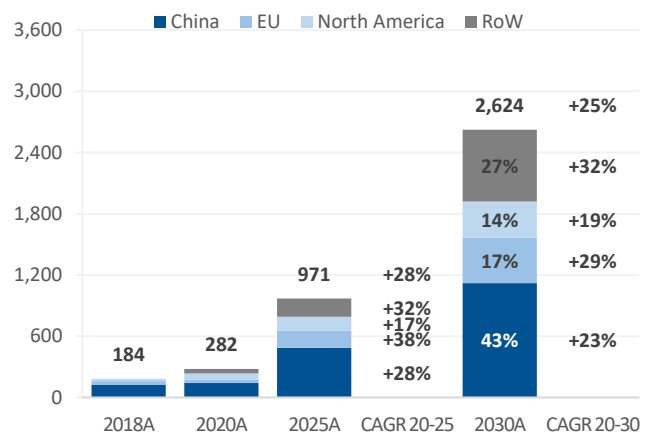
**Electric mobility will still represent the lion's share, but other niches also set to increase significantly.** In 2020, demand for lithium batteries mainly came from electric mobility (i.e. the automotive sector). In light of the regulatory pressure on carmakers to curb fleet emissions, demand for lithium batteries from the sector is expected to increase significantly in the coming years as electric vehicle sales as a proportion of total sales are seen surging from 3% in 2020 to 13% by as early as 2025. Hence, demand of lithium batteries is expected to grow at a +28% 2020-25 CAGR to ~1.0 TWh. While the automotive market will still represent the lion's share, other niches will grow significantly driven by the rise of energy production from renewable sources, regulatory push to reduce emissions, and an improved TCO profile. Demand for lithium batteries from applications such as commercial and domestic storage, motive power (i.e. forklifts), naval aerospace, and military are already seeing positive volume developments today, while all are expected to see increasing demand going forward. The European Battery Alliance reports that there are a total of 25 announced projects for lithium battery factories in Europe, ranging from pilot plants to Gigafactories which if realised would add a total of ~500GWh production capacity in 2030 or ~17% of global capacity.

Global lithium battery demand by application (GWh)



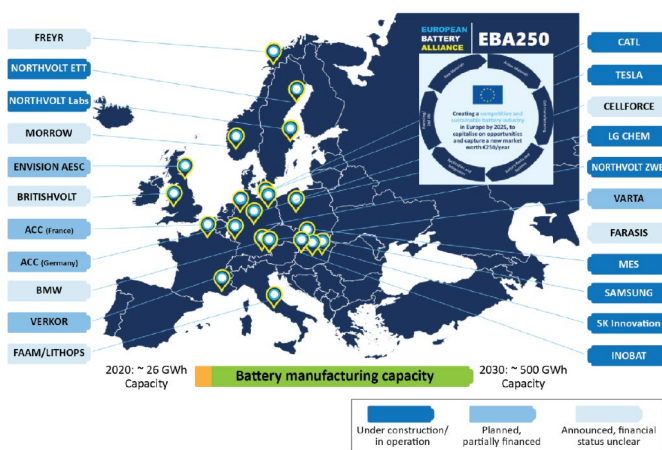
Source: World Economic Forum, Global Battery Alliance, McKinsey

Global lithium battery demand by geography (GWh)



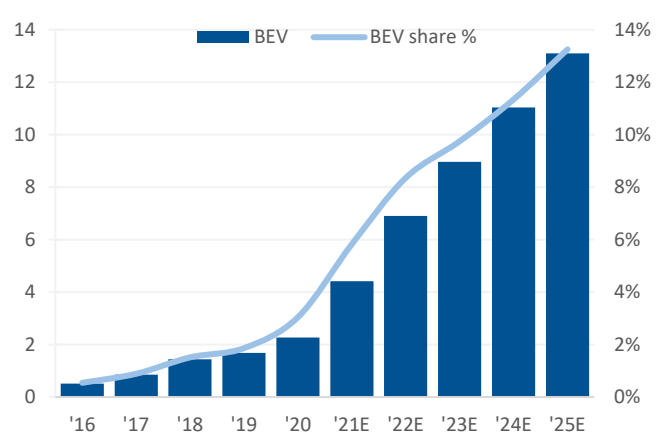
Source: World Economic Forum, Global Battery Alliance, McKinsey

Planned lithium battery factories in Europe



Source: European Technology and Innovation Platform on Batteries

Battery electric vehicle sales (mn units)



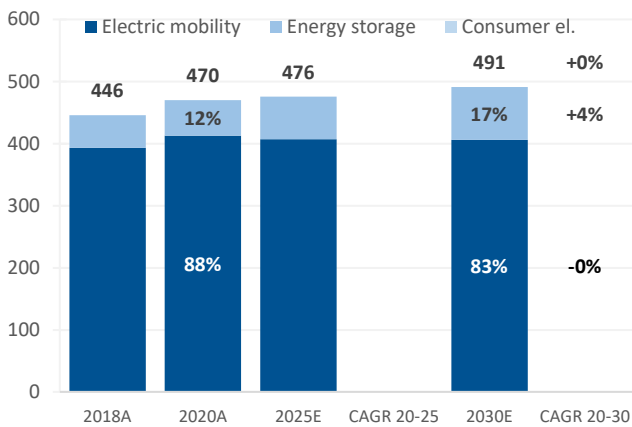
Source: IHS and BNEF

## Lead-acid batteries

**Lead-acid batteries mainly used in the transportation and industrial sectors.** As of 2020, approximately 63% of the world rechargeable battery capacity (in GWh) was provided by lead-acid batteries. The most common application for lead-acid batteries (70%) is in the transportation sector for starting, lighting, and ignition functions (SLI) for all type of vehicles. They are also utilised for storage in the industrial sector, including telecom battery backup, UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply), data centres and forklifts. Lead-acid battery storage for grid-related applications is relatively minor today.

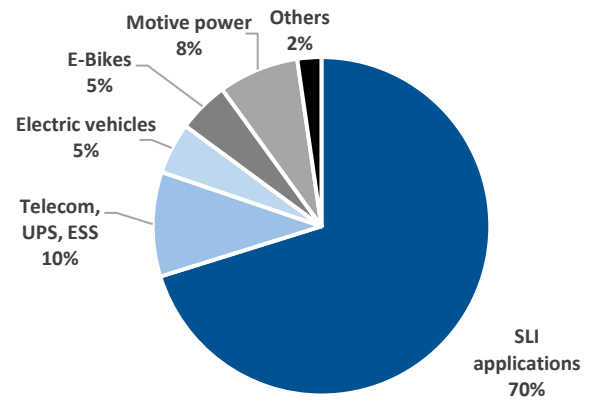
**Lead-acid batteries to remain stable or increase slightly.** Demand for lead-acid batteries in terms of GWh should remain broadly stable or increase slightly to 2030 driven by a small decline in SLI applications to be offset by increases in all other applications. Mild and start-stop hybrid systems in new vehicles, as well as the replacement market that is guaranteed due to the battery lifecycle (3-years), should offer some resilience for end-market sales. All other applications, mainly for non-motive markets, are expected to benefit from the increase in production from renewable energy sources given their intermittent and unpredictable nature.

**Global lead-acid battery demand by application (GWh)**



Source: World Economic Forum, Global Battery Alliance, McKinsey

**Lead-acid battery demand by specific application**



Source: Avicenne



## Teverola 2

### Project description

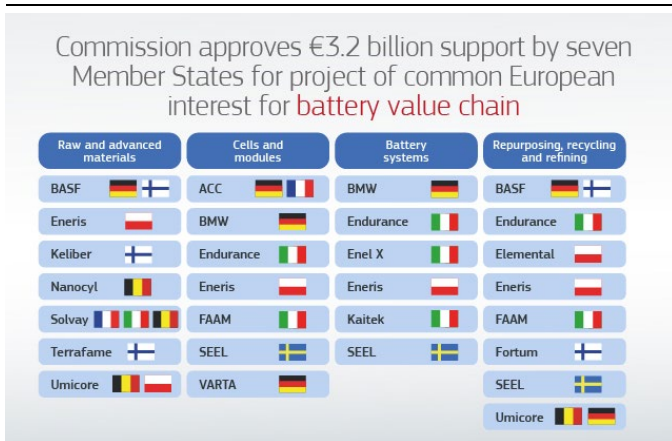
**IPCEI 1 battery funds for “Teverola 2” project awarded in December 2019.** On 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019 the European Commission approved a total of €3.2bn in grants in favour of 17 EU companies as part of its IPCEI (Important Projects of Common European Interest) programme. Under this programme, SERI was awarded €505mn in grants for its “Teverola 2” project, which foresees the construction of a Gigafactory for the production of lithium batteries at the Teverola industrial site. The company targets a plant capacity of 7-8 GWh, which was recently upgraded from 2.5-3.0 GWh due to the technical improvement of both manufacturing equipment and processes.

**Timeline: green light by end of the year, mass production from mid-2024.** After the publication in the Official Gazette in July of the interministerial decree that makes the IPCEI-related fund operational, SERI is completing the bureaucratic process to kick off the investment. The Italian Ministry of Economic Development has 60 days to approve the application to access the grants that the company presented earlier this month (10 extra days could be needed for further information). Once this process is over, the Italian Ministry of Economic Development will register the grants on the National State Aid Register and will issue the concession decree; this decree, i.e. the green light for the investment phase to commence, is expected by the end of the year. Management expects to complete the CapEx plan by YE23 with mass production from mid-2024. Experience gained from setting up the Teverola 1 plant will provide significant help for the development of Teverola 2.

**Key economics: management expects the plant to produce annual revenues of €1.3-1.8bn when fully operational.** Taking into account the projected 7-8 GWh capacity and ASP of €180-220/kwh, management is expecting the plant to generate between €1.3bn and €1.8bn in revenues by 2025 (consistent with the recently unveiled revenue ambition of €2bn in 2025). The targeted applications of Teverola 2 will be the same as Teverola 1 (motive power, naval, military and storage), with the possibility of also serving mass markets such as automotive, commercial and public transport applications.

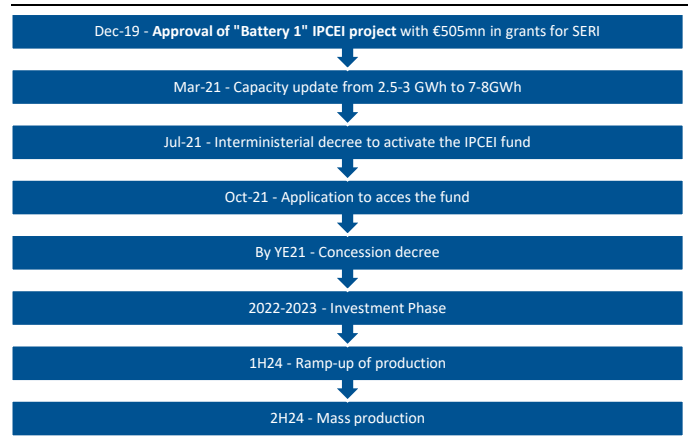
Capital investments funded through IPCEI grants are €358mn or 71% of the total awarded and are deemed enough to complete the plant. As a reminder, the company will sustain such investment through dedicated credit lines made available by the partners’ bank to be repaid by the aforementioned grants. The remaining 29% or €147mn will be used to fund OpEx/R&D aimed at developing next-gen battery (3a/3b/4).

### IPCEI Battery project



Source: European Commission

### Teverola 2 project timeline



Source: Intermonte SIM

## Teverola 2 has significant potential value

**More conservative than management assumptions yield a €6.9 per share valuation of the Teverola 2 project.** All in all, we come up with a valuation (enterprise value) of €396mn or €6.9 per share for the Teverola 2 project. Our key assumptions are: the plant will start production in 2025 with 100% of capacity reached after 2 years, a starting ASP of €200/KWh (steadily declining to €176/KWh in 2030), an EBITDA margin target of 18.0% (EBIT margin of 12.6% similar to scaled battery manufacturing and industrial players), a WACC of 15%, and terminal growth of 2%. Our assumptions are explained in the following paragraphs while we provide investors with a sensitivity table on key assumptions.

### DCF valuation

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	TV
<b>Capacity (GWh)</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>8.9</b>	
YoY growth	+0%	+0%	+0%	+0%	+5%	+4%	+4%	+3%	+2%	
Saturation %	0%	0%	0%	50%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
<b>ASP (€/MWh)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>176</b>	
YoY growth	+0%	+0%	+0%	+0%	-5%	-4%	-3%	-1%	+0%	
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>1,122</b>	<b>1,501</b>	<b>1,515</b>	<b>1,537</b>	<b>1,568</b>	
YoY growth	+0%	+0%	+0%	+0%	+50%	+34%	+1%	+1%	+2%	
- Total prod. and op. costs	0	0	0	(705)	(988)	(1,231)	(1,242)	(1,261)	(1,286)	
<b>Adj. EBITDA</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>282</b>	
Adj. EBITDA margin %	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	6.0%	12.0%	18.0%	18.0%	18.0%	18.0%	
- D&A	(29)	(57)	(69)	(82)	(83)	(84)	(85)	(85)	(85)	
<b>Adj. EBIT</b>	<b>(29)</b>	<b>(57)</b>	<b>(69)</b>	<b>(37)</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>197</b>	
Adj. EBIT margin %	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-5.0%	4.6%	12.4%	12.4%	12.5%	12.6%	
- Taxes on EBIT	0	0	0	0	(14)	(50)	(51)	(52)	(53)	
Tax rate %	27.0%	27.0%	27.0%	27.0%	27.0%	27.0%	27.0%	27.0%	27.0%	
<b>NOPAT</b>	<b>(29)</b>	<b>(57)</b>	<b>(69)</b>	<b>(37)</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>144</b>	
+ Tax credits	143	143	57	14	0	0	0	0	0	
+ D&A	29	57	69	82	83	84	85	85	85	
-/+ (Inc.)/Dec. In NWC	0	0	0	(154)	(76)	(78)	(3)	(5)	(6)	
- Capex	(143)	(143)	(57)	(69)	(87)	(87)	(87)	(87)	(87)	
Capex/Sales %	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	9.2%	7.7%	5.8%	5.7%	5.7%	5.5%	
<b>= FCF</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(164)</b>	<b>(42)</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>1,067</b>
x Discount factor	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	
<b>= PV (FCF)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(108)</b>	<b>(24)</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>349</b>

Source: Intermonte SIM Estimates

### Sensitivity analysis

		EBITDA margin %			Years to renew assets				
		15.0%	18.0%	21.0%					
<b>WACC</b>	10.0%	10.7	15.7	20.7	<b>Year of start</b>	2024	10.3	8.9	6.7
	15.0%	4.3	6.9	9.5		2025	8.3	6.9	4.6
	17.5%	2.8	4.9	6.9		2026	6.6	5.2	2.8
		Terminal growth rate			EBITDA margin %				
		1.0%	2.0%	3.0%					
<b>WACC</b>	10.0%	13.9	15.7	18.0	<b>Pricing</b>	180	3.3	5.6	8.0
	15.0%	6.4	6.9	7.5		200	4.3	6.9	9.5
	17.5%	4.6	4.9	5.2		220	5.3	8.2	11.1

Source: Intermonte SIM

## Drivers Behind Our Assumptions & Risks

**Teverola 2 project has significant potential value even when discounted for risks.** While the project has significant potential value, well above SERI's current market cap, we believe that given its transformational magnitude the risks must not be ignored, driving our start-up-like WACC to 15%. The risks concern execution, demand, pricing, profitability, financing, and technology.

**Execution risks: transformational magnitude of the project embeds challenges.** While we see low risk on capacity addition as it is a function of investing resources backed by the EU grants, the magnitude and transformational nature of the project poses multiple challenges in our view. As management expects the T2 plant to produce ~€1.5bn in revenue, vs the 2021E group level of ~€0.2bn, we believe SERI would have to become a much more structured organisation in a short period of time, especially given the exponential growth trajectory. Such challenges may materialise in the form of delays that lengthen the process and quality of the output. Although we acknowledge the experience that management gained during the T1 project, we prefer to factor more conservative assumptions into our valuation. Timely progress on CapEx deployment, expected to be carried out in 2 years by management, a laser-like focus on delivery by T1, updates on agreements with customers and suppliers, hiring campaigns, and other execution-related actions would improve the risk profile in our view.

**Demand: green transition provides good visibility.** As widely covered in the market outlook paragraph, market demand appears to be the least of the problems in this environment. The green transition, which hinges on renewable energy production, requires other steps in order to complete, such as investments in storage. The strong regulatory push backed by financial support and improving environmental awareness of consumers provides good visibility on medium-long term demand.

**Pricing: dynamics uncertain.** According to multiple industry observers, the decreasing price dynamic of lithium batteries will continue in the foreseeable future. Whilst we recognise that differentiating factors may exist and raw material price dynamics will have an impact, competitive pressure will eventually come, also given the league in which the plant will play where most Gigafactories will have >30 GWh capacity. We highlight that normal pricing pressures created by relentless efficiency gains may also be exacerbated by supply coming onto the market in excess of demand. As visibility on that front cannot be high for the aforementioned reasons, we are sticking to management's view in our explicit forecast with a pricing of €200/KWh at the beginning of the project. In the meantime, we assume some price deflation going forward will be offset by output increases, while we add some p.p. to our required rate of return.

**Profitability: we assume profitability to be in line with battery manufacturers and EU industrial companies.** Disclosure on profitability has not been provided, leaving some volatility on assumptions. For this reason, we took profitability margins of established battery manufacturers and industrial goods players as a benchmark for our assumed profitability target for T2. We found that the EBIT margin for battery manufacturing companies now stands at ~10% with some gains projected in the next three years toward 11%, while profitability for the Stoxx600 Industrial goods index stands at ~16% for EBITDA and ~11% for EBIT. Therefore, our 16.0% EBITDA margin assumption and ~12.5% EBIT for the plant when fully up and running is somewhat consistent with profitability registered by the type of companies mentioned above. We do not deem the expected profitability for T1 comparable (management sees >20% EBITDA margin) as it targets special and niche applications vs. more mass-market objectives for T2.

**Financing: CapEx backed by EU grants, while steep growth will require significant/immediate investment in NWC.** As stated, we are not concerned about the financial requirements of the CapEx plan due to the backing of EU grants. However, we believe some pressure on the financial structure may come from the NWC build-up in light of the steep growth trajectory. As for management projections, in less than two years the project would produce additional revenue to the tune of ~€1.5bn which, assuming a 75-day cash conversion cycle (CCC) or 21% NWC/sales translates into an investment of >€0.3bn in NWC. This will come in the context of the current debt position, cash flow generation to 2023 held back by the T1 ramp-up, as well as possible developments on the investment in the Pozzilli project with Unilever, albeit partly offset by the conversion of the deep-in-the-money warrants (expiry in 2022). Any better-than-expected development of the situations just mentioned would be beneficial to our WACC and hence valuation.

**Technology risks: continuous monitoring required.** This may be the most obscure topic to monitor, but one of the most disruptive and important to consider. The ability to maintain the pace on innovation, especially through talent retention and attraction, will obviously be key. For the time being we can say no more than that the company seems to be on track on that front for T1, while also noting that other larger and more established players have adopted the technological approach chosen by SERI with LFP batteries. For this reason, we assume no disruption of the business, but factor in higher discount rates.

## Update on Recycled Plastic Product in Pozzili Plant

### Offtake Agreement with Unilever for Pozzilli Plant

On October 30<sup>th</sup>, SERI announced the signing of an agreement with Unilever in which the latter undertakes to buy at least 65k tons/year of recycled material produced by the Pozzilli plant (i.e. 50%). The price will be linked to raw material price trends and the company expects guaranteed minimum turnover of €110mn per year for the JV. Production is scheduled to start within 24-30 months from the date of the transfer of the plant to P2P (no specific date was put forward). The contract will have an initial duration of 5 years, with the possibility for it to be extended for a further 5.

We note that in March SERI and Unilever signed an agreement for the formation of a JV (named P2P) dedicated to the production of plastic material from the recovery of post-consumption packaging at Unilever's Pozzilli plant. At the time, Unilever stated that a commitment to signing an agreement to buy products from the JV. The overall investment was estimated at €75mn, while the potential revenue that the plant would generate seems greater than what was initially expected (~€130mn in total). Assumptions concerning profitability have not been shared. The project is not included in either the company's business plan or our valuation, awaiting further developments.

## Valuation

**BUY, TP from €7.50 to €14.30.** We began coverage of SERI one year ago with a positive view supported by our thesis that the market was only discounting the value of the as-is business (PM and L-AB), while overlooking the value offered by the ramp-up of the T1 lithium battery plant. One year later, with the as-is business returning to somewhat more normal trading conditions and the T1 plant ready to churn out products and results, the stock price has more than tripled from €3.4 to €10.5. In our view, this price level suggests that the market not only fully recognises the value of the as-is business and T1 plant, but it is starting to discount the potential value from the game-changing T2 project. While the T2 project was already known last year, the recent developments on the project with the imminent clearing of the last bureaucratic hurdle for the investment to start prompt us to include the T2 project in our target price of €14.30 (this is the main driver behind our target price upgrade: while the removal of the liquidity discount offsets lower short-term estimates). As the new energy economy will create tremendous growth potential for lithium batteries, we remain positive on SERI. Our valuation doesn't include Pozzilli project pending more visibility.

### Valuation

SUM PV(FCF)	153
PV TV	315
<b>EV AS-IS + T1; WACC @ 6.7%; TG @ 2%</b>	<b>468</b>
EV T2; WACC @ 15%; TG @ 2%	396
<b>Enterprise Value</b>	<b>864</b>
-/+ Net debt/(cash) @ YE20	96
Cash-in from warr. already conv.	(4)
<b>Equity value</b>	<b>772</b>
Cash-in from warrant conversion	46
<b>Equity value + Cash-in from Warr. conv.</b>	<b>818</b>
Shares outstanding	48.1
Shares from issued warr. Conv.	9.2
<b>Fair value per share (€)</b>	<b>14.3</b>
Discount	0%
<b>Target price (€)</b>	<b>14.3</b>
Actual share price (€)	9.8
<b>Upside/(Downside)</b>	<b>46%</b>

Source: Intermonte SIM

## Change in estimates

**Change in estimates.** We are adjusting our estimates to reflect a slower-than-previously expected start of Teverola 1, while the as-is business is on average unchanged between 2021-23, with higher revenues (also due to higher ASP following higher raw mat prices) offsetting lower margins. We still do not include Teverola 2 in our explicit estimates as the plant should start production from mid-2024, while the accounting of grants in connection with investments will have a net neutral impact at P&L and cash flow level.

### Changes to estimates

	New			Old			Δ %		
	2021E	2022E	2023E	2021E	2022E	2023E	2021E	2022E	2023E
<b>Revenues</b>	<b>191.8</b>	<b>262.0</b>	<b>298.6</b>	<b>208.6</b>	<b>263.6</b>	<b>281.3</b>	<b>-8%</b>	<b>-1%</b>	<b>6%</b>
YoY growth	+43.2%	+36.6%	+14.0%	+55.7%	+26.4%	+6.7%			
<b>Adj. EBITDA</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>41.4</b>	<b>50.9</b>	<b>31.2</b>	<b>44.9</b>	<b>49.7</b>	<b>-30%</b>	<b>-8%</b>	<b>2%</b>
YoY growth	+341.3%	+90.3%	+23.0%	+532.6%	+44.1%	+10.6%			
Adj. EBITDA margin %	11.3%	15.8%	17.0%	14.9%	17.0%	17.7%			
<b>Adj. EBIT</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>30.8</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>28.4</b>	<b>31.7</b>	<b>-86%</b>	<b>-25%</b>	<b>-3%</b>
YoY growth	-135.2%	+868.6%	+44.8%	-343.6%	+87.2%	+11.5%			
Adj. EBIT margin %	1.1%	8.1%	10.3%	7.3%	10.8%	11.3%			
<b>Adj. EPS</b>	<b>(0.03)</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>0.40</b>	<b>0.17</b>	<b>0.38</b>	<b>0.43</b>	<b>-117%</b>	<b>-33%</b>	<b>-8%</b>
YoY growth	-82.0%	-961.1%	+58.6%	-204.1%	+120.7%	+15.8%			
<b>Net debt/(cash)</b>	<b>106.2</b>	<b>100.6</b>	<b>81.5</b>	<b>94.7</b>	<b>80.6</b>	<b>56.4</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>45%</b>
Net debt/EBITDA	4.9 x	2.4 x	1.6 x	3.0 x	1.8 x	1.1 x			

Source: Intermonte SIM

### Changes to estimates, breakdown by division

	New			Old			Δ %		
	2021E	2022E	2023E	2021E	2022E	2023E	2021E	2022E	2023E
El. Acc. (lead-acid)	66.4	68.0	69.7	53.9	55.6	56.7	23%	22%	23%
Plastics materials	100.0	105.6	110.6	84.0	90.7	93.4	19%	16%	18%
Corporate, Other & Elim.	(1.7)	(1.7)	(1.7)	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	39%	39%	39%
<b>Business as-is</b>	<b>164.7</b>	<b>172.0</b>	<b>178.7</b>	<b>136.7</b>	<b>145.0</b>	<b>148.9</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>20%</b>
Teverola 1	27.2	90.0	120.0	60.0	106.7	120.5	-55%	-16%	0%
<b>Group revenue</b>	<b>191.8</b>	<b>262.0</b>	<b>298.6</b>	<b>208.6</b>	<b>263.6</b>	<b>281.3</b>	<b>-8%</b>	<b>-1%</b>	<b>6%</b>
El. Acc. (lead-acid)	7.3	9.5	10.1	10.2	10.5	10.7	-28%	-9%	-5%
Plastics materials	11.3	12.7	13.8	9.9	11.6	11.9	14%	9%	16%
Corporate, Other & Elim.	(0.6)	(0.6)	(0.6)	(0.6)	(0.6)	(0.6)	0%	0%	0%
<b>Business as-is</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>23.3</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>-8%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>6%</b>
Teverola 1	3.8	19.8	27.6	11.7	23.5	27.7	-68%	-16%	0%
<b>Adj. EBITDA</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>41.4</b>	<b>50.9</b>	<b>31.2</b>	<b>44.9</b>	<b>49.7</b>	<b>-30%</b>	<b>-8%</b>	<b>2%</b>

Source: Intermonte SIM

## Financials

<b>P&amp;L</b>						
<b>Income statement</b>	<b>2018A</b>	<b>2019A</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>
<b>Revenues</b>	<b>133.5</b>	<b>156.5</b>	<b>134.0</b>	<b>191.8</b>	<b>262.0</b>	<b>298.6</b>
YoY growth	+0.0%	+17.3%	-14.4%	+43.2%	+36.6%	+14.0%
- Operating costs	(114.5)	(137.1)	(131.7)	(169.9)	(220.6)	(247.7)
+ Non-recurring	(3.8)	2.7	2.6	(0.2)	0.0	0.0
<b>Adj. EBITDA</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>41.4</b>	<b>50.9</b>
YoY growth	+0.0%	+44.4%	-77.7%	+341.3%	+90.3%	+23.0%
Adj. EBITDA margin %	11.4%	14.1%	3.7%	11.3%	15.8%	17.0%
- D&A (only recurring)	(13.1)	(11.6)	(11.2)	(19.5)	(20.1)	(20.1)
<b>Adj. EBIT</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>(6.2)</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>30.8</b>
YoY growth	+0.0%	+370.1%	-159.9%	-135.2%	+868.6%	+44.8%
Adj. EBIT margin %	1.7%	6.7%	-4.7%	1.1%	8.1%	10.3%
- Non-recurring (incl. D&A)	2.7	(3.7)	(5.2)	(0.4)	0.0	0.0
-/+ Net fin. exp./inc.	(3.6)	(3.4)	(3.7)	(3.8)	(4.6)	(4.4)
<b>Pre-tax income</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>(15.2)</b>	<b>(1.9)</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>26.4</b>
Tax rate %	-294.8%	43.4%	69.8%	27.0%	27.0%	27.0%
- Tax income	4.0	(1.4)	10.6	0.5	(4.5)	(7.1)
<b>Net income</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>(4.6)</b>	<b>(1.4)</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>19.3</b>
YoY growth	+0.0%	-65.4%	-347.6%	-69.3%	-961.1%	+58.6%
Net income margin %	4.0%	1.2%	-3.4%	-0.7%	4.6%	6.5%
- Minorities	(0.0)	(0.3)	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Net income to shareholders</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>(4.4)</b>	<b>(1.4)</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>19.3</b>

Source: Company data & Intermonte SIM Estimates

<b>Balance Sheet</b>						
<b>Condensed balance sheet</b>	<b>2018A</b>	<b>2019A</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>
Trade net working capital	57.0	53.9	49.8	65.7	75.4	77.7
Other current assets/(liabilities)	(8.6)	(14.4)	5.8	2.8	2.8	2.8
<b>Working capital</b>	<b>48.4</b>	<b>39.5</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>68.5</b>	<b>78.2</b>	<b>80.5</b>
Net fixed assets	127.5	163.6	183.8	183.6	180.4	178.2
Long-term liabilities	(4.9)	(14.0)	(29.5)	(29.5)	(29.5)	(29.5)
<b>Total fixed asset</b>	<b>122.6</b>	<b>149.7</b>	<b>154.3</b>	<b>154.1</b>	<b>151.0</b>	<b>148.8</b>
<b>Invested capital</b>	<b>171.1</b>	<b>189.2</b>	<b>209.9</b>	<b>222.6</b>	<b>229.2</b>	<b>229.3</b>
Net debt/(cash)	50.9	69.0	96.0	106.2	100.6	81.5
Equity	118.5	118.4	113.6	116.0	128.2	147.5
Minorities	1.6	1.8	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
<b>Total sources</b>	<b>171.1</b>	<b>189.2</b>	<b>209.9</b>	<b>222.6</b>	<b>229.2</b>	<b>229.3</b>

Source: Company data & Intermonte SIM Estimates

<b>Cash flow statement</b>						
<b>Cash flow statement</b>	<b>2018A</b>	<b>2019A</b>	<b>2020A</b>	<b>2021E</b>	<b>2022E</b>	<b>2023E</b>
<b>NFP beginning of the period</b>	<b>(28.9)</b>	<b>(50.9)</b>	<b>(69.0)</b>	<b>(96.0)</b>	<b>(106.2)</b>	<b>(100.6)</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>(4.6)</b>	<b>(1.4)</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>19.3</b>
D&A	14.1	(19.4)	13.8	20.1	20.1	20.1
Change in working capital & Others	(10.6)	42.4	(4.5)	(12.9)	(9.7)	(2.4)
<b>Cash flow from operations</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>24.9</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>22.6</b>	<b>37.0</b>
Capex	(39.5)	(38.7)	(23.5)	(15.0)	(17.0)	(17.9)
<b>FCF</b>	<b>(30.6)</b>	<b>(13.8)</b>	<b>(18.8)</b>	<b>(9.2)</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>19.1</b>
Acquisitions	(2.8)	(7.9)	0.6	(0.1)	0.0	0.0
Dividends, buybacks and equity financing	16.5	(1.6)	0.0	3.9	0.0	0.0
Others (incl. IFRS 16)	(5.1)	5.2	(8.7)	(4.8)	(0.0)	0.0
<b>Change in NFP</b>	<b>(22.0)</b>	<b>(18.1)</b>	<b>(26.9)</b>	<b>(10.2)</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>19.1</b>
<b>NFP end of the period</b>	<b>(50.9)</b>	<b>(69.0)</b>	<b>(96.0)</b>	<b>(106.2)</b>	<b>(100.6)</b>	<b>(81.5)</b>

Source: Company data & Intermonte SIM Estimates

## Market multiples and performance

### Market multiples

Company name	PX (Lc. C.)	Mkt C. (€ mn)	EV/EBITDA			EV/EBIT			PE		
			2020A	2021E	2022E	2020A	2021E	2022E	2020A	2021E	2022E
SERI @ our TP	14.3	471.7	159.7 x	36.7 x	18.7 x	-126.1 x	363.1 x	36.3 x	-87.5 x	-487.1 x	56.6 x
SERI @ our est.	9.8	471.7	115.3 x	26.6 x	13.4 x	-91.0 x	263.4 x	26.0 x	-59.8 x	-332.8 x	38.6 x
SERI @ cons. est.	9.8	471.7	155.3 x	19.1 x	10.3 x	NA	66.2 x	17.1 x	-106.8 x	97.7 x	21.7 x
VARTA	110.9	4,481	21.2 x	16.1 x	13.2 x	31.8 x	24.3 x	18.5 x	47.0 x	34.4 x	27.5 x
ENERSYS	74.0	3,146	12.1 x	10.8 x	9.0 x	18.1 x	15.1 x	11.9 x	20.1 x	16.8 x	13.5 x
EXIDE IND.	2.1	1,777	11.3 x	9.5 x	7.9 x	15.5 x	13.6 x	11.0 x	21.2 x	18.3 x	15.3 x
GS YUASA	18.9	1,567	5.9 x	5.7 x	5.1 x	10.2 x	10.2 x	8.8 x	17.7 x	14.7 x	12.6 x
<b>Average</b>			<b>12.6 x</b>	<b>10.5 x</b>	<b>8.8 x</b>	<b>18.9 x</b>	<b>15.8 x</b>	<b>12.6 x</b>	<b>26.5 x</b>	<b>21.1 x</b>	<b>17.2 x</b>

Source: Intermonte SIM

### Performance

	-1m	-3m	-6m	YTD	-1y	-2y	-3y	Oct-20
<b>SERI</b>	<b>+36.3%</b>	<b>+29.4%</b>	<b>+33.3%</b>	<b>+128.8%</b>	<b>+226.8%</b>	<b>+501.2%</b>	<b>+275.8%</b>	<b>+182.4%</b>
Varta	-3.0%	-30.8%	-5.1%	-4.5%	-4.2%	+5.7%	+300.3%	-1.3%
EnerSys	+13.4%	-11.6%	-2.9%	+3.4%	+15.7%	+21.0%	+5.8%	+17.2%
Exide Industries	-0.6%	+4.7%	-1.6%	-5.1%	+11.5%	-1.4%	-25.0%	+12.9%
GS Yuasa	+2.8%	-6.5%	-15.5%	-14.3%	+37.4%	+26.9%	+10.6%	+34.9%
CATL	+20.6%	+13.8%	+63.4%	+86.6%	+136.3%	+764.6%	+701.8%	+170.2%
LG Chem	+5.2%	-8.3%	-14.6%	-4.6%	+17.5%	+149.1%	+128.8%	+18.4%
Samsung SDI	+11.0%	-2.1%	+16.2%	+20.2%	+56.3%	+223.2%	+223.3%	+71.9%
SK Innovation	-11.9%	-2.1%	-14.6%	+22.9%	+69.2%	+46.4%	+20.3%	+57.2%
Panasonic	+8.0%	+2.4%	+8.0%	+17.8%	+40.3%	+42.9%	+26.4%	+57.7%
<b>MARKET (FTSE MIB)</b>	<b>+7.1%</b>	<b>+8.3%</b>	<b>+13.6%</b>	<b>+25.0%</b>	<b>+40.9%</b>	<b>+19.0%</b>	<b>+44.2%</b>	<b>+41.0%</b>
<b>PEERS</b>	<b>+4.4%</b>	<b>-4.0%</b>	<b>+3.6%</b>	<b>+14.9%</b>	<b>+51.4%</b>	<b>+155.9%</b>	<b>+154.8%</b>	<b>+56.2%</b>
<b>SERI vs MARKET</b>	<b>+29.2%</b>	<b>+21.1%</b>	<b>+19.7%</b>	<b>+103.8%</b>	<b>+185.9%</b>	<b>+482.3%</b>	<b>+231.7%</b>	<b>+141.4%</b>
<b>SERI vs PEERS</b>	<b>+31.9%</b>	<b>+33.4%</b>	<b>+29.7%</b>	<b>+113.9%</b>	<b>+175.4%</b>	<b>+345.3%</b>	<b>+121.0%</b>	<b>+126.2%</b>

Source: FactSet

DETAILS ON STOCKS RECOMMENDATION			
Stock NAME	SERI INDUSTRIAL		
Current Recomm:	BUY	Previous Recomm:	BUY
Current Target (Eu):	14.30	Previous Target (Eu):	7.50
Current Price (Eu):	9.77	Previous Price (Eu):	5.14
Date of report:	08/11/2021	Date of last report:	12/04/2021



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- Discounted cash flow (DCF) model or similar methods such as a dividend discount model (DDM)
- Comparison with market peers, using the most appropriate methods for the individual company analysed: among the main ratios used for industrial sectors are price/ earnings (P/E), EV/EBITDA, EV/EBIT, price /sales.
- Return on capital and multiples of adjusted net book value are the main methods used for banking sector stocks, while for insurance sector stocks return on allocated capital and multiples on net book value and embedded portfolio value are used
- For the utilities sector comparisons are made between expected returns and the return on the regulatory asset base (RAB)

Some of the parameters used in evaluations, such as the risk-free rate and risk premium, are the same for all companies covered, and are updated to reflect market conditions. Currently a risk-free rate of 2.5% and a risk premium of 5.0% are being used.

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BUY: stock expected to outperform the market by over 25% over a 12 month period;

OUTPERFORM: stock expected to outperform the market by between 10% and 25% over a 12 month period;

NEUTRAL: stock performance expected at between +10% and -10% compared to the market over a 12 month period;

UNDERPERFORM: stock expected to underperform the market by between -10% and -25% over a 12 month period;

SELL: stock expected to underperform the market by over 25% over a 12 month period.

Prices: The prices reported in the research refer to the price at the close of the previous day of trading

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BUY:	17,36 %
OUTPERFORM:	52,89 %
NEUTRAL:	25,62 %
UNDERPERFORM	04,13 %
SELL:	00,00 %

The distribution of stock ratings for companies which have received corporate finance services from Intermonte in the last 12 months (55 in total) is as follows:

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OUTPERFORM:	49,09 %
NEUTRAL:	20,00 %
UNDERPERFORM	00,00 %
SELL:	00,00 %

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Emittente	%	Long/Short
AEDES NEW	3,7	LONG
COGEME SET SPA	1,6	SHORT
IKF	0,57	SHORT
OLIDATA	0,74	SHORT

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The main methods used to evaluate financial instruments and set a target price for 12 months after the investment recommendation are as follows:

- Discounted cash flow (DCF) model or similar methods such as a dividend discount model (DDM)
- Comparison with market peers, using the most appropriate methods for the individual company analysed: among the main ratios used for industrial sectors are price/ earnings (P/E), EV/EBITDA, EV/EBIT, price /sales.
- Return on capital and multiples of adjusted net book value are the main methods used for banking sector stocks, while for insurance sector stocks return on allocated capital and multiples on net book value and embedded portfolio value are used
- For the utilities sector comparisons are made between expected returns and the return on the regulatory asset base (RAB)

Some of the parameters used in evaluations, such as the risk-free rate and risk premium, are the same for all companies covered, and are updated to reflect market conditions. Currently a risk-free rate of 2.5% and a risk premium of 5.0% are being used.

Frequency of research: quarterly.

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Explanation of our ratings system:

- BUY: stock expected to outperform the market by over 25% over a 12 month period;
- OUTPERFORM: stock expected to outperform the market by between 10% and 25% over a 12 month period;
- NEUTRAL: stock performance expected at between +10% and -10% compared to the market over a 12 month period;
- UNDERPERFORM: stock expected to underperform the market by between -10% and -25% over a 12 month period;
- SELL: stock expected to underperform the market by over 25% over a 12 month period.

Prices: The prices reported in the research refer to the price at the close of the previous day of trading

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OUTPERFORM:	52,89 %
NEUTRAL:	25,62 %
UNDERPERFORM	04,13 %
SELL:	00,00 %

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NEUTRAL:	20,00 %
UNDERPERFORM	00,00 %
SELL:	00,00 %

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