

LAIQON AG

Germany / Financial Services

Bloomberg: LQAG GR ISIN: DE000A12UP29 FY 2024 results

RATING PRICE TARGET

BUY € 9.00

Return Potential 132.6% Risk Rating High

SOLID AUM GROWTH AND AI PRODUCT ROLLOUT UNDERPIN LT POTENTIAL

LAIQON has published its FY 2024 financial results, which came in below our expectations. Assets under Management (AuM) increased by ~7% from €6.1bn in FY/23 to €6.5bn in FY/24. Revenue rose by ~9% to €31.0m (FBe: €35.4m) compared to adjusted revenue of €28.4m in FY/23. EBITDA improved in FY/24 to €-3.8m (FBe: €-2.0m) from adj.EBITDA of ~€-7.3m in FY/23. On the basis of the FY/24 results we are now more cautious on the outlook and have lowered our financial forecasts. Nevertheless, management confirmed that the German asset management partner Union Investment (Union) launched the joint "WertAnlage" product to its high net worth clients on schedule in Q4/24 and that rollout is going very well. As a result, management has reaffirmed its AuM guidance of €8-10bn for 2025. Our DCF valuation model yields a lower price target of €9.00 (previously: €9.80). At the current level, the share is significantly undervalued. We reiterate our Buy rating.

EBITDA close to break-even in H2/24 Group revenues increased by ~9% to €31.0m (FBe: €35.4m) versus adjusted €28.4m in FY/23. The FY/23 adjustment excludes non-recurring revenue from the divestiture of the closed-end fund portfolio (Real Assets business). FY/24 revenue growth was driven by performance fees of €2.3m, which reflect positive returns across LAIQON's managed portfolios, mandates, and wealth management offerings. Gross profit rose to €26.4m (FBe: €30.2m), equating to a solid gross margin of 85.0% (FBe: 85.2%; FY/23: 80.7%). OpEx increased slightly to €30.2m, below our estimate of €32.2m (FY/23: €29.5m), chiefly due to cost discipline which led to a lower than expected increase in personnel costs. EBITDA improved significantly to €-3.8m versus €-7.3m (adjusted) in FY/23, but fell short of our projection €-2.0m. The improvement was especially notable in H2/24, where EBITDA came in at €-0.9m (H1/24: €-2.9m), bringing the group close to break-even in the second half. Depreciation remained flat at €6.5m (FBe: €6.5m). Reported EBIT stood at €-10.3m (FBe: €-8.5m; FY/23 adj.: €-13.7m). (p.t.q)

FINANCIAL HISTORY & PROJECTIONS

| | FY 22 | FY 23 | FY 24 | FY 25E | FY 26E | FY 27E |
|--------------------|--------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| Revenue (€m) | 21.6 | 30.7 | 31.0 | 36.7 | 43.1 | 51.3 |
| Y-o-y growth | -17.4% | 42.5% | 0.8% | 18.2% | 17.7% | 18.8% |
| EBIT (€m) | -14.7 | -11.1 | -10.3 | -4.2 | -1.6 | 4.0 |
| EBIT margin | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | 7.9% |
| Net income (€m) | -10.2 | -12.3 | -7.6 | -4.9 | -3.2 | 1.1 |
| EPS (diluted) (€) | -0.67 | -0.51 | -0.25 | -0.23 | -0.15 | 0.05 |
| DPS (€) | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| FCF (€m) | -6.2 | -12.1 | -5.9 | -2.7 | -0.5 | 4.2 |
| Net gearing | 11.8% | 57.1% | 24.9% | 33.7% | 39.7% | 34.8% |
| Liquid assets (€m) | 10.4 | 7.1 | 13.7 | 8.4 | 5.4 | 3.6 |

RISKS

Risks include, but are not limited to negative economic and capital markets downturn impact, client satisfaction and loss of key personnel.

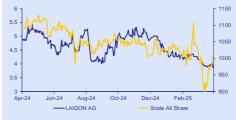
COMPANY PROFILE

LAIQON is an independent wealth and asset management firm offering investment solutions to private and institutional clients powered by its innovative Digital Asset Platform 4.0. The company has also developed its WealthTech subsidiary LAIC to offer digital risk-optimised investment solutions. The group is headquartered in Hamburg and has assets under management of >€6bn.

| MARKET DATA | As of 25 Apr 2025 |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Closing Price | € 3.87 |
| Shares outstanding | 21.14m |
| Market Capitalisation | € 81.81m |
| 52-week Range | € 3.86 / 5.44 |
| Avg. Volume (12 Months) | 11,724 |

| Multiples | FY 24 | FY 25E | FY 26E |
|------------|-------|--------|--------|
| P/E | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. |
| EV/Sales | 3.9 | 3.3 | 2.8 |
| EV/EBIT | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. |
| Div. Yield | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |

STOCK OVERVIEW



| COMPANY DATA | As of 31 Dec 2024 |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Liquid Assets | € 13.65m |
| Current Assets | € 25.56m |
| Intangible Assets | € 85.92m |
| Total Assets | € 134.85m |
| Current Liabilities | € 12.76m |
| Shareholders' Equity | € 72.13m |
| | |
| SHAREHOLDERS | |

SHAREHOLDERS

| 15.0% |
|-------|
| 9.9% |
| 9.0% |
| 7.0% |
| 59.0% |
| |

The net financial result improved substantially to €-2.5m (FBe: €-3.5m; FY/23: €-8.9m), primarily due to the absence of significant non-cash effects from the valuation of purchase price liabilities that had negatively impacted the previous year. The net loss amounted to €-8.0m, up from €-10.9m in FY/23 (adjusted). We give an overview of the main P&L KPIs on table 1 below.

Table 1: P&L FY/24 and FY/23 reported figures vs FB estimates (KPIs)

| FY/24 | FY/24E | Delta | FY/23 | Delta | FY/23 adj.* | Delta |
|---------|--|---|---|--|---|--|
| 31,003 | 35,440 | -13% | 30,746 | 1% | 28,446 | 9% |
| -4,640 | -5,240 | n.a. | -5,941 | n.a. | -5,941 | n.a. |
| 26,363 | 30,200 | -13% | 24,805 | 6% | 22,505 | 17% |
| 85.0% | 85.2% | n.a. | 80.7% | n.a. | 79.1% | n.a. |
| -30,181 | -32,200 | n.a. | -29,498 | n.a. | -29,806 | n.a. |
| -3,818 | -2,000 | n.a. | -4,692 | n.a. | -7,300 | n.a. |
| n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. |
| -6,489 | -6,450 | n.a. | -6,386 | n.a. | -6,386 | n.a. |
| -10,307 | -8,450 | n.a. | -11,079 | n.a. | -13,687 | n.a. |
| -2,512 | -3,513 | n.a. | -8,889 | n.a. | -8,889 | n.a. |
| -12,819 | -11,963 | n.a. | -19,968 | n.a. | -22,576 | n.a. |
| -7,956 | -6,963 | n.a. | -12,874 | n.a. | -10,882 | n.a. |
| | 31,003 -4,640 26,363 85.0% -30,181 -3,818 n.a. -6,489 -10,307 -2,512 -12,819 | 31,003 35,440 -4,640 -5,240 26,363 30,200 85.0% 85.2% -30,181 -32,200 -3,818 -2,000 n.a. n.a6,489 -6,450 -10,307 -8,450 -2,512 -3,513 -12,819 -11,963 | 31,003 35,440 -13% -4,640 -5,240 n.a. 26,363 30,200 -13% 85.0% 85.2% n.a30,181 -32,200 n.a3,818 -2,000 n.a. n.a. n.a. n.a6,489 -6,450 n.a10,307 -8,450 n.a2,512 -3,513 n.a12,819 -11,963 n.a. | 31,003 35,440 -13% 30,746 -4,640 -5,240 n.a5,941 26,363 30,200 -13% 24,805 85.0% 85.2% n.a. 80.7% -30,181 -32,200 n.a29,498 -3,818 -2,000 n.a4,692 n.a. n.a. n.a. n.a6,489 -6,450 n.a6,386 -10,307 -8,450 n.a11,079 -2,512 -3,513 n.a8,889 -12,819 -11,963 n.a19,968 | 31,003 35,440 -13% 30,746 1% -4,640 -5,240 n.a. -5,941 n.a. 26,363 30,200 -13% 24,805 6% 85.0% 85.2% n.a. 80.7% n.a. -30,181 -32,200 n.a. -29,498 n.a. -3,818 -2,000 n.a. -4,692 n.a. n.a. n.a. n.a. n.a. n.a. -6,489 -6,450 n.a. -6,386 n.a. -10,307 -8,450 n.a. -11,079 n.a. -2,512 -3,513 n.a. -8,889 n.a. -12,819 -11,963 n.a. -19,968 n.a. | 31,003 35,440 -13% 30,746 1% 28,446 -4,640 -5,240 n.a5,941 n.a5,941 26,363 30,200 -13% 24,805 6% 22,505 85.0% 85.2% n.a. 80.7% n.a. 79.1% -30,181 -32,200 n.a29,498 n.a29,806 -3,818 -2,000 n.a4,692 n.a7,300 n.a. n.a. n.a. n.a. n.a. n.a. n.a6,489 -6,450 n.a6,386 n.a6,386 -10,307 -8,450 n.a11,079 n.a13,687 -2,512 -3,513 n.a8,889 n.a8,889 -12,819 -11,963 n.a19,968 n.a22,576 |

^{*}FY/23 figures adjusted for extraordinary revenue effects of ~€+2.0m and OPEX of ~€+0.3m

Source: First Berlin Equity Research, LAIQON AG

Positive revenue and EBITDA performance in the core IQ and AI divisions 2024 group revenue growth was achieved across all major core business segments, with notable increases in LAIQON Wealth Management (15.5% growth to €8.27m) and LAIQON Digital Wealth (77.1% growth to €3.92m), followed by LAIQON Asset Management (2.8% growth to €15.7m). However, revenue in the LAIQON Group segment declined by 49.0%to €3.1m due to the sale of the closed-end fund business in late 2023 (FY/23; €6.1m). The IQ segment (Wealth and Asset Management) achieved a positive EBITDA of €4.1m (FY/23: €2.5m), highlighting stable client inflows and improved margins. The AI segment (LAIC & growney) posted an EBITDA loss of €-1.7m (FY/23: €-2.9m), reflecting a positive contribution from upscaling the business. The Group/Other segment, including central services and residual real assets, recorded EBITDA of €-6.3m (FY/23: €-4.4m)

Moderate Assets under Management (AuM) increase in FY/24 - according to management LAIC had a very good launch in Q4/24, leading to the 2025 AuM outlook confirmation AuM increased by €0.4bn or 6.6% to €6.5bn by YE/24 (YE/23: €6.1m). In addition, the company reported that AuM grew to ~€6.7bn by the end of Q1 2025, reflecting 18% organic growth since the end of 2022 (YE/22: €5.7bn). Importantly, the company reaffirmed its 2025 target of increasing AuM to €8-10bn, supported by its strategic growth initiatives and partnerships, including the recently launched "WertAnlage" product with strategic partner Union Investment (Union). Management confirmed that Union successfully launched the joint product "WertAnlage" in Q4/24, which is already being rolled out across Union's network of cooperative banks. According to management, both initial feedback from clients and product adoption are very positive. We thus expect further traction in 2025. The Al subsidiary LAIC is expected to contribute AuM of €1.5bn in FY/25, up from ~€0.5m in FY/24.The partnership with Union Investment seems on track and we expect it to be a key growth catalyst (further details on the LAIC-advisor and the "Wertanlage", the joint product with Union, can be found in the appendix). In addition, management stated that discussions with potential further partners are progressing positively and finalisation of a deal can be expected during 2025. Figure 1 overleaf provides an overview of the development of LAIQON's AuM from 2019 to 2028E.

Ш

EUR bn AuM CAGR organic: +34.0% 13.0-14.0 14 12 8.0-10.0 10 8 6.5 6.1 5.7 6 4 2.2 1.7 2 Dec 19 Dec 20 Dec 21 Dec 22 Dec 23 Dec 24 2025(e) 2028(e) Guidance

LAIQON AG

Figure 1: Overview of LAIQON's AuM Performance 2019 - 2028E

Source: First Berlin Equity Research, LAIQON AG

Revising financial forecasts for 2025-2027 following FY/24 results LAIQON's weaker-than-expected top-line performance in FY/24, we have lowered our revenue and EBITDA projections for 2025 and subsequent years. These revisions reflect a somewhat more conservative view of the development of the IQ business and the pace of monetisation of the new business initiatives and rollout of "WertAnlage". Our updated estimates are summarised in table 2 below:

Table 2: Changes to our forecasts (KPIs)

| | | FY 25E | | | FY 26E | | | FY 27E | |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------|
| All figures in EUR '000 | Old | New | Delta | Old | New | Delta | Old | New | Delta |
| LAIQON group revenues | 42,710 | 36,650 | -14% | 52,860 | 43,135 | -18% | 60,670 | 51,260 | -16% |
| Gross profit | 36,595 | 32,786 | -10% | 42,817 | 36,233 | -15% | 48,839 | 43,058 | -12% |
| margin | 85.7% | 89.5% | | 81.0% | 84.0% | | 80.5% | 84.0% | |
| EBITDA | 4,271 | 2,199 | -49% | 11,629 | 4,745 | -59% | 16,988 | 10,252 | -40% |
| margin | 10.0% | 6.0% | | 22.0% | 11.0% | | 28.0% | 20.0% | |
| EBIT | -1,979 | -4,217 | - | 5,429 | -1,621 | - | 10,938 | 4,036 | -63% |
| Net income / loss | -3,074 | -4,927 | - | 1,257 | -3,213 | - | 6,773 | 1,069 | -84% |
| EPS (in EUR, dil.) | -0.15 | -0.23 | - | 0.06 | -0.15 | - | 0.28 | 0.05 | -82% |

LAIC

Source: First Berlin Equity Research

Solid Balance Sheet The company ended 2024 with cash and cash equivalents of €13.7m (FBe: €17.5m), up from €7.1m in the previous year. The main reason was a significant capital increase conducted in 2024 involving the strategic investor, Joachim Herz Stiftung, which invested €12.6m in LAIQON. This not only enhanced the group's cash position and equity base but also provided a strong validation of LAIQON's strategic direction from a wellregarded institutional investor. Furthermore, LAIQON completed a capital increase of €5.8m on 15 May 2024 and the LAIC token transaction for the subsidiary LAIC Capital GmbH on 25 July 2024. The latter transaction raised funds totalling €7.2m (this financing round led to a reduction of LAIQON's stake in LAIC to 80.04% from the previous 90.25%) and further strengthened the balance sheet. Net gearing was a modest 24.9% at FY/24. The group's balance sheet remains solid. Importantly, FY/23 figures were restated due to the inaugural offsetting of deferred tax assets and liabilities in FY/24, in accordance with IFRS

requirements. In previous years, these positions were reported gross. As a result of this change, deferred tax assets for FY/23 were adjusted from €22.4m in the 2023 report to €5.2m in the 2024 report. Simultaneously, deferred tax liabilities were adjusted from €17.7m to €0.5m, resulting in a netting of €17.2m in both deferred tax positions. The restatement has no impact on net equity or net income. Total assets rose to €134.9m (FY/23 restated: €127.4m), chiefly reflecting the increased cash position and equity strengthening. Equity rose significantly to €81.0m (FY/23: €54.7m), corresponding to an equity ratio of 60.1% (FY/23: 42.9%). Financial liabilities (short- and long-term) decreased to €35.3m (FY/23: €38.3m), due primarily to the partial conversion and repayment of the 2020/2024 convertible bond.

Cash flow Cash flow from operations improved significantly to €-3.3m (FY/23: €-10.7m), due mainly to the improved operating result. CapEx almost doubled to €-2.6m (FY/23: €-1.3m), chiefly due to investment in LAIC, resulting in a better free cash outflow of €-5.9m (FY/23: €-7.9m). Financing cash flow of €12.4m (FY/23: €8.8m) included proceeds from the capital increase (€18.4m) and LAIC token sale (€4.1m), partially offset by bond repayment (€-2.9m) and M&A-related outflows (€-7.2m). Net cashflow stood at €+6.5m (FY/23: €-3.2m). Management target dividend capacity by 2026, leading to payout in 2027.

VALUATION MODEL

Buy rating confirmed at lower price target Following the FY/24 results, we now take a more conservative view of the outlook for revenue and profit growth. The negative valuation effect from lowering our financial forecasts was largely cancelled out by the positive effect from rolling our model forward. As a result, our DCF model yields a price target of €9.00 which is reduced on the previous €9.80. We continue to see substantial upside from current levels and reiterate our Buy recommendation. 2025 is set to be an exciting year for LAIQON, with accelerating momentum expected from the Union Investment partnership. With broad rollout of "WertAnlage" underway, and management confirming positive initial client and advisor feedback, we believe the company is well positioned to deliver on its ambitious growth targets.

Table 3: DCF Model

| All figures in EUR '000 | FY 25E | FY 26E | FY 27E | FY 28E | FY 29E | FY 30E | FY 31E | FY 32E |
|------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Net sales | 36,650 | 43,135 | 51,260 | 60,300 | 68,800 | 77,015 | 85,267 | 92,863 |
| NOPLAT | -4,217 | -1,621 | 3,741 | 11,051 | 15,775 | 20,134 | 24,256 | 23,721 |
| + depreciation & amortisation | 6,416 | 6,366 | 6,216 | 5,966 | 5,616 | 5,316 | 5,216 | 5,166 |
| Net operating cash flow | 2,199 | 4,745 | 9,957 | 17,017 | 21,391 | 25,450 | 29,472 | 28,887 |
| - total investments (CAPEX and WC) | -596 | -2,941 | -3,123 | -1,824 | -3,243 | -2,336 | -2,767 | -2,988 |
| Capital expenditures | -2,000 | -1,850 | -1,850 | -1,850 | -1,550 | -1,550 | -1,550 | -1,550 |
| Working capital | 1,404 | -1,091 | -1,273 | 26 | -1,693 | -786 | -1,217 | -1,438 |
| Free cash flows (FCF) | 1,603 | 1,804 | 6,835 | 15,193 | 18,148 | 23,114 | 26,706 | 25,899 |
| PV of FCF's | 1,499 | 1,529 | 5,253 | 10,587 | 11,466 | 13,240 | 13,869 | 12,195 |

| All figures in EUR '000 | |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| PV of FCFs in explicit period | 107,439 |
| PV of FCFs in terminal period | 102,923 |
| Enterprise value | 210,362 |
| + Net cash / - net debt (proforma) | -19,569 |
| + Investments / minority interests | 0 |
| Shareholder value | 190,793 |
| Sharecount (proforma) | 21,201 |
| Fair value per share in EUR | 9.00 |

| Price target in EUR | 9.00 |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Cost of equity | 12.7% |
| Pre-tax cost of debt | 6.9% |
| Tax rate | 31.0% |
| After-tax cost of debt | 4.8% |
| Share of equity capital | 70.0% |
| Share of debt capital | 30.0% |
| WACC | 10.3% |

| | | | | | / | • | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|--|--|
| Terminal growth rate/ | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 0.5% | 1.0% | 1.5% | 2.0% | 2.5% | 3.0% | 3.5% | | | |
| 7.3% | 13.30 | 13.99 | 14.79 | 15.74 | 16.89 | 18.31 | 20.10 | | | |
| 8.3% | 11.15 | 11.62 | 12.15 | 12.77 | 13.49 | 14.35 | 15.40 | | | |
| 9.3% | 9.50 | 9.83 | 10.20 | 10.62 | 11.10 | 11.67 | 12.32 | | | |
| 10.3% | 8.20 | 8.43 | 8.70 | 9.00 | 9.34 | 9.72 | 10.16 | | | |
| 11.3% | 7.14 | 7.32 | 7.52 | 7.73 | 7.97 | 8.25 | 8.55 | | | |
| 12.3% | 6.28 | 6.41 | 6.56 | 6.72 | 6.90 | 7.09 | 7.31 | | | |
| 13.3% | 5.55 | 5.65 | 5.77 | 5.89 | 6.02 | 6.17 | 6.33 | | | |
| ne abbreviated | d version for f | ormatting pur | ooses | | | | | | | |

- Fair value per share (EUR)

^{*}Please note our model runs through 2036 and we have only shown the abbreviated version for formatting purpose



APPENDIX

PARTNERSHIP WITH UNION INVESTMENT – A KEY GROWTH DRIVER

Union started the roll-out of LAIC WertAnlage in December as planned Union Investment launched the Al-driven fund management solution, "WertAnlage", in early December 2024, in collaboration with LAIQON's subsidiary, LAIC Vermögensverwaltung. The product is unique as it can offer a wide variety of personalised investment strategies (>2,600) that take into account different customer preferences in terms of risk appetite, asset classes, regions, sustainability, and investment themes. The AI system analyses over 125m data points daily to optimise and manage the portfolios dynamically, adapting them to market conditions and individual client preferences. We see Union as a game-changing partner for LAIQON/LAIC.

Figure 2: Cooperation with Union Investment – Successful implementation of the white label partner approach





Cooperation agreement - Dec 2023

Pilot phase has been launched Oct 2024

Roll-out has been launched Dec 2024



Introduction of individualised fund asset management for high-end clients with LAIC in October 2024 (pilot) and in December 2024 (roll-out)



Impressive sales strength thanks to access to approx. 700 banks in the entire Cooperative Financial Network



Al and UX solutions from LAIC for use in the existing infrastructure of the "Volks- & Raiffeisen" banks

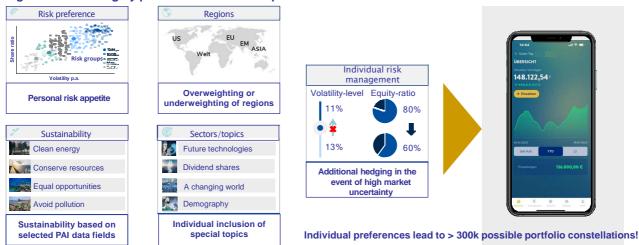


WertAnlage – a fully customisable solution including ~30% in Union funds, ~20% in LAIQON funds, and ~50% in funds from other providers — Investors can choose from five traditional or five sustainability-focused portfolios, each with varying equity exposure. They can further customise their investment focus on regions such as North America, alternative investments such as commodities, or specific themes such as infrastructure. Once the investor, in consultation with a cooperative bank advisor, determines the portfolio's broad asset allocation, LAIC optimises and creates the portfolio. The allocations include about 30% in Union Investment funds, 20% in LAIQON funds (this will support AuM growth in the LAIQON funds), and 50% in funds from other providers, index funds (ETFs), and exchange-traded commodities (ETCs). Individual stock investments are excluded. The "WertAnlage" service is designed for affluent private investors, with a minimum initial investment of €50,000. Savings plans are available after this initial deposit, requiring a minimum monthly contribution of €500. Clients pay ongoing fund costs, a management fee of 0.86%, and an individualised service fee set by their bank. No upfront sales charges are applied to the funds.

The LAIC-advisor includes optimisation functions for an investor's individual risk profile, offering >1m individual Al-based portfolio solutions LAIC's Al algorithms excel with their high flexibility, enabling its WealthTech-advisor to offer optimal portfolio composition determined individually according to each client's personal risk profile. The versatility of LAIC's approach to active asset management enables it to provide a broad

range of >1m individual Al-based portfolio solutions, including funds, ETFs, selected equities and derivatives. Clients can constantly monitor asset allocation and automatically make changes within their risk profile as they wish.

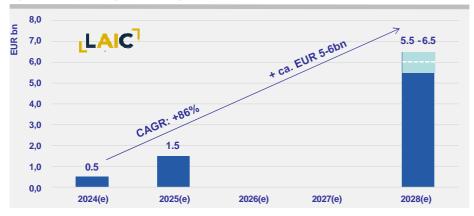
Figure 3: LAIC's highly personalised Al-based portfolios



Source: First Berlin Equity Research, LAIQON AG

LAIC outlook: AUM of €5.5-€6.5bn by 2028 Chiefly driven by the Union partnership, management expect that LAIC's AuM will climb from €0.5bn in 2024, to €1.5bn in 2025 and to a range of €5.5-€6.5bn by 2028, implying a 2024-2028 CAGR of about 86%. This newly communicated guidance is aligned with the previous LAIQON Group outlook for 2025 of AuM at €8-10bn, of which LAIC would contribute €1.5bn, and the remaining traditional LAIQON business the balance of €6.5-8.5bn. Importantly, according to this forecast, the LAIC subsidiary alone would be roughly as large in five years as the entire LAIQON Group already is today (AuM of €6.5bn at YE/24).

Figure 4: LAIC's organic AuM growth until 2028 - branded & white-label partnerships



Source: First Berlin Equity Research, LAIQON AG



INCOME STATEMENT

| All figures in EUR '000 | FY 22 | FY 23 | FY 24 | FY 25E | FY 26E | FY 27E |
|---|---------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| LAIQON group revenues | 21,575 | 30,746 | 31,003 | 36,650 | 43,135 | 51,260 |
| Cost of goods sold | -3,665 | -5,941 | -4,640 | -3,864 | -6,902 | -8,202 |
| Gross profit | 17,910 | 24,805 | 26,363 | 32,786 | 36,233 | 43,058 |
| Personnel expenses | -17,113 | -20,226 | -19,908 | -20,493 | -21,412 | -22,308 |
| Other operating expenses | -11,024 | -8,658 | -10,273 | -10,094 | -10,076 | -10,498 |
| Share of profit of associates | 281 | -614 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| EBITDA | -9,946 | -4,693 | -3,818 | 2,199 | 4,745 | 10,252 |
| Depreciation expenses | -4,711 | -6,386 | -6,489 | -6,416 | -6,366 | -6,216 |
| Operating income (EBIT) | -14,657 | -11,079 | -10,307 | -4,217 | -1,621 | 4,036 |
| Net financial result | -1,631 | -8,889 | -2,512 | -2,510 | -2,591 | -2,072 |
| Pre-tax income (EBT) | -16,288 | -19,968 | -12,819 | -6,727 | -4,213 | 1,964 |
| Tax result | 5,747 | 7,094 | 4,863 | 1,500 | 800 | -295 |
| Net income / loss | -10,541 | -12,874 | -7,956 | -5,227 | -3,413 | 1,669 |
| Minority interests | -376 | -552 | -325 | -300 | -200 | 600 |
| Net result after minorities | -10,165 | -12,322 | -7,631 | -4,927 | -3,213 | 1,069 |
| Diluted EPS (in EUR) | -0.67 | -0.51 | -0.25 | -0.23 | -0.15 | 0.05 |
| Ratios as % of total revenue Gross margin EBITDA margin | 83.0% n.a. | 80.7% n.a. | 85.0% n.a. | 89.5% 6.0% | 84.0% 11.0% | 84.0% 20.0% |
| EBIT margin | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | -11.5% | -3.8% | 7.9% |
| Net margin | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | -13.4% | -7.4% | 2.1% |
| Tax rate | 3.0% | 30.0% | 30.0% | 15.0% | 15.0% | 15.0% |
| Expenses as % of of total revenue Personnel expenses | 79.3% | 65.8% | 64.2% | 55.9% | 49.6% | 43.5% |
| • | 51.1% | | | 27.5% | 23.4% | 20.5% |
| Other operating expenses Depreciation expenses | 21.8% | 28.2% 20.8% | 33.1% 20.9% | 17.5% | 14.8% | 12.1% |
| · | 21.070 | 20.070 | 20.970 | 17.570 | 14.070 | 12.170 |
| Y-Y Growth | 47 407 | 10.501 | 0.004 | 40.00/ | 47.70 | 40.007 |
| Revenues | -17.4% | 42.5% | 0.8% | 18.2% | 17.7% | 18.8% |
| EBITDA Operating income (EBIT) | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | 115.8% | 116.1% |
| Operating income (EBIT) Net income/ loss | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. |
| Net income/ ioss | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. |



| All figures in EUR '000 | FY 22 | FY 23 | FY 24 | FY 25E | FY 26E | FY 27E |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| <u>Assets</u> | | | | | | |
| Current assets, total | 22,359 | 19,830 | 25,560 | 25,108 | 25,462 | 27,350 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 10,375 | 7,139 | 13,653 | 8,404 | 5,416 | 3,629 |
| Receivables | 9,942 | 10,888 | 10,343 | 15,062 | 18,318 | 21,908 |
| Financial assets | 863 | 845 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 |
| Other current assets | 1,179 | 958 | 982 | 1,061 | 1,147 | 1,230 |
| Non-current assets, total | 117,483 | 107,610 | 109,294 | 105,075 | 100,761 | 96,395 |
| Property, plant & equipment | 10,436 | 13,202 | 11,569 | 10,869 | 10,169 | 9,669 |
| Financial assets | 1,180 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Intangible assets | 90,293 | 87,214 | 85,920 | 82,204 | 78,388 | 74,522 |
| Deferred tax assets & other | 15,003 | 5,989 | 10,728 | 10,926 | 11,128 | 11,128 |
| Associated companies (Goodwill) | 570 | 1,748 | 1,077 | 1,077 | 1,077 | 1,077 |
| Total assets | 139,841 | 127,441 | 134,854 | 130,184 | 126,223 | 123,745 |
| Shareholders' equity & debt | | | | | | |
| Current liabilities, total | 22,872 | 19,202 | 12,759 | 16,362 | 18,603 | 21,009 |
| Short-term debt | 2,311 | 1,918 | 1,965 | 1,867 | 1,960 | 2,058 |
| Accounts payable | 16,029 | 14,869 | 9,860 | 13,585 | 15,750 | 18,068 |
| Income tax liabilities | 1,982 | 330 | 95 | 114 | 137 | 164 |
| Other current liabilities | 2,551 | 2,085 | 838 | 796 | 756 | 718 |
| Long-term liabilities, total | 44,882 | 53,562 | 41,080 | 38,580 | 36,080 | 30,080 |
| Long-term debt | 16,535 | 36,428 | 31,874 | 31,874 | 31,874 | 26,874 |
| Deferred tax liabilities | 17,052 | 494 | 70 | 70 | 70 | 70 |
| Trade payables and other liabilities | 11,295 | 16,640 | 9,136 | 6,636 | 4,136 | 3,136 |
| Minority interests | 5,471 | -877 | 8,888 | 8,588 | 8,388 | 8,988 |
| Shareholders' equity | 66,617 | 55,554 | 72,127 | 66,654 | 63,152 | 63,668 |
| Total consolidated equity and debt | 139,841 | 127,441 | 134,854 | 130,184 | 126,223 | 123,745 |
| Ratios | | | | | | |
| Current ratio (x) | 1.0 | 1.0 | 2.0 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.3 |
| Quick ratio (x) | 1.0 | 1.0 | 2.0 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.3 |
| Net debt/(net cash) | 8,471 | 31,207 | 20,186 | 25,337 | 28,419 | 25,303 |
| Net gearing | 11.8% | 57.1% | 24.9% | 33.7% | 39.7% | 39.7% |
| Book value per share (in €) | 4.38 | 2.68 | 3.45 | 3.15 | 2.99 | 3.01 |
| Return on equity (ROE) | -15.8% | -23.2% | -11.0% | -7.8% | -4.8% | 2.3% |
| Equity ratio | 51.5% | 42.9% | 60.1% | 57.8% | 50.0% | 51.5% |



CASH FLOW STATEMENT

| All figures in EUR '000 | FY 22 | FY 23 | FY 24 | FY 25E | FY 26E | FY 27E |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Net income | -10,541 | -12,874 | -7,957 | -5,227 | -3,413 | 1,669 |
| Depreciation and amortisation | 4,711 | 6,386 | 6,489 | 6,416 | 6,366 | 6,216 |
| Changes in working capital | -4,349 | -3,192 | 323 | -1,095 | -1,194 | -1,367 |
| Other adjustments | 7,414 | -1,055 | -2,163 | -843 | -398 | -455 |
| Operating cash flow | -2,765 | -10,735 | -3,308 | -749 | 1,361 | 6,063 |
| CapEx | -3,423 | -1,315 | -2,614 | -2,000 | -1,850 | -1,850 |
| Free cash flow | -6,188 | -12,050 | -5,922 | -2,749 | -489 | 4,213 |
| Other investments and disposals | -5,049 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cash flow from investing | -8,472 | -1,315 | -2,614 | -2,000 | -1,850 | -1,850 |
| Debt financing, net | -6,759 | 8,813 | -5,964 | -2,500 | -2,500 | -6,000 |
| Equity financing, net | 12,040 | 0 | 18,400 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cash flow from financing | 5,281 | 8,813 | 12,436 | -2,500 | -2,500 | -6,000 |
| Net cash flow | -5,956 | -3,236 | 6,514 | -5,249 | -2,989 | -1,787 |
| Cash, start of the year | 16,331 | 10,375 | 7,139 | 13,653 | 8,404 | 5,416 |
| Cash, end of the year | 10,375 | 7,139 | 13,653 | 8,404 | 5,416 | 3,629 |
| EBITDA/share (in €) | -0.65 | -0.23 | -0.18 | 0.10 | 0.22 | 0.48 |
| Y-Y Growth | | | | | | |
| Operating cash flow | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | 345.4% |
| Free cash flow | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. |
| EBITDA/share | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | 115.8% | 116.1% |



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| Category Current market capitalisation (in €) | | 1 | 2 > 2 billion | |
|---|--|---------------|------------------|--|
| | | 0 - 2 billion | | |
| Strong Buy ¹ | An expected favourable price trend of: | > 50% | > 30% | |
| Buy | An expected favourable price trend of: | > 25% | > 15% | |
| Add | An expected favourable price trend of: | 0% to 25% | 0% to 15% | |
| Reduce | An expected negative price trend of: | 0% to -15% | 0% to -10% | |
| Sell | An expected negative price trend of: | < -15% | < -10% | |

¹ The expected price trend is in combination with sizable confidence in the quality and forecast security of management.

Our recommendation system places each company into one of two market capitalisation categories. Category 1 companies have a market capitalisation of $\in 0 - \in 2$ billion, and Category 2 companies have a market capitalisation of $> \in 2$ billion. The expected return thresholds underlying our recommendation system are lower for Category 2 companies than for Category 1 companies. This reflects the generally lower level of risk associated with higher market capitalisation companies.

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| Report No.: | Date of publication | Previous day closing price | Recommendation | Price target |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Initial Report | 20 August 2024 | €4.93 | BUY | €9.80 |
| 2 | 12 September 2024 | €4.14 | BUY | €9.80 |
| 3 | 3 December 2024 | €5.04 | BUY | €9.80 |
| 4 | Today | €3.87 | BUY | €9.00 |

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key sources of information in the preparation of this research report



- valuation methods and principles
- sensitivity of valuation parameters

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