Datum 10/29/2009

Vara Research GmbH Schweizer Straße 13 60594 Frankfurt am Main www.vararesearch.de



# **GK SOFTWARE AG**

# **Partnership with SAP Yields First Fruits**

Recommendation: Buy ■ Target price: € 37.75

The announcement of the strategic sales cooperation with SAP in late September was followed by a substantial upward surge of the GK share that clearly exceeded our previous target price ( $\[ \le \] 23.00 \]$ ). The new large project at EDEKA already represents a result of the cooperation with SAP. GK is expected to continue to benefit considerably from the sales drive of SAP, as the two GK modules marketed by SAP close an important gap in the product portfolio of SAP for retailers. Due to the large order that will most likely take up to three years, we have raised our sales estimate for 2010 by 7%. The target price climbs to  $\[ \] 37.75$  per share (upside potential: 26%). We recommend buying the share.

# Investment Highlights

- The partnership entered with SAP on September 30 has already resulted in a first major order. Together with its partner, SAP, GK will equip 6,000 branches of EDEKA within the scope of the Lunar project. Since its establishment, GK has equipped 13,500 branches of various retailers. This comparison gives an idea of the dimension of the new project and the momentum that the cooperation with SAP could gain. We estimate that the so far largest individual project of GK will take up to three years; the first revenue could become visible as early as 2009. The sales contribution of the entire EDEKA project is expected to reach the eight-figure range. However, for reasons of caution, we have only increased the sales forecast for 2010 by €2 million. Sales from the order backlog and the EDEKA project imply further new customer sales in the lower to medium seven-figure range.
- The GK solutions marketed by SAP address the subjects of "store device control" and "offline-capable branch processes". "Store device control" focuses on the control and networking of peripherals a field that is very important for SAP in connection with the real-time integration of branch data in the central SAP system. Both GK solutions belong to the field of ERP/infrastructure and are of strategic significance.



### **GK SOFTWARE AG**

ISIN: **DE0007571424**Price (10/28/09): € **30.00**Market capitalization € **50m**Free float **24.33** %

### Financial calendar

11/27/2009 Q3 figures

### **Shareholder structure**

GK Software Holding
R. Gläß
S. Kronmüller
70.57%
2.85%
2.25%

## Price performance



## **Michael Vara**

+49 (0)69 - 66 36 80 71 vara@vararesearch.de

### **Daniel Grossjohann**

+49 (0)69 - 61 99 33 31 grossjohann@vararesearch.de

# Key Figures

	Sales	Net inc. adj.	EPS adj.	P/E	EV/ Sales	EV/ EBIT	EBIT Margin	ROE (%)
2007	10.7	1.6	1.25	n.m.	n.m.	n.m.	21.7	88.7
2008	15.0	2.0	1.22	13.92	1.9	10.2	18.5	29.3
2009e	18.5	3.2	1.95	15.41	2.3	10.4	21.8	25.1
2010e	25.1	3.4	2.04	14.70	1.7	9.1	18.5	21.6
2011e	28.4	3.9	2.33	12.90	1.5	8.0	18.6	20.0

Source: Company information / Vara Research GmbH

The reselling partnership with SAP is non-exclusive, which means that GK can continue to build up sales capacities independently from SAP, thereby avoiding potential dependencies. In certain situations, GK and SAP may still be competitors (POS solutions). In these cases, however, GK will participate in the sale of the two GK modules marketed by SAP. We believe that SAP is primarily interested in the product success of its own ERP solution. Therefore, we are confident that GK will also have good opportunities to offer other modules from the GK/retail family within the scope of joint projects with SAP.

In 2007, SAP had a market share of 55% of the large companies in the retail industry. Only few of these customers are also customers of GK and could optimize the ERP integration by deploying the GK modules. Especially in other countries in which the presence of GK is still limited, the name "SAP" opens doors and serves as a quality cachet.

In view of the agreement with SAP, we consider a medium-term sales growth of about 20% a year to be realistic for GK SOFTWARE. However, it must be taken into consideration that in projects acquired by SAP, GK will also render services to a considerable extent. Thus, the scalability is limited.

Generally, the sales partnership with SAP is expected to increase the margin, as GK can save sales costs. Furthermore, the branch infrastructure services to be rendered by GK are charged for at higher daily rates. Therefore, we have calculated a margin of 18.5% in the medium run; the EBIT margin for 2009 will still be lower due to the Solquest takeover. In the medium run, the working capital will most likely drop slightly in relation to the sales, as GK will not build up any trade receivables from the projects acquired by SAP. Additional investments will not be necessary within the scope of the joint projects.

The target price of € 37.75 per share represents the median of the peer-group comparison and the FCF analysis. Based on the estimates for 2010, the peer-group comparison implies a fair value of € 36.50. Under consideration of the adjustment in 2010 and the higher margin level in the medium run, the FCF appraisal delivers a fair value of € 39.00 per share.

# **Profit and Loss Account**

(in €m)	2006	2007	2008	2009e	2010e	2011e
Sales revenues	7.079	10.745	15.029	18.451	25.053	28.433
Change in finished goods and work in progress	0.976	-0.002	-1.260	-0.217	-0.295	-0.335
Other own cost capitalized	0.318	0.558	0.815	1.033	1.402	1.591
Other operating income	0.205	0.379	0.424	0.632	0.858	0.973
Total performance	8.578	11.680	15.008	19.897	27.017	30.663
Cost of material	-0.227	-0.486	-0.514	0.363	-1.049	-1.784
Gross profit	8.351	11.194	14.494	20.261	25.968	28.879
Personnel expenses	-4.900	-6.152	-8.047	-12.497	-15.157	-16.728
Other operating expenses/income	-1.509	-2.183	-2.954	-3.942	-5.278	-5.915
EBITDA	1.942	2.859	3.493	3.821	5.533	6.236
Depreciation/amortisation	-0.342	-0.527	-0.719	-0.780	-0.898	-0.959
EBIT	1.600	2.332	2.775	3.041	4.635	5.277
Financial result	0.020	-0.115	0.090	0.138	0.151	0.177
Non operating result before taxes	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Pre tax result	1.620	2.217	2.864	3.179	4.785	5.454
Non operating result after taxes	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Taxes	-0.693	-0.656	-0.830	-0.922	-1.387	-1.581
Minority interest	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Net result	0.927	1.561	2.034	2.257	3.398	3.872
Adjustments	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.984	0.000	0.000
Adjusted net result	0.927	1.561	2.034	3.241	3.398	3.872
Average number of shares	1.25	1.25	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.67
EPS	0.74	1.25	1.22	1.36	2.04	2.33
Adjusted EPS	0.74	1.25	1.22	1.95	2.04	2.33
DPS	0.00	0.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Source: GK SOFTWARE AG / Vara Research GmbH  $\,$ 

# Balance of Accounts

(in €m)	2006	2007	2008	2009e	2010e	2011e
Long term assets	1.025	3.748	4.226	5.706	6.875	8.264
Intangible assets	0.719	1.128	1.633	2.583	2.983	3.483
Tangible assets	0.306	2.620	2.593	3.122	3.892	4.781
Financial assets	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Current assets	6.711	8.064	15.382	17.197	21.426	24.935
Inventories	2.001	1.999	0.738	0.906	1.230	1.396
Receivables	2.253	3.161	5.789	7.107	9.650	10.952
Cash and securities	2.457	2.904	8.855	9.184	10.545	12.587
Other assets	0.006	0.018	0.018	0.018	0.018	0.018
Total assets	7.742	11.830	19.626	22.921	28.319	33.217
Equity	1.440	2.081	11.782	14.040	17.438	21.310
Reserves	1.440	2.081	11.782	14.040	17.438	21.310
Minorities	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Provisions	0.707	0.577	0.847	0.850	0.852	0.855
Liabilities	5.378	8.388	5.803	6.838	8.836	9.859
Interest bearing liabilities	0.002	1.376	1.256	1.256	1.256	1.256
Non interest bearing liabilities	5.376	7.012	4.547	5.583	7.580	8.603
Other liabilities	0.217	0.784	1.193	1.193	1.193	1.193
Total equity and liabilities	7.742	11.830	19.626	22.921	28.319	33.217

Source: GK SOFTWARE AG / Vara Research GmbH

# Cash Flow Statement

(in €m)	2006	2007	2008	2009e	2010e	2011e
Net cash provided by operating activites	0.763	1.920	1.427	2.589	3.429	4.388
Net cash used in investing activities	-0.653	-2.046	-2.579	-2.259	-2.068	-2.347
Net cash provided by financing activities	0.002	0.573	7.098	0.000	0.000	0.000
Change in cash and securities	0.112	0.447	5.946	0.330	1.361	2.041
Cash and securities at the end of the period	2.457	2.904	8.855	9.184	10.545	12.587

Source: GK SOFTWARE AG / Vara Research GmbH

# Key Figures\*

	2006	2007	2008	2009e	2010e	2011e
Profitability ratios						
EBITDA margin	27.4%	26.6%	23.2%	26.0%	22.1%	21.9%
EBIT margin	22.6%	21.7%	18.5%	21.8%	18.5%	18.6%
Pre tax margin	22.9%	20.6%	19.1%	22.6%	19.1%	19.2%
Net margin	13.1%	14.5%	13.5%	17.6%	13.6%	13.6%
Free cash flow margin	8.7%	n.m.	12.0%	12.4%	11.3%	11.2%
ROE	94.9%	88.7%	29.3%	25.1%	21.6%	20.0%
Productivity ratios						
Sales/employees (in € `000)	85.3	76.8	74.9	72.7	84.2	87.9
Net result/employees (in € `000)	11.2	11.2	10.1	12.8	11.4	12.0
Number of employees	83	140	201	254	298	324
Financial ratios						
Equity ratio	18.6%	17.6%	60.0%	61.3%	61.6%	64.2%
Gearing	-166.0%	-70.9%	-64.1%	-56.1%	-53.0%	-52.9%
Dividend yield	n.a.	n.a.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Cash flow ratios						
Cash flow per share	1.02	1.57	1.82	1.83	2.58	2.90
Free cash flow per share	0.49	-0.52	1.09	1.37	1.70	1.91
Other ratios						
Depreciation/sales	4.8%	4.9%	4.8%	4.2%	3.6%	3.4%
Capex/sales	9.2%	24.3%	8.1%	12.2%	8.3%	8.3%
Working capital/sales	-13.8%	5.9%	10.0%	15.0%	15.0%	15.0%
Tax rate	42.8%	29.6%	29.0%	29.0%	29.0%	29.0%
Valuation ratios						
EV/Sales	n.a.	n.a.	1.88	2.28	1.68	1.48
EV/EBITDA	n.a.	n.a.	8.10	8.74	7.59	6.74
EV/EBIT	n.a.	n.a.	10.20	10.44	9.07	7.96
P/E reported	n.a.	n.a.	13.92	22.13	14.70	12.90
P/E clean	n.a.	n.a.	13.92	15.41	14.70	12.90
PCPS	n.a.	n.a.	9.36	16.43	11.62	10.33
rcr3	II.a.	II.a.	9.30	10.43	11.02	10.55

<sup>\*</sup>Based on clean figures

Source: GK SOFTWARE AG / Vara Research GmbH

A. Disclosures in accordance with § 34 b WpHG (German Securities Trading Act), Finanzanalyseverordnung (FinAnV) (Ordinance on the Analysis of Financial Instruments):

I. Disclosures on authorship, responsible company, regulatory authority:

Company responsible for the publication: Vara Research GmbH Authors of this financial analysis: Daniel Großjohann, Analyst and Michael Vara, Analyst and Managing Director of Vara Research GmbH

Vara Research GmbH is subject to regulation through the Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (BaFin).

Previous financial analyses:

Company	Date	Rating	Target price
<b>GK SOFTWARE AG</b>	13/05/2008	n.a.	n.a.
<b>GK SOFTWARE AG</b>	03/09/2008	Buy	45.50
<b>GK SOFTWARE AG</b>	21/10/2008	Buy	28.45
<b>GK SOFTWARE AG</b>	19/12/2008	Buy	28.45
<b>GK SOFTWARE AG</b>	27/03/2009	Buy	28.45
<b>GK SOFTWARE AG</b>	14/05/2009	Buy	21.60
<b>GK SOFTWARE AG</b>	16/06/2009	Buy	21.60
GK SOFTWARE AG	14/09/2009	Buv	23.00

#### II. Additional disclosures:

#### Information sources:

Material sources of information for preparing this document are publications in domestic and foreign media such as information services (including but not limited to Reuters, VWD, Bloomberg, DPA –AFX), business press (including but not limited to Börsenzeitung, Handelsblatt, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Financial Times), professional publications, published statistics, rating agencies as well as publications of the analysed issuers.

Furthermore, discussions were held with the Management for the purpose of preparing the company study. The analysis was provided to the issuer prior to going to press; no changes were made afterwards, however.

Vara Research GmbH uses a 3-level absolute share rating system. The ratings pertain to a time horizon of up to 12 months.

BUY: the expected price trend of the share amounts to at least +15%. NEUTRAL: The expected price trend lies between -15% and +15%. SELL: The expected price trend amounts to more than -15%.

The following valuation methods are used when valuing companies: Multiplier models (price/earnings, price/cash flow, price/book value, EV/revenues, EV/EBIT, EV/EBITA, EV/EBITDA), peer group comparisons, historical valuation approaches, discounting models (DCF, DDM), break-up value approaches or asset valuation approaches. The valuation models are dependent upon macroeconomic measures such as interest, currencies, raw materials and assumptions concerning the economy. In addition, market moods influence the valuation of companies. Furthermore, the approaches are based on expectations that can change quickly and without warning, according to industry-specific developments. As a result, the results of the valuation and target prices derived from the models can change correspondingly. The results of the valuation are based on a period of 12 months. They are, however, subject to market conditions and represent a snapshot. They can be reached more quickly or more slowly or be revised upwards or downwards.

## Date of initial publication of the financial analysis: (29/10/2009)

- 4. Date and time of the prices of financial instruments disclosed therein: (Price on 28/10/2009)
- Updates:

We have currently not yet set a fixed date to provide a precise update of this analysis. Vara Research GmbH reserves the right to update the analysis unannounced.

III. Disclosures on possible conflicts-of-interest:

An agreement exists between Vara Research GmbH and ICF Kursmakler AG on the preparation of this publication. Vara Research GmbH receives consideration to that extent

The success of Vara Research GmbH is based on direct and/or indirect payments from issuers and institutional investors in connection with business activities, which affect the issuer and his securities.

Vara Research GmbH (and affiliated companies), the authors as well as other persons and companies who participated in the preparation of the financial analysis

- Do not hold any material investments in the issuer. Employees of Vara Research GmbH are, however, possibly owners of securities or investments, which are named in the document (or are related to such) and will possibly acquire securities or investments named in the document or place orders for such.
- Serve neither the issuer (by placing buy or sell orders in a market) nor financial instruments that are the subject of this financial analysis,
- Were (within the last 12 months) not a participant in the management of a consortium for the issuance of financial instruments, which themselves or their issuer is the subject of this financial analysis,
- Were neither bound to an agreement on services in connection with investment bank business towards the issuer, nor have they received consideration or promise of consideration from such agreements,
- Have no other material financial interests in connection with the issuer or the subject of the financial analysis.
- B. General disclosures/liability arrangement:
- 2. This document is exclusively for publication on the homepage of the relevant company and intended for use by national institutional investors. Copying, forwarding and distribution is only allowed with written permission of Vara Research GmbH.
- 3. This document is neither a recommendation nor an offer nor application of an offer for the purchase, sale or subscription of any security or investment. It is by no means meant to provide investment advice.
- 4. This document, prepared by Vara Research GmbH, is based on information from sources (publicly available information and tax rates at the time of publication, which can, however, change), which, according to Vara Research GmbH, are dependable, yet not actually available for independent verification. Despite diligent verification, Vara Research GmbH cannot provide a guarantee, assurance or warranty for completeness and correctness; responsibility and liability is therefore excluded insofar as there is no intent or gross negligence on the part of Vara Research GmbH. All statements and opinions are exclusively those of Vara Research GmbH and can be changed without prior notice. Any error-caused misstatements of the document can be corrected by Vara Research GmbH, without Vara Research GmbH being held responsible for damages as a result of these misstatements.