

# **EQUITY NOTE: RÁBA Automotive Holding**

Recommendation: BUY (unchanged)

Target price (12M): HUF 1,480 (changed)

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After preliminary negotiations, Rába Automotive Holding received a purchase offer with respect to its property in the 'Városrét' area of Győr, the company announced on 4 December. According to the announcement, the would-be buyer is a multinational retail company, who would buy a part of Rába Holding's 43-hectare real estate for over HUF 2bn. The paperwork of the deal will be finalized in the coming months, while the transaction with the conditions negotiated by the two partners has to be approved by the AGM in April 2020. Rába expects the deal to give further impetus to the sale of the remaining parts of the whole property.

#### Comment No.1

- The real estate in focus is the one Rába Holding had been planning to sell for a long while, though the main priority was to sell it as a whole. The total market value of the whole property was HUF 5.338bn in 2018, according to the independent appraisal Rába published in the annex of the financial report of 2018.
- If the next AGM votes for the conclusion of the transaction, the deal may add about HUF 2bn as one-off item to Rába Holding's total revenues. The purchase price and the payment schedule of the transaction remained undisclosed.
- The expected revenue from the property sale may be accounted as other income. In line with the present accounting policy at Rába Holding, the real estate for sale is entered in the books at book value, that is HUF 338.2m. As a result, the transaction is expected to yield about HUF 1.7bn net income next year as a one-off item.
- The present value of the transaction is estimated to add 141 HUF/share to the enterprise value.
- The transaction is also a milestone in the perspective of the possible sale of the remaining property assets. We drew up different scenarios, depending on the time horizon within which the remaining assets are expected to be sold (see our report of February 2018), and we applied the average of the different outcomes.
- On the whole, the recently announced transaction and the future theoretic sale of the remaining property assets are estimated to add 220 HUF/share to the enterprise value compared to our conservative forecast of 99 HUF/share.
- As a consequence, our 12-month target price also needs to be adjusted. Our new 12-month target price is 1,480 HUF/share, up from previous 1,350 HUF/share. The new target price is 25% higher than yesterday's closing price. In total return it may yield 27%, although our dividend forecast covers only Rába Holding's ordinary operation. We maintain our BUY rating.



#### Announcement No.2

Rába Automotive Holding Co. recently announced the new framework contract between its parts business unit 'Rába Automotive Component Ltd.' and one of the largest multinational Tier1 suppliers of the automotive industry.

Under the recent cooperation agreement, signed for seven years, Rába Automotive Components Ltd's factory in Mór will supply 50,000 pick-ups with fitted back seat frames for EUR 2 million annually from May 2020 onward, Rába Automotive Holding announced.

Rába sees strategic importance in this latest agreement, which also contains technological transfer. In the midst of the current transition going on in the automotive industry, the optimization of the European supply chains opens up the opportunity for Rába to establish new business relations, similar to this one, and even further cooperation.

### **Announcement No.3**

On 19 November 2019 Rába Automotive Holding published an announcement about the successful test period of the new machinery bought under the investment programme the company started in 2016. The aims of the investment programme were the modernisation and automatization of certain manufacturing processes at Rába's axle business, as well as a capacity enlargement. Besides the technology upgrade of the manufacturing of the axle business' core products, efficiency and quality improvements are also expected to get a boost.

More than 30,000 front axles will be produced in the new line this year – this makes up about 8–9% of the EU market, Rába announced. The company also plans to manufacture 150,000 units per year, covering roughly 50% of the EU demand. Production will be fully switched to the new technology by the end of Q1 2020; until then the old and the new production lines work simultaneously.

As the serial production begins in the new line, Rába also has initiated the conclusion of the grant application in the frame of the Hungarian Government' Large Enterprise Investment Support Programme. Under this investment programme, Rába is entitled to a HUF 2bn grant, which the company expects to receive this year.

According to the announcement, Rába Automotive applies residual dividend policy with main priorities of capital expenditures and acquisitions (except in case of unexpected and/or extraordinary circumstances when ad hoc decision will determine the actual dividend payment).

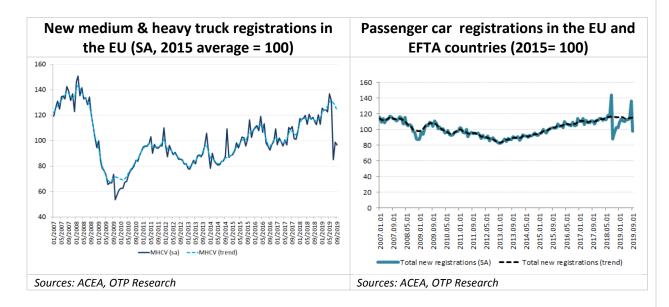
The investment programme will end in Q2 2020, when the supplementary capacity will also be implemented.

#### **Comments**

- In the past few weeks, Rába Holding did a great job of attracting investors' attention.
   Both announcements of the recent weeks reflect positive developments in the company's main operation.
- Although the 2m EUR/year order has a relatively small share in Rába Automotive Holding's total export revenues, we agree with the company emphasising the importance of the future opportunities its recent agreement with a global Tier1 supplier (its name is undisclosed) may provide.



- It is also a positive development that Rába Holding's components business 'Rába Járműalkatrész' has one more long-term cooperation, besides Suzuki Hungary and Toyo Seat Hungary Ltd.
- Rába Járműalkatrész's total sales to the EU amounted to EUR 20.1m in 2018, up by 12% from 2017. The company's 3Q cumulated sales to the EU increased to EUR 18.0m, 18% higher than a year earlier, while EU sales jumped 19% YoY in Q3 alone.
- Like in the medium and heavy weight commercial vehicle market in the EU, demand growth in the passenger car segment was fairly dynamic in the first half of this year, but there was a considerable drop in registration figures in the past few months partly due to the market correction after the introduction of WLTP. However, the demand trend well reflects the current sluggish growth environment in the eurozone.
- We expect Rába Holding's total consolidated EU sales to remain at the level of EUR 80m this year, around the level of 2018. Sales to the EU are forecast to increase to EUR 84m in 2020.



The initiation report, which contains the assumptions of the models used, is available here.

The valuation methodology used in this present equity research note to determine our price targets and recommendations is available here. (Also available in Hungarian)

This investment recommendation has not used proprietary models.

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OTP Bank Plc's recommendations and price targets history for Rába Automotive Holding in the past twelve months:

Period	Recommendations Percent of Recommendation		
Q4 2018	BUY	100%	
	HOLD	0%	
	SELL	0%	
Q1 2019	BUY	100%	
	HOLD	0%	
	SELL	0%	
	BUY	100%	
Q2 2019	HOLD	0%	
	SELL	0%	
	BUY	100%	
Q3 2019	HOLD	0%	
	SELL	0%	

Date	Recommendation	Target Price	Publication
22/11/2018	BUY	HUF 1412	Equity Note
21/02/2019	BUY	HUF 1502	Quarterly Earnings Update
04/04/2019	BUY	HUF 1403	Equity Note
15/04/2019	BUY	HUF 1403	Equity Note
15/05/2019	BUY	HUF 1403	Quarterly Earnings Update
29/08/2019	BUY	HUF 1317	Quarterly Earnings Update
17/10/2019	BUY	HUF 1317	Equity Note
14/11/2019	BUY	HUF 1350	Quarterly Earnings Update
04/12/2019	BUY	HUF 1480	Equity Note

The list of all recommendations made in the past 12 months is available here.

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