

Facephi

CMD Feedback – Management Confirmed Positive Momentum, 2025 set to be a Defining Year. Buy Rating and PT Raised to €3.0.

Sponsored Research

Price Target: €3.0

Close Price: €2.65

Potential: +13.2%

BUY

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First Capital Markets Day:

- Facephi (FACE) held its first CMD on 18/6 in Madrid, Spain.
- Co reconfirmed **dynamic commercial execution**, with launch of new products / services (IDV Suite, TESEO Wallet, mule accounts) and geo. expansion (e.g. new banking clients in Canada, access to Brazilian market via partners, good growth prospects in EU for the next few years, etc).
- Revenue concentration and ongoing diversification:** 1/ financial services remain strategic for Facephi (>95% of FY24 Revenue when considering Banking, Insurance and Fintech altogether) and 2/ Facephi remains a purely Latam focused company (~95% of FY24 Revenue). However, Co has started to diversify away from financial services and Latam, broadening its current client base.
- Facephi now focused on 1/ **partnership strategy**, enabling more efficient geo expansion and 2/ transition to **SaaS model** (48% of FY24 Revenue; +28.5% YoY)

Outlook:

- Positive momentum set to remain:** We still see FY25e Revenue of >€40m (+40.8% YoY) and equiv. FY25e ARR. FY25e TCV expected >€75m.
- EBITDA breakeven:** We now exp. FY25e rep. EBITDA of €5.1m (vs. FY24 rep. EBITDA of -€1.1m) and EBITDA margin of ~12.5% on 1/ reduced commission costs, 2/ contained Opex and 3/ strong top-line growth.
- FCF & Net Debt:** FY25e FCF exp. near breakeven at -€0.9m; resulting FY25e net debt of €3.8m (leverage ratio improving, we see Co debt free by FY26/27e). Capex exp. close to €5m over the next couple of years.
- WCR:** Improvement of the trade receivables (TR) balance exp. as per Mgmt as multiyear contracts no longer in use (revenue recognition now similar to IFRS 15). Hence, Facephi likely to collect TR faster. As a reminder, FY24 TR balance of €18.7m (+38.1% YoY; 237 DSO vs. 197 for FY23) but limited impact on WCR as trade payables increased by 36.9% to €14.8m (187 DSO vs. 157 for FY23). However, we see current TR close to 215 DSO for FY25e and expect normalisation after 2028.
- M&A:** likely upon share price rise as 1/ Co's profile improving and 2/ more efficient share exchange on higher share price to limit cash outflows. Targets identified by Facephi have either a solid customer base or innovative tech. Mgmt also reconfirmed discussion took place with potential buyers but turned down offers as not interested in selling at the current price (~€68m market cap). Speculative bias remains.

Key data	
Country	Spain
Subsector	Biometrics
Bloomberg	FACE-SM
Market Cap. (EURm)	68.3
Free Float (%)	63.8%
30d avg. Volume (k)	18.96

Financials				
	2023A	2024A	2025E	2026E
Sales (EURm)	25.2	28.9	40.7	51.8
Growth rate (%)	12.9%	14.8%	40.8%	27.5%
EBITDA (EURm)	0.6	(1.1)	5.1	11.1
Margin (%)	2.5%	(3.7%)	12.5%	21.5%
EBIT (EURm)	(5.4)	(6.7)	(1.0)	3.9
Margin (%)	(21.4%)	(23.1%)	(2.5%)	7.5%
Net Profits (EURm)	(4.3)	(8.9)	(1.8)	2.6
Basic EPS (EUR)	(0.2)	(0.3)	(0.1)	0.1
Net Debt (EURm)	9.0	4.4	3.8	(2.1)
FCF (EURm)	(9.0)	(3.4)	(0.9)	5.9
RoCE (%)	(8.2%)	(25.7%)	(4.9%)	9.8%
ND/EBITDA (x)	14.4x	(4.1x)	0.7x	(0.2x)

Valuation metrics				
	2023A	2024A	2025E	2026E
P/E (x)	(8.1x)	(7.7x)	(38.8x)	25.9x
FCF Yield (%)	(25.7%)	(5.0%)	(1.3%)	8.6%
EV/Sales (x)	1.7x	2.4x	1.7x	1.2x
EV/EBITDA (x)	70.5x	(65.2x)	13.8x	5.8x
EV/EBIT (x)	(8.1x)	(10.6x)	(67.4x)	16.6x

Source: Company, Marex



Source: Marex, FactSet



Change in Estimates:

- We now see FY25e rep. EBITDA of €5.1m (vs. prior est. of €2.9m) and FY25e rep. EBIT of -€1.0m (vs. prior est. of -€3.2m).
- FY25e Capex of €5.0m (+7.5% YoY); FCF of -€0.9m (vs. prior est. of -€0.4m; EBITDA improvement offset by WCR still substantial) and resulting net debt of €3.8m (vs. prior est. of €3.3m).

Exhibit 1: Change in Estimates

Δ Estimates (EURm)	2025E			2026E		
	NEW	OLD	Δ N/O	NEW	OLD	Δ N/O
Sales	40.7	40.7	(0.1%)	51.8	51.8	0.0%
EBITDA	5.1	2.9	72.9%	11.1	9.5	17.1%
Margin	12.5%	7.2%	526bps	21.5%	18.3%	314bps
EBIT	(1.0)	(3.2)	67.3%	3.9	2.2	72.7%
Margin	(2.5%)	(7.8%)	524bps	7.5%	4.3%	314bps
Net Income	(1.8)	(4.4)	60.3%	2.6	1.4	86.0%
Margin	(4.3%)	(10.9%)	655bps	5.1%	2.7%	235bps
Basic EPS (EUR)	(0.07)	(0.17)	60.3%	0.09	0.05	86.0%
FCFF	(0.9)	(0.4)	(119.1%)	5.9	(0.2)	3846.0%
FCFF conversion	(17.6%)	(13.9%)	-371bps	53.0%	(1.7%)	5464bps
Net Debt	3.8	3.3	14.8%	(2.1)	3.4	(161.7%)
Lev. Ratio	0.7x	1.1x	(0.4x)	(0.2x)	0.4x	(0.6x)

Source: Company, Marex

Rating & Valuation:

- **Buy rating and PT raised to €3.0** derived from a blended DCF (75%) and FY25e EV/Sales (25%) valuation on better est. profitability and positive commercial momentum.
- **Facephi re-rating ongoing:** Positive momentum (+51.4% YTD and +71.0% since Marex initiated coverage on 30/11/2024) on positive newsflow and successful business development. Speculative bias remaining as takeover possible and likely (~64% float; management has <10%).
- However, we still believe the stock suffers from a **profitability, liquidity and size discount** (~€68m market cap) vs. major peers.
- **Risks to our rating:** 1/ Business development and commercial execution risks (inability to achieve successful diversification, access new geos and gain new customer to diversify the current concentrated client base), 2/ tougher competitive environment against major peers (Idemia, Jumio, Onfido, Veriff, etc) and 3/ more Capex and Opex required to remain relevant in a competitive environment (R&D investments, key people hiring), impacting Co's profitability.



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Net asset-based method (NAV)	Estimation of the value of the equity based on the revalued assets and corrected for the value of the liability
Discounted dividend method (DDM)	Discounted future value of estimated dividend flows and share buybacks. The discount rate applied is generally the cost of equity
Sum of the parts	This method consists of estimating a company's different operations by using the most appropriate valuation method for each one, then calculating the sum
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Cash Return on Capital Invested (CROCI)	Returns based analysis that measures the excess value created by a company calculated as cash return on cash invested. The formula for computing CROCI is as follows: Numerator: Debt Adjusted Cash Flow (DACF) calculated as Operating cash flow (ignoring Working Capital) plus after-tax interest and lease expense. Non-cash items and the company's financial structure have no impact, making comparisons more meaningful. Denominator: Gross Cash Invested (GCI) calculated as Gross Assets plus Operating working capital plus capitalized leases plus investments. Figures assumed are pre-depreciation and write-off value of tangible and intangible assets. Depreciation policies do not impact this figure. The EV Calculation is computed as follows: (CROCI/WACC)*GCI

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