

Monday, 24 May 2021 | special comments

## Comarch: 2021 Q1 Results

Recommendation: buy | target price: PLN 267.00 | current price: PLN 222.00

CMR PW; CMR.WA | IT, Poland

Analyst: Paweł Szpigiel +48 22 438 24 06

- At PLN 383.9m, the 2021 Q1 revenue of Comarch exceeded our estimate by about PLN 17m.
- Sales in Poland missed the mark at PLN 218.5m vs. 235.5m expected, led by solutions for the finance sector and the retail and services sector.
- Quarterly revenue from TMT solutions totaled PLN 91.6m, a decrease of 5.5% from the year-ago level when, however, sales came in stronger than usual.
- The gross profit margin amounted to 28.7% in Q1 vs. our estimate of 28.3%.
- SG&A expenses totaled PLN 60.8m vs. 59.9m expected by us.
- Other operating activity generated a PLN 3.1m loss in Q1 2021 – a net effect of charges and reversals associated with doubtful receivables.
- The effects of the IFRS 15 percentage-of-completion method of revenue software license recognition amounted to PLN -2.0m.
- EBITDA for the quarter came in at PLN 67.4m, a similar value to that posted in Q1 2020 and a figure consistent with analysts' expectations.
- Net profit came in at PLN 26.1m.
- Comarch recorded a 4.4% increase in operating costs in Q1 2021 due to pay pressures.
- Operating cash flow was strong in the period at PLN 112.5m, an increase from PLN 87.9m generated the year before driven by improved earnings combined with positive working capital balances.

**Summing up, as expected, Comarch has a strong first quarter of 2021, with stable earnings similar to those generated in the stellar Q1 2020 indicating that the Company is on track to fulfilling our FY2021 full-year expectations. We maintain a positive view on CMR.**

### 2021 Q1 Results of Comarch

(PLN m)	1Q'21	1Q'20	change	1Q'21E	YoY change	consensus (median)	difference
revenue	383.9	377.8	1.6%	401.2	-4.3%	395.5	-2.9%
EBITDA	67.4	66.8	0.9%	67.5	-0.2%	66.5	1.3%
EBITDA margin	17.5%	17.7%	-	16.8%	-	16.8%	-
EBIT	46.2	44.9	3.0%	46.5	-0.5%	45.7	1.2%
gross profit	39.5	20.9	88.6%	46.5	-15.0%	-	-
net profit	26.1	14.2	84.0%	30.5	-14.6%	26.7	-2.3%

Source: Comarch, E - mBank estimate



#### List of abbreviations and ratios used by mBank:

**EV** (Enterprise Value) – Equity Value + Net Debt; **EBIT** – Earnings Before Interest and Taxes; **EBITDA** – EBIT + Depreciation & Amortisation; **Net Debt** – Borrowings + Debt Securities + Interest-Bearing Loans - Cash and Cash Equivalents; **P/E** (Price/Earnings) – Price Per Share Divided by Earnings Per Share; **P/CE** (Price to Cash Earnings) – Price Per Share Divided by Earnings + Depreciation & Amortisation; **P/B** (Price to Book Value) – Price Per Share Divided by Book Value Per Share; **P/CF** (Price to Cash Flow) – Price Divided by Cash Flow from Operations; **ROE** (Return on Equity) – Earnings Divided by Shareholders' Equity; **ROCE** (Return on Capital Employed) – EBIT x (Average Assets - Current Liabilities); **ROIC** (Return on Invested Capital) – EBIT x (1-Tax Rate) / (Average Equity + Minority Interest + Net Debt); **FCFF** (Free Cash Flow to Firm) – Cash Flow from Operations - CAPEX - Lease Payments; **FCFE** (Free Cash Flow to Equity) – Free Cash Flow to Firm - Net Interest Expense (incl. Debt + Leases) - Lease Payments

**OVERWEIGHT (OW)** – a rating which indicates that we expect a stock to outperform the broad market  
**NEUTRAL (N)** – a rating which indicates that we expect the stock to perform in line with the broad market  
**UNDERWEIGHT (UW)** – a rating which indicates that we expect the stock to underperform the broad market

#### Recommendations of Biuro maklerskie mBanku:

A recommendation is valid for a period of 9 months, unless a subsequent recommendation is issued within this period. Expected returns from individual recommendations are as follows:

**BUY** – we expect that the rate of return from an investment will be at least 15%  
**ACCUMULATE** – we expect that the rate of return from an investment will range from 5% to 15%  
**HOLD** – we expect that the rate of return from an investment will range from -5% to +5%  
**REDUCE** – we expect that the rate of return from an investment will range from -5% to -15%  
**SELL** – we expect that an investment will bear a loss greater than 15%

Recommendations are updated at least once every nine months.

mBank S.A. with its registered office in Warsaw at Prosta 18 renders brokerage services via a dedicated organisational unit, the Brokerage Bureau, which uses the Polish name Biuro maklerskie mBanku.

mBank S.A. as part of the Exchange's Analytical Coverage Support Programme ("Programme", <https://www.gpw.pl/eacsp>) prepares analytical publications for the following companies: Cognor Holding, Comarch, Sygnity, VRG. These documents are prepared at the request of Giełda Papierów Wartościowych w Warszawie S.A. ("WSE"), which is entitled to copyrights to these materials. mBank S.A. receives remuneration from the WSE for the preparation of these publications. All documents prepared for the Programme are available at: [https://www.mdm.pl/ui-pub/site/market\\_and\\_analysis/analysis\\_and\\_recommendations/analytical\\_coverage\\_support\\_programme](https://www.mdm.pl/ui-pub/site/market_and_analysis/analysis_and_recommendations/analytical_coverage_support_programme)

This document has been created and published by Biuro maklerskie mBanku. The present publication expresses the knowledge as well as opinions of the authors on day this publication was prepared. The opinions and estimates contained herein constitute our best judgment at this date and time, and are subject to change without notice. The present publication was prepared with due care and attention, observing principles of methodological correctness and objectivity, on the basis of sources available to the public, which Biuro maklerskie mBanku considers reliable, including information published by issuers, shares of which are subject to recommendations. However, Biuro maklerskie mBanku, in no case, guarantees the accuracy and completeness of this publication, in particular should sources on the basis of which this publication was prepared prove to be inaccurate, incomplete or not fully consistent with the facts. mBank S.A. bears no responsibility for investment decisions taken on the basis of the present publication or for any damages incurred as a result of investment decisions taken on the basis of the present publication.

This document does not constitute an offer or invitation to subscribe for or purchase any financial instruments and neither this document nor anything contained herein shall form the basis of any contract or commitment whatsoever. It is being furnished to you solely for your information and may not be reproduced or redistributed to any other person. This document does not constitute investment, legal, accounting or other advice, and mBank is not liable for damages resulting from or related to the use of data provided in the documents. This document may not be copied, duplicated and/or be directly or indirectly distributed in the United States, Canada, Australia or Japan, nor transferred to citizens or residents of a state where its distribution may be legally restricted, which does not limit the possibility of publishing materials prepared for the Programme on Cognor Holding, Comarch, Sygnity, VRG, mBank or WSE websites. Persons who disseminate this document should be aware of the need to comply with such restrictions.

Recommendations are based on essential data from the entire history of a company being the subject of a recommendation, with particular emphasis on the period since the previous recommendation.

Investing in shares is connected with a number of risks including, but not limited to, the macroeconomic situation of the country, changes in legal regulations as well as changes on commodity markets. Full elimination of these risks is virtually impossible.

mBank S.A. bears no responsibility for investment decisions taken on the basis of the present publication or for any damages incurred as a result of investment decisions taken on the basis of the present publication.

It is possible that mBank S.A. in its brokerage activity renders, will render or in the past has rendered services for companies and other entities mentioned in the present publication.

mBank S.A. does not rule out offering brokerage services to an issuer of securities being the subject of a recommendation. Information about any conflicts of interest that may arise in connection with the issuance of recommendations (should such a conflict exist) is provided below, and it is valid as of the date of the most recent *Monthly Report* published by Biuro maklerskie mBanku or as of the date of the most recent recommendation issued for an issuer, as applicable.

This document was not transferred to the issuers prior to its publication.

mBank S.A. may have received compensation from the following companies in the last 12 months: Alchemia, Alior Bank, Ambra, Amica, Answear, Asseco Poland, ATM, Bank Handlowy, Bank Millennium, Bank Pekao, BNP Paribas Bank Polska, Boryszew, BOŚ, Capital Park, CD Projekt, Centrum Nowoczesnych Technologii, Ceramika Nowa Gala, Cognor, Echo Investment, Elemental Holding, Elzab, Enea, Energoaparatura, Erbud, Ergis, Ferrum, GetBack, Getin Holding, Getin Noble Bank, GPW, Groclin, i2 Development, ING BSK, Kruk, Lokum Deweloper, LW Bogdanka, Mennica Polska, Mo-BRUK, Mostostal Warszawa, Netia, Neuca, NVAI Dom Maklerski, Opono.pl, OTP Bank, PA Nova, PBKM, PGNiG, PKO BP, Polimex-Mostostal, Polnord, Polwax, Poznańska Korporacja Budowlana PEKABEX, Primetech, Prochem, Projprzem, PZU, Raiffeisen Bank International, Rawplug, Rubicon Partners NFI, Santander Bank Polska, Seco/Warwick, Skarbiec Holding, Solar Company, Sygnity, Tarczyński, Ten Square Games, TIM, Unibep, Vistal Gdynia, Wittchen, Work Service, YOLO, Zastal, ZUE.

Asseco Poland provides IT services to mBank S.A.

mBank S.A. has a cash service agreement in place with Pekao and a phone subscription agreement in place with Orange Polska S.A.

mBank S.A., its shareholders and employees may hold long or short positions in the issuers' shares or other financial instruments related to the issuers' shares. mBank, its affiliates and/or clients may conduct or may have conducted transactions for their own account or for account of another with respect to the financial instruments mentioned in this publication or related investments before the recipient has received this publication.

Copying or publishing the present publication, in full or in part, or disseminating in any way information contained in the present publication requires the prior written agreement of mBank S.A. Recommendations are addressed to all Clients of Biuro maklerskie mBanku.

Recommendations are addressed to all Clients of Biuro maklerskie mBanku.

All investment recommendations and strategies issued by mBank S.A. over the last 12 months are available at: [http://www.mdm.pl/ui-pub/site/market\\_and\\_analysis/analysis\\_and\\_recommendations/fundamental\\_analysis/recommendations?recent\\_filter\\_active=true&lang=en](http://www.mdm.pl/ui-pub/site/market_and_analysis/analysis_and_recommendations/fundamental_analysis/recommendations?recent_filter_active=true&lang=en)

The activity of mBank S.A. is subject to the supervision of the Polish Financial Supervision Commission.

Individuals who did not participate in the preparation of the recommendations, but had or could have had access to recommendations prior to their publication, are employees of Biuro maklerskie mBanku authorised to access the premises in which recommendations are prepared and/or individuals having to access to recommendations based on their corporate roles, other than the analysts mentioned as the authors of the present recommendations.

This publication constitutes investment research within the meaning of Art. 36.1 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/565.

The compensation of the research analysts responsible for preparing investment research is determined independently of and without regard to the compensation of or revenue generated by any other employee of the Bank, including but not limited to any employee whose business interests may reasonably be considered to conflict with the interests of the persons to whom the investment research prepared by the Research Department of Biuro maklerskie mBanku is disseminated. With that being said, since one of the factors taken into consideration when determining the compensation of research analysts is the degree of fulfillment of annual financial targets by customer service functions, there is a risk that the adequacy of compensation offered to persons preparing investment research will be questioned by a competent oversight body.

**For U.S. persons only:** This research publication is a product of mBank SA which is the employer of the research analyst(s) who has prepared the research publication. The research analyst(s) preparing the research publication is/are resident outside the United States (U.S.) and are not associated persons of any U.S. regulated broker-dealer and therefore the analyst(s) is/are not subject to supervision by a U.S. broker-dealer, and is/are not required to satisfy the regulatory licensing requirements of FINRA or required to otherwise comply with U.S. rules or regulations regarding, among other things, communications with a subject company, public appearances and trading securities held by a research analyst account.

This publication is intended for distribution by mBank SA only to "Major Institutional Investors" as defined by Rule 15a-6(b)(4) of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Act, 1934 (the Exchange Act) and interpretations thereof by U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in reliance on Rule 15a 6(a)(2). If the recipient of this publication is not a Major Institutional Investor as specified above, then it should not act upon this publication and return the same to the sender. Further, this publication may not be copied, duplicated and/or transmitted onward to any U.S. person, which is not the Major Institutional Investor.

In reliance on the exemption from registration provided by Rule 15a-6 of the Exchange Act and interpretations thereof by the SEC in order to conduct certain business with Major Institutional Investors, mBank SA has entered into an agreement with a U.S. registered broker-dealer, Cabrera Capital Markets, ("Cabrera"). Transactions in securities discussed in this research publication should be effected through Cabrera or another U.S. registered broker-dealer.

#### Strong and weak points of valuation methods used in recommendations:

**DCF** – acknowledged as the most methodologically correct method of valuation; it consists in discounting financial flows generated by a company; its weak point is the significant susceptibility to a change of forecast assumptions in the model.

**Relative** – based on a comparison of valuation multipliers of companies from a given sector; simple in construction, reflects the current state of the market better than DCF; weak points include substantial variability (fluctuations together with market indices) as well as difficulty in the selection of the group of comparable companies.

**Economic profits** – discounting of future economic profits; the weak point is high sensitivity to changes in the assumptions made in the valuation model.

**Discounted Dividends (DDM)** – discounting of future dividends; the weak point is high sensitivity to changes in the assumptions as to future dividends made in the valuation model.

**NAV** – valuation based on equity value, one of the most frequently used method in case of developing companies; the weak point of the method is that it does not factor in future changes in revenue/profits of a company.

## mBank S.A.

Prosta 18  
00-850 Warszawa  
<http://www.mbank.pl/>

### Research Department

Kamil Kliszcz  
director  
+48 22 438 24 02  
[kamil.klischcz@mbank.pl](mailto:kamil.klischcz@mbank.pl)  
energy, power generation

Jakub Szkopek  
+48 22 438 24 03  
[jakub.szkopek@mbank.pl](mailto:jakub.szkopek@mbank.pl)  
industrials, chemicals, metals

Piotr Poniatowski  
+48 22 438 24 09  
[piotr.poniatowski@mbank.pl](mailto:piotr.poniatowski@mbank.pl)  
industrials

Michał Marczak  
+48 22 438 24 01  
[michal.marczak@mbank.pl](mailto:michal.marczak@mbank.pl)  
strategy

Paweł Szpigiel  
+48 22 438 24 06  
[pawel.szpigiel@mbank.pl](mailto:pawel.szpigiel@mbank.pl)  
media, IT, telco

Mikołaj Lemańczyk  
+48 22 438 24 07  
[mikolaj.lemanczyk@mbank.pl](mailto:mikolaj.lemanczyk@mbank.pl)  
banks, financials

Michał Konarski  
+48 22 438 24 05  
[michal.konarski@mbank.pl](mailto:michal.konarski@mbank.pl)  
banks, financials

Aleksandra Szklarczyk  
+48 22 438 24 04  
[aleksandra.szklarczyk@mbank.pl](mailto:aleksandra.szklarczyk@mbank.pl)  
construction, real-estate development

### Sales and Trading

#### Traders

Piotr Gawron  
Director  
+48 22 697 48 95  
[piotr.gawron@mbank.pl](mailto:piotr.gawron@mbank.pl)

Adam Prokop  
+48 22 697 47 90  
[adam.prokop@mbank.pl](mailto:adam.prokop@mbank.pl)

Krzysztof Bodek  
+48 22 697 48 89  
[krzysztof.bodek@mbank.pl](mailto:krzysztof.bodek@mbank.pl)

Magdalena Bernacik  
+48 22 697 47 35  
[magdalena.bernacik@mbank.pl](mailto:magdalena.bernacik@mbank.pl)

Tomasz Jakubiec  
+48 22 697 47 31  
[tomasz.jakubiec@mbank.pl](mailto:tomasz.jakubiec@mbank.pl)

Andrzej Sychowski  
+48 22 697 48 46  
[andrzej.sychowski@mbank.pl](mailto:andrzej.sychowski@mbank.pl)

#### Sales, Foreign Markets

Marzena Łempicka-Wilim  
deputy director  
+48 22 697 48 82  
[marzena.lempicka-wilim@mbank.pl](mailto:marzena.lempicka-wilim@mbank.pl)

Bartosz Orzechowski  
+48 22 697 48 47  
[bartosz.orzechowski@mbank.pl](mailto:bartosz.orzechowski@mbank.pl)

Jędrzej Łukomski  
+48 22 697 49 85  
[jedrzej.lukomski@mbank.pl](mailto:jedrzej.lukomski@mbank.pl)

### Private Client Sales

Kamil Szymański  
director  
[kamil.szymanski@mbank.pl](mailto:kamil.szymanski@mbank.pl)

Jarosław Banasiak  
deputy director  
[jaroslaw.banasiak@mbank.pl](mailto:jaroslaw.banasiak@mbank.pl)