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# **Monthly Retail Insight: July 2019**

# Retail, Poland

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## Clothing & Footwear Retailers (overweight)

- Sales update: With sales on summer collections in full swing, July is a negligible contributor to the full-year profits of fashion retailers.
- After a jump in late June spurred by strong sales figures for the month, CCC stock (neutral) has been on a downward slide since the beginning of July, reflecting expectations of weak 2019 Q2 results. The market is pricing a slowdown based on slow sales growth reported in April and May, signs of year-over-year contraction in sales margins, and persistently high costs. Sentiment might change with the publication of 2019 first-half results in August which will allow investors to look ahead to the second half of the year, when CCC should be able to demonstrate growth with support from positive base effects. Note that CCC no longer shares its monthly sales results since June 2019. The Retailer will release earnings for Q3 2019 at the beginning of October.
- Vistula Retail Group (VRG, overweight) delivered healthy sales figures for Q2 2019. In June, overall sales slowed due to weaker performance of jewelry stores, but at the same time the gross margin for the month increased by 3.9pp compared to the same year-ago period, driven by an improved sales mix and pricing. In spite this, the total second-quarter sales revenue was up 40% on the year, with the gross profit registering a 44% rebound alongside an estimated upturn of approximately 60% in operating profit. The strong momentum observed in Q2 is likely to continue into the second half of the year, making VRG an interesting proposition for the coming weeks.
- LPP (accumulate) reported slight improvement in the operating profit for Q2 2019 relative to the year-ago figure, achieved despite unfavorable base effects which made for subdued growth in sales and margins. In spite of additional pressure from negative USDPLN exchange-rate trends, resulting in higher dollar costs of summer collections, LPP managed to curtail the pace of gross margin contraction to an annual rate of 0.5pp at 59.2%, owing probably to an absence of inventory write-offs. LPP is poised for continued improvement in the second half of the year thanks to more favorable exchange rates applied to autumn/winter orders combined with less adverse base effects.
- Monnari stock (MON, neutral) is down 11% since our last Retail Recap, released on 28 May. The Retailer published weak numbers for June, with overall sales down 1.7% year on year, and sales under the 'Monnari' label registering a fall of 7.5%. We believe this is a result of heightened emphasis on margins at the expense of revenues. Total sales for Q2 2019 were up 7.2%, but with the store area in the period expanded by 12% this indicates a reduction in per-square-meter revenues. Consequently, we expect to see weaker profits for the second quarter, underpinned by higher dollar costs of spring/summer collections, additional expenses on the post-merger integration of the Centro unit, which generates lower margins than the parent company, and high SG&A per square meter. Nevertheless we upgrade MON from underweight to neutral after the recent downturn in share price.
- The 12-month forward P/E ratio for retail stocks has held about one standard deviation below from the historical 3Y average in the time since the 28 May Retail Recap. Fashion stocks which logged substantial gains in the period include H&M, Inditex, Lululemon, Under Armour, and Zalando, with Poland's LPP also getting a lift from the rally.
- TOP PICKS OVERWEIGHT: LPP, VRG

#### Performance

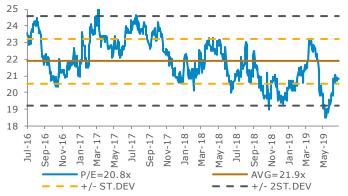
Doland	1M*	VTD
Poland LPP	+10.6%	YTD +1%
VRG	+6.9%	+1%
Gino Rossi	+5.4%	+5%
CCC		-20%
	+3.9%	
Wojas	-4.5%	+33%
Monnari	-13.4%	+11%
Redan	-25.3%	-46%
WIG-clothing	+8.1%	-6%
WIG	+6.1%	+5%
World	1M*	YTD
Under Armour	+16.3%	+55%
Crocs	+13.2%	-13%
Zalando	+13.2%	+87%
H&M	+11.8%	+35%
Geox	+9.9%	+20%
Inditex	+9.7%	+23%
Luluemon	+9.6%	+56%
Nike	+9.4%	+20%
Adidas	+6.3%	+57%
Hugo Boss	+3.5%	+12%
ABC Mart	-2.6%	+10%
FootLocker	-3.4%	-23%
Next	-5.3%	+41%
Caleres	-5.5%	-30%
Assoc BF	-7.4%	+14%
Boohoo.com	-8.7%	+33%
Marks & Spen	-10.6%	-9%
KappAhl	-17.0%	-18%
Asos	-22.1%	+21%
Gerry Weber	-69.7%	-96%
EU Textiles **	+10.8%	+34%
World Txt.**	+9.5%	+29%
World Ind	1M*	YTD
EMEA Text.	+4.9%	+3%
World Text.	-0.1%	+11%
MSCIEM	+7.3%	+10%
EU Equity	+3.9%	+13%
*May 28 - Jul 16		

<sup>\*</sup>May 28 - Jul. 16

#### Retail Stocks vs. WIG Index



#### Median 12M Forward P/E for Retail Stocks



<sup>\*\*</sup>MSCI EU/World Textiles



List of abbreviations and ratios contained in the report:

net debt + market value

EBIT – Earnings Before Interest and Taxes
EBITDA – EBIT + Depreciation and Amortisation

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P/CE – price to earnings with amortisation
MC/S – market capitalisation to sales
EBIT/EV – operating profit to economic value
P/E – (Price/Earnings) – price divided by annual net profit per share
ROE – (Return on Equity) – annual net profit divided by average equity
P/BV – (Price/Book Value) – price divided by book value per share
Net debt – credits + debt papers + interest bearing loans – cash and cash equivalents
EBITDA margin – EBITDA/Sales

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 ma

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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%

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assumptions in the model.

Comparative – 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.

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#### CCC

Rating	hold	buy	buy	buy	buy
Rating date	2019-06-06	2019-04-02	2019-02-04	2018-12-05	2018-11-05
Target price (PLN)	161.00	275.00	291.00	288.00	272.00
Price on rating day	153.80	217.00	178.80	204.60	173.60

#### LPP

Rating	accumulate	accumulate	hold	buy	accumulate	buy	buy
Rating date	2019-07-03	2019-06-03	2019-04-02	2019-03-05	2019-02-04	2018-12-05	2018-10-01
Target price (PLN)	8500.00	8300.00	8400.00	9300.00	9300.00	9300.00	10200.00
Price on rating day	7,745.00	7,335.00	8,405.00	7,990.00	8,370.00	7,730.00	8,625.00

### Monnari

Rating	neutral	underweigh	t neutral
Rating date	2019-07-17	2018-12-05	2018-07-13
Target price (PLN)	-	-	-
Price on rating day	4.66	4.75	6.60

#### TXM

Rating	suspended	buy
Rating date	2018-10-16	2018-07-04
Target price (PLN)	-	3.48
Price on rating day	0.59	1.28

#### VRG

Rating	overweight	overweight	overweight	overweight
Rating date	2019-05-29	2019-03-28	2018-12-05	2018-11-08
Target price (PLN)	-	-	-	-
Price on rating day	3.90	4.29	3.83	4.06



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