

## Pilot support program for analytical coverage

Bloomberg: PKP PW, Reuters: PKPP.WA

CEE Equity Research

Industrials, Poland

21 October 2020, 15:59 CET

Michał Sopieli, *Equity Analyst*

### Anti-crisis funds to inflate 3Q20E margins

+48 22 586 8233, [michal.sopieli@santander.pl](mailto:michal.sopieli@santander.pl)

#### 3Q20E results preview

**Carriage statistics.** According to our calculations (based on the UTK's market statistics) PKP Cargo could face ca. 12% y/y fall of carriage turnover in 3Q20E (followed by ca. 11% y/y volume decrease in the respective period). Despite continuing market under-performance in recent months (anticipated domestic railway cargo market's transport performance contraction by ca. 5% y/y), 3Q20E should post visible q/q operational results rebound and gradually flattening negative y/y momentum. This could bode well for the volumes' delivery in 4Q20E. We point, however, the diminished negative y/y dynamic might be also attributable to a low-base effect. Segments' wise, we anticipate PKP Cargo to report a slight rebound in fossil fuels and aggregates volumes. Based on our assumptions, the average distance covered should remain flattish y/y in 3Q20E (close to 253km).

**P&L.** The potential visible q/q increase of carriage turnover should be to some extent offset by presumably lowered unit revenues (due to intensified price competition). All in all, we forecast the revenues to settle at PLN1.01bn implying almost 9% q/q expansion. First and foremost, however, the other operating revenues should be inflated with almost PLN85mn of the government anti-crisis funds on the group level. On the costs side, we anticipate the labour related expenses to fall below PLN400mn on a quarterly basis posting a positive surprise. The effect should result both from still decreased workload due to pandemic impact and further headcount q/q decrease (potentially by even 700-900 employees ytd thanks to natural attrition). In the effect, we estimate the 3Q20E EBITDA at approx. PLN225mn implying an almost -15% y/y fall or 93% q/q expansion. The roughly unchanged q/q DA points to EBIT at PLN32mn. Finally, PKP Cargo might post the bottom line in black for the first time since 3Q19 (net profit anticipated at PLN13mn). All in all, similarly to recent quarter we reckon the robust q/q EBITDA margin increase should be attributable to the tighter cost management (lowered negative impact of labour costs) and positive impact of anti-crisis fund.

**Capex.** Following a high capital outlays in 1H20 (approx. PLN370mn), 3Q20E should finally bring in a capex decrease to PLN125mn, based on our assumptions. Combined the aforementioned with a PLN225 3Q20E EBITDA forecast, the figure might ultimately meet the MB's goal to keep the capex below the quarterly EBITDA.

**Cash balance.** Thanks to improved EBITDA profile and substantial cash injection from the anti-crisis shield, we expect PKP Cargo to slightly improve q/q its OCF profile in 3Q20E (PLN115mn OCF reported in 2Q20). The potentially decreased capex should come in also supportive in terms of the balance sheet structure and indebtedness measures. Despite some positive drivers, we perceive the net debt / LTM EBITDA ratio (and indebtedness in general) should remain high. Looking forward, the intensified staff reduction due to attrition could negatively affect the company's cash position triggering the need to finance the post-employment benefits (already reflected in the provision made in previous reporting periods).

### PKP Cargo: 3Q20E results preview

PLNmn	1Q19	2Q19	3Q19	4Q19	1Q20	2Q20	3Q20E	y/y	q/q
Sales	1,261	1,164	1,191	1,165	1,036	929	1,009	-15.3%	8.6%
EBITDA	259	192	263	147	90	117	225	-14.5%	92.7%
EBITDA margin	20.5%	16.5%	22.1%	12.6%	8.7%	12.6%	22.3%	0.2	9.7
EBIT	87	15	81	-39	-106	-76	32	-60.7%	n.a.
EBIT margin	6.9%	1.3%	6.8%	-3.4%	-10.2%	-8.2%	3.2%	-3.6	n.a.
Net profit	53	-5	51	-63	-114	-78	12	-75.4%	n.a.
Net margin	4.2%	-0.4%	4.3%	-5.4%	-11.0%	-8.3%	1.2%	-3.0	n.a.
Carriage turnover (bn tkm)	7.2	6.6	6.7	6.5	5.8	5.3	5.9	-11.9%	10.3%
Unit revenues	0.175	0.176	0.179	0.180	0.178	0.174	0.172	-3.9%	-1.5%
y/y dynamic	9.1%	5.9%	6.6%	8.6%	1.7%	-1.0%	-3.9%	n.a.	n.a.
Capex	250	302	250	230	181	189	125	-50.0%	-33.7%

Source: Company data, UTK, Santander Brokerage Poland

**Comment:** The headline 3Q20E figures should come in positive. We reckon the effect should be in great extent attributable to anti-crisis funds linked with non-recurring items. Nevertheless, we point to some positive business trends both in the short and long run. Firstly, there is observed a gradually improving transport volume with relatively stable average distance covered. Unfortunately the effect on the top-line should not be straightforward as potentially decreasing path of the unit revenues (an effect of the intensified price pressure) might take its toll. Secondly, worth pointing is the intensified headcount decrease thanks to attrition, which could be even more important from the valuation perspective. Should PKP Cargo manage to maintain tight costs management and implement more flexible work organisation, the odds for durable improvement of free cash flows patterns in the future might increase.

### PKP Cargo: financial summary

PLNmn	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020E	2021E	2022E
Sales	4,554	4,411	4,739	5,237	4,866	4,170	4,453	4,533
EBITDA	705	490	702	907	860	583	705	774
EBIT	56	-132	155	278	143	-130	16	101
Net income	30	-134	82	184	36	-151	-33	37
P/E (x)	32.9	n.a.	43.7	13.3	33.2	n.a.	n.a.	9.4
EV/EBITDA (x)	6.8	6.8	5.8	3.9	5.0	5.3	4.3	3.8
DY	3.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Source: Company data, Bloomberg, Santander Brokerage Poland

# Santander Brokerage Poland

Jana Pawła II Avenue 17  
00-854 Warszawa  
fax. (+48) 22 586 81 09

## Equity Research Department

Kamil Stolarski, CFA, <i>Head of Equity Research Strategy, Financials</i>	tel. (+48) 22 586 81 00	kamil.stolarski@santander.pl
Paweł Puchalski, CFA, <i>Equity Analyst Telecommunications, Metals &amp; Mining, Power</i>	tel. (+48) 22 586 80 95	pawel.puchalski@santander.pl
Tomasz Krukowski, CFA, <i>Equity Analyst Oil&amp;Gas, CEE Non-Financials</i>	tel. (+48) 22 586 81 55	tomasz.krukowski@santander.pl
Adrian Kyrzcz, <i>Equity Analyst Construction, Real Estate, IT</i>	tel. (+48) 22 586 81 59	adrian.kyrzcz@santander.pl
Tomasz Sokołowski, <i>Equity Analyst Consumer Goods, Retail</i>	tel. (+48) 22 586 82 36	tomasz.sokolowski@santander.pl
Michał Sopieli, <i>Equity Analyst Industrials, Oil&amp;Gas, Chemicals, Quantitative Analysis</i>	tel. (+48) 22 586 82 33	michal.sopiel@santander.pl

## Sales & Trading Department

<b>Kamil Kalemba, <i>Head of Institutional Equities</i></b>	tel. (+48) 22 586 80 84	kamil.kalemba@santander.pl
Mateusz Choromański, CFA, <i>Head of Sales Securities Broker, Investment Advisor</i>	tel. (+48) 22 586 80 82	mateusz.choromanski@santander.pl
Robert Chudala	tel. (+48) 22 586 85 14	robert.chudala@santander.pl
Alex Kamiński	tel. (+48) 22 586 80 63	alex.kaminski@santander.pl
Błażej Leśków, <i>Securities Broker</i>	tel. (+48) 22 586 80 83	blazej.leskow@santander.pl
Michał Stępkowski, <i>Securities Broker</i>	tel. (+48) 22 586 85 15	michal.stepkowski@santander.pl
Marek Wardzyński, <i>Securities Broker</i>	tel. (+48) 22 586 80 87	marek.wardzynski@santander.pl

## LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

This material was produced by Santander Brokerage Poland which is a separate organizational unit of Santander Bank Polska S.A. (Santander Bank Polska) with its registered office in Warsaw, al. Jana Pawła II 17, 00-854 Warsaw, registered by the District Court for the Capital City of Warsaw, the 13th Economic Department of the National Court Register under the number 0000008723, NIP (Taxpayer Identification Number) 896 000 56 73, share capital – PLN 1.021.893.140 fully paid up. Santander Brokerage Poland is subject to the supervision of the Financial Supervision Commission with its headquarters in Warsaw, ul. Piękna 20, 00-549 Warszawa, NIP 521-340-29-37. Brokerage activity conducted by Santander Brokerage Poland is subject to the supervision of the Financial Supervision Commission with its headquarters in Warsaw, ul. Piękna 20, 00-549 Warszawa, NIP 521-340-29-37.

Santander Brokerage Poland is subject to the regulations of the Act on Trading in Financial Instruments dated July 29th 2005 (Journal of Laws of 2018, item 2286 - consolidated text, further amended), Act on Public Offering, Conditions Governing the Introduction of Financial Instruments to Organised Trading, and Public Companies dated July 29th 2005 (Journal of Laws of 2019 item 623 - consolidated text, further amended), Act on Capital Market Supervision dated July 29th 2005 (Journal of Laws of 2019, item 1871 - consolidated text, further amended). This material is addressed to qualified investors and professional clients as defined under the above indicated regulations and to Clients of Santander Brokerage Poland entitled to gain recommendations based on the brokerage services agreements..

Santander Brokerage Poland is an author of this document. All copyrights belong to Santander Bank Polska. This document may not be reproduced or published, in part or in whole, without a prior written consent of Santander Bank Polska.

Santander Brokerage Poland may not have taken any steps to ensure that the securities referred to in this report are suitable for any particular investor. Santander Brokerage Poland will not treat recipients of this report as its customers by virtue of their receiving this report. The investments and services contained or referred to in this report may not be suitable for particular investor and it is recommended to consult an independent investment advisor in case of doubts about such investments or investment services. Nothing in this report constitutes investment, legal, accounting or tax advice, or a representation that any investment or strategy is suitable or appropriate to investor's individual circumstances, or otherwise constitutes a personal recommendation to particular investor.

Affiliates of Santander Bank Polska may, from time to time, to the extent permitted by law, participate or invest in financing transactions with Issuer, perform services for or solicit business from such Issuer and/or have a position or effect transactions in the financial instruments issued by the Issuer ("financial instruments"). Santander Brokerage Poland may, to the extent permitted by applicable Polish law, UK law and other applicable law or regulation, effect transactions in the Financial instruments before this material is published to recipients.

This document is valid at the time of its preparation and may change.

Santander Brokerage Poland may have issued, and may in the future issue, other reports that are inconsistent with, and reach different conclusions from, the information presented in this report. Those reports reflect the different assumptions, views and analytical methods of the analysts who prepared them and Santander Brokerage Poland is under no obligation to ensure that such other reports are brought to the attention of any recipient of this report. Santander Brokerage Poland informs that success in past recommendations is not a guarantee of success in future ones. Points of view expressed in the reports reflect Analyst personal opinion on the analysed company and its securities. The sources of the data include WSE, PAP, Reuters, Bloomberg, EPFR, GUS /Central Statistical Office/, NBP /National Bank of Poland/, Santander Brokerage Poland, Akcje.net, financial periodicals and business and finance websites.

Information and opinions contained herein have been compiled or gathered, with due care and diligence, by Santander Brokerage Poland from sources believed to be reliable, however Santander Brokerage Poland cannot ensure their accuracy or completeness. Investor shall be responsible for conducting his own investigation and analysis of the information contained or referred to in this document and of evaluating the merits and risks involved in the Financial instruments forming the subject matter of this document. The information and opinions contained herein are subject to change without any notice.

Santander Brokerage Poland is not responsible for any losses incurred by Investors which were result of investment decisions based on recommendations issued by Santander Brokerage Poland, if they were prepared with due care and diligence.

This document does not constitute an offer or invitation to subscribe for or purchase or carry out transactions in any financial instruments and shall not be considered as an offer to sell or to buy any securities. This document is furnished and presented to you solely for your information and shall not be reproduced or redistributed to any other person. This document nor any copy hereof shall not be disseminated, published or distributed directly or indirectly in the United States of America, Canada, Australia or Japan. Disseminating, publishing or distributing of this document directly or indirectly in the above countries or to any citizen or resident of these countries may be considered breach of the law or regulations related to the financial instruments in force in these countries.

Dissemination, publishing or distribution of this document may be restricted by law in other countries. Persons who distribute this document shall make themselves aware of and adhere to any such restrictions. This document may be distributed in the United Kingdom to persons who have professional knowledge about investing in accordance with relevant regulations.

Opinions in this document must not be relied upon as having been authorised or approved by issuer the opinions expressed herein are solely those of Santander Brokerage Poland.

Santander Brokerage Poland informs that investing assets in financial instruments implies the risk of losing part or all the invested assets.

Santander Brokerage Poland indicates that the price of the financial instruments is influenced by lots of different factors, which are or cannot be dependent from issuer and its business results. These are factors such as changing economical, law, political or tax condition. More information on financial instruments and risk connected with them can be found on [www.santander.pl/inwestor](http://www.santander.pl/inwestor) section disclaimers and risk.

The decision to purchase any of the financial instruments should be made only on the basis of the prospectus, offering circular or other documents and materials which are published on general release on the basis of polish law.

Overweight/Underweight/Neutral – means that, according to the authors of this document, the stock price may perform better/worse/neutrally than the WIG20 index in a given month.

When particular stocks are marked with Overweight/Underweight/Neutral - such information should not be construed as investment recommendation concerning a given financial instrument.

The recommendation system of Santander Brokerage Poland is based on determination of target prices and their relations to current prices of financial instruments. Overweight/Underweight/Neutral information contained herein does not meet the aforementioned requirement. Furthermore, depending on the situation, it can be grounds for taking different (including opposing) investment action in the case of particular investors.

Mid-caps – if a stock is included into a mid-cap portfolio it means that, according to the authors of this document, a particular stock price may outperform the WIG20 index during one month. Stocks are added to or deleted from the list on the basis of the requirement to rotate the stocks included in the list.

Any change in weight of stocks already included in the portfolio should not be construed as investment recommendation. Such changes are aimed exclusively at making the total weight of all stocks equal 100%.

### Explanations of special terminology used in the recommendation:

EBIT – earnings before interest and tax  
EBITDA – earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization  
P/E – price-earnings ratio  
EV – enterprise value (market capitalisation plus net debt)  
PEG - P/E to growth ratio  
EPS - earnings per share  
CPI – consumer price index  
WACC - weighted average cost of capital  
CAGR – cumulative average annual growth  
P/CE – price to cash earnings (net profit plus depreciation and amortisation) ratio  
NOPAT – net operational profit after taxation  
FCF – free cash flows  
BV – book value  
ROE – return on equity  
P/BV – price-book value

### Recommendation definitions:

**Buy** - indicates a stock's total return to exceed more than 10% over the next twelve months.

**Hold** - indicates a stock's total return to be in range of 0%-10% over the next twelve months.

**Sell** - indicates a stock's total return to be less than 0% over the next twelve months.

It is possible for the analyst to indicate different recommendation (buy, sell, hold) than specified in the definition, with a given total expected rate of return on investment, where it is justified due to additional market factors, industry trends, etc. In such case, relevant clarification of the investment recommendation meaning presented in the recommendation is included in the document.

In preparing this document Santander Brokerage Poland applied at least one of the following valuation methods: discounted cash flows (DCF), comparative, mid-cycle, dividend discount model (DDM), residual income, warranted equity method (WEV), SOTP valuation, liquidation value.

**The discounted cash flows (DCF) valuation method** is based on expected future discounted cash flows. One advantage of the DCF valuation method is that it takes into account all cash streams reaching Issuer and the cost of money over time. Some disadvantages of the DCF valuation method are that a large number of parameters and assumptions need to be estimated; and the valuation is sensitive to changes in those parameters.

**The comparative valuation method** is based on the economic rule of "one price". Some advantages of the comparative valuation method are that the analyst need only estimate a small number of parameters; the valuation is based on current market conditions; the relatively large accessibility of indicators for companies being compared; and that there is an extensive knowledge of the comparative method among investors. Some disadvantages of valuation by the comparative method are the considerable sensitivity of the results of the valuation on the choice of companies to the comparative group; the method can lead to a simplification of the picture of the company which in turn can lead to omitting certain important factors (e.g. growth dynamics, extra-operational assets, corporate governance, the repeatability of results, differences in applied accounting standards); and the uncertainty of the effectiveness of a market valuation of companies being compared.

**The mid-cycle multiple valuation** is based on long-term average valuation multiples of a sector or a peer group. The methodology aims to calculate a fair, through the cycle value of the company. Among its shortfalls is that at peaks and/or troughs of the cycle, the implied fair value may deviate substantially from the market's value of an analysed stock as well as the methods' reliance on the quality of external data (we usually use Bloomberg or Damodaran databases). Simplicity and average through-cycle value allowing to capture over- as well as under-valuation of a given stock are the main advantages of this methodology.

**The dividend discount model (DDM) valuation** is based on the net present value of the future dividends that are expected to be paid out by the company. Some advantages of the DDM valuation method are that it takes into account real cash flows to equity-owners and that the methodology is used in respect to companies with long dividend payout history. Main disadvantage of the DDM valuation method is that dividend payouts are based on a large number of parameters and assumptions, including dividend payout ratio.

**Residual income method** is conceptually close to the discounted cash flows method (DCF) for non-financial stocks, the difference being that it is based on expected residual income (returns over COE) rather than expected future cash flows. One advantage of this valuation method is that it captures the excess of profit potentially available to shareholders and the cost of money over time. Main disadvantage of the valuation method is that a large number of parameters and assumptions need to be estimated; and the valuation is sensitive to changes in those parameters.

**The warranted equity method (WEV)** is based on the formula  $P/BV = (\text{two year forward ROE less sustainable growth rate}) / (\text{Cost of equity less sustainable growth rate})$  which allows estimating a fair value (FV) of a given stock in two years' time. Subsequently the FV is discounted back to today. The main advantage of the WEV method is that it is a transparent one and based on relatively short term forecasts, hence substantially reducing the margin of forecasting error. The main disadvantage in our view is that the model is based on the principle that stock price should converge towards its fair value implied by company's ROE and COE.

**SOTP valuation** - different assets of a company are being valued according to different valuation methods, and the sum of these valuations represents the final valuation of the company. SOTP valuation advantages / disadvantages are identical to advantages and disadvantages of the specific valuation methods used.

**Liquidation value method** - liquidation value is the estimated amount of money that an asset or company could be quickly sold for, such as if it were to go out of business. Then, the estimated assets value is adjusted for liabilities and liquidation expenses. One advantage of this valuation method is its simplicity. This method does not account for intangible assets as goodwill, which is the main disadvantage.

Global statistics presenting the rating of the covered companies and the share of companies provided with investment banking in the past 12M are available at:

<https://www.santander.pl/inwestor/global-statistics>

A list of all recommendations on any financial instrument or issuer that were disseminated by Santander Brokerage Poland during the preceding 12 month period can be found on: [https://www.inwestoronline.pl/r/res/wykaz\\_tabel/wykaz\\_rekomendacji\\_eng.pdf](https://www.inwestoronline.pl/r/res/wykaz_tabel/wykaz_rekomendacji_eng.pdf)

In the opinion of Santander Brokerage Poland, this document has been prepared with all due diligence and excludes any conflict of interests which could influence its content. Santander Brokerage Poland is not obliged to take any actions which could cause financial instruments that are the subject of the valuation contained in this document to be valued by the market in accordance with the valuation contained in this document.

In Santander Bank Polska there are implemented internal regulations, which are designed to prevent conflicts of interest concerning recommendations. Physical and logic barriers are established, and the principles of documentation adequate to the type of Santander Bank Polska operations are implemented. Additionally, Santander Bank Polska introduced a number of obligations and restrictions relating to the protection of confidential information flow between organizational units.

The date and time on the first page of this report indicates the date of the production of the recommendation, and the dissemination of the recommendation takes place on the same day before the start of the session.

All the prices of financial instruments which have been mentioned in the report correspond to the rates at which the last transactions on these financial instruments were realized during a given day unless otherwise indicated.

The Stock performance charts in this report include line graphs of the securities' daily closing prices for one year period. Information relating to a longer period (max 3 years) is available upon request.

ANY PERSON WHO ACCEPTS THIS DOCUMENT AGREES TO BE BOUND BY THE FOREGOING DISCLAIMER AND LIMITATIONS.

## DISCLOSURES

This report contains recommendations referring to company/companies: **PKP Cargo S.A.** („Issuer”).

In the case where recommendation refers to several companies, the name “Issuer” will apply to all of them.

Santander Brokerage Poland emphasizes that this document is going to be updated at least once a year.

This document has not been disclosed to Issuer.

Members of the Issuer's authorities or their relatives may be members of the management board or supervisory board of Santander Bank Polska or its main shareholder - Banco Santander S.A.

Person/ Persons engaged in preparing the report or their relatives may be the members of the Issuer's authorities and may hold management position in this entity or may be party to any agreement with the Issuer, which would be concluded on different basis than agreements between Issuer and consumers.

Santander Bank Polska Group, its affiliates, representatives or employees may occasionally undertake transactions or may be interested in acquiring securities of companies directly or indirectly related to those being analysed.

Santander Brokerage Poland acts as a market maker, on principles specified in the Regulations of the Warsaw Stock Exchange, for the shares of Issuer and holds financial instruments issued by the Issuer.

Santander Brokerage Poland is not a party to the agreement with the Issuer related to issuing recommendations.

Santander Brokerage Poland is a party to the agreement with Gielda Papierów Wartościowych w Warszawie S.A. (Warsaw Stock Exchange), which subject is issuing recommendations related to the Issuer under the "Pilot Support Program for Analytical Coverage" organized by the Warsaw Stock Exchange. In this respect, Gielda Papierów Wartościowych w Warszawie S.A. has the proprietary rights to this report.

Based on the provisions of the agreement with Gielda Papierów Wartościowych w Warszawie S.A., which Santander Brokerage is a party, within the next 12 months Santander Brokerage Poland will receive remuneration for the preparation of recommendations regarding the Issuer, as part of the "Pilot Support Program for Analytical Coverage".

The Issuer may hold shares of Santander Bank Polska.

Santander Bank Polska or its affiliates may, from time to time, to the extent permitted by law, participate or invest in financing transactions with Issuer, perform services for or solicit business from such Issuer and/or have a position or effect transactions in the financial instruments issued by the Issuer (especially in relation to the services provided by PTE AVIVA Santander SA), as a result Santander Bank Polska may be indirectly connected with the Issuer.

Santander Bank Polska does not rule out that in the period of preparing this document any Affiliate of Santander Bank Polska might purchase shares of the Issuer or any financial instruments being the subject of this document which may cause reaching at least 0,5% of the share capital.

Subject to the above, the Issuer is not bound by any contractual relationship with Santander Bank Polska, which might influence the objectivity of the recommendations contained in this document.

However, it cannot be ruled out that, in the period of the next twelve months or the period in which this document is in force, Santander Bank Polska will submit an offer to provide services for the Issuer or will purchase or dispose of financial instruments issued by the Issuer or whose value depends on the value of financial instruments issued by the Issuer. Except for broker agreements with clients under which Santander Brokerage Poland sells and buys the shares of the Issuer at the order of its clients, Santander Brokerage Poland is not party to any agreement which would depend on the valuation of the financial instruments discussed in this document.

With the exception of remuneration from the Santander Brokerage Poland Analysts do not receive any other form of compensation for recommendations made. Remuneration received by the persons who prepare this document may be dependent, in an indirect way, from financial results gained from investment banking transactions, related to financial instruments issued by the Issuer, made by Santander Brokerage Poland or its Affiliates.