

Ukraine / Telecommunications

Ukrtelecom

Privatization of 1% tomorrow

May 21, 2007

12M Target: USD 0.19

Market price: USD 0.23

On May 22, the State Property Fund will sell a 1% stake of Ukrtelecom at local stock exchange:

- Starting price per share: USD 0.2277 (UAH 1.15), which is USD 42.64 mln for the whole stake, or USD 4.26 bln **MCap**
- The stake is broken down into 40 lots of 4.5 mln shares (lot starting price USD 1.025 mln) and one lot of 7.262 shares (lot starting price USD 1.654 mln)

Free float will increase from 2.5% currently, causing a 40% increase in share supply. We expect an increase in demand for shares due to higher stock liquidity.

Ukrtelecom's 3G roll-out program is a year old now. Test launch is expected in summer 2007. Success of mobile project is secured by state protection and possible cooperation with global mobile leader Vodafone.

The company is beginning to run out of its own cash from operations to finance its mobile program and is starting taking on debt. Estimated need in external debt will raise Net Debt/EBITDA from 0.9 in 2006 to 2.1 by 2008. Growing financial leverage would increase vulnerability of the stock price to negative market events in the mid-term.

Ukrtelecom trades with a 25% premium to peers on EV/Sales and 80% premium on EV/EBITDA, which we relate mainly to Ukrtelecom's pre-privatization status and expectations for the company's revenue growth. A 47% discount to peers on EV/Customers indicates long-term growth potential.

Given that control remains with the state, our DCF valuation yields a twelve month fair price of USD 0.19 per share, which implies a 17% downside to the current market price and the starting price for bids proposed by the SPF.

We downgrade our target to USD 0.19, opportunistically re-iterate a HOLD recommendation.

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| Bloomberg Reuters Xetra DR: Ord. Shares | UTEL UZ UTEL.PFT UK1 1 : 50 |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Shares, mln | 18,726.2 |
| Stock data | |
| Market price, USD | 0.23 |
| 52 Wk H/L, USD | 0.24/0.17 |
| MCap, USD mln | 4,307.0 |
| Ownership | |
| State | 92.86% |
| Other | 7.14% |
| Free float | |
| Shares | 2.5% |
| MCap, USD mln | 107.7 |
| 12M target | |
| Price, USD | |
| | 0.19 |

| | Net | | Net |
|-------|---------|--------|--------|
| | Revenue | EBITDA | Income |
| 2006 | 1,327 | 391 | 100 |
| 2007E | 1,401 | 418 | 43 |
| 2008E | 1,444 | 411 | 64 |
| | | | |

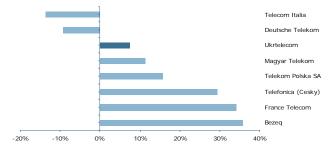
| | | EV/ | |
|-------|------|--------|-------|
| | EV/S | EBITDA | P/E |
| 2006 | 3.5 | 11.8 | 46.0 |
| 2007E | 3.5 | 11.6 | 42.7 |
| 2008E | 3.5 | 12.4 | 100.1 |

Trading history, USD



Source: PFTS, Bloomberg

Performance, 52 week

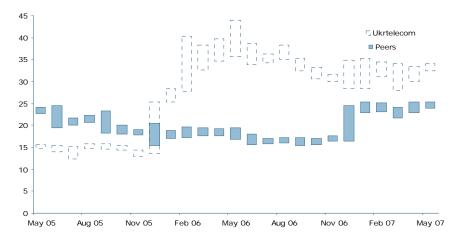




Privatization expectations keep premium valuation

In the last two years privatization talk has become frequent, which has heated interest in the stock. For the last year, UTEL has traded at a premium to its peers.

P/E history: UTEL vs peers' range*



Source: Bloomberg, Concorde Capital calculations * For the list of peers, refer to page 7

Why is the SPF privatizing Ukrtelecom?

This year parliament is relying on revenues from Ukrtelecom's privatization to fill the budget gap. The total plan for incomes from privatization for 2007 is USD 2.0 bln. Ukrtelecom is among several remaining state assets whose privatization can cover most of the plan's need, thus the SPF is moving ahead with the company's privatization.

The SPF has declared plans to privatize 5% of Ukrtelecom on local stock exchanges (split into five blocks of 1%), and place 37.86% on international stock exchange(s). In case the SPF manages to sell 42.86% of Ukrtelecom at the declared price of USD 0.23 per share, it will cover 91% of the privatization plan for this year.

Share overload or liquidity growth?

Depending on Ukrtelecom's fundamentals and news flow, the privatization of a 1% stake can cause the following:

- Significant incremental supply (USD ~40 mln new free float) might put pressure on the stock price
- Increase in liquidity can attract larger funds with higher liquidity requirements



Mobile segment exposure: Value creation or value destruction?

Impediments that Ukrtelecom might face in the realization of its mobile service program (entrance to the saturated market with two dominant players) might be surmounted by strong state support (highly likely) or a creative marketing policy (also likely in case of cooperation with global leaders).

Case study: Return on investment in the mobile segment, The experience of Astelit

Mobile operator Astelit that started operations in February 2004 used the following marketing strategy:

- undercut major players by dumping prices
- differentiate itself as an innovative operator providing a wide range of additional services

The second strategy brought success in the short-term only, as major operators started efficiently copying Astelit's new successful projects.

The first strategy negatively affected Astelit's financials. Astelit did not reach its breakeven point even after three years of operation. In 2007, a major operator decided to respond to Astelit's low tariffs, launching low-cost tariff services.

Astelit financial results

| | 2005 | 2006 |
|---------------------|--------|-------|
| Sales, USD mln | 45.6 | 87.9 |
| EBITDA, USD mln | -64.7 | -83.8 |
| margin | -142% | -95% |
| Net Income, USD mln | -100.4 | -198 |
| margin | -220% | -225% |

Source: Turkcell, Euroasia

Why Ukrtelecom can do it?

There are number of reasons why we remain optimistic on Ukrtelecom's mobile services:

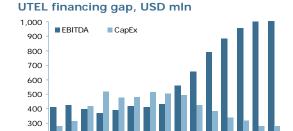
- Ukrtelecom already has a fixed-line customer base and can provide cheap calls between its fixed and mobile clients.
- The company has a chance to launch integrated fixed/mobile services to its customers.
- It has a basis for construction of its mobile network (nation-wide backbone network, service departments and real estate in every town and large village) which will allow it to spend less on CapEx compared to Astelit.
- Ukrtelecom remains in state hands, and can be granted privileges from regulators, if needed.
- Recently rumors surfaced that the world's largest mobile operator, Vodafone, showed interest in jointly developing the 3G mobile network with Ukrtelecom. In case of cooperation, this will add significant marketing resources to Ukrtelecom's project.



Main risk for shareholder value: Growing financial leverage

Large CapEx program to decrease shareholder value

Expansion to mobile services foresees high CapEx for network construction. Without its ability to generate enough cash from operations to finance increasing CapEx needs, a significant increase in external financing is expected.



2.55
ND / EBITDA
CapEx / EBITDA
Cop 2 00 2 7

UTEL financial leverage indicators

Source: company data, Concorde Capital research

2013E 2014E

2012E

2010E 2011E

The large payback period for its mobile project implies slow growth in firm value. This, along with an increase in debt in Ukrtelecom's capital structure raises a risk of growing volatility for shareholder value.

The experience of France Telecom illustrates this risk well: while its EV/S ratio was comparable to that of Deutsche Telekom in 2001 and 2002, larger debt created greater downside pressure on shareholder value in 2002.

EV/Sales decomposition: Deutsche Telekom

200

100

3.0 ND/Sales

... MCap/Sales

2.0

1.5

1.0

2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007



France Telecom ■ ND/Sales 3.0 ■ MCap/Sales 2.5 2.0 1.5 1.0 0.5 0.0 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007



Value-adding factors:

"Large privatization"

A possible source for guaranteeing stability in Ukrtelecom's shareholder value is additional financing from privatization. As it was stipulated in the law on Ukrtelecom's privatization adopted in 2000 (the law was cancelled in 2006), 30% of income from privatization should be directed to finance Ukrtelecom's investment needs. In the event a "large" privatization of Ukrtelecom takes place in the future, the state might follow the same policy. Still, there are no signals from the government about the prospects for a full privatization of Ukrtelecom.

Cooperation with Vodafone

Cooperation with Vodafone in developing Ukrtelecom's 3G mobile network would be beneficial for Ukrtelecom as the global mobile operator can add its marketing and financial resources to the project.



Valuation: DCF

All the assumptions of our operating model remain unchanged (refer to our UTEL report as of January 3, 2007)

Valuation model, UAH mln, May 18, 2007

| | 2007E | 2008E | 2009E | 2010E | 2011E | 2012E | 2013E | 2014E | 2015E | 2016E |
|------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------|----------------|---------|---------|
| EBITDA | 2,109 | 2,077 | 2,181 | 2,824 | 3,313 | 3,977 | 4,466 | 4,828 | 5,052 | 5,239 |
| EBIT | 1,059 | 959 | 998 | 1,579 | 2,023 | 2,653 | 3,118 | 3,463 | 3,679 | 3,858 |
| Tax Rate | 25% | 25% | 25% | 25% | 25% | 25% | 25% | 25% | 25% | 25% |
| Taxed EBIT | 795 | 720 | 748 | 1,184.1 | 1,517.1 | 1,989.5 | 2,338.6 | 2,597.5 | 2,759.2 | 2,893.8 |
| Plus D&A | 1,050 | 1,118 | 1,183 | 1,245 | 1,290 | 1,324 | 1,347 | 1,365 | 1,373 | 1,381 |
| Less CapEx | (2,362) | (2,600) | (2,548) | (2,488) | (2,140) | (1,922) | (1,708) | (1,590) | (1,400) | (1,403) |
| Less change in OWC | (341) | (11) | (21) | (24) | (33) | (38) | (35) | (29) | (36) | (22) |
| FCFF | (834) | (774) | (637) | (83) | 635 | 1,354 | 1,944 | 2,343 | 2,695 | 2,850 |
| WACC | 14.9% | 12.4% | 11.2% | 10.6% | 10.1% | 9.9% | 9.7% | 9.6% | 9.8% | 10.2% |
| Discounted cash flow | | (720) | (533) | (63) | 436 | 847 | 1,108 | 1,219 | 1,277 | 1,226 |
| Sum of discunted CF | | 4,797 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | Perpetunity gro | owth rate | | 2.0% |
| | | | | | | , | WACC to perpe | etuity | | 9.0% |
| Terminal value | | 17,861 | | | | | | | | 41,527 |
| | | | | | | | Implied exit E | BITDA multiple | • | 7.9 x |
| Firm value | | 22,658 | | | | | | | | |
| Portion due to TV | | 79% | | | | | | | | |
| Less net debt | | (4,772) | | | | | | | | |
| Equity value | | 17,887 | | | | | | | | |
| Implied 12M price, USD | | 0.19 | • | | | | • | | | • |

Sensitivity analysis

| WACC Y1-10 | | Per | petuity Gro | wth Rate | |
|------------|------|------|-------------|----------|------|
| | 1.0% | 1.5% | 2.0% | 2.5% | 3.0% |
| -1.5% | 0.19 | 0.20 | 0.22 | 0.24 | 0.26 |
| -1.0% | 0.18 | 0.19 | 0.21 | 0.23 | 0.24 |
| -0.5% | 0.17 | 0.18 | 0.20 | 0.21 | 0.23 |
| +0.0% | 0.16 | 0.18 | 0.19 | 0.20 | 0.22 |
| +0.5% | 0.16 | 0.17 | 0.18 | 0.20 | 0.21 |
| +1.0% | 0.15 | 0.16 | 0.17 | 0.19 | 0.20 |
| +1.5% | 0.14 | 0.15 | 0.16 | 0.18 | 0.19 |

| WACC to perpetu | iity | Per | petuity Gro | wth Rate | |
|-----------------|------|------|-------------|----------|------|
| | 1.0% | 1.5% | 2.0% | 2.5% | 3.0% |
| 7.5% | 0.20 | 0.22 | 0.24 | 0.26 | 0.30 |
| 8.0% | 0.19 | 0.20 | 0.22 | 0.24 | 0.27 |
| 8.5% | 0.17 | 0.19 | 0.20 | 0.22 | 0.24 |
| 9.0% | 0.16 | 0.18 | 0.19 | 0.20 | 0.22 |
| 9.5% | 0.15 | 0.17 | 0.18 | 0.19 | 0.21 |
| 10.0% | 0.15 | 0.16 | 0.17 | 0.18 | 0.19 |
| 10.5% | 0.14 | 0.15 | 0.16 | 0.17 | 0.18 |



Peer valuation

| Peer | financi | als, | USD | mln |
|------|---------|------|------------|-----|
|------|---------|------|------------|-----|

| | Net revenue | | | EBITDA | | | let income | Customers | MCap | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------------|-----------|-------|-----|---------|
| | 2006 | 07E | 08E | 2006 | 07E | 08E | 2006 | 07E | 08E | mln | |
| Emerging markets | | | | | | | | | , | | <u></u> |
| Magyar Telekom | 3,190 | 3,689 | 3,713 | n/a | 1,426 | 1,457 | 364 | 469 | 509 | 9 | 5,988 |
| Telekom Polska | 6,002 | 6,588 | 6,541 | n/a | 2,802 | 2,786 | 675 | 837 | 911 | 24 | 11,917 |
| Telefonica 02 Czech Rep | 2,715 | 2,998 | 3,061 | 1,141 | 1,353 | 1,362 | 355 | 453 | 502 | 8 | 9,544 |
| Telekom Slovenije | 934 | 1,011 | 1,067 | n/a | 443 | | 130 | 157 | 168 | n/a | 3,730 |
| Bezeq | 2,745 | 2,690 | 2,692 | 708 | 1,007 | 1,025 | 168 | 249 | 288 | n/a | 4,191 |
| Bulgarian Telecom | 637 | 739 | 792 | 217 | 321 | 397 | 85 | 220 | 252 | 3 | 2,265 |
| UTEL | 1,327 | 1,400 | 1,444 | 391 | 418 | 411 | 93 | 100 | 43 | 10 | 4,264 |
| Developed markets | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Telecom Italia | 39,257 | 43,165 | 43,871 | 13,366 | 17,445 | 17,426 | 3,787 | 3,491 | 3,733 | 75 | 52,911 |
| Telekom Austria | 5,974 | 6,489 | 6,540 | 2,076 | 2,536 | 2,537 | 705 | 733 | 781 | 10 | 12,756 |
| Deutsche Telekom | 77,005 | 84,686 | 85,661 | 16,844 | 25,938 | 26,411 | 3,973 | 4,120 | 4,942 | 157 | 75,648 |
| France Telecom | 64,898 | 71,045 | 71,507 | 22,799 | 25,147 | 25,310 | 5,195 | 5,935 | 6,337 | 149 | 77,883 |

Source: Bloomberg, Company data, Concorde Capital

Peer comparison

| reel companison | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|
| | EV/S | | EV/EBITDA | | | P/E | | |
| | 2007E | 2008E | 2007E | 2008E | 2007E | 2008E | USD | |
| Emerging markets | | | ' | | | | | |
| Magyar Telekom | 2.0 | 2.0 | 5.2 | 5.2 | 12.8 | 11.8 | 828 | |
| Telekom Polska | 2.1 | 2.0 | 5.0 | 4.8 | 14.2 | 13.1 | 575 | |
| Telefonica 02 Czech Rep | 3.3 | 3.2 | 7.2 | 7.2 | 21.1 | 19.0 | 1,221 | |
| Telekom Slovenije | 3.9 | 3.7 | 8.9 | n/a | 23.8 | 22.2 | n/a | |
| Bezeq | 2.0 | 2.0 | 5.3 | 5.2 | 16.8 | 14.6 | n/a | |
| Bulgarian Telecom | 3.4 | 3.1 | 7.7 | 6.2 | 10.3 | 9.0 | 827 | |
| Mean | 2.8 | 2.7 | 6.6 | 5.7 | 16.5 | 14.9 | 863 | |
| Developed markets | | | | | | | | |
| Telecom Italia | 2.4 | 2.3 | 5.8 | 5.7 | 15.2 | 14.2 | 1,378 | |
| Telekom Austria | 2.6 | 2.5 | 6.6 | 6.4 | 17.4 | 16.3 | 1,719 | |
| Deutsche Telekom | 1.5 | 1.5 | 4.8 | 4.8 | 18.4 | 15.3 | 875 | |
| France Telecom | 1.6 | 1.6 | 4.6 | 4.4 | 13.1 | 12.3 | 873 | |
| Mean | 2.0 | 1.9 | 5.5 | 5.3 | 16.0 | 14.5 | 1,211 | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Ukrtelecom | 3.5 | 3.5 | 11.8 | 12.2 | 38.8 | 47.4 | 458 | |
| Premium to: | | | | | | | | |
| Emerging markets | 25% | 29% | 80% | 113% | 135% | 217% | -47% | |
| Developed markets | 72% | 78% | 117% | 129% | 142% | 226% | -62% | |
| Implied price, USD: | | | | | | | | |
| By emerging market peers | 0.18 | 0.16 | 0.12 | 0.08 | 0.09 | 0.03 | 0.43 | |
| By developed market peers | 0.12 | 0.10 | 0.09 | 0.07 | 0.09 | 0.03 | 0.62 | |

Source: Bloomberg, Company data, Concorde Capital



Financials

| | 2005 | 2006 | 2007E | 2008E | 2009E | 2010E | 2011E | 2012E |
|-----------------------------------|-------|--------|-------------|-----------|-------|-------------|-------|-------|
| Net Revenues | 1,295 | 1,327 | 1,401 | 1,444 | 1,523 | 1,614 | 1,738 | 1,883 |
| Change y-o-y | N/M | 2% | 6% | 3% | 5% | 6% | 8% | 8% |
| Cost Of Sales | (817) | (816) | (869) | (910) | (975) | (936) | (956) | (960) |
| Gross Profit | `47Ŕ | `51Í | `532 | `534 | `54Ŕ | `67Ŕ | ` 78Ź | ` 922 |
| Other Operating Income/Costs, net | (29) | (38) | (21) | (22) | (22) | (22) | (22) | (22) |
| SG&A | (81) | (82) | (94) | (101) | (94) | (97) | (104) | (113) |
| EBITDA | 368 | 391 | 418 | 411 | 432 | 559 | 656 | 787 |
| EBITDA margin, % | 28.4% | 29.5% | 29.8% | 28.5% | 28.4% | 34.6% | 37.7% | 41.8% |
| Depreciation | (191) | (203) | (208) | (221) | (234) | (247) | (255) | (262) |
| EBIT | 177 | 188 | 210 | 190 | 198 | 313 | 401 | 525 |
| EBIT margin, % | 13.7% | 14.2% | 15.0% | 13.2% | 13.0% | 19.4% | 23.0% | 27.9% |
| Interest Expense | (30) | | | | | | | |
| interest Expense | (30) | (55.9) | (58) | (79) | (102) | (121) | (116) | (118) |
| Financial income/(expense) | 36 | 31 | 36 | 36 | 36 | 36 | 36 | 36 |
| Other income/(expense) | (23) | (29) | (30) | (79) | (30) | (30) | (30) | (30) |
| PBT | 160 | 134 | 1 57 | 67 | 101 | 1 98 | 290 | 413 |
| Tax | (59) | (42) | (58) | (25) | (37) | (72) | (106) | (151) |
| | | | | | | | 184 | |
| Net Income | 102 | 93 | 100 | 43 | 64 | 125 | | 262 |
| Net Margin, % | 8% | 7% | 7% | 3% | 4% | 8% | 11% | 14% |
| Dividend Declared | 149 | 47 | 30 | 13 | 19 | 38 | 55 | 105 |

Balance Sheet Summary, USD mln

| | 2005 | 2006 | 2007E | 2008E | 2009E | 2010E | 2011E | 2012E |
|---|---|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Current Assets Cash & Equivalents Trade Receivables Inventories Other current assets | 671 397 144 73 57 | 444 190 151 65 38 | 479 168 154 98 59 | 465 144 159 101 61 | 490 152 168 107 64 | 468 110 178 113 68 | 490 104 191 122 73 | 531 113 207 132 79 |
| Fixed Assets PP&E, net Other Fixed Assets | 1,756 1,497 259 | 1,857 1,673 184 | 2,143 1,906 237 | 2,450 2,182 268 | 2,740 2,452 289 | 3,019 2,725 293 | 3,184 2,913 272 | 3,322 3,063 259 |
| Total Assets | 2,427 | 2,301 | 2,622 | 2,915 | 3,231 | 3,487 | 3,675 | 3,852 |
| Shareholders' Equity Share Capital Reserves and Other Retained Earnings | 1,409 903 516 (10) | 1,548 903 562 83 | 1,631 903 574 153 | 1,661 903 574 183 | 1,705 903 574 228 | 1,793 903 574 316 | 1,922 903 574 444 | 2,079 903 574 602 |
| Current Liabilities ST Interest Bearing Debt Trade Payables Accrued Wages Accrued Taxes Other Current Liabilities | 335 10 93 18 7 356 | 204 2 46 15 26 161 | 292 54 98 14 14 112 | 300 55 101 14 14 116 | 328 69 107 15 15 | 349 75 113 16 16 129 | 430 135 122 17 17 139 | 469 149 132 19 19 151 |
| LT Liabilities LT Interest Bearing Debt Other LT Total Liabilities & Equity | 684 671 12 2,427 | 549 540 9 2,301 | 699 685 14 2,622 | 954 940 14 2,915 | 1,197 1,183 14 3,231 | 1,344 1,330 14 3,487 | 1,322 1,308 14 3,675 | 1,304 1,290 14 3,852 |

Source: Company data, Concorde Capital



Analyst Certification

I, Alexander Paraschiy, hereby certify that the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect my personal views about the subject securities and issuers. I also certify that no part of my compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or views expressed in this research report.

Price and target History, USD



| | Closing | Larget |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| Date | price, USD | price, USD |
| 21-May-07 | 0.230 | 0.190 |
| 3-Jan-07 | 0.190 | 0.209 |
| 23-Feb-06 | 0.211 | 0.256 |
| 18-Jul-05 | 0.136 | 0.150 |
| 25-Apr-05 | 0.145 | 0.140 |
| 27-Jan-05 | 0.179 | 0.135 |
| 6-Dec-04 | 0.111 | 0.127 |
| | | |

The stock was covered by analysts currently engaged with Concorde Capital prior to legal inception of the company in Oct. 2004, recommendations are supported by research

| 23-Dec-03 | 0.062 | 0.115 |
|-----------|-------|-------|
| 8-Jan-03 | 0.049 | 0.085 |

Source: PFTS, Concorde Capital



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