RET25

Business environment and strategy

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Macro 2012 – end of the world (as we know it)?

- 2012 is the end of the story (in its present form)...
- ...21 December key date
- Many prophets of doom (still)
- Euro behaves in this way
- Maya calendar!...
- ...but experts disagree about this as well!

Macro 2012 – TOW (1)

Sub par growth

- Euro area heading for recession
- other major economies weak to modest growth
- growth in the global economy
- risks on the downside

No inflation

- deflation still major threat
- deleveraging creates continued problems for monetary policy
- unemployment prevents salary inflation

Macro 2012 – TOW (2)

Continued low interest rates

- extremely easy monetary policy 2012-2013
- ECB and PBOC moving towards more easy monetary policy

Currencies – no winner in sight so far!

- euro down at start of the year
- favourites: GBP, SEK, NOK, CAD, AUD
- dollar in between

Commodities

- oil price stable high level
- industrial commodities: low level but cyclically dependent

Macro 2012 – TOW (3)

Risks

- never so much uncertainty, so many key issues at the same time
- Europe
- election year in countries that account for 50% of global GDP
- geopolitics
- populist movements

Macro 2012 - TOW(4)

TOW – Tug-Of-War

- monetary policy vs. fiscal policy
- stimulus vs. austerity
- continued high volatility
- continued gigantic risks
- continued conservative strategy

Financial strategy (1)

- Autumn 2011: Spreading rumours!
 - 6 months to go until dividend...
 - stupid sources (or in some cases downright lies)
- Paradox: Ratos and then!
 - on the agenda and communicated since Lehman
 - strengthened operational focus weekly (AR 2011!)
 - fully under control

Financial strategy (2)

- PEC (long-term) a company among all others
 - cf "Volvo"
- Short-term difference
 - financing flows in batches
 - more binary
- "Borrow for dividend"
 - Ioan vs. bridge financing
 - spring 2011!!!

Financial strategy (3)

Created smorgasbord

- cash
- dividends/refinancings (multi-year plans)
- exits
- credit lines
- new issue mandate
- additional ongoing projects

Financial strategy (4)

Dividend strategy

- aggressive dividend policy
- growth reflects Ratos's long-term development
- stability sought after
- not controlled by net cash!
- annual review
- strategic balance

Private Equity Conglomerate (PEC)

Long-term owner perspective

- foundations and family
- other long-term owners
- short-term owners welcome along the way

Goal/purpose to create

- "perpetual" sustainable business model
- "perpetual" (value) growth
- profitability vital and essential for survival



Success factors, diversified company (1)

Transaction orientation

- acquisition-driven
- exit when time is right
- profitability requirements
- propensity to change over time

Effective capital allocation

- profitability more important than growth
- systematic efforts to turn (or sell) unprofitable, value-destroying units
- steadily increase proportion of capital invested in value-creating units
- clear and consistent portfolio strategy

Success factors, diversified company (2)

- Leadership development and skills transfer
 - company university
 - support from incentive structures
- Lean organisation with clear division of responsibility
 - few hierarchical levels

Success factors, diversified company (3)

- Central strategic initiatives
 - often CEO-driven
- Fundamentalist work with corporate culture
 - value system in focus
- Strictly conducted corporate governance
 - often clear principal owner
 - strategic dialogue with principal owner
 - independent, external board members in an effective and motivated board
 - transparent (open and honest) reporting

Success factors, diversified company (4)

Capital market guidance

- not submission!

Financial and fiscal optimisation

- no excesses!

Strategic consequences (1)

- Pure PE (short-term/financial) not "permanent" persistent model
 - industrial development and build up work requires (often) a long time and "linking"
 - e.g. Camfil, Haglöfs, Hägglunds Drives, Inwido
- Classic conglomerate not a "permanent" persistent model
 - lack of exit strategy
 - lack of financial optimisation
 - (certain) industry focus/dependence

Strategic consequences (2)

PEC ultimate solution!

- makes use of the best of both worlds
- avoids downsides and pitfalls
- does not require over-smart timing

PEC – Private Equity Conglomerate



PEC – more common than you might think

- General Electric (et al)
- Warren Buffet
- Bonnier
- A.P. Möller-Maersk
- Asia!
- Swedish companies (ABB, Electrolux, Sandvik, et al)
- stock exchange!!!

Fire support

 "Private-equity funds are the conglomerates of this era" (Jeff Immelt, GE, Financial Times 2007)

"You have to regard the stock exchange as living material that constantly changes"

"The venture capital companies we see today had their equivalents before in Electrolux, Trelleborg, Skrinet and others, where buyouts were a business concept"

(Björn Wilke, DI 30 April 2011, "My 40 years on the stock exchange")

Conglomerate valuation (1)

Conglomerate often valued at a premium

- hidden in average figures
- major regional differences

Conglomerate valuation (2)

(%)	MV/NAV	Discount share	Premium share
Global index	./.5.5	35	27
CEE	./.11.7	NA	NA
Western Europe	./.10.2	41	21
North America	./.9.9	36	26
Asia (ex Japan)	./.9.0	34	26
Japan	+2.6	33	31
Latin America	+12.1	27	26

(Citigroup, April 2011)

Ratos's DNA (1)

- Owner companies cannot be compared with operating companies!
 - not same type of business
 - repetitiveness, strategy in two dimensions
- Strategy much larger part of operations
 - retail 5/95, industry 10/90, PEC 30/70
 - structural capital, everything in its place key parameters

Ratos's DNA (2)

- (Far too many) Any-old-how companies
 - is what it is due to lack of strategic compass
 - lack of strategic fundamentalism
 - not learning organisations (structural capital)
 - recreational football team vs. North Korea vs. Barcelona
- Individual vs. industrial collective (with individuals)
 - Barcelona, skilled conglomerate

Ratos's DNA (3)

- Project is <u>core</u> in this
 - further develop AM
 - further develop individuals
 - structure/repetitiveness (RIC)

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