## Disclaimer

We own a significant number of shares in Crayon so you cannot trust us... or perhaps you can?

Buying shares is risky, do so at your own peril.

All opinions presented is Hvaler Invests own opinions

All analyses have been done by Hvaler Invest unless otherwise stated

The intrinsic value analysis was made November $27^{\text {th }}$

For the purpose of this presentation when we say "revenue" we are referring to "gross profit"

## Newsletters going forward and the Hvaler Invest Team

## Increasing market knowledge of strong companies and giving back to the community

## Purpose of the newsletters and presentations

 Consulting Group

- This will benefit us, and you if you follow some of our investment advice, as increased understanding of these companies will most likely lead to an increased market price over time
- We have a long-term investment perspective, and as such short-term fluctuations should be expected


## Giving back to the community

- A part of Hvaler Invest's philosophy is also to give something back to society
- We have recently signed the largest sponsorship agreement in the history of Fjellhammer IL and B72 table tennis club
- Building a Hvaler house in Gambia (offices for teachers in an elementary school)
- We encourage you all to sign up as "Grunnfjell" sponsor with FIL

- Chairman of the Board and owner of Hvaler Invest
- Former CEO Protector Forsikring, Currently Chair BoD B3 Consulting
- Analyst "trainee"

- Investor, analyst and owner of Hvaler Invest
- Former management consultant in consulting and insurance, Currently BoD Webstep
- Senior(?) analyst

- CEO in Hvaler Invest
- Currently real estate developer and former real estate agent
- Not an analyst...

- Halvor Dybdahl
- Student at Norwegian School of Economics
- Member of the investment club NHHS at NHH
Junior Analyst
- Student at Norwegian School of Economics
- Member of the investment club NHHS at NHH
- Junior Analyst


## >20 years with strong growth

22\% CAGR revenue growth and 22\% CAGR EBITDA growth over the last 10 years

Founded in 2002

Rapid growth in revenue and EBITDA

5 acquisitions since 2015
$\sim 80,000$ customers across the globe

Expertise in software \& cloud licenses and advisory

Revenue CAGR '12-'22: 22,4\%
 Source: Crayon data, Hvaler Analysis

EBITDA (rep) CAGR '12-'22: 22,1\%


## The main selling point of Crayon - Scalability

Track record for converting growth to profitability

- Nordics the most mature and most profitable geography
- Acquisitions that fit with the strategy
- Communicate that they focus on profitability currently (good), and data show that we should trust what they say (next slide)


Source: Crayon Q4 2022 presentation

## Geographical presence and business areas

## Copying the Nordic model of scalability - Sale of licenses by far the most profitable revenue stream

## Geographical Presence:

- Nordics: Largest and most mature market (38\% of LTM revenue)
- Nordics: Account for $68 \%$ of LTM adj EBITDA
- Europe, APAC \& MEA, and the US: International markets driving $56 \%$ of 2022 revenue

Business areas:

- Sale of licenses (software and cloud direct and channel) is the largest business area (52\% LTM). Comprised of:
- Direct sales
- Channel (partner) sales
- Sale of licenses is also the part of the business that has by far the best margins ( $\sim 50 \%$ )
- Rest of the volume is consulting and software and cloud economics
- A lot lower margin, but enable Crayon to deliver the entire value chain related to sale of licenses

Revenue development per region


> Revenue per business area

- Software \& Cloud Direct
- Software \& Cloud Channel
- Software \& Cloud Economics
- Consulting



## A lot of eyes are on Crayon

Trouble in the Philippines, a short favourite, distrusting the management and buyout speculations

- Still no solution to the Philippines issue
- The lates news is that Microsoft is joining forces with Crayon to put the pressure on the Philippines
- There's more at stake than just $5 \mathrm{kr} / \mathrm{sh}$
- The shorters are not giving up

- Despite the market regaining som faith in Crayon, the shorters are not convinced

| Rank | Company Name | SI (\% of <br> Shares <br> Outstandin <br> g) | 1W Change | 1M Change | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 6M } \\ & \text { Chang } \end{aligned}$ e | SI (\% of <br> Free <br> Float) | SI <br> (Publicly <br> Disclosed \% of Outstandi ng | Mcap. (USDm) | Value on Loan (USDm) | Days to Cover | Utilisatio <br> n |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  | $\checkmark$ Shares* ${ }^{\text {- }}$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | -1 |  |
| 1 | Samhallsbyggnadsbolaget I Norden | 19.1\% | 5\% | -10\% | -25\% | 24.0\% | 8.7\% | 463 | 94 | 7 | 84\% |
| 2 | Novozymes A/S | 16.3\% | 3\% | 70\% | 119\% | 17.7\% | 11.4\% | 11904 | 1931 | 68 | 58\% |
| 3 | Crayon Group Holding Asa | 15.2\% | 2\% | 23\% | 226\% | 19.6\% | 7.4\% | 680 | 104 | 21 | 79\% |
| 4 | Viaplay Group Ab (Publ) | 13.6\% | -12\% | -18\% | 58\% | 19.2\% | 3.0\% | 183 | 28 | 16 | 80\% |
| 5 | Jm Ab | 13.5\% | -2\% | 14\% | 141\% | 14.9\% | 10.6\% | 875 | 121 | 26 | 57\% |
| 6 | Nel Asa | 12.7\% | 1\% | 8\% | 86\% | 12.7\% | 4.1\% | 1219 | 159 | 27 | 72\% |

Source: ABG analysis

- Rumours of Crayon looking at strategic options this summer
- Goldman Sachs having bought 7,3\% of the shares in a short timespan


## Input from management

Strong cost focus - Al will have a slow start before it ramps up

## EBITDA margins (cost)

- Going forward they will continue with a clear focus on profitability/cost
- HQ cost in focus, in addition to profitability focus in regions
- FTE reduction in certain positions in US
- Lots of opportunities to improve profitability in APAC/MEA


## Growth



- Co-Pilot will have a slow start due to high initial price. This is partially due to Microsoft not wanting to overload their infrastructure



## Guiding vs actual - Crayon "walk the talk"

Crayon's guiding is slightly on the conservative side - Analysts "on the other side" are wrong

- Only one year with underperformance relative to guidance on EBITDA, otherwise overperformance
- Even still the sentiment in the market is that they are not able to deliver on what they say...
- Capex steadily above guidance - The reason (and it's a very good one) can be found in the revenue overperformance. Growing at this pace requires capital, as you all know
- No analyst use Crayon guiding when estimating future development (us included) - Are we all trailing behind?

|  | Revenue |  | EBITDA |  | Capex |  |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Year | Guiding | Actual | Guiding | Actual | Guiding | Actual |
| 2023 | $20,0 \%$ |  | $20,5 \%$ |  | 125 |  |
| 2022 | $37,5 \%$ | $43,0 \%$ | $22,5 \%$ | $20,4 \% *$ | 100 | 142 |
| 2021 | $22,5 \%$ | $29,6 \%$ | $16,5 \%$ | $21,5 \%$ | 83 | 71 |
| 2020 | $17,5 \%$ | $29,6 \%$ | $17,5 \%$ | $17,6 \%$ | 70 | 75 |
| 2019 | $17,5 \%$ | $21,7 \%$ | $13,5 \%$ | $16,2 \%$ | 60 | 76 |
| 2018 | $9,0 \%$ | $22,4 \%$ | $13,0 \%$ | $12,6 \%$ | 43 | 62 |
| Avg |  | $29,3 \%$ |  | $17,3 \%$ |  |  |

Source: Crayon data, Hvaler analysis
Guiding: Full year guiding for next year, presented in Q4 each year

* $18,7 \%$ in IFRS 15 restated figure. $20,4 \%$ is comparable to the guiding


## What happend after Q3 were released?

There was a massive (over)reaction to the results... Preparation + opportunity + action = profit

## Preparation:

- Figures released at 7:00 and we did a quick analysis and estimated 5-10\% drop in share price, same as most analysts


## Opportunity

- At the open the stock took a swan dive and trading was suspended at around -20\%


## Action

- We saw it as an overreaction and bought 380k shares ASAP at about $56 \mathrm{kr} /$ share


## Profit

- Shares sold about 1,5 days after with a profit of 4 MNOK


Source: Bloomberg data

## Intrinsic value - Base case

Based on FCF and in perpetuity value: NOK 196

|  | Guiding medium term | HI assumtions | Comments |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Revenue growth | $\approx 20 \%$ | $16 \%$ CAGR $22-27$ |  |
| EBITDA margin | Gradual increase to $25 \%$ | $18 \%$ to $21 \%$ | Are we too low? |
| NWC in \% of GP | $-15 \%$ to $-20 \%$ | $0 \%$ to $-5 \%$ | Up from $-3,5 \%$ to $-5 \%$ |

- Assumptions:
- Discount rate: $10 \%$
- Perpetual Growth Rate: $3 \%$
- Included one "bad year" in 2026
- $-50 \%$ growth and $-40 \%$ EBITDA margin

EBITDA pr year


Market Value vs Intrinsic Value


## Relative valuation table

## Crayon growing 20\% with median at 11\% - Despite this Crayon trading at a large discount to peers

| Ticker | Share price LCY | Market cap USD | EV/EBITDA |  |  | EV/EBITDA-CAPEX |  |  | EV/EBIT |  |  | P/E |  |  | 22-24e growth |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | GP | EBITDA |
| SoftwareOne | 17,96 | 3239 | 13,0x | 10,9x | 9,5x | 16,8x | 13,7x | 11,9x | 17,0x | 13,7x | 11,9x | 22,3x | 18,0x | 15,6x | 8 \% | $9 \%$ |
| Softchoice | 17,4 | 763 | 9,7x | 9,0x | 8,3x | 9,9x | 9,3x | 8,6x | 12,1x | 11,3x | 9,6x | 15,4x | 14,0x | 12,9x | 5 \% | 8 \% |
| Bytes Technology | 547,5 | 1657 | 22, 2 x | 19,6x | 17,4x | 22,7x | 20,1x | 17,8x | 23,1x | 20,2x | 17,8x | 31,5x | 27,4x | 25,0x | 13 \% | 11 \% |
| Softcat | 1265 | 3182 | 16,5x | 15,2x | 13,7x | 17,0x | 15,6x | 14,1x | 17,2x | 15,9x | 14,4x | 22,7x | 22,0x | 19,9x | 13 \% | $6 \%$ |
| Lower quartile |  |  | 10,5x | 9,5x | 8,6x | 11,6x | 10,4x | 9,4x | 13,3x | 11,9x | 10,1x | 17,1x | 15,0x | 13,6x | 6 \% | 7 \% |
| Median |  |  | 14,8x | 13,0x | 11,6x | 16,9x | 14,7x | 13,0x | 17,1x | 14,8x | 13,1x | 22,5x | 20,0x | 17,8x | 11 \% | $9 \%$ |
| Upper quartile |  |  | 20,8x | 18,5x | 16,5x | 21,3x | 19,0x | 16,9x | 21,6x | 19,1x | 17,0x | 29,3x | 26,1x | 23,7x | 13 \% | $11 \%$ |
| Crayon consensus | 80,25 | 672 | 10,6x | 8,2x | 6,7x | 12,3x | 9,3x | 7,5x | 15,7x | 10,8x | 8,4x | 25,3x | 13,2x | 9,5x | 20 \% | 24 \% |
| Diff vs median |  |  | -28\% | -37\% | -42 \% | -27\% | -36\% | -42 \% | -8\% | -27\% | -36\% | 12 \% | -34\% | -46\% | $90 \%$ | 182 \% |
| Diff vs upper quartile |  |  | -49\% | -55\% | -59\% | -42\% | -51\% | -56\% | -28\% | -43\% | -50\% | -14\% | -49\% | -60\% | 54 \% | 129 \% |
| TP at upper quartile |  |  | 157,6 | 180,2 | 196, | 138,6 | 163,4 | 181,4 | 110,7 | 141,8 | 161,6 | 93,0 | 157,9 | 200,3 |  |  |

Source: Hvaler Invest analysis, Bloomberg

- At EV/EBITDA-Capex crayon trades at a 40-55\% discount to peers
- Crayon GP growth at $20 \%$ and EBITDA growth at $24 \%$, with median peers at $11 \%$ and $9 \%$ respectively
- At 2025 e EV/EBITDA-capex upper quartile Crayon would be at $181 /$ sh - Not too aggressive for a company performing better than all peers in our view


## Investment case overview

Target price 196 - Based on DCF base case estimate

- Bloomberg consensus at 117, has come down with some 20 kr since our last presentation. Notable mentions:
- Rated 1 - Sparebank 1: 170
- Rated $\mathbf{2 - A r c t i c : ~} 150$
- Rated 3 - DNB: 75
- A "conservative" bull case due to macro environment, hence the lower weighted average price than our base case
- EV/OpFCF (EBITDA-CAPEX) multiple used, as earnings multiples below EBITDA (due to high D\&A)

Peer pricing based on 2025e EV/EBITDA-CAPEX
and upper quartile multiple at $16,8 \mathrm{x}$

Target price Crayon: 150

Kristian Spetalen - Arctic

- Rated as the second-best IT analyst in 2023
- Bronze medal in the national Junior Slalom championship in Norway 2016
- Got the nickname "golden boy" in Arctic after his quick rise to the second spot on the Kapital ranking for IT analysts
- Master in finance from NHH


## Our message today revolves around cash conversion and valuation

Cash conversion: Why we are not concerned


- Billings (and hence WC) are significant figures compared to the "net" P\&L figures
- Low next quarter cash flow visibility coupled with company specific events have left the market concerned, but over time the cash comes in ( $85 \%$ CC since 2013)
- Collecting money not an issue, while Crayon seems "too good" at paying their vendors

Valuation: Not "another tech bubble bursting"


- Share price development since peak has almost solely been driven by a multiple contraction
- Now at $8 x$ NTM EV/EBITDA vs $14 x$ pre-Covid
- Bid on main competitor implies $46-109 \%$ upside for Crayon
- 10-20\% free cash flow yield will make multiples contract fast

The market is concerned about weak cash conversion...

| Crayon (NOKm) | 2021 | 2022 | YTD '23 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Gross Profit | 3,165 | 4,496 | 4,050 |
| Adj. EBTDA | 644 | 840 | 679 |
| Operational cash flow | 26 | 102 | -727 |
| Cash conversion (OCF/adj. EBITDA) | $4 \%$ | $12 \%$ | $-107 \%$ |

## Keep in mind that P\&L is "net" figures and BS \& CF are gross...

Billings (and hence NWC) are significant figures compared to the "net" P\&L figures...

...leaving the WC at quarter end sensitive to small changes in outstanding gross amounts, which fluctuate between 60-100\%


## ...making the cash flow sensitive too NWC changes (and a bit of a black box short-term)...

WC effect on cash flow (compared to quarterly EBITDAs of $\sim$ NOK $0-300 \mathrm{~m}$ in this period)


4 days change in DSO and DPO can impact ~NOK 1.7bn

| WC effect on C |  | DSO |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 59 | 58 | 57 | 56 | 55 | 54 | 53 |
|  | 63 | 538 | 689 | 840 | 991 | 1,142 | 1,293 | 1,444 |
|  | 64 | 672 | 823 | 973 | 1,124 | 1,275 | 1,426 | 1,577 |
|  | 65 | 805 | 956 | 1,107 | 1,258 | 1,409 | 1,560 | 1,711 |
|  | 66 | 938 | 1,089 | 1,240 | 1,391 | 1,542 | 1,693 | 1,844 |
|  | 67 | 1,072 | 1,223 | 1,374 | 1,525 | 1,676 | 1,826 | 1,977 |
|  | 68 | 1,205 | 1,356 | 1,507 | 1,658 | 1,809 | 1,960 | 2,111 |
|  | 69 | 1,339 | 1,490 | 1,640 | 1,791 | 1,942 | 2,093 | 2,244 |

- The table above shows cash flow sensitivity to core DSO and DPO
- DSO: (Receivables/Gross sales)*90
- DSO: (Receivables/Gross sales)* 90
- Other NWC amounted to NOK -153m in Q3'23
- Note that WC metrics must be calculated based on quarterly sales the balance sheet primarily reflects business during the quarter
- The mid-points are our Q4e (more on that in a couple of slides)


## ...but over time the cash comes in

85\% of accumulated 2013-2021 Adj. EBITDA has ended up in OCF


| NWC | Q1/19 | Q2/19 | Q3/19 | Q4/19 | Q1/20 | Q2/20 | Q3/20 | Q4/20 | Q1/21 | Q2/21 | Q3/21 | Q4/21 | Q1/22 | Q2/22 | Q3/22 | Q4/22 | Q1/23 | Q2/23 | Q3/23 | Q4/23e | Q1/24e | Q2/24e | Q3/24e | Q4/24e |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| NWC | -65 | -718 | -25 | -338 | -395 | -1,363 | -99 | -718 | -207 | -637 | -188 | -463 | -3 | -280 | 253 | -121 | -218 | -132 | 905 | -486 | -675 | -1,192 | -147 | -812 |
| \% of Gross Sales | -2\% | -17\% | -1\% | -8\% | -9\% | -22\% | -3\% | -13\% | -4\% | -8\% | -4\% | -6\% | 0\% | -2\% | 3\% | -1\% | -2\% | -1\% | 9\% | -4\% | -5\% | -6\% | -1\% | -5\% |
| Avg. LTM NWC / LTM GP | -10.7\% | -18.2\% | -16.5\% | -15.8\% | -19.1\% | -25.2\% | -24.9\% | -27.5\% | -24.0\% | -15.5\% | -15.5\% | -11.8\% | -9.3\% | -6.0\% | -2.9\% | -0.8\% | -1.9\% | -1.1\% | 2.0\% | 0.3\% | -1.6\% | -5.9\% | -9.8\% | -10.8\% |
| Less PH receivable (USD 45m at QE FX) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 446 | 490 | 444 | 452 | 448 | 482 | 495 |  |  |  |  |
| Adj. NWC | -65 | -718 | -25 | -338 | -395 | -1,363 | -99 | -718 | -207 | -637 | -188 | -463 | -3 | -725 | -237 | -564 | -670 | -580 | 423 | -981 | -675 | -1,192 | -147 | -812 |
| \% of Gross Sales | -2\% | -17\% | -1\% | -8\% | -9\% | -22\% | -3\% | -13\% | -4\% | -8\% | -4\% | -6\% | 0\% | -6\% | -3\% | -6\% | -6\% | -4\% | 4\% | -7\% | -5\% | -6\% | -1\% | -5\% |
| Avg. LTM NWC / LTM GP | -10.7\% | -18.2\% | -16.5\% | -15.8\% | -19.1\% | -25.2\% | -24.9\% | -27.5\% | -24.0\% | -15.5\% | -15.5\% | -11.8\% | -9.3\% | -8.9\% | -8.4\% | -8.5\% | -11.5\% | -10.1\% | -6.5\% | -8.0\% | -7.7\% | -9.8\% | -11.8\% | -10.8\% |

## Collecting money is not an issue, while Crayon seems "to good" at paying their vendors

## Considerations to account for before

 assessment- Vendor reliefs during Covid-19
- FX impact
- Potential impact from abnormal transactions
- Longer payment cycles in APAC \& MEA (from 13\% of GP in 2020 to $25 \%$ in 2023e)
- IFRS 15 (for all receivables): Increases other current receivables on more aggressive revenue recognition (insignificant P\&L impact)
- No changes in MSFT payment terms recently

DSO relatively stable. Has decreases $y / y$ last two quarters


DPO more volatile. Should be room for improvement ahead


## Bad receivables are not an issue

The international business made up $37 \%$ of gross profit in 2017 (excl. HQ and eliminations) and 60\% LTM


Not "another tech bubble bursting". Multiple contraction almost solely explaining share price development from peak

$2 y$ change


Trading at $\sim \mathbf{2 5 \%}$ discount to other VARs despite higher historical and expected growth

NTM EV/EBITDA adj.


NTM P/E adj.


## Peer table: We mainly focus on P/E multiples due to cash flow seasonality

Would carefully asses EV multiples due to cash flow seasonality in Q2 (strong) vs Q3 (weak) among VARs


## EV multiples contracting fast due to high free cash flow yield

EV build-up and FCFF incl. leases (cash flow before change in debt and debt service)


Multiples at NOK 80/sh (at forward EV estimates)


## Indicative bid on key peer SoftwareOne implies NOK 116-167/sh for Crayon (46-109\% upside)

- Key peer (and Crayon shareholder), SoftwareOne, has received non-binding bids from 4 parties during its strategic review, according to Reuters
- Bain Capital has previously submitted two bids for SoftwareOne at CHF 18.5/sh and CHF 19.5-20.5/sh, which both were turned down by the board on valuation
- Positive to see good interest for a similar company as Crayon at >2x multiples
- Similar companies when it comes to i) clean SW and Services exposure, ii) international presence, and iii) productivity
- Note that SoftwareOne now has PS-DBM as customer
- Note that higher FTE growth in Crayon likely dilutes productivity metrics


## SWON vs CRAYN using adj. EBITDA-capex

|  | Bid/Share price and capital structure |  |  |  |  |  | adj. EBTDA-capex |  |  | EV/EBTIDA-capex |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SWON vs CRAYN | Currency | Bid/SP | Shares | MCAP (m) | NBD (Q2) | EV (m) | 2023e | 2024e | 2025e | 2023e | 2024e | 2025e |
| Softw areOne (Cons) - SP | CFH | 17.9 | 155 | 2,767 | 111 | 2,877 | 197 | 231 | 264 | 14.6x | 12.5x | 10.9x |
| Softw areOne (Cons) - Bid | CFH | 20 | 155 | 3,091 | 111 | 3,202 | 197 | 231 | 264 | 16.2x | 13.9x | 12.1x |
| Crayon (ARCe) | NOK | 80 | 89 | 7,152 | 2,310 | 9,462 | 873 | 1,132 | 1,382 | 10.8x | 8.4x | 6.8x |
| Implied P/sh for Crayon at SWON trading (midpoint) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 116 | 132 | 143 |
| Implied P/sh for Crayon adj. NIBD for USD 45m Philippines receivable |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 122 | 137 | 148 |
| Implied P/sh for Crayon at SWON bid (midpoint) Implied P/sh for Crayon adj. NIBD for USD 45m Philippines receivable |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 133 | 150 | 162 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 138 | 155 | 167 |

2022 segment gross profit split


Similar productivity*


## Our message today revolves around cash conversion and valuation

Cash conversion: Why we are not concerned


- Billings (and hence WC) are significant figures compared to the "net" P\&L figures
- Low next quarter cash flow visibility coupled with company specific events have left the market concerned, but over time the cash comes in ( $85 \%$ CC since 2013)
- Collecting money not an issue, while Crayon seems "too good" at paying their vendors

Valuation: Not "another tech bubble bursting"


- Share price development since peak has almost solely been driven by a multiple contraction
- Now at $8 x$ NTM EV/EBITDA vs $14 x$ pre-Covid
- Bid on main competitor implies $46-109 \%$ upside for Crayon
- 10-20\% free cash flow yield will make multiples contract fast

Q\&A

