Netherlands: A Global Reflationary Beneficiary (II)

Key Takeaway

While the men in orange won't be playing in this summer's World Cup for a second consecutive time, the Netherlands is illuminating the market with its much better macro data. Even though the PMI slipped to 60.7 in April after touching 63.4, the backlog of orders increased at a faster pace. In tandem, the equity market is responding well to the raised earnings forecasts.

Notwithstanding last year's elections (see Netherlands: Split Opinions) the Dutch equity indices have portrayed the recovery in global trade perfectly. The Netherlands is the 9th largest export economy in the world — almost 80% of the world's flower bulbs (mostly tulips) come from the country! The April PMI remained at an elevated level with tight pressure on capacity and ongoing price squeezes. Backlogs of work increased at a faster rate and for the ninth successive month — the longest sequence in 11 years. Admittedly, business confidence and manufacturing production have tapered but capacity utilization rates have edged up. It would be fair to say that the Netherlands has transitioned seamlessly from disinflation to inflation.

'God made the world, but the Dutch made Holland', Brilliant Orange: The Neurotic Genius of Dutch Football

'Catenaccio is like a Titian painting – soft, seductive and languid. The Italians welcome and lull you and seduce you into their soft embrace, and score a goal like the thrust of a dagger', Brilliant Orange: The Neurotic Genius of Dutch Football

Although the headline CPI is 0.9% y-y, house prices and equity share prices have responded well to the negative real interest regime and the abundant current account surplus. The exchange rate is 'modestly cheap' based on its REER allowing the Netherlands to enjoy a competitiveness boost. The equity market is one of the few in the world which is experiencing broad earnings revisions and the Du Pont ratios demonstrate a clean bill of health – rising asset turnover, widening net margins and climbing ROE (see exhibit 7 to 10). True the market is not cheap (35% of the stocks trade above three times book) but companies are generally geared lowly while around 45% of the market has a FCF yield above 3%.

The market trades on a forward P/E of 15.1x, forward P/B of 1.8x, forward dividend yield of 3.4% and forward ROE of 12.2%. We remain Bullish within our Global Asset Allocation. There is a large group of quality companies within the Dutch equity market

| | | PE (x, | PB (x, | DY (%, | FCFY (%, | ROE (%, | FY1 EPS Growth | FY1 EPS Revision | FY2 EPS Revision (%. | Net Debt/Equity | lef Research |
|-----------|-----------------------|---------|--------|--------|----------|---------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Ticker | Company Name | 12M) | 12M) | 12M) | 12M) | FY1) | (%) | (%, 3M) | 3M) | (%, FYO) | Rating |
| MT NA | ARCELORMITTAL | 7.6 | 0.75 | 1.05 | 11.8 | 11.3 | 4.6 | 21.8 | 17.2 | | BUY |
| Compani | es with Good Quality | Metrics | | | | | | | | | |
| | | i | | | | | FY1 EPS | FY1 EPS | FY2 EPS | Net | |
| | | PE (x, | PB (x, | DY (%, | FCFY (%, | ROE (%, | Growth | Revision | Revision (%, | Debt/Equity | Jef Research |
| Ticker | Company Name | 12M) | 12M) | 12M) | 12M) | FY1) | (%) | (%, 3M) | 3M) | (%, FYO) | Rating |
| APAM NA | APERAM | 11.6 | 1.28 | 4.12 | 8.3 | 11.2 | (9.6) | (2.3) | (3.3) | (2.5) | BUY |
| PNL NA | POSTNL NV | 7.8 | 12.27 | 8.22 | 6.8 | 276.3 | 21.2 | (14.8) | (12.8) | (124.3) | BUY |
| OSM NA | DSM (KONIN) | 16.7 | 1.97 | 2.30 | 4.8 | 14.0 | (44.9) | 14.1 | 0.1 | 11.0 | ВИУ |
| A Financi | al on Attractive Valu | ation | | | | | | | | | |
| | | i | | | | | FY1 EPS | FY1 EPS | FY2 EPS | Net | |
| | | PE (x, | PB (x, | DY (%, | FCFY (%, | ROE (%, | Growth | Revision | Revision (%, | Debt/Equity | Jef Research |
| Ticker | Company Name | 12M) | 12M) | 12M) | 12M) | FY1) | (%) | (%, 3M) | 3M) | (%, FYO) | Rating |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |

(cont. overleaf)



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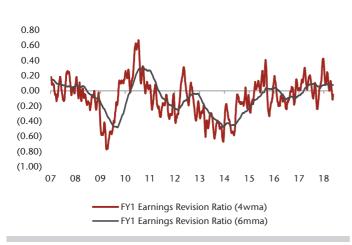
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^Prior trading day's closing price unless otherwise noted.

Netherlands Valuations & Fund Flows

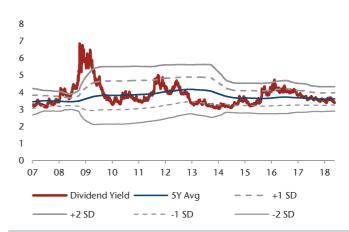
Exhibit 1: FY1 Earnings Revision

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Source: FactSet, Jefferies

Exhibit 2: Dividend Yield (12-month forward)



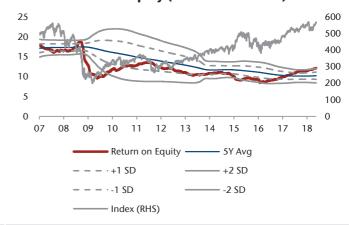
Source: FactSet, Jefferies

Exhibit 3: Price to Earnings (12-month forward)



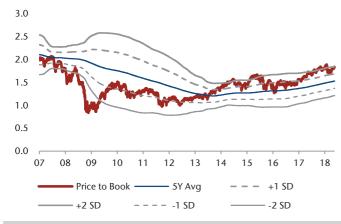
Source: FactSet, Jefferies

Exhibit 4: Return on Equity (12-month forward)



Source: FactSet, Jefferies

Exhibit 5: Price to Book (12-month forward)



Source: FactSet, Jefferies

Exhibit 6: Equity Market Flows into Netherlands



Source: Bloomberg, EPFR, Jefferies

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Netherlands DuPont Analysis





Exhibit 8: Net Profit Margin (%, ex Fin)



Source: FactSet, Jefferies

Source: FactSet, Jefferies

Exhibit 9: Financial Leverage (x, ex Fin)

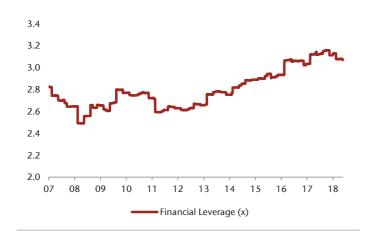


Exhibit 10: Return On Equity (%, ex Fin)

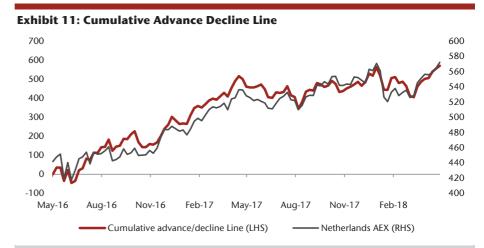


Source: FactSet, Jefferies

Source: FactSet, Jefferies

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Market breadth is excellent



Source: FactSet, Jefferies

On this measure the equity market is pausing for breath



Source: FactSet, Jefferies

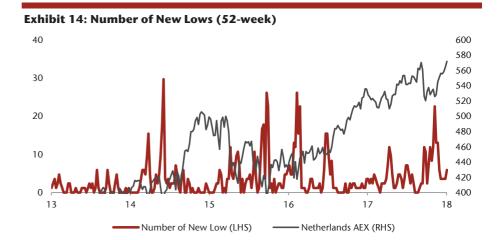
Slightly more stocks are making new highs...



Source: FactSet, Jefferies

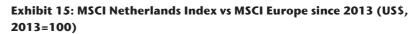
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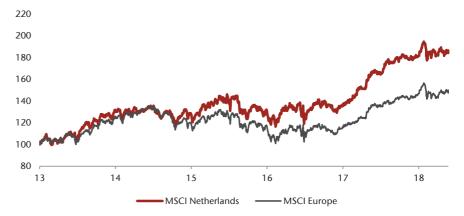
..than new lows



Source: FactSet, Jefferies

The Netherlands has outperformed sharply but has gone sideways recently

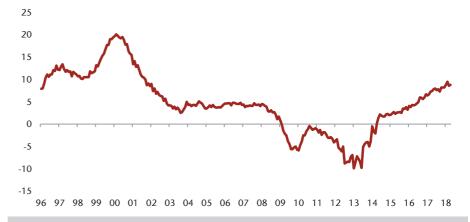




Source: FactSet, Jefferies

House prices are reflating

Exhibit 16: Netherlands House Price Index YoY %



Source: Bloomberg, Jefferies

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The exchange rate was cheap through 2017

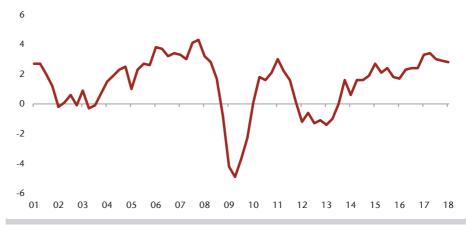
Exhibit 17: Netherlands Real Effective Exchange Rate Broad



Source: Bloomberg, Jefferies

GDP growth is back to trend

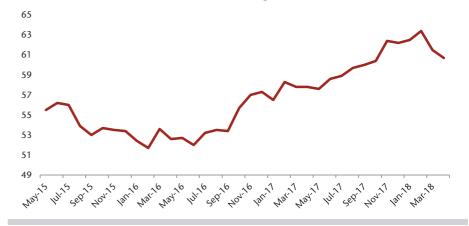
Exhibit 18: Netherlands GDP at Real 2010 Prices in Euros YoY %



Source: Bloomberg, Jefferies

The PMI is still strong at 60

Exhibit 19: NEVI Netherlands Manufacturing PMI SA

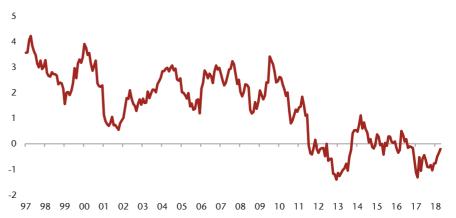


Source: Bloomberg, Jefferies

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Real interest rates are slightly negative

Exhibit 20: Netherlands Real 10-Year Bond Yield %

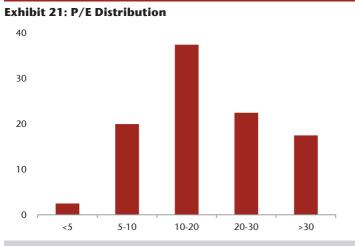


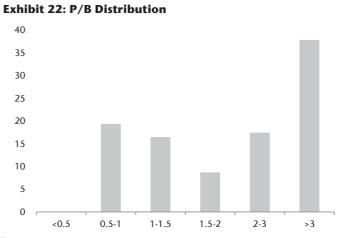
Source: Bloomberg, Jefferies

Note: real bond yield = 10y generic yield minus CPI y-y %

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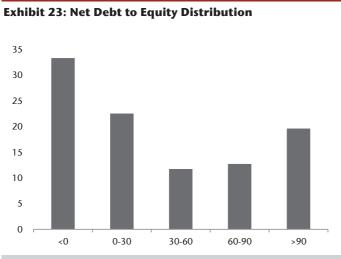
Netherlands: Valuation Dispersion





Source: Bloomberg, Jefferies

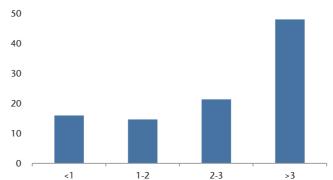
Source: Bloomberg, Jefferies





60

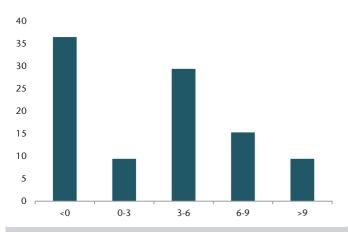
Exhibit 24: Altman's Z-Score Distribution



Source: Bloomberg, Jefferies

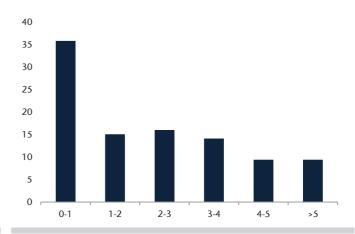
Source: Bloomberg, Jefferies

Exhibit 25: Free Cash Flow Yield Distribution



Source: Bloomberg, Jefferies

Exhibit 26: Dividend Yield Distribution



Source: Bloomberg, Jefferies

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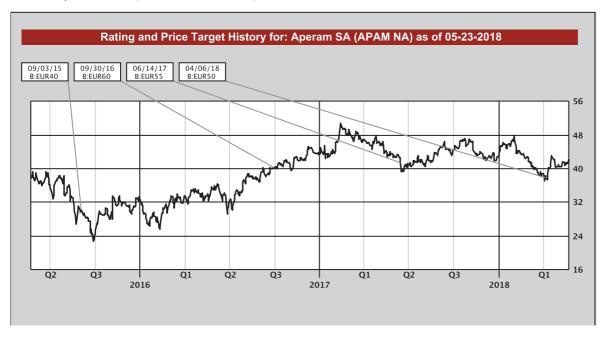
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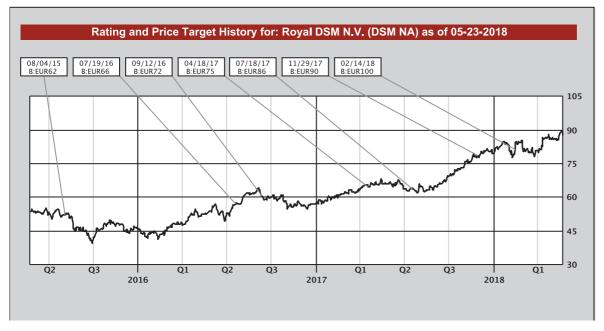
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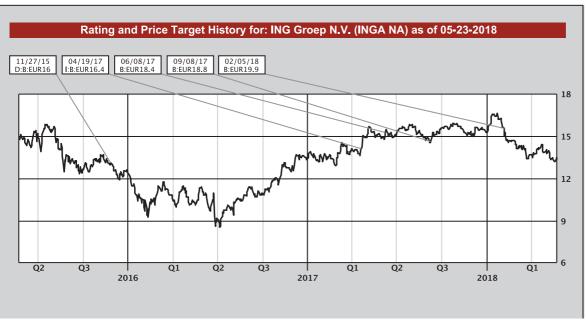
Other Companies Mentioned in This Report

- Aperam SA (APAM NA: €41.40, BUY)
- ArcelorMittal (MT NA: €28.70, BUY)
- ING Groep N.V. (INGA NA: €13.34, BUY)
- PostNL NV (PNL NA: €3.09, BUY)
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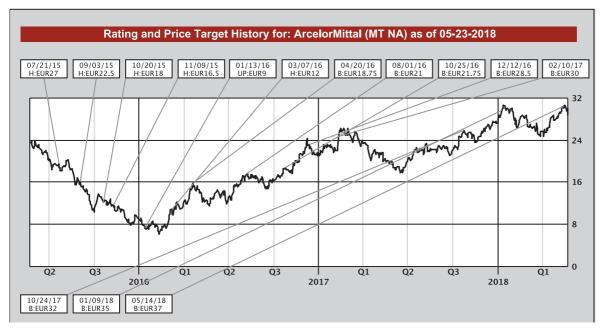


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IB Serv./Past 12 Mos. JIL Mkt Serv./Past 12

| Rating | Count | Percent | Count | Percent | Count | Percent |
|--------------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|
| BUY | 1115 | 53.71% | 342 | 30.67% | 71 | 6.37% |
| HOLD | 831 | 40.03% | 174 | 20.94% | 23 | 2.77% |
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