

# Jean Pierre Verster

Portfolio Manager, Fairtree Capital







## Best Ideas 2019, Hosted by MOI Global

Jean Pierre Verster Portfolio Manager Protea hedge funds

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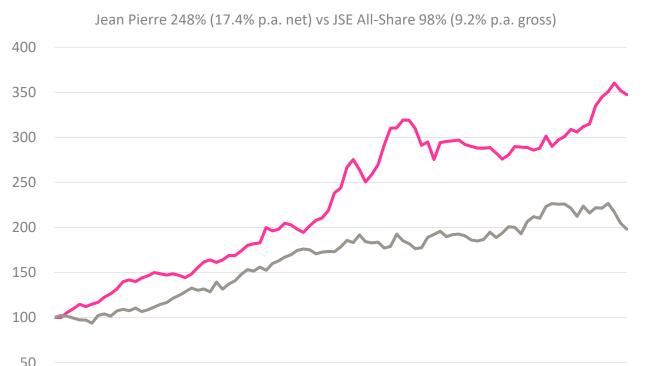
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## Long-term track record



#### **Investment vehicles:**

- Mar '11 to May '16 = Friends & Family Partnership
- Jun '16 to Aug '16 = Protea segregated mandates
- Sep '16 to Nov '18 = Protea Worldwide Fund

#### Assumed fees pre Protea Worldwide Fund:

- base fee of 1%
- performance fee of 20%
- other fees of 0.4% (admin, middle office, audit)

### Best Ideas 2019, Hosted by MOI Global

Combining the qualitative with the quantitative: "QUANTAMENTAL"

### Qualitative Fundamental Analysis



### Quantitative Analysis Techniques

- Read, read & read Newspapers, business magazines, trade publications, sell-side analyst reports, buyside analysis, annual reports, investigative websites, regulatory releases
- Assess the Management team Consider the people involved: their aptitude, attitude, shareholder-orientation, logic, reason, drive, strategic thinking, capital allocation skills, risk appetite, incentives, ambition and authenticity
- Know the product/service and where it fits in the economic ecology — Analyse competitors, suppliers, customers, threats, opportunities....classic Porter 5-forces
- Scuttlebutt & mosaic theory Seek opinions far and wide and connect the dots / fill the gaps through abductive reasoning
- Be aware of psychological biases Use common sense and don't fool yourself, know you don't know
- Think Have time and space that is conducive for thinking deeply and clearly, get in the 'flow'

- Financial Data Use Bloomberg to pull in full historical financial statements automatically into excel master model. Adjust data if necessary
- Use algorithms Forecast each line item of the financials for the next 4 years, using proprietary statistical techniques (reversion to the mean, momentum & linked accounting items). Automatic base case
- **Du Pont / Gordon Growth model –** 'Translate' future full financials into fair value using robust valuation principles, discounting future cashflows at the appropriate discount rate
- Assess outcome/fit Graph the Price vs Value, evaluate past 'fit' and projections for reasonability
- Toggle variables Adjust inputs (model allows for multiple input toggles), see what is implied by the current price
- Rank Rank the various valuation metrics of companies to compare expected returns in real-time
- Second-level thinking Know what you don't know & what can hurt

#### Introduction

Give a Man a Fish, and You Feed Him for a Day.

Teach a Man To Fish, and You Feed Him for a Lifetime.



#### Best Idea

## Salmar (Oslo: SALM)



One of the world's largest producers of farmed salmon

Fully integrated, highly efficient operator

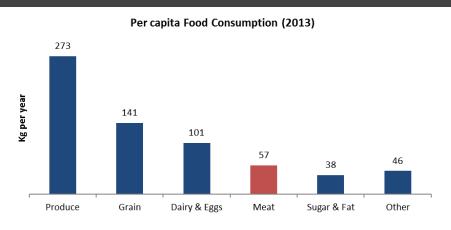
US\$6.2bn Market cap, December year-end

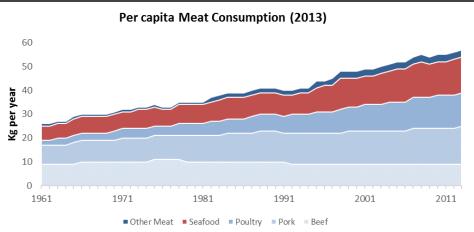
18.5x PE (17x 1-year forward)

Also see 'Best Ideas 2018' presentation by Robert Leitz on Bakkafrost

Salmar shares have doubled over the past year – can it still be a 'Best Idea'?

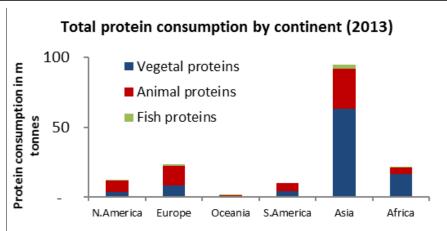


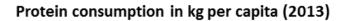


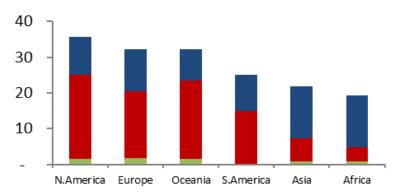


Source: Salmon Farming Industry Handbook 2018

Average human eats 650kg of food each year Global per capita meat consumption has more than doubled since 1961

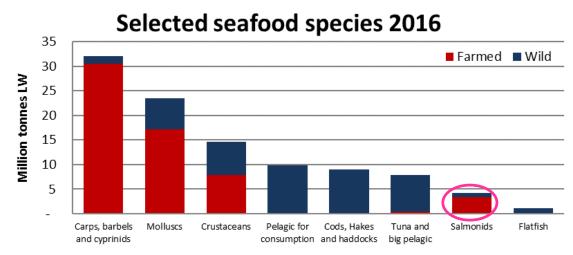






Source: Salmon Farming Industry Handbook 2018

Potential for significant increase in fish protein demand Health & environmental benefits of fish protein versus other animal proteins



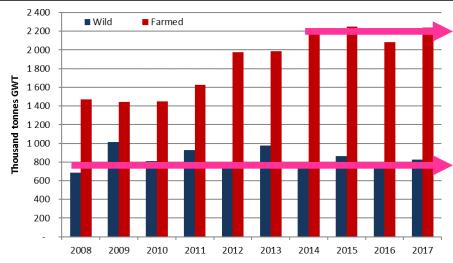
Source: Salmon Farming Industry Handbook 2018

Potential for significant increase in salmon demand *and* supply White fish demand/supply 10x larger than salmonids

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Protein Retention	31 %	21 %	18 %	15 %
Energy Retention	23 %	10 %	14 %	27 %
Edible Yield	68 %	46 %	52 %	41 %
Feed Convertion Ratio (FCR)	1.1	2.2	3.0	4-10
Edible Meat pr 100 kg fed	61 kg	21 kg	17 kg	4-10 kg

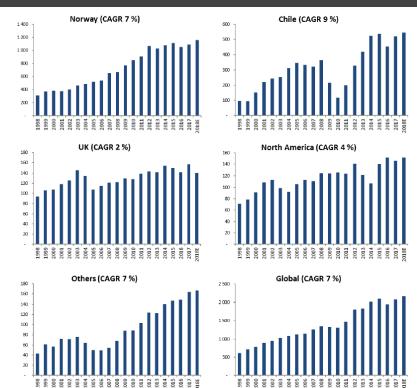
Source: Salmon Farming Industry Handbook 2018

Salmon resource production is very efficient Feed represents around 40% of cost of production



Source: Salmon Farming Industry Handbook 2018

Farmed supply has been static since 2014, wild supply for 10+ years Current fisheries almost fully exploited



Source: Salmon Farming Industry Handbook 2018

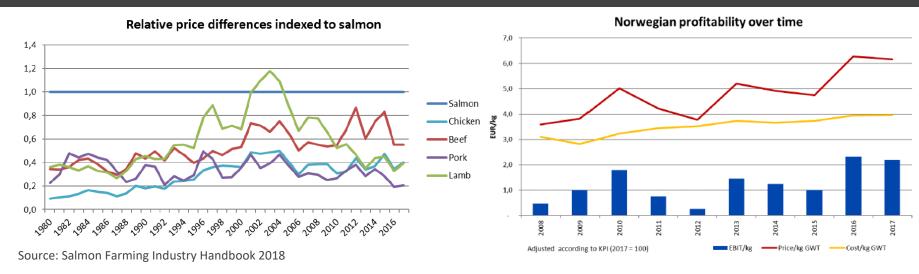
Norway accounts for roughly 50% (1.1m tonnes) of supply

Chile 25% (500k tonnes)

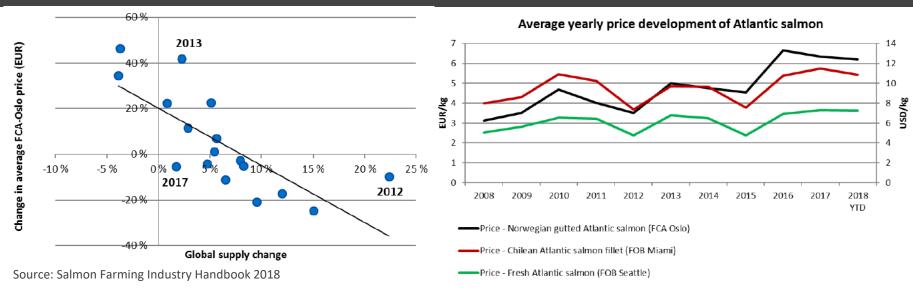
Others 25% (e.g. Faroe Islands, Iceland)

Salmon farming very temperature sensitive

CAGR	Norway	Chile	UK	North America	Others	Total
1998-2018E	7 %	9 %	2 %	4 %	7 %	7 %
2008-2018E	6 %	4 %	1 %	2 %	9 %	5 %
2018-2021E	4 %	1 %	7 %	1 %	6 %	3 %



Salmon has always been a premium protein product Premium to other meats have been relatively stable, except for lamb Profitability of industry has fluctuated between EUR 0.5-2 EBIT/kg (NOK5-20 EBIT/kg)



Salmon prices like a commodity, lower supply years associated with higher prices

NB: Constrained supply creates favourable dynamics for a consistent, low-cost producer 14



## Consistent, low-cost producer characteristics

- 1. Scale to benefit from fixed cost allocation efficiencies
- 2. Vertical integration to control input costs
- 3. Widespread geographical footprint to negate concentration risk
- 4. High operational standards & innovation / R&D
- 5. Good & aligned management with a long-term mindset

#### 1. Scale

	Top 10 - Norway	H.Q.	Top 5 - United Kingdom	HQ.	Top 5 - North America	H.Q.	Top 10 - Chile	H.Q.
1	Marine Harvest	210 200	Marine Harvest	60 200	Cooke Aquaculture	57 000	Salmones Multiexport	58 700
2	Salmar	135 200	Scottish Seafarms	31 000	Marine Harvest	39 400	Cermaq**	54 000
3	Lerøy Seafood	132 000	The Scottish Salmon Co.	25 300	Cermaq**	21 000	Marine Harvest	44 900
4	Cermaq**	48 000	Cooke Aquaculture	20 000	Northern Harvest	12 500	Empresas Aquachile	43 300
5	Grieg Seafood	40 900	Grieg Seafood	12 100	Grieg Seafood	9 600	Pesquera Los Fiordos	41 000
6	Nova Sea	40 700					Australis Seafood	39 100
7	Nordlaks	40 000					Camanchaca	30 800
8	Norway Royal Salmon	31 900					Blumar	27 000
9	Alsaker Fjordbruk	25 000					Nova Austral	24 500
10	Bremnes Seashore	24 000					Invermar	23 200
	Top 10	727 900	Top 5	148 600	Top 5	139 500	Top 10	386 500
	Total	1 087 000	Total	156 900	Total	145 500	Total	521 200
	Share of total	67 %	Share of total	95 %	Share of total	96 %	Share of total	74%

Note: All figures in tonnes GWT for 2017

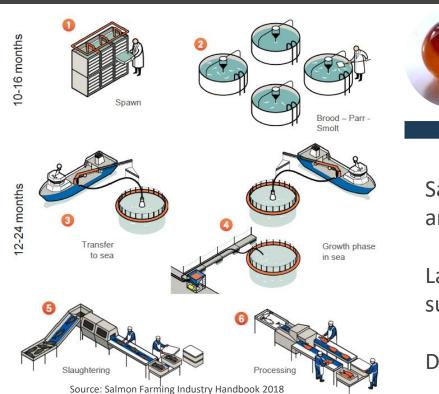
Source: Salmon Farming Industry Handbook 2018

Salmar owns 50% of Scottish Seafarms & 34% of Amarlax (Iceland, 3 300 eq. tonnes) Total equivalent production for 2017: 154 000 tonnes (7% global share). **2018: 160 000** 

<sup>\*</sup> UK and North American industry are best described by top 5 producers.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Cermaq is a fully owned subsidiary of Mitsubishi Corporation

## 2. Integration





Source: Salmar 2017 Annual Report

Salmar is integrated from broodstock, roe and smolt to value added products and sales

Large single processing facility (InnoVar) supported by smaller processing facilities

Direct sales to over 40 countries: spot/contract

## 3. Footprint

Salmar farms in central & northern Norway as well as in Scotland and Iceland

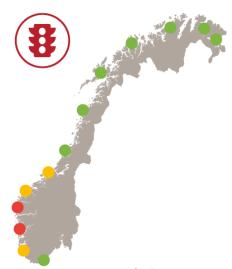
Spread is important given environmental risks, especially occurrence of sea lice

Norwegian fish licences regulated according to 'traffic light' system

Sea lice costs estimated to be up to 10% of revenue(!)

New 'development' licences have been issued

Norway's goal is to increase production to 5m tonnes by 2050 (4x)



## 4. Standards / Innovation

2017 mortality rate below 6% (good)

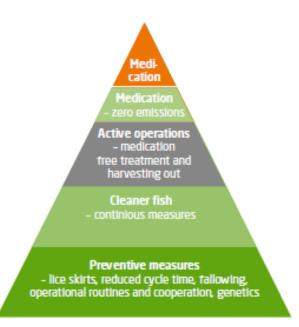
Zero antibacterials usage (from 50 tonnes in 1987)

Use of cleaner fish (lumpfish) to counter sea lice

Greater use of vegetables in feed mix (40% vs marine +-25%)

Growing larger smolts before release

Offshore fish farming developments – 2 concepts



## 4. Standards / Innovation: Offshore fish farming

#### OCEAN FARM 1 - ENABLING OCEAN FARMING

- Successful test harvest completed at end of Q3 2018
- Remaining volume for 1st generation to reach market in Q4 2018
- Plan to release 2nd generation of smolt in 2019



#### **SMART FISH FARM** - ENABLING DEEP OCEAN FARMING

- Partnering with MariCulture for the development of a semi submersible production unit enabling offshore fish farming at high seas
- Applied for 16 licenses within "development license scheme", awaiting approval from authorities
- Will largely resolve current space challenges for the industry



## 5. Management

Salmar was founded in 1991 by Gustav Witzøe, now 65 & Director: Strategic Projects

He restructured his shareholding but still controls around 53% of the company via Kverva AS

Has spent the last few years focused on the offshore fish farming project

Current President & CEO is Olav-Andreas Ervik, 42, previously Farming division head

Authentic tone in annual reports, compares favourably to competitors



## Consistent, low-cost producer characteristics

- 1. Scale to benefit from fixed cost allocation efficiencies  $\checkmark$
- 2. Vertical integration to control input costs  $\checkmark$
- 3. Widespread geographical footprint to negate concentration risk  $\checkmark$
- 4. High operational standards & innovation / R&D ✓
- 5. Good & aligned management with a long-term mindset 🗸

EBITDA margin >30%; net profit margin >20%; ROE >30%

## Past performance against peers



SALM total shareholder return (reinvested dividends):
Past year 113%
Past 5 years 807% (55% p.a.)
Past 10 years 2370% (38% p.a.)

Great company....but is the price still reasonable?

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## High-level revenue & cost per kg forecast

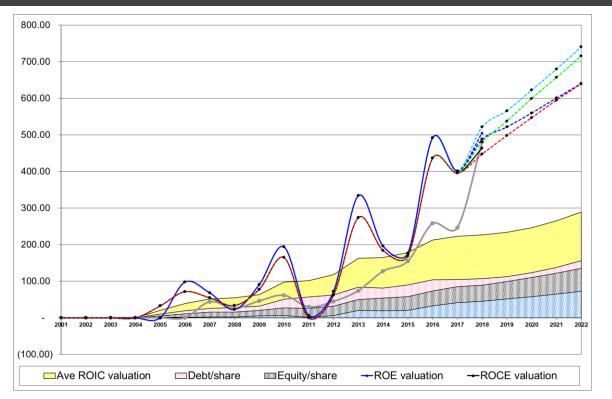
	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u> 2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	2022
Harvest (tonnes)	102,600	114,900	141,000	145,400	115,700	135,200	143,000	145,000	150,000	160,000	175,000
Price (NOK/kg)	30	42	40	42	60	60	62	64	67	71	75
EBIT/kg	6.2	17.0	11.7	9.9	26.7	20.7	23.8	24.0	25.0	27.0	28.0
Cost/kg	23.8	25.0	28.3	32.1	33.3	39.3	38.2	40	42	44	47
EBIT (NOK '000)	639	1,949	1,647	1,444	3,086	2,792	3,400	3,480	3,750	4,320	4,900

Excluding fair value adjustments (fish work-in-progress stock marked-to-market annually)

Only exceeding 2016's peak EBIT/kg in 2021

Note interplay between harvested tonnes & price – structural real revenue growth

## Valuation – graphical output of automated process



- Decelerate Revenue growth
- Fade EBITDA margin to <30%
- Net profit margin to 18%
- Keep ROE static ( div pay-out)
- Smooth fair value adjustments

Conservative expected return: 50% over 4 years (15% p.a.)

Upside from R&D + efficiencies

## What can go wrong?

Extensive disease outbreak

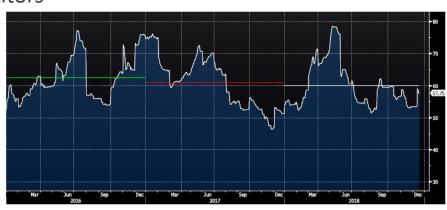
Regulatory disruption

Technological breakthroughs by competitors

Costly offshore fish farming failure

Norwegian salmon pricing pressure

Other management missteps



### Best Idea - recap

## Salmar (Oslo: SALM)

One of the world's largest producers of farmed salmon Fully integrated, highly efficient operator US\$6.2bn Market cap 18.5x PE (17x 1-year forward)
Compounding intrinsic value at 15-20% p.a.



## Still a 'Best Idea'!

#### End

"The most expensive mistake in investing is selling too soon, or thinking it is too late to buy a great company compounding intrinsic value at an above-average rate, for a reasonable price."

# Questions?

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Protea range of hedge funds

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