

SHAREHOLDERS AND INVESTORS

Acea is a listed Company that **provides to the financial community**, through its **Investor Relations & Sustainability Department** and in partnership with the competent corporate structures, a continuous, timely and **useful flow of information for the correct assessment of the current and future situation of the Group**, highlighting particular **Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)** items. The information is conveyed through current and potential **direct relationships** with analysts and investors, and through **specific communications** (price-sensitive press releases, Company presentations, credit ratings, stock performance, highlights, etc.) that are made available on the institutional website (www.gruppoaceait), respecting the fundamental principles of propriety, clarity and equal access.

Additionally, working with the competent structures, the **Corporate Affairs and Services** Department is responsible for the management of information flows with the **Supervisory Authorities** (Consob and Borsa Italiana) and the corporate obligations required by law for listed companies.

ECONOMIC FLOW TO SHAREHOLDERS AND INVESTORS

For shareholders, at the Shareholders' Meeting, the Board of Directors proposed the distribution of a dividend of € 0.80 per share (+2.6% on the € 0.78 in 2019), equivalent to € 170 million received (having been € 165.8 million in 2019), which correspond to a payout of 60% on net income, after allocations to third parties in 2020.

Over the year, ACEA showed performance substantially in line with the Italian market, recording a **drop of 7.0%. The stock recorded on 30 December** (last day of opening of the market in 2020) a closing price of € 17.15 (capitalisation: € 3,652.3 million).

The maximum value of € 21.8 was achieved on 29 January 2020, while a minimum value of € 12.4 was achieved on 18 March. Average daily volumes were about 165,000, slightly more than in 2019.

TABLE NO. 45 – PERFORMANCE OF STOCK EXCHANGE INDEXES AND ACEA SHARES (2020)

	change % 31/12/20 (compared to 31/12/2019)
ACEA	-7.0%
FTSE Italia All Share	-5.6%
FTSE MIB	-5.4%
FTSE Italia Mid Cap	-5.8%

€ 98 million are allocated to **financing** stakeholders (compared to € 106.1 million in 2019). The change is essentially due to the reduction in interest on bonds. The average overall all-in cost of the Acea Group's debt on 31/12/2020 was 1.74%.

Regarding **the composition of medium/long-term** debt consolidated as at 31/12/2020, approximately 77.6% of the total amount derived from transactions on the capital market (corporate bonds). Regarding the banking sector, Acea

mainly deals with entities whose mission is **to finance strategic infrastructure**, such as the European Investment Bank (EIB, 9.4% of the consolidated debt) and the Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (CDP, 4.9% of the consolidated debt). These Institutions ensure loans, to entities with creditworthiness such as Acea, with a maturity of more than 10 years, in line with the duration of the concessions (water and electricity) owned by Companies of the Group called to make the relevant investments.

AGENCY RATINGS

TABLE NO. 46 – RATINGS 2020

agency	long-term rating	short-term rating	outlook
Moody's	Baa2		stable
Fitch	BBB+	F2	stable

Both **Moody's** and **Fitch confirmed Acea's rating**. The assessments expressed reflect the approval of the Group's

strategic focus on regulated businesses and the positive results achieved.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

During the year Acea participated in **numerous events** (meetings, extended presentations, *investor conferences*, *roadshows* and *reverse roadshows*), **with about 220 investors and sell-side analysts, in both equity and credit**. In consideration of the global health emergency caused by Covid-19, most of the communication events were held in “virtual” mode.

In addition, **conference calls** with the financial community were held, also on the occasion of approval of the annual and interim results and the presentation of the 2020-2024 Business Plan, and **more than 240 analysts/investors took part in these**.

Approximately 160 studies/reports on Acea shares were published during the year under review. Seven **business banks** analyse Acea shares with a high level of continuity, six of which, as of 31 December 2020, express “positive” ratings and one of which express “neutral” ratings.

ESG ANALYSTS EVALUATE ACEA

An analysis conducted in November 2020 showed that “**sustainable investors**” are showing a growing interest in Acea. Such investors represent almost 5% of the share capital and **about 35% of the total institutional investors**. These are mainly European funds (4% of Acea’s capital), followed by North American investors.

In the last year, characterised by the pandemic crisis, **institutional investors’ further increased their interest in ESG issues**, which are increasingly integrated into investment decisions.

In 2020, the Investor Relations & Sustainability Department was created with the objective of marrying and integrating aspects of a **financial nature with the Group’s sustainability goals and ESG aspects** in relations with Italian and foreign analysts and institutional investors, ensuring the correct valuation and positioning of the Acea Group.

Over the year, Acea the opinions of analysts, ratings and benchmarks were as illustrated below.



The **CDP (formerly the Carbon Disclosure Project)**, supported by more than 500 international investors, promotes worldwide attention to the management of climate change risks and impacts, inviting companies to provide detailed and timely information on their ability to manage the issue. Based on the data and information received, each year the CDP publishes a ranking of its assessments for each organisation. Acea, already evaluated for years, received an **A- score** in 2020, in line with the previous year, confirming its position in the **Leadership area** (for details, see the box in the chapter on *Strategy and Sustainability*).




In 2019 Acea received the first **sustainability solicited rating** from the independent agency **Standard Ethics (SE)**, with an **EE-** rating (*investment grade*), scale F/EEE) and in 2020 both the *long-term expected rating* (from stable to EE+) and the outlook (from stable to positive) **improved**. Lastly, it should be noted that, again in the year in question, **Acea’s was included among the 15 largest listed EU Multiutilities** that make up the **SE European Multi-Utilities Index**. This index, together with the SE European Utilities Index, intends to provide an overview of the level of sustainability progressively achieved by European companies operating in the essential public services sector.

ISS ESG ▶ **ISS ESG** (formerly ISS Oekom) gave Acea a C+ rating (scale D-/A+), in line with the ratings already issued previously.


The Group’s ESG performance was also analysed by **Sustainalytics, VigeoEiris, MSCI, FTSE Russe I ESG, Refinitiv**.

In the year in question, Acea was included in the **Bloomberg Gender Equality Index**. This index includes 325 companies, from a panel of around 6,000 organisations analysed, which best recognise **gender equality** in terms of both disclosure and business practices (for more details see the paragraph on *Diversity and inclusion* in the *Staff* chapter). Lastly, it should be noted that, in the last part of the year, the performance of **preparatory activities for the first issue of sustainable finance instruments** by Acea, through the definition of a Green Financing Framework, led to the issuing of the Acea’s first Green Bond in January 2021.


INSTITUTIONS AND THE COMPANY




Acea RECEIVES THE “Prize of Prizes” AND THE “Companies for Innovation Award”




RESEARCH AND INNOVATION: **projects worth over €13 million** IN THE YEAR



Acea DEVELOPS THE LabSharing platform FOR SHARING **know-how** AND STATE-OF-THE-ART EQUIPMENT OUTSIDE THE COMPANY



Acea IS PARTNER OF THE National Association of Young Innovators



Acea took part in THE Energy, Environment AND Sustainability Technical Table FOR THE DRAFTING OF THE **Manifesto for Energy and Sustainability**