



press information

Group Communications

Atlas Copco's Annual General Meeting

Stockholm, Sweden, April 26, 2001—Atlas Copco's Annual General Meeting was held today. In his address to the shareholders, Giulio Mazzalupi, President and CEO, reported on the Group's performance in 2000, the use of the Internet to support processes, and the importance of having an organization that can react quickly to changes.

"The year 2000 was Atlas Copco's best ever. We launched many new innovative products, and it was the year when the Internet became an essential tool in our way of doing business, including being more productive and giving better support to customers," Mazzalupi said.

Atlas Copco's revenues increased 28 percent to SEK 46,527 m. in 2000 and profit after financial items was up 37 percent to SEK 4,689 m. The operating profit increased 43 percent to SEK 6,392 m., corresponding to a margin of 13.7 percent.

Atlas Copco reported its first quarter results earlier today. Revenues were SEK 12,101 m., up 15 percent compared with the corresponding period in 2000. Operating profit increased 10 percent, to SEK 1,460 m, and the operating margin was 12.1 percent. *"Revenues continue to grow, even if at a lower rate than last year and despite the slowdown in the U.S. economy."*

In his speech, Mazzalupi reported on the enhanced use of the Internet within the Atlas Copco Group to provide better service to customers and support all business processes related to customers, products and people. *"Through the Internet we can service our customers much better than before, giving them access to the knowledge and competence of our people 24 hours a day, seven days a week."* Another issue discussed was the importance of having an organization that can react quickly to changes in the market. *"Atlas Copco will always face change. The challenge is how we turn it into our advantage."*

The Meeting adopted the Board of Directors' proposed dividend for the 2000 fiscal year of SEK 5.25 per share. May 2, 2001, was approved as the record date. It is estimated that dividends will be distributed via Värdepapperscentralen VPC AB (the Swedish Securities Register Center) on May 7, 2001.

The Meeting re-elected the following members of the Board: Anders Scharp (Chairman), Jacob Wallenberg (Vice Chairman), Sune Carlsson, Lennart Jeansson, Giulio Mazzalupi, Hari Shankar

Singhania, Michael Treschow, Kurt Hellström and Ulla Litzén. Thomas Leysen was elected as a new member.

The auditors are Stefan Holmström and Peter Markborn and the deputy auditors are Thomas Jansson and Björn Sundkvist, elected by the Meeting in 1999, each for a three-year term.

The Atlas Copco Group is an international industrial company with its head office in Stockholm, Sweden. In 2000, the Group had revenues of BSEK 46, with 98 percent of revenues outside Sweden, and close to 27,000 employees. Atlas Copco companies develop, manufacture, and market electric and pneumatic tools, compressed air equipment and generators, construction and mining equipment, and assembly systems, and offer related service and equipment rental. More information is available on www.atlascopco-group.com.

Mr. Mazzalupi's complete address to the shareholders, as well as video clips, will be published and webcasted on the Group's website: www.atlascopco-group.com > Investor > Presentations

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