## Interim report 1 January - 31 March 2001

|  | $\mathbf{0 1 : 1}$ | $00: 1$ | $00: 4$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Earnings per share, SEK | $\mathbf{5 . 7 2}$ | 4.79 | 6.00 |
| Cash flow from current operations per | $\mathbf{6 . 1 9}$ | 3.79 | 9.32 |
| share, SEK |  |  |  |
|  | $\mathbf{1 8 , 5 2 2}$ | 15,992 | 18,030 |
| Net sales, SEK M | $\mathbf{1 , 9 6 3}$ | 1,670 | 2,048 |
| Earnings after financial items, SEK M | $\mathbf{1 , 3 2 3}$ | 1,109 | 1,389 |
| Net earnings after tax |  |  |  |

- Earnings per share improved by $19 \%$.
- Higher earnings in all business areas: Packaging 29\%, Hygiene Products 27\% and Forest Products 25\%.
- Unchanged operating profit and margins in all business areas, compared with the fourth quarter 2000.
- Continued stable demand for the Group's products despite an increasingly pronounced economic slowdown.


## NET SALES AND EARNINGS

Earnings per share, after dilution, increased $19 \%$ to SEK 5.72 (4.79). Net earnings after tax amounted to SEK M $1,323(1,109)$.

Sales and earnings from the North American operations acquired in the beginning of 2001 have not been included in the first quarter results. Nor has interest paid on the purchase price been charged against earnings. The transactions were finalized in March and preliminary acquisition balances are included in the consolidated balance sheet. As announced previously, the operations will be included in SCA's financial results as of the second quarter. Consolidation of sales and earnings was postponed due to ongoing efforts to establish definitive acquisition balance sheets and an alignment of the accounting principles in these companies. Financial results by the acquired units since the takeover have corresponded with evaluations made in conjunction with the acquisitions.

Consolidated net sales amounted to SEK $18,522 \mathrm{M}(15,992)$, an increase of $16 \%$ compared with the year-earlier period. Higher product prices and a better product mix resulted in a sales increase of $7 \%$ while expansion through acquisitions and organic growth increased sales $4 \%$. Currency movements generated a favorable effect on the Group's net sales of about $5 \%$.

Group operating profit amounted to SEK $2,213 \mathrm{M}(1,951)$, an increase of $13 \%$ compared with the first quarter 2000. Excluding the Group's share in earnings of Modo Paper, which amounted to SEK 218 M in the first quarter of 2000, the increase was $28 \%$. All business areas reported higher earnings. The operating profit for Hygiene Products amounted to SEK 858 M (673), an increase of $27 \%$. Packaging reported earnings of SEK 858 M (665), an increase of $29 \%$, and earnings in Forest Products amounted to SEK 760 M (607), an increase of $25 \%$. Currency movements increased the Group's operating profit by $4 \%$.

Financial items amounted to an expense of SEK 250 M (expense: 281). Higher interest rates during the period were more than offset by a lower average level of net debt.

Group earnings after financial items amounted to SEK 1,963 M (1,670), an improvement of $18 \%$ compared with the year-earlier period.

Return on shareholders' equity, excluding non-recurring items, was $14 \%$ (13), and return on capital employed was $15 \%$ (12).

## Comparisons with fourth quarter of 2000

Group earnings were marginally lower than earnings in Q4 2000. All business areas, however, reported virtually unchanged earnings, and the lower consolidated earnings is due to a gain of SEK 140 M from a leasing transaction that was included the fourth quarter. Currency movements increased the Group's operating profit during the period by about SEK 80 M .

## CASH FLOW

The operating cash surplus amounted to SEK $3,436 \mathrm{M}(2,837)$, equal to $19 \%(18)$ of net sales. The seasonal increase in working capital amounted to SEK 769 M $(1,105)$, while net investments in current operations totaled SEK 498 M (402). The operating cash flow, accordingly, amounted to SEK $2,095 \mathrm{M}(1,319)$.

Cash flow from current operations, defined as cash flow before strategic investments and dividends, amounted to SEK $1,435 \mathrm{M}$ (880), equal to SEK 6.19 (3.79) per share.

Company acquisitions during the period amounted to SEK $11,238 \mathrm{M}$ and related to the acquisitions of the American tissue operations of Georgia-Pacific and the American packaging company Tuscarora. This amount corresponds to the total purchase price of the acquisitions, which, on a debtfree basis, amounted to USD 850 M for the tissue company and USD 284 M for the packaging company. Strategic capital investments in plant and machinery, as well as restructuring costs, totaled SEK 177 M.

## Comparisons with fourth quarter of 2000

The operating cash surplus amounted to SEK $3,436 \mathrm{M}(3,572)$, while the seasonal increase in working capital resulted in a cash flow from current operations of SEK 1,435 M, which was SEK 724 M lower than corresponding cash flow in the preceding quarter.

| SEK M | $\mathbf{0 1 : 1}$ | $00: 1$ | $00: 4$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Net sales | 18,522 | 15,992 | 18,030 |
| Operating cash surplus | 3,436 | 2,837 | 3,572 |
| \% of net sales | 19 | 18 | 20 |
| Current capital expenditures, net | -498 | -402 | -818 |
| \% of net sales | 3 | 3 | 5 |
| Changes in working capital | -769 | $-1,105$ | 304 |
| Other operating cash flow changes | -74 | -11 | -29 |
| Operating cash flow | $\mathbf{2 , 0 9 5}$ | 1,319 | 3,029 |
| Tax payment etc $^{1}$ | -272 | -246 | -591 |
| Free cash flow | $\mathbf{1 , 8 2 3}$ | 1,073 | 2,438 |
| Per share, SEK | 7.86 | 4.63 | 10.52 |
| Interest payment after taxes $^{\text {Cash flow from current operations }}$ | -388 | -193 | -279 |
| Per share, SEK $^{\text {Strategic investments and divestments }}$ | 6.19 | 880 | 2,159 |
| Cash flow before dividend | $-11,415$ | -635 | 9.32 |
| ${ }^{1}$ Tax attributable to operating profit. | $\mathbf{- 9 , 9 8 0}$ | 245 | 2,20 |

## FINANCING

Net debt amounted to SEK 27,630 M, which was SEK 11,750 M higher than year-end 2000. The change was attributed to the American acquisitions, which created an outflow for acquisitions and strategic investments totaling SEK $11,415 \mathrm{M}$, the net of cash flow from current operations, SEK $1,435 \mathrm{M}$, and negative currency effects of SEK $1,770 \mathrm{M}$ due to the weakening of the Swedish krona.

The debt/equity ratio amounted to 0.64 (0.66). The interest coverage multiple was 8.9 (7.0).

## HYGIENE PRODUCTS BUSINESS AREA

| SEK M |  | 01:1 | 00:1 | 00:4 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net sales |  | 8,586 | 7,402 | 8,291 |
| Operating surplus |  | 1,270 | 1,036 | 1,283 |
| Operating profit |  | 858 | 673 | 865 |
| Operating surplus margin, \% |  | 15 | 14 | 15 |
| Operating margin, \% |  | 10 | 9 | 10 |
| Volume growth, \% |  |  |  |  |
| Consumer products | -0.5 ${ }^{1}$ | $3.3{ }^{2}$ | $4.3{ }^{1}$ | $1.0^{1}$ |
| AFH and Incontinence products | -0.6 ${ }^{1}$ | $5.6{ }^{2}$ | $1.6{ }^{1}$ | $2.7{ }^{1}$ |

See also additional information on page 17-19.

Net sales amounted to SEK $8,586 \mathrm{M}(7,402)$, an increase of $16 \%$ compared with the year-earlier period. Acquired companies and organic growth accounted for $4 \%$ of the increase. Higher sales prices and a better product mix accounted for $6 \%$ of the increase, while currency movements generated favorable effects amounting to $6 \%$ of the increase in sales. Operating profit rose $27 \%$ to SEK 858 M (673). The improvement was attributable primarily to increased sales prices and volume growth, some of which was offset mainly by higher costs for pulp and other raw materials.

Compared with the fourth quarter 2000, the business area's profit and operating margin were unchanged. Higher costs for energy and, compared with the preceding quarter, higher but more normal costs for advertising and marketing were offset by a better product and market mix together with lower raw material costs for tissue operations. Raw material costs for fluff products though remained largely unchanged during the quarter.

## Consumer products

Earnings from consumer products increased $50 \%$ to SEK 467 M (311). The improvement was attributable primarily to price increases introduced last year for tissue products, which increased margins despite higher pulp prices. Results for other consumer products were largely unchanged.

Compared with the fourth quarter 2000, earnings during the first quarter rose $3 \%$, from SEK 455 M to SEK 467 M as a result of lower raw material costs, an effect that was reduced by lower volumes and rising energy costs, however. The operating margin remained unchanged at $9 \%$.

## AFH and incontinence products

Earnings attributable to AFH and incontinence products amounted to SEK 391 M (362), an increase of $8 \%$ compared with the first quarter of 2000 . Better sales prices and higher volumes contributed to the increase.

Operating profit compared with the fourth quarter 2000 was down slightly, amounting to SEK 391 (410). The lower earnings was attributed mainly to a marginal decline in volumes, the result from a strict pricing policy, while the effects of lower raw material costs offset rising energy and transport costs, among other items. The decline in operating margin from $12 \%$ to $11 \%$ was due in part to increased sales in North America following the acquisition of Serenity, which initially were at a lower margin.

## PACKAGING BUSINESS AREA

| SEK M | $\mathbf{0 1 : 1}$ | $00: 1$ | $00: 4$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Net sales | $\mathbf{6 , 8 8 7}$ | 5,776 | 6,752 |
| Operating surplus | $\mathbf{1 , 2 1 2}$ | 1,002 | 1,197 |
| Operating profit | $\mathbf{8 5 8}$ | 665 | 854 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Operating surplus margin, \% | $\mathbf{1 8}$ | 17 | 18 |
|  | $\mathbf{1 3}$ | 12 | 13 |
| Operating margin, \% |  |  |  |
|  | $\mathbf{6 4 8}$ | 647 | 612 |
| Production |  |  |  |
| Liner products, kton <br> Deliveries <br> $\quad$ Liner products, kton <br> $\quad$ Corrugated board, $\mathrm{Mm}^{2}$ | $\mathbf{6 4 5}$ | 647 | 601 |

Net sales for the period amounted to SEK $6,887 \mathrm{M}(5,776)$, an increase of $19 \%$. The increase was attributable to acquired companies, $9 \%$, effects of higher sales prices introduced last year for both corrugated board and containerboard and changes in the product mix, $5 \%$, as well as currency movements, $5 \%$.

Operating profit amounted to SEK 858 M (665), an improvement of $29 \%$. The increase was attributable primarily to higher sales prices and, to a certain extent, acquired companies. Higher energy and raw material costs created negative effects on the earnings improvement, however. Currency movements increased earnings by $5 \%$.

Compared with the fourth quarter of 2000, earnings and margins were unchanged. Demand has been clearly weaker in the beginning of year 2001, however, particularly in markets such as the UK and the Nordic countries, and a sharp decline has been noted in certain industrial packaging segments, e.g. the heavy-duty segment of the market. The weaker demand, combined with changes in the product mix, resulted in volumes increasing only marginally, despite a higher number of public holidays during the fourth quarter. Higher wood prices and rising energy costs, as well as the earlier described product mix and market changes, totally offset the positive effects of falling raw material prices and slightly higher volumes.

## Corrugated board packaging

Market growth during the first quarter is estimated at about $2 \%$, compared with the corresponding period last year. Demand for corrugated board is declining in the UK, and volumes in general have been weak in the early part of 2001, considering the number of working days. Volume growth for SCA's corrugated board activities has been lower than market growth due to the Group's strict pricing policy.

## Containerboard

Downtime was implemented during the second half of 2000 to balance inventories. Production levels of kraftliner and testliner were also reduced during the first quarter to avoid inventory build-ups. A variety of time-limited discounts for testliner are now being offered in Europe, while some decline has been noted in kraftliner prices as a result of a modest increase in imports to Europe.

## FOREST PRODUCTS BUSINESS AREA

| SEK M | 01:1 | 00:1 | 00:4 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net sales | 3,382 | 3,095 | 3,376 |
| Operating surplus | 1,033 | 869 | 997 |
| Operating profit | 760 | 607 | 734 |
| Operating surplus margin, \% | 31 | 28 | 30 |
| Operating margin, \% | 22 | 20 | 22 |
| Production |  |  |  |
| Publication paper, kton | 316 | 319 | 325 |
| Solid wood products, $\mathrm{km}^{3}$ | 154 | 170 | 147 |
| Deliveries |  |  |  |
| Publication paper, kton | 297 | 311 | 343 |
| Solid wood products, $\mathrm{km}^{3}$ | 171 | 184 | 160 |

See also additional information on page 17-19.
Despite a decline of $5 \%$ in deliveries of publication papers, net sales by the business area rose $9 \%$ to SEK $3,382 \mathrm{M}(3,095)$, mainly on the strength of higher prices. Currency effects increased sales by $1 \%$. Operating profit amounted to SEK 760 M (607), an increase of $25 \%$. Improved earnings were reported for both publication paper and pulp and forestry operations.

Compared with the fourth quarter of 2000 , operating profit was up $4 \%$. The increase was attributable primarily to higher earnings from forestry operations, which were offset by lower earnings from pulp operations, however.

## Publication papers

Operating profit from publication paper operations amounted to SEK 380 M (338), an increase of $12 \%$. Higher sales prices for all paper grades were introduced during the quarter. The effects of increased prices on earnings were limited, however, due to significantly higher costs for chemicals and energy as well as pulp and wood. Deliveries were down slightly, compared with the year-earlier period, due mainly to reduced demand for LWC paper and subsequent downtime.

The improvement in earnings, compared with the fourth quarter 2000, was only marginal despite increased prices and favorable currency effects as a result of a sharp decline in deliveries, particularly for LWC paper, and higher costs for wood raw materials and chemicals.

Market conditions are stable for both newsprint and SC paper, whilst the LWC market weakened toward the end of the first quarter 2001.

## Pulp, timber and solid wood products

The operating profit amounted to SEK 380 (269), an increase of $41 \%$ compared with the year-earlier period. Earnings from forestry operations improved, partly as a result of higher timber prices. Earnings from pulp operations were also sharply higher, compared with the year-earlier period, since average sales prices during the quarter were higher than average prices in the first quarter of 2000, despite the ongoing downward trend in market conditions. Earnings from sawmill operations improved mainly as a result of rationalization measures.

Compared with the fourth quarter of 2000 , the operating profit was up $6 \%$. A substantial improvement in earnings from forestry operations, attributable mainly to higher timber prices, more than compensated for the effects of lower earnings in pulp operations caused by lower prices and higher raw material costs.

## PERSONNEL

The number of SCA Group employees at the close of the period was 38,639 (33,518), including personnel from Georgia-Pacific and Tuscarora.

## MARKET OUTLOOK

Demand for the Group's products remains stable, despite an increasingly pronounced economic slowdown. However, volume growth in the hygiene and corrugated board areas are clearly weaker than during the preceding year. In addition, pulp prices have declined in the early part of the year, and a continued decline in prices is expected during the second quarter. Kraftliner prices have also fallen in Europe, but not as sharply as the decline in North America. The market for newsprint and SC paper is stable, but weaker trends were noted in the market for LWC paper toward the close of the period. Prices for recycled paper have stabilized. SCA will continue to pursue its strict price policy in all product areas and adjust production levels to prevent inventory build-ups. The Group's ongoing efficiency enhancement and integration measures will be intensified to further offset the effects of the economic slowdown.

## OTHER

The SCA Group's interim report was prepared in accordance with the recommendations of the Swedish Financial Accounting Standards Council. In addition to the Group adapting accounting to the Financial Accounting Standards Council's new recommendation, RR9, regarding income taxes, the accounting principles are unchanged. Deferred tax on previously written-up forest and land values is reported gross, which resulted in an increase of SEK 1.4 billion in the Group's provisions for deferred taxes and a corresponding increase in tangible fixed assets.

Since year-end, $12,001,133$ A shares were converted to $B$ shares. Consequently, at the end of the quarter, the proportion of A shares declined from $26.7 \%$ to $21.5 \%$. The conversion of shares occurred at the request of the affected shareholders and pursuant to the conversion clause added to the Articles of Association in 1999.

## SHARE DISTRIBUTION

| $\mathbf{0 1 - 0 3 - 3 1}$ | Series A | Series B | Total |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Registered number of shares | $49,624,374$ | $180,777,181$ | $230,401,555$ |
| Unconverted debenture loans | - | $1,169,908$ | $1,169,908$ |
| Outstanding warrants | - | $1,741,206$ | $1,741,206$ |
| Total after full conversion | $\mathbf{4 9 , 6 2 4 , 3 7 4}$ | $\mathbf{1 8 3 , 6 8 8 , 2 9 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 3 3 , 3 1 2 , 6 6 9}$ |

Calculated in accordance with the recommendations of the Swedish Financial Analysts Association, effects of the outstanding convertible debenture and warrant programs amount to a maximum dilution of $0.5 \%$, which was taken into account when calculating earnings per share for the period.

Stockholm, April 27, 2001
SVENSKA CELLULOSA AKTIEBOLAGET SCA (publ)
Sverker Martin-Löf
President and CEO
This report is unaudited.
The interim report for 1 January - 30 June will be released on 27 July 2001.

Copies of the Interim Report are available at SCA U.K. Holdings Limited, SCA Packaging House,
543, New Hythe Lane, Aylesford, Kent ME20 7PE, attention, Tony Staples, telephone 00441622883025.

## Statement of Earnings

1 January - 31 March

|  | 2001 |  | 2000 |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | SEK M | EUR M | SEK M | EUR M |
| Net sales | 18,522 | 2,060 | 15,992 | 1,884 |
| Operating expenses | $-15,063$ | $-1,677$ | $-13,123$ | $-1,546$ |
| Operating surplus | $\mathbf{3 , 4 5 9}$ | $\mathbf{3 8 3}$ | 2,869 | 338 |
| Depreciation according to plan, | $-1,037$ | -115 | -974 | -115 |
| properties and plant |  |  |  |  |
| Depreciation according to plan, goodwill | -205 | -23 | -172 | -20 |
| Share in earnings of Modo Paper AB <br> Share in earnings of other associated <br> companies | - | - | 218 | 26 |
| Operating profit | -4 | 0 | 10 | 1 |
| Financial items | $\mathbf{2 , 2 1 3}$ | $\mathbf{2 4 5}$ | 1,951 | 230 |
| Earnings after financial items | -250 | -28 | -281 | -33 |
| Income taxes | $\mathbf{1 , 9 6 3}$ | $\mathbf{2 1 7}$ | 1,670 | 197 |
| Minority interest | -625 | -69 | -549 | -65 |
| Net earnings after tax | $\mathbf{1 , 3 2 3}$ | $\mathbf{1 4 6}$ | 1,109 | 131 |

Earnings per share, SEK

- before dilution effects
5.74
4.81
- after dilution effects
5.72
4.79

Operating margin
12\%
12\%
Return on shareholders equity $\mathbf{1 4 \%} 13 \%$
Return on capital employed
15\%
12\%

## Business Areas

Net sales
1 January - 31 March

| SEK M | $\mathbf{2 0 0 1}$ | 2000 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Hygiene Products | $\mathbf{8 , 5 8 6}$ | 7,402 |
| Packaging | $\mathbf{6 , 8 8 7}$ | 5,776 |
| Forest Products | $\mathbf{3 , 3 8 2}$ | 3,095 |
| Other operations | $\mathbf{4 2 5}$ | 382 |
| Intra-Group deliveries | $\mathbf{- 7 5 8}$ | -663 |
| Total net sales | $\mathbf{1 8 , 5 2 2}$ | 15,992 |

See also additional information on page 14.
Operating profit
1 January - 31 March

| SEK M | 2001 | 2000 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Hygiene Products | 858 | 673 |
| Packaging | 858 | 665 |
| Forest Products | 760 | 607 |
| Share in earnings, Modo Paper |  | 218 |
| Others | -58 | -40 |
| Operating profit, before goodwill amortization | 2,418 | 2,123 |
| Goodwill amortization ${ }^{1}$ | -205 | -172 |
| Operating profit | 2,213 | 1,951 |

See also additional information on page 15 .

| 'Goodwill amortization: | $\mathbf{2 0 0 1}$ | 2000 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Hygiene Products | $\mathbf{5 5}$ | 46 |
| Packaging | $\mathbf{6 7}$ | 47 |
| Common | $\mathbf{8 3}$ | 79 |
| Group | $\mathbf{2 0 5}$ | 172 |

Balance sheet

|  | 2001-03-31 |  | $\mathbf{2 0 0 0 - 1 2 - 3 1}$ |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | SEK M | EUR M | SEK M | EUR M |
| Assets |  |  |  |  |
| Goodwill | 14,674 | 1,605 | 11,218 | 1,268 |
| Other intangible assets | 902 | 99 | 1,160 | 131 |
| Tangible assets | 54,264 | 5,933 | 44,587 | 5,041 |
| Shares and participations | 1,969 | 215 | 1,920 | 217 |
| Long-term receivables | 1,754 | 192 | 1,764 | 200 |
| Other long-term receivables | 485 | 53 | 371 | 42 |
| Receivables and inventories | 24,565 | 2,686 | 21,065 | 2,381 |
| Short-term investments | 442 | 48 | 502 | 57 |
| Cash and bank balances | 1,284 | 140 | 1,440 | 163 |
| Total assets | $\mathbf{1 0 0 , 3 3 9}$ | 10,971 | $\mathbf{8 4 , 0 2 7}$ | 9,500 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Equity, provisions and liabilities | 42,699 | 4,669 | 40,457 | 4,574 |
| Shareholders' equity | 683 | 75 | 612 | 69 |
| Minority interests | 680 | 74 | 891 | 101 |
| Provisions for pensions | 11,038 | 1,207 | 8,353 | 944 |
| Other provisions | 30,430 | 3,327 | 18,694 | 2,114 |
| Interest-bearing debt | 14,809 | 1,619 | 15,020 | 1,698 |
| Operating liabilities and other |  |  |  |  |
| noninterest-bearing debt | $\mathbf{1 0 0 , 3 3 9}$ | 10,971 | $\mathbf{8 4 , 0 2 7}$ | 9,500 |


| Debt/equity | $\mathbf{0 . 6 4}$ times | 0.39 times |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Equity/assets | $\mathbf{4 3 \%}$ | $49 \%$ |

${ }^{1}$ Additional information, change in shareholders' equity, SEK M.

|  | Jan-Mar 2001 | Jan-Dec 2000 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Shareholders' equity, 1 January | 40,457 | 34,133 |
| Conversion of loans | - | 15 |
| Translation differences | 1,291 | 1,173 |
| Exchange-rate differences on hedging instruments | -373 | -427 |
| Dividend | - | $-1,585$ |
| Net earnings for the period | 1,324 | 1,109 |
| Shareholders' equity, 31 March | $\mathbf{4 2 , 6 9 9}$ | $\mathbf{3 4 , 8 4 8}$ |

## Cash flow statement

1 January - 31 March

| SEK M | $\mathbf{2 0 0 1}$ | 2000 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Operating cash surplus | 3,436 | 2,837 |
| Changes in working capital | -769 | $-1,105$ |
| Current capital expenditures, net | -498 | -402 |
| Other operating cash flow changes | -74 | -11 |
| Operating cash flow | $\mathbf{2 , 0 9 5}$ | 1,319 |
| Financial items | -250 | -281 |
| Income taxes paid | -190 | -153 |
| Other | -220 | -5 |
| Cash flow from current operations | $\mathbf{1 , 4 3 5}$ | 880 |
|  |  |  |
| Strategic capital expenditures | -129 | -469 |
| Strategic structural expenditures | -48 | -120 |
| Company acquisitions | $-11,238$ | -76 |
| Divestments |  | 30 |
| Cash flow before dividend | $\mathbf{- 9 , 9 8 0}$ | 245 |
| Net cash flow ${ }^{\mathbf{1}}$ | $\mathbf{- 9 , 9 8 0}$ | 245 |


| Net debt at beginning of period | $\mathbf{- 1 5 , 8 8 0}$ | $-24,073$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Net cash flow | $-9,980$ | 245 |
| Currency effects | $-1,770$ | 306 |
| Net debt at end of period | $\mathbf{- 2 7 , 6 3 0}$ | $-23,522$ |
|  | $\mathbf{5 2 \%}$ | $38 \%$ |

${ }^{1}$ Additional information:

| Net cash flow | $\mathbf{- 9 , 9 8 0}$ | 245 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Change in interest-bearing debt | 9,732 | -620 |
| Change in cash and bank balances | $\mathbf{- 2 4 8}$ | -375 |
|  |  |  |
| Cash and bank balances at beginning of period | $\mathbf{1 , 4 4 0}$ | 1,630 |
| Change in cash and bank balances | -248 | -375 |
| Currency effects on cash and bank balances | 92 | -71 |
| Cash and bank balances at end of period | $\mathbf{1 , 2 8 4}$ | 1,184 |

## Quarterly data Business Areas

## Group

|  | 2001 |  | 2000 |  | I |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SEK M | I | IV | III | II |  |
| Net sales | 18,522 | 18,030 | 16,784 | 16,351 | 15,992 |
| Operating surplus | 3,459 | 3,555 | 3,116 | 2,903 | 2,869 |
| Depreciation according to plan, properties and plant | -1,037 | -1,048 | -949 | -952 | -974 |
| Depreciation according to plan, goodwill | -205 | -196 | -189 | -172 | -172 |
| Share in earnings of Modo Paper AB | - | - | 120 | 306 | 218 |
| Share in earnings of other associated companies | -4 | 23 | 27 | 8 | 10 |
| Operating profit, excl. non-recurring items | 2,213 | 2,334 | 2,125 | 2,093 | 1,951 |
| Non-recurring items | - |  | 2,031 |  |  |
| Operating profit | 2,213 | 2,334 | 4,156 | 2,093 | 1,951 |
| Financial items | -250 | -286 | -320 | -320 | -281 |
| Earnings after financial items | 1,963 | 2,048 | 3,836 | 1,773 | 1,670 |
| Earnings after financial items, excl. non-recurring items | 1,963 | 2,048 | 1,805 | 1,773 | 1,670 |
| Income taxes | -625 | -648 | -349 | -587 | -549 |
| Minority interest | -15 | -11 | -7 | -16 | -12 |
| Net earnings after tax - excl. non-recurring items | 1,323 | 1,389 | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 3,480 \\ & 1,249 \end{aligned}$ | 1,170 | 1,109 |
| Earnings per share, SEK - excl. non-recurring items | 5.72 | 6.00 | $\begin{array}{r} 15.02 \\ 5.40 \end{array}$ | 5.05 | 4.79 |

## Quarterly data Business Areas

Net sales

|  | 2001 |  | 2000 |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: |
| SEK M | I | IV | III | II | I |  |
| Hygiene Products | $\mathbf{8 , 5 8 6}$ | 8,291 | 7,848 | 7,499 | 7,402 |  |
| Packaging | $\mathbf{6 , 8 8 7}$ | 6,752 | 6,093 | 6,015 | 5,776 |  |
| Forest Products | $\mathbf{3 , 3 8 2}$ | 3,376 | 3,228 | 3,177 | 3,095 |  |
| Other operations | $\mathbf{4 2 5}$ | 365 | 390 | 347 | 382 |  |
| Intra-Group deliveries | $\mathbf{- 7 5 8}$ | -754 | -775 | -687 | -663 |  |
| Total net sales | $\mathbf{1 8 , 5 2 2}$ | 18,030 | 16,784 | 16,351 | 15,992 |  |

See also additional information on page 18.

Operating surplus

|  | 2001 |  |  |  |  |  |  | III |  |  |  | II | I |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SEK M | I | IV | III |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hygiene Products | $\mathbf{1 , 2 7 0}$ | 1,283 | 1,131 | 1,001 | 1,036 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Packaging | $\mathbf{1 , 2 1 2}$ | 1,197 | 1,067 | 982 | 1,002 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Forest Products | $\mathbf{1 , 0 3 3}$ | 997 | 942 | 950 | 869 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other operations | $\mathbf{- 5 6}$ | 78 | -24 | -30 | -38 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total operating surplus, |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| excl. non-recurring items <br> Non-recurring items | $\mathbf{3 , 4 5 9}$ | 3,555 | 3,116 | 2,903 | 2,869 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total operating surplus | - | - | 2,031 | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

See also additional information on page 18.

## Quarterly data Business Areas

Operating profit

|  | $\mathbf{2 0 0 1}$ | 2000 |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| SEK M | I | IV | III | II | I |
| Hygiene Products | $\mathbf{8 5 8}$ | 865 | 740 | 631 | 673 |
| Packaging | $\mathbf{8 5 8}$ | 854 | 787 | 671 | 665 |
| Forest Products | $\mathbf{7 6 0}$ | 734 | 693 | 686 | 607 |
| Share in earnings of Modo Paper | - | - | 120 | 306 | 218 |
| Other operations | $\mathbf{- 5 8}$ | 77 | -26 | -29 | -40 |
| Operating profit before |  |  |  |  |  |
| goodwill amortization |  |  |  |  |  |

See also additional information on page 18.
${ }^{1}$ Goodwill amortization:

| Hygiene Products | $\mathbf{5 5}$ | 51 | 48 | 43 | 46 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Packaging | $\mathbf{6 7}$ | 63 | 62 | 51 | 47 |
| Common | $\mathbf{8 3}$ | 82 | 79 | 78 | 79 |
| Group | $\mathbf{2 0 5}$ | 196 | 189 | 172 | 172 |

## Quarterly data Business Areas

## Operating surplus margins

|  | 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: |
| Percent | I | IV | III | II | I |  |  |
| Hygiene Products | $\mathbf{1 5}$ | 15 | 14 | 13 | 14 |  |  |
| Packaging | $\mathbf{1 8}$ | 18 | 18 | 16 | 17 |  |  |
| Forest Products | $\mathbf{3 1}$ | 30 | 29 | 30 | 28 |  |  |

See also additional information on page 19.
Operating margins excluding goodwill amortization

| 2001 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2000 |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent | I | IV | III | II | I |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hygiene Products | $\mathbf{1 0}$ | 10 | 9 | 8 | 9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Packaging | $\mathbf{1 3}$ | 13 | 13 | 11 | 12 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Forest Products | $\mathbf{2 2}$ | 22 | 21 | 22 | 20 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

See also additional information on page 19.

## Quarterly data Group

Margins

| Excl. non-recurring items | $\mathbf{2 0 0 1}$ | 2000 |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Percent | I | IV | III | II | I |
| Operating surplus margin | $\mathbf{1 8 . 7}$ | 19.7 | 18.6 | 17.8 | 17.9 |
| Operating margin, <br> excl. goodwill amortization | $\mathbf{1 3 . 1}$ | 14.0 | 13.8 | 13.9 | 13.3 |
| Operating margin | $\mathbf{1 2 . 0}$ | 13.0 | 12.7 | 12.8 | 12.2 |
| Financial net margin | $\mathbf{- 1 . 4}$ | -1.6 | -1.9 | -1.9 | -1.8 |
| Profit margin | $\mathbf{1 0 . 6}$ | 11.4 | 10.8 | 10.9 | 10.4 |
| Tax and minority | $\mathbf{- 3 . 5}$ | -3.7 | -3.4 | -3.7 | -3.5 |
| Net margin | $\mathbf{7 . 1}$ | 7.7 | 7.4 | 7.2 | 6.9 |

## Five-year summary

| Full year | $\mathbf{2 0 0 0}$ | 1999 | $1998^{1}$ | $1997^{1}$ | $1996^{1}$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Earnings after financial items, SEK M | $\mathbf{9 , 3 2 7}$ | 5,521 | 5,169 | 4,457 | 3,573 |
| Earnings per share after tax, SEK | $\mathbf{3 0 . 8 6}$ | 16.85 | 16.11 | 13.20 | 10.11 |
| Earnings per share after tax, excluding |  |  |  |  |  |
| goodwill amortization, SEK | $\mathbf{3 4 . 0 0}$ | 19.66 | 18.06 | 14.97 | 11.50 |
| Debt/equity ratio, times | $\mathbf{0 . 3 9}$ | 0.69 | 0.83 | 0.85 | 0.79 |
| Return on capital employed, \% | $\mathbf{1 8}$ | 12 | 14 | 12 | 11 |
| Return on shareholders' equity, \% | $\mathbf{2 0}$ | 12 | 13 | 12 | 10 |
| ${ }^{1}$ Adjusted historically to reflect new issue. |  |  |  |  |  |

## Additional information Business Areas

Net sales1 January - 31 March

| SEK M | $\mathbf{2 0 0 1}$ | 2000 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Hygiene Products | $\mathbf{8 , 5 8 6}$ | 7,402 |
| Consumer products | 5,041 | 4,443 |
| AFH and Incontinence products | 3,545 | 2,959 |
| Forest Products | $\mathbf{3 , 3 8 2}$ | 3,095 |
| Publication paper | 1,860 | 1,684 |
| Pulp, timber and solid wood products | 1,522 | 1,411 |

Operating profit
1 January - 31 March
SEK M ..... 2001 ..... 2000
Hygiene Products ..... 858 ..... 673
Consumer products ..... 311
AFH and Incontinence products ..... 362 ..... 391
Forest Products ..... 607
Publication paper ..... 380 ..... 338
Pulp, timber and solid wood products ..... 380 ..... 269

## Additional information Business Areas

## Quarterly data

Net sales

| $\mathbf{2 0 0 1}$ |  |  | 2000 |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: |
| SEK M | I | IV | III | II | I |  |
| Hygiene Products | $\mathbf{8 , 5 8 6}$ | 8,291 | 7,848 | 7,499 | 7,402 |  |
| Consumer products | 5,041 | 4,828 | 4,662 | 4,440 | 4,443 |  |
| AFH and Incontinence products | 3,545 | 3,463 | 3,186 | 3,059 | 2,959 |  |
| Forest Products | $\mathbf{3 , 3 8 2}$ | 3,376 | 3,228 | 3,177 | 3,095 |  |
| Publication paper | 1,860 | 1,977 | 1,729 | 1,767 | 1,684 |  |
| Pulp, timber and solid wood products | 1,522 | 1,399 | 1,499 | 1,410 | 1,411 |  |

## Operating surplus

| $\mathbf{2 0 0 1}$ |  |  | 2000 |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: |
| SEK M | I | IV | III | II | I |  |
| Hygiene Products | $\mathbf{1 , 2 7 0}$ | 1,283 | 1,131 | 1,001 | 1,036 |  |
| Consumer products | 743 | 731 | 645 | 536 | 571 |  |
| AFH and Incontinence products | 527 | 552 | 486 | 465 | 465 |  |
| Forest Products | $\mathbf{1 , 0 3 3}$ | 997 | 942 | 950 | 869 |  |
| Publication paper | 566 | 560 | 480 | 506 | 516 |  |
| Pulp, timber and solid wood products | 467 | 437 | 462 | 444 | 353 |  |

## Operating profit

| $\mathbf{2 0 0 1}$ |  |  | 2000 |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: |
| SEK M | I | IV | III | II | I |  |
| Hygiene Products | $\mathbf{8 5 8}$ | 865 | 740 | 631 | 673 |  |
| Consumer products | 467 | 455 | 361 | 267 | 311 |  |
| AFH and Incontinence products | 391 | 410 | 379 | 364 | 362 |  |
| Forest Products | $\mathbf{7 6 0}$ | 734 | 693 | 686 | 607 |  |
| Publication paper | 380 | 375 | 304 | 331 | 338 |  |
| Pulp, timber and solid wood products | 380 | 359 | 389 | 355 | 269 |  |

## Additional information Business Areas

## Quarterly data

## Operating surplus margins

| $\mathbf{2 0 0 1}$ |  |  |  | I | IV |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Percent | III | II | I |  |  |
| Hygiene Products | $\mathbf{1 5}$ | 15 | 14 | 13 | 14 |
| Consumer products | 15 | 15 | 14 | 12 | 13 |
| AFH and Incontinence products | 15 | 16 | 15 | 15 | 16 |
| Forest Products | $\mathbf{3 1}$ | 30 | 29 | 30 | 28 |
| Publication paper | 30 | 28 | 28 | 29 | 31 |
| Pulp, timber and solid wood products | 31 | 31 | 31 | 31 | 25 |

Operating margins excluding goodwill amortization

| $\mathbf{2 0 0 1}$ |  |  |  | I | IV |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Percent | III | II | I |  |  |
| Hygiene Products | $\mathbf{1 0}$ | 10 | 9 | 8 | 9 |
| Consumer products | 9 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 7 |
| AFH and Incontinence products | 11 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| Forest Products | $\mathbf{2 2}$ | 22 | 21 | 22 | 20 |
| Publication paper | 20 | 19 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| Pulp, timber and solid wood products | 25 | 26 | 26 | 25 | 19 |

## Press conference

SCA's Interim Report for the period 1 January - 31 March 2001 will be published on April 27, 2001. The press release will be sent out around 12:00 CET. A press conference will be held in Stockholm, where Sverker Martin-Löf, President and CEO, will present and comment on the results.

Time: 14:00 CET
Venue: Biblioteksgatan 29 Konferenser AB

## Telephone conference

The telephone conference will be held on April 27, 2001, at 16:00 CET (10:00 EST), where Sverker Martin-Löf will present and comment on the results. The interim report and the slide presentation will be available at www.sca.se / Investor Relations / Presentations.

To participate, please call Genesys Conferencing at the number below at least 5 minutes prior to the conference call. Please note that you do not need a personal code, but be prepared to state your name and company.

Dial-in number UK +442082408244
Dial-in number US +1800 4822225
If you are unable to participate in the conference call, a replay will be available for 5 working days at the following numbers:

UK replay number $\quad+442082884459$ (access code: 651022 )
US replay number +18006255288 (access code: 1018072 )

