



To business editors:

Press release for immediate publication

Contact persons:

Anders Remius, MD and Kent Hertzell, Financial Director

Telephone:

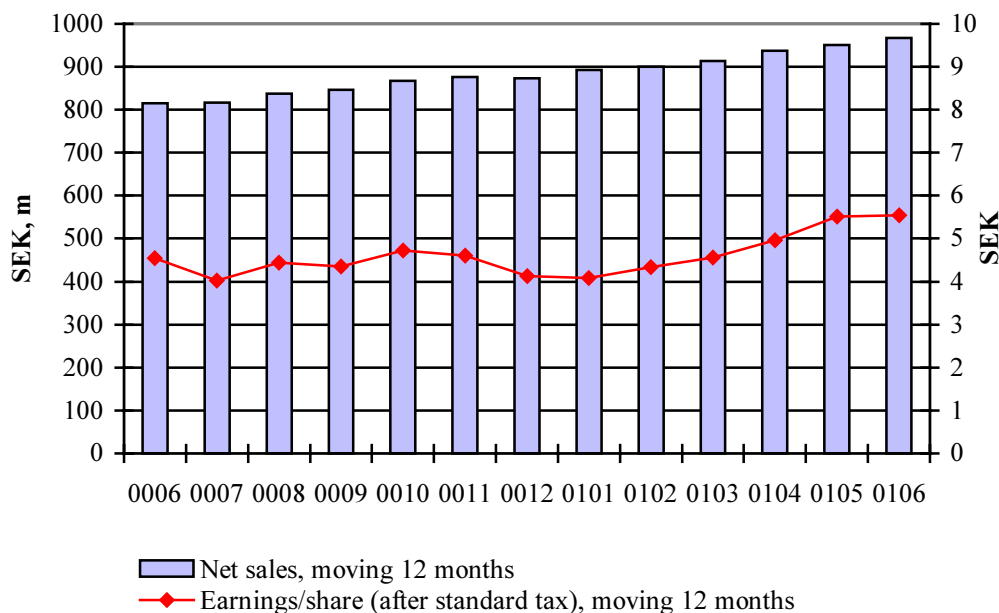
+46 (0)8-683 73 00

Internet:

www.hl-display.com

Interim report January - June 2001 HL Display AB (publ)

- The Group's net sales improved by 22 per cent to SEK 511.9 m (419.1).
- Profit before tax was SEK 35.9 m (20.8), an increase by 73 per cent.
- Lower investment level than previous years.



Address:
HL Display AB (publ)
Horisontvägen 26
128 34 Skarpnäck
SWEDEN

Telephone:
+46 8-683 73 00

Telefax:
+46 8-683 73 01

E-mail:
info@hl-display.com
Internet:
www.hl-display.com

Interim report January to June 2001

Sales and profit

In the first six months of 2001, Group net sales rose by 22 per cent to SEK 511.9 m (419.1), compared with the same period last year. The intake of new orders continues to be very positive and the average order size kept on increasing.

Around 50 per cent of net sales were invoiced in currencies tied to the Euro. In July HL Display has hedged the majority of the predicted inflow of Euro for the period July 2001 to January 2003.

The period's profit before tax was SEK 35.9 m (20.8). Currency effects boosted profit before tax by SEK 6.2 m compared with last year.

The price for the Group's primary raw material, PVC, has fallen further and is lower than during last year, but is still on a historically high level. Compared with last year, profits rose by SEK 3.0 m due to lower PVC prices.

In comparison with last year should also be considered that HL Display as per six months 2000 had received a refund of SEK 4.5 m from the insurance company SPP.

Acquisitions and sales

No new acquisitions or sales of companies were carried out during the first six months of 2001.

Investments

During 1998-99 larger investments were made in all the production units. This makes a lower level of investments

possible than in previous years. Net investments in fixed assets during the first six months of 2001 amounted to SEK 25.7 m (28.6). Depreciation according to plan totalled SEK 22.1 (18.7) m.

Financial position

Liquid funds amounted to SEK 21.2 m (10.2) as at 30 June 2001.

The equity/assets ratio was 45.4 (49.2) per cent, and was 47.6 per cent at year-end 2000.

Personnel

In the first six months of 2001, the average number of employees was 822 (757) and 839 (772) at end of the period.

Outlook for the remainder of the year

As stated in previous reports, profits for the whole of 2001 are expected to show an improvement on 2000. The profit margin, however, will not be in line with the long-term target of between 10 and 15 per cent over a business cycle.

The growth target, an annual average growth rate of at least 20 per cent, is deemed possible this year.

A more detailed forecast will be published as part of the third quarterly report.

The full Interim report, including a market comment by Anders Remius, can be ordered at www.hl-display.com or by telephone +46 8 683 73 00.

Summary of consolidated income statement

SEK (000s)	Apr - June 2001	Apr - June 2000	Jan - June 2001	Jan - June 2000	Full year 2000
Net sales	271 859	218 639	511 914	419 142	873 921
Cost of goods sold	-147 075	-122 371	-283 847	-230 214	-494 366
Gross profit	124 784	96 268	228 067	188 928	379 555
Selling expenses	-57 536	-47 408	-112 081	-95 664	-196 190
Administrative expenses	-34 415	-26 315	-67 772	-55 300	-113 752
Development expenses	-7 598	-5 971	-14 518	-13 486	-26 902
Other operating income/expenses	784	1 376	659	2 010	5 020
Operating profit	26 019	17 950	34 355	26 488	47 731
Financial income and expenses ²⁾	-345	-2 828	1 515	-5 696	-3 636
Profit before tax	25 674	15 122	35 870	20 792	44 095
Tax ³⁾	-10 019	-5 112	-13 990	-7 023	-17 348
Net profit	15 655	10 010	21 880	13 769	26 747

Data per share

	Apr - June 2001	Apr - June 2000	Jan - June 2001	Jan - June 2000	Full year 2000
Number of shares	7 688 872	7 688 872	7 688 872	7 688 872	7 688 872
Earnings per share after full tax, SEK	2.04	1.30	2.85	1.79	3.48
Earnings per share after standard tax, SEK	2.40	1.42	3.36	1.95	4.13
Share price at the end of period	109.00	122.50	109.00	122.50	73.00
P/E-ratio, Dec 31 2000	-	-	-	-	20.98
Cash flow per share, SEK	-0.43	-1.05	-1.30	-1.66	0.99
P/CE-ratio, Dec 31 2000	-	-	-	-	73.74

Interim report January to June 2001

Summary of consolidated balance sheet

SEK (000s)	June 30, 2001	June 30, 2000	December 31, 2000
Intangible fixed assets ⁴⁾	18 066	19 660	20 371
Tangible fixed assets	161 329	148 210	155 508
Financial fixed assets	10 489	10 186	10 220
Total fixed assets	189 884	178 056	186 099
Inventories	108 577	84 935	99 694
Current receivables	230 981	186 019	184 769
Cash and bank	21 215	10 156	31 238
Total current assets	360 773	281 110	315 701
Total assets	550 657	459 166	501 800
Shareholders' equity ⁵⁾	250 034	225 941	238 919
Provisions	16 754	15 093	16 997
Long-term liabilities	103 378	84 480	93 727
Current liabilities	180 491	133 652	152 157
Total shareholders' equity and liabilities	550 657	459 166	501 800

Change in shareholder's equity

SEK (000s)	June 30, 2001	June 30, 2000	Dec 31, 2000
Opening balance	238 919	222 168	222 168
Dividends paid	-10 765	-9 996	-9 996
Net profit of the period	21 880	13 769	26 747
Closing balance	250 034	225 941	238 919

Summary of consolidated cashflow statement⁶⁾

SEK (000s)	Apr - June 2001	Apr - June 2000	Jan - June 2001	Jan - June 2000	Full year 2000
Operating profit	26 019	17 950	34 355	26 488	47 731
Depreciation	11 151	9 515	22 072	18 698	40 197
Other items not affecting liquidity ²⁾	725	1 465	2 389	611	1 090
Interest received	789	151	2 072	870	1 530
Interest paid	-2 599	-1 973	-4 923	-3 477	-7 550
Income tax paid	-7 858	-5 878	-13 555	-6 675	-11 471
Change in working capital	-15 925	-2 387	-28 581	-21 216	-20 648
Cash flow from operating activities	12 302	18 843	13 829	15 299	50 879
Investing activities	-11 476	-14 290	-28 029	-29 900	-58 543
Financing activities	-4 152	-12 622	4 177	1 822	15 296
Cash flow for the period	-3 326	-8 069	-10 023	-12 779	7 632

Interim report January to June 2001

Key figures the last five quarters

	Q 2	Q 1	Q 4	Q 3	Q 2
SEK (000s)	2001	2001	2000	2000	2000
Net Sales	271 859	240 055	231 445	223 334	218 639
Profit after financial items	25 674	10 196	8 116	15 217	15 122
No. of employees end of period	839	825	805	787	772

Key figures for the Group ¹⁾

SEK (000s)	6 months Jan - June 2001	6 months Jan - June 2000	6 months Jan - June 1999	12 months July 2000 - June 2001	12 months July 1999 - June 2000	12 months July 1998 - June 1999	Full year 2000
Net sales	511 914	419 142	373 071	966 693	814 522	706 825	873 921
Operating profit	34 355	26 488	25 526	55 598	56 363	53 443	47 731
Profit before tax	35 870	20 792	19 753	59 173	48 164	49 219	44 095
Profit margin, %	7.0	5.0	5.3	6.1	5.9	7.0	5.0
Equity/assets ratio, %	45.4	49.2	50.5	45.4	49.2	50.5	47.6
Investments, SEK m	25.7	28.6	33.9	55.2	62.6	61.8	58.1
Return on capital, %	-	-	-	13.3	13.0	14.5	11.0
Return on shareholders' equity, %	-	-	-	14.6	16.0	15.0	11.6
Shareholders' equity per share, SEK	32.52	29.39	26.23	32.52	29.39	26.23	31.07
Earnings per share after full tax, SEK	2.85	1.79	1.53	4.53	4.46	3.75	3.48
Earnings per share after standard tax, SEK	3.36	1.95	1.85	5.54	4.54	4.61	4.13

1) See HL Display's Annual Report 2000 for definitions of key ratios and accounting principles.

2) Of which, translation differences as per 30/06/01: SEK +1.1 m, 30/06/00: SEK -1.0 m, 31/12/00: SEK +0.1 m.

3) Estimated full tax

4) As there are no potential new ordinary shares, no details are published regarding data per share after dilution.

5) Whereof goodwill as per 30/06/01: SEK 5.4 m, 30/06/00: SEK 8.4 m; 31/12/00: SEK 7.0 m.

6) Cash flow statements as per April-June and January-June before exchange difference on monetary assets.

Reporting dates:

Monthly report	7 months 2001	15.08.2001
Monthly report	8 months 2001	17.09.2001
Interim report	9 months 2001	16.10.2001
Monthly report	10 months 2001	15.11.2001
Monthly report	11 months 2000	17.12.2001

For the Board of Directors:
Stockholm, July 16th, 2001



Anders Remius
Managing Director and CEO