

- ◆ **Orders received** rose by 15% to SEK 3,314 million (2,884)
- ◆ **Net sales** rose by 18% to SEK 2,975 million (2,525)
- ◆ **Profit before tax** amounted to SEK 262 million, including restructuring costs of SEK 50 million (313)
- ◆ **Net profit** amounted to SEK 191 million (225)
- ◆ **Profit per share** amounted to SEK 0.93 (1.09)
- ◆ **Strong orders received**
- ◆ **Favourable cash flow**
- ◆ **Continued positive outlook for the year**

## First quarter 2006

### Orders received

Orders received by the Group increased organically by 3.6% during the period. Adjusted for the major orders booked in Canada by Extended Care during the corresponding quarter in 2005 and the current quarter for a total of CAD 40 million and CAD 15 million, respectively, orders received increased organically by 9.5%.

In Medical Systems, the volume trend remained highly favourable. Organically, orders received rose by 16.2%, with an excellent trend in the North American market. All divisions performed well or very well.

In Infection Control, orders received grew organically by 5.4%, with a distinct improvement in Western Europe.

Orders received by Extended Care declined by 13.6% organically, which is attributable to orders received during the first quarter of 2005 being particularly strong as a result of the orders from Canada mentioned earlier. Adjusted for these orders, organic orders received increased by 3.3% within the business area.

### Results

Consolidated profit before tax fell by 16.4% and amounted to SEK 262 million (313). The profit decline is an effect of restructuring costs of SEK 50 million that were charged to the earnings for the quarter and a low invoicing volume in Extended Care. The restructuring costs pertain mainly to the closure of Extended Care's Gloucester plant and, to a lesser extent, to the integration of La Calhène within Infection Control.

Medical Systems' operating profit and operating margin developed extremely well as a result of the favourable volume growth and the operating profit increased by 40.9%.

In Infection Control, the operating profit improved by approximately 19.0% as an effect of better invoicing growth and earnings contributions from the La Calhène acquisition.

Exchange-rate fluctuations had an insignificant impact on earnings compared with the first quarter of 2005.

The Group's operational cash flow developed well and amounted to SEK 603 million (310).

## **Outlook 2006**

It is assessed that demand for the Group's products will generally remain favourable. Demand for medical-technical capital-investments goods in developing markets and in North America remains at a positive level. In the important Western European market – which is more cyclical than other geographic regions – an improvement in demand can be distinguished. The Group's order backlog remains at a favourable level compared with the corresponding period in 2005.

For the current year, Medical Systems anticipates a favourable volume trend as a result of the product launches conducted, expanded market organisation and a positive market climate. A good improvement in earnings is expected for Cardiopulmonary, which had a weak earnings trend in 2005. The work to strengthen the market organisation continues in developing markets and North America, where growth potential is considered favourable. In Critical Care, investments in product development are increasing prior to major product launches in 2007. Measures to enhance the efficiency of Cardiopulmonary's production structure and establishment of local production in China are proceeding according to plan.

Infection Control anticipates favourable volume development during the year, particularly in the West European market, which was weak in 2005. Volumes in the North American market are also expected to be better than in 2005. Similar to Medical Systems, increasing investments are being made to expand the market organisation, particularly in China, Japan and the US. Work to enhance the efficiency of the Supply organisation is continuing with the logistics project that is in progress, increased production at the new plant in China and production coordination between existing plants.

La Calhène, which was consolidated in the Group from the third quarter of 2005, will be fully integrated in the business area's structure in 2006. La Calhène is expected to contribute profit before tax of SEK 30 million this year, excluding restructuring costs amounting to SEK 20 million in 2006.

The volume growth for Extended Care is expected to be modest, but with a distinct improvement in Western Europe, which had a weak trend in 2005. The large deliveries of patient-handling equipment made to Ontario in Canada in 2005 will be partly compensated in 2006 by delivery of the order backlog accumulated as a result of the FDA import embargo and by a new and smaller investment program in Ontario, Canada.

The new product program that has been developed, comprising mobile hoists and ceiling hoists, is expected to contribute to volume growth. The restructuring program for the business area's production structure for patient-handling equipment will result in restructuring costs of about SEK 45 million for the current year. When fully implemented, the program will lead to annual cost savings of about SEK 50 million from 2007 and annual cost savings of SEK 70 million from 2008.

The Group has not changed its view of the outlook for the year since the publication of the most recent report and anticipates favourable volume growth for all business areas in 2006, except for the currency situation which has weakened somewhat since the most recent report. The tax rate is forecast to 27% in 2006. To strengthen the Group's long-term competitiveness, several future-oriented investments are being made in product development, production structure and market expansion.

# Business area Medical Systems

## Market development

	2006	2005	Change adjusted for
<i>Orders received per market</i>	3 Mon	3 Mon	<i>curr.flucs.&amp;corp.acqs.</i>
Western Europe	706.6	650.0	5.4%
USA and Canada	340.3	214.4	40.2%
Asia and Australia	193.9	198.8	-6.9%
Rest of the world	155.1	67.6	112.3%
Business area total	1,395.9	1,130.8	16.2%

The trend for orders received remained strong and rose organically by 16.2% during the quarter. In the important West European market, orders received grew by 5.4% with a favourable volume trend in Southern Europe, Benelux and the German-speaking countries. The UK maintained the same level as 2005, while Scandinavia declined somewhat.

In North America, orders received remained positive and increased significantly for Critical Care and Surgical Workplaces.

In the developing markets, volume growth was generally favourable, with a strong trend in Latin America and Central and Eastern Europe.

## Results

	2006	2005	Change	2005
	3 Mon	3 Mon		FY
Net sales, SEK million	1,262.1	1,029.0	22.7%	5,109.2
<i>adjusted for currency flucs. &amp; corp.acqs</i>			15.8%	
Gross profit	616.6	507.4	21.5%	2,486.3
Gross margin %	48.9%	49.3%	-0.4%	48.7%
Operating cost, SEK million	-455.7	-393.2	15.9%	-1,704.9
EBITA	162.4	115.1	41.1%	787.3
EBITA margin %	12.9%	11.2%	17%	15.4%
EBIT	160.9	114.2	40.9%	781.4
EBIT margin %	12.7%	11.1%	16%	15.3%

Operating profit increased significantly by 40.9% as a result of favourable volume growth. The gross margin is somewhat lower than last year for the quarter, but higher compared to last years full year figure. The higher costs are in line with the activities announced in product development and the expansion of the market organisation in the developing markets and North America.

## Activities

### Product launches

The product launches in Surgical Workplaces that were conducted in the fourth quarter of 2005 and comprise a new surgical table system, a new surgical light and a new family of ceiling service units, continue to generate a large amount of interest and are expected to result in increased deliveries during the second half of the current year.

**Product development**

As announced earlier, strong investments are being made in product development in the Critical Care division. Two major product innovations are planned for launch in 2007. NAVA is a new ventilator with considerably better clinical performance than products currently available. NGA is a new anaesthesia machine that can also offer clinical benefits compared with existing machines and is expected to be highly competitive.

**New production structure within Cardiopulmonary**

The change in Cardiopulmonary's production structure that was announced earlier is proceeding according to plan. At the end of this year, it will be possible for production at the division's plant in Turkey to commence. Coordination of the three German units in Hechingen / Hirtlingen into a single production unit is expected to be completed at the end of 2007. The full earnings effect of the planned improvements is expected to be achieved in 2008.

**Production in China**

Similar to Infection Control, Medical Systems plans to locate the production of certain products in Surgical Workplaces in China. Prior to the end of the year, the business area intends to deliver ceiling service units from its own production unit outside Shanghai. There are also plans to expand the locally produced range to include surgical lights and surgical tables in the period 2007-2008.

## Business area Infection Control

### Market development

	2006	2005	Change adjusted for
<i>Orders received per market</i>	3 Mon	3 Mon	<i>curr.flucs.&amp;corp.acqs.</i>
Western Europe	530.6	399.6	15.6%
USA and Canada	356.6	266.9	-3.4%
Asia and Australia	106.0	126.6	-21.2%
Rest of the world	60.9	37.5	50.1%
Business area total	1,054.1	830.6	5.4%

Orders received grew organically by 5.4% during the quarter. Orders received were particularly favourable in the Western European market, which developed weakly toward the end of 2005. In Western Europe, the markets in Southern Europe, Scandinavia and the UK performed well, while the trend was weaker in the German-speaking markets.

Orders received in North America declined somewhat, but combined with the positive trend in Surgical Workplaces, growth in the sales company operated jointly with Medical Systems, Getinge Inc., was highly favourable.

Growth in the developing markets was mixed. Orders received in Eastern Europe, as well as the Far East and Southeast Asia, were favourable.

### Results

	2006	2005	Change	2005
	3 Mon	3 Mon		FY
Net sales, SEK million	894.0	692.6	29.1%	3,745.1
<i>adjusted for currency flucs. &amp; corp.acqs</i>			9.4%	
Gross profit	349.5	273.8	27.6%	1,429.2
Gross margin %	39.1%	39.5%	-0.4%	38.2%
Operating cost, SEK million	-269.8	-206.8	30.5%	-917.8
EBITA	83.5	67.0	24.6%	517.9
EBITA margin %	9.3%	9.7%	-0.4%	13.8%
EBIT	79.7	67.0	19.0%	511.4
EBIT margin %	8.9%	9.7%	-0.8%	13.7%

Infection Control improved its operating profit by 19.0% during the quarter. The earnings improvement is an effect of strong growth in invoicing and the contribution to earnings from the La Calhène acquisition. The increase in costs is a result of La Calhène not being included in the business area's structure during the corresponding quarter in 2005. Adjusted for the La Calhène acquisition, the operating margin in the business area is somewhat better than in the preceding year. The business area's profits were charged with restructuring costs amounting to SEK 5 million for the closure of La Calhène's UK plant.

## **Activities**

### **Logistics project**

Infection Control's ongoing logistics project that is aimed at simplifying and enhancing the administration of orders and invoicing procedures, as well as centralising physical handling of products and spare parts, is proceeding according to plan. The project will be completed in 2007 and will lead to annual cost savings of SEK 50 million.

### **La Calhène**

The announced integration of La Calhène's marketing and sales organisation into Getinge's existing marketing organisation for Life Science customers is currently in progress. During the second quarter, Infection Control's market organisation for the Life Science market will be operated from a number of competence centres that market the business area's complete Life Science range. The new organisation that has been enabled by the La Calhène acquisition reflects well the ambition to meet the demanding and global life science market with a competent and focused organisation. During the quarter, the business area also made the decision to close La Calhènes production unit in the UK. Production will be relocated to the main unit in Vendôme, France. Restructuring costs were charged to the quarter in an amount of SEK 5 million of a total of SEK 20 million that has been forecast for 2006.

### **Establishing in China**

The business area has decided to commence the production of disinfectors for the local Chinese market this year, in addition to the sterilizers produced in China since mid-2005. In parallel with the extended local production, a strong extension of the local sales organisation is also being implemented.

### **Outsourcing of sterilisation centres in the UK**

As announced earlier, the UK NHS (National Health Services) has plans to establish a large number of centres on an outsourcing basis to provide public-sector hospitals with sterile instruments. Some 20 projects are currently at various stages of implementation and are expected to lead to orders and deliveries until the end of 2009. Infection Control is considered to have favourable opportunities to secure a large portion of these projects through its complete product and service offering and its extensive market coverage in the UK.

## Business area Extended Care

### Market development

	2006	2005	Change adjusted for
<i>Orders received per market</i>	3 Mon	3 Mon	<i>curr.flucs.&amp;corp.acqs.</i>
Western Europe	484.2	442.3	5.6%
USA and Canada	342.0	442.4	-33.3%
Asia and Australia	20.7	21.9	-11.6%
Rest of the world	5.1	4.4	10.8%
Business area total	852.0	911.0	-13.6%

Orders received declined organically by 13.6%. During the first quarter of 2005, large orders were received from the province of Ontario in Canada, as a result of orders amounting to CAD 40 million. The first quarter of this year also includes orders for Ontario, but in the lower amount of about CAD 15 million. If orders received are adjusted for these orders of extraordinary character, the increase in the underlying organic orders received amounts to 3.3%.

The volume trend in Western Europe remained somewhat better than in the preceding year, with a favourable trend in Scandinavia, the UK and Benelux. In Southern Europe, orders received were at the same level as in 2005, while the German-speaking countries recorded a slight decline.

Excluding the Canadian orders mentioned above, orders received in North America were positive, particularly in the US, where volumes continued to rise by double-digit figures.

### Results

	2006	2005	Change	2005
	3 Mon	3 Mon		FY
Net sales, SEK million	807.1	792.4	19%	2,982.1
<i>adjusted for currency flucs. &amp; corp. acqs</i>			-6.1%	
Gross profit	354.0	392.3	-9.8%	1,396.9
Gross margin %	43.9%	49.5%	-5.6%	46.8%
Operating cost, SEK million	-284.9	-212.1	34.3%	-891.1
EBITA	73.0	183.8	-60.3%	521.6
EBITA margin %	9.0%	23.2%	-14.2%	17.5%
EBIT	69.1	180.2	-61.7%	505.8
EBIT margin %	8.6%	22.7%	-14.1%	17.0%

Compared with the extremely strong first quarter of 2005, the business area noted a considerably reduced operating profit amounting to SEK 69.1 million. The reduced profit is attributable to costs and operating disruptions related to the decision to close the production unit in Gloucester and reduced invoicing volumes in Canada and the US. Regarding volumes in the US, deliveries following the earlier FDA embargo could not be completed to the planned extent. Accordingly, about SEK 80 million in invoicing value that was planned for delivery in the first quarter will be delivered at the beginning of the second quarter. The restructuring



costs in connection with the decision to close the Gloucester plant were charged to the quarter in an amount of SEK 45 million. In addition, deliveries from the plant concerned were low during the quarter. This led to considerable underutilisation of the plant's capacity, which can be seen in the lower gross margin. As deliveries of patient-handling products from the new production units commence in increasing amounts, an over-absorption of production costs is expected in future quarters.

The gross margin for the full year is forecast to be in line with 2005.

## **Activities**

### **Restructuring of the business area's production of patient-handling equipment**

In accordance with earlier announcements, Extended Care has commenced a restructuring project aimed at enhancing the efficiency of the production of patient-handling equipment that is currently conducted at three units: Gloucester, in the UK, Magog in Canada and Hamont-Achel, in Belgium. Production in Gloucester will be discontinued and transferred to the units in Belgium and Canada. The project will be completed during the third quarter of the year and will lead to annual savings of about SEK 50 million from 2007 and about SEK 70 million from 2008 onward. The restructuring costs relating to the termination of production that were earlier estimated at about SEK 35 million are expected to amount to about SEK 45 million.

### **FDA import embargo**

As announced earlier, the FDA has imposed an import embargo on sales to the US by Extended Care's production unit in Gloucester since February 2005. Due to the termination of production that is in progress in Gloucester, the US market will be supplied with patient-handling equipment from Canada and Belgium. In conjunction with the transfer of production from Gloucester, the Opera, Tempo and Marisa patient hoists will be replaced by the recently launched products, Maximove and Maxitwin. The business area anticipates reaching a normalised delivery situation at the start of the second quarter, which will involve delivery of equipment with a sales value of about SEK 80 million.

### **New investment programme in Ontario, Canada**

As a follow-up to the major investment programme of about CAD 60 million that was undertaken by the health authorities in Ontario, Canada, during the first quarter of 2005, a second investment programme of about CAD 30 million was conducted during the first quarter of this year. Extended Care secured orders amounting to about CAD 15 million in this new programme, compared with the CAD 40 million secured in the first investment package.

## Other information

### Senior executives' benefits

Remuneration paid to the president comprises basic salary, variable remuneration, other benefits and pension. Variable remuneration was set at a maximum of 50% of basic salary in 2005.

On 7 February 2006, the Board approved a proposal from the Remuneration Committee that the fixed annual remuneration for the president shall amount to SEK 8,004,000 (7,008,000) and that the variable remuneration be a maximum of 60% of the basic salary. The change in the fixed annual remuneration from 1 January 2006 represents an increase of 14%.

### Accounting

This interim report was prepared in accordance with IAS 34 Interim Financial Reporting. The same accounting principles and methods of calculation were used in this interim report as in the most recent annual report. The report is unaudited.

### Next report

The next report from the Getinge Group (second quarter of 2006) will be published on July 17, 2006.

### Tele-conference

A tele-conference will be held today at 2:00 p.m. Swedish time. To participate, please call:  
from Sweden 08-505 20114, password: Getinge  
from outside Sweden +44(0)20 7162 0125, password: Getinge

Getinge 20 April 2006

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## Income statement

	2006	2005	Change	2005
SEK million	3 Mon	3 Mon		FY
Net sales	2,974.8	2,525.2	17.8%	11,880.4
Cost of goods sold	-1,651.3	-1,348.7	22.4%	-6,554.9
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>1,323.5</b>	1,176.5	12.5%	5,325.5
Gross margin	44.5%	46.6%	-2.1%	44.8%
Selling expenses	-597.2	-506.9	17.8%	-2,205.3
Administrative expenses	-291.0	-239.9	21.3%	-1,055.5
Research & development costs <sup>1)</sup>	-81.6	-68.0	20.0%	-257.1
Other operating income and expenses	-42.9	0.7	-6228.6%	-4.8
<b>Operating profit <sup>2)</sup></b>	<b>310.8</b>	362.4	-14.2%	1,802.8
Operating margin	10.4%	14.4%	-4.0%	15.2%
Financial net	-49.2	-49.5		-201.4
<b>Profit before tax</b>	<b>261.6</b>	312.9	-16.4%	1,601.4
Taxes	-70.6	-87.6		-451.7
<b>Net profit</b>	<b>191.0</b>	225.3	-15.2%	1,149.7
<b>Attributable to:</b>				
Parent company's shareholders	187.1	219.5		1,138.4
Minority interest	3.9	5.8		11.3
<b>Net profit</b>	<b>191.0</b>	225.3		1,149.7
Earnings per share, SEK <sup>3)</sup>	0.93	1.09	-14.8%	5.64

1) Development costs totalling SEK 31.7 (26.6) million have been capitalised during the quarter.

2) Operating profit is charged with

— depr. intangibles	-19.1	-10.2	-54.1
— depr. on other fixed assets	-71.1	-63.0	-274.6
	<b>-90.2</b>	<b>-73.2</b>	<b>-328.7</b>

3) There are no dilutions

4) Due to reclassification of certain costs, some transfer have been made in the comparison from cost of goods sold to operating costs.

## Quarterly results

	2004	2004	2004	2004	2005	2005	2005	2005	2006
SEK million	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1
Net sales	2,491.6	2,588.1	2,332.5	3,476.6	2,525.2	2,739.0	2,727.4	3,888.8	2,974.8
Cost of goods sold	-1,329.9	-1,409.5	-1,274.0	-1,981.1	-1,348.7	-1,523.9	-1,519.2	-2,163.1	-1,651.3
Gross profit	1,161.7	1,178.6	1,058.5	1,495.5	1,176.5	1,215.1	1,208.2	1,725.7	1,323.5
Operating cost	-811.4	-771.8	-753.7	-815.0	-814.1	-861.5	-861.6	-985.5	-1,012.7
Operating profit	350.3	406.8	304.8	680.5	362.4	353.6	346.6	740.2	310.8
Financial net	-52.0	-48.8	-49.0	-46.9	-49.5	-49.4	-55.4	-47.1	-49.2
Profit before tax	298.3	358.0	255.8	633.6	312.9	304.2	291.2	693.1	261.6
Taxes	-73.5	-92.0	-61.0	-170.4	-87.6	-85.2	-81.5	-197.4	-70.6
Profit after tax	224.8	266.0	194.8	463.2	225.3	219.0	209.7	495.7	191.0

## Balance sheet

Assets	SEK million	2006 31 March	2005 31 March	2005 31 Dec
Intangible fixed assets		5,496.7	4,829.0	5,530.3
Tangible fixed assets		1,475.9	1,399.7	1,497.8
Financial assets		668.0	645.6	649.8
Stock-in-trade		2,322.7	2,042.8	2,156.6
Current receivables		3,682.8	3,311.9	4,015.2
Liquid funds		688.9	714.6	683.6
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>14,335.0</b>	<b>12,943.6</b>	<b>14,533.3</b>
<b>Shareholders' equity &amp; Liabilities</b>				
Shareholders' equity		5,555.8	4,640.8	5,381.3
Provisions for pensions, interest-bearing		1,686.3	1,521.5	1,690.4
Restructuring reserves		46.0	13.9	10.5
Long-term liabilities		4,146.1	4,190.9	4,468.8
Current liabilities		2,900.8	2,576.5	2,982.3
<b>Total Equity &amp; Liabilities</b>		<b>14,335.0</b>	<b>12,943.6</b>	<b>14,533.3</b>

## Cash flow statement

SEK million	2006 3 Mon	2005 3 Mon	2005 FY
<i>Current activities</i>			
Operating profit	310.8	362.4	1,802.8
Adjustment for items not included in cash flow	123.1	74.9	329.1
Financial items	-49.2	-49.5	-196.5
Taxes paid	-131.1	-104.9	-475.9
<b>Cash flow before changes in working capital</b>	<b>253.6</b>	<b>282.9</b>	<b>1,459.5</b>
Changes in working capital			
Stock-in-trade	-193.5	-246.2	-130.4
Rental equipment	3.6	-5.4	-13.7
Current receivables	266.9	262.1	-125.7
Current operating liabilities	92.1	-137.8	3.7
Restructuring reserves, utilised	-0.1	-19.8	-24.1
<b>Cash flow from operations</b>	<b>422.6</b>	<b>135.8</b>	<b>1,169.3</b>
<i>Investments</i>			
Acquisition of subsidiaries	-4.4	-0.7	-265.4
Net investments in intangible fixed assets	-32.7	-28.9	-166.9
Net investments in tangible fixed assets	-59.3	-48.3	-224.9
<b>Cash flow from investments</b>	<b>-96.4</b>	<b>-77.9</b>	<b>-657.2</b>
<i>Financial activities</i>			
Change in interest-bearing debt	-321.3	145.0	142.6
Change in long-term receivables	-24.6	118.7	108.2
Dividend paid			-333.1
<b>Cash flow from financial activities</b>	<b>-345.9</b>	<b>263.7</b>	<b>-82.3</b>
<b>Cash flow for the period</b>	<b>-19.7</b>	<b>321.6</b>	<b>429.8</b>
Liquid funds at begin of the year	683.6	484.9	484.9
Translation differences	25.0	-91.9	-231.1
Liquid funds at end of the period	688.9	714.6	683.6

## Operating cash flow statement

SEK million	2006 3 Mon	2005 3 Mon	2005 FY
<b>Business activities</b>			
Operating profit	310.8	362.4	1,802.8
Adjustment for items not included in cash flow	123.1	74.9	329.1
	433.9	437.3	2,131.9
<b>Changes in operating capital</b>			
Stock-in-trade	-193.5	-246.2	-130.4
Rental equipment	3.6	-5.4	-13.7
Current receivables	266.9	262.1	-125.7
Current liabilities	92.1	-137.8	3.7
<b>Operating cash flow</b>	<b>603.0</b>	<b>310.0</b>	<b>1,865.8</b>

## Net interest-bearing debt

SEK million	2006 31 March	2005 31 March	2005 31 Dec
Financial Instrument	2.3	-	-11.6
Debt to credit institutions	3,769.0	3,839.2	4,109.0
Provisions for pensions, interest-bearing	1,686.3	1,521.5	1,690.4
Less liquid funds	-688.9	-714.6	-683.6
<b>Net interest-bearing debt</b>	<b>4,768.7</b>	<b>4,646.1</b>	<b>5,104.2</b>

## Changes to shareholders' equity

SEK million	2006 31 March	2005 31 March	2005 31 Dec
Shareholders' equity – opening balance	5,381.3	4,269.6	4,269.6
Effect of adopting to IFRS on opening balance		97.0	97.0
Shareholders' equity - opening balance according to new principle	5,381.3	4,366.6	4,366.6
Dividend distributed	-	-	-333.1
Change of reserve hedge accounting	54.9	-73.9	-184.5
Translation differences	-71.4	122.8	382.6
Net profit	191.0	225.3	1,149.7
Shareholders' equity – closing balance	5,555.8	4,640.8	5,381.3
<b>Attributable to:</b>			
Parent company's shareholders	5,479.8	4,582.7	5,307.4
Minority interest	76.0	58.1	73.9
Total shareholders' equity	5,555.8	4,640.8	5,381.3

## Key figures

	2006	2005	Change	2005
	3 Mon	3 Mon		FY
Orders received, SEK million	<b>3,313.7</b>	2,883.5	<del>14.9%</del>	12,225.0
adjusted for currency flucs.& corp.acqs			3.6%	
Net sales, SEK million	<b>2,974.8</b>	2,525.2	<del>17.8%</del>	11,880.4
adjusted for currency flucs.& corp.acqs			7.1%	
Earnings per share after full tax, SEK	<b>0.93</b>	1.09	<del>-14.8%</del>	5.64
Nmb of shares, thousands	<b>201,874</b>	201,874		201,874
Operating capital, SEK million	<b>9,903.3</b>	8,703.7	<del>13.8%</del>	9,571.0
Return on operating capital, per cent	<b>18.0%</b>	19.7%	-1.7%	18.5%
Return on equity, per cent	<b>22.3%</b>	28.4%	<del>-6.1%</del>	24.3%
Net debt/equity ratio, multiple	<b>0.86</b>	1.00	<del>-0.14</del>	0.95
Interest cover, multiple	<b>8.2</b>	8.3	<del>-0.1</del>	8.3
Equity/assets ratio, per cent	<b>38.8%</b>	35.9%	2.9%	37.0%
Net investments in tangible fixed assets,				
SEK million	<b>59.3</b>	48.3		224.9
Number of employees at the period's end	<b>7,382</b>	6,882		7,362

## Definitions

**EBIT**

Operating profit

**EBITA**

Operating profit before amortisation of intangible fixed assets identified upon business acquisitions.