



To business editors:

## Press release for immediate publication

Contact persons:

Anders Remius, MD and Kent Hertzell, Financial Director

Telephone:

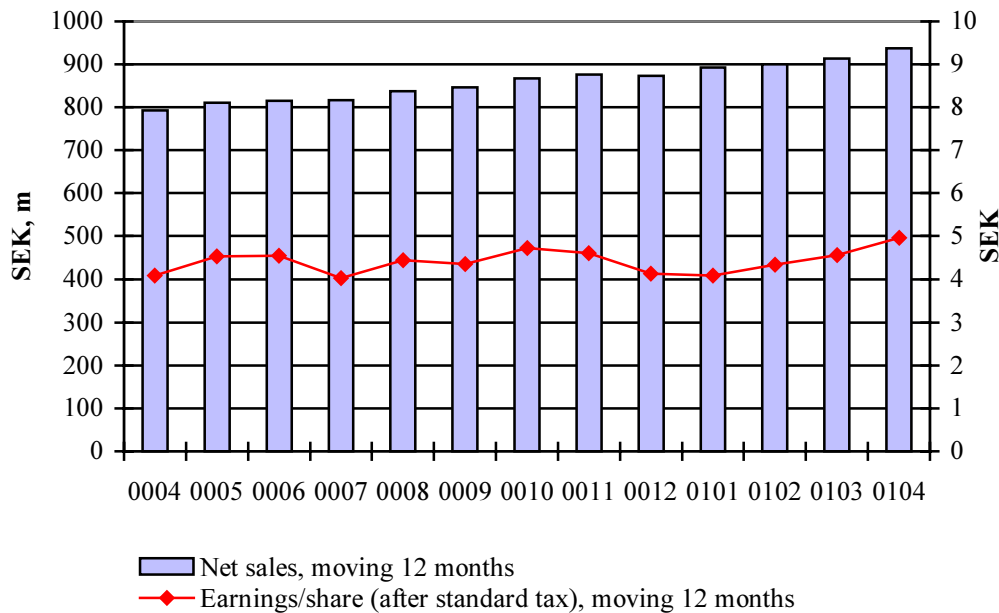
+46 (0)8-683 73 00

Internet:

[www.hl-display.com](http://www.hl-display.com)

# Report January - April 2001 HL Display AB (publ)

- The Group's net sales for January to April increased by 23.9% to SEK 327.7 m (264.5) compared to corresponding period 2000.
- Profit before tax for the period amounted to SEK 17.4 m (8.5).



## January to April 2001 in brief

The consolidated sales for January to April increased by 23.9 per cent to SEK 327.7 m (264.5). Operating profit for the period increased by 32.4 per cent and amounted to SEK 16.6 m (12.6).

The financial net has improved due to a positive translation difference, SEK 1.0 m (-1.7) and exchange gains due to the weakened Swedish Krona. Profit before tax was SEK 17.4 m (8.5).

The period's net investments in fixed assets amounted to SEK 16.6 m (20.9).

## Successful working methods

The good sales development during the period is mainly a result of the new structure in the sales companies. The companies that have progressed the furthest in the development of working with concepts and key account management, also contributed the most to the increase of sales during the period. The development of the organisation is continuing on all the markets.

### Key figures for the Group <sup>1)</sup>

SEK (000s)	<b>4 months Jan - April 2001</b>	4 months Jan - April 2000	4 months Jan - April 1999	<b>12 months May 2000 - Apr 2001</b>	12 months May 1999 - Apr 2000	12 months May 1998 - Apr 1999	Full year 2000
Net sales	<b>327 695</b>	264 524	239 450	<b>937 092</b>	793 525	682 801	873 921
Operating profit	<b>16 636</b>	12 566	16 312	<b>51 801</b>	51 655	60 711	47 731
Profit before tax	<b>17 394</b>	8 521	12 175	<b>52 968</b>	43 471	59 906	44 095
Profit margin, %	<b>5.3</b>	3.2	5.1	<b>5.7</b>	5.5	8.8	5.0
Equity/assets ratio, %	<b>45.6</b>	48.2	51.0	<b>45.6</b>	48.2	51.0	47.6
Investments, SEK m	<b>16.6</b>	20.9	27.3	<b>53.8</b>	61.5	68.0	58.1
Return on capital, %	-	-	-	<b>12.5</b>	11.9	18.0	11.0
Return on shareholders' equity, %	-	-	-	<b>13.9</b>	14.2	19.9	11.6
Shareholders' equity per share, SEK	-	-	-	<b>31.05</b>	28.33	25.76	31.07
Earnings per share after standard tax, SEK	-	-	-	<b>4.96</b>	4.09	5.63	4.13
Earnings per share after full tax, SEK	-	-	-	<b>4.13</b>	3.85	4.77	3.48

1) For definitions, see the Annual report

Stockholm 16.05.2001



**Anders Remius**  
Managing Director

### Reporting dates:

Monthly report	5 months 2001	15.06.2001
Interim report	6 months 2001	16.07.2001
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