

Atea shows positive result despite weak market

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On a continuously very weak target market, Atea, the leading supplier of IT-products and connected services in the Nordic region, shows a result slightly below expectations for the third quarter 2002. The turnover was 1132 MSEK. The operating profit (EBITA) was 6 MSEK and earnings after net financial items was 0.4 MSEK. Atea's target group is the largest companies and organizations in each Nordic country. They have, as a consequence of the decline in the economy, generally continued to take a wait-and-see approach towards larger IT-investments.

Accumulated up to and including the third quarter 2002, Ateas turnover is 4611 MSEK, the operating profit (EBITA) is 68 MSEK and earnings after net financial items is 40 MSEK..

- This summer it looked like the worst decline in the economy had passed and that there would be a turn on our market during the third quarter. Unfortunately that did not happen, the market has continued to develop in a negative direction. The third quarter is always the weakest, but this quarter has been tougher than usual, says Thomas Keifer, CEO, Atea Group.

Business area Home-PC sales to large companies and organisations, where Atea is the largest supplier in the Nordic area, has continued to develop strongly in Sweden during the third quarter.

Atea also has a strong position and is growing within advisement and sales in the market segment Licence Management.

- We see a large interest in our way of adding value for our customers with Atea Value Chain. Among other things we have had a 40 % growth in our business area Recycling, i.e. handling and recycling of IT-products in a way that is secure, financially effective and caring for the environment, says Thomas Keifer.

About Atea

Atea is the leading Nordic company in sales, distribution and integration of IT-products. Atea's business concept is to simplify and rationalise our customers' management of IT-products throughout the life cycle. Atea group (Atea Holding AB) was legally founded 1 October 2001. Atea has 700 employees in the Nordic region. Atea is owned by WM-data, the international venture capital company 3i and the management in Atea. CEO is Thomas Keifer. Ateas turnover 2001 was 6013 MSEK.

See also www.atea.com

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