

Interim Report January – June 2005

- Operating revenues for the period rose 6.5% to SEK 1,140.1 m (1,070.3) m
- EBIT amounted to SEK 81.8 m (98.7)
- The EBIT margin was 7.2% (9.2)
- Net profit amounted to SEK 57.1 m (68.1)
- Earnings per share after full dilution and the share split amounted to SEK 1.71 (2.22)
- Actions taken in Denmark are gradually impacting on earnings
 - In terms of earnings, the second quarter was the best quarter since the acquisition in 2002
 - Operating profit of SEK 3.3 m reported for the second quarter

Summary of the Group's earnings trend

	April-June		Jan-June			12 mth.	FY
	2005	2004	2005	2004	2004 SR	July-June	2004
Operating revenues, SEK m	633.6	553.9	1 140.1	1 070.3	1 070.3	2 218.8	2 149.0
Operating profit, SEK m	59.1	65.8	81.8	98.7	88.1	151.4	168.3
Profit after financial items, SEK m	57.8	63.2	78.8	94.4	83.7	146.1	161.7
Net profit, SEK m	41.8	45.4	57.1	68.1	53.1	95.2	106.2
Operating margin, %	9.3	11.9	7.2	9.2	8.2	6.8	7.8
Earnings per share after full dilution, SEK *)	1.25	1.37	1.71	2.22	1.73	2.86	3.44

*) Historical data have been recalculated to facilitate comparability following a 2 for 1 split on 7 June 2005.

This Interim Report has been prepared pursuant to IFRS (International Financial Reporting Standards). The transitional rules were presented in a separate press release on 14 March 2005. In this report, half-year results for 2004 are also reported in accordance with generally acceptable accounting practices in Sweden (SGAAP). The disclosures in Interim Reports for 2002 and 2003 have not been re-calculated pursuant to IFRS.

Mekonomen

Mekonomen is Scandinavia's leading car spare parts chain, offering service centres and motorists a broad selection of spare parts and car accessories. Its competitive edge lies in a network of wholly owned and co-operating stores offering broad geographical coverage, efficient logistics and high service levels.

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CEO's statement

Following a sluggish start to the year, sales accelerated again as of the Easter holidays. During the second quarter, we increased our sales by a full 14.4 per cent. Adjusted for acquisitions and exchange-rate effects, sales growth exceeded 9 per cent. Since the total market is stagnating, the increase means that we are continuing to capture shares of the Scandinavian market for car spare parts.

The Group's EBIT margin was 9.3 per cent during the second quarter. Earnings were charged with marketing costs for the launch of tyres, which was one of the reasons why total marketing costs for the second quarter of the year were SEK 13 m higher than in the year-earlier period. The launch of tyres is a key step in Mekonomen's expansion and the trend to date has been highly satisfactory. During the quarter, we signed an agreement with Goodyear, as a result of which Mekonomen can offer a comprehensive range of summer and winter tyres.

Another positive development is that the actions taken in Denmark are now gradually gaining an impact. The operating result was reversed during the second quarter, when EBIT of SEK 3.3 million was reported. Accordingly, a profit was reported for the whole of the first six months. The Group's EBIT margin will increase in pace with the improvement in the Danish operations, while the downsizing of the workforce by 50 employees has yet to become visible in the earnings trend.

Most of the resource-intensive work of transforming Mekonomen in Denmark into a dedicated retail chain of the same type as that operated with favourable profitability in Sweden and Norway is now behind us. Although a fair amount of work remains to be done in Denmark, the general impression is that we can proceed to expanding our undoubtedly strong concept.

The Group's performance in the second quarter Operations

The major event for Mekonomen during the quarter was the successful launch of tyres. Logistics functioned excellently and forceful marketing was conducted. Mekonomen signed a contract with Goodyear, under which sales of winter tyres under the premium brand Goodyear will also be conducted, in addition to sales of Fulda, thus reinforcing our tyre campaign.

The newly developed service centre concept, which was launched in Sweden prior to the summer, is proceeding as planned and expected to generate steadily increased sales to Swedish service centres.

A new price and discount system was launched in the Swedish market in order to provide incentives for increased purchases from individual service centres.

In Norway, the Mekonomen Service centre concept continued to generate successful results and the number of affiliated service centres increased from 274 at the end of 2004 to nearly 300 on 30 June. Mekonomen now also has a presence in Norway's second largest city, Bergen, with a co-operating store.

The delivery rate to Danish stores is now in line with or better than the situation before the central warehouse in Strängnäs took over deliveries and sales are increasing. Second-quarter sales in Denmark were the highest during any individual quarter since the operations were acquired in 2002. Mekonomen's electronic spare parts catalogue, Mekotech Sys, has now been installed in five Danish stores, as an initial part of the launch in Denmark.

The number of affiliated Mekonomen Service Centres continued to increase and amounted to 919 (843) on 30 June.

Sales

Operating revenues rose by 14.4 per cent to SEK 633.6 m (553.9). Acquired sales amounted to SEK 19.1 m, corresponding to 3.4 percentage points of total sales.

Other revenues include exchange rate gains of SEK 9.3 m (0.2), corresponding to 1.7 percentage points of the growth reported, and capital gains of SEK 0.1 m (5.9) on sales of divested fixed assets. Organic sales growth in the period, excluding exchange-rate gains, was slightly more than 9 percentage points.

EBIT

EBIT amounted to SEK 59.1 m (65.8), and the EBIT margin was 9.3 per cent (11.9). Factors affecting earnings, compared with the year-earlier period, were increased marketing costs by SEK 13 m, due mainly to the launch of tyres, and exchange-rate gains of SEK 9.3 m. The second quarter of 2004 included capital gains and exchange-rate gains in a combined amount of approximately SEK 6 m.

Profit after financial items

Profit after financial items amounted to SEK 57.8 m (63.1). The financial net for the period amounted to an expense of SEK 1.3 m (expense: 2.6). Profit after financial items included total currency effects of SEK 10.7 m (- 1.0).

Performance by geographical market in the second quarter

Earnings trend, Sweden							
	April-June		Jan-June			12 mth.	FY
	2005	2004	2005	2004	2004 SR	July-June	2004
Operating revenues, SEK m	455.6	337.5	807.2	633.9	633.9	1 516.2	1 342.9
Operating profit, SEK m	56.0	53.7	94.8	94.4	94.4	200.1	199.7
EBIT, SEK m	47.5	46.8	77.8	80.6	76.0	162.2	165.0
Operative margin, %	12.3	15.9	11.8	14.9	14.9	13.2	14.9
Number of stores/ of which wholly owned	-	-	113/86	114/84	-	-	112/84
No. of Mekonomen Service Centres	-	-	536	544	-	-	549

The trend in Sweden remained favourable during the second quarter, with sales rising by 35.0 per cent to SEK 455.6 m (337.5). As in the first quarter, the increase was mainly attributable to the fact that the central warehouse in Strängnäs assumed responsibility for deliveries to the Danish network of stores. In the Swedish stores, second-quarter sales rose by slightly more than 10 per cent compared with the year-earlier period. Operating profit during the second quarter rose by 4.3 per cent to SEK 56.0 m (53.7) and the operating margin amounted to 12.3 per cent (15.9). The lower operating margin was mainly attributable to the increased marketing costs resulting from the tyre launch.

The number of stores was 113 (114), including 86 (84) wholly owned stores. The number of Mekonomen Service Centres on 30 June was 536 (544). In connection with efforts to develop the concept and to ensure that the Service Centres observe the agreement, there are cases of service centres that decide to leave Mekonomen Service Centres.

Earnings trend, Norway							
	April-June		Jan-June			12 mth.	FY
	2005	2004	2005	2004	2004 SR	2004	2005
Operating revenues, SEK m	128.4	91.2	231.3	173.7	173.7	422.2	364.6
Operating profit, SEK m	13.9	15.8	21.7	23.9	23.9	42.6	44.8
EBIT, SEK m	12.3	14.6	18.6	21.5	20.1	37.8	40.7
Operative margin, %	10.8	17.3	9.4	13.8	13.8	10.1	12.3
Number of stores/ of which wholly owned	-	-	39/21	35/18	-	-	37/20
No. of Mekonomen Service Centres	-	-	297	239	-	-	274

Sales grew by 40.8 per cent to SEK 128.4 m (91.2). In terms of Norwegian krone, sales grew by 33 per cent.

Operating profit amounted to SEK 13.9 m (15.8) and the EBIT margin was 10.8 per cent (17.3). The main reasons for the decrease in the operative margin were costs for a more intensive focus on service centres and the launch of tyres. Comparatively speaking, results for the second quarter of 2004 were among the strongest in the history of the Norwegian operations. In April, Mekonomen entered into a co-operative agreement with a store in Bergen.

The number of stores in Norway was 39 (35), including 21 (18) wholly owned stores. The number of Mekonomen Service Centres on 30 June had risen to 297 (239).

Earnings trend, Denmark							
	April-June		Jan-June			12 mth.	FY
	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
Operating revenues, SEK m	180.3	170.9	336.1	348.4	348.4	657.6	669.9
Operating profit/loss, SEK m	5.0	2.3	4.7	4.2	4.2	7.4	6.9
EBIT, SEK m	3.3	1.1	0.4	- 5.3	- 10.0	- 29.0	- 34.7
Operative margin,	2.8	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.0
Number of stores/ of which wholly owned	-	-	40/40	44/44	-	-	43/43
No. of Mekonomen Autoteknik	-	-	86	60	-	-	63

Sales in Denmark rose by 5.5 per cent SEK 180.3 m (170.9). In local currency, this corresponds to an increase by nearly 4 per cent. Second-quarter sales in Denmark were the highest during any individual quarter since Mekonomen acquired the operations in 2002. Operating profit was more than doubled during the quarter to SEK 5.0 m (2.3) and the operating margin was 2.8 per cent (1.3).

As a result of the increased sales and the actions taken in Denmark, operating results have been transformed from a loss to a profit. The effects of the downsizing of the workforce by about 50 employees will become visible in earnings for the second half of the year.

Efforts to decentralise responsibility for profits to the stores continue with undiminished momentum. On 30 June, three unprofitable stores were closed. In practice, these three stores had functioned as satellite stores for large Mekonomen stores located nearby. Mekonomen does not expect the closures to have any significantly negative impact on sales in Denmark and they will not give rise to any significant costs.

The MekoTech system was installed in five Danish stores during the second quarter, as an initial step in also introducing Mekonomen's electronic catalogue in Denmark.

The number of stores in Denmark was 40 (44), all of which were wholly owned. The number of Mekonomen Service Centres on 30 June had risen to 86 (60).

The Group's performance during the entire period Operations

Following an extremely sluggish start to the year, both sales and earnings developed well. Several important actions were taken during the first half of the year. In Sweden, Mekonomen launched a new service centre concept and introduced a new price and discount system. Mekonomen launched sales of tyres based on its own logistics and the service level provided by Strängnäs to Danish stores improved significantly. The trend for the Danish operations confirms that the actions taken have gradually generated results.

Sales

Operating revenues rose by 6.5 per cent to SEK 1,140.1 (1,070.3) m. Acquired units accounted for 3.4 percentage points, or SEK 31.1 m of the increase. Other revenues include exchange rate gains of SEK 10.7 m (2.6) and capital gains of SEK 0.1 m (5.9) on sales of divested fixed assets. Organic sales growth in the period was nearly 4 percentage points.

EBIT

After a weak first quarter, EBIT amounted to SEK 81.8 (98.7) m and the EBIT margin was 7.2 per cent (9.2).

Profit after financial items

Profit after financial items amounted to SEK 78.8 (94.4) m. The financial net for the period amounted to an expense of SEK 3.0 m (expense: 4.3). Profit after financial items included total currency effects of SEK 12.2 m (1.7).

Acquisitions, start-ups and closures

City	Country	Month	Holding	Object	Sales (most recent financial year)
Sarpsborg (Amundsen AS)	Norway	May	100%	Acquisition, co-operative store	NOK 25 m
Torslanda	Sweden	May	100%	New store	
Hässleholm (Hässleholms Bildelar AB)	Sweden	June	75%	Acquisition, co-operative store	SEK 5.5 m
Struer	Denmark	June	-	Store closure, customers transferred to another store	
Hjörning	Denmark	June	-	Store closure, customers transferred to another store	
Vesterbro, Copenhagen	Denmark	June	-	Store closure, customers transferred to another store	

Mekonomen acquired two co-operative stores during the period, one in Norway and the other in Sweden. In May, a store was opened in Torslanda, a very expansive area of Hisingen, Gothenburg.

In Denmark, three stores were closed during the second quarter. Mekonomen does not expect these closures to have a significant impact on sales or earnings in Denmark.

The total number of stores in the chain at the end of the period was 192 (193), 77 per cent (77) of which were wholly owned.

Investments

Net investments in tangible fixed assets amounted to SEK 34.0 m (55.2) in the first six months of the year, of which SEK 5.6 m (13.9) related to the completion of the extension of the central warehouse at Strängnäs. Investments in new IT systems amounted to SEK 1.4 m (3.7) during the period. Corporate acquisitions totalled SEK 12.4 m (50.6).

Financial position

At the end of the period, liquid funds and short-term investments amounted to SEK 55.0 m compared with SEK 91.0 m at year-end 2004. The equity/assets ratio was 54.0 per cent, compared with 58.0 per cent at year-end 2004.

Cash Flow Statement

Cash flow was a negative SEK 35.8 m (- 9.0) during the first half of the year. Inventory values in the central warehouse at Strängnäs rose by SEK 35.4 m during the same period.

Employees, the period					
	Average number of employees		Number at period end		Percentage of women, %
	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
Mekonomen AB	23	15	26	15	23.1
Sweden	624	597	642	603	15.1
Norway	164	134	180	143	12.2
Denmark	405	456	402	470	11.5
Total	1 216	1 202	1 250	1 231	13.5

Parent company

The parent company, which mainly sells IT and other administrative services to Group companies, generated sales of SEK 39.7 m (33.0) during the period. Profit after financial items amounted to SEK 20.7 m (15.5), excluding dividends from subsidiaries.

Events after the end of the period

The store in Asnaes, Denmark, was closed on 31 July and the customers were transferred to a nearby store.

Accounting principles

This report has been prepared in accordance with IFRS (International Financial Reporting Standards). The report prepared by Mekonomen pursuant to these new principles required changes to the presentation of income statements and balance sheets. The accounting principles are not entirely consistent with those applied in the most recent Annual Report.

IFRS 5 Non-current Assets Held for Sale and Discontinued Operations will be applied as of 1 January 2005, and is exempt from the requirement to re-calculate a comparative year. Mekonomen has utilised this exemption.

Otherwise, the same accounting principles and calculation methods as in the most recent Annual Report have been applied.

The transitional rules were published in a separate press release on 14 March 2005. However, the disclosures in the Interim Reports for 2002 and 2003 have not been re-calculated pursuant to IFRS.

The effect of the adoption of IFRS/IAS may change in 2005, because these standards are still subject to review.

Forthcoming financial reporting dates

- The Interim Report for January – September 2005 will be published on 18 November 2005
- The Financial Statement for the financial year 2005 will be published in February 2006

Stockholm, Sweden, 17 August 2005
Mekonomen AB (publ)

Owe Andersson
CEO and President

This report has not been reviewed by the company's auditors.

Accumulated 30 June 2005	Sweden		Norway		Denmark		Eliminations & corporate items		GROUP	
(amounts in SEK M)	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004
<i>REVENUES</i>										
External net sales	554.7	531.8	230.3	173.4	335.3	347.3	6.1	6.5	1 126.4	1 059.0
Internal revenues	240.5	97.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	- 240.6	-97.2	0.0	0.0
Other revenues	11.9	4.9	1.0	0.3	0.7	1.1	0.1	4.9	13.7	11.2
Total revenues	807.1	633.9	231.3	173.7	336.1	348.4	- 234.4	- 85.8	1 140.1	1 070.3
<i>EARNINGS</i>										
Operating profit/loss	94.8	94.4	21.7	23.9	4.7	4.2	- 38.5	- 16.7	82.7	105.8
Non-operating items*	<u>- 17.0</u>	<u>-13.8</u>	<u>- 3.1</u>	<u>- 2.4</u>	<u>- 4.3</u>	<u>- 9.5</u>	<u>23.5</u>	<u>18.9</u>	<u>- 0.9</u>	<u>- 7.1</u>
EBIT	77.8	80.6	18.6	21.5	0.4	- 5.3	- 15.0	2.0	81.8	98.7
OTHER INFORMATION										
Assets	938.2	686.2	190.0	155.1	493.1	511.3	-220.2	- 54.1	1 401.1	1 298.5
Unclassified assets							269.8	223.2	269.8	223.2
Total assets	938.2	686.2	190.0	155.1	493.1	511.3	49.6	169.1	1 670.9	1 521.7
Liabilities	456.2	356.0	220.4	172.4	393.6	381.9	- 300.9	- 214.2	769.3	696.1
Unclassified liabilities							48.0	36.2	48.0	36.2
Total liabilities	456.2	356.0	220.4	172.4	393.6	381.9	- 252.9	- 178.0	817.3	732.3
Investments (tangible assets)	22.8	8.8	4.1	2.1	5.2	29.0	1.9	19.5	34.0	55.2
Investments (IT systems)							1.4	3.7	1.4	3.7
Depreciation (tangible assets)	12.3	12.2	2.1	1.4	7.7	5.5	3.6	1.7	25.7	20.8
Average number of employees during the period	624	597	164	134	405	456	23	15	1 216	1 202
Average number of wholly owned stores	86	84	21	18	40	44			147	146
The number of co-operating stores	27	30	18	17	0	0			45	47
KEY FIGURES										
Margin operating profit	11.8%	14.9%	9.4%	13.8%	1.4%	1.2%			7.2 %	9.9%
EBIT margin	9.6%	12.7%	8.0%	12.3%	0.1%	- 1.5%			7.2%	8.2%
Sales growth	27.3 %	11.0%	33.2%	33.8%	- 3.5%	23.0%			6.5%	17.5%
Sales per employee (calculated, where appropriate, as an annual balance)	2.587	2.124	2.821	2.593	1.660	1.528			1.875	1.781
Operating profit/employee (calculated, where appropriate, as an annual balance)	0.304	0.316	0.265	0.355	0.023	0.018			0.136	0.176

* Non-operating items refers to central expenses, goodwill amortisation and other extraordinary revenues and expenses.

Consolidated income statement (SEK M)	April-June		Jan-June			12 mth.	FY
	2005	2004	2005	2004	2004 SR	July-June	2004
Operating revenues							
Net sales	622.4	546.5	1 126.4	1 059.1	1 059.1	2 200.0	2 132.7
Other revenues	11.2	7.4	13.7	11.2	11.2	18.8	16.3
Total operating revenues	633.6	553.9	1 140.1	1 070.3	1 070.3	2 218.8	2 149.0
Operating expenses							
Goods for resale	- 340.4	- 284.8	- 615.1	- 571.3	- 571.3	- 1 179.0	- 1 135.2
Other external costs	- 91.5	- 70.6	- 166.0	- 136.4	- 136.4	- 310.2	-280.6
Personnel costs	- 128.6	- 122.0	- 251.5	- 243.1	- 243.1	- 484.0	- 475.6
Depreciation of tangible assets	- 14.0	- 10.7	-25.7	- 20.8	- 20.8	- 49.9	- 45.0
Write-down of goodwill					- 10.6	- 44.2	-44.2
EBIT	59.1	65.8	81.8	98.7	88.1	151.4	168.3
Net financial income/expense	- 1.3	- 2.6	-3.0	- 4.3	- 4.3	- 5.4	- 6.7
Profit after financial items	57.8	63.1	78.8	94.4	83.8	146.0	161.7
Tax	-16.0	- 17.7	- 21.7	- 26.3	- 25.5	- 50.9	-55.5
Minority share of profit	-	-	-	-	- 5.2	-	-
Net profit	41.8	45.4	57.1	68.1	53.1	95.2	106.2

Data per share**	April-June		Jan-June		12 th.	FY
	2005	2004	2005	2004	July-June	2004
Number of shares, closing balance	30 868 822	30 596 058	30 868 822	30 868 822	30 868 822	30 868 822
Average number of shares in the period	30 868 822	30 732 440	30 868 822	30 732 440	30 868 822	30 739 080
Earnings per share, SEK	1,25	1,37	1,71	2,22	2,86	3,44
Shareholders' equity per share, SEK	27,7	26,6	27,0	26,6	27,0	27,7
Earnings per share, SEK	-	1,22	-	1,73	-	2,76
Shareholders' equity per share, SEK	-	25,6	-	25,6	-	26,5

***) Historical data have been recalculated to facilitate comparability following a 2 for 1 split on 7 June 2005.

Quarterly data	2005		2004				2003*	
	Q2	Q1	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1	Q4	Q3
Sales, SEK m	633.6	506.5	539.2	539.5	553.9	516.3	485.9	491.9
EBIT, SEK m	59.1	22.7	0.5	69.1	65.8	32.9	25.7	58.2
Profit after financial items, SEK m	57.8	21.0	0.0	67.3	63.2	31.2	32.3	53.6
Net profit, SEK m	41.8	15.3	- 10.4	48.5	45.4	22.6	20.4	34.8
EBIT margin, %	9.3	4.5	0.0	12.8	11.9	6.4	5.3	11.8
Earnings per share, SEK **)	1.25	0.46	- 0.28	1.43	1.37	0.68	0.67	1.15

*) Year 2003 figures have not been re-calculated pursuant to IFRS.

***) Historical data have been recalculated to facilitate comparability following a 2 for 1 split on 7 June 2005.

Consolidated balance sheet (SEK m)	30 June 2005	30 June 2004	31 Dec 2004	31 Dec 2003*	31 Dec 2002*
Assets					
Intangible fixed assets	174.7	178.8	160.0	128.5	126.6
Tangible fixed assets	506.0	520.3	545.8	476.1	463.8
Financial fixed assets	24.5	14.9	15.1	9.2	5.6
Inventories	549.3	467.7	472.9	475.2	453.1
Properties classed as current assets	66.8	-	-	-	-
Current receivables	294.6	277.9	242.4	239.4	205.2
Liquid assets and short-term investments	55.0	72.9	91.0	81.9	16.0
Total assets	1 670.9	1 532.4	1 527.3	1 410.3	1 270.3
Shareholders' equity and liabilities					
Shareholders' equity	875.2	822.0	853.9	728.9	658.2
Minority share of shareholders' equity	-	-	-	25.5	22.9
Provisions	74.9	83.6	82.7	100.0	105.1
Long-term liabilities	332.5	296.6	266.6	273.3	231.2
Current liabilities	388.3	330.2	324.1	280.5	252.8
Total shareholders' equity and liabilities	1 670.9	1 532.4	1 527.3	1 410.3	1 270.3
Pledged assets and contingent liabilities	666.3	666.3	666.3	659.5	591.4

Change in shareholders' equity (SEK m)	30 June 2005	30 June 2004	31 Dec 2004	31 Dec 2003*	31 Dec 2002*
Amount at beginning of period	853.9	728.9	728.9	658.2	581.5
Minority share, changes	- 5.8	17.4	15.2	-	-
New issue (private placement)	-	22.0	22.0	-	-
Calculation of interest on convertible debenture during the year	-	-	-	- 0.2	- 0.5
Conversion of shares during the year	-	19.1	19.1	4.3	8.6
Translation differences	5.5	1.7	- 2.3	- 2.5	- 0.7
Share dividend	- 35.5	- 35.2	- 35.2	- 29.6	- 21.9
Net profit	57.1	68.1	106.2	98.7	91.2
Total shareholders' equity	875.2	822.0	853.9	728.9	658.2

Cash flow statement (SEK m)	Jan-June		12 months	Full year	
	2005	2004	July-June	2004	2003*
Cash flow from operating activities before changes in working capital	55.5	75.0	182.1	190.1	150.6
Cash flow from changes in working capital	- 44.7	11.3	-43.1	24.8	- 40.9
Cash flow from investing activities	- 56.2	- 88.1	-131.4	- 185.6	- 67.7
Cash flow from financing activities	9.6	- 7.3	-25.3	- 20.2	23.9
Cash flow during the period	- 35.8	- 9.0	- 17.7	9.1	65.9

*) The figures for 2003 have not been recalculated in accordance with IFRS.

Nyckeltal	Jan-juni			12 mån	Helår	
	2005	2004	2004 SR	Juli-juni	2004	2003*
Return on equity, %	6.3	8.4	6.8	10.7	12.8	14.2
Return on capital employed, %	7.2	8.5	8.5	13.1	14.7	17.4
Equity/assets ratio, %	54.0	53.4	53.4	54.0	58.0	53.5
Gross margin, %	46.0	46.6	46.6	46.9	47.2	46.4
EBIT margin, %	7.2	9.2	8.2	6.8	7.8	8.8
Number of stores in Sweden/of which wholly owned	113/86	114/84		113/86	112/84	112/81
Number of stores in Norway/of which wholly owned	39/21	35/18		39/21	37/20	33/16
Number of stores in Denmark/of which wholly owned	40/40	44/44		40/40	43/43	44/44
Average number of employees during the period	1 216	1 202		1 241	1 219	1 135

*) The figures for 2003 have not been recalculated in accordance with IFRS.

Definitions of key ratios

Return on equity. Net profit for the period, excluding minority shares, as a percentage of average shareholders' equity.

Capital employed. Total assets less non-interest bearing liabilities and provisions including deferred tax.

Return on capital employed. Profit after financial items plus interest expenses as a percentage of average capital employed.

Equity-assets ratio. Shareholders' equity including minority shares as a percentage of total assets.

Gross margin. Gross profit, i.e. operating revenues less costs of goods for resale as a percentage of operating revenues.

EBIT margin. EBIT after depreciation and amortisation as a percentage of operating revenues.

Operating margin. EBIT less the effects of goodwill amortisation, intra-group expenses and extraordinary income and expenses as a percentage of total revenues. This quantity is applied by segment.

Shareholders' equity per share. Shareholders' equity, excluding minority shares, adjusted for convertible subordinated debenture, in relation to the number of shares at the end of the period.¹

Earnings per share (EPS) Net profit for the period, excluding minority shares, in relation to the average number of shares. Value stated after full dilution, adjusted for convertible interest.