

SVENSKA CELLULOSA AKTIEBOLAGET SCA (publ)

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Changed capital gains taxation in Germany on sale of fine paper operations

In 2000, SCA sold its 50-percent holding in the fine paper company MoDo Paper AB. The transaction had been preceded by a merger of SCA's then Swedish and German fine paper operations.

The German tax authorities have re-examined that valuation on which the transaction was based. As a consequence of the tax authorities' decision, SCA must pay capital gains tax of EUR 48 M including interest. EUR 8 M of this amount can be recovered in future years. Accordingly, the decision, which is final, means that SCA is paying a capital gains tax of 11% on the transaction.

The tax expenses now being incurred, EUR 40 M, are being offset by the tax reserve allocated earlier for the divestment transaction.

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