## Interim report 1 January - 31 March 2007

## 1 JANUARY - 31 MARCH 2007 (compared with the same period previous year)

- Net sales amounted to SEK 25,615m $(25,400)$.
- Profit before tax amounted to SEK $1,863 m(1,569)$.
- Net profit for the period amounted to SEK $1,434 \mathrm{~m}(1,169)$.
- Earnings per share amounted to SEK 6.11 (4.96), an improvement of $23 \%$.
- Several strategically important acquisitions and divestitures carried out in first quarter.

EARNINGS TREND

| SEKm | $\mathbf{0 7 0 3}$ | 0603 | $\%$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7 : 1}$ | $2006: 4$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Net sales | $\mathbf{2 5 , 6 1 5}$ | 25,400 | 1 | $\mathbf{2 5 , 6 1 5}$ | 25,650 |
| Operating surplus | $\mathbf{3 , 7 8 3}$ | 3,521 | 7 | $\mathbf{3 , 7 8 3}$ | 3,818 |
| Operating profit | $\mathbf{2 , 2 8 2}$ | 1,955 | $\mathbf{1 7}$ | $\mathbf{- 1}$ |  |
| Financial items | -419 | -386 |  | -419 | $\mathbf{2 , 2 6 1}$ |
| Profit before tax | $\mathbf{1 , 8 6 3}$ | 1,569 | 19 | $\mathbf{1 , 8 6 3}$ | $\mathbf{1 , 8 0 3}$ |
| Tax | -429 | -400 |  | $-\mathbf{4 2 9}$ | -352 |
| Net profit for the period | $\mathbf{1 , 4 3 4}$ | 1,169 | 23 | $\mathbf{1 , 4 3 4}$ | 1,451 |
| Earnings per share, SEK | 6.11 | 4.96 | $\mathbf{2 3}$ | $\mathbf{- 1}$ |  |

## CEO'S MESSAGE

"Compared with the previous year, profit for the period improved by 23\%. SCA also succeeded in improving its operating profit during the first quarter compared with the strong fourth quarter of 2006. The Packaging business area made a positive contribution, while weaker volumes within other business areas reduced the earnings improvement together with higher raw material costs for wood, pulp and recycled fibre. Market trends remain positive for all business areas. The rapid increases in raw material costs may have a negative earnings impact in the short term, although opportunities for continued price increases are good, which will gradually lead to improved margins.

SCA carried out a number of important acquisitions and divestitures during the first quarter, in line with our strategy. The sale of the North American packaging operations, acquisitions within the European tissue operations as well as in our growth regions, strengthen opportunities for long-term growth."

SHARE OF NET SALES (Q1)


SHARE OF OPERATING PROFIT (Q1)


## CONSOLIDATED EARNINGS TREND

| SEKm | 0703 | 0603 | \% | 2007:1 | 2006:4 | \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net sales | 25,615 | 25,400 | 1 | 25,615 | 25,650 | 0 |
| Operating expenses | -21,832 | -21,879 |  | -21,832 | -21,832 |  |
| Operating surplus | 3,783 | 3,521 | 7 | 3,783 | 3,818 | -1 |
| Depreciation and write-downs | -1,509 | -1,571 |  | -1,509 | -1,561 |  |
| Share of profits of associated companies | 8 | 5 |  | 8 | 4 |  |
| Operating profit | 2,282 | 1,955 | 17 | 2,282 | 2,261 | 1 |
| Financial items | -419 | -386 |  | -419 | -458 |  |
| Profit before tax | 1,863 | 1,569 | 19 | 1,863 | 1,803 | 3 |
| Tax | -429 | -400 |  | -429 | -352 |  |
| Net profit for the period | 1,434 | 1,169 | 23 | 1,434 | 1,451 | -1 |
| Earnings per share, SEK - equity holders of the Parent Company - after dilution effects | 6.11 | 4.96 | 23 | 6.11 | 6.16 | -1 |
| Margins (\%) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Operating surplus margin | 14.8 | 13.9 |  | 14.8 | 14.9 |  |
| Operating margin | 8.9 | 7.7 |  | 8.9 | 8.8 |  |

OPERATING PROFIT PER BUSINESS AREA

| SEKm | $\mathbf{0 7 0 3}$ | 0603 | $\%$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7 : 1}$ | $2006: 4$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Personal Care | 679 | 699 | -3 | 679 | 726 |
| Tissue | 339 | 300 | 13 | -6 |  |
| Packaging | 689 | 438 | 57 | 339 | 358 |
| Forest Products | 663 | 577 | -5 |  |  |
| Other | -88 | -59 |  | 689 | 598 |
| Total | $\mathbf{2 , 2 8 2}$ | $\mathbf{1 , 9 5 5}$ | $\mathbf{1 7}$ | $\mathbf{1 5}$ |  |

OPERATING CASH FLOW PER BUSINESS AREA

| SEKm | $\mathbf{0 7 0 3}$ | 0603 | $\%$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7 : 1}$ | $2006: 4$ | $\%$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: |
| Personal Care | 641 | 686 | -7 | 641 | 782 | -18 |
| Tissue | 211 | -62 | - | 211 | 445 | -53 |
| Packaging | -260 | -229 | -14 | -260 | 189 | - |
| Forest Products | 691 | 480 | 44 | 691 | 765 | -10 |
| Other | -221 | -282 |  | -221 | -261 |  |
| Total | $\mathbf{1 , 0 6 2}$ | 593 | 79 | $\mathbf{1 , 0 6 2}$ | 1,920 | -45 |

## KEY RATIOS

|  | $\mathbf{0 7 0 3}$ | 0603 | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7 : 1}$ | $2006: 4$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Debt/equity ratio | 0.57 | 0.65 | 0.57 | 0.62 |
| Debt payment capacity, \% | 34 | 29 | 34 | 29 |
| Return on capital employed, \% | 9 | 9 | 10 | 9 |
| Return on equity, \% | 10 | 8 | 10 | 10 |



Development compared with the same period in the previous year:

Packaging
Net sales: +2\%
Operating profit: +57\%

Forest Products
Net sales: $+2 \%$
Operating profit: $+15 \%$

Tissue
Net sales: -3\%
Operating profit: +13\%

Personal Care
Net sales: 0\%
Operating profit: -3\%

## GROUP

Net sales improved by $1 \%$ compared with the same period in the previous year and amounted to SEK $25,615 \mathrm{~m}(25,400)$. Higher prices increased net sales by SEK 960 m , primarily for corrugated board but higher prices were also noted for tissue and solidwood products. Exchange rate fluctuations had a negative impact on net sales of $3 \%$ or SEK 750 m . Profit before tax improved by $19 \%$ and amounted to SEK $1,863 \mathrm{~m}$ $(1,569)$.

Compared with the fourth quarter of 2006, net sales were at the same level. Higher prices, primarily within the corrugated board and sawmill operations were offset by lower volumes within Personal Care and Tissue. Profit before tax improved by 3\% and amounted to SEK $1,863 m(1,803)$.

## CASH FLOW AND FINANCING

The operating cash surplus amounted to SEK $3,537 \mathrm{~m}$ compared with SEK $3,381 \mathrm{~m}$ in the same period in the previous year. Seasonally high tied-up working capital had a negative effect on operating cash flow of SEK $1,510 \mathrm{~m}(1,561)$. Mainly within Packaging, working capital increased, an effect of price increases and therefore higher sales as well as expenditure for high investments during the fourth quarter. Current capital expenditures were slightly lower than in the same period last year and amounted to approximately $4 \%$ of net sales. Expenditures for the efficiency programmes are proceeding according to plan. The operating cash flow amounted to SEK 1,062m (593).

Financial items increased by SEK 33m and amounted to SEK -419m. A lower average net debt and higher dividends received did not compensate for higher interest rates. Tax payments were slightly higher than in the same period last year and amounted to SEK -375m (-333). Cash flow from operating activities amounted to SEK 267m (-125).

Strategic investments and acquisitions amounted to SEK 604m (226), of which approximately half related to the purchase price for the minority holding in the Chinese tissue company Vinda. During the period payment of SEK 2,802m was received for the sold packaging operations in North America. Net cash flow was SEK 2,511m (-292).

Net debt at the end of the period was SEK $33,609 \mathrm{~m}$, a decrease of SEK $2,790 \mathrm{~m}$ since the start of the year. A positive net cash flow of SEK $2,511 \mathrm{~m}$ was offset by negative currency effects from a weakening of the Swedish krona of SEK 633m.
Remeasurements according to IAS 19 for pensions and IAS 39 for financial instruments, had a combined positive effect of SEK 912 m , most of which was attributable to pensions. This year's dividend, which was paid at the beginning of April, had no effect on net debt during the first quarter.

## SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

Consolidated shareholders' equity increased by SEK 427m during the period to SEK $59,390 \mathrm{~m}$. Net profit for the period and the effects of remeasurements according to IAS 19 for pensions and IAS 39 for financial instruments, increased equity by SEK 1,434m and SEK 850 m respectively. Currency effects had a positive impact of SEK 950 m .

Following the Annual General Meeting decision on 29 March, ahead of payment on 10 April, dividend for the year reduced equity by SEK $2,807 \mathrm{~m}$. This amount is included in the balance sheet as an interest-free debt to shareholders.

## PERSONNEL

During the quarter the average number of employees was almost 51,300, of whom approximately 2,500 people in the North American packaging operations, compared with approximately 51,000 during the fourth quarter of 2006 and 51,500 during the first quarter of 2006.

The increase in the number of employees is due to expansion, primarily in China and Latin America, but the number of employees has also risen in Poland, Russia and Slovakia. The effects of the enhancement programmes have so far been a reduction in the number of employees of 3,000 people.

## EFFICIENCY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME

Additional savings from the ongoing efficiency programme affected earnings by SEK 26 m in the first quarter. Total savings in the first quarter amounted to approximately SEK 300m, which corresponds to an annual rate of SEK 1,200m. As previously announced, annual savings of SEK $1,550 \mathrm{~m}$ will be achieved with full impact in 2008.

## ACQUISITIONS AND DIVESTITURES

Payment for the North American packaging operations, USD 400 m corresponding to the book value of the operations, was received in March and the operations were deconsolidated on 7 March. Earnings per share will be affected by SEK -0.2 on an annual basis while the net debt will decrease by approximately SEK 2.8 bn . The intention is to concentrate the packaging operations to Europe and Asia, markets with potential for good growth. In line with this strategy, SCA acquired the remaining 7.5\% of outstanding shares in a previously partly owned packaging company in China.

Operating profit in the American packaging operations amounted to SEK 51 m during the period 1 January- 7 March 2007. Since the assets in the American operations have been reported as fixed assets held for sale since the start of the year, depreciation was not charged against earnings.

In March, SCA concluded an agreement for acquisition of Procter \& Gamble's European tissue operations with a number of well-known and strong brands. This acquisition marks an important step towards improving profitability within SCA's European consumer tissue operations. The purchase price amounts to EUR 512 m and will be paid in cash. Annual net sales amount to almost EUR 500m. The EBITDA margin is on a par with SCA's total tissue operations. The acquisition is subject to approval from the relevant authorities.

In March, SCA decided to acquire a 20-per cent stake in the Chinese tissue company Vinda. Vinda, which is one of the strongest brands in the Chinese market, has a market share of approximately $4 \%$ and is therefore one of the four largest players within tissue in China. The purchase price corresponds to SEK 330m. The acquisition shows a CVA index of 1.15 . As a result of capacity extensions, the company has grown by more than 30\% per year in the last two years and this strong growth is expected to continue.

In March, SCA also established a jointly owned company with Godrej Consumer Products Ltd for manufacture and sales of baby diapers and feminine care in India, Nepal and Bhutan. The parties have equal holdings in the company which will start with shareholders' equity corresponding to SEK 32 m (200 million rupees). Godrej

Consumer Products Ltd is one of India's fastest growing companies within fast-moving consumer goods with annual sales corresponding to SEK 1.1bn.

## CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

During the first quarter a decision was made to invest in a second tissue machine in Barton, USA. The new machine will strengthen competitiveness, improve the level of service and quality for SCA's customers, as well as allowing further expansion. The plant previously produced approximately 100,000 tonnes. With the new machine, Barton will produce 170,000 tonnes. The investment amounts to approximately SEK 1 bn and production is scheduled to start in summer 2008.

A definite decision was also made to proceed with the investment in a new tissue machine in Sovetsk, south of Moscow, Russia. Capacity amounts to 30,000 tonnes and this investment, amounting to SEK 615m, is being made to ascertain continued expansion in the Russian market where SCA is the leading player.

## ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

This interim report is prepared according to IAS 34 and according to the Swedish Financial Accounting Standards Council's standard RR 31 and, with regard to the Parent Company, RR 32. The accounting principles applied comply with those presented in the 2006 Annual Report.

## PARENT COMPANY

The Group's Parent Company, Svenska Cellulosa Aktiebolaget SCA (publ), owns the forest land and other real property relating to the forestry operations and grants felling rights for standing timber to the subsidiary SCA Skog AB. The Parent Company is otherwise a holding company whose key task is to own and manage shares in a number of business group companies and to perform Group-wide management and administrative functions. Operating income in the period January - March 2007 amounted to SEK 42m (22) and profit before appropriations and tax was SEK -453m (0). The Parent Company made no investments in shares and participations during the quarter. Investments in property and plant totalled SEK 21m (5) during the period. Cash and cash equivalents including Group account at the end of the period amounted to SEK 32m (31).


Share of the Group, operating profit


## Net sales



Operating profit and margin


| Deviations, operating profit (\%) |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| 0703 vs. $\mathbf{0 6 0 3}$ | $\mathbf{- 3}$ |
| Price/mix: | +7 |
| Volume: | +14 |
| Raw material: | -7 |
| Energy: | 0 |
| Currency: | -3 |
| Other: | -14 |


| Deviations, operating profit (\%) |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| 2007:1 vs. 2006:4 | -6 |
| Price/mix: | -4 |
| Volume: | -9 |
| Raw material: | +2 |
| Energy: | 0 |
| Currency: | 0 |
| Other: | +5 |

## PERSONAL CARE

Net sales amounted to SEK $5,331 \mathrm{~m}$ which is the same level as in the corresponding period in 2006. Increased volumes and higher prices improved net sales by $3 \%$ and $2 \%$ respectively.

## MARKET

Demand for incontinence products in the healthcare sector was slightly weaker than in the very strong fourth quarter of 2006. SCA's sales to the European retail trade continued to develop well. At the end of the first quarter, SCA started the launch of "Feel Dry" which represents an upgrade of the entire range of incontinence products and services that are sold to healthcare providers. Initial reception from customers was very positive.

In the Nordic region, SCA's Libero brand retains its strong position in the baby diapers segment. Competition in the feminine care market remains intensive in Europe with a high rate of product upgrades and marketing campaigns. In Latin America, primarily Colombia and Mexico, SCA is strengthening its positions within feminine care and sales showed high growth rates.

## OPERATIONS

January - March (compared with the same period previous year) Net sales amounted to SEK 5,331m compared with SEK 5,348m in the same period in the previous year. Improved volumes, primarily relating to sales of incontinence products to the European retail trade and higher prices were counteracted by negative exchange rate fluctuations.

Operating profit decreased by $3 \%$ and amounted to SEK 679m (699). Improved volumes contributed SEK 95 m and higher prices SEK 52 m , a total improvement in operating profit of $21 \%$. Volume and price improvements were offset by higher production costs as well as higher costs for marketing and organizational build-up in order to take advantage of growth opportunities in new markets. Exchange rate fluctuations had a negative impact on operating profit of $3 \%$.

Operating cash surplus amounted to SEK 934 m (950) and operating cash flow was SEK 641 m (686). Lower expenditure for the ongoing efficiency programmes was offset by a slightly lower operating cash surplus, higher tied-up working capital and slightly higher net current capital expenditures.

January - March (compared with the previous quarter)
In Europe and the US, sales of incontinence products to the healthcare sector decreased. This decline is due to high sales towards the end of the previous year and the fact that customers reduced their stocks in the first quarter following announcements of product launches. Sales of baby diapers and feminine care products were at the same level as in the previous quarter. The good sales trend in Eastern Europe, including Russia, continues.

## BUSINESS AREA PERSONAL CARE

| SEKm | $\mathbf{0 7 0 3}$ | 0603 | $\%$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7}: \mathbf{1}$ | $2006: 4$ | $\%$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Net sales | $\mathbf{5 , 3 3 1}$ | 5,348 | 0 | $\mathbf{5 , 3 3 1}$ | 5,429 | -2 |
| Operating surplus | $\mathbf{9 3 3}$ | 950 | -2 | $\mathbf{9 3 3}$ | 961 | -3 |
| Operating profit | $\mathbf{6 7 9}$ | 699 | -3 | $\mathbf{6 7 9}$ | 726 | -6 |
| Operating surplus margin, \% | $\mathbf{1 7 . 5}$ | 17.8 |  | $\mathbf{1 7 . 5}$ | 17.7 |  |
| Operating margin, \% | $\mathbf{1 2 . 7}$ | 13.1 |  | $\mathbf{1 2 . 7}$ | 13.4 |  |
| Volume growth, \% | $\mathbf{2 . 6}$ | 13.3 |  | $\mathbf{2 . 8}$ | 6.0 |  |

## TISSUE



Net sales


Operating profit and margin


| Deviations, operating profit (\%) |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| 0703 vs. $\mathbf{0 6 0 3}$ | $\mathbf{+ 1 3}$ |
| Price/mix: | +103 |
| Volume: | -6 |
| Raw material: | -79 |
| Energy: | +20 |
| Currency: | -7 |
| Other: | -18 |


| Deviations, operating profit (\%) |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2007:1 vs. 2006:4 | -5 |
| Price/mix: | +33 |
| Volume: | -21 |
| Raw material: | -18 |
| Energy: | +4 |
| Currency: | +2 |
| Other: | -5 | improved by $5 \%$.

## MARKET

## OPERATIONS

 operating profit of $7 \%$.Net sales amounted to SEK 7,725m (7,962), 2\% lower than in the same period in the previous year. Higher prices were counteracted by negative currency effects. In the European operations, prices

Demand for consumer tissue was good in Europe during the first quarter. SCA continues to consistently implement price increase in several key markets, which will gradually have an impact on earnings. Costs for input materials continue to rise, however, particularly for recycled paper and pulp which is also expected to affect the result for the second quarter.

Demand for tissue for use outside the home (Away-From-Home, AFH) was weaker in the first quarter. During this period SCA signed a number of important contracts for complete hygiene solutions under the Tork brand, which is in line with the long-term strategy to increase the proportion of products with a high value content. Price increases were announced both in Europe and in North America but will have a limited impact in the second quarter.

January - March (compared with the same period previous year)
Net sales amounted to SEK 7,725m compared with SEK 7,962m in the same period last year. Implemented price increases were counteracted by slightly lower volumes and negative currency effects. Price increases in the operations in Europe and North American amounted to 5\%.

Operating profit amounted to SEK 339m (300), an increase of 13\% compared with the same period in the previous year. Higher prices in Europe, North America and Latin America, as well as lower energy costs, were offset by higher raw material costs. Exchange rate fluctuations had a negative impact on

Operating cash surplus amounted to SEK 806m (852) and operating cash flow was SEK 211 m (-62). A slightly lower operating cash surplus was offset by lower expenditure for the ongoing efficiency programmes, more favourable working capital development and lower net current capital expenditures.

January - March (compared with the previous quarter)
Sales decreased in the first quarter as a result of slightly lower volumes in Europe and Latin America.

Price increases in Europe made a positive contribution to earnings but were offset by lower volumes and higher raw material costs.

## BUSINESS AREA TISSUE

| SEKm | $\mathbf{0 7 0 3}$ | 0603 | $\%$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7 : 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 6 : 4}$ | $\%$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Net sales | $\mathbf{7 , 7 2 5}$ | 7,962 | -3 | $\mathbf{7 , 7 2 5}$ | 7,844 | -2 |
| Operating surplus | $\mathbf{8 6 9}$ | 850 | 2 | $\mathbf{8 6 9}$ | 913 | -5 |
| Operating profit | $\mathbf{3 3 9}$ | 300 | 13 | $\mathbf{3 3 9}$ | 358 | -5 |
| Operating surplus margin, \% | $\mathbf{1 1 . 2}$ | 10.7 |  | $\mathbf{1 1 . 2}$ | 11.6 |  |
| Operating margin, \% | $\mathbf{4 . 4}$ | 3.8 |  | $\mathbf{4 . 4}$ | 4.6 |  |
| Volume growth, \% | $\mathbf{- 1 . 1}$ | 5.7 |  | $\mathbf{- 1 . 4}$ | 1.5 |  |

## PACKAGING

Net sales amounted to SEK 8,571m, an increase of 2\% compared with the same period in the previous year. Higher corrugated board prices and slightly higher volumes were offset by negative exchange rate fluctuations. The European packaging business increased net sales by $8 \%$.

## MARKET

During the first quarter demand for corrugated board was good in Europe, driven by the strong business climate. Combined with increased raw material costs, primarily for recycled paper, this provides scope for further price increases in the future. In Asia, the corrugated board market developed well, although volumes were somewhat reduced due to the fact that the Chinese New Year occurred during the quarter.

The strong demand for recycled-paper based containerboard (testliner) continued during the first quarter. Price increases of EUR 30 per tonne were accepted during the first quarter and further price increases of EUR 30 per tonne have been announced for May. Demand for fresh-fibre based corrugated board (kraftliner) developed well, although at a somewhat slower rate than for testliner. Prices for recycled paper (OCC) rose sharply in the first months of the year. Unchanged recycled paper (OCC) prices would lead to a significant increase in costs during the second quarter.

## OPERATIONS

January - March (compared with the same period previous year) Net sales amounted to SEK 8,571m compared with SEK 8,389m in the same period in the previous year, an increase of $2 \%$. The increase is largely explained by implemented price increases for corrugated board as well as higher sales of consumer and point-of-sale packaging. The divestment of the North American packaging operations and negative exchange rate fluctuations reduced the increase in sales.

Operating profit improved by $57 \%$ compared with the same period in the preceding year and amounted to SEK 689m (438). Higher prices and higher volumes as well as lower energy costs were offset by higher raw material costs. Exchange rate fluctuations had a negative impact on operating profit of $3 \%$.

Operating cash surplus amounted to SEK 1,036m (824) and operating cash flow was SEK -260m (-229). A higher operating cash flow and lower expenditure for the ongoing efficiency programmes were offset by higher tied-up working capital and higher net current capital expenditures.

## January - March (compared with the previous quarter)

Sales in Europe increased by $5 \%$ due to higher volumes and price increases for corrugated board.

Operating profit improved significantly, primarily as an effect of the price increases mentioned above. Own production of containerboard was higher than in the previous quarter and contributed to the improvement.

## BUSINESS AREA PACKAGING

| SEKm | $\mathbf{0 7 0 3}$ | 0603 | $\%$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7 : 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 6 : 4}$ | $\%$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | :---: | ---: | ---: | :---: |
| Net sales | $\mathbf{8 , 5 7 1}$ | 8,389 | 2 | $\mathbf{8 , 5 7 1}$ | 8,445 | 1 |
| Operating surplus | $\mathbf{1 , 0 6 3}$ | 854 | 24 | $\mathbf{1 , 0 6 3}$ | 1,024 | 4 |
| Operating profit | $\mathbf{6 8 9}$ | 438 | 57 | $\mathbf{6 8 9}$ | 598 | 15 |
| Operating surplus margin, \% | $\mathbf{1 2 . 4}$ | 10.2 |  | $\mathbf{1 2 . 4}$ | 12.1 |  |
| Operating margin, \% | $\mathbf{8 . 0}$ | 5.2 |  | $\mathbf{8 . 0}$ | 7.1 |  |
| Deliveries |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| - Liner products, ktonnes | $\mathbf{5 8 5}$ | 648 | -10 | $\mathbf{5 8 5}$ | 559 | 5 |
| - Corrugated board, million $\mathrm{m}^{2}$ | $\mathbf{1 , 1 3 0}$ | $\mathbf{1 , 0 9 6}$ | 3 | $\mathbf{1 , 1 3 0}$ | $\mathbf{1 , 1 0 4}$ | 2 |

## FOREST PRODUCTS

Share of the Group, net sales


Share of the Group, operating profit


Net sales


## Operating profit and margin



| Deviations, operating profit (\%) |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| 0703 vs. 0603 | +15 |
| Price/mix: | +33 |
| Volume: | -6 |
| Raw material: | -9 |
| Energy: | +13 |
| Currency: | -13 |
| Other: | -3 |


| Deviations, operating profit (\%) |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| 2007:1 vs. 2006:4 | $\mathbf{- 2}$ |
| Price/mix: | +16 |
| Volume: | 0 |
| Raw material: | -18 |
| Energy: | +2 |
| Currency: | -3 |
| Other: | +1 |

## MARKET

 paper rose sharply during the quarter.
## OPERATIONS

 business as well as negative exchange rate fluctuations. of $13 \%$. expenditures. development.
## BUSINESS AREA FOREST PRODUCTS

## Net sales amounted to SEK 4,472m, an increase of 2\% compared with the same period in the previous year. The sawmill operations' net sales rose $25 \%$.

The European advertising climate remains strong, with increased magazine advertising and increased volumes of printed advertising. Despite good demand, price pressure on LWC and SC paper continued in the first quarter. Demand for newsprint in Europe showed some increase during the first quarter and prices rose by approximately $5 \%$. Costs for wood raw material and recycled

The strong construction activity in Europe is increasing demand for solid-wood products while supplies of high-quality whitewood have decreased. Prices of solid-wood products continued to show strong development during the quarter. SCA has increased the quantities of purchased timber during the latest quarter.

January - March (compared with the same period previous year) Net sales amounted to SEK 4,472m (4,378). Higher prices for newsprint, pulp and solid-wood products were offset by lower volumes for the publication papers

Operating profit improved by $15 \%$ and amounted to SEK 663m (577). Higher prices and lower energy costs, partly an effect of the investment in the recovery boiler at the Östrand pulp mill, were offset by higher raw material costs and lower volumes and lower capacity utilization within the publication papers business. Exchange rate fluctuations had a negative impact on operating profit

Operating cash surplus amounted to SEK 857m (828) and operating cash flow was SEK 691 m (480). A higher operating cash surplus and positive development of working capital were counteracted by higher net current capital

## January - March (compared with the previous quarter)

Sales were unchanged compared with the previous quarter while operating profit declined slightly due to lower prices for LWC and SC paper, among other things. Higher prices within the sawmill operations made a positive contribution while lower volumes for publication papers and solid-wood products reduced

The new recovery boiler in the Östrand pulp mill is fully operational and had a positive impact on earnings. Higher raw material costs had a negative impact on earnings, partly an effect of lower felling of forest owned by SCA.

| SEKm | $\mathbf{0 7 0 3}$ | 0603 | $\%$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7 : 1}$ | $2006: 4$ | $\%$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Net sales | $\mathbf{4 , 4 7 2}$ | 4,378 | 2 | $\mathbf{4 , 4 7 2}$ | 4,480 | 0 |
| Operating surplus | $\mathbf{1 , 0 0 3}$ | 919 | 9 | $\mathbf{1 , 0 0 3}$ | 1,008 | 0 |
| Operating profit | $\mathbf{6 6 3}$ | 577 | 15 | $\mathbf{6 6 3}$ | 676 | -2 |
| Operating surplus margin, \% | $\mathbf{2 2 . 4}$ | 21.0 |  | $\mathbf{2 2 . 4}$ | 22.5 |  |
| Operating margin, \% | $\mathbf{1 4 . 8}$ | 13.2 |  | $\mathbf{1 4 . 8}$ | 15.1 |  |
| Deliveries |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| - Publication papers, ktonnes | $\mathbf{3 5 5}$ | 376 | -6 | $\mathbf{3 5 5}$ | 375 | -5 |
| - Solid-wood products, $\mathrm{km}^{3}$ | $\mathbf{4 1 2}$ | 381 | $\mathbf{8}$ | $\mathbf{4 1 2}$ | $\mathbf{4 7 6}$ | -13 |

## SHARE DISTRIBUTION

| 31 March 2007 | Class A | Class B | Total |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Registered number of shares | $37,635,069$ | $197,401,629$ | $235,036,698$ |
| - of which treasury shares |  | $1,087,538$ | $1,087,538$ |

During the quarter no Class A shares were converted to Class B shares. At the end of the quarter, the proportion of Class A shares was $16.0 \%$. As a result of the exercise of employee options, the number of treasury shares decreased by 165,600 to total 1,087,538.
Calculated according to IFRS recommendations, the effects of outstanding employee option programmes correspond to a maximum dilution of $0.07 \%$, which was taken into account when calculating earnings per share for the period.

## Split

The Annual General Meeting decided to carry out a split whereby each existing share will be divided into three shares of the same class. The split is scheduled to be carried out on 9 May 2007.

## FUTURE REPORTS

Interim reports in 2007 will be published on 24 July and 31 October. The year-end report for 2007 will be published on 30 January 2008.

Stockholm, 27 April 2007
SVENSKA CELLULOSA AKTIEBOLAGET SCA (publ)

Jan Åström<br>President and CEO

## Note

This report has not been reviewed by the company's auditors.
This report has been prepared in both Swedish and English. In case of variation in the content of the two version, the Swedish version shall prevail.

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## OPERATING CASH FLOW ANALYSIS

| SEKm | $\mathbf{0 7 0 3}$ | 0603 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Operating cash surplus | 3,537 | 3,381 |
| Change in working capital | $-1,510$ | $-1,561$ |
| Current capital expenditures, net | -763 | -934 |
| Restructuring costs, etc. | -202 | -293 |
| Operating cash flow | $\mathbf{1 , 0 6 2}$ | 593 |
|  |  |  |
| Financial items | -419 | -386 |
| Income taxes paid | -375 | -333 |
| Other | -1 | 1 |
| Cash flow from current operations | $\mathbf{2 6 7}$ | -125 |
|  |  |  |
| Acquisitions | -419 | -9 |
| Strategic capital expenditures, fixed assets | -185 | -208 |
| Strategic structural expenditures | 0 | -9 |
| Divestments | 2,802 | 0 |
| Cash flow before dividend | $\mathbf{2 , 4 6 5}$ | -351 |
| Dividend | 0 | 0 |
| Cash flow after dividend | $\mathbf{2 , 4 6 5}$ | -351 |
| Sale of treasury shares | 46 | 59 |
| Net cash flow | $\mathbf{2 , 5 1 1}$ | -292 |
|  |  |  |
| Net debt at the start of the period | $\mathbf{- 3 6 , 3 9 9}$ | 39,826 |
| Net cash flow | 2,511 | -292 |
| Remeasurement to equity | 912 | 1,594 |
| Currency effects | -633 | 469 |
| Net debt at the end of the period | $\mathbf{- 3 3 , 6 0 9}$ | 41,597 |
| Debt/equity ratio | 0.57 | 0.65 |
| Debt payment capacity, \% | 34 | 29 |


| CASH FLOW STATEMENT |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SEKm | 0703 | 0603 |
| Operating activities |  |  |
| Profit before tax | 1,863 | 1,569 |
| Adjustment for non-cash items ${ }^{1}$ | 981 | 1,113 |
|  | 2,844 | 2,682 |
| Paid tax | -375 | -333 |
| Cash flow from operating activities before change in working capital | 2,469 | 2,349 |
| Cash flow from changes in working capital |  |  |
| Change in inventories | -680 | -343 |
| Change in operating receivables | -351 | -851 |
| Change in operating liabilities | -479 | -367 |
| Cash flow from operating activities | 959 | 788 |
| Investing activities |  |  |
| Acquisition of operations | -419 | -9 |
| Sold operations | 2,802 | 0 |
| Acquisition tangible and intangible fixed assets | -1,118 | -1,225 |
| Sale of tangible fixed assets | 188 | 83 |
| Payment of loans to external parties | -396 | -1,035 |
| Cash flow from investing activities | 1,057 | -2,186 |
| Financing activities |  |  |
| Sale of treasury shares | 46 | 59 |
| Borrowings | 0 | 832 |
| Amortization of debt | -1,506 | 0 |
| Dividends paid | 0 | 0 |
| Cash flow from financing activities | -1,460 | 891 |
| Cash flow for the period | 556 | -507 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year | 1,599 | 1,684 |
| Exchange differences in cash and cash equivalents | 30 | -21 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period | 2,185 | 1,156 |
| Reconciliation with operating cash flow analysis |  |  |
| Cash flow for the period | 556 | -507 |
| Deducted items: |  |  |
| Payment of loans to external parties | 396 | 1,035 |
| Borrowings | 0 | -832 |
| Amortization of debt | 1,506 | 0 |
| Added items: |  |  |
| Net debt in acquired companies | 0 | 12 |
| Accrued interest | 71 | 0 |
| Investments through finance leases | -18 | 0 |
| Net cash flow according to operating cash flow analysis | 2,511 | -292 |
| ${ }^{1}$ Depreciation and write-downs, fixed assets | 1,509 | 1,571 |
| Fair value valuation of forest assets | -157 | -86 |
| Unpaid related to efficiency programmes | - | 0 |
| Payments related to efficiency programmes previously recognized as liabilities | -172 | -315 |
| Other | -199 | -57 |
| Total | 981 | 1,113 |


| SEKm | 2007:1 | 2006:1 | 2006:4 | 0703 | 0603 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net sales | 25,615 | 25,400 | 25,650 | 25,615 | 25,400 |
| Other income | 565 | 679 | 730 | 565 | 679 |
| Change in fair value of biological assets | 157 | 86 | 43 | 157 | 86 |
| Change in inventories of finished goods and work in progress | 99 | 185 | -326 | 99 | 185 |
| Work performed and capitalized | 64 | 48 | 8 | 64 | 48 |
| Raw materials and consumables | -9,637 | -9,213 | -8,901 | -9,637 | -9,213 |
| Personnel costs | -4,944 | -5,015 | -4,870 | -4,944 | -5,015 |
| Other operating expenses | -8,136 | -8,649 | -8,516 | -8,136 | -8,649 |
| Depreciation | -1,509 | -1,569 | -1,532 | -1,509 | -1,569 |
| Write-downs | 0 | -2 | -29 | 0 | -2 |
| Share of profits of associated companies | 8 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 5 |
| Operating profit | 2,282 | 1,955 | 2,261 | 2,282 | 1,955 |
| Financial items | -419 | -386 | -458 | -419 | -386 |
| Profit before tax | 1,863 | 1,569 | 1,803 | 1,863 | 1,569 |
| Tax | -429 | -400 | -352 | -429 | -400 |
| Net profit for the period | 1,434 | 1,169 | 1,451 | 1,434 | 1,169 |
| Earnings attributable to: |  |  |  |  |  |
| Equity holders of the Parent Company | 1,429 | 1,159 | 1,443 | 1,429 | 1,159 |
| Minority interests | 5 | 10 | 8 | 5 | 10 |
| Earnings per share, SEK - equity holders of the Parent Company |  |  |  |  |  |
| - before dilution effects | 6.11 | 4.96 | 6.17 | 6.11 | 4.96 |
| - after dilution effects | 6.11 | 4.96 | 6.16 | 6.11 | 4.96 |
| Average no. of shares before dilution, millions | 233.8 | 233.5 | 233.7 | 233.8 | 233.5 |
| Warrants | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Average no. of shares after dilution | 234.0 | 233.7 | 233.8 | 234.0 | 233.7 |


| CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF RECOGNIZED INCOME AND EXPENSE |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SEKm | 0703 | 0603 |
| Actuarial gains and losses related to pensions, incl. payroll tax | 883 | 1,585 |
| Available-for-sale financial assets: |  |  |
| - Gains from fair value measurement taken to equity | 74 | 84 |
| - Transferred to income statement at sale | 0 | 0 |
| Cash flow hedges |  |  |
| - Gains from remeasurement of derivatives taken to equity | 33 | 19 |
| - Transferred to profit or loss for the period | -30 | -15 |
| Transferred to cost of hedged investments | 0 | -1 |
| Translation difference in foreign operations | 904 | -859 |
| Gains from hedging of net investments in foreign operations | 153 | 90 |
| Tax on items taken to/transferred from equity | -263 | -487 |
| Total transactions taken to equity | 1,754 | 416 |
| Net profit for the period recognized in the income statement | 1,434 | 1,169 |
| Total income and expenses recognized for the period | 3,188 | 1,585 |
| Attributable to: |  |  |
| - Equity holders of the Parent Company | 3,151 | 1,580 |
| - Minority interests | 37 | 5 |
|  | 3,188 | 1,585 |
| Other changes in equity |  |  |
| - sale of treasury shares | 46 | 59 |
| - dividend | -2,807 | 0 |
| - change in Group structure | 0 | 0 |
| - remeasurement owned portion at successive acquisitions, within window period | 0 | 4 |

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

|  | 31 March 2007 |  | 31 December 2006 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | SEKm | EURm ${ }^{1}$ | SEKm | EURm ${ }^{1}$ |
| Assets |  |  |  |  |
| Goodwill | 17,373 | 1,863 | 16,997 | 1,879 |
| Other intangible assets | 3,121 | 335 | 3,054 | 338 |
| Tangible assets | 75,506 | 8,099 | 74,670 | 8,255 |
| Shares and participations | 842 | 90 | 518 | 58 |
| Financial investments held as fixed assets ${ }^{2}$ | 3,394 | 364 | 2,970 | 328 |
| Other long-term receivables | 963 | 103 | 861 | 94 |
| Total fixed assets | 101,199 | 10,854 | 99,070 | 10,952 |
| Operating receivables and inventories | 31,070 | 3,333 | 29,907 | 3,306 |
| Short-term financial assets | 579 | 62 | 409 | 45 |
| Fixed assets held for sale | 108 | 12 | 2,559 | 283 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 2,185 | 234 | 1,599 | 177 |
| Total current assets | 33,942 | 3,641 | 34,474 | 3,811 |
| Total assets | 135,141 | 14,495 | 133,544 | 14,763 |
| Shareholders' equity |  |  |  |  |
| Equity holders of the Parent Company | 58,688 | 6,296 | 58,299 | 6,445 |
| Minority interests | 702 | 75 | 664 | 73 |
| Total shareholders' equity | 59,390 | 6,371 | 58,963 | 6,518 |
| Liabilities |  |  |  |  |
| Provisions for pensions | 2,270 | 243 | 2,793 | 309 |
| Other provisions | 11,795 | 1,265 | 11,447 | 1,265 |
| Long-term financial liabilities | 18,767 | 2,013 | 16,852 | 1,863 |
| Other long-term liabilities | 188 | 20 | 157 | 17 |
| Total long-term liabilities | 33,020 | 3,541 | 31,249 | 3,454 |
| Short-term financial liabilities ${ }^{3}$ | 18,619 | 1,997 | 21,537 | 2,381 |
| Liabilities held for sale | 0 | 0 | 55 | 7 |
| Operating liabilities | 21,305 | 2,285 | 21,740 | 2,403 |
| Other short-term liabilities | 2,807 | 301 | - | - |
| Total current liabilities | 42,731 | 4,583 | 43,332 | 4,791 |
| Total liabilities | 75,751 | 8,124 | 74,581 | 8,245 |
| Total equity and liabilities | 135,141 | 14,495 | 133,544 | 14,763 |
| Debt/equity ratio | 0.57 |  | 0.62 |  |
| Visible equity/assets ratio | 43\% |  | 44\% |  |
| Return on capital employed, \% | 9 |  | 9 |  |
| Return on equity, \% | 10 |  | 9 |  |
| ${ }^{1}$ Closing day rate 9.32 (9.05) was applied in translation to EUR. |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }^{2}$ Of which pension assets | 1,794 |  | 1,419 |  |
| ${ }^{3}$ Contracted committed credit lines amount to SEK 25,511m. |  |  |  |  |


| Capital employed | 92,999 | 95,362 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| - of which working capital | 11,536 | 9,870 |
| Net debt | 33,609 | 36,399 |
| Shareholders' equity | 59,390 | 58,963 |
|  |  |  |
| Of which provisions for restructuring costs: | 383 | 423 |
| - Other provisions | 732 | 797 |

NET SALES

| SEKm | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7 : 1}$ | $2006: 4$ | $2006: 3$ | $2006: 2$ | $2006: 1$ | $2005: 4$ | $2005: 3$ | $2005: 2$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Personal Care | 5,331 | 5,429 | 5,246 | 5,249 | 5,348 | 5,136 | 5,026 | 4,727 |
| Tissue | 7,725 | 7,844 | 7,743 | 7,787 | 7,962 | 8,109 | 7,917 | 7,531 |
| Packaging | 8,571 | 8,445 | 8,288 | 8,231 | 8,389 | 8,272 | 8,351 | 8,094 |
| Forest Products | 4,472 | 4,480 | 4,339 | 4,454 | 4,378 | 4,071 | 3,986 | 4,116 |
| - Publication papers | 2,082 | 2,167 | 2,279 | 2,339 | 2,145 | 2,067 | 2,034 | 1,965 |
| - Pulp, timber and solid-wood products | 2,390 | 2,313 | 2,060 | 2,115 | 2,233 | 2,004 | 1,952 | 2,151 |
| Other | 357 | 336 | 326 | 296 | 233 | 301 | 247 | 288 |
| Intra-group deliveries | -841 | -884 | -847 | -723 | -910 | -748 | -787 | -770 |
| Total net sales | $\mathbf{2 5 , 6 1 5}$ | 25,650 | 25,095 | 25,294 | 25,400 | 25,141 | 24,740 | 23,986 |

## OPERATING SURPLUS

| SEKm | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7 : 1}$ | $2006: 4$ | $2006: 3$ | $2006: 2$ | $2006: 1$ | $2005: 4$ | $2005: 3$ | $2005: 2$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Personal Care | 933 | 961 | 925 | 939 | 950 | 983 | 889 | 809 |
| Tissue | 869 | 913 | 944 | 924 | 850 | 941 | 999 | 892 |
| Packaging | 1,063 | 1,024 | 988 | 888 | 854 | 841 | 900 | 919 |
| Forest Products | 1,003 | 1,008 | 911 | 970 | 919 | 910 | 853 | 758 |
| - Publication papers | 337 | 412 | 371 | 456 | 426 | 456 | 420 | 330 |
| - Pulp, timber and solid-wood products | 666 | 596 | 540 | 514 | 493 | 454 | 433 | 428 |
| Other | -85 | -88 | -83 | -80 | -52 | -88 | $-2,710$ | -103 |
| Total operating surplus | $\mathbf{3 , 7 8 3}$ | 3,818 | 3,685 | 3,641 | 3,521 | 3,587 | 931 | 3,275 |

OPERATING PROFIT

| SEKm | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7 : 1}$ | $2006: 4$ | $2006: 3$ | $2006: 2$ | $2006: 1$ | $2005: 4$ | $2005: 3$ | $2005: 2$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Personal Care | 679 | 726 | 681 | 693 | 699 | 719 | 655 | 571 |
| Tissue | 339 | 358 | 431 | 401 | 300 | 379 | 428 | 391 |
| Packaging | 689 | 598 | 560 | 476 | 438 | 418 | 444 | 455 |
| Forest Products | 663 | 676 | 591 | 631 | 577 | 553 | 516 | 416 |
| - Publication papers | 128 | 208 | 168 | 237 | 205 | 222 | 206 | 113 |
| - Pulp, timber and solid-wood products | 535 | 468 | 423 | 394 | 372 | 331 | 310 | 303 |
| Other | -88 | -97 | -87 | -88 | -59 | -94 | $-5,046$ | -114 |
| Total operating profit | $\mathbf{2 , 2 8 2}$ | 2,261 | 2,176 | 2,113 | 1,955 | 1,975 | $-3,003$ | 1,719 |
| Financial items | -419 | -458 | -423 | -405 | -386 | -401 | -393 | -358 |
| Profit before tax | $\mathbf{1 , 8 6 3}$ | 1,803 | 1,753 | 1,708 | 1,569 | 1,574 | $-3,396$ | 1,361 |
| Tax | -429 | -352 | -227 | -387 | -400 | -377 | 985 | -355 |
| Net profit for the period | $\mathbf{1 , 4 3 4}$ | 1,451 | 1,526 | 1,321 | 1,169 | $\mathbf{1 , 1 9 7}$ | $-2,411$ | $\mathbf{1 , 0 0 6}$ |

OPERATING SURPLUS MARGIN

| \% | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7 : 1}$ | $2006: 4$ | $2006: 3$ | $2006: 2$ | $2006: 1$ | $2005: 4$ | $2005: 3$ | $2005: 2$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Personal Care | 17.5 | 17.7 | 17.6 | 17.9 | 17.8 | 19.1 | 17.7 | 17.1 |
| Tissue | 11.2 | 11.6 | 12.2 | 11.9 | 10.7 | 11.6 | 12.6 | 11.8 |
| Packaging | 12.4 | 12.1 | 11.9 | 10.8 | 10.2 | 10.2 | 10.8 | 11.4 |
| Forest Products | 22.4 | 22.5 | 21.0 | 21.8 | 21.0 | 22.4 | 21.4 | 18.4 |
| - Publication papers | 16.2 | 19.0 | 16.3 | 19.5 | 19.9 | 22.1 | 20.6 | 16.8 |
| - Pulp, timber and solid-wood products | 27.9 | 25.8 | 26.2 | 24.3 | 22.1 | 22.7 | 22.2 | 19.9 |

OPERATING MARGIN

| \% | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7 : 1}$ | $2006: 4$ | $2006: 3$ | $2006: 2$ | $2006: 1$ | $2005: 4$ | $2005: 3$ | $2005: 2$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Personal Care | 12.7 | 13.4 | 13.0 | 13.2 | 13.1 | 14.0 | 13.0 | 12.1 |
| Tissue | 4.4 | 4.6 | 5.6 | 5.1 | 3.8 | 4.7 | 5.4 | 5.2 |
| Packaging | 8.0 | 7.1 | 6.8 | 5.8 | 5.2 | 5.1 | 5.3 | 5.6 |
| Forest Products | 14.8 | 15.1 | 13.6 | 14.2 | 13.2 | 13.6 | 12.9 | 10.1 |
| - Publication papers | 6.1 | 9.6 | 7.4 | 10.1 | 9.6 | 10.7 | 10.1 | 5.8 |
| - Pulp, timber and solid-wood products | 22.4 | 20.2 | 20.5 | 18.6 | 16.7 | 16.5 | 15.9 | 14.1 |

