



# Year-end report 2007 for Beijer Alma AB (publ)

# Earnings increase for both the full-year and the fourth quarter

- Net sales for 2007 were MSEK 1,654 (1,488)
- Profit after financial items amounted to MSEK (262.2)
- Income after tax MSEK (152.5)
- Earnings per share after tax were SEK (6.92)
- The dividend is proposed at SEK 5.00 per share (4.00)
- Equity/assets ratio amounted to 62.8 percent (61.4)

#### **GROUP**

2007 has been the best year so far for Beijer Alma. The wholly-owned Subsidiaries, Lesjöfors and Habia, report profits, which, for both, is at an all time high. This has led to an improvement in the Group's total profit after financial items by a little more than MSEK 20. Demand from the Group's largest client group, the engineering industry, continues to be good. However, order intake and invoicing within chassis springs and, to a certain degree, also in telecom, has been lower during 2007 than in the previous year.

The inflow of orders was MSEK 1,665 (1,508), an increase of 10.4 percent. In comparable units the increase was 3.8 percent. Invoicing increased by 11.1 percent to MSEK 1,654 (1,488). In comparable units the increase was 4.5 percent. Operating profits increased by 7.9 percent to MSEK 289.6 (268.4) and the operating margin reached 17.5 percent (18.0). Profit after financial items was MSEK 282.7 (262.2) and earnings per share after tax were SEK 7.49 (6.92).

Investments in non-current assets excluding company acquisitions were MSEK 79.2 (71.0). Cash flow after investments was MSEK 71.0 (121.0). In 2007's cash flow company acquisitions are included at MSEK 48.9 (14.1). Interest-bearing net debts amounted at the end of the year to MSEK 32.8 compared to a net cash of MSEK 6.8 at the end of 2006. The equity/assets ratio was 62.8 percent (61.4).

During the **fourth quarter**, order bookings were MSEK 404 (363), an increase of 11.3 percent. For comparable units, the increase was 3.9 percent. Invoicing was MSEK 411 (367), an increase of 11.2 percent (367). In comparable units, the increase was 4.9 percent. Operating income was MSEK 72.2 (68.5) corresponding to an operating margin of 17.6 percent (18.7). Profit after financial items was MSEK 71.5 (67.5) and the earnings per share were SEK 1.92 (1.86). Cash flow after investments was MSEK 27.4 (44.9)

#### **Subsidiaries**

**LESJÖFORS AB** (www.lesjoforsab.com) is a full-range supplier of standard and specially produced industrial springs, wire and flat strip components. The company is a dominant player in the Nordic Region and one of the larger companies in its industry in Europe. Lesjöfors has manufacturing operations in Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Latvia, the UK and China.

Order bookings in Lesjöfors amounted to MSEK 1,046 (925), an increase of 13.1 percent. Invoicing was MSEK 1,032 (923), an increase of 11.2 percent. In comparable units, order bookings increased by 2.4 percent, while invoicing increased by 1.1 percent. Profit after financial items was MSEK 223.2 (221.7) and the operating margin reached 21.5 percent (24.0).

During the **fourth quarter**, order bookings amounted to MSEK 245 (217), an increase of 12.9 percent. Invoicing was MSEK 248 (226), an increase of 10.0 percent. In comparable units, the inflow of orders and invoicing remained largely unchanged compared to previous year. The profit after financial items was MSEK 55.6 (56.6). The operating margin reached 21.9 percent (24.9).

Beijer Alma AB (publ)



Lesjöfors conducts operations in three business areas, Industrial Springs, Flat Strip Components and Chassis Springs, within the area Industrial Springs. A positive growth rate continues. Sales in Flat Strip Components have declined within comparable units, among other reasons due to changes in models of mobile telephones. Chassis Springs has reduced their volume but obtained market shares in a market that has been dwindling during 2007. Profitability is good within all business areas.

**Habia Cable AB** (www.habia.com) is one of Europe's largest manufacturers of specialty cables for applications within telecommunications, transportation, nuclear power, defence and other industries. Manufacturing and product development are conducted in Sweden, with manufacturing also in Germany, China and Latvia.

Habia's order bookings reached MSEK 619 (583), an increase of 6.3 percent (583). Invoicing increased by 10.3 percent to MSEK 622 (564). Profit after net financial items was MSEK 86.3 (63.0) and the operating margin was 14.4 percent (11.7).

During the **fourth quarter**, order bookings reached MSEK 160 (146), an increase of 9.6 percent. Invoicing was MSEK 162 (141), an increase of 15.0 percent. Profit after financial items was MSEK 23.1 (17.1) and the operating margin reached 14.7 percent (12.6).

The entire sales increase of Habia can be attributed to clients within the engineering and defence industry. Sales volume in the telecom sector remained unchanged compared to 2006. Within the engineering industry, order volumes are usually smaller, and the number of clients substantially larger than within the telecom sector, resulting in the fact that Habia today has improved risk allocation within sales.

#### PARENT COMPANY

The Parent Company is a holding company which conducts no business of its own and has no external invoicing. No investments have been made. Results after financial items, amounting to MSEK 207.3 (34.5) include dividends from subsidiaries of MSEK 232.0 (95.5). The reported profit was MSEK 213.7 (40.6).



#### REVENUE AND RESULT BY OPERATING SEGMENT

REVENUE AND RESULT	BY OPE	RATIN	IG SEG	MENT	•						
REVENUE											
MSEK	2007	2007	2007	2007	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007 Full	2006 Full	2005 Full
	Q 4	Q 3	Q 2	Q 1	Q 4	Q 3	Q 2	Q 1	year	year	year
Lesjöfors	248.4	242.4	277.3	264.2	225.8	217.8	253.7	226.1	1 032.3	923.4	762.8
Habia Cable	162.1	148.5	163.5	147.9	141.0	142.7	140.9	139.4	622.0	564.0	559.6
Parent Company and											
consolidation eliminations				0.1	0.2		0.2		0.1	0.4	0.7
Continuing operations	410.5	390.9	440.8	412.2	367.0	360.5	394.8	365.5	1 654.4	1,487.8	1,323.1
Divested operations							8.0	15.0		23.0	140.6
Total	410.5	390.9	440.8	412.2	367.0	360.5	402.8	380.5	1 654.4	1 510.8	1 463.7
OPERATING PROFIT											
MSEK	2007	2007	2007	2007	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007 Full	2006 Full	2005 Full
	Q 4	Q 3	Q 2	Q 1	Q 4	Q 3	Q 2	Q 1	year	year	year
Lesjöfors	54.5	48.2	62.6	57.4	56.2	50.8	63.9	51.2	222.7	222.1	144.0
Habia Cable	23.9	21.8	22.9	21.1	17.7	19.8	13.6	14.7	89.7	65.8	82.1
Parent Company and											
consolidation eliminations	-6.2	-3.8	-7.3	-5.5	-5.4	-2.2	-5.5	-6.4	-22.8	-19.5	-19.4
Continuing operations	72.2	66.2	78.2	73.0	68.5	68.4	72.0	59.5	289.6	268.4	206.7
Divested operations	_					0	-34.9	-2.2	_	-37.1	37.0
Total	72.2	66.2	78.2	73.0	68.5	68.4	37.1	57.3	289.6	231.3	243.7
PROFIT AFTER FINANC	IAL ITE	MS									
MSEK	2007	2007	2007	2007	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007 Full	2006 Full	2005 Full
	Q 4	Q 3	Q 2	Q 1	Q 4	Q 3	Q 2	Q 1	year	year	year
Lesjöfors	55.6	48.0	62.6	57.0	56.6	50.9	63.3	50.9	223.2	221.7	143.3
Habia Cable	23.1	20.9	21.9	20.4	17.1	19.1	12.9	13.9	86.3	63.0	78.0
Parent Company and											
consolidation eliminations	-7.2	-4.8	-8.8	-6.0	-6.2	-3.2	-6.0	-7.1	-26.8	-22.5	-21.5
Continuing operations	71.5	64.1	75.7	71.4	67.5	66.8	70.2	57.7	282.7	262.2	199.8

Divested operations

Total

71.5

64.1

75.7

67.5

71.4

-34.9

35.3

66.8

-2.4

55.3

282.7

-37.3

224.9

35.6

235.4



#### PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

#### **Record figures**

After a strong conclusion to the year, results in the fourth quarter amounted to MSEK 71.5, which was MSEK 4.0 greater than during the same period in the previous year. With this, the Beijer Alma Group has shown profit growth during three quarters of the year and during seventeen of the last eighteen quarters. The result for the full year 2007 was MSEK 283 – an increase of MSEK 21 compared to 2006 and the highest result so far in the history of Beijer Alma. The Group's invoicing increased by 11 percent to MSEK 1,654. This increase is due to both organic growth, as well as to acquired operations. In comparable units, it is primarily traditional industry and defence that show growth, while telecom and chassis springs are somewhat weaker than during the previous year. Acquired growth refers mainly to European Springs & Pressings Ltd in Great Britain, which was acquired during the first quarter 2007 and is a part of Lesjöfors.

#### Lesjöfors

The increase in invoicing within the business area industrial springs – and the acquisition of European Springs – contributed to the fact that Lesjöfors' invoicing increased by 10 percent during the fourth quarter. The business areas chassis springs and flat strip components, however, showed lower sales volumes for comparable units compared to the same period in the previous year. The business area chassis springs was affected by the fact that the client during the year had built up overly large inventories, while the business area flat strip components was negatively affected by a lower demand for telephone components. Lesjöfors' operating profit decreased somewhat during the quarter from MSEK 56.2 to 54.5. Also, the operating margin decreased from a high of 24.9 percent to 21.9 percent. The somewhat lower result and the increased operating margin is partially due to an unfavourable change in the product mix – where very profitable chassis spring sales were replaced by product areas with lower margins – partially due to the fact that the acquired company had a slightly lower margin than Lesjöfors' other operations. It should be noted, however, that the acquisitions of European Springs and Harris Springs, have so far been very successful, both regarding the sales and the earnings trend. Today, Lesjöfors is the largest spring manufacturing company in Great Britain. The acquisition strategy will continue in order to strengthen Lesjöfors on other geographical markets.

#### Habia

Habia's net profit improved significantly during 2007. Operating income for the full year increased by 36 percent to MSEK 89.7 and operating income for the fourth quarter increased by 35 percent to MSEK 23.9. The earnings trend can be attributed to the previous years' work to develop the strategy and to improve the quality of earnings in the company. The objective has been to maintain a strong position within telecom and, at the same time, grow and improve profitability within other client segments. Efforts have paid off in 2007. Telecom sales – which improved by 30 percent during the fourth quarter – remained unchanged for the full year compared with the previous year. Through this, Habia strengthened its already leading market position within cables to base station antennas. This segment represents during 2007, a total of 36 percent of the company's total invoicing. Other client segments increased by 16 percent for the full year and by 5 percent during the fourth quarter. In total, Habia's invoicing increased by 10 percent in 2007. Furthermore, the positive earnings trend has implied that the operating margin for the full year has increased by almost 3 percentage points to 14.4 percent.

#### **Strong finances**

Cash flow continues to be positive and in the fourth quarter amounted to MSEK 27.4. This signifies that the group, at the end of 2006, is, on the whole, debt-free, despite the acquisition of European Springs for approximately MSEK 50 and a dividend of MSEK 110. In addition, investments have increased during the year from MSEK 71 to MSEK 79. This can be compared to the Group's depreciation which amounted to MSEK 65. The strong balance sheet, in combination with high earnings and a positive cash flow, provide room for continued expansion.

#### **Favourable position for 2008**

The Beijer Alma Group enters the first quarter of 2008 with a positive demand situation. Outstanding orders are higher than at the end of 2006. In addition, the Group is favoured by well diversified operations and a limited exposure to the North American markets. In summary, this means that in the near future we should see higher results, with less fluctuation than in previous trade cycles.



#### DIVIDEND PROPOSAL OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors proposes a dividend of SEK 5.00 per share (4.00).

#### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2008**

The Annual General Meeting will be held in Uppsala on Tuesday, 8 April 2008, when the company will also celebrate its 25th year anniversary.

#### **EVENTS FOLLOWING THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD**

No events of significance have occurred after the end of the reporting period.

#### **RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES**

Significant risk and factors of uncertainty for the Group consist of business risks and financial risks, among others. Business risks can include increased customer exposure to individual industries or companies. Financial risks refer primarily to foreign currency risks arising from the fact that over 80 percent of sales take place outside Sweden, while approximately 60 percent of production takes place within Sweden.

Management of these financial risks is described in Note 29 of the Annual Report for 2006. The assessment of the business risks is that the Group's distribution of risks across industries and companies is acceptable. The assessment is also that no significant risks have arisen during the year.

#### **ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES**

#### Group

This Interim Report has been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) adopted by the European Union (EU). The presentation of this Interim Report follows IAS 34, Interim Financial Reporting and RR 31, Consolidated Interim Reporting, as well as the Swedish Annual Accounts Act. Accounting principles and the basis of calculation are unchanged from those applied in the Annual Report for 2006.

#### **Parent Company**

The Parent Company, Beijer Alma AB, applies the Swedish Annual Accounts Act and the Swedish Financial Accounting Standards Council's recommendation RR 32, Accounting for Legal Entities. These accounting principles correspond with those applied in the previous year and with the Group's accounting principles, in applicable parts.



# **SUMMARY INCOME STATEMENT**

# **GROUP**

MSEK	2007	2006	2007	2006	2005
	Q 4	Q 4	Full year	Full year	Full year
Net sales	410.5	367.0	1 654.4	1,487.8	1,323.1
Cost of goods sold	-251.3	-221.0	-1,035.3	-924.6	-835.8
Gross profit or loss	159.2	146.0	619.1	563.2	487.3
Selling expenses	-47.3	-40.2	-178.1	-164.9	-164.0
Administrative expenses	-39.8	-37.3	-152.2	-130.9	-116.4
Share of result in associated companies	0.1	0.0	0.8	1.0	-0.2
Operating profit	72.2	68.5	289.6	268.4	206.7
Interest income and similar items	3.2	1.8	5.6	3.0	1.7
Interest expenses and similar items	-3.9	-2.8	-12.5	-9.2	-8.6
Profit after financial items	71.5	67.5	282.7	262.2	199.8
Taxes	-18.7	-16.5	-77.2	-72.4	-57.8
Net income in continuing operations	52.8	51.0	205.5	189.8	142.0
Net income in divested operations		_	_	-37.3	34.1
Net income for the period	52.8	51.0	205.5	152.5	176.1
Earnings per share in continuing operations					
- basic, SEK	1.92	1.86	7.49	6.92	5.17
- diluted, SEK	1.92	1.86	7.49	6.92	5.17
Earnings per share in divested operations					
- basic, SEK	_	_	_	-1.36	1.25
- diluted, SEK	_	_	_	-1.36	1.25
Reported income per share					
- basic, SEK	1.92	1.86	7.49	5.56	6.42
- diluted, SEK	1.92	1.86	7.49	5.56	6.42
Dividend per share, SEK	_	_	5.00*	4.00	3.67
Depreciation and amortisation are included in an amount of MSEK	15.9	22.9	65.3	68.8	65.2
*Of the Board of Directors proposed dividend					
PARENT COMPANY					
MSEK	2007	2006	2007	2006	2005
	Q 4	Q 4	Full year	Full year	Full year
Administrative expenses	-9.0	-8.6	-33.4	-32.2	-31.3
Other operating income	3.3	3.2	13.2	12.8	12.2
Operating profit	-5.7	-5.4	-20.2	-19.4	-19.1
Revenue from participation in Group companies	232.0	95.5	232.0	57.2	72.6
Interest income and similar items	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.1	_
Interest expenses and similar items	-1.1	-1.0	-5.0	-3.4	-2.3
Profit after financial items	225.4	89.2	207.3	34.5	51.2
Tax	1.6	1,6	6.4	6.1	5.6
Dec 6'4 Con Alexandria I	227.0	00.0	212 5	40.6	<b>5</b> (0

Profit for the period

213.7

40.6

56.8

90.8

227.0



# **SUMMARY BALANCE SHEETS**

G	R	o	U	Р
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MSEK	2007	2006	2005
	31 Dec	31 Dec	31 Dec
ASSETS			
Non-current			
Intangible assets	116.4	70.4	72.7
Property, plant and equipment	434.3	408.2	443.5
Financial assets	57.1	48.2	42.2
Total Non-current	607.8	526.8	558.4
Current assets			
Inventories	267.4	245.1	222.5
Receivables	308.9	255.4	274.8
Cash and cash equivalents	165.3	191.1	124.4
Total current assets	741.6	691.6	621.7
Total assets	1,349.4	1,218.4	1,180.1
MSEK	2007	2006	2005
	31 Dec	31 Dec	31 Dec
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
Equity			
Share capital	114.3	114.3	114.3
Other contributed capital	165.3	165.3	165.4
Reserves	-4.8	-8.0	5.0
Profit brought forward, including profit for the period	571.9	476.2	424.2
Total equity	846.7	747.8	708.9
Long-term liabilities to credit institutions	40.4	72.3	97.2
Other long-term liabilities	27.6	28.6	29.0
Short-term liabilities to credit institutions	157.4	111.6	69.5
Current non-interest-bearing liabilities	277.3	258.1	275.5
Total equity and liabilities	1,349.4	1,218.4	1,180.1
PARENT COMPANY			
MSEK	2007	2006	2005
	31 Dec	31 Dec	31 Dec
ASSETS			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	0.9	0.3	0.2
Financial assets  Total pap gurrent assets	219.7	236.3	233.9
Total non-current assets Current assets	220.6	236.6	234.1
Receivables	433.7	295.5	228.6
Cash and cash equivalents	0.1	0.1	0.3
Total current assets	433.8	295.6	228.9
Total assets	654.4	532.2	463.0
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MSEK		2007		2006	2005
		31 Dec		31 Dec	31 Dec
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		1140		1142	1110
Share capital		114.3		114.3	114.3
Statutory reserve Profit brought forward		165.3 71.9		165.3 77.1	165.3 61.6
Profit for the period		213.7		40.7	56.9
Total equity		565.2		397.4	398.1
Tour equity		202.2			27011
Short-term liabilities to credit institutions		60.7		85.2	26.3
Current non-interest-bearing liabilities		28.5		49.6	38.6
Total equity and liabilities		654.4		532.2	463.0
SUMMARY CASH FLOW STATEMENT					
MSEK	2007	2006	2007	2006	2005
	Q 4	Q 4	Full year	Full year	Full year
Cash flow from operating activities before			•	· ·	·
changes in working capital and capital expenditures	57.4	44.8	260.7	241.2	214.8
Cash flow from divested operations	_	_	_	-8.0	61.2
Changes in working capital, increase (-)					
decrease (+)	-4.9	12.7	-66.0	-33.1	-47.8
Net cash generated from operating activities	52.5	57.5	194.7		228.2
Investments activities	-25.1	-12.6	-74.8		-85.6
Acquired operations		_	-48.9		_
Cash flow after capital expenditures	27.4	44.9	71.0		142.6
Financing activities	53.9	-4.8	-96.8		-126.8
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	81.3	40.1	-25.8		15.8
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period Cash in divested operations and exchange rate changes	84.0	148.5	191.1	124.4	105.5
in cash	_	2.5	_	1.9	3.1
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	165.3	191.1	165.3	191.1	124.4
Approved but unutilised credit facilities	221.4	301.7	221.4	301.7	349.6
Available cash and cash equivalents	386.7	492.8	386.7	492.8	474.0
SPECIFICATION OF RESULT IN DIVESTED	OPERATIONS				
MSEK 2007	2006	20	007	2006	2005
Q 4	Q 4	Full y		Full year	Full year
Capital gain/loss –	_		_	-32.5	31.1
Sales proceeds –	_		_	23.0	93.1
Costs –			_	-28.6	-88.6
Profit before tax –			_	-28.0 -38.1	35.6
Tax –	_		_	0.8	-1.5
1411 —	_		_	0.0	-1.3

Profit after tax

-37.3

34.1



# SPECIFICATION OF CHANGES IN CAPITAL AND RESERVES ATTRIBUTABLE TO EQUITY HOLDERS

MSEK	2007	2006	2005
	Full year	Full year	Full year
Opening capital and reserves attributable to equity holders	747.8	708.9	566.4
Effect of IFRS	_	_	3.7
Dividends paid	-109.7	-100.6	-45.7
Conversion of subordinated loan	-2.3	4.6	-5.1
Exchange difference	5.4	-17.6	13.5
Profit for the period	205.5	152.5	176.1
Closing capital and reserves attributable to equity			
holders	846.7	747.8	708.9

# SPECIFICATION OF CAPITAL AND RESERVES ATTRIBUTABLE TO EQUITY HOLDERS FOR THE PERIOD

	Share	Other contributed		Profit brought forward including result for	
	capital	capital	Reserves	the period	Total
31 December 2006	114.3	165.3	-8.0	476.2	747.8
Dividends paid				-109.7	-109.7
Change in value, hedging reserve			-3.2		-3.2
Tax on hedging reserve			0.9		0.9
Exchange differences			5.4		5.4
Profit for the period				205.5	205.5
<b>31 December 2007</b>	114.3	165.3	<b>-4.9</b>	572.0	846.7

# **NUMBER OF SHARES**

	2007	2006	2005
	31-Dec	31-Dec	31-Dec
North and desires autotas Euro	27 421 100	27 421 100	27 421 100
Number of shares outstanding Total number of shares outstanding, fully diluted	27,431,100 27,431,100	27,431,100 27,431,100	27,431,100 27,431,100
Average number of shares outstanding, runy diluted	27,431,100	27,431,100	27,431,100
diluted	27,431,100	27,431,100	27,431,100

Of the total number of shares outstanding are class A shares and the remaining shares are class B shares.



## **KEY FINANCIAL INDICATORS**

	2007 Q 4	2006 Q 4	2007 Full year	2006 Full year	2005 Full year
Number of shares outstanding	27,431,100	27,431,100	27,431,100	27,431,100	27,431,100
Net sales, MSEK	410.5	367.0	1 654.4	1,487.8	1,323.1
Operating profit/loss, MSEK	72.2	68.5	289.6	268.4	206.7
Profit before income tax, MSEK	71.5	67.5	282.7	262.2	199.8
Earnings per share after actual tax, SEK	1.92	1.86	7.49	6.92	5.17
Earnings per share after 28% standard tax rate, SEK	1.88	1.77	7.42	6.88	5.25
Cash flow after capital expenditures per share, SEK	1.00	1.64	2.59	4.41	5.20
Return on equity, %	25.1	26.7	25.5	25.9	22.6
Return on capital employed, % Capital and reserves attributable to equity holders	30.5	30.7	29.9	30.0	24.3
per share, SEK	30.87	27.26	30.87	27.26	25.84
Equity ratio, %	62.8	61.4	62.8	61.4	60.1
Debt/equity ratio (net), % Cash and cash equivalents including committed credit	3.9	-0.9	3.9	-0.9	6.1
facilities not drawn upon, MSEK	386.7	492.8	386.7	492.8	474.0
Capital expenditures, MSEK	26.5	21.3	79.2	71.0	48.0
Interest coverage ratio	19.1	25.7	23.6	29.6	21.3
Number of employees at end of period	1,163	980	1,163	980	907

Uppsala, 8 February 2008

# **BEIJER ALMA AB (publ)**

Anders Wall	Anders G. Carlberg	Thomas Halvorsen
Chairman of the Board	Board Member	Board Member
Göran W Huldtgren	Marianne Nivert	Anders Ullberg
Board Member	Board Member	Board Member
Johan Wall	Bertil Persson	
Chairman of the Board	Managing Director	

This year-end report has not been audited by the company's auditors.

## Any questions will be answered by:

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## Next report date:

Interim report, 24 April 2008

The Annual Report for 2007 will be available on the company's website on our about 5 March 2008.

The Annual Report is expected to be sent to the shareholders on or about 20 March 2008.

Previous reports are available at Beijer Alma's website www.beijer-alma.se under tab Investor Relations.



