

## Norske Skog



| Key Group figures - IFRS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Q2/07 | Q1/07 | Q2/06 | YTD 2007 | YTD 2006 |
| Operating revenues | NOK mill. | 6794 | 6726 | 6772 | 13520 | 13916 |
| Gross operating earnings | NOK mill. | 923 | 792 | 832 | 1715 | 1871 |
| Gross operating margin | \% | 13,6 | 11,8 | 12,3 | 12,7 | 13,4 |
| Net operating earnings (loss) | NOK mill. | 236 | 57 | (14) | 293 | 158 |
| Net operating margin | \% | 3,5 | 0,8 | $(0,2)$ | 2,2 | 1,1 |
| Pre-tax earnings (loss) | NOK mill. | 173 | (135) | (213) | 38 | -19 |
| Net earnings (loss) | NOK mill. | 135 | (94) | (180) | 41 | 33 |
| Earnings per share | NOK | 0,71 | $(0,50)$ | $(0,95)$ | 0,22 | 0,17 |
| Cash flow | NOK mill. | 266 | 607 | 574 | 873 | 825 |
| Cash flow per share | NOK | 1,40 | 3,21 | 3,01 | 4,61 | 4,36 |
| Return on capital employed | \% | 4,5 | 4,6 | $(0,1)$ | 4,5 | 0,8 |
| Deliveries | 1000 tonnes | 1478 | 1427 | 1520 | 2905 | 3001 |
| Production | 1000 tonnes | 1540 | 1504 | 1513 | 3044 | 3016 |

Operating profit before IFRS-related changes in value, provisions, write-downs and other special items:

|  | Q2/07 | Q1/07 | Q2/06 | YTD 2007 | YTD 2006 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Gross operating earnings (EBITDA) NOK mill. | 1129 | 1175 | 1081 | 2304 |  |
| Net operating earnings (EBIT) | NOK mill. | 416 | 440 | 278 | 856 |

# Report for the second quarter of 2007 

- Gross operating earnings before special items: NOK 1129 million (NOK 1175 in the first quarter); net operating earnings before special items NOK 416 million (NOK 440 million in the first quarter)
- Continued cost increase on our in-put factors, in particular for recovered paper
- The improvement program has had a positive effect on the result of approx. NOK 350 million in the second quarter of 2007 measured against the base year 2005
- A new bond loan, denominated in euro, of NOK 4.1 billion has been successfully raised


## Comments to the income statement

The second quarter 2007 result is somewhat weaker than the first quarter and remains unsatisfactory. This is due to demanding market conditions and increased cost for our in-put factors.

Special items included in the unadjusted operating result under IFRS in the second quarter of 2007 are a cost NOK 206 million, in its entirety consisting of changes in value in embedded derivatives in Norske Skog's long-term electricity contracts. There is a gain from embedded derivatives in the electricity agreements in Norway, while there is a negative accounting effect of NOK 290 million in the form of time value from options related to the long-term electricity contract Norske Skog has entered into in Brazil. The value changes have not been included in the result for the individual segments and have no cash effect. The calculation of the time value under the energy contract in Brazil is correct under
the accounting standard, but can result in unreasonable effects that are not linked to the underlying operations. For that reason Norske Skog will evaluate whether there are alternative ways under IFRS of recording this energy contract in the accounts.
There has moreover been a reversal of NOK 26 million relating to an earlier write down of the value of PM 7 at Norske Skog Union, in connection with this paper machine being moved to Brazil.

## COMPARISON BETWEEN Q2 07 AND Q1 07

The main reasons for the weaker result are higher prices on recovered paper, contributing approximately NOK 100 million, as well as some cost increase for wood and a stronger Norwegian krone throughout the quarter. These effects are countered out by the fact that the improvement program contributed positively to the result by an
additional NOK 150 million more in the second quarter compared to the first quarter.

## COMPARISON BETWEEN Q2 07 AND Q2 06

The comparable gross operating result is NOK 48 million higher than in the second quarter of 2006. Currency changes have only had a marginal effect on the change in the result in this period. There has been price increases on wood and recovered paper, while other costs are significantly lower. This as a result of the restructuring of the mill portfolio, the rebuild in Australasia last year and the comprehensive improvement program.

As of the fourth quarter of 2006,
Norske Skog changed its estimates for the remaining economic life of the production facilities. This has resulted in depreciation being NOK 90 million lower in the second quarter of 2007 than in the second quarter of 2006.

## Financial items

The currency gain of NOK 189 million during the quarter is related to the strengthened Norwegian krone against most other currencies. This amount includes realised and unrealised gains from cash flow hedging of NOK 132 million, while the rest includes, among other things, currency gains on debt in other currencies than what has been subject to hedge accounting.

## NET PROFIT

The net profit after tax and minority interests was NOK 135 million in the second quarter of 2007 against a loss of NOK 94 million in the first quarter of 2007. The improvement is to a large extent due to the currency gains in the second quarter, as well as lower negative change in value in embedded derivatives in electricity contracts.

## Financial items (NOK mill.)

|  |  | Q2/07 | Q1/07 | Q2/06 | YTD 2007 | YTD 2006 |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Net interest paid | NOK mill. | $(261)$ | $(258)$ | $(244)$ | $(519)$ | $(498)$ |
| Interest hedging | NOK mill. | 19 | 2 | 11 | 21 | 41 |
| Gain/loss currency | NOK mill. | 189 | 83 | 43 | 271 | 129 |
| Other financial items | NOK mill. | $(27)$ | $(31)$ | $(19)$ | $(58)$ | $(42)$ |
| Total financial items | NOK mill. | $(80)$ | $(205)$ | $(209)$ | $(285)$ | $(370)$ |

## Cash flow

The cash flow from operations (after financial costs paid and taxes paid) was NOK 266 million in the second quarter of 2007. The working capital has increased also in the second quarter.

The year to date cash flow in 2007 is NOK 873 million, an increase of NOK 48 million compared with the same period in 2006.

## Balance sheet

Total assets were NOK 47 billion as of 30 June 2007, an increase of NOK 1.8 billion from 1 January and NOK 2.5 billion from 31 March 2007. The increase is due to raising EUR 500 million (approx. NOK 4.1 billion) from a new bond loan at the end of June and most of the amount is shown as bank deposits and short-term placements at the end of the quarter. Increased assets as a result of this are offset by the depreciation being higher than capitalised investments, as well as by the fact that the Norwegian currency continued to gain strength through the quarter, hence reducing the book value of facilities outside of Norway.

As of 30 June 2007, net interest-bearing debt was NOK 17.5 billion, an increase of NOK 140 million from 1 January. Seen in isolation, the net interest-bearing debt
increased by NOK 850 million in the second quarter, and the gearing (net interest-bearing debt/equity) had increased to 1.04 as of 30 June 2007. The increases are mainly due to the payment of dividend.
The new bond loan of EUR 500 million has a maturity of 10 years and a coupon rate of $7 \%$. There was considerable interest from investors, and the loan was significantly oversubscribed. The loan will be quoted on the Irish Stock Exchange and will be used for refinancing debt. As a result of the raised loan, the average maturity of long-term debt has increased to 5.9 years as of 30 June 2007 compared to 5.3 years as of 31 March 2007. Available liquidity including unused lines of credit was NOK 9.5 billion as of 30 June 2007.

Capitalised investments were NOK 500 million in the second quarter of 2007, and NOK 700 million year to date. The Board of Directors of Norske Skog has decided to move one paper machine from Norske Skog Union in Norway to Norske Skog Pisa in Brazil. Completing this move depended on obtaining the necessary approvals from the Brazilian authorities, and such approval was granted in June. The Union paper machine will be dismantled this coming autumn and then shipped to Brazil. Construction work will also start this autumn, and the paper production is scheduled to start in the second quarter of 2009.
The demerger of non-operational properties not related to core operations took place on 23 June. The properties have now
been organised as separate limited companies and incorporated into a real estate group wholly owned by Norske Skogindustrier ASA. The Group's balance sheet and Norske Skog's shareholders will not be affected by the transaction.

## Health and safety

The H 1 value (injuries with absence per million work hours) was 1.8 in the 12month period 1 July 2006-30 June 2007. 3 of the mills had zero injuries with absence in the period. Norske Skog Boyer had gone three years without such injuries in June.

## Shares

The foreign ownership was $67.6 \%$ as of 30 June 2007, approx. the same level as of 1 January 2007. A total of 157.5 million shares were traded in the first half of 2007, which gives a turnover rate of 1.65 on an annual basis.

Norske Skog's holding of 443,651 own shares were sold for legal reasons in connection with the demerger of the non-operational properties. When the transaction was completed, 600,000 own shares were bought back in late June.

In May, Norske Skog received confirmation that the shares in the company still qualify for the FTSE4Good-index, an index consisting of companies which conduct their operations according to global sustainability standards.

## Plan to improve earnings

The plan aims for Norske Skog to achieve an increase the in gross operating result of NOK 3 billion by the end of 2008, measured against the base year 2005 and the market and cost conditions at the time. Even if the program is still at an early stage, the Board is of the opinion that the target amount is achievable. However, a negative cost development counter-acts the effects of the improvement program and this will likely lead to the net result improvement being significantly less than NOK 3 billion. Further structural measures will therefore be considered.

The program achieved a realised result improvement of NOK 400 million in 2006 the calculated effect in the first quarter of 2007 was NOK 200 million. During the second quarter NOK. 350 million has been achieved compared to the base year 2005. The effects in the second quarter equal NOK 1.4 billion on an annualised basis. The target improvement rate is NOK 750 million per quarter by the end of 2008 (NOK 3 billion on an annual basis). The effects resulting from the program mainly come from the restructuring of the mill and machine portfolio, demanning and productivity improvements. A major effort is also being made in the field of energy optimisation.

## Operations and market

Norske Skog's total production and sales volumes in the second quarter of 2007 did not differ materially from the first quarter. As for the second quarter of 2007, seen in isolation, and also the first half of 2007, the deliveries are somewhat lower than in the corresponding periods last year, but the fact that five paper machines were shut down during last year must be taken into account. During this period, the market balance for newsprint in Europe has been affected by increased deliveries from Canada and less export out of the region.

## EUROPE - NEWSPRINT

The second quarter result for the segment is slightly better than in the preceding quarter. Achieved average prices in the segment were marginally lower than in the preceding quarter, mainly due a stronger Norwegian krone. Cost increases on recovered paper have to a large extent offset the effects of the improvement program.

The demand for newsprint in Europe in the first half of 2007 was in line with the first half of 2006, and the price level is stable. However, total deliveries from the industry in western Europe are down 3.8\% in the first half of 2007 compared to the same period in 2006. This is due to increased imports from Canada.

EUROPE - MAGAZINE PAPER
The result in the segment shows a marginal improvement compared to the preceding quarter, but remains very weak.

The development in magazine paper demand in Europe is good, with an increase of $2.9 \%$ in the first half of 2007 compared to the first half of 2006. The prices have mostly been stable in the second quarter, but at a very low level due to overcapacity. Somewhat improved market balance can be expected during the second half of 2007 due to announced shut-downs in both Europe and North America. However, there is still much uncertainty related to the possibility of price increases.

|  | Key figures: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: |
|  |  | Q2/07 | Q1/07 | Q2/06 | YTD 2007 | YTD 2006 |  |
|  | NOK mill. | 2257 | 2190 | 2195 | 4447 | 4467 |  |
| Operating income | NOK mill. | 456 | 446 | 390 | 902 | 811 |  |
| Gross operating earnings | NOK mill. | 280 | 266 | 153 | 546 | 301 |  |
| Net operating earnings | $\%$ | 20,2 | 20,4 | 17,8 | 20,3 | 18,2 |  |
| Gross operating margin | 1000 tonnes | 517 | 497 | 551 | 1014 | 1101 |  |
| Deliveries | 1000 tonnes | 537 | 536 | 520 | 1073 | 1076 |  |
| Production | $\%$ | 97 | 97 | 96 | 97 | 96 |  |
| Production/capacity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


|  | Key figures: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: |
|  |  | Q2/07 | Q1/07 | Q2/06 | YTD 2007 | YTD 2006 |  |
| Operating income | NOK mill. | 1556 | 1624 | 1471 | 3180 | 3145 |  |
| Gross operating earnings | NOK mill. | 148 | 149 | 176 | 297 | 430 |  |
| Net operating earnings | NOK mill. | 2 | $(10)$ | 10 | $(8)$ | 96 |  |
| Gross operating margin | $\%$ | 9,5 | 9,2 | 12,0 | 9,3 | 13,7 |  |
| Deliveries | 1000 tonnes | 296 | 304 | 281 | 600 | 591 |  |
| Production | 1000 tonnes | 322 | 308 | 307 | 630 | 631 |  |
| Production/capacity | $\%$ | 93 | 89 | 90 | 91 | 92 |  |

## ASIA

Profits in the Asian segment in the second quarter of 2007 is negatively affected by somewhat lower average prices than in the preceding quarter, in addition to a cost increase for recovered paper in China. Compared to last year, the production volumes have mostly been maintained, in spite of shutting down two paper machines at Norske Skog Jeonju at the end of September 2006.

There is a positive demand development in most Asian markets except for Japan. Demand in China is $6 \%$ higher in the period January-May compared with last year, and the increase in Korea is $2 \%$. The price level

## AUSTRALASIA

The segment profit in the second quarter of 2007 remains at a satisfactory level. When comparing to last year's figures, the rebuild shut at Albury and the high energy costs in New Zealand must be taken into account. Total costs per tonnes are 10 per cent lower in the first half of 2007 than in the same period in 2006, mainly because PM 1 at Norske Skog Tasman was shut down in August last year. As of July 2007 the prices in Australia were reduced by $7 \%$, with a basis in the price formula incorporated in the long-term contracts.

Production limitations at Norske Skog Albury due to the water situation can still not be excluded, even if there was some precipitation in June and July. Efforts are underway

| Key figures: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | Q2/07 | Q1/07 | Q2/06 | YTD 2007 | YTD 2006 |
| Operating income | NOK mill. | 1433 | 1381 | 1409 | 2814 | 2947 |
| Gross operating earnings | NOK mill. | 241 | 301 | 268 | 542 | 510 |
| Net operating earnings | NOK mill. | 82 | 137 | 83 | 219 | 133 |
| Gross operating margin | $\%$ | 16,8 | 21,8 | 19,0 | 19,3 | 17,3 |
| Deliveries | 1000 tonnes | 392 | 364 | 395 | 756 | 759 |
| Production | 1000 tonnes | 391 | 389 | 402 | 780 | 772 |
| Production/capacity | $\%$ | 97 | 97 | 90 | 97 | 86 |

measured in local currency is stable in China and Korea in the second quarter compared with the first quarter, while most other Asian markets have lower prices.

|  | Key figures: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: |
|  |  | Q2/07 | Q1/07 | Q2/06 | YTD 2007 | YTD 2006 |  |
| Operating income | NOK mill. | 985 | 969 | 973 | 1954 | 1860 |  |
| Gross operating earnings | NOK mill. | 278 | 277 | 167 | 555 | 233 |  |
| Net operating earnings | NOK mill. | 104 | 102 | 12 | 206 | $(93)$ |  |
| Gross operating margin | $\%$ | 28,2 | 28,6 | 17,2 | 28,4 | 12,5 |  |
| Deliveries | 1000 tonnes | 196 | 194 | 220 | 390 | 407 |  |
| Production | 1000 tonnes | 213 | 198 | 210 | 411 | 391 |  |
| Production/capacity | $\%$ | 97 | 90 | 93 | 94 | 87 |  |

to reduce total water consumption at the mill. If a production stop should occur, the customers will be supplied from other Norske Skog mills around the world.

The newsprint demand was up 3\% in first half year 2007 compared to first half year 2006.

## SOUTH AMERICA

The segment result in South America improved somewhat from the first quarter due to higher volumes and because a minor provision related to wood deliveries in the first quarter.

The demand for newsprint in South America is marginally up so far in 2007 compared to the same period last year, when customers were building up significant stock levels. The customers' stock levels are now expected to be back to normal.

| Key figures: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | Q2/07 | Q1/07 | Q2/06 | YTD 2007 | YTD 2006 |
|  | NOK mill. | 345 | 312 | 321 | 657 | 660 |
| Operating income | NOK mill. | 85 | 70 | 92 | 155 | 181 |
| Gross operating earnings | NOK mill. | 46 | 26 | 48 | 72 | 90 |
| Net operating earnings | $\%$ | 24,6 | 22,4 | 28,7 | 23,6 | 27,4 |
| Gross operating margin | 1000 tonnes | 77 | 68 | 73 | 147 | 143 |
| Deliveries | 1000 tonnes | 77 | 73 | 74 | 150 | 146 |
| Production | $\%$ | 99 | 94 | 95 | 96 | 94 |
| Production/capacity |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Lysaker, 2 August 2007

The Board of Directors of
Norske Skogindustrier ASA


PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

| NOK MILLION | APR - JUN 07 | APR - JUN 06 | JAN - JUN 07 | JAN - JUN 06 | 2006 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Operating revenue | 6794 | 6772 | 13520 | 13916 | 28812 |
| Distribution costs | (585) | (603) | (1 177) | (1 251) | (2 521) |
| Cost of materials | (3 856) | (3 696) | (7 728) | (7 696) | (15 498) |
| Change in inventory | 280 | 23 | 586 | 118 | (102) |
| Employee benefit expenses | (841) | (922) | (1760) | (1934) | (3 800) |
| Other operating expenses | (663) | (493) | (1 137) | (1038) | (2 187) |
| Restructuring expenses |  | (63) |  | (63) | (484) |
| Other gains and losses | (206) | (186) | (589) | (181) | (288) |
| Gross operating earnings | 923 | 832 | 1715 | 1871 | 3932 |
| Depreciation and amortisation | (713) | (803) | (1 448) | (1 670) | (3 226) |
| Impairments | 26 | (43) | 26 | (43) | (3 233) |
| Operating earnings | 236 | (14) | 293 | 158 | (2 527) |
| Share of profit in associated companies | 17 | 10 | 30 | 193 | 202 |
| Financial items | (80) | (209) | (285) | (370) | (1 155) |
| Profit before tax | 173 | (213) | 38 | (19) | $(3480)$ |
| Income tax expense | (52) | 22 | (16) | 34 | 463 |
| Net profit | 121 | (191) | 22 | 15 | (3 017) |
| Attributable to minority interests | (14) | (11) | (19) | (18) | (208) |
| Attributable to equity holders of the company | 135 | (180) | 41 | 33 | $(2809)$ |
| Earnings per share | 0.71 | (0.95) | 0.22 | 0.17 | (14.84) |

## CASH FLOW STATEMENT

Cash flow from operating activities
Cash generated from operations
Cash used in operations
Cash from net financial items
Taxes paid
Net cash flow from operating activities
Cash flow from investing activities
Investments in operational fixed assets

| (499) | (468) | (698) | (801) | (1722) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 7 | 2 | 7 | 11 |
| - | - | - | 1213 | 1213 |
| (498) | (461) | (696) | 419 | (498) |
| 3737 | 519 | 3719 | (485) | (3977) |
| 469 | 92 | 187 | 160 | 2343 |
| (1 049) | (956) | (1 049) | (956) | (1 046) |
| 3157 | (345) | 2857 | (1 281) | (2 680) |
| (17) | (11) | (19) | (7) | (1) |
| 2908 | (243) | 3015 | (44) | (416) |

$\qquad$

## BALANCE SHEET

| NOK MILLION | 30-06-07 | 30-06-06 | 31-12-06 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ASSETS |  |  |  |
| Deferred tax asset | 89 | 263 | 216 |
| Other intangible assets | 2964 | 4858 | 3056 |
| Property, plant and equipment | 32273 | 33318 | 33547 |
| Investments in associated companies | 340 | 295 | 333 |
| Other non-current assets | 35 | 622 | 425 |
| Total non-current assets | 35701 | 39356 | 37577 |
| Inventory | 3259 | 2819 | 2688 |
| Receivables | 3994 | 4087 | 3999 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 2222 | 705 | 397 |
| Other current assets | 1895 | 492 | 569 |
| Total current assets | 11370 | 8103 | 7653 |
| Total assets | 47071 | 47459 | 45230 |
| Shareholders' equity and liabilities |  |  |  |
| Paid-in equity | 12322 | 12309 | 12309 |
| Retained earnings | 4397 | 7763 | 5791 |
| Minority interests | 426 | 630 | 450 |
| Total equity | 17145 | 20702 | 18550 |
| Pension obligations | 511 | 449 | 530 |
| Deferred tax | 1505 | 2511 | 1804 |
| Interest-bearing non-current liabilities | 17961 | 17681 | 14712 |
| Other non-current liabilities | 1882 | 786 | 1756 |
| Total non-current liabilities | 21859 | 21427 | 18802 |
| Interest-bearing current liabilities | 3002 | 939 | 3114 |
| Trade and other receivables | 3642 | 3666 | 3833 |
| Tax payable | 167 | 103 | 123 |
| Other current liabilities | 1256 | 622 | 808 |
| Total current liabilities | 8067 | 5330 | 7878 |
| Total liabilities | 29926 | 26757 | 26680 |
| Total equity and liabilities | 47071 | 47459 | 45230 |

## FINANCIAL KEY FIGURES

DE:
Net operating margin
Gross operating margin
Return on capital employed
Equity ratio \%

## REVENUE AND PROFIT BY SEGMENT

Operating revenue

| NOK MILLION | APR - JUN 07 | APR - JUN 06 | JAN - JUN 07 | JAN - JUN 06 | 2006 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Europe |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 2257 | 2195 | 4447 | 4467 | 9072 |
| Magazine paper | 1556 | 1471 | 3180 | 3145 | 6748 |
| Total Europe | 3813 | 3666 | 7627 | 7612 | 15820 |
| Asia |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 1433 | 1409 | 2814 | 2947 | 6096 |
| Australasia |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 985 | 973 | 1954 | 1860 | 3897 |
| South America |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 345 | 321 | 657 | 660 | 1399 |
| Other items |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other industry in Norway | - | 1 | 2 | 108 | 110 |
| Other revenues | 432 | 534 | 826 | 966 | 1943 |
| Staff/eliminations | (214) | (132) | (360) | (237) | (453) |
| Total other items | 218 | 403 | 468 | 837 | 1600 |
| Total group | 6794 | 6772 | 13520 | 13916 | 28812 |

Gross operating earnings

| NOK MILLION | APR - JUN 07 | APR - JUN 06 | JAN - JUN 07 | JAN - JUN 06 | 2006 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Europe |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 456 | 390 | 902 | 811 | 1742 |
| Magazine paper | 148 | 176 | 297 | 430 | 933 |
| Total Europe | 604 | 566 | 1199 | 1241 | 2675 |
| Asia |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 241 | 268 | 542 | 510 | 997 |
| Australasia |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 278 | 167 | 555 | 233 | 719 |
| South America |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 85 | 92 | 155 | 181 | 469 |
| Other items |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other industry in Norway | - | - | - | 11 | 11 |
| Staff/eliminations | (79) | (12) | (147) | (61) | (167) |
| Other gains and losses | (206) | (186) | (589) | (181) | (288) |
| Restructuring expenses | - | (63) | - | (63) | (484) |
| Total other items | (285) | (261) | (736) | (294) | (928) |
| Total group | 923 | 832 | 1715 | 1871 | 3932 |

Operating earnings

| NOK MILLION | APR - JUN 07 | APR - JUN 06 | JAN - JUN 07 | JAN - JUN 06 | 2006 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Europe |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 280 | 153 | 546 | 301 | 768 |
| Magazine paper | 2 | 10 | (8) | 96 | 282 |
| Total Europe | 282 | 163 | 538 | 397 | 1050 |
| Asia |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 82 | 83 | 219 | 133 | 252 |
| Australasia |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 104 | 12 | 206 | (93) | 68 |
| South America |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 46 | 48 | 72 | 90 | 289 |
| Other items |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other industry in Norway | - | - | - | 6 | 6 |
| Staff/eliminations | (98) | (28) | (179) | (88) | (187) |
| Other gains and losses | (206) | (186) | (589) | (181) | (288) |
| Restructuring expenses | - | (63) | - | (63) | (484) |
| Impairments | 26 | (43) | 26 | (43) | (3 233) |
| Total other items | (278) | (320) | (742) | (369) | (4 186) |
| Total group | 236 | (14) | 293 | 158 | (2 527) |

## PRODUCTION AND DELIVERIES BY SEGMENT

## Production

| (1,000 TONS) | APR - JUN 07 | APR - JUN 06 | JAN - JUN 07 | JAN - JUN 06 | 2006 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Europe |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 537 | 520 | 1073 | 1076 | 2151 |
| Magazine paper | 322 | 307 | 630 | 631 | 1279 |
| Total Europe | 859 | 827 | 1703 | 1707 | 3430 |
| Asia |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 391 | 402 | 780 | 772 | 1553 |
| Australasia |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 213 | 210 | 411 | 391 | 798 |
| South America |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 77 | 74 | 150 | 146 | 297 |
| Total newsprint | 1218 | 1206 | 2414 | 2385 | 4799 |
| Total magazine paper | 322 | 307 | 630 | 631 | 1279 |
| Total publication paper | 1540 | 1513 | 3044 | 3016 | 6078 |

Deliveries

| (1,000 TONS) | APR - JUN 07 | APR - JUN 06 | JAN - JUN 07 | JAN - JUN 06 | 2006 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Europe |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 517 | 551 | 1014 | 1101 | 2176 |
| Magazine paper | 296 | 281 | 600 | 591 | 1247 |
| Total Europe | 813 | 832 | 1614 | 1692 | 3423 |
| Asia |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 392 | 395 | 756 | 759 | 1562 |
| Australasia |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 196 | 220 | 390 | 407 | 827 |
| South America |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 77 | 73 | 145 | 143 | 294 |
| Total newsprint | 1182 | 1239 | 2305 | 2410 | 4859 |
| Total magazine paper | 296 | 281 | 600 | 591 | 1247 |
| Total publication paper | 1478 | 1520 | 2905 | 3001 | 6106 |

## QUARTERLY COMPARISONS GROUP

| NOK million | 2Q07 | 1Q07 | 4Q06 | 3Q06 | 2 Q06 | 1Q06 | 4Q05 | 3Q05 | 2Q05 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Operating revenue | 6794 | 6726 | 7704 | 7192 | 6772 | 7144 | 7107 | 6425 | 6433 |
| Restructuring expenses |  | - | (45) | (376) | (63) |  | (270) |  |  |
| Gross operating earnings | 923 | 792 | 1296 | 765 | 832 | 1039 | 813 | 1059 | 1062 |
| Depreciation and amortisation | (713) | (735) | (729) | (827) | (803) | (867) | (828) | (740) | (748) |
| Impairments | 26 |  |  | (3190) | (43) |  | (179) |  | (58) |
| Operating earnings | 236 | 57 | 567 | (3252) | (14) | 172 | (194) | 319 | 256 |
| Profit before tax | 173 | (135) | 318 | (3779) | (213) | 194 | (1 127) | 177 | 31 |
| Attributable to equity holders of the company | 135 | (94) | 245 | (3087) | (180) | 213 | (997) | 193 | (8) |

## QUARTERLY COMPARISON SEGMENTS

| NOK million | 2 Q07 | 1Q07 | 4Q06 | 3 Q06 | 2 Q06 | 1Q06 | 4Q05 | 3Q05 | 2Q05 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Operating revenue |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Europe | 3813 | 3814 | 4301 | 3907 | 3666 | 3946 | 3962 | 3990 | 3924 |
| Asia | 1433 | 1381 | 1577 | 1572 | 1409 | 1538 | 1107 | 658 | 636 |
| Australasia | 985 | 969 | 1048 | 989 | 973 | 887 | 1019 | 1028 | 1056 |
| South America | 345 | 312 | 375 | 364 | 321 | 339 | 339 | 320 | 300 |
| Other activities | 432 | 396 | 504 | 475 | 535 | 539 | 780 | 505 | 597 |
| Staff/eliminations | (214) | (146) | (101) | (115) | (132) | (105) | (100) | (76) | (80) |
| Total operating revenue | 6794 | 6726 | 7704 | 7192 | 6772 | 7144 | 7107 | 6425 | 6433 |
| Gross operating earnings |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Europe | 604 | 595 | 692 | 742 | 566 | 675 | 529 | 663 | 579 |
| Asia | 241 | 301 | 290 | 197 | 268 | 242 | 170 | 119 | 132 |
| Australasia | 278 | 277 | 246 | 240 | 167 | 66 | 164 | 215 | 196 |
| South America | 85 | 70 | 180 | 108 | 92 | 89 | 43 | 77 | 74 |
| Other activities | - | - | - | - | - | 11 | 25 | 12 | 12 |
| Staff/eliminations | (79) | (68) | (81) | (40) | (12) | (49) | (56) | (15) | (23) |
| Other gains and losses | (206) | (383) | 14 | (106) | (186) | 5 | 208 | (12) | 92 |
| Restructuring expenses | - | - | (45) | (376) | (63) | - | (270) | - | - |
| Total gross operating earnings | 923 | 792 | 1296 | 765 | 832 | 1039 | 813 | 1059 | 1062 |
| Operating earnings |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Europe | 282 | 256 | 324 | 329 | 163 | 234 | 130 | 241 | 148 |
| Asia | 82 | 137 | 110 | 9 | 83 | 50 | 23 | 43 | 56 |
| Australasia | 104 | 102 | 88 | 73 | 12 | (105) | (39) | 39 | 22 |
| South America | 46 | 26 | 131 | 68 | 48 | 42 | (5) | 29 | 26 |
| Other activities | - | - | - | - | - | 6 | 17 | 4 | 4 |
| Staff/eliminations | (98) | (81) | (55) | (59) | (28) | (60) | (79) | (25) | (34) |
| Other gains and losses | (206) | (383) | 14 | (106) | (186) | 5 | 208 | (12) | 92 |
| Restructuring expenses | - |  | (45) | (376) | (63) | - | (270) |  | - |
| Impairments | 26 |  |  | (3 190) | (43) | - | (179) | - | (58) |
| Total operating earnings | 236 | 57 | 567 | (352) | (14) | 172 | (194) | 319 | 256 |

## CHANGE IN EQUITY

|  | SHARE CAPITAL | OTHER PAID-IN EQUITY | RETAINED EARNINGS | TOTAL |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total equity excluding minority |  |  |  |  |
| interests 1 January 2007 | 12309 | 785 | 5006 | 18100 |
| Currency translation adjustments and other | 13 | - | (390) | (377) |
| Share issues | - | - |  |  |
| Dividend paid | - | - | (1 045) | (1 045) |
| Net profit for the period | - | - | 41 | 41 |
| Total equity excluding minority |  |  |  |  |
| interests 30 June 2007 | 12322 | 785 | 3612 | 16719 |

## Accounting principles

The interim financial statements for the second quarter of 2007 are presented in accordance with IAS 34. The interim financial statements, including comparative figures, are based on today's IFRS standards and interpretations.

The accounting principles applied in these interim financial statements are the same as those applied in the financial statements at 31 December 2006 and for the year ending at that date.

## Accounting estimates, judgements and assumptions

The group prepares estimates and makes judgements and assumptions about the
future. Accounting estimates derived from these will by definition seldom accord fully with the final outcome.

Estimates and the underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. The effects of changes in accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimates are revised. If the change in estimates also has an effect on future periods, these effects are recognised in the period in which the estimates are revised and in the future periods in which the changes in estimates have an effect.
The same judgements and assumptions have been made when applying accounting policies and preparing estimates in preparing these interim financial statements as when preparing the financial statements at 31 December 2006 and for the year ending at that date.

## GROSS AND NET OPERATING EARNINGS

These tables show gross and net operating earnings under IFRS, adjusted for impairments, changes in the value of power contracts, and restructuring costs (- equals gain, + equals loss).

| NOK MILLION | APR - JUN 07 | APR - JUN 06 | JAN - JUN 07 | JAN - JUN 06 | 2006 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Gross operating earnings, IFRS | 923 | 792 | 832 | 1715 | 1871 |
| Reversals: |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other gains and losses | +206 | +383 | +186 | +589 | +181 |
| Restructuring expenses | - | - | +63 | - | +63 |
| Gross op earnings, adjusted | 1129 | 1175 | 1081 | 2304 | 2115 |
| Gross op margin, adjusted \% | 16.6 | 17.5 | 16.0 | 17.0 | 15.2 |
| Net operating earnings, IFRS | 236 | 57 | -14 | 293 | 158 |
| Reversals: |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other gains and losses | +206 | +383 | +186 | +589 | +181 |
| Restructuring expenses | - | - | +63 | - | +63 |
| Impairments | -26 | - | +43 | -26 | +43 |
| Net op earnings, adjusted | 416 | 440 | 278 | 856 | 445 |
| Net op margins, adjusted \% | 6.1 | 6.5 | 4.1 | 6.3 | 3.2 |

## SPECIAL ITEMS

The table below shows special items which have influenced net earnings over the past five quarters.

## NOK MILLION

Restructuring provision (op earnings)
Accrual for bad debt (op earnings)
Impairments (op earnings)
Translation effects on accounts receivable and payable (op earnings)
Change in market value of interest rate derivatives (financial items)
Currency hedging gain/(loss) (financial items)
$2 / 07$
$\vdots$
$\vdots$
26
$(7)$
19
132

| $1 / 07$ | $4 / 06$ | $3 / 06$ | $2 / 06$ |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| - | $(45)$ | $(376)$ | $(63)$ |
| - | - | $(75)$ | - |
| - | - | $(3190)$ | $(43)$ |
| $(12)$ | $(36)$ | 30 | $(33)$ |
| 2 | 14 | $(17)$ | 11 |
| 81 | 30 | $(232)$ | 47 |

## THE NORSKE SKOG SHARE

| KEY FIGURES | JANUARY - JUNE 2007 |  |  |  |  |  | AT 01.08.2007 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 02-01-07 | 30-06-07 | High | Low | Earnings per share | Booked equity per share | Share price | Market value NOK mill. |
| Norske Skog A | 109,25 | 85,20 | 118,50 | 85,20 | 0,22 | 88,31 | 81,30 | 15443 |

PRICE DEVELOPMENT NEWSPRINT, SC, LWC - GERMANY


## SHARE PRICE DEVELOPMENT 2000-2007



Oslo Stock Exchange index

- Norske Skog

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