


| Key figures (IFRS) - unaudited |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Q4/07 | Q3/07 | Q4/06 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Operating revenue | Mill. NOK | 6956 | 6641 | 7704 | 27118 | 28812 |
| Gross operating earnings * | Mill. NOK | 775 | 851 | 1328 | 3938 | 4702 |
| Operating earnings * | Mill. NOK | 56 | 139 | 599 | 1060 | 1476 |
| Gross operating margin * | \% | 11.1 \% | 12.8 \% | 17.2 \% | 14.5 \% | 16.3 \% |
| Net operating margin * | \% | 0.8 \% | 2.1 \% | 7.8 \% | 3.9 \% | 5.1 \% |
| Return on capital employed | \% | 0.7 \% | 1.5 \% | 6.2 \% | 3.0 \% | 3.6 \% |
| Profit before tax | Mill. NOK | (82) | 280 | 318 | 235 | (3480) |
| Net profit | Mill. NOK | (910) | 205 | 209 | (683) | (3017) |
| Earnings per share | NOK | (4.65) | 1.20 | 1.30 | (3.26) | (14.84) |
| Cash flow from operating activities | M Mill. NOK | 521 | 772 | 673 | 2166 | 2763 |
| Cash flow per share | NOK | 2.75 | 4.07 | 3.56 | 11.43 | 14.60 |
| Net interest bearing debt | Mill. NOK | 16408 | 16231 | 17320 | 16408 | 17320 |
| Net interest bearing debt / Equity | Ratio | 1.05 | 0.96 | 0.93 | 1.05 | 0.93 |
| Production volume 1 | 1000 tonnes | 1476 | 1529 | 1520 | 6049 | 6078 |
| Deliveries 1 | 1000 tonnes | 1599 | 1523 | 1589 | 6027 | 6106 |

* The numbers are exclusive of items that are deemed not to be related to the underlying operation. The numbers are reconciled to the IFRS accounts in the tables below.

|  |  | Q4/07 | Q3/07 | Q4/06 | 2007 | 2006 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Gross operating earnings before special items | Mill. NOK | 775 | 851 | 1328 | 3938 | 4702 |
| Value changes energy contracts | Mill. NOK | 4489 | 236 | 55 | 4729 | 135 |
| Value changes derivatives | Mill. NOK | 439 | (158) | (72) | (370) | (541) |
| Value changes other assets | Mill. NOK | 27 | 0 | 0 | 27 | 0 |
| Realised profit/loss commodity contracts | Mill. NOK | 31 | (11) | 36 | 71 | 144 |
| Special, non-recurring items | Mill. NOK | 0 | 2 | (6) | 0 | (24) |
| Restructuring expenses | Mill. NOK | 0 | 0 | (45) | 0 | (484) |
| Gross operating earnings IFRS | Mill. NOK | 5761 | 920 | 1296 | 8395 | 3932 |
| Operating earnings before special items | Mill. NOK | 56 | 139 | 599 | 1060 | 1476 |
| Value changes energy contracts | Mill. NOK | 4489 | 236 | 55 | 4729 | 135 |
| Value changes derivatives | Mill. NOK | 439 | (158) | (72) | (370) | (541) |
| Value changes other assets | Mill. NOK | 27 | 0 | 0 | 27 | 0 |
| Realised profit/loss commodity contracts | Mill. NOK | 31 | (11) | 36 | 71 | 144 |
| Special, non-recurring items | Mill. NOK | 0 | 2 | (6) | 0 | (24) |
| Restructuring expenses | Mill. NOK | 0 | 0 | (45) | 0 | (484) |
| Impairments | Mill. NOK | (4 866) | 0 | 0 | $(4840)$ | (3 233) |
| Operating earnings IFRS | Mill. NOK | 176 | 208 | 567 | 677 | (2 527) |

# Report for the fourth quarter of 2007 

- The fourth quarter of 2007: Gross operating profit before special items NOK 775 million (NOK 851 million in the third quarter); operating profit after depreciation NOK 56 million (NOK 139 million in the third quarter). The lower profit is mainly due to production curtailments in Europe and a stronger Norwegian krone.
- Full year 2007: Gross operating profit before special items NOK 3,938 million (NOK 4,702 million in 2006); operating profit after depreciation NOK 1,060 million (NOK 1,476 million in 2006). The lower profit is due to cost increases on input factors, lower prices in most main markets and adverse currency developments.
- The administration has proposed to shut down three paper machines in Europe and Asia with a total newsprint capacity of 450,000 tonnes. Expected reduction in fixed cost is approximately NOK 250 million.
- A comprehensive reorganisation and de-manning will be carried out at the head office functions, and expected annual saving is at least NOK 150 million.
- The board proposes that no dividend be disbursed for the year 2007


## Details on special items in the operating result

Based on the expected long-term development in the newsprint demand, the fact that the politically determined energy contracts in Norway expire in 2010 and the assumptions for the long-term development of the US dollar exchange rate, a comprehensive assessment of asset values and other matters was carried out in November/December 2007. The final accounting effects are that tangible fixed assets were written down by about NOK 2 billion and goodwill by about NOK 2.8 billion in the fourth quarter of 2007. The value of energy contracts in Norway has been included in the balance sheet with a value of slightly less than NOK 4.5 billion after deducting economic rent taxation. This amount has been included in the gross and net operating result under IFRS, but not in the underlying result. This manner of recognising energy contracts follows from the accounting rules as long as parts of the volume is not for own use. A corresponding
valuation will take place in each quarter in the coming years, and this may have significant accounting effects. Amortization of the amount will take place during the period 2008 - 2020 and will be included in the group's gross operating result under IFRS, but this will not influence the underlying result neither for segments nor for the group.

In the fourth quarter of 2007 NOK 439 million was recognised as income as a result of change in value of embedded derivatives etc., mainly in connection with energy contracts in Norway and Brazil. Most of the amount concerns energy contracts in Brazil and is connected with changes in expected long-term exchange rate developments between BRL and USD. In addition, NOK 31 million has been recognised as income from realised gains from raw material contracts. In the tables above, parts of amounts which were previously referred to as change in value of embedded derivatives
have been reclassified as change in value of energy contracts or realised gains on raw material contracts.

In addition, NOK 27 million has been recognised as income from change in value of forest properties in Brazil in the fourth quarter of 2007. The amount is not included in the reported result for the South America segment.

As of 2008, the operating result before special items will be replaced by the terms "underlying gross operating result" and "underlying net operating result". The main difference from the term used so far is that realised currency gains/losses from cash flow hedging are included in the underlying gross and net operating result. The amounts will remain under financial items in the IFRS income statement. Another change is that part of the depreciations which is included in the changes in inventory, is kept separate when reporting the underlying gross operating result.

## Comments to the accounts - Group

## THE RESULT IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2007 COMPARED WITH THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2006

The fourth quarter gross and net operating result before special items is somewhat weaker than in the previous quarter, as expected. The main reasons for this are production curtailments to reduce inventories and a significantly stronger Norwegian krone than in the previous quarter.

As mentioned above, the net result in the fourth quarter is strongly influenced by several one-off items and other matters not related to the operations. None of these accounting items have any cash effect.

## THE 2007 RESULT COMPARED WITH 2006

Gross operating profit before special items is NOK 764 million lower. With the exception of Australasia, where rebuilding work took place in 2006, all segments show results that are weaker than in the preceding year, in some cases significantly weaker. The main reasons for this are cost increases, currency effects and lower prices in most markets except newsprint in Europe.

When comparing the 2007 net result
with the corresponding figure for 2006, the one-off items mentioned above must be taken into account, as well as the fact that provisions of NOK 484 million were made for redundancies and fixed assets and goodwill were written down by NOK 3.3 billion in 2006.

## Financial items

The interest costs in the fourth quarter of 2007 were almost unchanged compared with the previous quarter. There was a small currency gain in the fourth quarter, while there was a large gain in the third quarter. For 2007 as a whole, the currency gains were NOK 668 million, and a large proportion of these were unrealised. In a normal year, the financial items will be significantly higher than in 2007.

## Tax costs

The tax costs were NOK 828 million in the fourth quarter of 2007 and NOK 918 million for 2007 as a whole. The tax cost is influenced by about NOK 700 million in total from the recognition of energy contracts in Norway as income and write-down of fixed assets. In addition, an amount of NOK 240 million is included, which is the final settlement of a matter stemming from a subsidiary of what was then Fletcher Challenge and which was acquired in 2000. In this matter, an agreement was reached between Norske Skog and Canadian tax authorities in November 2007. Norske Skog has previously stated that the matter could result in a claim of up to NOK 4.5 billion, as referred to in Note 10 of the 2006 group accounts.

| Financial items (NOK mill.) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Q4/07 | Q3/07 | Q4/06 | 2007 | 2006 |  |
| Net interest costs | NOK mill. | $(289)$ | $(291)$ | $(254)$ | $(1098)$ | $(982)$ |  |
| Interest hedging | NOK mill. | 38 | 13 | 14 | 72 | 7 |  |
| Gain/loss currency | NOK mill. | 28 | 370 | 98 | 668 | $(17)$ |  |
| Other financial items | NOK mill. | $(36)$ | $(26)$ | $(107)$ | $(121)$ | $(163)$ |  |
| Total financial items | NOK mill. | $(259)$ | 66 | $(249)$ | $(479)$ | $(1155)$ |  |

## Cash flow

The cash flow from operations, exclusive of financial costs paid and taxes paid, was NOK 521 million in the fourth quarter of 2007 and NOK 2,166 million for the entire year. The low cash flow in the fourth quarter is mainly a result of the payment in connection with the mentioned Canadian tax matter, and the fact that the financial items paid are somewhat higher than the financial items in the income statement. Before financial items and tax, the cash flow in the fourth quarter was approximately NOK 150 million higher than in the third quarter, reflecting a positive development in the working capital during the quarter.

## Balance sheet

Total assets were NOK 43.3 billion as of 31 December 2007, a reduction of NOK 2.0 billion from the previous year-end. Tangible fixed assets and goodwill were reduced by NOK 8.4 billion in total as a result of currency effects, write-downs and the fact that capitalised investments were lower than the depreciations. Other assets have increased by NOK 6.3 billion due to relatively large short-term investments and as a result of the value of Norwegian energy contracts being included in the balance sheet with slightly more than NOK 4.5 billion.

Net interest-bearing debt was NOK 16.4 billion as of 31 December 2007, a reduction of NOK 0.9 billion through the year. The reduction is due to currency effects. At the end of the year, Norske Skog had a liquidity reserve including undrawn credit facilities of NOK 7.8 billion. The average term of interest-bearing debt was 5.9 years. Loans which fall due in 2008 amount to NOK 1.1 billion. In November 2007, Norske Skog's debt was downgraded by the rating agency Moody's, to Ba2 from previously Ba1, and in January 2008, the rating agency Standard \& Poor's downgraded Norske Skog's debt to BB from BB+.

Gearing (net interest-bearing debt/ equity) was 1.05 as of 31 December 2007 compared with 0.93 at the previous yearend.

Capitalised investments in 2007 amounted to NOK 1.7 billion, unchanged from 2006. The largest individual item is the Pisa PM2 project, which amounts to NOK 380
million. Other major projects are the final part of a quality improvement project at Norske Skog Saugbrugs, and the moving of the TMP plant from the shut-down mill Norske Skog Union to Norske Skog Follum.

## Dividend

Due to Norske Skog's weak result for 2007 and the company's financial position, the board's recommendation to the general meeting is that no dividend should be disbursed for the accounting year 2007.

## Profit improvement and debt reduction strategy

Increased costs and overcapacity have reduced Norske Skog's profitability to an unsatisfactory level. In addition, the group's debt is high in relation to cash flow. In the opinion of the board, Norske Skog must focus on cost reduction, debt reduction and improved utilisation of the company's overall production capacity. Work is also underway on long-term structural solutions for parts of the activities.

## PROFIT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The comprehensive program initiated in the autumn of 2006 has generated a profit improvement of about NOK 500 million in the fourth quarter, compared with the base year 2005. Annualised, this equals NOK 2 billion, and the goal of achieving improvements of NOK 3 billion by the end of 2008 remains firm. The net effect on the result of this have so far been offset by price increases on input factors, the currency situation and an unsatisfactory price level due to overcapacity. Norske Skog has therefore implemented additional measures, primarily a decision to introduce a production curtailment of 200,000 tonnes of newsprint in Europe in 2008.

## IMPROVED CAPACITY UTILISATION

At the beginning of December, the board decided to accelerate the process of assessing the individual mills and paper machines. The purpose is to identify which paper machines that can be permanently shut down or possibly converted to produce other
paper grades. The assessments are mainly based on long-term market development and on cost conditions, including marginal analyses.

Norske Skog's administration has arrived at the following proposal which will be discussed in the board meeting on 4 March and finally be decided upon in the corporate assembly on 12 March:

- PM2 at Norske Skog Follum is to be shut down indefinitely. The machine has a capacity of 130,000 tonnes.
- Norske Skog Steti in the Czech Republic, with a capacity of 130,000 tonnes, is shut down permanently. As this concerns a paper machine in a large industrial complex, the sale of the machine with conversion to other grades will be considered.
- Norske Skog Cheongwon in Korea, with a capacity of 190,000 tonnes, will be shut down indefinitely.
The proposal calls for the shut-down of facilities with a total newsprint production capacity of 450,000 tonnes. All shut-downs are expected to be carried out during 2008. The administration will continue the process and involve affected parties in accordance with local laws and regulations.

The estimated annual savings in fixed costs are about NOK 250 million, which will take full effect in 2009.

## Reorganisation and staff reduction at the head office

A significant potential for cost savings at the head office has been identified, amounting to at least NOK 150 million and taking full effect in 2009. The group management team will be reduced to seven members, from presently nine, and a significant staff reduction is being planned.

## ACCOUNTING EFFECTS OF SHUTDOWNS AND HEAD OFFICE STAFF REDUCTIONS

The proposal to shut down three paper machines involves write-downs of fixed assets totalling about NOK 1.1 billion. Due to shut-downs and staff reductions, a total of 420 employees will become redundant. Based on preliminary calculations, provisions for severance pay, etc. will be about

NOK 220 million. The write-downs and provisions will be recognised in the accounts in the first half of 2008, contingent upon the corporate assembly's approval.

The total cost reduction will be about NOK 400 million, taking full effect from 2009.

## SALE OF ASSETS

An agreement has been entered into for the sale of a port property in New Zealand which the company no longer needs. The sale will be recognised in the accounts in the first quarter of 2008 and generate a gain of about NOK 60 million, and a cash payment of about NOK 100 million.

The process of selling the company's properties which are not production-related, including the company's main office at Oxenøen, outside of Oslo, is underway.

## Long-term sale and purchasing agreements

In November 2007, Norske Skog entered into a multi-year delivery agreement for newsprint to British media group News International Ltd. Most of the volume will be delivered from Norske Skog Skogn, and amounts to a significant part of the mill's production capacity.

In December 2007, five-year framework agreements were entered into with the Norwegian forest owner co-ops for the delivery of pulpwood. The agreements are subject to approvals by the governing bodies in the affected parties.

## New biofuel activities

In cooperation with the Norwegian forest owner federations, a decision has been made to establish a joint venture for development and production of biofuel based on wood. The company will be established with a share capital of NOK 30 million and 60 per cent of the company will be owned by Norske Skog. A prototype facility for biodiesel will be built in conjunction with Norske Skog Follum. The company's objective is to establish $1-2$ full-scale biodiesel production facilities.

## US class action lawsuit dropped

In June 2004, Norske Skog and a subsidiary in the US were named in a class action lawsuit filed by several plaintiffs before a US federal court. The case concerned behaviour allegedly hindering competition in connection with publication paper. In December 2007, the lawsuit was dropped voluntarily, without Norske Skog making any commitment or pledge.

## Health and safety

The H value (injuries with absence per million working hours) was 1.7 in the 12-month period from 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2007. Seven of the mills had zero injuries in 2007.

## Shares

A significant net sale of shares from abroad to Norway took place in the fourth quarter of 2007, reducing the foreign share ownership from 67 per cent as of 30 September 2007 to 49 per cent at year-end. The traded volumes increased successively through 2007, and a total of 645 million Norske Skog shares were traded in 2007. This gives a turnover rate of 3.4.
In December 2007, the company Unionen AS flagged an ownership interest of 5.9 per cent, and demanded an extraordinary general meeting in Norske Skog to elect new members to the corporate assembly and the election committee. The general meeting was held on 10 January 2008 and it decided that no replacements would take place until the ordinary general meeting.
In December, the US asset management firm Third Avenue reported that they owned more than 5 per cent of the shares in Norske Skog, but in January 2008 the company had reduced their ownership to less than 5 per cent again.


## Operations and market

As in previous years, 2007 saw a seasonal upturn in demand in the autumn. Norske Skog's overall deliveries in the fourth quarter was 5 per cent higher than in the third quarter of 2007, and marginally higher than in the fourth quarter of 2006 . For 2007 as a whole, the deliveries were somewhat lower than in 2006.

The world' s demand for newsprint during the period January - November 2007 is estimated to be 0.5 per cent lower than in the corresponding period in 2006. The reduction in North America of around $10 \%$ is mostly offset by continued strong growth in Asia. In spite of mostly unchanged newsprint demand globally, the market balance for newsprint has deteriorated through 2007 due to new capacity in China. As regards magazine paper, there was a substantial increase in demand in 2007.

Norske Skog's production in the fourth quarter of 2007 was 3.5 per cent lower than in the third quarter, primarily due to production curtailments in the Europe Newsprint segment to reduce stocks. For 2007 as a whole, there was only a marginal reduction in production volume in spite of shut-down of capacity during 2006.

## EUROPE - NEWSPRINT

The result in the fourth quarter of 2007 was lower than in the third quarter, as expected. This was mainly due to substantially lower production. Compared with full capacity, the reduction was about 50,000 tonnes. The weaker result for the entire year is partly due to lower volumes, but also due to a stronger Norwegian currency and cost increases.

The demand for newsprint (including improved qualities) in Europe was marginally lower in 2007 than in 2006. Growth in Italy, Spain and in most Eastern European countries was good, while demand fell some-what in the UK and Germany. The price level, measured in local currencies, was stable.

For the year as a whole, imports from Canada grew substantially compared with 2006, so that the total volume was at about the same level as in 2005. Due to an increased Canadian market share, the total deliveries from the European newsprint industry were reduced by 2 per cent compared with 2006.

## EUROPE - MAGAZINE PAPER

The segment's result was very weak, both for the fourth quarter of 2007 and for the year as a whole. During the quarter, there were substantially higher energy costs at one of the mills and for market pulp, as well as high maintenance costs at Norske Skog Saugbrugs.

Measured in volume, there was a good increase in demand for magazine paper in 2007, with an increase in Europe of between 4 and 5 per cent for both SC (uncoated) and CMR (coated) paper. Demand in North America also increased. The price level remained very low due to structural excess capacity. Towards the end of 2007, significant price hikes were implemented in North America, and the market balance has been significantly improved when entering 2008, due to shut-downs.

|  |  | Key figures: |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | Q4/07 | Q3/07 | Q4/06 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Operating income | NOK mill. | 2351 | 2156 | 2446 | 8954 | 9058 |
| Gross operating profit | NOK mill. | 334 | 364 | 466 | 1600 | 1742 |
| Operating profit | NOK mill. | 146 | 194 | 244 | 886 | 768 |
| Gross operating margin | $\%$ | 14.2 | 16.9 | 19.1 | 17.9 | 19.2 |
| Deliveries | 1000 tonnes | 562 | 510 | 567 | 2086 | 2176 |
| Production | 1000 tonnes | 494 | 525 | 537 | 2092 | 2151 |
| Production/capacity | $\%$ | 88 | 95 | 99 | 94 | 97 |


| Key figures: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | Q4/07 | Q3/07 | Q4/06 | 2007 | $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ |  |
| Operating income | NOK mill. | 1715 | 1767 | 1855 | 6662 | 6762 |  |
| Gross operating profit | NOK mill. | 83 | 138 | 226 | 518 | 933 |  |
| Operating profit/loss | NOK mill. | $(54)$ | $(10)$ | 80 | $(72)$ | 282 |  |
| Gross operating margin | $\%$ | 4.8 | 7.8 | 12.2 | 7.8 | 13.8 |  |
| Deliveries | 1000 tonnes | 339 | 352 | 338 | 1291 | 1247 |  |
| Production | 1000 tonnes | 324 | 330 | 328 | 1284 | 1279 |  |
| Production/capacity | $\%$ | 93 | 95 | 96 | 93 | 93 |  |

ASIA
The segment had an unsatisfactory result in the fourth quarter of 2007, although there was a minor increase compared with the previous quarter. It is mainly higher recovered paper costs and a low price level for newsprint in several Asian markets which form the underlying causes of the weak result

The good volume development continued in the fourth quarter, and newsprint demand in Asia as a whole increased by 3 per cent during the period January - November 2007, compared with the corresponding period in 2006. In China, there is an estimated increase of 8-9 per cent, in India 6 per cent and in the mature South Korean market 3 per cent. The price level has mostly remained stable in the fourth quarter, but a price increase is expected in several Asian markets in 2008.

## AUSTRALASIA

The Australasia result in the fourth quarter of 2007 was marginally up compared with the previous quarter. Taking into consideration lower prices from 1 July 2007, the result and margin are satisfactory and reflect significantly lower costs after the restructuring of the mill portfolio in the region in 2006.

The newsprint demand in the region was about 2 per cent higher in 2007 than in 2006.

## SOUTH AMERICA

The result shows a small improvement from the previous quarter due to a favourable cost development.

For the period January - November 2007 the demand in South America increased by about 8 per cent compared with the corresponding period in 2006. The increase mainly took place towards the end of the period and is a result of reduced customer stocks. Thus, the increase in demand comes more into line with the reported increase in underlying consumption, which was above 10 per cent in Brazil.

Lysaker, 6 February 2008
The Board of Norske Skogindustrier ASA

| Key figures: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | Q4/07 | Q3/07 | Q4/06 | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ |
| Operating income | NOK mill. | 1367 | 1329 | 1577 | 5511 | 6096 |
| Gross operating profit | NOK mill. | 155 | 143 | 290 | 841 | 997 |
| Operating profit/loss | NOK mill. | $(14)$ | $(26)$ | 110 | 178 | 252 |
| Gross operating margin | $\%$ | 11.3 | 10.8 | 18.4 | 15.3 | 17.6 |
| Deliveries | 1000 tonnes | 407 | 381 | 397 | 1544 | 1562 |
| Production | 1000 tonnes | 374 | 385 | 376 | 1540 | 1553 |
| Production/capacity | $\%$ | 93 | 96 | 84 | 96 | 87 |


|  | Key figures: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: |
|  |  | Q4/07 | Q3/07 | Q4/06 | 2007 | 2006 |  |
| Operating income | NOK mill. | 971 | 940 | 1048 | 3865 | 3897 |  |
| Gross operating profit | NOK mill. | 228 | 211 | 246 | 994 | 719 |  |
| Operating profit | NOK mill. | 34 | 29 | 88 | 268 | 68 |  |
| Gross operating margin | $\%$ | 23.5 | 22.4 | 23.5 | 25.7 | 18.5 |  |
| Deliveries | 1000 tonnes | 215 | 200 | 211 | 806 | 827 |  |
| Production | 1000 tonnes | 209 | 211 | 203 | 830 | 798 |  |
| Production/capacity | $\%$ | 96 | 96 | 90 | 95 | 89 |  |


|  | Key figures: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: |
|  |  | Q4/07 | Q3/07 | Q4/06 | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ |  |
| Operating income | NOK mill. | 309 | 316 | 375 | 1281 | 1399 |  |
| Gross operating profit | NOK mill. | 65 | 47 | 180 | 267 | 469 |  |
| Operating profit | NOK mill. | 28 | 18 | 131 | 115 | 289 |  |
| Gross operating margin | $\%$ | 21.0 | 14.9 | 48.0 | 20.8 | 33.5 |  |
| Deliveries | 1000 tonnes | 76 | 80 | 76 | 300 | 294 |  |
| Production | 1000 tonnes | 75 | 78 | 76 | 303 | 297 |  |
| Production/capacity | $\%$ | 94 | 100 | 98 | 97 | 96 |  |

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

| NOK MILLION | Q4/07 | Q3/07 | Q4/06 | 2007 | 2006 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Operating revenue | 6956 | 6641 | 7704 | 27118 | 28812 |
| Distribution costs | (592) | (631) | (630) | (2 400) | (2521) |
| Cost of materials | (3709) | (3778) | (3931) | (15 214) | (15 498) |
| Change in inventory | (473) | 31 | (277) | 144 | (102) |
| Employee benefit expenses | (860) | (875) | (878) | (3 495) | (3800) |
| Other operating expenses | (544) | (537) | (646) | (2221) | (2 187) |
| Restructuring expenses | 0 | 0 | (45) | 0 | (484) |
| Other gains and losses | 4983 | 69 | (1) | 4463 | (288) |
| Gross operating earnings | 5761 | 920 | 1296 | 8395 | 3932 |
| Depreciation and amortisation | (719) | (712) | (729) | (2 878) | (3226) |
| Impairments | (4866) | 0 | 0 | (4840) | (3233) |
| Operating earnings | 176 | 208 | 567 | 677 | ( 2527 ) |
| Share of profit in associated companies | 1 | 6 | 0 | 37 | 202 |
| Financial items | (259) | 66 | (249) | (479) | (1 155) |
| Profit before tax | (82) | 280 | 318 | 235 | ( 3480 ) |
| Income tax expense | (828) | (75) | (109) | (918) | 463 |
| Net profit | (910) | 205 | 209 | (683) | (3017) |
| Attributable to minority interests | (30) | (16) | (36) | (65) | (208) |
| Attributable to equity holders of the company | (880) | 221 | 245 | (618) | (2809) |
| Earnings per share | (4.65) | 1.20 | 1.30 | (3.26) | (14.84) |

## CASH FLOW STATEMENT

| NOK MILLION | Q4/07 | Q3/07 | Q4/06 | 2007 | 2006 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cash flow from operating activities |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cash generated from operations | 6937 | 6834 | 7652 | 27238 | 28905 |
| Cash used in operations | (5758) | (5798) | (6330) | $(23547)$ | (24 608) |
| Cash from net financial items | (317) | (120) | (593) | (1011) | (1 365) |
| Taxes paid | (341) | (144) | (56) | (514) | (169) |
| Net cash flow from operating activities | 521 | 772 | 673 | 2166 | 2763 |
| Cash flow from investing activities |  |  |  |  |  |
| Investments in operational fixed assets | (599) | (449) | (589) | (1746) | (1722) |
| Sales of operational fixed assets | 9 | 4 | 2 | 15 | 11 |
| Net cash from sold shares in other companies | 0 | 0 | 0 | 87 | 1213 |
| Net cash flow from investing activities | (590) | (445) | (587) | (1644) | (498) |
| Cash flow from financing activities |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net change in non-current liabilities | 5 | (417) | (2765) | 3307 | (3 977) |
| Net change in current liabilities | (93) | (1449) | 2450 | (1355) | 2343 |
| Purchase / sale treasury shares | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| Dividend received | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dividend paid ${ }^{11}$ | 0 | 0 | 0 | (1049) | (1046) |
| Net cash flow from financing activities | (88) | (1866) | (315) | 908 | (2 680) |
| Translation difference | 5 | (15) | (6) | (29) | (1) |
| Total change in liquid assets | (152) | (1554) | (235) | 1401 | (416) |

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## BALANCE SHEET

| NOK MILLION | 31-12-07 | 30-09-07 | 31-12-06 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ASSETS |  |  |  |
| Deferred tax asset | 11 | 99 | 216 |
| Other intangible assets | 132 | 2945 | 3056 |
| Property, plant and equipment | 28401 | 30621 | 33547 |
| Investments in associated companies | 234 | 219 | 333 |
| Other non-current assets | 529 | 416 | 425 |
| Total non-current assets | 29307 | 34300 | 37577 |
| Inventory | 2731 | 3130 | 2688 |
| Receivables | 3811 | 3765 | 3999 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 1792 | 1966 | 397 |
| Other current assets | 5619 | 1053 | 569 |
| Total current assets | 13953 | 9914 | 7653 |
| Total assets | 43260 | 44214 | 45230 |
| Shareholders' equity and liabilities |  |  |  |
| Paid-in equity | 12310 | 12310 | 12309 |
| Retained earnings | 3282 | 4168 | 5791 |
| Minority interests | 365 | 386 | 450 |
| Total equity | 15957 | 16864 | 18550 |
| Pension obligations | 519 | 503 | 530 |
| Deferred tax | 2033 | 1492 | 1804 |
| Interest-bearing non-current liabilities | 17294 | 17111 | 14712 |
| Other non-current liabilities | 1687 | 1931 | 1756 |
| Total non-current liabilities | 21533 | 21037 | 18802 |
| Interest-bearing current liabilities | 1141 | 1201 | 3114 |
| Trade and other receivables | 3702 | 3573 | 3833 |
| Tax payable | 73 | 186 | 123 |
| Other current liabilities | 854 | 1353 | 808 |
| Total current liabilities | 5770 | 6313 | 7878 |
| Total liabilities | 27303 | 27350 | 26680 |
| Total equity and liabilities | 43260 | 44214 | 45230 |

## REVENUE AND PROFIT BY SEGMENT

## Operating revenue

| NOK MILLION |  | Q3/07 | Q4/06 | 2007 | 2006 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Q4/07 |  |  |  |  |
| Europe |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 2351 | 2156 | 2446 | 8954 | 9058 |
| Magazine paper | 1715 | 1767 | 1855 | 6662 | 6762 |
| Total Europe | 4066 | 3923 | 4301 | 15616 | 15820 |
| Asia |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 1367 | 1329 | 1577 | 5511 | 6096 |
| Australasia |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 971 | 940 | 1048 | 3865 | 3897 |
| South America |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 309 | 316 | 375 | 1281 | 1399 |
| Other items |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other industry in Norway | 7 | 4 | 2 | 11 | 109 |
| Other revenues | 493 | 365 | 487 | 1684 | 2223 |
| Staff/eliminations | (257) | (236) | (86) | (823) | (732) |
| Total other items | 243 | 133 | 403 | 872 | 1600 |
| Total group | 6956 | 6641 | 7704 | 27145 | 28812 |

Gross operating earnings

| NOK MILLION | Q4/07 | Q3/07 | Q4/06 | 2007 | 2006 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Europe |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 334 | 364 | 466 | 1600 | 1742 |
| Magazine paper | 83 | 138 | 226 | 518 | 933 |
| Total Europe | 417 | 502 | 692 | 2118 | 2675 |
| Asia |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 155 | 143 | 290 | 841 | 997 |
| Australasia |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 228 | 211 | 246 | 994 | 719 |
| South America |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 65 | 47 | 180 | 267 | 469 |
| Other items |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other industry in Norway | (4) | 4 | 0 | 0 | 11 |
| Staff/eliminations | (83) | (57) | (81) | (288) | (167) |
| Other gains and losses | 4983 | 69 | 14 | 4463 | (288) |
| Restructuring expenses | 0 | 0 | (45) | 0 | (484) |
| Total other items | 4896 | 16 | (112) | 4175 | (928) |
| Total group | 5761 | 919 | 1296 | 8395 | 3932 |

## Operating earnings

| NOK MILLION | Q4/07 | Q3/07 | Q4/06 | 2007 | 2006 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Europe |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 146 | 194 | 244 | 886 | 768 |
| Magazine paper | (54) | (10) | 80 | (72) | 282 |
| Total Europe | 92 | 184 | 324 | 814 | 1050 |
| Asia |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | (14) | (26) | 110 | 178 | 252 |
| Australasia |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 34 | 29 | 88 | 268 | 68 |
| South America |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 28 | 18 | 131 | 115 | 289 |
| Other items |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other industry in Norway | (8) | 4 | 0 | (8) | 6 |
| Staff/eliminations | (73) | (70) | (55) | (313) | (202) |
| Other gains and losses | 4983 | 69 | 14 | 4463 | (273) |
| Restructuring expenses | 0 | 0 | (45) | 0 | (484) |
| Impairments | (4 866) | 0 | 0 | (4 840) | (3233) |
| Total other items | 36 | 3 | (86) | (698) | (4 186) |
| Total group | 176 | 208 | 567 | 677 | (2 527) |

## PRODUCTION AND DELIVERIES BY SEGMENT

## Production

| (1,000 TONS) | Q4/07 | Q3/07 | Q4/06 | 2007 | 2006 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Europe |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 494 | 525 | 537 | 2092 | 2151 |
| Magazine paper | 324 | 330 | 328 | 1284 | 1279 |
| Total Europe | 818 | 855 | 865 | 3376 | 3430 |
| Asia |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 374 | 385 | 376 | 1540 | 1553 |
| Australasia |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 209 | 211 | 203 | 830 | 798 |
| South America |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsprint | 75 | 78 | 76 | 303 | 297 |
| Total newsprint | 1152 | 1199 | 1192 | 4765 | 4799 |
| Total magazine paper | 324 | 330 | 328 | 1284 | 1279 |
| Total publication paper | 1476 | 1529 | 1520 | 6049 | 6078 |

Deliveries


## CHANGE IN EQUITY

|  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | SHARE CAPITAL | OTHER PAID-IN <br> EQUITY | RETAINED <br> EARNINGS |
| TOTAL |  |  |  |

## Accounting principles

The interim financial statements have been prepared in aacordance with IAS 34 Interim Financial Reporting

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 preparing these interim financial statements as when preparing the financial statements at 31 December 2006 and for the year ending at that date.

## QUARTERLY COMPARISONS GROUP

| NOK million | Q4/07 | Q3/07 | Q2/07 | Q1/07 | Q4/06 | Q3/06 | Q2/06 | Q1/06 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Operating revenue | 6956 | 6641 | 6794 | 6726 | 7704 | 7192 | 6772 | 7144 |
| Restructuring expenses | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (45) | (376) | (63) | 0 |
| Gross operating earnings | 5761 | 920 | 923 | 792 | 1296 | 840 | 832 | 1039 |
| Depreciation and amortisation | (719) | (712) | (713) | (735) | (729) | (827) | (803) | (867) |
| Impairments | (4 866) | 0 | 26 | 0 | 0 | (3 265) | (43) | 0 |
| Operating earnings | 176 | 208 | 236 | 57 | 567 | (3 252) | (14) | 172 |
| Profit before tax | (82) | 280 | 173 | (135) | 318 | (3779) | (213) | 194 |
| Attributable to equity holders of the company | (880) | 221 | 135 | (94) | 245 | (3087) | (180) | 213 |

## QUARTERLY COMPARISON SEGMENTS

| NOK million | Q4/07 | Q3/07 | Q2/07 | Q1/07 | Q4/06 | Q3/06 | Q2/06 | Q1/06 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Operating revenue |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Europe | 4066 | 3923 | 3813 | 3814 | 4301 | 3907 | 3666 | 3946 |
| Asia | 1367 | 1329 | 1433 | 1381 | 1577 | 1572 | 1409 | 1538 |
| Australasia | 971 | 940 | 985 | 969 | 1048 | 989 | 973 | 887 |
| South America | 309 | 316 | 345 | 312 | 375 | 364 | 321 | 339 |
| Other activities | 500 | 369 | 432 | 396 | 489 | 475 | 535 | 539 |
| Staff/eliminations | (257) | (236) | (214) | (146) | (86) | (115) | (132) | (105) |
| Total operating revenue | 6956 | 6641 | 6794 | 6726 | 7704 | 7192 | 6772 | 7144 |
| Gross operating earnings |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Europe | 417 | 502 | 604 | 595 | 692 | 742 | 566 | 675 |
| Asia | 155 | 143 | 241 | 301 | 290 | 197 | 268 | 242 |
| Australasia | 228 | 211 | 278 | 277 | 246 | 240 | 167 | 66 |
| South America | 65 | 47 | 85 | 70 | 180 | 108 | 92 | 89 |
| Other activities | (4) | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 |
| Staff/eliminations | (83) | (57) | (79) | (68) | (81) | (40) | (12) | (49) |
| Other gains and losses | 4983 | 69 | (206) | (383) | 14 | (106) | (186) | 5 |
| Restructuring expenses | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (45) | (376) | (63) | 0 |
| Total gross operating earnings | 5761 | 919 | 923 | 792 | 1296 | 765 | 832 | 1039 |
| Operating earnings |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Europe | 92 | 184 | 282 | 256 | 324 | 329 | 163 | 234 |
| Asia | (14) | (26) | 82 | 137 | 110 | 9 | 83 | 50 |
| Australasia | 34 | 29 | 104 | 102 | 88 | 73 | 12 | (105) |
| South America | 28 | 18 | 46 | 26 | 131 | 68 | 48 | 42 |
| Other activities | (8) | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Staff/eliminations | (73) | (70) | (98) | (81) | (55) | (59) | (28) | (60) |
| Other gains and losses | 4983 | 69 | (206) | (383) | 14 | (106) | (186) | 5 |
| Restructuring expenses | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (45) | (376) | (63) | 0 |
| Impairments | (4 866) | 0 | 26 | 0 | 0 | (3 190) | (43) | 0 |
| Total operating earnings | 176 | 208 | 236 | 57 | 567 | (3 252) | (14) | 172 |

## PRICE DEVELOPMENT NEWSPRINT, SC, LWC - GERMANY



SHARE PRICE DEVELOPMENT 2000-2007


Oslo Stock Exchange index
Norske Skog

## THE NORSKE SKOG SHARE



## PUBLICATION OF QUARTERLY REPORTS AT WWW.NORSKESKOG.COM

Norske Skog will increase the availability of its quarterly reports. Beginning with the first quarter of 2008, the quarterly reports will be published at www.norskeskog. com/reports.aspx in Norwegian and English shortly after the board has adopted the report.

Shareholders and others who would still like to receive a paper copy of the quarterly report can submit the reply coupon to Norske Skog or register at www.norskeskog.com/reports/registration.aspx

For any questions related to the publication of quarterly reports, contact manager shareholder services Oddrunn Ringstad, +47 74087281, or corporate communications manager Pål Stensaas, +4767599347.

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www.norskeskog.com

## Norske Skog

A PRIORITERT

CCRI NUMERO 44680093


SENDES UFRANKERT

# RESPONSE PAYEE/SVARSENDING NORVEGE 

Norske Skogindustrier ASA SVARSENDING 4468 0093 OSLO


[^0]:    1 The amounts include dividend paid to minority shareholders in the group.

