

ASPOCOMP GROUP Oyj STOCK EXCHANGE BULLETIN May 2, 2001 at 8:30AM (5)

ASPOCOMP INTERIM REPORT JANUARY 1 - MARCH 31, 2001

Net sales for the first three months of the year increased 6.9% totalling EUR 63.7 million (EUR 59.6 million), profit before extraordinary items was EUR 2.4 million (EUR 6.6 million) and earnings per share were EUR 0.18 (EUR 0.53).

GROUP NET SALES AND PROFITS

Net sales totalled EUR 63.7 million for the period from January 1 to March 31, 2001, compared with EUR 59.6 million during the corresponding period the previous year. Most of the growth in net sales was generated from the new operations in South-East Asia. Other operating income totalled EUR 0.4 million (EUR 0.6 million). The share of net sales of the company's five biggest customers, Nokia, Ericsson, SCI, Philips and Tellabs, was 63%. Direct export from Finland totalled EUR 10.8 million (EUR 5.8 million) and offshore net sales totalled EUR 26.4 million (EUR 17.7 million).

Operating profit for the period totalled EUR 2.6 million or 4.1% of net sales (EUR 7.0 million; 11.8%). Net financial costs totalled EUR 0.3 million (EUR 0.4 million).

Profit before extraordinary items was EUR 2.4 million (EUR 6.6 million). Profit before taxes was EUR 2.3 million (EUR 6.6 million) and net profit for the period was EUR 1.8 million (EUR 4.7 million). Earnings per share totalled EUR 0.18 (EUR 0.53).

FINANCING, INVESTMENTS AND EQUITY RATIO

The Group's liquidity was satisfactory although major investments were carried out. Gross investments for the period totalled EUR 41.6 million (EUR 12.9 million) or 65.3% of net sales (21.6%). 21.8 million euros, were invested in the joint venture in China. Another 4.1 million euros were invested in the majority of P.C.B. Center (Thailand) Co., Ltd. Net financial costs as a percentage of net sales totalled 0.4% (0.6%). The equity ratio was 60.7% (39.8%) at the period end compared with the year end figure of 64.6%.

SHARES AND SHARE CAPITAL

As of March 31 the company's share capital totalled 10,141,926 euros with a total 10,141,926 shares outstanding. During the period extending from January 1 to March 31 a total of 919,964 shares with a value of 17,885,358.00 euros were traded on the Helsinki Stock Exchange. The non-domestic share in the ownership of the stock was 19.64%, as of the end of the period. The share price reached a high of 30.00 euros and a low of 15.50 euros between January 1 and March 31, 2001. The average price was 19.44 euros. The closing price on March 30, 2001 was 20.00 euros and the capital market value of the company was 202.8 million euros.

On March 23, 2001 the Annual General Meeting authorized the Board to acquire and convey own shares. The authorisation remains valid for one year from the date of the Annual General Meeting. The Board of Directors has not yet made any decision concerning the authorisation to acquire own shares.

PERSONNEL

The number of employees averaged 2,606 from January 1 to March 31, 2001, compared to 1,972 for the same period the previous year. Personnel averaged 2,007 for 2000. At the end of March 2001 there were total of 3,499 employees.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS DURING THE PERIOD

Aspocomp Group Oyj and the Taiwanese listed company Chin-Poon Industrial Co., Ltd. concluded on January 5, 2001 an agreement to start a Joint Venture, ACP Electronics Co., Ltd. in Suzhou, China. The company is specializing in producing high-tech printed wiring boards. Aspocomp's share of the total investment of 68 million euros will be 35 million euros, 21.8 million euros of which have already been invested. Aspocomp's 51% holding was acquired by a special issue. As a result of the investment Aspocomp is the first European company producing PWBs in China.

Aspocomp Group Oyj increased its ownership in the Thai printed wiring board company, P.C.B. Center (Thailand) Co., Ltd. to a majority of 51% by an agreement signed on March 1, 2001. The majority was acquired partly by purchasing shares from an investor group to which belonged also the Aspocomp Group Oyj Board Member, Mr. Apichart Vilassakdanont. A part of the shares was acquired by a special issue. Mr. Vilassakdanont did not participate in either the handling or the decision making related to the issue in Aspocomp Board. After the additional investment of 4.1 million euros the total investment in shares is 5.1 million euros.

March 1, 2001 Pohjola Group Insurance Corporation Ltd notified that its share in Aspocomp Group Oyj's voting rights and share capital has fallen below 5%.

After the period end European Renaissance Fund notified that its share in Aspocomp Group Oyj's voting rights and share capital has increased over 5%.

CHANGE IN ORGANISATION AND IN DEPRECIATION PRINCIPLES

In relation to the consolidation of the new South-East Asian companies the Group organisation was changed by having the sales and production of printed wiring boards as separate functions. This way the Group is able to serve the global clientel optimally.

At the same time the depreciation schedules were updated in order to have an uniform Group depreciation policy consistent with the generally accepted international conservative practise. The depreciation schedules for the high-tech production machines were remained in five years. The changes were the lengthening of the depreciation schedules for the production buildings by five years to thirty years and for the chemical lines by three years to eight

years. The depreciation schedules for other machinery were lengthened by two years to seven years. The new depreciation schedules are adapted to all investments from the beginning of the current fiscal year.

PROSPECTS FOR 2001

Our strategy is to be cost-effective and one of the leading manufacturers of technologically advanced PWB's globally. To reach this objective we have invested significantly in R&D and new capacity both in Asia and Europe at the same time sustaining our solid balance sheet. We have reached a strong market position in Europe and we are the first European PWB company to have production in China. Our customer base includes several major players in the telecommunication industry.

In long term we believe our strategy will enable us to continue our profitable growth. In short term we see soft demand in various customer segments particularly in the second quarter of this year. We expect that the sales in the second quarter will be on the same level as year before. The volume growth has been offset by lower prices. As our capacity already is built for earlier forecasted higher demand, we will have relatively low loading during the first half of the year. Our target is a positive EBIT in the first six months of the year.

We are prepared for the launching of new mobile phones and 3G networks during the second half of this year. Based on our customers' estimates the second half of the year should be strong both in sales and profits.

We strongly believe that we have positioned ourselves to be ready for market development whether it is down turn near term or up turn long term.

BUSINESS UNITS

PRINTED WIRING BOARDS

The net sales growth for the PWB business unit was 2% compared to the corresponding period in previous year. The profit was positive but unsatisfactory.

The net sales of the Mobile segment decreased by 9%. The net sales development for the key customer of the Mobile segment accompanied the estimates, but another important customer was not able to reach its forecasted targets. The new company, ACP Electronics Co., Ltd. in China will strengthen the Mobile segment towards the end of the year.

The net sales decrease of the Telecom segment was 1%. The segment was affected by the high year-end inventory levels of certain customers as a result of the too optimistic demand expectations at the end of 2000. This led to a low capacity utilization rate during the first quarter and the sales target was not reached.

The net sales growth for the Auto & Industry segment was 41%. The consolidation of the P.C.B. Center into Aspocomp Group increases

significantly the sales volumes of the Auto & Industry segment also during the second half of the year.

ELECTRONICS MANUFACTURING SERVICES (EMS)

The net sales of the EMS business unit increased by 28% and were according to expectations. The profit was good, although high inventory levels of certain customers of the Telecom segment lead to lower than expected demand.

ASPOCOMP GROUP INCOME STATEMENT

	1-3/01		1-3/00		1-12/00	
	MEUR	%	MEUR	%	MEUR	%
NET SALES	63.7	100.0	59.6	100.0	239.8	100.0
Other operating income	0.4	0.6	0.6	1.0	3.0	1.2
Depreciation and write-downs	9.0	14.2	5.8	9.7	26.2	10.9
OPERATING PROFIT AFTER DEPRECIATION	2.6	4.1	7.0	11.8	21.6	9.0
Financial income and expenses	-0.3	-0.4	-0.4	-0.6	-0.4	-0.2
PROFIT BEFORE EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS AND TAXES	2.4	3.7	6.6	11.1	21.2	8.8
Extraordinary income	0.0		0.0		0.0	
Extraordinary expenses	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.9	-0.4
PROFIT BEFORE TAXES	2.3	3.6	6.6	11.1	22.0	9.2
PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD	1.8	2.9	4.7	7.9	16.2	6.7
EARNINGS/SHARE, EUR	0.18		0.53		1.59	

Accrued taxes for this interim period have been calculated in accordance with the corporate tax rate in force during the period under review and include taxes brought forward from earlier periods. The calculation of earnings/share excludes taxes on extraordinary items.

ASPOCOMP GROUP BALANCE SHEET

	3/01	3/00	Change	12/00
	MEUR	MEUR	%	MEUR
Fixed and other long-term assets	179.9	104.7	71.8	138.0
Inventories	41.5	26.0	59.5	29.3
Receivables	58.9	42.6	38.3	49.4
Investments	17.6	0.0		29.1
Cash and bank deposits	7.7	1.0	665.4	4.7
TOTAL ASSETS	305.6	174.3	75.3	250.5

Shareholders' equity	160.5	69.3	131.6	161.9
Minority interest	24.9	0.0		0.0
Mandatory reserves	5.5	0.3		5.5
Long-term liabilities	35.8	40.0	-10.5	35.3
Short-term liabilities	78.9	64.8	21.8	47.8
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	305.6	174.3	75.3	250.5

EQUITY / SHARE, EUR	15.83	7.90		15.96
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EQUITY RATIO, %	60.7	39.8		64.6
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Accumulated excess depreciation and voluntary reserves totalling EUR 14.0 million have been divided among shareholders' equity and nominal tax liabilities.

CONTINGENT LIABILITIES	3/01 MEUR	12/00 MEUR
Securities on Group liabilities	1.8	1.8
Operational leasing liabilities	0.2	0.2
Other liabilities	0.3	-
TOTAL	2.3	2.0

All figures are unaudited. Some statements in this interim report are forward looking and actual results may differ materially from those stated.

Helsinki, May 2, 2001

ASPOCOMP GROUP Oyj

Board of Directors

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ASPOCOMP GROUP Oyj

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