

ASPOCOMP GROUP Oyj STOCK EXCHANGE RELEASE Oct 29, 2001 at 8:30 1(7)

ASPOCOMP INTERIM REPORT JANUARY 1 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

Net sales for the first nine months of the year decreased 5.6% totalling EUR 167.8 million (the figure of the corresponding period the previous year is bracketed; here EUR 177.8 million), profit before extraordinary items was EUR -14.0 million (EUR 16.1 million) including the estimated cost of EUR 5.2 million of closing the Espoo PWB factory. Earnings per share were EUR -1.21 (EUR 1.22).

GROUP NET SALES AND PROFITS

Aspocomp Group net sales totalled EUR 167.8 million for the period from January 1 to September 30, 2001, compared with EUR 177.8 million during the corresponding period the previous year. The new operations in Asia generated net sales of EUR 20.6 million (EUR 0 million). Other operating income totalled EUR 0.6 million (EUR 1.7 million). The share of net sales of the company's five biggest customers, Nokia, Ericsson, SCI, Philips and Tellabs, was 60%. Direct export from Finland totalled EUR 28.0 million (EUR 19.1 million) and offshore net sales totalled EUR 52.6 million (EUR 51.8 million).

Earnings before depreciations (EBITDA) were EUR 14.4 million (EUR 35.3 million). Operating profit for the period totalled EUR -12.2 million or -7.3% of net sales (EUR 16.6 million; 9.3%). Net financial costs totalled EUR 1.8 million (EUR 0.5 million). The mandatory reserve related to the estimated cost of closing the Espoo PWB factory is included in this interim report. The effect to the EBITDA is EUR -4.2 million and to the EBIT (earnings before interests and taxes) EUR -5.2 million.

Profit before extraordinary items was EUR -14.0 million (EUR 16.1 million). Profit before taxes was EUR -14.0 million (EUR 15.9 million) and net profit for the period was EUR -12.3 million (EUR 11.3 million). Earnings per share totalled EUR -1.21 (EUR 1.22).

FINANCING, INVESTMENTS AND EQUITY RATIO

The Group's liquidity for the period remains solid. Investments in the fixed assets were EUR 49.5 million. EUR 4.1 million were invested in acquiring the majority of the company P.C.B. Center (Thailand) Co., Ltd in March, 2001. Gross investments for the period totalled EUR 51.5 million (EUR 48.9 million) or 30.8% of net sales (27.5%). In addition the Group parent company raised the share capital of ACP Electronics Co., Ltd. by EUR 35.6 million. Out of this EUR 28.6 million is still included in the Group liquid assets for investments in fixed assets. Net financial costs as a percentage of net sales totalled 1.1% (0.3%). The equity ratio was 56.5% (63.5%) at the period end.

SHARES AND SHARE CAPITAL

As of September 30, 2001 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 September 30, 2001 a total of 2,171,343 shares with a value of 34,366,063.18 euros were traded on the Helsinki Stock Exchange. The non-domestic share in the ownership of the stock was 20.5%, as of the end of the period. The share price reached a high of 30.00 euros and a low of 8.90 euros between January 1 and September 30, 2001. The average price was 15.83 euros. The closing price on September 28, 2001 was 10.55 euros and the market capitalization of the company was 107.0 million euros.

On March 23, 2001 the Annual General Meeting authorized the Board to acquire own shares. The authorisation remains valid for one year from the date of the Annual General Meeting.

On July 16, 2001 the Board of Directors decided to use the authorization and acquire 100,000 own shares from the market. The actual purchases were executed by Svenska Handelsbanken. The acquisition program began on July 30, 2001 and was finished after the period, on October 5, 2001, when the total of 100,000 own shares were acquired.

After the period end, on October 24, 2001, the Board of Directors of Aspocomp Group Oyj has decided to further acquire a maximum of 100,000 Aspocomp shares through public trading in addition to the already acquired 100,000 own shares. The shares will be used for the purposes of developing the capital structure of the company, for financing and implementing corporate acquisitions and other transactions, other transfers or invalidation. The repurchases will commence on October 31, 2001 at the earliest.

PERSONNEL

	Average number of employees			Number of employees 30.9.2001
	2000 1.1.-30.9.	2000 1.1.-31.12.	2001 1.1.-30.9.	
Europe	2031	2007	1901	1846
Thailand	--	--	1145	1025
China	--	--	301	438
Total	2031	2007	3347	3309

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

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. Aspocomp's share of the total investment of 68 million euros is 35 million euros and the increase in the share capital related to the financing has already been paid. Aspocomp's 51% holding was acquired by special issues. 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 existing shares and partly by a special

issue. 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%.

On April 10, 2001 European Renaissance Fund notified that its share in Aspocomp Group Oyj's voting rights and share capital has increased over 5%.

On May 23, 2001 a proposal related to personnel negotiations of the possibility of closing down the Aspocomp Oy's PWB factory in Espoo for both production and financial reasons was given. The proposal included all personnel groups, total of about 137 persons. The negotiations ended on July 12, 2001 and on the same day the Board of Directors of Aspocomp Group Oyj decided to close down the Espoo factory. Among the reasons for the closing of the factory were the continuous unprofitability of the factory, the price pressure in the standard technology PWB market and the global overcapacity situation. At the moment the total cost of the closing of the Espoo factory is estimated to be about EUR 5.2 million. Other Group factories have also adapted their operations to the current demand situation.

After the period end, on October 18, 2001 personnel negotiations were started at the Group's PWB factory in Evreux, France in order to adapt the capacity to the existing market demand. The negotiations regarding possible personnel reductions concern about 210 employees. Total number of personnel of the Evreux factory in the end of September was 545.

The planned actions would take place by the end of the year 2001.

After the period, at its meeting of October 24, 2001, the Board of Directors of Aspocomp Group Oyj has resolved to apply for listing of all the A-warrants 1999 on the main list of the Helsinki Exchanges so that the listing will commence approximately on November 23, 2001. The total amount of A-warrants is 375,000. Each warrant entitles its holder to subscribe for one (1) Aspocomp Group Oyj share. In the aggregate, the warrants entitle holders to subscribe for 375,000 shares. The present share subscription price with warrants is EUR 24/share. The dividends payable annually shall be deducted from the share subscription price.

CHANGE IN ORGANISATION AND IN DEPRECIATION PRINCIPLES

In relation to the consolidation of the new 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 a uniform Group depreciation policy consistent with generally followed international conservative practice. The depreciation schedules for the high-tech production machines remained at 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 Europe and Asia at the same time sustaining our solid balance sheet. We have reached a strong market position in Europe and as the first European PWB company we will start HDI production in China in December this year. Our customer base includes several major players in the global telecommunication industry.

We believe our strategy will enable us to resume our profitable secular growth. Based on our customers' estimates the development during the rest of the year compared to the third quarter should be positive both in sales and profits.

Despite the continued capacity modifications and the cost cutting program the EBIT-level result of the fourth quarter may still be negative. The possible personnel reductions in Evreux may lead to an extra one-time cost.

We are confident in our ability to retain our market share at least on the current level and even to increase penetration in our specialized segment.

BUSINESS UNITS

PRINTED WIRING BOARDS

The net sales for the PWB business unit decreased 6% compared to the corresponding period in previous year and the profit was negative. The net sales of the European factories decreased 16%, which could not be compensated by the consolidation of the Asian companies. The strongest decrease in net sales was experienced in Evreux, France, where the demand of the key customers dropped drastically, especially during the second quarter.

The net sales of the Mobile segment decreased by 15%. The net sales development for the key customer of the Mobile segment met estimates, but another important customer's demand collapsed as a consequence of the re-organisation of its sourcing.

The net sales decrease of the Telecom segment was 19%. 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. In addition, the demand in mobile networks did not fully recover in the third quarter. This led to a low capacity utilization rate during the first nine months of the year and the sales target was not reached.

The net sales growth for the Auto & Industry segment was 52%, mainly generated from the consolidation of the Asian companies in the Group figures.

ELECTRONICS MANUFACTURING SERVICES (EMS)

The net sales of the EMS business unit decreased by 6%. The profit was satisfactory, although high inventory levels of certain customers of the Telecom segment lead to lower than expected demand and capacity utilization rate.

ASPOCOMP GROUP INCOME STATEMENT

	1-9/01		1-9/00		1-12/00	
	MEUR	%	MEUR	%	MEUR	%
NET SALES	167.8	100.0	177.8	100.0	239.8	100.0
Other operating income	0.6	0.4	1.6	0.9	3.0	1.2
Depreciation and write-downs	26.6	15.8	18.7	10.5	26.2	10.9
OPERATING PROFIT AFTER DEPRECIATION	-12.2	-7.3	16.6	9.3	21.6	9.0
Financial income and expenses	-1.8	-1.1	-0.5	-0.3	-0.4	-0.2
PROFIT BEFORE EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS AND TAXES	-14.0	-8.3	16.1	9.0	21.2	8.8
Extraordinary income	0.0		0.0		0.0	
Extraordinary expenses	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	-0.9	-0.4
PROFIT BEFORE TAXES	-14.0	-8.4	15.9	8.9	22.0	9.2
MINORITY INTEREST	1.0	0.6				
PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD	-12.3	-7.3	11.3	6.4	16.2	6.7
EARNINGS/SHARE, EUR	-1.21		1.22		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

	9/01	9/00	Change	12/00
	MEUR	MEUR	%	MEUR
Fixed and other long-term assets	202.5	126.8	59.7	138.0
Inventories	37.2	27.9	33.3	29.3
Receivables	50.8	46.1	10.2	49.4
Investments	17.0	31.0	-45,2	29.1
Cash and bank deposits	12.6	15.6	-19.2	4.7

TOTAL ASSETS	320.1	247.3	29.4	250.5
Shareholders' equity	145.6	157.0	-7.3	161.9
Minority interest	35.8	0.0		0.0
Mandatory reserves	9.4	0.8		5.5
Long-term liabilities	54.4	35.8	51.9	35.3
Short-term liabilities	74.9	53.7	39.3	47.8
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	320.1	247.3	29.4	250.5
 EQUITY / SHARE, EUR	14.39	15.48		15.96
 EQUITY RATIO, %	56.5	63.5		64.6

Accumulated excess depreciation and voluntary reserves totalling EUR 14.1 million have been divided among shareholders' equity and nominal tax liabilities.

CONTINGENT LIABILITIES	9/01 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.

Statements in this stock exchange release relating to matters that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements, involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, which may cause the actual results, performances or achievements of Aspocomp Group to be materially different from any future results, performances or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include general economic and business conditions; increases in PWB industry capacity and competition; the ability of the company to implement its investment program and to continue to expand its business outside the European market.

Helsinki, October 29, 2001

ASPOCOMP GROUP Oyj

Board of Directors

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