

Sandvik Annual Report 1997

Sandvik Aktiebolag; (publ) CORPORATE IDENTITY NUMBER 556000-3468 Annual Report 1997

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COVER: SANDVIK IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S LEADING MANUFACTURERS OF TOOLS AND TOOLING SYSTEMS FOR METALWORKING, WHICH IS REPRESENTED BY THESE STEEL CHIPS FROM TURNING.

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Key figures

Highlights of 1997

- Strong demand. Sales up 21%.
- Three major acquisitions: Tamrock, Kanthal and Precision Twist Drill. After acquisitions, annual sales amount to more than SEK 40,000 M.
- Redemption of shares for SEK 4,000 M.
- Industrivärden succeeds Skanska as new, major owner.
- Improved operating profit compared with 1996.
- Proposed dividend (SEK 7.00 per share) equal to approximately 70% of earnings per share.

	1997	1996
Order intake, SEK M	34 603	27 543
Invoiced sales, SEK M	34 119	28 265
of which, outside Sweden, %	93	93
Profit after financial income and expenses, SEK M	4 205	4 453
Return on net assets, %	17.7	20.2
Return on shareholders' equity after tax, %	14.3	16.2
Earnings per share, SEK	10.15	11.20
Dividend per share, SEK	7.00 *	6.50
Number of employees, 31 Dec.	38 406	30 362
* Dropood		

* Proposed



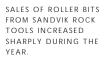
KANTHAL SPECIALIZES IN RESISTANCE MATERIALS FOR ELECTRIC HEATING OF INDUSTRIAL FURNACES,

FOR EXAMPLE.

TAMROCK IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S LEADING SUPPLIERS OF DRILLING MACHINERY FOR MINING OPERATIONS.









PERCY BARNEVIK, CHAIRMAN OF SANDVIK, MEETS WITH CLAS REUTERSKIÖLD (L), PRESIDENT OF INDUSTRIVÄRDEN AND A NEW MEMBER OF SANDVIK'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

SANDVIK COROMANT HAS INCREASED PRODUCTION CAPACITY FOR CEMENTED-CARBIDE TOOLS IN CHINA.

This is Sandvik

The Sandvik Group, with headquarters in Sandviken, is one of Sweden's largest export companies, with worldwide business activities conducted through 300 companies and representation in 130 countries. After acquisitions in 1997, the Group has 38,000 employees and annual sales of more than SEK 40 billion.

Since it was founded in 1862. Sandvik has developed from a provincial Swedish steelworks into an international, materials technology engineering enterprise.

Two major factors that have contributed greatly to Sandvik's business development are the determined marketing efforts in close cooperation with customers throughout the world and continuous product renewal, with particularly strong focus on advanced technology. Group investments in research and development of new products and production methods amount to more than SEK 1 billion annually.

The market consists of industrial customers that use Sandvik products as integral components in their production processes. Industrial consumables account for about two thirds of the Group's portfolio, with capital goods accounting for one third.

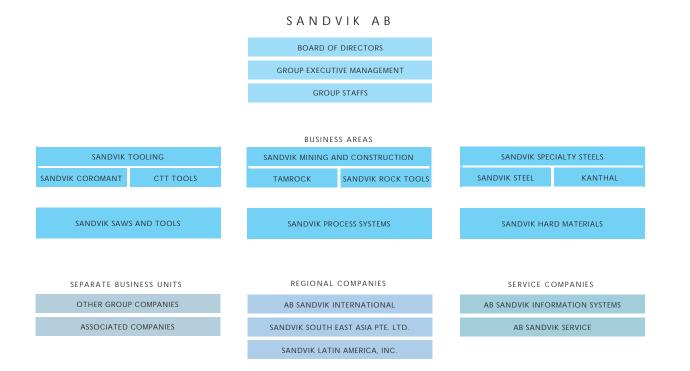
Customers operate in many different industrial sectors, including automotive and aerospace industries, mining and civil engineering, chemicals, oil and gas, power, pulp and paper, household appliances, electronics, medical technology, pharmaceuticals and other engineering industries. One of Sandvik's major objectives is to

increase the Group's focus on operations in areas that offer greater growth potential than overall industrial growth.

Organization

The Sandvik Group consists of six separate business areas responsible for research and development (R&D), production and sales of their respective products:

Sandvik Tooling (Sandvik Coromant and CTT Tools): Tools and tooling systems for metalworking applications.



Sandvik Mining and Construction: (Tamrock and Sandvik Rock Tools): Drilling rigs, loaders, rock-excavation equipment and tools.

Sandvik Specialty Steels (Sandvik Steel and Kanthal): Stainless steel tube, strip, wire and bar as well as high-alloy steel, specialty metals and resistance heating materials.

Sandvik Hard Materials: Cementedcarbide blanks, components and rolls.

Sandvik Saws and Tools: Hand saws, metal sawblades, wrenches, files and other hand tools.

Sandvik Process Systems: Steel belts, process systems and automatic sorting systems.

Seco Tools, an independent, publicly listed company, is also included in the Group.

Two other Group companies provide general services. Their principal customers are Sandvik units in Sweden, but services are also sold to subsidiaries outside Sweden and to external customers.

Sandvik's organization also includes several associated companies whose operations generally pertain to one of

INVOICED SALES BY BUSINESS AREA*

Toolina

Saws and Tools

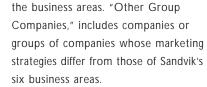
Hard Materials

Seco Tools

Process Systems

Mining and

Specialty Steels



Sandvik's Board of Directors and the Group's Executive Management are presented on page 68-70.

Core areas

Sandvik's business concept is based on supplying the market with sophisticated products and services in the following core areas:

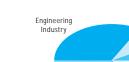
- · Tools and tooling systems for chipforming machining of metals and composite materials.
- Equipment and tools used in mining and civil engineering

· Components and materials that meet high demands on wear-resistance, corrosion resistance, hightemperature performance, fatigue characteristics and purity. · Hand tools for professional use. • Process systems and automatic

sorting systems.

Business concept

Within its core areas, Sandvik shall develop, manufacture and market highly processed products, made primarily of cemented carbide and





SANDVIK COROMANT CEMENTED-CARBIDE TOOLS

CTT TOOLS:

HIGH-SPEED STEEL TOOLS



TAMROCK ROCK-EXCAVATION EQUIPMENT



SANDVIK ROCK TOOLS: ROCK-DRILLING TOOLS



SANDVIK STEEL: STAINLESS STEEL AND SPECIAL ALLOYS



KANTHAL RESISTANCE HEATING MATERIALS



SANDVIK HARD MATERIALS: CEMENTED-CARBIDE BLANKS AND COMPONENTS



SANDVIK SAWS AND TOOLS: SAWS AND OTHER HAND TOOLS



SANDVIK PROCESS SYSTEMS: STEEL BELTS AND PROCESS SYSTEMS

INVOICED SALES BY CUSTOMER GROUP*

Construction rocess ndustry Mining

other hard materials as well as stainless steel and special alloys.

Operations shall be concentrated primarily in niche sectors where Sandvik is - or has the potential to become - a world leader.

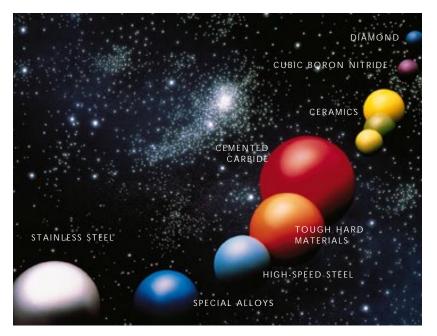
Sandvik shall contribute actively to improving the productivity and profitability of its customers. Products and services offered by the Group shall provide customers with maximum value in terms of performance, quality, speed, safety, flexibility and total economy. Sandvik shall be the obvious first choice for customers.

Strategy

Sandvik shall conduct sophisticated and comprehensive research and development to improve productivity and quality, create time savings and reduce costs for customers and the Group's own operations in the following four areas:

- Materials and surface-coating technology.
- Product and application solutions.
- Production and process technology.
- Information, communications and logistics systems.

To ensure the best products supply and support for Sandvik customers,



OUR MATERIALS KNOW-HOW COVERS A BROAD RANGE OF EXPERTISE.

marketing operations shall be conducted primarily by Sandvik Group employees, but also in cooperation with a number of selected industrial distributors. Direct contact with the market is also essential to adapt R&D programs to customer needs.

Sandvik products shall be manufactured mainly in the Group's own production plants. This ensures maximum quality, availability and cost efficiency and also contributes to Sandvik's determined efforts to create a favorable environment.

Standardized production technologies and, in some cases, own production of strategically important manufacturing equipment, guarantee uniform high quality wherever products are manufactured in the world.

Sandvik shall capitalize on inherent synergy effects in R&D, production, marketing and administration in the Group's various business areas and markets.

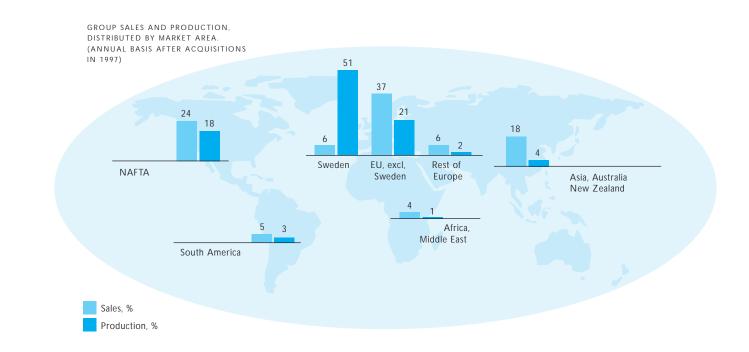
Sandvik shall also strive to create working conditions that stimulate employees to perform effectively, assume responsibility and continue to develop in their personal and professional pursuits. The Group shall also promote equality, regardless of gender, race, color, religion, nationality or ethnic origin.

In dealing with customers, suppliers, employees and other interests, Sandvik shall act in a highly ethical manner, and as a good citizen in all countries where the Group operates.

Future growth

One of Sandvik's most important objectives - and a fundamental principle for the achievement of financial goals - is continued business growth. Concurrently, Group operations should be developed and adapted continuously to changes in the business environment.

The Group's strong profitability provides scope for increased R&D programs and investments in production, marketing and supplementary



company acquisitions as a means of achieving a higher rate of growth.

Intensified efforts will be made in geographical market regions where the Group has small market shares and where the opportunities for growth appear particularly attractive.

Growth will be achieved mainly through a combination of internally generated expansion, acquisitions and the establishment of joint ventures in existing areas of operation.

Sandvik and the environment

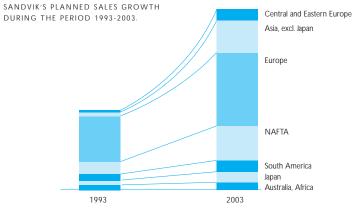
Matters pertaining to the exterior environment and the work environment are an integral part of the Group's overall approach to business operations. Decisions related to business activities that affect the environment are guided by considerations of what is ecologically justified, technically possible and economically reasonable.

Sandvik shall strive continuously to improve the exterior environment and work environment. The aim is to minimize consumption of energy and scarce resources and the use of materials that are harmful to humans and the environment.

A minimum requirement for all Group operations shall be to protect employees and eliminate risks that may impair their health or the health

of others. Sandvik shall comply with applicable laws and agreements with respect to the exterior environment and the work environment, and follow good industrial practice in the countries where it operates. In their dealings with Sandvik, suppliers shall be encouraged to adopt principles compatible with the company's environmental policy. Sandvik believes that common environmental requirements and standards should be established internationally and will work with others to develop such requirements and stand-ards.

ployees in implementing the environmental policy •



The company will support em-

Largest shareholders in Sandvik AB (December 1997)

Deservetes

The Sandvik share

The price of Sandvik's A share rose 23% during 1997, compared with an average increase of 30% for engineering industry shares and 24% for the general index. During the most recent two-year period, the price including dividend rose 45%. The General Index including dividends rose 35% during the same period.

Sandvik shares ranked 13th among most actively traded shares on the Stockholm Stock Exchange in 1997. A total of 119 million Sandvik shares were traded, of which 73 million were A shares. The turnover rate for Sandvik shares was 46% (42), compared with 66% (66) for the entire Stockholm

Stock Exchange.

Sandvik's market capitalization at year-end 1997 was SEK 59 billion (51), and Sandvik ranked as the ninth largest company on the Stockholm Stock Exchange.

Dividend policy

The principal financial goal of the Sandvik Group is to create attractive capital return and value growth for those who invest in the Sandvik share.

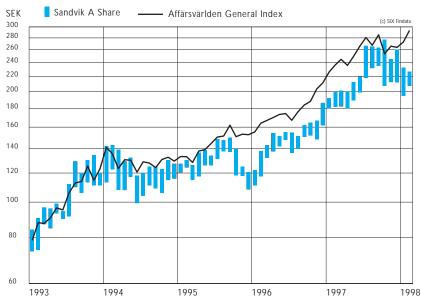
The goal is that the dividend and value growth shall exceed the engineering industry's average dividend and be clearly higher than the yield on risk-

free, long-term financial investments and that shareholders shall receive a dividend of at least 50% of earnings per share – calculated over a business

With the proposed dividend in

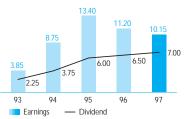
1997 (SEK 7.00 per share), the increase

PRICE TRENDS ON THE STOCKHOLM STOCK EXCHANGE, SANDVIK A SHARES



cycle.

EARNINGS AND DIVIDEND PER SHARE, SEK



Share series	No. of shares	% of shares	% of votes
Series A	189 450 259	73	96
Series B	69 245 741	27	4
Total	258 696 000	100	100

	Percentage of voting rights	
FöreningsSparbanken Mutual Funds	15.1	
AB Industrivärden	11.2	
National Swedish Pension Insurance		
Fund, Fourth Fund Board	9.7	
Svenska Handelsbanken's Pension		
Foundation	5.5	
The Swedish Staff Pension Society (SPP)	4.0	
Labor Market Insurance AB (AMF-p)	3.5	
National Swedish Pension Insurance		
Fund, Fifth Fund Board	2.5	
Skandia	2.3	
Trygg-Hansa	2.2	
Svenska Handelsbanken Investment Funds	2.0	

Fund, Fifth Fund Boa	rd			2.5			1.9	
Skandia				2.3			1.8	Analyses
Trygg-Hansa				2.2			2.1	The following companies prepared
Svenska Handelsbanken	Invest	ment Funds		2.0			1.6	analyses of Sandvik during 1997:
								ABN AMRO GOVETT
Distributio	on of S	Sandvik AB	share ow	nership (D	ecemi	ber 199	7)	ALFRED BERG FONDKOMMISSION
							Average	ARAGON FONDKOMMISSION
		Number of	As % of all	Tot	اد	% of	number of shares	ARAGON FONDROMMISSION
		share-	share-	numbe		share	per	AROS SECURITIES
Holding		holders	holders	of share	es o	capital	holder	BZW EUROPE LIMITED
Maximum 500 shares		34 292	75	5 866 74	7	2	171	
501-1 000		5 228	12	4 215 03	1	2	806	CARNEGIE FONDKOMMISSION
1 001-10 000		5 382	12	15 111 48	35	6	2 808	CAZENOVE & CO.
10 001-100 000		563	1	16 715 99	3	6	29 691	
More than 100 000		178	0	216 786 74	4	84	1 217 903	CHEUVREUX DE VIRIEU NORDIC AB
		45 643	100	258 696 00	00	100	5 668	DEN DANSKE BANK
								DEN NORSKE BANK
		Per-s	hare data,	SEK				DEUTSCHE MORGAN GRENFELL
			1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	ENSKILDA SECURITIES
Earnings ¹⁾			10.15	11.20	13.40	8.75		ERIK PENSER FONDKOMMISSION
Shareholders' equity			67.30	72.00	66.40	57.50		
Dividend (1997: propos	sed)		7.00	6.50	6.00	3.75		FISCHER PARTNERS FONDKOMMISSION
Direct return ²⁾ , %			3.1	3.5	5.2	3.1		FÖRENINGSBANKEN FONDKOMMISSION
Payout percentage ³⁾ , %			69	58	45	35		
Quoted prices, A,	highes		272	186	148	143		GOLDMAN SACHS INTERNATIONAL
	lowest		182		108	100		HAGSTRÖMER & QVIBERG FONDKOMMISSIC
Quatad prizes D	year-e		226	184	116	119		
Quoted prices, B,	highes lowest		274 182	187	148 109	142 99		HANDELSBANKEN MARKETS
	year-e		227	111 185	109	119		JAMES CAPEL & CO.
P/E ratio ⁴⁾	year-e	nu	22.3	16.4	8.7	13.6		J.P. MORGAN SECURITIES LTD.
Quoted price, % of sha	reholde	ers′equitv⁵)	336	262	175	207		
	- onorac	, o quity		202		20,		LEHMAN BROTHERS
								MATTEUS FONDKOMMISSION
	Aver	rage numbe	er of share	s traded d	laily			MORGAN STANLEY
		1997	1996	1995		1994	1993	MYRBERG FONDKOMMISSION
Stockholm Stock Excha	nge A	294 655	166 337	136 425	17	7 768	93 381	NOMURA EQUITY RESEARCH
	В	183 824	295 718	251 004		8 539	180 667	NOMORA EQUIT RESEARCH
London Stock Exchange	e A	72 781	77 550	50 774		1 878	92 229	NORDBANKEN TRADING
-	В	220 707	215 816	178 555	16	4 235	208 346	NORDISKA FONDKOMMISSION
								PARIBAS
Notes:								SBC WARBURG
¹⁾ Consolidated net profit fo								
 ²⁾ Dividend divided by quot ³⁾ Dividend divided by earn 			t year-end.					SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE EQUITIES
⁴⁾ Market price of A shares	at year-	end in relation	0 1					SPARBANKEN SWEDBANK FONDKOMMISSIC
⁵⁾ Market price of A shares	at year-	end, as a perce	ntage of report	ed shareholder	's' equity	per share.		UBS, UNION BANK OF SWITZERLAND
Additional definitions are p	resenter	l on name 52						

Fund, Fifth Fund Bo	bard			2.5			1.9	
Skandia				2.3			1.8	Analyses
rygg-Hansa				2.2			2.1	The following companies prepared
Svenska Handelsbanke	en Investi	ment Funds		2.0			1.6	analyses of Sandvik during 1997:
								ABN AMRO GOVETT
Distribut	ion of S	Sandvik AE	share ow	nership (C	Decem	ber 199	7)	ALFRED BERG FONDKOMMISSION
		Number	As %				Average number	ARAGON FONDKOMMISSION
		of	of all	Tot		% of	of shares	
Holding		share- holders	share- holders	numb of shar		share capital	per holder	AROS SECURITIES
•								BZW EUROPE LIMITED
Maximum 500 shares 501-1 000		34 292 5 228	75 12	5 866 74 4 215 03		2 2	171 806	CARNEGIE FONDKOMMISSION
1 001-10 000		5 382	12	4 215 03		6	2 808	
10 001-100 000		5 563	12	16 715 99		6	2 808	CAZENOVE & CO.
More than 100 000		178	0	216 786 74			1 217 903	CHEUVREUX DE VIRIEU NORDIC AB
		45 643	100	258 696 00		100	5 668	DEN DANSKE BANK
		10 0 10	100	200 070 00		100	0 000	DEN DANSKE DANK
								DEN NORSKE BANK
		Per-s	hare data,	SEK				DEUTSCHE MORGAN GRENFELL
			1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	ENSKILDA SECURITIES
Earnings ¹⁾			10.15	11.20	13.40	8.75	5 3.85	ERIK PENSER FONDKOMMISSION
Shareholders' equity			67.30	72.00	66.40	57.50		
Dividend (1997: prop	osed)		7.00	6.50	6.00			FISCHER PARTNERS FONDKOMMISSION
Direct return ²⁾ , %			3.1	3.5	5.2			FÖRENINGSBANKEN FONDKOMMISSION
Payout percentage ³⁾ , 9			69	58	45	35		
Quoted prices, A,	highes		272		148	143		GOLDMAN SACHS INTERNATIONAL
	lowest		182	111	108	100		HAGSTRÖMER & QVIBERG FONDKOMMISSIO
Quoted prices, B,	year-e highes		226 274	184 187	116 148	119 142		HANDELSBANKEN MARKETS
Quoteu prices, b,	lowest		182		109	99		
	year-e		227	185	116			JAMES CAPEL & CO.
P/E ratio ⁴⁾	yeur e	iid	22.3	16.4	8.7			J.P. MORGAN SECURITIES LTD.
Quoted price, % of st	nareholde	ers' equity ⁵⁾	336		175	207		LEHMAN BROTHERS
								MATTEUS FONDKOMMISSION
	•				1.11			
	Aver	-	er of share		-			MORGAN STANLEY
		1997	1996	1995		1994	1993	MYRBERG FONDKOMMISSION
Stockholm Stock Excl	0	294 655	166 337	136 425		7 768	93 381	NOMURA EQUITY RESEARCH
	В	183 824	295 718	251 004		18 539	180 667	NORDBANKEN TRADING
London Stock Exchan	ge A B	72 781	77 550	50 774		1 878	92 229	
	В	220 707	215 816	178 555	10	64 235	208 346	NORDISKA FONDKOMMISSION
								PARIBAS
Notes:								SBC WARBURG
 ¹⁾ Consolidated net profit ²⁾ Dividend divided by gu 			t vear-end					SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE EQUITIES
Dividend divided by qu Dividend divided by early			i year-enu.					
¹⁾ Market price of A share			to earnings per	share.				SPARBANKEN SWEDBANK FONDKOMMISSIO
⁵⁾ Market price of A share	es at year-e	end, as a perce	ntage of report	ed shareholder	rs' equity	per share.		UBS, UNION BANK OF SWITZERLAND
Additional definitions are	nresented	on name 52						

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							Avera	
	l	Number of	As % of all	To	tal	% of	numb of shar	ei
		share-	share-	numb		share		er AROS SECURITIES
Holding		holders	holders	of shar	es	capital	hold	BZW EUROPE LIMITED
Maximum 500 shares		34 292	75	5 866 7	47	2	17	71
501-1 000		5 228	12	4 215 0	31	2	80	06 CARNEGIE FONDKOMMISSION
1 001-10 000		5 382	12	15 111 4	85	6	2 80	08 CAZENOVE & CO.
10 001-100 000		563	1	16 715 9	93	6	29 69	91 CHEUVREUX DE VIRIEU NORDIC AB
More than 100 000		178	0	216 786 7	44	84	1 217 90	
		45 643	100	258 696 0	00	100	5 66	68 DEN DANSKE BANK
								DEN NORSKE BANK
		Per-s	share data,	SEK				DEUTSCHE MORGAN GRENFELL
			1997	1996	1995	199	199	93 ENSKILDA SECURITIES
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	v		3.1		5.2 45			.9 FÖRENINGSBANKEN FONDKOMMISSION
Payout percentage ³⁾ , 9 Quoted prices, A,		ŀ	69 272		40 148			34 GOLDMAN SACHS INTERNATIONAL
Quoted prices, A,	highes lowest		182		140			73
	year-e		226		116			HAGSTRÖMER & QVIBERG FONDKOMMISS
Quoted prices, B,	highes		220		148			34 HANDELSBANKEN MARKETS
	lowest		182		109			73
	year-e	nd	227		116	. 11	9 11	JAMES CAPEL & CO. 15
P/E ratio ⁴⁾	5		22.3	16.4	8.7	13.	.6 30	.1 J.P. MORGAN SECURITIES LTD.
Quoted price, % of sh	nareholde	rs' equity ⁵⁾	336	262	175	20	07 22	25 LEHMAN BROTHERS
								MATTEUS FONDKOMMISSION
	Aver	age numb	er of share	es traded o	daily			MORGAN STANLEY
		1997	1996	1995	-	1994	199	93 MYRBERG FONDKOMMISSION
	ange A	294 655	166 337	136 425		77 768	93 38	
	B	183 824	295 718	251 004		48 539	180 66	
London Stock Exchan		72 781	77 550	50 774		41 878	92 22	NORDRANKEN TRADING
	В	220 707	215 816	178 555		64 235	208 34	
								PARIBAS
Notes:								SBC WARBURG
¹⁾ Consolidated net profit	for the ye	ar per share.						
²⁾ Dividend divided by qu			at year-end.					SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE EQUITIES
 Dividend divided by ear Market price of A share 			to earnings per	r share.				SPARBANKEN SWEDBANK FONDKOMMISSI
5) Market price of A share	es at year-e	end, as a perce	entage of report	ted shareholde	rs' equity	y per share	2.	UBS, UNION BANK OF SWITZERLAND
Additional definitions are	nresented	on page 52						

Additional definitions are presented on page 52.

publicly listed corporations, insurance companies, funds and foundations hold 71% (74) of all Sandvik shares. Shares owned by foreign investors amount to 21% (18) of all shares and 9% of

voting rights.

Shareholders

Options

Standardized options in Sandvik B shares were introduced for trading in May 1993.

in dividends has been slightly more

than 33% annually since 1993. The

dividend comprises 69% of earnings

per share in 1997. The average divi-

amounts to 54%.

dend portion during the past five years

During recent years, Sandvik has

made determined efforts to increase

the flow of information to financial

cial function for investor relations.

market interests and established a spe-

The number of shareholders is about

46,000. The 10 largest shareholders in

Sandvik account for 50% of all shares and 58% of voting rights. In total,

Distribution of shares
and voting rights

Р

ercentage of shares	
14.4	
8.5	
7.4	
4.2	
3.2	
3.2	
1.9	
1.8	
2.1	
1.6	

ÖHMAN J:OR FONDKOMMISSION

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO

A successful strategy

The year 1997 was an eventful and another favorable year for the Sandvik Group, characterized by substantial marketing successes, continued high earnings, major strategic acquisitions and a new capital structure after the share redemption. Sales on an annual basis rose nearly 40%, including acquisitions during the year. Our expansion strategy has proved successful.

Based on our position in 1993, we formulated an aggressive expansion strategy for the ensuing 10-year period. It was based mainly on organic growth in existing product areas, but also included supplementary acquisitions.

We established the Group's goal for volume growth, raising our target level to 6% annually compared with the 4% we had applied during the preceding 10 years, a relative increase of 50%. Today, after four years, it is unequivocally clear that we shall meet and surpass our goal. Sandvik's annual sales are now more than SEK 40,000 M, compared with slightly less than SEK 22,000 M in 1993. Our strong expansion is attributable to both organic growth and acquisitions.

Intensive and continued investments in research and development comprise one of the most important success factors in the Group's organic growth. Constant flows of sophisticated new products have created compact pressure on the market. We have positioned ourselves at the top of Sweden's patent statistics.

Our definition of R&D embraces much more than development of new products, materials, grades and qualities. It also involves efforts to improve, change and renew techniques, processes and systems in production, logistics, marketing and other administrative functions. During the past years,

for example, we reduced time requirements for the development of new cemented-carbide tools by 50%. The higher rate of development has created new opportunities to generate increased sales and market shares.

Markets with substantial potential

Our expansion strategy is based on assumptions of increased sales in emerging new markets and more mature markets. NAFTA is Sandvik's second largest market block, accounting for nearly 25% of Group sales. During recent years, Sandvik has increased its market shares and sales in parallel with higher earnings. Today, there are no signs of reversal in the Group's highly favorable business development.

EU will continue to be Sandvik's largest market region, driven primarily by Germany's production industry. We have substantial resources in Europe for production and marketing, and the market still offers excellent opportunity for stronger market positions.

General economic growth in Asia over the past several years has created strong potential for Sandvik's various products. Although growth was slowed by the increasing currency concerns in the autumn of 1997, Sandvik reported increased sales last year in the Asian market. Because of the present economic situation in Southeast Asia, operations in the

region are being consolidated with a view toward the future growth potential this market area can offer.

The Group has been strongly represented in Japan for many years. We also have been in India for a long time, where we are increasing the ownership share in our subsidiary and at the same time broadening our product range. In China, we have carried out a major expansion of our production and marketing resources in recent years, which has already yielded good results

In so-called conversion markets, we have established a strong platform for the future through strategic acquisitions, local production and expansion of the marketing organization. Industrial development in Eastern Europe has created new opportunities for Sandvik's sophisticated products, and Group sales have increased sharply in several countries in the region.

Substantial investments

Sales growth is dependent on increased investments in production and marketing. Most investments are focused on cutting-edge technologies for higher production of more sophisticated products. In addition to higher production capacities, however, investments also focus on improved quality, shorter lead-times, better work environments, lower costs and higher productivity.



Substantial investments have been made in the areas of steel and cemented carbide. During recent years, for example, capacity at the Group's steel mills in Sandviken has been increased by 40% and, in Gimo, production facilities for inserts and tools have been expanded in parallel with the construction of a new factory for production of cemented-carbide powder. We have also increased local production capacity in several markets through expansion of existing factories and acquisitions. In the past three years, Sandvik has invested more than SEK 13,000 M in plants and company acquisitions.

Through supplementary acquisitions, a cornerstone in our expansion strategy, we have added 14 new companies with combined annual sales of more than SEK 11.000 M to the Sandvik Group. The two largest and most publicized acquisitions were Tamrock of Finland and Kanthal of Sweden. Tamrock, one of the world's leading manufacturers of rock-drilling machinery, has been partly owned by Sandvik since 1989. The Group purchased all shares outstanding in Tamrock in two acquisition phases implemented during 1996 and 1997. Tamrock offers considerable synergy

benefits in coordination The acquisition of

with Sandvik Rock Tools Kanthal was also implemented in two phases during recent years. Kanthal is the world's leading manufacturer of high-temperature materials with strong ties to Sandvik Steel operations. Another strategic acquisition was made in Tooling last year when Sandvik acquired Precision Twist Drill, an American company that ranks as one of the world's leading manufacturers of high-speed Skilled employees who are highly

steel twist drills. Substantial resources are now being concentrated to integrate the new companies in Group operations. Utilization of synergies will generate additional improvements in business growth and earnings. motivated and are provided opportunities for personal and professional development represent a key issue in future operations. Following recent acquisitions, the Sandvik Group has slightly more than 38,000 employees. In view of the Group's rapid expansion, we have recruited many young, new employees during recent years. In the Parent Company in Sweden, the oldest Group unit, about 30% of all employees are younger than 35, a strong asset for future expansion

New capital structure

Our intention is that Sandvik shares shall be an attractive investment. When we established our strategy for the Group's future expansion, we also laid the groundwork for a more aggressive dividend policy. Dividends have averaged more than 50% of net earnings per share during the past five years. Sandvik's strong earnings growth and cash flow during recent years created a certain overcapitalization.

To improve the Group's capital structure, a share redemption program was implemented totaling SEK 4,000 M. Skanska, the Group's main owner since 1983, exercised its redemption option and also sold Sandvik shares in almost the same amount. Industrivärden, a publicly listed Swedish investment company, became a new, major owner.

Share redemption, increased dividends and acquisitions have created a new financial structure. Net cash assets have changed to net debt. Solidity has declined, but is still at a high level. Combined with the strong operations, this provides for continued great freedom of action.

Our strategy is based on Sandvik being the obvious first choice of customers. We will accomplish this by contributing actively to increasing the customer's productivity and profitability with technically competitive products. Sandvik products and systems are sold on the strength of economic arguments, which we believe is the only way to generate strong, longterm capital return on resources invested by customers, shareholders and our employees

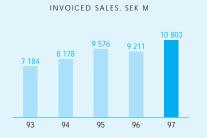
Sandviken, March 1998

Clas Åke Hedström

President and Chief Executive Officer





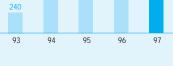




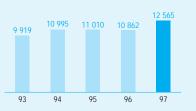








NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES 31 DEC



Sandvik Tooling

The business area comprises tools and tooling systems for metalworking applications. Sandvik Coromant is the world's leading manufacturer of cemented-carbide tools, and CTT Tools has a corresponding position in the market for high-speed steel tools.

The market for cutting tools used in metalworking applications generally follows business trends for the international engineering industry. The world market for metalworking tools amounts to approximately SEK 70 billion per year. Customers include automotive and aerospace industries, steel and other engineering industries.

Sandvik Automation, formerly a separate unit of Sandvik Tooling, was restructured in 1997. Systems for tool administration and supervision are now integrated as part of Sandvik Coromant.

Sales of the business area amounted to SEK 10.803 M and operating profit was SEK 2,094 M. Return on net assets exceeded the Group's minimum requirement of 20% by a broad margin.

Sandvik Coromant

Sandvik Coromant is the market leader in development, production and marketing of tools using cemented-carbide, ceramics and extremely hard materials such as diamond and cubic boron nitride for metalcutting applications.

Sales invoiced by Sandvik Coromant improved sharply in 1997 as a result of higher demand and favorable currency trends. The increase amounted to 15% (7% in fixed currencies and for comparable units).

Customers include companies that use metalworking to upgrade products made of various materials, for example, steel, aluminum and composite materials, mainly in the automotive and steel industries, aerospace and other engineering industries. About 10 competing companies

control slightly more than half of the world market for metalworking. A large number of local or highly specialized companies account for remaining market shares. Sandvik Coromant is the leader in European and South American markets. In the North American market, Kennametal is Sandvik Coromant's largest competitor. In Asia, several Japanese companies



are large suppliers. Sandvik Coromant is the most solidly established non-Japanese company in Asian markets, with production of cemented-carbide tools in Japan, China and India

Market and business conditions

Sales in the NAFTA region and South America were strong throughout all of 1997. Invoicing in Europe was weak early in the year, followed by gradual improvement. Highly favorable development characterized growth markets in Eastern Europe. Uncertainty over currencies in Asia led to lower demand during the second half of 1997 in the entire region, with the exception of Japan and China.

Productivity in the engineering industry has been increased by a factor of about 100 this century on the strength of development in cemented-carbide tools and machine tools. Cutting tools account for only 2-4% of total costs for finished components

INVOICED SALES, SEK M

correctly, they often provide customers with savings of 10-30 %. With growing global competi-

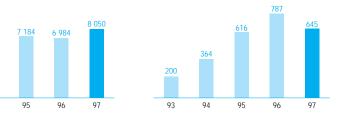
but,

utilized

tion and higher quality awareness, focus on productivity has been sharpened, creating more stringent demands on cutting tools. By choosing the right tool, customers can quickly increase productivity without substantial capital investments.

and production methods, accordingly, is an important element in Sandvik Coromant's continued competitiveness. About 6% of sales, or SEK 490 M, was invested in research and development in 1997, by far the industry's highest R&D investment level. Substantial expenditures were allocated during





AIRCRAFT MANU FACTURERS IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD USE CEMENTED-CARBIDE TOOLS FROM SANDVIK COROMANT FOR DRILLING TURNING AND MILLING APPLI-CATIONS IN MATERIALS THAT ARE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO PROCESS.

the year for investments in new laboratory equipment for continued development of analysis and testing methods.

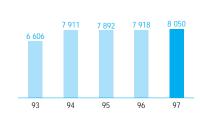
Sandvik Coromant's development work is concentrated mainly on new cutting materials, coating materials and tooling systems that provide customers greater performance, improved tolerance levels and higher flexibility. Research work is conducted in Sandvik's own laboratories and in cooperation with customers, universities and colleges. For many years, Sandvik has been one of the Swedish companies that have the most applied for and approved patents in Sweden.

New products

For turning of cast-iron and steel, the most common materials used in the automotive industry, Sandvik Coromant introduced a complete range of insert geometries and grades in 1997. A new cementedcarbide grade was also developed for milling operations. It offers a broad range of application areas through a sophisticated combination of multilayer coatings and an extremely tough substrate.

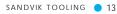
At the large EMO Fair in Hanover, Sandvik Coromant unveiled a completely new drill for stainless, austenitic and duplex steel grades generally considered difficult to machine. The new TwinGrade[™] drill is based on two different cemented-carbide grades and is developed, designed and manufactured in cooperation with CTT Tools and Sandvik Hard Materials.

The modular Coromant Capto tooling system showed continued strong sales growth. Additional licens-



NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES, 31 DEC

Development of new products





A NEW PLANT FOR PRODUCTION OF CEMENTED-CARBIDE POWDER WAS OPENED AT SANDVIK COROMANT'S MAIN INSTALLATION IN GIMO

ing agreements were signed, which entail broader distribution of the system and allow customers greater freedom of choice in terms of suppliers. Today's modern metalworking machine tools are capable of producing short series of high-quality components under highly flexible working conditions induced by rapid and effective exchanges of tools. With Coromant Capto, customers can turn, mill and drill using the same machine and achieve maximum guality and precision.

Cooperation with large machinetool manufacturers was intensified in 1997, and several new development projects were started. Traditionally, machine tools and metalworking tools were developed separately. Today, more and more machine tools are adapted to opportunities offered by tooling systems, creating good potential for continued improvement in degree of utilization, versatility and productivity in the engineering industry.

Development and sales of Auto-TAS systems for tool administration were integrated in Sandvik Coromant in conjunction with the restructuring of Sandvik Automation. AutoTAS is an important system for development of so-called Partnership Sourcing, which means that Sandvik becomes a supplier of all cutting tools to the customer. Several highly interesting agreements were reached with leading international companies in 1997.

For the past several years, Sandvik Coromant has conducted active efforts to reduce consumption of limited natural resources. A program has been established, for example, involving collection of used cementedcarbide inserts from customers for the recycling of such raw materials as tungsten, cobalt and tantalum. Originally started in Europe, the program has also been introduced

2 6

in Brazil and the U.S., where there is strong interest. The program will be established in 1998 in Japan and Canada. Environmental concern is also reflected in a system for recovery and recycling of plastic packaging materials for Sandvik products which has been introduced in a number of markets.

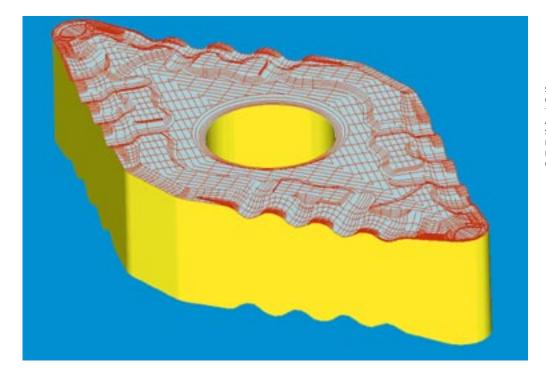
Investments

Sandvik Coromant today has some 40 production units in all parts of the world. Production operations are based on a common raw material base, standardized equipment and processes as well as uniform standards of quality. At least one production plant is located in all major market areas to meet local customer demand for special tools.

The rate of investments in higher production capacity and establishment of production facilities in new markets has been particularly intensive over the past three years. Capacity for cemented-carbide inserts and tools has been increased at the main production plant in Gimo, Sweden, where a new plant was also opened for production of cemented-carbide powder. Localization of powder production operations adjacent to the manufacturing plant for cemented-carbide inserts will increase potential for improved quality and operating efficiency.

Substantial investments were also made outside Sweden in 1997, including new facilities in China, Russia and the US. Expansion of the cementedcarbide production plant in Langfang City, near Beijing, was completed on schedule. The expanded facility is the most modern production plant in China, and the additional capacity is adapted to meet anticipated growth in the Chinese market. A three-year investment project was also completed at MKTC, the Group's wholly owned subsidiary in Moscow.

> LARS PETTERSSON PRESIDENT OF SANDVIK COROMANT



In 1997, Sandvik Coromant acquired a majority shareholding in Sandvik Baildonit S.A. in Katowice, Poland, the country's largest manufacturer of cemented-carbide tools. Products are sold under the Baildonit brand name. primarily in the Polish market. Since cooperation was started in 1994, new technologies and production equipment have been gradually transferred to the Polish company, contributing to higher quality and increased competitiveness.

Logistics

Sandvik Coromant's product range includes approximately 25,000 standard items, and inventories of about 20,000 are available in central warehouses situated in Gimo, Sweden, and Schiedam in the Netherlands as well as Erlanger, Kentucky, in the US. Production units in all parts of the world are linked to central warehouses through a joint control system to guarantee delivery capabilities and

optimize global capacity utilization. Customers of Sandvik Coromant in all parts of the world have been provided access to fast and effective delivery service for the past several years, regardless of whether deliveries were provided by local warehouse units in various markets or central warehouse facilities.

Marketing

Markets outside Sweden account for 97% of sales invoiced by Sandvik Coromant. Most sales are booked directly by large and medium-sized customers, with distributors and retailers handling sales to smaller customers. Close contact between manufacturers and customers is a basic prerequisite for detecting new market needs quickly and developing new products and service to satisfy emerging demands. Although some sales are managed through distributors, Sandvik Coromant maintains close contacts with customers through comprehensive sales and technical support services. The marketing organization has been expanded sharply during recent years, particularly in Asia and Eastern Europe. Marketing via the Internet is gaining greater importance, with special emphasis on product information and technical service. More than 6,000 CAD blueprints of tools are offered electronically to engineering companies in all parts of the world. By entering a product code, customers can quickly access blueprints they need whenever production of a new component is about to begin. Training programs in cutting applications and metalworking econo-

my are an important part of customer services offered by Sandvik Coromant. Customers need additional competence

SOPHISTICATED COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY IS A PREREQUISITE FOR SANDVIK COROMANT'S DEVELOPMENT OF NEW CEMENTED-CARBIDE INSERTS

to capitalize on productivity gains offered by new tools and machines. Sandvik Coromant offers on-site training programs at customer facilities and at the Group's 17 training centers in various parts of the world.

Based on its highly competitive marketing organization, sophisticated products, high technical expertise and its high-tech equipment for research, development and production, Sandvik Coromant is fully prepared to meet anticipated strong demand in the future 🔵



SANDVIK COROMANT HAS EXPANDED ITS PRODUCTION PLANT FOR CEMENTED-CARBIDE TOOLS IN CHINA

CTT Tools

CTT Tools is the world's largest manufacturer of highspeed steel tools for metalworking applications and is now expanding operations in solid cemented-carbide tools, a sector characterized by rapid growth. CTT Tools markets the following trademarks: Dormer, Prototyp, Titex, Master, Union Butterfield, Precision and Triumph.



PRODUCTION OF HIGH SPEED STEEL TOOLS AT PRECISION TWIST DRILL IN THE US

Sales invoiced by CTT Tools in 1997 increased 26% (4% in fixed currencies and for comparable units). Demand was much weaker than anticipated in Europe during the early part of 1997, but conditions improved sharply in the second quarter. The strong British pound had negative effects on British export industries which, eventually, may also be felt in the domestic market. Most of the upswing in Germany was attributable to growth in export industries

Market and business conditions

The world market for high-speed steel is estimated at about SEK 30 billion, comprising approximately 1,000 manufacturers. The market for high-speed tools is mature, and CTT growth is achieved chiefly through increased market shares and structural changes in the industry.

In contrast, demand for solid, rotary cemented-carbide tools is growing sharply, with market value estimated at approximately SEK 10 billion. Many companies compete in the sector, but there is no clear market leader. Solid cementedcarbide tools are manufactured in designs similar to high-speed steel tools, but are produced from pressed, cementedcarbide rods manufactured primarily by Sandvik Hard Materials. Solid cemented-carbide tools are able to operate at higher machining speeds and

offer greater durability than corresponding high-speed tools, but they require vibration-free machines adapted to particular work conditions.

CTT has expanded strongly in the solid cemented-carbide sector during recent years, and ranks as one of the leading manufacturers in Europe today. Market shares are increasing, and CTT is striving to establish a position of leadership similar to its standing in high-speed steel within the next three years.

Most sales by CTT Tools are invoiced via industrial distributors, working in close contact with CTT Tool's technical experts. Major changes are now taking place in distribution channels, characterized by increased sales through catalogue companies and the emergence of larger distribution companies as well as single-sourcing concepts.

Investments

Precision Twist Drill Co. (PTD), an American company based in Crystal Lake, Illinois, near Chicago, was

> acquired by CTT Tools in 1997. PTD is one of the leading US manufacturers of high-speed steel tools, with sales in 1997 of USD 120 M and about

> > 1,600 employees. The acquisition has strengthened CTT's leadership position in high-speed steel tools

> > > ANDERS ILSTAM PRESIDENT OF CTT TOOLS



and increased annual sales by about 50%. PTD has a highly developed and efficient distribution system that will provide a strong platform for anticipated expansion in the US. Structural changes in PTD initiated in the autumn are expected to yield favorable effects on profitability already in 1998.

Continued aggressive investments were made last year in CNC machines and equipment to increase production automation at CTT's various plants. A conversion to vacuum hardening was completed at several production units to eliminate the environmental hazards of salt-bath hardening. New grinding machines for higher capacity and flexibility were also developed in

One production unit in England was closed, and most of the operations were transferred to Sweden. Prototyp established a wholly owned

INVOICED SALES, SEK M

cooperation with machine suppliers.

INVESTMENTS IN FIXED ASSETS, SEK M

sales company

in France and

acquired the

operations

of its former

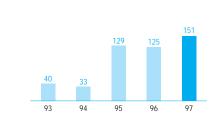
agent in Italy

A decision was

tools in India.

made by Titex to

invest in a new factory



SOPHISTICATED HIGH-SPEED STEEL TOOLS FROM CTT TOOLS ARE USED IN MODERN MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY.

Dormer introduced a new twist drill with a self-centering point. The product has met strong demand from engineering industries. Prototyp supplemented its range of threading tools for the aerospace industry, among other users, by adding several new types of surface coatings. A new cementedcarbide product was developed in coopera-

for production of threading

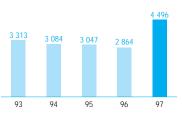
Continued development

Large tool users are intensifying efforts to limit their number of suppliers. New purchasing channels are being created, many integrated with other operations in purchasing and inventory management. In cooperation with Sandvik Coromant and certain major distributors, CTT Tools participated actively as a supplier in this conversion process.

tion with Sandvik Coromant and Sandvik Hard Materials, whereby two cemented-carbide grades are sintered together to achieve a new cutting edge and core properties. Titex introduced a large number of new cemented-carbide drills. A new surface coating introduced for dry machining offers sharply reduced total processing costs for customers.

Demand is expected to remain strong in CTT Tool's main markets in 1998, creating favorable conditions for increased growth •

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES, 31 DEC





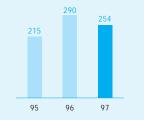












NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES 31 DEC.*



* FIGURES AS IF TAMROCK WAS OWNED FOR THE FULL YEAR OPERATING PROFIT PARTLY ESTIMATED BUSINESS AREA

Sandvik Mining and Construction

The business area, comprising Tamrock and Sandvik Rock Tools, has the market's most comprehensive range of products for rock-working operations in mining and civil engineering. Tamrock is one of the world's leading manufacturers of equipment for drilling, excavation, demolition and transport of rock and minerals. Sandvik Rock Tools is a leading global supplier of rock-drilling tools.

Tamrock has been an associated company of the Sandvik Group since 1989. During 1997, Sandvik fully acquired Tamrock, creating substantial synergy opportunities with Sandvik Rock Tools as well as Sandvik in general. Combined, the two companies can offer customers maximum productivity through total system solutions including machinery, service and tools.

Invoiced sales of Sandvik Mining and Construction in 1997 amounted to SEK 3,582 M and operating profit to SEK 234 M. This includes Tamrock's figures from 1 November 1997.

Tamrock

Tamrock is one the world's leading suppliers of drilling machinery, loaders and equipment for rock-excavation operations in mining, civil engineering and related industries. Based in Tampere, Finland, Tamrock was founded in 1856 and became part of the Sandvik Group in 1997.

Tamrock's sales in 1997 rose 20% to SEK 7,560 M (6,300). Profit improved compared with the preceding year despite losses incurred in coal-mining equipment operations. Tamrock was consolidated in the Sandvik Group from November 1997. For the first 10 months of 1997, Tamrock's earnings are included as share in earnings of associated companies.

Products and customer groups

Tamrock provides sophisticated products, qualified service, innovative technology and solutions for rock excavation, demolition and transport of hard rock, coal, soft minerals and other bulk materials.

Tamrock's products and equipment are capital goods which are often part of a large service-intensive customer

system. Operating efficiency is contingent on regularly scheduled service including wear components and other consumables.

Tamrock's largest area of operations is hard-rock mining, that is, for production of base and precious metals. Customers comprise mining companies and contractors working in mines. Part of Tamrock's activities depends on capital investments in new mining projects and expansion of existing mines. A substantial part is also attributable to replacement and utilization of equipment. Mining investments are influenced by metal prices and long-term expectations of mining companies.

Tamrock's construction operations serve customers working with infrastructure projects: construction of



production of cement and aggregate, well drilling as well as demolishing and recycling of buildings and other structures. Customers include international and local, general and specialized contractors. Business development is linked closely with public investments in civil engineering and infrastructure develop-

all economic growth. Tamrock is also a supplier to the world's coal and soft-mineral mining industries. World coal mining is growing steadily but slowly in relation to

TAMROCK IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S LEADING MANU FACTURERS OF ROCK-EXCAVATION TOOLS FOR MINING OPERATIONS THE COMPANY'S LARGEST AREA OF OPERATIONS.

roads, railways, hydropower plants, ment, with strong dependence on over-

consumption and energy production.

Other soft minerals are primarily raw material for the chemical industry. The Tamrock company Roxon supplies conveyor

components and other bulk materialshandling equipment and systems, primarily to mining and construction industry customers. Roxon products and services are used throughout the entire materials handling chain, from mines and guarries to transport, loading and unloading to the end-user, such as solid-fuel power plants.

Competition varies between different areas of business activity. Atlas Copco of Sweden, Ingersoll-Rand of the US and Furukawa of Japan are Tamrock's major competitors in rock-drilling and loading equipment. Major competitors in the coal-mining sector are Joy and Long-Airdox, both based in the US.



NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES, 31 DEC



INVESTMENTS IN FIXED ASSETS, SEK M



TAMROCK IS INVOLVED IN COMPREHENSIVE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD

Market and business conditions

Metal prices fluctuated sharply during 1997. The price of gold fell drastically, depressed by real and anticipated sales of central bank gold reserves. The lowest gold price in 18 years was noted during the year, before weak recovery toward year-end. Price increases for base metals during the first half of 1997 were short-lived, although zinc reached its highest price level of the 1990s. The outlook deteriorated toward year-end due to the financial crises in some East Asian countries.

Demand in hard-rock mining fluctuated less than metal prices, but activity declined during the second half of the year. The outlook in the Canadian and Australian mining industries was bleak, with many small and mediumsized gold mines hurt by low gold prices. Business development in Latin America and Africa was favorable throughout all of 1997.

Demand in construction operations was strong in the US and certain European countries. Investment activity in civil-engineering projects in East Asia was hesitant even early in the year. Business growth in China remained strong.

Coal-mining operations varied during 1997. In the US, production was lower than anticipated, but it remained strong in South Africa. Favorable market conditions in Australia began to weaken toward year-end.

Australian coal mines, which are highly dependent on exports to Japan and other Asian countries, suffered from the present economic climate in Asia.

Roxon reported favorable business growth during the year, highlighted by several large orders. Despite the economic problems of East Asia, projects continued, but uncertainties mounted and investment decisions were postponed.

Sales from hard-rock mining operations were strong in 1997, but the order backlog at year-end was clearly lower than at the beginning of the year. The construction operations and Roxon were also characterized by strong volume growth, with larger order backlogs at year-end than 12 months earlier. Coal-mining operations reported weak revenues and low capacity utilization throughout the year. Earnings were clearly negative, and additional restructuring measures were initiated. An improvement in order intake during the last month of the

> year resulted in an acceptable order backlog for 1998.

Future development

Cooperation between Tamrock and Rauma Nordberg, another Finnish company, has been favorable for both parties.

> ΙΟΠΚΟ Μ. ΙΑΑΚΚΟΙ Α PRESIDENT OF TAMROCK

The cooperation agreement was extended in conjunction with Sandvik's acquisition of the Rauma Group's shares in Tamrock late in 1997.

The most important investment project during 1997 was the modernization of drilling equipment production lines at the factory in Tampere. The first phase was completed in early 1998.

Tamrock divested business activities and assets in 1997 that lacked clear links with core operations. Oy Tamrotor Ab, a manufacturer of industrial compressors, was one of the divested units. The company is now focused exclusively on mining and construction operations.

Tamrock's product development programs continued to be comprehensive. Several new products were introduced, including a continuous bolter miner for sharply improved productivity in coal-mining operations. Roxon's new dust-control system based on particle ionization provides significant environmental advantages for customers handling bulk materials.

The Pantera 800, a new drilling rig for quarry operations in the construction sector became a great success. A new system for loader maintenance and production control provides increased productivity in underground hard rock-mining operations.

Tamrock is also participating in several technical development programs to increase customer profitability. These include an interesting project to



facilitate more economical mining of harder formations using so-called roadheaders. Another project focuses on increased automation to improve productivity in underground hard-rock mining. Cooperation between Tamrock and Sandvik Rock Tools was intensified gradually during 1997. Particular focus was placed on integrated marketing and sales as well as synergies in research and development. The consolidation of Tamrock as a wholly owned Sandvik company created several opportunities for further cooperation and synergies •



TAMROCK'S PLANT FOR

PRODCUTION

OF ROCK-DRILLING

EQUIPMENT IN TAMPERE

FINLAND

TAMROCK IS A LEADING MANUFACTURER OF LOADERS



Sandvik **Rock Tools**

Sandvik Rock Tools is one of the world's leading suppliers of rock-drilling tools used in mining, civil engineering and water-well drilling. The product range includes tools and tooling systems for working all types of rock and for all conventional drilling techniques. Operations are conducted through four product divisions specializing in different rock excavation methods.

Business conditions for Sandvik Rock Tools were stable in 1997. Sales increased 11% (2% in fixed currencies and for comparable units). Financial results for the year include Texasbased Drillmaster, an American manufacturer of down-the-hole drilling equipment acquired by Sandvik in the summer. Due to restructuring costs, particularly in the US, earnings declined. Return on net assets amounted to 12%. The world market for rock-drilling



PRODUCTION AT THE KÖPING PLANT OF SANDVIK ROCK TOOLS HAS BEEN INCREASED TO MEET GROWING DEMAND FOR ROLLER BITS

products is divided evenly between mining and civil engineering applications. Mining industry demand for rock-drilling tools is largely dependent on market demand for minerals, while civil-engineering industry operations are controlled primarily by the number of construction, road and hydroelectric power projects.

The market for rock-drilling products was strong in 1997, highlighted by increased activity in the mining industry. Demand in the civil engineering sector was fragmented, and activity in Europe was weaker than expected

Sandvik Rock Tools, Atlas Copco of Sweden and Boart of South Africa dominate the top-hammer drilling sector, accounting for more than twothirds of world market sales. About 10 local manufacturers with limited product ranges account for the remaining one-third. Major competitors in mineral excavation, defined as mechanical cutting operations in softer rocks and minerals, are Kennametal and American Mine Tool of the US. In down-the-hole drilling operations, major competitors include Atlas Copco (Sweden), Ingersoll Rand (US) and a large number of local suppliers. A few American manufacturers are the largest competitors for rotary products.

Sandvik Rock Tools has several important advantages over the competition. It has the market's most comprehensive product portfolio and access to the Sandvik Group's collective resources for research and development in cemented

LARS-ANDERS NORDQVIST, PRESIDENT OF SANDVIK ROCK TOOLS

carbides and specialty steels, materials used in virtually all rock-drilling tools. Group resources provide excellent potential for Sandvik Rock Tools to develop and manufacture products characterized by uniform quality and excellent performance standards. The acquisition of Tamrock has added further strength in rock drilling market positions.

Production and marketing

Ongoing integration of Tamrock and Sandvik Rock Tools marketing organizations continued. Joint marketing organizations have already been established in Germany, Spain, Russia and other CIS nations, and corresponding coordination has been started in several other markets.

Structural changes in the production resources of Sandvik Rock Tools continued according to plan. All prod-

uction in Spain was terminated last year, and various parts of production operations in the US were transferred to Mexico and Sweden. Production units

> in Sandviken and Köping received quality certification in accordance with ISO 9001. Comprehensive training programs for sales and service personnel, which started in 1996.



were conducted in North and South America, Australia and Southeast Asia.

Product areas

Top-hammer drilling tools offer the greatest market potential of all product groups. The new Formula 1 tool system, which offers optimal precision in drifting and tunneling, was received with great interest by mining and civil engineering customers in Europe, South America and Australia during 1997. R&D resources were concentrated on development of new production processes in order to provide greater flexibility in selecting materials and material properties and in the development of products and product versions in close cooperation with customers.

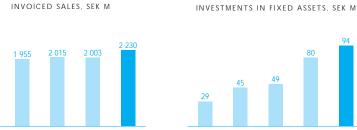
Structural changes in production of mineral tools was completed in accordance with plan during the year. Technical cooperation with Voest-Alpine Bergtechnik, a subsidiary of Tamrock, has resulted in several new

INVOICED SALES, SEK M

products for mechanical working of considerably harder rock than was earlier possible. Cooperation with Tamrock's marketing organization was also intensified. Structural changes in down-the-

hole production operations were also implemented last year. Demand declined due to financial concerns in Southeast Asia, where several major civil engineering projects were stopped. Low gold prices reduced activities in exploration drilling operations. The acquisition of Drillmaster in the US will enable Sandvik Rock Tools to cultivate new markets.

Iron, copper and zinc excavated from open-pit mines increased in 1997, creating stronger demand for roller bits. Improved product performance and subsequent greater competitive power contributed to strong growth in sales volumes. A new product line was created to meet the growing demand.





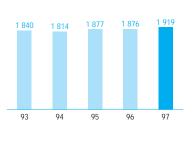
SANDVIK ROCK TOOLS ROCK-DRILLING TOOLS CONTRIBUTE TO HIGHER PRODUCTIVITY IN MINES WORLDWIDE.

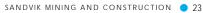
A new generation of large raise-boring heads introduced in 1997 provide increased productivity and reduced total costs for customers, thereby stimulating more widespread utilization and increased sales potential for the drilling method. Sandvik Rock Tools received the world's largest order for raise boring in the history of mining last year from LKAB's mine in Kiruna, Sweden.

Sandvik's acquisition of Tamrock has strengthened the market position of Sandvik Rock Tools, enhancing the ability to meet customer demand for accessibility and delivery reliability. By capitalizing on synergies in marketing and distribution, Sandvik Rock Tools will be able to offer high-quality products and services more cost-efficiently. Coordinated skills and expertise will also be utilized to develop new generations of rock-drilling equipment •



NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES, 31 DEC



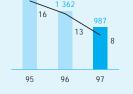


INVOICED SALES BY MARKET AREA*





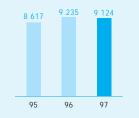








NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES, 31 DEC*



FOR THE FULL YEAR. OPERATING PROFIT PARTLY ESTIMATED BUSINESS AREA

Sandvik **Specialty Steels**

The business area consists of Sandvik Steel and Kanthal. Sandvik Steel is a world-leading manufacturer of certain products in stainless steel and special-alloys. Kanthal, also a global market leader, manufactures metallic and ceramic resistance materials.

The world market for business area's products is estimated at SEK 75 billion. Customers are found in most industry segments, including chemicals, oil and gas, power, pulp and paper, engineering as well as various consumer product sectors, such as the automotive, household appliance and the electronics sectors.

Kanthal was acquired in two stages during 1996 and 1997 and is now a wholly owned Sandvik subsidiary. Its business operations are linked strongly with Sandvik Steel, and the acquisition offers substantial synergy advantages.

Sales of Sandvik Specialty Steel in 1997 amounted to SEK 10,780 M and operating profit to SEK 921 M. Kanthal's sales and operating profit are included from 1 July 1997. The share in earnings of Kanthal as an associated company were included for the first half of the year.

Sandvik Steel

Sandvik Steel manufactures tube, strip, wire and bar for users with exacting demands on economy, reliability and performance. Products are produced in stainless steel as well as titanium, nickel and zirconium alloys. Average value added is high in relation to raw material content. Tube products account for about 50% of sales. Operations are focused on product niches in which Sandvik Steel has leading positions in the world market.

Sandvik Steel's order intake improved steadily in 1997. Invoiced sales rose 9% (3% in fixed currencies and for comparable units). Markets in the NAFTA region were particularly strong.

Earnings declined, however, despite higher demand, as a result of a sharp decline in prices in 1996. Prices in 1997 were largely unchanged. Return on net assets amounted to 12%

Competitive conditions vary between different product groups. Sandvik Steel is a global market leader in seamless stainless steel tube, in competition with two other major manufacturers. In the strip and wire sector, only a few companies can match Sandvik's complete product portfolio, but the market also features many small, independent drawing mills and cold-rolling mills. Any single competitor matches only a minimum 5% up to a maximum 25% of Sandvik Steel's product range.

STEEL STRIP

FROM SANDVIK STEEL IS USED IN

RAZORBLADES

AND CUTTING

HEADS OF SHAV-

ERS THAT PLACE

STRINGENT

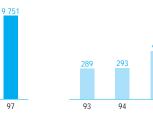
SHARPNESS.

DEMANDS ON

Consumption of stainless steel shows an annual growth trend of about 5%, expressed in volume, while growth in consumption of convention al steel is lower than the GDP index. The difference lies in market demand for longer economic life and higher performance standards, generating a trend toward products with higher alloy content and value added. The trend favors Sandvik Steel, which develops precision products for demanding applications in close cooperation with customers.

Market and business condtions

Demand from industrial sectors with strong emphasis on consumer products, such as the automotive, household appliance and electronics industries, increased sharply from a very low level in 1996. Sales of strip and wire products in Europe and the US enjoyed particularly strong benefits from the upswing. Demand for tube and welding products for chemical, power and pulp industries, however, is traditionally positioned later in the economic cycle, with higher order



INVOICED SALES, SEK M



FIGURES AS IE KANTHAL WAS OWNED

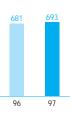
intake to the second half of the year. The strong improvement in order bookings resulted in higher capacity utilization at most production plants and favorable growth in productivity. Capacity utilization was high for coldworked tube used in heat exchangers and instrumentation, including so-called umbilical tubing as well as for titanium tube for the aerospace and chemical industries. Units acquired in 1996, however, reported unsatisfactory order intake. Sandvik Calamo in Sweden suffered

negative effects from a sharp decline in

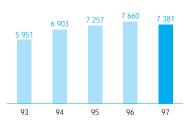
demand from the semiconductor industry. In India, Sandvik Choski was hurt by weak domestic market demand, and the company was unable to meet quality requirements of export markets. A comprehensive action program has been started.

Sales of supplementary products such as tube fittings and welded tube were down due to continued weak prices for flat stainless steel products and welded tubes in 1997. Welded tube products are supplied primarily by Avesta Sandvik Tube (AST), an associated company (Sandvik owns 25%). AST reported improved earnings in 1997. Sandvik Steel earnings in 1997 include AST with SEK 10 M.

Fagersta Stainless, a partly owned (50%) producer of stainless wire rod,



NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES 31 DEC



SANDVIK SPECIALTY STEELS 🥥 25

TUBE PRODUCTS ACCOUNT FOR 50% OF ALL SALES BY SANDVIK STEEL



reported a sharp increase in sales, from SEK 1.174 M in 1996 to SEK 1,316 M, but earnings were down due to lower prices. Sandvik Steel's earnings in 1997 include SEK 4 M from its share in the earnings of Fagersta Stainless.

Order intake rose sharply for coldrolled strip products and capacity utilization was high during the year. The order intake for wire products was very favorable, particularly for stainless spring wire rod and welding products.

Structural changes

Sandvik acquired Kanthal, a Swedish materials engineering company, during the summer. Kanthal is a world leader among manufacturers of resistance materials used to produce heating elements in household appliances and in industrial and laboratory furnaces. Opportunities to capitalize on synergies from the acquisition are very substantial, and extensive cooperation between Kanthal and Sandvik has been started in research and development, for example, focused on exchanges of expertise and involvement in various development projects.

Several business operations with limited long-term strategic importance were sold in 1997. Acesita Sandvik Tubos Inox S.A. of Brazil, a partly owned Group company (Sandvik 50%) that manufactures stainless welded tube, was sold. Sandvik Special Metals of the US sold its titanium tube processing operations for sporting goods. At year-end, Sandvik Chomutov Precision Tubes sold the drawing mill for

carbon steel tubes. In total, these sales affected about 240 employees.

To strengthen positions in the British market, Sandvik Steel acquired all shares outstanding (45%) in RGB Stainless Ltd. The British company works mainly with distribution of stainless tube, flanges and bar used in the chemical, processing and oil and gas industries. Sandvik also acquired Saxon Blades Ltd., Great Britain's leading manufacturer and distributor of diecutting steel for the packaging industry.

Investments

Sandvik Steel is implementing a comprehensive investment program during the period 1996-1998 to increase production capacity and competitiveness.

A new distribution center was opened in the US to supply tube products for all markets in the NAFTA region. In the Czech Republic and Canada, investments were made in new equipment to accommodate deliveries of so-called umbilical tube in lengths up to 20 km on coils. Sterling Tubes, a subsidiary in England, opened a new pilger mill based on a Sandvik design mainly for production of seamless tube used in power generation applications. Sandvik Calamo in-

> creased its production capacity for electro-polished tube by adding a new electro-polishing machine and a new so-called clean room.

> > An investment program was completed in Sandviken with

> > > PER ERICSON, PRESIDENT OF SANDVIK STEFT

installation of two finishing lines for seamless tube that will provide potential to meet product requirements in Japan and other Asian markets. A heat-treatment plant for titanium and zirconium products was also placed in operation. Also, a new peeling machine was placed on-line toward year-end to increase production capacity and broaden dimension ranges for peeled and polished bar.

A new cold-rolling mill for intermediate rolling of strip products was opened in Sandviken. Operations are concentrated on products for catalytic emission control, razor blades and spring applications. Capacity for flatrolled wire for applications mainly in the automotive industry was also increased.

New production capacity created by Sandvik Steel's comprehensive investment program will lead to cost savings and greater competitiveness.

Product development

In the face of extremely tough competition, Sandvik Steel increased its market share for seamless tube products in the power generation sector. Close cooperation with customers continued in development of cladding tubes for nuclear fuel. Determined efforts were also made to improve production processes and properties for titanium and zirconium tube. The products are used mainly by the aerospace and chemical industries.

Work with strip products continued to focus on new applications for thin strip foil used in environmental and electronic application areas. Multishift[™], a new product concept



A SOPHISTICATED NEW SCANNING-FLECTRON MICROSCOPE WAS INSTALLED AT THE SANDVIK STEEL R&D CENTER IN SANDVIKEN

for bandsaw cutting, was introduced The new concept will increase effective production hours of sawmills and improve the yield of timber produced.

Resources in wire operations were concentrated on process development and the exchange of technologies between the various Sandvik units. One major project in Brazil focused on increasing wire drawing productivity.

grades developed and patented by Sandvik Steel found new application areas in refineries and the petrochemical industry. Development of a new composite tube for refuse and waste incineration was completed in 1997. The product has already achieved commercial success and continued favorable business development is expected. A new steel grade for tube products used in the electronics industry in production of micro-chips was introduced during the autumn. A new, sophisticated scanning-electron microscope was installed at Sandvik Steel's R&D Center in Sandviken to enhance user-friendliness and flexibility



TITANIUM TUBE FROM SANDVIK IS USED IN A GROWING NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS IN THE AEROSPACE AND CHEMICALS INDUSTRIES

The new super-duplex steel



SANDVIK STEEL MANUFACTURES PRODUCTS FOR REFINERIES AND THE PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRY THAT PLACE HIGH DEMANDS ON ECONOMY, RELIABILITY AND PERFORMANCE

Kanthal

Kanthal is a leading global manufacturer of metallic and ceramic resistance materials in the form of wire, strip and electric heating elements for household appliances and industrial furnaces.

Kanthal posted invoiced sales in 1997 of SEK 2,060 M, an increase of 19%. Excluding acquired companies, the increase was 7%. Sandvik increased its ownership in Kanthal to more than 90% of shares outstanding and voting rights in June, and the company was



KANTHAL'S SYSTEMS FOR INFRARED DRYING HAVE SUBSTANTIAL MARKET POTENTIAL IN INDUSTRY

consolidated from that point in time. At year-end, Sandvik owned 100% of Kanthal.

The world market for resistance materials is estimated at approximately SEK 5 billion. A few large steel mills and independent drawing mills that upgrade purchased starting materials comprise Kanthal's major competition for metallic resistance materials. Competition in the ceramic resistance materials sector consists of one American and two Japanese companies. Kanthal has the market's most complete range of resistance materials.

Kanthal was founded in 1931 by Hans von Kantzow. The company

name is a combination of von Kantzow's surname and Hallstahammar, the Swedish community where Kanthal's head office is situated. Markets outside Sweden account for 98% of sales and Kanthal has subsidiaries and agents in a large number of countries worldwide. By tradition, operations are concentrated on electric heating, more specifically, electric heating with metallic resistance materials and, for higher temperatures, ceramics. The product range has been expanded through the years to include bimetals to measure, control and regulate temperatures. Because of their ability to resist high temperatures, the products are used widely as construction materials in gas-fired industrial furnaces, for

Market and business conditions

example.

Kanthal's business activities are concentrated on consumer and industrial product sectors. Higher living standards have created growing demand for consumer products. New household appliances are developed continuously, which increases demand for Kanthal products.

Kanthal delivers highly sophisticated products to industries and a large portion of its customers are end-users. Sales of industrial products are related to general economic trends. The potential for products used in heat treatment of micro-chips, semiconductors and other components in today's highly

expansive electronics industry is very substantial

General market demand declined in the early part of 1997. The downward trend was broken during the second guarter and sales started to increase. Growth in several markets was strong during the year, with the exception of Brazil, India and Southeast Asia. Despite strong price competition in Europe for household appliance wire products, Kanthal's operating margin rose in 1997, and market shares rose further for bimetal and metallic resistance materials.

Investment and acquisitions

In July 1997, Kanthal acquired all shares in H.P. Reid Co. Inc., a Florida-based American manufacturer of coated wire with diameters as small as 0.010 mm for various electronic applications. HP Reid is the leader in the rapid-growth market for precision wire used in personal computer hard disks. Sales increased 28%, compared with invoicing in 1996, and profitability was highly

> satisfactory. The company's products will now be introduced in markets outside the US through Kanthal's and Sandvik's sales organization.

3.0

Driver-Harris, an American company acquired by Kanthal in 1996, reported a return to profit-

OLA ROLLÉN. PRESIDENT OF KANTHAI

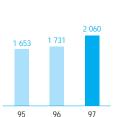
ability in 1997, marking the conclusion of structural work initiated in conjunction with the acquisition. Driver-Harris is the world's oldest supplier of resistance wire; the present product range also includes supplementary nickel alloys with substantial potential.

Kanthal's operations for construction materials were sold last summer to St. Gobain in France. In parallel, Kanthal acquired St. Gobain's siliconcarbide element production in Brazil, establishing Kanthal as the South American leader in this field. Investments were also initiated in 1997 to expand production capacity in Asia. A joint-venture company was established in cooperation with Tokai Konetsu, a Japanese competitor, for production of silicon-carbide elements in China. Construction of a new, partly owned wire drawing mill (Kanthal 51%) was also

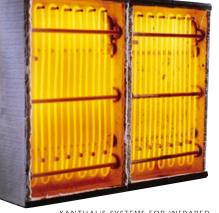
completed in India. In January 1997, Kanthal acquired 25% of the shares in OptiCat AB, a Swedish development company. OptiCat has sales and production rights to a new, patented catalyzer that uses Kanthal's high-temperature wire as a construction material. In the initial stages of cooperation, OptiCat will concentrate on industrial applications, ships and motorcycles.

Kanthal's system for drying with infrared radiation provides significant energy and cost savings in the steel and mining industries, for example, as well as in the paper, packaging and

INVOICED SALES SEK M



95



a French company that develops and markets radiation equipment for the paper industry.

KANTHAL IS THE

THE RAPIDLY EX-

PANDING MARKET

FOR GOLD-PLATED

PRECISION WIRE USED IN PERSONAL

COMPUTER HARD

DISKS

WORLD LEADER IN

A separate development project started last year by Kanthal is designed to introduce a complete range of heating systems for gas-fired industrial furnaces that yield exceptionally high thermal efficiency, withstand higher temperatures and considerably reduce emissions of environmentally harmful

INVESTMENTS IN FIXED ASSETS, SEK M

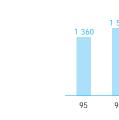
exhaust gases.



automotive industries. The potential is considered highly substantial. To introduce Kanthal's new high-temperature "Super Excel" ceramic material, a strategic alliance was established with Solaronics SA,

Synergies with Sandvik

To capitalize on short and long-term synergies with Sandvik and Sandvik Steel, in particular, a program was initiated during the summer in such areas as raw material purchases, research and development, production and market representation. Furthermore, Kanthal had already started to capitalize on Sandvik's infrastructure and resources during the second half of 1997 in such areas as financing, logistics and EDP •

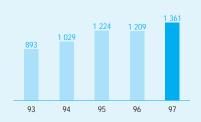


SANDVIK SPECIALTY STEELS _ 29

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES, 31 DEC



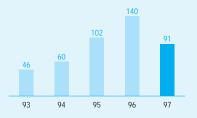
INVOICED SALES, SEK M















BUSINESS AREA

Sandvik Hard Materials

Sandvik Hard Materials is active in the full spectrum of its field, ranging from cemented carbide to diamond, including special ceramics for biotechnical applications. The business area manufactures and markets large volumes of cementedcarbide blanks for tool manufacturers, components for the engineering industry and carbide rolls for the iron and steel industry.

Sales invoiced by Sandvik Hard Materials in 1997 increased 13% (7% in fixed currencies and for comparable units). Excluding currency effects, average volumes have increased more than 10% annually over the past four years, a growth rate matched by the business area's productivity increase. Concentration on specialized production continues in parallel with improvements in sales operating efficiency. Return on net assets in 1997 amounted to 15%.

Products and customers

The competitiveness of Sandvik Hard Materials has increased during recent years through a focus on fast-growing product groups and customer areas. A smaller number of products are now manufactured in larger volumes, resulting in improved production and distribution economy. This strategy has also resulted in a reduction in the number of small customers in most market regions, which has reduced administration expenses, increased focus on customers and improved service offered to priority customer groups.

Sandvik Hard Materials has developed into a global industrial enterprise with specialized production units in 11 countries and sales through an international marketing organization. The business area established a position of leadership in the European market a few years ago and commands strong positions in the NAFTA region and Asian markets. Sandvik is the only manufacturer in the industry today able to offer global market coverage, with representation in more than 50 countries.

Competitors are mostly companies operating primarily in large domestic markets, such as the US or Japan, or companies focused on limited product niches. Competitive conditions are similar in Europe, the NAFTA region and Asia, with only a few large companies and several small, local competitors in each area.

Market and business conditions Cemented-carbide rods manufactured at the plant in Coventry, England, showed continued strong growth. Particularly favorable sales growth was noted for micro-drill blanks used in the elec-

> LARS WAHLQVIST, PRESIDENT OF SANDVIK HARD MATERIALS



tronics industry, an area in which producers of mobile telephones comprise a major group of end-users. Sales of cemented-carbide rotary cutters used in production of diapers and sanitary products increased sharply. The tools offer much longer economic lifes than corresponding steel products and provide customers with higher productivity. Sandvik's production technique reduces waste in diaper manufacturing processes by 5 mm per diaper, generating annual savings of up to 500 kilometers of material per machine.

Demand in 1997 for Sandvik's cast-in-carbide integral rolls, so-called CIC rolls, for the steel industry was weaker than anticipated, but improvement in sales was noted toward yearend, and the product's potential is substantial. Manufacturing in Denmark for the woodworking industry was restructured during the year, with greater concentration on sophisticated metallurgical products. Metalforming tools for drawing and cold-forming applications are manufactured in Spain and Taiwan. Demand was strong and, following the completion of investments, production of drawing die blanks in Spain has become highly

com petiti ve. The business area's factory in the US was closed during the year, and production was transferred to Mexico.

New products

Sales of polycrystalline diamond (PCD) and polycrystalline boron nitride (PCBN) blanks showed strong growth. PCD is used in tools for woodworking applications or machining of metals such as aluminum and copper. PCBN is used in turning tools used to process tempered steel. The growth rate for both products is strong and expected to remain so for some time. New products are introduced constantly.

used primarily in ballpoint pens, was transferred from the US to Mexico in 1997. Concurrently, a new production technique was introduced that offers highly improved product quality and greater competitiveness.

An extremely fine-grained, new grade of cemented carbide was intro-

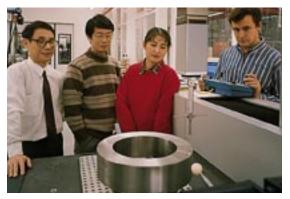
THE MARKET FOR MICRO-DRILL BLANKS USED IN THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY SHOWS CONTINUED GROWTH

duced toward year-end 1997. Developed for micro-drills, the tungsten carbide's grain size is about 0.0002 mm, or 0.2 thousandths of a millimeter. The new carbide grade will strengthen Sandvik's position of world leadership in ultra-finegrain cemented carbide. Sandvik is the only manufacturer that markets this new high-performance cemented carbide.

Individually-made ceramic dental crowns made by Procera Sandvik AB, a company owned jointly by Sandvik (50%) and Nobel Biocare (50%), showed highly favorable development in 1997. As a result of production improvements last year, the product can now be delivered to customers within 24 hours from receipt of an order, with high delivery reliability.

Investments remained high in 1997. The largest single investment was made in production of cementedcarbide rolls in Stockholm, including installation of a fully robot-controlled assembly unit to increase productivity and product quality. Strong market positions and the anticipation of strong future sales in priority product areas offer potential for favorable, sustained business growth •

Production of so-called micro-balls,

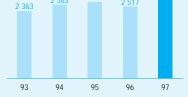


SANDVIK HARD MATERIALS IS A MAJOR SUPPLIER OF CEMENTED CARBIDE ROLLS FOR STEEL MILLS IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD

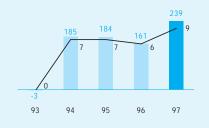
INVOICED SALES BY MARKET AREA



















BUSINESS AREA

Sandvik Saws and Tools

Sandvik Saws and Tools, one of the world's largest manufacturers of handsaws and metalsaw blades, also has strong market positions for other products such as wrenches, spanners, pliers, files, pruning tools as well as guide bars and saw chains for logging machines and chain saws. The tools are purchased largely by professional users.

A TWO-

HANDED LOPPER FOR

UIT FARMER

90

Demand for products manufactured by Sandvik Saws and Tools increased 1 gradually during 1997, before declining in the fourth quarter as a result of reduced sales in East Asia. Sales invoiced for the full year rose 11% (6% in fixed currencies and for comparable units). Earnings improved com-

pared with the preceding year, attributable to several factors such as increased sales and production volumes

and generally lower operating costs due to implemented structural changes. Currency trends had some negative effects on earnings, compared with the preceding year. Return on net assets amounted to 15%.

Total market potential for the product range of Sandvik Saws and Tools is estimated at approximately SEK 100 billion annually, distributed in equal shares of one-third in Europe, North and South America and the rest of the world. The market is brand-conscious, with specialized production and distribution, bonded strongly by tradition. Current trends show a shift toward fewer manufacturers and distributors, reflected mainly in acquisitions and mergers. In the NAFTA region, five major manufacturers have a combined share of more than 50% of sales. In Europe, Sandvik Saws and Tools and two other tool companies account for about 15% of the market. The remaining tool market is covered by 40 medium-sized manufacturers and several hundred small companies.

> Growing structural consolidation favors Sandvik Saws and Tools, since operations

are focused on large distributors, many of which conduct activities in several markets and prefer tool suppliers with strong brands and the ability to support local activities in different markets

Market and business conditions

Nearly all markets showed improvement, compared with 1996, and sales rose by double-digit percentages in several countries. Sales volume rose for most product areas during 1997. Activities in the forestry industry showed strong recovery, resulting in higher deliveries of guide bars and saw chains for logging machines.

Strong sales were also noted for bandsaw blades for metal cut-

> GÖRAN GEZELIUS PRESIDENT OF SANDVIK SAWS AND TOOLS

ting, files and metal saws. Despite continued weak activity in construction, sales of hand tools used in building operations increased. Continued strong growth was also reported for pruning tools used in fruit orchards and vineyards.

The program of rationalization measures started in 1996 was completed last year with the closing of a production plant in Germany and a small factory in Argentina. Production of tools for forestry operations was transferred from Sweden to a larger unit in the US. At year-end 1997, Sandvik Saws and Tools had 12 production units, compared with 17 in the beginning of 1996. Rationalization measures have reduced the number of employees by about 100 persons to date.

Development of ergonomic hand tools continued in 1997, with the product

range expanded to include 265 tools

- the largest range of its kind on the

stronger than standard tool market

growth, based on heightened aware-

user-friendly tool designs and shapes.

to supplement the highly successful

bandsaw blades in 1997. The new blade

is designed for materials typically difficult

to cut, stainless steel, for example, and

offers much higher bandsaw performance

standards than other

blades. A new solid

quide bar that offers

much longer product

life was introduced in

logging operations.

Also, new two-hand-

ed loppers designed

specially for fruit

farmers were intro-

duced. Designed in

close cooperation

with professional

tool was an imme

marketplace.

diate success in the

fruit farmers, the new

range of cemented-carbide-tipped

market. Demand for such tools remained

ness of potential injuries caused by less

A new blade type was introduced

New products

DEMAND FOR SANDVIK'S FRGONOMIC HAND TOOLS IS CHARACTERIZED BY STRONG GROWTH.



Sandvik Saws and Tools continued to focus on efficient and reliable logistics and distribution through investments in the Southeast Asian central warehouse in Singapore to improve delivery reliability and serv-ice to customers in the region. Local welding of bandsaw blades is an important part of the service rendered to customers in the metalcutting industry. New bandsaw welding plants were established during 1997 in Beijing, China and Pune. India. Another plant will be opened soon in Shanghai, China Concerted efforts to meet increased demand from professional users on ergonomics, quality and

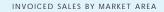


A NEW WELDING PLANT FOR BANDSAW BLADES WAS OPENED IN CHINA IN 1997.

performance

remains a major objective of Sandvik Saws and Tools. Sales to professional users account

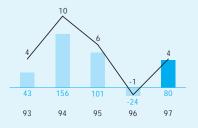
for more than 75% of total sales. Even if sales decline short-term in Southeast Asia due to generally weak economic conditions, stronger demand and higher sales are anticipated in several other major markets. Combined with a higher production rate and structural changes implemented during recent years, Sandvik Saws and Tools sees good potential for improved profitability 🔵



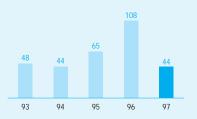




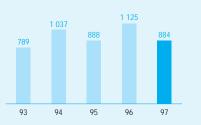
OPERATING PROFIT, SEK M — AS A PERCENTAGE OF INVOICED SALES











BUSINESS AREA

Sandvik Process Systems

Sandvik Process Systems manufactures and markets complete systems for automatic goods sorting and process plants for chemical and food processing industries. The process plants are generally based on steel conveyor belts, which are also sold separately.

Sales invoiced by Sandvik Process I Systems in 1997 increased 5% (declined 5% in fixed

currencies and for comparable units). Despite a strong earnings improvement compared with 1996, earnings remained weak. Return on net assets amount-

ed to 9%. Sandvik Process Systems is a

world leader in its product niches. In the area of steel conveyor belts, competition is limited to a small number of manufacturers. For process plants, the business area competes with many different companies and processes based on other methods and materials.

The increasingly international character of Sandvik Process Systems requires continuous improvement in order processing and project control. A comprehensive project was initiated to develop skills and expertise in these areas to secure maximum efficiency, from offer to installation and commissioning.

The market in Europe continued to be affected adversely by a low investment activity. In the US, anticipated sales levels were not reached, due partly to a widespread strike at one of the business area's largest customers for sorting systems. The situation

necessitated further cost savings. In Japan, favorable sales growth continued for sorting systems, but the market for steel belts and industrial processing weakened. Recently started marketing

operations in China will create new opportunities for business expansion by all product areas.

Steel belts

Despite price pressure from the market, 1997 was another excellent year for steel conveyor belts. The new leveling line installed in Sandviken during the year provides for considerably shorter delivery times and facilitates further expansion, particularly for press belts used in production of particleboard and laminates. These belts account for about 50% of all steel conveyor belt sales.

> Cooperation with system manufacturers was intensified in 1997 to develop and introduce new applications areas of particular impor-

> > SVANTE LINDHOLM, PRESIDENT OF SANDVIK PROCESS SYSTEMS



tance to future growth. One example is the Condebelt process, in which Sandvik Process Systems in partnership with a Finnish company developed a new, more efficient method for drying paperboard in paper mills.

Sorting systems

Cooperation between units in Japan, North America and Europe to enhance the efficiency of global marketing is beginning to yield positive results. The know-how within the product group is now being used more effectively in the various markets throughout the world. A revised method for the procurement of components has proved highly successful, providing improved customer support at lower costs.

Japan is the most important market for Sandvik's sorting systems. More than 270 automatic sorting systems from Sandvik Process Systems are installed in virtually all major Japanese forwarding companies. The marketing organization in Japan is also responsible for sales in the other Asian markets.

To reverse business development in North America, several changes have been introduced in the Sorting Systems product area. A new management group is working to develop a broader customer base. Integration of the product range marketed by Sandvik's Italian subsidiary CML has also created new opportunities for sales to mail order companies, courier companies, distribution centers and postal services.

On the European market, CML now handles all business operations for sorting systems. A new demonstration facility for all types of sorting systems was installed last year at CML's main plant outside Milan. In the sorting systems area, orders were received in 1997 from several large European banks for document sorting systems.

Industrial Processing

The former Food Processing and Chemicals Divisions were merged in 1997 to form a single unit, Industrial Processing. Food processing operations were transferred from Italy to Germany and the US. A demo center was opened in Germany.

The earnings of Industrial Processing improved in 1997, but remained unsatisfactory. Continued restructuring is expected to be completed in 1998 and enable the product group to reach an acceptable level of earnings. Operations are now concentrated exclusively on applications for steel conveyor belts. One area with substantial potential is plants for production of artificial marble used in sanitary rooms and for flooring.

SANDVIK PROCESS SYSTEMS IS A MAIOR MANUFACTURER OF COMPLETE UNITS FOR AUTOMATIC PACKAGE SORTING. A NEW LEVELING LINE FOR STRIP STEEL WAS INSTALLED DURING THE YEAR IN SANDVIKEN.

> Granulation, the processing of chemicals into pastilles, remains an extremely important market sector. The new Rotoform Plus system with doubled capacity attracted widespread market interest. The first nine systems were installed in the Netherlands during 1997.

Outlook

A comprehensive restructuring program was initiated and partly completed during the year. The aim was to concentrate operations, increase efficiency, reduce costs and achieve flexibility. These measures established the foundation for more profitable and stable business activities. Special emphasis is being placed on the delivery of complete solutions and development of partnerships with customers •



Sandvik's human capital

Sandvik currently has approximately 38,000 employees worldwide. Their collective expertise is of strategic importance to the Group's development. This human capital is not reflected among assets listed in the balance sheet. Compared with the other capital employed in the company, it is also more difficult to describe, as well as to manage, develop and evaluate, since it is wholly owned by the employees.

Sandvik values and respects all employees as equals and offers equal

opportunities. We invest substantial resources in person nel recruitment and development programs. In return all employees are expected to do their best so that the company achieves its objectives. This part nership benefits all parties associated with Sandvik.

Family company

Sandvik's fundamen

tal philosophy is simple: we believe people make the most of their creative skills by working together in environments characterized by widespread candor. As a result, they feel a greater sense of commitment and willingness to make the little extra effort. Despite the size and international character of

Sandvik, we strive to maintain and develop a strong sense of family and

the entrepreneurial

spirit of a small company. In this manner, we can create a working climate in which it is natural that everyone shares the responsibility for The approach leads, THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY IN STOCKHOLM, HIS STUDIES FOCUS ON in turn, to greater CORROSION-RESISTANT STAINLESS STEELS.

> customers - a decisive purpose of our joint efforts and an unconditional condition for achieving our ultimate objectives for business growth, profitability and other key factors.

At Sandvik, high performance standards, rewards and job satisfaction are interactive elements. Consequently,

TOTAL NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES.

OF WHICH SWEDEN

9160

93

9 915

94

30 362

10 305

96

10 372

95

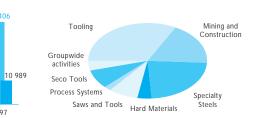
results are achieved that instill pride and provide the motivation needed for continued progress, while selfsatisfaction is never allowed to gain an upper hand.

Our personnel policy is based on encouraging, retaining and developing employees who wish to play an active role in Sandvik's development. We place high demands on employees, and our efforts to recruit new personnel are based on attracting people who will meet our requirements. We look for dedicated individuals with clearly defined goals, people who believe in long-term commitment and regard Sandvik as a company that offers opportunity for personal development. Those who share these values will also feel the strong support of the company.

Building from the bottom up

Our vision is for Sandvik to be a large internal job market, and we strive consistently to utilize the skills and expertise available in all parts of our worldwide organization. Through taking a







borderless approach to internal recruiting, we are able to effectively distribute skills throughout the organization and gradually develop individual gualifications of our employees more naturally.

A uniform system is used throughout the Group to identify candidates for managerial and key positions. We also post vacancies in senior executive positions worldwide.

Eight of ten management positions are filled through internal recruitment This creates continuity, and helps to capitalize effectively on the knowledge, skills and experience developed successively in the Group. Complementary external recruiting is also conducted to meet the need for impulses from sources outside the Group.

We have managers and specialists who represent 23 nationalities working in countries other than their home countries, so-called expatriates. About 20% of senior managers changed jobs in 1997, and 75 new expatriates were appointed.

Sandvik offers good opportunities for development, variation and promotion. We regard the Group's average external personnel turnover of less

than 5% as confirmation that our employees are satisfied with the company and their jobs.

> Sandvik is the market and technological leader in most of the Group's product niches, a standing that creates an attractive environment with motivating assignments. As a result, the opportunities for individual employees to enhance their knowledge and develop in their fields of specialized expertise are extremely favorable.

> Work is organized in line with the natural value-added processes. For example, more than two-thirds of employees work in flow groups within production, an organizational concept of self-directed teams which was introduced as early as 1985 and successively implemented in most units. In the areas of research and development employees are continuously shifting between various assignments, often in parallel projects.

We put major importance in establishing clearly defined objectives for everyone in the organization. We are result oriented and our approach

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES BY MARKET AREA





customers, costs, productivity and continuous improvements in our products and processes.

success for our

accordingly, is based on performancerelated pay.

10% of time for learning

To maintain our position of world leadership, Sandvik invests continuously in advanced technologies and further development or our employees. Acquiring new knowledge is highly prioritized. On average, we devote 10% of working time to various training activities, such as testing new tasks and job assignments, work group meetings, exchanges of experiences, formal and informal training courses, study visits, management training and other related programs.

Modern organization

Sandvik's organization is changed constantly in pace with operational development. The Group's rapid expansion has resulted in recruitment of many new young employees in recent years. At the Parent Company in Sweden, the Group's oldest organizational unit, for example, about 30% of all employees today are 35 years of age or younger.

Collectively, Sandvik's human capital make us well-prepared to meet the future

SANDVIK RE-CRUITED SEVERAL COMPUTER SCIENCE POST GRADUATES IN 1997 TO DEVEL OP IT SOLUTIONS FOR EMERGING MARKETS. KARL NORMAN IS ONE OF THE SO-CALLED "COSMOPOLITANS

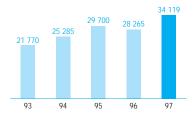


SANDVIK'S RECRUITMENT FFFORTS INCLUDE ADVERTISEMENTS IN VARIOUS STUDENT PUBLICATIONS. ANNA HEDBERG, A YOUNG GRADUATE ENGINEER WORK-ING IN SANDVIK COROMANT'S DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, WAS FEATURED IN A 1997 ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN CALLED "CUBIQUE TECHNIQUE.

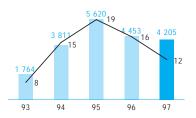
Independent work assignments

Report of the directors Group review



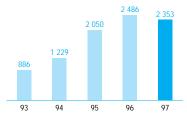


PROFIT AFTER FINANCIAL ITEMS, SEK M - AS PERCENTAGE OF INVOICED SALES











Invoiced sales of the Sandvik Group in 1997 amounted to SEK 34,119 M (28,265), an increase of 21% in value and 4% for comparable Group units at fixed exchange rates. Markets outside Sweden accounted for 93% (93) of sales. The order intake at year-end rose to SEK 34,603 (27,543), an increase of 26%, with a 9% increase for comparable Group units at fixed exchange rates

Profit after financial income and expenses totaled SEK 4,205 M (4,453). Return on net assets amounted to 17.7% (20.2), with earnings per share of SEK 10.15 (11.20). A pro forma calculation of earnings per share in 1997 (see below) amounted to SEK 10.25, or SEK 0.10 hiaher

The Board of Directors proposes a dividend of SEK 7.00 (6.50) per share, corresponding to almost 70% of earnings per share.

Structural changes

In April, Sandvik acquired a majority shareholding (51%) in Sandvik Baildonit S.A., the partly owned Polish cemented-carbide company in Katowice. With annual sales of approximately SEK 80 M and 175 employees, Sandvik Baildonit is Poland's largest manufacturer of cementedcarbide tools for metalworking applications.

In the beginning of 1997, Sandvik owned 47.3% of the shares in Kanthal AB. Additional shares were acquired in June 1997 from several institutional owners and thereafter all shares and warrants in Kanthal AB held by the former majority owner. After additional purchases on the stock market and a decision by arbitrators for compulsory redemption of all shares outstanding, Sandvik owned all shares in Kanthal AB as of 31 December 1997.

The purchase price for the Kanthal shares was about SEK 2,100 M, including goodwill of about SEK 1,500 M. Kanthal is a world leader in its field, a company with technically sophisticated products and highly skilled personnel. The acquisition is of substantial strategic importance to the Sandvik Group since Kanthal's operations are closely related to Sandvik Steel's business activities and there are distinct areas of common interest and synergy opportunities between the companies. Sandvik Specialty Steels, a new business area comprising Sandvik Steel and Kanthal, was established in conjunction with the acquisition.

In July 1997, Sandvik acquired the produc-

tion and sales organization of Drillmaster, an American company based in Arlington, Texas. Drillmaster has annual sales of approximately SEK 60 M and about 50 employees. Operations comprise production and marketing of drill bits and other down-the-hole products for well drilling, mining and construction operations.

On 1 September 1997, Sandvik acquired the American company Precision Twist Drill Co., Crystal Lake, Illinois, which is one of the world's leading manufacturers of high-speed steel twist drills. The company is part of CTT Tools within the Sandvik Tooling Business Area, Annual sales of Precision Twist Drill amount to nearly SEK 1 billion, with 1,600 employees at two production plants in the US. The acquisition is of considerable strategic importance for the Sandvik Group, since it will strengthen the position of CTT Tools in the American market for high-speed steel and provide access to an effective US distribution organization for products from units in Europe. The purchase price for Precision Twist Drill was SEK 1,055 M, including goodwill amounting to approximately SEK 750 M.

During the autumn, Sandvik sold various steel units in the Czech Republic, US and Brazil whose operations were outside Sandvik Steel's core area. Approximately 240 employees were affected.

At the beginning of 1997, Sandvik was the principal owner of Tamrock, with 48.9% of the capital and votes. Through purchases in November Sandvik increased its holding to 76%. The company then made a public offer to all shareholders in Tamrock to sell their their shares to Sandvik. Sandvik owned 92.7% of the number of shares in Tamrock at 31 December 1997 and 99.7% in February 1998. Sandvik fully consolidated Tamrock from 1 November

The purchase price for Sandvik's acquisition of Tamrock shares amounted to SEK 2,600 M, plus SEK 250 M in 1998 to acquire all remaining shares. Goodwill of about SEK 1,400 M was included. The acquisition is strategically important and was carried out to further develop cooperation between Sandvik and Tamrock and further strengthen the companies' market-leading positions in equipment for mining and construction. Sandvik Mining and Construction, a new business area comprising Tamrock and Sandvik Rock Tools, was established in conjunction with the acquisition.

Share redemption

In March 1997, the Board of Directors resolved to propose that the company redeem Series A and Series B shares in an amount totaling SEK 4,000 M to improve the company's capital structure and thereby create conditions for a higher value for shareholders. Skanska had pledged to redeem such a large number of shares that the redemption program was secured regardless of the acceptance by other shareholders. In April 1997, Skanska had also reached an agreement with Industrivarden concerning the sale of 22 million Series A shares in Sandvik. After the sale and share redemption, Skanska relinquished its position as a major shareholder in Sandvik in mid-1997. Industrivärden became a new, major owner.

At a Special General Meeting in Sandvik AB on 9 lune 1997 a decision was made to reduce the shareholders' equity through redemption of 20,288,090 shares. The amount of compensation paid to shareholders for shares redeemed totaled SEK 4,000 M, and sharehold ers' equity was reduced by SEK 102 M. A special issue of new shares was made in June to restore the company's share capital, followed by a bonus issue. The new shares were issued on market terms and were subscribed by Stiftelsen Sandvik Resultatandel. The par value of all Sandvik shares was increased from SEK 5 to SEK 6 per share in conjunction with the bonus issue

Market conditions and sales

The business climate continued to improve in virtually the entire OECD area during the fourth guarter of 1997. Industrial production rose about 3.5% on a 12-month basis. Growth in the US remained strong, and a sharp increase was noted in Europe. The only exceptions in OECD markets were Japan and Australia, where the rate of industrial production declined

In other parts of the world growth was generally favorable, including Eastern Europe, South America and China, for example. Signs of improvement were also seen in Russia. A dramatic decline occurred in Southeast Asia and Korea during the second half of 1997.

The USD and GBP were stronger against most currencies in 1997, including the Swedish krona. As a result, sales invoiced by Sandvik in 1997 were 6% higher than the level that which would have prevailed at 1996 exchange rates.

Order intake, SEK M Invoiced sales, SEK M Profit after financial items, S

EU, excl. Sweden Rest of Europe Total, Europe

Sweden

NAFTA South America Africa Middle Fast Asia, Australia Group total

			Ch	ange
	1997	1996	%	*
U.S.A.	7 050	4 948	+42	+25
Germany	3 454	3 428	+1	+2
Italy	2 547	2 442	+ 4	0
France	2 328	2 231	+ 4	+4
Great Britain	2 239	1 832	+22	+2
Sweden	2 229	2 036	+9	+9
Japan	1 605	1 296	+24	+21
Australia	1 335	888	+50	+39
Brazil	925	713	+30	+20
Canada	830	608	+37	+20

* Change excluding currency effects

	1997 SEK M	1996 SEK M	Ch %	ange *		
Sandvik Tooling	10 803	9 211	+17	+6		
Sandvik Mining and Construction**	3 582	2 003	+79	+2		
Sandvik Specialty Steels***	10 780	8 980	+20	+ 3		
Sandvik Hard Materials	1 361	1 209	+13	+7		
Sandvik Saws and Tools	2 787	2 517	+11	+6		
Sandvik Process Systems	1 873	1 836	+2	-5		
Seco Tools	2 889	2 475	+17	+10		
Group activities	44	34	/			
Group total	34 119	28 265	+21	+ 4		

Change excluding currency effects and company acquisitions

Including Sandvik Steel (full year) and Kanthal (second half of year).

	Sandvik Group		
	1997	1996	Change, %
	34 603	27 543	+26
	34 119	28 265	+21
SEK M	4 205	4 453	-6

Invoiced sales by market area

1997 SEK M	%	1996 SEK M		Change % *
2 231	7	2 036	+10	+ 8
13 799	40	12 780	+8	0
1 888	6	1 485	+27	+8
17 918	53	16 301	+10	+2
8 195	24	5 769	+42	+8
1 703	5	1 293	+32	+11
987	3	705	+41	+10
5 316	15	4 197	+27	+7
34 119	100	28 265	+21	+ 4

* Change excluding currency effects and company acquisitions.

Invoiced sales in the 10 largest markets, SEK M

Invoiced sales by business area

Including Sandvik Rock Tools (full year) and Tamrock (November-December)

The Group's invoiced sales by business areas are presented in a separate table

Sales invoiced in Sweden during 1997 increased on higher deliveries of semi-finished goods and improved domestic market demand for industrial consumption goods. Sales in EU countries declined in price and volume in the beginning of 1997, but recovered strongly toward year-end, primarily on the strength of improved demand in Germany and the rest of Continental Europe. Among countries in the rest of Europe, favorable development was noted in Poland and the Czech Republic.

In the NAFTA region, the Sandvik Group continued its trend of marketing successes, capitalizing on strong economic conditions.

Business development was also highly favorable in Japan and China. The currency crisis in Southeast Asia had negative effects on order intake toward year-end, but not on sales

Within Sandvik Tooling, Sandvik Coromant and CTT Tools developed favorably, Sandvik Coromant's development in Europe and NAFTA was good throughout the year and the trend was reinforced in the fourth guarter. Sales were also favorable in Eastern Europe and China. Demand was weak in Russia, but accelerated toward year-end. Sandvik Coromant's sales in Southeast Asia continued to be high throughout the year. CTT Tools increased its market coverage sharply through acquisition of Precision Twist Drill and posted a very favorable development in the US as well as in Europe

		Quarterly trend of profit after net financial items				
		Invoiced sales SEK M	Profit after financial items SEK M	Net margin %		
1996:	1st Quarter	7 422	1 325	18		
	2nd Quarter	7 167	1 230	17		
	3rd Quarter	6 445	985	15		
	4th Quarter	7 231	913	13		
1997:	1st Quarter	7 327	941	13		
	2nd Quarter	8 155	1 164	14		
	3rd Quarter	7 958	1 045	13		

Operating profit by business area

10 679

1 055

10

	1997		1996	
	SEK M	% of sales	SEK M	% of sales
Sandvik Tooling	2 094	19	2 031	22
Sandvik Mining and Construction*	234	7	220	11
Sandvik Specialty Steels**	921	9	1 203	13
Sandvik Hard Materials	148	11	133	11
Sandvik Saws and Tools	239	9	161	6
Sandvik Process Systems	80	4	-24	-1
Seco Tools	575	20	402	16
Group activities***	79	1	-31	/
Operating profit	4 370	13	4 095	14

Including Tamrock for November and Decembe

Including Kanthal as associated company in first half and consolidated in second half year.

*** Including share of profits in Tamrock as associated company, January - October 199 In Sandvik Mining and Construction, Sandvik Rock Tools' invoicing was high, in the US, Brazil and Australia among other markets. Demand from the contracting industry in Europe and Southeast Asia was weak. In con trast, demand for Tamrock from the contracting sector was strong in certain European countries and the US. Falling metals prices affected the new business area's invoicing adversely toward the end of 1997.

Invoiced sales of Sandvik Steel rose about 9% by volume during the year, while prices declined by approximately 6%. Order intake for consumer-related products such as strip and spring steel showed the strongest growth. Sales of Kanthal's products were favorable in most markets, particularly in the US, Germany and Japan. The rate of increase was highest for products for industrial applications.

A very favorable development was noted within Sandvik Hard Materials, including cemented-carbide rods to the electronics industry.

Sandvik Saws and Tools reported high invoiced sales, mainly in Europe, during 1997. Sales declined toward year-end to Southeast Asia, among other markets.

Sales invoiced by Sandvik Process Systems were lower in volume in 1997 compared with the preceding year, due in part to weaker demand from the European chemical industry.

Seco Tools is an exchange-listed company and publishes its own annual report with comments regarding the trend of invoiced sales and earnings.

Operating profit in 1997 amounted to SEK 4,370 M (4,095), an increase of 7% compared with 1996. Earnings benefited from strong volume growth for most business areas in 1997 and from the profits of Kanthal and Tamrock, initially as associated companies and, later, as subsidiaries. Precision Twist Drill also contributed to earnings.

In contrast, earnings were affected adversely at the beginning of the year by currency effects which, however, became positive during the second half of the year. The total effect was an expense of about SEK 100 M for fullyear 1997. Steel prices were low throughout 1997, which is estimated to have reduced earnings by approximately SEK 500 M. The crises in Southeast Asia and Korea resulted in an earnings decline of about SEK 60 M during the second half of the year, mainly due to currency and bad debt losses.

Allocations to Sandvik's profit-sharing plan for employees of wholly-owned companies in Sweden totaled SEK 150 M (150)

Net financial items declined to an expense of SEK 165 M (income: 358) due to changes in the Group's financial structure and major acquisitions. Profit after financial income and expenses was SEK 4,205 M (4,453). Tax charges amounted to SEK 1,283 M (1,204), or 30% (27) of profit before taxes. Consolidated net profit, after tax and minority interests, totaled

SEK 2,725 M (3,114). Earnings per share declined to SEK 10.15, compared with SEK 11.20 a year earlier, down 9%.

Return on net assets fell to 17.7% from 20.2% a year earlier. Return on shareholders' equity was 14.3% (16.2).

Pro forma earnings per share

Following the share redemption program implemented by Sandvik AB in June, the Group has a changed financial structure. This did not have an immediate effect on such key ratios as earnings per share and return, since the ratios are calculated over a retrogressive, rolling 12month period. A pro forma calculation based on the assumption that the share redemption was completed at the beginning of the year yields the following key ratios for Q1-4 1997: Earnings per share SEK 10 25 Return on net assets 19.7%

Return on shareholders' equity 15.9%

Profitability in Europe and NAFTA was generally high in 1997, with very high earnings for Sandvik Tooling. The operating profit of Sandvik Tooling was affected negatively by nonrecurring costs during the second half of 1997, including structural changes in Sandvik Automation, costs for the new activities in Russia and Asia as well as high costs incurred for start-up of new production operations and new equipment.

Sandvik Rock Tools' profit was lower than 1996 due to intense price competition and restructuring costs, primarily in the US. Combined with the earnings of Tamrock for two months, Sandvik Mining and Construction reported profits of SEK 234 M for 1997.

Sandvik Specialty Steels' operating profit was down, compared with 1996, due to lower prices. Volume and productivity were high throughout the year and particularly toward year-end. A decline in raw materials prices at the end of 1997 had short-term negative effects caused by revaluation of inventories.

Sandvik Hard Materials improved profits strongly in Europe.

The improvement in Sandvik Saws and Tools profit was attributable to high volumes and high productivity.

Sandvik Process Systems improved its earnings by about SEK 100 M, despite continued restructuring costs during 1997 and low capacity utilization in some European production units.

Group activities included capital gains of SEK 81 M from sales of subsidiaries and the share in Tamrock's earnings as an associated company during January-October 1997.

Raw materials

The price of nickel in USD increased early in 1997, but declined from March to December Prices quoted in SEK/kg were higher than 1996 prices, however, due to the stronger USD,

averaging SEK 53.50 compared with SEK 50.70 in 1996. Prices for tungsten followed a similar pattern and, quoted in USD, the year-end price was unchanged compared with year-end 1996.

Einancial position

Net financing from operations totaled SEK 3,054 M (2,130), with cash flow amounting to a net outflow SEK 2,035 M (outflow: 1,682). Liquid funds at year-end amounted to SEK 2,494 M (5,557). Liquid funds less all interestbearing liabilities including pension liabilities yielded net debt totaling SEK 7,160, compared with net cash assets of SEK 1,969 M at 31 December 1996. The decline was attributed to the share redemption and acquisitions, among other factors.

Sandvik established a long-term credit facility in 1997 amounting to USD 650 M (about SEK 5.100 M) over seven years. The credit facility provides Sandvik with a continued favorable liquidity reserve that will be used as required. All borrowing under the terms of the credit facility is at a fixed marginal rate.

mercial paper program in Sweden that entitles the company to borrow up to SEK 2,000 M in the Swedish money market. The company's fixed interest rate is short-term, whereby borrowing consists of short-term loans with variable rates

Standard & Poor's, the international credit rating institute, conducted a credit evaluation of Sandvik in the autumn and granted the company an A+ rating for long-term and A-1/K-1 for short-term borrowing. The high credit rating

Operating profit, SEK M as a percentage of invoiced Profit after financial income as a percentage of invoiced Return on net assets, % Return on shareholders' equ Earnings per share, SEK Definitions, page 52.

Cash flow, SEK M Liquid assets and short-tern Loans, 31 Dec., SEK M Net debt (net cash in hand Net financial items, SEK M Equity ratio, % Debt/equity ratio, times Shareholders' equity, SEK M Shareholders' equity per sha Definitions, page 52.

4th Ouarter

In December, Sandvik established a com-

provides Sandvik with strong possibilities for receiving favorable financing terms in the international capital market.

At year-end, Sandvik had hedged the SEK value of exports from Sweden for 5.3 months (4.5) through forward contract sales of currency. The flow represents the company's largest transaction exposure. Exchange rates secured through hedging were the same as current rates at year-end 1997 for most currencies. Lower hedged exchange rates applied for GBP and USD since the two currencies are strong against SEK.

The company's net flows of currencies, based on exports from and imports to Sweden, in the most significant foreign currencies, denominated in SEK M were:

	1997	1996
Euro currencies	4 600	3 900
USD and CAD	1 600	1 750
GBP	960	740
JPY	600	430
Other currencies	1 040	680
Total	8 800	7 500

Inventories

The value of inventories amounted to SEK 10,039 M (7,306) at year-end. Relative capital tied up in inventories declined to 24% (26) of invoiced sales.

Trade receivables

Trade receivables at year-end totaled SEK 8,350 M (5,872). In relation to invoiced sales in the fourth quarter, receivables amounted to 20% (20) on an annual basis.

Earnings and returns

	1997	1996
	4 370	4 095
sales	12.8	14.5
and expenses, SEK M	4 205	4 453
sales	12.3	15.8
	17.7	20.2
uity, %	14.3	16.2
	10.15	11.20

Financial position

	1997	1996
	-2 035	-1 682
m investments, 31 Dec., SEK M	2 494	5 557
	-6 976	-1 360
), SEK M	-7 160	1 969
	-165	358
	47	64
	0.5	0.2
Λ	17 414	20 035
are, SEK	67.30	72.00

Consolidated income statement

Shareholders' equity

Shareholders' equity at year-end amounted to SEK 17,414 M (20,035), or SEK 67.30 (72.00) per share. The equity ratio was 47% (64).

Capital expenditures

	1997	1996
Investments in plants, proper	ty	
and equipment, SEK M	2 353	2 486
as a percentage		
of invoiced sales	6.8	8.8

Investments in plants, property and equipment declined 5% to SEK 2,353 M. Major investments included the following:

Sandvik Coromant started up a new production plant for cemented-carbide powder in Gimo Sweden

Expansion of the cemented-carbide production plant in Langfang City, China was completed.

CTT Tools increased automation at several production units and converted to vacuumhardening.

Sandvik Hard Materials installed a completely robot-controlled finishing unit for production of cemented-carbide rolls in Stockholm.

Sandvik Steel opened a new distribution center in the US, invested in a new pilger mill in England and equipment in the Czech Republic and Canada to be able to deliver tubes in coils. Investments in Sandviken included two finishing lines for seamless tube and a new peeling machine. A new cold-rolling mill was also inaugurated.

Sandvik Saws and Tools established new welding plants for bandsaw blades in China and India

Sandvik Process Systems placed a new leveling line for steel strip on-line in Sandviken.

Total purchase prices for companies acquired in 1997 amounted to SEK 4,291 M (1,928), of which the clearly dominant portion was for Tamrock, Kanthal and Precision Twist Drill.

Research, development and quality assurance

Group investments during 1997 in research and development and quality assurance amounted to SEK 1,350 M (1,182), an increase of 14% compared with 1996. Costs amounted to 4% of invoiced sales. Examples of new products

are[,] the TwinGrade[™] drill based on two cemented-carbide grades intended for difficultto-process materials stainless austenite and duplex steel grades; a new twist drill with a self-centering bit; a new generation of large raise-boring drills for mining operations; an extremely fine-grained cemented-carbide grade; a new composite tube for waste combustion applications; a new steel grade for tube products used in the electronics industry; a system from Kanthal for drying using infrared

radiation; a new type of cemented-carbidetipped bandsaw blade and a new steel conveyor belt process for more effective paperboard drying in paper mills.

Personnel

Personner	1997	1996
Number of employees,		
31 Dec.*	38 406	30 362
Average number of emplo	yees	
Women	6 217	5 736
Men	26 214	24 513
Total	32 431	30 249
* Part-time employees adjusted to r of full-time employees.	eflect an equivale	ent number

The number of employees at year-end was 38,406 (30,362). For comparable units, the number of employees declined by 553 (1996: a decline of 242)

At 31 December 1997, the number of persons employed by the Group in Sweden was 10,989 (10,305).

Details regarding personnel costs and the average number of employees in Sweden and abroad are provided on page 54.

Employee profit sharing and bonus program

Sandvik adopted a profit-sharing fund in 1986 for employees at the Parent Company and wholly owned subsidiaries in Sweden. Under the rules for this fund, a minimum return requirement must be met before an allocation is made from profits. The allocation is restricted to a maximum of SEK 150 M. The Sandvik Group return in 1996 means the maximum requirement was achieved and SEK 150 M was allocated to the fund.

The possibility of a long-term bonus has been provided to Group executive management and about 250 senior executives in Sweden and abroad which is based on price trends for

Sandvik Series B shares during the five-year period from 1995 to 1999, and is to be paid in the year 2000. The terms are described in Note 1. To provide for the accrued portion of the bonus that would fall due if the price at year-end 1997 applied at year-end 1999, SEK 114 M was allocated in the 1997 accounts.

Year 2000 project

Since January 1997, Sandvik has been carrying out a Groupwide project aimed at ensuring that operations, without disturbances, will transition smoothly into the new millennium. The project involves all business areas and all companies in the Group. It covers all proprietary IT systems as well as microprocess systems, so-called embedded systems. Mostly all systems are to be dealt with, tested and verified not later that in December 1998.

Parent Company

Sales invoiced by the Parent Company increased 2% to SEK 12.318 M (12.047 for comparable units). Profit after depreciation amounted to SEK 1,107 M (1,414 for comparable units). Investments in property, plant and equipment amounted to SEK 861 M (998).

The number of employees in the Parent Company and subsidiaries at 31 December 1997 was 8,187 (8,076 for comparable units at 31 December 1996).

Amounts in SEK M		1997	1996
Invoiced sales	Note 2, 3	34 119	28 265
Cost of goods sold	Note 5	-22 926	-18 427
Gross profit		11 193	9 838
Selling expenses		-5 408	-4 440
Administrative expenses		-1 703	-1 534
Share of profits in associated companies	Note 19	300	172
Other operating income		326	90
Other operating expenses		-338	-31
Operating profit	Note 1, 6,	4 370	4 095
	7, 8		
Income from securities and loans held as fixed assets	Note 11	29	25
Other interest income and similar income	Note 12	224	589
Interest expense and similar charges	Note 12	-418	-256
Profit after financial items	Note 4	4 205	4 453
Income taxes	Note 14	-1 283	-1 204
Profit after tax		2 922	3 249
Minority interests		-197	-135
Net profit for the year		2 725	3 114

Min

Consolidated balance sheet

Amounts in SEK M		1997	1996
ASSETS			
Fixed assets			
Intangible fixed assets			
Patents and other intangible assets	Note 15	141	35
Goodwill	Note 15	3 964	287
		4 105	322
Tangible fixed assets			
Land and buildings	Note 16	3 821	2 923
Plant and machinery	Note 16	6 889	5 005
Equipment, tools, fixtures and fittings	Note 16	944	725
Construction in progress and			
advance payments for tangible assets	Note 17	1 082	916
		12 736	9 569
Financial fixed assets			
Participations in associated companies	Note 19	386	2 102
Loans to associated companies		3	534
Other investments held as fixed assets	Note 20	72	55
Other long-term receivables		179	112
		640	2 803
Total fixed assets		17 481	12 694
Current assets			
Inventories	Note 21	10 039	7 306
Current receivables			
Trade receivables		8 350	5 805
Due from associated companies		127	73
Prepaid income tax		299	281
Other receivables		786	747
Prepaid expenses and accrued income		485	446
		10 047	7 352
Liquid assets	Note 22	2 494	5 557
Total current assets		22 580	20 215
TOTAL ASSETS		40 061	32 909
Assets pledged	Note 29	774	485

Amounts in SEK M		1997	1996
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
Shareholders' equity			
Restricted equity			
Share capital	Note 23	1 552	1 392
Restricted reserves		8 263	7 047
		9 815	8 439
Unrestricted equity			
Unrestricted reserves		4 874	8 482
Net profit for the year		2 725	3 114
		7 599	11 596
Total shareholders' equity	Note 24	17 414	20 035
Minority interests		1 169	1 076
Provisions			
Provisions for pensions	Note 27	2 386	2 101
Provisions for taxes	Note 14	2 267	2 702
Other provisions	Note 28	957	625
		5 610	5 428
Interest-bearing liabilities			
Bond loans		94	-
Loans from financial institutions		6 882	1 360
Other liabilities		292	127
	Note 29	7 268	1 487
Non-interest-bearing liabilities			
Advance payments from customers		338	65
Trade payables		2 490	1 570
Bills payable		183	129
Owed to associated companies		226	143
Income tax liabilities		312	323
Other liabilities		2 120	902
Accrued expenses and deferred income	Note 31	2 931	1 751
	Note 30	8 600	4 883
TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		40 061	32 909
Contingent liabilities	Note 32	830	292

Consolidated funds statement

Parent Company income statement

Funds supplied from operations4Profit after financial items4445445Profits retained in associated companies-251-137
Profit after financial items4 2054 453Profits retained in associated companies-251-137Depreciation1 4861 159Gain/loss on sale of fixed assets-74Taxes paid-905-799Dividends paid-1 930-1 736Total funds from operations2 5982 944
Profits retained in associated companies-251-137Depreciation1 4861 159Gain/loss on sale of fixed assets-74Taxes paid-905-799Dividends paid-1 930-1 736Total funds from operations2 5982 944Change in working capital
Depreciation1 4861 159Gain/loss on sale of fixed assets-74Taxes paid-905-799Dividends paid-1 930-1 736Total funds from operations2 5982 944Change in working capital
Gain/loss on sale of fixed assets-74Taxes paid-905-799Dividends paid-1 930-1 736Total funds from operations2 5982 944Change in working capital
Taxes paid-905-799Dividends paid-1 930-1 736Total funds from operations2 5982 944Change in working capital
Dividends paid -1 930 -1 736 Total funds from operations 2 598 2 944 Change in working capital
Total funds from operations 2 598 2 944 Change in working capital 2 598 2 944
Change in inventories 104 -138
Change in current receivables -399 -84
Change in current operating liabilities and provisions 751 -592
Total change in working capital 456 -814
Net financing from operations 3 054 2 130
Net investments
Acquisitions of companies and shares -4 291 -1 928
Less acquired liquid assets 1 464 74
Investments in tangible fixed assets -2 353 -2 486
Sales of companies and shares, excl. liquid assets 136 478
Settlement of balances with sold companies -148
Sale of tangible fixed assets 103 50
Net investments -5 089 -3 812
Cash flow -2 035 -1 682
External financing
Shareholders' equity:
Redemption of shares -4 000
Rights issue 102
Total shareholders' equity -3 898
Loans:
Change in short-term loans 3 486 161
Change in long-term loans -349 127
Total loans 3 137 288
Other financing, net:
Change in long-term receivables 54 -24
Change in pension liability 117 71
Change in other long-term liabilities -357 46
Change of minority interests
Total other financing, net -186 93
Net external financing -947 381
Translation differences, etc81 -35
Change in liquid assets -3 063 -1 336

Amounts in SEK M		1997	1996
Invoiced sales	Note 2	12 318	12 047
Cost of goods sold	Note 5	-9 816	-9 330
Gross profit		2 502	2 717
Selling expenses		-391	-409
Administrative expenses		-883	-824
Other operating income		105	30
Other operating expenses		-226	-100
Operating profit	Note 1, 6, 7	1 107	1 414
Result from financial items			
Income from shares in Group companies	Note 9	1 735	461
Income from shares in associated companies	Note 10	398	108
Income from securities and loans held as fixed assets	Note 11	17	20
Other interest income and similar income items	Note 12	169	167
Interest expense and similar charges	Note 12	-314	-264
Profit after financial items	Note 4	3 112	1 906
Shareholders' contribution		-1	-48
Appropriations			
Group contributions received		60	76
Group contributions given		-632	-535
Other appropriations	Note 13	-150	-234
Profit before tax		2 389	1 165
Income taxes	Note 14	-103	-170
Net profit for the year		2 286	995

Parent Company balance sheet

Amounts in SEK M		1997	1996
ASSETS			
Fixed assets			
Intangible fixed assets			
Patents and other intangible assets	Note 15	9	14
		9	14
Tangible fixed assets			
Land and buildings	Note 16	404	361
Plant and machinery	Note 16	2 183	1 868
Equipment, tools, fixtures and fittings	Note 16	312	271
Construction in progress and			
advance payments for tangible assets	Note 17	567	524
		3 466	3 024
Financial fixed assets			
Shares in Group companies	Note 18	6 010	5 830
Loans to Group companies		834	343
Shares in associated companies	Note 19	26	48
Loans to associated companies		3	534
Other investments held as fixed assets	Note 20	8	7
Other long-term receivables		20	23
		6 901	6 785
Total fixed assets		10 376	9 823
Current assets			
Inventories	Note 21	2 228	2 310
Current receivables			
Trade receivables		683	495
Due from Group companies		3 014	1 777
Due from associated companies		126	73
Prepaid income tax	Note 14	177	135
Other receivables		218	198
Prepaid expenses and accrued income		118	218
		4 336	2 896
Liquid assets	Note 22	465	667
Total current assets		7 029	5 873
TOTAL ASSETS		17 405	15 696
Assets pledged	Note 29	10	101

Amounts in SEK M		1997	1996
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
Shareholders' equity			
Restricted equity			
Share capital	Note 23	1 552	1 392
Share premium reserve	11010 20	20	
Legal reserve		20	291
		1 863	1 683
Unrestricted equity			
Profit brought forward		769	5 662
Net profit for the year		2 286	995
		3 055	6 657
Total shareholders' equity	Note 24	4 918	8 340
Untaxed reserves			
Accelerated depreciation	Note 25	1 362	1 239
Tax allocation reserve	Note 26	1 562	1 475
Tax equalization reserve	Note 26	160	214
Foreign exchange reserve	Note 26	11	24
Other untaxed reserves	Note 26	45	39
		3 140	2 991
Provisions			
Provisions for pensions and simular obligations	Note 27	959	885
Provisions for taxes	Note 14	318	305
Other provisions	Note 28	70	32
		1 347	1 222
Interest-bearing liabilities			
Bond loans		94	-
Loans from credit institutions		956	182
Loans from Group companies		4 616	-
	Note 29	5 666	182
Non-interest-bearing liabilities			
Advance payments from customers		11	18
Trade payables		650	522
Due to Group companies		203	1 152
Due to associated companies		528	533
Other liabilities		141	95
Accrued expenses and deferred income	Note 31	801	641
	Note 30	2 334	2 961
TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		17 405	15 696
Contingent liabilities	Note 32	4 024	660

Parent Company funds statement

Amounts in SEK M	1997	1996
Funds provided from operations		
Profit after financial items	3 112	1 858
Depreciation	380	340
Gain/loss on sale of fixed assets	-21	-50
Taxes paid	-103	-170
Dividends paid	-1 810	-1 640
Shareholders' contributions	-1	-
Group contributions	-572	-459
Total funds provided from operations	985	-121
Change in working capital		
Change in inventories	82	224
Change in current receivables	-1 440	666
Change in current operating liabilities and provisions	-576	-257
Total change in working capital	-1 934	633
Net financing from operations	-949	512
Net investments		
Acquisitions of companies and shares	-126	-80
Investment in tangible fixed assets	-861	-998
Change in long-term loans to subsidiaries	-532	-139
Sale of companies	44	555
Sale of tangible fixed assets	28	107
Net investments	-1 447	-555
Cash flow	-2 396	-43
External financing		
Shareholders' equity:		
Redemption of shares	-4 000	-
Rights issue	102	-
Total shareholders' equity	-3 898	-
Long		
Loans:	4.000	10/
Change in short-term loans	4 908	-106
Change in long-term loans Total loans	576	135
	0.101	_,
Other financing, net:		
Change in long-term receivables	534	-495
Change in pension liability	74	31
Change in other long-term liabilities	0	0
Total other financing, net	608	-464
Net external financing	2 194	-435
Change in liquid assets	-202	-478
Change in inquia assets	-202	-4/ð

Accounting principles

The same principles were applied in 1997 as in 1996. Adjustments were made, however, to comply with the new Swedish Annual Accounts Act that took effect in 1997. In addition, as of 1997 in the consolidated accounts, the Swedish Financial Accounting Standards Councils' recommendation RR6 "Reporting of leasing agreements" is applied to financial leasing contracts entered into after 1 January 1997.

Consolidation principles

The consolidated accounts cover the Parent Company, all subsidiaries and associated companies. Subsidiaries are defined as companies in which the Parent Company directly or indirectly holds more than half the votes. Associated companies are companies linked to the Group's operations and in which the Parent Company has a direct or indirect long-term shareholding amounting to not less than 20% and not more than 50% of voting rights.

The consolidated accounts are prepared in accordance with the principles stated in the Swedish Financial Accounting Standards Council's recommendation

All acquisitions of companies are reported in accordance with the purchase method. After 1991, goodwill is determined at acquisition in the local currency. While goodwill is normally amortized linearly over a maximum of 10 years, amortization periods up to 20 years may be decided in cases of important strategic acquisitions. Amortization is reported as cost of goods sold. If goodwill is determined to have declined permanently in value, extra amortization is applied. Negative goodwill is reported as a long-term liability and recognized as income in accordance with a plan established in each specific case. Internal transactions are eliminated.

Divested companies are included in the consolidated accounts until the time of the sale. Companies acquired during the current year are consolidated from the time of purchase.

The consolidated balance sheet and income statement are presented without untaxed reserves and appropriations. Untaxed reserves reported by individual companies within the Group have been apportioned so that deferred tax is reported under long-term liabilities, with the remainder included in the Group's shareholders' equity. Deferred tax, generally at the tax rate for the next fiscal year, has been calculated separately for each company. The tax attributable to changes in

the untaxed reserves of individual Group companies in the course of the year is included in Group tax expenses as estimated future taxes. The remaining portion is included in the Group's net earnings. In the event of a change in the tax rate, the change in tax liability is included in tax expenses for the year.

In classifying the shareholders' equity of the Group as unrestricted or restricted, the method proposed in the Swedish Financial Accounting Standards Council's recommendation is followed, with net effects of any applicable withholding taxes also taken into account.

Foreign currency

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, the accounts of foreign subsidiaries are translated in accordance with the recommendation of the Swedish Institute of Authorized Public Accountants

Since the local currency is the "functional currency" for most foreign subsidiaries, the current-rate method is used in translations. Changes in Group equity arising from variations in exchange rates prevailing on the balance sheet date, compared with rates at the preceding year-end, have direct effects on Group equity. The financial statements of companies operating in high-inflation countries are initially translated into US dollars in accordance with the monetary/non-monetary method. Translation differences that arise have an effect on earnings for the year. In a second stage, the balance sheets and income statements of these companies are translated from US dollars to SEK using the current-rate method

Receivables and liabilities in foreign currencies are assessed at the applicable rate of exchange on the balance sheet date. In cases where forward exchange contracts have been entered into, however, the forward rate of exchange is used in valuations of underlying receivables or liabilities.

Outstanding forward exchange contracts relating to sales of currencies are not assigned values if the currency flow resulting from sales of goods is expected to cover the forward contracts

Short-term investments

Bonds and other short-term investments are valued at historical cost or market value on

the balance sheet date, whichever is lower. In the process of valuation, this principle is applied to the portfolio as a whole, meaning that unrealized losses are offset against unrealized gains. Any remaining loss is deducted from interest income, whereas gains are not recognized.

Inventories

Inventories are valued at the lower of historical cost in accordance with the first-in/first-out principle and actual value, taken as replacement cost in the case of semifinished goods and raw materials

Depreciation of tangible fixed assets

Scheduled depreciation charged in industrial operations is based on the historical cost of assets and their estimated economic lives. Straightline depreciation is normally applied over 5-10 years for machinery and equipment, 10-50 years for buildings, and 20 years for site improvements. Declining balance depreciation over 3-5 years is applied to computer equipment. The difference between scheduled depreciation and depreciation for tax purposes is shown by individual companies as accumulated excess depreciation under untaxed reserves.

Profit recognition

Sales are recognized at the time of delivery and are equal to sales price less deductions for valueadded tax, discounts and returns. Income from contracts extending more than one year is reported in accordance with the percentage of completion method. If projected costs for completion of such projects exceed remaining revenues, a provision is made for the calculated losses.

Estimated costs of product guarantees are charged against operating costs at the time of sale

Research and development costs

Research and development costs are expensed as incurred.

Taxes

Tax expense for the year includes accrued (paid) taxes, future (deferred) taxes and the

Application of US GAAP (Generally accepted accounting principles in the US)

share of taxes due in associated companies. Accrued taxes also include foreign withholding taxes paid in respect of dividends. Deferred tax includes tax effects taken into account in the Consolidated Accounts according to the Swedish Financial Accounting Standards Council's recommendation. This includes deferred tax in the untaxed reserves of individual Group companies, deferred tax when different values are assigned at Group and company level, including unrealized internal profits, as well as tax effects on purchaseaccounting fair-value adjustments, including those attributed to acquired tax-loss carryforwards. Under deferred tax. Sandvik also includes any tax deferred in consequence of participation in net losses of partly owned limited partnerships.

Funds statement

Purchase prices paid or received for shares in companies acquired or sold are shown in the funds statement. Assets and liabilities in the companies when they were bought or sold are not included in the sections of the funds statement dealing with changes in working capital. net investments and internal financing/net investments. Amounts shown in the funds statement are generally exclusive unrealized exchange differences. Estimated future taxes and changes in deferred tax liability are not included.

DEFINITIONS

Earnings per share

Consolidated net profit divided by the average number of shares outstanding during the year

Equity ratio

Shareholders' equity and minority interests in relation to total capital.

Debt/equity ratio

Interest-bearing current and long-term debts (including pension liability) divided by the total of shareholders' equity and minority interests.

Rate of capital turnover

Invoiced sales divided by average total capital.

Return on shareholders' equity

Consolidated net profit for the year as a percentage of average shareholders' equity during the year.

Return on net assets

Profit after financial income and expenses, plus interest expenses and translation differences on loans, as a percentage of average total capital, less non-interest-bearing debts.

The Sandvik Group's financial statements have been drawn up in accordance with aforementioned Swedish accounting principles. Significant differences between these principles and generally accepted accounting principles in the US (US GAAP) as applicable to the Sandvik Group are described below.

machinery and equipment are charged against earnings. US GAAP requires that such interest expense be capitalized and depreciated with other acquisition costs over the lifetime of the asset.

Deferred tax

Sandvik reports deferred taxes to the extent promulgated by recommendations of the Swedish Financial Accounting Standards Council regarding Group accounts. Accordingly, reported deferred taxes include primarily deferred tax liabilities relating to untaxed reserves. Deferred tax assets are recognized only to the extent relating to unrealized profits and the application of different valuation principles in Group accounts and individual company accounts. The effects of tax-loss carryforwards are reported mainly as reduced tax expenses when they are utilized. Under US GAAP, deferred tax effects on all differences between book values and tax values of assets and liabilities, including operating loss carryforwards, are taken into account. Values of deferred tax assets, however, are subjected to a recoverability test. Overall, the value of certain tax-loss carryforwards is recognized earlier under US GAAP than under Swedish principles.

Additionally, tax effects arise from other differences between Swedish and US GAAP, as shown in the reconciliation below.

Acquisitions

Swedish principles for valuations of own shares issued in conjunction with acquisitions are less prescriptive than corresponding US principles. Because of such differences, the acquisition value of the CTT group is reported at a somewhat higher amount under US GAAP.

Revaluation of assets

As permitted under Swedish GAAP, certain fixed assets have been reported at values in excess of acquisition cost. Such revaluation of assets is not permitted under US GAAP

Capitalization of interest

In accordance with Swedish GAAP, interest expenses incurred to finance new buildings, Foreign exchange Under Swedish GAAP, unrealized gains and losses

on forward exchange contracts to hedge anticipated future transactions are normally deferred and reported with the underlying transaction when it occurs. US GAAP allows such reporting only for specifically identified firm orders. In other cases, forward exchange contracts are marked to market and unrealized gains and losses are included in reported profit.

Pensions

Differences between Swedish and US GAAP in pension accounting pertain mainly to the choice of discount rate and the US practice of basing the calculation of capital value on projected salary

at the time of retirement rather than actual salary at the time of calculation. The differences have not been quantified, however, and are not included in the following reconciliation.

General

Other areas in which the application of US GAAP to Sandvik Group accounts would entail not insignificant differences include mainly provisions and, in acquisition of companies, restructuring reserves which pertain to the acquired company. Application of FAS 115 also results in

adjustments of the valuation and reporting of short-term investments. Such investments under Swedish GAAP are valued at the lower of cost and market value. Under US GAAP, after-tax value adjustments of securities classified as available for sale are transferred directly to equity.

The application of US GAAP would have the following approximate effect on the Sandvik Group's reported net profit, earnings per share and shareholders' equity:

(Amounts in SEK M, unless otherwise stated)	1997	1996
Net profit for the year according to		
the consolidated income statement	2 725	3 114
Increase/decrease in		
Deferred taxation	124	-66
Acquisitions	- 4	-4
Revaluations of assets	2	6
Capitalization of interest	-11	19
Foreign exchange	-1	-245
Other adjustments	11	-10
Tax effects of US GAAP adjustments	21	7
Net profit based on US GAAP	2 867	2 821
Earnings per share based on US GAAP, SEK	10.70	10.10
Shareholders' equity according to		
the consolidated balance sheet	17 414	20 035
Increase/decrease in		
Deferred taxation	459	335
Acquisitions	61	65
Revaluations of assets	-309	-307
Capitalization of interest	142	153
Foreign exchange	-16	-15
Unrealized gains/losses on securities available for sale	-	33
Other adjustments	182	171
Tax effects of US GAAP adjustments	-43	-64
Shareholders' equity based on US GAAP	17 890	20 406
Earnings per share based on US GAAP, SEK	69.20	73.30

Notes to the accounts

The Consolidated and Parent Company accounts

(Amounts in SEK million, unless otherwise stated)

Note 1. Employees and personnel costs

1.1 Average number of employees

	Group			Parent Company			
19	997	19	96	199	1997		6
	women				women		women
Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
10 658	20	10 381	20	7 913	18	7 909	18
9 350	18	8 952	18	132	15	135	15
1 469	37	1 585	39	37	14	35	20
21 477	20	20 918	20	8 082	18	8 079	18
5 027	21	4 010	18	-	-	-	-
1 658	11	1 797	12	5	20	5	20
642	14	534	15	2	50	2	50
3 627	14	2 990	14	13	38	-	-
32 431	19	30 249	19	8 102	18	8 086	18
	Total 10 658 9 350 1 469 21 477 5 027 1 658 642 3 627	10 658 20 9 350 18 1 469 37 21 477 20 5 027 21 1 658 11 642 14 3 627 14	women Total Total 10 658 20 10 381 9 350 18 8 952 1 469 37 1 585 21 477 20 20 918 5 027 21 4 010 1 658 11 1 797 642 14 534 3 627 14 2 990	women Total women % 10 658 20 10 381 20 9 350 18 8 952 18 1 469 37 1 585 39 21 477 20 20 918 20 5 027 21 4 010 18 1 658 11 1 797 12 642 14 534 15 3 627 14 2 990 14	women women Total % Total 10 658 20 10 381 20 7 913 9 350 18 8 952 18 132 1 469 37 1 585 39 37 21 477 20 20 918 20 8 082 5 027 21 4 010 18 - 1 658 11 1 797 12 5 642 14 534 15 2 3 627 14 2 990 14 13	women women women women Total % Total % 10 658 20 10 381 20 7 913 18 9 350 18 8 952 18 132 15 1 469 37 1 585 39 37 14 21 477 20 20 918 20 8 082 18 5 027 21 4 010 18 - - 1 658 11 1 797 12 5 20 642 14 534 15 2 50 3 627 14 2 990 14 13 38	women women women women rotal % 10 658 20 10 381 20 7 913 18 7 909 9 350 18 8 952 18 132 15 135 1 469 37 1 585 39 37 14 35 21 477 20 20 918 20 8 082 18 8 079 5 027 21 4 010 18 - - - 1 658 11 1 797 12 5 20 5 642 14 534 15 2 50 2 3 627 14 2 990 14 13 38 -

1.2 Wages, salaries, other remunerations and social costs

	Group		Parent	Company
	1997	1996	1997	1996
Wages, salaries and				
other remunerations	8 156	6 851	2 107	2 010
Social costs	2 622	2 355	930	904
(of which, pension costs)	(535)	(480)	(216)	(189)
Employee profit sharing	150	150	131	132
Total	10 928	9 356	3 168	3 046

Of pension costs, SEK 23 M and SEK 4 M relate to the Board of Directors and presidents in the Group and Parent Company, respectively. The outstanding pension commitment to these persons amounted to SEK 96 M at the Group level and SEK 31 M in the Parent Company.

(1.3) of which, to Boards of Directors and presidents:

1.3 Wages, salaries and other remunerations by market area.

1.5 Wages, subres and other remanerations by market area						
	Gr	Group		Company		
	1997	1996	1997	1996		
Sweden	2 770	2 564	2 065	1 966		
EU, excl. Sweden	2 667	2 316	30	30		
Rest of Europe	176	143	6	10		
Total, Europe	5 613	5 023	2 101	2 006		
NAFTA region	1 580	1 074	-	-		
South America	265	226	0	0		
Africa, Middle East	81	58	1	1		
Asia, Australia	617	470	5	3		
Group total	8 156	6 851	2 107	2 010		

Group

Parent	Company	

	199	1997 1996		1997		1996	
	Salaries and remunerations	of which, bonus	Salaries and remunerations	Salaries and remunerations	of which, bonus	Salaries and remunerations	
Sweden	33	5	31	24	5	25	
EU, excl. Sweden	76	6	67	-	-	-	
Rest of Europe	10	-	6	-	-	-	
Total, Europe	119	11	104	24	5	25	
NAFTA region	44	7	27	-	-	-	
South America	17	2	11	-	-	-	
Africa, Middle East	3	-	2	-	-	-	
Asia, Australia	25	1	21	-	-	-	
Group total	208	21	165	24	5	25	

* In addition there are provisions for bonuses to senior executives, see Note 1.4

1.4 Information on benefits to senior executives in 1997 The Chairman of the Board, Percy Barnevik, received a fixed fee of SEK 300,000 and had no other benefits.

Chief Executive Officer and President Clas Åke Hedström received fixed salary, Board fees, the value of free residence and company car totaling SEK 3,314,800. Bonus paid was SEK 1,580,000.

Board member and former Chief Executive Officer Per-Olof Eriksson holds a contract which was reported in the 1993 Annual Report. His Board fee amounted to SEK 150,000. Salary and the value of free residence and company car was SEK 1,321,766 in 1997.

There is a reciprocal 12-month notice of termination for the President. Should notice be served by the Company, or by the President in the event that significant structural changes have occurred, an annual pension of 75% of total average remunerations paid during the three most recent years is paid up to age 62 (that is, a maximum of three years). From age 62, pension pursuant to the ITP plan without ceiling, that is, the actual pension-based salary, is paid.

There are agreements on reciprocal rights to request early retirement at age 62 for several other senior executives. The reciprocal notification period for these persons varies between 6 and 12 months. From age 62, they will receive lifetime pension benefits corresponding to the amounts that would have been paid if employed until ordinary pension age

There is the possibility of a long-term bonus for Group management and approximately 250 other senior executives in Sweden and abroad based on price development for Sandvik B shares during the period 1995-1999 and payable in the year 2000. If paid, this bonus will be based on multiplying 10% of one to two month's salary (1994 level) by the difference between market price of B shares at year-end 1999 (plus addition of declared dividends during 1995-1999) and a base price of SEK 144. A provision has been made for the accrued portion of this bonus, which would fall due for payment if the price at year-end 1997 would also apply at year-end 1999, in the amount of SEK 114 M.

Note 2. Invoiced sales by business area

	1997 SEK M	1996 SEK M	Ch %	ange *
Sandvik Tooling	10 803	9 211	+17	+6
Sandvik Mining and Construction […]	3 582	2 003	+79	+2
Sandvik Specialty Steels***	10 780	8 980	+20	+3
Sandvik Hard Materials	1 361	1 209	+13	+7
Sandvik Saws and Tools	2 787	2 517	+11	+6
Sandvik Process Systems	1 873	1 836	+2	-5
Seco Tools	2 889	2 475	+17	+10
Group activities	44	34	/	
Group total	34 119	28 265	+21	+ 4

* Change excluding currency effects and company acquisitions.

** Including Sandvik Rock Tools (full year) and Tamrock (November-December). *** Including Sandvik Steel (full year) and Kanthal (second half of 1997).

Parent Company sales and purchases

Sales to Group companies from the Parent Company amounted to SEK 8,572 M (8,439), or 70% (70) of total sales. The share of exports was 83% (83). Parent Company purchases from Group companies amounted to SEK 851 M (679), 11% (13) of total purchases.

	1997 SEK M	%	1996 SEK M	Ch %	ange *
Sweden	2 231	7	2 036	+10	+8
EU, excl. Sweden	13 799	40	12 780	+8	0
Rest of Europe	1 888	6	1 485	+27	+8
Total, Europe	17 918	53	16 301	+10	+2
NAFTA region	8 195	24	5 769	+42	+8
South America	1 703	5	1 293	+32	+11
Africa, Middle East	987	3	705	+41	+10
Asia, Australia	5 316	15	4 197	+27	+7
Group total	34 119	100	28 265	+21	+4

Note 3. Invoiced sales by market area

* Change excluding currency effects and company acquisitions

Note 4. Noncomparable items

	Group		Parent (Company
	1997	1996	1997	1996
Capitals gains from sales of shares and companies	81	19	27	73
Recovery of deposits for dumping case	-	16	-	-
Write-downs of shares	-	-	-	-12
	81	35	27	61

Note 5. Research, development and quality assurance

	Group		Parent C	Company
	1997	1996	1997	1996
Costs for				
research and development	985	849	596	528
quality assurance	365	333	122	133
Total	1 350	1 182	718	661

All research, development and quality assurance costs are expensed as incurred. The costs are shown among Cost of goods sold.

Note 6. Depreciation	of tangible	and intangible	fixed assets
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	Group		Parent Compa	
	1997	1996	1997	1996
Scheduled depreciation				
Goodwill	-110	-45	-	-
Other intangible assets	-16	-	-2	-
Land and buildings	-142	-127	-17	-15
Plant and machinery	-906	-770	-249	-224
Equipment, tools, fixtures				
and fittings	-312	-217	-112	-101
	-1 486	-1 159	-380	-340

Note 7. Leasing costs for operational leasing

	Group	Parent Company
Leasing costs	78	0
Future committed leasing fees	224	1

Note 8. Operating profit by business area

	1997		199	6
	SEK M	% of sales	SEK M	% of sales
Sandvik Tooling	2 094	19	2 031	22
Sandvik Mining				
and Construction ⁻	234	7	220	11
Sandvik Specialty Steels**	921	9	1 203	13
Sandvik Hard Materials	148	11	133	11
Sandvik Saws and Tools	239	9	161	6
Sandvik Process Systems	80	4	-24	-1
Seco Tools	575	20	402	16
Group activities	79	/	-31	/
Operating profit	4 370	13	4 095	14

Tamrock included for November -December

** Incl. Kanthal as an associated company for the first half of 1997 and as a subsidiary in the second half. *** Incl. share of profits in Tamrock as an associated company January-October 1997.

Note 9. Parent Company income from Group companies 1997 1996

	1997	1770
Dividends	1 709	403
Gains on sale of shares	26	69
Write-downs	-	-11
	1 735	461

Note 10. Parent Company income from associated companies

1997	1996
400	109
-	-1
-2	
398	108
	400 - -2

Note 11. Income from securities and loans held as fixed assets

	Group		Parent (Company
	1997	1996	1997	1996
Interest income,				
Group companies	-	-	9	2
Other interest income	6	6	6	6
Dividends	4	14	1	7
Exchange rate differences	10	-	-	-
Gain on sale of shares	1	5	1	5
Other income	8	-	-	-
	29	25	17	20

Note 12. Other interest income and expenses

	Group		Parent Compa	
	1997	1996	1997	1996
Interest income,				
Group companies	-	-	104	88
Other interest income	224	575	65	79
Exchange rate differences	-	14	-	-
Total interest income	224	589	169	167
Interest expenses,				
Group companies	-	-	-240	-193
Other interest expenses	-344	-227	-67	-65
Exchange rate differences	-34	-	-	-
Bank charges	-37	-29	-7	-6
Other expenses	-3	-	-	-
Total interest expenses	-418	-256	-314	-264

Note 13. Other appropriations

	Parent Company	
	1997	1996
Accelerated depreciation	123	90
Appropriation to tax allocation reserve	87	160
Reversal of tax equalization reserve	-53	-53
Change in foreign exchange reserve	-13	24
Change in other untaxed reserves	6	13
	150	234

Note 14. Taxes

Income taxes		Group	Parent C	ompany	
	1997	1996	1997	1996	
Current taxes	-905	-799	-103	-170	
Estimated future taxes					
- Current year appropriations to/from untaxed reserves	-121	-191	-	-	
- Income from partly owned limited partnerships, etc.	-140	-122	-	-	
- Other	-55	-5	-	-	
Total estimated future taxes	-316	-318	-	-	
Share in taxes of associated companies	-62	-87	-	-	
Total	-1 283	-1 204	-103	-170	
Tax liabilities and payments		Group	Parent C	ompany	
	1997	1996	1997	1996	
Provisions for deferred taxes:					
- Untaxed reserves reported by Group companies	2 103	1 965	-	-	
- Future taxes due to losses in partly owned limited partnersh	ips 177	304	-	-	
- Other Group reporting adjustments, tax-loss carryforwards, unrealized internal profits, etc.	-513	-53	-	-	
Total	1 767	2 216	-	-	
Other tax provisions	500	486	318	305	
Total provisions	2 267	2 702	318	305	
Income tax liability	312	323	-	-	
Prepaid income tax	-299	-281	-177	-135	
Net	13	42	-177	-135	
Total tax liabilities	2 280	2 744	141	170	

Ongoing tax proceedings

The Parent Company and some Swedish subsidiaries are involved in a number of proceedings with tax authorities in Sweden. In the opinion of Sandvik, any additional tax expenses, including tax surcharges, fees and interest, are covered by existing reserves and provisions. Cases involving losses in conjunction with liquidation of foreign subsidiaries have been decided in Sandvik's favor in the County Administrative Court. Cases involving depreciation allowances in aircraft leasing operations have been ruled in Sandvik's favor in the County Administrative Court and the Administrative Court of Appeal.

The rulings have been appealed by tax authorities to higher courts. Based on the opinion of tax experts and the fact that the cases to date

have been decided in favor of Sandvik, Sandvik assesses the risk of additional tax charges as remote. In the event that rulings in the final instance would nevertheless be in favor of the tax authorities, resulting tax charges, including fees and interest, would amount to some SEK 500 M.

With regard to other cases, which as yet have not been decided in County Administrative Courts, Sandvik, under advisement of tax experts, also assesses the risk of additional taxes as remote. In the hypothetical case that all disputes would result in additional taxes as claimed by the tax authorities, resulting in additional tax charges, including tax surcharges, fees and interest, would be in the range of SEK 600 M.

Note 15. Patents and licenses, goodwill, etc.

	Patents, licenses, trademarks		G	Goodwill
	Group	Parent Company	Group	Parent Company
Cost				
At beginning of the year	79	24	698	-
Additions	11	-	44	-
Acquisitions of subsidiaries	127		3 912	
Disposals	-8	-3	-2	-
Reclassifications	24	-	5	-
Translation differences	3		-3	
	236	21	4 654	
Accumulated depreciation/amortization				
At beginning of the year	44	10	411	-
Acquisitions of subsidiaries	21		171	
Disposals	-5	-	-1	-
Reclassifications	17	-	-	-
Amortization for the year	16	2	110	-
Translation differences	2		-1	
	95	12	690	-
Residual value at end of the year	141	9	3 964	-

Note	16.	Fixed	assets

	Land	and buildings	Plant a	nd machinery	Equipm	ent, tools, etc
	Group	Parent Company	Group	Parent Company	Group	Parent Company
Cost						
At beginning of the year	4 461	533	12 118	4 625	1 991	666
Purchases	272	60	1 360	565	614	153
Acquisitions of subsidiaries	1 161		2 721		163	
Disposals	-53	-	-548	-75	-177	-25
Translation differences	129		476		28	
	5 970	593	16 127	5 115	2 619	794
Accumulated depreciation						
At beginning of the year	1 826	222	7 117	2 757	1 266	395
Acquisitions of subsidiaries	454		1 590		97	
Disposals	-16	-	-469	-74	-155	-25
Reclassifications	-	-	-150	-	150	-
Depreciation for the year	140	17	906	249	312	112
Translation differences	44		254		5	
	2 448	239	9 248	2 932	1 675	482
Accumulated revaluations						
At beginning of the year	288	50	4	-	-	-
Acquisitions of subsidiaries	9		6		-	
Scheduled depreciation						
for the year of revalued amounts	-2	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations during the year	5	-	-	-	-	-
Translation differences	-1					
	299	50	10	-	-	-
Residual value at end of the year	3 821	404	6 889	2 183	944	312
Fixed assets held under financing lease agreements are included in the following amounts						
Cost			15		1	
Accumulated depreciation			1		-	
Rateable values, buildings (in Sweden)	1 162	281				
Rateable values, land (in Sweden)	107	84				

Note 17.	Construction in progress and advance	
payments	for tangible fixed assets	

	Group	Parent Company		Parent Company
At the beginning of the year	916	524	Cost	
Acquisitions of subsidiaries	177		At beginning of the year	5 830
Reclassifications	-30	-	Acquisitions	126
Investments	-	83	Issues for non-cash consideration	98
Disposals	-46	-30	New capital stock issues	44
Advances paid during the year	32	-10	Disposals	-103
Translation differences	33		Reclassifications	15
	1 082	567	Book value at end of the year	6 010

Note 18. Shares in subsidiaries

According to	Balance Sheet of 31 December 1997; company, location	Corp. ID no.	No. of shares	Holding, % 4)	Book valu SEK 'OC
WEDEN	Dormer Tools AB, Halmstad	556240-8210	80 000	100	35 00
	Ecocat AB, Sandviken	556272-9680	6 840	100	1 80
	Edmeston AB, Gothenburg	556238-7554	40 000	100	3 00
	Fragoso AB, Sandviken	556337-3710	1 000	100	5
	Guldsmedshytte Bruks AB, Lindesberg ¹⁾	556040-0854	1 000	100	5
	Gusab Holding AB, Sandviken	556001-9290	1 831 319	100	53 47
	Gusab Stainless AB, Mjölby	556012-1138	200 000	100	34 01
	AB Sandvik Automation, Sandviken ¹⁾	556052-4315	1 000	100	Ę
	Sandvik Automation Norden AB, Stockholm ¹⁾	556407-4184	1 000	100	1(
	AB Sandvik Bahco, Enköping	556060-0214	200 000	100	35 00
	Sandvik Bahco Norden AB, Enköping	556251-0114	50 000	100	4 9
	AB Sandvik Belts, Sandviken ¹⁾	556312-2992	1 000	100	1(
	AB Sandvik Calamo, Molkom	556190-2569	50 000	100	5 00
	Sandvik Communication AB, Sandviken	556257-5752	1 000	100	5
	AB Sandvik Coromant, Sandviken ¹⁾	556234-6865	1 000	100	
	Sandvik Coromant Norden AB, Stockholm ¹⁾	556350-7846	1 000	100	1
	AB Sandvik Falken, Sandviken	556330-7791	1 000	100	1
	Sandvik Far East Ltd. AB, Sandviken	556043-7781	10 000	100	10 0
	AB Sandvik Hand Tools, Bollnäs ¹⁾	556289-4302	1 000	100	
	AB Sandvik Hard Materials, Stockholm ¹⁾	556234-6857	1 000	100	
	Sandvik Hard Materials Norden AB, Stockholm ¹⁾	556069-1619	1 000	100	
	AB Sandvik Information Systems, Sandviken ¹⁾	556235-3838	1 000	100	
	AB Sandvik International, Sandviken ¹⁾	556147-2977	1 000	100	
	Sandvik Invest AB, Sandviken	556020-6517	1 772 068	100	181 6
	AB Sandvik Metal Saws, Lidköping	556289-4294	400 000	100	74 9
	AB Sandvik Powders, Sandviken	556011-3911	30 000	100	70
	AB Sandvik Process Systems, Sandviken	556041-9680	25 000	100	2 5
	AB Sandvik Rock Tools, Sandviken ¹⁾	556234-7343	1 000	100	
	Sandvik Rock Tools Svenska Försäljnings AB, Sandviken ¹⁾	556288-9443	1 000	100	
	AB Sandvik Saws and Tools, Sandviken ¹⁾	556234-7848	1 000	100	
	AB Sandvik Service, Sandviken ¹⁾	556234-8010	1 000	100	
	AB Sandvik Steel, Sandviken ¹⁾	556234-6832	1 000	100	
	AB Sandvik Steel Investment, Sandviken	556350-7853	1 000	100	1
	Sandvik Stål Försäljnings AB, Stockholm ¹⁾	556251-5386	1 000	100	
	AB Sandvik Teknik, Sandviken	556350-7929	30 000	100	10 0
	AB Sandvik Tranan, Sandviken	556330-7817	1 000	100	1
	Sandvik Windsor AB, Edsbyn	556027-6544	150 000	100	18 9
	AB Sandvik Västberga Service, Stockholm ¹⁾	556356-6933	1 000	100	1
	Sandvik Örebro AB, Sandviken	556181-5571	10 000	100	13 2
	AB Sandvik Örnen, Sandviken	556330-7783	1 000	100	1
	Sandvikens Brukspersonals Byggnadsförening				
	upa, Sandviken	785500-1686	-	100	
	Steebide International AB, Sandviken	556048-3405	15 000	100	10
	AB Trellbo, Sandviken	556251-6780	1 000	100	į
	Dormant companies, wholly owned ²⁾			100	3 4

Sandvik AB's holdings of shares and participations in subsidiaries Dir

According to Balance S	heet of 31 December 1997; company, location
BELARUS	ZP Sandvik
BRAZIL	Dormer Tools S.A.
	Sandvik do Brasil S.A.
BULGARIA	Sandvik Bulgaria
CHINA	Sandvik China Ltd.
	Sandvik International Trading (Shanghai) Co. Ltd.
COLOMBIA	Sandvik Colombia S.A.
CZECH REPUBLIC	Sandvik CZ s.r.o.
FINLAND	Oy Bahco Työkalut
GERMANY	Sandvik GmbH
	Sandvik Holding GmbH
GREECE	Sandvik A.E. Tools and Materials
HUNGARY	Sandvik KFT
INDIA	Sandvik Asia Ltd.
	Sandvik Choksi Ltd.
ITALY	CML Handling Technology S.p.A.
JAPAN	Sandvik K.K.
KENYA	Sandvik Kenya Ltd.
KOREA	Sandvik Korea Ltd.
MOROCCO	Sandvik Maroc S.A.
MEXICO	Sandvik Méxicana S.A. de C.V.
NETHERLANDS	Cutting Tool Technology B.V.
	Sandvik Benelux B.V.
	Sandvik Finance B.V.
PERU	Barrenas Sandvik Andina S.A.
	Sandvik del Perú S.A.
POLAND	Sandvik Baildonit S.A.
	Sandvik Polska Sp.z o.o.
PORTUGAL	Sandvik Portuguesa Lda
SLOVAKIA	Sandvik Slovakia s.r.o.
SPAIN	Minas y Metalurgia Española S.A.
SWITZERLAND	Sanfinanz AG
TURKEY	Sandvik Endüstriyel Mamüller Sanayi ve Ticaret A.S.
UK	Madison Tools Ltd.
ZAMBIA	Sandvik (Zambia) Ltd.
ZIMBABWE	Sandvik (Pvt) Ltd.

Subsidiaries conducting business on behalf of the Parent Company
 Refers to percentage of votes, which also corresponds to percentage of share capital.
 Remaining shares are held by other Group companies.

- 100 129 2 137 623 140 100 200 000 1 894 797 190 100 46 072 - 100 38 875 - 100 1552 129 007 94 3 0 - 100 0 - 100 0 - 100 0 - 100 0 - 100 0 - 100 0 - 100 2 380 - 1 3 1 486 - 1 3 367 999 100 277 - 100 3 258 1 013 760 55 5 500 15 810 000 51 58 844 28 571 10 31 907 2 600 000 100 180 000 35 000 96 0 7552 730 100 46 856 940 42 250 406 642 873 90		No. of shares	Holding, % 4)	Book value SEK '000
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$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		1 894 797 190	100	46 072
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		-	100	0
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		-	100	38 875
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		-	100	1 552
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75 587 51 28 000 211 100 57 199 600 100 8 300 - 100 1 378 59 999 50 3 700 1 000 100 735 S. 46 242 588 100 0 274 999 100 6 000 4 999 999 100 0 233 673 100 3 269		482 608	100	59
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S. 46 242 588 100 0 274 999 100 6 000 4 999 999 100 0 233 673 100 3 269		59 999	50 ³⁾	3 700
274 999 100 6 000 4 999 999 100 0 233 673 100 3 269		1 000	100	735
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233 673 100 3 269		274 999	100	6 000
		4 999 999	100	0
6 009 707		233 673	100	3 269
				6 009 707

Indirect shareholdings

Shares in significant operating Group companies owned indirectly by Sandvik AB

	Group holdi	ing, % 1)	Group holding, % 1)			Group holding, % 1)		
SWEDEN	Kanthal AB	100	FRANCE	Gunther Tools S.A.	100	MEXICO	Sandvik de Mexico S.A. de C.V.	100
	Kanthal Machinery AB	100		Kanthal S.A.	100		Tamrock de Mexico S.A. de C.V.	100
	коро ав	90		Precitube S.A.	100	NETHERLANDS	Dormer Tools International B.V.	100
	Rammer Svenska AB	100		Prototyp S.A.	100		Dormer Tools B.V.	100
	Roxon AB	100		Safety S.A.	100		Sandvik Process Systems B.V.	100
	Seco Tools AB	61		Sandvik Aciers S.N.C.	100		Sandvik Saws and Tools Benelux B.V.	100
ARGENTINA	Sandvik Bahco Argentina S.A.	100		Sandvik Coromant S.N.C.	100	NORWAY	Sandvik Norge A/S	100
	Tamrock Argentina S.A.	100		Sandvik Hard Materials S.A.	100		Tamrock Norge A/S	100
AUSTRALIA	Driver Harris Australia Pty.	100		Sandvik Outillage S.N.C.	100	NYA ZEALAND	Kanthal Trading Australasia Ltd.	100
	Kanthal Australia Pty. Ltd.	100		Sandvik Process Systems S.A.	100		Sandvik New Zealand Ltd.	100
	Prok Group Limited	100		Sandvik Rock Tools S.A.	100	PERU	Sandvik Forestal S.A.	100
	Sandvik Australia Pty. Ltd.	100		Sandvik S.A.	100		Tamrock World Corporation	
	Sandvik Hard Materials Pty. Ltd.	100		Sandvik Tobler S.A.	100		B.V. Sucursal del Peru	100
	Tamrock Coal Australia Pty. Ltd.	100		Tamrock S.A.	100	PHILIPPINES	Tamrock Philippines Inc.	100
	Tamrock Pty. Ltd.	100		Tamrock Loaders S.A.	100		Sandvik Philippines Inc.	100
	Voest Alpine Control System Pty. Ltd.	100		Tamrock Secoma S.A.	100	POLAND	Voest Alpine Technika Górnicza,	100
AUSTRIA	Günther & Co. Ges.m.b.H.	100	GERMANY	CTT Management GmbH	100	1 OLIND	Tunelova Spolka z.o.o.	100
10011111	Sandvik in Austria Ges.m.b.H.	100	GERMINARY	Dormer Tools GmbH	100	PORTUGAL	Sandvik Obergue-Limas o Mêcanica Lda	100
	Tamrock Voest Alpine Bergtechnik	100		Edmeston GmbH	100	RUSSIA	Moskovskij Kombinat Tverdih Splavov	98
	Ges.m.b.H.	100		Günther & Co. GmbH	100	KOSSIA	Moskovskij Kombinat Tverdih Splavov	70
BELGIUM	Dormer Tools N.V./S.A.	100		Gurtec GmbH	100		Joint Venture	98
	Sandvik Benelux	100		Joba Kunststofftechnik GmbH	100		ZAO Sandvik	100
BOLIVIA	Tamrock Bolivia S.R.L.	100		Kanthal GmbH	99	SINGAPORE	Kanthal Electroheat Pte.	100
BRAZIL	Eimco do Brasil Ltda	100		Prototyp-Werke GmbH	100	SINGAFORE	Sandvik South East Asia Pte. Ltd	100
	Globar Brasil Ltda	100		Sandvik Belzer GmbH	100			100
	Kanthal Brasil Ltda	100		Sandvik Belzer Produktion GmbH	100	SOUTH AFRICA	Sandvik Treasury (Far East) Pte. Ltd Sandvik (Pty) Ltd.	100
	Sandvik-Villares Wire Indústria	100		Sandvik GmbH	99	SOUTH AFRICA	Tamrock Africa (Pty) Ltd.	100
	e Comércio Ltda	100				SPAIN		
				Sandvik Kosta GmbH	100	SPAIN	Impero SAIE	100 99
CANADA	Dormer Tools Inc.	100 100		Sandvik Process Systems GmbH	100 100		Kanthal SP S.A.	
	Prok International (Canada) Inc.			Tamrock GmbH			Minas y Metalurgia Española S.A.	100
	Sandvik Canada Inc.	100		TOP Präzisionswerkzeuge GmbH	100		Sandvik Española S.A.	100
	Sandvik Process Systems Canada	100	HONG KONG	Kanthal Electroheat, HK Ltd.	100	SWITZERLAND	Sandvik AG	100
	Tamrock Canada Ltd.	100		Sandvik Hongkong Ltd.	100		Santrade Ltd.	100
21.00 5	Tamrock Loaders Inc.	100		Tamrock Far East Ltd.	100	TAIWAN	Sandvik Taiwan Ltd.	100
CHILE	Sandvik Chile S.A.	100	INDIA	Kanthal India Ltd.	51		Sandvik Titan Pty. Ltd.	100
	Tamrock Chile S.A.	100	INDONESIA	PT Prok Indonesia	70	THAILAND	Sandvik Thailand Ltd.	100
CHINA	Tamrock (China) Ltd.	100	IRELAND	Sandvik Ireland Ltd.	100	UK	Alloy Wire Ltd.	100
	Qingdao Sandvik Die Cutting Systems Co. Ltd.	60	ITALY	CML Handling Technology S.p.A.	100			100
	5			Dormer Tools S.p.A.	100		Dormer Tools Ltd.	100
COLOMBIA	Sandvik Colombia S.A.	100		Driver Harris Ital. S.p.A.	100		Dormer Tools (Sheffield) Ltd.	100
CZECH REPUBLIC	Sandvik Chomutov Precision Tubes s.r.o.	100		Impero S.p.A.	100		Eimco Great Britain Ltd.	100
DENMARK	Sandvik A/S	100		Master Tools S.p.A.	100		Kanthal Ltd.	100
	Sandvik Bahco Norden A/S	100		Sandvik Italia S.p.A.	100		Osprey Metals Ltd.	100
INLAND	Bet-Mec Oy	100		Sandvik Process Systems S.p.A.	100		RGB Stainless Ltd.	100
	Roxon Oy	100		Soc. Ital. Kanthal S.p.A.	100		Sandvik Band Saws Ltd.	100
	Suomen Sandvik Oy	100	JAPAN	Dormer Japan Ltd.	100		Sandvik Ltd.	100
	Tamrock Oy	100		Kanthal K.K.	100		Sandvik Metinox Ltd.	100
RANCE	Cermep S.A.	51	KOREA	Kanthal Korea Ltd.	100		Sandvik Process Systems Ltd.	100
	Dormer Tools S.A.	100	LUXEMBOURG	Sansafe S.A.	100		Sandvik Rock Tools Ltd.	100
	Gunther S.A.	100	MALAYSIA	Sandvik Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.	100		Saxon Blades Ltd.	100

	Group holdi	ng, % 1)
UK	Sterling Tubes Ltd.	100
	Titex Tools Ltd.	100
USA	Cesiwid Inc.	100
	Dormer Tools Inc.	100
	Driltech Inc.	100
	Eimco Coal Machinery Inc.	100
	H. P. Reid Co. Inc.	100
	The Kanthal Corporation	100
	Lindström America Inc.	100
	Pennsylvania Extruded Tube Co.	70
	Precision Export Co.	100
	Precision Twist Drill Co.	100
	Prok International (USA) Inc.	100
	Sandvik Inc.	100
	Sandvik Milford Corp.	100
	Sandvik Process Systems Inc.	100
	Sandvik Rock Tools Inc.	100
	Sandvik Sorting Systems Inc.	100
	Sandvik Special Metals Corp.	100
	Sandvik Windsor Corp.	100
	Tamrock HRM Western Hemisphere Inc.	100
	Tamrock USA Inc.	100
	Triumph Twist Drill Co.	100
	Union Butterfield Corporation	100
VENEZUELA	Sandvik Venezuela C.A.	100
ZAMBIA	Tamrock Zambia Ltd.	60
ZIMBABWE	Tamrock Zimbabwe (Pvt.) Ltd.	100

 Ownership percentage pertains to capital, which also corresponds to percentage of voting rights for the total number of shares.

Note 19. Participations in associated companies

	Group
Proportion of equity in associated companies	
At beginning of the year	2 102
Reclassifications	-1 918
Share in profits after net financial items of associated companies	300
Share in taxes of associated companies	-62
Less dividends received	-49
Translation differences	13
Proportion of equity at end of the year	386

Sandvik AB's holdings of shares and participations in associated companies

Associated companies

Associated con According to t	he Balance Sheet of 31 December 1997	Corp. ID no.	Number of shares	Holding, % 1)	Proportion of equity, SEK M	Book value, SEK '000
Owned directly	by Sandvik AB					
SWEDEN	Fasttrack Sweden Uthyrnings AB, Stockholm	556330-1180	940	48.5 2)	0.1	94
	G-Drill AB, Stockholm	556331-8566	6 000	30	3.6	4 000
	Nordiska Balzers AB, Stockholm	556098-1333	28 420	49	15.3	3 819
	Procera-Sandvik AB, Stockholm	556350-7879	5 000	50	0.6	600
	QR Uthyrnings AB, Stockholm	556330-7775	4 700	48.5 2)	0.5	470
FINLAND	Oy Winrock Technology Ltd.		20	20	-	-
FRANCE	Devillé S.A.		13 990	35	24.8	7 216
	Eurotungstène Poudre S.A.		112 353	49	71.7	7 737
IRELAND	Uirlis Torc Teoranta Ltd.		8 830	49	2.2	1 842
					118.8	25 778
Owned indirect	ly by Sandvik AB					
SWEDEN	Avesta Sandvik Tube AB, Fagersta	556057-8592	150 000	25	77.0	
	Fagersta Stainless AB, Fagersta	556051-6881	400 000	50	186.3	
	Associated companies owned by Seco Tools				3.8	
					267.1	
TOTAL					385.9	

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 $^{\scriptscriptstyle 1)}$ Pertains to share of votes, which also corresponds to share of capital unless otherwide stated. 2) Share of capital 90.4%

Note 20. Other investments held as fixed assets

Other companies

According to the Balance Sheet of 31 December 1997	Holding, as %	Book value SEK M
Owned directly		
Prevas AB	20	2
Sandvik-Bisov	51	6
		8
Owned indirectly		
Amstek Inc.	48	12
Harvest Ventures	30	16
Karlskoga Invest	9	4
OptiCat AB	25	5
Stc Shanghai Tokan	50	9
Miscellaneous holdings in Tamrock Gro	oup	10
Other shares and participations in Swe	eden	3
Other shares and participations abroad	b	5
		64

TOTAL

Note 21. Inventories

	Gr	Group		Company
	1997	1996	1997	1996
Raw materials				
and consumables	2 281	1 678	526	601
Work in progress	1 836	1 541	847	833
Finished goods	5 922	4 087	855	876
	10 039	7 306	2 228	2 310

Note 22. Liquid assets and short-term investments

	Group		Parent Company	
	1997	1996	1997	1996
Cash and bank balances	1 724	1 121	75	51
Short-term investments	742	4 279	390	459
Bonds with longer maturity than one year	28	157	-	157
Total	2 494	5 557	465	667
Note 23. Share capital				
		199	7	1996
A shares		189 450	259 2	209 225 815

B shares	69 245 741	69 250 565
Total number of shares at SEK 6 par value (1996: 5)	258 696 000	278 476 380

A shares each carry one vote, whereas B shares carry one-tenth of a vote. All shares carry equal rights to participate in the profits and net assets of the company. The Sandvik share is listed on the Stockholm and London Stock Exchanges. Shares can also be traded in the US as American Depositary Receipts (ADR).

In March 1997, the Board of Directors resolved to propose that Sandvik redeem Series A and Series B shares for a total value of SEK 4,000 M to provide the Group with a different capital structure and a more normal debt/equity ratio. At a Special General Meeting of shareholders in Sandvik AB on 9 June 1997, a decision was made to reduce the shareholders' equity by redemption of 20,288,090 shares. The amount of compensation paid to shareholders for shares redeemed was SEK 4,000 M, and shareholders' equity was reduced by SEK 102 M. A special issue of new shares was floated in June to restore the company's share capital, followed by a bonus issue. The new shares were issued at market value and were subscribed by Stiftelsen Sandvik Resultatandel. The par value of all Sandvik shares was increased from SEK 5 to SEK 6 per share in conjunction with the bonus issue.

Note 24. Changes in shareholders' equity

Group	Share capital	Restricted reserves	Unrestricted reserves	Consolidated net profit	Total	
Reported at the end of 1996	1 392	7 047	8 482	3 114	20 035	
Changes in translation rates 1997	-	-	334	-	334	
Appropriations of 1996 net profit and translation differences	-	-	3 114	-3 114	0	
Dividend paid	-	-	-1 810	-	-1 810	
Redemption of share capital	-102	-	-3 898	-	-4 000	
Rights issue	3	99	-	-	102	
Bonus issue	259	-79	-180	-	0	
Transfer of participations in profits of associated companies	-	-51	51	-	0	
Other movements between unrestricted and restricted shareholders' equity	-	1 247	-1 247	-	0	
Translation differences for the year	-	-	28	-	28	
Consolidated net profit for the year	-	-	-	2 725	2 725	
Reported at the end of 1997	1 552	8 263	4 874	2 725	17 414	

Equity participation reserves amounting to SEK 289 M are included in restricted reserves. Appropriations to restricted reserves, as proposed by subsidiary boards, reduce unrestricted Group equity by SEK 16 M.

Parent Company	Share capital	Share premium reserve	Legal reserve	Profit brought forward	Net profit	Total
Reported at the end of 1996	1 392	-	291	5 662	995	8 340
Appropriations of 1996 net profit	-	-	-	995	-995	0
Dividends	-	-	-	-1 810	-	-1 810
Redemption of share capital	-102	-	-	-3 898	-	-4 000
Rights issue	3	99	-	-	-	102
Bonus issue	259	-79	-	-180	-	0
Net profit for the year	-	-	-	-	2 286	2 286
Reported at the end of 1997	1 552	20	291	769	2 286	4 918

Note 25. Parent Company accelerated depreciation

	Land and buildings	Plant, and machinery	Equipment tools, fittings and fixtures	Patents and similar rights	Total
Reported at the end of 1996	34	1 052	153	0	1 239
Accelerated depreciation for the year	-7	113	16	1	123
Reported at the end of 1997	27	1 165	169	1	1 362

Note 26. Parent Company's other untaxed reserves

	Tax equalization reserve	Tax allocation reserve	Foreign exchange reserve	Other untaxed reserves	
Reported at the end of 1996	214	1 475	24	39	
Change during the year	-54	87	-13	6	
Reported at the end of 1997	160	1 562	11	45	

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS 🔵 65

Proposed appropriation of profits

Bo Boström

Lars Ivar Hising

Mauritz Sahlin

Note 27.Provision	for pensions
	for pensions

	Group		Parent C	Company
	1997	1996	1997	1996
Swedish PRI pension plan	1 148	1 046	885	836
Other pensions	1 238	1 055	74	49
Total	2 386	2 101	959	885

Note 28. Other provisions

	Group	Parent Company
Restructuring provisions	192	-
Guarantees	65	23
Personnel-related provisions	114	38
Other provisions	586	9
	957	70

At 31 December 1997, the Group's provisions for restructuring, in conjunction with the major transactions in 1997, were as follows:

Pertaining to Tamrock	80
Pertaining to Kanthal	0
Pertaining to Precision Twist Drill	40
Total	120

Note 29. Interest-bearing liabilities

Maturity after balance sheet date

	Group			Parent Company					
	Within one year	2-5 yrs	After five years	Total	Within one yar	2-5 yrs	After five years	Total	
Bond loans	-	94	-	94	-	94	-	94	
Credit institutions	6 289	198	395	6 882	560	31	365	956	
Group companies	0	0	0	0	4 530	86	-	4 616	
Other liabilities	160	131	1	292	-	-	-	-	
	6 449	423	396	7 268	5 090	211	365	5 666	

Liabilities to credit institutions pertain to SEK 3,016 M in loans assumed under a long-term credit facility, due 2004. The Group's liabilities related to financing lease agreements amount to SEK 14 M. Payments due in 1998 of SEK 5 M are reported wth current liabilities. Subsequent payments amount to SEK 5 M in 1999, SEK 3 M in 2000, and SEK 1 M in 2001.

Assets pledged for liabilities

to financial institutions	Group	Parent Company
Real-estate mortgages	328	10
Chattel mortgages	446	-
	774	10

Note 30. Non-interest-bearing liabilities

Maturity after balance sheet date

	Group	Parent Company
Within one year	8 371	2 334
Within 2-5 years	181	-
After five years	48	-
	8 600	2 334

Note 31. Accrued expenses and prepaid income

	Group	Parent Company
Personnel related	1 545	689
Other	1 386	112
Total	2 931	801

Note 32. Contingent liabilities

	Group		Parent C	Company
	1997	1996	1997	1996
Bills discounted	115	82	-	-
Other surety undertakings and contingent liabilities	715	210	4 024	660
Total	830	292	4 024	660
of which, for subsidiaries			3 853	512

The Board of Directors and President	t
the surplus brought forward from the	è
and the profit for the year	
SEK	

be appropriated as follows:
a dividend of SEK 7.00 per share
carried forward
SEK

Sandviken, 23 February 1998

Percy Barnevik Chairman

Georg Ehrnrooth Göran Lindstedt

Our Audit Report was submitted on 11 March 1998

Bernhard Öhrn Authorized Public Accountant

Audit Report

To the Annual General Meeting of Sandvik Aktiebolag; (publ) Corporate identity no. 556000-3468

We have examined the Annual Report, the financial statements, and the administration of the Board of Directors and President of Sandvik Aktiebolag for fiscal year 1997. The Board of Directors and President are responsible for the accounting records and administration. Our responsibility is to comment on the Annual Report and administration based on our audit.

The audit was conducted in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. This means we planned and conducted the audit in order to gain reasonable assurance that the Annual Report and the consolidated accounts did not contain significant errors. An audit invol-

ves examining a selection of underlying material in terms of figures and other information in the accounting records. It also involves examinations of the accounting principles and their application by the Board of Directors and President and appraisals of information presented in the Annual Report and consolidated accounts. We have examined important decisions, measures adopted and the situation in the company in order to be able to assess whether any member of the Board of Directors or President is liable to compensate the company or is in any other way in breach of the Swedish Companies Act, the Annual Accounts Act or the Articles of Association. We believe our audit has provided a reasonable basis for our statements below.

Sandviken, 11 March 1998

Bernhard Öhrn Authorized Public Accountant

propose	that
---------	------

preceding year	768 603 432
	2 285 848 756
	3 054 452 188

1	810	872	000	
1	243	580	188	
3	054	452	188	

Sven Ågrup

Per-Olof Eriksson Clas Reuterskiöld Clas Åke Hedström President

Lars Svantemark Authorized Public Accountant

> The Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with the Annual Accounts Act, accordingly, we recommend:

that the consolidated and parent company income statements and balance sheets be approved, and

that the profit reported by the parent company be disposed of in accordance with the proposal in the Board of Directors' Report.

Members of the Board of Directors have not adopted any measures or been neglectful in a manner which, in our opinion, can lead to liability to compensate the company, and thus we recommend.

that members of the Board of Directors and the President be discharged from liability for the financial year.

Lars Svantemark Authorized Public Accountant

Directors and Auditors



DIRECTORS

Percy Barnevik,

Chairman, London, b. 1941. Chairman of the Board of Investor AB and ABB Asea Brown Boveri Ltd. Director of du Pont, U.S.A. and General Motors, U.S.A. Chairman of the Board of Sandvik AB since 1983. Sandvik shares: 150,000 A.

Sven Ågrup,

Lidingö, b. 1930. Chairman of the Board of AGA AB. Director of Telefon AB L M Ericsson, Handelsbanken and Tetra Laval. Director of Sandvik AB since 1983. Sandvik shares: 3,000 B.

Per-Olof Eriksson,

Sandviken, b. 1938. Chairman of the Board of Swedish National Grid, Bergslagsinvest AB and Odlander, Fredrikson & Co. Director of Handelsbanken, Preem Petroleum AB, SSAB Svenskt Stål AB, AB SKF, AB Volvo, AB Custos, Skanska AB, N.V. Koninklijke Sphinx, the Royal Institute of Technology, Assa Abloy AB and the Federation of Swedish Industries. Member of the Royal Academy of Engineering Sciences (IVA). Director of Sandvik AB since 1984. Sandvik shares: 100.000 B.

Mauritz Sahlin,

Gothenburg, b. 1935. Chairman of the Board of Air Liquide AB, CHAMPS, Elga AB, FlexLink AB, Novare Kapital AB, Ovako AB and the Chamber of Commerce of Western Sweden. Director of Investor AB, Scania AB, AB SKF, Statoil (Norway) and the Federation of Swedish Industries. Director of Sandvik AB since 1993.

Lars Ivar Hising,

Uppsala, b. 1927. Former County Governor. Chairman of the Board of Nordbanken Gävle and the Gävle-Sandviken New Enterprise Agency. Executive Director of the Swedish Inventors' Association. Life Member of the Industrial Council of the Royal Academy of Engineering Sciences (IVA). Director of Sandvik AB since 1993. Sandvik shares: 5,500 B.

Clas Åke Hedström,

Sandviken, b. 1939. President and Chief Executive Officer of Sandvik AB. Director of Scania AB, the Federation of Swedish Industries and the Association of Swedish Engineering Industries. Director of Sandvik AB since 1994. Sandvik Shares: 119 A, 15,154 B and 3,000 B options.

Georg Ehrnrooth,

Helsinki, b. 1940. President and Chief Executive Officer of Metra Oy Ab. Chairman of the Board of Assa Abloy AB and Pensions-Varma. Director of Försäkringsaktiebolaget Sampo, Oy Karl Fazer Ab and the Central Association of Finnish Industry and Employers. Director of Sandvik AB since 1997.

Clas Reuterskiöld

Stocksund, b. 1939. Chairman of the Board of PLM AB. Director of AGA AB, Telefon AB L M Ericsson, Handelsbanken, AB Industrivärden and SCA. Director of Sandvik AB since 1997.

Bo Boström

Åshammar, b. 1949. Chairman, AB Sandvik Steel Union Committee, Metal Workers' Union, Sandviken. Director of Sandvik AB since 1988. (Employee representative) Sandvik shares: 200 B

Göran Lindstedt,

Sandviken, b. 1942. Chairman, Sandvik AB Union Committee, Industrial Salaried Employees' Association. Director of Sandvik AB since 1989. (Employee representative)

Deputy Directors

Jan Broberg,

Bollnäs, b. 1963. Chairman, AB Sandvik Hand Tools Union Committee, Metal Workers' Union, Bollnäs. Director of Sandvik AB since 1996. (Employee representative)

Per-Åke Franklind,

Gävle b. 1963. Chairman Sandvik AB Union Committee, Association of Graduate Engineers. Director of the Industrial Development Center of Sandviken AB. Director of Sandvik AB since 1995.

(Employee representative) Sandvik shares: 2,000 B options. SANDVIK'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS, (L-R):

GEORG EHRNROOTH, CLAS REUTERSKIÖLD, PER-OLOF ERIKSSON, PERCY BARNEVIK, CLAS ÅKE HEDSTRÖM, SVEN ÅGRUP, PER-ÅKE FRANKLIND, GÖRAN LINDSTEDT, JAN BROBERG, BO BOSTRÖM, MAURITZ SAHLIN AND LARS IVAR HISING.

AUDITORS

Bernhard Öhrn, Stockholm Authorized Public Accountant

Lars Svantemark, Stockholm Authorized Public Accountant

Deputies

Åke Näsman, Stockholm, Authorized Public Accountant

Peter Markborn, Stockholm Authorized Public Accountant

Group Executive Management





Clas Åke Hedström President and Chief Executive Officer

Leif Sunnermalm Executive Vice President



Gunnar Björklund Executive Vice President

Group Staff and Service Companies, Managers

Controller:	Anders Vrethem
Finance:	Gunnar Båtelsson
Research and Development:	Hans Mårtensson
Information:	Björn Jonson
Investor Relations:	Heléne Gunnarson

Legal Affairs:	.Malcolm Falkman
Personnel:	.Rune Nyberg
Taxes and Financial Projects:	.Thomas B. Hjelm
AB Sandvik Information Systems:	.Peter Lundh
AB Sandvik Service:	.Björn Sköld

Business units

Major operating business units are listed below:

EUROPE

Austria Sandvik in Austria Ges.m.b.H., Vienna Manager: Helmut Stix Tel. 1 277 37

Günther & Co. Ges.m.b.H., Vienna Manager: Eckhard Planegger Tel. 1 270 60 70

Tamrock Coal, Zeltweg Manager: Ilkka Hakala Tel. 3577 75 50

Tamrock Voest-Alpine Bergtechnik Ges.m.b.H, Zeltweg Manager: Heinz Gach Tel. 3577 75 50

Belarus Sandvik Bisov, Minsk Manager: Lars Karman Tel. 17 236 20 46

Belgium Sandvik Benelux, Brussels Manager: Georges Verhoeven Tel. 02 702 98 00

Dormer Tools N.V./S.A., Mortsel Manager: Ben Luyckx Tel. 03 440 59 01

Bosnia-Herzegovina AB Sandvik International Representative Office, Sarajevo Manager: Jim Stevenson Tel. 71 20 52 61

Bulgaria Sandvik Bulgaria Ltd., Sofia Manager: Miroslav Markov Tel. 02 958 12 31

Kanthal Bulgaria, Sofia Manager: Hans Södervall Tel. 02 946 07 95

Czech Republic Sandvik CZ s.r.o., Prague Manager: Roger Jansson Tel. 02 24 25 33 11

Sandvik Chomutov Precision Tubes s.r.o., Chomutov Manager: Lars-Olof Skoog Tel. 0396 615 111 Denmark Sandvik A/S, Copenhagen Manager: Jens Aage Jensen Tel. 43 46 51 00

Sandvik Hard Materials, Espergaerde Manager: Peter Lorentzen Tel. 49 17 49 00

Sandvik Bahco Norden A/S, Copenhagen Manager: Esben Brandstrup Tel. 43 63 03 30

Finland Suomen Sandvik Oy, Helsinki Manager: Kalevi Hellstén Tel. 09 87 06 61

Tamrock Corp. Head Office, Tampere Manager: Jouko M. Jaakkola Tel. 0205 44 111

Tamrock Corp. Product Companies, Tampere Manager: Matti Kotola Tel. 0205 44 121

Tamrock Corp. Construction, Tampere Manager: Pekka Heikkonen Tel. 0205 44 121

Tamrock Corp. Tampere plant, Tampere Manager: Pekka Huuhka Tel. 0205 44 121

Tamrock Corp. Turku plant, Turku Manager: Olavi Rantala Tel. 0205 44 131

Tamrock Corp. Lahtis plant, Lahtis Manager: Ilkka Järvinen Tel. 0205 44 151

Tamrock Corp. Crushing mill, Lahtis Manager: Veikko Janhunen Tel. 0205 44 151

Tamrock Corp. Region CIS, Tampere Manager: Veikko Heikkilä Tel. 0205 44 121

Roxon Oy, Hollola Manager: Jarmo Juntunen Tel. 0205 44 181

France Sandvik S.A., Orléans Manager: André Baron Tel. 02 38 41 41 41 Sandvik Coromant S.N.C., Orléans Manager: André Baron Tel. 02 38 41 41 41

Dormer Tools S.A., Orléans Manager: Ben Luyckx Tel. 02 38 41 40 15

Gunther S.A., Soultz-sous-Fôrets Manager: Claude Leray Tel. 03 88 80 20 00

> Gunther Tools S.A., Soultz-sous-Fôrets Manager: Bernard Finantz Tel. 03 88 80 20 05

Prototyp S.A., Orléans Manager: Mats Christenson Tel. 02 38 41 46 50

Sandvik Tobler S.A., Paris Manager: Jean-Pierre Colombano Tel. 01 34 47 33 00

Tamrock Secoma S.A., Meyzieu Manager: Gerard Bellement Tel. 04 72 45 22 00

Sandvik Rock Tools S.A., Viriat Manager: Ezio Fogliata Tel. 04 74 45 94 60

Sandvik Hard Materials S.A., Epinouze Manager: Björn von Malmborg Tel. 04 75 31 38 00

Sandvik Aciers S.N.C., Orléans Manager: Georges Verhoeven Tel. 02 38 41 41 41

Precitube S.A., Charost Manager: Patrick Champion Tel. 02 48 26 20 12

Kanthal S.A., Paris Manager: Franck Vilenstein Tel. 01 47 86 56 60

Sandvik Outillage S.N.C., Orléans Manager: Dominique van Straelen Tel. 02 38 41 41 41

Sandvik Process Systems S.A., Orléans Manager: André Baron Tel. 02 38 41 41 41

Germany Sandvik GmbH, Dusseldorf Manager: Ulrich Fezer Tel. 0211 502 70

Sandvik Coromant, Dusseldorf Manager: Mats Carlerös Tel. 0211 502 70

CTT Management GmbH, Frankfurt/Main Manager: Anders Ilstam Tel. 069 78 90 23 00 Dormer Tools GmbH, Dusseldorf Manager: Dick Geerlings Tel. 0211 95 09 00

Günther & Co. GmbH & Co., Frankfurt/Main Manager: Klaus Scholl Tel. 069 78 90 20

Prototyp-Werke GmbH, Zell-Harmersbach Manager: Mats Christenson Tel. 07835 770

TOP Präzisionswerkzeuge GmbH, Frankfurt/Main Manager: Horst Mack Tel. 069 78 90 26 17

Sandvik Kosta GmbH, Renningen Manager: Jens Orbanke Tel. 07159 160 30

Tamrock Region Europe, Essen Manager: Seppo Kivimäki Tel. 201 178 53 00

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nila	Kanthal Trading Australasia Ltd., Auckland Manager: Peter D. Turner Tel. 9 626 41 51
olos	This data refers to March 1998.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held at Jernvallen in Sandviken on Wednesday, 6 May 1998, at 3:00 p.m. Shareholders wishing to attend

the Meeting must notify the Board thereof either by letter addressed to Sandvik AB, Legal Affairs, SE-811 81 Sandviken, or by telefax +46(0)26-26 10 86, or by telephone +46(0)26-26 10 81. Notification must reach Sandvik AB by 3:00 p.m. on 4 May 1998 at the latest. In order to qualify for attendance, shareholders must also have been entered in the Share Register kept by the Swedish Securities Register Center (Värdepapperscentralen VPC AB) not later than 24 April 1998. Shareholders whose shares are registered as held in trust must have them temporarily reregistered with the VPC in their own names not later than 24 April 1998 to establish his/her right to attend the Meeting.

When making notification of intent to attend the Meeting, please state your name, personal or organization number, address and telephone number. If you plan to be represented at the Meeting by proxy, such notice must be made known to Sandvik AB prior to the Meeting

Payment of dividend

The Board and the President recommend that the Meeting declare a dividend of SEK 7.00 per share for 1997. The proposed record date is 11 May 1998. If this proposal is adopted by the Meeting, it is expected that dividends will be ready for remittance by 18 May 1998. Dividends will be sent to those who, on the record date, are entered in the Share Register or on the separate List of Assignees, etc. Dividends will be remitted from the Securities Register Center. To facilitate the distribution, shareholders who have moved should report their change of address to their bank in good time before the record day •

Financial information

First-Quarter Report Semi-Annual Report Third-Quarter Report Report on Operations 1998 Annual Report 1998 6 May 1998 11 August 1998 3 November 1998 February 1999 April 1999

Financial information can be ordered from Sandvik AB, Group Information SE-811 81 Sandviken, Sweden Tel. +46 (0)26-26 10 47 Fax. +46 (0)26-26 10 43 or from Sandvik AB, Investor Relations, SE-811 81 Sandviken, Sweden Tel. +46 (0)26-26 10 25 Fax. +46 (0)26-26 10 45 www.sandvik.com

Key figures

	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991
nvoiced sales, SEK M	34 119	28 265	29 700	25 285	21 770	17 217	17 558
Profit after financial income and expenses, SEK M	4 205	4 453	5 620	3 811	1 764	1 486	1 776
as % of invoicing	12	16	19	15	8	9	10
Net profit for the year, SEK M	2 725	3 114	3 727	2 436	1 069	1 112	1 248
arnings per share, SEK	10.15	11.20	13.40	8.75	3.85	4.05	4.55
Dividend per share (1997: as proposed), SEK	7.00	6.50	6.00	3.75	2.25	1.90	1.80
ay-out ratio, %	69	58	45	40	58	47	40
hareholders' equity, SEK M	17 414	20 035	18 503	16 013	14 364	13 538	12 693
quity ratio, %	47	64	64	59	60	59	57
ebt/equity ratio, times	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
ate of capital turnover, %	96	86	101	95	89	75	76
iquid assets, SEK M	2 494	5 557	6 893	6 591	5 171	4 864	4 814
eturn on shareholders' equity, %	14.3	16.2	21.6	16.0	7.7	8.5	10.1
eturn on net assets, %	17.7	20.2	28.0	21.7	12.0	10.4	12.9
nvestment in property, plant and equipment, SEK M	2 353	2 486	2 050	1 229	886	886	1 021
otal investments, SEK M	6 644	4 414	2 092	1 575	964	1 311	1 761
Cash flow, SEK M	-2 035	-1 682	164	1 215	1 142	1 645	882
Number of employees, 31 Dec.	38 406	30 362	29 946	29 450	26 869	28 617	26 237

Additional per-share data is presented in the section on the Sandvik share, page 8-9.

Development by business area

	Invoiced sales			Operating profit						
	1997 1996 199		1995	1997		1996		1995		
	SEK M	SEK M	SEK M	SEK M	%	SEK M	%	SEK M	%	
Sandvik Tooling	10 803	9 211	9 576	2 094	19	2 031	22	2 436	25	
Sandvik Mining and Construction	3 582	2 003	2 015	234	7	220	11	219	11	
Sandvik Specialty Steels.	10 780	8 980	9 807	921	9	1 203	13	1 623	17	
Sandvik Hard Materials	1 361	1 209	1 224	148	11	133	11	185	15	
Sandvik Saws and Tools	2 787	2 517	2 674	239	9	161	6	184	7	
Sandvik Process Systems	1 873	1 836	1 810	80	4	-24	-1	101	6	
Seco Tools	2 889	2 475	2 555	575	20	402	16	542	21	

* Including Sandvik Rock Tools (full year) and Tamrock (November-December).

"Including Sandvik Steel (full year) and Kanthal (second half of year).

