

Annual Report 1998

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Significant events in 1998

Divestment of the production units for carbonless and thermal papers, Hillegossen and Flensburg in Germany, in December.

Acquisition of Holzindustrie Schweighofer AG of Austria in **December**. Schweighofer's operations are being combined with Stora Enso Timber. Schweighofer will strengthen the Group's presence in the European sawn timber market and in the United States and Japan.

Acquisition of a minority holding of 19.9% in Advance Agro Pcl of Thailand at the end of **November**. Stora Enso will have exclusive rights for sales and marketing of this company's pulp and paper worldwide, excluding Thailand.

In June, a final agreement was signed to acquire 60% of Chinese Suzhou Papyrus Paper Co. Ltd. in Suzhou, with annual capacity of 120,000 tonnes of coated fine papers. The company's production is mainly intended for the Chinese market.

A new SC machine (PM 2) came on stream at Port Hawkesbury, Canada, in April. The machine has an annual capacity of 350,000 tonnes and produces paper for magazines, catalogs and supplements in the North American market.

Key figures

	1997	1998	1998 adjusted	Target
Return on capital employed (ROCE), %	8.0	6.2	10.2	13.0
Debt/Equity ratio, multiple	1.05	1.04		less than 1
Sales, EUR M		10,490		
Operating profit, EUR M		719	1,190	
% of sales	9.2	6.9	11.3	
Profit before tax and minority interests, EUR M	636	339	822	
Net profit, EUR M	409	191		
Capital expenditure, EUR M	1,134	896		
% of sales		8.5		
Interest-bearing net liabilities, EUR M	6,090	5,783		
Capital employed, EUR M	11,875	11,355		
Earnings per share, EUR	0.54	0.25	0.79	
Equity per share, EUR		6.97		
Dividend per share, EUR		0.35*		
Dividend per share, FIM		2.10*		
Market capitalization, EUR M		5,801		
Deliveries of paper and board, million tonnes	11.3	11.8		
Deliveries of timber products, million m ³		2.8		
Average number of employees	40,301	40,679		
* Proposod dividand				

Proposed dividend

Stora Enso in brief



Stora Enso Oyj is one of the world's leading forest industry companies, with shares listed on the Helsinki and Stockholm stock exchanges. The Group was formed through the merger of Finnish Enso and Swedish STORA at the end of 1998. Stora Enso is domiciled in Finland.



Stora Enso is an integrated forest products group that manufactures magazine paper, newsprint, fine paper and packaging boards. The Group holds leading global positions in these product areas. Stora Enso owns 2.1 million hectares of productive forest land and conducts extensive sawmilling operations.



Annual sales amount to approximately EUR 10 billion. The number of employees in 1998 was approximately 40,000 in more than 40 countries. Europe is Stora Enso's primary market. The Group's global structure enables Stora Enso to serve customers and develop operations worldwide.

Corporate combination

STORA ENSO WAS FORMED through the combination of the Finnish company Enso and the Swedish company STORA.

Enso was established at Kotka in 1872 and its shares were first listed on the Helsinki Exchanges in 1916. The company has developed through several mergers and acquisitions into its present form and position as one of the major pulp and paper producers in the world.

STORA's history dates back one thousand years to the time when copper mining started in Falun. In the 1860s, the company also started wood processing operations. STORA's shares were first listed on the Stockholm Stock Exchange in 1901. Over the years, the company developed into one of the world's leading forest products groups.

Combination process

June 2, 1998: the Boards of Directors of Enso and STORA approved the combination of the companies.

June 17, 1998: the Finnish Parliament passed a resolution to abolish the provision requiring the Finnish State to hold a one-third interest in Enso.

June 18, 1998: an application was submitted to the EU competition authorities for the approval of the combination.

July 23, 1998: an Extraordinary General Meeting of Enso shareholders approved the combination on condition that certain terms, such as approval from the EU competition authorities, were fulfilled.

July 31, *1998*: the EU competition authorities announced that they required more time to consider the merger and started the second-phase investigation.

August 27, 1998: the starting date for the shareexchange offer to STORA shareholders. The acceptance period for the exchange offer was extended twice due to the longer-than-expected approval period required by the EU competition authorities.

November 25, 1998: the EU competition authorities approved the combination, subject to the following conditions: the sale of the Pure-Pak converting unit to Elopak, competitive market pricing on liquid packaging board for a limited period and support for a duty-free quota on North American imports of liquid packaging board to the EEA.

December 23, 1998: Enso Oyj's share capital was increased, its name was changed to Stora Enso Oyj, its Articles of Association were amended and the new Board of Directors was recorded in the Trade Register in Finland.

December 29, 1998: Stora Enso's shares were listed on the Stockholm Stock Exchange and the new Stora Enso shares on the Helsinki Exchanges.

January 14, 1999: Stora Enso initiated compulsory redemption of the remaining STORA shares.

January 19, 1999: STORA shares were delisted from the Stockholm, London and Frankfurt stock exchanges.

Chairman's letter

STORA ENSO IS CURRENTLY one of the world's leading forest products companies and its goal is to become a truly attractive investment alternative for the world's investors. In a sector that has seldom met, and perhaps has never fully understood the market's capital requirements during recent decades, this goal is, in effect, a challenge.

In order to create shareholder value in the future, new investments must be viewed in a more realistic manner than previously, and greater focus must be placed on the company's capital flows. One of the more

cherished yardsticks being applied increasingly by the stock market today is EVA, or Economic Value Added, which is a type of adjusted cash-flow measurement tool. EVA, or a variant of this tool, has been shown to bear a very good correlation to the return on shareholder investment.

Compared with other industries, the pulp and paper industry is characterized by a highly fragmented structure. The five largest producers in the world account for only 15% of global production. The sector is also highly capital intensive, which in combination with its fragmented structure results in excess capacity and cyclicality in terms of both sales prices and earnings. Through the merger of STORA and Enso into Stora Enso, a step has been taken towards the necessary consolidation of the sector. Hopefully, this merger will be followed by several others during the next few years, which would eventually lead to an improved and more uniform level of profitability for the sector as a whole.

To assure the success of any merger, a strong, determined corporate management is needed, with good chemistry between key executives, and a similar corporate culture in both entities. In a cross-border merger, the difficulties and challenges in such respects are even greater.

Following my many meetings and contacts with the management groups of both STORA and Enso, I am convinced, after the barely one year that has passed since merger discussions were initiated, that in terms of management, personal chemistry and corporate culture within Stora Enso, the prerequisites for a successful merger are very good.



In CEO Jukka Härmälä and Deputy CEO Björn Hägglund, Stora Enso has an exceptionally strong and highly complementary management pair. The merger has also made it possible to create a management organization of extremely high class in other areas of the new company.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the company's management personnel on behalf of the Board for their exceptional contributions during the time since the merger proposals were first presented, and particularly during the enforced lull in the merger work while

waiting for the necessary approval from the European Commission in Brussels. Our warmest thanks are also extended to all of the employees in the company, who were naturally affected to a large extent by the publicity surrounding the merger and by their concern for the possible effects of the planned merger.

Finally, I would like to thank the members of the Boards of Stora Enso, STORA and Enso for their invaluable contributions during the year. Special thanks also go to STORA's former Board Chairman, Bo Berggren, whose prominent achievements for STORA during many years, as both company president and chairman, created the base which made the merger with Enso possible.

For STORA, the merger with Enso can be seen as a new chapter in Kopparberget's history, which stretches back over more than one thousand years – a modern example of the type of change that must occur at various times if a company is to survive in the way that Stora Kopparbergs Bergslags AB has survived since time immemorial.

With a history of more than 125 years of forestrelated operations, Enso was one of Finland's most time-honored companies in this sector. For Enso, the merger with STORA is yet another successful step in the expansion strategy established for the company a number of years ago and its successful implementation has won major respect, even in circles far outside the forest products industry.

HELSINKI, FEBRUARY 10, 1999

Claes Dahlbäck

CEO's letter

THE YEAR 1998 MARKED A TURNING POINT for two long-established forest products companies. The Stora Enso combination created a unique global group with all the resources necessary for success in the new millennium.

The merger means a stronger marketing position, a broader base of raw materials and energy, better logistics, financial strength and the opportunity to influence the restructuring process going on in the world's forest industry.

As Stora Enso started operations in December 1998, work began on

defining strategies for both the Group and its divisions. Concurrent with this, a mission, vision, and value process will be undertaken during this spring. The main lines of the different strategies will be defined by the Group's Board of Directors towards the end of the spring.

Stora Enso's primary aim is to generate greater shareholder value through higher efficiency, profitable growth and a balanced dividend policy.

Greater efficiency will be reached principally by achieving annual synergy benefits worth EUR 300 million by the year 2002. Based on more in-depth analyses by the divisions, the annual synergies will exceed the previous estimates considerably. The most significant advantages will be gained through streamlining of production, in purchasing and logistics, marketing and administration.

Productivity will also be improved by continuing programs aimed at raising manufacturing efficiency, releasing operating capital and capital tied up in stocks. We are putting great emphasis on the "best practice" approach, benchmarking and on applying our total quality management systems.

As part of the synergy benefits, the combination and streamlining of the two marketing networks will allow us to strengthen our presence in existing markets. On the other hand, it gives us a chance to open marketing outlets in new emerging markets. Our global structure and genuinely international culture enable us to operate in an efficient, expert and locally knowledgeable way.

To have a "clean slate" start for Stora Enso, it was decided to enter EUR 455 million in write-downs and provisions in the accounts for 1998. These measures



will not delay achievement of the company's target of a debt/equity ratio below 1.00.

The Stora Enso goal is clear – to become a global force with first-class customer services, a truly comprehensive range of products and highly efficient production machinery. To keep pace with forest industry consolidation, the leading players must continue to expand their size in the future. Much of this growth will come through acquisitions, mergers and strategic alliances.

Stora Enso's business operations are geared to return on capital. An

average 13% return on capital employed over the cycle has been set as the target within the company. This also applies to new investments and represents the minimum requirement.

The dividend is based on long-term profit from business operations and not on year-to-year fluctuations due to the nature of the forest industry's business cycle. The Board of Directors has proposed a dividend of FIM 2.10 per share, which is in line with the dividend policy of seeking to pay one third of the total net profit.

The profit-sharing schemes introduced for both management and employees will be further improved. These incentives are focused on both profits and return on capital.

In their daily work 40,000 Stora Enso professionals cater for the needs of demanding customers in the graphic communications, packaging and construction industries. This service-driven approach, coupled with our size, means better value for our customers. It also allows us to maintain a two-way relationship with our customers and permits substantial resourcing in research and development.

These are just some of the key strengths that will support our performance in 1999, a year in which forest industry markets are clouded by numerous uncertainties. It is our task to consolidate the newly formed company into a strong and efficient entity and to make it the most preferred choice for shareholders, customers and employees.

HELSINKI, FEBRUARY 10, 1999

Jukka Härmälä

Duestions & answers

CEO Jukka Härmälä and Deputy CEO Björn Hägglund respond to questions about Stora Enso's future strategies.

You have described Stora Enso's financial goals at an earlier stage. But what is the strategy for ensuring that the Group achieves its goals?

Jukka Härmälä:

As you know, the European Commission's approval of the merger was not received until the end of November 1998. A strategy process involving the production of detailed plans for what we want our different product areas to achieve over the long term requires a great deal of time and resources. We have only been able to work for a few months on a process that would normally take somewhat longer to complete.

As the accompanying diagram shows, we are currently concentrating on the measures that must be implemented immediately. At the same time, strategic considerations at both Group and divisional level are being prepared and it will still take a couple of months before we can disclose our strategy.

What do you mean by immediate measures?

Björn Hägglund:

The most important point is to extract the synergistic effects upon which the merger was based. We must also ensure that the new organization is placed in operation and starts to function efficiently. It is very important, too, that our new sales organization achieves a smooth blend to avoid disruptions in the customer area. There are also several business-related items to be looked after, such as productivity- and efficiencyenhancement programs that were initiated prior to the merger. These must be maintained, coordinated and made to generate the results we promised earlier.

Furthermore, the new machines must now start to operate satisfactorily and increase their capacity utilization. This applies particularly to Port Hawkesbury's SC machine, Skoghall's board machine and Skutskär's pulp production operations.

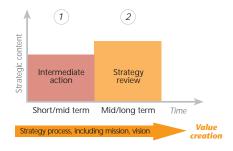
What effects will this have on earnings?

Jukka Härmälä:

We estimate that the synergy effects resulting from the merger will generate around EUR 50 M during 1999 and will then increase gradually to total EUR 300 M per year as of year 2002.

The productivity- and efficiency-improvement programs are expected to contribute approximately EUR 350 M as of year 2000. This includes the phasing-in of the new machines, which is a factor of major importance to earnings, with a potential of around EUR 200 M. In this respect, we are dependent on the market trend to attain an optimal effect, however. Continual improvements of this kind are necessary in order to meet the real price trend for forest industry products.

The divestment decisions made to date – Dalum, Flensburg, Hillegossen and Tervakoski – reduce our





capital employed and future investments in these operations.

To summarize, the immediate measures are expected to generate a total effect on earnings of about EUR 700 M, as of year 2002.

These measures need to be implemented whatever the case. But when can we expect to hear about the long-term strategic goals for Stora Enso?

Jukka Härmälä:

The process I described earlier means that strategic considerations will take several months to implement. In order to obtain a realistic base for the Group's long-term planning, we must first prepare scenarios within different key areas. I can provide some practical examples.

How will multimedia technology affect printing paper consumption in the future; what can happen within the packaging area and on the transport side to affect our board products and future customer needs? We also need to make some long-term scenario projections as an opening base for the strategy process.

We are working with strategies from both a Group and a divisional perspective. Our agreed aim is to be able to describe Group strategy at mid-year.

One matter that is discussed at length relates to the investment program implemented in recent years. How can you avoid excessive investment in the future? It must be difficult in such a large organization to keep investments under control?

Björn Hägglund:

We have introduced a new planning process for investments. This means that each project is evaluated more strictly in terms of its return and cashgenerating capacity. A number of factors must be addressed and evaluated, for example general economic developments, market outlook, changes in sector capacity, changes in customer behavior and potential competition, and substitutes in the form of other products.

In addition, more stringent follow-up routines are applied. Projects are reviewed on an ongoing basis and with strictly applied cost analyses. Checks are made to ensure that time schedules are being maintained and that cost, revenue, price and raw material estimates are not being exceeded. We learn more by working in this manner, at the same time as the divisions become more modest in their demands.

The merging of two former competitors with different corporate cultures and values might create conflicts and other problems. How are you resolving such issues?

Björn Hägglund:

There are definitely more similarities than differences but of course people also differ. Differences are also an asset through which we can find several solutions to one problem.

We are implementing a number of activities designed to increase understanding and drive the cooperation process.

The internal studies we have made indicate that our fundamental values are very similar and, in our estimation, a new, shared Stora Enso culture will soon emerge. We view the individual characteristics that do remain as positive attributes, which can be used to create new ideas and improvements.

Financial review

Financial targets

Stora Enso's goal, which is to create value for its shareholders and be the most attractive listed forest industry company, requires a return that exceeds the cost of total capital. The Group's internal profitability target is an average return on capital employed (ROCE) of 13% over an economic cycle.

An effective utilization of capital is important. In the future, higher returns than previously are required for new investments.

Financial strength is important in the forest industry, which is a capital-intensive and cyclical sector. A well-balanced debt/equity structure reduces the financial risk and guarantees the Group financial freedom of action, thereby providing opportunities for advantageous loan financing. Stora Enso's goal is that its debt/equity ratio shall be less than a multiple of 1.0. At year-end 1998, the Group had a debt/equity ratio of 1.04. The debt/equity goal shall be regarded as long-term in nature, but may be exceeded in connection with possible acquisitions.

When setting the debt/equity target, consideration was given to the fact that approximately 20% of the capital employed consists of power and forest assets, which have a low operating risk and substantial surplus value.

The reported return on capital employed was 6.2%. Adjusted for provisions and non-recurring items the return was 10.2%, which reflects the Group's actual earnings more accurately.

	1996	1997	1998	Adjusted 1998	Target
Return on capital employed, %	7.8	8.0	6.2	10.2	13.0
Debt/equity ratio, multiple	1.01	1.05	1.04		<1.0

I Calculation of weighted average cost of capital (WACC)

The weighted average cost of capital (WACC) varies over time as a result of such factors as interest rates, inflation and the market price of the share. Based on conditions prevailing at year-end 1998, the following calculation has been made for Stora Enso:

Shareholders' equity has been assigned the market value as per December 30, 1998, while other balance sheet information is the reported value at year-end.

The interest rate for borrowed capital has been set to 5.5%. Minority interests have been assumed to have the same interest rate.

Interest expense for shareholders' equity must be calculated before tax and has the same interest rate as borrowed capital. To this must be added a risk premium which is set to 5%.

This calculation thus provides a WACC of 10.3%, which is equal to 10.8% return requirement on the book value of capital employed. This should be compared with the return requirement established for the Group, 13%. The difference indicates an ambition to generate an added value that exceeds the cost of capital.

December 31, 1998	EUR M	% distribution	Interest expense, %	Weighted expense, %
Market value, shareholders' equity	5,801	48.9	15.4	7.5
Minority interests	279	2.4	5.5	0.1
Interest-bearing net liabilities	5,783	48.7	5.5	2.7
Market value of capital employed	11,863	100.0		10.3

Calculation of weighted average cost of capital (WACC)

Market trend

Volume increases were noted in most product areas in Western Europe, Stora Enso's main market, but growth declined slightly towards the end of the year, particularly within the packaging board segment. The North American market was in balance due, among other factors, to the labor dispute in the newsprint segment. The downward trend of the Asian economies resulted in limited demand in the region. Disruptions in the Russian and South American economies also affected the market trend.

The table below shows how demand/deliveries have developed in the Group's main market, Europe, during recent years. Although demand varies between the years, the average trend is towards growth.

Change in demand in Western Europe

Annual change, %	85–90	91–95	-96	-97	-98	Market in 000 tonnes
Newsprint	6	3	-6	6	4	9,100
SC (Uncoated magazine paper)	4	1	-4	8	1	2,800
LWC (Coated magazine paper)	10	6	-11	25	9	5,600
Coated fine paper	12	7	12	12	8	5,900
Uncoated fine paper	5	3	4	5	-1	6,100
Packaging boards	3	2	3	5	2	5,400

Stora Enso's total deliveries of paper and board products increased by approximately 4%. The increase was attributable to increased magazine paper production at Holtzmann and Port Hawkesbury, increased production in Oulu and the acquisition of the Suzhou fine paper mill.

Market pulp deliveries declined by about 7.7%. Taking pulp mill closures into account, the decrease was less than 3%. Deliveries of timber products rose by nearly 10%.

Expressed in both tonnes and m³, finished inventory levels remained unchanged compared with 1997 yearend levels. The order backlog period for most of Stora Enso's products at the end of 1998 was between 1 and 4

Sales and earnings

Group sales rose by 4.9% to EUR 10,490 M (9,998). The increase was mainly due to the volume growth noted earlier. Improved prices for newsprint and magazine papers, and decreased prices for pulp and timber products also affected sales. Exchange-rate changes were limited as a result of the convergence programs applied before the introduction of the euro.

Group profit before tax and minority interests totaled EUR 339 M (636). Adjusted for provisions and other items affecting comparability, profit amounted to EUR 822 M. The adjusted figure reflects the trend of ongoing operations. Profit was affected by the start-up of the new plant in Port Hawkesbury, where the calenders prevented the unit from achieving the quality planned. Low order bookings for board products during the second half of the year led to a low work load on the board machine 8 in Skoghall.

weeks. Traditionally, the GDP trend is perceived as one of the main indicators of the demand trend for forest industry products.

Stora Enso's deliveries by product area

Deliveries, 000 tonnes	1997	1998	% change
Magazine paper	2,230	2,560	14.8
Newsprint	3,022	3,086	2.1
Fine paper	2,524	2,743	8.7
Packaging boards	3,281	3,130	-4.6
Specialty papers	234	239	2.1
Total paper and board	11,292	11,758	4.1
Timber products, 000 m ³	2,520	2,764	9.7
Market pulp, 000 tonnes	2,127	1,964	-7.7
Corrugated board, millions m ²	343	339	-1.2

Earnings included write-downs and provisions directly attributable to the merger totaling approximately EUR 210 M, of which EUR 60 M was accounted for by the write-down on fixed assets and EUR 150 M related to costs for restructuring, severance payments and fees paid to external advisors.

In addition to write-downs and provisions directly attributable to the merger, earnings were also charged with provisions and write-downs totaling EUR 245 M, most of which were due to restructuring measures that will be implemented during the next few years. Of this amount, EUR 45 M will be reported as provisions for restructuring measures and EUR 110 M as write-downs on machinery and equipment. The balance of EUR 90 M will be accounted for by the extraordinary amortization of goodwill related to units with weak profitability. Planned depreciation will decrease by approximately EUR

Financial review

Operating profit



10 M per year as a result of the write-down of the plants. In addition, there are other items affecting comparability amounting to EUR 24 M. These include capital losses on the sale of the production units for carbonless paper and thermal paper, the Svenska Dagbladet holding, and the write-down of the remaining second-grade board inventory in Skoghall. Earnings also include repaid capital taxes in Germany and the reversal of reserves for guarantee commitments which expired in connection with the Newton Falls mill sold earlier.

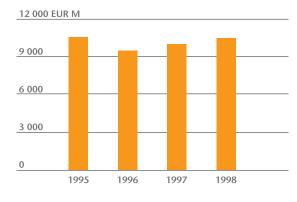
The financial net was an expense of EUR 379 M (expense: 280). Adjusted for items affecting comparability, the financial net was an expense of EUR 368 M. Costs directly related to the merger, as described above, accounted for EUR 8 M, and other items affecting comparability for EUR 11 M. In addition, the Group's financial net was affected by exchange-rate differences in financial transactions.

Net profit for the year amounted to EUR 191 M (409). Tax for the period totaled EUR 148 (206) M. Excluding provisions and non-recurring items, tax amounted to EUR 219 M.

Income statement in brief

EUR M	1998	Adjusted 1998	1997
Sales	10,490	10,490	9,998
Operating expenses	-8,621	-8,409	-8,252
Depreciation according to plan	-1,151	-891	-830
Operating profit	719	1.190	916
Net financial items	-379	-368	-280
Profit before tax and			
minority interests	339	822	636
Taxes	-148		-206
Minority share	-0		-22
Profit for the period	191		409

Sales

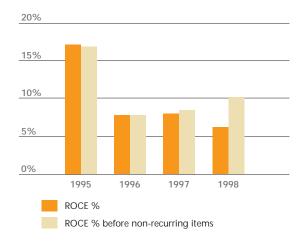


Profit before tax and minority interests



Profit before tax, minority interests and non-recurring items





Analysis of net financial items

EUR M	1998	1997
Net interest income/expense	-337.9	-302.8
Items affecting comparability Exchange-rate differences	–11.1 –30.3	22.7
Net financial items	-379.3	-280.1

Sales and operating profit by product area

Sales, operating profit and return by product area

	5	Sales	Operating	Operating profit/loss		g capital
EUR M	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997
Magazine paper	1,851.8	1,475.8	276.3	85.9	14.2	4.6
Newsprint	1,693.7	1,534.1	302.9	192.0	19.4	12.2
Fine paper	2,079.8	1,891.6	191.8	139.4	8.4	6.1
Packaging boards	2,396.9	2,485.5	209.3	234.9	8.8	9.4
Merchants	830.3	800.4	2.0	5.4	1.0	2.6
Specialty papers	323.4	324.4	-6.6	9.8	-3.3	3.3
Timber products	733.9	722.2	11.1	51.0	3.3	18.6
Pulp	846.6	958.7	9.7	29.4	0.8	2.2
Forest	1,645.8	1,616.8	111.0	111.2	7.9	8.0
Energy	481.2	530.3	114.5	123.8	8.2	8.6
Other	468.9	484.0	-32.3	-13.9		
Eliminations	-2,862.7	-2.839.0				
Total	10,489.6	9,984.8	1.189.7	968.9	9.1	7.4
Divested units		13.3		-0.5		
Merger and restructuring costs			-447.0			
Other non-recurring items			-24.1	-52.0		
Total	10,489.6	9,998.1	718.6	916.4	5.5	7.1

Earnings for the Group's largest product area, packaging boards, deteriorated. The relatively cold summer and customer inventory reductions during the latter part of the year resulted in reduced deliveries.

Fine paper earnings improved slightly, due to increased volumes and somewhat higher average sales prices. The volume increase derived mainly from the new machine in Oulu.

The newsprint and magazine paper product areas noted improved earnings, attributable to higher sales prices. Magazine paper volumes rose with the start up of the new machine in Port Hawkesbury, Canada.

Lower prices led to a decline in earnings for the timber product area. Market pulp earnings also deteriorated as a result of lower prices.

Stora Enso's domestic market is Europe, which accounts for 86% of total sales. The distribution of sales by market is shown under the section headed "Marketing and sales network".

Financial position

The Group's capital structure is shown in the table. Stora Enso's debt/equity ratio was a multiple of 1.04 at yearend 1998 (1.05), a slight deviation from the Group target.

If compulsory redemption proceedings in regard to STORA shares outstanding were to be completed, and the proposed dividend entered as a liability, the Group's debt/equity ratio would have amounted to a multiple of 1.19. Since the end of the financial year, certain operations have been sold, which would have improved the debt/equity ratio to a multiple of 1.16.

Group's capital structure

EUR M	Dec 31, 1998	Dec 31, 1997
Fixed assets	11,549	11,737
Working capital	1,317	1,638
Operating capital	12,866	13,375
Net tax liabilities	-1,511	-1,500
Capital employed	11,355	11,875
Shareholders' equity	5,294	5,513
Minority interests	279	272
Interest-bearing net liabilities	5,783	6,090
Financing	11,355	11,875
Debt/equity ratio, multiple	1.04	1.05

Shareholders' equity amounted to EUR 5,293.5 M (5,513.1), corresponding to EUR 6.97 (7.26) per share.

Interest-bearing net liabilities which amounted to EUR 5,783 M (6,090), included pension liabilities of EUR 532 M (564). Interest-bearing net liabilities increased on a continuous basis during the year as a result of investment payments but decreased towards the end of the year due to the weakening of the SEK and to reduced working capital requirements because of the lower level of sales during the final months of 1998. At year-end, the Group had unutilized credit facilities totaling EUR 2,472.4 M.

The following table shows how changes in interestbearing net liabilities are distributed among ongoing operations and items affecting comparability.

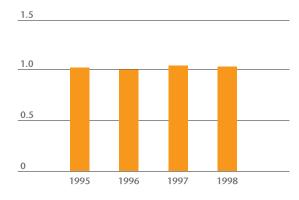
Cash flow from the Group's ongoing operations, after dividends, amounted to EUR 671 M, which exceeded the effects of the Group's expansion investments and other items affecting comparability by EUR 110 M.

Financial review

In addition to nonrecurring depreciation and provisions for restructuring, items affecting comparability include the investment in Port Hawkesbury, the acquisitions of Holtzmann, Schweighofer, Advanced Agro, Suzhou and the divestments of the Flensburg and Hillegossen units.

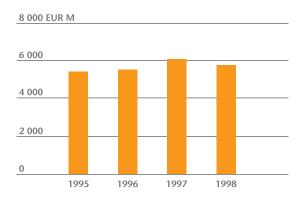
The cash-flow analysis reported here does not conform

Debt/Equity ratio



with IAS recommendations and instead follows the Group's own internal cash flow concept. Follow-up focuses on the operating cash flow and changes in interestbearing net liabilities. To reconcile net debt against the consolidated balance sheet, translation effects and the full effects of acquisitions and divestments are included here.

Interest-bearing net liabilities



Changes in interest-bearing net liabilities

EUR M	Ongoing operations	Items affecting comparability	Cash flow	Translation of foreign companies	Effect on balance sheet
Operating profit/loss	1,180	-461	719		719
Depreciation	857	301	1,158		1,158
Change in working capital	78	228	306	15	321
Cash flow before investments		67	2,183	15	2,198
Investments	–789	-107	-896		-896
Other acquisitions of fixed assets	34	-651	-685		-685
Gain on sale of fixed assets	22	135	156		156
Other changes in operating fixed assets	16	-25	-9	464	455
Operating cash flow	1,330	-582	748	479	1,227
Net financial items	–359	-20	-379		-379
Taxes	60	-6	-66	-71	-137
Minority interests		19	16	-9	7
Cash flow before transactions with owners		-589	319	399	718
Dividends	–238		-238		-238
Other changes in shareholders' equity		29	29	-202	-173
Changes in interest-bearing net liabilities		-560	110	197	307

The distribution of operating capital and capital employed by country is shown in the following table. Most of the capital is in Finland and Sweden, but substantial amounts are also accounted for by Germany, Canada and France.

	Operating EUR M	ı capital %	Net tax lia EUR M	abilities %	Capital en EUR M	nployed %
Finland	4 7 4 7	37	355	23	4 410	20
FINIANU	4,767	÷.			4,412	39
Sweden	4,271	33	794	53	3,477	31
Germany	1,830	14	328	22	1,502	13
Canada	543	4	14	1	529	5
France	353	3	2	0	351	3
Portugal	204	2	20	1	184	2
Other	898	7	- 2	0	900	8
Total	12,866	100	1,511	100	11,355	100

Adjusted shareholders' equity

Assessments of financial strength should take into account the substantial values in the Group's forest and power assets. Adjusted shareholders' equity is arrived at when the hidden values in these assets are added to reported shareholders' equity. The hidden values are calculated as the difference between estimated market value and book value, with tax also taken into consideration. Group shareholders' equity amounted to EUR 5,294 M, equivalent to EUR 6.97 per share. The hidden values to-

Adjusted shareholders' equity

Dec 31, 1998	EUR M	EUR/Share
Reported shareholders' equity	5,294	6.97
Hidden value in forest assets	980	1.29
Hidden value in power assets	538	0.71
Hidden value in listed shares	88	0.12
Adjusted shareholders' equity	6,900	9.09
Market value of shareholders'		
equity, Dec 30, 1998	5,801	7.63

Risks and factors affecting earnings

The overall economic trend in the world and its impact on individual markets is the factor which has had the greatest effect on all business operations. The components of the general economic trend are not described in detail here, but rather a summary is provided of certain variables that can be quantified and which have a direct effect on Stora Enso's earnings trend.

Price and volume effects

Group profitability is sensitive to changes in sales prices and delivery volumes. Imbalance in supply and demand affects competition and from time to time creates fluctuations in both prices and volumes.

The sensitivity analysis in the accompanying table shows how the larger product areas' operating profit can be affected by a 5% change in sales prices and volumes. As indicated, price changes have the greatest impact on earnings.

Sensitivity analysis, effect on operating profit

EUR M	Chang Price	e +/- 5% Volume
Magazine paper	90	45
Newsprint	70	40
Fine paper	110	50
Packaging boards	75	40
Timber products	50	15

taled EUR 1,606 M and consisted of EUR 980 M in forest assets, EUR 538 M in power assets and EUR 88 M in listed shares. Adjusted shareholders' equity thus totaled EUR 6,900 M, corresponding to EUR 9.09 per share.

The value of forest assets is based on a yield estimate of wood extraction. The calculation is based on estimated sustainable felling levels, wood and timber prices, forestry costs and taxation. The result has been discounted using a real interest rate factor of 4%. The calculation is applied exclusively to the Group's forest holdings in the Nordic region. The value of forest assets amounted to EUR 528 per hectare of productive forest land.

Power assets have been calculated in accordance with the estimated market value and have been adjusted for tax.

The Group's holdings of listed shares has been valued at the market price applying at year-end, after deductions for taxes. The largest holdings relate to Finnlines Oyj and Sampo Insurance Company.

Effect of various cost components

Profit is affected by price and volume trends for the different cost components in the Group. The major variable cost components relate to transport and sales commissions, corresponding to 12% of sales; wood and timber, also accounting for 12% of sales; chemicals and filler, accounting for about 10%; and energy for around 7%. The aim of the efficiency enhancement and synergy programs in progress is to find solutions that will reduce raw material consumption and allow the most inexpensive raw materials to be used.

Among fixed-cost components, personnel costs account for about 17% of sales. Adjusted for nonrecurring effects, depreciation corresponds to about 8%. A 3% increase in payroll costs would result in the Group's total costs rising by about EUR 54 M.

Currency effects

A change in the invoicing currency creates a currency risk. The distribution of sales by market is shown in the table under the section headed "Marketing and sales network." The table headed "Investments in plants" shows where production occurs and in which currency the main costs are incurred.

The risk that Stora Enso's profit could be affected as a result of changes in exchange rates is called a transaction risk.

Stora Enso hedges up to six months of its currency flows outside the euro area, with the exception of GBP and USD. These exceptions correspond to a substantial exposure for the Group and can therefore be hedged for a period covering up to 12 months of flows.

The risk of Stora Enso's net assets (shareholders' equity) being affected by changes in exchange rates is called translation risk.

To minimize this risk, wherever possible borrowing in each Group subsidiary is conducted in the relevant local currency. No hedging of net assets occurs since most of these, about 90%, are located within the euro area.

Financing and financing costs

The risk of Stora Enso encountering new borrowing difficulties at any given time is called a borrowing risk. In order to minimize such a risk, the Group's goal is that capital employed should be more than 100% long-term financed. Long-term financing is defined as the sum of shareholders' equity, minority interests, long-term loans, pension provisions and long-term credit facilities. The average maturity period for outstanding loans and credit facilities should be at least 3–5 years.

The risk that a reduced return on capital employed cannot be offset by lower interest costs for its financing is called interest-rate risk. Interest rates tend to move in line with general economic conditions. To minimize the interest-rate risk, the Group strives to fix interest rates for periods of less than one year. The corporate goal is that 60–80% of the loan portfolio should have interest rates that are fixed for periods of less than one year.

To support and facilitate external lenders' assessments of the company, credit ratings have been obtained. Moody's has assigned Stora Enso a Baa1 rating for longterm borrowing and a P-2 rating for short-term borrowing. Standard & Poor's has assigned the STORA Group's internal finance company an A-2/K-2 rating for shortterm borrowing and put Stora Kopparbergs Bergslags AB rating on an A-observation list for a possible downgrading of the rating. An assessment of the new Stora Enso is currently in progress at Standard & Poor's.

Other risks

Fire, accident, plant failure, transport problems, etc. can lead to disruptions and losses. Routines to identify risks and measures to minimize or avoid them have been drawn up within the risk-management area.

Most of the Group's operating capital consists of fixed assets. Future technological development can affect the future value of such plant. Trends which affect the consumption of paper and board are also of major importance. The Group has substantial research and development resources through which to monitor and study such trends (see section headed "Research and development"). The Group's customer credits are self-financed and, consequently, non-payments result in losses. To minimize this risk, credit controls are applied and customers' financial positions are monitored on an ongoing basis. Internal credit ratings are drawn up for all customers.

The ability of suppliers to fulfill their quality, environmental compatibility and delivery time undertakings is of major importance to the efficiency of the Group's production and its investments. To ensure compliance with these requirements, checks and evaluations of suppliers, their products, transportation methods and other services, are conducted on an ongoing basis.

IT systems are crucial to most of the Group's routines and processes. Major security programs are conducted on a continuous basis throughout the Group in order to assure optimal IT support. Advanced technology and methods are used to adapt to the latest developments within the IT area.

Euro

As of January 1, 1999, the Group's accounting and reporting is conducted in euro (EUR). No difficulties have been noted in terms of commercial and internal transactions.

Among customers, it is mainly the large multinational companies which have chosen to trade in EUR as of January 1, 1999. The smaller customers have adopted a more cautious attitude. In recent years, a certain leveling out of price levels has occurred within the present euro area, and thus no dramatic changes are foreseen.

Conversion to the euro resulted in only limited costs.

Millennium shift

The Group's units are working to resolve identified problems related to the millennium shift. This project commenced in January 1997. Most of the units will meet the internally established deadline of July 1, 1999. Certain units will be delayed in meeting this date, since measures cannot be implemented while production is in progress. These plants have elected to wait until the time of the planned maintenance stoppages in autumn 1999.

With regard to the accounting system, approximately 50% has already been adapted to comply with Year 2000 requirements and the balance will meet the established deadline.

Of the total work in progress, about 70% of the technical work has been completed. The cost of the adjustments is estimated to total EUR 45 M.

The internal risks are assessed as being limited. The existing risks relate principally to the preparedness of raw materials and other suppliers, customers and the social structure of the individual countries in which the Group is active. To reduce these risks, contingency plans are being made for unforeseen events.

Capital expenditure

Stora Enso's capital expenditure, excluding acquistions, totaled EUR 896 M.

Capital expenditure by product area

EUR M	1997	1998
Magazine paper	322.5	219.9
Newsprint	98.2	103.8
Fine paper	282.3	129.7
Packaging boards	215.5	211.7
Merchants	9.7	12.0
Specialty papers	14.9	17.8
Timber products	20.1	33.9
Pulp	107.6	96.3
Forest	21.4	22.3
Energy	19.6	19.6
Other	21.8	29.4
Total	1,133.6	896.4
Depreciation according to plan ¹⁾	816.3	878.3

¹⁾ Excluding non-recurring write-downs

Most of the capital expenditure related to productivityand quality-enhancement projects. In addition, the Group invested in a few growth projects.

The single largest investments made during recent years, besides growth projects, were for the new paper machines in Oulu, Finland and Port Hawkesbury, Canada, and for a new board machine in Skoghall, Sweden.

Apart from the PM2 in Port Hawkesbury, the larger projects engaged in during 1998 included the rebuilding of the PM8 in Maxau, Germany, the coater for the BM3 in Fors, Sweden, and the soft calender for the PM2 in Veitsiluoto, Finland.

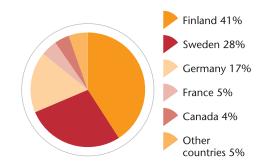
The distribution of capital expenditure by country is largely governed by the location of existing capacity. The following table shows where the Group implemented investments in 1998. A comparison can be made against the accompanying table, which shows how production capacity for paper and board is distributed by country. This shows that 41% of capacity and 21% of investments pertain to Finland, while the corresponding figures for Sweden are 28% and 40%, respectively.

Capital expenditure by country

EUR M	1997	1998	% of total
Finland	331.2	190.5	21.2
Sweden	387.6	359.4	40.1
Germany	87.4	115.5	12.9
Canada	262.4	127.5	14.2
France	8.4	15.1	1.7
Portugal	15.2	20.4	2.3
Other	41.3	68.1	7.6
Total	1,133.6	896.4	100.0

Capacity for paper and board by country, 1999

	000 tonnes
Finland	5,290
Sweden	3,575
Germany	2,220
France	595
Belgium	240
The Nederlands	165
Spain	145
UK	35
Canada	545
China	120
Total	12,930



Key Figures 1995–1998

STORA ENSO (IAS) EUR 1 = FIM 5.94573		1998	1997	1996	1995
Sales	MEUR	10490	9998	9510	10583
Change on previous year	%	4.9	5.1	-10.1	10.8
Exports and foreign operations	%	93.3	92.8	92.4	92.6
Wages. salaries and statutory					
employer's contributions	MEUR	1805	1737	1688	1660
as % of sales	%	17.2	17.4	17.8	15.7
Depreciation and value adjustments	MEUR	1151	830	767	721
Operating Profit	MEUR	719	916	843	1796
as % of sales	%	6.9	9.2	8.9	17.0
Operating Profit before non-recurring items	MEUR	1190	968	847	1765
as % of sales	%	11.3	9.7	8.9	16.7
Financial income and expenses	MEUR	379	280	280	395
as % of sales	%	3.6	2.8	2.9	3.7
Exchange rate differences	MEUR	-34	23	-2	-20
Profit before tax and minority items	MEUR	339	636	563	1401
as % of sales	%	3.2	6.4	5.9	13.2
Taxes	MEUR	148	206	183	361
Profit for the period	MEUR	191	409	369	1007
Distribution of dividend ¹⁾	MEUR	268	254	231	176
Capital expenditure	MEUR	896	1134	1364	894
as % of sales	%	8.5	11.3	14.3	8.4
R&D expenditure	MEUR	80	79	72	68
as % of sales	%	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.6
Fixed assets	MEUR	11695	11864	11034	10634
Current assets	MEUR	3718	3690	3535	4030
Assets total	MEUR	15413	15554	14569	14664
Shareholders' equity	MEUR	5294	5513	5285	5058
Minority interests	MEUR	279	272	196	190
Interest-bearing liabilities	MEUR	6520	6565	6166	6266
Operating liabilites	MEUR	1799	1691	1538	1644
Tax liabilities	MEUR	1523	1512	1384	1506
Equity and liabilites total	MEUR	15413	15554	14569	14664
Capital employed at year-end	MEUR	11355	11875	11015	10667
Operating capital at year-end	MEUR	12866	13375	12384	12156
Interest-bearing net liabilities	MEUR	5783	6090	5534	5419
Return on capital employed (ROCE)	%	6.2	8.0	7.8	17.2
Return on capital employed (ROCE)	,.		0.0		. / .2
before non-recurring items	%	10.2	8.5	7.8	16.9
Return on Investment (ROI)	%	6.4	8.4	8.1	16.3
Return on equity (ROE)	%	3.4	7.6	7.1	22.1
Return on equity (ROE) ²⁾					
before non-recurring items	%	10.6	7.6	7.1	22.1
Equity ratio	%	36.2	37.2	37.6	35.8
Debt/Equity ratio		1.04	1.05	1.01	1.03
Average number of employees		40679	40301	41810	44917

¹⁾ Year 1998 dividend is Board of Directors' proposal to the Ordinary meeting of shareholders

Year 1997, 1996 and 1995 figures are total sums of Enso Oyj's and Stora Kopparbergs Bergslags AB's dividends ²⁾ Year 1997, 1996 and 1995 figures after non-recurring items

Sales, operating profit and deliveries by product area, per quarter

Sales (EUR M)	1/97	11/97	111/97	IV/97	1997	1/98	11/98	111/98	IV/98	1998
Magazine paper	279.3	366.7	402.3	427.5	1,475.8	420.8	448.1	474.4	508.5	1,851.8
Newsprint	337.3	364.1	414.3	418.4	1,534.1	409.7	411.4	439.0	433.6	1,693.7
Fine paper	443.9	443.3	464.2	540.2	1,891.6	571.6	511.3	497.4	499.5	2,079.8
Packaging boards	595.0	648.4	624.7	617.4	2,485.5	638.3	642.8	576.6	539.2	2,396.9
Merchants	200.2	197.7	189.2	213.3	800.4	227.3	208.5	190.6	203.9	830.3
Specialty papers	84.9	80.0	80.2	79.3	324.4	84.8	83.5	75.6	79.5	323.4
Timber products	162.1	198.2	158.2	203.7	722.2	167.3	183.7	169.6	213.3	733.9
Pulp	208.2	249.9	253.1	247.5	958.7	238.3	230.6	202.2	175.5	846.6
Forest	422.6	398.9	373.1	422.2	1,616.8	443.2	414.7	386.9	401.0	1,645.8
Energy	151.1	113.4	115.3	150.5	530.3	145.5	113.6	106.1	116.0	481.2
Divested units	9.8	3.5			13.3					
Other	-602.6	-562.9	-569.2	-620.3	-2,355.0	-653.6	-599.9	-580.6	-559.7	-2,393.8
Total	2,291.8	2,501.2	2,505.4	2,699.7	9,998.1	2,693.2	2,648.3	2,537.8	2,610.3	10,489.6

Operating profit (EUR M)	1/97	11/97	111/97	IV/97	1997	1/98	11/98	111/98	IV/98	1998
Magazine paper	5.4	20.4	28.4	31.7	85.9	63.9	51.2	80.7	80.5	276.3
Newsprint	36.6	42.0	64.5	48.9	192.0	63.6	67.2	97.0	75.1	302.9
Fine paper	37.5	36.8	23.3	41.8	139.4	71.8	52.4	38.3	29.3	191.8
Packaging boards	60.6	59.9	70.5	43.9	234.9	74.5	61.7	65.0	8.1	209.3
Merchants	2.0	1.0	0.8	1.6	5.4	3.3	-0.7	0.0	-0.6	2.0
Specialty papers	5.6	2.6	2.2	-0.6	9.8	2.6	-0.1	-7.0	-2.1	-6.6
Timber products	10.6	19.9	12.3	8.2	51.0	-2.2	2.5	5.4	5.4	11.1
Pulp	-19.1	-6.0	16.6	37.9	29.4	8.8	14.2	7.4	-20.7	9.7
Forest	29.6	25.6	25.7	30.3	111.2	28.8	27.4	23.6	31.2	111.0
Energy	43.2	22.3	14.5	43.8	123.8	37.4	26.5	19.9	30.7	114.5
Divested units Merger costs and	1.5		-2.0		-0.5					
restructuring provisions Items affecting									-447.0	-447.0
comparability		-29.6		-22.4	-52.0		17.4		-41.4	-24.0
Other	-7.2	10.2	-21.3	4.4	-13.9	-10.7	-3.8	-7.8	-10.1	-32.4
Total	206.3	205.1	235.5	269.5	916.4	341.8	315.9	322.5	-261.6	718.6

Deliveries (000 tonnes)	I/97	11/97	III/97	IV/97	1997	1/98	11/98	III/98	IV/98	1998
Magazine paper	458	560	604	609	2,230	579	615	659	708	2,560
Newsprint	696	732	813	781	3,022	755	743	802	786	3,086
Fine paper	580	610	637	698	2,524	701	684	647	710	2,743
Packaging boards	807	861	814	799	3,281	808	824	755	743	3,130
Specialty papers	63	56	58	58	234	60	59	60	61	239
Total	2,603	2,819	2,925	2,945	11,292	2,902	2,925	2,923	3,008	11,758
Timber products (000 m ³)	587	685	509	739	2,520	622	688	580	874	2,764
Market pulp (000 tonnes)	514	590	524	499	2,127	517	480	495	472	1,964
Corrugated board										
(million m ²)	78	88	88	89	343	86	90	81	82	339

Calculation of Key Figures

Return on Capital Employed, ROCE (%) =	100 x	Operating Profit	Debt/Equity Ratio =		Interest-bearing net liabilities
	100 X	Capital Employed ¹⁾		Equity + minority interest	
		Profit before tax and	Earnings per share =		Profit for the period
Return on Investment,		minority items + interest and other			Number of shares
ROI (%) =	100 x	financial expenses	Equity per share =		Equity
		Total assets – interest-free liabilities ^{1) 2)}			
Return on Equity, ROE (%) =		Profit before tax and minority items – taxes	Dividend per share =		Dividend for the period
KOE (70) -	100 x	Equity +		Number of shares	
		minority interest ¹⁾	Dividend yield =	100 x	Dividend per share
Equity Ratio (%) =	100 x	Equity + minority interest		100 X	Share price at the end
	100 X	Total assets			of the period
		Interest bearing liabilities	Payout Ratio (%) =	100 x	Dividend per share
Interest-bearing net liabilities =		Interest-bearing liabilities – interest-bearing assets		100 X	Earnings per share

Average of beginning and end of financial period
 Interest-free liabilities also includes provisions and tax liabilities in the balance sheet.

Magazine

Stora Enso aims to strengthen its position as one of Europe's leading suppliers of magazine papers by developing and improving customer service. This will be achieved by offering customers a wide range of products and by further improving delivery reliability.

STORA ENSO'S MAGAZINE PAPER capacity amounts to 3.1 million tonnes, making it the world's second largest producer. The Group's market share is 23% in Europe and 10% globally. The product area also includes base paper for wallpapers.

Market

The market for magazine paper was favorable in 1998. Demand for wood-containing magazine paper amounted to 22.4 million tonnes. During the period 1986–1998, the annual average increase in demand for wood-containing and wood-free magazine papers in Europe was 7%. Volume growth amounted to 6 million tonnes. Demand for coated wood-free paper increased the most, by 13% a year, and uncoated magazine paper the least, by 4% a year.

In 1998, demand for coated wood-containing magazine paper rose by 1%, both in Europe and globally. The corresponding figures for uncoated magazine paper were 9% and 7%, respectively.

Prices for coated paper were raised at the beginning of 1998, and remained stable throughout the spring. During the summer and autumn some price fluctuation occurred, as coated grades were partially replaced, due to price competition from fine paper grades and uncoated magazine paper. Prices were approximately 10% higher than during 1997.

At the beginning of 1998, prices for uncoated paper were also increased. Demand was favorable and price levels remained high in all markets throughout the year. Prices were approximately 10% higher than during 1997.

In 1999, 250,000 tonnes of new uncoated capacity will enter the market, mainly due to the upgrading of production. Very little new coated capacity is expected.

Profitability and deliveries

Sales grew by 25%, mainly as a result of an increased sales volume and improved prices, and totaled EUR 1,851.8 M. The inclusion of Holtzmann throughout the year and the new machine at the Port Hawkesbury mill as of April boosted sales by 14%. Operating profit amounted to EUR 276.3 M. Return on operating capital was 14.2%.

Deliveries of Stora Enso's coated magazine paper amounted to 1,594,000 tonnes, up 4% on the preceding year. The increase was due to improved demand as a result of growth in printed advertising materials, catalogs, magazine editions and advertising.

Deliveries of uncoated magazine paper amounted to 919,000 tonnes, up 38% on 1997. The increase was due to higher demand. Port Hawkesbury's PM 2 was started up at the end of May. Volumes were exceeded but running-in problems in the calender machines resulted in quality targets not being reached. Continuous improvements have been achieved.

The magazine paper mills operated at 94% of capacity.

New projects and structural changes

Port Hawkesbury's SC paper machine, which has a capacity of 350,000 tonnes, started up in May. Total costs for the project amounted to EUR 420 M.

Stora Enso owns the entire share capital of the German company E. Holtzmann & Cie AG (Maxau and Wolfsheck mills), having purchased 9.3% of the shares in September and the remaining 0.8% in October, in addition to the interest it previously held. The Group paid a total of EUR 289.6 M for the Holtzmann shares in 1998.

Other major investments included the rebuild of Maxau's PM 8 at a cost of EUR 46 M and a new slitter-winder for Veitsiluoto's PM 1 at a cost of EUR 2 M.

Capital expenditure totaled EUR 219.9 M.

Investments in 1999 are expected to decrease. The main investment relates to the rebuild of Kabel's PM 5.

Outlook for 1999

Growth in consumption will slow down as general economic growth weakens and downward pressure is exerted on prices. On the other hand, economic growth in Europe is expected to remain on a healthy level. The new millennium is expected to expand the volume of printed advertising materials, which in turn will increase magazine paper consumption.

Stora Enso's magazine papers

Magazine papers are used in magazines, printed products for advertising, catalogs and direct marketing products. The magazine paper grades manufactured by Stora Enso are uncoated supercalendered (SC), light-weight coated (LWC), mediumweight coated (MWC), heavy-weight coated (HWC), machine-finished coated (MFC) and machine-finished (MF) papers.

SC paper is produced in Sweden, Germany, Belgium and Canada. LWC paper is produced in Finland, Germany and France. MWC is produced in Finland and Germany and HWC in Germany. MFC and MF papers are manufactured in Finland. Wallpaper base is produced in Germany. (See also page 98)

Key figures

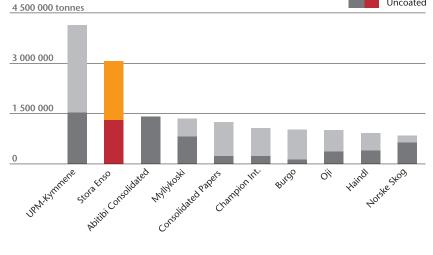
	1997	1998
Sales, EUR M	1,475.8	1,851.8
Operating profit, EUR M	85.9	276.3
Operating margin, %	5.8	14.9
Operating capital, EUR M	1,863.0	2,025.2
Return on operating capital, %	4.6	14.2
Capital expenditure, EUR M	322.5	219.9
Average number of employees	4,575	5,032

Deliveries and capacity (000 tonnes)

		liveries	Capacity
	1997	1998	1999
SC, MF	665	919	1,300
LWC, MWC, HWC, MFC	1,532	1,594	1,760
Wallpaper base	33	47	65
Total	2,230	2,560	3,125

World's largest magazine paper producers, 1999







News

Stora Enso's strategy is to produce newsprint based on primary fiber in the Nordic countries and on secondary fiber in Central Europe. The aim is to be located close to customers and raw material resources. The significance of recovered paper as a raw material for standard newsprint will continue to increase. Primary fiber will continue to be used for grades where its properties can best be utilized. STORA ENSO, WHICH HAS A NEWSPRINT CAPACITY of 3.2 million tonnes, including special grades, is the world's second largest producer of newsprint. The Group's market share is approximately 25% in Europe and 7% globally.

Market

Nineteen ninety-eight was a good year. Demand increased by 4% in Europe and by 2% in North America. Canada exported 604,000 tonnes of newsprint to Europe, 7% less than in 1997, mainly due to labor disputes at Abitibi-Consolidated. As a consequence of the strike, the market balance improved in Europe and North America. Prices were raised at the beginning of 1998. Price levels remained favorable throughout the year and were an average of 2.5% higher than in 1997.

In 1999, two new newsprint machines will start up in Europe. At the same time, newsprint capacity will decrease due to the rebuild of machines to produce more value-added grades. No major capacity expansion is expected outside Europe.

Profitability and deliveries

Sales increased by 10% to EUR 1,693.7 M, mainly due to increased sales volumes and improved prices. The acquisition of Holtzmann boosted sales by 2%. Operating profit was EUR 302.9 M. Return on operating capital was 19.4%.

Newsprint deliveries were 2% higher than in the previous year, amounting to 3,086,000 tonnes as a result of increased demand following strong economic growth in Europe and moderate price trends for the most important raw materials. The newsprint mills operated at 98% of capacity.

New projects and structural changes

The main investments in 1998 related to the calender at Varkaus's PM 4 (EUR 16 M), the effluent treatment plant at Anjala (EUR 6 M), capacity increases and quality improvements in DIP and TMP plants and the rebuild of PM 3 at Hylte (EUR 19 M). Capital expenditure totaled EUR 103.8 M. In 1999, investments are expected to remain at this level.

Outlook for 1999

Market conditions are expected to remain relatively stable in Europe and North America. Weakening economic growth and new capacity entering the market, in combination with increased supply following the end of a labor dispute in North America, will have an impact on demand and supply in Europe. In addition, exports to Asia have been affected by the new capacity entering the area, which clearly exceeds current local demand. On the other hand, the increase in advertising and printed materials relating to the year 2000 is expected to have a positive effect on demand for newsprint.

Stora Enso's newsprint

Stora Enso produces both standard and special newsprint, which are used for newspapers, newspaper supplements, advertising leaflets, direct marketing products, telephone directories and paperbacks. The raw materials in newsprint are mechanical pulp, recycled fiber and, to a minor extent, kraft pulp.

Newsprint is produced in Finland, Sweden, Germany, Belgium and Canada. (See also page 98)

Key figures

	1997	1998
Sales, EUR M	1,534.1	1,693.7
Operating profit, EUR M	192.0	302.9
Operating margin, %	12.5	17.9
Operating capital, EUR M	1,573.9	1,547.2
Return on operating capital, %	12.2	19.4
Capital expenditure, EUR M	98.2	103.8
Average number of employees	5,215	5,608

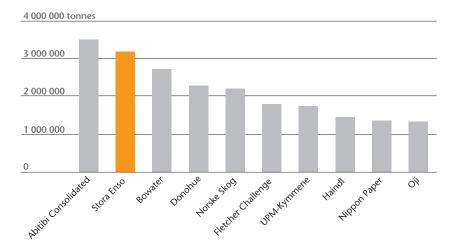
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Deliveries and capacity (000 tonnes)

	Deliveries		Capacity
	1997	1998	1999
Newsprint	3,022	3,086	3,190

World's largest newsprint producers, 1999



Fine Caller

Stora Enso's aim is to remain among the world's top three fine paper producers and to further improve its share of the digital printing papers and special office papers. Profitability will be improved by creating strong brand names and partnerships with leading merchants and printing equipment suppliers. STORA ENSO'S FINE PAPER CAPACITY is 3.0 million tonnes, and the agreement to market Advance Agro's production will increase the amount of fine paper marketed by the Group to 3.3 million tonnes. Stora Enso is currently the second largest fine paper producer in the world with a 13% share of the European market and a 4% share of the global market.

Market

Global demand for wood-free graphic papers increased by 2% and demand for office papers by 4%. At the beginning of 1998, prices were raised somewhat. Initially, prices remained stable, but they started to fall in the spring. However, the average price level in 1998 was higher than in the previous year. These products were in abundant supply in Europe and North America, as the economic difficulties in Asia and South America reduced local demand. About 500,000 to 600,000 tonnes of office papers and minor amounts of graphic papers were imported to Europe from Asia.

Due to global consolidation trends in the fine paper industry and the weakening of Asian economies, some of the planned fine paper projects have been postponed, and the number of machine start-ups is on the way down. In 1999 there will be 1.4 million tonnes of new fine paper capacity, including 1.25 million tonnes in Asia.

Profitability and deliveries

Sales increased by 10% to EUR 2,079.8 M, mainly due to a rise in sales volumes. PM 7, which was put into operation in Oulu in 1997, boosted sales by 7%. Operating profit amounted to EUR 191.8 M. Return on operating capital was 8.4%.

Fine paper deliveries were 9% higher than in 1997 and amounted to 2,743,000 tonnes.

The fine paper mills operated at 91% of capacity.

New projects and structural changes

In June, the Group signed a cooperation agreement with Advance Agro Pcl. This agreement granted Stora Enso exclusive rights to global marketing of Advance Agro's pulp and paper outside Thailand. Advance Agro has the capacity to produce 450,000 tonnes of chemical pulp and 470,000 tonnes of coated and uncoated sheet offset and copying papers. At year-end, Stora Enso owned 19.9% of the company. The acquisition price was EUR 74 M.

The agreement with Advance Agro strengthens the fine paper division's product portfolio and helps to optimize production, while strengthening Stora Enso's position in Asia. The agreement involves active cooperation, and Stora Enso has provided transfer of know-how by sending mill management, technical and logistics experts to Thailand. The Group has two members on Advance Agro's Board of Directors.

In 1998, Stora Enso purchased 60% of the Chinese Suzhou Papyrus Paper Co. Ltd, with an annual production capacity of 120,000 tonnes of coated fine paper. The company has established sales offices in four regions within China. This investment also supports the Group's strategy in Asia.

In December, Stora Enso decided to close down Dutch Berghuizer Papierfabriek's oldest and smallest paper machine by mid-1999. The machine's production capacity is 19,000 tonnes of one-side glossy paper.

The largest investments in 1998 were the rebuilds of Veitsiluoto's PM 2 (EUR 22 M) and Grycksbo's PM 10 (EUR 14 M).

Capital expenditure totaled EUR 129.7 M.

In 1999, investments will remain at a low level.

Outlook for 1999

The annual growth in fine papers is expected to continue to follow the trend of approximately 5% for graphic papers and about 2% for office papers. Although there is an imbalance between supply and demand, which will impose pressure on prices throughout the spring, prices are expected to pick up after the summer vacation season, as economic activity increases ahead of the year 2000.

Stora Enso's fine papers

Stora Enso manufactures both coated fine papers, or graphic papers, and uncoated fine papers, or office papers. All fine papers contain a high proportion of chemical pulp.

Graphic papers are used for high-quality books and advertising materials. Graphic papers are produced in Finland, Sweden, Germany and China.

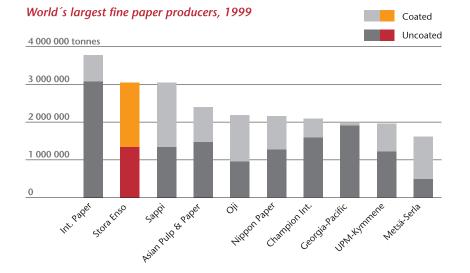
Office papers include copying and offset papers, envelope and writing papers and continuous stationery papers. The mills producing office papers are located in Finland, Sweden and the Netherlands. (See also page 98)

Key figures

	1997	1998
Sales, EUR M	1,891.6	2,079.8
Operating profit, EUR M	139.4	191.8
Operating margin, %	7.4	9.2
Operating capital, EUR M	2,283.5	2,285.0
Return on operating capital, %	6.1	8.4
Capital expenditure, EUR M	282.3	129.7
Average number of employees	7,448	7,529

Deliveries and capacity (000 tonnes)

	Deliveries		Capacity
	1997	1998	1999
Graphic (coated) papers	1,299	1,493	1,700
Office (uncoated) papers	1,225	1,250	1,340
Total	2,524	2,743	3,040





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Packaging

Stora Enso is one of the leading manufacturers of consumer packaging board. This product is used for packaging milk, juices, other foodstuffs, cigarettes and cosmetics. More than 40% of the aseptic liquid containers used in the world are manufactured from Stora Enso board. The Group is also Europe's largest manufacturer of paper cupstock and primary fiber-based boxboard. STORA ENSO'S BOARD CAPACITY amounts to 3.4 million tonnes.

Although the most important market area is Europe, the Group's products are sold worldwide. R&D within the cartonboard area focuses on improving the stiffness properties of multi-ply board and on developing plastic and clay coating technology.

The main market for Stora Enso's corrugated board business is the Baltic Sea area. The most crucial factor affecting growth is the development of the Russian economy. Corrugated board raw materials and kraft papers are sold worldwide.

Stora Enso is also a major manufacturer of coreboard in Europe under the Corenso brandname.

The product area also includes laminating papers.

Market

Demand for consumer packaging board declined sharply after the summer. In terms of sales, the cold summer in Europe was a disappointment for a number of customers, and this meant that accumulated stocks had to be sold off in the autumn. A number of markets outside the EU were experiencing economic problems, which also affected demand. The weakening of the US dollar resulted in increased competition from American manufacturers.

Prices for corrugated board raw materials peaked in the second quarter of the year but began to fall off in the summer. The market for SC fluting in particular remained fairly weak throughout the rest of the year. The market situation for kraft paper was stable.

Demand for corrugated board in Finland and Sweden remained fairly normal throughout the year. The situation in the Baltic countries and Russia began to deteriorate markedly during April and May, although a slight improvement was discernible in Russia during the second half of the year.

Coreboard has suffered from the deterioration of the Asian market since the end of 1997. Demand was weak and price levels low.

Demand and price level for laminating papers were satisfactory.

Profitability and deliveries

Sales decreased by 4%, amounting to EUR 2,396.9 M. Sales volumes increased as a result of the spring 1997 start-up of the new board machine at the Skoghall mill. Due to lack of orders, the machine did not reach full capacity. Write-downs of second grade inventories at the Skoghall mill weakened earnings.

Operating profit amounted to EUR 209.3 M, which is 11% below the 1997 figure. Return on operating capital was 8.8%.

Deliveries of consumer packaging board amounted to 1,956,000 tonnes, down 6% on 1997. Corrugated board deliveries amounted to 339 million m², down 1% on 1997. Coreboard deliveries were 239,000 tonnes. Core deliveries amounted to 53,000 tonnes. Kraft paper deliveries were 372,000 tonnes.

The board mills operated at 90% of capacity.

New projects and structural changes

The most important investments were the rebuild of the board machine at the Fors mill to improve quality (EUR 28 M), the Balabanovo corrugated board mill (EUR 27 M) and the modernization of board machine no. 1 at the Imatra mill (EUR 10 M).

The Balabanovo mill, which has a capacity of 90 million m², started up at the end of the year in a difficult market situation. The Russian economy is expected to recover and the market for corrugated board to pick up.

Capital expenditure totaled EUR 211.7 M. Capital expenditure in 1999 is expected to be somewhat higher than in 1998. The main approved investment relates to the rebuild of the soda recovery boiler at the Gruvön mill (EUR 18 M).



As a condition for the merger of STORA and Enso, the EU competition authorities demanded cancellation of the cooperation agreement with the Norwegian company Elopak. This also entails the sale of the Pure-Pak converting line in Lahti, Finland. Negotiations regarding the divestment have been initiated with Elopak. After the transaction has been finalized, operations will remain unchanged and be conducted in the same premises.

Outlook for 1999

Demand for packaging boards remains relatively stable but prices are at a low level. The outlook depends on the overall economic trend.

Stora Enso's packaging boards

The main packaging board products are consumer packaging board, corrugated board and the related raw materials, coreboard and cores, and kraft papers.

The mills producing consumer packaging board are located in Finland, Sweden, Germany, Spain and the UK. Raw materials for corrugated board are produced in Finland and Sweden. Coreboard and cores are manufactured in Finland, Germany, France and the UK. Corrugated board packaging is manufactured in Finland, Sweden, Estonia, Latvia and Russia. Kraft paper is produced in Sweden. Packaging machines are manufactured in Finland and Sweden. Laminating papers are produced in Finland. (See also page 98)

Key figures

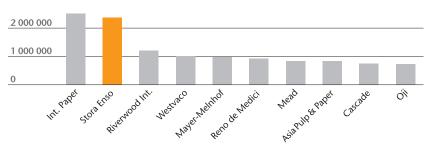
	1997	1998
Sales, EUR M	2,485.5	2,396.9
Operating profit, EUR M	234.9	209.3
Operating margin, %	9.5	8.7
Operating capital, EUR M	2,508.9	2,272.7
Return on operating capital, %	9.4	8.8
Capital expenditure, EUR M	215.5	211.7
Average number of employees	10,478	10,049

Deliveries and capacity (000 tonnes)

	Deliveries		Capacity
	1997	1998	1999
Consumer packaging boards	2,085	1,956	2,370
Corrugated board raw materials	429	402	600
Coreboard	237	239	270
Kraft paper	394	372	175
Laminating papers	136	160	165
Total	3,281	3,130	3,580
Corrugated board, million m ²	343	339	556
Cores, 000 tonnes	32	53	80

World's largest cartonboard producers, 1999 (FBB, WLC, LPB, SBS, SUS)

3 000 000 tonnes





STORA ENSO PRODUCTS ACCOUNT FOR ABOUT 45% of the paper merchants' product range. The Group's paper merchants also market a wide range of products adapted to the specific needs of offices, public administrations and the industrial sector.

Market

Paper merchant operations during 1998 were characterized by pressure on prices and margins. Low growth was noted in the Swedish, Danish and Dutch markets. During the autumn, the paper merchants in the Baltic states and Poland were affected by the crisis in Russia. In contrast, demand was stable in the UK and France.

During the current year, paper merchant operations will be affected by lower economic activity in Western Europe. Full-year growth is expected to be 2 to 3%. In Eastern Europe, the Russian crisis is expected to inhibit demand during the first half of the year; nonetheless full-year growth in this market will total 5 to 10%.

Profitability

Sales were EUR 830.3 M, an increase of 3% as a result of the expansion in Hungary. Operating profit decreased to EUR 2.0 M, due to higher cost caused by the expansion.

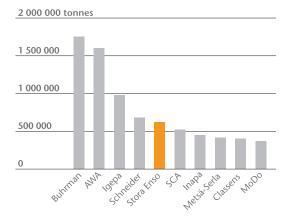
New projects and development activities Within merchant operations, synergistic gains will be generated from coordination and restructuring measures, a number of which are planned for the current year. The financial effects will materialize in full during the following two years.

In parallel, activities aimed at additional expansion in new markets in Europe are being planned.

Key figures

	1997	1998
Sales, EUR M	800.4	830.3
Operating profit, EUR M	5.4	2.0
Operating margin, %	0.7	0.2
Operating capital, EUR M	207.4	212.4
Return on operating capital, %	2.6	0.9
Capital expenditure, EUR M	9.7	12.0
Average number of employees	1,636	1,672

Major paper merchants in Europe



DECIZpapers

The SPECIALTY PAPERS PRODUCT AREA includes thermal and carbonless papers manufactured in Flensburg and Hillegossen in Germany, and specialty papers produced at Tervakoski in Finland. Since these units have been divested, Specialty papers will not exist as a separate product area in the future.

Tervakoski specialty papers

In 1998, Stora Enso held a leading market position in this group of papers as well as in coated thin printing papers. Tervakoski's specialty papers reported good profitability and a balanced market situation.

In February 1999, Stora Enso signed an agreement to sell Tervakoski Oy to the Austrian company Trierenberg AG. The divestment is in line with Stora Enso's strategy of focusing on its core business areas and of securing the future development of Tervakoski.

Technical office papers

Technical office papers include carbonless and thermal papers. Production capacity amounted to 155,000 tonnes. Demand was poor and price levels low.

Stora Enso's aim is to divest units that are not part of the Group's core business. In line with this strategy, negotiations were finalized at the end of December regarding the sale of the Group's majority interest in the technical office paper manufacturers, Stora Carbonless Paper GmbH and Stora Spezialpapiere GmbH, to the Japanese-based Mitsubishi Paper Mills Ltd and the Mitsubishi Corporation. When the arrangement became effective on January 1, 1999, the Mitsubishi companies' shareholding rose to 76%. Stora Enso retains a minority interest in both companies.

Key figures

Sales, EUR M	324.4	323.4
Operating profit, EUR M	9.8	-6.6
Operating margin, %	3.0	-2.0
Operating capital, EUR M	300.4	97.7
Return on operating capital, %	3.3	-3.3
Capital expenditure, EUR M	14.9	17.8
Average number of employees	1,416	1,402

Deliveries (000 tonnes)

	1997	1998
Tervakoski specialty papers	77	81
Carbonless paper	132	127
Thermal paper	25	30
Total	234	238

products

The production of timber products supports Stora Enso's Nordic and international fiber strategy. The Nordic sawmills' close proximity to the Group's paper and board mills leads to more efficient utilization of wood resources. Approximately one fifth of Stora Enso's timber products are sold through the Group's own distribution companies, which helps to ensure better and more individual customer service. STORA ENSO HAS A CAPACITY of 4.7 million m³ of sawn products and 1.0 million m³ of planed goods. The Group is the world's second largest producer of sawn timber and a leading supplier to North America and Asia, and exports timber products to more than 70 countries. About 20% of Stora Enso's sawn timber and other building materials are sold through the Group's own distribution companies.

Markets

Nineteen ninety-eight was a difficult year. Production increased heavily in 1997, leading to high stock levels in Finland and Sweden. Whitewood prices collapsed at the end of 1997 but began to rise in spring 1998. They decreased by an average of 15% compared with 1997. Redwood prices were on average 6% lower than during the preceding year. Demand was relatively good in the main markets in Europe. Due to the economic crisis in Asia, the Japanese market weakened rapidly in the spring, but recovered during the autumn, although 1997 volumes were not reached. The US sawn timber market remained favorable throughout the year.

Profitability and deliveries

Thanks to the increase in sales volume, sales rose by 2% to EUR 733.9 M. Holzindustrie Schweighofer AG is included in the figures from the beginning of December. Operating profit amounted to EUR 11.1 M. Return on operating capital was 2.8%.

Deliveries totaled 2,765,000 m³, up 10%. The growth was mainly attributable to additional capacity generated by the acquisition of Schweighofer.

New projects and structural changes

The operations of the Austrian company, Holzindustrie Schweighofer AG, were merged with Stora Enso's timber business in early December. Schweighofer has a capacity of 1.8 million m³ of timber products, mainly spruce, and 100,000 m³ of gluelam beams. The company has four mills in Austria and two in the Czech Republic, which in total produce 1.5 million m³ of chips, in addition to sawn timber. The acquisition will support Stora Enso's fiber strategy, strengthen its market position in the US and Japan and help to optimize transport costs in certain product groups and markets.

Capital expenditure totaled EUR 33.9 M. The principal investments were the rebuild of the grading plant at the Veitsiluoto sawmill and the modernization of the saw line at the Tolkkinen sawmill.

Outlook for 1999

The price of whitewood is expected to rise slightly compared with 1998. The price of redwood will be under pressure during the first half of the year, since supply will remain high while demand in the UK and North African markets will weaken. The US and Japanese markets are expected to remain stable.

Stora Enso's timber products

Timber products from Stora Enso's Nordic sawmills are used for the joinery, furniture and construction industries. The customized timber products manufactured by the Central European mills are used in the joinery and building industries, as well as in prefabricated houses. Sawn timber is also a raw material for the packaging industry, while sawmill chips are an important raw material for the paper industry.

Stora Enso has a total of 19 sawmills. The Nordic Redwood and the Nordic Whitewood business units include mills in Finland and Sweden. The Central European Timber unit comprises mills in Austria and and the Czech Republic. Planed goods are produced in Finland, Austria, the Czech Republic and the Netherlands. Joint venture LAMCO in Austria produces gluelam beams. The timber merchants are located in Finland, the UK, the Netherlands and France. (See also page 98)

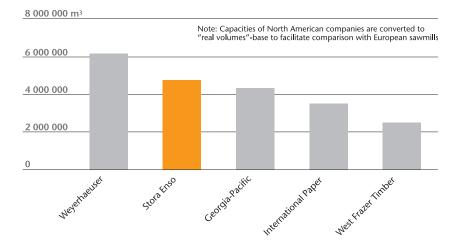
Key figures

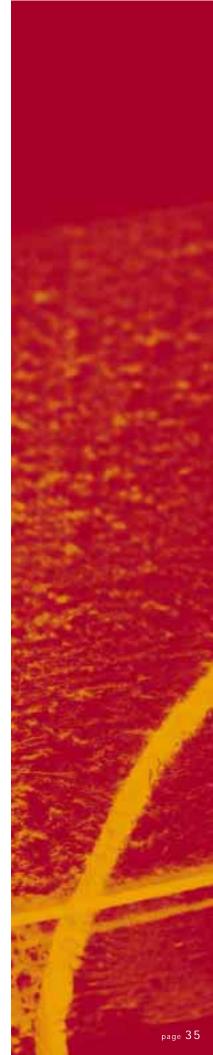
	1997	1998
Sales, EUR M	722.2	733.9
Operating profit, EUR M	51.0	11.1
Operating margin, %	7.1	1.5
Operating capital, EUR M	274.8	401.1
Return on operating capital, %	18.6	3.3
Capital expenditure, EUR M	20.1	33.9
Average number of employees	2,050	2,188

Deliveries and capacity (000 m³)

	Deliveries		Capacity
	1997	1998	1999
Nordic Whitewood	1,255	1,392	1,530
Nordic Redwood	1,265	1,292	1,395
Central European Timber	_	81	1,815
Total	2,520	2,765	4,740

World's largest sawn timber producers, 1999





Stora Enso produces a total of approximately 2.3 million tonnes of paper pulp of which deliveries to internal processing units account for about 1.3 million tonnes. The remainder is sold externally. However, since the Group also purchases pulp, the net pulp balance amounts to 0.2 million tonnes.

Markepulp

IN THE PRODUCTION OF PAPER and board, long-fiber pulp is used in cases where fiber strength is of importance in the end product. The special characteristics of short-fiber pulp are suitable for the manufacture of high-quality fine papers and printing papers.

The Group also manufactures fluff pulp, which is used in baby diapers and hygiene products.

Market

During 1998, the capacity for market pulp again exceeded demand. In Asia, including Japan, consumption decreased due to the economic decline.

Fine-paper producers, the main consumers of short-fiber market pulp, also experienced a situation in which supply exceeded demand.

After having remained at a stable level during the spring, prices moved downwards in June, as a result of reduced demand.

Extensive production cutbacks were implemented during the autumn, particularly in North America, which led to Norscan pulp inventories declining to a normal level.

Although pulp producers announced price increases in November, these failed to have an effect due to the depressed market situation in December.

Average prices during the year were USD 515/ tonne for long-fiber pulp, and ECU 415/tonne for short-fiber pulp.

New projects and development activities Concurrently, a program is under way to raise pulpmill productivity and reduce fixed costs.

Research work focuses on the development of additional pulp grades that are adapted specifically to the Group's paper and board products.

Profitability and deliveries

Sales declined by 12% to EUR 846.6 M, mainly as a result of lower prices. Operating profit amounted to EUR 9.7 M. Return on operating capital was 0.8%.

Deliveries of market pulp amounted to 1,964,000 tonnes, down 8% on 1997. The pulp mills operated at 84% of capacity.

Key figures

	1997	1998
Sales, EUR M	958.7	846.6
Operating profit, EUR M	29.4	9.7
Operating margin, %	3.1	1.1
Operating capital, EUR M	1,313.7	1,153.3
Return on operating capital, %	2.2	0.8
Capital expenditure, EUR M	107.6	96.3
Average number of employees	2,707	2,559

Deliveries and capacity (000 tonnes)

	Deliveries		Capacity
	1997	1998	1999
Short-fiber pulp	811	791	860
.ong-fiber pulp	1,129	999	1,310*
Fluff pulp	187	174	180
Fotal	2,127	1,964	2,350

*) Including recycled fiber 60

Market pulp balance (000 tonnes)

	Long- fiber	Short- fiber	DIP	Fluff	Total
Production					
Own mills	2,815	2,375	1,285	180	6,655
Associated mills	160				160
Own consumption	- 2,800	- 2,320	- 1,325	0	- 6,445
Market pulp balance	175	55	- 40	180	370

Stora Enso's own forest holdings in Finland and Sweden amount to 2.6 million hectares, including 2.1 million hectares of productive forest land. The Group also owns forest holdings in Canada and Portugal. In the Baltic states and Russia, the Group purchases wood and has felling rights. Stora Enso's forest operations are responsible for the Group's forest holdings and wood supply in Finland and Sweden.

Market

The Finnish market. Early in the year, the supply from private forests was held up by the wood-trading negotiations between the companies and private forest owners, which continued into the summer. During the autumn, supply picked up but the exceptionally rainy summer led to increased competition between buyers of marked timber stands harvested under difficult conditions. The price of logs and spruce pulpwood rose in the autumn and only stabilized at the end of the year, when balance between supply and demand was restored.

The Swedish market. The supply of wood declined during the first four months of the year, due to reduced timber prices. Wood purchased from private forest owners increased during the summer. Subsequently, the supply of wood slackened.

Prices for pine and birch pulpwood were cut in November, an effect of reduced industrial demand. The reverse situation was noted for spruce pulpwood.

Wood supply to Group units

Total deliveries from Nordic forest operations amounted to 27.5 million m³ (solid wood under bark), in line with the preceding year. Delivery volumes from the Baltic states and Russia increased and amounted to 8.5 million m³.

Stora Enso's estimated wood requirement for the current year is approximately 32 million m³. This will mainly be satisfied using supplies in the form of stand purchases and wood deliveries from private forest owners. Felling in Group-owned forests is estimated to account for 15% of the Group's requirement and imported wood for 22%. The principal import countries are Russia and the Baltic states.

Profitability

Sales rose by 2% to EUR 1,645.8 M. Operating profit amounted to EUR 111.0 M. Return on operating capital was 7.9%.

Key figures

	1997	1998
Sales, EUR M	1,616.8	1,645.8
Operating profit, EUR M	111.2	111.0
Operating margin, %	6.9	6.7
Operating capital, EUR M	1,386.9	1,408.1
Return on operating capital, %	8.0	7.9
Capital expenditure, EUR M	21.4	22.3
Average number of employees	2,484	2,341

Harvesting/growth in Stora Enso's Nordic forest

(m³fo million)	1997	1998
Opening growing stock	225.8	231.0
Net growth	9.0	9.7
Final felling	-4.2	-4.3
Thinning	-1.2	-1.5
Tax reassessment/additional land holdings	1.6	1.1
Closing growing stock	231.0	236.0

Stora Enso is a major player in the Nordic electricity market, with a turnover of 22 TWh during a normal year. The Group has an additional 5 TWh in Central Europe. In Sweden, most of the Group's power is produced in hydropower and nuclear power plants, while the electrical power produced in Finland is mainly generated in industrial cogeneration, nuclear power and thermal power plants.



Market

The deregulation of the electricity market, combined with abundant precipitation, resulted in reduced prices in Sweden and Norway. The lower prices were particularly noticeable in the Nord Pool market. In Finland, negative effects on electricity prices were experienced when the country joined the Nord Pool system in June 1998.

As a result of the deregulation process, new players have established positions in the market, leading to intensifying competition and price pressure. It will probably take some years for the situation in the electricity market to normalize.

Year-end levels in Swedish and Norwegian reservoirs were about normal for the time of year.

Energy supply

The Group's self-sufficiency in electricity is roughly 90%.

During 1998, electricity consumption in Stora Enso's Nordic plants amounted to 14.5 TWh, of which Finland accounted for 8 TWh and Sweden for 6.5 TWh. External sales of electricity amounted to 2.0 TWh in Finland and 5.5 TWh in Sweden.

During 1999, the Group's production of electric power is expected to be normal, although hydropower production will be above normal at the beginning of the year, due to the high water levels in Swedish and Finnish reservoirs.

New projects and development activities Stora Enso will benefit from an improved energy balance and lower costs for purchases of fossil fuels in the future.

A new energy management system was introduced in order to achieve energy synergies in cooperation with the Swedish energy resources and a liberalized Finnish and Swedish market.

Energy efficiency audits are a tool to improve overall energy efficiency in the Group.

Profitability

Sales declined by 9% to EUR 481.2 M, mainly as a result of lower prices. Operating profit amounted to EUR 114.5 M, down 8% on 1997. Return on operating capital was 8.2%.

Key figures

	1997	1998
Sales, EUR M	530.3	481.2
Operating profit, EUR M	123.8	114.5
Operating margin, %	23.3	23.8
Operating capital, EUR M	1,443.6	1,358.8
Return on operating capital, %	8.6	8.2
Capital expenditure, EUR M	19.6	19.6
Average number of employees	218	215

Power balance

(TWh)	Finland	Sweden	Other	Total
CHP	4.0	1.5	1.8	7.3
Hydro	1.0	3.9		4.9
Nuclear	1.3	2.2		3.5
Other resources	1.7	(1.5)		1.7
Total production	8.0	7.6	1.8	17.4
Purchases	2.0	4.4	3.3	9.7
Total procurement Stora Enso mill	10.0	12.0	5.1	27.1
consumption	8.0	6.5	4.9	19.4
External sales	2.0	5.5	0.2	7.7

Stora Enso's logistics, procurement of transportation services and strategic raw materials and investment purchases are coordinated at Group level.

Purchasino

Purchasing

Stora Enso's purchases of strategic raw materials, services and investments are coordinated at Group level. The objective is to create and manage business opportunities arising from the benefits of scale and the increased competitive forces that are possible through joint procurement

and sourcing.

Total purchases amount to EUR 2.5 billion annually.

Transports and logistics The transport requirements of Stora Enso are substantial and the Group is, by volume, one of Europe's largest transporters. Incoming shipments

amount to approximately 32 million tonnes annually of raw materials such as wood, chips and chemicals.

Stora Enso manages the transport and distribution of finished goods itself, with the assistance of various suppliers in the transport field. Each year, the Group signs agreements amounting to EUR 0.7 billion covering the transport and distribution of finished goods.

Transport systems within the Group are determined by long-term cost efficiency, quality, custom-

er service/requirements, flexibility and environmental awareness.

The outgoing transports originate mainly from Finland, Germany and Sweden. Transports from the Nordic countries are handled almost exclusively through combinations of different means of logistics services into transport chains in which sea transport plays an important role. Transport by truck, rail and sea are equally critical in ensuring that the products reach customers on time and undamaged. Goods from German mills are transported and distributed on the European continent mainly by truck.

New transport system

During 1999 a new transport system will be introduced for Swedish exports. Key components in the system include a new intermodal carrier for use in shipments by rail and sea, as well as seaborne transports with new Ro/Ro vessels on the Gothenburg-Zeebrugge route. The new system will gradually be introduced over a five-year period. When fully implemented it is expected to result in annual cost-savings of approximately EUR 22 M through an improvement of more than 20% in transport efficiency, reduced environmental impact and increased customer service.

Distribution of transport value Sea transport

Distribution of purchasing

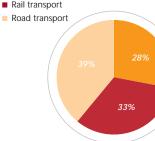
Raw materials Investments

48%

Services

value

- Rail transport



Stora Enso's sales network has the day-to-day contact providing service to the Group's customers in all products areas and around the globe.

Marketing and sales network

STORA ENSO'S WORLDWIDE MARKETING and sales network includes more than 30 own regional sales companies, with additional local branch offices, and a wide network of agents marketing the Group's products and serving its customers. Europe is Stora Enso's main market, but the Group is significantly expanding its presence in America and Asia Pacific.

Interactive communication between production facilities, sales companies and customers is vital to provide excellence in service and distribution of the Group's products. Stora Enso recognizes the importance of product development and market research in close cooperation with its customers. Many successes and synergies are made possible as a result of sharing best practices across different lines of business and geographic boundaries.

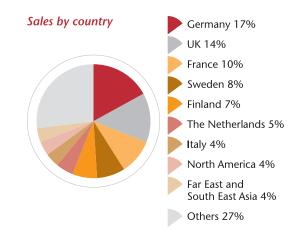
Stora Enso offers expert and professional sales support in the form of a team drawn from mills, divisions and sales offices, which believes in listening to customers and working with them to achieve continuous improvement. By focusing on

Sales by country (EUR M)	1998	1997
Germany	1,827.0	1,611.2
UK	1,436.9	1,405.4
France	1,003.6	893.9
Sweden	881.0	919.9
Finland	726.0	741.3
The Netherlands	555.0	525.7
Italy	432.6	384.9
Spain	400.4	371.9
Belgium	373.9	341.3
Denmark	329.6	307.7
Other EU	321.0	317.9
Total EU	8,287.0	7,821.0
Other Europe	733.9	620.6
North America	445.5	318.3
Far East and Southeast Asia	406.2	623.9
Others	617.0	614.3
Total	10,489.6	9,998.1

its customers in all sales-related matters, the Group helps them succeed in their markets, a prerequisite for Stora Enso's own success.

Stora Enso will continue to seek opportunities to expand its business in attractive markets to better serve its customers. It is Stora Enso's ambition to exceed customers' expectations and to become their preferred supplier.





The main task of R&D in Stora Enso is to provide knowledge and specialized knowhow to improve overall performance. Good process efficiency needs to be combined with timely introduction of new or improved grades, striving for unique advantages.

Research and development

ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS must be combined with sustainability, i.e. ecobalanced production with minimum impact on the environment. This enables customer demands for consistent service, appropriate quality and ecobalanced products to be met.

Stora Enso organizes shared R&D resources, facilities and expertise at the Group's mills and joint Research centers. At corporate level, Stora Enso employs 400 researchers and engineers. The resources at divisional and mill levels are about the same.

Technology and productivity Uniform paper quality

During the first year of operation of the proprietary research tool called the Advanced Total Paper Analyzer, ATPA, about 30 paper and board machines have been analyzed. The ATPA has proven to be a useful tool for trouble-shooting and for setting high standards for paper machine performance in terms of uniform and consistent quality.

Runnability in printing presses and winding

Customers place increasing demands on printing papers. The ability to run the paper at high speed in the printing press without disturbances is a prerequisite for achieving high productivity. High print quality is also essential, as well as a perfect runnability in the finishing department.

Projects for systematic analysis and subsequent reduction of web tension variations have started in three large press rooms with a total circulation of about three million newspapers.

Winding is a key production process for achieving customer satisfaction and internal efficiency. Application-oriented trials reduced break rates for LWC rotogravure reels by 55%.

Twin ABC at Grycksbo

Quality and productivity have been improved at the Grycksbo paper mill, where the world's first Twin-ABC coater has been installed. A new blade type was developed for the coater. In two units, two-sided blade coating is now performed in one step.

R&D centers	No. of employees
Imatra, Finland	120
Falun, Sweden	110
Karlstad, Sweden	130
Viersen, Germany	40
Total	400

Product performance and new grades Matt coated fine paper

Matt coated fine paper often suffers from poor ink drying, which results in ink-stuff problems in the book bindery. This is clearly not acceptable for a modern, cost-efficient production unit, and the industry has struggled with this problem for more than twenty years. The solution is to be found in the very complex interaction between ink and paper surface.

The new modern sheet-fed offset press, recently installed at the Research Center in Falun, has been an important tool in the research work, combining printing with advanced chemical and physical analysis of the ink drying process. This has yielded detailed knowledge of the paper properties and the phenomena which influence the unwanted smearing and the print quality. Mill implementations of the new findings are in progress and will lead to important improvements in matt coated grades.

Reduced smearing on newsprint

Smearing of ink from printed areas onto other parts of the printed copy, so-called set-off and rub-off, is a well-known problem, mainly in cold-set web offset printing of newsprint. The main causes of such quality problems and potential improvements have been identified.

The use of selected types of clay as fillers has been established as a standard procedure for the production of certain grades of low-smearing newsprint, which have been well received by the market.

Improved newsprint – Europress

Development work has proceeded on optimizing the furnish to further improve the Kvarnsveden paper



mill's "medium brightness" newsprint grade, known as Europress. The work has also focused on optimizing other production conditions. The new grade has been well accepted in the market place.

Digital paper

Stora Enso's leading position as a manufacturer of office papers has been strengthened by investments in both R&D and production technology. A new laboratory for digital printing papers has been established at the Imatra Research Center. Its centerpiece is a Xeicon-engine, four-color digital printing press with special instrumentation.

Investments at the Veitsiluoto and Berghuizer paper mills have created new possibilities for developing new grades and increased production efficiency.

A new grade has been launched for high-resolution printers, and new technology has been introduced for the production of uncoated 4CC grade.

New barrier coating

Plastic-coated barrier products for liquid cartons and oven packages have entered the commercialization stage. The development is emphasizing on-line applied dispersion-based coatings, which provide a superior solution for many packaging applications.

Board properties and packaging performance

Cartons and fiber-based packagings have considerable development potential and will continue to be highly competitive packaging materials. As a leading board manufacturer, Stora Enso places special emphasis on being the technology leader and developing new concepts and technologies for future rebuilds and new machines.

Research at the Skoghall board mill has demonstrated the relationship between board properties and packaging performance. Since the bending stiffness of the board is of vital importance in packaging operations, new concepts for liquid packaging board production have been developed based on this parameter. New methods for predicting the properties of packaging already in production have been implemented at the mill based on this work.

Triplex board

A new Triplex board for advanced flexoprinting has been developed. This board meets the demand for source reduction and good printability.

Environmental qualities Ecomill

The concept of ecobalanced production is an approach which considers both economy and ecology. A good example is the new bleach plant at the Skoghall board mill, which combines high pulp quality with small effluent volumes and low environmental impact.

Another example is the implementation of new water management practices at the Uetersen paper mill, resulting in lower consumption of process chemicals due to cleaner process water.

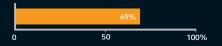
Recycling of used liquid cartons

The processing line for recycling used liquid cartons, which was commissioned in 1995 at Varkaus, has been further developed. The degree of fiber recovery has been improved with new technology. A gasification technique for polyethylene is under development and has been tested on a pilot scale. Energy recovery from polyethylene is highly efficient, and the process also opens up the possibility of utilizing the separated aluminum as a raw material.

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Environmental Management Systems



By year-end 1998, 34 Stora Enso sites had EMAS-registered (Eco Management and Audit Scheme) and/or ISO 14001-certified environmental management systems. These sites represented 69% of total pulp, paper and board

These sites represented 69% of total pulp, paper and board production within the Group. All sawmills within Stora Enso Timber (Finland and Sweden) will have certified environmental management systems in early 1999.

Environmental management

Environmental issues as

part of business management

Environmental issues are an integral part of business management within Stora Enso. To ensure continuous improvement of its operations and to create openness to its stakeholders, Stora Enso is working forcefully to implement environmental management systems.

A majority of Stora Enso's business units is registered according to EMAS (EU's Eco Management and Audit Scheme) and/or certified according to ISO 14001.

The responsibility for environmental protection rests with operative management. All Stora Enso employees are encouraged to contribute to achieving environmental improvements. In order to be able to apply the most up-to-date environmental expertise at all levels, Stora Enso arranges regular training on environmental issues for its employees.

In order to optimize the allocation of financial resources to environmental protection and material flows, and to improve the environmental profile of its products, Stora Enso applies a lifecycle approach in its efforts to continuously improve its environmental performance.

Financial review

In 1998, Stora Enso spent EUR 164 M (1997:188) on environmental protection. The figure includes capital expenditure as well as operating and maintenance costs, but excludes interests and depreciation. Total environmental investments amounted to EUR 68 M, while environmental expenses totaled EUR 96 M.

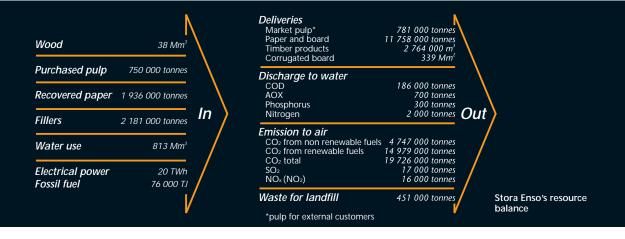
Major environmental investments included EUR 10.3 M for upgrading the chemical recovery system and internal improvements at the Skutskär pulp mill to reduce discharge to water. At the Anjalankoski mills the investment program for improving waste-water treatment was finalized, with the 1998 costs amounting to EUR 3.6 M. In addition to the modernization of the treatment plant, measures for closing process water flows and for improving the sludge treatment were included. At the Norrsundet pulp mill, EUR 3.5 M was invested in an oxygen delignification stage. EUR 3.0 M was used to finalize the clean-up work on soil and buildings at the old forest chemicals plant at Imatrankoski.

The following units in Finland are due to renew their discharge permits in 1999-2000: Enocell, Imatra, Oulu and Varkaus. The Hylte, Kvarnsveden, Grycksbo and Skoghall mills in Sweden are involved in permitting processes for increased production of current paper and board qualities.

Financial savings can be achieved by integrating environmental issues with business management. One example is residual products management. Since waste can in many cases be defined as a raw material in the wrong place, Stora Enso continuously investigates new solutions for reusing residues which were earlier regarded as waste. As a result, the business units have been able to reduce waste volumes by utilizing them on an increasingly large scale. Often, these solutions can be justified purely based on financial reasons.

A total of EUR 42 M has been estimated to cover future environmental expenditure. The timing for implementing these measures is not detailed in all parts but the programs will be carried out over the next few years.

Major remediation projects include the final disposal of mercury at the Skutskär harbor. At Uetersen, plans are being made for the decommissioning of a closed landfill area. At Pateniemi in Northern Finland, cleaning of the old sawmill has been started. At Skoghall, cleanup of mercury contamination at the disused chloralkali plant continues.



Environmental investments and costs

EUR M	1998	1997
Environment-related investments		
Aquatic environment	36	45
Air environment	12	18
Other	20	26
Total	68	89
Environmental costs	96	99

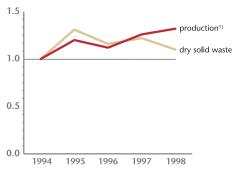
Decommissioning activities at the closed Falun mine area are in progress, partly financed by the Swedish Government.

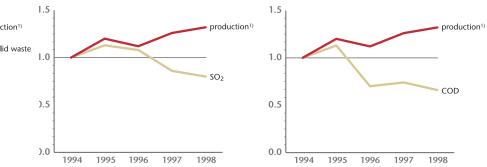
Stora Enso is free from legal claims concerning environmental issues which could have a major impact on Stora Enso's financial position.

Forests and energy

In forestry, environmental activities in 1998 concentrated on developing environmental management and forest certification. Stora Enso's wood supply to the Finnish mills (including wood imports) as well as the Woodlands Division's supply to the Port Hawkesbury mill in Nova Scotia, Canada, received ISO 14001 certificates in 1998. The FSC certification of Stora Enso's forest holdings in Sweden (1.9 million hectares) was completed in 1998. In Finland, the preparedness for forest certifi-

Improving environmental performance





Stora Enso devotes considerable effort to finding new solutions for the reuse of residuals which were earlier considered as waste. A typical example is ash, which is being used in an increasing amount as a raw material for road and other land-based construction projects, as well as for the revitalization of forest lands. Total emissions from Stora Enso's operations have decreased, despite the fact that production is now some 30 % higher than five years ago. This trend is a result of growing awareness of environmental issues, environmental training and investment in modern, cleaner, resource-saving technology and the introduction of environmental management systems.

¹⁾ Sales production of market pulp, paper and board.



cation based on a national standard and criteria was reached and the certification will start in 1999. The aim is to connect the Finnish national certification standard to existing international forest certification schemes.

In energy production, Stora Enso will further develop its biofuel production as well as seek other means to reduce CO₂ emissions from fossil fuels. The large proportion of biofuels (64%) in Stora Enso and the high hydropower capacity will provide a good base for these efforts. Energy efficiency audits and the realization and implementation of envi-

ronmental management systems for energy resources have been started.

Approved investments in a new biofuel boiler at Pankakoski and the combined heat and power production (CHP) with natural gas in Anjalankoski will reduce emissions significantly.

Further information on environmental issues within Stora Enso will be available in the Group's Environmental Report, which will be published in early May 1999. Stora Enso's Environmental Policy will be published in April 1999.

Glossary

AOX (Adsorbable Organic Halogen)	The AOX content of waste water indicates the concentration of organic chlorine present.
CO ₂ (Carbon dioxide)	Gaseous compound formed during combustion.
COD (Chemical Oxygen Demand)	Chemical oxygen-consuming substances. A measure of the amount of oxygen required for the total chemical breakdown of organic substances in water.
NOx	General formula for a mixture of nitrogen oxides formed by combustion. One of the causes of acidity in the environment.
SO2 (Sulphur dioxide)	Sulphur dioxide is formed when sulphur-containing fuels such as oil and coal are burned. Sulphur dioxide contributes to the acidification of soil and water.

Stora Enso's 1998 Environmental Report may be ordered from

Stora Enso Oyj Corporate Communications P.O. Box 309 • FIN-00101 Helsinki, Finland Tel +358 20 46 131 • Fax +358 20 46 21471

Stora Enso Oyj

Corporate Communications SE-791 80 Falun, Sweden Tel +46 23 78 00 00 • Fax +46 23 253 29 The aim of Human resources is to support competence development and performance improvement.

Human resources

STORA ENSO'S VISION IS TO CREATE A WORKING CLIMATE in which all conditions for excellent performance are in place. This is essential in order to further develop our competitiveness among the world's leading forest industry groups. It also means that employees perceive the Group to be a good employer, appreciative of their knowledge and skills and prepared to reward good performance.

The process to establish Stora Enso's common values and the corporate human resources strategy was launched during the fourth quarter of 1998 and will continue during 1999.

Continuous performance improvements during 1998 have been supported by quality management programs, which will be continued in 1999.

Performance culture

There is a fundamental process in progress to achieve a new corporate culture, based on a shared vision and values. An attitude survey focusing on mergerrelated issues was performed during the third quarter of 1998 among selected employee groups. The results of this study will benefit management practices and training programs development within Stora Enso in 1999.

Action programs based on the results of earlier surveys were implemented during the year. These focused on management practices, human resources development, employee performance and improvements at all workplaces.

Profit-sharing schemes

Since 1998, Stora Enso has applied compensation systems that take into account the performance and profit of the Group and Group units, as well as the individual employee.

The two merged companies have employed compensation systems (see Note 6). As of 1999, a Compensation Committee has been appointed within and by the Board of Directors for the purpose of establishing management terms and conditions and for ensuring that the company develops forms of remuneration that will motivate and create value in the new Stora Enso.

Planning of Stora Enso's future profit-sharing scheme was started during the fourth quarter of 1998 and will be finalized in March 1999. The scheme will be based on company profits and on the achievement of key business targets. Various job- and performance evaluation systems will be developed to support the scheme.

Competence development

Competence development improves both employee performance and the working climate throughout the organization. The Group's goal is that each employee be assigned an individual development plan.

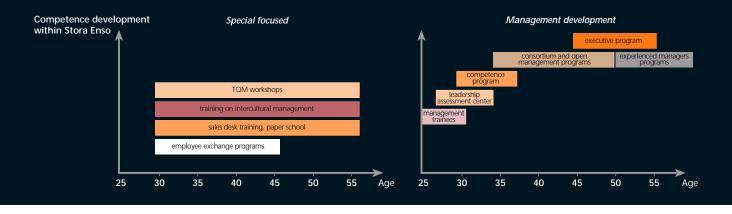
The efficiency programs implemented in the mills during 1997-98 are designed to develop the competence of personnel and facilitate change, and to improve all working methods and processes.

Management development

Stora Enso focuses on good management and to this end several internal and external training programs and courses were conducted during the year.

Management training programs are designed to meet the specific needs of different groups of managerial staff and provide optimal opportunities for professional and individual development.

Programs for sales personnel and candidates for assignment abroad include internationalization training. Intercultural training workshops were started during the fourth quarter of 1998.



Attracting top talents

The Group has conducted a trainee program for newly recruited persons with university degrees in, for example, engineering and business administration. The program has been internationalized by including participants from different countries, in order to strengthen the international network.

The internal job market (IJM) has been in operation during the year, with the aim of increasing employee mobility between units and divisions. Through job changes and more varied and challenging careers, employees are provided with improved opportunities for personal development enabling the employer to better utilize their skills and experience. The IJM concept will be further developed within the Group.

Key figures

Personnel	1998	1997
Personnel, average	40,679	40,301
Sales/employee (EUR)	257,863	248,086
Personnel turnover (%)	2.8	2.9

Average number of employees

by country	1998	1997
Finland	15,601	15,852
Sweden	11,354	11,507
Germany	5,782	5,523
France	1,470	1,595
Canada	1,044	894
UK	967	1,021
Belgium	788	807
Portugal	469	487
Spain	393	415
Other countries	2,811	2,200
Total	40,679	40,301

Report on operations by the Board of Directors

Combination of Stora Kopparbergs Bergslags Aktiebolag and Enso Oyj

On June 2, 1998, the Boards of Directors of Stora Kopparbergs Bergslags Aktiebolag (STORA) and Enso Oyj (Enso) signed an agreement to combine the two companies. The two Boards of Directors decided it would be in the interests of both the companies and their shareholders to combine their business operations. In accordance with the terms and conditions approved by Enso's extraordinary meeting of shareholders on July 23, 1998, it is Enso's intention to acquire all STORA's shares. Enso has offered STORA shareholders an opportunity to exchange their shares as follows: 0.50829 Enso Series A shares and 0.94313 Enso Series R shares for each STORA Series A share held, and 1.45142 Enso Series R shares for each STORA Series B share held.

The exchange offer was valid from July 27 to December 17, 1998. At the end of the offer period, Enso had 96.1% of STORA's shares and 96.2% of the votes. Following the share issue connected with the offer, Enso's share capital was increased to FIM 7,595,796,890, and this was registered in the Trade Register on December 23, 1998. Stora Enso's share capital is divided into 243,394,655 Series A shares and 516,185,034 Series R shares. Quotations for the new shares on the Helsinki Exchanges began on December 29, 1998. The shares were quoted on the Stockholm Stock Exchange from the same date.

Stora Enso Oyj intends to acquire all STORA shares outstanding. Accordingly, on January 14, 1999, Stora Enso announced the compulsory acquisition of all outstanding STORA shares and made shareholders a cash offer to acquire their shares at SEK 88 per share. The price corresponds to a cash value of the offered share consideration in the public offer, based on the weighted average paid price for Enso Oyj shares at the Helsinki Exchanges between December 7 and 17, 1998.

STORA applied to have listings discontinued for its Series A and B shares on the Stockholm and London stock exchanges and for its Series B shares on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange. The final day of trading for STORA's shares was Tuesday, January 19, 1999.

New Board of Directors and auditors The amendments to the Articles of Association, together with the members of the Board of Directors of Stora Enso Oyj and the auditors approved by the

extraordinary meeting of Enso Oyj shareholders on July 23, 1998, were registered on December 23, 1998. The previous Board of Directors remained in office up to December 22, 1998 and consisted of Jukka Härmälä (Chairman), Kimmo Kalela, Pekka Laaksonen, Esko Mäkeläinen, Paavo Pitkänen, Juhani Pohjolainen (Vice Chairman), Jouko Taukojärvi and Paavo Uronen. The members of the new Board of Directors are Josef Ackermann, Krister Ahlström (Vice Chairman), Harald Einsmann, Claes Dahlbäck (Chairman), Björn Hägglund, Jukka Härmälä, Raimo Luoma, Paavo Pitkänen, Jan Sjöqvist and Marcus Wallenberg. The company's Chief Executive Officer is Jukka Härmälä and Björn Hägglund was appointed Deputy Chief Executive Officer. KPMG Wideri Oy Ab were registered as the company's alongside SVH Pricewaterhouseauditors Coopers Oy.

The Supervisory Board of Enso Oyj was abolished. The members of the Supervisory Board, which functioned up to December 22, 1998, were Krister Ahlström, Carl-Olaf Homén, Ulla Lähteenmäki, Jukka Mikkola (Chairman), Pekka Morri, Markku Mäkinen, Kauko Mäkivuoti, Tuija Nurmi, Pekka Ruotsalainen, Sisko Seppä, Matti Väistö (Vice Chairman) and Ben Zyskowicz.

The members of the Board of Stora Kopparbergs Bergslags Aktiebolag were Claes Dahlbäck (Chairman), Harald Einsmann, Björn Hägglund, Håkan Mogren, Jan Sjöqvist, Björn Svedberg and Marcus Wallenberg (Vice Chairman). The employee representatives were Ingemar Falk, Roger Karlsson, Ann-Christin Käll, Tommy Nordkvist (deputy member) and Kjell Westin (deputy member).

Integration of operations and synergy benefits The European Commission approved the combination proposal in November, opening the way for fullscale cooperation between the different parts of the new Group. Management and planning of business operations are now being conducted in accordance with the Group's new business organiz ation. The search for synergies and their realiz ation, largescale benchmarking of operations and the related search for best practices, and STORA's productivity programs are all going according to plan.

The most significant synergy benefits accruing from the combination will come from more efficient production, purchasing and logistics, marketing and administration. These will be realized in full by 2002. The biggest synergies will be found in fine paper, packaging boards and chemical pulp.

The estimated reduction in workforce is around 2,000 persons in 1999–2002. As already announced, the number employed in administration, sales and marketing will be cut by 400–500. These reductions are due to reorganiz ations necessary in other parts of the Group arising from benchmarking and from pursuing a "best practices" policy.

The combination of the two companies has proceeded according to plan. Management was appointed on December 23 and combination of divisions on all levels started at the beginning of 1999. Stora Enso is managed from dual head offices in Helsinki and Stockholm. Düsseldorf has become the divisional head office of Magaz ine paper, Newsprint and Fine paper and the managements have already started operating from there. Management of the Packaging boards division is located in Helsinki. Pulp division is led from Gävle, Merchant division from Mölndal and Timber division from Brand in Austria. Asia division management is in Singapore. The combining of the marketing networks is already under way, but not yet fully implemented.

Markets and deliveries

Until the fourth quarter, demand for almost all of the Group's products was better than last year in Western Europe, the main market, thanks to the favorable economic trend. Economic difficulties in Asia, Russia and South America reduced demand in these markets. The biggest growth was in magaz ine paper, newsprint and fine paper, deliveries of which increased by a combined total of 613,000 tonnes. Deliveries of packaging boards were 151,000 tonnes down on the preceding year. Paper and board deliveries totaled 11,758,000 tonnes. Deliveries of market pulp were down on 1997 because of production curtailments necessitated by imbalances in the market. Pulp deliveries fell by 163,000 tonnes and sawn timber deliveries increased by 244,000 cubic meters.

Sales and financial results

Stora Enso's consolidated financial statements have been produced in accordance with the recommendations of the International Accounting Standards Committee (IASC). The combination of STORA's and Enso's operations meets the requirements for pooling as stated in IAS 22, and the combination of STORA and Enso in the accounts is therefore dealt with using the pooling method. Consolidated sales were FIM 62,369 million, 4.9% up on the preceding year. The growth was achieved largely through the increased volume of deliveries made possible by expansions to production at the Holtz mann, Oulu, Port Hawkesbury and Skoghall mills. Acquisition of the Suz hou Papyrus Paper mill in China in June and Holz industrie Schweighofer in Austria in December raised sales by FIM 296 million. Sales were also boosted by the rise in prices for newsprint and magaz ine paper but were reduced by the lower prices for pulp and sawn timber. In 1998, the STORA Group had sales of FIM 30,987 million and the Enso Group sales of FIM 31,503 million.

Operating profit for 1998 was FIM 4,273 million, 6.9% of sales. Operating profit before non-recurring items was FIM 7,074 million, 11.3% of sales. The figures for the preceding year were FIM 5,449 million and 9.2%. Operating profit benefited from the higher production and delivery volumes and from the rise in prices for paper products. Profitability was adversely affected by the fall in prices for chemical pulp and sawn timber and by curtailments to pulp, fine paper and packaging board production. The financial result was adversely affected by start-up problems on Port Hawkesbury's new SC paper machine. Due to lack of orders the Skoghall's board machine no. 8 did not reach full capacity.

At operating profit level, non-recurring items including merger costs, restructuring provisions and items affecting comparability, totaled FIM 2,801 million.

The direct cost of the combination was FIM 1,249 million, comprising FIM 357 million in depreciation on fixed assets and FIM 892 million in reorganiz ation costs, fees to the advisors and severance payments.

In addition to these direct costs, FIM 1,457 million as write-downs and provisions was entered in the accounts. Most of this relates to structural changes that may be necessary in the future, for which FIM 268 million was entered as provisions and FIM 654 million as accelerated depreciation on machinery and equipment. The remaining FIM 535 million represents additional amortiz ation of goodwill relating to poorly profitable production plants. This depreciation will reduce depreciation according to plan by around FIM 60 million annually.

Items affecting comparability include capital tax refunds of FIM 122 million received in Germany and a loss on the sale of technical office papers of FIM 122 million.

Depreciation increased by FIM 1,913 million to FIM 6,846 million, of which non-recurring writedowns accounted for FIM 1,548 million. The increase is due to the machine investments at Port Hawkesbury and Skoghall and to the additional depreciation made on fixed assets and goodwill in the accounts.

Net financial items for the period were FIM 2,255 million, 3.6% of sales. The figures for 1997 were FIM 1,666 million and 2.8%. Interest expenses rose because of the increase in interest-bearing loans taken for investments. Net interest expenses also include FIM 66 million in non-recurring items. The fall in interest rates worldwide reduced interest expenses. Exchange-rate losses for the period to-taled FIM 180 million, compared with gains of FIM 135 million in 1997. Weakening of the rouble brought exchange-rate losses of FIM 101 million in connection with the Russian corrugated board mill project.

Profit after financial items totaled FIM 2,018 million, a decrease of FIM 1,765 million on the year before. Profit after financial items and before nonrecurring items was FIM 4,885 million.

Taxes for the period were FIM 881 million, 43.7% of the pre-tax profit. The high tax in relation to profit is explained by the non-tax-deductible expenses, principally amortiz ation of goodwill, set against profit. Taxes were FIM 342 million lower than in 1997.

Profit for the period was FIM 1,136 million and profit before non-recurring items FIM 3,578 million. Earnings per share were FIM 1.50, and FIM 4.71 respectively.

Return on capital employed (ROCE) was 6.2%, compared with 8.0% the year before. ROCE before non-recurring items was 10.2%. Return on equity was 3.4%, against 7.6% in 1997. The adjusted figure in 1998 was 10.6%.

Changes in Group composition

Following the combination, Stora Kopparbergs Bergslags Aktiebolag is now a subsidiary of Stora Enso Oyj. The accounts show FIM 26,926 million as the cost of acquiring a 96.1% share in STORA.

On January 7, 1998, the Group increased its interest in E. Holtz mann & Cie AG by 40%. This was increased to 100% through further purchases in September and October. Purchase cost in 1998 amounted to FIM 1,722 million.

On June 12, 1998, an agreement was signed to acquire 60% of the Chinese company Suz hou Papyrus Paper Co. Ltd. The company's mill, which is located some 90 km west of Shanghai, started production in 1997 and has a coated fine paper capacity of around 120,000 t/a.

On November 11, 1998, the Group acquired a 19.9% stake in the Thai company Advance Agro Pcl for FIM 404 million. A marketing agreement was also signed giving Stora Enso sole rights to market Advance Agro's pulp and fine paper outside Thailand.

On December 2, 1998, the subsidiary Enso Timber acquired the Austrian company Holz industrie Schweighofer AG. The purchase was paid for partly in cash and partly in Enso Timber shares. As a result, the Schweighofer family now has a 33% interest.

On December 31, 1998, the Group sold its technical office papers business to Mitsubishi Corporation. The Group has retained a 24% stake in the technical office papers manufacturers Stora Carbonless Paper GmbH (Hillegossen) and Stora Spez ialpapiere GmbH (Flensburg). The amount of capital tied up in the businesses sold was around FIM 1,100 million.

Financing

In accordance with the decision of the extraordinary meeting of shareholders, STORA shareholders were offered to exchange their shares for Enso shares. The share issue related to the offer resulted in the company's share capital being increased by FIM 4,480 million, the number of shares increasing by 448,488,859. The Group's shareholders' equity at the end of the year was FIM 31,474 million. Equity per share was FIM 41.44, a decrease of FIM 1.72 on the preceding year.

The Group did not enter into significant loan financing arrangements during the financial period.

The Group's debt/equity ratio was 1.04 at the end of the year, compared with 1.05 at the end of 1997. Entries in the accounts related to the merger costs raised the debt/equity ratio by 0.07. The increase in interest-bearing net liabilities due to investments also raised the debt/equity ratio. The decrease in working capital, mainly due to production curtailments, the sale of the technical office papers, and the low level of investment all lowered the debt/ equity ratio in the fourth quarter.

Dividend and payments for acquiring the re-

maining STORA shares will weaken the debt/equity level in the first quarter of 1999.

Interest-bearing net liabilities were FIM 34,382 million at the end of the year, FIM 1,828 million lower than the year before. FIM 1,503 million of this reduction relates to weakening of SEK against FIM. Capital employed, less tax liability, averaged FIM 69,059 million, an increase of FIM 1,010 million on 1997.

The cash flow from operations in 1998 was FIM 12,794 million, compared with FIM 9,471 million the preceding year. Most of the increase is attributable to the improved profitability for newsprint and magaz ine paper.

Cash reserves and unutilized credit facilities totaled FIM 14,700 million at the end of the year.

The introduction of the euro in January 1999 will reduce the cost of the Group's financing and payment transactions as well as foreign currency and interest rate risks. The euro area accounts for 53% of the Group's invoicing. Invoicing will be changed and denominated in euro in stages.

Capital expenditure

Capital expenditure in 1998 totaled FIM 5,330 million. The biggest single investment was Port Hawkesbury's new paper machine, which started up in April. The machine has an estimated annual production capacity of 350,000 tonnes of uncoated (SC) magaz ine paper. Most of the machine's output is intended for the North American market. A total of FIM 3,670 million has been spent on this project, FIM 1,354 million of it in 1998. Start-up did not go fully according to plan, as difficulties with the calender coverings have caused quality problems. An action program is being implemented at the mill to raise production efficiency, product quality and cost competitiveness to the desired levels.

Other siz able investment projects in 1998 were the recovery boiler at the Gruvön mill (FIM 108 million), a web former at the Hylte mill (FIM 116 million), a coater for board machine no. 3 at the Fors mill (FIM 165 million), and a rebuild of paper machine no. 10 at the Grycksbo mill (FIM 83 million) in Sweden, a rebuild of board machine no. 1 at the Imatra mill (FIM 57 million) and soft calenders for Veitsiluoto's paper machine no. 2 (FIM 130 million) in Finland, a rebuild of paper machine no. 8 at the Maxau mill in Germany (FIM 276 million), and Pakenso's new corrugated board mill at Balabanovo in Russia (FIM 159 million).

Research and development

The Group's research and development work is conducted using joint resources at the research centers and also within the business units. Some R&D services are also purchased from outside. The Group's R&D expenditure, including trial runs at the mills, was about FIM 477 million. Development of products and processes also takes place in conjunction with investments.

Environmental affairs

Within Stora Enso, environmental affairs are an integral part of business management. The environmental effects of operations are assessed using the life cycle approach. To ensure responsible management of these affairs, Stora Enso places special emphasis on comprehensive environmental management and environmental monitoring. This applies to normal daily operations, investment projects and acquisitions.

Personnel

During the year, the Group had an average of 40,679 employees, 378 more than the preceding year. The increase is due partly to the acquisitions of Holz industrie Schweighofer and Suz hou Papyrus Paper and to the investment at Port Hawkesbury. Information on salaries paid to employees and company directors can be found in the Notes to the accounts.

Events occurring after

the closing of accounts

The offer dated January 14, 1999 to STORA shareholders, under which they may voluntarily sell their shares, had resulted in the acquisition of an additional 5,050,697 STORA shares by February 10, 1999. Subsequently, Stora Enso holds 97.7% of STORA shares and votes.

On January 19, 1999 STORA shares were delisted from the Stockholm, London and Frankfurt stock exchanges.

On February 10, 1999, it was decided to sell the business operations and material assets of Tervakoski Oy to a new Finnish company to be set up by the Austrian company Trierenberg AG. The selling price is FIM 546 million, which will produce a profit of FIM 160 million.

It was also decided to sell the fixed assets of the Danish Dalum mill to a group a Danish investors for

about FIM 170 million.

The Board also appointed an advisor to review alternative options for the future ownership of the Gruvön mill.

Year 2000 compliance project

The Year 2000 project to comply with IT solutions ahead of the millennium shift was started in January 1997. By the beginning of 1999, 70% of the necessary changes had been made. The aim is to have all units ready by July 1, 1999. Not all changes can be made while the mills are in production, and provision has thus been made for some minor delays. The cost of the project is around FIM 268 million. The internal risks are thought to be small. The risks mainly concern predicting the readiness for the year 2000 of raw material and other suppliers, social structure in different countries, and customers. The aim is to reduce the risks and to produce contingency plans to secure the continuity of business operations in all situations.

Outlook for 1999

The trend in the world economy is clouded by uncertainties arising from the economic trends in Asia, Russia and South America and their potential effects. In Europe and the United States, on the other hand, economic trends are forecast to remain fairly stable despite a certain weakening. The first half of 1999 is not likely to show any major improvement in the market. Economic activity and demand for paper are expected to increase towards the end of the year with the approach of the new millennium.

Consolidated income statement

FIM mill.	Note	1998	1997
Sales	2, 3	62 368.6	59 446.0
Finished and semifinished goods, increase (+)		248.4	47.1
Share of profits of associated companies		59.2	98.2
Other operating income	5	267.2	360.4
Materials and services		-33 495.2	-31 831.7
Freights and sales commissions		-6 040.8	-6 543.0
Personnel expenses	6, 26	-10 733.1	-10 329.6
Depreciation and value adjustments	10	-6 846.2	-4 933.1
Other operating expenses		-1 555.4	-865.5
Operating profit	2, 3, 7	4 272.8	5 448.8
Financing	8	-2 255.0	-1 665.6
Profit before tax and minority items		2 017.8	3 783.2
Тах	9	-881.1	-1 222.7
Profit after taxes		1 136.7	2 560.5
Minority interests		-0.9	-128.6
Profit for the period		1 135.8	2 431.8
Key Ratios			
Earnings per share, FIM	27	1.50	3.20
Earnings per share diluted, FIM	27	1.49	3.19

Consolidated balance sheet

Assets FIM mill.	Note	31.12.1998	31.12.1997
Fixed assets and other long-term investments	11, 18		
Intangible assetsO		249.7	251.1
Intangible assetsO Goodwill on consolidationO		3 213.6	3 028.7
Property, plant and equipmentO		61 981.7	63 806.5
Shares, associated companiesO	12	1 986.6	1 890.1
Shares, other companiesO	13	766.0	339.2
Capital investment shares	14	285.3	225.2
Long-term loan receivablesI		535.4	462.5
Deferred tax receivableT	9	46.6	69.3
Other non-current assetsO		471.0	467.1
		69 535.8	70 539.7
Current assets			
InventoriesO	16	7 921.4	7 664.8
Tax receivableT	9	20.3	1.6
Short-term receivablesO	17	10 603.6	12 132.6
Short-term investments and receivablesI		1 489.1	653.8
Cash and cash equivalentsI		2 071.9	1 484.6
		22 106.3	21 937.5
Total assets		91 642.1	92 477.2

Shareholders' equity and liabilities FIM mill.		Note	31.12.1998	31.12.1997
Shareholders' equity		19		
Share capital			7 595.8	7 595.8
Restricted equity			4 189.1	4 376.9
Retained earnings			18 553.1	18 375.0
Profit for the period			1 135.8	2 431.8
			31 473.8	32 779.5
Minority interests			1 657.5	1 615.6
Provisions				
Pension provisions	I		3 161.6	3 353.5
Deferred tax liability	T	9	7 950.8	8 168.4
Other provisions	0		1 521.9	722.0
Long-term liabilities				
Long-term debt	I	20	25 531.4	25 026.1
Other long-term liabilities	O		539.9	502.1
			26 071.3	25 528.2
Current liabilities				
Current portion of long-term debt	I	20	7 244.2	7 147.6
Short-term borrowings	I		2 826.4	3 508.4
Other current liabilities	0	21	8 631.7	8 832.6
Tax liability	T		1 103.0	821.4
			19 805.3	20 310.0
Total shareholders' equity and liabilities			91 642.1	92 477.2

Items designated with "O" are included in the operative capital. Items designated with "I" are included in interest bearing net liabilities. Items designated with "T" are included in tax liability.



Consolidated balance sheet

(IAS) Equity reconciliation

		31.12.1998		31.12.1997
Share capital		7 595.8		7 595.8
Reserve fund			3 862.8	
Translation difference		3 742.8	185.0	4 047.8
Reserve for own shares		-		-
Other restricted equity			125.8	
Other changes			178.4	
Translation difference		446.3	24.9	329.2
Non-restricted equity	20 806.8		19 838.6	
Dividends paid	-1 442.3		-1 388.2	
To be placed at the disposal of the Board of Directors			-2.5	
Transfer to other restricted equity			-178.4	
Translation difference			105.5	
Profit for the period	1 135.8	19 688.9	2 431.8	20 806.8
Total equity		31 473.7		32 779.5
Distributable funds				
Non-restricted equity		19 688.9		20 806.8
Untaxed reserves included in non-restricted equity		-5 560.2		-4 736.5
Distributable funds 31.12		14 128.6		16 070.2

Consolidated cash flow statement

Assets FIM mill.	1998	1997
Cash flow from operating activities		
Operating profit	4 272.8	5 448.8
Adjustments	6 824.9	4 803.4
Change in net working capital	1 696.6	-780.9
Cash flow from operations	12 794.3	9 471.3
Net financial items	-2 255.0	-1 665.6
Income taxes paid	-232.4	-472.3
Net cash from operating activities	10 306.9	7 333.4
Cash flow from investing activities		
Acquisition of Group companies net of cash	-2 349.9	-1 358.0
Acquisition of affiliated companies	-252.0	-557.6
Investment in other shares	-409.0	-135.0
Capital expenditures	-5 330.0	-6 739.9
Proceeds from disposal of shares in Group companies	765.0	873.1
Proceeds from disposal of shares in affiliated companies	0.0	41.0
Proceeds from disposal of shares in other companies	22.0	26.0
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	264.8	230.0
Changes in long-term operating assets	54.3	-401.7
Net cash used in investing activities	-7 388.4	-8 022.1
Cash flow from financing activities		
Change in long-term liabilities	1 027.2	2 107.8
Change in short term borrowings	-851.3	-1 024.6
Change in long-term receivables	-153.1	105.8
Change in short-term receivables	-887.5	901.5
Dividends paid to Stora Enso shareholders	-1 413.0	-1 356.2
Other dividends paid to minority shareholders	-42.3	-45.0
Other change in shareholders' equity		-2.5
Other change in minority interests	24.8	-31.3
	-2 295.2	655.5
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	623.3	-33.3
Cash and equivalents in sold companies	-17.5	
	-18.5	57.7
Translation differences on cash holdings	-10.5	
	1484.6	1 460.3

	1998	1997
Adjustments include:		
Depreciation and		
value adjustments Share in profits of associated	6 846.2	4 933.1
companies	-59.2	-98.2
Profits and losses on sale	27.0	21 5
of fixed assets	37.8	-31.5
	6 824.9	4 803.4
Acquisition of group companies		
Cash flow on acquisition		
Acquisition-price on companies	2 449.0	1 873.0
Cash and bank in acquired companies	-54.1	-515.0
	2 394.9	1 358.0
Acquired net assets		
Operating working capital	251.4	28.0
Operating fixed assets	3 559.3	2 172.0
Interest-bearing assets less		
cash and bank	8.0	26.0
Tax liabilities	-20.0	0.0
Interest bearing liabilities	–1 092.0	-473.0
Minority interests	-141.9	-395.0
Equity	-170.0	0.0
	2 394.8	1 358.0

	1998	1997
Disposal of Group companies		
Cash flow on disposal		
Sale consideration from disposal		
of companies	765.0	873.1
Cash and bank in sold		
companies	-17.5	0.0
	747.5	873.1
Net assets sold		
Operating working capital	410.9	116.9
Operating fixed assets	918.3	987.1
Interest-bearing assets less		
cash and bank	1.0	0.0
Tax liabilities	-205.4	-80.9
Interest bearing liabilities	-271.0	0.0
Minority interests	-26.2	0.0
Equity (capital gain /loss)	-80.0	-150.0
	747.5	873.1

Parent company income statement

(Finnish Accounting Standards)

FIM mill.	Note	1998	1997
Sales		10 998.7	11 148.6
Finished and semifinished goods, increase (+)		91.1	-74.3
Other operating income	29	423.0	278.7
Iviaterials and services		-8 095.1	-8 552.2
Personnel expense	30	-1 096.3	-1 000.3
Depreciation and value adjustments	33	-412.6	-381.4
	31	-1 136.0	-444.0
Other operating expenses	-	772.8	975.1
Financing net	32	-30.5	15.7
Profit before extraordinary items	-	742.3	990.8
Extraordinary income		1 254.6	957.3
Extraordinary expense		-30.0	-1 631.8
Profit before adjustments and tax	-	1 966.9	316.3
Adjustments		297.0	517.8
Tax	-	-640.4	-241.4
Net profit		1 623.5	592.7

Parent company balance sheet

(Finnish Accounting Standards)

Assets FIM mill.	Note	31.12.1998	31.12.1997
Fixed assets and other long-term investments	34, 40		
Intangible assets		79.2	60.1
Property, plant and equipment		7 819.6	7 895.1
Shares, Group companies	25	33 473.4	6 315.9
Shares, associated companies		1 495.3	1 401.0
Shares, other companies		603.6	181.9
Capital investment shares		208.7	202.5
Shares, associated companies Shares, other companies Capital investment shares Long-term loan receivables		8 738.4	7 686.6
		52 418.2	23 743.0
Current assets			
Inventories	37	970.9	887.5
Short-term receivables	38	2 794.0	3 088.2
Short-term investments and receivables		2 904.5	2 052.3
Cash and cash equivalents		119.1	74.7
		6 788.5	6 102.7
Total assets		59 206.7	29 845.7

Shareholder's equity and liabilities FIM mill.	Note	31.12.1998	31.12.1997
Shareholders' equity	41		
Share capital		7 595.8	3 110.9
Restricted equity		26 032.4	3 612.4
Retained earnings		2 498.0	2 589.6
Profit for the period		1 623.5	592.7
		37 749.7	9 905.7
Accumulated depreciation difference	34	773.2	1 070.2
Provisions			
Pension provisions		0.3	6.3
Other provisions		40.2	13.6
Long-term liabilities		12 331.9	11 094.8
Current liabilities			
Current portion of long-term debt		2 201.1	2 179.9
Short-term borrowings		4 220.8	3 461.4
Other current liabilities	42	1 619.8	1 976.8
Tax liability		269.7	137.0
		8 311.4	7 755.2
Total shareholders' equity and liabilities		59 206.7	29 845.7

Parent company cash flow statement

(Finnish Accounting Standards)

FIM mill.	1998	1997
Cash flow from operating activities		
Operating profit	772.8	975.1
Adjustments		313.3
Change in net working capital		354.3
Cash flow from operations	1 125.5	1 642.7
Interest received	776.6	748.5
Interest paid		-931.8
Other financial income and expenses	169.0	208.4
Extraordinary items	1 224.6	-674.5
Income taxes paid	640.4	-241.4
Net cash from operating activities	1 691.9	751.9
Cash flow from investing activities		
Acquisition of Group companies	-27 158.9	-487.5
Acquisition of affiliated companies		-1.5
Investment in other shares	-432.1	-69.2
Capital expenditures		-213.5
Proceeds from disposal of shares in Group companies		9.2
Proceeds from disposal of shares in affiliated companies		22.7
Proceeds from disposal of shares in other companies	2.0	28.3
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	57.6	60.6
Net cash used in investing activities	-28 040.8	-650.8
Change in long-term receivables		1 201.6
Change in short term borrowings	1 086.2	1 797.7
Change in long-term liabilities		-2 611.5
Dividends paid	-684.4	-560.0
Share issue	26 909.3	
Placed at the disposal of the Board of Directors		-2.5
Net cash used in financing activities	26 480.4	-174.7
Net increase (+) / decrease (-) in cash and cash equivalents	131.5	-73.6
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	896.3	969.9
Cash and equivalents at end of period	1 027.8	896.3
Adjustments include:		
Adjustments include: Depreciation	412.6	381.4
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets		-68.1
	367.8	313.3

Note

Accounting principles

Accounting convention

The financial statements of Stora Enso Oyj (the Parent company), domiciled in Helsinki, are prepared in accordance with prevailing rules and regulations in Finland. The consolidated financial statements of Stora Enso Group are prepared in accordance with and comply with International Accounting Standards (IAS). The consolidated financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements have been modified by the allocation of surplus values to certain assets in connection with acquisitions.

The financial statements are presented in Finnish markka (FIM). The Group's financial period is the calendar year. As of the first quarterly interim report of 1999, the financial statements will be prepared in euro (EUR).

Statement of compliance

The following IAS have been adopted in the Group's financial statements before their effective dates:

IAS 33 Earnings per Share IAS 36 Impairment of Assets

IAS 50 Impairment of Assets

IAS 37 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the dates of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Principles of consolidation

The Stora Enso Group was formed as a combination of the groups parented by Enso Oyj and Stora Kopparbergs Bergslags Aktiebolag (publ). The shareholders of Stora Kopparbergs Bergslags Aktiebolag (publ) converted 96.1% of their shares into Enso Oyj shares. The complete terms of the merger were disclosed in the Prospectus. As a result of the merger Stora Kopparbergs Bergslags Aktiebolag is a subsidiary of Stora Enso Oyj (formerly Enso Oyj).

The Stora Enso merger qualifies the criteria for a pooling of interests under IAS 22. The historical information of the Stora Enso Group is presented as if the Group had been operative from the beginning of 1995.

The consolidated financial statements include the Parent company, and all companies in which it holds, directly or indirectly, more than 50% of the voting rights. The accounts of certain companies in which Stora Enso holds less than 50% of the voting rights but has significant control are also consolidated. The most important subsidiaries are listed in Note 25. Certain subsidiaries that have no material bearing on the Group's distributable share-holders' equity are not included.

Associated companies (voting rights between 20% and 50%) are consolidated using the equity method. The most important associated companies have been listed in Note 12.

Companies acquired are included in the consolidated financial statements from the date of their acquisition. Similarly, the profits of a Group company divested during an accounting period are included in the Group accounts only up to the date of disposal.

All inter-company transactions, receivables, liabilities and unrealized profits as well as the distribution of the profits within the Group, are eliminated. When necessary, accounting policies for subsidiaries have been changed to ensure consistency with the policies adopted by the Group. Minority interests have been disclosed separately from the shareholders' equity and the profit of each subsidiary and are recorded as a separate deduction in the income statement and balance sheet.

Acquired companies are consolidated in accordance with the purchase method. Goodwill represents the excess value of the purchase cost in relation to the fair value of the assets less liabilities of the acquired companies. Goodwill is amortized on a straight line basis over its expected useful life. Useful lives vary from 5–20 years, depending on the nature of the acquisition. Expected useful lives are reviewed at each balance sheet date and where these differ from previous estimates, amortization periods are changed accordingly. When goodwill has been allocated to fixed assets, it is amortized in the remaining useful life of such an asset. Goodwill arising from the acquisition of associated companies is also amortized in its expected useful life.

Transactions in foreign currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rates of exchange prevailing at the dates of transactions. However, for practical reasons, an approximation is often used for the transactions entered during a month. At the end of month, the foreign currency receivables and liabilities in the balance sheet are valued using the end of the month rate. The foreign exchange differences of operating business items are entered into the respective income statement account before operating profit. Foreign exchange differences on financial assets and liabilities are entered in a net amount among financial items in the income statement. The effect of the introduction of the Euro with fixed rates within the Euro area has been entered in the income statement.

Foreign Group companies

The income statements of foreign subsidiaries are translated into Finnish markka using the average rate for the accounting period. The balance sheets of foreign subsidiaries are translated using the rate prevailing at the balance sheet day. The translation differences arising on elimination of shareholders' equity have been entered in the balance sheet under shareholders' equity in relation to distributable and non-distributable shareholders' equity at the date of acquisition of each company in the Group. Group shareholders' equity contains a corresponding entry in respect of exchange differences arising on translation of the value of instruments used to hedge shareholders' equity of foreign subsidiaries. On the disposal of a foreign Group company, the cumulative translation difference is recognized as income or expense in the same period in which the gain or loss on disposal is entered.

Derivative contracts

Derivative contracts are used to hedge the foreign currency exposure on the Group's balance sheet receivables and debts and on probable purchasing and sales contracts. In proprietary operations, derivative contracts are also entered into for trading purposes. The derivative contracts used to hedge commercial items are forward exchange agreements, exchange options and cross-currency swaps.

The business units handle all their foreign currency dealings in conjunction with Stora Enso Group Bank. Their foreign currency exposure is hedged largely through forward agreements. Profits and losses are realized as the contracts mature. The Group Bank calculates the values of all its internal and external forward agreements using market rates at the balance sheet date.

Premiums on foreign currency options are entered under option premiums as either premiums paid or premiums received at the date of payment. Profits and losses are booked on maturity of the agreements and entered as adjustments to operating income and expenses. The Group Bank calculates the values of all its option agreements using market rates and capitalizes option premiums in the accounts on a time basis. Options are valued using generally approved calculation models, and all valuations, together with premiums and capitalizations are included in exchange rate differences.

Interest rate flows (interest income and expenses) from swaps are entered separately and are capitalized at the balance sheet date. Exchange rate differences are calculated and entered in the accounts in full in the exchange rate differences account.

Interest rate derivative agreements are used to hedge the Group's interest rate exposure, and in proprietary operations for trading purposes. The derivative contracts used for hedging are forward interest rate agreements, interest rate futures, interest rate options and interest rate swap agreements.

Hedging is restricted to fixed forward rate agreements and related profits and losses entered as the cash flows are realized. Interest rate flows are not capitalized in the accounts on a time basis, and income and expenses are entered in full in the result for the period.

Cash flows from interest rate futures are realized as the agreements mature or, if the agreement is closed by means of a

counter-transaction, before the end of the agreement period. Interest income and expenses are entered in the accounts as the cash flows are realized and are not capitalized on a time basis. Premiums paid on options purchased are entered under shortterm interest expenses. Correspondingly, premiums received on options sold are entered under short-term interest income. Option premiums are capitalized into interest income and interest expenses for the period of validity of the agreement. The interest flows arising on the maturity of agreements are entered in full as income or expenses for the financial period in question.

Interest flows from interest rate swap agreements are capitalized for the period of validity of the agreement. In the accounts, interest receivable and interest payable are capitalized between the interest income and interest expenses accounts for interest rate derivatives.

Revenue recognition

Sales are recorded upon shipment of products or the rendering of services to customers in accordance with agreed terms of sales.

Sales include the sale of products and services, raw material supplies and energy less indirect sales tax and other sales reductions.

Other operating profit includes rental income, subsidies and profit from sale of fixed assets. Dividends paid by companies considered as a financial investment are recorded in the financial items.

Accounting for the business operations of Stora Enso financial services

Earnings from the business operations of Stora Enso financial services, which are generated from trading in financial instruments, are reported among other operating income/expense. Earnings from operations do not include interest on shareholders' equity or any margins on inter-Group lending or forward contracts.

Provisions

Provisions are recognized when the Group has a present obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying an economic benefit will be requested in order to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate of the amount of the obligation can be made.

Research and development

Research costs are charged as an expense in the income statement in the period in which they are incurred. Development costs are generally expensed in the period in which they are incurred. However, development costs which relate to a defined product which is expected to have future benefits, are recognized as assets.

Notes

Computer software development costs

The development cost or acquisition cost of new software is entered into fixed assets and depreciated over its useful lifetime. Thereafter, the maintenance of such software is expensed when incurred. The charges arising from the development or adjustment of programs for the euro conversion and the millennium shift are considered as ordinary maintenance and expensed when incurred.

Impairment

The carrying amounts of assets are reviewed at each balance sheet date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount is estimated as the higher of the net selling price and the value in use. An impairment loss is recognized whenever the carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount.

A previously recognized impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount; however not to an extent higher than the carrying amount that would have been determined, had no impairment loss been recognized in previous years. For goodwill, a recognized impairment loss is not reversed.

Extraordinary income and expense

Virtually all revenue and expenses that affect Group's net profit derive from operations within the framework of the Group's normal business. Only in exceptional cases do events occur that give rise to extraordinary revenue and expense. Examples of such events are losses arising from earthquakes, war or confiscation of foreign subsidiaries.

The extraordinary items presented in the Parent company's income statement are Group contributions received from and given to the Parent company's Finnish subsidiaries. At Group level, inter-group contributions received and given are eliminated.

Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are stated at the original acquisition cost, with additions/deductions for any allocated goodwill/write-downs less straight-line accumulated depreciation. Construction-time interest expenses related to qualifying assets, for which it takes a substantial period of time to get ready for its intended use, are capitalized under property, plant and equipment. Amortization of capitalized interest is included in the line depreciation according to plan. Land includes charges arising from the planting and care of fast-growing forest holdings outside Finland and Sweden. Depreciation according to plan is based on the following expected useful lives:

Consolidated goodwill	5–20 years
Buildings	
Industrial	10–40 years
Hydroelectric power	40–100 years
Office & residential	20–50 years
Heavy machinery	
Main machines of	
pulp or paper mills	20 years
Sawmill machinery	12–15 years
Light machinery	10 years
Computer equipment, vehicles,	
office equipment and	
light machinery of forestry	4–10 years

Land is not depreciated as it is deemed to have an indefinite life.

Gains and losses on disposal of property, plant and equipment are determined by reference to their carrying amount and are taken into account in determining operating profit.

Leasing

Leases of property, plant and equipment where the Group assumes substantially all benefits and risks of ownership are classified as finance leases. Commodities leased under financial leasing agreements are presented as fixed assets and the related obligations are presented as interest-bearing liabilities. The leased assets are depreciated over the useful life of the assets. Annual leasing payments on financial leases are entered as depreciation and interest expense.

Leases of assets under which all the risks and benefits of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Annual payments on operating leases and rental agreements are entered as rentals and the commodities are not entered under fixed assets.

Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or net realizable value. Cost is determined by the first-in, first-out (FIFO) method. The cost of finished goods and work in progress comprises raw material, direct labor, other direct costs and related production overheads but excludes interest expense.

Trade receivables

Trade receivables are carried at anticipated realizable value. An estimate is made for doubtful receivables based on a review of all outstanding amounts at year-end. Bad debts are written off during the year in which they are identified.

Financial instruments and investments

Financial foreign currency instruments are valued at market price. Long-term financial instruments and short-term interest-rate instruments are carried at the lower of cost or market value on an aggregate portfolio basis.

Investments in marketable securities are carried at the lower of cost and market value determined on a portfolio basis.

Accrued interest income and expense is entered in the balance sheet as non-interest-bearing assets or liabilities.

Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of the cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, and investments in money market instruments, net of bank overdrafts. In the balance sheet, bank overdrafts are included in borrowings in current liabilities.

Pension schemes

Group companies have various pension schemes in accordance with local conditions and practices in the countries in which they operate. The schemes are generally funded through payments to insurance companies, pension funds or by own provisions, as determined by periodic actuarial calculations. Any deficits or benefits requiring additional contributions are funded through payments or provisions allocated over a period of years not exceeding the expected remaining lives of the participating employees. The Group has met minimum funding requirements for the countries in which it maintains pension schemes.

Discontinued operations

A discontinued operation results from the sale of an operation that represents a separate, major line of business of an enterprise and of which the assets, net profit or losses of activities can be distinguished physically, operationally and for financial reporting purposes. The profit effect of discontinued operations net of tax is disclosed separately.

Government grants

Government grants relating to the purchase of property, plant and equipment are included in non-current liabilities as deferred income. The grants are credited to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the expected lives of the related assets.

Taxes

Income statement taxes consist of income taxes and change in deferred income tax. Deferred income tax is provided, using the liability method, for all temporary differences arising between the tax base of assets and liabilities and their carrying values for financial reporting purposes. Currently enacted tax rates are used to determine deferred income tax.

Under this method the Group is making provisions for deferred income tax on the revaluation of certain non-current assets and, in relation to an acquisition, on the difference between fair values of the net assets acquired and their tax base.

The principal temporary differences arise from depreciation on property, plant and equipment, revaluations of certain noncurrent assets, provision for pensions and tax loss carried forward. Deferred tax assets relating to the carry forward of unused tax losses are recognized to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the unused tax losses can be utilized.

Dividends

The dividend proposed by the Board is not deducted from distributable equity before the shareholders' decision at the Annual General Meeting.

Parent company

Finnish Accounting Standards differ from IAS in several respects. In the Parent company accounts, fixed assets include revaluations, financial leases are not capitalized and deferred tax liability is not provided for.

Notes



Product Area information

		Sales 199	8	Sales	Oper		Operat capit		Cap expen		Aver perso	2
	External	Inter- group	Total	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997
Magazine												
paper	10982.5	27.8	11010.3	8774.5	1642.6	510.6	12041	11077	1307.7	1917.5	5032	4575
Newsprint	9859.4	211.1	10070.5	9121.3	1801.2	1141.4	9199	9358	616.9	583.6	5608	5215
Fine paper	11403.8	962.0	12365.8	11246.8	1140.4	828.6	13586	13577	771.3	1678.5	7529	7448
Packaging boards.	13959.5	292.1	14251.6	14777.9	1244.3	1396.5	13513	14917	1259.0	1281.4	10049	10478
Timber products	3782.9	580.8	4363.7	4294.0	66.0	303.3	2385	1634	201.5	119.4	2188	2050
Pulp	2796.8	2236.8	5033.6	5700.4	57.4	174.8	6857	7811	572.3	640.0	2559	2707
Merchants	4931.0	6.0	4937.0	4759.1	11.6	32.2	1263	1233	71.5	57.8	1672	1636
Forest	1326.9	8458.8	9785.7	9613.2	659.9	661.1	8372	8246	132.3	127.4	2341	2484
Energy	1141.8	1719.0	2860.8	3153.0	680.7	736.1	8079	8583	116.6	116.3	215	218
Specialty papers	1813.2	109.5	1922.7	1928.5	-39.2	58.0	581	1786	106.1	88.6	1402	1416
Divested units				79.0		-3.0						
Merger costs and restructuring												
provisions					-2658.0							
Items affecting												
comparability					-143.0	-308.9						
Other	370.8	2416.9	2787.7	2877.9	-191.1	-81.9	624	1302	174.8	129.4	2084	2074
Eliminations		-17020.8	-17020.8	-16879.6								
Total	62368.6	0.0	62368.6	59446.0	4272.8	5448.8	76500	79524	5330.0	6739.9	40679	40301

Reconciliations to total assets

Capital employed by country at year-ends

	1998	1997
Operating capital	76 500	79 524
Operating liabilities	10 693	10 056
Interest-bearing receivables	4 382	2 826
Tax receivables	67	71
Total assets	91 642	92 477

	1998	1997
Finland	26 231.8	27 214.7
Sweden	20 673.5	23 299.8
Germany	8 930.5	10 144.3
Canada	3 146.7	2 535.9
France	2 084.2	2 276.4
Portugal	1 096.6	1 106.2
Other	5 350.0	4 027.3
	67 513.1	70 604.6

Sales by country

	1998	1997
Germany	10 862.8	9 579.7
UK	8 543.2	8 356.1
France	5 967.1	5 314.9
Sweden	5 238.1	5 469.6
Finland	4 316.8	4 407.3
The Netherlands	3 300.1	3 125.6
Italy	2 572.3	2 288.8
Belgium	2 222.9	2 029.0
Spain	2 380.9	2 211.3
Denmark	1 959.9	1 829.7
Other EU	1 908.3	1 889.9
Total EU	49 272.4	46 501.8
Other Europe	4 363.5	3 689.7
North America	2 648.8	1 892.5
Far East and South East Asia	2 415.0	3 709.7
Others	3 668.9	3 652.2
	62 368.6	59 446.0



Effect of major acquisitions and disposals

Acquisitions

Stora Enso has acquired E. Holtzmann & Cie AG through several steps between April 1997 and November 1998. The total acquisition cost of the shares amounts to FIM 3 565 million of which FIM 1 722 million in 1998. The acquisition resulted in total good-will of FIM 982 million. The goodwill value at 31.12.1998 was FIM 860 million.

Finnish Enso Timber Oy and Austrian Holzindustrie Schweighofer GmbH joined their operations 1.12.1998. Schweighofer became a subsidiary of Enso Timber Oy. A part of the consideration was paid in cash at the date the deal was closed and the remainder in Enso Timber's shares. The Schweighofer family has a participation of 33% in Enso Timber Oy. The acquisition increased the net interest bearing liability of the Group by FIM 531 millon. The goodwill increased by FIM 439 million.

Stora Kopparbergs Bergslags AB acquired a 60% majority in Suzhou Papyrus Paper Co. Ltd. Suzhou is the largest and the most efficient producer of woodfree coated paper in China. The mill has an annual capacity of 120 000 tonnes. The final price will be decided in 2001. It is subject to the performance of the mill. This acquisition resulted in an increase in net interest-bearing liabilities by FIM 1 140 million and capital employed by FIM 1 270 million. The acquisition cost of the shares was FIM 470 million.



Cash flow on acquisitions and disposals

Stora Enso Oyj paid on November 11, 1998 FIM 404 million for a 19.9% share in Advance Agro Pcl.

In 1997 STORA and the Brazilian company Odebrecht SA started a joint project of constructing a pulp mill in Brazil. The pulp mill is designed for an annual capacity of 750 000 tonnes. Raw materials will be supplied from plantations belonging to the mill. STORA's investments amounts to FIM 1 528 million, corresponding to 50% of the share capital. In 1997 FIM 571 million was paid and the remainder will be paid during 1999–2000.

Disposals

On December 31 Stora Publication Paper AG divested 76% of Stora Carbonless Paper GmbH and 56% of Stora Spezialpapiere GmbH to Mitsubishi Corporation. (In the beginning of 1996 Mitsubishi already acquired 20% of Stora Spezialpapiere). The divestment resulted in a capital loss of FIM 122 million, while net debt was reduced by FIM 867 million.

Enso Paperikemia Oy sold its business activity, fixed assets and inventory in February 1997. In 1997 the recycled fiber-based board mill in Arnsberg was sold to Cascades SA. The annual capacity of the mill is 135 000 tonnes. The divestment resulted in a capital loss of FIM 157 million.

The assets and liabilities acquired and disposed, and the cash flows arising can be analyzed as follows:

	1998		1997	
	Acquisition	Disposal	Acquisition	Disposal
Fixed assets	3 794.0	-716.3	2 778.2	-915.8
Working capital	240.4	-382.9	27.7	-111.5
Operating capital	4 034.4	-1 099.2	2 806.0	-1 027.3
Tax liabilities	-20.0	191.1		55.6
Capital employed	4 014.4	-908.1	2 806.0	-971.7
Shareholders' equity	170.0	-75.2	0.0	-89.2
Minority items	132.5	-24.4	395.8	0.0
Interest-bearing net debt	3 712.0	-808.4	2 410.1	-882.5
Financing	4 014.4	-908.1	2 806.0	-971.7



Other operating income

	1998	1997
Sales profits of fixed assets	138.7	250.1
Rent	100.9	89.2
Subsidies	27.5	21.1
	267.2	360.4

1 5		
expenses	-176.5	-218.6

Notes



Personnel expenses

	1998	1997
Wages and salaries	8 112.8	7 723.8
Pension Other statutory employers	928.9	963.0
contributions	<u> </u>	1 642.9
	10 /33.1	10 329.6
Remuneration to the members		
of the Board of Directors		
and CEO	11.2	

Remuneration to the CEO and DCEO was as follows:

	Jukka Härmälä	Björn Hägglund
Annual salary for principal		
employment, FIM 0001)	1 646	1 562
Retirement age	60	60
Pension payment	66% of the aver-	see below 2)
	age salary for the	
	four last years	
	before retirement	
Term of notice	6 months	6 months
Compensation for termination	6+12 months	6+12 months
	salary if termi-	salary if termi-
	nated by the	nated by the
	company ³⁾	company ³⁾
Bonus scheme	Up to 50% of	Up to 50% of
	base salary	base salary
Bonus paid for 1998	243	
Entitlement to R shares		
through warrants	600 000	

¹⁾ Excluding car and residence.

- ²⁾ For the age of 60–65 a pension of 60% of the average base salary and bonus for the four last years before retirement will be paid. After the age of 65 a pension will be paid in accordance with the general pension scheme supplemented by a pension of 32.5% based on salary fractions between 20–30 base amounts, of 50% based on salary fractions between 30–50 base amounts and 32.5% based on salary fractions exceeding 50 base amounts. The pensionable salary consists of the average of the fixed salary and 50% of bonuses received for three final active years of employment prior to retirement. To qualify for full pension rights, 15 years of employment at STORA are required.
- ³⁾ Depending on the individual situation a compensation up to another 12 month base salary may be paid.

Specification of pensions and other statutory employers contributions

	1998	1997
Pension expenses paid to		
pension funds		
Obligatory	241.4	189.8
Voluntary	66.7	55.7
Pension expenses paid to		
insurance companies		
Obligatory	346.0	350.0
Voluntary	153.8	129.3
Accrued pension liabilities		
in the period	111.7	214.6
Top management pension		
arrangements	15.4	6.9
Training	5.7	2.1
Other personnel costs		
Obligatory	1 673.6	1 649.7
Voluntary	5.9	7.8
-	2 620.2	2 605.9
Average number of personnel	40 679	40 301
······································		
Pension liabilities		
31.12.1997		3 353.5
Exchange rate differences		-262.2
Contributions paid		
and current service costs		70.3
31.12.1998		3 161.6

Pension schemes

The Group has established a number of pension plans for its operations throughout the world. In Finland the pension cover is arranged through Stora Enso's own pension funds and partly through Finnish insurance companies. In Sweden pension cover is arranged through book reserves in accordance with the Swedish "PRI/FPG System" that covers the vast majority of large Swedish corporations. The pension arrangements for companies outside Finland and Sweden are made in accordance with regulations and practice of each country in question. Most of these programs are defined benefit pension schemes with retirement, disability, death and termination income benefits. The retirement benefits are generally a function of years of employment and final salary and are generally coordinated with local national pensions.

The Group's policy for funding its defined benefit plans is to satisfy local statutory funding requirements for tax deductible contributions. Under IAS the discount rate used in actuarial calculations of liability in book reserves have been adjusted to market rate. The Group has also some fully insured schemes and defined contribution schemes. The retirement age of the management of Group companies has been agreed to be between 60–65 years. For the Members of the Executive Management Group the retirement age has been agreed to be 60 years.

The Group has met minimum funding requirements in all countries in which it maintains pension schemes.

Items affecting comparability

	Other operating income	Materials and services	Depreciation and value adjustments	Other operating and personnel expenses	Total
1997					
Capital loss on sale of Arnsberg				-157.1	-157.1
Capital gain on sale of Stora Reinsurance SA	98.6				98.6
Shutdown of PM1 at Stora Langerbrugge			-19.7	-65.3	-85.0
Shutdown of sulphite pulp production					
plant at Stora Port Hawkesbury		-29.2		-29.2	-58.5
Pension settlement to outgoing president in STORA				-31.3	-31.3
E. Holtzmann pension liability				-75.7	-75.7
	98.6	-29.2	-19.7	-358.5	-308.9
1998					
Capital loss on sale of shares in Stora					
Carbonless and Stora Spezialpapiere				-122.4	-122.4
Writedown of inventory in Skoghall		-57.2			-57.2
Resolvement of provision for the					
sale of Newton Falls	34.3				34.3
Repayment of capital tax in Germany	121.7				121.7
Capital loss on sale of Svenska Dagbladet				-18.8	-18.8
Extra depreciation at Corbehem					
and Newton Kyme			-52.1		-52.1
Provision for merger and restructuring			-1 546.3	-1 160.2	-2 706.5
	156.0	-57.2	-1 598.4	-1 301.5	-2 801.0

In connection with the merger of STORA and Enso a provision has been entered to cover the anticipated restructuring costs. In the prospectus issued by STORA and Enso on July 13, 1998 the managements of the companies announced their intention to develop and define a detailed plan of restructuring the Stora Enso Oyj. Non-recurring restructuring costs associated with this plan have been included in the restructuring provision.



Note 7

Net financing cost

	1998	1997
Dividend income	13.4	12.3
Interest income	106.4	203.8
Other financial income	229.4	185.4
Exchange gains and losses	-180.3	134.9
Interest expenses	-2 250.1	-2 118.8
Other financial expenses	-173.8	-83.2
	-2 255.0	-1 665.6
Forward contracts and swaps entered in the financial items		
Interest income	73.2	111.5
Exchange rate differences	-137.5	796.8
Interest expenses	23.1	57.9

Notes



Income tax expense

	1998	1997
Current tax expense		
Finnish Group companies	-655.6	-249.6
Swedish Group companies	-611.3	-197.7
German Group companies	542.3	-161.9
Other Group companies	-79.9	-4.4
Change in deferred taxes		
Finnish Group companies	27.6	-450.0
Swedish Group companies	384.0	-164.5
German Group companies	-350.4	17.5
Other Group companies	-123.1	15.4
Taxes of associated companies	-14.6	-27.4
	-881.1	-1 222.7



Depreciation

	1998	1997
Depreciation according to plan		
Intangible rights	-25.5	-23.5
Goodwill	-4.1	-4.0
Other intangible assets	-50.9	-52.5
Buildings and structures	-567.3	-570.0
Machinery and equipment	-4 086.2	-3 823.3
Other tangible assets	-104.6	-94.2
Goodwill on consolidation	-383.5	-285.9
	-5 221.9	-4 853.4
Value adjustments		
Buildings and structures	-8.7	-19.0
Machinery and equipment	-1 081.0	-60.7
Goodwill on consolidation	-534.6	
	-1 624.3	-79.7

The following is a reconciliation of income taxes calculated at the 28% tax rate:

	1998	1997
Profit before tax	2 017.8	3 783.2
Hypothetical taxes at 28%	565.0	1 059.3
Effect of different tax rates		
outside Finland	-20.5	91.6
Non-deductible expenses and		
tax exempt income	464.0	233.8
Losses incurred at Group		
companies outside Finland		
where no deferred tax benefit		
is recognised	-7.1	-198.2
Other items	-120.4	36.2
Income taxes in the consolidated		4000 7
income statement	881.1	1222.7
Deferred tax assets in the balance sheet		
Tax losses carried forward	64.1	69.2
Corporate tax credit	2.8	1.7
	66.9	70.9
Deferred tax liabilities in the balance s	heet	
Depreciation difference		
and untaxed reserves	6 607.6	6 932.5
Group eliminations	-62.0	-106.8
Tax losses carried forward and		
other timing differences	-1 107.2	-721.1
Acquisition surplus values	2 175.0	2 073.1
Other items	337.4	-9.3
	7 950.8	8 168.4

Deferred tax liabilities in the balance sheet, reconciliation of changes

	31.12.1997	Charged/ credited to P/L	Acquisitions/ divestments	Exchange difference	31.12.1998
Depreciation difference and untaxed reserves	6 932.5	199.6	-155.4	-369.2	6 607.6
Group eliminations	-106.8	40.3			-62.0
Tax losses carried forward and					
other timing differences	-721.1	-386.5		0.4	-1 107.2
Acquisition surplus values	2 073.1	-121.6	358.0	-134.5	2 175.0
Other items	-9.3	338.0		5.8	337.4
Total	8 168.4	69.9	202.6	-490.0	7 950.8



Fixed assets and long-term investments

Group 1998	Consolidation goodwill	Other intangible assets	Land and water	Buildings and structures	Machinery and equipment	Other tangible assets
Acquisition cost 1.1.	4 736.4	638.8	12 806.8	14 329.6	61 156.5	3 987.0
Translation difference	126.8	-4.1	-767.8	-56.6	-579.0	-253.9
Reclassification		8.8	5.0	20.1	2 733.0	-2 766.9
Additions	1 132.5	80.4	357.2	869.7	5 181.2	1 949.5
Disposals	-84.0	-123.6	-145.5	-491.7	-2 762.4	-204.1
Acquisition cost 31.12.	5 911.7	600.2	12 255.7	14 671.0	65 729.3	2 711.7
Accumulated depreciation 1.1 Accumulated depreciation difference	1 905.7	388.1	208.7	4 610.7	26 450.2	427.4
at the companies acquired		4.6	0.6	99.0	380.6	1.4
Translation difference	-78.8	-4.9	-906.9	-246.4	-1 201.1	-231.7
Depreciation according to plan Accumulated depreciation	383.5	80.5	23.8	567.3	4 086.2	80.5
of assets sold	-47.0	-117.8	-1.9	-159.2	-1 887.0	-5.9
Impairment charges entered into P/L	534.6			8.7	1 081.0	
Accumulated depreciation 31.12	2 698.1	350.5	-675.7	4 880.1	28 909.8	271.7
Carrying value 31.12.98	3 213.6	249.7	12 931.3	9 790.9	36 819.5	2 439.9
Carrying value 31.12.97	3 028.7	251.1	13 508.8	10 128.7	36 372.4	3 796.6

Impairment charges totaling FIM 1,624 million were entered into value adjustment in the income statement. FIM 1,598 million of these relate to the combination of STORA and Enso since the integration of operations requires certain structural changes

within the new Group. FIM 317 million of the impairment charges are based on the estimated net selling prices of certain operations and the remaining part is based on value in use.



Associated companies and related party transactions

	1998	1997
Historical cost 1.1.	1 623.5	1 019.6
Translation difference	-88.0	0.3
Additions	251.3	630.5
Disposals	-7.1	-27.0
Transfer to other companies	-55.8	
Historical cost 31.12.	1 724.0	1 623.4
Equity adjustment to investments		
in associated companies		
1.1	266.6	240.8
Equity earnings in associated		
companies	59.2	98.2
Translation difference	-0.6	0.0
Dividends received during the year	-43.0	-30.5
Taxes	-15.3	-27.5
Disposals and other changes	-4.3	-14.3
31.12.	262.6	266.7
Carrying value of investments in associated companies 31.12.	1 986.6	1 890.1

	1998	1997
Related party transactions		
Receivables from and payables to		
associated companies		
Long-term loans receivable	167.3	171.3
Accounts receivable	325.5	28.6
Short-term investments and receivables	195.8	57.8
Prepaid expenses and accrued income	0.1	
Other receivables	42.8	23.3
Trade payable	107.1	146.3
Accrued liabilities and deferred income	43.9	
Other current interest-bearing liabilities	177.9	3.1
Sales to associated companies	614.2	583.7
Purchases from associated companies	-1 695.1	-2 401.3

The above transactions were carried out on commercial terms and conditions. Purchases fram associated companies relate mainly to energy and pulp purchases. Sales are mainly sale of wood material.

Significant associated companies:

Significant associated companies.	Shareholding	Share in profit after tax in income statement			
	%	1998	1997		
Pohjolan Voima Oy (power company)	20.4	0.0	-5.2	Finland	
Sunila Oy (pulp mill)	50.0	5.3	28.6	Finland	
Steveco Oy (stevedoring)	36.7	24.0	34.6	Finland	
Veracel Celulose S.A. (pulp mill project)	50.0	-	-	Brazil	
Stora Carbonless Paper GmbH (technical office papers)	24.0	-	-	Germany	
Stora Spezialpapiere GmbH (technical office papers)	24.0	-	-	Germany	

Notes



Shares in other companies

	1998	1997
Acquisition cost 1.1.	339.2	345.9
Translation differences	-6.6	0.0
Additions	409.3	62.2
Disposals	-28.5	-67.6
Write-downs	-3.1	-1.4
Transfer from associated companies	55.8	0.0
Net carrying amount 31.12.	766.0	339.2

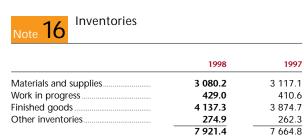


Capital investment in shares

	%	No. of shares	Carrying value	Market value
Finnlines Oyj, Helsinki	5.5	1 104 670	11.4	238.6
Finnlines Oyj, Helsinki Finnair Oyj, Helsinki	0.0	14 400	0.6	0.4
Helsingin Puhelin Oyj, Helsinki	0.0	1 410	0.4	0.4
Helsingin Puhelin Oyj, Helsinki Merita Foresta, Helsinki	4.3	5 000 000	5.0	7.0
Neptun Maritime Oyj, Helsinki, A	6.0	3 252 847	36.4	38.4
Neptun Maritime Oyj, Helsinki, K	6.0	500 000	4.6	8.0
Merita Bank Oyj, Helsinki, A	0.4	3 633 544	41.1	115.5
Outokumpu Oyj, Helsinki	0.0	47	0.0	0.0
Outokumpu Oyj, Helsinki Raisio Yhtymä Oyj, Raisio	0.0	5 100	0.3	0.3
Sampo Insurance Company, Helsinki, A Sonera Oyj, Helsinki	2.8	1 722 228	122.1	332.4
Sonera Oyj, Helsinki	0.0	30 000	1.4	2.7
Merita Pro Obligaatio (bond)			3.0	3.7
KB Air Preca	33.0		0.6	0.6
Mega Flight KB	50.0		1.9	1.9
Mega Carrier KB	33.0		30.7	30.7
KB Metro Flyg	33.0		25.7	25.7
Total			285.3	806.4

Note 15 Receivables from Group Management

There are no receivables from Group Management.



17 Short-term receivables

	1998	1997
Accounts receivable	8 452.5	9 535.0
Prepaid expenses and accrued income	888.8	1 118.5
Other receivables	1 262.2	1 479.1
-	10 603.6	12 132.6

Receivables falling due after one year are shown as non-current receivables.



Capitalized interest included in property, plant and equipment

	1998	1997
1.1.	601.5	568.4
Additions 1.131.12.	28.7	131.0
Exchange rate difference	-1.3	0.0
Depreciation 1.131.12.	-73.1	-70.3
31.12.	555.9	629.1

The Group has capitalized interest expenses in connection with investment in qualifying assets. Interest rate used in calculations ranges from 6 to 11%. The interest rate has been defined at the start of the investment project in question and equals to the average of Group borrowing cost at the time.



Shareholders' equity

FIM	1998	1997
Share capital at 1.1. and 31.12.	7 595.8	7 595.8
Reserve fund 1.1.	4 047.8	3 862.8
Increase	170.2	
Translation difference	-475.2	185.0
Reserve fund 31.12.	3 742.8	4 047.8
Reserve for own shares 1.1. and 31.12.	_	-
Other restricted equity 1.1.	329.2	125.8
Other changes	139.1	178.4
Translation difference	-22.1	24.9
Other restricted equity 31.12.	446.3	329.2
Non restricted equity 1.1.	20 806.8	19 838.6
Dividends paid	-1 442.3	-1 388.2
To be placed at the disposal of the	-1 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1 -	-1 300.2
Board of Directors		-2.5
Transfer to the other restricted equity	-139.1	-178.4
Translation difference	-672.4	105.5
Profit for the period	1 135.8	2 431.8
Non restricted equity 31.12	19 688.9	20 806.8
Distributable funds Non-restricted equity	19 688.9	20 806.8
Untaxed reserves included in		
non restricted equity	-5 560.2	-4 736.5
Distributable funds 31.12.	14 128.6	1 6 070.2

Stora Sub-group's contribution to the Stora Enso equity in pooling combination at 31.12.1998:

The book value of Stora Kopparbergs Bergslags AB's shares at Stora Enso Oyj amounting to FIM 26 926.2 million is first eliminated from the share premium fund amounting to FIM 22 424.4 million that was formed in the share exchange at Stora Enso Oyj. FIM 4 484.9 million is eliminated from the restricted equity and FIM 16.9 million from the non-restricted equity of STORA Sub-group. FIM 16.9 million relates to the capitalized acquisition expenses of Stora Enso Oyj.

	SEK Mill.	FIM Mill.	Elimination	Minority	Balance
Share capital	1 608.0	1 007.7	-968.5	-39.2	0.0
Reserve fund	5 376.0	3 369.1	-3 516.3	-131.0	-278.2
Other restricted equity	741.0	464.4		-18.1	446.3
Non-restricted	20 343.0	12 749.0	-16.9	-495.8	12 236.3
Total	28 068.0	17 590.2	-4 501.8	-684.1	12 404.3

	Shares	Votes
Break-down of share capital by type of share at 31.12.1998		
Series A (1 vote/share) Series R (1 vote/10 shares,	243 394 655	243 394 655
min. 1 vote)	516 185 034 759 579 689	51 618 503 295 013 158
Series A (1 vote/share) Series R (1 vote/10 shares,	2 43	33.9 FIM million
min. 1 vote)		51.9 FIM million 5.8 FIM million

The subsidiaries held 5 601 Series R shares nominal value amounting to FIM 50 409.00.

The members of the Board and the CEO held 17 775 Series A and 32 409 Series R shares at 31.12.1998 representing 0.0% of the total voting rights of the company.

	Series A	Series R	Warrants
Claes Dahlbäck	2541	6529	
Jukka Härmälä		3000	600 000
Björn Hägglund	7877	14618	
Josef Ackermann		1300	
Paavo Pitkänen	3800		
Jan Sjöqvist	508	943	
Marcus Wallenberg	3049	6019	

The Ordinary Meeting of Shareholders held on April 7, 1997 decided to offer bonds with equity warrants up to a maximum value of FIM 1 000 000 for subscription by the company's management. The bonds mature in five years and carry interest at 4%. Each FIM 1000 bond carries one warrant entitling the holder to subscribe for 3000 of Enso's Series R shares at a subscription price of FIM 45.57. If fully subscribed during period December 1, 1998 to March 31, 2004. The shares represents a maximum of 0.1% of the voting rights generated by the share capital after the exercise of the warrants and and about 0.4% of the share capital.

Notes



Long-term debt

Repayment schedule of long-term interest-bearing liabilities including current portion at 31.12.1998:

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004–	Total
Convertible bond loans			1.0			1.0
Bond loans 2 047.5	1 049.7	599.2	250.7	820.0	3 990.7	8 757.9
Loans from						
credit institutions 4 534.8	1 055.8	1 265.1	1 067.9	643.8	9 560.8	18 128.3
Pension loans 200.3	200.0	199.8	199.6	165.7	2 098.9	3 064.3
Leasing liabilities	60.6	61.8	62.3	62.9	358.4	664.2
Other long-term liabilities 403.5	187.3	125.2	86.4	213.4	1 144.2	2 160.0
7 244.3	2 553.3	2 251.2	1 667.9	1 905.9	17 153.1	32 775.6

Cash reserve and unutilized credit facilities totaled FIM 14,700 million at the end of the year.

ond loans	Interest rate	Currency	Original amount	Balance 31.12.1998	Balance 31.12.1997	
Fixed rate						
1991–1998	9.43	USD	57		309	
1991–2000	8.22	USD	35	178	190	
1993-2001	9.68	USD	43	219	233	
1993–2003	8.64	USD	65	331	352	
1997–2004	6.00	FIM		1484	868	
1997–2007	7.25	SEK	500	314	344	
1998-2002	5.50	SEK	200	125		
1996–2006	8.75	SEK	250	157	172	
1996–2006	7.90	SEK	470	295	323	
1998-2002	5.50	SEK	50	31		
1998-2002	5.50	SEK	50	31		
1993–2003	9.50	SEK	150	96	105	
1993–2003	9.50	SEK	25	16	18	
1993–2003	8.96	SEK	350	219	240	
1993–2003	9.50	SEK	255	159	174	
1994–2004	8.00	SEK	500	312	342	
1998–2005	5.20	SEK	200	125	0	
1998–2005	6.00	SEK	200	125	0	
1998–2003	8.00	DEM	200	608	605	
1989–1999 1974–1998		SEK		000	1	
1974–1998 1985–1998	7.25 9.00	DKK	60 21		11	
Floating rate						
1991–1998		FIM	775		5	
1994–1999		FIM	250	250	250	
1994–1999		FIM	425	425	425	
1994–1999		USD	100	510	542	
1994–1999		USD	50	255	271	
1994–1999		USD	50	255	271	
1995–2000		USD	75	382	406	
1995-2000		USD	50	255	271	
1997-2000		JPY	3000	134	125	
1997–2007		FIM	110	110	110	
1997–2017		JPY	10000	448	417	
1998–2000		FIM	100	100	0	
1998–2008		USD	30	153	0	
1998–2001		SEK	100	63	-	
1998–2008		SEK	264	165		
1998–2005		SEK	80	50		
1998–2004		SEK	200	125		
1998–2004		SEK	200	125		
1998–2003		SEK	200	125		
1998–2001 1978–1998		SEK	60	120	7	
1770-1770		JLK	00		,	
Total				8 758	7 386	

Breakdown of operating capital / net interest-bearing liabilities by currency

	Operating capital		Net interest b	Net interest bearing liabilities	
	1998	1997	1998	1997	
FIM	28 355.2	29 196.3	8 091.4	14 004.5	
SEK	25 326.2	28 103.3	14 023.9	13 725.6	
DEM	10 881.5	12 060.6	7 422.5	3 338.2	
USD/CAD	3 240.4	2 645.6	4 088.5	3 510.9	
FRF	2 107.3	2 303.1	970.7	1 335.8	
PTE	1 217.7	1 230.5	-316.5	-293.7	
CNY	949.5				
GBP	710.3	257.0	-249.8	-390.2	
BEF	695.8	624.8	99.8	208.7	
NLG	664.6	537.3	125.4	193.3	
Other	2 352.1	2 565.4	125.9	576.0	
Total	76 500.5	79 524.0	34 381.7	36 209.0	



Other current liabilities and other provisions

	1998	1997
Advances received	18.1	14.6
Trade payables	3 823.3	4 323.0
Other current liabilities	1 694.6	1 422.1
Accrued liabilities and		
deferred income	3 095.7	3 072.8
	8 631.7	8 832.6

Other provisions	
31.12.1997	722.0
Translation difference	-57.0
Increase	1 029.8
Decrease	-172.9
31.12.1998	1 521.9

Other provisions comprise provision in respect of combination and restructuring costs, environmental liabilities, provision for forest replantation and other provisions.



Fair value of financial instruments

	19	98	19	1997
	Carrying amount	Fair value	Carrying amount	Fair value
Financial assets				
Short term money market investments		1 489	654	654
Receivables				
Investment in other shares				
Other non-current assets				
Financial liabilities				
Accounts payable				
Short term borrowings		2 826	3 508	3 508
Long term debt		26 383	25 026	1)
Off-balance sheet instruments				
Currency options purchased		5	-17	-8
Currency options written		-2	-2	-2
Forward foreign exchange contracts		147	195	195
Interest rate swaps		142	-75	72
Interest rate futures FRA:s		20	-32	-32
Cross currency swaps		324	523	606
Interest rate options		2	-1	-1

¹⁾ Fair value was not calculated

Fair value of financial instruments continued

Estimation of fair values

Cash and cash equivalents

The carrying amounts are a good estimate of the fair value in short term money market instruments. Bank account balances are not included in the figures.

Short-term borrowing

The carrying amounts are a good estimate of the fair value.

Long-term debt

The carrying amount of floating rate long-term debt approximates fair value. Pension loans are priced to par price. Fixed rate long term debts are priced using discounted cash flow analysis.

Currency options

The carrying amounts of currency options are calculated using year end market rates and generally used option pricing models and therefore the carrying amounts approximate fair values.

Foreign exchange forward contracts

The carrying amounts of forward contracts are calculated using year end market rates and therefore the carrying amounts approximate fair values.

Interest rate swaps

The fair value of interest rate swaps have been calculated using discounted cash flow analysis. The carrying amount of interest rate swaps is the amount of net accrued interest.

Long term FX swaps

The fair value of long term swaps have been calculated using discounted cash flow analysis and year end FX rates. The carrying amount of long term FX swap is the FX rate differential between contract rate and year end market rate.



Risk management contracts

Risk management contracts open at 31.12.1998

Interest rate derivativesForward agreements19Interest rate swap agreements-58Interest rate options2Interest rate derivatives, total-37Foreign exchange derivativesForward agreements147OptionsPurchasedPurchased4Written-2Cross currencyswap agreements84Stotal233Mominal valueInterest rate derivatives, totalInterest rate derivatives, totalForward agreements29 108Proteign exchange derivatives, totalForward agreementsPurchasedInterest rate derivativesForward agreementsPurchasedInterest rate options17 0282 18Interest rate options17 028Interest rate derivatives, totalSo 847T5 00Forward agreements94 6603 9183 02WrittenPurchased3 9183 02Written1 4772 29Cross currencyswap agreements4 4517 77Foreign exchange derivatives, total104 5054 5 26Maturity of interest rate swap contractsUnder 1 yearS70.0S80.01 494.Between 5-10 years2 55.02 580.02 55.02 580.0<	5		
Forward agreements19-3Interest rate swap agreements-58-19Interest rate options2-Interest rate derivatives, total-37-22Foreign exchange derivatives14719Options4-Purchased4-Written-2-Cross currencyswap agreements84Stotal23369Nominal value23369Nominal value17 0282 18Interest rate derivatives, total17 0282 18Interest rate options17 0282 18Interest rate derivatives, total50 84715 00Foreign exchange derivatives, total50 84715 00Foreign exchange derivatives, total1 4772 29Cross currency swap agreements94 66032 16Options9183 02Written1 4772 29Cross currency swap agreements4 4517 77Foreign exchange derivatives, total104 50545 26Maturity of interest rate swap contracts104 50545 26Maturity of interest rate swap contracts1 306.0598.Over 10 years2 580.01 494.Between 5-10 years1 306.0598.Over 10 years255.0248.	Current value	31.12.98	31.12.97
Interest rate swap agreements-58-19Interest rate options2-Interest rate derivatives, total-37-22Foreign exchange derivatives14719Options94-Purchased4-Written-2-Cross currencyswap agreements84Stotal23369Nominal value23369Interest rate derivatives, total29 1089 78Interest rate derivatives23369Nominal value17 0282 18Interest rate options17 0282 18Interest rate options17 0282 18Interest rate derivatives, total50 84715 00Foreign exchange derivatives50 84715 00Forward agreements94 66032 16Options94 66032 16Options1 4772 29Cross currencyswap agreements4 451Swap agreements4 4517 77Foreign exchange derivatives, total104 50545 26Maturity of interest rate swap contracts104 50545 26Maturity of interest rate swap contracts1 306.0598.Over 10 years2 580.01 494.Between 5-10 years1 306.0598.Over 10 years2 55.02 48.	Interest rate derivatives		
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Options 3 918 3 02 Purchased 3 918 3 02 Written 1 477 2 29 Cross currency 4451 7 77 Soreign exchange derivatives, total 104 505 45 26 Maturity of interest rate swap contracts 104 505 45 26 Under 1 year 570.0 690. Between 1–5 years 2 580.0 1 494. Between 5–10 years 1 306.0 598. Over 10 years 255.0 248.	Foreign exchange derivatives		
Purchased 3 918 3 02 Written 1 477 2 29 Cross currency 1 477 2 29 Swap agreements 4 451 7 77 Foreign exchange derivatives, total 104 505 45 26 Maturity of interest rate swap contracts 104 505 45 26 Maturity of interest rate swap contracts 2 580.0 1 494. Between 1–5 years 2 580.0 1 494. Between 5–10 years 1 306.0 598. Over 10 years 255.0 248.	Forward agreements	94 660	32 169
Written 1 477 2 29 Cross currency 2 2 swap agreements 4 451 7 77 Foreign exchange derivatives, total 104 505 45 26 Maturity of interest rate swap contracts 2 570.0 690. Between 1–5 years 2 580.0 1 494. 598.0 1 494. Over 10 years 255.0 248. 248. 248.	Options		
Cross currency 4 451 7 77 swap agreements 4 451 7 77 Foreign exchange derivatives, 104 505 45 26 Maturity of interest rate swap contracts 104 505 45 26 Under 1 year 570.0 690. Between 1–5 years 2 580.0 1 494. Between 5–10 years 1 306.0 598. Over 10 years 255.0 248.	Purchased	3 918	3 025
swap agreements 4 451 7 77 Foreign exchange derivatives, total 104 505 45 26 Maturity of interest rate swap contracts 104 505 45 26 Under 1 year 570.0 690. Between 1–5 years 2 580.0 1 494. Between 5–10 years 1 306.0 598. Over 10 years 255.0 248.	Written	1 477	2 298
Foreign exchange derivatives, total 104 505 45 26 Maturity of interest rate swap contracts 45 26 Under 1 year 570.0 690. Between 1–5 years 2 580.0 1 494. Between 5–10 years 1 306.0 598. Over 10 years 255.0 248.	Cross currency		
total 104 505 45 26 Maturity of interest rate swap contracts 570.0 690. Under 1 year 570.0 690. Between 1–5 years 2 580.0 1 494. Between 5–10 years 1 306.0 598. Over 10 years 255.0 248.	swap agreements	4 451	7 770
System S70.0 690. Under 1 year 570.0 690. Between 1–5 years 2 580.0 1 494. Between 5–10 years 1 306.0 598. Over 10 years 255.0 248.	Foreign exchange derivatives,		
Under 1 year 570.0 690. Between 1–5 years 2 580.0 1 494. Between 5–10 years 1 306.0 598. Over 10 years 255.0 248.	total	104 505	45 261
Between 1–5 years 2 580.0 1 494. Between 5–10 years 1 306.0 598. Over 10 years 255.0 248.	Maturity of interest rate swap contracts		
Between 1–5 years 2 580.0 1 494. Between 5–10 years 1 306.0 598. Over 10 years 255.0 248.	Under 1 year	570.0	690.0
Between 5–10 years 1 306.0 598. Over 10 years 255.0 248.	Between 1–5 years	2 580.0	1 494.0
Over 10 years	3	1 306.0	598.0
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Over 10 years	255.0	248.0
	Total		3 030.0

Financial Risk management policy

The following is the financial risk management policy in Stora Enso.

International industrial operations entail various forms of risks in the daily conduct of business. These are commercial, as well as financial. The major financial risks are:

- Funding risk
- Interest rate risk
- Currency risks Transaction risk
- Translation risk

For Stora Enso, it is vital to be able to define and manage financial risks, in view of the impact they can have on the net income and financial position. They should be managed in such a way that the Industrial Divisions can concentrate primarily on managing commercial risks.

Stora Enso Group Treasury is responsible for the development and implementation of principles to minimize Stora Enso's financial risks over the long term.

Funding risk

Funding risk is the risk of difficulties occuring in obtaining financing at a given time.

Risk reduction is achieved by funding net capital employed with long-term funding.

The risk is quantified by an analysis of the extent to which the capital employed is long-term funded. The relation between capital employed and long-term funds is expressed as the matching level.

Stora Enso's objective is to have a matching level exceeding 100% and an average maturity of long-term loans, including credit commitments, in the range of 3–5 years, with the ambition of extending it further over time.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the reduced return on capital employed cannot be compensated for by reduced costs to finance it.

Risk reduction is obtained by fixing interest rates for periods shorter than 12 months.

Stora Enso's objective is to minimize the interest rate risk by fixing interest rates for periods of less than one year. The ambition is that 20–40% of net debt should carry interest rates fixed for periods of longer than one year over time.

Currency risks

Stora Enso's income and financial position are affected by currency changes. A considerable part of the products are sold to countries other than where they are produced, creating a transaction risk.

Transaction risk

Transaction risk means the risk that Stora Enso's income decreases, due to changes in exchange rates.

Stora Enso's objective is to cover in the range of up to 6 months' net flows outside the Euro area. The exceptions are the GBP and USD which, due to their high exposure in Stora Enso, could be covered in the range of up to 12 months' net flows.

The responsibility for covering transaction risk has been decentralised to the Industrial Divisions of Stora Enso.

Translation risk

Translation risk means the risk that fluctuations in exchange rates negatively affect the value of Stora Enso's net foreign assets.

About 90% of net foreign assets are nominated within the future Euro-area (including DKK, GBP, GRD, SEK) and North American currencies. The remainder are in the emerging markets and represent an insignificant part of net foreign assets.

Stora Enso's objective is not to cover the Group's net foreign assets (equity).

Stora Enso Group internal bank

The Group Bank is responsible for any day-to day contact it may have with the Industrial Divisions of Stora Enso. It handles all deposits and loans, buys and sells currencies and provides advisory as well as other bank services. The basic idea is that all internal financial activities should be channelled through the Group Bank.

Any deviations from the Risk Exposure given by the Industrial Division should be kept and reported in a separate market risk portfolio. The total market risk exposure may allow a maximum overnight impact of EUR 2 M on Stora Enso's income after tax. The risk is calculated using a method based on historical volatilities and correlations (VaR model), which is today used by Stora Enso.

Proprietary operations

The Proprietary Operations utilize Stora Enso's potential, strength and financial competence by capturing changes in financial markets to create an added value.

The Operations actively take market risk positions for Stora Enso's own account, employing directional and relative value risk-taking strategies, diversified across markets and instruments. Directional strategies anticipate changes in absolute rate and price levels – while relative value strategies anticipate changes in relationship between markets and classes of instruments. These strategies are conducted across many currencies and types of instruments where opportunities are perceived to exist to generate value. Instruments are used in Fixed Income, Foreign Exchange and Equity Markets. Positions may be held for short or long periods of time, depending on strategy and actual market performance.

Risks are identified and assumed. The total market risk exposure may allow a maximum overnight impact of EUR 16 M on Stora Enso's income after tax.

Guarantees and other Group support

The different kinds of agreements and legal instruments for managing the financial risks and for the proprietary trading operations are entered into in the name of any of the legal entities operated by Stora Enso Group Treasury. This normally requires support from the ultimate parent company.

Management of interest rate risks

The management of interest rate risks is centralized. The instruments used in managing interest rate risks are swaps, forward rate agreements, interest rate options and bond future agreements. The indicators used in analyzing interest rate risks are the ratio between fixed and variable interest rates, and modified duration, which is monitored for each currency separately. The Group's objective is to minimize the interest rate risk by fixing interest rates for periods less than one year. At the end of 1998, about 21% of the Group's loans were subject to fixed interest rates and 70% to variable interest rates and the remaining 9% pension liabilities. The Group's main loan currencies are FIM, SEK, DEM and USD.

Management of credit risks

Credit insurance for the customers in the main market areas in Western Europe, USA and Canada has been obtained. Measures in other market areas to reduce credit risks include letters of credit, prepayments and bank guarantees. Also export guarantees covering both political and commercial risks have been obtained from Finnvera. These export guarantees are used in connection with single customers outside OECD area.

There are no major credit risk concentrations among accounts receivable as per year-end.

Note 24

Commitments and contingent liabilities

	Group 1998	Group 1997
On own behalf		
Pledges given	515.4	319.5
Mortgages	4 548.2	6 288.3
On behalf of Group companies		
Guarantees		
On behalf of associated companies		
Mortgages	6.0	56.0
Guarantees	671.5	763.1
On behalf of others		
Guarantees	643.7	787.6
Other commitments, own		
Leasing commitments,		
in 1999	136.7	152.0
Leasing commitments,		
after 1999	597.6	729.6
Pension liabilities	14.8	15.8
Other commitments	105.6	114.6
Total		
Pledges given	515.4	319.5
Mortgages	4 554.2	6 344.3
Guarantees	1 315.2	1 550.7
Leasing commitments	734.2	881.6
Pension liabilities	14.8	15.8
Other commitments	105.6	114.6
Total	7 239.4	9 226.4

Stora Enso Oyj has undertaken to guarantee the leasing agreements relating to Enso Española SA to a maximum of FIM 242 443 817.98. The commitment extends until December 23, 2003. The Group leases offices and warehouse space under various non-cancellable operating leases. Certain contracts contain renewal options. The future cost for contracts exceeding one year and for non-cancellable leasing contracts are as follows:

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 after
136.9	128.2	102.4	87.4	71.5	207.9

Schweighofer Privatstiftung holds 33% of Enso Timber shares. Schweighofer Privatstiftung has a put option allowing them to sell their shares to Stora Enso Oyj at a predetermined price. The put option may be exercised between January 1, 2002 and June 30, 2006. Stora Enso is a party to certain legal proceedings that have arisen in the normal course of business. There is no reason to believe that any single ongoing or expected legal or arbitration proceeding will have any material effect on Stora Enso's results of operations or financial condition.



Principal Stora Enso Group Companies at 31.12.98

	Country	% of shares and voting rights held by the Group	% of shares held by the Parent company	Currency	The nominal currency value of shares '000	Book valu 31.12.98 000 FIN
Stora Kopparbergs Bergslags AB (publ) Stora Enso Newsprint & Magazine Papers	SE		96.1	SEK	1 545 000	26 909 333
Enso Publication Papers Oy Ltd	FI		100.0	FIM	805 000	1 110 000
Kymenso Oy	FI		100.0	FIM	15 000	40 000
Varenso Oy	FI		100.0	FIM	10 000	30 000
Sachsen Papier Eilenburg GmbH	DE	100.0		DEM	100 000	328 16
E. Holtzmann & Cie GmbH & Co KG	DE	100.0		DEM	75 000	3 238 190
Stora Langerbrugge NV	BE	100.0		BEF	950 000	94 240
Stora Corbehem SA	FR	100.0		FRF	636 460	1 833 33
Stora Kabel GmbH	DE	100.0		DEM	34 000	313 12
Stora Reisholz GmbH	DE	100.0		DEM	9 000	80 56
Stora Hylte AB	SE	100.0		SEK	200 000	1 795 55
Stora Kvarnsveden AB	SE	100.0		SEK	150 000	1 282 87
Stora Port Hawkesbury Ltd	CA	100.0		CAD	852 550	2 888 36
Stora Enso Fine Paper						
Enso Fine Papers Oy	FI		100.0	FIM	500 000	968 30
Berghuizer Papierfabriek NV	NL	100.0		NLG	19 266	284 47
Tervakoski Oy	FI		100.0	FIM	100 000	200 00
Oulun Pakkauslava Oy	FI		100.0	FIM	1 000	1 00
Tornion Pakkauslava Oy	FI		100.0	FIM	2 000	2 00
Stora Fine Paper AB	SE	100.0		SEK	487 585	1 771 524
Stora Nymölla AB	SE	100.0		SEK	142 727	825 419
Stora Grycksbo AB	SE	100.0		SEK	125 000	93 88
Stora Mölndal AB	SE	100.0		SEK	75 000	90 320
Stora Dalum A/S	DK	100.0		DKK	100 000	324 00
Stora Uetersen GmbH	DE	100.0		DEM	19 000	170 240
Suzhou Papyrus Paper Co Ltd	CN	60.6		USD	75 000	310 624
Stora Enso Packaging Boards						
Corenso United Oy Ltd	FI		71.0	FIM	110 760	154 699
Enso Cartonboards Oy Ltd	FI		100.0	FIM	200 000	470 000
Pankakoski Boards Oy Ltd	FI	100.0		FIM	30 000	70 000
Enso Española SA	ES	100.0		ESP	6 877 000	233 859
Pakenso Oy	FI		100.0	FIM	110 000	115 590
ZAO Pakenso	RU	100.0		RUR	78 275	69 020
Pakenso Tambox AB	SE	100.0		SEK	30 000	124 843
Pakenso Baltica SIA	LV	100.0		LVL	570	4 95
Stora Paperboard AB	SE	100.0		SEK	350 000	2 662 01
Stora Fors AB	SE	100.0		SEK	180 000	611 31
Stora Newton Kyme Ltd	GB	100.0		GBP	1 500	12 642
Stora Paperboard GmbH	DE	100.0		DEM	21 000	188 480
Stora Enso Timber		10010		52.00	21.000	100 100
Enso Timber Oy Ltd	FI		67.0	FIM	170 168	607 976
Holzindustrie Schweighofer AG	AU	100.0	07.0	ATS	6 000	713 952
Puumerkki Oy	FI	100.0		FIM	49 000	125 108
Stora Timber AB	SE	100.0		SEK	100 000	263 930
Stora Enso Pulp	02	100.0		OER	100 000	200 70
Kemijärven Sellu Oy	FI		100.0	FIM	50 000	170 000
Enso Fibres AG	СН		99.9	CHF	3 995	7 78
Enocell Oy	FI		98.4	FIM	252 000	1 196 000
Stora Cell AB	SE	100.0	70.4	SEK	25 000	585 980
Celbi SA (Portugal)	PT	100.0		PTE	154 932 880	408 304
Stora Enso Merchants		100.0		115	134 732 000	400 50-
Stora Merchant AB	SE	100.0		SEK	1 000	532 323
Pappersgruppen AB	SE	100.0		SEK	21 000	485 693
Stora Enso Energy	JE	100.0		JLK	21000	400 09
Pamilo Oy	FI		51.0	FIM	1 084	11 197
Enso Alueverkko Oy	FI		100.0	FIM	50	50
Stora Kraft AB	SE	100.0	100.0	SEK	100 000	526 624
	SE	99.9				
Kopparkraft AB	3E	99.9		SEK	685 967	2 190
Stora Enso Forest	F 1		100.0	FINA	1 000	2.00
Enso Forest Development Oy Ltd	FI		100.0	FIM	1 000	2 000
AS Lumiforest	EE		100.0	EEK	2 126	9 416
Stora Skog AB	SE	100.0		SEK	25 000	1 053 519

Notes



Employee benefit plan

Most of the employees directly involved in production belong to labour unions. Customarily, collective wage agreements are negotiated between respective unions and the forest industry. Salaries for employees belonging to senior management are negotiated individually.

Stora Enso applies an incentive system that takes into account the performance, development and results of the business units, as well as individual employee performance. Stora Enso's future profit-sharing schemes will be based on company profits and on achievement and on the achievement of key business targets.

The two merged companies have the following incentive systems:

The management of divisions and business units have an annual bonus scheme based on the result of the respective division or business unit and the achievement of personal key targets in separately defined areas. The maximum bonus is two months salary. The rest of the employees participate in another bonus scheme in which the bonus is calculated as a certain percentage of each employee's annual salary, the maximum being 7%. All bonuses are discretionary and are not partially triggered if the results of the Group not exceed predetermined minimum level.

STORA

Enso

Enso has issued bonds with an aggregate value of FIM 1,000,000 with warrants to 20 members of the senior management. For details, see note 19. Approximately 120 employees in managerial positions in two different categories have a bonus scheme based on synthetic options. The bonus is based on Stora Enso's weighted average share price on Helsinki Exchanges during October 1, 1999, to December 31, 1999. The variation level is from FIM 45 to 70 per share. The bonus varies linearly between these share prices. FIM 70 per share gives the maximum bonus of FIM 75,000 or 150,000. The bonus will be paid in January, 2000.

STORA's profit sharing scheme is available to all permanent employees within the STORA sub-group to the extent possible. From the portion of Group profit exceeding the equivalent of 12% return on capital employed, 10% will be set aside for the employees, although this shall not exceed one sixth of the dividend paid to shareholders. The scheme includes all countries where STORA sub-group companies conducts operations, but exceptions are made for countries where other profit-sharing schemes exists. In Sweden, the intention is to place the profit participation into trust, through which investments will be made in STORA's shares. The participation will become available to employees after three years.



	1998	1997	1996	1995
Profit for the period, FIM million	1 135.8	2 431.8	2 191.4	5 985.0
Number of shares	759 579 689	759 579 689	759 579 689	759 579 689
Earnings per share, FIM	1.50	3.20	2.88	7.88

Stora Enso Oyj's ordinary meeting of shareholders held on April 7, 1997 decided to offer bonds with equity warrants up to a maximum value of FIM 1 000 000.

Each FIM 1 000 bond carries one warrant entitling the holder to subscribe for 3 000 of Stora Enso's series R shares. The shares can be subscribed for between 1.12.1998–31.3.2004.

Reconciliation of number of shares	1998	1997	1996	1995
Number of shares	759 579 689	759 579 689	759 579 689	759 579 689
Number of shares under warrants	3 000 000	3 000 000	3 000 000	3 000 000
Diluted number of shares	762 579 689	762 579 689	762 579 689	762 579 689
Diluted earnings per share	1998	1997	1996	1995
Profit for the period, FIM million	1 135.8	2 431.8	2 191.4	5 985.0
Profit for the period, FIM million Diluted number of shares	1 135.8 762 579 689	2 431.8 762 579 689	2 191.4 762 579 689	5 985.0 762 579 689



Events subsequent to the balance sheet date

The offer of January 14, 1999 to STORA shareholders, under which they may voluntarily sell their shares, had resulted in the acquisition of 5,050,697 STORA shares by February 10, 1999. Stora Enso now holds 97.7% of STORA shares and votes.

On January 19, 1999 STORA shares were delisted from the Stockholm, London and Frankfurt Stock exchanges.

On February 10, 1999 it was decided to sell the business operations and material assets of Tervakoski Oy to a new Finnish company to be set up by Trierenberg AG. The selling price is FIM 546 million, which will produce a profit of FIM 160 million.

It was decided to sell the fixed assets of Danish Dalum mill for FIM 170 millon to a group of Danish investors.

The Board also appointed an advisor to review alternative options for future ownership of the Gruvön mill.

Notes

Parent Company (FIM MILL. FAS)



Other operating income

	1998	1997
Sales profits of fixed assets	45.8	68.1
Rent	73.2	60.4
Insurance compensation	0.5	1.3
Subsidies	7.1	7.9
Other	296.5	141.0
	423.0	278.7

Personnel expenses Note 30

	1998	1997
Wages and salaries	794.5	731.8
Pension	213.3	150.5
Other statutory employers		
contributions	88.5	118.0
	1 096.3	1 000.3
Fringe benefits	3.3	3.3
	1 099.6	1 003.6
Remuneration of the members of		
the Board of Directors and CEO	10.1	8.5

Specification of pensions and other statutory employers contributions

Pension expenses paid to pension fund	6	
Obligatory	158.4	117.7
Voluntary	18.9	11.4
Pension expenses paid to insurance cor	npanies	
Obligatory	18.3	14.4
Voluntary	13.5	2.0
Accrued pension liabilities in the period		
Top management pension arrangemen	ts 4.3	5.0
Training		
Other personnel costs		
Obligatory	88.5	87.5
Voluntary		30.5
	301.8	268.5
Average number of personnel	4 237	4 217



Other operating expenses

	1998	1997	
Loss on sale of fixed assets /			
shares	-1.5	-18.0	



Net financing cost

	1998	1997
Dividend income	90.0	73.7
Interest income	776.6	748.5
Other financial income	87.0	16.3
Exchange gains and losses	-8.0	127.1
Interest expenses	-963.4	-941.1
Other financial expenses	-12.7	-8.8
	-30.5	15.7

Intragroup financial income and expenses at Parent company

Financial income from Group companies at Parent company		
Dividend received	12.9	19.6
long-term investments Interest income on	756.4	676.3
short-term investments	20.3	18.5
	789.5	714.4
Financial expense to		
Group companies Interest expense	-73.5	-54 4

Depreciation 22

1998	1997
-9.6	-6.1
-1.4	-1.4
-0.7	-1.4
-47.9	-41.0
-327.4	-308.1
-25.6	-23.4
-412.6	-381.4
	-9.6 -1.4 -0.7 -47.9 -327.4 -25.6



Fixed assets and long-term investments

Parent company 1.131.12.1998	Other intangible assets	Land and water	Buildings and structures	Machinery equipment	Other tangible assets
Acquisition cost 1.1.	109.5	3 604.8	1 421.1	5 405.0	630.7
Additions	30.9	43.2	71.2	340.1	49.5
Disposals	-3.6	-11.6	-8.1	-239.7	-1.6
Acquisition cost 31.12.	136.8	3 636.4	1 484.2	5 505.4	678.6
Accumulated depreciation 1.1.	49.4		406.3	2 547.2	213.4
Depreciation according to plan	11.8		47.9	327.4	25.6
Accumulated depreciation of assets sold	-3.6		-8.0	-73.5	-1.4
Accumulated depreciation 31.12.	57.6		446.2	2 801.1	237.6
Carrying value 31.12.98	79.2	3 636.4	1 038.0	2 704.3	440.9
Carrying value 31.12.97	60.1	3 604.8	1 007.2	2 827.4	455.7

The carrying value of fixed assets for the parent company at 31.12.1998 includes FIM 316.2 million leasing assets.

Accumulated depreciation difference by type of fixed assets at Parent company

Accum. depreciation difference 31.12.1997	26.5	130.5	863.8	49.4
Increase	0.6	13.2	2.9	
Decrease	-1.8		-305.5	-6.5
Accum. depreciation difference 31.12.1998	25.3	143.7	561.2	42.9

Note 30		
at Parent company	1998	1997
Group companies		
Shares	33 473.4	6 315.9
Loans receivable	8 588.9	7 528.6
Total	42 062.2	13 844.5
Associated companies		
Shares	1 495.3	1 401.0
Loans receivable	142.2	151.2
Total	1 637.4	1 552.2

Stocks, shares and loans receivable



Note 36 Receivables from Group

There are no receivables from Group Management.

Note 37 Inventories

	1998	1997
Materials and supplies	556.1	453.9
Work in progress	74.4	69.1
Finished goods	310.7	224.9
Other inventories	29.7	139.6
	970.9	887.5

Note 38 Short-term receivables

	1998	1997
Accounts receivable	1 061.0	1 240.9
Prepaid expenses and accrued income	1 657.3	1 803.6
Other receivables	98.2	43.7
-	2 794.0	3 088.2

Note **39** Receivables and liabilities, Group companies and associated comp.

at Parent company	1998	1997
Accounts receivable, Group comp	606.9	625.3
Accounts receivable, assoc. comp	56.5	71.3
Loans receivable, Group comp.	1 990.7	1 248.9
Loans receivable, assoc. comp.	0.1	6.8
Prepaid expenses, Group comp	1 280.2	983.7
Other receivables, Group comp	21.4	2.0
Other receivables, assoc. comp	26.5	3.8
Other securities, Group comp	463.9	524.2
	4 446.2	3 466.0

at Parent company	1998	1997
Accounts payable, Group comp	116.1	128.2
Accounts payable, assoc. comp	5.5	90.7
Other current liabilities, Group comp	230.6	0.5
Accrued liabilities, Group comp.	33.2	772.1
Accrued liabilities, assoc. comp	141.5	
Other short-term loans,		
Group associated comp	10.1	2.5
Other short-term loans, Group comp	2 181.0	1 997.2
=	2 718.13	2 991.2

Notes



Capitalized interest included in property, plant and equipment

	1998	1997
1.1.	42.2	51.6
Depreciation 1.131.12.	-9.4	-9.4
31.12.	32.8	42.2

Note **41** Shareholders' equity

	1998	1997
Share capital at 1.1.	3 110.9	3 110.9
Increase	4 484.9	
Share capital at 31.12.	7 595.8	3 110.9
Premium fund 1.1.		
Increase	22 424.4	
Premium fund 31.12.	22 424.4	
Reserve fund 1.1. and 31.12	2 186.3	2 186.3
Revaluation reserve 1.1.	1 426.1	1 437.2
Decrease in connection with		
fixed sales	<u>-4.5</u> 1 421.6	-11.1
Revaluation reserve 31.12.	1 421.6	1 426.1
Non restricted equity 1.1	3 182.3	3 152.1
Dividends paid	-684.4	-560.0
To be placed at the disposal of the		
Board of Directors		-2.5
Profit for the period	1 623.5	592.7
Non restricted equity 31.12	4 121.5	3 182.3
Distributable funds		
Non-restricted equity	4 121.5	3 182.3
Untaxed reserves included in		
non restricted equity Distributable funds 31.12.	4 121.5	3 182.3
	4 121.5	3 182.3
	shares	votes
	sildres	votes
Break-down of share capital by type of share at 31.12.1998		
Series A (1 vote/share)	243 394 655	243 394 655
Series R (1 vote/10 shares,		
min. 1 vote)	516 185 034	51 618 503
	759 579 689	295 013 158

	7 595.8 FIM million
min. 1 vote)	5 161.9 FIM million
Series R (1 vote/10 shares,	
Series A (1 vote/share)	2 433.9 FIM million

Note 42

Other current liabilities

	1998	1997
Advances received	0.8	1.9
Trade payables	588.5	580.3
Other current liabilities	486.4	759.6
Accrued liabilities and deferred income	544.1	635.0
—	1 619.8	1 976.8

Note 43 Co

Commitments and contingent liabilities

	1998	1997
On own behalf		
Pledges given	51.7	55.0
Mortgages	3 572.7	4 921.5
On behalf of Group companies		
Guarantees	1 591.4	3 540.4
On behalf of associated companies		
Mortgages		50.0
Guarantees	663.9	754.9
On behalf of others		
Guarantees	11.3	25.6
Other commitments, own		
Leasing commitments, in 1999	14.3	2.2
Leasing commitments, after 1999	129.5	3.7
Pension liabilities	5.4	8.0
Other commitments		
Total		
Pledges given	51.7	55.0
Mortgages	3 572.7	4 971.5
Guarantees	2 266.6	4 320.9
Leasing commitments	143.7	5.9
Pension liabilities	5.4	8.0
Other commitments		
Total	6 040.3	9 361.3

Stora Enso Oyj has undertaken to guarantee the leasing agreements relating to Enso Española SA to a maximum of FIM 242 443 817.98. The commitment extends until December 23, 2003.

Proposal for the distribution of dividend

The consolidated balance sheet shows retained shareholders' equity of FIM 19,688.9 million at December 31, 1998, of which FIM 14,128.6 million is distributable.

The parent company's distributable shareholders' equity was FIM 4,121,493,528.47 at December 31, 1998. The Board of Directors proposes to the Annual General Meeting that the profit for the financial period of FIM 1,623,533,493.48 be transferred to retained earnings and that dividend be distributed as follows:

Retained earnings after distribution of dividend	2,526,376,181.57
Profits from previous periods Profit for the financial period Dividend of FIM 2.10 per share	2,497,960,034.99 1,623,533,493.48 1,595,117,346.90
Durafita fuene manufacto a cale de	2 407 0/0 024 00

HELSINKI, FEBRUARY 10, 1999

CLAES DAHLBÄCK Chairman

Josef Ackermann

RAIMO LUOMA

Jan Sjöqvist

Jukka Härmälä *CEO* Krister Ahlström Vice Chairman

HARALD EINSMANN

PAAVO PITKÄNEN

MARCUS WALLENBERG

Björn Hägglund Deputy CEO To the shareholders of Stora Enso Oyj

We have audited the accounting records, the financial statements and the administration of Stora Enso Oyj for the year ended December 31, 1998. The financial statements prepared by the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive Officer include a report of the Board of Directors, consolidated financial statements of the Stora Enso Group prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standards (IAS), and parent company financial statements prepared in accordance with prevailing rules and regulations in Finland (FAS), both including a balance sheet, an income statement, a cash flow statement and notes to the financial statements. Based on our audit, we express an opinion on these financial statements and on the parent company's administration.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Finnish Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. The purpose of our audit of the administration has been to examine that the members of the Supervisory Board and the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive Officer have legally complied with the rules of the Finnish Companies' Act.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standards (IAS) give a true and fair view of the Stora Enso Group's consolidated result of operations, as well as of the financial position. The consolidated financial statements are in accordance with prevailing rules and regulations in Finland and can be adopted.

The parent company's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Finnish Accounting Act and other rules and regulations and give a true and a fair view of the parent company's result of operations and financial position. The parent company's financial statements can be adopted and the members of the Supervisory Board and the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive Officer of the parent company can be discharged from liability for the period audited by us. The proposal of the Board of Directors for disposal of the profit is in compliance with the Finnish Companies' Act.

In accordance with Finnish regulations we have acquainted ourselves with the interim reports published by the company during the year. In our opinion they have been prepared in accordance with the rules and regulations governing the preparation of such reports.

HELSINKI, FEBRUARY 23, 1999

SVH PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS OY Authorized Public Accountants

> PEKKA NIKULA Authorized Public Accountant

KPMG WIDERI OY AB Authorized Public Accountants

HANNU NIILEKSELÄ Authorized Public Accountant

Share capital

In accordance with Stora Enso Oyj's Articles of Association, the minimum share capital of the company is FIM 5,000,000,000 and the maximum FIM 20,000,000,000, within which limits the share capital may be increased or decreased without amending the Articles of Association. On December 31, 1998, the company's fully paid-up share capital entered in the Finnish Trade Register amounted to FIM 7,595,796,890. During the year, the share capital increased as a result of the share issue to STORA shareholders. As a consequence of the share issue and conversion of A shares into R shares, the distribution of shares changed. The composition of Stora Enso's share capital is presented in the Change in share capital table.

Shares

The company's shares are divided between Series A and Series R shares. All shares carry equal rights to receive a dividend. The difference lies in voting rights. At an Annual General Meeting, each A share and each ten R shares entitle the holder to one vote. However, each shareholder has at least one vote.

According to the Articles of Association, the company's A shares may be converted into R shares at the request of a shareholder on dates to be decided annually by the Board of Directors. During the conversion period of September 7–11, 1998, a total of 43 requests for conversion were made. On the basis of these requests 1,357,954 A shares were converted into R shares. In the share issue directed to STORA shareholders, 128,023,484 A shares and 320,465,375 R shares were offered for subscription. The new numbers of shares of the two series were entered in the Trade Register on December 23, 1998, as follows:

Series A	243,394,655
Series R	516,185,034
Total	759,579,689

The company's shares have been entered in the Book-Entry Securities System maintained by the Finnish Central Securities Depository. On December 23, 1998, 424,937,573 of the company's shares were registered in the Swedish Securities Register Center as so-called VPC shares. For the purpose of trading or participation in an Annual General Meeting, the shares may be transferred from one system to the other by notifying the bank responsible for managing the book-entry securities account.

At the end of 1998, the company had approximately 70,000 shareholders. Foreign ownership outside Finland and Sweden accounted for 24%.

Share listings

Stora Enso's shares are listed on the Helsinki and Stockholm stock exchanges. The shares are quoted in euro (EUR) in Helsinki and in Swedish krona (SEK) in Stockholm.

STORA shares were delisted from the Stockholm, London and Frankfurt stock exchanges on January 19, 1999.

Board of Directors' authority to raise the share capital or purchase shares The Annual General Meeting held on March 26, 1998 decided to authoriz e the Board of Directors to increase the share capital by a maximum of FIM 10,000,000 by offering 1,000,000 new R shares for subscription. The right to subscribe rests primarily with employees in the Group. The authoriz ation, which is valid until March 26, 1999, has not

Helsinki Exchanges	Turnov	Turnover, number		Closing price, FIM	
	series A	series R	series A	series R	
29.12.1998	78,221	417,395	47.90	47.50	
30.12.1998	104,203	383,718	45.00	45.60	
29–30.12.1998	182,424	801,113			

Stockholm Stock Exchange

Stora Enso turnovei

29–30.12.1998	502,565	1,110,572		
29.12.1998 30.12.1998	247,313 255,252	534,851 575,721	69.00 70.00	70.00 71.00
20.12.1000	247 212	E24 0E1	(0.00	70.00
Stockholm Stock Exchange				

been used. The Board of Directors has received no other authoriz ation to issue shares, or to issue convertible bonds or bonds with warrants. The Board has no authoriz ation to purchase Stora Enso's own shares.

- Options scheme for the management On April 7, 1997, the company issued bonds with a maximum value of FIM 1,000,000, with warrants, to members of senior management. Each FIM 1,000 bond carries one warrant entitling the holder to subscribe for 3,000 Series R Stora Enso shares at a subscription price of FIM 45.57 each. If fully subscribed, the issue will increase the share capital by a maximum of FIM 30 M. Shares may be subscribed for during the period December 1, 1998 to March 31, 2004. The shares represent 0.4% of the share capital or 0.1% of the voting rights after the exercise of warrants.
- Management interests at December 31, 1998 At the end of 1998, the members of Stora Enso's Board of Directors, the CEO and the DCEO owned a combined total of 50,184 Stora Enso shares, of which 17,775 were Series A shares. These shares represent less than 0.00% of the company's share capital and voting rights. The CEO also holds bonds with equity warrants worth FIM 200,000, which entitle him to subscribe for 600,000 Series R shares. The shares represent 0.0% of the company's voting rights. The members of the Management

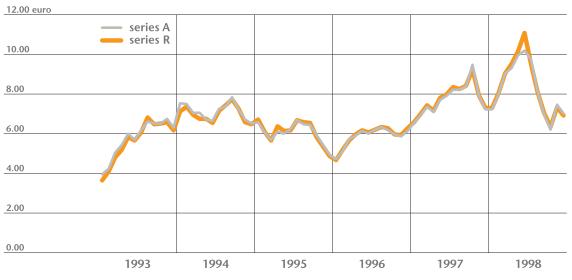
Group own a combined total of 44,431 shares and bonds with warrants entitling to 1,650,000 series R shares. The Management Group's ownership represents 0.2% of the share capital after the exercise of warrants.

- Shareholdings of other Group-related bodies at December 31, 1998
 Enso's pension foundation owned 786,500
 R shares. Stora Enso's profit-sharing scheme owned 315,140 Stora Enso A shares and 114,000 R shares.
 E.J. Ljungberg's Training Fund owned 1,880,540 A shares and 4,831,804 R shares.
 E.J. Ljungberg's Fund owned 39,534 A shares and 101,579 R shares.
 Stiftelsen Bergslagets Sjuk- och Hälsovårdskassa owned 626,269 A shares and 1,609,483 R shares.
 Mr. and Mrs. Ljungberg's Testamentary Fund owned 4,093 A shares and 13,085 R shares.
- Finnish State ownership

The Finnish State owns 18.1% of the company's shares and 21.6% of the voting rights generated by the shares. In June 1998, the Finnish Parliament passed a resolution to abolish the provision requiring the State to hold a one-third interest in the company.

Share price trend

The new Stora Enso shares were entered in the Trade Register on December 23, 1998. On the same day, Enso Oyj was renamed Stora Enso Oyj, and the



Share price trend, series A and series R

Share prices, monthly average : 1.1.1993-28.12.1998 Enso Oyj at Helsinki Exchanges, 29.-30.12.1998 Stora Enso Oyj at Helsinki Exchanges.

existing shares quoted on the Helsinki Exchanges were accordingly renamed Stora Enso shares. The total of 448,488,859 new shares offered to STORA shareholders were quoted together with the existing shares as of December 29, 1998. Trading in Stora Enso shares on the Stockholm Stock Exchange began on the same day.

On December 29, 1998, the prices quoted on the Helsinki Exchanges were FIM 47.90 per Series A Stora Enso share and FIM 47.50 per Series R share. The prices quoted on the Stockholm Stock Exchange were SEK 69.00 and SEK 70.00 respectively. On the last trading date of 1998, the quotations were as follows: in Helsinki, FIM 45.00 per A share and FIM 45.60 per R share; in Stockholm, SEK 70.00 per A share and SEK 71.00 per R share. The

Group's total market capitaliz ation at year-end was EUR 5,801 M (FIM 34,491 M) in Helsinki. The market capitaliz ation in Stockholm is calculated on the basis of the number of VPC shares. At year-end, the market capitaliz ation in Stockholm was EUR 3,122 M (SEK 18,561 M).

STORA shares continued to be quoted on the Stockholm, London and Frankfurt stock exchanges until January 19, 1999.

On January 14, 1999, Stora Enso began compulsory redemption of all the outstanding STORA shares belonging to minority shareholders, in order to acquire the company's entire share capital. In addition to compulsory redemption, shareholders were offered the voluntary alternative of selling their shares for cash at a price of SEK 88 per share.

Stora Enso's main shareholders: December 31, 1998	A shares 000s	R shares 000s	% of shares	% of voting rights
Finnish State	55,596	81,484	18.1	21.6
Investor AB	27,208	50,485	10.2	10.9
Social Insurance Institution	23,825	3,739	3.6	8.2
Robur	12,305	45,410	7.6	5.7
Fourth General Fund	7,318	13,579	2.8	2.9
Sampo Group	7,956	1,134	1.2	2.7
Varma-Sampo Mutual Pension				
Insurance Company	7,306	25	1.0	2.5
SPP	4,189	9,739	1.8	1.7
Skandia	2,507	7,006	1.3	1.1
Unicarta Oy	2,661	3,277	0.8	1.0
Ratos	2,007	3,724	0.8	0.8
Erik Johan Ljungberg's Training Fund	1,881	4,832	0.9	0.8
The Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation	1,670	3,100	0.6	0.7
AMF	800	2,249	0.4	0.4
Solidium Oy		5,227	0.7	0.2
Other	86,166	281,175	48.2	38.8
Total	243,395	516,185	100.0	100.0

Shareholder categories December 31, 1998	% of shares	% of voting rights	% of shareholders
Finnish institutions	30.3	41.0	30.4
Swedish institutions	37.9	35.9	37.8
Finnish private persons	2.2	2.0	2.2
Swedish private persons	5.8	5.3	5.8
Non-Finnish/Swedish owners	23.8	15.8	23.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Shareholder statistics, Stora Enso A December 31, 1998	Number of shareholders	% of shareholders	Number of A shares	% of shares
1-1001	29,277	49.9	3,048,956	1.3
101–1,000	24,303	41.4	7,872,234	3.2
1,001–10,000	4,558	7.8	10,789,504	4.4
10,001–100,000	423	0.7	12,066,015	5.0
100,001–1,000,000	134	0.2	39,509,032	16.2
1,000,001–	28	0.0	170,108,914	69.9
Total	58,723	100.0	243,394,655	100.0

Shareholders statistics, Stora Enso R December, 31 1998	Number of shareholders	% of shareholders	Number of R shares	% of shares
1–100 ¹	18,769	29.3	11,727,104	2.3
101–1,000	33,615	52.5	13,863,956	2.7
1,001–10,000	10,376	16.2	28,116,598	5.4
10,001–100,000	952	1.5	26,004,494	5.0
100,001–1,000,000	243	0.4	75,978,964	14.7
100,000,001-	49	0.1	360,493,918	69.8
Total	64,004	100.0	516,185,034	100.0

¹⁾ Includes	Series A	Series R
Waiting list	1,500	1,200
Swedish shareholders	2,249,594	10,839,541
Total	2,251,094	10,840,741

Distribution of shares December 31, 1998	Series A	Series R	Total
FCSD-registered (the Finnish Central Securities Depository)	117,737,969	203,811,812	321,549,781
VPC-registered (the Swedish Securities Register Center) ¹	123,405,592	301,532,481	424,938,073
FCSD waiting list	1,500	1,200	2,700
FCSD common account	2,249,594	10,839,541	13,089,135
Total	243,394,655	516,185,034	759,579,689

¹⁾ The VPC-registered shares are also FCSD-registered

	Closing price	Closing price Dec 30, 1998		Market value	
Share price and market value	FIM	SEK	FIM M	EUR M	
Helsinki Exchanges, A shares	45.00	71.80	10,953	1,842	
R shares	45.60	72.76	23,538	3,959	
Stockholm Stock Exchange, A shares	43.87	70.00			
R shares	44.50	71.00			
Total market value in Helsinki			34,491	5,801	

Change in share capital	Total share capital (FIM M)	Number of series A shares	Number of series R shares	Total number of shares
Enso Oyj, Dec. 31, 1997	3,110.9	116,729,125	194,361,705	311,090,830
Conversion of 1,357,954 Enso Oyj series A shares				
into series R shares, Sept. 7–11, 1998		-1,357,954	1,357,954	
Conversion of STORA series A and B shares				
into Stora Enso Oyj series A and R shares, Dec. 23, 1998	1,374.0	128,023,484	320,465,375	448,488,859
Stora Enso Oyj, Dec. 31, 1998	7,595.8	243,394,655	516,185,034	759,579,689

Stora Enso (IAS) Key Share Ratios 1995–1998	1998	1997	1996	1995
Earnings/share ¹⁾ , EUR	0.25	0.54	0.49	1.33
Earnings/share, adjusted ²⁾ , EUR		0.54	0.48	1.32
Equity/share, EUR		7.26	6.96	6.66
Dividend/share, EUR		0.33	0.30	0.23
Dividend/share, FIM		1.99	1.81	1.38
Payout ratio, %		62.2	62.7	17.5
Dividend yield, %				
Series A	4.7	5.2	4.9	7.8
Series R	4.6	5.2	4.9	7.8
Price / earnings				
Series A	30.1	7.2	8.2	2.9
Series R	30.5	7.2	8.2	2.9
Price trend per share ⁴), EUR				
Series A				
 closing price for the period 		7.15	6.21	4.86
 average price 		7.75	6.09	6.02
– highest price		9.86	6.48	7.01
- lowest price	5.40	6.22	5.65	4.46
Series R				
- closing price for the period		7.10	6.22	4.88
– average price		7.97	6.18	6.17
- highest price		10.01	6.59	7.06
– lowest price	5.30	6.17	5.68	4.46
Market Capitalization at year-end				
Series A, EUR M		834	1,116	653
Series R, EUR M	3,959	1,379	817	529
Total Market Capitalization				
at year-end, EUR M	5,801	2,214	1,933	1,182
Number of shares at the end of the period (thousands)				
Series A	243,395	116,729	179,769	134,408
Series R	516,185	194,362	131,322	108,445
Total number of shares		311,091	311,091	242,853

1998 earnings per share before non-recurring items were EUR 0.79 and the payout ratio 44.6.
 After potential increase of three million shares due to share options (IAS 33)
 Board of Directors' proposal to the Ordinary meeting of shareholders
 Ratios based on market information are calculated from Enso Oyj's figures before 29 December 1998. Year 1995 ratios calculated from Enso-Gutzeit Oy's figures.

Board of Directors



Front row, left to right:

BJÖRN HÄGGLUND, JUKKA HÄRMÄLÄ AND CLAES DAHLBÄCK.

Back row, left to right:

JAN SJÖQVIST, JOSEF ACKERMANN, PAAVO PITKÄNEN, RAIMO LUOMA, HARALD EINSMANN, MARCUS WALLENBERG AND KRISTER AHLSTRÖM.



CLAES DAHLBÄCK

Chairman

Born 1947. M.Sc.(Ec.), Dr. (h.c.). President and CEO of Investor through April 14, 1999. Vice Chairman of Investor, effective April 15, 1999. Chairman of Vin & Sprit and Gambro. Vice Chairman of Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken. Member of the Board of Astra. Member of the STORA Board in 1990–98

Shares held in Stora Enso: 2,541 A and 6,529 R.

KRISTER AHLSTRÖM

Vice Chairman

Born 1940. M.Sc. (Engineering), Dr.(h.c.). Chairman of A. Ahlstrom Corporation. Vice Chairman of Fortum Corp. Vice Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Sampo Insurance Company and Member of the Supervisory Board of Merita Bank. Member of the Enso Supervisory Board in 1993-98. Shares held in Stora Enso: 0.

JOSEF ACKERMANN

Born 1948. Dr.(Oec). Member of the Group Board of Deutsche Bank. Member of the Supervisory Boards of Linde, S AirGroup, EUREX Zürich and several international institutions.

Shares held in Stora Enso: 1,300 R.

HARALD EINSMANN

Born 1934. Ph.D. (Econ.). President of Procter & Gamble Europe, Middle East and Africa. Executive Vice President and Member of the Executive Committee and the Board of the Procter & Gamble Company U.S.A. Chairman of the Board of the Procter & Gamble Group of Companies in Germany. Member of the Board of the EMI Group, UK. Member of the Advisory Board of the University of Boston in Brussels, and Member of the Board of the Festival of Flanders. Member of the STORA Board in 1998 Shares held in Stora Enso: 0.

BJÖRN HÄGGLUND

Deputy CEO

Born 1945. Dr. of Forestry. Member of the Boards of the Federation of Swedish Industries, the Swedish Forest Industries Association and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. Member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences and the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry. President and CEO of STORA in 1998.

Shares held in Stora Enso: 7,877 A and 14,618 R.

JUKKA HÄRMÄLÄ

CFO

Born 1946. B.Sc.(Econ.). Chairman of the Confederation of Finnish Industry and Employers. Member of the Board of the Finnish Forest Industries Federation. Chairman of the Board of Sampo Insurance Company. Member of the Supervisory Board of Merita Bank. Deputy Chairman of Finnlines and Member of the Board of Neptun Maritime. President and COO of Enso in 1988-91 and President and CEO in 1992-98. Shares held in Stora Enso: 3,000 R and warrants entitling to 600.000 R shares.

RAIMO LUOMA

Born 1959. M.Sc.(Laws), (LL.M). Partner and Member of the Board of Asianajotoimisto Raimo Luoma Oy. Shares held in Stora Enso: 0.

PAAVO PITKÄNEN

Born 1942. M.Sc.(Math.). Managing Director of Varma-Sampo Mutual Pension Insurance Company. Member of the Boards of Metra, Partek and Sampo Insurance Company. Member of the Supervisory Board of Instrumentarium and Vice Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Alma Media. Member of the Enso Board in 1994-98. Shares held in Stora Enso: 3,800 A.

JAN SJÖQVIST

Born 1948. MBA. President and CEO of NCC. Member of the Boards of NCC, Neptun Maritime and Hufvudstaden. Member of the STORA Board in 1997–98. Shares held in Stora Enso: 508 A and 943 R.

MARCUS WALLENBERG

Born 1956. B.Sc. (Foreign Service). Executive Vice President of Investor through April 14, 1999. President and CEO of Investor, effective April 15, 1999. Vice Chairman of Astra, Ericsson and Saab. Member of the Boards of Gambro, Scania, Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken, SAS Assembly of Representatives and the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation. Member of the STORA Board in 1998. Shares held in Stora Enso: 3,049 A and 6,019 R.

Management group



Jukka Härmälä CEO

> Born 1946. Employed by Enso in 1970–84 and in 1988–98. Shares held in Stora Enso: 3,000 R and warrants entitling to 600,000 R shares.



BJÖRN HÄGGLUND Deputy CEO

> Born 1945. Joined STORA in 1991. Shares held in Stora Enso: 7,877 A and 14,618 R.



KIMMO KALELA Senior Executive Vice President, Strategy and Business Development

> Born 1941. Joined Enso in 1986. Shares held in Stora Enso: Warrants entitling to 300,000 R shares.



ESKO MÄKELÄINEN Senior Executive Vice President, Financial Control and Legal

Born 1946. Joined Enso in 1970. Shares held in Stora Enso: 1,900 A and 3,169 R and warrants entitling to 300,000 R shares.



INGVAR PETERSSON Senior Executive Vice President, Finance and IT; Base Resources

> Born 1941. Joined STORA in 1986. Shares held in Stora Enso: 2,602 A and 6,251 R.



YNGVE STADE Senior Executive Vice President, Corporate Support Born 1947. Joined STORA in 1994. Shares held in Stora Enso: 254 A and 471 R.

STEN HOLMBERG Executive Vice President, Continuous Productivity Improvement

> Born 1948. Joined STORA in 1980. Shares held in Stora Enso: 0.



KARI VAINIO

Executive Vice President, Communications and Investor Relations

Born 1946. Joined Enso in 1985. Shares held in Stora Enso: 1,000 R and warrants entitling to 75,000 R shares.



CHRISTER ÅGREN Executive Vice President, Human Resources Born 1954. Joined STORA in 1993. Shares held in Stora Enso: 0.



BERND RETTIG Senior Executive Vice President, Magazine Paper Born 1956. Joined STORA in 1982. Shares held in Stora Enso: 0.



KAI KORHONEN Senior Executive Vice President, Newsprint Born 1951. Joined Enso in 1977. Shares held in Stora Enso: 0.



JOUKO TAUKOJÄRVI Senior Executive Vice President, Fine Paper Born 1941. Joined Enso in 1964. Shares held in Stora Enso: 1,000 A and warrants entitling to 300,000 R shares.



LARS BENGTSSON Executive Vice President, Fine Paper Born 1945. Joined STORA in 1986. Shares held in Stora Enso: 0.



PEKKA LAAKSONEN Senior Executive Vice President, Packaging Boards Born 1956. Joined Enso in 1979. Shares held in Stora Enso: 0.



ARNO PELKONEN Executive Vice President, Timber Products Born 1954. Joined Enso in 1984. Shares held in Stora Enso: 0.



BERT ÖSTLUND Executive Vice President, Pulp Born 1948. Joined STORA in 1986. Shares held in Stora Enso: 101 A and 188 R.



SVEN ROSMAN Executive Vice President, Merchants Born 1945. Joined STORA in 1991. Shares held in Stora Enso: 0.



SEPPO HIETANEN Executive Vice President, Asia Pacific

> Born 1945. Joined Enso in 1976. Shares held in Stora Enso: 2,000 R and warrants entitling to 75,000 R shares.

General

The principles of Stora Enso's Corporate Governance Policy are in accordance with the Finnish Companies Act, which the Policy supplements.

The Board of Directors (BOD), the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the Deputy Chief Executive Officer (DCEO) shall be responsible for the management of the company. The duties of the various bodies within the company shall be determined by the laws of Finland and by this Corporate Governance Policy determined by the Board of Directors.

The rest of the governance bodies have an assisting and supporting role.

Stora Enso will prepare annual and interim financial accounts conforming to international accounting standards, to be published in the Finnish, Swedish and English languages.

Stora Enso will be managed from dual headquarters in Sweden and Finland.

Stora Enso will have two auditors.

To the fullest extent possible, corporate actions and corporate records will be taken and recorded in English.

Governance bodies

The decision-making bodies with responsibility to manage the company are:

Board of Directors

Compensation Committee

CEO, DCEO

- Executive Management Group (EMG)
- Management Group
- Investment Committee
- Environmental Committee
- R&D Committee

Day-to-day operational responsibility rests with the divisional managements and their operations teams. Objectives and composition of governance bodies

Board of Directors

Stora Enso will be managed by a Board of Directors under international two-tier corporate governance principles.

The BOD will consist of 10 ordinary members: 8 non-executives and 2 executives. The members will be appointed by the Annual General Meeting for a one-year term.

The BOD will meet at least 5 times per year.

The BOD will supervise the operation and management of Stora Enso, as well as decide upon significant matters concerning strategy, investments, organiz ation and finance.

The BOD shall be responsible for the management and the proper arrangement of the operations of the company. The BOD shall be responsible for the proper supervision of the accounting and the control of the financial matters of the company.

The BOD will elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman from among its members and will appoint a CEO, DCEO and the heads of divisions and staff functions. The BOD approves the organiz ational structure of the company.

The BOD will appoint the Compensation Committee.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

The CEO shall be in charge of the day-to-day management of the company in accordance with the instructions and orders given by the Board of Directors. It shall be the duty of the CEO to ensure that the company's accounting methods comply with the law and that the financial matters are being handled in a reliable manner.

The CEO will be in charge of the following:

- strategy, long-range planning and investments
- finance and financial planning
- corporate communications
- investor relations
- preparatory work with regard to board meetings
 - In addition he will supervise decisions regarding
- personnel
- important operational matters



Deputy Chief Executive Officer (DCEO)

The DCEO works as a deputy to the CEO. The DCEO will be in charge of operational matters as follows:

- follow-up and coaching of the divisions
- corporate support functions (purchasing, logistics), resources (wood, energy)
- R&D
- environmental matters
- human resources

Executive Management Group (EMG)

The Executive Management Group will be chaired by the CEO. It will consist of the DCEO, 4 divisional heads (Magaz ine Paper, Newsprint, Fine Paper, Packaging Boards) and the following heads of staff functions:

- Strategic Business Development Group
- Financial Administration and Legal Matters
- Finance, IT and Base Resources
- Corporate Support

The EMG's tasks and responsibilities are as follows:

- investment planning and follow-up, control of mergers and acquisitions and divestments
- preparation of strategic guidelines
- allocation of resources
- review of key day-to-day operations and operational decisions
- preparatory work with regard to board meetings
- review of main features of sales network

The EMG will meet approx. 10 times per year.

Management Group

The tasks and responsibilities of the Management Group are to review the budget, strategy and daily business development.

The members of the Management Group are as follows:

- Members of the EMG
- Divisional heads as well as heads of staff functions

In addition to the above, additional members can be appointed by the CEO.

The Management Group meets approx. 5 times per year.

Investment Committee

The Investment Committee will be chaired by the head of the Strategic Business Development Group. Members (4–7) will be appointed by the CEO.

The tasks and responsibilities of the Investment Committee are as follows:

- coordinate investment planning and the approval process
- coordinate the investment completion audit and follow-up process
- participate in the planning and execution of large investment projects
- make recommendations regarding the funds available for investments

The Investment Committee will meet once a month or as required.

Environmental Committee

The Environmental Committee will be chaired by the DCEO. Members (5–9) will be appointed by the CEO.

The purpose and tasks of the Environmental Committee are as follows:

- formulate and communicate the corporate environmental strategy and policy for divisions
- coordinate the connections and communication with Non-Governmental Organiz ations, the European Union, the World Bank, etc.
- establish environmental management procedures
- produce the annual Environmental Report

The Environmental Committee will meet regularly as required.

R&D Committee

The R&D Committee will be chaired by the DCEO. Members (4-8) will be appointed by the CEO.

The purpose and tasks of the R&D Committee are as follows:

- assist the Group's businesses to achieve and maintain quality and productivity leadership by providing high-quality R&D competence and service
- monitor technology and future-oriented product development
- recommend the extent of overall R&D activities within the Group

The R&D Committee will meet regularly as required.

Glossary of technical terms

General

Soft pulpwood: Wood raw material of pine or spruce for production of pulp.

Hard pulpwood: Wood raw material of mainly birch, beech or eucalyptus for production of pulp.

Recycled fiber: Wastepaper that has been defibrated and then deinked through chemical or mechanical processing.

Wastepaper: Used newspapers and magazines (used for producing printing papers), and office and printers' waste (for fine papers).

*m*³: The commercial measurement for pulpwood. It refers to the actual solid volume of wood in cubic meters, excluding bark.

m³ fo: Measurement used for standing tree. Refers to total tree volume, bark and top included, in forest cubic meters.

Coating: Applied to make the surface of paper or board smoother and more glossy. Improves printability. A layer of coating slip, or pigment, is applied to one or both sides of the paper/board.

Pulp

Sulphate (kraft) pulp: Chemical pulp produced by cooking woodchips in an alkaline solution of sodium hydroxide and sulphide.

Sulphite pulp: Chemical pulp produced by cooking woodchips in a solution of calcium-, sodium- or magnesiumsulphite.

Mechanical pulp: Produced from debarked wood that is applied to a grindstone under water pressure (SGW, stone groundwood pulp), or which is cut into chips and ground in refiners, whereby the fibers are liberated and produce a pulp.

TMP: Thermomechanical pulp, a mechanical pulp produced by pressurized presteaming of woodchips prior to defibration in a refiner.

DIP: Deinked pulp, a wastepaper pulp that has been deinked through chemical or mechanical processing.

CTMP: Chemi-thermomechanical pulp is produced by refining chemically impregnated, preheated woodchips.

NS: Neutral sulphite, semi-chemical pulp produced by cooking in a neutral sulphite solution.

Fluff pulp: A special sulphate (kraft) or CTMP pulp, used for absorbent materials, such as diapers and hygiene products. After dry defibration, the pulp takes on a cotton-like appearance.

Bleaching: During the cooking process, the binding agent lignin is removed from the wood. The lignin residue and other substances remaining after cooking tend to discolor the pulp brown or yellow. Bleaching, using, for example, chlorine dioxide, hydrogen peroxide and ozone, provides the pulp with the desired brightness and protection against aging.

ECF: Elementary Chlorine Free. A pulp that has been bleached without using elementary chlorine (chlorine gas) but with, for example, chlorine dioxide.

TCF: A Totally Chlorine Free pulp. This means that neither chlorine nor any chlorine compounds have been used during bleaching.

Oxygen bleaching: A bleaching process using oxygen gas, alkali solution and stabilizing substances.

Magazine paper

SC: Super Calendered, an uncoated paper produced from mechanical pulp, sulphate (kraft) pulp and filler (china clay) that is treated mechanically between steel rolls to achieve a glossy printing surface. Used primarily for periodicals and advertising materials.

LWC, MWC, HWC: Light-weight, medium-weight and heavy-weight coated is a coated SC paper produced from mechanical pulp and sulphate (kraft) pulp. Used for periodicals and advertising materials, where four-color printing quality demands are high.

MFC: Machine-finished coated paper has high brightness, opacity, bulk, and stiffness and is used in specialized magazines, catalogs, inserts, advertising materials and books. The soft (nip) calender gives a matt finish to the surface.

Newsprint

Newsprint: Newsprint contains mainly mechanical pulp (TMP, SGW pulp) and often some sulphate (kraft) pulp. Newsprint furnish can also contain some recycled fiber or be made of 100% recycled fiber.

Fine paper

Fine papers: Printing, writing and office papers of the finest quality, produced from a bleached chemical pulp with very little or no mechanical pulp. Can be either coated or uncoated.

Coated fine papers: Fine papers with a pigmented surface layer that increases the uniformity of the printing surface and provides improved printing properties, particularly for the reproduction of illustrations.

Recycled fiber-based fine papers: Uncoated and coated fine papers produced from pulps based on recovered and recycled office and printing wastepapers.

Label papers: Single-sided coated or cast-coated papers used for production of labels for beverages and food products.

Packaging boards

Folding Boxboard (FBB): A multilayer board, often mineral coated, with an outer layer of sulphate (kraft) pulp and a middle layer of mechanical (groundwood, pressure groundwood, TMP or CTMP) pulp. Principally used for packaging of dry, moisture-containing and liquid foods, paper cups, cigarettes and other consumer products. The board is also used within the graphic industries for catalog covers, postcards and folders, etc.

Solid Bleached Sulphate Board (SBS): A board consisting of one or several layers of bleached chemical pulp, often also mineral coated. Used within the graphic industries and for various types of packaging of dry, moisture-containing and liquid food products, including paper cups. In the non-food sector, SBS boards are typically used for cigarette and luxury goods packaging.

Solid Unbleached Sulphate (SUS) and White Top Liner (WTL): Board consisting of bleached chemical pulp or a mineral-coated top layer, or both, an unbleached back and a middle layer of unbleached chemical and/or mechanical pulps. SUS boards are used for packaging of food and nonfood products, liquid food packaging and paper cups. WTL is typically used as surface layer of corrugated board.

Kraftliner (KL): A liner produced from unbleached sulphate (kraft) pulp, often containing 20–30% recycled fiber, and used for corrugated board.

SC fluting: Boards made from unbleached semi-chemical pulp. Used as a middle layer of corrugated board.

White Lined Chipboard (WLC) and White Top-coated Test Liner (WT-coated): Boards made mainly of recycled fiber, often mineral coated, and used for carton materials for dry products, both food and non-food, for liquid detergents, and as top layer of corrugated board.

Greyboard, Testliner, Wellenstoff: Boards made of recycled fiber without white top layer. Used for various cartons and corrugated board.

MG kraft paper: One-sided calendered paper mainly produced from sulphate (kraft) pulp. Used for paper bags, wrapping paper, carrier bags, flexible packaging, etc.

Sack paper: Paper used for the production of bags and sacks. Made from sulphate (kraft) pulp, with high strength properties.

Plastic coating and laminating: Each of the above grades may be coated by polymers, typically with polyethylene, and/or laminated with other materials, typically with aluminum foil, plastic film or other paper. Coating and lamination provides barrier and other functional properties, which makes it possible to select raw material for a specific end use from alternative paper groups.

Corrugated board: Corrugated board consists of one or more layers of rippled paper (fluting) glued to one layer, or between several layers, of flat paper (kraftliner, testliner).

Coreboard: Coreboards are produced from recycled raw materials (85%), combined with primary wood pulp (15%). All grades are recyclable. Coreboards are used for extra strong cores used within the paper, textile-yarn and plastic-foil industries.

Cores: Cores used by paper and board industries are designed for many applications: from standard cores for newsprint to super-strong cores for jumbo reels and high speed rotation. All core grades are recyclable.

Laminating papers: Include base kraft papers and phenolic resin impregnant papers.

Saturated Base Kraft (SBK): Brown Absorbex® Kraft Paper is manufactured from unbleached sulphate pulp made from sawdust. Brown Absorbex® is mainly used in decorative high-pressure laminates (HPL). White Absorbex® Kraft Paper is manufactured from bleached sulphate pulp and is developed for electrical applications.

Phenolic Resin Impregnant Papers: Core Stock is used in the laminate industry as the core material in decorative high-pressure laminates, such as compact, fire-retardant and post-forming laminates.

Capacity specification 1999

Mill	Location	Grade C	Total Capacity
Magazine Paper, 000 tonnes			3,125
Anjalankoski	FI	MFC	140
Corbehem	FR	LWC	510
Kabel	DE	LWC, MWC, HWC	570
Kotka	FI	MFC	140
Kvarnsveden	SE	SC	110
Langerbrugge	BE	SC	115
Maxau	DE	SC	355
Port Hawkesbury	CA	SC	350
Reisholz	DE	SC	210
Summa	FI	MF Magazine	70
Veitsiluoto	FI	LWC, MWC	400
Wolfsheck Wolfsheck	DE DE	SC Wallpaper base	90 65
WOIISH RECK	DE	walipaper base	
Newsprint, 000 tonnes			3,190
Anjalankoski	FI	Newprint, Book	345
Hylte	SE	Newsprint	770
Kvarnsveden	SE	Newsprint	555
Langerbrugge	BE	Newsprint	125
Maxau	DE	Newsprint	225
Port Hawkesbury	CA	Newsprint Newsprint Directory	195
Sachsen	DE	Newsprint, Directory	310
Summa Varkaus	FI FI	Newsprint Newsprint, Directory	390 275
Fine Paper, 000 tonnes			3,040
rille rapei, 000 tonnes			3,040
Berghuizer	NL	Uncoated	165
Grycksbo	SE	Coated	200
Imatra	FI	Uncoated	200
Imatra	FI	Coated	90
Mölndal	SE	Uncoated	30
Mölndal	SE	Coated	55
Nymölla	SE	Uncoated	300
Nymölla	SE	Coated	135
Oulu	FI	Coated	800
Suzhou	CN	Coated	120
Uetersen	DE	Coated	220
Varkaus	FI	Uncoated	210
Varkaus Veitsiluoto	FI FI	Coated Uncoated	80 435
Ventalidoto		Uncoated	455
Packaging Boards, 000 tonne	2S		3,575
Imatra	FI	Paperboards	820
Skoghall	SE	Paperboards	550
Baienfurt	DE	Cartonboards	175
Barcelona	ES	Cartonboards	145
Fors	SE	Cartonboards	305
Inkeroinen	FI	Cartonboards	185
Mölndal	SE	Cartonboards	45
Newton Kyme	UK	Cartonboards	35
Pankakoski	FI	Carton-, Coreboards	110
Gruvön	SE	SC, Fluting, kraft paper	s 520
Heinola	FI	SC, Fluting	250
Imatra	FI	Laminating papers	25
Kotka	FI	Laminating papers	140
Pori	FI	Coreboards	100
St. Seurin-sur-l'Isle	FR	Coreboards	85
Varkaus	FI	Coreboards	85

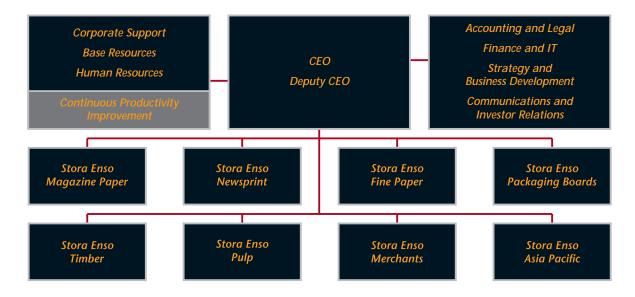
Mill	Location	Grade	Total Capacity
Core Factories, 000 tonnes			80
Imatra	FI		5
Krefeld	DE		25
Loviisa	FI		25
Milton-Keynes Pori	UK FI		10 15
			000
Converting Factories		Million m ² 556	
Balabanovo	RU	90	45
Heinola	FI	50	25
Jönköping	SE	60	30
Lahti	FI	100	
Lahti	FI	60	
Riga	LT	50	25
Ruovesi Skene	FI SE	20 50	10 25
Tallin	EE	50	23
Tiukka	FI	14	7
Varkaus	FI	8	4
Vikingstad	SE	50	25
Market Pulp, 000 tonnes			2,350
Celbi	PT	Short fiber	270
Enocell	FI	Short fiber	420
Enocell	FI	Long fiber	200
Gruvön	SE	Long fiber	100
Kemijärvi Norrsundet	FI SE	Long fiber Long fiber	210 295
Nymölla	SE	Long fiber	45
Oulu	FI	Long fiber	70
Sachsen	DE	DIP	60
Skutskär	SE	Short fiber	170
Skutskär	SE	Long fiber	170
Skutskär	SE	Fluff pulp	180
Sunila	FI	Long fiber	160
Timber Products, 000 m ³			4,740
Ala	SE		320
Bad St. Leonhard	AT		230
Brand	AT		260
Gruvön Honkalahti	SE		280
Hämeenkoski	FI FI		390 85
Kitee	FI		340
Kittilä	FI		30
Kotka	FI		200
Linghed	SE		35
Norrsundet	SE		230
Plana	CZ		255
Sollenau	AT		300
Tolkkinen	FI		260
Uimaharju Varkaus	FI FI		265 290
Veitsiluoto	FI		290
Ybbs	AT		500
Zdirec	CZ		270

Total Paper and Board

12,930

The organization and identity of Stora Enso

The organization of Stora Enso



The Stora Enso brand – a new corporate identity

Stora Enso's strategy is to build a strong corporate brand to serve as an umbrella under which all of its businesses operate.

The brand represents attributes as service, attractiveness, efficiency and responsibility, which are valued by Stora Enso customers and employees as well as investors and other company stakeholders. The corporate brand is supported by the Group's wide range of products, many of which are leading brands in their segments.



Addresses

Head offices	
	Stora Enso Oyj P.O.Box 309 • FIN-00101 Helsinki • Finland Office address: Kanavaranta 1 Tel. +358 20 46 131 • Fax +358 20 46 21471
	Stora Enso Oyj P.O.Box 16100 • SE-103 22 Stockholm • Sweden Office address: Västra Trädgårdsgatan 15 Tel. +46 8 613 6600 • Fax +46 8 10 60 20
Regional offices	
	Stora Enso Oyj P.O.Box 309 • FIN-00101 Helsinki • Finland Office address: Kanavaranta 1 Tel. +358 20 46 131 • Fax +358 20 46 21471
	Stora Enso Oyj SE-791 80 Falun • Sweden Office address: Åsgatan 22 Tel. +46 23 78 00 00 • Fax +46 23 138 58
	Stora Enso Oyj P.O.Box 101014 • DE-40001 Düsseldorf • Germany Office address: Feldmühleplatz 1 Tel. +49 211 581-01 • Fax +49 211 581-2555
Divisions	
	Stora Enso Magazine Paper Stora Enso Newsprint Stora Enso Fine Paper P.O.Box 101014 • DE-40001 Düsseldorf • Germany Tel. +49 211 581-01 • Fax +49 211 581-2555
	Stora Enso Packaging Boards P.O.Box 309 • FIN-00101 Helsinki • Finland Tel. +358 20 46 131 • Fax +358 20 46 21471
	Stora Enso Timber AT-3531 Brand 44 • Austria Tel. +43 2826 700 10 • Fax +43 2826 7001 290
	Stora Enso Pulp P.O.Box 897 • SE-801 31 Gävle • Sweden Tel. +46 26 855 00 • Fax +46 26 855 20
	Stora Enso Merchants P.O.Box 1004 • SE-431 26 Mölndal • Sweden Tel. +46 31 67 05 00 • Fax +46 31 706 09 87
	Stora Enso Asia Pacific 1 Grange Road • #05-03 Orchard Building Singapore 239693 Tel. +65 733 8164 • Fax +65 733 7476

A formal process is currently under way to register the new names of the Group companies. Please refer to the Stora Enso web site for the updated list of names and addresses: www.storaenso.com

Information to Shareholders

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of Stora Enso Oyj will be held on Tuesday, March 23, 1999 at 3.00 p.m. (local time) at the Marina Congress Center, address: Katajanokanlaituri 6, Helsinki, Finland.

Shareholders wishing to attend the Meeting must notify the company either in writing to: Stora Enso Oyj, Legal Department, P. O. Box 309, FIN-00101 Helsinki, Finland or by telephone to: +358 2046 21210, +358 2046 21224 or +358 2046 21245, no later than 4.00 p.m. (local time) on March 19, 1999.

Only those shareholders who are registered as shareholders in the share register of Stora Enso Oyj maintained by Finnish Central Securities Depository Ltd on March 18, 1999, have the right to participate in the Meeting. However, shareholders whose shares have not yet been transferred to the book entry system also have the right to attend the Meeting, provided that they were registered in the company's share register before September 30, 1993, or in Veitsiluoto Oy's share register before April 30, 1996. At the Meeting, such shareholders must present their share certificates or furnish other proof that their shares have not been transferred to a book entry account.

VPC-registered shares

Shareholders wishing to participate in and vote at the Meeting and whose shares are registered in the Swedish Securities Register Center (VPC) must re-register their shares in the share register of Stora Enso Oyj maintained by Finnish Central Securities Depository Ltd. Requests for such re-registration should be made well in advance to the account operating institute (kontoförande institut) for the shareholders' VP account, but no later than March 15, since the shares must be registered in the Finnish register no later than March 18, 1999, which has been established as the record date for shares. The account operating institute for the shareholders' VP account is usually the shareholders' regular bank or stock-broker. Unless otherwise requested, ownership will be transferred back to the

Swedish VPC register immediately following the Meeting.

Shareholders who do not wish to participate in and vote at the Meeting may follow the Meeting in Helsinki via a one-way telelink communication installed at Kristinehallen, Bergmästaregatan 32, Falun, Sweden, on March 23, 1999, at 2.00 p.m. (local time). Notice of attendance at Kristinehallen should be made in writing to: Stora Enso Oyj, Legal Department, SE-791 80 Falun, Sweden, or by telephone to: +46 23 78 24 34, no later than 4.00 p.m. (local time) on March 19, 1999.

Payment of dividend

The Board of Directors is proposing to the Annual General Meeting that a dividend of FIM 2.10 per share be paid for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1998. If the proposal is approved, dividends will be paid on April 13, 1999 to shareholders entered in the register of shareholders maintained by Finnish Central Securities Depository Ltd and to shareholders entered in the register maintained by VPC on the record date of March 26, 1999. Shareholders who have not transferred their shares to a book entry account will receive their dividend when their shares have been transferred.

Stora Enso will publish the following financial reports during 1999:

February 10	Year-end Report 1998	
March 11	Annual Report 1998	
May 11	Interim Report – JanMarch 1999	
August 10	Interim Report – JanJune 1999	
November 9	Interim Report – Jan.–Sept 1999	
The Annual Report and	Interim Reports are available in	
Finnish, Swedish and E	nglish. The Annual Report is also	
available in German.	The company's Environmental	
Report will be published	h in May in Finnish, Swedish, Eng-	
lish and German. The Financial Reports are also published		
on the company's Inter	rnet website: www.storaenso.com	
As of January 1, 1999, S	stora Enso's reporting will be con-	
ducted in euro (EUR).		

Publications and additional information

Stora Enso Oyj Corporate Communications Kanavaranta 1, FIN-00160 Helsinki Tel. +358 2046 21296 Fax +358 2046 21267 Stora Enso Oyj Corporate Communications SE-791 80 Falun Tel. +46 23 780000 Fax +46 23 25329 Stora Enso Oyj Investor Relations Kanavaranta 1, FIN-00160 Helsinki Tel. +358 2046 21242 Fax +358 2046 21307

Change of address

Shareholders should notify the book entry register maintaining their book entry account of any changes of address or share ownership.

Stora Enso Oyj

Box 309 • FIN-00101 Helsingfors • Finland

Stora Enso Oyj

Box 16100 • SE-103 22 Stockholm • Sweden

www.storaenso.com