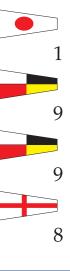
ANNUAL REPORT



T S E Ι





Flags are used as international signals by ships at sea. They can be used to spell out short messages, or in combination to have special meanings. Strung end to end and hung bow to stern from the rigging, they are used to dress the ship for ceremonial and festive occasions.





Tansf Seaborne speed your passage into



M/s Transgard (7,500 dwt)



M/s Heralden (7,500 dwt)



M/s United Express (8,800 dwt)



M/s United Carrier (8,800 dwt)



M/s United Trader (8,800 dwt)

the new millennium



M/s Serenaden (7,500 dwt)



M/s Mistral (7,250 dwt)



M/s Trans Botnia (8,800 dwt)



M/s Miranda (7,250 dwt)



M/s Friedrich Russ (7,250 dwt)

1998 was an eventful year for trading, starting full of promise but ending on a chilly note.

During the first half of the year we experienced an unexpectedly strong demand for shipping services, but after the long summer lull trade never really got going again. December was the worst month on record due to extensive curtailment of production at Finnish mills. The overall situation was aggravated by the collapse of the Russian transit trade via Finland after the crisis of the rouble in August.

In view of the fact that the shipping market continues to face a war over rates, our strategic aim has been to develop a new, fast and efficient service concept to support our customers in value-added logistics.

The concept is based on purpose-built ro-ro vessels capable of speeds of 20-21 knots and connecting the main European trading ports with Finland. Their overall advantage lies in the fastest total lead times coupled with extensive information technology back-up.

Our involvement in overseas trading has been cut considerably and we are now concentrating on specific niche market areas with our allies in overseas trade.

As a consequence of all the structural and market changes, our turnover for 1998 fell by 16% and we made a net loss of FIM 7 million.

Despite this unsatisfactory financial result, the company enjoyed growth in many of its main trading areas, and good progress was made in developing service performance and new products. We strengthened our service network in line with the priorities of our customers: high reliability in shipping services and a fast and accurate flow of information.



Our own team of people and partners in the service chain are continuously being trained for better performance.

We see ourselves as leaders in our field of shipping, and we are sincerely grateful for all the demanding business our customers have entrusted to us.

In a world dominated by whirlwind change, our sincere gratitude goes to

our customers, suppliers and own team for their immense contribution towards building a successful future.

Loon

Rolf G.W. Eriksson President



NICA 1998 NV VX Transfennica's fifth generation of purpose built fast ro-ro vessels is the result of years of development work in close co-operation with customers, shipowners, shipyards and port operators. Based on this concept, new shipping routes have been opened with improved service standards for customers. Our development work is also continuing in the field of information technology, and a web contact channel has been launched.

New vessels

The four newbuildings in Transfennica's fifth-generation series of 8,800 dwt vessels are now in service, and the upgraded, twice-weekly service concept for ports in northern Finland is now in place. The three United Shipping vessels - the m/s United Express, the m/s United Carrier and the m/s United Trader - all sail the route between northern Finland, Antwerp, Deptford and Felixstowe. The m/s Trans Botnia (Seatrans DA) started sailings between northern Finland and Germany in January 1999. All vessels were built by Fosen Mekaniske Verksteder A/S in Norway.

The 7,500 dwt m/s Serenaden (Rederi Ab Engship) entered traffic in August 1998. She sails between Hamina and Antwerp, providing a twice weekly service with her sister vessel the m/s Heralden. Both were built by the Norwegian shipyard Umoe Sterkoder in Kristiansund and are sister vessels to the m/s Transgard, delivered in 1996 to Bror Husell Chartering Ltd. This first vessel in the series has already transported in excess of 1 million tonnes of cargo.

The first in a Sietas-built quartet of 7,250 dwt vessels for the Hanko-Lübeck traffic have also entered service. The m/s Mistral (Minicarriers Ab) and the m/s Miranda (Oy Trailer-Link Ab) are both operated by Godby Shipping AB. The m/s Friedrich Russ and her sister

vessel, to be delivered at the end of April, are owned by Ernst Russ GmbH & Co.

When Transfennica's fifth-generation fleet is completed in September 1999, it will consist of altogether 14 newbuildings, offering a breakthrough service with the fastest transit times from and to Finland. Transfennica's partners arrange fast on-carriage to Russia and the CIS countries. The last trio in the fifth-generation fleet will start operating between Tilbury and Finland in May, June and September 1999

Services Finland-Antwerp

Starting in January 1999, Transfennica is offering a twice weekly express service between Hamina and Antwerp. This new eastern Finland service concept is a challenge for Transfennica and follows the upgrading of services from western and northern Finland to Antwerp. There is also a new weekly turnaround between Hanko and Antwerp. The Antwerp services, operated by six newbuildings a week and one additional vessel from Hanko, mean that Transfennica now offers the fastest sailings between Finland and the Benelux area.

Finland-Lübeck

This area of trade continued to grow during 1998, and the next step will be the introduction of fast newbuildings on this route.

The newbuildings for the Hanko-Lübeck line are all being built by J.J. Sietas, a feature of the yard being its very short delivery times: the first vessel was in service just 14 months after the contract was signed. Starting with the delivery of the first vessel (the m/s Mistral) in January, the service on the Hanko-Lübeck line will be steadily upgraded during spring 1999. When all the newbuildings are in service in May





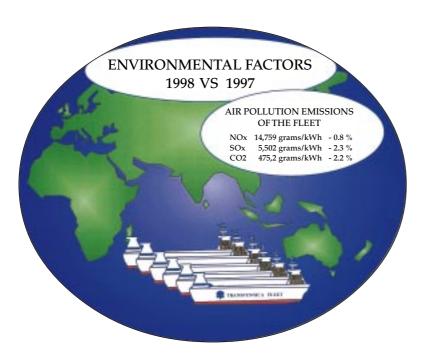
Weather deck loading

1999, the four vessels will provide the fastest available daily service between Finland and Germany, with a service speed in excess of 20 knots. The closing time will be at 21.00 hours with arrival at 07.00 hours - only 34 hours later - in both directions. The Port of Lübeck has quickly adapted to the growing flows by developing the Konstinkai port area. The port of Hanko has similarly enjoyed good growth to compensate for the withdrawal of Railship services. The European Railway Federation has granted the line CIM status.

Finland-Tilbury

The port of Tilbury has become a new focal point for forest products. The new facilities at the port feature a Finnish terminal of approx. 15 hectares, with 62,000 sq.m of covered storage and 10,000 sq.m of canopy space in three sheds. The new terminal has been erected in record time and provides a full range of services for import and export cargoes.

As from January 1999, Transfennica is offering a new service between Tilbury



and eastern and western Finland. There are now weekly services between Rauma and Tilbury and between Kotka/Hanko and Tilbury. As from June 1999, this service will be further upgraded with two fast newbuildings, which will make the first express turnarounds between Tilbury (London) and Finland. The third newbuilding will enter service in September 1999. The service speed will be 21 knots and cargo handling will be fast and efficient as three decks can be loaded simultaneously. The new vessels will be equipped with fin stabilizers to ensure a smooth passage and with a water injection system to cut NO_x (nitrogen oxide) emissions.

Changes in offices

Transfennica UK's main office was transferred to Tilbury at the beginning of November 1998. The new office building is situated in the Finnish terminal close to Transfennica's main quay.

Transfennica's Lübeck office, Transfennica Deutschland GmbH, moved into new premises at Konstinkai, where most of the services are located.

In January 1999, Transfennica opened a new office in Hamina to improve contacts with customers and strengthen the company's position in traffic to and from Russia. The office supports the operations of the shipping services to Belgium and is responsible for sales to deep-sea carriers and to customers requesting through rate arrangements beyond Europe.

Environmental issues

The increasing importance of environmental issues in recent years has prompted carriers to seek environmentally sound solutions for transportation. Transfennica has responded to stricter environmental demands by introducing direct water injection to cut NO_x emissions from the engines in its latest generation of vessels. This important project has been successfully carried out together with Wärtsilä NSD, and altogether seven of the newbuildings will be equipped with this system. In short, Transfennica is setting totally new standards for environmentally sound marine transportation by introducing the first installations of this revolutionary method on the main engines in cargo vessels.

Transfennica's aim is to continuously improve its environmental standards in accordance with the ISO 14001 environmental certificate that the company received in 1997.







Ice map navigation in the Gulf of Bothnia

Transfennica supports zooplankton research

Transfennica's participation in a pilot project aimed at examining the state of the Baltic Sea has started successfully. The project is the first of its kind to be carried out in the Baltic Sea and is actually a pilot project for an environmental monitoring programme by the states surrounding the Baltic Sea. The idea is to use the commercial fleet to get on-line information on the state of this ecosystem, and Transfennica's vessels are being used on a regular basis to collect samples. The environmental monitoring programme is being conducted jointly by the

Finnish Institute of Marine Research, the Baltic Sea Research Institute in Warnemünde, the Southeast Regional Environmental Centre in Kouvola and Transfennica

Aid to ice navigation

Transfennica has introduced a new map system for navigation in ice. The system has been developed by the Technical Research Centre of Finland and is the first of its kind to be used by merchant vessels. The ice map navigation system is now in use on all Transfennica's newbuildings sailing the eastern part of the Gulf of Finland and on the newbuildings sailing between ports in northern Finland and the continent.

Centralized cargo planning system

A new centralized cargo planning system is now being installed on all newbuildings in Transfennica's fifthgeneration fleet. The system is unique to Transfennica. The next step in the project, cargo pre-planning, has started in Hamina on the m/s Heralden and the m/s Serenaden and will next be introduced on the newbuildings calling at Hanko. Once the system has been completely integrated, it will offer an improved service for Transfennica's customers, in that the customer will be

receiving faster and more accurate information of the cargo, which in turn will facilitate faster cargo handling.

Cargo equipment

In order to cope with the new shipping services and the call for greater containerization of palletized cargo, Transfennica has received a total of five hundred 40' high-cube pallet-wide containers and two hundred 40' cassettes. The whole fleet of cargo units in operation is now some 3,000 units.

Business partnership

Transfennica's strategy is to broaden its business partnerships with customers and suppliers in the service chain. Five training seminars for ship's crews were arranged during 1998. The seminars were designed to establish a common service approach with deeper understanding of the business strategy between the partners involved.

THE BOARD'S ANNUAL REPORT 1998

Financial performance

The Group's turnover of FIM 1,426 million was 16 % lower than in the previous year (FIM 1,700 million). Turnover declined because of a shift in business emphasis towards European trade and a decline in the relative importance of overseas shipping. On the overseas market Transfennica together with its partners focused on providing transport solutions based on the specific needs of customers. The shipping market took a turn for the worse towards the end of the year, exacerbating the seasonally typical reduction in volume. This led to the result for the financial year falling short of earlier expectations.

The Group made an operating loss of FIM 9.4 million (profit of FIM 15.1 million) and the Parent Company an operating loss of FIM 9.5 million (profit of FIM 14.4 million).

The Group's loss after taxes was FIM 6.9 million (profit of FIM 11.2 million), the corresponding result for the Parent Company being a loss of FIM 0.9 million (profit of FIM 10.3 million). The Group's equity ratio fell from 28 % to 22 %.

Investments and newbuildings in service

The Group's investments totalled FIM 20 million (FIM 12.7 million). A total of FIM 16.6 million (FIM 11.3 million) was invested in equipment for the cargo units.

Transfennica uses chartered vessels to operate its shipping services. Three new vessels, namely the m/s United Carrier, m/s United Trader and m/s Serenaden, came into service during the review year. These new vessels are part of a ship renewal programme that was initiated in 1997 with the aim of achieving shorter and more reliable shipping times. The expectations of the new ships' performance have been fulfilled and the punctuality of shipments has been essentially improved.

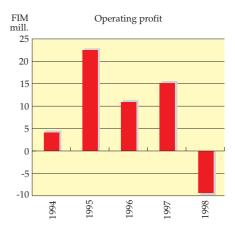
Research and development

The entire Transfennica Group is covered by an ISO 9002 certificated quality system and an ISO 14001 certificated environmental management system. The personnel have participated in business development training organised in small groups. Training was arranged for the crews of the newly introduced ships with the aim of providing them with basic information on Transfennica's operations, key customers and cargoes carried.

Turnover mill. 2000 1800 1600 1400 1200 1000 800 600 400 200 966 997 994 866

Year 2000

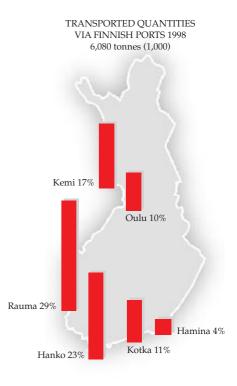
Transfennica's information systems and interfaces have been surveyed and analysed from the standpoint of the 'Millennium Bug'. The IT architecture has been revised and, according to expert opinion, is now such that it will accommodate the turn of the millennium. All of the company's systems will be tested with interest groups during spring 1999 . In recent years Transfennica has consistently updated its IT hardware inventory with the year 2000 in mind.

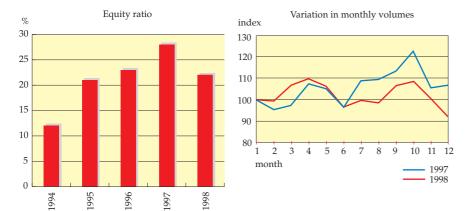


Finnish ports

Transfennica's ships mainly operate between ports in Finland and ports in other EU countries.

Rauma was the most-used port measured in terms of volumes carried during the review year. The second most-used port, Hanko, enjoyed the biggest proportional increase in volume over the same period.





Business outlook

Turnover in 1999 is expected to be lower than in the review year.

Shareholders

There were no changes in the ownership of Transfennica Ltd during the review year. The company's shareholders at 31.12.1998 were:

UPM-Kymmene Corporation	43.8 %
Metsä-Serla Corporation	27.3 %
Stora Enso Oyj	16.6 %
Myllykoski Paper Oy	7.5 %
Oy Metsä-Botnia Ab	4.8 %
	100.0 %

Pay and personnel

Wages, salaries and other remuneration (FIM 1,000):	Group		Parent Company	
	1998	1997	1998	1997
President and Board Members	927	1 042	927	1 042
Other employees	19 896	19 166	16 630	15 573

The average number of employees in the Group and Parent Company was 93~(94) and 76~(77), respectively.

EUROPEAN SHIPPING FREQUENCY FROM FINNISH PORTS 1.1.1999	Kemi
Warrenpoint Blyth	Rauma Hamina Kotka Hanko Hanko Helsinki
Felixstowe Terrenzer Deptford Tilbury	Lübeck
Bilbao/ Santander	

KEMI Lübeck Antwerp Deptford Felixstowe Bilbao	Freq 1/7 2/7 1/7 1/7 1/14
OULU Lübeck Antwerp Deptford Felixstowe Bilbao	1/7 2/7 1/7 1/7 1/14
RAUMA Antwerp Tilbury Blyth Warrenpoint Santander	1/7 1/7 1/7 1/14 1/7
HANKO Lübeck Antwerp Tilbury	8/7 1/7 1/7
KOTKA Tilbury Deptford Blyth Terneuzen	2/7 1/7 1/7 1/7
HAMINA Antwerp	2/7

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

During the review year the Board members and their deputies were:

Ordinary members

Aarre Metsävirta Metsä-Serla Corporation, Chairman Seppo Hietanen Stora Enso Oyj, Vice Chairman

Sverre Norrgård Myllykoski Paper Oy

Heikki Sara UPM-Kymmene Corporation

Deputy members

Raimo Mansukoski Metsä-Serla Corporation,

up to 12.3.1998

Jussi Jusélius Metsä-Serla Corporation,

from 12.3.1998

Veli-Jussi Potka Stora Enso Oyj Heikki Räty Myllykoski Oy

Jussi Sarvikas UPM-Kymmene Corporation

AUDITORS

Oy Joe Sundholm & Co Ab (Authorised Public Accountants) acted as the company's auditors.

EXECUTIVES

Rolf G. W. Eriksson President
Arto Jantunen Director
Harri Mäkitie Director
Holger Stubb Director

PROPOSAL BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF PROFITS FOR 1998

The consolidated balance sheet shows distributable shareholders' equity of FIM 8,502,000, and the Parent Company's balance sheet shows shareholders' equity of FIM 8,310,380.

The Board of Directors proposes that no dividend be paid for the 1998 financial year.



Transfennica's Board of Directors: From left: Sverre Norrgård, Aarre Metsävirta, Rolf Eriksson, Heikki Sara and Seppo Hietanen.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT January 1 – December 31, 1998 thousand FIM



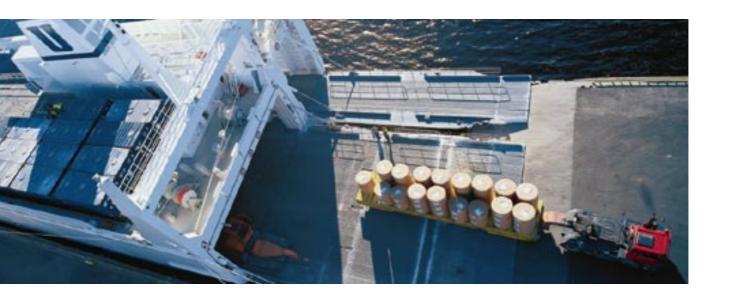
	Group		Parent company		
	1998	1997	1998	1997	
Net turnover	1 425 760	1 699 743	1 423 697	1 698 803	
Other operating income	419		419		
Expenses 1)	-1 426 623	-1 678 603	-1 425 088	-1 678 558	
Profit from operations before depreciation	-444	21 140	-972	20 245	
Depreciation ²⁾	-8 940	<u>-6 014</u>	-8 522	<u>-5 797</u>	
Operating loss (profit)	-9 384	15 126	-9 494	14 448	
Financial income and expenses 5)	348	788	350	762	
Loss (profit) before appropriations and taxes	-9 036	15 914	-9 144	15 210	
Change in depreciation reserve ⁴⁾ Change in untaxed reserves			8 272	-4 954 4 340	
Income taxes ⁶⁾	2 172	4 738	0	4 286	
Loss (profit) for the financial year	<u>-6 864</u>	<u>11 176</u>	<u>-872</u>	10 310	

B A L A N C E S H E E T December 31, 1998 thousand FIM

	Gr	oup	Parent co	ompany
	1998	1997	1998	1997
Assets				
Fixed assets and other non-current investments				
Tangible assets	35 666	24 622	34 388	24 002
Machinery and equipment ³⁾ Advance payments	639	24 622	639	24 002
Non-current investments	039		039	
Shares and holdings ^{7,8)}	408	408	1 624	1 624
Loan receivables	243	653	243	653
Zour receivables	651	1 061	1 867	2 277
	36 317	25 683	36 894	26 279
Current assets				
Debtors				
Trade debtors 9)	65 672	86 491	69 601	86 299
Pre-paid expenses and accrued income	14 873	6 045	14 274	5 870
r	80 545	92 536	83 875	92 169
Cash in hand and at banks	12 629	27 599	9 486	26 919
	130 130	145 818	130 255	145 367
Liabilities				
Capital and reserves 10)				
Restricted shareholders' equity				
Subscribed capital	10 000	10 000	10 000	10 000
Legal reserve	9 596	9 596	9 596	9 596
	19 596	19 596	19 596	19 596
Unrestricted shareholders' equity				
Retained earnings	16 129	9 985	9 183	3 872
Loss (profit) for the financial year	-6 864	11 176	-872	10 310
	9 265	21 161	8 311	14 182
	28 861	40 757	27 906	33 778
Appropriations				
Depreciation reserve 4)			952	9 224
Creditors				
Non-current				
Loans from credit institutions	2 997		2 997	
Current	11 000	120	11 446	120
Loans from credit institutions Trade creditors 8)	11 238	129	11 446	129
Accruals and deferred income 11)	51 425 35 600	60 362 44 570	51 432 35 522	60 963 41 273
Accruais and deferred income "	35 609	<u>44 570</u> 105 061	35 522 98 400	41 273 102 365
	98 272 130 130	145 818	130 255	145 367
(,	======	=====	=======================================	=======================================







	Group		Parent c	Parent company	
Sources of funds	1998	1997	1998	1997	
From operations					
Net loss (profit)	-6 864	11 176	-872	10 310	
Depreciation	8 940	6 014	8 522	5 796	
Change in reserves			-8 272	614	
Total from operations	2 076	17 190	-622	16 720	
From non-current financial assets	410	242	410	242	
From the sale of fixed assets	47	45	75	45	
Increase in non-current creditors	2 997		2 997		
Change in translation difference	-32	75			
	5 498	17 552	2 860	17 007	
Application of funds					
Investments					
- containers and cassettes	16 590	11 332	16 590	11 332	
- other	4 080	1 432	3 031	1 137	
Dividend distribution	5 000	6 000	5 000	6 000	
	25 670	18 764	24 621	18 469	
Change in net working capital	-20 172	-1 212	-21 761	-1 462	
	5 498	17 552	2 860	17 007	
Cash in hand and at banks	-14 970	-28 407	-17 433	-28 796	
Current financial assets	-11 991	16 109	-8 294	15 919	
Current creditors	6 789	11 086	3 966	11 415	
	-20 172	-1 212	-21 761	-1 462	
Net working capital, Jan. 1	15 074	16 286	16 723	18 185	
Net working capital, Dec. 31	-6 098	15 074			





NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS

Accounting policies

All Group undertakings are included in the consolidated accounts.

The consolidated accounts have been drawn up using the past equity method.

All intra-Group transactions as well as all amounts receivable from and payable to Group undertakings have been eliminated using official exchange rates quoted by the Bank of Finland on the accounting date.

Notes on the profit and loss accounts and the

balance sheets, FIM 1 000 Group			Parent	Parent Company		
	1998	1997	1998	1997		
1 Expenses						
Freight charges	1 377 123	1 631 922	1 383 697	1 639 583		
Staff expenses						
Wages and salaries	19 757	19 665	16 332	16 072		
Pension expenses	4 506	4 247	3 755	3 586		
Other staff-related expenses	3 044	2 992	2 957	2 758		
Staff expenses in book-keeping	27 307	26 904	23 044	22 416		
Payments in kind	373	338	275	244		
Total	27 680	27 242	23 319	22 660		
Rents	2 929	2 689	2 391	2 333		
Other fixed expenses	19 264	17 088	15 956	14 226		
Total expenses	1 426 623	1 678 603	1 425 088	1 678 558		

2 Planned depreciation

Planned depreciation is calculated uniformly throughout the Group by applying the straight-line method to the original acquisition cost of the fixed assets over their economic lifetimes.

Planned depreciation is charged over the following periods:

Machinery and equipment 4 - 5 years 4 - 5 years

3 Tangible assets	gible assets Group		Parent Company		
	1998	1997	1998	1997	
Machinery and equipment					
Acquisition cost 1.1	43 842	31 606	42 962	31 022	
Increases 1.1 - 31.12	20 031	12 749	18 984	12 453	
Decreases 1.1 - 31.12	-190	-513	-190	-513	
Acquisition cost 31.12	63 683	43 842	61 756	42 962	
Accumulated planned depreciation 31.12	-28 017	-19 220	-27 368	-18 960	
Book value 31.12	35 666	24 622	34 388	24 002	
4 Depreciation reserve / Parent Company:					
Depreciation reserve 1.1			9 224	4 270	
Change in depreciation reserve 1.1 - 31.12			-8 272	4 954	
Depreciation reserve 31.12			952	9 224	
5 Financial income and expenses					
Interest income from non-current investments	26	38	26	38	
Other interest income	954	1 493	917	1 407	
Interest expenses	-632	-743	-593	-683	
	348	788	350	762	
6 Income taxes					
For the financial year	-144	-4 566			
Change in deferred tax liability	2 316	-172			
	2 172	-4 738			

7	Group undertakings						
		Parent	Number	Currency	Nominal	Book	Profit/loss
		Company's	of		value	value	according
		shareholding	shares		1 000	FIM 1 000	to accounts
							for the last
							financial
							year
	Transfennica Belgium B.V.B.A	100 %	2 699	BEF	2 699	397	11
	Transfennica Deutschland GmbH	100 %		DEM	130	403	-95
	Transfennica (UK) Ltd	100 %	60 000	GBP	60	416	48
						1 216	-36
8	Shares and holdings of						
	the Parent Company	Shareholding	Number		Nominal	Book	Taxation
			of shares		value,	value,	value,
					FIM 1 000	FIM 1 000	FIM 1 000
	Rederiaktiebolaget Linden	4 %	400		200	200	182
	Helsinki Telephone Co-operative		30		69	99	357
	Sampo Insurance Company		2 916		15	0	379
	Others			_	19	109	100
					303	408	1 018
9	Amounts receivable from and pay	zahle					
	to group undertakings / Parent Co						
	to group undertakings, i areni es	Simpuny			1998	1997	
	Trade debtors				4 445	67	
	Trade creditors				2 226	934	
10	Changes in capital and reserves		(Group		Parent	Company
			1998	1997		1998	1997
	Restricted shareholders' equity						
	Subscribed capital 1.1		10 000	10 000		10 000	10 000
	Legal reserve 1.1		9 596	9 596		9 596	9 596
	Unrestricted shareholders' equity						
	Unrestricted equity 1.1		21 161	15 910		14 182	9 872
	Dividend distribution		-5 000	-6 000		-5 000	-6 000
	Change in translation difference						
	of shareholders' equity in subsidia	ary					
	undertakings		-32	75			
	Change in untaxed reserves		-5 956	442			
	Distributable result for the financi	al year	-908	10 734		-872	10 310
	Unrestricted equity 31.12	_	9 265	21 161		8 310	14 182
	Distributable funds		8 502	14 410		8 310	14 182
11	Group's tax liability in respect of	untaxed reserves					
	Accumulated up to 1.1		2 583	2 411			
	For the financial year		-2 316	172			
		_	267	2 583			
10	Continuous P. 1919						
12	Commitments and pladage given						
	Commitments and pledges given		3 570				
	Own liability		3 370				

Helsinki, 10 March 1999

Aarre Metsävirta Sverre Norrgård Seppo Hietanen Heikki Sara

Rolf G.W. Eriksson President



AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the shareholders of Oy Transfennica Ab

e have audited the accounting records, the financial statements and the administration of Oy Transfennica Ab for the financial year 1998. The financial statements, which include the report of the Board of Directors, consolidated and parent company income statements, balance sheets and notes to the financial statements, have been prepared by the Board of Directors and the Managing Director. Based on our audit we express an opinion on these financial statements and on the administration.

We have conducted the audit in accordance with generally accepted Finnish auditing standards. These standards require that we perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance that 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. An audit also includes 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 is to ensure that the members of the Board of Directors and the Managing Director have legally complied with the rules of the Companies Act.

In our opinion the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting Act and other rules and regulations governing the preparation of financial statements. The financial statements give a true and fair view, as prescribed in the Accounting Act, of both the consolidated and parent company's result of operations as well as of the financial position. The financial statements including the consolidated financial statements can be adopted and the members of the Board of Directors and the Managing Director of the parent company be discharged from liability for the financial year audited by us. The disposal of profits proposed by the Board of Directors is in compliance with the Companies Act.

Helsinki, 12 March 1999

OY JOE SUNDHOLM & CO AB Authorised Public Accountants

Joe Sundholm Authorised Public Accountant

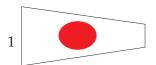




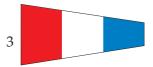




Numeric pennants











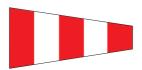








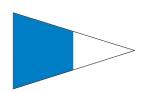




Flags are used as international signals by ships at sea. They can be used to spell out short messages, or in combination to have special meanings. Strung end to end and hung bow to stern from the rigging, they are used to dress the ship for ceremonial and festive occasions.

Substitute pennants









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