Larox Corporation Interim Report 23.10.2008 at 8.30 am

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE LAROX GROUP FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2008 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2008

During the three quarters of 2008 net sales totaled EUR 143.9 million (EUR 109.0 million), indicating a growth of 32.1%. Operating profit totaled EUR 11.7 Million (EUR 7.9 million). The result before tax for the review period totaled EUR 10.2 million (EUR 6.8 million). Earnings per share was EUR 0.77 (EUR 0.45).

Group order backlog at the end of September 2008 totaled EUR 110.1 million (EUR 79.6 million). The amount of new orders received during the nine months' period of 2008 totaled EUR 159.0 million (EUR 143.5 million).

BUSINESS OPERATIONS

Demand for the Larox products has remained good. During the review period the order accumulation improved positively. Group order backlog at the end of September 2008 totaled EUR 110.1 million (EUR 79.6 million), which is 38% higher than at the same moment in the previous year. The amount of new orders received during the nine months' period of 2008 totaled EUR 159.0 million (EUR 143.5 million).

Approximately 92 % of Group net sales were generated by exports and foreign operations. Net sales by geographical division were as follows:

	1-9/2008	1-9/2007
North, Central and South	28.5%	31.1%
America		
Asia and Australasia	22.6%	23.2%
Europe, CIS, Middle East and	48.9%	45.7%
Africa		

CHANGES IN GROUP STRUCTURE

Larox AB, a Larox-owned subsidiary, was established in Sweden. The company is a holding company of the subsidiary to be established in China.

The aim is that the subsidiary in China is fully operational during the first half of the year 2009. The new subsidiary will be responsible for filter sales and after market services to the existing and potential Larox customers in China. Furthermore, the company will purchase components from local suppliers and start local assembly of filters.

According to an acquisition agreement all the shares of Turku Ceramics Oy are owned by Larox Oyj from the first of October 2008. New Finnish subsidiary will be consolidated to the Group from that moment on. Turku Ceramics is the only manufacturer of technical ceramics in Finland and supplies filter elements to Larox.

The decision published in April regarding the establishment of a subsidiary responsible for after sales services in Russia goes ahead as planned. In the service center, situated south of Moscow, will be customer support engineers and spare parts stock. The aim is that the service center will be fully operational at the beginning of 2009.

PROFITS AND PROFITABILITY

Larox Group's result before tax for the review period totaled EUR 10.2 million (EUR 6.8 million, 1 January 2007 to 30 September 2007). The total net sales were EUR 143.9 million (EUR 109.0 million). The Group showed an operating profit of EUR 11.7 million (EUR 7.9 million), i.e. 8.1% (7.3%) of net sales. Earnings per share was EUR 0.77 (0.45).

NET SALES AND RESULT DEVELOPMENT DURING THE THIRD QUARTER

For the third quarter of the year the consolidated net sales totaled EUR 58.8 million (EUR 33.7 million). The Group showed the operating profit of EUR 5.5 million (EUR 1.9 million) and the profit before tax was EUR 4.8 million (EUR 1.4 million). The amount of new orders received during the third quarter of the year totaled EUR 53.8 million (EUR 57.5 million). The earnings per share was EUR 0.35 (EUR 0.10).

BALANCE SHEET AND FINANCING

At the end of September 2008 the Group balance sheet totaled EUR 107.8 million (EUR 98.7 million). At the turn of the year 2007 the balance sheet total was EUR 102.9 million. Net financing costs totaled EUR 1.5 million (EUR 1.1 million). Net cash from operating activities continued to be good, EUR 16.4 million (EUR -0.9 million). The equity ratio was 32.6% (31.0%) and at the end of the previous financial year (31 December 2007) it was 34.2%.

INVESTMENTS

Larox Group's investments totaled EUR 6.2 million (EUR 2.2 million). The investments include the acquisition of Turku Ceramics Oy, IT applications and replacement investments.

PERSONNEL

The average number of personnel employed by the Group during the review period was 526 (456). At the end of the review period it was 557 (466) of whom 266 (219) worked for the parent company. The growth can mainly be seen in the after sales business areas in Finland, Australia, South Africa, Chile and Peru.

SHARES AND SHAREHOLDERS

During the report period trading in shares totaled 1,700,191, which is 18.1% of the total number of shares. The value of shares traded was EUR 17.2 million. During the review period the lowest share price was EUR 8.00 and the highest was EUR 12.40. The closing price of the share was EUR 8.35 and the total market value of the shares was EUR 78.3 million. At the end of September there were 1,850 shareholders.

AUTHORIZATIONS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS DECIDED IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

The authorization to the Board of Directors regarding the repurchase of shares by using the company's unrestricted shareholders' equity was not used during the review period. The authorization was for 500.000 Larox Corporation B-series shares at the maximum and was valid until 30.9.2008.

The authorization to the Board of Directors to decide on shares, stock option rights or special rights referred to in the Finnish Companies Act chapter 10, paragraph 1 in one or more lots in such a way that based on the authorization the total maximum number of Larox Corporation B-series shares is 500 000 was not used during the review period. The authorization is valid until 30.3.2012.

RISKS AND UNCERTAINTY FACTORS

An evaluation project of risks management was realized during the review period and its target was to identify different risk areas, their effects, probabilities as well as current risks management situation. Also the risks management principles and systematic program, based on identified risk areas, were developed. According to Larox risks management system risks are divided into the following four risk categories: business, operational, damage and financial risks.

OUTLOOK FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR

Received orders of the period, EUR 159.0 million, show the strong investment activities in filters.

The outlook for the rest of the year is positive although the availability of materials and certain components is challenging. The order backlog of EUR 110.1 million at the end of the review period supports this. It is expected that approximately EUR 34.6 million of the order backlog will be delivered during the current year. Furthermore Group net sales are expected to grow compared to previous year. The result and profitability will improve from last year.

The decrease in the market prices of metals and the influence of the financial crisis on customer business fields create uncertainty in the demand for Larox products in the long run.

Lappeenranta on 23 October 2008

Larox Corporation Board of Directors

For further information please contact Mr Toivo Matti Karppanen President & CEO

Tel +358 (0) 20 7687 210 Fax +358 (0) 20 7687 277 E-mail topi.karppanen@larox.com Internet www.larox.com

The financial year-end of the Larox Group is on 31 December 2008. Publication date for the Larox Group financial statements 2008 is on 13 February 2009. Annual general meeting of shareholders will be held on 26 March 2009.

Altogether three interim reports will be published during the year 2009: The interim report for 1.1.-31.3.2009 on 23 April 2009 The interim report for 1.1.-30.6.2009 on 6 August 2009 The interim report for 1.1.-30.9.2009 on 23 October 2009.

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NOTES TO THE INTERIM REPORT

The review is prepared in accordance with all the requirements of IAS 34 Interim Financial Reporting -standard and in accordance with IFRS recognition and measurement principles.

Larox has applied the same accounting principles in this Interim Report as in Annual Report 2007. The contents of the changes in standards and interpretations are presented more detailed in Annual Report 2007.

The preparation of the financial statements in accordance with IFRS requires the use of estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the reported amounts of income and expenses during the reporting period. The estimates are based on management's best knowledge of current events and actions but actual results may differ from these estimates.

All below figures in the financial statements have been adjusted and therefore the added sum of individual figures may differ from the presented added figure.

The figures presented have not been audited.

INCOME STATEMENTS, IFRS					
1000 EUR	7-9/2008	7-9/2007	1-9/2008	1-9/2007	1-12/2007
Sales	58 804	33 662	143 916	108 971	158 270
Other operating income	419	693	1 905	1 202	2 240
Materials	-33 235	-15 069	-74 779	-51 782	-76 672
External services Employee benefits	-2 293	-2 508	-6 345	-5 805	-10 186
expense Depreciation, amortization	-8 927	-7 337	-24 445	-22 225	-29 906
& impairment losses	-986	-878	-2 850	-2 562	-3 504
Other operating expenses	-8 258	-6 677	-25 692	-19 893	-27 171
OPERATING PROFIT	5 524	1 866	11 709	7 906	13 070
Financial income	-98	263	471	540	946
Financial expenses Share of profit/loss in	-877	-981	-2 450	-1 915	-2 622
associates	243	211	501	317	361
PROFIT/LOSS BEFORE TAX	4 792	1 379	10 231	6 848	11 755
Income tax expense PROFIT/LOSS FOR THE	-1 475	-400	-3 037	-2 602	-2 259
PERIOD	3 317	979	7 194	4 246	9 496

PS basic (EUR) PS diluted (EUR)	0,35 0,35	0,10 0,10		0,77 0,77		45 45	1,01 1,01
BALANCE SHEETS, IFRS							
1000 EUR		30.9.2	2008	30.9.20	07	31.12.2	2007
ASSETS							
NON-CURRENT ASSETS							
Intangible assets			917		738		795
Goodwill			778	_	937		926
Property, plant and equip			141		213		257
Investments in associates		1	754	1	315	1	393
Available-for-sale inves	tments		34		208		23
Receivables			332		0		0
Deferred tax asset			281		827	-	238
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		41	237	36	273	37	633
CURRENT ASSETS							
Inventories			742		475		592
Trade receivables and ot	ner receivables		946		420	36	651
Current tax assets			027		191	_	165
Cash and bank			841		341		812
CURRENT ASSETS			556		427		220
TOTAL ASSETS		107	793	98	700	102	853
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES							
Share capital			629		629		629
Share premium account			777		777	5	777
Other reserves			-218		75		0
Translation differences			-131		-134		-127
Retained earnings			627		404		566
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		33	684	27	751	32	845
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES							
Deferred tax liability			307		620		804
Long-term financial liab.		13	982		926	12	751
Employee benefit obligat.	ions		479		425		555
Non-current provisions			197		568		826
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		18	965	15	539	15	936
CURRENT LIABILITIES							
Short-term financial lia		20	359	24	456		133
Trade payables and other	payables	31	986	28	771	26	683
Current tax liabilities			632	1	416	1	935
Current provisions		2	166		768	1	321
CURRENT LIABILITIES		55	143	55	411	54	072
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILI		105	793	0.0	700	1 0 0	853

CASH FLOW STATEMENTS, IFRS						
1000 EUR	1-9/2008		1-9/2007		1-12/2	007
Net profit/loss	7	194	4	245	9	496
Adjustments to the net profit/loss of						
the period	7	365	6	169	6	986
Change in working capital	5	200	-8	114	-13	817
Interest paid	-1	444	-1	358	-1	819
Interest income received		88		45		53
Other financing items		175		-83		-50
Income taxes paid	-2	154	-1	817	-3	217
Net cash from operating activities	16	425	-	-912	-2	368
Net cash used in investment						
activities	-6	084	-1	784	-3	038
Increase in loans	19	370	16	957	23	197
Decrease in loans	-21	831	-10	966	-15	024
Repayment of finance lease						
liabilities		-80		-68		-93
Dividends paid	-5	629	-2	814	-2	814
Net cash used in financing activities	-8	170	3	108	5	265
Change in cash and cash equivalents	2	172		413	-	-141
Operating balance of cash and cash						
equivalents	1	812	1	952	1	952
Effect of the foreign exchange rates	-	143		-25		1
Closing balance of cash and cash						
equivalents	3	841	2	341	1	812

CHANGE IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY 1-9/2007								
	Equ	ity belon	ging t	о ра	rent	compan	y's shareh	olders
				Hed -				
		Share	Fair va- lue	g		Trans latio n	Retained	
1000 EUR			res.					Total
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	5 600		105					
<u>1 JANUARY 2007</u> Cash flow	5 629	5 777	105	-44		-69	15 271	26 668
hedging recogni zed in equity,								
net of tax				15				15
Change in translation difference						-65	-340	-405
Net profits and losses recognized directly in								
shareholders equity				15		-65	-340	-391
Other changes								
Profit for the period							4 245	4 245

	-		r –					1
Total profits				1 -		65	0.005	0.055
and losses				15		-65	3 905	3 855
Dividend								0.01.1
distribution	-						-2 814	-2 814
Share-based								
payments							42	42
SHAREHOLDERS '								
EQUITY								
30 JUNE 2007	5 629	5 777	1	05 -30		-134	16 404	27 751
CHANGE IN								
SHAREHOLDERS '								
EQUITY 1-9/2008								
	Equ	ity belon	qinq	to pa	rent	compan	y's shareh	olders
			ſ					
			Fai			-		
			r					
			va-		0the	Trans		
		Share		Hed-	r	latio		
	Share	issue		ging	rese		Retained	
1000 EUR	capital		TEP					Total
SHAREHOLDERS'	Capitai	premium	•	res.	I VES	uiii.	earnings	IUCAI
EOUITY								
LQUIII 1 JANUARY 2008	5 629					107	01 566	22 045
	5 629	5 777				-127	21 566	32 845
Cash flow								
hedging								
recognized in								
equity, net of								
tax				-218				-218
Change in								
translation								
difference							-607	-607
Net profits and								
losses								
recognized								
directly in								
shareholders								
equity				-218		-4		-222
Profit for the								
period							7 194	7 194
Total profits			[
and losses				-218		-4	6 587	6 365
Dividend			Γ					
distribution							-5 629	-5 629
Share-based								
payments							103	103
SHAREHOLDERS '								
EOUITY								
30 JUNE 2008	5 629	5 777		-218		-131	22 627	33 684
55 50H 2000	0 020	5 , 1 1	I	210		1 101	22 921	00 00 1

KEY RATIOS OF LAROX GROUP

EUR 1000	1-9/2008	1-9/2007	1-12/2007
New orders	158 982	143 509	208 421
Group order backlog at end of period	110 087	79 606	97 330
Net sales	143 916	108 971	158 270
Operating profit	11 709	7 906	13 070

% of net sales	8.1	7.3	8.3
Net financing costs	1 479	1 059	1 315
% of net sales	1.0	1.0	0.8
Result before taxes	10 231	6 848	11 755
Result for the period	7 194	4 246	9 496
EPS basic and diluted (EUR)	0.77	0.45	1.01
Investments	6 207	2 210	3 284
Shareholders' equity per share at end of			
period, EUR	3.59	2.96	3.50
Equity Ratio %	32.6	31.0	34.2
Contingent liabilities	28.0	27.8	27.7
Trading price at end of period, EUR	8.35	15.19	12.00
Market capitalization at end of period,			
EUR million *)	78.3	142.5	112.6

*) The price of the A share is based on the B share's last trading rate of the reporting period (weighted average).

KEY FIGURES BY QUARTERS

EUR 1000	2008	2008	2008	2007	2007
	7-9	4-6	1-3	10-12	7-9
New orders	53 759	51 906	53 317	64 912	57 471
Group order backlog	110 087	115 675	109 183	97 330	79 606
Net sales Operating profit % of net sales Net financing costs % of net sales Result before taxes Result for the quarter EPS basic and diluted	58 804 5 524 9.4 732 1.2 4 792 3 317	47 548 3 460 7.3 233 0.5 3 227 2 548	37 563 2 726 7.3 514 1.4 2 212 1 329	49 298 5 164 10.5 256 0.5 4 908 5 250	33 662 1 886 5.6 507 1.5 1 379 979
(EUR)	0.35	0.27	0.14	0.56	0.10

DIVIDENDS PAID

Based on the resolution of the annual general meeting of shareholders held on 26 March 2008 a dividend of EUR 0.60 per share was paid; a total of EUR 5.628.960. The dividends were paid on 7 April 2008.

INVESTMENTS

Property, plant and equipment

	30.9.2008	30.9.2007	31.12.2007
Acquisition cost 1 Jan	29 520	28 589	28 589
Translation differences	-76	-113	-120
Additions	896	872	1 144
Disposals	0	-93	-93

Acquisition cost 30 Jun	30 340	29 255	29 520
Cumulative depreciations 1 Jan	-20 263	-19 023	-19 023
Translation differences	67	118	163
Depreciation for the period	-1 003	-1 137	-1 403
Cumulative depreciations 30	-21 199	-20 042	-20 263
Carrying value 30 Jun, 2008	9 141	9 213	9 257

Intangible assets (exluding goodwill)

	30.9.2008	30.9.2007	31.12.2007
Acquisition cost 1 Jan	29 858	27 772	27 772
Translation differences	7	-29	-55
Additions	968	1 336	2 141
Disposals	0	0	0
Acquisition cost 30 Jun	30 833	29 079	29 858
Cumulative depreciations 1 Jan	-11 063	-8 901	-8 901
Translation differences	-5	-15	-61
Depreciation for the period	-1 848	-1 425	-2 101
Cumulative depreciations 30			
Jun	-12 916	-10 341	-11 063
Carrying value 30 Jun, 2008	17 917	18 738	18 795

GEOGRAPHICAL SEGMENTS

Net sales 1000 EUR	1-9/2008	1-9/2007	1-12/2007	
North, Central and South America	41 045	33 927	45 881	
Asia and Australasia	32 526	25 244	40 479	
Europe, CIS, Middle East and Africa	70 345	49 800	71 910	
Total net sales	143 916	108 971	158 270	
Assets 1000 EUR	1-9/2008	1-9/2007	1-12/2007	
North, Central and South America	13 692	9 979	11 647	
Asia and Australasia	6 664	7 922	8 133	
Europe, CIS, Middle East and Africa	96 202	89 227	114 904	
Internal items	-8 765	-8 428	-31 831	
Total assets	107 793	98 700	102 853	
Investments 1000 EUR	1-9/2008 1-9/2007 1-12		1-12/2007	
North, Central and South America	157	61	148	
Asia and Australasia	67	276	332	
Europe, CIS, Middle East and Africa	5 983	1 873	2 804	
Total investments	6 207	2 210	3 284	

COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Loans secured by real estate and corporate mortgages

1000 EUR	30.9.2008	30.9.2007	31.12.2007
Pension loans			
Loans from financial institutions	34 115	34 815	36 577
Other loans			
Total	34 115	34 815	36 577

Posl ostato mortagaos		6	560	6	560	6	560
Real estate mortgages Corporate mortgages, general ple	edging		936		936		936
Corporate mortgages, specific		0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
pledging Total		-	062 558		062 558		062 558
iocar		тJ	550	тJ	550	Ţ	550
Guarantees for others							
Pledged securities *) Others		6	476 157	6	476 158	6	476 124
Total		6	633	6	634	6	600
*) Book value of secured shares							
Other liabilities							
Operating lease liabilities 1000) EUR		919	1	137		857
Lease liabilities 1000 EUR			849		744		639
Fair and nominal values of derive	ative ins	trum	ents				
1000 EUR 30).9.2008	30	.9.2007	31.	12.2007		
Currency derivatives:							
Currency options					3 155		
Forward contracts	10 496		14 959		18 313		
Fair value	-450		117		244		
Nominal value	10 496		14 959		21 468		
RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS							
1000 EUR	1-9/200	28	1-9/200	7	1-12/2007		
Transactions with associated Companies							
Sales of goods and services		5		1	3		
Purchases of goods and services		75	1 9	82	2 829		
Other transactions with related Parties							
Purchases of services		15		15	22		
Balances with associated companie	es						
Trade receivables		2		0	1		
Trade payables	4	188	2	72	783		
CALCULATION OF KEY FIGURES							
Equity ratio, % =							
Shareholders' equity							
Total assets - advances received	x 100						
Earnings per share =							
Net profit							

Adjusted average number of shares during the period

Market capitalization at the end of the period =

Number of shares at the end of the period x trading price at the end of the period weighted by the number of shares traded

Larox develops, designs and manufactures industrial filters and is a leading technology company in its field. Larox is a full service solution provider in filtration for separating solids from liquids. It supplies comprehensive aftermarket services throughout the lifespan of the Larox solution. Companies world-wide in mining and metallurgy, chemical processing and related industries benefit from the Larox technologies. Larox operates in over 40 countries and has over 460 employees. Larox Group is headquartered in Lappeenranta, Finland where the Group also has production facilities. Net sales in 2007 totaled 158.3 million euros, of which more than 95 % were generated by exports and the company's foreign operations.