

# Year-end Report January - December 2007

# 2007 is Pricer's first year with a positive result

- Net sales for the year amounted to SEK 432.3 M (409.9), an increase of 5
  percent
- Gross margin improved to 31 (22) percent
- Operating result for the year of SEK 6.0 M (-41.0)
- Result after tax of SEK 1.0 M (-48.0)
- Result per share of SEK 0.00 (-0.05)
- Orders received during the year increased by 46 percent to SEK 441 M (303)
- Liquid funds of SEK 100.1 M (31.5)
- The restructuring program to accomplish savings completed

Subsequent events after the end of the period

- Eroski's integrated hypermarkets choose Pricer ESL
- Metro Cash & Carry accelerates ESL deployment
- Tesco chooses Pricer for DotMatrix displays

# **Operations**

The board initiated changes during the year including the planning and implementation of a restructuring program in order to resize the company to profitability. The program is mostly completed with more synergies to be effected in 2008. Pricer is launching a complete line of electronic paper displays, branded DotMatrix, to complement its electronic shelf label ("ESL") offering and expand the ESL grocery market. This will serve to establish a firm foothold in non-grocery retail, specifically specialty and large item retail.

Charles Jackson, Vice President Sales and Marketing since 2002, was appointed CEO per September 1, 2007.

Orders received in the fourth quarter amounted to SEK 89 M (71). Orders in the year increased by 46 percent and amounted to SEK 441 M (303). It should be noted that part of the increase is due to deliveries to Ishida in previous years and up to March 31, 2007 were covered by a large order. It should, furthermore, be noted that Eldat was acquired in August of 2006 and, hence, is included in the numbers only from that date. The order back log at the end of December amounted to approximately SEK 71 M (75). The majority of Pricer's orders are in USD and EUR.

#### The market and market activities

In 2007, Pricer made significant progress and demonstrated improved financial performance. While 2007 revenue was impacted by the retail concerns on credit, our clients demonstrated a continued confidence and reliability on ESL automation as part of their operational efficiency programs. Sales improved moderately to SEK 432 M (410) with continued strong revenues from leading retailers such as Carrefour, Metro and Casino in Europe, and York Benimaru in Japan. The continued expansion of Pricers' clients' ESL programs in their world operations is noteworthy.

Strong sales in Europe and Japan compensated for continued slowness in the US market. In 2007, Pricer installed 600 new stores not including the continued Metro migration of its German Cash & Carry-chain. Pricer delivered 12 million ESL in 2007 and has delivered totally 55 million labels worldwide since inception and maintains a 60 percent market share. Today, Pricer has installed over 3,600 stores in over 30 countries.

Highlights in the year included the market acceptance of the DotMatrix electronic bi-stable displays by several leading European and US chains, a stronger pilot pipeline characterized by both food, such as Auchan and Cora, and non-food large item retailers such as Castorama and Praktiker. Highlights also include positive signals coming from the UK where Pricer has two distributors, Toshiba Tec and Herbert Retail now that the product offering is more complete. Spain shows signs of entering into a growth phase and Pricer is especially positioned for this market with the deployment of Carrefour and Cepsa. The recent success with Eroski for its 2008 program further strengthens the presence in that market.

Furthermore, other significant highlights include the 1,000<sup>th</sup> store installed in Japan by Pricer partner Ishida. A licensing agreement was also signed with Ishida for development, marketing and sales of wireless graphic display labels mainly for the Japanese market. In April Pricer received a first payment for this right of SEK 14 M, to be followed by an additional SEK 21 M approximately, in the form of goods or cash, on attainment of certain targets in the next few years. Pricer will also receive volume-based royalties, expected as from the end of 2008.

Pricer expects the prospects in the U.S. market to eventually lead to orders even though the time to closure is longer than earlier anticipated. Installations of ten stores have occurred for one customer during 2007 and further stores are being equipped in 2008. Pilots and initial installations are also in place at other customers and decisions are expected in the future on purchases of ESL systems on a wider scale.

In Pricer's view, the market for ESL is showing sustained positive development. Pricer has the only ESL platform to support both segment based display and bi-stable display devices, and this will continue to expand market interest beyond the established markets. The signals from Pricer's prioritized geographical markets continue to be clear, and there is interest also outside established markets. The number of installations grows globally which influences also other retail chains to evaluate to include ESL as an operating tool in their processes to improve efficiency.

#### Net sales and result

Net sales amounted to SEK 133.4 M (113.7) during the fourth quarter and for the year to SEK 432.3 M (409.9) equivalent of an increase of 5 percent. Eldat was acquired in August 2006 and is included from that date. Deliveries in 2007 went mainly to customers in Japan, Germany and France. As compared to 2006 particularly deliveries to Carrefour in France are lower due to roll-out programs to the hypermarkets at Carrefour that took place during earlier years.

Gross profit increased to SEK 45.0 M (30.8) and the gross margin improved to 34 (27) percent for the quarter. Gross profit for the full year was SEK 132.0 M (89.7) and the gross margin improved to 31 (22) percent. The stronger gross margin is mainly attributable to an improved market mix of sales and reduced unit costs but also to the weaker US-dollar as all purchases are being made in US-dollars.

Other operating income of SEK 6.3 M in the quarter is attributable to release of certain provisions relating to the sale of Intactix in 2000 and an insurance claim settlement. This, in addition to the first payment from the license agreement with Ishida of SEK 14.0 M earlier in the year gave total other operating items of SEK 20.6 M (-0.2).

Operating expenses decreased to SEK 30.6 M (39.0) for the quarter and increased to SEK 146.6 M (130.5) for the year. The effects of the restructuring program are starting to appear in the quarter and additional effects are expected in 2008. Expenses in the year include provisions of approximately SEK 12 M primarily for contractual severance payments to the parting CEO and compensation to other employees also leaving Pricer as part of the restructuring program. As compared to 2006 the increase is primarily related to the consolidation of Eldat. Operating expenses have also been affected by depreciation of intangible assets relating to the acquisition of Eldat and expenses relating to employee options.

The operating result amounted to SEK 20.7 M (-8.4) for the quarter and SEK 6.0 M (-41.0) for the year which is the first year in the history in Pricer with a positive result.

Net financial items amounted to SEK 0.0~M~(-5.1) for the quarter and consisted of positive currency effects from revaluations of cash positions in foreign currencies and interest income from cash positions, offset by interest on convertible debentures and bank loans. Net financial items for the year as a whole amounted to SEK -7.2~M~(-8.1).

The net result was SEK 21.3 M (-12.4) for the quarter and SEK 1.0 M (-48.0) for the year.

# Net sales and operating result, SEK M

	Oct-Dec 2007	Oct-Dec 2006	Jan-Dec 2007	Jan-Dec 2006
Net sales	133.4	113.7	432.3	409.9
Cost of goods sold	-88.4	-82.9	-300.3	-320.2
Gross profit	45.0	30.8	132.0	89.7
Gross margin, %	34	27	31	22
Other operating items	6.3	-0.2	20.6	-0.2
Expenses	-30.6	-39.0	-146.6	-130.5
Operating result	20.7	-8.4	6.0	-41.0

# **Financial position**

Cash flow from operating activities amounted to SEK 34.0 M (-1.7) for the fourth quarter and to SEK 27.2 M (-54.0) for the year. Cash flow has improved considerably during 2007 through improved results and reduced working capital, especially lower inventory levels. Working capital amounted to SEK 80.1 M (102.1) at the end of the year. As from 2007 working capital does not include deferred tax and provisions and, hence, comparative numbers have been adjusted. Liquid funds as of December 31, 2007 amounted to SEK 100.1 M (31.5).

Cash flow from financing activities amounted to SEK -5.6 M (8.3) for the quarter and included repayment of bank loans and for the year to SEK 37.4 M (23.4). This cash flow consisted of liquidity from convertible loan reduced by repayment of loans.

Pricer strengthened its financial situation and cash position through the issue of convertible debentures of SEK 74.9 M in April 2007. The duration of the debentures is two years with approximately 8 percent annual interest (6 months STIBOR +4.5 percent) and can be converted to shares in Pricer at a share price of SEK 0.70, corresponding to a dilution of about 9 percent. In line with IFRS a portion of the debenture loans is accounted as equity and, furthermore, an adjustment is being made to the interest expense during the duration of the loans.

The loan of SEK 20 M from a Swedish bank was paid back in August in view of the additional liquidity from the convertible debentures. However, the loan is still available in the form of a promissory facility.

Total assets amount to SEK 532.5 M (494.4) at the end of the year and consist of intangible assets of SEK 265.8 M (282.2) primarily from the acquisition of Eldat in 2006. The largest component is a goodwill item amounting to SEK 234 M. The acquisition of Eldat gave Pricer the market leader position in the ESL industry and synergies from the merger continue to be realised. The value of the goodwill is based on the expected cash flow of Pricer as a whole as the business of Eldat has been absorbed within Pricer.

# Capital expenditure

Total net capital expenditure amounted to SEK 0.1 M (2.8) for the quarter and SEK -4.9 M (9.9) for the year. The negative investment during the year consists of a reduction in the purchase price of Eldat based on a warranty claim settlement between the parties.

#### Personnel

The average number of employees during the quarter was 87 (94) and for the year 95 (108). The number of employees as of December 31, 2007 was 83 (110) out of which 20 employees are in the process of leaving their employment and will not affect the results going forward.

#### Parent company

The parent company had net sales of SEK 100.0 M (56.5) in the fourth quarter and SEK 326.6 M (288.9) in the year, which included transactions within the group of SEK 109.6 M (148.5). The result before tax was SEK 26.1 M (-16.0) for the quarter and SEK 30.2 M (-39.2) in the year and capital expenditures were SEK 1.0 M (3.2) for the year. The parent company had liquid funds of SEK 91.3 M (23.0) as of December 31, 2007.

#### Risks and uncertainties

Pricer's results and financial position are affected by a number of risk factors that should be taken into consideration when assessing the company and its future potential. These risks are primarily related to development of the ESL market and the company's access to financing. Given the customer structure and the large size of the contracts any delay in the installations may have a significant impact on any given quarter. In addition to this, reference is made to a more elaborated description of risks and uncertainties in the annual report.

#### Related party transaction

There have been no significant transactions with related parties which has a material impact on the financial standing and results of Pricer.

# **Accounting principles**

Pricer follows the IFRS standards adopted by EU and interpretations thereof (IFRIC). This interim report is issued in accordance with IAS 34 Interim reporting. Accounting principles and accounting methods are unchanged as compared to the annual report. For the parent company Pricer follows RR32:6.

#### Subsequent events

Spain's second largest retailer, Eroski, has placed an initial order for four hypermarkets comprising over 100,000 ESL to be installed within the next three months. Eroski has indicated their intention to install a minimum of six hypermarkets with Pricer in 2008.

Metro Cash & Carry Germany has accelerated the deployment of their ESL upgrade program in Germany. Orders have been placed for the replacement of all labels in the last 18 Cash & Carry stores with a total value of over SEK 20 M with deliveries taking place during the first half of 2008.

Tesco in the UK has ordered 2,750 DotMatrix ESL to be implemented in the dry-grocery department in April of 2008. This follows an earlier commitment for 400 DotMatrix in the deli counter for the same store. Tesco estimates that this technology will bring operational efficiency by reducing printing costs and labor dependency, labor which can then be redirected to servicing clients.

#### **Outlook**

Pricer, having focused on immediate cost restructuring and now seeing gross margin improvements, expects continued strengthened profit during 2008 even with moderate volume growth.

# **Annual General Meeting and dividend**

The Annual General Meeting 2008 will be held at 4 pm on April 1, 2008 at Scandic Infra City, Upplands Väsby. The Board of Directors proposes that no dividend will be paid. It is expected that the Annual Report will be published in March, 2008 at Pricer's web-site.

#### **Next reporting date**

The interim report for January-March 2008 will be published on May 8, 2008.

Sollentuna, February 15, 2008 Pricer AB (publ)

Elie Barr Jan Forssjö Daniel Furman Director Director Director

Akbar Seddigh Magnus Schmidt Chairman vice Chairman

In its capacity as issuer, Pricer AB is releasing the information in this year-end report for January-December 2007 in accordance with the Swedish (2007:528) Securities Exchange Act. The information was distributed to the media for publication at 11.00 hrs CEST on Friday February 15, 2008.

#### For further information, please contact:

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**Pricer** provides the retail industry's leading electronic display and Electronic Shelf Label (ESL) platform, solutions, and services for intelligently communicating, managing, and optimizing product information on the shop floor. The platform is based on a two-way communication protocol to ensure a complete traceability and management of resources. The Pricer system significantly improves consumer benefit and store productivity.

Pricer, founded in 1991 in Uppsala, Sweden, offers the most complete and scalable ESL solution. Pricer has close to 4,000 installations across three continents with approximately 60 percent market share. Customers include many of the world's top retailers and some of the foremost retail chains in Europe, Japan and the USA. Pricer, in co-operation with qualified partners, offers a totally integrated solution together with supplementary products, applications and services.

Pricer AB (publ.) is quoted on the Nordic Small Cap list of OMX. For further information, please visit www.pricer.com

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# **CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT - SUMMARY**

	Q 4	Q 4	Full year	Full year
Amounts in SEK M	2007	2006	2007	2006
Net sales	133,4	113,7	432,3	409,9
Cost of goods sold	-88,4	-82,9	-300,3	-320,2
Gross profit	45,0	30,8	132,0	89,7
Other operating items, net	6,3	-0,2	20,6	-0,2
Selling and administrative expenses	-24,5	-31,5	-114,7	-95,3
Research and development expenses	-6,1	-7,5	-31,9	-35,2
Operating result	20,7	-8,4	6,0	-41,0
Net financial items	0,0	-5,1	-7,2	-8,1
Result before tax	20,7	-13,5	-1,2	-49,1
Tax on result for the period	0,6	1,1	2,2	1,1
Net result for the period	21,3	-12,4	1,0	-48,0
Attributable to:				
Equity holders of the Parent Company	21,3	-12,3	0,9	-46,5
Minority interest	0,0	-0,1	0,1	-1,5
Net result for the period	21,3	-12,4	1,0	-48,0
	0.4	0.4		
Earnings per share, number of shares	Q 4 2007	Q 4 2006	Full year 2007	2006
Earnings per share before dilution, SEK	0,02	-0,01	0,00	
Earnings per share after dilution, SEK	0,02	-0,01	0,00	-0,05
Number of charge millions	1 016	1 016	1 016	853
Number of shares, millions  Number of shares after dilution, millions	1 153	1 016	1 153	853
,				
NET ON EO DY OFOODADINON, MADVET	0.4	0.4	E	F
NET SALES BY GEOGRAPHICAL MARKET Amounts in SEK M	Q 4 2007	Q 4 2006	2007	Full year 2006
Nordic Countries	7,8	6,3		
Rest of Europe	78,2	67,1	250,1	
Asia	41,4	38,0	142,5	115,6
Rest of the world	6,0	2,3	16,1	13,5
Total net sales	133,4	113,7	432,3	409,9

# **CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET - SUMMARY**

Amounts in SEK M	2007-12-31	2006-12-31
Intangible fixed assets	265,8	282,2
Tangible fixed assets	5,6	8,1
Financial assets	0,1	0,2
Total fixed assets	271,5	290,5
		_
Inventories	28,8	64,6
Other receivables	132,1	107,8
Cash and cash equivalents	100,1	31,5
Total current assets	261,0	203,9
TOTAL ASSETS	532,5	494,4
Shareholders' equity	356,4	353,1
Equity, minority interest	0,1	0,1
Total equity	356,5	353,2
Long-term liabilities	73,0	25,2
Short-term liabilities	103,0	116,0
Total liabilities	176,0	141,2
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	532,5	494,4
Pledged assets	310,9	77,2
Contingent liabilities	1,2	1,1
Shareholders' equity per share, SEK	0,35	0,35
Shareholders' equity, SEK, after dilution	0,31	0,35
CHANGE IN EQUITY		
	Full year	Full year
Amounts in SEK M	2007	2006
Equity at start of period	353,2	152,1
New share issue	-	253,9
New group structure	-10,9	0,0
Translation difference	5,5	-4,3
Shareholder contribution, minority	-	0,6
Change in shareholder minority	0,0	-1,1
Issued employee options	3,2	-
Additional interest on convertible	4,5	-
Net result for the period	1,0	-48,0
Equity at end of period	356,5	353,2
Attributable to:		
- Equity holders of the Parent Company	356,4	353,1
- Minority interest	0,1	0,1
Total	356,5	353,2

# **CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT - SUMMARY**

	Q 4	Q 4	Full year	Full year
Amounts in SEK M	2007	2006	2007	2006
Net result after financial items	20,7	-13,5	-1,2	-49,1
Adjustment for non-cash items	-0,7	8,2	9,2	15,4
Paid tax	-0,1	-	-0,1	-0,5
Change in working capital	14,1	3,6	19,3	-19,8
Cash flow from operating activities	34,0	-1,7	27,2	-54,0
Cash flow from investing activities	-0,1	-2,8	4,9	-9,9
Cash flow from financing activities	-5,6	8,3	37,4	23,4
Cash flow for the period	28,3	3,8	69,5	-40,5
Cash and cash equivalents at start of period	73,8	26,9	31,5	72,4
Exchange rate difference in cash and cash equivalents	-2,0	0,8	-0,9	-0,4
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period 1)	100,1	31,5	100,1	31,5
Unutilised bank overdraft facilities	-	-	-	-
Disposable funds at end of period	100,1	31,5	100,1	31,5
1) Whereof blocked accounts	1,2	1,1	1,2	1,1
KEY RATIOS, GROUP	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.4
Amounts in SEK M	Q 4 2007	Q 3 2007	Q 2	Q 1
	89,3	115,0	<b>2007</b> 145,3	<b>2007</b> 91,1
Order entry Order entry - moving 4 quarters	440,7	421,9	350,3	234,6
Net sales	133,4	131,9	102,9	64,1
Net sales - moving 4 quarters	432,3	412,6	406,6	406,5
Operating result	20,7	-0,8	-10,7	-3,2
Operating result - moving 4 quarters	6,0	-22,9	-10,7	-23,0
Result for the period	21,3	-22,9 -5,4	-19,4	-23,0 -2,7
Cash flow from operating activities	34,0	-3,2	-12,2 -5,6	4,6
Cash flow from op.activities - moving 4 quarters	29,8	-3,2 -7,7	-3,0 -28,7	-37,7
Number of employees, end of period	29,8	93	-26,7 96	102
Equity ratio	65%	65%	67%	73%
Equity fatto	05/6	03 /0	01 /0	13/0

#### PARENT COMPANY INCOME STATEMENT - SUMMARY

	Q 4	Q 4	Full year	Full year
Amounts in SEK M	2007	2006	2007	2006
Net sales	100,0	56,5	326,6	288,9
Cost of goods sold	-70,0	-44,1	-241,2	-240,4
Gross profit	30,0	12,4	85,4	48,5
Other operating income	3,9	1,0	17,9	1,0
Other operating costs	-	-0,1	-	-0,1
Selling and administrative expenses	-10,4	-11,5	-58,1	-47,6
Research and development expenses	-4,5	-4,3	-20,4	-27,9
Operating result	19,0	-2,5	24,8	-26,1
Result from participations in group companies	-	-13,2	-	-12,2
Net financial items	7,1	-0,3	5,4	-0,9
Result before tax	26,1	-16,0	30,2	-39,2
Tax on result for the period	-	-	-	-
Net result for the period	26,1	-16,0	30,2	-39,2

# PARENT COMPANY BALANCE SHEET - SUMMARY

Amounts in SEK M	2007-12-31	2006-12-31
Intangible fixed assets	2,2	4,5
Tangible fixed assets	3,8	6,1
Financial assets	348,2	279,6
Total fixed assets	354,2	290,2
Inventories	22,0	47,4
Current receivables	67,1	62,0
Cash and cash equivalents	91,3	23,0
Total current assets	180,4	132,4
TOTAL ASSETS	534,6	422,6
Shareholders' equity	397,2	359,9
Total equity	397,2	359,9
Long-term liabilities	73,0	9,2
Current liabilities	64,4	53,5
Total liabilities	137,4	62,7
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	534,6	422,6
Pledged assets	295,5	34,8
Contingent liabilities	0,2	0,2











