

Interim report Jan–Jun 2022

# Record financial results in a milestone quarter



20 July 2022

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### Performance and key highlights Q2 2022

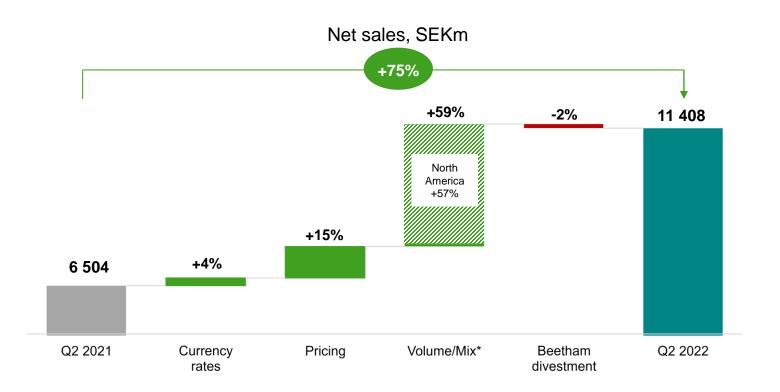
#### **KEY FIGURES**

$\odot$	First quarter v	with	Verso	included	_
	net sales +75	%			

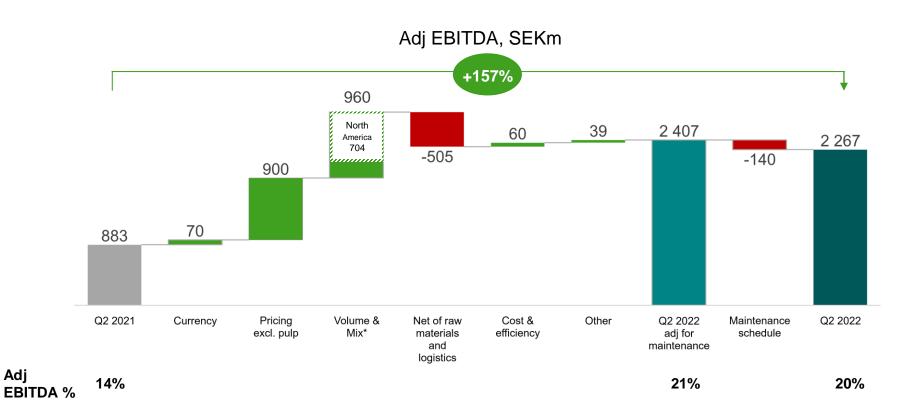
- Strong organic growth, both in Europe
   +17% and North America +19%
- All-time-high EBITDA and operating cash flow. EPS up more than 4x vs LY
- Price and mix improvements more than offset cost inflation
- Excellent cash delivery and strong balance sheet position

SEKm	Q2-22	Change vs Q1-21
Net sales	11 408	+75%
Adjusted EBITDA	2 267	+157%
% of net sales	20%	+6 pp
Operating profit – EBIT	1 609	+298%
% of net sales	14%	+8 pp
Operating cash flow after capex	1 669	96%
EPS	6.83	+455%

# Outstanding sales growth through focus on price management and mix improvement – for both Europe and North America



### EBITDA more than doubled in the wake of continued strong market momentum and adding profitable North America region



\*Consolidation of Verso

Adj



### Product area Paper

Share of net sales Q2 2022



#### **KEY FIGURES**

Including Billerud North America from 1 April, 2022

SEKm	Q2-22	Q2-21	Change
Net sales	6 094	2 039	199%
of which graphic paper	2 823	_	_
of which kraft and speciality paper	1 477	920	61%
of which sack paper	902	630	43%
of which pulp	882	480	84%
Net operating expenses	-4 743	-1 674	183%
EBITDA	1 351	365	270%
EBITDA margin	22%	18%	4 pp

- All categories performing well double digit topline growth across all segments. Organic growth +18% (excl Beetham // North America)
- EBITDA almost tripled and margin expansion due to price management, driving positive mix, benefits from our cost and efficiency programme and adding North America



#### Product area Board

#### **KEY FIGURES**

Share of net sales Q2 2022



SEKm	Q2-22	Q2-21	Change
Net sales	4 410	3 642	21%
of which liquid packaging board	2 108	2 009	5%
of which containerboard	1 275	984	30%
of which cartonboard	954	554	72%
Net operating expenses	-3 402	-3 086	10%
EBITDA	1 008	556	81%
EBITDA margin	23%	15%	8 pp

- Strong net sales growth. Excl FX +18% vs LY
- All categories delivered solid growth
- EBITDA almost doubled and margin expansion due to price management, driving positive mix and benefits from our cost and efficiency programme



# Intensified cost inflation in Q2 and expected further price pressure going forward in Q3 - in particular for European pulpwood

### Higher cost for fibre

European wood market strongly impacted by Russian import stop. Europe and North America affected by fuel inflation

### Higher cost for chemicals

Sharp price inflation during Q2. Starting to stabilize, but strong correlation with energy prices

### Higher energy cost

Two thirds of electricity consumption hedged. Volatile high prices for fossil fuels.

## Higher logistics cost

Challenge in global logistics: availability and reliability impact cost

# Strong operating cash flow and successful rights issue significantly reducing debt leverage

$\bigcirc$	Excellent cash flow conversion driven by
	positive WC help

- Net debt / adj EBITDA ratio significantly reduced through positive cash flow and our successful rights issue
- Dividend of SEK 890 m distributed

SEK m	Q2-22	Q2-21
Operating surplus	2 162	769
Change in working capital	411	560
Net financial items, taxes, etc.	-89	-28
Operating Cash Flow (OCF)	2 484	<b>1 301</b> -451
Operative investments  Operating cash flow after operative	-815	-451
investments	1 669	850

#### **CAPEX outlook 2022 remains unchanged:**

- Base CAPEX (incl Verso) SEK 2.2 bn

SEK m	Q2-22	Q2-21
Net debt	6 593	5 290
Net debt / adjusted EBITDA	1.1	1.7

### Transformation program - status

- Concept study completed confirming ingoing (business case) assumptions
- Pre-feasibility started in June expected completion during 1H'23
- Program leader reporting to CEO and project team being established
- Project areas clearly defined
  - > Technology readiness
  - > Product readiness
  - > Mill readiness
  - > Business readiness
- O Project milestones:
  - > CAPEX approval: end 1H'23
  - > Expected machine downtime: 2025
  - > Expected machine start-up: end 2025 // early 2026



#### Business status and market outlook continue to look positive

	MACTIDS MATTIDS MORYCK	Printing and		
Sales split, % <sup>1</sup>	Food & Drink	Publishing Papers	Consumer & Luxury	Industrial
LPB (7.9bn)	100%			
Cartonboard (2.2bn)	25%		75%	
Containerboard (4.4bn)	80%		10%	10%
Kraft & Speciality Paper (5.4bn) <sup>2</sup>	50%		30%	10%
Sack Paper (2.6bn)	15%			85%
Graphical Paper (7.5bn)		100%		
Share of Group Net Sales <sup>3</sup>	40%	20%	10%	10%
BK Market status Q2'22	Stable	More positive	More positive	More positive
BK Market trend outlook	<b>-</b>		-	-

<sup>1 2021</sup> Net Sales in bn SEK

<sup>2</sup> Excluding medical paper

<sup>3</sup> Total Group Net Sales include Currency hedging and Solutions & Other, not allocated to end-use segments

### Positive outlook for Q3 across the whole business

- Continued strong demand across all market segments and all regions
- Price management, driving profitable mix and cost management to off-set cost inflation
- Maintenance and upgrade stops planned for Q3:
  - > Gävle, Karlsborg and Escanaba maintenance stops (P/L impact accumulated SEK 435m)
  - > Quinnesec maintenance and upgrade (P/L impact SEK 400M)
    - Higher grammage upgrade and operational flexibility of Q41
    - Increased pulp production 30K tons yearly
    - Pulp expected downtime 37 days // machine downtime 14 days
    - Expected additional yearly benefits SEK 70-100M
- Continuous economic uncertainty due to inflationary pressures and war in Ukraine – unlikely to significantly impact our business



#### Priorities 2H'22 and 2023

- Deliver on strategic objectives of sales growth, productivity and cost savings
- Market outlook in our segments remains attractive
- Strategic projects and programs well on track
  - > Frövi recovery boiler (expected start-up end'23)
  - Norway BCTMP pre-feasibility
  - > Integration Billerud North America well underway
  - > Transformation entering pre-feasibility



