

FULL YEAR REPORT



Q4

Bulten wins new contracts for electric vehicles and takes market shares despite weaker market conditions

FOURTH QUARTER

- Net sales amounted to SEK 747 (740) million, an increase of 1.0% on the same period last year.
- Operating earnings (EBIT) totaled SEK 48 (55) million, equating to an operating margin of 6.4% (7.5).
- Earnings after tax amounted to SEK 30 (47) million.
- Order bookings totaled SEK 741 (839) million, a decrease of 11.7% on the same period last year.
- Cash flow from operating activities totaled SEK 60 (2) million.
- Earnings per share were SEK 1.50 (2.26).
- Bulten has signed a Full Service Provider (FSP) contract for the driveline of an electric car, initially worth in the region of EUR 2 million a year at full production in 2021, starting in late 2020.
- Bulten has signed a Full Service Provider (FSP) contract for the driveline of an electric car, initially worth in the region of EUR 5 million a year at full production in 2021, starting in 2020.

JANUARY – DECEMBER

- Net sales amounted to SEK 3,132 (2,856) million, an increase of 9.7% on the same period last year.
- Operating earnings (EBIT) totaled SEK 210 (210) million, equating to an operating margin of 6.7% (7.4).
- Earnings after tax amounted to SEK 143 (159) million.
- Order bookings amounted to SEK 3,098 (3,015) million, an increase of 2.8% on the same period last year.
- Cash flow from operating activities totaled SEK 125 (58) million.
- Earnings per share were SEK 7.19 (7.98).
- Net debt amounted to SEK 181 (49) million and the equity/assets ratio was 64.8% (66.8) at the end of the period.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS AFTER THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD

- Bulten has signed a Full Service Provider (FSP) contract for fasteners in a new vehicle program, worth in the region of EUR 13 million a year at full production in 2021, starting in late 2019.
- The Board of Bulten AB will propose to the Annual General Meeting a dividend of SEK 4.00 (3.75) per share for 2018.

CEO'S COMMENTS

"Vehicle production fell during the quarter due to greater uncertainty on the market. The increased volatility in demand for vehicles is partly an effect of new environmental tax regulations in several European countries, as well as uncertainty regarding Brexit.

Bulten continues to win new business and take market shares despite weak market conditions. Net sales increased by 1%, and we are thereby compensating to some degree for the weak market development by start-up of new contract.

Order bookings during the quarter were in line with sales, but down 12 % compared to the previous year's strong order bookings thanks to the start of new contracts and model shifts.

Operating earnings during the quarter were down on the previous year, primarily due to reduced volume development in the latter part of the quarter. The reduction in volume came with very little advance notice. Adaptations to production have begun but will take some time. Earnings were also negatively impacted by currency effects and the beginning of restructuring in China. Raw material prices stabilized during the quarter, although at continued high level.

Our financial position is strong and we are continuing with the strategic development and adaptation of our operation in line with the communicated plan. Demand for hybrids and electric cars is increasing, and this is a favorable development for Bulten. We are well positioned in this area and we signed two new FSP contracts during the quarter, for electric car drivelines.

As I now hand over to my successor Anders Nyström, Bulten is in an excellent position to continue winning new contracts and market shares."

Tommy Andersson, President and CEO

BULTEN IN BRIEF

DEVELOPMENT DURING THE QUARTER

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A decision was made in October 2018 to relocate the Chinese operation from Beijing to Tianjin. Restructuring costs for this relocation, which has already begun, have also impacted on the operating earnings with SEK 1 million in Q4. Costs are expected to total SEK 16-20 million across the moving period, the main part in 2019.

In autumn 2017, Bulten decided to invest approximately PLN 80.5 million (approx. SEK 177 million) in a new, strategically important production and logistics plant in Poland. The project has been delayed due to negotiations on land exploitation and building, and will raise the costs somewhat.

The investment in a new heat treatment plant in Hallstahammar is proceeding according to plan, and the plant should be ready to come into operation at the end of Q1 2019. The investment will raise capacity by 25% in Hallstahammar while also increasing energy efficiency.

Demand for hybrids and electric cars is increasing, a favorable development for Bulten since the value of fasteners is currently far higher in these vehicles compared to those with conventional combustion engines. During the quarter, Bulten signed two Full Service Provider (FSP) contracts for electric car drivelines with major European automotive manufacturers. The contracts are initially worth approximately EUR 2 million over seven years, and EUR 5 million over five years respectively.

Since the end of the quarter, Bulten has also signed an FSP contract for delivery of fasteners in a new vehicle program for a major European automotive manufacturer. The contract is worth approximately EUR 13 million a year at full production. Deliveries are expected to begin in November 2019 and will run for three years, with potential for an extension of several years thereafter.

As announced on June 20, 2018, Anders Nyström has been appointed the new President and CEO of Bulten. He will take up the post on February 8, succeeding Tommy Andersson who is retiring after 19 successful years with Bulten.

MARKET AND OUTLOOK

Approximately 86% of Bulten's net sales are attributable to light vehicles and roughly 14% to commercial vehicles. Around 91% of total sales are attributable to direct deliveries to vehicle manufacturers (OEMs) and the remainder to their tiers and other players.

European car sales (EU and EFTA) finished on a downward trend during Q4 and 2018 as a whole, thereby showing a marginal increase of 0.1% over 2017, according to ACEA statistics. In December 2018, car sales in Europe fell by 8.4%. The Q4 decline in Europe can be

explained by new environmental tax regulations (WLTP) in several European countries, as well as concerns about Brexit in the UK. According to LMC Automotive, China saw the same kind of development trend in December with a decline of almost 14%.

According to the latest LMC Automotive forecast in Q4 2018, European production of light vehicles is expected to increase by 0.2% and heavy commercial vehicles by 0.7% in 2018. Weighted for Bulten's business exposure, this means a rise of 0.3% in the corresponding period, compared to 0.7% previously. In 2019, European production of light vehicles is expected to decrease by -0.5% and heavy commercial vehicles to increase by 2.1%. Weighted for Bulten's business exposure, this means a decrease of -0.1% in the corresponding period.

Bulten's products are mainly distributed to Europe, but demand is governed by the production of vehicles for the global market.

The management team estimates that Bulten's market share at the end of 2018 amounted to about 18% of the European market for fasteners for the automotive industry, which is an increase by 1 percentage from 2017. On the same market, Bulten's estimated market share for FSP business was around 65% at the end of 2018, which is an increase by 4 percentage compared to 2017. The information is based on data from the European Industrial Fasteners Institute (EIFI) relating to European automotive industry purchases of fasteners during 2017.

Bulten has a strong position in its niche, and long-term growth opportunities are looking good despite the current market unease, with incoming volumes from already signed contracts worth just over EUR 65 million annually when full production is reached in 2020. The conditions for winning new business are also still deemed strong.

ORDER BOOKINGS AND NET SALES

Fourth quarter

Order bookings amounted to SEK 741 (839) million, a decrease of 11.7% on the same period last year.

Group net sales amounted to SEK 747 (740) million, an increase of 1.0% on the same period last year.

Adjusted for foreign exchange effects, organic growth totaled -3.3% for the same period.

January - December

Order bookings amounted to SEK 3,098 (3,015) million, an increase of 2.8% on the same period last year.

Group net sales amounted to SEK 3,132 (2,856) million, an increase of 9.7% on the same period last year.

Adjusted for foreign exchange effects, organic growth totaled 4.1% for the same period.



EARNINGS AND PROFITABILITY

Fourth quarter

The Group's gross profit was SEK 139 (142) million, corresponding to a gross margin of 18.6% (19.3). Earnings before depreciation (EBITDA) amounted to SEK 71 (76) million, corresponding to an

EBITDA margin of 9.6% (10.2). Operating earnings (EBIT) totaled SEK 48 (55) million, equating to an operating margin of 6.4% (7.5).

Profitability was affected negatively by high global market prices for steel and other metals as well as an uneven rate of production. Operating earnings were affected negatively by exchange rate fluctuations of SEK -3 (3) million net when converting operating capital at the closing day rate. Initiated restructuring costs in China amount to SEK 1 million in the quarter.

The Group's net financial items were SEK -4 (6) million. Financial income totals SEK 0 (7) million. The previous year included a foreign exchange gain of SEK 7 million. Financial expenses were SEK -4 (-1) million, primarily comprising interest expenses of SEK -1 (-1) million, foreign exchange losses of SEK -2 (-) million and other financial expenses of SEK -1 (-0) million.

The Group's earnings before tax amounted to SEK 44 (61) million and earnings after tax were SEK 30 (47) million. Profit after tax for the period was positively affected by SEK 4 million as a result of reversal of previously recognized costs attributable to the company's long-term share-based incentive programs.

January - December

The Group's gross profit was SEK 586 (558) million, corresponding to a gross margin of 18.7% (19.6). Earnings before depreciation (EBITDA) amounted to SEK 300 (290) million, corresponding to an EBITDA margin of 9.6% (10.1). Operating earnings (EBIT) totaled SEK 210 (210) million, equating to an operating margin of 6.7% (7.4).

Profitability was affected negatively by higher global market prices for steel and other metals as well as an uneven rate of production, but was partly balanced out by foreign exchange effects; the operating earnings were affected positively by exchange rate fluctuations of SEK 2 (-2) net on converting working capital at the exchange rate on the closing day. In the previous year, operating profit was affected positively by an amount of SEK 4 million attributable to a recovered claim. Initiated restructuring costs in China amount to SEK 1 million. The total expense for restructuring and relocation of the Chinese operation is estimated at SEK 16-20 million, the main part burdening the 2019 figures.

The Group's net financial items were SEK -12 (0) million. Financial income totals SEK 0 (6) million. The previous year included a foreign exchange gain of SEK 6 million. Financial expenses were SEK -12 (-6) million, comprising interest expenses of SEK -4 (-4) million, foreign exchange losses of SEK -5 (-) million and other financial expenses of SEK -3 (-2) million.

The Group's earnings before tax amounted to SEK 198 (210) million and earnings after tax were SEK 143 (159) million. Profit for the year after tax was positively impacted by SEK 3 million as a result of reversal of previously reported costs attributable to the company's long-term share-based incentive programs.

CASH FLOW, WORKING CAPITAL, INVESTMENTS AND FINANCIAL POSITION

Fourth quarter

Cash flow from operating activities totaled SEK 60 (2) million. The effect on cash flow of the change in working capital amounted to SEK 2 (-71) million. Inventories increased during the period by SEK 68 (71) million, while current receivables changed by SEK -67 (109) million. Current liabilities increased by SEK -5 (96) million. Cash flow from investing activities amounted to SEK -51 (-43) million. Investments of SEK 56 (44) million relate to property, plant and equipment.

Cash flow from financing activities was affected by the buy-back of own shares in the amount of SEK -22 million.

January - December

Cash flow from operating activities totaled SEK 125 (58) million. The effect on cash flow of the change in working capital amounted to SEK -129 (-201) million. Working capital has been driven by positive developments in volume. Inventories increased during the period by SEK 176 (83) million, while current receivables changed by SEK -52 (212) million. Current liabilities changed by SEK -29 (93) million.

Cash flow from investing activities amounted to SEK -160 (-55) million. Investments of SEK 164 (122) million relate to tangible fixed assets.

Last year the change in financial assets was SEK 66 million, relating to a loan to the joint venture company BBB Services Ltd. which was replaced by working capital financing. The change had a negative impact on consolidated cash flow from operating activities of SEK 66 million, with a corresponding positive impact on consolidated cash flow from investing activities.

Cash flow from financing activities was affected by a dividend to Parent Company shareholders of SEK -76 (-92) million. Cash flow from financing activities was affected by the buy-back of own shares in the amount of SEK -22 (-) million.

On the closing date, net debt amounted to SEK 181 million, of which SEK 18 million was cash and cash equivalents. In the previous year, net debt was SEK 49 million, of which SEK 48 million was cash and cash equivalents. Net debt adjusted for financial leasing agreements amounted to SEK 145 million. Adjusted net cash for the previous year amounted to SEK 12 million.

NEW FINANCING AGREEMENT SIGNED

During the second quarter, the company signed a new, extended financing agreement with an operating and real estate credit facility totaling SEK 750 million, compared to the previous SEK 460 million. The agreement covers a period of 4+1+1 years and initially runs until the end of June 2022.

Otherwise the new financing agreement entails no significant changes compared to the previous one.

NET SALES
SEK **747** MILLION

OPERATING EARNINGS
SEK **48** MILLION

OPERATING MARGIN
6.4%



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

SEK MILLION	Q4			FULL YEAR		
	2018	2017	Δ	2018	2017	Δ
Net sales	747	740	1.0%	3,132	2,856	9.7%
Gross profit	139	142	-3	586	558	28
Earnings before depreciation (EBITDA)	71	76	-5	300	290	10
Operating earnings (EBIT)	48	55	-7	210	210	-
Operating margin, %	6.4	7.5	-1.1	6.7	7.4	-0.7
Earnings after tax	30	47	-17	143	159	-16
Earnings per share before dilution, SEK	1.50	2.26	-0.76	7.19	7.98	-0.79
Order bookings	741	839	-11.7%	3,098	3,015	2.8%
Return on capital employed, %	-	-	-	12.8	14.4	-1.6
Return on capital employed, excluding goodwill, %	-	-	-	14.6	16.7	-2.1

OTHER INFORMATION

ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

This full-year report has, for the Group, been prepared in accordance with IAS 34 Interim Financial Reporting and the Swedish Annual Accounts Act. The financial reporting for the Parent Company has been prepared in accordance with the Swedish Annual Accounts Act and RFR 2 Accounting for legal entities, issued by the Swedish Financial Reporting Board. The accounting principles applied are unchanged compared to those outlined in the 2017 Annual Report, with the following exceptions:

From 1 January 2018, the Group is applying IFRS 9 Financial Instruments and IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers. IFRS 9 covers the classification, measurement and recognition of financial assets and liabilities. It replaces the parts of IAS 39 that concern the classification and measurement of financial instruments. IFRS 15 contains a combined model for revenue recognition for customer contracts not covered by other standards. It replaces IAS 11 Construction Contracts, IAS 18 Revenue and the related interpretations IFRIC 13, 15, 18 and SIC-31.

The implementation of IFRS 9 and IFRS 15 does not have any significant effect on the Group's financial reports. Consequently, no transition effects have arisen as a result of introducing these accounting standards.

IFRS 16 Leases will be applied from 1 January 2019. The standard requires that assets and liabilities relating to all leases, with some exceptions, be recognized in the balance sheet. The income statement recognizes depreciation of the asset and an interest expense for the lease liability. Under the current IAS 17, lease payments are expensed over the term of the lease for operating leases. The Group is a lessee in operating leases that are expected to be affected by IFRS 16.

The Group has reviewed all leasing agreements, where information has been collected and compiled as a basis for calculations and quantifications in connection with conversion to IFRS 16. The Group primarily includes leasing agreements for the lease of premises and to some extent equipment. The Group has decided to apply the simplified transition method, which means that comparative figures do not need to be recalculated, and that there will be no impact on the equity entered. In the opening balance for 2019, fixed assets and interest-bearing liabilities increase by approximately SEK 223 million.

All amounts in SEK million unless otherwise stated. Figures in brackets refer to the previous year. Some figures are rounded, so amounts might not always appear to match when added up.

INCENTIVE PROGRAM

At the Annual General Meeting on April 26, 2016, it was decided to establish a long-term share-based incentive program for approximately 15 senior executives and key employees in the Bulten Group. The program runs over three years starting in April 2016 and comprised a maximum of 300,000 shares, which corresponds to a dilution effect of approximately 1.5% of the total number of outstanding shares. The program means that the participants invest in shares in the company and for each invested share the participant receives free of charge and so-called matching share. All in all, the number of matching shares amounts to 34,817, which corresponds to the number of shares that the participants invested in shares within the framework of the program. In addition, the participant has the opportunity to receive additional shares free of charge, so-called performance shares provided that a performance target (earnings per share) determined by the Board is met. At the end of 2018, it has been established that the performance targets have not been met and, in accordance

with IFRS 2, previously incurred costs attributable to the performance shares are reversed. As a result, profit after tax for the fourth quarter was positively affected by SEK 4 million. Correspondingly for the full year 2018, a positive profit effect after tax of SEK 3 million.

RISKS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Exposure to risk is a natural part of a business and this is reflected in Bulten's approach to risk management. This aims to identify risks and prevent risks from occurring and to limit any damage resulting from these risks. The most significant risks for the Group relate to the economic situation's effect on demand, access to and price fluctuations in raw materials, and geopolitical and financial external factors.

For a more detailed description of risks, please see Note 5 Risks and risk management in the 2017 Annual Report.

SEASONAL VARIATIONS

Bulten has no traditional seasonal variation but the year reflects the customers' production days, which vary between quarters. Generally speaking, the lowest net sales and operating earnings are seen in the third quarter with the lowest number of production days. The other quarters are relatively even but may vary slightly.

TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

There have been no significant transactions between related parties during the reporting period. For further information, please see Note 37 of the 2017 Annual Report.

EMPLOYEES

The average number of employees (FTE) in the Group during the period January 1 - December 31, 2018 was 1,433 (1,305).

CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There were no significant changes in contingent liabilities during the interim period.

PARENT COMPANY

Bulten AB (publ) owns, directly or indirectly, all the companies in the Group. The equity/assets ratio was 71.8% (75.1). Equity amounted to SEK 1,115 (1,124) million. There were no cash or cash equivalents on the closing date. The company had nine employees on the closing date.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS AFTER THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD

Bulten has signed a Full Service Provider (FSP) contract for delivery of fasteners in a new vehicle program for a major European automotive manufacturer. The contract is worth approximately EUR 13 million a year at full production. Deliveries are expected to begin in November 2019 and will run for three years, with potential for an extension of several years thereafter.

PROPOSED APPROPRIATION OF EARNINGS

Bulten's target over time is to pay out a dividend of at least one third of net earnings after tax. Consideration is given, however, to the company's financial position, cash flow and outlook.

The Board of Bulten AB will propose to the Annual General Meeting a dividend of SEK 4.00 (3.75) per share for the 2018 financial year. This represents a dividend of approximately 55% of net earnings after tax.

It is proposed that April 29, 2019 be the settlement date for the dividend.

2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Bulten AB (publ) will be held on April 25, 2019 in Gothenburg.

Shareholders wishing to have a matter discussed at the AGM should send their suggestion to the Board by e-mail at chairman@bulten.com or by mail to:

Bulten AB (publ)
Annual General Meeting
Box 9148
SE-400 93 Gothenburg, Sweden

The suggestion must reach the company by February 15, 2019.

ANNUAL AND SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2018

Bulten's Annual and Sustainability Report for 2018 should be available by April 5, 2019 when it will be published on the Bulten website at www.bulten.se; it may also be ordered in print from the website.

AUDITOR'S REVIEW

This full-year report has not been reviewed by the company's auditors

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

According to an AGM decision, the nomination committee shall comprise four members: one representative for each of the three largest shareholders on the final banking day in September who wish to appoint a member, and the Chairman of the Board. The three largest shareholders are considered to be the three largest shareholders as registered with Euroclear Sweden AB on the final banking day in September.

The nomination committee ahead of the 2019 AGM is composed as follows:

- Claes Murander, appointed by Lannebo Fonder
- Øystein Engebretsen, appointed by Investment AB Öresund
- Pär Andersson, appointed by Spiltan Fonder AB
- Ulf Liljedahl, Chairman of the Board of Bulten AB

Gothenburg, February 7, 2019
Bulten AB (publ)

Tommy Andersson
President and CEO

ABOUT BULTEN

Bulten is one of the leading suppliers of fasteners to the international automotive industry. The company's product range includes everything from customer-specific standard products to customized special fasteners. The company also provides technical development, line-feeding, logistics, material and production expertise. Bulten offers a Full Service Provider concept or parts thereof. The company was founded in 1873, has some 1,400 employees in eight countries and its head office in Gothenburg. The share (BULTEN) is listed on Nasdaq Stockholm.

VISION

Supporting the global automotive industry with state of the art fastener technology and services.

BUSINESS CONCEPT

Bulten shall:

- be the leading business partner and the most cost-effective supplier of fasteners and services to the automotive industry.
- with empowered and dedicated people continuously develop its full service concept and actively launch innovations.
- develop long-term relations based on professionalism and good business ethics.

FINANCIAL TARGETS AND DIVIDEND POLICY

- The Group's goal is to achieve profitable organic growth and to grow more strongly than the industry average.
- The Group's goal is to achieve an operating margin of at least 7% (7).
- The Group's goal is to achieve a return on average capital employed of at least 15% (15).
- The Group's dividend policy is, over time, to pay out a dividend of at least one third of net earnings after tax. Consideration shall, however, be given to Bulten's financial position, cash flow and outlook.

STRATEGY

Global system supplier of fastener solutions

Bulten shall be a global full service provider (FSP) of fastener solutions to the automotive industry.

Value enhancement throughout the value chain

Bulten creates value throughout the value chain: from pre-development, technology and product development, production, purchasing and logistics, to final delivery at the customer's production line.

Organic growth

Bulten's primary strategy is to grow organically. Acquisitions and joint ventures deemed to complement the offering either in terms of products, processes or geography are also of interest.

Customers in the automotive industry

Vehicle manufacturers and suppliers in the automotive industry are the primary target groups.

Geographic proximity

Bulten's geographic spread allows global delivery capacity to the automotive industry.

Innovation drives development

An innovative climate serves to develop technological know-how to create optimal, sustainable, cost-effective solutions for the customer.

Global purchasing strategy

Bulten's global purchasing strategy harmonizes and consolidates the purchase of intermediate goods in a sustainable, cost-effective way

Sustainable, cost-effective production

Bulten's production technology and structure ensures sustainable, cost-effective production of the highest quality.

Strong balance sheet for growth investments

A strong balance sheet and low indebtedness provide flexibility and preparedness for investments in increased capacity and growth, as well as for strategic acquisitions.

Personnel and a unique corporate culture create a sustainable operation

Bulten's employees contribute to sustainable development with their expertise and keen dedication. The company's core values are the foundation of Bulten's unique corporate culture.

Development of sustainability work

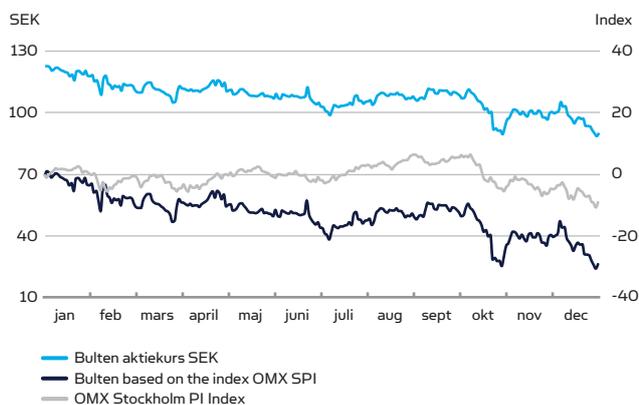
All activities within Bulten should be sustainably designed and in line with the company's ethical guidelines, based on social responsibility, environmental principles and responsible corporate governance.

SHAREHOLDER INFORMATION

PRICE-RELATED SHARE DATA	Q4			FULL YEAR		
	2018	2017	Δ	2018	2017	Δ
Share price at end of period (price paid), SEK	88.20	122.50	-34.30	88.20	122.50	-34.30
Highest share price during the period (price paid), SEK	112.20	129.50	-17.30	124.40	135.50	-11.10
Lowest share price during the period (price paid), SEK	85.90	109.00	-23.10	85.90	89.00	-3.10
Market value at end of period, SEK million	1,856	2,577	-721	1,856	2,577	-721
P/E	–	–	–	12.26	15.36	-3.10
Yield, %	–	–	–	4.54	3.06	1.48
Data per share						
Earnings before depreciation (EBITDA) *)	3.55	3.72	-0.17	14.78	14.22	0.56
Operating earnings (EBIT) *)	2.38	2.72	-0.34	10.32	10.32	–
Earnings after net financial items (EAFI) *)	2.20	2.98	-0.78	9.76	10.32	-0.56
Earnings for the period *)	1.50	2.26	-0.76	7.19	7.98	-0.79
Equity *)	–	–	–	74.70	70.76	3.94
Cash flow from operating activities *)	2.93	0.14	2.79	6.14	2.88	3.26
Cash flow for the period *)	-0.33	-2.06	1.73	-1.56	-3.13	-1.57
Dividend	–	–	–	4.00	3.75	0.25
Total outstanding ordinary shares, 000						
Weighted number during the period *)	20,216.9	20,359.7	-142.8	20,323.7	20,359.7	-36.0
At the end of the period *)	20,133.0	20,359.7	-226.7	20,133.0	20,359.7	-226.7

*) Before dilution.

SHARE PERFORMANCE



BULTEN'S TEN LARGEST SHAREHOLDERS

SHAREHOLDERS	NO. OF SHARES	SHARE-HOLDING, %
Volito AB	4,750,000	22.6
Investment AB Öresund	2,900,000	13.8
Lannebo fonder	2,674,367	12.7
Bulten AB	907,220	4.3
Spiltan Fonder AB	388,620	1.8
Lazard Freres Banque	385,000	1.8
Handelsbanken fonder	383,894	1.8
CBNY-DFA-INT SML CAP V	380,655	1.8
State Street Bank & Trust Com., Boston	372,528	1.8
HSBC Bank PLC,	357,144	1.7

Total number of shareholders: 7,401

Source: Euroclear Sweden AB on 31 December 2018

INFORMATION ABOUT INTERIM REPORTS

Bulten strives for sustainable business, and to find areas where we can minimize environmental impact. From Q2 2016, interim reports are no longer available in printed form.

All of Bulten's reports are available to read and download at bulten.se. Shareholders who are unable to access the reports digitally can order printed copies by contacting Bulten.

Our subscription service at bulten.se also enables users to subscribe to Bulten's reports and press releases by e-mail.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

SEK MILLION	NOTE	Q4			FULL YEAR		
		2018	2017	Δ	2018	2017	Δ
Net sales	1	747	740	7	3,132	2,856	276
Cost of goods sold		-608	-598	-10	-2,546	-2,298	-248
Gross profit		139	142	-3	586	558	28
Other operating income		5	10	-5	19	25	-6
Selling expenses		-57	-52	-5	-229	-196	-33
Administrative expenses		-39	-47	8	-173	-177	4
Other operating expenses		-3	0	-3	-1	-4	3
Share of profit in joint ventures		3	2	1	8	4	4
Operating earnings		48	55	-7	210	210	-
Financial income		0	7	-7	0	6	-6
Financial expenses		-4	-1	-3	-12	-6	-6
Earnings before tax		44	61	-17	198	210	-12
Tax on earnings for the period		-14	-14	-	-55	-51	-4
Earnings after tax		30	47	-17	143	159	-16
Attributable to							
Parent Company shareholders		30	46	-16	146	162	-16
Non-controlling interests		0	1	-1	-3	-3	-
Earnings after tax		30	47	-17	143	159	-16
Earnings per share attributable to Parent Company shareholders							
Earnings per share before dilution, SEK		1.50	2.26	-0.76	7.19	7.98	-0.79
Earnings per share after dilution, SEK		1.50	2.25	-0.75	7.18	7.93	-0.75
Weighted number of outstanding ordinary shares before dilution, 000		20,216.9	20,359.7	-142.8	20,323.7	20,359.7	-36.0
Weighted number of outstanding ordinary shares after dilution, 000		20,251.7	20,464.4	-212.7	20,358.5	20,464.4	-105.9

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

SEK MILLION	Q4			FULL YEAR		
	2018	2017	Δ	2018	2017	Δ
Earnings after tax	30	47	-17	143	159	-16
Other comprehensive income						
Items not to be reversed in the income statement						
Revaluation of defined-benefit pension plans, net after tax	0	-1	1	0	-1	1
Items that may later be reversed in the income statement						
Exchange differences	-6	27	-33	17	25	-8
Total comprehensive income	24	73	-49	160	183	-23
Attributable to						
Parent Company shareholders	25	73	-48	164	187	-23
Non-controlling interests	-1	-	-1	-4	-4	-
Total comprehensive income	24	73	-49	160	183	-23

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

SEK MILLION	31-12-2018	31-12-2017
ASSETS		
Fixed assets		
Intangible fixed assets ¹⁾	205	206
Tangible fixed assets	702	628
Financial assets	6	5
Deferred tax assets	5	8
Total fixed assets	918	847
Current assets		
Inventories	709	533
Current receivables	693	750
Cash equivalents	18	48
Total current assets	1,420	1,331
Total assets	2,338	2,178
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Equity		
Equity attributable to Parent Company shareholders	1,504	1,440
Non-controlling interests	10	14
Total equity	1,514	1,454
Long-term liabilities		
Long-term interest-bearing liabilities and provisions	201	97
Total long-term liabilities	201	97
Current liabilities		
Current liabilities, interest-bearing	3	4
Current liabilities, non interest-bearing	620	623
Total current liabilities	623	627
Total equity and liabilities	2,338	2,178

1) Of which goodwill SEK 201 (203) million.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

SEK MILLION	31-12-2018	31-12-2017
Equity at start of period	1,454	1,357
Comprehensive income		
Earnings after tax	143	159
Other comprehensive income	17	24
Total comprehensive income	160	183
Transactions with shareholders		
Transaction with non-controlling interests	–	4
Share-based remuneration to employees	-2	2
Buy-back of own shares	-22	–
Dividend to Parent Company shareholders	-76	-92
Total transactions with shareholders	-100	-86
Equity at end of period	1,514	1,454

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

SEK MILLION	Q4		FULL YEAR	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
Operating activities				
Earnings after financial items	44	61	198	210
Adjustments for items not included in cash flow	18	18	82	74
Taxes paid	-4	-6	-26	-25
Cash flow from operating activities before changes in working capital	58	73	254	259
Cash flow from changes in working capital				
Change in working capital	2	-71	-129	-201
Cash flow from operating activities	60	2	125	58
Investing activities				
Acquisition of intangible fixed assets	-	-0	-1	-1
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	-56	-44	-164	-122
Divestment of tangible fixed assets	5	1	5	2
Change in financial assets	-	-	-	66
Cash flow from investing activities	-51	-43	-160	-55
Financing activities				
Change in overdraft facilities and other financial liabilities	6	-1	101	21
Dividend to Parent Company shareholders	-	-	-76	-92
Buy-back of own shares	-22	-	-22	-
Transactions with non-controlling interests	-	-	-	4
Cash flow from financing activities	-16	-1	3	-67
Cash flow for the period	-7	-42	-32	-64
Cash flow for the period	-7	-42	-32	-64
Cash and cash equivalents at start of period	25	86	48	109
Exchange rate difference in cash and cash equivalents	-	4	2	3
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	18	48	18	48

CONSOLIDATED NET CASH/NET DEBT COMPOSITION

SEK MILLION	31-12-2018	31-12-2017
Long-term interest-bearing liabilities	-185	-84
Provision for pensions	-16	-13
Current interest-bearing liabilities	-3	-4
Financial interest-bearing receivables	5	4
Cash and bank	18	48
Net cash (+)/net debt (-)	-181	-49
Less interest-bearing liabilities attributable to financial leases	36	37
Adjusted net cash (+)/net debt (-)	-145	-12

KEY FIGURES FOR THE GROUP

GROUP	Q4		FULL YEAR	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
Margins				
EBITDA margin, %	9.6	10.2	9.6	10.1
EBIT margin (operating margin), %	6.4	7.5	6.7	7.4
Net margin, %	4.0	6.3	4.6	5.6
Capital structure				
Interest coverage ratio, times	13.2	48.6	18.2	38.8
Earnings per share attributable to Parent Company shareholders				
Earnings per share before dilution, SEK	1.50	2.26	7.19	7.98
Earnings per share after dilution, SEK	1.50	2.25	7.18	7.93
Number of outstanding ordinary shares				
Weighted number of outstanding ordinary shares before dilution, 000	20,216.9	20,359.7	20,323.7	20,359.7
Weighted number of outstanding ordinary shares after dilution, 000	20,251.7	20,464.4	20,358.5	20,464.4

GROUP	31-12-2018	31-12-2017
Capital structure		
Net debt/equity ratio, times	-0.1	-0.0
Equity/assets ratio, %	64.8	66.8
Other		
Net cash (+)/net debt (-), SEK million	-181	-49
Adjusted net cash (+)/net debt (-), SEK million	-145	-12
Equity per share attributable to Parent Company shareholders		
Equity per share before dilution, SEK	74.73	70.76
Equity per share after dilution, SEK	74.86	70.39
Number of outstanding ordinary shares		
Number of outstanding ordinary shares before dilution on the closing date, 000	20,323.7	20,359.7
Number of outstanding ordinary shares after dilution on the closing date, 000	20,133.0	20,464.4

GROUP, 12-MONTH ROLLING	2018	2017
Profitability ratios		
Return on capital employed, %	12.8	14.4
Return on capital employed, excluding goodwill, %	14.6	16.7
Return on equity, %	9.9	11.7
Capital structure		
Capital turnover rate, times	1.9	1.9
Employees		
Net sales per employee, SEK 000	2,186	2,189
Operating earnings per employee, SEK 000	146	161
Average number of full-time employees (FTE)	1,433	1,305

DEFINITIONS

Definitions of calculated key indicators are unchanged compared to the definitions in the 2017 Annual Report.

Other key indicators not in the Annual Report or on page 13 of this interim report are explained below.

- 1) Adjusted return on capital employed: Earnings before financial expenses adjusted for non-recurring items as a percentage of average capital employed.
- 2) Adjusted return on equity: Net earnings adjusted for non-recurring items divided by average equity.

QUARTERLY DATA FOR THE GROUP

SEK MILLION	2018				2017			
	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1
Order bookings	741	723	855	779	839	691	765	720
Income statement								
Net sales	747	722	810	853	740	630	708	778
Gross profit	139	132	156	159	142	122	141	153
Earnings before depreciation (EBITDA)	71	61	80	88	76	55	76	83
EBITDA margin, %	9.6	8.4	9.8	10.4	10.2	8.7	10.8	10.6
Operating earnings (EBIT)	48	38	57	67	55	35	57	63
EBIT margin (operating margin), %	6.4	5.2	7.1	7.8	7.5	5.5	7.9	8.1
Earnings after tax	30	25	40	48	47	22	39	51
Net margin, %	4.0	3.5	4.9	5.7	6.3	3.5	5.5	6.6
Cash flow from								
operating activities	60	-15	54	26	2	21	37	-2
investing activities	-51	-34	-36	-39	-43	-40	2	26
financing activities	-16	48	-35	6	-1	26	-82	-10
Cash flow for the period	-7	-1	-17	-7	-42	7	-43	14
Earnings per share attributable to Parent Company shareholders								
Earnings per share before dilution, SEK	1.50	1.26	1.99	2.43	2.26	1.11	2.01	2.59
Number of outstanding ordinary shares								
Weighted number of outstanding ordinary shares before dilution, 000	20,216.9	20,359.7	20,359.7	20,359.7	20,359.7	20,359.7	20,359.7	20,359.7

SEK MILLION	31-12-2018	30-09-2018	30-06-2018	31-03-2018	31-12-2017	30-09-2017	30-06-2017	31-03-2017
Balance sheet								
Fixed assets	918	895	886	877	847	823	808	832
Current assets	1,420	1,433	1,386	1,428	1,331	1,189	1,161	1,205
Equity	1,514	1,515	1,498	1,533	1,454	1,381	1,367	1,420
Long-term liabilities	201	191	145	104	97	100	80	69
Current liabilities	623	622	629	668	627	531	522	548
Other								
Net cash (+)/net debt (-)	-181	-164	-118	-60	-49	-13	3	54
Adjusted net cash (+)/net debt (-)	-145	-128	-80	-22	-12	23	40	91
Equity per share attributable to Parent Company shareholders								
Equity per share before dilution, SEK	74.73	73.86	73.01	74.66	70.76	67.18	66.64	69.08
Number of outstanding ordinary shares								
Number of outstanding ordinary shares on closing date before dilution, 000	20,323.7	20,359.7	20,359.7	20,359.7	20,359.7	20,359.7	20,359.7	20,359.7
Share price								
Share price at end of period (SEK)	88.20	107.20	104.40	112.00	122.50	126.00	120.00	112.25

GROUP, 12-MONTH ROLLING

SEK MILLION	JANUARY 2018– DECEMBER 2018	OCTOBER 2017– SEPTEMBER 2018	JULY 2017– JUNE 2018	APRIL 2017– MARCH 2018	JANUARY 2017– DECEMBER 2017	OCTOBER 2016– SEPTEMBER 2017	JULY 2016– JUNE 2017	APRIL 2016– MARCH 2017	JANUARY 2016– DECEMBER 2016
Order bookings	3,098	3,196	3,164	3,074	3,015	2,920	2,831	2,738	2,717
Income statement									
Net sales	3,132	3,125	3,033	2,931	2,856	2,790	2,760	2,739	2,676
Gross profit	586	589	579	564	558	556	551	548	531
Earnings before depreciation (EBITDA)	300	304	299	295	290	285	287	282	271
EBITDA margin, %	9.6	9.7	9.8	10.1	10.1	10.2	10.4	10.3	10.1
Adjusted earnings before depreciation (EBITDA)	300	304	299	295	290	285	287	282	271
Adjusted EBITDA margin, %	9.6	9.7	9.8	10.1	10.1	10.2	10.4	10.3	10.1
Operating earnings (EBIT)	210	217	214	214	210	207	211	208	200
EBIT margin (operating margin), %	6.7	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.6	7.6	7.5
Adjusted operating earnings (EBIT)	210	217	214	214	210	207	211	208	200
Adjusted EBIT margin (operating margin), %	6.7	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.6	7.6	7.5
Earnings after tax	143	160	157	156	159	149	157	157	146
Net margin, %	4.6	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.6	5.4	5.7	5.7	5.5
Adjusted earnings after tax	143	160	157	156	159	149	157	157	146
Adjusted net margin, %	4.6	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.6	5.4	5.7	5.7	5.5
Employees									
Net sales per employee, SEK 000	2,186	2,185	2,139	2,111	2,189	2,161	2,145	2,140	2,117
Operating earnings per employee, SEK 000	146	152	151	154	161	160	164	163	158
Average number of full-time employees (FTE) on closing date	1,433	1,430	1,418	1,388	1,305	1,291	1,287	1,280	1,264
Profitability ratios									
Return on capital employed, %	12.8	14.0	14.1	13.7	14.4	13.9	15.0	14.4	13.9
Adjusted return on capital employed, % ¹⁾	12.8	14.0	14.1	13.7	14.4	13.9	15.0	14.4	13.9
Return on capital employed, excluding goodwill, %	14.6	16.0	16.2	15.8	16.7	16.1	17.4	16.7	16.2
Adjusted return on capital employed, excluding goodwill, % ¹⁾	14.6	16.0	16.2	15.8	16.7	16.1	17.4	16.7	16.2
Return on equity, %	9.9	11.3	11.2	10.9	11.7	11.5	12.4	11.9	11.5
Adjusted return on equity, % ²⁾	9.9	11.3	11.2	10.9	11.7	11.5	12.4	11.9	11.5
Other									
Net cash(+)/net debt(-)/EBITDA	-0.6	-0.5	-0.4	-0.2	-0.2	-0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1
Adjusted net cash(+)/net debt(-)/EBITDA	-0.5	-0.4	-0.3	-0.1	-0.0	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3

NOTE 1 INCOME

Bulten is engaged in manufacturing and sales of fasteners. Revenues from product sales are reported at the time the control of the product is transferred to the customer. This usually takes place at the time of delivery to the customer and ownership is transferred. Bulten's customers are mainly in the automotive industry in Europe, Asia and the United States. The tabel below refers to income by geographic market where the customer's delivery point is located. The Group has the major of its income from customers in Northern Europe, but part of the sales is then exported to other markets in the rest of the world. Customers are mainly manufacturers of light vehicles but also heavy commercial vehicles and other suppliers, so-called tiers. For heavy commercial vehicles, most of the deliveries are for critical fasteners for engines. Of the total sales, the majority goes to the chassis.

INCOME BY GEOGRAPHIC MARKET

SEK MILLION	Q4			FULL YEAR		
	2018	2017	Δ	2018	2017	Δ
Sweden	135	128	7	499	457	42
Germany	106	149	-43	545	563	-18
UK	184	227	-43	856	881	-25
Poland	7	7	-	28	27	1
Rest of Europe	208	146	62	808	588	220
China	34	25	9	137	111	26
USA	30	20	10	102	86	16
Rest of the world	43	38	5	157	143	14
Total income	747	740	7	3,132	2,856	276

INCOME BY CUSTOMER GROUP

SEK MILLION	Q4			FULL YEAR		
	2018	2017	Δ	2018	2017	Δ
OEM Light vehicle	563	566	-3	2,412	2,178	234
OEM Heavy commercial vehicle	114	106	8	437	387	50
Tiers	70	68	2	283	291	-8
Total income	747	740	7	3,132	2,856	276

INCOME BY CHASSIS AND POWERTRAIN

SEK MILLION	Q4			FULL YEAR		
	2018	2017	Δ	2018	2017	Δ
Chassis & other	558	479	79	2,345	2,054	291
Powertrain	189	261	-72	787	802	-15
Total income	747	740	7	3,132	2,856	276

RECONCILIATION BETWEEN IFRS AND KEY INDICATORS USED

Some of the information in this report used by company managers and analysts to assess the Group's development is not produced in accordance with IFRS. Company managers consider that this information makes it easier for investors to analyze the Group's results and financial structure. Investors should see this information as a complement to, rather than a replacement for, financial reporting in accordance with IFRS.

ADJUSTED NET SALES, ORGANIC GROWTH

SEK MILLION	Q4			FULL YEAR		
	2018	2017	Δ	2018	2017	Δ
Net sales	747	740	7	3,132	2,856	276
Currency effect, current period	-32	–	-32	-159	–	-159
Adjusted net sales	715	740	-25	2,973	2,856	117

When calculating adjusted net sales, organic growth, net sales are adjusted using currency effects of the current period and if necessary with net sales from completed acquisitions. This measurement gives a figure for comparing net sales with the previous year.

EARNINGS BEFORE DEPRECIATION, EBITDA

SEK MILLION	Q4			FULL YEAR		
	2018	2017	Δ	2018	2017	Δ
Operating earnings (EBIT)	48	55	-7	210	210	–
Depreciation/amortization and impairments	23	21	2	90	80	10
Operating earnings excl. depreciation (EBITDA)	71	76	-5	300	290	10

When calculating operating earnings excluding depreciation (EBITDA), depreciation and impairments are returned to operating earnings (EBIT). This measurement provides a figure for operating earnings excluding depreciation which are in turn based on investments.

ADJUSTED NET CASH/NET DEBT

SEK MILLION	31-12-2018	31-12-2017
Net cash (+)/net debt (-)	-181	-49
Less interest-bearing liabilities attributable to financial leases	36	37
Adjusted net cash (+)/net debt (-)	-145	-12

When calculating adjusted net cash/net debt, interest-bearing debt attributable to financial leases is deducted from net cash/net debt. This measurement provides a figure for a refined financial structure excluding lease liabilities.

BALANCE SHEET, PARENT COMPANY

SEK MILLION	Q4			FULL YEAR		
	2018	2017	△	2018	2017	△
Net sales	6	6	–	32	31	1
Gross profit	6	6	–	32	31	1
Administrative expenses	-6	-14	8	-46	-51	5
Operating earnings	0	-8	8	-14	-20	6
Interest expenses and similar loss items	-1	-0	-1	-3	-3	–
Earnings after net financial items	-1	-8	7	-17	-23	6
Appropriations	132	99	33	132	99	33
Earnings before tax	131	91	40	115	76	39
Tax on earnings for the period	-29	-20	-9	-26	-17	9
Earnings after tax	102	71	31	89	59	30

INCOME STATEMENT, PARENT COMPANY

SEK MILLION	31-12-2018	31-12-2017
ASSETS		
Fixed assets		
Intangible fixed assets	1	1
Tangible fixed assets	1	1
Total intangible and tangible fixed assets	2	2
Financial assets		
Participations in Group companies	1,382	1,382
Deferred tax assets	1	3
Other long-term receivables	2	–
Total financial assets	1,385	1,385
Total fixed assets	1,387	1,387
Current assets		
Current receivables from Group companies	163	106
Other current receivables	4	4
Total current assets	166	110
Total assets	1,553	1,497
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Equity		
Restricted equity	110	110
Non-restricted equity	1,005	1,014
Total equity	1,115	1,124
Long-term liabilities		
Long-term liabilities to Group companies	335	290
Total long-term liabilities	335	290
Current liabilities		
Current liabilities to Group companies	67	67
Other current liabilities	36	16
Total current liabilities	103	83
Total equity and liabilities	1,553	1,497



As announced on June 20, 2018, Anders Nyström has been appointed the new President and CEO of Bulten. He will take up the post on February 8, succeeding Tommy Andersson who is retiring after 19 successful years with Bulten.

FINANCIAL CALENDAR

April 25, 2019	Interim report January–March 2019
July 10, 2019	Half year report January–June 2019
October 24, 2019	Interim report January–September 2019
February 6, 2020	Full-year report January–December 2019

The reports can be found on the Bulten website at www.bulten.se on their date of publication.

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INVITATION TO PRESENTATION

Investors, analysts and media are invited to participate in the teleconference on February 7 at 15:30 CET. The report will be presented by Tommy Andersson, President and CEO and Helena Wennerström, Executive Vice President and CFO via audiocast.

The presentation will be held in English and can be followed live via the link: <https://tv.streamfabriken.com/bulten-q4-2018>. It will also be possible to access the audiocast afterwards at the same address or via www.bulten.com/ir.

To participate in the teleconference, please call 5 minutes before the opening:

SE: +46856642706
UK: +443333009261
US: +16467224902

This information is information that Bulten AB (publ) is obliged to make public pursuant to the EU Market Abuse Regulation. The information was submitted for publication, through the agency of the Senior Vice President Corporate Communications set out above, at 13:30 CET on February 7, 2019.

Bulten is one of the leading suppliers of fasteners to the international automotive industry. The company's product range includes everything from customer-specific standard products to customized special fasteners. The company also provides technical development, line-feeding, logistics, material and production expertise. Bulten offers a Full Service Provider concept or parts thereof. The company was founded in 1873, has some 1,400 employees in eight countries and its head office in Gothenburg. The share (BULTEN) is listed on Nasdaq Stockholm. Read more at www.bulten.se.

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