



Q2 Report 2015/16

9 December 2015

Klas Balkow  
President & CEO



# Agenda

- Q2 2015/16
- First six months 2015/16
- Events after period-end
- Future outlook
- Strategic priorities
- Q&A

**clas ohlson**

# High energy and strong position

**206** stores in  
**5** countries  
omni-channel structure

**76** million visitors  
**38** million customers

**4,700**  
service-minded  
employees

High focus on  
sustainability  
agenda

R12 sales  
**7.5** billion SEK

One of the  
**strongest brands**  
in retail in the Nordics

# Highlights

- Solid second quarter despite currency challenges
- Strong November sales gives good start to the important third quarter





Q2 2015/16  
August – October

# Sales Q2

- Sales up 5% in local currencies
- Flat LFL sales
  - Improving trend during the quarter
- Sales 1,846 MSEK, up 2%
- 10 additional stores net compared to end of period last year (11)
- 4 store openings in the quarter





Karlstad – Sweden



St Albans – UK

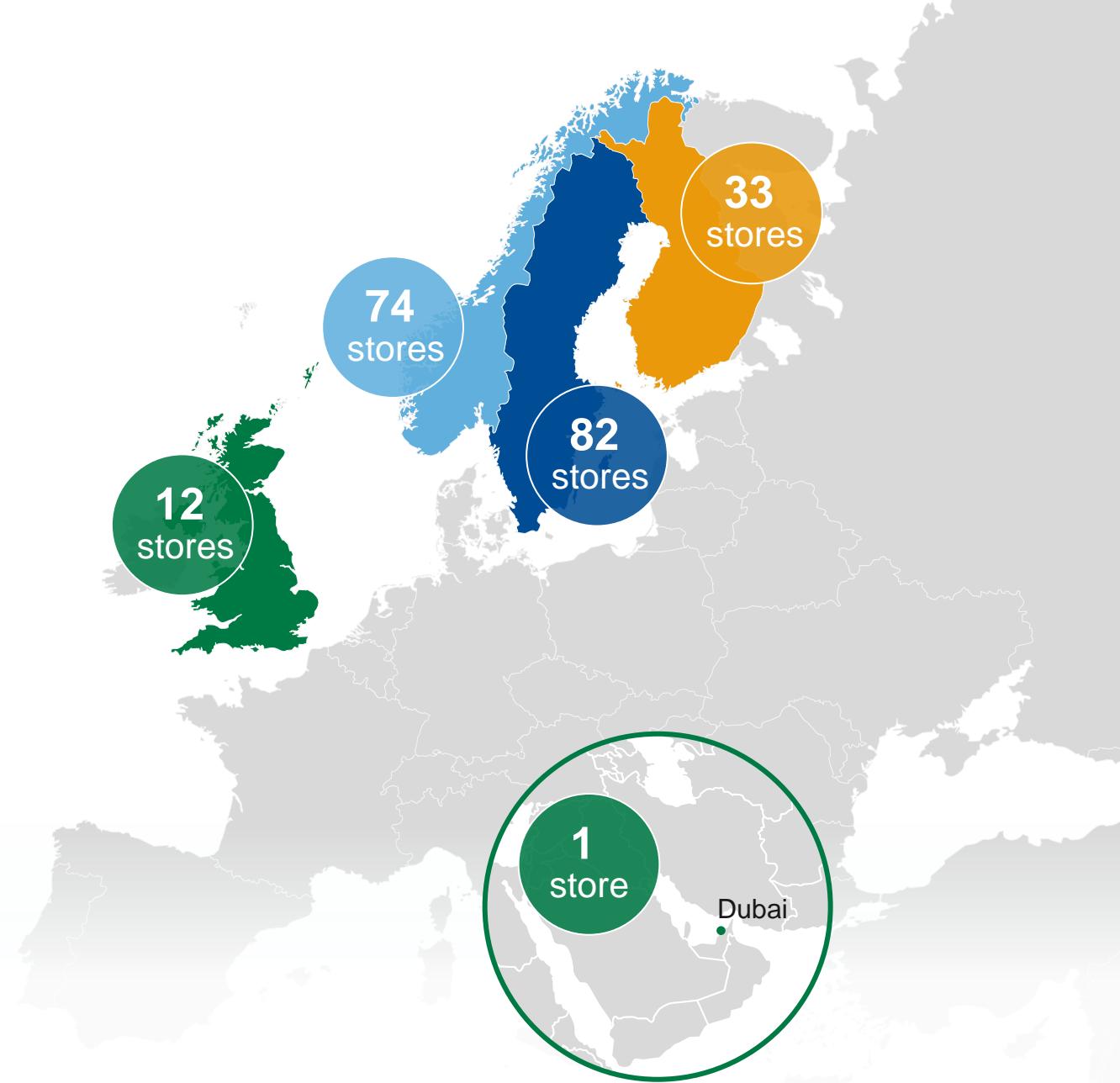
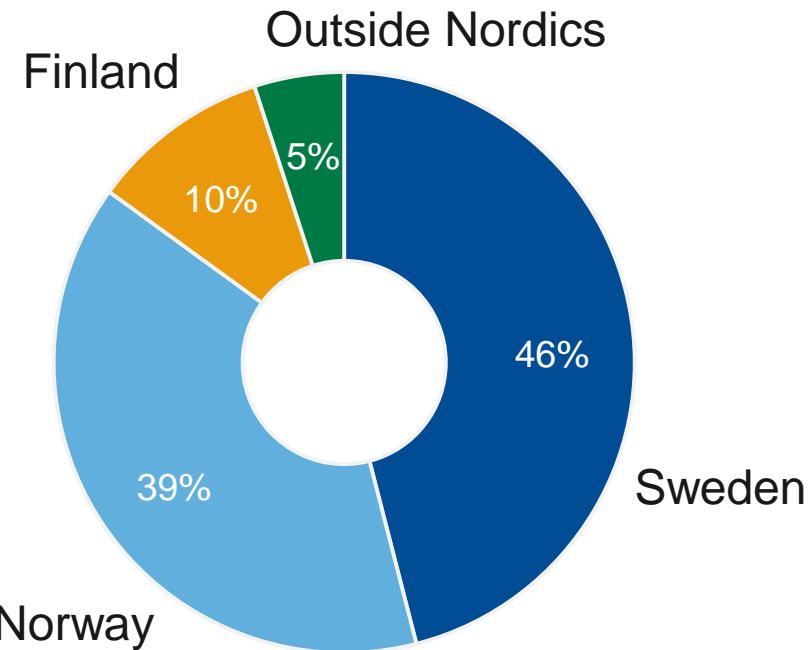


Sandefjord – Norway

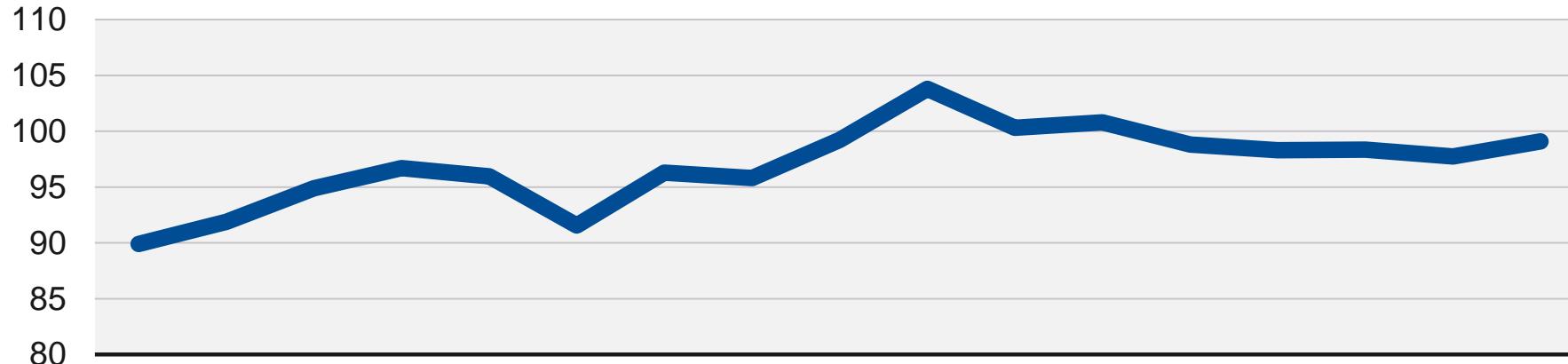


Esbo – Finland

# Sales share per market



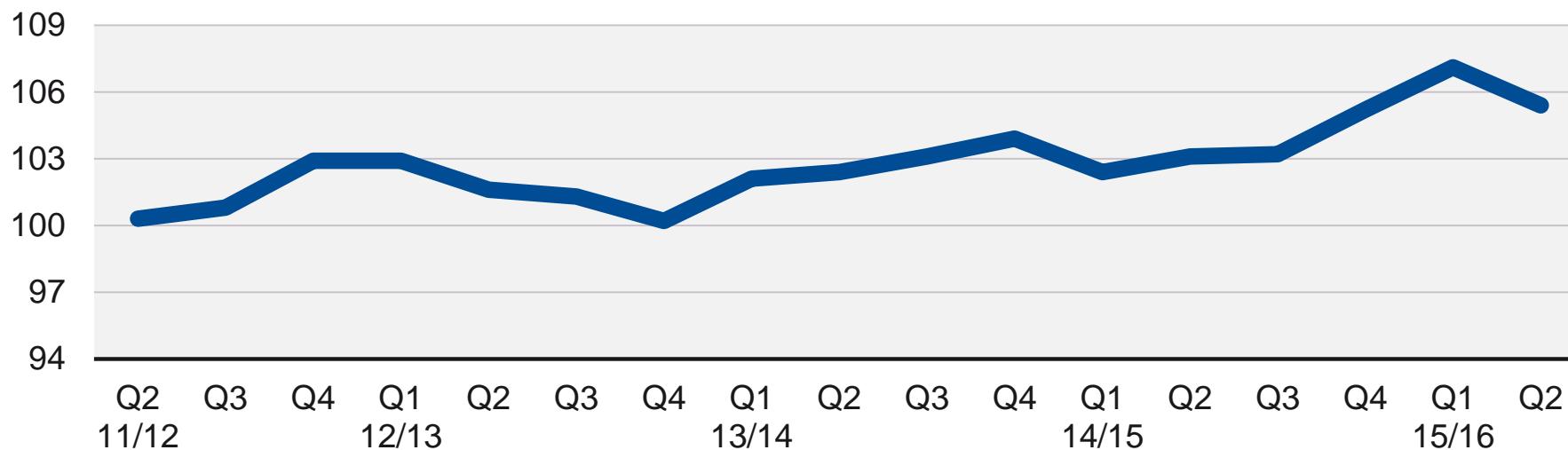
## Sweden Consumer Confidence



Source: [www.tradingeconomics.com](http://www.tradingeconomics.com)



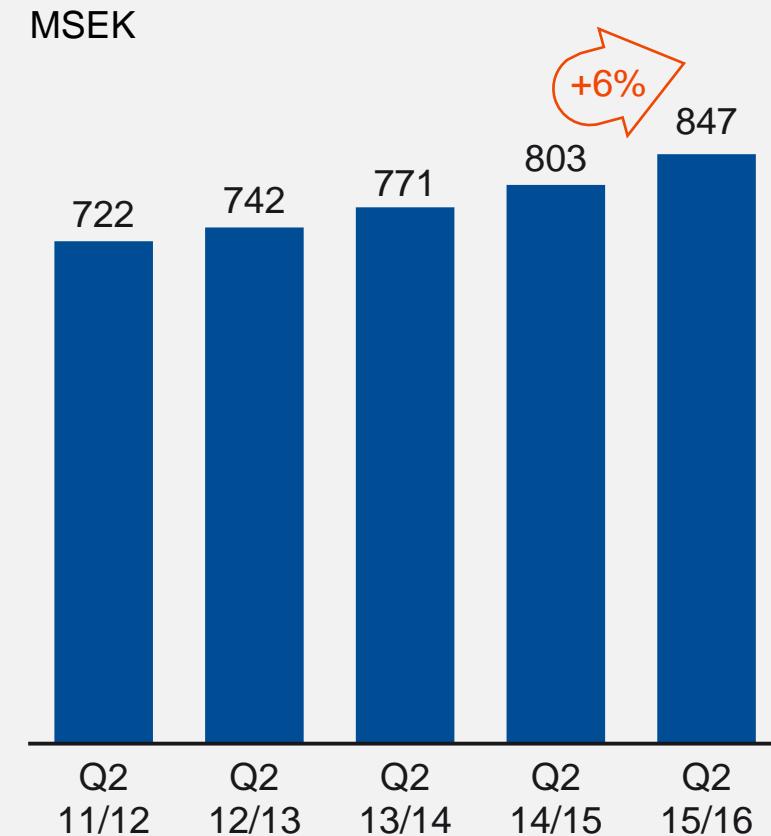
## Sweden Retail Index



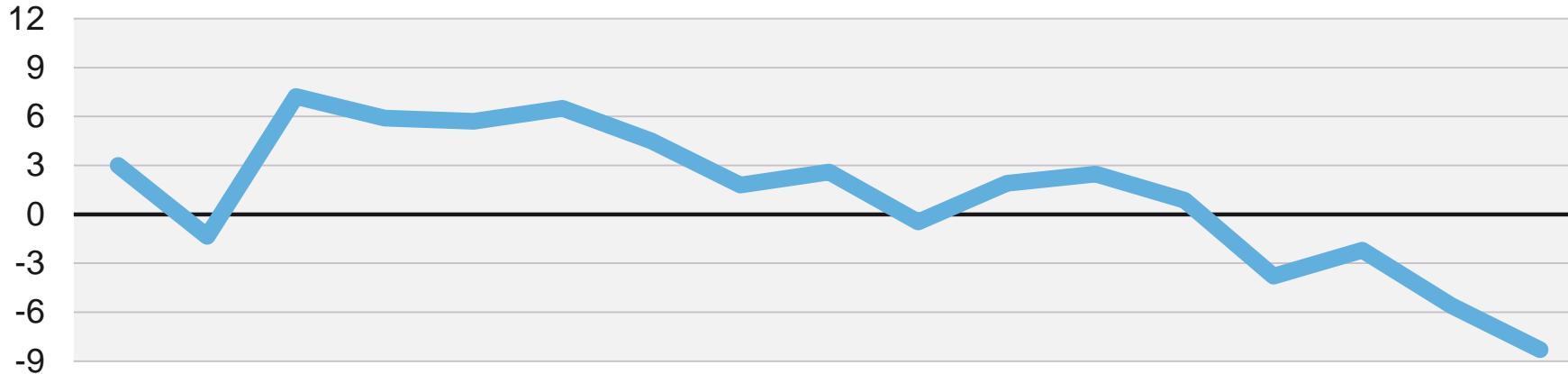
Retail index current prices  
Source: HUI

# Sweden Q2

- Sales up 6% to 847 MSEK
- Total 82 stores
  - 1 new store during Q2
  - 4 more stores compared to preceding Q2
- Maintaining market share in a strong market



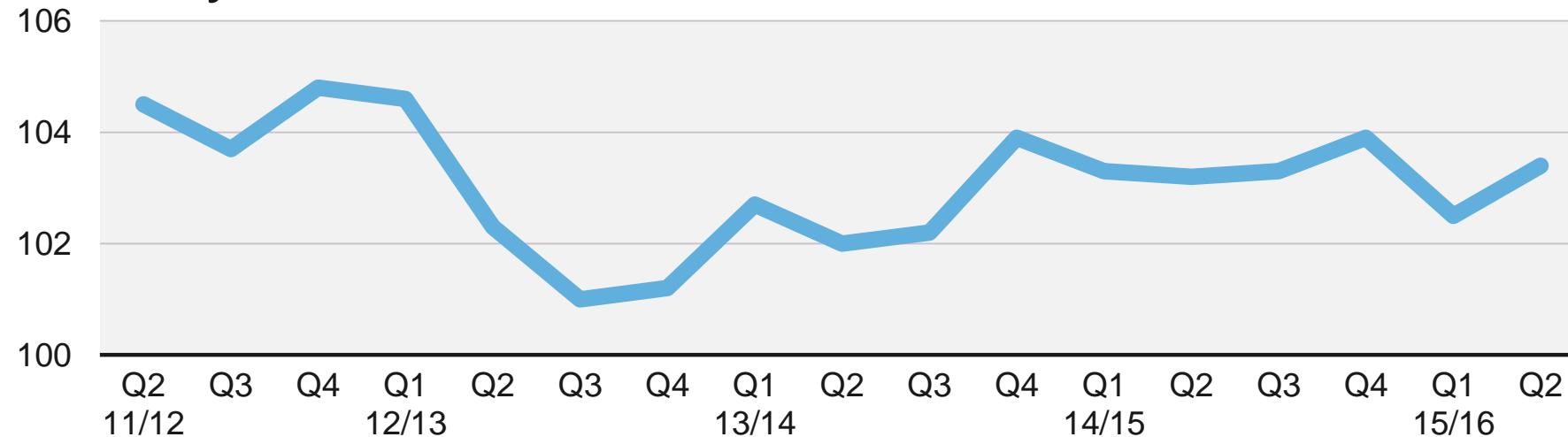
# Norway Consumer Confidence



Source: [www.tradingeconomics.com](http://www.tradingeconomics.com)



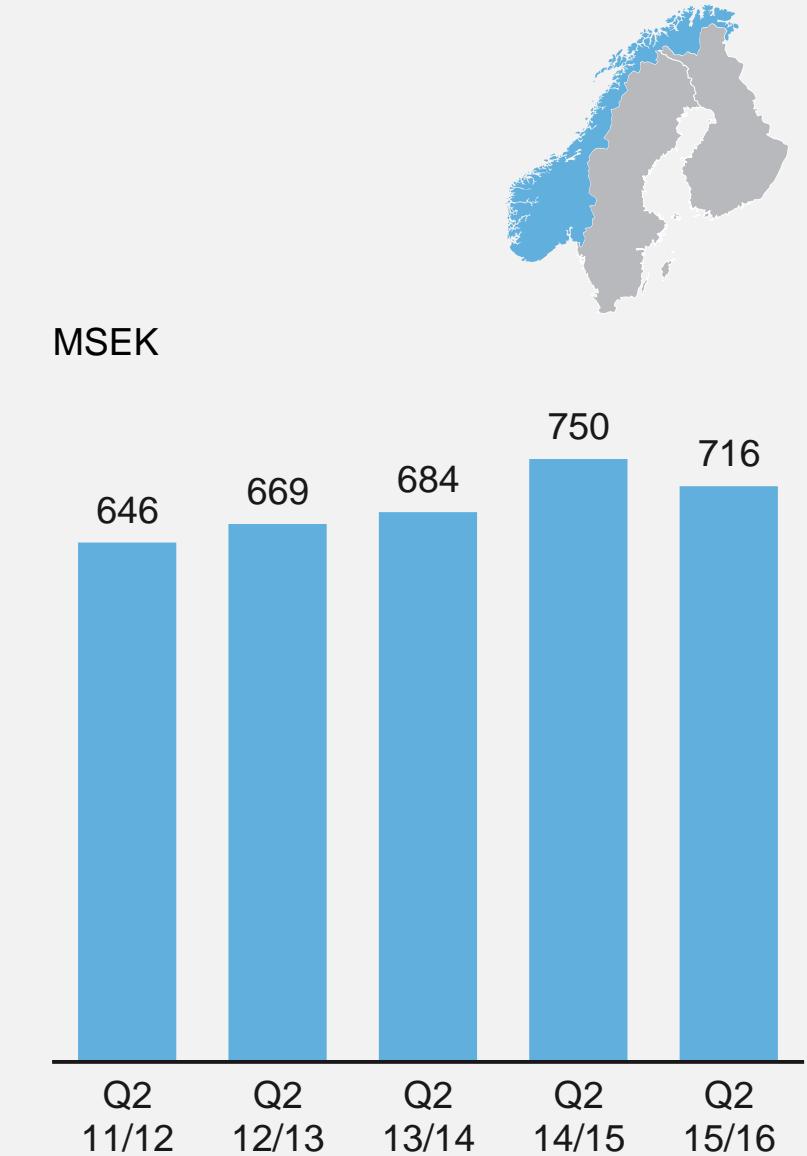
# Norway Retail Index



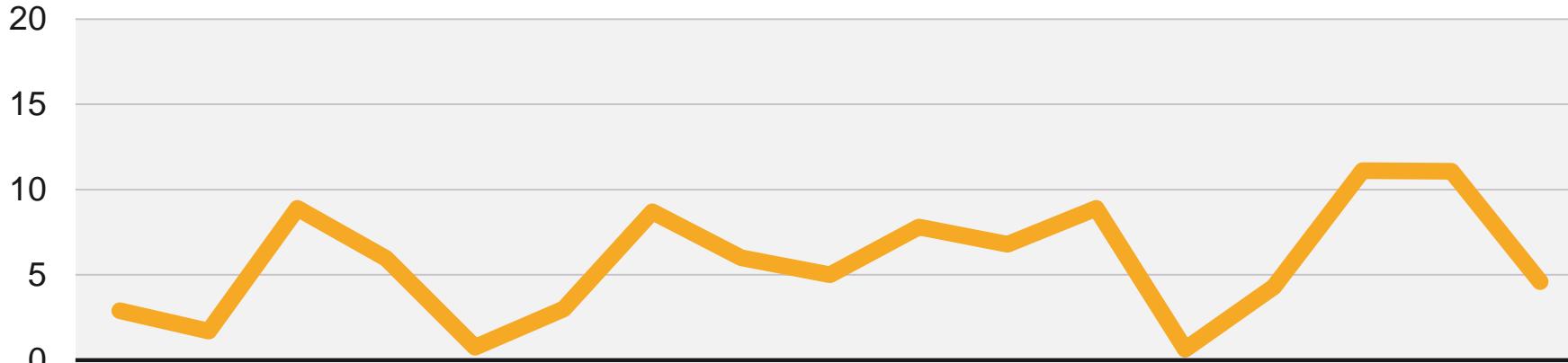
Source: SSB

# Norway Q2

- Sales up 5% in local currency
- Sales 716 MSEK, down 4%
- Total 74 stores
  - 1 new stores during Q2
  - 5 more stores compared to preceding Q2
- Increased market share in a volatile market



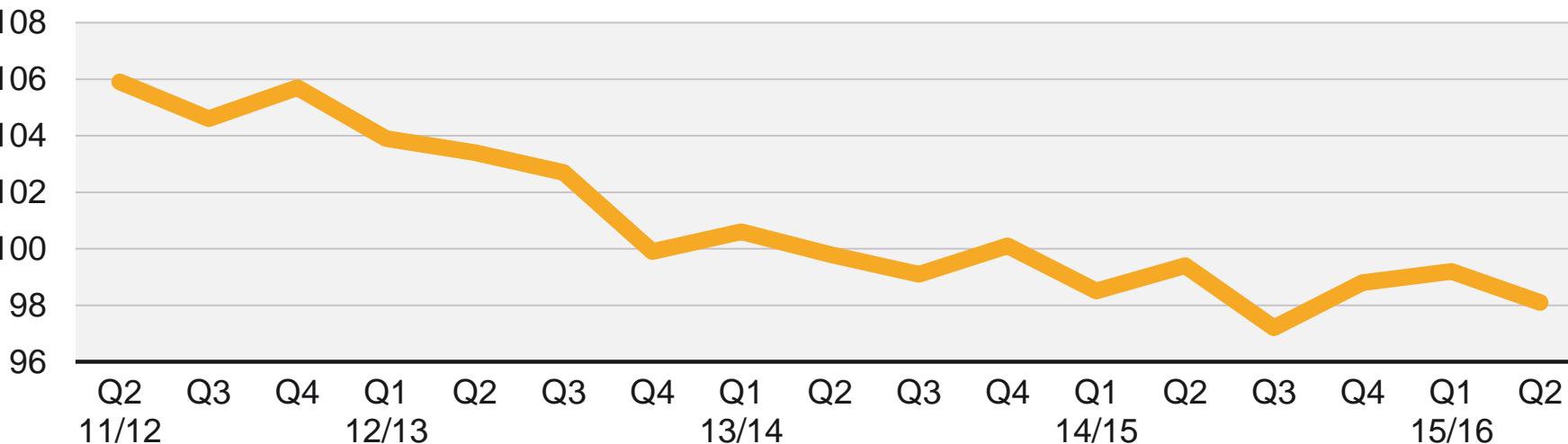
# Finland Consumer Confidence



Source: [www.tradingeconomics.com](http://www.tradingeconomics.com)



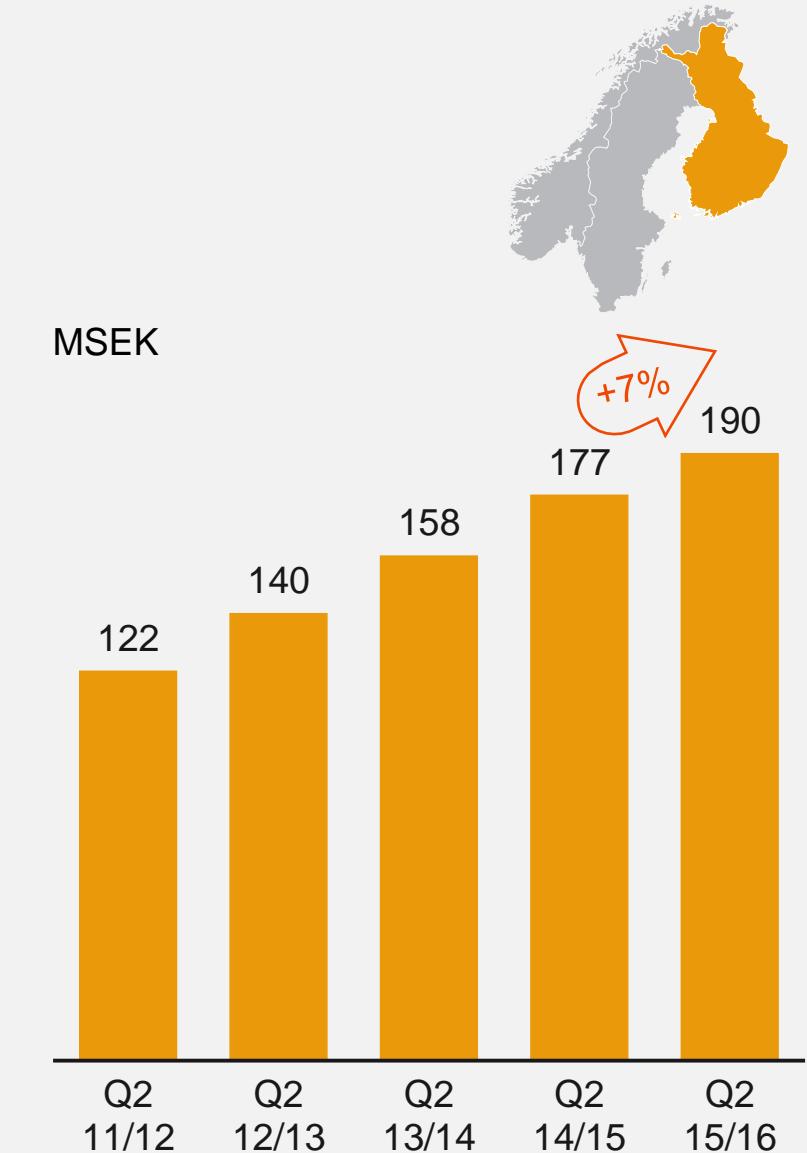
# Finland Retail Index



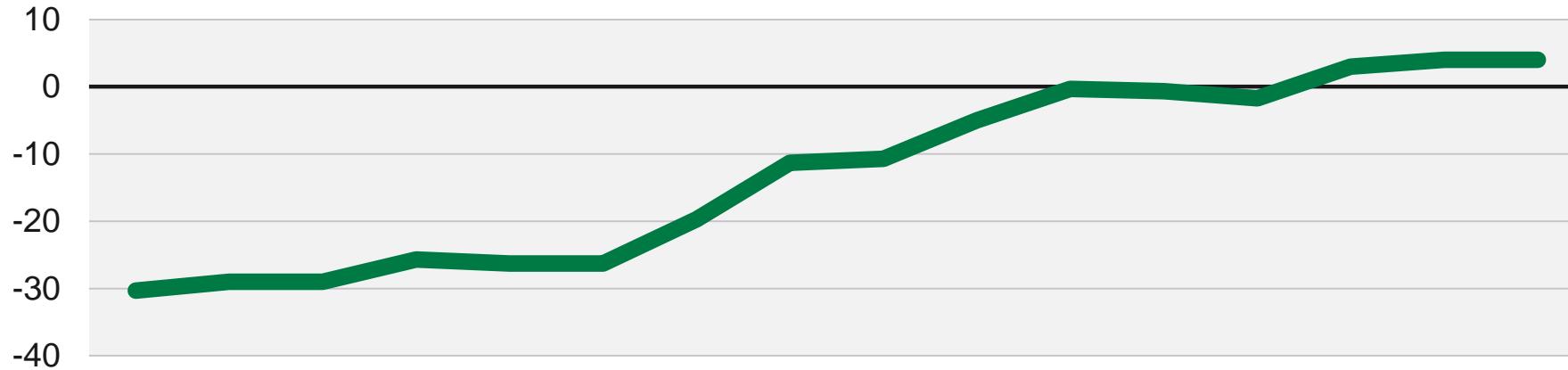
Source: Statistikcentralen

# Finland Q2

- Sales up 5% in local currency
- Sales 190 MSEK, up 7%
- Total 33 stores
  - 1 new stores during Q2
  - 1 more store compared to preceding Q2
- Increased market share and strengthened brand position in a soft market



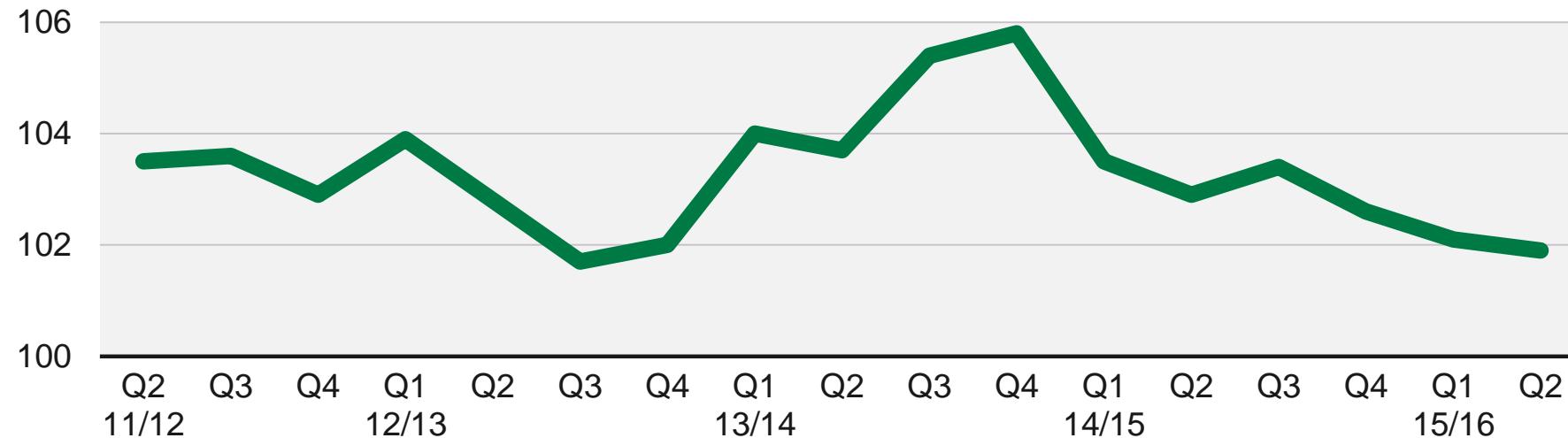
# UK Consumer Confidence



Source: [www.tradingeconomics.com](http://www.tradingeconomics.com)



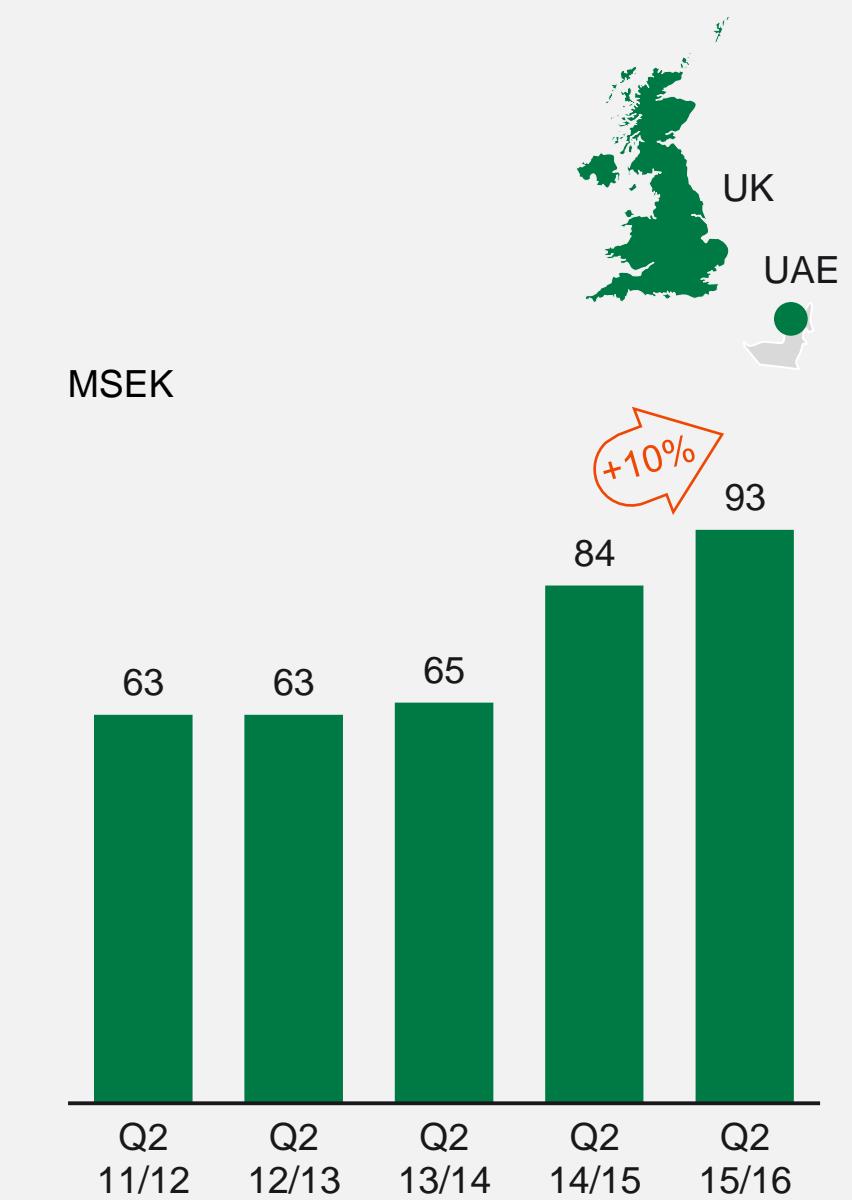
# UK Retail Index



Source: Statistikcentralen

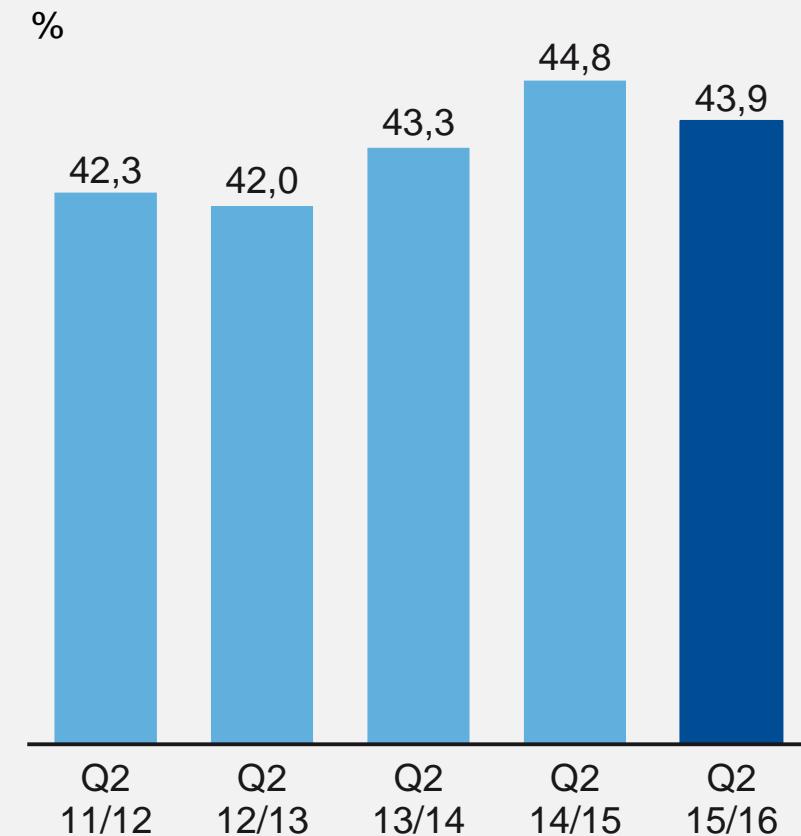
# Outside Nordic countries Q2

- Sales -1% in local currencies
- Sales 93 MSEK, up 10%
- 13 stores whereof one franchise
  - 1 new small format store opened
  - 1 store closed
  - No additional stores compared to preceding Q2
- Flat LFL sales in the UK
- Positive retail sales development in Dubai

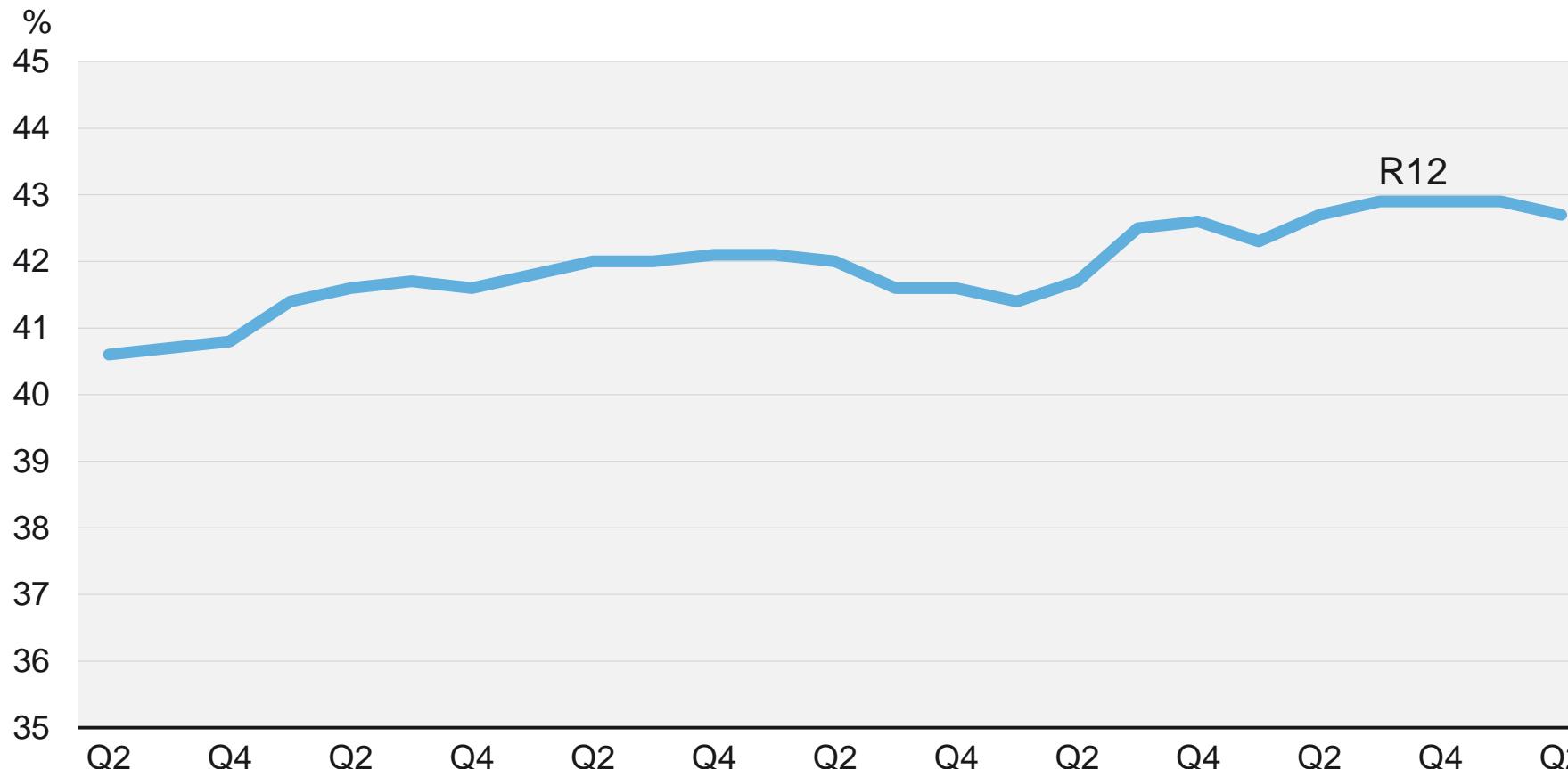


# Gross margin Q2

- Gross margin down 0.9 percentage points
- Negative currency impact
- Impact reduced by
  - sales mix
  - currency hedges NOK

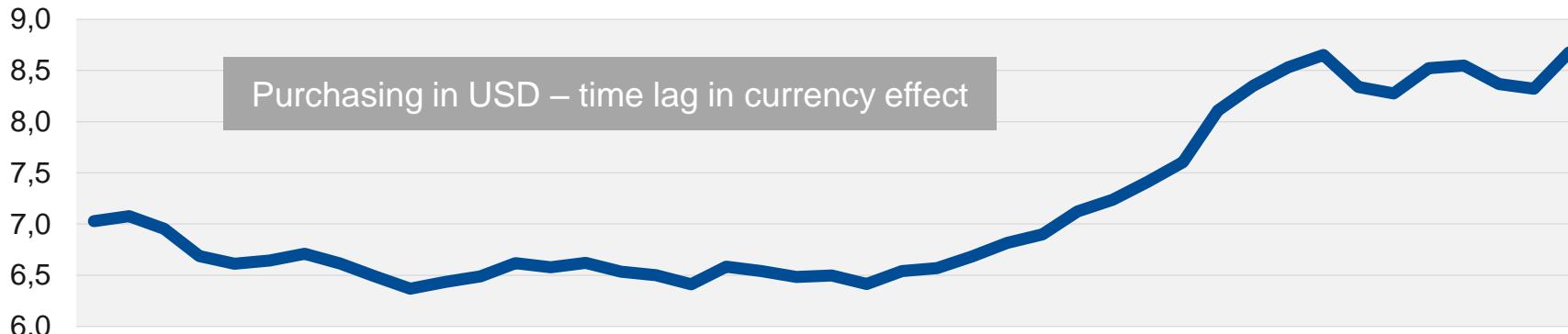


# Gross margin long-term development

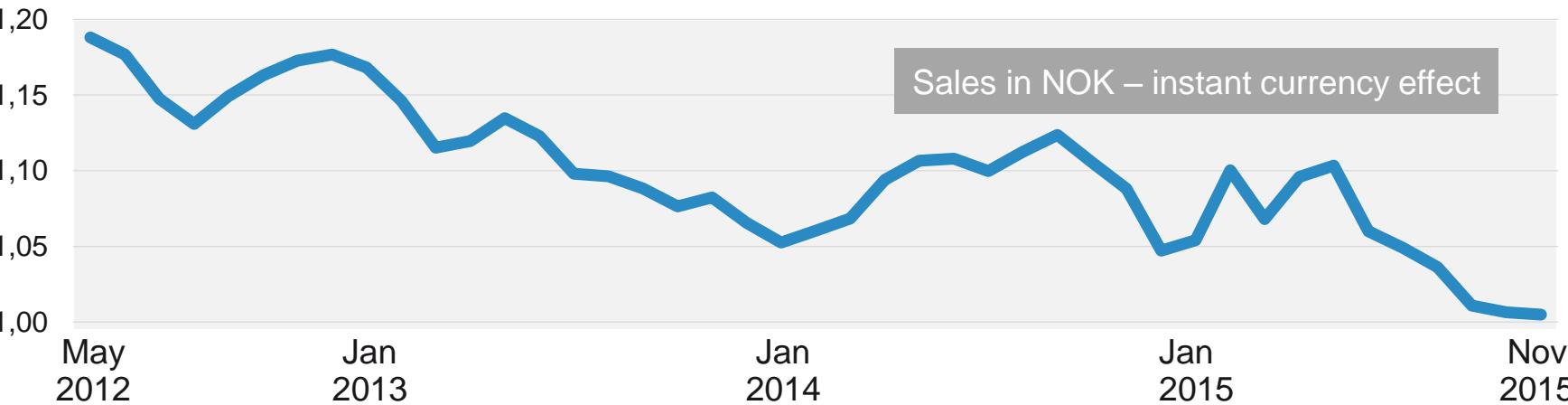


# Negative currency impact

USD/SEK



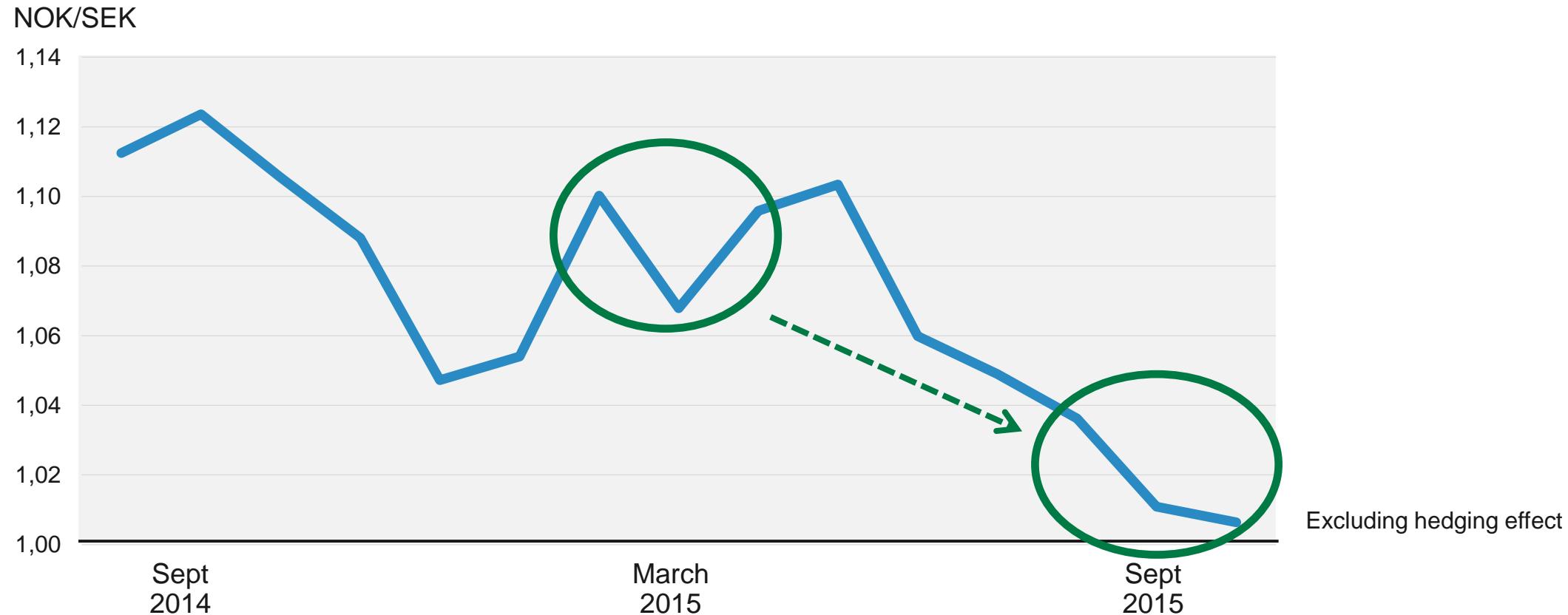
NOK/SEK



Source: Sveriges Riksbank

- Increased negative effect from strengthened USD
- Effect from further weakened NOK with immediate impact on sales and gross margin

# Contribution from currency hedging



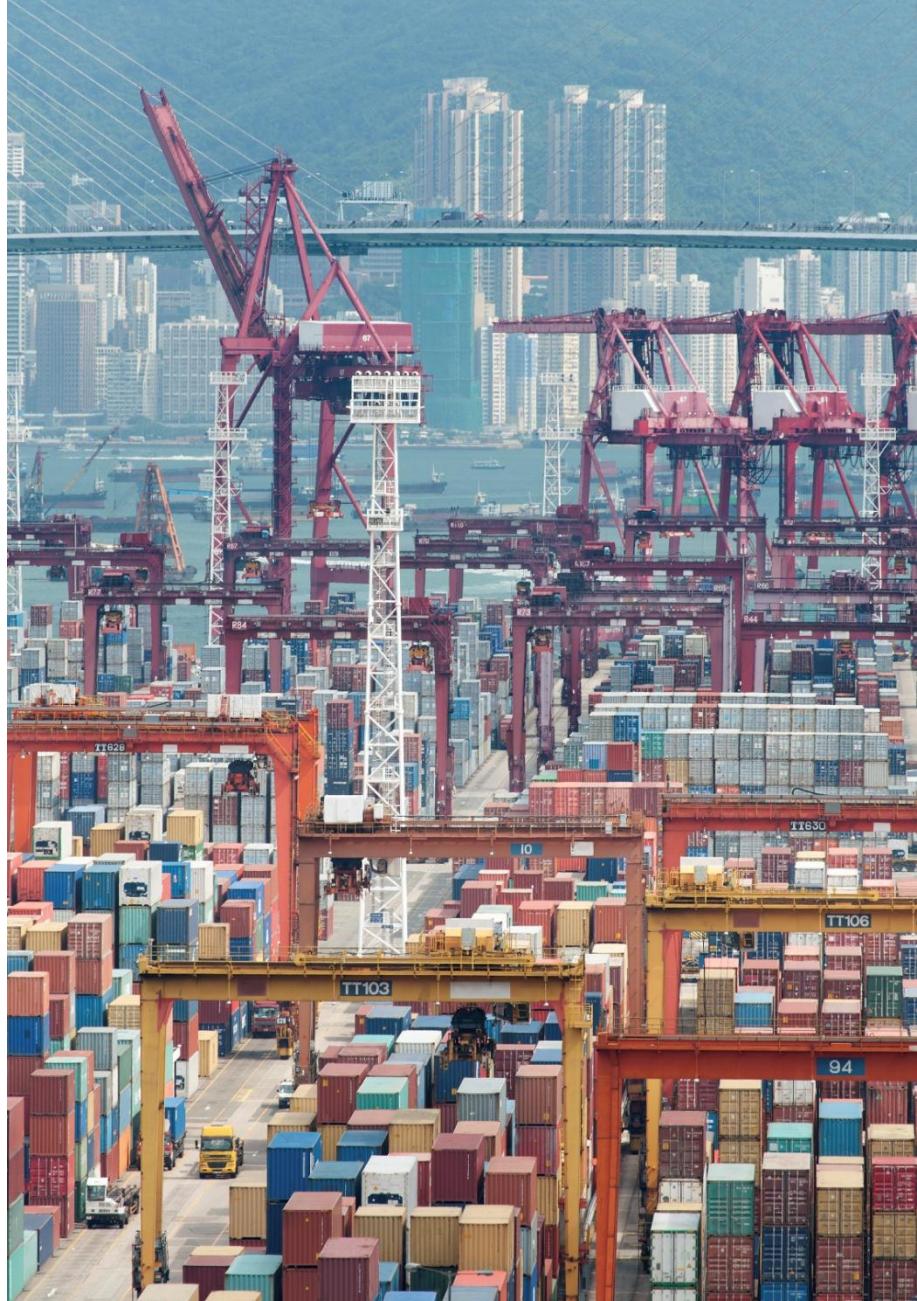
# Favourable sales mix

- Continued development of product and category mix
- Continued development of private label
- Continued pricing adjustments in line with the whole industry



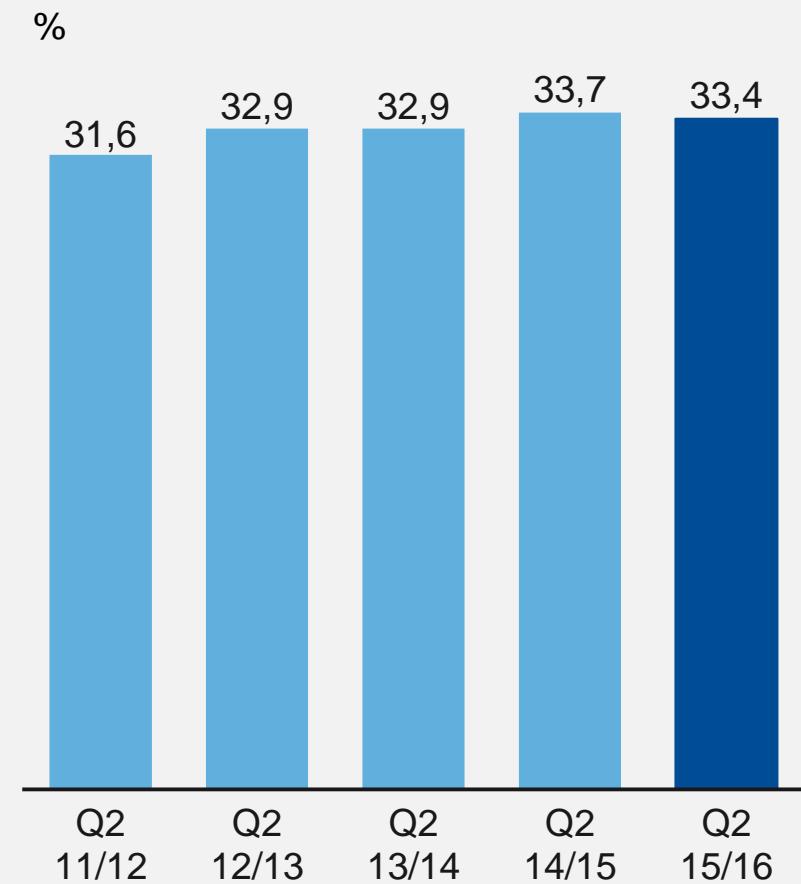
# Increased sourcing efficiency

- Increased share of direct sourcing
- Lower sourcing cost Asia
  - raw material
  - CNY currency
  - general capacity



# Share of selling expenses

- Share of selling expenses 33.4%, down 0.3 p.p. in quarter

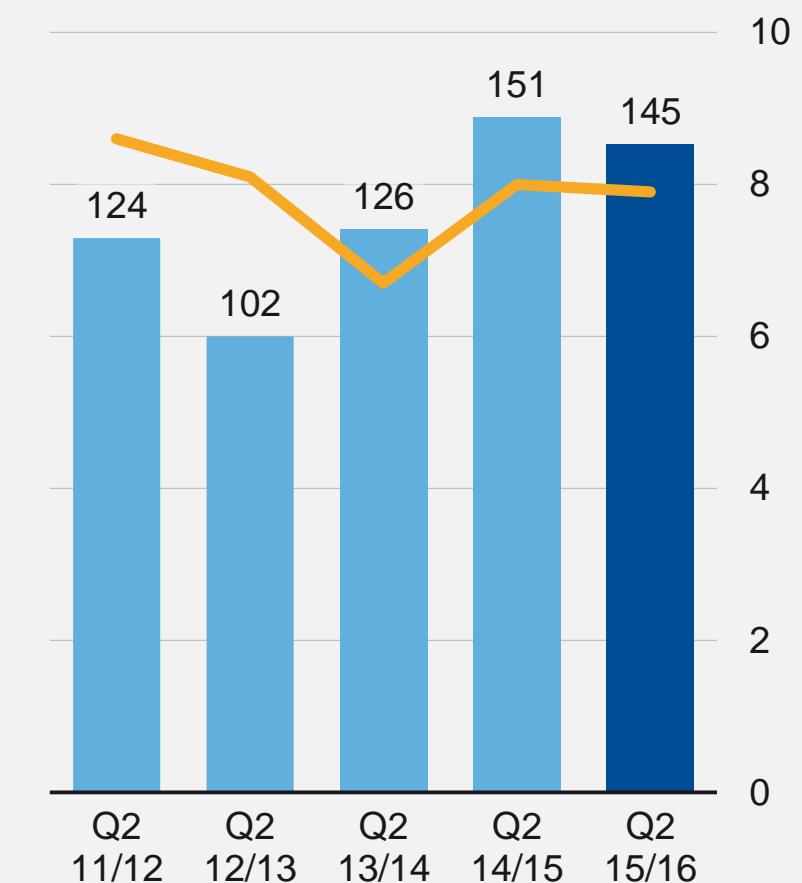


# Profit Q2

- Operating profit 145 MSEK
- Operating margin 7.8%
- Earnings per share 1.76 SEK

Operating profit, MSEK

Operating margin R12, %

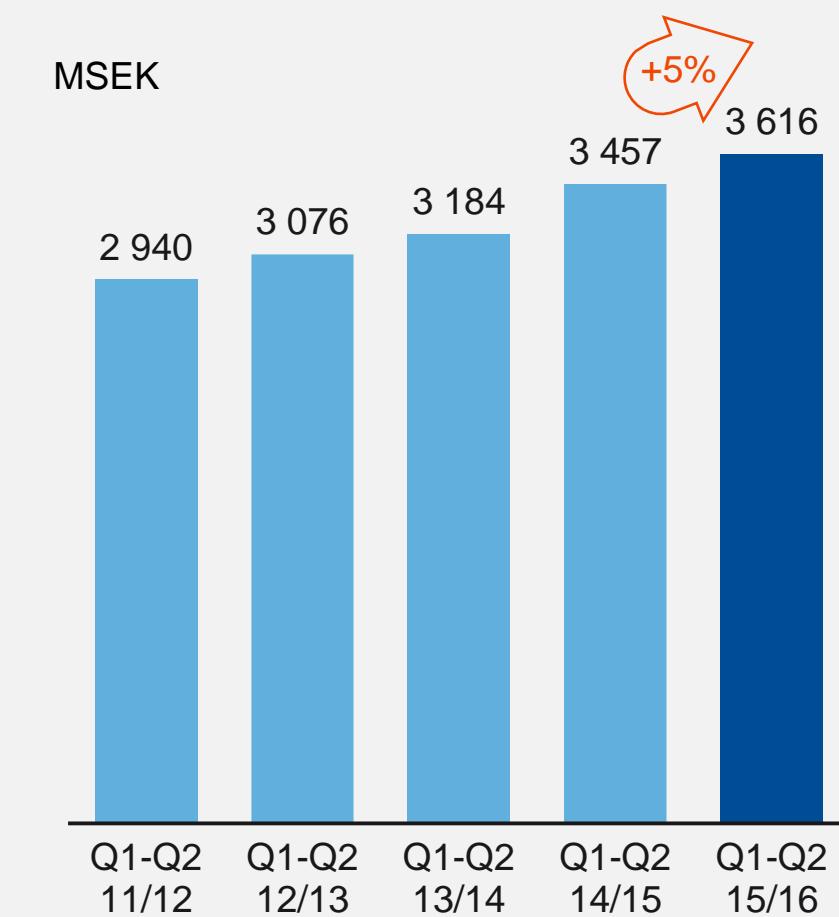


A photograph of a crowded indoor event, likely a trade show or exhibition. In the foreground, several people are seen from behind, wearing various colored shirts (yellow, green, blue, plaid). In the center-right, three women in matching blue and white checkered shirts are interacting with each other. One woman is holding a blue folder. The background is filled with more people and some red signs. The lighting is warm, and the overall atmosphere appears busy and professional.

Six months 2015/16  
May – October

# Sales Q1-Q2

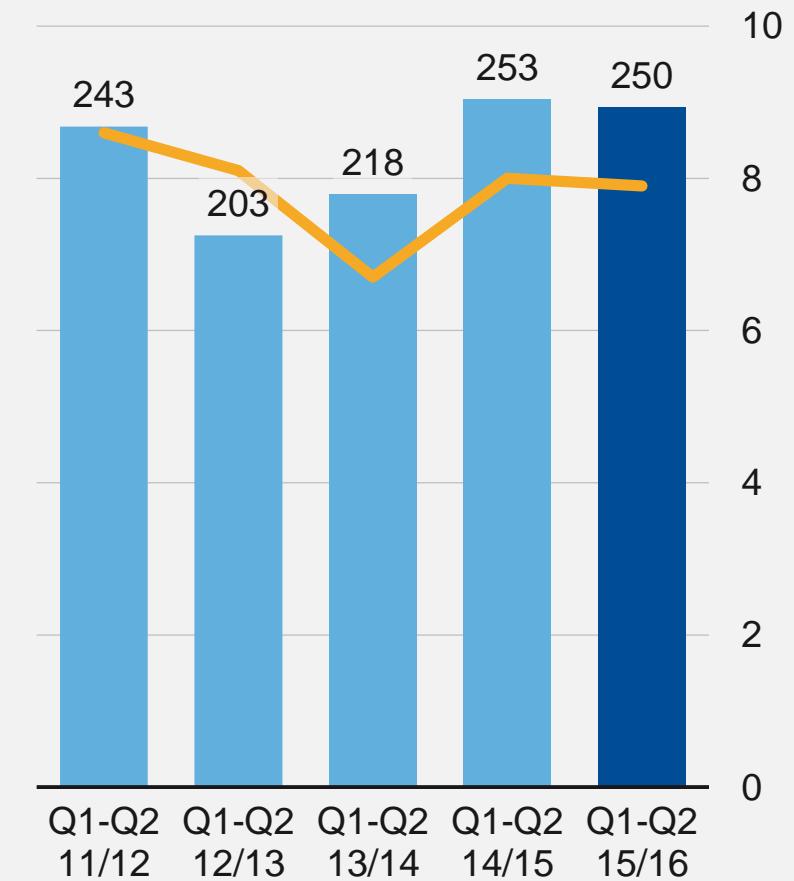
- Sales up 6% in local currencies
- LFL sales +2%
- Sales 3,616 MSEK, up 5%
- 10 additional stores net compared to end of period last year (11)



# Profit Q1-Q2

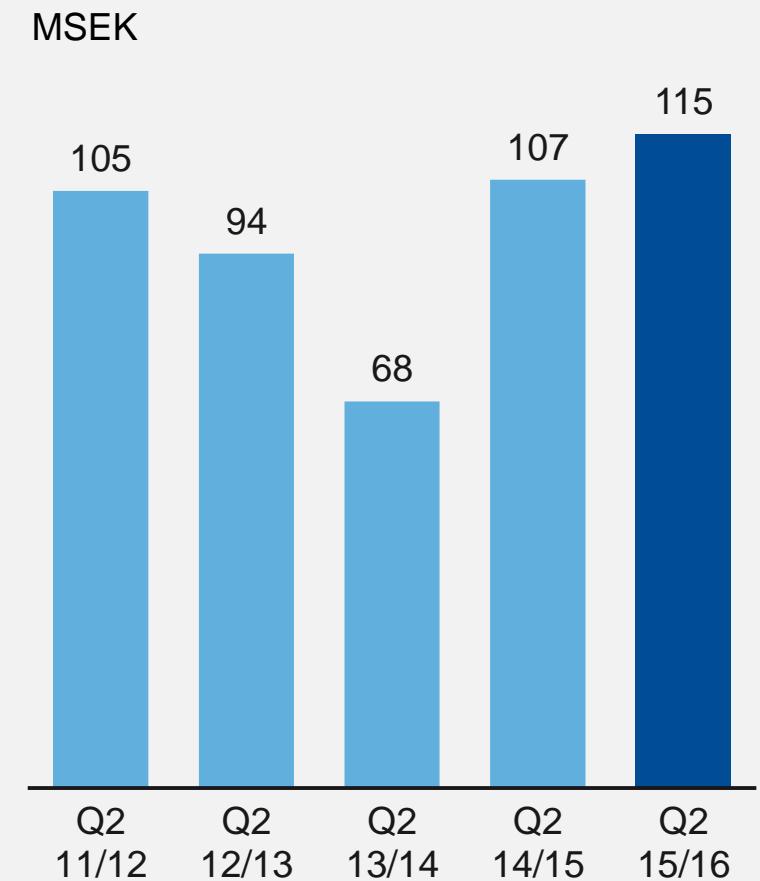
- Operating profit 250 MSEK
- Operating margin 6.9%
- Earnings per share 3.03 SEK

Operating profit, MSEK  
Operating margin R12, %



# Investments Q1-Q2

- Total investments 115 MSEK (107)
- New stores and refurbishments 40 MSEK (48)
- IT-systems 56 MSEK (46)
  - Implementation of new IT-platform
  - Other IT developments



# Strong cash flow

- Cash flow operating activities was 322 MSEK (272)
  - Inventory 1,764 MSEK (1,609)
  - Inventory turnover rate DC 6.4 (7.0)
- Cash flow after investments and financing activities of -155 MSEK (-147)
- Net cash holdings of 354 MSEK (213)





Events after period-end

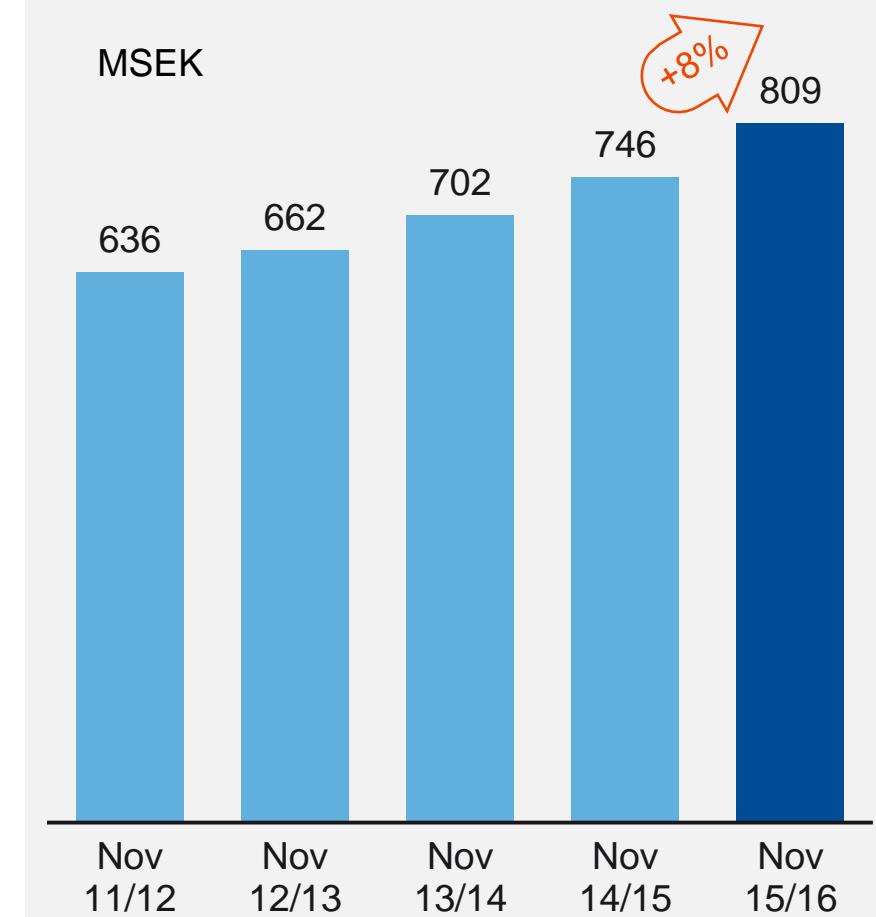
# Energy in all sales channels

- Good start to Christmas season
- High activity in all sales channels and markets



# November sales

- Sales 809 MSEK, up 8%
- Sales up 11% in local currencies
  - Sweden + 10%
  - Norway + 12%
  - Finland + 19%
  - Outside Nordic countries - 3%
- 9 additional stores compared to end of November last year (14)
- 4 store openings after period end





4 November

Åbo – Finland



Löddeköpinge – Sweden



12 November

Mall of Scandinavia – Solna, Sweden



3 December

Ealing – UK

# Strong loyal customer base

1 982 977

members

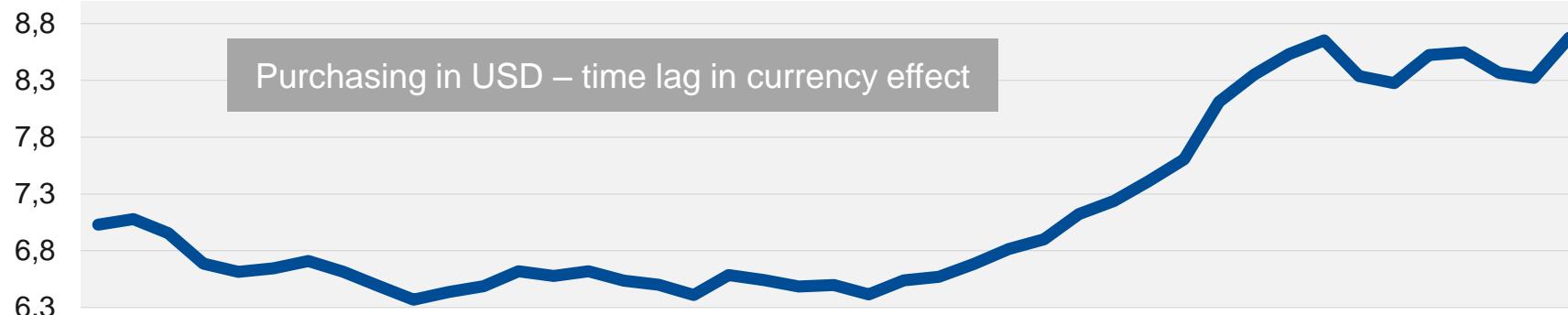




Future outlook

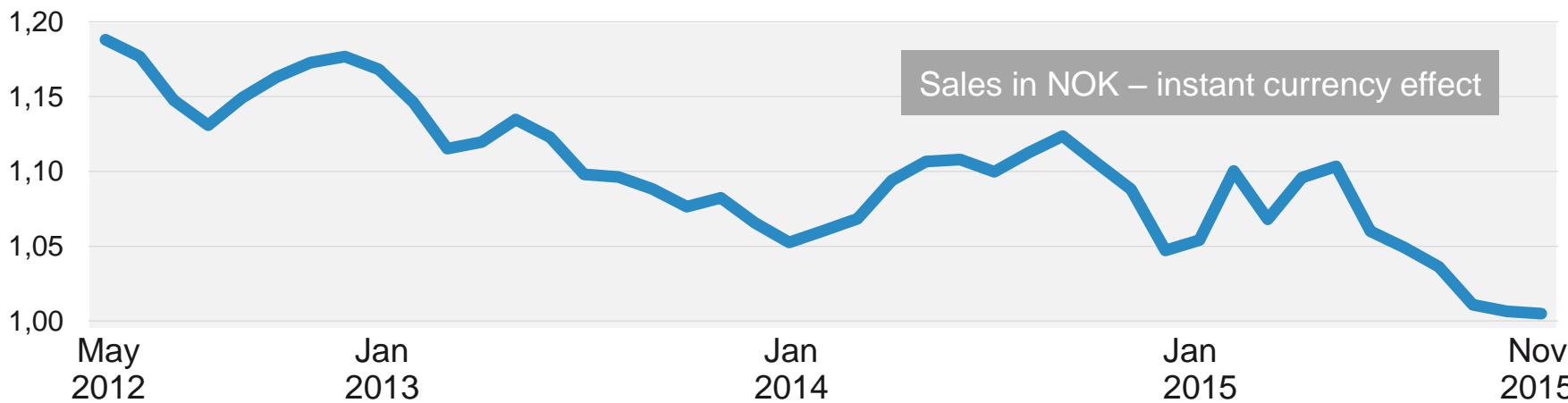
# Continued challenge going forward

USD/SEK



- Strengthened USD
- Weakened NOK
- Less positive effect from currency hedges going forward

NOK/SEK



Source: Sveriges Riksbank

# Counteracting measures

- 1 Monitor price development
- 2 Optimise sales mix
- 3 Increase sourcing efficiency



## Update on strategic priorities

**More than you  
see in store**

Our entire range isn't  
displayed on our shelves.  
We have a lot more in stock,  
just ask a member of staff to  
find what you're looking for.

**20% off**  
everything in  
store today  
Off marked price

# Sales channel development

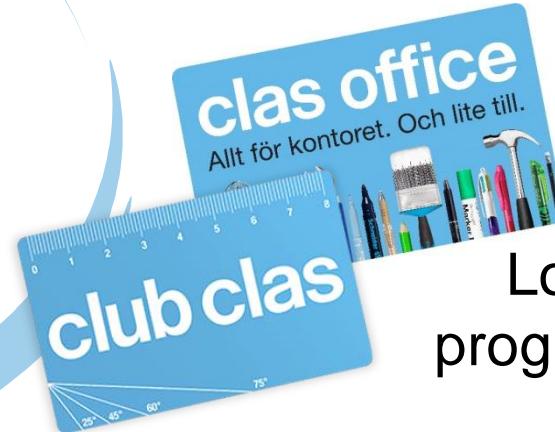
Stores



Catalogue/Phone



Social media



Loyalty  
programmes

Online



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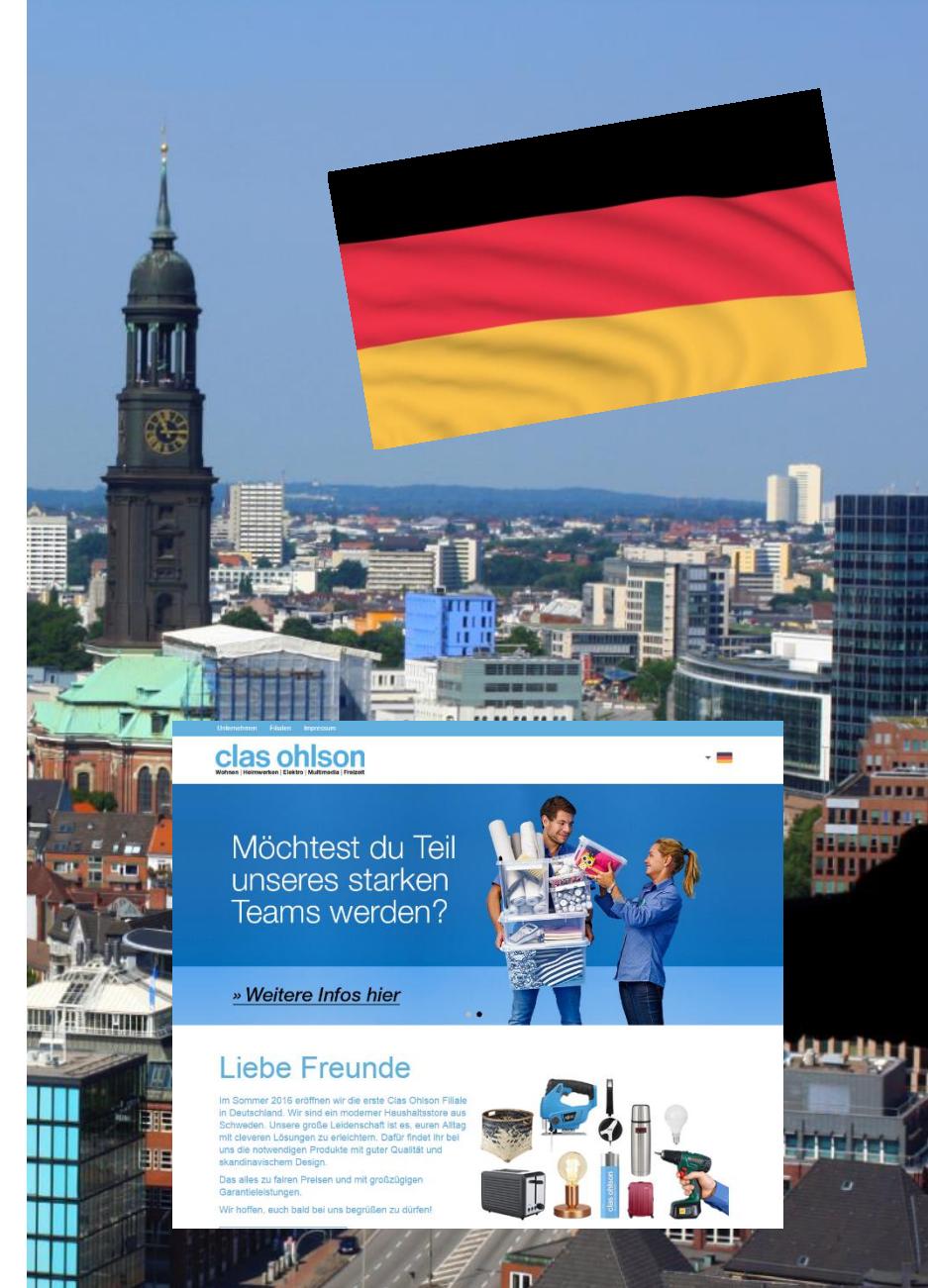
# Next steps in the UK

- Next step in UK expansion plan
  - New smaller store format cluster in London region
  - New stores in St Albans and Ealing opened
- Optimising store network



# High interest for German expansion

- Three stores contracted to open in Hamburg
  - Jungfernstieg to open Summer 2016
  - Altona to open Autumn 2016
  - Alstertal to open Autumn 2016
- Preparations according to plan





## Summary Q2 15/16

- Solid second quarter
- Strong November sales
- Strong financial position



Merry Christmas  
and  
Happy New Year

Questions & Answers  
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[www.clasohlson.com](http://www.clasohlson.com)