

Clas Ohlson increase sales in January

Sales in January increased by 4 per cent compared with January last year, corresponding to an organic growth of 2 per cent. For this fiscal year's first nine months organic sales growth is in line with the growth target of 5 per cent. Clas Ohlson's online sales growth amounted to 29 per cent in January and 51 per cent for the nine month period.

January sales increased by 4 per cent to 621 MSEK (596). Organic sales increased by 2 per cent compared with the preceding year. Sales in January in comparable units and local currency is unchanged. Sales online in January increased by 29 per cent to 29 MSEK (22). Compared with January last year, the store portfolio was expanded net by 14 stores. At the end of the month, the total number of stores was 238.

Countries, MSEK	January 2018/19	January 2017/18	Percentage change	Organic growth
Sweden	268	263	2	2
Norway	255	237	8	4
Finland	76	76	0	-4
Outside Nordic Countries**	22	19	13	9
	621*	596	4	2

* Of which 29 MSEK (22) comprises online sales.

** Effected by store optimization in the UK, the store in Croydon closed 16 August 2018.

Total sales for the first nine months of fiscal year 2018/19 (May 2018 to January 2019) increased by 8 per cent to 7,030 MSEK (6,528). Organic sales increased by 5 per cent. Sales in comparable units and local currency increased by 2 per cent. Online sales for the period increased by 51 per cent to 337 MSEK (223).

Total sales for the third quarter 2018/19 (November 2018 to January 2019) increased by 6 per cent to 2 915 MSEK (2 746). Organic sales increased by 4 per cent. Sales in comparable units and local currency increased by 2 per cent. Online sales for the period increased by 51 per cent to 148 MSEK (98).

The interim report for the third quarter of 2018/19 will be published at 7:00 CET on Wednesday 13 March 2019. The report will be presented on the same day at 09:00 in Clas Ohlson's store at Sveavägen 52 in Stockholm, Sweden.

For further information, please contact: Elisabet Johansson, Interim IR manager +46 72 221 16 50.

This is information that Clas Ohlson 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 contact person set out above, at 7:00 am CET on 15 February 2019.

Clas Ohlson was founded in 1918 as a mail order business in Insjön, Sweden. Today we are a retail company with customers in five markets, approximately 5,000 co-workers and annual sales of approximately 8 billion SEK. Our share is listed on Nasdaq Stockholm. A lot has happened since the start in 1918, but one thing has remained the same over the years; that we want to help and inspire people to improve their everyday lives by offering smart, simple, practical solutions at attractive prices. Visit about.clasohlson.com to read about our passion for simplifying life in all kinds of homes.