

Clas Ohlson's sales in September decreased by 8 per cent

Sales in September decreased by 8 per cent to 629 MSEK (681). Organic sales decreased by 3 per cent compared to the previous year. Sales in comparable units and local currency decreased by 3 per cent compared to the previous year. Compared to September last year, more trading days resulted in a positive calendar effect of approximately 2 percentage points. Online sales decreased by 6 per cent to 42 MSEK (45). Compared to the same month last year, the store network was reduced by three stores. At the end of the period the total number of stores was 228 (231).

Distribution of sales	Month			Accumulated		
	September	Change		May- September	Change	
MSEK	2020/21	SEK	Organic	2020/21	SEK	Organic
Sweden	286	-7%	-7%	1,515	-3%	-3%
Norway	264	-4%	7%	1,469	3%	16%
Finland	75	-17%	-15%	385	-10%	-8%
Outside the Nordics*	4	-45%	-43%	22	-53%	-52%
Total	629	-8%	-3%	3,392	-2%	3%
Of which online	42	-6%	-2%	274	42%	48%

^{*} Affected by store closures in the UK and Germany.

Total sales for the period May-September 2020 decreased by 2 per cent to 3,392 MSEK (3,465). Organic growth was 3 per cent. Sales in comparable units and local currency increased by 4 per cent. Online sales for the period increased by 42 per cent to 274 MSEK (193).

Lotta Lyrå, President and CEO: After a strong summer, the reduced customer traffic which we have seen since the outbreak of the pandemic during spring, has now had a clear impact on sales. To counterbalance this development, we have put even greater focus on cost control with the goal of maintaining good profitability despite weaker sales.

The decrease in online sales in September should be seen in the light of the fact that we implemented a completely new inventory management system during the period. In order to do this in a controlled manner, and well before the most important sales period of the year, we were restrictive with market investments. Also the temporarily longer delivery times in connection with the system implementation have affected online sales.

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Clas Ohlson was founded in 1918 as a mail order business based in Insjön, Dalarna, Sweden. Today, we are a retail company with customers in five markets, approximately 4,500 co-workers, and annual sales of approximately 8.8 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/en to read about us and our passion for simplifying life in all kinds of homes.