

Clas Ohlson increase sales in September

Sales in September increased by 6 per cent compared with September last year, corresponding to an organic growth of 2 per cent. For this fiscal year's first five months organic growth is in line with the growth target of 5 per cent. Clas Ohlson's online sales growth in September amounted to 38 per cent.

September sales increased by 6 per cent to 677 MSEK (640). Organic sales increased by 2 per cent compared with the preceding year. Sales in September in comparable units and local currency decreased by 2 per cent. In September sales were negatively impacted by a calendar effect of approximately 2 percentage points due to a lower number of trading days than in the year-earlier period. Online sales in September increased by 38 per cent to 30 MSEK (22).

Compared with September last year, the store portfolio was expanded net by 15 stores. At the end of the period, the total number of stores was 235.

Countries, MSEK	September 2018/19	September 2017/18	Percentage change	Organic growth
Sweden	292	289	1	1
Norway	278	251	11	4
Finland	84	78	8	-2
Outside Nordic Countries**	23	22	6	-3
	677*	640	6	2

* of which 30 MSEK (22) comprises online sales.

** Effected by store optimization in the UK, the store in Croydon closed 180816

Total sales for the first five months of fiscal year 2018/19 (May to September 2018) increased by 9 per cent to 3,360 MSEK (3,094). Organic sales increased by 5 per cent. Sales in comparable units and local currency increased by 1 per cent. Online sales for the period increased by 49 per cent to 148 MSEK (99).

The interim report for the second quarter of 2018/19 will be published at 7:00 CET on Wednesday 5 December 2018. The report will be presented at 8:30 CET the same day.

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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 October 2018.

Clas Ohlson was founded in 1918 as a mail order business based in Insjön, Sweden. This year, we are celebrating 100 years as a business with customers in five markets, more than 5,000 co-workers and annual sales of above 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. Read more about our history on clasohlson100.com/en or visit about.clasohlson.com for current events and information.