

PANDORA pulls down Axcel's investment result for 2011 but three good exits return more than DKK 1.4bn to investors

Axcel's performance in 2011 was hit by the fall in PANDORA's share price, which led to a net investment loss of almost DKK 7bn. Excluding PANDORA, there was an investment profit of almost DKK 100 million, giving a return on invested capital of around 4%. By way of comparison, the Copenhagen Stock Exchange's OMXC20 blue-chip index fell 15% over the year. Dividend income and the sale of three companies at the beginning of 2011 enabled Axcel to pay out more than DKK 1.4bn to investors. In isolation, the recovery in PANDORA's share price from the beginning of 2012 restored more than DKK 500m to the value of Axcel's holding during the first two months of the year.

Axcel made an investment loss of DKK 6,927m in 2011, due largely to its holding in PANDORA, whose share price plummeted on 2 August after a profit warning was issued for 2011. This needs to be seen in the light of a positive result of DKK 11,587m in 2010, which was also greatly affected by movements in PANDORA's share price following its flotation that year.

If we ignore the holding in PANDORA, a more nuanced picture of Axcel's investment performance in 2011 emerges. Portfolio companies heavily exposed to the Danish market were hit by the downturn in domestic demand, while the remainder coped well with turbulent market conditions. Excluding PANDORA, there was a net increase in the value of Axcel's portfolio companies of almost DKK 100m.

Axcel also owns four companies in Sweden. These performed well in 2011, thanks partly to growth of more than 4% in the Swedish economy.

Axcel completed four transactions in the first half of the year: the acquisition of Cimbria and the sale of HusCompagniet, Netcompany and EskoArtwork. Thanks to these exits and dividend income from the holding in PANDORA, Axcel was able to pay out DKK 1,434m to investors. The new fund Axcel IV also reached its target of committed capital of DKK 3.6bn and has now made three investments: Cimbria, Nordic Waterproofing and Mita-Teknik.

Axcel's results in 2012 are also expected to be heavily influenced by movements in PANDORA's value, with every DKK 10 change in its share price increasing or decreasing Axcel's investment result by just over DKK 300m. To date, Axcel has paid out DKK 11.8bn to investors, and the 14 companies held at the end of 2011 had a book value in excess of DKK 4bn. Further information about Axcel's performance and results will be available in our annual review due out in May 2012.

AXCELS INVESTERINGSRESULTATER – 5-ÅRS-OVERSIGT						AXCELS INDBETALINGER OG UDBETALINGER						pr. 31.12.11
(MIO. KR.)	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	(MIO. KR.)	AXCEL I	AXCEL II	AXCEL III	AXCEL IV	I ALT	
AXCEL I	1	-	13	2	-	INVESTERET KAPITAL	1.336	1.964	2.461	562	6.323	
AXCEL II	43	-1	-49	-132	465	UDBETALT TIL INVESTORERNE	2.107	2.691	7.035	0	11.833	
AXCEL III	-6,971	11.588	1.889	517	88	VÆRDISÆTNING AF VIRKSOMHEDER	109	713	2.732	562	4.116	
I ALT	-6,927	11.587	1.853	386	553	TILBAGEVÆRENDE VIRKSOMHEDER	1	4	7	2	14	

About Axcel

Axcel was founded in 1994 by a group of investors from Denmark's largest financial and industrial institutions. Axcel focuses on medium-sized companies in Denmark and Sweden and has a broad base of both Danish and international investors. Axcel has raised four funds with total committed capital of around DKK 10bn and has made 37 investments along with more than 45 significant bolt-on acquisitions. 23 of the companies in which it has invested have so far been sold or floated. Axcel's investments currently include 15 companies and a significant holding in PANDORA, representing combined revenue of around DKK 16.4 billion and more than 12,000 employees.

www.axcel.dk

For further information about this press release, please contact:

Christian Frigast, Managing Partner, tel. +45 263 264 00