

Press release

TKH Group N.V. (TKH)
Q4 and full-year results 2014

Successful year for TKH

Highlights Q4

- Turnover up 16.0% at € 353.1 million, with growth almost entirely organic.
- Increase in turnover largest in Industrial Solutions, but also substantial turnover growth in Telecom and Building Solutions.
- Successful € 75 million share issue to finance further strategic growth.
- Acquisition of Commend group, effective as from January 2015.
- One-off income of € 9.4 million related to change in pension plans.

Highlights 2014

- Turnover up 12.7% at € 1.35 billion, with growth almost entirely organic, particularly large increase in turnover at Industrial Solutions.
- Order intake in tyre manufacturing segment at record level of almost € 400 million.
- Higher order intake at Building Solutions.
- Merger squeeze-out Augusta Technologie AG in completion stage.
- Increase in medium-term target ROS bandwidth to 10-11%.
- Innovations account for 22.8% of turnover.
- Dividend proposal € 1.00 per (depository receipt for an) ordinary share.

Fourth quarter results

(in € million unless otherwise stated)	Q4 2014	Q4 2013	Difference in %
Turnover	353.1	304.4	+ 16.0
EBITA before one-off income and expenses ¹⁾	39.7	33.4	+ 18.7
EBITA	49.1	26.2	+ 87.2
Net profit before amortisation and one-off income and expenses attributable to shareholders ^{2,3)}	26.1	20.4	+ 27.7
ROS	11.2%	11.0%	

Full-year results

(in € million unless otherwise stated)	2014	2013	Difference in %
Turnover	1,350.4	1,197.8	+ 12.7
EBITA before one-off income and expenses ¹⁾	135.1	99.8	+ 35.4
EBITA	144.6	92.6	+ 56.1
Net profit before amortisation and one-off income and expenses attributable to shareholders ^{2,3)}	86.3	55.9	+ 54.4
Net profit	85.4	41.7	+ 105.0
Net earnings before amortisation and one-off income and expenses per ordinary share attributable to shareholders (in €) ^{2,3)}	2.23	1.48	+ 50.7
Net earnings per ordinary share attributable to shareholders (in €)	2.14	0.98	+ 118.4
Solvency ratio	44.9%	40.7%	
ROS	10.0%	8.3%	
ROCE	20.3%	15.9%	
Dividend proposal (in €)	1.00	0.75	

- 1) The one-off income in 2014 relates to a defined benefit gain due to change in pension plans. The one-off charge in 2013 was related to reorganisation costs.
- 2) Amortisation of acquisition-related intangible fixed assets (after taxes).
- 3) The one-off income and expenses in 2014 comprise a defined benefit gain of € 9.4 million, impairments of on balance €0.6 million, and the tax charge on same of € 1.2 million. In 2013, one-off income and expenses were, on balance, a charge of € 6.7 million.

Alexander van der Lof, CEO of technology company TKH: *“The increase in turnover and profit can be considered extraordinary. It shows that we made the right strategic choices and this inspires us to continue on the same successful path. TKH’s technological basis is our strength and it is good to look back and see how we have managed to expand and strengthen this basis in recent years. Our clients challenge us to provide innovative technology or work with them to develop this technology. TKH has succeeded in providing added value in technologies that make processes more efficient and secure, with a high return on the investments for our customers. The scale we have realised in recent years has boosted the improvement in our margins. This has translated into a ROS of 10% in 2014, which has in turn inspired us to raise our ROS target for the coming years.”*

Financial developments

In 2014, TKH’s turnover came in € 152.5 million higher (12.7%) at € 1,350.4 million (2013: € 1,197.8 million). Acquisitions contributed 0.5% to turnover. Reduced raw materials prices had a negative impact of 0.7% on turnover. Organic turnover growth was 12.9% on balance.

The strongest turnover growth, of 23.9%, was recorded by Industrial Solutions. Turnover at Telecom Solutions was up 5.4%, while turnover at Building Solutions came in 2.5% higher. For the full-year 2014, the contribution to turnover from Industrial Solutions increased to 51%, from 46% the previous year, while the contribution from Building Solutions declined to 37% from 41%. Telecom Solution’s contribution dropped to 12%, from 13% a year earlier. Innovations once again made a very positive contribution to turnover, accounting for 22.8% of turnover in 2014 (2013: 21.2%).

TKH saw gross margin increase to 42.6%, from 41.7% in 2013, thanks to an improvement in product mix. Operating costs (excluding one-off income and expenses) as a percentage of turnover declined to 32.6% in 2014, from 33.3% in 2013. Depreciation came in higher at € 19.9 million, up € 0.5 million compared to 2013, due to a higher level of investments in recent years.

The operating result before amortisation of intangible assets and one-off income and expenses (EBITA) came in 35.4% higher at € 135.1 million in 2014, compared with € 99.8 million in 2013. EBITA at Industrial Solutions was up 56.7%, and climbed 9.4% at Building Solutions. Telecom Solutions recorded a 2.0% increase in EBITA compared to 2013. The ROS increased to 10.0% (2013: 8.3%) and came in at the upper end of the ROS target TKH had previously communicated (bandwidth of 9-10%).

In the fourth quarter of 2014, various pension plans in the Netherlands were changed and harmonised in line with new pension legislation. TKH replaced these pension plans with a defined contribution plan, which are covered by a pension insurer. This eliminated future commitments and resulted in one-off income of € 9.4 million in 2014 (2013: one-off charge of € 7.2 million due to restructuring costs). EBITA, including one-off income and expenses, came in at € 51.9 million (56.1%) higher at € 144.6 million.

Amortisation increased by €1.1 million to € 26.2 million due to higher investments in research & development. TKH also recognised an impairment of net € 0.6 million.

In 2014, TKH saw financial expenses decline by € 4.8 million to € 10.4 million. The improvement was due to a one-off amortisation of capitalised financing costs in 2013 as a result of the renewed credit facility in October 2013, as well as reduced interest and lower credit spreads and the termination of interest rate swaps in 2014. Lower interest charges were offset by a lower result from participations, which in 2013 benefited from positive exchange rate effects.

The tax rate declined to 20.6% in 2014, from 22.5% in 2013. The application of the Dutch innovation box facility had a positive impact on the tax rate, thanks to the high share of innovations in the turnover of TKH and related profit.

Net profit before amortisation and one-off income and expenses attributable to shareholders was € 86.3 million in 2014 (2013: € 55.9 million), a year-on-year increase of 54.4%. Net profit for the full year 2014 came in higher at € 85.4 million (2013: € 41.7 million). Earnings per share before amortisation and one-off income and expenses came in at € 2.23 (2013: € 1.48). Ordinary earnings per share were € 2.14 (2013: € 0.98).

TKH recorded an increase in operational cash flow to € 94.9 million (2013: € 78.6 million). Working capital as a percentage of turnover increased slightly in 2014 to 13.8% (2013: 13.2%). Net investments in property and equipment came in at € 34.2 million in 2014 (2013: € 18.7 million). A large proportion of these expenditure were related to investments in TKH's production facilities, including the expansion of capacity for the sub-segment manufacturing systems and fibre network systems. In addition, TKH invested € 22.5 million in intangible fixed assets, primarily in R&D, patents, licences and software (2013: € 16.8 million). Expenditure for acquisitions totalled € 6.8 million for GF Messtechnik GmbH (June 30, 2014) and the settlement of some option and earn-out arrangements. Furthermore, an additional interest in Augusta Technologie AG ("Augusta") was acquired from some minority shareholders for € 65.5 million.

TKH had reduced its net bank debt by € 20.8 million to € 164.8 million at year-end 2014 compared to the year-earlier period, partly due to the issuance of 3,061,225 (depository receipts for) ordinary shares in November 2014. The net proceeds from the share issue amounted to € 74.1 million and these proceeds are being used to finance the acquisition of Commend, the squeeze-out of the Augusta minority shareholders, investments and for general operating purposes. The share issue and the net result realised raised the solvency ratio to 44.9% in 2014 (2013: 40.7%). TKH is operating well within the financial ratios agreed with its banks. The net debt/EBITDA ratio stood at 1.0 and the interest coverage ratio at 18.9.

TKH had a total workforce (FTEs) of 5,030 at year-end 2014 (2013: 4,802) and employed a further 483 (FTEs) temporary employees at year-end 2014. The increase in the number of staff was largely due to the strong increase in activity at Industrial Solutions and additional hires to bolster the organisation on the R&D and commerce fronts at Building Solutions.

Progress in realisation targets and strategy

The growth in turnover and profit was largely driven by TKH Group's technological developments in recent years and the company's focus on the four core technologies - *vision & security, communication, connectivity and manufacturing systems* – combined with the seven vertical growth markets - *optical fibre networks, parking, tunnels & infra, healthcare, marine, oil & gas, industrial machine vision and tyre manufacturing*.

In 2014, we took a major step towards realising our ambition to increase turnover from the 2012 figure of € 450 million in the vertical markets by some € 300 to € 500 million in three to five years, following the growth of € 185 million realised in these markets in 2014. More than € 140 million of this growth came from the tyre manufacturing market. TKH also booked solid progress in the other vertical markets. This translated partly into an increase in turnover, which came from the realisation of some leading projects. In addition, TKH invested in technological development and bolstered the commercial organisation to realise its medium-term growth target.

As a result of the above, TKH expects turnover to grow by € 300 to € 500 million in the next three to five years in the seven vertical growth markets the group has defined.

Partly due to the higher margins realised in the vertical growth markets, TKH realised both its ROS and ROCE targets in 2014. The ROS came in at 10% (2013: 8.3%), which is at the upper end of the target bandwidth of 9-10%. The ROCE, at 20.3%, (2013: 15.9%) was also at the upper end of the target bandwidth of 18-20%. On the basis of the perspective offered by the vertical growth market strategy combined with benefits of scale, TKH has decided to increase its ROS target to a bandwidth of 10-11% for the medium term.

The innovation component in TKH's turnover remained high at 22.8% in 2014 and was once again well above TKH's target of generating 15% of its turnover from innovations launched on the market over the past two years. Innovations also helped TKH to increase its market share in 2014.

Change in segmentation

Effective 1 January 2015, TKH Group has simplified the segmentation of its operations. Due to the increased focus introduced in recent years, TKH has decided to integrate the Telecom Solutions sub-segment copper networks – which generates just 1.2% of turnover - in the sub-segment indoor telecom systems, due the limited size of the copper networks operation. Within Building Solutions, TKH Group has decided to integrate the sub-segment building technologies, with a turnover share of 6.7%, into the other two sub-segments: vision & security systems (30%) and connectivity systems (70%). These moves complete a process of simplification to bring the organisation more in line TKH's technological focus in recent years, and have reduced the number of sub-segments to six.

Developments per solutions segment

Telecom Solutions

Profile

Telecom Solutions develops, produces and supplies systems ranging from basic outdoor infrastructure for telecom and CATV networks through to indoor home networking applications. The focus of the business is on the delivery of completely worry-free systems for its clients, thanks to the system guarantees it provides. Around 40% of the portfolio consists of hub-to-hub optical fibre and copper cable systems. The remaining 60%, consisting of components and systems in the field of connectivity and peripherals, is deployed primarily in the network hubs.

Key figures Telecom Solutions

(in mln € unless otherwise stated)	2014	2013	Change in %
Turnover	165.3	156.8	+ 5.4
EBITA ¹⁾	14.4	14.1	+ 2.0
ROS	8.7%	9.0%	

1) Before one-off charges of € 0.5 million in 2013

Turnover in the Telecom Solutions segment increased by 5.4% to € 165.3 million. Turnover was up 14.6% in the fourth quarter, largely due to higher turnover in the fibre network systems segment. The main driver of the increase in turnover in the fourth quarter was an increase in demand for optical fibre networks in Europe. This was due to the fact that telecom operators had more budget available for investments after completing their heavy investments in 4G networks.

EBITA in the Telecom Solutions segment came in € 0.3 million higher. The ROS dropped slightly to 8.7%, from 9.0%, due to an increase in the contribution from activities in Poland, Germany and France, where TKH invested in the expansion of its strategic position in anticipation of expected growth opportunities in these countries. The margin in the second half of the year was in line with the year-earlier period, which in turn meant that the result in the second half of 2014 was higher than in the first half of the year.

Indoor telecom systems - home networking-systems, broadband connectivity, IPTV software solutions – turnover share 4.1%

Turnover at indoor telecom systems increased by 14.8% on the back of an increase in projects to upgrade broadband connections in the Benelux region. TKH Group saw higher demand for broadband capacity in homes, which resulted in replacement demand for broadband connectivity components with improved transmission properties and a higher broadband capacity.

Fibre network systems - optical fibre, optical fibre cables, connectivity systems and components, active peripherals – turnover share 6.9%

Turnover came in 10.1% higher. Investments in Europe once again increased in the course of the year, as most telecom operators completed their 4G network investments in the first half of the year. We made full use of the extra production capacity for optical fibre we added in 2013, while production and efficiency improvements also helped to strengthen our competitive position. In Poland, Germany and France in particular, a number of strategic projects were acquired which put pressure on margins. These projects did help TKH Group to establish the foothold that is crucial given the growth potential of those countries. Demand in China also increased in the second half of the year. TKH decided to replace its existing outdated production capacity with the advanced production technology introduced in 2013, which also led to an expansion of

production capacity. This project is expected to be completed at the end of the first quarter of 2015.

Copper network systems – copper cable, connectivity systems and components, active peripherals – turnover share 1.2%

Turnover in this segment fell by 30.3%, in line with the shift in investments towards optical fibre networks and 4G networks. As of 1 January 2015, due to its modest size this sub-segment has been integrated in the sub-segment indoor telecom systems.

Building Solutions

Profile

Building Solutions develops, produces and delivers solutions in the field of efficient electro-technical technology, ranging from applications within buildings to technical systems which, linked to software, provide efficiency solutions for the care and security sectors. TKH's know-how in this segment is focused on vision technology and connectivity systems combined with efficiency solutions to reduce the throughput-time for the realisation of installations within buildings and industrial automation. In addition, TKH's focus in this segment is on intelligent video, intercom and access monitoring systems for a number of specific sectors, including elderly care, parking, marine, oil & gas, tunnels and security for buildings and work sites.

Key figures Building Solutions

(in mln. € unless otherwise stated)	2014	2013	Change in %
Turnover	502.1	490.0	+ 2.5
EBITA ¹⁾	43.1	39.4	+ 9.4
ROS	8.6%	8.0%	

1) Before one-off charges of € 6.6 million in 2013

Turnover in the Building Solutions segment increased by 2.5% to € 502.1 million. Acquisitions accounted for growth of 1.1%. Organic growth, corrected for the effect of lower raw materials prices, came in at 2.2%. The market conditions were challenging, especially in the Benelux region, due to the lack of recovery in the building and construction sector. Turnover declined in the first nine months of the year. The focus on the vertical growth markets and continued internationalisation led to organic growth of 8.3% in this segment in the fourth quarter. The largest contribution to this growth came from the sub-segment vision & security systems, which recorded organic of 13.4%. Order intake in Building Solutions was up due to an increase in larger-scale projects with a value of € 1 million to € 5 million.

EBITA in this segment increased by 9.4% to € 43.1 million. The margin in the sub-segment connectivity did come under pressure but higher turnover in the other sub-segments and the efficiency drives TKH had initiated resulted in an increase in the result. The ROS from this segment climbed to 8.6% in 2014, from 8.0% in 2013, largely due to the higher contribution to turnover from vision & security systems.

Building technologies – energy-saving light and light switch systems, energy management systems, care systems, structured cabling systems – turnover share 6.7%

Turnover at building technologies was 4.0% higher in 2014, largely due to positive developments in the vertical growth markets parking and tunnels & infra. TKH won key projects for parking systems in Australia, North America and the Middle East, all of which were delivered in the fourth quarter of last year. This led to a stronger rise in turnover in the final quarter than in the preceding quarters. Turnover in the healthcare market came in lower due to a reluctance to invest in the Dutch healthcare sector. Effective 1 January 2015, TKH merged this sub-segment with the two other sub-segments vision & security systems and connectivity systems.

Vision & Security systems – Vision technology, systems for CCTV, video/audio analysis and detection, intercom, access control and registration, central control room integration – turnover share 18.8%

Turnover came in 8.3% higher. Turnover rose in the course of the year, culminating in a 15.3% increase in the fourth quarter, largely due to the focus on vertical growth markets. The innovations and distinctive technologies in this segment are an excellent response to the need among our customers to work more securely and efficiently. The increasing threat of terrorist attacks around the world is creating a demand for ever more advanced security systems. This trend is having a positive impact on turnover growth in this segment. The share of turnover generated outside the Netherlands increased sharply, thanks to the large number of international projects completed. This also enabled TKH to offset the impact of the continued reluctance to invest in the building and construction sector. TKH increased its R&D spending to increase the competitive edge its technology gives it in this market.

Connectivity systems – specialty cable (systems) for shipping, rail, infrastructure, wind energy, as well as installation and energy cable for niche markets – turnover share 11.7%

Turnover at connectivity systems fell by 6.4%, due to challenging market conditions in the building and construction sector in the Benelux region, where TKH generates the majority of its turnover in this segment. Lower raw materials prices had a negative impact of 2.5% on turnover, as did lower investment levels in the energy and network sector in the Netherlands. TKH was able to limit the drop in turnover in the fourth quarter to 0.4%, thanks to a more effective international market positioning and focus on the defined vertical growth markets marine, oil & gas and tunnels & infra. Margins did come under pressure, but improved on the back of the efficiency programmes TKH initiated.

Industrial Solutions

Profile

Industrial Solutions develops, produces and delivers solutions ranging from specialty cable, plug and play cable systems to integrated systems for the production of car and truck tyres. The company's know-how in the automation of production processes and improvements in the reliability of production systems gives TKH the differentiating potential to respond to the increasing desire to outsource the construction of production systems or modules in a number of specialised industrial sectors, such as tyre manufacturing, robotics, medical and machine construction industries.

Key figures Industrial Solutions

(in mln. € unless otherwise stated)	2014	2013	Change in %
Turnover	683.0	551.0	+ 23.9
EBITA	91.6	58.5	+ 56.7
ROS	13.4%	10.6%	

Turnover in the Industrial Solutions segment came in 23.9% higher at € 683.0 million. Lower raw materials prices had a negative impact of 0.7% on turnover. Turnover increased by 24.6% organically. The main driver of turnover growth in this segment was the substantial growth realised in the tyre manufacturing industry, with particularly strong growth in Asia.

EBITA was up 56.7% at € 91.6 million. Thanks to effective costs controls, the strong rise in turnover and a high proportion of new technology with higher margins, EBITA increased more strongly than turnover. TKH was able to spread capacity utilisation across the various production facilities more evenly than in previous years, which in turn boosted the increase in the ROS. As a result, the ROS climbed to 13.4% from 10.6%.

Connectivity systems – specialty cable systems and modules for the medical, robot, automotive and machine building industries – turnover share 17.9%

Turnover at connectivity systems was up 1.6%, corrected for the negative impact of 1.4% on turnover due lower raw materials prices passed on to customers. The uncertain economic climate in Europe led to a certain amount of reluctance to invest at a number of clients, which kept growth modest. Margins did improve due to a higher proportion of innovative solutions for medical equipment. The fact that cable systems also accounted for a higher proportion of turnover also boosted margins. TKH also expects complete systems to account for an ever greater proportion of turnover in this segment in the years ahead, with integrated cable chain systems accounting for a growing share of the turnover in this sub-segment.

Manufacturing systems – advanced manufacturing systems for the production of car and truck tyres, can washers, test equipment, product handling systems for the medical industry, machine operating systems – turnover share 32.7%

Turnover at manufacturing systems increased by 42.4%. It is worth noting that the turnover, which has been growing extremely quickly and 100% organically since 2013, was booked at very high efficiency levels, after some teething problems in 2013. TKH had to lease extra space in both the Netherlands and China to create sufficient capacity. The number of hired-in staff was also extremely high last year. Thanks to solid cost controls and the high levels of efficiency, EBITA increased more than turnover and margins came in higher than in the previous year.

The share of new technology in both turnover and order intake was high at 46.6%. Thanks to the advanced nature of the new technology, TKH managed to accelerate the replacement of existing production capacity at the company's clients in the tyre manufacturing industry. This acceleration was particularly marked in Asia, where investments in the expansion of production capacity also boosted growth. The order intake for the full year came in at almost € 400 million, a new record for TKH. The order intake in the second half of the year was slightly lower than in the first half, due to the fact that investments in Asia slowed in comparison with the extreme demand seen in the first half of the year. Turnover and order intake from the top-five tyre manufacturers increased in line with demand from other clients.

TKH took a major step forward in this segment, with the development of the next generation of tyre manufacturing technology, which not only assembles the tyre but also incorporates the production of the components used in the tyre in a single system. TKH plans to launch this system under the brand name UNIXX within the next three years. The market price of this new integrated system is expected to be three times more than the current systems.

Events after the balance sheet date

As announced on 20 November 2014, TKH reached agreement with the shareholders of Commend on the acquisition of a controlling interest in the Commend group, which is based in Salzburg (Austria). The shares in Commend were transferred in January 2015. Commend books annual turnover around € 45 million with a workforce of more than 300 employees. The company's activities will strengthen TKH's sub-segment vision & security systems and will contribute to the profitability of the Building Solutions segment.

On 17 November of last year, TKH confirmed, as part of the squeeze-out procedure, its decision to start this procedure to obtain the remaining shares held by the minority shareholders in Augusta Technologie AG ("Augusta"). TKH holds 91.2% of the shares in Augusta. The merger squeeze-out was approved by the Augusta shareholders meeting. TKH expects the merger squeeze-out to come into force in March 2015.

Proposed reappointment Executive Board

The Supervisory Board announces the proposed reappointment of Arne Dehn for a following term of four years as a member of the TKH Group N.V. Executive Board effective from the Annual General Meeting of 7 May 2015.

Dividend proposal

At the Annual General Meeting to be held on 7 May 2015, TKH will propose the payment of a dividend of € 1.00 per (depository receipt for a) share (2013: € 0.75). Based on the weighted average outstanding shares, this amounts to a pay-out ratio of 44.8% of the net profit before amortisation and one-off income and expenses, and 46.7% of the net profit. Based on the outstanding shares at the end of 2014, the pay-out ratio amounts to 48.0% of the net profit before amortisation and one-off income and expenses and 50.0% of the net profit. TKH will propose the payment of an optional dividend in cash or in shares, which will be charged to the reserves. TKH will determine the dividend payment in shares one day after the end of the optional period on the basis of the average price of TKH shares during the last five trading days of the optional period, which shall end on 27 May 2015. The dividend will be payable, in cash or in shares, on 1 June 2015.

Outlook

There are signs of a cautious recovery in global economic conditions. The unstable geopolitical situation and the monetary situation still results in uncertainty about future economic developments.

We see opportunities and challenges in each Solutions segment. What is important is that we are positive on the medium to long-term outlook and that TKH's core technologies are well positioned to realise continued growth. As a result of this, we expect turnover to grow by € 300 to € 500 million in the next three to five years in our seven defined vertical growth markets.

We expect, barring unforeseen circumstances, the following developments in 2015:

Telecom Solutions

We expect the market for optical fibre networks to grow. The penetration level for optical fibre is still low in most European countries and optical fibre technology is seen as the superior broadband technology. TKH has a solid position in the European market and we expect to see growth in this region. In addition to this, the Asian market is also a growth market, and TKH has a solid presence in this region. The increase in the value of Asian currencies will put some pressure on margins for the components purchased in Asia. To offset this, TKH will be taking additional steps to improve efficiency in the production process, and this will reduce cost prices.

Building Solutions

TKH expects the conditions in the building and construction sector in the Benelux region to remain challenging due to lack of recovery in this sector. However, the vertical growth markets, primarily those linked to TKH's vision and security technology, are promising enough to assume growth can be booked in the Building Solutions segment.

Industrial Solutions

In the last few months, we have seen a slight reluctance to invest in capital goods in Asia. This is partly due to the recent explosive growth realised in the region. It is also partly due to uncertainty regarding the impact that potential import duties in the United States will have on Chinese tyre manufacturers. At the same time, there are encouraging signs of a pick-up in investments in efficiency improvements at the larger tyre manufacturers, which could increase demand for TKH technology. The robotisation trend is having a positive impact on the whole Industrial Solutions segment.

As usual, TKH will give a specific forecast on the full year profit for 2015 at the presentation of its interim results in August 2015.

Haaksbergen, 10 March 2015

Executive Board

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Agenda

6 May 2015	Trading update Q1 2015
7 May 2015	General Meeting of Shareholders
11 May 2015	Ex-dividend date
12 May 2015	Dividend record date
13 until 27 May 2015	Optional period
27 May 2015	Determination stock dividend exchange ratio (after closing stock exchange)
1 June 2015	Cash dividend made payable and delivery stock dividend
18 August 2015	Publication Q2 and interim results 2015
5 November 2015	Trading update Q3 2015

Profile

Technology company TKH Group NV (TKH) is an internationally active group of companies specialising in the creation and delivery of innovative Telecom, Building and Industrial Solutions.

The TKH core technologies – *vision & security, communications, connectivity and manufacturing systems* – are interlinked to form complete systems and solutions in the solutions segments and associated vertical markets. TKH's goal is to use this interlinked approach to realise far-reaching synergies between the company's various business units.

Telecom Solutions develops, produces and supplies systems ranging from outdoor infrastructure for telecom and CATV networks through to indoor home networking applications. TKH Telecom Solutions operates in three distinct sub-segments: optical fibre networks, copper networks and indoor telecom systems.

Building Solutions develops, produces and supplies solutions in the field of vision & security, communications and connectivity technology that range from applications in buildings and the built environment through to integrated systems that, linked to software, provide efficiency solutions for sectors such as the construction, healthcare, parking, ship building, oil and gas, traffic and security sectors. Building Solutions operates in three distinct sub-segments: building technologies, vision & security systems and connectivity systems.

Industrial Solutions develops, produces and supplies solutions ranging from specialty cable, "plug and play" cable systems through to integrated systems for the production of car and truck tyres. The core technologies in this segment are vision technology, connectivity and system integration. Industrial Solutions operates in two distinct sub-segments: connectivity systems and manufacturing systems.

TKH aspires strong market positions – based mainly on own proprietary technologies and services – with a strong regional and international positioning. TKH and its various operating companies are active worldwide. Growth is concentrated in North West and Central and Eastern Europe and Asia. In 2014, TKH booked turnover of € 1.4 billion with a workforce of 5,030 employees.

Consolidated balance sheet

In Thousands of euros

	2014	2013
Assets		
<u>Non current assets</u>		
Intangible non-current assets	351,669	349,125
Tangible non-current assets	204,395	188,523
Investment property	8,494	10,103
Financial non-current assets	17,083	17,795
Deferred tax assets	11,054	12,550
Total non-current assets	592,695	578,096
<u>Current assets</u>		
Inventories	202,323	185,447
Receivables	170,813	152,532
Construction contracts for third parties	115,332	78,272
Current income tax	1,676	3,364
Cash and cash equivalents	90,332	79,613
Total current assets	580,476	499,228
Assets held for sale	3,050	0
Total assets	1,176,221	1,077,324
Equity and liabilities		
<u>Group equity</u>		
Shareholders' equity	510,847	377,577
Non-controlling interests	17,174	61,398
Total group equity	528,021	438,975
<u>Non current liabilities</u>		
Non-current liabilities	258,925	258,558
Deferred tax liabilities	57,613	59,850
Retirement benefit obligation	6,680	18,852
Provisions	17,098	24,727
Total non-current liabilities	340,316	361,987
<u>Current liabilities</u>		
Borrowings	4,237	15,242
Trade payables and other payables	241,803	213,471
Construction contracts for third parties	41,495	38,735
Current income tax liabilities	10,613	717
Provisions	9,736	8,197
Total current liabilities	307,884	276,362
Total equity and liabilities	1,176,221	1,077,324

Consolidated profit and loss account

In Thousands of euros

	2014	2013
Net turnover	1,344,199	1,196,024
Changes in inventory of finished goods and work in progress	4,664	-395
Other revenues	1,520	2,216
Total turnover	1,350,383	1,197,845
Costs of raw materials, consumables, trade products and subcontracted work	774.721	698,771
Personnel expenses	286.752	268,639
Depreciation	19.948	19,462
Amortisation	26.199	25,068
Impairment	575	94
Other operating expenses	124.412	118,350
Total operating expenses ¹⁾	1,232,607	1,130,384
Operating result	117,776	67,461
Financial income and expenses ²⁾	-10,357	-15,176
Share in result of associates	197	1,441
Result before tax	107,616	53,726
Tax on profit	22,216	12,073
Net result	85,400	41,653
Attributable to:		
Shareholders of the company	82,735	37,232
Non-controlling interests	2,665	4,421
	85,400	41,653
Earnings per share attributable to shareholders		
Weighted average number of shares (x1,000)	38,648	37,862
Weighted average number of shares for the purpose of diluted earnings per share (x1,000)	38,819	37,973
Ordinary earnings per share before amortisation and one-off income and expenses (in €) ²⁾	2.23	1.48
Ordinary earnings per share before amortisation (in €) ³⁾	2.43	1.30
Ordinary earnings per share (in €)	2.14	0.98
Diluted earnings per share (in €)	2.13	0.98

¹⁾ A one-off income related to a defined benefit gain of € 9.4 million is included in the personnel expenses of 2014, as a result of changes in pension plans. The operating expenses 2013 include besides impairments, one-off expenses of € 7.2 million as a result of restructurings.

²⁾ In the financial income and expenses 2013 is a one-off expense of € 1.6 million included for the write-off of capitalised transaction costs due to the refinancing in 2013.

³⁾ Non IFRS compulsory note.

Consolidated statement of comprehensive income

In Thousands of euros

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Net result	85,400	41,653
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit and loss		
Actuarial gains / (losses)	2,294	-2,763
Revaluation of property	-344	-1,376
	<u>1,950</u>	<u>-4,139</u>
Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit and loss		
Exchange differences	16,640	-5,206
Effective part of changes in fair value of cash flow hedges (after tax)	-578	2,699
(De)/revaluation of available-for-sale financial assets	-1,090	237
	<u>14,972</u>	<u>-2,270</u>
Other comprehensive income	16,922	-6,409
Total comprehensive income for the period	<u>102,322</u>	<u>35,244</u>
Attributable to:		
Shareholders of the company	98,625	32,391
Non-controlling interests	3,697	2,853
Total comprehensive income for the period	<u>102,322</u>	<u>35,244</u>

Consolidated statement of changes in group equity

<i>In Thousands of euros</i>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Balance at 1 January	438,975	424,823
Net result	85,400	41,653
Total other comprehensive income	16,922	-6,409
Total comprehensive income	102,322	35,244
Dividends	-19,809	-18,017
Dividends to shareholders of non-controlling interests	-1,989	-2,336
Issue of (depository receipt of) new ordinary shares	74,051	
Acquisition of non-controlling interests	-65,491	
Acquisition of non-controlling interests through acquisitions		-449
Share and option schemes (IFRS 2)	1,845	1,982
Purchased shares for share and option schemes	-4,157	-5,411
Sold shares for share and option schemes	2,274	3,139
Balance as at 31 December	<u>528,021</u>	<u>438,975</u>

Consolidated cash flow statement

In Thousands of euros

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Cash flow from operating activities		
Operating result	117,776	67,461
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	46,720	45,134
Share and option schemes not resulting in cash flow	1,845	1,982
(Gain)/loss on sale or disposal of tangible assets	2	-510
Changes in provisions	-8,633	4,105
Changes in working capital	-40,761	-8,717
Cash flow from operations	<u>116,949</u>	<u>109,455</u>
Interest paid	-9,035	-11,665
Income tax paid	-13,015	-19,237
Net cash flow from operating activities (A)	<u><u>94,899</u></u>	<u><u>78,553</u></u>
Cash flow from investing activities		
Dividend received from non-consolidated associates	372	544
Repayments on loans	440	
Investments in tangible non-current assets	-34,936	-21,205
Divestments in tangible non-current assets	1,239	2,356
Net cash flow on investments and divestments of investment property	-533	128
Acquisition of subsidiaries	-6,857	-15,544
Acquisition of associates	-149	0
Investments in intangible non-current assets	-22,471	-16,848
Net cash flow from investing activities (B)	<u><u>-62,895</u></u>	<u><u>-50,569</u></u>
Cash flow from financing activities		
Dividends paid	-21,798	-20,353
Proceeds from issue of (depository receipt of) new ordinary shares	74,051	
Acquisition of non-controlling interests	-65,491	
Purchased shares for share and option schemes	-4,157	-5,411
Sold shares for share and option schemes	2,274	3,139
New long-term debts		312,314
Repayment of long-term debts	-11	-259,000
Change in short-term borrowings	-11,005	-44,322
Net cash flow from financing activities (C)	<u><u>-26,137</u></u>	<u><u>-13,633</u></u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents (A+B+C)	5,867	14,351
Exchange differences	4,852	-1,203
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>10,719</u>	<u>13,148</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	<u>79,613</u>	<u>66,465</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	<u><u>90,332</u></u>	<u><u>79,613</u></u>

Notes to the financial statements

1. Accounting principles for financial reporting

These financial figures have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as adopted by the European Union (EU) and are prepared using the principles which are followed in the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2014. Further disclosures and description of the accounting principles as required under IFRS are not included in the financial figures. For a full understanding this press release should be read in conjunction with the financial statements for the Group

2. Segmented information

	Telecom Solutions		Building Solutions		Industrial Solutions		Unallocated		Total	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
<i>First half year</i>										
Net turnover	80,480	80,080	242,347	241,528	334,253	265,540			657,080	587,148
EBITA exclusive exceptionals	6,701	8,287	18,269	16,655	41,087	23,576	-5,811	-5,802	60,246	42,716
Exceptional items										
Segment EBITA ¹⁾	6,701	8,287	18,269	16,655	41,087	23,576	-5,811	-5,802	60,246	42,716
Amortisation	-432	-487	-9,055	-8,543	-3,346	-2,859	-99	-84	-12,932	-11,973
Impairments						379				379
Operating Result	6,269	7,800	9,214	8,112	37,741	21,096	-5,910	-5,886	47,314	31,122
Financial Income and expenses									-4,842	-7,186
Result associates									262	1,215
Taxes									-9,201	-5,796
Net result									33,533	19,355
<i>Second half year</i>										
Net turnover	84,801	76,753	259,753	248,408	348,736	285,504	13	32	693,303	610,697
EBITA exclusive exceptionals	7,688	5,813	24,818	22,724	50,539	34,889	-8,190	-6,341	74,855	57,085
Exceptional items		-531		-6,647			9,449		9,449	-7,178
Segment EBITA ¹⁾	7,688	5,282	24,818	16,077	50,539	34,889	1,259	-6,341	84,304	49,907
Amortisation	-392	-530	-9,795	-9,698	-2,947	-2,815	-133	-52	-13,267	-13,095
Impairments			-297	-179	-278	-294			-575	-473
Operating Result	7,296	4,752	14,726	6,200	47,314	31,780	1,126	-6,393	70,462	36,339
Financial Income and expenses									-5,515	-7,990
Result associates									-65	226
Taxes									-13,015	-6,277
Net result									51,867	22,298
<i>Total</i>										
Net turnover	165,281	156,833	502,100	489,936	682,989	551,044	13	32	1,350,383	1,197,845
EBITA exclusive exceptionals	14,389	14,100	43,087	39,379	91,626	58,465	-14,001	-12,143	135,101	99,801
Exceptional items		-531		-6,647			9,449		9,449	-7,178
Segment EBITA ¹⁾	14,389	13,569	43,087	32,732	91,626	58,465	-4,552	-12,143	144,550	92,623
Amortisation	-824	-1,017	-18,850	-18,241	-6,293	-5,674	-232	-136	-26,199	-25,068
Impairments			-297	-179	-278	85			-575	-94
Operating Result	13,565	12,552	23,940	14,312	85,055	52,876	-4,784	-12,279	117,776	67,461
Financial Income and expenses									-10,357	-15,176
Result associates									197	1,441
Taxes									-22,216	-12,073
Net result									85,400	41,653

1) EBITA: Operating result plus amortisation and impairment of immaterial fixed assets

3. Overview of net profit definitions

In Thousands of euros

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Net result	85.400	41.653
Less: Non-controlling interests	-2.665	-4.421
Attributable to shareholders of the company	<u>82.735</u>	<u>37.232</u>
Net result	85.400	41.653
Amortisation of acquisition-related intangible assets based on "purchase price allocations"	15.294	16.601
Taxes on amortisation purchase price allocations	-4.055	-4.621
Net profit before amortisation	96.639	53.633
Less: Non-controlling interests	-2.665	-4.421
Net profit before amortisation attributable to shareholders of the company	<u>93.974</u>	<u>49.212</u>
Net result before amortisation	96.639	53.633
Restructuring costs		7.066
Acquisition costs		113
Defined benefit gain due to change in pension plans	-9.449	
Amortisation of capitalised financing costs because of refinancing		1.600
Impairment	575	94
Tax effect on impairments and restructuring costs	1.221	-2.195
Net profit before amortisation and one-off expenses	88.986	60.311
Less: Non-controlling interests	-2.665	-4.421
Net profit before amortisation and one-off income and expenses attributable to the shareholders of the company	<u>86.321</u>	<u>55.890</u>

4. Annual report

The consolidated balance sheet, consolidated profit and loss account, consolidated statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income, consolidated statement of changes in group equity and consolidated cash flow statement, as included in this press release, are based on the annual accounts prepared of 31 December 2014, which have not yet been published in compliance with legal requirements. These documents will be published ultimately at 25 March 2015. The annual accounts will be submitted to the General Meeting of Shareholders on 7 May 2015 for approval.

In accordance with Section 2:293 and 395 of the Dutch Civil Code, we report that our auditor, Deloitte Accountants B.V., has issued an unqualified auditor's report on the annual accounts dated 9 March 2015. For the understanding required to make a sound judgement as to the financial position and results of TKH Group N.V. and for a satisfactory understanding of the scope of the audit by Deloitte Accountants B.V., this press release should be read in conjunction with the annual accounts from which this press release has been derived, together with the auditor's report thereon issued by Deloitte Accountants B.V.