# StrongPoint



# Q2 and 1<sup>st</sup> half 2023

Financial report and status

## **CEO's perspective**

General macro uncertainty continues to shadow many markets that StrongPoint operates in. The pressure on disposable household income continues as interest rates rise, leading to discounters gaining market share as consumers look to cheaper products and options. Although the grocery market is relatively stable and resilient, the competitive pressures and uncertainty are driving established grocery retailers to postpone or hold back investments. We foresee this to be short-term actions to alleviate the financial pressures on many grocery



Jacob Tveraabak CEO of StrongPoint

retailers. The medium to long-term outlook of retail technology, and for StrongPoint, is as positive as ever. Introducing and engraining efficiency driving solutions is definitely an essential element of retailers' plans going forward. Following a soft second quarter, we expect the remainder of the year to improve. In addition, we have a set of substantial large-scale opportunities which will be concluded this autumn. Hence, I continue, along with my management team, to remain confident in achieving our 2.5 BNOK and 13-15% EBITDA margin ambitions for 2025. The path to achieving our financials ambitions will be non-linear, but we will get there. We are still a predominantly project-driven company.

Our revenue in the second quarter was 337 MNOK, a 5% increase from same quarter 2022. Without the acquisition of Air Link Group (ALS) last year, the revenue development would have been -3%. Adjusting for foreign exchange development, the revenue drop would have been bigger. The development follows existing customers' postponement of rollouts and a temporary hold-back of new investments. Although we consider our grocery retail customers to have sound and healthy businesses, we sympathize with their actions to temporarily hold back on investments. The effect is most notable in Norway, Sweden and the UK, and within general E-commerce where investments and projects have been delayed or pushed out in time. The investment halt has hit us relatively more in our mature Nordic markets, and as a consequence our International business area was larger than the Nordics in this quarter. In this context it should be noted that our Baltic business is doing very well and that our Spanish business is performing as expected with the large-scale next generation cash management opportunity getting much attention. Spain is a market where "cash is still king" and is expected to be for many years to come so there continues to be substantial opportunities for StrongPoint in driving efficiency savings in safe cash management processes.

Our EBITDA in the second quarter was 2.1 MNOK (0.6%) down from last year's 9.8 MNOK (3.1%). The largest explanations to the EBITDA drop are found in the UK & Ireland, in Norway and within E-commerce. In the UK, we have in this quarter a negative EBITDA contribution, following significant investments in getting StrongPoint products and solutions out in the market as well as experiencing the low gross margin from a strategically important new customer. In Norway, profitability has been hit by a combination of low margin on the first AutoStore projects as well as postponement of solution roll-outs, resulting in a low activity level. Within E-commerce we are still negatively affected by our deliberate investments in this area, and while we are adapting our cost levels to the market situation we do not currently have a positive profit contribution from this business area. It needs to be highlighted that we now have an unprecedented pipeline of high-profile e-commerce opportunities across our solution offering in some of the largest e-grocery markets, including our Order Picking solution and Automated Picking solution with AutoStore and temperature-controlled grocery lockers. This makes us confident that our investments in E-commerce solutions will pay off significantly in the years to come.

Our cash flow from operational activities is very strong with a positive 60.2 MNOK, a close to 100 MNOK improvement vs. last year. This reflects the solidity of our grocery customers' financial situation, paying their outstanding invoices to StrongPoint on time, as well as our internal focus on reducing working capital.

The substantial currency fluctuations in the market continue to prevail. For StrongPoint, the short-term effect in NOK is positive whereas the negative profit experienced in the quarter in the UK and within E-commerce are further exacerbated by the weakened NOK compared to the EUR and GBP currencies. In the long-term, the effect of sustained more expensive imports to our Norwegian and Swedish markets is obviously not beneficial for these markets either. For StrongPoint as a whole, we believe we have a good and operational currency hedge.

We expect the most mature Nordic StrongPoint-markets, Norway and Sweden, to perform better in the second half of 2023, whilst continuing the strong performance in the Baltics. Regarding the UK, Irish and Spanish markets, we are very excited about opportunities both in the short and long-term. The UK is particularly ripe for a number of the efficiency driving solutions we supply, and I gladly repeat my expectations to announce at least one major deal with a StrongPoint affiliated solution in the UK in 2023. In Iberia we are getting closer to the acid test of our groundbreaking next generation cash management solution for one of the leading Iberian grocery retailers. During the third quarter we should have definite answers and more information to share with the market about the solution and roll-out plans. The market for this new cash management solution is vast. Even with this one first lead customer the opportunity is massive on its own.

Although StrongPoint predominantly serves the stable and resilient grocery market, our customers are of course not immune to the hike in interest rates and general market uncertainty. I do expect, however, to see an uptick in investment willingness during the second half of this year. Most certainly, the introduction of more efficiency driving solutions, in which technology plays an important role, will continue to be a significant long-term trend. This is a megatrend that StrongPoint is ready for and well positioned to ride. As such, we continue to be confident in achieving our 2025 strategic ambitions.

Stay safe, strong and passionate!

## Highlights 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter

Soft financial performance in a currently uncertain global macro environment. Continued significant investments in future growth areas.

#### **Financial performance**

- Revenue Q2 increased by 5% to 337 MNOK (321) compared to same quarter last year. H1 revenue increased 16% to 719 MNOK (622).
- EBITDA for the quarter ended at 2.1 MNOK (9.8). EBITDA first half 2023 was 15.6 MNOK (21.3).
- Cash flow from operations in Q2 was 60.2 MNOK (-37.3). H1 Cash flow from operations was 16.0 MNOK (-25.5).

#### **Continued customer success in priority areas**

- ICA Malmborgsgruppen chose StrongPoint as supplier of electronic shelf edge labels from Pricer.
- Successful Vensafe pilots in the Baltics and South Africa.
- Concluded a successful installation of an AutoStore MFC for ColliCare at their facility in Vestby, Norway.

## Further progress on 2025 strategic ambitions

- Announced partnership with food refrigeration specialist, Aste Oy, as re-seller of their grocery plug-in cooler, refrigeration and grocery locker solutions.
- Marius Drefvelin appointed as new Chief Financial Officer, starting September 1.
- Completing new, innovative, value generating cash management solution for a large Iberian grocery retailer with preparation for in-store pilot in Q3 2023.

## **Key figures (MNOK)**

	Q2	Q2	YTD	YTD	Year
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2022
Revenue	337.2	320.8	718.6	621.5	1 372.4
EBITDA	2.1	9.8	15.6	21.3	75.5
EBITDA margin	0.6%	3.1%	2.2%	3.4 %	5.5%
EBITDA exclusive Option cost*	3.6	10.5	18.6	23.4	80.6
Operating profit (EBIT)	-7.3	1.4	-3.3	6.1	37.3
Ordinary profit before tax (EBT)	-1.1	7.3	6.6	10.8	38.2
Cash flow from operational activities	60.2	-37.3	16.0	-25.5	16.6
Disposable funds	129.6	131.2	129.6	131.2	125.1
Earnings per share (NOK)	-0.02	0.12	0.10	0.19	0.66
Earnings per share. adjusted	0.04	0.18	0.22	0.29	0.95

<sup>\*</sup> EBITDA exclusive IFRS cost related to long term incentive program

## **StrongPoint Group**

StrongPoint is a grocery-focused company that serves retailers with products and solutions for in-store and online shopping.

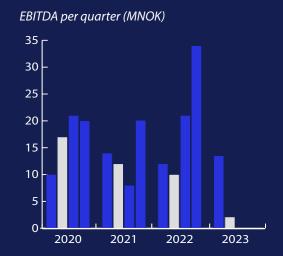
Revenue	Q2	2	Y	Year	
MNOK	2023	2022	2023	2022	2022
Nordics	160.2	192.5	373.8	407.1	744.1
International incl R&D	176.9	128.3	344.7	214.5	628.3
ASA/Elim	-	-	-	-	-
Total	337.2	320.8	718.6	621.5	1 372.4

EBITDA	Q2		Q2 YTD		Year
MNOK	2023	2022	2023	2022	2022
Nordics	10.1	20.1	25.3	37.7	67.2
International incl R&D	0.2	2.2	6.6	7.2	53.9
ASA/Elim	-8.2	-12.5	-16.4	-23.6	-45.6
Total	2.1	9.8	15.6	21.3	75.5
Number of employees	519	513	519	513	511

## **StrongPoint Group**

Operating revenue per quarter (MNOK)

500
400
200
100
2020
2021
2022
2023



## Soft financial performance in a currently uncertain global macro environment

The total revenue increased by 5.1% compared with same quarter last year. Looking at year to date, the growth was 15.6%. The challenging macro situation has led to the postponement of investment decisions in the quarter, especially within the Nordic countries which saw a 16.8% revenue decline compared to a very strong Q2 2022. The segment International grew by 37.9% in revenue, this includes the acquired company Air Link Group (ALS) in UK and Ireland which was consolidated from June 1, 2022 and subsequently rebranded to ALS StrongPoint. Excluding ALS, the growth in International ended at 23.1%. Foreign exchange contributeed positively to the revenue growth by 8 percentage points in the quarter.

The EBITDA decreased by 7.7 MNOK, and the EBITDA margin declined to 0.6% (3.1%), despite a slightly improved gross margin from 39% to 40%. The EBITDA year to date declined by 5.7 MNOK reflecting the low profit in Q2. In the second quarter, increased payroll costs explains the majority of the EBITDA decline. The increased cost is partially explained by a full quarter consolidation of ALS. Secondly, high inflation rates in the StrongPoint markets have led to increased costs from Q2 2023 compared to same quarter last year. Other operating costs were reduced relative to the same period last year in the quarterly comparison.

Cash flow from operating activities was a strong 60.2 MNOK in the quarter, up from a negative 37.3 MNOK the same quarter last year. Year to date the operating cash flow was 16.0 MNOK vs. a negative 25.5 MNOK from the same period last year. The strong cash flow first and foremost reflects the solidity of our customer base, representing grocery retailers predominantly. Our accounts receivable losses from grocery customers are negligible. The cash flow also reflects the completion of project rollouts, whilst new investments are pushed out in time.

The number of employees increased by 6 compared to Q2 last year, all related to the consolidation of the new legal entity in Spain, StrongPoint Cash Tech S.L., in which StrongPoint currently owns 60%, performing the development of a new cash management solution for a major Iberian customer.

## Continued customer success in priority areas

StrongPoint was awarded a contract with ICA Malmborgsgruppen as supplier of electronic shelf edge labels from Pricer to six ICA stores in the south of Sweden. The installation of the new multi color labels will be completed within 2024.

Introducing Vensafe to new markets had notable progress in Q2, with successful installations of pilot projects to grocery chains in the Baltics and South Africa. The system allows for self-service pickup of age restricted items, and predefined KPIs were positively met during the pilot phase. In general, it can be said that the interest for protection of high-value items in grocery stores across our markets have risen significantly with the increasing economic hardship in the current macro environment.

During Q2, the first AutoStore MFC installation was successfully completed for ColliCare at their facility in Norway. The installation was delivered on time and within the initial project calculations.

## Further progress on 2025 strategic ambitions

The project of the next generation cash management solution that StrongPoint communicated in the Q1 report as well as in the Strategy Update session from February, continues. StrongPoint is working with a major Iberian grocery retailer to undertake a test in a grocery store in Q3.

In April, StrongPoint finished delivery of its AutoStore solution for the 3PL logistics company ColliCare. ColliCare will be using the solution to speed up the delivery time for their IKEA mail order customers.

In May, StrongPoint's new Chief Financial Officer, Marius Drefvelin was appointed and he is set to commence on 1st September. Marius has over 10 years' experience as CFO of multiple tech companies including five years at the listed company Techstep ASA.

Later in May StrongPoint announced a partnership with Aste Finland, a leading provider of food and drink cooling devices and temperature-controlled grocery lockers for grocery e-commerce. The scope of the agreement provides StrongPoint with distribution rights of Aste's solutions in StrongPoint's eight core markets of UK, Ireland, Norway, Sweden, Spain, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, as well as other markets of strategic interest.

## StrongPoint's 2025 Strategic Ambition

StrongPoint has a strategic ambition to achieve NOK 2.5 billion in revenues and EBITDA margins of 13-15% by 2025.

## How we are structured to achieve our ambitions

In 2020 StrongPoint set in place a new 2025 strategy and made the decision to focus on serving the grocery market with retail technology solutions.

## **Our T-shaped strategy**

Go wide with world-class solutions for selected markets.

- E-Commerce Order
   Fulfillment platform
  - Order Picking
  - Automated Fulfillment
  - Last Mile Solutions
- Self Checkout
- Cash Management



Go deep in core markets with solutions that cover in-store, e-commerce solutions and AutoStore grocery automated fulfillment.

- Norway
- Sweden
- Baltics
- Spain
- UK & Ireland

StrongPoint's financial ambitions

BNOK 2.5 in 2025 EBITDA 13-15%

# StrongPoint's product-market fit – our 'double opportunity'

Grocery retailers are facing margin pressures like never before – in-store and online.

In-store costs for goods, transportation and labour is surging. This has driven many customers to shop at discounters.

In mature grocery e-commerce markets such as the UK where it makes up over 15% of the grocery market, profitability is a major challenge and costs continue to surge.

This means that grocery retailers need to find efficiency savings in-store and online to maintain their already razor-thin margins.

StrongPoint focuses on providing smart retail technologies to grocery retailers to boost profitability in-store and online.

From in-store self-checkouts, electronic shelf labels, cash management solutions to world-class e-commerce fulfilment solutions, StrongPoint solutions cut grocery retailers costs and create outstanding customer experiences.

## The StrongPoint double opportunity

## GROCERY RETAILERS ARE UNDER PRESSURE:

- Labour costs going up
- Discounters becoming mainstream
- In mature e-commerce markets, profitability a challenge

## STRONGPOINT OPPORTUNITY #1

Efficiency saving in-store solutions

#### STRONGPOINT OPPORTUNITY #2

Efficiency saving e-commerce solutions, especially in the UK

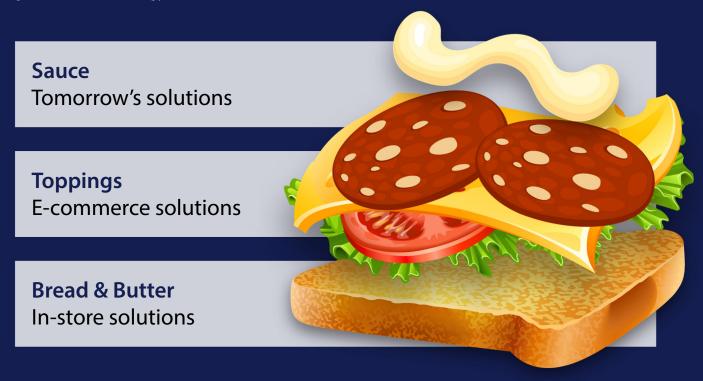
## STRONGPOINT DOUBLE OPPORTUNITY:

## Technology solutions solving

- 1) instore and
- 2) online challenges

## The StrongPoint Financial Sandwich

StrongPoint finances can be divided into three categories: what drives our business today, what we are investing in to serve future demand, and how we future-proof our customers with next-generation technology solutions.



#### Firstly, our 'bread and butter'

These are our in-store solutions that make up >85% of our current business with 10-11% EBITDA margin (in 2022). These have strong EBITDA margins and are seeing strong, continued demand from our core grocery retailer customers in our core markets.

#### **Solutions:**

- CashGuard Cash Management
- Vensafe Sales Automation
- Self-Checkout
- Self-Scanning
- ShopFlow Logistics
- Pricer Electronic Shelf Labels
- DIGI scales and wrapping system
- POS Systems
- Commerce Management System
- Grocery Cooling Solutions

#### Secondly, our 'toppings'

These are our e-commerce solutions that we are strongly investing in, in addition to our partnership with AutoStore, the world's leading automation provider for grocery retailers. These do not yet have the commercial maturity compared to our in-store solutions but we have a solid base of clients mainly in Sweden, and now in Norway with our first AutoStore installation. The market dynamics show that there is strong demand in the near and medium future as grocery e-commerce continues to grow and automation becomes more and more in-demand to counter-act growing labour costs and shortages.

#### **Solutions:**

- In-Store Picking
- Dark Store Picking
- Home Delivery
- Click & Collect Lockers
- In-Store Pickup
- Drive-Thru
- AutoStore / Automated Fulfilment

#### Thirdly, the 'sauce'

These are the solutions of tomorrow that we are already investing in today. As labor costs are set to only increase the demand for next generation technology solutions continues to grow, especially in robotics and friction-free shopping. By investing in these solutions today we future-proof our customers.

#### **Solutions:**

- In-store robot with 1X (formerly known as Halodi)
- Friction-free in-store solutions

## **StrongPoint Solutions**



## **In-store**

## **In-store Productivity**

Pricer Electronic Shelf Labels ShopFlow Logistics \* Digi Scales and Wrapping Systems Grocery Cooling Solutions

#### **Payment Solutions**

CashGuard Cash Management \*

## **Check Out Efficiency**

Self-Checkout \*
Self-Scanning
Vensafe Sales Automation \*

## **Retail Management**

POS Systems Commerce Management System

**Shop Fitting** 

## **Online**

## **Grocery Picking**

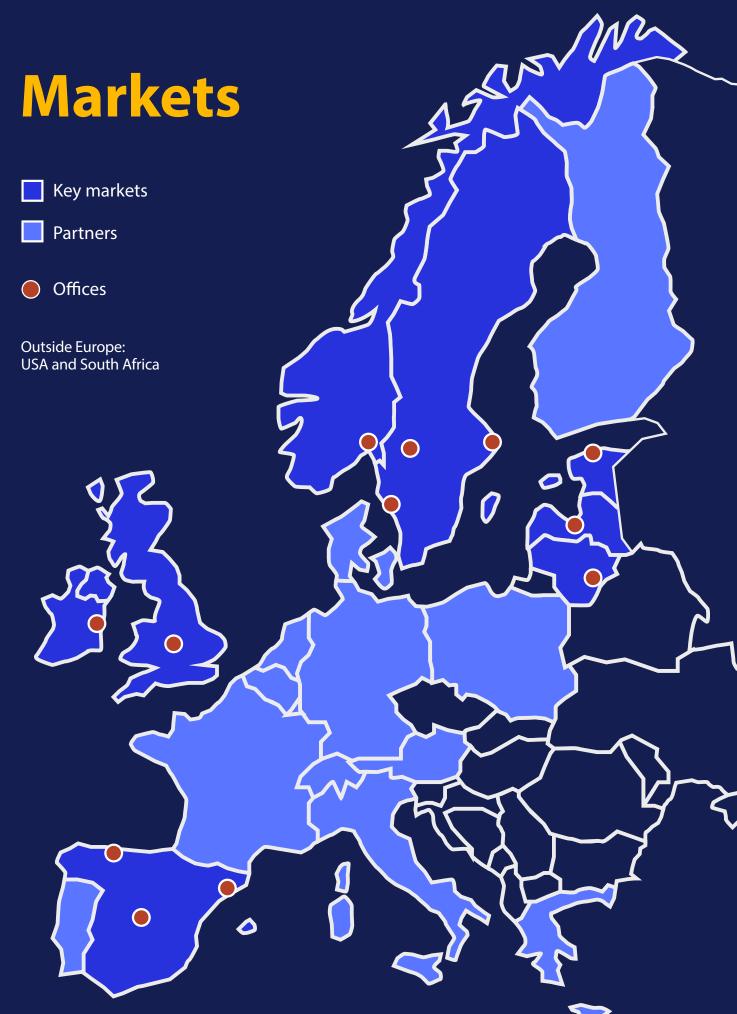
Order Picking solution \* AutoStore Automated Fulfilment

#### Last mile

Click & Collect Lockers \*
Drive-thru \*
Pick-up in-store \*
Home delivery with
route optimization



<sup>\*</sup> Proprietary technologies



## **Nordics**

The business segment Nordics currently consist of the operating business units in Norway and Sweden. The revenue also includes some deliveries to other parts of the Nordics like Denmark and Iceland.

	Q2		Q2 YTD		Year
MNOK	2023	2022	2023	2022	2022
- Norway	82.7	103.5	209.6	231.3	386.1
- Sweden	77.5	89.0	164.2	175.7	358.0
Total Revenue	160.2	192.5	373.8	407.1	744.1
EBITDA	10.1	20.1	25.3	37.7	67.2
- In %	6.3 %	10.4 %	6.8 %	9.3 %	9.0 %
EBT	8.4	19.1	22.0	34.0	59.5
- In %	5.3 %	9.9 %	5.9 %	8.4 %	8.0 %

The revenue in the Nordics declined by 16.8% compared to the same quarter last year, following a very strong quarter last year with a couple of large product roll-outs. EBITDA declined by 10 MNOK to 10.1 MNOK in the quarter mainly due to the reduced revenue. Increased cost of payroll and OPEX due to salary adjustments and inflation, were covered by increased gross margin in the period. Year to date, the business segment had a revenue decline of 8.2%, and a negative EBITDA development of 12.4 MNOK.

#### **Norway**

	Q2		YTD		2 YTD		Year
MNOK	2023	2022	2023	2022	2022		
Product Sales	56.2	73.3	155.0	171.4	269.7		
Service	26.5	30.2	54.6	60.0	116.4		
Revenue	82.7	103.5	209.6	231.3	386.1		

The revenue for Norway in Q2 declined by 20.1% compared to the same quarter last year, whilst year to date the decline is 9.4%. Large installation projects can create a volatile quarter-by-quarter comparison, and in 2022 both Pricer ESL, Vensafe and Cash Management projects led to an all-time high Q2 revenue. On the positive side, the final delivery of an AutoStore MFC solution to ColliCare, and further progress on the same solution to DLVRY affected the financial figures positively. Grocery retailers have postponed new investments decisions due to the challenging macro environment, but it is anticipated that the performance will improve in the second half of 2023.

#### Sweden

	Q2		Υ٦	YTD		
MNOK	2023	2022	2023	2022	2022	
Product Sales	43.2	59.6	96.4	108.4	225.1	
Service	34.3	29.4	67.8	67.3	132.9	
Revenue	77.5	89.0	164.2	175.7	358.0	

The revenue in Sweden declined by 13% compared to the same quarter last year, with a 6.6% negative revenue development year to date. The reduced revenue stems mostly from reduced installation of Pricer ESL and E-commerce solutions. Cash Management and Shop Flow Logistics outperformed same quarter last year, reflecting the local managements' focus on a broader product portfolio in the Swedish market. The service revenue grew by 16.7% in the period. Support fees from a larger installed base of Pricer ESL, and services related to Shop Flow Logistics showed improved figures this quarter.



## International incl. R&D

The business segment International incl. R&D consists of the operating business units in the Baltics, Spain and UK/Ireland, in addition to partner sales in the rest of Europe and rest of world. The ongoing R&D activities for own products have been allocated to this segment.

	Q2		Q2		Q2 YTD		Year
MNOK	2023	2022	2023	2022	2022		
- Baltic	75.0	47.9	121.0	92.2	204.6		
- Spain	22.5	18.0	42.6	40.7	76.8		
- UK & Ireland	56.3	30.3	134.5	30.3	241.3		
- Rest of Europe	23.1	32.1	46.7	51.3	105.7		
Total Revenue	176.9	128.3	344.7	214.5	628.3		
EBITDA	0.2	2.2	6.6	7.2	53.9		
- In %	0.1 %	1.7 %	1.9 %	3.4 %	8.6 %		
EBT	-7.9	-4.8	-9.5	-3.2	21.1		
- In %	-4.5 %	-3.7 %	-2.8 %	-1.5 %	3.4 %		

The business segment International included R&D increased the revenue by 37.9% compared to same quarter last year. The growth was 23.1% excluding the acquired business in UK and Ireland. The EBITDA ended at 0.2 MNOK, down 2.0 MNOK from second quarter last year. The Baltic and Spanish business performed well above last year, while the UK and Irish business units have seen customers postpone the starting point of agreed projects leading to lower utilization than expected. The projects are expected to start from Q3 2023 and onwards. As planned and announced, investments in R&D for the E-commerce was reduced to be more aligned with the market sentiment, and the cost year to date has been taken down by 30% compared to the same period last year.

#### **Baltics**

	Q2		YT	YTD		
MNOK	2023	2022	2023	2022	2022	
Product Sales	44.1	26.3	62.5	47.7	100.2	
Service	31.0	21.6	58.5	44.5	104.4	
Revenue	75.0	47.9	121.0	92.2	204.6	

Revenue from the Baltic operations increased by an impressive 56.6% compared to the same quarter last year. The largest solution areas Checkout Efficiency and Software delivery projects both increased by more than 50%. The first pilot stores from the announced framework agreement for Pricer ESL to grocery retailer Rimi in Q1 has already contributed with revenue in the second quarter. If the next pilots give equally positive outcome on the retailers' return on investment, the agreement will result in ESL installations in up to 300 stores. Year to date the business grew more than 30%, compared to an already very strong last year.

## **Spain**

	Q2 YTD		Year		
MNOK	2023	2022	2023	2022	2022
Product Sales	17.3	14.7	32.6	32.9	60.2
Service	5.3	3.4	10.0	7.8	16.6
Revenue	22.5	18.0	42.6	40.7	76.8

The Spanish revenue increased by 25.1% compared with the same quarter last year, and by that the business segment has achieved a positive development year to date. Cash Management solutions represented a substantial part of the deliveries, and the segment had a positive EBITDA contribution both in the quarter and year to date. This is in stark contrast to earlier years with losses, and proves the successful turnaround of our Spanish operations.

The new subsidiary, StrongPoint Cash Tech S.L., is managing the development of the new cash management solution, for which we have very high expectations. The company is consolidated into StrongPoint financial figures from Q2 2023. The development cost of 11 MNOK year to date was capitalized (as a deviation to the normal accounting policy). StrongPoint currently owns 60% of the company.

#### **UK & Ireland**

	Q2 YTD		Year		
MNOK	2023	2022	2023	2022	2022
Product Sales	-	-	-	-	-
Service	56.3	30.3	134.5	30.3	241.3
Revenue	56.3	30.3	134.5	30.3	241.3

Air Link Group (ALS), now rebranded as ALS StrongPoint, was acquired on June 1, 2022, hence only one month of revenue was included in the last year's Q2 figures. The revenue in June last year was exceptionally high due to the order backlog following the pandemic, and as such this year's activity level is comparatively guite a lot lower.

A few large customers have decided to postpone the implementation of some of their planned projects to later in the year or into 2024. ALS employees have already been allocated and reserved for these projects and thus the project delays have a short-term impact on operational costs as resources have not been utilized at levels previously estimated.

The projects have not been cancelled and are expected to be delivered in the quarters to come. Additionally, investments in sales resources to sell StrongPoint solutions in UK and Ireland contributed negatively to EBITDA in Q2 2023. However, we expect good future return on these investments as we consider many of our solutions being ripe for the UK and Irish markets.

#### **Partners**

	Q	Q2 YTD Y		YTD	
MNOK	2023	2022	2023	2022	2022
Product Sales	21.8	30.8	44.0	48.7	103.6
Service	1.3	1.3	2.7	2.6	2.0
Revenue	23.1	32.1	46.7	51.3	105.7

Partners represent an important contributor to StrongPoint sales. In Q2 2023 the revenue declined by 28% from a comparatively high Q2 2022 revenue. The CashGuard deliveries to Bullion IT in South Africa, and Self Checkout deliveries to Partner Tech to be delivered into Poland, can vary from quarter to quarter and impact the quarterly comparison figures. Year to date, revenue is down by 9.1%.

## **Product segments**

## **In-store Productivity**

	Q	Q2 YTD		Year	
MNOK	2023	2022	2023	2022	2022
Product Sales	57.0	83.2	135.6	189.0	339.0
Service	24.7	21.9	49.3	44.3	87.2
Revenue	81.7	105.1	184.9	233.4	426.2

Revenue for the In-Store Productivity segment was down by 22.3% compared to same quarter last year. The outcome was partly expected as large Pricer ESL contracts in Norway were delivered in Q2 2022. However, in Sweden we have experienced a slower quarter for ESLs, compared with last year, to a large extent attributed to the challenging macro environment leading to investments being postponed. On the other hand, in Q2 the first pilot stores from the announced ESL order for Rimi in the Baltics were installed.

**Payment Solutions** 

	Q	2	YT	YTD				
MNOK	2023	2022	2023	2022	2022			
Product Sales	41.7	39.3	86.0	90.4	164.6			
Service	28.1	30.6	56.5	60.8	120.0			
Revenue	69.8	69.9	142.5	151.3	284.6			

The revenue from Payment Solutions was on par with last year in the second quarter, down 5.8% compared to last years' year to date figures. We achieved a positive growth in installations in Spain and Sweden overcoming the lower number of installations in Norway, resulting in a positive growth of 6.1% in the quarter for product sales. The service revenue declined in the quarter, as expected given the lower the number of operating systems in mature markets.

## **Check Out Efficiency**

	Q	2	YT	YTD			
MNOK	2023	2022	2023	2022	2022		
Product Sales	40.7	35.8	59.4	59.9	115.9		
Service	11.5	9.2	20.9	18.1	39.4		
Revenue	52.2	45.0	80.3	78.0	155.3		

Check Out Efficiency increased by 16.0% compared to the same quarter last year. The number of Self Checkout installations grew by a staggering 56% in the Baltics in the period, outdoing the lower number of Vensafes installed in the period, in Norway and Sweden. The year-to-date figures for Checkout Efficiency show a positive growth of 2.9%, in which service revenue has increased by a solid 15% compared to last year as the number of operating systems is growing.

## **Shop Fitting**

	Q2	2	YT	Year	
MNOK	2023	2022	2023	2022	2022
Product Sales	-	-	-	-	-
Service	56.3	30.3	134.5	30.3	241.3
Revenue	56.3	30.3	134.5	30.3	241.3

The Shop Fitting product segment reflects the acquired company Air Link Group, which was consolidated from 1. June 2022. The 2022 figures are described by the local management as unusually high as the business had a large backlog of orders following the pandemic. During the quarter, some large customers have postponed the start-up of already ordered refurbishment and shop fitting projects, due to the macro instability. The orders are not cancelled, but the delay reduces the utilization of staff allocated to these projects and thus has a negative impact on operational cost margin.

Other retail technology

	Q2	2	Y1	Year	
MNOK	2023	2022	2023	2022	2022
Product Sales	26.2	21.4	46.3	39.8	85.9
Service	23.6	17.0	46.4	37.1	84.6
Revenue	49.8	38.4	92.7	76.9	170.5

Other retail technology, mainly software projects in the Baltics, increased by a very strong 29.6% in the period. The revenue consists mostly of software, services, and hardware deliveries, both from recurring operation and development projects, for the large grocery retailers in the Baltics. In addition, the installed base of POS solutions for Gebr. Heinemann for airports has increased, leading to increased service and support income.

## **E-commerce logistics**

	Q	2	YT	YTD			
MNOK	2023	2022	2023	2022	2022		
Product Sales	17.1	21.0	63.2	29.9	53.4		
Service	10.3	11.2	20.5	21.8	41.0		
Revenue	27.4	32.2	83.7	51.7	94.5		

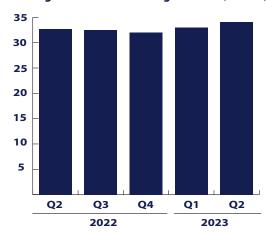
Revenue from e-commerce declined by 14.9%. The decline follows the general e-grocery development as a consequence of consumer shifts' in the current macroeconomic environment. Grocery Locker sales were affected by some temporary investment freezes, and the Order Picking software is impacted by the relative decline of online order volume. In the short and medium term the main focus is succeeding in the UK market where e-grocery penetration is high and efficient picking and delivery options are in high demand. The long term outlook for e-groceries across markets continues to be positive as groceries catch-up to other retail segments which have progressively gone online.

The MFC project to Collicare has been successfully completed this quarter, and we see a presentation of this later in this report. In addition, further progress up to 90% on the MFC project to DLVRY has been recognized in Q2. The projects are the main reason for the extremely positive growth of 62% year to date.

#### **Technology and R&D update**

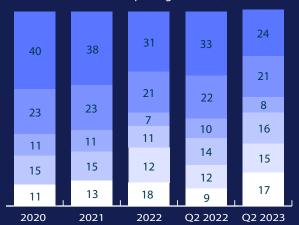
Following the massive growth in e-commerce due to the pandemic, the growth has retracted driven by macroeconomic challenges and shifts in consumer behavior. Notwithstanding, the collective understanding among grocery retailers in our core markets holds that e-commerce sales will regain momentum. Hence, in the medium and not least long term we expect e-grocery to play a vital role in sales growth. Consequently, we retain confidence in the market demand for our highly efficient solutions that create customer value and ensure sustainable profitability in online grocery. In response to current market conditions, we have adapted our staffing levels and development plans accordingly. Our principal objective now is pivoted towards facilitating seamless migration for our existing customers from previous versions of the platform.

Rolling 12 months recurring revenue (MNOK)



## **StrongPoint Group**

Relative share of revenue per segment (%)



#### Segments

In-store Productivity

Payment Solutions

E-commerce logistics

Check Out Efficiency

Shop Fitting

Other retail technology





## **StrongPoint facility**

In 2022 StrongPoint won a competitive tender to build an AutoStore cube storage solution for ColliCare, a third-party logistics company. The aim was to help cut delivery time for their e-commerce customer, IKEA.

The project was completed on-time and the micro-fulfillment centre was opened in April 2023. Before, IKEA's online customers were able to receive their mail orders, on average, in 3-7 days. Now, 4 out of 5 customers will get their orders within 2 days.

We know that the grocery industry, one of StrongPoint's key markets, is very demanding. So we knew that with StrongPoint, we would get a team working to the highest of standards and who is obsessed with efficiency.

Ole Bakurowitz, Product Manager at ColliCare



#### **About ColliCare**

ColliCare is an industry-leading provider of e-commerce logistics, including shipping and transport. They focus heavily on Scandinavia, Europe and Asia.



Click here to watch an interview with Ole Bakurowitz in ColliCare on StrongPoint's successful AutoStore implementation

## **Cash flow and equity**

Cash flow from operational activities in the second quarter was 60.2 MNOK (-37.3). Changes in working capital, especially receivables explains at large the positive development. The receivables have traditionally low risk in StrongPoint.

Disposable funds were 129.6 MNOK (131.2) per June 30, 2023, of which 92.2 MNOK was available credit facility. The net interest-bearing debt increased by 15.0 MNOK compared to last quarter and ended at 139.6 MNOK. The Group's holding of own shares at the end of the second quarter amounted to 503,311, which represents 1.1 per cent of the outstanding shares.

The Group has shareholder programs for the Board of Directors, the Group executive management and the employees. 83,915 shares have been assigned so far in 2023 (123,975 in the year 2022). StrongPoint has a long-term incentive program for management and key employees. More information on the program can be found in note 6.

Accounting year	General meeting		Dividend per share
2022	27.04.2023		0.90
2021	28.04.2022		0.80
2020	28.04.2021		0.70
2019	22.10.2020		0.60
2018	26.04.2019		0.55
2017	24.04.2018		0.50
2016	20.04.2017		0.50
2016	05.01.2017	Extraordinary	1.00
2015	28.04.2016		0.45
2014	30.04.2015		0.35
2013	25.04.2014		0.30
2012	26.04.2013		0.25
2011	08.05.2012		0.25

#### **Statement from the Board**

The Board and group CEO have today considered and approved StrongPoint's financial statements for the second quarter and first half 2023. including comparative consolidated figures for the second quarter and first half 2022. This report has been prepared in accordance with IAS 34 on interim financial reporting as determined by the European Union, and with supplementary requirements pursuant to the Norwegian Securities Trading Act. The Board and CEO hereby declare, to the best of their knowledge, that the financial statements for the second quarter and first half 2023 have been prepared in accordance with prevailing accounting principles and that the information in the financial statements gives a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit of the group taken as a whole per 30 June 2023 and per 30 June 2022. To the best of their knowledge, the report gives a true and fair overview of important events during the accounting period and the impact of these events on the financial statements.

## The Board of Directors of StrongPoint ASA

Oslo, 13 July 2023

Morthen Johannessen Chairman

Audun Nordtveit
Director

Ingeborg Molden Hegstad
Director

Peter Wirén Director Cathrine Laksfoss Director

**Jacob Tveraabak** CEO

## **Consolidated income statement**

KNOK	Q2 2023	Q2 2022	Chg. %	YTD 2023	YTD 2022	Chg. %	Year 2022
Operating revenue	337 162	320 849	5.1 %	718 558	621 528	15.6 %	1 372 392
Cost of goods sold	201 132	196 231	2.5 %	443 168	380 918	16.3 %	850 956
Payroll	95 584	75 255	27.0 %	185 961	143 383	29.7 %	305 842
Share based compensation	1 491	667	123.7 %	3 008	2 105	42.9 %	5 079
Other operating expenses	36 874	38 884	-5.2 %	70 866	73 803	-4.0 %	134 976
Total operating expenses	335 081	311 036	7.7 %	703 004	600 211	17.1 %	1 296 853
EBITDA	2 081	9 813	-78.8 %	15 554	21 318	-27.0 %	75 540
Depreciation tangible assets	6 598	5 818	13.4 %	13 436	10 818	24.2 %	25 353
Depreciation intangible assets	2 816	2 608	8.0 %	5 430	4 359	24.6 %	12 840
EBIT	-7 333	1 387	-628.8 %	-3 312	6 141	-153.9 %	37 347
Interest expenses	2 316	266	771.1 %	4 446	346	1184.7 %	3 427
Other financial expenses/currency differences	-8 517	-6 122	-39.1 %	-14 129	-4 888	-189.1 %	-3 857
Profit from AC. Service companies	81	62	32.1 %	180	135	33.2 %	388
EBT	-1 051	7 305	-114.4 %	6 552	10 818	-39.4 %	38 165
Taxes	-104	2 031	-105.1 %	2 303	2 374	-3.0 %	9 060
Profit after tax	-947	5 274	-118.0 %	4 249	8 445	-49.7 %	29 105
Earnings per share:							
Number of shares outstanding	44 888 352	44 888 352		44 888 352	44 888 352		44 888 352
Av. number of shares - own shares	44 380 322	44 080 320		44 349 957	43 902 844		44 260 195
Av. number of shares diluted- own shares	47 840 322	47 080 320		47 809 957	46 902 844		46 928 945
EPS	-0.02	0.12		0.10	0.19		0.66
Diluted EPS	-0.02	0.11		0.09	0.18		0.62
EBITDA per share	0.05	0.22		0.35	0.49		1.71
Diluted EBITDA per share	0.04	0.21		0.33	0.45		1.61
Total earnings:							
Profit/loss after tax	-947	5 274	-118.0 %	4 249	8 445	-49.7 %	29 105
Exchange differences on foreign operations	-1 018	9 562	-110.6 %	37 355	445	8296.0 %	-3 069
Total earnings	-1 965	14 836	-113.2 %	41 604	8 890	368.0 %	26 036
Of which							
Majority interest	- 1 824	14 836		41 745	8 890		26 036
Minority interest	-141	-		-141	-		-

## **Consolidated balance sheet**

KNOK	30.06.2023	30.06.2022	31.03.2023	31.12.2022
ASSETS				
Intangible assets	114 670	92 602	86 917	82 503
Goodwill	171 231	159 565	171 513	159 918
Tangible assets	27 031	25 403	26 683	23 755
Right-of-use assets	105 570	40 030	82 698	82 698
Long term investments	4 843	5 304	6 617	4 978
Other long term receivables	1 438	1 274	20 364	15 147
Deferred tax	19 220	17 752	18 103	20 925
Non-current assets	444 004	341 930	412 896	389 924
Inventories	247 766	214 253	218 165	232 124
Accounts receivables	230 190	271 730	304 827	274 348
Prepaid expenses	34 659	25 026	42 928	25 731
Other receivables	15 340	9 895	14 452	16 265
Cash and cash equivalents	37 396	50 470	29 014	47 248
Current assets	565 351	571 373	609 386	595 716
TOTAL ASSETS	1 009 355	913 304	1 022 283	985 640
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES				
Share capital	27 831	27 831	27 831	27 831
Holding of own shares	-312	-77	-320	-362
Other equity	484 130	469 141	523 850	479 738
Total equity	511 649	496 895	551 361	507 207
Long term interest bearing liabilities	9 002	11 640	8 764	8 087
Long term lease liabilities	80 133	25 483	61 617	59 426
Other long term liabilities	155	-	42	-
Deferred tax liabilities	20 997	26 600	20 997	20 997
Total long term liabilities	110 287	63 723	91 420	88 511
Short term interest bearing liabilities	62 398	23 354	60 881	29 670
Short term lease liabilities	25 437	14 547	22 372	21 777
Accounts payable	146 084	130 522	135 051	147 839
Taxes payable	-2 180	5 933	4 958	11 126
Other short term liabilities	155 680	178 329	156 239	179 511
Total short term liabilities	387 419	352 686	379 501	389 923
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	1 009 355	913 304	1 022 283	985 640

## **Overview of changes in the equity**

	Majority interest								
KNOK	Share capital	Trea- sury shares	Other paid-in equity	Trans- lation varian- ces	Share Option Pro- gram	Other equity	Total equity	Mino- rity interest	Total equity
Equity 31.12.2021	27 513	-364	351 262	35 824	5 881	78 076	498 190	-	498 190
Purchase/sale of own shares						-10 278	-10 278		-10 278
Dividend 2021						-34 991	-34 991		-34 991
Share Option Program					5 420		5 420		5 420
Acquisition of ALS paid in shares	318	310				22 202	22 830		22 830
Profit this year after tax						29 105	29 105		29 105
Other comprehensive income and expenses				-3 070			-3 070		-3 070
Equity 31.12.2022	27 831	-54	351 262	32 754	11 301	84 114	507 207	-	507 207
Purchase/sale of own shares						1 920	1 920		1 920
Dividend 2022						-39 935	-39 935		-39 935
Share Option Program					852		852		852
Profit this year after tax						4 396	4 396	-147	4 249
Other comprehensive income and expenses 1)				37 349			37 349	6	37 355
Equity 30.06.2023	27 831	-54	351 262	70 103	12 154	50 495	511 790	-141	511 649

<sup>1)</sup> The balance sheet is converted with the closing rate at the balance sheet date, while the income statement is converted with the average monthly exchange rate. The net effect of the translation is recognized as translation differences in other comprehensive income and expenses. Due to weaker NOK after 31.12.2022, the value of the balance sheet from our foreign companies has increased significantly and this is booked against the Comprehensive income.

## **Statement of cash flow**

KNOK	Q2 2023	Q2 2022	YTD 2023	YTD 2022	Year 2022
Ordinary profit before tax	-1 051	7 305	6 552	10 818	38 165
Net interest	2 316	266	4 446	346	3 427
Tax paid	-8 818	-4 726	-15 685	-9 115	-17 989
Share of profit, associated companies	-81	-62	-180	-135	-388
Ordinary depreciation	9 414	8 426	18 867	15 177	38 193
Profit / loss on sale of fixed assets	-174	-9	-174	-9	-84
Change in inventories	-28 405	-12 118	459	17 274	-1 146
Change in receivables	78 988	-5 281	66 052	-46 131	-48 506
Change in accounts payable	8 675	-10 764	-14 403	-7 803	10 351
Change in other accrued items	-618	-20 354	-49 916	-5 887	-5 390
Cash flow from operational activities	60 246	-37 317	16 016	-25 466	16 633
Payments for fixed assets	-5 775	-4 748	-6 416	-6 692	-11 144
Payment for intangible assets 1)	-11 542	-	-11 542	-	-
Investments in other companies	1 539	67	-	-	-15
Payment from sale of fixed assets	-	-	-	-	60
Net effect acquisitions	-	-85 284	-	-85 284	-88 695
Net effect divestment	-	-		19 641	19 641
Dividends received from associated companies	300	-	300	-	200
Interest received	580	218	742	542	772
Cash flow from investment activities	-14 898	-89 747	-16 916	-71 793	-79 181
Purchase/sale of own shares	291	285	1 920	-901	-10 278
Change in long-term debt	-3 813	-5 717	-12 055	-9 702	-23 540
Change in long-term receivables	4 273	_	_	_	-13 668
Change in overdraft	3 353	21 469	40 462	19 080	20 934
Interest paid	-2 896	-484	-5 188	-888	-4 199
Dividend paid	-39 935	-34 991	-39 935	-34 991	-34 991
Cash flow from financing activities	-38 727	-19 438	-14 796	-27 403	-65 741
Net cash flow in the period	6 621	-146 502	-15 696	-124 662	-128 290
Cash and cash equivalents at the start of the period	29 014	195 281	47 248	174 198	174 198
Effect of foreign exchange rate fluctuations on foreign currency deposits	1 761	1 690	5 844	934	1 339
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	37 396	50 470	37 397	50 470	47 248

<sup>1)</sup> See note 2

## **Key figures**

KNOK	Q2 2023	Q1 2023	Q4 2022	Q3 2022	Q2 2022	YTD 2023	YTD 2022
Income statement							
Operating revenue continued operations	337 162	381 396	404 980	345 884	320 849	718 558	621 528
EBITDA continued operations	2 081	13 473	33 553	20 669	9 813	15 554	21 318
EBITA continued operations	-4 517	6 635	25 242	14 446	3 995	2 118	10 500
Operating profit EBIT continued operations	-7 333	4 021	20 978	10 228	1 387	-3 312	6 141
Ordinary profit before tax (EBT) continued operations	-1 051	7 603	17 436	9 911	7 305	6 552	10 818
Profit/loss after tax continued operations	-947	5 196	12 628	8 033	5 274	4 249	8 445
EBITDA-margin	0.6 %	3.5 %	8.3 %	6.0 %	3.1 %	2.2 %	3.4 %
EBT-margin	-0.3 %	2.0 %	4.3 %	2.9 %	2.3 %	0.9 %	1.7 %
Balance sheet							
Non-current assets	444 004	412 896	389 924	376 906	341 930	444 004	341 930
Current assets	565 351	609 386	595 716	623 488	571 373	565 351	571 373
Total assets	1 009 355	1 022 283	985 640	1 000 395	913 304	1 009 355	913 304
Total equity	511 649	551 361	507 207	509 071	496 895	511 649	496 895
Total long term liabilities	110 287	91 420	88 511	98 031	63 723	110 287	63 723
Total short term liabilities	387 419	379 501	389 923	393 292	352 686	387 419	352 686
Working capital	331 872	387 941	358 632	371 147	355 461	331 872	355 461
Equity ratio	50.7 %	53.9 %	51.5 %	50.9 %	54.4 %	50.7 %	54.4 %
Liquidity ratio	145.9 %	160.6 %	152.8 %	158.5 %	162.0 %	145.9 %	162.0 %
Net interest bearing debt	139 574	124 619	71 712	66 939	24 555	139 574	24 555
Net leverage multiples	2.00	1.61	0.95	1.08	0.50	2.00	0.50
Cash Flow							
Cash flow from operational activities	60 246	-44 229	38 091	4 008	-37 317	16 016	-25 466
Net change in liquid assets	6 621	-22 317	-6 403	2 775	-146 502	-15 696	-124 662
Share information							
Number of shares	44 888 352	44 888 352	44 888 352	44 888 352	44 888 352	44 888 352	44 888 352
Weighted average shares outstanding	44 380 322	44 319 256	44 482 947	44 740 494	44 080 320	44 349 957	43 902 844
EBT per shares continued operations	-0.02	0.17	0.39	0.22	0.17	0.15	0.25
Earnings per share continued operations	-0.02	0.12	0.28	0.18	0.12	0.10	0.19
Earnings per share. adjusted	0.04	0.18	0.38	0.27	0.18	0.22	0.29
Equity per share	11.53	12.44	11.40	11.38	11.27	11.54	11.32
Dividend per share	0.90	-	-	-	0.80	0.90	0.80
Employees							
Number of employees (end of period)	519	514	511	517	513	519	513
Average number of employees	517	513	514	515	451	515	420
IFRS 16 effects continued operations							
Reduced OPEX	6 142	6 371	7 188	5 179	4 685	12 513	8 792
Increased depreciation	5 094	5 437	6 277	4 3 1 0	4 489	10 531	8 404
Increased interest expenses	1 048	934	911	869	197	1 982	388
EBT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cash flow from operational activities	6 142	6 371	7 188	5 179	4 685	12 513	8 792
Cash flow from financing activities	-6 142	-6 371	-7 188	-5 179	-4 685	-12 513	-8 792

## Note 1 Confirmation of reporting framework

The condensed and consolidated quarterly financial statements are prepared in accordance with IAS 34 Interim Financial Reporting. The quarterly financial statements do not contain all the information required in an annual financial statement and should be read in connection with the Group financial statements for 2022.

## **Note 2 Key accounting principles**

The accounting principles for the report are described in note 2 in the annual financial statements for 2022, except capitalization of intangible assets related to the new cash management solution developed for a customer in Iberia. The development is performed through a new legal company in Spain called StrongPoint Cash Tech S.L., which are consolidated from Q2 2023. StrongPoint currently owns 60% of the company, the minority interest can be found in the equity bridge. The Group financial statements for 2022 were prepared in accordance with the IFRS principles and interpretations thereof, as defined by the EU, as well as other disclosure requirements pursuant to the Norwegian Accounting Act and the Oslo Stock Exchange regulations and rules applicable as at 31.12.2022. The quarterly report and the interim financial statements have not been revised by auditor.

## **Note 3 Segment information**

#### Reporting segments

	Q	2 2023		Q	2 2022		YTD 2023 YTD 2022				Year 2022				
MNOK	Revenue	EBITDA	EBT	Revenue	EBITDA	EBT	Revenue	EBITDA	EBT	Revenue	EBITDA	EBT	Revenue	EBITDA	EBT
Nordics	160.2	10.1	8.4	192.5	20.1	19.1	373.8	25.3	22.0	407.1	37.7	34.0	744.1	67.2	59.5
Internati- onal incl R&D	176.9	0.2	-7.9	128.3	2.2	-4.8	344.7	6.6	-9.5	214.5	7.2	-3.2	628.3	53.9	21.1
ASA/Elim	-	-8.2	-1.6	-	-12.5	-7.0	-	-16.4	-5.9	-	-23.6	-20.0	-	-45.6	-42.5
Total	337.2	2.1	-1.1	320.8	9.8	7.3	718.6	15.6	6.6	621.5	21.3	10.8	1 372.4	75.5	38.2

#### Operating revenue by product and service

	Q2 2023		2023	YTD 2022		Year 2022				
MNOK	New sales	Service *								
Nordics	99.4	60.8	132.7	59.8	251.4	122.4	288.0	119.1	494.8	249.3
International incl. R&D	83.2	93.7	68.0	60.3	139.1	205.6	121.1	93.4	264.1	364.2
Elim / ASA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	182.6	154.6	200.7	120.1	390.5	328.1	409.1	212.4	758.9	613.5

<sup>\*)</sup> Service and licenses

## **Note 4 Related parties**

No significant transactions between the Group and related parties had taken place per 30 June 2023.

## Note 5 Top 20 shareholders per 30 June 2023

No.	Name	No. of shares	%
1	STRØMSTANGEN AS	3 933 092	8.76
2	SOLE ACTIVE AS	2 221 717	4.95
3	V. EIENDOM HOLDING AS	1 865 000	4.15
4	PICTET & CIE (EUROPE) S.A.	1 791 821	3.99
5	HSBC BANK PLC	1 533 890	3.42
6	ZETTERBERG. GEORG (incl. fully owned companies)	1 440 000	3.21
7	NORDNET BANK AB	1 275 337	2.84
8	AVANZA BANK AB	1 249 740	2.78
9	RING. JAN	1 176 648	2.62
10	VERDADERO AS	1 118 846	2.49
11	VERDIPAPIRFONDET DNB SMB	886 783	1.98
12	EVENSEN. TOR COLKA	855 000	1.90
13	WAALER AS	720 000	1.60
14	HAUSTA INVESTOR AS	700 000	1.56
15	JOHANSEN. STEIN	580 000	1.29
16	MP PENSJON PK	561 402	1.25
17	BANQUE PICTET & CIE SA	559 746	1.25
18	ALS KINGFISHER LIMITED	506 156	1.13
19	EUROPEAN RETAIL ENGINEERING LIMITED	506 156	1.13
20	STRONGPOINT ASA	503 311	1.12
	Sum 20 largest shareholders	23 984 645	53.43
	Sum 2 531 other shareholders	20 903 707	46.57
	Sum all 2 551 shareholders	44 888 352	100.00

## Note 6 Share option program

Total costs and Social Security Provisions	2020	2021	2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Total
Total IFRS cost	440	5 441	5 420	1 308	1 896	14 506
Total Social security provisions	36	737	- 341	209	- 405	236
Granted instruments:						

Activity	Number of instru- ments	Weighted Average Strike Price
Outstanding OB (01.01.2023)	2 668 750	
Granted	1 185 000	21,77
Exercised	-300 000	
Terminated	-93 750	
Outstanding CB (30.06.2023)	3 460 000	
Vested CB	768 750	

#### Method of valuation:

The fair value of share options granted is estimated at the date of grant using the Black-Scholes-Merton Option Pricing Model. The model uses the following parameters; the exercise price, the life of the option, the current price of the underlying shares, the expected volatility of the share price, the dividends expected on the shares, and the risk-free interest rate for the life of the option.

#### **Vesting requirements:**

The vesting of the options is dependent on the participant still being employed at Strongpoint at the time of the vesting.

#### Method of settlement:

All StrongPoint ASA options are intended to be settled in equity, but can be fulfilled through a cash-out settlement at the Boards' discretion.

#### Vesting period

The options will vest over three years, with ½ vesting after one year, ½ after two years, and the remaining 2/4 after three years. The split in vesting underpins the retention ambition of the program. Any non-exercised options expire five years after grant.

#### **Definitions**

Working capital Inventories + accounts receivables – accounts payable

Equity per share Book value equity / number of shares

Operating revenue Sales revenue

EBITDA Operating profit + depreciation fixed assets and intangible assets

EBITA Operating profit + amortization of intangible assets

EBIT Operating profit

EBITDA-margin EBITDA / operating revenue

EBT Profit before tax

EBT-margin EBT / operating revenue

Equity ratio

Book value equity / total assets

Liquidity ratio

Current assets / short term debt

Earnings per share

Profit after tax / number of shares

Diluted Number of shares minus own shares plus shares granted in share

option program

Earnings per share adjusted Profit after tax + amortization of intangible assets / number of shares

Net leverage multiple Net Debt / 12 months rolling operating revenue

Net change in liquid assets The total changes in cash flow from operational activities, investment activities

and financing activities

Minority interest The minority part of the net profit /equity in companies where StrongPoint

owns between 50.1% - 99% of the shares.

