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# ANNUAL REPORT 2003

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# Successful Hands integration concludes a difficult 2003

- Columbus IT Partner reported revenues of DKK 543m (DKK 607m in 2002), which was in line with the Company's most recent forecasts for DKK 540m, cf. Stock Exchange Release of 14 November 2003 (No. 20/2003).
- Earnings from operation (EBITDA) were DKK 11m (DKK 8m in 2002). The Company also realized DKK 8.4m from disposal of unbooked assets deriving from the acquisition of Hands Danmark A/S, although in accordance with Danish accounting guidelines, these were not booked as income but transferred to the opening balance. The November 2003 forecast for EBITDA of DKK 20-25m included these disposals.
- On 1 July 2003, Columbus IT Partner sold its Icelandic subsidiary, with the gains of DKK 17m making positive impact on EBITDA.

- 2003 results improved by DKK 60m to a deficit of DKK -40m, primarily as a result of sizeable goodwill amortization payments in 2002.
- The Company's rights issue concluded on 2 July 2003, with the proceeds of DKK 80.5m being used in part to reduce indebtedness to Nordea Bank Danmark A/S and Gaardboe Holding ApS.
- Hands Danmark A/S was acquired on 1 October 2003, also by way of a rights issue for Hands ASA. The acquisition consolidated Columbus IT Partner's position as the largest reseller of Microsoft Business Solutions in terms of revenues, number of staff, number of installations and global coverage.
- For 2004, Columbus IT Partner is forecasting revenues of approx. DKK 625m and EBITDA to more than double to around DKK 30m, with modest pre-tax earnings.



Columbus IT Partner reported revenues for 2003 of DKK 543m and EBITDA were DKK 11m. The Company also realized DKK 8.4m from disposal of unbooked assets.

On 1 October 2003, Columbus IT Partner acquired Hands ASA's Danish company, Hands Danmark A/S. The acquisition has given Columbus IT Partner a significantly stronger market position as the leading reseller in Microsoft Business Solutions for small and mid-sized companies in the Danish market. The acquisition also contributed to much-needed sector consolidation.

In 2003, the Company succeeded in making a break through for the really big international customers, with a large number of contracts being signed for completion over the next 1–3 years; a development borne by Columbus IT Partner's own internationalization and by Microsoft Business Solutions' acquisition of Navision.

Columbus IT Partner's results for 2002 and sizeable goodwill amortization payments led to the need for a capital injection. Recapitalization was achieved by way of a successful rights issue in July 2003, which also saw the Group's lead banker Nordea become shareholders in Columbus IT Partner. The Board is currently empowered to issue shares at a nominal value of DKK 4,339,005. Following the rights issue and the Hands Danmark A/S acquisition, the Company has seen its shares being traded in significantly greater volumes. Average daily trades following the transaction amounted to about 127,000 shares compared to approx. 39,000 shares a day between January and October 2003. Shareholders rose in 2003 by more than 700 to around 3,700.

In 2003 as part of its continuing focus strategy, Columbus IT Partner also divested a series of non-core compa-

nies, business areas and products. The most significant of these was the disposal of Icelandic subsidiary AX Business Intelligence, which was successfully sold on attractive terms, while retaining proprietorship of the Retail Suite product portfolio. A competency center in Denmark is undertaking its continuing development.

In 2003, the subsidiaries in UK and France, which had been reporting operating losses for some years, saw the results of the turnaround process and reported both growth and consistent profits throughout the year, and this is set to continue in 2004.

The Group's North American activities, which had been operated via three separate companies with local management as minority shareholders, were amalgamated with effect from 2004 into a single company with just the one management and administration. Columbus IT Partner A/S owns just on 75% of the new company.

As a result of the efficiency drive throughout the organization, the Company succeeded in cutting parent company costs by more than 33% and central administration headcount by more than 40% in 2003. The efficiency drive has now been completed and the parent company has also taken on a considerable amount of administrative duties for all the Nordic countries.

The efficiency process will continue in 2004, in part by further roll-out of the IT platform so as to handle the operations of increasing numbers of subsidiaries centrally. This reduces costs significantly and makes for greater stability and certainty in reporting. It also makes it possible to reallocate Group R&D to other subsidiaries with a low payroll structure. At year-end 2003, six companies were being operated via the Company's central IT platform.



Overall drawings on Group credit lines fell by DKK 51m, mainly by way of debt conversion but partly as a result of divestment.

Costs of employment and other external costs amounted to DKK 405m in 2003, down DKK 63m on 2002. This was due to the headcount reduction of 70 (excl. Hands Danmark A/S) and the impact of greater efficiency on general costs, including lower office rents.

## Latest developments

Revenues and earnings in January 2004 were in line with Company expectations. Apart from the matters described in this report, no events have occurred since 31 December 2003 which could be significant for assessing the Group's financial position.

## Outlook for 2004

The level of activity in the first months of 2004 gives grounds for cautious optimism for improvements in the poor trading conditions noted in recent years. This applies specially to the increased number of international projects and greater customer interest in solutions developed by Columbus IT Partner itself.

The acquisition of Hands ASA's business activities in Denmark form a significant element in the Company's ambitions to take the lead in an overdue consolidation of the sector so as to boost competitiveness whilst also ensuring critical mass for Columbus IT Partner's most important markets. Columbus IT Partner has continued its implementation of the second main phase out of three in the action plan for the Group which focuses on improving Group profitability. Individual initiatives, including the acquisition of Hands Danmark A/S, are actually growth promoters and belong in the final main phase of the action plan.

The main thrust of the shorter term element of the Group's action plan for 2004 is:

- More sales calls on potential internationally-oriented customers
- Greater customer focus by enhanced Key Account Management
- Better utilization and efficiency as a result of completed internal projects and use of the DIAMOND implementation model and development of employee competencies
- Insourcing of R&D tasking from all subsidiaries to Group subsidiaries in Eastern Europe
- Closer collaboration with Microsoft Business Solutions on major customer projects in and across all local markets in which Columbus IT Partner has a presence
- Sharper focus and input targeted at the Navision sector and also on solutions for retailing and lean manufacturing



In 2003, the Group noted significant growth in Russia, USA and South America and this is expected to continue in 2004. In the Nordic countries and Western Europe, expectations are for revenues to remain unchanged except for Denmark following the Hands Danmark A/S acquisition. Accordingly, the forecast is for total consolidated revenues for 2004 to be of the order of DKK 625m, with EBITDA more than doubling to about DKK 30m and modest pre-tax earnings. The improvement in EBITDA compared to 2003 should be viewed in the light of the completion of the integration of Hands Danmark A/S and the Group's ongoing restructuring process.

#### Capital resources, etc.

Columbus IT Partner reduced overall bank borrowings during 2003 by DKK 51m net to a total of DKK 72m at year-end 2003. The Danish company has factoring operations in place with Nordea Finans A/S (DKK 35m) and Aktiv Kapital A/S (DKK 20m) respectively.

This overall reduction was achieved mainly by way of debt conversion and partly as the result of divestment.

Columbus IT Partner operates in volatile markets and the market trends and the outlook for continuing growth in investment in IT are not clear. Group revenues have in the past seen, and may in future again see, seasonal fluctuations affected by customer procurement patterns for IT, and most revenue and earnings come in the second half of the year.

As a result in part of the successful integration of Hands Danmark A/S, the Board feels that, with the current credit lines, Columbus IT Partner's capital resources are sufficient to meet ongoing capital requirements within the framework of the budgets for 2004, although liquidity will remain tight.

Current budgets indicate that the share capital will not have been fully reconstituted by year-end 2004. The Board currently has authorization to issue shares at a nominal value of DKK 4,339,005; as previously, this is an instrument for raising capital. Columbus IT Partner will continue to match its business activities to the markets, amongst other things by way of further consolidation and by completing turnaround operations in selected subsidiaries.

The preconditions for achieving the targets and budgets for 2004 are that the continuing drive for greater efficiency in Group business operations ensures that revenue from sales per unit will more than exceed unit costs, that the market trends for the sale of business solutions continue to improve and that a turnaround can be achieved for companies reporting poor results in 2003.

The factors noted above mean that there is considerable uncertainty about the outlook for 2004, and hence Columbus IT Partner's capital resources and accordingly the annual review will include an auditor's report giving further details.

## Safe Harbor statement

The statements about the future made in this report reflect the management's current expectations for certain future events and financial results. By their very nature, some uncertainties attach to statements about the future and the results finally achieved could therefore vary considerably from the expectations expressed. Further, some expectations are based on assumptions about future events which may turn out to be incorrect.

Factors that could mean that the results achieved differ significantly from the expectations expressed include, but are not restricted to, developments in trading conditions and the financial markets and the fiscal impact of unforeseen events, changes in regulations and legislation; rising competition for business solutions in Denmark and abroad; trends for demand, product composition and pricing for business solutions; the development of Columbus IT Partner's international activities to which some political risks are attached and investment in, and disposal of, national and international companies.

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-6.8
-2.7
-40.3
0.0
124.7
213.4
338.1
31.9
21.5
284.7
338.1
-11.9
-13.3
-5.0
31.2
6.0
20.9%
-2.7%
-1.4%
-317.0%
10.5%
. 5. 5 70
-17
-1.7
0.0

The key figures and ratios given above have been calculated in accordance with the Danish Financial Analysts Association's "Recommendations and key figures 1997". The figures for Earnings per Share (EPS) and Cash Flow per Share are from the adjusted rights issue made at a rate of DKK 3 per share in June 2003 and are derived by applying an adjusting factor of 0.80. The comparative figures have been adjusted accordingly. 6

Columbus IT Partner operates with a customer base of more than 5000 installations, Axapta, Attain and XAL. In addition to a number of local market leaders, Columbus IT Partner works for a series of internationally recognized companies such as Esselte, Avon Cosmetics, Georg Jensen, LM Glasfiber, SIKA, House of Prince and Rosti.

# Solutions based on leading software and industry experience

The combination of software from Microsoft Business Solutions and the industry experience Columbus IT Partner has built up in close collaboration with customer ensures effective, professional business solutions. The DIAMOND project implementation method ensures that all business critical processes are analyzed and optimized when implementing new solutions. DIAMOND is thus the customer's guarantee for a quality solution.

Columbus IT Partner has a presence in more than 25 countries and has built up a unique position in consultancy and servicing internationally-oriented customers. Implementing innovative solutions becomes far more complex when a solution is being implemented across national and cultural borders. Standard methods and international experience ensure that Columbus IT Partner handles such complexity for our customers.

Methods, international business models and especially highly skilled staff ensure competitive solutions for customers.

Columbus IT Partner is the largest Microsoft Business Solutions partner in terms of

- revenue,
- numbers of staff,
- installations and
- countries.

#### Customer satisfaction in focus

In 2003, Columbus IT Partner undertook a wide-ranging survey of customer satisfaction throughout the Group. Acting as a supplement to close regular dialogue with customers, the program is intended to optimize the Company's present services whilst also revealing what other related services it might be an advantage for Columbus IT Partner to provide. This program is intended to ensure retention and enhancement of the Company's position as the leading supplier of business solutions to local and international mid-sized companies.

Two customer profiles are given below, each of which in their own way describes the values which Columbus IT Partner routinely passes to customers.

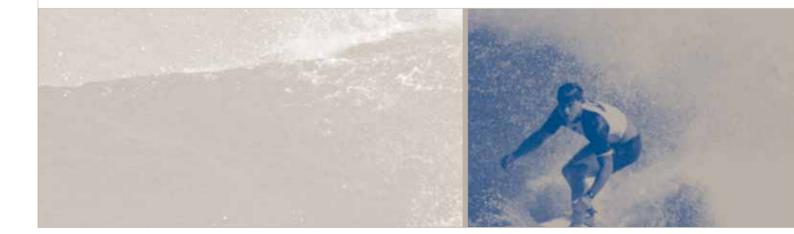
# LM Glasfiber links global organization with Axapta

The largest manufacturer in the world of rotors for wind turbines, LM Glasfiber opted for Microsoft Business Solutions Axapta so as to get a futurised ERP solution to link together the company's global operations.

One Friday, LM Glasfiber in Lunderskov near Kolding in Jutland, closed down their XAL system for the last time. On Sunday evening, the whole Group was up and running again on an Axapta solution.

In the intervening two days, a colossal volume of data had been converted from the old system and entered into the new using the Galaxy tool from Columbus IT Partner and with a remarkable effort by the LM Glasfiber and Columbus IT Partner staff involved.

The decision to switch from XAL to Axapta was due to LM Glasfiber's wish for the latest technology together with a solution that could be used throughout the entire Group. LM Glasfiber had already been using Axapta in its companies in India, Spain and USA and their de-



partments in Netherlands and Germany. LM Glasfiber management did not wish to go for a big SAP project with all the associated costs but preferred to have a small standard system.

Columbus IT Partner had already been assisting LM Glasfiber for five-six years so Columbus staff knew their internal processes, enabling them to discuss the details of the solution very quickly.

Together with 25-30 representatives from all the business areas, Columbus IT Partner worked up a detailed specification of requirements before implementation, testing and training started.

Axapta has given LM Glasfiber much new functionality, including project, service and HR modules, and it has also proved possible to introduce serial number control so that production now enjoys full traceability.

#### Sport in the Retail Suite!

Team Sportia, one of the large Swedish sports equipment dealers, saves time and gains an enhanced overview with its IT solution from Columbus IT Partner. Savings and the overview are two of the most important benefits that Team Sportia gained when the Swedish retail chain replaced its ERP solution for the Retail Suite developed for the retail trade by Columbus IT Partner.

The Retail Suite is a powerful tool when a retail chain wants to keep the shops updated on prices, sizes, models, colors, etc. Head office can now handle all that whilst also dealing with offers, promotions, invoicing, etc.

Team Sportia fundamentally wanted a flexible, efficient goods handling operation together with optimized information flows for the shops. At the same time, Team Sportia gained a lot of extra functionality that they did not previously have. For example, orders are now registered via the Internet and the company has a product guide package enabling employees to see how to order goods. The solution also covers the import of product catalogues. When a new catalogue is to be distributed, shops can just use order numbers or see what they ordered last time. The Retail Suite also handles the entire gift voucher system.

## **Based on Axapta**

The Retail Suite, standard solution, supplied by Columbus IT Partner was based on an in-depth analysis of Team Sportia's old system and a wide-ranging dialogue of what the new system should be able to do. For example, there was great emphasis on integration with other systems. Accordingly, the solution is integrated with a shared purchasing portal (www.sportretail.com) through which some of the major manufacturers offer their products electronically to the Swedish sports sector.

The Retail Suite is based on Microsoft Business Solutions Axapta. Team Sportia has outsourced its entire central warehousing operation and Axapta therefore has to be able to exchange data on purchasing, warehousing and orders for shops on a daily basis with the company in charge of warehousing. They do so using Galaxy, a standard Axapta integration tool developed by Columbus IT Partner.

#### Integration included

Galaxy is included in the Retail Suite as a module. In addition to integration with logistics partners and the shared purchasing portal, Galaxy is used to transfer data between Team Sportia head office in Mölnlycke and their 110 shops throughout Sweden.

So as to ensure the greatest possible flexibility, the Retail Suite includes an internal B2B Internet portal, enabling the shops to place their orders online via the Enterprise portal in Microsoft Business Solutions. There are 150 cash registers in all in Team Sportia shops linked to Retail Suite, with about 250 users.

#### Timetable and budget hold

Team Sportia selected Columbus IT Partner as its supplier because of its great experience with retail solutions.



8

# Columbus IT Partner's most important asset - our employees

2003 saw Columbus IT Partner again increasing headcount. The Company reacts to trading conditions on an ongoing basis when it comes to headcount and even more so with respect to our employees' qualifications. The net increase in headcount included various subsidiaries reporting organic growth, a number of companies reducing their headcount and finally, the acquisition of Hands Danmark A/S. Columbus IT Partner is now incontrovertibility the Microsoft Business Solutions Partner with most MBS consultants. Columbus IT Partner is the leading reseller worldwide in terms of Axapta competence, and Columbus IT Partner also has a considerable group of XAL consultants with a very great deal of experience. Finally, the acquisition of Hands Danmark A/S contributed to a marked enhancement of the Company's Navision/Attain competencies. The Hands transaction has generally helped reinforce and expand our position as the most skilled Microsoft Business Solutions partner, a position widely acknowledged by the market. Taken together with the Company's international coverage and extensive sector-oriented solution skills, competencies in three important Microsoft Business Solutions product lines represent a strong service platform for our customers, a platform that Columbus IT Partner shall continue to develop.

#### **Employees**

Headcount at Columbus IT Partner grew by about 4% to 865 at year-end 2003. There is a continuing sharp focus on boosting efficiency amongst consultants.

Greater efficiency is based on ongoing incorporation of best practice, better utilization of the Company's resources across national borders and better utilization of the Company's IT infrastructure. The Group strengthened its training activities in 2003 in the Group's vertical focus areas such as Lean Manufacturing and Retail. There were 329 employees in the Nordic countries, 154 in Western Europe, 277 in Eastern Europe, 79 in the rest of the world and 26 in the parent company.

# Employee/management development

As a supplement to ongoing professional development of both employees and managers, a range of HR programs has been introduced to support the Company's business development.

The programs are aimed at developing businessoriented consultancy services which do not only focus on what is strictly product consultancy and adaptation. The programs further support our efforts to optimize a service enterprise operating in a competitive market with a sharp focus on internationalization, highly complex products and services, and customers demanding a rapid return on investment. The focus in internal management development is on coaching so as to optimize the above. Coaching is done on the basis of, and with respect for, Columbus IT Partner's five core values. The five values are fundamental elements in the Company's business model and are our guarantee of competitive ERP solutions for our customers.



- Competence: We must constantly develop our expertise and knowledge. We must strengthen our commercial understanding of our customers' markets and trading conditions on an on-going basis; only by a continuing search for knowledge can we give our customers added value.
- 2. Communication: Communication is the key to building up enduring relations with customers, colleagues and business partners. Communication is absolutely essential for our external relations with customers and partners and internally for actively sharing the knowledge we constantly acquire as part of consultancy with customers in many different sectors in more than 25 different countries and cultures. This is why we assess and develop our managers' and employees' communication skills.
- 3. Collaboration & Teamwork: In our business, an individual consultant cannot achieve success alone. Our customers' problems are complex and so solutions require a range of different skills and qualifications, qualifications which can only be made available to customers by putting together the right team. Our international standardized project implementation method is based on teamwork and so the ability to collaborate and be a team player is essential.
- 4. Controlled Processes: Efficiency and quality are achievable by consistent utilization of standardized, uniform processes. Synergy is achievable by centralized development of new activities. Applying uniform processes and benefiting from the advantages of scale make for efficiency which releases resources which can then be targeted on creating actual added value for our customers. At the same time, being process-oriented is absolutely essential for ensuring consistent, even handling of the Group's growing volume of internationally based customers.
- 5. Completion: In a complex market with increasing demand for rapid response, one essential factor is our ability to plan and carry out projects that achieve the objectives of the Company and the customer. So it is essential that the Company's objectives be broken down into targets for individual managers and employees.

Company	Country	% owned	Number of
		by Columbus	employees at
		IT Partner	31/12 2003
Columbus IT Partner A/S	Denmark		26 employ
Affiliates			
N. Europe			
Columbus IT Partner Danmark A/S	Denmark	100%	0 employ
Columbus IT Partner International A/S	Denmark	100%	118 employ
Hands Danmark A/S	Denmark	100%	157 emplo
Columbus IT Partner Norge AS	Norway	100%	43 employ
CITP Sverige AB	Sweden	63%	11 employ
Columbus IT Partner Sverige AB	Sweden	100%	0 employ
W. Europe			
Columbus IT Partner (UK) Ltd	UK	100%	16 employ
Columbus IT Partner Deutschland GmbH	Germany	100%	27 employ
Concos GmbH	Germany	100%	0 employ
Columbus IT Partner GmbH	Austria	53%	16 employ
Columbus IT Partner B.V.	Netherlands	100%	55 employ
Columbus IT Partner France SAS	France	100%	9 employ
Columbus IT Partner Schweiz AG	Switzerland	51%	17 employ
Columbus IT Partner Espana S.L.	Spain	100%	12 employ
Columbus IT Partner Turkiye S.A.	Turkey	100%	2 employ
E. Europe			
Columbus Polska Sp. Z o.o	Poland	100%	18 employ
Columbus IT Partner Russia Ltd. Cyprus	Russia	51%	141 employ
Columbus IT Partner Eesti AS	Estonia	60%	39 employ
Columbus IT Partner SIA	Latvia	51%	29 employ
Columbus IT Partner a.s.	Czech Rep.	100%	9 employ
CITP Distribution s.r.o.	Czech rep.	100%	0 employ
Columbus IT Partner Hungary Kft.	Hungary	100%	0 employ
Columbus IT Partner UAB	Lithuania	51%	39 employ
UAB Verslo Valdymo Sprendimai	Lithuania	51%	2 employ
Rest of world			
Columbus IT Partner (Sa) (Pty) Ltd	South Africa	68%	0 employ
Columbus IT Partner USA Inc	Connecticut, USA	68%	13 employ
Scorpion Systems Inc	Maryland, USA	51%	15 employ
Columbus IT Partner California Inc	California, USA	84%	6 employ
Desarrollos Digitales Dedisa S.A.	Costa Rica	51%	20 employ
Columbus IT Partner Andino S.A.	Costa Rica / Colombia	51%	16 employ
Solutiones Casee S.A.	Costa Rica	51%	9 employ
Franchise			
PT Columbus IT Indonesia	Indonesia	0%	

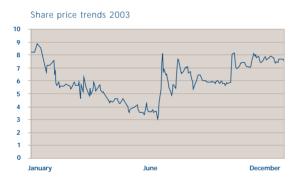
## The Columbus IT Partner share

Columbus IT Partner's shares have been listed on Copenhagen Stock Exchange since May 18, 1998.

Share capital is currently allocated as 36,984,862 DKK 1.25 (nom.) shares, each of which carries a single vote. Shares are negotiable and there is no restriction of their transferability. Shares must be registered in the holder's name and be recorded in the Company's share register.

## Share price trends

At year-end 2003, the market value of the Company was just over DKK 280m, up approximately DKK 180m since 1st January 2003. The increase was due primarily to the capital increase associated with the Company's rights issue.



The capital increase was the result of a successful rights issue in July 2003, which also led to the Group's lead bankers, Nordea, becoming shareholders in Columbus IT Partner. The Board is currently authorized to issue DKK 4,339,005 (nom.) shares. Following the rights issue and the acquisition of Hands Danmark A/S, the Company has seen considerably more trading in its shares. Accordingly, since the agreement, there have been approximately 127,000 shares traded a day on average compared to about 39,000 a day between January–October 2003.

#### **Ownership**

At year-end 2003, Columbus IT Partner had 3,700 shareholders, up some 700 on the same date in 2002.

Holding (%)
39.5
37.2
approx. 5.0
approx 18.0
100.0

At year-end 2003, the Company held 1,749 own shares.

#### **Dividends**

The Company will not be paying a dividend for 2003

Stock	Exchange	Releases 2003
No.	Date	Subject
1	January 31	Financial calendar 2003 for
		Columbus IT Partner
2	February 4	Preliminary financial
		statements 2002
3	March 12	Annual report 2002
4	April 15	Notice of Annual General
		Meeting
5	April 24	Minutes of AGM
6	May 15	Q1/2003 report
7	May 19	Quarterly statement of
		shareholdings
8	May 26	New Managing Director
		in Danish subsidiary
9	June 3	Capital increase
10	June 6	Investor presentation
11	June 13	Quarterly statement of
		shareholdings
12	June 19	Postponement of investor
		presentation
13	July 4	Result of capital increase
14	August 11	Icelandic subsidiary
		divestment
15	August 15	Interim report 2003
16	September 25	Resignation of Frosti
		Bergsson from Board
17	October 16	Comments to market rumor
18	October 20	Acquisition of
		Hands Danmark A/S
19	October 22	Quarterly schedule of
		shareholdings
20	November 14	Q3/2003 report
21	November 17	Comments to press release
		on Georg Jensen order

#### Scheduled release of financial information

April 28 2004
May 14 2004
August 12 2004
November 11 2004

Stock Exchange releases are available on Columbus IT Partner's website (www.columbusit.com) immediately after release.

## Development in share capital

Development in Columbus IT Partner share capital since 28 May 1998	Capital Increase (DKK nom.)	Gross capital Injection (DKK)	lssued share capital (DKK nom.)	Number of shares, nom. DKK 5/1.25
Capital raised on 28th May 1998 to DKK 130 per share. IPO	3,000,000	78,000,000	28,000,000	5,600,000
Capital raised on 30th December 1998 to DKK 43.75 per share. (Employee share option scheme)	281,660	2,464,525	28,281,660	5,656,332
Capital raised on 25th August 1999 to DKK 43.75 per share. (Employee share option scheme)	121,760	1,065,400	28,403,420	5,680,684
Capital raised on 15th January 2001 to DKK 75 per share. (Acquisition of 97.5% of AX Business Intelligence)	3,334,880	50,023,200	31,738,300	6,347,660
Capital raised on 5th April 2001 to DKK 42 per share. (Acquisition of an additional 1.8% of AX Business Intelligence)	61,930	520,212	31,800,230	6,360,046
Capital raised on 11th April 2001 to DKK 42 per share. (Acquisition of minority holdings in Columbus IT Partner B.V., Netherlands)	343,750	2,750,000	32,143,980	6,428,796
Capital raised on 12th June 2001 to DKK 37 per share. (Rights issue)	8,035,995	59,466,363	40,179,975	8,035,995
Capital decrease at 5th Maj 2003. (Change of face value of shares from DKK 5 to DKK 1.25)	-30,134,981.25	0	10,044,993.75	8,035,995
Capital raised on 8th July 2003 to DKK 3 per share. (Prospectus 1:4)	33,561,083.75	80,546,601	43,606,077.50	34,884,862
Capital raised on 17th October 2003 to DKK 8.06 per share. (Acquisition of Hands Danmark A/S)	2,625,000	16,926,000	46,231,077.50	36,984,862

Note: The development of share capital in 1998, including the subscription price, has been adjusted for a 1:4 share split (from DKK 20 to DKK 5 per share) made in connection with the Company's Annual General Meeting in 1999.

## **Investor Relations**

Columbus IT Partner's objective is to have an open, active dialogue with investors and analysts so as to provide the broadest, best possible information to the stock market on the development of the Company within the framework of the ethical rules of the Stock Exchange. Columbus IT Partner regularly holds meetings with investors, financial analysts, the media and other stakeholders so as to keep interested parties briefed about developments in the Group.

Investors can contact Jan U. T. Bitterhoff, Business Development Executive, about investor relations activities on T: (+45) 4695 6488, E: jbi@dk.columbusit.com.

# Columbus IT Partner's principles of good corporate governance

Columbus IT Partner supports the general principles of good corporate governance and seeks insofar as possible to comply with the recommendations applicable to Columbus IT Partner, which support the business and ensure value for the Company's stakeholders.

Good corporate governance is also a matter of openness and transparency because this gives stakeholders valuable, relevant insights in assessing the Company. Management often participate in meetings with shareholders and investors and Company procedures are aimed at making all significant information immediately available to all interested parties. The latest stock exchange and press releases and investor presentations are always available in the English and Danish sections of the Company website.

#### **Organizational structure**

In Danish law, Columbus IT Partner is a limited liability company and thus has a dual management structure, comprising a Board of Directors and a Board of Management.

#### **General Meetings**

Within the legislative framework, shareholders are the ultimate authority of the Company and may exercise their right to make decisions relating to Columbus IT Partner at General Meetings, for which two to four weeks' notice are given. Agendas are accompanied by proxy forms allowing individual shareholders to vote on each item on the agenda. All shareholders are entitled to attend General Meetings and to ask questions. Columbus IT Partner endeavors to respond to all questions asked. Any resolution which is wished to be submitted to the Annual General Meeting must be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors by March 1 in the year concerned. The Annual Report and financial statements are approved at the Annual General Meeting. The General Meeting also elects 3–7 members to the Board, and where required, one or two external auditors.

## Management

The Board of Directors is responsible for overall management, including appointment of the Board of Management, ensuring proper organization of the Company's business, setting the Company's strategy and assessing the financial status of the Company. The Group Board of Management is responsible for the Company's daily operations. The two bodies are independent of each other and nobody sits on both boards.

#### **Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors currently consists of three external members appointed by the AGM for one year at a time. They appoint one of their number as Chairman. No Company executives sit on the Board of Directors. Michael Gaardboe, former Director and founder of Columbus IT Partner, has a seat on the Board. Through Gaardboe Holding ApS, he holds 37.2% of the total share capital of Columbus IT Partner A/S.

The Company has no rules for retirement on the grounds of age.

Endeavors are made to appoint to the Board those who have the insight and experience to enable the Board as a whole to protect the interests of shareholders and the Company with due respect for the Company's other stakeholders.



Agendas for General Meetings are accompanied by descriptions and the qualifications of new people who are standing for election to the Board.

According to Danish legislation, employees in Danish companies are entitled to have a number of representatives on the Board of Directors corresponding to half the number of all members appointed by the General Meeting. Since Columbus IT Partner is an international organization, for practical reasons the employees have not elected Board members, although this is done in some of the Group's foreign companies.

## **Board of Management**

The Group's Board of Management consists of a CEO and a CFO. The Board of Directors appoints the Board of Management and determines their remuneration. In Columbus IT Partner, it is traditional for the CEO also to be the spokesman for the Company externally in Company matters.

## Remuneration of the Board of Directors and Management

Total fees to the Company's Board Members amounted to DKK 508,000 in 2003. Board Members are not signatories for the Company. Columbus IT Partner has not made loans or offered any kind of guarantee to the benefit of any Board Member.

Total remuneration to Management in 2003 was DKK 7.380m which included a DKK 3.333m provision for the costs of the Management's guaranteed incentive scheme. Management received no fees from subsidiaries in the Group. Columbus IT Partner has not made loans to the Board of Management.

An incentive scheme for Management was set up in 2001 consisting of a total of 80,000 warrants with an exercise price of DKK 60, together with 160,000 options with an exercise price of DKK 37.

As part of their terms of employment, the value of Management's warrants and option schemes has been guaranteed at a total of DKK 10m.

The Company guarantees that under the option agreements, Management can receive a sum of approx. DKK 19.4m in all. Columbus IT Partner has made bank guarantees for the guaranteed value of the schemes. Gaardboe Holding has provided surety for the bank guarantees. In 2002, Gaardboe Holding gave an undertaking to exempt the Company from that part of its commitments to Management deriving from 2001 and 2002, amounting to a total of DKK 4.5m.

Management's terms of employment and arrangements are described in the Company's website and the prospectus for the rights issue in 2003.

#### Audit

Two independent accounting firms are appointed by the Annual General Meeting. They look after the interests of shareholders and the general public. Auditors notify the Board of Directors directly of any significant matters.



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### **Niels Heering**

Chairman

Business address:

Gorrissen Fedespiel Kierkegaard H.C. Andersens Boulevard 12 DK 1553-Copenhagen K

## D.o.b. 1955

Joined Board of Directors in 1998 Partner in Attorneys Gorrissen Federspiel Kierkegaard

#### **Board Chairman**

CKBF Invest A/S Comlex A/S Ellos A/S EQT Partners A/S Jeudan A/S Mahé Holding A/S Mahé Real Estate A/S Nesdu A/S NTR Holding A/S Plaza Ure & Smykker A/S Stæhr Holding A/S

Vice Chairman Dansk Kapitalanlæg A/S

#### **Board Member**

Danske Private Equity A/S J. Lauritzen A/S Ole Mathiesen A/S TDC A/S Venjo A/S **Board Member** Danske Bank A/S Danmarks Radio

#### Birgit Aagaard-Svendsen

Business address:

J. Lauritzen A/S Sct. Annæ Plads 28 DK-1291 Copenhagen K

D.o.b. 1956

Joined Board of Directors in 1998 Director of J. Lauritzen A/S

#### Michael Gaardboe

Business address:

Gaardboe Holding ApS Julsøvej 1 DK-8240 Risskov

## D.o.b. 1959

Joined Board of Directors in 1994 Founder of Columbus IT Partner A/S

Board Chairman Gaardboe Holding ApS Etiro A/S

MANAGEMENT

Carsten Dilling Chief Executive Officer, CEO

D.o.b. 1962

Torben Bartels Chief Financial Officer, CFO

D.o.b. 1963

Columbus IT Partner's total net revenues amounted to DKK 543m in 2003 compared to DKK 607m the previous year. The 2002 figures included approx. DKK 46m from the disposal of the municipality activities. Following the disposal of the Icelandic subsidiary AX Business Intelligence, their revenues of about DKK 23m were not included for the whole second half of 2003, whilst the acquisition of Hands Danmark A/S in Q4/2003 represented revenues of about DKK 41m.

Revenues	2002	2003
Hardware	3%	2%
Software	32%	34%
Services	65%	64%
Total	100%	100%
Revenues	2002	2003
Revenues	2002	2003
Axapta	70%	73%
Axapta	70%	73%
Axapta Navision	70% 4%	73% 6%

The figures above have been calculated exclusive of the sale of the municipality activities in 2002, the disposal of the lcelandic subsidiary and winding up the South African subsidiary in 2003.

EBITDA was DKK 11m compared to DKK 8m in 2002. There was also DKK 8.4m in proceeds from the disposal of three former Hand's businesses which were not included in results for the year in line with Danish accounting guidelines. Due in part to continuing poor trading conditions and longer decision-making processes, the Company proved unable to live up to the forecasts for EBITDA made at the beginning of 2003. At -2.7%, the operating profit margin was up in 2003 from the 2002 figure of -12.5%.

Other operating income amounted to DKK 17m (DKK 10m in 2002) and derived from the proceeds of the disposal of the Icelandic subsidiary. Other operating costs totaled DKK -3m (DKK -1m in 2002) as a result of an adverse decision in arbitration proceedings in Norway, with the addition of approx. DKK 2m paid in costs.

Amortization and depreciation of goodwill amounted to DKK 11m in 2003 compared to DKK 63m in 2002. The 2002 figures were affected by a separate DKK 40m write-down on goodwill.

The Group's financials showed net outgoings of DKK 10m, down from DKK 14m net in 2002. Corporation tax in foreign subsidiaries that reported profits meant that the total tax charge for Columbus IT Partner was DKK -7m. At the beginning of 2003, Management had estimated tax assets at DKK 12,5m with DKK 27m at year-end 2003. The change was mainly due to the

		Revenues (DKKm)		EBITDA (DKKm)		Employees (year-end)	
Regional development	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	
Northern Europe	230	232	-9	-9	224	329	
Western Europe	123	133	-15	1	162	154	
Eastern Europe	84	93	3	8	248	277	
Rest of world	69	62	10	9	80	79	
Parent company	0	0	-18	-17	41	26	
	506	520	-29	-8	755	865	

 Total terminating activities
 101
 23
 38
 19
 74
 0

 Total
 607
 543
 8
 11
 829
 865

acquisition of Hands Danmark A/S. The result of 2003 was a deficit of DKK -40m, which was a DKK 60m improvement on 2002, primarily as a result of the considerable write-down of goodwill made in 2002. Results were not satisfactory.

**Nordic** Region revenues amounted to DKK 232m in 2003, which was in line with 2002. Hands Danmark A/S figures in the financial statements from and including Q4/2003 with revenues of DKK 41m and EBITDA of DKK -1m. At year-end 2003, there were 329 employees in the region, which was down on 2002 (excl. Hands Danmark A/S). The Nordic Region accounted for 45% of Group revenues.

EBITDA for the region was DKK -9m, which was in line with 2002. EBITDA for the Nordic Region was hit by lower revenues in Q4 as a result of the integration of Hands Danmark A/S and costs of the order of DKK 5m, associated with an adverse ruling in an arbitration case in the Norwegian subsidiary. Apart from this, the region reported a modest positive contribution to EBITDA that was up almost DKK 10m on 2002.

Western Europe revenues were up by DKK 10m at DKK 133m, with EBITDA for the region of DKK 1m, which was a satisfactory improvement of DKK 16m on 2002. At year-end 2003, there was a headcount of 154 in the region. Western Europe accounted for 26% of Group revenues.

**Eastern Europe** revenues rose from DKK 84m in 2002 to DKK 93m in 2003 with a marked improvement in EBITDA in consequence, up from DKK 3m in 2002 to DKK 8m in 2003. As a result, headcount rose by 29 to a total of 277 et year-end 2003. Eastern Europe accounted for 18% of total revenues. In 2003, revenues in Russia were up 25% at DKK 51m, with EBITDA up at DKK 7m. At year-end, the company had a headcount of 160.

EBITDA in the **Rest of the World** Region was DKK 9m, which was highly satisfactory given the USD being sharply down in the second half of 2003. In USD terms, revenues remained unchanged on 2002, but the fall in the exchange rate led to revenues in DKK falling by DKK 7m compared to 2002. The companies contributed 12% of total revenues. At year-end 2003, there was a headcount of 79 in the region.

Total **parent company** costs fell by DKK 10m due to a sharp reduction in headcount, and a sharp focus on improving internal work procedures and central administrative processes and operations.

## Investments

Total investment in tangible and intangible fixed assets, excluding goodwill, was DKK 8m in 2003 compared to DKK 21m in 2002. Investment in 2003 was mainly for R&D projects for customer purposes and the acquisition of tangible fixed assets.



## Liquidity

In 2003, the Group's liquid funds increased by DKK 5m to DKK 36m. Cash flows from operations made a negative net contribution of DKK -11.8m. The result of investment operations saw negative liquidity of DKK -13m, mainly as a result of the acquisition of Hands Danmark A/S in the autumn of 2003. Liquidity from financing operations was a net surplus of DKK 31m due to the capital increase in the spring of 2003 and the subsequent capital increase associated with the acquisition of Hands Danmark A/S.

## Foreign exchange

The Group did not enter into any significant hedging contracts last year. Exchange risk on international contracts is limited by servicing from the Group's local companies so that the Group's income and expenses in foreign currencies are matched insofar as possible.

## Transactions with related parties

Inter-company services are charged at commercial rates or at cost. Business is done on the basis of contractual agreements by the companies unless the transactions are minor.

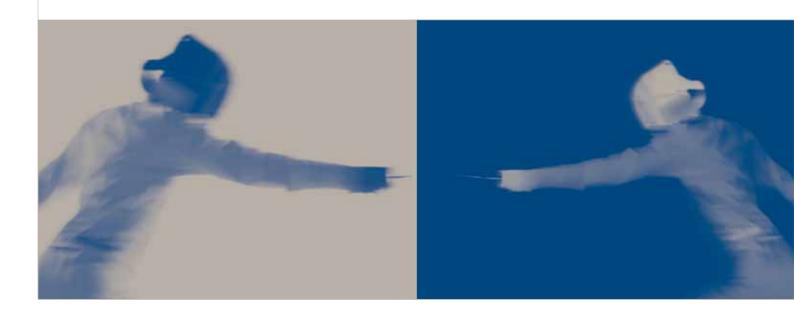
**Nordea AB** has a 39.5% holding in Columbus IT Partner and is also the Company's lead banker. In addition to standard credit lines, Nordea has given Columbus IT Partner a subordinated loan of DKK 17.7m. **Gaardboe Holding ApS**, Julsøvej 1, 8240 Risskov, has a 37.2% holding in Columbus IT Partner. The company has provided funding to Columbus IT Partner and has also had transactions with the Group and has supported it as below:

- Columbus IT Partner A/S has a tenancy contract until the end of March 2004 in the premises on Krudtløbsvej 1, DK-1439 Copenhagen K. The property is partly owned by Gaardboe Holding.
- Gaardboe Holding ApS has given Columbus IT Partner a subordinated loan of DKK 4m, which can be converted into shares in the Company as per stock exchange release no. 18/2003 of 20 October 2003.

Apart from the above, the Group had no significant transactions with related parties in 2003.

#### Incentive scheme

In 2001, Columbus IT Partner introduced a three year employee-only warrant scheme at an exercise price of DKK 60 for more than 300 employees in the parent company and wholly-owned subsidiaries. The scheme may be exercised for a period of up to three weeks after release of the Company's financial statements for 2003. No warrants have been issued to the Board of Directors. In 2001, an incentive scheme has been set up for Management, consisting of a total of 80,000 warrants with an exercise price of DKK 60 and 160,000 options with an exercise price of DKK 37. The mana-



gement scheme has a value over a three year period of not less than DKK 10m. Senior staff have been allocated about 165,000 warrants and other staff have been allocated about 130,000 warrants. None of the warrants or options has been exercised.

## **Auditors**

The majority of the Group's companies are audited by one of the two international accountants, PricewaterhouseCoopers and Deloitte, appointed as the Group's accounting companies.

Some of the smaller subsidiaries are audited by local accountants.

## Investors

The following had holdings of more than 5% of the Company's shares at year-end 2003:

•	Nordea AB	(Sweden)	39.5%	)
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•	Gaardboe Holding ApS (Ris	skov) 37.2	2%

## **Annual General Meeting**

The Company's Annual General Meeting will be held on 28 April 2004 at 3.0 p.m. at the Dansk Arkitektur Center, Gammel Dok, Strandgade 27B, 1401 Copenhagen K.



The Annual Report for Columbus IT Partner A/S for 2003 has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Danish Financial Statements Act accounting class D, Danish accounting standards and the Copenhagen Stock Exchange requirements for the presentation of financial statements by Danish listed companies.

The accounting policies are unchanged from 2002.

#### **Recognition and measurement**

All income is recognized in the income statement as earned, including adjustments in the valuations of financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value or amortized cost, based on the following criteria:

- · delivery has been made before year end,
- a binding sales agreement has been made,
- the sales price has been determined, and
- payment has been received at the time or may with reasonable certainty be expected to be received.

Furthermore, all costs incurred to achieve the earnings for the year are recognized in the income statement, including depreciation, amortization, write-down and provisions as well as reversals due to changed accounting estimates of amounts that have previously been recognized in the income statement. Assets are recognized in the balance sheet when it is probable that future benefits will flow to the Group and at the same time these assets can be measured reliably. Liabilities are recognized in the balance sheet when they are probable and at the same time can be measured reliably. Assets and liabilities are initially measured at cost. Subsequently assets and liabilities are measured as described below for each individual item.

Certain financial assets and liabilities are measured at amortized cost, which involves the recognition of a constant effective rate over the maturity period. Amortized cost is calculated as the original cost less any deductions and with addition/deduction of accumulated amortization of any difference between cost and the nominal amount. In this way capital losses and gains are allocated over the maturity period. Recognition and measurement take into account predictable gains, losses and risks occurring before the Annual Report is published which confirm or invalidate affairs and conditions existing at the balance sheet date.

## **Consolidation policies**

The Annual Report comprises the parent company (Columbus IT Partner A/S) and subsidiaries in which the parent company, directly or indirectly holds more than 50% of the votes or in which the parent company through share ownership or otherwise, exercises control. The Annual Report for the Group has been prepared on the basis of the Annual Reports for the parent company and subsidiaries by combining accounting items of a uniform nature. On consolidation, eliminations are made of inter-company income and expenses, unrealised inter-company gains and losses, shareholdings, dividends and balances.

The accounting policies applied by subsidiaries have been restated to reflect those applied by the parent company unless the difference is immaterial. The parent company's investments in consolidated subsidiaries are set off against the parent company's share of the subsidiaries' net asset value measured at the time of consolidation. Newly acquired companies are included in the consolidated accounts from acquisition date. Sold or wound-up companies are included in the income statement until the disposal date. Comparative figures are not adjusted for newly acquired, sold or wound-up companies. Acquisitions of new subsidiaries are measured as the carrying amount according to the acquisition convention in which the assets and liabilities identified in new acquisitions are measured at fair value at acquisition date. Positive differences (goodwill) between cost and fair value of acquired, identified assets and liabilities are recognized as intangible assets in the balance sheet as goodwill, which is amortized in the income statement on a straight line basis over its expected useful life, though 10 years at most. As a result of changes to recognition and measurement of net assets, any positive differentials from newly acquired subsidiaries may be adjusted for up to one year after acquisition date. Gains and losses in sales or winding up subsidiaries are recognized as the difference between the sale or winding up price and the carrying amount of the net assets at sales date and the expected cost of the sale or winding up operation.

#### Foreign currency translation

Transactions in foreign currencies are initially translated at the rates existing at transaction date. Gains and losses, due to differences between the rate on transaction date and the rate on settlement date are recognized in the income statement as financial income and expenses. Receivables and payables in foreign currencies are translated into DKK at the official rates of exchange existing at balance sheet date. The difference between the rate on balance sheet date and on transaction date is recognized in the income statement as financial income and expenses. As consolidated foreign subsidiaries, income statements are translated at average exchange rates. Balance sheet items are translated at the rate existing at the balance sheet date. Exchange adjustments arising on the translation of foreign subsidiaries' net asset value opening balances at the rate existing at balance sheet date and adjustments arising from translation of income statements at average rate and the rate on balance sheet date are recognized in the equity.

## Income statement

#### Net sales

Net sales from the sale of hardware and software is recognized in the income statement provided that delivery and transfer of risk has been made to the purchaser before year-end and provided that the amount can be measured reliably and is expected to be received. Income from maintenance contracts under which the company provides service is recognized under the straight-line convention over the terms of the contracts. Income from other maintenance contracts (upgrades, etc.) is recognized in the income statement when invoiced. Contract work in progress (projects) is recognized as work on individual projects is completed so that the net sales corresponds to the sales value of work done in the year (production criteria). Net sales is recognized when both net sales and related costs related to the individual projects and percentage completion on balance sheet date reliably can be measured and it is probable that benefits, including payments, will flow to the Group. Net sales is recognized exclusive of VAT. Discounts or price reductions anticipated or granted are set off against sales in the income statement.

#### Capitalized development costs

This item comprises income from production of tangible fixed assets for own use, development projects for customers, etc. Costs allocated to development and production of such assets include directly or indirectly attributable external project costs and payroll costs.

## External project costs

External project costs comprise the costs, exclusive salaries and wages, directly incurred to achieve the net sales for the year, which include license fees, sub-contractor costs, etc.

#### Other external costs

Other external costs comprise the cost of premises, sales and distribution costs, office costs, etc.

#### Other operating income and costs

Other operating income and costs comprise income or expenses of secondary nature compared to the core activities of the company, including gains and losses on sales of financial fixed assets.

## Result before tax in affiliated companies

A proportionate share of the result before tax in subsidiaries is recognized in the parent company's income statement after elimination of inter-company gains and losses for the year and exclusive of amortization of goodwill as Result before tax in affiliated companies, whilst the share of tax for subsidiaries is recognized as Tax on result for the year.

#### Financial income and expenses

Financial income and expenses comprise interest income and expenses, charges, gains and losses from translations, amortization of financial assets, additions and repayments under the on-account tax scheme, etc.

#### Tax on result for the year

Columbus IT Partner is jointly taxed with various 100% owned Danish subsidiaries. Current corporation tax payable is allocated to the jointly taxed Danish companies in proportion to their taxable income (full allocation with credit for tax losses). The jointly taxed companies have adopted the on-account taxation scheme. The proportion of the tax charge for the year, which comprises current tax payable and deferred tax for the year, that is directly attributable to the results for the year, is recognized in the income statement.

#### Balance sheet

## Intangible fixed assets

#### Development projects and license rights

Development projects that are clearly defined and identifiable, where the technical feasibility, sufficient resources and future market potential or development opportunity in the company can be demonstrated, and where the intention is to produce, market or utilize the project, are recognized as intangible fixed assets if the cost price can be measured reliably and there is sufficient certainty that the future income will cover the production, sales, administrative and R&D costs. Development costs that do not meet the criteria for recognition in the balance sheet are recognized in the income statement as they are incurred. Capitalized development costs, which include expenses and payroll costs directly or indirectly attributable to the Group's R&D activities, are measured at cost less accumulated amortization, or written down to recoverable amount, whichever is lower. On completion, development project costs are amortized on a straight-line basis over the period of its expected economic benefits. The amortization period is 5 - 7 years. Gains and losses from sale of development projects are recognized as the difference between the sales price less cost of sales and the carrying amount at sales date. Gains or losses are recognized in the income statement as Other operating income or Other operating costs. License rights are measured at cost less accumulated amortization, or written down to recoverable amount, whichever is lower. License rights are amortized on a straight-line basis over the period of its expected economic benefits, usually 5 years.

## Goodwill

Goodwill is amortized over a maximum of 10 years on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful economic life on the basis of management's experience in the individual business areas. The carrying amount of goodwill is regularly assessed and written down to the recoverable amount in the income statement if the carrying amount exceeds the estimated net earnings from the business or activity to which the goodwill relates.

### Tangible fixed assets

#### Operating equipment, fixtures, etc.

Operating equipment, fixtures, cars and leasehold improvements are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation, or written down to recoverable amount, whichever is lower. Cost comprises the cost of acquisition until the time the asset is ready for use. Tangible fixed assets financed by leases are capitalized in the balance sheet provided that the lease transfers all significant risks and benefits relating to ownership (financial leasing). The fixed assets on lease are measured in the balance sheet at the fair value of the lease if available. Alternatively, and if it is lower, the fair value of future leasing commitments at acquisition date is used. In calculating this fair value, the internal interest rate under the lease is used as a discounting factor or an approximate value thereof. Leased tangible fixed assets are depreciated as for the Group's other tangible fixed assets. Operating equipment, fixtures and cars are depreciated on a straight-line basis over 3 - 5 years in line with the asset's economic life. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the term of the lease to a maximum of five years.

## Write-down/impairment of fixed assets

Tangible and intangible fixed assets are written down to recoverable amount if this is lower than the carrying amount, which is reviewed annually to determine whether there is an indication of lower value in addition to that expressed by depreciation and amortization. If so, the asset is written down to the lowest of these values. The recoverable amount of the asset is calculated as the higher of net selling price and value in use.

#### Investments in affiliated companies

Investments in subsidiaries are recognized in the parent company's financial statement and measured under the equity method. Investments in subsidiaries in the balance sheet include the proportionate ownership of the net asset value of the company, calculated under accounting policies of the parent company with deduction or addition of unrealised inter-company gains or



losses and with addition or deduction of any remaining value of positive or negative differences (goodwill). Subsidiaries with negative net asset value are recognized at DKK 0. Any legal or actual constructive obligation of the parent company measured to cover the negative balance at the Group is recognized as provisions, insofar as the negative value exceeds parent company receivables from the company. Gains and losses from sales or winding up companies are measured as the difference between the price of the company on sale or being wound up and its net assets' carrying amount when sold, including non-amortized goodwill and the expected cost of the sale or winding up operation. Gains and losses are recognized in the income statement as Other operating income and Other operating costs.

## Inventories

Stock of goods for resale, primarily software, is measured at the lowest amount of cost under the FIFO method and recoverable amount. The cost of goods for resale includes transport costs. The recoverable amount of inventories is measured as the expected sales price less the cost of completion and expected cost of sales.

## Receivables

Receivables are measured at amortized cost. Receivables are individually revaluated if losses are expected.

#### Contract work in progress

Contract work in progress is recognized at the rate of completion, which means that revenue equals the selling price of the work completed for the year (percentage-of-completion method). This method is applied when total sales value and costs in respect of the contract and the stage of completion at the balance sheet date can be measured reliably, and it is probable that economic benefits, including payments, will flow to the Group. When the sales value of a project cannot be measured reliably, it is measured at the lowest of the actual costs and recoverable amount. Individual projects in progress are recognized in the balance sheet as current assets or short-term debt depending on whether the value of the net sales less payments on account and prepayments is positive or negative. Costs related to sales and winning contracts are recognized in the income statement as they are incurred.

#### Securities and holdings

Securities and holdings stated under current assets relate to assets valued at current market value at balance sheet date.

## Corporation tax and deferred tax

Current tax liabilities and current tax receivables are recognized in the balance sheet as calculated tax on the year's taxable income, adjusted for tax on previous years' income together with tax paid on account. Deferred tax is measured under the balance sheet liability method in respect of all temporary differences between the carrying amount and the tax base of assets and liabilities. However, deferred tax is not recognized in respect of temporary differences concerning goodwill not deductible for tax purposes or other items - apart from business acquisitions - where temporary differences have arisen at the time of acquisition without affecting the result for the year or the taxable income. Deferred tax assets, including the tax base of tax losses carried forward, are measured at the value at which the asset is expected to be realized, either by set off in tax on future earnings or by set off against deferred tax liabilities



within the same legal tax entity and jurisdiction. Deferred tax is measured in the basis of the tax rules and tax rates of the respective countries that will be effective under the legislation at the balance sheet date when deferred tax is expected to fall due. Changes in deferred tax due to changed tax rates are recognized in the income statement.

#### Accruals and deferred expenses

Accruals and deferred expenses are recognized as current assets and comprise costs attributable to the following fiscal year.

#### Equity, own shares

Own shares acquired by the parent company or subsidiaries are measured at cost and recognized within the equity under retained earnings. The price realized on subsequent sale is similarly recognized as retained earnings under equity.

#### **Minority interests**

On statements of Group results and Group equity the shares of results and equity of subsidiaries attributable to minority interests are recognized as separate items in the income statement and the balance sheet.

### Provisions

Provisions are made when as the result of an event occurring by balance sheet date, the company has legal or actual commitments and it is probable that funds will be required to meet such commitments.

#### Debt

The capitalized residual debt regarding financial leasing contracts is recognized in the balance sheet as debt to credit institutions. Other debt and liabilities are measured at amortized cost, which by and large corresponds to nominal value.

## Accruals and deferred income

Accruals recognized as liabilities comprise prepayments relating to revenue attributable to the following fiscal year.

# Cash flow statement

The cash flow statement, which is presented under the indirect method, shows the Group's cash flows for the year divided into operating activities, investing activities and financing activities, the company's opening and closing balances for cash funds and changes during the year.

#### Cash flow from operating activities

Cash flows from operating activities are calculated as the Group's share of results adjusted for non-cash operating items, changes in operating capital and corporate tax payments.

## Cash flow from investing activities

Cash flows from investing activities comprise payments related to acquisition and sale of companies and activities together with the purchase and sale of intangible, tangible and financial fixed assets.

## Cash flow from financing activities

Cash flows form financing activities relates to changes in the size of or make-up of the Group's share capital and costs related therewith and raising loans and repayment of interest bearing debt.

#### Cash funds

Cash funds include cash funds and short-term bonds with a term of less than three months which can be freely converted to cash funds, and where there is insignificant risk of changes in value.

## Segment reporting

Pursuant to the Danish Financial Statements Act and related executive order, segment data are only given for geographic markets. Segment data conform to the Group's accounting policies and internal financial control and risk management. Fixed assets in the segment relate to those fixed assets that are directly in segment operations, including intangible and tangible fixed assets. Current assets in the segment relate to current assets used directly in segment operations, including inventories, trade receivables, other receivables, accruals and cash funds. Segment liabilities are those arising from segment operations, including trade payables and other payables.

#### **Key figures**

The key figures and financial ratios are presented in conformity with the Recommendations and Key Figures 1997 guidance notes issued by the Danish Association of Financial Analysts.

The key figures given in the main text and the summary are calculated as follows (see next page):

# ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Gross Margin II	Gross profit II x 100 Net sales	
Operating margin (EBIT)	Operating income (EBIT) x 100 Net sales	
Return on investment III	Operating income (EBIT) + financial income x 100 Average balance	
Return on equity	Result after tax and minorities x 100 Average equity less minorities	
Equity ratio	Equity less minorities, year-end x 100 Liabilities, year-end	
Earnings per share (EPS)	Result after tax and minorities Average number of shares	хf
Dividend per share	Payout ratio (%) x nominal share value 100	
Net asset value per share (NAV)	Equity less minorities, year-end x 100 Number of shares, year-end	
Cash flow per share	Cash flow from operating activities Average number of shares	хf
Factor of adjustment (f)	Teoretical Rate Stock exchange rate the day before retrieving subscription rights	

The Board of Directors and Management have today presented the annual report and financial statements for 2003.

The Annual Report and financial statements are presented in accordance with the Danish Company Accounts Act, Danish accounting guidelines and the requirements laid down by Copenhagen Stock Exchange for the presentation of financial statements by listed companies. We regard the Group's accounting policies as appropriate, giving a true and fair view of the Group and the parent company's assets and liabilities, financial situation and results.

We recommend that the Annual General Meeting adopt the Annual Report.

Copenhagen 4th March 2004

## **Board of Management**

Carsten Dilling

Torben Bartels

## **Board of Directors**

Niels HeeringBirgit Aagaard-SvendsenMichael GaardboeChairman

## To the shareholders of Columbus IT Partner A/S

We have audited the annual report of Columbus IT Partner A/S for the financial year 2003.

The annual report is the responsibility of the Company's Management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the annual report based on our audit.

## **Basis of opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Danish Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance that the annual report is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the annual report. An audit also includes assessing the accounting policies used and significant estimates made by the Management, as well as evaluating the overall annual report presentation. We believe that ouraudit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our audit has not resulted in any qualification.

## Opinion

In our opinion, the annual report gives a true and fair view of the Group's and the Parent Company's financial position at 31 December 2003 and of the results of the Group's and the Parent Company's operations as well as the consolidated cash flows for the financial year 2003 in accordance with the Danish Financial Statements Act and the financial reporting requirements of the Copenhagen Stock Exchange.

#### **Emphasis of matter**

We refer to the section on "Capital Resources, etc." in the Management's Reports, in which the management reports on the considerable uncertainty in the outlook for 2004 and hence the Company's capital status.

Copenhagen, 4th March 2004

PRICE WATERHOUSE COOPERS

Statsautoriseret revisionsinteressentskab

Allan Vestergaard Andersen State Authorized Public Accountant Leif Ulbæk Jensen State Authorized Public Accountant

DELOITTE Statsautoriseret revisionsaktieselskab

Anders O. Gjelstrup State Authorized Public Accountant Jesper Jørgensen State Authorized Public Accountant

		G	roup	Parent co	mpany
DKK '000	Note	2003	2002	2003	2002
Net sales	1, 2, 3	543,273	606,956	15,012	33,028
Capitalized development costs		2,105	10,085	711	4,638
External project costs		-143,421	-150,306	215	-1,750
Gross profit		401,957	466,735	15,938	35,916
Other external costs		-112,229	-140,664	-16,947	-14,949
Staff costs	4	-292,536	-327,026	-15,634	-33,887
Other operating income	5	16,969	10,179	16,969	4,500
Other operating costs	5	-3,201	-1,180	0	0
Earnings before interest, tax,					
depreciation and amortization (EBITDA)		10,960	8,044	326	-8,420
Depreciation and amortization, excl.					
amortization of goodwill	6	-20,029	-20,762	-6,195	-3,584
Earnings before interest,		-9,069	-12,718	-5,869	-12,004
tax and amortization (EBITA)					
Amortization and write-down of goodwill	6	-11,440	-63,078	0	0
Operating income (EBIT)		-20,509	-75,796	-5,869	-12,004
Results before tax in affiliated companies				-25,891	-73,592
Financial income	9	10,983	11,096	7,272	6,930
Financial expenses	9	-21,304	-25,464	-11,289	-11,632
Result before tax		-30,830	-90,164	-35,777	-90,298
Tax on result for the year	10	-6,770	-9,673	-4,489	-9,619
Result for the year		-37,600	-99,837	-40,266	-99,917
Minority interests		-2,666	-80	0	0
Columbus IT Partner's share of result		-40,266	-99,917	-40,266	-99,917
		-40,266	-99,917	-40,266	-99,0
Proposed distribution of profit: Share premium account				-54,621	-45,930
				-54,621	
Retained earnings				14,300	-53,987

		Gi	roup	Parent co	mpany
DKK '000	Note	2003	2002	2003	2002
Assets					
Completed development projects		5,582	2,982	0	0
License rights		107	266	0	0
Goodwill		70,859	75,000		
Development projects in progress		795	1,989	0	0
Intangible fixed assets	6	77,343	80,237	0	0
Operating equipment and fixtures		20,161	32,861	7,750	11,720
Tangible fixed assets in progress		0	770	0	770
Tangible fixed assets	6	20,161	33,631	7,750	12,490
Investments in affiliated companies	7	0	0	123,951	134,291
Deferred tax assets	10	27,190	12,500	9,296	6,158
Financial fixed assets	10	27,190	12,500	133,247	140,449
Total fixed assets		124,694	126,368	140,997	152,939
Stocks of goods for sale		3,081	9,184	1,950	3,269
Inventories		3,081	9,184	1,950	3,269
Trade receivables	11	133,888	148,550	4,572	7,415
Contract work in progress	12	8,476	12,582	0	0
Receivables, from affiliated companies	11	0	7,335	49,430	34,378
Receivables, shareholders		4,558	0	2,298	0
Corporation tax	10	2,349	951	405	0
Other receivables	11	12,624	12,399	1,470	1,628
Accruals and deferred expenses	13	7,347	5,838	1,890	1,798
Receivables		169,242	187,655	60,065	45,219
Holdings in associated companies		5,000	0	0	0
Other securities and holdings	8	5,000	0	0	0
Cash funds		36,054	30,830	282	8
Total current assets		213,377	227,669	62,297	48,496
Total assets		338,071	354,037	203,294	201,435

		Gr	oup	Parent cor	company	
DKK '000	Note	2003	2002	2003	2002	
Liabilities						
Share capital		46,231	40,180	46,231	40,180	
Retained earnings		-14,350	-55,514	-14,350	-55,514	
Shareholders' equity	14	31,881	-15,334	31,881	-15,334	
Minorities interests	15	21,535	15,304	0	0	
Deferred tax	10	1,952	1,130	0	0	
Provisions	16	2,533	0	0	0	
Provisions for share of investments						
with negative equity				13,495	6,649	
Provisions		4,485	1,130	13,495	6,649	
Subordinated loan capital	17	17,840	0	17,840	0	
Credit institutions	18	2,090	24,750	0	1,910	
Long-term debt		19,930	24,750	17,840	1,910	
Subordinated loan capital	17	4,000	0	4,000	0	
Short-term part of long-term debt	18	3,476	13,131	0	4,660	
Credit institutions	18	71,865	123,007	53,601	67,405	
Prepayments received from customers		19,679	11,050	5	0	
Trade payables		62,271	48,284	2,883	4,792	
Payables to affiliated companies		0	23,500	59,871	112,669	
Corporation tax	10	3,754	8,927	0	0	
Other payables	19	87,894	91,832	19,718	18,487	
Accruals and deferred income	20	7,301	8,456	0	197	
Short-term debt		260,240	328,187	140,078	208,210	
Total debt		280,170	352,937	157,918	210,120	
Total liabilities		338,071	354,037	203,294	201,435	

Contingent liabilities

## DKK '000

	Share capital	Premium -	Retained
Group		rights account	earnings
Equity 1/1 2002	40,180	45,930	0
Net Result of the year	0	-45,930	-53,987
Sale of own shares	0	0	30
Exchange rate adjustments, foreign subsidaries	0	0	-1,557
Equity 31/12 2002	40,180	0	-55,514
Equity 1/1 2003	40,180	0	-55,514
Capital decrease	-30,135	0	30,135
Capital increase	36,186	61,287	0
Cost in connection with capital increases	0	-6,666	0
Net result of the year	0	-54,621	14,355
Tax related to employee share	0	0	2,199
Regulation of minority interests regulations negative equi	ty O	0	-2,200
Exchange rate adjustments, foreign subsidaries	0	0	-3,325
Equity 31/12 2003	46,231	0	-14,350

	Share capital	Premium –	Retained
Parent company		rights account	earnings
Equity 1/1 2002	40,180	45,930	0
Net result of the year	0	-45,930	-53,987
Sale of own shares	0	0	30
Exchange rate adjustments, foreign subsidaries	0	0	-1,557
Equity 31/12 2002	40,180	0	-55,514
Equity 1/1 2003	40,180	0	-55,514
Capital decrease	-30,135	0	30,135
Capital increase	36,186	61,287	0
Cost in connection with capital increases	0	-6,666	0
Net result of the year	0	-54,621	14,355
Tax related to employee share	0	0	2,199
Regulation of minority interests regulations negative equit	у О	0	-2,200
Exchange rate adjustments, foreign subsidaries	0	0	-3,325
Equity 31/12 2003	46,231	0	-14,350

DKK '000 No	ote	2003	2002
Not result of the year		10.277	00.01
Net result of the year		-40,266	-99,917
Adjustments	А	34,312	108,232
Changes in working capital	В	15,582	34,562
Cash flow from operating activities before financial items, net		9,628	42,877
Financial income		10,983	11,096
Financial expenses		-21,304	-25,464
Cash flow from ordinary activities		-692	28,509
cash now noni ordinary activities		-072	20,30
Corporation tax paid		-11,183	-4,476
		44.075	
Cash flow from operating activities		-11,875	24,033
Purchase of intangible fixed assets		-2,055	-6,379
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-5,492	-14,163
Sale of intangible fixed assets		5,707	14,104
Sale of tangible fixed assets		480	3,954
Acquisition of subsidiaries and activities	С	-11,958	-3,203
Cash flow from investing activities		-13,318	-5,687
Capital increase, rights issue		97,473	(
incl. conversion of debt/loans		-67,324	(
Capital increase – expenses		-6,666	(
Tax refund, employee shares		2,199	(
Change in debt to credit institutions		10,358	-20,464
Long-term liabilities		4,164	5,754
Part payments long-term liabilities		-9,035	-14,925
Cash flow from financing activities		31,169	-29,635
		51,107	-27,030
Changes in cash funds		5,976	-11,289
Cash funds, opening balance		30,830	44,165
Currency adjustments		-752	-2,046
Cash funds, year-end		36,054	30,830

Parent company

# Note A: Adjustments

DKK '000	2003	2002
Gains and losses (-) from sale of tanible		
and intangible fixed assets	55	271
Gain on Ax Iceland disposal	-16,969	0
Depreciation and amortization of fixed assets	31,469	83,840
Interest income etc.	-10,983	-11,096
Interest expenses etc.	21,304	25,464
Tax on the result for the year	6,770	9,673
Minority interests	2,666	80
Total adjustments	34,312	108,232

# Note B: Change in working capital

DKK '000	2003	2002
Change in receivables	36,275	58,988
Change in inventories	6,555	1,410
Change in trade payables etc.	-27,248	-25,836
Total change in working capital	15,582	34,562

# Note C: Investments in affiliated companies

DKK '000	Purchase	Sale	2003	2002
Intangible fixed assets	9,657	1,135	8,522	0
Tangible fixed assets	2,294	833	1,461	0
Capital participations	7,298	0	7,298	0
Inventories and projects in progress	456	4	452	0
Receivables etc.	21,468	8,495	12,973	325
Deffered tax assets	14,813	0	14,813	0
Cash founds	2,063	1,510	553	96
Provisions	-5,124	0	-5,124	0
Long-term liabilities	0	-20,620	20,620	0
Short-term liabilities	-51,381	-14,776	-36,605	-334
Net assets	1,544	-23,419	24,963	87
Goodwill	23,820	14,750	9,070	3,212
Minorities, share	0	138	-138	0
Acquisition cost	25,364	-8,531	33,895	3,299
Incl. cash funds of:	-2,063	-1,510	-553	-96
Acquisitions of minorities	792	0	792	0
Gain on Ax Iceland disposal	0	16,969	-16,969	0
Due balance of purchase price, etc.	-5,000	0	-5,000	0
Civitas disposal	-2,298	0	-2,298	0
Restructuring costs	2,091	0	2,091	0
Cash investment	18,886	6,928	11,958	3,203

Note 1: Net sales	Gi	Parent Company		
	2003	2002	2003	2002
Completed projects, sales value	580,227	636,257	15,012	33,028
Contract work in progress, opening balance	-55,851	-85,152	0	0
Additions from acquisitions	-37,247	0	0	0
Contract work in progress, closing balance	56,144	55,851	0	0
	543,273	606,956	15,012	33,028

# Note 2: Segment data

Group

# DKK '000

# Segment - geographical

		Western	Eastern	Rest of	
	Nordic	Europe	Europe	the wold	Group total
2003					
Net sales	254,243	133,371	93,285	62,374	543,273
Gross profit	188,161	99,620	68,150	46,026	401,957
EBITDA	-8,357	3,139	8,025	8,153	10,960
EBIT	-32,844	-36	5,451	6,920	-20,509
Result before tax	-44,037	-1,805	7,570	7,442	-30,830
Columbus IT Partner's share of result	-41,552	-3,273	1,896	2,663	-40,266
Fixed assets	111,560	7,065	3,724	2,345	124,694
Current assets	70,688	62,555	51,157	28,977	213,377
Segment assets	182,248	69,620	54,881	31,322	338,071
Provisions	2,587	935	361	602	4,485
Debt	169,060	85,038	12,272	13,800	280,170
Segment liabilities	171,647	85,973	12,633	14,402	284,655
Average number of employees	462	154	261	86	963

2002	Nordic	Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Rest of the wold	Group total						
						Net sales	336,833	123,301	73,221	73,601	606,956
						Gross profit	269,126	95,037	45,136	57,436	466,735
EBITDA	23,508	-14,524	-7,560	6,620	8,044						
EBIT	-41,957	-29,404	-10,051	5,616	-75,796						
Result before tax	-52,254	-33,235	-9,261	4,586	-90,164						
Columbus IT Partner's share of result	-59,773	-32,415	-7,044	-685	-99,917						
Fixed assets	109,240	8,888	4,803	3,437	126,368						
Current assets	65,849	64,966	69,395	27,459	227,669						
Segment assets	175,089	73,854	74,198	30,896	354,037						
Provisions	328	0	649	153	1,130						
Debt	202,652	100,169	35,963	14,153	352,937						
Segment liabilities	202,980	100,169	36,612	14,306	354,067						
Avarage number of employees	349	166	241	98	854						

# Note 3: Discontinuing operations Group

### DKK '000

2003	Continuing operations	Discontinuing operations	Total
Net sales	520,061	23,212	543,273
Other operating income	0	16,969	16,969
Other operating costs	-108,626	-3,603	-112,229
EBITDA	-7,763	18,723	10,960
Result before tax	-46,630	15,800	-30,830
Columbus IT Partner's share of result	-56,501	16,235	-40,266
Fixed assets	124,694	_	124,694
Current assets	213,377	-	213,377

The most significant discontinuing operations were the Icelandic/S. African disposals

Continuing operations	Discontinuing operations	Total
507,124	99,832	606,956
7,657	2,522	10,179
-129,020	-11,644	-140,664
-26,829	34,873	8,044
-94,896	4,732	-90,164
-96,763	-3,154	-99,917
123,442	2,926	126,368
215,752	11,917	227,669
	operations 507,124 7,657 -129,020 -26,829 -94,896 -96,763 123,442	operations         operations           507,124         99,832           7,657         2,522           -129,020         -11,644           -26,829         34,873           -94,896         4,732           -96,763         -3,154           123,442         2,926

The most significant discontinuing operations include the disposal of the local authorities, Icelandic and S. African.

Note 4: Staff costs	Gi	Group		Parent Company	
DKK '000	2003	2002	2003	2002	
Fees to Board of Directors	508	590	508	590	
Salaries and wages	259,410	297,796	14,745	31,306	
Pensions	5,799	7,493	0	453	
Other social security costs	11,273	11,249	17	34	
Other employment expenses	15,546	9,898	364	1,504	
	292,536	327,026	15,634	33,887	
Average employees	963	854	29	46	

Employment costs include remuneration to parent company management of DKK 7,380,000 (2002: DKK 7,061,000) and pensions of DKK 0 (2002: DKK 390,000). This item includes provision for the minimum value of the management incentive scheme of DKK 3,333,000 (2002: DKK 3,333,000).

Note 5: Other operating income and costs	Gi	roup	Parent Company	
DKK '000	2003	2002	2003	2002
Other operating income				
Income from shareholder guarantees	0	8,000	0	4,500
Gains on sale of Municipal activities	0	1,521	0	0
Gains on disposal of holdings, etc.	16,969	658	16,969	0
	16,969	10,179	16,969	4,500
Other operating costs				
Loss on disposal of holdings, etc.	0	1,180	0	0
Lost court case in Norway	3,201	0	0	0
	3,201	1,180	0	0

# Note 6: Tangible and intangible fixed assets

# DKK '000

Group	Completed			Development	Operating	Tangible fixed
	development			projects in	equipt.	assets under
	projects	Royalties	Goodwill	progress	& fixtures	construction
Costs 1/1 2003	3,219	7,908	203.886	1.989	103,588	770
Exchange rate adjustment 1/1 2003	-273	-94	-2,608	-36	-4,425	0
	2,946	7,814	201,278	1,953	99,163	770
Transfers	1,262	0	0	-1,262	770	-770
Additions during the year	1,879	72	24,612	104	5,492	0
Additions, company disposals	1,500	5,707	2,450	0	2,294	0
Decrease, company disposals	-1,262	0	-49,922	0	-4,574	0
Disposals during the year						
Including fully amortized goodwill	0	-5,707	-77,427	0	-13,224	0
Costs 31/12 2003	6,325	7,886	100,991	795	89,921	0
	007	7 ( 40	100.000	0	70 707	
Accumulated depreciation 1/1 2003	237	7,642 -159	128,888	0	70,727	0
Exchange rate adjustments	-18 219	7,483	-1,773	0	-3,621	0
	219	7,483	127,115	U	67,106	0
Depreciation and write-down 2003	650	296	11,440	0	19,083	0
Company disposals	-126	0	-49,921	0	-3,741	0
Depreciation and						
amortized goodwill	0	0	-58,502	0	-12,688	0
Accumulated depreciation						
and amortization 31/12 2003	743	7,779	30,132	0	69,760	0
Net book value, 31/12 2003	5,582	107	70,859	795	20,161	0
Net year-end book value of assets						
under financial leases 31/12 2003						2,914
2						

## Parent Company

Operating	Tangible fixed
equipt.	assets under
& fixtures	construction
19,671	770
770	-770
1,455	0
-3	0
21,893	0
7,951	0
6,195	0
-3	0
14,143	0
7,750	0
	1,318
	equipt. & fixtures 19,671 770 1,455 -3 21,893 7,951 6,195 -3 14,143

# Note 7: Investments in affiliated companies Parent Company

DKK '000	2003	2002
Cost 1/1	289,287	258,894
Additions during the year	48,327	34,708
Disposals during the year	-35,381	-4,315
Cost 31/12	302,233	289,287
Revaluation/write-down 1/1	-194,823	-114,166
Translation gains/losses	-3,325	-1,775
Net result for the year	-36,568	-80,402
Reversed revaluation	39,790	4,248
Dividends	0	-2,728
Revaluation/write-down 31/12	-194,926	-194,823
	107,307	94,464
Write down of receivables from affiliated companies with negative equity	3,149	33,178
Transferred to provisions for share of investments with negative equity	13,495	6,649
Net book value 31/12	123,951	134,291
Net book value at 31/12 includes goodwill of	59,094	62,645

## Note 8: Securities and holdings comprise shares in affiliates

Securities and holdings comprise shares in affiliates. The shares relate to a put option. Shares are valued at the current market price of options at balance sheet date.

Note 9: Financial income and expenses	G	Group		Parent Company	
DKK '000	2003	2002	2003	2002	
Financial income					
Interests income from affiliated companies	0	0	1,711	4,070	
Gains on foreign exchange	8,900	7,754	1,714	443	
Other interest income	2,083	3,342	3,847	2,417	
	10,983	11,096	7,272	6,930	
Financial expenses					
Interest expenses for affiliated companies	0	1,375	1,266	1,787	
Losses on foreign exchange	8,938	9,262	995	1,158	
Other interest expenses	12,366	14,827	9,028	8,687	
	21,304	25,464	11,289	11,632	

Note 10: Corporation tax	G	Group		Parent Company	
DKK '000	2003	2002	2003	2002	
Tax on result for the year					
Current tax	5,692	11,813	0	-4,162	
Change in deffered tax	1,103	-1,578	-3,543	5,707	
Adjustments relating to previous years	-25	-562	-2,645	-133	
Tax - affiliated companies	0	0	10,677	8,207	
	6,770	9,673	4,989	9,619	
Tax on operating income is attributable thus Tax at 30% of result before tax Tax effect of:	-9,245	-27,049			
Adjustments relating to previous years Adjustment of tax calculated for foreign	-25	-562			
affiliates in relation to 30% tax rate	-121	166			
Non-deductible amortization of goodwill	2,849	19,269			
Non-capitalized value of tax losses	9,979	16,276			
Use of non-capitalized losses from previous years	-1,366	-752			
Adjustment of value of tax assets	4,752	1,832			
Other permanent differences	-53	493			
	6,770	9,673			

Explanation of tax on operating income is not shown separately for the Parent Company since consolidated and parent tax changes are identical, except from minority interests' share.

	Group		Parent Company	
DKK '000	2003	2002	2003	2002
Corporation tax, net				
Balance 1/1 2003	7,976	2,944	0	-3,325
Exchange rate adjustments	-1,080	-569	0	0
Adjustments relating to previous years	-864	-1,736	-405	-133
Current tax 2003	6,556	11,813	0	0
Corporation tax paid in 2003	-11,183	-4,476	0	3,458
Balance 31/12 2003	1,405	7,976	-405	0
Corporation tax raceivable	-2,349	-951	-405	0
Corporation tax payable	3,754	8,927	0	0
	1,405	7,976	-405	0

	Gr	Group		Parent Company	
DKK '000	2003	2002	2003	2002	
	Deferred tax	Deferred	Deferred tax	Deferred	
	asset	tax	asset	tax	
Deferred tax					
Balance 1/1 2003	-12,500	1,130	-6,158	0	
Addition upon acquisition	-14,813	0	0	0	
Exchange rate adjustments	-17	-140	0	0	
Adjustments relating to previous years	4,711	-771	405	0	
Changes in deferred tax for the year	-4,571	1,733	-3,543	0	
Balance 31/12 2003	-27,190	1,952	-9,296	0	
Deferred tax attributable to:					
Intangible fixed assets	-8,243	1,045	853	0	
Tangible fixed assets	-6,904	968	-432	0	
Current assets	484	-115	106	0	
Liabilities	-3,969	54	-2,667	0	
Deductible tax losses	-8,558	0	-7,156	0	
	-27,190	1,952	9,296	0	

Note 11: Receivables	Group		Parent Company	
DKK '000	2003	2002	2003	2002
Amounts due for payment more than one year after the balance sheet date:				
Trade receivables	2,649	0	2,649	0
Receivables from affiliated companies	0	4,500	0	1,000
Other receivables	0	1,000	0	0

Note 12: Contract work in progress	G	Group		Parent Company	
	2003	2002	2003	2002	
Contract work in progress	56,144	55,851	0	0	
Prepayments and invoices on account	-61,179	-50,181	0	0	
	5,035	5,670	0	0	
Stated thus:					
Contract work in progress (assets)	8,476	12,582	0	0	
Prepayments received from customers (liabilities)	-13,511	-6,912	0	0	
	-5,035	5,670	0	0	

Note 13: Accruals and deferred expenses	Gr	Group		Parent Company	
DKK '000	2003	2002	2003	2002	
Prepaid insurance premiums	1,613	822	166	173	
Prepaid rent and other office expenses	2,437	1,616	0	482	
Lease prepayments	345	1,559	0	929	
Other accruals	2,952	1,841	1,724	214	
	7,347	5,838	1,890	1,798	

### Note 14: Share capital

Share capital consists of 36,984,862 shares with a face value of DKK 1.25 corresponding to tDKK 46,231. All shares have the same rights.

At year-end 2003, the company held 1,749 own DKK 1.25 nom. shares with a value of tDKK 2.

The company has not acquired or sold own shares during the year.

The Board of Directors has authorized the issue of between 1 - 450,000 warrants. At 31 December 2003, about 375,000 warrants had been allocated. For a further details of the warrent scheme, please see Financial report.

### Note 15: Minority interests

Group

DKK '000	2003	2002
Balance 1/1	15,304	15,805
Share of net result for the year	2,666	80
Adjustments for minority interests with negative equity	5,625	0
Exchange rate adjustments and other adjustments	-2,060	-581
Balance 31/12	21,535	15,304

## Note 16: Deferred liabilities

Deferred liabilities concerns costs for restructuring in connection with purchase of companies. The amount is expected due in 2004.

## Note 17: Subordinated loan capital

DKK '000	
Nordea, the loan is due 31.12.2005	17,840
Gardboe Holding, the loan is due 31.12.2004	4,000
The loan can according to the stockexchange announcement of 20.10.2003 (no. 18/2003) be converted to shares.	

#### Note 18: Credit institutions

## Group

Long-term liabilities to credit institutions include liabilities relating to financial leasing together with other long-term liabilities

DKK '000	2003	2002
Long-term liabilities to credit institutions shall be paid		
before the following periods from the balance sheet date:		
Under 1 year	3,476	13,131
Between 2 and 5 years	331	17,248
After 5 years	1,759	7,502
	5,566	37,881
Interest levels for long-term liabilities (4% - 14,0%) can be stated as follows:		
Effective interest 4-6%	3,597	11,024
Effective interest 6-10%	1,595	24,596
Effective interest > 10%	374	2,261
	5,566	37,881
Interest levels for short-term liabilities (4% - 12,7%) can be stated as follows:		
Effective interest 4-6%	55,756	110,193
Effective interest 6-10%	15,836	11,104
Effective interest > 10%	273	1,710
	71,865	123,007

Note 19: Other liabilities	Gro	oup	Parent Com	pany
DKK '000	2003	2002	2003	2002
Accrued salaries, pensions, bonuses, etc.	5,426	10,993	267	5,46
Payroll tax and other salary related liabilities	6,902	10,429	0	
Holiday allowance, holiday pay due, etc.	25,116	18,341	1,724	2,59
VAT due	14,259	13,637	1,275	
Due balance of purchase price for investments in affiliated companie	s 5,000	9,334	5,000	9,33
Accrued expenses, etc.	31,191	29,098	11,452	1,09
	87,894	91,832	19,718	18,48

Note 20: Accruals and deferred income	Group		Parent Company	
DKK '000	2003	2002	2003	2002
Hotline subscriptions	6,391	7,588	0	0
Other accruals and deferred income	910	868	0	197
	7,301	8,456	0	197

#### Note 21: Contingent liabilities

#### Parent Company

#### **Contractual obligations**

The company has rental commitments for the non-terminable part of its tenancy of approximately DKK 0.3m. The tenancy was cancelled with effect from March 31, 2004.

Total commitments under operational leasing contracts made by the company amounted to DKK 0.4m.

Minority shareholders in associated companies in Baltimore and in South and Central America had agreements with Columbus IT Partner that if the minority shareholders so wished, Columbus IT Partner would undertake to acquire their shares (sales option). Pricing of the shares held by minority shareholders was based on earnings trends in the companies concerned. Minority shareholders in the companies have exercised their right to sell. At yearend, total contractual commitments were DKK 5.4m

There was a comparable option agreement with respect to the company in California, USA relating to a 16% holding. The option agreement was exercised during the course of 2003. Payments were agreed by the parties on the basis of the option agreement which saw the final instalment being paid in March, 2004. Under the agreement, ownership of the holding was only transferable on payment of the final instalment.

#### **Contingent liabilities**

The company has granted letters of comfort to certain affiliates to ensure sufficient liquidity for continuing operations in 2004.

The company submits VAT accounts together with Columbus IT Partner Danmark A/S.

The Danish companies subject to joint taxation are jointly and severally liable for tax on joint taxable earnings.

#### **Sureties**

The company has provided securities and bank guarantees for its subsidiaries' banking facilities, etc. At year-end 2003, total commitments were DKK 65.3m.

The company has granted guarantees to the company's Board of Management. At year-end 2003, the total commitment was DKK 2.1m.

The company has granted guarantees for affiliates' outstandings with Columbus IT Partner 's main supplier. At year-end 2003, this commitment was approximately DKK 30m.

The company has issued guarantees to other suppliers. At yearend 2003, total commitments were DKK 0.1m.

Guarantees have also been issued for affiliates' rental commitments. Total commitments at year-end were DKK 3.1m.

The company's shares and loans to affiliates companies have been provided as security for the parent company's credit lines with its lead bankers.

#### Group

#### Contractual obligations

Companies in the Group have made various tenancy agreements under which total rental commitments for the non/terminable part of tenancies are calculated at DKK 26.3m.

Operational leasing contracts have been made under which total commitments were DKK 12.6m.

#### **Contingent liabilities**

Companies in Columbus IT Partner are party to certain pending disputes, arbitration proceedings and law suits in Denmark and abroad. Management's view is that sufficient write-down and provisions have been made in association therewith and that findings in these cases will not have a significant negative impact on the financial status of Columbus IT Partner.

#### **Sureties**

Cash flow, inventories and accounts receivable of affiliates have been pledged as security for debt to Columbus IT Partner's lead bankers

Note 22: Fees for auditors	Gi	Group		Parent Company	
DKK '000	2003	2002	2003	2002	
PricewaterhouseCoopers					
Audit fee	1,619	1,248	1,000	472	
Fee for other services	892	309	658	275	
	2,511	1,557	1,658	747	
Deloitte					
Audit fee	2,742	1,647	711	374	
Fee for other services	929	1,121	861	451	
	3,671	2,768	1,572	825	





# COLUMBUS IT PARTNER A/S

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