

# 2012 ANNUAL RESULTS

Charles  
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S w i t z e r l a n d



## 2012 MARKET DEVELOPMENTS

### Market environment still difficult

- Consumers made reticent by difficult economic situation and euro crisis
- Declining footfall in Europe's clothing markets
- Greater retail tourism (Switzerland)
- Continued high level of competitive, price and merchandise pressure
- EUR/CHF exchange rate more stable



## KEY FIGURES 2012

### Positive free cash flow, fall in net sales, value adjustments required

- Positive free cash-flow of CHF 15 million (PY CHF -157 million)
- Net sales fall -4.4% (CHF -44 million) to CHF 972 million
  - 1st HY: around 50% due to exchange rate
  - 2 HY: compromises on autumn/winter 2011/2012 range
- Net sales down 3.1% after adjusting for exchange rates and floorspace (I-f-I)
  - Decline in sales caused largely by Switzerland and Germany
- Gross profit margin slightly higher at 61.9% (PY 61.5%)
- Operating expenses reduced by CHF 18 million to CHF 619 million after adjusting for exchange rates
- Value adjustments in CEE und Benelux of CHF 32 million
- Restrictive investment management
- Net result of CHF -109 million





# KEY FACTS 2012

## Focused work on the turnaround

- Cash management prioritized
- Intensive work on products, single-brand strategy and staying close to customers
- Reduced complexity in procurement
- Logistics of merchandise supply working smoothly again
- Sustainability in strategy implementation



# CASH MANAGEMENT

## The challenge

- "Stop the bleeding"

## Prioritizing liquidity management

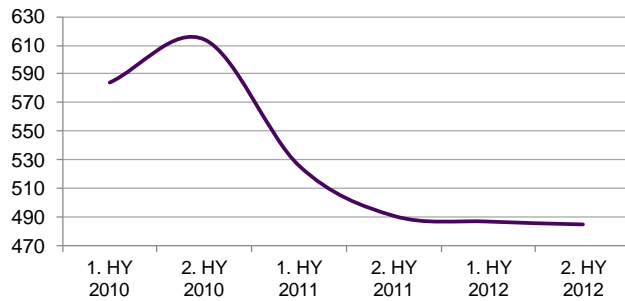
- Free cash flow improved year-on-year by more than CHF 170 million
- Cash management focused on operational activity
- Bigger discounts help to sell off spring/summer collection in 1st HY
- Significant reduction in autumn/winter 2012 purchase volumes due to integration of parts of autumn/winter 2011 range
- Strict cost ratio management
- Restricted investment activity



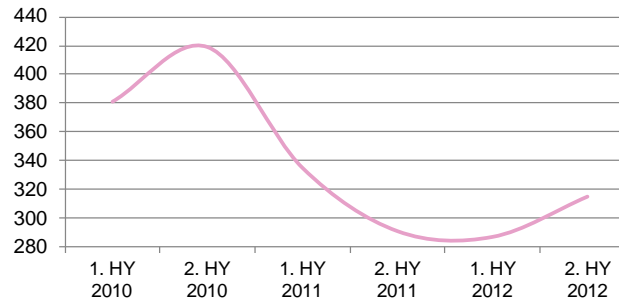
# PERFORMANCE IN 2ND HALF OF 2012

## Downward trend halted in second half

Net sales (CHF million)



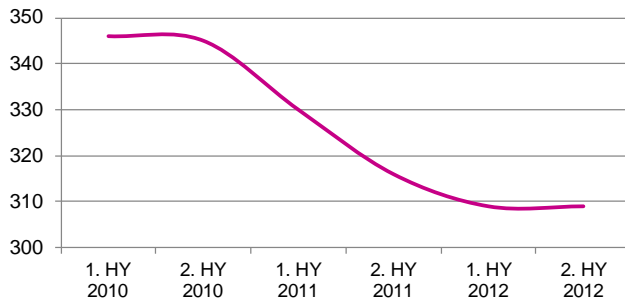
Gross profit (CHF million)



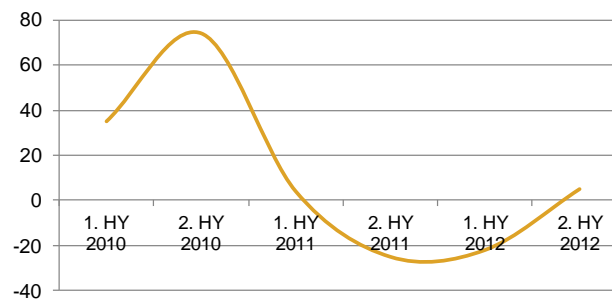
Main drivers in second half:

- Improved incoming margins
- Less use of discounting
- Strict cost management

Total operating expenses (CHF million)



EBITDA (CHF million)



# PRODUCT & CLOSENESS TO CUSTOMERS

## The challenge

- Switch to single-brand structure
- Reduction in autumn/winter 2012 purchase volumes
- Negative reporting and unsettled customers

## Charles Vögele positioned as brand

- Range focused consistently on single-brand strategy and core target group with effect from spring/summer 2013
- Goods presentation to match buying habits:  
Changeover to core and coordinates sections
- Revision of Women's Wear:  
optimized fits and sharper fashion statements
- Price adjustments in children's collection increase competitiveness
- Successful Swiss image campaign to increase customer confidence



# PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY OF GOODS

## The challenge

- Highly complex procurement process, little flexibility to react to trends
- Gaps in management of goods

## Efficiency gains realized

- Logistics processes functioning smoothly again
- Flexible cost structure and reduced investment in logistics
- Optimized through-put times and capacity utilization
- Procurement made less complex by streamlining supplier portfolio
- Revisions and adjustment of sourcing structure
- Incoming margin increased again in 2nd half





# STRATEGY

## The challenge

- Performance of Swiss market
- Heterogeneous country and store portfolio
- Cost pressure
- Frequent changes in top management

## Strategic measures implemented for profitable growth

- Examining ways to reduce complexity and focus on core markets
- Prioritizing the Swiss core market
- Rigorous implementation of single-brand strategy
- Operational support from BoD
- Review of strategic options

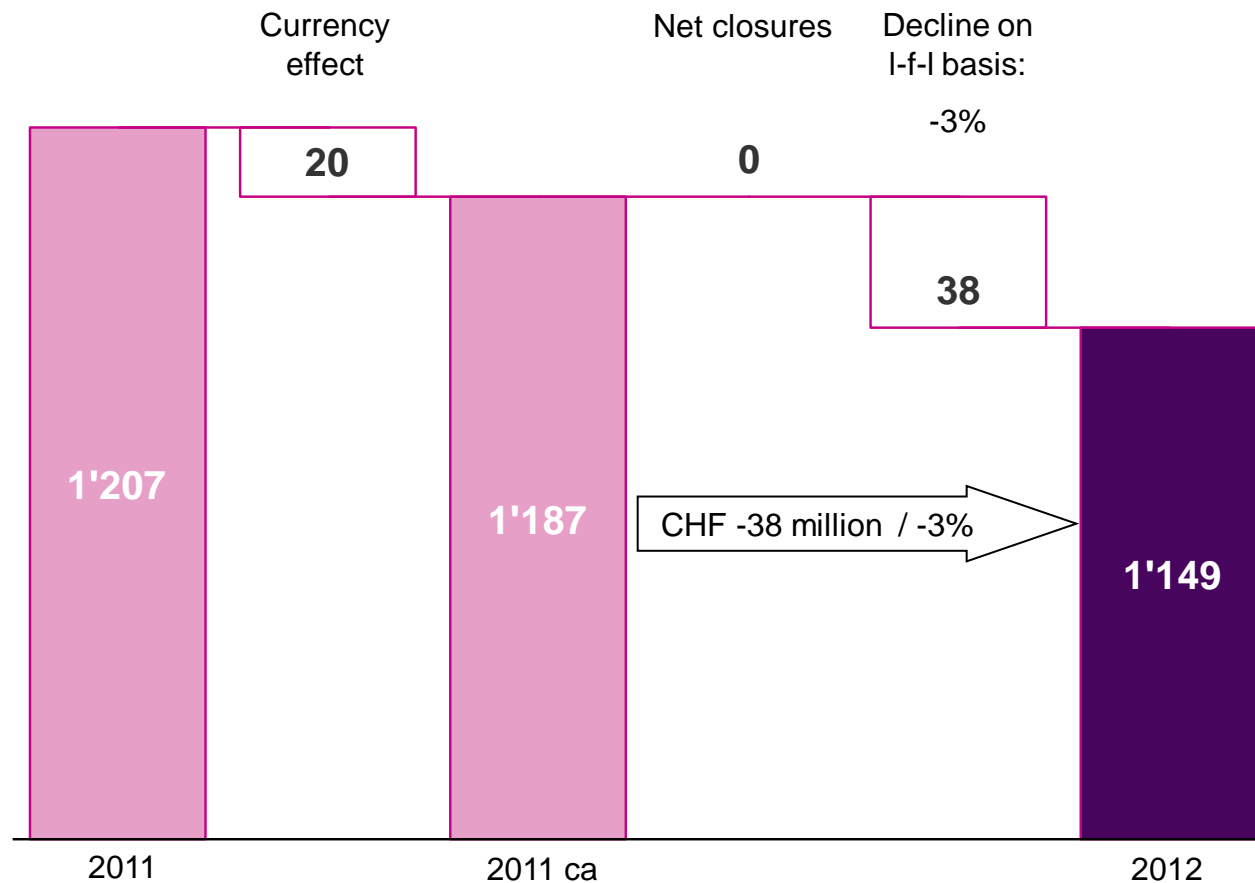


# INCOME STATEMENT

(CHF million)	2012	2011	△	△ in %	
Gross sales	1'149	1'207	(58)	(5%)	◀◀
Net sales	972	1'016	(44)	(4%)	
Gross profit	602	625	(23)	(4%)	
as % of net sales	61.9%	61.5%			
Total operating expenses	(619)	(646)	+27	+4%	
as % of net sales	63.7%	63.6%			
EBITDA	(17)	(21)	+4	(19%)	
as % of net sales	-1.7%	-2.1%			
EBIT	(99)	(114)	+15		
as % of net sales	-10.2%	-11.2%			
Net profit/(loss)	(109)	(119)	+10		

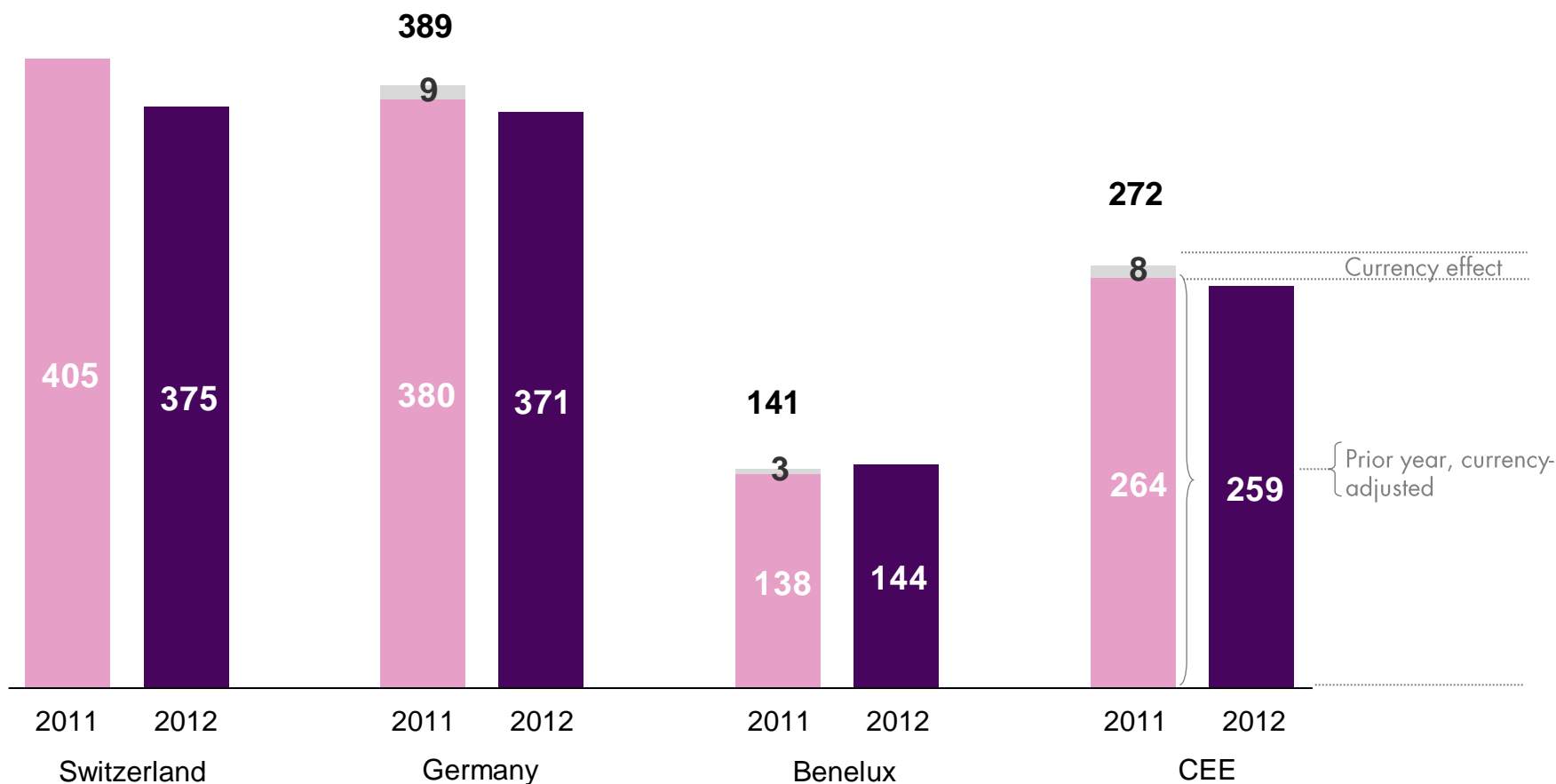
# CONSOLIDATED GROSS SALES (in CHF million)

## Currency effect and I-f-I decline hurt first-half results most



# CONSOLIDATED GROSS SALES BY REGION (in CHF million)

**Benelux increases gross sales, Switzerland suffers most from decline in footfall**





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# GROSS PROFIT

## Fall in volumes reduces gross profit

- Decline of CHF 23 million (from CHF 625 million to CHF 602 million)
  - Lower volume and currency influence: CHF -27 million
  - Positive margin effect: CHF 4 million

### Main influences:

- Lower footfall and customer numbers led to fewer items sold
- Less discounting, though still at a high level because of need to shed old stock
- Better incoming margin in 2nd half
- Increase in supplier accounts
- Lower value adjustments thanks to reduction in inventories

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# OPERATING COSTS (in CHF million)

## Savings of CHF 18 million after currency adjustment



\*Of which around CHF 7 million from outsourcing logistics



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# IMPROVED PERFORMANCE IN 2ND HALF

## Increase in gross profit leads to positive EBITDA in 2nd half

(CHF million)	1. HY 2011	1. HY 2012	Δ 1. HY	2. HY 2011	2. HY 2012	Δ 2. HY
Net Sales	525	487	(38)	491	485	(6)
Gross Profit	334	287	(47)	291	315	24
as % of net sales	63.5%	59.0%		59.3%	64.9%	
Total operating expenses	(330)	(309)	21	(316)	(310)	6
EBITDA	4	(22)	(26)	(25)	5	30

# REGIONAL PERFORMANCES

## Switzerland Region:

- Clothing market has shrunk by 3%
- Retail tourism, competitive and price pressure
- CV's I-f-I performance -8.7% (realized turnover)
- Negative media reporting unsettles customers
- Image campaign launched
- Strict cost management increases EBITDA

## Benelux Region:

- Declining purchase hurts consumer sentiment
- Belgium market grows, Netherlands shrinks
- CV sales (real. TU) grow faster than market, I-f-I (B +9.3 %, NL +6.1%)
- Structural adjustments in BX show first effects
- Productivity per sqm up by 9% (ca)
- One-off effects of structural adjustments
- Value adjustments of CHF 20 million on fixed assets

## Germany Region:

- Overall clothing sales down -2%
- Consumers unsettled by euro crisis
- CV's I-f-I performance -2.6% (real. TU), about same as overall market
- Stable productivity per sqm
- Slightly improved EBITDA

## CEE Region (mainly Austria):

- Cautious consumer sentiment in the CEE Region
- Disappointing business performance in 1st HY, significant improvement in second half
- CV's I-f-I performance in AT -3.6% (real. TU)
- Lower sales in AT and follow-up costs from logistics switch bring down result (EBITDA)
- Value adjustments (HU, CZ, PL) of CHF 12 million on fixed assets

# REGIONAL PERFORMANCES

## Core markets improve operating result before depreciation (EBITDA)

### Region Switzerland

(CHF million)	2012	2011
Net Sales	341	363
EBITDA	36	30
Store portfolio at 1 January	168	168
<i>Openings</i>	3	5
<i>Closings</i>	(1)	(5)
Store portfolio at 31 December	170	168

### Region Germany

(CHF million)	2012	2011
Net Sales	304	318
EBITDA	(12)	(17)
Store portfolio at 1 January	293	294
<i>Openings</i>	9	11
<i>Closings</i>	(11)	(12)
Store portfolio at 31 December	291	293

### Region Benelux

(CHF million)	2012	2011
Net Sales	118	117
EBITDA	(20)	(17)
Store portfolio at 1 January	154	161
<i>Openings</i>	1	1
<i>Closings</i>	(7)	(8)
Store portfolio at 31 December	148	154

### Region CEE

(CHF million)	2012	2011
Net Sales	209	218
EBITDA	(21)	(17)
Store portfolio at 1 January	202	203
<i>Openings</i>	5	7
<i>Closings</i>	(4)	(8)
Store portfolio at 31 December	203	202



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## COMPARING EBIT TO YEAR-BACK FIGURE

Operating profit (EBIT) improves by CHF 17 million after value adjustments and currency effects



# OVERVIEW OF EBIT TO NET PROFIT

## Refinancing increases financial expenses

(CHF million)	2012	2011	△
EBIT	(99)	(114)	+15
as % of net sales	-10.2%	-11.2%	
Financial expenses	(10)	(3)	(7)
Exchange losses	1	(1)	+2
Tax expenses	(1)	(1)	
Net profit/(loss)	(109)	(119)	+10
as % of net sales	-11.3%	-11.7%	

# INVESTMENT

## Restricted investment activity

(CHF million)	2012	2011	△
Store openings	4	9	(5)
Refurbishments/renovation	7	25	(18)
Other	0	5	(5)
Total regions	11	39	(28)
Group infrastructure	3	10	(7)
Total Group, net	14	49	(35)



# FREE CASH FLOW

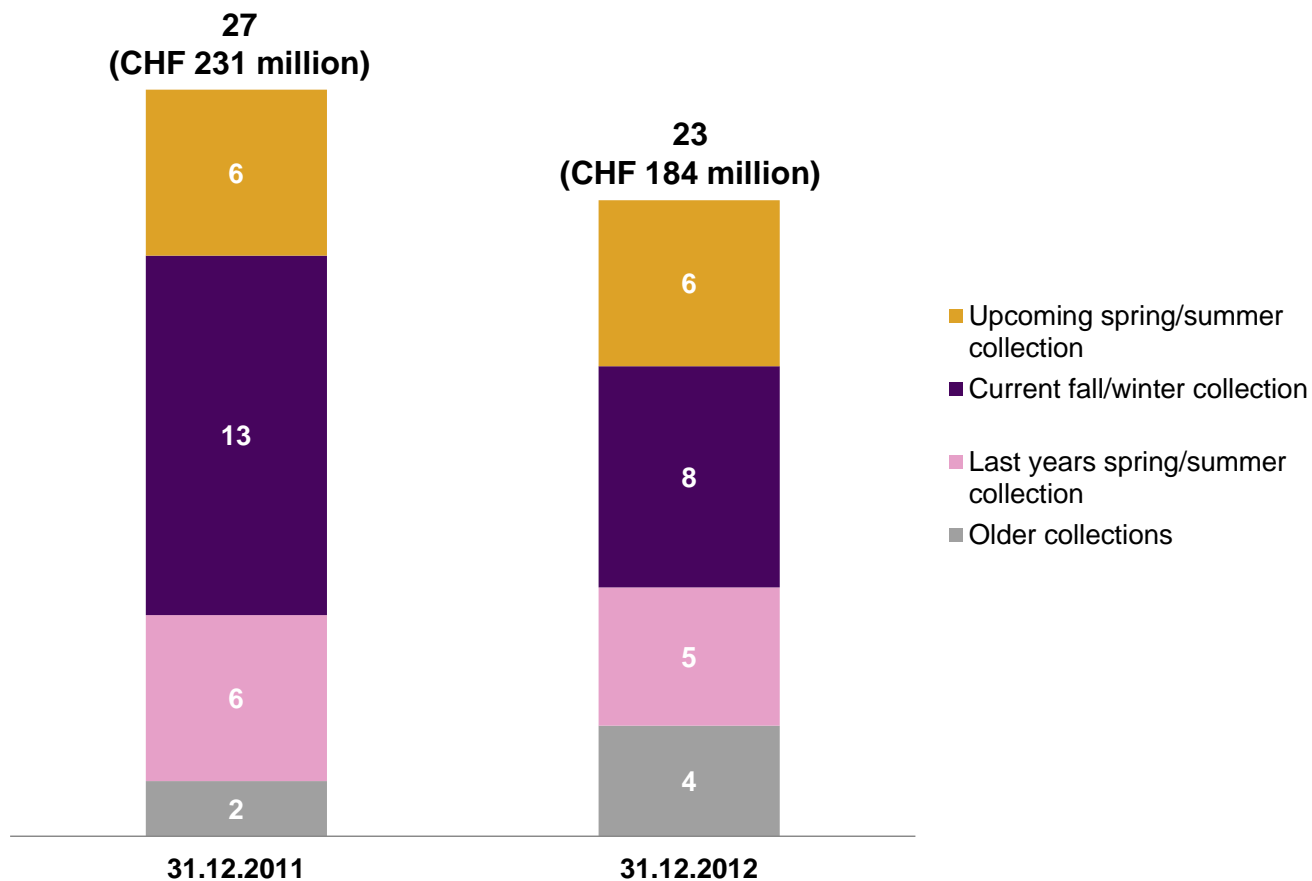
## Reduction of inventories contributes greatly to positive cash flow

(CHF million)	2012	2011	△
<b>EBITDA</b>	<b>(17)</b>	<b>(21)</b>	<b>+4</b>
Net change in inventory	44	(82)	+126
Other non-cash positions	11	12	(1)
Net financial & tax expenses	(9)	(17)	+8
<b>Cash flow from operating activities</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>(108)</b>	<b>+137</b>
Cash flow from investing activities	(14)	(49)	+35
<b>Free Cash Flow</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>(157)</b>	<b>+172</b>
Cash flow from financing activities	(38)	138	(176)
<b>Net change in cash &amp; cash equivalents</b>	<b>(23)</b>	<b>(19)</b>	<b>(4)</b>

# INVENTORY

## Inventory reduced by 4 million items

Inventory  
(in CHF)



# KEY BALANCE SHEET FIGURES

## Net debt reduced

(CHF million)	31.12.2012	31.12.2011	△
Cash and cash equivalents	87	110	(23)
Inventories	184	231	(47)
Tangible assets	274	341	(67)
Net debt	(115)	(134)	+19
Total assets	612	761	(149)
Shareholders' equity	234	356	(122)
Equity ratio	38%	47%	(9%)

# DIFFERENTIATION BASED ON SERVICE

## Package of measures initiated

### Improve performance

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- Evaluate measures to increase sales and potential to reduce costs
- Increase marketing efficiency/CRM
- Withdraw from Poland and Czech Republic
- Review further strategic options
- Market campaign in core Swiss market
- Set up Programme Management Office (PMO) incl. Performance Management

### Get closer to the market

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- Improve customer service at POS
- Revise store format strategy
- Strengthen customer focus in merchandise management
- Continue to develop marketing/communication
- Sustainability in collection statements

# THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Charles  
**Vögele**  
S w i t z e r l a n d



16.04.2013

- Media and analysts conference on the 2013 half-year financial statements 20.08.2013
- Media and analysts conference on the 2013 financial statements 08.04.2014
- Annual Shareholders' Meeting, 2013 annual financial statements 20.05.2014

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