

**Scandlines Annual Report 2008**

***Scandlines achieves a positive operating result before tax for the business year 2008 – despite the economic crisis and high oil prices / Scandlines anticipates a further decline in cargo transport for 2009 / rationalisation programme started***

Net revenue fell only slightly, i.e. by € 7 million to € 584 million, in 2008 compared with the previous year. The decrease is mostly the result of the sale of shares in Sydfynske A/S at the end of 2007 and a decline in the transport result due to the onset of the economic and financial crisis. “With a profit of € 139 million before interest, tax and depreciation (EBITDA), we were able to achieve one of the best operating results in the 10-year history of the Scandlines Group. Nonetheless, the result for the year is not satisfactory”, summarised Michael F. Hassing, Chairman of the Board of Directors at Scandlines GmbH.

After depreciation of tangible and intangible assets in the sum of € 36 million, goodwill amortisation of € 50 million, interest payments of € 71 million and taxes, the result after tax was – 20 million Euro.

**Result of operations**

in EUR x million	2008
Sales revenues	584
EBITDA	139
EBIT	53
Net income/loss for the period	-20

**Expectations for 2009 and prospects for the future**

Scandlines’ market environment has drastically changed over the past few months. In the cargo segment, the company recorded a decline in transport volumes averaging 25% in the first quarter of 2009. Further decreases in industrial and consumer goods production will have a negative impact, especially in relation to cargo traffic with the Baltic States and also with Scandinavia. A fundamental recovery of the market is not anticipated this year.

On account of this development, Scandlines has adapted its corporate strategy to the changes in basic conditions over the short term and launched an extensive rationalisation programme at the beginning of this year. The focus of this programme is

on measures to lower costs and increase efficiency, as well as on restructuring the company. The successful implementation of these measures will make a decisive contribution towards maintaining and enhancing Scandlines' earning power and profitability not only in 2009, but also in the subsequent years. "That is why we are setting the course for long-term growth and economic success right now, in times of crisis. Only this can guarantee an economically sound company oriented towards the future and its customers", continued Michael F. Hassing.

Scandlines plans further investments in 2009 aimed at improving the company's competitiveness and marketing activities so as to further expand the short-sea segment, in particular.

Scandlines expects to emerge stronger from the economic and financial crisis. However, the EBITA result achieved in 2008 may not be reached in 2009.

The Scandlines Group currently has a workforce of around 2,400 employees and operates 8 ferry services with 17 ferry vessels in the triangle between Germany, Denmark and Sweden, as well as to Latvia and Finland.

The Scandlines Group is owned by 3i und Allianz Capital Partners GmbH (with 40% each), as well as Deutsche Seereederei GmbH (with 20%). In 2008, Scandlines carried more than 17.6 million passengers, 3.6 million cars, as well as over 1.1 million trucks and trailers in the Baltic Sea region. This makes the company one of the largest ferry lines in Europe.

Rostock, 14 May 2009

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***Comment for editorial offices:***

Scandlines will publish the full group accounts in the electronic Federal Bulletin at [www.ebundesanzeiger.de](http://www.ebundesanzeiger.de) in May 2009.

Due to the acquisition of the Scandlines Group by the Scandferries Holding GmbH as of 31 August 2007, the figures for 2007 and 2008 in the income statement are not comparable. There is therefore only a description of selected figures for the 2008 calendar year and total revenues for both financial years.