

On the right road!

## Annual Accounts 1999

strategic priorities: the LEGO Brand, People and Culture, and Profitable Growth.

We must increasingly sell brand experiences that stimulate creativity and imagination. Our brand must be linked with the development of people through lifetime learning.

We must develop people and culture so that we achieve a really global company that is open to its surroundings. A company in which the culture reflects a shared vision and in which change and improvement are elements in a creative, happy and colourful working day.

We must ensure that we preserve a company in which family ownership is maintained through profitable growth. An independent, family-owned company in which we can concentrate on the pursuit of a long-term strategy, with all the benefits that that confers.

My dream is for every employee to react as an entrepreneur, wisely administering our brand and our human and financial resources. On the back page of this issue of LEGO LIFE are the "fundamental beliefs" that form part of the LEGO Company's strategy in the period up to 2005.

Kjeld Kirk Kristiansen

2,128 million in 1999 – equivalent to 28%. Total net turnover were DKK 9,808 million. Result before tax was DKK 516 million after restructuring costs of DKK 555 million. In other words, the primary result was just over DKK 1.071 million, an improvement of DKK 1,353 million comparid to 1998.

The LEGO Company's global net turnover rose by DKK

This result was, in particular, attributable to three factors.

First, 1999 was the year in which we really experienced the effect of the investment that has been made in recent years in product and business development. Thus, sales of Play Materials rose by 16% and turnover in our new business areas doubled.

Secondly, we put into action the ideas on organisation and management that we have been developing in recent years. The Fitness Programme was implemented at record speed and resulted in a much simpler, reactive and - above all - more global business system.

Thirdly, the strategy that we began to implement in the early '90s is now beginning to show results. We are developing a much broader commercial foundation and a wider platform for our brand values. We have created new business areas that, as well as being business in their own right, have created synergy across product groups and provided us with new interfaces with our consumers.

Creativity, play, learning and development - the values that our brand represents - have never been more relevant than they are today. Our goal, for the LEGO brand to be the strongest among families with children in 2005 - is within our grasp. But we shall only achieve it with a continued joint effort and a continuing focus on our three







## Annual Accounts



Key figures

The key figures from the annual accounts cover the 57 subsidiaries of the LEGO Company. The companies are owned by the Kirk Kristiansen family.

The LEGO Company's subsidiaries are not all members of a single group and are therefore not covered by the statutes governing the reporting of consolidated accounts. The accounts for the Danish LEGO A/S Group are prepared and submitted to the Danish Commerce and Companies Agency in accordance with statutory requirements.

In order to provide LEGO employees with relevant information. without at the same time giving information to our competitors that could have a negative impact on our competitive situation, we have chosen to present the annual accounts in summarised form. specifying the principal items.

The treatment of accounting entries in the accounts is in full accordance with the International Company Accounts Act and the guidelines for Danish accounts.

The annual accounts for the LEGO Company are a composition of the accounts for individual LEGO Company entities with elimination of amounts relating to transactions within the company. The annual accounts are thus structured as if the LEGO Company were a single company, with all accounting items the result of the LEGO Company's business activities with the wider world.

**DEFINITIONS:** 

NET TURNOVER consists of net sales for the year to the LEGO Company's customers.

OPERATING COSTS comprises costs associated with development, production, sales, marketing and administration.

FINANCIAL ITEMS comprises mainly interest on bank deposits with deduction of interest on interest-bearing debt.

TAX ON THE YEAR'S RESULT is the forecast tax payable on the result for the vear.

FIXED ASSETS comprises mainly tanaible fixed assets, consisting of land and buildings, plant and machinery, and office and IT equipment.

These assets are valued at acquisition price with deduction of depreciation over the years. Depreciation is calculated on the basis of the asset's expected useful life, which for buildings is 25 years and for other assets between 2 and 10 years.

CURRENT ASSETS relates primarily to stock, trade receivables from the sale of goods and cash at banks.

PROVISIONS comprises mainly tax liability - taxation for which, in accordance with applicable legislation, payment can be deferred to later

LONG-TERM DEBT comprises debts that fall due for payment after more than one vear.

SHORT-TERM DEBT comprises debts that fall due for payment within one

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES includes temporary employees, converted into full-time employees.

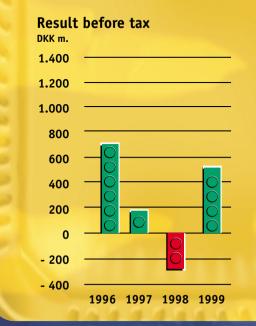
PROFIT MARGIN is the net result for the year (after tax) expressed as a percentage of net turnover.

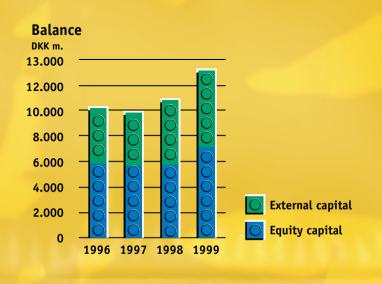
RETURN ON EQUITY is the net result for the year (after tax) expressed as a percentage of equity capital at the beginning of the year. SOLVENCY RATIO is equity capital expressed as a percentage assets.

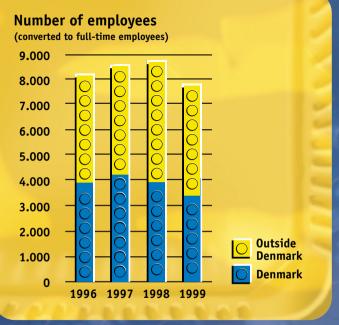


P	rofit and Loss	Account	(DKK	m.)					
		1999	%	1998	%				
No	et turnover	9.808	100.0	7,680	100.0				
01	perating costs	-8,615	-87.8	-7,852	-102.2				
Re	estructuring costs	-555	-5.7		0				
0	perating profit	638	6.5	-172	-2.2				
Fi	nancial items	-122	1.2	110	1.4				
Re	esult before tax	516	5.3	-282	-3.6				
Ta	x on the year's resi	ılt <u>-242</u>	-2.5	88	1.1				
Re	esult for the year	274	2.8	-194	-2.5				
				7					
Balance Sheet (DKK m.)									
		1999	%	1,998	%				
Fi	xed assets	6,035	47.5	5,515	52.0				
Cı	irrent assets	6,659	52.5	5,094	48.0				
To	tal assets	12,694	100.0	10,609	100.0				
Ec	Juity	6,976	55.0	5,506	51.9				
Pr	ovisions	435	3.4	375	3.5				
Lo	ong-term debt	1,992	15.7	1,868	17.6				
Sh	ort-term debt	3,291	25.9	2,860	27.0				
Li	abilities & Equity	12,694	100.0	10,609	100.0				

Financial Key F	igures	(DKK	m.)						
	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995				
Net turnover	9,808	7,680	7,616	7,534	6,844				
Result before tax	516	-282	171	699	676				
Result for the year	274	-194	62	470	431				
Investment in fixed assets	968	1,397	745	1,490	748				
Equity	6,976	5,506	5,437	5,913	5,961				
Total assets	12,694	10,609	9,767	10,061	9,535				
Number of employees	7,821	8,670	8,668	8,178	8,535				
Financial key figures (%)									
	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995				
Profit margin	2.8	-2.5	0.8	6.2	6.3				
Return on equity	3.8	-3.5	1.1	7.9	7.2				
Solvency	55.0	51.9	55.7	58.8	62.5				









## LEGO Company's

beliefs and mission

Fundamental beliefs:

Children are our role models

They are curious, creative and imaginative. They embrace discovery and wonder. They are natural learners. These are precious qualities that should be nurtured and stimulated throughout life.

Lifelong creativity, imagination and learning are stimulated by playful activities that encourage hands-on and minds-on creation, fun, togetherness, and the sharing of ideas.

People who are curious, creative and imaginative - who have a childlike urge to learn - are best equipped to thrive in a challenging world and be the builders of our common future.

To nurture the child in each of us.

We will do this as the world leader in providing quality products and experiences that stimulate creativity, imagination, fun and learning.

just imagine...

Mission:

Brand statement:





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