

Press release

2010 Full-Year Results

Strong improvement in performance in the second half

- Sales at current metal prices of 6.179 billion euros and light organic growth of +0.4%
- Marked upturn in sales in the second half (6.5% organic vs. H2 2009)
- Operating margin rate of 4.8% for the full year¹⁾
- Net income of 82 million euros
- Net debt of 144 million euros at previous year level despite sharp rise in metal prices
- Proposed dividend of 1.10 euros per share²⁾

Paris, February 14, 2011 - The Nexans Board of Directors chaired by Frédéric Vincent, which met on February 11, 2011, approved the Financial Statements for 2010.

Net sales for 2010 totaled 6.179 billion euros compared with 5.045 billion euros in 2009. At constant non-ferrous metal prices³, the figure is 4.309 billion euros compared with 4.026 billion euros in 2009.

At a constant consolidated scope and exchange rates, business was up by a slight $0.4\%^{4)}$. The second half was marked by a net improvement in activity in all Group businesses with organic growth of +6.5% compared with the second half of 2009.

The operating margin totaled 207 million euros, that is, 4.8% of sales at constant non-ferrous metal prices, compared with 6.0% in 2009. At 5.6%, profitability in the second half of 2010 is up sharply compared with the first half of 2010 (4.0%) as a result of several factors. The Group benefited fully in the second half from the recovery of sales volume on its various markets; and business recovery was boosted by stabilizing prices at the end of the year. Finally, the first signs of improvement in high-voltage submarine contract execution enabled the Group to record a significant increase in the margin on this business in the second half. These elements combined offset the negative impact of the sharp hike in the price for plastic raw materials and oil derivatives, especially in those business areas for which prices are negotiated under multi-year contracts.

- 1) A management indicator used by the Group to measure its operating performance. The operating margin rate is expressed as a percentage of the sales at constant non-ferrous metal prices.
- 2) Proposed dividend that will be submitted to the 2011 General Shareholders' Meeting for approval.
- 3) To neutralize the effect of variations in the purchase price of non-ferrous metals and thus measure the underlying sales trend, Nexans also calculates its sales using a constant price for copper and aluminum.
- 4) Presentation of 2009 sales on the basis of comparable data corresponds to constant non-ferrous metal sales, recalculated after adjustments for comparable scope and exchange rates. The exchange rate effect on sales at constant non-ferrous metal prices amounts to 264 million euros, and there is no scope effect.

As in 2009, the operating margin benefited (+37 million euros) from the ongoing efforts to reduce non-ferrous metal inventory deployed by the Group. This inventory reduction reflects Nexans' commitment to continue to optimize its capital employed in a context of rapidly appreciating raw materials.

The pre-tax net income totaled 110 million euros in 2010, compared with 51 million euros in 2009. A restructuring cost of 67 million euros was booked in the period and mainly concerned the closure of two plants of the Group, one in Italy and the other in Brazil.

The 2010 income benefited from a profit (without any cash counterpart) of 89 million euros from the impact of the increase in non-ferrous metal prices on the value of inventory revalued at the average weighted price. In 2009, this same effect was a slightly positive 18 million euros.

The tax charge for the year is 26 million euros, that is, 24% of the pre-tax income.

As a consequence, **the net income (Group share)** was 82 million euros in 2010 (compared with 8 million euros in 2009). Excluding restructuring costs, copper effect and capital gains on disposals, it was 78 million euros.

The Board of Directors will put to the General Shareholders' Meeting, called in the first half of 2011, a proposal to pay a dividend of 1.10 euros per share for 2010, that is, a distribution of about 40% of the year's current net income.

The consolidated net debt was 144 million euros at December 31st, 2010, compared with 141 million euros a year earlier. In 2010, the Group generated 268 million euros cash from operations before gross cost of debt and tax (including the impact of restructuring costs) compared with 258 million euros in 2009. At the same time, the Group continued to invest in emerging countries (new plants opened in Qatar and Morocco), and in strong growth potential market segments (high voltage). Finally, the efforts to structurally reduce working capital made it possible to offset the negative impact of rising metal prices in 2010, bringing the working capital requirement to 16.5% of current sales, compared with 18.9% at the end of 2009.

Commenting on the 2010 results, Frédéric Vincent, Chairman and CEO, said, "The overall improvement in the market environment in the second half has enabled Nexans to announce results slightly above expectations for sales and operating margin, and far better than anticipated for net debt. In a context marked by sharp hikes in raw material prices, our teams have strenuously defended margins and continued to reduce working capital. The end of the year also witnessed an upturn in the performance of our high-voltage submarine cable business, while the signing of major contracts, such as the Malta-Sicily interconnection, the Skagerrak IV project and the Estlink II project underscored the Group's lead in this promising market segment.

In this context, we feel confident as we embark on 2011.

For 2011 as a whole, sales should continue to improve and therefore grow by more than 5% for the year.

On such basis, the Group operating margin rate should significantly increase in 2011 with a full-year target of 5.5%, in a context characterized by a marked upturn in activity in the fourth quarter and a strong increase in raw material prices".

2010 Key Figures

(in millions of euros)	At consta ferro metal p	OUS
	2009	2010
Sales	4,026	4,309
Operating margin	241	207
Operating margin rate (% of sales)	6.0%	4.8 %
Net income attributable to equity holders of the company (Group share)	8	82
Diluted EPS (euros)	0.29	2.84

Detailed analysis by business sector

Sales breakdown by business sector

	2009	2010	
(in millions of euros)	At constant non- ferrous metal prices	At constant non- ferrous metal prices	Organic growth
Energy			
- Infrastructure	1,798	1,814	-5.7%
- Industry	746	875	16.1%
- Building	838	879	-5.0%
Telecoms			
- Infrastructure	185	182	-7.1%
- Private networks (LAN)	221	244	5.5%
Other	22	26	N/S
Sub-total: Cable business	3,810	4,020	-0.8%
Electrical wires	216	289	21.9%
Group total	4,026	4,309	0.4%

(in millions of euros)	2009	2010
Energy		
- Infrastructure	179	138
- Industry	6	22
- Building	44	28
Telecoms		
- Telecom Infrastructure	16	9
- Private networks (LAN)	6	16
Other	(11)	(13)
Sub-total: Cable business	240	200
Electrical wires	1	7
Group total	241	207

ENERGY

Energy business sales totaled 3.568 billion euros. At a constant exchange rate, it is down 1% compared with 2009.

• Energy infrastructure: second-half recovery of power distribution business and the first signs of a an improvement in the execution of submarine contracts

Sales at a constant scope and exchange rate fell 5.7% compared with 2009.

For high voltage, the workload for the various plants remained high with the signing of numerous contracts in the fourth quarter. For December alone, the Group was awarded new contracts worth more than 350 million euros, bringing the order backlog to a new record of almost two years' activity.

The corrective measures implemented in mid-2010 in the submarine cable business to counter the execution difficulties in a certain number of contracts are beginning to pay off.

For low and medium voltage cables, the second half of the year saw an upturn in sales compared with the first half. This sequential rebound was particularly strong in South America (+30%) and Asia-Pacific (+13%). At the opposite end of the spectrum, it was a more muted 2.4% in the so-called mature countries (Europe and North America). In Europe, the upturn in investment by energy network operators combined with the industrial reorganization following the announcement to close the Latina plant in Italy ensured that all other Group plants had a good workload. In North America, the Group is reaping the rewards of the 2009 restructuring operated in Canada. In the Asia-Pacific area, sales rose by more than 13% between the first and second halves of the year, mainly driven by the return of utilities' investments in Australia. In South America, the second half saw the recovery of large electricity infrastructure projects in

Brazil. Finally, the Middle East – Russia – Africa area reported continuing growth in the second half, especially with the increasing output of the area's Russian plant.

In all, the operating margin of Energy Infrastructure business totaled 138 million euros, that is, a margin of 7.6%, down on the 2009 figure as a result of the execution difficulties encountered in submarine business and sluggish volumes at the start of the year.

The operating margin of 8.4% for the second half is up sharply compared with the 6.8% recorded for the first half.

• Industry: gradual recovery in cyclical businesses and improved margins

At constant scope and exchange rates, industry cable sales rose by more than 16%, mainly driven by the automobile harness business for which sales jumped by more than 50% year over year to the next.

The other industry cable segments also benefited from positively trending figures, particularly in handling, automation, offshore, nuclear and the mining industry which delivered significant results for the Group given its strong presence in Australia and Chile. Transportation-related applications reported growth of 3.5% from one year to the next, due to railways, whereas shipbuilding contracted by nearly 6%.

Driven by volume growth, the operating margin totaled 22 million euros, that is, 2.6% of sales, compared with 6 million euros and 0.7% respectively in 2009.

The operating margin rate rose up to 3.5% in the second half compared with just 1.6% in the first half of the year.

• Building: higher volumes and stabilized prices at year end

Organic sales contracted by 5% across the year as a whole. Even so, the second half actually saw a net upturn compared with the first and a sequential improvement of more than 7%.

This significant recovery was very strong in North America and Australia, but more muted in South America and Europe.

This positive market context enabled the Group to hold selling prices in the second half at the same level as the first half of 2010. For the year as a whole, the rise in plastic raw material and component prices impacted negatively on this activity's margins as the market would absorb only part of these increases.

For the year as a whole, the operating margin totaled 28 million euros, that is, 3.2%, compared with 5.3% in 2009.

The operating margin rate in the second half was up sharply to 4.2% compared with just 2.1% in the first half of the year.

TELECOM

Sales of Telecom cables totaled 426 million euros in 2010, that is, a drop of 0.3% compared with 2009 at a constant scope and exchange rates.

• Telecom Infrastructure: sales and margins up in the second half

After a first half marked by lackluster sales, the second half of the year saw a good improvement in optical fiber cables and components, as well as in the more mature copper cable segment. For the year as a whole, sales fell from 185 million euros in 2009 to 182 million euros in 2010, at constant non-ferrous metal prices, that is, an organic contraction of 7.1%.

Driven by volume sales, in the second half, the operating margin returned to the same level as in 2009, finishing the year at 9 million euros, or 5.1%, compared with 8.7% in 2009.

• Private Networks (LAN): sales trending well and margin up on 2009

At comparable data, LAN cable business grew organically by almost 6% between 2009 and 2010.

This trend is primarily attributable to the ongoing double-digit growth in the American market, while sales in Europe contracted slightly.

The operating margin for the year was 6.7%, compared with 2.9% in 2009, as a result of volume growth in North America coupled with lower costs in Europe.

ELECTRICAL WIRES: Group production facilities operating at capacity thanks to a vibrant market

External sales of Electrical Wires totaled 289 million euros in 2010, up 22% compared with 2009 at a constant scope and exchange rates.

The European production facilities are now focused on the Group's own needs.

In 2010, this refocusing strategy and a positive market environment enabled the Electrical Wires activity to return to positive figures with an operating margin of 7 million euros, or 2.4% of sales.

Readers should also consult the Group's Web site on which are available in particular the presentation to financial analysts of the 2010 results, the full financial statements and the 2010 management report, which includes the Group's risk factors and confirmation of the risks relating to the antitrust investigations described by Nexans in its press release dated February 12, 2009.

Financial calendar

April 27, 2011: First-quarter 2011 financial information May 10, 2011: Individual shareholder information meeting in Nancy* May 31, 2011: General Shareholders' Meeting June 28, 2011: Individual shareholder information meeting in Nice* July 27, 2011: 2011 Half Year Results

* Approximate date to be confirmed.

About Nexans

With energy as the basis of its development, Nexans, worldwide expert in the cable industry, offers an extensive range of cables and cabling systems. The Group is a global player in the infrastructure, industry, building and Local Area Network markets. Nexans addresses a series of market segments: from energy, transport and telecom networks to shipbuilding, oil and gas, nuclear power, automotives, electronics, aeronautics, material handling and automation.

Nexans is a responsible industrial company that regards sustainable development as integral to its global and operational strategy. Continuous innovation in products, solutions and services, employee development and engagement, and the introduction of safe industrial processes with limited environmental impact are among the key initiatives that place Nexans at the core of a sustainable future.

With an industrial presence in 40 countries and commercial activities worldwide, Nexans employs 23,700 people and had sales in 2010 of 6 billion euros. Nexans is listed on NYSE Euronext Paris, compartment A. For more information, please consult <u>www.nexans.com</u>

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Appendices

- 1. Consolidated income statement
- 2. Consolidated statement of comprehensive income
- 3. Consolidated statement of financial position
- 4. Consolidation statement of cash flows
- 5. Information of reportable segment
- 6. Information by major geographical area

In accordance with the AMF recommendation dated February 5, 2010, Nexans confirms that the audit procedures for the financial statements referred to in this press release have been performed and that the auditors' certification report is under preparation.

Consolidated income statement

(in millions of euros)	2010	2009	2008 adjusted***
Net sales	6 179	5 045	6 799
Metal price effect*	(1 870)	(1 019)	(2 023)
Sales at constant metal prices*	4 309	4 026	4 776
Cost of sales	(5 439)	(4 293)	(5 846)
Cost of sales at constant metal prices*	(3 569)	(3 274)	(3 823)
Gross profit	740	752	953
Administrative and selling expenses	(462)	(447)	(467)
R&D costs	(71)	(64)	(63)
Operating margin*	207	241	423
Core exposure effect**	89	18	(165)
Net asset impairment	(43)	(21)	(19)
Changes in fair value of non-ferrous metal derivatives	(4)	16	(12)
Net gains on asset disposals	15	17	4
Transaction costs on external acquisitions	(2)	-	-
Restructuring costs	(67)	(119)	(22)
Operating income	195	153	210
Cost of debt (gross)	(79)	(62)	(66)
Income from cash and cash equivalents	11	5	18
Other financial expenses	(16)	(45)	(31)
Share in net income of associates	(1)	(0)	(0)
Income before taxes	110	51	131
Income taxes	(26)	(39)	(45)
Net income from continuing operations	84	12	85
Net income from discontinued operations	-	-	-
Net income	84	12	85
Attributable to owners of the parent	82	8	83
Attributable to non-controlling interests	2	4	2
Net income per share attributable to owners of the parent (in euros)			
- basic earnings per share	2,92	0,29	3,21
- diluted earnings per share	2,84	0,29	3,12

Performance indicators used to measure the Group's operating performance. Effect relating to the revaluation of Core Exposure at its weighted average cost. In 2010 and 2009, this line 'Core exposure effect' also includes a material impact related to the strong decrease of the Core Exposure volume during the year (-37 million euros each year) due to a strong slowdown in business levels on 2009 and to the Group's intensified efforts to reduce its working capital requirement. These effects are offset by a positive impact (+ 37 million euros each year) included in the Operating margin. Taking into account the fair value adjustments made following the completion of the initial accounting for Madeco and Intercond acquisitions. **

Consolidated statement of comprehensive income

in millions of euros	2010	2009	2008 adjusted*
Net income for the year	84	12	85
Available-for-sale financial assets			
- Gains (losses) generated during the year (net of tax)	-	0	(2)
- Amount recycled to the income statement (net of tax)	-	-	-
Currency translation differences			
- Gains (losses) generated during the year (net of tax)	178	132	(118)
- Amount recycled to the income statement (net of tax)	1	-	-
Cash flow hedges			
- Gains (losses) generated during the year (net of tax)	78	194	(172)
- Amount recycled to the income statement (net of tax)	(57)	(14)	(7)
Share of other comprehensive income of associates	-	-	-
Total other comprehensive income (loss)	200	312	(299)
Total comprehensive income (loss)	284	324	(213)
Attributable to owners of the parent	279	320	(217)
Attributable to non-controlling interests	5	4	4

* Taking into account the fair value adjustments made following the completion of the initial accounting for Madeco and Intercond acquisitions.

Consolidated statement of financial position

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	2010	2009	2008 adjusted*
as at December 31, in millions of euros			
ASSETS	070	0.05	
Goodwill	378	335	308
Other intangible assets	193	189	174
Property, plant and equipment	1 170	1 117	1 040
Investments in associates	7	8	4
Other non-current financial assets	44	42	35
Deferred tax assets	82	57	92
	23	2	4
NON-CURRENT ASSETS	1 897	1 750	1 657
Inventories and work in progress	1 059	803	922
Amounts due from customers on construction contracts	189	215	195
Trade receivables	1 126	955	1 110
Other current financial assets**	322	162	320
Current income tax receivables	18	15	26
Other current non-financial assets	106	97	84
Cash and cash equivalents	795	817	398
Assets and groups of assets held for sale	1	1	1
	3 616	3 065	3 056
	5 513	4 815	4 713
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	00	00	00
Capital stock	29	28	28
Additional paid-in capital	1 283	1 258	1 256
Retained Earnings	603	538	555
Other components of equity	249	52	(260)
Equity excluding non-controlling interests	2 164	1 876	1 579
Non-controlling interests	43	42	39
	2 207	1 918	1 618
Pension and other retirement benefit obligations	308	309	317
Other long-term employee benefit obligations	16	12	13
Long-term provisions	58	49	43
Convertible bonds	479	459	271
Other long-term debt	354	359	389
Deferred tax liabilities	130	109	70
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	1 345	1 297	1 103
Short-term provisions	92	120	65
Short-term debt	255	140	274
Liabilities related to construction contracts	202	174	111
Trade payables	1 077	845	908 274
Other current financial liabilities	97	96 149	376
Accrued payroll costs	179	168	160
Current income tax payables	27	28	43
Other current non-financial liabilities	32	29	54
Liabilities related to groups of assets held for sale	1 061	1 1 601	1 002
	1 961		1 992
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	5 513	4 815	4 713

Taking into account the fair value adjustments made following the completion of the initial accounting for Madeco and Intercond

acquisitions. Of which 150 million euros of short term financial assets included in the Net Debt of the Group as at December 31, 2010. **

Consolidated statement of cash flows

	2010	2009	2008 adjusted ¹
(in millions of euros)			
Net income attributable to owners of the parent	82	8	83
Non-controlling interests	2	4	2
Depreciation, amortization and impairment of assets (including goodwill) ⁵	196	143	128
Cost of debt (gross)	79	62	66
Core exposure effect ²	(89)	(18)	165
Other restatements ³	(2)	59	6
Cash flow from operations before gross cost of debt and tax ⁴	268	258	451
Decrease (increase) in receivables	(75)	193	31
Decrease (increase) in inventories	(126)	186	176
Increase (decrease) in payables and accrued expenses	197	(118)	(59)
Income tax paid	(62)	(47)	(62)
Impairment of current assets and accrued contract costs	5	(11)	4
Net change in current assets and liabilities	(61)	203	90
Net cash generated from operating activities	207	461	541
Proceeds from disposals of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets	13	8	16
Capital expenditures	(129)	(164)	(172)
Decrease (increase) in loans granted	(157)	181	(187)
- of which margin calls on metal derivatives	(1)	140	(140)
Purchase of shares in consolidated companies, net of cash acquired	0	(2)	(311)
Proceeds from sale of shares in consolidated companies, net of cash transferred	19	0	19
Net cash generated from (used in) investing activities	(253)	23	(635)
Net change in cash and cash equivalents after investing activities	(46)	484	(94)
Proceeds from (repayment of) long-term borrowings	(2)	138	22
- of which proceeds from new borrowings	0	172	29
- of which repayments	(2)	(34)	(7)
Proceeds from (repayments of) short-term borrowings	43	(164)	14
Cash capital increases (reductions)	22	39	(23)
Interest paid	(38)	(45)	(54)
Transactions with owners not resulting in a change of control	-	9	-
Dividends paid	(32)	(57)	(52)
Net cash used in financing activities	(7)	(80)	(93)
Net effect of currency translation differences	26	18	(19)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(27)	422	(206)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	810	388	594
Cash and cash equivalents at year-end	783	810	388
Of which cash and cash equivalents recorded under assets Of which short-term bank loans and overdrafts recorded under liabilities	795 (12)	817 (7)	398 (10)

1 Taking into account the fair value adjustments made following the completion of the initial accounting for the Madeco and Intercond acquisitions.

2 Effect relating to the revaluation of Core exposure at its weighted average cost, which has no cash impact.
3 Other restatements in 2010 mainly include (i) a positive 26 million euros in relation to offsetting the Group's income tax charge, (ii) a negative 61 million euros to offset changes in operating reserves (among which restructuring), and (iii) a positive 24 million euros to cancel the impact of changes in fair value of metal and foreign exchange derivatives.

In 2009, this item mainly related to offsetting the Group's income tax charge (+39 million euros). In 2008, this item included (i) 45 million euros in relation to offsetting the Group's income tax charge and (ii) a negative 28 million euros to cancel the impact of changes in fair

4 The Group also uses the "operating cash flow" concept which is mainly calculated after adding back restructuring costs (68 million euros, 44 million euros and 24 million euros in 2010, 2009 and 2008 respectively) and deducting gross cost of debt and the current income tax paid over the period.

Including assets depreciation which is part of restructuring costs.

Information by reportable segment

December 31, 2010 (in millions of euros)	Electrical wires	Energy	Telecom	Other	Group total
Contribution to Net sales at current metal prices	817	4 833	501	29	6 179
Contribution to Net sales at constant metal prices	289	3 568	426	26	4 309
Operating margin	7	188	25	(13)	207
Depreciation, amortization and impairment of assets (including goodwill)	(2)	(163)	(13)	(3)	(181)

December 31, 2009 (in millions of euros)	Electrical wires	Energy	Telecom	Other	Group total
Contribution to Net sales at current metal prices	450	4 126	445	24	5 045
Contribution to Net sales at constant metal prices	216	3 381	406	23	4 026
Contribution to Net sales at constant metal prices and 2010 exchange rates	237	3 603	427	23	4 290
Operating margin	1	229	22	(11)	241
Depreciation, amortization and impairment of assets (including goodwill)	(5)	(121)	(13)	(4)	(143)

December 31, 2008 adjusted* (in millions of euros)	Electrical wires	Energy	Telecom	Other	Group total
Contribution to Net sales at current metal prices	899	5 292	594	14	6 799
Contribution to Net sales at constant metal prices	325	3 929	508	14	4 776
Contribution to Net sales at constant metal prices and 2009 exchange rates	321	3 874	509	14	4 718
Operating margin*	(3)	398	41	(13)	423
Depreciation, amortization and impairment of assets (including goodwill)*	(7)	(104)	(14)	(3)	(128)

* Taking into account the fair value adjustments made following the completion of the initial accounting for Madeco and Intercond acquisitions.

5) A management indicator used by the Group to measure its operating performance. The operating margin rate is expressed as a percentage of the sales at constant non-ferrous metal prices.

- 6) Proposed dividend that will be submitted to the 2011 General Shareholders' Meeting for approval.
- 7) To neutralize the effect of variations in the purchase price of non-ferrous metals and thus measure the underlying sales trend, Nexans also calculates its sales using a constant price for copper and aluminum.
- 8) Presentation of 2009 sales on the basis of comparable data corresponds to constant non-ferrous metal sales, recalculated after adjustments for comparable scope and exchange rates. The exchange rate effect on sales at constant non-ferrous metal prices amounts to 264 million euros, and there is no scope effect.

Information by major geographical area

December 31, 2010 (in millions of euros)	France**	Germany	Norway	Other	Group total
Contribution to Net sales at current metal prices*	962	640	577	4 001	6 179
Contribution to Net sales at constant metal prices*	735	520	531	2 523	4 309
Non-current assets IFRS 8*	143	126	157	1 322	1 748

* By origin of sales

** Including 'Corporate' activities

December 31, 2009 (in millions of euros)	France**	Germany	Norway	Other	Group total
Contribution to Net sales at current metal prices*	920	555	532	3 038	5 045
Contribution to Net sales at constant metal prices*	786	475	500	2 265	4 026
Contribution to Net sales at constant metal prices and 2010 exchange rates*	786	475	545	2 485	4 290
Non-current assets IFRS 8*	150	129	123	1 247	1 649

* By origin of sales

** Including 'Corporate' activities

December 31, 2008 adjusted (1) (in millions of euros)	France**	Germany	Norway	Other	Group total
Contribution to Net sales at current metal prices*	1 481	829	596	3 893	6 799
Contribution to Net sales at constant metal prices*	1 042	623	549	2 562	4 776
Contribution to Net sales at constant metal prices and 2009 exchange rates*	1 042	623	518	2 535	4 718
Non-current assets IFRS 8* (1)	146	128	95	1 157	1 526

* By origin of sales

** Including 'Corporate' activities

¹⁾ Taking into account the fair value adjustments made following the completion of the initial accounting for Madeco and Intercond acquisitions.

Information about major customers

The group did not have one single customer representing more than 10% of net sales neither over the year 2010 nor over the years 2009 and 2008.