

Press release:

Paris, 2 February 2010

# **STABLE ACTIVITY IN 2009**

In €m	2008	2009	Change
Turnover	846.3	857.1	+1.3%
of which France of which International	623.6 i.e. 73.7% 222.7 i.e. 26.3%	593.6 i.e. 69.3% 263.5 i.e. 30.7%	-4.8% +18.4%
Headcount	12, 000	11, 300	-5.8%

#### **2009 ACTIVITY:**

Thanks to acquisitions made at the beginning of the year, activity remained stable in 2009. On a like-for-like basis, activity decreased by 9.5%, (-9.9% in France; -8.3% abroad). Excluding Idestyle Technologies, which was deconsolidated on 1 July 2009, this drop would have been limited to 8.2%.

The first half of 2009 was heavily affected by the sudden nature of the economic crisis in the Technology Consulting and Engineering Market (TCE), particularly in the Automotive, Electronics and Telecoms sectors. On the other hand, the Aeronautics, Energy and Rail sectors have improved.

In the first half of the year, the activity ratio, was 88.6% (including Idestyle).

Alten has taken the necessary measures to adapt to the crisis.

The efficient management of resources, the reallocation of key competencies (engineers) to the most dynamic sectors, and a strong sales dynamic led to a good increase in activity ratio in the second half of the year. This rose to 92.5%.

Activity stabilised, at the end of the third quarter of 2009, which continued until the end of the year.

The increase of the activity ratio shows Alten Group's capacity to adapt to a particularly difficult economic situation. Accordingly, Alten confirms its predicted rise in the Group's operating margin on activity for the second half of 2009.

#### **2010 OUTLOOK**

The beginning of 2010 shows a continuing stable activity.

Despite an increasingly competitive market and complex client negotiations, Alten remains confident in its ability to continue increasing its operating margin on activity in 2010.

If economic conditions improve, Alten plans to expand by targeting external growth opportunities.

Although it is still difficult to predict what will happen, the outlook on activity should improve progressively throughout the year.

### **NEXT**

2009 Annual Results: Wednesday 3 March 2010, before markets open.

As the European Leader in Technology Consulting and Engineering, ALTEN carries out design and research projects for the technical and IT divisions of major clients in industry, telecoms and services. ALTEN's stock is listed on 'compartment B' of the Euronext Paris stock exchange (ISIN FR0000071946). It is part of the SBF 120, the IT CAC 50 and MIDCAP 100 indices, and is eligible for the SRD.

## **Technology Consulting and Engineering**

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