Interim Financial Report
as of June 30, 2013

axel springer

Group Key Figures

€ millions	2nd Quarter Q2/2013	Q2/2012	Change	Half Year H1/2013	H1/2012	Change
Group						
Total revenues	**823.7**	**831.4**	**–0.9 %**	**1,627.3**	**1,620.4**	**0.4 %**
Digital Media revenue share (pro forma)	*39.3 %*	*35.5 %*		*39.5 %*	*35.8 %*	
International revenue share	*37.8 %*	*34.4 %*		*37.6 %*	*33.9 %*	
Circulation revenues	274.2	286.7	–4.4 %	551.0	580.5	–5.1 %
Advertising revenues	456.4	452.1	0.9 %	891.2	851.7	4.6 %
Other revenues	93.2	92.5	0.7 %	185.1	188.2	–1.6 %
EBITDA[1]	**171.6**	**172.2**	**–0.4 %**	**303.9**	**308.7**	**–1.5 %**
EBITDA margin[1]	*20.8 %*	*20.7 %*		*18.7 %*	*19.0 %*	
Consolidated net income	83.3	91.1	–8.6 %	155.6	159.6	–2.5 %
Consolidated net income, adjusted[2]	100.1	100.2	–0.1 %	165.7	177.7	–6.7 %
Segments						
Revenues						
Digital Media	322.4	279.1	15.5 %	640.6	542.1	18.2 %
Newspapers National	258.6	292.3	–11.5 %	507.8	568.3	–10.6 %
Magazines National	110.2	115.5	–4.6 %	222.3	230.9	–3.8 %
Print International	104.6	114.7	–8.8 %	200.8	219.3	–8.4 %
Services/Holding	28.0	29.8	–6.1 %	55.9	59.7	–6.5 %
EBITDA[1]						
Digital Media	73.7	63.8	15.5 %	136.5	110.7	23.3 %
Newspapers National	54.8	72.5	–24.4 %	104.0	137.1	–24.1 %
Magazines National	30.0	24.5	22.6 %	51.9	48.9	6.2 %
Print International	15.0	16.8	–10.7 %	24.9	28.8	–13.3 %
Services/Holding	–2.0	–5.4	-	–13.4	–16.8	-
Liquidity and financial position						
Free cash flow[3]	48.7	64.6	–24.6 %	126.5	172.9	–26.9 %
Capex[4]	–21.2	–15.6	-	–41.5	–32.5	-
Total assets[5]	4,592.9	4,808.2	–4.5 %	4,592.9	4,808.2	–4.5 %
Equity ratio[5]	*47.7 %*	*46.9 %*		*47.7 %*	*46.9 %*	
Net liquidity/debt[5]	–423.4	–449.6	-	–423.4	–449.6	-
Share related key figures[6]						
Earnings per share (in €)	0.72	0.81	–10.8 %	1.36	1.43	–4.7 %
Earnings per share, adjusted (in €)[7]	0.85	0.87	–1.7 %	1.40	1.55	–9.8 %
Closing price (in €)	32.78	33.88	–3.2 %	32.78	33.88	–3.2 %
Market capitalization[8]	3,243.3	3,347.0	–3.1 %	3,243.3	3,347.0	–3.1 %
Free float	41.5 %	41.3 %		41.5 %	41.3 %	
Average number of employees	**14,635**	**13,661**	**7.1 %**	**14,625**	**13,479**	**8.5 %**

1) Adjusted for non-recurring effects.
2) Adjusted for non-recurring effects and amortization and impairments from purchase price allocations.
3) Cash flow from operating activities, minus capital expenditures, plus cash inflows from disposals of intangible assets and property, plant, and equipment.
4) Capital expenditures on intangible assets, property, plant, and equipment, and investment property.
5) As of June 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012, respectively.
6) Price data based on XETRA closing prices.
7) The earnings per share (basic/diluted) adjusted for non-recurring effects and amortization and impairments from purchase price allocations were calculated on the basis of average weighted shares outstanding in the reporting period (98.8 million).
8) Based on outstanding shares at the closing price, excluding treasury shares.

Interim Financial Report as of June 30, 2013 Axel Springer Group

Business developments and operating results at a glance

Revenues and earnings

The Axel Springer Group continues to benefit from the growing digitization of its business. The consolidated revenues generated in the first half of the current year amounted to € 1,627.3 million, on the level of the corresponding year-ago figure (+0.4 %). The declines registered in the print business were offset by growth in the digital media business. Adjusted for consolidation, currency, and calendar effects, total revenues were 2.6 % less than the corresponding figure in the first half of last year.

EBITDA of € 303.9 million was slightly less (–1.5 %) than the corresponding year-ago figure. This development resulted from higher expenses for accelerating the process of digitization and from slightly higher expenses for structural adjustments in the print business.

Business performance in line with expectations

Axel Springer's revenue and earnings performance in the first six months of 2013 basically fulfilled the expectations expressed in our Annual Report 2012.

The development of total revenues was in line with our expectation of an increase in the low single-digit percentage range. We also increased our advertising revenues, as expected. These gains were driven by the growth of our digital media activities. As expected, circulation revenues came out less than the year-ago figure. The development of earnings was in line with expectations. It is expected that the greater part of the full-year expenses for structural adjustments will be incurred in the second half of the year.

Important events affecting the Group's business performance

In a legally binding preliminary agreement dated July 25, 2013, Axel Springer AG agreed to sell its German regional newspapers, TV program guides, and women's magazines to Funke Mediengruppe. In this connection, the parties also agreed to form two joint ventures for advertising marketing of print and digital media products and retail distribution, thereby bundling the parties' activities, resources, and expertise in these areas. Axel Springer will exercise managerial control and hold the majority of shares in both these companies.

It is planned to implement these measures with economic effect as of January 1, 2014. The German regional newspaper groups, TV program guides, and women's magazines contributed € 94.8 million to EBITDA and € 512.4 million to the revenues of the Axel Springer Group in financial year 2012. Of the total purchase price of € 920 million, an amount of € 660 million will be due and payable upon closing, but no later than June 30, 2014. Axel Springer will extend a vendor loan with multiannual maturities to finance the remainder of the purchase price.

Axel Springer is pursuing a stringent digitization strategy with the goal of becoming the leading digital media group. In connection with this goal, Axel Springer will focus even more strongly on its core multimedia journalism brands of the WELT Group and the BILD Group, including the associated magazine brands (AUTO BILD Group, COMPUTER BILD Group, SPORT BILD). Axel Springer will also focus on expanding its online classified markets and digital marketing platforms.

The transaction is pending, subject to the approval of the competent merger and cartel authorities, which is not expected before the end of 2013.

We sold approximately 2.6 % of the equity in Doğan TV Holding A.S., Istanbul, Turkey, in the reporting period. The proceeds from this transaction amounted to € 61.6 million.

Forecast for 2013

Assuming that the structurally declining trends of the print business do not worsen considerably, we expect to generate a low single-digit percentage increase in Group-wide **total revenues** in **financial year 2013**. We anticipate that the expected decrease in circulation revenues will be more than offset by the expected increase in advertising revenues, coupled with stable other revenues. We continue to anticipate organic growth in our digital media activities, reinforced by acquisition effects, whereas the revenues generated in our national and international print business will continue to decline, due to market conditions.

We are increasing our investments in the company's further development in financial year 2013. We are accelerating the pace of digitization and increasingly adjusting the structures of our print business to reflect the structural changes. This necessitates higher expenditures for expanding the digital business and significant expenses for structural adjustments in the print business. By reason of these expenditures, we anticipate a single-digit percentage decrease in the Group's **EBITDA**, compared to 2012.

By reason of the effects mentioned above and the higher share of non-controlling interests in the Digital Media segment, the Group's **adjusted earnings per share** in 2013 will be significantly less than the corresponding figure for 2012.

The forecast for financial year 2013 still includes the revenue and earnings contributions of the activities to be acquired by Funke Mediengruppe with effect as of January 1, 2014, as per the preliminary agreement.

Implementation of the Group's business strategy

The highest strategic priority for Axel Springer is the consistent digitization of our business. By further developing our digital offerings in Germany and abroad, and by means of targeted acquisitions, we are pursuing the goal of becoming the leading digital media group. In the print business, we are focused on maintaining Axel Springer's market leadership position on the strength of excellent journalism and, above all, on practicing strict cost discipline.

Changes in the Management Board

In July 2013, the Supervisory Board of Axel Springer AG appointed Dr. Julian Deutz to the Management Board, effective January 1, 2014. He will succeed the current Chief Financial Officer Lothar Lanz in April 2014. It is planned that Lothar Lanz will join the Supervisory Board as of the same date. An election proposal to this effect will be presented to the annual shareholders' meeting 2014.

General economic conditions

State of the economy

According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the world economy is in a phase of moderate recovery. Contrary to its forecast in the spring of 2013, the IMF noted weaker foreign demand and slower growth in the emerging-market countries, in an analysis published in July 2013. In addition, the pace of U.S. economic growth to date has fallen short of the IMF's expectations. Furthermore, the euro zone has remained stuck in recession, with the exception of a few countries such as Germany, for example.

Germany's economy entered a weak phase in the first part of 2013. According to calculations of the ifo Institute, the country's gross domestic product contracted by 0.3 %, in real terms, in the first half of 2013. Exports declined at an inflation-adjusted rate of 1.1 % and total German investment spending contracted at an inflation-adjusted rate of 3.1 % in the first half 2013. Consumer spending rose slightly, registering a real gain of 0.2 % from the year-ago period.

The Business Climate Index of German enterprises published by the ifo Institute weakened slightly in the second quarter of 2013, compared to the first quarter. On the other hand, the Consumer Climate Index published by the GfK Group has risen steadily since the beginning of the year.

According to calculations of the German Federal Statistical Office, consumer prices rose at a rate of 1.5 % in the first half of 2013. Thus, the inflation rate was considerably less than it was in the first half of last year, although it rose somewhat in the second quarter of 2013. According to the German Federal Employment Agency, there were 2.9 million unemployed job seekers in June 2013, that being 2.0 % higher than the year-ago figure. The unemployment rate was 6.6 %.

Press distribution market

Once again, the German **press distribution market** contracted slightly. The total paid circulation of newspapers and magazines was 4.1 % less than the corresponding figure for the year-ago period. Due to the copy price increases implemented in the last four quarters, however, circulation revenues declined by only 2.5 %.

The 363 **daily and Sunday newspapers** tracked by IVW generated total sales of 20.6 million copies per issue, reflecting a decrease of 4.0 % from the corresponding year-ago figure. As in the year-ago period, newsstand sales declined by a much greater margin (–9.5 %) than subscription sales (–2.0 %). Within the press distribution market, the demand for daily and Sunday newspapers declined by 4.0 %, weighted for their respective publication frequencies.

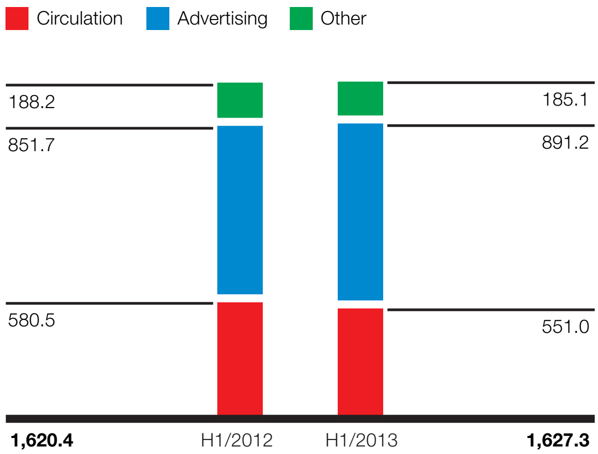
Total sales of **general-interest magazines**, including membership and club magazines, came to 106.8 million copies per issue, reflecting a decrease of 2.9 % from the year-ago period. The number of titles tracked by IVW was 852 (2.8 % less than the year-ago figure). Weighted for their respective publication frequencies, the demand for general-interest magazines declined by 4.6 %.

Operating results of the Group

At € 1,627.3 million, the **total revenues** generated in the first half of 2013 were on the level of the year-ago figure (PY: € 1,620.4 million). The lower revenues generated in the print segments were offset by higher revenues in the Digital Media segment. Adjusted for consolidation, currency, and calendar effects, total revenues were 2.6 % less than the corresponding year-ago figure.

Total Revenues

€ millions

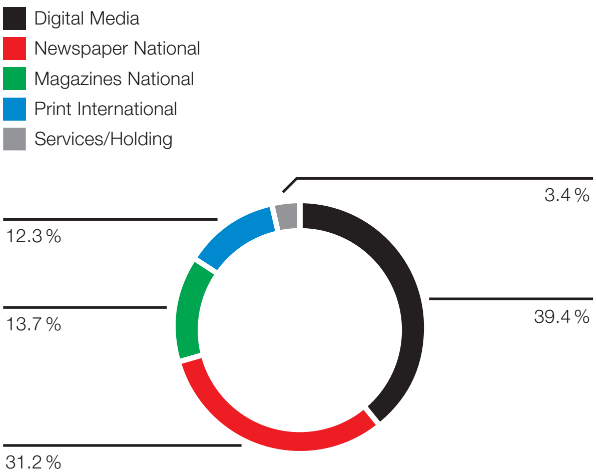


As a result of declines in the three print segments, the **circulation revenues** of € 551.0 million were 5.1 % less than the year-ago figure (PY: € 580.5 million) and accounted for 33.9 % (PY: 35.8 %) of the Group's total revenues.

The increase in **advertising revenues**, which rose by 4.6 % to € 891.2 million (PY: € 851.7 million), was driven by growth in the Digital Media segment. The Group already generates nearly two thirds (62.4 %) of its total advertising revenues in its digital media activities. The advertising revenues generated in our print activities declined from the year-ago period. Advertising revenues accounted for 54.8 % (PY: 52.6 %) of the Group's total revenues.

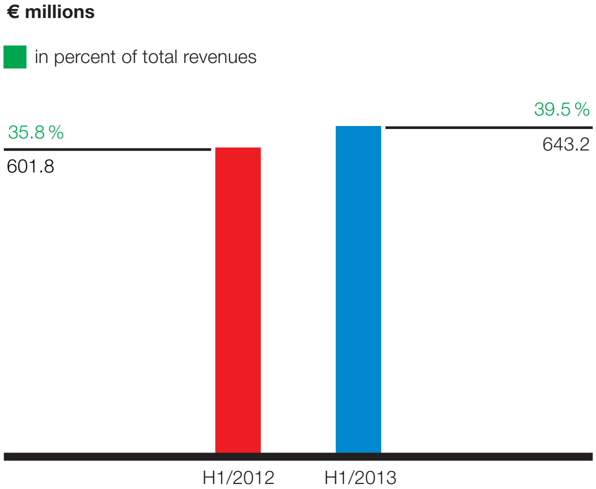
The **other revenues** of € 185.1 million were slightly less than the year-ago figure of € 188.2 million and accounted for 11.4 % (PY: 11.6 %) of total revenues.

Segment Revenues



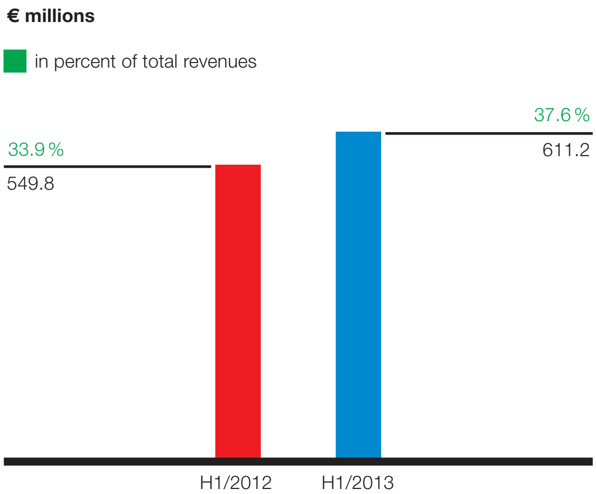
As in prior periods, the comparison of **segment revenues** shows considerable growth in the Digital Media segment, coupled with revenue declines in the print segments, due to market conditions. Axel Springer's digital activities experienced strong growth of 18.2 %. The underlying organic growth was reinforced by consolidation effects. On the other hand, the print segments experienced revenue declines. In Germany, newspaper revenues declined by 10.6 % and magazine revenues by 3.8 %. The revenues generated in our international print activities were 8.4 % less than the corresponding year-ago figure.

Digital Media Revenues (Pro forma)



The **pro-forma revenues of the Digital Media segment** rose to € 643.2 million (PY: € 601.8 million), corresponding to an organic growth rate of 6.9 %. Thus, the proportion of pro-forma total revenues represented by pro-forma digital revenues rose from 35.8 % in the first half of last year to 39.5 % in the reporting period. Pro-forma revenues include the revenues of the companies acquired in 2012 and 2013, on the basis of unaudited financial information. Revenues of companies that have been sold were deducted from the pro-forma revenues accordingly.

International Revenues



The **international revenues** of € 611.2 million were 11.2 % higher than the year-ago figure and accounted for 37.6 % (PY: 33.9 %) of Axel Springer's total revenues. This increase reflects the growing internationalization of the Group's digital business.

Despite the consolidation effects related to the companies acquired in the prior year, the **total expenses** of € 1,455.7 million were nearly unchanged from the year-ago figure (PY: € 1,435.1 million).

Purchased goods and services amounted to € 508.9 million, reflecting a slight, 0.7 % decrease from the year-ago figure (PY: € 512.3 million). The ratio of purchased goods and services to total revenues narrowed to 31.3 % (PY: 31.6 %), particularly due to the higher share of revenues contributed by companies in the Digital Media segment, which have proportionally lower expenses for purchased goods and services. This effect was partially offset by higher ratios of purchased goods and services to total revenues in the performance marketing business.

The **personnel expenses** of € 475.0 million were € 23.5 million or 5.2 % higher than the year-ago figure (PY: € 451.5 million). This increase resulted mainly from the consolidation of subsidiaries acquired in the prior year.

Depreciation, amortization and, impairments amounted to € 80.8 million (PY: € 82.5 million). The prior-year figure included an impairment of goodwill in the Digital Media segment in the amount of € 11.6 million.

The decrease in **other operating income** to € 33.4 million (PY: € 35.6 million) resulted mainly from the fact that the year-ago figure included higher effects related to the revaluation of contingent purchase price liabilities. The **other operating expenses** of € 391.0 million were slightly higher than the year-ago figure (PY: € 388.8 million), mainly due to the consolidation of subsidiaries acquired in the prior year.

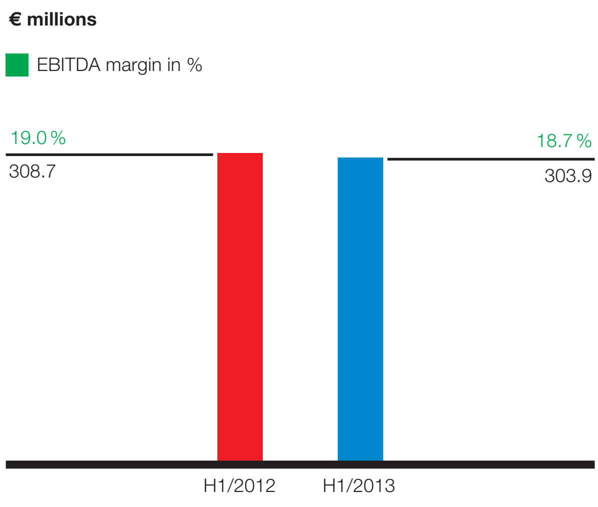
The **income from investments** in the amount of € 26.2 million (PY: € 11.9 million) was particularly influenced by the profit realized on the sale of 2.6 % of the equity in Doğan TV. The operating income from investments included within EBITDA amounted to € 11.1 million (PY: € 12.0 million).

At € –12.7 million, the **financial result** was higher than the corresponding year-ago figure (PY: € –26.3 million), due to lower interest expenses for financial liabilities and lower net interest expenses for pension plans.

Income taxes amounted to € –66.9 million in the first half of 2013 (PY: € –49.3 million). The tax rate was 30.1 % (PY: 23.6 %). The tax rate in the previous year was influenced by the initial recognition of deferred tax assets in respect of tax loss carry-forwards.

At € 303.9 million, the earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization **(EBITDA)** were 1.5 % less than the corresponding year-ago figure (PY: € 308.7 million). The EBITDA margin also declined to 18.7 % (PY: 19.0 %). The EBITDA figure does not contain non-recurring effects such as gains or losses on the sale of divisions and investments or depreciation related to purchase price allocations, for example.

EBITDA



Consolidated net income amounted to € 155.6 million (PY: € 159.6 million). Adjusted consolidated net income fell to € 165.7 million (PY: € 177.7 million).

Consolidated Net Income

€ millions	H1/2013	H1/2012
Consolidated net income	**155.6**	**159.6**
Non-recurring effects	–12.1	–7.4
Effects of purchase price allocations	32.2	38.2
Taxes attributable to these effects	–10.0	–12.7
Consolidated net income, adjusted	**165.7**	**177.7**
Attributable to non-controlling interest, adjusted	27.6	24.6
Adjusted consolidated net income attributable to shareholders of Axel Springer AG	**138.1**	**153.1**

Earnings per share (basic/diluted) amounted to € 1.36 (PY: € 1.43). Based on the average weighted shares outstanding in the reporting period (98.8 million), **adjusted earnings per share** (basic/diluted) declined from € 1.55 to € 1.40.

Adjusted consolidated net income and adjusted earnings per share are not defined under International Financial Reporting Standards, and should therefore be regarded as supplementary information to the consolidated financial statements.

Operating results of the segments

Digital Media

Thanks to strong organic growth rates and intensive acquisition activity, the importance of the Digital Media segment for Axel Springer has grown enormously. Since the fourth quarter of 2012, it is the Group's biggest segment, in terms of both revenues and earnings. The Digital Media segment is divided into three areas of competence:

- Content portals and other digital media
- Performance marketing
- Axel Springer Digital Classifieds

In the area of content portals, Axel Springer's main focus in the first half of 2013 was to acquire paying subscribers, also in the stationary Internet. WELT started this process in December 2012, when it introduced different content packages for digital subscriptions. The reach of welt.de rose by 7.6 % in the first half of the year. In total, our multimedia brand DIE WELT reaches 1.4 million readers across all platforms.

BILD launched its paid subscription, BILDplus, in June 2013. Basic news is still available free of charge; users can choose among different subscription models for exclusive, in-depth reporting. Since August 2013, moreover, subscribers have also had access to new reporting on the German National Soccer League. Axel Springer procured the rights for digital National Soccer League reporting for the next four years.

The overlap-free net reach of all of Axel Springer's digital media combined (measured on the basis of unique visitors according to comScore) rose to an average of 92.0 million unique visitors in the first half of 2013, reflecting an increase of 9.1 % since the first half of last year (PY: 84.3 million).

The gross reach figures of selected portals and the average monthly number of visits of these portals are presented in the table below.

Traffic Figures Content Portals (Selection)

Millions (monthly average)	Unique visitors H1/2013[1]	Change yoy	Visits H1/2013[2]	Change yoy
aufeminin.com	34.1	3.3 %	127.0[3]	–8.6 %
Onet.pl	16.7	4.4 %	382.6[4]	1.5 %
computerbild.de	13.0	16.0 %	49.0	13.5 %
Bild.de	10.4	–0.3 %	258.0	19.0 %
welt.de	5.3	7.6 %	48.5	16.2 %
fakt.pl	3.4	30.7 %	13.5[4]	24.7 %
blesk.cz	2.4	44.4 %	22.0[5]	41.2 %
azet.sk	2.2	–20.4 %	43.3[6]	0.9 %
transfermarkt.de	2.2	–3.7 %	30.5	19.7 %
forbes.ru	2.0	42.4 %	6.0[7]	61.2 %
onmeda.de	1.8	–8.7 %	4.5	9.6 %
autobild.de	1.8	3.7 %	9.0	17.0 %
finanzen.net	1.3	7.3 %	18.6	11.7 %
cas.sk	1.3	–2.2 %	13.7[6]	21.5 %
blic.rs	1.2	85.3 %	20.4[4]	38.1 %
abendblatt.de	1.1	–42.3 %	8.7	–22.0 %

[1] Source: comScore H1/2013.
[2] Source: IVW H1/2013.
[3] Source: Company data.
[4] Source: Gemius.
[5] Source: NetMonitor.
[6] Source: AIM Monitor.
[7] Source: Yandex Metrika.

Key Figures Digital Media

€ millions	H1/2013	H1/2012	Change
External revenues	**640.6**	**542.1**	**18.2 %**
Share in cons. revenues	39.4 %	33.5 %	
Advertising revenues	556.1	455.1	22.2 %
Other revenues	84.5	87.0	–3.0 %
Content portals & other digital media	219.4	175.9	24.7 %
Performance marketing	224.1	216.9	3.3 %
Axel Springer Digital Classifieds	197.1	149.4	31.9 %
EBITDA[1]	**136.5**	**110.7**	**23.3 %**
Content portals & other digital media	50.8	43.2	17.6 %
Performance marketing	9.2	10.5	–12.2 %
Axel Springer Digital Classifieds	82.5	63.7	29.6 %
EBITDA margin[1]	**21.3 %**	**20.4 %**	
Content portals & other digital media	23.2 %	24.6 %	
Performance marketing	4.1 %	4.9 %	
Axel Springer Digital Classifieds	41.9 %	42.6 %	

[1] Segment EBITDA includes non-allocated costs of € 6.0 million (PY: € 6.7 million).

The total revenues generated in our digital activities rose substantially during the reporting period, by 18.2 % to € 640.6 million (PY: € 542.1 million), as a result of both consolidation effects and organic growth. The advertising revenues of € 556.1 million were 22.2 % higher than the corresponding year-ago figure (PY: € 455.1 million). This increase resulted both from consolidation effects, including in connection with the acquisitions of Onet.pl, Totaljobs, Immoweb.be, and allesklar.com/meinestadt.de, and from organic growth. Due to the sale of the online games provider gamigo in the prior year, the other revenues of € 84.5 million were slightly less than the year-ago figure (PY: € 87.0 million).

The pro-forma revenues of the Digital Media segment rose from € 601.8 million in the first half of last year to € 643.2 million in the reporting period. Based on the current portfolio, therefore, Axel Springer's digital revenues experienced organic growth of 6.9 % in the first half of 2013. Most of this increase occurred in the areas of content portals and other digital media, on the one hand, and Axel Springer Digital Classifieds, on the other hand. The proportion of pro-forma total revenues represented by pro-forma digital revenues rose from 35.8 % in the year-ago period to 39.5 % in the reporting period.

At € 136.5 million, EBITDA of the Digital Media segment was 23.3 % higher than the year-ago figure of € 110.7 million and accounted for 44.9 % (PY: 35.9 %) of consolidated EBITDA. The Axel Springer Digital Classifieds Group contributed the largest share to segment EBITDA, both on the strength of organic growth and the acquisitions-driven expansion of the portfolio. Content portals and other digital media also contributed to this increase, mainly due to consolidation effects. Organic earnings growth was held back by higher expenses for the introduction of subscription models. The EBITDA contribution of the performance marketing area was less than the corresponding year-ago figure, due to market conditions. Adjusted for consolidation, currency, and calendar effects, the increase in segment EBITDA was therefore only 3.4 %, due to the higher expenses for the accelerated pace of digitization. The EBITDA margin of 21.3 % was slightly higher than the EBITDA margin for the first half of 2012 (20.4 %).

Key Figures Digital Media 2nd Quarter

€ millions	Q2/2013	Q2/2012	Change
External revenues	**322.4**	**279.1**	**15.5 %**
Share in cons. revenues	39.1 %	33.6 %	
Advertising revenues	280.1	237.8	17.8 %
Other revenues	42.4	41.2	2.8 %
Content portals & other digital media	115.7	92.8	24.6 %
Performance marketing	109.1	103.3	5.6 %
Axel Springer Digital Classifieds	97.7	83.0	17.7 %
EBITDA[1]	**73.7**	**63.8**	**15.5 %**
Content portals & other digital media	31.1	27.4	13.7 %
Performance marketing	4.2	4.7	–9.8 %
Axel Springer Digital Classifieds	41.7	34.7	19.9 %
EBITDA margin[1]	**22.9 %**	**22.9 %**	
Content portals & other digital media	26.9 %	29.5 %	
Performance marketing	3.9 %	4.5 %	
Axel Springer Digital Classifieds	42.7 %	41.9 %	

[1] Segment EBITDA includes non-allocated costs of € 3.3 million (PY: € 3.0 million).

Newspapers National

The Newspapers National segment mainly comprises the newspapers of the BILD Group and the WELT Group, as well as – until the implementation of the contractually agreed sale of these activities to Funke Mediengruppe – the regional newspapers HAMBURGER ABENDBLATT and BERLINER MORGENPOST.

Circulation and Reach Newspapers National

Thousands	Circulation H1/2013[1]	Change yoy	Reach[2]	Change
Bild/B.Z.[3]	2,622.4	–8.1 %	12,151.8	–5.0 %
Bild am Sonntag	1,257.9	–8.0 %	9,480.0	–4.6 %
Die Welt/Welt Kompakt	228.2	–9.2 %	791.8	–8.3 %
Welt am Sonntag/ Welt am Sonntag Kompakt	401.5	–0.4 %	966.0	–0.8 %
Hamburger Abendblatt	198.8	–4.3 %	519.6	–12.7 %
Berliner Morgenpost	116.6	–4.2 %	307.3	–5.5 %

[1] Source: IVW, average paid circulation.
[2] Source: ma 2013 Pressemedien II.
[3] BILD and B.Z. are presented together since Q1/2013. The year-ago comparison figures were adjusted accordingly.

Due to market conditions, the circulation and reach numbers of most titles in the Newspapers National segment were lower in the first half of 2013.

Key Figures Newspapers National

€ millions	H1/2013	H1/2012	Change
External revenues	**507.8**	**568.3**	**–10.6 %**
Share in cons. revenues	31.2 %	35.1 %	
Circulation revenues	279.2	296.4	–5.8 %
Advertising revenues	215.8	257.3	–16.1 %
Other revenues	12.9	14.6	–11.6 %
EBITDA	**104.0**	**137.1**	**–24.1 %**
EBITDA margin	20.5 %	24.1 %	

At € 507.8 million, the total revenues of the Newspapers National segment were 10.6 % less than the corresponding year-ago figure (€ 568.3 million). Mainly due to lower circulation numbers for all titles, the circulation revenues of € 279.2 million were 5.8 % less than the year-ago figure (€ 296.4 million). The advertising revenues of € 215.8 million were 16.1 % less than the corresponding figure for the first half of 2012. Besides the declines attributable to market conditions, this decrease mainly reflected the non-recurrence of the additional revenues contributed by the special edition of BILD für ALLE in the second quarter of last year. Declines were registered both in newsstand newspapers and subscription newspapers. The other revenues of € 12.9 million were 11.6 % less than the year-ago figure.

At € 104.0 million, segment EBITDA was 24.1 % less than the year-ago figure (PY: € 137.1 million). Aside from the lower revenues, this decrease resulted from higher restructuring expenses in the reporting period. The EBITDA margin declined accordingly to 20.5 % (PY: 24.1 %).

Key Figures Newspapers National 2nd Quarter

€ millions	Q2/2013	Q2/2012	Change
External revenues	**258.6**	**292.3**	**–11.5 %**
Share in cons. revenues	31.4 %	35.2 %	
Circulation revenues	141.0	146.5	–3.8 %
Advertising revenues	110.9	137.7	–19.5 %
Other revenues	6.7	8.2	–17.9 %
EBITDA	**54.8**	**72.5**	**–24.4 %**
EBITDA margin	21.2 %	24.8 %	

Magazines National

The Magazines National segment mainly comprises the activities of our automotive, computer, sports, and music magazines, as well as – until the implementation of the contractually agreed sale of these activities to Funke Mediengruppe – our TV program guides and women's titles.

Circulation and Reach Magazines National

Thousands	Circulation H1/2013[1]	Change yoy	Reach[2]	Change
Hörzu	1,223.1	–6.1 %	3,822.7	–6.5 %
TV Digital	1,914.8	0.1 %	4,141.8	0.5 %
Bild der Frau	893.7	–2.4 %	4,977.8	–9.1 %
Auto Bild	520.9	–3.4 %	2,611.6	–5.2 %
Computer Bild	489.3	–9.2 %	3,425.9	–7.1 %
Sport Bild	402.4	–3.8 %	4,317.7	–0.7 %

[1] Source: IVW, average paid circulation.
[2] Source: ma 2013 Pressemedien II.

With the exception of TV DIGITAL, the circulation numbers of our German magazines were mostly lower than the respective year-ago figures.

Key Figures Magazines National

€ millions	H1/2013	H1/2012	Change
External revenues	**222.3**	**230.9**	**–3.8 %**
Share in cons. revenues	13.7 %	14.3 %	
Circulation revenues	151.1	155.5	–2.8 %
Advertising revenues	56.9	62.1	–8.4 %
Other revenues	14.3	13.3	7.1 %
EBITDA	**51.9**	**48.9**	**6.2 %**
EBITDA margin	23.3 %	21.2 %	

At € 222.3 million, the total revenues of the Magazines National segment were slightly less than the corresponding year-ago figure (€ 230.9 million). Compared to the year-ago figure of € 155.5 million, circulation revenues fell slightly, by 2.8 % to € 151.1 million, due to generally lower circulation numbers. At € 56.9 million, the advertising revenues of the Magazines National segment were 8.4 % less than the year-ago figure (€ 62.1 million). All magazine groups registered revenue declines.

Despite the lower revenues, segment EBITDA of € 51.9 million was 6.2 % higher than the year-ago figure (PY: € 48.9 million). This development reflected the positive effects of lower restructuring expenses and optimized cost structures, compared to the first half of last year.

Key Figures Magazines National 2nd Quarter

€ millions	Q2/2013	Q2/2012	Change
External revenues	**110.2**	**115.5**	**–4.6 %**
Share in cons. revenues	13.4 %	13.9 %	
Circulation revenues	73.9	76.3	–3.2 %
Advertising revenues	29.6	32.9	–10.1 %
Other revenues	6.7	6.2	7.2 %
EBITDA	**30.0**	**24.5**	**22.6 %**
EBITDA margin	27.3 %	21.2 %	

Print International

Axel Springer's international print publications, including both newspapers and magazines, are combined within the Print International segment. As in prior periods, Switzerland, Poland, and the Czech Republic continue to be the highest-revenue countries for Axel Springer.

The circulation and reach numbers of the leading mass-circulation dailies in the countries in which our joint venture Ringier Axel Springer Media operates are presented in the table below.

Circulation and Reach Print International (Selection)

Thousands	Circulation H1/2013	Change yoy	Reach	Change
Fakt[1]	351.6	−11.6 %	1,599.5	−11.9 %
Blesk[2]	274.8	−14.0 %	1,156.0	−7.1 %
Novy Cas[3]	111.0	−9.1 %	809.3	−10.6 %
Blic[4]	124.4	−0.3 %	802.1	−15.4 %
Alo![4]	118.7	−4.3 %	506.7	−10.1 %

1) Poland. Circulation: ZKDP, Jan.–May 2013 vs. Jan.–May 2012; Reach: PBC General, Jan.–May 2013 vs. Jan.–May 2012.
2) Czech Republic. Circulation: ABC CR, Jan.–April 2013 vs. Jan.–April 2012; Reach: Media Projekt, GfK Praha, Oct. 2012–March 2013 vs. Oct. 2011–March 2012.
3) Slovakia. Circulation: ABC SR, Jan.–April 2013 vs. Jan.–April 2012; Reach: MML-TGI, Median SK, Jan.–March 2013 vs. Jan.–March 2012.
4) Serbia. Circulation: ABC Serbia, Jan.–April 2013 vs. Jan.–April 2012; Reach: Ipsos Strategic Marketing, Jan.–May 2013 vs. Jan.–May 2012.

Due to market conditions, the circulation numbers of our international newspapers and magazines were mainly lower in the first half of 2013. The development in Serbia was stabilized by means of additional sales-promoting measures.

Key Figures Print International

€ millions	H1/2013	H1/2012	Change
External revenues	**200.8**	**219.3**	**−8.4 %**
Share in cons. revenues	12.3 %	13.5 %	
Circulation revenues	120.7	128.5	−6.1 %
Advertising revenues	62.5	77.3	−19.2 %
Other revenues	17.6	13.5	30.4 %
EBITDA	**24.9**	**28.8**	**−13.3 %**
EBITDA margin	12.4 %	13.1 %	

Particularly in eastern Europe, the general economic conditions remained difficult. Due to market conditions, the total revenues of the Print International segment declined by 8.4 % to € 200.8 million in the reporting period. Adjusted for consolidation, currency, and calendar effects, the decline in revenues was only 6.9 %. Circulation revenues were 6.1 % lower than the year-ago figure; on an adjusted basis, the decline was 4.3 %. Advertising revenues of € 62.5 million were 19.2 % less than the year-ago figure; on an adjusted basis, the decline was 17.9 %. This development resulted from lower revenues in all international markets, although the declines were the highest in the Czech Republic and Poland.

Segment EBITDA of € 24.9 million was less than the year-ago figure (€ 28.8 million). The revenue declines were largely offset by cost optimization measures. Restructuring expenses were on the level of the year-ago figure. Therefore, the EBITDA margin narrowed only slightly, from 13.1 % to 12.4 %.

Key Figures Print International 2nd Quarter

€ millions	Q2/2013	Q2/2012	Change
External revenues	**104.6**	**114.7**	**−8.8 %**
Share in cons. revenues	12.7 %	13.8 %	
Circulation revenues	59.4	63.9	−7.0 %
Advertising revenues	35.8	43.7	−18.0 %
Other revenues	9.4	7.1	32.5 %
EBITDA	**15.0**	**16.8**	**−10.7 %**
EBITDA margin	14.4 %	14.7 %	

Services/Holding

The Services/Holding segment comprises the three Group-owned national printing plants, as well as the internal department of Logistics and various service and holding company functions.

Key Figures Services/Holding

€ millions	H1/2013	H1/2012	Change
External revenues	**55.9**	**59.7**	**–6.5 %**
Share in cons. revenues	3.4 %	3.7 %	
EBITDA	**–13.4**	**–16.8**	**-**

At € 55.9 million, the external revenues of the Services/Holding segment were 6.5 % less than the corresponding year-ago figure (€ 59.7 million), due to market conditions.

EBITDA of € –13.4 million was slightly higher than the year-ago figure (€ –16.8 million). This development was influenced in part by reversals of provisions for litigation expenses in the reporting period. Segment EBITDA for the first half of 2012 had been positively influenced by income from the measurement of share-based compensation programs.

Key Figures Services/Holding 2nd Quarter

€ millions	Q2/2013	Q2/2012	Change
External revenues	**28.0**	**29.8**	**–6.1 %**
Share in cons. revenues	3.4 %	3.6 %	
EBITDA	**–2.0**	**–5.4**	**-**

Liquidity

Cash flows and capital expenditures

At € 167.9 million, the cash flow from operating activities was less than the corresponding figure for the first half of last year (€ 205.1 million). This decrease resulted primarily from the lower amount of advance payments on account of services still to be rendered, and from the higher level of net income tax payments, compared to the year-ago period.

The positive cash flow from investing activities amounted to € 30.1 million. This development was particularly influenced by the cash inflows resulting from the sale of 2.6 % of the equity in Doğan TV (€ 61.6 million). The cash outflow of € –153.1 million in the first half of last year resulted mainly from the acquisition of a 100 % equity interest in Totaljobs.

The cash flow from financing activities amounted to € –190.9 million in the first half of 2013 (PY: € 76.3 million). This figure was mainly influenced by the dividend payment to the shareholders of Axel Springer AG and by the repayment of loans. The prior-year figure also reflected the receipt of the purchase price on the sale of a 30 % equity interest in Axel Springer Digital Classifieds GmbH to General Atlantic.

Net liquidity and financing

Total cash and cash equivalents rose from € 254.1 million at year-end 2012 to € 255.7 million at the end of the first half of 2013. Over the same period, financial liabilities declined from € 703.7 million to € 679.1 million. Thus, the net debt as of the reporting date amounted to € –423.4 million (December 31, 2012: € –449.6 million).

Aside from promissory note loans maturing in April 2016 (nominal value € 269.5 million) and in April 2018 (nominal value € 230.5 million), Axel Springer has been granted a credit facility in the amount of € 900.0 million, the drawdowns under which will be due and payable in September 2017. The promissory note loan and the credit facility can be used both for general business purposes and for financing acquisitions.

As of June 30, 2013, € 110.0 million (December 31, 2012: € 134.0 million) of the existing long-term credit facility had been utilized. As of the reporting date, unutilized short-term and long-term credit facilities amounted to € 810.0 million (December 31, 2012: € 786.0 million).

Financial position

The consolidated total assets of € 4,592.9 million were less than the corresponding figure at year-end 2012 (PY: € 4,808.2 million).

Non-current financial assets were reduced by € 48.5 million, mainly due to the sale of 2.6 % of the equity in Doğan TV.

The trade receivables of € 451.8 million were less than the corresponding figure at year-end 2012 (PY: € 502.6 million), due to lower newspaper and magazine revenues, among other reasons.

The Group's equity of € 2,188.9 million was less than the corresponding figure at December 31, 2012 (€ 2,253.1 million), particularly as a result of the dividend payment for financial year 2012 in the amount of € 167.9 million and the currency translation effects related to the international subsidiaries in the amount of € 47.9 million, which are recognized in other comprehensive income. The increase in the equity ratio to 47.7 % (December 31, 2012: 46.9 %) resulted mainly from the reduction of financial and tax liabilities and the lower amount of trade payables.

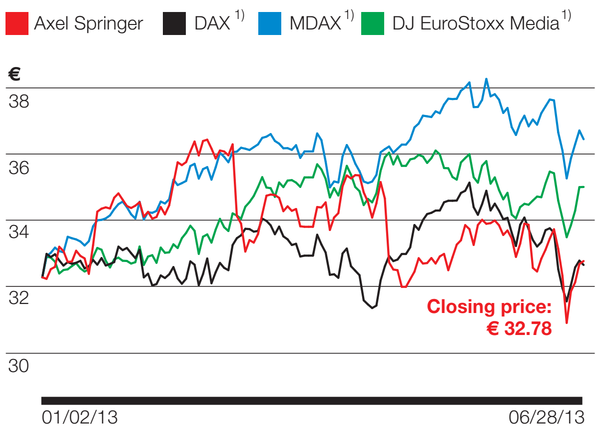
The decrease in non-current provisions and liabilities to € 1,557.0 million (December 31, 2012: € 1,602.0 million) resulted mainly from the repayment of financial liabilities. Current provisions and liabilities fell to € 847.0 million (December 31, 2012: € 953.1 million), due to the lower amount of trade payables, the utilization of provisions for performance-dependent employee compensation, and the lower amount of tax liabilities.

The Axel Springer share and investor relations

Share price

The Axel Springer share exhibited a stable development in the first half of 2013. It closed the second quarter at € 32.78, reflecting a 1.5 % increase over the level at the beginning of the year. This development was in line with the performance of the German lead index, the DAX. The comparison indexes DJ EuroStoxx Media, which tracks the most important European media shares, and the MDAX, which includes the Axel Springer share, outperformed the Axel Springer share in the first half of 2013.

Performance Axel Springer Share



1) Indexed on the year-end share price of Axel Springer AG as of December 31, 2012.

Share Information

€	H1/2013	H1/2012	Change
Earnings per share[1]	1.36	1.43	–4.7 %
Earnings per share, adjusted[2]	1.40	1.55	–9.8 %
Closing price	32.78	33.88	–3.2 %
Highest price	36.43	39.52	–7.8 %
Lowest price	30.92	31.96	–3.3 %
Market capitalization in € millions[3]	3,243.3	3,347.0	–3.1 %
Daily traded volume (Ø, in € thousands)	6,346.3	6,264.0	1.3 %

1) Basic/diluted.
2) Basic/diluted, adjusted for non-recurring effects and amortization and impairments from purchase price allocations, and calculated on the basis of average weighted shares outstanding in the reporting period (98.8 million).
3) Based on shares outstanding at the closing price, excluding treasury shares.

Analyst reports on the Axel Springer share are currently published by 18 brokers. In total, seven firms have issued a “buy” recommendation for our share, nine have issued a “hold/neutral” recommendation, and two have issued a “sell/underweight” recommendation. The latest recommendations and share price targets can be found in the Investor Relations section of our website at www.axelspringer.de.

In the first half of 2013, we participated in six investor conferences in New York, Baden-Baden, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Nice, and London. In addition, we presented the company at road shows in Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, Boston, Oslo, Copenhagen, Düsseldorf, Cologne, and Luxembourg. Finally, we held numerous meetings with investors and analysts in Berlin.

In the first half of 2013, we held telephone conferences with investors and analysts on the occasion of the publication of our Annual Report on March 6, 2013 and on the occasion of the publication of our first-quarter report on May 7, 2013. Both events were transmitted live on the Internet, as usual. Furthermore, audio recordings of the telephone conferences, as well as all reports and presentations, are made available on our website.

Information on Listing

Share type	Registered share with restricted transferability
Stock exchange	Germany (Prime Standard)
Security Identification Number	550135, 575423
ISIN	DE0005501357, DE0005754238
Thomson Reuters	SPRGn.DE
Bloomberg	SPR GY

Annual shareholders’ meeting

The annual shareholders’ meeting of Axel Springer AG was held in Berlin on April 24, 2013. About 460 shareholders representing 77.5 % of voting capital participated. All proposed resolutions of the management – including the distribution of a dividend of € 1.70 (PY: € 1.70) per qualifying share – were approved by majorities of at least 91.3 %. Based on the closing price at the end of 2012, the dividend yield of the Axel Springer share came to 5.3 %. The total dividend payout to our shareholders was € 167.9 million.

The annual shareholders’ meeting of Axel Springer AG also approved the conversion of Axel Springer AG into a European Company (Societas Europaea, SE) pursuant to Art. 37, 2 para. 4 SE-Regulation. By converting to the legal form of a European company scheduled to become effective by entry in the Register of Companies before the end of the year, Axel Springer AG means to underscore and facilitate the company’s orientation to European and international markets.

Ongoing actions for nullification

In the years from 2005 to 2008, the shareholder Dr. Oliver Krauß filed various actions for nullification of resolutions adopted by the company’s annual shareholders’ meeting in the respective years. With the exception of the action for nullification of the resolutions ratifying the actions of the management in the annual shareholders’ meeting in 2006, which were then repeated by the annual shareholders’ meeting in 2010, all these actions have been unsuccessful.

In addition, Dr. Oliver Krauß has filed actions for nullification of resolutions adopted by the annual shareholders’ meetings in 2009 and 2010. There have been no new developments in these ongoing actions since the description in the Annual Report 2012.

Workforce

Axel Springer had an average of 14,625 (PY: 13,479) employees (excluding vocational trainees and journalism students) in the first half of 2013. The 8.5 % increase over the year-ago period resulted primarily from the addition of new personnel in the Digital Media segment, due to acquisitions and organic growth.

Share ownership program

Again this year, Axel Springer offered its employees the chance to benefit directly from the appreciation of the company's value by participating in the share ownership program. All employees of Axel Springer AG and its German subsidiaries who were entitled to a profit-sharing bonus for the year 2012, or who had entered into a target agreement, were given the option to convert their bonus into shares of Axel Springer AG, for which purpose they received a subsidy from the company. The vesting period for both programs is four years.

Report on risks and opportunities

The risks and opportunities of Axel Springer have not changed significantly from the presentation in the Annual Report 2012. The risk structure and risk positions will be re-evaluated after the final confirmation and completion of the agreement reached with Funke Mediengruppe. As before, no risks that could endanger the survival of Axel Springer as a going concern can be discerned.

Events after the reporting date

In a legally binding preliminary agreement dated July 25, 2013, Axel Springer AG agreed to sell its German regional newspapers, TV program guides, and women's magazines to Funke Mediengruppe. In this connection, the parties also agreed to form two joint ventures for advertising marketing of print and digital media products and retail distribution, thereby bundling the parties' activities, resources, and expertise in these areas. Axel Springer will exercise managerial control and hold the majority of shares in both these companies.

It is planned to implement these measures with economic effect as of January 1, 2014. The German regional newspaper groups, TV program guides, and women's magazines contributed € 94.8 million to EBITDA and € 512.4 million to the revenues of the Axel Springer Group in financial year 2012. Of the total purchase price of € 920 million, an amount of € 660 million will be due and payable upon closing, but no later than June 30, 2014. Axel Springer will extend a vendor loan with multiannual maturities to finance the remainder of the purchase price.

Axel Springer is pursuing a stringent digitization strategy with the goal of becoming the leading digital media group. In connection with this goal, Axel Springer will focus even more strongly on its core multimedia journalism brands of the WELT Group and the BILD Group, including the associated magazine brands (AUTO BILD Group, COMPUTER BILD Group, SPORT BILD). Axel Springer will also focus on expanding its online classified markets and digital marketing platforms.

The transaction is pending, subject to the approval of the competent merger and cartel authorities, which is not expected before the end of 2013.

Forecast report

General economic environment

In its updated forecast of July 2013, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) continues to see a considerable risk of weaker global economic growth. The IMF is particularly concerned about the possibility of slower growth in the emerging-market countries that could result if the U.S. Federal Reserve tightens its low interest-rate policy. The emerging-market countries would be hardest hit by rising interest rates. The IMF is predicting that global economic output will expand by 3.1 % in real terms in 2013. For the industrialized nations, the IMF is predicting real economic growth of 1.2 %. According to its forecast, emerging-market and developing countries should experience real economic growth of 5.0 %.

According to the ifo Institute, the German economy will regain momentum in the second half of 2013. Given the weak start to the year, the German economy will likely grow at a real rate of only 0.6 % in the full year 2013. The ifo Institute anticipates a moderate increase in German exports in the second half of 2013. Due to the sharp drop in the first quarter, however, full-year exports will be 0.3 % less than the prior-year figure, in real terms. Investment spending is expected to increase again slightly, by 0.6 %, following the significant decrease in 2012. The ifo Institute anticipates that business uncertainty will gradually diminish once domestic and foreign demand picks up again. Consumer spending will continue to support the economy in 2013, as it is expected to rise by 0.8 % in real terms, on the strength of increased purchasing power and rising employment numbers.

According to the report of the ifo Institute, the full-year inflation rate for 2013 will be 1.6 %. During the further course of the year, the general price level will rise at a somewhat faster rate, due to electricity rate increases and higher residential rents. The number of employed persons is expected to rise to 41.9 million in 2013, while the number of unemployed job seekers is expected to rise only slightly to 3.0 million. The ifo Institute anticipates an average unemployment rate of 6.9 % in the full year 2013.

Anticipated Economic Development (Selection)

Change in gross domestic product compared to prior year (real)	2013
Germany	0.6 %
Switzerland[1]	1.3 %
France	–0.2 %
United Kingdom	0.8 %
Spain	–1.9 %
Hungary	0.5 %
Poland	0.9 %
Czech Republic	–1.5 %
Slovakia	1.3 %
Serbia[1]	2.0 %
Russia	2.7 %
India[1]	5.7 %

Source: ifo Institute.
[1] Source: IMF, World Economic Outlook, April 2013.

As before, the export activity of central and eastern European countries is being adversely impacted by weak demand in western Europe, even as domestic demand is being crimped by restrictive fiscal policies. However, the ifo Institute expects the economies of the countries in this region to stabilize, considering that the conditions are favorable for an economic recovery, in the opinion of the ifo Institute. The economies of central and eastern Europe are supported by the low interest rate environment and by the expansive monetary policy of the European Central Bank. Due to the fact that real economic growth is still weak in all countries, significant interest rate hikes are not to be expected in the further course of 2013, in the opinion of the ifo Institute.

Industry environment

According to the latest advertising market forecast of ZenithOptimedia ("Advertising Expenditure Forecast" of June 2013), worldwide advertising expenditures are expected to increase (in nominal terms) by 3.5 % in 2013. Thus, ZenithOptimedia revised downward its previous forecast of 3.9 % growth from April 2013.

In line with the expectations of the IMF, the advertising industry association ZAW is very cautious in its outlook for the German advertising market in 2013. However, ZAW's expectations for the advertising market in the medium-term future are stable, based on the potential for new advertising concepts, the continually evolving technological possibilities for reaching customers, and increased media usage.

The currently available forecasts for the German advertising market point to a mixed development of the different media genres. ZenithOptimedia expects that the net advertising market in Germany will contract by 1.6 % (in nominal terms) in 2013. Thus, the advertising market in total will lay behind the overall economy, for which a nominal growth rate of 2.8 % (real growth rate of 0.6 %) is expected. The print media are particularly affected by the structural shifts in the advertising market: newspapers –7.3 %, magazines –6.8 %. On the other hand, net advertising revenues are expected to increase for online (+5.9 %), TV (+1.6 %), radio (+2.1 %), and outdoor (+1.5 %).

The forecasts of ZenithOptimedia reflect the structural shift in advertising expenditures in favor of digital media. Online and mobile will account for an ever-greater share of advertising budgets.

The communications industry continues to see new growth opportunities in new marketing services, networked advertising concepts, the opening of new business segments, and product innovations.

According to the forecast of ZenithOptimedia (June 2013), the outlook for the international markets in which Axel Springer conducts business through its own corporate entities is mixed.

According to ZenithOptimedia's forecast, the net advertising volume of the online market in western Europe is expected to rise by 7.5 % to US$ 24.9 billion in 2013, based on the assumption of constant exchange rates. The growth rates in eastern European markets will be in some cases much higher.

Anticipated Advertising Activity 2013 (Selection)

Change in net ad revenues compared to prior year (nominal)	Newspapers	Magazines	Online
Germany	–7.3 %	–6.8 %	5.9 %
Switzerland	–2.6 %	–4.7 %	6.9 %
France[1]	–5.6 %	–5.7 %	4.4 %
United Kingdom	–6.0 %	–8.1 %	12.5 %
Spain[1]	–17.9 %	–10.0 %	0.0 %
Hungary	8.9 %	–13.3 %	6.0 %
Poland[1]	–25.2 %	–21.0 %	7.3 %
Czech Republic[1]	–9.2 %	–4.5 %	13.0 %
Slovakia[1]	–10.8 %	–18.0 %	28.6 %
Serbia[1]	–10.8 %	–9.9 %	22.8 %
Russia	0.0 %	0.0 %	28.0 %
India[1]	3.4 %	3.4 %	120.0 %

Source: ZenithOptimedia, Advertising Expenditure Forecast (June 2013).
[1] Excluding classified ads.

Axel Springer

Strategic orientation

The highest strategic priority for Axel Springer is to pursue the consistent digitization of our business. By further developing our digital offerings in Germany and abroad, and making targeted acquisitions, we aim to achieve our goal of becoming the leading digital media group. We are accelerating the growth of our digital business by means of targeted investments. In the print business, our primary goals are to preserve our market leadership position on the strength of excellent journalism and, above all, to practice strict cost discipline.

Anticipated business developments and financial performance of the Group

For **financial year 2013**, we anticipate a low single-digit percentage increase in **total revenues**, assuming that the structurally declining trends of the print business do not worsen considerably. We anticipate that the expected decrease in circulation revenues will be more than offset by the planned increase in advertising revenues, coupled with stable other revenues. We continue to expect organic growth in our digital media, reinforced by acquisition effects, whereas the revenues of our national and international print media will decline further, in line with market trends.

We are increasing our investments in the company's further development in financial year 2013. We are accelerating the pace of digitization and increasingly adjusting the structures of our print business to reflect the structural changes. This necessitates higher expenditures for expanding the digital business and significant expenses for structural adjustments in the print business. By reason of these expenditures, we anticipate a single-digit percentage decrease in the Group's **EBITDA**, compared to 2012.

By reason of the above-mentioned effects and the growing percentage of non-controlling interests in the Digital Media segment, **adjusted earnings per share** will be significantly less than the corresponding figure for 2012.

The forecast for financial year 2013 still includes the revenue and earnings contributions of the activities to be acquired by Funke Mediengruppe with effect as of January 1, 2014, in accordance with the agreement reached with Funke Mediengruppe in late July 2013 (see page 17).

By reason of the planned sale of activities to Funke Mediengruppe, the previous forecast of higher revenues, EBITDA, and adjusted earnings per share in **financial year 2014** is no longer valid. The sale of these activities will lead to a decrease in revenues, EBITDA, and adjusted earnings per share in financial year 2014.

Anticipated business developments and financial performance of the segments

In financial year 2013, we expect to generate a double-digit percentage increase in the total revenues of the **Digital Media** segment, based on organic growth and the effects of the acquisitions made in 2012. This increase is expected to have a positive effect on both advertising revenues and other revenues. We also anticipate a significant increase in segment EBITDA compared to 2012.

We anticipate a mid-single-digit percentage decrease in the total revenues of the **Newspapers National** segment, due to lower circulation revenues and advertising revenues. By reason of lower revenues and higher expenses for structural adjustments, we expect that segment EBITDA in 2013 will be significantly less than the corresponding figure for 2012.

We anticipate a low-to-mid single-digit percentage decrease in the total revenues of the **Magazines National** segment in 2013, due to both lower circulation revenues and lower advertising revenues. By reason of the lower revenues, we expect that segment EBITDA will be slightly less than the corresponding figure for 2012, despite a planned cost reduction.

Given the still tough market environment in some countries, and the divestiture in France, we anticipate a low double-digit percentage decrease in the total revenues of the **Print International** segment, due to both lower circulation revenues and lower advertising revenues. By reason of lower revenues and higher expenses for structural adjustments, we expect that segment EBITDA will be significantly less than the corresponding figure for 2012.

Due to higher expenses for structural adjustments and lower revenues, we expect that EBITDA of the **Services/Holding** segment in 2013 will be significantly less than the corresponding figure for 2012.

Anticipated development of liquidity and financial position

According to the current planning status, the Group's liquidity and financial position will not change significantly in 2013. Axel Springer has access to extensive credit facilities, which can also be used to finance acquisitions. Based on the capital expenditure projects planned to date, investments in property, plant, and equipment, and intangible assets are likely to be higher than the corresponding prior-year figure. Financing will be provided by operating cash flow.

Dividend policy

Subject to the condition of solid financial performance also in the future, Axel Springer will strive to maintain its dividend policy, which aims to pay high dividends but also allows for the financing of growth.

Anticipated workforce development

The average full-year number of employees in 2013 will be higher than in 2012, mainly due to higher staffing levels in the Digital Media segment resulting from organic growth and acquisitions.

Planning assumptions

We plan the future development of the financial performance, liquidity, and financial position on the basis of assumptions that are plausible and sufficiently probable from today's perspective. However, actual developments could possibly differ considerably from the assumptions applied and thus from the business plans and trend forecasts prepared on the basis of those assumptions.

Beyond the projects that have already been announced, the forecasts for EBITDA and the adjusted earnings per share do not reflect any possible effects resulting from acquisitions and divestitures, unplanned restructuring expenses, or the insolvency of Kirch Media.

EBITDA does not reflect any non-recurring effects. The adjusted earnings per share neither reflect any non-recurring effects or write-downs from purchase price allocation effects, nor the associated tax effects. Non-recurring effects are defined as effects resulting from the acquisition and sale of subsidiaries, divisions, and equity investments, as well as write-downs and write-ups of equity investments, effects resulting from the sale of real estate, impairments, and write-ups of real estate used for own operational purposes. Purchase price allocation effects include write-downs of the intangible assets and property, plant, and equipment acquired in connection with the acquisition of companies and business divisions.

We consider EBITDA and adjusted earnings per share to be suitable indicators for measuring the operational profitability of Axel Springer, because these indicators ignore effects that do not reflect the fundamental business performance of Axel Springer.

EBITDA and adjusted earnings per share are not defined under International Financial Reporting Standards and should therefore be regarded as supplementary information.

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

€ millions

ASSETS	06/30/2013	12/31/2012
Non-current assets	**3,708.3**	**3,841.4**
Intangible assets	2,404.2	2,455.5
Property, plant, and equipment	674.5	690.7
Investment property	55.1	57.0
Non-current financial assets	422.4	470.9
Investments accounted for using the equity method	20.4	24.6
Other non-current financial assets	402.0	446.3
Receivables from income taxes	27.7	27.7
Other assets	65.7	78.4
Deferred tax assets	58.7	61.2
Current assets	**884.6**	**966.8**
Inventories	22.3	27.1
Trade receivables	451.8	502.6
Receivables due from related parties	39.2	40.9
Receivables from income taxes	22.9	44.5
Other assets	85.3	97.6
Cash and cash equivalents	255.7	254.1
Assets held for sale	7.4	0.0
Total assets	**4,592.9**	**4,808.2**

€ millions

EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	06/30/2013	12/31/2012
Equity	**2,188.9**	**2,253.1**
Shareholders of Axel Springer AG	1,816.3	1,887.5
Non-controlling interests	372.6	365.6
Non-current provisions and liabilities	**1,557.0**	**1,602.0**
Provisions for pensions	296.5	294.6
Other provisions	53.2	52.0
Financial liabilities	667.2	691.2
Trade payables	1.4	0.9
Liabilities due to related parties	1.6	1.4
Other liabilities	215.7	232.1
Deferred tax liabilities	321.4	329.8
Current provisions and liabilities	**847.0**	**953.1**
Provisions for pensions	48.3	49.5
Other provisions	110.4	144.2
Financial liabilities	11.9	12.5
Trade payables	246.6	281.3
Liabilities due to related parties	26.3	24.2
Liabilities from income taxes	28.9	72.9
Other liabilities	367.2	368.5
Liabilities related to assets held for sale	7.4	0.0
Total equity and liabilities	**4,592.9**	**4,808.2**

Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income

€ millions

Consolidated Income Statement	Q2/2013	Q2/2012	H1/2013	H1/2012
Revenues	823.7	831.4	1,627.3	1,620.4
Other operating income	20.4	24.8	33.4	35.6
Change in inventories and internal costs capitalized	3.7	2.0	4.0	2.3
Purchased goods and services	−253.2	−252.8	−508.9	−512.3
Personnel expenses	−237.7	−231.5	−475.0	−451.5
Depreciation, amortization, and impairments	−40.3	−48.4	−80.8	−82.5
Other operating expenses	−201.9	−203.4	−391.0	−388.8
Income from investments	10.1	8.1	26.2	11.9
Result from investments accounted for using the equity method	1.3	1.4	1.7	2.4
Other investment income	8.8	6.7	24.5	9.5
Financial result	−5.6	−18.4	−12.7	−26.3
Income taxes	−35.8	−20.6	−66.9	−49.3
Net income	**83.3**	**91.1**	**155.6**	**159.6**
Net income attributable to shareholders of Axel Springer AG	71.6	80.2	134.5	140.9
Net income attributable to non-controlling interests	11.7	11.0	21.2	18.7
Basic/diluted earnings per share (in €)	**0.72**	**0.81**	**1.36**	**1.43**

€ millions

Consolidated Statement of Recognized Income and Expenses	Q2/2013	Q2/2012	H1/2013	H1/2012
Net income	**83.3**	**91.1**	**155.6**	**159.6**
Actuarial gains/losses from defined benefit pension obligations	−0.7	−22.7	−1.1	−37.2
Items that may not be reclassified into the income statement in future periods	**−0.7**	**−22.7**	**−1.1**	**−37.2**
Currency translation differences	−30.7	−2.3	−47.9	8.4
Changes in fair value of available-for-sale financial assets	−4.1	−6.3	−3.6	−1.6
Changes in fair value of derivatives in cash flow hedges	0.1	15.6	−0.4	16.3
Other income/loss from investments accounted for using the equity method	0.0	0.0	0.0	−0.3
Items that may be reclassified into the income statement in future periods if certain criteria are met	**−34.7**	**7.1**	**−51.9**	**22.7**
Other income/loss	**−35.3**	**−15.7**	**−53.0**	**−14.6**
Comprehensive income	**48.0**	**75.4**	**102.6**	**145.0**
Comprehensive income attributable to shareholders of Axel Springer AG	41.8	63.9	91.8	122.9
Comprehensive income attributable to non-controlling interests	6.2	11.5	10.8	22.1

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

€ millions	H1/2013	H1/2012
Net income	**155.6**	**159.6**
Reconciliation of net income to the cash flow from operating activities		
Depreciation, amortization, impairments, and write-ups	80.8	82.9
Result from investments accounted for using the equity method	–1.7	–2.4
Dividends received from investments accounted for using the equity method	5.4	3.4
Result from disposal of consolidated subsidiaries and business units and intangible assets, property, plant, and equipment, and financial assets	–11.3	–1.6
Changes in non-current provisions	3.2	9.0
Changes in deferred taxes	–6.1	–14.0
Other non-cash income and expenses	–0.4	–0.3
Changes in trade receivables	44.4	–11.9
Changes in trade payables	–30.3	–25.0
Changes in other assets and liabilities	–71.8	5.3
Cash flow from operating activities	**167.9**	**205.1**
Proceeds from disposals of intangible assets, property, plant, and equipment	0.1	0.3
Proceeds from disposals of consolidated subsidiaries and business units, less cash and cash equivalents given up	–0.5	0.0
Proceeds from disposals of non-current financial assets	74.2	17.0
Proceeds from investments in short-term financial funds	10.8	0.0
Purchases of intangible assets, property, plant, equipment, and investment property	–41.5	–32.5
Purchases of shares in consolidated subsidiaries and business units less cash and cash equivalents acquired	–6.2	–132.1
Purchases of investments in non-current financial assets	–6.8	–5.8
Cash flow from investing activities	**30.1**	**–153.1**
Dividends paid to shareholders of Axel Springer AG	–167.9	–167.6
Dividends paid to other shareholders	–2.6	–7.0
Disposal of non-controlling interests	0.2	244.9
Issuance of treasury shares	4.9	6.1
Repayments of liabilities under finance leases	–0.2	–0.2
Proceeds from other financial liabilities	155.2	498.8
Repayments of other financial liabilities	–180.5	–527.7
Other financial transactions	0.0	28.9
Cash flow from financing activities	**–190.9**	**76.3**
Cash flow-related changes in cash and cash equivalents	**7.0**	**128.2**
Changes in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rates	–5.5	0.8
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	254.1	244.0
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	**255.7**	**373.0**

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity

					Accumulated other comprehensive income						
						Changes in fair value					
€ millions	Subscribed capital	Additional paid-in capital	Accumulated retained earnings	Treasury shares	Currency translation	Available-for-sale financial assets	Derivatives in cash flow hedges	Other equity	Shareholders of Axel Springer AG	Non-controlling interests	Equity
Balance as of 01/01/2012	**98.9**	**43.8**	**1,536.9**	**−6.3**	**42.2**	**3.3**	**−10.7**	**−14.0**	**1,694.2**	**236.6**	**1,930.8**
Net income			140.9						140.9	18.7	159.6
Other income/loss					7.8	0.2	11.5	−37.6	−18.0	3.4	−14.6
Comprehensive income			**140.9**		**7.8**	**0.2**	**11.5**	**−37.6**	**122.9**	**22.1**	**145.0**
Dividends paid			−167.6						−167.6	−7.0	−174.6
Issuance of treasury shares			2.6	3.4					6.1		6.1
Capital contributions									0.0	28.9	28.9
Change in consolidated companies			−0.3						−0.3	1.9	1.5
Disposal of non-controlling interests			143.5			−2.4			141.1	103.6	244.7
Other changes		0.2	−0.5						−0.3	0.1	−0.2
Balance as of 06/30/2012	**98.9**	**43.9**	**1,655.4**	**−2.8**	**50.1**	**1.1**	**0.8**	**−51.6**	**1,795.9**	**386.2**	**2,182.1**
Balance as of 01/01/2013	**98.9**	**44.0**	**1,755.9**	**−2.8**	**53.0**	**1.4**	**−0.2**	**−62.6**	**1,887.5**	**365.6**	**2,253.1**
Net income			134.5						134.5	21.2	155.6
Other income/loss					−38.9	−2.5	−0.1	−1.1	−42.7	−10.3	−53.0
Comprehensive income			**134.5**		**−38.9**	**−2.5**	**−0.1**	**−1.1**	**91.8**	**10.8**	**102.6**
Dividends paid			−167.9						−167.9	−2.6	−170.6
Issuance of treasury shares			2.1	2.8					4.9		4.9
Other changes		0.2	−0.3						−0.1	−1.2	−1.2
Balance as of 06/30/2013	**98.9**	**44.2**	**1,724.3**	**0.0**	**14.1**	**−1.2**	**−0.4**	**−63.7**	**1,816.2**	**372.6**	**2,188.9**

Consolidated Segment Report

Operating segments

	Digital Media		Newspapers National		Magazines National		Print International		Services/Holding		Consolidated totals	
€ millions	Q2/2013	Q2/2012	Q2/2013	Q2/2012	Q2/2013	Q2/2012	Q2/2013	Q2/2012	Q2/2013	Q2/2012	Q2/2013	Q2/2012
External revenues	**322.4**	**279.1**	**258.6**	**292.3**	**110.2**	**115.5**	**104.6**	**114.7**	**28.0**	**29.8**	**823.7**	**831.4**
Internal revenues	14.9	11.7	2.3	2.2	3.1	1.7	9.2	10.4	81.3	85.2		
Segment revenues	337.3	290.8	260.9	294.6	113.3	117.2	113.8	125.0	109.3	115.0		
EBITDA [1]	**73.7**	**63.8**	**54.8**	**72.5**	**30.0**	**24.5**	**15.0**	**16.8**	**−2.0**	**−5.4**	**171.6**	**172.2**
EBITDA margin [1]	**22.9 %**	**22.9 %**	**21.2 %**	**24.8 %**	**27.3 %**	**21.2 %**	**14.4 %**	**14.7 %**			**20.8 %**	**20.7 %**
Thereof income from investments	5.0	5.4	1.5	1.8	0.0	0.0	1.5	1.5	2.0	1.4	10.1	10.1
Thereof accounted for using the equity method	−0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0	1.3	1.4
Depreciation, amortization, impairments and write-ups (except from purchase price allocations)	−9.0	−5.9	−0.6	−0.6	−0.3	−0.3	−2.9	−3.1	−11.4	−13.6	−24.3	−23.4
EBIT [1]	**64.7**	**57.9**	**54.3**	**71.8**	**29.7**	**24.2**	**12.1**	**13.7**	**−13.4**	**−19.0**	**147.3**	**148.8**
Amortization and impairments from purchase price allocations	−11.1	−21.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	−4.9	−4.0	0.0	0.0	−16.1	−25.9
Non-recurring effects	−3.2	7.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	−3.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	−6.5	7.2
Segment earnings before interest and taxes	50.4	43.2	54.3	71.8	29.7	24.2	3.9	9.8	−13.5	−19.0	124.8	130.1
Financial result											−5.6	−18.4
Income taxes											−35.8	−20.6
Net income											**83.3**	**91.1**

[1] Adjusted for non-recurring effects.

Geographical information

	Germany		Other countries		Consolidated totals	
€ millions	Q2/2013	Q2/2012	Q2/2013	Q2/2012	Q2/2013	Q2/2012
External revenues	512.5	545.1	311.2	286.2	823.7	831.4

Operating segments

	Digital Media		Newspapers National		Magazines National		Print International		Services/Holding		Consolidated totals	
€ millions	H1/2013	H1/2012	H1/2013	H1/2012	H1/2013	H1/2012	H1/2013	H1/2012	H1/2013	H1/2012	H1/2013	H1/2012
External revenues	**640.6**	**542.1**	**507.8**	**568.3**	**222.3**	**230.9**	**200.8**	**219.3**	**55.9**	**59.7**	**1,627.3**	**1,620.4**
Internal revenues	32.0	25.0	3.2	3.9	5.0	2.6	19.5	21.0	156.9	163.3		
Segment revenues	672.6	567.2	511.0	572.2	227.2	233.5	220.3	240.3	212.7	223.1		
EBITDA [1]	**136.5**	**110.7**	**104.0**	**137.1**	**51.9**	**48.9**	**24.9**	**28.8**	**−13.4**	**−16.8**	**303.9**	**308.7**
EBITDA margin [1]	**21.3 %**	**20.4 %**	**20.5 %**	**24.1 %**	**23.3 %**	**21.2 %**	**12.4 %**	**13.1 %**			**18.7 %**	**19.0 %**
Thereof income from investments	5.2	5.6	1.6	1.9	0.0	0.0	2.0	2.5	2.3	1.9	11.1	12.0
Thereof accounted for using the equity method	−0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	2.4	0.0	0.0	1.7	2.4
Depreciation, amortization, impairments and write-ups (except from purchase price allocations)	−17.5	−11.0	−1.1	−1.3	−0.6	−0.5	−5.9	−6.2	−23.5	−23.6	−48.6	−42.6
EBIT [1]	**119.0**	**99.7**	**102.9**	**135.8**	**51.3**	**48.4**	**19.0**	**22.5**	**−36.9**	**−40.3**	**255.3**	**266.1**
Amortization and impairments from purchase price allocations	−22.3	−30.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	−9.8	−8.0	0.0	0.0	−32.2	−38.2
Non-recurring effects	15.4	5.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9	−3.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.1	7.4
Segment earnings before interest and taxes	112.1	74.9	102.9	135.8	51.3	50.3	5.9	14.6	−36.9	−40.4	235.2	235.2
Financial result											−12.7	−26.3
Income taxes											−66.9	−49.3
Net income											**155.6**	**159.6**

[1] Adjusted for non-recurring effects.

Geographical information

	Germany		Other countries		Consolidated totals	
€ millions	H1/2013	H1/2012	H1/2013	H1/2012	H1/2013	H1/2012
External revenues	1,016.1	1,070.6	611.2	549.8	1,627.3	1,620.4

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

General information

Axel Springer Aktiengesellschaft ("Axel Springer AG") is an exchange-listed stock corporation with its registered head office in Berlin, Germany.

The interim financial report of Axel Springer AG as of June 30, 2013, fulfils the requirements of the German Securities Trading Act (WpHG). The consolidated interim financial statements were prepared in condensed form in conformity with the regulations of IAS 34, and by application of Section 315a HGB in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) of the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) and the interpretations of the IFRS Interpretations Committee (IFRS IC) approved by the IASB, in effect and recognized by the European Union (EU) as of the reporting date and applicable to interim financial reporting. The reporting currency is the Euro (€); unless otherwise indicated, all figures are stated in million Euros (€ millions). Totals and percentages have been calculated based on the Euro amounts before rounding and may differ from a calculation based on the reported million Euro amounts.

The accounting and valuation methods and the estimation methods applied in the interim financial statements as of June 30, 2013, are – except for the following changes – basically the same as those applied in the consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2012. A detailed description of these methods has been published in the notes to the consolidated financial statements for 2012.

As of January 1, 2013, we have implemented "Changes to IAS 1 – Presentation of Financial Statements." We thus additionally disclose which items of the other income/loss – if certain criteria are met – have to be reclassified into the income statement in future periods. The values for the prior year were disclosed accordingly.

Since January 1, 2013, we are applying "Changes to IAS 19 – Employee Benefits." Besides enhanced disclosure requirements, the newly published standard predominantly demanded us to apply the discount rate used for pension obligations also in the context of the calculation of the expected return on plan assets. The first-time application of further changes had only immaterial effects. Thus, adjustments of prior-year disclosures were unnecessary.

Companies included in the consolidated financial statements

The following changes in the composition of the companies included in the consolidated financial statements occurred:

	06/30/2013	12/31/2012
Fully consolidated companies		
Germany	59	56
Other countries	74	75
Fully consolidated special purpose entities		
Germany	1	1
Investments accounted for using the equity method		
Germany	2	2
Other countries	3	3

Axel Springer ideAS GmbH, Berlin, has been fully consolidated since January 1, 2013. At the beginning of January 2013, we acquired 75.1 % of the shares in TunedIn Media GmbH, Berlin. The company has been fully consolidated since that time. At the beginning of May 2013, we have consolidated Axel Springer Syndication GmbH, Berlin, (previously Vierundfünfzigste "Media" Vermögensgesellschaft mbH, Berlin) for the first time.

In January 2013, the liquidation of two fully consolidated companies (other countries) was completed. Consequently, the two companies have been deconsolidated. In June 2013, we founded and consolidated a new intermediate holding company in which we have contributed all of our shares in Totaljobs Group Limited, London, Great Britain.

Acquisitions and divestures

Additional transactions completed in the reporting period had, both individually and collectively, no material effects on the financial position, liquidity, and financial performance of the Axel Springer Group.

Relationships with related parties

From January to June 2013, goods and services with a total value of € 34.9 million (PY: € 37.3 million) were received from related companies. The goods and services supplied to related companies during the reporting period amounted to € 28.7 million (PY: € 39.2 million). In general, the transactions giving rise to the goods and services received and supplied were in line with the scope of business dealings described in the consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2012.

Other disclosures

In the reporting period, we sold approximately 2.6 % of the shares in Doğan TV Holding A.S., Istanbul, Turkey. The proceeds from this transaction totaled € 61.6 million. The resulting profit of € 15.1 million recorded in income from investments was eliminated as a non-recurring effect in the Digital Media segment.

In May 2013, in the context of a stock participation program, 194 thousand treasury shares were issued by conversion of variable compensation tied to performance of the employees of the Group at its fair value at the time of issue in the amount of € 32.70. Personnel expenses of € 2.6 million were incurred by granting increases in the conversion amounts. This amount had already been placed in a provision at December 31, 2012.

Apart from the ensuing exceptions, financial assets and liabilities were valued at amortized costs. In this regard, except for the financial liabilities with a carrying amount of € 679.1 million, the carrying amounts were equal to the fair values. The fair value of these financial liabilities amounted to € 688.7 million (value as of December 31 2012: € 717.3 million).

The fair value of our investment in iProperty Group Ltd., Sydney, Australia, is based on a stock market quotation and decreased to € 16.6 million (value as of December 31, 2012: € 22.1 million). This change in value was booked to accumulated other comprehensive income.

As of the balance sheet date, the positive and the negative fair values of the financial derivatives amounted to € 0.5 million and € –16.1 million (values as of December 31, 2012: € 0.7 million and € –8.1 million). The valuation of these financial derivatives is based on observable parameters using generally accepted valuation models and is mainly influenced by the development of forward rates and interest yield curves. To hedge loans nominated in Euro of foreign subsidiaries in Norway and in Great Britain (nominal values: € 300.0 million and € 65.0 million), we have entered into forward exchange contracts in the reporting period. The forward exchange contracts were valued at € – 11.6 million and € 0.3 million as of June 30, 2013. Furthermore, we have secured our obligation from contingent consideration to acquire the remaining shares of Grupa Onet.pl S.A., Cracow, Poland, employing a forward exchange contract for a partial amount of € 46.5 million. As of June 30, 2013, this forward exchange contract showed a negative fair value of € – 2.5 million. Like the effects from currency translation of the underlying transactions, the fair values were recorded in the income statement.

The fair value of obligations from contingent consideration – which is premised on non-observable parameters – decreased to € 196.1 million (value as of December 31, 2012: € 201.5 million). This development can mainly be attributed to effects from currency fluctuation and revaluation recognized in the income statement (€ 4.4 million) and to disbursements (€ 1.5 million). The fair valuation of obligations from contingent consideration predominantly depends on the estimated results of the acquired companies in the years prior to possible exercise dates of the options.

Events after the reporting date

In a legally binding preliminary agreement dated July 25, 2013, Axel Springer AG agreed to sell its German regional newspapers, TV program guides, and women's magazines to Funke Mediengruppe. In this connection, the parties also agreed to form two joint ventures for advertising marketing of print and digital media products and retail distribution, thereby bundling the parties' activities, resources, and expertise in these areas. Axel Springer will exercise managerial control and hold the majority of shares in both these companies. It is planned to implement these measures with economic effect as of January 1, 2014. The German regional newspaper groups, TV program guides, and women's magazines contributed € 94.8 million to the EBITDA and € 512.4 million to the revenues of the Axel Springer Group in financial year 2012. Of the total purchase price of € 920 million, an amount of € 660 million will be due and payable upon closing, but no later than June 30, 2014. Axel Springer will extend a vendor loan with multiannual maturities to finance the remainder of the purchase price.

Axel Springer is pursuing a stringent digitization strategy with the goal of becoming the leading digital media group. In connection with this goal, Axel Springer will focus even more strongly on its core multimedia journalism brands of the WELT Group and the BILD Group, including the associated magazine brands (AUTO BILD Group, COMPUTER BILD Group, SPORT BILD). Axel Springer will also focus on expanding its online classified markets and digital marketing platforms.

The transaction is pending, subject to the approval of the competent merger and cartel authorities, which is not expected before the end of 2013.

Review Report

We have reviewed the condensed consolidated interim financial statements – comprising the statement of financial position, income statement, statement of recognized income and expenses, statement of changes in cash flows, statement of changes in equity, and selected explanatory notes – together with the interim group management report of Axel Springer AG for the period from January 1 to June 30, 2013, which are components of the interim financial report pursuant to Section 37w (3) WpHG, ("Wertpapierhandelsgesetz": German Securities Trading Act). The preparation of the condensed consolidated interim financial statements in accordance with the IFRS applicable to interim financial reporting as adopted by the EU and of the interim group management report in accordance with the provisions of the German Securities Trading Act applicable to interim group management reports is the responsibility of the legal representatives of the company. Our responsibility is to issue a review report on the condensed consolidated interim financial statements and on the interim group management report based on our review. We conducted our review of the condensed consolidated interim financial statements and the interim group management report in accordance with German generally accepted standards for the review of financial statements promulgated by the Institut der Wirtschaftsprüfer (Institute of Public Auditors in Germany) (IDW). Those standards require that we plan and perform the review so that we can preclude, through critical evaluation, with moderate assurance, that the condensed consolidated interim financial statements have not been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the IFRS applicable to interim financial reporting as adopted by the EU and that the interim group management report has not been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the provisions of the German Securities Trading Act applicable to interim group management reports. A review is limited primarily to inquiries of company personnel and analytical procedures and thus provides less assurance than an audit. Since, in accordance with our engagement, we have not performed a financial statements audit, we cannot express an audit opinion.

Based on our review, no matters have come to our attention that cause us to presume that the condensed consolidated interim financial statements have not been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the IFRS applicable to interim financial reporting as adopted by the EU, nor that the interim group management report has not been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the provisions of the German Securities Trading Act applicable to interim group management reports.

Berlin, August 6, 2013

Ernst & Young GmbH
Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft

Ulrich Plett	Gunnar Glöckner
Wirtschaftsprüfer	Wirtschaftsprüfer
[German Public Auditor]	[German Public Auditor]

Declaration of the legal representatives

To the best of our knowledge, and in accordance with the applicable reporting principles for interim reporting, the consolidated interim financial statements give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position, and profit or loss of the Group, and the interim Group management report includes a fair review of the development and performance of the business and the position of the Group, together with a description of the principal opportunities and risks associated with the expected development of the Group.

Berlin, August 6, 2013

Axel Springer Aktiengesellschaft

(Dr. Mathias Döpfner)

(Jan Bayer)

(Ralph Büchi)

(Lothar Lanz)

(Dr. Andreas Wiele)

Report of the Audit Committee of the Supervisory Board

The interim financial report as of June 30, 2013 and the independent auditor's review report of the interim consolidated financial statements, which served as the basis for the auditor's certification, were presented to the Audit Committee of the Supervisory Board and were explained by the Management Board. These documents were discussed by the Audit Committee of the Supervisory Board with the Management Board and the independent auditor. The Audit Committee approved the interim financial statements.

A reproduction of the review report of the independent auditor is provided in the notes to the interim financial statements of this quarterly financial report.

Berlin, in August 2013

Dr. Giuseppe Vita
Chairman of the Audit Committee

Additional Information

Financial calendar 2013

Annual Financial Statements Press Conference	March 6, 2013
Annual Shareholders' Meeting	April 24, 2013
Quarterly Financial Report as of March 31, 2013	May 7, 2013
Interim Financial Report as of June 30, 2013	August 7, 2013
Quarterly Financial Report as of September 30, 2013	November 6, 2013

Contacts

Axel Springer AG
Axel-Springer-Strasse 65
10888 Berlin
Tel. +49 (0) 30 25 91– 0

Investor Relations
Fax +49 (0) 30 25 91-7 74 22
ir@axelspringer.de

Christoph Keese
Senior Vice President Investor Relations & Public Affairs
Tel. +49 (0) 30 25 91-7 78 00
christoph.keese@axelspringer.de

Claudia Thomé
Head of Investor Relations
Tel. +49 (0) 30 25 91-7 74 21
claudia.thome@axelspringer.de

Daniel Fard-Yazdani
Co-Head of Investor Relations
Tel. +49 (0) 30 25 91-7 74 25
daniel.fard-yazdani@axelspringer.de

Additional information about Axel Springer AG is available on the Internet at www.axelspringer.de. The interim financial report is also available in the original German.