# Robust fourth quarter concluded a year of improved results and launch of new strategy

Interim report January-December 2024







### Performance and key highlights Full Year 2024

Improved results under challenging and rapidly changing conditions

Increased volumes, improved sales prices and sales mix

Sizable contribution from efficiency enhancement program helped to offset cost inflation

Updated strategy, de-risked investment plans and strong balance sheet

The Board of Directors proposes a dividend of SEK 3.50 per share (2.00)

SEKm	2024	Change vs 2023
Net sales	43,453	+5%
Adjusted EBITDA	5,167	+43%
% of net sales	12%	+3 ppt
Operating profit – EBIT	2,561	+380%
% of net sales	6%	+5 ppt
Operating cash flow before capex	3,030	-8%
EPS	7.02	+260%



### Performance and key highlights Q4 2024

Net sales growth of 20%, supported by both regions

Continued excellent profit delivery in North America

Improved profitability in Europe

Cash conversion of 95%

Further strengthened financial position – interest-bearing net debt / EBITDA 1.0x

SEKm	Q4-24	Change vs Q3-24	Change vs Q4-23
Net sales	11,468	+6%	+20%
Adjusted EBITDA	1,443	-7%	+86%
% of net sales	13%	-1 ppt	+5 ppt
Operating profit – EBIT	1,091	-5%	n/a
% of net sales	10%	+2 ppt	+12 ppt
Operating cash flow before capex	1,719	+292%	-22%
EPS (SEK)	3.24	+43%	n/a

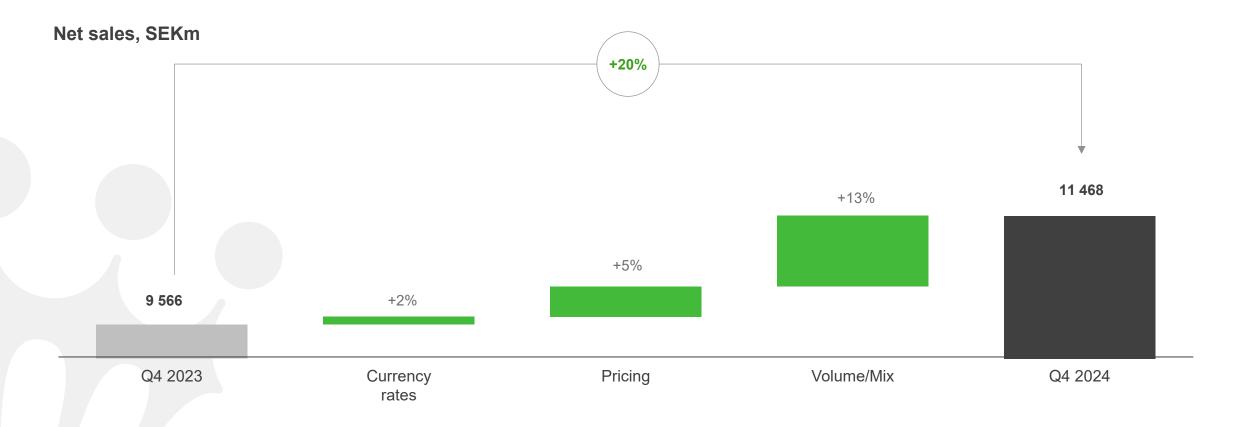
## Better-than-expected market conditions during Q4 Somewhat improved market sentiment in Q1'25

Sales split, %¹	Food & Drink CK	Printing & Publishing Papers	Consumer & Luxury	Industrial
LPB (10.1bn)	100%			
Cartonboard (2.7bn)	25%		75%	
Containerboard (5.5bn)	80%		10%	10%
Kraft & Specialty Paper (5.1bn) <sup>2</sup>	50%		30%	10%
Sack Paper (3.2bn)	15%			85%
Graphical Paper (8.4bn)		100%		
Share of Group Net Sales <sup>3</sup>	~40%	~20%	~10%	~10%
Billerud Market status Q4'24	Normal/soft	Normal	Weak	Normal
Billerud Market trend outlook	Improving	Stable	Stable	Improving



#### Q4'24:

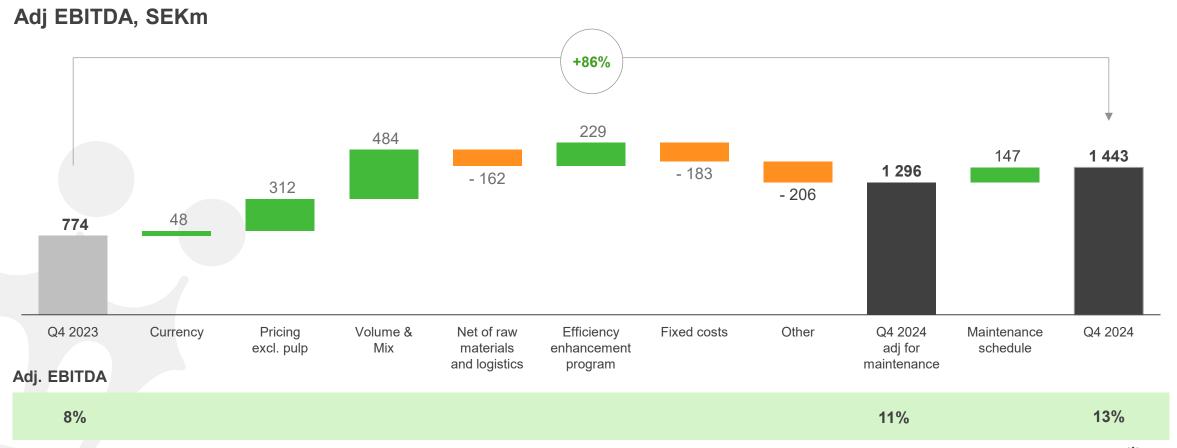
# Strong sales growth driven by volume and mix improvement in both regions





Q4'24:

# Significantly higher profitability supported by volume, pricing and strong delivery from efficiency enhancement program







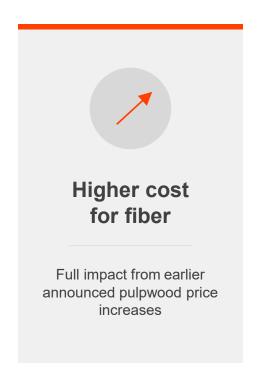
# Region **Europe**

- Strong YoY sales growth across all categories
- Pricing and mix continue to offset input cost inflation in Q4
- Sequentially lower sales volumes in Q1
- Significant and needed price increase on Liquid Packaging Board from Q1, partly offset by price reductions in paperboard, sack and kraft paper
- Recently announced price increases for containerboard and sack paper in January – impact from Q2

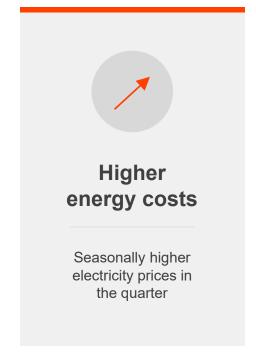


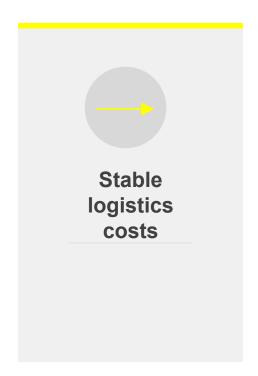
SEKm	Q4-24	Q4-23	Change
Net sales	7,431	6,388	+16%
Liquid packaging board	2,567	2,260	+14%
Containerboard	1,401	1,304	+7%
Kraft and specialty paper	1,100	889	+24%
Sack paper	853	620	+38%
Cartonboard	648	596	+9%
Market pulp	789	635	+24%
Net operating expenses	-6,543	-5,688	+15%
EBITDA	888	700	+27%
EBITDA margin	12%	11%	+1 ppt
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#### Q4 cost headwind from pulpwood and energy cost seasonality Relatively stable cost situation into Q1















Region

### North America

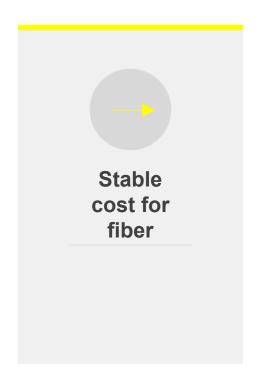
- Double digit volume growth for both Graphic and Specialty segments
- Continued excellent profit delivery highest EBITDA margin since Q1-23
- Operating rates remained below 70%
- Numerous promising customer trials ongoing for locally produced paperboard
- Announced price increases for Graphic CFS rolls in January



SEKm	Q4-24	Q4-23	Change
Net sales	3,175	2,706	+17%
Graphic paper	2,128	1,943	+10%
Specialty paper	631	424	+49%
Market pulp	415	339	+23%
Net operating expenses	-2,569	-2,400	+7%
EBITDA	606	306	+98%
EBITDA margin	19%	11%	+8 ppt

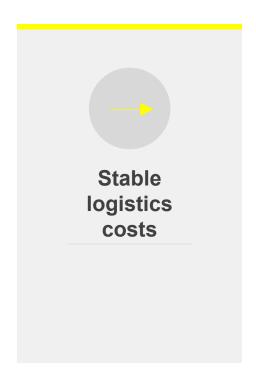


# Stable cost situation in the quarter Minor increase in logistics and energy costs into Q1









# Strong cash conversion in the quarter Further reduced leverage

Working capital increase due to sales growth

Leverage reduced further to 1.0x EBITDA

Capex of SEK 2.4 bn slightly below guidance, spill-over into 2025

Board of Directors proposes a dividend of SEK 3.5/share, amounting to SEK 870 m

#### CAPEX of SEK 3.5 bn in 2025

Strategic capex: SEK 1.3 bn

Base capex: SEK 2.2 bn

SEKm	Q4-24	Q4-23	2024	2023
Profit before tax	1,030	-355	2,248	185
Adjustments for non-cash items	582	1,473	2,343	2,963
Tax paid	-80	-113	-428	-561
Cash flow from changes in working capital	187	1,211	-1,133	703
Cash flow from operating activities	1,719	2,216	3,030	3,290
Investments in tangible and intangible assets	-613	-973	-2,437	-3,177
Operating cash flow after investments in tangible and intangible assets	1,106	1,243	593	113

SEKm	Q4-24	Q4-23
Net debt	5,347	5,927
Net debt / adjusted EBITDA	1.0	1.6
Adjusted ROCE %	7%	2%





#### Efficiency enhancement program:

#### Successful end of year Program completed one year ahead of plan

#### Ending 2024 with total program target nearly reached

- Incremental impact of 230 MSEK in Q4 incl. FTE reduction program
- 840 MSEK delivered in 2024 (vs 2023) overdelivering vs target of 700 MSEK
- 1.45 BSEK delivered impact since program start in Q1 2023
- Target of 1.5 BSEK expected to be reached early 2025 due to carry-over effects

#### Highlighted initiatives with impact in Q4

- <u>Pricing:</u> Target price point outliers, with high success within the paper segment
- <u>Supply Chain & Logistics:</u> Reduction of logistic costs by consolidation of terminals & decreased usage of long-haul trucks
- Operations: Successful reduction of chemical usage as well as increased tall oil yield within the production

230 MSEK Impact in Q4

840 MSEK
Impact full year of 2024

1 450 MSEK Impact 2023 & 2024



#### Billerud's Way Forward

- Safety first: We choose to be safe every day
- Our purpose guides us: We make high performance packaging materials for a low carbon society
- > We lean on our values: "We care for each other" and "We do what we say"

### Region North America:

Commitment to graphic / specialty papers – Evolve towards packaging materials

#### Region Europe:

Strengthen performance through existing asset base

Stronger performance culture

Embed sustainability in everything we do

### Outlook for Q1 2025



Solid market conditions for Region North America



Normal conditions for Region Europe except for cartonboard and coated liner that will remain weak



Pricing continues to offset input cost increase



Temporarily lower sales volumes in Region Europe



