

NORSK HYDRO A S A
Form 6-K
October 25, 2005

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

FORM 6-K

Report of Foreign Private Issuer

**Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

For the quarter ended 30 September 2005

NORSK HYDRO ASA

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

Drammensveien 264, Vækerø

N-0240 OSLO

Norway

(Address of principal executive offices)

Business development

In the third quarter of 2005, Hydro entered into an agreement to acquire the shares of Spinnaker Exploration Company in an all-cash transaction for USD 2.45 billion. The acquisition is subject to approval by Spinnaker Exploration shareholders and regulatory approval, and is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2005. If approved, the acquisition will substantially boost Hydro's presence and growth potential in the US Gulf of Mexico. The Russian oil and gas company Gazprom, announced Hydro as one of five companies short-listed for possible future participation in the development of the Shtokman gas field. Hydro is also cooperating with Gazprom, Sevmorneftgaz, and Gazflot in planning and drilling of appraisal well number seven on Shtokman. The well is planned to be drilled during 2006. Hydro won bids on three leases (100 percent) as operator in the Central Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 196. The lease award is subject to final review and approval by the U.S. Minerals Management Service (MMS). In the recent EPSA IV license round in Libya, Hydro won an exploration license (100 percent) in the Murzuq basin. The license was Hydro's first choice and represents its first operatorship in Libya. The new license will enable Hydro to build on the extensive experience gained over the last ten years in the Murzuq basin. In Angola, Hydro signed a Production Sharing Agreement (PSA) with Sonangol EP relating to Block 4. Hydro and Sonangol P&P have been exploring the offshore block since early 2003 and a discovery was made in September 2004. Hydro's share in Block 4 is 20 percent.

- 3) Production cost is comprised of the cost of operating fields, including CO2 emission tax, insurance, gas purchased for injection, and lease costs for production installations, but excluding transportation and processing tariffs, operation costs for transportation

systems and
depreciation.

Energy and Oil Marketing**Operating income**

Energy and Oil Marketing operating income was NOK 466 million in the third quarter of 2005, an increase of 71 percent compared with the same period last year. Compared with the second quarter of 2005, operating income decreased by 29 percent mainly as a result of changes in forward prices affecting the marked-to-market valuation of the gas contracts portfolio. Energy and Oil Marketing operating income for the first nine months of 2005 was NOK 2,172 million, compared to NOK 1,578 million for the same period in 2004.

Power activities generated operating income of NOK 368 million in the quarter, an increase of NOK 239 million compared with the same period in 2004. Power production in the third quarter of 2005 was 2.7 TWh, around 77 percent higher than the same period in 2004. Hydro's reservoir levels at the end of the third quarter of 2005 were slightly above normal level and higher than at the same time last year.

Gas activities operating income amounted to NOK 55 million for the quarter, NOK 87 million lower than in the third quarter of 2004. Gas activities consist of gas transportation and gas trading activities. Operating income for gas transportation amounted to NOK 410 million for the third quarter of 2005, compared with NOK 377 million and NOK 291 million for the second quarter of 2005 and third quarter of 2004, respectively. The increase reflected higher transportation volumes. Operating income for gas transportation activities is relatively stable from quarter to quarter. However, operating income for gas trading activities is much more volatile as a result of marked-to-market valuations on certain gas contracts⁴⁾. As a result, in the third quarter of 2005, gas trading incurred an operating loss amounting to NOK 355 million, compared with an operating loss of NOK 149 million in the same period of last year. However, during the third quarter, gas contracts that are not revalued to market, appreciated significantly in value.

Oil trading generated operating income of NOK 41 million in the third quarter of 2005, compared to NOK 47 million the corresponding period last year.

Oil marketing had operating income of NOK 55 million in the third quarter of 2005, which is approximately the same as in the third quarter of 2004.

Adjusted EBITDA

Energy and Oil Marketing adjusted EBITDA in the third quarter of 2005 was NOK 710 million, an increase of 49 percent compared with the same period of 2004. Energy and Oil Marketing adjusted EBITDA for the first nine months of 2005 was NOK 2,811 million, compared to NOK 2,153 million for the same period in 2004.

Eliminations Oil & Energy

As part of its downstream activities, Hydro Energy enters into purchase contracts for natural gas with Exploration and Production for resale to external customers. Hydro Energy recognizes both the internal purchase and the external sales contracts at market value. As a result, Hydro Energy recognizes unrealized gains and losses on the internal contracts as a result of fluctuations in the forward price of gas. Exploration and Production regard the supply contracts to Hydro Energy as normal sales agreements and does not recognize unrealized gains and losses on the contracts. Elimination of the internal sales and purchase contracts between Hydro Energy and Exploration and Production resulted in a positive effect on the operating income for Oil and Energy of NOK 361 million in the third quarter as a result of decreasing forward prices.

- 4) Different accounting treatment relating to contracts delivered on the highly liquid UK gas market (which are accounted for as

derivatives and
therefore impact
current reported
operating
income)
compared to
contracts
delivered on the
relatively less
liquid
continental
market (which
are not
accounted for as
derivatives)
results in
substantial
effects on
reported results
since market
value effects are
recognized for
only a portion of
the total
contract
portfolio.

10 | Hydro's Quarterly Report Third quarter 2005

Hydro Aluminium

Operating income (loss)

NOK million	Third quarter		01.01-30.09		Year
	2005	2004	2005	2004	2004
Metals	823	1,016	2,766	2,809	860
Rolled Products	182	167	720	593	626
Extrusion and Automotive	47	(8)	81	370	247
Other and eliminations ¹⁾	(210)	(317)	(47)	(16)	72
Total	842	858	3,520	3,756	1,805

Adjusted EBITDA

NOK million	Third quarter		01.01-30.09		Year
	2005	2004	2005	2004	2004
Metals	1,428	1,659	4,509	4,469	5,373
Rolled Products	343	353	1,202	1,144	1,361
Extrusion and Automotive	387	401	1,172	1,542	1,850
Other and eliminations ¹⁾	(210)	(317)	(46)	(16)	72
Total	1,948	2,096	6,837	7,139	8,656

	Third quarter		01.01-30.09		Year
	2005	2004	2005	2004	2004
Aluminium price LME, realized (USD/tonne)	1,770	1,667	1,798	1,613	1,629
USD/NOK, realized ²⁾	6.53	7.04	6.53	7.09	6.98
Primary production (Kmt) ³⁾	461	441	1,362	1,274	1,720

1) Includes unrealized gains and losses on LME-contracts. The effects of these contracts are included in the results for the segment when realized.

2) Difference between realized

exchange rate
and spot rate at
the date of
transaction is
reported as
currency
gain/loss
(excluding
hedge contracts)
and not included
in adjusted
EBITDA.

- 3) Volumes
includes
production in
the Variable
Interest Entity
Slovalco.

The Aluminium business area consists of the sub-segments Metals (Primary Metals and Metal Products), Rolled Products and Extrusion and Automotive. Beginning in the first quarter of 2005, Hydro's magnesium operations were transferred from Metals to Extrusion and Automotive because the automotive industry is the dominant customer segment for this business. From 1 July 2005, remelt operations in North America have been transferred from Extrusion and Automotive and included in Metals, in order to combine the results from these activities with the Company's worldwide primary and remelt metal results. Prior period amounts are reclassified accordingly.

Operating income

Aluminium's operating income for the third quarter of 2005 was NOK 842 million, compared to NOK 858 million for the third quarter of 2004. Primary metal production amounted to 461,000 tonnes in the quarter, compared to production of 441,000 tonnes in the third quarter of 2004 representing an increase of 5 percent. The majority of the increase resulted from the Sunndal expansion in Norway and the Alouette expansion in Canada. Operating income for the quarter declined by NOK 495 million compared with the second quarter of 2005. The decline was mainly due to unrealized losses on LME contracts amounting to NOK 231 million during the third quarter, compared to corresponding gains of NOK 294 million in the second quarter of 2005. In the third quarter of 2005, a 3 percent reduction in the realized aluminium price measured in Norwegian kroner contributed to a decline in operating income of approximately NOK 200 million, compared to the second quarter of 2005, which was offset by improved reported results for sourcing and trading.

Operating income for the first nine months of 2005 was NOK 3,520 million, compared with NOK 3,756 million for the corresponding period of 2004. The first nine months of 2005 included unrealized losses on LME contracts amounting to NOK 23 million, compared to unrealized gains of NOK 82 million in the same period of last year. The result for the period was also influenced by higher energy prices and a weaker NOK/US dollar exchange rate, offset by higher realized aluminium prices measured in both US dollars and Norwegian kroner.

Market developments

The average market price for aluminium (LME three-month average) increased about 8 percent to US dollar 1,846 per tonne in the third quarter of 2005 compared with the same quarter of 2004. The corresponding LME price measured in Norwegian kroner increased by only 1 percent. Compared with the second quarter of 2005, the average price increased about 3 percent measured in US dollars and 4 percent measured in Norwegian kroner. The comments below relating to general market developments are based on estimates made by industry analysts.

Western World consumption of primary metal increased 1-3 percent in the third quarter of 2005 compared with the same quarter of 2004. The corresponding increase in global consumption was estimated between 4-5 percent. Western World primary metal production rose about 6-7 percent, while global production grew between 8-9 percent in the third quarter of 2005, compared with the same quarter in 2004. China's consumption and production of primary aluminium increased by an estimated 14 percent and 18 percent respectively, for the year to date August 2005, compared to the same period of 2004 (Macquarie Research). Chinese net exports of primary aluminium for the same period of 2005 amounted to about 540,000 tonnes. China's total aluminium trade balance was slightly negative during the period, mainly due to large imports of scrap.

According to available statistics, reported LME and other exchange inventories, including producers' inventories (International Aluminium Institute), were about 60,000 tonnes higher at the end of the third quarter of 2005 compared to the end of 2004. Reported inventories also increased compared to the end of the second quarter of 2005, largely due to seasonal factors. At the end of the third quarter of 2005, inventory levels were about 2.9 million tonnes.

The European standard rolled products market was weak throughout the year. Weak economic development, together with customer inventory reductions, resulted in excess capacity for this market. As a result, intense competition has put severe pressure on margins of standard rolled products. Market demand from special product segments such as aircraft, lithographic sheet and can stock remains fairly good, while demand from automotive and foil market segments is flat. Growth in the US rolled products market is slowing. Third quarter sales volume was estimated to be at the same level as 2004, mainly due to customer inventory reductions. Year-to-date shipments in the US market increased about 3 percent from the same period of the previous year.

Hydro's total rolled products shipments were up about 4 percent in the third quarter compared with the same quarter in 2004. Year-to-date shipments increased about 2 percent from the same period in 2004. Shipped volumes into the European market year to date, were 2 percent lower than in 2004. However, shipped volumes for the third quarter of 2005 were slightly higher than the same quarter of 2004. Sales into North America and Asia were 18 percent higher year to date compared to the same period of last year, but these volumes remain relatively low compared to total sales volumes. Average margins were lower than in 2004, declining by 2.5 percent year to date.

The European market for general extrusions continued to be soft during the third quarter of 2005 mainly due to modest industrial growth and customer inventory reductions. Margins continue to be under pressure. According to CRU International, the US market continued to demonstrate stable growth, amounting to 4 percent during the third quarter and on a year-to-date basis compared with the corresponding periods of the prior year.

Hydro's extrusion shipments in Europe were down 7.5 percent during the third quarter of 2005 compared with the same quarter of 2004. Margins decreased slightly during the quarter. Year to date shipments declined 5.5 percent compared to the same period last year. Hydro's US extrusion shipments increased at a somewhat higher rate than the general market growth. However, margins declined 3 percent in the third quarter of 2005. Extrusion building systems in Europe continued to show a stIV>

001-09159

(Commission File Number)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes No

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If Yes is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b) : 82-____
This Report on Form 6-K shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in the prospectus included in each of the
Registration Statements on Form F-3 (No. 333-8110 and No. 333-10580) and to be a part thereof from the date on
which this Report is filed, to the extent not superseded by documents or reports subsequently filed or furnished.

2 | Hydro's Quarterly Report Third quarter 2005
 Norsk Hydro ASA and Subsidiaries
 Operating and financial review and prospects
 For the nine months ending 30 September 2005

Consolidated results (US GAAP)

Million, except per share data	Third quarter			01.01-30.09			Year
	2005 NOK	2005 EUR ¹⁾	2004 NOK	2005 NOK	2005 EUR ¹⁾	2004 NOK	2004 NOK
Operating revenues	44,612	5,673	38,176	128,883	16,389	115,122	153,891
Operating income	12,973	1,650	8,047	35,982	4,575	25,613	31,847
Non-consolidated investees	237	30	287	696	89	539	628
Financial income (expense), net	157	20	307	(1,311)	(167)	(764)	136
Other income (loss), net				233	30	110	169
Income from continuing operations before tax and minority interest	13,367	1,700	8,641	35,600	4,527	25,498	32,780

Income tax expense

Preliminary figures for global light vehicle sales indicate an increase of about 3 percent year to date from the same period of 2004, and around 5 percent for the third quarter compared with the same quarter of last year. US and European light vehicle sales have been fluctuating during the year. The high incentive-driven US sales in June continued during July and August, but fell in September. On a year-to-date basis, US sales increased moderately while European sales rose slightly compared with the same period of last year.

Hydro's automotive business activity was slightly lower both in the third quarter and year to date compared with the same periods of 2004.

Adjusted EBITDA

Adjusted EBITDA for the third quarter of 2005 was NOK 1,948 million, compared to NOK 2,096 million for the corresponding quarter of 2004. Results from non-consolidated investees amounted to NOK 134 million, compared with NOK 184 million for the third quarter of 2004.

Factors affecting developments in the coming quarters

Following a period of fluctuating prices, aluminium (three-month LME) was trading at US dollar 1,900 – 1,950 per tonne at the middle of October. Reported inventories increased somewhat during the summer months, but the total inventory levels are assumed to be slightly below normal. Market fundamentals for primary aluminium are expected to be stable for the remainder of 2005.

12 | Hydro's Quarterly Report Third quarter 2005

World wide economic growth continues to moderate compared to last year, primarily due to the continuing high oil price levels. Recent analyst estimates indicate an expected increase in Western World industrial production of about 2 percent for the fourth quarter of 2005 compared with the same quarter of 2004, and only a modest improvement in growth during 2006. Global industrial production is forecasted to increase by about 3 percent in the fourth quarter of 2005 and during 2006. Corresponding growth in Western Europe, however, is forecasted at only 1 percent for the fourth quarter and during 2006. Primary aluminium shipments tend to develop in line with industrial production on average over time. In the US, surging oil prices and extreme weather have apparently led to reductions in customers inventories during the third quarter of 2005. However, positive economic developments in the US and South East Asia are expected to continue to support growth.

Western World primary metal production is expected to increase by 4 to 5 percent for 2005 as a whole and during 2006. Announced smelter closures in Europe are expected to be implemented at the end of the current year and during 2006, with some effect on the overall supply/demand balance in 2006. The viability of several smelters in Europe and the US is uncertain due to the significant increases in energy prices. According to a survey made by EAA (the European Aluminium Association), European smelters have significant volumes of power supply under contracts to be renewed during 2006 and 2007. Recent developments in Chinese primary aluminium exports indicate a future decline in exports compared to 2004 and the first half of 2005.

The European rolled product market is expected to be largely flat during the fourth quarter of 2005, according to an estimate made by the EAA, as customers continue to reduce inventories. Some improvement is expected in 2006, as customer inventory levels begin to stabilize. Standard product margins are likely to remain under pressure for the remainder of 2005, while margins for specialized products should remain firm.

The European extrusion market is expected to remain relatively weak in the fourth quarter of 2005. However, some improvement is gradually expected in orders and shipments as customer inventory reductions cease.

US rolled and extrusion demand is expected to increase, but growth rates are likely to be lower, reflecting expected general economic developments.

The global light vehicle automotive market is expected to grow moderately during the next few months. However, sales in the US market may decline in the coming months, following the very strong incentive-based sales during the summer. The European market is expected to improve moderately.

The realized effect of the Sunndal hedge program (see discussion under Metals Operating Income below), which is comprised of LME future contracts and US dollar forward contracts, is expected to be slightly negative during the fourth quarter of 2005. Realized effects of the program will be marginal for the remainder of 2005 since the LME futures are spread evenly over the quarters, while the amounts relating to the US dollar forward contracts are substantially lower during the second half of the year. LME future contracts and USD forward contracts underlying the hedge were priced at approximately US dollar 1,500 and NOK 9.3 respectively.

Improvement programs and plant closures

In the second quarter of 2005, Hydro decided to close two primary aluminium plants located in Germany as a result of increasing power prices. In addition, Hydro will close the S oderberg production lines in Norway at its H oyanger smelter during the first quarter 2006, and at its  rdal smelter. The timing of closing the S oderberg production line at the  rdal smelter will be decided by the end of the first quarter of 2006. In total, the plant closures will result in a reduction of approximately 180,000 tonnes of primary aluminium capacity for Hydro. Total related costs are expected to reach NOK 1 billion. The closures will increase the competitiveness of Hydro's upstream operations.

Hydro has initiated an improvement program at its Rheinwerk smelter located in Neuss, Germany, in order to partly mitigate the negative effects of higher energy prices.

Costs related to the closure of the Leeds automotive plant in the UK amounted to NOK 192 million for the first nine months of 2005. Sales of assets related to the plant are somewhat delayed but are expected to be completed by the first half of 2006.

Metals

Operating income

(9,182) (1,168) (6,083) (23,895) (3,039) (17,474) (21,197)

Minority interest

(2) (78) **(252)****(32)** (185) (106)

Income from continuing operations

4,183 532 2,480 **11,453 1,456** 7,839 11,477Income from discontinued operations ²⁾

1,083 1,083

Net income

4,183 532 2,480 **11,453 1,456** 8,922 12,560Basic and diluted earnings per share from continuing operations (in NOK and Euro) ³⁾

16.60 2.11 9.80 **45.60** Metals operating income for the third quarter of 2005 amounted to NOK 823 million, compared with an operating income of NOK 1,016 million for the third quarter of 2004.

Hydro's realized aluminium price strengthened to US dollar 1,770 per tonne in the third quarter of 2005, compared to US dollar 1,667 per tonne for the same quarter of 2004. The realized

1)	The results exclude the effects of marked-to-market adjustments on LME contracts entered into by Sourcing and Trading. Such effects are included as part of Other and eliminations along with unrealized gains and losses on LME contracts entered into by other units in Aluminium. Gains and losses on LME contracts are included in the various units results when realized. In addition, the results exclude gains and losses on currency >	5.80	30.80	45.10				
Basic and diluted earnings per share (in NOK and Euro)		16.60	2.11	9.80	45.60	5.80	35.00	49.40

3)

Financial data

Investments million	4,186	532	4,441	12,208	1,552	13,142	19,464
Adjusted net interest-bearing debt/equity ⁴⁾	0.04	0.04	0.12	0.04	0.04	0.12	0.11
Debt/equity ratio	0.27	0.27	0.36	0.27	0.27	0.36	0.28

1) Presentation in Euro is a convenience translation based on the exchange rate at 30 September 2005, which was 7.8641.

2) On 24 March 2004, Hydro's agri business was transferred to Yara International ASA in a demerger transaction. Results of the transferred operations relating to periods prior to the demerger are reported under Income from discontinued operations .

3) Basic earnings per share are computed using the weighted average number of ordinary

shares
outstanding.
There were no
diluting
elements.

- 4) Adjusted net
interest-bearing
debt divided by
shareholders
equity plus
minority
interest,
adjusted for
unfunded
pension
obligation (after
tax) and present
value of future
obligations on
operating leases.
See page 39.

All comparative figures are for the corresponding period in 2004 unless otherwise stated. Certain amounts in previously issued consolidated financial statements were reclassified to conform with the 2005 presentation.

Hydro's income from continuing operations for the third quarter of 2005 amounted to NOK 4,183 million (NOK 16.60 per share), compared to NOK 2,480 million (NOK 9.80 per share) for the third quarter of 2004. For the first nine months of 2005, Hydro's income from continuing operations amounted to NOK 11,453 million (NOK 45.60 per share), compared to NOK 7,839 million (NOK 30.80 per share) in the first nine months of 2004.

Operating income for the third quarter of 2005 amounted to NOK 12,973 million, compared to NOK 11,255 million in the second quarter of 2005 and NOK 8,047 million in the third quarter of 2004. The strong operating results reflected the continuing high oil and gas prices and strong operational performance. Operating income for the first nine months of the year amounted to NOK 35,982 million, compared to NOK 25,613 million in the first nine months of 2004.

Hydro's third-quarter results are the company's best quarterly results ever. The continued high oil price is the main reason for the improvement. We have taken important steps to strengthen the foundation for future oil and gas production through successful exploration wells in Norway and internationally as well as the agreement to acquire the US company, Spinnaker Exploration. The acquisition, which we expect to conclude in the fourth quarter, will significantly enhance Hydro's position in the Gulf of Mexico, says Eivind Reiten, President and CEO.

In Aluminium, metal production has increased and metal prices are higher, while market conditions downstream remain difficult. Higher energy and raw material prices represent increasing challenges to our efforts to improve profitability in Hydro's aluminium business, says Reiten.

Operating income for Oil & Energy reached an all time high, amounting to NOK 12,625 million for the quarter. Hydro realized an average oil price¹⁾ of US dollar 60.4 per barrel in the third quarter of 2005, an increase of 21 percent compared with the second quarter of 2005 and 45 percent higher than in the third quarter of 2004. Oil and gas production averaged 541,000 barrels of oil equivalents (boe) per day during the third quarter of 2005, slightly above the level of the previous quarter. For the first nine months of the year, average oil and gas production declined about 2 percent compared with the same period last year, to 554,000 boe per day. Hydro continued to demonstrate good project execution and cost control. The Ormen Lange project proceeded according to schedule and on budget and was 49 percent completed at the end of September 2005. During the quarter, Hydro made continued progress both on the Norwegian Continental Shelf (NCS) and internationally to secure its resource base for continued growth through successful exploration and business development activities. Exploration results for the year have been very encouraging. During the quarter, Hydro, as operator, made four discoveries on the NCS, of which one discovery is still under evaluation. Hydro also participated in one discovery in Libya and one discovery in Angola in the quarter. In total, Hydro has made seven discoveries during the year as operator on the NCS and in Iran, and has participated in an additional five discoveries as partner. In the third quarter of 2005, Hydro entered into an agreement to acquire the US-based Spinnaker Exploration Company, with significant assets and production in the Gulf of Mexico. The agreement is subject to approval by Spinnaker shareholders and regulatory approval, and is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2005. The consequences of the extreme weather in the Gulf of Mexico resulting from hurricanes Katrina and Rita are not expected to seriously effect Hydro's activities in this region.

Aluminium's operating income amounted to NOK 842 million for the third quarter of 2005, decreasing by NOK 16 million from the third quarter of 2004. Primary metal production increased by 5 percent to 461,000 tonnes, compared with the third quarter of 2004. The increase resulted primarily from the Sunndal expansion in Norway and the Alouette expansion in Canada. Compared with the third quarter of 2004, Hydro's realized aluminium price in US dollars increased about 6 percent to US dollar 1,770 per tonne. However, realized prices in Norwegian kroner decreased by 2 percent. Results for the quarter were also influenced by unrealized losses on London Metal Exchange (LME) contracts amounting to NOK 231 million, compared with losses of NOK 286 million for the third quarter of 2004.

Outlook

Oil prices are expected to remain high for the remainder of 2005. Volatility in the gas and power markets is expected to continue and could result in substantial unrealized gains and losses in future quarters. There is significant uncertainty related to production from certain partner-operated fields during the fourth quarter of 2005 due to delayed build-up of production after shut-downs and delayed start-up of new fields. Hydro has revised its production target for 2005 downward by 10,000 boe per day to 565,000 boe per day. The partner-operated Urd and Kristin fields are

expected to start production in the fourth quarter of 2005. Planned maintenance shutdowns will have a minor impact on oil production levels in the fourth quarter of 2005.

In September, Hydro submitted an application for exploration licenses relating to fields close to existing infrastructure on the NCS as part of the Awards for Predefined Areas (APA 2005) licensing round. The Ministry of Petroleum and Energy plans to award the new production licenses in December 2005. Hydro will also participate in the 19th Licensing Round on the NCS, which will be awarded in the first quarter of 2006. In the third quarter of 2005, Hydro, together with Statoil, Eni and Shell entered into a

- 1) Average oil price realized by Oil & Energy's Exploration and Production sub-segment.
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4 | Hydro's Quarterly Report Third quarter 2005

comprehensive rig contract that will secure exploration well drilling capacity on the NCS during the coming years. With this contract, Hydro will be able to continue high exploration activity on the NCS, and will be well positioned to acquire new licenses with drilling commitments in future licensing rounds.

In the middle of October, aluminium (three-month LME) was trading at US dollar 1,900 – 1,950 per tonne following a period of fluctuating prices, but with an increasing trend. Upstream market fundamentals remain favorable for the fourth quarter. Realized effects of the Sunndal hedge program are expected to be slightly negative in the fourth quarter of 2005 due to losses on the related LME contracts and limited positive contribution on the related US dollar forward contracts. Realized effects of this program had a positive effect on year to date results amounting to NOK 274 million. Global economic growth is expected to continue in 2005 but at a lower rate than the previous year. Economic developments in Western Europe are expected to be flat. Downstream European market developments are expected to remain relatively weak while US downstream market developments are expected to be positive, but with lower growth rates.

While the high oil and gas prices are expected to continue contributing favorably to Hydro's results, the impact on power prices represents an increasing challenge to Hydro's aluminium activities particularly in continental Europe.

Third quarter 2005

Non-cons.
inv.,

NOK/US dollar exchange rate declined by 7 percent, to NOK 6.53 over the same period. Measured in Norwegian kroner, the realized aluminium price decreased by approximately 2 percent.

Margins declined in the third quarter by NOK 260 million, compared with the same quarter of 2004. Positive effects relating to higher aluminium prices and product premiums measured in US dollars were offset by the negative impact from the currency developments as well as higher raw material and energy costs.

Realized effects of the Sunndal hedges positively impacted the results by NOK 17 million in the third quarter, compared with NOK 71 million in the same quarter of the previous year and NOK 117 million in the second quarter of 2005. The third quarter included a realized loss of NOK 51 million on related LME future contracts and a gain on US dollar forward contracts of NOK 69 million.

Operating income for Sourcing and Trading amounted to NOK 188 million in the third quarter of 2005, compared with NOK 176 million in the third quarter of 2004. Unrealized effects on LME contracts and currency contracts relating to Sourcing and Trading, which are excluded from the amounts above¹⁾, amounted to a net negative effect of about NOK 105 million in the third quarter, compared to a net negative effect of NOK 102 million in the third quarter of 2004.

Volumes for the quarter relating to Hydro's primary smelter production increased approximately 5 percent compared with the same quarter of 2004. The increase mainly reflected new capacity resulting from the Sunndal expansion in Norway and Alouette expansion in Canada. In total, increased shipments resulted in improved operating results of approximately NOK 95 million for the third quarter of 2005 compared with the same quarter of 2004.

Fixed costs increased NOK 41 million for the third quarter compared with the same quarter of 2004 mainly as a result of higher capacity in Alouette and costs related to the Qatar project.

Operating income for the first nine months amounted to NOK 2,766 million compared with NOK 2,809 million in the same period of the last year. Positive effects of higher realized aluminium prices together with increased capacity and improved capacity utilization, were more than offset by higher raw material and energy costs and a 7 percent decline in the realized USD/NOK exchange rate.

Adjusted EBITDA

Adjusted EBITDA for Metals in the third quarter of 2005 was NOK 1,428 million, compared to NOK 1,659 million in the third quarter of 2004.

Projects under development

The expansion project in Alouette, Canada (owned 20 percent by Hydro), reached full production during the quarter. The project was completed ahead of schedule and on budget.

The expansion of Alunorte in Brazil (owned 34 percent by Hydro) is expected to be completed by the third quarter of 2006 and is proceeding according to schedule and on budget.

Qatar Petroleum Company and Hydro are jointly progressing on the aluminium project in Qatar. Preparations for the project continue in order to facilitate a final decision in 2006.

Rolled Products

Rolled products operating income for the third quarter of 2005 was NOK 182 million, compared to NOK 167 million in the corresponding quarter of 2004. The improvement resulted mainly from volume increases of about 4 percent partly offset by continued decline in margins.

Margins measured in Euro for the third quarter were slightly lower than the corresponding quarter of 2004 due to ongoing pressure on margins for standard products. Positive effects resulting from continued improvements in product mix were more than offset by the negative market effects. Margins measured in Norwegian kroner declined to an even greater extent due to the stronger NOK/Euro exchange rate.

Operating income included a negative metal effect²⁾ of NOK 26 million in the third quarter compared to a positive metal effect of NOK 10 million in the third quarter of 2004, reflecting declining metal prices. For the first nine months of the year, operating income included a positive metal effect of NOK 47 million, compared with a positive effect of NOK 148 million in the same period last year.

Sales volumes increased by 4 percent mainly in the lithographic sheet segment, improving operating income by NOK 56 million compared to the same quarter of 2004. The start-up of a new lithographic line in Germany contributed to

the volume increase.

Operating income for the first nine months amounted to NOK 720 million, compared to NOK 593 million last year. The improvement resulted mainly from the reversal of loss accruals in the magnitude of NOK 100 million and from a settlement of roughly NOK 40 million received relating to operations in Malaysia. In addition, a volume increase of some 2 percent for the nine-month period was offset by reduced margins.

- 2) Rolled Products sales prices are based on a margin over the metal price. The production and logistic process of rolled products has a duration of two to three months. As a result, margins are impacted by timing differences resulting from the FIFO (first in, first out) inventory valuation method, due to changing aluminium prices during the production process. Decreasing aluminium prices in Euro results in a negative metal effect while increasing prices have the opposite effect.
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14 | Hydro's Quarterly Report Third quarter 2005

Adjusted EBITDA

Adjusted EBITDA in the third quarter of 2005 was NOK 343 million, compared to NOK 353 million for the third quarter of 2004. Year-to-date adjusted EBITDA amounted to NOK 1,202 million compared with NOK 1,144 million for the same period in 2004.

Extrusion and Automotive

Operating income

Extrusion and Automotive operating income for the third quarter of 2005 was NOK 47 million, compared with an operating loss of NOK 8 million in the third quarter of 2004. Operating income for the Extrusion sector amounted to NOK 107 million in the third quarter, compared to NOK 192 million for the third quarter of 2004. The decline reflected reduced volumes and margins. The Automotive sector had an operating loss of NOK 60 million, compared to a loss of NOK 198 million for the third quarter of 2004. The improvement resulted from both fixed and raw material cost reductions partly offset by increased energy costs. Operating results for the prior year also included the closure cost for the Motorcast plant in Leeds amounting to NOK 67 million. The weak third quarter results for the Automotive sector reflected seasonal factors as well as weaker results at the magnesium plant in Becancour, Canada, and operations in North America.

Overall margin developments for the Extrusion sector were negative compared to the third quarter of 2004, both in local currency and measured in Norwegian kroner. However, Building Systems margins were higher than in the third quarter of last year. Margins for the Automotive sector improved compared with the same quarter of 2004, positively influenced by an improved product mix within Magnesium and in Automotive Castings operating units.

Total volumes for the Extrusion sector were lower in the quarter compared to the third quarter of 2004. European volumes declined 7 percent due to weaker market conditions, while US extrusion volumes increased. Volumes for Building Systems increased in the third quarter compared with the corresponding quarter last year. Automotive sector volumes declined due to the weaker market conditions as well as closed and divested businesses.

Automotive fixed cost developments were lower compared to the third quarter of last year. This mainly reflects fixed cost reductions due to closed and divested units, and improvement programs.

Operating income for the first nine months of the year for Extrusion and Automotive amounted to NOK 81 million, compared with NOK 370 million in the same period of last year. Operating income for the Extrusion sector amounted to NOK 240 million for the first nine months of 2005, compared to NOK 520 million in the same period of 2004. The decline reflected reduced volumes and margins in addition to provisions for bad debts and rationalization costs amounting to NOK 120 million incurred in the second quarter of 2005. The Automotive sector had an operating loss of NOK 162 million for the first nine months of 2005, compared to a loss of NOK 148 million in the same period of 2004. The decline reflected additional costs related to the close down of the Leeds automotive plant in UK amounting to NOK 73 million. The additional costs were partly offset by overall performance improvements, especially within castings operations.

Adjusted EBITDA

Adjusted EBITDA in the third quarter of 2005 was NOK 387 million compared with NOK 401 million in the same quarter of 2004. Year to date adjusted EBITDA amounted to NOK 1,172 million compared to NOK 1,542 million in the same period of last year.

Other and Eliminations

Unrealized losses on LME contracts amounted to NOK 231 million compared with unrealized losses of NOK 286 million in the third quarter of 2004. These unrealized losses mainly relate to operational hedges for sub-segments in Aluminium for which hedge accounting is not applied. Offsetting changes to the value of physical contracts, which are not marked to their market value, are not reflected in the results. Gains and losses relating to changes in the value of the physical contracts will be included in the results of the sub-segments when realized along with the effects of other contracts for which hedge accounting is applied.

Hydro's Quarterly Report Third quarter 2005 | 15

Other activities

Operating income (loss)

NOK million	Third quarter		01.01-30.09		Year 2004
	2005	2004	2005	2004	
Polymers	(36)	117	178	181	254
Other	(152)	146	(82)	222	58
Total	(188)	263	96	403	312

Adjusted EBITDA

NOK million	Operating income (loss)	interest & selected fin. items	Other income	Depreciation and amortization	Adjusted
					EBITDA
Hydro Oil & Energy	12,625	71		2,494	15,190
Hydro Aluminium	842	176		930	1,948
Other activities	(188)	128		141	81
Corporate and eliminations	(306)	190		5	(111)
Total ¹⁾	12,973	565		3,570	17,108

1) See
specification on
page 35.

01.01-30.09.2005

NOK million	Operating income (loss)	Non-cons. inv., interest & selected fin. items	Other income	Depreciation and amortization	Adjusted
					EBITDA
Hydro Oil & Energy	31,914	160		7,499	39,573
Hydro Aluminium	3,520	538		2,779	6,837
Other activities	96	373	233	391	1,093
Corporate and eliminations	452	520		18	990
Total ¹⁾	35,982	1,591	233	10,687	48,493

1) See
specification on
page 35.

Earnings from non-consolidated investees amounted to NOK 237 million in the third quarter of 2005, compared to NOK 287 million in the third quarter of 2004. For the first nine months of 2005, earnings from non-consolidated investees were NOK 696 million, compared to NOK 539 million in the corresponding period of the previous year. The increase resulted primarily from strong operating results in Alunorte, the Brazilian alumina refinery, Third quarter 01.01-30.09 Year NOK million **2005** 2004 **2005** 2004 2004

Polymers

91 244 **563** 542 774

Other

(10) 251 **530** 657 589

Total

81 495 **1,093** 1,199 1,363

Other activities consists of BioMar Holding A/S, Hydro's internal services, the casualty insurance company Industriforsikring and Polymers (formerly Petrochemicals).

Hydro other businesses

Polymers

Hydro Polymers incurred an operating loss amounting to NOK 36 million in the third quarter of 2005, compared to operating income of NOK 117 million for the third quarter of 2004. The decline primarily resulted from lower S-PVC prices and higher raw materials costs partly offset by higher sales volumes. A major planned maintenance shutdown of the Noretyl ethylene cracker, a 50 percent Hydro investee, made it necessary to purchase ethylene to feed downstream installations contributing to the higher raw material costs. During the shutdown, process improvements will also be made at the cracker resulting in a capacity expansion of 50,000 tonnes per year for Hydro Polymers. The improvements will be completed in the fourth quarter of 2005.

Operating income for the first three quarters of 2005 amounted to NOK 178 million, which is approximately the same level as last year. Sales prices were higher and fixed costs were lower during the period, but volume and improved operating results from Hydro's Sørå smelter located in Norway. In addition, the first nine months of 2005 included currency gains relating to Alunorte amounting to NOK 184 million, compared to a net currency loss of NOK 7 million in the same period of 2004. Charges relating to the planned closure of the Hamburger Aluminium Werk smelter in Germany had a negative impact for the first nine months of 2005 amounting to NOK 149 million.

Net financial income for the third quarter of 2005 amounted to NOK 157 million, compared with NOK 307 million for the third quarter of 2004. The current quarter included a net foreign currency loss of NOK 46 million, while the third quarter of 2004 included a net currency gain amounting to NOK 424 million. Net interest cost was lower in the third quarter of 2005 than in the corresponding quarter of 2004.

Other income was nil for both the current and prior year third quarters. For the first nine months of 2005, other income amounted to NOK 233 million, compared to NOK 110 million for the corresponding period of the previous year. In January 2004, Hydro divested 80.1 percent of its shares in Pronova Biocare, resulting in a gain of NOK 110 million. On 15 April 2005, Hydro agreed to sell its remaining interest in Pronova Biocare for NOK 275 million, recognizing a gain on the sale amounting to NOK 233 million. The sale was completed in the second quarter of 2005.

Income tax expense for the first nine months of 2005 amounted to NOK 23,895 million, compared to NOK 17,474 million for the corresponding period of 2004. This represents 67 percent and 69 percent of income from continuing operations before tax, respectively.

Cash flow from operations for the first nine months of the year amounted to NOK 25.4 billion, compared to NOK 24.4 billion in the corresponding period of 2004.

Investments amounted to NOK 4.2 billion for the third quarter of 2005. Roughly 80 percent of the amount invested related to oil and gas operations.

The contribution to Return on average Capital Employed (RoACE²) was 14.4 percent for the first nine months 2005. The lump sum was down and raw material cost was higher, as a result of increased oil prices.

Regular production started at the new chlorine plant at Rafnes during the third quarter of 2005.

Other

Other activities resulted in an operating loss amounting to NOK 152 million in the third quarter, compared to operating income of NOK 146 million in the same quarter of 2004. The loss for the current quarter includes an accrual of approximately NOK 170 million recorded by the Hydro's casualty insurance company, Industriforsikring, for losses incurred within a mutual insurance company of which it is a member. The charges relate to losses resulting from the extreme weather experienced in the US relating to hurricane Katrina. In addition, the results for other activities in the quarter include an accrual of NOK 90 million for pension costs relating to Hydro's interest in Biomar.

Adjusted EBITDA for Other activities for the first nine months of 2005 included NOK 233 million of other income relating to the sale of the Company's remaining interest in Pronova Biocare.

Corporate Activities and Eliminations

Corporate activities and eliminations incurred an operating loss amounting to NOK 306 million for the quarter, compared to an operating loss of NOK 595 million in third quarter of 2004. For the first nine months of 2005, Corporate activities and eliminations had an operating income of NOK 452 million, compared to an operating loss of NOK 1,069 million for the first nine months of 2004.

The result for the third quarter of 2005 includes a credit of NOK 3 million relating to the elimination of unrealized losses on power purchase contracts, compared to a corresponding charge of NOK 278 million in the third quarter of 2004. For the first nine months of 2005, the elimination resulted in a credit of NOK 1,073 million, compared to a credit of NOK 74 million for the first nine months of 2004.

16 | Hydro's Quarterly Report Third quarter 2005

Hydro Energy is responsible for ensuring the supply of electricity for Hydro's own consumption, and has entered into sales contracts with other units in the Group. Certain of these sales contracts are recognized at market value by Hydro Energy, while the related internal purchase contracts are regarded as normal purchase agreements by the consuming unit and are not recognized at market value. The elimination of the market value adjustment within Hydro Energy resulted in the positive effect on the operating income indicated above.

The amount eliminated for the first nine months of 2005 included roughly NOK 400 million relating to a significant power contract newly classified as a derivative for accounting purposes. Hydro periodically reconsiders its contract portfolio and related markets to ensure that conclusions regarding its derivative accounting treatment are current, and to evaluate future market liquidity in or