# Adecco SA Third Quarter Results 2003

Jérôme Caille *Group CEO*  Felix Weber Group CFO

October 22, 2003



#### Disclaimer

We are going to discuss certain subjects that may contain forward-looking statements relating to such matters as anticipated financial performance, business prospects, new products, development activities and similar matters. We caution you that actual results could differ materially from those that will be projected in our discussions. Additional detailed information concerning a number of factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the information that we will be giving you is readily available in our most recent report on Form 20-F and in our Form F-4 registration statement filed with the United States Securities & Exchange Commission.

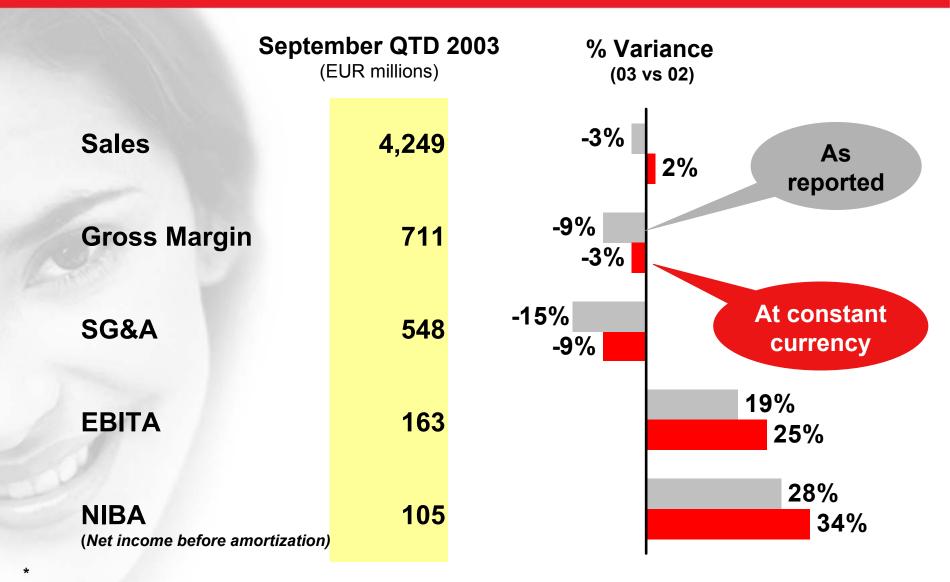


# Jérôme Caille

Chief Executive Officer

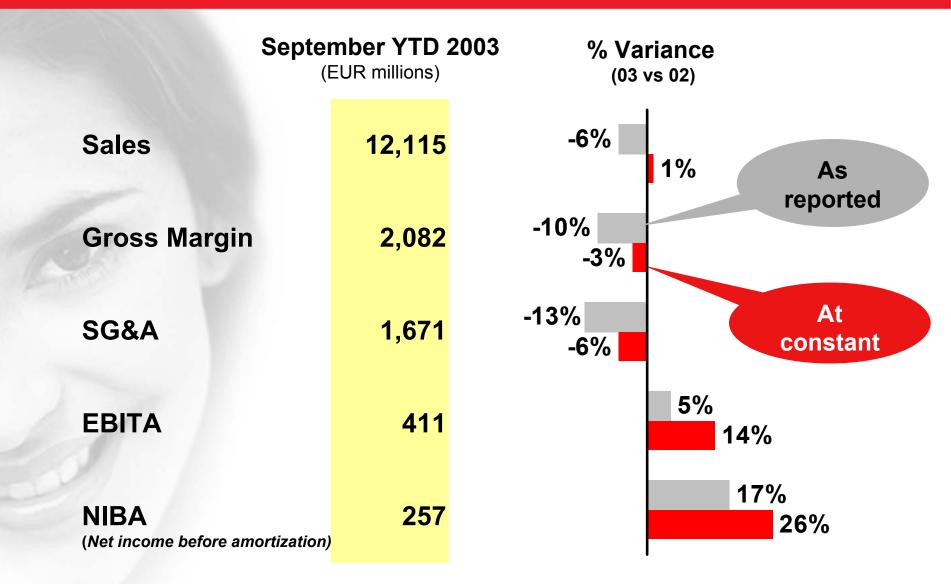


#### **The Quarter: NIBA +34%**



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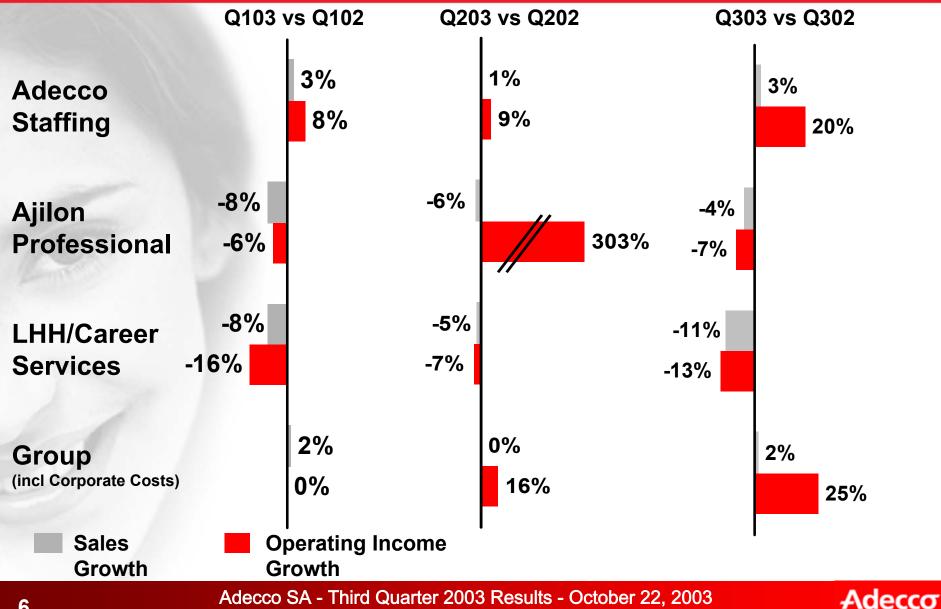
#### Year-to-Date: NIBA +26%



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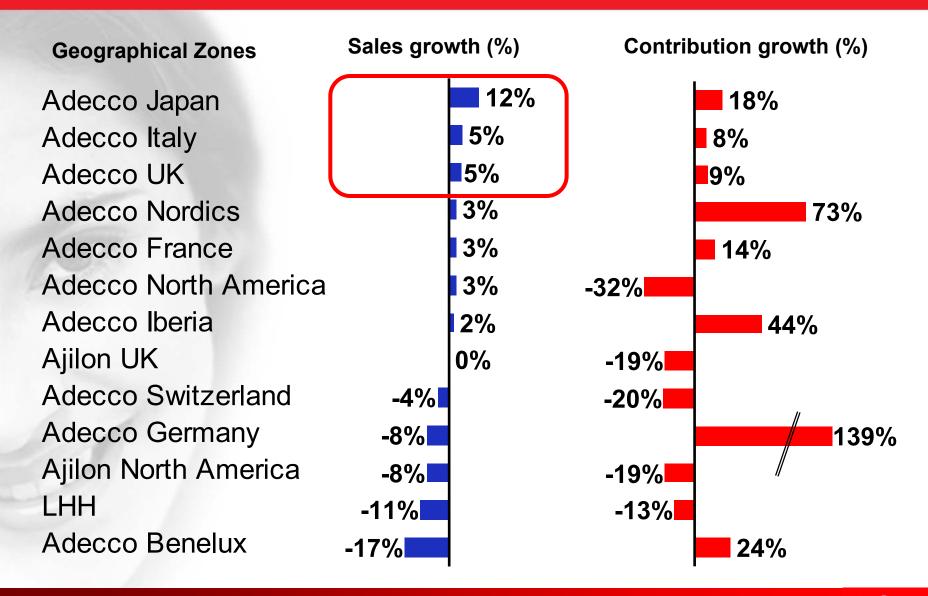
## **Further Improved Operating Gearing**

#### In constant currency



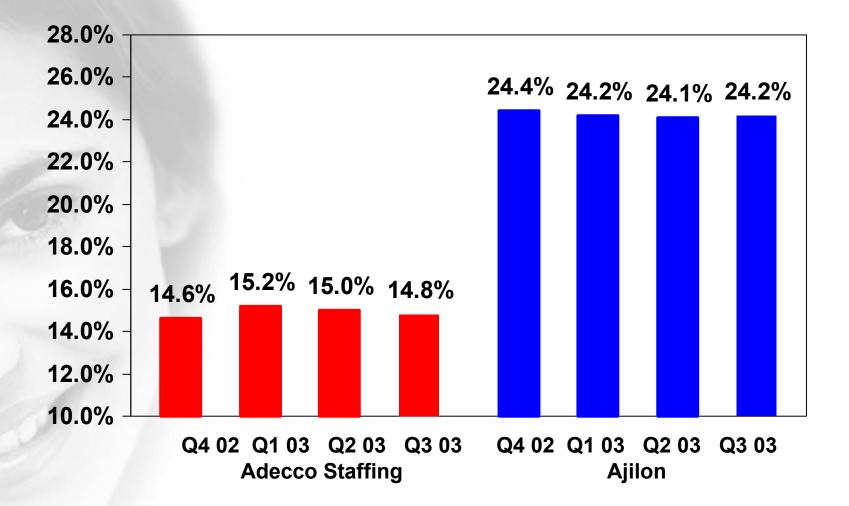
#### **The Key Business Units**

Q303 vs Q302 in local currency



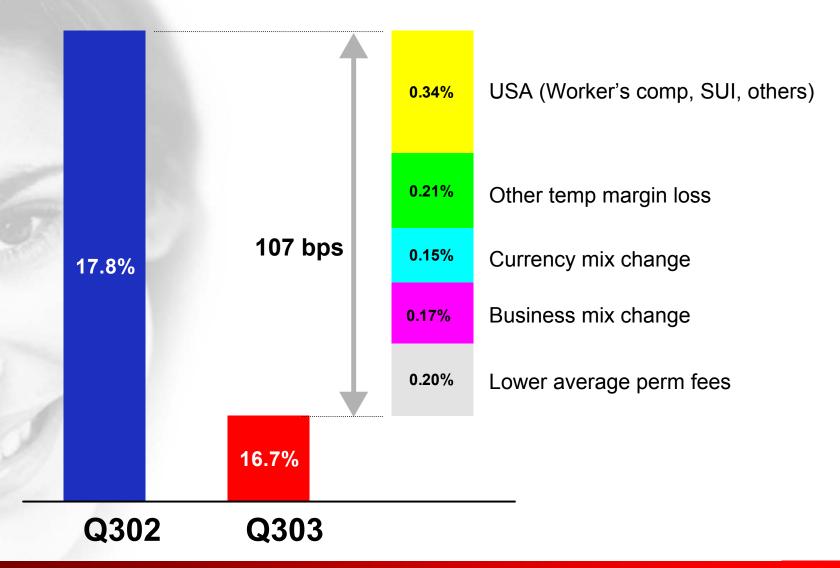
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#### Maintained Underlying Gross Margin Gross Margin % Sales





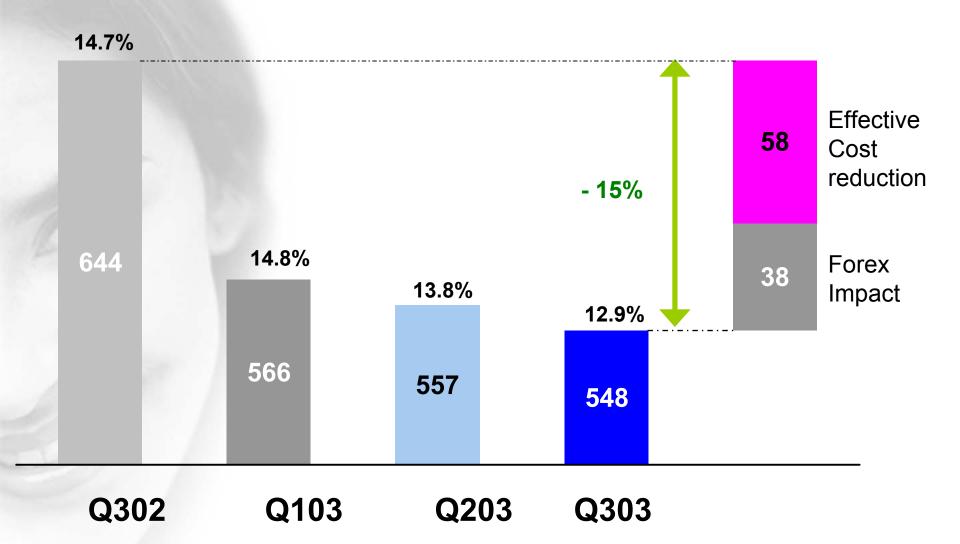
#### **Gross Margin Drop Similar to Previous Quarter** *Gross Margin in %, Q303 vs Q302*





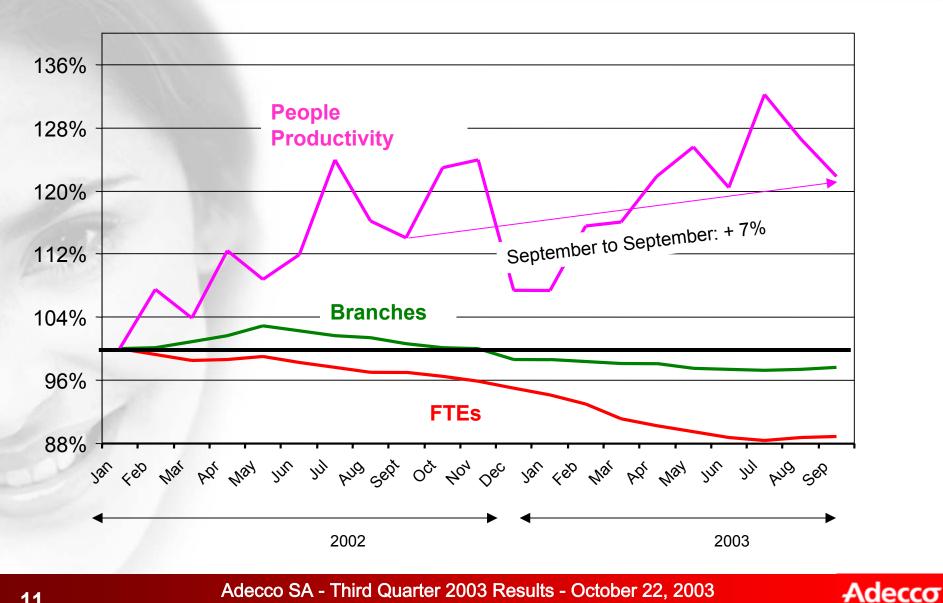
## **Further Reduction of Operating Costs**

Adecco Group operating costs in EUR million and in % of sales



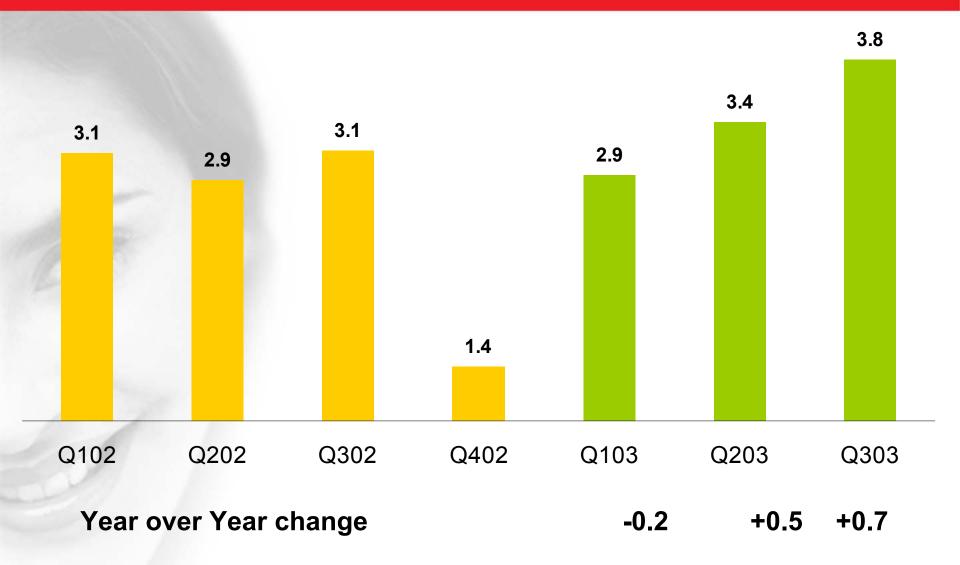
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## 7% Higher Productivity Year over Year



## **Recovering Operating Income Margin**

Quarterly Operating Income % of Sales, 2000 - 2003



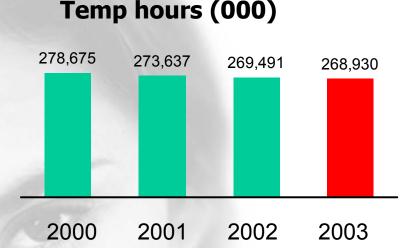
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## **Felix Weber**

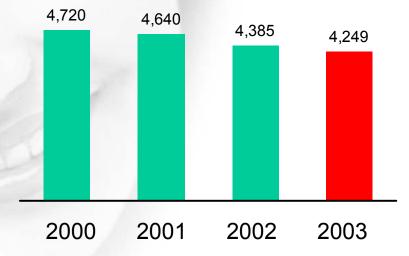
**Chief Financial Officer** 



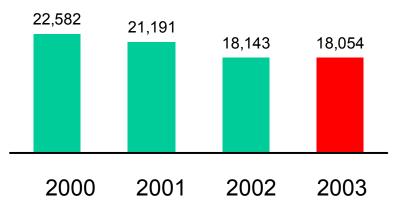
#### **Positive Key Indicators** (September QTD)



#### Sales as reported (million EUR)

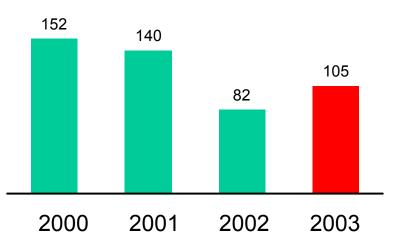


#### **Perm Placements**



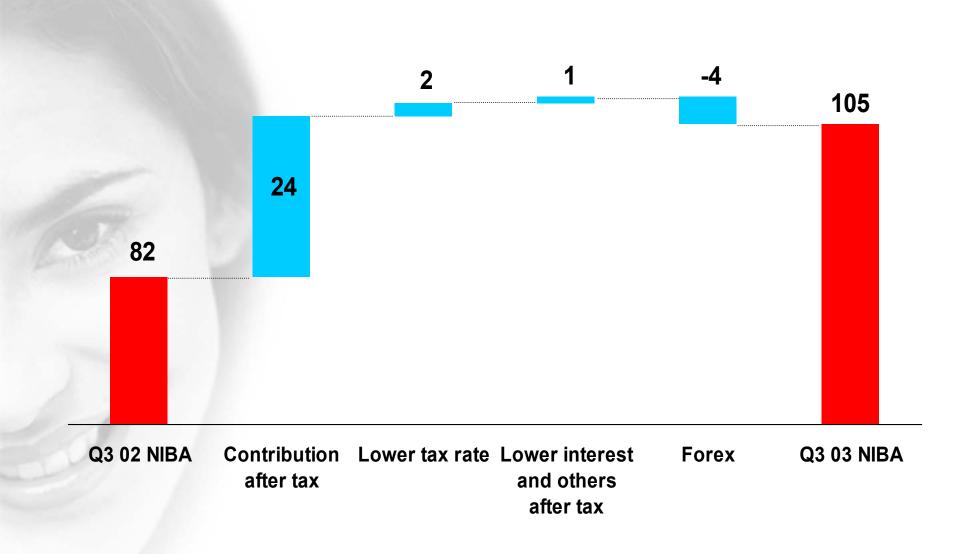
#### NIBA as reported (million EUR)

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#### **Improved Net Income**

(Before Amortization Excluding Forex Impact, million EUR)



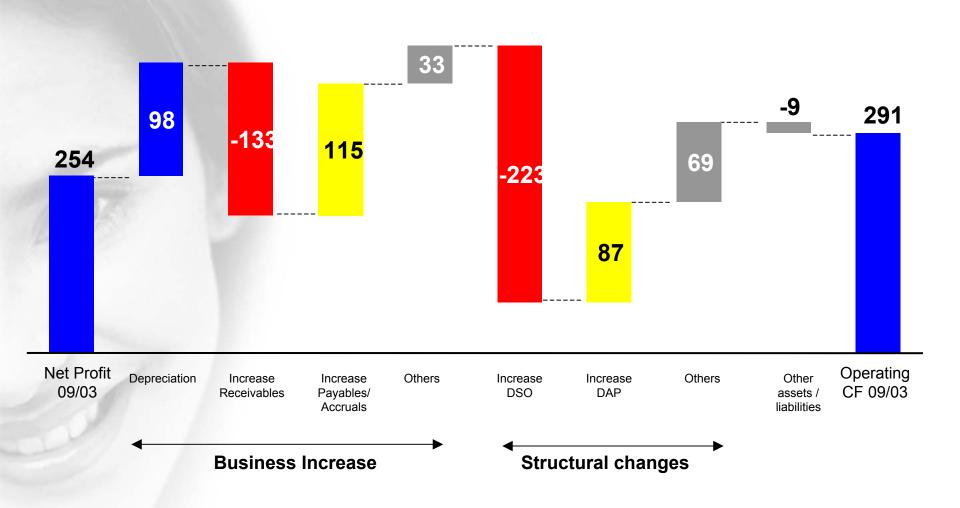


#### **Improved Cash Flow**

	Year to Date		
EUR millions	Sep 28, 2003	Sep 29, 2002	
Net Income	254	216	
Depreciation	98	105	
Change of operating assets/liabilities	-94	-190	
Others	33	68	
<b>Cash Flow from Operations</b>	291	199	
Cash Flow from Investing Activities	-53	-154	
5			
Cash Flow from Financing Activities	560	-194	
Effect of exchange rate on cash	-24	-19	
Net increase/(decrease) of cash	774	-168	

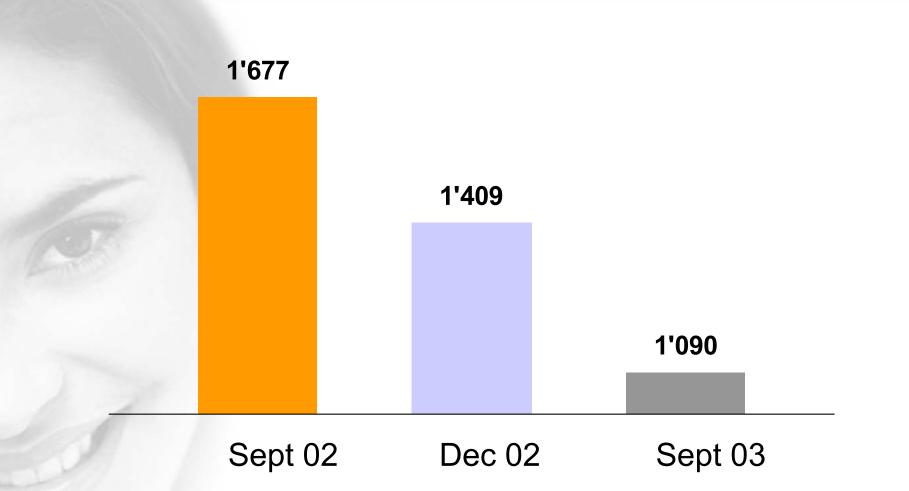
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# The Drivers of Cash Flow from Operations YTD (Million EUR)



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#### Close to 600 m EUR Net Debt\* Reduction YoY (Million EUR)



\* Includes off balance sheet debt ( Sep 02: EUR 61 million, Dec 02: EUR 59 million, Sep 03: EUR 36 million) Net debt has been recalculated to deduct marketable securities (Sep 02: EUR 1 million, Dec 02: EUR 1 million, Sep 03: EUR 11 million)



#### **Further Strengthened Balance Sheet**

EUR millions	September 28, 2003	December 29, 2002	September 29, 2002
Assets			
Cash and marketable securities	997	213	206
Trade accounts receivable	3,170	2,906	3,144
Other current assets	299	333	335
Property plant and equipment	362	435	459
Goodwill and Intangibles, net	1,375	1,477	1,529
Other assets	451	456	371
Total	6,654	5,820	6,044
Liabilities & Equity			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	3,014	2,815	2,835
Short and long term debt	2,051	1,563	1,822
Other liabilities	96	103	85
Shareholder's equity	1,493	1,339	1,302
Total	6,654	5,820	6,044
Net debt (includes off balance sheet debt)	1,090	1,409	1,677

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## **Expensing of Stock-based Compensation**

- Effective as of 2003 Adecco will adopt SFAS 123
- Future stock-based compensation such as grants of stock options or restricted stock will be expensed over the vesting period
- Effect on the first 9 months was not material



# Jérôme Caille

Chief Executive Officer



### **Continued Focus on Growth**

Growth exceeding the market

Market leadership

Optimized business mix

- Organic growth above market
- Acquisitions and organic growth
- No 1 or No 2 in all major markets with 20%+ market share
- Operational leadership through Quality/ Cost enhancement through Technology
- Specialty business focus
- Evolution from staffing to HR services

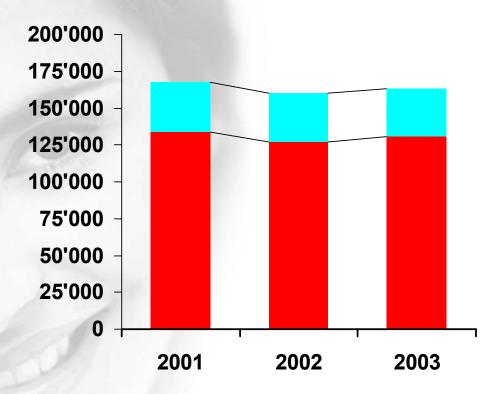
## **Strategy to Improve US Profitability**

- Business mix shift to retail
- Large account profitability analysis
- Development of vertical markets
- Price increases to cover additional WC & SUI cost increases
- Shared Services to reduce back office costs
- Enhance IT infrastructure

## **Potential from Spare Capacity**

Branch productivity (9 months)

(adjusted hours sold per Branch)



#### Branch Productivity Potential

- Branch productivity still below year 2000/2001 level
- Substantial investment in technology has further increased productivity
- Adding volume to existing clients requires little extra costs

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Temp hours Perm placement fees and others converted into temp hours

## **Technology Update**

## Q3: The Rollout Goes On

- AdeccoWeb (front office & e-commerce)
  - Six new business units
  - 18 business units involved (> 50% of Group Sales)
  - Almost 6 million CVs
- Xpert® Online (assessment)
  - Seven new business units
  - 19 business units involved (> 44% of Group Sales)
  - 160,000 online tests/month
- PeopleSoft (financials)
  - Seven new business units
  - **38** business units involved (> **65%** of Group Sales)

Advanced customised services to large clients

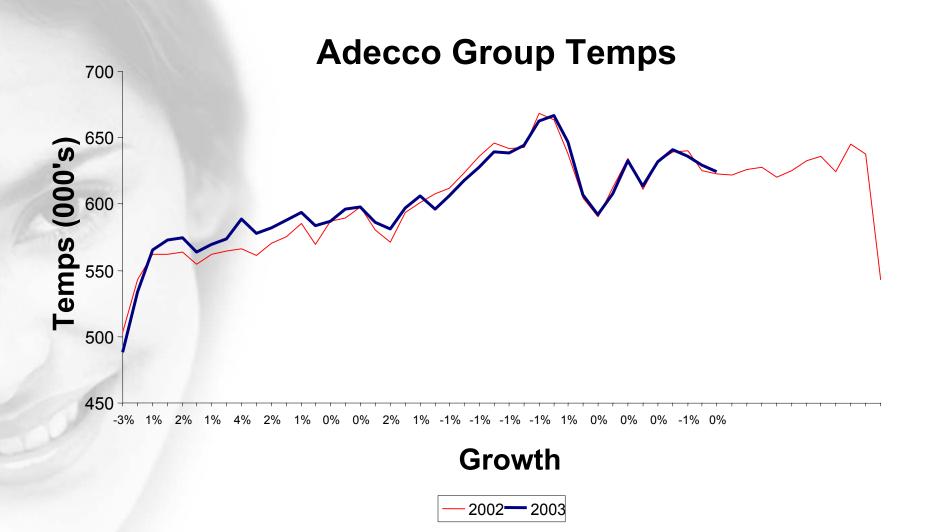


## **Deregulation Update**

- Italy
  - Labour Market Reform law passed October 24, 2003 and effective January 2004
- Germany
  - Adecco is the first staffing company to utilize the new Collective Agreement
- Poland
  - Assignment duration extended to 12 months
  - Equal pay
  - Temporary work approved for Seasonal, Production Peaks and Absenteeism
- Netherlands
  - New Collective Agreement allows greater flexibility



#### **Recent Weekly Trends**



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#### Outlook

- Markets remain tough short-term
  → strong focus on cost and margin management
- Excellent mid to long-term prospects:
  - More favourable regulations
  - Increased demand for flexible solutions
  - New markets (10 new countries entering the EU)
  - State-of-the-art technology
  - Demographic shifts

#### Summary

- Return to positive sales growth
- Further extension of operational gearing at Group level
- Improvement in return on sales
- Markets remain tough
- Excellent mid to long term prospects



# **THANK YOU!**

To participate in the Q&A session, please dial:

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