

Quarterly statement for the period ending 31 March 2024

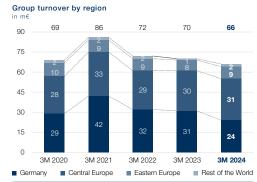
At a glance

- Group turnover in line with expectations at m€ 65.9 in the first quarter of 2024, decline of 6.2% due to expected, last-time base effects in the discounter channel
- Profitability continues to improve significantly: gross margin increases to 44.7%, especially due to positive product mix effects and productivity and efficiency increases (+4.2 percentage points)
- Group EBIT rises to m€ 3.4 (m€ +1.1)
- Positive free cash flow of m€ 1.0 in the first quarter of 2024 (previous year: m€ -3.4)
- Forecast for 2024 confirmed: slight growth in Group turnover, Group EBIT between m€ 10 and m€ 12 expected
- Launch of further products from the successful Black Line in the core category of laundry care
- Innovation in the cleaning product category planned from July 2024
- Share buyback program with a total volume of up to m€ 8.5 resolved
- Implementation of a new, holistic business strategy with focus on core competences and profitable long-term growth from June 2024

Key figures of the Group as at 31 March

		2023	2024	Change
Turnover				
Group		70.3	65.9	-6.2%
Household		58.5	55.4	-5.2%
Wellbeing	m€	4.2	3.9	-7.8%
Private Label	m€	7.6	6.6	-13.5%
Profitability				
Gross margin	%	40.5	44.7	4.2 PPS
Free cash flow		-3.4	1.0	>100%
Foreign currency result	m€	0.4	0.3	-23.1%
EBIT	m€	2.3	3.4	45.5%
EBIT margin	%	3.3	5.2	1.9 PPS
Net result for the period	m€	1.3	2.2	72.8%





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Business performance

The Leifheit Group continued to face a challenging market environment and persistently weak consumption in the first guarter of 2024. The recovery in the consumer climate is progressing very slowly, with the GfK consumer climate index remaining at a very poor level of -27.4 points in March 2024.

In the first three months of financial year 2024, the Leifheit Group generated turnover of m€ 65.9 after m€ 70.3 in the first guarter of the previous year. The 6.2% decline in turnover was in line with our expectations and is primarily due to a base effect in the same period of the previous year, in which promotions at discounters made a significant contribution to turnover. By contrast, the general reduction in non-food business in the discounter channel and the associated disappearance of special offers had an impact in the reporting period. However, the expansion of distribution in key European core markets and growth in the e-commerce channel (+11.6%) partially compensated the loss of turnover from the discounter business.

Despite the year-on-year decline in turnover in the first three months, which was expected, the Leifheit Group is on track and is focusing on increased advertising activities for high-margin bestsellers in the core categories of cleaning and laundry care in the second guarter. In addition to TV advertising in key European sales markets, activities are also increasingly focused on online marketing and the expansion of e-commerce.

Group turnover by region

In Germany, the Leifheit Group recorded a 21.2% fall in turnover in the first three months of financial year 2024 compared to the first quarter of the previous year. The decline was mainly due to a lack

of promotional campaigns by discounters. Turnover amounted to m€ 24.3, following m€ 30.9 in the same period of 2023. As a result, the Leifheit Group generated 36.9% of its turnover in Germany (previous year: 43.9%).

All other sales regions of the Leifheit Group recorded positive development overall. In Central Europe, the Leifheit Group achieved slight turnover growth of 0.8% in the first quarter of 2024 to m€ 30.5 in total (previous year: m€ 30.2). While turnover in the Netherlands and Italy, for instance, remained below the previous year's level, the expansion of distribution and the positive development of e-commerce in important markets such as Belgium, France and Austria led to significant growth.

Turnover in the Eastern Europe region rose by a substantial 15.7% from m€ 8.0 in the first three months of 2023 to m€ 9.3 in the first guarter of 2024. The Leifheit Group achieved double-digit turnover growth in Romania and Slovakia, as well as an increased consumer demand for Leifheit brand products in the important Eastern European markets of the Czech Republic and Poland.

In markets outside Europe, turnover increased to m€ 1.8 in the first guarter of 2024 (previous year: m€ 1.2).

Group turnover by segment

In the Household segment, the Leifheit Group's turnover decreased by 5.2% to m€ 55.4 in the first guarter of 2024 (previous year: m€ 58.5). Against the backdrop of continuing general consumer restraint and a lack of promotions at discounters compared to the previous year, the laundry care and cleaning categories recorded a decline. The cleaning sector was more strongly affected by the smaller scale of campaigns involving electrical cleaning products.

In the Wellbeing segment with the Soehnle brand, the Group achieved turnover of m€ 3.9 in the first guarter of 2024 (previous year: m€ 4.2). This corresponds to a decrease of 7.8% compared to the first guarter of the previous year against the backdrop of adjustments to the product range.

Turnover in the Private Label segment, which distributes privatelabel brands through the French subsidiaries Birambeau and Herby, fell by 13.5% to m€ 6.6 in the first quarter of 2024. The significant decline from the previous year's level (previous year: m€ 7.6) was attributable to the decrease in the number of campaigns carried out by sales partners. Both Birambeau's kitchen products and Herby's laundry care products saw declines in turnover.

Net assets, financial position and results of operations

The improvement in profitability already apparent in the previous quarters continued in the first quarter of 2024. Productivity increases in production and logistics, as well as strict cost management and positive product mix effects, contributed significantly to this development. As expected, however, the significant rise in sea freight prices since the beginning of the year had a dampening effect on the margin.

Overall, the Leifheit Group significantly increased earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT) by m€ 1.1, bringing the total up to m€ 3.4 in the first three months of financial year 2024 (previous year: m€ 2.3). The rise was mainly due to the increased gross margin.

Despite the m€ 4.4 decline in turnover in the first guarter of 2024, gross profit increased by m€ 1.0 to m€ 29.5 (previous year: m€ 28.5). Accordingly, the gross margin rose significantly by 4.2 percentage points. In addition to positive product mix effects due to the focus on products manufactured in Europe, productivity and efficiency increases led to positive cost effects, which compensated for the significant increase in freight rates.

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Due to higher advertising costs, distribution costs increased by $m \in 0.2$ to $m \in 21.1$ (previous year: $m \in 20.9$). Administrative costs remained almost stable with an increase by $m \in 0.1$ to $m \in 4.7$ (previous year: $m \in 4.6$) due to higher expenses for services. This was offset by higher other operating income, which totalled to $m \in 0.8$ (previous year: $m \in 0.4$). This increase by $m \in 0.4$ was due to a compensation payment from a competitor for patent infringements.

Earnings before taxes (EBT) rose substantially to stand at m \in 3.1 (previous year: m \in 1.9). Less taxes, this equalled a net result for the period of m \in 2.2 in the first quarter of 2024 (previous year: m \in 1.3).

The Leifheit Group remains on a solid financial footing. Group liquidity improved by $m \in 0.8$ in the first three months of 2024 and amounted to $m \in 42.1$ as at 31 March 2024 (31 December 2023: $m \in 41.3$). Cash inflow from operating activities amounted to $m \in 2.1$. This is primarily attributable to the lower seasonal increase in working capital compared to the same period of the previous year. At the same time, liabilities rose more sharply than in the first quarter of the previous year.

At m \in 0.5, investments were down year-on-year in the first three months of 2024 (previous year: m \in 1.3).

Free cash flow increased to m \in 1.0 in the first quarter (previous year: m \in -3.4). The positive effects from the stronger increase in liabilities, the lower increase in receivables, the better net result for the period and the lower investments outweigh the stronger increase in inventories.

The balance sheet total increased by m \in 13.1 to m \in 216.7 compared to 31 December 2023. The seasonal rise in receivables by m \in 15.3 was offset on the assets side of the balance sheet by the m \in 1.8 decline in tangible assets and the m \in 1.7 decrease in other assets.

On the liabilities side, trade payables and other liabilities increased by m \in 11.8. Equity increased by m \in 1.9, mainly due to the net result for the period. On account of the higher balance sheet total as at the reporting date, the equity ratio fell slightly to 48.8%, but remains very solid (31 December 2023: 51.0%).

Opportunities and risks

The opportunities and risks for the Leifheit Group were described in detail in the combined management report as at 31 December 2023. In the reporting period, there were no significant changes in the main opportunities and risks for the remaining months of the financial year. From today's perspective, there continue to be no risks that jeopardise the continued existence of the company.

Forecast for 2024

In 2024, we will be drawing up a new, holistic business strategy with a focus on profitable growth and cost efficiency in order to position the Leifheit Group for sustainable success. Among other things, for this we will focus on targeted investments in the Leifheit brand, significantly stronger internationalisation and the marked expansion of the e-commerce business. Going forward, we plan to continue wowing consumers with durable products featuring high product quality, as well as functional and aesthetic design. With this in mind, we also will be concentrating on strengthening Leifheit's ability to innovate and on getting even more consumers excited about our products by launching product innovations in our core categories of cleaning and laundry care.

Further products from our core categories in the Black Line were launched in the first quarter of 2024, which is expected to provide positive impetus for business development in the second quarter and beyond. In addition, a major product innovation in the cleaning category is in preparation for launch from July 2024.

Business development in the first quarter of 2024 was in line with the expectations published in March 2024 for the full year. As a result, the Board of Management of Leifheit AG confirms the forecast for 2024 and continues to expect slight year-on-year growth in Group turnover for financial year 2024 compared to the previous year. In addition, the Board of Management anticipates consolidated earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT) in the range of m€ 10 to m€ 12 and a positive free cash flow of around m€ 10.

Further information can be found in the most recently published annual report of the Leifheit Group for financial year 2023. The report is available online at <u>https://www.leifheit-group.com/en/</u> investor-relations/reports-and-presentations/.

Statement of comprehensive income

k€	1 Jan to 31 Mar 2023	1 Jan to 31 Mar 2024
Turnover	70,312	65,928
Cost of turnover	-41,840	-36,480
Gross profit	28,472	29,448
Research and development costs	-1,285	-1,217
Distribution costs	-20,925	-21,050
Administrative costs	-4,605	-4,740
Other operating income	382	796
Other operating expenses	-43	-92
Foreign currency result	350	269
EBIT	2,346	3,414
Interest income	36	171
Interest expenses	-496	-463
EBT	1,886	3,122
Income taxes	-622	-938
Net result for the period	1,264	2,184
Contributions that are not reclassified in future periods in the statement of profit or loss		
Actuarial gains/losses on defined benefit pension plans	-486	373
Income taxes from actuarial gains/losses on defined benefit pension plans	145	-111
Contributions that may be reclassified in future periods in the statement of profit or loss		
Currency translation of foreign operations	440	-410
Currency translation of net investments in foreign operations	659	-553
Income taxes from currency translation of net investments in foreign operations	-196	165
Net result of cash flow hedges	-412	397
Income taxes from cash flow hedges	115	-111
Other comprehensive income	265	-250
Comprehensive income after taxes	1,529	1,934
Earnings per share based on net result for the period (diluted and undiluted)		€ 0.23

Balance sheet

k€	31 Dec 2023	31 Mar 2024
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	41,275	42,142
Trade receivables	43,672	58,955
Inventories	50,213	51,376
Income tax receivables	192	306
Contractual assets	1,006	614
Derivative financial instruments	2	105
Other current assets	4,140	2,443
Total current assets	140,500	155,941
Non-current assets		
Intangible assets	16,479	16,453
Tangible assets	39,348	37,559
Right of use assets from leases	1,615	1,639
Deferred tax assets	5,603	5,022
Derivative financial instruments	-	2
Other non-current assets	85	84
Total non-current assets	63,130	60,759
Total assets	203,630	216,700
Current liabilities		
	37.074	48,861
Trade payables and other liabilities Income tax liabilities		40,001
Other provisions	4,286	4,397
Derivative financial instruments	712	4,397
	573	619
Total current liabilities	43,176	55,036
Non-current liabilities	43,170	55,030
	51,547	50,956
Provisions for pensions and similar obligations Other provisions	2,700	2,720
Deferred tax liabilities	1,235	1,130
Derivative financial instruments	47	1,130
	1,092	1,072
Total non-current liabilities	56,621	55,897
Equity		20.000
Subscribed capital	30,000	30,000
Capital surplus	17,183	17,183
Treasury shares	-7,269	-7,269
Retained earnings	70,018	72,202
Other reserves		-6,349
Total equity	103,833	105,767
Total equity and liabilities	203,630	216,70

Statement of cash flow

k€	1 Jan to 31 Mar 2023	1 Jan to 31 Mar 2024
Net result for the period	1,264	2,184
Depreciation and amortisation	1,961	1,908
Change in provisions	106	-65
Result from disposal of fixed assets and other non-current assets	-10	-46
Change in inventories, trade receivables and other assets not classified as investment or financing activities	-12,476	-14,442
Change in trade payables and other liabilities not classified as investment or financing activities	7,229	11,662
Other non-cash expenses and income	-204	228
Cash flow from operating activities	-2,130	1,429
Investments from the sale of fixed assets and other non-current assets	19	82
Payments for the purchase of tangible and intangible assets	-1,269	-509
Cash flow from investment activities	-1,250	-427
Payments for lease liabilities		-152
Cash flow from financing activities	-128	-152
Change in cash and cash equivalents	-3,508	850
Change in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rates	-9	17
Cash and cash equivalents at the start of the reporting period	36,319	41,275
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	32,802	42,142

Segment reporting

Key figures by reportable segments as at 31 March 2024 in m€	Household	Wellbeing	Private Label	Total
External turnover	55.4	3.9	6.6	65.9
Turnover with Group companies	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.8
Gross profit	26.1	1.7	1.6	29.4
Segment result (EBIT)	2.9	0.1	0.4	3.4
Depreciation and amortisation	1.7	0.0	0.2	1.9

Key figures by reportable segments as at 31 March 2023 in m€	Household	Wellbeing	Private Label	Total
External turnover	58.5	4.2	7.6	70.3
Turnover with Group companies	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.8
Gross profit	25.1	1.6	1.8	28.5
Segment result (EBIT)	2.0	0.0	0.3	2.3
Depreciation and amortisation	1.8	0.0	0.2	2.0

Information on the segments and their management is available in the annual report 2023.

Additional information

This quarterly statement is in accordance with section 53 of the exchange rules for the Frankfurter Wertpapierbörse. It is not a quarterly financial report according to the requirements of section 115 of the German securities trading act (WpHG). It was neither audited nor reviewed by an auditor. The results of the current reporting quarter do not necessarily make it possible to draw conclusions regarding the development of future results.

The accounting and valuation principles used by Leifheit correspond to those of the most recently published consolidated financial statements as at the end of the previous financial year, while taking into consideration the accounting regulations to be applied for the first time. A detailed description can be found in the notes to the annual report 2023 of the Leifheit Group, which is available online at <u>https://www.leifheit-group.com/en/</u> investor-relations/reports-and-presentations/.

The reporting period saw no personnel changes in Leifheit AG organs. There were no changes in the scope of consolidation or major changes in the organisational structure or business model.

Disclaimer

Forward-looking statements

This statement contains forward-looking statements which are based on the management's current estimates with regard to future developments. Such statements are subject to risks and uncertainties which are beyond Leifheit's ability to control or estimate precisely. They include, for example, statements on the future market environment and economic conditions, the behaviour of other market participants and government measures. If one of these or other uncertain or unforeseeable factors occurs or the assumptions on which these statements are based prove inaccurate, actual results could differ materially from the results cited explicitly or contained implicitly in these statements. Leifheit does not intend to update forward-looking statements to reflect events or developments after the date of this statement, nor does it accept any specific obligation to do so.

In the event of any discrepancies between this English translation and the German version, the German version shall take precedence.

Minor differences may occur when using rounded amounts and percentages due to commercial rounding.

Financial calendar

14 – 15 May 2024	Spring conference Frankfurt/Main
29 May 2024	Annual General Meeting German National Library, Frankfurt/Main
4 Jun 2024	ODDO BHF NEXTCAP Forum Paris (FR)
8 Aug 2024	Financial report for the first half-year ending 30 June 2024
12 Nov 2024	Quarterly statement for the period ending 30 September 2024
25 – 27 Nov 2024	German equity forum Frankfurt/Main



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