

# Building Distribution: a return to growth

Saint-Gobain Investor Day  
November 15th 2010



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# Agenda

■ Key Facts

■ Business Update

■ Strategy

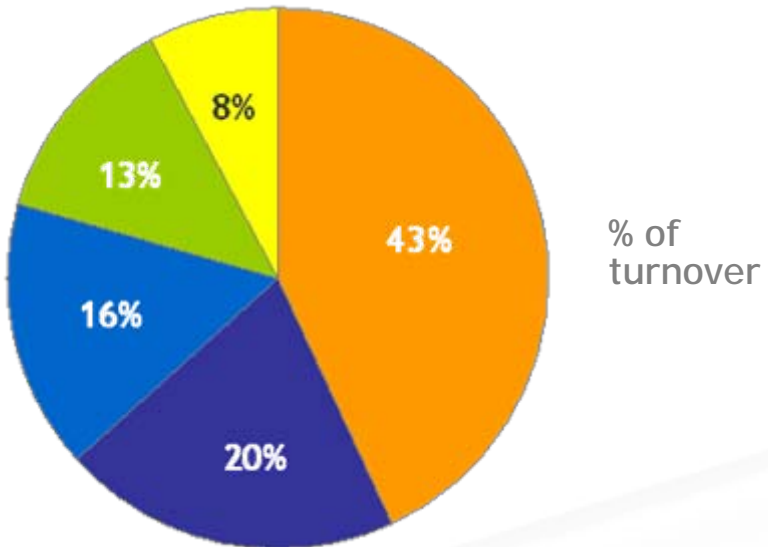
■ Conclusion



# A local business - #1 leader in Europe

- **N° 1 European** distributor for Building Materials with multiple brands & €17.1bn of sales (2009)
- A **local business** served by a network of 4,160 branches in 26 countries
- A **people driven business**: 68,000 people delivering almost 200 million customers contacts per year
- A **dedicated market approach**: generalist and specialist brands towards professional customers & project oriented private customers

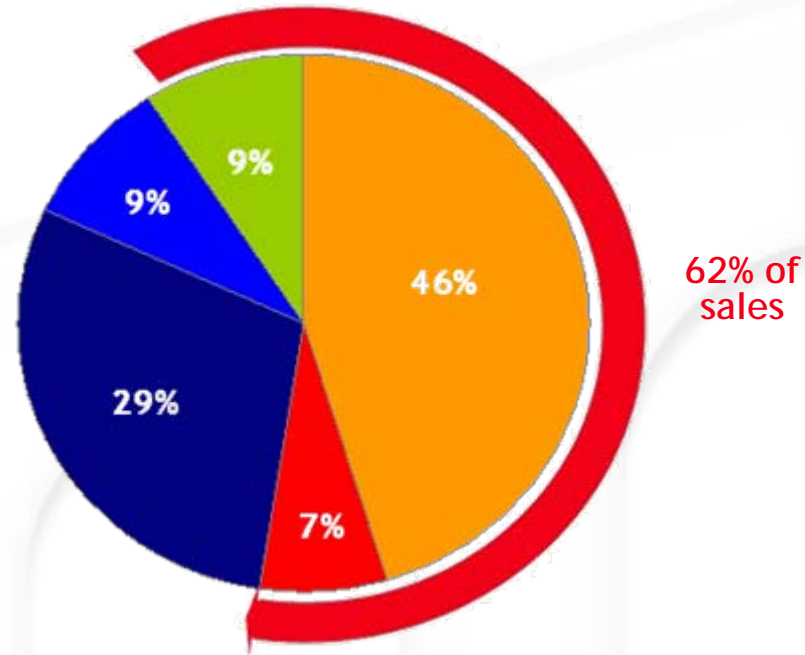
# A balanced portfolio of markets & countries



(# of branches)

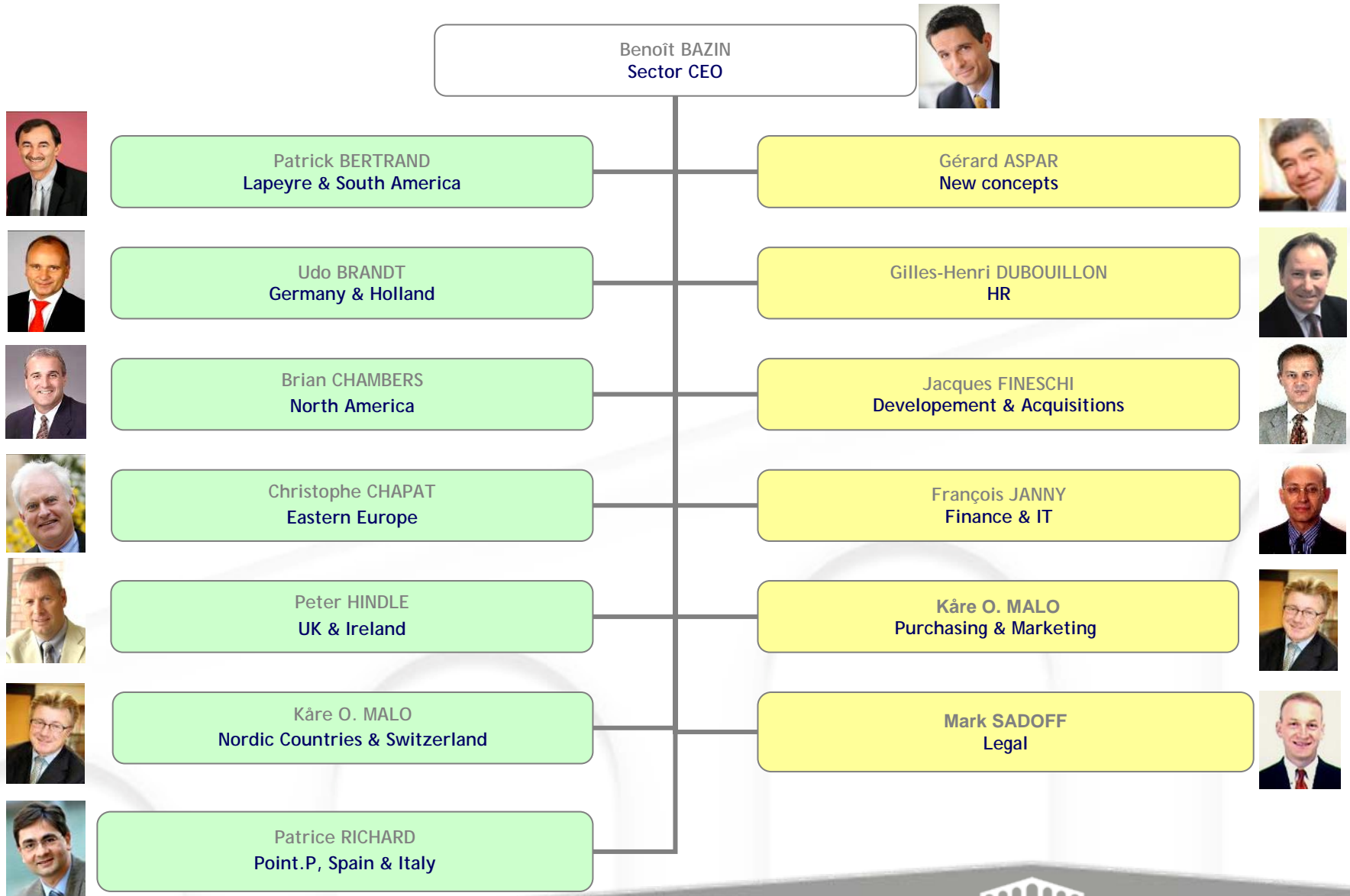
- France (1,900)
- Nordic countries & Switzerland (440)
- UK & Holland (945)
- Germany & Eastern Europe (490)
- Other countries (385)

- Residential renovation
- Non residential renovation
- Infrastructure & civil works



- Residential new construction
- Non residential new construction

# A focused, steady & experienced team



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# Strong crisis management

## ■ Satisfactory **gross margin** evolution (flat from 2007 to 2010)

- Solid pricing & purchasing action plans & customer risk management

## ■ **€450m** of **cost savings** (2008-2010)

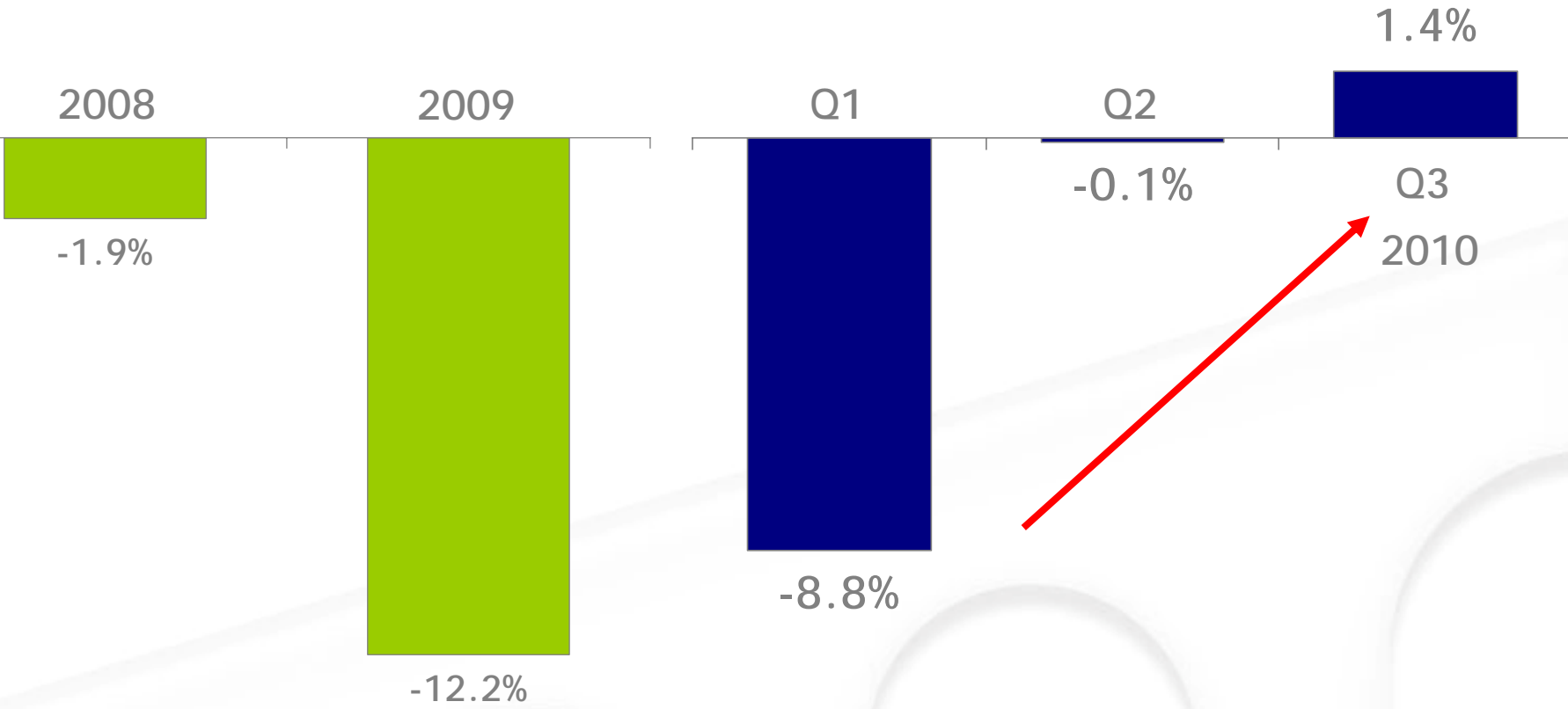
- Significant headcount reduction (excl. acquisitions) : -15%
- Selective network restructuring : -7% (300 closures)

## ■ Significant **free cash flow** generation (2009 better than 2008)

- Capex 2009: -51% versus 2007
- Working Capital 2009: -47% versus 2007

## ■ **Acquisitions freeze** (until H1 2010)

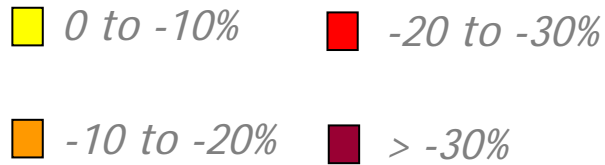
# Back to positive internal growth



• Turning now into moderate positive figures

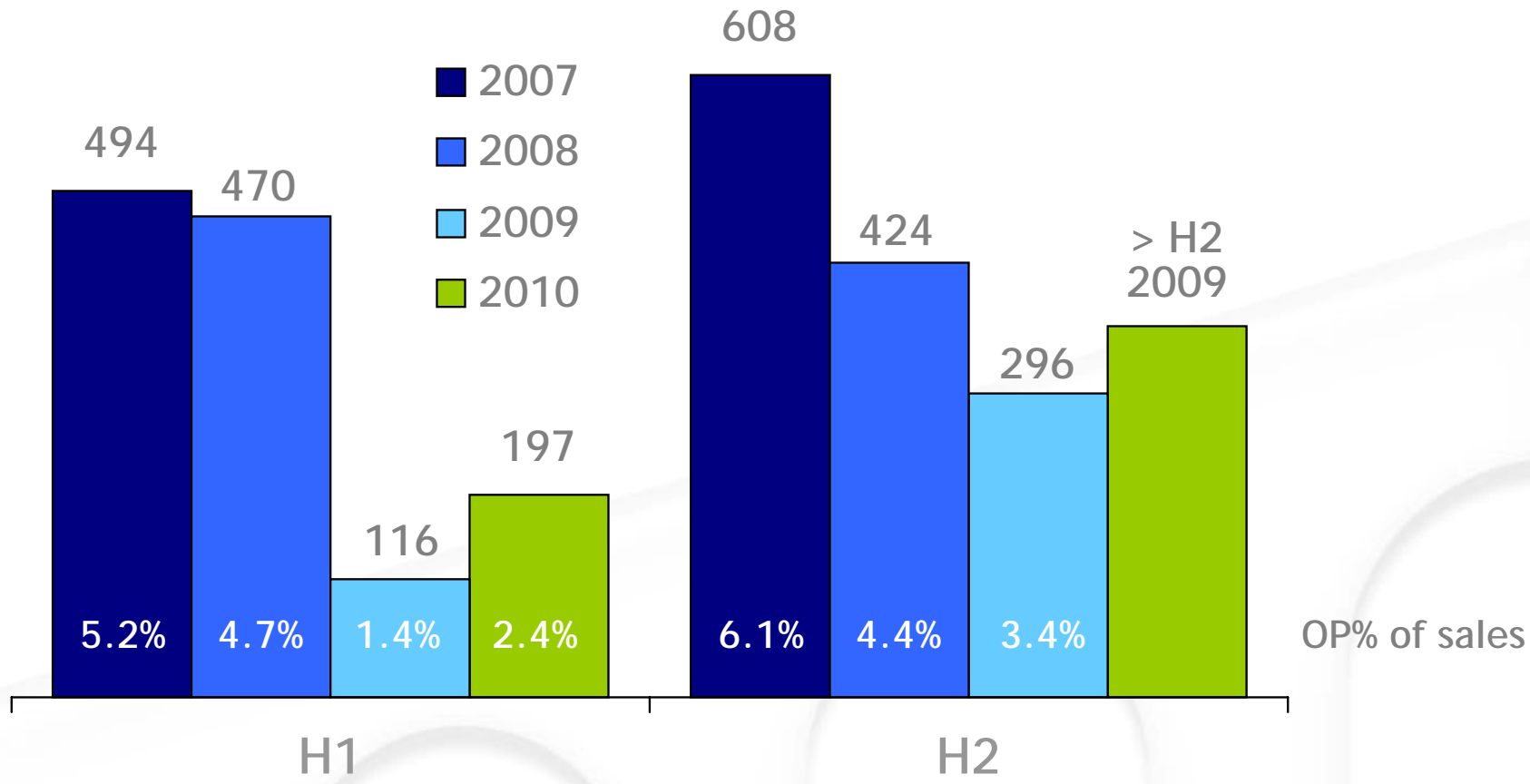


# Reinforced positions during the crisis



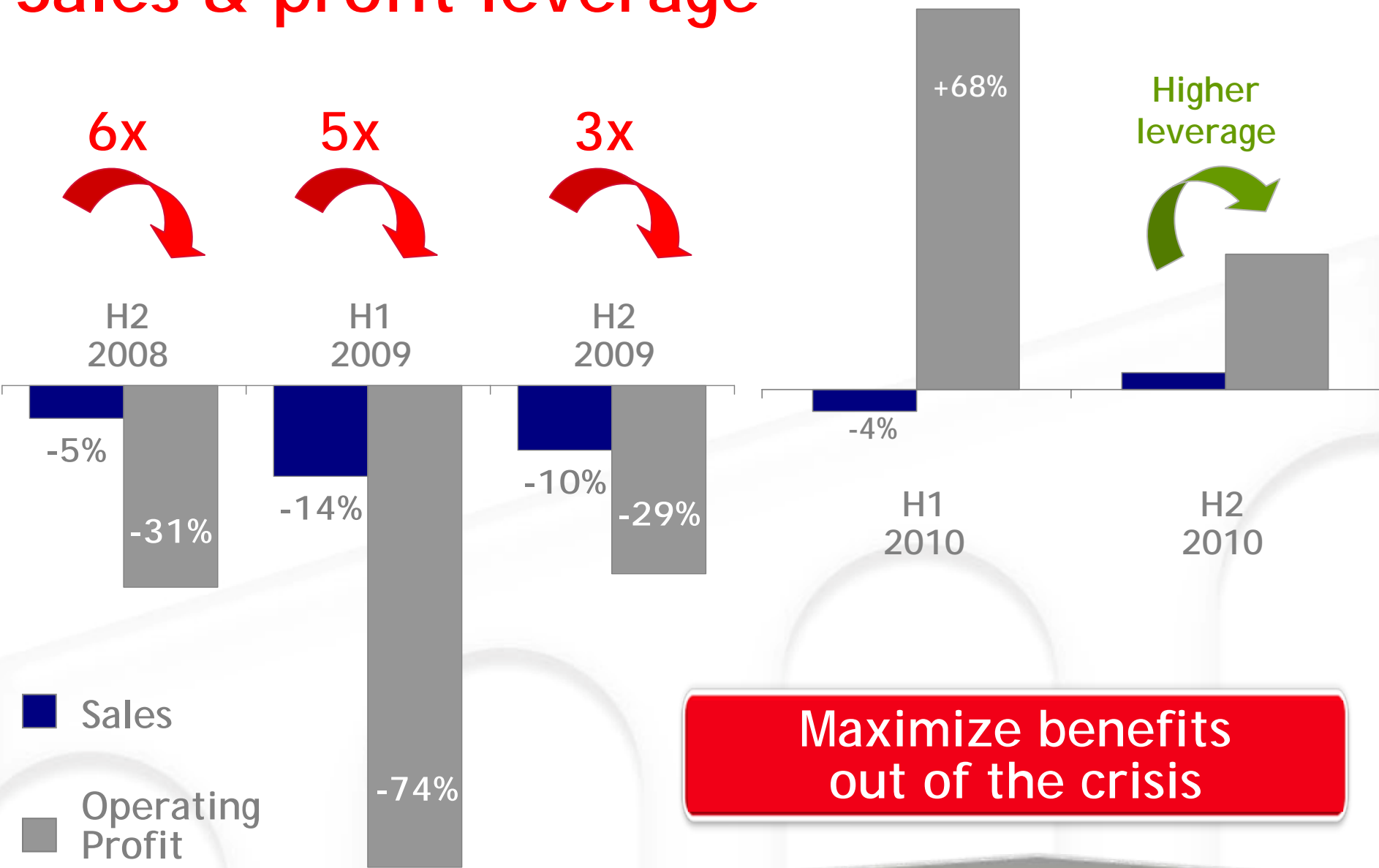
	From peak to low (2007-2010)	Market share evolution (2008-2010)	Q3 & H2 2010 sales trend
France		+	= / +
United Kingdom		=	+
Nordic countries		++	+
Germany		= / +	+
Other regions		=	-
<b>Total Sector</b>		+	+

# A clear rebound of operating profit



On-going margin improvement since H1 2009

# Sales & profit leverage



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# Saint-Gobain Building Distribution long term goal

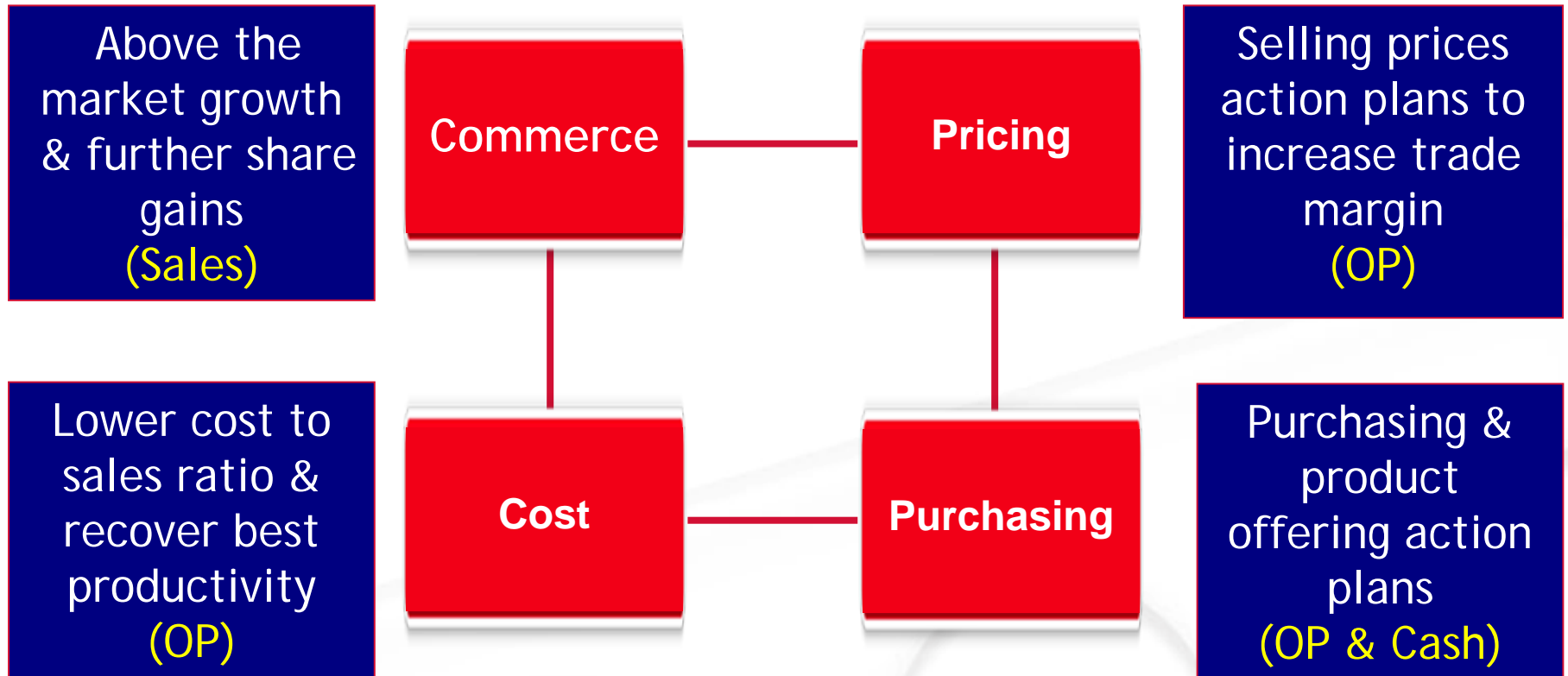
- **Be THE Reference** : BEST Distributor for employees to work for & for customers & suppliers to deal with
- **Innovate** on our core business and **set the tone & pace** ahead of our peers
- **Strengthen** our global & local **leadership** and translate it into accelerated **growth** & increased **profitability**



# Saint-Gobain Building Distribution Growth Strategy

- Consolidate our business by driving **day to day operational excellence** on key fundamentals
- Deliver success on differentiating projects
- Make selective growth investments & strengthen our core business

# Top operational stakes

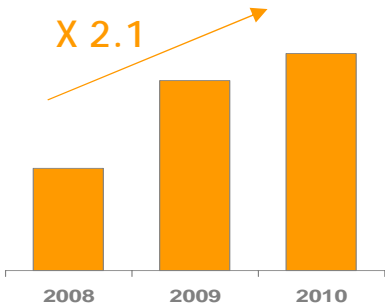


High level managers on **operational groups** for best practice sharing & execution

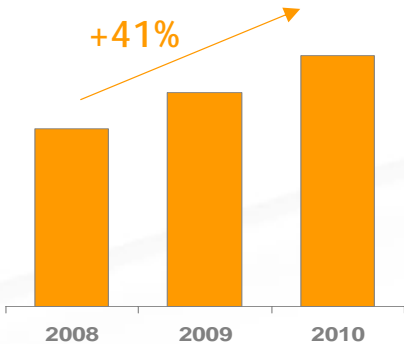
Move towards a more synergistic Sector

# Commerce excellence (example)

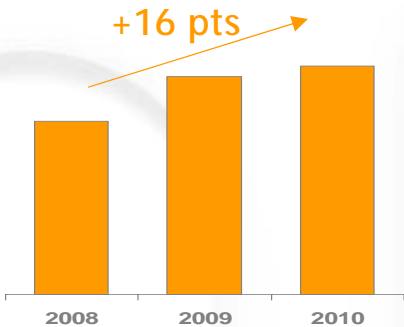
Monthly visits



# of Customers



% customers billed monthly



Sales force efficiency within Point.P

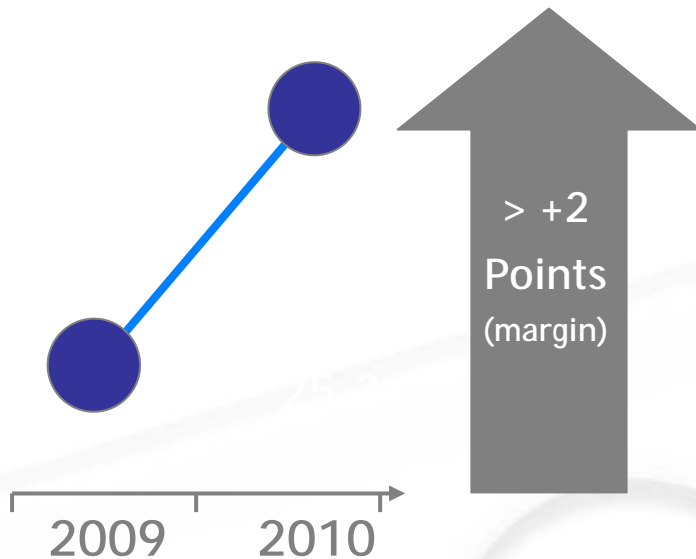




# Pricing excellence (examples)

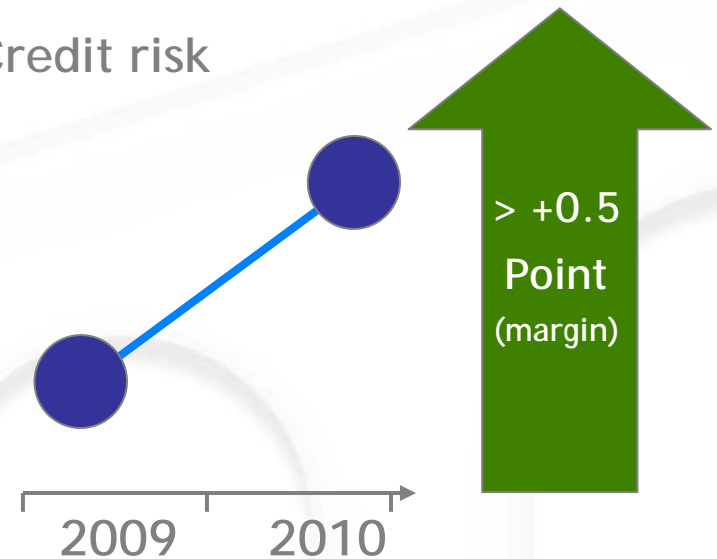
## Optimera Norway

Pricing action plan  
(September 2009 - 2010)



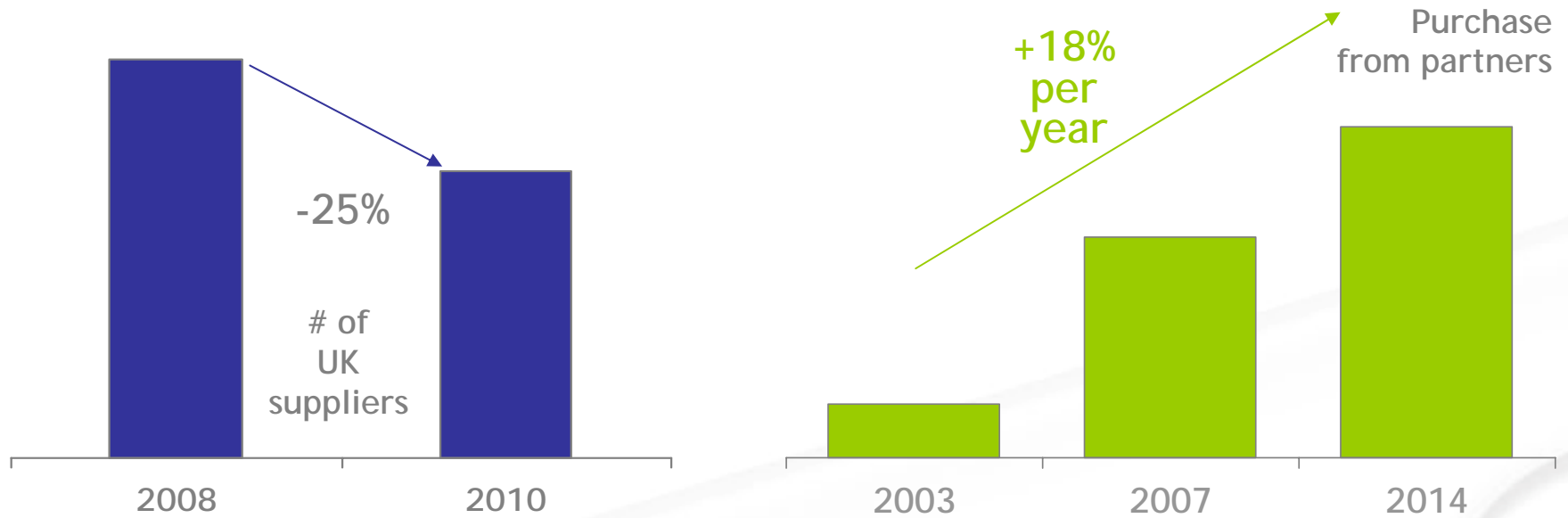
## Sector

- Pricing
- Purchasing
- Credit risk



Best practice  
sharing

# Purchasing excellence (examples)



■ UK suppliers concentration

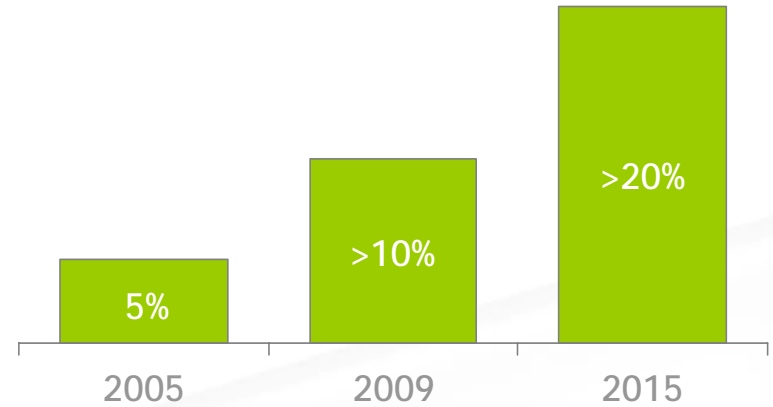
■ Similar actions in **all countries**

■ Selective & higher growth for Sector partners

# Purchasing excellence (examples)

Private label (%) in plumbing sanitary & heating

Increased sourcing in low cost countries



NOVIPro

Alterna



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# Cost excellence (examples)

- **> 50 initiatives** within the Sector in order to **reduce all operating costs** (headcount, transportation, occupancy, marketing, etc.)
- **United Kingdom: 2010 productivity** back to 2007 levels
- **Denmark: back-office merger** between Dahl & Optimera: -15% on personnel expenses

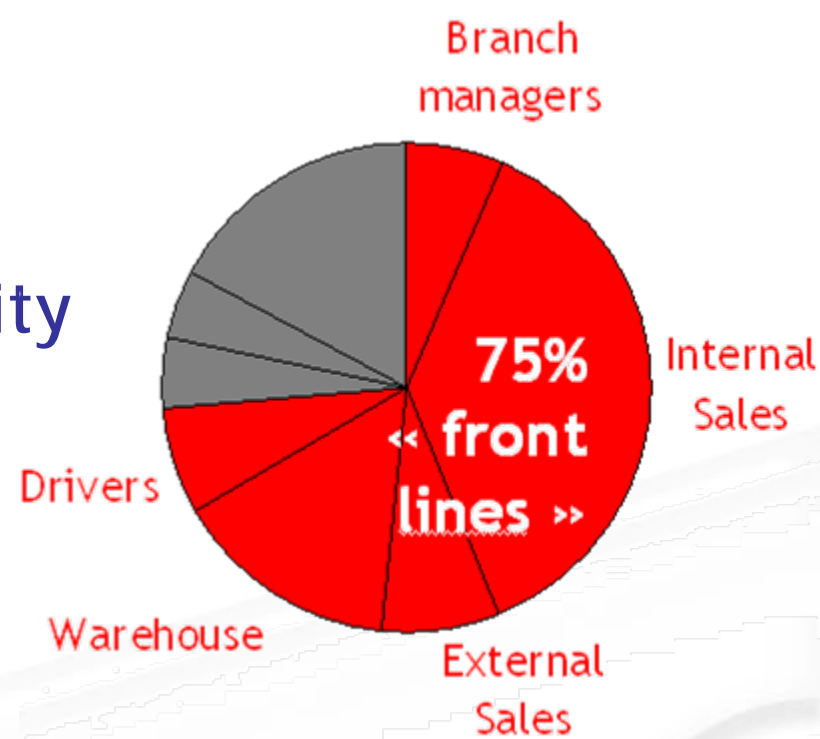


# Saint-Gobain Building Distribution Growth Strategy

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- Deliver success on **differentiating projects**
- Make selective growth investments & strengthen our core business

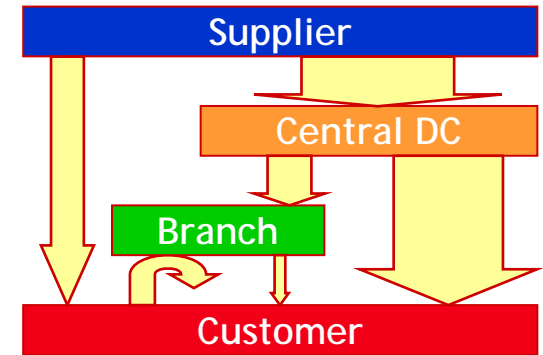
# HR action plans

- Recover pre-crisis productivity
- Optimize “front lines” efficiency
- Invest in training & continue EHS progress
- Enhance talent pools & diversity



# Logistics projects

- Optimization of supplier to customer route & network of **Central Distribution Centers**
- Optimization of **downstream transportation** (branches to customers)
- Centralization of branch **re-ordering process**
- New tools for **warehouse management** within Central Distribution Centers



# Central Distribution Center (Dahl Sweden)

## Commitment to customer

- "Any order before 5pm will get delivered next day before noon time"

## Logistics set up

- 1 central DC (Stockholm)
- >100 trucks (3rd party)
- 5,000 to 6,000 deliveries / day



Significant market share gains



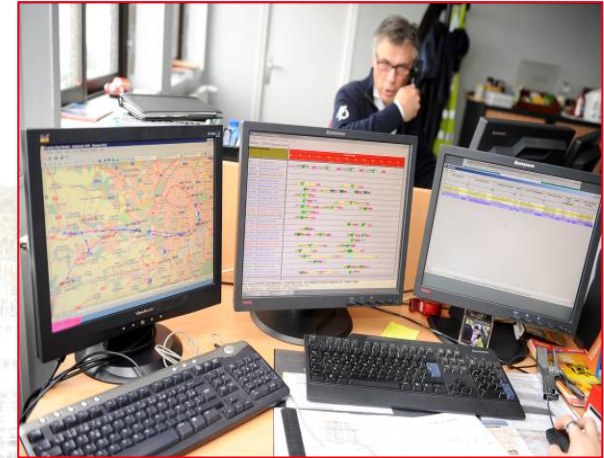
# Downstream transport (Point.P Île de France)

**Cost optimization of deliveries & geo-localization of trucks**

**Customer information by SMS & higher accuracy of delivery**

**+20%**

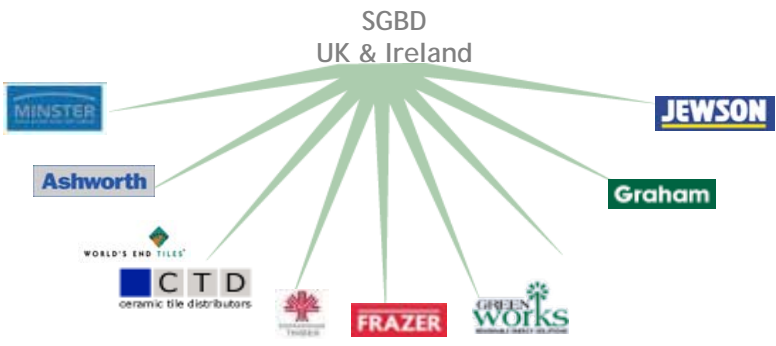
**Superior growth of delivered sales with pool of trucks (2010 YTD)**



# Saint-Gobain Building Distribution Growth Strategy

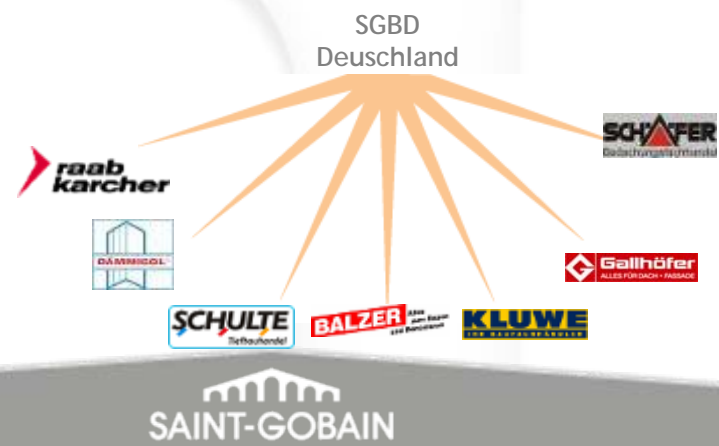
- Consolidate our business by driving day to day operational excellence on key fundamentals
- Deliver success on differentiating projects
- Make selective **growth investments** & strengthen our **core business**

# Leverage growth of each dedicated brand & format



~50% of Sector sales through specialist brands

- Capture growth & added value
- Support from suppliers
  - Team expertise
  - Dedicated marketing tools



# Strengthen our leadership positions

- Select growth investments to strengthen areas with attractive market and solid competitive position
- Still significant growth & consolidation potential in highly fragmented mature markets (5 big European players with < 15% market share)
- Focus on bolt-on to mid-size acquisitions with high value creation

# Cautious development in emerging markets

- Compared to manufacturing, more limited growth due to high share of **new construction & non residential**
- **Few established distribution networks**
  - Lots of small retailers and wholesales
  - High share of direct deliveries from suppliers on projects
  - Few and rather small acquisition targets
  - Risky Greenfield projects
- Still a lot of **informal** practices

**Consolidate existing positions in Eastern Europe  
& capture growth in South America**

# Innovate in growth markets

- Energy savings & renewable energies

**SOLARKAUF** 



- Training of customers

- France: local training of >30,000 customers
- France: increased growth & customers loyalty through energy certificates



  
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# Innovate in growth markets

■ Plateforme du Bâtiment  
France + Spain

+6pts

Like for like growth above  
Sector (2007-10)

Margin gain every year  
(2007-10)

■ New yard merchandising  
& self collect areas



■ 3 formats  
(Classic  
Compact  
Express)



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# Mid term financial objectives

■ Average sales growth: **> 8% per year**  
*(of which 4-5% internal growth)*

■ Operating margin: **~ 6% of sales**

■ ROI **> 25%**

■ ROCE **> 12%**



# Conclusion

- Still some way to go but on the **right track & back to growth again**
- Deliver on **operational priorities** while leveraging Sector & country **synergies**
- Benefit from a **preserved network** and **strong local brands**
- **Highly committed teams** focused on quality and speed of execution

• **Maximize benefits out of the crisis**

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