



# January – September 2009 Conference Call

LeadIng.



THE LINDE GROUP

Georg Denoke, CFO  
2 November 2009

This presentation contains forward-looking statements about Linde AG (“Linde”) and their respective subsidiaries and businesses. These include, without limitation, those concerning the strategy of an integrated group, future growth potential of markets and products, profitability in specific areas, synergies resulting from the merger between Linde and The BOC Group plc, post-merger integration, the future product portfolio, anti-trust risks, development of and competition in economies and markets of the combined group.

These forward looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are outside of Linde’s control, are difficult to predict and may cause actual results to differ significantly from any future results expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements in this presentation.

While Linde believes that the assumptions made and the expectations reflected in this presentation are reasonable, no assurance can be given that such assumptions or expectations will prove to have been correct and complete and no guarantee of whatsoever nature is assumed in this respect. The uncertainties include, inter alia, synergies will not materialize or of a change in general economic conditions and government and regulatory actions. These known, unknown and uncertain factors are not exhaustive, and other factors, whether known, unknown or unpredictable, could cause the combined group’s actual results or ratings to differ materially from those assumed hereinafter. Linde undertakes no obligation to update or revise the forward-looking statements in this presentation whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

## 9M Group key figures

Group sales of € 8.313 bn (-11.5%), Group operating profit of € 1.741 bn (-8.8%)

Group operating profit before restructuring charges down 4.7%

Reported EPS of € 2.47 (9M 08: € 3.29), adjusted EPS of € 3.38 (9M 08: € 4.14)

Ongoing strong cash flow generation: 9.5% increase in operating cash flow to € 1.424 bn

## Further strengthening of profitability driven by our HPO program

Group operating margin before restructuring charges up 160 basis points to 21.9% (9M 08: 20.3%)

Acceleration of HPO reflected in ramp-up of cost savings in all regions

## Outlook 2009 unchanged

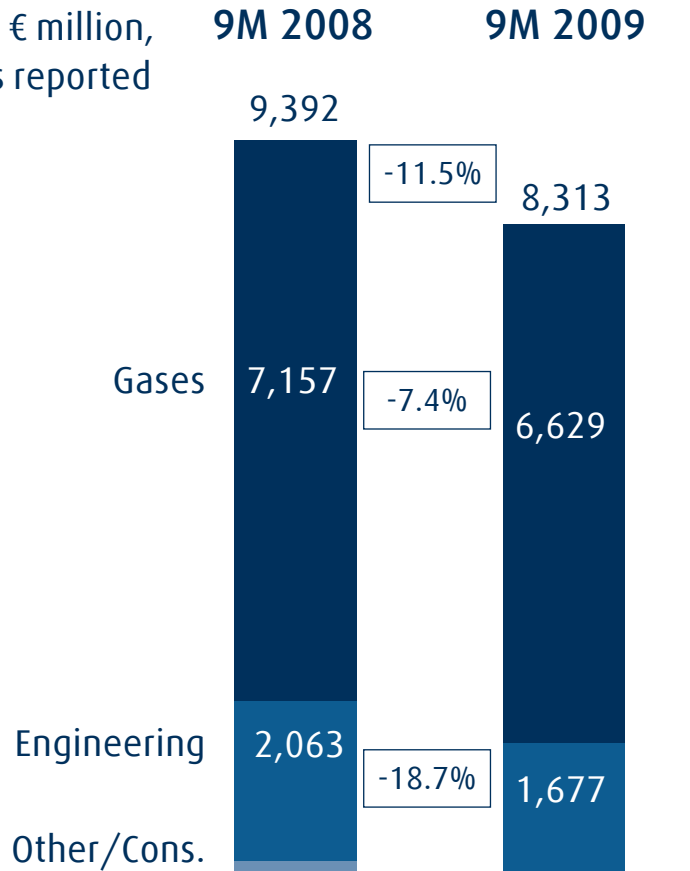
Better business development in the second half-year compared to the first half as the economic improvement takes hold

Sales and earnings level as in the record year 2008 no more attainable

# Group, sales by Divisions

Group sales down 11.5%, Gases sales further stabilising

in € million,  
as reported



## Gases Division

- Comparable\* sales development of -6.4%, -2.9% incl. bolt-on acquisitions
- Volumes are still below pre-crisis levels of Q3 2008, partly compensated by positive pricing
- Further sequential growth, mostly driven by emerging market regions

## Engineering Division

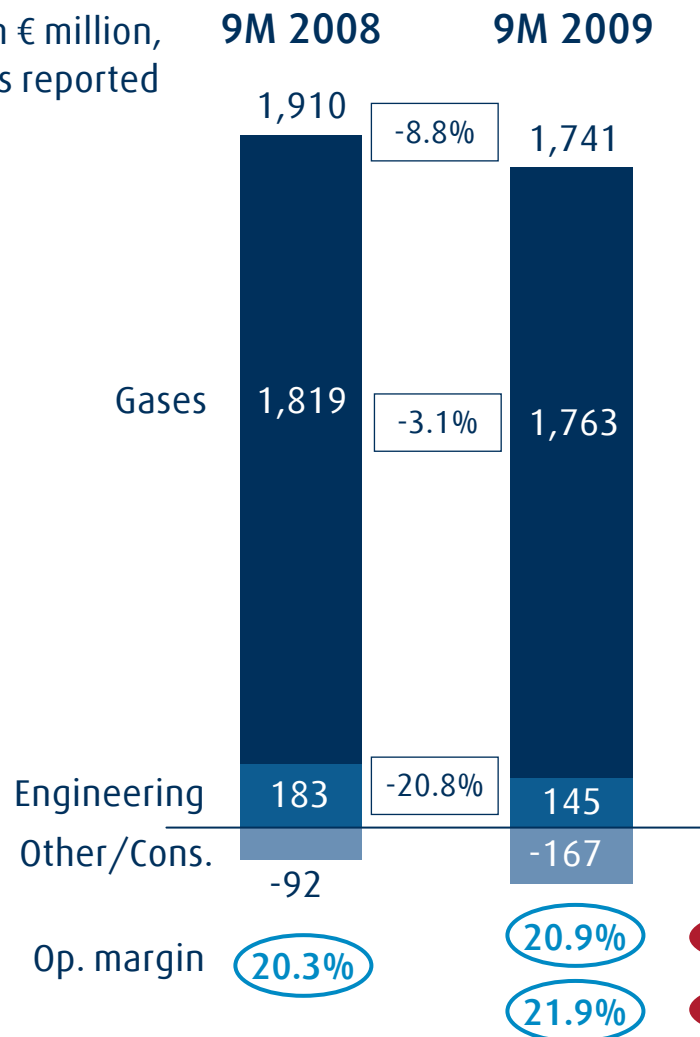
- Sales as expected below last year's record level
- Order backlog of € 3.9 bn

\*excluding currency, natural gas price and consolidation effect

# Group, operating profit by Divisions

Group operating profit excl. restructuring charges down 4.7%

in € million,  
as reported



## Gases Division

- Operating margin up 120 bp to 26.6%
- Synergies, accelerated HPO implementation and positive pricing cushion lower volumes

## Engineering Division

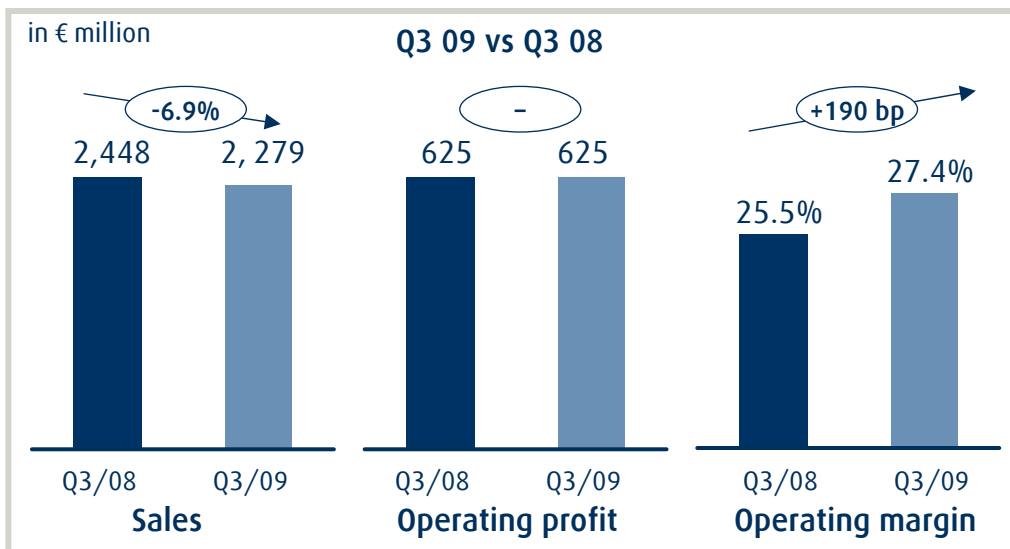
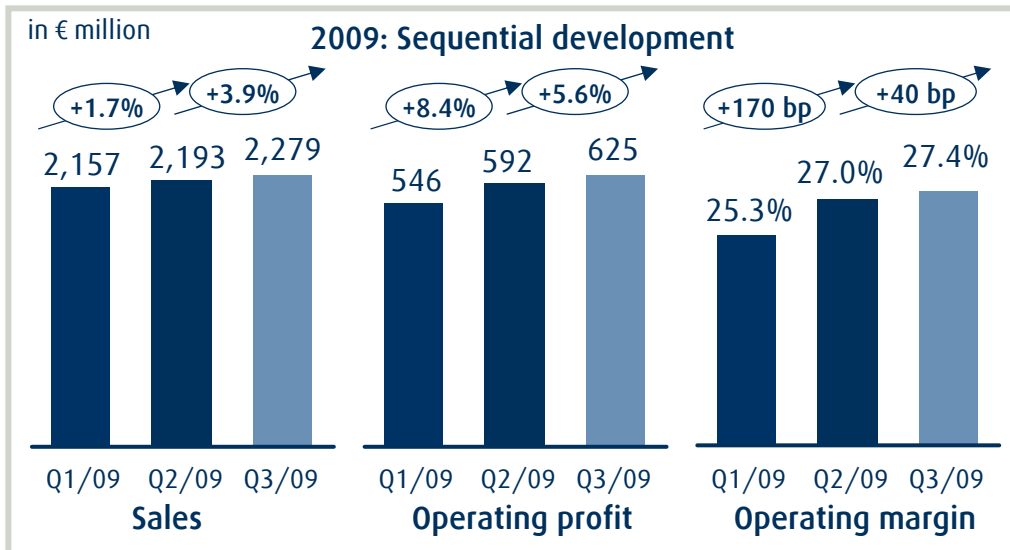
- Profit contribution reflects lower sales recognition
- Operating margin stays above 8% target level

## Other/Consolidation

- Incl. € 80 m restructuring charges

# Gases Division, quarterly focus

## Sequential development



### Ongoing sequential growth

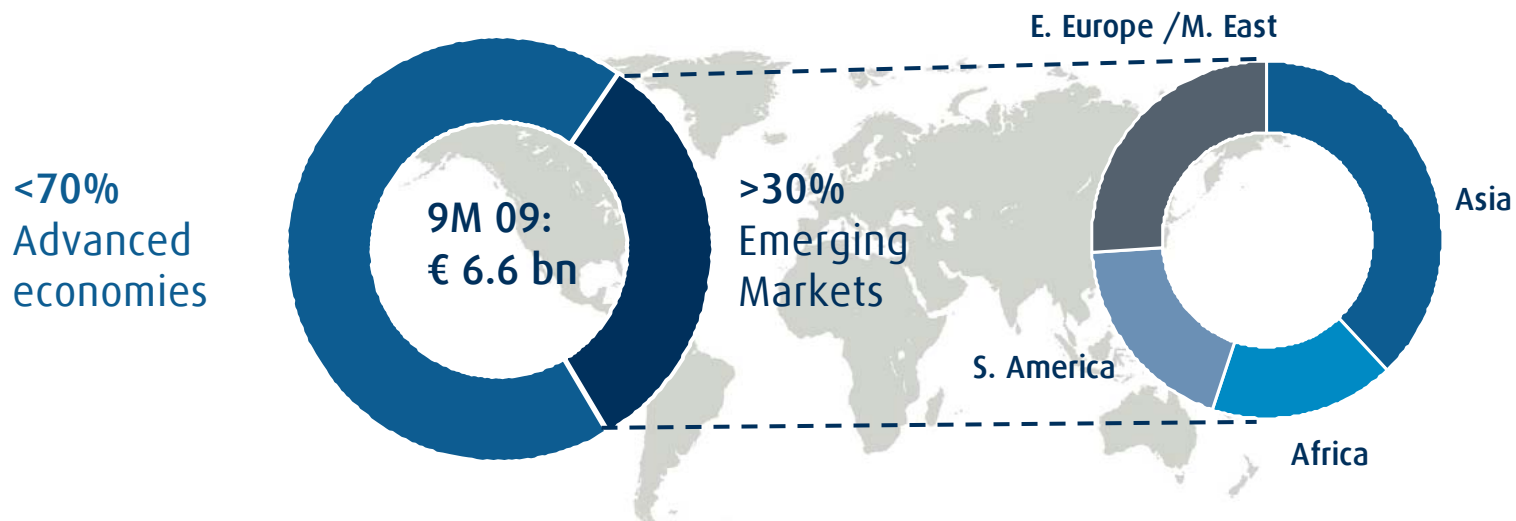
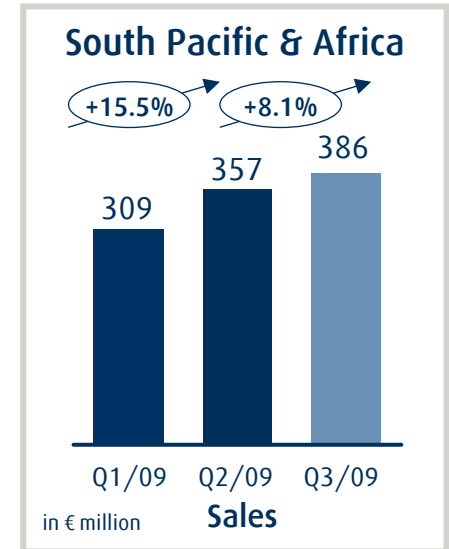
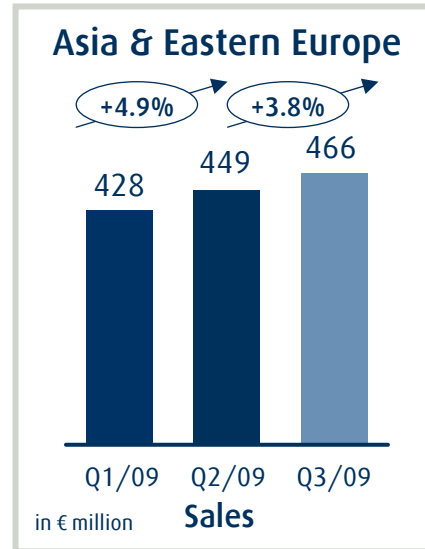
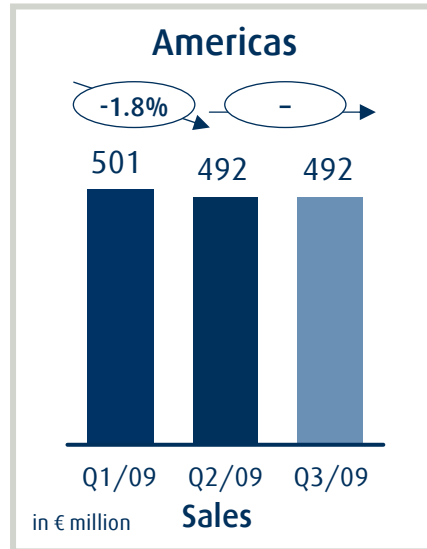
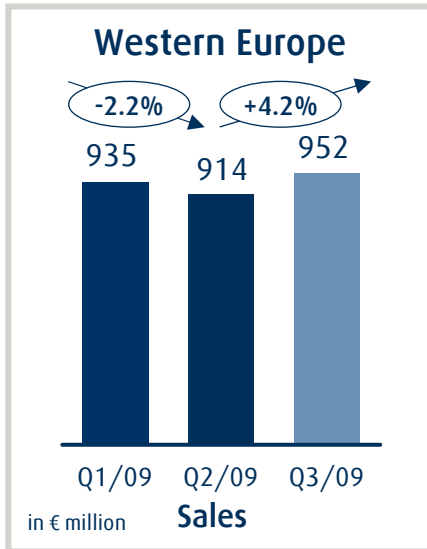
- Further sales increase on Q2 09
- Emerging Markets keep showing the strongest momentum
- Mature economies show first modest increase in sales run rates

### Strong margin improvement

- Significant margin increase vs. Q3 08, another improvement vs. strong Q2 09 margin
- Acceleration of HPO visible
- Excl. natural gas price effect margin up by 90 bp

# Gases Division, quarterly focus

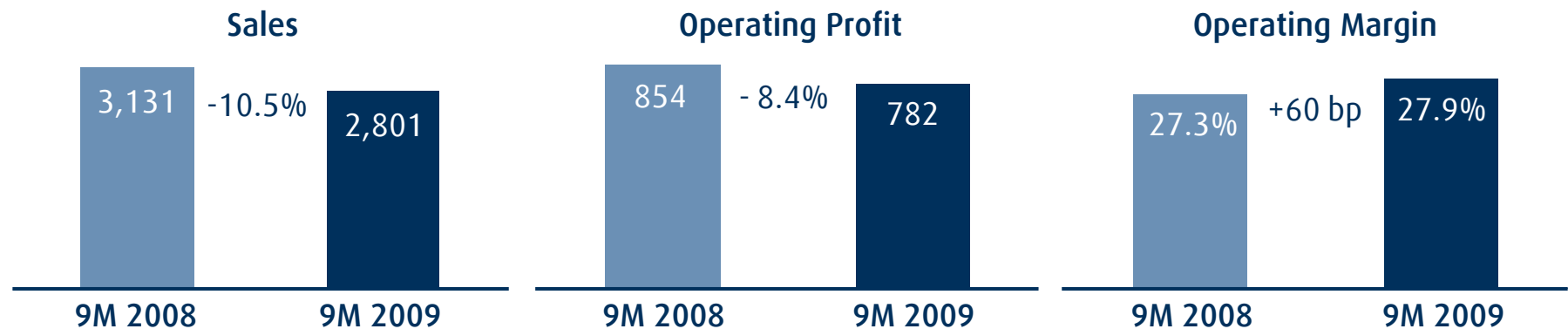
## Sequential development by operating segment



# Gases Division, operating segments

## Western Europe

in € million, as reported



### 9M highlights

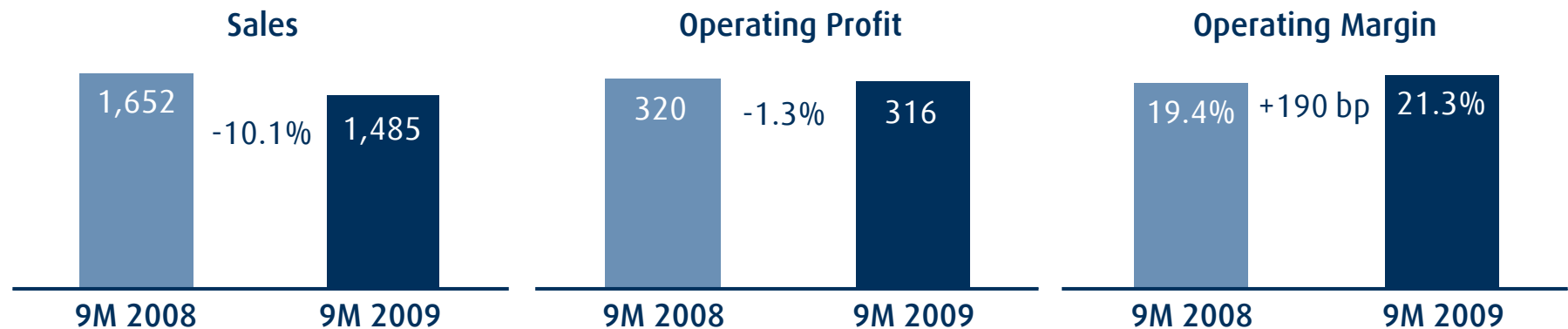
- Comparable sales development of -5.4%, continued currency effect from GBP weakness
- Further stabilisation of demand, but no broad-based recovery yet
- Ongoing sales growth in our healthcare business
- Margin stays strong in spite of lower volumes, driven by our HPO measures and pricing



# Gases Division, operating segments

## Americas

in € million, as reported



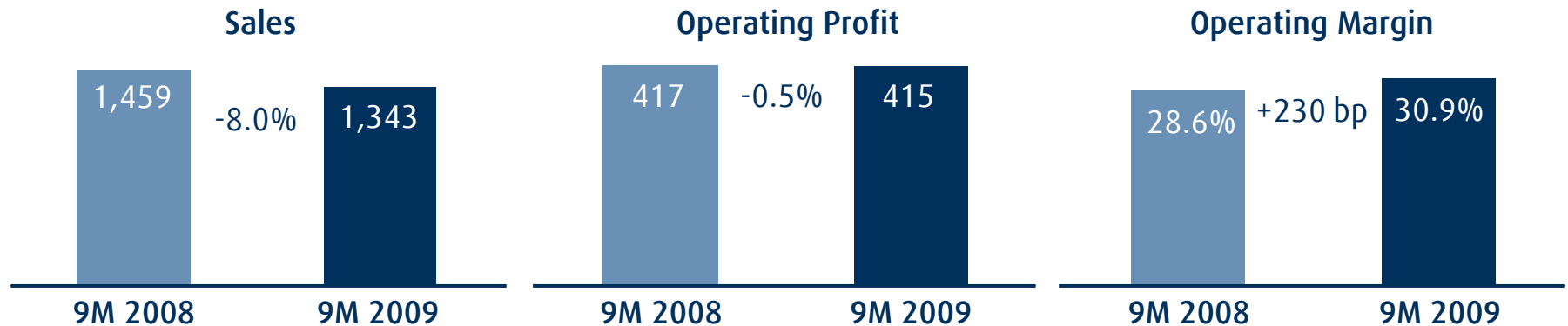
### 9M highlights

- Comparable sales development of -8.3%
- Further stabilisation, with initial signals of a potential recovery in some end markets
- North America: sequential improvements (esp. in tonnage), but volumes still below 2008
- South America: fared quite well through the crisis, underlying growth in healthcare and cylinder
- Substantial margin improvement supported by an early implementation of HPO and pricing

# Gases Division, operating segments

## Asia & Eastern Europe

in € million, as reported



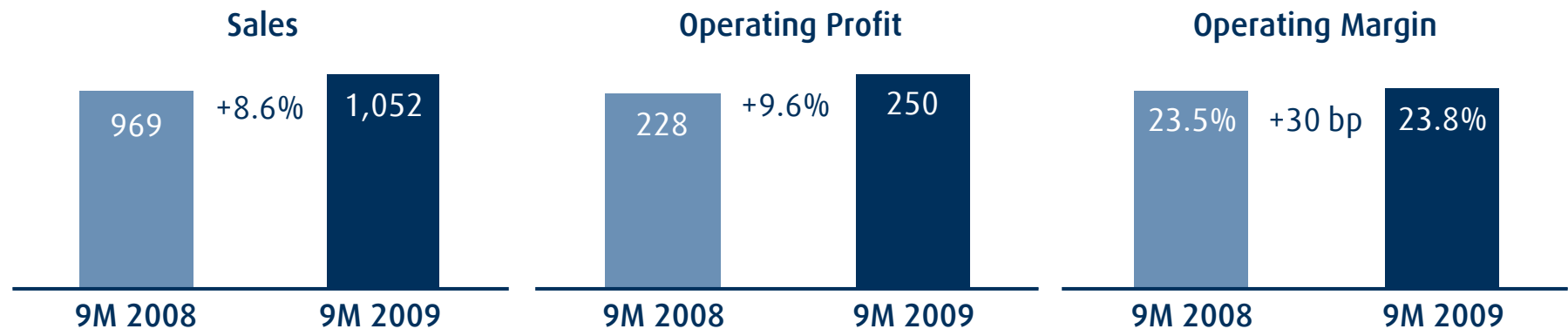
### 9M highlights

- Comparable sales development of -6.4%
- First indications of a slight recovery in sales run rates from the end of H1 were confirmed
- Trends in tonnage keep improving, in particular China back to high capacity usage levels
- Eastern Europe stabilised, but lagging recovery momentum versus other emerging markets
- Margin improved again, reflecting our HPO initiatives and JV contributions

# Gases Division, operating segments

## South Pacific & Africa

in € million, as reported



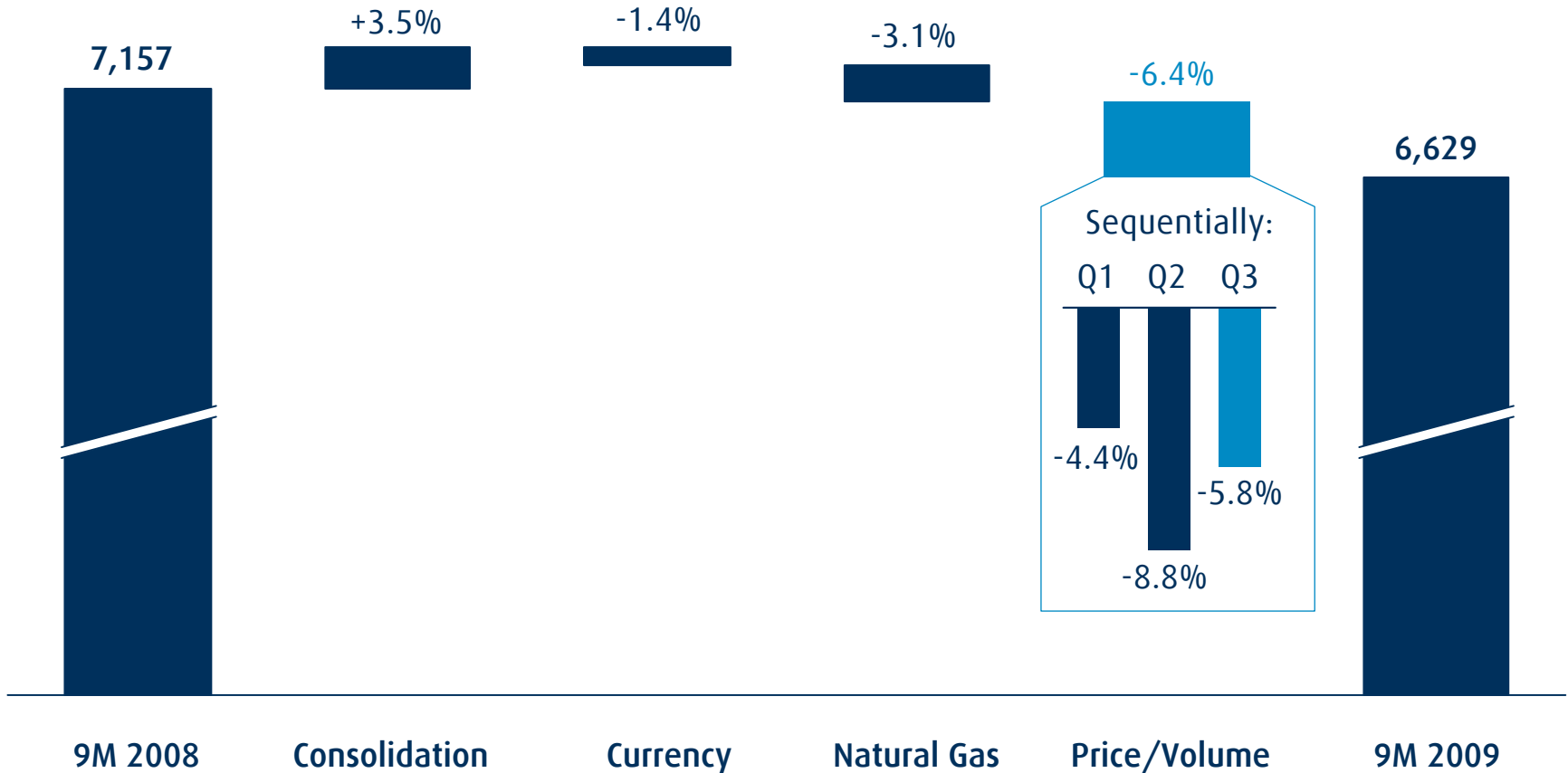
### 9M highlights

- Comparable sales development of -6.1%
- Elgas consolidation more than offsets translation effect from Australian Dollar weakness
- Very robust business performance in South Pacific throughout the crisis
- First slight signs of a market recovery visible in Africa
- Margin development reflects positive pricing and our cost initiatives

# Gases Division, sales bridge

Sales -6.4% on comparable basis

in € million

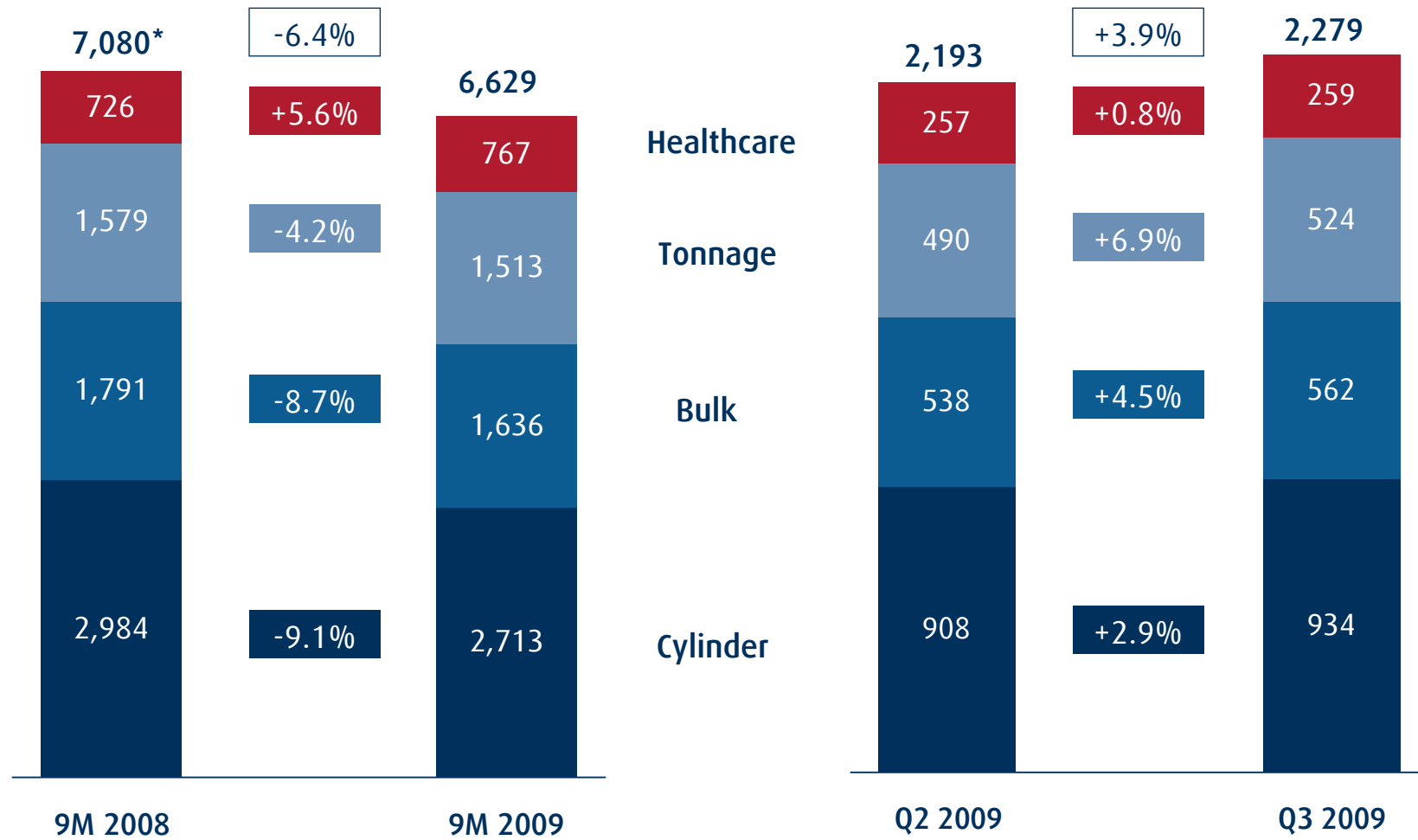


# Gases Division, sales by product areas (consolidated)

Positive sequential momentum confirmed in Q3 2009



in € million

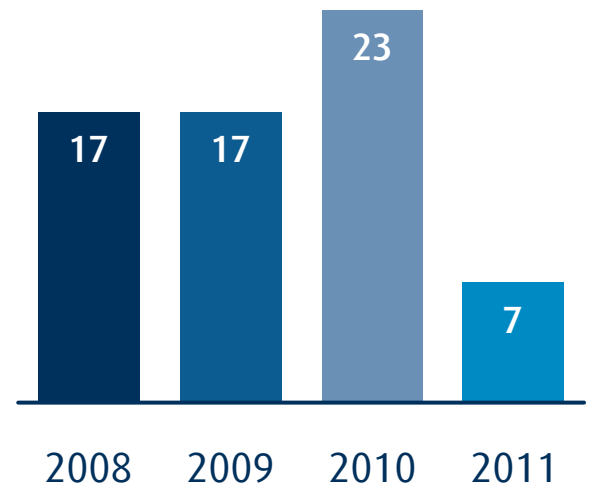


\*comparable: excluding currency, natural gas price and consolidation effect

# Gases Division, project pipeline

## Prospects for projects improving again

- Total project number in our pipeline unchanged at 64 start-ups by 2011 (incl. JVs)
- Still lower activity in new contract signings
- However, customer discussions on potential projects show renewing interest, especially in Emerging Markets
- New tonnage contract with Tata Steel Ltd.: largest ASU in India to start up by 2012



# Gases Division, Joint Ventures

Consolidation effect, but strong operational performance



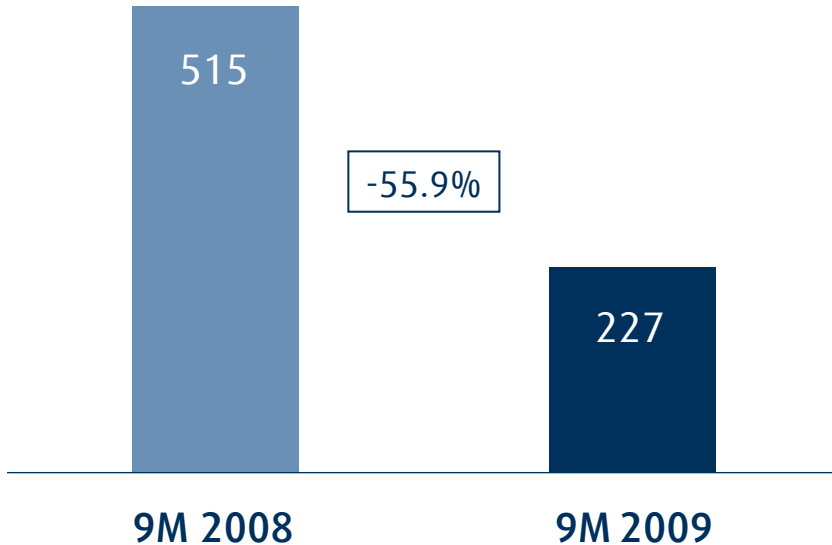
THE LINDE GROUP

in € million

## Proportionate Sales

(not incl. in the Group top-line)

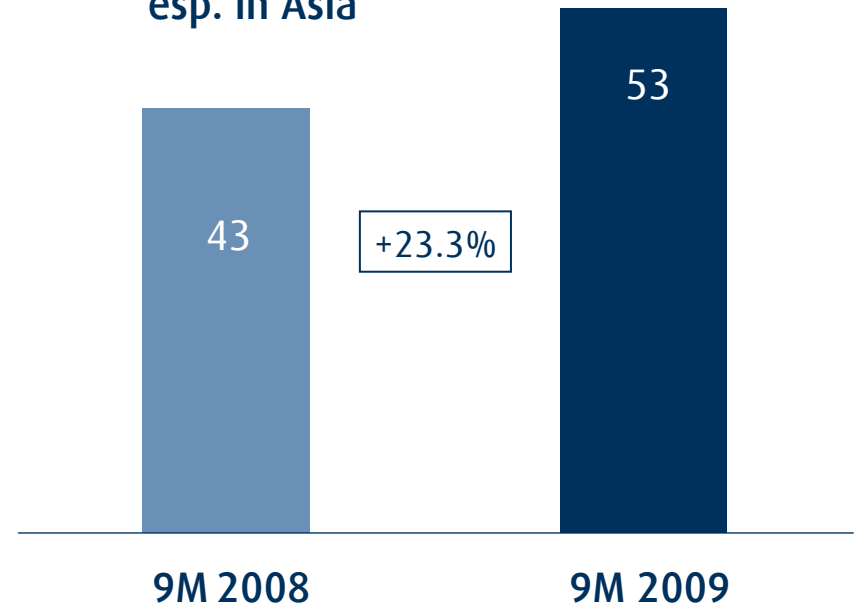
Reduction due to full consolidation of former JV Elgas as of Oct 2, 2008



## Share of Net Income

(contribution to operating profit)

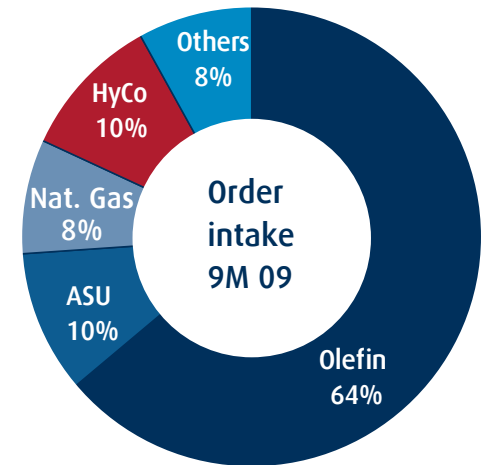
Driven by new plant start-ups, esp. in Asia



# Engineering Division

## Order backlog of € 3.9 billion

- Order backlog of € 3.911 bn (year-end 2008: € 4.436 bn)
- Margin of 8.6% above target level of 8%
- Increased activity level of project development especially in Emerging Markets



in € million	9M 08	9M 09	Δ yoy
Order intake	2,295	1,514	-34.0%
Sales	2,063	1,677	-18.7%
Operating profit*	183	145	-20.8%
Margin	8.9%	8.6%	-30 bp

\*EBITDA before special items and incl. share of net income from associates and joint ventures



# Group, cash flow statement

Another strong cash flow contribution in Q3



THE LINDE GROUP

in € million	9M 08	9M 09
Operating Profit	1,910	1,741
Change in Working Capital	-241	25
Other changes	-368	-342
<b>Operating Cash Flow</b>	<b>1,301</b>	<b>1,424</b>
Net investment in tangibles/ intangibles	-773	-653
Acquisitions/Financial investments	-74	-81
Other	131	19
<b>Investment Cash Flow</b>	<b>-716</b>	<b>-715</b>
<b>Free Cash Flow before Financing</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>709</b>
Financing activities	-703	-564
<b>Net debt increase (+) / reduction (-)</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>-145</b>

# Group, financial position

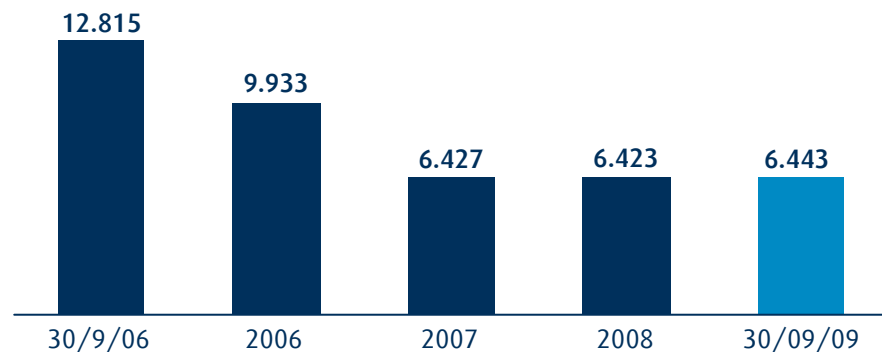
## Well spread maturity profile with strong liquidity reserve



THE LINDE GROUP

### Net debt, in € bn

Net debt/EBITDA of 2.5x in FY 2008 within target range of 2-3x



### Cash position & credit facility cover all financial maturities until end of 2010

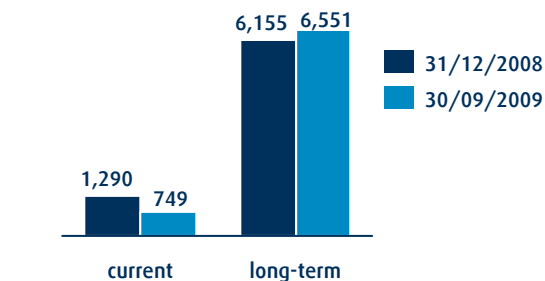
€ 2 bn credit facility available until March 2011:

- Committed with more than 50 banks
- No financial covenants
- Fully undrawn

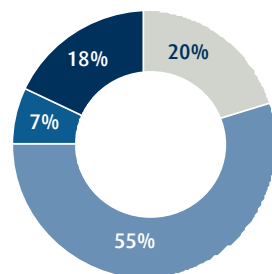


### 90% of financial debt due beyond 2010

Solid maturity profile (in € m)



Financial debt, by instrument



■ Senior Bonds ■ Subordinated Bonds (callable in 2013/2016) ■ Commercial Paper ■ Bank Loans

### € 1.6 bn forward start credit facility – liquidity profile further strengthened until 2013

- € 1.6 bn forward start revolving credit facility signed in June 2009
- Available from March 2011 - March 2013
- Self arranged deal further strengthens financing flexibility
- More than 20 of our core national and international banks participating
- Very good reception: increased facility amount still closed oversubscribed
- No financial covenants\*

\* within investment grade rating

## Economic background:

- Moderate recovery expected in H2, based on the stabilisation since the end of H1
- 2009 global economic output to be significantly below 2008

## Group

- Further recovery in the second half-year compared to the first half as the economic improvement takes hold
- Based on the economic background and the business figures per end of September, sales and earnings level as in the record year 2008 no more attainable
- Confirmation of HPO program: € 650-800 m of gross cost savings in 2009-2012

## Gases

- Better business performance in H2 than in H1 expected as current economic recovery trends take hold
- Positive trend in H2 not sufficient to reach record sales and earnings levels of 2008

## Engineering

- Sales in 2009 to remain below the high previous year figure
- Target for the operating margin remains at 8 percent



# Group Financial Highlights



in € million	9M 08	9M 09	Δ in %
Sales	9,392	8,313	-11.5
Operating profit	1,910	1,741	-8.8
Margin	20,3	20,9	+60 bp
Operating profit excluding restructuring charges	1,910	1,821	-4.7
Margin	20,3	21,9	+160 bp
EBIT before special items and PPA depreciation	1,288	1,079	-16.2
Special items	59	0	-
PPA depreciation	-277	-221	-
EBIT	1,070	858	-19.8
Financial Result	-274	-247	
Taxes	203	155	-
Net income – Part of shareholders Linde AG	552	417	-24.5
Net income adjusted – Part of shareholders Linde AG	693	569	-17.9

# Group Financial Highlights



in € million	9M 08	9M 09	Δ in %
<b>Net income - Part of shareholders Linde AG</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>-24.5</b>
+ depreciation/amortisation from purchase price allocation	+277	221	
+ special items	-59	-	
- respective tax impact	-77	-69	
<b>Adjusted Net Income</b>	<b>693</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>-17.9</b>
+ Restructuring costs	-	+80	
- respective tax impact	-	-21	
<b>Adjusted Net Income (excl. restructuring costs)</b>	<b>693</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>-9.4</b>
<b>Average outstanding shares</b>	<b>167,587</b>	<b>168,530</b>	
<b>EPS</b>	<b>3.29</b>	<b>2.47</b>	<b>-24.9</b>
<b>Adjusted EPS</b>	<b>4.14</b>	<b>3.38</b>	<b>-18.4</b>
<b>Adjusted EPS excl. restructuring costs</b>	<b>4.14</b>	<b>3.73</b>	<b>-9.9</b>

### Purchase Price Allocation (PPA)

Impact in 9M 2009: € 221 m (9M 08: € 277 m)

Expected impact FY 2009: €275-325 m

#### Background:

- The difference between the purchase cost of BOC and related acquisitions in Asia and their net asset value has been allocated to assets on the Linde balance sheet (for BOC, see Linde 2007 annual report, p. 99).
- The revaluation of these assets leads to additional depreciation and amortisation charges according to the useful life of the assets.
- Goodwill is not amortised but subject to a yearly impairment test.
- Depreciation & Amortisation from PPA is excluded from the calculation of Adjusted EPS.

### IFRIC 4: Embedded Finance Lease (EFL)

Impact\* in 9M 2009: € -94 m (9M 08: € -95 m)

Expected impact\* FY 2009: €-118 m \*(on Sales and EBITDA)

#### Background:

- Tonnage contracts dedicated to one single customer (> 95% of sales), who covers all major market risks, have to be treated under IFRS like an embedded finance lease.
- The related cash flow streams are therefore no more booked as sales and operating profit but recognised as amortisation of financial receivables in the balance sheet and financial income in the P&L.
- EBITDA multiple comparison with peers needs to be adjusted for IFRIC 4
- Very minor impact on EPS, no impact on Free Cash Flow

# Definition of financial key figures



THE LINDE GROUP

<b>Operating Profit</b>	<b>Return</b>	EBITDA (incl. IFRIC 4 adjustment) excl. finance costs for pensions excl. special items incl. share of net income from associates and joint ventures
	<b>adjusted ROCE</b>	Operating profit - depreciation / amortisation excl. depreciation/amortization from purchase price allocation
	<b>Average Capital Employed</b>	equity (incl. minorities) + financial debt + liabilities from financial services + net pension obligations - cash and cash equivalents - receivables from financial services
<b>adjusted EPS</b>	<b>Return</b>	earnings after tax and minority interests + depreciation/amortization from purchase price allocation +/- special items
	<b>Shares</b>	average outstanding shares





Thank you for your attention.

LeadIng.



THE LINDE GROUP