# ascom

### MEDIA RELEASE

27 January 2014 Ascom Group Media Office, Daniel Lack, General Secretary & CCO E-Mail: <u>daniel.lack@ascom.com</u>, Tel.: +41 41 761 9721 / +41 41 544 7810

### Ascom increases its Group profit by about two thirds

From a today's perspective, Ascom is expecting a Group profit for 2013 in the magnitude of CHF 36 million and thereby a profit increase of about two thirds.

Full details of Ascom's financial statements and the 2013 Annual Report will be published on 5 March 2014.

#### EBITDA margin of about 15.7% for the core business

Based on preliminary unaudited results, Ascom generated in 2013 in its core business (including Wireless Solutions, Network Testing and Corporate, but excluding the activities related to the non-core real estate) revenues of about CHF 439 million, representing a growth rate of 2.6%. Ascom posted in its core business an EBITDA of about CHF 69 million with an EBITDA margin of about 15.7%.

Including the activities related to the non-core real estate, Ascom generated in 2013 revenues of close to CHF 460 million (2012: CHF 449.8 million) on Group level, representing a growth rate of 2.2%. The EBITDA margin on Group level amounts to about 14.7% (prior-year: 10.9 %\*).

#### Significant profit increase on Group level

Based on the preliminary results and from a today's perspective, Ascom reports for 2013 the best ever operating margin achieved in its history. Ascom is expecting a Group profit for 2013 in the magnitude of CHF 36 million, which is about two thirds higher than in the previous year (2012: CHF 21.8 million\*).

The net debt of the Ascom Group as of 31 December 2013 amounts to CHF 3 million and is significantly lower than in the previous year (CHF 41.3 million). The equity ratio increased to more than 50%.

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#### Wireless Solutions further increased its EBITDA margin

Ascom Wireless Solutions continued to be a stable business on a high profitability level. The Division recorded revenue growth of 2.8% year-on-year and generated revenues of about CHF 306 million for the full-year 2013. Wireless Solutions further improved its profitability and posted the best year ever with an EBITDA margin of over 17% (2012: 16.2%).

#### Network Testing confirms successful turnaround

Ascom Network Testing confirmed the turnaround successfully achieved in 2012. Revenues increased for the full-year 2013 by 2.3% to about CHF 133 million. The Division improved its profitability substantially compared to the previous year and achieved an EBITDA margin of over 13% (2012: -3.5%).

#### Good starting point for 2014

The incoming orders increased by about 11% year-on-year in the core business, also due to a strong order intake in December 2013. In addition, the order backlog increased by about 12% compared to the previous year. The higher order backlog combined with the recently concluded acquisition of Integrated Wireless in Australia will substantially support the achievement of the growth targets in 2014.

#### **Final results**

Ascom will publish further information and full details of its financial statements and the 2013 Annual Report at the Annual Media Conference to take place on 5 March 2014.

\* restated according to IAS 19

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#### ABOUT ASCOM

<u>Ascom</u> is an international solutions provider with comprehensive technological know-how in mission-critical wireless communication. The company focuses on the <u>Wireless Solutions</u> (high-value, customer-specific communication solutions) and <u>Network Testing</u> (a global market leader in testing and optimization solutions for mobile networks) divisions. The company is headquartered in Switzerland, has subsidiaries in 17 countries and employs around 1,600 people worldwide. Ascom registered shares (ASCN) are listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange in Zurich.

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