A world leader in the field of in vitro diagnostics for over 55 years, bioMérieux is present in 43 countries and serves more than 160 countries with the support of a large network of distributors. In 2018, revenues reached €2.4 billion, with over 90% of international sales.

bioMérieux provides diagnostic solutions (systems, reagents, software and services) which determine the source of disease and contamination to improve patient health and ensure consumer safety. Its products are mainly used for diagnosing infectious diseases and some critical illnesses. Its diagnostic solutions are also used for detecting microorganisms in agri-food, pharmaceutical and cosmetic products.
In 2018, bioMérieux recorded highly satisfactory results with sales growth of 9.9% (at constant exchange rates and scope of consolidation) and profitability reaching nearly 15% of sales. These results confirm the solid performance we have seen in recent years. They are the outcome of sustained business activity thanks to the balance of our clinical and industrial product lines and the scope of our international network.

For more than 55 years we have been developing our expertise in infectious disease diagnostics to address major public health challenges such as antimicrobial resistance, sepsis and respiratory infections.

The patient has always been at the center of our strategy of developing products with high medical and economic value. Because our diagnostic tests results are delivered more and more rapidly and precisely, they make a genuine impact on improving patient care. In addition, they contribute to economically sustainable healthcare systems by keeping costs under control.

For example, the innovative syndromic approach to molecular diagnostics provided by our BIOFIRE® product line, is a clear growth driver that has propelled bioMérieux to the position of market leader.

More than 25 years ago, we leveraged our expertise in clinical diagnostics and applied it to the protection of consumer health by developing industrial microbiological control solutions. Today this area of our business represents near by 20% of sales, driven in 2018 by the dynamic performance of products for the pharmaceutical industry and by the rapid growth of molecular biology solutions for the agri-food sector.

As a global public health player, today bioMérieux earns more than 90% of revenues outside of France. In 2018, the Americas region recorded very strong sales (growth of 12.5%), and North America, our biggest market, accounted for 36% of sales. The Asia Pacific region also delivered solid results with growth of 12.4%. Sales in Europe rose steadily by nearly 6%.

To sustain this strong momentum, we continue to prepare for the future by investing at a higher level in R&D than the more average investment for our sector. In addition, bioMérieux has made three strategic acquisitions: Astute Medical, a U.S. company that developed the NEPHYROCHECK® test for the early risk assessment of acute kidney injury; Hybiome, a Chinese company specialized in automated immunoassay tests (in which we acquired a majority stake); and, in early 2019, Invisible Sentinel, a U.S. start-up that develops and manufactures innovative molecular diagnostic solutions for the detection of pathogens in food and beverages.

Since bioMérieux was founded, we have always placed great importance on the quality of social dialogue and on our employees’ professional development and success. With them, we cultivate a state of mind that may be summarized in three words: BELONG. DARE. IMPACT. As these three pillars illustrate, we care about having a humanistic culture, being part of a unique community and our commitment to the territories in which we operate. This approach is inspired by our pioneering spirit, our belief in collaborative innovation and our capacity to undertake entrepreneurial initiatives. This mindset guides our actions on a daily basis and enhances our impact on global health.

We are fully aware that our public health mission brings with it a unique responsibility to society and to future generations and we remain committed to social responsibility in the conduct of our business.

Thus, bioMérieux actively promotes health awareness, education and prevention. We also uphold our commitment as a socially responsible company by sponsoring initiatives to help the communities where our sites are located and by supporting the Mérieux Foundation and the Christophe et Rodolphe Mérieux Foundation, two family foundations that fight infectious diseases in developing countries.

bioMérieux has what it takes to be a leader in our industry: highly motivated teams, proficiency in the technologies that will drive the diagnostics of tomorrow and a unique international footprint. I am confident that we will be able to maintain the current momentum and continue to fulfill our public health mission far into the future.
PARTNERSHIPS

CNES-NASA
Cooperation agreement for the quality control of water in the International Space Station using AQUAPAD

DEINOVE (FRANCE)
Agreement for bioMérieux to provide DEINOVE with more than 250 bacterial strains (130 species) for screening of antibiotic and antifungal activities

LABORATORY OF MEDICAL MICROBIOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF ANTWERP (BELGIUM)
Renewed support for the Global Point Prevalence Survey (GLOBAL-PPS)

EUROPEAN PROJECTS

/INNOVATIVE MEDICINES INITIATIVE/
Participation in the COMBACTE-CDI (COMbatting BACTerial resistance in Europe) project
Co-leader of the VALUE-Dx project

BAXTER (UNITED STATES)
Collaboration to improve identification and treatment of acute kidney injury

ACQUISITIONS

IN THE FIELD OF IMMUNOASSAYS

Astupe Medical (United States)
High medical value NPHROCHECK® test for the risk assessment of acute kidney injury

Hybiome (China)
Automated immunoassay tests for hospitals

IN THE FIELD OF INDUSTRIAL MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTROL

Invisible Sentinel (United States)
The VERIFLOW® platform is an innovative molecular biology solution for the detection of pathogens and spoilage organisms in food and beverages, in particular, wine and beer (early 2019)

PRODUCT NEWS

BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® PNEUMONIA
Launch of innovative syndromic panels for the diagnosis of lower respiratory tract infections. These panels have received CE marking and FDA clearance

VITEK® MS
FDA clearance of the expanded CE-marked database in 2017 for the identification of challenging pathogens such as Brucella, Candida auris and Elizabethkingia anophelis. The database now contains 16,000 strains representing 1,316 species

NEPHROCHECK®
This test for the early risk assessment of acute kidney injury was included in the consensus guidelines of medical societies: ERAS® Cardiac Surgery and Acute Dialysis Quality Initiative (ADQI)

VIDAS® PTH (1-84)
Launch of a third-generation quantitative test to measure parathyroid hormone and support the diagnosis of hyperparathyroidism and hypoparathyroidism

BACT/ALERT® VIRTUO®
FDA clearance for the BPA and BPN culture bottles for use by blood banks

GENE-UP® CRONOBACTER
Launch of a test to detect the pathogen Cronobacter spp for products in the agri-food industry

ENDOZYME® II GO
Launch of an innovative test for the detection of endotoxins in pharmaceutical products

INFRASTRUCTURE

Inauguration of the Shanghai (China) training campus
Acquisition of land for the construction of a new BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® manufacturing facility at Salt Lake City (United States)
Automation of the BACT/ALERT® blood culture bottle packaging line in Durham (United States)
Expansion of the Craponne (France) site
Construction of a new building to house immunoassay R&D and expansion of VIDAS® production capacity at Marcy l’Etoile (France)

CLINICAL APPLICATIONS

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2018 ANNUAL REPORT • BIOMÉRIEUX
DIAGNOSTICS IS POWER
The power to sustain antibiotic efficacy for future generations

bioMérieux wants to unleash the full power of diagnostics to fight infectious diseases and make an even greater impact to improve patient care. The fight against antimicrobial resistance is at the heart of our public health mission.

#pioneeringdiagnostics
As a world leader of in vitro diagnostics, we have been active in the field of infectious diseases for more than 55 years. Combating resistance to antibiotics lies at the heart of our company’s global public health mission.

**80% of sales in clinical applications from products that contribute to the fight against antimicrobial resistance either directly or indirectly.**

**75% of R&D expenses dedicated to combatting antimicrobial resistance.**

The Company offers a unique and comprehensive range of diagnostic solutions that support the responsible use of antibiotics.

700,000 deaths annually worldwide and an estimated 10 million deaths a year by 2050 (1)

A potential cost to global economic output of $100 trillion (1) and an annual decrease in global GDP* of between 1.1% and 3.8% (2) by 2050

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*(Global Domestic Product)


bioMérieux offers a unique and comprehensive range of diagnostic solutions that support the responsible use of antibiotics. Our diagnostic tests make it possible to:

Confirm bacterial infection and identify the causative pathogen to ensure optimal patient outcomes and avoid unnecessary antibiotic use with:

- Vidas®
- Biofire® FilmArray®
- Prevì® Color

Determine a pathogen’s resistance profile to select the most appropriate treatment, limit use of broad-spectrum antibiotics and avoid adverse side effects with:

- Bact/Alert®
- Virts®
- ChromID®
- Vitek® MS

Monitor patient response to personalized treatment duration and discontinue antibiotics as early as possible with the Vidas® test to measure procalcitonin level.

The bioMérieux offer also includes MYLA® lab informatics solutions, allowing to connect several systems to treat microbiological data to consolidate test results, and BIOMÉRIEUX EpiSeq®; an epidemiological surveillance tool for prevention and infection control to avoid outbreaks and limit the spread of resistance.

VITEK® MS: AN EXPANDED DATABASE

In 2018, the expanded database of VITEK® MS, a mass spectrometry microbial identification system, received CE marking and FDA clearance. The expanded base safely identifies Brucella, a bacterium that is often difficult for lab personnel to recognize, as well as emerging and drug-resistant pathogens such as Candida auris, Elizabethkingia anophelis and other clinically important microorganisms. This innovative solution further improves the performance of the VITEK® MS system by adding 272 new species to its database, including 217 new bacterial species and 55 fungal species, bringing the number of strains in the VITEK® MS database to 16,000 representing 1,316 species.

MYLA®: AN IT SOLUTION TO CONSOLIDATE TEST RESULTS

MYLA® is an IT solution that ensures connectivity between several instruments via a microbiology laboratory information system (LIS). It acts as a “control tower” by supervising the flow of information from instruments while providing full traceability of exchanges with the IT system and delivering relevant indicators of laboratory efficiency. MYLA® consolidates all VITEK® MS, VITEK® 2 and BACT/ALERT® 3D results, thereby reinforcing the medical value of individual diagnostic tests. Since 2018, this solution also connects additional instruments that are complementary to the bioMérieux product ranges, so that it is possible to consolidate all laboratory data on antibiotic sensitivity. MYLA® is a valuable tool to support antibiotic stewardship programs.

LUMED: FOR THE RESPONSIBLE USE OF ANTIBIOTICS IN HOSPITALS

In October 2017, bioMérieux signed a distribution agreement with Lumed, an innovative Canadian start-up working at the intersection of IT and medicine. This agreement covers distribution of the APSS (Antimicrobial Prescription Surveillance System) software in Canada, the United States and France. The APSS solution supports clinical decision-making and was specifically designed for antimicrobial stewardship teams.
Sepsis is a serious infection in which the body’s immune response leads to potentially fatal organ dysfunction. It develops from the clinical deterioration of a common infection, such as respiratory, gastrointestinal, urinary infections, as well as skin and wound infections. Although sepsis may affect people of all ages, the groups at highest risk for development of sepsis are: immunocompromised patients, children under one year, adults aged over 60, and patients who may be more susceptible following an illness.

Even though it is often under-recognized, sepsis is one of the leading causes of death worldwide and one of the main infection-related causes of death:

- 27 to 30 million people affected each year
- 6 million deaths
- 1 death every 3 to 4 seconds worldwide
- mortality of 20 to 30%, and in the case of septic shock, up to 70%.

Early recognition and rapid diagnosis are essential to begin effective antibiotic treatment; any delay in starting appropriate treatment is associated with increased mortality.

SEPSIS SOLUTION, BIOMÉRIEUX’S UNIQUE INTEGRATED APPROACH

bioMérieux offers the most extensive range of products on the market for sepsis diagnostics and management, with immunoassay, microbiology and molecular biology tests. The Sepsis Solution allows workflow optimization so that samples from sepsis patients undergo analysis as quickly as possible, thus providing clinicians with results that facilitate medical decision making.

THis PRODUCT OFFERING INCLUDES:

- The measurement of a patient’s procalcitonin level with the VIDAS® B.R.A.H.M.S PCT™ test, a specific marker of severe bacterial infection.
- Blood cultures, with the BACT/ALERT® range and BACT/ALERT® VIRTUO®, a fully-automated blood culture system that continuously processes samples 24/7.
- Molecular syndromic diagnostics, with the BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® Blood Culture Identification Panel, which after just 2 minutes of hands-on time for a positive blood culture, identifies pathogens and 3 antibiotic resistance genes associated with blood stream infections in one hour.
- Rapid, automated identification of pathogens using mass spectrometry with the VITEK® MS system.
- Identification of pathogens and automated antibiotic susceptibility testing with the VITEK® 2 system.
- The ETEST® antimicrobial susceptibility testing range, providing precise information about the concentration at which disease-causing bacteria are sensitive to antibiotics.
- Lab Consulting solutions to analyze sample flow in the laboratory and suggest organizational adjustments to improve operational efficiency and time-to-results.
- MYLA® software, which processes microbiology data and ensures connectivity to link several analysis instruments.

ACQUISITION OF ASTUTE MEDICAL

In April 2018, bioMérieux acquired the U.S. company Astute Medical, which developed and produced the NEPHROCHECK® test for the early risk assessment of developing acute kidney injury (AKI). The test has received FDA clearance and CE marking. This high medical value predictive test is based on using urinary biomarkers that indicate kidney stress in advance of AKI, which can change the way hospital physicians manage this disease. AKI is a frequent complication of severe conditions, in particular sepsis, and it increases mortality associated with sepsis. This acquisition follows the partnership formed between Astute Medical and bioMérieux in 2015, according to which Astute granted bioMérieux a license to develop and market the NEPHROCHECK® test on bioMérieux’s VIDAS® immunoassay system.

NEPHROCHECK® TEST INCLUDED IN CONSENSUS RECOMMENDATIONS BY MEDICAL SOCIETIES

In the second quarter of 2018, the NEPHROCHECK® biomarkers were included in the consensus guidelines issued by the Enhanced Recovery after Cardiac Surgery (ERAS®) Society and the Acute Dialysis Quality Initiative (ADQI), an international organization with over 150 members, specialists in the diagnosis and management of acute kidney injury and related conditions requiring dialysis.
EXPANDING OUR PORTFOLIO FOR THE DIAGNOSIS OF RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS

Respiratory infections are a major global health burden due to their high frequency and consequent mortality. Worldwide, one person has an average of more than two upper respiratory tract infections per year.

It is the leading cause of new cases of diseases, all diseases combined, both infectious and non-infectious.

While typically caused by a virus, bacterial infections may also be the causative agent with considerable consequences for patients. Identifying the infectious agent is important to limit the inappropriate use of antibiotics, to treat patients in a timely manner, and to avoid epidemics.

Despite significant progress in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of lower respiratory tract infections, including pneumonia, these infections cause nearly three million deaths annually.

It is the leading cause of death due to infectious diseases worldwide and one of the primary reasons for hospitalization in Europe and the United States.

Lower respiratory tract infections may be due to bacteria or viruses. Treatment with antimicrobials is often possible. Early identification of the cause of infection and of the antibiotic resistance profile in the case of a bacterial infection are critically important in order to limit mortality due to such infections.

THE BIOMÉRIEUX SOLUTIONS

BIOFIRE® range multiplex molecular biology solutions:
- Respiratory Panel
- Respiratory 2 Panel
- Respiratory 2 plus Panel
- Respiratory EZ Panel (sold in the United States)
- Pneumonia Panel
- Pneumonia plus Panel

The VIDAS® test to measure procalcitonin levels for the management and monitoring of patients with a lower respiratory tract infection or sepsis

CHROMID® chromogenic culture media for the detection of Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Staphylococcus aureus and methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)

The VITEK® range for the identification and automated antimicrobial susceptibility testing of bacteria and yeasts

The ARGENE® range in molecular biology


Syndromic molecular diagnostics, an effective tool in the fight against respiratory infections

The BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® Respiratory Panel simultaneously tests for 20 viruses and bacteria that cause respiratory tract infections. It is improved and complemented by the Respiratory Panel 2 and Respiratory Panel 2 plus, which simultaneously and even more rapidly test for 21 and 22 pathogens, respectively, in just 45 minutes. The RP2 Panel received FDA clearance in 2017 as did the RP2 plus Panel, as well as CE marking. The Respiratory Panel EZ detects 11 viruses and 3 bacteria associated with respiratory infections. The panel is CLIA-waived (for use outside of clinical laboratories) and is available only on the United States market.

NEW RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE USE OF DIAGNOSTIC SYNDROMIC TESTS

In late 2018, PCR multiplex syndromic testing was recommended by the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) in hospitalized immunocompromised patients, as well as in hospitalized patients who are not immunocompromised, if it might influence care 9).

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE

Syndromic Trends is an epidemiology tool based on using the BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® Respiratory Panels in the United States. Contributing laboratories are able to compare their data to that of other laboratories at local, regional and national levels.

THE VIDAS® TEST TO MEASURE PROCALCITONIN LEVELS SUPPORTING ANTIBIOTIC STEWARDSHIP IN RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS

In February 2017, bioMérieux received FDA clearance for the expanded use of VIDAS® B-R-A-H-M-S PCT™. This test helps physicians determine the most appropriate antibiotic to prescribe for patients presenting with lower respiratory tract infections. Using the VIDAS® B-R-A-H-M-S PCT™ test in these frequent and critical clinical situations will contribute to limiting the inappropriate and unnecessary use of antibiotics, avoiding the side effects associated with their use while slowing and even preventing the emergence of resistant bacteria.
Harnessing the power of diagnostics is essential to protect consumer health. Ensuring the safety of agri-food and pharmaceutical products and preventing the risk of contamination are priorities for bioMérieux, which in 2018 confirmed its position as leader in industrial microbiology.
In the pharmaceutical industry, microbiological control prevents the bacterial contamination of medicines and monitors the manufacturing environment during all phases of production. Such controls meet increasingly demanding requirements, in particular for the development of injectable medicines, biotherapies, and cell and gene therapies for patients whose immune systems are compromised.

bioMérieux is constantly expanding its products and for several years has been investing in what are proving to be very important approaches: the automation and digitalization of diagnostic solutions. The Company develops and improves automated systems and carries out initiatives to promote the digitalization of microbiology, which in the pharmaceutical industry remains a manual and non-connected activity. Important developments have taken place for two automated ranges: the solid-phase cytometry instrument SCANRDI® and the automated blood culture system BACT/ALERT®. Both of these systems, which speed up and automate sterility testing, have met with particular success among companies specialized in cell therapy, as well as bioproduction and biomedicine firms. The rapid delivery of the results of microbiological controls helps reduce the time required for medicines to become available to allow for better patient care.

Implementation of ENDOZYME® II recombinant Factor C reagent benefited our supply chain security, quality control and corporate sustainability initiatives by replacing an animal-sourced reagent with an equivalent synthetic for the detection of bacterial endotoxins. This benefits not only us, but horseshoe crabs and the species in the respective ecosystem that depend on them. Based on our initial evaluation, we look forward to the speed and quality benefits of the innovative ENDOZYME® II GO ready-to-use test plate.

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I’m proud to manufacture tests that detect infectious diseases because they help protect us, since we are all patients and consumers.

William Filling operator.

With its GENE-UP® and CEERAMTOOLS® ranges, bioMérieux meets the requirements of various sectors in the food industry for manufacturers of dairy, beef, seafood and even chocolate products. bioMérieux has developed GENE-UP®, an innovative solution that considerably simplifies laboratory workflows through improved productivity while limiting the risk of inter-sample contamination. The menu for the GENE-UP® platform enables detection of the disease-causing organisms most commonly tested for in the food chain. It is used to detect organisms such as Salmonella, Norovirus, Escherichia coli O157:H7, Listeria, enterohaemorrhagic Escherichia coli and, since February 2018, Cronobacter, with the development of the first kit in unit-dose format, which significantly simplifies workflows.

In early 2019, bioMérieux launched a new unit-dose format of its reagents for use with the entire range. This method has been approved by AOAC (a scientific organization that develops globally accepted standards of analytical methods) and by AFNOR (the French Standardization Association). The new format further simplifies workflows for our customers while providing rapid and extremely precise results. Major companies in the agri-food sector have chosen the GENE-UP® system for molecular pathogen detection due to its numerous innovative features. Additionally, thanks to bioMérieux’s worldwide presence, the training and services provided to set up their analysis systems represent a genuine advantage for these international companies.

The manufacture of food products is subject to very strict controls to guarantee their microbiological quality. Microbiological testing is carried out throughout the entire production process, from raw materials to finished product, as well as in the production environment in order to ensure food safety for the consumer.

Testing the microbiological quality of foods is one of the historical industrial applications that bioMérieux has developed for more than 25 years, based on a host of solutions.

Based in Philadelphia, Invisible Sentinel Inc. develops, manufactures and markets innovative and user-friendly molecular diagnostic tools for the rapid, accurate and reliable detection of pathogens and spoilage organisms in food and beverages. VERIFLOW®, its innovative molecular biology testing platform, does not require sophisticated lab infrastructure. It is used by a diverse range of sectors in the food and beverage industry: beer, wine, poultry, fruit juices and even nutraceuticals. With this acquisition completed in early 2019, bioMérieux strengthens its position in food pathogen testing and spoilage organism detection by expanding it to new customer segments such as breweries and wineries. The Invisible Sentinel product line is the perfect complement to bioMérieux’s molecular diagnostic testing solution GENE-UP® system used for food quality controls.
Diagnostic testing plays a key role in improving patient care and protecting consumer health. For our customers, bioMérieux provides a portfolio of services so that they will use diagnostic tests under the best conditions, helping laboratories worldwide perform better and more efficiently, no matter where they are located. Whether for clinical applications or applications in industrial microbiological control, the health priority is the same: to deliver test results as rapidly as possible.
CLOSE TO OUR CUSTOMERS WITH A RANGE OF SERVICES

Customer satisfaction is a priority for bioMérieux. The Company provides the same level of quality and an expanded service offering to meet the specific needs of all our customers, regardless of where they are located. Our diagnostic tests help protect the health of patients and consumers worldwide.

Customer satisfaction survey conducted in 2018 showed that our customers recognize bioMérieux’s performance record, particularly when it comes to reagents, instruments and the quality of after-sales service, maintenance and training.

REMOTELY ACCESSIBLE SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT

For several years, we have deployed a vast program to increase the connectivity of bioMérieux systems with the aim of improving our ability to interact remotely and thereby reducing intervention times, in particular for software updates, system calibration and preventive maintenance.

Remote access (VILINK®) allows us to troubleshoot in real time in most cases, with minimal interference to our laboratory workflow.

I design new digital services to continuously improve the customer experience, which is important to me because it affects the health of patients and consumers.

Nassim
Digital transformation project coordinator

94.5% of customers were satisfied in 2018*

Our ambition is to maintain and exceed our customers’ expectations.

The customer satisfaction survey conducted in 2018 showed that our customers recognize bioMérieux’s performance record, particularly when it comes to reagents, instruments and the quality of after-sales service, maintenance and training.

SERVING CUSTOMERS AROUND THE GLOBE

Around 1,500 employees are working on the ground to ensure the availability of installed systems and the performance of our diagnostic solutions. Our teams are committed to offering personalized services.

REMOTE SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT

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Margarida Pinto
Director of the CHLC Group Microbiology Lab, Lisbon, Portugal

It helps in overall maintenance, and any issues which may affect optimal performance are detected, where even we may miss them. This definitely helps in system optimization.

Dr Michael Mawlon
Consultant Microbiologist, Nazareth Hospital, Shillong, Meghalaya, India

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LOGISTICS AT THE HEART OF THE BUSINESS

At the interface between production and our customers, our logistics teams are responsible for making sure that products are available and orders are delivered worldwide, thanks to more than 400 people and a distribution network including two international platforms and 25 local warehouses. Their main objective is to ensure the availability, quality and on-time delivery to our customers of reagents, instruments and spare parts.

In 2017, we launched a transformation plan for the bioMérieux customer service activity in order to strengthen the organization and make it more efficient. The effects were felt in 2018 with:

- Strengthened management of customer relations both locally and globally;
- The creation of a team of experts in charge of training and coaching for employees in different countries and dedicated to project management focused on ensuring that the notion of service is taken on board as of the design phase of our solutions.

The customer service activity, which is in charge of maintenance, service contracts and workflow audits, displayed strong growth in 2018, reaching 12%.

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The customer service activity, which is in charge of maintenance, service contracts and workflow audits, displayed strong growth in 2018, reaching 12%.

In 2017, we launched a transformation plan for the bioMérieux customer service activity in order to strengthen the organization and make it more efficient. The effects were felt in 2018 with:

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In guiding the Company’s development, bioMérieux has always focused on meeting healthcare challenges all over the world. With over 90% of sales outside of France today, the scope of our activity is geographically balanced.

AN INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS

The Company recorded solid growth in North America (+14%) and sales were robust in Latin America (+4.1%), except for Brazil.

**CLINICAL DIAGNOSTICS**
Growth driven primarily by BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® and the microbiology lines.

**INDUSTRIAL MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTROL**
Strong sales dynamics for our culture media ranges.

In Europe (+3%) growth was driven by Southern Europe, Scandinavia and the Benelux countries, with solid momentum in the Middle East, Russia and Africa (+19%).

**CLINICAL DIAGNOSTICS**
The VITEK® Vidas® and BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® lines made a significant contribution to the business.

**INDUSTRIAL MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTROL**
Strong performance by our solutions for the agri-food sector and pharmaceutical industry.

Growth was powerfully driven by China, which has become the third largest market for bioMérieux, and by India and Southeast Asia.

**CLINICAL DIAGNOSTICS**
Sustained momentum in particular through the development of the BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® range.

**INDUSTRIAL MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTROL**
The culture media ranges have made an especially positive impact on business development.
True to our public health mission and driven by the power of diagnostics, bioMérieux is committed to protecting life. We are focused on improving the quality of life of the many communities we interact with, the development of our employees, furthering access to care for the most vulnerable patients, countering new infectious threats worldwide, and sustaining the efficacy of healthcare systems for future generations.

"Through financial planning and analysis, I help drive the business forward in our pursuit to improve public health worldwide." — Deirdre, Financial controller
COMMITTED TO BEING A SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE COMPANY, WITH A HUMANISTIC VISION

As a pioneer in the field of in vitro diagnostics, bioMérieux has been committed to fighting infectious diseases worldwide for more than 55 years. Our company has always adopted a socially responsible, humanistic approach to business development in line with the values upheld by the Mérieux family.

We take a long-term view when it comes to our employees as well as to outside stakeholders and the community in general. Our public health mission means we have a particular responsibility to today’s society and future generations.

Through our activities, bioMérieux supports the advancement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), which aim to provide a blueprint to build a better and more sustainable future for all.

A PRINCIPLED GOVERNANCE MODEL
bioMérieux is a family company, founded in 1963 by Alain Mérieux, and directed today by CEO Alexandre Mérieux. The Company is 59% owned by Institut Mérieux. Since 2005, Fondation Christophe et Rodolphe Mérieux, under the aegis of Institut de France, has been a one-third shareholder in Institut Mérieux. The Foundation indirectly collects the only dividends that Institut Mérieux distributes in order to finance its activities in the field. Fondation Christophe et Rodolphe Mérieux works in the field to fight against infectious diseases in disadvantaged countries.

THE UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL COMPACT
Each year since 2003, we have renewed our support for the United Nations Global Compact. bioMérieux has committed to respecting the 10 principles set out in the Global Compact, based on four pillars: respect for human rights, labor conditions, the environment and the fight against corruption (see p. 58).

RATING AGENCIES’ RECOGNITION FOR OUR CSR POLICY
For several years, extra-financial agencies have recognized bioMérieux’s commitment to corporate social responsibility (CSR). These agencies, which evaluate the company’s social, societal and environmental performance, have included bioMérieux in their SRI (Socially Responsible Investment) indices, such as the Ethibel Forum (Ethibel Sustainability Index (ESI) Excellence Europe) and FTSE Russell (FTSE4Good Index). After joining additional indices in 2017, bioMérieux obtained new labels: Vigeo Eiris, OEKOM Research, CDP (Carbon Disclosure Project) and EcoVadis. In 2018, the Company was listed in the Corporate Knights Global 100 Index.

EcoVadis, a platform for rating corporate social and environmental performance, ranked bioMérieux among the top 1% of companies worldwide recognized for their CSR performance with a 72/100 score, up compared to the previous year.

In 2019, bioMérieux was listed 26th on Corporate Knights Corporate 100 index, ranking the most sustainable companies with more than 1 billion dollars revenue.
Through my work each day for our customers, I contribute to preventing the inappropriate use of antibiotics and to improving diagnostic practices, so that patients will receive better care.

Ghislain
Product manager

SUSTAINING ANTIBIOTIC EFFICACY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Bacterial resistance to antibiotics is a major public health threat worldwide.

If we do not take action, by 2050 antimicrobial resistance could cause 10 million deaths annually. bioMérieux is a pioneer in the development of in vitro diagnostic solutions for the identification of disease-causing agents and the detection of antimicrobial resistance, helping physicians to determine the most appropriate treatment. The Company also takes part in programs to educate healthcare professionals and to raise public awareness about the importance of the appropriate use of antibiotics in order to combat this threat.

GLOBAL-PPS at the end of 2018:
- More than 80 participating countries;
- Nearly 800 participating hospitals on all continents;
- Data collected from over 200,000 hospitalized patients;
- 3 scientific grants awarded to healthcare professionals from Brazil, Egypt and the Philippines.

BIOMÉRIEUX SUPPORTS THE GLOBAL-PPS

In 2018, bioMérieux renewed its support for Professor Herman Goossens and Dr. Ann Versporten of the University of Antwerp (Belgium), coordinators of the GLOBAL-PPS (Global Point Prevalence Survey). This study of unprecedented international scope, which began in 2015, provides key information about the use of antibiotics and antimicrobial resistance in hospitals worldwide. The GLOBAL-PPS makes it possible to compare results within a single center and among different centers and monitor their evolution over time by repeating the survey annually so that improvement plans can be developed at hospital and country levels.

The sole private sponsor of the study, bioMérieux is involved in two ways: in addition to the Company's financial support, our teams contribute to promoting and developing the study at local levels. In 2018, teams in Africa, Asia, Canada and Mexico helped to significantly improve medical communications with hospitals, encouraging many of them to take part in the GLOBAL-PPS. In 2018, participation in the GLOBAL-PPS continued to grow, particularly in LMICs (Low-and Middle-Income Countries), the study's priority target. The GLOBAL-PPS was mentioned in several important publications, including in the prestigious medical journal The Lancet, a sign of recognition of its international scope.

In 2019, the GLOBAL-PPS will include an additional module on healthcare-associated infections (HAIs). It is designed to provide additional tools to help hospitals implement action plans to reduce HAIs and promote the appropriate use of antibiotics.


As a public health stakeholder, bioMérieux places the patient and, more broadly, public health at the heart of its business activity.

As a Company, we are aware of our social responsibility and, in accordance with Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, we are committed to providing global health solutions that improve the management of infectious diseases.

Our commitments are focused on the fight against antibiotic resistance, the early detection of sepsis and epidemics in Low-and Middle-Income Countries. In addition, we have strong ties with local stakeholders where we are located. And we support also the action of Fondation Mérieux and Fondation Christophe and Rodolphe Mérieux in the fight against infectious diseases.

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WELCOMING LORD JIM O’NEILL

On March 7, 2018, bioMérieux hosted a day of debate and discussion to raise awareness of the public health challenge of antimicrobial resistance and the key role of diagnosis with 100 internal specialists at the Company’s headquarters. Lord Jim O’Neill, an eminent British economist and politician, who chaired The Review on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), took part in the discussions. In his final report, he recommended a set of measures to be adopted at the international level to combat this threat and contributed to the recognition of AMR on the world political scene. The use of rapid diagnostics figured among the top 10 recommended measures.

BIOMÉRIEUX IS INVOLVED WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

bioMérieux is recognized for its expertise in the field of diagnostic testing for infectious diseases and the Company is actively involved with international bodies that are working to combat antimicrobial resistance:

- Participant in the 2017 launch of the AMR Industry Alliance, representing the diagnostics industry on its Board;
- Voting member of the Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria (PACARA);
- Member of the AdvaMed (Advanced Medical Technology Association) and MedTechEurope working groups;
- Leader of the French “Antibiorestance” project of the Association; and
- Partner of the COMBACTE-CDI project (COMbatting BACTerial resistance in Europe), dedicated to Clostridium difficile infections (CDI). In addition, the Company is co-leading a consortium (26 partners) to carry out the VALUE-Dx project, aiming at demonstrating the medical and economic value of diagnostics to combat antimicrobial resistance by optimizing antibiotic use.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING TOOLS

bioMérieux is actively involved in programs to improve awareness among healthcare professionals and the public and promote the responsible use of antibiotics:

- Organizing high-level scientific encounters all over the world;
- Developing in 2016 of the educational website www.antimicrobial-resistance.biomerieux.com;
- Publishing a series of educational booklets for laboratories and clinicians: https://www.biomerieux-diagnostics.com/clinician-booklets;
- Training on the role of diagnostic testing in hospital antimicrobial stewardship policies;
- Raising awareness among bioMérieux’s employees through an annual in-house communication campaign.

COMMITMENT TO THE CDC’S AMR CHALLENGE

In September 2018, bioMérieux joined the AMR (antimicrobial resistance) Challenge, an initiative organized by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to bring government, healthcare and industry leaders together in a year-long concentrated effort to step up the fight against antimicrobial resistance. This initiative expands on the commitments of the 2015 White House Stewardship Forum on the appropriate use of antibiotics. bioMérieux was one of two infectious disease diagnostic companies invited to participate in this forum, among 150 other global healthcare leaders.

bioMérieux is an active participant in the CDC’s AMR Challenge, through three commitments:

- Innovative diagnostics: In 2018, approximately 75% of bioMérieux’s clinical R&D budget was dedicated to developing effective diagnostic solutions to combat AMR;
- International studies: particularly by supporting the GLOBAL-PPS;
- Public-private partnerships. Within the framework of projects financed by the European Commission and led by IMI (Innovative Medicines Initiative), bioMérieux is a partner of the COMBACTE-CDI project (COMbatting BACTerial resistance in Europe), dedicated to Clostridium difficile infections (CDI). In addition, the Company is co-leading a consortium (26 partners) to carry out the VALUE-Dx project, aiming at demonstrating the medical and economic value of diagnostics to combat antimicrobial resistance by optimizing antibiotic use.

Although people are not always familiar with sepsis, it affects 27 to 30 million people annually and causes around 6 million deaths. bioMérieux has made the fight against sepsis one of its public health priorities by focusing on initiatives to reach as many people as possible in order to promote awareness and education about this serious infection.

MEMBER OF THE GLOBAL SEPSIS ALLIANCE

bioMérieux is a member of the Global Sepsis Alliance, a non-profit organization that supports healthcare professionals in more than 70 countries to improve care for patients with sepsis.

To contribute to the global fight against sepsis, bioMérieux supports two events organized by the Global Sepsis Alliance: the World Sepsis Congress and World Sepsis Day, with the goal of reducing the incidence of sepsis by 20% by 2020.

We’ve had great success partnering with bioMérieux to educate healthcare providers and the general public alike about sepsis. Sepsis education and awareness programs are so important, because when patients, doctors and nurses don’t recognize sepsis, it takes longer for treatment to begin, and for every hour that treatment is delayed the mortality rate for sepsis increases by 8%.

Thomas Heymann
President and Executive Director of Sepsis Alliance
San Diego, USA

1) Global Sepsis Alliance: https://www.global-sepsis-alliance.org

Sepsis is the body’s overwhelming response to an infection, leading to severe multi-organ failure. It may affect people of all ages, but the risk is higher for some patient groups: immunocompromised patients, the elderly and children under 12 months, as well as debilitated patients.

Given the magnitude of this life-threatening condition, in May 2017 the World Health Organization adopted a resolution to improve the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of sepsis.

bioMérieux has a longstanding commitment to combat sepsis through a full range of diagnostic solutions. For example, the BACT/ALERT® VIRTUO® automated blood culture system speeds up detection of bloodstream infections by three to four hours. In the case of sepsis, when every minute counts, this can considerably increase the patient’s chances of survival. In addition, bioMérieux organizes education campaigns targeting health professionals, the general public and our own employees. Educational materials are distributed worldwide via electronic communications, videos, testimonials and webinars to help people recognize the warning signs and symptoms of sepsis more easily.
ACTING AGAINST EPIDEMICS IN LOW-AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

JOINING FORCES TO COMBAT PLAGUE OUTBREAKS IN MADAGASCAR

Working in collaboration with the Institut Pasteur of Madagascar, bioMérieux has set up a collaborative project in Uganda with the Infectious Diseases Institute (IDI) at the University of Kampala, expanding the clinical study to include children. The aim of this project is to assess the benefits of using the BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® Meningitis-Encephalitis Panel as part of care given to children presenting with a central nervous system infection at the Mbarara Hospital.

FORGING STRONG TIES WITH LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS

WITH SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

In 2015, the Company established a five-year partnership with EMLYPON Business School in France. bioMérieux was one of the first companies to join the Global Business Network, which brings together major international businesses that are partners to the school. We have become the partner with expertise in the life sciences as part of the I.D.E.A. program (Innovation, Design, Entrepreneurship & Arts), a novel learning approach adopted by EMLYPON to train future innovative entrepreneurs. bioMérieux also supports the development of research projects conducted by the French Corporate Governance Institute (FGC).

bioMérieux and the INSA Lyon Foundation (National Institute of Applied Sciences, France) have been partners since 2010. In 2017, bioMérieux renewed its longstanding commitment to the Graduate School of Biology-Biochemistry-Biotechnology (ESTBB), one of the schools of the science faculty of the Catholic University of Lyon (France) by signing a three-year partnership. Nearly 180 bioMérieux employees are ESTBB graduates, and each year we host students for internships and work-study programs. Since 2008, the HR Director France of bioMérieux has been a member of ESTBB’s Excellence Council.

In the United States, bioMérieux and the University of North Carolina are partners. The Company sponsors the Biomanufacturing Training and Education Center (BTEC) and awards scholarships to two students annually. At its St. Louis, Missouri site, bioMérieux employs interns from Washington University. Also in Missouri, the Company gives scholarships to students selected from two universities. Management teams maintain close ties with these institutes of higher education, facilitating the recruitment of recent graduates to join bioMérieux teams.
exclude a bacterial infection and guide the prescription of illness. This research aims to identify biomarkers that will help under age three admitted to the Emergency Room with febrile São Paulo in Brazil to launch the ANTONIO project for children in France, bioMérieux has worked with the IN CHINA WITH RESEARCH INSTITUTES

IN BRAZIL

Based on the model of the research program ANTOINE (biomarkers to differentiate bacterial from viral infections) conducted in conjunction with the Lyon Civil Hospitals (HCL) in France, bioMérieux has worked with the Infants Institute of São Paulo in Brazil to launch the ANTONIO project for children under age three admitted to the Emergency Room with febrile illness. This research aims to identify biomarkers that will help exclude a bacterial infection and guide the prescription of antibiotics.

IN FRANCE

beMérieux and HCL have begun a new project, in addition to the ANTOINE research program launched in 2017 by the bioMérieux-HCL joint research laboratory located at the Lyon Sud Hospital, focusing on the diagnosis of severe bacterial infections in children admitted to the Emergency Room. The new project involves a study of the NEPHROCHECK® test for the early risk assessment of acute kidney injuries (AKI) among patients with multiple injuries, presenting a profile similar to that of sepsis patients; and who are treated in intensive care at Edouard Herriot Hospital.

In early 2019, Alain Mérieux, President of Institut Mérieux, officially launched Le Grand Palais in Paris. Under the aegis of Fondation Agir Contre l’Exclusion, this French event was organized to promote our industry among the public, in particular adolescents. Around 100 employees from our French sites were in attendance to present their jobs and meet with young people.

Employees of our subsidiaries have also been active in various projects to support local communities, such as:

- Cooking meals for the Ronald McDonald Foundation: several times each year, bioMérieux teams help with the cooking at the Ronald McDonald House in Tubingen (Germany) and in St. Louis (United States);
- Renovating a school in Turkey;
- Supporting the Dynamo Camp in Italy, a recreational therapy camp for children with serious illnesses;
- Taking part in a Day for the Alzheimer’s Society in the UK;
- Preparing and distributing meals for more than 100 people at the Botanique metro station in Brussels (Belgium).

In November 2018, bioMérieux participated in L’Usine Extraordinaire held at Le Grand Palais in Paris. Under the aegis of Fondation Agir Contre l’Exclusion, this French event is overseen by the National Association of Manufacturers, aims to promote manufacturing jobs, in particular to attract young people by organizing an open house. Around 40 students and members of the local community were welcomed at the North Carolina bioMérieux site where BACT/ALERT® blood culture bottles are produced.

In South Africa, bioMérieux has established a partnership with the training firm Skill Tech Solutions to train 23 unemployed people in 2018, some of whom have a disability.
FIGHTING AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASES ALONGSIDE THE FOUNDATIONS

As part of its sponsorship activities, bioMérieux supports the initiatives of the Mérieux Foundations: the Fondation Mérieux, which has public interest status, and the Fondation Christophe et Rodolphe Mérieux, under the aegis of the Institut de France. These two independent family foundations work in close cooperation to combat infectious diseases and to sustainably improve the quality of life and health of vulnerable populations, in particular mothers and children. In 2018, bioMérieux allocated €2.350 million to the Mérieux Foundations. This support was used to carry out a number of projects to benefit disadvantaged communities.

HELPING MOTHERS AND CHILDREN

The Foundations work alongside local partners in countries where laboratories have been set up and countries affected by humanitarian crises. Health, hygiene, education and the development of socio-economic activities are the fields where initiatives are organized to improve living conditions and access to care for the most vulnerable populations, in particular mothers and their children.

DEVELOPING ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE FOR REFUGEES, DISPLACED AND DISADVANTAGED POPULATIONS

IN BANGLADESH

The Foundations contribute to improving access to care for people in isolated areas of Bangladesh. In particular, they work alongside the NGO Friendship to fund and launch laboratory activities at the Shyamnagar Hospital and to provide training for lab personnel. On the island of Maheshkhali, a center to provide care for children with disabilities has been set up thanks to a partnership with the Bangladeshi Ministry of Health, the NGO AMO (Medical Aid for Development), and the NGO SARVP (Social Assistance and Rehabilitation for the Physically Vulnerable).

IN MADAGASCAR

The Foundations support health education initiatives for Malagasy children through a partnership with local stakeholders and government authorities. Using modern technologies, they are developing interactive health education kits, that give children an active role and stimulating discussion. The WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) kit was distributed in nearly 100 schools in 2018. It takes a playful approach to teaching children about good hygiene and good habits that help prevent the spread of diseases. Additional kits are being developed on other topics: nutrition, sexual education and the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases.

MEETING BASIC NEEDS

IN HAITI

Since the construction of the Village of Nazareth in 2012, the Foundations have continued to support this orphanage located in Leogane, home to nearly 70 young girls. The aid allows the center to operate and grow, and each year construction projects make it possible to develop income-generating activities. Projects in 2018 included the installation of dry toilets, repainting of all the buildings, and the renovation of four classrooms.

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CHRISTOPHE MÉRIEUX PRIZE AWARDED TO DR. PATRICIA BRASIL

Dr. Patricia Brasil, a researcher and professor of tropical medicine and clinical research at the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation in Brazil, received the 2018 prize for her study of pregnant women and neonatal complications following infection with the Zika virus. She created the Febrile Disease Research Clinic at the Evandro Chagas Institute of Clinical Research (IPEC) and focuses her work on emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases.

SUPPORT FOR THE ROHINGYAS REFUGEES

As part of an equipment donation program, bioMérieux has donated BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® and mini VIDAS® systems to the Mérieux Foundation to support initiatives in Bangladesh that provide aid to the Rohingyas refugees.

SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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Committed to our workforce

At bioMérieux, we are convinced that economic performance is meaningful only when it is combined with social performance, and therefore the professional development of our employees is very important to us. With 70% of our workforce located in France and the United States, these two countries are the benchmark and the drivers of the socially responsible policy that we seek to apply to all our employees worldwide.

Two systems are in place to meet professional development needs: Mérieux Université, a corporate university created to train Group employees, and a regional organization to be in line with local requirements.

Sébastien
Manufacturing Technical Assistant

“I feel enthusiastic about my work to manufacture quality products that will help improve the lives of women and men all over the world.”

Supporting the success and skill development of every employee

Mérieux Université is a corporate university founded in 2014 to support the development of the employees of the companies that are part of Institut Mérieux.

It provides training, ensures the transmission of a strong entrepreneurial culture within the Group and helps to build bridges among its various entities.

Its teams are active in three regions: EMEA (Europe, Middle East and Africa), the Americas and Asia Pacific.

Our priority focus today is blended learning, which combines complementary training approaches: e-learning, face-to-face training, massive open online courses (MOOC), lectures, video training, etc. In 2018, several remote training options became available through the Learning Portal, which opened in 2017 in order to complement face-to-face training. Employees have unrestricted access to video tutorials and use the software to continue developing their skills.

224,600 hours of training provided in 2018

+20 hours of training per employee (on average)
ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS
Mérieux Université works with bioMérieux teams during team-building exercises designed to enhance the organization’s collective performance and help teams develop, transfer and improve the ways they work together. In 2018, 1,296 people were coached.

MANAGEMENT ET LEADERSHIP
NEW LEADER INDUCTION
This training program for newly recruited managers fosters the development of a shared management culture to facilitate their successful transition. Since it was created in 2015, it has been an added feature in the Company’s attractiveness. In 2018, 32 people participated in the program.

FIT FOR THE FUTURE
This week of intensive training is a genuine talent booster, bringing together employees to work on topics that are of key interest to bioMérieux. They also attend presentations by renowned speakers from outside the Company. After working on their projects for six months, participants present them to the Management Committee for validation and implementation of actions plans across the Company. In 2018, 19 employees took part in the fourth edition of this training program.

PROGRAM GMS & CLUSTER HEADS
This seminar brings together subsidiary and cluster directors with the aim of communicating the Company’s strategy and perspectives, and gathering participants’ insights and feedback about cross-functional initiatives. The seminar was held for the third time in May 2018.

SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCES
Each year, two types of events are organized to share information on scientific topics.

- The Institut Mérieux Encounters focused on Brazil and current trends in microbiology.
- The bioMérieux Days were held three times on the topic of preserving antibiotic efficacy, tuberculosis and serious respiratory infections.

EMPLOYEE SKILLS TRAINING
These training programs are designed to improve employees’ skills in line with the evolving demands of their jobs and customer needs. They cover a number of different sectors and functions.

SALES: We continued to develop inter-regional training programs for sales forces and began setting up an international network of trainers so that our employees will receive training in their local language.

SUPPLY CHAIN: In partnership with Mérieux Université and the Rennes School of Business (France), bioMérieux Supply Chain teams have developed a six-module training program open to all Company employees. The “Supply Chain Academy” aims to develop skills, encourage future talent and earn market recognition for the bioMérieux Supply Chain as a key player in customer satisfaction.

MARKETING: We continued to roll out “Marketing 4 Impact” for global and local marketing teams. This training program revisits the position and role of marketing, especially the connection with R&D and local marketing.

PURCHASING: The “Purchasing Academy” was founded to strengthen key skills for employees in this division: complex negotiating skills and the capacity to influence. Pilot training sessions were organized at the end of the year to prepare for global deployment in 2019.

ETHICS, COMPLIANCE AND CYBERSECURITY: Training for all employees about information security aims to improve data protection and emphasize each individual’s responsibility and understanding of good practices. More targeted modules cover specific issues that are important for employees working in areas such as finance, for example.

2,850 people received job-related trainings
800 people received “change management” support
700 people received leadership training

QUALITY OF SOCIAL DIALOGUE
Since its founding, bioMérieux has been strongly committed to the quality of social dialogue and works in close concertation with social partners and employee representatives in France and throughout our subsidiaries. Discussions focus on a number of pivotal topics for the Company. In 2018, the bioMérieux Central Works Council met 11 times for information or consultation meetings. The European Works Council, created in 2008, met twice during the year.

5 AGREEMENTS NEGOTIATED WITH LABOR UNIONS IN FRANCE
- 2018 Agreement on the Mandatory Annual Negotiations, signed unanimously
- Agreement to extend the terms of employee representatives until October 31, 2019 while awaiting the establishment of the Economic and Social Committee (ESC); signed unanimously
- Agreement on the Customer Service organization providing nonstop service seven days a week
- La Balme/Saint-Vulbas site agreement concerning implementation of working hours between 4 pm and midnight to improve customer deliveries, signed unanimously
- Agreement on the quality of life at work, negotiated in 2018 and signed in early 2019

PREVENTING PSYCHOSOCIAL RISKS
Since 2016, the prevention of psychosocial risks (PSR) has been included in the single assessment guidelines for occupational hazards (Document Unique d’Évaluation des Risques Professionnels, DUERP) at the Company. In 2017, a pilot training for PSR working groups on the identification of the various stress factors and the different resources available to overcome these factors was tested at the La Balme/Saint-Vulbas, Grenoble and Versailles sites in France. It was then rolled out across all sites in 2018.

The promotion of healthy living takes many forms:
- All Group employees are covered by health insurance;
- Sites encourage employees to engage in sports activities;
- Seasonal influenza vaccination campaigns are organized at most sites (France, United States, Asia Pacific);
- In the United States, bioMérieux is rolling out a pilot healthcare and education program through a medical center for employees and their families in St. Louis. The St. Louis and Durham sites raise awareness among employees and their families about priority public health measures. A digital program to help people lose weight is also available to employees.

PROMOTING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND WELL-BEING IN THE WORKPLACE

The “Fit for the Future” program was a really great experience for me, and far beyond my expectations. We had a very broad mix of senior people, more than 11 nationalities, a long-lasting effect on me.

The Institut Mérieux Encounters focused on Brazil and current trends in microbiology.

The bioMérieux Days were held three times on the topic of preserving antibiotic efficacy, tuberculosis and serious respiratory infections.

Can Aydoğan
Marketing Manager, Turkey
SHARE OF EMPLOYEES WITH DISABILITIES IN THE WORKFORCE

"HandiBio" Days were organized in France at the Marcy, Craponne, Combourg and Grenoble sites with the goal of improving employee awareness about disability.

SHARE OF EMPLOYEES WITH DISABILITIES IN THE WORKFORCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>% IN 2018</th>
<th>% IN 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMEA*</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRANCE</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMERICAS</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIA PACIFIC</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Women Ready for Leadership Diversity (WoRLD) network is open to all bioMérieux employees worldwide, both women and men. Since it was created in 2013, this in-house network has been promoting greater diversity in management positions in parallel to initiatives by the Human Resources Department. In 2018, WoRLD renewed two major partnerships, first with Alliance pour la Mixité et l’Ensemble (AME), an organization that connects the networks of around 30 companies operating in the Rhône-Alpes region, and secondly with the social enterprise JUMP. These partnerships provided bioMérieux employees the opportunity to participate in 10 or so inter-company events organized by AME in 2018 to address the challenges of increasing the role of women in corporate management. In October 2018, bioMérieux also hosted the JUMP Forum in Lyon for the third year running. Nearly 250 participants attended the forum, which focused on the theme of “Sharing power for more responsible leadership.” Finally, in-house networking events continued to help participants expand their network of bioMérieux contacts.

HIRING YOUNG PEOPLE

Attracting and hiring young people, who represent a talent pool for the future, is a priority of bioMérieux’s HR policy. The Company supports their integration into the workforce through its training programs.

The Company opens its doors to young people through a wide range of options:
- Job shadowing for high-school internships;
- Pharmacy student internships;
- International internship program (V.I.E.); 12 participants worked on an assignment with one of the Company’s subsidiaries and 9 were offered a contract at the end of their assignment in France, Singapore and Australia;
- Internships and work-study: 176 interns and 547 work-study candidates were taken on (with qualifications ranging from the baccalauréat to a graduate degree), and these figures are steadily rising.

The Company participated in nearly 20 student fairs

The 2018 Bike & Run, a sports challenge involving manager/student pairs, was organized on the EMLYON campus in France. A total of 13 bioMérieux managers ran with 11 university students from Centrale Lyon, ESTEB, Grenoble INP, EMLYON and Sciences Po Lyon. On the Bike & Run website, internship vacancies at bioMérieux were consulted 478 times.

THE "BEST PLACE TO WORK" APPROACH

The “Best Place to Work” program was launched in late 2016 at all our subsidiaries in the EMEA* region to strengthen employees’ pride of belonging, trust in management and a friendly atmosphere within the Company.

IDAY IDEA TANK

iDay, a dedicated day during which employees are invited to make suggestions and share ideas about improving employee engagement. This initiative, organized on February 8, 2018, met with resounding success. Some 1,000 employees took part and nearly 20,000 suggestions and more than 10,000 expressions of support were received from all over the world. The 7 winners selected by the jury traveled to the headquarters or to a site of their choice and met with colleagues and management teams. The idea that received the most support was implemented in 2018: a collaborative platform among co-workers for various purposes: from swapping houses during holidays to traveling abroad to learn a new language...
In 2016, bioMérieux laid out its “Vision 2020” policy, through which it aims to achieve ambitious objectives to protect the environment and the safety and health of employees on all company sites. This policy is aligned with the Corporate strategy, and is managed and monitored by a global Health, Safety and Environment committee.

VISION 2020: EXPANDING OUR HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES IN 2018

In 2017, we added the assessment of water consumption to this program, and following results that exceeded expectations in 2016 and 2017, we raised our energy consumption and waste reduction objectives. In 2018, we made an addition to Vision 2020, setting the objective of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, which concerns both direct and indirect emissions related to energy consumption.

VISION 2020 OBJECTIVES AND RESULTS AT END OF 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Result 2018</th>
<th>Target 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20% reduction in our energy consumption</td>
<td>-16%</td>
<td>-21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25% reduction in waste generation</td>
<td>-9%</td>
<td>-15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20% reduction in water consumption</td>
<td>-15%</td>
<td>-16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20% reduction in GHG emissions</td>
<td>+5%</td>
<td>+3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30% reduction in our accident rate (LDIR)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certification ISO 14001 and/or OHSAS 18001 of bioindustrial sites</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* From 2016 to 2020
For several years now, the Company has applied an eco-design approach to take on board the environmental aspects of the product life cycle during the development processes. This approach is based on sobriety in terms of the choice and use of materials in a broad sense to manufacture and commercialize our diagnostic systems.

The aim is to think about manufacturing, transportation, use and end-of-life of products right from the beginning of the innovation process, as part of a sustainable approach.

**ENERGY SAVINGS**

By 2020, we have planned to implement energy management systems at our main sites. Today 50% of the electricity consumed by our European sites comes from renewable sources. Since October 2018, 100% of CO₂ emissions related to gas consumption at French sites are offset. In the United States, a detailed energy audit was launched at the St. Louis and Durham sites, with the aim of assessing insulation in buildings, establishing consumption profiles of machinery and reassessing that equipment consumption is consistent with production needs.

**SAVINGS DURING TRANSPORTATION AND DISTRIBUTION**

bioMérieux works closely with suppliers and logistics providers to improve the Company’s health, safety and the environment results. In 2018, HSE specifications were drawn up for key family products and services, and a carbon emissions roadmap was developed for distribution.

Since 2017, maritime transportation has been replacing air transportation for some shipments, increasing from 13% in 2017 to 20% in 2018. In addition, for the first time, in 2018 a shipment was transported by rail from France to Mongolia. This pivotal initiative illustrates a determination to increase the number of shipments using alternative means of transportation, which reduces the Company’s carbon footprint.

**SITE PARTICIPATION AND EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT**

To reach the ambitious Vision 2020 objectives and maintain the level of vigilance, the “Proud to be a daily hero” global awareness campaign was launched in October 2018. It aims at encouraging each employee to act safely and in a clean way.

The first focus of the campaign was to prevent accidents as employees move from place to place. This campaign is designed in particular to reduce the rate of accidents, which is still too high in the regions of Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Worldwide, however, the total accident rate was at 3.9 (-60% compared to 2010), which represents a good performance.

At the same time, we are seeking to reduce employees’ exposure to musculoskeletal disorders, in connection with initiatives by the Human Resources Department for the prevention of psychosocial risks. Each year, our sites develop projects to improve workstation ergonomics, which are measured and assessed for their efficiency.

Following a grass-roots survey conducted in June 2018 on risk exposure, an action plan for 2019-2020 was drawn up to apply the HSE model to commercial operations worldwide. A training module about car safety, adapted to local languages and regulations, was also rolled out to close to 2,000 drivers.

In France, the Combourg, Grenoble and Verniolle sites received ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001 certifications. Today all our sites in the regions of Europe, the Middle East and Africa have been certified and the commitment of our North American sites has been confirmed.
COMMITTED TO ETHICS IN BUSINESS

bioMérieux has put in place internal rules and procedures to protect the Company against risks in connection with its international industrial business activity, and to provide employees with the necessary tools to anticipate and manage such risks. In an environment where challenges related to risk management, compliance and ethics are on the rise, the Company also carries out initiatives to secure its network of partners.

I apply my IT expertise to finetune the production of diagnostic tests that will be used to perform medical analyses for patients across the globe.

Daniel
Industrial IT Expert

2018 PRIORITIES
Particular attention was focused on the implementation of a program to ensure compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the new European regulation on data protection, while also continuing to strengthen compliance with the new Sapin II Law.

PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA AND PATIENT DATA
To ensure compliance with new regulations concerning the protection of personal data, in particular the GDPR, bioMérieux has implemented a compliance program. A network of data privacy representatives is active at all Company sites and subsidiaries and the global functions. The network serves as the interface between the Data Protection Officer and the business entities, particularly as concerns compliance with the GDPR.

Every employee accessing personal data receives training and must adhere to the principles of these regulations. Our customers and partners can find more specific information about compliance on our Corporate website: www.biomerieux.com.

ETHICSLINE: A GLOBAL AWARENESS CAMPAIGN
Any employee who has an ethics question may contact their regional Compliance Officer. In addition, a local hotline allows employees to speak to someone in their local language, and a dedicated website is available to employees worldwide who wish to make a report. This alert system, which was set up in France in 2014, has been rolled out in the 43 countries where bioMérieux operates. As part of a global awareness campaign to encourage employees to speak up if they have an ethics concern, in the summer of 2018 all employees at each subsidiary received a message and a card with information about how to contact the EthicsLine.

KEY AREAS OF FOCUS
- Preventing corruption
- Securing the distribution network
- Preventing conflicts of interest
- Applying export regulations
- Protecting patient data
PREVENTING CORRUPTION
Risk mapping has been undertaken within each subsidiary so that procedures to manage corruption risks may be analyzed, improved and strengthened.
In 2018, a new process was introduced to automatically and routinely identify third-party risks and to verify the ethical practices of business partners.
In 2018, all global and local distributors (i.e. more than 500 companies) were contacted to ensure that their employees who work with bioMérieux receive the Company’s corruption prevention training module, which is available in 18 languages.

EMPLOYEE TRAINING
Training is one of the primary ways to build awareness among all employees about international rules and in-house procedures to promote respect for ethics and compliance.
A mandatory annual training program is organized for all employees, in addition to modules specific to their function and risk exposure. Within the first few months of joining the Company, new hires receive training on the Global Code of Conduct, the Corruption Prevention Manual and the conflicts of interest policy. Each year, employees must validate a certificate of compliance with the rules of the Code of Conduct.
In 2018, nearly 24,000 on-line training modules on these topics were provided to employees across all subsidiaries via the Company’s Learning Portal.

STRENGTHENING OUR ORGANIZATION
In a context of increasing geopolitical risk and ever more rapid changes in market regulations – particularly those affecting exports – we have increased the number of Ethics & Compliance employees worldwide and strengthened our organization.
Local compliance teams, which are active at each of our sites, have taken on an increasingly important role to ensure that the Company’s global policies are adequately applied across all business entities. Local compliance “Champions” were appointed in 2018 and will undergo specific training in 2019.

RESPONSIBLE PURCHASING
At bioMérieux, we engage our suppliers in a continuous improvement approach and involve them in our sustainable growth strategy based on environmental protection, social progress and respect for human rights. Our commitments to our suppliers and what we expect of them are outlined in the Charter for Responsible Purchasing between bioMérieux and its Suppliers, which was updated in 2018.
We have stepped up our supplier evaluations by adding CSR criteria to the selection process and by monitoring our strategic partners’ annual CSR performance. In 2018, we launched a supplier CSR assessment process with the help of the rating agency EcoVadis.

TAX POLICY
bioMérieux operates in more than 160 countries. The Company implements a responsible tax policy in compliance with applicable local and international rules.

CODE OF CONDUCT AVAILABLE IN 9 LANGUAGES
The Global Code of Conduct, which sets out the rules of conduct and integrity and the procedures governing the behavior of employees wherever bioMérieux conducts business, is now available in 9 languages: English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, German, Turkish, Russian and Chinese.

COMMITTED TO ETHICS IN BUSINESS
bioMérieux and its employees are committed to support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights
bioMérieux and its employees are committed to make sure they are not complicit in human rights abuses
bioMérieux and its employees are committed to uphold the freedom of association and recognize the right to collective bargaining
bioMérieux and its employees are committed to contribute to the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labor
bioMérieux and its employees are committed to contribute to the abolition of child labor
bioMérieux and its employees are committed to contribute to the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation
bioMérieux and its employees are committed to support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges
bioMérieux and its employees are committed to undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility
bioMérieux and its employees are committed to encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally-friendly technologies
bioMérieux and its employees are committed to work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery
The Board of Directors, which met 5 times over the course of 2018, is comprised of 11 members:

ALEXANDRE MÉRIEUX
Chairman and CEO, bioMérieux

PHILIPPE ARCHINARD
Chairman and CEO, Transgene

JEAN-LUC BELINGARD
Vice President, Institut Mérieux

HAROLD BOËL
CEO, Sofina (Belgium)

PHILIPPE GILLET
Chief Innovation Officer, SICPA SA (Switzerland)

MARIE-HÉLÈNE HABERT
Director of Communication and Patronage, Dassault Group

MARIE-PAULE KIENY
INSERM Research Director

AGNÈS LEMARCHAND
Administrator, various companies

FANNY LETIER
Co-founder of GENEO, capital entrepreneur

MARIE-PAULE KIENY
INSERM Research Director

MICHELE PALLADINO
Director

REPRESENTING EMPLOYEES

FRÉDÉRIC BELEMÉ
CSR Manager, bioMérieux

THE AUDIT COMMITTEE
It is comprised of Mrs Agnès Lemarchand, Mr Philippe Archinard and Mr Harold Boël, its chairman.

The Committee met 7 times in 2018.

THE HUMAN RESOURCES, NOMINATIONS AND COMPENSATION COMMITTEE
It is comprised of Mrs Marie-Hélène Habert, Mr Jean-Luc Belingard and Mrs Fanny Letier, its chairman.

The Committee met 3 times in 2018.

THE STRATEGY COMMITTEE
It is comprised of Mrs Marie-Paule Kiény, Mr Michele Palladino, Mr Philippe Gillet and Mr Jean-Luc Belingard, its chairman.

The Committee met once in 2018.

Since 2017, Alain Mérieux, Chairman and CEO of Institut Mérieux is Founding President of bioMérieux.
Sales amounted to €2,421 million in 2018, versus €2,288 million in 2017, an increase of 9.9% at constant exchange rates and scope of consolidation.

Lifted by the strong sales organic growth, contributive operating income came slightly above initial target. It was up by 7.8% compared to 2017, to reach €361 million, or 14.9% of sales.

Excluding the one-off payment to the U.S. pension fund, free cash flow amounted to €222 million in 2018, versus €145 million in 2017, representing an increase of more than 30%. Including the one-off payment, reported free cash flow came to €256 million.

The capital expenditures made over the year amounted to €223 million, the results of the industrial investment strategy intended mainly to increase capacity and productivity of production facilities. The total capital expenditures for the year represented 9% of sales.

Continuing its innovation efforts, the Group invested €327 million in research and development in 2018, or 13.5% of sales.

This increase reflects the intensification of activities associated with the BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® line.

Approximately 65% of sales were generated in clinical and industrial microbiology, two areas where bioMérieux is the world leader.

In 2018, sales growth in molecular biology (23% of sales in 2018 compared to 19% in 2017) was driven by the success of the BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® line.

Supported by the commercial strength of the VITEK® and BACT/ALERT® lines, microbiology represented 40% of revenue, up by 6%.

The Group’s growth was chiefly driven by strong sales in the Americas region especially in the BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® line, as well as solid sales dynamics in Asia Pacific.

Approximately 60% of sales were generated in clinical and industrial microbiology, two areas where bioMérieux is the world leader.

In 2018, sales growth in molecular biology (23% of sales in 2018 compared to 19% in 2017) was driven by the success of the BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® line.

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### CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>12/31/2018</th>
<th>12/31/2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET SALES</strong></td>
<td>2,421.3</td>
<td>2,288.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of sales</td>
<td>-1,181.1</td>
<td>-1,076.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GROSS PROFIT</strong></td>
<td>1,302.2</td>
<td>1,211.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OTHER OPERATING INCOME</strong></td>
<td>31.2</td>
<td>31.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selling and marketing expenses</td>
<td>-480.3</td>
<td>-447.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General and administrative expenses</td>
<td>-165.2</td>
<td>-156.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research and development expenses</td>
<td>-326.9</td>
<td>-304.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>-972.4</td>
<td>-908.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CONTRIBUTIVE OPERATING INCOME</strong></td>
<td>361.0</td>
<td>334.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BioFire acquisition’s fees and depreciation costs (a)</td>
<td>-17.5</td>
<td>-18.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OPERATING INCOME BEFORE NON-RECURRING ITEMS</strong></td>
<td>343.5</td>
<td>316.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other non-recurring income (expenses)</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>-1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OPERATING INCOME</strong></td>
<td>343.6</td>
<td>314.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of net financial debt</td>
<td>-18.5</td>
<td>-16.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other financial items</td>
<td>-4.6</td>
<td>-6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income tax</td>
<td>-65.2</td>
<td>-54.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments in associates</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>-0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET INCOME OF CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES</strong></td>
<td>255.6</td>
<td>237.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attributable to the minority interests</td>
<td>-1.1</td>
<td>-0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE PARENT COMPANY</strong></td>
<td>256.6</td>
<td>238.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic earnings per share</td>
<td>2.18 €</td>
<td>2.02 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diluted earnings per share</td>
<td>2.17 €</td>
<td>2.01 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(a) Corresponds to non-recurring BioFire acquisition and integration costs and accounting entries relating to the company’s purchase price allocation.

### CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS (in € millions)</th>
<th>12/31/2018</th>
<th>12/31/2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intangible assets</td>
<td>507.3</td>
<td>430.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goodwill</td>
<td>616.5</td>
<td>442.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property, plant and equipment</td>
<td>807.5</td>
<td>711.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial assets</td>
<td>71.8</td>
<td>57.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments in associates</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other non-current assets</td>
<td>16.2</td>
<td>14.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred tax assets</td>
<td>74.3</td>
<td>51.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>2,083.9</td>
<td>1,708.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories and work in progress</td>
<td>414.9</td>
<td>380.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>490.0</td>
<td>460.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other operating receivables</td>
<td>61.7</td>
<td>75.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax receivable</td>
<td>39.2</td>
<td>36.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-operating receivables</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>15.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>280.1</td>
<td>312.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>1,295.6</td>
<td>1,279.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASSETS HELD FOR SALE</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>3,389.6</td>
<td>2,990.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS’ EQUITY (in € millions)</th>
<th>12/31/2018</th>
<th>12/31/2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Share capital</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>12.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional paid-in capital &amp; Reserves</td>
<td>1,660.6</td>
<td>1,497.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net income for the year</td>
<td>256.6</td>
<td>238.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SHAREHOLDERS’ EQUITY</strong></td>
<td>1,929.3</td>
<td>1,737.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MINORITY INTERESTS</td>
<td>74.0</td>
<td>-0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EQUITY</strong></td>
<td>2,003.3</td>
<td>1,736.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net financial debt - long-term</td>
<td>446.8</td>
<td>391.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred tax liabilities</td>
<td>136.0</td>
<td>103.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisions</td>
<td>471.1</td>
<td>106.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>629.9</td>
<td>601.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net financial debt - short-term</td>
<td>100.2</td>
<td>76.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisions</td>
<td>45.0</td>
<td>34.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>176.9</td>
<td>161.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other operating liabilities</td>
<td>345.1</td>
<td>300.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax liabilities</td>
<td>33.5</td>
<td>24.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-operating liabilities</td>
<td>55.8</td>
<td>54.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>756.4</td>
<td>651.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIABILITIES RELATED TO ASSETS HELD FOR SALE</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS’ EQUITY</strong></td>
<td>3,389.6</td>
<td>2,990.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>12/31/2018</th>
<th>12/31/2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net income of consolidated companies</td>
<td>253.5</td>
<td>231.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments in associates</td>
<td>-0.2</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of net financial debt</td>
<td>18.5</td>
<td>16.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other financial items</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current income tax expense</td>
<td>65.2</td>
<td>54.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating depreciation and provisions on assets</td>
<td>137.9</td>
<td>140.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-recurring items and BioFire acquisition's fees and depreciation costs</td>
<td>174.4</td>
<td>19.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EBITDA (before non recurring Items)</td>
<td>518.8</td>
<td>475.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other non current operating gains/losses (w/o exceptional depreciations, assets losses and capital gains/losses)</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>-1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current operating working capital</td>
<td>-4.6</td>
<td>-6.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating provisions for risks and contingencies</td>
<td>-4.78</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in fair value of financial instruments</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share-based payments</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elimination of other gains and losses without any impact on cash or operations</td>
<td>-45.3</td>
<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in inventories</td>
<td>-27.3</td>
<td>-4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in accounts receivable</td>
<td>-30.3</td>
<td>-25.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in accounts payable</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>-4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in other operating working capital</td>
<td>41.1</td>
<td>-3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in operating working capital (w/o exceptional depreciations, assets losses and capital gains/losses)</td>
<td>-2.8</td>
<td>-37.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other non operating working capital</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in non-current assets</td>
<td>-1.6</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other cashflows from operation</td>
<td>-1.6</td>
<td>-34.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income tax paid</td>
<td>-66.5</td>
<td>-91.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of net financial debt</td>
<td>-18.5</td>
<td>-16.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in non-current assets</td>
<td>-1.5</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in accounts payable</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>-4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase / Disposals of property, plant and equipment</td>
<td>226.8</td>
<td>-183.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proceeds on fixed asset disposals</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase / Disposals of financial assets</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>-9.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FREE CASH FLOW (a)</td>
<td>165.5</td>
<td>165.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase / Disposals of investment</td>
<td>-5.4</td>
<td>-13.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact of changes in the scope of consolidation</td>
<td>-91.4</td>
<td>9.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATIONS</td>
<td>246.0</td>
<td>342.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of property, plant and equipment</td>
<td>226.8</td>
<td>-183.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proceeds on fixed asset disposals</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase / Disposals of financial assets</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>-9.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATIONS</td>
<td>246.0</td>
<td>342.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase / Disposals of investment</td>
<td>-5.4</td>
<td>-13.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact of changes in the scope of consolidation</td>
<td>-91.4</td>
<td>9.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET CASH FLOW FROM (USED IN) INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES</td>
<td>-418.2</td>
<td>-180.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchases and proceeds of treasury stocks</td>
<td>-22.6</td>
<td>-9.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividends to shareholders</td>
<td>-40.2</td>
<td>-39.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividends to minority interests</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in confirmed financial debt</td>
<td>125.9</td>
<td>-3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in ownership interest net resulting in a change in control</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>-11.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET CASH FLOW FROM (USED IN) FINANCING ACTIVITIES</td>
<td>52.7</td>
<td>-52.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</td>
<td>21.4</td>
<td>308.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR</td>
<td>260.4</td>
<td>146.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact of currency changes on net cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>-11.8</td>
<td>5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR</td>
<td>270.0</td>
<td>260.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(a) Including additions to net provisions of current provisions. (b) Corresponds to the sum of net cash from operating activities and net cash used in investing activities excluding the impact of changes in Group structure. It also includes purchases and sales of treasury shares and the cost of net debt.
Acute kidney injury (AKI) • Abrupt loss of kidney function that develops within 7 days, it is a broad clinical syndrome encompassing various etiologies, including specific kidney diseases, which can occur in the community, as well as in the hospital or ICU. AKI can be prevented through early detection and rapid treatment.

Antibiotic resistance • A microorganism’s natural ability to withstand the effects of antibiotics: taking an antibiotic puts selective pressure on bacteria, eliminating bacteria that are susceptible to the antibiotic and selecting resistant bacteria, which then multiply. The widespread and often inappropriate use of antibiotics contributes to rising rates of antibiotic resistance, which is one of the biggest threats to public health worldwide.

Antibiotic Susceptibility Testing • Determines the susceptibility of a bacterium in the presence of antibiotics and classifies it as susceptible, resistant or intermediate.

Biomarker • Any indicator (mucoid acids, enzymes, metabolites, and other types of molecules: histamines, hormones, proteins, etc.) present in or excreted by the body as a biological response to a disease.

Blood culture • Laboratory analysis used to detect bloodstream infections, carried out by taking a sample of venous blood, which is then cultured to reveal the presence or absence of pathogenic microbes.

Dengue • A viral infection transmitted by the Aedes mosquito that causes flu-like symptoms. A person with dengue may develop life-threatening complications.

DNA Sequencing • Method used to determine the order of the nucleotide bases for a given DNA fragment.

Endotoxin • Component of the outer membrane of certain Gram-negative bacteria that can cause high fever. Pharmacopeial standards require that endotoxins be absent from pharmaceutical products that come into contact with the bloodstream or the central nervous system, such as injectable drugs and medical devices. It is also recommended that the endotoxins be quantified in raw materials or in-process materials.

Healthcare-Associated Infection (HAI) • HAs are infections occurring in a patient during the process of care in a hospital (or other healthcare facility) that were not present at the time of admission and are directly related to the care received.

Immunoassay • Diagnostic test based on an antigen/antibody reaction, enabling the detection of infectious agents (bacteria, viruses, parasites) and pathogen markers.

In vitro diagnostics • Analysis of biological samples (urine, blood, etc.) performed outside the human body.

Mass spectrometry • Technique used to identify a molecule and determine its chemical structure by analyzing the mass and the charge of its ions.

Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) • Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) was first identified in September 2012 in Saudi Arabia and is responsible for the Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS). Among people affected by the disease, symptoms include fever, coughing and shortness of breath, as well as gastrointestinal symptoms in some cases. Approximately 25% of reported patients with MERS-CoV infection have died.

Microbiology • The study of microorganisms. In the field of in vitro diagnostics: culturing biological, food and pharmaceutical samples in growth medium allows any bacteria that may be present to multiply. The bacteria are subsequently identified and their susceptibility to antibiotics tested in certain cases.

Molecular Biology • Technique that can detect a bacterium, virus, yeast, parasite or a biomarker through the presence of DNA or RNA genetic sequences in a sample.

Pathogen • A microbe that causes or has the potential to cause an infectious disease.

PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) • Molecular biology technology: amplification of genetic sequences, used to copy known DNA or RNA sequences in large quantities (by an order of magnitude of a billion) from an initially small quantity. This technology is particularly useful for detecting the presence of viruses.

PCT (Procalcitonin) • An early and specific host maker of a bacterial infection, PCT is useful to adapt antimicrobial prescriptions.

Sepsis • A serious systemic infection characterized by the presence of bacteria, fungi, viruses and parasites in the blood and combined with an inflammatory immune reaction (host response) that can result in the rapid deterioration of the patient’s general condition leading to possible organ failure.

Syndromic approach • Medical approach based on analyzing a syndrome (i.e., a set of symptoms and/or clinical signs) that uses a single test to identify the disease causing organism(s) responsible for this syndrome, whether they are viruses, bacteria, fungi or parasites.

Zika virus • The Zika virus is transmitted by the bite of an infected Aedes mosquito. It recently caused an epidemic affecting several countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia, and currently it is probably spreading worldwide. Often asymptomatic, the disease may present as a moderate infection similar to dengue. Symptoms may include fever, muscle and joint pain, conjunctivitis, fatigue and headache. Skin rash is a characteristic feature of Zika. The potentially serious impact of the virus is connected to its ability to cause neurological complications and severe malformations, in particular neurological malformations in the fetus.