

## SAP confirms forecasts after 'solid' first quarter

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German software giant SAP said Friday it is standing by its forecast fpr double-digit increases in both sales and profits this year after a "solid" first quarter.

"SAP had a solid start to 2013," with revenues from software and cloud computing business rising by 23 percent to 824 million euros (\$1.1 billion), the group said in a statement.

Total revenues advanced by 8.0 percent to 3.636 billion euros in the period from January to March, operating profit was up 8.0 percent at 901 million euros and <u>net profit</u> grew by 18 precent to 689 million euros, the statement said.

On the basis of the first-quarter numbers, SAP said it "reiterates the outlook for the full year", with revenues from software and cloud computing projected to rise by 14-20 percent from 5.0 billion euros last year.

Sales from software and software-related services would rise by 11-13 percent in 2013 from 13.25 billion euros in 2012 and operating profit would amount to 5.85-5.95 billion euros, compared with 5.21 billion euros, <u>SAP</u> said.

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