Power unlimited -

**Third Quarter Report 2004** 



FRIW0<sup>®</sup>



# At a Glance

# **Highlights**

- Revenues and earnings pick up in the third quarter
- EBIT positive at EUR 2 million after nine months
- Revenues for the nine months up 1% net of currency effects
- Dynamic growth continues at FPS

## **Key Figures for the CEAG Group**

| In millions of EUR             | 1 - 9/2004 | 1 - 9/2003 |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Unit sales in millions         | ;          |            |
| CEAG                           | 106.1      | 95.4       |
| FMP                            | 97.3       | 90.4       |
| FPS                            | 8.8        | 4.9        |
| Revenue                        |            |            |
| CEAG                           | 112.6      | 120.8      |
| FMP                            | 78.5       | 92.9       |
| FPS                            | 34.1       | 27.9       |
| EBIT                           |            |            |
| CEAG                           | 2.0        | 1.5        |
| EBIT operating margin %        | 1.8        | 1.2        |
| FMP EBIT                       | 1.2        | 2.6        |
| FPS EBIT                       | 0.8        | -1.1       |
| Consolidated net profit        | 1.1        | 0.4        |
| Earnings per share EUF         | 0.14       | 0.05       |
|                                |            |            |
| Capital expenditure            | 5.8        | 5.8        |
| Employees (as of September 30) | 11,553     | 10,366     |
| Germany                        | 254        | 251        |
| Abroad                         | 11,299     | 10,115     |

CEAG AG

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| Financial Calendar 2004 |                       | Financial Calendar 2004 |                         |  |  |  |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|--|
| Fiscal year Ja          | nuary 1 - December 31 | Fiscal year             | January 1 - December 31 |  |  |  |
| Third quarter report    | November 10, 2004     | Annual results          | March 16, 2005          |  |  |  |
|                         |                       | Results press conferen  | ce March 16, 2005       |  |  |  |
|                         |                       | Analyst conference      | March 16, 2005          |  |  |  |
|                         |                       | Annual shareholders'    | meeting April 21, 2005  |  |  |  |
|                         |                       | First quarter report    | May 12, 2005            |  |  |  |
|                         |                       | Semi-annual report      | August 3, 2005          |  |  |  |
|                         |                       | Third quarter report    | November 9, 2005        |  |  |  |

### Addresses

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CEAG AG, Bad Homburg v.d.H

The third quarter report is also available in German.

# **Third Quarter Report**

#### **Market Environment**

There was little change in global economic conditions in the third quarter of 2004. Despite the high price of oil, still a major risk factor for overall economic development, the six leading German economic research institutes forecast in their fall report a robust 3.9% growth for the global economy in 2004, driven primarily by the United States and Asia. The experts predict an increase of 1.8% in GDP for Germany and of 1.9% for the euro area. However, the forecasts for next year point to a slowdown in global growth.

Dynamic growth continues in the global market for mobile telephones, the CEAG Group's most important customer segment. Market research institutes and leading manufacturers have again upwardly adjusted their expectations for 2004 as a whole and most now expect worldwide sales to exceed 600 million mobile telephones. This would be an increase of well above 15% against the prior year (520 million units). Competitive pressure remains high, especially as experts are predicting a decrease in unit sales growth for the industry next year.

## **Business Performance in the First Nine Months of 2004 Unit Sales**

The CEAG Group sold a total of 106.1 million power supplies and chargers from January to September 2004. This represents an increase of 11.3% against the same prior-year period (95.4 million units). The FRIWO Mobile Power (FMP) business unit, which covers the high-volume markets for mobile telephones, CD/MD players, etc., recorded sales of 97.3 million units (prior-year period: 90.4 million units) from January to September, an increase of 7.6%. As in the first six months, CEAG was unable to benefit fully from the growth of the mobile telephone market in the third quarter as CEAG's customers accounted for a lower-than-average share of unit sales growth in the industry.

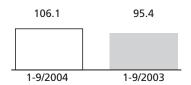
Sales in the FRIWO Power Solutions (FPS) business unit, which focuses on highly fragmented markets such as medical technology or household appliances and power tools, achieved unit sales of 8.8 million units in the first nine months. This represents nearly 80% growth against the prior-year period (4.9 million units), which is due exclusively to new projects, some of which were launched last year.

#### Revenue

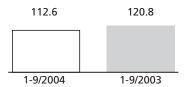
Consolidated revenue amounted to EUR 112.6 million in the first nine months of 2004 after EUR 120.8 million in the same period of the prior year (down 6.8%). However, despite the strength of the euro against the US dollar continuing to diminish revenues, we were able to keep revenues in the third quarter fairly constant at EUR 42.2 million versus EUR 42.8 million in the same guarter of 2003. Net of currency effects, that is based on the same exchange rates as the prior year, revenues would have increased by 0.8% in the nine-month period.

The revenues of the FMP business unit amounted to EUR 78.5 million in the first nine months (prior-year period: EUR 92.9 million). Almost 8.2 percentage points of the 15.5% decrease are attributable to currency effects. In addition, product price cuts again led to losses that growth in unit sales failed to offset. The FPS business unit reported EUR 34.1 million for the nine months (prior-year period: EUR 27.9 million). This is an increase of 22.4% or, net of currency effects, even 28.1%.

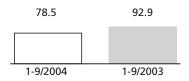
#### Sales in millions of units



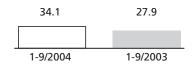
#### **Group revenue** in millions of EUR



#### FMP revenue in millions of EUR



#### **FPS** revenue in millions of EUR



# **Third Quarter Report**

# EBIT in millions of EUR



#### **Earnings**

As announced in the semi-annual report, the CEAG Group's earnings picked up in the third quarter. Earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT) improved to EUR 2.0 million in the first nine months after EUR 1.5 million in the prior-year period, with the period from July to September alone accounting for EUR 1.0 million. CEAG is continuing to compensate for currency-induced revenue losses and strong increases in the cost of raw materials (copper, plastic, etc.) through rigorous cost and process management.

Earnings before taxes improved to EUR 1.3 million in the first nine months of the year thanks to higher EBIT and a lower net financial loss of EUR 0.4 million. Consolidated net profit for the nine months comes to EUR 1.1 million or EUR 0.14 per share after EUR 0.4 million or EUR 0.05 per share in the prior-year period.

With EBIT at EUR 1.2 million in the first nine months, FMP fell short of the prioryear figure of EUR 2.6 million due to revenue and currency effects. FPS, on the other hand, improved its EBIT significantly to EUR 0.8 million on the back of strong revenue growth, following negative EBIT of EUR 1.1 million in the prioryear period.

#### **Cash Flow and Balance Sheet**

The CEAG Group's cash flow from operating activities for the first three quarters of 2004 amounted to -EUR 2.9 million after EUR 2.8 million in the same prior-year period. The main reason for the negative figure was the greater level of capital tied up in higher inventories, which as of September 30, 2004 were up EUR 10.4 million on the level as of December 31, 2003. Inventories have been increased to cater to expected units sales in the traditionally strong fourth quarter. Customers have also been slow to request delivery of orders, resulting in a corresponding rise in inventories as of the reporting date.

The balance sheet total of the CEAG Group increased to EUR 84.0 million as of September 30, 2004, up 8.1% on the EUR 77.7 million reported as of December 31, 2003. At EUR 21.4 million, equity was EUR 1.6 million up on the year-end 2003 figure (EUR 19.8 million), translating into an equity ratio of 25.5%, the same level as was recorded at the end of the last fiscal year. Greater capital requirements for operating and investing activities were financed by reducing cash and cash equivalents from EUR 5.8 million to EUR 0.6 million and increasing short-term financial liabilities from EUR 3.1 million to EUR 19.5 million.

#### **Capital Expenditure**

EUR 5.8 million was invested in the CEAG Group in the first nine months of the fiscal year, much the same as in the prior-year period. The third quarter accounted for EUR 3.8 million (prior year: EUR 1.3 million) of this amount. A key focus of expenditure was the expansion of switch mode technology as well as investment in the third Chinese production plant in Beijing and in information technology. The new plant was inaugurated in October.

#### **Employees**

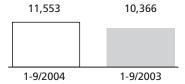
The CEAG Group increased its headcount substantially in the third quarter in line with seasonal trends and rising unit sales. 11,553 people were employed in the Group as of September 30, 2004. This represents an increase of 2,245 against June 30, 2004. Compared with September 30 of the prior year, this is a rise of 1,187. As of September 30, 2004, 254 employees worked at the headquarters of CEAG AG in Ostbevern compared with 251 a year ago. 11,299 people were employed abroad, mostly in the Chinese production plants (September 30, 2003: 10,115).

## Outlook

The Management Board has reaffirmed its expectations that the CEAG Group will report positive EBIT for fiscal year 2004 as a whole, building on the positive result achieved in 2003.

Cash flow will improve as inventories are reduced in the fourth quarter.

#### **Total employees**



# **Third Quarter Report**

#### **The CEAG Share**

The downward trend of the CEAG share price that set in during the second quarter initially continued in the third quarter of 2004. On July 22 the stock reached its low for the year at EUR 7.10. After rallying to EUR 9.30 by July 29, the CEAG share price slipped again, closing at EUR 8.13 on September 29 (Xetra closing prices).

During the third quarter, the stock outperformed the Prime All Share Index at times. However, at the beginning and end of the quarter under review, CEAG's performance was weaker in comparison.



# CEAG Group Consolidated Financial Statements as of September 30, 2004

## Consolidated Balance Sheet of CEAG AG as of September 30, 2004

#### Assets

| In thousands of EUR           | Sep. 30, 2004 | Dec. 31, 2003 |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Non-current assets            |               |               |
|                               |               |               |
| Goodwill                      | 114           | 168           |
| Other intangible assets       | 498           | 663           |
| Property, plant and equipment | 18,299        | 16,213        |
| Financial assets              | 5             | 5             |
|                               | 18,916        | 17,049        |
|                               |               |               |
| Deferred taxes                | 116           | 103           |
| Current assets                |               |               |
|                               |               |               |
| Inventories                   | 38,345        | 27,994        |
| Trade receivables             | 22,235        | 22,396        |
| Other assets                  | 3,309         | 4,191         |
| Prepaid expenses              | 395           | 154           |
| Cash and cash equivalents     | 645           | 5,801         |
|                               | 64,929        | 60,536        |
| Total assets                  | 83,961        | 77,688        |

# CEAG Group Consolidated Financial Statements as of September 30, 2004

## Consolidated Balance Sheet of CEAG AG as of September 30, 2004

## **Equity and liabilities**

| In thousands of EUR                             | Sep. 30, 2004 | Dec. 31, 2003 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Equity  |               |               |
| Subscribed capital                              | 20,020        | 20,020        |
| Capital reserve                                 | 15,440        | 15,440        |
| Revenue reserves                                | -15,130       | -18,405       |
| Consolidated net profit                         | 1,104         | 2,759         |
|   | 21,434        | 19,814        |
|   |               |               |
| Non-current debt                                |               |               |
| Non-current liabilities to banks                | 761           | 897           |
| Provisions for pensions and similar obligations | 2,174         | 2,174         |
| Other non-current provisions                    | 791           | 784           |
|   | 3,726         | 3,855         |
| Current debt                                    |               |               |
| Provisions for taxes                            | 782           | 509           |
| Other current provisions                        | 1,464         | 1,628         |
| Current financial liabilities                   | 19,530        | 16,288        |
| Trade payables                                  | 29,651        | 28,709        |
| Other liabilities                               | 7,374         | 6,885         |
|   | 58,801        | 54,019        |
|   | 62,527        | 57,874        |
|   |               |               |
| Total equity and liabilities                    | 83,961        | 77,688        |

# Consolidated Income Statement of CEAG AG as of September 30, 2004

| In thousands of EUR                | 7 - 9/2004 | 7 - 9/2003 | 1 - 9/2004 | 1 - 9/2003 |
|------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Revenue                            | 42,177     | 42,799     | 112,599    | 120,801    |
| Cost of sales                      | -37,481    | -38,124    | -99,980    | -108,514   |
| Gross profit                       | 4,696      | 4,675      | 12,619     | 12,287     |
| Research costs                     | -183       | -128       | -406       | -442       |
| Selling expenses                   | -1,428     | -1,582     | -4,116     | -4,202     |
| General administrative expenses    | -2,494     | -2,310     | -6,905     | -6,778     |
| Other operating income             | 1,330      | 589        | 2,973      | 2,968      |
| Other operating expenses           | -945       | -615       | -2,184     | -2,359     |
| Earnings before interest and taxes | 976        | 629        | 1,981      | 1,474      |
| Financial result                   | -248       | -213       | -639       | -1,035     |
| Earnings before income taxes       | 728        | 416        | 1,342      | 439        |
| Income taxes                       | -109       | -15        | -238       | -25        |
| Consolidated net profit            | 619        | 401        | 1,104      | 414        |
| Earnings per share (in EUR)        | 0.08       | 0.05       | 0.14       | 0.05       |

Logistics costs are disclosed under cost of sales as of fiscal year 2004. The prior-year figures have been adjusted as appropriate.

# **Statement of Changes in Equity for the CEAG Group**

| In thousands of EUR                              | 1 - 9/2004 | 1 - 9/2003 |
|--|------------|------------|
| Consolidated equity as of January 1              | 19,814     | 22,577     |
| Consolidated net profit                          | 1,104      | 414        |
| Change in valuation reserve for cash flow hedges | 53         | 0          |
| Currency translation differences                 | 463        | -3,011     |
| Consolidated equity as of September 30           | 21,434     | 19,980     |

# CEAG Group Consolidated Financial Statements as of September 30, 2004

The present report of the CEAG Group for the third quarter of 2004 complies with the International Accounting Standard 34. The same accounting and valuation principles are applied as used for preparation of the consolidated financial statements for 2003.

## **Segment Reporting**

| By business unit in thousands of EUR | FMP    | FPS    | Group   |
|--------------------------------------|--------|--------|---------|
| 1 - 9/2004                           |        |        |         |
| External sales                       | 78,455 | 34,144 | 112,599 |
| Segment result (EBIT)                | 1,236  | 760    | 1,996   |
|                                      |        |        |         |
| 1 - 9/2003                           |        |        |         |
| External sales                       | 92,896 | 27,905 | 120,801 |
| Segment result (EBIT)                | 2,598  | -1,111 | 1,487   |

## **Cash Flow Statement of the CEAG Group**

| Depreciation of non-current assets  Change in provisions  Gain/loss on the disposal of non-current assets  Change in deferred taxes | 1,104<br>3,926<br>116<br>-269<br>-13<br>0,351 | 414<br>4,368<br>-2,804<br>-270 |
|---|---|--------------------------------|
| Change in provisions Gain/loss on the disposal of non-current assets Change in deferred taxes Change in inventories -10             | 116<br>-269<br>-13                            | -2,804<br>-270                 |
| Gain/loss on the disposal of non-current assets  Change in deferred taxes  Change in inventories  -1                                | -269<br>-13                                   | -270                           |
| Change in deferred taxes  Change in inventories  -1   | -13   |                                |
| Change in inventories -1  |   | -25                            |
|   | 0,351   |                                |
| Change in trade receivables and other assets that   |   | 7,580                          |
|   |   |                                |
| cannot be allocated to investing or financing activities  | 802   | -318                           |
| Change in trade payables and other liabilities that cannot  |   |                                |
| be allocated to investing or financing activities   | 1,431   | -4,251                         |
| Other non-cash expenses and income  | 382   | -1,888                         |
| Cash flow from operating activities -2  | 2,872   | 2,806                          |
|   |   |                                |
| Cash received from disposals of property,   |   |                                |
| plant and equipment/intangible assets   | 441   | 886                            |
| Cash paid for investments in property, plant and  | 5,836   | -5,780                         |
| equipment/intangible assets/financial assets  |   |                                |
| Cash flow from investing activities -5  | 5,395   | -4,894                         |
| Change in financial liabilities   | 3,106   | 3,118                          |
|   | 3,106   | 3,118                          |
| Effect of exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents   | 5   | -16                            |
|   | 5,156   | 1,014                          |
|   | 5,801   | 1,102                          |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of September 30  | 645   | 2,116                          |

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