

# Press release

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## **Nordzucker AG: Earnings up in the first half of the year**

Braunschweig, Germany, 13 October 2017

- Revenues increase to EUR 845.5 million
- Net income for the period of EUR 87.7 million
- Earnings for 2017/2018 expected to match last year's

**The Nordzucker Group, Braunschweig, is able to report good earnings in the first half of 2017/2018, in line with expectations. This improvement was mainly due to an increase in sugar revenues. However, the outlook for the second half of the year is much less promising.**

In the first six months of the 2017/2018 financial year, the Nordzucker Group generated revenues of EUR 845.5 million. This is EUR 12.4 million higher than the earnings achieved in the previous year (EUR 833.1 million). The company also generated a profit of EUR 87.7 million for the period (previous year: EUR 36.8 million).

The main reason for the positive performance was higher prices for quota and non-quota sugar. While income from animal feed was again slightly higher than in the previous year, income from bioethanol failed to meet expectations.

“We are ready to face the free market. The current financial year is one of transition. The production surpluses in Europe that are now expected and the simultaneous low world market prices will both force sugar prices down,” CEO Hartwig Fuchs pointed out, concluding, “Overall, however, we are expecting to

see earnings at the same level as in the previous year because of the good first half of the year.”

Nordzucker is expecting good sugar yields from the campaign that was kicked off at the start of September. However, heavy rainfall at the start of the harvest has made digging up the beet difficult in many places, which in turn has led, in some cases, to the start of the campaign being delayed or the processing output of the plants having to be adjusted. The campaign is expected to end in the second half of January.

The Interim Report for the first six months covers all commercial activities from 1 March to 31 August 2017.

Nordzucker’s financial year runs from 1 March until the end of February.

The full Interim Report for the first six months can be found in the download centre at [www.nordzucker.de](http://www.nordzucker.de).

### **Background**

The Nordzucker Group, based in Braunschweig, Germany, is one of the leading sugar manufacturers in Europe. The Group also processes sugar beet into bioethanol and animal feed. Sustainability along the entire value chain is a top priority for the company. A total of 3,200 employees and 18 production and refinery facilities across the Group ensure excellent products and services, providing a strong foundation for further growth.