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EANS-Adhoc: SEMPERIT AG HOLDING: Semperit Group posts sales and profit growth in the first nine months of 2011

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9-month report

15.11.2011

Sales up 20.6% to EUR 626.2 million Earnings per share reach EUR 1.98 Earnings after tax rise 18.7% to EUR 40.7 million EBIT up 6.1% to EUR 64.9 million

In the first three quarters of 2011 the Semperit Group (VSE: SEM) with its two sectors Medical (Sempermed) and Industrial (Semperflex, Semperform and Sempertrans) increased sales 20.6% compared to the same period last year to EUR 626.2 million. In the Medical sector sales rose 16.5% to EUR 285.7 million, and in the Industrial sector 24.3% to EUR 340.5 million respectively. The growth in sales is due to price and volume increases. Volume growth was primarily generated by increased surgical glove sales as well as increased sales in the Semperflex and Sempertrans segments.

The first nine months of 2011 were marked by extremely volatile raw material prices and by the first signs of an economic slowdown. In this context the Semperit Group implemented a strategy of earnings-oriented growth. In the period under review EBITDA rose 4.5% to EUR 86.6 million and EBIT increased 6.1% to EUR 64.9 million. The EBIT improvement related mainly to the turnaround in the Sempertrans segment and very positive developments in Semperflex.

Earnings after tax rose 18.7% to EUR 40.7 million. Earnings per share rose to EUR 1.98. At September 30, 2011 the equity ratio reached 57.2%, an above-average value for the industry.

Outlook

For the fourth quarter of 2011 the Semperit Group forecasts a marked increase in revenue year-over-year. In view of seasonal characteristics of the year-end period and the scheduled maintenance work at certain European plants, fourth quarter sales figures are not expected to match those achieved in the third quarter of 2011. A price policy focussed on profitability, combined with measures already underway throughout the Group to improve productivity and efficiency, should continue to contribute to the achievement of satisfactory results.

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