

Press release

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METRIS

Reliable and Innovative Metrology Solutions

REGULATED INFORMATION

METRIS H1 2009 RESULTS

HIGHLIGHTS

- **H1 2009 sales suffered severely from the recession and came in at €18.4 million, a decline of 62% compared to H1 2008.**
- **Recurring operational cash expenses came in at €17.4 million, a reduction of 20% compared to H1 2008.**
- **Despite the significant reduction of operational expenses, results are negative, due to the severe drop in sales:**
 - **EBITDA came in at -€9.9 million**
 - **Net result came in at -€18.5 million**

Despite a Q1 on track, Q2 was very disappointing due to recession. Sales decreased 62% from €48.4 million in H1 2008 to €18.4 million in H1 2009, suffering very strongly from the lack of capex budgets with Metris customers across all geographic segments. In Continental Europe sales dropped in H1 2009 with 81% compared to the record sales recorded during H1 2008. Sales in the UK/RoW territory, including Asia, dropped 65% in H1 2009. In the North American region, sales dropped with 35%. This decline is lower than in the other regions thanks to the more stable service business in this region.

Due to the lack of capex budgets for products both the optical and the mechanical business were strongly affected. The optical business declined with 68% and the mechanical business declined with 54%. The services business declined with 18%, proving to be more robust towards the recession that is strongly reducing capex spending with customers. The mechanical business includes substantially more service than the optical business.

Gross profit came in at €3.8 million, compared to €22.9 million in H1, 2008. This decline results from the sharp drop in sales combined with the higher amortizations of capitalized development which are fixed costs booked under cost of sales. The operational expenses declined from €24.2 million in H1 2008 to €22.5 million in H1 2009. In these costs €2.8

million provisions for the transaction costs resulting from the take over bid by Nikon are included. Without these one-time costs and without depreciations and amortizations the operational expenses have declined from €21.7 million to €17.4 million. Over the last 12 months, the number of employees has been reduced from 720 on June 30, 2008 to 478 on June 30, 2009.

As a result, H1 2009 EBITDA came in at -€9.9 million and H1 2009 EBIT at -€18.7 million.

Financial costs have increased from €2.6 million in H1, 2008 to €4.7 million in H1, 2009 resulting from the levered balance sheet including more than €41 million mezzanine loans.

The net result came in at -€18.5 million. Earnings per undiluted share for H1 2009 came in at -€1.47.

Due to sales seasonality and the fixed character of the operational expenses, the EBITDA, EBIT and net result margin in H1 has always historically been lower than in H2. Given the strong impact of recession which hit sales from Q4 2008 on, management expects that this seasonality will also be the case in 2009.

Trade receivable decreased with 41% compared to December 31 2008. Inventories decreased with 5%. At the end of H1 historically inventory has typically been higher than at the end of the year due to the back end loaded character of sales. It is expected that inventories at year end will be significantly lower than at June 30.

Operational cash flow before working capital changes totaled -€12.5 million, compared to €3.7 million in H1 2008. During H1 2009, there were no business acquisitions and almost no investments in tangible assets. Capitalized development was €3.7 million, a decline of 32% compared to H1, 2008.

There was a positive inflow of €13.6 million from working capital changes, compared to an outflow of -€7.5 million in H1, 2008.

Total financial debt was €99.4 million including €41.4 million of mezzanine debt on June 30, 2009 compared to a total of €100.8 million on December 31, 2008. The cash position on June 30 2009 was €4.3 million, compared to €13.3 million on December 31, 2008.

The friendly takeover bid of Nikon will have in the medium term a very positive effect on the further development of Metris and its positioning in the micro-metrology market. However for the whole year of 2009, Metris will continue to suffer from recession. For the following years, economical recovery, important synergies on sales and integration of technologies will

enable Metris to get back to double-digit organic sales growth and sharply increasing positive EBIT margins.

The full report on the interim financial statements as well as the management presentation on the interim financial statements can be downloaded from the Metris website: www.metris.com.

The interim financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement criteria of IFRS as adopted by the European Union. The consolidated interim financial statements have been prepared using the same accounting policies and methods of computations as in the annual consolidated financial statements of the year 2008. The interim financial statements have not been audited. The interim financial report is in compliance with the requirements issued by the CBFA and by Euronext.

ABOUT METRIS

Metris designs, develops and markets a unique range of 3D hardware and software inspection systems servicing design and manufacturing industries. The company's reliable and innovative metrology solutions cover the full range of measurement volumes required by automotive and aerospace customers, in both fixed and portable configurations and with optical and touch sensors. Further details are available at www.metris.com.

More information on Metris can be found on www.metris.com.

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ANNEX 1. INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

	H1 2009	H1 2008
	€000	€000
Sales and other income	18,375	48,376
Cost of sales	14,615	25,435
Gross profit	3,761	22,941
% Sales	20.5%	47.4%
Selling and marketing expenses	8,375	12,485
General and administrative expenses	12,725	10,090
Other expenses net of other income	1,390	1,616
Operational expenses	44,979	48,381
Earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT)	-18,729	-1,250
Depreciation and Amortization	8,853	4,701
EBITDA	-9,876	3,451
Finance costs	5,167	2,603
Finance revenues	-495	
Earnings before taxes	-23,401	-3,853
Income tax (expense)	-4,934	-2,928
Profit / loss (-) of the period	-18,467	-925
% Sales	-100%	-1.9%
Number of shares	12,605,723	12,605,723
Number of shares fully diluted	14,710,537	14,621,960
Number of shares for EPS calculation	12,605,723	12,805,934
Earnings per share		
- basic, for profit for the period attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent	-1.47	-0.07
- basic, for profit from continuing operations attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent	-1.47	-0.07
- diluted, for profit for the period attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent	-1.47	-0.07
- diluted, for profit from continuing operations attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent	-1.47	-0.07

ANNEX 2. INTERIM CONDENSED BALANCE SHEET

	June 30, 2009	December 31, 2008	June 30, 2008
	€ 000	€ 000	€ 000
ASSETS			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment, net	12,837	13,826	11,641
Intangible assets, net	30,881	31,037	28,202
Goodwill	77,028	77,028	78,439
Other receivables	9,724	10,507	7,726
Deferred income tax assets	17,815	12,823	11,839
Total non-current assets	148,286	145,221	137,847
Current assets			
Inventories	20,741	21,823	19,477
Trade receivables, net	22,244	37,391	59,840
Other receivables, net	3,035	2,706	7,551
Cash and cash equivalents	4,363	13,921	7,634
Total current assets	50,383	75,841	94,502
TOTAL ASSETS	198,669	221,062	232,349
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
Equity attributable to equity holders of the parent			
Issued share capital	46,036	46,036	46,036
Share premium	48,366	48,366	48,366
Other reserves	-6,041	-6,548	-4,787
Retained earnings	-5,791	8,242	9,587
Profit of the period	-18,467	-14,033	-925
Total shareholders' equity	64,103	82,063	98,277
Non-current liabilities			
Bank loans and borrowings	15,488	19,415	20,365
Subordinated loans	41,408	39,488	37,557
Other non-current liabilities	1,950	1,810	2,486
Provisions	4,299	726	3,459
Deferred income tax liability	739	739	739
Total non-current liabilities	63,884	62,178	64,605
Current liabilities			
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	42,534	41,862	23,573
Trade payables	15,680	19,671	28,575
Other payables	12,467	15,288	17,319
Total current liabilities	70,682	76,821	69,467
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	198,669	221,062	232,349

ANNEX 3. INTERIM CONDENSED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	H1 2009	H1 2008
	€ 000	€ 000
Cash flows from operation activities		
Net profit	-18,467	-925
Adjustment for:		
Income tax expenses	-4,934	-2,928
Depreciations	1,565	1,595
Finance costs	4,840	2,862
Amortizations	4,468	3,106
Operational CF before working capital changes	-12,528	3,710
Trade receivables	15,146	-5,046
Other receivables	455	-4,368
Trade payables	-3,991	4,600
Other payables	-2,681	2,746
Inventories	1,082	-5,428
Provisions	3,573	-44
Total working capital changes	13,584	-7,541
Net cash flows from operating activities	1,056	-3,831
Cash flows from investing activities		
Tangible assets	-136	-1,278
Intangible assets	0	-1,699
Capitalized development	-3,651	-5,397
Business acquisitions	0	-5,704
Net cash flows from investing activities	-3,788	-14,078
Cash flows from financing activities		
Capital increase	0	0
Senior debt net incl. leasing	-3,255	12,568
Subordinated debt	1,920	12,618
Net interest	-4,280	-2,381
Exchange rates, other financial expenses and non cash expenses	-1,212	-1,506
Net cash flows from financing activities	-6,827	21,298
Net increase in cash equivalents	-9,558	3,389
Exchange rate changes on opening cash	0	-2
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	13,922	3,883
Cash acquisition	0	363
Cash & cash equivalents at end of the period	4,363	7,634