

SOL GROUP

PRESS RELEASE

FIRST HALF 2007 RESULTS

SALES + 8.8%, EBIT + 37.2%, NET PROFIT +29.6%

The Board of Directors has approved the first half 2007 results.

Consolidated sales € 213,6 ml, +8.8% on the same period of 2006 (€ 196,4 ml at 30/06/06), EBITDA € 47,6 ml (+4.6% compared with € 45,5 ml at 30/06/06), EBIT € 23 ml (+37.2% vs € 16,8 ml of the 1H 2006), consolidated net profit of € 10,9 (+29.6% vs € 8,4 ml on 1H 2006).

These are the highlights specified in the first half 2007 results approved earlier today by the Board of Directors of SOL S.p.A., a listed company on the Italian Stock Exchange that acts as holding company to a multination group of 40 companies, with more than 1.650 employees, involved in the area of technical gases and home-care assistance, operating in 15 European countries.

The increase of the sales (+8.8%) and gross operating profit (€ 47,6 ml, equal to 22.3% on sales vs € 45,5 ml at 30/06/06), this one influenced by the continuous increase of energy and distribution costs, go together an important growth of the Ebit (€ 23 ml, equal to 10.8% on sales) and consolidated net profit (€ 10,9 ml, equal to 5,1% on sales).

The first half Ebit 2007, not affected by non recurring charges included in first half Ebit 2006, increased significantly by 37,2%, despite the growth of the depreciation costs, due to the considerable investments made in 2006 and in the 1H 2007.

In comparison to the 30/06/06, the sales increased by 5.3% in Italy and 16% abroad. The technical gases business increased the sales by 5.1%, while the home-care business, in which the Group operates through VIVISOL, by 17.4%.

In financial terms, operating cash flow is € 34,7 ml (€ 29,7 ml in the same period of 2006), the total net debt is € 121,8 ml, increased by € 16,2 ml vs. 31/12/06, due to the investments made in the first six months for € 32,6 ml and to the increase of working capital.

There are no subsequent relevant events after June 30, 2007.

"We consider positive the results achieved in the first half of 2007" affirmed Marco Annoni, Vice-President of SOL S.p.A. "The results show a significant growth, despite the continuous increase of the energy costs. It is a significant signal that confirm our choices about production plant strengthening, product and service range enlargement, internationalization and diversification in the home-care business."

"In the year 2007", concluded SOL Chairman Aldo Fumagalli Romario, "we expect to consolidate the increasing trend of turnover and to improve the profitability of the Group."

Monza, September 11, 2007