

Ad-hoc release

Krones remains on course for substantial growth

Neutraubling, 27 October 2010 – As the world's market leader for beverage filling and packaging technology, Krones is continuing to benefit from the worldwide economic recovery. During the period from January to September 2010, sales rose by 16.1 % to reach 1,583.0 million euros. The company has been performing particularly strongly in the markets outside Europe, where compared to the preceding year sales were up by almost 30 %. But on the domestic market, too, demand for Krones' products and services rose markedly. Order bookings after nine months totalled 1,617.7 million euros, exceeding the preceding year's equivalent figure by 14.4 %. At the end of September 2010, the order backlog, at 923.2 million euros, was 35.4 million euros up on a like-for-like basis.

In the year's first nine months, Krones' earnings situation improved substantially compared to the preceding year's figure. From January to September, earnings before taxes (EBT) rose from minus 26.9 to plus 47.0 million euros, which corresponds to growth of 73.9 million euros. The EBT margin during the period under review was thus 3.0 per cent. After taxes, Krones earned 31.9 million euros in the year's first three quarters, compared with a minus of 25.4 million euros in 2009. This produces earnings per share of 1.05 euros (preceding year: minus 0.85 euros).

With an equity ratio of almost 39 % and net liquidity of 60.4 million euros on 30 September, Krones' financial and capital structure continues to be very comfortable, constituting a healthy foundation for further growth.

2010 as a whole sees better performance

Despite the macro-economic imponderables, Krones is continuingly confident for the 2010 business year, and expects the sales growth target of up to 15 % to be reached. The company anticipates that this extremely auspicious trend will continue, and that for 2010 a significantly positive result can be earned, with a pretax return on sales of around 3 %.

For the 2011 business year, given no radical changes in the situational conditions, Krones is confident of further improvements in both sales and earnings.

The complete 3/2010 quarterly report can be retrieved under:

http://www.krones.com/downloads/Q3_2010_d.pdf



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