



Press release HIESTAND HOLDING AG

Sales figures fiscal year 2006

JUMP IN SALES TO OVER CHF 500 MILLION THANKS TO STRONG ORGANIC GROWTH AND THE ACQUISITION OF FRICOPAN

Lupfig, 31 January 2007 – The HIESTAND GROUP has recorded a quantum leap in sales of 14.8% to CHF 516.1 million for 2006. This rise was driven by strong organic growth as well as acquisition-related growth following the purchase of the German Fricopan Group. Consequently, for the first time in the company's history, the „sound barrier“ of half a billion francs has been broken – by a wide margin.

Compared with the previous year the Group posted substantial organic growth of 9.4% in its existing markets to CHF 491.7 million. Taking into account the operations in Singapore which were sold in June 2005, organic growth was lifted even further to 9.8%. Once more both HIESTAND regions contributed to this growth: sales in Europe rose organically by 8.8% to CHF 464.5 million, while Asia posted an increase of 13.7% (excluding the Singapore effect). Currency effects on total sales of the HIESTAND GROUP came to 0.8%.

In the fourth quarter of 2006 the HIESTAND GROUP generated sales of CHF 129.9 million, corresponding to a two-digit organic growth rate of 10.5%.

The acquisition of Fricopan was completed on 14 November 2006, contributing 5.4% to total sales for the months of November and December 2006. The takeover was financed without any capital increase. The Fricopan Group provides HIESTAND with access to new distribution channels such as grocery retailers, new customer groups, and a new range of products.



The Board of Directors and the Group Executive Committee are confident that the target margins announced for 2006 have been reached thanks to the significant jump in sales. The annual results will be presented at the Media and Analysts' Conference to be held in the SWX Swiss Exchange on 11 April 2007.

The HIESTAND GROUP is well on the way to the billion-franc sales target set for 2010.

The HIESTAND GROUP is one of the world's leading manufacturers of frozen and convenience bakery products with national subsidiaries in Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Poland, Malaysia and Japan. The Group achieved sales of around CHF 516 million in 2006. Innovative bakery products, a wide range of products overall and extensive services to actively promote sales create B2B added value for customers. The tight logistics and distribution network ensures that products are always fresher than fresh and can be sold to customers at any time. Only natural raw materials are used in HIESTAND's quality bakery products. HIESTAND HOLDING AG is listed on the SWX Swiss Exchange (security number 718698).

Disclaimer

The expectations expressed in the present report are based on assumptions. The actual annual results may deviate from these assumptions. This report appears in two languages. The German-language version is binding.

Calendar

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|---------------|--------------------------------|
| 11 April 2007 | Media and Analysts' Conference |
| 9 May 2007 | Annual General Meeting |
| August 2007 | Half-year result 2007 |

Further information

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