

CARMEUSE GROUP Interim Results as of March 31st 2006

1. Net Turnover reaches €234.1 million reflecting a growth of 16% compared to the first quarter 2005.
2. Recurrent EBITDA is at €46.3 million when same period of previous year ended up at €41.7 million.

OPERATIONS

Globally, the first three months of 2006 have been supported by a strong business activity resulting in a net turnover of €234.1 million, representing an increase of 16% or 10% when excluding the foreign exchange impact.

Market pricing conditions for lime, together with volumes, remained strong allowing increase of revenues while net operating margin has been penalized as a result of high fuel costs increases.

The Group is implementing its capital expenditure program in line with its plan and consequently incurred higher spending level than same period of last year.

FINANCE

Net interests charges for the period decreased to €8.2 million from €9.1 million of last year driven mainly by the debt reduction program achieved through 2005.

The Group net debt is stable compared to the last numbers released (December 31, 2005) as the first months of the year are traditionally the weakest in terms of cash generation in our activity.

NET RESULT

The Net Result (share of the Group) reached a positive €27.2 million boosted by a recognition of deferred tax asset in North America of €14.5 million. When excluding the favorable tax impact, Group net results increased by €4.8 million.

PERSPECTIVES

We remain cautious on the evolution of our business for the coming quarters due to volatility of energy prices despite a favorable economic outlook.
