

#### PRESS RELEASE

Sèvres, 22 July 2015

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2015 results: Internet revenues up +4.8% and EBITDA margin<sup>1</sup> of 33%

- Q2 2015 results:
  - Internet revenues of €169 million, up +4.8%²
  - Group revenues of €241 million, down -5.5%²
  - EBITDA<sup>3</sup> of €80 million, down -6.8%<sup>2</sup>
  - EBITDA/revenues margin<sup>1</sup> of 33%
- Confirmed annual outlook for 2015

#### I. Revenues and EBITDA

The Board of Directors approved the Group's consolidated accounts as of 30 June 2015.

In million of euros	Q2 2014	Q2 2015	Change	H1 2014	H1 2015	Change
Internet revenues	161.3	169.0	+4.8%	315.3	329.2	+4.4%
Search & Display	126.0	127.5	+1.2%	247.3	255.2	+3.2%
Number of visits (in million)	503	553	+10%	989	1107	+12%
ARPA⁴ (in €)	223	239	+7%	<i>4</i> 38	476	+9%
Number of clients (in thousand) <sup>5</sup>	565	534	-5%	564	536	-5%
Digital marketing	35.3	41.5	+17.7%	68.0	74.1	+9.0%
Penetration rate (in number of clients) <sup>6</sup>	21%	22%		21%	22%	
Print & Voice revenues	93.8	72.0	-23.2%	155.5	121.0	-22.2%
Group revenues	255.1	241.0	-5.5%	470.8	450.2	-4.4%

The Group posted consolidated revenues of €450.2 million in H1 2015, down -4.4% compared to H1 2014 (-5,5% in Q2).

- The Internet business is up by +4.4% in H1 2015 (+4.8% in Q2), driven primarily by:
  - o an increase of +9% in ARPA<sup>4</sup> for Search & Display, which is the result of improved monetisation of Internet audiences, up by +12% and
  - the expansion of the Digital Marketing business by +9% following renewal of our sites with new offers and enriched content.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Recurring EBITDA/Group revenues margin, excluding exceptional items

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In Q2 2015, compared to Q2 2014

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Recurring, excluding exceptional items

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Average Revenue Per Advertiser

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Average number of clients for the period owning a product of the "Search & Display" range

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Percentage of "Search & Display" Internet clients benefitting from a "Digital Marketing" service



These effects have more than offset the -5% decrease in the number of Search & Display clients, which has been impacted, in particular, by the priority given to the commercial development of high-value clients.

• The **Print & Voice** business fell by **-22.2%** in the period (-23.2% in Q2), impacted by a broader offer of online products promoted by advisers who have acquired greater expertise in online communication.

In million of euros	Q2 2014	Q2 2015	Change	H1 2014	H1 2015	Change
Internet recurring EBITDA <sup>7</sup>	49.3	55.9	13.4%	106.1	97.7	-7.9%
EBITDA / Revenues	31%	33%		34%	30%	
Print & Voice recurring EBITDA <sup>7</sup>	36.1	23.7	-34.3%	61.1	36.1	-40.9%
EBITDA / Revenues	39%	33%		39%	30%	
Group recurring EBITDA <sup>7</sup>	85.4	79.6	-6.8%	167.2	133.8	-20.0%
EBITDA / Revenues	33%	33%		36%	30%	

**Recurring EBITDA**<sup>7</sup> of €133.8 million in H1 2015 was lower by -20.0% compared to H1 2014. The **EBITDA/revenues margin** was 30% in H1 2015, a drop of 6 points compared to H1 2014. This contained drop is due to a margin of 33% in Q2 2015, which is stable compared to Q2 2014, and which reflects the implementation of the operational contingency plan:

- disciplined oversight of external expenses, which fell by -5.3% in H1 (-13.5% in Q2);
- rigorous management of resources that caused personnel expenses to stabilise in Q2 and
- the controlled decline of the Print & Voice business with a margin of 30% in H1.

#### II. Net income and financial structure

In million of euros	Q2 2014	Q2 2015	Change	H1 2014	H1 2015	Change
Recurring EBITDA <sup>7</sup>	85.4	79.6	-6.8%	167.2	133.8	-20.0%
Exceptional items	(0.8)	(8.1)	na	(10.1)	(8.6)	14.9%
EBITDA	84.7	71.5	-15.6%	157.1	125.2	-20.3%
Depreciation and amortisation	(16.8)	(11.4)	+32.4%	(27.1)	(23.2)	+14.4%
Net financial income <sup>8</sup>	(30.2)	(20.9)	+30.8%	(58.0)	(42.8)	+26.2%
Corporate income tax	(16.9)	(17.7)	-4.8%	(31.7)	(25.1)	+20.8%
Net income	20.7	21.6	+4.2%	40.3	34.0	-15.6%

**EBITDA** of €125.2 million in H1 2015 is down 20.3% and is impacted primarily by the drop in recurring EBITDA and exceptional items of -€8.6 million related to restructuring accruals in connection with the Group's operational contingency plan. As the French Council of State is expected to make its decision shortly in respect of the Group's appeal following the annulment of the approval of the Employment Safeguard Plan by the French labor inspectorate (Direccte), no additional provision has been recognized for that purpose in H1 2015.

Depreciation and amortisation totalled -€23.2 million in H1 2015, down 14.4% compared to H1 2014.

Net financial income was negative by -€42.8 million in H1 2015, down 26.2% compared to H1 2014, mainly due to the impact of debt repayments made between the two periods.

In H1 2015, the Group recognised corporate income tax expense of €25.1 million, a decrease of 20.8% compared to H1 2014. The effective tax rate of 43% in H1 2015 is 1 point higher than in H1 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Excluding exceptional items

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Including share of profit or loss of an associate



Net income amounted to €34.0 million in H1 2015, down 15.6% compared to H1 2014 (of which Q2 2015 represented €21.6 million, up +4.2% compared to Q2 2014).

Net debt<sup>9</sup> totalled €1,081.1 million as of 30 June 2015, a decrease of €37.8 million compared to 30 June 2014.

Net cash flow was €42.3 million in H1 2015, down by -30.3% compared to H1 2014 (of which Q2 2015 represented €21.6 million, up +125.0% compared to Q2 2014).

As of 30 June 2015, Solocal Group held net cash of €72.3 million.

#### III. Confirmed outlook for 2015

#### The Group narrows its outlook for 2015:

- Internet revenues growth between +5% and +7%
- A slight decrease in Group revenues
- EBITDA/revenues margin<sup>10</sup> between 29% and 30%
- Net income stable compared to 2014

Furthermore, in Q2 2015, the Group proceeded with partial purchase of its bank debt in an amount of €15 million, and in September 2015 the Group intends to carry out the reverse split approved in June by the shareholders.

#### **About Solocal Group**

Solocal Group, the European market leader in local online communication, provides digital content, advertising solutions and transactional services that simply connect people with local businesses. The Group employs some 4,800 people (including nearly 2,300 local communication advisors) in France, Spain, Austria and the United Kingdom and supports the online development of SMB and major client accounts, mainly through its four flagship brands: PagesJaunes, Mappy, ComprendreChoisir and A Vendre A Louer. Over the years, Solocal Group has earned the trust of some 550,000 Internet clients. In 2014, Solocal Group generated revenues of 936 million euros, of which Internet business accounted for 68%, making it a European market leader in terms of online advertising revenues. Solocal Group is listed on Euronext Paris (LOCAL). More information may be obtained at <a href="https://www.solocalgroup.com">www.solocalgroup.com</a>.

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This press release contains forward-looking statements. Although Solocal Group feels that its estimates are based upon assumptions which we believe to be reasonable, these forward-looking statements are subject to numerous risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated in said forward-looking statements. For a discussion of risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results, financial condition, performance or achievements of Solocal Group to differ from those contained in the forward-looking, please refer to the "Risk factors" section of the "Document de Référence" filled with the French financial markets authority (AMF) and available on the Internet sites of the AMF (<a href="www.amf-france.org">www.amf-france.org</a>) and of Solocal Group (<a href="www.solocalgroup.com">www.solocalgroup.com</a>). Accounting data represented on an annual basis in audited consolidated form and on an quarterly basis in unaudited consolidated form.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Net debt is the gross financial debt plus or minus the fair net asset value of asset and/or liability derivative instruments used for cash flow hedging purposes, minus cash and cash equivalents.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Recurring EBITDA/Group revenues margin, excluding exceptional items



# Appendix 1: Audiences of 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter and 1<sup>st</sup> half year

In million of visits	Q2 2014	Q2 2015	Change	H1 2014	H1 2015	Change
PagesJaunes	361.4	392.3	+8.6%	721.0	799.7	+10.9%
of which mobile	120.8	139.2	+15.2%	232.3	274.2	+18.1%
Марру	86.1	93.0	+8.0%	159.6	175.3	+9.8%
of which mobile	34.2	40.1	+17.2%	61.7	73.1	+18.5%
ComprendreChoisir	26.9	42.3	+57.5%	48.7	79.8	+64.0%
of which mobile	8.6	18.2	+112.9%	14.8	33.2	+124.5%
Other	29.0	25.2	-13.2%	59.3	52.6	-11.3%
Total*	503.4	552.8	+9.8%	988.6	1,107.5	+12.0%
of which mobile	168.7	203.6	+20.7%	318.7	392.3	+23.1%

Source : Solocal Group on a like-for-like basis

\*shut down of 123people in Q1 2014

## Appendix 2: Income statement of 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter and 1<sup>st</sup> half year

In million of euros	Q2 2014	Q2 2015	Change	H1 2014	H1 2015	Change
Group revenues	255.1	241.0	-5.5%	470.8	450.2	-4.4%
Net external expenses	(61.4)	(53.1)	+13.5%	(109.5)	(103.7)	+5.3%
Personnel expenses	(108.2)	(108.2)	+0.0%	(194.1)	(212.8)	-9.6%
Recurring EBITDA <sup>1</sup>	85.4	79.6	-6.8%	167.2	133.8	-20.0%
EBITDA/revenues	33%	33%		36%	30%	
Exceptional items	(0.8)	(8.1)	na	(10.1)	(8.6)	+14.9%
EBITDA	84.7	71.5	-15.5%	157.1	125.2	-20.3%
Depreciation and amortisation	(16.8)	(11.4)	+32.4%	(27.1)	(23.2)	+14.4%
Operating income	67.8	60.1	-11.4%	130.0	102.0	-21.5%
Net financial income	(30.0)	(20.9)	+30.5%	(57.8)	(42.9)	+25.8%
Share of the result from associated compagnies	(0.2)	-	na	(0.2)	0.1	na
Income before tax	37.6	39.3	+4.5%	72.0	59.1	-17.9%
Corporate income tax	(16.9)	(17.7)	-4.8%	(31.7)	(25.1)	+20.8%
Corporate income tax rate	45%	45%		44%	43%	
Net income	20.7	21.6	+4.2%	40.3	34.0	-15.6%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Excluding exceptional items



Appendix 3: Cash flow statement of 2nd quarter and 1st half year

In million of euros	Q2 2014	Q2 2015	Change	H1 2014	H1 2015	Change
Recurring EBITDA <sup>1</sup>	85.4	79.6	-6.8%	167.2	133.8	-20.0%
Non monetary items included in EBITDA and other	(3.0)	(5.9)	-96.7%	(4.6)	(8.1)	-76.1%
Net change in working capital	(4.3)	(2.8)	+34.9%	15.8	(5.6)	-135.4%
Acquisition of tangible and intangible fixed assets	(18.9)	(18.5)	+2.1%	(35.5)	(34.7)	+2.3%
Cash financial income	(24.9)	(30.1)	-20.9%	(37.5)	(42.5)	-13.3%
Corporate income tax paid	(24.7)	(0.7)	+97.2%	(44.8)	(0.6)	+98.7%
Net cash flow	9.6	21.6	+125.0%	60.7	42.3	-30.3%
Increase (decrease) in borrowings and bank overdrafts	(450.4)	(1.3)	+99.7%	(489.4)	(19.9)	+95.9%
Capital increase	422.9	2.6	-99.4%	422.9	2.6	-99.4%
Other	(12.3)	7.5	+161.0%	(14.5)	3.8	+126.2%
Net cash variation	(30.3)	30.3	+200.0%	(20.4)	28.8	+241.2%
Net cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	82.9	42.0	-49.3%	73.1	43.6	-40.4%
Net cash and cash equivalents at end of period	52.7	72.3	+37.2%	52.7	72.3	+37.2%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Excluding exceptional items



## **Appendix 4: Balance sheet**

In million of euros	30 June 2014	31 Dec 2014	30 June 2015
ASSETS			
Total non-current assets	227.0	229.2	235.4
Net goodwill	82.2	82.5	82.5
Other net intangible fixed assets	97.6	107.3	120.3
Net tangible fixed assets	26.2	25.3	22.2
Other non-current assets of which deferred tax assets	21.0	14.2	10.5
Total current assets	518.9	606.7	510.1
Net trade accounts receivable	333.8	441.8	335.1
Acquisition costs of contracts	56.9	46.7	36.7
Prepaid expenses	10.0	9.4	14.1
Cash and cash equivalents	54.6	46.4	75.2
Other current assets	63.6	62.5	49.1
TOTAL ASSETS	745.9	835.9	745.5
LIABILITIES			
Total equity	(1,388.7)	(1,368.4)	(1,328.7)
Total non-current liabilities	1,240.3	1,247.0	1,232.4
Non-current financial liabilities and derivatives	1,153.0	1,139.6	1,128.5
Employee benefits (non-current)	78.4	90.4	91.0
Other non-current liabilities	8.9	16.9	13.0
Total current liabilities	894.3	957.2	841.8
Bank overdrafts and other short-term borrowings	20.5	42.5	27.8
Deferred income	552.4	575.4	493.5
Employee benefits (current)	113.2	117.6	100.2
Trade accounts payable	98.6	98.9	99.4
Other current liabilities	126.4	122.8	120.9
TOTAL LIABILITIES	745.9	835.9	745.5



## **Appendix 5: Net debt**

In million of euros	30 June	31 Dec	30 June
In million of edros	2014	2014	2015
Cash and cash equivalents	54.6	46.2	75.1
Gross Cash position	54.6	46.4	75.2
Bank overdrafts	(1.9)	(2.8)	(2.8)
Net Cash position	52.7	43.6	72.3
Bank borrowings	(813.9)	(833.8)	(811.1)
Bond borrowings -Senior secured notes	(350.0)	(350.0)	(350.0)
Loan issuance expenses	29.3	25.8	22.2
Capital leases	(1.0)	(8.0)	(0.9)
Fair value of hedging instruments	(16.2)	(9.9)	(3.1)
Accrued interest not yet due	(16.9)	(5.1)	(4.8)
Other financial liabilities	(2.8)	(5.5)	(5.8)
Gross financial debt	(1,171.5)	(1,179.4)	(1,153.5)
of which current	(18.5)	(39.7)	(25.0)
of which non-current	(1,153.0)	(1,139.6)	(1,128.5)
Net debt	(1,118.9)	(1,135.8)	(1,081.1)
Net cash (debt) excluding fair value of financial	(1,131.9)	(1,151.6)	(1,100.2)
instruments and loan issuance expenses			
At 06/30/2015, €54 M available under the revolving credit line			
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	30 June	31 Dec	30 June
Financial leverage	2014 2.92X	2014 3.73X	2015 3.83X
	4.50X	4.50X	4.25X
Covenant (max)			
Interest coverage	3.65X	3.64X	3.72X
Covenant (min)	3.00X	3.00X	3.00X



## **Appendix 6: Historical data**

In million of euros	Q1 2014	Q2 2014	Q3 2014	Q4 2014	Q1 2015	Q2 2015
Internet revenues	154.0	161.3	152.5	164.8	160.3	169.0
Search & Display	121.2	126.0	119.8	130.3	127.9	127.5
Number of visits (in million)	<i>4</i> 85	503	530	526	555	553
ARPA¹ (in €)	215	223	217	239	237	239
Number of clients <sup>2</sup> (in thousand)	564	565	552	544	539	534
Digital marketing	32.7	35.3	32.6	34.5	32.3	41.5
Penetration rate (in number of clients) <sup>3</sup>	21%	21%	21%	22%	22%	22%
Print & Voice revenues	61.7	93.8	76.8	71.6	49.0	72.0
Group revenues	215.7	255.1	229.3	236.4	209.2	241.0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Average Revenue Per Advertiser

 $<sup>^{3}</sup>$  % of Internet clients benefiting from a Digital marketing product

In million of euros	Q1 2014	Q2 2014	Q3 2014	Q4 2014	Q1 2015	Q2 2015
Internet recurring EBITDA <sup>1</sup>	56.8	49.3	49.5	37.2	41.8	55.9
EBITDA / Revenues	37%	31%	32%	23%	26%	33%
Print & Voice recurring EBITDA <sup>1</sup>	25.0	36.1	29.0	18.2	12.4	23.7
EBITDA / Revenues	40%	39%	38%	25%	25%	33%
Group recurring EBITDA <sup>1</sup>	81.8	85.4	78.5	55.4	54.2	79.6
EBITDA / Revenues	38%	33%	34%	23%	26%	33%
<sup>1</sup> Excluding exceptional items						
In million of euros	Q1 2014	Q2 2014	Q3 2014	Q4 2014	Q1 2015	Q2 2015
Group revenues	215.7	255.1	229.3	236.1	209.2	241.0
Net external expenses	(48.0)	(61.4)	(52.9)	(68.2)	(50.5)	(53.1)
Personnel expenses	(85.8)	(108.2)	(97.9)	(112.5)	(104.5)	(108.2)
Recurring EBITDA <sup>1</sup>	81.8	85.4	78.5	55.4	54.2	79.6
Exceptional items	(9.3)	(0.8)	(24.3)	0.2	(0.5)	(8.1)
EBITDA	72.5	84.7	54.2	55.5	53.7	71.5
Depreciation and amortisation	(10.3)	(16.8)	(11.9)	(13.6)	(11.9)	(11.4)
Operating income	62.2	67.8	42.3	41.9	41.8	60.1
Net financial income	(27.8)	(30.0)	(18.6)	(21.7)	(22.1)	(20.9)
Share of the result from associated compagnies	0.0	(0.2)	0.5	(0.3)	0.1	-
Income before tax	34.4	37.6	24.2	19.9	19.9	39.3
Corporate income tax	(14.9)	(16.9)	(13.6)	(11.5)	(7.5)	(17.7)
Corporate income tax rate	43%	45%	57%	57%	38%	45%
Net income	19.5	20.7	10.6	8.4	12.4	21.6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Excluding exceptional items

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 2}$  Number of average clients for the period with a product of the "Search & Display" range



In million of euros	Q1 2014	Q2 2014	Q3 2014	Q4 2014	Q1 2015	Q2 2015
Recurring EBITDA <sup>1</sup>	81.8	85.4	78.5	55.4	54.2	79.6
Non monetary items included in EBITDA and other	(1.6)	(3.0)	(3.6)	(5.3)	(2.2)	(5.9)
Net change in working capital	20.2	(4.3)	(49.4)	0.2	(2.8)	(2.8)
Acquisition of tangible and intangible fixed assets	(16.6)	(18.9)	(15.6)	(18.5)	(16.1)	(18.5)
Cash financial income	(12.6)	(24.9)	(18.7)	(29.9)	(12.4)	(30.1)
Corporate income tax paid	(20.1)	(24.7)	(15.2)	(0.5)	0.1	(0.7)
Net cash flow	51.1	9.6	(24.1)	1.3	20.7	21.6
Increase (decrease) in borrowings and bank overdrafts	(39.0)	(450.4)	(4.6)	18.2	(18.6)	(1.3)
Capital increase	-	422.9	(0.2)	(0.0)	-	2.6
Other	(2.3)	(12.3)	(0.5)	0.9	(3.7)	7.5
Net cash variation	9.8	(30.3)	(29.4)	20.3	(1.6)	30.3
Net cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	73.1	82.9	52.7	23.2	43.6	42.0
Net cash and cash equivalents at end of period	82.9	52.7	23.2	43.6	42.0	72.3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Excluding exceptional items