

A strong growth in the first half

Consolidated net sales unaudited provisional numbers in million Euros	2010	2009	Evolution at real exchange rates	Evolution at constant exchange rates
1st quarter	135.9	109.0	+ 24.7%	+ 20.9%
2 nd quarter	147.9	116.5	+ 27.0%	+18.1%
Total 1st half	283.8	225.5	+ 25.9%	+ 19.5%
Of which acquisition in Australia	15.0			
Total 1st half – pro-forma	268.8	225.5	+ 19.2 %	+ 14.3 %

Following the high growth recorded in the first quarter (+16% at constant scope and exchange rates), Virbac's activity remained buoyant in the second quarter (+12.6% at constant scope and rates), in all regions of the world. In parallel, the depreciation of the Euro and the integration of products acquired from Pfizer in Australia early this year bring the second quarter growth rate up to +27.0% (+24.7% in the first quarter).

On a half-year basis, all regions record a double digit organic growth. Major factors contributing to this performance are :

- in Europe, the sell-in right at the beginning of the season, of parasiticides based on Fipronil, Effipro and Fiproline, combined with the good performance of product ranges for companion animals, as well as a recovery in the food producing animals business;
- in the United States, the growth of Iverhart, supported by its listing with new distributors at the beginning of year, together with the very positive evolution of products in dermatology, dental care and other specialties;
- in other regions, the sustained level of sales both in the food producing animals market, in particular in emerging countries and in Australia, and in the companion animals market (Japan).

In Australia, the integration of products acquired from Pfizer is going on as planned and has led Virbac to rank second in this market.

With regard to the split of business by species, organic growth has been very steady in companion animals (+19.1%), accelerated by the one-off impact on half-year sales of sell-in campaigns (Effipro and Fiproline in Europe, Iverhart in the US) mentioned above. Besides, organic growth in food producing animals has reached a good level (+5.2%) with a contrast between the bovine area growing by 9.7%, and industrial breeding (swine and poultry), down –4.2% due to a market situation in Europe which remains difficult.

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