



Saft Groupe SA announces Q2 2013 sales and H1 2013 sales and results

Paris, July 24, 2013 – Saft, leader in the design, development and manufacture of advanced batteries for industry, announces its sales and earnings for the six-month period ended June 30, 2013.

Q2 and first half sales and H1 earnings highlights

- Q2 sales of €151.4m, a reduction of 0.6% YoY at constant exchange rates and perimeter* and a reduction of 1.4% as reported.
- H1 2013 sales totalled €284.9m, a reduction of 1.0% at constant exchange rates and perimeter* and a reduction of 1.9% as reported.
- EBITDA totalled €40.0m during H1, a reduction of 20.2% compared with 2012.
- Net income for the half year** was €11.1m, a decrease of 44.5% compared with prior year.

* 2012 sales on the basis of comparable scope correspond to sales reported in 2012 adjusted for sales of the Small Nickel Battery ("SNB") business sold on June 28, 2013 and services invoiced to Johnson Controls Inc. in 2012 to support the Nersac lithium-ion production unit which Saft purchased on January 1, 2013, amounting to €11.0m and €1.3m respectively for Q2 2012 and to €21.8m and €2.6m respectively for H1 2012.

** Net income includes a net loss of €5.2m from SNB discontinued activities, including a €1.4m operating loss for the 2013 period before disposal.

Outlook for FY 2013

- The Company issued revised guidance on July 5, 2013.
- Full year sales are now expected to be at the bottom of the initial guidance of €630-650m issued in February.
- EBITDA will be between €90 and €95m during FY 2013.

John Searle, Chairman of the Management Board, commented: *"During the half year, the Company has had a contrasting performance but enters the second half with better visibility on future sales.*

Overall H1 sales have not met our expectations and this has had an impact on H1 profitability. In a number of markets, notably the telecom back-up power business, sales have been excellent and will continue to grow in H2. However the profitability of these additional sales has been low during H1. In contrast, sales in our Specialty Battery Group, Saft's more profitable division, have been lower than last year.

Overall H2 will see stronger sales both in our traditional activities and also in sales of Li-ion batteries.



Saft has made very significant progress in developing its Li-ion business during H1 with large orders for Li-ion telecom batteries from a key customer in India. This has created increased interest from telecom operators worldwide to test Saft's Li-ion batteries. Our business development efforts to address other applications have progressed well, but Saft is still encountering delays in finalising a number of contracts in the energy storage market.

Overall we expect that our aggressive sales growth objective for our Li-ion products this year will be met."

Consolidated sales and results – First half 2013

In € million	First half		Variations in % ⁽²⁾
	2013 ⁽¹⁾	2012 ⁽¹⁾	
Sales	284.9	290.4	(1.0)%
Gross profit	79.1	86.0	(8.0)%
Gross profit %	27.8%	29.6%	
EBITDA ⁽³⁾	40.0	50.1	(20.2)%
EBITDA margin %	14.0%	17.3%	
EBIT ⁽⁴⁾	20.6	33.6	(38.7)%
EBIT margin %	7.2%	11.6%	
Net profit from continuing operations	16.3	20.5	(20.5)%
Net profit from discontinued operations	(5.2)	(0.5)	
Net profit for the period	11.1	20.0	(44.5)%
EPS (€ per share)	0.44	0.79	(44.3)%
EPS from continuing operations (€ per share)	0.65	0.81	(19.8)%

(1) 2013 and 2012 data have been restated in order to present the results of Small Nickel Batteries activity, sold on June 28, 2013, as discontinued operations.

2012 sales figure has also been restated to be presented as per 2013 perimeter, by excluding €2.6m of fees to Johnson Controls Inc. (JCI) for support services to the Nersac Li-ion factory purchased from JCI on January 1, 2013.

(2) Percentage changes are at actual exchange rates except for sales growth which is at constant exchange rates.

(3) EBITDA is defined as operating income, before depreciation, amortisation, restructuring costs and other operating income and expenses.

(4) EBIT is defined as operating income, before restructuring costs and other operating income and expenses.

Notes:

1. One change in the consolidation perimeter occurred between 2012 and 2013. It relates to the purchase of 100% of share of Saft Line which operates the Nersac Li-ion production facility.

2. Average euro/dollar exchange rate during H1 2013 was €1 = \$1.31, compared with €1 = \$1.30 during H1 2012.

H1 2013 key figures

- Sales were €284.9m in H1 2013, compared with €290.4m in H1 2012, a decrease of 1.0% at constant exchange rates and perimeter and a decrease of 1.9% at current exchange rates.
- Gross profit margin decreased by 180 bps to 27.8% of sales in H1 2013 compared to 29.6% in H1 2012, due to reduced sales volumes, unfavourable product mix and change in perimeter following the purchase from Johnson Controls Inc. of the Nersac Li-ion production unit.
- EBITDA margin amounted to 14.0% of sales, at €40.0m, a reduction of 20.2% compared to 2012. This reduction is primarily due to a reduced gross margin but also to increased R&D and commercial costs.
- Net income from continuing operations during H1 was €16.3m, down 20.5% compared with 2012, helped by positive one-offs and a lower income tax.
- Following the conclusion of the sale of the SNB activity on June 28, 2013, net income from discontinued operations amounted to €(5.2)m, including a €1.4m operating loss from January 1, 2013 to May 31, 2013, up to the date of sale.
- Net income during H1 was €11.1m, down 44.5% compared with H1 2012, and Earnings Per Share decreased by 44.3% to €0.44.
- Gross investments in fixed assets and capitalised R&D costs in H1 2013 were €34.6m, of which €8.5m for the acquisition of the Nersac Li-ion production facility and €8.7m for the Jacksonville project. Related Department of Energy funding received during H1 2013 amounted to €3.7m.
- Free cash flow in H1 was €(2.0)m compared to €(4.2)m in 2012.
- Financial debt at June 30, 2013 is almost unchanged at €218.5m. The leverage ratio at June 30, 2013, was 1.31, compared with 0.98 at December 31, 2012.
- Group cash position remains strong at €94.2m at June 30, 2013, after the dividend payment of €9.1m.



Second quarter sales by product line

Product line	In € million		Growth in %	
	Q2 2013*	Q2 2012*	At actual exchange rates	At constant exchange rates
IBG	85.3	79.4	7.4%	8.0%
SBG	66.1	74.2	(10.8)%	(9.9)%
Total	151.4	153.6	(1.4)%	(0.6)%

* 2013 and 2012 data have been restated in order to present the results of Small Nickel Batteries activity, sold on June 28, 2013 as discontinued operations. Q2 2012 sales from SNB were €11.0m.

Q2 2012 sales has also been restated to be presented as per 2013 perimeter, by excluding €1.3m of fees to Johnson Controls Inc. (JCI) for support services to the Nersac Li-ion facility purchased from JCI on January 1, 2013.

Sales figures are at actual exchange rates.

Euro/dollar average exchange rate in Q2 2013 was €1 to \$1.32 compared with €1 to \$1.28 in Q2 2012.

H1 sales and results by product line

Product line	6 months ended June 30, 2013				6 months ended June 30, 2012		
	Sales* €m	Sales growth %	EBITDA €m	EBITDA margin %	Sales* €m	EBITDA €m	EBITDA Margin %
IBG	159.9	6.4%	12.2	7.6%	151.7	16.2	10.7%
SBG	125.0	(9.1%)	29.1	23.3%	138.7	35.7	25.7%
Other			(1.3)	n.a.	-	(1.8)	n.a.
Total	284.9	(1.0%)	40.0	14.0%	290.4	50.1	17.3%

* 2013 and 2012 data have been restated in order to present the results of Small Nickel Batteries activity, sold on June 28, 2013 as discontinued operations. H1 2012 sales from SNB were €21.8m.

H1 2012 sales figure has also been restated to be presented as per 2013 perimeter, by excluding €2.6m of fees to Johnson Controls Inc. (JCI) for support services to the Nersac Li-ion facility repurchased to JCI on January 1, 2013.

All at actual exchange rates, except sales growth % which is at constant exchange rates.

Average euro/dollar exchange rate during H1 2013 was €1 to \$1.31, compared with €1 to \$1.30 during H1 2012.



Industrial Battery Group (IBG)

Sales during H1 were €159.9m, an increase of 6.4% at constant exchange rates and perimeter.

Sales in the stationary back-up power market grew by 9.9% at constant exchange rates. This growth came from success in the telecom back-up power market, both for Saft's Tel.X nickel battery range in the North American market and sales of Evolion[®] Li-ion batteries in India.

Sales in the industrial standby market were stronger in Q2 and were in line with prior year at the end of H1.

Finally, sales in the energy storage segment linked to smart grids remained below 2012. Discussions continue to progress on a number of contracts which will generate sales in H2 and into 2014.

The transportation market had a sales growth of 1.5% at constant rates. Sales to the rail and aviation markets have grown strongly during the half year but sales to the vehicle market were significantly lower than 2012 largely due to an unfavourable base of comparison.

Profitability of the division was lower YoY in H1 with an EBITDA of €12.2m. The reduction was the result of a perimeter change due to the addition of the Nersac Li-ion plant from January 1, 2013, to an unfavourable product mix and to some increased R&D and commercial costs supporting the growing Li-ion activity.

Specialty Battery Group (SBG)

Sales during H1 totalled €125.0m, a reduction of 9.1% at constant exchange rates.

Sales in the civil electronics market reduced by 3.6% during H1, impacted by low Q1 sales. Q2 sales were in line with 2012. This reduction resulted from a decrease in demand from three North American customers. This decrease in sales was partially compensated by growth in Europe and notably in China.

In the space and defence activity, sales were 17.1% lower in H1 at constant exchange rates compared to H1 2012. Sales in the space market remained lower than last year in H1 but will recover in H2.

Defence sales were sharply lower in Q2 YoY, largely due to the base of comparison during the quarter. The Li-ion project-based defence business continued to grow slowly throughout H1 2013.



Strategic divestment and acquisition

The sale of the SNB business, renamed Arts Energy, to Active'Invest was completed on June 28, 2013.

Net income from discontinued operations, recording the results of operations related to this activity, noted a net loss of €5.2m for the first half. On the one hand, this loss includes the €1.4m operating loss of the activity up to the date of sale, but also an additional transaction loss.

The Nersac Li-ion production site was acquired from Johnson Controls Inc. on January 1, 2013. As expected, the integration within the Group of this additional business unit has generated a negative EBITDA contribution of €2.9m for the first half.

Li-ion commercial developments

Saft announced on July 17, 2013 that Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited had placed orders totalling €35m for Evolion[®] Li-ion batteries to be delivered by the end of Q1 2014. This is a key breakthrough that highlights the growing role for Li-ion batteries in existing critical applications.

In addition to this major success, the following commercial progresses have been made:

- additional telecommunications networks operators have initiated limited deployment of Evolion[®] Li-ion batteries;
- Saft is working with four integrators to address the German market for residential PV with storage, a market benefiting from new subsidies introduced by the German Government;
- a first contract for Li-ion batteries for mobile hybrid dockside cranes was signed during the first half year;
- finally, the Group continues to record commercial successes in the Space and Defense markets.

Outlook

Following H1 sales weaker than initially anticipated, full year sales are expected to be at the bottom of the €630-650m range.

Saft now expects full year EBITDA to be in the range of €90-95m.

In € million	FY 2012	H1 2013 Actual	FY 2013 Initial estimate	FY 2013 Revised estimate
Sales *	598.0	284.9	630-650	630
EBITDA	102.1	40.0	102-106	90-95

*Sales estimates are at constant exchange rates.



Indicative financial calendar

2013 Q3 turnover	24 October 2013
2013 FY sales and results	18 February 2014

This press release includes the main Financial Statements as appendices.

Also available on Saft's website www.saftbatteries.com are:

- Saft's 2013 Interim Report, including the Interim Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements,
- A presentation on Saft's interim results.

IMPORTANT LEGAL INFORMATION AND CAUTIONARY STATEMENTS

Certain statements contained herein are forward-looking statements including, but not limited to, statements that are predictions of or indicate future events, trends, plans, objectives or results of operation. Undue reliance should not be placed on such statements because, by their nature, they are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties and can be affected by other factors that could cause actual results and Saft's plans and objectives to differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward looking statements.

About Saft

Saft (Euronext: Saft) is a world leader in the design and manufacture of advanced technology batteries for industry. The Group is the world's leading manufacturer of nickel batteries and primary lithium batteries for the industrial infrastructure and processes, transportation, civil and military electronics markets. Saft is the world leader in space and defence batteries with its Li-ion technologies which are also being deployed in the energy storage, transportation and telecommunication markets. Saft's 3,800 employees present in 18 countries, its 15 manufacturing sites and extensive sales network all contribute to accelerating the Group's growth for the future.

For more information, visit Saft at www.saftbatteries.com

SAFT

Jill LEDGER, Corporate Communications and Institutional Relations Director
Tel: +33 1 49 93 17 77, jill.ledger@saftbatteries.com

Vannara HUOT, Investor Relations Manager
Tel: +33 1 49 93 17 10, vannara.huot@saftbatteries.com

FTI Consulting

Arnaud de CHEFFONTAINES, Tel: +33 1 47 03 69 48, arnaud.decheffontaines@fticonsulting.com
Clément BENETREAU, Tel: +33 1 47 03 68 12, clement.benetreau@fticonsulting.com
Astrid VILLETTE, Tel: +33 1 47 03 69 51, astrid.villette@fticonsulting.com

Appendices

Consolidated statement of financial position

Assets

In € million	June 30, 2013	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
Non-current assets			
Intangible assets, net	210.1	213.3	218.1
Goodwill	111.8	111.1	112.7
Property, plant and equipment, net	248.1	226.7	214.4
Investment properties	0.1	0.1	0.1
Investments in joint undertakings	12.4	13.3	13.3
Deferred income tax assets	11.8	5.1	5.9
Other non-current financial assets	0.4	0.3	0.4
	594.7	569.9	564.9
Current assets			
Inventories	95.2	80.2	85.5
Tax credits	19.9	14.7	10.0
Trade and other receivables	160.0	170.0	159.5
Derivative financial instruments	0.1	1.0	3.9
Cash and cash equivalents	94.2	114.5	267.2
	369.4	380.4	526.1
Assets held for sale	-	18.8	-
TOTAL ASSETS	964.1	969.1	1091.0

Consolidated statement of financial position

Liabilities and equity

In € million	June 30, 2013	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
Shareholders' equity			
Ordinary shares	25.8	25.2	25.2
Share premium	87.6	78.1	103.2
Treasury shares	(2.1)	(2.0)	(1.8)
Cumulative translation adjustments	25.7	26.0	34.8
Fair value and other reserves	0.4	2.3	(3.7)
Group consolidated reserves	256.1	263.4	246.2
Minority interest in equity	2.5	2.7	2.7
Total shareholders' equity	396.0	395.7	406.6
Liabilities			
Non-current liabilities			
Debt	213.9	212.8	101.2
Other non-current financial liabilities	5.0	4.9	5.3
Deferred grants related to assets	55.6	53.4	47.3
Deferred income tax liabilities	73.7	75.1	71.0
Pensions and other long-term employee benefits	10.0	8.9	10.3
Provisions	33.1	31.5	33.1
	391.3	386.6	268.2
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	164.0	152.9	162.3
Taxes payable	1.9	5.7	6.6
Debt	4.6	4.7	237.8
Derivative instruments	1.5	1.0	1.2
Pensions and other long-term employee benefits	0.6	1.1	1.1
Provisions	4.2	6.3	7.2
	176.8	171.7	416.2
Liabilities associated with assets held for sale	-	15.1	-
Total liabilities and equity	964.1	969.1	1,091.0

Consolidated income statement

In € million	Six months ended June 30, 2013	Six months ended June 30, 2012	Six months ended June 30, 2011
Revenues	284.9	293.0	311.6
Cost of sales	(205.8)	(207.0)	(217.7)
Gross profit	79.1	86.0	93.9
Distribution and sales costs	(20.6)	(19.4)	(19.3)
Administrative expenses	(23.9)	(21.7)	(24.1)
Research and Development expenses	(14.0)	(11.3)	(11.0)
Restructuring costs	(0.2)	(0.1)	0.1
Other operating income and expenses	5.8	0.0	(0.4)
Operating profit	26.2	33.5	39.2
Finance costs. net	(5.7)	(4.9)	(6.9)
Share of profit / (loss) of associates	0.2	0.6	0.8
Profit before income tax from continuing operations	20.7	29.2	33.1
Income tax on continuing operations	(4.4)	(8.7)	(9.0)
Net profit/(loss) from continuing operations	16.3	20.5	24.1
Net profit/(loss) from discontinued operations ⁽¹⁾	(5.2)	(0.5)	(8.3)
Net profit for the period	11.1	20.0	15.8
Attributable to: owners of the parent Company	11.1	19.9	15.5
Attributable to: non-controlling interests	0.0	0.1	0.3
Earnings per share (in € per share)			
- basic	0.44	0.79	0.62
- diluted	0.44	0.79	0.61
Earnings per share of continued operations (in € per share)			
- basic	0.65	0.81	0.95
- diluted	0.65	0.81	0.94

(1) H1 2012 and 2013 net income from discontinued operations relate to the "SNB" Small Nickel Battery activity, sold on June 28, 2013. The result of this activity for H1 2011 has not been restated as the related information was unavailable. Net income from discontinued operations for the first half of 2011 related solely to the Group's share in Johnson Controls-Saft's results from operations.



Consolidated statement of comprehensive income

In € million	Six months ended June 30, 2013	Six months ended June 30, 2012	Six months ended June 30, 2011
Net profit for the period	11.1	20.0	15.8
Other comprehensive income			
Actuarial gains and losses recognised against Statement of Comprehensive Income	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tax effect on actuarial gains and losses recognised against Statement of Comprehensive Income	0.0	0.0	0.0
Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss	0.0	0.0	0.0
Fair value gains/(losses), on cash flow hedge	(1.8)	(0.1)	(0.8)
Fair value gains/(losses), net on investment hedge	(1.0)	6.7	13.6
Currency translation adjustments	(0.4)	(0.7)	(14.0)
Tax effect on income/(expenses) recognised directly in equity	0.9	(2.2)	(4.4)
Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss	(2.3)	3.7	(5.6)
Total other comprehensive income for the period, net of tax	(2.3)	3.7	(5.6)
Total comprehensive income for the period	8.8	23.7	10.2
<i>Attributable to:</i>			
- owners of the parent Company	9.0	23.6	10.0
- non-controlling interests	(0.2)	0.1	0.2

Consolidated cash flow statement

In € million	Period ended June 30, 2013	Period ended June 30, 2012	Period ended June 30, 2011
Net profit for the period from continuing operations	16.3	20.5	24.1
Adjustments :			
Share of profit/(loss) of associates (net of dividends received)	0.7	0.4	0.2
Income tax expense from continued activities	4.4	8.7	9.0
Property, plant and equipment and intangible assets amortisation and depreciation	21.4	18.0	15.0
Amortisation of deferred grants related to assets	(2.0)	(1.5)	0.0
Finance costs	5.7	4.9	6.9
Stock option plans	0.6	0.6	0.8
Net movements in provisions	(1.4)	0.0	(2.3)
Other	(4.0)	(0.1)	0.3
	41.7	51.5	54.0
Change in inventories	(14.5)	(13.1)	(15.9)
Change in trade and other receivables	9.9	0.0	6.5
Change in trade and other payables	0.6	0.7	1.8
Change in other receivables and payables	0.7	(10.9)	(5.6)
Changes in working capital	(3.3)	(23.4)	(13.1)
Cash flows generated from operations before interest and tax	38.4	28.1	40.9
Interest paid	(3.7)	(2.9)	(5.4)
Income tax paid	(9.8)	(6.8)	(8.1)
Net cash generated by operating activities	24.9	18.4	27.4
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of equity securities, net of acquired cash	(8.5)	0.0	0.0
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(22.3)	(24.6)	(39.4)
Purchase of intangible assets	(3.6)	(5.0)	(3.7)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	0.0	0.3	0.0
Variation of other non-current financial assets and liabilities	(0.2)	0.0	0.0
Net cash used in investing activities	(34.6)	(29.3)	(43.1)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Capital increase	0.1	0.0	2.3
Purchase/Sale of treasury shares - liquidity contract	(0.2)	(0.3)	(0.7)
New debt	0.0	209.4	0.0
Debt repayments	0.0	(328.5)	0.0
Grants related to assets and, insurance indemnities	7.7	6.9	15.2
Increase/(decrease) in other long-term liabilities	0.1	0.1	0.1
Dividends paid to Company shareholders	(9.1)	(43.1)	(17.6)
Net cash generated by/(used) in financing activities	(1.4)	(155.5)	(0.7)
Net cash generated by/(used in) continuing operations	(11.1)	(166.3)	(16.4)
Net cash generated by/(used in) discontinuing operations	(8.4)	(0.3)	(22.9)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash	(19.5)	(166.6)	(39.3)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	114.5	267.2	194.6
Impact of changes in exchange rate	(0.8)	(1.4)	(3.6)
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	94.2	99.2	151.7

(1) H1 2012 and 2013 cash flow from discontinued operations relate to the "SNB" Small Nickel Battery activity, sold on June 28, 2013. Net cash flow from SNB activity for H1 2011 has not been restated as the related information was unavailable. H1 2011 cash flow from discontinued operations relates solely to the Group's share in Johnson Controls-Saft's operations.



Consolidated statement of changes in equity

In € million	Number of shares making up the capital	Attributable to equity holders of the Company					Non-controlling interests	Shareholders' equity
		Share Capital	Share Premium	Reserves	Profit for the period attributable to equity	Total		
Balance at January 1, 2011	25 125 840	25.1	102.1	172.9	39.7	339.8	1.4	341.2
Appropriation of 2010 earnings				39.7	(39.7)			
Employee stock options plans (value of employee services)				1.6		1.6		1.6
Capital increase of Amco-Saft India Ltd							1.1	1.1
Capital increase by exercise of stock options	49 005	0.1	1.1	0.0	0.0	1.2		1.2
Dividend paid				(17.6)	0.0	(17.6)		(17.6)
Purchase/Sale of treasury shares				1.1		1.1		1.1
Total comprehensive income					80.0	80.0	0.2	80.2
Balance at December 31, 2011	25 174 845	25.2	103.2	195.5	80,0	403.9	2.7	406.6
Appropriation of 2011 earnings				80.0	(80.0)			0.0
Employees stock option plans (value of employee services)				0.6		0.6		0.6
Capital increase								0.0
Capital increase by exercise of Stock Options								0.0
Dividend paid			(25.1)	(18.0)		(43.1)		(43.1)
Purchase/Sale of treasury shares				(0.3)		(0.3)		(0.3)
Total comprehensive income					23.7	23.7		23.7
Balance at June 30, 2012	25 174 845	25.2	78.1	257.8	23.7	384.8	2.7	387.5
Employees stock option plans (value of employee services)				0.7		0.7		0.7
Purchase/Sale of treasury shares				0.1		0.1		0.1
Total comprehensive income					7.4	7.4		7.4
Balance at December 31, 2012	25 174 845	25.2	78.1	258.6	31.1	393.0	2.7	395.7
Appropriation of 2011 earnings				31.1	(31.1)			0.0
Employees stock option plans (value of employee services)				0.6		0.6		0.6
Capital increase								
Capital increase by exercise of Stock Options	6 690		0.1			0.1		0.1
Dividend paid	583 596	0.6	9.4	(19.1)		(9.1)		(9.1)
Purchase/Sale of treasury shares				(0.1)		(0.1)		(0.1)
Total comprehensive income					9.0	9.0	(0.2)	8.8
Balance at June 30, 2013	25 765 131	25.8	87.6	271.1	9.0	393.5	2.5	396.0