



EXACOMPTA CLAIREFONTAINE

Dear Shareholders,

At its 15 September 2022 meeting in Paris, the EXACOMPTA CLAIREFONTAINE Board of Directors, chaired by Mr François Nusse, reviewed and approved the Group financial statements for the six months ended 30 June 2022.

↳ Consolidated results

(€000)	H1 2022	H1 2021
Revenue	398,210	332,380
Operating income	13,507	9,753
Net income before tax	11,884	9,885
Net income after tax	8,808	7,571
Group share	8,808	7,332

While the conflict in Ukraine has not had a direct material impact on our supplies, our energy expenditure has soared.

↳ Segment information

(€000)	Paper	Processing	Inter-segment transactions	Total
Revenue	187,102	291,065	(79,957)	398,210
Operating income	10,954	3,428	(875)	13,507

(€000)	France	Europe	Outside Europe	Total
Revenue	210,796	170,896	16,518	398,210

Paper

European production of printing and writing papers rose 2.5% versus first half 2021 (in tonnes, CEPI statistics).

Production by our five paper machines increased 11% to 135,842 tonnes of paper reels, thereby enabling us to meet customer demand as closely as possible.

Our business was mainly impacted by fresh increases in raw material costs and soaring electricity prices. Increased production and price hikes have helped maintain our profit margins.

Processing

GfK market research consultants noted a stagnation in revenue from manufactured papers in France and a 2.6% decline in filing item revenue versus first half 2021. Our sales in this sector were up nearly 13.9% for the first half, driven by strong momentum across all product categories.

While the start of the 2022-2023 school year was only slightly impacted, we are constantly revising our prices in response to rising costs.

↪ **Outlook**

As the second half gets under way, demand for our products is still strong but somewhat precarious in view of widespread concerns.

Uncertainty hangs over the amounts of gas and electricity we need to conduct our business. Despite the explosion in gas and electricity prices not covered by hedging or regulated price schemes, 2022 operating income is expected to come close to the 2021 figure of €30,417,000.

↪ **Group financial results**

At 30 June 2022, gross borrowings stood at €254,722,000 including €42,382,000 of financial liabilities arising from the capitalisation of leases. Consolidated shareholders' equity was €452,521,000.

The Group has negotiated additional lines of credit with its banks totalling €13.5 million. Commercial paper outstanding at 30 June 2022 amounted to €50 million out of a global programme of €125 million. With gross cash and cash equivalents of €93,365,000 at 30 June 2022, Group net borrowings amounted to €161,358,000.

Excluding financial liabilities generated by the application of IFRS 16, net debt at 30 June 2022 was €118,976,000 compared to €106,366,000 at 30 June 2021.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Head of Financial Reporting
Jean-Marie Nusse - Executive Vice President