

*For immediate publication*

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## Half-Year Report 2010

### Sika improves profit and continues to gain market share

**Sika grew in all Regions in the first half-year of 2010 in terms adjusted for exchange rates. In emerging markets, double-digit growth rates were achieved throughout. With material costs initially still low and those for personnel reduced, operating profit increased considerably. For the second half-year the company anticipates sustained growth with rising material costs.**

In the first half-year of 2010, Group sales growth in local currency terms amounted to 6.7%. This includes an acquisition effect of 1.9%. Exchange rate fluctuations bore a negative effect of -1.1%, so that in comparison with the first half year of the year prior sales in Swiss francs grew by 5.6% from CHF 1982.9 million to CHF 2094.3 million.

In terms adjusted for exchange rates, Sika grew in all Regions, albeit with substantially varying rates. Thus the emerging markets achieved double-digit growth throughout, with the highest rate in Region Asia/Pacific at 23.8%. Within this Region, China excelled with a growth rate of some 40%. In Region Latin America sales rose by 15.4%, followed by IMEA (India, Middle East, Africa) with growth of 12.8%. In the traditionally industrial nations growth rates proved lower: North America 5.6%, Europe North 2.2% and Europe South 1.3%. Sika thereby continued to gain market share.

In the first quarter of this year, lingering snowy winters in Europe and North America strongly hindered building activity, substantially impacting sales of products for outdoor applications. Conditions normalized in the second quarter, and overall sales of products for the building industry rose by over 7%. For the entire reporting period sales growth in terms adjusted for exchange rates amounted to 3.5%, including an acquisition effect of 2.2%. Sales of products for industrial manufacturing accelerated by 20.1% (0.5% due to acquisitions). Contributing to this success were both the considerable number of new vehicle models that Sika won in years 2008 and 2009 and which are now leaving manufacturers' assembly lines, as well as the substantially boosted production figures for automobiles, busses and also commercial vehicles, in comparison with the same period in the previous year.

During the reporting period the effective material costs remained at the reduced level of the second half-year of 2009, so that as a proportion of sales gross profit improved by 0.9 percentage points. As a result of cost reduction programs, personnel costs declined as a proportion of sales from 24.4% to 22.6%. Other operating expenses developed in accordance with sales volume. Operating profit before depreciation, EBITDA, improved by



32.8% to CHF 284.2 million, yielding an EBITDA margin of 13.6%. Operating profit amounted to CHF 216.5 million, so lying 46.0% above the reporting period of the previous year.

## **Acquisitions**

In the period under review Sika rigorously pursued its acquisition strategy, taking over various companies or parts thereof, among others the automotive glass replacement business of ADCO Ltd., USA, Henkel Japan Ltd.'s building sealants business, and Panbex of the Czech Republic. By assuming a majority position in the Japanese Dyflex HD Co., Ltd., which with well established brands and distribution channels is market leader in Japan for waterproofing of structures, Sika substantially improved its market position in Japan. Dyflex's products and technologies complement Sika's offerings, and the merger of product portfolios enables Sika to provide customers in Japan and the entire Region Asia/Pacific with a full palette of waterproofing systems and solutions. With this acquisition Sika tripled its sales in Japan.

## **Outlook**

Sika anticipates continued growth for the second half-year, above all in emerging markets. Even if general economic growth should slacken in individual emerging countries, possibilities for growth through greater market penetration remain unrestricted. The mild recovery in North America should continue. Cyclical development in Europe stands entirely open: the effects of governmental debt policy and respectively of the subsequent national remediation measures are not yet foreseeable. For a number of countries an outlook at present is hardly possible. Raw material prices have risen in recent months and will impact material costs in the second half-year. Whenever possible Sika will transfer this cost increase to sales prices.

**Details relating to today's conference call can be found on page 4**



in CHF mn	1/1/2009- 6/30/2009	1/1/2010- 6/30/2010	Change in %
<b>Sika Group</b>			
Net sales	1'982.9	2'094.3	5.6
Operating profit before depreciation (EBITDA)	214.0	284.2	32.8
Depreciation/Amortization/Impairment	-65.7	-67.7	3.0
Operating profit (EBIT)	148.3	216.5	46.0
Net profit after taxes	92.1	150.5	63.4
Earnings per share in CHF <sup>1</sup>	37.09	60.42	62.9
Cash flow from operating activities	83.3	56.0	
Free cash flow	-120.1	-30.5	
Operating free cash flow	6.9	13.2	
Balance sheet total	3'512.5	3'870.8	10.2
Shareholders' equity	1'469.6	1'624.0	10.5
Equity ratio in % <sup>2</sup>	41.8	42.0	0.5
Return on capital employed (ROCE) in % <sup>3</sup>	14.0	20.6	47.1

1 Excluding minority interests

2 Shareholders' equity divided by balance sheet total

3 Capital employed = operating assets. /.cash and cash equivalents./.non interest-bearing current liabilities (each at average value)

*Detailed information on the half-year results can be found in our Half-Year Report 2010. Information can be downloaded directly from our website [www.sika.com](http://www.sika.com) or obtained in printed form from the above address.*



## **Conference call today, July 30, 2010 at 3 pm (CEST)**

In connection with the publication of the half-year results a conference call will be held today. Please dial in 10 to 15 minutes before the start at

**+41 (0) 91 610 56 00 (Europe)**  
**+1 (1) 866 291 41 66 (USA)**  
**+44 (0) 207 107 06 11 (UK)**

An operator will then connect you with Ronald Trächsel (CFO) and Rainer Weihofen (IR).

The conference call will be recorded and remains retrievable for 72 hours under the following numbers:

**+41 (0) 91 612 43 30 (Europe)**  
**+1 (1) 866 416 25 58 (USA)**  
**+44 (0) 207 108 62 33 (UK)**

Upon request please enter the code **11924**, followed by the #sign.

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### **Sika AG Corporate Profile**

Sika AG, located in Baar, Switzerland, is a globally active company supplying the specialty chemicals markets. It is a leader in processing materials used in sealing, bonding, damping, reinforcing and protecting load-bearing structures in construction (buildings and infrastructure construction) and in industry (vehicle, building component and equipment production).

Sika's product lines feature high-quality concrete admixtures, specialty mortars, sealants and adhesives, damping and reinforcing materials, structural strengthening systems, industrial flooring as well as roofing and waterproofing systems. Subsidiaries in more than 70 countries worldwide and approximately 12 000 employees link customers directly to Sika and ensure the success of all our partners. Sika achieves annual sales of CHF 4.2 billion. Visit our website at [www.sika.com](http://www.sika.com).

