

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**2008 FIRST HALF-YEAR RESULTS**

**2008 FIRST HALF-YEAR RESULTS:**

- **Turnover: €171.6 million**
- **Operating profit: €13.2 million**
- **Net profit: €9.4 million**

As previously announced, Rosier Group operated during the 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2008 against a highly favourable background, in line with the profound changes that have been affecting the fertiliser industry since the second quarter of 2007:

- Global demand for farming products – especially for grains, corn and rice – was very high, occurring at a time when available quantities are limited, primarily due to successive bad harvests in major producing regions. This imbalance between supply and demand resulted in soaring prices and made market participants aware of the need to increase farming output.
- This caused a sharp increase in demand for fertilisers, the global growth of which used to be in the region of 2.2% but was estimated at 4.1%<sup>1</sup> in the most recent 2007/2008 farming campaign.
- This sudden rise in demand caused significant successive price increases in raw materials, primarily for phosphorus (P) and potassium (K).

Rosier was able to benefit from this favourable environment.

**1<sup>st</sup> half-year turnover amounted to € 171.6 million**, compared to €92.7 million in 2007.

<sup>1</sup> Source: IFA (International Fertilizer Industry Association)

DIRECTION

Turnover growth was primarily due to a pricing effect, as the Group satisfactorily passed through raw material increases to its selling price.

We also recorded growth in the specialty fertiliser segment, especially hydrosoluble NPK, even though we faced procurement difficulties for major raw materials containing phosphorus and potassium.

The buoyant market enabled us to noticeably improve our unit margins.

**Operating profit was € 13.2 million**, after taking into account operating expenses and depreciation and amortisation charges (the latter amounting to € 1.0 million), and non-recurring items of € 1.2 million, **compared to € 3.7 million in the 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2007**.

Growing turnover resulted in additional working capital requirements, reflected in a € 0.2 million increase in financial expenses.

**2008 1<sup>st</sup> half-year net profit thus amounted to € 9.4 million, compared to € 2.7 million for the same period of 2007.**

Please find below the condensed income statement and balance sheet:

**a) Income statement**

	<b>Rosier Group</b>	
	<b>30 June 2008</b>	<b>30 June 2007</b>
<b>(€ thousands)</b>		
Operating revenue	172,235	93,235
<i>of which: Turnover</i>	<b>171,575</b>	<b>92,656</b>
<i>Other operating revenue</i>	660	579
Operating expenses	(159,005)	(89,491)
<b>Operating income</b>	<b>13,230</b>	<b>3,744</b>
Net finance expense	(288)	(94)
Income before tax	12,942	3,650
Income tax	(3,560)	(982)
<b>Net income</b>	<b>9,382</b>	<b>2,668</b>
<b>(€ per share)</b>		
Earnings per share	36.79	10.46

*Note: the condensed financial statements included in this document were not audited nor subject to a limited review by the Statutory Auditor.*

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DIRECTION

**b) Balance sheet**

(€ thousands)	Rosier Group	
	30 June 2008	31 Dec. 2007
<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>		
* Non-current assets, net	11,077	9,829
* Deferred tax	0	1,299
* Pension fund assets	6,770	6,340
* Inventories	31,309	24,537
* Trade receivables and others	71,911	40,747
* Cash and cash equivalents	10,119	2,201
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>131,186</b>	<b>84,953</b>
<b><u>EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</u></b>		
* Shareholders' equity		
* <i>Share capital</i>	2,748	2,748
* <i>Reserves</i>	41,720	37,167
* <i>Profit for the year</i>	9,382	6,593
* Shareholders' equity	53,850	46,508
* Deferred tax	338	29
* Provisions	0	1,200
* Borrowings	22,214	4,458
* Trade payables and other	54,784	32,758
<b>TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>	<b>131,186</b>	<b>84,953</b>

**OUTLOOK**

Further raw material price increases look set to arise in the coming months, primarily driven by immediately available quantities that are too low and the significant timeframe required to increase production capacities.

Conversely, farmers, for whom the level of compound fertiliser prices has become very high, may change the pattern of their demand and start opting for different formulas. If this situation was to arise, the flexibility of our production equipment would enable us to satisfy this demand.

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In the Group's main trading area, deliveries of autumn fertilisers – commonly called PK – are ongoing; they will be followed by the delivery of NPK fertilisers for pre-season storage.

Our current sales order backlog should guarantee significant business activity in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half-year.

Against this background, profit from operations for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half-year should be lower than in the 1<sup>st</sup> half; however, 2008 full-year results will feature strong growth compared to those of 2007.

### **HALF-YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT**

In accordance with the Royal Decree of 14 November 2007, the Group has published a half-year financial report.

This report is available in the "financial information" section of Rosier's website:

[www.rosier.eu](http://www.rosier.eu)

You can also request a copy by phone: + 32 69 87 15 31.

### **SHAREHOLDERS' AGENDA**

Publication 2nd half-year 2008 interim report: 7 November

Publication of 2008 full-year results: 27 March

Release of annual report 2008: 30 April

2009 AGM: 18 June

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