



PLASTIC OMNIUM

▶ Automotive

▶ Environment

▶ High-Tech

## New Improvement in Operating Performance

(Paris – September 20, 2005) — The Board of Directors of Compagnie Plastic Omnium met on September 16, 2005 under the chairmanship of Laurent Burelle to approve the consolidated accounts for the six months ended June 30, 2005.

Audited consolidated data (in € millions)	June 30, 2004 Pro forma IFRS	June 30, 2005 IFRS	% change
Revenue	878.5	1,051.6	+19.7%
Operating margin as a % of revenue	44.9 5.1%	48.5 4.6%	+ 8.0%
Operating profit as a % of revenue	36.4 4.1%	54.6 5.2%	+ 49.8%
Net profit (loss) from discontinued operations	15.4	(3.0)	
Net profit as a % of revenue	38.2 4.3%	35.8 3.4%	(6.3%)
Funds from operations as a % of revenue	74.0 8.4%	84.6 8.0%	+ 14.3%

(in € millions)	Dec. 31, 2004	June 30, 2005
Net debt	305	303
Debt-to-equity*	78%	71%

\* Excluding treasury stock 69% 61%

### > Strong growth

In the first half of 2005, Compagnie Plastic Omnium outperformed its markets. Consolidated revenue totaled €1,051.6 million, an increase of 19.7% (14% at constant exchange rates and scope of consolidation).

The two core businesses—Automotive and Environment—reported organic growth of, respectively, 15.1% and 10.9% for the first six months, led by the impact of the capital improvements and innovation initiatives undertaken in recent years.

This performance drove market share gains in both businesses, especially in international markets, which accounted for 68% of total sales.

### > Further improvement in fundamentals

In a highly competitive automobile market, roiled by a combination of higher raw material prices, the court-ordered liquidation of MG Rover and other unfavorable factors, operating margin rose by 8% to €48.5 million, representing 4.6% of revenue.

In first-half 2005, other income and expense included an €8-million capital gain on the sale of industrial land in Spain. In first-half 2004, it comprised mainly a provision for restructuring in the fuel system business (Inergy Automotive Systems).

Operating profit amounted to €54.6 million and represented 5.2% of revenue. Excluding the capital gain, it totaled €46.5 million, an increase of 28% over the prior-year period, due mainly to the performance of Plastic Omnium Environment and Performance Plastics Products - 3P.

Net profit/(loss) from discontinued operations comprised, in first-half 2005, a loss from Italian subsidiary Lander, which is currently being sold by the Environment division, and, in first-half 2004, a profit from Plastic Omnium Medical.

Net profit amounted to €35.8 million, or 3.4% of revenue, compared with €38.2 million in first-half 2004. Excluding the net profit from discontinued operations, profit improved to €38.8 million, from €22.7 million in first-half 2004.

The debt-to-equity ratio improved to 71%, from 78% at December 31, 2004. Excluding treasury stock, it stood at 61%.

## in First-Half 2005

> Revenue + 20 %

> Operating margin + 8 %

> Funds from operations + 14 %

### > Outlook

In a challenging business environment, Compagnie Plastic Omnium expects revenue of approximately €2 billion over the full year and will pursue its assertive growth strategy in the years ahead.

### > Transition to IFRS

Details of the impact of the transition to IFRS are posted at [www.plasticomnium.com](http://www.plasticomnium.com). A more detailed presentation of the 2005 interim financial statement is also available on the site.

### > Shareholder calendar

**October 17, 2005:** Meeting with shareholders in Rouen

**October 20, 2005:** Third quarter revenue announced

**November 18-19, 2005:** Salon Actionaria investor trade show at Palais des Congrès in Paris

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**PLASTIC OMNIUM is a world leader in automotive equipment** (fuel tanks/systems and exterior modules). Plastic Omnium also holds leadership positions in household waste collection containers and high-performance plastics products. The Plastic Omnium share is traded on the Euronext Paris stock market, Compartment B, and included in the CAC Mid 100 and SBF 250 indices (ISIN code: FR0000124570).