

AUDITED GROUP RESULTS

for the year ended 31 MARCH 2010



Revenue ▼ 12,3% • Profit before taxation ▼ 9,5% • Earnings per share ▲ 3,7% • Annual dividend ▲ 9,4%

CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

for the year ended 31 March

| | % change | 2010 R'000 | 2009 R'000 |
|---|----------|------------|------------|
| Revenue | (12,3) | 3 968 872 | 4 523 535 |
| Operating income | (8,9) | 453 293 | 497 356 |
| Interest and dividends received | | 408 498 | 360 115 |
| Finance costs | | 432 886 | 382 719 |
| Share of associate | | 639 | - |
| Profit before taxation | (9,5) | 429 544 | 474 752 |
| Taxation | | 64 155 | 111 940 |
| Profit for the year | 0,7 | 365 389 | 362 812 |
| Minority interest | | 44 493 | 50 000 |
| Attributable to ordinary shareholders | 2,6 | 320 896 | 312 812 |
| Earnings per share (cents) | 3,7 | 453 | 437 |
| Diluted earnings per share (cents) | 0,9 | 441 | 437 |
| Determination of headline earnings | | | |
| Attributable earnings | | 320 896 | 312 812 |
| Adjustments | | | |
| - Negative goodwill on business combination | | (7 952) | - |
| - Impairment of property, plant and equipment | | 190 | 4 000 |
| - Goodwill impairment | | 3 442 | 638 |
| - Release of deferred profit on issue of shares by subsidiaries | | (3 870) | (3 870) |
| - Profit on disposal of investment | | - | (232) |
| - Profit on disposal of property, plant and equipment | | (3 732) | (3 232) |
| Total before taxation and minority interest | | (11 922) | (2 696) |
| Taxation | | 1 616 | 1 001 |
| Minority interest | | 1 412 | (311) |
| Total adjustments | | (8 894) | (2006) |
| Headline earnings | 0,4 | 312 002 | 310 806 |
| Shares in issue | | | |
| Weighted average (000's) | | 70 779 | 71 536 |
| At the end of the year (000's) | | 70 712 | 70 801 |
| Number of shares used for diluted earnings per share (000's) | | 72 767 | 71 536 |
| Headline earnings per share (cents) | 1,6 | 441 | 434 |
| Diluted headline earnings per share (cents) | (1,2) | 429 | 434 |
| Dividends per share* (cents) | 9,4 | 151 | 138 |
| - Interim | (7,5) | 49 | 53 |
| - Final | 20,0 | 102 | 85 |

* In accordance with IAS 10 the final dividend of 102 cents per share proposed by the directors has not been reflected in the year-end results.

CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the year ended 31 March

| | 2010 R'000 | 2009 R'000 |
|--|------------|------------|
| Cash flows from operating activities | | |
| Cash generated from operations | 590 226 | 87 972 |
| Finance costs | (432 886) | (382 719) |
| Dividends paid | (96 389) | (112 626) |
| Taxation paid | (25 329) | (194 445) |
| Interest and dividends received | 404 498 | 360 115 |
| Net cash inflow (outflow) from operating activities | 444 120 | (241 703) |
| Cash flows from investing activities | | |
| Net cash effects of asset acquisitions | (74 458) | (82 816) |
| Net cash effects of other investing activities | (191 556) | (266 763) |
| Increase in long-term loans | (6 721) | - |
| Net cash effects of treasury share investments | (2 323) | (44 854) |
| Net cash outflow from investing activities | (275 058) | (394 433) |
| Cash flows from financing activities | | |
| Net cash effects of borrowings raised | 177 104 | 294 806 |
| Net cash inflow from financing activities | 177 104 | 294 806 |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | 346 166 | (341 330) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year | (131 459) | 209 871 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year | 214 707 | (131 459) |

SEGMENT INFORMATION

for the year ended 31 March

| | Engineering consumables R'000 | Capital equipment and spares R'000 | Group, financing and other operations R'000 | Total R'000 |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|-------------|
| 2010 | | | | |
| Revenue | 2 018 304 | 1 749 538 | 201 030 | 3 968 872 |
| Operating income | 292 673 | 123 441 | 37 179 | 453 293 |
| Total assets | 1 233 928 | 884 232 | 3 818 954 | 5 937 114 |
| Total liabilities | 300 217 | 631 884 | 3 391 750 | 4 323 851 |
| 2009 | | | | |
| Revenue | 2 136 572 | 2 254 606 | 132 357 | 4 523 535 |
| Operating income | 325 567 | 141 510 | 30 279 | 497 356 |
| Total assets | 1 258 015 | 1 165 673 | 3 581 042 | 6 004 730 |
| Total liabilities | 521 607 | 967 168 | 3 179 704 | 4 668 479 |

Compliance with IFRS 8 in the current year has required certain comparatives in the segment information to be restated.

CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

as at 31 March

| | 2010 R'000 | 2009 R'000 |
|--|------------|------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Non-current assets | 3 706 514 | 3 495 310 |
| Property, plant and equipment | 312 860 | 228 997 |
| Financial investments | 2 882 206 | 1 195 100 |
| Goodwill and other intangible assets | 255 326 | 253 649 |
| Long-term loans and financial asset | 186 270 | 1 760 387 |
| Deferred taxation | 69 852 | 57 177 |
| Current assets | 2 230 600 | 2 509 420 |
| Inventories | 1 298 795 | 1 645 913 |
| Trade and other receivables | 670 979 | 688 106 |
| Tax prepaid | 273 | 50 340 |
| Bank balances and cash | 260 553 | 125 061 |
| Total assets | 5 937 114 | 6 004 730 |
| EQUITY AND LIABILITIES | | |
| Capital and reserves | 1 613 263 | 1 336 251 |
| Attributable to ordinary shareholders | 1 442 966 | 1 206 055 |
| Minority interest | 170 297 | 130 196 |
| Non-current liabilities | 3 223 347 | 3 096 348 |
| Long-term borrowings and financial liabilities | 3 209 058 | 3 083 072 |
| Deferred taxation | 14 289 | 13 276 |
| Current liabilities | 1 100 504 | 1 572 131 |
| Short-term borrowings | 18 056 | 5 546 |
| Trade, other payables and provisions | 1 023 315 | 1 295 130 |
| Tax liabilities | 13 287 | 14 935 |
| Bank overdrafts and bankers' acceptances | 45 846 | 256 520 |
| Total equity and liabilities | 5 937 114 | 6 004 730 |

CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

for the year ended 31 March

| | 2010 R'000 | 2009 R'000 |
|---|------------|------------|
| Share capital | | |
| Balance at beginning and end of the year | 3 724 | 3 724 |
| Share premium | | |
| Balance at beginning and end of the year | 282 715 | 282 715 |
| Treasury shares | | |
| Balance at beginning of the year | (94 247) | (49 393) |
| Treasury shares acquired | (2 323) | (44 854) |
| Balance at end of the year | (96 570) | (94 247) |
| Retained earnings | | |
| Balance at beginning of the year | 972 824 | 763 697 |
| Earnings attributable to ordinary shareholders | 320 896 | 312 812 |
| Dividends paid | (94 838) | (103 685) |
| Balance at end of the year | 1 198 882 | 972 824 |
| Other reserves | | |
| Balance at beginning of the year | 41 039 | 24 848 |
| Arising from the issue of share appreciation rights | 22 045 | 19 270 |
| Revaluation reserve written off on liquidation of Group company | (3 169) | - |
| Arising on translation of foreign operations | (5 700) | (3 079) |
| Balance at end of the year | 54 215 | 41 039 |
| Attributable to equity shareholders | 1 442 966 | 1 206 055 |
| Minority interest | | |
| Balance at beginning of the year | 130 196 | 92 147 |
| Earnings attributable to outside shareholders | 42 544 | 50 000 |
| Net investment in subsidiaries | 1 510 | (2 952) |
| Dividends paid | (3 953) | (8 999) |
| Balance at end of the year | 170 297 | 130 196 |

OTHER INFORMATION

| | 2010 | 2009 |
|--|---------|---------|
| Net interest-bearing debt:equity (excluding long-term funding debt secured by investments and loans) (%) | - | 19 |
| Depreciation and amortisation (R'000) | 32 356 | 28 612 |
| Net asset value per share (cents) | 2 040,6 | 1 703,4 |
| Tangible net asset value per share (cents) | 1 679,5 | 1 345,2 |
| Capital expenditure (R'000) | 83 424 | 91 984 |
| Contingent liabilities (R'000) | 313 | 1 428 |
| Capital commitments (R'000) | 988 | 7 026 |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Basis of Preparation
The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with IAS 34 Interim Financial Reporting, International Financial Reporting Standards, the JSE Limited's Listings Requirements and in the manner required by the Companies Act of South Africa. The principal accounting policies as set out in the Group's 2009 annual report have been consistently applied through the year ended 31 March 2010 and includes the adoption of IAS 1 (Revised) and IFRS 8.

COMMENTS

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The Group has again produced outstanding results in a very challenging economic environment. The market was characterised by weak demand for product, a global liquidity crisis, a strong Rand and generally tough economic conditions.

Notwithstanding, turnover declined by only 12,3% to R3 969 million. Good margin management and tight cost controls resulted in operating income declining by a modest 8,9% to R453 million. Improved financing costs and dividends received, led to profit for the year increasing by 0,7% to R365 million. A reduction in the weighted average number of shares in issue resulted in earnings per share increasing by 3,7% to 453 cents per share.

Particular emphasis was placed on working capital management, resulting in cash generated from operations of R590 million being achieved, the highest ever.

The Group took advantage of weak market conditions and made a number of strategic acquisitions. The more significant of these was the acquisition of 100% of Criterion Equipment (Pty) Limited effective 1 June 2009 and 70% of Wegezi Power Holdings (Pty) Limited effective 1 April 2010. Criterion Equipment operates in the materials handling sector with TCM forklifts being its primary product. Wegezi Power Holdings manufactures and repairs transformers, electric switch gears, panels and pumps.

BEARING MAN GROUP (BMG)

BMG continues to be the core profit base of the Group. Trading conditions in the industrial consumable sector were particularly challenging. Commodity prices were under pressure due to the global recession. Key market segments of mining and manufacturing also showed substantial declines. Margins were under pressure as the Rand strengthened. The competitive market environment, the strengthening of the Rand and the clearing of higher price stock received at weaker exchange rates contributed to lower margins. In spite of these adverse conditions, BMG achieved turnover for the year of R2 018 million, a decline of only 5,5% and operating profit declined by 10,1% to R293 million. The operating margin was a pleasing 14,5%.

BMG continued to invest in staff training and education and in strategic acquisitions, the most important of which was Wegezi Power Holdings.

CAPITAL EQUIPMENT DIVISION (CED)

The CED, being the more cyclical of the Group operations, showed a 22,4% decline in revenue to R1 750 million. Acquisitions during the year accounted for 8,2% of turnover. Exceptional margin management and cost control resulted in segment profit declining by only 12,8% to R123 million. Good control of working capital resulted in segment profit return on working capital of 48,9%.

The construction equipment divisions suffered the most in the CED. Demand for product in this sector has declined dramatically in the face of the recent recession and has been compounded by the completion of Soccer World Cup and government infrastructure projects.

Criterion Equipment, which was acquired on 1 June 2009, has been restructured and is operating profitably. It did not contribute meaningfully to segment profits in the CED, but helped to absorb some of the overheads in the construction equipment divisions. It is expected to make a significant contribution to the CED in the coming year.

The agricultural equipment divisions experienced challenging conditions, with total market sales of tractors for the period under review declining by 33% from 8 045 units to 5 406 units. Despite the decline in the market, the agricultural machinery divisions improved market shares in key sectors and through tight margin and cost management, produced the bulk of the CED's segment profits.

OTHER OPERATIONS

The Group continued to strengthen its distribution base and structures in all of its smaller operations, as well as completing some strategic property transactions during the year.

PROSPECTS

Trading conditions in the sectors in which the Group operates appear to have stabilised. The current strength of the Rand is however a source for concern as it could lead to a reduction in the price of Group products and reduce the income of key customers which operate in export orientated sectors.

Volumes in BMG appear to have stabilised, but trading is still volatile and patchy. The macro global environment indicates a return to normal trading in the medium term. This should, in turn, result in increased demand for BMG products and services.

In the CED, agricultural machinery conditions are expected to continue to be challenging. Low grain prices are expected to keep the demand for agricultural machinery at current muted levels. Conditions in the construction equipment market are still depressed and management does not expect this to improve in the next 12 months. The division has successfully reduced its costs to ensure profitable trading and working capital is carefully managed. The acquisition of Criterion Equipment has been bedded down and the company is now profitable. Criterion Equipment should make a meaningful contribution to the CED in the coming year and will help to spread the construction equipment section's overheads.

In light of the more stable trading conditions and better economic expectations, the Board has declared a final dividend of 102 cents per share resulting in total dividends for the year of 151 cents per share, up 9,4% on last year. This is a 3,0 times dividend cover ratio, which the Board intends to maintain until market conditions have returned to normal.

The Board remains confident of the continued success of the Group and will continue to seek out opportunities to grow its product base and penetrate new markets.

AUDIT OPINION

The auditors, Deloitte & Touche, have issued an unmodified opinion on the Group consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2010. A copy of the audit report is available for inspection at the Company's registered office.

DIVIDENDS

The Board has declared a final dividend of 102 cents per share.

The following dates are applicable:
Last date to trade "CUM" dividend Friday, 2 July 2010
First date to trade "EX" dividend Monday, 5 July 2010
Record date Friday, 9 July 2010
Payment date Monday, 12 July 2010

Share certificates may not be dematerialised or rematerialised between Monday, 5 July 2010 and Friday, 9 July 2010, both days inclusive.

By order of the Board

C Barnard
Secretary

Cape Town
25 May 2010

