

PVA TePla AG: Sales and Results Improvement over Q1/ Hesitant Outlook

Feldkirchen, August 14th, 2003: For the first half-year 2003 the PVA TePla AG reported sales of € 19.5 million (LY € 21.3 million) Sales increased to € 11.1 million in the second quarter compared to € 8.4 million in the first quarter. The increase in sales by 33% was primarily attributed to the Vacuum and Plasma Systems divisions.

The pro forma calculated comparison figures were determined by dividing the total year results of the former PVA group (now Vacuum and Crystal Growing Systems division) and the published quarterly results of the former TePla AG (now Plasma Systems division). Comparisons are accordingly of limited value.

In comparison with the previous year, the gross margin improved to € 5.6 million (LY €3.5 million) and the margin per cent to 29% (LY 16%). The operating result (EBIT) was improved by 40% in the second quarter resulting in a half-year EBIT of -€ 2.9 million (LY -€ 4.5 million). As a result of the proscribed US GAAP accrual for deferred income taxes and extraordinary income from deconsolidation of group operations, the Net Loss was € 1.1 million (LY 3.4 million) and lies within the range of expectations.

The corporate-wide order intake of €22.7 million in the first half-year and the stable order backlog of € 16.3 million (last quarter, also € 16.3 million) should be viewed in light of the continuing investment reluctance and backlog. Due to the continuing weak economic and general business conditions, changes in accounting methods for recording sales commissions and a short delay in certain restructuring measures, the Board of Directors today assumes that sales will not reach the levels of the previous year (pro forma € 46.7 million), nor will a break-even result quite be achieved.

Contact: Peter Banholzer (IR-Manager)
Tel.: +49 / (0)89 / 90503-106
E-Mail: peter.banholzer@pvatepla.com