



Embargo: Brussels, 29th July 2010 at 7.30 am CET

SUMMARY HY10 and 2Q10 RESULTS

<i>Millions EUR (except for per-share figures, in EUR)</i>	HY10	HY10 / HY09 (%)	2 nd quarter 2009	2 nd quarter 2010	2 nd quarter 10/ 2 nd quarter 09
Sales	3,761	-7%	2,067	1,849	-11%
Chemicals	1,444	3%	683	762	12%
Plastics	2,005	48%	724	1,088	50%
Sales – Continuing Operations	3,449	25%	1,406	1,849	32%
Pharma – Discontinued Operations	312	n.s.	661	0	n.s.
REBIT⁽¹⁾	329	-3%	181	183	1%
Chemicals	147	10%	72	80	11%
Plastics	173	n.s.	8	114	n.s.
Corporate & Business Support	-10	-1%	-12	-5	-60%
New Business Development	-12	11%	-5	-6	19%
REBIT – Continuing Operations	298	n.s.	63	183	n.s.
Pharma – Discontinued Operations	31	n.s.	118	0	n.s.
Non-recurring items	-116	n.s.	-31	-68	n.s.
EBIT	213	-30%	150	115	-23%
Charges on net indebtedness	-91	-12%	-61	-45	-27%
Income from investments	1	n.s.	-3	1	n.s.
Capital gain Pharma	1,695	n.s.	0	-1	n.s.
Earnings before taxes	1,818	n.s.	86	70	-18%
Income taxes	-29	77%	-2	-13	n.s.
Net income of the Group	1,789	n.s.	83	57	-32%
Net income (Solvay share)	1,769	n.s.	77	44	-43%
Total depreciation and amortization	258	-1%	132	127	-4%
REBITDA⁽²⁾	549	-6%	308	300	-3%
Chemicals	246	14%	114	135	18%
Plastics	290	n.s.	63	175	n.s.
Corporate & Business Support	-6	6%	-10	-3	-71%
New Business Development	-12	12%	-5	-6	21%
REBITDA – Continuing Operations	518	63%	162	300	85%
Pharma – Discontinued Operations	31	n.s.	146	0	n.s.
REBIT/Sales cont. operations	8.6%		4.5%	9.9%	
Net debt to equity ratio	35.5% cash				
Earnings per share⁽³⁾ (€)	21.65	n.s.	0.93	0.54	-36%

(1): REBIT: measure of operational performance (not an IFRS concept as such)

(2): REBITDA: REBIT before recurring depreciation

(3): Calculated on the basis of the weighted average of the number of shares in the period, after deduction of treasury shares and own shares purchased to cover the stock option program, or a total of 82,134,172 shares for the first six months of 2009 and 81,679,218 shares for the first six months of 2010

Significantly higher operating result of continuing operations

- ✓ **Sales – Continuing Operations:** +32% (2Q); +25% (HY)
- ✓ **REBIT - Continuing Operations:** EUR 183m (2Q) and EUR 298m (HY)
 - Operating result benefited from cost control efforts
 - **Chemicals (EUR 147m):** +10% compared to HY09; +11 % in 2Q10; sales volumes up in all activities
 - **Plastics (EUR 173m):** clearly improved vs. HY09 thanks to significantly higher volumes, especially in Specialties cluster
- ✓ **Net income (Solvay share):** EUR 1,769m, due to capital gain of EUR 1.7 bn on Pharma sale
- ✓ **Ongoing study (Horizon project) to optimize effectiveness or the organization:**
Cost savings opportunities estimated at EUR 120m by the end of 2012

CHEMICALS: HY SALES +3%, REBIT +10% (to EUR 147m)

- ✓ More sustained global activity level: 2Q10 sales +12%
 - Slight volume improvement versus 1Q10
 - Lower prices in soda ash and caustic soda
- ✓ 2Q10 REBIT +11%
 - Better utilization rates and energy costs well under control
 - Sharp results improvement in fluorinated products and peroxides

PLASTICS: HY SALES +48%, REBIT from EUR 14m to EUR 173m

- ✓ Sharp volume increase of Specialty Polymers: +45% (HY) and +48% (2Q)
 - Growth in all regions but most outspoken in Asia
 - Prices remain globally stable
- ✓ Vinyls
 - Limited demand improvement in the context of a stagnant European construction sector
 - Low margins in Europe and Mercosur, positive developments in Asia

For more information:

Erik DE LEYE

Manager Press & External Communication

SOLVAY S.A.

Tel: 32 2 509 7230

E-mail: erik.deleye@solvay.com

Internet: www.solvaypress.com

Patrick VERELST

Head of Investor Relations

SOLVAY S.A.

Tel: 32 2 509 7243

E-mail: patrick.verelst@solvay.com

Internet: www.solvay-investors.com

Solvay Investor Relations

SOLVAY S.A., Tel. 32 2 509 6016, E-mail: investor.relations@solvay.com