Suominen’s H1 in brief

Turnover 4 % up, raw material prices levelling, positive cash flow

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net sales</td>
<td>43.4</td>
<td>44.1</td>
<td>87.7</td>
<td>84.8</td>
<td>173.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating profit</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>-0.6</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
<td>-10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net result</td>
<td>-1.1</td>
<td>-0.8</td>
<td>-2.9</td>
<td>-1.9</td>
<td>-14.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPS, EUR</td>
<td>-0.02</td>
<td>-0.02</td>
<td>-0.06</td>
<td>-0.05</td>
<td>-0.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash flow from operations/share, EUR</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>-0.08</td>
<td><strong>0.06</strong></td>
<td>-0.11</td>
<td>-0.06</td>
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• Net sales up by 4 % compared with H1/2010. Average sales prices the main contributor.
• Upward trend in raw material prices levelled off towards the end of Q2.
• Stairs to Top programme generated savings in operating costs of EUR 3 million.
• Reorganisation measures advanced as planned in Flexibles. Non-recurring costs of EUR 0.5 million in H1.
• Other savings in yield improvement and efficiency enhancement measures.
• Cash flow from operations EUR 2.8 million. Financing costs up.
Net sales in H1, EUR 87.7 million, was +4 % on the previous year. Operating profit continued to rise and was EUR 0.3 million positive without one-offs in Q2/2011.
Cash flow from operations was EUR 2.8 million (-4.1). Cash released from working capital was EUR 2.8 million. Net investment payments were EUR 2.3 million (-3.2). Net debt was EUR 57.5 million (57.4).
Suominen’s performance

• Net sales continued on the stable level of previous quarters.
• Sales prices advanced through price increases and price adjustments based on raw material clauses. Shorter delay on raw material escalators agreed with several customers.
• Plastic prices stabilised during Q2 and the negative impact on the result declined compared to Q1.
• Stairs to Top programme helped to bring costs down by EUR 3 million.
• Non-recurring costs of EUR 0.5 million were recorded from restructuring of Flexibles.
• Strict management of cash flow continued. Refinancing amendments were agreed with banks.
• Equity ratio 28 % (36 %) including capital loans.
Net sales totalled EUR 33.6 million and were on the level of the previous year. Operating profit was EUR +0.5 million in Q2 without non-recurring costs and cumulative operating profit was EUR 0.0 million including one-offs from the rationalisation measures.
Business Area: Flexibles

Operations still under restructuring

- Sales remained on the previous year’s level at EUR 33.6 million.
- Sales of packaging for hygiene products increased. Deliveries of retail carrier bags and security and system packaging decreased slightly. Sales of food packaging decreased.
- Price increase program progressed and shortening of raw material escalators achieved with customers.
- Plastic prices increased still in the beginning of Q2 but prices softened towards the end of the period.
- Machine transfers from Nastola to other units proceeded as planned and majority of the transferred machines are again in production.
- Costs down thanks to restructuring measures.

Flexibles sales

H1 net sales: 33.6 €M (+0.2 %)

- Hygiene
- Food
- Retail
- Security & System
Net sales totalled EUR 54.6 million, up by 6 % from the previous year. Cumulative operating profit was EUR -0.2 million (-0.9) and for the second quarter EUR 0.1 million (-0.8).
Business Area: Wiping

Growth on Nonwovens’ sales

- Net sales of Codi Wipes decreased slightly.
- The sales of personal care wipes grew whereas sales of baby wipes declined.
- Pressure on margins continued.
- Operating costs down as a result of the reorganisation effected early in the year.
- In Nonwovens, deliveries of nonwoven for European wiping customers developed positively from the last year. Volumes to the US market grew also.
- Sales of hygiene and medical nonwovens advanced too.
- Higher raw material prices stressed margins also in Q2. Unit succeeded in shortening some of the delay in raw material escalators.

Codi Wipes sales

H1 net sales:
27.6 €M (-4.0 %)

Nonwovens sales

H1 net sales:
30.1 €M (+15.8 %)
Outlook

• The demand for Suominen’s products is evaluated on the basis of customer contracts and use forecasts provided by customers. It is estimated that the demand for Suominen’s products will remain stable, and no major change from the previous year is anticipated in net sales for 2011.

• Prices for Suominen’s products are expected to increase thanks to the price increases implemented and the raw material clauses included in sales contracts. Measures to reduce operational costs are continuing, and the cost savings generated by the closure of the Nastola plant will begin to have an impact from the second half of the year.

• It is estimated that the result after taxes for all of 2011 will improve over 2010, but remain negative.