



Strong growth in results for 2005

Net sales
+ 20.2%

Operating result
+ 25.3%

Earnings per share
+ 24.2%

Dividend per share
+ 28.6%

Next meetings:

20th April:
Net sales figure
for the first quarter of 2006

1st June:
General Meeting

21st July:
Net sales figure
for the first half of 2006

19th September:
Results for the first half
of 2006

Listing:

ISIN code: FR0000038606

MNO: MTU

Reuter code: MANP.PA

Bloomberg code: MTU.FP

Index: CAC MID 100

The Supervisory Board under the chairmanship of Mr Marcel BRAUD met to examine the consolidated financial statements of MANITOU BF. They will be submitted to the General Meeting to be held on 1st June 2006 in Ancenis.

In Mio€ (IFRS)	2004	2005	Variation
Net sales	819.7	985.0	+ 20.2%
Operating result	86.3	108.1	+ 25.3%
<i>As a % of net sales</i>	<i>10.5</i>	<i>11.0</i>	
Group's share of net profit	59.3	73.8	+ 24.5%
<i>As a % of net sales</i>	<i>7.2</i>	<i>7.5</i>	
Net profit per share (€)	1.57	1.95	+ 24.2%

Business activity 2005

In 2005, the MANITOU Group continued to expand in all its three market areas of Construction, Agriculture, and Industry, but also speeding up its growth overseas.

The outstanding events in financial year 2005 were as follows:

- Steady growth in business in various regions in the world but with a greater growth outside the EU (+39%) than within the EU (+18%).
- Development of business organisations in the USA, Australia, Russia, India, and Asia.
- Good control of profit margins and production margins in a highly competitive environment.
- Further improvement in the financial results and consolidation of the Group's financial structure with shareholder's equity (excluding minority interests) representing 60% of the balance sheet total and a net cash position of 170 million euros.

Dividend

At the next General Meeting it will be proposed to pay out a net dividend of 0.90 euro for financial year 2005. The payment date for this dividend will be 9 June 2006.

Prospects for 2006

During the first two months of the financial year the Group took a very good number of orders; this compared favourably with the number of orders the previous year. At the end of February 2006 there was a 9% increase in the Group's sales orders. In view of this good start, the Group is setting itself the aim in 2006 of achieving organic growth in net sales of around 10%.

As a continuation of its product expansion in the handling industry, the Group has just concluded an agreement with the Chinese Group HANGCHA (located in Hangzhou) to form a joint venture to manufacture industrial electric forklift-trucks. The equipment manufactured by this joint venture will complement the range of industrial forklift-trucks with internal combustion engines produced by an initial company acquired in July 2005, and which is also located in Hangzhou (China). All of these forklift-trucks will be supplied to all countries except France through MANITOU distributors.

Information on the Company: www.manitou.com

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