AT&S exceeds expectations and increases dividend
Sales up 25%, EBIT up 24% and pretax profit up 55%

(Vienna) – Record sales of EUR 467 million and earnings per share of EUR 1.28 in 2006/07 by leading PCB manufacturer confirm correctness of Group’s growth strategy.

In financial 2006/07 AT&S Austria Technologie und Systemtechnik AG continued to grow as planned. The second plant in China began operations with an impressive performance, both financially and in terms of quality; the acquisition of Tofic in Korea paved the way for entry to the market for flexible circuit boards, and there were significant additions to the customer portfolio. All this reinforced AT&S’s standing as one of the world’s leading suppliers of printed circuit boards for mobile telephones, digital cameras, the automotive industry and the industrial and medical sector.

These factors, combined with major capital investments, contributed to the Group’s record sales of EUR 467m (up 25%). Their full effects will however only be felt in the coming months and years, as rising profits cease to be impacted by start-up costs.

“We have invested major amounts in China and Korea to maintain growth in the future,” explains Harald Sommerer, Chairman of AT&S’s Board of Management. “and the positive effects are now being reflected in the figures for the first time. In the next few years over half of Group sales will be produced in Asia, increasing profitability still further.”

The strong results in 2006/07 and the continued positive outlook will be reflected in another dividend increase. “We will recommend a dividend payment of EUR 0.31 per share to the Annual General Meeting,” announced AT&S Chief Financial Officer, Steen Hansen. In 2005/06 the dividend was EUR 0.29.

For financial 2007/08 – the year beginning on 1 April 2007 – AT&S is forecasting further increases in sales and profit: sales revenues are budgeted to reach EUR 540–550m, and earnings per share of EUR 1.60 to EUR 1.70 are expected. “We have doubled sales from their 2002/03 level of EUR 277m. In the same period we have increased profits five fold from about EUR 8m to roughly EUR 40m,” says Harald Sommerer of AT&S’s impressive performance.

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