

AUGUSTA concludes 2008 fiscal year with revenue growth and EBIT increase

- **Growth and profit targets in 2008 achieved**
- **Revenue growth to EUR million 127.12 (+ 7 percent)**
- **Earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT) increased to EUR 18.84 million (+8 percent)**
- **Dividend of EUR 1.20 confirmed**

Munich, March 19, 2008. AUGUSTA Technologie AG (ISIN DE000A0D6612), a specialist in sensor systems and automation technologies, lived up to the forecast communicated to the capital market in the 2008 fiscal year with regard to both revenue and operating results, despite the beginning worldwide economic downturn. It was possible to increase **consolidated sales revenues** by approximately 7 percent to EUR 127.13 million (previous year: EUR 119.32 million). **Gross profit** soared by 13 percent to EUR 51.14 million (previous year: EUR 45.20 million), putting the gross margin at 40.2 percent (previous year: 37.9 percent). **Earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT)** rose by 8 percent to EUR 18.84 million (previous year: EUR 17.48 million). At EUR 12.76 million the **profit from continued operations** was up by 4 percent over the previous year (EUR 12.23 million). **Earnings per share** from continued operations also enjoyed above-average growth and at EUR 1.63 Euro were 11 percent above the previous year (1.48 Euro). It proved possible to lower holding costs by 5.5 percent to EUR 2.61 million (previous year EUR 2.77 million).

“Our figures show that we were again able to improve our operating business in fiscal year 2008, despite oncoming recession and uncertainty in our target markets,” said Amnon Harman, CEO of AUGUSTA, concerning the 2008 fiscal year.

Despite this positive development, AUGUSTA noticed a clear cooling-off in the economic climate in the second half of 2008, reflected especially in incoming orders. While the booked business stabilized at EUR 45.50 million at the same level as the year before (previous year: 45.54), incoming orders at EUR 124.60 million were 4 percent below the previous year (EUR 129.87 million).

Sales growth in both segments with continued high profitability

Consequently, at EUR 80.02 million, revenues in the **Sensors** division were 3 percent higher than in the previous year (EUR 77.69 million). At EUR 12.40 million, the EBIT was unchanged from the previous year (EUR 12.36 million). This was a reflection of increased costs due to the switch to system business, together with the development and launch of new products. The EBIT margin remained high at 15.5 percent.

Thanks to both the positive development of business and the initial consolidation of Prosilica Inc., the company managed to boost sales revenues in the **Controls** division from August 1, 2008 on by

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13 percent to EUR 47.11 million (previous year: EUR 41.63 million). The operating result (EBIT) likewise surged, and at EUR 9.18 million was 15.3 percent above the comparable figure for the previous year (EUR 7.98 million). The EBIT margin was thus 19.5 percent.

Key figures AUGUSTA Group

In EUR million	FY 2008	FY 2007	Growth
Revenues			
Group	127.13	119.32	+6.6%
Sensors	80.02	77.69	+3.0%
Controls	47.11	41.63	+13.2%
EBIT			
Group	18.84	17.48	+7.8%
Holding costs	-2.61	-2.77	-5.5%
Sensors	12.40	12.36	+0.4%
Controls	9.18	7.96	+15.3%
Key figures			
Profit from continued operations	12.76	12.23	+4.3%
Profit for the period incl. DCO	12.78	14.87	-14.0%
Earnings per share in EUR	1.63	1.78	-8.3%
Order book	45.50	45.54	+/-0%
Order intake	124.60	129.87	-4.1%

Financial strength secures future growth

AUGUSTA further reinforced its financial basis in fiscal year 2008. "With our equity ratio of over 66 percent and our cash and cash equivalents just under 22 million euros, we have a net liquidity despite acquisitions and share buyback program. With this solid basis we can counter on the one hand the global economic crisis and on the other hand we are able to finance planned acquisitions through debt in the future," according to Berth Hausmann, CFO of AUGUSTA.

Dividend payment and prospects

Despite the economically-difficult market environment, and uncertainties due to the recession, AUGUSTA achieved its goals in 2008. "We would like our loyal shareholders to share in the company's success of the last two years. As promised, we will pay a dividend of EUR 0.60 per share for 2007 and 2008, in total EUR 1.20 per share. The distribution will not endanger our long-term strategy" declared Amnon Harman regarding the dividend payment.

AUGUSTA must also make allowances for the recession in the current 2009 fiscal year. In view of the uncertainties in all of the markets, the company has revised the scope of its guidance and expects consolidated sales revenues of EUR 117 to 127 million. The EBIT will be between EUR 16 and 19 million, though this does not include future acquisitions.

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The detailed 2008 annual report can be downloaded from the website of the company at www.augusta-ag.com.

AUGUSTA Technologie AG

Stefanie Zimmermann
Investor Relations & Corporate Communications
Willy-Brandt-Platz 3, D-81829 Munich
Tel.: +49 - (0)89 - 43 57 155 - 19
Fax: +49 - (0)89 - 43 57 155 - 77
E-mail: investor-relations@augusta-ag.com

The Company

AUGUSTA Technologie AG is an integrated technology group with a focus on the niche markets of sensor and automation technology.

In the area of **Sensors**, the company develops, produces and sells sensor systems for customer-specific applications. The product portfolio ranges from the sale of individual pressure sensors to the development of complex sensor and measuring systems. The main areas of application are medical technology, industrial plant construction, the automotive industry, and the aviation and aerospace industries.

The company's **Controls** segment delivers solutions for process flow automation and quality management. The application areas range from industrial image processing to automation solutions for logistics and special vehicles.

In the fiscal year 2008, AUGUSTA's sales revenues totaled EUR 127.13 million, with earnings before interest and tax (EBIT) of EUR 18.84 million.