

COLTENE Holding AG
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COLTENE with respectable performance in difficult first half-year 2009

- Clear sequential sales increase in second quarter 2009
- Significant operational improvement expected for second half-year
- EBIT margin of 10-14% projected for full financial year 2009

Half-year results 2009 conference call of COLTENE Holding AG

- Thursday, August 20, 03:30 p.m. CEST
- Dial in number +41 (0)58 262 07 08
- PIN-Code for participants 436023

Altstätten, August 20, 2009. COLTENE Holding AG (SIX Swiss Exchange: CLTN), an international leading developer and producer of dental consumables achieved sales of CHF 69.7 million and a respectable 6.5% EBIT margin in the difficult first half of 2009. COLTENE expects to see rising sales volumes and a markedly improved operational performance for the second half of 2009. For the full fiscal year, COLTENE should attain a further improved EBIT margin of 10-14% against the backdrop of a single-digit percentage sales decline over last year. COLTENE will discuss its half-year results today, Thursday, August 20, 2009, in an international conference call.

Demand for dental consumables has remained stable and about on the same level as last year during the last months despite the recession. Particularly among European dental distributors, the recession led to a significant tighter stock management. As a result, the dental manufacturing industry recorded temporarily lower sales. Against this backdrop, COLTENE achieved sales of CHF 69.7 million in the first half of 2009. After a sharp 20% decline in the first quarter, the second quarter sales increased sequentially; Sales though were still 10% lower than prior year's quarter. Thanks to rapidly taken measures, at the end of the first quarter, which only show full effect after some time however, COLTENE was able to reduce its cost block by CHF 2.7 million in the first semester. This yielded an EBIT of CHF 4.5 million and a respectable EBIT margin of 6.5%. Last year, the result for the period was heavily influenced by the extraordinary profit contribution from the sale of the medical business. The directly comparable net profit from continuing operations decreased to CHF 4.2 million or CHF 1.01 per share versus CHF 7.0 million or CHF 1.53 per share re-

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corded for the first six months of 2008. With 59.3%, COLTENE continues to show a solid equity ratio.

Stronger second half expected

During the period under review, COLTENE expanded its new subsidiaries in China and India as well as the production capacities in the area of rotary instruments and introduced numerous new products into the market. At half-year, COLTENE also announced the two-step acquisition of the Brazilian company Vigodent. COLTENE expects that the positive sales development already visible in the second quarter 2009 will continue until the end of this year. Based on its growth initiatives and the cost saving measures already introduced, COLTENE also expects to see a significant earnings increase. With sales anticipated to be a single-digit percentage below last year's level COLTENE continues to expect an EBIT margin of 10-14% for the full fiscal year.

Full half-year report 2009 available for download

The full COLTENE half-year report 2009 is attached as PDF-file to this press release and available for download in the *investors & media* section of the COLTENE website www.coltene.com/financials.

Conference Call and Webcast

COLTENE will host an English-speaking conference call at 3:30 p.m. CEST to discuss the half-year results in more detail. Please dial +41 (0)58 262 07 08 five to ten minutes prior to the call in order to participate in the conference call. The PIN-Code for participants is 436023. During the presentation, participants will be in a listen-only mode. To ask a question during the question-and-answer session, you may press *14 on your touchtone telephone. To withdraw a question, please press *15.

A replay of the call will be available for seven days following the conference call. To access the replay, please dial +41 (0)58 262 07 00; the conference ID is 807127#.

The conference call is also available and will be archived as a live webcast in the *investors & media* section under financial reports of the COLTENE webpage www.coltene.com.

Accompanying presentation slides will be available on August 20, 2009 at 02:30 p.m. CEST at www.coltene.com/financials.

Sign-up for e-mail subscription is available at www.coltene.com/news.

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About COLTENE

COLTENE is an internationally leading developer, manufacturer and seller of dental consumables and small equipment. COLTENE has state-of-the-art production facilities in the USA, Switzerland, Germany, and Hungary. Dentists and dental labs use COLTENE products for traditional as well as implant-based therapies and dental reconstructions. The registered shares of COLTENE Holding AG (CLTN) are listed on SIX Swiss Exchange. Learn more about COLTENE and our products at www.coltene.com

This press release and oral statements or other written statements made, or to be made, by us contain forward-looking statements that do not relate solely to historical or current facts. These forward-looking statements are based on the current plans and expectations of our management and are subject to a number of uncertainties and risks that could significantly affect our current plans and expectations, as well as future results of operations and financial condition. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.