

COLTENE Holding AG
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Good operating result with broad-based sales growth

- Satisfying sales growth of 5.7% (adjusted for currency effects of 9.8%) to CHF 73.7 million
- EBIT increases by 27.6% to CHF 5.8 million
- Significant increase of operating cash flow to CHF 9.4 million

Half-year results 2010 conference call

- Friday, August 20, 03:30 CEST
- Local dial-in number +41 (0)58 262 07 11
- PIN-code for participants 642502
- Webcast <http://www.coltene.com/10226/Telefonkonferenz.html>

Altstätten, August 20, 2010. COLTENE Holding AG (SIX Swiss Exchange: CLTN), an international leader in the development and manufacture of dental consumables, increased sales by 5.7% to CHF 73.7 million while achieving a good EBIT margin of 7.9% in the first half of 2010. Sales growth and cost management enabled COLTENE to generate an EBIT of CHF 5.8 million. This corresponds to an increase of 27.6% compared with the first semester in 2009. Excellent cash flow from operating activities of CHF 9.4 million and a free cash flow of CHF 7.8 million underscore COLTENE's successful business model. The net profit was negatively impacted by currency exchange losses of CHF 0.6 million and by CHF 1.1 million relating to the participation in Brazilian company Vigodent SA. For the first half of 2010, COLTENE reports net profit of 2.6 million after CHF 4.2 million in the same period last year.

COLTENE increased sales by 5.7% (adjusted for currency effects by 9.8%) to CHF 73.7 million in the first six months of the year. Sales growth was gratifying and broad-based in terms of geography. COLTENE recorded successful growth in Continental Europe, North America, Latin America and emerging countries. Thanks to continuously tight cost management COLTENE was able to slightly reduce its material, personnel and operating costs. An EBIT of CHF 5.8 million in the first six months represents a considerable increase of 27.6% compared with the same period last year. This corresponds to a respectable EBIT margin of 7.8%.

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The financial result in the first half of 2010 was adversely impacted by two factors. Firstly, unfavourable currency exchange rates amounted to CHF 0.6 million compared with a gain of CHF 1.4 million for the same period last year. Secondly, the 40%-stake in Vigodent SA led to a proportional loss of CHF 0.8 million. Based on the updated business plan and in line with the valuation methods set out in the share purchase agreement, the value of the participation was adjusted by CHF 2.0 million and the right to purchase the remaining 60%-stake was valued at CHF 1.7 million. COLTENE is confident that the introduction of extensive cost reduction measures and operational optimization can bring about significant improvement.

For the first half of 2010, COLTENE reports a net profit of CHF 2.6 million after CHF 4.2 million for the same period last year. This translates into diluted earnings per share of CHF 0.63 compared with CHF 1.01 in the first six months of 2009.

Sustainable cash flow and sound balance sheet

In the period under review COLTENE achieved operational cash flow of CHF 9.4 million after CHF 1.8 million in the same prior year period. Investments in materials were moderate at CHF 0.9 million. An additional CHF 0.7 million were invested in immaterial goods, which primarily related to a new ERP system. Free cash flow was CHF 7.8 million, which represents 10.6% of net sales. In mid-2010, the balance sheet remains largely unchanged with a solid equity ratio of 65%.

Based on its successful business model and its consistent focus on dental consumables and small equipment, COLTENE is confident that it will achieve attractive sales growth and solid profits for the second half of the year.

Half-year report 2010 available for download

The full COLTENE half-year report 2010 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 11 between five and ten minutes prior to this time in order to participate in the conference call. The PIN-Code for participants is 642502. 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.

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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 on the COLTENE webpage www.coltene.com.

Accompanying presentation slides will be available on August 20, 2010 at 07:00 a.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.