

*Torino, February 14, 2001* – The Board of Directors of Prima Industrie S.p.A., a leader Company in the sector of high technology for laser machines and systems, listed at the Nuovo Mercato of the Italian Stock Exchange, acknowledged the results of the last quarter of the year 2000 and of the excellent performance of the Group for the financial year ended December 31st, 2000.

The exceptional turnover increase (+51%) reflects both a strong internal growth (+29% for Prima Industrie and +31% for Prima Electronics) together with the consolidation from May 1st, 2000 of the newly acquired American corporation Convergent Prima, active into lasers and laser systems for the aerospace and electronics industry who contributed to the growth by 20% and on consolidated sales by 14%.

The growth involves all sectors of the Group activity: 3D machines (+61%), 2D machines (+12%), electronics products and services (+20%). In particular, the 3D section has confirmed the leading worldwide position of the Company and the favorable situation of the reference market, especially during the last few months of 1999 and first half of 2000.

In geographical terms, the growth concerned all main markets: Italy (+23%), Europe (+38%), U.S.A. (+107%), Asia and rest of the world (+500%).

As it can be observed, very important are the increases achieved on the extra-European countries which, at present, stand for 23% of the Company turnover as against 11% for the previous year.

This goal is due to Convergent Prima, who is very active on the American as well as on the Asian markets and to the results obtained from the penetration of developing countries such as China and Brazil.

At MOL level, it must be mentioned that the favorable mix in favor of the 3D machines has permitted to improve it by almost 1,3 points in percentage, net from the dilution effect due to Convergent Prima. The latter has registered, through the entire consolidation period, a break-even operating result so confirming the forecast of a rapid turnaround made when the Company was taken over.

In consequence of the result achieved, the MOL index per share, the EBIT index per share and the EBT per share are all in a remarkable upwards trend compared with 1999 (+42%, +43% e +76% respectively).

The Board of Directors has further resolved to propose at next Shareholders' Meeting the translation of the Company capital from Lire into Euro as directed by Law no. 213 of June 24, 1998 and subsequent modifications concerning the introduction of such currency into the National system. The Board will further propose a shares splitting at the rate of 4 new shares for one of those in circulation. The purpose of this action is to improve the diffusion of the Company security stock considering that, at present, in absolute value, the position of the Company shares is one of the highest among those listed at the Italian stock exchange and at Nuovo Mercato in particular.

Commenting the outstanding performance of the year, the C.E.O., Gianfranco Carbonato, said that *"the profit achieved is the result of the Company efforts and that of its staff devoted to the strengthening of the product range, quality and efficiency improvement together with the globalization of our business in presence of a very favorable market trend in the high technology sector. However, during the last period of the year, such trend showed signs of flexion generated by the slowing of the American economy and by a general atmosphere of uncertainty of the economy in Europe. We therefore enter the year 2001 with a spirit of consolidating the remarkable growth so far reached, having in hand a substantial order backlog, being however available to take any opportunity of external growth which might arise in our reference sector of activity"*.

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