



RÉMY COINTREAU

12 June 2006

PRELIMINARY RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 MARCH 2006

Highlights

- Current Operating Profit: organic growth of 15%
- Net Profit: up 56%

For the second consecutive year, Rémy Cointreau has achieved strong organic growth of 14.9% in current operating profit to €141.8 million, on turnover of €798.3 million. The operating margin (organic) was therefore 18.7% (a 1.7 point increase).

These good results arise from a number of factors which will have a positive impact in the future:

- growth in key brands and their movement up market, as well as continued price increases
- refocused and sustained marketing expenditure
- a significant increase in profit from operations overall, and particularly for cognac, and
- a reduction in debt.

The year was also marked by the Group refocusing on its key brands, following the disposal, in particular, of Bols.

Key figures

| (€ million - IFRS) | 31 March 2006* | 31 March 2005* | Performance % | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | | Gross | Organic** |
| Turnover | 798.3 | 748.3 | + 6.7 | + 4.5 |
| Current operating Profit | 141.8 | 127.4 | + 11.3 | + 14.9 |
| <i>Operating margin</i> | 17.8% | 17.0% | - | 18.7% |
| Profit from continuing operations | 55.3 | 64.9 | - | - |
| Profit from discontinued operations | 18.6 | (9.6) | - | - |
| Net profit – Group share | 77.8 | 49.8 | + 56.2 | - |
| Earnings per share (€) | 1.72 | 1.13 | - | - |
| Number of shares (millions) | 45,320 | 44,247 | - | - |

(*) After reclassification of profit from discontinued operations or in the process of disposal

(**) Organic performance is stated after the effect of currency and changes in Group structure

Divisional analysis of profit from operations

| (€ million - IFRS) | 31 March 2006 | 31 March 2005 | Organic growth % |
|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Cognac | 76.3 | 68.0 | + 20.0 |
| Liqueurs & Spirits | 51.9 | 46.9 | + 9.7 |
| Champagne | 9.7 | 8.3 | + 14.2 |
| Partner brands | 3.9 | 4.2 | (9.8) |
| Profit from operations | 141.8 | 127.4 | + 14.9 |

Cognac – Rémy Martin achieved remarkable growth of 20% in current operating profit by concentrating on developing sales of Fine Champagne cognac. The operating margin increased to 23.6% from 21.8% the previous year, with a continued sustained level of marketing investment.

Liqueurs & Spirits – The division reported organic growth in current operating profit of 9.7% and achieved a net operating margin of 23.6%, compared with 22.3% the previous year. Cointreau had a very good year, with continued strong support in the American market. St Rémy brandy confirmed its strength while Metaxa and Mount Gay rum continued to develop.

Champagne – With strong dynamism in sales of Piper-Heidsieck, profit from operations increased by 14.2% while marketing investment grew strongly. The operating margin improved to 7.9% compared with 7.2% the previous year.

Partner brands – A good performance from the partner brands distributed by Rémy Cointreau US, sustained by the strength of the Scotch whiskies and new Californian wines, which became part of the portfolio this year, generated an operating profit of €3.9 million after allocation of distribution and central costs.

Consolidated results

Turnover at €798.3 million increased by 6.7% and 4.5% on a like-for-like basis. In accordance with IFRS, revenue from operations that were sold in the 2005/06 financial year (Bols, as well as Cognac de Luze, in the process of sale) were reclassified as "discontinued operations or in the process of disposal".

Current operating profit was €141.5 million, an increase of 11.3%, after an unfavourable euro/dollar exchange rate. Organic growth was 14.9%.

Operating margin was 17.8%. At constant exchange rates, it rose to 18.7%, a 1.7 point increase on last year.

Financial charges rose by €7.8 million to €63.1 million. This was due to a charge of €5.1 million related to the application of IAS 32 and 39 at 1 April 2005, and to exceptional charges for the refinancing of the syndicated credit, renegotiated in June 2005 on improved conditions.

Profit from continuing operations was €55.3 million after tax, compared with €64.9 million the previous year. This included a restructuring provision and a charge in respect of tax audits in progress.

Profit from discontinued operations of €18.6 million included the operating profit after tax of operations sold and in the process of sale and, solely for Bols Vodka, the net gain on disposal.

Net profit – Group share after non-recurring items, was €77.8 million.

Net financial debt was €771.5 million. It decreased by 11% or €91.3 million, including the positive effect of €23 million for the first application of IAS 32 and 39 at 1 April 2005. The positive impact of the Bols Liqueurs & Spirits' disposal, finalised in April 2006, will be taken into account in the next financial year.

Shareholders' equity – Group share amounted to €918.7 million, an increase of €49.8 million over the previous year.

A dividend of €1.10 will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 27 July 2006.

Outlook

Rémy Cointreau continues its strategy of value creation by capitalising on its key brands and strong positions in principal world markets, essential growth drivers.

Once more, the Group forecasts double-digit growth in current operating profit for the 2005/06 financial year.