

Results at a glance

2nd Quarter and Half Year – 10 November 2005

2nd QTR FY06

HY06

US\$Millions

James Hardie

Net Sales	Up	25%	to	US\$376.6	Up	21%	to	US\$736.0
EBIT	Up	91%	to	US\$ 76.4	Up	66%	to	US\$163.3
Operating Profit from Continuing Operations	Up	93%	to	US\$ 47.6	Up	67%	to	US\$103.5
Net Operating Profit Including Discontinued Operations	Up	92%	to	US\$ 47.6	Up	69%	to	US\$103.5
EBIT Margin	Up	7.0pts	to	20.3%	Up	6.1pts	to	22.3%

USA Fibre Cement

Net Sales	Up	33%	to	US\$307.4	Up	26%	to	US\$594.9
EBIT	Up	76%	to	US\$ 86.1	Up	61%	to	US\$180.2
EBIT Margin	Up	6.8pts	to	28.0%	Up	6.5pts	to	30.3%
Volume	Up	21%	to	556.8mmsf	Up	14%	to	1080.2mmsf

Asia Pacific Fibre Cement

Net Sales	Up	2%	to	US\$63.5	Up	5%	to	US\$125.2
EBIT	Down	2%	to	US\$12.0	Up	1%	to	US\$ 24.4
EBIT Margin	Down	0.8pts	to	18.9%	Down	0.8pts	to	19.5%
Volume	Down	9%	to	93.7mmsf	Down	6%	to	185.7mmsf

Key Ratios

Earnings Per Share (Diluted)	22.3cents
EBIT Margin	22.3%
Return on Shareholders Funds (Annualised – including discontinued operations)	31.0%
Return on Capital Employed (Annualised)	36.9%
Gearing Ratio	(3.4)%
Net Interest Expense Cover	98.4x
Net Interest Paid Cover	44.8x
Net Debt Payback	(2.2)months

All comparisons are against the 2nd quarter and half year of the previous fiscal year. All dollar amounts are in US\$ millions. Results are for continuing businesses only unless otherwise stated. Note: This document should be read in conjunction with other 2nd quarter and half year results materials including a Media Release, a Management's Discussion and Analysis, a Management Presentation and a Financial Report. Please refer to the Definitions section on the next page for an explanation of certain financial terms used above.

Definitions

Financial Measures – US GAAP equivalents

EBIT and EBIT Margin - EBIT is defined as operating income. EBIT margin is defined as EBIT as a percentage of our net sales. We believe EBIT and EBIT margin to be relevant and useful information as these are the primary measures used by our management to measure the operating profit or loss of our business. EBIT is one of several metrics used by our management to measure the cash generated from our operations, excluding interest and income tax expenses. Additionally, EBIT is believed to be a primary measure and terminology used by our Australian investors. EBIT and EBIT margin should be considered in addition to, but not as a substitute for, other measures of financial performance reported in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. EBIT and EBIT margin, as we have defined them, may not be comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other companies.

EBIT and EBIT margin, as used in this document, are equivalent to the US GAAP measures of operating income and operating income margin.

Operating profit from continuing operations - is equivalent to the US GAAP measure of income from continuing operations.

Net operating profit including discontinued operations - is equivalent to the US GAAP measure of net income.

Sales Volumes

mmsf – million square feet

Financial Ratios

Net debt payback – Net cash/debt divided by cash flows from operations times 12 months.

Gearing Ratio – is borrowings less cash (net debt) divided by net debt plus shareholders' equity.

Net Interest Expense Cover – EBIT divided by Net Interest Expense.