

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

13 August 2012

GP Batteries Announces its Unaudited First Quarter Results

Mainboard-listed GP Batteries International Limited today announced its unaudited results for the three months ended 30 June 2012.

Highlights of GP Batteries' results

	Q1 Ended 30/06/12 S\$'000	Q1 Ended 30/06/11 S\$'000	Change %
Revenue	185,360	195,169	(5.0)
Profit attributable to equity holders of the company	2,120	2,150	(1.4)
Basic Earnings Per Share (S Cents)	1.93	1.96	(1.5)

Business Review of GP Batteries

Turnover for the three months ended 30 June 2012 was S\$185.4 million, a decrease of 5% over the corresponding period last year. Sales of rechargeable batteries decreased by about 20% while sales of primary batteries increased by about 3% compared to the corresponding period last year.

Sales in the Americas increased by about 3% for the three months ended 30 June 2012 over the corresponding period last year while sales in Europe and Asia decreased by about 3% and 7% respectively.

Profit before income tax for the three months ended 30 June 2012 was S\$9.3 million as compared to S\$5.7 million over the corresponding period last year. Gross profit margins were 21.9% as compared to 20.9% over the corresponding period last year.

Distribution expenses were S\$12.4 million for the three months ended 30 June 2012, a reduction of about 10% as compared to S\$13.8 million over the same period last year mainly due to lower sales.

Finance costs for the three months ended 30 June 2012 were S\$2.5 million as compared to S\$1.9 million over the same period last year mainly due to higher costs of borrowing.

Net other operating income for the three months ended 30 June 2012 was S\$4.0 million as compared to S\$0.4 million over the same period last year mainly due to a gain arising from the disposal of a staff quarters in Shanghai following the relocation of Shanghai BiBa plant.

Share of loss of associates for the three months ended 30 June 2012 was S\$2.4 million as compared to a gain of S\$0.1 million over the same period last year mainly due to the inclusion of losses incurred by the Vectrix group of companies that had become associated companies of the Group following the restructure of Vectrix in March 2012.

The Group has launched a new range of Portable PowerBank in May with encouraging market response. As Europe is one of the main target markets for electric scooters, the intensified economic unrest has dampened the demand for these consumer goods.

Prospects of GP Batteries

The economic outlook remains uncertain with the Eurozone debt crisis unresolved, coupled with a worldwide economy slowdown. While commodity prices seem to be stabilised, volatility in currencies has increased. The Group will continue its efforts to reduce costs, streamline distribution for GP brand as well as capitalise on worldwide e-transport opportunities.

#

Enquiries:

KL Tsang, Director & General Manager
Tel: 6559 9800