MARR

PRESS RELEASE

MARR: The Board of Directors approves the draft financial statements to 31 December 2005.

Dividends of 0.327 Euros per share; ex coupon on 15 May

Rimini, 16 March 2006 – The Board of Directors of MARR S.p.A., the leading company in Italy in the distribution of food products to the foodservice, today approved the draft of financial statements of both the Parent Company and the Group for the year ended December 31, 2005, which will be submitted to the Shareholders' Meeting on 21 April.

Main consolidated financial results in 2005

The total consolidated revenues reached 884.2 million Euros, an increase of 11.2% compared to 794.8 million Euros in 2004.

EBITDA reached 53.0 million Euros, increasing by 8.6% (48.8 million Euros in 2004), and EBIT increased by 8.9%, reaching 45.0 million Euros (41.3 million Euros in 2004).

The overall results from normal operations amounted to 41.3 million Euros, an increase of 6.9% compared to 38.6 million Euros for the previous year.

The net income, amounting to 22.1 million Euros compared to 22.4 million Euros in 2004, was affected by the extraordinary impact of the 2.6 million Euros costs for the company's listing on the stock exchange.

The Group Net Financial Position (NFP), amounting to 94.9 million Euros (76.9 million Euros in 2004), was affected by the investments made during the year for the acquisition of Sfera and As.Ca. and for the completion of the MARR distribution centre in Calabria.

The trade net working capital reached 128.5 million Euros, increasing compared to 115.9 million Euros in 2004, due to the increase in sales volume.

The net consolidated equity to 31 December 2005 amounted to 169.7 million Euros (156.6 million Euros in 2004).

Results of the Parent Company MARR S.p.A. and dividend proposal

The Parent Company MARR S.p.A. achieved total revenues of 843.3 million Euros, an increase of 8.7% compared to 775.5 million Euros in 2004, and net income amounting to 22.8 million Euros, an increase of 4.7% compared to 21.8 million Euros in 2004, despite the 2.6 million Euros of extraordinary costs sustained for the listing on the stock exchange.

Due to these positive results, the Board of Directors proposed the distribution to shareholders of gross dividends of 0.327 Euros per share, which will be paid on 18 May (ex coupon on 15 May).

"The proposal for gross dividends of 0.327 Euros per share - commented the Chief Executive Officer, Ugo Ravanelli - an increase of 17.6% compared to 0.278 Euros per share in the previous year, rewards the shareholders for the positive performance in the year just terminated".

Results by sector of activity

The positive economic results in 2005, which confirm the company's development strategies, were achieved through organic growth (+6.9%) and the contribution deriving from the acquisition of Sfera and As.Ca. (+4.8%).

The 11.7% increase in foodservice sales was mainly due to the "Street market" category of clients (+13.5%), representing approximately two-thirds of MARR's total revenues. Sales in the "Wholesale" category increased by 8.1%, while the "National Account" category achieved an increase of 10.1%.

Events subsequent to the closing of the year

On 10 February 2006, MARR signed the agreement for the purchase of the going concern of Prohoga – Prodotti per Hotel e Gastronomia S.r.l. – a company based in Arco (Trento) and operating in the sector of distribution to the foodservice. On 27 February, the activities of the going concern lead by Marr began.

For more information:
Image Building
Pauline de Fazi
Federica Tommasini
marr@imagebuilding.it
06 68.392.100