

EXMAR NV

GOOD PERFORMANCE OF EXMAR DURING 3th QUARTER

The executive committee of EXMAR NV today reported its trading update for the first nine months ended 30 September 2006.

The most important key figures are:

Consolidated key figures (in million USD)	First semester 2006	Third quarter 2006	Year-to-date 2006	Year-to-date 2005
Turnover	243.3	138.8	382.1	359.3
EBITDA	84.8	38.4	123.2	89.7
Operating results (EBIT)	60.6	26.3	86.9	53.3

Key figures per share (in USD per share)	First semester 2006	Third quarter 2006	Year-to-date 2006	Year-to-date 2005
Average number of shares	32,288,117	32,128,505	32,234,328	34,044,980
EBITDA	2.63	1.20	3.82	2.63
Operating results (EBIT)	1.88	0.82	2.70	1.57

Contribution to Operating results (EBIT) of the various divisions (in million USD)	First semester 2006	Third quarter 2006	Year-to-date 2006	Year-to-date 2005
LPG	32.9	16.5	49.4	28.5
LNG	15.5	8.2	23.7	23.2
Offshore	3.7	2.2	5.9	3.1
Services and Holding	8.5	-0.6	7.9	-1.5

All figures have been prepared under the IFRS and have not been reviewed by the joint statutory auditors

LPG

During the third quarter an operating result (EBIT) of USD 16.5 million was recorded by the LPG fleet (USD 6.4 million for the third quarter 2005). This result has been positively influenced by the profit realised as a result of the early termination of the *POLAR BELGICA* time-charter (USD 4.0 million). The termination of the time-charters of *POLAR DISCOVERY* and *POLAR ENDURANCE* will be completed in the fourth quarter, whereby EXMAR will be generating a profit of about USD 7 million.

The EBIT for the first 9 months of the current year amounts to USD 49.4 million (compared to USD 28.5 million for the first 9 months of 2005).

LPG freights for long-haul movements on VLGC vessels were firm during the summer months but came under increasing pressure and reached a bottom at the end of the third quarter due to Middle Eastern LPG being priced excessively high compared to substitute petroleum products. This downward effect on the fourth quarter VLGC results is expected to be softened by a cover of 50% on the VLGC fleet at satisfactory levels for the balance of the year. Despite the current volatility in VLGC rates the inherent strength of this segment remains unaffected on the back of anticipated LPG export growth.

The Midsize segment suffered from substantial idle time mainly due to reduced Ammonia imports into US related to comparatively low local Natural Gas prices however freight levels remained generally firm and, by the end of the quarter, the activity level increased significantly. 75% of the fleet is covered at satisfactory levels for the balance of the year.

Time-Charter Equivalent (TCE) for 100 pool points vessels (in USD /day)	First semester 2006	Third quarter 2006	Year-to-date 2006	Year-to-date 2005
VLGC (76,000 m ³)	28,051	29,124	28,394	20,598
Midsize (25,000 m ³)	19,276	18,719	19,104	18,136



EXMAR NV

LNG

The LNG sector contributed USD 8.2 million to the operating result (EBIT) during the third quarter of the current year (USD 4.0 million for the third quarter 2005). The EBIT for the first 9 months of the current year amounts to USD 23.7 million (compared to USD 23.2 million for the same period in 2005, including a profit of USD 13.0 realised on the sale of *METHANIA*). The improvement in the operating result in 2006 is mainly due to the time-charter of the *EXCALIBUR*.

Following the successful Ship-to-Ship LNG transfer between two Exmar vessels (*EXCALIBUR* and *EXCELSIOR*) realised in August, Exmar and Excelerate Energy have agreed on a 15-year employment for the *EXCALIBUR* at increased levels.

The third LNGRV, named *EXCELERATE*, was delivered by DSME on 20th October, 10 days ahead of schedule, and simultaneously commenced a 20-year time charter with Excelerate Energy. The ship sailed for the first cargo in Malaysia.

Expressions of interest for the EXMAR LNGRV's are growing and the company is confident that long-term employment of the 2 LNGRV's ordered in March 2006 will be concluded in the near future.

OFFSHORE

The offshore activities contributed USD 2.2 million to the operating result (EBIT) during the third quarter (compared to USD 1.0 for the third quarter 2005). The cumulated EBIT over the first 9 months amounts to USD 5.9 million (USD 3.1 million for the same period in 2005). This positive trend is mainly due to the increased activity of the engineering and offshore services.

During the third quarter of 2006, EXMAR has made substantial progress with the OPTI-EX, its production semi submersible project. EXMAR has reached an agreement for the construction for both the hull and the topsides with Samsung Heavy Industry (Korea) and Kiewit Offshore Services (Texas, US), respectively. EXMAR's efforts for a separate listing of its Offshore division are ongoing.

SERVICES/CORPORATE

The EBIT of the division Services for the third quarter amounts to USD - 0.6 million (USD - 0.4 million for the third quarter 2005). The cumulated EBIT for the first 9 months of the current year amounts to USD 7.9 million (compared to USD - 1.5 million for the first 9 months of 2005). This figure incorporates the reversal of the USD 11.0 million provision in the first semester, in connection with the sale of Hesse-Noord Natie.

Antwerpen, 27 October 2006

The executive committee

contact :

Patrick DE BRABANDERE
☎ +32 3 247 56 67
www.exmar.be

Provisional results 2006 : available on January 25, 2007

