

# **REVIEWED** FINANCIAL RESULTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2010

AUSTRO GROUP LIMITED

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

(Registration number 2001/029771/06) Share code: ASO ISIN: ZAE000090882

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Revenue R401,9 million Profit from operations R36,6 million

Cash generated from operations R120,9 million

Cash dividends per share 4,0 cents

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE	Reviewed 31 August 2010 R'000	Restated 31 August 2009 R'000
Revenue Cost of sales	401 943 (242 655)	580 519 (343 925)
Gross profit Other operating income Operating expenses	159 288 6 430 (129 082)	236 594 2 465 (151 019)
Profit from operations Interest received Interest poid	36 636 8 567 (11 546)	88 040 8 123 (24 766)
Profit before taxation Taxation expense	33 657 (10 527)	71 397 (27 692)
Net profit for the year Other comprehensive income for the year	23 130	43 705 -
Total comprehensive income for the year	23 130	43 705
Earnings per share (cents) Headline earnings and diluted headline earnings per share (cents) Dividends per share (cents)	5,4 5,2 4,0	10,1 10,0 2,0
Reconciliation of earnings to headline earnings: Net profit for the year Net (profit)/loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment Tax effect thereon	23 130 (1 047) 147	43 705 (504) 141
Headline earnings	22 230	43 342

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINAL	Reviewed 31 August	Restated 31 August	Restated 31 August
	2010 R'000	2009 R'000	2008 R'000
Assets			
Non-current assets	273 403	281 819	290 093
Property, plant and equipment Goodwill Deferred taxation	43 597 229 742 64	51 064 229 742 1 013	55 760 228 029 6 304
Current assets	372 160	412 972	559 365
Inventories Trade and other receivables Taxation receivable Cash resources	254 053 75 160 557 42 390	336 110 70 773 3 856 2 233	414 416 142 354 136 2 459
Total assets	645 563	694 791	849 458
Equity and liabilities			
Capital and reserves	545 705	539 832	505 433
Share capital Share premium Shares to be issued Accumulated profits	322 103 - 223 598	322 103 - 217 725	4 308 003 14 778 182 648
Non-current liabilities	3 805	10 812	9 061
Long-term liability – interest bearing – interest free Deferred taxation	3 426 379	1 370 6 851 2 591	3 453 4 613 995
Current liabilities	96 053	144 147	334 964
Current portion of long-term liability – interest bearing – interest free Trade and other payables Provisions	3 426 62 730	600 3 426 35 076	559 15 534 201 486 1 394
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Number of shares in issue Weighted average number of shares Net asset value per share (cents) Tangible net asset value per share (cents)	431 413 384 431 413 384 126,5 73,2	431 413 384 431 413 384 125,1 71,9	425 927 491 428 220 774 118,0 65,1
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STAT	EMENT OF CASH	Reviewed 31 August 2010 R'000	Restated 31 August 2009 R'000
Cash flows from operating activities		120 894	(5 632)
Cash generated by operations Interest received Interest poid Dividends paid Taxation paid		150 392 8 559 (11 538) (17 257) (9 262)	81 758 8 123 (24 766) (8 628) (62 119)
Cash flows from investing activities		(965)	(5 292)
Cash flows from financing activities		(5 395)	(15 949)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash resources Cash resources at beginning of year		114 534 (97 412)	(26 873) (70 539)
Cash resources at end of year		17 122	(97 412)

645 563

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHAN	IGES IN EQUI' Reviewed 31 August 2010 R'000	Restated 31 August 2009 R'000
Share capital and share premium	322 107	322 107
Balance at beginning of year Issued during year Movement in shares to be issued reserve Share issue expenses	322 107 - - -	322 785 14 757 (14 778) (657)
Accumulated profits	223 598	217 725
Balance at beginning of year Total comprehensive income for the year Dividends declared	217 725 23 130 (17 257)	182 648 43 705 (8 628)
Total capital and reserves	545 705	539 832

CONDENSED SEGMENTAL ANALYSIS Revenue Profit before tax Net assets						assets
	Reviewed 31 August 2010 R'000	Restated 31 August 2009 R'000	Reviewed 31 August 2010 R'000	Restated 31 August 2009 R'000	Reviewed 31 August 2010 R'000	Restated 31 August 2009 R'000
Power	268 426	422 501	32 102	78 249	439 490	411 439
Gross Intersegment	285 631 (17 205)	425 750 (3 249)	49 307 (17 205)	81 498 (3 249)	_	-
Wood	133 517	158 018	1 555	(6 852)	106 215	128 393
Gross Intersegment	143 238 (9 721)	153 365 4 653	11 276 (9 721)	(11 504) 4 652	_	_ _
Total	401 943	580 519	33 657	71 397	545 705	539 832

Non-executive directors: AJ Phillips\* (Chairman), DS Brouze, GS Nzalo\*, U Schäckermann\* (German), (\* Independent)

Executive directors: JO Freed (Alt JR Freed), RE Moss

Taxation payable Bank overdraft

Total equity and liabilities

Business/registered address: 1125 Leader Road, Stormill Ext 4, Roodepoort, Johannesburg

Business postal address: PO Box 1914, Florida, Johannesburg Company secretary: Probity Business Services (Proprietary) Limited

Transfer secretaries: Computershare Investor Services (Proprietary) Limited Sponsor: Java Capital

AVAEAPITAL

### COMMENTARY

INTRODUCTION Austro Group Limited is listed in the Support Services sector of the JSE Limited. The Group is a supplier of specialised and quality branded industrial equipment to corporate, commercial and infrastructure markets in South and southern Africa. The Group services clients ranging from heavy industrial, mining and construction groups to wholesalers, retailers, manufacturers

The Group has two distinct and focused business offerings – the production, supply and rental of generators and related components such as industrial engines, alternators and switchgear to the generator manufacture and supply industry and the distribution of professional woodworking equipment and tooling.

Group structure:
New Way Power (Pty) Limited housing the energy and power related interests of the Group

Austro Wood (Pty) Limited housing the woodworking and related interests of the Group. The core of these businesses have been in existence for over 30 years.

RESULTS OVERVIEW
FINANCIAL REVIEW
The Group delivered moderate results considering the effect of the depressed economy on the Power Division and the lower than expected demand for woodworking equipment in anticipation of the 2010 World Cup.
The highlight was the elimination of all significant debt on the balance sheet and cash generated by operating activities of R120,9 million.

Consolidated statement of comprehensive income
Revenue decreased from R580,5 million to R401,9 million. This was mainly due to the effect of the depressed economy Profit from operations decreased by 58,4% to R36,6 million (2009: R88,0 million) as a result of the sharp reduction in revenues in the Power Division.

Earnings per share decreased to 5,4 cents per share (2009: 10,1 cents per share) while headline earnings per share decreased to 5,2 cents per share (2009: 10,0 cents per share).

Consolidated statement of financial position
A significant improvement was made to the balance sheet in this period.
Group gearing reduced to 5,3% (2009: 20,0%). The Group's inventory has reduced by R82,1 million to R254,1 million at the period ended 31 August 2010. This has been a specific area of management focus. Trade receivables are being maintained at acceptable levels.

The Group currently has no debt to service.

After an interim dividend of 2 cents per share, an equal final dividend has been declared subsequent to the year

Condensed consolidated statement of cash flows

Due to specific management focus, during the period under review, the Group generated cash of R120,9 million (2009: R(5,6) million). Levels of inventory showed a significant reduction over the period and trade receivables and trade payables were carefully managed.

With reference to the annual report for the year ended 31 August 2009, the contingent liability has been resolved and dealt with by way of restatement of the prior period's financial results.

Based on Senior Counsel advice an agreement entered into between HT Heye and other related parties and the Group in respect of the acquisition of Neptune Plant Hire (Pty) Limited has now been implemented and the resultant liability has been

The agreement is so closely related to the acquisition that the effect of this has been recognised in terms of IFRS 3 (Business Combinations).

The agreement provides for an additional payment based on the average share price at 30 September 2009. The liability will be settled in three equal instalments, the first payment was made in 2010.

R'000	Goodwill	Liability interest free
31 August 2008 Closing balance previously stated Adjustment 2008	221 110 6 919	6 919
Closing balance restated	228 029	6 919
31 August 2009 Closing balance previously stated Adjustment 2008	219 465 6 919	6 919
Closing balance restated Adjustment 2009	226 384 3 358	6 919 3 358
Closing balance restated	229 742	10 277

During the current year it was determined that Secondary Tax on Companies (STC) to the value of R2,9 million should have been recorded in the books of the company prior to the listing; but had not been accounted for previously.

The amount is not recoverable from the vendors as previously stated in the interim results and has therefore been charged

to taxation. R'000	, Taxation payable	Accumulated profits
31 August 2008 Closing balance previously stated Adjustment 2008	40 018 2 975	185 623 (2 975)
Closing balance restated	42 993	182 648
31 August 2009 Closing balance previously stated Adjustment 2008	2 425 2 975	220 700 (2 975)
Closing balance restated	5 400	217 725

## SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

42 993 72 998

849 458

694 791

There have been no material events subsequent to the year-end that have not been reflected in the financial statements for that period.

Power
Revenue decreased by 36,5% to R268,4 million (2009: R422,5 million). This Division contributed 66,8% to Group revenue (2009: 72,8%).

(2009; 72,8%).

New Way, the supplier and manufacturer of generator sets, industrial diesel engines and related components, experienced a slow start, but has a reasonable order book going forward.

Neptune, the generator rental business, continues to produce reasonable results due to the Gauteng operation now being profitable, and an improvement in the Cape Town operations in the second half of the year.

Good progress has been made to maximise the synergies between New Way and Quad and Quinlec. Quad manufactures electrical panels and soundproof enclosures, while Quinlec specialises in the installation and maintenance of generators as well as compliance certifications. Quad is now producing the majority of panels and soundproof enclosures for the generators sold by New Way.

Whod While the economic slowdown has impacted this Division, the benefits of the restructuring and resultant cost reductions made in the previous year are now being felt with the operating profit being in line with forecasts.

This Division contributed 33,2% (2009: 27,2%) to Group revenue. Revenue decreased by 15,5% to R133,5 million (2009: R158,0 million).

The Division's focus on asset management resulted in a reduction of working capital in excess of R22 million.

Within the Division the KZN and Gauteng operations showed a good improvement and efforts made to improve the performance of the Cape Town Operations, are proving successful.

**PROSPECTS** 

divisions. The Group has been restructured with all Power interests being housed in one entity, New Way Power (Pty) Limited and the Wood interests in Austro Wood (Pty) Limited. In addition in the Power Division the consolidation of its Gauteng operations into one facility in Alberton, which will result in efficiencies in warehousing, manufacturing and logistics, is progressing well.

Neptune's Gauteng operation which started operating in late 2008 has increased market share and beginning to produce

The restructuring of the Gauteng and KZN operations has placed the Wood Division in a good position to benefit from an upturn in the economy, due to its lower cost and asset base.

It is anticipated that market growth will remain relatively flat in the forthcoming year. The Wood Division has identified a range of new products which it will introduce during the course of the year. Cost containment will remain a major focus in the current year.

A final dividend of 2,0 cents per share, for the period ended 31 August 2010, has been declared subsequent to the year-end. The total dividends to be paid out of the current year's earnings are 4,0 cents per share.

The salient dates in respect of the dividend are as follows
Last day to trade *cum* dividend on
Trading ex dividend commences on
Record date on
Payment of dividend on
Shareholders may not demotable:

Monday, 20 December 2010 Shareholders may not dematerialise or rematerialise their Austro shares between Friday, 10 December 2010 and Friday, 17 December 2010.

These consolidated results have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"), Interim Financial Reporting (IAS34), AC500 series of interpretations, the JSE Listing requirements and comply with the South African Companies Act (1973), as amended. The accounting policies applied are consistent with those applied in the prior year, except for the adoption of IFRS8 — Operating Segments and IAS1 Revised. These consolidated annual financial results have been reviewed by PKF (Jhb) Inc. Their unqualified review opinion is available for inspection at Austro Group Limited's registered address.

CHANGES TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

During the period JA Bennie resigned from the Board of Directors. Philip Sigsworth has been appointed in his stead with effect from 24 November 2010.

By order of the Board

AJ Phillips Chairman

**U Schäckermann** Chairman of Audit Committee