

# UNAUDITED INTERIM RESULTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2009



16%

increase in revenue

24%

increase in profit after tax

18%

increase in headline earnings per share

## CONDENSED GROUP INCOME STATEMENT

Figures in Rand	Unaudited Six months 31 August 2009	Unaudited Six months 31 August 2008	Audited Full year 28 February 2009
Revenue	395 145 723	341 802 543	720 956 601
Cost of sales	(329 621 308)	(292 803 735)	(608 133 909)
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>65 524 415</b>	<b>48 998 808</b>	<b>112 822 692</b>
Other income	692 955	1 300 398	664 694
Administrative and operating expenses	(22 328 925)	(16 175 294)	(40 828 549)
<b>Operating profit</b>	<b>43 888 445</b>	<b>34 123 912</b>	<b>72 658 837</b>
Finance income	3 431 141	2 847 789	5 403 793
Finance costs	(1 965 480)	(1 529 674)	(3 594 246)
<b>Profit before taxation</b>	<b>45 354 106</b>	<b>35 442 027</b>	<b>74 468 384</b>
Taxation	(13 736 223)	(9 923 767)	(21 024 940)
<b>Profit for the period</b>	<b>31 617 883</b>	<b>25 518 260</b>	<b>53 443 444</b>
<b>Reconciliation of headline earnings:</b>			
Profit attributable to ordinary shareholders	31 617 883	25 518 260	53 443 444
Adjustments for non-trading items:			
Profit on disposal of plant and equipment	(498 928)	(936 287)	(696 591)
<b>Headline earnings</b>	<b>31 118 955</b>	<b>24 581 973</b>	<b>52 746 853</b>
<b>Earnings per share</b>			
Basic (cents)	23,24	20,15	40,64
Diluted (cents)	23,24	20,15	40,64
<b>Headline earnings per share</b>			
Basic (cents)	22,87	19,41	40,11
Diluted (cents)	22,87	19,41	40,11
Weighted average number of shares in issue	136 073 694	126 654 660	131 517 332

## CONDENSED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Figures in Rand	Unaudited Six months 31 August 2009	Unaudited Six months 31 August 2008	Audited Full year 28 February 2009
<b>Profit for the period</b>	<b>31 617 883</b>	<b>25 518 260</b>	<b>53 443 444</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income attributable to ordinary shareholders</b>	<b>31 617 883</b>	<b>25 518 260</b>	<b>53 443 444</b>

## CONDENSED GROUP CASH FLOW STATEMENT

Figures in Rand	Unaudited Six months 31 August 2009	Unaudited Six months 31 August 2008	Audited Full year 28 February 2009
Cash receipts from customers	351 314 183	286 367 551	694 447 373
Cash paid to suppliers and employees	(323 443 666)	(271 317 176)	(604 529 633)
Cash generated from operations	27 870 517	15 050 375	89 917 740
Net finance income	1 465 661	1 318 115	1 809 547
Dividends paid	(7 524 175)	-	-
Tax paid	(10 247 835)	(4 869 126)	(17 718 495)
Other non-cash items	491 118	-	572 971
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	<b>12 055 286</b>	<b>11 499 364</b>	<b>74 581 763</b>
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(3 435 737)	(16 905 084)	(25 879 706)
Proceeds on disposal of property, plant and equipment	226 860	1 345 788	1 880 359
Purchase of plant for hire	(17 669 390)	(26 252 591)	(40 369 478)
Proceeds on disposal of plant for hire	2 643 798	2 492 439	5 006 705
<b>Net cash from investing activities</b>	<b>(18 234 469)</b>	<b>(39 319 448)</b>	<b>(59 362 120)</b>
Net proceeds on share issue	-	(123 743)	-
Borrowings (repaid)/raised	(2 861 817)	800 604	(319 658)
<b>Net cash from financing activities</b>	<b>(2 861 817)</b>	<b>676 861</b>	<b>(319 658)</b>
<b>Net movement in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>(9 041 000)</b>	<b>(27 143 223)</b>	<b>14 899 985</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	57 303 643	42 403 658	42 403 658
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	<b>48 262 643</b>	<b>15 260 435</b>	<b>57 303 643</b>

## CONDENSED GROUP STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

Figures in Rand	Share capital	Share premium	Total share capital and premium	Share-based payments reserve	Common control deficit	Shares to be issued	Retained earnings	Total equity
<b>Balance at 1 March 2007</b>	969 450	192 860 850	193 830 300	-	(177 246 106)	-	8 992 139	25 576 333
Profit for the financial period	-	-	-	-	-	-	31 680 161	31 680 161
Issue of shares	194 194	53 268 757	53 462 951	-	-	-	-	53 462 951
Share issue expenses	-	(2 910 391)	(2 910 391)	-	-	-	-	(2 910 391)
Acquisition of subsidiary	-	-	-	-	-	51 097 033	-	51 097 033
<b>Balance at 29 February 2008</b>	<b>1 163 644</b>	<b>243 219 216</b>	<b>244 382 860</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(177 246 106)</b>	<b>51 097 033</b>	<b>40 672 300</b>	<b>158 906 087</b>
Profit for the financial period	-	-	-	-	-	-	25 518 260	25 518 260
Issue of shares	204 388	50 892 645	51 097 033	-	-	(51 097 033)	-	-
Share issue expenses	-	(123 743)	(123 743)	-	-	-	-	(123 743)
<b>Balance at 31 August 2008</b>	<b>1 368 032</b>	<b>293 988 118</b>	<b>295 356 150</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(177 246 106)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>66 190 560</b>	<b>184 300 604</b>
Profit for the financial period	-	-	-	-	-	-	27 925 184	27 925 184
Share issue expenses	-	25 978	25 978	-	-	-	-	25 978
Treasury shares	(7 295)	(1 455 315)	(1 462 610)	-	-	-	-	(1 462 610)
Value of employee services	-	-	-	572 971	-	-	-	572 971
<b>Balance at 28 February 2009</b>	<b>1 360 737</b>	<b>292 558 781</b>	<b>293 919 518</b>	<b>572 971</b>	<b>(177 246 106)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>94 115 744</b>	<b>211 362 127</b>
Profit for the financial period	-	-	-	-	-	-	31 617 883	31 617 883
Dividends	-	-	-	-	-	-	(7 524 175)	(7 524 175)
Value of employee services	-	-	-	491 118	-	-	-	491 118
<b>Balance at 31 August 2009</b>	<b>1 360 737</b>	<b>292 558 781</b>	<b>293 919 518</b>	<b>1 064 089</b>	<b>(177 246 106)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>118 209 452</b>	<b>235 946 953</b>

## CONDENSED GROUP SEGMENTAL REPORT

Business segment	Civics Construction Six months Unaudited 31 August 2009	Civics Construction Six months Unaudited 31 August 2008	Small Plant and Formwork Six months Unaudited 31 August 2009	Small Plant and Formwork Six months Unaudited 31 August 2008	Commercial and Industrial Building Six months Unaudited 31 August 2009	Commercial and Industrial Building Six months Unaudited 31 August 2008	Services Six months Unaudited 31 August 2009	Services Six months Unaudited 31 August 2008	Total Group Six months Unaudited 31 August 2009	Total Group Six months Unaudited 31 August 2008
<b>Segment revenue and result</b>										
Revenue	270 279 211	79 568 583	48 311 489	45 907 165	137 570 736	219 863 240	2 988 000	1 800 000	459 149 436	347 138 988
Total segment sales	-	-	(3 979 525)	(3 536 445)	(57 036 188)	-	(2 988 000)	(1 800 000)	(64 003 713)	(5 336 445)
Less: Intersegment sales	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>270 279 211</b>	<b>79 568 583</b>	<b>44 331 964</b>	<b>42 370 720</b>	<b>80 534 548</b>	<b>219 863 240</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>395 145 723</b>	<b>341 802 543</b>
<b>Result</b>										
Operating profit	29 022 229	10 580 793	12 506 026	11 046 977	4 282 479	13 965 886	(1 922 289)	(1 469 744)	43 888 445	34 123 912
Finance income	1 412 587	1 747 703	387 068	68 115	1 299 333	468 810	332 153	563 161	3 431 141	2 847 789
Finance costs	(64 263)	(125 045)	(1 718 673)	(1 109 129)	(182 531)	(268 104)	(13)	(27 396)	(1 965 480)	(1 529 674)
<b>Profit before taxation</b>	<b>30 370 553</b>	<b>12 203 451</b>	<b>11 174 421</b>	<b>10 005 963</b>	<b>5 399 281</b>	<b>14 166 592</b>	<b>(1 590 149)</b>	<b>(933 979)</b>	<b>45 354 106</b>	<b>35 442 027</b>
<b>Segment assets and liabilities</b>										
Assets	147 857 030	71 672 311	133 125 451	100 859 121	127 371 147	103 062 780	440 922	64 583 639	408 794 550	340 177 851
Liabilities	(77 451 024)	(38 650 723)	(30 521 943)	(40 941 645)	(63 344 172)	(75 529 943)	(1 530 458)	(754 936)	(172 847 597)	(155 877 247)
<b>Other information</b>										
Capital additions	1 776 065	1 775 391	18 923 085	39 542 423	394 507	1 716 911	11 470	122 950	21 105 127	43 157 675
Depreciation	967 663	792 594	9 072 343	6 580 294	1 628 896	1 412 024	21 426	17 060	11 690 328	8 801 972

## CONDENSED GROUP BALANCE SHEET

Figures in Rand	Unaudited 31 August 2009	Unaudited 31 August 2008	Audited 28 February 2009
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Plant for hire	75 186 692	61 997 883	66 986 191
Property, plant and equipment	35 681 491	32 279 325	36 900 573
Goodwill	52 822 314	54 264 143	52 822 314
Deferred tax assets	-	538 012	173 737
	<b>163 690 497</b>	<b>149 079 363</b>	<b>156 882 815</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Inventories	24 814 764	12 037 847	31 024 552
Trade and other receivables	172 026 646	163 800 206	128 195 106
Cash and cash equivalents	48 262 643	15 260 435	57 303 643
	<b>245 104 053</b>	<b>191 098 488</b>	<b>216 523 301</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>408 794 550</b>	<b>340 177 851</b>	<b>373 406 116</b>
<b>EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Equity</b>			
Share capital and share premium	293 919 518	295 356 150	293 919 518
Common control deficit	(177 246 106)	(177 246 106)	(177 246 106)
Share-based payments reserve	1 064 089	-	572 971
Retained earnings	118 209 452	66 190 560	94 115 744
	<b>235 946 953</b>	<b>184 300 604</b>	<b>211 362 127</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Borrowings	15 425 371	15 698 627	16 558 854
Deferred tax liabilities	1 097 632	3 251 451	986 713
	<b>16 523 003</b>	<b>18 950 078</b>	<b>17 545 567</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Borrowings	5 584 442	9 293 265	7 312 776
Current income tax liability	19 044 137	15 127 427	15 840 405
Trade and other payables	131 696 015	112 506 477	121 345 241
	<b>156 324 594</b>	<b>136 927 169</b>	<b>144 498 422</b>
<b>TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>	<b>408 794 550</b>	<b>340 177 851</b>	<b>373 406 116</b>
Total number of shares in issue (net of treasury shares)	136 073 694	136 803 175	136 073 694
Net asset value per share (cents)	173,40	134,72	155,33

## Notes to the condensed Group financial statements

- Basis of preparation**  
The financial information has been prepared in accordance with, and containing the information required by IAS 34 Interim Financial Reporting, International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), the International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee (IFRIC) interpretations adopted by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), the Listing Requirements of the JSE Limited, and the Companies Act of South Africa. The financial information has been prepared under the historical cost convention. The accounting policies are consistent with those used in preparation of the Group's 2009 annual financial statement.  
The following new standards and amendments to standards, that are applicable to the Group, were adopted during the current financial year:
  - IAS 1 (revised) Presentation of Financial Statements. This standard requires non-owner changes in equity to be presented separately from owner changes in equity in a separate performance statement. In terms of this standard, entities can choose whether to present one performance statement (the statement of comprehensive income) or two statements (the income statement and statement of comprehensive income). The Group has elected to present two performance statements.
  - IFRS 8 Operating Segments. IFRS 8 replaces IAS 14 Segment Reporting. It requires a 'management approach' under which segment information is presented on the same basis as that used for internal reporting purposes.

## COMMENTARY

**Overview**  
The Group recorded another satisfactory six-month period of trading as profits after tax increased by 24% at 31 August 2009, on a 16% increase in revenue. Reduced activity at the Commercial and Industrial Building division was substantially compensated for by a 240% year-on-year revenue growth from the Civics Construction division.

Basic earnings per share increased by 15,3% from 20,15 cents per share to 23,24 cents per share, and headline earnings per share increased by 17,8% from 19,41 cents per share to 22,87 cents per share. These earnings are stated after taking into account a 7,4% increase in the weighted average number of shares in issue during the reporting period.

### FINANCIAL REVIEW

#### Consolidated income statement

Group revenue increased by 16% to reach R395,1 million (2008: R341,8 million) with the Civics Construction division, represented by Erbacon Construction, contributing 68% of total Group revenue as compared to 23% for the period ended 31 August 2008. In the prior period the major contributor had been Armstrong Construction of the Commercial and Industrial Building division, which accounted for 64% of Group revenue, and has now dropped to 20% of Group revenue. The diversification provided by Erbacon's three primary segments, Civics Construction, Commercial and Industrial Building and Small Plant and Formwork, therefore remains important to the Group. The Group is not involved in any residential sector projects.

Erbacon Construction invoiced R270,3 million for the period under review (2008: R279,6 million), which included several freeway upgrade projects and work on two soccer stadium contracts in KwaZulu-Natal. Armstrong Construction still managed to attract a useful base load of contracts amounting to R137,6 million (2008: R219,9 million).

The branch expansion initiatives undertaken in the prior period by the Small Plant and Formwork division was partially offset by a rationalisation of certain other sites, culminating in a 5% year-on-year increase in revenue to R48,3 million (2008: R45,9 million). However, the revenue opportunities that were presented as a result of the electricity blackouts in the first half of 2008 were not repeated during the current period under review.

Operating profits increased by a pleasing 28,6% to R43,9 million (2008: R34,1 million) as Small Plant and Formwork rectified several productivity issues resulting in improved margins. Armstrong Construction managed to maintain contract margins at the gross profit level in a very competitive national sector, but its overhead to revenue ratio was elevated. Erbacon Construction produced a record profit for a six-month period, booking satisfactory margins on their significantly increased activity.

Although consolidated administrative and operating expenses increased to 5,7% of revenue (2008: 4,7%), costs were appropriately contained, resulting in an operating profit margin of 11,1%, which surpassed the operating profit margin of 10% achieved in each half of the prior year.

Net profit after tax increased 24% to R31,6 million (2008: R25,5 million), assisted by continued net interest receipts. The effective tax rate increased to 30% (2008: 28%) after accounting for STC on the maiden dividend.

#### Consolidated balance sheet and cash flow

Total assets increased to R408,8 million (2008: R340,2 million). The acquisition of property, plant and equipment amounted to only R3,4 million as compared to the R16,9 million outlay in the prior period when several properties for Small Plant and Formwork were obtained. Plant for hire additions at R17,7 million were also curtailed (2008: R26,2 million) and expenditure over the following trading session will also be restricted.</