

SOL GROUP

PRESS RELEASE

FIRST HALF 2024 RESULTS

The Board of Directors has approved the First Half 2024 results.

Consolidated Sales € 779.6 ml (+6.0% vs 1H 2023, € 735.7 ml)

EBITDA € 201.3 ml (€ 193.6 ml at 1H 2023)

EBIT € 122.2 (€ 118.9 ml at 1H 2023)

Net Profit € 74.9 ml (79.6 ml at 1H 2023)

These are the highlights disclosed in the First Half 2024 results approved earlier today by the Board of Directors of SOL S.p.A., a listed company on the Italian Stock Exchange that acts as holding company to an Italian multinational group, with more than 7,000 employees, involved in the area of technical gases and home-care assistance, operating in Europe, Turkey, Morocco, India, Brazil, Ecuador, Peru and China.

In a political and economic context of considerable uncertainty following the continuation of conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East and a sharp slowdown in the economy in Europe, the Sol Group achieved good growth in sales, which amounted to 779.6 million euros, up 6.0% compared to the first semester of 2023 (+3.6% on a constant basis).

The half-year result is positive both in Italy, where sales grew by 2.3%, and abroad, where there was an increase of 8.5%.

Specifically, the Technical Gas Division achieved sales of € 388.5 million, (-2.3% compared to the first semester of 2023, mainly due to the reduction in prices following the drop in the cost of electricity compared to the first half of 2023).

The Home Care Division, in which the Group operates through Vivisol, has seen good organic growth, with a significant increase in prescriptions from new patients. Sales of this division were 391.1 million euros, with a growth of 15.6%.

During the first half of 2024, the subsidiary Airtel Srl has acquired 100% of the Swiss company Spitex Aloha, 70% of the Romanian company Medair Srl and 85% of the Brazilian company Pronop SA, all operating in the home care sector.

Compared to the first half of 2023, the Gross Operating Margin grew by 4.0% in absolute value, with an incidence on sales equal to 25.8% (26.3% as at 30/6/2023) while the Operating Result increased by 2.7%, equal to 15.7% on sales (16.2% as at 30/6/2023).

Consolidated Net Profit was € 74.9 million, equal to 9.6% of turnover, slightly down compared to € 79.6 million at 30 June 2023 due to the increase in interest rates and a higher tax burden resulting from the elimination of tax credits for energy-intensive companies. Consolidated Operating Cash Flow has grown to € 154.0 million, equal to 19.8% of turnover, compared to € 152.9 million on 30 June 2023.

From a financial point of view, the net financial debt, equal to € 422.4 million (of which € 78.7 million for rents), increased by € 6.6 million compared to the end of 2023, due to investments and acquisitions made in the half year for € 115.5 million. The "Net debt / Equity" ratio is 0.41 (0.46 on 30 June 2023), while the "Net Debt / Gross Operating Margin" ratio is equal to 1.08 (1.16 on 30 June 2023), calculated on the rolling year.

With reference to the period after 30 June 2024, there are no events to report.

"We consider in a very positive way the results achieved in the first semester of 2024 - affirmed Marco Annoni, Vice-President of SOL S.p.A. - which confirm that the SOL Group continues to grow even in a very complex economic context, maintaining high profitability, and also seizing interesting growth opportunities through acquisitions and partnerships".

"Consistent with the evolution of the international economic and geopolitical situation, with the trend of energy costs, and with the stability of the European economy and industrial production - concluded Aldo Fumagalli Romario, President of SOL S.p.A. - the SOL Group will continue, also during the second half of 2024, on its growth path, through the realization of new production and distribution investments, considering any further acquisition opportunities, developing innovative and diversification projects. We confirm the objective of consolidating the good sales performance of the first half of the year and maintaining profitability at good levels".

Pursuant to paragraph 2 of Article 154-bis of the Unified Finance Act of February 24, 1998, the manager responsible for preparing the financial reports Marco Filippi declares that the accounting information contained in this press release corresponds to the results documented in the books, accounting and other records.

Enclosure: Consolidated Income Statement and Statement of Financial Position.

Monza, September 12th, 2024

SOL Group - Consolidated income statement

	30/06/2024	%	30/06/2023	%
Net sales	779,564	100.0%	735,733	100.0%
Other revenues and proceeds	14,166	1.8%	24,235	3.3%
Revenues	793,730	101.8%	759,968	103.3%
Purchase of materials	196,542	25.2%	216,843	29.5%
Services rendered	217,970	28.0%	197,188	26.8%
Change in inventories	(6,760)	-0.9%	(10,570)	-1.4%
Other expenses	17,787	2.3%	16,482	2.2%
Total costs	425,539	54.6%	419,943	57.1%
Added value	368,191	47.2%	340,025	46.2%
Payroll and related costs	166,890	21.4%	146,416	19.9%
EBITDA	201,300	25.8%	193,609	26.3%
Depreciation & amortization	75,538	9.7%	69,568	9.5%
Other provisions	3,604	0.5%	5,126	0.7%
EBIT	122,158	15.7%	118,914	16.2%
Financial income	3,278	0.4%	2,515	0.3%
Financial expense	(13,438)	-1.7%	(9,148)	-1.2%
Result of investments	(215)	0.0%	437	0.1%
Net financial Income / (Charges)	(10,375)	-1.3%	(6,196)	-0.8%
PBT	111,783	14.3%	112,718	15.3%
Tax on profit	33,306	4.3%	29,365	4.0%
Net profit from ongoing operations	78,477	10.1%	83,353	11.3%
Net profit from discontinuous operations	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Minorities	(3,553)	-0.5%	(3,737)	-0.5%
Net profit	74,924	9.6%	79,616	10.8%
EPS	0.826	0.000	0.878	0.0%

SOL Group - Statement of financial position

	30/06/2024	31/12/2023
Tangible assets	801,398	754,571
Goodwill	251,749	245,628
Other intangible assets	46,696	42,009
Equity investments	29,015	26,926
Other financial assets	17,592	17,969
Tax advances	22,593	19,211
NON CURRENT ASSETS	1,169,043	1,106,314
Non current assets held for sale	0	0
Inventories	108,580	100,804
Trade receivables	462,959	448,454
Other current assets	78,290	61,418
Current financial assets	20,236	18,050
Cash and cash equivalents	212,967	205,627
CURRENT ASSETS	883,032	834,353
TOTAL ASSETS	2,052,075	1,940,667
Share capital	47,164	47,164
Share premium reserve	63,335	63,335
Legal reserve	10,459	10,459
Reserve for treasury shares in portfolio	0	0
Other reserves	769,419	660,599
Retained earnings	1,319	1,321
Net profit	74,924	145,732
Shareholders' equity - Group	966,621	928,611
Minorities	44,565	39,543
Net income attributable to minority shareholders	3,553	6,972
Shareholders' equity - minority interests	48,118	46,515
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	1,014,738	975,126
Employee benefits	16,699	16,917
Provision for deferred tax liabilities	17,396	15,104
Provision for risks and charges	9,449	3,847
Payables and other financial liabilities	570,677	550,215
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES	614,222	586,083
Non current liabilities held for sale	0	0
Due to banks	3,284	3,190
Trade accounts	186,376	168,367
Current financial liabilities	86,201	89,031
Taxes payables	49,557	35,452
Other current liabilities	97,698	83,418
CURRENT LIABILITIES	423,116	379,459
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	2,052,075	1,940,667