



NZX/ASX release

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Nuplex EBITDA guidance increased 10%

Operational restructure to drive further growth

Nuplex Industries Limited, the international industrial resins and specialties group, today announced that the company is increasingly confident that its results for the year to 30 June 2010 will exceed its previous guidance. The company now expects its earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) to be NZ\$110 - 120 million, compared with the previous guidance of NZ\$100 - 110 million. Earnings per share (eps) are expected to be in the range 24 - 28 cents.

'Global business conditions continue to strengthen, with ongoing signs of growing demand,' said Mr John Hirst, group managing director. 'With margins being maintained and a substantially reduced cost base, we currently expect to report a strong first half result.'

'While demand remains significantly below the peak in financial year 2007/08, it has generally recovered from the low point of last financial year and gives every sign of a gradual improvement into the foreseeable future. Asia remains the stand-out region in terms of growth in both volume sales and profit. All regions are showing the benefits of restructuring to match demand as well as of ongoing strict expense and cash management. Operating and fixed costs have been materially reduced, contributing to the profit uplift, while cash flow remains strong. New product developments continue to attract new business on a broad front.'

'Some uncertainty remains about the impact of rising raw material costs as we move towards the second half. While prices are being increased as costs rise, we continue to be cautious in our outlook and will update the market on growth expectations and our success in maintaining margins at the time of the interim profit announcement.'

To drive further growth, Nuplex's operations have been restructured into two business divisions, each reporting to a chief operating officer.

Mr Sam Bastounas, previously group general manager—functional materials, has been appointed chief operating officer of Nuplex Functional Materials & Specialties, which includes the group's resin products for the composites and paper markets, as well as its specialties businesses. He is responsible for the division's strategy, business and profitability and for all Nuplex operations in Australia and New Zealand.

Mr Rob Harmsen, previously group general manager—resins, has been appointed chief operating officer, Nuplex Resins. He is responsible for the strategy, business and profitability of the group's coating resins business and for Nuplex operations in Asia, Europe, the Middle East, Africa and the Americas.

Mr Charles Northcote, previously group general manager—specialty products, has been appointed group general manager, planning & strategy and will work with the chief operating officers to identify growth opportunities and coordinate the group's business planning processes.

'This restructuring of our operations will enable us to maximise their performance and capitalise on opportunities during the next stage of Nuplex Industries' growth,' said Mr Hirst. "

Nuplex Industries Limited is one of the world's top ten manufacturers of resins for coatings and composites, and one of Australasia's top four distributors of specialty products for the construction, chemical, plastic and life sciences industries. It has manufacturing operations in ten countries across Australasia, Europe, North America and Asia, and more than 50 per cent of revenue comes from outside Australasia. Nuplex is listed on the Australian and New Zealand exchanges.

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