



Good Q1 2008 results

- Net profit up to EUR 1.5 million (EUR 1.25 million in 2007)
- Sales up from EUR 62.4 million to EUR 65.5 million

EMBARGO until 15 May 2008, 18.00

Genk, 15 May 2008

IPTE NV, (Euronext Brussels: IPT) posted sales of EUR 65.5 million in the first quarter of 2008 (Q1 2007: EUR 62.4 million). Profit from operations rose to EUR 2.54 million (Q1 2007: 2.06 million).

Net profit increased to EUR 1.5 million (Q1 2007: EUR 1.25 million).

The order book grew from EUR 83 million at end-2007 to EUR 87 million at the end of Q1 2008.

Huub Baren:

“The first quarter results are as we expected. Sales are up slightly and net profit is 20 percent higher.

During the first quarter we have moved to our new factory in Romania. This move has cost us a number of subcontracting production days. We have now digested this move and are again fully operational without major disturbances for our customers.

Since 1 January 2008 the results of the automation activity we acquired from Platzgummer have been included in group results. Sales from this newly acquired activity amounted in Q1 2008 to EUR 2.8 million. On a like-for-like basis sales have remained stable (EUR 62.7 million in Q1 2008 vs. EUR 62.4 million in Q1 2007).

The financial result was again affected by the marking to market valuation of outstanding USD hedging contracts. Without this booking, net profit would have been EUR 733,000 higher”.

“Sales in the automation division rose from EUR 12.5 million to EUR 16 million (including EUR 2.8 million of Platzgummer sales). The order book rose from EUR 18.3 million at end-2007 to EUR 25.4 million (including EUR 5 million of Platzgummer orders).

Order inflow in the automation division ran to plan and remains above the market trend. Prospects for the second half are positive”.

“Sales in the ‘Contract Manufacturing’ division remained stable (EUR 49.9 million in Q1 2007, EUR 49.6 million in Q1 2008). Bearing in mind the relocation in Romania this is a good performance.

The order book for the division stood at EUR 61.5 million at the end of Q1 2008 compared with EUR 64.7 million at the end of Q4 2007. We read this fall as a reluctance in the market to place longer term orders given the uncertainty



of financial markets. Structurally speaking, we do not see, however, any general worsening among our customers.”

“Let me take this opportunity to wish my successor Luc Switten every success in his new function of CEO of the whole IPTE group. After leading the contract manufacturing division successfully for 5 years, I strongly believe that he will deliver his valued contribution also in the automation activity.”

Income statements for the 3 months to 31 March 2008 and 2007

	Q1 2008		Q1 2007		Y-t-d 2008		Y-t-d 2007	
	000 EUR	%						
Sales	65,503	100	62,406	100	65,503	100	62,406	100
Cost of sales	-53,551	-81.8	-52,359	-83.9	-53,551	-81.8	-52,359	-83.9
Gross profit	11,952	18.2	10,047	16.1	11,952	18.2	10,047	16.1
Research and development expenses	-2,423	-3.7	-2,011	-3.2	-2,423	-3.7	-2,011	-3.2
General and administrative expenses	-3,653	-5.5	-3,052	-4.9	-3,653	-5.5	-3,052	-4.9
Selling expenses	-3,313	-5.0	-3,004	-4.8	-3,313	-5.0	-3,004	-4.8
Other operating income/expense (net)	-21	-0.1	83	0.1	-21	-0.1	83	0.1
Profit from operations	2,542	3.9	2,063	3.3	2,542	3.9	2,063	3.3
Financial income/charges (net)	-1,026	-1.6	-759	-1.2	-1,026	-1.6	-759	-1.2
Profit before taxes	1,516	2.3	1,304	2.1	1,516	2.3	1,304	2.1
Income taxes	-15	-0.1	-45	-0.1	-15	-0.1	-45	-0.1
Profit after taxes	1,501	2.3	1,259	2.0	1,501	2.3	1,259	2.0
Attributable to:								
Equity holders of the parent	1,451		1,250		1,451		1,250	
Minority interest	50		9		50		9	
Number of shares: 6,934,424								
Number of warrants: 182,850								
Profit/(loss) per share in EUR	0.22		0.18		0.22		0.18	
Diluted profit/(loss) per share in EUR	0.21		0.18		0.21		0.18	



Equity

	000 EUR
Equity at 31.12.2007	41,655
Net profit for the period 01.01.2008 to 31.03.2008	1,501
Minority interest (Platzgummer)	390
Translation difference	72
Equity at 31.03.2008	43,618
Attributable to:	
Equity holders of the parent	43,178
Minority interest	440

Balance sheet at 31 March 2008 and 2007

	Q1	Q1
	31/03/2008	31/03/2007
	000 EUR	000 EUR
Intangible fixed assets	315	253
Goodwill	7,926	5,943
Property, plant and equipment	19,591	14,375
Deferred tax assets	1,615	1,000
Amounts receivable after one year	1,240	1,490
Inventories and contracts in progress	46,224	49,238
Trade receivables	55,205	50,737
Other receivables	2,978	1,502
Cash, bank deposits and current investments	5,387	2,329
Other current assets	192	292
Total assets	140,673	127,159
Equity	43,618	25,167
Subordinated loan	0	7,000
Provisions	1,597	1,093
Deferred tax liability	115	1,000
Long-term financial debts	5,734	3,703
Bank loans and overdrafts	28,373	26,455
Trade payables	41,066	40,309
Other current liabilities	20,170	22,432
Total liabilities	140,673	127,159

**Cash flow table for the period from 1 January to 31 March 2008 and 2007**

	2008	2007
	000 EUR	000 EUR
Profit from operations	2,542	2,063
Adjustments for		
Valuation allowance on customer receivables and inventory	-714	1,046
Depreciation	1,156	910
Provisions	-1,292	-263
Operating cash flow before changes in working capital	1,692	3,756
Changes in working capital	5,277	8,668
Cash flow from/(used in) operating activities	6,969	12,424
Taxes	-15	-45
Financial income/(charges) (net)	-1,026	-759
Other	74	0
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities	6,002	11,620
Investment in Barco business area	0	-15,390
Investment in Platzgummer	-2,782	0
Investments in intangible and tangible fixed assets	-3,609	-554
Cash flow from investing activities	-6,391	-15,944
Increase (+)/decrease (-) in bank financing	+2,362	+4,344
Increase (+)/decrease (-) in cash position	+1,973	-20

The company

IPTE is a worldwide supplier of automated production equipment for the electronics industry and a provider of manufacturing services to electronic and industrial markets in Europe.

The company is sub-divided into two divisions. IPTE 'Factory Automation' is a market leader in the supply of production equipment for the electronics industry. The division develops manual, semi-automatic and turnkey automation systems for producing, testing and handling of printed circuit boards and for final assembly work.

The 'Contract Manufacturing' division, Connect Systems Group, offers high quality, cost-effective production services to the professional industry. Activities include the production of cables and cable trees, PCB assembly and testing, production of semi-manufactures and final product assembly.

The IPTE Group's references include Barco, ASML, Alcatel-Lucent, Bosch, Delphi, Philips, Ericsson, Flextronics, Jabil, Johnson Controls, Lear, Continental, SCI-Sanmina, Siemens VDO and Visteon.



Today the company employs around 2,500 people in facilities in Europe, the United States and Asia.

Shares in the company, which was founded in 1992, are traded on NYSE Euronext Brussels. (www.euronext.com)

Note for the media, not for publication:

For further information on IPTE and this press release you can consult the website. We would of course be glad to send you further information and photographic material on request.

Financial calendar

Announcement of half-year results	13 August 2008
Announcement of Q3 2008 results	13 November

Investor Relations:

Huub Baren Chairman	Hugo Ciroux CFO
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