



IPTE NV: Profit warning

IPTE expects Q1 2009 sales to be down 25% on Q1 2008

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Genk, 31 March 2009

IPTE (Euronext Brussels: **IPTE**) announces that, as a consequence of the economic and financial crisis, it expects sales to be down 20 to 30 percent compared to the EUR 65 million of the 1st quarter 2008.

Huub Baren: “The economic crisis is clearly hitting the electronics industry very hard. Sales to almost all customers are considerably slower.

In the second half of 2008 we had seen a downturn coming and had already taken measures to counter it. The decline we are now seeing is turning out much stronger than we had expected. The Board of Directors has tasked management with examining all possible scenarios to guarantee our future profitability.

“The decline in sales will produce an undercoverage of costs in the first quarter. At the same time, a number of previously decided restructurings will take place during this period and will also impact the result. We are expecting an operating loss of EUR 1 to 2 million for the group in the 1st quarter.”

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 2,100 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Note for the media, not for publication: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

Annual General Meeting: 28 April 2009

Announcement of Q1 2009 results: 14 May 2009

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