

## **Press release:**

Company

# **DNick Holding confirms sales and earnings forecast for 2008**

- Considerable increase in sales and operative EBITDA in 2008
- Equity ratio unchanged at over 50 percent
- Decrease in metal prices leads to revaluation of metal stock

**Schwerte, 28 May, 2009 – The DNick Holding plc today presented the financial figures for 2008 and confirmed both the sales and the earnings forecasts. According to these, the listed manufacturer of nickel and nickel alloys, as well as of coin blanks, in the past business year increased its sales in comparison to the previous year by around 7 percent to approx. 237 million Euros. In the same period the operative EBITDA improved by 17 percent to 15.8 million Euro.**

Of particular significance for the sales increase was strong growth in the business area of coin blanks, but also an increase in quantity sales in the iron-nickel segment. In contrast to this, the passed on price decline for metal had an effect on sales. Especially the price for nickel came under pressure and was on average in 2008 lower than that of the previous year.

Despite an increasingly difficult economic situation in the business area of iron-nickel, the DNick group registered a double-digit percentage increase for the operative EBITDA, which does not contain the impact of revaluation of the metal stock. This very positive development in earnings was also the result of the positive order situation in the coin blanks business area.

The prices for metal, especially of nickel, which again fell considerably toward the end of the business year, have resulted in an impairment adjustment of certain stock values due to the lower market price. The revaluation of 7.4 million Euros affecting the non-order-related metal stock is reported separately from the operative EBITDA. Even taking this special effect into account, the earnings before taxes (EBT) in 2008 were, at 5.1 million Euros, 9 percent greater than those of the previous year. The adjusted earnings per share in the past business year amounted to 1.54 Euro (previous year: 1.13 Euro).

The net equity on 31 December, 2008 was 61.0 million Euros. The company group thereby demonstrates a high degree of financial stability with unchanged equity ratio of more than 50 percent.

The board assumes a contrary development in the business segment iron-nickel on the one hand and for coin blanks on the other hand for the present business year 2009. It is expected that the decline of the global economy will take effect and that the sales forecasts in the iron-nickel area will have to be adjusted downwards by around 20 to 25 percent. The coin blanks business area is on the other hand only marginally affected by the global economic crisis, as the contracting parties on this market are primarily government institutions. As a consequence, a continued good level of capacity utilisation is anticipated in 2009 for this business area.

Additional key data and details of business development from the past year can be found in the annual report presented today by the DNick group.

**Additional information at:** [www.dnickholding.de](http://www.dnickholding.de)

**About DNick Holding plc:**

**DNick Holding plc** is one of the leading manufacturers worldwide of special materials made of nickel and nickel alloys, as well as of metal products. From its administrative centre in Schwerte in North Rhine-Westphalia, the company bundles all business activities of the DNick group as a holding company. The group is divided into the business areas of iron-nickel and coin blanks. In the business area iron-nickel, the group acts with the operative subsidiary companies Deutsche Nickel GmbH (Schwerte), Auerhammer Metallwerk GmbH (Aue) and Deutsche Nickel America Inc. (USA). In the business area coin blanks, the SAXONIA EuroCoin GmbH (Halsbrücke) and Compania Europea de Cospeles S.A. (Spain) are active. In the business year 2008 the group achieved sales of 237 million Euro. The founding of the DNick Holding plc as a public limited company in accordance with British law took place in 2005 in order to function as a holding for the business activities of the former Deutsche Nickel AG. Following successful restructuring of the entire company group, the DNick Holding plc was placed on the stock market in 2006. The stock is traded in the German unofficial regulated market at the stock exchange centres in Frankfurt, Berlin and on the XETRA platform.

**Contact for investors, analysts & journalists:**

Klaus Baumann  
Sputnik – Agentur für Medienarbeit  
Hafenstraße 64  
48153 Münster  
Tel.: +49 (0) 2 51 / 62 55 61-11  
Fax: +49 (0) 2 51 / 62 55 61-19  
[baumann@sputnik3000.de](mailto:baumann@sputnik3000.de)  
[www.sputnik3000.de](http://www.sputnik3000.de)