

TARSUS GROUP PLC

Pre-close update

4 July 2006

Tarsus Group plc, the international media group with interests in exhibitions, conferences, publishing and online media will be announcing its interim results covering the six-month period to end-June 2006 on Monday September 4th 2006. Prior to entering its close period, the Company is today providing an update on trading.

Trading performance in the first half has met our expectations both in our established products and in our new launches. The Group expects to report like-for-like revenue growth in excess of 10% for the period.

Our US shows have had a particularly good first half and like-for-like revenue growth is expected to be ahead of the Group's average. The February Off-Price clothing show was ahead, once again, in revenue terms compared with 2005. The upcoming August Off -Price show, which is the larger of the two, is on track to be a record show. Our second Packaging Services Expo, which took place in Chicago in May, was combined with our first Packaging Containers and Materials Expo to form the Packaging Summit. We were encouraged by its performance which saw revenues and buyer attendance more than double. Revenues from our largest event of the year, Labelexpo Americas in September, are tracking well ahead of the previous event in 2004.

Our European business is second half weighted, but like-for-like revenue in the quieter first half is expected to have increased by some 4%. In France, our organic expansion continued as we launched 5 new exhibitions and 4 new directories. A notable success in our established business was the Direct Marketing exhibition where our share of revenues increased strongly. We have now bought out one of the minority interests in this show and as part of the same deal have sold our smaller Progilog software exhibition. This disposal gave rise to a small exceptional gain in the period. In the second half, the outlook for our largest show in France – Heavent- is encouraging with indicated revenues well ahead of those for 2005.

The UK online business – while still small –continues to grow rapidly and revenues are expected to rise substantially in the first half. We are very advanced in replicating our online business into the USA and France. The acquisition of Onrec, an online recruitment business, has been fully integrated and we have launched two new events in this sector in 2006.

Revenues in our emerging markets portfolio are expected to have increased strongly, owing to the launch of an Indian Label Summit in Mumbai. As a result of this success, we will be replicating the event in Delhi in 2007. In addition, we have launched a new event in India for the Flexible Packaging Industry (Flexpack Summit) which is scheduled to take place in October 2007.

In China, our BITTM travel exhibition had a successful second edition doubling visitor numbers and remains on track to become profitable in 2007. Significantly for our prospects in the region, we have recently entered into a new strategic partnership with Shanghai Modern International Exhibition Company, a subsidiary of the

Shanghai World Expo Group, organisers of the World Expo event in Shanghai in 2010. Shanghai Modern is a market leader in China in our core packaging and printing sectors. In 2007, the partnership will concentrate on the 15th Print, Pack and Paper exhibition, the 7th Papertech show, the 3rd Corrugating & Converting Expo and the 14th Shanghai International Advertising Technology & Equipment exhibition.

Douglas Emslie, Group MD of Tarsus said:

“Our established events continue to perform well and our organic expansion is accelerating with 15 new products launched in the first half. The success of our launch programme over the last two years is giving us the confidence to drive this expansion which is laying the groundwork for significant medium-term growth. In addition, we are increasing our exposure to areas –notably China – which offer above average rates of growth. With a good first half performance under our belts and a robust outlook for our major shows in the second half, we remain confident that 2006 will be a year of further progress and strong like-for-like growth”

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