



Coventry Group Ltd

ABN 37 008 670 102

Results for Six Months Ended

31 December 2002

Presentation by
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and
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Result Highlights

- Net profit before tax and significant items up \$3.1 million to \$8.3 million.
- EBIT (before significant items) up 55% to \$9.3 million.
- EPS up strongly to 14.7 cents.
- Consolidated EBIT/sales margin up to 4.4% from 3.1%.
- Sales revenue up 9% to \$211.3 million.
- Net interest cover up to 9.5 times from 7.2 times.
- Interim dividend of 14 cents, fully franked, up from 8 cents, fully franked.



Financial Overview

\$M	FY01		FY02		FY03
		H1	H2	TOTAL	H1
Working Capital	110.7	112.2	111.5	111.5	109.3
Non-current assets	98.6	98.0	94.8	94.8	91.9
Capital employed	158.4	156.6	155.9	155.9	161.3*
Sales	359.5	194.1	200.4	394.5	211.3
EBITDA	16.1	10.1	14.3	24.4	13.4
Depreciation	6.2	3.3	3.2	6.5	3.1
EBITA	9.9	6.8	11.1	17.9	10.3
Amortisation	1.1	0.8	0.9	1.7	1.0
EBIT	8.8	6.0	10.2	16.2	9.3
Interest	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.8	1.0
Profit before tax	8.0	5.2	9.2	14.4	8.3
Significant items before tax	5.2	(1.7)	(1.8)	(3.5)	-
Tax	6.0	3.0	4.1	7.1	3.3
Profit after tax	7.2	0.5	3.3	3.8	5.0
EPS – cents	21.9	2.8	10.6	13.4	14.7

* Does not include provision for dividend due to new accounting standard



Financial Overview

- Sales growth continues, particularly in industrial products.
- Reduction in non-current assets due to sale of property (used to retire debt).
- No further closure costs for CAP Victoria.
- Effective tax rate has reduced to 40%, and should reduce further with grouping of CAP losses for full reporting periods in future.
- \$6 million of future tax benefits (not booked) to be realised over several years, arising from accumulated CAP tax losses.



Key Ratios

	FY01	FY02			FY03 H1
		H1	H2	TOTAL	
Profitability ratios *					
EBITDA/Sales	4.5%	5.2%	7.1%	6.2%	6.3%
EBITA/Sales	2.8%	3.5%	5.5%	4.5%	4.9%
EBIT/Sales	2.4%	3.1%	5.1%	4.1%	4.4%
EBIT/Net interest expense (times)	10.6	7.2	10.2	8.8	9.5
Return ratios *					
Return on assets	3.9%	5.4%	8.8%	7.2%	8.2%
Return on capital employed	6.2%	8.8%	14.2%	11.5%	12.7%
Gearing					
Net debt/total assets	10.1%	13.7%	14.3%	14.3%	13.1%
Net debt/equity	16.2%	22.3%	22.9%	22.9%	20.3%

- Net profit margins up in automotive and industrial businesses.
- Key ratios reflect improving operating performance

* Before significant items



Dividends

	FY01	FY02			FY03 H1
		H1	H2	TOTAL	
EPS – cents	21.9	2.8	10.6	13.4	14.7
Dividend per share – cents	30.0	8.0	12.0	20.0	14.0
Franking %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

- High interim dividend payout, but fully covered by earnings.
- Current policy is to distribute high proportion of earnings.
- Dividend reinvestment plan has been reactivated.
- Franking account balance of \$23 million.



Automotive Parts Distribution

\$M	FY01	FY02			FY03 H1
		H1	H2	TOTAL	
Working Capital	58.4	60.6	56.5	56.5	55.6
Non-current assets	48.7	47.3	45.9	45.9	45.3
Capital employed	105.9	106.7	100.9	100.9	99.3
Sales	202.9	105.9	108.5	214.4	113.9
EBITDA *	1.4	1.7	4.0	5.7	3.5
Depreciation	2.8	1.4	1.3	2.7	1.3
EBITA *	(1.4)	0.3	2.7	3.0	2.2
Amortisation	-	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
EBIT *	(1.4)	0.2	2.6	2.8	2.0
-Parent	6.2	4.0	6.3	10.3	5.2
-CAP	(7.6)	(3.8)	(3.7)	(7.5)	(3.2)
EBIT/Sales Margin *	(0.7%)	0.1%	2.4%	1.3%	1.8%

* Before significant items



Automotive Parts Distribution

- EBIT up strongly, but ongoing losses of CAP are having a significant impact.
- Sales up 7%, and EBIT up 31%, in established WA and SA businesses.
- Acquired full ownership of CAP.
- Opened new branch in Buranda, Queensland and acquired Motor Torque business in Cairns.
- New management structure now in place in New South Wales.



Industrial Product Distribution

\$M	FY01	FY02			FY03 H1
		H1	H2	TOTAL	
Working Capital	41.9	42.8	42.7	42.7	43.3
Non-current assets	33.7	33.2	32.4	32.4	31.2
Capital employed	74.8	75.2	74.2	74.2	73.6
Sales	128.7	75.7	77.1	152.8	85.5
EBITDA	11.4	7.6	8.3	15.9	9.5
Depreciation	2.2	1.2	1.2	2.4	1.2
EBITA	9.2	6.4	7.1	13.5	8.3
Amortisation	1.2	0.8	0.7	1.5	0.7
EBIT	8.0	5.6	6.4	12.0	7.6
EBIT/Sales Margin	6.2%	7.5%	8.2%	7.8%	8.8%



Industrial Product Distribution

- 13% sales growth, driven by demand from infrastructure projects in WA and QLD.
- Net profit margin continues to improve through better purchasing, improved sales mix and value added service.
- Construction fastener business, Infix, continues to grow with opening of first Victorian branch at Clayton.
- Hylton Parker Fasteners (NZ) opens new branches at Mt Wellington (Auckland) and Nelson.
- Integration of previously separate North and South Island businesses of Hylton Parker Fasteners (NZ) completed.



Bitumen Products

\$M	FY01	FY02			FY03
		H1	H2	TOTAL	H1
Working Capital	1.8	2.1	1.7	1.7	1.7
Non-current assets	2.7	3.1	2.8	2.8	3.1
Capital employed	4.4	5.1	4.4	4.4	4.8
Sales	16.4	6.4	8.4	14.8	6.9
EBITDA	3.2	1.0	1.8	2.8	1.0
Depreciation	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.2
EBITA	2.7	0.8	1.5	2.3	0.8
Amortisation	-	-	-	-	-
EBIT	2.7	0.8	1.5	2.3	0.8
EBIT/Sales Margin	16.1%	11.3%	18.5%	15.4%	11.5%



Bitumen Products

- Seasonal business – second half usually stronger.
- Flat performance in a competitive market.
- Production cost savings to flow from new asphalt plant to be operational in May 2003 (joint facility with CSR Emoleum).
- Increase in bitumen price will put pressure on net profit margins.



Gasket Manufacturing

\$M	FY01	FY02			FY03
		H1	H2	TOTAL	H1
Working Capital	6.6	7.1	7.1	7.1	5.9
Non-current assets	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
Capital employed	10.0	10.6	10.3	10.3	9.4
Sales	14.1	7.1	7.7	14.8	6.7
EBITDA	2.4	1.0	1.4	2.4	0.9
Depreciation	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3
EBITA	2.0	0.8	1.2	2.0	0.6
Amortisation	-	-	-	-	-
EBIT	2.0	0.8	1.2	2.0	0.6
EBIT/Sales Margin	13.9%	11.8%	15.6%	13.8%	9.6%



Gasket Manufacturing

- Revenue down due to loss of major supply contract.
- Net profit margin affected by restructuring costs associated with the above, and additional marketing costs.
- A large proportion of lost revenue has now been replaced.



Outlook

- Continued growth in number of registered vehicles should underpin automotive parts business.
- Positive outlook for industrial business, with ongoing demand from infrastructure developments.
- WA bitumen market to remain competitive, but production cost savings will assist profitability.
- Further work required before CAP achieves profitability.



Trading Names

Automotive

Coventrys

Motor Traders

Coventry Auto Parts

Industrial

Coventry Fasteners

Infix

Queensland Fasteners

Sweetman Fasteners

Top End Fasteners

Universal Fasteners

Associated World Bearings

Cooper Fluid Systems

Coventry Fluid Systems

Hylton Parker Fasteners (NZ)

Bitumen

Hot Mix

Bitumen Emulsions

Gaskets

AA Gaskets

NZ Gaskets