



PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Leeden's 1H FY2008 net profit exceeds FY2007 profitability

- **Net profit after taxation jumped 242.5% to S\$9.4 million with a 38.3% increase in revenue to S\$70.2 million**
- **Industrial Division continues to be the main revenue generator due to healthy demand in the Oil & Gas and Marine sector**

Singapore, 8 August 2008 – Mainboard-listed Leeden Limited, an integrated specialist in the provision of welding, gas and safety products, is pleased to announce another record performance in both revenue and net profit attributable to shareholders for the first half year ended 30 June 2008 (“1H FY2008”)

“We are pleased to report another outstanding set of results to our shareholders for the financial period under review. We are actively expanding the Group’s operational capability through strategic collaborations and acquisitions. Concurrently, the Group will continue to focus on its core business in providing integrated welding, gas and safety solutions to its customers. These measures will sustain the Group’s continual growth in the foreseeable future.”

Mr Steven Tham
Chairman and CEO

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Financial Highlights (S\$'000)	6 months ended		Change %
	30/06/08	30/06/07	
Revenue	70,161	50,720	38.3
Gross Profit	20,395	14,475	40.9
Profit before Taxation	11,491	4,466	157.3
Profit after Taxation	9,406	2,746	242.5
Net Profit Attributable to Equity Holders	7,966	2,749	189.8
Gross Profit Margin	29.1%	28.5%	
Net Profit Margin	13.4%	5.4%	
Earnings Per Share (cents)	4.68	1.89	147.6

The Industrial Division contributed 83% of the Group’s revenue while the Property Division contributed the remaining 17%.

The Group’s strategy to focus on its Industrial Division over the years paid off as Leeden has become one of the largest providers of products and services in the welding machinery, industrial safety and industrial gas markets in South East Asia. The Group has been able to ride on the boom in rig-building, shipbuilding and ship-repair activities locally and overseas, providing customized integrated solutions in welding, gas and safety to its customers.

The Group's gross profit was 40.9% higher at S\$20.4 million in 1H FY2008 as compared to S\$14.5 million in 1H FY2007. Gross profit margin improved from 28.5% in 1H FY2007 to 29.1% in 1H FY2008, mainly due to higher gross profit margins recorded in the Property Division.

The Group also recorded an increase in other operating income to S\$1.3 million mainly due to one-off gain on disposal of assets held for sale as well as negative goodwill arising on the acquisition of subsidiaries. On the other hand, distribution expenses increased by 9.1%, in line with the increased business activities. Overall, profit before tax rose 157.3% to S\$11.5 million, compared to S\$4.5 million for 1H FY2007.

As a result of the above, net profit attributable to shareholders surged 189.8% to S\$8.0 million in 1H FY2008. Earnings per share for 1H FY2008 amounted to 4.68 cents.

“Moving forward, the Group intends to expand its presence in the region through strategic collaborations and acquisitions. The Group recently acquired a manufacturing plant in Malaysia which allows the manufacturing of its own line of welding products with stronger quality control. There are also plans to operate physical branches in Shanghai, Vietnam and Philippines by the end of 2009.”

Mr Kelvin Lee
Managing Director and COO

The Group has also acquired a stake in a well-established Malaysian company, Eversafe Extinguisher Sdn Bhd (“EESB”) which specializes in fire protection products. This will further expand the Group's range of integrated products and services to better serve its customers in the marine and oil & gas industries. By leveraging on Leeden's established distribution network and strong presence in the region, Leeden and EESB can benefit from their mutual synergies to effectively increase the Group's market presence in Asia.

Barring unforeseen circumstances, the Group is optimistic about closing the year with a strong set of results.

----- The End -----

About Leeden Limited

Listed on the Singapore Exchange since 1975, Leeden Limited is the Integration Specialist for Welding, Gas & Safety.

Over the years, the Group has progressed from a distributor of welding and safety products and a manufacturer and supplier of industrial gases to become a value-added integration specialist for its customers in the marine and oil & gas industries.

The Group's customers include major oil and gas companies and contractors, shipbuilding and ship repair yards, oil rig, platform, jacket and floating production storage offloading (FPSO) systems as well as steel and pipeline fabricators from across Asia.

Leeden differentiates itself by providing integrated products, services and solutions of welding, gas and safety to its customers. With branches in Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and China, and dealers throughout Asia, Leeden aims to be close to its customers to ensure provision of premium quality services at all times.

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