

# H1 2008 results Strong growth in operating income\* :+21.3%

In M€	H1 2007	H12008
Sales	699.0	745,7
Operating income (excluding non-recurring items)	21.0	25.4
in % of sales	3.0%	3.4%
Operating income (including non-recurring items)	38.6	32.0
Earnings before tax	35.5	29.3
Net result (Group share)	22.3	19.8

<sup>\*</sup>excluding non recurring items

In H1 2008, Group crit sales amounted to € 745.7 million, posting an increase of 6.7%. This sustained growth was purely organic. The two business segments of the Group (Temp. business and Multiservices) contributed to this positive evolution.

#### Temp. Business: growth and gain in market shares

The Temp. Business segment (86% of total sales) realized a good first half-year with sales of € 651,6 million vs. € 620,8 million over the same period 2007, posting an increase of 5%. France as well as international takes part in this growth.

In France, sales, that amounted to € 602.1 million, increased by 5.1% in a market that grew only by 1.3% over the same period (1). This good performance confirms the capability of the Group to reinforce its market shares.

(1) Source: Prisme

#### Multiservices business: a two digits growth

As expected, Multiservices business posted a very good first half 2008 with sales of € 105.6 million, posting an increase of 20.1%.

Airport activities strongly contributes to this growth with sales amounted to € 64,3 million, posting an increase of 24.8% in H1 2008, fruits of the commercial successes recorded in 2007 and beginning of 2008.

With sales amounted to € 29 million, the engineering and maintenance activities increased by more 16%.

# Results: High increase in operating performance

Operating income, excluding non-recurring items related to the modification of the calculation of French social charges, amounted to €25.4 million, posting an increase of 21% compared to the first half of 2007.

In Temp. Business, operating income excluding non-recurring items grew by 6.2% to 6.2% to

Operating income in Airport activities, which increased by 72% to € 3.4 million, is a result of a strong operating margin improvement.

In the other activities (engineering and maintenance), the beginning of year was also successful with a positive operating income to €1.4 million.

Overall, non-recurring items included, Group operating income amounted to  $\in$  32 million and net result (Group share) to  $\in$  19.8 million.

## Press release

With shareholder's equity of €168.5 million and a gearing of 0.4, the Group has a solid financial structure allowing to continue its development strategy with confidence.

## Favourable outlooks on the whole exercise

In Temp. Business, the Group should continue to do better than its market while continuing a stringent profitability control.

For this, the levers are clearly identified:

- Intensification of the commercial efforts to develop its core clientele and to gain new customers
- Optimization of branches profitability
- Reinforcement in recruitment activity
- Consolidation of international profitability

**In Multiservices,** the favourable outlooks allow to confirm the objective of a two digits growth for the year. The strong increase in sales should allow posting excellent levels of profitability.

The financial half-year 2008 report of Group Crit is available on the group website www.groupe-crit.com

#### **About Group Crit**

Group CRIT is one of the leaders in Temp business in France. Parallel to its core business, the group profits from a strong positioning in the sector of the Airport Assistance and from a business segment specialized in Engineering and Maintenance. Listed on compartment B of Euronext Paris, Group CRIT is part of indices CAC Mid&Small 190 and SBF 250.

### **CONTACTS**

#### **Groupe Crit**

Michèle Chartier mchartier@groupe-crit.net

Tel: +33.1.49.18.55.63

#### **Actifin**

Stéphane Ruiz <u>sruiz@actifin.fr</u>
P.R.: Emilie Debes <u>edebesl@actifin.fr</u>
I.R.: Maël Lecrubier <u>mlecrubier@actifin.fr</u>
Tel: +33 1.56.88.11.11 <u>www.actifin.fr</u>