

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Petra Foods' 9 months 2009 net profit strong growth of 35.5% to US\$15.3 million on strong earnings momentum by its two core businesses

- *3Q 2009 performance driven by higher sales and margins of the Group's core businesses*

Operating Profit (US\$'000)	3 months ended 30 September			9 months ended 30 September		
	2009	2008	% Change	2009	2008	% Change
Revenue	324,047	317,326	2.1	895,288	833,402	7.4
Gross Profit	36,030	37,076	(2.8)	100,054	92,139	8.6
EBITDA	17,718	13,415	32.1	46,812	37,059	26.3
Profit before tax	6,352	4,712	34.8	17,395	11,500	51.3
Net profit attributable to Equity holders of the Company	4,890	4,486	9.0	15,258	11,260	35.5

SINGAPORE - 11 November 2009 - Petra Foods Limited ("Petra Foods" or the "Group"), one of the world's major manufacturers and suppliers of cocoa ingredients and branded consumer confectionery products, announced today a 35.5% surge in net profit attributable to shareholders to US\$15.3 million for the nine months ended 30 September 2009 ("9M 2009").

The 3Q 2009 net profit generated (up 9.0% to US\$4.9 million) contributed to the 9-month performance with higher sales generated by both the Branded Consumer and Cocoa Ingredients Divisions, which lifted 3Q 2009 revenue by 2.1% to US\$324.0 million.

EBITDA jumped 32.1% to US\$17.7 million on higher sales and higher margins generated by the Group's core businesses as well as the absence of any FRS 39 accounting charge. Petra Foods would have recorded a higher EBITDA growth of 41.2% if not for the weaker regional currencies which distorted the growth rate of its Branded Consumer business when translated to the USD reporting currency.

Earnings per share (“EPS”) for 3Q 2009 was 0.92 US cents, whilst net asset value per share rose from 34.5 US cents as at 31 December 2008 to 36.8 US cents as at 30 September 2009.

SEGMENTAL REVIEW

Financial Highlights (US\$ million)	3 months ended 30 September			
	3Q 2009	3Q 2008	% Change Year on Year	% Change In Local Currency Term *
Indonesia	56.8	57.6	(1.5%)	9.7%
The Regional Markets	27.3	20.4	34.5%	43.3%
Branded Consumer Revenue	84.1	78.0	7.9%	18.5%
Gross Profit Margin (%)	30.1%	32.0%	(1.9%) pt	Weighted lower by new 3 rd Party Agencies
EBITDA	10.3	9.6	7.2%	19.9%

**For comparative purposes only, this shows the effect of using the respective exchange rates of the regional currencies in 3Q 2008 in translating the Branded Consumer Division's 3Q 2009 results.*

Branded Consumer Division

Driven by strong sales growth of Own Brands and 3rd Party Brands products, the Branded Consumer Division recorded revenue of US\$84.1 million in 3Q 2009, up 7.9% year-on-year and representing 26.0% of total Group revenue. In local currency terms, the Division's performance was significantly stronger, growing by 18.5% in revenue and 19.9% in EBITDA.

Sales in Indonesia maintained its momentum, growing 9.7% in local currency terms, as a result of marketing initiatives and new products launched over the last 15 months. Key brands such as SilverQueen and Cha Cha, as well as 3rd party brands sales continued to achieve double digit revenue growth (in local currency terms).

Sales in the regional markets grew 34.5% to US\$27.3 million and contributed to 32.5% of the Division's revenue, as compared with 26.1% a year ago, reflecting the Group's success in growing the size of its distribution business outside of Indonesia by lifting sales volume and securing new agencies.

While gross profit margin in 3Q 2009 was 1.9 percentage point lower Y-o-Y at 30.1%, weighed down by higher revenue contribution from 3rd Party Brands products, it has improved on a Q-o-Q basis from 28.6% in 2Q 2009 due to improvement in margins for Own Brands products - a result of product price hikes in March 2009 and cost containment initiatives.

Core Cocoa Ingredients Division (Asia and Latin America)

Financial Highlights (US\$ million)	3 months ended 30 September		
	3Q 2009	3Q 2008	% Change Year on Year
Revenue	137.9	154.0	(10.5%)
EBITDA	10.3	7.8	33.1%
EBITDA/mt in US\$ (6 months moving average)	227	193	17.5%
Sales volume (mt)	42,529	41,181	3.3%

Note: The 3Q 2009 EBITDA figure excludes the negative US\$0.8 million effect of FRS 39 Accounting Charge.

The Group's Core Cocoa Ingredients Operations, which excludes Europe, registered strong EBITDA growth of 33.1% to US\$10.3 million, principally driven by the 17.5% improvement in EBITDA yield from US\$193/mt in 3Q 2008 to US\$227/mt in 3Q 2009. The higher EBITDA yield reflected the shipment of more premium products. Sales volume rose 3.3% Y-o-Y, driven by the opening of new markets and strong demand from its global customers.

The Europe Cocoa Ingredients Operations

The Group's state-of-the-art cocoa ingredients processing facility in Hamburg was commissioned in April 2009 and commenced commercial production in May 2009. Europe's 3Q 2009 net loss of US\$2.9 million and 9 month 2009 net loss of US\$7.2 million reflected (i) the facility at its pre-operating phase in the 1st Half 2009; and (ii) the effect of higher operating and depreciation costs in 3Q 2009 corresponding with the completed investment programme.

As the production capacity was ramped up in 3Q 2009, the Group has begun delivering products manufactured (albeit of generic nature) to customers. The Hamburg plant has already received quality accreditations from some major customers and is working to secure more customer approvals. The ISO 22000 certification obtained by the Hamburg plant played a major part in the achievement of these accreditations.

Balance Sheet and Financial Position

As at 30 September 2009, total shareholders' equity improved to US\$196 million from US\$183 million as at 31 December 2008, driven by the strong 9M 2009 Group earnings and strengthening of the Rupiah and Euro against the United States Dollar as at 30 September 2009 which resulted in Foreign Currency Translation Reserve in the Shareholders' Equity reducing from negative US\$13.1 million as at end 2008 to negative US\$4.0 million.

Business Prospects

Notwithstanding the loss of its European operations, the Group expects the growth momentum of its core businesses to generate higher profit for the Full Year 2009.

"We have scored on several fronts for both our divisions in the past nine months and are confident that our growth momentum will continue for the rest of year. Our Branded Consumer Division secured new agencies, launched new products while expanding our reach in the regional markets. For our Core Cocoa Ingredients Division, we expect the positive momentum to continue with strong industry fundamentals driving higher shipment of premium products in 2009. Our Hamburg plant, which commenced commercial production in May 2009, lays a strong foundation in growing our presence in Europe," said Mr John Chuang, Chief Executive Officer of Petra Foods.

"Although signs point to a global economic recovery, we would still like to remain prudent, produce positive free cash flow by managing our capital expenditure and working capital, whilst relentlessly improving operational efficiency and cost controls," said Mr Chuang

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ABOUT PETRA FOODS LIMITED

Listed on the SGX-ST since 5 November 2004, Petra Food Limited and its subsidiaries (“the Group”) is one of the world’s major manufacturers and suppliers for premium cocoa ingredients, namely cocoa powder, cocoa butter and cocoa liquor. The Group also manufactures and/or distributes branded consumer products, primarily chocolate confectionery products, for which it is the market leader in Indonesia.

The Group has two business divisions, **Cocoa Ingredients** and **Branded Consumer**.

Cocoa Ingredients Division

The Group manufactures and sells cocoa ingredients, under the “Delfi” brand, to over 30 countries worldwide. Its major customers are international food and beverage companies such as Nestlé, Cadbury, the Mars Group, Arnott’s, A.B. Foods, Barry Callebaut and the Meiji Group.

Branded Consumer Division

The Group manufactures and/or distributes branded consumer products that are sold in over 17 countries including Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Australia, Thailand, the Philippines and China. Petra Foods has an established portfolio of chocolate confectionery brands which are household names in Indonesia include 10 master brands and 20 key sub brands and manufactures over 300 stock keeping units. Its flagship brands in Indonesia include “SilverQueen” and “Ceres” that were introduced in the 1950s and “Delfi” in the 1980s. In addition, the Group also distributes a well-known portfolio of 3rd Party brands in Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia.

Headquartered in Singapore, Petra Foods has seven cocoa processing facilities (located in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Brazil, Mexico and Germany), one cocoa butter facility (located in France), two chocolate confectionery production facilities (located in Indonesia and the Philippines) and a total staff strength of over 4,000.

Petra Foods was awarded the top spot in the annual Singapore Enterprise 50 Award in 2003. In addition, it was recognised as the “Best Newly Listed Singapore Company in 2004” in AsiaMoney's Best Managed Companies Poll 2004. Petra Foods was named the “Enterprise of the Year 2004” by the 20th Singapore Business Awards on 30 March 2005 and was named one of “Singapore’s 15 Most Valuable Brands” in November 2005 by IE Singapore.

The Group is also a 2-time winner at the Singapore Corporate Awards, bagging a Silver award for its inaugural annual report in the “Best Annual Report/Newly Listed Company” category in 2006. More recently in April 2009, Petra Foods clinched a Gold award in the “Best Annual Report/ Companies with \$300 million to less than \$1 billion in market capitalisation” category.

Issued on behalf of Petra Foods Limited

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