# **INTERIM REPORT** HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA

# FIRST NINE MONTHS 2015/2016 (MARCH 1 – NOVEMBER 30, 2015)



# HORNBACH HOLDING AG & Co. KGaA GROUP

# Nine-Month Interim Report for 2015/2016

# (March 1 – November 30, 2015)

Key Figures HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA Group <sup>1)</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	Change	Nine Months	Nine Months	Change
(in € million, unless otherwise stated)	2015/2016	2014/2015	%	2015/2016	2014/2015	%
Net sales	925.6	875.8	5.7	2,980.2	2,851.4	4.5
of which in other European countries	384.8	339.9	13.2	1,206.5	1,116.6	8.1
Like-for-like sales growth	2.9%	1.0%		1.8%	4.9%	
Gross margin as % of net sales	35.8%	36.7%		36.9%	37.2%	
EBITDA	41.4	56.1	(26.1)	231.7	247.3	(6.3)
EBIT	21.3	37.2	(42.7)	172.5	191.2	(9.8)
Consolidated earnings before taxes	15.4	30.1	(48.9)	154.2	167.8	(8.1)
Consolidated net income <sup>2)</sup>	11.6	22.6	(48.6)	116.7	120.6	(3.2)
Earnings per share (in €)	0.71	1.22	(41.8)	5.94	6.15	(3.4)
Investments	37.9	37.5	1.2	120.5	91.6	31.5

Misc. key figures of the HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA Group <sup>1)</sup> (in € million, unless otherwise stated)	November 30, 2015	February 28, 2015	Change %
Total assets	2,549.1	2,433.0	4.8
Shareholders' equity	1,355.8	1,259.0	7.7
Shareholders' equity as % of total assets	53.2%	51.7%	
Number of employees	17,320	16,455	5.3

Rounding up or down may lead to discrepancies between percentages and totals. Calculation of percentage figures based on  $\notin$  000s. <sup>1)</sup> Previous year's figures adjusted due to IFRIC 21; please see Note 1.

<sup>2)</sup> Including minority interests pursuant to IFRS.

# **INTERIM GROUP MANAGEMENT REPORT**

# Summary

- Change in legal form to partnership limited by shares successfully executed
- HORNBACH Group increases sales by 4.5% to  $\pounds$  3.0 billion in first nine months of 2015/2016
  - Group-wide like-for-like sales net of currency items rise 1.8% in first nine months:
    Pleasing growth momentum at international Hornbach stores German stores uphold previous year's level
  - HORNBACH Baustoff Union GmbH subgroup with cumulative sales growth of 1.2%
- Unsatisfactory third-quarter earnings performance leaves its mark on nine-month earnings
  - Negative margin factors and disproportionate cost increases in Germany adversely affect earnings in fall months
  - Nine-month EBIT at HORNBACH Group down 9.8% to € 172.5 million
  - Improved net financial expenses and lower taxes mean earnings per share fall only slightly short of previous year's figure
- Annual target updated: full-year EBIT for 2015/2016 expected to fall short of previous year's figure

The business performance of the HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA Group witnessed a significant setback during the third quarter of 2015/2016 (September 1 to November 30, 2015). Notwithstanding group-wide sales growth, operating earnings fell significantly in the third quarter. The downturn in earnings primarily involved the DIY store business in Germany and was chiefly due to a lower gross margin and disproportionate cost increases compared with the development in sales. The unsatisfactory third-quarter performance also left its mark on the earnings performance for the first nine months of 2015/2016. Consolidated sales grew by 4.5% to  $\notin$  2,980.2 million in the first nine months (2014/2015:  $\notin$  2,851.4 million), but consolidated operating earnings for the same period fell by 9.8% to  $\notin$  172.5 million (2014/2015:  $\notin$  191.2 million). Given the third-quarter earnings performance, the Group has reduced its full-year earnings expectations. The sales growth targets for the HORNBACH Group have nevertheless been confirmed. The change in legal form from the former HORNBACH HOLDING AG took effect upon the entry of HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA in the Commercial Register on October 9, 2015.

Sales at HORNBACH Baumarkt AG, the largest operating subgroup (DIY retail), for the period from September 1 to November 30, 2015, including sales at four newly opened stores, increased by 5.9% to  $\notin 863.0$  million (2014/2015:  $\notin 814.9$  million). In the first nine months of 2015/2016, the 153 HORNBACH DIY stores with garden centers in nine European countries increased their net sales by 4.7% to  $\notin 2.8$  billion. On a like-for-like basis and net of currency items, DIY sales grew by 2.9% in the third quarter. Here, we succeeded in more than offsetting the subdued development in domestic sales with strong demand in other European countries. Cumulatively for the first nine months, like-for-like sales net of currency items rose by 1.8% across the subgroup.

Sales at the HORNBACH Baustoff Union GmbH subgroup increased by 2.8% to  $\notin$  62.2 million in the third quarter and by 1.2% to  $\notin$  182.4 million in the first nine months of 2015/2016.

The HORNBACH Group's earnings reduced year-on-year in the first nine months of 2015/2016. The like-for-like sales growth at the DIY stores was insufficient to make up for the charges on earnings resulting from a lower gross margin and the scheduled increase in expenses. At  $\notin$  172.5 million, consolidated operating earnings (EBIT) for the first nine months fell 9.8% short of the previous year's figure. Thanks to lower interest expenses, positive exchange rate items, and a lower tax charge, the net income for the period only decreased by 3.2% to  $\notin$  116.7 million in the first nine months (2014/2015:  $\notin$  120.6 million). Earnings per share are reported at  $\notin$  5.94 (2014/2015:  $\notin$  6.15).

### Information about change of legal form to HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA

Based on the transformation resolution adopted by the Annual General Meeting on July 9, 2015 and the resolution of consent adopted at the separate meeting of preference shareholders on July 10, 2015, the change of legal form of the former Hornbach Holding Aktiengesellschaft to a partnership limited by shares (KGaA) took effect with the entry of HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA in the Commercial Register on October 9, 2015.

Those shareholders who were shareholders in Hornbach Holding Aktiengesellschaft upon the entry of the change of form in the Commercial Register became limited shareholders in HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA. They participated to the same extent and with the same number of shares in HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA as they previously held in Hornbach Holding Aktiengesellschaft before the change of legal form took effect.

Preference shareholders did not receive any non-voting preference shares but, like ordinary shareholders, exclusively received voting no-par ordinary bearer shares in the KGaA. Preference shares were exchanged for no-par ordinary bearer shares in the KGaA at a ratio of 1:1. Preference shareholders received the number of voting no-par ordinary bearer shares corresponding to the number of non-voting no-par preference bearer shares they held in Hornbach Holding Aktiengesellschaft before the change of legal form took effect. As compensation for the loss of preference status, they received an additional cash payment of  $\notin$  0.38 per preference share. The ordinary shareholders received the same number of voting no-par ordinary bearer shares they held in Hornbach Holding Aktiengesellschaft before the change of legal form took effect.

HORNBACH Management AG became the general partner of HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA. The general partner did not receive any interest in the share capital of HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA in the course of the change of legal form. It does not hold any interest in the assets or profit or loss of HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA.

Following the entry into effect of the change of legal form and the associated conversion in non-voting preference shares into ordinary shares, the share capital of HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA amounts to  $\notin$  48,000,000.00 and is divided into 16,000,000 no-par ordinary bearer shares with a proportionate amount of the share capital of  $\notin$  3.00 per share and full entitlement to participate in the profits for the 2015/2016 financial year. The proportionate share of share capital represented by a no-par ordinary bearer share was not changed. The share capital is certificated exclusively in the form of global certificates which were deposited with Clearstream Banking AG, Frankfurt am Main.

Following the entry into effect of the change of legal form in the Commercial Register, the previously listed non-voting preference shares in Hornbach Holding Aktiengesellschaft (ISIN: DE0006083439) were delisted. On October 9, 2015, the ordinary bearer shares in HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA were, upon application of the company, admitted to the full extent of 16,000,000 shares to the regulated market with simultaneous admission to the sub-segment of the regulated market with additional post-admission requirements (Prime Standard) of the Frankfurt Stock Exchange. The 16 million ordinary shares in HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA thus now has only one class of share.

### **Macroeconomic Framework**

According to the German Bundesbank, the **global economy** showed a subdued expansion in the third quarter of the 2015 calendar year. There was no indication of any marked slowdown in economic growth, or even of any downturn in the global economy, such as that occasionally feared in public discussions in view of developments in several emerging economies.

Driven by private consumer and government spending and held back by the trade balance, the **European economy** maintained its moderate upturn in the period from July to September 2015. Based on figures released by Eurostat, the euro area (EA 19) and the EU 28 grew by 0.3% and 0.4% respectively compared with the previous quarter. According to the economic data available upon completion of this report, apart from the stagnation in Switzerland all of the countries outside Germany in which the HORNBACH Baumarkt AG Group operates showed positive GDP growth in the third quarter of 2015 compared with the previous quarter.

Percentage change on previous quarter Source: Eurostat (calendar year figures)	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2014	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter 2015	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2015	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2015
Germany	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.3
Austria	(0.2)	0.7	0.3	0.1
Czech Republic	0.4	2.5	1.0	0.5
Luxembourg	2.8	(0.3)	(0.9)	n.a.
Netherlands	0.9	0.6	0.1	0.1
Romania	0.8	1.4	0.0	1.4
Slovakia	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Sweden	1.1	0.8	1.0	0.8
Switzerland	0.7	(0.3)	0.2	0.0
Euro area	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3
EU28	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4

GDP growth rates in countries with HORNBACH DIY stores and garden centers

The **German economy** also upheld its moderate growth rate, with positive momentum coming above all from domestic consumption. Both private and government spending increased further. Based on the Bundesbank assessment, the domestic construction industry grew in line with the overall German economy, and thus slightly positively, in the third quarter of 2015. In the period from January to September 2015, permits were issued for a total of 4.8%, or 10,300, more residential units than in the previous year's period. This growth was driven above all by an increase in the number of building permits issued for detached houses (plus 5.6%).

From January to September 2015, sales in the German retail sector grew year-on-year by 2.7% in nominal terms, and by 2.8% in real terms. The German DIY megastore and garden center sector generated growth at the same rate, increasing its cumulative total gross sales by 2.7% to  $\notin$  13.8 billion. On a like-for-like basis, i.e. excluding stores newly opened, closed, or substantially converted in the past twelve months, the German DIY retail sector matched the previous year's figure, with growth of 0.1%. Sector sales in Germany stagnated in the fall months. Given the persistently high numbers of asylum seekers arriving in the country and the public debate surrounding the management of the refugee crisis, a deterioration in consumer confidence became apparent. Consumers' optimism as to future economic developments and their expectations as to future incomes have taken a knock. Thanks to low inflation and energy prices, however, consumers' propensity to spend nevertheless remains high.

## **Earnings, Financial and Net Asset Situation\***

### Sales performance

Sales at the HORNBACH Group in the third quarter of the 2015/2016 financial year (September 1 to November 30, 2015) grew by 5.7% to  $\notin$  925.6 million (2014/2015:  $\notin$  875.8 million). Consolidated sales for the first nine months of 2015/2016 increased by 4.5% to  $\notin$  2,980.2 million (2014/2015:  $\notin$  2,851.4 million). The HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA Group comprises the HORNBACH Baumarkt AG, HORNBACH Baustoff Union GmbH, and HORNBACH Immobilien AG subgroups.

### HORNBACH Baumarkt AG subgroup

In the third quarter of 2015/2016 (September 1 to November 30, 2015) we launched operations at four new locations:

Number #	Location	Country	Sales area in m <sup>2</sup> (weighted as per BHB)	Opening date
150	Geleen	Netherlands	13,200	09.02.2015
151	Klagenfurt	Austria	10,900	10.07.2015
152	Sibiu	Romania	9,100	10.14.2015
153	Best (near Eindhoven)	Netherlands	13,800	11.04.2015

The expansion program for the 2015/2016 financial year has thus been completed. As of November 30, 2015, HORNBACH Baumarkt AG operated a subgroup-wide total of 153 retail outlets (February 28, 2015: 146). Of these, 99 stores are in Germany and 54 stores in other European countries. Total sales areas at the HORNBACH Baumarkt AG Group amounted to around 1.77 million m<sup>2</sup> as of November 30, 2015 (February 28, 2015: 1.70 million m<sup>2</sup>).

The sales performance of this subgroup largely shaped the business performance of the overall Group.

### **3**<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2015/2016

The HORNBACH Baumarkt AG subgroup increased its net sales by 5.9% to  $\notin 863.0$  million in the third quarter of the 2015/2016 financial year (2014/2015:  $\notin 814.9$  million). On a like-for-like basis and net of currency items, consolidated sales grew by 2.9% in the third quarter. Including currency items for non-euro countries, namely the Czech Republic, Romania, Sweden, and Switzerland, like-for-like growth amounted to 3.9%.

The DIY stores with garden centers in the eight countries outside Germany were the key growth driver. Sales here, including new store openings, grew by 13.3% to  $\notin$  382.5 million in the period from September to November 2015 (2014/2015:  $\notin$  337.5 million). Like-for-like sales net of currency items in other European countries rose by 7.0%. Including currency items, the like-for-like sales growth was even higher at 9.6%.

In Germany, we reported a far weaker third-quarter sales performance than in other European countries. Net sales in the domestic business grew by 0.6% to  $\notin$  480.4 million (2014/2015:  $\notin$  477.4 million). On a like-for-like basis, domestic sales fell marginally short of the previous year's figure, with growth of minus 0.2%.

### First nine months of 2015/2016

In the first nine months (March 1 to November 30, 2015), the subgroup increased its sales by 4.7% to  $\pounds 2,796.4$  million (2014/2015:  $\pounds 2,669.8$  million). Cumulative like-for-like sales net of currency items grew by 1.8% in the nine-month period. Including currency items, subgroup-wide growth came to 3.0%. Thanks to strong demand growth in other European countries, we more than made up for the subdued performance in domestic sales.

Nine-month net sales in other European countries rose by 8.2% to  $\notin$  1,199.9 million (2014/2015:  $\notin$  1,108.9 million). Due to the comparatively higher increase in international sales, the share of nine-month consolidated sales at HORNBACH Baumarkt AG attributable to international activities increased to 42.9% (2014/2015: 41.5%). On a like-for-like basis, we improved our sales in other European countries by 3.7% net of currency items, and by 6.7% including currency items. Against the backdrop of macroe-conomic developments in those countries outside Germany in which we operate, which were positively affected by private consumer spending, we thus posted a very pleasing performance and have boosted our growth momentum with each passing quarter. In the period under report, we outperformed the overall sectors in all countries for which we have indicators of average like-for-like sales performance at our DIY competitors.

Driven by the Group's expansion, net sales in Germany in the nine-month reporting period grew by 2.3% to  $\notin$  1,596.5 million (2014/2015:  $\notin$  1,560.9 million). With growth of 0.4%, like-for-like sales in the domestic business remained virtually unchanged. Here, the challenging base effect in the previous year should be noted, with like-for-like sales growth of 6.5% in the first nine months of 2014/2015. Based on information available from the BHB sector association and our own assessments, we slightly outperformed the DIY sector average in Germany on a cumulative basis in the reporting period from March to November 2015.

### HORNBACH Baustoff Union GmbH subgroup

The HORNBACH Baustoff Union GmbH (HBU) subgroup, whose focus on main construction and subconstruction trade customers means that is more aligned towards new construction projects than the HORNBACH Baumarkt AG subgroup, increased its net sales by 2.8% to  $\notin$  62.2 million in the third quarter of 2015/2016 (2014/2015:  $\notin$  60.5 million) and by 1.2% to  $\notin$  182.4 million in the first nine months of 2015/2016 (2014/2015:  $\notin$  180.2 million). As of November 30, 2015, HORNBACH Baustoff Union GmbH was operating an unchanged total of 24 builders' merchant outlets in south-western Germany and at two locations close to the border in France.

### **Earnings performance**

The following comments refer to the earnings performance at the overall HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA Group.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2015/2016

The earnings performance of the HORNBACH Group witnessed a setback in the course of the third quarter. This was due above all to a severe downturn in earnings at the HORNBACH Baumarkt AG subgroup in **Germany**, a development chiefly due to the unexpectedly poor business performance in November 2015. There were several reasons for this:

### Sales performance

The month of November 2015 brought a reduction in like-for-like sales in the German DIY store sector. This was due not least to weather conditions remaining too mild for seasonal business with winter product ranges and to subdued consumer confidence. These factors also had a more negative impact on the sales performance of our DIY stores in Germany than we had expected. The level of sales achieved in November 2015 and the quarter as a whole was insufficient to make up for the concurrent impact of the negative earnings factors outlined below.

### Development in margin

The weaker sales performance was exacerbated by a deterioration in the gross margin on an unexpected scale, especially in Germany. This was due to the interaction between margin-related factors that were in some cases structural and in others merely temporary. Discount campaigns at competitors, which were stepped up in individual cases, raised the pressure on re-tail prices in the DIY sector to an extent beyond that which we have already permanently factored into our future expectations given increased price sensitivity on account of the internet. Moreover, within our rapidly growing online sales there was an increase in those sales involving products generating lower gross margins compared with stationary sales. What's more, our margin was adversely affected by significantly lower gross margins at the former Praktiker/Max Bahr locations we have taken

over. This involves one-off base effects in connection with the expiry of the initial terms granted to us by suppliers upon the reopening of the stores under the HORNBACH flag in the past financial year.

### Development in costs

In our annual planning for the HORNBACH Baumarkt AG subgroup for the 2015/2016 financial year, we included cost increases for store operations and administration. The lion's share of these relates to the increasing digitization of our business model (strategic future projects), the intensification in our marketing activities, and higher maintenance requirements at our stationary stores. The available budget increases in Germany were not fully exhausted either in November or in the third quarter of 2015/2016. As a proportion of the lower than expected level of sales, however, the significantly disproportionate rise in store and administration expenses impacted negatively on the earnings performance in Germany.

By contrast, the **international regions** at the HORNBACH Baumarkt AG subgroup reported a pleasing earnings performance for the third quarter of 2015/2016. Thanks to substantial like-for-like sales growth and the fact that store and administration expenses rose less sharply than sales, we managed to offset most of the decline in the gross margin, which was only moderate compared with the German business, and the expansion-related increase in pre-opening expenses. Like in the previous year, we generated clearly positive operating earnings in other European countries in the third quarter of 2015/2016. However, these were not sufficient to make up for the decline in earnings in Germany or to match the previous year's operating earnings on group level.

Influenced in particular by the aforementioned factors in the domestic DIY store business, the quarterly gross margin at the **HORNBACH Group** decreased from 36.7% to 35.8%. Selling and store expenses rose by 7.5%, and thus slightly disproportionately compared with consolidated sales (plus 5.7%). General and administration expenses showed sharply disproportionate growth compared with sales, rising by 22.2%. This was mainly due to ongoing high spending on strategic future projects such as the further international rollout of our internet activities. Group-wide pre-opening expenses were reported at  $\notin$  2.7 million for the quarter under report (2014/2015:  $\notin$  3.3 million).

Consolidated operating earnings (EBIT) for the third quarter of 2015/2016 fell year-on-year from  $\notin$  37.2 million to  $\notin$  21.3 million (minus 42.7%). Net financial expenses improved by 16.6% to minus  $\notin$  5.9 million (2014/2015: minus  $\notin$  7.1 million). Earnings before taxes dropped 48.9% to  $\notin$  15.4 million (2014/2015:  $\notin$  30.1 million). Net income for the period reduced by 48.6% to  $\notin$  11.6 million (2014/2015:  $\notin$  22.6 million). Given the low absolute volume of earnings customary in the third quarter, the percentage rates of change are correspondingly high.

#### First nine months of 2015/2016

The unsatisfactory performance in the third quarter left its mark on the earnings performance for the first nine months of 2015/2016. Thanks to a successful race to catch up in the second quarter, consolidated operating earnings (EBIT) for the first half of the year remained only 1.9% short of the previous year's figure. Overall, the like-for-like sales growth at the HORNBACH Baumarkt AG subgroup in the nine-month period was insufficient to offset the charges on earnings resulting from the weaker gross margin and deterioration in cost ratios in the third quarter.

The gross margin for the first nine months decreased year-on-year from 37.2% to 36.9%. This was mainly due to a year-on-year reduction in retail prices, higher freight costs (B2C), the base effect in connection with initial procurement terms for the transformed Praktiker/Max Bahr DIY stores, and product range changes relating among other factors to the growing share of e-commerce sales, which on average involve lower margins. These factors could not be made up for by opposing positive items resulting from changes in procurement prices and currency items.

Mainly driven by higher advertising expenses and increased operating expenses, selling and store expenses rose by 6.1% to  $\notin$  790.3 million (2014/2015:  $\notin$  744.5 million). Given this disproportionate increase in expenses compared with the sales growth of 4.5%, the store expense ratio rose from 26.1% to 26.5%. Earnings benefited from the decline in pre-opening expenses by almost a

third to  $\notin$  7.9 million. The pre-opening expense ratio reduced from 0.4% to 0.3%. Cumulative general and administration expenses rose by 14.9% to  $\notin$  134.8 million (2014/2015:  $\notin$  117.3 million) and thus increased as a percentage of net sales from 4.1% to 4.5%. This increase was attributable above all to higher spending at the HORNBACH Baumarkt AG subgroup on technology, e-commerce, including the customer service center, and strategic projects.

At  $\notin$  172.5 million, consolidated operating earnings (EBIT) for the first nine months fell 9.8% short of the previous year's figure ( $\notin$  191.2 million). Earnings after interest and after taxes performed more positively. Thanks to the cumulative reduction in interest expenses by  $\notin$  1.2 million and positive net exchange rate items of  $\notin$  4.0 million, net financial expenses improved from minus  $\notin$  23.5 million to minus  $\notin$  18.3 million. Nine-month consolidated earnings before taxes decreased by 8.1% to  $\notin$  154.2 million (2014/2015:  $\notin$  167.8 million). Due to the amended composition of earnings by country, the tax rate for the first nine months reduced significantly from 28.1% to 24.3%. As a result, the cumulative net income for the period of  $\notin$  116.7 million fell only 3.2% short of the previous year's figure ( $\notin$  120.6 million). Earnings per share amounted to  $\notin$  5.94 (2014/2015:  $\notin$  6.15).

### Earnings performance by segment

The key earnings figures of the overall Group for the period under report were largely shaped by the earnings performance of the **HORNBACH Baumarkt AG subgroup**. At  $\notin$  127.3 million, nine-month operating earnings (EBIT) here fell 10.4% short of the previous year's figure. Further details about the earnings performance can be found in the interim report published separately by the HORN-BACH Baumarkt AG subgroup.

Earnings at the **HORNBACH Baustoff Union GmbH subgroup** for the first nine months of the 2015/2016 financial year virtually matched the previous year's figure. EBIT decreased by  $\notin 0.4$  million to  $\notin 8.3$  million (minus 5.1%).

Operating earnings at the **HORNBACH Immobilien AG subgroup** reduced by 3.6% to  $\notin 41.3$  million in the first nine months of 2015/2016 (2014/2015:  $\notin 42.8$  million). It should be noted that the previous year's figure included a profit of  $\notin 2.4$  million generated from the sale of a property no longer required for operations.

### Financial and net asset situation

In parallel with the Group's expansion, investments rose from  $\notin$  91.6 million to  $\notin$  120.5 million in the first nine months of 2015/2016. Of this total, around 61% was channeled into land and buildings, while the rest was invested in plant and operating equipment at new and existing stores and in intangible assets (mostly IT software). Investments were fully financed from the cash flow of  $\notin$  195.1 million from operations (2014/2015:  $\notin$  198.0 million). Information about the financing and investing activities of the HORNBACH Group can be found in the cash flow statement on Page 14.

Total assets grew to  $\notin$  2,549.1 million as of November 30, 2015, up 4.8% compared with the balance sheet date on February 28, 2015. This was mainly due to the  $\notin$  62.0 million increase in property, plant and equipment to  $\notin$  1,341.0 million and the  $\notin$  43.7 million increase in cash and cash equivalents to  $\notin$  444.6 million. Shareholders' equity as reported in the balance sheet rose to  $\notin$  1,355.8 million, up 7.7%, or  $\notin$  96.9 million, compared with the previous reporting date. The equity ratio improved to 53.2% (February 28, 2015: 51.7%). The net financial debt of the HORNBACH Group decreased from  $\notin$  250.1 million at the balance sheet date on February 28, 2015 to  $\notin$  192.7 million on November 30, 2015.

### Employees

A total of 17,320 employees across Europe, of which 6,939 outside Germany, were in fixed employment at the HORNBACH Group as of the reporting date on November 30, 2015 (February 28, 2015: 16,455/6,320).

### **Events After the Balance Sheet Date**

No events of material significance for the assessment of the earnings, financial and net asset situation of HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA or of the HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA Group have occurred since the end of the first nine months as of November 30, 2015.

### **Risk and Opportunity Report**

We presented the risks and opportunities involved in the future business activities of the HORNBACH Group in detail in the Risk and Opportunity Reports in our 2014/2015 Annual Report (from Page 78 onwards). This basic assessment of the Group's medium to long-term development potential was still largely valid upon publication of this interim report.

### **Outlook**

We provided a detailed forecast of the macroeconomic and sector-specific framework and of the Group's expected business performance in 2015/2016 on Pages 91 to 97 of the 2014/2015 Annual Report of the former HORNBACH HOLDING AG Group. Our basic assessments concerning macroeconomic developments and the business prospects for the DIY sector in the European countries in which we operate were still largely valid upon publication of this interim report. Due to the weak third-quarter earnings performance of our DIY store business in Germany, however, we have updated the full-year earnings targets for the business performance of the HORNBACH Group in the 2015/2016 financial year. These forward-looking statements are based on the assumption that there is no unexpected macroeconomic downturn or substantial deterioration in consumer confidence in the course of the fourth quarter of 2015/2016 (December 1, 2015 to February 29, 2016).

### Expansion

No further openings of HORNBACH DIY stores with garden centers are scheduled before the end of the current 2015/2016 financial year. Our store network will therefore comprise an unchanged total of 153 locations at the end of the financial year on February 29, 2016.

### Sales expectations for the HORNBACH Group

The Board of Management can confirm the assessment concerning the Group's expected sales performance in the 2015/2016 financial year published on Pages 94 and 95 of the 2014/2015 Annual Report. Against this backdrop, we still aim to increase our consolidated sales, i.e. net sales including stores newly opened, closed or extended, for the 2015/2016 financial year in a medium single-digit percentage range. In terms of the Group's like-for-like DIY sales net of currency items, we still expect to generate growth in a low to medium single-digit percentage range.

### Earnings expectations for the HORNBACH Group

As already communicated by ad-hoc announcement on December 9, 2015, by contrast, we have updated the earnings expectations for the HORNBACH Group most recently published in the half-year financial report to account for the unsatisfactory earnings performance in the third quarter of 2015/2016.

We no longer expect consolidated operating earnings (EBIT) for the 2015/2016 financial year as a whole to roughly match the figure reported for the 2014/2015 financial year. We rather see EBIT as being more likely to fall a maximum of 15% short of the previous year's figure of  $\notin$  165.1 million.

# **INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

# **Income Statement**

€ million <sup>1)</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2015/2016	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2014/2015	Change %	Nine Months 2015/2016	Nine Months 2014/2015	Change %
Sales	925.6	875.8	5.7	2,980.2	2,851.4	4.5
Cost of goods sold	594.0	554.1	7.2	1,881.5	1,791.4	5.0
Gross profit	331.7	321.7	3.1	1,098.8	1,060.0	3.7
Selling and store expenses	264.9	246.3	7.5	790.3	744.5	6.1
Pre-opening expenses	2.7	3.3	(17.4)	7.9	12.1	(34.3)
General and administration expenses	45.0	36.8	22.2	134.8	117.3	14.9
Other income and expenses	2.2	1.9	15.9	6.8	5.1	31.6
Earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT)	21.3	37.2	(42.7)	172.5	191.2	(9.8)
Interest and similar income	0.2	0.2	27.3	0.7	0.6	4.2
Interest and similar expenses	6.0	6.8	(12.0)	21.0	22.3	(5.4)
Other financial result	(0.2)	(0.5)	(66.7)	2.1	(1.8)	(214.2)
Net financial expenses	(5.9)	(7.1)	(16.6)	(18.3)	(23.5)	(22.1)
Consolidated earnings before taxes	15.4	30.1	(48.9)	154.2	167.8	(8.1)
Taxes on income	3.8	7.6	(49.9)	37.5	47.2	(20.6)
Consolidated net income	11.6	22.6	(48.6)	116.7	120.6	(3.2)
of which: income attributable to shareholders	11.3	19.8	(42.9)	95.0	98.7	(3.7)
of which: non-controlling interest	0.3	2.7	(89.5)	21.7	21.9	(1.1)
Basic/diluted earnings per share (€)	0.71	1.22	(41.8)	5.94	6.15	(3.4)
Basic/diluted earnings per preference share ( $\mathfrak{E}$ ) <sup>2)</sup>	_	1.25	-	-	6.18	-

<sup>1)</sup> Previous year's figures adjusted due to IFRIC 21; please see Note 1.
 <sup>2)</sup> Earnings per preference share no longer applicable from 2015/2016 financial year; please see "General notes on group interim report".

# **Statement of Comprehensive Income**

€ million <sup>1)</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	Nine Months	Nine Months
	2015/2016	2014/2015	2015/2016	2014/2015
Consolidated net income	11.6	22.6	116.7	120.6
Actuarial gains and losses on defined benefit plans	(1.1)	(7.4)	(0.6)	(7.4)
Deferred taxes on actuarial gains and losses on defined benefit				
plans	0.2	1.4	0.1	1.4
Other comprehensive income that will not be recycled at a later				
date	(0.9)	(5.9)	(0.5)	(5.9)
Measurement of derivative financial instruments (cash flow hedge)				
Measurement of derivative hedging instruments directly in equity	1.3	(0.5)	(1.0)	(3.0)
Gains and losses from measurement of derivative financial				
instruments transferred to profit or loss	(0.6)	0.6	4.9	2.4
Exchange differences arising on the translation of foreign				
subsidiaries	(0.3)	0.0	(2.0)	0.6
Deferred taxes on gains and losses recognized directly in equity	(0.2)	(0.1)	(1.1)	0.1
Other comprehensive income that will be recycled at a later				
date	0.2	0.0	0.8	0.2
Total comprehensive income	10.9	16.7	117.0	114.9
of which: attributable to shareholders	10.9	15.2	95.8	93.9
of which: attributable to non-controlling interest	0.0	1.5	21.2	20.9

<sup>1)</sup> Previous year's figures adjusted due to IFRIC 21; please see Note 1.

# **Balance Sheet**

Assets <sup>1)</sup>	Novembe	r 30, 2015	February 28, 2015		
	€ million	%	€ million	%	
Non-current assets					
Intangible assets	12.8	0.5	11.9	0.5	
Property, plant, and equipment	1,341.0	52.6	1,279.0	52.6	
Investment property	39.9	1.6	45.3	1.9	
Non-current receivables and other assets	8.1	0.3	5.0	0.2	
Non-current income tax receivables	8.1	0.3	7.3	0.3	
Deferred tax assets	9.2	0.4	9.7	0.4	
	1,419.0	55.7	1,358.1	55.8	
Current assets					
Inventories	567.7	22.3	567.5	23.3	
Other receivables and assets	94.7	3.7	80.8	3.3	
Income tax receivables	20.7	0.8	25.7	1.1	
Cash and cash equivalents	444.6	17.4	400.9	16.5	
Non-current assets held for sale and disposal groups	2.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	
	1,130.0	44.3	1,074.9	44.2	
	2,549.1	100.0	2,433.0	100.0	

Equity and liabilities <sup>1)</sup>	Novembe	r 30, 2015	February 28, 2015		
	€ million	%	€ million	%	
Shareholders' equity					
Share capital	48.0	1.9	48.0	2.0	
Capital reserve	130.4	5.1	130.4	5.4	
Revenue reserves	942.9	37.0	862.7	35.5	
Equity of shareholders of HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA	1,121.3	44.0	1,041.1	42.8	
Non-controlling interest	234.5	9.2	217.9	9.0	
	1,355.8	53.2	1,259.0	51.7	
Non-current liabilities					
Non-current financial debt	478.8	18.8	587.3	24.1	
Provisions for pensions	12.9	0.5	11.2	0.5	
Deferred tax liabilities	55.0	2.2	54.6	2.2	
Other non-current liabilities	29.6	1.2	27.5	1.1	
	576.3	22.6	680.6	28.0	
Current liabilities					
Current financial debt	158.5	6.2	63.7	2.6	
Trade payables and other liabilities	354.3	13.9	309.0	12.7	
Income tax liabilities	37.7	1.5	35.4	1.5	
Other provisions and accrued liabilities	66.3	2.6	85.4	3.5	
	616.9	24.2	493.5	20.3	
	2,549.1	100.0	2,433.0	100.0	

 $^{\rm 1)}\,\rm Previous$  year's figures adjusted due to IFRIC 21; please see Note 1.

# Statement of Changes in Equity

Nine Months 2014/2015 € million	Share capital	Capital reserve	Hedging reserve	Cumulative currency translation	Other revenue reserves	Equity attributable to share- holders	Non- controlling interest	Total group equity
Balance at March 1, 2014	48.0	130.4	(4.3)	11.4	774.7	960.2	203.9	1,164.1
Changes in accounting policy because of IFRIC 21					(1.8)	(1.8)	(0.2)	(1.9)
Balance at March 1, 2014 (adjusted)	48.0	130.4	(4.3)	11.4	772.9	958.5	203.7	1,162.2
Consolidated net income <sup>1)</sup>					98.7	98.7	21.9	120.6
Actuarial gains and losses on defined benefit plans, net after taxes					(4.5)	(4.5)	(1.4)	(5.9)
Measurement of derivative financial instruments (cash flow hedge), net after taxes			(0.7)			(0.7)	0.2	(0.4)
Foreign currency translation				0.5		0.5	0.2	0.6
Total comprehensive income	0.0	0.0	(0.7)	0.5	94.1	93.9	20.9	114.9
Dividend distribution					(12.6)	(12.6)	(4.5)	(17.1)
Transactions with other shareholders					(0.3)	(0.3)	0.1	(0.2)
Treasury stock transactions					(0.2)	(0.2)	0.0	(0.2)
Balance at November 30, 2014	48.0	130.4	(5.0)	11.9	854.1	1,039.4	220.2	1,259.6

Nine Months 2015/2016 € million	Share capital	Capital reserve	Hedging reserve	Cumulative currency translation	Other revenue reserves	Equity attributable to share- holders		Total group equity
Balance at March 1, 2015 <sup>1)</sup>	48.0	130.4	(4.6)	23.9	843.4	1,041.1	217.9	1,259.0
Consolidated net income					95.0	95.0	21.7	116.7
Actuarial gains and losses on defined benefit plans, net after taxes					(0.4)	(0.4)	(0.1)	(0.5)
Measurement of derivative financial instruments (cash flow hedge), net after taxes			2.5			2.5	0.2	2.8
Foreign currency translation				(1.4)		(1.4)	(0.6)	(2.0)
Total comprehensive income	0.0	0.0	2.5	(1.4)	94.6	95.8	21.2	117.0
Dividend distribution					(12.6)	(12.6)	(4.5)	(17.1)
Transactions with shareholders					(3.0)	(3.0)	0.0	(3.0)
Balance at November 30, 2015	48.0	130.4	(2.1)	22.6	922.4	1,121.3	234.5	1,355.8

 $^{1)}\,\mathrm{Previous}\,\mathrm{year's}$  figures adjusted due to IFRIC 21; please see Note 1.

# **Cash Flow Statement**

€ million <sup>1)</sup>	Nine Months 2015/2016	Nine Months 2014/2015
Consolidated net income	116.7	120.6
Depreciation and amortization of non-current assets	59.3	56.1
Change in provisions	2.3	(0.5)
Gains/losses on disposals of non-current assets and of non-current assets held for sale	(0.5)	(3.1)
Change in inventories, trade receivables, and other assets	(13.3)	(8.6)
Change in trade payables and other liabilities	34.4	32.9
Other non-cash income/expenses	(3.7)	0.7
Cash flow from operating activities	195.1	198.0
Proceeds from disposal of non-current assets and of non-current assets held for sale	2.3	4.7
Payments for investments in property, plant, and equipment	(117.3)	(90.8)
Payments for investments in intangible assets	(3.2)	(0.8)
Cash flow from investing activities	(118.3)	(86.9)
Dividends paid	(17.1)	(17.1)
Additional cash payment to preference shareholders	(3.0)	0.0
Proceeds from taking up long-term debt	70.0	21.2
Repayment of long-term debt	(98.0)	(52.9)
Payments for transaction costs	(0.1)	(0.5)
Change in current financial debt	15.1	(2.7)
Cash flow from financing activities	(33.1)	(51.9)
Cash-effective change in cash and cash equivalents	43.7	59.1
Change in cash and cash equivalents due to changes in exchange rates	0.0	(0.2)
Cash and cash equivalents at March 1	400.9	428.8
Cash and cash equivalents at November 30	444.6	487.7

 $^{\rm 1)}\,{\rm Previous}$  year's figures adjusted due to IFRIC 21; please see Note 1.

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, credit balances at banks, and other short-term deposits.

The cash flow from operating activities was reduced by income tax payments of  $\notin$  31.0 million (2014/2015:  $\notin$  35.3 million) and interest payments of  $\notin$  14.0 million (2014/2015:  $\notin$  14.5 million) and increased by interest received of  $\notin$  0.6 million (2014/2015:  $\notin$  0.6 million).

The other non-cash income/expenses item mainly relates to the period-based updating of financing expenses deferred using the effective interest method, unrecognized exchange rate gains/losses, and deferred taxes.

# NOTES

# Notes to the Interim Consolidated Financial Statements as of November 30, 2015

### General notes on group interim report

The Annual General Meeting of HORNBACH HOLDING Aktiengesellschaft on July 9, 2015 and the separate meeting of preference shareholders of HORNBACH HOLDING Aktiengesellschaft on July 10, 2015 resolved to convert HORNBACH HOLDING Aktiengesellschaft with a corresponding change of legal form (and the accession of HORNBACH Management AG as general partner) into a partnership limited by shares. This transformation was entered in the relevant Commercial Register on October 9, 2015. The company has since been named HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA. In this context, the preference shares in the company were converted into ordinary shares at a ratio of 1:1. The company thus has 16,000,000 no-par ordinary bearer shares.

### (1) Accounting principles

This unaudited group interim report of HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA and its subsidiaries for the first nine months as of November 30, 2015 has been prepared in accordance with § 315a of the German Commercial Code (HGB) based on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) in the form requiring mandatory application in the European Union. The abridged interim report has been prepared in accordance with IAS 34 "Interim Financial Reporting".

Pursuant to IAS 34 "Interim Financial Reporting", income tax expenses for the first nine months of 2015/2016 have been calculated using the average annual tax rate expected for the financial year as a whole.

This interim report is to be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements of HORNBACH HOLDING AG (from October 9, 2015: HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA) for the 2014/2015 financial year. Reference is made to these financial statements on account of the additional information they contain as to the specific accounting and valuation methods applied. The notes included therein also apply to this interim report, unless any amendments are expressly indicated. Moreover, this interim report is also consistent with German Accounting Standard No. 16 (DRS 16) – Interim Reporting – of the German Accounting Standards Committee (DRSC).

Figures have been rounded up or down to the nearest million euros. In the various numeric presentations, this rounding up or down may result in discrepancies between figures. Percentages have been calculated on the basis of  $\notin$  000s.

### **Changes in accounting principles**

The new standards, amendments to standards, and interpretations requiring first-time application in the 2015/2016 financial year were described in the notes to the consolidated financial statements for 2014/2015. Alongside a basic description of the relevant accounting principle, these also present any implications expected to result from first-time application.

Apart from the item outlined below, the amendments and new regulations requiring first-time mandatory application in the 2015/2016 financial year have no material implications for the group interim report of HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA.

IFRIC 21 "Levies": This interpretation deals with the accounting treatment of public dues (levies) and clarifies when such obligations have to be recognized as provisions or liabilities in the financial statements. The scope of the interpretation specifically does not include fines, duties resulting from public law contracts or duties covered by the scope of other IFRS standards, such as IAS 12 "Income Taxes". Pursuant to its EU endorsement, the interpretation requires first-time application in financial years beginning on or after June 17, 2014. This interpretation has implications for the recognition of land tax obligations at the HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA Group. First-time application has resulted in the following effects:

€ million	11.30.2014	11.30.2014	11.30.2014	2.28.2015	2.28.2015	2.28.2015
	(old)	(adjustment)	(adjusted)	(old)	(adjustment)	(adjusted)
Assets						
Non-current assets						
Deferred tax assets	8.6	0.1	8.7	9.6	0.2	9.7
Current assets						
Other receivables and assets	95.0	(0.2)	94.7	80.8	0.0	80.8
Equity and liabilities Shareholders' equity						
Equity of shareholders of HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA <sup>1)</sup>	1,039.8	(0.4)	1,039.4	1,042.9	(1.8)	1,041.1
Non-controlling interest	220.2	0.0	220.2	218.0	(0.2)	217.9
Non-current liabilities						
Deferred tax liabilities	56.3	0.0	56.3	55.1	(0.4)	54.6
Current liabilities						
Trade payables and other liabilities	322.1	0.2	322.3	306.6	2.4	309.0
Other provisions and accrued liabilities	68.9	0.0	68.9	85.2	0.2	85.4

<sup>1)</sup> Until October 8, 2015: HORNBACH HOLDING AG, please see "General notes on group interim report".

€ million	Nine Months 2014/2015 (old)	Nine Months 2014/2015 (adjustment)	Nine Months 2014/2015 (adjusted)
Selling and store expenses	(746.6)	2.0	(744.5)
Earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT)	189.2	2.0	191.2
Consolidated earnings before taxes	165.7	2.0	167.8
Taxes on income	(46.7)	(0.5)	(47.2)
Consolidated net income	119.0	1.5	120.6
of which: income attributable to shareholders	97.3	1.4	98.7
of which: non-controlling interest	21.8	0.1	21.9
Basic/diluted earnings per share (€)	6.06	0.09	6.15
Basic/diluted earnings per preference share (€)	6.09	0.09	6.18

The adjustments arising in the income statement within the 2014/2015 financial year will fully reverse by the end of the comparative period on February 28, 2015.

If IFRIC 21 had not been applied, the following amendments would have resulted for the first nine months as of November 30, 2015:

- Reduction in net income for the period before non-controlling interest by € 1.7 million
- Increase in shareholders' equity at HORNBACH HOLDING AG by € 0.2 million
- Increase in other assets by € 0.2 million

### (2) Seasonal influences

Due to weather conditions, the HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA Group generally reports a weaker business performance in the fall and winter than in the spring and summer months. These seasonal fluctuations are reflected in the figures for the first nine months. The business performance in the first nine months as of November 30, 2015 does not necessarily provide an indication of the results to be expected for the year as a whole.

### (3) Other income and expenses

Other income and expenses are structured as follows:

€ million	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	Change
	2015/2016	2014/2015	%
Other income	3.9	7.1	(45.5)
Other expenses	1.7	5.2	(68.1)
Other income and expenses	2.2	1.9	15.9

€ million	Nine Months	Nine Months	Change
	2015/2016	2014/2015	%
Other income	12.2	16.1	(24.1)
Other expenses	5.4	10.9	(50.2)
Other income and expenses	6.8	5.1	31.6

Other income for the first nine months mainly results from operating income and chiefly relates to ancillary revenues at DIY megastores with garden centers, income from damages payments, advertising expense grants, and income from disposals of non-current assets.

Other expenses mainly relate to operating expenses. These chiefly include impairments of receivables and losses incurred for damages.

### (4) Net financial expenses

Interest expenses for the first nine months include expenses of  $\notin$  2.1 million resulting from the reversal of a cash flow hedge relationship. As a result of the decision taken by the Board of Management to prematurely redeem a EUR loan of  $\notin$  70.0 million in June 2015 to enable a refinancing option for the same amount and on improved terms to be drawn on, the transaction expected upon designation is no longer applicable. The fair value changes of the hedging instrument in the form of an interest swap recognized in equity through to reversal have therefore been recognized through profit or loss in net financial expenses.

### (5) Earnings per share

Basic earnings per share are calculated pursuant to IAS 33 "Earnings per Share" as the quotient of the income attributable to the shareholders of HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA for the period under report and the weighted average number of shares issued. As in the previous year, no dilutive effects had to be accounted for when calculating earnings per share.

	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2015/2016	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2014/2015 <sup>11</sup>
Consolidated net income attributable to shareholders in HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA in $\notin$ million <sup>2)</sup>	11.3	19.8
Additional dividend for preference shares in € million	-	0.2
Consolidated net income adjusted to account for additional dividend claims in ${\ensuremath{\mathfrak{\epsilon}}}$ million	-	19.6
Number of ordinary shares issued	16,000,000	8,000,000
Number of preference shares issued	-	8,000,000
	16,000,000	16,000,000
Earnings per share in €	0.71	1.22
Additional dividend claim per preference share in €	-	0.03
Earnings per preference share in €	-	1.25

	Nine Months 2015/2016	Nine Months 2014/2015 <sup>11</sup>
Consolidated net income attributable to shareholders in HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA in	05.0	0.0.7
€ million <sup>2)</sup>	95.0	98.7
Additional dividend for preference shares in € million	-	0.2
Consolidated net income adjusted to account for additional dividend claims in € million	-	98.4
Number of ordinary shares issued	16,000,000	8,000,000
Number of preference shares issued	-	8,000,000
	16,000,000	16,000,000
Earnings per share in €	5.94	6.15
Additional dividend claim per preference share in €	-	0.03
Earnings per preference share in €	-	6.18

 $^{\rm D}$  Previous year's figures adjusted due to IFRIC 21; please see Note 1.  $^{\rm 2D}$  Until October 8, 2015: HORNBACH HOLDING AG, please see "General notes on group interim report".

### (6) Other disclosures

The personnel expenses of the HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA Group amounted to € 501.2 million at the end of the first nine months as of November 30, 2015 (2014/2015: € 478.5 million).

Depreciation and amortization totaling € 59.3 million was recognized on intangible assets and property, plant and equipment at the HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA Group in the first nine months of the 2015/2016 financial year (2014/2015: € 56.1 million).

### (7) Shareholders' equity

### Conversion

In the context of the change of legal form from HORNBACH HOLDING Aktiengesellschaft to HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA and its taking effect by entry in the relevant Commercial Register on October 9, 2015, all non-voting preference shares were converted into no-par ordinary bearer shares. As a result, HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA now has only one class of shares.

Furthermore, the additional cash payment of € 0.38 made to preference shareholders for each preference share has been included as a reduction in shareholders' equity (total: € 3.0 million). This resulted from the resolution adopted by the Annual General Meeting concerning the change of legal form and represents a payment made by the company to its shareholders in connection with the respective corporate relationship.

### **Employee shares**

On August 10, 2015, the Board of Management of HORNBACH Baumarkt AG resolved pursuant to § 71 (1) No. 2 of the German Stock Corporation Act (AktG) to acquire up to 50,000 treasury stock shares. These shares were to be acquired for the annual issue of employee shares scheduled to take place at the end of 2015. The buyback of shares began on August 11, 2015 and is limited to February 29, 2016. A total of 43,560 shares were issued to employees of HORNBACH Baumarkt AG on November 11, 2015. The share buyback is deemed complete following the issue of these employee shares.

The buyback of shares pursuant to this management board resolution is being undertaken in accordance with the safe harbor regulations set out in § 20a (3) of the German Securities Trading Act (WpHG) in conjunction with Regulation (EC) No. 2273/2003 of the Commission dated December 22, 2003.

In connection with the employee share program at HORNBACH Baumarkt AG, HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA issued 200 shares in HORNBACH Baumarkt AG to its own employees.

### (8) Dividends

As proposed by the Board of Management and Supervisory Board of HORNBACH HOLDING AG (since October 9: HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA), following approval by the Annual General Meeting on July 9, 2015 dividends of  $\notin$  0.77 per ordinary share and  $\notin$  0.80 per preference share were distributed to shareholders for the 2014/2015 financial year.

### (9) Contingent liabilities and other financial obligations

These mainly involve obligations for rental, hiring, leasehold and leasing contracts for which the companies of the HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA Group do not constitute the economic owners of the assets leased pursuant to IFRS regulations (operating lease). These amounted to  $\notin$  649.8 million at the end of the reporting period (February 28, 2015:  $\notin$  690.3 million).

The above figures do not include those obligations in connection with rental agreements identified as finance leases upon inception of the respective lease and only recognized as finance lease upon the exercising of the respective utilization rights. These rental obligations had a nominal amount of  $\notin$  65.5 million at the reporting date and will be recognized as financial leases in subsequent periods.

### (10) Related party disclosures

In addition to the subsidiaries included in the consolidated financial statements, HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA also has direct or indirect relationships with associated companies when performing its customary business activities. Apart from the transactions reported in the annual financial statements, no major transactions apart from those outlined below were undertaken with closely related companies and persons in the first nine months as of November 30, 2015.

Since the entry of the transformation in the relevant Commercial Register on October 9, 2015, HORNBACH Management AG has acted as the general partner of HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA. The general partner does not own any share of the capital in HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA. The transactions are restricted to exercising management and assuming liability. For this, HORNBACH Management AG receives annual compensation amounting to 5% of the share capital of the general partner. This compensation is independent of the profit and loss situation. All outlays in connection with managing the company's business, including compensation of its directors and officers, are reimbursed to the general partner.

In the period from October 9, 2015 to November 30, 2015, HORNBACH Management AG performed services at an amount of  $\notin$  0.1 million for HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA (previous year:  $\notin$  0). As of November 30, 2015, there were no receivables due from or liabilities due to HORNBACH Management AG. The transactions were executed on customary market terms.

### (11) Fair value disclosures

The methods and principles applied to determine fair value are basically unchanged compared with the consolidated financial statements. The following table presents the carrying amounts of financial instruments broken down by IAS 39 measurement categories as well as their fair values broken down by balance sheet category:

€ million	Category	Carrying amount	Fair value	Carrying amount	Fair value
		11.30.2015	11.30.2015	2.28.2015	2.28.2015
Assets					
Other receivables and assets					
Other financial assets	LaR	90.5	90.5	69.7	69.7
Cash and cash equivalents	LaR	444.6	444.6	400.9	400.9
Equity and liabilities					
Financial debt					
Bonds	FLAC	247.5	271.5	247.0	274.8
Liabilities to banks	FLAC	383.5	397.5	395.5	416.0
Liabilities in connection with finance leases	n.a.	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.8
Derivatives with hedge relationship	n.a.	2.9	2.9	6.0	6.0
Derivatives without hedge relationship	FLHfT	2.8	2.8	1.7	1.7
Trade payables and other liabilities	FLAC	278.4	278.4	256.7	256.7
Accrued liabilities	FLAC	24.2	24.2	19.8	19.8

Receivables and other assets of  $\notin$  12.2 million (February 28, 2015:  $\notin$  16.1 million), trade payables and other/sundry liabilities of  $\notin$  105.6 million (February 28, 2015:  $\notin$  79.8 million; prior to IFRIC 21 adjustment:  $\notin$  77.4 million), and accrued liabilities of  $\notin$  36.6 million (February 28, 2015:  $\notin$  59.4 million; prior to IFRIC 21 adjustment:  $\notin$  59.2 million) are outside the scope of IFRS 7.

€ million	11.30.2015	2.28.2015
Equity and liabilities		
Valuation based on level 2 input data		
Derivatives with hedge relationship	2.9	6.0
Financial liabilities held for trading	2.8	1.7

The derivative financial instruments with hedge relationships recognized in the balance sheet mainly relate to interest hedges (interest swaps). Derivative financial instruments without hedge relationships involve foreign currency items for outstanding orders.

### (12) Segment report

Nine Months 2015/2016 in € million Nine Months 2014/2015 in € million <sup>1)</sup>	HORNBACH Baumarkt AG subgroup	HORNBACH Baustoff Union GmbH subgroup	HORNBACH Immobilien AG subgroup	Headquarters and consolidation	HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA Group
Segment sales	2,796.4	182.4	59.1	(57.7)	2,980.2
	2,669.8	180.2	58.7	(57.3)	2,851.4
Sales to third parties	2,795.1	181.9	0.0	0.0	2,976.9
	2,668.8	179.6	0.0	0.0	2,848.4
Sales to affiliated companies	0.0	0.5	0.0	(0.5)	0.0
	0.0	0.5	0.0	(0.6)	0.0
Rental income from third parties	1.3	0.0	2.0	0.0	3.3
	0.9	0.1	2.0	0.0	3.0
Rental income from affiliated companies	0.0	0.0	57.1	(57.1)	0.0
	0.0	0.0	56.7	(56.7)	0.0
Segment earnings (EBIT)	127.3	8.3	41.3	(4.4)	172.5
	142.2	8.7	42.8	(2.4)	191.2
Depreciation and amortization	44.3	4.1	10.7	0.1	59.3
	41.3	3.8	10.9	0.0	56.1
EBITDA	171.7	12.3	52.0	(4.3)	231.7
	183.5	12.5	53.7	(2.4)	247.3
Segment assets	1,829.8	144.6	495.5	41.2	2,511.1
	1,739.5	138.0	516.0	30.6	2,424.1
of which: credit balances at banks	356.6	1.5	20.7	40.2	419.0
	384.2	1.4	32.0	30.4	448.0

Reconciliation in € million <sup>1)</sup>	Nine Months	Nine Months
	2015/2016	2014/2015
Segment earnings (EBIT) before "Headquarters and consolidation"	176.9	193.7
Headquarters	(4.4)	(2.2)
Consolidation adjustments	0.0	(0.2)
Net financial expenses	(18.3)	(23.5)
Consolidated earnings before taxes	154.2	167.8

 $^{\rm 1)}$  Previous year's figures adjusted due to IFRIC 21; please see Note 1.

Neustadt an der Weinstrasse, December 21, 2015

HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA represented by HORNBACH Management AG The Board of Management

# **FINANCIAL CALENDAR 2016**

March 22, 2016	Trading Statement 2015/2016
May 24, 2016	Annual Results Press Conference 2015/2016 Publication of Annual Report
June 24, 2016	Financial Update: 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2016/2017 as of May 31, 2016
July 8, 2016	Annual General Meeting of HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA Festhalle Landau, Landau/Pfalz
September 29, 2016	Half-Year Financial Report 2016/2017 as of August 31, 2016 DVFA Analysts' Conference
December 22, 2016	Financial Update: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2016/2017 as of November 30, 2016

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# DISCLAIMER

This interim report contains forward-looking statements based on assumptions and estimates made by the Board of Management of HORNBACH. Statements referring to the future are always only valid at the time at which they are made. Although we assume that the expectations reflected in these forecast statements are realistic, the company can provide no guarantee that these expectations will also turn out to be accurate. The assumptions may involve risks and uncertainties which could result in actual results differing significantly from the forecast statements. The factors which could produce such variances include changes in the economic and business environment, particularly in respect of consumer behavior and the competitive environment in those retail markets of relevance for HORNBACH. Furthermore, they include unusual weather conditions, a lack of acceptance of new sales formats or new product ranges, as well as changes to the corporate strategy. HORNBACH has no plans to update the forecast statements, neither does it accept any obligation to do so.