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NORMA Group achieves growth in the first nine months of 2016

- Sales rose by 1.0 percent to EUR 679.4 million in the first nine months of 2016
- Adjusted EBITA increased by 1.6 percent to EUR 122.6 million
- Adjusted EBITA margin of 18.0 percent at a sustainably high level
- Forecast for fiscal year 2016 at Group level confirmed

Maintal, Germany, November 2, 2016 – NORMA Group, a global market leader in engineered joining technology, grew in terms of both sales and earnings during the period January to September 2016. Sales were 1.0 percent higher at EUR 679.4 million compared to the first nine months of 2015 (Q1-Q3 2015: EUR 672.6 million). Organic growth of 1.9 percent was achieved, but was reduced by 0.9 percent due to negative currency effects. Adjusted earnings before interest, taxes and amortization of intangible assets (adjusted EBITA) increased by 1.6 percent to EUR 122.6 million (Q1-Q3 2015: EUR 120.6 million). The adjusted EBITA margin was at a sustainably high level of 18.0 percent (Q1-Q3 2015: 17.9 percent).

"Overall, we are pleased with our development in the first nine months of 2016," said Werner Deggim, CEO of NORMA Group. "The sales increase was supported by good growth in the EMEA region. Sales in the Americas region declined, however, due to the increasingly weaker environment in the commercial vehicle and agricultural machinery sectors in the US. All in all, we confirm our forecast for the full fiscal year 2016 at the Group level."

Group sales declined slightly by 0.7 percent in the third quarter of 2016 to EUR 216.6 million compared to the same period of the previous year (Q3 2015: EUR 218.3 million). Adjusted EBITA also declined slightly by 1.5 percent to EUR 38.7 million (Q3 2015: EUR 39.3 million). At 17.9 percent, the adjusted EBITA margin remained at the previous year's level (Q3 2015: 18.0 percent).

Strong growth in the EMEA region

Sales in the **EMEA** (**Europe**, **Middle East and Africa**) region rose significantly by 5.7 percent to EUR 332.2 million in the first nine months of 2016 compared to the same period of the previous year (Q1-Q3 2015: EUR 314.4 million). The positive development in the region is due to the good development of the company's business in the area of Engineered Joining Technology (EJT).

Sales in the **Americas** region were 4.0 percent lower from January to September 2016 compared to the previous year at EUR 290.8 million (Q1-Q3 2015: EUR 303.1 million). The increasingly weak environment in the area of commercial vehicles and agricultural machinery was mainly responsible for this decline.



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In the **Asia-Pacific** region, sales in the first nine months of 2016 rose by 2.4 percent compared to the same period of the previous year to EUR 56.4 million (Q1-Q3 2015: EUR 55.0 million). The region thus achieved solid growth despite negative currency effects.

Completion of the acquisition of Parker Autoline expected by the end of 2016

As of September 30, 2016, Group equity rose by 5.0 percent to EUR 451.4 million compared to the end of 2015 (December 31, 2015: EUR 429.8 million). The equity ratio was influenced by the payment of the dividend as well as the extension of the balance sheet due to the issuance of a promissory note at the end of the third quarter of 2016. It was at 35.2 percent on September 30, 2016, (December 31, 2015: 36.8 percent). NORMA Group issued a promissory note in the amount of EUR 150 million on August 1, 2016, in order to extend the scope for the continued strategic development of the Group and finance its planned acquisition of Parker Autoline. The transaction is expected to be completed by the end of 2016. Net debt, including hedging instruments, decreased by 7.1 percent to EUR 335.1 million (December 31, 2015: EUR 360.9 million) as of the reporting date, September 30, 2016, compared to the end of the previous year. The good operating cash flow had a positive effect on this.

As of September 30, 2016, the number of employees increased by 132 to 6,438 worldwide, including temporary workers, compared to the end of 2015 (December 31, 2015: 6,306 employees). This increase was mainly due to the increase in business activities in Europe.

Outlook for 2016 confirmed at Group level

NORMA Group confirms its forecast for fiscal year 2016 at the Group level. The company expects Group sales to grow by a solid 2 to 5 percent in 2016 compared to 2015. In fiscal year 2016, NORMA Group aims to achieve a sustained adjusted EBITA margin at the level of previous years of more than 17 percent (2015: 17.6 percent, 2014: 17.5 percent, 2013: 17.7 percent).

NORMA Group in figures

Key figures at a glance (in EUR millions)	Quarters 1-3, 2016	Quarters 1-3, 2015	Fiscal year 2015
Income statement	01/01 – 09/30/2016	01/01 - 09/30/2015	01/01 – 12/31/2015
Sales	679.4	672.6	889.6
Adjusted EBITA*	122.6	120.6	156.3
Adjusted EBITA margin*	18.0%	17.9%	17.6%
Balance sheet	09/30/2016	09/30/2015	12/31/2015
Total assets	1,282.1	1,156.3	1,167.9
Equity	451.4	404.6	429.8
Equity ratio	35.2%	35.0%	36.8%



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	Net debt**	335.1	366.7	360.9
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Key figures at a glance (in EUR millions)	Q3 2016	Q3 2015	Q2 2016
Income statement	07/01 – 09/30/2016	07/01 – 09/30/2015	04/01 – 06/30/2016
Sales	216.6	218.3	236.2
Adjusted EBITA	38.7	39.3	43.8
Adjusted EBITA margin	17.9%	18.0%	18.5%

^{*}Adjustments: in 2016 by acquisition-related costs (EUR 1.5 million) and depreciation of purchase price allocations; 2015 by integration costs (EUR 0.6 million), step up effects from purchase price allocations (PPA) (EUR 2.5 million) and depreciation of PPA.

The full report on the third quarter of 2016 can be obtained at www.normagroup.com/Finanzberichte. For further information, please contact Investor Relations www.normagroup.com/IR.

Other dates

Publication of the preliminary figures for fiscal year 2016 is scheduled for February 15, 2017.

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About NORMA Group

NORMA Group is a global market leader in engineered joining technology. The company manufactures a wide range of innovative connecting solutions and water management technology offering more than 35,000 products to customers in 100 countries with around 6,500 employees. NORMA Group helps its customers and business partners to react to global challenges such as climate change and increasing scarcity of resources. NORMA Group joining products can be found in vehicles and trains, ships and aircraft, buildings and water management as well as in applications for the pharmaceutical and

^{**}Net debt including hedging instruments in the amount of EUR 4.3 million in Q3/2016, EUR 23.3 million in Q3/2015, EUR 3.4 million in FY 2015.



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biotechnology industry. The company generated sales of around EUR 890 million in 2015. NORMA Group operates a global network of 22 production facilities as well as numerous sales and distribution sites across Europe, the Americas, and Asia-Pacific. NORMA Group has its headquarters in Maintal, Germany. NORMA Group SE is listed on the German stock exchange (Prime Standard) and included in the MDAX index.

Disclaimer

This press release contains certain future-oriented statements. Future-oriented statements include all statements which do not relate to historical facts and events and contain future-oriented expressions such as "believe," "estimate," "assume," "expect," "forecast," "intend," "could," or "should" or expressions of a similar kind. Such future-oriented statements are subject to risks and uncertainties since they relate to future events and are based on the company's current assumptions, which may not in the future take place or be fulfilled as expected. The company points out that such future-oriented statements provide no guarantee for the future and that the actual events including the financial position and profitability of NORMA Group SE and developments in the economic and regulatory fundamentals may vary substantially (particularly on the down side) from those explicitly or implicitly assumed in these statements. Even if the actual assets for NORMA Group SE, including its financial position and profitability and the economic and regulatory fundamentals, are in accordance with such future-oriented statements in this press release, no guarantee can be given that this will continue to be the case in the future.