

Press release

Mannheim, 17. July 2014

Südzucker pays EUR 0.50 dividend and confirms guidance

On 17 July 2014, shareholders at the annual general meeting of Südzucker AG Mannheim/Ochsenfurt voted in favor of the supervisory and executive boards' recommendation to pay a dividend of EUR 0.50 per share (previous year: 0.90). The decision reflects both last fiscal year's weaker earnings and the upcoming development of the company. Based on 204.2 (previous year: 204.2) million shares, the total dividend distribution will be EUR 102.1 (previous year: 183.8) million.

Südzucker continues to forecast that consolidated group revenues for the current fiscal 2014/15 year overall will decline to about EUR 7.0 (previous year: 7.5) billion and that operating profit will drop sharply, to about EUR 200 (previous year: 622) million. This guidance confirms the company's previously published expectations of increasing deterioration of the business environment in the European sugar and bioethanol markets. The forecast is driven by sharply lower profits in the sugar and CropEnergies segments. The special product segment's operating profits are also expected to be lower, while the fruit segment's earnings should be in the same range as last year.

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About the Südzucker Group

Südzucker, with its sugar, special products, CropEnergies and fruit segments, is one of the leading companies in the food industry. In the traditional sugar business, the group is the world market leader, with 29 sugar factories and three refineries, extending from France in the west via Belgium, Germany and Austria, through to Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Hungary, Bosnia and Moldova in the east. The special products segment, consisting of the functional food (BENEO), chilled/frozen products (Freiberger), portion packs (PortionPack Europe) and starch divisions, is an important growth driver. The CropEnergies segment covers the bioethanol activities in Germany, Belgium, France and the UK. In the fruit segment, the group operates internationally, is the world market leader for fruit preparations and is a leading supplier of fruit juice concentrates in Europe.

In 2013/14, the group employed 18,186 persons and generated revenues of EUR 7.5 billion.