



25 March 2010

RPC Group Plc

Pre-close Trading Statement

RPC Group Plc, Europe's leading rigid plastic packaging supplier, today issues its pre-close trading statement ahead of the announcement of the full year results due to be published on 16 June.

Performance 2009/10

Revenue in the financial year 2009/10 is down as expected compared to last year as volumes have reduced. Activity levels in the second half of the year have generally been similar to the first half with some sectors however showing signs of improvement towards the end of the year. The continued trend of increasing polymer prices has brought some polymers near to the peak levels witnessed in the summer of 2009. Pass through mechanisms are however in place with the majority of our customers.

Operating profit (before restructuring and impairment charges) for the full year is expected to be ahead of last year as the volume shortfall continues to be more than compensated by a restoration of margins and a significantly lower cost base. Interest charges will be substantially lower due to lower interest rates and reduced net debt. The adjusted profit before tax* will be ahead of last year and in line with management expectations. As anticipated, restructuring and impairment charges have been incurred in connection with the RPC 2010 programme but are projected to be lower than the previous year.

The financial position remains robust and a good cash performance is anticipated for the year.

RPC 2010

The first phase of the RPC 2010 programme is now nearing completion and has been delivered ahead of plan. The second phase is underway with consultations at the Marolles plant in France and at the Dutch thermoforming sites ongoing. The restructuring in the Netherlands includes the proposed closure of the Goor site. The total RPC 2010 programme aims to be completed by the end of the financial year ending March 2011.

* adjusted profit before tax is operating profit before restructuring and impairment charges less net interest

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