



LOMBARD

Record profits at mid-year for Lombard Bank Group

Lombard Bank Malta p.l.c. and its subsidiaries registered a pre-tax profit of €7.76 million for the six months ended 30 June 2008 - an increase of 60 per cent over the same period in 2007.

The Group results include the financial performance of MaltaPost p.l.c., which became a subsidiary of the Bank in September 2007 and the following should be read in this context.

- Profit After Tax attributable to shareholders increased by over 35% to reach €4.35 million when compared to €3.21 million in the corresponding period for 2007.
- Net Interest Income of €6.76 million increased by 9.8% when compared to same period last year. This arose mainly from growth in credit activity and effective Treasury management.
- Total Operating Income reached €18.89 million inclusive of €10.41 million from postal sales and service revenues.
- The Bank's Cost-to-Income ratio at 40.99% remained at the same level of the corresponding period in 2007.
- A net release of €551,000 in Impairment Allowances was also registered.
- Loans and Advances to Customers at €284.53 million were up 9.3% over 31 December 2007.
- As at 30 June 2008 Customer Deposits stood at €404.22 million while Total Assets were €492.97 million, continuing to reflect a prudent policy of asset management.
- Equity Attributable to Shareholders rose by €3.46 million to €54.50 million during the six month period, an increase of 6.8%.
- Earnings per Share also continued to rise during H1 2008 to €0.126 from €0.094 in H1 2007.

Lombard reported satisfactory growth for the first six months resulting in a healthy profit level. During the period it comfortably met new requirements and challenges including SEPA, Basel II and the adoption of the euro. More importantly the Bank weathered the turmoil that has hit global financial markets and remains well above the required regulatory level in terms of capital requirements. Prudent Treasury management remains a top priority of the Bank.

MaltaPost p.l.c. has provided the Group with new horizons and further resilience while the introduction of the single-largest shareholder, Marfin Popular Bank, stands to benefit Lombard Bank by way of new business opportunities as well as growth potential.

The Board of Directors is prudently confident that the Lombard Group remains on track to achieve its full 2008 projections and believes that the Group will continue to register further growth during 2008.

26th August 2008

Lombard Bank Malta p.l.c.

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Licensed to conduct Investment Services Business by the Malta Financial Services Authority • Regulated by the Malta Financial Services Authority & listed on the Malta Stock Exchange

Registered Office: 67 Republic Street Valletta Malta • Company Registration Number: C 1607



LOMBARD

Lombard Bank ikabbar il-profitti ghal nofs is-sena

Lombard Bank Malta p.l.c. u s-sussidjarji tiegħu irregistraw qliegħ qabel it-taxxa ta' €7.76 miljuni għas-sitt xhur li għalqu fit-30 ta' Ġunju 2008. Din hija żieda ta' 60% meta mqabbla ma' l-istess perjodu ta' l-2007.

MaltaPost p.l.c. saret sussidjarja tal-Bank f'Settembru 2007. Għalhekk, ir-riżultat tal-Grupp jinkludi għall-ewwel darba l-impatt kollu ta' l-andament finanzjarju ta' din is-sussidjarja għal dan il-perjodu u din l-istqarrija għandha tingara' f'dan il-kuntest.

- Il-qliegħ wara t-taxxa attribwit lill-azzjonisti żdied b' 35.6% biex laħaq €4.35 miljuni meta mqabbel ma' €3.21 miljuni fl-istess perjodu ta' l-2007.
- *Net Interest Income* ta' €6.76 miljuni żdied b'9.8% meta mqabbel ma' l-istess perjodu tas-sena ta' qabel, prinċiparjament minn żieda fis-self u amministrazzjoni tajba tat-*Treasury*.
- *Total Operating Income* laħaq €18.89 miljuni li jinkludi €10.41 miljuni minn dħul u bejgħ ta' servizzi postali.
- Il-*Cost-to-Income ratio* tal-Bank kien 40.99%, li baqa' fuq l-istess livell tas-sena ta' qabel.
- L-*Impairment Allowances* naqsu b'€551,000 netti.
- Is-self lill-klijenti żdied b'9.3% mill-31 ta' Diċembru 2007 biex laħaq €284.53 miljuni.
- Fit-30 ta' Ġunju 2008 id-depożiti tal-klijenti kienu €404.22 miljuni filwaqt li t-*Total Assets* kienu €492.97 miljuni, li tkompli turi l-adozzjoni ta' *policy* prudenti fl-amministrazzjoni ta' l-assi.
- Il-fondi ta' l-azzjonisti żdiedu bi €3.46 miljuni għal €54.50 miljuni fl-ewwel sitt xhur ta' din is-sena, żieda ta' 6.8%.
- L-*Earnings per Share* kompli jżdied ukoll fl-ewwel nofs tal-2008 għal €0.126 minn €0.094 fl-ewwel nofs tal-2007.

Lombard ħabbar tkabbir sodisfaċenti għall-ewwel sitt xhur li rriżulta fi profitti tajbin. Matul il-perjodu, ħtiġijiet u sfidi bħal SEPA, Basel II u l-adozzjoni tal-ewro, intlaħqu fil-wisa'. Iktar importanti kien il-fatt li l-Bank irnexxielu jirkeb il-problemi li laqtu is-swieq finanzjarji globali u għandu livell ta' kapital ħafna aħjar mill-minimu stabbilit bir-regolamenti fuq *Capital Requirements*. Il-Bank ikompli jagħti mportanza li l-amministrazzjoni ta' l-assi tibqa' issir b'mod prudenti.

MaltaPost p.l.c. ipprovdiet lill-Grupp b'orizzonti godda u b'kapaċita` biex tiffaċċja sfidi, filwaqt li bl-introduzzjoni ta' l-akbar azzjonist, Marfin Popular Bank, il-Bank ser jibbenefika minn opportunitajiet godda ta' negozju kif ukoll potenzjal ta' tkabbir.

Il-Bord tad-Diretturi filwaqt li huwa prudenti fl-ottimizzmu tiegħu meta jqis il-pożizzjoni tajba tal-Lombard Grupp biex jilħaq l-oġġettivi kollha ta' l-2008, jemmen li il-Grupp ser ikompli b'izjed tkabbir matul l-2008.

26 t' Awwissu 2008

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