

# Press release

## Sligro Food Group first-quarter trading update

Sligro Food Group N.V.'s sales in the first quarter of 2009 (13 weeks) were €518 million, down €2 million or 0.4% compared with the same period in 2008 (€520 million), although the group posted organic sales growth of 4.1% in the first quarter.

Total sales in the first-quarter are analysed as follows:

(€ million)

	2009	2008	Change %
Food retail	180	192	(6.3)
Foodservice	338	328	3.1
Total	518	520	(0.4)

Like-for-like consumer sales growth at the Golf and EM-TÉ supermarkets in the first quarter was 4.9%, with EM-TÉ up 5.8% and Golf up 2.8%. This growth was partly the product of successful commercial campaigns and improvements at the operational level. Our formats outperformed the market as a whole. Despite this growth, food retail sales were lower due to the transfer of stores to Spar Holding and others.

In food retail activities, our focus at present is primarily on sales growth and implementation of the food retail master plan which we announced at the end of March by further enhancing service and improving our price positioning in a highly competitive environment. Implementation of the food retail master plan will incur some non-recurring expenses in the first half of the year.

Organic sales growth in our foodservice activities was 3.6%, likewise supported by successful commercial campaigns and keen pricing. Rosenberg, part of the foodservice operation, was

sold in the first quarter of 2008. The economic downturn is having a greater impact on the foodservice market than on food retail, and some sectors of the hospitality industry are evidently under pressure. Against that background, we consider that we achieved a solid performance in terms of sales growth. Sligro is planning to open its 45th cash-and-carry outlet on 11 May in Roermond.

Given the uncertain market conditions, we prefer not to make any firm forecast of our half-year results, but we expect our strong financial position to improve still further. The half-year figures will be published on 16 July.

Sligro Food Group N.V. encompasses food retail and foodservice companies selling directly and indirectly to the entire Dutch food and beverages market. The group pursues a multi-channel strategy, covering various forms of sale and distribution (cash-and-carry and delivery) and using several different distribution channels (retail and wholesale). Sales in 2008 totalled €2,168 million, while net profit was over €71 million. The group employed an average of 5,600 full-time equivalents in 2008.

Veghel, 16 April 2009

On behalf of the Executive Board of Sligro Food Group N.V.

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