

Press release

Sligro Food Group third-quarter trading update

Sligro Food Group N.V.'s sales in the first nine months of 2009 (39 weeks) were €1,635 million, up 2.3% (Q3: 5.6%) compared with the same period in 2008 (€1,599 million).

Total sales are analysed as follows (€ million):

	Third quarter		Nine months	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
Food retail	176	173	538	552
Foodservice	373	348	1,097	1,047
Total	549	521	1,635	1,599

Organic sales growth in the first three quarters turned out at 5.3% (Q3: 7.7%).

In food retail, like-for-like consumer sales growth in the first nine months was 6.8% for EMTÉ (Q3: 8.8%) and 3.1% for Golf (Q3: 4.5%), with EMTÉ outperforming the market by a substantial margin. It should be noted that the number of stores has been reduced by 14 to 125 in 2009, in accordance with the food retail master plan, and the figures for the first half of 2008 included MeerMarkt sales of €20 million.

Organic sales growth in our foodservice activities in the first three quarters was 5.0% (Q3: 7.6%), again clearly outperforming the market. The hospitality sector is not having an easy time. There is strong growth in the convenience store/service station segment, driven partly by the failure of other suppliers.

Outlook

The market conditions continue to be difficult, with heightened competition in both of our market segments, but our businesses are well placed to face the challenge. Given the uncertain market conditions, we prefer not to make any firm forecast of our full-year results.

The sales figures for 2009 will be announced on 6 January 2010 and the full 2009 figures will be published on 28 January. It should be noted that the 2009 financial year has 53 weeks (2008: 52 weeks)

Sligro Food Group N.V. is a listed company that encompasses food retail and foodservice businesses selling directly and indirectly to the entire Dutch food and beverages market. Sligro Food Group aims to be a quality business that achieves steady and controlled growth in all its activities and for all its stakeholders.

In 2008, sales totalled €2,168 million and the group employed over 5,600 full-time equivalents.

Veghel, 15 October 2009

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

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