

## **Press release – Key figures for the provisional half-year results 2012**

### **Challenging economic environment impacts the Metall Zug Group's operating income despite stable sales**

**Zug, July 27, 2012** The Metall Zug Group provisionally expects to post sales of CHF 407 million for the first-half of 2012, on a par with the previous year's sales figure of CHF 409.5 million. Operating income (EBIT) is likely to fall by CHF 16 million as a result of the challenging economic environment and resulting increase in price pressure.

The Metall Zug Group expects sales for the first half of 2012 to be roughly on a par with those for the same period last year. This shows that the Group's business units have been successful in maintaining their market positions despite the difficult market conditions. However, pressure on prices intensified more than expected during the first half of 2012, especially in the household appliances business. As a result, the Group anticipates a fall in first-half operating income from CHF 41 million in 2011 to probably CHF 25 million in 2012.

In face of factors that include increased pressure on margins, the Metall Zug Group is continuing to invest in enhancing its competitiveness. The Group expects the market environment to remain challenging in the second half of the year. Nevertheless, it is sticking to its prognosis of stable sales development. As regards operating income (EBIT), it may only be possible to make up part of the relative shortfall on last year's result.

Full results for the first half of 2012 and the outlook for the entire year will be published on August 27, 2012.

The Metall Zug Group employs a staff of about 3,000. The holding company Metall Zug AG is listed in the Domestic Standard of SIX Swiss Exchange in Zurich (series B registered shares: securities number 3982108, ticker symbol METN). In addition to the Swiss market leader V-ZUG AG, the household appliances business unit comprises SIBIRGroup AG and Gehrig Group AG. The Belimed Group (infection control) and the Schleuniger Group (wire processing) are other members of the Metall Zug Group.

Please note that the Metall Zug Group's results for the first half of 2012 include the former real estate business (now Zug Estates Holding AG).

**Upcoming events:**

August 27, 2012	Publication of half-year results
March 18, 2013	Publication of year-end results
April 11, 2013	Annual Media Conference
May 3, 2013	General meeting of shareholders

**For further information, please contact:**

Dr Jürg Werner  
CEO

Phone: +41 41 748 10 20  
info@metallzug.ch

Mobile: +41 79 937 79 09  
www.metallzug.ch