

For immediate release

3 March 2008

# **TRISTEL plc**

#### **INTERIM RESULTS**

Tristel plc ("Tristel" or the "Group"), the infection and contamination control business, today announces its unaudited interim results for the 26 week period ended 31 December 2007.

**Results highlights** 

- Turnover up 7.9% to £2.775m (2006: £2.573m)
- Gross profit up 27.2% to £1.831m (2006: £1.440m) with the gross margin increasing to 66% from 56% ٠
- Operating profit (before share based payments IFRS 2) up 18.1% to £0.476m (2006: £0.403m) •
- Interest expense £0.035m (2006: net interest income £0.001m)
- Pre-tax profit (before share based payments IFRS 2) up 9.2% to £0.441m (2006: £0.404m) •
- Basic EPS 1.22p (2006: 1.19p), a 2.5% increase •
- Interim dividend up 10% to 0.385p net per share •
- Balance sheet: Total net assets of £2.699m (31.12.2006: £2.115m)

Commenting on current trading Paul Swinney, Chief Executive of Tristel, said:

"The first half has seen another solid performance from Tristel. Sales growth within our core hospital business of 17.1% is an excellent achievement given the difficulties recently reported by other suppliers to the NHS. New product introductions are fuelling this growth. Given the relatively short time that these new products have been available, such as our high-level disinfectant for general hospital surfaces which is effective against Clostridium difficile, we have good reason to be confident about our prospects for the second half and beyond.

Localised difficulties within our contamination control business for the food industry have taken the shine off the overall Group result, but the level of activity has stabilised in recent months.

We are pleased to announce a 10% increase in the interim dividend."

For further information, please contact:

<b>Tristel plc</b> Paul Swinney, Chief Executive Paul Barnes, Finance Director	01638 721 500
<b>Daniel Stewart</b> Oliver Rigby	020 7776 6550
Parkgreen Communications Paul McManus	020 7479 7933 or 07980 541 893 paul.mcmanus@parkgreenmedia.com

#### **Chairman's Statement**

During the first half our healthcare subsidiary, Tristel Solutions, achieved a very encouraging increase in turnover of 17.1% to £2.284m. New Tristel products that have been introduced over the past twelve months have fuelled this growth. The products are targeted at general hospital surfaces, hospital laboratories and the Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) and Ultrasound departments. With many of these new products only coming fully on stream in the first half period, we can look forward to developing real momentum with them in the second half.

Group turnover growth was restricted to 7.9% as a result of difficulties encountered in our Tristel Technologies subsidiary, which we acquired in June 2006. Its largest food processing customer reduced purchases of our

chlorine dioxide wash products by £137,000 over the period, causing the subsidiary's turnover to fall by 21% to  $\pm 0.491m$  (2006:  $\pm 0.621m$ ). Sales levels have now stabilised.

The benefits to the Group of establishing in-house manufacturing continued to flow through with gross margins reaching 66%, 10 percentage points higher than in the comparable period last year. Gross profit increased by 27.2% to £1.831m. To facilitate further expansion we have secured additional premises of 5,500 sq. ft. adjacent to our existing facility and now have production, warehousing and office space totalling 22,000 sq. ft.

The corollary of increasing the scale and size of the Group's business has been an increase in overheads which, excluding depreciation and amortisation and the share based payments charge – IFRS 2, rose 29.2% to  $\pounds$ 1.218m from  $\pounds$ 0.943m.

Operating profits, after share based payments charges occasioned by IFRS 2 of £0.015m, rose by 14.4% to  $\pm 0.461m$  (2006:  $\pm 0.403m$ ) and at the pre-tax level, profits after the share based payments charge, increased by 5.4% to  $\pm 0.426m$  (2006:  $\pm 0.404m$ ), held back by finance expense of  $\pm 35,000$  (2006: net interest income of  $\pm 1,000$ ).

#### Dividend

In line with our progressive dividend policy we are declaring an interim dividend of 0.385p per share, an increase of 10% over the interim dividend declared last year. The dividend will be paid on 9 April 2008 to shareholders on the register at the close of business on 14 March 2008.

#### Current trading

Our product development and marketing strategy of the past two years is bearing fruit with a continuous stream of new product introductions broadening and strengthening the business. Whilst the first half downturn in the Tristel Technologies business is disappointing, sales have now stabilised and our outlook for the medium term is optimistic. We are very encouraged by the progress that our hospital based business, Tristel Solutions, is making. Our burstable sachet product is starting to gain real momentum in hospitals where it is gaining recognition as a more effective, safer and simpler product for cleaning and disinfecting floors and walls than the bleach type products currently used.

Our overseas business development activities continue to make progress, with sales over the first seven months of the current financial year almost equalling those achieved last year.

We have new products to launch in the coming months, notably our sophisticated tray branded "Stella" and our ENT scope washer branded "Shine". Stella has been developed in New Zealand with a leading urologist and Shine in partnership with a German manufacturer of decontamination equipment. Both projects have taken significant investments in tooling and start-up inventory. We look forward to these new products fuelling continued growth in the coming months.

In summary, the first half result is very encouraging and we look forward to a successful second half of the year.

Francisco A. Soler Chairman

3 March 2008

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

RESULTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007

		6 months ended 31 December 2007 (unaudited)	6 months ended 31 December 2006 (unaudited)	Year ended 30 June 2007 (audited)
	Note	£'000	£'000	£'000
Revenue		2,775	2,573	5,148
Cost of sales		(944)	(1,133)	(1,943)
Gross profit		1,831	1,440	3,205
Other income		10	-	20
Administrative expenses – share based payments (IFRS2)		(15)	(-)	(30)
Administrative expenses – depreciation and amortisation		(147)	(94)	(206)
Administrative expenses – other	-	(1,218)	(943)	(1,859)
Total administrative expenses		(1,380)	(1,037)	(2,095)
Operating profit before exceptional item		461	403	1,130
Exceptional item		-	-	(349)
Operating profit		461	403	781
Finance income		-	3	7
Finance costs		(35)	(2)	(1)
Net finance income		(35)	1	6
Profit before taxation		426	404	787
Taxation		(128)	(121)	(236)
Profit for the period		298	283	551
Attributable to:				
Equity holders of the parent		298	283	551
Profit per share from continuing operations				
Basic (pence)	4	1.22	1.19	2.30

Diluted (pence)

All amounts relate to continuing operations. There are no recognised gains or losses other than the losses shown above.

1.17

2.26

1.20

# CONDENSED STATEMENT OF RECOGNISED INCOME AND EXPENSE

FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007

	6 months ended 31 December 2007 (unaudited)	6 months ended 31 December 2006 (unaudited)	Year ended 30 June 2007 (audited)
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Profit for the period	298	283	551
Total recognised income and expense for the period	<mark>-</mark> 298	283	551
Attributable to:			
Equity holders of the parent	298	283	551

All amounts relate to continuing operations. There are no recognised gains and losses other than the profits shown above.

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007

	Note	6 months ended 31 December 2007 (unaudited) £'000	6 months ended 31 December 2006 (unaudited) £'000	Year ended 30 June 2007 (audited) £'000
Non-current assets	Note	2 000	2 000	2 000
Goodwill		774	774	774
Intangible assets		1,565	554	1,495
Property, plant and equipment		789	625	734
		3,128	1,953	3,003
Current assets		0,120	.,	0,000
Inventories		528	449	488
Trade and other receivables		1,234	1,046	1,147
Cash and cash equivalents		248	87	38
		2,010	1,582	1,673
Total assets		5,138	3,535	4,676
Capital and reserves attributable to the company's equity holders	5			
Called up share capital		244	238	244
Share premium account		1,750	1,456	1,750
Merger reserve		478	478	478
Retained earnings		227	(57)	158
Equity attributable to equity holders of parent		2,699	2,115	2,630
Current liabilities				
Trade and other payables		1,543	992	1,369
Bank overdraft		269	-	165
Interest bearing loans and borrowings		122	-	100
Current tax liabilities		323	302	230
Total current liabilities		2,257	1,294	1,864
Non-current liabilities				
Deferred tax liabilities		182	126	182
Total non-current liabilities		182	126	182
Total liabilities		2,439	1,420	2,046
Total equity and liabilities		5,138	3,535	4,676

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 3 March 2008, and were signed on its behalf by:

Paul Barnes FCCA Finance Director 3 March 2008 PSv28.2.08

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007

		6 months ended 31 December 2007 (unaudited)	6 months ended 31 December 2006 (unaudited)	Year ended 30 June 2007 (audited)
	Note	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cash flows from operating activities				
Cash generated from operating activities	6	670	485	1,243
Interest paid		(35)	(2)	(1)
Corporation tax paid		(35)	-	(129)
Net cash from operating activities	_	600	483	1,113
Cash flows from Investing activities	_			
Interest received		-	3	7
Purchases of intangible assets		(127)	(17)	(462)
Purchases of property, plant and equipment		(154)	(148)	(545)
Proceeds on sale of property, plant and equipment		9	-	
Acquisition of subsidiary undertaking		-	23	-
Net cash (used in)/from investing activities	_	(272)	(139)	(1,000)
Financing activities	_			
Equity dividends paid		(244)	(173)	(256)
Net cash used in financing activities	_	(244)	(173)	(256)
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	_	84	171	(143)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		(227)	(84)	(84)
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	_	(143)	87	(227)

# **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS** FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007

## 1. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### **Basis of Preparation**

For the year ending 30 June 2007, the Group prepared consolidated financial statements under International Financial Reporting Standards ('IFRS') as adopted by the European Commission. These will be those International Accounting Standards, International Financial Reporting Standards and related interpretations (SIC-IFRIC interpretations), subsequent amendments to those standards and related interpretations, future standards and related interpretations issued or adopted by the IASB that have been endorsed by the European Commission. This process is ongoing and the Commission has yet to endorse certain standards issued by the IASB.

The interim financial report has been prepared using accounting policies consistent with IFRS and in accordance with IAS 34 'Interim Financial Reporting' and is the Group's second interim report under IFRS.

#### **Accounting Policies**

The interim report is unaudited and has been prepared on the basis of IFRS accounting policies.

The accounting policies adopted in the preparation of this unaudited interim financial report are the same as the most recent annual financial statements being those for the year ended 30 June 2007.

#### Segments

For management purposes, the Group reports its entire activities as one business. Accordingly, the Directors consider currently there to be only one reportable segment, being the development, manufacture and supply of products which utilise the group's chlorine dioxide technologies.

## 2 PUBLICATION OF NON-STATUTORY ACCOUNTS

The financial information for the six months ended 31 December 2007 and 31 December 2006 has not been audited and does not constitute full financial statements within the meaning of Section 240 of the Companies Act 1985.

The financial information relating to year ended 30 June 2007 does not constitute full financial statements within the meaning of Section 240 of the Companies Act 1985. This information is based on the Group's statutory accounts for that period. The statutory accounts were prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") and received an unqualified report and have been filed with the Registrar of Companies.

# 3. RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING PROFIT TO ADJUSTED OPERATING PROFIT

	6 months ended 31 December 2007 (unaudited)	6 months ended 31 December 2006 (unaudited)	Year ended 30 June 2007 (audited)
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Reported operating profits before taxation	426	404	787
Add back:			
share based payments (IFRS2)	15	-	30
amortisation of other intangibles	57	43	87
Adjusted operating profit	498	447	904

## 4. EARNINGS PER SHARE

The calculation of earnings per share is based on the following profits and number of shares:

		ended 31 [ 2007 (unaudited)			ended 31 E 2006 (unaudited)		Year er	nded 30 Jun (audited)	e 2007
	Profit	Number of shares	Pence per share	Profit	Number of shares	Pence per share	Profit	Number of shares	Pence per share
	£'000	<b>'000</b> '		£'000	<b>'000</b> '		£'000	'000'	
Adjusted earnings per share*	498	24,443	2.04	447	23,837	1.69	904	23,973	3.70
Reconciliation to reported earnings (net of tax at 30%):									
amortisation of other intangibles	(57)	-	-	(43)	-	-	(87)	-	-
share based payments (IFRS 2)	(15)	-	-	-	-	-	(30)	-	-
corporation tax provision	(128)	-	-	(121)	-	-	(236)	-	-
Basic earnings per share	298	24,443	1.22	283	23,837	1.19	551	23,973	2.30
Diluted earnings per share	298	24,798	1.20	283	24,196	1.17	551	24,328	2.26

\* Adjusted earnings per share, excluding non-cash share based payments and amortisation of other intangibles, have been included as the Directors consider that this figure provides a more useful measure of the ongoing business, as it is a more accurate reflection of cash utilisation.

## 5. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN TOTAL EQUITY

	Called up share capital	Share premium account	Merger reserve	Retained earnings	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 July 2006	238	1,456	478	(167)	2,005
Profit recognised for the year				551	551
Employee share based payments (IFRS2)				30	30
Equity dividends paid				(256)	(256)
Share issue	6	294	-	-	300
At 1 July 2007	244	1,750	478	158	2,630
Profit recognised for the period	-	-	-	298	298
Employee share based payments (IFRS2)	-	-	-	15	15
Equity dividends paid				(244)	(244)
At 31 December 2007	244	1,750	478	227	2,699

During the period to 31 December 2007, the Group paid an equity dividend of 1p per ordinary share (31 December 2006 - 0.725p per ordinary share.)

# 6. RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING PROFIT TO NET CASH OUTFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	6 months ended 31 December 2007 (unaudited)	6 months ended 31 December 2006 (unaudited)	Year ended 30 June 2007 (audited)
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Profit before taxation	426	404	787
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation and impairment	95	51	119
Amortisation – other intangibles	57	43	87
Share based payments expense (IFRS2)	15	-	30
Loss on disposal of property plant and equipment	5		3
Government grants	(10)	-	(20)
Finance costs	35	2	1
Finance income	-	(3)	(7)
Operating cash flows before movement in working capital	623	497	1,000
Increase in inventories	(40)	(54)	(93)
Increase in trade and other receivables	(87)	(114)	(216)
Increase in trade and other payables	174	156	552
Cash generated from operating activities	670	485	1,243

## 7. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

#### Transactions between the Group and Bruce Green

Under the terms of a technology licence agreement between the Group and Bruce Green, a shareholder in the Company, royalties of £106,128 (31 December 2006 £82,292) were paid during the period to Bruce Green Limited, a private company incorporated in England and Wales, owned by Mr Green.

#### Transactions between the Group and Tom Allsworth

Under the terms of a supply agreement between the Group and Medichem Limited, a private company incorporated in England and Wales, in which Mr Tom Allsworth, a shareholder in the Company, is a director and shareholder, monies totalling £56,481 (31 December 2006 £127,114) were paid during the period.

#### Transactions between the Group and Francisco Soler

On 20 June 2007 Tristel plc received a short term loan of £100,000 from World Financial Trading Corporation, which was repaid on 20 September 2007. A director and shareholder of Tristel plc, Mr Francisco Soler is a director of World Financial Trading Corporation, a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) in the United States of America.

#### Transactions between the Parent and subsidiary companies

As at 31 December 2007, Tristel plc was owed £201,747 (£200,826 31 December 2006) by its subsidiary company Tristel Solutions Limited in respect of intra-group transactions.

Also at 31 December 2007, Tristel plc owed £362,608 (£365,441 31 December 2006) to its subsidiary company Tristel Technologies Limited in respect of intra-group transactions

Transactions between the Company and its subsidiaries, which are related parties, have been eliminated on consolidation and are not disclosed in this note. Transactions between the Company and its subsidiaries will be disclosed in each undertakings statutory financial statements.