

## AD-HOC MESSAGE

### **Stable 9-months result from LPKF Laser & Electronics AG in a difficult market environment**

The world-wide economic weakness as well as the recent political events have left their mark also in the turnover of the LPKF Laser & Electronics AG group.

The year-on-year turnover fell by 13.8 % to K EUR 16.278 (K EUR 18.890). In spite of this, a positive group result of K EUR 808 (K EUR 2.405) was achieved during the 9 months. The weak turnover of the 3rd quarter led to a slightly negative result of K EUR 65. The profit margin after tax is 5 % (12,7 %).

The EBIT result is K EUR 1.674, which corresponds to a margin of 10.3%(24.5%).

Thus the undiluted result per share is EUR 0.08 (EUR 0.23).

Stocks amount to K EUR 11.072 and did not change substantially in the 3rd quarter, compared to the 6-months figures. A further increase in stock could be prevented by means of the measures taken. Also savings of other operating expenses had a positive result, when compared to the 6-months figures 2001.

Orders in hand for the 4th quarter are about EUR 3.5 million as of November 23rd, 2001, including turnover realised so far. This relates to the LPKF AG and is not consolidated.

### **Future Prospects**

All R&D activities are according to schedule and are intensively pushed forward. Especially the MicroLineLaser and the 3D MID developments must be mentioned in this connection. LPKF Laser & Electronics AG had a successful presentation of its products at the Productronica 2001 in November in Munich, the largest trade show for the electronics sector world-wide. Compared to the previous years, the number of visitors at the LPKF booth increased by 40 % although the total number of Productronica visitors decreased. Highly promising contacts were kept while also new potential customers could be won. Central points of interest at the LPKF booth were the broad range of innovations in all product sections, and especially the MicrolineDrill, and they will be the warrant for future growth in 2002 and the following years.

The last weeks of the business year 2001 do not yet indicate the direction the 4th quarter will take. In the past the month of December has always been the strongest month as regards turnover and it will have a decisive effect on the annual result.