



Curtiss-Wright Announces 2001 Financial Results; Reports Sixth Consecutive Year of Revenue Growth and Third Consecutive Year of Normalized Earnings Growth

LYNDHURST, N.J., Feb. 6, 2002 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX - Curtiss-Wright Corporation (NYSE: CW, CWR) today announced financial results for the fourth quarter and full year ended December 31, 2001.

- * Net sales for the fourth quarter rose 15% to \$97,226,000 from \$82,410,000 for the comparable quarter last year.
* Net earnings for the fourth quarter, including a significant real estate gain, rose to \$34,473,000, or \$3.37 per diluted share, from \$10,122,000, or \$0.99 per diluted share, last year.
* Net sales for the full year 2001 rose 4% to \$343,167,000 from \$320,575,000 for 2000.

* Net earnings for the full year, including the fourth-quarter real estate gain, increased 53% to \$62,880,000, or \$6.14 per diluted share, compared with net earnings for 2000 of \$41,074,000, or \$4.03 per diluted share.
* Net earnings for the fourth quarter, excluding a number of nonrecurring items such as real estate gains and costs associated with the common stock recapitalization, rose 15% to \$34,473,000, or \$3.37 per diluted share.

Table with 4 columns: Description, Fourth Quarter 2001, Fourth Quarter 2000, Full Year 2001, Full Year 2000. Rows include Net earnings, Environmental insurance settlements, Postretirement benefits, Facility consolidation costs, Gain on sale of property, Recapitalization costs, Net nonrecurring benefits, Normalized net earnings, and Normalized net earnings per diluted share.

Reported operating income for the year declined 10% from last year. On a normalized basis, operating income showed a decrease of 1% to \$47,441,000 in 2001 from \$47,988,000 in 2000. Foreign exchange rates had an adverse effect on financial results in 2001. The decline in foreign exchange rates adversely affected sales for 2001 by \$3,000,000 and operating income by \$1,100,000.

Overall sales improvement was due to additional sales from acquisitions, an increase in aerospace OEM sales and an increase in shoe-painting services along with sales growth for products related to land-based defense vehicles. These improvements were partially offset by a decrease in overhaul and repair services to the aerospace industry and a decline in sales to particular segments of the automotive industry.

New orders and backlog are at the highest levels in 23 years. New orders received in 2001 improved 9% to \$26.5 billion compared with those booked in 2000 and the December 31, 2001 backlog is \$241.9 million compared with \$182.6 million at the end of 2000. Acquisitions made during 2001 represented \$76 million of the existing backlog at December 31, 2001.

Mr. Baratta, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Curtiss-Wright, stated, "We are very proud to have achieved our sixth consecutive year of revenue increase, and third consecutive year of normalized earnings growth despite a very challenging economy. The industrial and commercial aerospace markets have been particularly challenging. Our diversification strategy is producing the balance of business that has allowed us to continue achieving growth during a weak economic cycle. The seven acquisitions made during 2001 significantly increase our market penetration, particularly within the military defense industry. They also expanded our geographic reach and technological capabilities, giving us strong reasons to remain optimistic about the coming year."

"We are very pleased with the government's desire to increase military procurement spending to the highest levels since 1991, which may provide opportunities for us in the future. Our position on many defense programs is outstanding, with a mix of products for aerospace, land-based and naval defense markets that has never been stronger. We are well positioned on a balanced blend of projects that will provide both short- and long-term benefits."

Mr. Baratta added, "Our balance sheet remains exceptionally strong, as our total debt declined 20% this year when compared with the balance at December 31, 2000. Our working capital levels were unchanged for the year and we had \$87 million available in cash and short-term investments at December 31, 2001. During the year, we completed the sale of our Wood-Ridge business complex for \$51,000,000. The proceeds are available to invest in projects that produce stronger returns and enhance long-term shareholder value. We are also very pleased to increase our quarterly dividend payment by 15% to an annual rate of 60 cents per share from 52 cents. The dividend increase reflects our confident business outlook and satisfaction with the progress made in implementing our strategic plans."

"In 2001 we reached a significant milestone in efforts to improve our stock's liquidity. We completed the recapitalization of our common stock, allowing UHWIN, Inc., our largest shareholder, to distribute its 44% equity position in our Company to its shareholder base. This transaction broadens our shareholder base, improves the stock's liquidity and has increased our stock's institutional appeal."

Mr. Baratta concluded, "We began 2002 confident in our ability to build on our solid business foundation and generate long-term shareholder value. Although 2002 is likely to present a challenging business environment, we are committed to creating shareholder value by executing our strategies and achieving our financial targets. Our diversification strategy and ongoing emphasis on technology should continue to bring growth opportunities in each of our three business segments."

Table with 4 columns: Description, Three Months Ended December 31, 2001, Three Months Ended December 31, 2000, Year Ended December 31, 2001, Year Ended December 31, 2000. Rows include Net sales, Cost of sales, Gross profit, Research & development costs, Selling expenses, General and administrative expenses, Environmental expenses, Operating income, Investment income, Interest income, Net income, Earnings before income taxes, Provision for income taxes, Net earnings, Basic earnings per share, Diluted earnings per share, Dividend per share, Weighted average shares outstanding, Basic shares, and Diluted shares.

Table with 5 columns: Description, December 31, 2001, December 31, 2000, \$ Change, % Change. Rows include Assets (Cash and cash equivalents, Short-term investments, Receivables, Inventories, Deferred income taxes, Other current assets, Total current assets, Property, plant and equipment, Lease Accumulated Depreciation, Prepaid pension costs, Goodwill and other intangible assets, Property held for sale, Other assets, Total Assets) and Liabilities (Current liabilities, Long-term debt, Accounts payable, Accrued expenses, Income taxes payable, Other current liabilities, Total current liabilities, Long-term debt, Deferred income taxes, Other liabilities, Stockholders' Equity (Common stock, Class B common stock, Capital surplus, Retained earnings, Accumulated other comprehensive income, Less: Common treasury stock, Total Stockholders' Equity), Total Liabilities).

Table with 5 columns: Description, December 31, 2001, December 31, 2000, \$ Change, % Change. Rows include Metric Control, Metal Treatment, Flow Control, and Total Operating Margin for various categories like Metal Control, Metal Treatment, Flow Control, and Total Operating Margin.

Metric Control - Sales for the year increased 8% due principally to the acquisition of Lau Defense Systems and Vista Controls, higher shipments of OEM components for Boeing programs, the military's F-22 Raptor fighter aircraft and a generally strong growth in the global ground defense market. The sales improvement was partially offset by lower sales of aerospace overhaul and repair services, due to a slowing in commercial air travel and the grounding of aircraft by the airlines following September 11.

Metal Treatment - This business segment's sales increased slightly over 2%. The segment has the greatest exposure to fluctuating currency values with approximately 35% of its sales volume generated by its European operations. The sales improvement was primarily attributed to an increase in shoe-painting, partially offset by a decrease in heat-treating services to the automotive industry.

Flow Control - Sales and operating profits for the year, were strong in the fourth quarter due to higher sales to the U.S. Navy and nuclear power plants, partially offset by lower sales in the quarter for the oil refining and petrochemical markets and sharp declines for selective truck markets.

For the year, sales were up for all the Company's served markets with exception of the decline in sales to the truck markets. The profitability levels in this area suffered from lower volume levels. Operational profit margin percentages improved for all other product lines in this business segment from last year.

Curtiss-Wright Corporation is a diversified provider of highly engineered products and services to the Motion Control, Flow Control and Metal Treatment industries. The firm employs approximately 2,800 people. More information on Curtiss-Wright can be found on the Internet at www.curtisswright.com.

Forward-looking statements in this release related to expectations of continued high revenues related to new commercial aircraft and continued sales and income growth, are made pursuant to the Safe Harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date hereof. Such risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to: a reduction in anticipated orders, an economic downturn, changes in the need for additional machinery and equipment and/or in the cost for the expansion of the Corporation's operations; changes in the competitive marketplace and/or customer requirements; an inability to perform customer contracts at anticipated cost levels; and other factors that generally affect the business of aerospace, defense, marine and industrial companies. Please refer to the Company's SEC filings under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, for further information.

FOR: VICE PRESIDENT CONTACT - Click here http://bit.ly/180t0mz or www.curtisswright.com/pr/2119002479734

SOURCE: Curtiss-Wright Corporation CONTACT: Gary Benninghoff of Curtiss-Wright, +1-201-496-8520, or gbenninghoff@curtiswright.com URL: http://www.curtisswright.com http://www.prsnewswire.com

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