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20 August 2015

The Manager
Market Announcements
Australian Securities Exchange Limited
20 Bridge Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam

Adelaide Brighton half year report to 30 June 2015 – media statement

We attach a media statement covering Adelaide Brighton's half year report to 30 June 2015 for release to the market.

Yours faithfully

MRD Clayton
Company Secretary

For further information please contact:

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ACN 007 596 018

MEDIA STATEMENT

20 August 2015

FINANCIAL SUMMARY (\$million)	6 months ended 30 June		
	2015	2014	% change pcp
<i>Statutory</i>			
Revenue	678.1	602.0	12.6
Earnings before interest and tax ("EBIT")	116.8	78.3	49.2
Net profit attributable to members ("NPAT")	82.6	51.2	61.3
Basic earnings per share ("EPS") (cents)	12.8	8.0	58.8
<i>Underlying</i>			
Underlying EBIT	117.3	92.5	26.8
Underlying NPAT attributable to members	83.0	61.2	35.6
Underlying basic EPS (cents)	12.8	9.6	33.3
Ordinary dividends per share – fully franked (cents)	8.0	7.5	
Special dividends per share – fully franked (cents)	4.0	-	
Net debt (\$ million)	346.1	333.0	
Gearing (%)	29.8%	32.1%	

Record half year profit supported by housing, project activity and lime growth

- Revenue up 12.6% due to volumes, prices, property transactions and 2014 acquisitions
- Underlying NPAT up 35.6% assisted by \$12 million profit from property transactions
- Excluding property transactions, underlying NPAT up 17% on modest margin growth
- Earnings from 2014 acquisitions in line with expectations
- Increased total interim dividend of 12.0 cents (8.0 cents ordinary dividend and 4.0 special dividend, both fully franked)
- Positive earnings outlook for remainder of 2015 supported by higher demand, cost reduction initiatives and property sales. Operational improvement \$7 million pre-tax in 2015

Results summary

Australian construction materials and industrial lime producer Adelaide Brighton Limited (ASX code: ABC), has announced record revenue of \$678.1 million for the half year ended 30 June 2015. The improved result was due to higher cement and lime volumes, improved prices, proceeds from property transactions and the benefits of the 2014 acquisitions in South Australia and north Queensland. Demand growth from improved residential construction activity was a feature of the half.

Statutory net profit after tax rose 61.3% on the previous corresponding period (pcp) to a record \$82.6 million, assisted by volume growth, modest margin expansion, cost reductions and earnings from property transactions. Statutory basic earnings per share grew 58.8% to 12.8 cents.

Underlying net profit of \$83.0 million, which includes earnings from property transactions, was up 35.6% on pcp. Excluding property, underlying NPAT rose 17%.

The rationalisation of clinker production in Western Australia and certain corporate functions in the last 12 months is on track to deliver benefits of \$7 million pre-tax this year. The acquisitions made in 2014 also contributed to the result in line with expectations.

The interim ordinary dividend 8.0 cents per share (fully franked), up 6.7% on the pcp. Shareholder returns will be further boosted by a special dividend of 4.0 cents per share (fully franked), which takes into consideration Adelaide Brighton's strong cash flows, low gearing, capital expenditure outlook and franking credits balance.

Chief Executive Officer of Adelaide Brighton, Mr Martin Brydon, said: "We are very pleased to deliver another record half year result which reflects improving construction activity across our business, an increase in lime sales, our 2014 acquisitions and several property transactions.

"Housing activity is at healthy levels on both the east and west coast of the country and this is augmenting the demand for our products from major infrastructure and resources projects.

"Excluding property transactions, margins grew in cement, lime, concrete and aggregates, supported by higher volumes, rising prices and cost reduction initiatives. This more than offset a decline in joint venture operations largely due to margin pressure in cement distribution in Victoria."

Strategic developments

Adelaide Brighton continues to explore alternative ways to grow shareholder value in line with its long term strategy. "As has been the case in recent years, growth may be achieved through a mixture of acquisitions and greenfields projects," Mr Brydon said.

The operating efficiency of production facilities remains a key priority that the Company is working on to underpin long term growth in shareholder returns.

A measured approach to building on Adelaide Brighton's highly strategic aggregates positions also remains a focus. In downstream businesses, total aggregate supply, including through joint ventures, is expected to exceed 6 million tonnes in 2015.

"Consolidation remains a key theme for the industry and as always Adelaide Brighton will look to participate where it adds value for shareholders".

Outlook

Adelaide Brighton expects 2015 full year underlying net profit after tax will be in the range of \$200 million to \$215 million, including profit from property transactions totalling \$32 million.

"We expect 2015 cement and clinker volumes will be higher than 2014 with a decline in South Australian sales volumes more than offset by improved volumes in other markets, particularly Victoria and New South Wales", Mr Brydon said.

"Lime sales volumes for 2015 are anticipated to be slightly higher than in 2014 and on a like-for-like basis, construction materials volumes and prices are expected to increase in 2015.

"Earnings in both Concrete and Aggregates and Concrete Products are expected to improve over the full year supported by higher prices and volumes, cost reduction and full year earnings from acquisitions made in 2014."

For further information please contact:

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About Adelaide Brighton

Adelaide Brighton Limited (ASX code: ABC) is a leading construction materials and lime producing Group of companies which supplies the Australian infrastructure, building and resources industries. The Company has 1400 employees and market leading positions in cement and clinker, lime and concrete masonry and is an emerging force in pre-mixed concrete and aggregates. Adelaide Brighton is the largest importer of cementitious materials into Australia and through its efficient import supply chain has access to every mainland capital city market.