

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PERWAJA'S 3Q REVENUE JUMPS 47% TO RM978M OVER PREVIOUS QUARTER

RM 'm	3Q08	2Q08	% Change
Revenue	978.0	665.2	4 7.0
Gross Profit	250.0	182.6	▲ 36.9
Profit After Tax	80.3	147.4	▼ 45.5

Kuala Lumpur, 25 November 2008 – Leading integrated producer of primary steel products, **Perwaja Holdings Berhad**, today announced its results for the three months ended 30 September 2008 (3Q08). The Group registered a 47.0% growth in revenue to RM978.0 million, as compared to RM665.2 million achieved in the three months ended 30 June 2008 (2Q08). For the nine months ended 30 September 2008 (9M08), the Group recorded net profit of RM303.0 million on revenue of RM2.1 billion.

Steel products, along with other commodities have experienced sharp decline in prices amidst the current financial turmoil. In expectation of further decrease in steel products prices, the Group made a provision of RM120.2 million for the impairment of its inventory value. Excluding this provision, the Group's 3Q08 net earnings would have increased 36.0% from RM147.4 million to RM200.5 million over 2Q08.

Commenting on Perwaja's performance, Managing Director Tan Sri Dato' Pheng Yin Huah said, "Despite the challenging economic conditions, Perwaja has turned in a commendable set of results, in part due to our continued efforts to manage cost and improve efficiency. We are confident that with our cost management strategies in place, Perwaja will be able to ride out this difficult period and emerge a stronger player."

In 3Q08, the average selling price of billets increased 15.3% as compared to the previous quarter, while the average selling price of direct reduced iron (DRI) rose 43.0%.



The production output of billets in 3Q08 was 277,002 metric tonnes, while the DRI production output was 239,946 metric tonnes.

Given the uncertainties in the global economy, Perwaja is not expecting a near-term rebound in the steel market. However, in a bid to position itself to capitalise on opportunities that come with a turnaround in market conditions, the Group plans to commence construction of a new furnace, which will increase its billet capacity by 750,000 metric tonnes upon completion in October 2009.

Considering its strong first-half performance, the Group is cautiously optimistic of its overall results for FY08.

About Perwaja Holdings Berhad

Perwaja Holdings Berhad is an investment holding company. Perwaja Steel Sdn Bhd, a wholly owned subsidiary, is a leading steel manufacturer of upstream products and the sole producer of DRI and beam-blanks & blooms in Malaysia. Amongst its range of products, the Group also produces billets. Perwaja's products are used in the manufacturing, construction and infrastructure industries. Today, the Group has a DRI production capacity of 1.5 million metric tonnes and a billet, beam-blanks and blooms production capacity of 1.3 million metric tonnes.

Media & Investor contact:

International: Ms Alvina Tan Boardroom Communications Pte Ltd DID: +65 6230 9798 H/p: +65 9787 7267 Email: <u>alvina.tan@boardroomlimited.com</u> Malaysia: Ms Tai Bee Kong / Ms Lynna Hilda ZJ Advisory Sdn Bhd DID: +603 2032 2328 H/p: +6012 398 7377 Email: <u>bee@zj.com.my</u>