

METROD (MALAYSIA) BERHAD (66954-H)

Interim report for the first quarter ended 31 March 2010

Notes:-

1) Basis of preparation and Accounting Policies

The interim financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 134 “Interim Financial Reporting” issued by the Malaysian Accounting Standards Board and paragraph 9.22 and Appendix 9B of the Listing Requirements of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad. It should be read in conjunction with the Group’s annual audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2009.

The accounting policies and methods of computation adopted by the Group in these quarterly financial statements are consistent with those adopted in the most recent annual audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2009, except that the Group has adopted the new/revised standards mandatory for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2010 that have an impact on the Group, detailed below :

- (a) FRS 8 Operating Segments (effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2009). FRS 8 replaces FRS 114₂₀₀₄ Segment Reporting. The new standard requires a ‘management approach’, under which segment information is presented on the same basis as that used for internal reporting purposes. As the Group’s chief operating decision maker, the Group’s Board of Directors, relies on internal reports which are similar to those currently disclosed externally, no further segmental information disclosures will be necessary.
- (b) FRS 139 Financial Instruments : Recognition and Measurement (effective for annual periods beginning on or before 1 January 2010). This standard establishes principles for recognizing and measuring financial assets, financial liabilities and some contracts to buy and sell non-financial items and permits hedge accounting only under strict circumstances. As allowed under the transitional provisions of FRS 139, the changes are applied prospectively and the comparatives as at 31 December 2009 were not restated. Instead, the changes should be recognised as an adjustment to the opening retained earnings as at 1 January 2010. Arising from the adoption of this Standard, there is a positive impact of increasing the opening retained earnings by RM10.6 million.

In addition, the Group has not applied hedge accounting as at 31 March 2010, these changes in accounting policies have the effect of decreasing the profit for the current quarter by RM3.473 million.

- (c) FRS 7 Financial Instruments : Disclosures (effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2010). This standard requires additional disclosures regarding fair value measurements and liquidity risk in the full year financial statements, and has no effect on reported profit or equity. However, FRS 7 disclosures are not required in the interim financial statements, and hence, no further disclosures have been made in these interim financial statements.

- (d) Amendments to FRS 101 Presentation of Financial Statements (effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2010). The amendments to FRS 101 requires changes in the format of the financial statements including the amounts directly attributable to shareholders in the primary statements, but does not affect the measurement of reported profit or equity. The Group has elected to show other comprehensive income in one statement (Statement of Comprehensive Income) and hence, all owner changes in equity are presented in the consolidated statement of changes in equity, whereas non-owner changes in equity are shown in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income.
- (e) Amendments to FRS 117 Leases (effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2010). The amendments to FRS 117 requires entities with existing leases or land and buildings (combined) to reassess the classification of land as a finance or operating lease. The Group has reclassified the existing leasehold land to property, plant and equipment following the reassessment, with no effect on reported profit or equity. However, as a result of the adoption of the Amendments to FRS 117, comparative balances have been restated as follows :

	As previously reported (RM'000)	Effects of changes in accounting policy (RM'000)	As restated (RM'000)
Property, plant and equipment	288,063	8,866	296,929
Prepaid lease payment	8,866	(8,866)	-

The adoption of other interpretations and revisions to existing standards mandatory for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2010 did not result in significant changes in the reported profit or equity or on the disclosures in the financial statements.

2) Audit qualification of preceding annual financial statements

The auditors' report for the preceding annual financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2009 was not subject to any qualification.

3) Seasonal or cyclical factors

The business operations of the Group were not materially affected by any seasonal or cyclical factors during the interim period.

4) Unusual items

There were no items affecting assets, liabilities, equity, net income, or cash flows that are unusual because of their nature, size or incidence during the interim period.

5) Changes in estimates

There were no changes in estimates of amounts reported in prior financial years, that have a material effect in the interim period.

6) Debt and equity securities

There were no issuances, cancellations, repurchases, resale and repayments of debt and equity securities during the interim period.

7) Dividends paid

No dividend was paid during the financial quarter ended 31 March 2010.

8) Segmental information

The Group is principally engaged in the manufacturing of copper products in various parts of the world. Accordingly, geographical segment reporting of the Group is set out below:

Segment reporting	Malaysia RM'000	Rest of Asia RM'000	European Union RM'000	North America RM'000	Eliminations RM'000	Group RM'000
Period ending 31.03.2010						
Revenue						
External	253,256	23,937	147,264	13,410	0	437,868
Inter segment revenue	10,517	0	0	0	(10,517)	0
Total revenue	263,773	23,937	147,264	13,410	(10,517)	437,868
Results						
Segment Results	2,968	(2,444)	12,762	(4,991)	0	8,296
Finance cost						(3,041)
Tax expense						(3,725)
Net profit for the period						1,530
As at 31.03.2010						
Segment assets	358,978	214,659	228,280	100,320	(94,342)	807,895
Unallocated assets						33,484
Total assets						841,379
Segment liabilities	27,551	23,995	78,656	13,839	(16,351)	127,690
Unallocated liabilities						389,802
Total liabilities						517,492

9) Carrying amount of revalued assets

Valuations of property, plant and equipment have been brought forward without any amendment from the previous annual financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2009.

10) Material subsequent events

There were no material events subsequent to the end of the interim period reported on that have not been reflected in the financial statements for the said interim period.

11) Changes in composition of the Group

There were no changes in the composition of the Group during the interim period, including business combinations, acquisition or disposal of subsidiaries and long term investments, restructurings, and discontinuing operations.

12) Contingent liabilities / assets

There were no contingent liabilities or contingent assets as at the date of this report.

13) Capital Commitments

The amount of commitments for the purchase of property, plant and equipment not provided for in the interim financial statements as at 31 March 2010 is as follows :

	RM'000
Property, plant and equipment :-	
Authorised and contracted for	3,501
Authorised but not contracted for	3,140
Total	6,641

14) Review of the performance of the Company and its principal subsidiaries

For the first quarter under review, the Group recorded a pre-tax profit of RM5.255 million and turnover of RM437.868 million. Group's pre-tax profit was lower compared to corresponding previous year period pre-tax profit of RM6.258 million mainly due to the costs associated with green-field projects in India and the USA, weaker demand in China and the impact of FRS 139. The revenue for the period was higher as compared to corresponding previous year period of RM306.448 million mainly due to higher copper prices.

Malaysia :

The markets remains depressed due to weak domestic demand in the construction sector and intense competition arising from over capacity. The difficult conditions in financial markets have increased credit and commercial risks.

Austria :

The order backlog and resultant demand from Power Transmission & Distribution sector showed signs of a decline. ASTA was able to utilize almost its full capacity. Competition had also increased.

China :

The transformer industry slowed down considerably. Competition from local producers of CTC had been strong with government support and prices fell significantly.

USA / India :

Both plants have secured approvals from various customers for its production processes and quality. Production and quality is being further stabilized and quantities are being ramped up. Competition is already strong in both the markets. Gestation period is expected to get extended due to unforeseen weaknesses in the market conditions.

Subject to above, in the opinion of the Directors, the results of the operations for the Group have not been substantially affected by any item, transaction or event of a material and unusual nature as at the date of this report.

15) Material Changes in Quarterly Results

Pre-tax profit for the quarter of RM5.255 million was lower compared to preceding quarter's pre-tax profit of RM15.141 million mainly due to higher losses in green-field projects and drop in margins due to competitive pressures.

16) Current year Prospects

The global economies are yet to come out of the grips of recession and the recoveries are fragile. Financial crisis in Europe is further adding to the uncertainties. The depth of the problems suggest a continuing adverse impact on the business segments in which the Group is involved. Visibility in respect of forward business remains poor and price competition remains intense.

Malaysia :

Market demand for copper rod and wire in Malaysia continues to be weak. Domestic competition is also expected to increase with new capacities being installed. With the implementation of the ASEAN free trade agreements and bilateral ASEAN agreements with China and Korea, the margins are under pressure. The strip business has been adversely affected by reduced demand from the transformer and construction industry. Credit risks remain high as before.

Austria :

The demand from the power transmission and distribution sector is weakening as a result of the global financial crisis. Significant new capacity has been added in Europe and in global markets which would have an adverse effect on ASTA's profitability.

China :

Capacity utilization has increased. Competition from domestic producers remains intense with considerable pressure on operating margins. The transformer industry is experiencing a considerable slow down.

USA & India :

The green-field projects in USA and India are expected to remain in gestation for a longer period than as envisaged earlier due to adverse market conditions.

Volatility in copper prices has also increased the risks. Copper prices which had come down significantly have more than doubled from the lower levels seen earlier this year.

The Board expects the performance of the Group for the financial year 2010 to be negatively impacted due to the global recession and uncertainties in the globaleconomic conditions.

17) Profit forecast and variance

There was no profit forecast or profit guarantee issued during the financial period to-date.

18) Taxation

	Current Year Quarter 31/03/10 RM'000	Comparative Year Quarter 31/03/09 RM'000	Current Year To Date 31/03/10 RM'000	Comparative Year To Date 31/03/09 RM'000
In respect of current period:				
- income tax	3,083	914	3,083	914
- deferred tax	642	564	642	564
TOTAL :	3,725	1,478	3,725	1,478

Effective tax rate was higher due to losses in certain foreign subsidiaries.

19) Profit/(losses) on sales of unquoted investments and/or properties

There were no sales of unquoted investments and/or properties for the current financial period to-date.

20) Purchase/disposal of quoted securities

(a) There were no purchases/sales of quoted securities for the current financial period to-date.

(b) There were no investments in quoted shares as at end of the reporting period.

21) Corporate proposals (status as at 20 May 2010)

There were no corporate proposals announced but not completed as at 20 May 2010.

22) Group Borrowings and Debt Securities

Group borrowings and debt securities as at 31 March 2010 are as follows:-

	Amount RM'000	Denominated in Foreign Currency		Secured / Unsecured
		Foreign Currency	Foreign Currency Amount ('000)	
Long-term borrowings				
- Term Loans	98,263	EUR	22,409	Secured
- Term Loan	34,175	EUR	7,794	Unsecured
	132,438			
Short-term borrowings:				
- Foreign Currency Trade Loan	129,611	USD	39,600	Unsecured
- Banker Acceptance	4,000	RM		
- Working Capital Loan	7,389	RMB	15,500	Unsecured
- Working Capital Loan	20,532	USD	6,300	Secured
- Working Capital Loan	5,779	INR	79,854	Secured
- Export Financing	37,273	EUR	8,500	Secured
- Term Loans	22,152	EUR	5,052	Secured
- Term Loans	20,847	EUR	4,754	Unsecured
	247,583			
Total :	380,021			

23) Financial Instruments

Derivatives

As at 31 March 2010, the derivative contracts that have been entered into by the Group to hedge its trade payables/receivables and forecasted sale and purchase transactions are as follows:-

Type of Derivatives	Contract Value (RM'000)	Fair Value (RM'000)	Fair Value gain/(loss) (RM'000)
Forward Exchange Contracts (USD)			
(i) Forecast Sales :	(USD5,000)		
- Less than 1 year	17,255	16,540	715
(ii) Trade Payables:	(USD10,349)		
- Less than 1 year	34,514	33,877	(637)
(iii) Trade Receivables:	(USD470)		
- Less than 1 year	1,503	1,530	(27)
Forward Copper Contracts RMB) Less than 1 year	(RMB4,859) 2,316	2,775	459
		TOTAL :	510

There is no change to the related accounting policies, cash requirements of the derivatives, risk associated with the derivatives and policies to mitigate those risks since the last financial year. .

24) Changes in Material litigations (including status of any pending material litigation)

Neither Metrod nor any of its subsidiaries are engaged in any litigation, claims or arbitration either as plaintiff or defendant, which may have a material effect on the financial position of Metrod and the Group.

25) Earnings per share

	Current Year Quarter 31/03/10 RM'000	Comparative Year Quarter 31/03/09 RM'000	Current Year To Date 31/03/10 RM'000	Comparative Year To Date 31/03/09 RM'000
Basic				
Net profit for the period (RM'000)	1,530	4,780	1,530	4,780
Weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue ('000)	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
Basic earnings per share (sen)	2.55	7.97	2.55	7.97

The Group does not have in issue any financial instrument or other contract that may entitle its holder to ordinary shares and therefore, dilutive to its basic earnings per share.

26) Authorisation for issue

The interim financial statements were issued by the Board of Directors in accordance with a resolution of the directors on **27 May 2010**.