



## **SIAS – SOCIETA' INIZIATIVE AUTOSTRADALI E SERVIZI S.p.A.**

Turin, 8 September 2006

### **PRESS RELEASE**

#### **SIX-MONTH REPORT TO 30 JUNE 2006**

**Board of Directors approves the six-month report to 30 June 2006: growth in traffic together with the contribution of the “technology” and “construction” sectors – with no change in operating costs – resulted in an EBITDA million increase of €13.1 million (+ 11.7%)**

#### **GROUP ECONOMIC RESULTS**

The highlights of the first half 2006 income statement (compared with those for 2005) are the following:

<i>(values in € millions)</i>	<b>1st half 2006</b>	<b>1st half 2005</b>	<b>Changes</b>
Revenues - motorway operations	179.8	171.1	8.7
Revenues - technology sector	15.7	17.4	(1.7)
Revenues - construction & engineering sector	1.6	3.2	(1.6)
Other revenues	13.1	12.2	0.9
Operating costs	(124.5)	(124.9)	0.4
Costs capitalized on fixed assets	39.9	33.5	6.4
<b>Gross operating margin (EBITDA)</b>	<b>125.6</b>	<b>112.5</b>	<b>13.1</b>
Non recurring income	-	23.4	(23.4)
<b>"Adjusted" gross operating margin</b>	<b>125.6</b>	<b>135.9</b>	<b>(10.3)</b>
Amortization/depreciation and provisions, net	(52.7)	(50.2)	(2.5)
<b>Operating result (EBIT)</b>	<b>72.9</b>	<b>85.7</b>	<b>(12.8)</b>
Financial income/(expense), net	(6.2)	(9.2)	3.0
<b>Pre-tax profit</b>	<b>66.7</b>	<b>76.5</b>	<b>(9.8)</b>
Income taxes (current and deferred)	(26.7)	(29.9)	3.2
<b>Net profit (loss) for the period</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>46.6</b>	<b>(6.6)</b>
▪ Minority share	11.3	13.3	(2.0)
▪ <b>Group share</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>33.4</b>	<b>(4.6)</b>

With € 180 million in “revenues from motorway operations”, the first half of 2006 further confirmed the growth in traffic volume already seen in the closing months of 2005, which generated an **increase** in “**toll revenues**” of **4.96%**. This item, which totaled €171.6 million, also benefited from an increase in tolls by SALT S.p.A., Autostrada dei Fiori S.p.A., and Autocamionale della Cisa S.p.A. for 2.21%, to 1.41% and 1.13%, respectively, applying the price-cap formula (limited to the “X” factor attributable to productivity increases).

The decline in “revenues from the technology sector” and in “revenues from the construction and engineering

sector” derived from an increase in activity within the Group by those companies.

“*Operating costs*” were basically in line with the first half of 2005.

The increase in “*costs capitalized on fixed assets*” reflects the significant volume of work completed by Group companies and capitalized to increase the value of assets.

For the above reasons, the “*gross operating margin*” (EBITDA) showed an **increase of € 13 million (+11.7%)**, of which €9.3 million derived from the "motorway sector".

The item “*non recurring income*” in the first half of 2005 referred to the amount collected by subsidiary AdP S.p.A. as an arbitration award.

The item “*amortization/depreciation and provisions, net*”, which increased by €2.5 million, reflects, for the motorway concession companies, the content of the financial plans attached to their respective concession agreements.

“*Financial income/(expense), net*” benefited from gains on the disposal of some investments.

The Group share of the “*net result for the period*” was therefore equal to €28.8 million (€33.4 million in the first six months of 2005).

## GROUP FINANCIAL SITUATION

The principal components of the financial position at 30 June 2006 (compared with those at 31 December 2005) can be summarized as follows:

<i>(values in € millions)</i>	<b>30/6/2006</b>	<b>31/12/2005</b>	<b>Changes</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	164.2	233.2	(69.0)
Other short-term financial assets	94.1	50.0	44.1
Bond loan (short-term portion)	(4.4)	(4.3)	(0.1)
Short term debt to banks and other lenders	(63.4)	(134.0)	70.6
<b>Short-term balance</b>	<b>190.5</b>	<b>144.9</b>	<b>45.6</b>
Other medium-term financial assets (*)	130.7	128.8	1.9
Convertible bond loan	(283.9)	(281.9)	(2.0)
Medium/long term debt to banks and other lenders	(446.1)	(328.5)	(117.6)
<b>Net financial position</b>	<b>(408.8)</b>	<b>(336.7)</b>	<b>(72.1)</b>

(\*) These are bond contracts that, though multi-year in nature, can be liquidated rapidly if required.

The net financial position of the Group at 30 June 2006 shows a negative balance of €409 million (€337 million at 31 December 2005). If the present value of the “debt owed to Fondo Centrale di Garanzia ed ANAS” were included, this figure would be €726 million (€646 million at 31 December 2005). Bank debt is guaranteed by the State for an amount of €41 million.

The cash flow generated by operations, along with the proceeds from the sale of investments (€55.9 million, including the disposal of the investment in Banca Nazionale del Lavoro S.p.A. for €43.9 million), and the initial payment of share capital of Società Autostrada Asti-Cuneo S.p.A. by ANAS and other minority



shareholders (€20 million or 25% of the share owned) were used to complete works on the Group's **motorway infrastructure** (with an increase of around **€ 63 million**) and to **acquire investments** for a total of **€ 107 million** (related primarily to the subscription of share capital in ASA S.r.l. and the purchase of shares in Assicurazioni Generali S.p.A. and Autostrade S.p.A., for amounts of €45 million, €40.8 million and €8.4 million, respectively). The parent company also paid **dividends** for **2005** of **€25.5 million**.

With the aim of optimizing the financial structure, a portion of the "cash and cash equivalents" was invested in "short-term financial assets" during the period and short-term debt positions were replaced with medium/long-term loans.

The Chairman  
Bruno Binasco

Annex - Group six-month report schemes

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## Balance Sheet

30 June 2005	(amounts in € thousands)	30 June 2006	31 December 2005
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
38,434	1. Intangible assets (note 1)	39,921	40,117
<b>38,434</b>	<b>Total intangible assets</b>	<b>39,921</b>	<b>40,117</b>
2. Total tangible assets (note 2)			
1,103,248	a. assets to be relinquished - operational	1,133,707	1,095,918
270,881	b. assets to be relinquished - in progress	286,190	311,206
36,672	c. property, plant & equipment and other assets	40,982	40,885
2,713	d. assets under finance leases	2,894	2,631
<b>1,413,514</b>	<b>Total tangible assets</b>	<b>1,463,773</b>	<b>1,450,640</b>
3. Non-current financial assets (note 3)			
476	a. investments valued by the equity method	45,663	557
252,989	b. associates	252,035	244,564
26,478	c. receivables	31,331	33,067
56,203	d. others	131,085	128,804
<b>336,146</b>	<b>Total non-current financial assets</b>	<b>460,114</b>	<b>406,992</b>
4,456	4. Deferred tax assets (note 4)	4,478	4,242
<b>1,792,550</b>	<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>1,968,286</b>	<b>1,901,991</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
50,965	5. Inventories (note 5)	38,659	42,135
25,228	6. Trade receivables (note 6)	17,213	30,359
7,551	7. Current tax assets (note 7)	12,109	11,849
108,022	8. Other receivables (note 8)	125,530	97,710
-	9. Assets held for trading	-	-
1,963	10. Assets available for sale (note 9)	-	-
-	11. Financial assets (note 10)	94,057	49,999
<b>193,729</b>	<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>287,568</b>	<b>232,052</b>
28,493	12. Cash and cash equivalents (note 11)	164,233	233,164
<b>222,222</b>	<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>451,801</b>	<b>465,216</b>
<b>2,014,772</b>	<b>Total assets</b>	<b>2,420,087</b>	<b>2,367,207</b>
<b>Liabilities and Equity</b>			
<b>Shareholders' equity (note 12)</b>			
1. Group shareholders' equity			
63,750	a. share capital	63,750	63,750
552,016	b. reserves and retained earnings	635,576	631,076
<b>615,766</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>699,326</b>	<b>694,826</b>
211,051	2. Minority shareholders' equity	204,999	204,345
<b>826,817</b>	<b>Total shareholders' equity</b>	<b>904,325</b>	<b>899,171</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
117,023	3. Severance indemnity fund and other funds (note 13)	118,985	120,110
-	4. Trade payables	-	-
428,409	5. Other liabilities (note 14)	406,419	406,431
325,701	6. Payables to banks (note 15)	445,200	328,379
467	7. Other financial liabilities (note 16)	284,799	282,055
6,522	8. Deferred tax liabilities (note 17)	26,754	24,605
<b>878,122</b>	<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>1,282,157</b>	<b>1,161,580</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
88,761	9. Trade payables (note 18)	82,856	96,697
63,615	10. Other liabilities (note 19)	67,528	58,063
140,381	11. Payables to banks (note 20)	62,847	133,401
755	12. Other financial liabilities (note 21)	4,950	4,851
16,321	13. Current tax liabilities (note 22)	15,424	13,444
<b>309,833</b>	<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>233,605</b>	<b>306,456</b>
<b>1,187,955</b>	<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>1,515,762</b>	<b>1,468,036</b>
<b>2,014,772</b>	<b>Total liabilities and equity</b>	<b>2,420,087</b>	<b>2,367,207</b>

## Income Statement

2005	(amounts in € thousands)	1st half 2006	1st half 2005
<b>Revenues (note 23)</b>			
362,029	1. motorway sector (note 23.1)	179,765	171,102
9,432	2. engineering & construction sector (note 23.2)	1,638	3,204
31,462	3. technology sector (note 23.3)	15,704	17,361
26,203	4. other (note 23.4)	13,146	12,208
23,455	5. Non recurring income (note 23.5)	-	23,455
<b>452,581</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>210,253</b>	<b>227,330</b>
(79,283)	6. Personnel costs (note 24)	(39,080)	(39,676)
(109,494)	7. Service costs (note 25)	(54,597)	(50,998)
(52,343)	8. Raw material costs (note 26)	(22,491)	(26,452)
(14,913)	9. Other costs (note 27)	(8,303)	(7,754)
82,902	10. Costs capitalized on fixed assets (note 28)	39,866	33,540
(99,804)	11. Amortization/depreciation & provisions (note 29)	(53,165)	(50,445)
(1,896)	12. Adjustment to the fund for renovation/replacement of assets to be relinquished (note 30)	579	318
(155)	13. Other provisions for risks and charges (note 31)	(77)	(77)
	14. Financial income: (note 32)		
75,305	a. from associates	7,776	2,568
10,307	b. other	6,507	1,583
	15. Financial expense: (note 32)		
(30,689)	a. interest paid	(18,726)	(11,965)
(1,627)	b. other	(1,848)	(1,418)
	16. Profit (loss) from companies valued by the equity method (note 33)		
(38)		44	(38)
<b>230,853</b>	<b>Pre-tax profit (loss)</b>	<b>66,738</b>	<b>76,516</b>
	17. Taxes (note 34)		
(63,033)	a. Current taxes	(25,931)	(28,701)
(245)	b. Deferred taxes	(786)	(1,178)
<b>167,575</b>	<b>Net profit (loss) for the period</b>	<b>40,021</b>	<b>46,637</b>
34,417	• minority share	11,259	13,264
<b>133,158</b>	• <b>Group share</b>	<b>28,762</b>	<b>33,373</b>
<b>Earnings per share (note 35)</b>			
1.044	Earnings (euro per share)	0.226	0.262
0.959	Diluted earnings per share (euro per share)	0.206	0.262