

## LA SEDA DE BARCELONA INCREASES ITS TURNOVER IN THE THIRD QUARTER BY 3.9% TO REACH 931 MILLION EUROS

- *The Packaging division boosts the group accounts with an increase in turnover and an EBITDA up by 5.5% to 37.4 million euros thanks to its commitment to recycling*
- *The other business areas, PET / recycled PET and Chemicals, were affected by weak demand and a sharp squeeze on margins. The main consequence of this was a fall in group EBITDA to 19.7 million euros.*

**El Prat de Llobregat, November 9<sup>th</sup> 2012.** La Seda de Barcelona (LSB) earned consolidated revenues of 931 million euros in the third quarter of the year 2012. This represents a 3.9% increase on the same period in the previous year.

The group EBITDA fell from 49.9 to 19.7 million euros, mainly as a consequence of the reduction in the margin on sales, increased energy costs in nearly all plants and exchange rate trends.

Operating losses for the period attributable to the parent company came to 70.6 million euros. Despite the financial difficulties which the group is experiencing, since the beginning of 2012 LSB has paid 14 million euros under the agreements negotiated as part of the restructuring process completed in 2010.

In terms of business units, the positive performance of the Packaging division stands out, helping to compensate for the deterioration in the results of the Chemical and PET / recycled PET divisions.

The **Packaging division** has boosted the group accounts by increasing its EBITDA by 5.5% to 37.4 million euros. Recycling business has made a considerable contribution to the profits made by this division and there are now major brands which have expressed growing interest in starting to use recycled materials in their products. Sustainability policies have generated opportunities for the recycling business, such as the joint venture agreement signed by the French plant in Beaune and Coca-Cola Enterprises.

The **Chemical division** increased its sales in the third quarter of 2012 by 5.8% on the same period the year before, to reach 99.8 million euros, with an EBITDA of 1.9 million euros, 81% down on the third quarter of 2011. Despite this fall in EBITDA, the division's performance is beginning to show signs of recovery, due to the increase seen recently in the glycol margin over ethylene.

The **PET / recycled PET** division increased its gross sales by 5% over the first nine months of 2012 in comparison to the same period in the previous year. However, the business unit recorded a negative EBITDA of 3 million euros, as compared to a positive EBITDA of 17.3 million euros in the same period in 2011, due to a 23% reduction in sales margins and a 22% increase in unit energy costs. The search for a strategic partner for the PET business is under way and proceeding according to plan.