

Wednesday, 14 November 2001

**BERLI JUCKER ANNOUNCES 40% INCREASE IN THIRD QUARTER
NET INCOME TO BAHT 167 MILLION**

The attached press release was distributed today by Berli Jucker, in which First Pacific has an 83.5 per cent economic interest.

Berli Jucker is based and listed in Bangkok. It focuses on the manufacturing, marketing and distribution of glass, consumer, technical products and imaging. Further information on Berli Jucker can be found at www.berlijucker.co.th

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NEWS RELEASE

BERLI JUCKER ANNOUNCES 40% INCREASE IN THIRD QUARTER NET INCOME TO BAHT 167 MILLION

Berli Jucker Public Co. Limited announced today that consolidated net income for the third quarter of 2001 was Baht 167.4 million, representing a 40% increase from the third quarter of 2000. For the nine-month period, consolidated net income was Baht 467.7 million, an 11% increase from the consolidated net income for the first nine months of 2000.

Consolidated sales revenues for the third quarter of 2001 were Baht 2,838 million, an increase of 11% over the comparative period in 2000. For the nine-month period, consolidated sales revenues of Baht 8,276 million, increased by 9% compared with the equivalent period in 2000.

Commenting on the results for the third quarter, Mr. David J. Nicol, Berli Jucker's President and Chief Executive Officer, said:

"I am very pleased to report that our Consumer, Packaging and Technical businesses have all enjoyed sales increases in the third quarter of 2001 compared with the same period last year. Our Imaging business, however, recorded declines.

Consumer product sales of Baht 1,062 million for the third quarter were 10% higher than the same period in 2000, led by a 27% rise in our snack foods business due to the overwhelming success of our Campus products and the continuing strength of our Tasto fresh potato chips. Tissue paper sales rose 15% from the third quarter last year with strong growth coming from the private label and institutional sanitary business sectors. Gross profit in our snack foods and tissue paper businesses also benefited from lower raw material costs.

Sales revenues from Packaging products during the third quarter of 2001, at Baht 992 million, were 13% better than the equivalent period last year, due to strong sales of beer, whisky and soft drink bottles which were partly offset by lower sales to the energy drink sector. Packaging products achieved net profits after taxes of Baht 113 million, an increase of 45%, for the third quarter aided by higher capacity utilisation and lower oil prices.

Sales in our Technical business increased by 22% to Baht 488 million in the third quarter of this year compared with the same period last year. This strong growth was driven primarily by sales in our Medical Products and Specialties businesses, due primarily to strong sales of pharmaceuticals and food ingredients, respectively. With good margins realized in our Medical Products business during the third quarter, gross profit margin in our Technical division increased by 1.6% compared with the equivalent period in 2000.

Sales in our Imaging products division decreased by 22% to Baht 205 million in the third quarter compared with the same period last year due primarily to significantly increased competition. The decreased sales resulted in gross margins declining by 2.7% in the quarter compared with the equivalent quarter of 2000.

The Group's gross profit margin for the third quarter of 2001 at 26.4% was an improvement over the 25.6% gross profit margin realized in the third quarter of 2000. In aggregate, our margins have benefited from increased capacity utilisation in our packaging and tissue paper businesses and from lower raw material and energy costs."

Mr. Nicol went on to comment on Berli Jucker's prospects for the remainder of 2001:

"I anticipate the last quarter of this year should also be relatively strong for the Berli Jucker Group, similar in fact to the first nine months of the year."

November 14, 2001

BERLI JUCKER PUBLIC CO. LTD. AND SUBSIDIARIES
SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL POSITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

BALANCE SHEET AS AT

(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS OF BAHT)

	30 September 2001	31 December 2000
Current Assets	6,329,185	4,924,304
Total Assets	12,759,532	12,187,488
Current Liabilities	5,350,659	5,123,446
Shareholders' Equity	6,568,680	6,179,043

STATEMENTS OF INCOME

	Three Months Ended September 30		Nine Months Ended September 30	
	2001	2000	2001	2000
Revenue on sales	2,838,585	2,562,884	8,276,277	7,597,678
Total Revenues	2,865,262	2,586,315	8,363,073	7,847,135
Cost of sales	2,088,675	1,906,309	6,094,170	5,667,660
Other expenses	563,084	524,059	1,677,657	1,640,085
Operating profit	213,503	155,947	591,246	539,390
Share of profits less losses of associated companies	12,518	7,571	41,818	12,924
Net profit	167,441	119,410	467,745	419,517
Basic earnings per share (Baht)	1.05	0.75	2.95	2.64
Number of equity shares (Share 000)	158,813	158,813	158,813	158,813

Consolidated net income for the third quarter of 2001 was Baht 167.4 million, representing a 40% increase from the third quarter of 2000. Consolidated sales revenues for the third quarter of 2001 were Baht 2,838 million, an increase of 11% over the comparative period in 2000. Consumer, Packaging and Technical businesses have all enjoyed sales increases in the third quarter of 2001 compared with the same period last year. The Group's gross profit margin for the third quarter of 2001 at 26.4% was an improvement over the 25.6% gross profit margin realized in the third quarter of 2000. In aggregate, our margins have benefited from increased utilisation in our packaging and tissue paper businesses and from lower raw material and energy costs.