

# MEWAH INTERNATIONAL INC.

(Company Registration No.: CR-166055)

**NEWS RELEASE:** 

FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER AND NINE MONTHS PERIOD ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2013

## **MEWAH REPORTS US\$3.6 MILLION PROFIT FOR Q3**

- > Improved sales volume for both Bulk and Consumer Pack segments
- > Strong balance sheet with low net debt to equity ratio of 0.39
- > Group remains cautious for near-term outlook

# Results Highlights

	Q3 2013	Q3 2012	Change	Q2 2013	Change	9M 2013	9M 2012	Change
Sales volume (MT'000)	933.0	777.7	20.0%	849.1	9.9%	2,762.3	2,570.4	7.5%
Revenue (US\$'million)	793.2	844.4	-6.1%	707.3	12.1%	2,359.8	2,853.0	-17.3%
Operating margin (US\$'million)	27.4	24.3	12.5%	28.3	-3.3%	85.3	84.6	0.9%
Operating margin per MT (US\$)	29.3	31.3	-6.4%	33.3	-12.0%	30.9	32.9	-6.1%
Net profit * (US\$'million)	3.6	1.2	209.7%	4.1	-11.5%	11.6	15.7	-26.1%

<sup>\*</sup> Profit after tax attributable to equity holders of the Company

Singapore, Nov 8, 2013 – Mainboard-listed **Mewah International Inc.** ("Mewah", "the Group" or "the Company"), an integrated agri-business group that is one of the largest palm oil processors in the world by capacity, today announced results for its third quarter and nine months period ended 30 September 2013.

For the quarter, the Group reported net profit of US\$3.6 million, three times of the profit for the corresponding quarter last year (Q3 2012) but 11.5% lower than the previous quarter (Q2 2013). For the nine months, net profit was US\$11.6 million, 26.1% lower than the corresponding period last year ("9M 2012").

The Group witnessed renewed demand from its customers and registered high sales volumes to Middle East and Americas for both Bulk and Consumer Pack segments. Consumer Pack segment was also supported by higher sales for rice business.

The Group achieved sales volume of 933,000 metric tonne ("MT") for the quarter, an increase of 20.0% on Year-over-Year ("YOY") basis and 9.9% increase on Quarter-on-Quarter ("QOQ") basis. For the nine months, sales volume was 2,762,300 MT, up 7.5% from last year.

Revenue for the quarter decreased by 6.1% on YOY basis but increased by 12.1% on QOQ basis to US\$793.2 million. For the nine months, due to lower average selling prices, revenue declined by 17.3% to US\$2,359.8 million from US\$2,853.0 million a year ago.

Total operating margin for the quarter improved by 12.5% on YOY basis but declined by 3.3% on QOQ basis to US\$27.4 million. For the nine months, total operating margin improved marginally by 0.9% to US\$85.3 million.

# **Segmental Performance**

# **Bulk segment**

	Q3 2013	Q3 2012	Change	Q2 2013	Change	9M 2013	9M 2012	Change
Sales volume (MT'000)	681.0	608.9	11.8%	574.6	18.5%	1,991.2	1,975.9	0.8%
Revenue (US\$'million)	573.9	632.3	-9.2%	457.2	25.5%	1,649.2	2,132.2	-22.7%
Average selling prices (US\$)	842.7	1,038.5	-18.9%	795.7	5.9%	828.2	1,079.1	-23.3%
Operating margin (US\$'million)	19.5	17.1	14.0%	15.0	30.0%	53.8	54.0	-0.4%
Operating margin per MT (US\$)	28.6	28.1	1.8%	26.1	9.6%	27.0	27.3	-1.1%

Sales volume for the Bulk segment improved to 681,000, up 11.8% and 18.5% on YOY and QOQ basis respectively. For the nine months, sales volume increased marginally by 0.8% to 1,991,200 MT.

Higher sales volumes but lower average selling prices resulted in revenue declining by 9.2% on YOY basis to US\$573.9 million for the quarter. However, revenue improved by 25.5% on QOQ basis on the back of higher sales volume and higher average selling prices. For the nine months, revenue decreased by 22.7% to US\$1,649.2 million.

For the quarter, operating margin was US\$19.5 million, an increase of 14.0% and 30.0% on YOY and QOQ basis respectively, on the back of higher sales volume and higher operating margin per MT. For the nine months, operating margin decreased marginally by 0.4% to US\$53.8 million.

The segment contributed 73.0% to total sales volume, 72.4% to total revenue and 71.2% to total operating margin of the Group for the quarter. For the nine months, the segment's contributions were 72.1%, 69.9% and 63.0% of total sales volume, total revenue and total operating margin of the Group respectively.

# **Consumer Pack segment**

	Q3 2013	Q3 2012	Change	Q2 2013	Change	9M 2013	9M 2012	Change
Sales volume (MT'000)	252.0	168.8	49.3%	274.5	-8.2%	771.1	594.5	29.7%
Revenue (US\$'million)	219.3	212.1	3.4%	250.1	-12.3%	710.6	720.8	-1.4%
Average selling prices (US\$)	870.2	1,256.5	-30.7%	911.1	-4.5%	921.5	1,212.4	-24.0%
Operating margin (US\$'million)	7.9	7.2	9.7%	13.3	-40.6%	31.5	30.6	2.9%
Operating margin per MT (US\$)	31.3	42.7	-26.7%	48.5	-35.5%	40.9	51.5	-20.6%

Consumer Pack segment registered an impressive growth of 49.3% in the sales volume on YOY basis, due to improvement in destination demand, registering sales volume of 252,000 MT for the quarter. However, sales volume was down by 8.2% compared to last quarter. For the nine months, sales volume improved by 29.7% to 771,100 MT which included 202,700 MT of rice, 75.0% higher than last year.

Revenue increased by 3.4% on YOY basis due to higher sales volume despite lower average selling prices. However, revenue was 12.3% lower than the last quarter. For the nine months, sales revenue declined marginally by 1.4% to US\$710.6 million on account of lower average selling prices.

Operating margin per MT ("margin") remained under pressure for Consumer Pack segment. Higher sales contribution of rice business with lower average selling prices and operating margin also pulled down the average margin for the segment. However, lower OM per MT was offset by higher sales volume resulting in operating margin improving by 9.7% to US\$7.9 million.

Operating margin improved by 9.7% on YOY basis to US\$7.9 million on account of higher sales volume despite lower operating margin of US\$31.3 per MT. However, operating margin was down by 40.6% compared to last quarter due to lower sales volume and lower operating margin per MT. For the nine months, operating margin improved by 2.9% to US\$31.5 million.

The segment contributed 27.0% of total sales volume, 27.6% of total revenue and 28.8% of total operating margin of the Group for the quarter. For the nine months, contributions were 27.9%, 30.1% and 37.0% of total sales volume, total revenue and total operating margin of the Group respectively.

#### **Balance Sheet**

Mewah group generated strong operating cash flows of US\$41.6 million and US\$161.7 million for the quarter and for the nine months respectively.

The Group's balance sheet remained strong with debt to equity ratio of 0.54 or net debt to equity ratio of 0.39.

The Group continued to maintain operational efficiency reflected in cycle time (inventories days add trade receivables days less trade payables days) of 50.4 days.

## **Future Outlook**

Crude Palm Oil prices have been range-bound between US\$700 and US\$800 for the past one year from a high of US\$1,200 in the beginning of financial year 2012. We are of the opinion that the low prices and resultant lower profit margins are currently resulting in the industry to consolidate that will help integrated larger players in the long run.

The Group's outlook remains cautious for near term. However, the Group's competitive advantage remains intact and the Group continues to focus on consolidating its position by investing in additional refining capacity that will increase the Group's refining capacity from 2.8 million MT to 3.5 million MT. The Group is also exploring the possibility of adding more value added products as downstream extension to its current palm oil business.

The Group is also making good progress to diversify its product portfolio by developing its rice and dairy businesses. The Group is currently investing in a dairy plant in Malaysia which is expected to be operational in early 2014. The Group has already started its operations in India to source rice.

## About Mewah International Inc.

Mewah International Inc. ("Mewah" or the "Group") has been in operation since the 1950s. The Group has a proven integrated business model throughout the edible oils and fats value chain, spanning from the sourcing and processing of raw materials, to the packing, merchandising, shipping and distribution of its products to reach end customers globally. This allows the Group to enjoy significant operating efficiencies, have better quality control and to extract value and earn margins from each stage of the value chain. Its business model also enables the Group to better manage cyclicality and respond quickly to changes in demand, supply and pricing through its ability to produce a wide variety of value-added products.

Mewah produces a wide range of refined and fractionated vegetable oils and fats principally from palm oil. It has three strategically located refineries and processing plants in Malaysia at Semenyih, Pasir Gudang and Westport; two packing plants in Malaysia and one in Singapore. The Group's ISO-certified refineries are located near ports along major shipping routes, with its facilities strategically situated to have easy access to raw materials, customers, distribution and transportation facilities.

Mewah's bulk and consumer pack products are marketed to more than 100 countries in the Asia Pacific, the Indian sub-continent, the Middle East, Africa, Europe and the America through a well-established global sales and distribution network. In particular, Mewah's wide range of consumer pack products are marketed under its house brands such as "Oki", "Mona", "Moi", "Krispi" and "Cabbage", and are distributed to consumers worldwide either under Mewah's own brands or the brands of third parties.

Mewah was listed on the Mainboard of the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited on November 24, 2010.

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Issued by MEWAH INTERNATIONAL INC. 8 Nov 2013