MNY - Moneyweb - Unaudited Condensed Financial Res

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 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{MNY}}$ - Moneyweb - Unaudited Condensed Financial Results For The Six Months

Ended 30 September 2008

Moneyweb Holdings Limited (Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa) (Registration No: 1998/025067/06) (JSE code: MNY ISIN code: ZAE000025409)

("Moneyweb" or "the company" or "the group")

Salient features
UK law suit settled, but costs lead to
headline loss for period
Strong growth in core online audiences
to over 175 000
Sale of Moneyweb UK website at top of
the market
Cost cutting completed; running expenses
reduced by 17,5%
Radio headline sponsorship secured from
October 2008

UNAUDITED CONDENSED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2008

Condensed Group Income Statement

	Unaudited	Unaudited
Audited	6 months	6 months
12 months 30-Sep-08 30-Sep-07 31-Mar-08 R`000	R`000	
Revenue 23 915	9 846	12 355
Advertising 22 917 Newsletters 998	9 255	11,792
	591	563
(Loss) / Profit before investment 2 267 income, fair value adjustment, depreciation, amortisation and	(1 197)	1 614
<pre>impairments Depreciation and amortisation (627)</pre>	(431)	(376)
Investment income	213	23

111 Fair value adjustment of (6) investment	(6)	-
Profit on disposal of intangible	1 860	-
asset Net profit before taxation 1 745	439	1 261
Taxation	(44)	(387)
(366) Net profit for the period 1 379	395	874
Reconciliation of headline earnings		
Net profit for the period 1,379	395	874
Fair value adjustment on 6	6	-
investments Profit on disposal of intangible -	(1 860)	-
asset Profit on disposal of tangible (7)	-	-
assets Headline earnings 1 392	(1 459)	874
Earnings per share (cents) 1.98	0.52	1.32
Fully diluted earnings per share 1.98	0.52	1.32
<pre>(cents) Headline (loss) / earnings per share 2.00</pre>	(1.91)	1.32
<pre>(cents) Fully diluted headline (loss) / earnings 2.00</pre>	(1.91)	1.32
per share (cents)		
Number of shares (000`s) - Issued closing (net of 76 189	76 189	66 060
treasury) - weighted average 69 453	76 189	66 127
- fully diluted weighted average 69 594	76 255	66 193
Condensed Group Balance Sheet	Unaudited	Unaudited
Audited	30-Sept-	30-Sept-
31-Mar-08 08 07	<u>.</u> -	-

ASSETS R`000	R`000	R`000
Non-current assets		
Tangible assets	907	979
1,036 Intangible assets 2 169	2 420	1 299
Other investment	11	23
Deferred taxation	225	250
225	3 563	2 552
3 448		
Current assets Trade and other receivables 6 640	8 652	5 294
Cash and cash equivalents	5 695	3 603
7 372	14 347	8 897
14 012 Total assets	17 910	11 448
17 460		
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Capital and reserves	11 932	4 020
Share capital and premium 11 933	11 932	4 930
Retained earnings 2 698	2 328	2 099
Ordinary shareholders` interest 14 631	14 260	7 037
Non-manual 11 abilitates		
Non-current liabilities Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	2,656	3,564
2,300 Deferred revenue	718	600
304	710	000
Income tax payable 225	276	247
2 020	3,650	4,411
2,829 Total equity and liabilities	17,910	11,448
17,460		
Net asset value per share (cents) 19.2	18.7	10.7
Net tangible asset value per 16.3	15.5	8.7
share (cents) Condensed Group Statement of Changes in		
Equity Shar	e Share	
Retained Total		
capi earnings	tal premium	

R`000 R`000	R`000	R`000	
Balance at 1 April 2007 980 7 149	67	5 102	1
Net profit for the year ended 31 379 1 379			1
March 2008 Ordinary dividend paid			
(660) (660) New issue 6 990	9	6 981	
Treasury shares purchased (227)		(227)	
Balance at 1 April 2008 699 14 631	76	11 856	2
Net profit for the six months ende	ed 30		395
September 2008 Ordinary dividend paid (766) (766)			
Balance at 30 September 2008 328 14	76	11 856	2
260			
Condensed Group Cash Flow Statement			
Audited		Unaudited	Unaudited
6 months 6 months 12 months		30-Sep-08	30-Sep-07
31-Mar-08		R`000	
R`000 Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated by operations 2 229		(783)	1 880
Movements in working capital (1 358)		(1 657)	1 254
Cash generated by operating 871		(2 440)	3 134
activities			
Investment income 104		213	23
Taxation paid (332)		7	(358)
Dividend paid (660)		(766)	(754)
Net cash flows from operating		(2,986)	2,045

(17) activities

Cash flows from investing activities		
Acquisition of intangible assets (1 704)	(447)	(499)
Acquisition of tangible assets (632)	(105)	(632)
Proceeds on disposal of	1 860	-
intangible assets Proceeds on disposal of tangible 20 assets	_	-
Net cash flows from investing (2,316) activities	1,308	(1,131)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Shares issued 6 319	-	-
Sale of treasury shares	-	_
693 Acquisition of treasury (227)	-	(231)
shares/shares cancelled		
Net cash flows from financing 6 785 activities	-	(231)
Net movement in cash and cash 4 52	(1 678)	683
equivalents for the period Cash and cash equivalents at 2,920	7 372	2 920
beginning Cash and cash equivalents at end 7 372 of period	5 695	3 603

Financial results

The directors of Moneyweb present the unaudited financial results for the $\,$

disappointing due to once-off events.

As discussed in the CEO's letter to shareholders in the 2008 annual $\,$

report, the company's offshore operation Mineweb.com was the subject of \boldsymbol{a}

legal action after it published a series of articles written in late 2007

by its Russian correspondent.

Legal fees incurred in defending and then settling the action are

responsible for the company reporting a headline loss of R1,459 million $\,$

(1,91 cents per share) for the interim period.

By order of the High Court of England and Wales, details of the

substantial settlement paid by the company are confidential. However,

there is no further liability for shareholders as the entire $\cos t$ of the

settlement and legal fees of R1,3 million have been accounted for in

expenses in the interim period.

On a brighter note, in April 2008 the company sold its Moneyweb.co.uk web

address to a mortgage originator at the top of the market. The sale was $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) +\left(1\right) +\left($

concluded ahead of the onset of the financial crisis. A capital profit of

R1,86 million was realised on the transaction.

The positive impact of the website address sale reduced losses incurred in

respect of the law suit. This resulted in the company reporting pre-tax

profit of R439 000 for the half year, down 65% from R1,26 million for the $\,$

comparative period. Net profit for the period was R395 000, down 55% from $\,$

the comparative period.

At end of September 2008, the company's financial position was sound with

cash balances of R5,7 million, net current assets of R10,7 million and no debt.

Operational activities

The internet operations continued to post strong audience growth.

According to Google Analytics, the core audience of www.moneyweb.co.za

exceeded 100 000 for the first time in September 2008, a year-on-year gain

of 69,5%. The company defines its core audiences as unique visitors to the $\,$

home page of the website - ie those individuals who type www.moneyweb.co.za into their browsers. By eliminating casual visitors

this measure is comparable to dedicated readers of a newspaper or magazine.

Success of a strategy to create self-standing titles off the flagship

website is best reflected in Mineweb.com, whose core audience surpassed

 $55\ 000$ in September 2008- a staggering 215% year-on-year growth in this

key matrix and a credit to London-based Lawrie Williams and his team. The

globalisation of the business is complete and today non-South ${\tt Africans}$

account for 93% of Mineweb`s audience and more than two thirds of the

advertising revenues. Mineweb`s partnership with Canadian-based

Infomine.com, secured in January 2008, is providing benefits on the

audience and financial level for both parties.

Changes have been made to the structure and management of $\operatorname{Mineweb}$ to

ensure there is no repeat of the legal problems. Shortly after settlement

of the law suit, an approach by Russian parties to acquire $\operatorname{Mineweb}$ was

seriously considered but rejected as the site is now an integral part of

the company's operations.

Of the new titles launched last year, Jackie Cameron`s Realestateweb has

been the top performer, having built a self-standing core audience of more

than 7 000. Both Politicsweb and Moneywebtax have now created sufficient

traction to suggest they, too, have bright futures. The niched

Marketingweb serves a discerning core audience of almost 9 000, and

continues to contribute positively to the company's profits. Sportingweb

is being persevered with, even though finding the key to unlocking a

sizeable audience is proving elusive.

In September, the core audiences of the company's seven websites hit a $\,$

record 179 180 according to Google Analytics, virtually double that of a $\,$

year ago. Perhaps the most pleasing aspect is that Moneyweb.co.za`s share

of the total is down to 56%, emphasising the success of a strategy to use

the flagship as a base from which to launch self-standing, sustainable

titles serving their own niche audiences.

From May 2008, the flagship radio programme has been broadcast on the

 ${\tt nation`s}$ news and information leading radio station SAFM, the ${\tt natural}$ home

for Moneyweb`s content. Radio operations were further expanded through the

introduction of a 15 minute Market Update with Moneyweb programme on Lotus $\,$

 ${\sf FM}$, the third such partnership with a national ${\sf FM}$ station. The company

decided not to renew the annual contract with the satellite television

channel CNBC Africa when it expired at the end of May 2008. Business combinations $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) +\left(1\right) +$

During the interim period, the company finalised its R800 000 investment

to acquire a 50% stake in Editors Inc, publishers of SA At A Glance, a $\,$

highly regarded pocket-book of facts, data and information.

Prospects

Shareholders were advised in the annual report that as a result of the $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) +\left(1\right) +\left($

impact of the law suit and investments committed to the continued

development of the Moneyweb Community, management would be aiming for a

break-even result at the headline earnings level for the full financial

year to end March 2009.

The improved financial prospects are the result of two focused actions.

Since June 2008, a thoroughgoing campaign has been engaged to re-assess

all expenses in the business. "Bezzle" equivalent to 17,5% of the monthly $\,$

costs have been identified and steadily eliminated from the business $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right) +\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left(1\right) +\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left($

without any impact on the quality of service delivered to the $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Moneyweb}}$

Community. The programme is now complete. The lower cost base is

sustainable.

On the revenue side, from the beginning of October, Moneyweb secured \boldsymbol{a}

headline sponsor of the company`s three radio programmes. This long-term

commitment brings back the kind of revenue stability which had been $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right) +\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left(1\right) +\left(1\right) \left(1$

missing from the business during the past year.

Moneyweb continues investing heavily in preparation for South Africa`s

entry into the Broadband world. Management is hard at work exploring $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) +\left(1\right$

acquisition and growth opportunities to optimise the company's

positioning.

The red letter day is 17 June 2009, when Seacom's undersea cable opens for $\,$

business, increasing by 120 times the supply of broadband to South Africa.

Seacom`s price list promises to reduce the country`s expensive broadband

costs by 90%. This will have a huge impact on the Internet

sector

generally, including Moneyweb's core business of online publishing.

Changes to the board of directors

The board has accepted with regret the resignation of non executive

director Victor Nosi. Victor is a key member of the team at the ${\sf SA}$

Football Association preparing for the country's hosting of the $2010\ \text{World}$

Cup and because of the pressures involved in that role, has found it

impossible to dedicate the time required. His energy, enthusiasm and

counsel, so valued since he joined the board in March 2001, will be $\ensuremath{\mathsf{missed}}.$

Dividend policy

In line with group policy no dividend has been declared for the interim period.

Post balance sheet events

There are no material events subsequent to the end of the interim period that have not been reflected in the interim financial statements or that

Basis of preparation Statement of compliance

require further disclosure.

The condensed financial statements comprise a consolidated balance sheet,

a consolidated income statement, consolidated statement of changes in

equity and consolidated cash flow statement for the $\ensuremath{\text{six}}$ months ended 30

September 2008.

The condensed financial statements have been prepared in accordance with

the recognition and measurement criteria of International Financial $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) +\left(1\right)$

Reporting Standards (IFRS) and the presentation and disclosure $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right) +\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left(1\right) +\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left(1\right) +\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left$

requirements of IAS 34, Interim Financial Reporting, JSE Listings

Requirements and South African Companies Act.

The same accounting policies and methods of computation are followed in

the interim financial statements as compared with the annual financial

statements for the year ended 31 March 2008.

Basis of measurement

The condensed financial statements have been prepared on the historical

cost basis with the exception of certain financial instruments that are stated at fair value.

Going concern

The condensed financial statements have been prepared on the going-concern

basis since the directors have every reason to believe that the company

has adequate resources in place to continue in operation for the

foreseeable future.

Alec Hogg CEO

17 November 2008

Corporate Information

Non executive directors: A Smith (Chairman); E A Jay; L

Sipoyo

Executive directors: A B Hogg (CEO); L M Hogg

Registration number: 1998/025067/06

Registered address: First Floor, West Wing President Place,

Corner Jan

Smuts Avenue and Bolton Road, Rosebank, 2196 Postal address: PO Box 102, Parklands, 2121

Company secretary: D G Wessels

Telephone: (011) 327 1277 Facsimile: (011) 327 1279

Transfer secretaries: Computershare Investor Services (Pty)

Limited

Auditors: BDO Spencer Steward (Jhb) Inc Designated Adviser: Vunani Corporate Finance

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