For Immediate Release

30 September 2005

# SYMPHONY PLASTIC TECHNOLOGIES PLC

### INTERIM RESULTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2005

Symphony Plastic Technologies plc ("Symphony" or "the Group"), the degradable plastics company, announces its interim results for the six months ended 30 June 2005.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Sales up 11% to £4.95 million (2004: £4.45 million)
- Gross profits stable at £1.00 million (2004: £1.05 million)
- Loss before tax of £0.30m (2004 loss: £0.08m)
- Fundamental strategy review completed

## Commenting on the results, Nirj Deva, Chairman of Symphony, said:

"The trading results reflect limited progress in sales and the adverse effects of exceptional raw material price fluctuations. Whilst many exciting and significant prospects continue to develop, the Board is not satisfied with the slow rate at which actual sales and margins have been growing. The conclusion of the Somerfield contract has added to the significance of this. The Board therefore has undertaken a thorough and fundamental review of our strategy and, as a result, some material changes are now being implemented. We remain confident that considerable potential exists in the fast growing environmental polymers market and that the foundations which have been laid to date will provide a solid base on which the Company will be able to build."

### For further information, please contact:

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### Notes to Editors

Symphony develops and supplies environmentally responsible plastic packaging products and additives which are distributed both in the UK and internationally. The Group's main technology, d2w®, allows plastic to degrade totally and safely, leaving only water, a minimal amount of carbon dioxide and trace amounts of non-toxic

biomass. The current d2w® product range now includes additives, carrier bags, refuse and waste sacks, mailing wrap, stretch film, aprons, and packaging films.

Symphony has a diverse customer base in the UK and a growing overseas distribution network. Further information on Symphony can be found at <u>www.symphonyplastics.com</u> and product information at <u>www.degradable.net</u>.

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REVIEW

The initial six months of 2005 saw continued volatility in raw material prices. In most cases we were successfully able to pass these increases on to our customers albeit on a staggered basis, thus resulting in a reduction of margins. During the period the Group increased its investments in marketing and in sales support personnel with the specific aim of improving sales and operating margins, whilst continuing the process of product and market diversification.

Following our victory in the High Court, the Court of Appeal granted EPI the right to appeal. That Hearing has now been delayed from October to December 2005 with the judgment expected some time early in 2006. A total of £870,000 is now secured in Court against our legal costs for this action. We remain confident that the Appeal Court will uphold the Judgment of the High Court.

In March the Group raised a further £1.8 million to cover the costs of the legal case, strengthen the balance sheet and provide additional working capital.

### Trading Results

Sales increased by 11% to £4.95 million. Gross profits were stable at £1.00 million (2004: £1.05 million). Overhead costs increased to £1.13 million from £0.96 million as a result of increased spending on sales and marketing activities. Distribution costs, however, fell as a percentage of total sales due to improvements in our supply chain system. Operating losses increased to £0.26 million from £0.06 million.

Although the losses widened compared to the same period last year, they have reduced significantly from the second half of 2004.

The loss per share increased to 0.52 pence (2004: loss per share of 0.19 pence).

### **Outlook & Current Trading**

The level of interest in degradable plastics is higher than ever but the pace of this being converted into actual sales and profits has been well below the level we would find satisfactory. The significance of this has been accentuated by the conclusion of our contract to supply carrier bags to Somerfield. As a result, the Board has undertaken a very comprehensive review of its strategy.

A number of material changes are now being implemented as a result of this process. In addition to positive strategies directed at specific products and markets, this also includes changes in management responsibilities, reductions where relevant in staff numbers and reductions in all cost categories. As a part of this process, Director's salaries have been reviewed.

We remain confident that the investment and work undertaken to date to establish awareness of degradable plastics will prove profitable. In the meanwhile we are wholly committed to speeding up the conversion of the increasing potential into profits and to develop other compatible markets and activities.

Michael Laurier Chief Executive

# CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

For the six months ended 30 June 2005

	Six months to 30 June 2005		Year ended 31 December 2004		Six months to 30 June 2004	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Turnover		4,946		8,855		4,449
Cost of sales		(3,949)	_	(7,013)		(3,404)
Gross profit		997		1,842		1,045
Distribution costs		(130)		(283)		(139)
Administrative expenses - other Administrative expenses - Exceptional item	(1,128) -		(2,054) (100)		(964) -	
Administrative expenses	-	(1,128)	_	(2,154)		(964)
Operating loss		(261)		(595)		(58)
Net interest		(39)	_	(132)		(26)
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation		(300)		(727)		(84)
Tax on loss on ordinary activities		-	_	105		
Loss for the financial year transferred from reserves		(300)	-	(622)		(84)
Basic and diluted earnings per share in pence		(0.52)p		(1.31)p		(0.19)p

There were no recognised gains or losses other than the loss for the period.

# CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

## As at 30 June 2005

	30 June 2005	31 December 2004	30 June 2004
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets		45	•
Intangible assets	20	15	9
Tangible assets Investments	258 16	203 16	196 16
	294	234	221
Current assets	234	234	221
Stock	616	380	518
Debtors	3,886	3,397	2,594
Cash at bank and in hand	453	1	226
-	4,955	3,778	3,338
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year _	(2,444)	(2,763)	(2,368)
Net current assets	2,511	1,015	970
Total assets less current liabilities	2,805	1,249	1,191
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	(83)	(41)	(28)
=	2,722	1,208	1,163
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	634	513	453
Share premium account	10,809	9,116	8,593
Other reserves	823	823	823
Profit and loss account	(9,544)	(9,244)	(8,706)
-	2,722	1,208	1,163
=	2,122	1,200	1,105

#### CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

For the six months ended 30 June 2005

	Six months to 30 June 2005	Year ended 31 December 2004	Six months to 30 June 2004
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Net cash outflow from operating activities (see below)	(1,083)	(1,049)	(216)
<b>Returns on investments and servicing of finance</b> Interest received Interest paid Finance lease interest paid	1 (37) (3)	(128) (5)	(24) (2)
Net cash outflow from returns on investments and servicing of finance	(39)	(133)	(26)
Taxation		105	<b>-</b>
<b>Capital expenditure and financial investment</b> Purchase of tangible fixed assets Purchase of intangible fixed assets Receipts from sale of fixed assets	(85) (6) 11	(15) (8) 4	(3) (8) 4
Net cash outflow from capital expenditure and financial investment	(80)	(19)	(7)
<b>Financing</b> Issues of equity share capital Share premium on issue of equity share capital Share issue expenses Capital element of finance lease rentals Inception of finance leases	121 1,718 (25) (13) 61	60 565 (42) (22)	- - - (11) -
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from financing	1,862	561	(11)
(Decrease)/increase in cash	660	(535)	(260)
Net cash outflow from operating activities	£'000	£'000	£'000
Operating loss Depreciation and amortisation Loss on disposal of fixed assets Decrease/(increase) in stocks (Increase)/decrease in debtors Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(262) 21 (1) (236) (488) (117)	(595) 49 7 213 (1,286) 563	(58) 22 6 75 (444) 183
Net cash outflow from operating activities	(1,083)	(1,049)	(216)

#### NOTES TO THE INTERIM ACCOUNTS

#### **1. BASIS OF PREPARATION**

The interim financial statements have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 8 and 9 of the 2004 Annual Report, and are unaudited. The comparative figures for the year ended 31 December 2004 have been extracted from the group's latest published accounts which contain an unqualified audit report and which have been filed with the Registrar of Companies.

#### 2. LOSS PER SHARE

The calculation of basic loss per share is based on a loss for the period divided by the weighted average number of shares in issue during the period of 57,481,867 (2004 FY 47,526,432; 2004 H1: 45,282,880).