

PRESS RELEASE

Pfeiffer Vacuum weathers the crisis

- **Sales revenues satisfactory in spite of economic environment**
- **EBIT margin remains at high level**
- **Positive trend of new orders**

Aslar, Germany, February 23, 2010. Pfeiffer Vacuum announces its preliminary, as-yet unaudited results for the 2009 fiscal year. These numbers show that the company succeeded in largely cushioning the effects of the general economic crisis. While sales revenues did decline by 8.1 percent to € 182.0 million (2008: € 198.1 million), this decrease was very moderate by comparison with the general trend of development in the mechanical engineering industry. At € 37.8 million, operating profit for fiscal 2009 declined by 28.6 percent from the previous year's level of € 51.5 million. The EBIT margin amounted to 20.8 percent, and thus continues to remain at a high level. These preliminary results for fiscal 2009 are clearly higher than management's stated worst-case scenario which called for a maximum decrease of between 10 and 15 percent in sales revenues and an EBIT margin in excess of 20 percent.

Following a record € 225.3 million in 2008, new orders in fiscal 2009 totaled € 161.2 million, down 28.5 percent year on year. At 0.89 in 2009, the book-to-bill ratio, i.e. the ratio between new orders and sales revenues, was weaker by comparison with the previous year's very good 1.14 – which included a major contract. However, there was a positive trend in quarter-to-quarter development. With new orders of € 43.9 million, the 4th quarter of 2009 was not only the strongest quarter in the past fiscal year, but represents also an improvement on the € 42.6-million level for the same quarter the year before. Orders on hand as at December 31, 2009, totaled € 40.2 million, down by € 20.8 million from € 61.0 million the year before which as well included a major contract.

Pfeiffer Vacuum Chief Executive Officer Manfred Bender had this to say about the results: “I am very satisfied that our company came through the economic crisis in relatively good shape during the year under review. The sharp decline in year-on-year comparison was attributable to the especially good course of business in 2008. Our order backlog of € 40.2 million at the close of fiscal 2009 is a good metric for us, as our business is being characterized by ever-shorter ordering cycles. We already took this factor into account in restructuring and expanding our manufacturing operations in Asslar. Given the positive trends in new orders and the progress we are making in integrating our new Group company, Trinos Vakuum-Systeme, we view the current fiscal year with confidence.”

The company will present its detailed, audited profitability numbers, its complete financial statements and its dividend distribution proposal on the day of the financial press conference on March 23, 2010.

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About Pfeiffer Vacuum

Pfeiffer Vacuum (Stock Exchange Symbol PFV, ISIN DE0006916604) is one of the world's leading manufacturers of components and systems for vacuum generation, measurement and analysis. Ever since the invention of the turbomolecular pump by Pfeiffer Vacuum, the company has stood for innovative solutions and high-technology products that are used in the analytical segment, in research and development, environmental technology, chemistry, semiconductor production and coating technology, as well as in the automotive industry and any number of further sectors. Founded in 1890, Pfeiffer Vacuum is today together with Trinos Vakuum-Systeme active throughout the world with a workforce of some 860 people as well as 14 subsidiaries and over 20 agencies. Further information is available at www.pfeiffer-vacuum.net