

Press release

May 9, 2001

IBA GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

IN 2000 : SUCCESSFUL INTEGRATION, SOLID FINANCIAL GROWTH AND INVESTMENTS ACCORDING TO PLAN FOR 2001 : IMPROVING PROFITABILITY, CONTINUING INVESTMENTS FOR GROWTH AND CREATING THE BREAKTHROUGH IN PROTON THERAPY

Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium, May 9, 2001

At the IBA General Meeting of Shareholders held today under the Chairmanship of Philippe de Woot, the Board of Directors passed in review the company's strategy, presenting highlights of fiscal 2000 and future actions for 2001.

In both its industrial (Sterilization & Ionization) and medical markets (Advanced Radiotherapy and Radioisotopes), IBA confirms its commitment to a strategy of growth and development.

« IBA remains a unique company with a 3-dimensional growth strategy », emphasized Pierre Mottet, Chairman of the Strategic and Executive Committee. « First, we are continually developing our core competence and expertise in particle accelerators, second we have acquired companies in complementary technologies, thus consolidating market share, thirdly we are migrating further down the value chain to become an established service provider in addition to selling equipment. »

In the industrial sector, highlights in 2000 included selective geographical expansion in the area of medical sterilization with new irradiation facilities opening in the Americas, Europe and Thailand. The first IBA compact in-house sterilization system, the Betaline, was completed and development work continued in the new high potential markets of food safety and advanced materials.

« Future challenges in the industrial sector, which makes up 69% of IBA's business today », said Jean-Claude Delobel, Chief Executive Officer, « include the opening of the new e-beam/X-ray service center in Bridgeport, New Jersey, scheduled for mid-2001, the construction of a new X-ray food facility for AmeriCold Logistics at Carthage, Missouri and completion of a new high-powered accelerator.»

In the medical sector, fiscal 2000 was a record year for IBA in terms of cyclotron sales to Asia. The year was also marked by progress in the development of a new self-extracting cyclotron capable of providing irradiation services in Palladium-103 and the acquisition of RadioMed Corporation, a US manufacturer of a patented new generation coiled wire cancer treatment implant.

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Continuing its expansion strategy in the field of radioisotopes, IBA acquired early 2001 Eastern Isotopes, a US leader in FDG production and distribution, clearly placing IBA Radioisotopes as a future service provider in the market of FDG production and distribution.

As for Advanced Radiotherapy, the 510(k) file was successfully submitted to the FDA (Food & Drug Administration) in March 2001 for market clearance of the IBA Proton Therapy system at the Massachussets General Hospital in the USA. IBA is now awaiting approval.

Objectives in the medical sector for 2001 will include aggressive construction of FDG production and distribution centers in the USA, preparing the RadioMed brachytherapy product launch and creating the breakthrough in Proton Therapy, namely the sale of one Proton Therapy system before the end of the year.

The net result Group share increased by 106%, the net EPS by 73% and current EPS by 13%.

«IBA has proven its management and integration capacity in the year 2000», concluded Philippe de Woot, Chairman of the Board of Directors. « IBA remains at the forefront of innovation and technological creativity. It is an international company with a solid financial position. These factors coupled with IBA's unparalleled competence in its highly specialized markets inevitably inspire great confidence in IBA's future. »

During the General Meeting, the annual accounts for 2000 were unanimously approved. Notification was also given of the retiring Directors Tenet Healthcare Corporation represented by Donald W. Thayer and Ferdinand d'Oultremont, Director of Sopartec SA. In the place of the retiring Directors, the Meeting approved unanimously the appointment of 2 new Directors : Dr Gilles Capart, Chief Executive Officer of Sopartec SA as Director and Olivier Ralet, Business Development Director for Atenor Group SA, Belgium both for a period of 4 years.

For more information on IBA, consult the new IBA integrated website at: www.iba-worldwide.com.

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