



## REVIEWED PROVISIONAL GROUP RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

	% change	Reviewed for the year ended 30 June 2024 R'000	Audited for the year ended 30 June 2023 R'000
Revenue	(4.7)	6,647,278	6,974,558
Profit from operating activities before depreciation and amortisation	(5.5)	927,225	981,140
Profit from operating activities after depreciation and amortisation	(11.4)	657,903	742,392
Profit for the year	(12.6)	657,357	751,876
Headline earnings	3.3	703,237	680,766
Cash and cash equivalents	32.7	2,505,764	1,888,376
Earnings per share (cents)	(10.0)	182.9	203.3
Headline earnings per share (cents)	4.0	196.1	188.6
Net asset value per share (cents)	6.9	2,162	2,022
Ordinary dividend declared/paid per share (cents)	-	60.0	60.0

### COMMENTARY

The Group has delivered an expected set of results in the context of a difficult trading environment, where the decline in operating profits was to a large extent offset by insurance proceeds of R173.2 million (2023: R118.2 million) and net finance income of R237.0 million (2023: R134.2 million).

Revenues, including R176.1 million loss of revenue relating to the sale of a business and closure of a subsidiary, declined by R327.3 million (4.7%) from R6 974.6 million to R6 647.3 million. As reported at the half year, the publishing and printing operations faced reduced printing throughputs and overall decline in media advertising revenues, as national retailers reduced their spending to take account of the constrained consumer environment. In a difficult trading environment, the packaging businesses managed to grow revenues, which confirmed the resilience of the markets that we serve.

Overall margins were under pressure as competition in most markets intensified while the weighted average cost of raw materials increased relative to the prior year. Overall raw material pricing has stabilized but with exchange rates at elevated levels, this placed pressure on margins that could not be fully recovered from customers.

In the absence of any growth in revenue and increasing margin decline, it was important to focus on cost containment. Staff costs declined by R49.8 million (3.8%) and operating costs by R12.0 million (1.1%). This includes the impact of a closed operation, the sale of a subsidiary and once off flood costs in the prior year. If these factors are excluded, the staff costs were flat and operating costs increased by 6.2% which is a commendable achievement. Operating costs were impacted by large increases in electricity and water utility costs but the electricity portion was mitigated by the savings from the solar rollout.

Profit from operating activities before depreciation and amortization declined by R53.9 million (5.5%), and after depreciation of R269.3 million, profit from operating activities decreased by 11.4% to R657.9 million.

The increase in net finance income of R102.8 million (76.6%) is due to substantially higher average cash and near cash balances.

The Group's profit before taxation was R837.9 million, a decrease of 12.0% compared to the prior year, and after taxation of R180.5 million, the Group achieved an after tax profit of R657.4 million. Headline earnings per share increased by 4.0% to 196.1 cents (2023: 188.6 cents), and earnings per share decreased by 10.0% to 182.9 cents (2023: 203.3 cents). The decline in earnings per share is as a result of a profit on disposal of a subsidiary (R79.0 million) in the prior year, compared to a loss on disposal of an investment (R45.3 million) or 34.5 cents per share.

The Group's cash flow improved strongly, ending with cash and cash equivalents of R2 505.8 million, compared to the prior year of R1 888.4 million – an increase of R617.4 million. Likewise, cash balances increased from the interim reporting period by R 695.7 million.

The Group's operations are well placed to capitalise on any uptick in consumer spending and the hope that loadshedding risks continue to decline, inflationary pressures reduce and interest rates drop which translate into improved trading conditions. Should this not materialise, the Group is fortunate that its balance sheet remains strong with significant cash balances to deploy should opportunities arise.

### Dividends

The Board has declared a dividend of 60.0 cents (2023: 60.0 cents) per ordinary share (gross) and a preference dividend of 490.0 cents (2023: 490.0 cents) per preference share (gross) for the year ended 30 June 2024.

The dividends are subject to the Dividend Withholding Tax. In accordance with the provisions of the JSE Listings Requirements, the following additional information is disclosed:

- the Dividend has been declared out of current profits available for distribution
- the Dividend Withholding Tax rate is 20%
- the gross dividend amount is 60.00 cents per ordinary share and 490.00 cents per preference share for shareholders exempt from Dividend Withholding Tax
- the nett dividend amount is 48.00 cents per ordinary share and 392.00 cents per preference share for shareholders liable for Dividend Withholding Tax
- the Company has 358 288 097 ordinary shares in issue
- the Company has 50 000 preference shares in issue
- the Company's income tax reference number is: 9175/167/71/8

The following dates are applicable to the dividends:

The last date to trade in order to be eligible for the dividend will be Tuesday, 3 December 2024.

Shares will trade ex-dividend from Wednesday, 4 December 2024.

The record date will be Friday, 6 December 2024 and payment will be made on Monday, 9 December 2024.

Share Certificates may not be dematerialised or materialised between Wednesday, 4 and Friday 6 December 2024, both days inclusive.

### Review of the Independent Auditors

The Company's auditors, Forvis Mazars, have reviewed these results. Their unmodified review conclusion is available for inspection at the registered office of the Company. The auditor's report does not necessarily report on all of the information contained in this announcement/financial results. Shareholders are therefore advised that in order to obtain a full understanding of the nature of the auditor's engagement they should obtain a copy of the auditor's report together with the accompanying financial information from Caxton's registered office.

### Statement:

This short-form announcement is the responsibility of the directors and is only a summary of the information in the full announcement and does not contain full or complete details. The full announcement will be released on 6 September 2024 and can be found on the company's website at <https://www.caxton.co.za/about/announcements> and also on the following link: <https://senspdf.jse.co.za/documents/2024/JSE/ISSE/CAT/CATAR2024.pdf>.

The full announcement is available at the Company's registered office and the offices of the sponsor during office hours.

Any investment decision should be based on the full announcement published on the Company's website.

### By order of the board

6 September 2024

#### Executive Directors:

TD Moolman, TJW Holden, LR Witbooi

#### Independent Non-Executive Directors:

PM Jenkins, ACG Molusi, NA Nemukula, JH Phalane, T Slabbert

#### Transfer Secretaries:

Computershare Investor Services Proprietary Limited

#### Registered Office:

368 Jan Smuts Avenue, Craighall Park, 2196

#### Sponsor:

AcaciaCap Advisors Proprietary Limited.

#### Company website:

[www.caxton.co.za](http://www.caxton.co.za)