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Südzucker announces preliminary figures for the 2024/25 financial year – Executive board proposes dividend reduction

Preliminary figures for the 2024/25 financial year significantly above expectations

According to preliminary figures, Südzucker AG generated group revenues of around EUR 9.7 (forecast: “midpoint of the range of EUR 9.5 to 9.9”; 2023/24: 10.3) billion in the 2024/25 financial year (1 March 2024 to 28 February 2025). Group EBITDA decreased significantly in the same period to around EUR 715 (forecast: “at the upper area of the range of 550 to 650”; 2023/24: 1,138) million. The consolidated operating result also decreased significantly to around EUR 340 (forecast: “at the upper area of the range of 175 to 275”; 2023/24: 947) million.

Executive board proposes dividend reduction

The executive board of Südzucker AG decided today – subject to a corresponding resolution by the supervisory board – to propose a dividend of EUR 0.20 (2023/24: 0.90) per share for the 2024/25 financial year to the annual general meeting. The supervisory board meeting is scheduled for 14 May 2025 and the annual general meeting is to be held in virtual form on 17 July 2025.

Forecast for the current financial year 2025/26 confirmed

Südzucker confirms the initial forecast, published on 11 February 2025, for the financial year 2025/26 (1 March 2025 to 28 February 2026) and expects a moderate decline in group revenues. Group EBITDA is expected between EUR 525 and 675 million and group operating result is expected between EUR 150 and 300 million. This forecast is generally based on the assumption that the EU sugar price level, which has been significantly reduced since October 2024, will improve considerably from the 2025/26 sugar marketing year (October 2025 to September 2026).

Also in this forecast for the financial year 2025/26, it is important to bear in mind that further impacts from the ongoing war in Ukraine and the resulting continued fundamental increase in the already high volatilities on the sales and procurement markets are to be expected. This applies in particular to the further development of duty-free Ukrainian agricultural imports (e.g. sugar and grain) into the EU.

The annual report for the 2024/25 financial year – including a detailed forecast for the 2025/26 financial year – will be published on 15 May 2025. The date of publication of the preliminary figures is no longer applicable with this announcement.

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About the Südzucker Group

Südzucker is a major player in the food industry with its sugar, special products, starch and fruit segments, and Europe's leading ethanol producer with its CropEnergies segment.

In the traditional sugar business, the group is Europe's number one supplier of sugar products, with 23 sugar factories and two refineries, extending from France in the west via Belgium, Germany and Austria, through to Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Hungary, Bosnia, and Moldova in the east. The special products segment, with its consumer-oriented functional ingredients for food and animal feed (BENEEO), chilled/frozen products (Freiberger) and portion packs (PortionPack Group), operates in dynamic growth markets. Südzucker's CropEnergies segment is Europe's leading producer of renewable ethanol, with production sites in Germany, Belgium, France and Great Britain. Other products in this segment are protein food and animal feed products as well as biogenic carbon dioxide. The starch segment comprises AGRANA's starch and ethanol activities. The group's fruit segment operates globally, is the world market leader for fruit preparations for dairies and is a leading supplier of fruit juice concentrates in Europe.

In 2023/24, the group employed about 19.200 persons and generated revenues of about EUR 10.3 billion.