



## PRESS RELEASE

*Board of Directors approves results as of March 31 2013*

### **COFIDE GROUP: REVENUES +1.3% AT € 1.26 BLN, NET RESULT POSITIVE AT € 4.4 MLN**

***The contribution of the main subsidiary CIR was a positive € 3.1 million. Debt is down***

Milan, April 29 2013 – The **Board of Directors** of **COFIDE-Gruppo De Benedetti SpA**, which met today in Milan under the chairmanship of **Francesco Guasti**, has approved the **Interim Financial Report for the first quarter of 2013**.

**COFIDE** is the controlling **shareholder** of **CIR-Compagnie Industriali Riunite SpA**, the company at the head of an industrial group active in the sectors of energy, media, automotive components, healthcare and non-core investments. **COFIDE** has also invested in **Jargonant**, the private equity fund specializing in real estate assets in Germany and Eastern Europe.

#### Consolidated results

The **revenues** of the **COFIDE** group came to **€ 1.260,7 million** in the first quarter of 2013, and **were up** by **1.3%** from 1,244.9 million in the same period of 2012 thanks to the increased sales of the subsidiary **CIR**. **EBITDA** came to **€ 106.6 million**, **up by 9.3%** on the figure for first quarter 2012 (€ 97.5 million). The **operating result (EBIT)** was **€ 52.5 million** versus € 45.4 million in 2012 **(+15.6%)**. The growth in margins was due essentially to the improvement in the profitability of the main subsidiary **CIR**.

Net financial expense came to € 34.3 million (€ 27.7 million in the first quarter of 2012). Net gains from trading and valuing securities totalled € 10.5 million (€ 15.6 million in the first quarter of 2012).

**Net income** for the first three months came in at **€ 4.4 million** (€ 6 million in 2012) after the negative results reported in the last two quarters of 2012. The contribution of the subsidiary **CIR** was positive for € 3.1 million although lower than in the first quarter of 2012 (€ 7.4 million). The result of **COFIDE** also benefited from the positive fair value adjustment of the equity investments held for trading purposes.

The **net debt of the holding company COFIDE SpA** stood at **€ 33.4 million** euro at March 31 2013, down from € 34.4 million at December 31 2012. The **consolidated net debt of the group** totalled **€ 2,444.6 million** euro at March 31 2013, down by € 93.1 million compared to the figure at December 31 2012 (€ 2,537.7 million) thanks to the reduction in the consolidated debt of the **CIR** group.

**Total consolidated equity** totalled **€ 2,326.6** million at March 31 2013, compared to € 2,315.4 million at December 31 2012. The **consolidated equity of the group** rose from € 655.1 million at December 31 2012 to **€ 661.9 million** at March 31 2013 with the rise due mainly to the result for the period.

#### Outlook for the year 2013

The performance of the **COFIDE** group in 2013 will be affected by the evolution of the macroeconomic environment, especially the performance of the Italian economy, which is currently characterized by a recession the intensity of which cannot at the moment be predicted.

In this scenario all the main operating subsidiaries of the group have intensified their actions to improve operating efficiency which are accompanying their business development initiatives.

*The executive responsible for the preparation of the company's financial statements, Giuseppe Gianoglio, hereby declares, in compliance with the terms of paragraph 2 Article 154-bis of the Finance Consolidation Act (TUF), that the accounting figures contained in this press release correspond to the results documented in the company's accounts and general ledger.*

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This press release can also be consulted on the website: <http://www.cofide.it/index.php?id=20>

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**Alternative performance indicators**

Below the meaning and content are given of the "alternative performance indicators", not envisaged by IFRS accounting standards but used in this press release to provide a better evaluation of the economic and financial performance of the COFIDE group.

- **EBITDA (gross operating margin):** an indicator of operating performance calculated by adding "amortization, depreciation and write-downs" to the EBIT figure (earnings before interest and taxes);
- **Consolidated net financial debt:** an indicator of the financial structure of the group; it corresponds to the algebraic sum of financial receivables, securities, available-for-sale financial assets and cash and cash equivalents in current assets, and bonds and notes and other borrowings in non-current liabilities, bank overdrafts, bonds and notes and other borrowings in current liabilities;

*Attached are the key figures from the consolidated statement of financial position and income statement.  
It should be noted that these accounts have not been externally audited.*

# COFIDE GROUP – CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

(in thousands of euro)

| ASSETS   | 31.03.2013        | 31.12.2012        | 31.03.2012        |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>                            | <b>4,881,187</b>  | <b>4,887,880</b>  | <b>4,999,447</b>  |
| INTANGIBLE ASSETS                                    | 1,515,941         | 1,501,522         | 1,539,463         |
| TANGIBLE ASSETS                                      | 2,363,157         | 2,367,976         | 2,437,776         |
| INVESTMENTS PROPERTY                                 | 23,209            | 23,393            | 24,217            |
| INVESTMENTS IN PROPERTY CONSOLIDATED AT EQUITY       | 350,875           | 353,070           | 381,679           |
| OTHER INVESTMENTS                                    | 7,437             | 5,580             | 26,769            |
| OTHER RECEIVABLES                                    | 237,262           | 249,140           | 250,589           |
| SECURITIES   | 126,441           | 127,030           | 115,746           |
| DEFERRED TAXES                                       | 256,865           | 260,169           | 223,208           |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>                                | <b>3,295,401</b>  | <b>3,192,310</b>  | <b>3,154,810</b>  |
| INVENTORIES  | 167,381           | 170,757           | 190,683           |
| CONTRACT WORK IN PROGRESS                            | 38,238            | 42,258            | 37,199            |
| TRADE RECEIVABLES                                    | 1,335,265         | 1,447,836         | 1,334,069         |
| OTHER RECEIVABLES                                    | 421,559           | 309,366           | 319,500           |
| FINANCIAL RECEIVABLES                                | 34,096            | 35,489            | 12,775            |
| SECURITIES   | 354,718           | 410,343           | 545,066           |
| AVAILABLE-FOR-SALE FINANCIAL ASSETS                  | 110,402           | 105,511           | 130,663           |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS                            | 833,742           | 670,750           | 584,855           |
| ASSETS HELD FOR DISPOSAL                             | 13,676            | 34,444            | 646               |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                                  | <b>8,190,264</b>  | <b>8,114,634</b>  | <b>8,154,903</b>  |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>                        | <b>31.03.2013</b> | <b>31.12.2012</b> | <b>31.03.2012</b> |
| <b>EQUITY</b>  | <b>2,326,591</b>  | <b>2,315,433</b>  | <b>2,502,137</b>  |
| ISSUED CAPITAL                                       | 359,605           | 359,605           | 359,605           |
| RESERVES   | 75,065            | 72,763            | 75,285            |
| RETAINED EARNINGS (LOSSES)                           | 222,735           | 280,308           | 287,787           |
| NET INCOME (LOSS) FOR THE PERIOD                     | 4,444             | (57,573)          | 5,993             |
| <b>GROUP EQUITY</b>                                  | <b>661,849</b>    | <b>655,103</b>    | <b>728,670</b>    |
| MINORITY INTERESTS                                   | 1,664,742         | 1,660,330         | 1,773,467         |
| <b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>                       | <b>3,197,271</b>  | <b>3,245,149</b>  | <b>3,239,572</b>  |
| BONDS  | 500,094           | 496,379           | 500,583           |
| OTHER BORROWINGS                                     | 2,283,899         | 2,341,678         | 2,363,237         |
| OTHER PAYABLES                                       | 1,924             | 2,922             | 1,728             |
| DEFERRED TAXES                                       | 182,946           | 181,860           | 169,361           |
| PERSONNEL PROVISIONS                                 | 140,093           | 128,885           | 123,783           |
| PROVISIONS FOR RISKS AND LOSSES                      | 88,315            | 93,425            | 80,880            |
| <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>                           | <b>2,666,077</b>  | <b>2,553,668</b>  | <b>2,413,194</b>  |
| BANK OVERDRAFTS                                      | 172,398           | 165,885           | 140,282           |
| BONDS  | 7,005             | 4,354             | 6,943             |
| OTHER BORROWINGS                                     | 814,192           | 751,496           | 727,079           |
| TRADE PAYABLES                                       | 1,128,172         | 1,192,934         | 1,047,240         |
| OTHER PAYABLES                                       | 435,129           | 333,824           | 405,409           |
| PROVISIONS FOR RISK AND LOSSES                       | 109,181           | 105,175           | 86,241            |
| LIABILITIES ASSOCIATED WITH ASSETS HELD FOR DISPOSAL | 325               | 384               | --                |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>                  | <b>8,190,264</b>  | <b>8,114,634</b>  | <b>8,154,903</b>  |

# COFIDE GROUP - CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

(in thousands of euro)

|  | 01/01-31/03<br>2013 | 01/01-31/03<br>2012 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| SALES REVENUES   | 1,260,741           | 1,244,901           |
| CHANGE IN INVENTORIES  | (1,890)             | 7,495               |
| COSTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF GOODS                                | (766,262)           | (738,669)           |
| COSTS FOR SERVICES   | (202,105)           | (210,740)           |
| PERSONNEL COSTS  | (182,248)           | (191,035)           |
| OTHER OPERATING INCOME   | 42,860              | 24,633              |
| OTHER OPERATING COSTS  | (42,611)            | (37,322)            |
| ADJUSTMENTS TO THE VALUE OF INVESTMENTS CONSOLIDATED AT EQUITY | (1,921)             | (1,704)             |
| AMORTISATION DEPRECIATION AND WRITE-DOWNS                      | (54,055)            | (52,122)            |
| <b>INCOME BEFORE FINANCIAL ITEMS<br/>AND TAXES ( EBIT)</b>     | <b>52,509</b>       | <b>45,437</b>       |
| FINANCIAL INCOME   | 13,478              | 25,035              |
| FINANCIAL EXPENSE  | (47,775)            | (52,758)            |
| DIVIDENDS  | 1                   | 43                  |
| GAINS FROM TRADING SECURITIES                                  | 3,934               | 1,192               |
| LOSSES FROM TRADING SECURITIES                                 | (1,019)             | (216)               |
| ADJUSTMENTS TO THE VALUE OF FINANCIAL ASSETS                   | 7,601               | 14,623              |
| <b>INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TAXES</b>                              | <b>28,729</b>       | <b>33,356</b>       |
| INCOME TAXES   | (19,862)            | (17,143)            |
| <b>NET INCOME FOR THE PERIOD INCLUDING MINORITY INTERESTS</b>  | <b>8,867</b>        | <b>16,213</b>       |
| - MINORITY INTERESTS   | (4,423)             | (10,220)            |
| <b>- NET INCOME OF THE GROUP</b>                               | <b>4,444</b>        | <b>5,993</b>        |

## COFIDE GROUP – NET FINANCIAL POSITION

(in thousands of euro)

|  | 31.03.2012         | 31.12.2012         | 31.03.2012         |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| A. Cash and bank deposits                                | 833,742            | 670,750            | 584,855            |
| B. Other cash and cash equivalents                       | 110,402            | 105,511            | 130,663            |
| C. Securities held for trading                           | 354,718            | 410,343            | 545,066            |
| <b>D. Cash and cash equivalents (A) + (B) + (C)</b>      | <b>1,298,862</b>   | <b>1,186,604</b>   | <b>1,260,584</b>   |
| <b>E. Current financial receivables</b>                  | <b>34,096</b>      | <b>35,489</b>      | <b>12,775</b>      |
| F. Current bank payables                                 | (356,520)          | (292,822)          | (223,571)          |
| G. Bonds issued  | (7,005)            | (4,354)            | (6,943)            |
| H. Current portion of non-current borrowings             | (629,929)          | (624,546)          | (643,788)          |
| I. Other current financial payables                      | (141)              | (13)               | (2)                |
| <b>J. Current financial debt (F) + (G) + (H) + (I)</b>   | <b>(993,595)</b>   | <b>(921,735)</b>   | <b>(874,304)</b>   |
| <b>K. Net current financial position (J) + (E) + (D)</b> | <b>339,363</b>     | <b>300,358</b>     | <b>399,055</b>     |
| L. Non-current bank payables                             | (2,027,532)        | (2,080,760)        | (2,145,742)        |
| M. Bonds issued  | (500,094)          | (496,379)          | (500,583)          |
| N. Other non-current payables                            | (256,367)          | (260,918)          | (217,495)          |
| <b>O. Non-current financial debt (L) + (M) + (N)</b>     | <b>(2,783,993)</b> | <b>(2,838,057)</b> | <b>(2,863,820)</b> |
| <b>P. Net financial position (K) + (O)</b>               | <b>(2,444,630)</b> | <b>(2,537,699)</b> | <b>(2,464,765)</b> |