



PRESS RELEASE

Interpump Group's Annual Shareholders' Meeting

**NET CONSOLIDATED REVENUES INCREASED 29%
REACHING 411.7 MILLION EURO**

DIVIDEND OF 0.087 EURO (+13% ON THE ORDINARY DIVIDEND FOR 1999)

CONSOLIDATED EBITDA UP 23% AT 79.8 MILLION EURO

Cash flow up 62%, ROE up at 20.4% from 18.4%

Mr. Giovanni Cavallini, CEO of Interpump Group: "The fiscal year 2000 was a record setting year for Interpump Group. The results and the performance achieved confirm our strategy, which is based on two fundamental building blocks: efficiency and effectiveness in the management and selective acquisitions. This will lead to a new phase of expansion, driving us towards one single goal: to further create value for our Shareholders"

Sant'Ilario d'Enza, April 24th, 2001 – The Shareholders meeting of Interpump Group convened today to approve the financial statements for the year 2000.

Mr. Giovanni Cavallini, CEO of Interpump Group, commented on the Group's results in the fiscal year 2000, confirming the excellent figures in all the balance sheet parameters, regarding dimensions, efficiency and profitability. The relevant growth in Interpump Group's traditional reference markets, thanks also to the acquisitions carried on during the year, opened up a new phase, characterised by the search for significant growth opportunities together with the creation of additional value for the Shareholders.

In consideration of the achieved results the Shareholders meeting decided to distribute a **dividend of 0.087 Euro** (+13% compared to the ordinary dividend distributed in 1999) to be paid on 10 May 2001, with ex-coupon date 7 May.

Net consolidated revenues of Interpump Group as at 31 December 2000 **were up 29% at 411.7 million Euro** compared to 319.3 million Euro the previous year. Like for like (i.e. on a comparable consolidation basis) the Group's growth was equal to 7.1%.

The gross operating margin (EBITDA) grew 23% reaching 79.8 million Euro compared to 64.8 million Euro in 1999.

Consolidated operating profits (EBIT) were up 22% at 67.2 million Euro compared to 55.1 million Euro recorded the previous year.



Profits before taxes grew 17% reaching 45.0 million Euro compared to 38.5 million Euro last year.

Net consolidated profits stood at 19.0 million Euro down from 22.1 million Euro recorded in 1999. The decrease is due to the greater tax burden incurred in the year 2000.

Operating cash flow was up 62% at 59.3 million Euro compared to 36.5 million Euro the previous year.

Net financial debt went from 160.2 million Euro at the end of 1999 to 177.1 million Euro as at 31 December 2000 mainly because of the result of the distribution of a special dividends, which led to a charge of 33.8 million Euro, and of the acquisitions of shareholdings carried out during the year (10.4 million Euro).

The **ROCE** (Return on Capital Employed) was up **21.3%** in 2000 against 17.4% in the previous year.

The **ROE** (Return on Equity) in 2000 was equal to **20.4%** against 18.4% in 1999.

Among the strategic objectives achieved in the year 2000 we would like to point out the acquisitions of controlling stakes of **Pulex** (58%) and **Ready System** (51%), companies specialising in the manufacturing of, respectively, window cleaning equipment and professional cleaning trolleys; the completion of the acquisition of **Hydrometal**, a company active in the field of components for industrial vehicle bodies, of **Teknova**, a company active in the field of floor sweepers and of **IP Floor**, one of the main European producers of floor scrubbers.

In the course of the year 2000 Interpump Group, with a stake of 35%, was the promoter of MecMarket.com a digital marketplace for mechanical sector companies. This undertaking, which recently collected 3 million Euro from financial institutions and industrial companies, represents a further opportunity to use and develop the competencies and the experience accumulated by the Group.

In addition, Interpump Group obtained the admission to the STAR segment of *Borsa Italiana (Italian Stock Exchange)*, since it fully complies with all the necessary requirements (transparency, complete and timely communications to the market and evolved Corporate Governance solutions).

“The fiscal year 2000 was a record setting year for Interpump Group, both for the achieved results in the main profitability parameters, as well as for the sales growth – said Mr. Giovanni Cavallini, CEO of Interpump Group - The efficiency in the management and the selective acquisitions carried out are the building blocks for a new phase of growth, aiming at the continuous creation of value for our Shareholders”.