



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

United Global's 1H2017 net profit jumps 33.7% to US\$3.6 million on higher sales volume and base oil price

- *Gross profit margin rose 2.7 percentage points to 17.2% and revenue improved 8.3% to US\$45.8 million*
- *Directors propose an interim dividend of 0.5 Singapore cents per ordinary share to be paid on 5 September 2017*

Six-month ended 30 June ("1H") (US\$'000)	1H2017	1H2016	YoY Change
Revenue	45,815	42,307	8.3%
Gross Profit	7,867	6,149	27.9%
Profit Before Tax	4,365	3,260	33.9%
Net Profit Attributable to Equity Holders of the Company	3,639	2,722	33.7%

SINGAPORE, 10 August 2017 – Catalyst-listed **United Global Limited** ("**United Global**" or the "**Company**", and together with its subsidiaries, the "**Group**"), an established, independent lubricant manufacturer and trader in Asia Pacific, announced today that net profit attributable to equity holders for 1H2017 surged 33.7% to US\$3.6 million.

In 1H2017, the Group's revenue rose 8.3% to US\$45.8 million on the back of higher sales volume and average selling price of its Manufacturing segment brought about by higher base oil prices. Manufacturing segment's sales volume was higher due to the Group's close collaboration with its distributors to promote the Group's products, increase brand awareness and market penetration, as well as the Group's continual efforts to provide value-added services to its OEM customers.

The Group's continual efforts in managing costs, coupled with higher gross profit margins achieved in both of its core segments, which improved 2.7 percentage points to 17.2% year-on-year, helped raising gross profit by 27.9% to US\$7.9 million.

In 1H2017, the Group's earnings per share based on the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue rose to 1.3 US cents, from 1.1 US cents in 1H2016.

Said Mr Jacky Tan, United Global's Executive Director and CEO: "We are very pleased with our latest results, thanks to increased sales volume in our Manufacturing segment and higher base oil prices in 1H2017. Going forward, we will continue to intensify our collaborations with our distributors, to push our products across the region, even as we focus on premium markets like Australia. We also look forward to see the results of our newly-acquired subsidiary, PT Pacific Lubritama Indonesia ("PLI"), incorporated into the Group's performance in the second half of FY2017. More importantly, we hope to reap the fruits of the successful integration of our two operations in Singapore and Indonesia, and our combined synergies to power the Group's growth."

Dividend

The Directors have recommended an interim dividend of 0.5 Singapore cents per ordinary share, which will be paid on 5 September 2017.

Segment Review

Manufacturing

Revenue from the Manufacturing segment was uplifted by 27.1% to US\$27.0 million due to higher average selling price and sales volume. This segment's gross profit margin improved by 0.5 percentage points, resulting in gross profit increasing by 29.5% to US\$6.6 million.

Trading

Revenue from the Trading segment declined by 10.7% to US\$18.8 million due to decrease in trading volume of lubricants in 1H2017. This, however, was partially offset by the higher average selling price.

Gross profit margin rose by 1.7 percentage points to 6.5% in 1H2017 as gross profit leaped by 20.3% to US\$1.2 million as a result of lower cost of purchase of base oils in 1H2017.

Financial Position

The Group's financial position remains strong. As at 30 June 2017, the Group had net assets of US\$20.5 million, translating into a net asset value per share of 7.2 US cents, compared to 6.3 US cents as at 31 December 2016.

Outlook

Following the completion of the acquisition of PLI in July 2017, the Group's blending capacity has almost tripled to 124,000 MT. The enlarged Group is now in a stronger position to capture more business in the Asia Pacific region. Given the continued challenging business landscape in the region, the Group will continue to remain cautious in its approach to operations and investments, and will strive to manage its financial resources prudently and efficiently.

The Group sees joint ventures as a vital part of its road map to higher levels of growth in the Asia Pacific markets. On 11 July 2017, the Group announced the signing of a non-binding memorandum of understanding with M-TechX Group of Japan for a possible joint venture business. The Group has commenced discussions with and due diligence on M-TechX Group.

The Group currently has a joint venture in Taiwan to distribute United Oil's in-house brands, as well as trading of third-party lubricants, in Taiwan. It also has established a three-year Joint Operation Agreement with its long-time customer, Lighthouse Enterprise Ltd, to promote, market, distribute and sell specialized lubricants products in Myanmar. This joint operation, the Group believes, will increase its presence in Myanmar and enable it to have greater access and first-hand knowledge of the market there.

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About United Global Limited (www.unitedgloballimited.com)

United Global Limited (“**United Global**” or the “**Company**”, together with its subsidiaries, the “**Group**”) is an established independent lubricant manufacturer of a wide range of high quality, well-engineered products under our in-house brands such as “United Oil”, “U Star Lube”, “Bell1” and “Hydropure” as well as for third-party principals’ brands. Our other core business is in the trading of base oils, additives and lubricants. We provide a wide range of lubricants and specialty fluids for the automotive, industrial and marine applications as well as metal working fluids, with a wide distribution network covering over 30 countries.

Started in 1999, the Group has established itself as a reliable and responsive service provider as well as a specialist in automatic transmission fluids. Our ability to customise products and production volume at a reasonable price has given us a competitive edge.

We own a combined 124,000MT lubricant blending facilities in Singapore and Indonesia. We were awarded the ISO 9001 certification for our quality management system in respect of the manufacture of lubricants by blending of base oils and additives.

Our strategic cooperations have also provided us with access to our partners’ facilities in other countries.