

# DS Smith Plc



25 April 2008

## **DS SMITH PLC PRE-CLOSE TRADING UPDATE**

DS Smith Plc, the international packaging manufacturer and office products wholesaler, today issues the following trading update ahead of its preliminary results announcement for the year to 30 April 2008.

Trading in the second half of 2007/08 has been in line with management's expectations at the time of the Group's interim results announcement in December. Accordingly, performance has been well ahead of last year.

The Group continues to benefit from the recovery of higher input costs in Corrugated Packaging and the improving performance in Office Products Wholesaling. As previously indicated, demand for corrugated packaging has slowed since the summer of 2007. This has led to some softening of corrugated case materials (CCM) prices across our markets; the strength of the euro provides a support to prices in our important UK market.

We are preparing for a more challenging trading environment in 2008/09. We have confidence that our good market positions give us a strong base from which to compete.

DS Smith Plc plans to announce its results for financial year 2007/08 on 26 June 2008.

### **Enquiries**

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