

# PRESS RELEASE

Paris, October 26, 2017

## Sales for the first nine months of 2017

### Good organic growth, at 4.2% for the nine-month period

- Further volume growth in Q3 (up 3.6%) in all Business Sectors and all regions; volumes up 2.4% over nine months
- Positive price effect, at 2.0% in Q3 and 1.8% over nine months
- Negative currency impact of 2.2% in Q3 and of 0.7% over nine months; positive Group structure impact of 0.7% in Q3 and of 0.8% over nine months

#### Pierre-André de Chalendar, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Saint-Gobain, said:

"The third quarter confirmed the upbeat trends seen in the first half excluding the impact of the cyber-attack. All Business Sectors and regions advanced, including France. We continued to see a good price effect against a tougher basis for comparison, but not yet sufficient in all of the Group's businesses given the more inflationary raw material and energy cost environment. The Group continued to focus on its strategic priorities, signing 23 acquisitions since the beginning of the year, including the recently finalized Glava deal.

Saint-Gobain confirms its objective for the full year 2017 and expects the like-for-like increase in operating income for the second half to be above the level achieved in the first half despite ongoing inflationary pressure on costs."

Consolidated sales for the first nine months of 2017 came in at €30,570 million, compared to €29,306 million for the first nine months of 2016.

The 0.8% positive **Group structure impact** essentially reflects the consolidation of acquisitions made in Asia and emerging countries (Emix, Solcrom, Tumelero), in new niche technologies and services (H-Old, Isonat, France Pare-Brise), and to further strengthen our positions in Building Distribution (particularly in Nordic countries).

**Currency movements** had a 0.7% negative impact over the first nine months of the year, with a significant 2.2% negative impact in the third quarter primarily due to the depreciation of the US dollar, pound sterling and certain Asian and emerging country currencies against the euro.

**On a like-for-like basis**, sales were up 4.2% over nine months and 5.6% in the third quarter, continuing the first half's upbeat trends excluding the impact of the cyber-attack. Following this event, and as announced at the end of July, the Group recorded both additional losses in some businesses during the quarter and a claw-back of June sales. Volumes rose 3.6% over the quarter (up 2.4% over nine months), continuing to increase in all regions and in all Business Sectors. Prices had a positive 2.0% impact over the quarter (1.8% over nine months), amid a continuing rise in energy and raw material costs.

€m	9-month 2016 sales	9-month 2017 sales	Change on an actual structure basis	Change on a comparable structure basis	Like-for-like change
Sector and division					
Innovative Materials <sup>a</sup>	7,351	7,787	5.9%	5.0%	4.8%
Flat Glass	3,987	4,247	6.5%	5.5%	5.3%
High-Performance Materials	3,375	3,559	5.5%	4.7%	4.5%
Construction Products <sup>a</sup>	9,035	9,512	5.3%	4.5%	5.0%
Interior Solutions	4,937	5,113	3.6%	3.6%	4.8%
Exterior Solutions	4,160	4,468	7.4%	5.7%	5.2%
Building Distribution	13,623	14,019	2.9%	2.3%	3.5%
Internal sales and misc.	-703	-748			
Geographic area					
France	7,660	7,875	2.8%	2.6%	2.6%
Other Western European countries	13,052	13,216	1.3%	0.7%	2.9%
North America	3,974	4,179	5.2%	5.1%	4.7%
Emerging countries and Asia	6,091	6,791	11.5%	9.2%	8.2%
Internal sales	-1,471	-1,491			
Group	29,306	30,570	4.3%	3.5%	4.2%

€m	Q3 2016 sales	Q3 2017 sales	Change on an actual structure basis	Change on a comparable structure basis	Like-for-like change
Sector and division					
Innovative Materials <sup>a</sup>	2,439	2,545	4.3%	3.3%	6.1%
Flat Glass	1,331	1,382	3.8%	2.6%	4.6%
High-Performance Materials	1,111	1,172	5.5%	4.6%	8.7%
Construction Products <sup>a</sup>	3,027	3,183	5.2%	4.2%	7.4%
Interior Solutions	1,640	1,696	3.4%	3.3%	6.4%
Exterior Solutions	1,407	1,510	7.3%	5.3%	8.7%
Building Distribution	4,519	4,675	3.5%	3.0%	4.1%
Internal sales and misc.	-228	-242			
<u>Geographic area</u>					
France	2,390	2,477	3.6%	3.4%	3.4%
Other Western European countries	4,392	4,480	2.0%	1.7%	3.3%
North America	1,300	1,355	4.2%	4.0%	9.3%
Emerging countries and Asia	2,135	2,334	9.3%	6.8%	10.8%
Internal sales	-460	-485			
Group	9,757	10,161	4.1%	3.4%	5.6%

<sup>a</sup> Including inter-division eliminations.

### Like-for-like performance of Group Business Sectors

**Innovative Materials** sales climbed 4.8% over the nine-month period, including 6.1% in the third quarter.

- Flat Glass delivered further good organic growth in the quarter, at 4.6% (5.3% for the ninemonth period). The automotive business continued to report good volume growth in all regions, despite a less favorable mix effect compared to the first half. Sales linked to construction markets remained at good levels across Western Europe, with float glass price trends stabilizing and higher prices for transformed glass; Asia and emerging countries again performed well although we expect a negative impact from the earthquake in Mexico which affected our facilities.
- High-Performance Materials (HPM) sales rose 8.7% over the quarter (4.5% over the ninemonth period), driven by all regions and businesses, particularly Ceramics which was boosted by exceptionally strong sales of refractories during the summer.

**Construction Products (CP)** sales moved up 5.0% over the nine-month period and 7.4% in the third quarter.

- Interior Solutions delivered 6.4% organic growth in the quarter (4.8% for the nine-month period), buoyed by healthy volume trends in Western Europe and in Asia and emerging countries. Trading in North America remained stable but with a smaller pricing contribution in a more competitive environment. The price contribution for the division as a whole remained in line with the first half, but still lags behind the rise in raw material and energy costs.
- Exterior Solutions sales rose 8.7% in the third quarter (5.2% over the nine-month period), led by Exterior Products volumes which benefited from a more favorable basis for comparison than in the second quarter and from additional weather-related demand in the US in a competitive price environment. Pipe saw its prices gain ground amid continued strong inflation in raw material costs, while volumes remained affected by the lack of major export contracts. Mortars put in a good quarterly performance in its main regions, despite the Brazilian construction market remaining difficult.

**Building Distribution** sales rose 3.5% over the nine-month period and 4.1% in the third quarter, in line with first-half trends excluding the impact of the cyber-attack. Trading in France continued to recover, driven by good momentum in new-builds and the first signs of improvement in renovation. Nordic countries as well as the Netherlands and Spain continued to benefit from good market conditions. The UK reported further growth despite an uncertain environment, while Germany was down slightly. A difficult construction market continued to affect Brazil.

#### Like-for-like analysis by region

- France continued to improve during the quarter, up 3.4% (up 2.6% over the nine-month period), buoyed by dynamic new-build activity. Renovation showed the first signs of improvement in the quarter.
- Other Western European countries delivered further good growth, at 3.3% (2.9% over the nine-month period), led by Nordic countries. The UK reported lower growth driven by prices, with volumes settling and a continued lack of visibility. Germany remained hesitant.
- North America reported 9.3% organic growth over the quarter (4.7% over the nine-month period). Construction volumes continued to trend well, helped by additional weather-related demand; industry was up overall. Pricing slowed amid a tougher basis for comparison and a particularly competitive environment.
- Asia and emerging countries reported further good growth in the third quarter, at 10.8% (8.2% over the nine-month period), driven by all regions.

#### Strategic priorities and 2017 outlook

The Group continued to focus on its strategic priorities, with 19 acquisitions signed in the nine-month period and 4 finalized in October alone, including Kirson, Megaflex and Glava. The acquisition of the entire share capital of Glava, the insulation market leader in Norway, allows Saint-Gobain to consolidate its positions in Nordic countries.

Pursuant to the agreement between Saint-Gobain and the Burkard family relating to the sale of the shares of Schenker-Winkler Holding (SWH), which holds the majority of Sika voting rights, Saint-Gobain exercised its option to extend the validity of the agreement until June 30, 2018. Saint-Gobain will then have the option to further extend the agreement up until December 31, 2018. This further extension of the sale agreement once again reflects the alignment between the Burkard family and Saint-Gobain and their unwavering determination. The transaction makes strategic, industrial and financial sense for Saint-Gobain and for Sika, for their employees, for their customers and for all of their shareholders. Given the recent appreciation of the euro against the Swiss franc, Saint-Gobain has adapted its acquisition hedging strategy to fix the potential net gain at around €70 million. This is no indication of the future hedging strategy, which will need to evolve in line with market conditions.

The Group expects the following trends for the fourth quarter:

- gradual improvement of construction markets in France;
- continued upbeat trends overall in other Western European countries, despite less visibility in the UK and Germany still hesitant;
- positive market conditions in North American construction;
- good organic growth in **Asia and emerging countries**;
- ongoing inflationary pressure on costs.

Saint-Gobain confirms its full-year 2017 objective of a like-for-like increase in operating income and expects the like-for-like increase for second-half 2017 to be above the level achieved in first-half 2017 despite ongoing inflationary pressure on costs.

Glossary:

Organic growth and like-for-like changes in sales and operating income reflect the Group's underlying performance excluding the impact of:

- changes in Group structure: indicators for the period concerned are calculated based on the scope of consolidation for the previous period (Group structure impact);
  - changes in exchange rates: indicators for the period concerned and those for the previous period are calculated using exchange rates for the previous period (currency impact);
    changes in applicable accounting policies.
- **Operating** income: see Note 3 to the financial statements in the interim financial report, available by clicking here: <u>https://www.saint-</u> aobain.com/en/finance/regulated-information/half-yearly-financial-report

Free cash flow: cash flow from operations excluding the tax impact of capital gains and losses on disposals, asset write-downs and material non-recurring provisions, less capital expenditure.

Capital expenditure: investments in property, plant and equipment.

#### **Financial calendar**

2017 results: February 22, 2018, after close of trading on the Paris Bourse.

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A conference call will be held at 6:30 pm (Paris time) on October 26, 2017: + 33 1 72 72 74 48

#### Important disclaimer - forward-looking information:

This press release contains forward-looking statements with respect to Saint-Gobain's financial condition, results, business, strategy, plans and outlook. Forward-looking statements are generally identified by the use of the words "expect", "anticipate", "believe", "intend", "estimate", "plan" and similar expressions. Although Saint-Gobain believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions as at the time of publishing this document, investors are cautioned that these statements are not guarantees of its future performance. Actual results may differ materially from the forward-looking statements as a result of a number of known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are difficult to predict and are generally beyond the control of Saint-Gobain, including but not limited to the risks described in Saint-Gobain's registration document available on its website (www.saint-gobain.com). Accordingly, readers of this document are cautioned against relying on these forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are made as of the date of this document. Saint-Gobain disclaims any intention or obligation to complete, update or revise these forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise raison.

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