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Media Release

Holcim sets additional targets in sustainable development

Holcim Ltd has published its sustainability report for 2004/2005. The Group is well on track to achieving its existing sustainability targets. In addition, it has set further targets for emissions and occupational health and safety.

The priorities of Holcim in the area of sustainable development are occupational health and safety, environment, climate and energy, community involvement, stakeholder engagement and sustainable construction.

During the period under review, the Group has achieved a lot and is well on track to meeting its sustainability targets. Thus, for example, net CO₂ emissions per tonne of cement have been reduced by 14.7 percent since 1990. The voluntary target of a 20 percent reduction by 2010 is therefore within reach. For the first time, CO₂ data have been assured by an external auditor.

Holcim has set itself additional targets in the two important areas of occupational health and safety and environment. The frequency of accident-related absences is to be reduced by 30 percent annually over the next three years. The Group also wants to reduce its atmospheric emissions. Groupwide, the output of NO_x, SO₂ and dust per tonne of cement is to be reduced by 20 percent by 2010 compared to 2004 levels. Holcim will therefore be honoring all voluntary commitments made within the scope of the Cement Sustainability Initiative of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development.

A further important aspect of the commitment to sustainable development is the company's involvement in local communities in which it operates. Group companies primarily support education, infrastructure and community development projects. In total, roughly one percent of consolidated net income before taxes was spent on these activities in 2005.

The efforts of Holcim in the field of sustainability are increasingly being acknowledged by the outside world, as illustrated by the company's recognition as "Leader of the Industry" in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index 2006 and various awards for the Group companies.

The sustainability report includes all business areas of Holcim and meets the high standard of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI). It can be downloaded from www.holcim.com/sustainable.

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Holcim is one of the world's leading suppliers of cement and aggregates (crushed stone, sand and gravel) as well as further activities such as ready-mix concrete and asphalt

including services. The Group holds majority and minority interests in more than 70 countries on all continents.

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This media release is also available in German.

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