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The Economist



(34.72% of issued capital, 20% of voting rights)

The key consolidated figures of The Economist Group reported for the first half of the financial year 2015/2016

Half year 2015/2016
Operating profit
For the net period
Attributable to owners of the parent

For a correct interpretation of the data it should be noted that the financial year of The Economist Group does not align with the financial year of the parent. The Economist Group reported an operating profit of £11.3 million (up 8% from the same period last year). The dollar was stronger against the pound in the first half of 2015/2016. Operating profit increased by 7% (£1.8 million) in the first half but would have been lower if not for the benefit of the stronger dollar. Net debt increased in the period by £9.8 million as there were higher investments in new acquisitions and digital content. Net revenues by sector are as follows:

Half year 2015/2016
The Economist Intelligence Unit
Operating profit

The Economist Intelligence Unit grew by 4%, from digital advertising by 10% and from content solutions by 17%. The overall contribution of the group was 2%.

Operating profit follows:

Half year 2015/2016
The Economist Intelligence Unit
Operating profit

Operating profit by business was also helped by the stronger dollar and in the case of The Economist Business Intelligence Unit. The ongoing decline in high margin print advertising revenues has continued to affect profitability and while print advertising revenues have declined, digital advertising revenues have grown.

Significant events in the first half of 2015

The first half of 2015 was a busy period for the group with several significant events. The group announced the acquisition of the remaining 2,550,000 treasury shares of The Economist Group on 15th June 2015.

Events subsequent to the first half of 2015

The transaction for the buyback of the remaining 2,550,000 treasury shares of The Economist Group was completed on 15th June 2015. Periods correlating to FY 2014:

FY 2014


