



McCormick Reports Strong Sales And Profit Growth In Third Quarter And Updates 2017 Financial Outlook

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SPANICE, Md., Sept. 28, 2017 /PRNewswire/ — McCormick & Company, Incorporated (NYSE: MCC), a global leader in flavor, today reported financial results for the third quarter ended August 31, 2017 and provided its latest financial outlook for fiscal year 2017.

- **Sales rose 9% in the third quarter from the year-ago period.** In constant currency, the company grew sales 8%, with strong results in both the consumer and industrial segments.
- **Operating income was \$18 million in the third quarter compared to \$18 million in the year-ago period.** Adjusted operating income was \$20 million, an 18% increase from \$17 million in the third quarter of 2016, and a 19% increase in constant currency.
- **Earnings per share was \$0.85 in the third quarter compared to \$1.00 in the year-ago period** with the decrease driven by transaction and integration expenses from the **Reckitt Benckiser Foods (RB Foods) acquisition.** Adjusted earnings per share rose 9% to \$1.12 in fiscal year of 2017, compared to \$3.69 in 2016. Adjusted earnings per share is expected to be \$4.20 to \$4.24, which is an increase of 1% to 1% from \$3.15 in 2016.
- **For the 2017 fiscal year,** McCormick updated its financial outlook to reflect both its base business and the acquisition of RB Foods. McCormick expects to increase sales year-over-year by 9% to 10%, which is a constant currency projected growth rate of 10% to 11%. The company expects to achieve earnings per share of \$3.69 to \$3.73 in fiscal year of 2017, compared to \$3.69 in 2016. Adjusted earnings per share is expected to be \$4.20 to \$4.24, which is an increase of 1% to 1% from \$3.15 in 2016.

Chairman, President & CEO's Remarks

Lawrence E. Kuratko, Chairman, President and CEO stated: "Our strong third quarter financial results continue our growth momentum and reflect the effectiveness of our strategies and engagement of our employees around the world. We are driving both sales growth and significant productivity improvements resulting in adjusted operating margin expansion. Both our consumer and industrial segments contributed to our constant currency sales growth of 8%. Our consumer segment delivered base and new product sales growth from the year ago period, led by the Americas. Our industrial business delivered excellent sales growth across all regions during the period, supported by distribution and customer intensity. In addition to our strong base business and new product growth, the acquisition of RB Foods and C&I continued to deliver sales as valuable additions to our global portfolio of flavors. Through the third quarter, we have grown year to date sales 9% in constant currency. McCormick is a global leader in flavor, a growing and advanced business platform. The RB Foods acquisition is an exciting milestone that strengthens our flavor leadership with the addition of the iconic, French and French brands to our portfolio. We are continuing to stabilize on the global and growing consumer interest in healthy, flavorful eating. We are focused on source and quality of ingredients, and sustainable and socially responsible practices. We are aligned with the increased demand for great taste and healthy eating and are confident in our plans to drive growth through new products across both of our segments, through strong brand marketing programs and distribution. We are leveraging our resources and efforts to drive sales with our work to lower costs, and we are excited to achieve at least \$100 million of cost savings in 2017 and our Comprehensive Continuous Improvement (CCI) program."

"I want to recognize McCormick employees around the world for their effort and engagement. With our vision to bring the joy of flavor to life and our steadfast focus on growth, performance, and people, we are well-positioned to deliver excellent financial results in 2017 and build value for our shareholders."

Third Quarter 2017 Results

McCormick reported 8% sales increase in the third quarter from the year-ago period, including a 1% favorable impact from currency. Consumer segment sales grew by 7% with minimal impact from currency. The consumer segment sales increase was primarily driven by sales in U.S. base businesses and new product growth in the Americas and the incremental impact of RB Foods, acquired in August 2017. These sales increases for the consumer segment were offset in part by the impact of a challenging retail environment in the U.K. Industrial segment sales grew by 14%, with minimal impact from currency. Industrial sales growth was driven by increased sales across all regions, including the incremental impact of the acquisition of C&I, acquired in December 2016 and RB Foods. Across both segments, acquisitions contributed 4% to the sales growth in the third quarter of 2017. In constant currency, the company grew sales 8%. Operating income was \$18 million in the third quarter compared to \$18 million in the year-ago period. This increase was due to higher sales, a work in progress to move value added products, C&I led cost savings and favorable selling, general and administrative costs, offset in part by an increase in transaction and integration expenses from the RB Foods acquisition in the third quarter of 2017. The company recognized \$30 million of transaction and integration expenses in operating income related to the RB Foods acquisition in the third quarter of 2017. The company reported \$5 million of special charges in the first quarter of 2017 related to organization and restructuring actions versus \$4 million in 2016. Excluding transaction and integration expenses, as well as special charges, adjusted operating income was \$20 million compared to \$17 million of adjusted operating income in the year-ago period. In constant currency, the company grew adjusted operating income 19%. Earnings per share was \$0.85 in the third quarter of 2017 compared to \$1.00 in the year-ago period. Transaction and integration expenses, including \$15 million of other debt costs, as well as special charges lowered earnings per share by \$0.27 and \$0.23 in 2017 and 2016, respectively. The decrease in earnings per share was driven by the RB Foods' transaction and integration expenses, as well as special charges, adjusted earnings per share was \$1.12 in the third quarter of 2017 compared to \$1.03 in the year-ago period. The increase in adjusted earnings per share was driven primarily by higher operating income.

The company continues to generate strong cash flow. Year-to-date net cash provided by operating activities through the third quarter of 2017 was \$303 million compared to \$332 for the first three quarters of 2016. The decrease was mainly due to the timing of income tax payments and incentive compensation payments related to 2016's financial performance as well as payments related to the RB Foods' transaction expenses.

2017 Financial Outlook

For the 2017 fiscal year, McCormick updated its financial outlook to reflect its year-to-date performance and growth momentum, the acquisition of RB Foods and C&I, and the company's impact from unfavorable foreign currency on earnings per share. In 2017, McCormick expects to grow sales 9% to 10%, compared to 2016. Excluding the impact of unfavorable currency rates, the projected growth is 10% to 11%. These sales increases for the consumer segment were offset in part by the impact of a challenging retail environment in the U.K. Industrial segment sales growth was driven by increased sales across all regions, including the incremental sales impact of acquisitions. Sales growth is also expected to be driven by pricing actions that are intended to offset an anticipated mid-single digit increase in material costs. The company has plans to achieve at least \$100 million of C&I and intends to use these savings to improve margins, fund a high-angle digit increase in brand marketing, and as a further effort to increase material costs. Operating income in 2017 is expected to grow 10% to 11% from 2016 of operating income in 2016. Transaction and integration expenses from the RB Foods acquisition of approximately \$30 million are currently projected to impact operating income for 2017. Special charges of approximately \$22 million are currently projected for 2017 that related to previously announced organization and restructuring actions. Excluding the impact of transaction and integration expenses as well as special charges in 2017 and 2016, the expected growth in adjusted operating income is 20% to 21% from adjusted operating income of \$27 million in 2016. Excluding the estimated impact of unfavorable currency rates, the expected year over year increase in adjusted operating income is 21% to 22%. McCormick projects 2017 earnings per share to be in the range of \$3.69 to \$3.73 compared to \$3.69 in 2016. Excluding an estimated \$1.01 impact of transaction and integration expenses, including other debt costs, from RB Foods as well as special charges in 2017, the company's adjusted earnings per share is projected to be in the range of \$4.20 to \$4.24. This is an increase of 1% to 1% from \$3.15 in 2016. This range of growth includes an estimated unfavorable impact of 1 percentage point from currency rates. For fiscal year 2017, the company projects another year of strong cash flow, with free cash flow to operations expected to be \$300 million to \$350 million.

Consumer Segment Results

	Three months ended		Nine months ended	
	8/31/2017	8/31/2016	8/31/2017	8/31/2016
Net sales	\$ 466.4	\$ 429.0	\$ 1,381.4	\$ 1,272.0
Operating income	\$ 17.2	\$ 12.4	\$ 36.9	\$ 30.8
Operating income, excluding special charges, transaction and integration expenses	19.7	12.7	38.9	38.0

The company grew consumer segment sales 2% when compared to the third quarter of 2016 with minimal impact from currency. The company also increased sales driven by pricing, new products and expanded distribution. Growth was achieved across the portfolio including McCormick and Lawry's brand spices and seasonings, Gail Matri, Gourmet Garden and Shubb's products as well as McCormick brand recipe mixes. Partially offsetting the growth was sales weakness in Zestarin's products. Consumer sales in Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA) increased 1%. In constant currency, sales decreased 2% from the year-ago period mainly due to weak sales in the U.K. where the retail environment has been challenging. Third quarter consumer sales in the Asia/Pacific region rose 2% from the year-ago period. The sales growth was led by China and India. Consumer segment operating income, excluding transaction and integration expenses and special charges, rose 10% to \$45 million for the third quarter of 2017 compared to \$45 million in the year-ago period. In constant currency, adjusted operating income rose 44%. The favorable impact of higher sales, product mix, C&I led cost savings and favorable selling, general and administrative costs more than offset the unfavorable impact of increases in material costs and brand marketing expenses.

Industrial Segment

	Three months ended		Nine months ended	
	8/31/2017	8/31/2016	8/31/2017	8/31/2016
Net sales	\$ 488.4	\$ 423.0	\$ 1,354.4	\$ 1,248.9
Operating income	\$ 0.4	\$ 0.0	\$ 4.4	\$ 2.1
Operating income, excluding special charges, transaction and integration expenses	6.1	4.8	13.8	12.7

Industrial segment sales increased 14% from the third quarter of 2016 with minimal impact from currency and increases in each of the company's three regions. Industrial sales in the Americas drove broad-based growth of 10% from the year-ago period with minimal impact from currency. This was led by continued growth momentum in branded foodservice in addition to sales growth with packaged food companies and quick service restaurants. Incremental sales from RB Foods contributed 4% to sales growth. Industrial sales in Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA) increased 1%. In constant currency, sales rose 2% from the year-ago period primarily due to weak sales in the U.K. where the retail environment has been challenging. Third quarter industrial sales in the Asia/Pacific region rose 2% from the year-ago period. The sales growth was led by China and India. Industrial segment operating income, excluding transaction and integration expenses and special charges, rose 10% to \$45 million for the third quarter of 2017 compared to \$45 million in the year-ago period. In constant currency, adjusted operating income rose 44%. The favorable impact of higher sales, product mix, C&I led cost savings and favorable selling, general and administrative costs more than offset the unfavorable impact of increases in material costs and brand marketing expenses.

Non-GAAP Financial Measures

The table below includes financial measures of adjusted operating income, adjusted net income and adjusted diluted earnings per share, each excluding the impact of special charges for each of the periods presented. These financial measures also exclude the impact of items associated with our acquisition of RB Foods on August 17, 2017 (in particular, the amortization of the acquisition-date fair value adjustment of intangibles that is included in cost of goods sold, transaction and integration expenses, and other debt costs) as these items significantly impact comparability between periods. Adjusted operating income, adjusted net income and adjusted diluted earnings per share represent non-GAAP financial measures which are prepared in compliance with our financial results prepared in accordance with United States generally accepted accounting principles.

In EMEA, industrial sales grew 27% in the third quarter. In constant currency, sales rose 21%, with sales from C&I contributing 25% to the growth. Sales in both sales service restaurants and packaged food companies increased during the period. Industrial sales in this region were unfavorably impacted by the discontinuation of a lower margin business. Industrial sales in the Asia/Pacific region increased 15% in the third quarter of 2017 versus the same period in 2016 and is constant currency, sales rose 2%. The sales growth was led by China and India. McCormick projects 2017 earnings per share to be in the range of \$3.69 to \$3.73 compared to \$3.69 in 2016. Excluding an estimated \$1.01 impact of transaction and integration expenses, including other debt costs, from RB Foods as well as special charges in 2017, the company's adjusted earnings per share is projected to be in the range of \$4.20 to \$4.24. This is an increase of 1% to 1% from \$3.15 in 2016. This range of growth includes an estimated unfavorable impact of 1 percentage point from currency rates. For fiscal year 2017, the company projects another year of strong cash flow, with free cash flow to operations expected to be \$300 million to \$350 million.

Transaction and integration expenses consisted of expenses associated with the acquisition or integration of the RB Foods business. These costs are anticipated to be incurred through fiscal 2018 and primary consist of amortization of the acquisition-date fair value adjustment of intangibles that is included in cost of goods sold, product liability, vehicle and consulting costs, employee-related costs, and other costs related to the acquisition, including the costs related to the Bridge Financing commitment that is included in other debt costs. The table below that these non-GAAP financial measures are reported. The inclusion of special charges, the impact of the acquisition date intangibles fair value adjustment on cost of goods sold, transaction and integration expenses, and other debt costs provide additional information that enables enhanced comparability to peer groups and, accordingly, facilitates the development of more operations and earnings growth prospects. This information is also used by management to measure the probability of an ongoing operations and evaluate our business performance and trends. These non-GAAP financial measures may be considered in addition to results prepared in accordance with GAAP but should not be considered a substitute for, or superior to, GAAP results. In addition, these non-GAAP financial measures may not be comparable to similarly titled measures of other companies because other companies may not calculate them in the same manner that we do. We intend to continue to provide these non-GAAP financial measures as part of our future earnings discussions and, therefore, the inclusion of these non-GAAP financial measures will provide consistency in our financial reporting. A reconciliation of these non-GAAP financial measures to the related GAAP financial measures is provided below:

