

Press

Press release 24.09.2012

## **Ad hoc announcement pursuant to Section 15 of the German Securities Trading Act (WpHG)**

### **CropEnergies realizes record result and increases outlook**

Mannheim, 24 September 2012 - CropEnergies AG, Mannheim, increased the revenues by 16 percent to EUR 320 (previous year: 275) million in the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the financial year 2012/13 compared to the previous year. The operating profit increased by 28 percent to EUR 37 (previous year: 29) million in the same period of time. This is the best half-year result CropEnergies has achieved in the history of the company. The operating margin improved to 11.6 (previous year: 10.5) percent.

The main reason for the gratifying result is the integrated production concept. Bioethanol produced by CropEnergies saves large amounts of greenhouse gases and at the same time the food sector is supplied with high-quality vegetable proteins. With every tonne of bioethanol for the fuel sector, CropEnergies produces one tonne of food and animal feed. The contribution to revenues of these products and other high-quality products was approx. EUR 100 million in the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the financial year 2012/13.

CropEnergies makes an important contribution to sustainably assuring mobility. This includes the responsible use of agrarian raw materials, among others industrial sugar which is not intended for human consumption. CropEnergies expects the EU Commission to consider these advantages when specifying its plans for the use of biofuels.

Due to the positive business development, CropEnergies expects revenues to increase to EUR 610 to 630 (previous year: 572) million in the current financial year 2012/13. The operating profit is expected to rise more than proportionally to EUR 62 to 68 (previous year: 53) million.

The report for the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the financial year 2012/13 will be published on 9 October 2012 and can be downloaded at [www.cropenergies.com](http://www.cropenergies.com).

### **CropEnergies AG**

Ensuring mobility in a climate friendly way - today and in the future - is CropEnergies' business. Founded in Mannheim, Germany, in 2006, the young and dynamically growing member of the Südzucker Group is one of the leading European manufacturers of sustainably produced bioethanol

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for the fuel sector today. With its three modern production facilities in Germany, Belgium, and France as well as trading offices in the USA and Brazil, CropEnergies produces approximately 700,000 cubic meters of bioethanol per year. They mainly replace petrol and reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by up to 70 percent. With this, CropEnergies has established itself successfully as a bioethanol pioneer in a major emerging market.

At the same time, CropEnergies is a major producer of food and animal feed products. The raw materials which are used such as cereals and sugar beets are completely utilized. As a result, 500,000 tonnes of high-quality protein food and animal feed products are manufactured every year out of the non-fermentable components of the raw materials.

Through advanced technology and innovation CropEnergies contributes to ensure a sustainable mobility from renewable sources today and in the future through its main product bioethanol: mobility - sustainable. renewable.

The CropEnergies AG stock (ISIN DE000AOLAUP1) has been listed at the regulated market (Prime Standard) at the Frankfurt Stock Exchange since 2006.