

Graco Reports Record Quarter and Annual Sales and Operating Earnings

January 30, 2023

Process and Industrial Segments Contribute to 2022 Performance

MINNEAPOLIS--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Jan. 30, 2023-- Graco Inc. (NYSE: GGG) today announced results for the fourth quarter ended December 30, 2022.

Summary

\$ in millions except per share amounts

	Three Months Ended					Twelve Months Ended					
		Dec 30, 2022		ec 31, 021	% Change	Dec 30, 2022		Dec 31, 2021		% Change	
Net Sales	\$	555.0	\$	539.6	3%	\$	2,143.5	\$	1,987.6	8%	
Operating Earnings		152.5		144.6	5%		572.7		531.3	8%	
Net Earnings		126.2		120.3	5%		460.6		439.9	5%	
Diluted Net Earnings per Common Share	\$	0.74	\$	0.69	7%	\$	2.66	\$	2.52	6%	
Adjusted (non-GAAP): (1)											
Net Earnings, adjusted	\$	124.3	\$	115.8	7%	\$	455.5	\$	425.7	7%	
Diluted Net Earnings per Common Share, adjusted	\$	0.73	\$	0.66	11%	\$	2.63	\$	2.44	8%	

- (1) Excludes impacts of excess tax benefits from stock option exercises, prior year non-recurring tax provision adjustments and a prior year pension settlement loss. See Financial Results Adjusted for Comparability below for a reconciliation of adjusted non-GAAP financial measures to GAAP.
 - Net sales for the quarter increased 3 percent, including 6 percentage points of organic sales growth and 1 percentage point of sales growth from acquired operations, partially offset by 4 percentage points of currency translation headwinds. There were 14 weeks in the fiscal fourth quarter of 2021 compared to 13 weeks in 2022.
 - The gross profit margin rate declined approximately 2 percentage points for the quarter as strong realized pricing was offset by higher product costs and unfavorable changes in currency translation rates.
 - Total operating expenses decreased 7 percent due to lower sales and earnings-based expenses and changes in currency translation rates.
 - Expense leverage offset the effects of lower gross profit margin rates for the quarter and drove an increase in operating earnings as a percentage of sales.

"Graco reported record results in 2022 with annual growth in all reportable segments and regions on an organic, constant currency basis," said Mark Sheahan, Graco's President and CEO. "While the year was challenging, our people persevered and handled both commercial and operational hurdles in typical Graco fashion. I am proud of the work our teams have done and want to thank our employees, customers and vendors for another year of growth and success."

Consolidated Results

Changes in currency translation rates reduced sales and net earnings by approximately \$23 million and \$12 million, respectively, for the quarter and \$66 million and \$31 million, respectively, for the year.

Net sales for the quarter increased 3 percent from the comparable period last year (7 percent at consistent translation rates). Sales increased 5 percent in the Americas, 1 percent in EMEA (up 12 percent at consistent translation rates), and were flat in Asia Pacific (up 10 percent at consistent translation rates). Sales for the year increased 8 percent (12 percent at consistent translation rates). Sales increased 11 percent in the Americas, 10 percent in Asia Pacific (16 percent at consistent translation rates) and decreased 3 percent in EMEA (up 7 percent at consistent translation rates). Sales from acquired operations contributed approximately \$3 million (1 percentage point) to the fourth quarter and \$11 million (1 percentage point) to the year.

Gross profit margin rates decreased 2 percentage points for the quarter and 3 percentage points for the year from the comparable periods last year. Realized pricing was unable to offset higher product costs and the adverse impacts of changes in currency translation rates.

Total operating expenses for the quarter decreased \$10 million (7 percent) compared to the fourth quarter last year. Reductions of \$7 million from lower sales and earnings-based expenses and \$5 million from the impact of currency translation were partially offset by volume and rate related increases. Operating expenses for the year decreased \$18 million compared to last year. Reductions of \$16 million from lower sales and earnings-based expenses and \$14 million from the impact of currency translation were partially offset by \$3 million of allowances for credit losses on

customer receivables in Russia and volume and rate related increases.

Other expense decreased \$15 million for the quarter and \$16 million for the year. Other expense in the fourth quarter of 2021 included a non-cash pension settlement loss of \$12 million in connection with the transfer of certain pension obligations to an insurance company.

The effective income tax rate was 18 percent for the quarter and 19 percent for the year, up approximately 11 and 6 percentage points, respectively, from the comparable periods last year. Adjusted to exclude non-recurring foreign tax benefits and the impact of excess tax benefits related to stock option exercises (see Financial Results Adjusted for Comparability below), the effective income tax rate was approximately 19 percent for both the quarter and year, 1 percentage point higher than the comparable periods last year due to the unfavorable effects of foreign earnings taxed at higher rates than the U.S.

Segment Results

Management assesses performance of segments by reference to operating earnings excluding unallocated corporate expenses. For a reconciliation of segment operating earnings to consolidated operating earnings, refer to the segment information table included in the financial statement section of this release. Certain measurements of segment operations are summarized below:

		Three Months					Twelve Months					
Indu		Industrial Process		Contractor		Industrial		Process		Contractor		
Net Sales (in millions)	\$	190.2	\$	130.2	\$	234.6	\$	649.3	\$	495.1	\$	999.1
Percentage change from last year												
Sales		10%		15%		(7)%		8%		25%		1%
Operating earnings		14%		27%		(8)%		16%		34%		(6)%
Operating earnings as a percentage of sales												
2022		37%		25%		25%		36%		25%		25%
2021		35%		23%		25%		33%		23%		27%

Components of net sales change by geographic region for the Industrial segment were as follows:

		Three Months				Twelve Months					
	Volume and Price	Acquisitions	Currency	Total	Volume and Price	Acquisitions	Currency	Total			
Americas	5%	0%	(1)%	4%	13%	0%	(1)%	12%			
EMEA	30%	0%	(13)%	17%	15%	0%	(12)%	3%			
Asia Pacific	20%	0%	(11)%	9%	14%	0%	(6)%	8%			
Consolidated	17%	0%	(7)%	10%	14%	0%	(6)%	8%			

The Industrial segment experienced solid growth in all regions for the quarter and year. Increases in finishing system sales drove a double-digit percentage increase in EMEA and Asia Pacific for the quarter. The operating margin rate increased for both the quarter and year as strong realized pricing and expense leverage more than offset higher product costs and the adverse impacts of currency translation.

Components of net sales change by geographic region for the Process segment were as follows:

		Three N	/lonths			Twelve Months					
	Volume and Price	Acquisitions	Currency	Total	Volume and Price	Acquisitions	Currency	Total			
Americas	17%	4%	(1)%	20%	22%	3%	0%	25%			
EMEA	23%	1%	(9)%	15%	22%	1%	(8)%	15%			
Asia Pacific	11%	0%	(7)%	4%	34%	0%	(5)%	29%			
Consolidated	16%	3%	(4)%	15%	25%	2%	(2)%	25%			

The Process segment had double-digit sales growth in all product applications for the quarter and year. Acquired operations contributed 3 percentage points of growth to the quarter and 2 percentage points to the year. The operating margin rate for this segment increased 2 percentage points for the quarter and year as increased volume and expense leverage offset higher product costs and the adverse impacts of currency translation.

Components of net sales change by geographic region for the Contractor segment were as follows:

		Three N	/lonths		Twelve Months					
	Volume and Price	Acquisitions	Currency	Total	Volume and Price	Acquisitions	Currency	Total		
Americas	(1)%	0%	0%	(1)%	7%	0%	(1)%	6%		
EMEA	(10)%	0%	(9)%	(19)%	(6)%	1%	(9)%	(14)%		
Asia Pacific	(17)%	0%	(8)%	(25)%	0%	0%	(6)%	(6)%		
Consolidated	(4)%	0%	(3)%	(7)%	4%	0%	(3)%	1%		

Contractor segment sales decreased 7 percent for the quarter due to softening demand in all regions. Sales increased 1 percent for the year primarily due to North American construction markets. Price realization and expense leverage offset the impact of higher product costs for the quarter, which resulted in a consistent operating margin rate compared to last year. For the year, the operating margin rate decreased 2 percentage points primarily due to higher product costs and the adverse impacts of currency translation.

Outlook

"As we head into 2023, order rates and business tempo will be closely monitored and we are cautiously optimistic that Graco will see sales growth on a full-year basis," said Sheahan. "We are initiating a revenue outlook for the year of low single-digit growth on an organic, constant currency. Our core growth strategies of developing new products, expanding distribution, seeking adjacent markets and pursuing strategic acquisitions will help our growth prospects this year and in the future."

Financial Results Adjusted for Comparability

Excluding the impacts of excess tax benefits from stock option exercises, prior year non-recurring tax provision adjustments and a prior year pension settlement loss presents a more consistent basis for comparison of financial results. A calculation of the non-GAAP measurements of adjusted income taxes, effective income tax rates, net earnings and diluted earnings per share follows (in millions except per share amounts):

	Three Mon	ths End	led	Twelve Months Ended				
	Dec 30, 2022		ec 31, 2021		Dec 30, 2022		Dec 31, 2021	
Earnings before income taxes Pension settlement loss	\$ 154.0 —	\$	129.3 12.0	\$	565.7 —	\$	508.5 12.0	
Earnings before income taxes, adjusted	\$ 154.0	\$	141.3	\$	565.7	\$	520.5	
Income taxes, as reported Pension settlement tax effect	\$ 27.8	\$	9.0 2.5	\$	105.1	\$	68.6 2.5	
Excess tax benefit from option exercises	1.9		2.7		5.1		11.5	
Other non-recurring tax benefit	 		11.3				12.2	
Income taxes, adjusted	\$ 29.7	\$	25.5	\$	110.2	\$	94.8	
Effective income tax rate								
As reported	18.1%		7.0%		18.6%		13.5%	
Adjusted	19.3%		18.1%		19.5%		18.2%	
Net Earnings, as reported	\$ 126.2	\$	120.3	\$	460.6	\$	439.9	
Pension settlement loss, net of tax	_		9.5		_		9.5	
Excess tax benefit from option exercises	(1.9)		(2.7)		(5.1)		(11.5)	
Other non-recurring tax benefit	 		(11.3)				(12.2)	
Net Earnings, adjusted	\$ 124.3	\$	115.8	\$	455.5	\$	425.7	
Weighted Average Diluted Shares Diluted Earnings per Share	171.4		174.9		172.9		174.5	
As reported	\$ 0.74	\$	0.69	\$	2.66	\$	2.52	
Adjusted	\$ 0.73	\$	0.66	\$	2.63	\$	2.44	

Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

The Company desires to take advantage of the "safe harbor" provisions regarding forward-looking statements of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and is filing this Cautionary Statement in order to do so. From time to time various forms filed by our Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including our Form 10-K, Form 10-Qs and Form 8-Ks, and other disclosures, including our overview report, press releases, earnings releases, analyst briefings, conference calls and other written documents or oral statements released by our Company, may contain forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements generally use words such as "expect," "foresee," "anticipate," "believe," "project," "should," "estimate," "will," and similar expressions, and reflect our Company's expectations concerning the future. All forecasts and projections are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are based upon currently available information, but various risks and uncertainties may cause our Company's actual results to differ materially from those expressed in these statements. The Company undertakes no obligation to update these statements in light of new information or future events.

Future results could differ materially from those expressed due to the impact of changes in various factors. These risk factors include, but are not limited to: the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our business; Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and the sanctions and actions taken against Russia and Belarus in response to the invasion; economic conditions in the United States and other major world economies; our Company's growth strategies, which include making acquisitions, investing in new products, expanding geographically and targeting new industries; changes in currency translation rates; the ability to meet our customers' needs and changes in product demand; supply interruptions or delays; security breaches; new entrants who copy our products or infringe on our intellectual property; risks incident to conducting business internationally; catastrophic events; changes in laws and regulations; compliance with anti-corruption and trade laws; changes in tax rates or the adoption of new tax legislation; the possibility of asset impairments if acquired businesses do not meet performance expectations; political instability; results of and costs associated with litigation, administrative proceedings and regulatory reviews incident to our business; our ability to attract, develop and retain qualified personnel; the possibility of decline in purchases from a few large customers of the Contractor segment; variations in activity in the construction, automotive, mining and oil and natural gas industries; and the impact of declines in interest rates, asset values and investment returns on pension costs and required pension contributions. Please refer to Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for fiscal year 2021 (and most recent Form 10-Q) for a more comprehensive discussion of these and other risk factors. These reports are available on the Company's website at www.graco.com and the Securities and Exchange Commission's website at www.graco.com and

Investors should realize that factors other than those identified above and in Item 1A might prove important to the Company's future results. It is not possible for management to identify each and every factor that may have an impact on the Company's operations in the future as new factors can develop from time to time.

Conference Call

Graco management will hold a conference call, including slides via webcast, with analysts and institutional investors on Tuesday, January 31, 2023, at 11 a.m. ET, 10 a.m. CT, to discuss Graco's fourth quarter results.

A real-time listen-only webcast of the conference call will be broadcast by Nasdaq. Individuals can access the call and view the slides on the Company's website at www.graco.com. Listeners should go to the website at least 15 minutes prior to the live conference call to install any necessary audio software.

About Graco

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Graco Inc. supplies technology and expertise for the management of fluids and coatings in both industrial and commercial applications. It designs, manufactures and markets systems and equipment to move, measure, control, dispense and spray fluid and powder materials. A recognized leader in its specialties, Minneapolis-based Graco serves customers around the world in the manufacturing, processing, construction and maintenance industries. For additional information about Graco Inc., please visit us at www.graco.com.

GRACO INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS (Unaudited)

(In thousands except per share amounts)

	Three Months Ended				Twelve Months Ended			
	Dec 30, 2022		Dec 31, 2021		Dec 30, 2022		Dec 31, 2021	
Net Sales	\$ 555,045	\$	539,619	\$	2,143,521	\$	1,987,608	
Cost of products sold	 282,229		265,062		1,086,082		953,659	
Gross Profit	272,816		274,557		1,057,439		1,033,949	
Product development	21,259		18,912		80,008		79,651	
Selling, marketing and distribution	64,491		74,094		250,948		271,526	
General and administrative	 34,558		36,956		153,783		151,449	
Operating Earnings	152,508		144,595		572,700		531,323	
Interest expense	1,342		2,759		9,897		10,215	
Other expense (income), net	 (2,815)		12,612		(2,921)		12,643	
Earnings Before Income Taxes	 153,981		129,224		565,724		508,465	
Income taxes	27,789		8,992		105,079		68,599	
Net Earnings	\$ 126,192	\$	120,232	\$	460,645	\$	439,866	
Net Earnings per Common Share	 							
Basic	\$ 0.75	\$	0.71	\$	2.73	\$	2.59	
Diluted	\$ 0.74	\$	0.69	\$	2.66	\$	2.52	
Weighted Average Number of Shares								
Basic	167,706		170,164		168,952		169,635	
Diluted	171,406		174,910		172,893		174,526	

SEGMENT INFORMATION (Unaudited)

(In thousands)

	Three Months Ended				Twelve Months Ended			
	 Dec 30, 2022		Dec 31, 2021		Dec 30, 2022		Dec 31, 2021	
Net Sales	 							
Industrial	\$ 190,171	\$	173,504	\$	649,347	\$	602,376	
Process	130,231		112,836		495,114		397,626	
Contractor	 234,643		253,279		999,060_		987,606	
Total	\$ 555,045	\$	539,619	\$	2,143,521	\$	1,987,608	
Operating Earnings	 							
Industrial	\$ 69,503	\$	60,977	\$	231,298	\$	199,856	
Process	33,161		26,114		122,344		91,037	
Contractor	57,519		62,838		249,833		266,204	
Unallocated corporate (expense)	 (7,675)		(5,334)		(30,775)		(25,774)	
Total	\$ 152,508	\$	144,595	\$	572,700	\$	531,323	

(In thousands)

	Dec 30, 2022			Dec 31, 2021		
ASSETS						
Current Assets						
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	339,196	\$	624,302		
Accounts receivable, less allowances of \$7,000 and \$3,900		346,010		325,132		
Inventories		476,790		382,301		
Other current assets		43,624		31,886		
Total current assets		1,205,620		1,363,621		
Property, Plant and Equipment, net		607,609		451,061		
Goodwill		368,171		356,255		
Other Intangible Assets, net		137,507		149,740		
Operating Lease Assets		29,785		30,046		
Deferred Income Taxes		57,090		55,786		
Other Assets		33,118		36,689		
Total Assets	\$	2,438,900	\$	2,443,198		
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY						
Current Liabilities						
Notes payable to banks	\$	20,974	\$	43,489		
Current portion of long term debt		_		75,000		
Trade accounts payable		84,218		78,432		
Salaries and incentives		63,969		82,941		
Dividends payable		39,963		35,771		
Other current liabilities		190,793		191,159		
Total current liabilities		399,917		506,792		
Long-term Debt		75,000		75,000		
Retirement Benefits and Deferred Compensation		61,672		106,897		
Operating Lease Liabilities		21,057		23,527		
Deferred Income Taxes		9,443		10,661		
Other Non-current Liabilities		12,159		10,978		
Shareholders' Equity						
Common stock		167,702		170,308		
Additional paid-in-capital		784,477		742,288		
Retained earnings		976,851		876,916		
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)		(69,378)		(80,169)		
Total shareholders' equity		1,859,652		1,709,343		
Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity	\$	2,438,900	\$	2,443,198		

GRACO INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited)

(In thousands)

	Year	Ended	
	Dec 30, 2022		
Cash Flows From Operating Activities	 		
Net Earnings	\$ 460,645	\$	439,866
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by operating activities			
Depreciation and amortization	65,997		59,325
Deferred income taxes	(9,997)		(46,572)
Share-based compensation	24,695		24,931
Change in			
Accounts receivable	(29,944)		(13,801)
Inventories	(95,691)		(97,780)
Trade accounts payable	4,195		12,397
Salaries and incentives	(18,442)		29,089
Retirement benefits and deferred compensation	(18,674)		1,219
Other accrued liabilities	(4,191)		51,342
Other	 (1,199)		(3,120)

Net cash provided by operating activities	377,394	456,896
Cash Flows From Investing Activities	 	
Property, plant and equipment additions	(201,161)	(133,566)
Acquisition of businesses, net of cash acquired	(25,296)	(19,386)
Other	(362)	(347)
Net cash used in investing activities	(226,819)	 (153,299)
Cash Flows From Financing Activities		
Borrowings on short-term lines of credit, net	(18,252)	20,497
Payments on long-term debt	(75,000)	(70)
Payments of debt issuance costs	_	(1,422)
Common stock issued	35,619	50,963
Common stock repurchased	(233,426)	_
Taxes paid related to net share settlement of equity awards	(1,219)	_
Cash dividends paid	(142,125)	 (127,110)
Net cash used in financing activities	(434,403)	(57,142)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash	 (1,278)	 (1,062)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	 (285,106)	 245,393
Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Beginning of year	624,302	378,909
End of year	\$ 339,196	\$ 624,302

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Source: Graco Inc.