THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SAFILO GROUP S.P.A.
APPROVES THE RESULTS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2008

RESULTS OF THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 2008:

- ***Net sales at 865.7 million Euro (903.9 in the first nine months of 2007)***
- ***EBITDA at 101.8 million Euro (130.2 in the first nine months of 2007)***
- ***Operating profit at 71.7 million Euro (101.6 in the first nine months of 2007)***
- ***Net profit at 14.5 million Euro (38.7 in the first nine months of 2007)***
- ***Net financial position at 566.8 million Euro (514.6 at the end of 2007 and 522.9 in the first nine months of 2007)***

Padova, 14th November 2008, h. 4.45pm – The Board of Directors of SAFILO GROUP S.p.A., chaired by Mr Vittorio Tabacchi, today reviewed and approved the results for the first nine months of 2008.

The performance of the first nine months of the year has suffered from the continued evident weakness of the US dollar and the difficult conditions of the international markets which, in the course of the third quarter, have been negatively influenced by the further slowdown in consumer spending.
The Group's net sales in the first nine months of the year registered a growth, at constant exchange rates, of 1.4% (-4.2% at current exchange rates) whilst the third quarter saw an improvement of 1.6% (- 3.1% at current exchange rates). All of the Group's main markets have been influenced by consumers' overall caution and their tendency, especially with regards to the sunglass collections, to limit purchases and favour products belonging to a more competitive price range. This has resulted in a contraction of the high-end sunglass market and consequently a limitation of the orders for new products placed by the Group's main direct clients - optician's stores, department stores and purchase chains.
The sales of prescription frames have been satisfactory and, furthermore, strong growth was seen in the house brand Carrera eyewear collections.

Massimiliano Tabacchi, Executive Vice Chairman of Safilo Group stated: *"The first nine months of the year have been influenced by an international economic and financial situation characterised by strong uncertainty in the markets and a clear volatility in consumer spending. The stagnation of the European market has been partially offset by the satisfactory sales performance in America and emerging markets such as China and South Korea.*
Furthermore, this period has seen the continued development of the Group's long-term projects, initiated by Safilo over the last twelve months and which aim at achieving a more efficient production structure, strengthening the wholesale distribution network and establishing a more wide reaching presence in all international markets.
The recent extension of the license agreements for the prescription frame and sunglass collections of the brands Gucci, Bottega Veneta and Alexander McQueen underlines the company's commitment in this direction."

This press release uses some 'alternative performance indicators' not foreseen by the IFRS-EU accounting standards (EBITDA, Net Financial Position, Net Capital Employed and Free Cash Flow), and whose meaning and contents are illustrated in the specific section of the press release and in accordance with the CESR/05-178b recommendation published 3rd November 2005.

Consolidated Income Statement

Key Operating data of Safilo Group

(in millions of euro)	9 Months 2008	9 Months 2007	% Change	3Q 2008	3Q 2007	% Change
Net sales	865.7	903.9	-4.2%	228.7	236.1	-3.1%
Gross profit	503.2	532.1	-5.4%	130.1	138.6	-6.1%
%	58.1%	58.9%		56.9%	58.7%	
Ebitda	101.8	130.2	-21.8%	16.7	29.7	-43.7%
%	11.8%	14.4%		7.3%	12.5%	
Operating profit	71.7	101.6	-29.5%	6.5	20.4	-67.9%
%	8.3%	11.2%		2.9%	8.7%	
Net profit attrib. to the Group	14.5	38.7	-62.6%	(6.7)	5.4	n.s.
%	1.7%	4.3%		-2.9%	2.3%	

Net sales of Safilo Group reached, in the first nine months of the year, 865.7 million Euro, a decrease of 4.2% compared to the 903.9 million Euro registered in the same period of the previous year.
At constant exchange rates net sales registered an increase of 1.4%.
In the third quarter, Safilo achieved revenues for 228.7 million Euro, a decline of 3.1% compared to the same period of 2007. At constant exchange rates growth in the third quarter was equal to 1.6%.

In the geographical breakdown, America achieved, in the first nine months of the year, an increase at constant exchange rates of 11.6% (+0.2% at current exchange rates), thanks to the contribution of the Mexican stores Sunglass Island, acquired at the beginning of 2008, to the new Solstice stores opened during the period, and to the good performance in the United States achieved by the prescription frame collections sold through the independent opticians channel.
In the European market, where sales fell by 4.4% in the first nine months of the year, performance was particularly weak in Spain and the U.K., while Italy continued to benefit from the strong growth of the Carrera sunglass collections, testament of the growing appeal of this brand in the market.
Asia, which grew by 8.5% at constant exchange rates (+0.3% at current exchange rates), saw a good sales performance in China, South Korea and all the emerging countries of the area. In the course of the third quarter the slowdown in the Japanese market and in duty-free sales in the region was instead more marked.

Performance by distribution channel highlights the growth of the retail business which, at the end of September, counted 307 directly operated stores (171 stores in September 2007).
In the first nine months of 2008 growth in the retail sector was 57.5% at constant exchange rates (+45.5% at current exchange rates), thanks above all to the two acquisitions concluded at the beginning of the year in Australia, Just Spectacles, and in Mexico, Sunglass Island (for a total of 77 stores).
In the United States, the sunglass chain Solstice registered an improvement in sales at current exchange rates of around 19%, thanks to the contribution deriving from new stores.
In Spain, the Loop Vision chain suffered from the market slow down, and registered a decrease in sales of around 3%, but with an improved performance in the course of the third quarter thanks to the Group's marketing activities and the repositioning of the stores.
The wholesale business registered, in the first nine months of 2008, a contraction of 2.2% at constant exchange rates (-7.4% at current exchange rates), resulting above all from the more marked weakness of the European and Japanese markets and the general consumer tendency to purchase sunglass collections belonging to a more competitive price range.
Total sales volumes continued to experience a slight growth, confirming the competitive strength of Safilo's products in the market.

Gross profit in the first nine months of 2008 reached 503.2 million Euro against the 532.1 million Euro of the same period of 2007, with a margin on sales of 58.1% (58.9% in the first nine months of the previous year). Factors which contributed to this result are the slowdown in production volumes and the unfavourable country mix related to the greater incidence of sales from the U.S. market, currently less profitable owing to the weakness of the US dollar.
In the third quarter of 2008 the gross margin reached 56.9% of sales, in contraction compared to the 58.7% of the same quarter of the previous year, due to the factors previously explained and to the start-up costs of the new production plant in China which were incurred during the course of the quarter.

EBITDA in the first nine months of 2008 was equal to 101.8 million Euro, compared to the 130.2 million Euro of the first nine months of 2007. The gross operating profitability moved from 14.4% to 11.8%.
The profitability of the wholesale channel was penalised in particular by the greater percentage incidence of sales and marketing costs, which have increased compared to the same period of the previous year, due to the numerous initiatives promoting the Carrera brand and the guaranteed marketing investments on licensed brands which are based on the previous year's sales.
The Group's EBITDA performance continues to be influenced by the directly operated store openings. The profitability of the retail channel, whilst enjoying good results in the Mexican and Australian chains acquired at the beginning of the year, continues to be affected by the difficult market conditions in the United States and Spain, where the majority of the directly operated stores is located.

In the third quarter of 2008, the EBITDA reached 7.3% of sales compared to 12.5% registered in the third quarter of 2007.

Operating profit was equal to 71.7 million Euro compared to 101.6 million Euro in the first nine months of 2007. The operating margin reached 8.3% compared to 11.2% in the same period of the previous year.
In the third quarter of 2008, the Group's operating profit reached 2.9% of sales compared to 8.7% registered in the third quarter of 2007.

Net profit attributable to the Group was 14.5 million Euro compared to 38.7 million Euro registered in the first nine months of 2007, with a margin on revenues which shifted from 4.3% to 1.7%.
In the third quarter of 2008, the Group registered a net loss of 6.7 million Euro compared to the net profit of 5.4 million Euro in the third quarter of 2007.
This result has been influenced by the limited operating profit resulting from the factors previously mentioned, and by the greater impact of the financial costs, penalised also by the strong re-evaluation of the US dollar at the end of September which led to the subsequent increase in debt positions in dollars.

Consolidated Balance Sheet

Key Financial data of Safilo Group

(in millions of Euro)	9 Months 2008	2007	Var.	9 Months 2007
Net working capital	376.4	395.4	(19.0)	387.3
Tangible and intangible fixed assets	1,046.7	980.3	66.4	1,000.1
Financial fixed assets	14.7	14.7	-	14.1
Other assets/(liabilities)	(25.3)	(34.9)	9.6	(28.1)
Net Capital employed	1,412.5	1,355.5	57.0	1,373.4
Net financial position	566.8	514.6	52.2	522.9
Minority interests	5.1	4.9	0.2	7.1
Group shareholders' equity	840.6	836.0	4.6	843.4

Net working capital, equal to 376.4 million Euro in the first nine months of 2008, fell by 19.0 million Euro compared to the end of 2007, and by 10.9 million Euro in the more important comparison with the same period of the previous year, and was influenced by the following factors:

- the containment of products in stock;
- the decrease of trade receivables directly related to sales performance and the greater contribution from the retail channel;
- the decrease in trade payables.

Consolidated Cash Flow

Key Cash flow data of Safilo Group

(in millions of Euro)	9 Months 2008	9 Months 2007
Cash flow from operating activities before changes in working capital	50.4	81.5
Changes in working capital	0.3	(46.7)
Cash flow from (for) operating activities	50.7	34.8
Cash flow from (for) investment activities	(76.2)	(31.1)
Free Cash Flow	(25.5)	3.7

The Free Cash Flow relating to the first nine months of 2008 was characterised by the improvement of cash flows deriving from operating activities, which increased in the period to 50.7 million Euro compared to 34.8 million Euro in the first nine months of 2007. Operating cash flow improved thanks to the cash generation at the net working capital level, due, in particular, to the inventory containment policy implemented by the Group during this period.

The final cash absorption of 25.5 million Euro is entirely due to the retail acquisitions carried out in Australia and Mexico.

Cash flow for investments in the first nine months have in fact reached 76.2 million Euro compared to 31.1 million in the first nine months of 2007. The increase is due, as well as to the investments in the retail area, to the construction of the new production plant in China.

The Net financial position, at the end of September 2008, reached 566.8 million Euro, an increase compared to the 514.6 million Euro at 31st December 2007 and due to greater investments and dividends distributed in May 2008.

Outlook for the year

On the basis of the results registered in the first nine months of the year and the recent slowdown, the Group estimates that revenues for 2008, at constant exchange rates, will experience a slight reduction of around 2% compared to 2007 (the previous forecast estimated a growth of around 4%).
In consideration of the current market situation, the EBITDA for the full year is today expected to reach 11% – 11.5% of sales (compared to the previous estimate of around 13.5% - 14%) while the net profit should reach around 1% of sales (the previous estimate was around 3% - 3.5%).
The Group is continuing with its planned projects, regarding both the location of its production and its product development processes which aim at improving future profitability.

During the month of November, and in anticipation of a possible misalignment, at 31st December 2008, of the covenants currently present in the Senior Loan Credit Facility Agreement, a new level of the financial covenants has been negotiated which is more in line with the year end forecasts.

Statement by the manager responsible for the preparation of the company's financial documents

The manager responsible for the preparation of the company's financial documents, Mr Francesco Tagliapietra, hereby declares, in accordance with paragraph 2 article 154 bis of the "Testo Unico della Finanza", that the accounting information contained in this press release corresponds to the accounting results, registers and records.

Disclaimer

This document contains forward-looking statements, in particular in the "Outlook for the Year" section, relating to future events and operating, economic and financial results for Safilo Group. Such forecasts, due to their nature, imply a component of risk and uncertainty due to the fact that they depend on the occurrence of certain future events and developments. The actual results may therefore vary even significantly to those announced in relation to a multitude of factors

Alternative Performance Indicators

The definitions of the "Alternative Performance Indicators", not foreseen by the IFRS-EU accounting principles and used in this press release to allow for an improved evaluation of the trend of economic-financial management of the Group, are provided below:

- Ebitda (gross operating profit) is calculated by Safilo by adding to the Operating profit, depreciation and amortization;
- The net financial position is for Safilo the sum of bank borrowings and short, medium and long-term loans, net of cash in hand and at bank;
- The net capital employed for Safilo is the sum of current assets and non-current assets net of current liabilities and non current liabilities, with the exception of the items previously considered in the Net Financial Position;
- The Free Cash Flow for Safilo is the sum of the cash flow from/(for) operating activities and the cash flow from /(for) investing activities.

Conference Call

At 5.00pm CET, 11.00am EST today a conference call will be held with the financial community during which the Group's economic and financial results will be discussed.
It is possible to connect to the call by dialling the following number: +39 02 802 09 11 (for journalists: +39 02 802 09 28) and to listen to the playback by dialling the number +39 02 806 137 80 (access code: 747#).

The Safilo Group is worldwide leader in the premium eyewear sector and maintains a leadership position in the prescription, sunglasses, fashion and sports eyewear sectors. Present on the international market through exclusive distributors and 31 subsidiaries in primary markets (U.S.A., Europe and Far East). The main proprietary branded collections distributed are: Safilo, Carrera, Smith, Oxydo, Blue Bay, and the licensed branded collections are: Alexander McQueen, A/X Armani Exchange, Balenciaga, Banana Republic, Bottega Veneta, BOSS by Hugo Boss, Diesel, 55DSL, Dior, Emporio Armani, Fossil, Giorgio Armani, Gucci, HUGO by Hugo Boss, J.Lo by Jennifer Lopez, Jimmy Choo, Juicy Couture, Kate Spade, Liz Claiborne, Marc Jacobs, Marc by Marc Jacobs, Max Mara, Max&Co., Nine West, Pierre Cardin, Saks Fifth Avenue, Valentino, Yves Saint Laurent and, until 31st of December 2008, Boucheron and Stella McCartney.

This press release is also available in the website www.safilo.com.

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Consolidated statement of operations

(Euro/000)	Nine months ended September 30, 2008	2007	Change %	3rd quarter 2008	2007	Change %
Net sales	865,726	903,886	-4.2%	228,766	236,074	-3.1%
Cost of sales	(362,570)	(371,804)	-2.5%	(98,608)	(97,482)	1.2%
Gross profit	**503,156**	**532,082**	**-5.4%**	**130,158**	**138,592**	**-6.1%**
Selling and marketing expenses	(336,910)	(336,201)	0.2%	(93,958)	(90,253)	4.1%
General and administrative expenses	(95,037)	(94,114)	1.0%	(30,345)	(27,858)	8.9%
Other op. income and (expenses), net	446	(167)	n.s.	708	(46)	n.s.
Operating profit	**71,655**	**101,600**	**-29.5%**	**6,563**	**20,435**	**-67.9%**
Share of income (loss) of associates	732	250	n.s.	657	26	n.s.
Interest expense and other financial charges, net	(40,700)	(32,834)	24.0%	(14,153)	(10,232)	38.3%
Profit before taxation	**31,687**	**69,016**	**-54.1%**	**(6,933)**	**10,229**	**n.s.**
Income taxes	(14,912)	(26,976)	-44.7%	738	(4,070)	n.s.
Net profit	**16,775**	**42,040**	**-60.1%**	**(6,195)**	**6,159**	**n.s.**
Net profit attributable to minority interests	2,289	3,314	-30.9%	385	733	-47.5%
Net profit attributable to the Group	**14,486**	**38,726**	**-62.6%**	**(6,580)**	**5,426**	**n.s.**
EBITDA	**101,818**	**130,158**	**-21.8%**	**16,665**	**29,626**	**-43.7%**
Basic EPS (Euro)	0.05	0.14		(0.02)	0.02	
Diluted EPS (Euro)	0.05	0.14		(0.02)	0.02	

Net sales by geographical region	Nine months ended September 30,					Third Quarter				
(Euro in millions)	2008	%	2007	%	Change%	2008	%	2007	%	Change%
Europe	411.0	47.5	430.0	47.5	-4.4	91.7	40.1	94.0	39.8	-2.5
The Americas	323.9	37.4	323.3	35.8	+0.2	104.3	45.6	102.7	43.5	+1.6
Asia	111.7	12.9	111.3	12.3	+0.3	29.5	12.9	33.5	14.2	-12.1
Other	19.1	2.2	39.3	4.4	-51.5	3.2	1.4	5.9	2.5	-46.3
Total	**865.7**	**100.0**	**903.9**	**100.0**	**-4.2**	**228.7**	**100.0**	**236.1**	**100.0**	**-3.1**

Net sales by product	Nine months ended September 30,					Third Quarter				
(Euro in millions)	2008	%	2007	%	Change%	2008	%	2007	%	Change%
Prescription frames	343.3	39.6	350.6	38.8	-2.1	111.4	48.8	110.8	46.9	+0.6
Sunglasses	466.0	53.8	492.9	54.5	-5.5	95.7	41.8	98.9	41.9	-3.2
Sport products	38.6	4.5	43.6	4.8	-11.6	16.1	7.0	19.6	8.3	-18.1
Other	17.8	2.1	16.7	1.9	+6.7	5.5	2.4	6.8	2.9	-18.4
Total	**865.7**	**100.0**	**903.9**	**100.0**	**-4.2**	**228.7**	**100.0**	**236.1**	**100.0**	**-3.1**

Consolidated Balance Sheet

(Euro/000)	30/09/2008	31/12/2007	Change
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash in hand and at banks	52,318	56,882	(4,564)
Trade receivables, net	282,724	315,792	(33,068)
Inventory, net	259,355	274,283	(14,928)
Derivative financial instruments	194	271	(77)
Other current assets	56,798	44,009	12,789
Total current assets	**651,389**	**691,237**	**(39,848)**
Non-current assets			
Tangible fixed assets	224,165	201,858	22,307
Intangible fixed assets	23,035	23,526	(491)
Goodwill	799,547	754,920	44,627
Investments in associates	12,989	12,279	710
Financial assets available-for-sale	1,739	2,443	(704)
Deferred tax assets	89,908	75,495	14,413
Derivative financial instruments	1,628	1,608	20
Other non-current assets	12,228	8,628	3,600
Total non-current assets	**1,165,239**	**1,080,757**	**84,482**
Total assets	**1,816,628**	**1,771,994**	**44,634**
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY			
Current liabilities			
Short-term borrowings	150,893	161,709	(10,816)
Trade payables	165,749	194,714	(28,965)
Tax payables	21,671	20,568	1,103
Derivative financial instruments	58	-	58
Other current liabilities	77,874	73,725	4,149
Provisions for risks and charges	814	803	11
Total current liabilities	**417,059**	**451,519**	**(34,460)**
Non-current liabilities			
Long-term borrowings	468,241	409,827	58,414
Employee benefit liability	41,490	37,840	3,650
Provisions for risks and charges	13,077	12,789	288
Deferred tax liabilities	14,996	11,080	3,916
Derivative financial instruments	313	359	(46)
Other non-current liabilities	15,764	7,642	8,122
Total non-current liabilities	**553,881**	**479,537**	**74,344**
Total liabilities	**970,940**	**931,056**	**39,884**
Equity			
Share capital	71,349	71,349	-
Share premium reserve	747,471	747,471	-
Losses carried forward and other reserves	7,969	(33,540)	41,509
Fair value and cash flow reserves	(664)	(280)	(384)
Profit attributable to the Group	14,486	51,018	(36,532)
Group shareholders' equity	**840,611**	**836,018**	**4,593**
Minority interests	**5,077**	**4,920**	**157**
Total shareholders' equity	**845,688**	**840,938**	**4,750**
Total liabilities and equity	**1,816,628**	**1,771,994**	**44,634**

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Consolidated Statement of Cash Flow

(Euro/000)	First nine months 2008	First nine months 2007
A - Opening net cash and cash equivalents (net financial indebtness - short term)	**(28,469)**	**6,989**
B - Cash flow from (for) operating activities		
Net profit for the period (including minority interests)	16,775	42,040
Amortization & depreciation	30,163	28,558
Stock option	418	418
Share (income) loss on equity investments	(298)	(151)
Net movements in the employee benefit liability	3,585	(2,069)
Net movements in other provisions	308	1,096
Interest expenses	30,597	28,764
Income taxes	14,912	26,976
Income from operating activities prior to movements in net working capital	**96,460**	**125,632**
(Increase) Decrease in trade and other current receivables	6,459	5,442
(Increase) Decrease in inventory, net	22,329	(7,992)
Increase (Decrease) in trade and other current payables	(28,506)	(44,155)
Interest expenses paid	(22,585)	(23,575)
Income taxes paid	(23,435)	(20,523)
Total (B)	**50,722**	**34,829**
C - Cash flow from (for) investing activities		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets (net of disposals)	(42,159)	(26,556)
Business unit acquisition (net of cash and cash equivalents acquired)	(30,159)	-
(Acquisition) Disposal of investments in associates and financial assets	64	-
Purchase of intangible fixed assets	(3,901)	(4,549)
Total (C)	**(76,155)**	**(31,105)**
D - Cash flow from (for) financing activities		
Proceeds from borrowings	78,952	17,736
Repayment of borrowings	(18,120)	(47,164)
Share capital increase	-	6,245
Dividends distribution	(26,589)	(7,204)
Total (D)	**34,243**	**(30,387)**
E - Cash flow for the period (B+C+D)	**8,810**	**(26,663)**
Translation exchange difference	4,685	(3)
Total (F)	**4,685**	**(3)**
G - Closing net cash and cash equivalents (net financial indebtness - short term) (A+E+F)	**(14,974)**	**(19,677)**