Ansell Limited
A.C.N. 004 085 330
Level 3, 678 Victoria Street,
Richmond, Victoria 3121, Australia
GPO Box 772H, Melbourne,
Victoria 3001, Australia
Telephone (+61 3) 9270 7270
Facsimile (+61 3) 9270 7300
www.ansell.com

NEWS RELEASE

17 August, 2009

Ansell Limited Full Year Results 30 June, 2009

Guidance Achieved and Dividend Increased

Highlights:

- Sales of US$1B declined 10.1% year on year, due to the global downturn and stronger US dollar.
- Reported EPS was US66.3¢ against F'08's US66.1¢, achieving EPS within the guidance range in a very challenging economic environment.
- Free cash flow (FCF) of US$121.5M up 52.3% year on year. This was Ansell's highest FCF ever as a result of operational focus and financial discipline.
- The Board declared a final unfranked dividend of A16¢, up 3.2% year on year. Total dividend for F'09 was A28¢ up 5.7% year on year.

Chairman's Comments:

"Ansell has not escaped the global economic crisis, which has been felt strongly in our Occupational business. However, our product diversity and strong balance sheet stood us in good stead and it is particularly encouraging to see the EBIT improvement in our Professional business. Ansell expects a subdued global economic outlook in fiscal year 2010 and is continuing to reduce costs, while ensuring it is positioned to take advantage of growth opportunities".

"The Board is pleased to have been able to continue with Ansell's practice of steady dividend growth" Mr. Peter Barnes said.

F'10 Guidance:

The Company currently expects EPS to be in the range of US56¢ to US62¢.

In the current environment of greater uncertainty, Ansell has widened the guidance range, and will provide a further update at the AGM in October.

17 August 2009

Ansell Limited Full Year 2009 Results Summary

Ansell (ASX:ANN) today announced a full year Profit Attributable to Shareholders of US$90.2M, a 1.6% reduction on the previous year's US$91.7M. Reported Earnings per Share (EPS) was US66.3¢, up 0.3% on the previous year's US66.1¢, and within the forecast range of US65-70¢ provided in February 2009.

Ansell's Board has declared a final dividend of A16.0¢ per share unfranked, payable on 23 September, 2009. The financial year dividend declared will therefore be A28.0¢, up 5.7% on the prior year's A26.5¢.

In the first half, 399,154 shares were bought back under the previous program. No shares have been purchased under the new 2.5M program announced in April.

F'09 Highlights:

Reported results:

	Reported in Australian Dollars			**Reported in Operating Currency – US Dollars**		
	F'08 A$M	F'09 A$M	%	F'08 US$M	**F'09 US$M**	**%**
Sales	1,244.7	1,352.1	8.6	1,116.0	**1,002.9**	**-10.1**
EBIT	123.5	142.4	15.3	111.1	**107.3**	**-3.4**
Profit Attributable	102.6	121.4	18.3	91.7	**90.2**	**-1.6**
Earnings Per Share (¢)	73.9	89.2	20.7	66.1	**66.3**	**+0.3**
Dividend	26.5¢	28.0¢	5.7			

Underlying results: Excluding net deferred tax adjustments in both periods and depreciation adjustments in the comparative period.

	Underlying in Australian Dollars			**Underlying in Operating Currency – US Dollars**		
	F'08 A$M	F'09 A$M	%	F'08 US$M	**F'09 US$M**	**%**
Sales	1,244.7	1,352.1	8.6	1,116.0	**1,002.9**	**-10.1**
EBIT	130.7	142.4	9.0	117.4	**107.3**	**-8.6**
Profit Attributable	100.7	111.1	10.3	90.8	**83.3**	**-8.3**
Earnings Per Share (¢)	72.6	81.6	12.4	65.4	**61.2**	**-6.4**
Dividend	26.5¢	28.0¢	5.7			

Australian dollar results were favourably impacted by a weaker Australian dollar over much of F'09.

Business Review:

"F'09 performance, after a very strong start, decelerated from November 2008 onwards. The global recession impacted sales and profitability in our Occupational business and resulted in a build up of inventory at the end of the first half. The second half saw a focus on reducing this excess inventory and as of 30 June, 2009, this goal had been achieved. Despite the difficult environment, our financial discipline helped us to steadily improve our accounts receivables metrics and deliver our best year of free cash flow generation" said Ansell's CEO, Mr. Doug Tough.

He continued; "Our Occupational business is going through a very difficult period. New products and channels are helping but cannot make up for the lost sales in key verticals such as automotive and general purpose manufacturing. Professional, with its strong product range, has had a good year. Consumer made excellent sales progress in the Chinese, Brazilian and US markets, but struggled in Poland and Russia. EBIT margins in both Professional and Consumer improved on last year, with lower input costs a key driver."

Occupational Healthcare:

	A$M		US$M	
	F'08	F'09	F'08	F'09
Sales	610.6	641.4	547.7	477.4
Segment EBIT	88.3	69.4	79.3	53.6
EBIT/Sales	14.5%	10.8%	14.5%	11.2%

Occupational accounted for 48% of Revenue and 47% of Segment EBIT.

The global downturn has hit this business sharply with sales falling 16.2%, after the incremental ~US$18M from the newly acquired Hawkeye business is excluded.

US$ EBIT was down 32.4% as stepped up rationalisation of manufacturing could not offset lost sales, an adverse product mix and the negative impact of lower production on plant overhead recovery. Lower raw material and energy prices helped margins, but reduced production volumes delayed the realisation of these benefits.

Some of the demand reduction was due to de-stocking (by distributors and customers) and appears to have run its course. However, Ansell believes part of this large downward shift in global Occupational demand will be medium-term in nature and action was taken to reduce costs. These included the closure of the Redditch (UK) factory, and reduction of headcount at other sites.

Resources have also been redeployed into new channels. For example, Ansell has developed a "Hand Protection Center" concept for DIY sales through Menard's stores in the US, which included the release of a synthetic construction glove 3 times more cut resistant than leather. The Hawkeye acquisition has enabled Ansell to access military contracts in the US and opportunities are now being sought abroad.

During the year, Ansell was also proud to receive a prestigious award from Frost & Sullivan in Europe for its Guardian® program - our proprietary software tool that assesses hand protection requirements and recommends solutions.

Professional Healthcare:

	A$M		US$M	
	F'08	F'09	F'08	F'09
Sales	397.7	450.2	356.6	332.2
Segment EBIT	29.3	55.0	26.6	40.3
EBIT/Sales	7.5%	12.1%	7.5%	12.1%

Professional accounted for 33% of Revenue and 35% of Segment EBIT.

As a result of ongoing product rationalisation in the Americas, global exam glove volumes fell by 16%. Surgical glove volumes were flat overall, with solid EMEA growth, and product mix improved as growth in higher end synthetics and powder free gloves was offset by a decline in powdered gloves. The decline in total revenue is due to the planned reduction in exam volumes and to currency translation.

US$ EBIT was up sharply due primarily to lower input costs in addition to a better product mix. Even after the depreciation adjustment is added back to F'08's EBIT – the increase was 26.7%. Pleasingly, the F'09 EBIT/sales margin rose above 12%.

Ansell's strong surgical range, including the polyisoprene and Hydrasoft® gloves continues to be at the forefront of the market and we are looking to expand our product portfolio further.

Consumer Healthcare:

	A$M		US$M	
	F'08	F'09	F'08	F'09
Sales	236.4	260.5	211.7	193.3
Segment EBIT	19.8	28.5	17.5	21.2
EBIT/Sales	8.3%	11.0%	8.3%	11.0%

Consumer accounted for 19% of Revenue and 18% of Segment EBIT.

US$ Sales were down 8.7%. However, this masked growth in Ansell's own core branded retail volumes. Strong growth was achieved with the polyisoprene SKYN™ condom in the US, Australia performed well and Jissbon's performance in China (including the launch of our Manix® brand) was outstanding. Unimil underperformed, but did better than last year, while substantial ground was conceded due to the loss of our Russian distributor and the stalled Indian Government tender.

US$ EBIT was up 21.1%, due to solid Americas and Jissbon results, lower Unimil losses, and input costs. The EBIT/Sales margin improved to more acceptable levels.

Unused dip lines from Unimil were moved to Thailand and upgraded to be able to produce polyisoprene condoms, thus enabling our very successful SKYN™ product to be marketed more widely.

Corporate Business Development:

On 1 July, 2008, the Hawkeye glove business was purchased by Ansell for US$11.6M, including acquisition costs. Hawkeye is the leading supplier of gloves to the US military and has 5 small US factories.

Hawkeye's first year with Ansell saw sales recover from a slow start (post acquisition) to end near plan. The business was modestly EPS accretive in its first year of operation and the F'10 outlook in the US is robust. Ansell is leveraging knowledge and products to seek military glove business outside the US.

Finance:

The weakness of Ansell's key revenue currencies (Euro, CAD, and AUD) versus the US dollar reduced sales value by approximately 5%. These currencies devalued by 11%-16%, while cost currencies (MYR, THB, LKR, MXN) only fell 2%-9%. As noted at the last AGM, Ansell did not have sufficient second half hedges in place and as foreshadowed, FX translation negatively impacted full year EBIT.

After a difficult November and December, during which Occupational inventory grew significantly, a focussed second half effort saw inventory return to acceptable levels. Receivables have been tightly controlled all year and the decline in trade creditors is linked to lower purchases. Overall working capital reduced by US$25M year on year, after excluding the impact of the Hawkeye acquisition. Actual working capital days at the end of June therefore ended unchanged from last year.

Following several years of increases, capital expenditure declined in F'09 as Ansell has spare capacity for most of its key manufactured products. Lower taxes were a function of lower profits in the US and Europe – both significantly impacted by recession and FX movements. With lower working capital, capital expenditure and tax payments, free cash flow rose 52% from US$79.8M to US$121.5M.

The balance sheet strengthened with gearing of only 16.7% compared to last year's 20.3%. Interest cover of 13.5X and EBITDA to net debt of 0.7X, leave Ansell well placed for the future. Liquidity is also robust with over US$215M of cash and unused bank facilities of US$70M at F'09 year end. During the year, a US$50M facility maturing on 30 April, 2010 was rolled to 30 April, 2012. The remaining US$100M of debt maturing on 30 April, 2010 can be renewed or repaid with cash.

Early in F'09, 399,154 shares were bought back, providing shareholders with A$3.8M cash, in addition to dividend payments totalling A$37.5M for the year.

Dividends:

The Board has announced an increased final dividend of A16¢ (A15.5¢ in 2008) per share unfranked. The dividend will have a record date of 31st August, 2009 and payment date of 23rd September, 2009.

The total dividend paid for F'09 will therefore be A28¢, up 5.7% on F'08's A26.5¢.

For non resident shareholders, the dividend will not attract withholding tax.

Outlook:

Ansell finished F'09 having brought working capital back in line and having accelerated rationalisation of our manufacturing plants. In July 2009 action was taken to significantly reduce our selling and administrative overhead cost structure, primarily at our US and European sites, and F'10 will see further manufacturing restructuring. Ansell has, however, retained the capabilities to react rapidly to growth opportunities.

While F'10 first half sales will be down on F'09's first half (which included a strong first four months of Occupational trading), sales volumes and values are expected to increase from the levels seen in F'09's second half. Currency translation could provide an additional boost in F'10 as current rates are favourable compared to the budget assumptions. Finally, Ansell benefits from participation in three different sectors and opportunities to profitably grow sales in each of these businesses through channel, product and geographic initiatives that are being progressed.

It is noted that no deferred tax adjustments or non-operational tax items are built into the F'10 guidance at this time.

In the current environment of greater uncertainty, Ansell has also widened the guidance range, and will provide an update at the AGM in October.

Ansell is therefore providing EPS guidance of US56¢ to US62¢ for F'10.

===

For further information:

Media	**Investors & Analysts**	
Australia	**USA**	**Australia**
Peter Brookes Citadel Tel: (61) 0407 911 389 Email: pbrookes@citadelpr.com.au	Rustom Jilla Chief Financial Officer Tel: (1732) 345 5359 Email: rjilla@ansell.com	David Graham General Manager – Finance & Treasury Tel: (613) 9270 7215 or (61) 0401140749 Email: dgraham@ap.ansell.com

Ansell Ltd is a global leader in healthcare barrier protective products and in 2005 celebrated 100 years in its field. With operations in the Americas, Europe and Asia, Ansell employs more than 11,000 people worldwide and holds leading positions in the natural latex and synthetic polymer glove and condom markets. Ansell operates in three main business segments: Occupational Healthcare, supplying hand protection to the industrial market; Professional Healthcare, supplying surgical and examination gloves to healthcare professionals; and Consumer Healthcare, supplying sexual health products and consumer hand protection. Information on Ansell and its products can be found at http://www.ansell.com.