

Carolina Group Reports Net Income for the Third Quarter of 2004

October 28, 2004



NEW YORK--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Oct. 28, 2004--Loews Corporation (NYSE:LTR) today reported Carolina Group net income for the 2004 third quarter of \$159.9 million, compared to \$116.4 million in the 2003 third quarter. Net income attributable to Carolina Group stock (NYSE:CG) for the third quarter of 2004 was \$53.4 million, or \$0.92 per share of Carolina Group stock, compared to \$26.8 million, or \$0.67 per share in the comparable period of the prior year.

Net income attributable to Carolina Group stock for the third quarter of 2004 increased by \$26.6 million, as compared to the comparable period of the prior year. \$16.6 million of this increase reflects the increased economic interest (from 23.01% to 33.43%) of the Carolina Group stock in the Carolina Group as a result of the sale by Loews Corporation of 18,055,000 shares of Carolina Group stock in November of 2003. Net income per share of Carolina Group stock was not impacted by this sale of Carolina Group stock.

Net sales for the Carolina Group were \$879.3 million in the third quarter of 2004, compared to \$842.8 million in the 2003 third quarter. The increase in net sales reflects lower sales promotion expenses (accounted for as a reduction in net sales) offset by a decrease in unit sales volume of 3.5%.

Results of operations of the Carolina Group include interest expense of \$24.3 and \$27.9 million, net of taxes, for the three months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively, on notional intergroup debt. At September 30, 2004, \$1.94 billion principal amount of notional intergroup debt was outstanding.

Carolina Group net income for the first nine months of 2004 was \$384.3 million, compared to \$349.2 million in the comparable period of the prior year. Net income for the first nine months of 2003 included a \$26.0 million charge (\$16.8 after taxes) to settle litigation with tobacco growers and a \$28.0 million charge (\$17.1 million after taxes) to resolve indemnification claims and trademark matters in connection with the 1977 sale by Lorillard of its international business. Net income attributable to Carolina Group stock for the first nine months of 2004 was \$128.4 million, or \$2.21 per share of Carolina Group stock, compared to \$80.4 million, or \$2.01 per share in the comparable period of the prior year. The \$48.0 million increase in net income attributable to Carolina Group stock includes an increase of \$40.0 million due to the November of 2003 sale by Loews Corporation of Carolina Group stock discussed above.

Net sales for the Carolina Group were \$2.515 billion in the first nine months of 2004, compared to \$2.468 billion in the comparable period of the prior year. The increase in net sales reflects a decrease in sales promotion expenses (accounted for as a reduction in net sales) offset by a decrease in unit sales volume of 0.4%. Results of operations of the Carolina Group include interest expense of \$73.3 and \$87.8 million, net of taxes, for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively, on notional intergroup debt.

The Carolina Group stock, commonly called a tracking stock, is intended to reflect the economic performance of a defined group of the Company's assets and liabilities, referred to as the Carolina Group, principally consisting of the Company's subsidiary Lorillard, Inc. The Carolina Group, a notional group, is not a separate legal entity. The purpose of this financial information is to provide investors with additional information to use in analyzing the results of operations and financial condition of the Carolina Group, and this financial information should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial information of Loews Corporation.

As of September 30, 2004, there were 57,966,750 shares of Carolina Group stock outstanding representing a 33.43% economic interest. Depending on market conditions, the Company, for the account of the Carolina Group, from time to time may purchase shares of Carolina Group stock in the open market or otherwise.

Loews Corporation has issued a separate press release reporting its consolidated results for the third quarter of 2004, which accompanies this press release.

A conference call to discuss the third quarter results of Loews Corporation has been scheduled for 11:00 a.m. EST, Thursday, October 28, 2004. A live broadcast of the call will be available online at the Loews Corporation website (www.loews.com). Please go to the website at least ten minutes before the event begins to register and to download and install any necessary audio software. Those interested in participating in the question and answer session of the conference call should dial (877) 692-2592. An online replay will be available at the Company's website following the call.

Carolina Group Financial Review

September 30,				
Three	Months	Nine Mo	nths	
2004	2003	2004	2003	

(Amounts in millions, except per share data)

Net sales (a)	\$879.3	\$842.8	\$2,515.3	\$2,467.9
Cost of sales (a) (b) Selling, advertising and	504.8	514.0	1,504.4	1,435.4
administrative (c)			288.4	
Total operating costs and expenses	589.9	612.0	1,792.8	1,788.2
Operating income Investment income			722.5 23.1	
Interest expense			(119.4)	
Income before income taxes Income taxes	98.3	72.1	626.2 241.9	210.4
Net income Earnings attributable to the Loews			384.3	
Group intergroup interest	106.5	89.6 	255.9 	268.8
Income attributable to Carolina Group shareholders (d)	-	\$ 26.8	\$ 128.4	\$ 80.4
Per share of Carolina Group stock (e)	\$ 0.92	\$ 0.67	\$ 2.21	\$ 2.01
Weighted number of shares outstanding			57.97 ======	

- (a) Includes excise taxes of \$167.9, \$173.1, \$493.6 and \$493.4 for the respective periods.
- (b) Includes charges of \$213.6, \$214.6, \$649.0 and \$592.2 (\$132.8, \$132.5, \$398.3 and \$369.6 after taxes) to accrue obligations under the State Settlement Agreements for the respective periods.
- (c) Includes a \$26.0 charge (\$16.8 after taxes) to settle litigation with tobacco growers and a \$28.0 charge (\$17.1 after taxes) to resolve indemnification claims and trademark matters in connection with the 1977 sale by Lorillard of its international business in the nine months ended September 30, 2003.
- (d) Represents 33.43%, 23.01%, 33.43% and 23.01% of the economic interest in the Carolina Group for the respective periods.
- (e) Earnings per common share- assuming dilution is not presented because securities that could potentially dilute basic earnings per share in the future would have been insignificant or antidilutive for the periods presented.

Carolina Group
Supplemental Information

Information regarding unit volume shipped by Lorillard Tobacco Company to its direct buying customers by brand follows (all units in thousands):

Three	Months	Nine Mc	onths
2004	2003	2004	2003

September 30,

9,036,975 9,365,854 26,519,740 26,637,319

	2004	2003	2004	2003
Full Price Brands				
Total Kent Family Total True	215,505 167,970 11,364 1,959	268,584 199,086 13,410 2,637 993	23,522,568 651,127 502,193 34,677 6,186 886	817,012 594,384 41,499 8,334 2,955
Total Full Price Brands			24,717,637	
Price/Value Brands				
Total Old Gold Total Maverick	178,734	161,927	686,704 516,540	362,750
Total Price/Value Brands				
Total Domestic Cigarettes	8,849,456	9,212,837	25,920,881	26,082,561
Total Puerto Rico and U.S. Possessions	· ·		598,859	•

Notes:

Grand Total

- 1. This information is unaudited and is not adjusted for returns.
- 2. Unit volume for a quarter is not necessarily indicative of unit volume for any subsequent period.
- 3. Unit volume is not necessarily indicative of the level of revenues for any period.

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INDUSTRY KEYWORD: FOODS/BEVERAGES RETAIL CONFERENCE CALLS

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