

Hella have concluded the first nine months of the fiscal year 2018/2019 (1 June 2018 to 28 February 2019) with 6.2 per cent growth in sales to €5.2bn. The adjusted EBIT (earnings before interest and taxes) increased by 5.6 per cent to €417m. CEO Dr. Rolf Breidenbach says "As expected, the headwind from the market continued to strengthen against us in the third quarter. Nevertheless, we remain on course overall. The market environment, however, will remain challenging. We are assuming that the industry development will continue to decline, and that material and personnel costs will increase."



The automotive segment in particular has contributed to groupwide sales growth in the nine-month period; sales in this segment have increased by 7.5 per cent to €4.2bn. The continued high demand for lighting systems and electronics solutions were pivotal here, mainly in the driver assistance systems and energy management areas. In the aftermarket segment, without taking in the divested wholesale distribution business activities into account, sales increased by 3.8 per cent to €492m. In the special-applications segment, the business for agricultural machinery, construction vehicles and trailers has developed successfully.

From the current perspective, Hella continue to anticipate a positive business development for the current fiscal year 2018/2019 (1 June 2018 to 31 May 2019) and confirm the prior company outlook. Breidenbach says "Even though the fourth quarter will be very challenging for us, we are confirming our company outlook for the full fiscal year due to the good business performance in the first nine months". Despite further weakening of the market environment in the second half of the fiscal year, Hella continue to proceed on the assumption that the currency- and portfolio-adjusted sales growth will be at the lower end of the given forecast range of 5 to 10%.