



Callaway Golf Announces Nine Months' Results and Upgrades Full Year Earnings Estimates for Its Core Business

Nine-Month Net Income and Earnings Per Share Are the Highest Since 1997

CARLSBAD, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Oct. 23, 2003-- Callaway Golf Company (NYSE: ELY) today released its consolidated financial results for the nine months ended September 30, 2003, announcing net income of \$79 million and diluted earnings per share of \$1.19, increases of 5% and 7%, respectively, over the same period in the prior year. The reported net income and earnings per share are the highest achieved by the Company in the first nine months of a fiscal year since 1997.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2003, the Company reported net sales of \$667 million, compared to \$670 million during the same period in 2002. Foreign currency exchange rates positively impacted net sales for the current period by approximately \$22 million. Net income for the period was \$79 million, compared to \$75 million for the same period last year. Diluted earnings per share were \$1.19, compared to \$1.11 for the same period last year.

For the quarter ended September 30, 2003, the Company reported net sales of \$154 million, compared to \$161 million during the same quarter in 2002. Foreign currency exchange rates positively impacted net sales for the third quarter of 2003 by approximately \$3 million. Net income during the third quarter was \$2 million, versus \$7 million for the same quarter last year. Diluted earnings per share were \$0.03, compared to \$0.11 for the same quarter last year.

Year-over-year comparisons are affected by two key factors. First, the Company's results for 2003 reflect the acquisition of certain assets of The Top-Flite Golf Company in the United States as of September 15, 2003 (see Company press release of September 15, 2003). Second, the Company's results for 2002 reflected a number of adjustments, including a non-cash, pre-tax reversal of \$17 million of the Company's warranty reserve in the third quarter and the inclusion of certain subsequent adjustments that otherwise would have been included in fourth quarter results but for the Company's delayed filing of its third quarter Form 10-Q (see Company press release of January 16, 2003). To assist investors in making comparisons, the Company provides the following supplemental information (1):

- For the nine months ended September 30, 2003, net sales excluding Top-Flite were \$662 million, compared to \$670 million during the same period in 2002. Top-Flite's operating results after the acquisition were essentially break-even. Therefore, net income and diluted earnings per share were not affected by Top-Flite's results. This sales information is summarized as follows:

\$'s - millions	----- Nine Months -----		
	2003	2002	% Change
Reported Net Sales	\$667.4	\$670.4	0%
Top-Flite Net Sales -U.S.	(5.4)	-	
Pro Forma Net Sales	\$662.0	\$670.4	(1%)
	=====	=====	

-- Excluding Top-Flite from 2003 results and excluding the effects of the warranty reversal and the subsequent events reported in the Form 10-Q (Part II, Item 5) for the comparable period in 2002, net income for the nine months ended September 30, 2003 would have been \$79 million and diluted earnings per share would have been \$1.19, increases of 13% and 16%, respectively, compared with \$70 million and \$1.03 for the comparable period in 2002. This earnings information is summarized as follows:

\$'s - millions, except per share data	----- Nine Months -----		
	2003	2002	% Change
Reported Net Income	\$79.0	\$75.0	5%
Top-Flite Net Income - U.S.	-	-	
Warranty Reversal	-	(10.4)	
Subsequent Events	-	5.2	
	-----	-----	
Pro Forma Net Income	\$79.0	\$69.8	13%
	=====	=====	
Reported Diluted Earnings per Share	\$1.19	\$1.11	7%
Top-Flite Net Income	-	-	
Warranty Reversal	-	(0.16)	
Subsequent Events	-	0.08	
	-----	-----	
Pro Forma Diluted Earnings per Share	\$1.19	\$1.03	16%
	=====	=====	

(1) Supplemental information supplied in this press release is not presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and should not be considered as a substitute for any measure derived in accordance with GAAP. This information may also be inconsistent with similar information supplied by other companies.

"We expect to slightly exceed our previous earnings estimates for the year for our core Callaway Golf business, even though we are seeing sales decline, as expected, in the back half of the year following a record first six months," said Ron Drapeau, Chairman and CEO. "We experienced some softness in the third quarter compared to last year, but managed our business carefully in delivering \$0.03 in earnings per share. Despite the deviation for the quarter, our nine-month results remain very good in terms of net income and earnings per share, achieving the highest levels since 1997."

SALES BY PRODUCT AND REGION

\$'s - millions	----- Third Quarter - 2003 -----		----- Nine Months - 2003 -----	
	Net Sales	% Change vs. 2002	Net Sales	% Change vs. 2002
Woods	\$44.0	(22%)	\$213.9	(17%)
Irons	54.7	7%	233.9	10%
Putters	27.0	(4%)	118.1	31%
Golf Balls	14.1	25%	43.3	(25%)
Accessories, Other	13.8	(6%)	58.2	12%
	-----	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL	\$153.6	(5%)	\$667.4	0%
	=====	=====	=====	=====

United States	\$77.7	(4%)	\$370.2	(2%)
International	75.9	(5%)	297.2	1%
	-----		-----	
TOTAL	\$153.6	(5%)	\$667.4	0%
	=====		=====	

Brad Holiday, Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, stated, "Our gross margins remained strong in the first nine months at 50% compared with 52% for last year. We continue to manage our costs carefully and in line with our net sales, with operating expenses reduced to 32% of net sales in 2003, versus 34% for the same period last year. Our balance sheet remains strong, with virtually no debt and improved inventory levels."

In accordance with the Company's dividend practice, the Board of Directors will determine the next dividend in November.

BUSINESS OUTLOOK

In light of SEC Regulations, the Company elects to provide certain forward-looking information in this press release. These statements are based on current information and expectations, and actual results may differ materially. The Company undertakes no obligation to update this information. The Company's earnings estimates exclude any special charges or gains. See further disclaimer below.

"With the performance achieved in the first nine months of the year combined with modest incremental contributions from Top-Flite and some limited product launches planned for the last part of 2003, we expect that annual net sales will be about \$810 million, which includes approximately \$40 million from Top-Flite," reported Mr. Drapeau. "We have initiated steps to integrate the Callaway Golf and Top-Flite operations, which include the consolidation of our golf ball and golf club manufacturing and R&D operations. We expect to incur charges to earnings of approximately \$60 million, mostly non-cash, in connection with this process, with the charges to be taken as incurred over the next twelve months. Excluding these charges, earnings per share for the year, including Top-Flite, are estimated to be approximately \$0.87 to \$0.92. For our core Callaway Golf business, we estimate annual net sales of approximately \$770 million, a slight decline from what we estimated last quarter, and diluted earnings per share of approximately \$0.97, a slight increase from our previous estimate."

"We are very excited about our product plans for 2004. Taking advantage of the opportunities afforded to us as a result of our Top-Flite acquisition, including both cost savings and new technology, we are planning to re-launch the Callaway Golf golf ball product line in 2004 in combination with the consumer introduction of our HX Tour ball, while building and expanding the Top-Flite business. On the club side of the business, the recently announced ERC Fusion Driver will be the flagship of a Callaway Golf wood business that features a refreshed Great Big Bertha II driver and fairway line and a new line of Big Bertha titanium drivers and stainless steel fairway woods. We are carefully reviewing our market opportunities for 2004 in light of these and other strong Callaway Golf, Top-Flite, Odyssey and Hogan products and intend to provide that guidance in late December."

The Company will be holding a conference call at 2:00 p.m. PDT today, which will be hosted by Ronald A. Drapeau, Chairman and CEO, and Bradley J. Holiday, Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. The call will be broadcast live over the Internet and can be accessed at www.callawaygolf.com. To listen to the call, please go to the website at least 15 minutes before the call to register and for instructions on how to access the broadcast. A replay of the conference call will be available approximately two hours after the conclusion of the conference call. The replay may be accessed through the Internet at www.callawaygolf.com or by telephone by calling (800) 642-1687 toll free for calls originating within the United States or (706) 645-9291 for International calls. The replay pass code is 3222820 and the replay will be available through 5:00 p.m. PST, on Thursday, October 30, 2003.

Disclaimer: Statements used in this press release that relate to future plans, events, financial results or performance, including statements relating to estimated earnings, sales and charges to earnings, are forward-looking statements as defined under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are based upon current information and expectations. Actual results may differ materially from those anticipated as a result of certain risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to delays, difficulties or unanticipated costs in integrating the Top-Flite and Callaway Golf assets, brands and business, the maintenance of good vendor relationships, adverse market and economic conditions, market acceptance of current and future products, adverse weather conditions and seasonality,

(expense), net	1,056		(1,002)		1,345		20	
	-----		-----		-----		-----	
Income before income taxes	1,396	1%	10,534	7%	122,568	18%	121,085	18%
Income tax provision (benefit)	(938)		3,347		43,613		46,062	
	-----		-----		-----		-----	
Net income	\$2,334	2%	\$7,187	4%	\$78,955	12%	\$75,023	11%
	=====		=====		=====		=====	
Earnings per common share:								
Basic	\$0.04		\$0.11		\$1.20		\$1.12	
Diluted	\$0.03		\$0.11		\$1.19		\$1.11	
Weighted-average shares outstanding:								
Basic	66,261		65,822		65,936		66,691	
Diluted	66,808		66,356		66,295		67,623	

Callaway Golf Company
Consolidated Condensed Balance Sheet
(in Thousands)
(Unaudited)

	September 30, 2003(a)	December 31, 2002
	-----	-----
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$72,835	\$108,452
Accounts receivable, net	136,329	63,867
Inventories, net	141,174	151,760
Deferred taxes	34,531	34,519
Prepaid investment in Top-Flite International	29,954	-
Other current assets	11,002	10,429
	-----	-----
Total current assets	425,825	369,027
Property, plant and equipment, net	194,044	167,340
Intangible assets, net	169,819	121,317
Other assets	21,484	22,161
	-----	-----
	\$811,172	\$679,845
	=====	=====
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$79,168	\$61,720
Accrued employee compensation and benefits	28,425	23,168
Accrued warranty expense	13,615	13,464
Income taxes payable	34,452	7,649
Other current liabilities	1,407	3,160

Total current liabilities	----- 157,067	----- 109,161
Long-term liabilities	32,954	27,297
Shareholders' equity	621,151	543,387
	----- \$811,172 =====	----- \$679,845 =====

(a) Includes preliminary balances related to the acquisition of certain assets and assumption of certain liabilities of The Top-Flite Golf Company in the United States as of September 15, 2003. The Top-Flite Golf Company is in the process of finalizing its opening balance sheet and third-party valuations of certain assets are being completed; accordingly, the estimated carrying values of the acquired assets and assumed liabilities are preliminary and subject to refinement.

CONTACT:

Callaway Golf Company, Carlsbad
Ron Drapeau or Brad Holiday or Larry Dorman, 760-931-1771

SOURCE: Callaway Golf Company