



UNI-SELECT®

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PRESS RELEASE

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UNI-SELECT INC. INCREASES PROFITS IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2006 IN SPITE OF THE STRONG CANADIAN DOLLAR

Boucherville, August 4, 2006 – Uni-Select Inc. (TSX – UNS) announces its results for the second quarter of 2006 and for the six-month period ended June 30, 2006. Net profits for the second quarter increased by 2.6% to reach \$10,539,000 or \$0.53 per share (per share earnings are reported on a fully diluted basis), compared to \$10,267,000 or \$0.52 per share for the second quarter of 2005. Net profits for the first six months of the year were \$16,185,000 or \$0.82 per share compared to \$15,661,000 or \$0.80 per share in 2005. Unfavourable Canadian/US exchange rates reduced net profits by \$0.02 per share for the quarter and by \$0.03 for the first six-month period of the year.

Sales reached \$294,494,000 for the second quarter of the year, a decrease of 5.9% over sales of \$312,828,000 realized during the second quarter of 2005. For the first six months of 2006, sales were \$557,008,000, a 3.7% decrease compared to \$578,372,000 for the same period in 2005. The negative impact of the exchange rate on sales in the second quarter was (4.9%) compared to (4.0%) in the first six months of the year.

Automotive Group USA decreased its sales by 6.3% in the second quarter of 2006 as a result of the negative impact of exchange rates. Sales went from \$155,758,000 during the second quarter of 2005 to \$145,990,000 during the second quarter of 2006. Excluding the impact of exchange rates, sales for Automotive Group USA would have increased by 3.5% as a result of acquisitions. For the first six months of 2006, sales for the Group decreased by 3.1% going from \$290,999,000 in 2005 to \$282,015,000 in 2006; excluding the impact of exchange rates, sales for the Group for the period would have increased by 4.8%. The operating margin for the Group during the course of the first six months of the year improved to 6.6% compared to 6.3% in the first six months of 2005. This progression is attributable to the implementation of programs in 2005 and the beginning of 2006. For the year, the operating margin of the Group increased to 5.9% compared to 5.5% in 2005.

Automotive Group Canada decreased its sales by 4.5% during the second quarter of 2006. Sales for the second quarter was \$133,123,000 compared to \$139,354,000 during the same quarter in 2005. This variation is essentially organic in nature and reflects the impact on consumer's budgets of the increases of both fuel prices and interest rates. Furthermore, sales in exhaust and paint products were weakened by the changeover in product lines for certain national accounts and the closure of certain accounts specializing in collision repair products. For the initial six-month period of 2006, the Group's sales were \$244,128,000 compared to \$254,488,000 for 2005, a decrease of 4.1%. During the second quarter, the operating margin of the Group was 8.5%, a strong increase compared to the same quarter of 2005 when the operating margin was 7.2%. Approximately 0.8% of this quarterly increase is non-recurring in nature. Year-to-date, the operating margin of Automotive Group Canada increased from 6.2% in 2005 to 7.1% in 2006. Approximately 0.5% of this increase is non-recurring in nature.

Sales for the Heavy Duty Group decreased by 13.2% during the second quarter to \$15,381,000 compared to \$17,716,000 during the same quarter in 2005. This decrease is mainly due to significant returns in the wheel division and a delay in purchase orders from customers that should be reflected in the third quarter. For the first six months of 2006, the Group's sales decreased by 6.1% from \$32,885,000 to \$30,865,000. During the second quarter, the operating margin of the Group was (5.2%) compared to 2.1% for the same quarter in 2005. For the year, the operating margin of the Group was (4.8%) and nil in 2005.

“Despite the fact that we are concerned by the impact that the increase in fuel prices is having on the budget of consumers and the maintenance of their automobiles, we are of the belief that this situation will only transiently affect our industry” declared Mr. Jacques Landreville, President and Chief Executive Officer of Uni-Select. “The evolution of the exchange rate between Canadian and American currencies has also affected our sales and our US profits which we report in Canadian dollars. This impact is accounting in nature and we are pleased to be able to count on a solid presence in the USA. Finally, we are confident that with the recently completed acquisitions in both Canada and the US as well as with the programs put in place, growth will be sustained in the second half of 2006.”

Finally, the Board of Directors of Uni-Select Inc. declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.10 per common share payable on October 23, 2006 to shareholders of record as at September 30, 2006.

Uni-Select is Canada's second largest distributor of automotive replacement parts, equipment, tools and accessories and through Uni-Select USA, Inc., the company also provides service to customers in the United States where it is the 8th largest distributor. Its subsidiary, Palmar Inc., sells replacement parts, tools and accessories for heavy-duty vehicles and wheels in Canada. The Uni-Select Network includes over 2,100 independent jobbers and services over 3,100 points of sale in Canada and the United States. Uni-Select is headquartered in Montreal. Uni-Select shares (UNS) are traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX).

Non GAAP performance measure and forward-looking information

Operating margin represents operating earnings before interests, amortization, income taxes and non-controlling interest (EBITDA) on sales. EBITDA is presented as it is a widely accepted financial indicator of a company's ability to service and incur debt. EBITDA should not be considered by an investor as an alternative to operating income or net earnings, an indicator of operating performance or of cash flows, or as a measure of liquidity. Because EBITDA is not a measurement determined in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”), it may not be comparable to the EBITDA of other companies. In the statement of earnings of the Company, EBITDA is reported under the item “Earnings before the following”.

Certain sections of this press release contain forward-looking statement within the meaning of securities legislation concerning the Company's objectives, projections, estimates, expectations or forecasts. These forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, such that actual results could differ materially from those indicated or underlying these forward-looking statements. The major factors that may lead to a material difference between the Company's actual results and the projections or expectations expressed in these forward-looking statements are described in the “Risk Management” section of the Company's 2005 Annual Report.

CONSOLIDATED EARNINGS**THREE-MONTH AND SIX-MONTH PERIODS ENDED JUNE 30, 2006 AND 2005**

(in thousands of dollars, except earnings per share, unaudited)

	2 nd QUARTER		6 MONTHS	
	2006	2005	2006	2005
	\$	\$	\$	\$
SALES	294,494	312,828	557,008	578,372
Earnings before the following items	20,111	20,217	32,545	32,004
Interest on bank indebtedness	202	118	334	207
Interest on long-term debt	932	769	1,811	1,384
Interest on merchant members' deposits in guarantee funds	79	66	156	131
Interest income from cash and cash equivalent	(339)	(53)	(608)	(64)
Interest income from merchant members	(108)	(94)	(209)	(186)
Amortization (Note 2)	1,773	2,090	3,914	4,188
	2,539	2,896	5,398	5,660
Earnings before income taxes and non-controlling interest	17,572	17,321	27,147	26,344
Income taxes				
Current	6,626	5,097	9,419	8,331
Future	(412)	1,115	133	987
	6,214	6,212	9,552	9,318
Earnings before non-controlling interest	11,358	11,109	17,595	17,026
Non-controlling interest	819	842	1,410	1,365
Net earnings	10,539	10,267	16,185	15,661
Basic earnings per share (Note 3)	0.54	0.53	0.82	0.80
Diluted earnings per share (Note 3)	0.53	0.52	0.82	0.80
Weighted average number of outstanding shares	19,667,649	19,498,411	19,649,813	19,479,763
Number of issued and outstanding common shares	19,699,016	19,519,900	19,699,016	19,519,900

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the interim consolidated financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED RETAINED EARNINGS**SIX-MONTH PERIODS ENDED JUNE 30, 2006 AND 2005**

(in thousands of dollars, unaudited)

	6 MONTHS	
	2006	2005
	\$	\$
Balance, beginning of period	220,966	188,159
Net earnings	16,185	15,661
	237,151	203,820
Dividends	3,935	3,121
Balance, end of period	233,216	200,699

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the interim consolidated financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOWS**THREE-MONTH AND SIX-MONTH PERIODS ENDED JUNE 30, 2006 AND 2005**

(in thousands of dollars, except dividends paid on common shares, unaudited)

	2 nd QUARTER		6 MONTHS	
	2006	2005	2006	2005
	\$	\$	\$	\$
OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Net earnings	10,539	10,267	16,185	15,661
Non-cash items				
Amortization	1,773	2,090	3,914	4,188
Future income taxes	(412)	1,115	133	987
Non-controlling interest	819	842	1,410	1,365
	12,719	14,314	21,642	22,201
Changes in working capital items	15,941	17,721	10,861	6,284
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	28,660	32,035	32,503	28,485
INVESTING ACTIVITIES				
Temporary investment	4,942	–	4,942	–
Business acquisitions	(55,983)	(4,645)	(56,378)	(5,708)
Advances to merchant members	(2,323)	(1,103)	(3,157)	(1,584)
Receipts on advances to merchant members	2,336	1,197	4,306	2,294
Company shares	–	20	–	20
Property, plant and equipment	(1,530)	(2,694)	(2,879)	(4,626)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	(52,558)	(7,225)	(53,166)	(9,604)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
Bank indebtedness	12,367	(7,382)	12,270	(1,804)
Due to a joint venturer	–	(2,500)	–	(2,500)
Balance of purchase price	–	–	–	(4,104)
Long-term debt	328	247	900	3,634
Repayment of long-term debt	(698)	(561)	(1,576)	(666)
Merchant members' deposits in guarantee fund	(64)	(44)	(67)	(106)
Issuance of shares	612	384	1,278	1,304
Dividends paid	(1,965)	(1,559)	(3,533)	(2,987)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	10,580	(11,415)	9,272	(7,229)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(13,318)	13,395	(11,391)	11,652
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	21,035	8,178	19,108	9,921
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	7,717	21,573	7,717	21,573

Cash and cash equivalents include cash and temporary investments maturing in less than three months.

Dividends paid on common shares	0.100	0.080	0.180	0.154
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of the interim consolidated financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
JUNE 30, 2006, JUNE 30, 2005 AND DECEMBER 31, 2005

(in thousands of dollars)

	JUNE 30, 2006 (unaudited)	JUNE 30, 2005 (unaudited)	DECEMBER 31, 2005 (audited)
	\$	\$	\$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	7,717	21,573	19,108
Temporary investment	-	-	4,942
Accounts receivable	148,220	162,066	133,903
Income taxes receivable	6,874	6,703	5,352
Inventory	285,780	266,015	260,156
Prepaid expenses	6,124	6,328	3,885
Future income taxes	2,742	4,548	3,093
	<u>457,457</u>	<u>467,233</u>	<u>430,439</u>
Investments and volume discounts receivable, at cost	8,189	9,766	7,798
Property, plant and equipment	37,293	34,645	36,246
Financing costs	1,064	1,245	1,321
Goodwill	35,917	18,314	17,996
Future income taxes	1,956	3,167	1,876
	<u>541,876</u>	<u>534,370</u>	<u>495,676</u>
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Bank indebtedness	14,789	1,390	1,932
Accounts payable	158,440	177,664	132,339
Income taxes payable	-	8,023	-
Dividends payable	1,970	1,562	1,568
Instalments on long-term debt and on merchant members' deposits in guarantee fund	166	298	373
	<u>175,365</u>	<u>188,937</u>	<u>136,212</u>
Deferred government grants	371	422	395
Long-term debt	61,027	67,363	64,349
Merchant members' deposits in guarantee funds	8,333	7,527	7,334
Future income taxes	4,678	4,046	4,837
Non-controlling interest	27,183	26,616	26,932
	<u>276,957</u>	<u>294,911</u>	<u>240,059</u>
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY			
Capital stock (Note 4)	49,334	46,905	48,056
Retained earnings	233,216	200,699	220,966
Cumulative translation adjustments	(17,631)	(8,145)	(13,405)
	<u>264,919</u>	<u>239,459</u>	<u>255,617</u>
	<u>541,876</u>	<u>534,370</u>	<u>495,676</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the interim consolidated financial statements.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2006 AND 2005

(in thousands of dollars, except for per share amounts, unaudited)

1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying unaudited interim consolidated financial statements are in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for interim financial statements and do not include all the information required for complete financial statements. They are also consistent with the accounting policies outlined in the Company's audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2005. The interim financial statements and related notes should be read in conjunction with the Company's audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2005. When necessary, the financial statements include amounts based on informed estimates and management's best judgements. The operating results for the interim periods reported are not necessarily indicative of results to be expected for the year.

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with the presentation adopted in the current year.

2. INFORMATION INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF EARNINGS

	2 nd QUARTER		6 MONTHS	
	2006	2005	2006	2005
Amortization of property, plant and equipment	1,674	2,009	3,694	4,029
Amortization of financing costs	99	81	220	159
	1,773	2,090	3,914	4,188

3. EARNINGS PER SHARE

The following table presents a reconciliation of basic and diluted earnings per share:

	2 nd QUARTER					
	2006			2005		
	Net earnings	Weighted average number of shares	Earnings per share	Net earnings	Weighted average number of shares	Earnings per share
	\$		\$	\$		\$
Basic earnings per share	10,539	19,667,649	0.54	10,267	19,498,411	0.53
Impact of stock options exercised		68,976			147,464	
Diluted earnings per share	10,539	19,736,625	0.53	10,267	19,645,875	0.52

	6 MONTHS					
	2006			2005		
	Net earnings	Weighted average number of shares	Earnings per share	Net earnings	Weighted average number of shares	Earnings per share
	\$		\$	\$		\$
Basic earnings per share	16,185	19,649,813	0.82	15,661	19,479,763	0.80
Impact of stock options exercised		76,798			159,823	
Diluted earnings per share	16,185	19,726,611	0.82	15,661	19,639,586	0.80

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2006 AND 2005

(in thousands of dollars, except for per share amounts, unaudited)

4. CAPITAL STOCK

Authorized

Unlimited number of shares

Preferred shares, issuable in series

Common shares

	JUNE 30, 2006 (unaudited)	DECEMBER 31, 2005 (audited)
Issued and fully paid		
Balance, beginning of year: 19,599,716 common shares (19,423,289 in 2005)	48,056	45,601
Issue of 985 common shares for cash (1,717 in 2005)	30	50
Issue of 98,315 common shares on the exercise of stock options (174,710 in 2005)	1,248	2,405
Balance, end of period: 19,699,016 common shares (19,599,716 in 2005)	49,334	48,056

5. BUSINESS ACQUISITIONS

USI-AGI Prairies Inc. (USI-AGI):

On May 31, 2006, the Company acquired the shares held by its partners in the USI-AGI joint venture and now owns 100% of the shares. This company operates distribution centres and stores in the Automotive Canada segment.

Auto Craft Automotive Products, LLC (Auto Craft):

On June 1, 2006, the Company acquired the assets and assumed a portion of the liabilities of Auto Craft. This company operates distribution centres and stores in the Automotive USA segment.

Moreover, the Company acquired shares of a company growing in the Automotive Canada segment and the assets and a portion of the liabilities of five companies operating in the Automotive USA segment.

The operating results are consolidated in the statement of earnings since the respective acquisition dates.

The preliminary purchase prices are allocated as follows:

	USI-AGI	Auto Craft	Other	Total
Current assets	28,978	15,252	8,479	52,709
Property, plant and equipment	1,166	773	528	2,467
Other long-term assets	318	-	-	318
Goodwill	11,351	4,403	2,381	18,135
Total assets acquired	41,813	20,428	11,388	73,629
Current liabilities	(9,801)	(133)	(3,221)	(13,155)
Long-term liabilities	(1,049)	-	-	(1,049)
Total liabilities assumed	(10,850)	(133)	(3,221)	(14,204)
Net assets acquired	30,963	20,295	8,167	59,425
Cash of company acquired	(2,047)	-	(15)	(2,062)
Net acquisition	28,916	20,295	8,152	57,363
Total consideration paid cash less cash acquired	28,290	20,295	7,793	56,378
Balance of purchase price payable	626	-	359	985

6. EMPLOYEE FUTURE BENEFITS

As at June 30, 2006, the Company's pension plans are defined benefit and defined contributions plans.

For the three-month period ended June 30, 2006, the total expense for the defined contribution pension plans was of \$331 (\$283 in 2005) and of \$518 (\$418 in 2005) for the defined benefit pension plans.

For the six-month period ended June 30, 2006, the total expense for the defined contribution pension plans was of \$629 (\$513 in 2005) and of \$1,023 (\$835 in 2005) for the defined benefit pension plans.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2006 AND 2005

(in thousands of dollars, except for per share amounts, unaudited)

7. SEGMENTED INFORMATION

2nd QUARTER

	Automotive Canada		Automotive USA		Heavy Duty		Consolidated	
	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
SALES	133,123	139,354	145,990	155,758	15,381	17,716	294,494	312,828
Earnings before interest, amortization, income taxes and non-controlling interest	11,322	9,968	9,591	9,877	(802)	372	20,111	20,217
Assets	233,690	212,958	266,544	282,560	41,642	38,652	541,876	534,170
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	1,679	989	2,247	1,344	48	372	3,974	2,705
Acquisition of goodwill	13,426	173	4,709	–	–	–	18,135	173

6 MONTHS

	Automotive Canada		Automotive USA		Heavy Duty		Consolidated	
	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
SALES	244,128	254,488	282,015	290,999	30,865	32,885	557,008	578,372
Earnings before interest, amortization, income taxes and non-controlling interest	17,366	15,896	16,649	16,105	(1,470)	3	32,545	32,004
Assets	233,690	212,958	266,544	282,560	41,642	38,652	541,876	534,170
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	2,303	1,956	2,937	2,355	106	498	5,346	4,809
Acquisition of goodwill	13,426	173	4,709	–	–	–	18,135	173

The Automotive USA segment includes property, plant and equipment for an amount of \$15,623 (\$14,668 as at December 31, 2005) and goodwill for an amount of \$10,706 (\$6,211 as at December 31, 2005).

8. SUBSEQUENT EVENT

On July 31, 2006, the Company entered into a partnership agreement by the means of its Uni-Select Pacific Inc. joint venture with the objective of creating a joint venture in the name of Colwood-Langford Auto Supply Ltd. This joint venture operates stores in the Automotive Canada segment.

On August 1, 2006, the Company acquired the assets of Markauto Parts Inc. and Fuld & Fuld Inc., two companies operating stores in the Automotive USA segment.