

Contacts:

Media Robert C. Ferris (973) 455-3388 rob.ferris@honeywell.com Investor Relations
Mark Macaluso
(973) 455-2222
mark.macaluso@honeywell.com

HONEYWELL REPORTS FULL-YEAR 2015 SALES OF \$38.6 BILLION; EARNINGS UP 10% TO \$6.10

- 4Q15 EPS (Ex-Pension MTM) of \$1.58, Up 10%; Core Organic Sales ~Flat*
- 4Q15 Segment Margin Improvement of 290 bps to 18.8%, Up 140 bps Ex-4Q14 \$184M OEM Incentives
- Completed Acquisition of Elster on December 29, 2015, Integration Underway
- Reaffirming 2016 EPS Guidance (Ex-Pension MTM) of \$6.45-\$6.70, Up 6-10%

MORRIS PLAINS, N.J., January 29, 2016 -- Honeywell (**NYSE: HON**) today announced results for the fourth quarter and full-year of 2015:

Total Honeywell

FY 2014	FY 2015	<u>Change</u>
40,306	38,581	(4%)
16.6%	18.8%	220 bps
15.1%	17.9%	280 bps
\$5.33	\$6.04	13%
\$5.56	\$6.10	10%
5,024	5,454	9%
3,930	4,381	11%
4Q 2014	4Q 2015	<u>Change</u>
10,266	9,982	(3%)
15.9%	18.8%	290 bps
14.5%	18.0%	350 bps
\$1.20	\$1.53	28%
\$1.43	\$1.58	10%
1,762	1,959	11%
	40,306 16.6% 15.1% \$5.33 \$5.56 5,024 3,930 4Q 2014 10,266 15.9% 14.5% \$1.20 \$1.43	40,306 38,581 16.6% 18.8% 15.1% 17.9% \$5.33 \$6.04 \$5.56 \$6.10 5,024 5,454 3,930 4,381 4Q 2014 4Q 2015 10,266 9,982 15.9% 18.8% 14.5% 18.0% \$1.20 \$1.53 \$1.43 \$1.58

⁽¹⁾ Cash Flow from Operations Less Capital Expenditures

^{*}Throughout this press release, core organic sales growth refers to reported sales growth less the impacts from foreign currency translation, M&A and raw materials pass-through pricing in the Resins & Chemicals business of PMT. The raw materials pricing impact is excluded in instances where raw materials costs are passed through to customers, which drives fluctuations in selling prices not tied to volume growth. A reconciliation of core organic sales growth to reported sales growth is provided in the attached financial tables.

"Honeywell delivered a strong fourth quarter, capping off another year of robust margin expansion, earnings growth, and cash flow," said Honeywell Chairman and CEO Dave Cote. "We grew earnings 10% in a tough environment, representing our sixth consecutive year of double-digit earnings growth. Segment margins grew by 220 basis points driven by strong execution across the portfolio and our key process initiatives, including HOS Gold. Free Cash Flow for the full year increased 11% to \$4.4 billion, which exceeded the high-end of our guidance range and included over 125% conversion in the fourth quarter. We committed to more than \$6 billion in acquisitions in 2015 to bolster our Great Positions in Good Industries, reinvested \$1.1 billion in our businesses through high-return capital expenditure projects, and returned more than \$3.5 billion to our shareowners, including a 15% increase in our dividend. We also funded more than \$160 million in new restructuring projects, including \$60 million in the fourth quarter, which will put us in an even stronger position for the future."

"We are planning conservatively in 2016 as we are expecting another year of slow global economic growth," continued Cote. "But, we remain confident in Honeywell's ability to outperform. We will support growth where there are opportunities to drive outperformance, be cautious in our sales planning, plan costs and spending conservatively, and continue to support the seed planting for new products, services, geographies, and process improvements that allow us to perform well now and in the future. We expect continued margin expansion and earnings outperformance in 2016 and over the long term, supported by our balanced portfolio, HOS Gold breakthrough goals, further penetration of High Growth Regions, and funded restructuring projects."

The company also reaffirms its full-year 2016 guidance.

2016 Full-Year Guidance

	2016 <u>Current Guidance</u>	Change <u>vs. 2015</u>
Sales	\$39.9B - \$40.9B	3% - 6%
Core Organic Growth		1% - 2%
Segment Margin	18.9% - 19.3%	10 - 50 bps ⁽²⁾
Operating Income Margin (Ex-Pension MTM)	18.0% - 18.4%	10 - 50 bps ⁽³⁾
Earnings Per Share (Ex-Pension MTM)	\$6.45 - \$6.70	6% - 10%
Free Cash Flow (1)	\$4.6 - \$4.8B	5% - 10%

- 1. Cash Flow from Operations Less Capital Expenditures
- 2. Segment Margin Ex-M&A Up 80 110 bps
- 3. Operating Margin Ex-M&A Up 80 110 bps

Full-year and fourth quarter 2015 results by business segment are provided below.

Segment Performance

Aerospace

(\$ Millions)	FY 2014	FY 2015	% Change
Sales	15,598	15,237	(2%)
Segment Profit	2,915	3,218	10%
Segment Margin	18.7%	21.1%	240 bps
(\$ Millions)	<u>4Q 2014</u>	4Q 2015	% Change
Sales	3,842	3,983	4%
		•	
Segment Profit	663	856	29%

- Sales for the fourth quarter were up 2% on a core organic basis, and were up 4% reported driven by the \$184 million OEM incentives incurred in the fourth quarter of 2014 partially offset by the unfavorable impact of foreign currency. Commercial OE sales were up 9% on a core organic basis (45% reported) driven by strong Business and General Aviation (BGA) engine shipments and higher shipments to large Air Transport and Regional (ATR) OEMs. Commercial Aftermarket sales were up 3% on a core organic basis (2% reported) driven by continued growth in repair and overhaul activities. Defense & Space sales decreased (1%) on a core organic basis (down 3% reported) driven by lower sales to the U.S. government and a difficult prior year comparison in the international business. Transportation Systems sales were up 1% on a core organic basis driven by new platform launches and higher diesel and gas turbo penetration on passenger vehicles, partially offset by lower commercial vehicle production. TS sales were down (10%) reported due to the unfavorable impact of foreign currency.
- Segment profit for the fourth quarter was up 29% and segment margins expanded 420 bps to 21.5%, driven by the fourth quarter 2014 OEM incentives, productivity net of inflation, and commercial excellence, partially offset by the margin impact of higher OE shipments and continued investments for growth. Excluding the fourth quarter 2014 OEM incentives, segment profit was up 1%, and segment margins expanded 50 basis points.

Automation and Control Solutions

(\$ Millions)	<u>FY 2014</u>	FY 2015	% Change
Sales	14,487	14,109	(3%)
Segment Profit	2,200	2,313	5%
Segment Margin	15.2%	16.4%	120 bps
(\$ Millions)	<u>4Q 2014</u>	4Q 201 <u>5</u>	% Change
Sales	3,847	3,721	(3%)
Segment Profit	613	616	Flat
Segment Margin	15.9%	16.6%	70 bps

- Sales for the fourth quarter were flat on a core organic basis and down (3%) reported driven by the
 unfavorable impact of foreign currency. Energy, Safety & Security (ESS) sales decreased (1%) on a
 core organic basis (down 3% reported) driven primarily by a difficult prior year comparison in Sensing &
 Productivity Solutions (S&PS), partially offset by continued growth in Security and Fire (HSF) on a global
 basis. Building Solutions & Distribution (BSD) sales increased 3% on a core organic basis (down 3%
 reported) driven by continued strength in Americas Distribution partially offset by slowing Building
 Solutions backlog conversion.
- Segment profit for the fourth quarter was flat and segment margins expanded 70 bps to 16.6% driven by
 productivity net of inflation, benefits of previously funded restructuring projects, and commercial
 excellence, partially offset by continued investments for growth.

Performance Materials and Technologies

(\$ Millions)	FY 2014	FY 2015	% Change
Sales	10,221	9,235	(10%)
Segment Profit	1,817	1,935	6%
Segment Margin	17.8%	21.0%	320 bps
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(\$ Millions)	<u>4Q 2014</u>	<u>4Q 2015</u>	<u>% Change</u>
(\$ Millions) Sales	<u>4Q 2014</u> 2,577	4Q 2015 2,278	% Change (12%)

- Sales for the fourth quarter were down (4%) on a core organic basis and down (12%) reported driven by
 the unfavorable impact of foreign currency and lower raw materials pass-through pricing in Resins &
 Chemicals. The decrease in core organic sales was primarily driven by lower UOP gas processing,
 equipment and licensing sales, HPS field products weakness, and lower volume in Resins & Chemicals,
 partially offset by higher UOP catalyst shipments and higher volume in Fluorine Products.
- Segment profit for the fourth quarter was up 9% and segment margins increased 380 bps to 20.3%, driven by productivity net of inflation, commercial excellence, and the favorable impact of raw materials pass-through pricing in Resins & Chemicals (pricing model protects profit dollars).

Honeywell will discuss its results during its investor conference call today starting at 9:30 a.m. EST. To participate on the conference call, please dial (877) 780-3381 (domestic) or (719) 325-2336 (international) approximately ten minutes before the 9:30 a.m. EST start. Please mention to the operator that you are dialing in for Honeywell's fourth quarter 2015 earnings call. The live webcast of the investor call as well as related presentation materials will be available through the "Investor Relations" section of the company's Website (www.honeywell.com/investor). Investors can hear a replay of the conference call from 12:30 p.m. EST, January 29, until 12:30 p.m. EST, February 5, by dialing (888) 203-1112 (domestic) or (719) 457-0820 (international). The access code is 4078904.

Honeywell (www.honeywell.com) is a Fortune 100 diversified technology and manufacturing leader, serving customers worldwide with aerospace products and services; control technologies for buildings, homes, and industry; turbochargers; and performance materials. For more news and information on Honeywell, please visit www.honeywellnow.com.

This release contains certain statements that may be deemed "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. All statements, other than statements of historical fact, that address activities, events or developments that we or our management intends, expects, projects, believes or anticipates will or may occur in the future are forward-looking statements. Such statements are based upon certain assumptions and assessments made by our management in light of their experience and their perception of historical trends, current economic and industry conditions, expected future developments and other factors they believe to be appropriate. The forward-looking statements included in this release are also subject to a number of material risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to economic, competitive, governmental, and technological factors affecting our operations, markets, products, services and prices. Such forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance, and actual results, developments and business decisions may differ from those envisaged by such forward-looking statements. We identify the principal risks and uncertainties that affect our performance in our Form 10-K and other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Honeywell International Inc.

Consolidated Statement of Operations (Unaudited)

(Dollars in millions, except per share amounts)

	,	Three Mon	ths En	ded	Twelve Months Ended					
	December 31,					December 31,				
		2015		2014		2015	-	2014		
Product sales	\$	7,960	\$	8,185	\$	30,695	\$	32,398		
Service sales		2,022		2,081		7,886		7,908		
Net sales		9,982		10,266		38,581		40,306		
Costs, expenses and other										
Cost of products sold (A)		5,649		6,203		21,775		23,889		
Cost of services sold (A)		1,268		1,363		4,972		5,068		
		6,917		7,566		26,747		28,957		
Selling, general and administrative expenses (A)		1,332		1,460		5,006		5,518		
Other (income) expense		(4)		(146)		(68)		(305)		
Interest and other financial charges		84		82		310		318		
		8,329		8,962		31,995		34,488		
Income before taxes		1,653		1,304		6,586		5,818		
Tax expense		450		329		1,739		1,489		
Net income		1,203		975		4,847		4,329		
Less: Net income attributable to the noncontrolling interest		9		19		79		90		
Net income attributable to Honeywell	\$	1,194	\$	956	\$	4,768	\$	4,239		
Earnings per share of common stock - basic	. \$	1.55	\$	1.22	\$	6.11	\$	5.40		
Earnings per share of common stock - assuming dilution	\$	1.53	\$	1.20	\$	6.04	\$	5.33		
Weighted average number of shares outstanding - basic		771.8		783.8		779.8		784.4		
Weighted average number of shares outstanding - assuming dilution		780.8		794.1		789.3		795.2		

(A) Cost of products and services sold and selling, general and administrative expenses include amounts for repositioning and other charges, pension and other postretirement (income) expense, and stock compensation expense.

Below is a reconciliation of Earnings per share to Earnings per share, excluding mark-to-market pension expense. We believe this measure is useful to investors and management in understanding our ongoing operations and in analysis of ongoing operating trends.

	-	Three Mon	ths End	led	7	Twelve Mo	onths Ended									
	December 31,					Decem	ecember 31,									
	20	2015 1		2015 1		2015		2015 1		2015 1 2014		014 1	20	2015 1		014 1
Earnings per share of common stock - assuming dilution	\$	1.53	\$	1.20	\$	6.04	\$	5.33								
Mark-to-market pension expense.		0.05		0.23		0.06		0.23								
Earnings per share of common stock - assuming dilution,																
excluding mark-to-market pension expense	\$	1.58	\$	1.43	\$	6.10	\$	5.56								

¹⁻ EPS utilizes weighted average shares outstanding and the effective tax rate for the period. Mark-to-market uses a blended tax rate of 36.1% and 28.1% for 2015 and 2014.

Honeywell International Inc. <u>Segment Data (Unaudited)</u> (Dollars in millions)

	Three Months Ended December 31,						Months Ended ember 31,			
Net Sales	2015 2014			2015		2014				
Aerospace	\$	3,983	\$	3,842	\$	15,237	\$	15,598		
Automation and Control Solutions		3,721		3,847		14,109		14,487		
Performance Materials and Technologies		2,278		2,577		9,235		10,221		
Total	\$	9,982	\$	10,266	\$	38,581	\$	40,306		

Reconciliation of Segment Profit to Income Before Taxes

		Three Mor Decem			onths Ended nber 31,											
Segment Profit	2015		2015		2015		2015		2015		2015		2014	2015		2014
Aerospace	\$	856	\$ 663	\$ 3,218	\$	2,915										
Automation and Control Solutions		616	613	2,313		2,200										
Performance Materials and Technologies		462	425	1,935		1,817										
Corporate		(54)	 (69)	 (210)		(236)										
Total segment profit		1,880	1,632	7,256		6,696										
Other (expense) income (A)		(1)	137	38		269										
Interest and other financial charges		(84)	(82)	(310)		(318)										
Stock compensation expense (B)		(43)	(44)	(175)		(187)										
Pension ongoing income (B)		131	67	430		254										
Pension mark-to-market expense (B)		(67)	(249)	(67)		(249)										
Other postretirement expense (B)		(10)	(12)	(40)		(49)										
Repositioning and other charges (B)		(153)	 (145)	(546)		(598)										
Income before taxes	\$	1,653	\$ 1,304	\$ 6,586	\$	5,818										

⁽A) Equity income (loss) of affiliated companies is included in segment profit.

⁽B) Amounts included in cost of products and services sold and selling, general and administrative expenses.

Honeywell International Inc. <u>Consolidated Balance Sheet (Unaudited)</u> (Dollars in millions)

	Dec	December 31, 2015		ember 31, 2014
ASSETS				
Current assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	5,455	\$	6,959
Accounts, notes and other receivables		8,075		7,960
Inventories		4,420		4,405
Deferred income taxes		-		722
Investments and other current assets		2,103		2,145
Total current assets		20,053		22,191
Investments and long-term receivables		517		465
Property, plant and equipment - net		5,789		5,383
Goodwill		15,895		12,788
Other intangible assets - net		4,577		2,208
Insurance recoveries for asbestos related liabilities		426		454
Deferred income taxes		283		404
Other assets		1,776		1,558
Total assets	\$	49,316	\$	45,451
LIABILITIES AND SHAREOWNERS' EQUITY				
Current liabilities:				
Accounts payable	\$	5,580	\$	5,365
Commercial paper and other short-term borrowings	Ψ	5,937	Ψ	1,698
Current maturities of long-term debt.		577		939
Accrued liabilities		6,277		6,771
Total current liabilities		18,371		14,773
Long-term debt		5,554		6,046
Deferred income taxes		558		236
Postretirement benefit obligations other than pensions		526		911
Asbestos related liabilities		1,251		1,200
Other liabilities		4,348		4,282
Redeemable noncontrolling interest		290		219
Shareowners' equity		18,418		17,784
Total liabilities, redeemable noncontrolling interest and shareowners' equity	\$	49,316	\$	45,451

Honeywell International Inc. Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows (Unaudited)

(Dollars in millions)

(Donars in minions)	Three Mor	nths Ended	Twelve Mo	onths Ended ber 31,	
	2015	2014	2015	2014	
Cash flows from operating activities:		2011	2013		
Net income	\$ 1,203	\$ 975	\$ 4,847	\$ 4,329	
Less: Net income attributable to the noncontrolling interest	9	19	79	90	
Net income attributable to Honeywell	1,194	956	4,768	4,239	
Adjustments to reconcile net income attributable to Honeywell to net	, -		,	,	
cash provided by operating activities:					
Depreciation	169	168	672	667	
Amortization	53	58	211	257	
Loss on sale of non-strategic businesses and assets	2	_	1	11	
Gain on sale of available for sale investments	-	(116)	-	(221)	
Repositioning and other charges	153	145	546	598	
Net payments for repositioning and other charges	(208)	(229)	(537)	(530)	
Pension and other postretirement (income) expense	(54)	194	(323)	44	
Pension and other postretirement benefit payments	(38)	(44)	(122)	(167)	
Stock compensation expense	43	44	175	187	
Deferred income taxes	31	(123)	315	132	
Excess tax benefits from share based payment arrangements	(12)	(31)	(81)	(102)	
Other	(98)	(120)	(8)	(327)	
Changes in assets and liabilities, net of the effects of					
acquisitions and divestitures:					
Accounts, notes and other receivables	159	357	211	(172)	
Inventories	250	79	230	(200)	
Other current assets	191	(61)	80	120	
Accounts payable	(4)	153	(17)	307	
Accrued liabilities	128	332	(667)	181	
Net cash provided by operating activities	1,959	1,762	5,454	5,024	
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Expenditures for property, plant and equipment	(388)	(414)	(1,073)	(1,094)	
Proceeds from disposals of property, plant and equipment	12	6	15	18	
Increase in investments.	(1,013)	(935)	(6,714)	(4,074)	
Decrease in investments	2,537	1,164	6,587	3,288	
Cash paid for acquisitions, net of cash acquired	(5,043)	· -	(5,228)	(4)	
Proceeds from sales of businesses, net of fees paid	(2)	3	1	160	
Other	(33)	(61)	(102)	(170)	
Net cash used for investing activities.	(3,930)	(237)	(6,514)	(1,876)	
Cash flows from financing activities:	2 25 4	(22.5)	4.065	200	
Net increase (decrease) in commercial paper and other short-term borrowings	2,254	(236)	4,265	309	
Proceeds from issuance of long town debt	36	59	186	265	
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt	(722)	18	(880)	97	
Payments of long-term debt	(732) 12	(2) 31	(880)	(609) 102	
Excess tax benefits from share based payment arrangements	(163)		81 (1,884)	(924)	
Repurchases of common stock	` /	(235)	` ' '	` ′	
Cash dividends paid Other	(465)	(409) 5	(1,726)	(1,510) (2)	
Net cash provided by (used for) financing activities	954	(769)	102	$\frac{(2)}{(2,272)}$	
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(91)	(225)	(546)	(339)	
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(1,108)	531	(1,504)	537	
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	6,563	6,428	6,959	6,422	
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 5,455	\$ 6,959	\$ 5,455	\$ 6,959	

Honeywell International Inc. Reconciliation of Cash Provided by Operating Activities to Free Cash Flow and Calculation of Free Cash Flow Conversion (Unaudited) (Dollars in millions)

	Three Months Ended December 31,					Twelve Months Ended December 31,			
		2015	2014			2015		2014	
Cash provided by operating activities	\$	1,959	\$	1,762	\$	5,454	\$	5,024	
Expenditures for property, plant and equipment		(388)		(414)		(1,073)		(1,094)	
Free cash flow	\$	1,571	\$	1,348	\$	4,381	\$	3,930	
Net income, attributable to Honeywell	\$	1,194	\$	956	\$	4,768	\$	4,239	
Pension mark-to-market adjustment, net of tax (A)		43		179		43		179	
Net income, attributable to Honeywell, excluding pension mark-to-market adjustment	\$	1,237	\$	1,135	\$	4,811	\$	4,418	
						_			
Cash provided by operating activities.	\$	1,959	\$	1,762	\$	5,454	\$	5,024	
÷ Net income, attributable to Honeywell	\$	1,194	\$	956	\$	4,768	\$	4,239	
Operating cash flow conversion.		164%		184%		114%		119%	
Free cash flow	\$	1,571	\$	1,348	\$	4,381	\$	3,930	
÷ Net income, attributable to Honeywell, excluding pension mark-to-market adjustment	\$	1,237	\$	1,135	\$	4,811	\$	4,418	
Free cash flow conversion.		127%		119%		91%		89%	

(A) Mark-to-market uses a blended tax rate of 36.1% and 28.1% for 2015 and 2014.

We define free cash flow as cash provided by operating activities less cash expenditures for property, plant and equipment.

We define free cash flow conversion as free cash flow divided by net income, attributable to Honeywell, excluding pension mark-to-market adjustment.

We believe that this metric is useful to investors and management as a measure of cash generated by business operations that will be used to repay scheduled debt maturities and can be used to invest in future growth through new business development activities or acquisitions, and to pay dividends, repurchase stock, or repay debt obligations prior to their maturities. This metric can also be used to evaluate our ability to generate cash flow from business operations and the impact that this cash flow has on our liquidity.

Honeywell International Inc.

Reconciliation of Segment Profit to Operating Income and Calculation of Segment Profit and Operating Income Margins (Unaudited) (Dollars in millions)

	Three Months Ended December 31,				Twelve Months Ended December 31,				
		2015		2014		2015		2014	
Segment Profit	\$	1,880	\$	1,632	\$	7,256	\$	6,696	
Stock compensation expense (A)		(43)		(44)		(175)		(187)	
Repositioning and other (A, B)		(158)		(154)		(576)		(634)	
Pension ongoing income (A)		131		67		430		254	
Pension mark-to-market adjustment (A)		(67)		(249)		(67)		(249)	
Other postretirement expense (A)	,	(10)		(12)		(40)		(49)	
Operating Income	\$	1,733	\$	1,240	\$	6,828	\$	5,831	
Pension mark-to-market adjustment (A)		(67)		(249)		(67)		(249)	
Operating Income excluding pension mark-to-market adjustment	\$	1,800	\$	1,489	\$	6,895	\$	6,080	
Segment Profit	\$	1,880	\$	1,632	\$	7,256	\$	6,696	
÷ Sales	\$	9,982	\$	10,266	\$	38,581	\$	40,306	
Segment Profit Margin %	1	18.8%		15.9%		18.8%		16.6%	
Operating Income	\$	1,733	\$	1,240	\$	6,828	\$	5,831	
÷ Sales	\$	9,982	\$	10,266	\$	38,581	\$	40,306	
Operating Income Margin %	1	17.4%		12.1%		17.7%		14.5%	
Operating Income excluding pension mark-to-market adjustment	\$	1,800	\$	1,489	\$	6,895	\$	6,080	
÷ Sales	\$	9,982	\$	10,266	\$	38,581	\$	40,306	
Operating Income Margin excluding pension mark-to-market adjustment %	1	18.0%		14.5%		17.9%		15.1%	

⁽A) Included in cost of products and services sold and selling, general and administrative expenses.

We believe these measures are useful to investors and management in understanding our ongoing operations and in analysis of ongoing operating trends.

⁽B) Includes repositioning, asbestos, environmental expenses and equity income adjustment.

Honeywell International Inc. Reconciliation of Core Organic Sales Growth (Unaudited)

<u>-</u>	Three Months Ended December 31, 2015	Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2015		
Honeywell				
Reported sales growth	(3%)	(4%)		
Foreign currency translation, acquisitions, divestitures and other	2%	4%		
Raw materials pricing in R&C	1%	1%		
Core organic sales growth	0%	1%		
РМТ				
Reported sales growth	(12%)	(10%)		
Foreign currency translation, acquisitions, divestitures and other	4%	4%		
Raw materials pricing in R&C	4%	5%		
Core organic sales growth	(4%)	(1%)		

Throughout this press release, core organic sales growth refers to reported sales growth less the impacts from foreign currency translation, M&A and raw materials pass-through pricing in the Resins & Chemicals business of PMT. The raw materials pricing impact is excluded in instances where raw materials costs are passed through to customers, which drives fluctuations in selling prices not tied to volume growth.

We believe core organic sales growth is a measure that is useful to investors and management in understanding our ongoing operations and in analysis of ongoing operating trends.