

# **Astronics Corporation Reports Third Quarter 2007 Results**

- -- Third guarter net income of \$4.1 million vs. \$1.6 million in 2006
- -- Year-to-date net income of \$13.3 million compared with \$4.9 million in 2006
- -- Sales for 2007 expected to be in the \$155 to \$160 million range

EAST AURORA, N.Y.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--

Astronics Corporation (NASDAQ: ATRO), a trusted leader in innovative, high performance lighting, power generation, control and distribution systems for the global aerospace industry, today reported sales of \$37.7 million in the third quarter of 2007 which ended September 29, 2007, a 36% increase compared with sales of \$27.8 million in the third quarter of 2006. Net income for the third quarter of 2007 was \$4.1 million, up \$2.5 million from the third quarter of 2006. On a per share basis, earnings were \$0.48 per diluted share, or more than double earnings of \$0.20 per diluted share in the same period last year.

Sales to the commercial transport market led the year-over-year growth by increasing 54% to \$23.1 million in the third quarter of 2007 compared with \$15.0 million in the same period last year. Cabin electronics products, which provide in-seat power and power for in-flight entertainment systems for commercial aircraft, had sales of \$18.8 million, a 63% increase compared with the third quarter of 2006 as many airlines continue aggressive refurbishment programs for older aircraft and new aircraft deliveries increase. Sales to the business jet market improved to \$7.6 million in the third quarter of 2007, a 20% increase compared with \$6.3 million in the same period the prior year as a result of expanded content on new aircraft platforms and the growth of the market. Military sales increased 10% to \$6.7 million.

Peter J. Gundermann, President and Chief Executive Officer of Astronics Corporation, commented, "We continue to see strong demand across the aerospace industry for the full range of our products. We also see an exciting range of new opportunities for the future, though we will need to increase our engineering and development spending to develop them fully. We aim to compel our customers to choose us as partners as they develop new aircraft by offering innovative technology and high-value systems. When we are selected to develop products for an aircraft during its development phase, we can typically count on participating in the program for as long as the aircraft flies."

### Costs and Expenses

Gross profit for the third quarter of 2007 was \$10.1 million, or a gross margin of 26.9%, compared with \$6.1 million, or a gross margin of 22.0%, in the same period the prior year.

Gross profit in the 2007 third quarter was positively impacted by a \$0.85 million adjustment related to 2007 estimated manufacturing overhead cost absorption. Had this adjustment been made in the first half of 2007, gross margin would have been \$0.85 million higher in that period and third quarter gross margin \$0.85 million lower than reported. Excluding this adjustment, gross margin would have been 24.6% in the third quarter of 2007. Engineering and Development (E&D) costs in the third quarter of 2007 were \$3.8 million compared with \$2.5 million in the same period the prior year.

Selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses in the third quarter of 2007 were \$3.9 million, or 10.3% of sales, compared with \$3.5 million, or 12.5% of sales, in the same period the prior year.

#### Nine-Month Review

Sales for the first nine months of 2007 were \$122.0 million, a 49% increase compared with \$81.8 million in the first nine months of the prior year. Commercial transport sales in the first nine months of 2007 increased 79%, to \$79.4 million compared with the same period the prior year. Business jet sales increased 32%, to \$22.0 million, for the year-over-year ninemonth period, while military sales remained flat. Strong aircraft production rates, new products and demand for in-seat power and in-flight entertainment systems using Astronics' power systems were the primary reasons for the growth.

Gross margin for the first nine months of 2007 was 27.2% compared with 22.4% in the first nine months of 2006. Operating leverage gained on the higher sales volume was partially offset by E&D expenses of \$11.0 million in 2007 compared with \$7.7 million in the first nine months of 2006. SG&A expenses for the first nine months of 2007 were \$12.6 million, or 10.3% of sales, compared with \$9.9 million, or 12.1% of sales, in the same period the prior year. Operating margin for the nine-month period was 16.9% compared with 10.2% in the first nine months of 2006.

Net income for the first nine months of 2007 was \$13.3 million, or \$1.56 per diluted share, compared with \$4.9 million, or \$0.60 per diluted share, in the first nine months of 2006.

Capital expenditures for the third quarter and first nine months of 2007 were \$1.6 million and \$7.6 million, respectively, compared with \$0.7 million and \$2.3 million in the third quarter and first nine months of 2006, respectively. The year-over-year capital expenditure increases can be attributed to facility expansions and equipment investments for the Company's East Aurora, New York and Redmond, Washington facilities.

#### Outlook

Bookings were \$33.3 million in the third quarter of 2007 compared with \$26.0 million in the same period the prior year and \$38.7 million in the second quarter of 2007. At the end of the third quarter, backlog was \$90.0 million of which \$33 million is planned to ship during the last three months of 2007.

Peter J. Gundermann President and CEO, noted, "We now expect sales for the full year to be in the range of \$155 million to \$160 million, up approximately 40% over our 2006 total of \$110.8 million. This will be our third year in a row of strong growth at or above this level. Our early expectations are that 2008 will be another very good year for Astronics, but that our

growth rate will likely moderate to a range of 10% to 20%. This preliminary estimate is based on our insight into expected production rates and retrofit programs."

Third Quarter 2007 Webcast and Conference Call

The Company will host a teleconference at 10 a.m. ET today. During the teleconference,

Peter J. Gundermann, President and CEO, and David C. Burney, Vice President and CFO, will review the financial and operating results for the period and discuss Astronics' corporate strategy and outlook. A question-and-answer session will follow.

The Astronics conference call can be accessed the following ways:

- -- The live webcast can be found at <a href="http://www.astronics.com">http://www.astronics.com</a>.

  Participants should go to the website 10 15 minutes prior to the scheduled conference in order to register and download any necessary audio software.
- -- The teleconference can be accessed by dialing (201) 689-8562 and requesting conference ID number 258587 approximately 5 10 minutes prior to the call.

To listen to the archived call:

- -- The archived webcast will be at <a href="http://www.astronics.com">http://www.astronics.com</a>. A transcript will also be posted once available.
- -- A replay can also be heard by calling (201) 612-7415 and referencing account number 3055 and conference ID number 258587.

The telephonic replay will be available from 1 p.m. ET the day of the call through 11:59 p.m. ET November 9, 2007.

#### ABOUT ASTRONICS CORPORATION

Astronics Corporation is a trusted leader in innovative, high performance lighting, power generation, control and distribution systems for the global aerospace industry. Its strategy is to expand the value and content it provides to various aircraft platforms through product development and acquisition. Astronics Corporation, and its wholly-owned subsidiaries Astronics Advanced Electronic Systems Corp. and Luminescent Systems Inc., have a reputation for high quality designs, exceptional responsiveness, strong brand recognition and best-in-class manufacturing practices.

For more information on Astronics and its products, visit its website at www.Astronics.com.

## Safe Harbor Statement

This press release contains forward-looking statements as defined by the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. One can identify these forward-looking statements by the use of the words "expect," "anticipate," "plan," "may," "will," "estimate" or other similar expression. Because such statements apply to future events, they are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause the actual results to differ materially from those contemplated by the statements. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially include the

state of the aerospace industry, the market acceptance of newly developed products, internal production capabilities, the timing of orders received, the status of customer certification processes, the demand for and market acceptance of new or existing aircraft which contain the Company's products, customer preferences, and other factors which are described in filings by Astronics with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Company assumes no obligation to update forward-looking information in this press release whether to reflect changed assumptions, the occurrence of unanticipated events or changes in future operating results, financial conditions or prospects, or otherwise.

# ASTRONICS CORPORATION CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT DATA

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(unaudited)

(in	thousar	nds	except
per	share	dat	ca)

per share data)	Three months ended 9/29/2007 9/30/2006				9/30/2006			
Sales Cost of products sold Gross margin Selling general and administrative	\$	37,724 27,582 26.9% 3,877		27,752 21,633 22.0%	\$	121,967 88,740 27.2%		81,847 63,550 22.4% 9,931
<pre>Income from   operations     Operating margin Interest expense, net Other (income)   expense</pre>		6,265 16.6% 396		2,650 9.5% 232 (5)		20,670 16.9% 1,072		8,366 10.2% 650 (39)
Income before tax Income taxes		5,869 1,743		2,423 775		19,609 6,287		7,755 2,826
Net Income	\$	4 <b>,</b> 126	\$ ===	1,648 =======	\$ ===	13,322 =======	 \$ 	4,929
Basic earnings per share: Diluted earnings per share:	\$	0.51		0.21	\$	1.65 1.56	·	0.62
Weighted average diluted shares outstanding		8,605		8,264		8,531		8,210
Capital Expenditures Depreciation and Amortization	\$	1,649 876		693 701	\$	7,566 2,447		2,300 1,960

ASTRONICS CORPORATION
ORDER AND BACKLOG TREND

(\$, in thousands)

2006

	4/1/06	7/1/06	9/30/0	6 1	12/31/06		Months 2/31/06
Sales	\$25,263	\$28 <b>,</b> 832	\$ 27 <b>,</b> 75	2 \$	28 <b>,</b> 920	) \$	110,767
Net Income	\$ 1,318	\$ 1,963	\$ 1,64	8 \$	807	7 \$	5 <b>,</b> 736
Bookings	\$23 <b>,</b> 850	\$23 <b>,</b> 929	\$ 25 <b>,</b> 98	5 \$	40,411	L \$	114,175
Backlog	\$94 <b>,</b> 706	\$89 <b>,</b> 803	\$ 88,03	6 \$	99,527	7 \$	99,527
Book:Bill	0.94	0.83	0.9	4	1.40	)	1.03
(\$, in tho	ousands)			2	2007		
			1 2007 /31/07				
Sales		\$	42 <b>,</b> 875	\$	41,368	\$	37 <b>,</b> 724
Net Income		\$	4 <b>,</b> 695	\$	4 <b>,</b> 501	\$	4,126
Bookings		\$	40,351	\$	38 <b>,</b> 711	\$	33,347
Backlog		\$	97 <b>,</b> 003	\$	94,346	\$	89,969
Book:Bill			0.94		0.94		0.88
C	ASTRONICS CONSOLIDATED B			A 			
(in thousands)	(una	udited)					
(In chousands)			9/2	29/2007	12/	31/2006	
ASSETS:							
Cash and cash equival Accounts receivable Inventories Other current assets Property, plant and Other assets	3	t		\$	9,372		2,699 23,436 7,446
Total Assets				\$ 2			\$82 <b>,</b> 538
LIABILITIES AND SHAF	REHOLDERS' EQU	ITY:					
Current maturities of Note payable Accounts payable and Long-term debt Other liabilities Shareholders' equity	l accrued expe				10,400 23,542 15,086 7,582		\$ 923 8,100 25,196 9,426 7,545 31,348
Total liabilities	and sharehold	ers' equ	ity		103,866		\$82,538

ASTRONICS CORPORATION
SALES BY MARKET
(\$, in thousands)

			29/2007	Months End 9/30/2006	% change
Military Commercial Transport Business Jet Other		\$	6,731 \$ 23,116 7,626 251	6,136 14,993 6,340 283	10% 54% 20% -11%
Total		\$ 	37,724 \$	27 <b>,</b> 752	36%
	9/29		e Months 9/30/20	Ended	2007 e YTD %
Military Commercial Transport Business Jet Other	7	9,433	44,4	724 148 7 668 3 007 -1	0% 16% 9% 65% 2% 18% 2% 1%
Total	\$ 12	1,967	\$ 81,8	347 4	9% 100%
(\$,	ES BY		Thr 9/29/200	ree Months 17 9/30/200	6 % change 
Cockpit Lighting Cabin Electronics Airframe Power Exterior Lighting Cabin Lighting Other			18,80 4,07 2,35 2,18	11,57 19 3,75 3 1,87	9 9% 2 26% 8 11%
Total			\$37 <b>,</b> 72	24 \$27 <b>,</b> 75	2 36%
		2007		)06 % chan	_
Cockpit Lighting Cabin Electronics Airframe Power Exterior Lighting Cabin Lighting Other	\$ 2 6 1	6,346	\$23, 32, 12, 5, 6,	582 1 658 10 320 1 851 1 429 007 -1	5% 22% 3% 54% 8% 12% 0% 5% 4% 6%

Total	\$ 121 <b>,</b> 967	\$81,847	49%	100%

Source: Astronics Corporation