

"Dabur India Ltd. Q2 FY 2011-12 Earnings Conference Call"

October 31, 2011

Dabur India Ltd.'s Participants

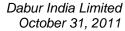
MR. SUNIL DUGGAL - CEO

Mr. S. Raghunathan - CFO

MR. ASHOK JAIN - SENIOR GENERAL MANAGER, FINANCE & COMPANY SECRETARY

MR. SAIBAL SENGUPTA - SENIOR GENERAL MANAGER, FINANCE

MRS. GAGAN AHLUWALIA -GENERAL MANAGER – CORPORATE AFFAIRS.





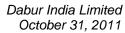
Gagan Ahluwalia

Ladies and gentlemen good afternoon. On behalf of Dabur India Ltd I welcome you all to this conference regarding the results for the period ended 30th September 2011. I have here with me, Mr. Sunil Duggal – CEO, Dabur India Ltd, Mr. S Raghunathan – CFO, Mr. Ashok Jain – Senior General Manager, Finance and Company Secretary and Mr. Saibal Sengupta – Senior General Manager, Finance. We will start with a brief overview by Mr. Duggal followed by a Q&A session. I now hand over to Mr. Duggal.

Sunil Duggal

Thank you Gagan. Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen. I welcome you to the Dabur India conference call pertaining to the results for the quarter ended September 30th 2011. Dabur India Ltd has registered growth of 29.5% in consolidated sales and 8.4% in profit after tax during the quarter. Excluding acquisition, sales grew by 12.9%. Domestic business reported growth of 11% driven by good momentum in hair oils and foods. Input cost inflation continued at elevated levels putting pressure on gross margins. Judicious price increase have been taken to partially offset inflation pressures. In order to leverage the scale and enhance capabilities, we have decided to integrate the CCD and CHD SBUs. The integration process is on track and is near completion with Consumer Care emerging as a single business unit. The existing distribution of Fem and erstwhile CHD has now been entirely subsumed into the new Consumer Care business. This distribution realignment had a temporary impact on sales growth during the quarter particularly in OTC, Ethicals, and Skin Care.

Dabur's organic International business excluding acquisitions witnessed sales increase of 22.8% during the quarter, growth in the same currency terms was 26%. Nigeria, Egypt and GCC reported strong growth with categories such as hair creams, tooth-paste and hair conditioning products doing well. The shampoo's portfolio which was recently relaunched received an exceptionally good response growing at more than 75% in H1FY12. The business continued to invest behind new product activity which includes products like hair gels, wet wipes and skin lotions. Problems in the so-called YSL markets that is Yemen, Syria, and Libya continue. However the outlook for this region is significantly better particularly in Libya with the positive changes in the political hierarchy. Egypt in fact has seen a good rebound with the sales growth of 27% in H1FY12. The margins in International Business like in India, were significantly impacted by high material costs. However the material outlook for international appears to be more benign and we expect some margin improvements going forward. The two overseas acquisitions Hobi and Namaste laboratories contributed to 12.8% of consolidated sales, Hobi Group performed well during the quarter. The Hobi portfolio is planned to be introduced in some of Mid-Eastern markets soon and it will be extended to India. Namaste Laboratories performed





very well with a double-digit growth. The products of Namaste will soon be manufactured locally in Nigeria and Ras-Al-Khaimah to cater to the large unmet demand in Africa. We are also exploring setting up Greenfield manufacturing sites for both Namaste and Dabur products in East and South Africa. Both Namaste and Hobi acquisitions have proved to be accretive and are contributing to the bottom line after providing for interest cost.

On the profitability side Dabur saw a growth of 8.4% in profit after tax during the quarter in spite of high input cost inflation and increase in interest and tax out go. EBITDA for the quarter grew by 16.4%. The EBITDA margins witnessed some compression and were at 20.1% of sales during the quarter as compared to 22.4% in the previous year. Going ahead, inflation may continue to impact our margins for some time. To combat this, we continue to effect calibrated price increases. The competitive intensity in some of the HPC categories may demand higher expenditure on A&P and this could also exert pressure on margins. However, we would be able to overcome these challenges by initiatives such as investing strongly behind our brands, new product initiatives, strategic stocking, efficient management of cost and thrust on rural markets and new geographies. With this I now open the Q&A and invite your questions. Thank you.

Abneesh Roy from Edelweiss

Abneesh Roy Sir, thanks for the opportunity. My first question is on the hair oils business. You have

said 26% growth in the 2nd Quarter. Could you split that between volumes and price?

Sunil Duggal Hair oil volumes has grown at 11.8% and the rest is price.

Abneesh Roy And sir, you have said that you are seeing market shares gains on quarter on quarter basis

and almost all the key segments in hair oils. Wanted to understand YOY, how are we in terms of market shares and margin profile also if you can discuss, how much is the deteriation due to raw material pressure and competitive intensity in the hair oil segment?

detoriation due to raw material pressure and competitive intensity in the hair oil segment?

Sunil Duggal We will hesitate to give Nielsen data of this. Quite frankly we're not encouraged do so by

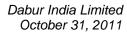
Nielsen. We will give you some indicate numbers of what kind of growth is there in hair

oils. Let's say, the MAT of September in Dabur Amla is 16.1% growth.

Gagan Ahluwalia For the quarter, share of Amla hair oils for example have gone up to 19.0% from 18.6%

Q1 and even in Vatika we have seen some improvement of about 50 bps or so. So there is

a substantial improvement in all the three brands Anmol, Vatika and Amla.





Abneesh Roy And any sense on YOY, is it very different?

Gagan Ahluwalia: YOY it is flattish.

Abneesh Roy Could you also comment on the margin profile, competitive intensity and huge R&M

pressure in hair oils?

Sunil Duggal The margin impact has not been very severe in hair oils because the price increases have

been quite considerable so that has more or less mitigated the marginal erosion, there has been some but it has not been extreme. This is one of the categories where price increases

have been perhaps the highest both in Vatika as well as Amla hair oil.

Abneesh Roy Sir, my second question is on the toothpaste segment, 7.8% growth in Q2. If you see the

other company which has reported, we have seen 13% volume growth in toothpaste. So wanted to understand why we are growing slowly and what is the split of the 7.8% in

terms of volumes and pricing?

Sunil Duggal The main reason was that we had a supply dislocation in our main brand Red toothpaste in

July. In July we had almost no sales of the Red toothpaste, there was an input issue. After that, August September we recovered quite smartly. So I think, toothpaste is pretty much on track, there is no issue there and I think, growth would strongly revive in the third

quarter.

Abneesh Roy And sir, lastly on shampoos. We continue to see a decline. My question is when do you

see growth coming back and what will make the growth comeback?

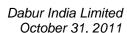
Sunil Duggal In terms of tonnage there is growth. We showed 17% growth in tonnage in the 2nd

sharp price decrease compared to what it was a year ago. So there has effectively a 30%-35% decrease in the price which has negated the volume growth. I think, as and when we reach the situation where we can measure price on a like to like basis, this will continue but having said that I think, next quarter we should directly be back on the growth track because some of the price decreases have taken up in the 3rd Quarter of last year ,whereas

Quarter on a YOY basis. The revenue part of it obviously is still very soft because very

on the 2nd Quarter we were operating at slightly higher prices so therefore the compression in terms of revenues for these is high but the volume is pretty encouraging so

I am quite hopeful about shampoos.



Dabur Gelebrate Life!

Abneesh Roy

Sir, one last follow-up, you have been one of the few companies which says that in the rural segment some slowdown is visible. So what's different for us and secondly in terms of consumer health segment, you said that it is largely one off. So in Q3 what is the expectation and going forward what is the expectation Q3 onwards also?

Sunil Duggal

You mean erthswhile consumer health. That's comprising of two buckets with the OTC piece and the ethical piece. The ethical is still being separated because of a very complex nature of the portfolio but the OTC piece has been fully merged into the healthcare part of what earlier was Consumer Care and that's been integrated. Chyawanprash, glucose, OTC as well as some of the other products are now in completely integrated. So that I think will be very important to give the OTC portfolio its due place in the sun and provide it a much bigger distribution platform which is mainline healthcare business.. This is the move which we have been planning to make at a point in time and whenever we make this move, there will be some disruption with a huge amount of cleaning up to be done. Lot of distributors who have to be changed and there is a consequent impact on the primary sales. We do expect by this quarter part of the revival will happen and we would expect full revival in the 4th Quarter. But aggregate I think the volume outlook is far more benign in the 3rd Quarter then it was in the first two, so we do expect better traction. I think a bigger challenge for us would be to manage the margins because inflation doesn't seem to be leveling off in a hurry.

Abneesh Rov

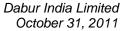
And sir, on the rural part?

Sunil Duggal

The rural I think, there was slight blip in the rural in the first two quarters, now whether this is something which is going to continue whether it will reverse is to be seen. I personally think, the rural demand will revive unless inflation proves to be the spoiler here. Continued high inflation could cause demand destruction wherever it happens whether it is rural or urban. Because if you are looking at double digit inflation and consequent price increases then I would be little circumspect in predicting demand. If that doesn't happen and inflation cools off and we see no major price increase happening, I do see revival in rural demand. All the indicators are there in terms of the good agri-output, higher MSPs etc.. The economic indicators are favorable but inflation could be a bit of party pooper here. So I will be little guarded in my outlook for revival. We are living in a fairly volatile environment with regards to input cost.

Abneesh Roy

Okay sir, I will come back if I have more. Thanks for the opportunity.





Himani Singh from Elara Capital

Himani Singh

Good evening. Sir, my question is regarding this new distribution ramp up that we have done and restructuring if I may call it so. Could you please elaborate more on it as in what are we doing in this, which are the products which get affected and impacted and for how long will they remain impacted and what are the positive results that we are looking from these? How many distributors do get impacted and are we adding a new distribution channel via this process?

Sunil Duggal

Lets look at the early architecture which was that we had a mainline FMCG business, housed in consumer care division which was basically health and personal care and that is our operating level single entity. Then we had a bolt-on distribution which came through Fem which was a specialized cosmetic distribution obviously subscale because it was little over 100 crores in terms of size and then we had another SBU called consumer health which was a bit of ethical, and a bit of OTC around half and half. This was again not very large - around 350 crores in revenues - and we always believed that was sub scale. So the new architecture is that we have two verticals in mainstream FMCG, one is what we call the HPC vertical which encompasses the erstwhile hair, oral and skin and Fem and then we have healthcare which is earlier on the supplements and digestives bolted on with OTC. So these are the two main verticals which will operate into our domestic FMCG. In addition, we will have two specialized distributions systems in play because that is the need of the business one is foods which will operate independently and which continues to do so and the fourth will be ethical which is a super specialized type of business with the large proliferation of SKUs which require a completely different supply chain and distribution. So we now have two large distribution entities within the consumer care division which is HPC and HC and two smaller ones which is foods and ethical. We believe that this architecture will be instrumental in driving our growth ambitions. It will be large enough in these two cases to provide scale but at same time we can have enough focus to provide each brand with individual attention. This call had to be taken sooner or later. We decided to take it in the 2nd Quarter because that quarter is normally the best time to make any changes, 3rd and 4th are the more important quarters in terms of revenue. And we are very happy with the outcome in terms of its execution. Even though it's has had some impact on our top-line.

Himani Singh

Sir, in addition to this I also wanted to know are we adding new distribution network to this?



Sunil Duggal

Yeah, I mean, there will be a lot of changes because lot of earlier distributors who are no longer with us and we will be adding new distributors. So there will be a lot of churn and that churn is largely complete, I think, around 90% is complete, 10% of residual still remains. So I will find it hard to explain the details in this particular forum but it is a completely revamped architecture with substantial number of new entities in place who are more specialized in the areas of a business supposed to perform in and that goes true for the sales organization in which we will be having now people looking at, individual parts to the business rather than what they were doing earlier.

Himani Singh

Sir, are we expecting any overheads due to this restructuring by the year-end?

Sunil Duggal

Yes, I think the annualized impact in terms of overhead addition is around 20 crores which we believe is a worthwhile investment which we are doing and given the margin profile this 20 crores will pay us back very quickly in terms of any incremental revenues, let's say another 40-45 crores of top-line gains would neutralize the cost. I am not too worried about the cost but we have to really execute it well to realize the full benefits of this change.

Himani Singh

Sure. Sir we have seen in the quarter results we have seen the interest income rising considerably. What is the debt profile of the company right now?

S Raghunathan

Overall debt is around 1000 crores. And we have a cash surplus of about 500 crores which is a gearing of about 0.5%.

Himani Singh

Net debt would be 500 crores, is that correct?

S Raghunathan:

The interest cost on overseas loans is Libor plus 50-60 basis points averaging around 2.2% of interest cost..

Himani Singh

Sure. Sir I will get back if I have more. Thanks.

Hemant Patel from Enam Securities

Hemant Patel

Yeah Hello sir. Couple of questions. One being on the shampoo segment you mentioned the pricing erosion has actually impacted our volume off takes.

Sunil Duggal

Pricing erosion has impacted the margins considerably but the volume off take is actually pretty good. Like I said we are showing a 17% growth in tonnage on Y on Y basis.



Hemant Patel

Okay so in terms of the margins, we are actually operating at basically nil margin at this level is it?

Sunil Duggal

No not at all. We were operating at extremely high margins one year ago. We are operating at fairly moderate margins now. It certainly is not nil. It's still in the high 30s. But to keep in mind it was probably in the mid 50s-a year ago. So the damage has been fairly severe and that's a category issue. We believe we will be able to revive the margins over a period of time but its not going to happen day after tomorrow.

Hemant Patel

What was your volume growth rate for this domestic business for this quarter, if the top-line growth was around 10%? Can you just elaborate on that?

S Raghunathan:

Yeah broadly what you have to see in volume is we have taken the price increases during the quarter which has been in the order of 8%. But to put through this price increases we have lubricated through free offerings in hair oil segment, shampoo and so on and so forth. So if you adjust for these free offerings, where the net realization price have gone up by around 4.5-5% and 4.5-5% is really coming through volume.

Hemant Patel

Okay and the other thing was that the other expenses as a percentage of sales have actually moved up now. You did mention that there is bit on of a restructuring cost and distribution which obviously would have flown through this particular line item. But even on a year on year basis as a percentage of sales is sharply up. So what I want to know is, are there some one offs that we are factoring in during this quarter?

S. Raghunathan

See year on year it is not strictly comparable because you should remember Namaste business and Hobi acquisition in Turkey is adding to the other expenditure line. Yes you are right to the extent to say that we have incurred some cost in terms of sales & distribution and this is coming which is kind of one-off. Of course there is also an underlying cost increase like fuel cost and also the secondary freight which is also factored in that. All the 3 factors are really there. Freight, warehousing and S&D expense increases account for this increase in other expenditure which is all part of the high operating cost which we are faced with.

Hemant Patel

So if I were to remove the distribution cost and the Namaste acquisition related cost, would this actually trend downwards in the next quarter onwards?



Sunil Duggal

If we exclude both, it will trend downwards but we have to factor in the integration costs which can come even in the next quarter and the freight issue will not disappear. So I think you will see higher than normal operating cost even in the next couple of quarters.

Hemant Patel

Okay and on ad and sales promotion, this is especially on the domestic business where it has gone down to around 8% of sales versus around 12% last year same quarter. What I wanted to know in which particular category are you seeing less competitive intensity where we are able to bring it down to these levels this moment.

Sunil Duggal

I think there is also little bit of issue in terms of moving spends above the line in to consumer promotions which are captured under COGS. So 8.2 is a little bit understated. It is more in the region of around 10% if we do it on a like to like basis but having said that I would look at a substantial increase in the A&P spend in the third quarter over what we have been doing in the second and even in the first. There is need to invest higher amount behind our brands. We are hopeful this will not impact EBITDA because we will be able to generate higher margins by better management of material cost. So I think that's what the outlook is. You will see definitely a higher expense on A&P in the balance of the year.

Hemant Patel

And your ability to spend a little bit more in the second - third quarter of this year will flow in from better gross margin profile in the next quarter because on a sequential basis you actually improved it despite inflationary cost. What I want to understand is when are we likely to see gross margins revert back to at least mean levels?

Sunil Duggal

See I am now operating on the hypothesis that input cost would begin to level off. And there is no guarantee that will happen because we are witnessing extreme volatility in input cost but if that happens then there will be a flow through in terms of gross margins which have been captured in A&P and then you will probably have a similar type of EBITDA profile. So that is what we intend to do. The only thing which can change this scenario is that if we have super normal inflation, in this quarter which I don't think will happen but can't be totally ruled out. What came as a bit of a surprise was food inflation at 11.4% last week and the oil prices are surprisingly moving northwards. So it's a very complex thing because the Rupee is now strengthening so that might help things a bit. But all I can say is that the outlook for inflation is on extreme uncertainty. But I think we are as we speak committed to spending significantly higher amounts on A&P in the third quarter definitely than we have been doing earlier.

Hemant Patel

And one last question. So are you witnessing any kind of down trading in this scenario where we have had high food inflations?



Sunil Duggal Not down trading but I think the lower margins LUPs are perhaps selling a little bit ahead

of the rest of the mix. So you can call it downgrading in a sense. But this also tends to put some pressure on margins. But I think this is largely driven by rural consumptions which did witness some level of some contractions in the first 2 quarters but hopefully that will

get reversed in the third.

Hemant Patel And LUP will be as percentage of sales, how much would that be?

Sunil Duggal Haven't quite mapped it out that way but I think in terms of category in oral care LUPs

will be around 25-30%, in shampoos it will be 80%. Anything which is Rs.10 and under it

will be 25%. You can't just aggregate it. It's very hard to do so.

Hemant Patel Fair enough. Thanks a lot. I'll get back if I have few more questions.

Prakash Kapadia from iAlpha Enterprises

Prakash Kapadia Yeah thank you sir for taking my question. Sir if you could just give us a sense of what

would be the growth of ex Hobi and Namaste on a consolidated level for the current

quarter?

Gagan Ahluwalia Around 13% in the top-line.

Prakash Kapadia And bottom line or EBITDA if you could.

Gagan Ahluwalia Bottom line actually we don't segregate.

Prakash Kapadia Could you tell us how are the plans in terms of setting up a plant for Namaste products in

African or some other low cost countries panning out, what is the status and by when do

we see that happening?

Sunil Duggal See the manufacturing in RAK facilities have already started. We started in September

and we are very happy with the cost profile which is emerging out of there. Now I think we have to do an assessment whether we want to make the products in Nigeria or whether we want to ship it out of RAK facility. There's an argument in favor of both and we will probably take a call sometime in November. If we need to manufacture in Nigeria at all. Going forward we are pretty much committed to setting up facilities in south and east Africa because those markets will have to be fed definitely. Again in East Africa we have to evaluate whether feeding that market from Egypt facilities which enjoys some great

concessions as more optimal than to set up greenfield but we are actively exploring now



south African manufacturing locations. That should come on stream definitely next financial year.

Prakash Kapadia

By end of next year, sometime?

Sunil Duggal

It's hard to say because it is early days. But we are more towards the end rather than the beginning.

Prakash Kapadia

And sir recently we set up a facility in the Sri Lankan area to tap the southern market for expanding our food category. Could you do us some sense of potential and penetration in southern markets specifically for food business?

Sunil Duggal

You see the penetration of our brands in south is comparatively lower as compared to north. North is a strong market around 40-45% of sales comes from north. So we obviously need to do a little bit more. South is tail end of our supply chain and in the last few years we are living in a constant supply crunch type of environment. So south never got the due attention that it deserved. And I think we need to urgently ramp up the capacity also, ramp up the supply chain efficiency of feeding to the south. Because from Nepal going to south, means considerable erosion in our margins as this is a very freight intensive product. But if Sri Lanka provides us with a perfect platform, We do have the brand, the distribution and portfolio in beverages to take a significantly high share of the southern market than we today have. But we need the supply chain to do that. So by middle of next year, by August – September of next year we should be in a position to do that and I am very hopeful that south will be a real driver of our growth as it is for the HPC business, where south is growing well ahead of any other zone.

Prakash Kapadia

Just sir one last question, we have historically seen whenever we have got hit, we have bounced back very strongly, first quarter we saw 500 bps erosion in gross margin. This time we have seen a 200 bps in gross margins. So because of the increase in international contribution and because of bit of inflation, is it fair to expect at a consolidated level, 16-16.5% steady state EBITDA margins over the next 2-3 years, is that a fair assumption?

Sunil Duggal

I think it's a fair assumption. We have been achieving EBIDTA margin for the non acquired entities EBITDA in the range of anywhere between 18 and 22 over the last many quarters. I don't see that profile changing dramatically. Overseas margins while lower around 13-14 in the case of Namaste, 10-12 in Hobi would only go northwards as and when we realize supply chain efficiencies and open up the Africa market etc. So that profile we are confident of maintaining. However having said that there is one new issue



on the horizon which is structurally high inflation lasting many years which we have not seen since the 1990s. And I think that's the only worrying part. How does that impact the demand, how does that impact margins? Will we be able to pass on price increases year on year to neutralize that 10% or double digit inflation which may or may not happen. So that provides a little bit of uncertainty but otherwise we are pretty confident about how the business will move.

Prakash Kapadia

And sir we had envisaged a target of 1000 crores by FY14. That could get deferred by one year or we still think that could a possible for FY14?

Sunil Duggal

I think it's possible. It's a little bit more difficult today than it looked 6 months or 1 year ago before we hit this hyper-inflation patch. So I would be a little circumspect that even if we miss it in 14, we won't miss it by a mile, and 15 it should be done, absolutely that goes without saying.

Prakash Kapadia

All the best. Thank you very much.

Ashit Desai from B & K Securities

Ashit Desai

Good evening everyone. I just had couple of questions. Firstly could you give us an idea as to what new product pipeline or which categories do you see a strong revival in the second half particularly if we see our numbers, it looks like we are lagging industry in terms of growth and also the new product pipeline.

Sunil Duggal

Well I think I spoke about increasing the Ad spends by a significant factor in the third quarter. Part of it will go in to fueling into the new products which we have been little hesitant in putting into the market in the first 2 quarters. So you would definitely see far more activity in the new product. I won't talk specifically about launches and when they are going to hit the market. But very soon you would see a lot of new products now hitting the market and lot of activity around these products which will take up a fair amount of A&P spends but that's something which we have to do.

Ashit Desai

Sir which category would we be eyeing for?

Sunil Duggal

We are looking at hair oils, we are looking at beverages. We are looking at health supplements. These are 3 categories which are very close to going to market but little bit further downstream we are looking at OTC products and even oral care to generate some new initiatives.



Ashit Desai

Okay sir secondly if we take out the 2 categories that the skin care and health care division from our sales, what is the growth that we see excluding these 2 divisions which we have seen an impact because of the distribution re-alignment?

Sunil Duggal

We will get back to you with the details. But both ethical and skin care were the softest part of our portfolio. I think skincare was flat and OTC actually declined a little bit in the second quarter, obviously the other one performed better.

Ashit Desai

Right and last quarter we did see a decline in glucose sales also which was because of the weak summer. What's the kind of trend that you are seeing in Chyawanprash as well as Glucose?

Sunil Duggal

Well glucose was pretty quiet this time of the year. The third quarter is almost a nil quarter for us. It really doesn't matter how much you sell because it could be very little in any case. I think what could be important is how the next summer pans out and I wonder we will know by March if it will be long hot summer or a short wet one. So we will be little careful in calibrating our glucose sales. Perhaps it will be a very hot summer but climatic variations are now becoming quite extreme. So if it is a good summer we will have a good year and if it is not, it will be perhaps another mediocre year like this year for glucose. It's very summer driven and there is not too much you can do to change the entire mix, and the second question on Chyawanprash is off to a good start. Still early days but I think we have good year here. Winter seems to be on course and the season doesn't seem to be going against us.

Ashit Desai

Okay and sir lastly if you could give us some idea on rural growth and the difference between rural and urban growth?

Sunil Duggal

There's more or less neck to neck with each other in terms of growth which is obviously means rural has come off a little bit. It was ahead of urban growth last year. Now going forward, I do expect rural growth to revive and I mentioned earlier that both MSP as well as agri output would create that growth coming through but again I would be a little cautious here and see how much damage inflation can do to rural demand.

Ashit Desai

And could you highlight which categories are more impacted in the rural markets because some the categories have seen very strong growth if I look at the comments of other companies.



Sunil Duggal If you look at the numbers, these are from Nielsen, rural growth is considerably below

urban growth in category after category. So there has been sharp dip in rural growth.

These are category numbers.

Ashit Desai Sir these are as per Neilsen numbers or our category numbers.

Sunil Duggal These are Nielson data for our categories whether it is hair oil or toothpaste or shampoo

or Chyawanprash or creams or toothpowders.

Ashit Desai Okay fine sir thanks a lot and all the best.

Sunil Duggal Thank you very much.

Vivek Maheshwari from CLSA India,

Vivek Maheshwari My first question is on the volume growth in domestic business, first quarter we did

around close to 8%. Second quarter, this quarter was around 5% and there has been as you indicated some issues because of distribution changes, etc. Mr. Duggal in your sense in the second half do you expect the volume growth bouncing back to say double digits in

domestic business.

Sunil Duggal I won't hold any promise of double digit growth which seems to be high in the context of

the inflation scenario which is playing out. It certainly will be let's say closer to what we did in the first quarter than what we did in the second quarter, so there will be improvement. But double digit does look a little bit of a stretch at this point in time because there is going to be 6-7% price increase, so are we looking at blended growth of

17-18% for domestic business, probably not.

Vivek Maheshwari See historically what I have seen is for Dabur there are, since you are so diversified there

have been always portfolios which have done very well in a particular quarter or a year and there have been some businesses which have done kind of okayish. So the blended growth rate always have been strong other than this distribution realignment, etc., is there any specific reason other than this because of which you have been impacted very much

across the categories.

Sunil Duggal I think part of it you know in some categories there was a very high base of last year, so

the numbers look a little off this quarter compared to what we did with the same quarter

last year and then you know like you rightly mentioned we always had high growth in



some and low growth in the others. Perhaps this quarter you have seen fewer high growth and larger number of low consequent to this whole distribution issue, so high growth has been really in hair oils, beverages and some part of the supplements and there has been pockets of low growth in many categories. I am not overly alarmed about this because we do know the situation of the ground and we are pretty confident of taking it up. But I would hesitate to give any predictions on revenues of this issue of inflation which like I said could reduce category growths.

Vivek Maheshwari

Is there any possibility of lower A&Ps being a reason for lower growth?

Sunil Duggal

I think there is some connect that there has been generally lower investments in A&P and to some extent it does have a rub off on volume growth, otherwise why spend so much money at all. So if you were to shrink A&P's by 2-3% as what we have doneyou cannot be immune to any changes in traction as far as volumes are concerned but like I said we are going to reverse that and extra A&Ps would fuel higher volume growths and we hope that they would do it disproportionately.

Vivek Maheshwari

Okay again since you are diversified may be a difficult one for you to give a answer here but say intuitively would you in terms of your share of voice across portfolio would it be broadly in line with historical rates or A&Ps would have gone down vis-à-vis the sector or industry players in different segments.

Sunil Duggal

I think in some segments they have gone down and many segments they have remained constant, it is a mix bag and overall there could be a small dip in terms of SOVs in the context of the overall sector which like I said we intend to reverse because a quarter of lower strengths does not do any damage to our business but we cannot do it quarter after quarter ,there is some impact on your shares. If you look at market shares we are pretty happy with what we see but we can't take the maintenance of growth market of shares for granted, if we don't invest in brands.

Vivek Maheshwari

Okay understood and one thing on the FX impact, does this impact one your US dollar debt that you have taken would you have routed the impact through balance sheet?

S. Raghunathan

Yeah the debt which we have taken overseas has US dollar linked cash flows, so there is no cover required, whatever impact is taken to the ForEx fluctuation reserve account.

Vivek Maheshwari

I see and when are the repayment for these loans?



Gagan Ahluwalia Starting from February/March of 2012.

Vivek Maheshwari And when does it end.

Sunil Duggal 4-5 years.

Vivek Maheshwari And any significant impact of FX changes in your overall RM basket or that would not be

as much.

Ashok Jain No there is some impact we have absorbed - it is a restatement impact of around Rs. 5-5.5

crores in the P&L account because of forex fluctuation.

Vivek Maheshwari And that will be mainly in the raw materials right?

S. Raghunathan Raw material, and some export side also we had covered so there is restatement effect

which comes in.

Vivek Maheshwari And just one small question, your interest cost consolidated was around 17.2 crores in

this quarter right, is it going to stay like this for the rest of year as well.

S. Raghunathan Broadly our bigger borrowings of 800-900 crores are Libor linked, so it is averaging

around 2-2.2% as effective, so that is why it will stay around this level.

Vivek Maheshwari So it is going to stay at around these levels no chance of it going up unless otherwise

Libor itself moved up.

Sunil Duggal Yeah assuming this particular rate of Libor continues.

Vivek Maheshwari Okay alright thank you very much and all the best.

Ashish Upganlawar from Spark Capital

Ashish Upganlawar Yeah just wanted to understand on the international space, how has it performed on

volumes this quarter and if you could share some more numbers on Hobi and Namaste,

how they have done on their sales growth as well as margins.

Sunil Duggal Organic volume price split is around 19 and 5, 19 volume because the price increases

there are a fairly moderate. We did not expect inflation to happen at the pace at which it

did. There has been a margin erosion in international business too which we believe we



can correct in the next few quarters. The Hobi and Namaste margins have been fairly intact, I mean they were actually ahead of what they were prior to acquisition. Namaste is at around 13.5 and Hobi is around 10.5. So, these margins are ahead of what they were pre-acquisition and in line with our estimates for the year.

Ashish Upganlawar

And how is the outlook like for Hobi?

Sunil Duggal

No I think Namaste outlook is quite visible and quite bright. The Hobi piece is a little bit more impacted by the currency, the Lira and the Lira has actually under performed the most major currencies deficit by around 30% which has put a fair amount stress on the margins even though we have managing to hold it at the 10-10.5%, further depreciation could be eroded but on other hand there is equal chance of the Lira appreciating which would improve margins there but otherwise the US dollar denominated margins based out of Namaste are pretty strong.

Ashish Upganlawar

And you are taking these products to MENA and India. So you are going to market the same brand Hobi, entirely focusing on this brand building in India. So how do you see the outlook for these projects?

Sunil Duggal

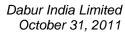
It will be soft launched. We don't expect any big brand launch on any major ATL spends. It will be largely driven through modern retail products which are not available in India and which Hobi picked on to the table things like you know hand soaps, etc., of very different nature. So we expect them to put through modern trade spend money below the line in terms of visibility, etc., and not do any brand building at least for the next couple of years then we will take a call if there is some traction then we will start investing in the brands. In the Middle East they will go both under Vatika as well as the Hobi avatar, so some of the formulations of Hobi we are rebranding it as Vatika and putting them into market for example hair gels and that has been done quite successfully in the Middle East and Egypt and some of the products which do not fit under the Vatika architecture well they will continue to be marketed under the Hobi brands. So I think there is a lot of potential for Hobi products in the Middle East and our infrastructure that is strong, so we should be able to get a good amount of tractions there.

Ashish Upganlawar

Sir could you share some info on how is Nepal doing and Pakistan and Bangladesh because we haven't heard any mention of all these geographies.

Sunil Duggal

Nepal did well. There is 30 plus percent growth in the second quarter. So after many quarters of turmoil in the country things are back to normal and we can look forward to





very strong growth happening in the next few quarters. Pakistan is still under stress while we are getting some top-line improvements. It is really at a breakeven situation for many quarters. So we don't really make any money out of Pakistan and things might change but it is pretty volatile there. Other countries in South Asia, Bangladesh is performing well will be getting 40-45% growth quarter after quarter and that is coming and increasing the attractive market for us. The next market we should plan to open up in Sri Lanka with the plant there which we will in addition to beverages also makes some products for the local market.

Ashish Upganlawar

Thanks a lot.

Abneesh Roy from Edelweiss

Abneesh Roy

As you see in hair oil many of your competitors have gone into cooling oil, what is your thought process on that?

Sunil Duggal

It is a large segment growing quite well. Cooling oil quite frankly there is only one dominant player and it is a very –trade-driven brand and the dynamics of cooling oil are actually quite different from that of regular oil. So it is not necessary that we will make a play in cooling oils, unless we have very attractive platform which is suitably differentiated from the competitors but in hair oils we are looking at other segments and we have some good plans to explore other segments where we believe we have a stronger possibility of doing well.

Abneesh Roy

Sir coming to your international segments Namaste, Hobi quarter-on-quarter it is almost like similar numbers especially for Namaste and you have said for YOY you have seen growth. So some clarity on the sales growth what you have seen ex-currency if you want to give.

Sunil Duggal

I think the growth is too short a period of time. It has just been three quarters since we acquired Namaste, so the pattern will emerge over the next few quarters especially when we ramp up overseas sales for Namaste and that is still in its earlier days. There have not been any huge initiatives in Africa so far which we will do over the next 2 or 3 quarters. I think that is when whatever numbers which you see will start showing upward movement because the US market is obviously not going to be a huge growth driver, we get 8-10% growth there which is good enough but Africa is what provides us that delta and that hasn't really begun yet because you still have to get so many things on the ground ready.



Abneesh Roy

In Africa we haven't really done much till now in Namaste, is it because of the turmoil or is it because of lack of distribution there.

Sunil Duggal

It is really because of lack of infrastructure there because even in Nigeria our current plant has not begun to produce Namaste products, so we have buy land and then we have to set up the factory. There are big timelines in terms of getting the requisite approval from the various regulatory bodies. So the lead times are quite high is Africa, much higher than say the Middle East or even in India. So we've got to be little patient here and what we have done is we have started manufacturing like I said in RAK to feed at least part of Africa markets and the results of that which should be visible within the next couple of quarters.

Abneesh Roy

And sir in terms of internal benchmark would you rate that Namaste is better compared to Hobi. Hobi, obviously because of the currency and may be some domestic issues.

Sunil Duggal

Let's put it this way, Namaste is a very specialized business segment and they have lot of competitive advantage in that segment. So perhaps it has got more scalability than Hobi and inherently it is perhaps more profitable than Hobi because it is so specialized.

Abneesh Roy

Regarding ad spend you see, other companies they still maintain that second half is not going to be very different from the Q1 and Q2 trend. Why are we getting more aggressive, is it because of the gross margin which will provide some cushion or is it because of the volume slowdown across many categories.

Sunil Duggal

No, I think we are comfortable in operating at 12-13 band in term of A&P, we have been operating below the band more in the region of 10-11% and we believe that to some extent there has been a leveling of further investments in the first two quarters which we need to reverse. This something which we believe is important to long term growth even if you have to sacrifice some short term margins.

Abneesh Roy

And sir finally we have done these two acquisition in the last 1-1.5 years. So in terms of bandwidth could you give us more clarity because these two new acquisitions have also tied up with slow down in the domestics sales, so are these two linked to each other?

Sunil Duggal

No they are completely siloed in term of management only at my level we do pay some attention to what is happen in the US or in Turkey, etc., but otherwise what we did when we acquired this company, we also acquired some pretty high quality management along with it, that was part of the whole deal. So we run the companies very independently, we



kind of give them health and support and inputs but doesn't take up for lot of our time. So there is no dilution of bandwidth and I understand your concerns. The India team is siloed to the India business and they spend 99% of the time doing what they were doing earlier.

Abneesh Roy

Sir one last one in South India you said manufacturing was an issue and that is why Sri Lanka is being set up.

Sunil Duggal

Supply chain was an issue. Our ability to service that market was a big issue.

Abneesh Roy

In terms of distribution what are we doing in South India, how are we placed versus North India?

Sunil Duggal

See distribution has been improved significantly and South India now for our main business is easily the fastest growing zone out of the four zones we have. So we have a lot of loss ground to cover in the south and which we are doing so. In beverages since it is at the tail end of our supply chain, it does not really get the service which food business demands so we need to correct that, we can never do that when we ship out of Nepal or Jaipur which is just too far away. The Sri Lanka facility is critically important. In any case we are running out of capacity. Our plants are operating 24/7 at over 100% capacity and we need urgently to augment that. Now instead of putting in more investment in Nepal or in India, etc., which would not solve the problem of supply chain inefficiency, Sri Lanka appeared to be a logical destination.

Abneesh Roy

One last one on the beverages, we are doing really well in that but recently the market leader has entered that, so how you be rating the competitive intensity in beverages not now obviously it is too earlier but say 2-3 quarters down the line do you think that in beverages volume growth can taper off, margins can taper off because of the market leaders entry?

Sunil Duggal

Well we are the market leaders not anybody else and we have been market leaders for...

Abneesh Roy

No I am saying overall market.

Sunil Duggal

Yeah I mean the two big boys in beverages have always been around and they have been now in food beverages particularly Pepsi Cola for many, many years and I think we have been able to hold on to our shares and improve profitability and I think we are not just a fast growing brand in food beverages ,we are actually the fastest growing brands in fruit



juices, we also by far the most profitable and I think that gives us a lot of leverage to

invest behind this business and take it forward.

Abneesh Roy Also to be more specific any concerns on HUL entry into that?

Sunil Duggal No HUL is globally is not a beverage major, so it is really the beverage specialist

probably would provide us more competition here.

Abneesh Roy Okay sir thanks a lot and all the best sir.

Sunil Duggal Okay.

Nillai Shah from Morgan Stanley

Nillai Shah Thank you and good evening sir.

Sunil Duggal Good evening.

Nillai Shah Sir on the revenue, I am a bit perplexed because there was an issue on the disruption in

the supply chain, etc., because of a distribution realignment the inventory pipeline should

be running fairly thin at this point in time.

Sunil Duggal You are talking about FG pipeline?

Nillai Shah Yeah.

Sunil Duggal No.

Nillai Shah They should be less with your distributors and the retailers. So that pipeline would be

running fairly thin at this point in time if there was a disruption and the sales have been impacted because of that in which case they should be a pickup in growth in the second

half of the year.

Sunil Duggal We do expect that to happen. Let us say the outlook for the second half of the year in

terms of the topline is certainly better than what we saw in the first half, now I can't be more specific than that but I will be surprised if the second half numbers aren't

significantly better than what we did in the first half.

Nillai Shah And the concerns on inflation, etc., are not withstanding.



Sunil Duggal

I think that would have a margin impact so therefore I am little more circumspect in giving any margin outlooks which could be impacted if inflation were to continue at the same trajectory but I am far more optimistic about our ability to grow the top-line.

Nillai Shah

And your assessment on margins and confidence on margins stands in the fact that there has been some reduction in the input cost.

Sunil Duggal

There has been some reduction, but what we are seeing is extreme volatility. You know, for example, oil prices had come up considerably, but then suddenly there is a movement back to close to \$100. Nobody anticipated the rupee to go down to Rs. 50 about 3 months ago when I spoke to you, the rupee was setting at 44, 45 and expected to go and strengthen further. So what I am saying is these are the dynamics which will change very quickly. So in one month, we saw the rupee going from 45 to 50. I don't think anybody would have anticipated that and that kind of, upset the whole calculation in terms of input cost. So three months ago, I would have said that yes, we are certainly looking at inflation leveling off in the third quarter and then coming down. I would hesitate to now stick my neck around and give the same statement once again.

Nillai Shah

Sir, what is the reason given the currency movements, given the fact that your volume growth has been fairly benign as compared to industry and your expectations, why are you so confident on margins being better in the second half than they have been?

Sunil Duggal

No I think that's really our internal outlook based upon some number crunching done in terms of our prediction of commodity prices. We could be completely wrong.

Nillai Shah

Okay, so it is basically in terms of the commodity price movements.

Sunil Duggal

Yeah, its in terms of commodity price movements as we visualize it, but like I said, our estimates could be off the mark, in fact, gross margin improvements may not happen to the extent that we were expecting.

Nillai Shah

Right sir, and the final question is basically on your input cost for the beverage space. Are you thinking of kind of sourcing the fruit pulp locally? Is that possible?

Sunil Duggal

35% of our sourcing is domestic which is largely mango, litchi, guava, pomegranate, and now grape. But the big flavors, which are orange, mixed fruit, etc., the new exotic flavors have to be imported. Local supply chain is not available, local concentrates are not



available. So that again makes overseas plants in the tax exempt location so much more attractive because that provides viable improvement in business.

Nillai Shah Thanks, thank you so much.

Sunil Duggal You are welcome.

Abhijit Kundu from Antique Stock Broking

Abhijit Kundu Good evening sir, I primarily had, first question was on Dabur Red Toothpaste. You said

there were some supply issues which led to the subdued performance. What was the

specifically supply issue which was there?

Sunil Duggal Well, I won't be too specific, but it was one critical ingredient which our vendor

suddenly went out of business and you know quite frankly, we were not prepared for that. So without that, we could not make the product and we had till we found an alternative and brought supply chain back on track, we had lost July. So that really put us on the

back foot as far as product, because it is a very fast moving product, it is really driving

our growth more than any other product in oral care.

Abhijit Kundu Okay, you are not seeing any kind of increased competitive pressure in toothpaste?

Sunil Duggal Not really, I think there has been margin pressure in toothpaste because the price

increases in this category has been few and far between. So the category dynamics again are not really favorable in terms of with the margin profile. There has been some, quite a significant erosion in the margins because everybody is holding to the price line. I don't think it is not sustainable, I think there would be upfront movement on prices because out of all the categories in HPC other than shampoos, oral care has been perhaps witnessing

the least increase in prices.

Abhijit Kundu What have been the price increase in oral care, 4% odd if the toothpaste portfolio.

Sunil Duggal Yeah, it is on the 4-5%. But you know, like I said, the key SKUs in many of these

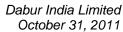
categories which is a Rs.10 has remained pretty much stuck there and so it is difficult to

move the other SKUs northwards if Rs.10 has lost its tone.

Abhijit Kundu And so in case of health supplements, I understand that it has been on a very high base of

last year same quarter, but what would be a sustainable growth in case of health

supplements? Typically it has been in the region of 13-14% over a longer period of time.





That is first in case of health supplements. Secondly, are we seeing any kind of competition that has come in, in case of glucose?

Sunil Duggal

No, nothing. There have been a couple of new entrants into the field, but the impact has been minimal. Glucose is entirely seasonality and there is nothing else which really matters us. Market shares are at all time high. We are, competitively speaking very well placed in this category, but ultimately the weather gods determine how much we can grow. So it's an unpredictable category like any highly seasonal products. The other two Honey and Chyawanprash, which comprise supplements, are more predictable and we are looking at double digits growth coming from both. Glucose, I would hazard to guess as to how much growth will come, but off an eroded base, I think we can expect decent growth to come in next year, which is really when the season for glucose will begin once again.

Abhiiit Kundu

So in next two quarters, on a year-on-year basis, you should see a revival in these categories, specifically.

Sunil Duggal

Well, I think Chyawanprash and Honey will fire quite smoothly. I don't see any problems there unless, there suddenly is a very warm winter is coming in which doesn't appear to be the case. Glucose, we will have some feel by the end of the fourth quarter, but the real game begins in the first quarter. I would not like to put any number behind glucose, but the other two would be quite smooth. I don't see any problems there. We are very strong in both these segments and we are coming up with another new flavor in Chyawanprash and we got a strong marketing campaign, which will be investing significantly behind. So there is a lot of optimism we had about both supplements other than glucose which we could had a great year because it was a hot summer, of a low base, it could be one of our better years, but its hard to say at this point in time.

Abhijit Kundu

In home care, we have seen a decline in Odomos. Home care also to an extent, it has been on a high base. Odomos, there has been a delay in institutions sales as, has been in your presentation. So essentially should Odomos see a good amount of revival during the third quarter ideally, logically it should happen that way.

Sunil Duggal

It will, because I think the institutional business will come in, but Odomos is again a fairly volatile product. You know, like glucose is driven by temperature, this is driven by epidemics and fortunately I suppose, there has been very few epidemics this year, compared to last, which is also an impacted growth. So I don't expect a great year for Odomos, institutional order not withstanding, but these are environmental factors which we have very little control over. So we have to just go with the flow. But the main



business there is air fresheners is actually on a very strong wicket and despite the fact that it is of a somewhat discretionary nature showing the remarkable resilience and very strong growth.

Abhijit Kundu And sir in Odomos, would have the drop in sales been in double digits during the

quarter?

Sunil Duggal Yes.

Abhijit Kundu Okay and sir, lastly, the total volume growth on a like-to-like basis, the consolidated

volume growth, I believe the overall sales growth has been at about 13%, the volume

growth would be in the region of 6%.

Sunil Duggal Which year?

Abhijit Kundu This quarter.

S Raghunathan This quarter position, the volume growth, if I exclude the Hobi and Namaste, the volume

growth will be close to 10%.

Sunil Duggal International is largely volume driven, in fact it is 80% volume driven. So that changes

the complexion. Domestic growth is more evenly spaced out from 4.5-5% volume, the

balance price.

Abhijit Kundu Okay sir, thanks a lot.

Ashish Upganlawar from Spark Capital.

Ashish Upganlawar Yes, with the follow up on the raw material prices, are we looking here that the prices

have basically plateaued and the impact is backed by not an uptrend from here on and any

price hike that you still need to take in some major portfolios going ahead.

Sunil Duggal As you know I mentioned this earlier, that it's very difficult to predict material cost at

this point in time because we are seeing very high levels of volatility and we are not seeing any pattern emerging in terms of input cost. So a few months ago, I would have said yes, there is certainly a level of by October or thereabouts. Now I would not make that statement because there are many factors that which are coming into play, the rupee-

dollar parity, the oil prices and the agri output and its consequent impact on margins and



on input cost. So it is very difficult to now say whether the diesel cost would be level of or not. I don't anybody has these answers.

Ashish Upganlawar What has been the kind of blended price hike that we have taken in the last quarter and

the first half of the year?

S. Raghunathan The price growth in the first half of the year is around 7%, in the last quarter, the price

growth over last year was 8%. If you have to say within the last 6 months, what is the

price increase, we would have taken may be around 5%.

Ashish Upganlawar Okay, and have we seen the full impact of these rise in pricing increases in this quarter or

some would definitely show in.

S. Raghunathan No price increase have gone through in September, for instance the Amla Hair Oil price

increase including the month of September. So you will see the effect of that coming in

the next quarter.

Sunil Duggal But we probably, we may see some trimming of consumer promotions which would

effectively mean a price increase. That is likely to happen in the event of material cost not softening rather take up price increase at the MRP level, we would substantially

reduce the amount of extra millage which was going into the product.

Ashish Upganlawar Okay, thank you sir.

Harit Kapoor from Motilal Oswal Securities Ltd..

Harit Kapoor Yeah, good evening gentlemen. Just a couple of things. Firstly, I just want once again to

discuss on beverages which is clearly been the outperforming category to domestic business for last 3-4 quarters. I just wanted to know sir, what could be our market share improvements, say may be current quarter versus may be 2 to 3 quarters back because clearly we have been growing ahead of the market and also with our expansion in the south, can we expect the beverages portfolio, not only to expand from juices, but also to

grow at the similar rates over a sustainable 2 to 3 year period, I mean our view on that.

Sunil Duggal Well, we don't subscribe to Neilsen in beverages, but have access to secondary data

which I am not allowed to share, but our market shares have been steady-to-increased in

the last 1 year or so in terms of the total volume of business. Your second question was?



Harit Kapoor

My second question was our two initiatives, I mean we are speaking about new launches in beverages as well as you now expanding towards the south. I just wanted to know whether this 20% or 25% plus number is something that we can generate on a sustainable basis may be over the next 2 to 3 years.

Sunil Duggal

See, what we are seeing in the fruit beverage space is actually very interesting, we are seeing actually significant upgrading happening here. The market for drinks is growing at a fraction of the pace of juices which is completely the reverse of what was happening one year ago and I am not really sure how does one explain it, but the fact is that we are really where the growth is. Now whether this going to be sustainable, whether we can generate 30% growth over what period of time, it is hard to say because people might start downtrading once again and drive growth in fruit drinks ahead of juices as has been the case for the last few years. But I am pretty optimistic because I think our new product portfolio in juice is extremely robust. We are going up the value chain, into the more health care aspect and that is where a lot of growth is happening. Also the margin file of those beverages would be better. So I think a 20% plus growth in beverages is highly visible and very sustainable.

Harit Kapoor

Okay, I just had another question. I think I missed that, what would been our overall volume growth or organic, I mean if you just take both domestic and international together.

Sunil Duggal

Of 10%, we mentioned that because overseas without acquisitions volume growth has been very strong around 20.

Harit Kapoor

Okay Sir. That's it. Thank you, very much.

Gagan Ahluwalia

Ladies and gentleman, we thank you for joining this conference call. For any clarification, do write to us. An archived copy of this webcast and transcript will be available on our website. Thank you once again and have a nice evening.