

Rocky Brands, Inc. Announces Third Quarter Fiscal 2007 Results

NELSONVILLE, Ohio--(BUSINESS WIRE)--

Rocky Brands, Inc. (Nasdaq: RCKY) today announced financial results for its third quarter ended September 30, 2007.

For the third quarter of 2007, net sales increased 5.4% to \$82.3 million versus net sales of \$78.1 million in the third quarter of 2006. The Company reported net income of \$1.1 million, or \$0.21 per diluted share versus net income of \$4.2 million or \$0.76 per diluted share a year ago.

Mike Brooks, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, commented, "While our third quarter sales were in-line with our projections our earnings were lower than we anticipated due to a combination of factors. During the quarter we experienced a 550 basis point decline in gross margin as a result of significant pricing pressure and an increase in product costs. In addition, we made the strategic decision to increase our retail operating expenses in order to capitalize on the near-term prospects created by the bankruptcy of a key competitor. We are committed to driving further top-line gains in both our wholesale and retail divisions while at the same time evaluating all our opportunities in an effort to return to more normalized margins beginning in 2008."

Third Quarter Results

Net sales for the third quarter increased to \$82.3 million compared to \$78.1 million a year ago. The increase in sales was primarily driven by a 25.0% increase in retail revenues, combined with a slight increase in wholesale sales.

Gross profit in the third quarter of 2007 was \$29.3 million, or 35.6% of sales, compared to \$32.1 million or 41.1% of sales, for the same period last year. The decline was primarily due to pricing pressure and an increase in product costs.

Selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses were \$25.1 million, or 30.5% of sales, for the third quarter of 2007 compared to \$22.6 million, or 28.9% of sales, a year ago. The increase in SG&A was driven by additional selling and distribution expenses to support the

future growth of the retail division.

Income from operations was \$4.2 million, or 5.1% of net sales, for the period compared to \$9.5 million, or 12.2% of net sales, in the prior year.

Funded Debt and Interest Expense

The Company's funded debt at September 30, 2007 was \$122.8 million versus \$127.3 million at September 30, 2006. Interest expense was \$2.9 million for the third quarter of 2007 versus \$2.9 million for the same period last year.

Inventory

Inventory decreased \$2.6 million, or 3.0%, to \$85.1 million at September 30, 2007 compared with \$87.7 million on the same date a year ago. The decrease in inventory is due to our focus on improved inventory management through the scheduling of receipts to more closely coincide with projected shipments and the reduction of discontinued products.

Outlook

The Company stated that based on actual third quarter results and better visibility into the fourth quarter, it now expects net sales for fiscal 2007 to be approximately \$280 million compared to its previous guidance of approximately \$277 million, and earnings per share of approximately \$0.30 versus its previous guidance of approximately \$1.16.

About Rocky Brands, Inc.

Rocky Brands, Inc. is a leading designer, manufacturer and marketer of premium quality footwear and apparel marketed under a portfolio of well recognized brand names including Rocky Outdoor Gear(R), Georgia Boot(R), Durango(R), Lehigh(R), and the licensed brands Dickies(R), Zumfoot(R) and Michelin(R).

Safe Harbor Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995

This press release contains certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which are intended to be covered by the safe harbors created thereby. Those statements include, but may not be limited to, all statements regarding intent, beliefs, expectations, projections, forecasts, and plans of the Company and its management, and include statements in this press release regarding margins in 2008 (paragraph 3) and expected 2007 revenues and earnings (paragraph 10). These forwardlooking statements involve numerous risks and uncertainties, including, without limitation, the various risks inherent in the Company's business as set forth in periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006 (filed March 15, 2007), the Company's guarterly report on Form 10-Q for the guarter ended March 31, 2007 (filed May 9, 2007) and the Company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2007 (filed July 31, 2007). One or more of these factors have affected historical results, and could in the future affect the Company's businesses and financial results in future periods and could cause actual results to differ materially from plans and projections. Therefore there can be no assurance that the forward-looking statements included in this press release will prove to

be accurate. In light of the significant uncertainties inherent in the forward-looking statements included herein, the Company, or any other person should not regard the inclusion of such information as a representation that the objectives and plans of the Company will be achieved. All forward-looking statements made in this press release are based on information presently available to the management of the Company. The Company assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements.

Rocky Brands, Inc. and Subsidiaries Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets

	September 30, 2007 Unaudited	December 31, 2006	September 30, 2006 Unaudited
ASSETS:			
CURRENT ASSETS: Cash and cash equivalents Trade receivables - net Other receivables Inventories Deferred income taxes Income tax receivable Prepaid expenses	\$ 2,707,273 81,279,819 1,064,827 85,081,978 3,902,775 2,743,633 1,494,045	65,259,580 1,159,444 77,948,976 3,902,775	\$ 2,327,977 81,054,978 987,939 87,710,315 133,783 10,873 2,320,048
Total current assets FIXED ASSETS - net DEFERRED PENSION ASSET IDENTIFIED INTANGIBLES & GOODWILL OTHER ASSETS	178,274,350 25,233,363 53,866 61,548,322 2,618,442	24,349,674 13,564 61,979,659	24,245,710 1,563,639
TOTAL ASSETS	\$267,728,343	\$246,355,812	\$266,015,819
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY: CURRENT LIABILITIES:			
Accounts payable Current maturities - long term debt	\$ 15,514,243 318,024	\$ 10,162,291 7,288,474	\$ 16,290,173 7,282,374
Accrued expenses: Taxes - other Other	571,718 6,150,386	552,782 3,643,503	255,598 3,606,520
Total current liabilities	22,554,371	21,647,050	27,434,665
LONG TERM DEBT - less current maturities DEFERRED INCOME TAXES DEFERRED LIABILITIES	17,009,025	103,203,107 17,009,025 368,580	13,477,939
TOTAL LIABILITIES	162,337,372	142,227,762	161,331,902
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY: Common stock, no par value;			

25,000,000 shares authorized; issued and outstanding September 30, 2007 -5,488,293; December 31, 2006 - 5,417,198; September 30, 2006 - 5,405,098 53,897,100 53,238,841 52,723,651 Accumulated other comprehensive (993**,**182) loss (916**,**463) 52,410,334 51,882,391 51,960,266 Retained earnings Total shareholders' 105,390,971 104,128,050 104,683,917

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

equity

\$267,728,343 \$246,355,812 \$266,015,819

Rocky Brands, Inc. and Subsidiaries Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations (Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended September 30,				Nine Months Ended September 30,			
		2007		2006		2007		2006
NET SALES	\$	82,308,547	\$	78,114,725	\$2	202,763,235	\$1	92,937,394
COST OF GOODS SOLD		53,030,023		45,998,535	1	23,477,571	1	11,831,955
GROSS MARGIN		29,278,524	_	32,116,190		79,285,664		81,105,439
SELLING, GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE								
EXPENSES		25,108,505	_	22,606,038		70,222,025		65,166,515
INCOME FROM OPERATIONS		4,170,019		9,510,152		9,063,639		15,938,924
OTHER INCOME AND (EXPENSES): Interest expense Other - net		(2,943,139) 131,365		(2,883,656) 73,056	(8,786,060) 95,364	(8,295,285) 131,518
Total other - net		(2,811,774)	_	(2,810,600)		8,690,696)	(8,163,767)
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES		1,358,245		6,699,552		372,943		7,775,157
INCOME TAX EXPENSE/(BENEFIT)		209,000	_	2,480,000		(155,000)		2,878,000
NET INCOME	\$	1,149,245	\$	4,219,552	\$	527,943	\$	4,897,157

NET INCOME PER SHARE	Ć	0 01	ć	0.70	Ċ	0 10	ć	0 01
Basic	\$	0.21	\$	0.78	Ş	0.10	Ş	0.91
Diluted	\$	0.21	\$	0.76	\$	0.09	\$	0.88
WEIGHTED AVERAGE NUMBER OF COMMON SHARES OUTSTANDING								
Basic	5 ====	,484,923 ======	==	5,400,647	===	5,472,233	==	5,386,254 =======
Diluted	5 ====	,594,707 ======	==	5,553,028	===	5,590,879 ======	==	5,588,616

Source: Rocky Brands, Inc.