

# Salem Communications Announces Second Quarter 2009 Total Revenue of \$50.1 Million

CAMARILLO, CA -- (MARKET WIRE) -- 08/06/09 -- Salem Communications Corporation (NASDAQ: SALM), a leading U.S. radio broadcaster, Internet content provider, and magazine and book publisher targeting audiences interested in Christian and family-themed content and conservative values, released its results for the three and six months ended June 30, 2009.

#### Second Quarter 2009 Results

For the quarter ended June 30, 2009 compared to the quarter ended June 30, 2008:

- -- Total revenue decreased 12.8% to \$50.1 million from \$57.5 million;
- -- Operating expenses, including impairment of goodwill and indefinitelived assets and cost of denied tower site and abandoned projects, increased 20.2% to \$56.7 million from \$47.1 million;
- -- Operating expenses excluding impairment of goodwill and indefinitelived assets, cost of denied tower site and abandoned projects and gain or loss on disposal of assets decreased 14.6% to \$40.3 million from \$47.1 million;
- -- Operating loss from continued operations was \$6.5 million in the current quarter as compared to operating income of \$10.3 million in the prior year;
- -- Net loss was \$5.0 million, or \$0.21 net loss per share, compared to net income of \$3.5 million, or \$0.15 net income per diluted share;
- -- EBITDA was a loss of \$2.0 million for the quarter as compared to earnings of \$14.8 million; and
- -- Adjusted EBITDA decreased 6.9% to \$13.7 million from \$14.7 million.

## Broadcast

- -- Net broadcast revenue decreased 12.8% to \$43.6 million from \$49.9 million;
- -- Station operating income ("SOI") decreased 12.6% to \$15.8 million from \$18.0 million;
- -- Same station net broadcast revenue decreased 13.2% to \$42.2 million from \$48.7 million;
- -- Same station SOI decreased 12.0% to \$15.6 million from \$17.7 million; and
- -- Same station SOI margin increased to 37.0% from 36.5%.

#### Non-broadcast

-- Non-broadcast revenue decreased 13.0% to \$6.5 million from \$7.5

million; and

-- Non-broadcast operating income increased to \$1.1 million from \$0.7 million.

# Included in the results for the quarter ended June 30, 2009 are:

- -- A \$1.1 million charge (\$0.7 million, net of tax, or \$0.05 per share) related to the costs of a denied tower site relocation project for radio station KDOW-AM, San Francisco, California, which was rejected by the City of Hayward and an abandoned tower site relocation for KKLA-FM, Los Angeles, California;
- -- A \$13.7 million impairment of goodwill and indefinite-lived assets (\$9.0 million, net of tax, or \$0.38 per share) consisting of a \$12.5 million impairment of radio broadcasting licenses and goodwill in our Dallas and Portland markets and a \$1.2 million impairment of goodwill and mastheads in our non-broadcast segment;
- -- A \$1.6 million loss (\$1.1 million, net of tax, or \$0.04 per share) on disposal of assets primarily from the sale of radio station KPXI-FM in Tyler-Longview, Texas;
- -- A \$2.3 million benefit (\$1.5 million, net of tax, or \$0.10 per diluted share) related to the change in fair value of our interest rate swaps;
- -- A \$0.7 million gain (\$0.4 million, net of tax, or \$0.02 per diluted share) on early redemption of long-term debt due to the repurchase of \$1.0 million of our 7 3/4% senior subordinated notes due in 2010;
- -- A \$0.1 million non-cash compensation charge (\$0.1 million, net of tax) related to the expensing of stock options; and
- -- A \$0.1 million income, net of tax, from discontinued operations of a radio station in Columbus, Ohio.

## Included in the results for the guarter ended June 30, 2008 are:

- -- A \$0.6 million income (\$0.03 gain per diluted share), net of tax, from discontinued operations primarily consisting of:
  - -- A \$0.8 million gain, net of tax, from the sale of WFZH-FM in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and
  - -- The operating results of radio station WRFD-AM in Columbus, Ohio and CCM Magazine; and
- -- A \$0.6 million non-cash compensation charge (\$0.3 million, net of tax, or \$0.01 per share) related to the expensing of stock options consisting primarily of:
  - -- \$0.4 million non-cash compensation included in corporate expenses; and
  - -- \$0.1 million non-cash compensation included in broadcast operating expenses.

These results reflect the reclassification of the operations of our Columbus, Ohio and Milwaukee, Wisconsin radio stations to discontinued operations for all periods presented. These stations had net broadcast revenue of approximately \$0.5 million and generated a profit of \$0.1 million for the quarter ended June 30, 2008 and net broadcast revenue of approximately \$0.4 million and generated a profit of \$0.1 million for the quarter ended June 30, 2009.

Additionally, these results reflect the reclassification of the operations of CCM Magazine to discontinued operations. The magazine had non-broadcast revenue of \$0.1 million and generated no profit for the quarter ended June 30, 2008.

The company had no other comprehensive income or loss for the quarter ended June 30, 2009 due to the interest rate swaps becoming ineffective during the fourth quarter of 2008. This is compared to other comprehensive income of \$2.0 million, net of tax, for the quarter ended June 30, 2008 due to the change in fair market value of the company's interest rate swaps.

Per share numbers are calculated based on 23,673,788 diluted weighted average shares for the quarter ended June 30, 2009, and 23,668,788 diluted weighted average shares for the quarter ended June 30, 2008.

## Year to Date 2009 Results

For the six month period ended June 30, 2009 compared to the six month period ended June 30, 2008:

- -- Total revenue decreased 11.7% to \$98.4 million from \$111.5 million;
- -- Operating expenses, including impairment of goodwill and indefinitelived assets and cost of denied tower site and abandoned projects, increased 8.8% to \$96.1 million from \$88.4 million;
- -- Operating expenses excluding impairment of goodwill and indefinitelived assets, cost of denied tower site and abandoned projects and gain or loss on disposal of assets decreased 15.5% to \$79.7 million from \$94.4 million;
- -- Operating loss from continued operations was \$2.3 million as compared to operating income \$23.2 million;
- -- Net loss was \$2.1 million, or \$0.09 net loss per share, compared to net income of \$8.5 million, or \$0.36 net income per diluted share;
- -- EBITDA decreased 67.3% to \$10.8 million from \$32.9 million; and
- -- Adjusted EBITDA increased 1.6% to \$26.6 million from \$26.2 million.

#### Broadcast

- -- Net broadcast revenue decreased 12.5% to \$85.6 million from \$97.9 million;
- -- SOI decreased 7.9% to \$31.5 million from \$34.2 million;
- -- Same station net broadcast revenue decreased 12.9% to \$82.5 million from \$94.7 million;
- -- Same station SOI decreased 6.8% to \$31.0 million from \$33.3 million; and
- -- Same station SOI margin increased to 37.6% from 35.2%.

#### Non-broadcast

- -- Non-broadcast revenue decreased 6.2% to \$12.8 million from \$13.7 million; and
- -- Non-broadcast operating income increased to \$1.6 million from \$0.6 million.

# Included in the results for the six month period ended June 30, 2009 are:

-- A \$1.1 million charge (\$0.8 million, net of tax, or \$0.05 per share) related to the costs of a denied tower site relocation project for radio station KDOW-AM, San Francisco, California, which was rejected by the City of Hayward and an abandoned tower site relocation for KKLA-FM, Los Angeles, California;

- -- A \$13.7 million impairment of goodwill and indefinite-lived assets (\$9.6 million, net of tax, or \$0.41 per share) consisting of a \$12.5 million impairment of radio broadcasting licenses and goodwill in our Dallas and Portland markets and a \$1.2 million impairment of goodwill and mastheads in our non-broadcast segment;
- -- A \$1.6 million loss (\$1.1 million, net of tax, or \$0.05 per share) on disposal of assets primarily from the sale of radio station KPXI-FM in Tyler-Longview, Texas;
- -- A \$2.4 million benefit (\$1.7 million, net of tax, or \$0.10 per diluted share) related to the change in fair value of our interest rate swaps;
- -- A \$0.7 million gain (\$0.5 million, net of tax, or \$0.02 per diluted share) on early redemption of long-term debt due to the repurchase of \$1.0 million of our 7 3/4% senior subordinated notes due in 2010;
- -- A \$0.1 million income, net of tax, from discontinued operations of a radio station in Columbus, Ohio; and
- -- A \$0.2 million non-cash compensation charge (\$0.2 million, net of tax, or \$0.01 per share) related to the expensing of stock options consisting of:
  - -- \$0.1 million non-cash compensation included in corporate expenses; and
  - -- \$0.1 million non-cash compensation included in broadcast operating expenses.

## Included in the results for the six month period ended June 30, 2008 are:

- -- A \$6.0 million gain primarily from the disposal of the assets of KTEK-AM in Houston, Texas (\$3.4 million gain, net of tax, or \$0.14 per diluted share);
- -- A \$2.1 million income (\$0.09 gain per diluted share), net of tax, from discontinued operations consisting primarily of:
  - -- A \$1.3 million gain, net of tax, from the sale of WRRD-AM in Milwaukee, Wisconsin;
  - -- A \$0.8 million gain, net of tax, from the sale of WFZH-FM in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and
  - -- The operating results of radio station WRFD-AM in Columbus, Ohio and the operating results of CCM Magazine; and
- -- A \$1.3 million non-cash compensation charge (\$0.7 million, net of tax, or \$0.03 per share) related to the expensing of stock options consisting of:
  - -- \$1.0 million non-cash compensation included in corporate expenses;
  - -- \$0.2 million non-cash compensation included in broadcast operating expenses; and
  - -- \$0.1 million non-cash compensation included in non-broadcast operating expenses.

These results reflect the reclassification of the operations of our Columbus, Ohio and Milwaukee, Wisconsin radio stations to discontinued operations for all periods presented. These stations had net broadcast revenue of approximately \$1.3 million and generated a profit of \$0.1 million for the six months ended June 30, 2008 and net broadcast revenue of approximately \$0.7 million and generated a profit of \$0.1 million for the six months ended June 30, 2009.

Additionally, these results reflect the reclassification of the operations of CCM Magazine to discontinued operations for all periods presented. The magazine had non-broadcast revenue of \$0.4 million and generated a profit of \$0.1 million for the six months ended June 30, 2008.

The company had no other comprehensive income or loss for the six months ended June

30, 2009 due to the interest rate swaps becoming ineffective during the fourth quarter of 2008. Other comprehensive loss \$0.2 million, net of tax, for the six months ended June 30, 2008 is due to the change in fair market value of the company's interest rate swaps.

Per share numbers are calculated based on 23,673,788 diluted weighted average shares for the six months ended June 30, 2009 and 23,668,788 diluted weighted average shares for the comparable 2008 period.

## **Balance Sheet**

As of June 30, 2009, the company had net debt of \$301.5 million and was in compliance with the covenants of its credit facilities and bond indentures. The company's bank leverage ratio was 5.25 versus a compliance covenant of 5.75 and its bond leverage ratio was 5.27 versus a compliance covenant of 7.0.

## Acquisitions and Divestitures

The following transactions were completed since April 1, 2009:

- -- KPXI (100.7 FM) in Tyler-Longview, Texas was sold for \$0.4 million which resulted in a pre-tax loss of \$1.6 million.
- -- On July 12, 2008, we entered an agreement to purchase radio station WZAB-AM in Miami, Florida for \$1.4 million. We began operating the station under a Local Marketing Agreement ("LMA") agreement effective October 1, 2008. On July 20, 2009, we amended the Asset Purchase Agreement to reduce the purchase price to \$1.0 million. The purchase was approved by the FCC and closed on July 24, 2009.

# The following transaction is currently pending:

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-- WRFD (880 AM) in Columbus, Ohio will be sold for approximately $4.0$ million.
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#### Third Quarter 2009 Outlook

For the third quarter of 2009, Salem is projecting total revenue to decrease 12% to 15% over third quarter 2008 total revenue of \$54.4 million. Salem is also projecting operating expenses before gain or loss on disposal of assets and impairments to decline 12% to 15% as compared to the third quarter of 2008 operating expenses of \$48.2 million.

In addition to its radio properties, Salem owns Salem Radio Network®, which syndicates talk, news and music programming to approximately 2,000 affiliates; Salem Radio Representatives(TM), a national radio advertising sales force; Salem Web Network(TM), an Internet provider of Christian content and online streaming; and Salem Publishing(TM), a publisher of Christian-themed magazines. Upon the close of all announced transactions, the company will own 93 radio stations, including 58 stations in 22 of the top 25 markets. Additional information about Salem may be accessed at the company's website, www.salem.cc.

# Forward-Looking Statements

Statements used in this press release that relate to future plans, events, financial results,

prospects or performance are forward-looking statements as defined under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Actual results may differ materially from those anticipated as a result of certain risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to the ability of Salem to close and integrate announced transactions, market acceptance of Salem's radio station formats, competition from new technologies, adverse economic conditions, and other risks and uncertainties detailed from time to time in Salem's reports on Forms 10-K, 10-Q, 8-K and other filings filed with or furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date hereof. Salem undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements to reflect new information, changed circumstances or unanticipated events.

# Regulation G

Station operating income, non-broadcast operating income, EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA are financial measures not prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"). Station operating income is defined as net broadcast revenues minus broadcast operating expenses. Non-broadcast operating income is defined as non-broadcast revenue minus non-broadcast operating expenses. EBITDA is defined as net income before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization. Adjusted EBITDA is defined as EBITDA before discontinued operations (net of tax), impairment of goodwill and indefinite-lived asset, gain or loss on the disposal of assets and non-cash compensation expense. In addition, Salem has provided supplemental information as an attachment to this press release, reconciling these non-GAAP financial measures to the most directly comparable financial measures prepared in accordance with GAAP. The company believes these non-GAAP financial measures, when considered in conjunction with the most directly comparable GAAP financial measures, provide useful measures of the company's operating performance.

Station operating income, non-broadcast operating income, EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA are generally recognized by the broadcast industry as important measures of performance and are used by investors as well as analysts who report on the industry to provide meaningful comparisons between broadcast. Station operating income, non-broadcast operating income, EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA are not a measure of liquidity or of performance in accordance with GAAP, and should be viewed as a supplement to and not a substitute for, or superior to, the company's results of operations presented on a GAAP basis such as operating income and net income. In addition, Salem's definitions of station operating income, non-broadcast operating income, EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA are not necessarily comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other companies.

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Salem Communications Corporation
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations
(in thousands, except share, per share and margin data)
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Non-broadcast revenue	7,521	6,545	13,654		12,806
Total revenue Operating expenses:	57 <b>,</b> 459	50,115	111,509		98,407
Broadcast operating expenses Cost of denied tower	31,905	27 <b>,</b> 801	63,692		54,145
site and abandoned projects Non-broadcast operating	-	1,111	-		1,111
expenses Corporate expenses	·	5,439 3,271	13,087 9,759		11,237 6,614
<pre>Impairment of goodwill   and indefinite-lived   assets</pre>	_	13,663	_		13,663
Depreciation and amortization	3,903	3,763			7,744
(Gain) loss on disposal of assets	10	1,615			1,616
Total operating expenses	47,147	56 <b>,</b> 663	88 <b>,</b> 352		96,130
Operating income (loss)	10,312	(6,548	) 23,157		2,277
Other income (expense): Interest income Interest expense	113 (5,488)	73 (4,279	134 ) (11,562)		147 (8,638)
Ineffectiveness of interest rate swaps	-	2,296			2,376
Gain on early redemption of long-term debt	_	660	-		660
Other income (expense), net	(49)	(27	) (100)	ı	(48)
Income (loss) from continuing operations					
before income taxes Provision for (benefit	4,888	(7,825	) 11,629		(3,226)
from) income taxes	1,996	(2,699	5,135		(955)
Income (loss) from continuing operations Discontinued operations,	2,892	(5,126	) 6,494		(2,271)
net of tax	632	109	2,053		143
Net income (loss)			) \$ 8,547 =======		
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax	1,961	_	(183)	ı	_
Comprehensive income (loss)	\$ 5,485	\$ (5,017	) \$ 8,364	\$	(2,128)
Basic income (loss) per					
share before discontinued operations Discontinued operations,	\$ 0.12	\$ (0.22	) \$ 0.27	\$	(0.10)
net of tax Basic income (loss) per	\$ 0.03	\$ -	\$ 0.09	\$	0.01
share after discontinued operations	\$ 0.15	\$ (0.21	) \$ 0.36	\$	(0.09)

share before discontinued	ć	0 10	Ċ	(0.22)	Ċ	0 07	Ċ	(0.10)
operations Discontinued operations,	\$	0.12	Þ	(0.22)	Ş	0.27	Ş	(0.10)
net of tax	\$	0.03	\$	-	\$	0.09	\$	0.01
Diluted income (loss) per share after discontinued								
operations	\$	0.15	\$	(0.21)	\$	0.36	\$	(0.09)
Basic weighted average								
shares outstanding	23,	668 <b>,</b> 788	23	,673,788	23	,668,788	23	,673 <b>,</b> 788
Diluted weighted average	===:	=====	==:	======	==:	======	==:	======
shares outstanding	23,	668,788	23	,673,788	23	,668,788	23	,673,788
	====	=====	==	======	==:	======	===	======
Other Data:								
Station operating income Station operating margin	\$	18,033 36.1%		15,769 36.2%		34,163 34.9%		31,456 36.7%

Salem Communications Corporation Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (in thousands)

	Dec	2008		
			(un	audited)
Assets Cash Trade accounts receivable, net Deferred income taxes Other current assets Assets of discontinued operations Property, plant and equipment, net Intangible assets, net Bond issue costs	\$	5,670 2,844 204 133,706 423,709 268		25,458 6,158 2,147 204 126,214 409,815 197
Bank loan fees Other assets				1,683 7,097
Total assets	 \$ ===			599,382
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity Current liabilities Long-term debt and capital lease obligations Deferred income taxes Other liabilities Stockholders' equity	\$	43,106 9,092		92,250 254,453 42,639 8,559 201,481
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity		607,718		599,382

Salem Communications Corporation Supplemental Information (in thousands) Capital expenditures

Capital expenditures	June 2008	2009	Six Montl June 2008	30 <b>,</b> 2009	
			dited)		
Acquisition related / income producing Maintenance	\$ 1,427 1,056	1,320	\$ 2,801 2,613	1 <b>,</b> 755	
Total capital expenditures		\$ 1,428	\$ 5,414 ======	\$ 2,050	
Tax information Cash tax expense Deferred tax expense	\$ 371 1,625	(2 <b>,</b> 971)	\$ 309 4,826	(1 <b>,</b> 235)	
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes	\$ 1,996		\$ 5,135 ======		
Tax benefit of non-book amortization			\$ 7,841 ======		
Reconciliation of Same Station Net Broadcast Revenue to Total Net Broadcast Revenue Net broadcast revenue - same station Net broadcast revenue - acquisitions Net broadcast revenue - dispositions Net broadcast revenue - format changes	124	210 6 1,111	2,780	376 8	
Total net broadcast revenue	\$ 49,938 ======		\$ 97,855 ======		
Reconciliation of Same Station Broadcast Operating Expenses to Total Broadcast Operating Expenses Broadcast operating expenses - same station Broadcast operating expenses - acquisitions Broadcast operating expenses - dispositions Broadcast operating expenses - format changes	\$ 30,937 - 182 786	180 1 997		324 12 2,342	
Total broadcast operating expenses	\$ 31,905 ======		\$ 63,692 ======		

Operating Income to Total Station Operating Income					
Station operating income - same					
station	\$ 17 <b>,</b> 746	\$ 15,620	\$	33,300 \$	\$ 31 <b>,</b> 027
Station operating income -					
acquisitions	_	30		_	52
Station operating income -					
dispositions	(58)	5		55	(4)
Station operating income - format					
changes	345	114		808	381
Total station operating income	\$ 18,033	\$ 15 <b>,</b> 769	\$	34,163 \$	31,456
	=======	======	==:	=	======

Salem Communications Corporation Supplemental Information (in thousands)

	Three Months Ended June 30,			Six Months Ended June 30,			
			2009		2008	30	2009
	 		(unau	 dit	ed)		
Reconciliation of Station Operating Income and Non-Broadcast Operating Income to Operating Income (Loss)							
Station operating income Non-broadcast operating income Less:	\$ 18,033	\$	15,769	\$	34,163	\$	31,456
	674		1,106		567		1,569
Corporate expenses Depreciation and	(4,482)		(3,271)		(9,759)		(6,614)
amortization  Cost of denied tower site  and abandoned projects  Impairment of goodwill  and indefinite-lived	(3,903)		(3,763)		(7,818)		(7,744)
	-		(1,111)		-		(1,111)
assets Gain (loss) on disposal	-		(13,663)		-		(13,663)
of assets	 (10)		(1,615)		6,004		(1,616)
Operating income (loss)	\$ 10,312 ======		(6,548) ======		23 <b>,</b> 157		2 <b>,</b> 277
Reconciliation of Adjusted EBITDA to EBITDA to Net Income (Loss)							
Adjusted EBITDA Less:	\$ 14,745	\$	13,724	\$	26,186	\$	26,593
Stock-based compensation Impairment of goodwill and indefinite-lived	(569)		(147)		(1,315)		(230)
assets Cost of denied tower site	-		(13,663)		-		(13,663)

and abandoned projects Gain on early redemption	-	(1,111)	-	(1,111)
of long-term debt Discontinued operations,	-	660	-	660
net of tax Gain (loss) on disposal	632	109	2,053	143
of assets	(10)	(1,615)	6,004	(1,616)
EBITDA	14,798	(2,043)	32,928	10,776
Plus:				
Interest income	113	73	134	147
Less:				
Depreciation and				
amortization	(3,903)	(3,763)	(7,818)	(7,744)
Interest expense	(5,488)	(4,279)	(11,562)	(8,638)
Change in fair value of	. , ,	. , ,	, , ,	. , ,
interest rate swaps	_	2,296	_	2,376
Provision for (benefit		_,		_, -, -
from) income taxes	(1,996)	2,699	(5,135)	955
Net income (loss)	\$ 3,524	\$ (5,017)	\$ 8,547	\$ (2,128)
	=======	=======	=======	=======

		_	Applicable Interest Rate
Selected Debt and Swap Dat 7 3/4% senior	a		
subordinated notes	\$	89,655	7.75%
Senior bank term loan B debt (1)		71,240	1.88%
Senior bank term loan C debt (swap matures 7/1/2012) (2)		30,000	6.49%
Senior bank term loan C debt (swap matures		30,000	6.20%
7/1/2012) (2) Senior bank term loan C		30,000	0.206
debt (swap matures 7/1/2012) (2)		30,000	6.03%
Senior bank term C debt (at variable rates) (1)		70 <b>,</b> 027	1.88%

- (1) Subject to rolling LIBOR plus a spread currently at 1.50% and incorporated into the rate set forth above.
- (2) Under its swap agreements, the Company pays a fixed rate plus a spread based on the Company's leverage, as defined in its credit agreement. As of June 30, 2009, that spread was 1.50% and is incorporated into the applicable interest rates set forth above.

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