



Lee Enterprises Reports September Revenue Statistics

November 11, 2002

DAVENPORT, Iowa--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Nov. 11, 2002--Lee Enterprises, Incorporated (NYSE:LEE), reported today that, excluding the effects of acquisitions and divestitures, publishing revenue in September increased 2.3 percent compared with the previous year.

Lee's September 2002 performance versus prior year was relatively strong, as the larger advertising revenue declines occurred in the fourth calendar quarter a year ago.

Total advertising revenue increased 2.2 percent. Retail advertising revenue increased 5.4 percent. Classified revenue decreased 3.6 percent, with employment advertising down 11.2 percent, automotive advertising up 1.2 percent, real estate advertising up 5.6 percent, other newspaper classified categories down 8.3 percent, and classified in alternative publications up 0.5 percent. National advertising revenue, a small category for Lee, increased 18.6 percent.

Circulation revenue declined 1.1 percent, a result of unusual gains a year ago after the terrorist attacks.

Online revenue increased 25.9 percent.

Beginning in September 2002, the Company has revised its presentation of equity in earnings of associated companies to exclude those amounts from revenue. Including the results of acquisitions and divestitures, total publishing revenue increased 56.9 percent.

Lee Enterprises is based in Davenport, Iowa. Lee owns 38 daily newspapers and a joint interest in six others, along with associated online services. Lee also owns more than 175 weekly newspapers, shoppers and classified and specialty publications. Its stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol LEE. More information about Lee Enterprises is available at www.lee.net.

The monthly and year-to-date statistical information follows.

LEE ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED
Revenue and Statistical Summary
September 2002
(Unaudited)

Publishing Revenue -- Operating Basis (1)

(Thousands)	September			Year To Date		
	2002	2001	%	2002	2001	%
	(2)	(2)(3)		(2)	(2)(3)	
Advertising:						
Retail	\$17,223	\$16,347	5.4%	\$198,983	\$197,735	0.6%
National	1,107	933	18.6	12,171	12,440	(2.2)
Classified:						
Daily Newspapers:						
Employment	3,051	3,437	(11.2)	31,851	41,037	(22.4)
Automotive	2,361	2,334	1.2	27,587	27,353	0.9
Real Estate	2,165	2,050	5.6	22,055	21,321	3.4
All Other	1,934	2,108	(8.3)	20,692	20,199	2.4
Alternative publications	1,565	1,557	0.5	19,980	19,908	0.4
Total Classified	11,076	11,486	(3.6)	122,165	129,818	(5.9)
Total Advertising	29,406	28,766	2.2	333,319	339,993	(2.0)
Circulation	8,957	9,056	(1.1)	101,935	102,188	(0.2)
Online	773	614	25.9	7,551	6,174	22.3
Other	6,421	6,095	5.3	70,165	74,398	(5.7)
Total -- Same Property Operating Basis	45,557	44,531	2.3	512,970	522,753	(1.9)
Equity Basis						

Adjustment	(9,964)	(9,649)	(3.3)	(104,728)	(107,542)	2.6
Acquired/Divested						
Properties and Other	20,136	648	NM	117,654	11,755	NM
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Total Publishing						
Revenue	\$55,729	\$35,530	56.9%	\$525,896	\$426,966	23.2%
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Daily Newspaper Advertising -- Operating Basis (1)

(Thousands of Inches)	September			Year To Date		
	2002	2001	%	2002	2001	%
	(2)	(2)(3)		(2)	(2)(3)	
Retail	612	600	2.0%	7,155	7,240	(1.2)%
National	29	29	0.0	371	396	(6.3)
Classified	603	571	5.6	6,602	6,513	1.4
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Total, Same Property						
Operating Basis	1,244	1,200	3.7%	14,128	14,149	(0.1)%
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Notes to Revenue and Statistical Summary:

- (1) Operating basis includes 100% of the revenue and statistical information of Madison Newspapers, Inc. (MNI), which for financial reporting purposes is reported using the equity method of accounting. Lee owns 50% of the stock of MNI.
- (2) The month had one more Monday and one fewer Saturday than the prior period. The year to date had one more Monday and one fewer Sunday than the prior period.
- (3) Previously reported same-property data has been restated for comparative purposes to exclude acquired/divested properties.
- (4) The Company's fiscal year ends on September 30.
- (5) The Company disclaims responsibility for updating information beyond release date.

The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides a "Safe Harbor" for forward-looking statements. This release contains information that may be deemed forward-looking and that is based largely on the Company's current expectations and is subject to certain risks, trends and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated. Among such risks, trends and other uncertainties are changes in advertising demand, newsprint prices, interest rates, labor costs, legislative and regulatory rulings and other results of operations or financial conditions, difficulties in integration of acquired businesses or maintaining employee and customer relationships and increased capital and other costs. The words "may," "will," "would," "could," "believes," "expects," "anticipates," "intends," "plans," "projects," "considers" and similar expressions generally identify forward-looking statements. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements, which are made as of the date of this release. The Company does not publicly undertake to update or revise its forward-looking statements.

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