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Contact: USA Derek Heins
 Rofin-Sinar
 313-455-5400
 - or -
 Europe Thorsten Frauenpreiss
 Rofin-Sinar
 011-49-40-73363-256

ROFIN-SINAR REPORTS RESULTS FOR SECOND QUARTER FISCAL 1997; SALES RISE 12%; NET INCOME INCREASES 24%

Plymouth, MI / Hamburg, Germany, May 13th, 1997 – ROFIN-SINAR Technologies, Inc. (NASDAQ: RSTI), one of the world's leading developers and manufacturers of high performance laser sources, today announced the results for its second fiscal quarter and half-year ended March 31, 1997.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

(in thousands, except per share data)

	Three months ended			Six months ended		
	<u>03/31/97</u>	<u>03/31/96</u>	% Change	<u>03/31/97</u>	<u>03/31/96</u>	% Change
Net sales	\$33,435	\$29,975	+12%	\$67,469	\$53,723	+26%
Net Income	\$2,488	\$2,004	+24%	\$5,166	\$3,439	+50%
Pro forma earnings per share	\$0.21	\$0.23		\$0.45	\$0.40	
Weighted average shares outstanding	11.6 mill.	8.6 mill.		11.6 mill.	8.6 mill.	

Dr. Peter Wirth, Chairman and CEO commented, "We are very pleased with the results, which demonstrate our solid market position and our ability for strong internal growth."

FINANCIAL REVIEW

-Second Quarter-

For the second quarter ended March 31, 1997, net sales totaled \$33.4 million, an increase of 12% over the comparable period in 1996. Gross profit rose to \$12.1 million from \$11.1 million in 1996, a 9% increase. Net income was \$2.5 million, 24% higher than the corresponding prior year period and representing 7.4% of net sales, compared to 6.7% in the second quarter of fiscal 1996. Earnings per share equaled \$0.21 based upon 11.6 million common shares outstanding.

Compared to the second quarter ending March 31, 1996, net sales of laser products for cutting and welding applications increased by 17% to \$25.5 million, while net sales of lasers for marking decreased by 4% to \$7.9 million. The European/Asian sales were influenced by the stronger US dollar and the relatively flat market for marking systems in the semiconductor industry.

R&D net spending in the second quarter was \$2.7 million, or 8.1% of net sales compared to \$2.2 million, or 7.4% of net sales, in the second quarter of fiscal 1996, and was influenced by additional expenses for the diode pumped solid state laser program.

- Six Months-

For the six months ended March 31, 1997, net sales totaled \$67.5 million, an increase of 26% over the comparable period in 1996. Gross profit for the period rose to \$24.2 million from \$20.3 million in 1996, a 19% increase. Six months net income in 1997 increased 50% to \$5.2 million. Net sales of cutting and welding laser products increased by 33% to \$50.9 million, while net sales of lasers for marking increased by 7% to \$16.5 million.

On a geographical basis, Rofin-Sinar's largest single market was North America, where net sales in the first six months totaled \$25.3 million (1996: \$16.9 million), a 49% increase. In Europe/Asia, net sales increased by 15% to \$42.2 million (1996: \$36.8 million).

With roughly two thirds of RSTI sales denominated in foreign currencies, the strengthening of the US dollar had a negative impact on total net sales and net income of approximately 6%.

Net sales per employee amounted to \$143,600 compared to \$124,600 for the comparable six months period, a 15% overall increase in productivity.

Order entry for the second quarter was \$30.8 million. This resulted in an order backlog on March 31, 1997 of \$34.2 million, which represents another solid three months of production.

Headquartered in Plymouth, Michigan, and Hamburg, Germany, Rofin-Sinar Technologies, Inc. designs, develops, engineers and manufactures industrial laser products for cutting, welding and marking a wide range of materials. With production facilities in the US, Germany and Japan, Rofin-Sinar is one of the world's leading designers and manufacturers of industrial lasers and currently has more than 4500 laser units installed worldwide and serves more than 1500 customers.

Rofin-Sinar's ordinary shares trade on the NASDAQ National Market System under the symbol RSTI. Additional information is available on Rofin-Sinar's home page: <http://www.rofin-sinar.com>.

ROFIN-SINAR TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS

(in thousands, except per share data)

	Three months ended unaudited		Six months ended unaudited	
	<u>3/31/97</u>	<u>3/31/96</u>	<u>3/31/97</u>	<u>3/31/96</u>
- <i>Cutting/Welding</i>	\$25,521	\$21,763	\$50,921	\$38,259
- <i>Marking</i>	7,914	8,212	16,548	15,464
Net Sales	33,435	29,975	67,469	53,723
Costs of goods sold	<u>21,311</u>	<u>18,865</u>	<u>43,232</u>	<u>33,450</u>
Gross profit	12,124	11,110	24,237	20,273
Selling, general and administrative expenses	5,651	5,075	11,533	9,839
Research and development expenses	<u>2,719</u>	<u>2,215</u>	<u>4,876</u>	<u>3,927</u>
Income from operations	3,754	3,820	7,828	6,507
Net interest expense (income)	(277)	265	(451)	538
Other expenses (income)	<u>(297)</u>	<u>(48)</u>	<u>(393)</u>	<u>(25)</u>
Income before income taxes	4,328	3,603	8,672	5,994
Income tax expense	1,840	1,599	3,506	2,555
Net income	<u>2,488</u>	<u>2,004</u>	<u>5,166</u>	<u>3,439</u>
Pro forma net income per common share	\$0.21	\$0.23	\$0.45	\$0.40

The pro forma net income per share calculation is based on the weighted average shares outstanding for each period presented which was 11.6 million and 8.6 million for the quarters and six months ended March 31, 1997 and 1996, respectively.

ROFIN-SINAR TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(in thousands)

	(UNAUDITED)	(AUDITED)
	At	At
	<u>3/31/97</u>	<u>9/30/96</u>
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$8,122	\$34,869
Short-term investments	29,228	0
Trade accounts receivable, net	33,038	31,235
Inventories, net	30,067	34,353
Other current assets	<u>4,987</u>	<u>4,474</u>
Total current assets	<u>105,442</u>	<u>104,931</u>
Net property and equipment	22,209	24,735
Other non-current assets	<u>2,672</u>	<u>3,386</u>
Total non-current assets	<u>24,881</u>	<u>28,121</u>
 Total assets	 <u>\$130,323</u>	 <u>\$133,052</u>
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Short-term debt	19,042	24,780
Accounts payable, trade	8,248	5,508
Other current liabilities	<u>20,144</u>	<u>21,220</u>
Total current liabilities	<u>47,434</u>	<u>51,508</u>
Other non-current liabilities	<u>2,872</u>	<u>3,544</u>
Total liabilities	<u>50,306</u>	<u>55,052</u>
 Net stockholders' equity	 <u>80,017</u>	 <u>78,000</u>
 Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	 <u>\$130,323</u>	 <u>\$133,052</u>

Certain information included in this press release is forward-looking and is subject to important risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ. Actual results could differ materially based on numerous factors, including currency risk, competition, risk relating to sales growth in CO₂- and Nd:YAG lasers, cyclicalities, conflicting patents and other intellectual property rights of third parties, potential infringement claims and future capital requirements. These forward looking statements represent the Group's best judgements as of the date of this release based in part on preliminary information and certain assumptions which management believes to be reasonable. The Group disclaims any obligation to update these forward looking statements.

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