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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**LMI AEROSPACE ANNOUNCES INCREASED SALES AND EARNINGS  
2006 SECOND QUARTER**

*Sales Increase 37 Percent in the Quarter  
Net Income Triples*

ST. LOUIS – August 11, 2006 – LMI Aerospace, Inc. (NASDAQ: LMIA), a leading provider of structural components, assemblies and kits to the aerospace, defense and technology industries, today announced increased sales and earnings for the second quarter of 2006 due to growth in its military, corporate and commercial aerospace businesses.

Net sales in the quarter ended June 30, 2006 were \$32.8 million, up 37 percent from the \$24.0 million reported in the quarter ended June 30, 2005. Net income for the second quarter of 2006 was \$3.0 million or \$0.26 per diluted share compared to \$1.0 million or \$0.13 per diluted share for the second quarter of 2005.

“For the six months ended June 30, 2006, sales grew to \$62.0 million, a 29 percent increase from \$48.0 million in the six months ended June 30, 2005. Sales increases in both the second quarter and first six months of 2006 resulted primarily from

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organic growth in our three major market sectors. Production rate increases for certain Gulfstream and Boeing model aircraft, as well as the ramp up in production of cabin subassemblies and structural components for the Sikorsky Blackhawk helicopter accounted for most of the increase in sales. Total booked backlog at June 30, 2006 was \$109 million, up from \$99 million at June 30, 2005," said Ronald Saks, President and Chief Executive Officer of LMI Aerospace.

Gross profit for the second quarter of 2006 was \$8.8 million or 27.0 percent of sales, an increase from \$5.6 million or 23.4 percent of sales in the second quarter of 2005. Higher sales volume and greater efficiencies provided by the continued use of lean manufacturing techniques accounted for this improved result, which was offset in part from start-up costs related to new assemblies for the Sikorsky Blackhawk helicopter of approximately \$550,000 in the quarter, and by start-up costs of our Mexicali division of approximately \$250,000 in the quarter.

Selling, general and administrative expenses were \$4.2 million, or 12.7 percent of sales in the second quarter of 2006, compared to \$3.5 million or 14.5 percent of sales in the second quarter of 2005. This increase resulted from the incurrence of higher professional fees and increased salary and wage costs, primarily due to additional staffing needs.

The company's strengthened balance sheet continues to support planned growth. LMI completed a public offering of common shares in March 2006, from which the company received net proceeds of approximately \$39.4 million. Cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments at June 30, 2006 were \$23.3 million versus \$35,000 at December 31, 2005. Long-term debt and capital lease obligations at June 30, 2006 were \$2.4 million, compared to \$14.4 million at December 31, 2005. Net interest income for the second quarter of 2006 was \$77,000 compared to net interest expense of \$422,000 in the 2005 period.

“Continued growth in production rates in our commercial and corporate aircraft markets and new military rotorcraft programs have given us better visibility of future demand for our products,” said Saks. “As we progress through 2006 and 2007, we expect added customer demand from the commercial aircraft market sector due to production rate increases which place more pressure on our OEM and Tier 1 customers to outsource additional components and assemblies for us to manufacture. We currently estimate full-year 2006 sales in a range of \$133 million to \$138 million, a slightly narrower range than announced last quarter. We project our 2006 gross margin at 27 to 29 percent and selling, general and administrative expenses of \$17.0 million to \$17.5 million. In addition, we now project 2006 interest income to approximately offset interest expense and an income tax rate in the range of 36.5 percent to 37.5 percent, excluding the effect of any potential research and development credits. We are also forecasting 2007 sales of \$150 million to \$165 million, based on existing contracts with our customers, increased production rates, and newly awarded business,” Saks added.

“Our strategy in the next eighteen months is designed to successfully manage increasing capacity demands to support our projected revenue growth, with particular emphasis on improved customer service and quality performance. To address the capacity issues we expect to make capital expenditures of approximately \$7 million in both 2006 and 2007, continue to grow our supply chain and expand the services provided by our Mexicali operation. In order to meet the continuing challenges of globalization, we intend to become more efficient by further embracing lean manufacturing technology and improving our employees’ skills through our LMI Academy training center. Moreover, we currently intend to increase our investment in manufacturing facilities both within and outside the U.S. by the end of 2007.”

LMI also announced it has received advance procurement authorization to produce cabin subassemblies for the Sikorsky UH60M Model Blackhawk helicopter, as well as orders to cover tooling for this derivative. The M Model production combined with current L and S model production should result in a doubling of revenue in 2007 for these items.

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LMI Aerospace, Inc., is a leading provider of structural components, assemblies and kits to the aerospace, defense and technology industries. The company fabricates, machines, finishes and integrates formed, close tolerance aluminum and specialty alloy components and sheet metal products primarily for large commercial, corporate and military aircraft. LMI Aerospace, Inc., manufactures more than 30,000 products for integration into a variety of aircraft platforms manufactured by leading original equipment manufacturers and Tier 1 aerospace suppliers.

This news release includes forward-looking statements related to LMI Aerospace, Inc.'s outlook for 2006 and 2007, which are based on current management expectations. Such forward-looking statements are subject to various risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond the control of LMI Aerospace, Inc. Actual results could differ materially from the forward-looking statements as a result, among other things, of the factors detailed from time to time in LMI Aerospace, Inc.'s filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Please refer to the Risk Factors contained in the company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005 for more details.

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**LMI Aerospace, Inc.**  
**Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations**  
*(Amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)*  
*(Unaudited)*

	<b>Three Months Ended June 30</b>		<b>Six Months Ended June 30</b>	
	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>
Net sales	\$ 32,768	\$ 24,008	\$ 62,010	\$ 47,981
Cost of sales	23,921	18,383	44,842	37,134
Gross profit	8,847	5,625	17,168	10,847
Selling, general and administrative expenses	4,170	3,486	8,371	6,940
Income from operations	4,677	2,139	8,797	3,907
Other income (expense):				
Interest income (expense), net	77	(422)	(350)	(842)
Other, net	(1)	(4)	1	(1)
Income before income taxes	4,753	1,713	8,448	3,064
Provision for income taxes	1,796	664	3,182	1,171
Net income	\$ 2,957	\$ 1,049	\$ 5,266	\$ 1,893
Amounts per common share:				
Net income per common share	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.54	\$ 0.23
Net income per common share assuming dilution	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.53	\$ 0.23
Weighted average common shares outstanding	11,112,507	8,239,942	9,837,038	8,238,866
Weighted average dilutive common shares outstanding	11,239,257	8,335,764	9,961,988	8,345,763

**LMI Aerospace Announces  
2006 Second Quarter Results  
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**LMI Aerospace, Inc.  
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets**  
*(Amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)*

	<b>June 30, 2006 (Unaudited)</b>	<b>December 31, 2005</b>
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 16,941	\$ 35
Short-term investments	6,342	-
Trade accounts receivable - net of allowance of \$225 at June 30, 2006 and \$244 at December 31, 2005	17,416	16,088
Inventories	30,279	25,333
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	1,335	1,205
Deferred income taxes	1,610	1,610
Total current assets	73,923	44,271
Property, plant and equipment, net	18,915	18,162
Goodwill	5,653	5,653
Customer Intangible assets, net	3,609	3,114
Other assets	707	757
Total assets	\$ 102,807	\$ 71,957
<b>Liabilities and stockholders' equity</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 8,892	\$ 7,407
Accrued expenses	3,987	6,077
Current installments of long-term debt and capital lease obligations	1,460	1,846
Total current liabilities	14,339	15,330
Long-term debt and capital lease obligations, less current installments	2,442	14,462
Subordinated debt	-	1,000
Deferred income taxes	1,333	1,333
Total long-term liabilities	3,775	16,795
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock, \$.02 par value per share; authorized 28,000,000 shares; issued 11,570,681 shares and 8,797,909 shares at June 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively	231	176
Preferred stock, \$.02 par value per share; authorized 2,000,000 shares; none issued in both periods	-	-
Additional paid-in capital	65,746	26,307
Treasury stock, at cost, 406,332 shares at June 30, 2006 and 433,972 shares at December 31, 2005	(1,928)	(2,059)
Retained earnings	20,644	15,408
Total stockholders' equity	84,693	39,832
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 102,807	\$ 71,957