GOLDMAN SACHS REPORTS THIRD QUARTER EARNINGS PER SHARE OF \$1.32



NEW YORK, September 23, 2003 - The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. (NYSE:GS) today reported net earnings of \$677 million for its fiscal third quarter ended August 29, 2003. Earnings per diluted share were \$1.32 compared to \$1.00 for the third quarter of 2002 and \$1.36 for the second quarter of 2003. Annualized return on average tangible shareholders' equity ⁽¹⁾ was 17.8% for the third quarter of 2003 and 18.3% for the first nine months of 2003. Annualized return on average shareholders' equity was 13.4% for the third quarter of 2003 and 13.8% for the first nine months of 2003.

Business Highlights

- Goldman Sachs retained its leadership position in global mergers and acquisitions, ranking first in announced and completed worldwide mergers and acquisitions.
- The firm ranked first in worldwide equity and equity-related offerings and common stock offerings. (2)
- Asset Management achieved record quarterly net revenues of \$481 million, reflecting a strong performance across the business, as well as the contribution from Ayco, which was acquired on July 1, 2003. (3)
- Assets under management increased 9% from a year ago to a record \$365 billion. Net asset inflows of \$14 billion, including \$4 billion in assets from the acquisition of Ayco, were generated during the quarter.

"Once again we saw the importance of the firm's diverse business mix, as our performance in Asset Management, Equities and Securities Services, which benefited from improved equity markets, helped to offset sluggish investment banking volumes and more challenging conditions within Fixed Income, Currency and Commodities," said Henry M. Paulson, Jr., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

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Net Revenues

Investment Banking

Net revenues in Investment Banking were \$687 million compared to \$652 million for the third quarter of 2002 and \$659 million for the second quarter of 2003. Net revenues in Financial Advisory were \$304 million compared to \$315 million for the third quarter of 2002, reflecting continued weakness in industry-wide completed mergers and acquisitions. Net revenues in the firm's Underwriting business were \$383 million compared to \$337 million for the same 2002 period, primarily reflecting higher net revenues from debt new issuance activity. The firm's investment banking backlog declined during the quarter.

Trading and Principal Investments

Net revenues in Trading and Principal Investments were \$1.62 billion compared to \$1.49 billion for the third quarter of 2002 and \$2.01 billion for the second quarter of 2003.

Fixed Income, Currency and Commodities (FICC) net revenues of \$828 million decreased 37% compared to the same 2002 period, primarily due to weak results in mortgages and currencies, reflecting higher interest rates, widening mortgage spreads and volatile currency markets. Net revenues in interest rate products were lower compared to a particularly strong third quarter of 2002. These decreases were partially offset by higher net revenues in credit products, which benefited from continued narrowing of credit spreads.

Net revenues in Equities were \$441 million compared to \$281 million for the third quarter of 2002, primarily due to higher net revenues in equity arbitrage, as well as in the firm's global shares businesses, partially offset by lower net revenues in equity derivatives, reflecting reduced market volatility.

Principal Investments recorded net revenues of \$346 million, primarily due to an unrealized gain related to the firm's convertible preferred stock investment in Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc. (SMFG) of \$277 million, as well as increases in the fair value of other corporate principal investments.

Asset Management and Securities Services

Net revenues in Asset Management and Securities Services were \$1.49 billion compared to \$1.50 billion for the third quarter of 2002 and \$1.32 billion for the second quarter of 2003.

Asset Management net revenues of \$481 million increased 20% compared to last year's third quarter, primarily reflecting higher assets under management, the contribution from Ayco, which was acquired on July 1, 2003, and increased incentive income. During the quarter, assets under management increased 5%, reflecting net asset inflows of \$10 billion, spread across all asset classes, \$4 billion from the acquisition of Ayco, primarily in fixed income and equity assets, and market appreciation of \$5 billion, primarily in equity assets.

Securities Services net revenues were \$326 million compared to \$266 million for the same 2002 period, primarily reflecting higher customer balances in the firm's securities lending and margin lending businesses.

Commissions were \$684 million compared to \$838 million for the same period last year, primarily reflecting lower equity commissions in the firm's U.S. shares businesses, reduced clearing fees and lower merchant banking overrides.

Expenses

Operating expenses were \$2.81 billion, essentially unchanged from last year's third quarter.

Compensation and benefits of \$1.90 billion increased 4% compared to the same period last year, commensurate with higher net revenues. The ratio of compensation and benefits to net revenues was 50% for the first nine months of 2003, consistent with the first nine months of 2002. Employment levels increased 6% during the quarter to 19,476, due primarily to the inclusion of 1,028 employees from the acquisition of Ayco. Excluding Ayco, employment levels were essentially unchanged during the quarter.

Non-compensation-related expenses of \$898 million decreased 8% compared to the same period last year, primarily reflecting lower depreciation and amortization expenses, occupancy expenses, brokerage, clearing and exchange fees, and market development expenses.

The effective income tax rate was 33% for the first nine months of 2003, down from 34% for the first half of 2003 and 35% for fiscal year 2002. The lower effective income tax rate reflects an increase in tax credits and a change in the firm's geographic earnings mix.

Capital

As of August 29, 2003, total capital was \$72.89 billion, consisting of \$20.44 billion in shareholders' equity and \$52.45 billion in long-term debt. ⁽⁴⁾ Book value per share was \$41.72 based on common shares outstanding, including restricted stock units granted to employees with no future service requirements, of 489.9 million at period end. Tangible book value per share was \$31.12. ⁽¹⁾

During the quarter, the firm repurchased 3.2 million shares of its common stock at an average price of \$85.32 per share. The remaining share authorization under the firm's existing common stock repurchase program is 9.9 million shares.

Dividend

The Board of Directors of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. declared a dividend of \$0.25 per share to be paid on November 24, 2003 to common shareholders of record on October 27, 2003.

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Goldman Sachs is a leading global investment banking, securities and investment management firm that provides a wide range of services worldwide to a substantial and diversified client base that includes corporations, financial institutions, governments and high net worth individuals. Founded in 1869, it is one of the oldest and largest investment banking firms. The firm is headquartered in New York and maintains offices in London, Frankfurt, Tokyo, Hong Kong and other major financial centers around the world.

Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains "forward-looking statements." These statements are not historical facts but instead represent only the firm's belief regarding future events, many of which, by their nature, are inherently uncertain and outside of the firm's control. It is possible that the firm's actual results and financial condition may differ, possibly materially, from the anticipated results and financial condition indicated in these forward-looking statements. For a discussion of some of the risks and important factors that could affect the firm's future results, see "Business – Certain Factors That May Affect Our Business" in the firm's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 29, 2002.

Statements about the firm's investment banking transaction backlog also may constitute forward-looking statements. Such statements are subject to the risk that the terms of these transactions may be modified or that they may not be completed at all; therefore, the net revenues that the firm expects to earn from these transactions may differ, possibly materially, from those currently expected. Important factors that could result in a modification of the terms of a transaction or a transaction not being completed include, in the case of underwriting transactions, a decline in general economic conditions, volatility in the securities markets generally or an adverse development with respect to the issuer of the securities and, in the case of financial advisory transactions, a decline in the securities markets, an adverse development with respect to a party to the transaction or a failure to obtain a required regulatory approval. For a discussion of other important factors that could adversely affect the firm's investment banking transactions, see "Business – Certain Factors That May Affect Our Business" in the firm's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 29, 2002.

Conference Call

A conference call to discuss the firm's results, outlook and related matters will be held at 11:00 am (ET). The call will be open to the public. Members of the public who would like to listen to the conference call should dial 1-888-281-7154 (U.S. domestic) and 1-706-679-5627 (international). The number should be dialed at least 10 minutes prior to the start of the conference call. The conference call will also be accessible as an audio webcast through the Investor Relations section of the firm's Web site, http://www.gs.com/our_firm/investor_relations/. There is no charge to access the call. For those unable to listen to the live broadcast, a replay will be available on the firm's Web site or by dialing 1-800-642-1687 (U.S. domestic) or 1-706-645-9291 (international) passcode number 2636296, beginning approximately two hours after the event. Please direct any questions regarding obtaining access to the conference call to Goldman Sachs Investor Relations, via e-mail, at gs-investorrelations@gs.com.

The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Net Revenues

(unaudited) (\$ in millions)

	Three Months Ende August 29, May 30,		August 30,	% Change May 30,	August 30,		
		2003	-	2003	2002	2003	2002
Investment Banking							
Financial Advisory Underwriting	\$	304 383	\$	258 401	\$ 315 337	18 % (4)	(3) % 14
Total Investment Banking		687		659	652	4	5
Trading and Principal Investments							
FICC		828		1,590	1,312	(48)	(37)
Equities Principal Investments		441 346		446 (28)	281 (100)	(1) N.M.	57 N.M.
Total Trading and Principal Investments		1,615		2,008	1,493	(20)	8
Asset Management and Securities Services							
Asset Management		481		404	400	19	20
Securities Services Commissions		326 684		279 635	266 838	17 8	23 (18)
Total Asset Management						· ·	(1.5)
and Securities Services		1,491		1,318	1,504	13	(1)
Total net revenues	\$	3,793	\$	3,985	\$ 3,649	(5)	4
		Nine Mon	ths En	ded	% Change From		
		gust 29,	Au	gust 30,	August 30,		
		2003		2002	2002		
Investment Banking							
Financial Advisory Underwriting	\$	899 1,165	\$	1,200 1,107	(25) % 5		
Total Investment Banking		2,064		2,307	(11)		
Trading and Principal Investments							
FICC		4,297		3,677	17		
Equities Principal Investments		1,236 241		804 (222)	54 N.M.		
·	-	241	-	(222)	IN.IVI.		
Total Trading and Principal Investments		5,774		4,259	36		
Asset Management and Securities Services							
Asset Management		1,340		1,266	6		
Securities Services		856		735	16		
Commissions		1,931		2,531	(24)		
Total Asset Management and Securities Services		4,127		4,532	(9)		

The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries Consolidated Statements of Earnings

(unaudited)

	Three Months Ended					% Change From		
		gust 29,	N	May 30,		igust 30,	May 30,	August 30,
		2003		2003		2002	2003	2002
	(in m	illions, exce	pt per s	hare amounts	s and e	mployees)		
Revenues								
Investment banking	\$	592	\$	556	\$	593	6 %	- %
Trading and principal investments		1,113		1,526		1,107	(27)	1
Asset management and securities services		1,169		1,036		1,253	13	(7)
Interest income		2,841		2,867		2,919	(1)	(3)
Total revenues		5,715		5,985	'	5,872	(5)	(3)
Interest expense		1,922		2,000		2,223	(4)	(14)
Revenues, net of interest expense		3,793		3,985		3,649	(5)	4
Operating expenses								
Compensation and benefits		1,896		1,992		1,824	(5)	4
Amortization of employee initial public offering and							. ,	
acquisition awards		19		34		57	(44)	(67)
Brokerage, clearing and exchange fees		218		200		236	9	(8)
Market development		62		64		75	(3)	(17)
Communications and technology		119		119		125	-	(5)
Depreciation and amortization		130		139		161	(6)	(19)
Amortization of identifiable intangible assets		40		46		31	(13)	29
Occupancy		151		177		172	(15)	(12)
Professional services and other		178		176		174	1	2
Total non-compensation expenses		898		921		974	(2)	(8)
Total operating expenses		2,813		2,947		2,855	(5)	(1)
Pre-tax earnings		980		1,038		794	(6)	23
Provision for taxes		303		343		272	(12)	11
Net earnings	\$	677	\$	695	\$	522	(3)	30
Earnings per share								
Basic	\$	1.39	\$	1.43	\$	1.05	(3)	32
Diluted		1.32		1.36		1.00	(3)	32
Average common shares outstanding								
Basic		488.5		485.8		494.9	1	(1)
Diluted		511.7		510.2		520.4	-	(2)
Employees at period end (5)		19,476		18,421		20,647	6	(6)
Ratio of compensation and benefits to revenues, net of interest expense		50%		50%		50%		

The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries Consolidated Statements of Earnings

(unaudited)

		% Change From			
	Au	gust 29,	Au	gust 30,	August 30,
		2003		2002	2002
	(in mil	lions, except	e amounts)		
Revenues					
Investment banking	\$	1,774	\$	2,123	(16) %
Trading and principal investments		4,412		3,384	30
Asset management and securities services		3,268		3,810	(14)
Interest income		8,340		8,489	(2)
Total revenues		17,794		17,806	-
Interest expense		5,829		6,708	(13)
Revenues, net of interest expense		11,965		11,098	8
Operating expenses					
Compensation and benefits		5,982		5,549	8
Amortization of employee initial public offering and					
acquisition awards		102		265	(62)
Brokerage, clearing and exchange fees		608		653	(7)
Market development		181		231	(22)
Communications and technology		355		401	(11)
Depreciation and amortization		426		451	(6)
Amortization of identifiable intangible assets		118		94	26
Occupancy		551		457	21
Professional services and other		606		463	31
Total non-compensation expenses		2,845		2,750	3
Total operating expenses		8,929		8,564	4
Pre-tax earnings		3,036		2,534	20
Provision for taxes		1,002		925	8
Net earnings	\$	2,034	\$	1,609	26
Earnings per share	•		•	0.04	00
Basic	\$	4.17	\$	3.24	29
Diluted		3.98		3.04	31
Average common shares outstanding					
Basic		487.9		497.2	(2)
Diluted		511.3		528.5	(3)
Ratio of compensation and benefits to					
revenues, net of interest expense		50%		50%	
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The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries Average Daily VaR ⁽⁶⁾ (unaudited) (\$ in millions)

	Three Months Ended								
Risk Categories	U	ust 29, 003		y 30, 003	•	ust 30, 002			
Interest rates	\$	47	\$	39	\$	35			
Equity prices `		24		24		21			
Currency rates		14		18		19			
Commodity prices		19		16		11			
Diversification effect (7)		(40)		(38)		(39)			
Firmwide	\$	64	\$	59	\$	47			

Assets Under Management ⁽⁸⁾ (unaudited) (\$ in billions)

		As of							From
	_	ust 31, 2003		ay 31, 2003	_	just 31, 2002	May 31, 2003	_	August 31, 2002
Money markets	\$	93	\$	91	\$	100	2	%	(7) %
Fixed income and currency		111		108		94	3		18
Equity		96		86		81	12		19
Alternative investments		65		61		61	7		7
Assets under management	\$	365	\$	346	\$	336	5		9

	Three Months Ended								
Assets Under Management	-	just 31, 2003		ay 31, 2003	August 31, 2002				
Balance, beginning of period	\$	346	\$	346	\$	350			
Net asset inflows/(outflows) (9)		14		(18)		(2)			
Net market appreciation/(depreciation)		5		18		(12)			
Balance, end of period	\$	365	\$	346	\$	336			

Principal Investments

* * *

(unaudited) (\$ in millions)

	As of August 29, 2003							
	Co	rporate	Rea	Real Estate		Total		
Private	\$	974	\$	767	\$	1,741		
Public		229		60		289		
SMFG convertible preferred stock (10)		1,410		-		1,410		
Total	\$	2,613	\$	827	\$	3,440		

Footnotes

(1) Tangible shareholders' equity equals total shareholders' equity less goodwill and identifiable intangible assets. Management believes that tangible shareholders' equity is a meaningful measure because it reflects the equity deployed in the firm's businesses. Annualized return on average tangible shareholders' equity is computed by dividing annualized net earnings by average monthly tangible shareholders' equity. Tangible book value per share is computed by dividing tangible shareholders' equity by the number of common shares outstanding, including restricted stock units granted to employees with no future service requirements. The following table sets forth the reconciliation of shareholders' equity to tangible shareholders' equity:

	Averag	e for the	As of
	Nine Months	Three Months	
	Ended	Ended	
	August 29, 2003	August 29, 2003	August 29, 2003
		(unaudited, \$ in millions	s)
Shareholders' equity Deduct: Goodwill and identifiable	\$ 19,711	\$ 20,193	\$ 20,438
intangible assets	(4,878)	(4,980)	(5,191)
Tangible shareholders' equity	\$ 14,833	\$ 15,213	\$ 15,247

- (2) Thomson Financial Securities Data January 1, 2003 through August 29, 2003.
- (3) On July 1, 2003, The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. acquired The Ayco Company, L.P. (Ayco), a leading provider of sophisticated, fee-based financial counseling in the United States.
- (4) Includes long-term debt of approximately \$3.0 billion issued by William Street Funding Corporation (a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. formed to raise funding to support loan commitments made by another William Street entity to investment-grade clients) and \$1.2 billion issued by consolidated variable interest entities, in each case, where the holders of the debt have no recourse to the general credit of the firm.
- (5) Excludes employees of Goldman Sachs' property management subsidiaries. Substantially all of the costs of these employees are reimbursed to Goldman Sachs by the real estate investment funds to which these companies provide property management services. Total employees also excludes employees of certain consolidated entities that are held for investment purposes only.
- (6) VaR is the potential loss in value of Goldman Sachs' trading positions due to adverse market movements over a one-day time horizon with a 95% confidence level. The modeling of the risk characteristics of the firm's trading positions involves a number of assumptions and approximations. While management believes that these assumptions and approximations are reasonable, there is no uniform industry methodology for estimating VaR, and different assumptions and/or approximations could produce materially different VaR estimates. For a further discussion of the calculation of VaR, see Part II, Item 7A "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk" in the firm's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 29, 2002.
- (7) Equals the difference between firmwide VaR and the sum of the VaRs for the four risk categories. This effect arises because the four market risk categories are not perfectly correlated.
- (8) Substantially all assets under management are valued as of calendar month end.
- (9) For the three months ended August 31, 2003, includes \$4 billion from the acquisition of Ayco.
- (10) Includes the impact of foreign exchange revaluation on the investment, for which the firm maintains an economic hedge.