

Media Release

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BOC India continues on its growth track Commissions new plants in the Q2

Kolkata, 27th October 2006: BOC India Limited, now a member of the Linde Group reported its financial results for the 2nd quarter and the half year ended on September 2006, today in Kolkata. The Company's gross sales for the quarter stood at Rs 134.22 crores, compared to Rs 107.39 crores achieved in the corresponding period of the previous year, registering a growth of 25%.

The profit before tax (PBT) and extra ordinary items for the quarter was Rs. 19.16 crore up 86% from the figure recorded in the corresponding period last year.

The gross sales for the half year ended 30 September 2006 stood at Rs. 253.06 crores, compared to Rs. 219.33 crores achieved in the corresponding period of the previous year. The profit before tax (PBT) and extra ordinary items for the same period was at Rs. 34.01 crores compared to Rs. 27.33 crores in the corresponding period last year.

Significantly the Rs.19.16 crore profit recorded for the quarter ended 30 September 2006 has been delivered without any extraordinary items being recorded whereas the PBT of the corresponding period last year amounting to Rs 57.32 crores included extraordinary income of Rs 47 crores from the sale of property.

During the quarter ended 30 September 2006 Bellary Oxygen Company Private Limited, in which BOC India Limited holds 50% of the paid up share capital, commissioned a 855 tonnes per day Air Separation Unit at Bellary, built to supply gases to JSW Steel Limited as per the long term gas supply contract entered into in this regard.

“Going forward this ASU plant will improve our market position and strengthen our leadership position in the gases industry.” commented **ER Raj Narayanan, Managing Director, BOC India Limited**. He further added, “ This is an exciting time in BOC India as we are significantly improving our product availability in keeping with the growing demands of our customers. We are also constantly exploring new business opportunities that are coming up in this region.”

Also during this period BOC India Limited commissioned a state of the art liquid compression facility at a greenfield site in Pune. This new plant in Pune is part of a long-term strategy to expand the geographical reach of the Industrial & Special Products (I&SP) business of the Company. A special gases manufacturing facility was also commissioned at the new site in Taloja keeping in mind the growing demand of such gases in the country.

About The Linde Group: The Linde Group is a world leading industrial gases and engineering company with more than 53,000 employees working in around 70 countries worldwide. Following the acquisition of The BOC Group the company has gases and engineering sales of approximately €12 billion. The strategy of The Linde Group is geared towards earnings-based growth and focuses on the expansion of its international business with forward-looking products and services.

For more information, please see The Linde Group online at <http://www.linde.com>

About BOC Gases: BOC Gases is a member of The Linde Group. A global industrial gases provider, the company employs about 20,000 people and supplies compressed and bulk gases, chemicals and equipment. In fiscal 2005, BOC Gases achieved sales of approximately €5 billion.

For more than a century the company's gases and expertise have contributed to advances in many industries and aspects of everyday life, including steel-making, refining, chemical processing, environmental protection, wastewater treatment, welding and cutting, food processing and distribution, glass production, electronics and health care.

For more information, please see BOC Gases online at <http://www.boc-gases.com>

About BOC India Limited: BOC India Limited (BOCI) is the leader in gas business in India since 1935. BOC India provides a one-stop solution to every sphere of gas and gas related business. BOC India has excelled through successfully blending of local innovation and adaptation with international expertise from The Group. Be it for food processing, medical, domestic or industrial use, BOC India provides tailor made solutions for its customers. While providing the best solutions to its customers, BOC India has always conformed to the strictest international standards of production and safety.