MARTEN TRANSPORT ANNOUNCES THIRD QUARTER RESULTS

Net income improves 20.6% in fifteenth consecutive quarter of year-over-year profit growth

MONDOVI, Wis., October 17, 2022 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Marten Transport, Ltd. (Nasdaq/GS:MRTN) today reported a 20.6% improvement in net income to \$25.6 million, or 32 cents per diluted share, for the third quarter ended September 30, 2022, from \$21.3 million, or 26 cents per diluted share, for the third quarter of 2021 – the Company's fifteenth consecutive year-over-year increase in quarterly profitability. For the first nine months of 2022, net income improved 39.8% to \$84.8 million, or \$1.03 per diluted share, from \$60.7 million, or 73 cents per diluted share, for the first nine months of 2021.

Operating Results C	omparison					
	Percentage Increase	Percentage Increase	Percentage Increase	Percentage Increase	Percentage Increase	Percentage Increase
	Three Months Ended September 30, 2022 vs. 2021	Three Months Ended June 30, 2022 vs. 2021	Three Months Ended March 31, 2022 vs. 2021	Year Ended December 31, 2021 vs. 2020	Year Ended December 31, 2020 vs. 2019	Year Ended December 31, 2019 vs. 2018
Operating revenue	29.1%	41.8%	28.8%	11.4%	3.7%	7.1%
Operating revenue, net of fuel surcharges	21.8%	32.1%	23.8%	8.3%	6.8%	8.6%
Operating income	18.5%	43.5%	49.4%	19.8%	21.9%	8.7%
Net income	20.6%	47.8%	52.9%	22.9%	13.8%	11.0%

Operating revenue improved 29.1% to \$324.4 million for the third quarter of 2022 from \$251.3 million for the third quarter of 2021. Excluding fuel surcharges, operating revenue improved 21.8% to \$269.3 million for the 2022 quarter from \$221.2 million for the 2021 quarter. Fuel surcharge revenue increased to \$55.1 million for the 2022 quarter from \$30.1 million for the 2021 quarter due to significantly higher fuel prices.

Operating revenue improved 33.2% to \$941.3 million for the first nine months of 2022 from \$706.8 million for the first nine months of 2021. Excluding fuel surcharges, operating revenue improved 25.8% to \$783.8 million for the 2022 period from \$623.0 million for the 2021 period. Fuel surcharge revenue increased to \$157.5 million for the 2022 period from \$83.7 million for 2021 period.

Operating income improved 18.5% to \$33.8 million for the third quarter of 2022 from \$28.5 million for the third quarter of 2021, and also improved 36.5% to \$110.6 million for the first nine months of 2022 from \$81.0 million for the first nine months of 2021.

Operating expenses as a percentage of operating revenue were 89.6% for the third quarter of 2022 and 88.7% for the third quarter of 2021. Operating expenses as a percentage of operating revenue, with both amounts net of fuel surcharges, were 87.5% for the 2022 quarter and 87.1% for the 2021 quarter.

Operating expenses as a percentage of operating revenue improved to 88.3% for the first nine months of 2022 from 88.5% for the first nine months of 2021. Operating expenses as a percentage of operating revenue, with both amounts net of fuel surcharges, improved to 85.9% from 87.0%.

Executive Chairman Randolph L. Marten stated, "The smart, hard work of our talented people executing our unique business model has produced improvements of 29.1% in top-line and 20.6% in bottom-line results over the third quarter of 2021. These results overcame significantly less gain on disposition of our revenue equipment, the negative effect of Hurricane Ian on our sizable Southeast truckload and dedicated operations, and a decrease in our intermodal volumes and margins resulting from weakness in rail service aggravated by the threat of a rail labor strike in mid-September."

"We continue to drive strong fleet growth with our approach to overcoming the national shortage of qualified drivers of applying a heightened emphasis on structurally improving our drivers' jobs and work-life balance by collaborating with our customers, while also increasing our driver compensation. This growth provides momentum to the coming quarters as we began this year's fourth quarter with 199 more of the industry's top drivers than we employed at the beginning of the third quarter – and have now increased our number of drivers by 621, or 22.6%, since June 30, 2021."

Operating Results Since the Pandemic Began – Percentage Increase Over Same Quarter of Prior Year												
	Q3 2022	Q2 2022	Q1 2022	Q4 2021	Q3 2021	Q2 2021	Q1 2021	Q4 2020	Q3 2020	Q2 2020		
Operating revenue	29.1%	41.8%	28.8%	17.4%	16.3%	9.4%	2.0%	4.7%	0.5%	0.1%		
Operating revenue, net of fuel surcharges	21.8%	32.1%	23.8%	12.5%	12.8%	5.0%	2.5%	8.8%	3.8%	4.7%		
Operating income	18.5%	43.5%	49.4%	20.0%	16.8%	12.9%	33.1%	36.0%	21.8%	26.6%		
Net income	20.6%	47.8%	<u>52.9%</u>	26.1%	17.9%	18.1%	31.3%	24.5%	8.8%	19.4%		

Current Investor Presentation

Marten Transport, with headquarters in Mondovi, Wis., is a multifaceted business offering a network of refrigerated and dry truck-based transportation capabilities across the Company's five distinct business platforms - Truckload, Dedicated, Intermodal, Brokerage and MRTN de Mexico. Marten is one of the leading temperature-sensitive truckload carriers in the United States, specializing in transporting and distributing food, beverages and other consumer packaged goods that require a temperature-controlled or insulated environment. The Company offers service in the United States, Mexico and Canada, concentrating on expedited movements for high-volume customers. Marten's common stock is traded on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol MRTN.

This press release contains certain statements that may be considered forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These statements include a discussion of Marten's prospects for future growth and by their nature involve substantial risks and uncertainties, and actual results may differ materially from those expressed in such forward-looking statements. Important factors known to the Company that could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements are discussed in Part I, Item 1A of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021. The Company undertakes no obligation to correct or update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

CONTACTS: Tim Kohl, Chief Executive Officer, and Jim Hinnendael, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, of Marten Transport, Ltd., 715-926-4216.

MARTEN TRANSPORT, LTD. CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED BALANCE SHEETS

(In thousands, except share information)	Sep	otember 30, 2022	De	ember 31, 2021	
	J)	Unaudited)			
ASSETS					
Current assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	71,492	\$	56,995	
Receivables:					
Trade, net		124,587		99,003	
Other		4,443		6,971	
Prepaid expenses and other		24,787		23,980	
Total current assets		225,309		186,949	
Property and equipment:					
Revenue equipment, buildings and land, office equipment and other		1,046,476		956,476	
Accumulated depreciation		(334,504)		(274,199)	
Net property and equipment		711,972		682,277	
Other noncurrent assets		1,421		1,464	
Total assets	\$	938,702	\$	870,690	
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LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY					
Current liabilities:	Φ	42 100	ф	20.150	
Accounts payable	\$	43,188	\$	20,150	
Insurance and claims accruals		45,664		42,014	
Accrued and other current liabilities		36,605		31,395	
Total current liabilities		125,457		93,559	
Deferred income taxes		130,594		125,163	
Noncurrent operating lease liabilities		214		291	
Total liabilities		256,265		219,013	
Stockholders' equity:					
Preferred stock, \$.01 par value per share; 2,000,000 shares authorized;					
no shares issued and outstanding		-		-	
Common stock, \$.01 par value per share; 192,000,000 shares					
authorized; 81,096,632 shares at September 30, 2022, and					
83,034,404 shares at December 31, 2021, issued and outstanding		811		830	
Additional paid-in capital		46,366		85,718	
Retained earnings		635,260		565,129	
Total stockholders' equity		682,437		651,677	
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$	938,702	\$	870,690	

MARTEN TRANSPORT, LTD. CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (Unaudited)

		Three I Ended Sep			Nine Months Ended September 30,					
(In thousands, except per share information)		2022	2021			2022		2021		
Operating revenue	\$	324,448	\$	251,280	\$	941,294	\$	706,768		
Operating expenses (income):										
Salaries, wages and benefits		99,773		81,091		285,582		229,385		
Purchased transportation		64,403		52,861		189,193		138,629		
Fuel and fuel taxes		57,299		33,909		163,004		94,853		
Supplies and maintenance		14,855		11,685		40,520		33,867		
Depreciation		28,381		25,371		81,389		76,598		
Operating taxes and licenses		2,748		2,606		8,051		8,036		
Insurance and claims		11,949		10,501		38,096		31,338		
Communications and utilities		2,135		2,181		6,639		6,320		
Gain on disposition of revenue equipment		(1,070)		(4,536)		(10,422)		(11,859)		
Other		10,209		7,115		28,681		18,589		
Total operating expenses		290,682		222,784		830,733		625,756		
Operating income		33,766		28,496		110,561		81,012		
Other		(264)		(8)	_	(307)		(27)		
Income before income taxes		34,030		28,504		110,868		81,039		
Income taxes expense		8,384		7,230	_	26,028		20,341		
Net income	\$	25,646	\$	21,274	\$	84,840	\$	60,698		
Basic earnings per common share	\$	0.32	\$	0.26	\$	1.04	\$	0.73		
Diluted earnings per common share	\$	0.32	\$	0.26	\$	1.03	\$	0.73		
Dividends paid per common share	<u>\$</u>	0.06	\$		\$	0.18	\$	0.08		
Dividends declared per common share	\$	0.06	\$	0.54	\$	0.18	\$	0.62		

MARTEN TRANSPORT, LTD. SEGMENT INFORMATION (Unaudited)

						Dollar Change aree Months Ended ptember 30,	Percentage Change Three Months Ended September 30,
(Dollars in thousands)		2022		2021	20	22 vs. 2021	2022 vs. 2021
Operating revenue:							
Truckload revenue, net of fuel surcharge revenue	\$	105,905	\$	86,889	\$	19,016	21.9%
Truckload fuel surcharge revenue		23,471		12,728		10,743	84.4
Total Truckload revenue		129,376		99,617		29,759	29.9
Dedicated revenue, net of fuel surcharge revenue		86,178		68,826		17,352	25.2
Dedicated fuel surcharge revenue		24,039		13,336		10,703	80.3
Total Dedicated revenue		110,217		82,162		28,055	34.1
Intermodal revenue, net of fuel surcharge revenue		24,303		22,716		1,587	7.0
Intermodal fuel surcharge revenue		7,600		4,031		3,569	88.5
Total Intermodal revenue		31,903		26,747		5,156	19.3
Brokerage revenue		52,952		42,754		10,198	23.9
Total operating revenue	\$	324,448	\$	251,280	\$	73,168	29.1%
Operating income:							
Truckload	\$	14,319	\$	11,670	\$	2,649	22.7%
Dedicated		13,005	·	8,521		4,484	52.6
Intermodal		778		2,840		(2,062)	(72.6)
Brokerage		5,664		5,465		199	3.6
Total operating income	\$	33,766	\$	28,496	\$	5,270	18.5%
Operating ratio:							
Truckload		88.9%		88.3%			
Dedicated		88.2		89.6			
Intermodal		97.6		89.4			
Brokerage		89.3		87.2			
Consolidated operating ratio		89.6%		88.7%			
Consolidated operating ratio	_	07.070		00.7			
Operating ratio, net of fuel surcharges:							
Truckload		86.5%		86.6%			
Dedicated		84.9		87.6			
Intermodal		96.8		87.5			
Brokerage		89.3		87.2			
Consolidated operating ratio, net of fuel surcharges		87.5%		87.1%			
		0070		07.170			

MARTEN TRANSPORT, LTD. SEGMENT INFORMATION (Unaudited)

	Nine M End Septem	ded	30,	Se	Dollar Change ine Months Ended ptember 30,	Percentage Change Nine Months Ended September 30,		
(Dollars in thousands)	 2022		2021	20	22 vs. 2021	2022 vs. 2021		
Operating revenue:								
Truckload revenue, net of fuel surcharge revenue	\$ 302,883	\$	254,441	\$	48,442	19.0%		
Truckload fuel surcharge revenue	 66,255		36,032		30,223	83.9		
Total Truckload revenue	 369,138		290,473		78,665	27.1		
Dedicated revenue, net of fuel surcharge revenue	248,988		202,955		46,033	22.7		
Dedicated fuel surcharge revenue	68,344		37,565		30,779	81.9		
Total Dedicated revenue	317,332		240,520		76,812	31.9		
Intermodal revenue, net of fuel surcharge revenue	77,589		64,193		13,396	20.9		
Intermodal fuel surcharge revenue	22,923		10,150		12,773	125.8		
Total Intermodal revenue	100,512		74,343		26,169	35.2		
Brokerage revenue	 154,312		101,432		52,880	52.1		
Total operating revenue	\$ 941,294	\$	706,768	\$	234,526	33.2%		
Operating income:								
Truckload	\$ 45,978	\$	36,282	\$	9,696	26.7%		
Dedicated	37,689		28,074		9,615	34.2		
Intermodal	9,911		6,151		3,760	61.1		
Brokerage	16,983		10,505		6,478	61.7		
Total operating income	\$ 110,561	\$	81,012	\$	29,549	36.5%		
Operating ratio:								
Truckload	87.5%		87.5%					
Dedicated	88.1		88.3					
Intermodal	90.1		91.7					
Brokerage	89.0		89.6					
Consolidated operating ratio	 88.3%		88.5%					
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Operating ratio, net of fuel surcharges:								
Truckload	84.8%		85.7%					
Dedicated	84.9		86.2					
Intermodal	87.2		90.4					
Brokerage	 89.0		89.6					
Consolidated operating ratio, net of fuel surcharges	85.9%		87.0%					

MARTEN TRANSPORT, LTD. OPERATING STATISTICS (Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended September 30,					Nine Months Ended September 30,				
		2022	emi	2021	_	2022	tem	2021		
Truckload Segment:		2022		2021		2022		2021		
Revenue (in thousands)	\$	129,376	\$	99,617	\$	369,138	\$	290,473		
Average revenue, net of fuel surcharges, per tractor per	Ψ	12,0,0	Ψ	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Ψ	00,,100	Ψ	270,.70		
$week^{(1)}$	\$	4,889	\$	4,411	\$	4,980	\$	4,202		
Average tractors ⁽¹⁾		1,648		1,499		1,560		1,553		
Average miles per trip		508		502		512		516		
Non-revenue miles percentage ⁽²⁾		11.3%		10.1%		10.8%)	10.0%		
Total miles (in thousands)		38,441		35,945		110,565		111,513		
Dedicated Segment:										
Revenue (in thousands)	\$	110,217	\$	82,162	\$	317,332	\$	240,520		
Average revenue, net of fuel surcharges, per tractor per										
week ⁽¹⁾	\$		\$	3,438	\$	3,977	\$	3,305		
Average tractors ⁽¹⁾		1,637		1,523		1,605		1,574		
Average miles per trip		337		328		340		319		
Non-revenue miles percentage ⁽²⁾		1.2%		1.1%		1.1%)	1.0%		
Total miles (in thousands)		34,513		31,511		101,400		95,765		
Intermodal Segment:										
Revenue (in thousands)	\$	31,903	\$	26,747	\$	100,512	\$	74,343		
Loads		7,610		8,257		24,607		24,885		
Average tractors		182		139		173		140		
Brokerage Segment:										
Revenue (in thousands)	\$	52,952	\$	42,754	\$	154,312	\$	101,432		
Loads		24,896		18,251		69,902		47,167		
At September 30, 2022 and September 30, 2021:										
Total tractors ⁽¹⁾		3,575		3,204						
Average age of company tractors (in years)		1.7		1.4						
Total trailers		5,679		5,291						
Average age of company trailers (in years)		3.8		3.2						
Ratio of trailers to tractors ⁽¹⁾		1.6		1.7						
Total refrigerated containers		803		607						
		Three N			Nine Months					
(7. d. 1)	_	Ended Sept	em			Ended Sep	oten			
(In thousands)	-	2022		2021	_	2022		2021		
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$	64,551	\$	44,544	\$	163,221	\$	127,909		
Net cash (used for) investing activities		(57,412)		(40,704)		(92,416))	(102,142)		
Net cash (used for) financing activities		(4,021)		(612)		(56,308))	(7,994)		
Weighted average shares outstanding:										
Basic		81,061		82,907		81,889		82,835		
Diluted		81,347		83,372		82,155		83,380		

⁽¹⁾ Includes tractors driven by both company-employed drivers and independent contractors. Independent contractors provided 90 and 101 tractors as of September 30, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

⁽²⁾ Represents the percentage of miles for which the company is not compensated.