



# GRUPO LALA REPORTS THIRD QUARTER 2018 RESULTS

Mexico City, October 22, 2018 – Grupo LALA, S.A.B. de C.V., a Mexican Company focused on healthy and nutritious foods, ("LALA") (BMV: LALA), today reported results for the third quarter 2018. The following information has been presented based on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and in nominal terms.

### **Quarter Highlights**

- Vet sales increased by 24.9%, to 18,758 million pesos, while in comparable figures sales increased 4.3%
- > YoY reported and comparable EBITDA decreased 6.6% and 17.2%, respectively, due to inflation and one-offs
- Mexico sales increased by 4.7%, still tight on margins as pricing partially compensated pack and energy costs
- Brazil net sales increased by 10.3% in Reals, a reflection of strong growth potential
- Rightsizing US and CAM operations for profitable growth

The following chart provides an abridged Income Statement, in millions of pesos. The margin for each figure represents its ratio to net sales from the quarter ended September 30, 2018, as compared with the same period in 2017:

As reported				As reported	Comparable <sup>(1)</sup>			
P&L	Q3'17	% Sales	Q3'18	% Sales	Var. %	Q3'18	% Sales	Var. %
Net Sales	15,022	100.0%	18,758	100.0%	24.9%	15,663	100.0%	4.3%
Gross Profit	5,754	38.3%	6,425	34.3%	11.7%	5,582	35.6%	(3.0)%
Operating Income	1,427	9.5%	1,157	6.2%	(18.9)%	1,015	6.5%	(28.8)%
EBITDA <sup>(2)</sup>	1,864	12,4%	1,741	9.3%	(6.6)%	1,543	9.9%	(17.2)%
Net Income	1,007	6.7%	216	1.2%	(78.5)%	53	0.3%	(94.7)%

(1) Comparable is defined as the year-over-year comparison excluding the effects of LALA's Q4 2017 acquisition of Vigor Alimentos in Brazil

(2) EBITDA is defined as operating income before depreciation and amortization

# MESSAGE FROM MANAGEMENT

### Mauricio Leyva, Grupo LALA's CEO, commented:

"During my first 45 days in Grupo LALA I have been able to recognize its potential across its regions, its core strengths and the different business opportunities that can enhance our performance. In the immediate future my focus will be in nurturing talent all across the company and driving LALA through a virtuous cycle of investing in growth and optimizing costs to expand margins. I see in Mexico strong business fundamentals with many execution opportunities. I'm convinced we have a great asset in Brazil with a team capable of winning in the biggest market of Latam. In US and Central America we are acting fast to put both regions in the path of profitability.

I am very excited of the promising future I foresee, for with the right motivation and talent we will be able to achieve our long-term business goals."



## CONSOLIDATED RESULTS FOR THE THIRD QUARTER 2018

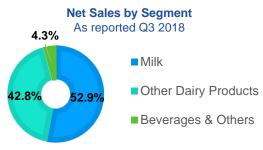
**Net Sales:** Reported net sales in the third quarter 2018 increased by 24.9% year on year, reaching 18,758 million pesos, from a combination of organic growth and the consolidation of the operations in Brazil. Further, net sales in comparable figures increased by 4.3%, to reach 15,663 million pesos. This growth is a reflection of volume expansion and an improved mix in all regions.

**Volume by Segment:** Beginning in the third quarter 2018, Grupo LALA will disclose volumes by segment. Third quarter volume increased by 13.5%, driven by Brazil and Other Dairy growth. Volume is measured in "KL", an amount that is calculated by adding Kilos and Liters.

Volume by Segment	A	As Reported	ł
KL in millions	Q3'17	Q3'18	Var. %
Milk	678	706	4.2%
Other dairy	143	226	58.5%
Beverages and others	27	30	10.3%
Total Volume	848	963	13.5%

**Net Sales by Segment:** Milk sales increased by 6.0%, reflecting milk category improvement in Mexico under the LALA and NutriLeche brands, as well as the additional UHT Milk sales coming from Brazil. Other Dairy Products grew 62.3% driven by the acquisition of Vigor Alimentos in Brazil, whose portfolio has a high mix of Value-Added Dairy Products, and by the organic growth of Yogurt, Cheese and Cream. Beverages & Others increased 13.5% primarily by the Cold Cuts category of Mexico.

Net Sales by Segment	A	s Reported	Reported				
MXN\$ in millions	Q3′17	Q3′18	Var. %				
Milk	9,368	9,928	6.0%				
Other Dairy Products	4,948	8,029	62.3%				
Beverages & Others	706	801	13.5%				
Total Sales	15,022	18,758	24.9%				



### Net Sales by Region:

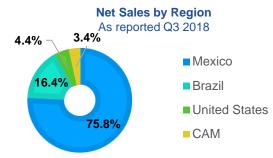
Sales in **Mexico** increased 4.7% to reach 14,252 million pesos, driven by volume and mix, as part of the Company's premiumization strategy. LALA will continue expanding market share in the region through its leading Milk and Cream categories and its strong second position in Yogurt and Cheese. LALA implemented its price increase strategy in September and will continue in October to partially offset inflation. However, the effect of the said price increase in margins is going to be reflected until the next quarter.

**Brazil** operations reported net sales of 3,095 million pesos; a 10.3% increase in Reals. This increase was due to strong performance in Yoghurt and Cheese, particularly in Cream Cheese and *Requejão*, where market share continues to expand 320 bps and 180 bps, respectively. Innovation remains strong, contributing with more than 25% of sales growth. LALA began gradual price increases between August and October in order to offset inflation.

**U.S.** operations reported net sales of 826 million pesos, a 10.3% increase, resulting from double-digit growth in the Drinkable Yoghurt category, which gained 80 bps of market share in the third quarter 2018.

**Central America** sales decreased by 7.9%, mainly impacted by Nicaragua's political situation. Guatemala operation achieved record sales driven by Ice Cream, Yogurt, Cream and Milk Formula. The new plants of Guatemala and Costa Rica will start producing in Q4'18 and Q2'19, respectively, this will allow these operations to no longer solely rely on Nicaragua for supplying certain products.

Net Sales by region	As Reported					
MXN\$ in million	Q3′17	Q3′18	Var. %			
Mexico	13,611	14,252	4.7%			
Brazil	N.A.	3,095	N.A.			
United States	749	826	10.3%			
Central America	699	644	(7.9%)			



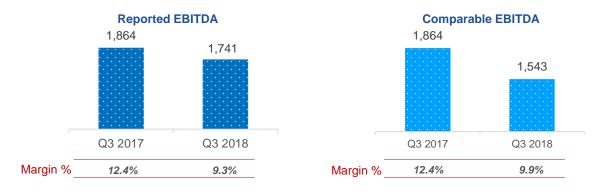
**Costs and Gross Profit:** Third quarter of 2018 Costs of Goods increased by 33.1%, resulting in a Gross Profit of 6,425 million pesos with 34.3% Gross Margin. This was due to the integration of Brazil operations at lower margins, as well as to margin contraction due to a 25% increase in unseasonal raw milk prices in Brazil as a consequence of the truckers strike of the previous quarter. On a comparable basis, Cost of Goods increased 8.8% leading to a YoY decrease in Gross Profit of 266 bps, as a result of higher inflation of raw materials, specifically packaging, and energy costs (electricity +37% and diesel +20%) in Mexico.

**Expenses and Operating Income:** Reported Operating Expenses grew 21.8%, ending at 5,312 million pesos. On a comparable basis Operating Expenses grew 5.7%, including a double-digit energy costs increase in Mexico. Reported Operating Income was 1,157 million pesos, a 18.9% decrease, while comparable Operating Income decreased by 28.8% year over year, representing a 300 bps margin contraction.

Additionally, LALA reported a one-off expense of 119 million pesos in the third quarter 2018 related to the reorganization of the Company's US and CAM businesses; expected to result in 8 million dollars in cost savings in 2019.

**EBITDA:** Third quarter reported EBITDA reached 1,741 million pesos; a 6.6% decrease with 310 basis points year on year margin contraction. Comparable EBITDA results declined 17.2% year on year, to 1,543 million pesos; a 250 bps margin decline. This was primarily due to:

- 1) Electricity, fuel and raw material price inflation;
- 2) Lower margins in the Brazil business, also affected by unseasonal raw milk costs;
- 3) Nicaragua political situation;
- 4) US and CAM one-off restructuring expenses.





### **EBITDA by Region:**

**Mexico** EBITDA reached 1,730 million pesos, a 10.0% year on year decrease. The reduction is explained by the strategy taken during the year of softly managing prices and by the considerable impact on costs of increased raw materials prices, particularly packaging and energy (electricity and diesel). Mid-September, The Company started driving price increase forward. The expectation is to partially mitigate the inflationary effects by year end.

In **Brazil**, LALA closed the quarter with an EBITDA of 197 million pesos, with a margin of 6.4%; a 105 bps margin increase. LALA is implementing a price increase to compensate the additional pressure of unseasonal milk prices. It's important to note the devaluation of 16.8% of the Real which impacts results when consolidated into Mexican pesos.

The **U.S.** business continues with negative EBITDA, losing 158 million pesos in the quarter, affected by a one-off charge to reorganize and resize the business. Excluding this impact, the US operation would be presenting a negative EBITDA of 54 million pesos and an EBITDA margin of -6.5%. The reconfiguration of this business is an immediate efficiency strategy expected to make the US operations profitable in 4Q'18.

**Central America** EBITDA decreased 261.3% compared to the 3Q'17, affected by the one-off charge associated with reorganizing the business as well as to the impact of the political situation in Nicaragua. Excluding this one-off, the EBITDA of CAM would have been a 14 million peso loss. The actions that are being taken in place are expected to return CAM to profitable growth in 4Q'18.

EBITDA	As Reported			As Reported				
MXN\$ in million	Q3′17	% Sales		Q3′18	% Sales	Var. %		
Mexico	1,922	14.2%		1,730	12.2%	(10.0)%		
Brazil	N.A.	N.A.		197	6.4%	N.A.		
United States	(76)	(10.1)%		(158)	(19.1)%	N.A.		
Central America	18	2.6%		(29)	(4.6%)	(261.3%)		

**Net Financial Expenses:** During the period, the Company recorded financing expenses of 673 million pesos, comprised of debt-related interest due to the acquisition of Vigor Alimentos, S.A.

**Taxes:** Taxes for the third quarter were 266 million pesos. The company paid a \$139 million peso penalty of Income Tax for the fiscal years 2011 and 2012. This was a result of a special audit by the Mexican Tax Authority ("SAT") resulting in a penalty due to a discrepancy in the criteria used by LALA for calculating transfer prices of royalty payments. As a result, a one-time effective tax rate of 55.1% is reflected in third quarter 2018 results. This will not affect subsequent years. In a normalized situation the effective tax rate would have been around 35%.

It is also important to note, that interest payments in Mexico negatively impacted the tax rate, due to the fact that when a Mexican company incurs in bank loans or short / long-term liabilities, said company must pay an income tax derived from the inflation of the country during the fiscal year.

**Net Income:** Reported net income decreased 78.5%, to 216 million pesos. This is mainly attributable to a decrease in operating income, increased tax and financial expenses. When expressed in comparable figures, net income decreased by 94.7%, to 53 million pesos, primarily because of the one-offs in the quarter.



## CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL POSITION

**Capital Investment:** Year to date, the Company invested 1,973 million pesos in expansion and maintenance CapEx. As was announced in Q2'18, 2018 full year CapEx is expected not to exceed 3,000 million pesos.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents:** As of September 30, 2018, Grupo LALA had a cash position of 2,135 million pesos, including the cash balance of Vigor denominated in Brazilian Reals.

**Total Debt:** LALA ended the quarter with total debt of 27,448 million pesos; comprised of 1,458 million pesos in short-term debt and 25,990 million pesos in long-term debt. The Company's Net Debt was 25,313 million pesos with a Net Debt to EBITDA ratio of 3.1x.

The following table shows the composition of the Company's debt by currency, interest rate and year of maturity as of September 30, 2018.

	% weighted avg.	avg.				
Currency	% Total Debt	Cost of debt	Average maturity			
Mexican Pesos	90.1%	TIIE + 0.7%	4.8 years			
Brazilian Reals	9.9%	CDI + 0.5%	1.4 years			

Key Financial Data: As of September 30, 2018, the Company's key financial ratios were as follow:

Financial Metrics	Q3 2017	Q3 2018
Net Debt / EBITDA	(0.4)x	3.1x
EBITDA / Interest Paid	284.1x	3.2x
Earnings per Share (12 months)	\$ 1.61	\$ 0.61
Book Value	\$ 11.50	\$ 11.02
Outstanding shares (in million)	2,475.9	2,475.9
ROIC %	14.4%	6.5%



#### Q3 2018 Relevant Events

- On August 13, Grupo LALA announces dividend payment
- > On August 01, the Company appoints Mauricio Leyva as its new CEO
- On July 23, 2018, Grupo LALA reported Q2 2018 results

#### Sell-side analyst coverage

In accordance with the provisions of article 4.033.01 subsection VIII of the BMV's rules of procedure on maintenance requirements, we report that the Broker/Credit Institutions which provide coverage analysis of our securities are: Actinver, Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Banorte-IXE, Barclays, BBVA Bancomer, BTG Pactual, Citigroup, Credit Suisse, GBM Grupo Bursatil Mexicano, Goldman Sachs, Intercam, INVEX Banco, JP Morgan, Santander, Scotiabank, UBS and Vector.

#### Share buyback program

As of September 30, 2018, the Company's share buyback program had a balance of 32,154,139 shares, at a weighted average price of \$26.11 pesos per share for a total balance of \$885,279,006 pesos.

#### **Contact – Investor Relations**

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### About LALA

Grupo LALA is a Mexican company focused on healthy and nutritious foods, has a history of more than 65 years of experience in the production, innovation and marketing of milk, dairy products and beverages under the highest quality standards. The Company operates 31 production plants and 172 distribution centers in Mexico, Brazil, United States and Central America, supported by more than 38,000 employees. Grupo LALA's fleet of approximately 7,000 vehicles distributes its more than 600 products to more than 578,000 points of sale. LALA's portfolio is led by its three main brands: LALA®, Nutri Leche® and Vigor®. For more information, visit: www.lala.com.mx

Grupo LALA trades on the Mexican Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol "LALA"

This press release contains certain forward-looking statements about the Company's results and outlook. However, actual results may vary materially from these estimates. The information on future events contained in this press release should be read together with a summary of these risks, which are included in the Annual Report. That information, as well as future reports issued by the Company or any of its representatives, whether verbally or in writing, may vary materially from actual results. These projections and estimates, which were prepared with reference to a specific date, should not be considered as fact. The Company has no obligation whatsoever to update or revise any of these projections and estimates, whether as a result of new information, future events, or other associated events.

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Tuesday Octob 11:00am EST /		Mauricio Leyva, Chi Alberto Arellano, Ch David González, Inve	nief Financial Officer	We	Webcast:		
To participate,	please dial-in ten minu scheduled time.	tes ahead of the	To Access the	e replay service (2 day	rs), please dial:		
<b>Mexico:</b> 01 800 522 0034	United States: +1 877 705 6003 (Toll-free)	International: +1 201 493 6725	United States: +1 844 512 2921 (Toll-free)	International: +1 412 317 6671	PIN #: 13683400		



# GRUPO LALA, S.A.B. DE C.V. Consolidated Income Statements ended September 30, 2017 and 2018 (In thousands of nominal pesos)

	For the three months ended September 30,				For the six months ended September 30,				
	2017		2018			2017		2018	
Net sales	\$ 15,021,975	100.0%	\$ 18,757,695	100.0%	\$	44,788,944	100.0% \$	55,902,821	100.0%
Cost of goods sold	9,267,811	61.7%	12,332,371	65.7%		27,885,028	62.3%	36,249,338	64.8%
Gross profit	5,754,164	38.3%	6,425,324	34.3%		16,903,916	37.7%	19,653,483	35.2%
Other income (expenses), net	(34,462)	(0.2)%	(42,887)	(0.2)%		(74,059)	(0.2)%	(149,868)	(0.3)%
Operating expenses	4,361,961	29.0%	5,311,585	28.3%		12,662,770	28.3%	15,901,480	28.4%
Operating Income	1,426,665	9.5%	1,156,626	6.2%		4,315,205	9.6%	3,901,871	7.0%
Net of financial (income) expenses									
Net of financial income	(21,377)	(0.1)%	582,570	3.1%		(60,941)	(0.1)%	1,790,990	3.2%
Exchange rate (profit) loss	32,827	0.2%	90,928	0.5%		242,066	0.5%	105,599	0.2%
Financial instruments	(35,179)	(0.2)%	0	0.0%	_	1,112	0.0%	10,108	0.0%
Financial income, net	(23,729)	(0.2)%	673,498	3.6%		182,237	0.4%	1,906,697	3.4%
Share in the results of associated companies	1,489	0.0%	(1,073)	(0.0)%	_	2,355	0.0%	227	0.0%
Income before taxes	1,451,883	9.7%	482,055	2.6%		4,135,323	<b>9.2</b> %	1,995,401	3.6%
Income tax expense	444,697	3.0%	265,580	1.4%	_	1,276,119	2.8%	876,944	1.6%
Net consolidated income	1,007,186	<b>6.7</b> %	216,475	<b>1.2</b> %		2,859,204	<b>6.4</b> %	1,118,457	2.0%
Non-controlling interest	22,030	0.1%	11,736	0.1%	1	66,473	0.1%	64,925	0.1%
Depreciation and amortization	437,585	2.9%	584,148	3.1%		1,369,868	3.1%	1,741,934	3.1%
EBITDA	\$	12.4%	\$ 1,740,774	9.3%	\$	5,685,073	12.7% \$	5,643,805	10.1%
Effective income tax rate	30.6%		55.1%			30.9%		43.9%	

# GRUPO LALA, S.A.B. DE C.V. **Consolidated Statement of Financial Position** at September 30, 2017 and 2018 (In thousands of nominal pesos)

		As of September 30, 2017		As of September 30, 2018
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	2,788,912	\$	2,135,056
Investments in financial instruments		188,997		322,687
Accounts receivable		4,306,450		6,431,861
Taxes and other accounts receivable		3,039,681		3,664,172
Related parties		69,766		37,208
Inventories		4,111,166		4,749,539
Prepaid expenses		334,344	_	470,285
Current assests		14,839,316		17,810,808
Investments in associates		121,235		131,701
Property, plant and equipment, net		18,380,722		22,045,586
Intangible and other assets		5,642,503		24,058,004
Long term recoverable taxes		-		1,601,180
Deferred income tax		302,862	_	1,247,088
Non-current assets		24,447,322		49,083,559
Total assets	\$	39,286,638	\$_	66,894,367
LIABILITIES				
Short-term debt	\$	22,062	\$	1,457,515
Suppliers		4,923,592		6,956,413
Financial instruments liability		0		29,339
Related parties		1,641,837		1,700,765
Taxes and other accounts payable		2,509,104	_	3,346,635
Current liabilities		9,096,595		13,490,667
Long-term liabilities				
Long-term debt		63,818		25,990,352
Deferred income tax and other taxes payable		563,985		1,124,067
Taxes payable in the long term		-		634,001
Other accounts payable		698,801		2,043,661
Long-term liabilities		1,326,604		29,792,081
Total liabilities		10,423,199		43,282,748
SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY				
Capital Stock		1,490,059		1,488,356
Net premium in share placement		13,106,506		12,836,921
Retained earnings		11,131,827		7,899,024
Income of the year		2,792,731	-	1,053,532
Equity attributable to equity holders of the parent	_	28,521,123		23,277,833
Non-controlling interest	_	342,316		333,786
Total shareholders equity		28,863,439	_	23,611,619
Total liabilities and shareholders equity	\$	39,286,638	\$	66,894,367



# GRUPO LALA, S.A.B. DE C.V. Consolidated Cash Flow Statement for the 9 months ended September 30, 2017 and 2018 (In thousands of nominal pesos)

As of September 30, 2017 As of September 30, 2018

Operating activities:			
Income before taxes	\$	4,135,323	\$ 1,995,401
Depreciation, amortization, and trademarks impairment		1,369,868	1,741,934
Changes in net financial expenses (income)		(25,217)	1,713,687
Results from the sale of property, plant and equipment		16,073	(1,799)
Result on disposal of Associates		0	(3,782)
Other items		75,660	(227)
Total		5,571,707	 5,445,215
Changes in operation assets and liabilities			
Accounts receivable		(290,148)	16,401
Inventories		(290,540)	305,005
Related parties		842,209	951,900
Suppliers		(166,248)	(134,730)
Taxes, other accounts receivable and prepaid expenses		(2,196,937)	(2,736,857)
Other assets and liabilities		331,550	306,334
Net cash flow provided by operating activities	_	3,801,593	 4,153,269
Investing activities			
Acquisition of property, plant, equipment, and intangibles		(2,732,667)	(1,972,662)
Acquisition of intangibles and other assets		(80,697)	(110,651)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant, and equipment		126,172	86,652
Investments in Financial instruments		988,292	(7,068)
Interest collected		93,170	181,700
Cash received on the sale of investments		0	 (60,964)
Net cash flow used in investing activities		(1,605,730)	 (1,882,994)
Financing activities			
Net of financing and payment of financing		(2,279,033)	(4,894,053)
Repurchase of shares		(303,272)	(253,632)
Dividends paid to equity holders of the parent		(1,086,246)	(1,143,792)
Dividends paid to non-controlling interest		(49,000)	(105,841)
Net cash flows provided (used) in financing activities	\$	(3,717,551)	\$ (6,397,314)
Net increase of cash and equivalents		(1,521,688)	 (4,127,039)
Adjustments to cash due to exchange rate fluctuations		44,499	 (471,287)
Cash and equivalents at beginning of the year		4,266,101	6,733,382
Cash and equivalents at the end of the period	\$	2,788,912	\$ 2,135,056