MARTEN TRANSPORT ANNOUNCES FIRST QUARTER RESULTS

MONDOVI, Wis., April 18, 2023 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Marten Transport, Ltd. (Nasdaq/GS:MRTN) today reported net income of \$22.5 million, or 28 cents per diluted share, for the first quarter ended March 31, 2023, compared with \$27.5 million, or 33 cents per diluted share, for the first quarter of 2022.

Operating revenue improved 3.7% to \$298.0 million for the first quarter of 2023 from \$287.3 million for the first quarter of 2022. Excluding fuel surcharges, operating revenue improved 3.9% to \$254.9 million for the 2023 quarter from \$245.3 million for the 2022 quarter. Fuel surcharge revenue increased to \$43.1 million for the 2023 quarter from \$42.0 million for the 2022 quarter.

Operating income was \$29.0 million for the first quarter of 2023 compared with \$35.9 million for the first quarter of 2022 – at the time the highest amount for any quarter in Marten's history.

Operating expenses as a percentage of operating revenue were 90.3% for the 2023 quarter and 87.5% for the 2022 quarter. Operating expenses as a percentage of operating revenue, with both amounts net of fuel surcharges, were 88.6% for the 2023 quarter and 85.4% for the 2022 quarter – at the time the best ratio for any quarter since Marten became a public company in 1986.

Executive Chairman Randolph L. Marten stated, "Our bright and determined people executing our unique business model produced solid operating results despite the impact of widespread severe winter weather and a freight market which has considerably softened from the exceptionally tight conditions during the first half of last year. The market has become unsustainable for the smaller carriers who comprise a significant portion of total capacity, and who are expected to continue the recent increased industry exit rate."

"We believe that we are well-positioned to capitalize on profitable organic growth opportunities across our five distinct but complementary business platforms with our emphasis on premium service, data-driven operating efficiencies and cost controls – and, as a result, to expand the total capacity we provide transporting and distributing the essential food, beverages and other consumer goods to support at a fair price our diverse and growing customer base."

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 Marten'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, 2022. 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, Doug Petit, President, 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)		March 31, 2023		cember 31, 2022
		Unaudited)		
ASSETS				
Current assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	96,288	\$	80,600
Receivables:				
Trade, net		115,430		120,702
Other		7,988		7,218
Prepaid expenses and other		24,206		27,320
Total current assets		243,912		235,840
Property and equipment:				
Revenue equipment, buildings and land, office equipment and other		1,082,361		1,074,832
Accumulated depreciation		(348,641)		(346,665
Net property and equipment		733,720		728,167
Other noncurrent assets		1,641		1,672
Total assets	\$	979,273	\$	965,679
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY				
Current liabilities:				
Accounts payable	\$	41,558	\$	37,299
Insurance and claims accruals	+	48,967	+	45,747
Accrued and other current liabilities		29,077		41,264
Total current liabilities		119,602		124,310
Deferred income taxes		137,825		137,041
Noncurrent operating lease liabilities		335		409
Total liabilities		257,762		261,760
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; 81,233,741 shares at March 31, 2023, and 81,115,132				
shares at December 31, 2022, issued and outstanding		812		811
Additional paid-in capital		47,151		47,188
Retained earnings		673,548		655,920
Total stockholders' equity		721,511		703,919
	_	, 1		965,679

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

	Three Months Ended March 31,			
(In thousands, except per share information)	2023		2022	
Operating revenue	\$ 298,023	\$	287,281	
Operating expenses (income): Salaries, wages and benefits Purchased transportation Fuel and fuel taxes Supplies and maintenance Depreciation Operating taxes and licenses Insurance and claims Communications and utilities Gain on disposition of revenue equipment Other	 98,516 54,103 46,796 15,987 29,530 2,768 15,070 2,531 (5,246) 8,958		89,349 57,310 44,368 12,313 26,143 2,640 12,704 2,265 (4,540) 8,871	
Total operating expenses	 269,013		251,423	
Operating income	29,010		35,858	
Other	 (844)		(7)	
Income before income taxes	29,854		35,865	
Income taxes expense	 7,352		8,332	
Net income	\$ 22,502	\$	27,533	
Basic earnings per common share	\$ 0.28	\$	0.33	
Diluted earnings per common share	\$ 0.28	\$	0.33	
Dividends declared per common share	\$ 0.06	\$	0.06	

MARTEN TRANSPORT, LTD. SEGMENT INFORMATION (Unaudited)

(Dollars in thousands)		Three I End Marc 2023	ded		Dollar Change Three Months Ended March 31, 2023 vs. 2022		Percentage Change Three Months Ended March 31, 2023 vs. 2022
Operating revenue:		2023		2022	20	25 13. 2022	2023 V3. 2022
Truckload revenue, net of fuel surcharge revenue	\$	102,320	\$	95,170	\$	7,150	7.5%
Truckload fuel surcharge revenue	Ψ	18,306	Ψ	17,620	Ψ	686	3.9
Total Truckload revenue		120,626		112,790		7,836	6.9
		120,020		112,790		7,850	0.9
Dedicated revenue, net of fuel surcharge revenue		86,831		78,421		8,410	10.7
Dedicated fuel surcharge revenue		19,618		18,339		1,279	7.0
Total Dedicated revenue		106,449		96,760		9,689	10.0
Intermodal revenue, net of fuel surcharge revenue		23,401		25,605		(2,204)	(8.6)
Intermodal fuel surcharge revenue		5,188		6,037		(849)	(14.1)
Total Intermodal revenue		28,589		31,642		(3,053)	(9.6)
		-0,007		01,012		(0,000)	()10)
Brokerage revenue		42,359		46,089		(3,730)	(8.1)
Total operating revenue	\$	298,023	\$	287,281	\$	10,742	3.7%
Operating income:							
Truckload	\$	10,041	\$	15,571	\$	(5,530)	(35.5)%
Dedicated		13,684		10,645		3,039	28.5
Intermodal		787		5,036		(4,249)	(84.4)
Brokerage		4,498		4,606		(108)	(2.3)
Total operating income	\$	29,010	\$	35,858	\$	(6,848)	(19.1)%
Operating ratio:							
Truckload		91.7%		86.2%			
Dedicated		87.1)	89.0			
Intermodal		97.2		84.1			
Brokerage		89.4		90.0			
Consolidated operating ratio		90.3%)	87.5%			
conconcentre operating ratio		201070					
Operating ratio, net of fuel surcharges:							
Truckload		90.2%)	83.6%			
Dedicated		84.2		86.4			
Intermodal		96.6		80.3			
Brokerage		89.4		90.0			
Consolidated operating ratio, net of fuel							
surcharges		88.6%)	85.4%			

MARTEN TRANSPORT, LTD. OPERATING STATISTICS (Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,			
		2023		2022
Truckload Segment: Revenue (in thousands)	\$	120,626	\$	112,790
Average revenue, net of fuel surcharges, per tractor per week ⁽¹⁾	\$	4,571	\$	4,977
Average tractors ⁽¹⁾		1,741		1,487
Average miles per trip Non-revenue miles percentage ⁽²⁾		510 12.7%		520 10.4%
Total miles (in thousands)		38,237		35,372
Dedicated Segment:	¢	106 440	¢	0.6 7.60
Revenue (in thousands)	\$ \$	106,449	\$ ¢	96,760
Average revenue, net of fuel surcharges, per tractor per week ⁽¹⁾ Average tractors ⁽¹⁾	\$	3,960 1,705	\$	3,851 1,584
Average miles per trip		333		341
Non-revenue miles percentage ⁽²⁾		1.1%		1.2%
Total miles (in thousands)		34,076		32,753
Intermodal Segment:	¢	20 500	¢	21 (12
Revenue (in thousands) Loads	\$	28,589	\$	31,642
Average tractors		7,277 180		8,294 162
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Brokerage Segment:	¢	10.050	¢	16.000
Revenue (in thousands) Loads	\$	42,359 20,688	\$	46,089 19,684
Loaus		20,000		19,004
At March 31, 2023 and March 31, 2022:				
Total tractors ⁽¹⁾		3,571		3,274
Average age of company tractors (in years)		1.7		1.6
Total trailers		5,741		5,428
Average age of company trailers (in years) Ratio of trailers to tractors ⁽¹⁾		4.1 1.6		3.5 1.7
Total refrigerated containers		802		729
		Three Months Ended March 31,		
(In thousands)		2023		2022
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$	49,232	\$	39,940
Net cash (used for)/provided by investing activities		(28,280)		409
Net cash (used for) financing activities		(5,264)		(30,817)
Weighted average shares outstanding:				
Basic		81,210		82,938
Diluted		81,376		83,246

(1) Includes tractors driven by both company-employed drivers and independent contractors. Independent contractors provided 95 and 87 tractors as of March 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

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