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Rifco Inc. reverses loss

By Advocate staff

A Red Deer-based company that helps Canadians finance vehicle repairs and purchases has tuned up its financial statements.

Rifco Inc. (TSX.V-RFC) generated net income of \$679,948 for its fiscal year ended March 31. That's up sharply from a \$244,585 loss the previous year, and resulted in earnings per share of four cents.

Operating through its subsidiary, Repair Industry Finance Corporation, Rifco lends money for automotive and commercial repair financing and auto purchase financing.

It is affiliated with 911 vehicle dealers and repair facilities in Canada, with Saskatchewan and Quebec the only provinces where the company is not currently active.

RIFCO's financial success last year corresponded with a 36 per cent increase in its network of dealers and repair shops. It announced late in the reporting period that it is expanding into Atlantic Canada.

This growth contributed to a 64 per cent increase in new finance receivables during the year, from \$12.99 million to \$21.3 million.

Managed finance receivables as of March 31 were \$21.92 million, as compared with \$13.78 million a year earlier. Revenue for the past fiscal year was \$6.5 million, up from \$3.9 million.

RIFCO's fourth quarter, which ran from January to March 2007, produced \$156,000 in net income - the company's fifth consecutive profitable quarter.

Rifco will hold its annual shareholders meeting Sept. 5 at 4 p.m. at the Red Deer Lodge.