



**UNITED STEEL SERVICES (LEEDS)
LIMITED**

Report and Financial Statements

30 September 1999



**Deloitte & Touche
10-12 East Parade
Leeds
LS1 2AJ**

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 1999

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REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 1999

OFFICERS AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

DIRECTORS

J S Barrett
R B Barrett
P C Chasney

SECRETARY

A B Durham

REGISTERED OFFICE

Barrett House
Cutler Heights Lane
Dudley Hill
Bradford
BD4 9HU

BANKERS

HSBC Bank plc
47 Market Street
Bradford
BD1 1LW

SOLICITORS

Pinsent Curtis
41 Park Square
Leeds
LS1 2NS

AUDITORS

Deloitte & Touche
Chartered Accountants
10-12 East Parade
Leeds
LS1 2AJ

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 30 September 1999.

ACTIVITIES

The principal activity of the company is steel stockholding. Throughout the year the company acted as an agent for Barrett Steel Limited. All transactions entered into have been transferred to Barrett Steel Limited in accordance with the terms of the agency agreement.

DIVIDENDS AND TRANSFERS TO RESERVES

The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend for the year (1998: £Nil) and, as a result of the transfer of all transactions to Barrett Steel Limited, the company made neither a profit nor a loss for the financial year (1998: £Nil).

DIRECTORS AND THEIR INTERESTS

The directors of the company throughout the year are noted on page 1.

None of the directors have any interest in the share capital of the company.

All the directors are also directors of the ultimate parent company, Barrett Steel Limited, and their interests in group companies are shown in the accounts of that company.

AUDITORS

Deloitte & Touche will resign as auditors at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting. KPMG will be appointed in their place.

Approved by the Board of Directors
and signed on behalf of the Board



A B Durham

Secretary

20/3/00

**STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES**

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial period and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- ♦ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ♦ make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- ♦ prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.



UNITED STEEL SERVICES (LEEDS) LIMITED

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

We have audited the financial statements on pages 5 and 6 which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out on page 6.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 3 the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the circumstances of the company, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 30 September 1999 and of the result for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Deloitte & Touche

Chartered Accountants and
Registered Auditors

29 MARCH 2000

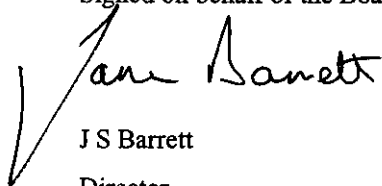


BALANCE SHEET
30 September 1999

	Note	1999 £	1998 £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Equity shareholders' funds:			
Called up share capital	3	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 22/3/00

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors


J S Barrett
Director



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Year ended 30 September 1999

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The particular accounting policies adopted are described below.

Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

2. PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

Throughout the year the company acted as an agent for Barrett Steel Limited with all income and expenditure being transferred to that company.

The turnover for the year ended 30 September 1999 transferred to Barrett Steel Limited was £4,997,000 (1998: £6,338,000).

It is not possible to separately determine the other income and expenditure of the company as they are combined with other agency subsidiaries of Barrett Steel Limited for accounting purposes.

The company has made neither profit nor loss nor any other recognised gains or losses in the current and preceding financial year.

3. CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL

	1999 £	1998 £
Authorised		
Ordinary shares of £1 each	1,000	1,000
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Called up, allotted and fully paid		
Ordinary share of £1 each	1	1
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

4. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The company is party to a multilateral-guarantee dated 4 March 1994 which secures all the borrowings of the group with HSBC Bank plc. At 30 September 1999, the maximum contingent liability arising under this guarantee was £6,070,000 (1998: £6,377,000)

5. ULTIMATE PARENT COMPANY

The company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Barrett Steel Limited, incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England and Wales, which is also the ultimate parent company. Copies of the group financial statements of Barrett Steel Limited may be obtained from Companies House, Crown Way, Maindy, Cardiff.