Company Registration No. 144277 (England and Wales)

E HARDING & SONS LIMITED ABBREVIATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2005





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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO E HARDING & SONS LIMITED UNDER SECTION 247B OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

We have examined the abbreviated accounts set out on pages 2 to 5, together with the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 March 2005 prepared under section 226 of the Companies Act 1985.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 2478 of the Companies Act 1985. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

The directors are responsible for preparing the abbreviated accounts in accordance with section 246 of the Companies Act 1985. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion as to whether the company is entitled to deliver abbreviated accounts prepared in accordance with sections 246(5) and (6) of the Act to the Registrar of Companies and whether the accounts to be delivered are properly prepared in accordance with those provisions and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of audit opinion

We have carried out the procedures we considered necessary to confirm, by reference to the financial statements, that the company is entitled to deliver abbreviated accounts and that the abbreviated accounts to be delivered are properly prepared. The scope of our work for the purpose of this report did not include examining or dealing with events after the date of our report on the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the company is entitled to deliver abbreviated accounts prepared in accordance with sections 246(5) and (6) of the Companies Act 1985, and the abbreviated accounts on pages 2 to 5 are properly prepared in accordance with those provisions.

Cowgill Holloway

Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditor

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Chartered Accountants
Regency House
45 - 51 Chorley New Road
Bolton BL1 4QR

ABBREVIATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2005

		20	05	20	04
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	2		234,560		254,576
Current assets					
Stocks		430,422		359,338	
Debtors		1,563,776		1,618,472	
Cash at bank and in hand		-		72,362	
		1,994,198		2,050,172	
Creditors: amounts falling due within	3				
one year		(1,439,677)		(1,554,486)	
Net current assets			554,521		495,686
Total assets less current liabilities			789,081		750,262
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	4		(31,550)		(33,870)
			757,531		716,392
Capital and reserves Called up share capital	5		7,000		7,000
Profit and loss account	J		750,531		709,392
Shareholders' funds			757,531		716,392
Equity interests			751,531		710,392
Non-equity interests			6,000		6,000
			757,531		716,392

These abbreviated accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board on ... 8 2 ----

I P Griffiths
Director

NOTES TO THE ABBREVIATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2005

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

The company has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement on the grounds that it is a small company.

1.2 Turnover

Turnover represents amounts receivable for goods and services net of VAT and trade discounts.

1.3 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Leasehold improvements 10% straight line
Plant and machinery 10% reducing balance
Fixtures, fittings & equipment 10% reducing balance
Motor vehicles 25% reducing balance

1.4 Leasing and hire purchase commitments

Assets obtained under hire purchase contracts and finance leases are capitalised as tangible assets and depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful lives. Obligations under such agreements are included in creditors net of the finance charge allocated to future periods. The finance element of the rental payment is charged to the profit and loss account so as to produce a constant periodic rate of charge on the net obligation outstanding in each period.

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged against income on a straight line basis over the lease term.

1.5 Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Net realisable value is based on estimated selling price less further costs to completion and disposal.

1.6 Pensions

The pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable by the company during the year in accordance with FRS 17.

1.7 Deferred taxation

Deferred tax is provided in full in respect of taxation deferred by timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes. The deferred tax balance has not been discounted.

NOTES TO THE ABBREVIATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2005

2	Fixed assets	
		Tangible assets £
	Cost	
	At 1 April 2004	729,136
	Additions	61,202
	Disposals	(16,222)
	At 31 March 2005	774,116
	Depreciation	
	At 1 April 2004	474,560
	On disposals	(16,222)
	Charge for the year	81,218
	At 31 March 2005	539,556
	Net book value	
	At 31 March 2005	234,560
	At 31 March 2004	254,576
		====

3 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

The aggregate amount of creditors for which security has been given amounted to £701,739 (2004 - £702,436)

4 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

The aggregate amount of creditors for which security has been given amounted to £31,550 (2004 - £33,870).

5	Share capital	2005	2004
		£	£
	Authorised		
	44,000 Ordinary shares of £1 each	44,000	44,000
	6,000 4.2% Cumulative preference shares of £1 each	6,000	6,000
		50,000	50,000
	Allotted, called up and fully paid		
	1,000 Ordinary shares of £1 each	1,000	1,000
	6,000 4.2% Cumulative preference shares of £1 each	6,000	6,000
		7,000	7,000

NOTES TO THE ABBREVIATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2005

6 Ultimate	parent company
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The ultimate parent company is Metals UK Group Limited, a company registered in England and Wales.