Wavetek (G.B.) Limited 1019807

Report and Accounts

30 September 1998



REPORT AND ACCOUNTS for the year ended 30 September 1998

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Registered No 1019807

AUDITORS

Ernst & Young Cambridge House 26 Tombland Norwich NR3 1RH

REGISTERED OFFICE

52 Hurricane Way Norwich NR6 6JB

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors present their report and the audited accounts for the year ended 30 September 1998.

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts 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 accounts 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.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND BUSINESS REVIEW

The group's principal activities remain the development, manufacture, sale and servicing of electronic test and measurement equipment through Wavetek Limited. No other subsidiaries traded during the year under review.

The year's results were not up to expectations, due mainly to competitive activity and weakness in the economies of a number of regions in which the Company sells. Sales and marketing programmes have been initiated to mitigate the effect of these and the Company continues to invest in product development. It is anticipated that these efforts will result in a return to growth in sales and profits.

RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS

The group made a profit for the year, after taxation, of £446,265 (1997: £1,002,760). The directors do not recommend the payment of a final dividend for the year 1998.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The group continues to make substantial investment in research and development of products and projects such that current levels will be at least maintained for the foreseeable future.

FIXED ASSETS

Changes in fixed assets are given in note 11 to the accounts.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

BASIS OF CONSOLIDATION

The consolidated accounts incorporate the accounts of the company and both of its subsidiary undertakings for the year ended 30 September 1998.

DIRECTORS AND THEIR INTERESTS

The directors of the company who held office during the year were as follows:

A E Bayly (appointed 1 March 1998)

P A Stevenson (resigned 31 March 1998)

R J Berry

T J Gooding (USA) (Chairman)

D T Morikawa (USA)

None of the directors held any beneficial interest in the shares of the company or of its subsidiaries.

INTRODUCTION OF THE EURO

The directors are of the opinion that the introduction of the Euro will not have a material effect on the financial statements of the company.

YEAR 2000

As is well known, many computer and digital storage systems express dates using only the last two digits of the year and will thus require modification or replacement to accommodate the year 2000 and beyond in order to avoid malfunctions and resulting widespread commercial disruption. This is a complex and pervasive issue. The operation of our business depends not only on our own computer systems, but also to some degree on those of our suppliers and customers. This could expose us to further risk in the event that there is a failure by other parties to remedy their own Year 2000 issues.

The directors are fully aware of the Year 2000 issues and have taken steps to address them. A comprehensive programme is in place to check, and correct where necessary, internal systems and those imbedded in instruments sold by the company. In addition, the programme is confirming with advisers and key suppliers that they have formulated appropriate strategies.

Given the complexity of the problem, it is not possible for any organisation to guarantee that no Year 2000 problems will remain, because at least some level of failure may still occur. However, the directors believe that they will achieve an acceptable state of readiness and have also provided resources to deal promptly with significant subsequent failures or issues that might arise.

AUDITORS

A resolution to re-appoint Ernst & Young as auditors will be put to the members at the Annual General Meeting.

By order of the board.

R J Berry Secretary

4 February 1999

II ERNST & YOUNG

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS to the members of Wavetek (G.B.) Limited

We have audited the accounts on pages 7 to 18, which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and on the basis of the accounting policies set out on page 10.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 4 the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those accounts and to report

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 accounts. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the accounts, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, 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 accounts 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

Opinion

In our opinion the accounts give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the group as at 30 September 1998, and of the profit of the group for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Ernst & Young Registered Auditor

Norwich

10th February 1999

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the year ended 30 September 1998

	Notes	1998 £	1997 £
TURNOVER	2		
Cost of sales	4	14,679,232 9,143,850	18,295,599 11,201,488
GROSS PROFIT		5,535,382	
Net operating expenses	3	4,850,193	7,094,111 5,629,155
OPERATING PROFIT	4	685,189	
Interest receivable	5		1,464,956
Interest payable	6	5,912 9,836	17,386 15,470
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION		681,265	
Taxation	7	235,000	1,466,872 464,112
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER TAXATION Dividends		446,265	1,002,760
Dividends	8	-	800,000
RETAINED PROFIT/(LOSS) FOR THE YEAR		446,265	£202,760
STATEMENT OF RETAINED PROFITS			
Retained profits at 27 September 1997 Retained profit/(loss) for the year		1,522,322	1,319,562
The state of the state		446,265	202,760
Retained profits at 30 September 1998		1,968,587	£1,522,322

Of the retained profit for the year £Nil (1997:£Nil) was dealt with in the company's own accounts.

STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES

There are no other gains or losses other than those recognised above.

The notes on pages 10 to 18 form part of these accounts.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET at 30 September 1998

	Notes	1998 £	1997 £
FIXED ASSETS Tangible assets	11	1,725,571	2,058,697
CURRENT ASSETS Stocks Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	14 15	2,063,765 2,929,469 11,787	1,682,072 2,904,628 38,443
CURRENT LIABILITIES CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	16	5,005,021 2,460,106	4,625,143 2,854,635
NET CURRENT ASSETS TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		2,544,915 4,270,486	1,770,508 3,829,205
PROVISION FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES Deferred taxation	19	33,719	38,703
		4,236,767	£3,790,502
CAPITAL AND RESERVES Called up share capital Share premium account Profit and loss account Capital reserve	20 21 21 21 21	750,000 1,245,707 1,968,587 272,473	750,000 1,245,707 1,522,322 272,473
		4,236,767	£3,790,502

The accounts on pages 7 to 18 were approved by the board of directors on 4 February 1999 and signed on its behalf by:

R J Berry

Director

BALANCE SHEET at 30 September 1998

	Notes	1998 £	1997 £
FIXED ASSETS Investment in subsidiaries	13	1,031,018	1,031,018
CURRENT ASSETS Debtors	15	1,248,595	1,248,595
CURRENT LIABILITIES CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	16	50,000	50,000
NET CURRENT ASSETS		1,198,595	1,198,595
		£2,229,613	£2,229,613
CAPITAL AND RESERVES Called up share capital Share premium account Profit and loss account	20 21 21	750,000 1,245,707 233,906	750,000 1,245,707 233,906
		£2,229,613	£2,229,613

The accounts on pages 7 to 18 were approved by the board of directors on 4 February 1999 and signed on its behalf by:

R J Berry Director

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

at 30 September 1998

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards. The consolidated accounts comprise the accounts of the company and its subsidiaries.

Fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are stated at cost. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of assets on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives at the following rates:

Long term leasehold land and buildings

Building improvements

Plant, machinery and equipment

- At 2.86% per annum

At 10% per annum
At appropriate rates varying from

10% to 33% per annum

Research and development

Research and development expenditure is written off to the profit and loss account in the period in which it is incurred.

Deferred taxation

The group provides for deferred taxation on the liability method on all timing differences except where it can be reasonably demonstrated that no corporation tax liabilities will arise in the foreseeable future.

Stocks and work in progress

Stocks and work in progress are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Work in progress and finished goods stock costs include direct materials, labour costs and relevant production overheads. Cost is calculated using the first in, first out method.

Warranty costs

The group's manufactured products are guaranteed for periods of up to 5 years from the date of sale and provision has been made for future claims based on the experience of costs actually incurred in this respect.

Foreign currencies

Foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate ruling on the day of the transaction. Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the year end rate. All exchange differences are taken to the profit and loss account.

Leases

Operating lease expenses are charged in the profit and loss account on the basis of rentals charged.

Pension scheme arrangements

The group contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme for eligible employees. Payments made to the schemes are charged in these accounts as part of employment costs.

4.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

at 30 September 1998

2. TURNOVER

Geographical markets supplied:	£'000	1997 £'000
United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland Rest of Europe United States of America Rest of the World	5,094 1,984 4,214 3,387	4,896 5,823 3,886 3,690
	14,679	£18,295

Turnover represents the amounts invoiced net of VAT in respect of sales to external customers, less returns and credits.

In the opinion of the directors the group operates in one class of business.

3. NET OPERATING EXPENSES

		1998 £	1997 £
Distribution costs Administration costs Research and development		2,739,271 888,292 1,028,620	2,684,057 792,636 1,157,943
Other operating expenditure: Foreign exchange (gains)/losses Sundry expenditure		4,656,183 29,239 164,771	4,634,636 (13,870) 1,008,389
OPERATING PROFIT		£4,850,193	£5,629,155
Operating profit is stated after charging: Depreciation of tangible fixed assets Auditors' remuneration Hire of plant and machinery Leasing charges under operating leases Directors' emoluments (see note 10) (Profit) on disposal of fixed assets	- audit - other services	1998 £ 499,803 22,000 13,850 1,943 44,690 134,300 (1,115)	1997 £ 358,455 21,750 11,800 1,950 40,699 668,216 (1,929)

5.	INTEREST RECEIVABLE		
		1998	1997
		£	£
	Bank interest Other	5,912	17,383
	Other	-	3
		5,912	£17,386
_	**************************************	====	£17,386
6.	INTEREST PAYABLE		
		1998	1997
	T	£	£
	To immediate parent undertaking On bank overdraft		2,467
	Other	9,822	12,786
		14	217
		9,836	£15,470
7.	TAXATION		====
		1000	
		1998 £	1997 £
	Corporation tax on the profit for the year	~	L
	at 31% (1997 : 32%)	256,572	442.00
	Deferred tax (Over)/Index provision in provi	(4,984)	443,297 38,703
	(Over)/Under provision in respect of prior year	(16,588)	(17,888)
		£235,000	£464,112
			===
8.	DIVIDENDS		
		1000	
		1998 £	1997 £
	Interim paid		
	•		£800,000
•	CUT A YOUR OLD THE		
9.	STAFF COSTS		
		1998	1997
	YY 1 1 1	£	£
	Wages and salaries Social Security costs	3,550,073	3,733,145
	Other pension costs	311,269	346,159
	Compensation for cancellation of Parent Company Stock Options	116,458	151,849
			824,186
		£3,977,800	£5,055,339

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

at 30 September 1998

9.	STAFF COSTS (continued) The average weekly number of persons (including executive directors)	1998 No.	1997 No.
	Production	92	105
	Distribution Administration and Research and Development	30 36	31 38
		158	174

10. DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS

Directors' emoluments disclosed in accordance with Part I of Schedule 6 of the Companies Act 1985 are as follows:

1998	1997
£	£
134,300 71,654 30,000	£668,216 £59,595
54,716	£537,574
9,901	£40,720
	£ 134,300 71,654 30,000 ================================

Contributions to money purchase scheme are paid for three directors.

Emoluments includes amounts paid in 1997 to directors as compensation for cancellation of parent company stock options.

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Cost:	Long term Leasehold Land and Buildings £	Group Plant Machinery and Equipment £	Total £
At 27 September 1997	795,624	4,739,002	5,534,626
Additions	583	169,411	169,994
Disposals	(2,098)	(129,376)	(131,474)
At 30 September 1998	794,109	4,779,037	5,573,146
Depreciation: At 27 September 1997 Charge for the year Disposals	422,622 22,435 (2,098)	3,053,307 477,368 (126,059)	3,475,929 499,803 (128,157)
At 30 September 1998	442,959	3,404,616	3,847,575
Net book value: At 30 September 1998	351,150	1,374,421	1,725,571
At 27 September 1997	£373,002	£1,685,695	£2,058,697

CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

		Group
	1998	1997
Capital expenditure that has been contracted for but has not been provided for in the accounts	£	£
	27,651	£107,360

13. INVESTMENT IN SUBSIDIARIES

Cost and Net Book Value:	Loans £	Company Shares £	Total £
At 27 September 1997 and 30 September 1998	£ 1,000,000	£31,018	£1,031,018

The subsidiaries are as follows:

Name of Subsidiary	Country of registration	Class of shares held	Proportion held
Wavetek Ltd	England	Ordinary and deferred	100%
Datron Instruments Ltd	England	Ordinary	100%

14. STOCKS

	Group		
	1998	1997	
Stocks of the group comprise:	£	£	
Raw materials and consumables Work in progress	749,517	722,058	
Finished goods	507,038	442,567	
Demonstration stocks	471,751	220,822	
Demonstration stocks	335,459	296,625	
	£2,063,765	£1,682,072	

The replacement cost of stocks is not significantly different from their production cost.

15. DEBTORS

	1998 £	Group 1997 £	1998 £	Company 1997 £
Trade debtors Amounts owed by group undertakings Other debtors Prepayments and accrued income	2,077,771 591,388 130,190 130,120	1,947,275 565,315 266,048 125,990	1,148,595 - -	1,193,595 55,000
	£2,929,469	£2,904,628	1,148,595	£1,248,595

16. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

· ·	1998 £	Group 1997 £	1998 £	Company 1997 £
Bank overdraft Trade creditors Amounts owed to group undertakings Other creditors including taxation	60,603 823,434 485,850	90,528 1,187,999 296,550	50,000	50,000
and social security (see below) Accruals and deferred income	750,433 339,786	888,450 391,108		-
	£2,460,106	£2,854,635	£50,000	£50,000

"Other creditors including taxation and social security" is made up as follows:

	1998 £	Group 1997 £	1998 £	Company 1997 £
United Kingdom corporation tax Social security Other creditors	261,572 91,632 397,229	298,297 90,054 500,099	- - -	- -
	£750,433	£888,450	£Nil	£Nil

17. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The group operates a defined contribution pension scheme for its directors and employees. Contributions are invested in insurance policies by the company as Trustee for the benefit of the members.

18. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

At 30 September 1998 the group had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as set out below:

	1998	1997
Operating leases which expire:	£	£
within one year within two to five years	9,300 27,780	39,588
in over five years	24,000	24,000
	51,080	63,588
		

Leases expiring in over five years relate to the lease of land.

19. DEFERRED TAXATION

Analysis of provision made:

		Group			
		Provided £	1998 Unprovided £	Provided £	1997 Unprovided £
	Accelerated capital allowances Other timing differences	55,399 (21,680)		66,639 (27,936)	-
		£33,719	£Nil	£38,703	£Ni1
20.	CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL				
	Authorised and fully paid			1998 £	1997 £
	15,000,000 Ordinary shares of 5p each			£750,000	£750,000

21. RECONCILIATION OF SHAREHOLDERS FUND AND MOVEMENT ON RESERVES

Group	Share Capital £	Share Premium £	Profit and Loss Account £	Capital	Total £
At 28 September 1998 Profit for the year Dividend	750,000	1,245,707	1,319,562 1,002,760 (800,000)	272,473	3,587,742 1,002,760 (800,000)
At 27 September 1997 Profit for the year	750,000	1,245,707	1,522,322 446,265	272,473	3,790,502 446,265
At 30 September 1998	750,000	1,245,707	1,968,587	272,473	4,236,767
Company	Share Capita	l Pren	Share nium £	Profit and Loss Account £	Total £
At 28 September 1996 Profit for the year Dividend	750,000	1,245	5,707	233,906 800,000 (800,000)	2,229,613 800,000 (800,000)
At 27 September 1997	75,000	1,245		233,906	2,229,613
Profit for the year				-	,
At 30 September 1998	75,000	1,245	,707	233,906	2,229,613

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

at 30 September 1998

22. PARENT UNDERTAKING'S PROFIT FOR THE YEAR

As permitted by section 230 of the Companies Act 1985, the parent undertaking's profit and loss account has not been included in these financial statements.

23. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Contingent liabilities existed at 30 September 1998 in respect of guarantees arising in the ordinary course of the group's business. The directors are satisfied that no provision needs to be made in the financial statements in respect of them.

24. ULTIMATE PARENT UNDERTAKING

The ultimate parent undertaking is Wavetek Wandel & Goltermann, Inc., a company incorporated in the United States of America. Public inspection of the report and accounts is available at The United States Securities and Exchange Commission, Room 1024, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington D.C. 20549.