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CONSORT CARRIERS LIMITED

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors present their Annual Report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 30th June 1997.

ACTIVITIES

The company's principal activity is that of a haulage and transport broker.

REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS AND FUTURE PROSPECTS

The company has continued to perform satisfactorily given the general economic climate. The company expects improved results in the forthcoming financial year.

The profit after tax amounted to £21,288 (1996: £19,138). The amount absorbed by reserves is as follows:

Dividends	paid	and	proposed	£12,930
Reserves				£ 8,358

DIVIDENDS

The preference dividends have been paid in full during the year.

DIRECTORS' INTERESTS

The directors and their interests in the share capital of the company at the beginning and the end of the year were as follows:

	30: 6:97 30: 6 £1 Ordinary Sha		30: 6:96 erence Shares
Mr. P. F. Brown Mr. P. P. O'Halloran	26 2 24 24	,	10,000

SMALL COMPANY

Advantage has been taken in the preparation of this report, of the special exemptions applicable to small companies.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

MRS. P. O'HALLORAN SECRETARY

REGISTERED OFFICE:

Fishers Way, Belvedere, Kent, DA17 6BS.

COMPANY NO. 1627530



AUDITORS REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

We have audited the financial statements on pages 3 to 9 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the policies set out on page 5.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIRECTORS AND AUDITORS

Company Law requires the directors to prepare financial statements 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 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;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue 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.

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 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 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 affairs of the company as at 30th June 1997 and of the profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

ROGER H. BROWN

RESISTERED AUDITOR AND CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

4 HIGH STREET,

KEYNSHAM, BRISTOL, BS18 1DQ.

DATE: 9 June 1998

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1997

	NOTES	1997	1996
TURNOVER		728,724	665,748
Cost of sales		(645,105)	(583,275)
GROSS PROFIT		83,619	82,473
Distribution costs Administrative costs			10,377 51,169
		56,120	61,546
OPERATING PROFIT		27,499	20,927
Other interest receivable and similar income		414	265
Interest payable and similar charges	2	(858)	(503)
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION	3	27,055	20,689
TAX ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	5	(5,767)	(1,551)
PROFIT/(LOSS) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR AFTER TAXATION		21,288	19,138
DIVIDENDS PAID AND PROPOSED	6	(12,930)	(750)
PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		8,358	18,388
BALANCE ON PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT BROUGHT F	FORWARD	5,119	(13,269)
BALANCE ON PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT CARRIED F	FORWARD	£ 13,477	f 5,119

There are no other recognised gains or losses other than the profit for the year.

BALANCE SHEET AT 30TH JUNE 1997

	NOTES	1997 1996
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible Assets	7	19,684 14,011
CURRENT ASSETS		
Work in progress Debtors Cash at bank	8 9	2,248 4,599 200,566 169,298 13,761 7,449
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	10	216,575 181,346 (206,952) (177,852)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		9,623 3,494
NET ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		29,307 17,505
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year	11	(5,780) (2,336)
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES	12	
NET CURRENT ASSETS		f 23,527 f 15,169
CAPITAL AND RESERVES		
Called up share capital Profit and Loss account	13 14	10,050 10,050 13,477 5,119
		f 23,527 f 15,169

In preparing the financial statements we have taken advantage of the special exemptions applicable to small companies conferred by Sections 246 and 247 of the Companies Act 1996 on the grounds that the company is entitled to those exemptions as a small company. ρ

Approved by the director on .

..... P. O'Halloran

The notes on pages 5 to 9 form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been used consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the company's financial statements and have remained unchanged from the previous year.

(a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention rules.

(b) Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets over the estimated lives of the assets. The rates of depreciation are as follows:

Computer equipment
Office equipment
Motor vehicles

25% per annum straight line 20% per annum on reducing balance 25% per annum on reducing balance

(c) Stock

Stock and work in progress are valued at the lower of realisable value.

(d) Deferred Taxation

Deferred taxation is provided at the anticipated tax rates on differences arising from the inclusion of items of income and expenditure in taxation computations in periods different from those in which they are included in the financial statements to the extent that it is probable that a liability or asset will crystallise in the future.

(e) Pension Scheme

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The amount charged against profits represents the contribution payable to the scheme in respect of the accounting year.

(f) Leases

Where the company enters into a lease which entails taking all the risks and rewards of ownership of an asset, the lease is treated as a hire purchase lease. The asset is recorded in the balance sheet as a tangible fixed asset and is depreciated over its estimated useful life or term of the lease, whichever is shorter. Future instalments under such leases, net of finance charges, are included with creditors. Rentals payable are apportioned between the finance element, which is charged to the profit and loss account under the term 'interest payable and similar charges', and the capital element which reduces the outstanding obligation for future instalments included with creditors.

2.	INTEREST PAYABLE AND SIMILAR CHARGES		1997		1996
	HP interest Other interest		928 (70)		503
		£	858	£	.503
3.	PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION		1997		1996
	Profit on ordinary activities before taxation is after charging: Hire of plant and machinery Depreciation of tangible fixed assets Auditors' remuneration Directors' remuneration	£	4,089 2,485 16,321	£	4,720 2,484
4.	EMPLOYEE COSTS DURING THE YEAR		1997		1996
	Wages and salaries Social security costs Other pension costs	£	44,964 3,969 1,350 50,283	_	52,481 2,888 950 56,319
	Average number of persons employed	-	No	-	No
	Management Administration		2 2 —		2 2 —
	Directors' emoluments:		<u>4</u>		<u>4</u> —
	Salaries Pension contributions Benefits in kind		16,321 675		16,441 950 -
		£	16,996	£	17,391
5.	TAX ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES		1997		1996
	United Kingdom Corporation Tax at 23%/21% based on profit for the year Deferred taxation Underprovision prior years		5,767 - -		1,551
	1 F J	£	5,767	£	1,551
		-			

6.	DIVIDENDS		1997	1996
	Interim paid on fl Ordinary Shares at f??? per share fl 7½% Preference Shares - paid		12,180	750
			f 12,930	£ 750
7.	TANCIBLE FIXED ASSETS	TOTAL	OFFICE EQUIPMENT	MOTOR VEHICLES
	COST		•	
	At 1: 7:96	37,039	11,701	25,338
	Additions	14,099	-	14,099
	Disposal	(14,943)	-	(14,943)
	At 30: 6:97	£36,195	£11,701	£24,494
	ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION			
	At 1: 7:96	23,028	9 837	13,191
	Provisions	4,385	373	4,012
	Disposals	(10,902)	-	(10,902)
	At 30: 6:97	f16,511	£10,210	£ 6,301
	NET BOOK VALUE			
	At 30: 6:97	£19,684	£ 1,491	£18,193
	At 30: 6:96	£14,011	£ 1,864	£12,147

The net book value of assets includes f18,193 (1996: f7,416) in respect of assets held under hire purchase leases.

8.	STOCKS	1997	1996
	Work in progress	£ 2,248	£ 4,599
9.	DEBTORS	1997	1996
	Trade debtors Other debtors Prepayments and accrued income	198,594 1,972	165,824 3,474
		£200,566	£169,298

10.	CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	1997	1996
	Obligation under Hire Purchase and finance leases Corporation Tax Trade creditors Taxation and social security Directors loan accounts Accruals Dividends proposed	4,465 3,154 150,056 14,943 26,307 8,027	126,122 11,710
		£206,952	£177,852
11.	CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year	1997	1996
	Obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts	£ 5,780	£ 2,336
12.	DEFERRED TAXATION		
	The amounts of deferred taxation provided in the accounts are:	1997	1996
	Balance brought forward Profit and Loss Account	-	<u>-</u> - ·
		£ -	f -
13.	CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL	1997	1996
	Authorised fl Ordinary Shares fl 7½% Cumulative Preference Shares	100 10,000	100 10,000
		f 10,100	f 10,100
	Allotted and fully paid fl Ordinary Shares	50	50
	fl 7½ Cumulative Preference Shares	10,000	10,000
		£ 10,050	£ 10,050

14.	MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDERS FUNDS	1997	1996
	Opening balance of shareholders funds Profit for the year		(3,219) 18,388
	Closing balance of shareholders funds	f 23,527	f 15,169