

PricewaterhouseCoopers
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The Directors
H&C Acquisitions Limited
Ash House
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23 January 2003

Dear Sirs

Notice of resignation as auditors

Following the conversion of PricewaterhouseCoopers to a Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) from 1 January 2003, we have agreed with you that the new firm, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP will be replacing us as auditors.

In accordance with Section 392 of the Companies Act 1985, we give notice that we are resigning as auditors of H&C Acquisitions Limited, registered number 2193956 with effect from 23 January 2003.

In accordance with Section 394 of the Companies Act 1985, we confirm that there are no circumstances connected with our resignation which we consider should be brought to the notice of the shareholders or creditors of H&C Acquisitions Limited.

Yours faithfully

PricewaterhouseCoopers

PricewaterhouseCoopers

