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ALEXANDRE OF ENGLAND 1988 LIMITED

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2000

Company Registration No: 2194235

A24 COMPANIES HOUSE

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Directors submit their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2000.

REVIEW OF THE BUSINESS

The company has not traded during the year and is not expected to trade in the foreseeable future. All of the issued shares in the Company were transferred to BMB Menswear Limited on 19 December 2000 at par value.

DIRECTORS AND THEIR INTERESTS

The directors during the year and their interests in the share capital of William Baird PLC (which was the parent undertaking prior to BMB Menswear Limited) up to 19 December 2000 were as follows:

		At 31 December 1999 (Or date of subsequent		99	At 19 December 2000 (Or date of resignation if earlier)			
				ient (
	,	appointment)						
		Ordinary Options Awards Ordinary Options Awards						
		shares		under	shares		under	
			1	long term		long term		
			incentive		incentive			
			_	plan			plan	
P M Alsop	Resigned 19.12.2000	5572	43520	29462	18654	43520	58375	
A Fabian	Resigned 30.04.2000	2000	16107	=	4000	26107	-	
R. Finch	Appointed 30.04.2000	-	7500	-	-	7500	-	
	Resigned 19.12.2000	-	-	_	_	_	-	
P Lucas	Appointed 19.12.2000	_	_	-	-	-	-	
AM MacKenzie	Appointed 19.12.2000	_	-	_	_	_	-	

No director was interested in the ordinary shares of the company, nor in the shares of any other group company.

William Baird PLC options were granted under the Executive Share Option Scheme and the Savings Related Share Option Schemes to purchase ordinary shares of William Baird PLC at prices of 181p to 257p between 2001 and 2009.

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE ACCOUNTS

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 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 being 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.

AUDITORS

At the Annual General Meeting held during 1995 it was resolved not to appoint auditors as allowed by Section 388A of the Companies Act 1985.

Registered Office: Granary Building 1 Canal Wharf Leeds LS11 5BB BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

JO MAWBY SECRETARY

24 October 2001

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2000

	Notes	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>	
Fixed Assets				
Investments	2	£10,000	£10,000	
Capital and Reserves				
Called up share capital	3	£10,000	£10,000	

- (a) For the year ended 31 December 2000, the company was entitled to exemption under section 249AA(1) of the Companies Act 1985.
- (b) Members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 249B(2) of the Companies Act 1985.
- (c) The directors acknowledge their responsibility for:
 - (i) ensuring the company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 221; and
 - (ii) preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year, and of its profit or loss for the financial year, in accordance with the requirements of section 226, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

A M MACKENZIE DIRECTOR

24 October 2001

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2000

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Companies Act 1985 and under the historical cost convention.

2. INVESTMENTS

The investment represents a loan to the parent undertaking which is interest free and is not due for repayment within one year.

3. SHARE CAPITAL

MARE CATTAL	<u>Aut</u>	horised		Allotted, called up & fully paid		
	2000	<u>1999</u>	2000	<u>1999</u>		
Ordinary shares of £1 each	£10000	£10000	£10000	£10000		

4. PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

The company has not traded during the year and has made neither a profit nor a loss. No profit and loss account has therefore been prepared.

5. PARENT UNDERTAKING AND CONTROLLING PARTY

The company's parent undertaking and controlling party is BMB Menswear Limited and the company's results are included in accounts prepared for that company.

BMB Menswear Limited is incorporated and registered in Great Britain and is a wholly owned subsidiary of BMB Group Limited whose registered office is at Granary Building, 1 Canal Wharf, Leeds LS11 5BB. William Baird PLC transferred its shareholding in the company to BMB Menswear Limited on 19 December 2000.