

CHFP025

Please do not write in this margin **COMPANIES FORM No. 155(6)a**

Declaration in relation to assistance for the acquisition of shares



Pursuant to section 155(6) of the Companies Act 1985

nargin						
Please complete legibly, preferably in black type, or pold block lettering	To the Registrar of Companies (Address overleaf - Note 5)		ny number 2621328			
Note Please read the notes on page 3 before completing this form.	Name of company					
	* Mallatite Limited					
insert full name of company	7We Ø John Thomas Bowden of Whisterfield House, Whister		e, SK11 9DB			
insert name(s) and address(es) of all the directors	Alan Paterson of 3 Birkdale Crescent, Cumbernauld, Glasgow, G68 0JZ Robert Bowman of 23 Alders Avenue, Chinley, Stockport, Cheshire, SK12 6DS Clive Douglas Fisher of 1 Westminster Road, Ellesmere Park Eccles, Manchester, M30 9HF Christopher John Burr of Ashmore House, Norton, Evesham, Worcestershire, WR11 4YL David Leslie Grove of Badgers Halt, Rookery Lane, Lowsonford, Solihull, West Midlands, B95 5EP Michael Alan Cooper of 42 Southview Road, Sedgley, Dudley, West Midlands, DY3 3PF Derek William Muir, 2 West Fergus Place, Kirkcaldy, Fife, KY1 1UR					
delete as appropriate	[the sole director] [all the directors]t of the a	bove company do solemnly and	sincerely declare that			
delete whichever	(a) that of a frecognised bankj fricensed inst	ituuonji within the meaning of th	е вапклу Act 1979			
is inappropriate	(b) that of a person authorised under section to	ou 4 of the insurance Companies	Act 1502 to carry or			
	insurance business in the United Kingdom§					
	(c) something other than the above§					
	The company is proposing to give financial assistance in connection with the acquisition of shares in the					
	[company] [company's holding company					
			Limited]			
	The assistance is for the purpose of [tirat acquisition] [reducing or discharging a liability incurred for the					
	purpose of that acquisition].†					
	The number and class of the shares acquired or to	be acquired is: <u>115,750 ordin</u>	ary shares			
	of £1 each					

Presentor's name address and reference (if any):

Wragge & Co LLP 55 Colmore Row Birmingham B3 2AS For official Use General Section



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Page 1

13036 Birmingham 1 1849420/LXT

registered office is situate at 2 Highlands Court, Cranmore Avenue, Shirley, Solihull, West Midlands, B90 4LE	Please do not write in this margin		
	Please comple legibly, prefera in black type, o bold block fettering		
he assistance will take the form of:			
See paragraph 2.1 of the attached financial assistance summary.	7		
he person who [has acquired] [will acquire]t the shares is:	† delete as appropriate		
Hill & Smith Holdings PLC			
the principal terms on which the assistance will be given are:			
See paragraph 2.2 of the attached financial assistance summary.			
	ſ		
he amount of cash to be transferred to the person assisted is £ <u>nil</u>	<u>.</u>		
The value of any asset to be transferred to the person assisted is £			

within 8weeks of the date of this declaration,

The date on which the assistance is to be given is

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Please do not write in this margin

Please complete legibly, preferably in black type, or bold block lettering

TWe have formed the opinion, as regards the company's initial situation immediately following the date on which the assistance is proposed to be given, that there will be no ground on which it could then be found to be unable to pay its debts. (note 3)

- * delete either (a) or (b) as appropriate
- (a) TiWe have formed the opinion that the company will be able to pay its debts as they fall due during the year immediately following that date]* (note 3)
- (b) [It is intended to commence the winding-up of the company within 12 months of that date, and live formed the opinion that the company will be able to pay its debts in full within 12 months of the commencement of the winding-up.]* (note 3)

And we make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the provisions of the Statutory Declarations Act 1835.

Declared at

WEAGGE A (O, BIRMWGHAM

	Day		Month		Year			
on	١	3	0	ક	2	0	O	3

before me ROBERT PAUL BROOKES

A Commissioner for Oaths or Notary Public or Justice of the Peace or a Solicitor having the powers conferred on a Commissioner for Oaths.

NOTES

- 1 For the meaning of "a person incurring a liability" and "reducing or discharging a liability" see section 152(3) of the Companies Act 1985.
- 2 Insert full name(s) and address(es) of the person(s) to whom assistance is to be given; if a recipient is a company the registered office address should be shown.
- 3 Contingent and prospective liabilities of the company are to be taken into account - see section 156(3) of the Companies Act 1985.
- 4 The auditors report required by section 156(4) of the Companies Act 1985 must be annexed to this form.
- 5 The address for companies registered in England and Wales or Wales is:-

The Registrar of Companies Companies House Crown Way Cardiff CF14 3UZ

or, for companies registered in Scotland:-

The Registrar of Companies 37 Castle Terrace Edinburgh EH1 2EB Declarants to sign below



COMPANIES FORM No. 155(6)a

Declaration in relation to assistance for the acquisition of shares

155(6)a

CHFP025						
Please do not write in this margin	Pursuai	nt to section 155(6) of the C	companies Act 1985			
Please complete legibly, preferably in black type, or bold block lettering	To the Registrar of Companies			For official use	Company number	
	(Addre	ss overleaf - Note 5)			2621328	
Note	Name o	f company				
Please read the notes on page 3 before completing this form.	* Ma	allatite Limited				
* insert full name of company	T/Weø	John Thomas Bowden of Whister			eld, Cheshire, SK11 9DB	
ø insert name(s) and address(es) of all the directors	Alan Paterson of 3 Birkdale Crescent, Cumbernauld, Glasgow, G68 0JZ Robert Bowman of 23 Alders Avenue, Chinley, Stockport, Cheshire, SK12 6DS Clive Douglas Fisher of 1 Westminster Road, Ellesmere Park Eccles, Manchester, M30 9HF Christopher John Burr of Ashmore House, Norton, Evesham, Worcestershire, WR11 4YL David Leslie Grove of Badgers Halt, Rookery Lane, Lowsonford, Solihull, West Midlands, B95 5EP Michael Alan Cooper of 42 Southview Road, Sedgley, Dudley, West Midlands, DY3 3PF Derek William Muir, 2 West Fergus Place, Kirkcaldy, Fife, KY1 1UR					
is inappropriate	insurance business in the United Kingdom§ (c) something other than the above§					
	The company is proposing to give financial assistance in connection with the acquisition of shares in the [company] [company's holding company]					
	The assistance is for the purpose of [that acquisition] [reducing or discharging a liability incurred for the purpose of that acquisition].†					
	The number and class of the shares acquired or to be acquired is: 115,750 ordinary shares of £1 each					
Wr		or's name address and be (if any) : lo LLP	For official Use General Section	Post ro	om	
55	Colmore mingham	Row				

Page 1

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B3 2AS

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The assistance is to be given to: (note 2) Hill & Smith Holdings PLC (company number 671474) whose	Please do not
registered office is situate at 2 Highlands Court, Cranmore Avenue, Shirley, Solihull, West Midlands, B90 4LE	write in this margin
	Please complete legibly, preferable in black type, or bold block lettering
The assistance will take the form of:	_
See paragraph 2.1 of the attached financial assistance summary.	
The person who [has acquired] [will acquire]† the shares is:	† delete as appropriate
Hill & Smith Holdings PLC	····
The principal terms on which the assistance will be given are:	_
See paragraph 2.2 of the attached financial assistance summary.	
The amount of cash to be transferred to the person assisted is £	
The value of any asset to be transferred to the person assisted is £ nil	_

within 8weeks of the date of this declaration,

The date on which the assistance is to be given is

4045360 Page 2

Please do not write in this margin

Please complete legibly, preferably in black type, or bold block lettering

- TWe have formed the opinion, as regards the company's initial situation immediately following the date on which the assistance is proposed to be given, that there will be no ground on which it could then be found to be unable to pay its debts. (note 3)
- (a) TWe have formed the opinion that the company will be able to pay its debts as they fall due during

 * delete either (a) or
 (b) as appropriate

 the year immediately following that date]* (note 3)
 - (b) [It is intended to commence the winding-up of the company within 12 months of that date, and have formed the opinion that the company will be able to pay its debts in full within 12 months of the commencement of the winding-up.]* (note 3)

And we make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the provisions of the Statutory Declarations Act 1835.

Declared at

Declarants to sign below

Day Month Year

0/13

before me

A Commissioner for Oaths or Notary Public or Justice of

the Peace or a Solicitor having the powers conferred on

a Commissioner for Oaths.

NOTES

- 1 For the meaning of "a person incurring a liability" and "reducing or discharging a liability" see section 152(3) of the Companies Act 1985.
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MALLATITE LIMITED

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SUMMARY

1 Overview

1.1 Definitions

For the purposes of this summary, the following definitions shall have the following meanings:

"Act" means the Companies Act 1985 (as amended from time to time);

"Barclays" means Barclays Bank PLC;

"Current Facilities Agreement" means the facilities agreement dated 13 September 2000 as amended and restated on 27 July 2001 between, inter alia, the Purchaser as borrower and Barclays as agent, security trustee and ancillary bank, pursuant to which the Bank (as defined therein) has made available to the Purchaser certain loans, one of which has been utilised to finance the Mallatite Acquisition;

"Company" means Mallatite Limited (Company number 2621328);

"Mallatite Acquisition" means the acquisition by the Purchaser of the Mallatite Shares;

"Mallatite Shares" means all the issued ordinary shares in the capital of Mallatite on 23 August 2002;

"New Facilities Agreement" means a £67,500,000 term and revolving facilities agreement dated on or about the date hereof between, inter alia, the Purchaser as borrower and Barclays as agent, security trustee and ancillary bank, pursuant to which the Banks (as defined therein) make available to the Purchaser certain loans to (inter alia) refinance the Current Facilities Agreement;

"Purchaser" means Hill & Smith Holdings PLC (Company number 671474);

"Security Agreement" means the security agreement entered into pursuant to the New Facilities Agreement in favour of Barclays acting as security agent.

1.2 Background

- (a) In order to effect the Mallatite Acquisition, the Purchaser incurred liabilities under the Current Facilities Agreement.
- (b) The Purchaser is entering into the New Facilities Agreement. Funds advanced pursuant to the New Facilities Agreement are to be utilised in the refinancing of the Current Facilities Agreement.

2 The Form and Terms of the Financial Assistance

2.1 The financial assistance to be given by the Company will take the form of:

- (a) the entry into the New Facilities Agreement by the Company pursuant to which the Company irrevocably, unconditionally, jointly and severally guarantees, inter alia, the obligations of each borrower under the New Facilities Agreement to Barclays; and
- (b) the entry into the Security Agreement by the Company in favour of Barclays acting as security trustee pursuant to which the Company charges by way of fixed and floating charges its assets and undertaking as security.
- 2.2 The terms of the financial assistance are as follows:
 - (a) pursuant to the New Facilities Agreement the Company agrees to be a Guarantor (as defined therein), pursuant to which:
 - (i) the Company guarantees to the Finance Parties (as defined in the New Facilities Agreement) the prompt performance by each borrower under the New Facilities Agreement of all its payment obligations under the Finance Documents (as defined therein);
 - (ii) if a borrower does not pay any amount due to the Finance Parties, it shall forthwith on demand by Barclays (acting as agent) pay that amount; and
 - (iii) it will indemnify the Finance Parties on demand against any loss or liability suffered by any of them if any obligations guaranteed is or becomes unenforceable, invalid or illegal;
 - (b) pursuant to the Security Agreement, the Company charges in favour of Barclays acting as security trustee the assets described in the Security Agreement, as security for the payment of all the present and future obligations and liabilities (whether actual or contingent and whether owed jointly or severally or in any other capacity whatsoever) of any of the Obligors (as defined in the New Facilities Agreement) to any Finance Party under each Finance Document (both such terms as defined in the New Facilities Agreement).
- 2.3 The entry into and performance by the Company of its obligations as described in paragraph 2.2 above constitute financial assistance by it, pursuant to section 151(2) of the Act in that it assists the Purchaser in reducing or discharging the liabilities incurred by the Purchaser in relation to the Mallatite Acquisition.

End of Summary



4 2 E



KPMG Audit Plc

2 Cornwall Street Birmingham B3 2DL Tel 0121 232 3000 Fax 0121 232 3500 E-mail godfrey.frith@kpmg.co.uk

The Directors
Mallatite Limited
2 Highlands Court
Cranmore Avenue
Shirley
B90 4LE

Our ref gwf/6/rngt/281a

13 August 2003

Dear Sirs

Auditors' report to the directors of Mallatite Limited ("the company") pursuant to Section 156(4) of the Companies Act 1985

We have examined the attached statutory declaration of the directors of the company dated 13 August 2003 in connection with the proposal that the company should give financial assistance for the purpose of reducing or discharging indebtedness pursuant to a refinancing of indebtedness incurred by the company's ultimate parent, Hill & Smith Holdings PLC in connection with the purchase of the ordinary shares of the company. We have enquired into the state of the company's affairs in order to review the bases for the statutory declaration.

We are not aware of anything to indicate that the opinion expressed by the directors in their declaration as to any of the matters mentioned in Section 156(2) of the Companies Act 1985 is unreasonable in all the circumstances.

Yours faithfully

KPMG Audit Plc Registered Auditor

Kanc Ander Pc

Enclosures: