# DURLACHER RESEARCH LIMITED REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

30 JUNE 2001

Company Registration No: 2998090

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COMPANIES HOUSE 12/12/0

HLB Kidsons Chartered Accountants Spectrum House 20-26 Cursitor Street London EC4A 1HY

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# COMPANY INFORMATION

Directors : G H Chamberlain BA (Com)

A G Chamberlain B.Com, FCA

Secretary : A G Chamberlain B.Com, FCA

Registered Office : 4 Chiswell Street

London EC1Y 4UP

Registered Number : 29988090

Auditors : HLB Kidsons

Spectrum House 20-26 Cursitor Street London EC4A 1HY

Bankers : Lloyds Bank PLC

34 Moorgate London EC2R 6DN

Solicitors : Berwin Leighton Paisner

Adelaide House London Bridge

London EC4R 9HA

#### REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

#### 30 June 2001

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2001.

#### Principal activity and review of the business

The principal activities of the company are consultancy and the origination of research reports for the multimedia, new media and emerging technology sectors. The company closed its office in Bonn during the year.

### Results and dividends

The results of the company for the year ended 30 June 2001 are set out in the financial statements on pages 4 to 8.

The directors do not recommend the payment of any dividend.

#### Directors

The directors set out below have held office during the whole of the period from 1 July 2000 to the date of this report:

G H Chamberlain

A G Chamberlain

No director had any interest in the shares of the company during the whole of the period.

Messrs G H Chamberlain and A G Chamberlain, being directors of the company's holding company, Durlacher Corporation PLC, have reported to that company their interests in the shares of the holding company.

#### Statement of directors' responsibilities

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial period 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;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements 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 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.

The directors have prepared this report in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small entities.

# Auditors

HLB Kidsons have agreed to offer themselves for re-appointment as auditors of the company.

By order of the Board and signed on its behalf by

A G Chamberlain

A G Chamberlain Secretary

31 October 2001

#### **AUDITORS' REPORT**

#### Report of the auditors to the shareholders of Durlacher Research Limited

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 8 which have been prepared following the accounting policies set out on page 6.

# Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 2, the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. 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 the company's affairs as at 30 June 2001 and of its loss for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

**HLB Kidsons** 

Chartered Accountants

HUS N.C

Registered Auditors

London,

31 October 2001

# PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

# for the year ended 30 June 2001

|   | Note | Continuing £      | Discontinued<br>£ | 2001<br>£           | 2000<br>£         |
|---|------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Turnover  | 2    | 310,949           | 2,116             | 313,065             | 699,466           |
| Cost of sales   |      | (349,191)         |                   | (349,191)           | (169,005)         |
| Gross (loss) / profit                                 |      | (38,242)          | 2,116             | (36,126)            | 530,461           |
| Administrative expenses                               |      | (351,694)         | <u>(773,927)</u>  | (1,125,621)         | (750,142)         |
| Operating loss  |      | <u>(389,936</u> ) | <u>(771,811</u> ) | (1,161,747)         | (229,681)         |
| Interest receivable                                   |      |                   |                   | 3,158               | 1,371             |
| Loss on ordinary activities before and after taxation | 3    |                   |                   | <u>(1,158,589</u> ) | <u>(228,310</u> ) |

The company has no recognised gains or losses other than the loss for the year.

# **BALANCE SHEET**

# as at 30 June 2001

|   | Note   | 2001<br>£               | 2000<br>£         |
|---|--------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Fixed assets                                    |        |                         |                   |
| Tangible assets Investments                     | 4<br>5 | 2,837<br>197,914        | 28,863            |
| Current assets                                  |        | 200,751                 | 28,863            |
| Debtors Cash at bank and in hand                | 6      | 82,731<br><u>55,243</u> | 185,817<br>54,197 |
|   |        | 137,974                 | 240,014           |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year  | 7      | <u>(1,958,597</u> )     | <u>(730,160</u> ) |
| Net current liabilities                         |        | (1,820,623)             | (490,146)         |
| Net liabilities                                 |        | (1,619,872)             | (461,283)         |
| Capital and reserves                            |        |                         |                   |
| Called up share capital Profit and loss account | 8      | 2                       | 2                 |
|   | 9      | <u>(1,619,874)</u>      | <u>(461,285)</u>  |
| Equity shareholders' deficit                    | 10     | <u>(1,619,872</u> )     | <u>(461,283</u> ) |

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small entities.

Approved by order of the Board on 31 October 2001

A G Chamberlain

Director

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### 30 June 2001

# 1 Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards. The principal accounting policies of the company are set out below.

# (a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention. No cash flow statement is prepared as the company is a wholly-owned subsidiary. The company is exempt from the requirement to produce consolidation financial statements as it is a wholly owned subsidiary of Durlacher Corporation plc, a company which prepares consolidated financial statements.

#### (b) Turnover

Turnover represents the amount invoiced, excluding value added tax, in respect of the sale of goods and services to customers.

#### (c) Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of fixed assets on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives.

# (d) Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis on the basis that the company will continue to receive the financial support of other members of the Durlacher Corporation plc group.

#### (e) Foreign exchange

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at the operating result.

| 2 | Turnover            | <b>2001</b><br>£ | <b>2000</b><br>£ |
|---|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
|   | Consultancy fees    | 228,434          | 593,676          |
|   | Subscription income | 84,631           | 105,790          |
|   |                     | <u>313,065</u>   | <u>699,466</u>   |

The majority of turnover is attributable to the UK market.

#### 3 Loss on ordinary activities before and after taxation

The loss on ordinary activities is stated after charging:

| Depreciation of owned ta | ngibl | e fixed assets (note 4) | 14,853  | 9,731        |
|--------------------------|-------|-------------------------|---------|--------------|
| Auditors' remuneration   | -     | Audit fee               | 3,600   | 2,400        |
| Exceptional items        | _     | Closure of Bonn office  | 284,222 | <u>2,400</u> |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

30 June 2001 (continued)

| 4 | Tangible fixed assets                  | Office<br>fittings<br>£ | Furniture<br>and<br>equipment<br>£ | Computer<br>and<br>telephone<br>equipment<br>£ | Total<br>£       |
|---|--|-------------------------|------------------------------------|--|------------------|
|   | Cost                                   | £                       | L                                  | £  | L                |
|   | At 1 July 2000                         | 2,942                   | 13,093                             | 25,712   | 41,747           |
|   | Additions                              | -                       | 3,928                              | 18,199   | 22,127           |
|   | Transfers to Durlacher Corporation     | _                       | (2,746)                            | (6,324)  | (9,070)          |
|   | Transfers within headings              | 1,821                   | (1,821)                            | -  | -                |
|   | Disposals                              | (4,763)                 | (12,454)                           | (28,346)                                       | <u>(45,562</u> ) |
|   | At 30 June 2001                        | <del>-</del>            |                                    | 9,242  | 9,242            |
|   | Accumulated depreciation               |                         |                                    |  |                  |
|   | At 1 July 2000                         | 637                     | 2,084                              | 10,163   | 12,884           |
|   | Transfer to Durlacher Corporation      | -                       | (858)                              | (3,418)  | (4,276)          |
|   | Disposals                              | (1,928)                 | (3,072)                            | (12,056)                                       | (17,056)         |
|   | Charge for the year                    | 1,291                   | 1,846                              | 11,716   | 14,853           |
|   | At 30 June 2001                        |                         |                                    | 6,405  | 6,405            |
|   | Net book value                         |                         |                                    |  |                  |
|   | At 30 June 2001                        | <u> </u>                |                                    | 2,837  | 2,837            |
|   | At 30 June 2000                        | 2,305                   | 11,009                             | 15,549   | 28,863           |
|   | Depreciation rate                      | 20 %                    | 15 %                               | 33.33 %  |                  |
|   |  |                         |                                    |  |                  |
| 5 | Investments                            |                         |                                    | 2001   | 2000             |
|   |  |                         |                                    | £  | £                |
|   | Investments in subsidiary undertakings | s - cost                |                                    | <u> 197,914</u>                                |                  |

The company owns all of the issued share capital of Durlacher Research S.L. a company incorporated during the year in Spain and whose principal activity is consultancy and investment research. Financial statements for Durlacher Research S.L. at 30 June 2001 show net assets of £186,050 and a loss for the period then ended of £2,902.

| 6 | Debtors                        | 2001   | 2000          |
|---|--------------------------------|--------|---------------|
|   | Due within one year            | £      | £             |
|   | Trade debtors                  | 54,187 | 142,319       |
|   | Other debtors                  | 26,500 | 19,092        |
|   | Prepayments and accrued income |        | <u>24,406</u> |
|   |                                | 82,731 | 185,817       |

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# 30 June 2001 (continued)

# 7 **Creditors:** amounts falling due within one year

| Trade creditors                    | 21,636           | 18,941         |
|------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Amounts owed to group undertakings | 1,629,020        | 630,208        |
| Other creditors                    | 24,055           | 7,297          |
| Accruals and deferred income       | 283,886          | <u>73,714</u>  |
|                                    | <u>1,958,597</u> | <u>730,160</u> |

| 8  | Share capital  | Authorised         |           | Allotted, issued And fully paid |                        |  |
|----|--|--------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|------------------------|--|
|    |  | <b>2001</b><br>£   | 2000<br>£ | 2001<br>£                       | 2000<br>£              |  |
|    | Ordinary shares of £1 each                                   | 2                  | 2         | 2                               | 2                      |  |
| 9  | Profit and loss account                                      |                    |           | 2001<br>£                       | 2000<br>£              |  |
|    | Balance at beginning of year Loss for the financial year     |                    |           | (461,285)<br>(1,158,589)        | (232,975)<br>(228,310) |  |
|    | Balance at end of year                                       |                    |           | (1,619,874)                     | (461,285)              |  |
| 10 | Reconciliation of movements in equ                           | nity shareholders' | deficit   |                                 |                        |  |
|    | Opening shareholders' deficit<br>Loss for the financial year |                    |           | (461,283)<br>(1,158,589)        | (232,973)<br>(228,310) |  |
|    | Closing shareholders' deficit                                |                    |           | (1,619,872)                     | <u>(461,283</u> )      |  |

# 11 Contingent liabilities

An unlimited guarantee in favour of Durlacher Corporation PLC has been given to The Royal Bank of Scotland plc in regard to that company's overdraft facility. At 30 June 2001 the amount outstanding under the facility was £Nil.

#### 12 Related party transactions

The company has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS8 not to disclose inter-group transactions. Cost of sales includes fees of £15,000 (2000: £30,000) payable to a company controlled by D Tabizel, a non-executive director (until his resignation on 29 December 2000) of the company's parent undertaking.

### 113 Parent undertaking

The ultimate parent company is Durlacher Corporation PLC.