**Directors' Report and Accounts** 

31 January 2006

Registered No: 3399254

\*exakcg1U\* 321
COMPANIES HOUSE 06/06/2006

#### DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Directors present their Annual Report and the audited accounts for the year ended 31 January 2006.

#### Principal activity

The principal activity of the Company is the sale of retail and mail order clothing.

#### Results and dividends

The results for the period are set out in the profit and loss account on page 4. The Directors do not recommend a final dividend for the year (2005: £Nil).

The retained profit transferred to reserves was £1,262,000 (2005: £1,064,000).

#### Directors and Directors' interests

The Directors who served the during the period and their interests in the company are stated below:

|                |                                  | Ordinary shares |       |
|----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|-------|
|                |                                  | 2006            | 2005  |
| Stephen Marks  | (Chairman and Managing Director) | -               | _     |
| Neil Williams  |                                  | -               | _     |
| Roy Naismith   | •                                | -               | -     |
| Jessica Seaton |                                  | 3,000           | 3,000 |
| Jamie Seaton   |                                  | 3,000           | 3,000 |

Stephen Marks, Neil Williams and Roy Naismith are Directors of the ultimate holding Company at 31 January 2006 and their interests in the shares of Group companies are disclosed in the Directors' report of that Company.

#### Auditors

The company has taken advantage of Section 386(1) of the Companies Act 1985, as amended, to dispense with the obligation to appoint an auditor annually. The auditor, KPMG Audit Plc, is willing to continue in office and will be deemed to be reappointed on the expiry of its term in office in respect of the year ended 31 January 2006.

By order of the Board

Dinesh Shah

Company Secretary

20-22 Bedford Row London WC1R 4JS

31 May 2006

# STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE DIRECTORS' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards.

The financial statements are required by law to 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 these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK 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 that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that its financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TOAST (MAIL ORDER) LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 14. This report is made solely to the Company's members, as a body, in accordance with section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

#### Respective responsibilities of Directors and auditors

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' report and, as described on page 2, the financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and accounting standards. Our responsibilities, as independent auditors, are established in the United Kingdom by statute, the Auditing Practices Board and by our profession's ethical guidance.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Directors' report is not consistent with the financial statements, if the Company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding Directors' remuneration and transactions with the Company is not disclosed.

We read the other information accompanying the financial statements and consider whether it is consistent with those statements. We consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements.

#### Basis of audit 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 31 January 2006 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

KPMG Audit Plc Registered Auditor

London

2 June 2006

KRMG ALLE PIC

### PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2006

|   | Note | 2006<br>£'000 | 2005<br>£'000 |
|---|------|---------------|---------------|
| Turnover                                      | 2    | 8,111         | 6,198         |
| Cost of sales                                 |      | (2,679)       | (2,006)       |
| Gross profit                                  |      | 5,432         | 4,192         |
| Operating expenses                            | 3    | (3,606)       | (2,659)       |
| Operating profit                              |      | 1,826         | 1,533         |
| Net interest payable and similar items        | 5    | (4)           | (6)           |
| Profit on ordinary activities before taxation | 4    | 1,822         | 1,527         |
| Tax on profit on ordinary activities          | 8    | (560)         | (463)         |
| Retained profit for the financial year        | 16   | 1,262         | 1,064         |

The attached notes form part of these accounts.

There were no recognised gains or losses in either period other than the results shown above.

The Company's results were entirely from continuing operations.

### **BALANCE SHEET** AT 31 JANUARY 2006

| AI SI JANUARI 2000   | Note     | 2006<br>£'000         | 2005<br>£'000       |
|--|----------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Fixed assets Intangible assets Tangible assets                       | 9<br>10  | 14<br>805             | 17<br>425           |
|  |          | 819                   | 442                 |
| Current assets Stocks Debtors Cash at bank and in hand               | 11<br>12 | 2,038<br>1,498<br>101 | 719<br>1,027<br>126 |
|  |          | 3,637                 | 1,872               |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year                       | 13       | (1,997)               | (1,175)             |
| Net current assets   |          | 1,640                 | 697                 |
| Total assets less current liabilities                                |          | 2,459                 | 1,139               |
| Provisions for liabilities and charges                               | 14       | (82)                  | (24)                |
| Net assets   |          | 2,377                 | 1,115               |
| Capital and reserves Called-up share capital Profit and loss account | 15<br>16 | 24<br>2,353           | 24<br>1,091         |
| Shareholders' equity   | 17       | 2,377                 | 1,115               |

The attached notes form part of these accounts.

Roume

These accounts were approved by the Board of Directors on 31 May 2006 and were signed on its behalf by:

Roy Naismith Director

# CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2006

|  | Note | 20    | 2006  |       | 005   |
|--|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|  |      | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Net cash inflow from operating activities                                      | 18   |       | 963   |       | 486   |
| Returns on investments and servicing of finance<br>Interest paid               |      | (4)   |       | (6)   |       |
| Net cash outflow from returns on investments and servicing of finance          |      |       | (4)   |       | (6)   |
| Tax paid   |      |       | (445) |       | (115) |
| Capital expenditure and financial investment Purchase of tangible fixed assets |      |       | (539) |       | (323) |
| (Decrease)/increase in cash  |      |       | (25)  |       | 42    |

The attached notes form part of these accounts.

#### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

#### 1. Accounting policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the Company's accounts.

#### Basis of preparation

The Company has elected to prepare its financial statements in accordance with UK GAAP.

#### Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost accounting rules and in accordance with applicable accounting standards. In preparing the Company accounts, the Directors have elected to offset all inter-company debtors and creditors.

The Company has adopted the following accounting standards in the year:

- Financial Reporting Standard No. 20 "Share-Based Payments" (FRS20). Under FRS20, the Company is
  required to reflect share-based payments in the profit and loss account. The provisions of FRS20 have been
  applied to options granted after 7 November 2002. The adoption of FRS20 had no effect on the Company's
  profit or net assets.
- Financial Reporting Standard No. 21 "Events after the Balance Sheet Date" (FRS21). The major effect of FRS21 is to change the approach to dividends declared after the balance sheet date in respect of the year under review such that these dividends are no longer accrued for in the balance sheet. The adoption of FRS21 had no effect on the Company's profit or net assets.
- Financial Reporting Standard No. 23 "The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates" (FRS23). FRS23
  sets out additional guidance on the translation method for transactions in foreign currencies and on determining
  the functional and presentation currencies. The adoption of FRS23 had no effect on the Company's profit or net
  assets.
- Financial Reporting Standards No. 25 "Financial Instruments: Disclosure and Preparation" (FRS25). FRS25 sets out the requirements for the presentation of, and disclosures relating to, financial instruments. The adoption of FRS25 had no effect on the Company's profit or net assets.
- Financial Reporting Standards No. 26 "Financial Instruments: Measurement" (FRS26). FRS26 sets out the requirements for measurement, recognition and derecognition of financial instruments. The adoption of FRS26 had no effect on the Company's profit or net assets.
- Financial Reporting Standards No. 28 "Corresponding Amounts" (FRS28). FRS28 sets out the requirements for the disclosure of corresponding amounts for items shown in an entity's primary financial statements and the notes to the financial statements. The adoption of FRS28 had no effect upon the Company's profit or net assets.

#### Turnover

Turnover represents goods sold to external customers, less returns and value added tax. The turnover arises from the sale of retail and mail order clothing.

#### Copyrights

Copyrights are valued at cost less accumulated amortisation. Amortisation is calculated to write off the cost in equal annual installments over their estimated useful life of 10 years.

#### Depreciation

Depreciation is provided to write off the cost or valuation less estimated residual value of each fixed assets by equal annual instalments over their useful lives, which are estimated to be as follows:

Office equipment Website Design Costs - 25% reducing balance

- 50% straight line

Shop Fittings

- 33% straight line

#### **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and estimated net realisable value. Cost comprises materials, direct labour and a proportion of production overheads.

#### Foreign exchange

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Sterling at rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions during the period are translated into Sterling at the rates of exchange ruling on the date of transaction or at hedged rates. Exchange differences are dealt with through the profit and loss account.

#### Operating leases

Annual rentals are charged to the profit and loss account in the period to which they relate.

#### **Taxation**

The charge for taxation is based on the profit for the year and takes into account taxation deferred because of timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes.

Full provision has been made for deferred taxation arising from timing differences between the recognition of income and expenditure for taxation and accounting purposes. Deferred tax amounts are not discounted.

#### Pension costs

Pension costs charged to the profit and loss account represent the amount of contributions payable to defined contribution and pension schemes in respect of the period.

#### 2. Turnover

4.

The total turnover of the company for the period has been derived from its principal activity wholly undertaken in the UK.

#### 3. Operating expenses

|   | 2006  | 2005  |
|---|-------|-------|
|   | £'000 | £,000 |
| Selling and distribution costs                | 2,997 | 2,170 |
| Administrative expenses                       | 609   | 489   |
|   | 3,606 | 2,659 |
| Profit on ordinary activities before taxation |       |       |

#### I Tolle on ordinary activities before taxation

The profit on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after charging the following:-

|                                  | 2006     | 2005  |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------|
|                                  | £'000    | £'000 |
| Operating lease rentals          |          |       |
| Leasehold properties             | 76       | 23    |
| Amortisation of copyrights       | 3        | 3     |
| Depreciation on assets           | 159      | 28    |
| Loss on disposal of fixed assets | <u>-</u> | 3     |
| Auditor's remuneration           | 11       | 10    |
|                                  |          |       |

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

### 5. Interest payable and similar charges

| p,                    | 2006<br>£'000 | 2005<br>£'000 |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Bank interest payable | 4             | 6             |

### 6. Director's emoluments

During the year the Directors' emoluments arising in respect of their services to the Company were £152,000 (2005: £180,000). These emoluments exclude pension contributions and include benefits in kind. The emoluments of Stephen Marks, Neil Williams and Roy Naismith are borne by French Connection Group PLC and are disclosed in the financial statements of the Company.

### 7. Staff numbers and costs

The average number of persons employed by the Company during the year, including Directors, was as follows:-

| 2006<br>No | 2005<br>No                            |
|------------|---------------------------------------|
| 76         | 60                                    |
| 7          | 7                                     |
| 6          | 4                                     |
| 89         | 71                                    |
|            |                                       |
| 2006       | 2005                                  |
| £'000      | £'000                                 |
| 1,294      | 973                                   |
| 97         | 92                                    |
| 4          | 7                                     |
| 1,395      | 1,072                                 |
|            | No  76 7 6 89  2006 £'000  1,294 97 4 |

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

### 8. Tax charge on profit on ordinary activities

### a) Analysis of charge in period

| Analysis of charge in period   | 2006<br>£'000 | 2005<br>£'000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Current tax  UK corporation tax on profits of the period  Adjustment in respect of previous periods        | 494<br>8<br>  | 437           |
| Total current tax (Note 8b)  | 502           | 437           |
| Deferred tax – origination and reversal of UK timing differences Adjustment in respect of previous periods | 57<br>1       | 25            |
| Total deferred tax   | 58            | 26            |
| Tax on profit on ordinary activities   | 560           | 463           |

### b) Factors affecting tax charge for period

The tax charged for the period is lower than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK (30%). The differences are explained below:

|   | 2006<br>£'000 | 2005<br>£'000 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Profit on ordinary activities before tax  | 1,822         | 1,527         |
| Profit on ordinary activities multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 30% (2005: 30%) | 547           | 458           |
| Effects of:  Expenses not deductible for tax purposes   | 4             | 4             |
| Capital allowances for period in excess of depreciation and short term timing differences                     | (57)          | (25)          |
| Adjustment to tax charge in respect of previous periods   | <u> </u>      |               |
| Current tax charge for the period (Note 8a)   | 502           | 437           |

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

| 9.  | Intangible fixed assets                | Copyrights £'000 |
|-----|--|------------------|
|     | Cost                                   |                  |
|     | At 1 February 2005 and 31 January 2006 | 30               |
|     | Amortisation                           |                  |
|     | At 1 February 2005                     | 13               |
|     | Provided during the year               | 3                |
|     | At 31 January 2006                     | 16               |
|     | Net book value                         |                  |
|     | At 31 January 2006                     | 14               |
|     | 71. 51. 01.11                          | <del></del>      |
|     | At 31 January 2005                     | 17               |
|     |  |                  |
| 10. | Tangible fixed assets                  | Plant            |
|     | •                                      | equipment,       |
|     |  | fixtures         |
|     |  | and              |
|     |  | fittings         |
|     |  | £'000            |
|     | Cost                                   | 590              |
|     | At 1 February 2005 Additions           | 580<br>539       |
|     | Additions                              |                  |
|     | At 31 January 2006                     | 1,119            |
|     |  |                  |
|     | Depreciation                           | 155              |
|     | At 1 February 2005                     | 155              |
|     | Charge for year                        |                  |
|     | At 31 January 2006                     | 314              |
|     | Net book value                         |                  |
|     | At 31 January 2006                     | 805              |
|     | At 31 January 2005                     | 425              |
|     |  |                  |

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

| 11. | Stocks   |               |                    |
|-----|--|---------------|--------------------|
|     |  | 2006<br>£'000 | 2005<br>£'000      |
|     |  | 2 000         |                    |
|     | Raw materials and consumables  | 2.020         | 4<br>715           |
|     | Finished goods held for resale   | 2,038         |                    |
|     |  | 2.020         | 719                |
|     |  | 2,038         |                    |
|     |  |               |                    |
| 12. | Debtors  |               |                    |
|     |  | 2006          | 2005               |
|     |  | £'000         | £'000              |
|     | Trade debtors  | 293           | 122                |
|     | Amounts owed by Group undertakings   | 804           | 724                |
|     | Prepayments and accrued income   | 401           | 181                |
|     |  | 1,498         | 1,027              |
|     |  |               |                    |
| 13. | Creditors: amounts falling due within one year   |               |                    |
| 12. | on out of the state of the stat | 2006          | 2005               |
|     |  | £,000         | £,000              |
|     | Trade creditors  | 887           | 461                |
|     | UK corporation tax   | 502           | 437                |
|     | Other taxation and social security   | 342           | 217<br>60          |
|     | Accruals and deferred income   | 266           |                    |
|     |  | 1,997         | 1,175              |
|     |  |               |                    |
| 14. | Provisions for liabilities and charges   |               |                    |
| a)  |  |               |                    |
| a)  | Represented by   | 2006          | 2005               |
|     |  | €'000         | £'000              |
|     | Deferred tax liability   |               |                    |
|     | Accelerated capital allowances   | 82            | 24                 |
|     | Accelerated capital anowalices   |               |                    |
|     |  |               |                    |
| b)  | Deferred tax movements   |               |                    |
|     |  |               | Liability<br>£'000 |
|     | At 1 February 2005   |               | 24                 |
|     | Charge in the profit and loss account  |               | 58                 |
|     |  |               |                    |
|     | At 31 January 2006   |               | 82                 |
|     |  |               |                    |

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

| 15. | Called up share capital   | 2006<br>£'000 | 2005<br>£'000                          |  |  |  |
|-----|---|---------------|--|--|--|--|
|     |   |               |  |  |  |  |
|     | Equity Authorised:  |               |  |  |  |  |
|     | 100,000 ordinary shares of £1 each  | 100           | 100                                    |  |  |  |
|     | Allotted, called up and fully paid:   |               |  |  |  |  |
|     | 24,000 ordinary shares of £1 each   | 24            | 24                                     |  |  |  |
| 16. | Reserves  |               |  |  |  |  |
|     |   |               | Profit<br>and loss<br>account<br>£'000 |  |  |  |
|     | At 1 February 2005  |               | 1,091                                  |  |  |  |
|     | Retained profit for the financial year  |               | 1,262                                  |  |  |  |
|     | At 31 January 2006  |               | 2,353                                  |  |  |  |
| 17. | Reconciliation of movements in equity shareholders' funds                       |               |  |  |  |  |
|     |   | 2006<br>£'000 | 2005<br>£'000                          |  |  |  |
|     | Retained profit for the financial year  | 1,262         | 1,064                                  |  |  |  |
|     | Opening shareholders' equity  | 1,115         | 51                                     |  |  |  |
|     | Closing shareholders' equity  | 2,377         | 1,115                                  |  |  |  |
| 18. | Reconciliation of operating profit to net cash inflow from operating activities |               |  |  |  |  |
|     |   | 2006          | 2005                                   |  |  |  |
|     |   | £'000         | £'000                                  |  |  |  |
|     | Operating profit  | 1,826         | 1,533                                  |  |  |  |
|     | Depreciation and amortisation   | 162           | 31                                     |  |  |  |
|     | Loss on disposal Increase in stocks   | (1,319)       | 3<br>(199)                             |  |  |  |
|     | Increase in debtors   | (471)         | (699)                                  |  |  |  |
|     | Increase/(decrease) in creditors  | 765           | (183)                                  |  |  |  |
|     | Net cash inflow from operating activities                                       | 963           | 486                                    |  |  |  |

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

### 19. Operating leases

At the end of the financial year the Company had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

| Buildings   | 2006<br>£'000 | 2005<br>£'000 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Operating leases expiring within two to five years Operating leases expiring after five years | 67<br>20      | 80            |
|   | 87            | 80            |

#### 20. Pension costs

The Group operated a Group Personal Pension Scheme during the year and contributed to a number of personal pension schemes. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the Group in independently administered funds. The particulars of these schemes are disclosed within the accounts of the ultimate holding company, French Connection Group PLC. The pension cost charged in the profit and loss account during the year is disclosed in Note 7.

### 21. Related party transactions

| Name of party                      | Relationship  | Purchases within financial year | Amounts due from related party at year end £'000 |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
|                                    |               | £'000                           |  |  |  |  |  |
| For the year ended 31 January 2006 |               |                                 |  |  |  |  |  |
| French Connection Group PLC        | Group Company | 5,941                           | 804  |  |  |  |  |
| For the year ended 31 January 2005 |               |                                 |  |  |  |  |  |
| French Connection Group PLC        | Group Company | 1,249                           | 724  |  |  |  |  |

### 22. Ultimate holding Company

The controlling interest of the Company is held by French Connection Group PLC, which is incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England and Wales. Copies of the Group accounts may be obtained from 20-22 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JS.