(Registered Number 4572043)

**ANNUAL REPORT** 

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**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** 

**ACCOUNTING PERIOD** 

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2004



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# **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

The directors have pleasure in submitting their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2004. The comparatives shown for 2003 are for the 15 month period from 24 October 2002 to 31 December 2003.

#### **Activities**

The principal activity of the company is the pooling of cash for the European subsidiaries of Avon Products Inc.

# Review of Business

The profit for the period was £77,655 (2003 (£38,071)). The directors consider that the year end financial position and level of business are satisfactory.

# Future Developments

The company aims to increase the number of European subsidiaries involved in the cash pool.

# **Dividend**

The directors do not propose the payment of a dividend.

# **Directors**

The directors in alphabetical order were as follows:

S D J Ibbotson

D Ling

B Rigg (Appointed 14th Sept 2005)

R Toth

M-A Tousignant

R Valone

According to the register required to be kept under Section 325 of the Companies Act 1985, no director had an interest in the shares of the company at any time during the year. As permitted by statutory instrument the register does not contain details of the interests of the directors in other group companies since the company is ultimately a wholly owned subsidiary of a company incorporated outside Great Britain.

## Auditors

A resolution to reappoint PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as auditors to the company will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

# **DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES**

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year that 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. The directors are required to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors confirm that suitable accounting policies have been used and consistently applied. They also confirm that reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates have been made in preparing the financial statements for the accounting period ended 31 December 2004 and that applicable accounting standards have been followed.

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 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.

By Order of the Board

31 DANUARY 2006

DIRECTOR

# <u>INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT</u> TO THE MEMBERS OF AVON EUROPEAN FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements which comprise the profit and loss account, the balance sheet and the related notes.

# Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

The directors' responsibilities for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and accounting standards are set out in the statement of directors' responsibilities in the directors' report.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and United Kingdom auditing standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. This report, including the opinion, has been prepared for and only for the company's members as a body in accordance with Section 235 of the Companies Act 1985 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving this opinion, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or in to whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

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 is not disclosed.

We read the other information contained in the annual report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements. The other information comprises only the directors' report.

# 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.

# **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT (continued)**

# **Opinion**

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs at 31 December 2004 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors London.

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31 January

2006

# PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

## for the year ended 31st December 2004

	Notes	2004 £	<u>Period Ending</u> <u>2003</u> <u>£</u>
Turnover Cost of Sales		0 0	0 0
Gross profit		0	0
Other operating charges	2	(44,826)	(54,079)
Operating loss		(44,826)	(54,079)
Interest receivable and similar income Interest payable and similar charges Profit / (Loss) on ordinary activities before tax	5 6 ation	682,470 (526,708) 155,762 110,936	120,838 (104,830) 16,008 (38,071)
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	7	(33,281)	0
Profit / (Loss) for the financial year		77,655	(38,071)

All trading activities relate to the continuing operations of the company as defined under Financial Reporting Standard 3 "Reporting Financial Performance".

There is no difference between the profit on ordinary activities before taxation and the profit for the year stated above and its historical cost equivalent.

The company has no recognised gains and losses other than the profit for the period stated above and therefore no separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has been presented.

# **BALANCE SHEET**

# as at 31st December 2004

			Period ending
	<u>Notes</u>	2004 <u>£</u>	2003 <u>£</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	8	4,711,262	837,880
Cash at bank and in hand		51,906,542	29,387,195
		56,617,804	30,225,075
CREDITORS Amounts falling due within one year	9	(56,578,219)	(30,263,145)
NET ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)		39,585	(38,070)
CAPITAL AND RESERVES Called up share capital Profit and loss account	10	1 39,584	1 (38,071)
EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	11	39,585	(38,070)

The financial statements on pages 7 to 11 were approved by the Board of Directors on 3157 January 2006 and were signed on its behalf by:

B Rigg

# NOTES (Forming part of the Financial Statements)

# 1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 1985 and applicable accounting standards in the United Kingdom.

#### a) Going Concern

These accounts have been prepared under the going concern convention. The ultimate holding company, Avon Products Inc., has undertaken to support the Company for the foreseeable future.

#### b) Cash Flow Statement

As a wholly owned subsidiary of Avon European Holdings Limited the Company has not prepared a cash flow statement in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 1 Paragraph 5(a).

#### c) Taxation

The charge for taxation is based on the profit for the year adjusted for disallowable items. Full provision is made for deferred taxation.

#### d) Deferred taxation

Deferred tax is measured at the average tax rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which timing differences are expected to reverse, based on tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the balance sheet date. Deferred tax is measured on a non-discounted basis.

Deferred taxation has been recognised as a liability or asset if transactions have occurred at the balance sheet date that give rise to an obligation to pay more taxation in future, or a right to pay less taxation in the future. An asset is not recognised to the extent that the transfer of economic benefits in future is uncertain. Deferred tax assets and liabilities recognised have not been discounted.

#### e) Foreign Currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded using the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated using the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Gains or losses on translation are included in the determination of profit.

## **2 OPERATING PROFIT**

The operating profit is stated after charging:		Period ending
	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
	<u>£</u>	$\mathbf{\underline{t}}$
Audit remuneration	2,500	2,500

### 3 STAFF COSTS

The company has no employees.

#### **4 DIRECTORS REMUNERATION**

The directors received no emoluments in respect of their services to the Company.

<u>5_INTEREST_RECEIVABLE</u>		Period ending
	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Interest receivable from group undertakings	139,526	3,427
Bank interest	542,944	117,411
	682,470	120,838
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# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

6 INTEREST PAYABLE  Interest payable to group undertakings Bank interest	2004 £ 519,827 6,881 526,708	Period ending  2003 £ 104,140 690 104,830
7 TAX ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	2004 <u>£</u>	<u>2003</u> <u>₹</u>
Current tax:  UK corporation tax on profits for the period  Adjustment in respect of previous periods  Total current tax  Deferred tax	33,281	
Origination and reversal of timing differences Total deferred tax Tax on profit on ordinary activities	33,281	 
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	2004 £ 110,936	2003 £ (38,071)
Profit on ordinary activities multiplied by standard rate in the UK 30% (2003:30%) Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	33,281	(11,421)
Non taxable income Accelerated capital allowances and other timing Group relief surrendered not paid	  	11,421
Current tax charge for the period	33,281	0
8 DEBTORS	2004 £	Period ending 2003
Bank Interest Receivable Amounts receivable from group undertakings	87,939 4,623,323 4,711,262	62,598 775,282 837,880
9 CREDITORS - Amounts falling due within one year	2004	Period ending 2003
Taxation and Social Security Amounts due to group undertakings Accruals	33,280 56,454,250 90,689 56,578,219	30,105,737 53,958 30,159,695

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# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

#### 10 CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL

Authorised 1 ordinary share of £1 each	2004 £ 1	2003 £ 1
Allotted and fully paid 1 ordinary share of £1 each	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
11 RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDERS	<u>'' FUNDS</u>	Period ending
	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
	$\underline{\mathbf{t}}$	<u>£</u>
Opening Shareholders funds	(38,070)	0
Profit for the financial year	77,655	(38,071)

#### 12 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

There were no capital commitments at 31st December 2004 or 31st December 2003.

# 13 RELATED PARTIES

Issue of Share Capital

Closing shareholders' funds

## a) ULTIMATE HOLDING COMPANY

The ultimate holding company is Avon Products Inc., which is incorporated in New York State, United States of America. The consolidated accounts of Avon Products Inc., the parent undertaking of the largest group to incorporate these financial statements, are available on application from group headquarters at 1345 Avenue of the Americas, New York.

0

(38,070)

39,585

#### b) INTERMEDIATE HOLDING COMPANY

The immediate holding company is Avon European Holdings Ltd, which is registered in England and Wales. The consolidated accounts of Avon European Holdings Ltd, the parent undertaking of the smallest group to incorporate these financial statements, are available on application from the Secretary at Nunn Mills Road, Northampton. In these circumstances, by virtue of the exemption conferred by the Financial Reporting Standard Number 8 'Related Party Disclosures', the company is not required to disclose details of transactions between the company and its intermediate or ultimate holding company.

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