

THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

of ELQ Investors VI Ltd

CONTENTS

Clause	Subject matter	Page
	INTERPRETATION AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY	1
1.	DEFINED TERMS.....	1
2.	LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS.....	5
	DIRECTORS.....	5
3.	DIRECTORS' GENERAL AUTHORITY	5
4.	SHAREHOLDERS' RESERVE POWER	5
5.	DIRECTORS MAY DELEGATE.....	5
6.	COMMITTEES	5
7.	DIRECTORS TO TAKE DECISIONS COLLECTIVELY	6
8.	UNANIMOUS DECISIONS.....	6
9.	CALLING A DIRECTORS' MEETING	6
10.	PARTICIPATION IN DIRECTORS' MEETINGS	6
11.	QUORUM FOR DIRECTORS' MEETINGS.....	7
12.	CHAIRING OF DIRECTORS' MEETINGS.....	7
13.	NO CASTING VOTE	7
14.	RECORDS OF DECISIONS TO BE KEPT	7
15.	DIRECTORS' CONFLICTS.....	7
16.	DIRECTORS' INTERESTS IN TRANSACTIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS	9
17.	DIRECTORS' DISCRETION TO MAKE FURTHER RULES.....	9
18.	METHODS OF APPOINTING DIRECTORS	9
19.	TERMINATION OF DIRECTOR'S APPOINTMENT.....	10
20.	APPOINTMENT AND REMOVAL OF ALTERNATE DIRECTORS.....	10
21.	DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION.....	11
22.	DIRECTORS' EXPENSES.....	12
	SHARES AND DISTRIBUTIONS.....	12
23.	ALLOTMENT OF SHARES AND DISAPPLICATION OF STATUTORY PRE-EMPTION RIGHTS	12
24.	ALL SHARES TO BE FULLY PAID UP	12
25.	POWER TO ISSUE DIFFERENT CLASSES OF SHARE.....	12
26.	COMPANY NOT BOUND BY LESS THAN ABSOLUTE INTERESTS....	12
27.	SHARE CERTIFICATES	13
28.	REPLACEMENT SHARE CERTIFICATES	13
29.	GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO SHARE TRANSFERS.....	13
30.	CAPITAL	14
31.	ALLOCATION OF DIVIDENDS	15
32.	PROCEDURE FOR DECLARING DIVIDENDS.....	15

33.	PAYMENT OF DIVIDENDS AND OTHER DISTRIBUTIONS.....	15
34.	NO INTEREST ON DISTRIBUTIONS	16
35.	DEDUCTION FROM DIVIDENDS.....	16
36.	UNCLAIMED DISTRIBUTIONS.....	16
37.	NON-CASH DISTRIBUTIONS	16
38.	WAIVER OF DISTRIBUTIONS.....	17
39.	REDEMPTION OF PREFERENCE SHARES.....	17
40.	AUTHORITY TO CAPITALISE AND APPROPRIATION OF CAPITALISED SUMS	18
	DECISION-MAKING BY SHAREHOLDERS.....	18
41.	NOTICE, ATTENDANCE AND SPEAKING AT GENERAL MEETINGS.....	18
42.	QUORUM FOR GENERAL MEETINGS.....	19
43.	CHAIRING GENERAL MEETINGS.....	19
44.	VOTING: GENERAL	20
45.	ERRORS AND DISPUTES	21
46.	POLL VOTES	21
47.	CONTENT OF PROXY NOTICES.....	21
48.	DELIVERY OF PROXY NOTICES.....	22
49.	AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTIONS	23
	ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS	23
50.	MEANS OF COMMUNICATION TO BE USED	23
51.	COMPANY SECRETARY	24
52.	COMPANY SEALS.....	24
53.	NO RIGHT TO INSPECT ACCOUNTS AND OTHER RECORDS.....	24
54.	PROVISION FOR EMPLOYEES ON CESSATION OF BUSINESS.....	24
55.	COMPANY NAME	25
56.	INDEMNITY	25
57.	INSURANCE	25

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INTERPRETATION AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

1. DEFINED TERMS

1.1 In these articles (“articles”), unless the context requires otherwise:

“Act”

means the Companies Act 2006;

“alternate” or “alternate director”

has the meaning given in article 20;

“associated company”

has the meaning given in article 56;

“business day”

means each day other than a Saturday or a Sunday on which banks are open for general banking business in London, United Kingdom;

“bankruptcy”

means individual insolvency proceedings and includes similar proceedings in a jurisdiction other than England and Wales;

“chairman”

has the meaning given in article 12;

“chairman of the meeting”

has the meaning given in article 43;

“clear days”

means, in relation to a period of notice or otherwise, that period excluding the day when the notice or other document is received or deemed to be received and the day for which it is sent or on which it is to take effect;

“conflict situation”

has the meaning given in article 15;

“director”

means a director of the Company, and includes any person occupying the position of director, by whatever name called and an alternate director appointed by a director;

“distribution recipient”

has the meaning given in article 33;

“document”

includes, unless otherwise specified, any document sent or supplied in electronic form;

“electronic form”

has the meaning given in section 1168 of the Act;

“fully paid”

in relation to a share, means that the nominal value and any premium to be paid to the Company in respect of that share have been paid to the Company;

“group”

means the Company and every subsidiary and holding company of the Company and every subsidiary and holding company of such subsidiary and holding company;

“group company”

means any company which is a member of the group;

“hard copy form”

has the meaning given in section 1168 of the Act;

“holder”

in relation to shares means the person whose name is entered in the register of members as the holder of the shares;

“holding company”

has the meaning given in section 1159 of the Act;

“instrument”

means a document in hard copy form;

“issue price”

means the price at which the relevant share is issued, including any premium;

“majority holder”

means the holder or holders from time to time of at least 75 per cent. in nominal value of the issued share capital of the Company conferring the right to attend and vote at general meetings;

“ordinary resolution”

has the meaning given in section 282 of the Act;

“ordinary shares”

means the ordinary shares of the Company however described;

“paid”

means paid or credited as paid;

“participate”

in relation to a directors’ meeting, has the meaning given in article 10;

“preference shareholder”

means a holder of preference shares;

“preference shares”

means all redeemable preference shares of USD 1 each in the capital of the Company;

“preference shares rate”

means, in respect of each preference share, such an amount (expressed as a percentage) as notified by the holder of such preference share to the Company at least 2 business days prior to the end of the applicable preferential dividend period, or such other rate as may be agreed between the Company and the holders of the preference shares in the subscription agreement in respect of the relevant preference shares from time to time;

“preferential dividend amount”

means, in respect of each preference share in issue at the relevant time, an amount (expressed as a USD amount) as notified by the holder of such preference share to the Company at least 2 business days prior to the end of the applicable preferential dividend period, or such other rate as may be agreed between the Company and the holders of the preference shares in the subscription agreement in respect of the relevant preference shares from time to time;

“preferential dividend payment date”

means, prior to the redemption date, 9 November in each year;

“preferential dividend period”

means a period from and including a preferential dividend payment date to but excluding the following preferential dividend payment date; provided that:

- (A) the first preferential dividend period for the preference shares shall be the period from and including 11 February 2022, to, but excluding the following preferential dividend payment date;
- (B) any preferential dividend period that would otherwise end on a day that is not a business day shall be extended to the next succeeding business day, unless such business day falls in another calendar month, in which case such preferential dividend period shall end on the immediately preceding business day;
- (C) any preferential dividend period that begins on the last business day of a calendar month (or on a day for which there is no numerically corresponding day on the calendar month at the end of such preferential dividend period) shall end on the last business day of the calendar month at the end of such preferential dividend period; and
- (D) no preferential dividend period shall extend beyond the redemption date.

“proxy notice”

has the meaning given in article 47;

“redemption amount”

means, in respect of each preference share, the par value of such preference share;

“redemption date”

means 9 November 2026 or any earlier date as notified by the Company to the relevant shareholder;

“shareholder”

means a person who is the holder of a share;

“shares”

means the ordinary shares and the preference shares;

“situation involving a transaction or arrangement”

has the meaning given in article 16;

“special resolution”

has the meaning given in section 283 of the Act;

“subsidiary”

has the meaning given in section 1159 of the Act; and

“writing”

means the representation or reproduction of words, symbols or other information in a visible form by any method or combination of methods, whether sent or supplied in electronic form or otherwise.

- 1.2 Unless already defined in these articles, words or expressions contained in these articles bear the same meaning as in the Act.

2. LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS

The liability of the shareholders is limited to the amount, if any, unpaid on the shares held by them.

DIRECTORS

3. DIRECTORS' GENERAL AUTHORITY

Subject to the articles, the directors are responsible for the management of the Company's business, for which purpose they may exercise all the powers of the Company. When one director only is in office, this provision applies to that director.

4. SHAREHOLDERS' RESERVE POWER

- 4.1 The shareholders may, by special resolution, direct the directors to take, or refrain from taking, specified action.
- 4.2 No such special resolution and no alteration of the articles invalidates anything which the directors have done before the resolution is passed or the articles are altered (as appropriate).

5. DIRECTORS MAY DELEGATE

- 5.1 Subject to the articles, the directors may delegate any of the powers which are conferred on them under the articles:
- 5.1.1 to such person or committee;
 - 5.1.2 by such means (including by power of attorney);
 - 5.1.3 to such an extent;
 - 5.1.4 in relation to such matters or territories; and
 - 5.1.5 on such terms and conditions,
as they think fit.
- 5.2 If the directors so specify, any such delegation may authorise further delegation of the directors' powers by any person to whom they are delegated.
- 5.3 The directors may revoke any delegation in whole or part, or alter its terms and conditions.
- 5.4 The power to delegate under this article includes a power to delegate the determination of any fee, remuneration or other benefit which may be paid or provided to any director.
- ### 6. COMMITTEES
- 6.1 Committees to which the directors delegate any of their powers must follow procedures which are based, as far as they are applicable, on those provisions of the articles which govern the taking of decisions by directors.

- 6.2 The directors may make rules of procedure for all or any committees, which prevail over rules derived from the articles if they are not consistent with them.

7. DIRECTORS TO TAKE DECISIONS COLLECTIVELY

The general rule about decision-making by directors is that any decision of the directors must be either a majority decision at a meeting of the directors or a decision taken in accordance with article 8.

8. UNANIMOUS DECISIONS

- 8.1 A decision of the directors is taken in accordance with this article 8 when all eligible directors indicate to each other by any means that they share a common view on a matter.
- 8.2 Such a decision may take the form of a resolution in writing, copies of which have been signed by each eligible director or to which each eligible director has otherwise indicated agreement in writing.
- 8.3 References in this article to eligible directors are to directors who would have been entitled to vote on the matter had it been proposed as a resolution at a directors' meeting.
- 8.4 A decision may not be taken in accordance with this article 8 if the eligible directors would not have formed a quorum at such a meeting.

9. CALLING A DIRECTORS' MEETING

- 9.1 Any director may call a directors' meeting by giving reasonable notice of the meeting to the directors or by authorising the company secretary (if any) to give such notice.
- 9.2 Notice of any directors' meeting must indicate:
- 9.2.1 its proposed date and time;
 - 9.2.2 where it is to take place; and
 - 9.2.3 if it is anticipated that directors participating in the meeting will not be in the same place, how it is proposed that they should communicate with each other during the meeting.
- 9.3 Notice of a directors' meeting must be given to each director, but need not be in writing.
- 9.4 Notice of a directors' meeting need not be given to directors who waive their entitlement to notice of that meeting, by giving notice to that effect to the Company, and notice of the waiver may be given before or after the meeting is held. Where such notice is given after the meeting has been held, that does not affect the validity of the meeting, or of any business conducted at it.

10. PARTICIPATION IN DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

- 10.1 Directors participate in a directors' meeting, or part of a directors' meeting, when:
- 10.1.1 the meeting has been called and takes place in accordance with the articles; and
 - 10.1.2 they can each communicate to the others any information or opinions they have on any particular item of the business of the meeting.

10.2 In determining whether directors are participating in a directors' meeting, it is irrelevant where any director is or how they communicate with each other.

10.3 If all the directors participating in a meeting are not in the same place, they may decide that the meeting is to be treated as taking place wherever any of them is.

11. QUORUM FOR DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

11.1 At a directors' meeting, unless a quorum is participating, no proposal is to be voted on, except a proposal to call another meeting.

11.2 Subject to article 11.3, the quorum for directors' meetings may be fixed from time to time by ordinary resolution and (subject to article 11.3) unless otherwise fixed it is two, except when only one director is in office.

11.3 For the purposes of any meeting (or part of a meeting) held to authorise a director's conflict, if there is only one director other than the conflicted director, the quorum for the meeting (or part of a meeting) shall be one.

12. CHAIRING OF DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

12.1 The directors may appoint a director to chair their meetings.

12.2 The person so appointed for the time being is known as the chairman.

12.3 The directors may terminate the chairman's appointment at any time.

12.4 If the chairman is not participating in a directors' meeting within 10 minutes of the time at which it was to start, the participating directors may appoint one of themselves to chair it.

13. NO CASTING VOTE

The chairman or other director chairing the meeting shall not have a second or casting vote.

14. RECORDS OF DECISIONS TO BE KEPT

The directors must ensure that the Company keeps a record, in writing, for at least 10 years from the date of the decision recorded, of every decision taken by the directors.

15. DIRECTORS' CONFLICTS

15.1 A "conflict situation" means a situation in which a director or an alternate has, or can have, a direct or indirect interest that conflicts, or possibly may conflict, with the interests of the Company:

15.1.1 including a situation relating to the exploitation of any property, information or opportunity, irrespective of whether the Company could take advantage of the property, information or opportunity;

15.1.2 excluding a situation which could not reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest; and

15.1.3 excluding a situation involving a transaction or arrangement.

- 15.2 A director or an alternate shall not infringe his duty to avoid a conflict situation if the matter or situation which would otherwise result in that director or alternate infringing that duty arises out of or results from that director or alternate:
- 15.2.1 being a director, alternate, officer, employee, consultant or member of any other group company; or
- 15.2.2 being (directly or indirectly) involved with or interested in, any other group company;
- for the reason that any such matter or situation is hereby authorised and no further authorisation, whether pursuant to article 15.3 or otherwise, is required in respect of such matter or situation. In addition, any such director or such alternate shall not be in breach of any other duties he owes to the Company, including the duty to exercise independent judgment, as a result of him being involved in other group companies in the manner referred to in this article 15.2.
- 15.3 Any other matter or situation which would otherwise result in a director or an alternate director infringing his duty to avoid a conflict situation may be authorised by the directors. Any such authorisation will only be effective if:
- 15.3.1 the quorum at the meeting of the directors at which that matter or situation is considered is met without counting the director or alternate in question or any other interested director or alternate; and
- 15.3.2 the matter or situation was agreed to without their voting or would have been agreed to if their votes had not been counted.
- 15.4 Any authorisation given by the directors in accordance with article 15.3:
- 15.4.1 may (at the time it is given or at any subsequent time) be made subject to such terms and such conditions as the directors consider appropriate; and
- 15.4.2 may be revoked or varied by the directors (any such revocation or variation will not affect anything previously done by the director or alternate in accordance with such prior authorisation).
- 15.5 Where in relation to a director or an alternate, a matter or situation is authorised under article 15.2 or specifically authorised by the directors under article 15.3, that director or alternate shall, irrespective of his interest in the matter or situation giving rise to the conflict situation, and subject, at all times, to the terms and conditions (if any) of any authorisation:
- 15.5.1 be entitled to:
- (a) receive any papers or other documents in relation to or concerning, such matter or situation;
 - (b) attend any meeting (or any part of any meeting) of the directors or of a committee of the directors, at which such matter or situation is discussed or absent himself from any such meeting (or any part of any such meeting); and
 - (c) be counted in the quorum and vote at, any such meeting; and
- 15.5.2 not be required to:

- (a) disclose to or use for the benefit of the Company, any confidential information relating to such matter or situation if such disclosure or use would constitute a breach of confidence; and
- (b) account to the Company for any benefit which he derives from such matter or situation.

16. DIRECTORS' INTERESTS IN TRANSACTIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS

- 16.1 A "situation involving a transaction or arrangement" means a situation in which a director or an alternate is in any way, directly or indirectly, interested in a transaction or arrangement with the Company in circumstances where the provisions of sections 177 or 182 of the Act apply.
- 16.2 The provisions of article 15 shall not apply to a situation involving a transaction or arrangement.
- 16.3 Any director or alternate may be interested in a situation involving a transaction or arrangement as long as he declares the nature of his interest in accordance with section 177 or, as the case may be, section 182, of the Act.
- 16.4 Where, in relation to a director or an alternate, a situation involving a transaction or arrangement has arisen and the director or alternate has declared the nature of his interest in accordance with section 177 or, as the case may be, section 182, of the Act, that director or alternate shall, irrespective of his interest in the matter giving rise to the situation involving a transaction or arrangement, be entitled to:
- 16.4.1 receive any papers or other documents in relation to or concerning, such matter;
 - 16.4.2 attend a meeting (or any part of any meeting) of the directors or of a committee of the directors, at which such matter is discussed; and
 - 16.4.3 be counted in the quorum and vote at, any such meeting.

17. DIRECTORS' DISCRETION TO MAKE FURTHER RULES

Subject to the articles, the directors may regulate their proceedings and the manner in which they take decisions as they see fit.

18. METHODS OF APPOINTING DIRECTORS

- 18.1 Any person who is willing to act as a director, and is permitted by law to do so, may be appointed to be a director:
- 18.1.1 by ordinary resolution;
 - 18.1.2 by a decision of the directors; or
 - 18.1.3 by written notice by the majority holder to the Company.
- 18.2 Any appointment under article 18.1.2 shall be effective when the decision of the directors has been taken.
- 18.3 Any appointment under article 18.1.3 shall be effective when the written notice of appointment is deemed to have been received under article 47.6.

19. TERMINATION OF **DIRECTOR'S APPOINTMENT**

19.1 A person ceases to be a director as soon as:

19.1.1 that person ceases to be a director in accordance with any provision of the Act or is prohibited from being a director by law;

19.1.2 a bankruptcy order is made against that person;

19.1.3 a composition is made with that person's creditors generally in satisfaction of that person's debts;

19.1.4 he is removed from office under section 168 of the Act;

19.1.5 by reason of that person's mental health, a court makes an order which wholly or partly prevents that person from personally exercising any powers or rights which that person would otherwise have;

19.1.6 the majority holder removes him from office by written notice to the Company (such removal to be treated as an act of the Company); or

19.1.7 notification is received by the Company from the director that the director is resigning from office, and such resignation has taken effect in accordance with its terms.

19.2 Any removal from office of a director under article 19.1.6 shall be effective when the written notice is deemed to have been received under article 47.6.

20. APPOINTMENT AND REMOVAL OF ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

20.1 Any director (other than an alternate director) (in this article, the "appointor") may appoint any person (whether or not a director) to be an alternate director ("alternate" or "alternate director").

20.2 In the absence of the alternate's appointor, the alternate director may exercise the powers and carry out the responsibilities of his appointor in relation to the taking of decisions by the directors.

20.3 Any appointment or removal of an alternate director shall be made by notice in writing to the Company signed by the appointor.

20.4 The notice must:

20.4.1 identify the proposed alternate director; and

20.4.2 in the case of a notice of appointment, contain a statement signed by the proposed alternate that he is willing to act as the alternate director of the appointor.

20.5 An alternate director has the same rights, in relation to any decision of the directors, as the alternate's appointor.

20.6 Except as otherwise provided in the articles, alternate directors:

20.6.1 are deemed for all purposes to be directors;

20.6.2 are liable for their own acts and omissions;

- 20.6.3 are subject to the same restrictions as their appointors; and
- 20.6.4 are not deemed to be the agents of or for their appointors.
- 20.7 Each alternate director shall be entitled to receive notice of all meetings of directors and of all meetings of committees of directors of which his appointor is a member.
- 20.8 A person who is an alternate director, but not a director:
 - 20.8.1 may be counted as participating for the purposes of determining whether a quorum is present (but only if that person's appointor is not participating); and
 - 20.8.2 may participate in decisions of the directors (but only if his appointor is eligible to participate in relation to that decision and does not himself participate).
- 20.9 On any decision of the directors, in addition to his own vote, a director who is also an alternate director is entitled (in the absence of his appointor) to a separate vote on behalf of his appointor (provided that his appointor is eligible to participate in relation to that decision).
- 20.10 An alternate director may be paid expenses and may be indemnified by the Company to the same extent as if he were a director. An alternate director shall not be entitled to receive from the Company any remuneration in his capacity as an alternate director except such part (if any) of the remuneration otherwise payable to his appointor as the appointor may by notice in writing to the Company from time to time direct.
- 20.11 An alternate director's appointment as an alternate terminates:
 - 20.11.1 when the alternate's appointor revokes the appointment by notice to the Company in writing specifying when it is to terminate; or
 - 20.11.2 when an event occurs in relation to the alternate which, if it occurred in relation to the alternate's appointor, would result in the termination of the appointor's appointment as a director; or
 - 20.11.3 when the alternate director's appointor ceases to be a director for whatever reason.

21. DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION

- 21.1 Directors may undertake any services for the Company that the directors decide.
- 21.2 Directors are entitled to such remuneration as the directors determine:
 - 21.2.1 for their services to the Company as directors; and
 - 21.2.2 for any other service which they undertake for the Company.
- 21.3 Subject to the articles, a director's remuneration may:
 - 21.3.1 take any form; and
 - 21.3.2 include any arrangements in connection with the payment of a pension, allowance or gratuity, or any death, sickness or disability benefits, to or in respect of that director.
- 21.4 Unless the directors decide otherwise, directors' remuneration accrues from day to day.

- 21.5 Unless the directors decide otherwise, directors are not accountable to the Company for any remuneration which they receive as directors or other officers or employees of the Company's subsidiaries or of any other body corporate in which the Company is interested.

22. DIRECTORS' EXPENSES

The Company may pay any reasonable expenses which the directors properly incur in connection with their attendance at:

- 22.1 meetings of directors or committees of directors;
- 22.2 general meetings; or
- 22.3 separate meetings of the holders of any class of shares or of debentures of the Company, or otherwise in connection with the exercise of their powers and the discharge of their duties and responsibilities in relation to the Company.

SHARES AND DISTRIBUTIONS

23. ALLOTMENT OF SHARES AND DISAPPLICATION OF STATUTORY PRE-EMPTION RIGHTS

- 23.1 The directors shall not without the prior written consent of the majority holder exercise any power of the Company to allot shares or to grant rights to subscribe for or convert any security into shares.
- 23.2 In accordance with section 567(1) of the Act, sections 561 and 562 shall not apply to any allotment of equity securities made by the Company.

24. ALL SHARES TO BE FULLY PAID UP

- 24.1 No share is to be issued for less than the aggregate of its nominal value and any premium to be paid to the Company in consideration for its issue.
- 24.2 This does not apply to shares taken on the formation of the company by the subscribers to the company's memorandum.

25. POWER TO ISSUE DIFFERENT CLASSES OF SHARE

- 25.1 Subject to the articles, but without prejudice to the rights attached to any existing share, the Company may issue shares with such rights or restrictions as may be determined by ordinary resolution.
- 25.2 The Company may issue shares which are to be redeemed, or are liable to be redeemed at the option of the Company or the holder, and the directors may determine the terms, conditions and manner of redemption of any such shares.

26. COMPANY NOT BOUND BY LESS THAN ABSOLUTE INTERESTS

Except as required by law, no person is to be recognised by the Company as holding any share upon any trust, and except as otherwise required by law or the articles, the Company is not in any way to be bound by or recognise any interest in a share other than the holder's absolute ownership of it and all the rights attaching to it.

27. SHARE CERTIFICATES

27.1 The Company must issue each shareholder, free of charge, with one or more certificates in respect of the shares which that shareholder holds.

27.2 Every certificate must specify:

27.2.1 in respect of how many shares, of what class, it is issued;

27.2.2 the nominal value of those shares; and

27.2.3 either that the shares are fully paid, or the amount paid up on each share.

27.3 No certificate may be issued in respect of shares of more than one class.

27.4 If more than one person holds a share, only one certificate may be issued in respect of it.

27.5 Certificates must be executed in accordance with the Act.

28. REPLACEMENT SHARE CERTIFICATES

28.1 If a certificate issued in respect of a shareholder's shares is:

28.1.1 damaged or defaced; or

28.1.2 said to be lost, stolen or destroyed,

that shareholder is entitled to be issued with a replacement certificate in respect of the same shares.

28.2 A shareholder exercising the right to be issued with such a replacement certificate:

28.2.1 must return the certificate which is to be replaced to the Company if it is damaged or defaced; and

28.2.2 must comply with such conditions as to evidence, indemnity and the payment of a reasonable fee as the directors decide.

29. GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO SHARE TRANSFERS

29.1 Shares may be transferred by means of an instrument of transfer in any usual form or any other form approved by the directors, which is executed by or on behalf of the transferor.

29.2 No fee may be charged for registering any instrument of transfer or other document relating to or affecting the title to any share.

29.3 The Company may retain any instrument of transfer which is registered.

29.4 The transferor remains the holder of a share until the transferee's name is entered in the register of members as holder of it.

29.5 The directors may refuse to register a transfer unless the instrument of transfer is delivered to the registered office or such other place as the directors may decide and is accompanied by the certificate for the shares to be transferred (or an indemnity for any certificate not in the transferor's possession in such form as the directors may decide) and such other evidence as the directors may reasonably require to prove the title of the transferor and the execution by

him of the transfer or, if the transfer is signed by some other person on his behalf, the authority of that person to do so.

29.6 The directors shall not register a transfer, or purported transfer:

29.6.1 to any infant, bankrupt or person with mental disorder; or

29.6.2 to any person where the transfer is not in accordance with the articles; or

29.6.3 to any person unless the prior written approval of the majority holder has been given to that transfer, subject to article 29.9 below.

29.7 Other than in circumstances where the refusal to register a transfer is expressly permitted or required by these articles, the directors may not refuse to register the transfer of a share, and shall promptly approve for registration each transfer which is presented to them for registration. In particular the directors will register a transfer where the majority holder so directs in writing.

29.8 If the directors refuse to register the transfer of a share the instrument of transfer must be returned to the transferee with the notice of refusal unless they suspect that the proposed transfer may be fraudulent.

29.9 Notwithstanding anything contained in these articles, the directors shall not decline to register any transfer of shares and may not suspend registration of such shares where such transfer:

29.9.1 is to a bank or institution to whom such shares have been charged by way of security, whether as security trustee or agent for a group of banks or institutions or otherwise, or to any nominee or any transferee of such a bank or institution (a "Secured Institution"); or

29.9.2 is duly executed by a Secured Institution or its nominee pursuant to the power of sale or other power under such security,

29.9.3 nor shall any such transfer require the prior written approval of the majority holder.

30. CAPITAL

30.1 On a distribution of assets on a liquidation or a return of capital (other than a conversion, redemption or purchase of shares) the surplus assets of the Company remaining after payment of its liabilities shall be applied (to the extent that the Company is lawfully permitted to do so):

30.1.1 first in paying to each preference shareholder, in priority to any other classes of shares, an amount per preference share held equal to the sum of the redemption amount and the preferential dividend amount of such preference share (provided that if there are insufficient surplus assets to pay the amounts per preference share equal to the relevant redemption amount and preferential dividend amount in full, the remaining surplus assets shall be distributed to the preference shareholders pro rata to the amounts such preference shareholders would be entitled to be paid but for the insufficiency of such surplus assets); and

30.1.2 the balance of the surplus assets (if any) shall be distributed among the holders of ordinary shares pro rata to the number of ordinary shares held.

31. ALLOCATION OF DIVIDENDS

31.1 All dividends and other distributions (in cash or in specie) by the Company in or in respect of any financial year shall be allocated as follows:

31.1.1 the preferential dividend amount of each preference share held shall be allocated to the holder(s) thereof in priority to any other classes of shares, on the basis that the directors may in their absolute discretion determine that any dividend be allocated to one or more classes of preference share in priority to any other class of share; and

31.1.2 once all of the preference shareholders have been allocated the preferential dividend amount in respect of each preference share held, the remainder of such dividend shall be allocated to and divided amongst the holders of ordinary shares in proportion to the number of ordinary shares held by each of them respectively.

32. PROCEDURE FOR DECLARING DIVIDENDS

32.1 The Company may by ordinary resolution declare dividends, and the directors may decide to pay interim dividends.

32.2 No dividend may be declared or paid unless it is in accordance with shareholders' respective rights.

32.3 Unless the shareholders' resolution to declare or directors' decision to pay a dividend, or the terms on which shares are issued, specify otherwise, it must be paid by reference to each shareholder's holding of shares on the date of the resolution or decision to declare or pay it.

32.4 If the Company's share capital is divided into different classes, no interim dividend may be paid on shares carrying deferred or non-preferred rights if, at the time of payment, any preferential dividend is in arrear.

32.5 The directors may pay on each preferential dividend payment date a dividend on the preference shares equal to the preferential dividend amount if it appears to them that the profits available for distribution justify the payment.

32.6 If the directors act in good faith, they do not incur any liability to the holders of shares conferring preferred rights for any loss they may suffer by the lawful payment of an interim dividend on shares with deferred or non-preferred rights.

33. PAYMENT OF DIVIDENDS AND OTHER DISTRIBUTIONS

33.1 Where a dividend or other sum which is a distribution is payable in respect of a share, it must be paid by one or more of the following means:

33.1.1 transfer to a bank or building society account specified by the distribution recipient either in writing or as the directors may otherwise decide;

33.1.2 sending a cheque made payable to the distribution recipient by post to the distribution recipient at the distribution recipient's registered address (if the distribution recipient is a holder of the share), or (in any other case) to an address specified by the distribution recipient either in writing or as the directors may otherwise decide;

33.1.3 any other means of payment as the directors agree with the distribution recipient in writing or as the directors may otherwise decide.

33.2 In these articles, the “distribution recipient” means, in respect of a share in respect of which a dividend or other sum is payable:

33.2.1 the holder of the share; or

33.2.2 if the share has two or more joint holders, whichever of them is named first in the register of members; or

33.2.3 if the holder is no longer entitled to the share by reason of death or bankruptcy, or otherwise by operation of law, the person entitled to such share.

34. NO INTEREST ON DISTRIBUTIONS

The Company may not pay interest on any dividend or other sum payable in respect of a share unless otherwise provided by:

34.1 the terms on which the share was issued; or

34.2 the provisions of another agreement between the holder of that share and the Company.

35. DEDUCTION FROM DIVIDENDS

The directors may deduct from any dividend payable on or in respect of a share all sums of money presently payable by the holder to the Company on any account whatsoever.

36. UNCLAIMED DISTRIBUTIONS

36.1 All dividends or other sums which are:

36.1.1 payable in respect of shares; and

36.1.2 unclaimed after having been declared or become payable,

may be invested or otherwise made use of by the directors for the benefit of the Company until claimed.

36.2 The payment of any such dividend or other sum into a separate account does not make the Company a trustee in respect of it.

36.3 If:

36.3.1 12 years have passed from the date on which a dividend or other sum became due for payment; and

36.3.2 the distribution recipient has not claimed it,

the distribution recipient is no longer entitled to that dividend or other sum and it ceases to remain owing by the Company.

37. NON-CASH DISTRIBUTIONS

37.1 Subject to the terms of issue of the share in question, the Company may, by ordinary resolution on the recommendation of the directors, decide to pay all or part of a dividend or other distribution payable in respect of a share by transferring non-cash assets of equivalent value (including, without limitation, shares or other securities in any company).

- 37.2 For the purposes of paying a non-cash distribution, the directors may make whatever arrangements they think fit, including, where any difficulty arises regarding the distribution:
- 37.2.1 fixing the value of any assets;
 - 37.2.2 paying cash to any distribution recipient on the basis of that value in order to adjust the rights of recipients; and
 - 37.2.3 vesting any assets in trustees.

38. WAIVER OF DISTRIBUTIONS

Distribution recipients may waive their entitlement to a dividend or other distribution payable in respect of a share by giving the Company notice in writing to that effect, but if:

- 38.1 the share has more than one holder; or
- 38.2 more than one person is entitled to the share, whether by reason of the death or bankruptcy of one or more joint holders, or otherwise,

the notice is not effective unless it is expressed to be given, and signed, by all the holders or persons otherwise entitled to the share.

39. REDEMPTION OF PREFERENCE SHARES

- 39.1 Subject to the Act, the Company shall redeem each preference share on its redemption date. All or any of preference shares may be redeemed at an earlier date, at the request of the Company.
- 39.2 On each date on which all or any of the preference shares are to be redeemed, the relevant preference shareholders shall deliver to the Company at its registered office the certificate(s) for the preference shares to be redeemed (or an indemnity, in a form reasonably satisfactory to the directors, in respect of any lost certificate(s)) and on such delivery (and against the receipt by the preference shareholder for the redemption monies payable in respect of his preference shares) the Company shall pay each preference shareholder (or, in the case of joint holders, to the preference shareholder whose name stands first in the register of shareholders in respect of those preference shares) an amount equal to the sum of the redemption amount and the preferential dividend amount for each preference share being redeemed.
- 39.3 The Company shall, in the case of a redemption in full, cancel the relevant share certificate of the preference shareholder concerned, and, in the case of a redemption of part of the holding of preference shares included in a certificate, either (a) note the amount and date of redemption on the original certificate or (b) cancel the original certificate and without charge issue a new certificate to the holder for the balance of the preference shares not redeemed on that occasion.
- 39.4 If on any due date for redemption of preference shares the Company is prohibited by law from redeeming all or any of the preference shares then due to be redeemed, it shall on the due date redeem that number of the preference shares as it may then lawfully redeem, and if there is more than one holder whose preference shares are due to be redeemed then the preference shares shall be redeemed in proportion as nearly as may be to their existing holdings of preference shares and the Company shall redeem the balance of those shares as soon as practical after it is not so prohibited and, for so long as the prohibition remains and any preference shares have not been redeemed, the Company shall not pay any dividend or otherwise make any distribution of capital or otherwise decrease its profits available for

distribution. If the Company fails to make any partial redemption of preference shares on any due date for redemption, then subsequent redemptions of preference shares shall be deemed to be of those preference shares which first became due for redemption.

40. AUTHORITY TO CAPITALISE AND APPROPRIATION OF CAPITALISED SUMS

40.1 Subject to the articles, the directors may, if they are so authorised by an ordinary resolution:

40.1.1 decide to capitalise any profits of the Company (whether or not they are available for distribution) which are not required for paying a preferential dividend, or any sum standing to the credit of the Company's share premium account or capital redemption reserve; and

40.1.2 appropriate any sum which they so decide to capitalise (a "capitalised sum") to the persons who would have been entitled to it if it were distributed by way of dividend (the "persons entitled") and in the same proportions.

40.2 Capitalised sums must be applied:

40.2.1 on behalf of the persons entitled; and

40.2.2 in the same proportions as a dividend would have been distributed to them.

40.3 Any capitalised sum may be applied in paying up new shares of a nominal amount equal to the capitalised sum which are then allotted credited as fully paid to the persons entitled or as they may direct.

40.4 A capitalised sum which was appropriated from profits available for distribution may be applied in paying up new debentures of the Company which are then allotted credited as fully paid to the persons entitled or as they may direct.

40.5 Subject to the articles the directors may:

40.5.1 apply capitalised sums in accordance with articles 40.3 and 40.4 partly in one way and partly in another;

40.5.2 make such arrangements as they think fit to deal with shares or debentures becoming distributable in fractions under this article (including the issuing of fractional certificates or the making of cash payments); and

40.5.3 authorise any person to enter into an agreement with the Company on behalf of all the persons entitled which is binding on them in respect of the allotment of shares and debentures to them under this article.

DECISION-MAKING BY SHAREHOLDERS

41. NOTICE, ATTENDANCE AND SPEAKING AT GENERAL MEETINGS

41.1 General meetings shall be called by at least 14 clear days' notice (that is, excluding the day of the general meeting and the day on which the notice is given).

41.2 A general meeting may be called by shorter notice if it is so agreed by a majority in number of the shareholders having a right to attend and vote, being a majority together holding not less than 90 per cent in nominal value of the shares giving that right.

41.3 The notice shall specify the date, time and place of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted.

- 41.4 Subject to the articles and to any restrictions imposed on any shares, the notice shall be given to all the shareholders, to all persons entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a shareholder and to the directors and auditors of the Company.
- 41.5 A person is able to exercise the right to speak at a general meeting when that person is in a position to communicate to all those attending the meeting, during the meeting, any information or opinions which that person has on the business of the meeting.
- 41.6 A person is able to exercise the right to vote at a general meeting when:
- 41.6.1 that person is able to vote, during the meeting, on resolutions put to the vote at the meeting; and
- 41.6.2 that person's vote can be taken into account in determining whether or not such resolutions are passed at the same time as the votes of all the other persons attending the meeting.
- 41.7 The directors may make whatever arrangements they consider appropriate to enable those attending a general meeting to exercise their rights to speak or vote at it.
- 41.8 In determining attendance at a general meeting, it is immaterial whether any two or more shareholders attending it are in the same place as each other.
- 41.9 Two or more persons who are not in the same place as each other attend a general meeting if their circumstances are such that if they have (or were to have) rights to speak and vote at that meeting, they are (or would be) able to exercise them.

42. QUORUM FOR GENERAL MEETINGS

- 42.1 No business other than the appointment of the chairman of the meeting is to be transacted at a general meeting if the persons attending it do not constitute a quorum.
- 42.2 The number of persons who shall constitute a quorum shall be:
- 42.2.1 if the Company has only one shareholder, one shareholder (present in person or by proxy or, if a corporate shareholder, by its duly authorised representative); and
- 42.2.2 if the Company has more than one shareholder, any two shareholders entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted (present in person or by proxy or, if a corporate shareholder, by its duly authorised representative).

43. CHAIRING GENERAL MEETINGS

- 43.1 If the directors have appointed a chairman, the chairman shall chair general meetings if present and willing to do so.
- 43.2 If the directors have not appointed a chairman, or if the chairman is unwilling to chair the meeting or is not present within 10 minutes of the time at which a meeting was due to start:
- 43.2.1 the directors present; or
- 43.2.2 (if no directors are present), the meeting,
- must appoint a director or shareholder to chair the meeting, and the appointment of the chairman of the meeting must be the first business of the meeting.

- 43.3 The person chairing a meeting in accordance with this article is referred to as the chairman of the meeting.

Attendance and Speaking by Directors and Non-Shareholders

- 43.4 Directors may attend and speak at general meetings, whether or not they are shareholders.

- 43.5 The chairman of the meeting may permit other persons who are not:

- 43.5.1 shareholders in the Company; or

- 43.5.2 otherwise entitled to exercise the rights of shareholders in relation to general meetings, to attend and speak at a general meeting.

Adjournment

- 43.6 If the persons attending a general meeting within half an hour of the time at which the meeting was due to start do not constitute a quorum, or if during a meeting a quorum ceases to be present, the chairman of the meeting must adjourn it.

- 43.7 The chairman of the meeting may adjourn a general meeting at which a quorum is present if:

- 43.7.1 the meeting consents to an adjournment; or

- 43.7.2 it appears to the chairman of the meeting that an adjournment is necessary to protect the safety of any person attending the meeting or ensure that the business of the meeting is conducted in an orderly manner.

- 43.8 The chairman of the meeting must adjourn a general meeting if directed to do so by the meeting.

- 43.9 When adjourning a general meeting, the chairman of the meeting must:

- 43.9.1 either specify the time and place to which it is adjourned or state that it is to continue at a time and place to be fixed by the directors; and

- 43.9.2 have regard to any directions as to the time and place of any adjournment which have been given by the meeting.

- 43.10 If the continuation of an adjourned meeting is to take place more than 14 days after it was adjourned, the Company must give at least seven clear days' notice of it (that is, excluding the day of the adjourned meeting and the day on which the notice is given):

- 43.10.1 to the same persons to whom notice of the Company's general meetings is required to be given; and

- 43.10.2 containing the same information which such notice is required to contain.

- 43.11 No business may be transacted at an adjourned general meeting which could not properly have been transacted at the meeting if the adjournment had not taken place.

44. VOTING: GENERAL

- 44.1 The holders of ordinary shares shall be entitled to receive notice of and to attend and vote at general meetings of the Company and every holder of ordinary shares who (being an

individual) is present in person or by proxy or (being a corporation) is present by a duly authorised representative or by proxy, shall have one vote on a show of hands and on a poll every holder of ordinary shares so present shall have one vote for each ordinary share held by him.

44.2 A resolution put to the vote of a general meeting must be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is duly demanded in accordance with the articles.

44.3 The preference shares shall not confer any right on the holder of such preference share to receive notice of, attend nor vote at a general meeting of the Company.

45. ERRORS AND DISPUTES

45.1 No objection may be raised to the qualification of any person voting at a general meeting except at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is tendered, and every vote not disallowed at the meeting is valid.

45.2 Any such objection must be referred to the chairman of the meeting, whose decision is final.

46. POLL VOTES

46.1 A poll on a resolution may be demanded:

46.1.1 in advance of the general meeting where it is to be put to the vote; or

46.1.2 at a general meeting, either before a show of hands on that resolution or immediately after the result of a show of hands on that resolution is declared.

46.2 A poll may be demanded by:

46.2.1 the chairman of the meeting;

46.2.2 the directors;

46.2.3 two or more persons having the right to vote on the resolution; or

46.2.4 a person or persons representing not less than one tenth of the total voting rights of all the shareholders having the right to vote on the resolution.

46.3 A demand for a poll may be withdrawn if:

46.3.1 the poll has not yet been taken; and

46.3.2 the chairman of the meeting consents to the withdrawal.

46.4 A demand for a poll which is withdrawn shall not invalidate the result of a show of hands declared before the demand was made.

46.5 A poll demanded on the election of a chairman or on a question of adjournment shall be taken immediately. A poll demanded on any other question shall be taken at such time (not being more than 30 days from the date of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which that poll is demanded) and place and in such manner as the chairman of the meeting directs.

47. CONTENT OF PROXY NOTICES

47.1 Proxies may only validly be appointed by a notice in writing (a "proxy notice") which:

- 47.1.1 states the name and address of the shareholder appointing the proxy;
- 47.1.2 identifies the person appointed to be that shareholder's proxy and the general meeting in relation to which that person is appointed;
- 47.1.3 is signed by or on behalf of the shareholder appointing the proxy, or is authenticated in such manner as the directors may determine; and
- 47.1.4 is delivered to the Company in accordance with the articles and, subject to article 47.5, any instructions contained in the notice of the general meeting to which they relate.
- 47.2 The Company may require proxy notices to be delivered in a particular form, and may specify different forms for different purposes.
- 47.3 Proxy notices may specify how the proxy appointed under them is to vote (or that the proxy is to abstain from voting) on one or more resolutions.
- 47.4 Unless a proxy notice indicates otherwise, it must be treated as:
 - 47.4.1 allowing the person appointed under it as a proxy discretion as to how to vote on any ancillary or procedural resolutions put to the meeting; and
 - 47.4.2 appointing that person as a proxy in relation to any adjournment of the general meeting to which it relates as well as the meeting itself.
- 47.5 The last time for delivery of the proxy notice to the Company must not be earlier than the following time:
 - 47.5.1 in the case of a meeting or adjourned meeting, 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting;
 - 47.5.2 in the case of a poll taken more than 48 hours after it was demanded, 24 hours before the time appointed for the taking of the poll; and
 - 47.5.3 in the case of a poll taken not more than 48 hours after it was demanded, the time at which it was demanded.
- 47.6 The directors may specify in the notice of meeting that in calculating the time for delivery of proxies, no account has been taken of any part of a day that is not a working day.

48. DELIVERY OF PROXY NOTICES

- 48.1 A person who is entitled to attend, speak or vote (either on a show of hands or on a poll) at a general meeting remains so entitled in respect of that meeting or any adjournment of it, even though a valid proxy notice has been delivered to the Company by or on behalf of that person.
- 48.2 An appointment under a proxy notice may be revoked by delivering to the Company a notice in writing given by or on behalf of the person by whom or on whose behalf the proxy notice was given.
- 48.3 A notice revoking a proxy appointment only takes effect if it is delivered before the start of the meeting or adjourned meeting to which it relates.
- 48.4 If a proxy notice is not executed by the person appointing the proxy, it must be accompanied by written evidence of the authority of the person who executed it to execute it on the appointor's behalf.

49. AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTIONS

- 49.1 An ordinary resolution to be proposed at a general meeting may be amended by ordinary resolution if:
- 49.1.1 notice of the proposed amendment is given to the Company in writing by a person entitled to vote at the general meeting at which it is to be proposed not less than 48 hours before the meeting is to take place (or such later time as the chairman of the meeting may determine); and
- 49.1.2 the proposed amendment does not, in the reasonable opinion of the chairman of the meeting, materially alter the scope of the resolution.
- 49.2 A special resolution to be proposed at a general meeting may be amended by ordinary resolution, if:
- 49.2.1 the chairman of the meeting proposes the amendment at the general meeting at which the resolution is to be proposed; and
- 49.2.2 the amendment does not go beyond what is necessary to correct a grammatical or other non-substantive error in the resolution.
- 49.3 If the chairman of the meeting, acting in good faith, wrongly decides that an amendment to a resolution is out of order, the chairman's error does not invalidate the vote on that resolution.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

50. MEANS OF COMMUNICATION TO BE USED

- 50.1 Subject to the other provisions of these articles, anything sent or supplied by or to the Company under the articles may be sent or supplied in any way in which the Act provides for documents or information which are authorised or required by any provision of that Act to be sent or supplied by or to the Company.
- 50.2 Subject to the other provisions of these articles, any notice or document to be sent or supplied to a director in connection with the taking of decisions by directors may also be sent or supplied by the means by which that director has asked to be sent or supplied with such notices or documents for the time being.
- 50.3 A director may agree with the Company that notices or documents sent to that director in a particular way are to be deemed to have been received within a specified time of their being sent, and for the specified time to be less than 48 hours.
- 50.4 The address for service of the Company shall be the office or such other place as the directors may appoint. The address for service of each shareholder shall be his address in the register of members within the United Kingdom or such other address for service, which may include an electronic address, as the addressee may from time to time notify to the Company for the purposes of this article. In the absence of such address the shareholder shall not be entitled to receive from the Company notice of any meeting.
- 50.5 In the case of joint holders of a share, a notice or other document or information shall be sent or given to the joint holder whose name stands first in the register of members in respect of the joint holding and notice or other documents or information so sent or given shall be sufficiently sent to all the joint holders.

- 50.6 Notices or other documents or information will be deemed to be received:
- 50.6.1 if personally delivered, at the time of delivery and, in proving service, it shall be sufficient to produce a receipt for the notice or other document or information signed by or on behalf of the addressee;
- 50.6.2 if by letter, at noon two days after such letter was posted and, in proving service, it shall be sufficient to prove that the letter was properly prepaid or stamped first class, addressed and delivered to the postal authorities;
- 50.6.3 if by electronic communication to an electronic address, on the same day it is sent and, in proving service, it shall be sufficient to prove that it was sent in accordance with guidance issued by the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators from time to time; and
- 50.6.4 if sent or supplied by means of a website, when the material is first made available on the website or (if later) when the recipient receives (or is deemed to have received) notice of the fact that the material is available on the website.
- 50.7 For the purposes of this article, no account shall be taken of any part of a day that is not a working day.

51. COMPANY SECRETARY

The directors may appoint any person who is willing to act as the secretary for such term, at such remuneration and upon such conditions as they may think fit and from time to time remove such person and, if the directors so decide, appoint a replacement.

52. COMPANY SEALS

- 52.1 Any common seal may only be used by the authority of the directors.
- 52.2 The directors may decide by what means and in what form any common seal is to be used.
- 52.3 Unless otherwise decided by the directors, if the Company has a common seal and it is affixed to a document, the document must also be signed by at least one authorised person in the presence of a witness who attests the signature.
- 52.4 For the purposes of this article, an authorised person is:
- 52.4.1 any director;
- 52.4.2 the company secretary (if any); or
- 52.4.3 any person authorised by the directors for the purpose of signing documents to which the common seal is applied.

53. NO RIGHT TO INSPECT ACCOUNTS AND OTHER RECORDS

Except as provided by law or authorised by the directors or an ordinary resolution of the Company, no person is entitled to inspect any of the Company's accounting or other records or documents merely by virtue of being a shareholder.

54. PROVISION FOR EMPLOYEES ON CESSATION OF BUSINESS

The directors may decide to make provision for the benefit of persons employed or formerly employed by the Company or any of its subsidiaries (other than a director or former director

or shadow director) in connection with the cessation or transfer to any person of the whole or part of the undertaking of the Company or that subsidiary.

55. COMPANY NAME

Without prejudice to the ability of shareholders to change the Company's name by special resolution, the directors may change the Company's name by a decision taken in accordance with these articles, and shall do so if so directed in writing by the majority holder.

56. INDEMNITY

56.1 Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Company may:

56.1.1 indemnify to any extent any person who is or was a director, or a director of an associated company, directly or indirectly (including by funding any expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him) against any loss or liability, whether in connection with any proven or alleged negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust by him or otherwise, in relation to the Company or any associated company; or

56.1.2 indemnify to any extent any person who is or was a director of an associated company that is a trustee of an occupational pension scheme, directly or indirectly (including by funding any expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him) against any liability incurred by him in connection with the company's activities as trustee of an occupational pension scheme.

56.2 Companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate.

57. INSURANCE

Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Company may purchase and maintain insurance for any person who is or was a director, or a director of any associated company, against loss or liability, whether in connection with any proven or alleged negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust by him or otherwise, in relation to the Company or any associated company.