# ANNUAL REPORT 2002 CRODA WORLD TRADERS LTD

Registered Number: 155113



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#### **CRODA WORLD TRADERS LTD**

#### **NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that the eighty-fourth Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held at Cowick Hall, Snaith, Goole, East Yorkshire DN14 9AA on Thursday 17 April 2003 at 3.15 pm.

#### **Ordinary business**

- 1. To receive and consider the directors' report and the audited accounts for the year ended 31 December 2002.
- 2. To re-elect directors.
- 3. That PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP be reappointed auditors of the Company (having previously been appointed by the Board to fill the casual vacancy arising by reason of the resignation of PricewaterhouseCoopers) and to hold office until the conclusion of the next general meeting at which accounts are laid before the Company.
- 4. To transact any other ordinary business.

By order of the Board

JR Ainger Secretary

Cowick Hall Snaith

East Yorkshire

**DN14 9AA** 

Goole

18 March 2003

Any member of the Company entitled to attend and vote at the meeting may appoint another person or persons as his proxy to attend and vote instead of him. A proxy need not be a member of the Company.

To be valid, instruments appointing proxies and powers of attorney, or other authorities under which they are signed, must be deposited at the registered office of the Company not less than 48 hours before the meeting.

#### **CRODA WORLD TRADERS LTD**

#### **Directors**

M Humphrey Mrs B M Richmond G D Bull (retired 01.01.03)

#### Secretary and Registered Office

J R Ainger Cowick Hall Snaith Goole East Yorkshire DN14 9AA

#### **Auditors**

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors
Benson House
33 Wellington Street
Leeds
LS1 4JP

Cowick Hall, Snaith, Goole, East Yorkshire DN14 9AA Telephone 01405 860551 Fax 01405 861767

### CRODA WORLD TRADERS LTD REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The directors submit their annual report and the audited accounts for the year ended 31 December 2002.

#### 1. Activities of the company

The principal activities are centred on the processing of food acids, proteins, fire fighting chemicals and technical oils which the directors regard as a single class of business.

#### 2. Review of business activities

Challenging market conditions led to a difficult year for the Company. During the year the Company reorganised some of its lower margin operations and the directors are confident this will enhance the Company's profitability in the future.

The Directors do not recommend a payment of a dividend (2001: £4,000,000; £0.14 per share).

#### 3. Profit and appropriations

Details of the profit and appropriations appear in the profit and loss account on page 6.

#### 4. Directors

G D Bull resigned as a director on 1 January 2003. The director retiring by rotation is M Humphrey. None of the directors has a service agreement with the Company.

Interests and contracts

No director had any beneficial interest in the share capital of Croda World Traders Ltd.

The beneficial interests of M Humphrey and B M Richmond in the share capital of the ultimate parent company (including holdings of their families), are disclosed in that company's Annual Report. The interests of G D Bull (including those of his family) are shown below.

		At 31.12.02			At 01.01.02		
	Ordinary shares	Executive options †	SAYE options *	Ordinary shares	ate of appoint Executive options †	,	
G D Bull	13,564	256,000	9,944	7,970	261,700	7,290	

#### † Executive Options

20,000 shares at 367p per share exercisable during the period 18 October 1997 to 17 October 2004.

15,000 shares at 337p per share exercisable during the period 3 April 1999 to 2 April 2006.

60,000 shares at 307p per share exercisable during the period 4 April 2000 to 3 April 2007.

40,000 shares at 228p per share exercisable during the period 30 March 2002 to 29 March 2009.

53,100 shares at 256p per share exercisable during the period 22 March 2003 to 21 March 2010.

33,600 shares at 258p per share exercisable during the period 7 March 2004 to 6 March 2011.

34,300 shares at 261p per share exercisable during the period 13 March 2005 to 12 March 2012 (granted in 2002).

#### \* SAYE Options

- 1,197 shares at 288p per share exercisable during the period 1 November 2002 to 30 April 2003.
- 3,629 shares at 186p per share exercisable during the period 1 November 2006 to 30 April 2007.
- 5,118 shares at 194p per share exercisable during the period 1 November 2007 to 30 April 2008 (granted in 2002).

No director had any beneficial interest, other than in the ordinary course of business, in any contract to which the Company or a subsidiary was a party during the period.

#### 5. Tangible fixed assets

Details of tangible fixed asset changes during the year are summarised in note 7 to the accounts on page 11.

# CRODA WORLD TRADERS LTD REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (continued)

#### 6. Charitable and political donations

Charitable donations made by the Company during the year amounted to £6,164 (2001: £4,975). No donation was made for political purposes.

#### 7. Employment policies

The Company's employment policies encourage the provision of employment opportunities for disabled people, racial minorities and other disadvantaged groups. The Company endeavours to keep its employees well informed about the progress of their Company.

#### 8. Supplier payment policy

The Company's policy concerning the payment of suppliers is that each operating unit agrees terms of payment at the beginning of business or makes the supplier aware of the standard payment terms, and pays in accordance with these terms or other legal obligations. At 31 December 2002, the Company had an average of 35 days (2001: 37 days) purchases outstanding in trade creditors.

#### 9. Research and development

Each manufacturing division carries out its own research and development programmes to suit its own particular market and product needs.

#### 10. Statement of directors' responsibilities

The following statement, which should be read in conjunction with the report of the auditors set out on page 5, is made with a view to distinguishing for shareholders the respective responsibilities of the directors and of the auditors in relation to the financial statements.

The directors are required by the Companies Act 1985 to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company as at the end of the financial year and of the profit or loss for the financial year. 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 consider that, in preparing the financial statements on pages 6 to 15 inclusive, the Company has used appropriate accounting policies, applied in a consistent manner and supported by reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates, and that all applicable accounting standards have been followed.

The directors have responsibility for ensuring that the Company keeps accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Company and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. The directors 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.

#### 11. Auditors

Following the conversion of PricewaterhouseCoopers to a Limited Liability Partnership (LLP), PricewaterhouseCoopers resigned on 23 January 2003 and the directors appointed its successor, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, as auditors. A resolution to reappoint PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as auditors to the Company will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

By Order of the Board

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#### Independent auditors report to the members of Croda World Traders Limited

We have audited the financial statements which comprise the profit and loss account, the balance sheet, the statement of total recognised gains and losses, the accounting policies 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.

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 into 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.

#### 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 at 31 December 2002 and of its loss and cash flows for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

m LLP -

Leeds

24 February 2003

#### CRODA WORLD TRADERS LTD PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2002

	NOTES	2002 £000	As restated 2001 £000
Turnover	1	55,001	58,633
Cost of sales		(49,449)	(48,889)
Gross profit		5,552	9,744
Distribution costs		(2,716)	(3,141)
Administrative expenses		(4,639)	(4,108)
Operating loss	2	(1,803)	2,495
Exceptional items	3	(12,794)	3,307
Income from fixed assets	4	44	-
Net interest payable	5	(98)	(342)
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation		(14,651)	5,460
Tax on loss on ordinary activities	6	4,745	(599)
Loss on ordinary activities after taxation		(9,906)	4,861
Dividends - interim ordinary dividend paid		•	(4,000)
Reserves transfer	17	(9,906)	861
STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAIN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2002		ss	<del> </del>
		2002 £000	2001 £000
Total losses recognised in the financial year		(9,906)	4,861
Prìor period adjustment		(2,974)	<del></del> -
Total losses recognised since last annual report		(12,880)	

There is no material difference between the result as disclosed in the profit and loss account and the result on an historical cost basis.

Movements in shareholders' funds are shown in note 17 to the accounts on page 15.

All amounts above relate to continuing operations.

## CRODA WORLD TRADERS LTD BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2002

	NOTES	31 Doco	mber 2002		s restated
	NOTES	£000	£000	£000	mber 2001 £000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	7		14,555		27,496
Investments in subsidiary undertakings	10		2,685		2,685
			17,240		30,181
Current assets					
Stocks	11	7,142		7,916	
Debtors	12	9,825		15,749	
Cash at bank and in hand		5,527		1,626	
		22,494		25,291	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(13,645)		(17,154)	
Net current assets			8,849	<del></del>	8,137
Total assets less current liabilities			26,089		38,318
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	14		(19,492)		(18,841)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	15		-		(2,974)
Net assets			6,597		16,503
Capital and reserves					
Called up equity share capital	16		7,963		7,963
Revaluation reserve	17		2,557		2,557
Profit and loss account	17		(3,923)		5,983
Shareholders' funds			6,597		16,503
					<del></del>

Shareholders' funds include non-equity interests of £750,000 (2001: £750,000).

Signed on behalf of the Board who approved the accounts on 24 February 2003

Mrs B M Richmond Director

### CRODA WORLD TRADERS LTD ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Basis of accounting

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the periodic revaluation of properties, in compliance with the provisions of the Companies Act 1985 and applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

Following the implementation of FRS 19 "Deferred Tax" prior years have been restated to include full provision for deferred tax. This change in accounting policy results in a prior year adjustment, reducing shareholders' funds at 1 January 2001 by £2,523,000 and increasing the tax charge for the year ended 31 December 2001 by £451,000. For the year ended 31 December 2002 the tax credit has increased by £3,195,000 due to the change in accounting policy.

Consolidated accounts are not presented as the Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Croda International Plc, a company registered in England.

#### Revenue recognition

Sales are recognised as turnover in the period in which goods are despatched.

#### **Properties**

In the past the principal properties have been valued on an open market existing use basis by professional valuers from time to time, in order to reflect in the accounts the current values of properties. Following the adoption of FRS 15 no further revaluations will be carried out and previous surpluses will be retained. Notwithstanding the requirements of FRS 15 all fixed assets are written down to their recoverable amount in the event that any impairment review carried out in accordance with FRS 11 indicates that the recoverable amount is less than the carrying value. The profit or loss on disposal of properties represents the difference between the net proceeds of sale and the net book value and is included in the profit and loss account.

#### Leased assets

The cost of operating leases is charged to the profit and loss account as incurred.

#### Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or valuation less depreciation.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of all tangible fixed assets, except freehold land, over their estimated useful lives on a straight line basis. The estimated average life for each major asset category is:

Freehold buildings Leasehold land and buildings Plant and equipment 15 to 40 years lesser of term of lease and 40 years 3 to 15 years

#### Retirement benefits

The retirement benefit obligations of the Company are financed by contributions to separate funds. The contributions, which are made on the basis of actuarial advice, are taken to the profit and loss account as paid. The transitional rules of FRS17 "Retirement Benefits" have been adopted; there is no impact on the financial statements. When FRS17 is fully adopted, the Company will account for pension contributions payable as if its group scheme is a defined contribution scheme as it is part of a "multi-employer scheme".

#### **Stocks**

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable amount on a first in first out basis. Cost comprises all expenditure, including related production overheads, incurred in the normal course of business in bringing the stock to its location and condition at the balance sheet date.

### CRODA WORLD TRADERS LTD ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### Research and development expenditure

Expenditure on research and development, other than on tangible fixed assets, is written off against profits as incurred.

#### **Currency translations**

Assets and liabilities are translated at the exchange rates ruling at the end of the financial period. Exchange profits or losses realised on trading transactions are included in trading results.

#### Deferred taxation

Deferred tax is provided in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date. Timing differences arise from the inclusion of profit and losses in the accounts in different periods from which they are recognised in tax assessments and primarily arise as a result of the difference between tax allowances on tangible fixed assets and the corresponding depreciation charge. Deferred tax assets are only recognised when it is regarded as more likely than not that there will be future taxable profits from which the deduction of the reversal of the underlying timing difference can be made. The deferred tax balance is not discounted.

#### Cash flow

The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Croda International Plc and is included in the consolidated financial statements of this company which are publicly available. Consequently, the Company has taken advantage of the exemption from preparing a cash flow statement under the terms of Financial Reporting Standard 1 (Revised 1996).

#### 1. Turnover

	The geographical analysis of sales by market area is as follows:		
		2002	2001
		£000	£000
	United Kingdom	30,078	32,936
	Europe	9,758	9,687
	Americas	5,887	7,739
	Asia	6,658	5,084
	Rest of World	2,620	3,187
		·	
		55,001	58,633
2.	Operating profit		
	The operating profit is stated after charging	2002	2001
		£000	£000
	Depreciation	2,855	2,947
	(Profit)/loss on sale of fixed assets	(22)	10
	Redundancy costs	13	15
	Staff costs (note 19)	11,037	10,873
	Auditors' remuneration	76	69
	Management charge from parent company	1,000	1,000
	Hire charges under operating leases	·	•
	- plant and equipment	221	296
	- other	13	19
	Research and development	617	629
3.	Exceptional items	2002	2001
•		£000	£000
	Profit on disposal of site	_	3,307
	Costs of reorganisation	(12,794)	3,307
	Costs of reorganisation	(12,734)	-
		(12,794)	3,307
	During the year the Company announced its withdrawal from the part	ts of its business relating	to varnish
	media and gelatin, the associated costs of which are summarised bel		o varriori
	<b></b>	£'000	
	Provision for impairment of retained fixed assets	9,747	
	Fixed assets written off	1,558	
	Stock write down	1,053	
	Other costs (including redundancy)	436	
		12,794	
4.	Income from fixed assets	2002	2001
		£000	£000
	Dividends received from subsidiary undertakings	44	-
_	All-Alimbana of a second la		
5.	Net interest payable	2002 £000	2001 £000
	Bank overdrafts	442	
	Other	442	439
	Less: interest receivable	- (344)	199 (296)
		<del></del> _	
		98	342

NOII	ES TO THE ACCOUNTS				
6.	Tax on profit on ordinary activities			2002	2001
	Analysis of charge for the year			£000	£000
	United Kingdom current taxation Corporation tax				
	<ul><li>current year</li><li>prior year under/(over) provision</li></ul>			(1,111) (439)	441 (293)
	Current taxation Deferred taxation			(1,550)	148
	Deletied taxation			(3,195)	451
				(4,745)	599
	Included above is a tax credit in re	espect of exceptional ite	ems of £352,000	(2001 - £nil).	
	United Kingdom corporation tax h	as been provided at the	e rate of 30% (20	01 - 30%).	
	Factors affecting the current tax of	charge for the year			
	Loss on ordinary activities before	taxation		(14,651)	5,460
	Tax at the standard rate of corpor	ration tax in the UK		(4,395)	1,638
	Effect of: Expenses and write offs not dedu Timing differences arising in the y Prior year adjustments Other			3,487 (229) (439) 26	(804) (414) (293) 21
				(1,550)	148
7.	Tangible fixed assets	Land and Freehold	d buildings Long leasehold	Plant and equipment	Total
	Cost or valuation	£000	£000	£000	£000
	At 1 January 2002 External additions External disposals Exceptional disposal	11,093 187 - -	832 - - -	47,333 1,078 (5,024) (5,366)	59,258 1,265 (5,024) (5,366)
	At 31 December 2002	11,280	832	38,021	50,133
	Depreciation At 1 January 2002 External disposals Charge for year Impairment Exceptional disposal	2,833 - 761 1,156	279 - 55 -	28,650 (4,978) 2,039 8,591 (3,808)	31,762 (4,978) 2,855 9,747 (3,808)
	At 31 December 2002	4,750	334	30,494	35,578
	Net book amount At 31 December 2002	6,530	498	7,527	14,555
	At 31 December 2001	8,260	553	18,683	27,496
		<del></del>			

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#### 8. Tangible fixed assets restated to historical cost

				2002 £000	
	Land and buildings analysis			LUUU	
	Cost			8,250	
	Valuations: 1988			3,667	
	1978			195	
				12,112	
	Add: revaluation deficits			406	
	Historical cost			12,518	
	Less: depreciation			(6,307)	
	Net historical cost value at 31 December 2002			6,211	
	Net historical cost value at 31 December 2001			7,267	
9.	Commitments				
				2002 £000	2001 £000
	Capital projects			£000	£000
	At 31 December 2002 the directors had authorised				
	the following expenditure on capital projects				
	<ul> <li>contracted but not provided for</li> <li>authorised but not contracted for</li> </ul>			107 697	462 646
	- authorised but not contracted for			<del></del>	
				804	1,108
		2002		2001	
	Operating leases	Land &		Land &	
	At 31 December 2002 the company's annual	buildings	Other	buildings	Other
	commitments in respect of operating leases were	£000	£000	£000	£000
	Leases which expire				
	- in less than one year	-	7	-	11
	- in one to five years	-	142	-	185
	- after five years	5	-	5	-
		5	149	5	196

#### 10. Investments in subsidiary undertakings

	£000
Cost less amounts written off At 1 January 2002 and <b>31 December 2002</b>	2,685

Shares in subsidiary undertakings are stated at cost less amounts written off.

The principal subsidiary undertakings are listed below. All companies are wholly owned and are dormant. A full list of subsidiary undertakings is attached to the Company's latest annual return as required by s.231 Companies Act 1985.

United Kingdom subsidiary undertakings (Registered in England)

Croda Bakery Services Ltd
John L Seaton & Company Ltd
Croda Food Services Ltd
Croda Fire Fighting Chemicals Ltd (formerly Croda Kerr Ltd)
ABC Powder Co Ltd

In the opinion of the directors the value of the investments in subsidiary undertakings is not less than the amounts at which they are stated in the balance sheet.

#### 11. Stocks

	2002 £000	2001 £000
Raw materials Work in progress Finished stocks	1,640 1,094 4,408	1,551 2,208 4,157
	7,142	7,916

The replacement cost of stocks held at 31 December 2002 and 31 December 2001 was not materially different from the amounts shown above.

#### 12. Debtors

	2002 £000	2001 £000
Trade debtors	7,218	7,233
Amounts owed by Croda International Plc	-	7,062
Amounts owed by group undertakings	606	731
Amounts owed by associated undertakings	29	31
Other debtors	210	340
Prepayments and accrued income	430	352
Corporate taxation	1,111	-
Deferred taxation	221	-
	9,825	15,749

#### 13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

		2002 £000	2001 £000
	Bank overdrafts Trade creditors Amounts due to Croda International Plc Amounts due to group undertakings Corporate taxation	7,897 4,009 186 119	3,657 4,230 7,131 85 441
	Other taxation and social security Other creditors Accruals and deferred income	107 158 1,169	104 70 1,436
		13,645	17,154
14.	Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		
		2002 £000	2001 £000
	Amounts due to Croda International Plc	19,492	18,841
15.	Provisions for liabilities and charges		
	Deferred taxation	2002 £000	2001 £000
	The deferred taxation balance in these accounts comprises - Excess of capital allowances over depreciation	-	2,974

United Kingdom deferred taxation is based on a rate of corporation tax of 30% (2001 - 30%).

Included within debtors is a deferred tax asset of £221,000 in respect of the excess of the tax written down value of fixed assets over the book written down value.

#### 16. Share capital

	Au	uthorised	Allotted, ca and fully pa	
	2002 £000	2001 £000	2002 £000	2001 £000
Ordinary shares of 25p 4.9% cumulative preference shares of £1	8,000	8,000	7,213	7,213
	750	750	750	750
	8,750	8,750	7,963	7,963

#### 17. Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds

	Share capital £000	Revaluation reserve £000	Profit and loss £000	Share- holders' funds £000
At 1 January 2002 as previously stated Prior period adjustment	7,963 -	2,557 -	8,957 (2,974)	19,477 (2,974)
At 1 January 2002 as restated Profit for the financial year	7,963	2,557	5,983 (9,906)	16,503 (9,906)
At 31 December 2002	7,963	2,557	(3,923)	6,597

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#### 18. Pension obligations

The Company's employees are members of group schemes.

The principal schemes are of the defined benefit type with assets held in separate trustee administered funds. The Company is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the schemes.

Details of the latest actuarial valuations and the assumptions underlying them are contained in the financial statements of Croda International Plc, the ultimate parent company.

#### 19. Directors and employees

Directors' remuneration

None (2001 - none) of the directors received any emoluments as directors of Croda World Traders Ltd.

#### **Employment costs**

Employment costs of all employees	2002 £000	2001 £000
Wages and salaries Social Security costs Pension costs	8,134 595 2,308	8,651 659 <b>1</b> ,563
	11,037	10,873
Employee numbers	2002 Number	2001 Number
The average number of persons employed was	356	381

#### 20. Related party transactions

Advantage has been taken of the exemption available under Financial Reporting Standard 8 from disclosing transactions with other group undertakings. There were no other material related party transactions during the year.

#### 21. Ultimate parent company

The ultimate parent company is Croda International Plc, a company registered in England. Croda International Plc group is the largest and smallest group of which the Company is a member and for which group accounts are prepared. Copies of the group accounts can be obtained from the Company Secretary at the registered office of the Company.