

**COMPANIES FORM No. 155(6)b** 

# **Declaration by the directors** of a holding company in relation to assistance for the acquisition of shares



Please do not write in this margin

Pursuant to section 155(6) of the Companies Act 1985

Please complete legibly, preferably To the Registrar of Companies (Address overleaf - Note 5)

Name of company

For official use Company number 274611

in black type, or bold block lettering

Note

Please read the notes on page 3 before completing this form.

- \* insert full name of company
- ø insert name(s) and address(es) of all the directors

Shopacheck Financial Services Limited

x/We g John Edward Gordon Cran of Burn Croft, Burn Rd, Huddersfield HD2 2EG, Mark Collins of 9 Wentworth Ave, Whirlowdale Rd, Sheffield S11 9QX, Michael Geoffrey Goulding of 36 Church Rd, Beverley, HU17 7EN, Ian Stanley Halder of 63 Beech View, Driffield, Y025 900, Paul Michael Kirby of 8 Glenview Close, Nab Wood, Shipley, BD18 4AZ, David William Sutherland of 1 The Drive, Leeds LS16 6BG, Roger John Horrex of 6 Dene Rd, Cottingham HU16 5JP, Ian Stephen Cummine of 18 Stamford Rd, Oakham, LE15 6JA, Andrew Roberts of 7 Tong Lane, Bradford, BD4 ORR, Paul Oliver of 30 Heath Rd, Harrow, HA1 4DA and Sean Patrick Lauritson Mahon of 41 Stumperlowe Crescent Rd, Sheffield \$10 3PR

† delete as appropriate

[thex salex director] [all the directors] to of the above company (hereinafter called 'this company') do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

§ delete whichever is inappropriate

The business of this company is:

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(c) something other than the above §

This company is [the] [2] holding company of\* \_ James Hart Limited ("the Company") which is proposing to give financial assistance in connection with the acquisition of shares in [this company] [ Compass Credit Limited \_ the holding company of this company.]†

Presentor's name address and reference (if any):

Walker Morris Kings Court 12 King Street LEEDS

LS1 2HL

DX: 12051 Leeds 24 Our Ref: RRM/MFT

For official Use General Section

Post room



COMPANIES HOUSE

15/12/00

Page 1

| The assistance is for the purpose of [ধেরাংক্রেক্সারার্কান] [reducing or discharging a liability incurred for the purpose of that acquisition].† (note 1) | Please do not<br>write in this<br>margin                                |
|---|---|
| The number and class of the shares acquired or to be acquired is: See Appendix 1  | Please complete<br>legibly, preferabi<br>in black type, or<br>bold bock |
|   | letteri <b>n</b> g  |
| The assistance is to be given to: (note 2) Cattles plc of Kingston House, Centre 27   |   |
| Business Park, Woodhead Road, Birstall, Batley, West Yorkshire WF17 9TD   |   |
|   |   |
|   |   |
| The assistance will take the form of:   |   |
| See Appendix 2  |   |
|   |   |
|   |   |
|   |   |
|   |   |
|   |   |
|   |   |
|   |   |
|   |   |
| The person who [has acquired] [withacquire]† the shares is:<br>Cattles plc as above   | t delete as<br>appropriate  |
|   |   |
|   |   |
| The principal terms on which the assistance will be given are:  |   |
| See Appendix 3  |   |
|   |   |
|   |   |
|   |   |
|   |   |
|   |   |
|   |   |
| ·   |   |
| The amount (if any) by which the net assets of the company which is giving the assistance will be reduced by giving it is $\frac{\text{Nil}}{\text{Nil}}$ |   |
| -7 giving it io   |   |
| The amount of cash to be transferred to the person assisted is £ Nil  |   |
| The value of any asset to be transferred to the person assisted is £ Nil  | D 0   |
| the value of any asset to be transferred to the person assisted is the first  | Page 2  |

Please do not write in this margin

The date on which the assistance is to be given is Within 8 weeks of the date hereof

Please complete legibly, preferably in black type, or bold block lettering

delete either (a) or (b) as appropriate

\*/We have formed the opinion, as regards this company's initial situation immediately following the date on which the assistance is proposed to be given, that there will be no ground on which it could then be found to be unable to pay its debts. (note 3)

- (a) [1/We have formed the opinion that this company will be able to pay its debts as they fall due during the year immediately following that date]\* (note 3)
- (b) [tx:isx:intended::tx:io:commence::the::winding::upxsix:this::company::within::ti2::months::six:that::date:::ansixi:/we have::formed::the::opinion::that::this::company::will::be::able::ta::pay::its::debts::incfull::within::d2::months::xof::the::commence::the::xof

And \*/we make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the provisions of the Statutory Declarations Act 1835.

Declared at <u>ledar lour thitel</u>
Wakenield

Declarants to sign below

Day Month Year

before me Stanl MARTON - State

A Commissioner for Oaths or Notary Public or Justice of the Peace or a Solicitor having the powers conferred on a Commissioner for Oaths.

**NOTES** 

- 1 For the meaning of "a person incurring a liability" and "reducing or discharging a liability" see section 152(3) of the Companies Act 1985.
- 2 Insert full name(s) and address(es) of the person(s) to whom assistance is to be given; if a recipient is a company the registered office address should be shown.
- 3 Contingent and prospective liabilities of the company are to be taken into account - see section 156(3) of the Companies Act 1985.
- 4 The auditors report required by section 156(4) of the Companies Act 1985 must be annexed to this form.
- 5 The address for companies registered in England and Wales or Wales is:-

The Registrar of Companies Companies House Crown Way Cardiff CF14 3UZ

or, for companies registered in Scotland:-

The Registrar of Companies Companies House 37 Castle Terrace Edinburgh EH1 2EB

APPENDIX 1
206,026 deferred shares of 50p each, 100 ordinary shares of 5p each and 900 10% cumulative preference shares of £1 each in Compass Credit Limited.

### APPENDIX 2

The assistance will take the form of the entry into by the Company of and the assumption by the Company of obligations under a guarantee of all obligations of Cattles plc, the holding company of the Company, under or in connection with a facility agreement (as described below) and the **Finance Documents** associated with it, to the extent that the facilities made available thereunder may be utilised for the purpose of reducing or discharging liabilities previously incurred for the purpose of the acquisition of shares in the Company's holding company.

The terms on which the said facility agreement is to be made available to Cattles plc and the definition of the term **Finance Documents** are set out in a facility agreement between Cattles plc (1) Bank One N.A. as Arranger (2), the Banks as lenders (3) and Bank One N.A. as Agent (4) (each as defined in the said facility agreement) (the **Loan Agreement**).

### APPENDIX 3

The principal terms on which the assistance will be given are:

- The Guarantee is to be executed by the Company and delivered to Bank One N.A. as Agent and to the Banks (as each term is defined in the Loan Agreement) in consideration of the provision by the Banks (as so defined) to Cattles plc, the ultimate holding company of the Company, of a loan facility (the **Loan Facility**) for the general corporate purposes of Cattles plc and its subsidiaries, including the Company, the terms of which are more particularly set out therein.
- 2 Under the terms of the Guarantee the Company irrevocably, unconditionally, jointly and severally:
  - 2.1 as principal obligor guarantees to each Bank (as defined in the Loan Agreement) the prompt performance by Cattles plc of all of its obligations under the Finance Documents (as defined in the Loan Agreement) and payment of all due sums payable by Cattles plc under the Finance Documents (as so defined);
  - 2.2 undertakes with each Bank (as so defined) whenever Cattles plc does not pay any amounts when due under or in connection with any Finance Document (as so defined) that the Company shall forthwith on demand by Bank One N.A. as Agent (as defined in the Loan Agreement) pay that amount as if the Company instead of Cattles plc were expressed to be the principal obligor together with interest on such amount at the rate payable by Cattles plc under the terms of the Loan Agreement from the date such amount becomes due until the date of actual payment by the Company;
  - 2.3 indemnifies each Bank (as so defined) on demand against any loss or liability suffered by it if any obligation guaranteed by the Company is or becomes unenforceable, invalid or illegal.



PricewaterhouseCoopers
Benson House
33 Wellington Street
Leeds LS1 4JP
Telephone +44 (0) 113 289 4000
Facsimile +44 (0) 113 289 4460
Direct Phone +44 (0) 113 2894315
Direct Fax +44 (0) 113 2894326

The Directors
Shopacheck Financial Services Limited
Kingston House
Centre 27 Business Park
Woodhead Road
Birstall
Batley
WF17 9TD

13 December 2000

Our ref: sr/srg/catfa001223

Dear Sirs

Auditors' report to the directors of Shopacheck Financial Services Limited pursuant to Section 156(4) of the Companies Act 1985

We have examined the attached statutory declaration of the directors of Shopacheck Financial Services Limited ('the Company') dated 13 December 2000 in connection with the proposal that the Company's subsidiary undertaking, James Hart Limited, should give financial assistance for the purchase of the whole of the issued share capital of Compass Credit Limited.

# Basis of opinion

We have enquired into the state of the Company's affairs in order to review the bases for the statutory declaration.

## **Opinion**

We are not aware of anything to indicate that the opinion expressed by the directors in their declaration as to any of the matters mentioned in Section 156(2) of the Companies Act 1985 is unreasonable in all the circumstances.

Yours faithfully

PricewaterhouseCoopers

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors