SAVILLE TRACTORS LIMITED (REGISTERED NUMBER 376443)

**DIRECTORS' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS** 

30 September 1998



## REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1998

The Directors submit their report together with the audited accounts for the year ended 30 September 1998.

#### PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND BUSINESS REVIEW

The principal activities of the Company are the selling and servicing of construction and industrial machinery and the servicing of specialist equipment on ocean going ships. The continuing loss reflects difficult trading conditions in some sectors of the market, particularly exacerbated by the strong pound and "grey" imports devaluing prices of both new and second hand machines. Nevertheless, due to new product lines currently being introduced by the principal manufacturers that the Company represents, there is expectation of a steady improvement in future performance.

#### **CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP**

On 17 December 1997, the company's immediate parent undertaking was acquired by Tanel Limited, which subsequently changed its name to Dutton Forshaw Investments Limited. In relation to this transaction, on 17 December 1997 the directors of the company made a statutory declaration in connection with the financial assistance (in the form of a guarantee on third party borrowings) given by the company for the purchase of the entire share capital of the Dutton Forshaw Group Limited pursuant to Section 156(4) of the Companies Act 1985.

#### **RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS**

The accounts for the year ended 30 September 1998 show an operating loss of £272,000 (1997 - loss of £203,000). After recognising net interest payable of £150,000 (1997 - £72,000) the accounts show a loss on ordinary activities before taxation of £422,000 (1996 - loss of £275,000). There is no tax charge in either 1998 or 1997.

The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend for the year (1997 - £Nil) and propose to transfer the loss for the year of £422,000 to reserves (1997 - £275,000). Details of the reserves are shown in note 15 to the accounts.

#### DIRECTORS

The present board of the Company is set out below. All directors served throughout the year.

VP Davies (Managing)

RD Guise

AE Manning

JR Robinson (Chairman)

**GR Williams** 

In accordance with the Company's Articles of Association, Mr RD Guise and Mr JR Robinson retire at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

# REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1998 (CONTINUED)

#### **DIRECTORS' INTERESTS**

No Director had at any time during the year a material interest in any contract of significance in relation to the Company's business.

No director had any interest in the share capital of the company. The following are the interests, all of which are beneficial, in the shares of Dutton Forshaw Investments Limited the ultimate parent undertaking, as recorded in the Company's Register of Directors' Share and Debenture Interests.

		Dutton Forshaw Inve	estments Limited ares of 10p each
	1 October 30 Septer19971		
VP Davies		-	100
		Dutton Forshaw Inve	
	4.0-4-5		75% Loan Notes
	1 October	Granted in	30 September
	<u>1997</u>	<u>year</u>	1998
VP Davies	-	7,900	7,900

The interests of A Manning and J Robinson in Dutton Forshaw Investments Limited are disclosed in the accounts of that company.

#### STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going-concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

# REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1998 (CONTINUED)

# STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES (CONTINUED)

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

#### POLICY ON THE PAYMENT OF CREDITORS

The Company complies with the CBI Code of Practice for the payment of creditors. A copy of this code is available from the Confederation of British Industry, Centre Point, 103 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1DU.

The number of days creditors outstanding at 30 September 1998 was 59 days.

#### **YEAR 2000**

Since 1997 the Company has been working on the date sensitivity of computing systems, a problem which includes the Year 2000. The risks to the Company's business processes have been evaluated and are not considered to be significant. Plans to address the issues have been prepared and are currently being implemented.

The costs of addressing the Year 2000 problem are not expected to be significant and the resources required to achieve compliance are principally expected to be found from normal operating budgets. All related costs are written off as incurred.

#### **ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION IN EUROPE (EMU)**

The Company is preparing for the introduction of a single currency within Europe in 1999. Information systems will be routinely upgraded to handle the introduction of the Euro.

# **EMPLOYMENT OF DISABLED PERSONS**

The Company gives full and fair consideration to applications for employment received from disabled persons, having regard to their particular aptitudes and abilities, and wherever possible the company continues the employment of, and arranges appropriate training for, employees who become disabled persons while employed by the Company. Disabled employees are treated no differently from other employees as regards training, career development and promotion opportunities. This policy was operated by the Company throughout the year.

# REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1998 (CONTINUED)

#### **EMPLOYEE INVOLVEMENT**

The Company has arrangements to regularly provide employees with information regarding the financial and economic factors affecting the performance of the Company and on matters of concern to them. Additionally, regular consultations take place with employees so that their views can be taken into account in making decisions which are likely to affect their interests.

#### **AUDITORS**

Following the merger of Price Waterhouse and Coopers & Lybrand on 1 July 1998, Price Waterhouse resigned in favour of the new firm, PricewaterhouseCoopers, and the directors appointed PricewaterhouseCoopers to fill the casual vacancy created by the resignation. A resolution to re-appoint PricewaterhouseCoopers as auditors of the company will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

By Order of the Board

S ISON Secretary

21 December 1998



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Cornwall Court
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Birmingham B3 2DT
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# AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SAVILLE TRACTORS LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements on pages 6 to 17 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on pages 9 and 10.

### Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on pages 2 and 3 the Company's directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

#### Basis of 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 mis-statement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 30 September 1998 and of its loss for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

PricewaterhouseCoopers Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

21 December 1998

# PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1998

	<u>Note</u>	<u>1998</u> £'000	<u>1997</u> £'000
TURNOVER	2	25,664	22,786
Cost of sales		( <u>22,415</u> )	( <u>19,654</u> )
GROSS PROFIT		3,249	3,132
Administrative expenses Other operating income		(3,710) <u>189</u>	(3,477) <u>142</u>
OPERATING LOSS		(272)	(203)
Net interest payable	6	(150)	(72) ———
LOSS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION	3	(422)	(275)
Taxation on loss on ordinary activities	7		
LOSS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR	15	(422)	(275)

The Company had no recognised gains or losses other than those reflected in the profit and loss account above.

The turnover and operating loss are derived from continuing operations.

There is no difference between the result as disclosed and that on an unmodified historical cost basis.

The notes on pages 8 to 17 form part of these accounts.

# BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 1998

	<u>Note</u>	<u>1998</u> £'000	<u>1997</u> £'000
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	8	85	96
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks	9	4,845	4,495 3,419
Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	10	4,648 <u>107</u>	<u>26</u>
Cash at bank and in hand		9,600	7,940
CREDITORS (amounts falling due within one year)	11	( <u>8,717</u> )	( <u>6,747</u> )
NET CURRENT ASSETS		883 ——	1,193
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		968	1,289
CREDITORS (amounts falling due after more than one year)	12	<u>(630</u> )	<u>(529</u> )
NET ASSETS		338	760
		<del></del>	• ====
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Called up share capital Profit and loss account	14 15	2,000 ( <u>1,662</u> )	2,000 ( <u>1,240</u> )
EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS		338	760

Approved on behalf of the Board on 21 December 1998

VR Davies

DIRECTOR

The notes on pages 8 to 17 form part of these accounts.

# RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

	<u>1998</u> £'000	<u>1997</u> £'000
LOSS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR	(422)	(275)
Net reduction in shareholders' funds	(422)	(275)
Opening shareholders' funds	<u>760</u>	<u>1,035</u>
CLOSING SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	338	760

#### **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 30 SEPTEMBER 1998**

#### 1 STATEMENT ON ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

#### Basis of accounting

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

#### **Cash Flow Statement**

The company is exempt from the requirement to prepare a cash flow statement being a wholly owned subsidiary of a company which prepares a consolidated cash flow statement.

#### Exchange rates

Foreign currency assets and liabilities are translated into sterling at the rates ruling at the balance sheet date. Adjustments due to fluctuations arising in the normal course of trade are included in the profit and loss account.

#### **Depreciation**

The Company's policy is to write off the book value of fixed assets evenly over their estimated remaining lives. Depreciation rates are determined in accordance with commercial practice for the industry concerned. The major fixed assets are depreciated as follows:

Freehold buildings 2% of cost
Short leasehold properties Period of lease
Plant and machinery 10% - 20% of cost
Motor vehicles 25% - 33% of cost
Fixtures, fittings, tools and equipment 10% - 33% of cost

No depreciation is provided on freehold land.

#### Stock and work in progress

Stock and work in progress is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Where relevant, cost includes an appropriate share of overheads.

#### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 30 SEPTEMBER 1998 (CONTINUED)

#### 1 STATEMENT ON ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

## Pension costs

The Company is a member of the Dutton Forshaw Group Pension Plan. The Plan is a defined benefit pension scheme for all eligible employees, the assets of which are held in separate trustee-administered funds.

Independent actuaries prepare valuations of the defined benefit pension scheme at least every three years and in accordance with their recommendations the Company makes contributions which are charged to profits on a systematic and rational basis over the expected remaining working life of the employees. Any differences between the actuarial valuation and the value of the assets in the scheme are similarly charged or credited to profit before tax over the expected remaining working life of employees in the scheme.

#### **Deferred tax**

Deferred tax, which is calculated under the liability method, is only provided where it is anticipated that a liability will arise within the foreseeable future.

#### **Leases**

Amounts due from lessees under finance lease arrangements are included within debtors. Income is recognised over the term of the lease.

The cost of operating leases is charged to profit and loss account as incurred. Rentals receivable under operating leases are credited to the profit and loss account as they fall due.

# 2 TURNOVER

Turnover which originates wholly in the United Kingdom represents sales of goods and services in the construction machinery sector and is stated net of discounts, allowances and value added tax.

An analysis of turnover by geographical destination is given below:

	£'000	£'000
United Kingdom Europe and other	25,006 658	21,846 <u>940</u>
	25,664	22,786
	<u></u>	

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 30 SEPTEMBER 1998 (CONTINUED)

## 3 LOSS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION

Loss on ordinary activities before taxation is stated:

	<u>1998</u> £'000	<u>1997</u> £'000
After crediting:	2000	2000
Profit on disposal of tangible fixed assets	1	4
	=	=
And after charging:		
Other operating lease charges Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	446	468
- owned	24	25
Auditor's remuneration - audit fees	20	20
- non-audit fees	6	6
		-
EMOLUMENTS OF DIRECTORS		
EMOLUMENTS OF DIRECTORS	1998 £'000	<u>1997</u> £'000
EMOLUMENTS OF DIRECTORS  Aggregate emoluments		
	£'000	£'000
	£'000 164	£'000 152
Aggregate emoluments	£'000 164	£'000 152

Retirement benefits are accruing to 3 (1997 - 3) directors under a defined benefit scheme.

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 30 SEPTEMBER 1998 (CONTINUED)

#### 5 STAFF NUMBERS AND COSTS

		<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
	The average number of persons employed during the year was as follows:		
	Sales Production Administration/managerial	21 71 <u>27</u>	20 70 <u>33</u>
		119	123
		_	
	The aggregate payroll cost was as follows:		
		£'000	£'000
	Wages and salaries Social security costs Other pension costs (Note 18)	2,174 176 <u>101</u>	2,183 179 <u>80</u>
		2,451	2,442
6	NET INTEREST PAYABLE		
	Interest receivable:	<u>1998</u> £'000	<u>1997</u> £'000
	Third party	1	-
		<del></del>	_
	Interest payable: On bank loans and overdrafts	(151)	(72)
		_	_
	Net interest payable	(150)	(72)

## 7 TAXATION

There is no tax payable (1997 - £Nii) in respect of results for the year. The company has tax losses for the year of approximately £436,000 (1997 - £290,000), which will be made available for Group relief, but for which no consideration is expected to be received.

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 30 SEPTEMBER 1998 (CONTINUED)

# 8 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Land and <u>buildings</u> £'000	Plant and machinery £'000	Fixtures, fittings, equipment and motor <u>vehicles</u> £'000	<u>Total</u> £'000
Cost				
At 1 October 1997 Additions Disposals	16 - - —	115 4 (8)	855 9 (168) —	986 13 (176)
At 30 September 1998	16 	111	696 ——	823
<u>Depreciation</u>				
At 1 October 1997 Charge for the year Disposals	16 - - -	102 3 (8)	772 21 (168)	890 24 (176)
At 30 September 1998	16 —	97	625 ——	738 ——
Net book amount				
At 30 September 1998	<u>.</u>	14	71	85 ——
At 30 September 1997	-	13	83	96

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 30 SEPTEMBER 1998 (CONTINUED)

#### 9 STOCKS

	<u>1998</u> £'000	1997 £'000
Work in progress Goods for resale	77 <u>4,768</u>	106 <u>4,389</u>
	4,845	4,495

In the opinion of the directors the current replacement cost of stocks is not materially different to the historical cost stated above.

#### 10 DEBTORS

	<u> 1998</u>	<u> 1997</u>
	£'000	£'000
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	3,553	2,524
Amounts owed by fellow subsidiary undertakings	1	22
Prepayments and accrued income	77	136
Net investment in finance leases	<u>1,017</u>	<u>_737</u>
	4,648	3,419

# 11 CREDITORS (amounts falling due within one year)

	<u>1998</u> £'000	<u>1997</u> £'000
Bank overdraft Trade creditors Tax and social security liabilities Accruals and deferred income	2,231 5,865 183 438	1,813 4,590 130 214
	8,717	6,747

The overdraft is secured by a fixed and floating charge on the assets of the Company.

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 30 SEPTEMBER 1998 (CONTINUED)

# 12 CREDITORS (amounts falling due after more than one year)

	<u>1998</u> £'000	<u>1997</u> £'000
Accruals and deferred income (Note 18)	630	529

#### 13 DEFERRED TAXATION

On the basis of the accounting policy, no deferred taxation provision is required at 30 September 1998 (1997 - £Nil). Full provision for deferred taxation at 31% (1997 - 11%) would result in a deferred tax asset:

	<u>1998</u> £'000	<u>1997</u> £'000
Excess depreciation over tax allowances Other timing differences and tax losses	(59) ( <u>913</u> )	(29) ( <u>336</u> )
	(972)	(365)

Tax losses of approximately £2,193,000 (1997 - £2,193,000) in respect of prior years are carried forward and are available to set off against future corporation tax liabilities.

#### 14 CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL

Authorised:	<u>1998</u> £'000	<u>1997</u> £'000
Ordinary shares of £1 each	2,000	2.000
Issued:		
Ordinary shares of £1 each, fully paid	2,000	2,000

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 30 SEPTEMBER 1998 (CONTINUED)

#### 15 RESERVES

	Profit and loss <u>account</u> £'000
At 1 October 1997 Loss for the year	(1,240) _(422)
At 30 September 1998	(1,662)

#### 16 OPERATING LEASES

17

The Company's annual commitments under operating leases are set out below:

	<u>Land an</u> <u>1998</u> £'000	<u>d buildings</u> <u>1997</u> £'000
Operating leases which expire:		65
Within one year Between one and five years	153	65 7
After five years	<u>103</u>	<u>102</u>
	256	174
	·····	
CONTINGENT LIABILITIES		
	<u>1998</u> £'000	<u>1997</u> £'000
Group overdraft guarantees	3,691	259

The company has given an unlimited composite guarantee in favour of National Westminster Bank Plc for the bank indebtedness of £19 million of Dutton Forshaw Investments Limited and its subsidiaries. In relation to the guarantee the company has a fixed and floating charge over all its assets.

The Company has given a guarantee in respect of the Group VAT scheme which is in the ordinary course of business and in respect of which, no material liability is expected to arise.

The Company has a future commitment of £186,100 (1997 - £216,523) in respect of buy-back schemes. No amounts are included in the accounts in respect of these as no loss is expected to arise.

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 30 SEPTEMBER 1998 (CONTINUED)

#### 18 PENSIONS

The Company is a member of the Dutton Forshaw Group Pension Plan. The Plan is a defined benefit pension scheme for all eligible employees, the assets of which are held in separate trustee-administered funds.

The pension cost is assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries using the projected unit method. The latest actuarial assessment of the scheme was at 1 October 1996. The principal actuarial assumptions adopted in that valuation were that the annual rate of return on investments would be 2½% higher than the annual increase in total pensionable remuneration and 4½% higher than the annual increase in present and future pensions in payment. The market value of the assets, £38,314,000, was sufficient to cover 133% of the benefits that had accrued to members, after allowing for expected future increases in pensionable remuneration. The actuarial surplus is being spread over the average remaining service lives of the current employees.

On the recommendation of the actuaries, company contributions to the scheme continue to be suspended. The position will be reviewed again after the next actuarial valuation in October 1999. The total pension cost for the company was a net charge of £101,000 (1997 - net charge of £80,000). An accrual of £630,000 (1995 - £529,000) is included under creditors being the difference between the pension cost, calculated in accordance with Statement of Standard Accounting Practice No 24, and the amount funded.

#### 19 IMMEDIATE AND ULTIMATE PARENT UNDERTAKINGS

The immediate parent undertaking and the smallest group, to consolidate these accounts, is Dutton-Forshaw Machinery Limited a company incorporated in England and Wales. The ultimate parent undertaking and the largest group, to consolidate these accounts is Dutton Forshaw Investments Limited.

Accounts for these groups may be obtained from:- The Threshing Barn, Bignell Park Barns, Chesterton, Bicester, Oxon, OX6 8TD.

#### 20 RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption under FRS8 Related Party Transactions, relating to 90% subsidiary undertakings. Accordingly the Company has not disclosed any transactions with other group companies.