# **Associated Cold Stores and Transport Limited**

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# Annual report for the year ended 31 December 1994

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# Directors and advisers

#### **Directors**

D Bowley
D M Nurse
W Campbell
M L Harness

A R M Maconachie

B J Miller A J P Sharman D K W Watt

## Secretary and registered office

G S G Brown
The Gatehouse
16 Arlington Street
London
SW1A 1RD

# **Registered Auditors**

Coopers & Lybrand Albion Court 5 Albion Place Leeds LS1 6JP

#### **Bankers**

Midland Bank plc 20 Eastcheap London EC3M 1ED

# Directors' report for the year ended 31 December 1994

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 1994.

### Principal activities

The principal activities of the company are temperature controlled storage and distribution and dry goods warehousing.

#### Review of business

The profit after tax for the year ended 31 December 1994 was £2,387,807. The directors are pleased to report a satisfactory year's trading. The company's year end financial position was satisfactory and the directors expect that the present level of activity will be sustained for the foreseeable future.

#### Dividends and transfers to reserves

The directors have declared interim dividends in respect of the year ended 31 December 1994 of £3,352,707.

After payment of the above dividends the sustained loss for the financial year of £964,900 will be transferred to reserves.

#### Post-balance sheet events

The company's Managing Director, Mr D M Nurse, retired on 31 March 1995 and his position on the Board has now been taken up by Mr D K W Watt.

# Changes in fixed assets

Significant changes in fixed assets during the year are set out in notes 9 and 10 to the financial statements.

#### **Directors**

The directors of the company at 31 December 1994, all of whom have been directors for the whole of the year ended on that date, except for Mr W Campbell who resigned on 31 July 1994, are listed on page 1.

In accordance with the articles of association, Mr D Bowley and Mr B J Miller retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

#### **Directors' interests**

Mr D Bowley is a director of Linton Park plc and his interest in shares and loan stock of group companies is shown in the Directors' Report of that company. None of the other directors who held office at the end of the year had any interest in the shares of the company, or other group companies as recorded in the Registrar of Directors' Interests.

#### **Insurance of directors**

The company maintains insurance for the directors in respect of their duties as directors of the company.

### **Employees**

The company's policy is to consult and discuss with employees matters likely to affect their interests.

The company's policy is to recruit disabled workers for those vacancies that they are able to fill and to give them such training as is appropriate.

#### **Taxation status**

The company was not a close company within the provisions of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 and this position has not changed since the end of the financial year.

#### **Auditors**

A resolution to reappoint the auditors, Coopers & Lybrand, will be proposed at the annual general meeting.

By order of the board

Company Secretary

25 April 1995

# **Associated Cold Stores and Transport Limited**

### 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

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.

By order of the board

**Company Secretary** 

# Report of the auditors to the members of Associated Cold Stores and Transport Limited

We have audited the financial statements on pages 6 to 18.

#### Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 4 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 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 1994 and of its loss for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

Coopers or hybrand.

Leeds

5 May 1995

# Profit and loss account for the year ended 31 December 1994

	Notes	1994 £	1993 £
Turnover Cost of sales	2	19,389,657 (12,859,362)	18,448,244 (12,582,120)
Cost of sales		(12,637,302)	
Gross profit		6,530,295	5,866,124
Administrative expenses		(3,091,274)	(3,304,664)
Operating profit		3,439,021	2,561,460
Interest receivable		100,020	95,666
Interest payable and similar charges	5	(378, 056)	(309, 288)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	6	3,160,985	2,347,838
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	7	(773,178)	(867,270)
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation		2,387,807	1,480,568
Dividends	8	(3,352,707)	(987,000)
(Sustained loss)/retained profit for the year	18	(964,900)	493,568

All of the operations included in the profit and loss account above relate to continuing operations.

The company has no recognised gains and losses other than those included in the profit and loss account above, and therefore no separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has been presented.

There is no material difference between the profit on ordinary activities before taxation and the sustained loss for the year stated above, and their historical cost equivalents.

# Balance sheet at 31 December 1994

	Notes	1994	1993
Fixed assets		£	£
Tangible assets	9	20,473,912	19,565,138
Current assets			
Stocks	11	265,182	231,598
Debtors	12	4,165,788	4,052,639
Cash at bank and in hand		4,468	1,084,782
		4,435,438	5,369,019
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(6,591,900)	(7,489,727)
Net current liabilities		(2,156,462)	(2,120,708)
Total assets less current liabilities		18,317,450	17,444,430
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than			
one year	14	(4,016,731)	(10,851,061)
Net assets		14,300,719	6,593,369
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	17	9,000,000	327,750
Profit and loss account	18	5,300,719	6,265,619
Equity shareholders' funds	19	14,300,719	6,593,369

The financial statements on pages 6 to 18 were approved by the board of directors on 25th April 1995 and were signed on its behalf by:

**Directors** 

Donnelle

# Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 1994

## 1 Principal accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards in the United Kingdom. A summary of the more important accounting policies, which have been applied consistently, is set out below.

#### Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain freehold and leasehold properties.

#### Cash flow statement

During the year the company was a wholly owned sub-subsidiary of Linton Park plc which publishes consolidated financial statements. Consequently, the company is exempt under the terms of Financial Reporting Standard Number 1 from publishing its own cash flow statement.

#### **Turnover**

Turnover represents amounts received and receivable for goods and services supplied to customers during the year, excluding value added tax.

#### Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation of tangible fixed assets is charged on a straight line basis so as to write off the cost or valuation of the assets, less any residual value, over their expected useful lives, which are as follows:

Freehold buildings
Long leasehold buildings
Short leasehold buildings
Plant and equipment
Motor vehicles

10 - 35 years period of lease period of lease 4 - 30 years 4 - 10 years

Freehold land is not depreciated.

## 1 Principal accounting policies (continued)

#### Finance and operating leases

Costs in respect of operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Leasing agreements which transfer to the company substantially all the benefits and risks of ownership of an asset are treated as if the asset had been purchased outright. The assets are included in fixed assets and the capital element of the leasing commitments is shown as obligations under finance leases. The lease rentals are treated as consisting of capital and interest elements. The capital element is applied to reduce the outstanding obligations and the interest element is charged against profit in proportion to the reducing capital element outstanding. Assets held under finance leases are depreciated over the shorter of the lease terms and the useful lives of equivalent owned assets.

#### Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Allowance has been made for obsolete and slow moving items.

#### Foreign currency

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the year end. Profits and losses on exchange are credited or charged directly to the profit and loss account.

#### Deferred taxation

Deferred taxation is provided, using the liability method, on all timing differences arising from the treatment of certain items for accounting and taxation purposes. Provision is only made where these differences are expected to reverse in the foreseeable future.

#### Pension costs

The cost of providing pensions is charged to the profit and loss account systematically over the periods benefitting from the employees' services in accordance with Statement of Standard Accounting Practice Number 24. Pension arrangements are detailed in note 16.

_	
7	Turnover
L	HILLIOVEL

	1994	1993
	£	£
Geographical segment		
United Kingdom	18,938,390	17,915,814
EEC (other than UK)	412,119	474,155
Europe (outside EEC)	39,148	58,275
	40.000.00	40.440.044
	19,389,657	18,448,244

## 3 Directors' emoluments

	1994	1993
	£	£
Emoluments (including pension contributions		
and benefits in kind)	303,984	304,681
Compensation for loss of office	-	33,414
	202 004	338,095
	303,984	336,093
		••••

Fees and other emoluments (excluding pension contributions) include amounts paid to:

io.	1994 £	1993 £
The Chairman	Nil	Nil
The highest paid director	72,373	71,116

The number of other directors who received emoluments (excluding pension contributions) within the following ranges was:

	19 <del>9</del> 4	1993
	Number	Number
£0 to £5,000	1	1
£20,001 to £25,000	-	1
£25,001 to £30,000	•	1
£35,001 to £40,000	3	3
£40,001 to £45,000	1	-
£45,001 to £50,000	•	1
£50,001 to £55,000	1	-
	-	

# 4 Employee information

The average weekly number of persons (including executive directors) employed by the company during the year was:

the company during the year was.	4004	
	1994	1993
The most Maria	Number	Number
By activity		
Management	26	29
Administration	35	40
Production and sales	276	284
	337	353
	***************************************	===
	1994	1993
	£	£
Staff costs (for the above persons)		
Wages and salaries	5,760,963	5,584,137
Social security costs	481,867	472,590
Other pension costs (see note 16)	231,731	226,123
	6,474,561	6,282,850
		=
5 Interest payable and similar charges		
	1994	1993
	£	£
On bank loans and overdrafts:	_	~
Repayable within 5 years, by instalments	106,335	171,010
Repayable wholly or partly in more than 5 years, by instalments	132,305	1,1,010
	238,640	171,010
	,	,
On finance leases and hire purchase contracts	139,416	138,278
-		
	378,056	309,288
6 Profit on ordinary activities before taxation		
Tront on oraniary activities before taxation	1004	1002
	1994	1993
Drafit on andinary activities before toyation is stated after	£	£
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after crediting:		
Profit on disposal of tangible fixed assets	10 415	42 001
Retrospective rates rebates	19,415	42,901
Retrospective rates revates	270,419	
And after charging:		
Depreciation charge for the year:		
Tangible owned fixed assets	1 307 141	1 222 412
Tangible fixed assets held under finance leases	1,307,161	1,223,412
Auditors' remuneration for audit	418,885	406,620
Hire of plant and machinery - operating leases	14,140	13,000
Hire of other assets - operating leases	3,058	4,150
THE OF OTHER SECTION - OPERATING TORSES	296,177	297,427
	<del></del>	

7 Tax on profit	on ordina	ry activitie	S		
•		•		1994	1993
United Kingdom corporation	n tax at 33% (	(1993: 33%):		£	£
Current (Over)/underprovision in res	spect of prior	years:		870,159	643,918
Current				(96, 981)	223,352
				773,178	867,270
8 Dividends					
				1994 £	1993 £
Dividends on ordinary share	s			~	2
Interim				3,352,707	750,000
Final proposed				•	237,000
				3,352,707	987,000
9 Tangible fixed	assets				
	Land	Plant and	Fivtures	Assets in the	Total
	and	equipment	and	course of	10031
	buildings	- •	fittings	construction	
Cost on voluntion	£	£	£	£	£
Cost or valuation At 1 January 1994	10 874 137	18,529,463	973,027	1,558,445	21 025 072
Additions	85,746	2,467,542	200,203	1,336,443	31,935,072 2,753,491
Disposals	(80,665)		-		(773,239)
Transfers	639, 155	919,290	-	(1,558,445)	-
At 31 December 1994	11,518,373	21,223,721	1,173,230	•	33,915,324
Depreciation					<del></del>
At 1 January 1994	2,764,322	8,967,234	638,378	-	12,369,934
Charge for the year	298,087	1,332,484	95,475	_	1,726,046
Eliminated in respect of			•		,
disposals	(16,381)	(638, 187)			(654,568)
At 31 December 1994	3,046,028	9,661,531	733,853	-	13,441,412
Net book value At 31 December 1994	8,472,345	11,562,190	439,377	-	20,473,912
Net book value At 31 December 1993	8,109,815	9,562,229	334,649	1,558,445	19,565,138
Cost or valuation at 31 December 1994 is represented by: Valuation in:					
1978	3,296,684	-	-	_	3,296,684
1983	327,000	-	-	-	327,000
Cost	7,894,689	21,223,721	1,173,230	-	30,291,640
	11,518,373	21,223,721	1,173,230	-	33,915,324

# 9 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

Land and buildings were valued at open market value for existing use for the purposes of the 1978 and 1983 financial statements.

Land and buildings at net book value comprise:

_	1994 £	1993 £
Freeholds Long leaseholds Short leaseholds	7,577,819 307,727 586,799	7,129,935 394,110 585,770
	8,472,345	8,109,815

If land and buildings had not been revalued they would have been included at the following amounts:

	1994 £	1993 £
Cost Aggregate depreciation based on cost	11,672,283 3,294,971	11,028,047 3,015,027
	8,377,312	8,013,020

The net book value of plant and equipment includes an amount of £2,704,588 (1993: £2,699,407) in respect of assets held under finance leases and hire purchase contracts.

#### 10 Fixed asset investment

£
25,715
25,715
25,715
-

#### Interest in group undertaking

Name of undertaking	Country of incorporation	Description of shares held	Proportion of nominal value of issued shares and voting rights held by the company
Associated Continental Services NV	Belgium	Ordinary shares of 1,000 Belgium Francs	100%

### 10 Fixed asset investment (continued)

The above company operated as a transport company principally in its country of incorporation. It was incorporated and commenced trading during 1993. In accordance with Section 229 of the Companies Act 1985, consolidated financial statements have not been prepared because its inclusion is not material for the purpose of giving a true and fair view. Associated Continental Services NV ceased trading in December 1993.

11	1	C.	40	ام	ks
T.	L	D.	W	U	NO

II Stocks	1994 £	1993 £
Raw materials and consumables	<del>265,182</del>	231,598
12 Debtors		
	1994	1993
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade debtors	3,615,543	3,646,477
Amounts owed by fellow subsidiary undertakings	•	1073
Other debtors	744	744
Advance corporation tax recoverable	119,776	-
Prepayments and accrued income	429,725	404,345
	4,165,788	4,052,639

## 13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	1994	1993
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	970,929	995,000
Obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts	720,192	670, 195
Trade creditors	1,637,859	1,337,451
Amounts owed to parent and fellow subsidiary undertakings	420	2,301,639
Corporation tax payable	919, 153	642,578
Other taxation and social security payable	628,307	480,058
Accruals and deferred income	814, 169	825,806
Dividends payable	900,871	237,000
	6,591,900	7,489,727

### 14 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	1994 £	1993 £
Bank loans	2,645,000	2,095,000
Amounts owed to parent undertaking	•	4,132,757
Obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts	1,371,731	1,345,804
Unsecured loan stock repayable in 1997	•	3,277,500
	4,016,731	10,851,061

Bank loans include a loan for £400,000 that is repayable other than by instalments by 28 April 1996. In addition, bank loans totalling £1,815,000 are repayable by instalments over a period of ten years from 1 January 1994. The remainder of the bank loans are repayable by instalments over a period of two years from 1 January 1995. Interest is payable at various rates on the above loans, up to maximum of 1% above LIBOR.

The company has been financially restructured during the year and, as a result, certain balances with its immediate parent company were settled and early repayment of the unsecured loan stock was effected through the issue of ordinary shares (note 17).

#### Bank loans and overdrafts

	1994	1993
	£	£
Repayable as follows:		
In one year or less	970,929	995,000
Between one and two years	1,050,000	650,000
Between two and five years	660,000	1,445,000
In five years or more	935,000	-
	3,615,929	3,090,000

#### Finance leases and hire purchase contracts

The net obligations to which the company is committed under finance leases and hire purchase contracts are as follows:

	1994	1993
	£	£
In one year or less	720,192	670,195
Between one and two years	600,969	551,292
Between two and five years	770,762	794,512
	2,091,923	2,015,999

#### 15 Deferred taxation

Deferred taxation provided in the financial statements, and the amount unprovided of the total potential liability, are as follows:

	Amount provided		Amoun	t unprovided
	1994	1993	1994	1993
	£	£	£	£
Tax effect of timing differences because of				
Excess of tax allowances over				
depreciation	-	-	3,223,141	3,138,309

#### 16 Pensions

The company participates in the group pension schemes operated by Associated Fisheries plc and funded by contributions from members and from the company. One scheme is of the defined benefit type and its assets are held in a separate trustee administered fund. The fund is valued every three years by a professionally qualified independent actuary, the rates of contribution payable being determined by the actuary. In the intervening years the actuary reviews the continuing appropriateness of the rates. The latest actuarial assessment of the scheme was at 1 July 1991. Particulars of the valuation are contained in the financial statements of Linton Park plc.

The other scheme is a defined contribution scheme. This scheme has an independently administered fund and contributions are charged to the profit and loss account when payable.

The total cost for the company in the year ended 31 December 1994 was £231,731 (1993: £226,123).

There were no outstanding or prepaid contributions at either the beginning or end of the financial year in respect of either scheme.

# 17 Called up share capital

	1994	1993
	£	£
Authorised, allotted, called up and fully paid		
9,000,000 (1993: 327,750) ordinary shares of £1 each	9,000,000	327,750
	=======================================	

The company issued 8,672,250 £1 ordinary shares at par value during the year in settlement of certain liabilities (including unsecured loan stock) owing to the immediate parent company as part of a restructuring exercise of its long term finance.

#### 18 Profit and loss account

		£
At 1 January 1994 Sustained loss for the year		6,265,619 (964,900)
At 31 December 1994		5,300,719
19 Reconciliation of movements in sharehold	ers' funds	
	1994 £	1993 £
Profit for the financial year Dividends New share capital issued	2,387,807 (3,352,707) 8,672,250	1,480,568 (987,000)
Net addition to shareholders' funds	7,707,350	493,568
Opening shareholders' funds	6,593,369	6,099,801
Closing shareholders' funds	14,300,719	6,593,369
20 Capital commitments		
	1994 £	1993 £
Future capital expenditure Contracted but not provided for	106,300	1,263,000
TOTALLIA ON MA SOA NOTANA SOE		
Authorised but not contracted for	3,504,000	-

# 21 Contingent liabilities

The company has entered into a cross guarantee with Associated Fisheries plc and certain fellow undertakings in respect of advances and borrowings from Midland Bank plc. At 31 December 1994 the aggregate of these advances and borrowings was £7,665,941 (1993: £Nil).

#### 22 Financial commitments

At 31 December 1994 the company had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:-

chermine and an armine	1994		1993	
	Land and buildings	Other	Land and buildings	Other
	£	£	£	£
Expiring within one year Expiring between two and five	2,000	41,975	2,000	18,548
years inclusive	-	50,850	-	90,760
Expiring in over five years	171,316	•	167,890	-
	173,316	92,825	169,890	109,308

## 23 Ultimate and immediate parent companies

The directors regard Camellia Investments plc, a company incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England, as the ultimate parent company. The company's immediate parent company is Associated Fisheries plc, a company registered in England. Copies of the ultimate parent company's consolidated financial statements may be obtained from The Gatehouse, 16 Arlington Street, London, SW1A 1RD.