Company No: 814782

<u>DUNCAN POCOCK (INSURANCE BROKERS) LTD</u>

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- for the year ended -

28TH FEBRUARY 1999

COLE MARIE & CO.
Chartered Accountants
48 Station Road
Redhill, Surrey
RH1 1PH



DIRECTORS

J.W. Marshgreen P.J. Dessent J.A. Ibbs J. Loftus M.J. Stephens N.A. Palmer-Minnis

SECRETARY

S.K. Homewood

REGISTERED OFFICE

Sheldon House Station Road East Oxted Surrey RH8 0QB

AUDITORS

Cole Marie & Co. Chartered Accountants 48 Station Road Redhill Surrey RH1 1PH

PRINCIPAL BANKERS

Lloyds Bank PLC 25 Camberwell Green London SE5 7AB

INDEX TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY 1999

Page	
1	Report of the directors
3	Auditors' report
4	Profit and loss account
5	Balance sheet
6	Cash flow statement
7	Notes to the financial statements

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The directors present their report and audited financial statements for the year ended 28 February 1999.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND BUSINESS REVIEW

The company's principal activity during the year continued to be insurance broking.

Turnover for the year increased from £2,811,334 to £3,139,000. The directors consider this level of activity to be reasonable and that it can be sustained for the forseeable future.

YEAR 2000 ISSUE

As is well known, many computer and digital storage systems express dates using only the last two digits of the year and will thus require modification or replacement to accommodate the Year 2000 and beyond in order to avoid malfunctions and resulting commercial disruption. This is a complex and pervasive issue. The operation of our business depends not only on our own computer systems, but also to some degree on those of our suppliers and customers. This could expose us to further risk in the event that there is a failure by other parties to remedy their own Year 2000 issues.

The directors have considered the impact of the Year 2000 upon the company's own operations. The Year 2000 will have a minimal impact now that all necessary modifications to the company's computer systems have been completed. Consequently, further material costs are not anticipated.

DIVIDENDS

The directors have paid interim dividends amounting to £75,171, and they do not recommend payment of a final dividend.

DIRECTORS AND THEIR INTERESTS

The directors at the balance sheet date were as follows:

J.W. Marshgreen P.J. Dessent J.A. Ibbs J. Loftus M.J. Stephens N.A. Palmer-Minnis

The directors' interests in Duncan Pocock (Holdings) Limited, the ultimate parent company, are disclosed in the financial statements of that company.

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;
- 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.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (Continued)

AUDITORS

The auditors, Cole Marie & Co., are willing to be reappointed in accordance with section 385 of the Companies Act 1985.

Date:

By Order of the Board

S.K.Homewood Secretary

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF DUNCAN POCOCK (INSURANCE BROKERS) LTD

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 19 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain fixed assets and the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements.

Respective responsibilities of the directors and auditors

As described in the Directors' Report 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 affairs of the company as at 28 February 1999 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

COLE MARIE & CO. Chartered Accountants Registered Auditors

Date: SL &v WY!

48 Station Road Redhill Surrey RH1 1PH

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY 1999

	Notes	1999 £	1998 £
TURNOVER		3,139,000	2,811,334
Administrative expenses		(2,750,044)	(2,440,975)
		388,956	370,359
Other operating income		8,698	12,976
OPERATING PROFIT	2	397,654	383,335
Interest receivable Interest payable	3 4	101,482 (103,543)	71,849 (103,574)
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION		395,593	351,610
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	7	(167,933)	(153,146)
PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		227,660	198,464
Dividends	8	(75,171)	(108,898)
RETAINED PROFIT FOR THE YEAR	20	152,489	89,566

None of the company's activities were acquired or discontinued during the above two financial years.

The company has no recognised gains or losses other than those dealt with in the profit and loss account.

The notes on pages 7 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET AT 28TH FEBRUARY 1999

	Notes	£	1999 £	£	1998 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Intangible assets Tangible assets Investments	9 10 11		849,118 521,866 3,890		957,978 601,846 3,890
			1,374,874		1,563,714
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors Cash at bank and in hand Debtors due after more	12	1,990,610 1,187,908		1,666,566 1,262,520	
than one year	13	201,055		67,834	
		3,379,573		2,996,920	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	14 ((2,765,507)		(2,665,554)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			614,066		331,366
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			1,988,940		1,895,080
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year	15		(1,026,890)	ı	(1,085,519)
			962,050		809,561
CAPITAL AND RESERVES Called up share capital Share premium account Revaluation reserve	18 19		42,857 133,565 96,304		42,857 133,565 96,304
Other reserves Profit and loss account	20		4,243 685,081		4,243 532,592
SHAREHOLDERS FUNDS	21		962,050		809,561

The financial statements were approved by the board on 5/8/99 and signed on its behalf by

The notes on pages 7 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

Director

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY 1999

		3	1999]	1998
	Notes		£	£	£
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	22		267,217		778,090
RETURNS ON INVESTMENTS					
AND SERVICING OF FINANCE	23		(2,061)		(31,725)
TAXATION			(139,891)		(206,379)
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	23		3,891		(30,359)
EQUITY DIVIDENDS PAID			(75,171)		(108,898)
Cash inflow before use of liquid resources and financing			53,985		400,729
FINANCING Decrease in debt	23	(156,060)		(125,866)	
			(156,060)		(125,866)
INCREASE IN CASH IN THE			(102,075)		274,863
YEAR			 :.		
<u></u>	<u>-</u> -				
RECONCILIATION OF NET CASI FLOW TO MOVEMENT IN NET FUNDS	H 24				
INCREASE IN CASH IN THE YEAR		(102,075)		274,863	
Cash outflow from decrease in lease financing		156,060		125,866	
Change in net funds resulting from cash flows New finance leases			53,985 (102,843)		400,729 (269,952)
Movement in net funds in the year			(48,858)		130,777
Net funds at 1 March 1998			29,748		(101,029)
Net debt at 28 February 1999			(19,110)		29,748

The notes on pages 7 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY 1999

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention modified to include the revaluation of freehold land and buildings.

1.2 TURNOVER

Turnover represents brokerage and commissions earned during the year and arises entirely within the U.K.

1.3 GOODWILL

The net assets of businesses acquired as new branches are incorporated in the accounts of the company. Where the amount paid exceeds the value of the net assets acquired, the balance, representing purchased goodwill, is capitalised. The amount capitalised is amortised, on a straight line basis, over an estimated economic life of twenty years, unless otherwise disclosed in note 9.

1.4 LEASEHOLD PROPERTY

Amortisation is provided to write off the cost of leasehold property in equal instalments over the life of the lease.

1.5 DEPRECIATION

Depreciation is provided using the following rates and bases to reduce by annual instalments the cost, less estimated residual value, of the tangible assets over their estimated useful lives:-

Leasehold properties Office Equipment Fixtures and fittings Motor vehicles Straight line over the life of the lease 99% Straight line/Reducing balance 10 - 25% Straight line 25% Straight line

Freehold property is not depreciated because the valuation is reassessed annually, and if any material change has occurred the property is revalued.

1.6 DEFERRED TAXATION

Provision is made, by the liability method, for taxation deferred in respect of all timing differences except where it is likely that such deferrals will continue for the foreseeable future.

1.7 LEASING AND HIRE PURCHASE

Rentals payable under operating leases are taken to the profit and loss account on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Assets acquired under hire purchase contracts are included in fixed assets and depreciated over their useful lives. Assets acquired under finance leases are capitalised and depreciated over the life of the lease. Finance charges relating thereto are charged to the profit and loss account in the period in which they are incurred.

1.8 PENSIONS

Pension costs are accounted for in the period in which the defined contribution falls due.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY 1999

1.9 BROKERAGE RECOGNITION

Brokerage is recognised on receipt of client instructions to place them on cover and either premium received or an invoice raised.

2. OPERATING PROFIT	1999 £	1998 £
The operating profit is stated after charging:	-	•
Depreciation Amortisation of goodwill Auditors' remuneration Operating lease rentals:	187,118 108,860 19,000	162,633
Land and buildings Plant and machinery		140,216 3,783
3. INTEREST RECEIVABLE		
	1999 £	1998 £
Bank and other interest receivable	101,482	71,849
	101,482	71,849
4. INTEREST PAYABLE AND SIMILAR CHARGES	1000	
	1999 £	1998 £
On bank loans and overdrafts Other		1,325
Lease finance charges and hire purchase interest	29,464	25,618

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY 1999

5. DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES

	1999	1998
Staff costs:	£	£
Wages and salaries	1 293 664	1,157,524
Social security costs	133.973	119,610
Other pension costs	67,936	119,610 56,544
	1,495,573	1,333,678
The average number of employees during the year was made	up as follows	s:
	Number	Number
Employees	71	65
Directors' emoluments:		
	£	£
Remuneration for management		
services	366,746	379,399
Pension contributions	33,580	27,570
		406,969
	Number	Number
The number of directors for whom payments have been made into the following pension schemes:		
Money purchase	7	7
	7	7
		====
	£	£
Highest paid director		80,815
Highest paid director pension costs	12,000	9,400
	97,569	90,215

6. PENSION COSTS

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. Contributions payable by the company amounted to £67,936 (1998: 56,544). All contributions were paid in the year.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY 1999

7.	TAX ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	1999 £	1998 £
	The taxation charge comprises:		
	U.K. corporation tax at 26.86% (1998 - 28.99%) Receipt in respect of group relief	106,917 69,377	83,173 69,973
	Adjustment in respect of prior years	176,294 (8,361)	153,146
		167,933	153,146
8.	DIVIDENDS	1000	1000
	Ordinary shares	1999 ₤ 57,882	1998 £ 83,820
Cumulative Convertible Participating Preferred Ordinary shares	Preferred Ordinary shares	17,289	25,078
		75,171	108,898
9.	INTANGIBLE ASSETS		Goodwill £
	Cost		
	At 1 March 1998 and At 28 February 1999		1,637,694
	Amortisation		
	At 1 March 1998 Charge for year		679,716 108,860
	At 28 February 1999		788,576
	Net book value at 28 February 1999		849,118
	Net book value at 28 February 1998		957,978

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY 1999

10.	TA	NCIRI	E ASSETS
LU.		ITTEL	ar accets

TANGIBLE ASSETS	Land & buildings	Plant & machinery £	Fixtures & fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 March 1998 Additions Disposals	157,706	566,237 108,649 (2,148)	38,341	387,203 (39,826)	1,149,487 108,649 (41,974)
At 28 February 1999	157,706	672,738	38,341	347,377	1,216,162
Depreciation					
At 1 March 1998 Charge for year On disposals	2,088 1,041	384,947 99,922 (1,137)	2,700	138,491 83,455 (39,326)	547,641 187,118 (40,463)
At 28 February 1999	3,129	483,732	24,815	182,620	694,296
Net book value at 28 February 1999	154,577	189,006	13,526	164,757	521,866
Net book value at 28 February 1998	155,618	181,290	16,226	248,712	601,846
Analysis of not book yell	us of land o	ad buildings		1999 £	1998 £
Analysis of net book val	ue of land al	na bunaings:			1.40.000
Freehold Short leasehold				140,000	140,000 15,618
				154,577	155,618

The freehold property is included at the directors' estimate of market value on 28 February 1988. The original cost was £43,696. If the property was sold for this value, a tax liability amounting to £7,216 would arise.

Included above are assets held under finance leases or hire purchase contracts as follows:

	1999 £	1998 £
Net book values:		
Office Equipment Motor vehicles	144,469 164,757	115,686 248,712
	309,226	364,398
Depreciation charge for the year:		
Office Equipment Motor vehicles	43,302 80,975	23,413 64,182
	124,277	87,595

Net obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts are secured on the assets acquired.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY 1999

11. INVESTMENTS

12.

	Beginning of year £	Additions £	End of year £
Unlisted investments	3,890	-	3,890
	3,890	-	3,890
Net book value	3,890		3,890
DEBTORS		1999 £	1998 £
Trade debtors Other debtors Advance corporation tax Prepayments and accrued income			3,905 27,225 50,705

13. DEBTORS DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	1999 £	1998 £
Amounts owed by group undertakings	201,055	67,834

Included in debtors is an amount of £ 201,055 due from a fellow subsidiary, Duncan Pocock(Commercial Direct) Limited, which commenced trading in 1997. The subsidiary made a loss in the year amounting to £135,253 and has net liabilities at the balance sheet date of £259,810. The loss is in line with budgets which indicate that the company will make further losses in the next two years and profits thereafter. The directors are confident that the company will continue to meet its budgetted results and that the repayment of the inter-company balance will be achieved. Accordingly, they do not believe that any provision against the balance due is required.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY 1999

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	1999 £	. 1998 £
Bank loans and overdrafts	46,740	19,277
Trade creditors	2,305,551	2,227,068
Corporation tax	105,010	83,177
Other taxes and social security costs	39,815	35,025
Net obligations under finance lease	·	ŕ
and hire purchase contracts	133,388	127,976
Directors' current accounts	´ -	14,528
Other creditors	11,403	19,125
Accruals and deferred income	123,600	139,378
	2,765,507	2,665,554

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	1999 £	1998 £
Loans Net obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts	928,578	928,578
	98,312	156,941
	1,026,890	1,085,519

All obligations under hire purchase contracts fall due within five years. The amounts falling due within three years totalled £ 275,128.

Included in bank loans and similar borrowings are loans, not repayable by instalments and due after more than five years, as follows:-

Date Due	Interest	Loan
31 March 2004	9.50%	108,578
31 March 2004	8.50%	60,000
31 March 2004	9.50%	360,000
31 March 2004	9.50%	150,000
31 March 2004	9.50%	150,000
31 March 2004	9.50%	100,000
		928,578

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY 1999

16. BORROWINGS

BORROWINGS	1999 £	1998 £
The company's borrowings are repayable as follows:		
In one year, or less or on demand In five years or more	46,740 928,578	19,277 928,578
	975,318	947,855

Details of security:

The bank loans are secured by a fixed charge over the freehold and leasehold property of the company together with the book and other debts. In addition there is a floating charge on all other assets of the company, present and future, specifically excluding insurance debtors and approved short term assets as well as bank accounts designated Insurance Broking Accounts.

17. NET OBLIGATIONS UNDER FINANCE LEASES AND HIRE PURCHASE CONTRACTS

	1999 £	1998 £
The company's net obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts are repayable as follows:		
In one year, or less or on demand Between two and five years	133,388 98,312	127,976 156,941
Finance charges and interest allowed	231,700	284,917
Finance charges and interest allocated to future accounting periods	43,427	59,836
Included in current liabilities	275,127 (133,388)	344,753 (127,976)
	141,739	216,777

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY 1999

18. SHARE CAPITAL

9,857	9,857
33,000	33,000
42,857	42,857
9,857	9,857
33,000	33,000
42,857	42,857
	33,000 42,857 9,857 33,000

The C.C.P.P.O. shares are entitled to a participating preference dividend amounting to 5.75% of the adjusted net profit for the financial year. Thereafter the ordinary shareholders are entitled to a dividend not exceeding the aggregate sum paid to the C.C.P.P.O. shareholders. Both classes of share rank equally in respect of further dividends from the remaining profits.

The C.C.P.P.O. shareholders are entitled, on a winding up, to their subscription price and any arrears, deficiency or accruals of the participating dividend. Thereafter the ordinary shareholders are entitled to an amount per share not exceeding the subscription price paid to the C.C.P.P.O. shareholders. Subject to the above, both classes rank equally for the purposes of distribution of any remaining balance. All shares carry equal voting rights.

1999

1998

19. SHARE PREMIUM ACCOUNT

133,565	133,565
133,565	133,565
1999 £	1998 £
532,592 152,489	443,026 89,566
685,081	532,592
	133,565 1999 £ 532,592 152,489

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY 1999

21. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

1999 £	1998 £
227,660 (75,171)	198,464 (108,898)
152,489 809,561	89,566 719,995
962,050	809,561
·	
962,050	809,561
962,050	809,561
	£ 227,660 (75,171) 152,489 809,561 962,050

22. RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING PROFIT TO OPERATING CASH FLOWS

	1999 £	1998 £
Operating profit Depreciation Profit on disposal of fixed assets	397,654 295,978 (8,186)	383,335 314,877 (74,985)
Increase in debtors Increase in creditors due within one year	(463,474) 45,245	(429,215) 584,078
Cash flow from operating activities	267,217	778,090

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY 1999

23. ANALYSIS OF CASH FLOWS FOR HEADINGS NETTED IN THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT

FLOW STATEMENT	1999 £	
Returns on investments and		
servicing of finance	101 100	71.040
Interest received	101,482	71,849 (77,956)
Interest paid	(74,079)	(77,956)
Interest element on hire purchase contracts	(17,301)	(13,132)
Interest element on finance lease rental payments	(12,163)	(12,486)
Net cash outflow from returns on investments and servicing of finance	(2,061)	(31,725)
Capital expenditure and financial investment Purchase of intangible fixed assets Purchase of tangible fixed assets Purchase of other investments Receipts from sale of tangible assets	(5,806) 9,697	(40,000) (69,709) (750) 80,100
Net cash inflow from capital expenditure	3,891	(30,359)
Financing Repayment of capital on hire purchase contracts and finance leases rentals	(156,060)	(125,866)
Net cash outflow from financing	(156,060)	(125,866)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY 1999

24. ANALYSIS OF NET FUNDS

	1999			
	Beginning of year £	Cash flow	Other movements £	End of year £
Cash at bank and in hand Bank overdrafts Debt due after one year Finance leases	1,262,520 (19,277) (928,578) (284,917)	(74,612) (27,463) 156,060	(102,843)	1,187,908 (46,740) (928,578) (231,700)
	29,748	53,985	(102,843)	(19,110)

The movement in net funds includes £133,388 of leases reclassified from liabilities falling due after more than one year to liabilities falling due within one year.

Other non-cash changes £	Exchange movements £	Net movements £
(102,843)	-	(102,843)
(102,843)	-	(102,843)
	non-cash changes £ (102,843)	non-cash changes movements £ (102,843)

25. REVENUE COMMITMENTS

The amounts payable in the next year in respect of operating leases are shown below, analysed according to the expiry date of the leases.

	Land and buildings		Other	
	1999	1998	1999	1998
	£	£	£	£
Expiry date:				
Within one year	-	7,600	579	_
Between one and				
five years	60,850	28,350	39,295	1,876
After five years	59,000	98,480	_	-
	119,850	134,430	39,874	1,876

26. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The company has guaranteed annual lease rentals amounting to £18,500 in respect of premises occupied by a fellow subsidiary, Duncan Pocock (Commercial Direct) Limited. The lease expires on 28th February 2009, but can be terminated on earlier dates with six months notice being given.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY 1999

27. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

On the 25th March 1999, the company purchased a 99 year leasehold interest at a premium of £137,870.

28. TRANSACTIONS WITH DIRECTORS

During the year the company paid rent for certain properties in which two directors, J.W. Marshgreen and P.J. Dessent, have an interest. The amount paid was £21,981 (1998 £27,480).

29. CONTROL

The company was under the control of J.W. Marshgreen and P.J. Dessent, who each hold 38.5% of the ordinary share capital of Duncan Pocock (Holdings) Limited, the ultimate parent company.

30. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The company has taken advantage of the exemption from disclosures required by FRS8 relating to group transactions as consolidated accounts are prepared by the parent company.

31. ULTIMATE PARENT COMPANY

The ultimate parent company is Duncan Pocock (Holdings) Limited a company incorporated in Great Britain.