HALL & CLARKE INSURANCE BROKERS PLC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 31 DECEMBER 1999

Company Registration Number 892968

SWFRANKSON&CO

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Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999

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THE DIRECTORS' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999

The directors have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 December 1999.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND BUSINESS REVIEW

The principal activity of the company during the year has continued to be those associated with insurance brokers.

The directors are satisfied with the results of the year's trading.

RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS

The trading results for the year, and the company's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements.

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The directors have recommended the following dividends:

	1999	1998
	£	£
Proposed dividends on ordinary shares	40,000	-
Dividends paid on ordinary shares	30,000	60,500
	70,000	60,500
	70,000	00,500

THE DIRECTORS AND THEIR INTERESTS IN SHARES OF THE COMPANY

The directors who served the company during the year together with their beneficial interests in the shares of the company were as follows:

	Ordinary Shares of £1 each	
	At 31 December 1999	At 1 January 1999
D J Clarke D G Earl	49,995 -	49,995 -
S J Clarke	-	-
R P Bogart	-	-
		

During the year the company purchased and maintained liability insurance for its directors and officers as permitted by Section 310 (3) of the Companies Act 1985.

POLICY ON THE PAYMENT OF CREDITORS

It is the policy of the company to agree suitable terms and conditions for its business transactions with suppliers. These terms and conditions range from standard written terms to individually drafted contracts. Once such terms are agreed it is the company's policy to fully adhere to them, including payment schedules, provided the supplier has also agreed with terms and conditions.

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 at the end of the year and of the profit or loss for the year then ended.

THE DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES (continued)

In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

select suitable accounting policies, as described on page 9, 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. The directors 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.

DONATIONS

During the year the company made the following contributions:

	1999	1998	
	£	£	
Charitable	310	450	

AUDITORS

A resolution to re-appoint S W Frankson & Co as auditors for the ensuing year will be proposed at the annual general meeting in accordance with section 385 of the Companies Act 1985.

D J Clarke Chairman

Approved by the directors on 9 JW 20.00

ton behalf of the directors

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AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 16 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page 9.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIRECTORS AND THE AUDITORS

As described on pages 1 to 2, the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the 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 as at 31 December 1999 and of the profit of the company for the year then ended, and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

S W FRANKSON & CO Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors C

Bridge House Station Road Hayes Middlesex UB3 4BT

15-6.2000

HALL & CLARKE INSURANCE BROKERS PLC PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999

Note	е	1999 £	1998 £
TURNOVER	2	3,003,516	2,714,573
Cost of sales		(1,241,074)	(1,046,722)
GROSS PROFIT		1,762,442	1,667,851
Administrative expenses Other operating income	3	(1,702,690) 17,250	(1,627,793) 17,250
OPERATING PROFIT	4	77,002	57,308
Interest receivable Interest payable	7	64,751 (31,699)	79,109 (36,799)
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION		110,054	99,618
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	8	(30,590)	(30,256)
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER TAXATION		79,464	69,362
Dividends	9	(70,000)	(60,500)
RETAINED PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		9,464	8,862
Balance brought forward		142,172	133,310
Balance carried forward		151,636	142,172

STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES

The company has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above.

CONTINUING ACTIVITIES

All of the activities of the company are classed as continuing.

BALANCE SHEET

31 DECEMBER 1999

	Note	1999		1998	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Intangible assets	10		-		3,146
Tangible assets	11		510,657		504,250
Investments	12		3,630		3,630
			514,287		511,026
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	1,385,170		1,198,434	
Investments	14	28,332		32,380	
Cash at bank and in hand		982,101		786,731	
		2,395,603		2,017,545	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due					
within one year	15	(2,306,318)		(1,937,689)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			89,285		79,856
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT	LIABI	LITIES	603,572		590,882
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due					
after more than one year	16		(401,936)		(398,710)
			201,636		192,172
CAPITAL AND RESERVES					
Called-up equity share capital	19		50,000		50,000
Profit and loss account			151,636		142,172
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	20		201,636		192,172

These financial statements were approved by the directors on the 100 me 2000, and are

signed on their behalf by:

DJCLARKE

D G FARI

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999

	1999		1998	
	£	£	£	£
NET CASH INFLOW FROM				
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		270,455		152,848
RETURNS ON INVESTMENTS AND SERVICING OF FINANCE				
Interest received	64,751		79,109	
Interest paid	(29,751)		(36,549)	
Interest element of hire purchase agreements	(1,948)		(250)	
1 0				
NET CASH INFLOW FROM RETURNS				
ON INVESTMENTS AND SERVICING				
OF FINANCE		33,052		42,310
TAXATION		(15,211)		(33,326)
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE				
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets	(43,208)		(24,414)	
Receipts from sale of fixed assets	8,500		-	
Acquisition of other current asset				
investments	4,048		4,047	
NET CASH OUTFLOW FROM				
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE		(30,660)		(20,367)
EQUITY DIVIDENDS PAID		(30,000)		(60,500)
-4 0111 D 1/1 - 1/1011111				
CASH INFLOW BEFORE FINANCING		227,636		80,965
FINANCING				
Repayment of bank loans	(5,462)		(3,558)	
Capital element of hire purchase agreements	(14,591)		(1,981)	
NET CASH OUTFLOW FROM				
FINANCING		(20,053)		(5,539)
INCREASE IN CASH		207.592		75.426
INCREASE IN CASH		207,583		75,426

CASH FLOW STATEMENT (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999

RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING PROFIT TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	1999	1998
	£	£
Operating profit	77,002	57,308
Amortisation	3,146	3,146
Depreciation	62,341	56,361
(Profit)/Loss on disposal of fixed assets	(4,040)	4,252
Increase in debtors	(186,736)	(131,646)
Increase in creditors	318,742	163,427
Net cash inflow from operating activities	270,455	152,848

RECONCILIATION OF NET CASH FLOW TO MOVEMENT IN NET FUNDS

	1999		1998	
Increase in cash in the period	£ 207,583	£	£ 75,426	£
Net cash outflow from bank loans Net cash outflow in respect of hire purchase	5,462		3,558	
agreements	14,591		1,981	
Change in net funds resulting from cash flows		227,636		80,965
Other differences		(30,000)		(23,772)
Movement in net funds in the period		197,636		57,193
Net funds at 1 January 1999		358,833		301,640
Net funds at 31 December 1999		556,469		358,833

CASH FLOW STATEMENT (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999

ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At		Other	At
	1 Jan 1999	Cash flows	changes 3	31 Dec 1999
	£	£	£	£
Net cash:				
Cash in hand and at bank	786,731	195,370		982,101
Overdrafts	(12,213)	12,213		-
	774,518	207,583		982,101
Debt:		_		
Debt due within 1 year	(9,051)	5,462	(2,183)	(5,772)
Debt due after 1 year	(384,843)	-	2,183	(382,660)
Hire purchase agreements	(21,791)	14,591	(30,000)	(37,200)
	(415,685)	20,053		(425,632)
Net funds	358,833	227,636	(30,000)	556,469
1120 5			(23,000)	

MAJOR NON-CASH TRANSACTIONS

During the year the company entered into hire purchase arrangements in respect of assets with a capital value at the inception of the leases of £30,000.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

Turnover

Brokerage commission is taken when the insurance policies are initiated/renewed. Life and pension commissions are recognised on a receipt basis. A provision is made in respect of expected clawback on commissions received on indemnity terms, the provision being based on clawback ratios in the previous years.

Amortisation

Amortisation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Goodwill

- over 10 years

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Freehold premises

2% on cost (excluding land of £136,667)

Motor vehicles

25% staight line

Office furniture and equipment

25% reducing balance

Computers are depreciated on a 25% straight line basis.

Hire purchase agreements

Assets held under hire purchase agreements are capitalised and disclosed under tangible fixed assets at their fair value. The capital element of the future payments is treated as a liability and the interest is charged to the profit and loss account on a straight line basis.

Pension costs

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme on behalf of its directors and certain employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately to those of the company in an independently administered fund. Contributions are charged to the profit and loss account in the year in which they are paid.

Deferred taxation

Provision is made, under the liability method, to take account of timing differences between the treatment of certain items for accounts purposes and their treatment for tax purposes. Tax deferred or accelerated is accounted for in respect of all material timing differences to the extent that it is considered that a net liability may arise.

Foreign currencies

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at the operating profit.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999

2. TURNOVER

The whole of the turnover and profit before taxation is attributable to insurance broking business.

3. OTHER OPERATING INCOME

	1999	1998
	£	£
Rent receivable	17,250	17,250

4. OPERATING PROFIT

Operating profit is stated after charging/(crediting):

operating prome is stated after enauging (ereating	1999	1998
	£	£
Amortisation	3,146	3,146
Depreciation	62,341	56,361
(Profit)/loss on disposal of fixed assets	(4,040)	4,252
Auditors' remuneration	, , ,	
- as auditors	16,685	15,980
- payroll	1,575	1,410

5. PARTICULARS OF EMPLOYEES

The average number of staff employed by the company during the financial year amounted to:

1999	1998
No.	No.
53	46
	_
1999	1998
£	£
1,082,915	1,053,827
113,632	105,808
43,116	38,811
27,301	28,555
1,266,964	1,227,001
	No. 53 1999 £ 1,082,915 113,632 43,116 27,301

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999

6. DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS

7.

8.

The directors' aggregate emoluments in respect of qualifying services were:

	, ,	
	1999	1998
To all a surface of all to	£	£
Emoluments receivable	362,595	397,313
Value of company pension contributions to money purchase schemes	27,301	28,555
purchase selicines		
	389,896	425,868
101		
Emoluments of highest paid director:	1999	1998
	£	1996 £
Total emoluments (excluding pension contributions):	118,211	129,639
Value of company pension contributions to money		,
purchase schemes	11,835	15,204
	130,046	144,843
	150,040	
The number of directors who are accruing benefits u follows:	ınder company pension	n schemes were as
	1999	1998
	No.	No.
Money purchase schemes	4	4
• •	_	_
INTEREST PAYABLE		
	1999	1998
	£	£
Interest payable on bank borrowing	22,063	28,099
Finance charges	1,948	250
Other similar charges payable	7,688	8,450
	31,699	36,799
	<u> </u>	
TAX ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES		
	1999	1998
	£	£
In respect of the year:		
Corporation tax based on the results for the year at		
21/20% (1998 - 21%)	30,590	30,265
,	, -	,
Adjustment in respect of previous years:		
Corporation tax	-	(9)
	30,590	30,256
	30,370	50,250

HALL & CLARKE INSURANCE BROKERS PLC NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999

9. DIVIDENDS

The following dividends have been paid or proposed in respect of the year:

	1999	1998
	£	£
Proposed dividends on equity shares	40,000	-
Dividends paid on equity shares	30,000	60,500
	70,000	60,500

10. INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Goodwill £
~
31,467
28,321
3,146
31,467
-
3,146

HALL & CLARKE INSURANCE BROKERS PLC NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Ewalada		Office	
	-	Motor vehicles	furniture and equipment	Total
COST	£	£	£	£
At 1 January 1999	419,970	140,835	230,714	791,519
Additions	-	50,605	22,603	73,208
Disposals	-	(17,840)	-	(17,840)
At 31 December 1999	419,970	173,600	253,317	846,887
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 January 1999	11,332	68,461	207,476	287,269
Charge for the year	5,666	43,399	13,276	62,341
On disposals	-	(13,380)	-	(13,380)
At 31 December 1999	16,998	98,480	220,752	336,230
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 December 1999	402,972	75,120	32,565	510,657
At 31 December 1998	408,638	72,374	23,238	504,250

Hire purchase agreements

Included within the net book value of £510,657 is £44,387 (1998 - £19,690) relating to assets held under hire purchase agreements. The depreciation charged to the accounts in the year in respect of such assets amounted to £16,983 (1998 - £6,563).

12. INVESTMENTS

£
3,630
3,630
3,630

The investment is in respect of shares subscribed for in Brokers Direct plc and is stated at allotment price.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999

13. DEBTORS

		1999	1998
		£	£
	Trade debtors	1,363,781	1,175,175
	Prepayments and accrued income	21,389	23,259
		1,385,170	1,198,434
14.	INVESTMENTS		
		1999	1998
		£	£
	Other investments	28,332	32,380

Other investments relate to an interest bearing loan to Clark Colour Limited (see the related party note for details). Of the £28,332 (1998 - £32,380) outstanding at the year end £24,285 (1998 - £28,333) is repayable after twelve months.

15. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	1999		1998	8
	£	£	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts		5,772		21,264
Trade creditors		2,138,697		1,847,869
Other creditors including taxation and social security:				
Corporation tax	30,309		14,930	
PAYE and social security	121		-	
Hire purchase agreements	17,924		7,924	
Dividends payable	40,000		-	
Directors current accounts	19,230		2,347	
	 -	107,584		25,201
Accruals and deferred income		54,265		43,355
		2,306,318		1,937,689

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999

16. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	1999	1998
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	282,660	284,843
Other creditors:		
Hire purchase agreements	19,276	13,867
Loan	100,000	100,000
	401,936	398,710

The bank loan is secured by a mortgage on the company's freehold property and a fixed and floating charge on the other assets of the company. The loan is subject to interest at 2.25% over Midland Bank plc's base rate and is repayable by instalments over 20 years as follows:

1999	1998
£	£
6,249	9,753
22,012	34,033
254,399	241,057
282,660	284,843
	£ 6,249 22,012 254,399

The loan relates to an interest bearing loan from Mr D J Clarke, the chairman, to the company. The loan is repayable on 31 July 2007 and interest on the loan is payable monthly at the normal House Mortgage Lending rate of Midland Bank PLC.

17. COMMITMENTS UNDER HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS

Future commitments under hire purchase agreements are as follows:

	1999	1998
	£	£
Amounts payable within 1 year	17,924	7,924
Amounts payable between 2 to 5 years	19,276	13,867
	37,200	21,791

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999

18. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The company was under the control of Mr D J Clarke throughout the current and previous year. Mr D J Clarke is the chairman and majority shareholder.

Included in creditors:amounts falling due after one year is a loan from Mr D J Clarke of £100,000 (1998 - £100,000) (see creditors note for details).

Mr D J Clarke and Mr S J Clarke are respectively father and brother to Mrs C M Clark who, together with her husband, own and manage Clark Colour Limited. The company has made a loan to Clark Colour Limited repayable by monthly instalments over 10 years. Interest is charged annually in arrears at 2% over Midland Bank plc's base rate. At the year end the balance outstanding was £28,332 (1998 - £32,380).

In addition the company has purchased printing services from Clark Colour Limited amounting to £44,308(1998 - £35,585) during the year. These transactions were conducted on a normal commercial basis.

19. SHARE CAPITAL

Authorised share capital:

-	1999	1998
	£	£
50,000 Ordinary shares of £1 each	50,000	50,000
Allotted, called up and fully paid:		
	1999	1998
	£	£
Ordinary share capital	50,000	50,000

20. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

	1999	1998
	£	£
Profit for the financial year	79,464	69,362
Dividends	(70,000)	(60,500)
	9,464	8,862
Opening shareholders' equity funds	192,172	183,310
Closing shareholders' equity funds	201,636	192,172

HALL & CLARKE INSURANCE BROKERS PLC DETAILED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999

	1999	ı	1998	3
	£	£	£	£
TURNOVER		3,003,516		2,714,573
COST OF SALES				
Comissions paid		1,241,074		1,046,722
•				
GROSS PROFIT		1,762,442		1,667,851
OVERHEADS				
Directors' emoluments	325,420		365,450	
Directors' national insurance	40,320		39,382	
Directors' pension	27,301		28,555	
Salaries	757,495		688,377	
Staff national insurance	73,312		66,426	
Staff pension contributions	43,116		38,811	
Rates	9,364		9,359	
Light and heat	7,603		7,702	
Insurance	21,032		14,466	
Repairs and renewals	37,134		23,893	
Motor, travel and entertaining	59,597		55,641	
Telephone	23,812		21,935	
Computer maintenance	16,611		16,128	
Printing, postage, stationery and advertising	145,274		121,790	
Canteen and cleaning	6,462		7,984	
Charitable donations	310		450	
General expenses	4,189		3,216	
Subscriptions	4,486		6,789	
Private medical insurance	8,935		8,110	
Legal and professional fees	1,986		3,458	
Audit and accountancy	16,685		15,980	
Amortisation of goodwill	3,146		3,146	
Depreciation of freehold premises	5,666		5,666	
Depreciation of motor vehicles	43,399		35,208	
Depreciation of office furniture and				
equipment	13,276		15,487	
Balance on disposal of fixed assets	(4,040)		4,252	
Bad debts	_		11,208	
Bank charges	10,799		8,924	
		1,702,690		1,627,793
				
		59,752		40,058
OTHER OPERATING INCOME				
Rent receivable		17,250		17,250
OPERATING PROFIT		77,002		57,308

Carried forward 77,002 57,308

HALL & CLARKE INSURANCE BROKERS PLC DETAILED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999

1999 £	1998	
	£	£
77,002		57,308
64,751		79,109
141,753		136,417
31,699		36,799
110,054		99,618
62,537		75,948
2,214		3,161
64,751		79,109
<u></u>		
22,063		28,099
1,948		250
7,688		8,450
31,699		36,799
	£ 77,002 64,751 141,753 31,699 110,054 62,537 2,214 64,751 22,063 1,948 7,688	£ £ 77,002 64,751 141,753 31,699 110,054 62,537 2,214 64,751 22,063 1,948 7,688