Registrar of Companies

ADHESIVE SPECIALITIES LIMITED DIRECTORS' REPORT AND ABBREVIATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1997

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Company No. 957040

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COMPANY INFORMATION

R.S. Goddard **Directors**

V. Goddard B. Gibson S.W. Gibson

V. Goddard Secretary

Company Number 957040

Tickitape House Ladywell Road **Registered Office**

Lewisham London **SE13 7UT**

Bright Grahame Murray 124-130 Seymour Place **Auditors**

London W1H 6AA

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1997

The directors present their report together with the audited financial statements for the year ended 31st March 1997.

Principal Activity

The company's principal activity continued to be the manufacture, processing and wholesaling of adhesive tapes.

Directors and Their Interests

All the directors except Mr S.W. Gibson have a beneficial interest in the share capital of the company by holding shares in the parent undertaking, Adhesive Specialities (Group) Ltd where their interests are disclosed.

Directors' Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs and of the profit or loss for that year. 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 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.

Auditors

A resolution to re-appoint Messrs Bright Grahame Murray, Chartered Accountants, of 124/130 Seymour Place, London, W1H 6AA., as auditors of the company will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

Medium Sized Companies Exemptions

The report of the directors has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to medium sized companies.

By order of the board

Secretary

Date: 5 SEPTEMBER, 1997

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AUDITORS' REPORT TO ADHESIVE SPECIALITIES LIMITED

UNDER SECTION 247B OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

We have examined the abbreviated financial statements on pages 4 to 14 together with the financial statements of Adhesive Specialities Limited prepared under section 226 of the Companies Act 1985 for the year ended 31st March 1997.

Respective Responsibilities of Directors and Auditors

The directors are responsible for preparing the abbreviated financial statements in accordance with Section 246A of the Companies Act 1985. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion as to whether the company is entitled to deliver abbreviated financial statements prepared in accordance with section 246A(3) of the Act to the registrar of companies and whether the financial statements to be delivered are properly prepared in accordance with that provision and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of Opinion

We have carried out procedures we considered necessary to confirm, by reference to the audited financial statements, that the company is entitled to the exemptions and that the abbreviated financial statements have been properly prepared from those financial statements. The scope of our work for the purpose of this report does not include examining or dealing with events after the date of our report on the full financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the company is entitled to deliver abbreviated financial statements prepared in accordance with section 246A(3) of the Companies Act 1985, and the abbreviated financial statements on pages 4 to 14 are properly prepared in accordance with that provision.

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Bright Grahame Murray Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors 124-130 Seymour Place London W1H 6AA

11 September 1997

ABBREVIATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1997

Gross Profit	Notes	1997 £ 2,819,868	1996 £ 2,800,306
Distribution costs Administrative expenses		502,442 2,221,285	483,263 2,211,882
Operating Profit	2	96,141	105,161
Interest receivable Interest payable	4	70,166 (69,733)	56,112 (26,987)
Profit on Ordinary Activities before Taxation		96,574	134,286
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	5	28,249	26.337
Profit for the Financial Year		68,325	107,949
Retained profit brought forward		421,747	313,798
Retained profit carried forward		490,072	421,747

All amounts relate to continuing activities.

There were no recognised gains and losses for 1997 or 1996 other than those included in the profit and loss account.

ABBREVIATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 1997

	Notes	19	97	199	6
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets Tangible assets			709,635		646,926
Current Assets Stocks and work in progress Debtors Cash at bank and in hand Creditors Amounts falling due within one year	7	1,300,014 2,158,789 1,335 3,460,138 2,223,382		1,297,009 1,958,559 1,136 3,256,704 2,075,647	
Net Current Assets Total Assets Less Current Liabilities			1,236,756		1,181,057
Creditors Amounts falling due after more than one year	9		256,319 1,690,072		206,236
Capital and Reserves Share capital Profit and loss account Shareholders' funds	13 14 19		1,200,000 490,072 1,690,072		1,200,000 421,747 1,621,747

The abbreviated accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to medium-sized companies.

Director

Director

Approved on: 5 SEPTEMBER, 1997

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1997

	Notes	1997 £	1996 £
Reconciliation of Operating Profit to Net Cash Inflow from Operating Act	ivities		
Operating profit Depreciation Profit on sale of fixed assets Increase in stocks Increase in debtors Decrease in other creditors	_	96,141 142,067 (3,210) (3,005) (200,230) (20,185)	105,161 103,756 (16,700) 116,412 (81,597) 31,091
Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities	=	11,578	258,123
CASH FLOW STATEMENT			
Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities		11,578	258,123
Returns on Investments and Servicing of Finance	17	433	29,125
Taxation		(24,133)	(39,052)
Capital Expenditure	17	(98,199)	(87,568)
Financing	17	(17,405)	3,908
Decrease in Cash	-	(127,726)	164,536
Reconciliation of Net Cash Flow to Movement in Net Debt (Note 18)			
Decrease in Cash in the Year Cash outflow from decrease in net debt and lease financing New finance leases		(127,726) 17,405 (103,367)	164,536 (3,908) (246,777)
Decrease in Net Debt	-	(213,688)	(86, 149)
Net Debt at 1st April 1996		(591,932)	- (505, 783)
Net Funds at 31st March 1997	-	(805,620)	(591,932)

ABBREVIATED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1997

1 Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation of Financial Statements

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset evenly over its expected useful life, as follows:-

Plant and machinery

10% p.a. on a straight line basis

Motor vehicles

15% to 25% p.a. on a reducing balance basis

Furniture and equipment Computer equipment

20% p.a. on a straight line basis 20% p.a. on a straight line basis

The company's policy is to write off the book value of each tangible asset over its estimated remaining life. Reviews are made periodically of the estimated remaining useful lives of individual productive assets, taking into account commercial and technological obsolescence as well as normal wear and tear.

Stock and Work in Progress

Stock and work in progress is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Cost includes all direct expenditure and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

Deferred Taxation

Deferred taxation is provided using the liability method on all timing differences which are expected to reverse in the future without being replaced, calculated at the rate at which it is anticipated the timing differences will reverse.

Foreign Currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at the exchange rate ruling at the date of the transaction.

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date.

All exchange differences are taken to the profit and loss account.

Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution scheme. Contributions are charged in the Profit and Loss account as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

ABBREVIATED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1997

Leased Assets

Assets held under finance leases and hire purchase contracts are capitalised in the balance sheet and depreciated over their expected useful lives. The interest element of leasing payments represents a constant proportion of the capital balance outstanding and is charged to the Profit and Loss Account over the period of the lease.

All other leases are regarded as operating leases and the payments made under them are charged to the Profit and Loss Account on a straight line basis over the lease term.

2 Operating Profit

This is stated after charging:	1997 £	1996 £
Depreciation of owned assets	77,063	96,756
Depreciation of assets held under finance leases and hire purchase contracts	65,004	7,000
Directors' remuneration	185,660	249, 108
Operating lease rentals - land and buildings	250,200	<i>216,000</i>
Auditors' remuneration	15,500	13,000

3 Directors and Employees

Staff costs, including directors' remuneration, were as follows:

	1997 £	1996 £
Wages and salaries	1,437,819	1,526,478
Social security costs	115,043	124,245
Other pension costs	81,902	80,561
	1,634,764	1,731,284

The average monthly number of employees, including directors, during the year was as follows:

	1997	1996
	Number	Number
Office & administration	30	33
Selling and Distribution	62	58
Production	30	28
	122	119

ABBREVIATED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1997

	Directors' emoluments	1997 £	1996 £
	For management services Directors' pension contributions under defined contribution schemes	185,660 48,000	249,108 48,000
		233,660	297,108
	The highest paid director received emoluments and benefits as follows:-		
		1997 £	1996 £
	Emoluments Contributions to money purchase pension scheme	82,864 15,600	76,355 15,600
		98,464	91,955
4	Interest Payable and Similar Charges	199 7 £	1996 £
	Interest payable includes: On finance lease and hire purchase contracts	14,338	582
5	Taxation	1997	1996
		£	£
	Based on the results for the year UK corporation tax at 24% (1996: 25%)	28,249	26,337

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ABBREVIATED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1997

Tangible Fixed Assets		
	Other Fixed Assets	Total
	£	£
Cost		· , ,
At 1st April 1996	1,354,543	1,354,543
Additions	209,067	209,067
Disposals	(58,892)	(58,892)
At 31st March 1997	1,504,718	1,504,718
Depreciation		
At 1st April 1996	707,617	707,617
Charge for the year	142,067	142.067
On disposals	(54,601)	(54,601)
At 31st March 1997	795,083	795,083
Net Book Value		
At 31st March 1997	709,635	709.635
At 31st March 1996	646,926	646,926
		

The net book value of tangible fixed assets includes £333,814 (1996: £293,801) in respect of assets held under finance leases and hire purchase contracts. The amount charged as depreciation on these assets during the year amouned to £65,004.

7	Debtors	1997 £	1996 £
	Trade debtors	1,295,837	1,255,708
	Amounts owed by group undertakings	693,221	670,898
	Other debtors	169,731	31,953
		2,158,789	1,958,559
8	Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	1997	1996
	D 11 1 6 (N - 10)	£	£
	Bank loans and overdrafts (Note 10)	460,033	<i>332,108</i>
	Obligations under hire purchase and finance lease contracts (Note 11)	90,603	<i>54,724</i>
	Trade creditors	1,339,199	1,227,633
	Corporation tax	28,249	24,133
	Other taxes and social security	169,068	192,303
	Other creditors	122,732	198,784
	Directors' loan accounts	13,498	45,962
		2,223,382	2,075,647

ABBREVIATED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1997

9	Creditors: Amounts Falling Due After One Year Bank loans and overdrafts (Note 10) Obligations under hire purchase and finance lease contracts (Note 11)	1997 £ 36,495 219,824	1996 £ 20,475 185,761
	Conguinose usas parameters and conguine and conguistion and co	256,319	206,236
	The bank loan and overdrafts are secured by a fixed and floating charge of	ver the assets of th	e company.
10	Borrowings	1997	1996
		£	£
	Bank overdraft	412,033	284,108
	Bank loan	84,495	<u> </u>
		496,528	352,583
	Due within one year	460,033	332,108
	Due after more than one year	36,495	20,475
		496,528	352,583
	Analysis of repayments:		
	Within one year or on demand	460,033	332,108
	Between one and two years	36,495	20,475
		496,528	352,583
11	Obligations Under Hire Purchase and Finance Lease	1997	1996
**	Obligations officer and resource and resource and resource	£	£
	Due within one year	90,603	54,724
	Due after more than one year	219,824	185,761
	.	310,427	240,485
	Analysis of repayments:		
	Within one year	90,603	54,724
	After more than one year and less than five years	219,824	185,761
		310,427	240,485

ABBREVIATED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1997

12 Deferred Taxation

Deferred taxation unprovided for in the financial statements is set out below.

	Accelerated capital allowances	1997 £ 42,264	1996 £ 37,453
13	Share Capital	1997 £	1996 £
	Authorised Equity Shares Ordinary shares of £1.00 each	1,200,000	1,200,000
	Allotted, called up and fully paid Equity Shares Ordinary shares of £1.00 each	1,200,000	1,200,000
14	Reserves		
			Profit and Loss Account
	At 1st April 1995 Profit for the year		£ 313,798 107,949
	At 1st April 1996 Profit for the year		421,747 68,325
	At 31st March 1997		490,072

15 Contingent Liabilities

The company has guaranteed borrowings of its parent undertaking at 31 March 1997 totalling £1,532,953 (1996: £539,731).

ABBREVIATED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1997

16 Pension Scheme

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for the benefit of certain directors and senior employees. The assets of the scheme are administered by trustees in a fund independent from those of the company.

Mr R.S. Goddard, Mrs V. Goddard and Mr B.Gibson are members of the company's pension scheme.

17	Gross Cash Flows		1997 £		1996 £
	Returns on Investments and Servicing of Finance Interest received		70,1	.66	56,112
	Interest paid		(55,3		(26,405)
	Interest element of finance lease rentals payment		(14,3	338)	(582)
	Net cash inflow for returns on investments and servicing of finance		433		29,125
	Capital Expenditure				(115,068)
	Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets			(105,700)	
	Proceeds from the sale of fixed assets		7,5	501 	27,500
	Net cash outflow for capital expenditure		(98,1	199) ===================================	(87,568)
	Financing				(10,275)
	Decrease in other bank loans due within 1 year		16,0	- 120	20,475
	Increase in bank loans due after more than 1 year Capital element of finance lease rentals payments		(33,		(6, 292)
	Net cash outflow for financing		(17,	405)	3,908
18	Analysis of Changes in Net Debt				
10	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	4000	Cash	Non-cash	1997
		1996	flows £	Changes £	£
		£ 1,136	199	£	1,335
	Cash at Bank and in Hand	(284,108)	(127,925)	_	(412,033)
	Overdrafts	$\frac{(282,972)}{(282,972)}$	(127,726)	-	(410,698)
	•	<u> </u>			(40,000)
	Debt due within one year	(48,000)	-	-	(48,000)
	Debt due after one year	(20,475)	(16,020)	(102.267)	(36,495) (310,427)
	Finance leases	(240,485)	33,425	(103,367)	
		(308,960)	17,405	(103,367)	(394,922)
		(591,932)	(110,321)	(103,367)	(805,620)

ABBREVIATED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1997

19 Reconciliation of Shareholders' Funds	1997 £	1996 £
Profit for the financial year Opening shareholders' funds	68,325 1,621,747	107,949 1,513,798
Closing shareholders' funds	1,690,072	1,621,747

20 Ultimate Parent Undertaking

The immediate parent undertaking is Adhesive Specialities (Holdings) Ltd and its ultimate parent undertaking is Adhesive Specialities (Group) Ltd, both of which are registered in England & Wales.

Accounts of the ultimate parent undertaking are available from the registered office of that company.