Registration number: 1359829

# MTS Group Holdings Limited

Directors' Report and Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2008

WEDNESDAY



A03 28/10/2009 COMPANIES HOUSE

44

## Contents

Company information	1
Directors' report	2 to 3
Independent auditors' report	4
Profit and loss account	5
Balance sheet	6
Notes to the financial statements	7 to 12

## **Company Information**

**Directors** 

A Burchail

D M C Doyle

(resigned 14 May 2009)

J Rowley

(resigned 7 October 2008)

R J Watson

Secretary

R J Watson

Registered office

800 The Boulevard

Capability Green

Luton LU1 3BA

**Bankers** 

Barclays Bank plc

1 Churchill Place

London E14 5HP

**Auditors** 

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

10 Bricket Road St Albans

AL1 3JX

### Directors' Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2008

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2008.

#### Directors' responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The financial statements are required by law to 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, directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and 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 a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business, in which case there should be supporting assumptions or qualifications as necessary.

The directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and 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.

## Directors' statement regarding disclosure of information to auditors

The directors who held office at the date of the approval of this directors' report confirm that they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information. The directors confirm that as far as they are aware there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware of.

## **Principal activity**

The principal activity of the company is that of a holding company and this is expected to continue into the future.

## Business review and future developments

The Directors' report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part VII of the Companies Act 1985.

#### Results and dividends

The results for the company are set out in the financial statements.

The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend (2007 - £nii).

### Directors' Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2008

..... continued

## Principal risks facing the business

The principal risks and uncertainties of the Impellam Group plc ("the Group"), which include those of the company, are discussed in the Group Financial Director's Report in the group's annual report which does not form part of this report. The group's Business and financial risks are managed at a group level, rather than at an individual company level. For this reason, the company's directors believe that a discussion of the group's risks would not be appropriate for an understanding of the development, performance or position of the company.

#### **Donations**

There were no charitable or political donations made by the company in either 2008 or 2007.

#### **Directors**

The directors who held office during the year were as follows:

- A Burchall
- D M C Doyle (resigned 14 May 2009)
- J Rowley (resigned 7 October 2008)
- R J Watson

## Directors' indemnity provisions

During the year and to the date of these accounts, the group had in force an indemnity provision in favour of one or more Directors of the company against liability in respect of proceedings brought by third parties, subject to the conditions set out in the Companies Act 1985.

## Retirement of directors

In accordance with the Articles of Association, directors are not required to retire from the board on a rotational basis.

## **Auditors**

During the year, Ernst & Young LLP resigned as auditors to the Company and PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP were appointed in their place. PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP have indicated their willingness to continue in office and so are deemed to be re-appointed in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 1985.

## Election to dispense laying accounts

In accordance with s.252, Companies Act 1985, the company has elected to dispense with laying accounts before the members in general meeting. Members, however, may by notice in writing to the company at its registered office require that accounts are laid before the members in general meeting.

By order of the Board:

A Burchall Director

Date: 2000 be 2005

## Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of

#### MTS Group Holdings Limited

We have audited the financial statements of MTS Group Holdings Limited for the year ended 31 December 2008 which comprise the Profit and Loss Account, the Balance Sheet and the related notes. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out therein.

## Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

The directors' responsibilities for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) are set out in the statement of Directors' responsibilities.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). This report, including the opinion, has been prepared for and only for the company's members as a body in accordance with Section 235 of the Companies Act 1985 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving this opinion, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report to you whether in our opinion the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the financial statements.

In addition we report to you if, in our opinion, the company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding directors' remuneration and other transactions is not disclosed.

We read the Directors' Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

## Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) 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, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2008 and of its loss for the year then ended:
- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985; and

- the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the financial statements.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

St Albans

Date:

20 october 2009

mudulumlound 10

# MTS Group Holdings Limited Profit and Loss Account for the Year Ended 31 December 2008

	Note	2008 £	2007 £
Turnover		-	-
Administrative expenses including exceptional items of £2,050,000 (2007: £0)		(2,050,000)	•
Operating loss: Excluding exceptional items Exceptional costs	3	(2,050,000)	- - -
Operating loss		(2,050,000)	-
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation		(2,050,000)	<del></del>
Loss for the financial year	12	(2,050,000)	-

Turnover and operating loss derive wholly from continuing operations.

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

There is no difference between the results reported above and their historical cost equivalents.

# MTS Group Holdings Limited Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2008

		2008		2007	
	Note	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets Investments	7		3,809,382		3,809,382
Current assets Debtors Creditors: Amounts falling	8	4,464,277		6,505,210	
due within one year Net current (liabilities)/assets	9	(6,192,881)	(1,728,604)	(6,183,814)	321,396
Total assets less current liabilities			2,080,778		4,130,778
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	10		(10,500,000)		(10,500,000)
Net liabilities			(8,419,222)		(6,369,222)
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	11		5,500,100		5,500,100
Share premium reserve	12		845		845
Profit and loss reserve	12		(13,920,167)		(11,870,167)
Shareholders' deficit	13		(8,419,222)		(6,369,222)

The financial statements on pages 5 to 12 were approved by the Board of Directors on 20 0 and were signed on its behalf by:

A Burchall Director

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2008

## 1 Accounting policies

## Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 1985.

### Significant accounting judgements

In applying the company's accounting policies the following judgements have been made that may have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements:

## Recoverability of debtors

The company determines whether debtors are impaired if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable at least on an annual basis. This requires an estimation of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the debtor is attached.

## Going concern

At 31 December 2008, the company had net liabilities amounting to £8,419,222. The company is dependent, in the absence of other funding, on the continued support of the ultimate parent company, Impellam Group plc. The ultimate parent company has confirmed that it will continue to support the company for a period of at least twelve months from the date the accounts are signed. On this basis, the directors consider it appropriate to prepare the accounts on the going concern basis.

#### Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at cost. The carrying value of investments are reviewed for impairment if events or changed in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable.

#### **Taxation**

Current tax is recognised at the amounts estimated to be payable or recoverable using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognised, subject to certain exceptions, in respect of all material timing differences between the recognition of gains and losses in the accounts and for tax purposes. Those timing differences recognised may include accelerated capital allowances, unrelieved tax losses and short term timing differences. Timing differences not recognised include those relating to the revaluation of fixed assets in the absence of a commitment to sell the revalued assets and the gain on sale of assets rolled over into replacement assets in the absence of a commitment to sell the replacement assets.

Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that they are regarded as recoverable. They are regarded as recoverable to the extent that, on the basis of all available evidence, it can be regarded as more likely than not that there will be suitable taxable profits from which the future reversal of the underlying timing differences can be deducted.

Deferred tax is calculated on a non-discounted basis at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which timing differences reverse, based on tax rates and laws enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date.

#### Financial instruments

Financial instruments are classified and accounted for, according to the substance of the contractual arrangement as financial assets, financial liabilities or equity instruments. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the company after deducting all of its liabilities. Financial assets and financial liabilities are recorded on the company's balance sheet when the company has become a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument and derecognised when this is no longer the case.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2008

..... continued

## **Capital instruments**

Shares are included in shareholders' funds. Other instruments are classified as liabilities if they contain an obligation to transfer economic benefits and if not they are included in shareholders' funds. The finance cost recognised in the profit and loss account in respect of capital instruments other than equity shares is allocated to periods over the term of the instrument at a constant rate on the carrying amount.

#### Cash flow statement

The company has taken advantage of the exemption under Financial Reporting Standard No. 1 (revised 1996) not to publish a cash flow statement as it is a wholly owned subsidiary of Impellam Group plc, which has prepared consolidated financial statements which are publically available.

#### Consolidation

The company is exempt under Section 228 of The Companies Act 1985 from the requirement to prepare group accounts because it is a wholly owned subsidiary of Impellam Group plc which prepares consolidated accounts which are publicly available. Accordingly, these accounts are those of the company and not of its group.

#### 2 Auditors' remuneration

Auditors' remuneration for the current prior years has been borne by a fellow group company.

#### 3 Exceptional items

	2008	2007
	£	£
Impairment of group loans	2,050,000	-

Exceptional items relate to the impairment of various loans to fellow group companies which have been assessed as not currently recoverable, as the companies which received the loans have insufficient trade or assets to support the full value of the loans.

#### 4 Particulars of employees

Other than the directors, the company had no employees throughout the year.

### 5 Directors' remuneration

The directors who held office during the year were also directors of fellow subsidiaries. Total remuneration, including company contributions to a money purchase scheme received by directors, totalled £1,304,148 (2007: £1,212,867) paid by the ultimate parent company or by other subsidiaries. Four of these directors were members of a money purchase scheme in 2008 (2007: four). The directors do not believe that it is practicable to apportion this amount between services as directors to the company and services as directors of the ultimate parent company and of fellow subsidiary companies.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2008

..... continued

#### 6 Taxation

## Analysis of current period tax credit

2008 £	2007 £
<del>-</del>	
	2008 £

## Factors affecting current period tax credit

The tax assessed on the loss on ordinary activities for the year is higher than (2007 - the same as) the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 28.5% (2007 - 30.0%).

The differences are reconciled below:

	2008 £	2007 £
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation	(2,050,000)	-
Standard rate corporation tax credit	(584,250)	-
Transfer pricing adjustments (see below)	(232,275)	(244,000)
Group relief surrendered at less than the standard rate	232,275	244,000
Amounts written off investments	584,250	
Total current tax for the year	-	-

The standard rate of Corporation Tax in the UK changed from 30% to 28% with effect from 1 April 2008. Accordingly, the company's profits for this accounting period are taxed at an effective rate of 28.5% and will be taxed at the standard rate in the future.

UK legislation requires in broad terms, that most transactions between connected parties be at an arm's length price for tax purposes (commonly known as 'transfer pricing'). As a result, this company has become entitled to a tax deduction for deemed net interest payable that has not been recognised in the accounts.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2008

	, continued			
7	Investments held as fixed assets			
				Group shares £
	Cost			
	As at 1 January 2008 and 31 Decembe	r 2008		16,078,413
	Provision As at 1 January 2008 and 31 December	r 2008		12,269,031
	Net book value			
	As at 31 December 2008			3,809,382
	As at 31 December 2007			3,809,382
	The company holds more than 20% of t	the share capital of t	he following company	r:
		Country of incorporation	Principal activity	Class %
	Subsidiary undertakings Blue Arrow Services Limited	England & Wales	Employment agency	Ordinary 100
8	Debtors			
			2008 £	2007 £
	Amounts owed by group undertakings		4,464,27	7 6,505,210
	Amounts owed by group undertakings a	are interest free, uns	ecured and repayable	e on demand.
9	Creditors: Amounts falling due within	n one year		
			2008 £	2007 £
	Amounts owed to group undertakings		6,192,88	6,183,814
	Amounts owed to group undertakings a	re interest free, unse	ecured and repayable	on demand.
10	Creditors: Amounts falling due after	more than one yea	r	
			2008 £	2007 £
	Amounts owed to group undertakings		10,500,00	<del></del>
	Amounts owed to group undertakings assurances that this loan will not be ca due after more than one year.			

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2008

	٠.					continued
--	----	--	--	--	--	-----------

## 11 Share capital

			2008 £	2007 £
	Authorised			
	Equity 5,550,000 Ordinary shares of £1 each		5,550,000	5,550,000
	Allotted, called up and fully paid			
	<b>Equity</b> 5,500,100 Ordinary shares of £1 each		5,500,100	5,500,100
12	Reserves			
		Share premium reserve £	Profit and loss reserve £	Total £
	Balance at 1 January 2008	845	(11,870,167) (2,050,000)	(11,869,322) (2,050,000)
	Transfer from profit and loss account for the year Balance at 31 December 2008	845	(13,920,167)	(13,919,322)
13	Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' fu	ınds		
			2008	2007

## 14 Contingent liabilities

Opening shareholders' deficit

Closing shareholders' deficit

The company has given cross guarantees as follows:

Loss attributable to members of the company

£

(2,050,000)

(6,369,222)

(8,419,222)

£

(6,369,222)

(6,369,222)

a) As part of the invoice discounting facility of the group of which the company is a member; the net aggregate amount outstanding against this facility at 31 December 2008 was £47,711,535 (2007: £25,767,466).

b) In respect of the £45 million 10 per cent guaranteed secured notes due 2011; the net aggregate amount outstanding at 31 December 2008 was £20,000,000 (2007: £ 20,000,000).

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2008

..... continued

### 15 Related parties

## **Controlling entity**

The company's immediate parent undertaking is Austin Benn Limited, a company incorporated in Great Britain.

The directors regard Impellam Group plc, a company incorporated in Great Britain, as the ultimate parent undertaking. At 31 December 2008, Lord Ashcroft, KCMG was interested in and controlled 59.1% of Impellam Group plc. This is also the parent undertaking of the largest and smallest group which includes the company and for which group accounts are prepared. Copies of the group accounts of Impellam Group plc will be delivered to, and be available from, the Registrar of Companies, Companies Registration Office, Crown Way, Maindy, Cardiff, CF14 3UZ.

## Related party transactions

The company has taken advantage of the exemption granted to 90% subsidiaries not to disclose transactions with group undertakings under the provisions of Financial Reporting Standard No. 8 "Related Party Disclosures".