Annual report for the year ended 31 December 1993

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Directors and advisers

Executive directors

P Galteau E N Johnson R W Whitney

Non executive directors

J J Delahunty E F Potter M M Noblet

Secretary and registered office

J M Laver
Cable House
Waterside Drive
Langley
Berkshire
SL3 6EZ

Auditors

Coopers & Lybrand

Solicitors

Ashurst Morris Crisp

Bankers

Midland Bank Plc

Directors' report for the year ended 31 December 1993

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 1993.

Principal activities

The principal activity of the Company continues to be the construction and operation of a broadband telecommunications services network.

The Company is a wholly-owned subsidiary company of The Cable Corporation Limited ("TCC"), a company incorporated in England, and has therefore not presented consolidated results.

Review of business

The Company continued to expand its network and undertook significant projects to improve the quality, flexibility, communications and security by taking fibre optic cable closer to the homes and installing further battery back up. The number of residential and business customers increased during the year, therefore increasing revenue by 30%.

In October, the Company successfully converted from Mercury to its own telecommunications Switch (Northern Telecom DMS100), improving both the quality of service and the telephony margins.

Future developments

The Company will continue to expand its network and increase the number of residential and business subscribers.

Results

The loss on ordinary activities before taxation for the year was £3,930,000 (1992: loss of £7,291,000) on turnover of £12,560,000 (1992: £9,680,000). Detailed results for the year are shown in the profit and loss account on page 6.

Dividends and transfers to reserves

The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend. The retained loss for the year of £2,140,000 will be transferred to the Company's reserves.

Chamges in fixed assets

The movements in tangible fixed assets during the year are set out in note 9 to the accounts.

Basis of accounts preparation

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis. The ability of the Company to continue as a going concern is dependent upon the continued support of the Company's principal shareholders. The ability of the company to recover its investment in fixed assets is dependent upon the successful development of the cable television and telephony business.

Directors

The following have served as directors of the Company during the year:

R W Whitney (Chairman)

J J Delahunty

S Penrose (resigned 21 May 1993)

E F Potter M M Noblet

A Hindley (resigned 1 November 1993)
T R Schaeffer (resigned 31 March 1993)
P Galteau (appointed 28 April 1993)

E N Johnson (appointed 16 December 1993)

Directors' interests in shares of the Company

All the directors share interests in the Company were exchanged for shares in TCC under an offer dated 6 March 1987 when the company became a wholly owned subsidiary.

All the directors who held office at 31 December 1993 are also directors of TCC and their interests in TCC are disclosed in the financial statements of that company.

Auditors

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

By order of the board

R W Whitney Director

4 February 1994

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,
- 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 auditors to the members of Windsor Television Limited

We have audited the financial statements on pages 6 to 17.

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 1993 and of its results for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Coopers & Lybrand

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

London

4 February 1994

Profit and loss account for the year ended 31 December 1993

| | Notes | 1993 £000 | 1992 £'000 |
|---|--------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Turnover Cost of sales | 2 | 12,560 (10,559) | 9,680 (8,788) |
| Gross profit Other operating expenses | 3 | 2,001 (5,239) | 892 (6,322) |
| Operating loss Interest payable and similar charges | 6 | (3,238) (692) | (5,439) (1,861) |
| Loss on ordinary activities before taxation Taxation | 7 8 | (3,930) 1,790 | (7,291) 285 |
| Deficit for the year | . 19 | (2,140) | (7,006) |

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

Balance sheet at 31 December 1993

| | Notes | 1993 £000 | 1992 £000 |
|---|-------|-----------------|---|
| Fixed assets Tangible assets | 9 | 50 400 | 12 715 |
| Investments | 10 | 50,409 25 | 43,745 25 |
| threather the | 10 | **** | |
| j. | | 50,434 | 43,770 |
| Carrent assets | | | - · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |
| Debtors | 11 | 5,699 | 2,388 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 4,178 | 65 |
| | | | |
| Debtorm Amounts folling due ofter more than one | | 9,877 | 2,453 |
| Debtors: Amounts falling due after more than one year | 12 | 25,285 | 13,295 |
| year | 12 | 20,200 | 10,270 |
| | | 35,162 | 15,748 |
| | | | |
| Creditors: amounts falling due | | | |
| within one year | 13 | (7,242) | (11,631) |
| Net current assets | | 27,920 | 4,117 |
| Matal garata Long services | | | |
| Total assets less current liabilities | | 70 354 | AT 007 |
| " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " | | 78,354 | 47,887 |
| Creditors: amounts falling duc | | | |
| after more than one year | 14 | (103,023) | (70,416) |
| Net liabilities | | (24,669) | (22,529) |
| • | | ===== | ==== |
| Capital and reserves | | | |
| Called-up share capital | 17 | 826 | 826 |
| Share premium account | 19 | 6,871 | 6,871 |
| Profit and loss account | 19 | (32, 366) | (30,226) |
| | | (24,669) | (22,529) |
| | | (=1,00 <i>)</i> | (22,025) |

The financial statements on pages 6 to 17 were approved by the board of directors on 4 February 1994 and were signed on its behalf by:

R W Whitney Director

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 1993

1 Principal accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standards in the United Kingdom.

Since the Company is a wholly owned subsidiary and the cash flows of the Company are included in the consolidated cash flow statement of The Cable Corporation Limited, the Company is exempt under the terms of the Financial Reporting Standard No 1 from publishing a cash flow statement.

A summary of the more important accounting policies is set out below.

Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Basis of presentation

The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Cable Corporation Limited ("TCC") incorporated in England, and has therefore not presented consolidated accounts.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less estimated residual value, of each asset in equal instalments over their estimated useful lives as follows:

| Cables and ducting | 40 years |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Electronics | 2 - 10 years |
| Motor vehicles | 4 years |
| Office equipment | 3 - 10 years |
| Tools | 3 years |

Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at the lower of cost and directors' valuation.

Turnover

Turnover comprises the gross value of sales (excluding VAT) of services in the normal course of business.

Taxation

Corporation tax is provided on taxable profits at the current rate.

Credit is taken in the profit and loss account for the amount which is expected to be received in respect of losses which may be surrendered for consortium relief, in the period in which these losses arise.

Deferred taxation (which arises from differences in the timing of the recognition of items, principally depreciation, in the financial statements and by the tax authorities) has been calculated on the liability method. Deferred tax is provided on timing differences, which will probably reverse at the rates of tax likely to be in force at the time of reversal. Deferred tax is not provided on timing differences where, in the opinion of the directors they will probably not reverse.

Finance and operating leases

Income receivable and rentals payable under operating leases are credited and charged to the profit and loss account as they fall due.

Assets acquired under finance leases and hire purchase agreements are capitalised and the capital element of lease rentals is included in creditors.

Pension costs

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the profit and loss account in the year to which they relate in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

2 Turnover

| | 1993 | 1992 |
|------------|--|-------|
| | 000°3 | 00003 |
| Television | 3,639 | 3,453 |
| Telephony | 8,848 | 6,227 |
| Other | 73 | • |
| | ************************************** | |
| | 12,560 | 9,680 |
| | 1978 | |
| | | |

All of the Company's turnover arose in the United Kingdom.

3 Other operating expenses

| 3 Office oberaring and ansarian | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|---------|
| • | 1993 | 1992 |
| | £.000 | 0003 |
| | 2,794 | 2,970 |
| Selling and distribution costs | 6,227 | 5,337 |
| Administrative expenses | | 8,307 |
| | 9,021 (3,782) | (1,985) |
| Less: other operating income | (5,000) | |
| • | 5,239 | 6,322 |
| | | |
| | | |

4 Directors' emoluments

The remuneration paid to the directors of Windsor Television Limited was:

| 1993 £000 | £000 |
|--------------|------|
| • | • |
| 109 | 129 |
| 109 | 129 |
| | 109 |

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

| 10: | 1993 | 1992 |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|
| | £- | £ - |
| The chairman | £63,331 | £70,308 |
| The highest-paid director | | |

The number of directors (including the chairman and the highest-paid director) who received fees and other emoluments (excluding pension contributions) in the following ranges was:

1993
1992

| ranges was: | 1993 Number | Number |
|--|----------------|--------|
| | 7 | б |
| to 15,000 £40,001 to £45,000 | 1 | 1 |
| £50,001 to £55,000 £60,001 to £65,000 | i | . 1 |
| £70,001 to £75,000 | | |

5 Employee information

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

| | 1993 Number | 1992 Number |
|---|--------------------|----------------------|
| Sales | 41 | 48 |
| Engineering | 41. 87 | 35 |
| Administration | 78 | 94 |
| | 206 | 177 |
| | | Parantill |
| | 1993 | 1992 |
| Class again the above an array | 0003 | 00003 |
| Staff costs (for the above persons): Wages and salaries | A ACO | 2 600 |
| Social security costs | 4,469 445 | 3,609 386 |
| Other pension costs | 70 | 44 |
| | 4,984 | 4,039 |
| | | > |
| б Interest payable and similar charges | | |
| | 1993 | 1992 |
| | £000 | £000 |
| On bank loans, overdrafts and other loans: | | |
| Repayable within 5 years, not by instalments | 611 | 447 |
| Repayable within 5 years, by instalments | • | 1,400 |
| | 611 | 1,847 |
| On finance leases and hire purchase contracts | 81. | 14 |
| | 692 | 1,861 |
| | | 1,601 |
| 7 Loss on ordinary activities before taxation | | |
| 2000 on ordinary detivities before taxation | 1993 | 1992 |
| | £000 | £'000 |
| Loss on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after charging: | | |
| Depreciation charge for the year: | | |
| Tangible owned fixed assets | 3,369 | 3,012 |
| Tangible fixed assets held under finance leases Auditor's remuneration | 163 | 77 |
| Hire of plant and machinery - operating leases | 25 159 | 21 149 |
| Hire of other assets - operating leases | 159 40 <u>1</u> | 324 |
| Gair on disposal of fixed assets | (20) | (1) |
| | | |

8 Taxation

| | , | | | | | 1993 £000 | 1992 £000 |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---|-------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Amount recei | vable for l | losses surrend | ered as cons | sortium, relief | | 1,790 | 285 |
| 9 Tan | gible fi | xed assets | | | | | |
| ar | Cables ad Ducting | Electronic equipment | Motor vehicles | Office equipment | Tools | Available for use in construction | Total |
| | 000°£ | £,000 | £'000 | 000°3 | £,000 | 000'3 | €'000 |
| Cost or valuation At 1 January | | | | | | | |
| 1993 | 36,018 | 13,030 | 192 | 1,361 | 484 | 1,993 | 53,078 |
| Additions | 3,115 | 4,018 | 82 | 939 | 200 | 1,883 | 10,237 |
| Disposats | • | • | (73) | • | - | • | (73) |
| Transfers | 818 | 1,827 | • | • | • | (2,645) | • |
| At 31 December | | | | | | **** | |
| 1993 | 39,951 | 18,875 | 201 | 2,300 | 684 | 1,231 | 63,242 |
| Depreciation At 1 January | | | | | | | |
| 1993 | 3,219 | 4,916 | 77 | 860 | 261 | | 9,333 |
| Charge for year | 1,263 | 1,816 | 38 | 264 | 151 | - | 3,532 |
| Eliminated in respect of | | | | N. | • | | 5,052 |
| disposals | | • | (32) | • | - | • | (32) |
| At 31 December | | | | | | | |
| 1993 | 4,482 | 6,732 | 83 | 1,124 | 412 | | 12,833 |
| Nei book value Al 31 December | | | | | | | |
| 1993 | 35,469 | 12,143 | 178 | 1,176 | 272 | 1,231 | 50,409 |
| Net book value At 31 December | | | | *************************************** | | 不用用的 | |
| 1992 | 32,799 | 8,114 | 115 | 501 | 223 | 1,993 | 43,745 |
| | | | | | - Marie Aff | E)Comment | |

The net book value of tangible fixed assets includes an amount of £2,232,000 (1992: £139,000) in respect of assets held under finance leases and hire purchase contracts.

The ability of the Company to recover its investment in fixed assets is dependent upon the successful development of the cable television and telephony business.

Fixed asset investments 10

Other investments £'000

Net book value at 31 December 1993 and 31 December 1992

25

Company investments

Proportion of nominal value Description of of issued shares held Country of Name of undertaking shares held incorporation or registration Subskilary undertaking: 100% Ordinary England

Cable Telecom Ltd

The principal business activity of this subsidiary is the sale and rental of the telecommunications hardware.

Trade investments: 15% Ordinary Cable Guide Publications 20% Preference England Limited

Debtors 11

| 11 Debtors | 1993 £000 | 1992 £000 |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| Amounts falling due within one year: Trade debtors Amounts owed by group undertaking VAT recoverable Taxation recoverable Other debtors Prepayments and accrued income | 2,255 26 679 1,790 427 522 5,699 | 1,550 193 434 211 2,388 |

12 Debtors: Amounts falling due after one year

| | 1993 £000 | 1992 £000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Amounts owed by fellow subsidiary undertakings Other debtors | 25,103 182 | 13,113 182 |
| | | |
| | 25,285 | 13,295 |
| | | |

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

| | 1993 | 1992 |
|--|-------------|--------|
| | £000 | 00003 |
| Bank loans and overdrafts | • | 6,000 |
| Obligations under finance leases | 43 | 75 |
| Amounts owed to parent undertaking | • | 243 |
| Trade creditors | 5,219 | 3,745 |
| Other taxation and social security payable | 195 | 139 |
| Other creditors | 372 | 289 |
| Accruals and deferred income | 1,413 | 1,143 |
| | | |
| | 7,242 | 11,631 |
| | | |

14 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

| | 1993 £000 | 1992 £'000 |
|------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Bank loans | 12,000 | 2,000 |
| Obligations under finance leases | 2,211 | 50 |
| Amounts owed to group undertakings | 88,812 | 68,366 |
| | 103,023 | 70,416 |
| | | |

(i) Bank loans

Bank loans comprise £12,000,000 drawn down by Windsor Television Limited at 31 December 1993 on a term loan facility made available to finance the expansion of the network in the Windsor franchise area. Interest is charged at 1% above LIBOR.

The term loan facility may be repaid periodically and is required to be fully repaid at 31 December 1996.

The loan is secured by a fixed charge over the shares in Windsor Television Limited and a debenture incorporating a first fixed and floating charge over all the property and assets of Windsor Television Limited, Middlesex Cable Limited and Cable Telecom Limited. The loan is guaranteed by both General Cable Limited and Middlesex Cable Limited.

(ii) Finance leases

The future minimum lease payments to which the Company is committed under finance leases and hire purchase contracts are as follows:

| | 1993 | 1992 |
|----------------------------|-------------|------|
| | £000 | 0003 |
| In one year or less | 43 | 75 |
| Between one and two years | 25 | 40 |
| Between two and five years | <i>5</i> 55 | 10 |
| Over five years | 1,631 | |
| | ten recent | **** |
| | 2,254 | 125 |
| | | |

(iii) Amounts owed to group undertakings

The amount owed to group undertakings is an interest free loan which has no fixed repayment date.

15 Provisions for liabilities and charges

Deferred taxation

Deferred taxation provided in the financial statements, and the total potential liability including the amounts for which provision has been made, are as follows:

| | Amount provided | | Full potential liability | |
|--|-----------------|---------|--------------------------|----------|
| | 1993 | 1992 | 1993 | 1992 |
| | £'000 | 0003 | 000°£ | 000°£ |
| Tax effect of timing differences because of: | | | * | |
| Excess of tax allowances over | | | | <i>*</i> |
| depreciation | 2,991 | 5,494 | 2,991 | 5,494 |
| Short term timing differences | (16) | (79) | (16) | (79) |
| Tax effect of losses carried forward | (2,975) | (5,415) | (2,975) | (5,415) |
| | | | | |
| | • | • | - | - |
| | *** | | | |

The Company has available for carry forward tax losses, including those reflected above, of approximately £38,000,000 (1992: £30,000,000) which are available for set off against future taxable profits from the same trade. This is after the surrender during the year of tax losses totalling approximately £6,800,000 (1992: £1,200,000) as consortium relief. The amount receivable for this surrender is disclosed in note 8.

16 Pension

The company's employees participate in a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge representing contributions payable to the fund amounted to £69,444 (1992: £44,702). There were no contributions payable to the fund at year end.

17 Called-up share capital

| Authorised | 1993 £000 | 1992 £000 |
|---|---------------|------------------|
| 5,800,000 (1992: 5,800,000) ordinary shares of 25p each | 1,450 | 1,450 |
| Allotted, called up and fully paid 3,305,716 (1992: 3,305,716) ordinary | | |
| shares of 25p each | 826 | 826 ——— |
| 18 Movement in shareholders' funds | | |
| | 1993 £'060 | 1992 £'000 |
| Sharenolders funds at 1 January Profit and loss account | (22,529) | (16,761) |
| Shares issued | (2,140) | (7,006) 1,238 |
| Shareholders funds at 31 December | (24,669) | (22,529) |

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19 Share premium account and reserves

| | Share premium account £000 | Profit and loss account £'000 |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| At 1 January 1993 Retained profit for the year | 6,871 | (30,226) (2,140) |
| At 31 December 1993 | 6,871 | (32,366) |
| 20 Capital commitments | | |
| , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , | 1993 £000 | 1992 £000 |
| Capital expenditure that has been contracted for but has not been | | |
| provided for in the financial statements | 961 | 250 |
| | | ***** |

21 Financial commitments

At 31 December 1993 the Company had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

| operating loades as rome | | 1993 | | 1992 | |
|---|-------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--|
| | Other | Land and Buildings | Other | Land and Buildings | |
| | £'000 | 000°£ | £000 | 0003 | |
| Expiring within one year | 137 | - | 50 | • | |
| Expiring between two and five years inclusive | 596 | - | 301 | - | |
| Expiring in over five years | - | 507 | - | 507 | |
| | | | | | |
| | 733 | 507 | 351 | <i>5</i> 07 | |
| | | | ,,,,,,, | 3177 | |

22 Ultimate and immediate parent companies

The directors regard Compagnie Générale des Eaux, a company registered in France, as the ultimate parent company. The immediate holding company is The Cable Corporation Limited, a company registered in England and Wales.

The state of the s