Report and Accounts Woodward Foodservice Limited 31 December 1997

Registered number: 01786682



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Directors and Advisers

Directors

A S Pritchard FCA (Chairman) J A Woodward E J Hyslop J G Berry

Secretary

J G Berry BA Barrister

Registered Office

Second Avenue Deeside Industrial Park Deeside Flintshire CH5 2NW

Auditors

Ernst & Young Silkhouse Court Tithebarn Street Liverpool L2 2LE

Bankers

National Westminster Bank 17 Church Street Oswestry Shropshire SY10 8JN

Solicitors

Bullivant Jones & Company State House Dale Street Liverpool L2 4UR

Directors' Report

The directors submit their Report and Accounts for the 14 month period from 1 November 1996 to 31 December 1997.

Principal activities and review of business

The Company's principal activity is that of the wholesale supply of frozen food to the catering industry.

The Company was acquired by Iceland Group plc on 24 March 1997.

The name of the Company was changed from Woodward Frozen Foods (Rhyl) Ltd to Woodward Foodservice Ltd on 2 August 1997.

The Company acquired the Foodservice Division of Coldmove Ltd in July 1997.

Results and dividends

The profit and loss account is set out on page 6 and shows the Company's profit for the period. The directors do not recommend the payment of a final dividend.

Directors and their interests

The directors at 31 December 1997 and their interests, including family interests, in the share capital of the company were as follows:

Ordinary Shares	At 31 December 1997	At 1 November 1996 or subsequent date of appointment
J G Berry	-	_
E J Hyslop	-	-
A S Pritchard	-	-
J A Woodward		2,240

A S Pritchard, E J Hyslop and J G Berry were appointed to the Board of Woodward Foodservice Ltd on 24 March 1997.

N Woodward and D Woodward resigned on the same date.

The directors at 31 December 1997 and their interests, including family interests, in the share capital of the Company's holding company, Iceland Group plc (all held beneficially) were as follows:

The interests of Mr A S Pritchard, including family interests, in the share capital of group companies, are stated in the Director's Report of the ultimate holding company, Iceland Group plc. The interests of the other directors are set out as follows:-

Ordinary Shares	At 31 December 1997	or subsequent date of appointment	
J G Berry	5,622	5,622	
E J Hyslop	10,384	16,613	
J A Woodward	-	-	

Directors Report - continued

Interest in options

Ordinary Shares	Scheme	At 1 November 1996 or subsequent date of appointment	Granted during the period	At 31 December 1997
		£		£
J G Berry	a)	16,575	-	2,265
	b)	285,000	-	285,000
	c)	180,000	-	180,000

The share options referred to above were granted under the following schemes:

- a) SAYE Share Option Scheme
- b) Executive Share Option Scheme
- c) Performance Related Share Option Scheme

No options were exercised by a director during the period.

Options held at the beginning but not at the end of the period were surrendered by the holder during such period.

Auditors

Ernst & Young have indicated their willingness to continue in office as auditors and a resolution that they be reappointed will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

On behalf of the board:

P G Attwood Company Secretary

21 December 1998

Directors' Responsibilities

Company law requires the directors to prepare accounts 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 accounts, 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 being disclosed and explained in the accounts;
- Prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will
 continue in business.

The directors confirm that the accounts comply with the above requirements.

The directors are responsible for maintaining 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 accounts 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 Woodward Foodservice Limited

We have audited the accounts on pages 6 to 15 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 8 and 9.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 4 the Company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those accounts 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 accounts. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the accounts, 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 accounts 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 accounts.

Opinion

In our opinion the accounts give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company as at 31 December 1997 and of the profit of the Company for the 14 months then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Ernst & Young Registered Auditor

Liverpool

23 December 10,018

Imsko Young

Profit and Loss Account for the 14 months ended 31 December 1997

	Notes	1997 £	1996 £
Turnover		17,885,494	12,635,272
Cost of sales		13,001,218	9,296,711
Gross profit		4,884,276	3,338,561
Administrative expenses		4,588,826	3,161,093
Operating profit	1	295,450	177,468
Interest payable	3	76,377	6,332
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation		219,073	171,136
Tax on profit on ordinary activites	4	95,695	42,000
Profit for the period		123,378	129,136
Retained profit brought forward		1,734,924	1,605,788
Retained profit carried forward		1,858,302	1,734,924

The Company has no material recognised gains or losses other than the profit for the current and previous financial periods.

Balance Sheet at 31 December 1997

	Notes	1997 £	1996 £
Fixed assets:		r	£
Intangible assets	5	1,888,000	-
Tangible assets	6	2,054,308	1,899,451
Investments	7	-	100
	•	3,942,308	1,899,551
Current assets:	0	1 470 000	747 004
Stock	8	1,470,909	747,084
Debtors	9	2,682,809 439,991	1,178,035 539
Cash at bank and in hand		439,991	
		4,593,709	1,925,658
Creditors: due within 1 year	10	3,049,256	1,216,188
Net current assets		1,544,453	709,470
Total assets less current liabilities		5,486,761	2,609,021
Creditors: due after 1 year	11	2,759,442	_
Deferred income - grants	12	101,415	106,495
		2,625,904	2,502,526
Capital and reserves:	•		
Called up share capital	13	8,000	8,000
Profit and loss account	15	1,858,302	1,734,924
Share premium account	15	759,602	759,602
Shareholders' funds	14	2,625,904	2,502,526
	:		

Approved by the board of directors on 21 December 1958

Directors:

A S Pritchard Director E J Hyslop Director

Accounting Policies

Accounting principles

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards.

Goodwill

Goodwill arising in connection with the acquisition of subsidiary undertakings and businesses is capitalised and written off over 20 years, which is its estimated economic useful life.

Turnover

Turnover is the total amount receivable for goods and services sold in the ordinary course of business, excluding value added tax, and arises from continuing activities in the United Kingdom.

Cost of Sales

Cost of sales represents all costs incurred up to the point of sale.

Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is calculated by reference to purchase prices. Net realisable value is defined as selling price less further costs expected to be incurred to disposal.

Statement of cash flows

The Company is exempt from including a statement of cash flows in its accounts, as it is a wholly owned subsidiary of a company incorporated in the United Kingdom, which has included a consolidated statement of cash flows in its consolidated accounts.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible assets, other than freehold land, are depreciated by equal annual instalments over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

Freehold buildings - 2% straight line
Long leasehold buildings - 2% straight line
Plant and machinery - 10% straight line
Office equipment - 20% straight line
Motor vehicles - 20% straight line
Computer hardware - 25% straight line
Computer software - 25% straight line

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 estimated that the tax will be payable.

Leasing commitments

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

Accounting Policies

Accounting principles - continued

Government Grants

Grants received in respect of the development of the leasehold property at Bodelwyddan are deferred and are to be included in the profit and loss account by instalments over the expected useful lives of the related assets, as follows:-

Buildings - 50 years Plant and Machinery - 10 years

Notes to the Accounts at 31 December 1997

1		erating Profit s is stated after charging:	1997 £	1996 £
	Staf	reciation f Costs (see below) litor's Remuneration	278,194 2,405,629 19,822	206,665 1,648,262 11,981
2	Staf	f Costs and directors' emoluments	1997 £	1996 £
	(i)	Staff costs	-	~
		Wages and Salaries Social Security Costs Other Pension Costs	2,173,743 209,271 22,615	1,489,097 147,165 12,000
			2,405,629	1,648,262
		Average number of employees	1997 No	1996 No
		Coldstore and Distribution Administration and Marketing	78 49	60 38
			127	98
	(ii)	Directors' emoluments	1997 £	1996 £
		Emoluments	219,339	215,894
		Company contributions paid to money purchase schemes	9,301	12,000
		The amounts in respect of the highest paid director, are as follows:-	1997 £	1996 £
		Emoluments Pension	127,416 4,000	121,750 12,000
			131,416	133,750

3	Interest Payable	1997	1996
		£	£
	Bank interest and interest on loans wholly repayable within 5 years;		
	Bank	3,357	6,332
	Parent company loan	73,020	-
		76,377	6,332
4	Taxation on profit on ordinary activites	1997	1996
	Taxation charge is made up as:	£	£
	Corporation tax based on the profit for the period at 31.7% (1996 - 33%)	95,695	42,000

The charge has been reduced by the effect of capital allowances and other timing differences. If full provision had been made for deferred tax the charge for the period would have been reduced by £10,000.

The full amount of deferred taxation calculated at 31% (1996 - 33%), none of which has been provided for in the accounts, is £191,000 (1996 - £181,000).

5 Intangible assets

Intangible assets represent goodwill arising on the acquisition of businesses.

Cost	£
At 31 October 1996 Additions	1,921,732
At 31 December 1997	1,921,732
Amortisation	£
At 31 October 1996 Provided	33,732
At 31 December 1997	33,732
Net book value at 31 December 1997	1,888,000
Net book value at 31 October 1996	-

6 Tangible fixed assets

	Land &	& Buildings			
	Б	Long	Plant and	Motor Vehicles	Total
	Freehold	Leasehold	Equipment		
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost:					
At 31 October 1996	433,661	934,355	1,355,644	289,512	3,013,172
Additions	-	-	195,012	314,936	509,948
Disposals	-	-	(71,806)	(154,188)	(225,994)
At 31 December 1997	433,661	934,355	1,478,850	450,260	3,297,126
Depreciation: At 31 October 1996 Provided during the	79,715	52,439	863,318	118,249	1,113,721
period	8,826	21,802	163,007	84,559	278,194
Disposals	, •	-	(64,498)	(84,599)	(149,097)
At 31 December 1997	88,541	74,241	961,827	118,209	1,242,818
Net book value:					
At 31 December 1997	345,120	860,114	517,023	332,051	2,054,308
At 31 October 1996	353,946	881,916	492,326	171,263	1,899,451

The cost of freehold properties includes land of £55,364 (1996 - £55,364) on which depreciation is not provided.

7	Unlisted investments		£
	At 31 October 1996 Disposed		100 (100)
	At 31 December 1997		
8	Stocks	1997 £	1996 £
	Goods for resale Consumables	1,456,376 14,533	740,985 6,099
		1,470,909	747,084

9	Debtors	1997	1996
		£	£
	Trade debtors	2,315,570	1,120,929
	Other debtors	755	1,105
	Prepayments and accrued income	366,484	56,001
		2,682,809	1,178,035
10	Creditors: due within one year	1997	1996
	·	£	£
	Bank overdraft	-	197,302
	Trade creditors	2,524,787	789,373
	Corporation tax	95,000	41,985
	Other taxes and social security costs	72,061	47,223
	Other creditors	453	9,997
	Accruals	356,955	130,308
		3,049,256	1,216,188
11	Creditors: due after one year	1997	1996
	•	£	£
	Loan from parent undertaking	2,759,442	

The loan from the parent undertaking bears interest at 8% per annum.

12 Deferred income

This consists of government grants received in respect of the development of the leasehold property at Bodelwyddan, and is released to the profit and loss account in equal annual instalments over the expected useful lives of the related assets:

Building	50 years	
Plant	10 years	
	£	
At 31 October 1996	106,495	
Released to revenue in period	(5,080)	
At 31 December 1997	101,415	

13	Share capital		
	Authorised:	1997 £	1996 £
	Ordinary shares of £1 each	10,000	10,000
	Allotted, called up and fully paid:		
	Ordinary shares of £1 each	8,000	8,000
14	Reconciliation of movement in shareholders' funds	1997 £	1996 £
	Profit for the financial period Shareholders' funds at the beginning of the period	123,378 2,502,526	129,136 2,373,390
	Shareholders' funds at the end of the period	2,625,904	2,502,526
15	Reserves	Share Premium	Profit and Loss Account
	At 31 October1996 Profit for the 14 month period	759,602	1,734,924 123,378
	At 31 December 1997	759,602	1,858,302
16	Financial Commitments Operating leases	1997 £	1996 £
	The company had operating lease commitments to pay during the next year as follows:-		
	Ending within two to five years: Refrigerated vehicles Fork lift trucks	508,041 72,641	390,924
		580,682	390,924

17 Pension Costs

The assets of the non-contributory money purchase pension scheme operated by Woodward Frozen Foods (Rhyl) Ltd prior to its purchase by Iceland Frozen Foods plc on 23 March 1997 were held separately from those of the Company in a fund administered by Lower Sapey Pension Management. Contributions made to the scheme in the period 1 November 1996 to 23 March 1997 amounted to £4,000.

Members of the above scheme were invited to join the Woodward Frozen Foods money purchase pension scheme from 24 March 1997. The assets of this scheme are held separately from those of the Company in a fund administered by Mercury Asset Management. Contributions made by the Company to the scheme in the period 24 March to 31 December 1997 amounted to £18,615.

18 Coldmove Ltd

In July 1997 the Company acquired the net assets of Coldmove Ltd for a cash consideration of £2,409,330. The amount of goodwill arising on the acquisition has been included in the balance sheet as an intangible asset and amortised in line with the stated accounting policy.

The net assets acquired were:

	£
Fixed assets	46,505
Stocks	269,552
Debtors	794,872
Creditors	-623,331
	487,598

There were no material fair value adjustments.

19 Parent undertaking and controlling party

The Company's ultimate parent undertaking and controlling party is Iceland Group plc which is registered in England and Wales.

The parent undertaking of the smallest and largest group of which the Company is a member and for which group accounts are prepared is Iceland Group plc, group accounts for which may be obtained from the Registered Office of the Company.