**CAIRD ENVIRONMENTAL LIMITED** 

Registered Number 2206141

**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** 

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2004

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#### **CAIRD ENVIRONMENTAL LIMITED**

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### CAIRD ENVIRONMENTAL LIMITED DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Directors present their Report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2004.

#### PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES, BUSINESS REVIEW AND FUTURE PROSPECTS

The principal activity of the Company during the year was the operation of waste collection and disposal services for industry and local authorities. The Company has entered into a reorganisation agreement whereby certain fixed assets and subsidiary company investments were disposed of for £2,734,000 to a fellow Group company, Shanks Waste Management Limited, as at 31 March 2004.

The Company plans to continue to increase its market share in the waste management sector and will invest in additional landfill void at economic cost and in new geographical areas with growth potential.

#### POST BALANCE SHEET EVENT

On 25 May 2004, Shanks Group plc announced its intention to dispose of the Company to Terra Firma Investments (GP) 2 Limited, subject to shareholders' approval. This approval was received on 23 June 2004 with completion of the disposal expected to take place on 30 June 2004.

#### TRADING RESULTS AND DIVIDEND

The profit on ordinary activities before taxation for the year ended 31 March 2004 was £1,034,000 (2003: £495,000). Included in the 2004 profit is a non-operating exceptional profit of £1,313,000 on the disposal of the collections and recycling business, surplus properties and related subsidiary investments. The Directors recommend that no dividend be paid in respect of the year to 31 March 2004 (2003: £Nii). The profit transferred to reserves for the year was £1,502,000 (2003: £1,870,000).

#### **DIRECTORS AND DIRECTORS' INTERESTS**

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

M C E Averill D J Downes C A Brown (resigned 14 May 2004) M J Clarke A M Ryan

None of the Directors had a direct interest in the share capital of the Company. Messrs Averill and Downes are also Directors of Shanks Group plc and accordingly their interests in the share capital of that company are disclosed in its accounts. Mr M J Clarke is a Director of Shanks Waste Services Limited and his interests in the shares of Shank Group plc are disclosed in those company's accounts. The interests of the other Director in the share capital of Shanks Group plc are as follows:

### CAIRD ENVIRONMENTAL LIMITED DIRECTORS' REPORT - continued

#### **DIRECTORS AND DIRECTORS' INTERESTS – continued**

Name of Director	Granted <u>Price (p)</u>	As at 31 SAYE Share Save Options	March 2003 Executive Options	<u>Granted</u>	Exercised/ lapsed	Market price at exercise date (p)	As at 31 SAYE Share Save Options	March 2004 Executive Options
A M Ryan	144.0	958	-	-	(958)		-	_
	144.5	4,671	-	-	(4,671)	Lapsed	-	-
	116.0	7,362	-	-	(7,362)	Lapsed	-	-
	84.0	-	-	18,869	-		18,869	_
	135.0	-	15,000	-	(15,000)	Lapsed	-	-
	199.0	-	20,000	-	-	-	-	20,000
	233.5	-	20,000	-	-	-	-	20,000
	180.0	-	20,000	-	-	-	-	20,000
	176.5	-	20,000	-	-	-	-	20,000
	145.0	-	20,000	-	_	-	-	20,000
	101.5	-	-	20,000	-	-	_	20,000

In addition, Mr A Ryan has a beneficial interest in 10,795 ordinary shares of Shanks Group plc at 31 March 2004 (2003: 10,795 ordinary shares). The Directors had no interest in the shares of any other company in the Group.

#### 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.

#### **EMPLOYMENT POLICIES**

There is a continuing commitment in the Company to provide employees with information and undertake consultation on matters of concern to them with a view to ensuring an awareness of the financial and economic factors affecting the performance of the Company. The procedures adopted involve both formal and informal meetings with employees or their representatives.

Options have been granted under the Shanks Savings-Related Share Option and Executive Share Options Schemes.

It is the continuing policy of the Company to provide employment for disabled people and employees who become disabled provided it is practical to offer suitable work. The training, career development and promotion of disabled employees are undertaken whenever possible, in accordance with the needs of the individuals concerned.

### CAIRD ENVIRONMENTAL LIMITED DIRECTORS' REPORT - continued

#### **AUDITORS**

A resolution to reappoint PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as Auditors to the Company will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

By Order of the Board

D J Downes DIRECTOR

28 June 2004

Registered Office:
Dunedin House
Auckland Park
Mount Farm

Milton Keynes, Bucks, MK1 1BU

### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CAIRD ENVIRONMENTAL LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements which comprise the profit and loss account, the balance sheet, and the related notes and the accounting policies set out in the statement of accounting policies.

#### Respective responsibilities of Directors and Auditors

The Directors' responsibilities for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and accounting standards 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 United Kingdom Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. 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 if, in our opinion, the Directors' report is not consistent with the financial statements, if 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 transactions is not disclosed.

We read the other information contained in the annual report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements. The other information comprises only the Directors' report.

#### Basis of audit 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 affairs of the Company at 31 March 2004 and of the profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

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PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors
London
28 June 2004

## CAIRD ENVIRONMENTAL LIMITED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2004

	Note	<u>2004</u> £'000	<u>2003</u> £'000
TURNOVER - CONTINUING ACTIVITIES	2	11,945	13,407
Cost of sales		(10,875)	(11,138)
GROSS PROFIT		1,070	2,269
Administrative expenses		(1,137)	(1,610)
OPERATING (LOSS)/PROFIT ON CONTINUING	(67)	659	
Exceptional profit on disposal of fixed assets	3	1,313	-
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE FINANCE CHARGES AND TAXATION		1,246	659
Finance charges: unwinding of discount	6	(212)	(164)
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION	3	1,034	495
Taxation	7	468	1,375
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER TAXATION AND RETAINED PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR	16	1,502	1,870

### STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2004

The Company has no recognised gains or losses other than the profit for the year.

#### NOTE OF HISTORICAL COST PROFITS AND LOSSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2004

There is no material difference between the reported profit for the year and that which would be reported under the historical cost convention.

#### CAIRD ENVIRONMENTAL LIMITED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2004

	Note	<u>2004</u> £'000	<u>2003</u> £'000
FIXED ASSETS Tangible fixed assets Investments	8 9	22,825 3,191	22,254 4,000
		26,016	26,254
CURRENT ASSETS Stock – raw materials Debtors	10	155 2,898	227
		3,053	227
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	11	-	(1,283)
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		3,053	(1,056)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		29,069	25,198
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year	12	(11,259)	(11,458)
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES	13	(6,818)	(4,250)
TOTAL NET ASSETS		10,992	9,490
CAPITAL AND RESERVES Share capital Profit and loss account	15 16	45,000 (34,008)	45,000 (35,510)
TOTAL EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	17	10,992	9,490

Approved by the Board of Directors on 28 June 2004.

D J Downes Director

#### 1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### (a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable UK Accounting Standards. As the Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Shanks Group plc, group financial statements have not been prepared as permitted by s228 of the Companies Act 1985 and the financial statements contain information about the Company as an individual undertaking.

#### (b) New accounting standards and changes in accounting policies

There were no changes in accounting policies in the current year.

FRS 17 - Retirement Benefits is applicable to the company. The company has applied the transitional arrangements for adoption of the FRS. Accordingly no change has been made to the accounting policy but included in these financial statements are the additional disclosures required by FRS 17 (see Note 21).

#### (c) Turnover

Turnover represents the invoiced value of waste streams, power generated, and other services provided including landfill tax but excluding value added tax. Turnover is recognised when processing occurs or the service is provided.

#### (d) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation, except for freehold land which is not depreciated, and less any write down for impairment.

#### (i) Land & Buildings and Plant & Machinery

Depreciation is provided on assets other than land to write off their cost by equal annual instalments over their estimated useful economic lives. The expected lives are:

Freehold buildings 25 - 50 years
Leasehold land and buildings Period of lease
Plant & machinery 3 to 15 years

#### (ii) Landfill

Acquisition costs, the discounted cost of final site restoration and commissioning costs are capitalised and written off over the operational life of each site based on the amount of void space consumed.

#### (iii) Capitalisation of finance costs

Finance costs directly attributable to separately identifiable major capital growth projects have been capitalised as part of the asset cost during the period of construction.

#### (e) Research and development

Expenditure is written off in the year in which it is incurred.

#### 1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

#### (f) Pensions

The cost of providing retirement pensions and related benefits is charged to the profit and loss account over the expected working lives of the pension scheme members currently in service. Any differences between the actuarial valuation of the scheme and the value of assets in the scheme are also charged or credited to the profit and loss account over the expected working lives of the scheme members. Differences and payments to the schemes are treated as assets or liabilities in the balance sheet.

#### (g) Leased assets

Where the Company has substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of a leased asset, it is treated as a finance lease. Leased assets are included in tangible fixed assets at the total of the capital elements of payments during the lease term and the corresponding obligation is included in creditors. Depreciation is provided to write off the assets over the shorter of the lease term or expected useful life.

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the profit and loss account as incurred over the term of the lease.

#### (h) Site restoration provision

Full provision is made for the net present value (NPV) of the Company's unavoidable costs in relation to restoration liabilities at its landfill sites and this value is capitalised as a fixed asset. The Company continues to provide for the NPV of intermediate restoration costs over the life of its landfill sites, based on the quantity of waste deposited in the year.

#### (i) Aftercare provision

Provision is made for the NPV of post closure costs based on the quantity of waste deposited in the year. Similar costs incurred during the operational life of the sites are written off directly and not charged against the provision.

#### (j) Discounting

All long term provisions for restoration and aftercare are calculated based on the NPV of the estimated future costs. The effects of inflation and unwinding of the discount element on existing provisions are reflected within the financial statements as a finance charge. The real discount factor currently applied is 2%.

#### (k) Government grants

Capital grants are released to profit evenly over the estimated useful lives of the assets concerned.

#### (I) Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost (on a first in first out basis) and net realisable value.

#### 1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

#### (m) Deferred taxation

Deferred taxation is provided in full in respect of timing differences arising between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes. Deferred tax assets in respect of trading tax losses are only recognised where the tax losses are expected to be recovered. Deferred taxation provisions have not been discounted.

#### 2 SEGMENTAL INFORMATION

The turnover and operating profit are wholly attributable to the Company's business of waste management in the United Kingdom. All of the Company's business turnover and operating profit relates to continuing operations during the year.

#### 3 PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION

	<u>2004</u> £'000	<u>2003</u> £'000
The operating (loss) profit is stated after charging/(crediting		~ ~ ~ ~
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	2,352	2,994
Operating lease rentals on plant and machinery	622	555
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	<del>-</del>	(3)
Property rent payable	11	11
Provision against investments	-	564
The profit before tax is stated after (crediting) the following non-operating items:		
Exceptional profit on disposal of fixed assets	(1,313)	-

The auditors' remuneration for the period has been borne by a fellow group subsidiary.

The exceptional profit on disposal of fixed assets in 2004 of £1,313,000 relates to the disposal to a fellow Group company of the collections and recycling business, surplus properties and related subsidiary investments.

#### 4 DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS

The Directors were not remunerated for their services to the Company. The salaries of the Directors were paid by other Shanks Group undertakings. None of this remuneration relates to their services to the Company.

#### 5 EMPLOYEES

The average number of employees employed by the Company in waste management during the year was 36 (2003: 44). The total remuneration of employees comprised:

	<u>2004</u> £'000	<u>2003</u> £'000
Wages and salaries Social security costs Other pension costs	650 57 62	773 69 34
	769	876

#### **6 FINANCE COSTS**

The unwinding of the discount of £212,000 (2003: £164,000) relates to long term landfill liabilities (see Note 13). It is treated as a finance cost in accordance with FRS 12.

#### 7 TAXATION

Taxation (credit)/charge based on the profits of the year is made up as follows:

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
	£'000	£'000
Corporation tax at 30% (2003: 30%)		
- current year	(271)	467
- prior year	(375)	(1,686)
Deferred tax		
- current year	555	221
- prior year	(377)	(377)
	(468)	(1,375)

The tax assessed for the period is lower than the United Kingdom standard rate of corporation tax of 30% (2003: 30%). The differences are explained below:

	<u>2004</u> £'000	<u>2003</u> £'000
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	1,034	495
Tax charge based on UK tax rate	310	149
Tax effect of the following items:  Expenses not deductible for tax purposes  Other timing differences	368 86	88 20
Capital allowances Provision against investments	(641) - (375)	41 169
Adjustment to tax charge in respect of prior periods Non-taxable profit on disposal of fixed assets to fellow group companies	(375) (394)	(1,686) -
	<u></u>	
Corporation tax charge for the period	(646) ———	(1,219)

#### 8 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Land and buildings £'000	Plant and machinery £'000	<u>Total</u> £'000
Cost: At 31 March 2003 Additions Transfers Disposal to fellow Group company	42,004 2,824 - (304)	2,353 553 (261) (50)	44,357 3,377 (261) (354)
At 31 March 2004	44,524	2,595	47,119
Depreciation: At 31 March 2003 Charge for the year Transfers Disposal to fellow Group company	20,555 1,902 - -	1,548 450 (122) (39)	22,103 2,352 (122) (39)
At 31 March 2004	22,457	1,837	24,294
Net book value: At 31 March 2004	22,067	758	22,825
At 31 March 2003	21,449	805	22,254

Included in fixed assets are assets under construction with a value of £338,682 (2003: £204,229).

The historical cost of land and buildings at 31 March 2004 was £44,524,000 (2003: £42,004,000). Legal title to some of the Company's properties is held by fellow group companies other than those in which the beneficial interest is vested, pending transfer of registered ownership. The net book value of land and buildings comprise:

	<u>2004</u> £'000	<u>2003</u> £'000
Freehold Short leasehold	17,448 4,619 	17,544 3,905
	22,067	21,449
		====

^	INVESTMENT	~
ч	INVESTIMENT	

INAESIMENIS			<u>!</u>	Shares in subsidiary undertakings £'000	į
Cost: As at 31 March 2003 Disposal to fellow Group compan	у			5,290 (2,099	)
As at 31 March 2004				3,191	
Provisions: As at 31 March 2003 Disposal to fellow Group compan	у			(1,290 1,290	
As at 31 March 2004				-	
Net book value: As at 31 March 2004				3,191	-
As at 31 March 2003				4,000	) =
At 31 March 2004 the Companundertakings:	y had the	following	investments in	subsidiary	
	Country of registration	Type of shares	Type <u>busine</u> s		
Tawse Ellon (Haulage) Limited Caird Properties	Scotland England	Ordinary Ordinary	Dorma Proper		-
DEBTORS					
			<u>2004</u> £'000	<u>2003</u> £'000	
Deferred tax asset (see Note 14) Amounts owed by Group underta			50 2,848	227	7 -
			2,898	227	7
					_

#### 11 **CREDITORS:** Amounts falling due within one year

		<u>2004</u> £'000	<u>2003</u> £'000
	Amounts owed to Group undertakings	<del>-</del>	1,283
12	CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year		
		<u>2004</u> £'000	<u>2003</u> £'000
	Amounts owed to holding company	11,259 ———	11,458
13	PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES		

	restoration £'000	Aftercare £'000	<u>Total</u> £'000
At 31 March 2003 Provided in the year:	3,004	1,246	4,250
- cost of sales	294	1,575	1,869
- finance charges	150	62	212
Utilised in the year	(289)	(603)	(892)
Reassessment of costs Transfer and reallocation of provisions between fellow	1,905	· -	1,905
Group companies	(1,862)	1,336	(526)
At 31 March 2004	3,202	3,616	6,818

Following a review of the allocation of provisions to landfill sites across all Group companies, £1,862,000 has been transferred from the site restoration provision and £1,336,000 has been transferred to the aftercare provision.

#### Site Restoration

Site Restoration provision relates to the cost of intermediate and final capping and covering of landfill sites. In accordance with FRS 12 - Provisions, the Company's minimum unavoidable costs have been re-assessed at 31 March 2004 and the net present value fully provided for with additional costs of £1,905,000 now capitalised in tangible fixed assets. These costs are expected to be paid over a period of up to twenty five years from today. These costs may be impacted by a number of factors including changes in legislation and technology.

#### 13 PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES – continued

#### Aftercare

The total post closure costs of landfill sites, including such items as monitoring, gas and leachate management and licensing, have been estimated by management based on current best practice and technology available. These costs may be impacted by a number of factors including changes in legislation and improvements in technology. The dates of payments of these aftercare costs are uncertain but are anticipated to be over a period of approximately thirty years from closure of the relevant landfill site.

#### 14 DEFERRED TAX ASSET

			£ 000
	As at 1 April 2003 Charge for the year Disposal to a fellow Group company		227 (178) 1
	As at 31 March 2004		50
	The deferred tax asset is made up as follows:		
		<u>2004</u> £'000	<u>2003</u> £'000
	Capital allowances Other timing differences	(938) 988	(578) 805
		50	227
15	SHARE CAPITAL	<del></del>	
		<u>2004</u> £'000	<u>2003</u> £'000
	Authorised: 45,050,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each	45,050	45,050
	Allotted, called up and fully paid: 45,000,002 Ordinary Shares of £1 each	45,000	45,000
		<del></del>	

£'000

#### 16 RESERVES

	Profit and loss account £'000
At 1 April 2003 Retained profit for the period	(35,510) 1,502
At 31 March 2004	(34,008)

#### 17 RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

	<u>2004</u> £'000	<u>2003</u> £'000
Profit for the financial year	1,502 ———	1,870
Net movement in equity shareholders' funds Opening equity shareholders' funds	1,502 9,490	1,870 7,620
Closing equity shareholders' funds	10,992	9,490

#### 18 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

The amount of capital expenditure authorised by the Directors for which no provision has been made in the financial statements is:

	<u>2004</u> £'000	<u>2003</u> £'000
Expenditure contracted for	962	<u> </u>

#### 19 COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

The annual commitments under operating leases are as follows:-

	<u>2004</u> £'000	<u>2003</u> £'000
Leases expiring:		
Within one year	-	21
Between two and five years	82	51
Over five years	-	10
	82	82
	<del></del>	

#### 20 PENSION COMMITMENTS - current SSAP 24 basis

The Company along with other companies in the Shanks Group, participates in funded pension arrangements providing benefits based on final salary. The assets are held separately from those of the group companies and are invested by professional investment managers. The contributions are determined by a qualified actuary on the basis of a triennial valuation using the Projected Unit Method. The pension charge for the year was £62,000 (2003: £34,000). Details of the latest actuarial value of the scheme on 5 April 2003 are given in the accounts of Shanks Group plc.

#### 21 PENSION COMMITMENTS - FRS 17 basis

Whilst the Company continues to account for pension costs in accordance with SSAP 24 - Accounting for pension costs, under FRS 17 - Retirement Benefits the transitional disclosures set out below are required.

The employees of the Company participate in the Shanks Group Pension Scheme, which is a funded, managed, defined benefit scheme, the costs of which are fully provided in accordance with the regular recommendations of a professionally qualified independent actuary. The Company is unable to identify the share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the Group scheme that relates to its business and is permitted under FRS 17 to treat this scheme as a defined contribution scheme. Full disclosures relating to the Group's pension schemes are contained in the financial statements of Shanks Group plc.

#### 22 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Company has granted to its bankers an unlimited guarantee and a right of set off against amounts outstanding on advances to its parent and fellow subsidiary undertakings. The Company has in normal course of business given guarantees and performance bonds relating to the Company's own contracts.

#### 23 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

As permitted by FRS8, the Company, being a wholly owned subsidiary of another company which prepares a statement of related party transactions including that of this Company, has not prepared such a statement itself.

#### 24 CASH FLOW STATEMENT

As permitted by paragraph 8(c) of FRS1 (revised 1996), the Company, being a wholly owned subsidiary of another company which prepares a cash flow statement has not prepared such a statement itself.

#### 25 IMMEDIATE & ULTIMATE PARENT COMPANY

The immediate holding company and ultimate parent company is Shanks Group plc, a company registered in Scotland. Copies of the group accounts may be obtained from the Company Secretary, Shanks Group plc, Astor House, Station Road, Bourne End, Buckinghamshire, SL8 5YP.

#### 26 POST BALANCE SHEET EVENT

On 25 May 2004, Shanks Group plc announced its intention to dispose of the Company to Terra Firma Investments (GP) 2 Limited, subject to shareholders' approval. This approval was received on 23 June 2004 with completion of the disposal expected to take place on 30 June 2004.