

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

NTL Group Limited

31 DECEMBER 1991



■ Ernst & Young

Registered No. 2591237

DIRECTORS

Mr A S Walsh

(Chairman)

Dr J R Forrest

Mr R A McKellar

Mr D S Chambers

Mr J A Okas

Mr I Armitage

(Non-executive)

Sir A J Shepperd

(Non-executive)

SECRETARY

Mr M H Stokes

AUDITORS

Ernst & Young

Becket House

1 Lambeth Palace Road

London SE1 7EU

CLEARING BANKERS

Bank of Scotland

38 Threadneedle Street

London EC2P 2EH

REGISTERED OFFICE

Crawley Court

Crawley

Winchester SO21 2QA

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors submit the annual report and accounts of the company and its subsidiaries for the period ended 31 December 1991.

ACTIVITIES AND BUSINESS REVIEW

The company was incorporated on 13 March 1991, and was acquired by Mercury Asset Management plc on behalf of clients on 24 October 1991.

NTL Group Limited is the parent undertaking of National Transcommunications Limited (NTL) which it acquired from HM Government on 24 Occober 1991, and of NTL Services Limited. NTL provides television and radio distribution and transmission services together with a range of other services to organisations in the broadcasting and telecommunications industries.

Turnover has not been analysed by class of business or by geographical market as in the directors' opinion such information if disclosed would be seriously prejudic at to the interests of the group.

The assets acquired with the purchase of National Transcommunications Limited has been included in the group accounts at book value as the directors of the company considered that no fair value adjustment was necessary as there is no material difference between the book values and fair values to the group.

NTL Services Limited did not trade during the period.

RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS

The retained profit for the period, which incorporates the results of National Transcommunications Limited for the period 24 October 1991 to 31 December 1991, after taxation and exceptional items amounted to £1,010,000. The directors do not recommend that a dividend is paid.

LOANS CAPITAL

On 24 October 1991 the company issued £22,680,000 of 8% unsecured stock 1997/2000 in connection with the acquisition of all of the issued share capital of National Transcommunications Limited.

DIRECTORS

The following directors held office during the period.

Lovicing Limited resigned 9 October 1991 Sergeants' Inn Nominees Limited resigned 9 Catober 1991 Mr I Armitage appointed 9 October 1991 Mr D S Chambers appointed 9 October 1991 Dr J R Forrest appointed 9 October 1991 Mr R A McKellar appointed 9 October 1991 Mr J A Okas appointed 9 October 1991 Mr A S Walsh appointed 9 October 1991

Sir A J Shepperd was appointed a director on 15 January 1992.

DIRECTORS' INTERESTS

As at 31 December 1991 arrangements existed for J R Forrest, D S Chambers, R A McKenar and J A Okas each to subscribe for 28,000 'B' ordinary shares of one penny each of NTL Group Limited at a price of £1 per share. The shares were subsequently allocated to them at that price on 15 January 1992.

No other director of the company had a notifiable interest in the shares of the company or in any subsidiary company at at 31 December 1991.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The company has a major commitment to research and development in broadcasting technologies in support of its core business interests. In addition, NTL has undertaken a number of research contracts during the period on behalf of other organisations.

The value of research and development expenditure charged to the profit and loss account during the period was £578,000.

EMPLOYMENT POLICIES

NTL has placed a major emphasis on maintaining good staff communications during a period of understandable uncertainty. This has been achieved in numerous ways including regular briefings, newsletters, staff meetings and a survey of attitudes.

As a result of the acquisition of the company by Mercury Asset Management plc on behalf of clients, arrangements have been made for the staff of NTL to acquire shares in NTL Group Limited and 55% of staff have subsequently taken up their options to subscribe.

The group has a policy of equality of employment opportunity irrespective of sex, race, creed or colour. It is also committed to giving full and fair consideration to application for employment from disabled people having regard to their particular aptitudes and abilities and, wherever possible, to the retention of those staff who become disabled whilst employed by the group.

CLOSE COMPANY STATUS

The company is not a close company within the meaning of the provisions of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

AUDITORS

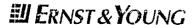
Ernst & Young were appointed as auditors to the company and having expressed their willingness to continue in office, a resolution proposing their reappointment will be submitted at the Annual General Meeting.

By order or the board

M H Stokes

Secretary

24 March 1992



REPORT OF THE AUDITORS to the members of NTL Group Limited

Emse + Young

We have audited the accounts on pages 6 to 22 in accordance with Auditing Standards.

In our opinion the accounts give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the group at 31 December 1991 and of the profit and cash flows of the group for the period then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Ernst & Young

Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditor

London

24 March 1992

GROUP PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

for the period ended 31 December 1991

•	Notes	1991 £000
TURNOVER Cost of sales	2	14,759 10,008
Gross profit		4,751
Administrative expenses		1,806
Other operating income		(60)
		1,746
OPERATING PROFIT	3	3,005
Interest receivable Interest payable	4 5	(126) 825 699
Exceptional items	6	600
		1,299
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION		1,706
Taxation on profit on ordinary activities	7	696
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER TAXATION		1,010
RETAINED PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD	9	1,010

A statement of the movement on reserves is shown in note 9 to the accounts.

GROUP BALANCE SHEET

at 31 December 1991

24 March 1992

·		1991
	Notes	£000
FIXED ASSETS	12	60,022
Tangible assets Stocks	13	2,506
		62,528
		<u> </u>
CURRENT ASSETS Debtors	14	4,654
Cash at bank and in hand	15	8,100
		12,754
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	16	15,801
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES		(3,047)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		59,481
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year	17	58,126
PROVISION FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES	18	1,776
ACCRUALS AND DEFERRED INCOME	19	1,743.
		(61,645)
		(2,164)
CAPITAL AND RESERVES		
Called up share capital	20	21
Share premium account	9	2,121 145
Capital reserve account Goodwill write off reserve	9 9	(5,316)
Profit and loss account	9	365
		(2,164)
2 2 12 -17		
A S Walsh - Chairman C. S. West 2		
A S Walsh - Chairman . S. 2022 RAMcKellar - Director 24 He Coll 2		

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BALANCE SHEET

at 31 December 1991

•	Notes	1991 £000
FIXED ASSETS Investment in subsidiary undertaking	10	51,228
·		51,228
CURRENT ASSETS Debtors	14	7,997
Cash at bank and in hand	15	85
		8,082
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	16	367
NET CURRENT ASSETS		7,715
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<i>5</i> 8,943
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year	17	57,680
		1,263
CAPITAL AND RESERVES		
Called up share capital Share premium account	20	21
Profit and loss account	9 9	2,121 (879)
		1,263
		
A S Walsh - Chairman . z. S. Walsh		
A S Walsh - Chairman		
24 March 1992		

GROUP STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the period ended 31 December 1991

•	Notes	£000	1991 £000
NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	21		6,188
RETURNS ON INVESTMENTS AND SERVICING OF FINAN Interest received Interest paid NET CASH OUTFLOW FROM RETURNS ON INVESTMENT AND SERVICING OF FINANCE		434 (1,409)	(975)
TAX PAID			
INVESTING ACTIVITIES Purchase of National Transcommunications Limited, net of cash acquired VAT paid on acquisition costs Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets Payments received in trust NET CASH OUTFLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES NET CASH OUTFLOW BEFORE FINANCING		(33,296) (165) (2,601) 84	(35,978)
Issue of ordinary share capital Issue of unsecured loan stock Term loan Repayment of debenture Interest rate cap fees paid	20 17 17 10	(2,142) (22,680) (35,000) 22,000 225	(07.505)
NET CASH INFLOW FROM FINANCING			(37,597)
INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	22		(30,765)

at 31 December 1991

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention. The accounts are prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

Basis of consolidation

The group accounts consolidate the accounts of NTL Group Limited and all it subsidiary undertakings drawn up to 31 December 1991. No profit and loss account is presented for NTL Group Limited as permitted by Section 230 of the Companies Act 1985.

The group profit and loss account includes the results of National Transcommunications Limited for the period from its acquisition on 24 October 1991.

The consolidated accounts also include the accounts for NTL Services Limited, which has not traded since its incorporation on 28 February 1991.

Goodwill

On the acquisition of a subsidiary undertaking, fair values are attributed to the net tangible assets acquired. Where the fair value of the consideration exceeds the aggregate value of these assets, the difference is treated as goodwill and is written off against reserves.

Turnover

Turnover includes the value of goods and services supplied to third-party customers and is exclusive of VAT. Turnover related to facilities leasing and other contracts which span financial years are included to the extent that the proportion of the contract period falls into the current financial year.

Where charges are separately made to customers in respect of electricity, circuits or licence fees where no uplift is applied, these are reported as reductions in operating costs and are not included in turnover.

Finance leases

Assets acquired under finance leases are capitalised and subsequently dealt with under the same accounting policies as other tangible fixed assets, excluding the interest portion of costs which is expensed.

Operating leases

Costs arising under operating leases are charged evenly over the term of the lease.

Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets represent the cost of capital works and equipment purchased from third parties. Where a contribution is received towards the cost of an asset, the recorded cost is reduced by the contribution. Where the contribution is in excess of the cost, the excess contribution is included as turnover.

Assets are capitalised in the month following the month in which the asset goes into service.

The cost of company staff effort and their related costs associated with capital projects are not capitalised, but are written off as incurred.

Depreciation

The depreciation of tangible fixed assets is calculated on a straight line basis by reference to the cost, expected useful lives, and the possible effect of technological change.

Depreciation is charged on a monthly basis with effect from the month of capitalisation.

at 31 December 1991

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Depreciation (continued)

The principal rates of depreciation are as follows:

Freehold land

Freehold buildings

2% per annum

Leasehold land and buildings

Over the lesser of the term of the lease or 50 years

Plant and equipment

5% to 10% per annum

Test equipment

20% per annum

Computer equipment

33% per annum

Furniture and fixtures

10% to 33% per annum

The fixed assets of the group acquired as part of the purchase of National Transcommunications Limited are being depreciated over the remaining useful life of the assets.

Stocks

Stocks held by the group are maintenance spares and are considered to be fixed assets. Stocks are valued at average cost less provisions for obsolescence, slow moving and surplus items. Stock items are charged to profit and loss as they are consumed.

Research and development

The cost of research and development expenditure is written off as incurred. Equipment used in the research and development area is capitalised and a depreciation charge is made to research and development expenditure under the depreciation policy.

Deferred taxation

Deferred taxation is provided using the liability method all timing differences which are expected to reverse in the future wi hout being replaced, calculated at the rate at which it is anticipated the timing differences will reverse.

Currency translation

Transactions is foreign currency are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currency are retranslated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date, all differences are taken to the profit and loss account.

Pensions

There were no employees of the company during the period.

National Transcommunications Limited, the subsidiary undertaking of NTL Group Limited, operates a pension plan (The Plan) of the defined benefit type which was established on 1 January 1991. The assets of the Plan are held separately from those of the company and are invested in both managed funds and specialised portfolios under the management of Clerical Medical Investment Group.

The regular pension cost is assessed using the attained age method. Variations in pension cost, which are identified as a result of actuarial valuations, are amortised over the average expected remaining working lives of employees in proportion to their expected payroll costs. Differences between the amounts funded and the amounts charged to the profit and loss account are treated as either provisions or prepayments in the balance sheet.

at 31 December 1991

TURNOVER

Turnover includes the value of charges made for transmission services, distribution services, facilities leasing, research and development contracts, other contracts, rents from properties, excess above cost in respect of capital works contributions from third parties, and site charges made to the EBC under the site sharing agreement.

Turnover has not been analysed by class of business or by geographical market as in the directors' opinion such information, if disclosed, would be seriously prejudicial to the interests of the group.

Turnover included in the consolidated profit and loss account represents the value of charges for the period 24 October to 31 December 1991 in respect of National Transcommunications Limited.

OPERATING PROFIT

This is stated after charging/(crediting):

	£000
Auditors' remuneration	9
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	2,098
Operating lease rentals – land and buildings	275
Operating lease rentals – plant and machinery	427
Independent Local Padio (ILR) contract provision	(145)
Directors' emoluments	87

These represent costs and credits for the period 24 October 1991 to 31 December 1991 in respect of National Transcommunications Limited.

The remuneration of the chairman was £16,879. The remuneration of the highest paid director was £18,442.

The emoluments of the directors, excluding pension contributions, fell within the following ranges:

			1991
			No.
£nil		£5,000	3
£10,001	_	£15,000	3
£15,001	-	£20,000	2
INTEREST	r rec	CEIVABLE	
			1991
			£000
Interest rec	eivab	le on short-term deposits	126

126

1991

at 31 December 1991

5. INTEREST PAYABLE

		1991 £000
	Bank overdraft Term loan repayable 31 March 1993 to 30 September 1998	5 820
		825
6.	EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS	
		1991
		£000
	Provision made for reorganisation costs	600
7.	TAX ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	
		1991
		£000
	Based on profit for the period: Corporation tax @ 33.0%	696
	or pridate and object	090

The effective rate of 40.8% is higher than the expected rate mainly due to the excess of depreciation over the capital allowances in the current period. However, no provision for deferred tax has been made as the current capital rependiture plan for the group over the next five years indicates an excess in aggregate of capital allowances over depreciation.

LOSS ATTRIBUTABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE PARENT UNDERTAKING

The loss for the period, dealt with in the accounts of the parent undertaking, was £879,000.

9. STATEMENT OF THE MOVEMENT ON RESERVES

Group	Share	Capital	Goodwill	Profit
	ргетіит	reserve	write off	and loss
	account	account	reserve	account
	£000	£000	£000	£000
As at 13 March 1991 (date of				
incorporation)		_	-	-
Arising on shares issued during the period	2,121	-		
Arising on acquisition of National				
Transcommunications Limited	-	-	(5,316)	
ILR contract provision released	* ?	145	_	(145)
Retained profit for the period	-		***	1,010
As at 31 December 1991	2,121	145	(5,316)	865

The financing agreement entered into by NTL Group Limited contains restrictions on the ability of the company to make distributions whilst the agreement is in force.

at 31 December 1991

9. STATEMENT OF THE MOVEMENT ON RESERVES (continued)

Company	Share premium	Profit and loss
	account	account
	£000	£000
As at 13 March 1991 (date of		
incorporation)	_	-
Arising on shares issued during the period	2,121	_
Loss for the period	•	(879)
As at 31 December 1991	2,121	(879)

10. INVESTMENT IN SUBSIDIARY

Company

On 24 October 1991 the company acquired 30,000,100 ordinary shares of £1 each in National Transcommunications Limited (NTL) being 100% of its issued share capital, for a consideration of £48,000,000. This was satisfied by the issue of 2,142,000 'A' ordinary shares of 1p each at £1.00 each, the issue of loan stock £22,630,000, and the provision of a senior debt facility of £35,000,000 underwritten jointly by S. G. Warburg & Company Limited and the Bank of Scotland which more than covered the cost of acquisition.

In addition National Transcommunications Limited repaid its debenture of £22,000,000 to H M Government.

Goodwill arising on the acquisition of National Transcommunications Limited during the period has been written off against other reserves.

Analysis of the acquisition of National Transcommunications Limited:

	Book
Net assets at date of acquisitions:	value
-	£000
Assets acquired:	
Fixed assets	62,006
Current assets excluding cash	9,739
Cash	17,932
Creditors	(20,331)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	(1,434)
Debenture	(22,000)
Total net assets	45,912
Consideration paid for National Transcommunications Limited	(48,000)
Costs associated with the acquisition	(3,393)
Less VAT recoverable	165
Goodwill arising on acquisition	(5,316)

at 31 December 1991

10. INVESTMENT IN SUBSIDIARY (continued)

Company

	Book value £000
Investment in subsidiary:	
Consideration paid for National Transcommunications Limited	48,000
Costs associated with the acquisition	3,393
Less VAT recoverable	(165)
	51,2′8

No fair value adjustments were considered necessary by the directors of the company, as there was no material difference between the book value and fair value to the group.

An extract of the profit and loss account for NTL for the year ended 31 December 1991 and of its balance sheet at 31 December 1991 is as follows:

National Transcommunications Limited	1991
Profit and loss account for the year ended 31 December 1991	£000
TURNOVER	76,563
OPERATING PROFIT	12,707
Interest receivable	(1,358)
Interest payable	1,009
Exceptional items	1,580
	1,231
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION	11,476
Taxation on ordinary activities	4,372
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER TAXATION	7,104
Extraordinary items after taxation	640
RETAINED PROFIT FOR THE YEAR	6,464

Of the retained profit earned by National Transcommunications Limited in the year ended 31 December 1991, £4,576,000 arose in the period from 1 January 1991 to 24 October 1991, the effective date of acquisition.

at 31 December 1991

10.	MVESTMENT IN SUBSIDIARY (continued)

INVESTMENT IN SUBSIDIARY (continued)	
Company	1991
National Transcommunications Limiter	£000
Balance sheet as a 31 December 1991	62,528
fixed assets	
CURRENT ASSETS	12,279
	15,433
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	(3,154)
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES	
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	59,374
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year	8,053
PROVISION FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES	1,776
ACCRUALS AND DEFERRED INCOME	1,743
ACCROALS AND DET BRICED THE	11,572
	47,802
	-
	47,802
Shareholders' funds	

11. INVESTMENTS

Details of the investments in which the company holds more than 10% of the nominal value of any class of share capital are as follows:

Name of company	Country of registration	Holdings	Proportion held	Nature of business
Subsidiary undertaking				
National Transcommunications Limited	England	Ordinary shares	100%	Transmission services
NTL Services Limited	England	Ordinary shares	100%	Non trading

at 31 December 1991

12. TANGIBLE ASSETS

Group

	Short	Plant and equipment	Furniture and fittings	Total assets in use	Assets under con- struction	Total
£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
		40-	4 000	*4 *15	5.006	CO 000
8,619	4,476	37,423	4,099	54,017	-	59,823
	-		-	-	2,308	2,308
	40		00	0.000	(0.000)	
36	42			•	(2,308)	400
-	-	(67)	(22)	(89)		(89)
8,655	4,518	39,504	4,159	56,836	5,206	62,042
(29)	(42)	(1,744) 64	(283)	(2,098)		(2,098) 78
(29)	(42)	(1,680)	(269)	(2,020)		(2,020)
8,626	4,476	37,824	3,890	54,810	5,206	60,022
	£000 e 8,619 - 36 - 8,655 (29) - (29)	lease £000 £000 e 8,619 4,476	Freehold Short and lease equipment £000 £000 £000 e 8,619 4,476 37,423	Freehold Short and lease equipment fittings £000 £000 £000 £000 £000 e 8,619 4,476 37,423 4,099	Freehold Short and and assets lease equipment fittings in use £000 £000 £000 £000 £000 £000 e 8,619 4,476 37,423 4,099 54,617	Freehold Short and and assets under lease equipment fittings in use construction £000 £000 £000 £000 £000 £000 £000 e 8,619 4,476 37,423 4,099 54,617 5,206 2,308 36 42 2,148 82 2,308 (2,308) - (67) (22) (89) - 8,655 4,518 39,504 4,159 56,836 5,206 (29) (42) (1,744) (283) (2,098) 64 14 78 - (29) (42) (1,680) (269) (2,020) -

The total provision for the permanent diminution in fixed assets at 31 December 1991 was £719,000 which included £91,000 expensed during the period.

1991 £000

Capital expenditure

Amounts contracted at 31 December 1991 but not provided	6,772
Amounts authorised but not contracted for at 31 December 1991	7,122

13. STOCKS

	1991
	£000
Spares	5,46
Provisions	(2,540)
	2,506

16.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

at 31 December 1991

14. DERTORS

	Group	Company
	1991	1991
	£000	£000
Trade	2,171	_
Other debtors	173	
Prepayments and accrued income	2,145	225
Loan to National Transcommunications Limited	•	7,607
VAT recoverable	165	165
	4,654	7,997

Included in other debtors is an amount of £124,000 which is due after more than one year. This is in respect of house purchase loans and car purchase loans to employees, under the approved company schemes.

15. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

ILR contract provision

Other creditors

CASA AT BANK AND IN HAND		
	Group	Company
	1991	1991
	£000	£000
Cash at bank	85	85
Cash in hand	15	ے,
Cash on short-term deposit	8,000	
	8,100	85
	=====	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year		
<u>-</u>	Group	Company
	1991	1991
	£000	£000
Interest due on term loan	224	224
Bank overdraft	1,268	-
Trade creditors	7,297	-
CL rent corporation tax	3,680	_
Other taxes and social security	1,386	

143

367

1,104

15,801

at 31 December 1991

17. CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year

·	Group	Company
	1991	1991
	£000	£000
Term loan - repayable 31 March 1993 to 30 September 1988	35,000	35,000
Unsecured loan stock - 8% interest bearing from January 1993	22,680	22,680
	57,680	57,680
ILR contract provision	1,288	_
less due within one year	(842)	-
	446	
	58,126	57,680
	====	

The term loan is secured on the assets of National Transcommunications Limited, a subsidiary undertaking.

18. PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES

	Group	Сотрапу
	1991	1991
	£000	£000
Reorganisation provision	1,423	_
Relocation provision	353	-
	1,776	
		

The reorganisation provision is in respect of the reduction in employees which arises from a restructuring of the group.

The relocation provision is in respect of commitments made by the group to employees who have moved location within the group.

19. ACCRUALS AND DEFERRED INCOME

	Group	Company
	1991	1991
	£000	£000
Accruals	629	_
Deferred income in respect of most sharing fees paid in advance	1,114	-
		
	1,743	τ,

at 31 December 1991

20. SHARE CAPITAL

	Allottea,
Group and company	called up and
Authorised	fully paid
£000	£000
2,142,000 'A' ordinary shares of 1p each 21	21
378,000 'B' ordinary shares of 1p each 4	-
12 Redeemable special shares of 1p each	-

The company was incorporated on 13 March 1991 with an authorised share capital of one hundred ordinary shares of £1 each of which two ordinary shares of £1 each were issued. On 24 October 1991, a special resolution was passed, converting the ordinary shares of £1 each into 10,000 'A' ordinary shares of 1p each and increasing the authorised share capital of the company from £100 to £25,200.12 by the creation of 2,132,000 'A' ordinary shares of 1p each, 378,000 'B' ordinary shares of 1p each and 12 redeemable special shares of 1p each.

The redeemable special shares, which are restricted to managers of collective investment schemes (as defined in Section 75, Financial Services Act 1986), carry no rights to participate in the capital or profits of the company and are redeemable at pas; or convertible to deferred shares upon the listing of the company's ordinary shares on the Stock Exchange or following the sale of the company.

During the year 2,142,000 'A' ordinary shares of 1p each were allotted and fully paid as follows:

On 13 March 1992 2 'A' ordinary shares of £1 each were issued at par. On 24 October these shares were converted into 200 'A' ordinary shares of 1p each and were acquired by Mercury Asset Management plc on behalf of clients.

On 24 October 1991, 2,141,800 'A' ordinary shares of 1p each were issued at £1 each to Mercury Asset Management plc on behalf of clients.

On 24 October 1991 the 12 redeemable special shares of 1p each were issued and fully paid at par at Mercury Asset Management plc on behalf of clients.

Analysis of changes in share capital during the period:

	£000
At 13 March 1991 (date of incorporation) Shares issued during the period	_ 21
At 31 December 1991	21

Total

at 31 December 1991

21.	NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
	Group	1991
	•	£000
	Operating profit	3,005
	Depreciation	2,098
	Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	10
	ILR contract provision released	(145)
	Increase in stocks	(322)
	Decrease in debtors	5,169
	Decrease in creditors	(3,627)
	Net cash inflow from ordinary operating activities	6,188
22.	ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	
	Group	Group
	· · · · · ·	1991
		£000
	At 13 March 1991 (date of incorporation)	•
	Net cash flow	6,832
	Balance at 31 December 1991	6,832
	Represented by:	
	Cash at bank	85
	Cash in hand	15
	Cash on short-term deposit	8,000
	Overdraft	(1,268)
	Victorali	(1,200)
		6,832

at 31 December 1991

23. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The Plan is operated by National Transcommunications Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of NTL. Group Limited.

The pension cost is assessed in accordance with the advice of a qualified actuary using the Attained Age method. The initial actuarial valuation or the Plan was performed as at 1 January 1991. The principal assumptions employed in this valuation were that investment returns would be 9.5% per annum, that salary increases would be 8% per annum and that dividend income would increase at 4.5% per annum.

The pension cost for the year was £2,630,304. This included £154,743 in respect of amortisation of past service liabilities over the future working lifetimes of the current membership. The regular costs also included £247,689 as an allowance for the possible effect of the favourable early retirement terms offered under the Plan. This allowance is subject to review at the next actuarial review period in the light of the experience of the Plan over the intervening period.

At the date of the initial actuarial valuations of the Plan the market value of the asset was £33.6 million and the actuarial value of the assets was sufficient to cover 96% of the benefits that had accrued to members, after allowing for expected future increases in earnings.

24. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

At 31 December 1991 the group had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases which were as set out below:

	Land and buildings	Other
	1991	1991
	. £000	£000
Operating leases which expire:		
Within one year	75	_
Within two to five years	94	-
In over five years	1,290	2,354
	1,459	2,354