# Acorn Mobility Services Limited

Registered number: 02593771

Annual report and consolidated financial statements

For the year ended 30 September 2017

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#### **COMPANY INFORMATION**

**Directors** 

J S Jakes

N Wilson J Richardson

P Bethell (appointed 20 October 2017)

M J Oldham (Non Executive)

**Company secretary** 

G Moore

Registered number

02593771

Registered office

Telecom House

Millennium Business Park

Steeton Bradford West Yorkshire BD20 6RB

Independent auditor

Mazars LLP

Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor

Mazars House Gelderd Road Gildersome Leeds LS27 7JN

**Bankers** 

Lloyds TSB Bank plc

2nd Floor Lisbon House

116 Wellington Street

Leeds

West Yorkshire

LS14LT

**Solicitors** 

Squire Patton Boggs (UK) LLP

6 Wellington Place

Leeds

West Yorkshire LS3 4AP

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## GROUP STRATEGIC REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

#### Introduction

The directors present their Strategic Report for the year ended 30 September 2017.

#### **Business review**

The Group continued its principal activities throughout the current year. The principal activities continue to be the manufacturing, sales, installation and servicing of stairlifts.

As a major organisation in global stairlift manufacture, we put product quality and customer care at the forefront of our corporate values. Our stairlift products enable the elderly and those with restricted mobility to remain in their homes for longer and thereby retain the comfort of familiar surroundings. Our mission at Acorn is to develop the Acorn brand across the globe concentrating in countries and markets where our products are relevant.

#### **Key Performance Indicators**

Management use a range of performance measures to monitor and manage the business. The performance measures are split into financial and non-financial key performance indicators as set out below.

	30 September 2017 ('000)	30 September 2016 ('000)
Turnover	£211,771	£177,198
Non UK turnover	70.9%	67.7%
Gross profit	£144,771	£117,187
Gross profit margin	68.4%	66.1%
Operating profit excluding exceptional costs	£21,982	£18,899
Operating profit margin excluding exceptional costs	10.4%	10.7%
Cash inflow from operating activities	£21,339	£9,850
Employees	1,485	1,307

# **Development and Financial Performance During the Year**

It has been a very positive year for Acorn. As reported in the Group's Statement of Comprehensive Income, Group revenue has increased by 19.5% (2016: 18.8%) from £177.2m to £211.8m. Strong revenue growth has been generated from rest of the world territories increasing the proportion of non UK turnover from 67.7% to 70.9%. The reported sales growth was assisted by a strong USD during the period, a significant portion of the Group's revenue is generated in territories using the USD as the primary and functional currency.

Gross profit has increased from £117.2m to £144.8m with the gross profit margin increasing from 66.1% to 68.4% due to strong cost control and efficiencies arising from sales growth.

Operating profit (excluding exceptional costs) has increased from £18.9m to £22.0m, however the operating

margin has decreased from 10.7% to 10.4%.

#### Financial Position at the Reporting Date

Total net assets have decreased from £19.6m to £17.5m. Net cash movements from operating activities have improved from £9.8m to £21.3m in the current year, this reflects the strong operating profit performance in the year and a reduction in overall debtor days.

The Group average headcount continued to increase from 1,307 to 1,485 as the business continues to invest in sales growth and opening new markets. The Group's mission is to invest in its people and ensure the highest standards of training and development for all employees.

## GROUP STRATEGIC REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

#### **Future Developments**

The Board will continue to target ambitious sales growth, setting stretching budgets for existing operating units. The group continues to reinvest in the business and pursue improvements in market share and in entering new geographic markets. This growth will be carefully managed so as to maintain gross margins and operating profit. Regional comparison and benchmarking will continue so as to promote best practice.

#### Research and development

The group continues to invest in research & development working together with key suppliers to continuously improve and develop the comfort, safety and functionality of its products. During the year £45,000 (2016: £42,500) was spent directly on research and development projects and on securing and supporting licences, patents and intellectual property. This commitment is expected to continue in the future.

#### Principal risks and uncertainties

The Board of Directors meet regularly and formally review the principal risks facing the business liasing with the operating entities each of which have carefully chosen management with specific industry knowledge. The principal risks and uncertainties facing the Group are as follows:

#### **Market Risk**

The key market risks relate to economic slow-down and competitive market pricing. To protect against these risks the group operates in as wide a geographic coverage around the world as is possible so ensuring that this diversification of markets insulates from specific economic conditions in any particular market.

Our people are passionate about quality and customer care. Procedures are in place to keep product costs contained to maintain optimal efficiency in each market and to ensure the business' ability to remain competitive at all times. Return of investment over marketing spend is closely monitored across all business operations to ensure value for money.

## **Operational Risk**

As the global business enjoys rapid growth, the key operational challenge is to ensure that the supply chain is able to cope and that the group maintains compliance with local market requirements. Strong and integrated inventory management systems and regular forecasting shared with key suppliers ensures that the entire supply chain from factory through to install are aware of and able to respond to the growth requirements. Specific resource is committed to establishing and auditing legal, financial and operational compliance in all markets and that products have appropriate certifications and licences. Key product certifications secured are ISO 9386-2:200 (Worldwide), BS EN 81-40 (European), ISO 9386-2:2000 (British), ASME A18.1:2010 & A17.5:2007 (N America).

## Foreign Exchange Risk

The group generates non sterling surpluses and manages, where it can, its foreign currency exposure primarily by negotiating currency matches with its key supply partners that have USD and Euro outflows.

# Financial Risk

Financial risks are managed through strict internal management controls, accurate and timely management information and KPI reporting.

# GROUP STRATEGIC REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

This report was approved by the board on

22/6/18

and signed on its behalf.

J Richardson Director

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# DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2017.

#### Directors' responsibilities statement

The directors are responsible for preparing the Group Strategic Report, the Directors' Report and the consolidated financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and the Group and of the profit or loss of the Group for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies for the Group's financial statements and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK 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 Group will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and the Group and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and the Group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## Results and dividends

The profit for the year, after taxation, amounted to £17,135,029 (2016 - £16,667,316).

Dividends totalling £18,989,579 were declared for the year (2016: £15,038,000).

#### **Directors**

The directors who served during the year were:

J S Jakes N Wilson J Richardson (appointed 25 September 2017) M J Oldham (Non Executive)

# **Employee involvement**

Acorn Mobility Services Limited is an Investor in People, successfully retaining this important accreditation at the 3 year review in February 2016 and regularly communicates with its employees about how the business is performing via various methods. Two-way communication is encouraged through one to one meetings, team meetings and through the Performance Development process. The business has a web based extranet company briefing system that is accessible to all staff around the world.

# DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

# Disabled employees

Acorn Mobility Services Limited is an Equal Opportunities Employer and is committed to treating job applicants and employees equally, irrespective of colour, creed, race, nationality or ethnic origin, sex, marital status, disability or age.

#### **Corporate and Social Responsibility**

The group recognises its impact on and responsibilities towards the environment and strives to operate as efficiently as possible. The group operates to high standards of health and safety. The business aims to have a positive impact in and around the communities in which it operates and engages in various charitable endeavours.

#### **Going Concern**

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The directors have a reasonable expectation that the group and company have adequate resources to continue operation for the foreseeable future. Thus the directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements.

The directors believe that the group and company is well placed to manage its business risks successfully.

#### Qualifying third party indemnity provisions

The Group had Directors' and Officers' insurance in place throughout the period.

## Matters covered in the strategic report

As permitted by paragraph 1A of schedule 7 to the Large and Medium-sized Companies and Groups (Accounts and Reports) Regulation 2008, certain matters which are required to be disclosed in the Directors Report have been omitted as they are included within the Strategic Report on Page 1 to 2. These matters relate to Risks and Future Developments.

#### Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the persons who are directors at the time when this Directors' Report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as the director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company and the Group's auditor is unaware, and
- the director has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a director in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company and the Group's auditor is aware of that information.

## Post balance sheet events

Post year end, interim dividends of £13,874,343 have been issued relating to the year ending 30 September 2018.

#### **Auditor**

The auditor, Mazars LLP, will be proposed for reappointment in accordance with section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

# DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

This report was approved by the board on

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and signed on its behalf.

J Richardson

Director

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACORN MOBILITY SERVICES LIMITED

# Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Acorn Mobility Services Limited for the year ended 30 September 2017 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Group and Company Statement of Financial Positions, the Group and Company Statement of Changes in Equity, the Group Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group and Company's affairs as at 30 September 2017 and of the Group's profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice: and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the directors' have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may
  cast significant doubt about the Group or Parent Company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern
  basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are
  authorised for issue.

# Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACORN MOBILITY SERVICES LIMITED

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Strategic Report or the Directors' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specific by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACORN MOBILITY SERVICES LIMITED

#### **Responsibilities of Directors**

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement set out on page 4, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

# Use of the audit report

This report is made solely to the Group's and Parent Company's members as a body in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Group's and Parent Company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Group and Parent Company and the Group and Parent Company's members as a body for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Shaun Mullins (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of

Mazars LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
Mazars House
Gelderd Road
Gildersome
Leeds
LS27 7JN

Date: 29.6.2018

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

	Note	2017 £	2016 £
Turnover	4	211,770,560	177,197,685
Cost of sales		(66,999,697)	(60,010,198)
Gross profit		144,770,863	117,187,487
Distribution costs		(39,110,669)	(32,785,421)
Administrative expenses		(83,678,463)	(65,503,197)
Exceptional administrative expenses	14	(1,479,000)	-
Operating profit	5	20,502,731	18,898,869
Gain arising on fair value of current asset investments		-	1,800,878
Investment income	9	-	60,000
Interest receivable and similar income	10	12,350	167,606
Interest payable and expenses	11	(6,739)	(390)
Profit before tax		20,508,342	20,926,963
Tax on profit	12	(3,373,313)	(4,259,647)
Profit for the financial year		17,135,029	16,667,316
Other comprehensive income:			
Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss:			
Movement on foreign exchange reserve		(221,793)	1,607,320
Total comprehensive income for the year		16,913,236	18,274,636
Profit for the year attributable to:			
Owners of the parent company		(17,135,029)	(16,667,316)
		(17,135,029)	(16,667,316)

# ACORN MOBILITY SERVICES LIMITED REGISTERED NUMBER: 02593771

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

	Note		2017 £		2016 £
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	15		6,572,763		7,078,360
Tangible assets	16		19,049,069		21,288,800
			25,621,832		28,367,160
Current assets					
Stocks	18	16,164,908		15,389,216	
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	19	10,163,797		13,163,518	
Cash at bank and in hand	20	7,735,028		8,138,552	
		34,063,733		36,691,286	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	21	(31,328,965)		(30,923,100)	
Net current assets			2,734,768		5,768,186
Total assets less current liabilities			28,356,600		34,135,346
Creditors: amounts falling due after more	22		(0.444.450)		(40.402.940)
than one year Provisions for liabilities	22		(9,411,458)		(12,103,810)
Deferred tax	24	(274,413)		(1,220,359)	
Other provisions	25	(1,146,194)		(1,210,299)	
			(1,420,607)		(2,430,658)
Net assets			17,524,535		19,600,878
Capital and reserves			<u></u>		
Called up share capital	27		10,002		10,002
Foreign exchange reserve	28		1,189,074		1,410,867
Profit and loss account	28		16,325,459		18,180,009
		,	17,524,535		19,600,878

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board and were signed on its behalf on

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J Richardson

Director

The notes on pages 17 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

# ACORN MOBILITY SERVICES LIMITED REGISTERED NUMBER: 02593771

# COMPANY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

	Note		2017 £		2016 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	16		11,670,330		13,382,156
Investments	17		16,892,061		16,914,946
			28,562,391		30,297,102
Current assets					
Stocks	18	5,134,595		5,982,464	
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	19	8,571,285		12,004,958	
Cash at bank and in hand	20	3,597,078		3,466,495	
		17,302,958		21,453,917	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	21	(16,095,871)		(16,578,013)	
Net current assets			1,207,087		4,875,904
Total assets less current liabilities			29,769,478		35,173,006
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	22		(8,422,297)		(12,117,446)
Provisions for liabilities			, , , ,		,
Deferred taxation	24	120,061		(624,768)	
Other provisions	25	(750,393)		(857,910)	
			(630,332)		(1,482,678)
Net assets			20,716,849		21,572,882
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	27		10,002		10,002
Profit and loss account	28		20,706,847		21,562,880
			20,716,849		21,572,882

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board and were signed on its behalf on

Ridanson 22/6/18

J Richardson Director

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

	Called up share capital	Foreign exchange reserve	Profit and loss account	Total equity
	£	£	£	£
At 1 October 2016	10,002	1,410,867	18,180,009	19,600,878
Comprehensive income for the year				
Profit for the year	-	-	17,135,029	17,135,029
Movement on foreign exchange reserve	-	(221,793)	-	(221,793)
Total comprehensive income for the year		(221,793)	17,135,029	16,913,236
Dividends: Equity capital	-	-	(18,989,579)	(18,989,579)
At 30 September 2017	10,002	1,189,074	16,325,459	17,524,535

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

	Called up share capital £	Foreign exchange reserve £	Profit and loss account	Total equity
At 1 October 2015	10,002	(196,453)	16,550,693	16,364,242
Comprehensive income for the year Profit for the year Movement on foreign exchange reserve	- -	- 1,607,320	16,667,316 -	16,667,316 1,607,320
Total comprehensive income for the year Dividends: Equity capital		1,607,320	16,667,316 (15,038,000)	18,274,636 (15,038,000)
At 30 September 2016	10,002	1,410,867	18,180,009	19,600,878

The notes on pages 17 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

# COMPANY STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

	Called up share capital £	Profit and loss account	Total equity
At 1 October 2016	10,002	21,562,880	21,572,882
Comprehensive income for the year			
Profit for the year	-	18,133,546	18,133,546
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	18,133,546	18,133,546
Dividends: Equity capital	•	(18,989,579)	(18,989,579)
At 30 September 2017	10,002	20,706,847	20,716,849

# COMPANY STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

	Called up share capital £	Foreign exchange reserve £	Profit and loss account	Total equity
At 1 October 2015 (as previously stated)	10,002	26,576	20,145,669	20,182,247
Prior year adjustment (upon FRS102 conversion)	-	-	(844,866)	(844,866)
At 1 October 2015 (as restated)	10,002	26,576	19,300,803	19,337,381
Comprehensive income for the year				
Profit for the year	-	-	17,300,077	17,300,077
Movement on foreign exchange reserve	-	(26,576)	-	(26,576)
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	(26,576)	17,300,077	17,273,501
Dividends: Equity capital	-	-	(15,038,000)	(15,038,000)
At 30 September 2016	10,002	-	21,562,880	21,572,882

The notes on pages 17 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

2016 £
~
37,316
99,585
96,237
-
74,947
16,820
27,606)
59,647
21,953)
22,579)
95,610)
35,959
00,878
70,277)
31,613)
19,995
39,155)
9,041
2,400
55,206
0,000
88,000
35,492
6

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

	2017 £	2016 £
Cash flows from financing activities		
Dividends paid	(18,989,579)	(15,038,000)
Interest paid	(6,739)	(216,820)
Net cash used in financing activities	(18,996,318)	(15,254,820)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(181,731)	(1,569,333)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	8,138,552	8,100,565
Foreign exchange gains and losses	(221,793)	1,607,320
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of year	7,735,028	8,138,552
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of year comprise:		
Cash at bank and in hand	7,735,028	8,138,552
	7,735,028	8,138,552

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

#### 1. General information

Acorn Mobility Services Limited ('the company') is a company limited by shares incorporated in England and Wales.

The address of its registered office is: Telecom House Millennium Business Park Steeton Bradford West Yorkshire BD20 6RB

The principal activities continue to be the manufacturing, sale, installation and servicing of stairlifts.

The presentational currency is Pound Sterling as this is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Company operates.

# 2. Accounting policies

#### 2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention unless otherwise specified within these accounting policies and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland and the Companies Act 2006.

The preparation of financial statements in compliance with FRS 102 requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires Group management to exercise judgment in applying the Group's accounting policies (see note 3).

FRS 102 allows a qualifying entity certain disclosure exemptions, subject to certain conditions, which have been complied with, including notification of, and no objection to, the use of exemptions by the companies shareholders.

The Group has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions:

a) The requirement of presenting the parent company unconsolidated profit and loss account under section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

In preparing the company individual financial statements, the company has taken advantage of the following exemptions:

- a) from disclosing key management personnel compensation, as required by paragraph 7 of Section 33 Related Party Disclosures;
- b) from presenting a reconciliation of the number of shares outstanding at the beginning and end of the year, as required by paragraph 12 of Section 4 Statement of Financial Position; and
- c) from presenting a statement of cash flows, as required by Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows.

On the basis that the equivalent disclosures are given in the consolidated financial statements, the company has also taken advantage of the exemption not to provide certain disclosures as required by Section 11 Basic Financial Instruments and Section 12 Other Financial Instrument Issues.

The following principal accounting policies have been applied:

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.2 Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements present the results of the Company and its own subsidiaries ("the Group") as if they form a single entity. Intercompany transactions and balances between group companies are therefore eliminated in full.

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the results of business combinations using the purchase method. In the Statement of Financial Position, the acquiree's identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities are initially recognised at their fair values at the acquisition date. The results of acquired operations are included in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income from the date on which control is obtained. They are deconsolidated from the date control ceases.

In accordance with the transitional exemption available in FRS 102, the group has chosen not to retrospectively apply the standard to business combinations that occurred before the date of transition to FRS 102, being 01 October 2014.

#### 2.3 Going concern

The Group's business activities, together with factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position are set out in the Strategic report and Directors' report on pages 1- 6. The financial position of the Group, its cash flows and financial risk are also shown in the Strategic report.

The Directors' have a reasonable expectation that the Group has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.4 Revenue recognition

The principal activities of the Group are manufacturing, sales, installation and servicing of Stairlifts.

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Group and the revenue can be reliably measured. Revenue is measured as the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, excluding discounts, rebates, value added tax and other sales taxes. The following criteria must also be met before revenue is recognised:

#### Sale of goods

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- the Group has transferred the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the buyer;
- the Group retains neither continuing managerial involvement to the degree usually associated with ownership nor effective control over the goods sold;
- the amount of revenue can be measured reliably;
- it is probable that the Group will receive the consideration due under the transaction; and
- the costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction can be measured reliably.

## Rendering of services

Service agreements are available to suit customers' needs. Where a service agreement spans more than one accounting period, revenue is deferred on a time apportioned basis. If the Company has completed its service obligations within the period the full revenue in respect of the service agreement is recognised.

# 2.5 Intangible assets

# Goodwill

Goodwill represents the difference between amounts paid on the cost of a business combination and the acquirer's interest in the fair value of the Group's share of its identifiable assets and liabilities of the acquiree at the date of acquisition. Subsequent to initial recognition, Goodwill is measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. Goodwill is amortised on a straight line basis to the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income over its useful economic life.

# Other intangible assets

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, intangible assets are measured at cost less any accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

All intangible assets are considered to have a finite useful life. If a reliable estimate of the useful life cannot be made, the useful life shall not exceed ten years.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets under the cost model are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

The Group adds to the carrying amount of an item of fixed assets the cost of replacing part of such an item when that cost is incurred, if the replacement part is expected to provide incremental future benefits to the Group. The carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised. Repairs and maintenance are charged to profit or loss during the period in which they are incurred.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Freehold property

- 2% straight line

Leasehold improvements

- 10% or over the term of the lease

Plant & machinery

- 10% to 33% straight line

Motor vehicles

- 25% straight line

Equipment

- 4% straight line

The assets' residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted prospectively if appropriate, or if there is an indication of a significant change since the last reporting date.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income.

#### 2.7 Impairment of fixed assets and goodwill

Assets that are subject to depreciation or amortisation are assessed at each reporting date to determine whether there is any indication that the assets are impaired. Where there is any indication that an asset may be impaired, the carrying value of the asset (or cash-generating unit to which the asset has been allocated) is tested for impairment. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's (or CGU's) fair value less costs to sell and value in use. For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows (CGUs). Non-financial assets that have been previously impaired are reviewed at each reporting date to assess whether there is any indication that the impairment losses recognised in prior periods may no longer exist or may have decreased.

# 2.8 Valuation of investments

Investments in subsidiaries are measured at cost less accumulated impairment.

#### 2.9 Stocks

At each reporting date, stocks are assessed for impairment. If stock is impaired, the carrying amount is reduced to its selling price less costs to complete and sell. The impairment loss is recognised immediately in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.10 Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment. Loans receivable are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment.

#### 2.11 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

#### 2.12 Financial instruments

The Group only enters into basic financial instruments transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like trade and other debtors and creditors, loans from banks and other third parties, loans to related parties and investments in non-puttable ordinary shares.

Debt instruments (other than those wholly repayable or receivable within one year), including loans and other accounts receivable and payable, are initially measured at present value of the future cash flows and subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Debt instruments that are payable or receivable within one year, typically trade debtors and creditors, are measured, initially and subsequently, at the undiscounted amount of the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received. However, if the arrangements of a short-term instrument constitute a financing transaction, like the payment of a trade debt deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate or in case of an out-right short-term loan not at market rate, the financial asset or liability is measured, initially, at the present value of the future cash flow discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument and subsequently at amortised cost.

Financial assets that are measured at cost and amortised cost are assessed at the end of each reporting period for objective evidence of impairment. If objective evidence of impairment is found, an impairment loss is recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income.

For financial assets measured at amortised cost, the impairment loss is measured as the difference between an asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. If a financial asset has a variable interest rate, the discount rate for measuring any impairment loss is the current effective interest rate determined under the contract.

For financial assets measured at cost less impairment, the impairment loss is measured as the difference between an asset's carrying amount and best estimate of the recoverable amount, which is an approximation of the amount that the Group would receive for the asset if it were to be sold at the reporting date.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the Statement of Financial Position when there is an enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

## 2. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.13 Creditors

Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other financial liabilities, including bank loans, are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### 2.14 Foreign currency translation

## Functional and presentation currency

The Company's functional and presentational currency is GBP.

#### Transactions and balances

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the spot exchange rates at the dates of the transactions.

At each period end foreign currency monetary items are translated using the closing rate. Non-monetary items measured at historical cost are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction and non-monetary items measured at fair value are measured using the exchange rate when fair value was determined.

Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of transactions and from the translation at period-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income except when deferred in other comprehensive income as qualifying cash flow hedges.

Foreign exchange gains and losses that relate to borrowings and cash and cash equivalents are presented in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income within 'finance income or costs'. All other foreign exchange gains and losses are presented in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income within 'other operating income'.

On consolidation, the results of overseas operations are translated into Sterling at rates approximating to those ruling when the transactions took place. All assets and liabilities of overseas operations are translated at the rate ruling at the reporting date. Exchange differences arising on translating the opening net assets at opening rate and the results of overseas operations at actual rate are recognised in other comprehensive income.

# 2.15 Finance costs

Finance costs are charged to the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income over the term of the debt using the effective interest method so that the amount charged is at a constant rate on the carrying amount. Issue costs are initially recognised as a reduction in the proceeds of the associated capital instrument.

# 2.16 Dividends

Equity dividends are recognised when they become legally payable. Interim equity dividends are recognised when paid. Final equity dividends are recognised when approved by the shareholders at an annual general meeting.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

# 2. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.17 Operating leases: the Group as lessee

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income on a straight line basis over the lease term.

#### 2.18 Pensions

#### Defined contribution pension plan

The Group operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the Group pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the Group has no further payment obligations.

The contributions are recognised as an expense in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals as a liability in the Statement of Financial Position. The assets of the plan are held separately from the Group in independently administered funds.

## 2.19 Holiday pay accrual

A liability is recognised to the extent of any unused holiday pay entitlement which is accrued at the Statement of Financial Position date and carried forward to future periods. This is measured at the undiscounted salary cost of the future holiday entitlement so accrued at the Statement of Financial Position date.

#### 2.20 Interest income

Interest income is recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income using the effective interest method.

#### 2.21 Provisions for liabilities

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Group a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefit, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

Provisions are charged as an expense to the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income in the year that the Group becomes aware of the obligation, and are measured at the best estimate at the Statement of Financial Position date of the expenditure required to settle the obligation, taking into account relevant risks and uncertainties.

When payments are eventually made, they are charged to the provision carried in the Statement of Financial Position.

A warranty cost provision is accrued using historic data to show the average parts and labour costs incurred per warranty sold. The total warranty cost provision is calculated as the average warranty costs incurred per warranty sold multiplied by the number of unexpired warranties at the year-end less the average warranty cost incurred per unexpired warranty at the year end.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

# 2. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.22 Current and deferred taxation

The tax expense for the year comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income, except that a charge attributable to an item of income and expense recognised as other comprehensive income or to an item recognised directly in equity is also recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity respectively.

The current income tax charge is calculated on the basis of tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date in the countries where the Company and the Group operate and generate income.

Deferred tax balances are recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed by the Statement of Financial Position date, except that:

- The recognition of deferred tax assets is limited to the extent that it is probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits;
- Any deferred tax balances are reversed if and when all conditions for retaining associated tax allowances have been met; and
- Where they relate to timing differences in respect of interests in subsidiaries, associates, branches and joint ventures and the Group can control the reversal of the timing differences and such reversal is not considered probable in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax balances are not recognised in respect of permanent differences except in respect of business combinations, when deferred tax is recognised on the differences between the fair values of assets acquired and the future tax deductions available for them and the differences between the fair values of liabilities acquired and the amount that will be assessed for tax. Deferred tax is determined using tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

#### 2.23 Exceptional items

Exceptional items are transactions that fall within the ordinary activities of the Group but are presented separately due to their size or incidence.

#### 2.24 Research and development

In the research phase of an internal project it is not possible to demonstrate that the project will generate future economic benefits and hence all expenditure on research shall be recognised as an expense when it is incurred. Intangible assets are recognised from the development phase of a project if and only if certain specific criteria are met in order to demonstrate the asset will generate probable future economic benefits and that its cost can be reliably measured.

If it is not possible to distinguish between the research phase and the development phase of an internal project, the expenditure is treated as if it were all incurred in the research phase only.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

## 3. Judgments in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The critical judgements that the directors have made in the process of applying the Company's accounting policies that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the statutory financial statements are discussed below. In assessing whether there have been any indicators of impairment assets, the directors have considered both external and internal sources of information such as market conditions, counterparty credit ratings and experience of recoverability and where applicable, the ability of the asset to be operated as planned.

## Key sources of estimation uncertainty

The key assumptions concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

#### (i) Estimating value in use

Where an indication of impairment exists, the directors have carried out an impairment review to determine the recoverable amount of the asset, which is the higher of fair value less cost to sell and value in use. The value in use calculation has required the directors to estimate the future cash flows expected to arise from the asset or the cash generating unit and determine a suitable discount rate in order to calculate present value.

#### (ii) Recoverability of receivables

The Group establishes a provision for receivables that are estimated not to be recoverable. When assessing recoverability the directors have considered factors such as the aging of the receivables, past experience of recoverability, and the credit profile of individual or groups of customers.

#### (iii) Determining residual values and useful economic lives of tangible and intangible assets

The Company depreciates tangible assets, and amortises intangible assets, over their estimated useful lives. The estimation of the useful lives of tangible assets is based on historic performance as well as expectations about future use and therefore requires estimates and assumptions to be applied. The estimation of useful lives of intangible assets is based on any contractual or legal rights associated with the asset, or the period in which the Company expects to use the asset if shorter. The actual lives of these assets can vary depending on a variety of factors, including technological innovation, product life cycles and maintenance programmes.

#### (iv) Stock provisions

Judgement is also applied when determining an appropriate provision against the value of stock on a slow moving stock basis.

#### (v) Warranty unbundling

Stairlifts are sold inclusive of a one year warranty. Under FRS 102 the revenue associated to the sale of the Stairlift and the warranty contract must be recognised seperately, with the warranty income being deferred and released to the Statement of Comprehensive Income on a straight line basis over the period of the warranty.

The value associated to the contract is based on historic data to show the average parts and labour costs incurred per contract. Judgement is applied by management to ensure a reasonable profit margin is applied to these calculated costs.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

Amortisation of intangible assets, including goodwill

Exchange differences

Operating lease rentals payable

# 4. Turnover

5.

	2017 £	2016 £
Sale of goods	191,738,988	157,675,053
Rendering of services	20,031,572	19,522,632
	211,770,560	177,197,685
	2017 £	2016 £
United Kingdom	61,653,687	57,284,484
Other European countries	32,238,661	28,153,543
Rest of the World	117,878,212	91,759,658
	211,770,560	177,197,685
Operating profit		
The operating profit is stated after charging:		
	2017 £	2016 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	3,076,505	2,696,237
Impairment of tangible fixed assets	1,479,000	-

899,585

(427,271)

1,689,571

505,597

850,700

1,109,720

6.	Auditor's remuneration		
		2017 £	2016 £
	Fees payable to the Group's auditor and its associates for the audit of the Group's annual financial statements	110,045	98,500
	Fees payable to the Group's auditor and its associates in respect of:		
	Other services	19,225	28,425
		19,225	28,425
7.	Employees		
	Staff costs, including directors' remuneration, were as follows:		
		2017 £	2016 £
	Staff costs, including directors' remuneration, were as follows:  Wages and salaries Social security costs	£ 53,569,316 4,542,577	£ 43,117,981 2,283,301
	Staff costs, including directors' remuneration, were as follows:  Wages and salaries	£ 53,569,316	£ 43,117,981
	Staff costs, including directors' remuneration, were as follows:  Wages and salaries Social security costs	£ 53,569,316 4,542,577	£ 43,117,981 2,283,301
	Staff costs, including directors' remuneration, were as follows:  Wages and salaries Social security costs	53,569,316 4,542,577 850,700 58,962,593	£ 43,117,981 2,283,301 848,812 46,250,094
	Staff costs, including directors' remuneration, were as follows:  Wages and salaries Social security costs Cost of defined contribution scheme	53,569,316 4,542,577 850,700 58,962,593	£ 43,117,981 2,283,301 848,812 46,250,094
	Staff costs, including directors' remuneration, were as follows:  Wages and salaries Social security costs Cost of defined contribution scheme	£ 53,569,316 4,542,577 850,700 58,962,593 the year was as 2017	£ 43,117,981 2,283,301 848,812 46,250,094  follows: 2016
	Staff costs, including directors' remuneration, were as follows:  Wages and salaries Social security costs Cost of defined contribution scheme  The average monthly number of employees, including the directors, during the	53,569,316 4,542,577 850,700 58,962,593 the year was as 2017 No.	£ 43,117,981 2,283,301 848,812 46,250,094  follows: 2016 No.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

#### 8. Directors' remuneration

	2017 £	2016 £
Directors' emoluments	101,836	321,818
Company contributions to defined contribution pension schemes	5,629	8,750
Amounts paid to third parties in respect of directors' services	36,540	32,391
	144,005	362,959

During the year retirement benefits were accruing to 1 director (2016 - 1) in respect of defined contribution pension schemes.

The highest paid director received remuneration of £89,836 (2016 - £191,542).

The value of the company's contributions paid to a defined contribution pension scheme in respect of the highest paid director amounted to £5,629 (2016 - £5,250).

# 9. Income from investments

		2017 £	2016 £
	Dividends received from investments		60,000
		-	60,000
10.	Interest receivable	2017	2016
		£	£
	Bank interest received	5,539	2,400
	Other interest receivable	6,811	165,206
		12,350	167,606

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

11.	Interest payable and similar charges		
		2017 £	2016 £
	Bank interest payable	251	390
	Other interest payable	6,488	-
		6,739	390
12.	Taxation		
		2017 £	2016 £
	Corporation tax		
	Current tax on profits for the year	3,601,402	3,361,459
	Adjustments in respect of previous periods	(928,920)	-
		2,672,482	3,361,459
	Foreign tax		
	Foreign tax on income for the year	775,810	773,630
		775,810	773,630
	Total current tax	3,448,292	4,135,089
	Deferred tax		
	Origination and reversal of timing differences	396,585	124,558
	Adjustments in respect of previous periods	(471,564)	-
	Total deferred tax	(74,979)	124,558
	Taxation on profit on ordinary activities	3,373,313	4,259,647

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

# 12. Taxation (continued)

#### Factors affecting tax charge for the year

The tax assessed for the year is the same as (2016 - higher than) the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19.5% (2016 - 20%). The differences are explained below:

	2017 £	2016 £
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	20,508,342	20,926,963
Profit on ordinary activities multiplied by standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19.5% (2016 - 20%)  Effects of:	3,999,127	4,185,393
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes including fixed asset impairment	308,689	50,298
Adjustments to tax charge in respect of prior periods	(928,920)	(20,134)
Adjustments to deferred tax charge in respect of prior periods	(471,564)	-
R&D/ patent box tax credits leading to a decrease in the tax charge	(553,946)	(9,063)
Capital gains	-	(73,882)
Differences in corporation tax rate of subsidiaries during the period	209,308	252,645
Deferred tax not recognised	135,000	-
Other adjustments	675,619	(125,610)
Total tax charge for the year	3,373,313	4,259,647

# Factors that may affect future tax charges

The group has estimated tax losses of £3,095,715 (2016: £2,393,994) to carry forward against future profits in specific subsidiary companies.

Legislation was introduced in the Finance (no 2) Act 2015 to reduce the main rate of corporation tax for all non-ring fence profits to 19% for Financial Year 2017, to set the rate at 19% for Financial Years 2018 and 2019. The Finance Act 2016 has set the corporation tax rate for Financial Year 2020 as 17%.

# 13. Dividends

2017 £	2016 £
18,989,579	15,038,000
18,989,579	15,038,000
	18,989,579

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

# 14. Exceptional items 2017 £ 2016 £ £ £ Impairment of fixed assets 1,479,000 - 1,479,000 -

# 15. Intangible assets

# Group

	Development Data costs		Software	Goodwill	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 October 2016	452,876	1,000,000	17,020	10,768,580	12,238,476
Disposals	-	(1,000,000)	-	-	(1,000,000)
At 30 September 2017	452,876		17,020	10,768,580	11,238,476
Amortisation					
At 1 October 2016	452,876	1,000,000	17,020	3,690,220	5,160,116
Charge for the year	-	-	-	505,597	505,597
On disposals		(1,000,000)			(1,000,000)
At 30 September 2017	452,876	_	17,020	4,195,817	4,665,713
Net book value					
At 30 September 2017	<u>-</u>	-	-	6,572,763	6,572,763
At 30 September 2016				7,078,360	7,078,360

Positive goodwill arose on the acquisition of Brooks Stairlifts Limited, Alexander Pollock Limited and Bison Bede Limited. Positive goodwill is being amortised over 20 years. In the opinion of the directors, this represents a prudent estimate of the period over which the group will derive economic benefit from the goodwill existing at the date of acquisition.

The amortisation charge is included in Administration expenses.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

# 15. Intangible assets (continued)

# Company

	Data	Development costs	Software	Goodwill	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 October 2016	452,876	1,000,000	17,020	602,788	2,072,684
Disposals		(1,000,000)	-	-	(1,000,000)
At 30 September 2017	452,876		17,020	602,788	1,072,684
Amortisation					
At 1 October 2016	452,876	1,000,000	17,020	602,788	2,072,684
On disposals	-	(1,000,000)	-	-	(1,000,000)
At 30 September 2017	452,876		17,020	602,788	1,072,684
Net book value					
At 30 September 2017	-	*	<del>-</del>	-	-
At 30 September 2016			-		

Development costs represent expenditure on individual projects which is carried forward when its future recoverability can be foreseen with reasonable assurance and is amortised in line with sales from related projects.

Positive goodwill arose on the acquisition of Bison Bede Limited. This has now been fully amortised.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

# 16. Tangible fixed assets

# Group

	Land and buildings £	Plant & machinery £	Motor vehicles £	Equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 October 2016	9,057,516	8,001,957	6,892,070	8,939,974	32,891,517
Additions	120,453	1,229,742	1,680,590	-	3,030,785
Disposals	-	(503,239)	(763,516)	-	(1,266,755)
Exchange adjustments	(141,146)	(59,873)	(55,256)	-	(256,275)
At 30 September 2017	9,036,823	8,668,587	7,753,888	8,939,974	34,399,272
Depreciation					
At 1 October 2016	1,708,565	5,046,771	3,702,492	1,144,888	11,602,716
Charge for the year on owned assets	305,668	1,093,420	1,321,031	356,386	3,076,505
Disposals	-	(264,334)	(463,496)	-	(727,830)
Impairment charge	-	-	-	1,479,000	1,479,000
Exchange adjustments	(22,934)	(23,275)	(33,979)	-	(80,188)
At 30 September 2017	1,991,299	5,852,582	4,526,048	2,980,274	15,350,203
Net book value					
At 30 September 2017	7,045,524	2,816,005	3,227,840	5,959,700	19,049,069
At 30 September 2016	7,348,951	2,955,186	3,189,577	7,795,086	21,288,800

The net book value of land and buildings may be further analysed as follows:

	2017 £	2016 £
Freehold	5,908,786	6,231,324
Long leasehold	751,854	718,924
Short leasehold	384,884	398,703
	7,045,524	7,348,951

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

# 16. Tangible fixed assets (continued)

# Company

	Freehold property £	Leasehold Improvements £	Plant & machinery	Motor vehicles £	Other fixed assets £	Total £
Cost or valuation	~	~	~	-	_	~
At 1 October 2016	3,772,800	658,016	5,359,235	1,943,735	8,939,974	20,673,760
Additions	-	-	756,340	509,032	-	1,265,372
Disposals			(159,218)	(241,143)		(400,361)
At 30 September 2017	3,772,800	658,016	5,956,357	2,211,624	8,939,974	21,538,771
Depreciation						
At 1 October 2016	201,056	658,016	3,911,977	1,375,667	1,144,888	7,291,604
Charge for the year on owned assets	75,200	-	686,960	307,877	356,386	1,426,423
Disposals	-	-	(100,582)	(228,004)	-	(328,586)
Impairment charge		-	-		1,479,000	1,479,000
At 30 September 2017	276,256	658,016	4,498,355	1,455,540	2,980,274	9,868,441
Net book value						
At 30 September 2017	3,496,544	_	1,458,002	756,084	5,959,700	11,670,330
At 30 September 2016	3,571,744	•	1,447,258	568,068	7,795,086	13,382,156

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

#### 17. **Fixed asset investments**

# Subsidiary undertakings

The following were subsidiary undertakings of the Company:

Name	Class of shares	Holding	Principal activity
Acorn Stairlifts (Pty) Limited *	Ordinary	100 %	Sales, installation and servicing of stairlifts
Acorn BVBA	Ordinary	100 %	Sales, installation and servicing of stairlifts
Acorn Stairlifts (Canada) Inc.	Ordinary	100 %	Sales, installation and servicing of stairlifts
Acorn Stairlifts Inc	Ordinary	100 %	Sales, installation and servicing of stairlifts
Acorn Treppenlift GmbH	Ordinary	100 %	Sales, installation and servicing of stairlifts
Acorn Montascale SRL	Ordinary	100 %	Sales, installation and servicing of stairlifts
Acorn Monte-Escalier SAS	Ordinary	100 %	Sales, installation and servicing of stairlifts
Brooks Stairlifts Limited	Ordinary	100 %	Sales, installation and servicing of stairlifts
Alexander Pollock Limited	Ordinary	100 %	Metal engraving
Acorn Stairlifts (Pty) Limited **	Ordinary	100 %	Sales, installation and servicing of stairlifts
Acorn Stairlifts Limited	Ordinary	100 %	Sales, installation and servicing of stairlifts
Bison Homecare Limited	Ordinary	100 %	Non-trading
Bison Bede Limited	Ordinary	100 %	Non-trading

Acorn Mobility Services Limited also has a number of dormant subsidiaries.

The following companies were exempt from the requirements relating to the audit of individual accounts by virtue of section 479A of the Companies Act 2006:

**Brooks Stairlifts Limited** Alexander Pollock Limited Bison Homecare Limited **Bison Bede Limited** 

<sup>\*</sup>Acorn Stairlifts (Pty) Limited: subsidiary incorporated in Australia.
\*\* Acorn Stairlifts (Pty) Limited: subsidiary incorporated in South Africa.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

# 17. Fixed asset investments (continued)

Registered office
Unit F, 6 Narabang Way, Belrose, NSW 2085, Australia
Nijverheidslaan 1, 1853 Strombeek-Bever
Unit 101, 5555 N Service Rd, Burlington, ON L7L 6W6, Canada
7001 Lake Ellenor Dr, Orlando, FL 32809, USA
Rather Str. 23B, 40476 Dusseldorf, Germany
Via Mario Giuntini, 192, 56021 Comune di Cascina (PI), Italy
27 Boulevard Saint Martin, 75003, Paris
Telecom House, Millennium Business Park, Station Road, Steeton, Bradford, BD20 6RB
Hospital Road, Haddington, East Lothian, EH41 3PD
Unit 15 Prema Park, No. 12 Engine Road, Montague Gardens, Cape Town 7441
33 Sir John Rogers Key, Dublin 2, Ireland
Telecom House, Millennium Business Park, Station Road, Steeton, Bradford, BD20 6RB
Telecom House, Millennium Business Park, Station Road, Steeton, Bradford, BD20 6RB

# Company

	Investments in subsidiary companies £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 October 2016	16,914,946
At 30 September 2017	16,914,946
Impairment Charge for the period	22,885
At 30 September 2017	22,885
Net book value	
At 30 September 2017	16,892,061
At 30 September 2016	16,914,946

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

#### 18. Stocks

	Group 2017 £	Group 2016 £	Company 2017 £	Company 2016 £
Raw materials and consumables	713,711	713,206	703,596	705,293
Finished goods and goods for resale	15,451,197	14,676,010	4,430,999	5,277,171
	16,164,908	15,389,216	5,134,595	5,982,464

Stock expensed in the year was £58,865,345 (2016: £57,701,647).

There is no significant difference between the replacement cost of raw materials and finished goods and their carrying amounts.

# 19. Debtors

		Group 2017 £	Group 2016 £	Company 2017 £	Company 2016 £
	Due within one year				
	Trade debtors	4,654,918	5,182,739	970,806	1,475,385
	Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	5,821,866	7,993,293
	Amounts owed by related parties	92,468	49,133	92,166	49,133
	Other debtors	2,180,850	2,551,706	1,261,146	1,155,588
	Prepayments and accrued income	1,905,122	3,178,533	425,301	1,331,559
	Deferred taxation	1,330,439	2,201,407	-	-
		10,163,797	13,163,518	8,571,285	12,004,958
20.	Cash and cash equivalents				
		Group 2017 £	Group 2016 £	Company 2017 £	Company 2016 £
	Cash at bank and in hand	7,735,028	8,138,552	3,597,078	3,466,495
		7,735,028	8,138,552	3,597,078	3,466,495

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

# 21. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2017 £	Group 2016 £	Company 2017 £	Company 2016 £
Payments received on account	2,486,593	2,150,800	659,940	582,960
Trade creditors	6,711,238	7,554,848	2,844,971	3,998,749
Amounts owed to group undertakings	-	-	737	138,005
Amounts owed to related parties	1,339,215	29,913	1,321,054	-
Corporation tax	1,110,860	2,259,564	598,876	1,640,782
Other taxation and social security	683,837	406,884	352,626	369,670
Other creditors	1,042,453	2,386,386	280,401	338,031
Accruals and deferred income	17,954,769	16,134,705	10,037,266	9,509,816
	31,328,965	30,923,100	16,095,871	16,578,013

The Group has granted a debenture in the form of a fixed and floating charge on the assets to secure any liabilities arising to its bankers.

The Group has granted an import guarantee to HM Revenue & Customs to the value of £300,000.

# 22. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	Group 2017 £	Group 2016 £	Company 2017 £	Company 2016 £
Amounts owed to group undertakings	-	-	1,314,571	3,369,662
Accruals and deferred income	9,411,458	12,103,810	7,107,726	8,747,784
	9,411,458	12,103,810	8,422,297	12,117,446

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

# 23. Financial instruments

	Group 2017 £	Group 2016 £	Company 2017 £	Company 2016 £
Financial assets and cash				
Cash and cash equivalents	7,735,028	8,138,552	3,597,078	3,466,495
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	6,928,236	7,783,577	8,145,984	10,673,399
	14,663,264	15,922,129	11,743,062	14,139,894
Financial liabilities Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	16,436,016 16,436,016	17,042,913 17,042,913	7,792,516 7,792,516	9,723,190 9,723,190

Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost comprise of trade debtors, amounts due from group undertakings, amounts due from related parties and other debtors.

Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost comprise trade creditors, amounts owed to group undertakings, amounts owed to related parties, other creditors, payments on account and accruals.

#### 24. Deferred taxation

# Group

	2017 £	2016 £
At beginning of year Charged to profit or loss	981,048 74,978	1,105,606 (124,558)
At end of year	1,056,026	981,048

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

# 24. Deferred taxation (continued)

# Company

			2017 £	2016 £
At beginning of year			(624,768)	(600,192)
Charged to profit or loss			744,829	(24,576)
At end of year			120,061	(624,768)
	Group 2017 £	Group 2016 £	Company 2017	Company 2016 £
Accelerated capital allowances	(274,413)	(1,220,359)	120,061	(624,768)
Tax losses carried forward	60,078	430,919	· -	-
Other timing differences	1,270,361	1,770,488	-	-
	1,056,026	981,048	120,061	(624,768)
Comprising:			<del></del>	
Asset - due within one year	1,330,439	2,201,407	-	•
Liability	(274,413)	(1,220,359)	120,061	(624,768)
	1,056,026	981,048	120,061	(624,768)

# 25. Provisions

# Group

	Warranty provision £
At 1 October 2016	1,210,299
Charged to profit or loss	(64,105)
At 30 September 2017	1,146,194

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

# 25. Provisions (continued)

#### Company

Warranty provision £	Total £
857,910	857,910
(107,517)	(107,517)
750,393	750,393
	provision £ 857,910 (107,517)

#### 26. Accruals and deferred income

	Group 2017 £	Group 2016 £	Company 2017 £	Company 2016 £
Due between one and two years	5,468,394	6,679,889	3,828,404	4,725,366
Due between two and five years	3,942,797	5,421,159	3,279,203	4,019,875
Due in greater than five years	268	2,762	119	2,543
	9,411,459	12,103,810	7,107,726	8,747,784

# 27. Share capital

	2017 £	2016 £
Shares classified as equity	~	•
Allotted, called up and fully paid		
10,002 Ordinary shares of £1 each	10,002	10,002

The company has one class of ordinary shares which carry voting rights but no right to fixed income.

# 28. Reserves

# Foreign exchange reserve

The foreign exchange reserve represents the cumulative movement in foreign currencies of the subsidiary undertakings, when translating into the Group's reporting currency for consolidation.

# Profit & loss account

The profit and loss account represents the accumulated distributable reserves of the company.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

#### 29. Pension commitments

The company operates defined contribution pension schemes. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the group in independently administered funds. The pension cost charge of £854,597 (2016: £848,312) represents contributions payable by the group to the funds. Amounts outstanding to the fund at the year end were £35,953 (2016: £40,006).

#### 30. Commitments under operating leases

At 30 September 2017 the Group and the Company had future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	Group 2017 £	Group 2016 £	Company 2017 £	Company 2016 £
Not later than 1 year	2,483,723	1,911,268	52,000	52,000
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	2,217,399	2,608,334	-	-
Later than 5 years	27,764	62,631	-	_
	4,728,886	4,582,233	52,000	52,000

# 31. Related party transactions

The company has taken advantage of the exemption conferred by FRS 102 Section 33 not to disclose transactions with members of the group headed by Acorn Mobility Services Limited on the grounds that 100% of the voting rights in the company are controlled within the Group and the Company's results are controlled within that Group and the Company's results are included in the consolidated financial statements.

During the year the Group entered into transactions with entities under the common control. The Group sold goods and services with a value of £94,322 (2016: 323,016) and purchased goods and services of £72,837,598 (2016: £51,741,477). Amounts due to such companies as at the year end was £2,365,843 (2016: £1,220,568). All transactions were made on a commercial arm's length basis.

Dividends totalling £18,989,579 (2016: £15,038,000) were paid to the shareholder in the year.

Included within other creditors is a net amount due to J S Jakes as at the year end of £13,375 (2016: £23,056).

# 32. Post balance sheet events

After the year end dividends totalling £13.9m were declared.

## 33. Controlling party

The ultimate controlling party is J S Jakes, a director and 100% shareholder of the company.