Directors' report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 1997

Registered number 2646690



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## Directors' report and financial statements

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#### Directors' report

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 1997.

#### **Business review**

Turnover for the year amounted to £37,018,733 (1996: £32,973,090) and the profit on ordinary activities after taxation totalled £129,005 (1996: £258,943).

#### Principal activity

The company is principally engaged in construction and project management.

#### Proposed dividend

The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend for the year (1996: Nil).

#### Directors and directors' interests

The directors who served during the year were as follows:

RJT Ewen (resigned 23 December 1997)
MR Kennard (resigned 28 February 1997)
DT Singura (1997)

DT Simons (appointed 17 January 1997, resigned 6 March 1998)

M Bairstow (appointed 21 January 1997) B Pellard (appointed 9 March 1998)

The directors who held office at the end of the financial year, other than those whose interests are disclosed in the financial statements of the immediate holding company, had the following interests in, and options to subscribe for, ordinary shares of 50p each in Tarmac PLC:-

#### Number of shares

	At 31 December 1997		At 31 December 1997 At 1 January 1997 (or later date of appointment)		e of		n period
	Shares	Share options	Shares	Share options	granted	exercised	lapsed
M Bairstow	-	139,166	-	59,166	80,000	-	-

No other director had any beneficial interest in the share or loan capital of any subsidiary of Tarmac PLC.

Directors' report (continued)

#### Creditor payment policy

It is the company's policy to obtain best possible payment terms with its suppliers as part of periodic negotiations. As such there is no uniform payment policy. The company makes every effort to pay suppliers according to the agreed terms and to not knowingly exceed negotiated payment terms. The number of days of purchases outstanding at 31 December was 43 days.

#### Statement of directors' responsibilities

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- · make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

#### **Auditors**

In accordance with Section 385 of the Companies Act 1985, a resolution for the reappointment of KPMG Audit Plc as auditors of the company is to be proposed at the forthcoming annual general meeting.

Approved by the board and signed on its behalf by:

Secretary

Birch Street Wolverhampton West Midlands WV1 4HY

#### **KPMG Audit Plc**

2 Cornwall Street Birmingham B3 2DL

# Report of the auditors to the members of Schal International Management Limited

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 2 the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

#### Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material mis-statement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 1997 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Chartered Accountants Registered Auditor

KPAG Andie Pla

25th March 1998

### Profit and loss account

for the year ended 31 December 1997

joi me yeur enneu 31 December 1997	Note	1997 £	1996 £
Turnover Cost of sales	2	37,018,733 (30,059,171)	
Gross profit		6,959,562	6,858,005
Administrative expenses		(6,637,615)	(6,310,404)
Operating profit		321,947	547,601
Interest receivable and similar income Interest payable and similar charges	3 4	(165,001)	12,517 (200,675)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	5	156,946	359,443
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	8	(27,941)	(100,500)
Profit for the financial year and retained for the year	15	129,005	258,943

All amounts are derived from continuing operations.

The company has no recognised gains or losses in either the current year or preceding year other than the profits for those years.

# Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds for the year ended 31 December 1997

joi me yeur chaca 31 December 1777	1997	1996
	£	£
Opening shareholders' funds	358,943	100,000
Retained profit for the financial year	129,005	258,943
Closing shareholders' funds	487,948	358,943

### Balance sheet

at 31 December 1997

	Note	1997 £	£	1996 £	£
Fixed assets		<b>.</b>	L	*	2
Tangible assets	9		194,445		164,680
Current assets					
Stock	10	558,897		743,894	
Debtors	11	12,299,127		12,456,294	
Cash at bank and in hand		2,805		13,541	
		12,860,829		13,213,729	
Creditors: amounts falling					
due within one year	12	(12,567,326)		(13,019,466)	
Net current assets			293,503	<del></del>	194,263
Total assets less current liabilities			487,948		358,943
Net assets			487,948		358,943
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	14		100,000		100,000
Profit and loss account	15		387,948		258,943
Shareholders' funds - equity			487,948		358,943

These financial statements were approved by the board of directors on  $25^{th}$  March 1998 and were signed on its behalf by:

**B Pellard** *Director* 

#### **Notes**

(forming part of the financial statements)

#### 1 Accounting policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the company's financial statements:

#### Accounting Standards

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

#### Basis of accounting

The financial statements of the company are prepared under the historical cost convention.

#### Related parties

The company has taken advantage of the exemption in paragraph 3(c) of of Financial Reporting Standard 8 (Related Party Disclosures) and has not disclosed details of transactions with entities that are part of the Tarmac PLC Group or with investees of that group qualifying as related parties.

#### Cash flow statement

In accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 1 (revised 1996) the company is exempt from the requirement to prepare a cashflow statement on the grounds that Tarmac PLC, the company's ultimate parent undertaking includes the company's cashflows in its own published consolidated cashflow statement.

#### Long term contracts

Amounts recoverable on contracts, which are included in debtors, are stated at cost plus attributable profit less any foreseeable losses. The profit on each individual contract is the lower of profit earned to date and that forecast at completion. Payments received on account of contracts are deducted from amounts recoverable on contracts. Such amounts which have been received and exceed amounts recoverable are included in creditors.

#### Stocks

Stocks and work in progress are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost includes appropriate overheads.

#### Depreciation

Depreciation is provided by the company to write off the cost less estimated residual value of tangible fixed assets by equal instalments over their estimated useful economic lives of between 3 and 5 years.

#### Deferred taxation

Deferred taxation, calculated using the liability method is included only where the effects of timing differences between results as stated in the financial statements and as computed for taxation purposes are likely to crystallise in the foreseeable future.

#### Notes (continued)

#### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

#### Leased assets

All leases are accounted for as operating leases. Rentals are charged to the profit and loss account in equal annual instalments over the life of the lease.

#### **Pensions**

Regular pension costs are established in accordance with the recommendations of independent actuaries and are charged to the profit and loss account based on the expected pension costs over the employees' service lives within the group. Current actuarial surpluses or deficits are spread over the remaining service lives.

#### 2 Turnover

Turnover represents the invoiced value of services provided by the company during the year, excluding value added tax. The analysis of sales by geographic market is as follows:

		1 <b>997</b>	1996
		£	£
	UK	35,853,729	32,702,090
	Europe	1,200	67,400
	Asia	1,160,804	62,100
	Other	3,000	141,500
		37,018,733	32,973,090
3	Interest receivable and similar income		
		1997	1996
		£	£
	Interest receivable from group undertakings	•	12,517
4	Interest payable and similar charges		
•	more out payable and billing that go	1997	1996
		£	£
	Interest payable to group undertakings	165,001	200,675
	1.5 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	=====	=======================================

Notes (continued)

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### 5 Profit on ordinary activities before taxation

Profit on ordinary activities before taxation		
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after charging the	following:	
,	1997	1996
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets Auditors' remuneration:	91,530	76,113
- audit	37,200	23,000
- other	57,200	3,932
Operating leases:		3,752
- hire of plant and machinery	217,234	275,389
- hire of other assets	30,786	76,036
Charitable donations	•	2,045
Staff numbers and costs		
The average number of persons employed by the company (including of	directors) during th	ne year,
analysed by category, was as follows:	,	•
	1997	1996
	Number	Number
Administration	32	25
Project management	488	435
	<u> </u>	
	520	460
The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows:	1997	1996
30 D 1 V	£	£
Wages and salaries	14,441,961	12,682,624
Social security costs	1,227,498	1,102,229
Other pension costs	1,419,524	1,338,981
	17,088,983	15,123,834
Directors' emoluments		
Directors' emoluments		
	400=	4005
	1997	1996
Directors' emoluments	£	£
Discord Chiorantents	119,179 ======	<del>-</del>
		1997
		Number
Number of directors who are:-		
Members of defined benefit pension schemes		3

### Notes (continued)

8	Tax on profit on ordinary activities	1997	1996
	Taxation based on the profit on ordinary activities for the year:	£	£
	Corporation tax Transfer (from)/to deferred tax	7,891 20,050	157,700 (57,200)
		<b>27,941</b>	100,500
	The movement on deferred tax is shown in note 13.		
9	Tangible fixed assets		Plant, machinery & vehicles £
	Cost At beginning of year Additions Group transfers Disposals		473,637 171,852 (159,075) (2,817)
	At end of year		483,597
	Depreciation At beginning of year Charged in period Group transfers Disposals		308,957 91,530 (111.285) (50)
	At end of year		289,152
	Net book value At 31 December 1997		194,445
	At 31 December 1996		164,680
10	Stock	1997 £	1996 £
	Work in progress	558,897	743,894

## Notes (continued)

11	Debtors

11	Debtors		
		1997	1996
		£	£
	Amounts falling due within one year		
	Trade debtors	5,475,484	4,538,975
	Amounts recoverable on contracts	3,595,367	4,088,991
	Amounts owed by group undertakings	2,550,365	3,232,441
	Amounts owed by associated undertakings	48,381	162,022
	Other debtors	350,239	98,111
	Prepayments and accrued income	22,810	50,951
		12,042,646	12,171,491
	Amounts falling due after more than one year	12,012,010	12,171,171
	Other debtors	256,481	284,803
	Total debtors	12,299,127	12,456,294
12	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		<u> </u>
	· ·	1997	1996
		£	£
	Payments received on account - long term contracts	2,573,004	1,344,629
	Payments received on account- other	250,198	-
	Trade creditors	901, 996	1,799,976
	Amounts owed to group undertakings	5,763,133	4,916,492
	Amounts owed to associated undertakings	-	241,663
	Corporation tax payable	6,291	10,163
	Group relief	159,940	2,300
	Other tax and social security	1,086,284	1,116,400
	Other creditors	98,765	6,948
	Accruals	1,727,715	3,580,895
		12,567,326	13,019,466

Notes (continued)

#### 13 Deferred tax asset

The asset recognised in respect of deferred taxation is set out below:		
	1997	1996
	£	£
Accelerated capital allowances	88,450	40,000
Other timing differences	151,700	220,200
	240,150	260,200
There is no unprovided deferred tax.		
Movements on the deferred tax asset were as follows:		
	1997	1996
	£	£
At the beginning of year	260,200	-
Transfer to/(from) profit and loss account	(20,050)	57,200
Transfer from group undertaking	-	203,000
At the end of year	240,150	260,200
		=======================================

The deferred tax asset is included within "other debtors" falling due after more than one year.

#### 14 Share capital

Saut Cupicus	1997	1996
	£	£
Authorised:		
148,500 'A' ordinary shares of £1 each	148,500	148,500
1,500 'B' ordinary shares of £1 each	1,500	1,500
Allotted, called up and fully paid:		
99,000 'A' ordinary shares of £1 each	99,000	99,000
1,000 'B' ordinary shares of £1 each	1,000	1,000

<sup>&#</sup>x27;A' ordinary and 'B' ordinary shares rank equally in respect of voting rights.

Notes (continued)

#### 15 Reserves

Reserves	Profit and loss account £
At beginning of year Retained profit for the year	258,943 129,005
At end of year	387,948

#### 16 Pension contributions

The pension schemes to which the company contributes are of the defined benefit type and are for the benefit of all relevant employees of Tarmac PLC and its UK subsidiary and associated undertakings ("the group"). The assets of the schemes are held in trustee administered funds separate from those of the group. Details of the latest actuarial valuation of the principal schemes are given in the group's consolidated financial statements. The contributions to the schemes made by the company represent the regular cost of providing the benefits without any recognition of fund surpluses or deficits which are dealt with by Tarmac PLC.

#### 17 Commitments

- (a) The company had no capital commitments at 31 December 1997 (1996: nil)
- (b) Amounts payable during the year following the balance sheet date in respect of non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	<b>1997</b>		1996	
	Land and	Other	Land and	Other
	buildings	assets	buildings	assets
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
On operating leases which expire:				
Within one year	34,500	-	-	-
		·······		

#### 18 Parent undertakings

The parent undertaking of the largest and smallest group of undertakings for which group financial statements are drawn up and of which the company is a member is Tarmac PLC. Tarmac PLC is also the ultimate controlling party.

The results of the company are included in the group financial statements of Tarmac PLC.

The immediate controlling party is Tarmac Professional Services Limited.

The financial statements of the ultimate parent company are available from the Secretary, Tarmac PLC, Hilton Hall, Hilton Lane, Essington, Wolverhampton, WV11 2BQ.