# Company Registration No. 02821174

**Havas UK Limited** 

**Report and Financial Statements** 

**31 December 2012** 

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# **Report and financial statements 2012**

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# Report and financial statements 2012

# Officers and professional advisers

#### **Directors**

E Decerisy
P F Woodhouse
A G Chapman
R M Hatchuel
F M J C Laroze

## Secretary

A J Ross

## **Registered office**

Havas House Hermitage Court Hermitage Lane Maidstone Kent ME16 9NT

#### **Bankers**

HSBC Bank plc 31 Holborn London EC1N 2HR

## **Auditor**

Deloitte LLP London United Kingdom

# **Directors' report**

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2012. This directors' report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies' exemption

#### Business review and principal activities

The principal activity of the company is to act as a holding company, managing the investments in its advertising agency and its marketing services subsidiary undertakings. The directors expect the general level of activity to continue in the ensuing year. There have not been any significant changes in this activity in the year under review, nor are any likely changes anticipated in the forthcoming year. On 29 May 2012 the company acquired 60% of the issued ordinary shares of Creative Lynx Group Limited for an initial consideration of £3,740,000 plus associated costs. On 30 May 2012 the company completed the second buyout payment on the shares of Marcomms Group Limited for a consideration of £2,231,391. From April to August 2012 The Company acquired 6% of the issued capital of Creston plc a publicly quoted company. On 22 November 2012 the company acquired the entire share capital of Skybridge Group Limited from Havas Shared Services Limited for a consideration of £852,000 and on 12 December re-capitalised the company by subscribing for a further 540,000 £1 shares

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, as disclosed further in note  ${\bf 1}$ 

#### Result and dividends

The profit for the year, after tax, was £53,502,000 (2011: £19,251,000).

A dividend of £14,000,000 (£6 15 per share) was paid in 2012 (2011: £10,000,000)

#### **Directors**

The following persons held office as directors during the year.

E Decerisy

P F Woodhouse

A G Chapman

R M Hatchuel

F M J C Laroze was appointed on 29 October 2012.

#### **Auditor**

Each of the persons who is a director at the date of approval of this report confirms that

- so far as the director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditor is unaware, and
- the director has taken all the steps that he/she ought to have taken as a director in order to make himself/herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information

# **Directors' report**

# **Auditor (continued)**

This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of s418 of the Companies Act 2006.

Deloitte LLP have expressed their willingness to continue in office as auditor and a resolution to reappoint them will be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by the Board of Directors and signed on behalf of the Board

P F Woodhouse

Director

10<sup>th</sup> May 2013

# Statement of directors' responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the 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 United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). 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 of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- · select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- · make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business

The directors are responsible for keeping 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 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 hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

# Independent auditor's report to the members of Havas UK Limited

We have audited the financial statements of Havas UK Limited for the year ended 31 December 2012 which comprise the profit and loss account, the balance sheet and the related notes 1 to 16. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice)

This report is made solely to the 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 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 company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed

## Respective responsibilities of directors and auditor

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

#### Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors, and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the annual report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

#### **Opinion on financial statements**

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2012 and of its 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.

#### Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements

# Independent auditor's report to the members of Havas UK Limited (continued)

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where 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 specified by law are not made, or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or
- the directors were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption in preparing the directors' report

Anthony Morris FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of Deloitte LLP

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor

London, United Kingdom

4 May 2013

# Profit and loss account Year ended 31 December 2012

	Notes	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Turnover	2	476	229
Gross profit		476	229
Administrative expenses		(473)	(885)
Dividends received		41,269	27,468
Revaluation of and write back/(provisions) against investments and related company balances		13,046	(6,371)
Operating profit	3	54,318	20,441
Interest receivable and similar income	4	145	230
Interest payable and similar charges	5	(1,539)	(2,046)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation		52,924	18,625
Tax credit on profit on ordinary activities	7	578	626
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	13, 14	53,502	19,251

All amounts relate to continuing operations.

There are no recognised gains or losses for the current and preceding financial period other than the profit of £53,502,000 (2011: £19,251,000) shown above Accordingly no statement of total recognised gains and losses is presented.

The notes on pages 8 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

# Balance sheet 31 December 2012

	Notes	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Fixed assets Investments	8	538,099	515,003
Current assets  Debtors: amounts falling due within one year  Debtors: amounts falling due after more than one year  Cash at bank and in hand	9 9	359 500 374 1,233	1,060 2,500 92 
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(77,587)	(96,345)
Net current liabilities		(76,354)	(92,693)
Total assets less current liabilities		461,745	422,310
Provision for liabilities	11	(450)	(517)
Net assets		461,295	421,793
Capital and reserves	12	227,698	227,698
Called up share capital Share premium account	13	196,651	196,651
Profit and loss account	13	36,946	(2,556)
Shareholders' funds	13, 14	461,295	421,793

The financial statements of Havas UK Limited, registered number 02821174, were approved by the Board of Directors on 10th May 2013.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors

P F Woodhouse

Director

# Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2012

#### 1. Accounting policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and the preceding year

#### **Accounting convention**

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and are in compliance with applicable Accounting Standards

#### Going concern

The company's business activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development and position, are set out in the Business Review section of the Directors' Report on page 2

The company is expected to continue to generate positive cash flows on its own account for the foreseeable future. The company participates in the group's centralised treasury arrangements and so participates in joint banking arrangements in the United Kingdom with its subsidiaries.

As at 31 December 2012 the company has net current liabilities of £76,354,000 (2011: £92,693,000) including a bank overdraft of £44,591,000 (2011: £65,128,000). The directors of Havas S A, the ultimate parent company, have confirmed that they will continue to support the company to enable it to meet its third party liabilities, as they fall due, for a period of at least 12 months from the date of the approval of these financial statements.

On the basis of their assessment of the company's financial position the company's directors have a reasonable expectation that the company will be able 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

## **Group financial statements**

The company has taken advantage of the exemption granted by virtue of section 400 of the Companies Act 2006 from the requirement to prepare group accounts in the current period. The results of the company are included in the consolidated financial statements of Havas S A , a company registered in France (note 16).

#### Cash flow

In accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 1 (revised), no cash flow statement has been presented on the basis that the company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Havas S A , in whose accounts a consolidated cash flow is presented (see note 16).

#### **Investments**

Investments in subsidiary undertakings are shown at cost less provision for impairment. Only dividends received and receivable are credited to the company's profit and loss account

#### **Taxation**

Current tax is provided at amounts expected to be paid (or recovered) using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date

# Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2012

# 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### **Deferred taxation**

Deferred taxation is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date where transactions or events have occurred at that date that will result in an obligation to pay more, or a right to pay less or to receive more, tax, with the following exceptions:

- provision is made for tax on gains on disposal of fixed assets that have been rolled over into replacement assets, only to the extent that, at the balance sheet date, there is a binding agreement to dispose of the assets concerned. However, no provision is made where, on the basis of all available evidence at the balance sheet date, it is more likely than not that the taxable gain will be rolled over into replacement assets and charged to tax only where the replacement assets are sold, and
- deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that the directors consider that
  it is more likely than not that there will be suitable taxable profits from which the
  future reversal of the underlying timing differences can be deducted

Deferred tax is measured on an undiscounted basis at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which timing differences reverse, based on tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date.

#### Foreign currency

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are recorded in the local currency at actual exchange rates as of the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the year end are reported at the rates of exchange prevailing at the year end. Any gain or loss arising from a change in exchange rate subsequent to the date of the transaction is included as an exchange gain or loss in the profit and loss account

#### Related party transactions

The company has taken advantage of the exemption conferred by Financial Reporting Standard 8 not to disclose details of transactions with other wholly owned subsidiaries within the Havas group of companies.

#### Operating lease rentals

Rentals under operating leases are charged against profit on a straight-line basis over the lease term, even if payments are not made on such a basis

#### 2. Turnover

Turnover which is stated net of value added tax represents amounts invoiced to third parties. Turnover and profit before taxation are attributable to the principal activity of the company, which is carried out wholly within the United Kingdom

# Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2012

## 3. Operating profit

Operating profit is stated after charging

	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Operating lease payments - land and buildings	435	435

The auditor's remuneration of £4,000 (2011 £3,988) for the statutory audit of the company's financial statements for the current and prior period has been borne and not recharged by another member of the group.

#### 4. Interest receivable and similar income

		2012 £'000	2011 £'000
	Interest receivable from third parties Interest receivable from other group undertakings	55 90	24 206
		145	230
5.	Interest payable and similar charges		
		2012 £'000	2011 £'000
	On bank loans repayable within five years On amounts due to group undertakings On property provision Other interest payable and similar charges	225 1,273 29 12	422 1,509 48 67
		1,539	2,046

Other interest payable and similar charges include net exchange losses on foreign currency transactions of £12,000 (2011: £67,000)

## 6. Directors and employees

No staff costs were incurred in the year. The monthly average number of employees during the year was nil (2011: nil)

Directors' remuneration is borne by another company in the group. The company does not operate a pension scheme. The directors participate in share option and long term incentive plans operated by the ultimate parent undertaking.

# Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2012

## 7. Tax on profit on ordinary activities

## (a) Analysis of tax credit

	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Current tax: UK corporation tax on profit at 24.5% (2011 261/2%) Adjustments in respect of prior years	(341) (237)	(626)
Total current tax (note 7(b))	(578)	(626)
Tax credit on profit on ordinary activities	(578)	(626)

## (b) Factors affecting tax credit for the year

The tax assessed for the year is lower (2011, lower) than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK. The differences are explained below

	£'000	£'000
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	52,924	18,625
Profit on ordinary activities multiplied by standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 24.5% (2011 26 5%)	12,966	4,935
Effects of:		
Non-taxable investment income	(10,111)	(7,279)
Non-deductible / (non-taxable) provisions / (reversal of provisions) against investments and related company balances	(3,196)	1,718
Adjustments in respect of prior years	(237)	•
Current tax credit for the year (note 7(a))	(578)	(626)

## (c) Deferred tax

At the year end there were unrecognised deferred tax assets of £3,126,000 (2011: £3,398,000) in respect of unutilised tax losses and £13,699,000 (2011 £14,928,000) arising from unutilised capital losses. These assets have not been recognised as there is insufficient certainty over the ability of the company to utilise these losses in the foreseeable future

# Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2012

#### 7. Tax on profit on ordinary activities (continued)

Under UK GAAP, deferred tax is calculated at the tax rate that has been enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date. Legislation was passed in July 2012 to reduce the main rate of UK corporation tax from 24% to 23% from 1 April 2013. Hence the tax rate of 23% has been applied in the calculation of deferred tax

The UK Government has announced that it intends to introduce further reductions to the main tax rate, with the rate falling to 21% from 1 April 2014 and 20% from 1 April 2015. These further reductions to the tax rate have not been substantively enacted at the balance sheet date and are therefore not reflected in these financial statements.

#### 8. Investments

The movement in the investment in subsidiary undertakings during the year was as follows:

	Shares ın subsıdiary undertakıngs £'000	Shares in listed undertakings £'000	Total subsidiary undertakings £'000
Cost			
At 1 January 2012	559,529	-	559,529
Additions	7,532	2,518	10,050
Revaluation	<u>-</u>	440	440
At 31 December 2012	567,061	2,958	570,019
Amounts provided			
At 1 January 2012	44,526	-	44,526
Provided/(written back) during the year	(12,606)	-	(12,606)
Disposals		<u>-</u>	-
At 31 December 2012	31,920		31,920
Net book value			
At 31 December 2012	535,141	2,958	538,099
At 31 December 2011	515,003		515,003

On 29 May 2012 the company acquired 60% of the issued ordinary shares of Creative Lynx Group Limited for an initial consideration of £3,740,000 plus associated costs.

On 30 May 2012 the company completed the second buyout payment on the shares of Marcomms Group Limited for a consideration of £2,231,391.

From April to August 2012 The Company acquired 6% of the issued capital of Creston plc a publicly quoted company at a cost of £2,518,000. The investment has been revalued to fair value.

# Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2012

#### 8. Investments (continued)

9.

On 22 November 2012 the company acquired the entire share capital of Skybridge Group Limited from Havas Shared Services for a consideration of £852,000 and on 12 December 2012 re-capitalised the company by subscribing for a further 540,000 £1 shares.

#### Principal subsidiary and associated undertakings

	Country of incorporation and operation	Class of		Effective interest in issued share capital
Arnold London Lymbod	Crost Pritsis	Ordinani	Advertising and PR	100%
Arnold London Limited Creative Lynx Group Limited	Great Britain Great Britain	Ordinary Ordinary	agency Holding company	100%
Creston plc	Great Britain	Ordinary	Advertising and Marketing Group	6%
EWDB Limited	Great Britain	Ordinary	Holding company	100%
Havas EHS Discovery Limited (formerly Brann Limited)	Great Britain	Ordinary	Data management consultancy	100%
Havas Holdings Limited	Great Britain	Ordinary Ordinary	Holding company	76 6%
Havas People Limited (formerly Euro RSCG Communications Limited)	Great Britain	,	Advertising agency	100%
Havas Shared Services Limited Marcomms Group Limited	Great Britain Great Britain	Ordinary Ordinary	Holding company Holding company	100% 60%
Moon Street Limited	Great Britain	Ordinary	Property transactions	100%
Snyder Direct	Great Britain	Ordinary	Holding company	100%
Debtors				
			2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Amounts due within one year				
Other debtors			250	174
Group relief receivable Prepayments and accrued income			109	757 129
			359	1,060
Amounts due greater than one				
Amounts owed by group undertake	ngs		500	2,500

Included within amounts owed by group undertakings are loans repayable with not less one year's notice year's notice of £500,000, before any provisions, (2011: £2,500,000) which bear interest rates between 2% and  $2\frac{1}{2}\%$  above UK base rates.

These amounts are therefore considered long term debtors. All other amounts owed by group undertakings do not bear interest and payable on demand.

# Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2012

## 10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Bank overdrafts	44,828	65,128
Trade creditors	13	4
Amounts owed to group undertakings	1,556	1,556
Other creditors	266	181
Accruals and deferred income	32	89
Amounts owed to group undertakings relating to the surrender of group relief and tax payments on account received from the		
other group undertakings	958	-
Amounts owed to group undertaking relating to investment		
transfers	29,934	29,387
	77,587	96,345

Amounts included under overdrafts bear interest at between 0.8% and 1% above base rate.

## 11. Provisions for liabilities

	Future property loss rentals £'000
At 1 January 2012 Additions	517 46
Unwinding of the discount Utilised in the year	28 (141)
At 31 December 2012	450

Future property loss rentals:

Provision is made on a discounted basis for all expected costs less expected revenues in respect of leased properties surplus to the group's requirements

## 12. Called up share capital

	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Authorised: 2,519,513 ordinary shares of £100 each	251,951	251,951
Allotted, called up and fully paid: 2,276,986 ordinary shares of £100 each	227,698	227,698

# Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2012

#### 13. Reconciliation of shareholders' funds and movement on reserves

	Share capital £'000	Share premium account £'000	Profit and loss account £'000	Total shareholder' funds £'000
Balance at 1 January 2012	227,698	196,651	(2,556)	421,793
Profit for the year	-	-	53,502	53,502
Dividend paid			(14,000)	(14,000)
Balance at 31 December 2012	227,698	196,651	36,946	461,295
	<del></del>			

#### 14. Reconciliation of movement in shareholders' funds

	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Profit for the year Dividend paid	53,502 (14,000)	19,251 (10,000)
Net movement in shareholders' funds	39,502	9,251
Opening shareholders' funds	421,793	412,542
Closing shareholders' funds	461,295	421,793

#### 15. Guarantees and other financial commitments

## (a) Banking cross-guarantees

The company and certain group undertakings participate in Havas UK Limited group banking facilities. In connection therewith, each of the members of the group have given unlimited cross guarantees. The directors do not expect any loss to the company to arise in respect of the foregoing guarantees.

## (b) Capital commitments

At the end of the year, the company had no capital commitments (2011 Enil)

#### (c) Lease commitments

Annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows

	2012 Land and buildings £'000	2011 Land and buildings £'000
Expiry date - between two and five years	435	435

# Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2012

## 16. Ultimate parent company

The company's immediate and ultimate parent company and controlling party is Havas S.A , which is incorporated in France. The smallest and largest group in which the results of the company are consolidated is that headed by Havas S.A., whose financial statements are available, in English and in French, from Havas S.A., 29 / 30 quai de Dion Bouton, F92817 Puteaux Cedex, France.