

CHFP025

COMPANIES FORM No. 155(6)a

Declaration in relation to assistance for the acquisition of shares



Please do not write in this margin	Pursuant to section 155(6) of the Companies Act 1985				
Please complete legibly, preferably in black type, or bold block lettering	To the Registrar of Companies (Address overleaf - Note 5)	For official use	Company number		
	(Address overled) - Note of		3172104		
Note	Name of company				
Please read the notes on page 3 before completing this form.	* Hurst Italia Limited (the "Company")				
* insert full name of company	₩Weø See attached Schedule 1				
ø insert name(s) and address(es) of all the directors					
† delete as appropriate	[ixxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	ompany do solemr	nly and sincerely declare that		
§ delete whichever is inappropriate	\(\text{\frac{\text{\fin}\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\tinc{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\tinc{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\text{\frac{\tinc{\text{\frac{\ticl{\frac{\ticl{\frac{\tir\frac{\tinc{\frac{\tinc{\frac{\ticl{\frac{\tir\tinc{\frac{\tir\frac{\frac{\frac{\tir\frac{\tir\frac{\tir\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\tir\frac{\				
	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\				
	(c) something other than the above§				
	The company is proposing to give financial assistance in connection with the acquisition of shares in the				
	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX				
	The assistance is for the purpose of AND AND (reducing or discharging a liability incurred for the				

Presentor's name address and reference (if any):

purpose of that acquisition].†

Lovells Atlantic House Holborn Viaduct London EC1A 2FG London Chancery Lane 57

F3/PRM/1262527

For official General Sect

The number and class of the shares acquired or to be acquired is:



COMPANIES HOUSE

22/12/03

See attached Schedule 3

Page 1

The assistance is to be given to: (note 2)	See attached Schedule 4	,	Please do not write in this
			margin Please complete legibly, preferat
			in black type, or bold block lettering
The assistance will take the form of:			1
See attached Schedule 5			1
			<u> </u>
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}			
			ļ
			j
The person who [has acquired] [w\textbf{W}\textbf{Q}\tex	☼ the shares is:		† delete as
See attached Schedule 6			appropriate _
The principal terms on which the assistance	e will be given are:		_
See attached Schedule 7			Ì
]			
<u> </u>			}
The amount of cash to be transferred to the	e person assisted is £ Nil		_
The value of any asset to be transferred to	the person assisted is £ Nil		_

within 8 weeks of the date hereof

Page 2

The date on which the assistance is to be given is

Please do not write in this margin

Please complete legibly, preferably in black type, or bold block lettering

delete either (a) or (b) as appropriate

XiWe have formed the opinion, as regards the company's initial situation immediately following the date on which the assistance is proposed to be given, that there will be no ground on which it could then be found to be unable to pay its debts. (note 3)

- (a) NWe have formed the opinion that the company will be able to pay its debts as they fail due during the year immediately following that date]* (note 3)

And Xiwe make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the provisions of the Statutory Declarations Act 1835.

Declarants to sign below

Declared at

Day Month

Year

0

on 16112

before me

A Commissioner for Oaths or Notary Public or Justice of the Peace or a Solicitor having the powers conferred on a Commissioner for Oaths.

NOTES

- 1 For the meaning of "a person incurring a liability" and "reducing or discharging a liability" see section 152(3) of the Companies Act 1985.
- 2 Insert full name(s) and address(es) of the person(s) to whom assistance is to be given; if a recipient is a company the registered office address should be shown.
- 3 Contingent and prospective liabilities of the company are to be taken into account - see section 156(3) of the Companies Act 1985.
- 4 The auditors report required by section 156(4) of the Companies Act 1985 must be annexed to this form.
- 5 The address for companies registered in England and Wales or Wales is:-

The Registrar of Companies Companies House Crown Way Cardiff CF14 3UZ

or, for companies registered in Scotland:-

The Registrar of Companies 37 Castle Terrace Edinburgh EH1 2EB

SCHEDULES

Financial Assistance Declaration Section 155(6)a

Hurst Italia Limited (the "Company") - 3172104

This is the document "Schedule 1", "Schedule 2", "Schedule 3", "Schedule 4", "Schedule 5", "Schedule 6" and "Schedule 7" referred to in the attached statutory declaration.

SCHEDULE 1

Directors

Brian Geoffrey Muirhead of Foxley House, High Street, Great Rollright, Oxfordshire, OX7 5RH

SCHEDULE 2

Acquisition of shares

The Company is proposing to give financial assistance in connection with:

Andrew Miller of Deep End, Collaroy Road, Cold Ash, Berkshire, RG18 9PG

- (a) the various acquisitions of shares in one of the Company's holding companies, Trader Media Group Limited (company number 3591156) (the "Target") (the "Target Acquisitions");
 - (b) the acquisition of shares in one of the Company's holding companies, Trader Media Group Holdings Limited (company number 3591323) ("TMGH") (the "TMGH Acquisition");
 - (c) the acquisition of preference shares in GMG Auto Trader Group Limited (company number 4768833) ("GMG Newco 2") (the "GMG Newco 2 Preference Acquisition"),

(the Target Acquisitions, the TMGH Acquisition and the GMG Newco 2 Preference Acquisition to be collectively referred to as the "2003 Acquisitions"); and

2. the acquisition of shares in one of the Company's holding companies, Trader Publishing Limited (company number 3909628) ("TPL") by Trader Media Corporation Limited (company number 3592155) ("Corporation") (the "Previous Acquisition").

SCHEDULE 3

Shares

In respect of the Target Acquisitions, 634,072 Ordinary Shares, 8,806,000 A Ordinary Shares, 8,453,760 B Ordinary Shares, 352,240 Y Ordinary Shares, 352,240 Z Ordinary Shares all of

£0.01 each and 2,700,000 C Preference Shares of £1.00 each and 155,677,433 Ordinary Shares of 10 pence each all of the Target.

In respect of the TMGH Acquisition, 175,258,826 Ordinary Shares of 10 pence each of TMGH.

In respect of the GMG Newco 2 Preference Acquisition, such number of irredeemable preference shares of £0.01 each of GMG Newco 2 as have, in aggregate, a market value on the date of issue of such shares (under the terms of the intra-group loan agreement dated 3 October 2003 made between Trader Media 2003 Limited (as lender) and GMG Newco 2 (as borrower)) equal to £46,580,961.

In respect of the Previous Acquisition, 421,067,203 Ordinary Shares of £0.50 each of TPL.

SCHEDULE 4

Persons being assisted

In respect of the Target Acquisitions, GMG Newco 2 whose registered office is at 164 Deansgate, Manchester M60 2RR is the person who has acquired the shares in the Target.

In respect of the TMGH Acquisition, the Target whose registered office is at Unit 6 Thatcham Business Village, Colthrop Way, Thatcham, Berkshire RG19 4LW is the person who has acquired the shares in TMGH.

In respect of the GMG Newco 2 Preference Acquisition, GMG Auto Trader Investment Limited (company number 4829505) ("Investment") whose registered office is at 164 Deansgate, Manchester M60 2RR is the person who has acquired the preference shares in GMG Newco 2.

In respect of the Previous Acquisition, Corporation whose registered office is at Unit 6 Thatcham Business Village, Colthrop Lane, Thatcham, Berkshire RG19 4LW is the person who previously acquired shares in TPL.

SCHEDULE 5

Form of financial assistance

1. Under a facilities agreement dated 22 August 2003, as amended on 2 October 2003, (the "Facilities Agreement") made between, inter alios, Trader Media 2003 Limited (company number 4829865) (the "Borrower"), GMG Auto Trader Holdings Limited (company number 4768840) ("GMG Newco 1"), GMG Newco 2 and certain subsidiaries of GMG Newco 1 named therein (but not including the Company) and CIBC World Markets, ING Bank N.V., London Branch and The Royal Bank of Scotland plc (as Arrangers), the persons listed in Part 2 of Schedule 1 thereto (as Original Lenders) and The Royal Bank of Scotland plc (as Issuing Bank, Facility Agent and Security Agent) (the Arrangers, Lenders, Issuing Bank, Facility Agent, Security Agent (each as defined in the Facilities Agreement) and the Hedging Bank (as defined in the Priority Agreement referred to below) together being referred to as the "Finance Parties") there is provision for £479,900,000 acquisition facilities (the "Acquisition Facilities") and a £35,000,000 revolving credit facility (which may be substituted in part by ancillary facilities) (the "Revolving Credit Facility").

- 2. Inter alia, the Borrower has drawn down the Acquisition Facilities and lent the proceeds to GMG Newco 2 to assist in (i) funding the 2003 Acquisitions, (ii) discharging liabilities previously incurred for the purpose of the Previous Acquisition and (iii) the payment of all costs incurred in connection with the 2003 Acquisitions. The Acquisition Facilities include the A2 Term Loan Facility (as defined in the Facilities Agreement), which is available to be utilised by way of the Old Vendor Note Guarantees (as defined in the Facilities Agreement) or by cash drawings to repay amounts due under the Old Vendor Note Instruments (as defined in the Facilities Agreement) and the A3 Term Loan Facility (as defined in the Facilities Agreement), which is available to be utilised by way of the New Vendor Note Guarantee (as defined in the Facilities Agreement) in respect of the New Vendor Note Instrument (as defined in the Facilities Agreement) (the liabilities in respect of which are incurred for the purpose of the Target Acquisitions by GMG Newco 2) and, as a consequence of the utilisation of the New Vendor Note Guarantee (as defined in the Facilities Agreement) by way of automatic cash drawings to repay amounts claimed under the New Vendor Note Guarantee (as defined in the Facilities Agreement). Acquisition Facilities and the Revolving Credit Facility were secured in part by the Company's accession on 3 October 2003 to a debenture dated 22 August 2003 and are to be further secured by the execution of the Italian Deed of Pledge (as defined below).
- 3. The Company executed a deed of accession to the Facilities Agreement on 3 October 2003 (the "Deed of Accession"). By executing the Deed of Accession, the Company (inter alia) gave a guarantee jointly and severally with all other Obligors (as defined in the Facilities Agreement) of the obligations of each of the Obligors (as defined in the Facilities Agreement) under the Finance Documents (as defined in the Facilities Agreement). The Company also gave certain representations and warranties, covenants and indemnities to the Finance Parties to enable the Lenders (as defined in the Facilities Agreement) to make the facilities under the Facilities Agreement available. By acceding to the Facilities Agreement, the Company irrevocably appointed GMG Newco 1 to act as its agent and, in particular, agree any amendments or waiver to any term of the Facilities Agreement. The execution of the Deed of Accession by the Company was whitewashed by the Company in accordance with sections 155 158 of the Companies Act 1985 on 2 October 2003.
- 4. Pursuant to a waiver letter dated 2 October 2003 from, inter alios, The Royal Bank of Scotland plc to, inter alios, GMG Newco 1 (the "Waiver Letter"), and as a condition precedent to, inter alia, Edizeta (as defined below) becoming an Additional Borrower for the purposes of utilising Ancillary Facilities (as defined in the Facilities Agreement) pursuant to the Revolving Credit Facility (each term as defined in the Facilities Agreement), GMG Newco 1 undertook (such undertaking being deemed to be pursuant to subclauses 23.30 and 23.31 of the Facilities Agreement for the purposes of paragraph (a) of subclause 24.3 of the Facilities Agreement) by no later than 90 days after 3 October 2003 to:
 - (a) procure that the documents specified in Part 2 and Part 3 of Schedule 2 to the Facilities Agreement in respect of Edizeta S.r.l. (a limited liability company incorporated under the laws of Italy) ("Edizeta"), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, are delivered to The Royal Bank of Scotland plc (as the Facility Agent) (each in form and substance satisfactory to the Facility Agent); and
 - (b) procure the delivery to The Royal Bank of Scotland plc (as the Facility Agent) of an additional Security Document (as defined in the Facilities Agreement) creating an Italian law first ranking fixed Security Interest (as defined in the Facilities Agreement) over all of the shares in Edizeta in form and substance satisfactory to The Royal Bank of Scotland plc as the Facility Agent.
- 5. In accordance with the terms of the Waiver Letter and as described in paragraph 4 (b) above, the Company is to enter into an Italian law deed of pledge to be made between,

inter alios, the Company (as Pledgor (as defined therein)) (1) and ING Bank N.V., London Branch, The Royal Bank of Scotland plc and Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, London Branch (as Arrangers and Original Lenders (as defined therein)) (2) (the "Italian Deed of Pledge"), pursuant to which the Company will agree, inter alia, to grant in favour of the Secured Creditors (as defined therein) a first ranking pledge as security for the full and unconditional performance of the Secured Obligations (as defined therein), over a quota representing the entire corporate capital of Edizeta held by the Company at the date of the Italian Deed of Pledge, and any future increase in the corporate capital of Edizeta that the Company might own from time to time, in each case together with all Related Rights (as defined therein).

SCHEDULE 6

Persons to acquire shares

The person who has acquired the shares in the Target Acquisitions is GMG Newco 2.

The person who has acquired the shares in the TMGH Acquisition is the Target.

The person who has acquired the shares in the GMG Newco 2 Preference Acquisition is Investment,

The person who has acquired the shares in the Previous Acquisition is Corporation.

SCHEDULE 7

The principal terms on which the financial assistance will be given

- Pursuant to the Italian Deed of Pledge the Collateral (as defined below) will be pledged in favour of the Secured Creditors as first ranking security for the full and unconditional performance of:
 - (a) all the present and future monetary obligations of each Obligor to the Secured Creditors (or any of them) arising from the Facilities Agreement, including, in particular, all payment obligations in relation to principal and any indemnity obligation for any outstanding interest, default interest, fees, costs and expenses, damages, indemnity obligations, stamp duties and other Taxes payable, any amount of breakage costs payable following the prepayment or repayment of all or any part of the Facility other than on the due date and any and all other costs, expenses, stamp duties or other Taxes payable in connection with the protection, preservation and enforcement of the rights of the Secured Creditors under the Facilities Agreement or the Italian Deed of Pledge; and
 - (b) all the monetary obligations of the Company under the Italian Deed of Pledge.
- 2. Pursuant to the Italian Deed of Pledge, the Company will grant in favour of the Secured Creditors a first ranking pledge over:
 - (a) a quota of €41,600 representing the entire corporate capital of Edizeta (the "Quota");
 - (b) any dividend and accounts on dividends paid or payable in relation to the Quota after the date of the Italian Deed of Pledge;

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- (c) any other distribution (in cash or in kind) or other amount paid or payable in relation to the Quota (including, without limitation, any amount paid or payable as a result of the distribution of reserves, however denominated, or the reimbursement of quotaholders' contributions by the Company or the liquidation of the Company);
- (d) any dividend, distribution or other amount paid or payable in relation to the Related Securities (as defined below);
- (e) any option or right relating to:
 - (1) the Quota; or
 - (2) any quotas or other securities or rights attributed to attributable to the Company in exchange for or in relation to the Quota (including, without limitation, as a result of a merger, demerger or transformation of the Company) (the "Related Securities");
- (f) any quotas or other securities or rights attributed or attributable to the Company in exchange for or in relation to any Related Securities;
- (g) following any capital increase of Edizeta all future increases of any of the interests referred to paragraph 2 (a) to (f) (inclusive) above (the **"Collateral"**) that the Company might own in Edizeta from time to time.
- 3. The Company will also agree, at its own expense, promptly to execute and to deliver all documents and take all actions which the Secured Creditors may request in order to perfect the Pledge on the Collateral (including, without limitation, in respect of the Related Securities) or to enable the Secured Creditors to exercise the rights and the remedies to which they are entitled pursuant to the Italian Deed of Pledge, including, without limitation, all rights and remedies exercisable upon the occurrence of a Default or an Enforcement Date.
- 4. In this Schedule 7 the following terms shall have the meanings given to them in the Italian Deed of Pledge: Secured Creditors, Obligor, Taxes, Facility, Pledge, Default and Enforcement Date.

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Hurst Italia Limited (Company No. 3172104) (the "Company")

Board Memorandum

Memorandum in connection with the proposed arrangement whereby the Company will give financial assistance for the purpose of reducing or discharging a liability (or liabilities) incurred for the purpose of the acquisition of the shares of Trader Media Group Holdings Limited, Trader Media Group Limited and GMG Auto Trader Group Limited (each a holding company of the Company) and the previous acquisition of another holding company of the Company, Trader Publishing Limited, particulars of which are given in the statutory declaration made by the directors this day pursuant to section 156(6) of the Companies Act 1985 (the "Act").

- (a) As at the close of business on 23 November 2003 the aggregate of the Company's assets as stated in its accounting records exceeded the aggregate of its liabilities as so stated.
- (b) From our knowledge of events since that date and of the likely course of the Company's business, the directors have formed the opinion that the aggregate of the Company's assets will exceed the aggregate of its liabilities immediately before the proposed financial assistance is given and:

<u>Either</u> that the giving of such financial assistance will not reduce the net assets of the Company;

that the amount by which the giving of such financial assistance will reduce the net assets of the Company will not exceed the distributable profits of the Company as determined on the basis of its last management accounts made up to 23 November 2003 (and after taking account of distributions made since that date).

Signed on behalf of the Board

<u>Or</u>

16-12-2203

Dated

LD6 COMPANIES HOUSE 0253 22/12/03



PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP 9 Greyfriars Road Reading RG1 1JG Telephone +44 (0) 118 9597111 Facsimile +44 (0) 118 9607700

The Directors
Hurst Italia Limited
Unit 6
Thatcham Business Village
Colthrop Lane
Thatcham
Berkshire
RG19 4LW

16 December 2003

Dear Sirs

Auditors' report to the directors of Hurst Italia Limited pursuant to Section 156(4) of the Companies Act 1985

We have examined the attached statutory declaration of the directors of Hurst Italia Limited (the "Company") dated \dot{b} December 2003 in connection with the proposal that the Company should give financial assistance for the purpose of reducing or discharging a liability incurred for the purchase of shares in Trader Media Group Limited, shares in Trader Media Group Holdings Limited, and preference shares in GMG Auto Trader Group Limited. This report, including the opinion, has been prepared for and only for the Company and the Company's directors in accordance with Section 156 of the Companies Act 1985 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving the opinion set out below, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

Basis of opinion

We have enquired into the state of the Company's affairs in order to review the bases for the statutory declaration.

Opinion

We are not aware of anything to indicate that the opinion expressed by the directors in their declaration as to any of the matters mentioned in Section 156(2) of the Companies Act 1985 is unreasonable in all the circumstances.

Yours faithfully

Princetchousebopen LLP

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors