Report and Consolidated Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2006

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# REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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## REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2006

## OFFICERS AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

#### Directors

L N Butcher

J E Halewood

M Knowles

D Mason

S P Taylor

A J Vaughan

#### Secretary

S J Oldroyd

#### Registered Office

Morgan House

Madeira Walk

Windsor

Berkshire

SL4 1EP

#### Bankers

Barclays Bank plc

P O Box 2481

Napier Court

Napier Road

Reading

RG1 8FD

#### Auditors

Deloitte & Touche LLP

Chartered Accountants

London

#### DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors present their annual report and consolidated financial statements of HIFX PLC for the year ended 30 June 2006.

#### Principal activities

The principal activity of the group during the year was that of a dedicated foreign exchange provider and dedicated provider of foreign exchange information. The results for the year and the financial position at the year end were considered satisfactory by the directors who expect continued growth in the future.

#### **Business review**

The board is pleased to report another strong year of trading with turnover increasing by in excess of £3billion over the previous year. Gross profit for the year increased by £2.6million a rise of 12% over the previous year with a commensurate rise in operating profit of £0.8million an increase of 31%. The group's overseas subsidiaries' returned a strong performance contributing £1.4million towards the Group's operating profits, compared with £0.2million the previous year. The group continue to show a strong balance sheet position with net assets of £7.1million an increase of £1.8million a rise of 34% on the previous year.

All areas of the business have performed strongly throughout the year. During the year the business has continued to invest heavily in systems and infrastructure to position itself for future developments within the business.

The board look to build further on the progress achieved across the group in 2006 and will look to increase its client base and product offering in the year ahead.

#### Risk and uncertainties

#### Earnings growth

There is a risk to shareholder value if the Group is unable to continue growth in its key business areas. Its success is dependant upon the correct strategies being identified and implemented by a capable management team as well as external factors. The Company has maintained growth in all areas of its operation and intends to pursue opportunities to maintain growth in the future.

#### Competition

The group faces competition from banks and other foreign exchange providers. HiFX aims to keep itself ahead of its competitors by continuing to offer it's clients a first class service.

#### Regulation

It is not anticipated that the cost of regulation will impose an unreasonable financial and operational burden on the Group. Impending legislation includes the Third Money Laundering Directive, the EU Regulation on Wire Transfers, the Payment Service Directive/New Legal Framework, the HM Treasury consultation paper and the Regulation of Money Service Businesses. The Group welcomes broader regulation and does not consider the likely cost of implementation of the main provisions of the proposed Regulations to be financially or operationally onerous.

#### Financial risk management

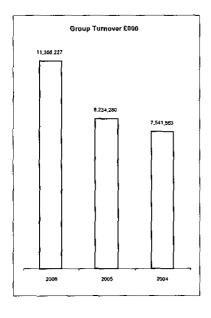
The Board of Directors is responsible for setting financial risk management policy and objectives, and approves the parameters within which the various aspects of financial risk management are operated.

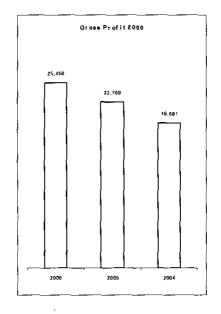
The key financial risk for the group is foreign currency risk which arises through the provision of foreign exchange services. The Group seeks to reduce its foreign exchange exposure arising in various currencies through matching, within the parameters approved by the Board of Directors, receipts and payments in individual currencies.

#### **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

#### **Key Performance Indicators**

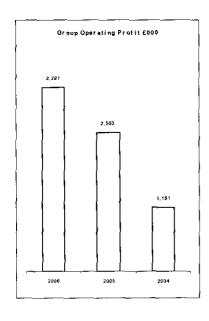
The key performance indicators used by the directors to access the performance of the group against their stated objectives are as follows

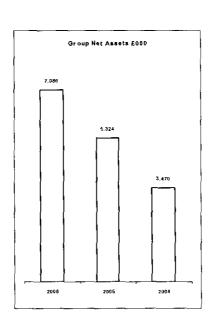




Growth from 2005 to 2006 of 38%

Growth from 2005 to 2006 of 12%





Growth from 2005 to 2006 of 32%

Growth from 2005 to 2006 of 33%

#### **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

#### Results and dividends

The results for the year are set out in the profit and loss account on page 9.

The directors do not recommend payment of an ordinary dividend (£2005: £nil).

#### Directors

The directors of the company, who served throughout the year and to the date of this report, except as noted, were:

A C Arnold (Resigned 13 February 2006)

D Butcher (Resigned 3 January 2006)

L N Butcher

S Clarke (Resigned 30 June 2006)

J E Halewood

M Knowles

D Mason

S P Taylor

A J Vaughan

#### **Directors' Interests**

The interests in the shares of the company of those directors serving at the year end were as stated below:

|   | "A" Ordinary sł<br>30 June 2006 | nares of £1 each<br>30 June 2005* |
|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| L N Butcher J E Halewood M Knowles D Mason S P Taylor A J Vaughan | 37,350                          | 37,350                            |
|   | "B" Ordinary sh<br>30 June 2006 | ares of £1 each 30 June 2005*     |
| L N Butcher J E Halewood M Knowles D Mason S P Taylor A J Vaughan | 18,205<br>-<br>-<br>-<br>-      | 18,205<br>-<br>-<br>-<br>-        |
|   | "C" Ordinary sł<br>30 June 2006 | ares of £1 each 30 June 2005*     |
| L N Butcher J E Halewood M Knowles D Mason S P Taylor A J Vaughan | 2,805<br>-<br>-<br>12,605       | 2,805<br>-<br>-<br>12,605         |

<sup>\*</sup> or date of appointment if later

The directors' interests in the shares of any subsidiary company are disclosed within those companies.

#### **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

#### Charitable donations

|  | 2006<br>£'000 | 2005<br>£'000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| During the year the company made the following payments:<br>Charitable donations | 39            | 55            |

#### Creditor payment policy

The company's current policy concerning the payment of trade creditors is to pay in accordance with the company's contractual and other legal obligations. The average number of creditor days in the year was 39 day (2005: 33 days).

#### Auditors

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

#### **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

#### Disclosure of Information to Auditors

Having made the requisite enquiries, so far as the directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information (as defined by Section 234ZA of the Companies Act 1985) of which the Company's auditors are unaware, and the directors have taken all the steps they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditors are aware of that information.

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

David Mason 9 January 2007

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#### STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements. The directors have chosen to prepare accounts for the company and the group in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (UK GAAP). Company law requires the directors to prepare such financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the group and of the profit or loss of the company for that period and comply with UK GAAP and the Companies Act 1985. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments 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;
- 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 proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company, for safeguarding the assets, for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities and for the preparation of a directors' report which comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 1985.

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HIFX PLC

We have audited the group and parent company financial statements (the "financial statements") of HIFX plc for the year ended 30 June 2006 which comprise the Consolidated Profit and Loss Account, the Consolidated and Company Balance Sheets, the Consolidated Cash Flow Statement, the Consolidated Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses and the related notes 1 to 18. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. 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 auditors' 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 auditors

The directors' responsibilities for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) are set out in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities. Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report to you whether in our opinion the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the financial statements. In addition we report to you if, in our opinion, the company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding directors' remuneration and other transactions is not disclosed.

We read the other information contained in the Annual Report as described in the contents section, and consider whether it is consistent with the audited financial statements. We consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements. Our responsibilities do not extend to any further information outside the Annual Report.

#### Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) 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 judgments made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the group's and 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 misstatement, 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, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, of the state of the group's and the parent company's affairs as at 30 June 2006 and of the group's profit for the year then ended;

• the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985; and the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the financial statements.

Deloitte & Touche LLP

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

London

A January 2007

## CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT Year ended 30 June 2006

|  | Note   | 2006<br>£'000              | 2005<br>£'000            |
|--|--------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| TURNOVER Cost of sales   | 1      | 11,366,227<br>(11,340,771) | 8,234,280<br>(8,211,491) |
| GROSS PROFIT   |        | 25,456                     | 22,789                   |
| Administrative expenses  |        | (22,065)                   | (20,226)                 |
| OPERATING PROFIT   |        | 3,391                      | 2,563                    |
| Share of associate's operating profit  |        | 42                         | 41                       |
| Other interest receivable and similar income - Group - Associate                                       |        | I,243<br>14                | 1,130<br>30              |
| Interest payable and similar charges - Group - Associate   | 6      | (419)                      | (479)<br>-               |
| Profit on disposal of investment in associate  |        | 285                        | -                        |
| PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION Tax on profit on ordinary activities - Group - Associate | 7<br>8 | 4,556<br>(1,302)<br>(1)    | 3,285                    |
| PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER TAXATION Equity minority interests                                 | 17     | 3,253<br>(121)             | 2,011 (33)               |
| PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR  | 16     | 3,132                      | 1,978                    |

All operations are continuing operations.

# STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES Year ended 30 June 2006

|  | Note     | 2006<br>£'000 | 2005<br>£'000 |
|--|----------|---------------|---------------|
| PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR  |          | 3,132         | 1,978         |
| Capital contribution paid Foreign exchange differences arising on translation of overseas subsidiaries | 16<br>16 | -<br>9        | (200)<br>(32) |
| TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES RELATING TO THE YEAR   |          | 3,141         | 1,746         |

# **CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET** 30 June 2006

|  | Note | 2006<br>£'000                          | 2005<br>£'000 |
|--|------|--|---------------|
| FIXED ASSETS                                 |      |  |               |
| Intangible assets - goodwill                 | 9    | 143                                    | 150           |
| Tangible assets                              | 10   | 4,050                                  | 2,503         |
| Investments                                  | 11   | 250                                    | 701           |
|  |      | 4,443                                  | 3,354         |
| CURRENT ASSETS Debtors                       | 10   | 12.074                                 | 20.00*        |
| Cash at bank and in hand                     | 12   | 42,974                                 | 30,005        |
| Cash at bank and in hand                     |      | 28,000                                 | 34,075        |
|  |      | 70,974                                 | 64,080        |
| CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE               |      |  |               |
| WITHIN ONE YEAR                              | 13   | (67,849)                               | (62,067)      |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS                           |      | 3,125                                  | 2,013         |
| TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT<br>LIABILITIES     |      | 7,568                                  | 5,367         |
| CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE OVER ONE YEAR | 13   | (482)                                  | -             |
| PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES       | 14   | <u> </u>                               | (43)          |
| NET ASSETS                                   |      | 7,086                                  | 5,324         |
| CAPITAL AND RESERVES                         |      | <del></del>                            |               |
| Called up share capital                      | 15   | 71                                     | 75            |
| Merger reserve                               | 16   | (18)                                   | (18)          |
| Capital redemption reserve                   | 16   | 4                                      | -             |
| Profit and loss account                      | 16   | 6,886                                  | 5,245         |
| EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS                   |      | 6,943                                  | 5,302         |
| Minority interest                            | 17   | 143                                    | 22            |
| TOTAL CAPITAL EMPLOYED                       |      | 7,086                                  | 5,324         |
|  |      | ====================================== |               |

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 19 January 2007.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors

Taylor, Director

D Mason, Director

# **COMPANY BALANCE SHEET 30 June 2006**

|   | Note | 2006<br>£'000 | 2005<br>£'000 |
|---|------|---------------|---------------|
| FIXED ASSETS                                    |      | <b>4</b> 330  |               |
| Tangible assets                                 | 10   | 3,844         | 2,304         |
| Investments                                     | 11   | 1,159         | 2,040         |
|   |      | 5,003         | 4,344         |
| CURRENT ASSETS Debtors                          | 12   | 26,531        | 20,675        |
| Cash at bank and in hand                        | 12   | 25,302        | 32,464        |
|   |      | 51,833        | 53,139        |
| CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR  | 13   | (50.061)      | (51 915)      |
| WITHIN ONE TEAR                                 | 13   | (50,061)      | (51,815)      |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS                              |      | 1,772         | 1,324         |
| TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT<br>LIABILITIES        |      | 6,775         | 5,668         |
| CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE<br>OVER ONE YEAR | 13   | (482)         | -             |
| PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES          | 14   |               | (43)          |
| NET ASSETS                                      |      | 6,293         | 5,625         |
| CAPITAL AND RESERVES                            |      | <del> </del>  | ****          |
| Called up share capital                         | 15   | 71            | 75            |
| Other reserves                                  | 16   | 6,222         | 5,550         |
| EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS                      |      | 6,293         | 5,625         |

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 19 January 2007.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors

Taylor, Director

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# **CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT** 30 June 2006

|   | Notes | 2006<br>£'000          | 2005<br>£'000         |
|---|-------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Net cash outflow from operating activities  | 1     | (892)                  | (22,997)              |
| Returns on investments and servicing of finance Interest received Interest paid Interest element of hire purchase contracts |       | 1,243<br>(385)<br>(34) | 1,130<br>(478)<br>(1) |
| Net cash inflow from returns on investments and servicing of finance  |       | 824                    | 651                   |
| Taxation paid   |       | (1,826)                | (665)                 |
| Capital expenditure and financial investment Payments to acquire tangible assets Receipts from sales of tangible assets     |       | (2,885)                | (2,071)               |
| Net cash outflow for capital expenditure  |       | (2,691)                | (2,065)               |
| Acquisitions and disposals Payment on sale of investment Payments to associate  |       | <u>-</u>               | (79)<br>(250)         |
| Net cash outflow for acquisitions and disposals   |       | <u> </u>               | (329)                 |
| Equity dividends paid   |       | <u> </u>               | <del></del>           |
| Net cash outflow before management of liquid resources and financing  |       | (4,585)                | (25,405)              |
| Financing Capital element of hire purchase contracts Capital contribution paid Payment to acquire own shares                | 16    | 10<br>(1,500)          | (4)<br>(200)          |
| Net cash outflow from financing   |       | (1490)                 | (204)                 |
| Decrease in cash and in the year  |       | (6,075)                | (25,609)              |

2.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT 30 June 2006

# 1. Reconciliation of operating profit to net cash inflow from operating activities

|  |        |           | 2006     | <b>700</b> |
|--|--------|-----------|----------|------------|
|  |        |           | 2006     | 2005       |
|  |        |           | £'000    | £'000      |
| Operating profit                               |        |           | 3,391    | 2,563      |
| Depreciation and amortisation                  |        |           | 1,177    | 628        |
| (Profit) / loss on disposal of tangible assets |        |           | (28)     | 4          |
| Increase in debtors                            |        |           | (12,120) | (14,993)   |
| Increase / (decrease) in creditors             |        |           | 6,688    | (11,199)   |
| Net cash outflow from operating activities     |        |           | (892)    | (22,997)   |
| Analysis of net funds                          |        |           |          |            |
|  |        |           |          |            |
|  | 1 July |           | Non cash | 30 June    |
|  | 2005   | Cash flow | changes  | 2006       |

|                          | 1 July<br>2005<br>£'000 | Cash flow | Non cash<br>changes<br>£'000 | 30 June<br>2006<br>£'000 |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Net cash:                |                         |           |                              |                          |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 34,075                  | (6,075)   |                              | 28,000                   |
|                          | 34,075                  | <u> </u>  |                              |                          |
| Debt:                    |                         |           |                              |                          |
| Finance leases           | (50)                    | 255       | (710)                        | (505)                    |
|                          | (50)                    | 255       | (710)                        | (505)                    |
| Total                    | 34,025                  | (5,820)   | (710)                        | 27,495                   |

#### 3. Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds

|   | 2006<br>£'000    | 2005<br>£'000 |
|---|------------------|---------------|
| Decrease in cash in the year<br>Net cash inflow from increase in debt and lease financing | (6,075)<br>(455) | (25,608)      |
| Movements in net funds in the year  | (6,530)          | (25,617)      |
| Opening net funds   | 34,025           | 59,641        |
| Closing net funds   | 27,495           | 34,025        |

#### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

#### For the year ended 30 June 2006

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and UK generally acceptable accounting standards.

#### Accounting convention

The Group consolidated financial statements incorporate the accounts of HIFX PLC and all its subsidiary undertakings. All subsidiaries have been accounted for using acquisition accounting apart from Halewood International Market Strategies Limited, which has been merger accounted for.

Investments in associates are accounted for using the equity method. The consolidated profit and loss account includes the group's share of associates' profits less losses while the group's share of the net assets of the associates is shown in the consolidated balance sheet.

#### **Turnover**

Turnover comprises the total consideration value of foreign exchange transactions executed on behalf of HIFX's clients, which are accounted for on a trade date basis, and sales (less credit notes) relating to the provision of dedicated foreign exchange information, which are accounted for on an accruals basis.

#### Goodwill

Goodwill arising on the acquisition of subsidiary undertakings, representing any excess of the fair value of the consideration given over the fair value of the identifiable assets and liabilities acquired, is capitalised and written off on a straight line basis over its useful economic life, which is estimated by the directors' to be 20 years. Provision is made for any impairment.

#### Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets other than freehold land are stated at cost less depreciation and any impairment in value. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asst over its expected useful life, as follows:

Freehold land and buildings not depreciated

Office equipment 25% - 100% straight line

Fixtures and fittings 33% straight line Motor vehicles 25% straight line

#### Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at cost less provision for impairment. In the company balance sheet, for investments in subsidiaries acquired for consideration including the issue of shares qualifying for merger relief, cost is measured by reference to the nominal value only of the shares issued. Any premium is ignored.

#### **Deferred taxation**

Deferred taxation is provided in full on timing differences that result in an obligation at the balance sheet date to pay more tax, or a right to pay less tax, at a future date, at rates expected to apply when they crystallise based on current tax rates and law. Timing differences arise from the inclusion of items of income and expenditure in taxation computations in periods different from those in which they are included in financial statements. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is regarded as more likely than not that they will be recovered. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are not discounted.

#### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

#### For the year ended 30 June 2006

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### Foreign currency translation

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange rules at the balance sheets date.

The results of overseas operations are translated at the closing rates of exchange during the period and their balance sheets at the rates ruling at the balance sheet date. Exchange differences arising on translation of the opening net assets and on foreign currency borrowings to the extent that they hedge the group's investments in such operations, are reported in the statement of total recognised gains and losses. All other exchange differences are included in the profit and loss account.

#### Leasing and hire purchase commitments

Assets obtained under hire purchase contracts and finance leases are capitalised as tangible assets and depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful lives. Obligations under such agreements are included in creditors net of the finance change allocated to future periods. The finance element of the rental payment is charged to the profit and loss account so as to produce a constant periodic rate of charge on the net obligation outstanding in each period.

#### 2. PROFIT OF THE PARENT COMPANY

As permitted by section 230 of the Companies Act 2985, the profit and loss account of the parent company is not presented as part of these financial statements. The parent company's profit after taxation for the financial year amounted to £2,168k (2005 - £1,881k).

#### 3. SEGMENTAL INFORMATION

In the opinion of the directors, the group has only one class of business being the provisions of foreign exchange services to its clients.

The group operates in three main geographical locations and the segmental analysis for these locations is provided below.

|                   | UK          |        | Australasia |       | United States |                                       | Group  |   |
|-------------------|-------------|--------|-------------|-------|---------------|---------------------------------------|--------|---|
|                   | 2006        | 2005   | 2006        | 2005  | 2006          | 2005                                  | 2006   | 2005                                    |
|                   | £'000       | £'000  | £'000       | £'000 | £'000         | £'000                                 | £'000  | £'000                                   |
| Gross profit      | 21,885      | 20,482 | 2,805       | 1,589 | 766           | 718                                   | 25,456 | 22,789                                  |
| Segment operating |             |        |             |       |               |                                       |        |   |
| profit            | 2,170       | 2,548  | 1,014       | 264   | 207           | (249)                                 | 3,391  | 2,563                                   |
| Net assets        | 7,174       | 6,095  | 671         | 143   | (759)         | (914)                                 | 7,086  | 5,324                                   |
|                   | <del></del> |        |             |       |               | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |        | ======================================= |

#### 4. EMPLOYEE INFORMATION

| Group   | 2006<br>No.   | 2005<br>No.   |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Average monthly number of employees (including directors) during the year | 194           | 166           |
|   | 2006<br>£'000 | 2005<br>£'000 |
| The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:                              |               |               |
| Wages and salaries  | 10,832        | 10,330        |
| Social security costs   | 996           | 1,183         |
| Pension costs   | 280           | 263           |
|   | 12,108        | 11,776        |

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS For the year ended 30 June 2006

## 4. EMPLOYEE INFORMATION (CONTINUTED)

|    | Company   | 2006<br>No.         | 2005<br>No.           |
|----|---|---------------------|-----------------------|
|    | Average monthly number of employees (including directors) during the year                           | 160                 | 140                   |
|    |   | 2006<br>£'000       | 2005<br>£'000         |
|    | The aggregate payroll costs were as follows: Wages and salaries Social security costs Pension costs | 9,484<br>982<br>280 | 9,240<br>1,113<br>262 |
|    | rension costs   | 10,746              | 10,615                |
| 5. | DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS   |                     |                       |
|    |   | 2006<br>£'000       | 2005<br>£'000         |
|    | Emoluments for qualifying services Pension costs Benefits in kind                                   | 1,844<br>103<br>51  | 2,067<br>127<br>55    |
|    |   | 1,998               | 2,249                 |
|    |   | 2006<br>£'000       | 2005<br>£'000         |
|    | Remuneration of the highest paid director: Emoluments Pension costs                                 | 363<br>30           | 352<br>17             |
|    | Other amounts payable   | 412                 | 388                   |
|    |   | <del>\</del>        |                       |
| 6. | INTEREST PAYABLE AND SIMILAR CHARGES  | 2006<br>£'000       | 2005<br>£'000         |
|    | Bank charges<br>Client deposits   | 159<br>84           | 97<br>83              |
|    | Hire purchase contracts Other interest and similar charges  | 34<br>142           | 298<br>               |
|    |   | 419                 | <u>479</u>            |

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS For the year ended 30 June 2006

## 7. PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION

|  | 2006  | 2005  |
|--|-------|-------|
|  | £'000 | £'000 |
| Profit on ordinary activities before taxation is stating |       |       |
| after charging:  |       |       |
| Depreciation of tangible fixed assets                    |       |       |
| - owned  | 960   | 610   |
| - held under hire purchase contracts                     | 210   | 14    |
| Goodwill amortisation                                    | 7     | 4     |
| (Loss) / profit on disposal of tangible assets           | (28)  | 4     |
| Auditors' remuneration                                   |       |       |
| - audit services (group)                                 | 108   | 99    |
| - audit services (company)                               | 68    | 45    |
| - non-audit services relating to tax compliance          | 50    | 3     |
|  |       |       |

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS For the year ended 30 June 2006

## 8. TAX ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES

|   | 2006<br>£'000                                     | 2005<br>£'000 |
|---|---|---------------|
| United Kingdom corporation tax based on the taxable profit for the year at 30% (2005 – 30%) |   |               |
| Current year  | 1,022   | 1,191         |
| Prior year  | (38)  | -             |
| Foreign tax   | 416   | -             |
| Deferred tax  | 44.00   |               |
| Change in estimate of recoverable deferred tax asset  | (129)   | 71            |
| Origination and reversal of timing differences  | 31  | 12            |
|   | 1,302   | 1,274         |
|   | <del></del>                                       | <del></del>   |
| The current tax charge for the year exceeds 30% (2005 – 30%) for the follows:               | owing reasons:                                    |               |
|   | 2006  | 2005          |
|   | £'000   | £'000         |
| Profit on ordinary activities before taxation   | 4,556   | 3,285         |
| Tax on ordinary activities at the standard rate of 30%                                      | <del>=====</del> ===============================  |               |
| (2005 – 30%)  | 1,366   | 986           |
| Expenses not deductible for tax purposes  | 82  | 237           |
| Depreciation in excess of capital allowance   | (9)   | (16)          |
| Utilisation of tax losses   | -   | (27)          |
| Other deferred tax movements  | (22)  | -             |
| Timing differences transferred in   | -   | •             |
| Increase in overseas tax losses   | -   | -             |
| Adjustments in respect of the prior year  | (38)  | - 11          |
| Overseas tax rates  |   | 11            |
|   | 1,438   | 1,191         |
|   | * <del>************************************</del> | <del></del>   |

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS For the year ended 30 June 2006

# 9. INTANGIBLE ASSETS - GOODWILL

|                     | Total<br>£'000 |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Group               |                |
| Cost:               |                |
| As at 1 July 2005   | 154            |
| Additions           | -              |
| A A 20 I 2006       | 154            |
| As at 30 June 2006  | 134<br>======  |
| Amortisation:       |                |
| As at 1 July 2005   | 4              |
| Charge for the year | 7              |
| •                   |                |
| As at 30 June 2006  | 11             |
|                     | <del></del>    |
| Net book value      | 143            |
| At 30 June 2006     | 143            |
| As at 1 July 2005   | 150            |
| As at 1 July 2005   |                |

HIFX PLC

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 30 June 2006

### 10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

|                     | Land and<br>buildings<br>freehold<br>£'000 | Office<br>equipment<br>£'000 | Fixtures<br>and fittings<br>£'000 | Motor<br>vehicles<br>£'000 | Total<br>£'000 |
|---------------------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Group               | 2,000                                      | 2 000                        | 7 000                             | £ 000                      | T OOO          |
| Cost:               |  |                              |                                   |                            |                |
| As at 1 July 2005   | 274  | 1,466                        | 1,039                             | 654                        | 3,433          |
| Additions           | -  | 2,431                        | 74                                | 380                        | 2,885          |
| Disposals           | -  | (62)                         | (97)                              | (302)                      | (461)          |
| At 30 June 2006     | 274  | 3,835                        | 1,016                             | 732                        | 5,857          |
| Depreciation        |  |                              |                                   | · · -                      |                |
| As at 1 July 2005   | -  | 474                          | 175                               | 281                        | 930            |
| Disposals           | -  | (44)                         | (95)                              | (154)                      | (293)          |
| Charge for the year |  | 781                          | 211                               | 178                        | 1,170          |
| At 30 June 2006     |  | 1,211                        | 291                               | 305                        | 1,807          |
| Net book value      |  |                              |                                   |                            |                |
| As at 30 June 2006  | 274  | 2,624                        | 725                               | 427                        | 4050           |
| As at 1 July 2005   | 274  | 992                          | 864                               | 373                        | 2,503          |
| Company             |  |                              | <u></u>                           |                            |                |
| Cost:               | 4  |                              |                                   |                            |                |
| As at 1 July 2005   | 274  | 1,221                        | 993                               | 634                        | 3,122          |
| Additions           |  | 2,372                        | 35                                | 380                        | 2,787          |
| Disposals           |  | (25)                         | (95)                              | (302)                      | (422)          |
| As at 30 June 2006  | 274  | 3,568                        | 933                               | 712                        | 5,487          |
| Depreciation:       |  |                              |                                   |                            |                |
| As at 1 July 2005   | -  | 371                          | 171                               | 276                        | 818            |
| Disposals           | -  | (25)                         | (95)                              | (154)                      | (274)          |
| Charge for the year | -  | 717                          | 208                               | 174                        | 1,099          |
| As at 30 June 2006  | -  | 1,063                        | 284                               | 296                        | 1,643          |
| Net book value:     |  |                              | •                                 |                            |                |
| As at 30 June 2006  | 274  | 2,505                        | 649                               | 416                        | 3,844          |
| As at 1 July 2005   | 274  | 850                          | 822                               | 358                        | 2,304          |
|                     | <del></del>                                |                              |                                   |                            |                |

Included above for the group and company are motor vehicles and office equipment with net book value of £505k (2005: £32k) held under finance leases on hire purchase contracts.

HIFX PLC

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS For the year ended 30 June 2006

## 11. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

| Group  |  |  | Loan to associates £'000         | Share of<br>net assets<br>£'000   | Total<br>£'000 |
|--|--|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Cost:  |  |  | 700                              | 1.5.1                             | 0.51           |
| As at 1 July 2005 Share of retained profit to date of disposal |  |  | 700                              | 151<br>56                         | 851<br>56      |
| Repayment / disposal   |  |  | (300)                            | (207)                             | (507)          |
| Loan write-off   |  |  | (150)                            | (201)                             | (150)          |
|  |  |  |                                  |                                   | (100)          |
| As at 30 June 2006   |  |  | 250                              | -                                 | 250            |
|  |  |  |                                  |                                   | <del></del> _  |
| Provisions for impairment:                                     |  |  |                                  |                                   |                |
| As at 1 July 2005  | ,  |  | (150)                            | -                                 | (150)          |
| Loan write-off   |  |  | 150                              | -                                 | 150            |
| As at 30 June 2006   |  |  |                                  |                                   |                |
| Net book value   |  |  |                                  |                                   |                |
| At 30 June 2006  |  |  | 250                              | _                                 | 250            |
|  |  |  | ======                           | <del></del>                       |                |
| As at 1 July 2005  |  |  | 550                              | 151                               | 701            |
| Company  | Loan to<br>group<br>under-<br>takings<br>£'000 | Shares in<br>group<br>under-<br>takings<br>£'000 | Loans to participating interests | Shares in participating interests | Total<br>£'000 |
| Company  |  |  |                                  |                                   |                |
| Cost:  |  |  |                                  |                                   |                |
| As at 1 July 2005  | 938  | 102  | 700                              | 450                               | 2,190          |
| Reductions / disposals   | (131)  | -  | (300)                            | (450)                             | (881)          |
| Loan write-off   | <del></del> -                                  |  | (150)                            |                                   | (150)          |
| As at 30 June 2006   | 807  | 102  | 250                              |                                   | 1,159          |
| Provisions for impairment:                                     | •  |  |                                  |                                   |                |
| As at 1 July 2005  |  |  | (150)                            |                                   | (150)          |
| Loan write-off   |  |  | 150                              |                                   | 150            |
| As at 30 June 2006   | -  | -  | -                                | -                                 | -              |
| Net book value   |  |  |                                  |                                   |                |
| At 30 June 2006  | 807  | 102  | 250                              | -                                 | 1,159          |
| 110 Julie 2000   |  |  | <del></del>                      | <del></del>                       | 1,107          |
| As at 1 July 2005  | 938  | 102  | 550                              | 450                               | 2,040          |

#### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 30 June 2006

#### 11. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

The parent company and the group have investments in the following subsidiary undertakings, associates and other investments.

#### Subsidiary undertakings included in consolidated financial statements

|   |                          | Shares held | Ci. |
|---|--------------------------|-------------|-----|
| Company   | Country of incorporation | Class       | %   |
| HIFX Inc.   | United States of America | Common      | 100 |
| HIFX Limited  | New Zealand              | Ordinary    | 85  |
| HIFX (Australia) Pty Ltd                            | Australia                | Ordinary*   | 85  |
| Halewood International Marketing Strategies Limited | England and Wales        | Ordinary    | 100 |

<sup>\*</sup> Indirect holding via HIFX Limited

The principal activity of HIFX Inc, HIFX Limited and HIFX (Australia) Pty is that of a dedicated foreign exchange provider. Halewood International Marketing Strategies Limited was dormant during the current and prior years.

#### Associated undertakings

During the year the group disposed off its 30% interest in the ordinary share capital and 35% interest in the preference shares in Halewood International Financial Services Limited for £791k. As at 30 June 2006, a £250k loan to a subsidiary of the associate, Halewood International Futures Limited, remained outstanding (see note 18).

#### 12. DEBTORS

|  | Gro                  | Group                                   |                 | Company         |  |
|--|----------------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|--|
|  | 2006<br>£'000        | 2005<br>£'000                           | 2006<br>£'000   | 2005<br>£'000   |  |
| Client money held at brokers  Amounts owed by group undertakings | 39,233               | 27,800                                  | 22,474<br>1,142 | 18,373<br>1,244 |  |
| Other debtors  | 2,272                | 1,278                                   | 2,248           | 748             |  |
| Deferred tax asset (see note 14) Prepayments and accrued income  | 55<br>1,414          | 927                                     | 51<br>616       | 310             |  |
|  | 42,974               | 30,005                                  | 26,531          | 20,675          |  |
| Amounts falling due after more than one year and                 | l included above are | :                                       | <del></del>     |                 |  |
| Amounts owed by group undertakings<br>Deferred tax asset         | -<br>55              | -                                       | 1,142<br>51     | 1,244           |  |
|  |                      | ======================================= |                 |                 |  |

14.

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS For the year ended 30 June 2006

## 13. CREDITORS

|   | Group                                  | )             | Compa   | ny            |
|---|--|---------------|---|---------------|
|   | 2006<br>£'000                          | 2005<br>£'000 | 2006<br>£'000                                     | 2005<br>£'000 |
| Amounts falling due within one year:  |  |               |   |               |
| Obligations under hire purchase contracts   | 23                                     | 50            | 23  | 29            |
| Amounts due to clients  | 64,996                                 | 57,983        | 46,829  | 47,786        |
| Corporation tax   | 277                                    | 800           | 75  | 810           |
| Other taxes and social security costs   | 712                                    | 593           | 639   | 471           |
| Other creditors   | 622                                    | 1,160         | 619   | 614           |
| Amounts due to group undertakings   | -                                      | _             | 830   | 830           |
| Accruals and deferred income  | 1,219                                  | 1,481         | 1,046   | 1,275         |
| Creditors due within one year   | 67,849                                 | 62,067        | 50,061  | 51,815        |
| Obligations under hire purchase contracts due after   |  |               |   |               |
| more than one year  | 482                                    | <u>-</u>      | 482   |               |
|   | 68,331                                 | 62,067        | 50,543  | 51,815        |
|   | <del></del>                            | <del></del>   | <del></del>                                       |               |
|   | Group                                  |               | Compa   |               |
|   | 2006                                   | 2005          | 2006  | 2005          |
| Oliveria e de la lice e de la constante de la | £'000                                  | £'000         | £'000   | £'000         |
| Obligations under hire purchase contracts due:  | 477                                    |               | 477   |               |
| Between two and five years  |  | -             | 477   | _             |
| After more than five years  | 5                                      |               |   | <del></del>   |
|   | 482                                    | _             | 482   | _             |
| Repayable within one year   | 23                                     | 50            | 23  | 29            |
|   | 505                                    | 50            | 505   | 29            |
| PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGE   | ES .                                   | <del></del>   | = <del>====================================</del> |               |
| Deferred taxation   | Group                                  |               | Company   |               |
| Describe taxation   | 2006                                   | 2005          | 2006  | 2005          |
|   | £'000                                  | £'000         | £,000   | £'000         |
| As at 1 July 2005   | 43                                     | (40)          | 43  | (40)          |
| Charge to profit and loss account   | (98)                                   | 83            | (94)  | 83            |
| At 30 June 2006   | (55)                                   | 43            | (51)  | 43            |
|   | <del></del>                            |               | <del></del>                                       | <del></del>   |
|   | 2006                                   | 2005          | 2006  | 2005          |
|   | £'000                                  | £'000         | £,000   | £'000         |
| Analysis of deferred tax:   |  | _,            |   |               |
| Capital allowances in excess of depreciation  | (5)                                    | 54            | (16)  | 54            |
| Short term timing differences   | (50)                                   | (11)          | (35)  | (11)          |
| Deferred tax (asset) / liability  | (55)                                   | 43            | (51)  | 43            |
|   | —————————————————————————————————————— |               | (- ·)   |               |

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS For the year ended 30 June 2006

#### 15. CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL

|  | 2006               | 2005   |
|--|--------------------|--------|
|  | £                  | £      |
| Authorised share capital                             |                    |        |
| 44,800 (2005: 44,800) "A" Ordinary shares of £1 each | 44,800             | 44,800 |
| 20,440 (2005: 20,440) "B" Ordinary shares of £1 each | 20,440             | 20,440 |
| 24,360 (2005: 24,360) "C" Ordinary shares of £1 each | 24,360             | 24,360 |
|  | 89,600             | 89,600 |
| Allotted, called up and fully paid                   |                    |        |
| 37,350 (2005: 37,350) "A" Ordinary shares of £1 each | 37,350             | 37,350 |
| 18,205 (2005: 18,205) "B" Ordinary shares of £1 each | 18,205             | 18,205 |
| 15,410 (2005: 19,145) "C" Ordinary shares of £1 each | 15,410             | 19,145 |
|  | 70,965             | 74,700 |
|  | = <del>=====</del> |        |

The "A" Ordinary shares, "B" Ordinary shares and "C" Ordinary shares confer upon the holders the same rights and rank pari passu in all respects. On 3 April 2006 the company bought back and cancelled 3,735 of "C" ordinary shares for £1.5m.

# 16. COMBINED STATEMENT OF MOVEMENTS ON RESERVES AND RECONCILIATION OF SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

|                                     | Called up<br>share<br>capital<br>£'000 | Merger<br>reserve<br>£'000             | Capital redemption reserve £'000 | Profit and loss account £'000          | Total<br>2006<br>£'000 |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| Group                               |  |  |                                  |  |                        |
| As at 1 July 2005                   | . 75                                   | (18)                                   | -                                | 5,245                                  | 5,302                  |
| Purchase and cancellation of shares | (4)                                    | -                                      | 4                                | (1,500)                                | (1500)                 |
| Movement on foreign exchange        | -                                      | -                                      | ~                                | 9                                      | 9                      |
| Profit retained for the year        | -                                      |  | <del></del>                      | 3,132                                  | 3,132                  |
| As at 30 June 2006                  | 71                                     | (18)                                   | 4                                | 6,886                                  | 6,943                  |
|                                     |  | Called up<br>share<br>capital<br>£'000 | Capital redemption reserve £'000 | Profit and<br>loss<br>account<br>£'000 | Total<br>2006<br>£'000 |
| Company                             |  |  |                                  |  |                        |
| As at 1 July 2005                   |  | 75                                     | -                                | 5,550                                  | 5,625                  |
| Purchase and cancellation of shares |  | (4)                                    | 4                                | (1,500)                                | (1,500)                |
| Profit retained for the year        |  | -                                      | <del>-</del>                     | 2,168                                  | 2,168                  |
| As at 30 June 2006                  |  | 71                                     | 4                                | 6,218                                  | 6,293                  |
|                                     |  |  |                                  |  |                        |

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS For the year ended 30 June 2006

#### 17. EQUITY MINORITY INTERESTS

|  | Total<br>2006<br>£'000 |
|--|------------------------|
| Group As at 1 July 2005 Profit on ordinary activities after taxation | 22<br>121              |
| As at 30 June 2006   | 143                    |

#### 18. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The company takes advantage of the exemption under FRS 8 and does not report transactions or balances between group entities that have been eliminated on consolidation.

During the year, £Nil (2005: £32,500) was paid by Halewood International Futures Limited, a subsidiary of Halewood International Financial Services Limited and an associate of the group until 11 January 2006, for consultancy services. As at 30 June 2006, Halewood International Futures Limited, which changed its name to Square Mile Securities Limited subsequent to the sale by the group, owed £259,629 to the group (2005: £33,841).

Included within other debtors is an amount of £1,156,898 (2005 - £2,080) owed by Halewood International Limited, a company in which a director is a major shareholder. Included within other debtors is an amount of £3,000 (2005: £2,938) owed by Halewood International Holdings Limited, a company in which a director is a major shareholder.

As at 30 June 2006, HIFX Insurance Services owed £Nil (2005: £32,243) to the group.