HCTC Limited

Directors' report and financial statements

Registered number 3560828

31 March 2008

THURSDAY



23/10/2008 COMPANIES HOUSE

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The directors' report and the business review

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2008

Principal activity

The principal activity of the company during the year was the provision of training to the hospitality industry

Review of business

Key performance indicators:

	2008 £000	2007 £000
Turnover Operating profit – continuing operations Operating profit – discontinued operations	4,010 250 118	11,189 614 -
Learner completion rate	54%	49%

On 31 July 2007, the company transferred the majority of its customer contracts, its employees and certain of its assets to its parent undertaking, VT Training Plc (formerly VT Plus Training Plc) for £3,021,000 Consequently the company's turnover and operating profit in the year was significantly lower than in 2007

The company forms part of VT Group pic's vocational training business (VT Training) which now has approximately 20,000 learners across the hospitality, care, sport, retail and engineering sectors and continues to grow. The group is now one of the largest providers of work-based vocational training assessment to the LSC.

VT Training's completion and success rates continue to improve and, as the market consolidates, the company continues to explore opportunities to extend the business in additional sectors and geographical areas

Dividends

Dividends paid during the year comprise an interim dividend of £750,000 in respect of the year ended 31 March 2008 (2007 £nil)

Directors

The directors who held office during the year were as follows

CJ Cundy

(resigned 13 December 2007)

SB Withey

PJ Harrison

(appointed 13 December 2007)

The directors' report and the business review (continued)

Employment of disabled persons

Full and fair consideration is afforded to applications from suitably qualified disabled persons and to their subsequent career advancement within the company. If existing employees become disabled, opportunities are sought to re-train them so as to enable them to continue their current work or to undertake other work within the company which is suited to their aptitude and abilities.

Employee investment and involvement

The development of employee involvement in the company's business is kept under regular review and the directors are committed to encouraging greater involvement by all employees. Formal and informal briefing of employees takes place as appropriate

The company also takes all reasonable steps to ensure employment conditions are equal in all respects for sex, race, colour, ethnic background, religion or disability

Disclosure of information to auditors

The directors who held office at the date of approval of this directors' report confirm that, so far as they are each aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware, and each director has taken all the steps that he ought to have taken as a director to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information

Auditors

in accordance with section 384 of the Companies Act 1985, a resolution for the re-appointment of KPMG Audit Plc as auditors of the Company is to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting

By order of the Board

MP Jowett Secretary 29 July 2008

Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of the directors' report and financial statements

The directors are responsible for preparing the directors' 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 they have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss for that period

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, 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 proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that its financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They have a general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.



KPMG Audit Plc

Independent auditors' report to the members of HCTC Limited

We have audited the financial statements of HCTC Limited for the year ended 31 March 2008 which comprise the profit and loss account, the balance sheet and related notes. 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 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 auditors

The directors' responsibilities for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) are set out in the statement of directors' responsibilities on page 3

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 directors' report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it

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 judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material 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.

Independent auditors' report to the members of HCTC Limited (continued)

Opinion

In our opinion

- the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 2008 and of its 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

KPMG Audit Pla

KPMG Audit Plc Chartered Accountants Registered Auditor 31 July 2008 8 Salisbury Square London EC4Y 8BB

Profit and loss account

for the year ended 31 March 2008

	Notes	Continuing operations	2008 Discontinued operations	Total	2007
	,,,,,,,	2000	£000	£000	£000
Turnover	2	1,659	2,351	4,010	11,189
Cost of sales		(1,409)	(255)	(1,664)	(6,593)
Gross profit		250	2,096	2,346	4,596
Administrative expenses			(1,978)	(1,978)	(3,982)
Operating profit		250	118_	368	614
Interest receivable Interest payable	5 6				10 (1)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	7			445	623
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	8			(245)	(233)
Profit for the year	17			200	390

There are no recognised gains or losses other than the profit (2007 profit) for the year reported above. There is also no difference between the profit (2007 profit) on ordinary activities before taxation and the profit for the financial year stated above and their historical cost equivalents

Balance sheet

at 31 March 2008

	Notes	2008 £000	2007 £000
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	10	-	2,897
Tangible assets	11		527
		•	3,424
Current assets			
Debtors	12	135	1,542
Cash at bank and in hand		2,992	448
		3,127	1,990
Creditors amounts falling due within one year	13	(880)	(2,553)
Net current assets/(liabilities)		2,247	(563)
Total assets less current liabilities		2,247	2,861
Provisions for liabilities and charges	15		(64)
Net assets		2,247	2,797
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	16	1,762	1,762
Share premium account	17	2	2
Profit and loss account	17	483	1,033
Shareholder's funds	18	2,247	2,797

These financial statements were approved by the board of directors on 29 July 2008 and were signed on its behalf by

SB Withey Director

Notes

(forming part of the financial statements)

1 Accounting policies

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

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with UK generally accepted accounting principles using the historical cost convention

Under Financial Reporting Standard 1 (1996 Revised), the company is exempt from the requirement to prepare a cash flow statement on the grounds that it is a wholly owned subsidiary undertaking

In addition, advantage has been taken of the exemption available under Financial Reporting Standard 8 not to disclose details of transactions with VT Group plc or other group undertakings, as the consolidated financial statements of VT Group plc in which the company is included are publicly available

Disposal of business

On 31 July 2007 the company sold certain of its assets, its employees and its trade to its parent undertaking VT Training plc. This disposal completed the integration of the VT Group's vocational training business following the acquisition of the company by VT Group plc in 2006.

Goodwill

Purchased goodwill (representing the excess of the fair value of the consideration given over the fair value of the separable net assets acquired) arising in respect of acquisitions is capitalised. Purchased goodwill is amortised to nil by equal annual instalments over its estimated useful life to a maximum of 20 years. It is reviewed for impairment at the end of the first full year following the acquisition and in other subsequent periods if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

Tangible fixed assets and Depreciation

The cost of tangible fixed assets comprises the purchase price and any directly attributable costs incurred in acquiring the fixed assets

Depreciation is provided to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of tangible fixed assets by equal instalments over their estimated useful economic lives as follows

Freehold property

2% straight line

Leasehold improvements

over the term of the respective lease

Fixtures, fittings and equipment

33% straight line

Notes (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution group personal pension plan for employees Contributions are charged to the profit and loss account as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the plan

Taxation

The charge for taxation is based on the profit for the year and takes into account taxation deferred because of timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes. Deferred tax is recognised without discounting, in respect of all timing differences between the treatment of certain tax items for taxation and accounting purposes which have arisen but not reversed by the balance sheet date, except as otherwise required by FRS19

Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the profit and loss account on a straight line basis over the term of the lease

Turnover

Turnover is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the company and the revenue can be reliably measured. The following specific recognition criteria must also be met before revenue is recognised.

Rendering of services

Turnover from services rendered is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the transaction. Turnover from services provided on a short-term or one-off basis is recognised when the service is complete. Revenue from government funded training programmes is recognised in line with learner progression, subject to the funding receivable being agreed by the funding body.

Dividends on shares presented within shareholders' funds

Dividends unpaid at the balance sheet date are only recognised as a liability at that date to the extent that they are appropriately authorised and are no longer at the discretion of the company Unpaid dividends that do not meet these criteria are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements

2 Analysis of turnover

Turnover by origin principally arises from activities within the United Kingdom

3 Remuneration of directors

None of the directors received remuneration for their services to the company in the current year as the services provided to the company are incidental to their wider role in the group (2007 £nil)

Notes (continued)

4 Staff numbers and costs

The average number of persons employed by the company during the year was as follows

		Number of 2008	employees 2007
Administration Vocational assessors		30 99	68 229
		129	297
The aggregate payroll costs of the	ese persons were as follows		
		2008 £000	2007 £000
Wages and salaries Social security costs Other pension costs (see note 19))	1,521 144 8	5,999 591 31
		1,673	6,621
5 Interest receivable			
		2008 £000	2007 £000
Interest receivable on bank depos	sits	77	10
6 Interest payable			
		2008 £000	2007 £000
Interest on bank borrowings		- _	1
7 Profit on ordinary activities befo	ore taxation		
Profit on ordinary activities before	taxation is stated after chargin	g	
		2008 £000	2007 £000
Depreciation of owned assets Amortisation of goodwill	land and buildings	59 85	98 256
Rentals under operating leases	land and buildingsother	42 31	114 76
Loss on sale of tangible fixed asse Auditors' remuneration	ets - audit - other services	- - -	7 18
Audit fees were borne by the com	npany's parent undertaking		

Notes (continued)

8 Taxation

	2008 £000	2007 £000
Current tax UK corporation tax on profit for the year Adjustments in respect of prior years	154 16	243 (11)
Total current tax charge	170	232
Deferred tax Origination and reversal of timing differences Adjustment in respect of prior years	48 27	(7) 8
Total deferred tax charge	75_	1
Tax charge on ordinary activities	245	233

Factors affecting the tax charge for the current year

The current tax charge for the year is higher (2007 higher) than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 30% (2007. 30%) The differences are explained below

	2008 £000	2007 £000
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	445	623
Profit on ordinary activities multiplied by standard rate in UK of 30% (2007 30%)	134	187
Effects of Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Accelerated capital allowances and other timing differences Adjustment to tax charge in respect of prior years	- 20 16	49 7 (11)
	170_	232_

Events after the balance sheet date requires the disclosure of changes in tax rates either enacted or announced after the balance sheet date that significantly affect current and deferred tax assets and liabilities. The announcement of a change in tax rate from 30% to 28%, effective from 1 April 2008, will impact the deferred tax balances set out in these accounts. This change has been reflected in the deferred tax calculations as per FRS 19.

Notes (continued)

9	Dividen	

9	Dividends				
				2008 £000	2007 £000
	Dividend paid on ordinary share	es		750_	
10	Intangible fixed assets				
					Goodwill £000
	Cost At beginning of year Disposal				3,839 (3,839)
	At end of year				
	Amortisation At beginning of year Charge for year Disposal				942 85 (1,027)
	At end of year				<u> </u>
	Net book value At 31 March 2008				
	At 31 March 2007				2,897
11	Tangible fixed assets				
		Freehold buildings £000	Leasehold improvements £000	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £000	Total £000
	Cost				
	At beginning of year Hive up of trade (see page 1)	319 (319)		709 (709)	1,028 (1,028)
	At end of year				
	Depreciation At beginning of year Charge for year Hive up of trade (see page 1)	43 2 (45)	- - -	458 57 (515 <u>)</u>	501 59 (560)
	At end of year				
	Net book value At 31 March 2008	-	<u>-</u>	-	-
	At 31 March 2007	276		251	527

Notes (continued)

12 Debtors

13

	2008	2007
	€000	£000
Trade debtors	119	445
Corporation tax receivable	-	241
Deferred taxation	-	75
Other debtors	1	17
Prepayments and accrued income	15_	764
	135	1,542
Deferred tax movements are		
		Deferred
		taxation
		£000
At beginning of year		75
Credit/(charge) during the year		(75)
At end of year		
The deferred taxation asset is analysed as follows	•	
The defended taxation depot to analysis a defended	2008	2007
	2000	£000
Depreciation in excess of capital allowances	_	55
Other timing differences		20_
		75
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
	2008	2007
	£000	5000
Trade creditors	1	74
Amounts owing to group companies	538	1,111
Corporation tax	175	168
Other taxation and social security	-	123
Other creditors	•	30
Accruals and deferred income	166_	1,047
	880	2,553

Notes (continued)

14 Commitments under operating leases

Annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows

	31 March 2008		31 Marc	ch 2007
	Land and			0.1
	buildings	Other	buildings	Other
Operating leases which expire	£000	2000	0003	2000
Within two to five years			52	41
			52	41

15 Provisions for liabilities and charges

	Redundancy provision £000	Onerous lease £000	Dilapidation provision £000	Total £000
At beginning of year	19	9	36	64
Created during the year	-	-	2	2
Utilised/released in the year	(19)	(2)	-	(21)
Disposal of business		(7)_	(38)	(45)
At end of year		<u> </u>		

The dilapidation provision related to the expected liability for dilapidations in respect of the company's leasehold properties

The redundancy provisions were made to cover costs to be incurred in respect of committed programmes

The onerous lease provision related to the lease on an unoccupied property, which expires in September 2008

16 Called up share capital

	2008 £000	2007 £000
Authorised 33,150,000 ordinary shares of 10p	3,315	3,315
Allotted, called up and fully paid 17,621,361 ordinary shares of 10p	1,762	1,762

Notes (continued)

17 Reserves

	Share premium account £000	Profit and loss account £000
At beginning of year	2	1,033
Profit for the financial year	-	200
Dividends paid		(750)
At end of year	2	483

Share based payments

Employees of the company participate in the following share plans operated by the ultimate parent company

Employee Share Option Savings Plans (ESOP)

The Group operates Share Option Savings Plans for all eligible employees, whereby employees can save towards the exercise price payable for an award of share options. The exercise price of these options is set at 90% of the market value of the share price at the date of grant. Under awards granted by the Group, the savings period is either 3 or 5 years. At the end of the savings period, the options vest and the option holders have a 6 month window in which to exercise their options.

The number and weighted average exercise price of share options are as follows

	20	008	2007	
	Number of options	Weighted average exercise price (p)	Number of options	Weighted average exercise price (p)
Outstanding at beginning of year	31,308	410	_	-
Transferred to parent undertaking	(26,678)	410	-	-
Granted during the year	•	-	35,098	410
Forfeited during the year	(4,630)	410	(3,790)	410
Outstanding at end of year			31,308	410

The weighted average share price at the date of exercise of share options exercised during the year was 600p (2007 477p)

There are no options outstanding at the year end. In the prior year, the options outstanding at the year end had an exercise price of 410p and a weighted average contractual life of 4.2 years.

Share option valuation assumptions

The fair value of options granted were measured using the Black-Scholes method for the Employee Share Options Savings Plans

HCTC Limited

Directors' report and financial statements

Notes (continued)

17 Reserves (continued)

Share option valuation assumptions (continued)

The weighted average assumptions used in determining fair value of options granted were as follows

	Share options savings plans	
	2008	2007
Dividend yield	-	2 4%
Expected volatility	-	21 2%
Risk-free interest rate	-	4 7%
Expected life	•	4 years
Exercise price	-	415p

The expected volatility is based on the historic volatility (calculated based on the weighted average remaining life of the share options), adjusted for any expected changes to future volatility due to publicly available information

The expected life of the options is based on historical data and is not necessarily indicative of exercise patterns that may occur

18 Reconciliation of movements in shareholder's funds

	2008 £000	2007 £000
Profit for the financial year Dividends	200 (750)	390
Net (reduction)/increase in shareholder's funds	(550)	390
Opening shareholder's funds	2,797	2,407_
Closing shareholder's funds	2,247	2,797

19 Pension arrangements

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company, in independently administered funds. Contributions of £7,614 (2007. £31,003) made to the scheme during the year. At 31 March 2008 contributions amounting to £nil (2007. £3,714) were payable to the funds and are included in creditors.

20 Ultimate parent company

The company is a subsidiary undertaking of VT Training plc (formerly VT Plus Training plc), a company incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England and Wales

The ultimate parent undertaking of the company is VT Group plc, a company incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England and Wales

The largest group in which the results of the company are reported is that headed by VT Group plc. The consolidated financial statements are available to the public at that company's registered office of Grange Drive, Hedge End, Southampton. No other financial statements include the results of the company.