

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

SATURDAY



A21 24/10/2009

COMPANIES HOUSE

374

INDEX

	Page
General information	2
Report of the directors	3
Auditors' report	5
Consolidated profit and loss account	6
Consolidated statement of total recognised gains and losses	7
Consolidated balance sheet	8
Company balance sheet	9
Consolidated cash flow statement	10
Accounting policies	U
Notes to the financial statements	13

GENERAL INFORMATION

Year ended 31 December 2008

Directors P A Smith

L F E Pollington (appointed 20 February 2008)

R Jervis (appointed 27 January 2009)

Secretary L F E Pollington

Registered office Wellington House

Butt Road Colchester Essex CO3 3DA

Company number 4081664

Auditors Dixon Wilson

22 Chancery Lane

London WC2A ILS

Bankers National Westminster Bank plc

25 High Street Colchester Essex COI IDG

Solicitors Ashurst

Broadwall House 5 Appold Street London EC2A 2HA

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

Year ended 31 December 2008

The directors submit their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2008.

Results and dividends

The consolidated profit and loss account, consolidated statement of total recognised gains and losses and balance sheet of the group and of the company are set out on pages 6 to 9. These should be read in conjunction with their related notes.

The group made a loss in the year of £3,034,506 (2007 - profit £6,889,304) which has been transferred to reserves.

The directors paid a dividend of £714,102 (2007 - £nil) during the year.

On 17 March 2008, the company purchased 436 ordinary shares of £1 each of its own shares from a shareholder for total consideration of £1,500,000.

Review of the business

The group's principal activity during the year was that of estate agency and related services.

2008 was perhaps the most difficult trading period for the housing market since the early 70's with the unprecedented collapse in the banking sector leading to severe limitations on the availability of mortgage finance.

In common with the market as a whole, the group experienced a drop off of more than 50% in the number of house sales as the house market volumes tumbled to an all time low. However, decisive and timely management action, combined with a focus on business fundamentals resulted in the Group significantly outperforming its peers. Having anticipated the downturn and initiated a major programme of rationalisation in early Q3 of 2007, operating costs dropped very significantly and the full benefit of this rationalisation is now being realised in 2009.

Whilst estate agency naturally saw a significant drop in profits, other key parts of the business delivered outstanding results, demonstrating the group's resilience to fluctuations in the market.

The group delivered an underlying operating loss of $\mathcal{L}(1.3)$ m a strong performance in light of the market. Certain restructuring costs and investment in new businesses increased overall reported operating losses.

2009 has started positively, with the group making above expected profits and having built up a significant cash balance at the end of the first half. The directors are cautiously optimistic about the outlook for the remainder of 2009 but, remain alert to the possibility of further market volatility as the economic recovery gathers pace.

Financial instruments

The group's principal financial instruments include financial assets and liabilities such as trade debtors and trade creditors which arise directly from its operations. Companies in the group also participate in a centralised treasury function pooling cash balances and lending or borrowing funds to companies within the group to fund operations.

- Liquidity risk

The centralised treasury function helps to maximise interest income and minimise interest expense whilst ensuring that each company has sufficient liquid resources to meet its operating needs.

Interest rate risk

The group is exposed to interest rate risk on its deposits. The group is also exposed to interest rate risk on some of its loans.

- Credit risk

Investments of cash surpluses are made through banks and other reputable financial institutions as approved by the board. Trade debtors are monitored on an ongoing basis and provision is made for doubtful debts where necessary.

Directors

The directors who held office during the year are shown on page 2.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

Year ended 31 December 2008

Directors' responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- 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 and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Employee involvement

Efforts have been made to consult with and inform employees on matters which concern them with emphasis on the continuing growth and development of the company. Communication is principally through the regional and branch management structure.

It is the policy of the group to support the employment of disabled persons where possible, both in recruitment and by retention of employees who become disabled whilst in the employment of the group, as well as through training and career development.

Donations

During the year the group made charitable donations of £525 (2007 - £25,262).

Statement as to disclosure of information to auditors

So far as each of the directors is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware, and he has taken all steps that he ought to have taken as director in order to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and has established that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

By order of the board

Director

Colchester 21 october 2009

AUDITORS' REPORT

Year ended 31 December 2008

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF SPICERHAART GROUP LIMITED

We have audited the group and parent company financial statements of Spicerhaart Group Limited for the year ended 31 December 2008 which comprise the Consolidated Profit and Loss Account, the Consolidated Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses, the Balance Sheets, the Consolidated Cash Flow Statement, the Accounting Policies and the related notes. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein.

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

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, ("United Kingdom Generally Accounting Practice").

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 and whether in our opinion the information given in the directors' report is consistent with the financial statements. We also report to you if, 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 transactions with the company 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 of 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.

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 affairs of the group and parent company as at 31 December 2008 and of the group's loss for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.
- the information given in the directors' report is consistent with the financial statements.

DIXON WILSON

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

22 Chancery Lane

London WC2A ILS

23 october 2009

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

Year ended 31 December 2008

	Note	2008 £	2007 £
Turnover	1	71.340.152	119.267.506
Operating costs		(75,137,530)	(108,979,931)
, ,		(3,797,378)	10,287,575
Amortisation of goodwill		(297,046)	(297,045)
Operating (loss)/profit	2	(4,094,424)	9,990,530
Loss on disposal of fixed assets Interest receivable Interest payable	3	(177,123) 1,002,846 (642,363)	(287,025) 874,497 (48,326)
(Loss)/profit for the year before taxation		(3,911,064)	10,529,676
Taxation	7	259,206	(3,640,372)
(Loss)/profit for the year after taxation		(3,651,858)	6,889,304
Minority interests		617,352	-
(Loss)/profit for the year attributable to the members of Spicerhaart Group Limited		(3,034,506)	6,889,304

All amounts relate to continuing operations.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES

2008 £	2007 £
(3,034,506)	6,889,304
(51,000)	(25,000)
(3,085,506)	6,864,304
	(3,034,506) (51,000)

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

At 31 December 2008

	Note	2008 £	2007 £
Fixed assets		L.	*
Intangible assets	8	4,025,207	2,735,632
Tangible assets	9	4,882,610	<i>5,854,</i> 928
Investment properties	10	150,000	201,000
Investments	11	400,000	400,000
		9,457,817	9,191,560
Current assets			
Debtors	13	15,815,891	15,873,356
Cash at bank and in hand		7,785,761	13,149,933
		23,601,652	29,023,289
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(20,597,216)	(21,737,695,
Net current assets		3,004,436	7,285,594
Total assets less current liabilities		12,462,253	16,477,154
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	16	(3,066,806)	•
Net assets		9,395,447	16,477,154
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	17	4,030	4,466
Share premium	20	19,239,682	19,239,682
Capital redemption reserve	20	436	
Investment property revaluation reserve	20	61,000	112,000
Profit and loss account	20	(7,976,837)	(2,928,896) 49,902
Merger reserve	20	49,902	
Equity shareholders' funds (including non-equity)	19	11,378,213	16,477,154
Minority interests		(1,982,766)	
Net funds attributable to the members of			
Spicerhaart Group Limited		9,395,447	16,477,154
Shareholders' funds comprises:			
Equity interests		9,395,347	16,477,054
Non-equity interests		100	100

The financial statements on pages 6 to 25 were approved by the board of directors on 21 october 2009 and were signed on its behalf by:-

P A SMITH Director

COMPANY BALANCE SHEET

At 31 December 2008

	Note	2008	2007
Fixed assets		Ĺ	£
Investments	11	22,256,628	57,797
Current assets			
Debtors due after more than one year	13	1,490,038	-
Debtors due within one year	13	6,544,252	14,277,937
		8,034,290	14,277,937
Cash at bank and in hand		2,869,255	1,775
		10,903,545	14,279,712
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(17,730,334)	(44,665)
Net current (liabilities)/assets		(6,826,789)	14,235,047
Total assets less current liabilities		15,429,839	14,292,844
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	16	-	
Net assets		15,429,839	14,292,844
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	17	4,030	4,466
Share premium	20	19,289,582	19,289,582
Capital redemption reserve Profit and loss account	20 20	436 (3,864,209)	- (5,001,204)
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Shareholders' funds (including non-equity)	19	15,429,839	14,292,844
Shareholders' funds comprise:			
Equity interests		15,429,739	14,292,744
Non-equity interests		100	100

The financial statements on pages 6 to 25 were approved by the board of directors on 2 10 CTOBER 2009 and were signed on its behalf by:-

P A SMITH Director

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	Note	Ĺ	2008 £	£	2007 £
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities	23		(7,568,130)	r	19,562,884
Returns on investments and servicing of finance					
Interest received Interest paid		1,002,846 (642,363)		874,497 (48,326)	
Net cash inflow from returns on investments and servicing of finance			360,483		826,171
Taxation			(1,543,326)		(2,251,955
Capital expenditure and financial investr	nent				
Payments to acquire investment		-		(400,000)	
Receipts on sale of tangible fixed assets Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		197,836 (2,283,633)		(4,257,462)	
Net cash outflow from capital expenditure and financial investment		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	(2,085,797)	<u></u>	(4,657,462
Acquisitions and disposals					
Purchase of subsidiary undertaking Net overdrafts acquired with subsidiary		29 (2,885,741)		(1,887,308) (197,894)	
Net cash outflow from acquisitions and dispose	als		(2,885,712)		(2,085,202
Net cash (outflow)/inflow before financing	g		(13,722,482)		11,394,436
Financing					
Increase/(decrease) in debt financing Repurchase of share capital Dividends paid		10,572,412 (1,500,000) (714,102)		(4,793,750) (10,000) -	
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from financing			8,358,310		(4,803,750
(Decrease)/increase in cash	24		(5,364,172)		6,590,686

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Year ended 31 December 2008

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards. The particular accounting policies adopted are described below.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of investment properties.

Basis of consolidation

The group's financial statements consolidate the financial statements of the company and its subsidiary undertakings at 31 December 2008 using acquisition accounting for subsidiaries acquired other than by issuing shares. Merger accounting has been used for the consolidation of Darlows Limited and Spicerhaart Limited.

Investments

Investments are stated at cost less provision for diminution in value.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Freehold buildings - evenly over 50 years
Leasehold improvements - evenly over 5 years
Fixtures, fittings and office equipment - evenly over 3 or 4 years
Motor vehicles - evenly over 4 years

Leasehold premiums are amortised over the shorter of the remaining length of the lease or useful economic life of the leasehold.

Leases

Rental costs under operating leases are charged to profit and loss account in equal annual amounts over the periods of the leases.

Goodwill

Goodwill on consolidation is amortised over its expected useful life of 10 or 20 years.

Pension costs

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are invested and managed independently of the finances of the company. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable in the year.

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Year ended 31 December 2008

Deferred taxation

Deferred taxation is provided at current rates of taxation in respect of all material timing differences. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that they are regarded as recoverable on the basis that there is evidence that there will be suitable taxable profits in the future.

Investment properties

Investment properties are revalued annually at open market value and any temporary surplus or deficit is transferred to the investment property revaluation reserve. Permanent deficits on individual properties are charged in the profit and loss account which is also credited with any subsequent reversals. As these properties are held for investment purposes, not consumption, depreciation is not considered to be relevant. Depreciation is only one of many factors reflected in the annual valuation and the amount, which might otherwise be shown, cannot be separately identified or quantified. This is contrary to the provisions of the Companies Act 1985, but is in accordance with SSAP 19 and the directors believe that this gives a true and fair view.

Share-based payments

The group reflects the economic cost of awarding share options to employees of the group by recording an expense in the profit and loss account equal to the benefit awarded, fair value being determined by reference to option pricing models. The expense is recognised in the profit and loss account over the vesting period of the award.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31 December 2008

I. Turnover

Turnover comprises commission and fees receivable excluding VAT. Commission earned on sales of residential and commercial property is recognised on the exchange of contract. Commission earned on financial services is recognised when insurance policies go on risk and when mortgage contracts complete. Income from other services is recognised in the period or periods when the services are provided. Commission is recognised at fair value which takes account of expected future cancellations.

An analysis of turnover is not given as the directors consider it would be prejudicial to the group's interests.

2007 £	2008 £	2. Operating profit
		Operating profit is stated after charging/(crediting):
6,629,672 3,426,797	4,633,270 2,920,532	Operating lease rentals - leasehold property - motor vehicles
11,000 92,000 30,000 54,100	15,300 122,500 20,000 21,000	Auditors' remuneration - audit fees - auditing of accounts of subsidiaries of the company pursuant to legislation - other taxation services - other services
2,973,668 -	2,855,847 43,747	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets - owned assets - leased assets
297,045	297,046	Amortisation of intangible fixed assets
827,305	(35,853)	Provision for claims
		3. Interest payable
48,326 -	642,363	Interest on bank loans and overdrafts Interest on other loans
	642,363	

4. Employees

The average number of employees, including directors employed by the company, during the year was:

	2008 Number	2007 Number
Administration and management	508	59 2
Operational, including branch staff	1,148	1,369
	1,656	1,961
Staff costs, including directors:	£	£
Wages and salaries	37,312,495	55,245,547
Social security costs	4,587,942	6,163,932
Other pension costs (defined contribution schemes)	374,066	424,090
	42,274,503	61,833,569

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31 December 2008

5. Directors	2008 £	2007 £
Directors' emoluments Pension contributions	310,894 34,430	423,145 30,000
	345,324	453,145

The highest paid director received emoluments of £193,710 (2007 - £353,763) and pension contributions of £30,000 (2007 - £30,000).

All directors are members of a defined contribution pension scheme.

6. Share-based payment transactions

During the year, the group participated in a share based payment arrangement known as the Spicerhaart Group Limited 2007 Enterprise Management Incentive Plan. On 8 February 2007, 113,142 options were issued over the ordinary shares of Spicerhaart Group Limited. The options vest between three and five years after date of grant, and the conditions for vesting are continuous service and the satisfaction of performance targets. The options must be exercised within ten years of the date of grant.

The estimated fair value of each share option granted is £9.77. The estimated fair value was calculated by applying a Black-Scholes option pricing model. The model inputs were:

Share price at date of grant £20 Exercise price of £20 Expected volatility of 50% Risk free rate of 4.75% Contractual life of 5 years

The group has estimated the number of options likely to vest and will expense that value over the relevant period. Vesting estimates take account of the group's staff retention rate. Volatility has been estimated by taking the historical volatility of a comparable company and adjusting where there are known factors that may affect future volatility.

Further details of the share option plan are as follows:

, ,	2008	2008 Weighted	2007	2007 Weighted
	Number of options	average exercise price	Number of options	average exercise price
Outstanding at start of year	100,853	20	-	•
Granted	_	-	113,142	20
Forfeited	22,180	20	12,289	20
Outstanding at end of year	78,673	20	100,853	20
Exercisable at end of year	-	-	-	-

The options outstanding at 31 December 2008 had an exercise price of £20 and a remaining contractual life of between I and 3 years.

	2008 £	2007 £
Expense arising from share based payment transactions	200,667	257,271

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

7. Taxation	2008 £	2007 €
Analysis of change in period		
Current tax		
UK corporation tax on profits of the period Adjustments in respect of previous periods	421,537 (645,239)	3,823,632 (118,747)
Deferred tax	(223,702)	3,704,885
Origination and reversal of timing differences	(35,504)	(64,513)
Tax on (loss)/profit on ordinary activities	(259,206)	3,640,372
Factors affecting the tax charge for the year:		
(Loss)/profit on ordinary activities before tax	(3,911,064)	10,529,676
(Loss)/profit multiplied by the standard rate of 28.5% (2007 – 30%)	(1,114,563)	3,158,903
Effects of:		
Depreciation ahead of capital allowances	352,852	263,697
Disallowed expenditure	390,140	401,032
Trading losses carried back	481,004	-
Adjustments in respect of previous periods	(645,239)	(118,747)
Trading losses carried forward	312,104	-
Current tax	(223,702)	3,704,885
8. Intangible fixed assets		Goodwill £
8. Intangible fixed assets Cost		£
Cost At I January 2008		£ 3,402,178
Cost		£
Cost At I January 2008 Additions		3,402,178 1,586,621
Cost At I January 2008 Additions At 31 December 2008		3,402,178 1,586,621
Cost At I January 2008 Additions At 31 December 2008 Amortisation At I January 2008		3,402,178 1,586,621 4,988,799
Cost At I January 2008 Additions At 31 December 2008 Amortisation At I January 2008 Amortisation in the year		3,402,178 1,586,621 4,988,799 666,546 297,046
Cost At I January 2008 Additions At 31 December 2008 Amortisation At I January 2008 Amortisation in the year At 31 December 2008		3,402,178 1,586,621 4,988,799 666,546 297,046

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31 December 2008

9. Tangible fixed assets			Fixtures, fittings		
Crown	Freehold	Leasehold	and office	Motor vehicles	Total
Group	property (improvements £	equipment	venicies	i otai
Cost	_	_	_	_	_
At I January 2008	924,500	3,931,957	6,846,052	390,927	12,093,436
Additions	-	1,113,551	1,141,642	47,042	2,302,235
Disposals	-	(743,470)	(1,308,391)	(274,328)	(2,326,189)
At 31 December 2008	924,500	4,302,038	6,679,303	163,641	12,069,482
Depreciation					
At I January 2008	58,300	2,055,505	3,926,288	198,415	6,238,508
Provided during the year	9,108	982,162	1,844,287	64,037	2,899,594
Disposals	-	(641,310)	(1,138,568)	(171,352)	(1,951,230)
At 31 December 2008	67,408	2,396,357	4,632,007	91,100	7,186,872
Net book value					
At 31 December 2008	857,092	1,905,681	2,047,296	72,541	4,882,610
At 31 December 2007	866,200	1,876,452	2,919,764	192,512	5,854,928
10. Investment properties			Free	ehold land a	nd buildings £
Valuation					L
At I January 2008					201,000
Revaluation in year					(61,000)
At 31 December 2008					150,000

The historic cost of investment properties at the year end was £89,000 (2007 - £89,000). The properties were valued by Valunation Chartered Surveyors on 11 July 2009 with an effective valuation date of 31 December 2008. Corporation tax of approximately £nil (2007 - £14,000) would arise if the properties were sold at market valuation.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- · - · · r	er unlisted vestments £ 400,000
	400,000
Additions and at 31 December 2008	
Сотралу	
Investment in subsidiaries at cost	
At 1 January 2008 Additions Disposals	1,512,515 29,669,314 (6)
At 31 December 2008	31,181,823
Provision for diminution in value	
At 1 January 2008 Charge in year	1,454,718 7,470,477
At 31 December 2008	8,925,195
Net book value	
At 31 December 2008	22,256,628
At 31 December 2007	57,797

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31 December 2008

12. Investment in subsidiary companies

Subsidiary companies and their activities are as follows:

Trading Principal activity

Spicerhaart Limited Mortgages Direct Limited Essex & Suffolk Development Company Limited **Darlows Limited** H C Wolton & Son Limited Spicerhaart Professional Services Limited Spicerhaart Residential Lettings Limited HIPs.co.uk Limited Haybrook Limited Valunation Limited Spicerhaart Estate Agents Limited Spicerhaart Group Services Limited Spicerhaart Property Services Limited Spicerhaart Corporate Sales Limited Indigo Limited (56% owned) Mustbesold.com Limited

Estate agency Financial services Property investment Estate agency Surveying Ancillary services Property management services Provider of home information packs Estate agency Surveying Estate Agency Provider of administrative services Property management Estate agency Estate agency Estate agency

Non-trading

haart Limited Spicer McColl (Estate Agents) Limited Spicer McColl Property Management Company Limited Felicity J Lord Limited haart Agencies Limited haart Real Estate Limited Spicer Haart (Commercial) Limited Spicer McColl Eastern Limited haart International Real Estate Limited Spicer McColl Limited James Jardine Limited Own Label Limited Remortgage Direct Limited Remortgages Direct Limited Haybrook Holdings Limited Felicity Investments Limited **Apollo Colchester Limited** Just Mortgages Direct Limited haart property Market Limited Indigo Property Market Limited Spicerhaart Holdings Limited Spicerhaart Financial Services Limited **Mustbesold Limited** Spicerhaart Network Services Limited Valunation.com Limited Alliance Mortgage Distribution Limited Move Legal Services Limited Mustbesold at Auction.com Limited Valunation (Panel Management) Limited

All subsidiary companies are registered in England and are wholly owned, unless otherwise stated.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31 December 2008

12. Investment in subsidiary undertakings (continued)

Acquisition of subsidiary undertakings

On 21 May 2008, 53.76% of the share capital of Indigo Limited was acquired for a cash consideration of £29. This acquisition has been accounted for by the acquisition method of accounting.

The loss after taxation of Indigo Limited included in the consolidated accounts is £1,335,103.

The table below explains the adjustments made to book values of the major categories of assets and liabilities acquired at arriving at fair values.

Fixed assets	Book value £	Accounting policy alignment	Fair value adjustments £	Fair value at date of acquisition £
Tangible Intangible	18,602	-	-	18,602 -
Total fixed assets	18,602	_		18,602
Current assets				
Debtors Cash	62,732 109,021	:	-	62,732 109,021
Total current assets	171,753	-	-	171,753
Liabilities				
Trade creditors Overdraft and loans Other creditors	21,928 2,994,762 126,550	-	- -	21,928 2,994,762 126,550
Total liabilities	3,143,240			3,143,240
Net liabilities	(2,952,885)	-		(2,952,885)

The company also acquired the entire ordinary share capital of Spicerhaart Group Services Limited, Spicerhaart Holdings Limited, Spicerhaart Property Services Limited and Spicerhaart Corporate Sales Limited for an initial nominal consideration during the year. At the time of acquisition, these companies were dormant. As part of a group reconstruction which took place on 19 November 2008, various group companies issued further share capital to Spicerhaart Group Limited in consideration for repayment of group debt and the transfer of business assets and goodwill to other companies.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

13. Debtors	2008			2007	
	Group	Company	Group	Company	
Amounts due within one year	£	£	Ĺ	£	
Trade debtors	7,951,402	•	9,054,445	-	
Amounts owed by group companies	•	6,544,252	-	14,277,937	
Other debtors and accrued income	6,923,194	-	5,913,120	-	
Deferred taxation (note 14)	941,295		905,791	-	
	15,815,891	6,544,252	15,873,356	14,277,937	
Amounts due after one year					
Amounts owed by group companies		1,490,038			
14. Deferred taxation - group	·		2008 £ 941,295	2 007 £ 905,791	
Capital allowances in arrears of depreciation		_	771,273	703,771	
Asset at start of period			905,791		
Deferred tax credit in profit and loss account			35,504		
Asset at end of period		_	941,295		
The following deferred tax assets have not been reco event of sufficient future taxable profits.	gnised in the balanc	e sheet, and w			
			2008 €	2007	
			_	•	
Losses carried forward			306,629	171 070	
Fixed asset timing differences		_	-	171,820	
Potential deferred tax asset			306,629	171,820	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31 December 2008

15. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	ne year 2008 20			
	Group £	Company £	Group £	Company £
Amounts owed to group companies		17,699,739	_	-
Trade creditors	1,571,846	-	1,532,432	-
Other taxation and social security	2,538,722	-	4,050,714	-
Other creditors and accruals	8,789,576	30,595	14,196,055	44,665
Bank loans	7,505,606		•	-
Corporation tax	191,466	-	1,958,494	-
	20,597,216	17,730,334	21,737,695	44,665

Included in accruals is a provision of £1,831,656 (2007 - £2,322,904) in relation to professional indemnity claims. This provision is based on the group's best estimate of the likely outcome.

£

Movements in this provision in the year were as follows:

At I January 2008	2,322,904
Additional provisions made in the period	104,350
Amounts used in the period	(455,355)
Unused amounts reversed in the period	(140,203)
At 31 December 2008	1,831,656

Bank loans bear interest at 4.51% and are secured by way of guarantees from group companies.

16.	Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year						
	Group £	2008 Company £	Group £	2007 Company £			
Othe	r loan 3,066,806						

The other loan bears interest at 2% above LIBOR and is repayable between two and four years following the occurrence of certain events that had not occurred at the date of signing these financial statements. The principal amount of the loan together with interest thereon is convertible at the option of the lender into such number of ordinary shares of Indigo Limited, a group subsidiary, equal to 20% interest in that company. The conversion right is exercisable at any time up to four years and six months after the occurrence of certain events that had not occurred at the date of signing these financial statements.

The other loan is guaranteed by group companies.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31 December 2008

17. Share capital – Group and Company	2008 £	2007 €
Authorised	~	_
Equity shares 5,558 (2007 - 5,558) ordinary shares of £1 each	5,558	5,558
Non-equity shares 100 (2007 - 100) non-participating deferred shares of £1 each	100	100
	5,658	5,658
Allotted and fully paid	****	
Equity shares 3,930 (2007 - 4,366) ordinary shares of £1 each	3,930	4,366
Non-equity shares 100 (2007 – 100) non-participating deferred shares of £1 each	100	100
	4,030	4,466

During the year the company purchased 436 of its own shares of £1 each for £1,500,000 cash from a shareholder.

18. Profit of parent company

As permitted by section 230 of the Companies Act 1985 the profit and loss account of the parent company is not presented as part of these financial statements. The parent company's profit for the financial year was £3,351,097 (2007 –£417,302).

19. Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds	2008	2007
	£	£
Group		
Opening shareholders' funds	16,477,154	9,365,579
(Loss)/profit for the year	(3,034,506)	6,889,304
Revaluation in year	(51,000)	(25,000)
Credit in respect of employee share scheme charge	200,667	257,271
Cost associated with shares repurchased in prior year	-	(10,000)
Shares repurchased in year	(1,500,000)	-
Dividends paid	(714,102)	-
Closing shareholders' funds	11,378,213	16,477,154
Company	-	
Opening shareholders' funds	14,292,844	13,885,542
Profit for the financial year	3,351,0 9 7	417,302
Cost associated with shares repurchased in prior year	-	(10,000)
Share repurchased in year	(1,500,000)	-
Dividends paid	(714,102)	
Closing shareholders' funds	15,429,839	14,292,844

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31 December 2008

20. Reserves	Share premium £	Revaluation reserve £	Profit and loss account £	Merger reserve £	Capital redemption reserve £
Group					
At 1 January 2008 Loss for the year Revaluation in year	19,239,682 - -	112,000 - (51,000)	(2,928,896) (3,034,506)	49,902 - -	-
Credit in respect of employee share scheme charge Shares repurchased in year Dividends paid	-	-	200,667 (1,500,000) (714,102)		- 436 -
At 31 December 2008	19,239,682	61,000	(7,976,837)	49,902	436
			Share premium	Profit and loss account	Capital redemption reserve £
Company			~	-	~
At I January 2008 Shares repurchased in year Profit for the year Dividends paid			19,289,582 - - -	(5,001,204) (1,500,000) 3,351,097 (714,102)	- 436 - -
At 31 December 2008			19,289,582	(3,864,209)	436

21. Financial commitments - group

The payments which the group is committed to make in the next year under operating leases are as follows:

		2008 Group	2007 Group
		6.0ap	£
(i)	Land and buildings, leases expiring	-	_
	- within one year	1,012,930	811,725
	- two to five years	2,289,215	2,293,044
	- beyond five years	1,839,655	2,328,635
		5,141,800	5,433,404
(ii)	Motor vehicles, leases expiring	<u> </u>	
	- within one year	397,207	319,817
	- two to five years	1,791,105	2,456,536
		2,188,312	2,776,353

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31 December 2008

22. Contingent liabilities

The company has cross guarantees in place with other companies in the Spicerhaart Group Limited group of companies in respect of its banking arrangements. The company has guaranteed a loan to a subsidiary. At the year end, the loan amounted to £3,066,806 (2007 - £nil).

		2008	2007	
		Group	Group	
		£	£	
Operating (loss)/profit		(4,094,424)	9,990,530	
Depreciation and amortisation		3,196,640	3,270,713	
Employee share scheme charge		200,667	257,271	
Decrease in debtors		155,701	1,133,689	
(Decrease)/increase in creditors		(7,026,714)	4,910,681	
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities		(7,568,130)	19,562,884	
24. Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement is (Decrease)/increase in cash Cash inflow from increase in debt financing (Decrease)/increase in net debt from cash flow Net funds at 1 January 2008 Net debt at 31 December 2008	in net debt	(5,364,172) (10,572,412) (15,936,584) 13,149,933 (2,786,651)	6,590,686 4,793,750 11,384,436 1,765,497	
Net debt at 31 December 2000		(2,786,631)	13,149,733	
25. Analysis of changes in net debt	At I January		At 31 December	
	2008	Cash flow	2008	
	£	£		
Cash at bank	13,149,933	(5,364,172)	7,785,761	
Loans due within one year	-	(7,505,606)	(7,505,606	
•				
Loans due after more than one year	•	(3,066,806)	(3,066,806	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31 December 2008

26. Events after the balance sheet date

After the year end, the group acquired a freehold property for £3.6 million.

27. Control

The company was under the control of P A Smith at the end of the year. He is also the ultimate controlling party.

28. Related party transactions

The company has taken advantage of the exemption provided by FRS 8 and has not disclosed transactions with group companies.