

G

Declaration by the directors of a holding company in relation to assistance for the acquisition of shares

155(6)b

CHFP025

Please do not
write in this
margin

Pursuant to section 155(6) of the Companies Act 1985

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

To the Registrar of Companies
(Address overleaf - Note 5)

For official use

Company number

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4555293

Name of company

* PARTSTRIPE LIMITED

Note
Please read the notes
on page 3 before
completing this form

* insert full name
of company

~~We~~ Karen Elisabeth Dind Jones, Paddock House, 9 Spencer Park, Wandsworth, London SW18 2SX

Benedict James Smith, Flat 9, 62 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1PH

Cornel Riklin, 103 Barrow Gate Road, Chiswick, London W4 4QS

Ø insert name(s) and
address(es) of all
the directors

† delete as
appropriate

~~We~~ ~~the said directors~~ [all the directors]† of the above company (hereinafter called 'this company') do
solemnly and sincerely declare that:

§ delete whichever
is inappropriate

The business of this company is:

- (a) ~~the carrying on of a business of insurance or of banking or of any other business~~
 (b) ~~that of a person authorised under section 1 of the Insurance Companies Act 1982 to carry on~~
~~insurance business in the United Kingdom~~
 (c) something other than the above§

This company is ~~not~~ [a] holding company of* READYSTRIPE LIMITED

_____ which is
proposing to give financial assistance in connection with the acquisition of shares
in [this company] [_____
 _____ ~~this holding company of this company~~]

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

Slaughter and May
One Bunhill Row
London
EC1Y 8YY
(Ref: HLD/SJVW)

For official Use
General Section

Post room



LD5
COMPANIES HOUSE

0422
22/12/03

Please do not
write in this
margin

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

90 A ordinary and 10,000 B ordinary shares of £1 each

(see Annex A)

(see Annex B)

Spirit Retail Bidco Limited, 107 Station Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 1BZ

† delete as appropriate

(see Annex B)

The amount of cash to be transferred to the person assisted is £ N/A

The value of any asset to be transferred to the person assisted is £ N/A

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

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

* delete either (a) or (b) as appropriate

- (a) [I/We have formed the opinion that this company will be able to pay its debts as they fall due during the year immediately following that date]* (note 3)
- (b) ~~It is intended to commence the winding-up of this company within 12 months of that date, and I/we have formed the opinion that this company will be able to pay its debts in full within 12 months of the commencement of the winding-up.~~ (note 3)

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

Declared at54 Baker St London W1

DayMonthYear11122003

on

before me

Declarants to sign below

Benedict Muth

Went

Carole

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

WILLIAM B KENNAID
A COMMISSIONER FOR

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

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

or, for companies registered in Scotland:-

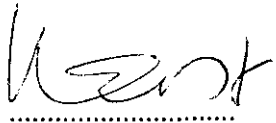
The Registrar of Companies
Companies House
37 Castle Terrace
Edinburgh
EH1 2EB

ANNEX A

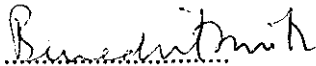
The assistance is given to:

Spirit Retail Bidco Limited (previously named Spirit Amber Bidco Limited, No 4872046) of 107 Station Street, Burton on Trent, Staffordshire, DE14 1 BZ.

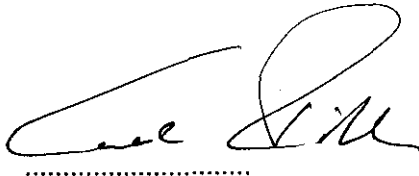
Signatures of Declarants:



Karen Jones



Benedict Smith



Cornel Riklin

Declared at 54 Baker Street, London W1U 7DA, England, before me on 11 December 2003



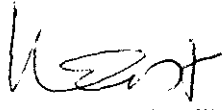
WILLIAM B KENNAIR
A COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS

ANNEX B

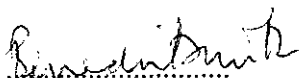
The assistance will take the form of:

- (A) a guarantee and indemnity, on the terms set out in Annex C, (the "Guarantee and Indemnity") by Readystripe Limited ("the Company") pursuant to an accession agreement (the "Credit Facility Accession Agreement") to the credit facility agreement entered into by, *inter alia*, Spirit Group Parent Limited, Spirit Group Holdings Limited and Spirit Retail Bidco Limited (the "Original Obligors") and The Royal Bank of Scotland plc (the "Facility Agent") dated 5 October 2003 (the "Credit Facility Agreement") to facilitate the acquisition by Spirit Retail Bidco Limited of the entire issued share capital of certain companies comprising the Scottish and Newcastle Retail managed pubs, restaurants and lodges business from Scottish and Newcastle PLC;
- (B) a subordination of certain debt to the debt under the Finance Documents (as defined in the Credit Facility Agreement), on the terms set out in Annex C, pursuant to an accession agreement (the "Priority Deed Accession Agreement") to the subordination agreement dated 5 October 2003 (the "Priority Deed") entered into by, *inter alia*, the Original Obligors, the hedging banks named in it and the Facility Agent; and
- (C) a grant of security by the Company over all of the assets of the Company, on the terms set out in Annex C, pursuant to a security document (the "Security Document") in favour of the Facility Agent to secure the Guarantee and Indemnity and any other obligations or liabilities of the Company under any Finance Document (as defined in the Credit Facility Agreement) to which it is a party (the "Secured Liabilities").

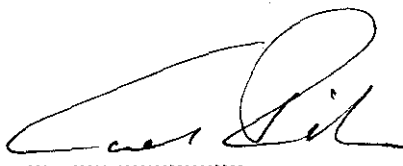
Signatures of Declarants:



Karen Jones



Benedict Smith



Cornel Riklin

Declared at 54 Baker Street, London W1U 7DA, England, before me on 11 December 2003



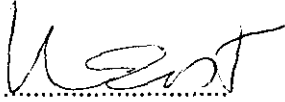
WILLIAM B KENNAIR
A COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS

ANNEX C

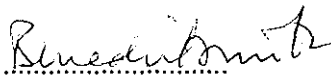
The principal terms on which the assistance will be given are:

- (A) pursuant to the Credit Facility Accession Agreement (as defined in Annex B), Readystripe Limited ("the Company"), by becoming an Additional Obligor under the Credit Facility Agreement, will guarantee the payment obligations of Spirit Group Parent Limited and the other Obligors under the Credit Facility Agreement and indemnify each Finance Party (as defined in the Credit Facility Agreement) against any loss or liability suffered by a Finance Party if any obligation guaranteed by the Company is or becomes unenforceable, invalid or illegal;
- (B) pursuant to the Priority Deed Accession Agreement (as defined in Annex B), the Company will accede to the Priority Deed to achieve subordination of intercompany debt (the "Subordinated Debt") to the debt (the "Senior Debt") under the Finance Documents (as defined in the Credit Facility Agreement) to the effect that payment of any amount of the Subordinated Debt is conditional upon the Finance Parties having irrevocably recovered in full all of the Senior Debt, except to the extent of any Permitted Payment (as defined in the Priority Deed); and
- (C) pursuant to the Security Document (as defined in Annex B) the Company will grant first fixed and floating charges over the assets of the Company as security for the payment and discharge of all present and future obligations and liabilities (whether actual or contingent and whether owned jointly or severally or in any other capacity whatsoever) of each Obligor to any Finance party under each Finance Document (as defined in the Credit Facility Agreement) to which the Obligor is a party, except for any obligation or liability which, if it were so included, would result in the Security Document contravening Section 151 of the Companies Act 1985.

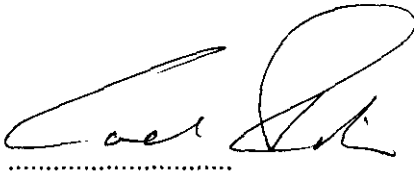
Signatures of Declarants:



Karen Jones



Benedict Smith



Cornel Riklin

Declared at 54 Baker Street, London W1U 7DA, England, before me on 11 December 2003

CB033440150



WILLIAM B KENNAIR
A COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS

Auditors' report to the directors of Partstripe Limited pursuant to section 156(4) of the Companies Act 1985

We have examined the attached statutory declaration of the directors of Partstripe Limited ("the Company") dated 11 December 2003, prepared in accordance with applicable United Kingdom Law, in connection with the proposal that Readystripe Limited, a subsidiary of the Company should give financial assistance for the purchase of the whole of the issued share capital of the Company.

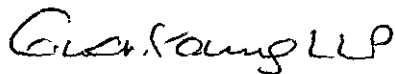
This report is made solely to the directors in accordance with Section 156(4) of the Companies Act 1985. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the directors those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the directors, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Basis of opinion

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

Opinion

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



Ernst & Young LLP
Registered Auditor
Birmingham
11 December 2003