**Annual Report** 

for the year ended 31 December 2010

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# **Annual Report**

# for the year ended 31 December 2010

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# **Directors and advisors**

### **Directors**

D Bauernfeind I Baxter

## Registered office

34 Leadenhall Street London EC3A 1AX

# Independent auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
1 Embankment Place
London
WC2N 6RH

### **Solicitors**

Clifford Chance LLP 10 Upper Bank Street London E14 5JJ

## **Bankers**

Lloyds TSB Bank plc PO Box 72 Bailey Drive Gillingham Business Park Kent ME8 0LS

# Director's report for the year ended 31 December 2010

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 December 2010

#### Principal activity

The principal activity of the company is the provision of business support advisory services to insurers and brokers

#### Review of business and future developments

The results of the company show pre-tax profits of £79,000 (2009 £313,000) for the year and sales of £2,257,000 (2009 £3,013,000)

The directors are reviewing the strategic options for the business, specifically whether to merge it into another Xchanging Group business, it is likely that a decision will be made in 2011

#### Principal risks and uncertainties

#### **Business risk**

The management of the business and the execution of the company's strategy are subject to a number of risks

The key business risks and uncertainties affecting the company are considered to relate to failure to achieve new contractual relationships and continuation of recurring projects along with the loss of key personnel

### Financial risk

The company is exposed to a variety of financial risks which are reviewed on a regular basis in order to limit the adverse effects on the financial performance of the company

#### (i) Credit risk

The company has a concentration of credit risk with respect to trade receivables due to the nature and structure of its customer base. Credit risk assessments are performed when signing up new customers and regular credit control reviews are performed to monitor the collection of debt.

#### (II) Liquidity risk

The company actively monitors that it has sufficient funds for operations as part of the Xchanging plc group's cash management policies. The company does not currently make use of any financing arrangements but this will be continually reviewed as the business develops and matures.

# Director's report for the year ended 31 December 2010 (continued)

## Key performance indicators (KPI)

The board measures the company's progress based on the KPI's below

	2010	2009	Definition, method of calculation and analysis
Growth in sales (%)	(25)	(24)	Fall in sales due to difficult economic conditions and
			reduced staffing
Operating margin (%)	3	10	Operating margin is the ratio of operating profit to
			sales expressed as a percentage Fall is due to a
1			decline in sales in 2010

#### Results and dividends

The company's profit after tax for the year was £45,000 (2009 £225,000) No dividends were paid or are proposed (2009 £nil)

#### **Directors**

The directors who held office during the year and up to the date of signing the financial statements were

#### Name

D Bauernfeind I Baxter

#### Statement of disclosure of information to auditors

Each director of the company, in office at the time of approval of this report, acknowledges that so far as the director is aware

- there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware, and
- he has taken all the steps that he ought to have taken as a director in order to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information

# Director's report for the year ended 31 December 2010 (continued)

## Statement of directors' responsibilities

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, the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) Under company law, the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they 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 these financial statements, the directors are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgements and accounting 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,
- ■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 adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. 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.

#### Independent auditors

The auditors, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, have indicated their willingness to continue in office. The company has elected to dispense with the requirement to appoint auditors annually, therefore, in the absence of a notice proposing that the appointment be terminated, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP will continue as auditors to the company

On behalf of the board

lan Baxter

l Baxter Director

4th May 2011

# Independent auditors' report to the members of XCHANGING ADVISORY SERVICES LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements of Xchanging Advisory Services Limited for the year ended 31 December 2010 which comprise the profit and loss account, the balance sheet and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice)

### Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As explained more fully in the statement of directors' responsibilities set out on page 4 the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the company's members as a body in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing

### Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed, the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors, and the overall presentation of the financial statements.

#### **Opinion on financial statements**

In our opinion the financial statements

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2010 and of the company's profit for the year then ended,
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice,
- and have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006

# Independent auditors' report to the members of XCHANGING ADVISORY SERVICES LIMITED

## Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us, or
- the company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns, or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made, or
- · we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit

Paul Aitken (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors London

4th May 2011

# Profit and Loss Account for the year ended 31 December 2010

	Notes		
		Year ended	Year ended
		31 December	31 December
		2010	2009
		£'000	£'000
Turnover	2	2,257	3,013
Operating costs	3	(2,183)	(2,715)
Operating profit		74	298
Interest receivable and similar income	6	5	15
			-
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation		79	313
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	7	(45)	(88)
Profit for the financial year		34	225

The company had no gains or losses other than those included in the results above, therefore no separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has been presented

There is no material difference between the profit on ordinary activities before taxation and the retained profit for the year stated above and their historical cost equivalents

All results are in respect of continuing operations

# Balance sheet as at 31 December 2010

Fixed assets	1
	1
Tangible assets 8 5	
5	1
Current assets	
Debtors amounts falling due within	
•	)75
Cash at bank and in hand1,6231,0	066_
<b>3,397</b> 4,1	41
Creditors amounts falling due within one year 10 (1,095) (1,8	86)
Net current assets 2,302 2,2	255
Total assets less current liabilities 2,307 2,2 Creditors amounts falling due after	255
one year 11 (3)	(4)
Net assets 2,304 2,2	251
Capital and reserves	
Called up share capital 13 1	1
Profit and loss account 14 2,303 2,2	250
Total shareholders' funds 15 2,304 2,2	251

The financial statements on pages 7 to 17 were approved by the board of directors on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2011 and were signed on its behalf by

lan Baxter Director

Xchanging Advisory Services Limited

Registered number 05070182

# Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2010 (Continued)

#### 1 Principal accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and applicable Accounting Standards in the United Kingdom. A summary of the more significant accounting policies, which, unless otherwise stated, have been applied consistently with the prior year, is set out below.

#### Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention

#### Going concern

The directors believe that preparing the accounts on the going concern basis is appropriate based on budgets and cash flow projections

#### Turnover

Turnover represents amounts receivable for services provided in the normal course of business, net of trade rebates, value added tax and other sales related taxes. Turnover from the provision of technical services is recognised on a time and material basis.

#### Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at historic purchase cost less accumulated depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets, less their estimated residual values, on a straight-line basis over the expected useful economic lives of the assets concerned. The principal annual rates used for this purpose are

Computer equipment

33%

#### Cash at bank and in hand

Cash includes cash in hand and demand deposits which are readily convertible to cash and are subject to minimal risk of changes in value. Cash held in foreign currencies is recognised at the exchange rate ruling on the balance sheet date, with any foreign exchange differences recognised in the profit and loss account.

#### Pensions

The costs of providing defined contribution pensions and related benefits are charged to the profit and loss account as incurred

#### **Deferred taxation**

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date where transactions or events that result in an obligation to pay more, or a right to pay less, tax in the future have occurred at the balance sheet date. However, deferred tax assets are regarded as recoverable and therefore recognised, only when, on the basis of all available evidence, the directors consider that it is more likely than not that there will be suitable taxable profits from which the future reversal of the underlying timing differences can be deducted.

for the year ended 31 December 2010 (Continued)

#### **Deferred taxation (Continued)**

Deferred tax is measured on a non-discounted basis at the rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which timing differences reverse, based on tax rates and laws enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date

#### Related party transactions

The company has taken advantage of the exemption available in FRS 8 not to disclose transactions with related parties that are 100% owned by the Xchanging plc group. All other related party transactions are disclosed in note 18

#### Cash flow statement

The company is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Xchanging plc and is included in the consolidated financial statements of Xchanging plc, which are publicly available. Consequently, the company has taken advantage of the exemption from preparing a cash flow statement under the terms of FRS 1.

#### Foreign currencies

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities are translated at the rates of exchange ruling on the balance sheet date and any differences arising are taken to the profit and loss account.

#### 2 Turnover

The principal activity of the company is the provision of business support advisory services to insurers and brokers

	2010 £'000	2009 £'000
Turnover by Destination.	2 000	2000
United Kingdom	1,631	2,060
Europe	191	406
Rest of World	435	547
	2,257	3,013

# Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2010 (Continued)

# 3 Operating costs

Operating costs comprise	2010	2009
	£'000	£'000
Staff costs		
Wages and salaries	292	1,005
Social security costs	44	133
Share based payments	19	9
	355	1,147
Other operating costs	1,828	1,568
	2,183	2,715
Depreciation	1	-
Impairment of trade receivables	•	-
Auditors' remuneration – audit services	18	18

## 4 Directors' emoluments

	2010	2009
	£'000	£,000
Directors' emoluments		
Aggregate emoluments	0	150
Amounts paid to related parties for directors services	62	13
	62	163

Included in directors emoluments above are fees totalling £62,000 (2009 £13,000) that were paid to another Xchanging group company during the year as the directors are employees of that Xchanging group company. During the year one director exercised options over 5p ordinary shares of Xchanging plc, the ultimate parent company (2009 0). There are no directors with retirement benefits accruing under defined contribution or defined benefit schemes.

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# Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2010 (Continued)

# 5 Employees

The average number of persons (including executive directors) employed by the company during the year was

	2010 Number	2009 Number
By activity		
Service delivery	2	4
Seiling and distribution	-	1
Administration	1	1
	3	6
6 Interest receivable and similar income	2010 £'000	2009 £'000
Short term deposits Bank interest	5 	14

# Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2010 (Continued)

# 7 Tax charge on profit on ordinary activities

	2010	2009
	£'000	£'000
Current tax:		
UK corporation tax on profits of the year	40	90
Total current tax	40	90
Deferred tax.		
Reversal of temporary differences	5	(2)
Total deferred tax (note 12)	5	(2)
Total tax charge for the current year	45	88

The current tax assessed for the year is higher than (2009 higher than) the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK (28%) (2009 28%). The differences are explained below

	2010 £'000	2009 £'000
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	79	313
Profit on ordinary activities multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 28% (2009 28 0%)	22	88
Adjustments in respect of prior years	13	-
Performance share plan	5	2
Current tax charge for the year	40	90

Announcements were made during and after the year end by the Chancellor of the Exchequer of proposed changes to corporation tax rates that will have an effect on future tax charges of the company. The change in the corporation tax rate from 28% to 26% with effect from 1 April 2011 was substantially enacted on 29 March 2011. Further reductions of 1% thereafter to 23% from 1 April 2014 have been announced but not substantively enacted.

The deferred tax position has been provided for at 27% reflecting the rate expected on 1 April 2011 that was substantially enacted at 31 December 2010. The effect of the reduction to 26% from 1 April 2011, is to reduce the deferred tax asset provided at the balance sheet date and decrease the profit on ordinary activities after taxation for the year by £179.

for the year ended 31 December 2010 (Continued)

# 8 Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment £'000	Total £'000
Cost		
At 1 January 2010	2	2
Additions	5	5
At 31 December 2010	7	7
Accumulated depreciation		
At 1 January 2010	1	1
Charge for the year	1	1
At 31 December 2010	2	2
Net book value		
At 31 December 2009	1	1
At 31 December 2010	5	
ACOT December 2010		
9 Debtors		
	2010	2009
	£'000	£'000
Trade debtors	23	-
Amounts owed by group undertakings	1,599	2,849
Other debtors	98	36
Deferred tax (note 12)	5	10
Corporation tax	-	147
Prepayments and accrued income	49	33
	1.774	3 075

Amounts owed by group undertakings are unsecured, interest free and repayable on demand

for the year ended 31 December 2010 (Continued)

# 10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2010	2009
	£'000	£,000
Trade creditors	55	-
Amounts owed to group undertakings	461	987
Group relief payable	345	514
Taxation and social security	169	66
Corporation tax	19	-
Other creditors	•	7
Accruals and deferred income	46	312
	1,095	1,886

Amounts owed to group undertakings are unsecured, interest free and are repayable on demand

## 11 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2010 £'000	2009 £'000
Tax and social security	3	4
12 Deferred Tax		
	2010	2009
	£'000	£'000
Deferred tax asset comprises:		
Reversal of temporary differences	5	10
Deferred tax asset at end of year	5	10
At 1 January	10	8
Amount charged to the profit and loss (note 7)	(5)	2
Deferred tax asset at 31 December	5	10

There is no unprovided deferred tax (2009 £nil)

for the year ended 31 December 2010 (Continued)

# 13 Called up share capital

	2010 £'000	2009 £'000
Authorised 1,000 (2009 1,000) ordinary shares of £1 each	1	1
Allotted, and fully paid 1,000 (2009 1,000) ordinary shares of £1 each	1	1

## 14 Reserves

	Profit and loss account £'000
At 1 January 2010	2,250
Retained profit for the financial year	34
Share options	19
At 31 December 2010	2,303

# 15 Reconciliation of movements in equity shareholder's funds

	2010	2009
	£'000	£'000
Opening equity shareholder's funds	2,251	2,018
Retained profit for the financial year	34	225
Share options	19	8
Closing equity shareholder's funds	2,304	2,251

for the year ended 31 December 2010 (Continued)

# 16 Share based payments

An award has been granted under the Performance Share Plan to one employee of the company (2009 – one) Under the terms of the scheme, conditional awards of shares in Xchanging plc are granted, which will vest at the end of the three year performance. Full details of the scheme are outlined in the accounts of Xchanging plc, the ultimate parent company

## 17 Parent undertaking and ultimate controlling party

Xchanging Advisory Services Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Xchanging Insurance Professional Services Ltd , a company incorporated in the United Kingdom

The ultimate parent company is Xchanging plc, a company incorporated in England and Wales. The results of Xchanging Advisory Services Limited are included in the Xchanging plc consolidated financial statements, copies of which may be obtained from Xchanging plc, 13 Hanover Square, London, W1S 1HN, United Kingdom Xchanging plc is the only undertaking to include the results of the company in its consolidated financial statements.

## 18 Related party transactions

The companies set out below are considered to be related parties of the company as they all share the same ultimate controlling party, Xchanging plc

The individual companies, together with a description of the nature of the services provided by the company and the amount receivable in respect of each at 31 December 2009, are set out in the table below

Related Party	Services provided by the company	Rever	Revenue		Receivable	
,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,			2009	2009 2010	2009	
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£,000	
Xchanging Ins-sure Services Group	- Secondees	509	486	284	38	
Xchanging Claims Services Group	- Secondees and other recharges	27	403	6	40	
Xchanging Broking Services	- Secondees	116	523	40	43	