

**CHESHIRE SALT HOLDINGS LIMITED**

**Report and financial statements  
for the period ended 31 March 2012**



## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the 15 month period ended 31 March 2012

### **PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND REVIEW OF BUSINESS**

The company acts as an intermediate holding company

The company made a loss after taxation of £1,000 (year ended 31 December 2010 loss of £433,000) No dividends were paid in either period

### **CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP**

On 18 January 2011 the company was acquired by Tata Chemicals Europe Holdings Limited Further details regarding the ultimate controlling party are provided in Note 13 to the financial statements

### **DIRECTORS AND THEIR INTERESTS**

The directors who held office during the period are shown below

R O Jones	(resigned 18 January 2011)
C W Thompson	(resigned 11 June 2012)
D A Steven	(resigned 18 January 2011)
D Challinor	(resigned 18 January 2011)
R S Adcock	(resigned 18 January 2011)
C E Wormald	(resigned 18 January 2011)
T N Brown	(resigned 18 January 2011)
A N Runciman	(resigned 18 January 2011)
M G Vaughan	(resigned 18 January 2011)
J L Abbotts	(appointed 18 January 2011)
M J Ashcroft	(appointed 18 January 2011)
N C Chamberlain	(appointed 18 January 2011, resigned 23 January 2012)
P P Houghton	(appointed 18 January 2011)
L Iravanian	(appointed 18 January 2011)
J S Melia	(appointed 18 January 2011)
L D Weston	(appointed 18 January 2011)
D L Bloomquist	(appointed 28 January 2011)

Certain directors have provided finance to the company in the form of "B" loan notes, the details of which are included in Note 11 to the financial statements All of the loan notes were repaid during the period Certain directors were provided with loans from the company, the details of which are included in Note 3 to the financial statements

### **FUTURE OUTLOOK**

As referred to in note 1 to the financial statements, the directors have concluded that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future For this reason, the directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued)**

### **AUDITOR**

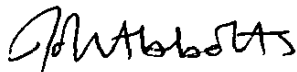
Each of the persons who is a director at the date of approval of this report confirms that

- so far as each director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditor is unaware, and
- each director 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 auditor is aware of that information

This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of section 418 of the Companies Act 2006

Deloitte LLP were appointed as auditor during the period. Deloitte LLP have expressed their willingness to continue in office as auditor and a resolution to reappoint them will be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting

By order of the Board



**JL Abbotts**  
**Director**  
15 June 2012

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## **DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT**

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual 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 prepared the company 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 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, 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 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 AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CHESHIRE SALT HOLDINGS LIMITED**

We have audited the financial statements of Cheshire Salt Holdings Limited for the 15 month period ended 31 March 2012 which comprise the profit and loss account, the statement of total recognised gains and losses, the balance sheet and the related notes 1 to 12. 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).

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. 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 auditor**

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement, 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 an 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.

### **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. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the annual report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

### **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 March 2012 and of its loss for the period 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.

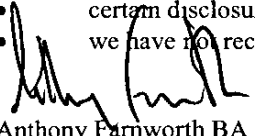
### **Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion the information given in the Directors' Report for the financial period 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, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us, or
- the 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.

  
Anthony Farnworth BA ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of Deloitte LLP  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor  
Manchester, United Kingdom

15 June 2012

**PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT**  
**15 month period ended 31 March 2012**

	Note	15 month period ended 31 March 2012 £'000	Year ended 31 December 2010 £'000
Administrative expenses		-	(436)
<b>OPERATING LOSS</b>	2	-	(436)
Interest receivable	5	5	12
Interest payable and similar charges	5	(6)	-
<b>LOSS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION</b>		(1)	(424)
Taxation	6	-	(9)
<b>LOSS FOR THE FINANCIAL PERIOD</b>	10	(1)	(433)

The historical cost profit is identical to that disclosed above, and therefore no separate note of historical cost profits and losses has been presented

All operations are classed as continuing

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

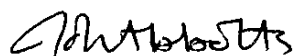
No separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has been presented as all such gains and losses have been dealt with in the profit and loss account

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**As at 31 March 2012**

		<b>31 March 2012 £'000</b>	<b>31 December 2010 £'000</b>
	<b>Note</b>		
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Investments	11	-	-
		-	-
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	7	2	103
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		2	103
<b>CREDITORS. amounts falling due within one year</b>	8	-	(102)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		2	1
<b>CAPITAL AND RESERVES</b>			
Called up share capital	9	140	138
Capital redemption reserve	10	28	28
Share premium account	10	178	178
Profit and loss account	10	(344)	(343)
<b>SHAREHOLDER'S FUNDS</b>	10	2	1

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

The financial statements of Cheshire Salt Holdings Limited, registered number 06231428, were approved by the Board of Directors on 15 June 2012 and were signed on its behalf by



**J L Abbotts**  
**Director**

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### **For the 15 month period ended 31 March 2012**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

##### **Basis of accounting**

These financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis, under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the applicable law and United Kingdom accounting policies. The principal accounting policies, which have been applied consistently throughout the period are set out below.

The company has taken advantage of the exemption from preparing consolidated financial statements afforded by section 400 of the Companies Act 2006 because it is a wholly owned subsidiary of Tata Chemicals Europe Holdings Limited which prepares consolidated financial statements which are publicly available. The company is also, on this basis, exempt from the requirement of FRS 1 (revised 1996) to prepare a cash flow statement.

##### **Going concern**

The performance, financial position and the key risks impacting the company are detailed in the Directors' Report on pages 2-3. The company is a subsidiary of Tata Chemicals Europe Holdings Limited ("TCEHL"), and acts as a guarantor and obligor to a banking facilities agreement between TCEHL and a syndicate of banks headed by Standard Chartered Bank. TCEHL and its subsidiaries (together "the subgroup") manage their financing and cash requirements on a pooled basis, allocating it between subsidiaries to meet short and medium term requirements. As a result of this relationship, the going concern basis of preparation of the financial statements is inextricably linked with the other companies in the subgroup. Based on the strong relationship between the company and TCEHL, the directors of this company are satisfied that TCEHL, being the parent of the subgroup, will continue to manage the subgroup's financial position on this basis, and as such the directors have considered the financial position of the TCEHL subgroup.

At 31 March 2012 the TCEHL subgroup was funded by £137.8m of debt which consisted of a £123.5m term loan and a £14.3m revolving credit facility. £13m of the senior debt is repayable within one year.

The directors of TCEHL have prepared forecasts of the subgroup's profitability and cash generation for the period to March 2017 ("the forecasts"), taking into account the sensitivity of business performance to reasonably possible changes in market conditions and as a result of the current economic climate. These forecasts indicate that the subgroup's existing facilities should be sufficient during the period. The term loan element of the senior debt has financial covenants attached, primarily based on the level of earnings and debt. The directors of TCEHL have assessed these covenants against the forecasts with the base case showing no breaches over the going concern period. The directors of TCEHL have considered reasonably possible changes in market conditions against these covenants and believe that any adverse changes could be managed through mitigating actions to prevent a breach in any of the covenants. In making their assessment the directors have also considered the net liability position of the group. This arises due to the pension liability associated with the subgroup's defined benefit schemes. There is an agreed funding plan in place for the pension schemes for which the cash flows associated are factored into the forecasts of the subgroup. Removing the pension liability from the balance sheet leaves an overall net assets position.

After reviewing the forecasts and making such other enquiries as were necessary, the directors have formed a judgment, at the time of approving the financial statements, that there is a reasonable expectation that the company and subgroup have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, the directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements.

##### **Fixed asset investments**

Fixed asset investments are stated at cost less amounts written off for impairment.



## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### **For the 15 month period ended 31 March 2012**

#### **1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

##### **Taxation**

Current tax is provided at amounts expected to be paid or recovered using the tax rates and law that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date

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 tax in the future or a right to pay less tax in the future have occurred at the balance sheet date. Timing differences are differences between the company's taxable profits and its result as stated in the financial statements that arise from the inclusion of gains and losses in tax assessments in periods different from those in which they are recognised in the financial statements

A net deferred tax asset is regarded as recoverable and therefore recognised only when, on the basis of all available evidence, it can be regarded as more likely than not that there will be suitable taxable profits from which the future reversal of the underlying timing differences can be deducted

Deferred tax is calculated at the average tax rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which the timing differences are expected to reverse, based on tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the balance sheet date. Deferred tax is calculated on a non-discounted basis

#### **2. OPERATING LOSS**

Audit fees are borne by the company's subsidiaries

#### **3. EMOLUMENTS OF DIRECTORS**

None of the directors received any emoluments from the company. Following the acquisition of the company on 18 January 2011 by Tata Chemicals Europe Holdings Limited, there were several changes in directors. None of the directors appointed on or after this date received any remuneration from the company and are remunerated by a fellow group undertaking, Tata Chemicals Europe Limited. Prior to the acquisition the directors were remunerated by the company's subsidiary, British Salt Limited

During 2010, the company provided interest free loans to three directors totalling £98,000. Mr A N Runciman and Mr T N Brown were provided with £37,333 each and Mr M G Vaughan was provided with £23,334. The loans were to be repaid in stages over five years or in full immediately in the event that the company was sold. Following the completion of the sale of the company to Tata Chemicals Europe Holdings Limited on 18 January 2011 the loans were duly repaid in full

#### **4. EMPLOYEE COSTS**

Other than the directors, the company has no employees

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the 15 month period ended 31 March 2012**

**5. INTEREST PAYABLE AND RECEIVABLE**

	<b>15 month period ended 31 March 2012 £'000</b>	<b>Year ended 31 December 2010 £'000</b>
Interest payable and similar charges		
Interest payable to fellow group companies	6	-
<b>Total interest payable and similar charges</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>-</b>
Interest receivable from fellow group companies	(5)	(12)
<b>Net interest payable / (receivable)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>(12)</b>

**6. TAX ON LOSS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES**

	<b>15 month period ended 31 March 2012 £'000</b>	<b>Year ended 31 December 2010 £'000</b>
The tax charge for the period comprises		
Current tax charge for the period	-	-
Adjustments in respect of previous periods	-	9
	-	9

Circumstances that affect the current tax charges for the period are as follows

	<b>15 month period ended 31 March 2012 £'000</b>	<b>Year ended 31 December 2010 £'000</b>
Loss on ordinary activities before tax	(1)	(424)
Expected tax on loss at 26.4% (31 December 2010 28%)	-	(119)
Effects of		
Expenses not deductible for taxation purposes	-	99
Group relief surrendered at nil charge	-	20
Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous periods	-	9
Current tax charge	-	9

There are no unrecognised deferred tax assets or liabilities

**Change in rate of corporation tax**

During the period the UK government substantively enacted a reduction in the headline rate of UK corporation tax to 26% with effect from 1 April 2011. Further announcements have been made which indicate the intention to continue to reduce the rate by 1% per annum down to a level of 22% by 2014, though as of the date of signing the financial statements these changes have not yet been substantively enacted.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the 15 month period ended 31 March 2012**

**7. DEBTORS**

	<b>31 March 2012 £'000</b>	<b>31 December 2010 £'000</b>
Amounts falling due within one year		
Amounts due from group undertakings	2	-
Other debtors	-	103
	<u>2</u>	<u>103</u>

**8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	<b>31 March 2012 £'000</b>	<b>31 December 2010 £'000</b>
Bank loans and overdrafts	-	76
Amounts due to group undertakings	-	26
	<u>-</u>	<u>102</u>

**9. CALLED-UP SHARE CAPITAL**

	<b>31 March 2012 Number</b>	<b>31 March 2012 £'000</b>	<b>31 December 2010 Number</b>	<b>31 December 2010 £'000</b>
<b>Allotted, called -up and fully paid</b>				
"A" ordinary shares of 1p each	72,717	1	72,717	1
"B" ordinary shares of £1 each	78,572	79	78,572	79
"C" ordinary shares £1 each	7,142	7	7,142	7
"D" ordinary shares 40p each	121,568	49	127,283	51
"L" ordinary shares 40p each	5,715	2	-	-
"A" deferred shares of 40p each	5,715	2	-	-
Preferred ordinary shares of 10p each	10	-	10	-
	<u>291,439</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>285,724</u>	<u>138</u>

**Issue of new "L" shares**

The acquisition of the company on 18 January 2011 triggered a clause in the shareholder agreements enabling the company's lending bank to exercise share warrants. The exercise of these led to the company issuing 5,715 "L" ordinary shares at par.

In accordance with the company's articles of association an equivalent number of "D" shares were redesignated as "A" deferred shares without resolution or consent of the members.

**Share rights**

Distributions from the company will be paid pro-rata to the holders of equity shares as if they were all one class.

"A", "B" and "C" ordinary shares carry equal voting rights. "D" ordinary shares provide no right to vote except in the case of a material default, in which case the number of votes will equate to 75% of the total votes. "L", "A" deferred and preferred ordinary shares confer no voting rights.

In the event of a winding up, the holders of Preferred ordinary shares rank first and are entitled to an amount equal to the redemption value of the shares. The remaining shares are treated as one class and are entitled to share equally in any surplus.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the 15 month period ended 31 March 2012**

**10. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDER'S FUNDS**

	Share capital £'000	Share premium £'000	Capital redemption reserve £'000	Profit and loss account £'000	Total £'000
At 1 January 2011	138	178	28	(343)	1
Issue of new shares	2	-	-	-	2
Loss for the period	-	-	-	(1)	(1)
At 31 March 2012	140	178	28	(344)	2

**11. INVESTMENTS**

	Shares in subsidiary undertaking £'000
<b>Cost and net book value</b>	
At 1 January 2010 and 31 March 2012	-

The company has the following subsidiaries

Company	County of incorporation	Principal activity	% of ordinary share capital held
Cheshire Salt Limited	England	Holding company	100
New Cheshire Salt Works Limited	England	Manufacture and sale of salt products	100*
Irish Feeds Limited	England	Manufacture and sale of salt products	100*
British Salt Limited	England	Manufacture and sale of salt products	100*

\* Indirect shareholding

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the 15 month period ended 31 March 2012**

**12. ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY**

From the beginning of the period until 18 January 2011, the directors believed that the company had no ultimate controlling party. Whilst Lloyds Development Capital had a majority interest in the share capital of the company, and in certain circumstances could exercise swamping rights, the directors did not believe that they exercised control on the grounds that they had little involvement in the operation and management of the company's affairs.

On 18 January 2011 the entire issued share capital of the company was acquired by Tata Chemicals Europe Holdings Limited, a company incorporated in England, which is the company's immediate parent undertaking. As a result of the acquisition, Tata Chemicals Limited, a company incorporated in India, is the company's ultimate controlling party.

The smallest group of companies of which the company is a member that produces consolidated financial statements is Tata Chemicals Europe Holdings Limited which is incorporated in England. Copies of the accounts are available from the Registrar of Companies, Crown Way, Cardiff.

The largest group of companies of which the company is a member that produces consolidated financial statements is Tata Chemicals Limited which is incorporated in India. Copies of the accounts are available from the Company Secretary, Tata Chemicals Limited, Bombay House, Mumbai, India.

The company has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard 8 "Related party disclosures" for wholly owned subsidiaries and has not disclosed transactions within the Homefield Pvt UK Limited group.