31 December 1996

Member of Lloyds TSB Group



LLOYDS LEASING (NORTH SEA TRANSPORT) LIMITED 203 Blackfriars Road London SE1 8NH

DIRECTORS

A E Moore CBE - Chairman J A Davies D H A Harrison P B Miles (alternate: A R Foad)

SECRETARY

P A Stafford

AUDITORS

Price Waterhouse

REGISTERED OFFICE

71 Lombard Street London EC3P 3BS

REGISTERED NUMBER

1107543

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY

The principal activity of the company is the leasing of plant and equipment.

At the end of the year the cost of leased assets amounted to £85,093,000.

The company is a partner in a leasing partnership, North Sea Marine Leasing Company.

RESULTS AND DIVIDEND

The profit after taxation for the year ended 31 December 1996 amounted to £464,000, including a net profit of £134,000 attributable to North Sea Marine Leasing Company after taking account of interest costs, as set out in the profit and loss account on page 5.

An interim dividend of £450,000 will be paid in March 1997.

DIRECTORS

The names of the present directors of the company are shown on page 1.

All the directors are also directors of Lloyds Leasing Limited, the immediate parent company, and reference to their interests in the capital of Lloyds TSB Group plc, the ultimate parent company, and its subsidiaries is made in the report and accounts of Lloyds Leasing Limited.

POLICY ON PAYMENT OF CREDITORS

Businesses within the Lloyds TSB Group are responsible for agreeing terms with their suppliers. In the UK, standard terms provide for payment of all invoices within 30 days after the date of the invoice, except where different arrangements have been agreed with suppliers. It is the policy of the Lloyds TSB Group to abide by the agreed terms of payment.

On behalf of the board

P A Stafford Secretary

24 February 1997

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBER OF LLOYDS LEASING (NORTH SEA TRANSPORT) LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 11 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page 4.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year 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 a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors have responsibility for ensuring the company keeps accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the company and which 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.

It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards 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 of the state of affairs of the company as at 31 December 1996 and of the profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Price Waterhouse Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

Southwark Towers 32 London Bridge Street London SE1 9SY

24 February 1997

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, in compliance with the Companies Act 1985 and in accordance with applicable accounting standards. The company is exempted from producing a cash flow statement since a consolidated cash flow statement prepared in accordance with the requirements of Financial Reporting Standard 1 is included in the accounts of its ultimate parent company.

The accounts of the company include its share of the assets, liabilities and results of the leasing partnership in which it has an interest.

(a) Income recognition - finance leases

Post-tax profits on leases are allocated to the profit and loss account in proportion to the net cash invested in each period taking into account the effects of taxation so as to give a constant periodic rate of return. The taxation charge and pre-tax profits are determined by reference to the post-tax profit allocated and the rate of tax applicable for the period. Income arising during the secondary lease period is recognised when due.

(b) Provisions for bad and doubtful debts

Provisions for bad and doubtful debts are based on a year-end appraisal of rentals receivable less income allocated to future periods.

(c) Deferred taxation

Deferred taxation is provided at the appropriate rates of taxation where there is a reasonable probability that a liability or asset will crystallise in the foreseeable future.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

for the year ended 31 December 1996

	Note	£000	996 £000	£000	1995 £000
TURNOVER	1		6,825		9,337
AMORTISATION OF LEASED ASSETS			4,694		6,769
			2,131		2,568
INTEREST EXPENSE	2		1,302		1,917
			829		651
OTHER INCOME	3		-		128
			829		779
OPERATING EXPENSES					
Administrative expenses Management fee payable to parent company		39 97		98 42	
			136		140
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION			693		639
TAXATION	5		229		538
PROFIT AFTER TAXATION			464		101

There are no further gains or losses attributable to the shareholder other than those disclosed above.

RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN CAPITAL AND RESERVES for the year ended 31 December 1996

	1996	1995
	£000	£000
PROFIT FOR THE YEAR AFTER TAXATION	464	101
DIVIDEND	450	150
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CAPITAL AND RESERVES	14	(49)
CAPITAL AND RESERVES AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	10	59
CAPITAL AND RESERVES AT END OF YEAR	24	10

BALANCE SHEET at 31 December 1996

	Note	£000	1996 £000	£000	1995 £000
ASSETS				2000	2000
CURRENT ASSETS					
DEBTORS					
Finance lease receivables within one year after more than one year			5,251 35,013		3,490 41,543
	6		40,264		45,033
Amounts owed by group companies Corporation tax recoverable Other debtors	8		9,730 37 119		6,630 - 76
			50,150		51,739
LIABILITIES					
CAPITAL AND RESERVES					
Called up share capital Profit and loss account	9 10		5 19		5 5
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES			24		10
Deferred taxation	11		9,115		9,550
CREDITORS					
Amounts owed to group companies Loan Other creditors	12 13	33,879 7,030 102		35,222 6,805 152	
. 1			41,011		42,179
asolone			50,150		51,739
A E Moore - Chairman					

PB Miles - Managing Director

The notes on pages 8 to 11 form part of these accounts.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1 TURNOVER

Turnover represents gross rentals receivable in the year.

2 INTEREST EXPENSE

	1996	1995
	£000	£000
Interest expense comprises:		
Interest payable to group companies		
on bank loans and overdrafts	1,919	2,427
Less: interest receivable		
from group companies	(594)	(508)
from others	(23)	(2)
	(617)	(510)
		
	1,302	1,917

3 OTHER INCOME

In 1995, the company acquired 526,000 shares at a price of £3.30 per share in a trade investment of Lloyds Bank Plc. These were subsequently sold for £3.54304 per share after expenses giving a profit of £128,000 on the transaction.

4 DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS

An aggregate amount of £3,000 was deemed to have been paid by Lloyds Bank Plc for the services of one director in respect of the management of the affairs of the company (1995: £3,000 to one director). There were no other directors' emoluments paid in respect of services to the company.

5 TAXATION

	1996	1995
	£000	£000
Group relief payable - current year	664	851
- prior year	-	369
Deferred taxation	(435)	(682)
		
	229	538
		

The taxation charge on the profit for the year has been based on a United Kingdom corporation tax rate of 33% (1995:33%).

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

6 FINANCE LEASE RECEIVABLES

	1996 £000	1995 £000
Future rentals	50,459	58,535
Less: Rentals received in advance	(980)	(1,441)
Income allocated to future periods	(9,215)	(12,061)
		<u></u> -
	40,264	45,033

Finance lease receivables represent the cost of leased assets less rentals received in advance after providing for the following:

Accumulated amortisation 43,851 47,907

7 LEASING PARTNERSHIP

The company has an interest in a leasing partnership, North Sea Marine Leasing Company. The company's share of the results and net assets of the partnership has been included in these accounts on a proportional consolidation basis. Included in finance lease receivables is £38,757,000 (1995: £42,760,000) relating to this partnership.

Under the terms of the Partnership Act 1890, there is unlimited liability in connection with the company's participation in the partnership.

8 AMOUNTS OWED BY GROUP COMPANIES

		1996 £000	1995 £000
	Amounts falling due within one year:		
	Sums due from fellow subsidiary company	9,730	6,630
9	CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL	1996 £000	1995 £000
	Authorised:		
	Ordinary shares of £1 each 5% Redeemable preference shares of £1 each	3,000 ———	5 3,000
	Allotted and issued fully paid:		
	Ordinary shares of £1 each	5	5

The company regarded by the directors as the ultimate parent company is Lloyds TSB Group plc, which is also the parent company of the largest group of companies for which group accounts are drawn up and of which the company is a member. Lloyds Bank Plc is the parent company of the smallest such group of companies. Lloyds TSB Group plc is registered in Scotland and Lloyds Bank Plc is registered in England and Wales. Copies of the group accounts of both may be obtained from the company secretary's office, Lloyds TSB Group plc, 71 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3BS.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

10 PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

	At 1 January 1996 Retained profit for the year		5 14
	At 31 December 1996		19
11	DEFERRED TAXATION		£000
	A. 1. T		
	At 1 January 1996 Charge for the year		9,550 (435)
	At 31 December 1996		9,115
	Deferred taxation relates to:		
		1996 £000	1995 £000
	Accrued interest on subordinated loan	(1,255)	(1,255)
	Accelerated depreciation allowances	10,370	10,805
		9,115	9,550
	The balances at 31 December 1996 and 1 January 1996 represent ful liability of the company to taxation on the excess of capital allowance and on accrued interest on a subordinated loan.	l provision in respect of the poter es over related amortisation of le	ntial ased assets
12	AMOUNTS OWED TO GROUP COMPANIES		
		1996 £000	1995 £000
	Amounts falling due within one year:		
	Bank overdraft	6,239	3,998
	Bank borrowings	25,251	28,204
	Amount due to fellow subsidiary companies Interest payable		48
	Group relief payable	10 1,929	22
	Interim dividend	450	1,418 150
	Amount 6.11 and a second	33,879	33,865
	Amounts falling due after more than one year:		
	Bank borrowings		1,382
		33,879	35,222

£000

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

13 LOAN

The loan comprises a subordinated loan of £3,000,000 and accumulated interest in respect of the purchase of assets for finance leases. The loan, together with accrued interest at an annual rate of 7.5%, is to be repaid in full within one year.

14 ASSETS CHARGED AS SECURITY

Charges have been registered in respect of certain leased assets of the company to secure liabilities of third parties.

15 CHANGE IN PRESENTATION

Certain prior year figures have been restated to be consistent with the basis of pesentation for the current year.

16 DATE OF APPROVAL

The directors approved the accounts on 24 February 1997.