Report and Financial Statements

Year Ended

30 April 2004





Annual report and financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2004

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Directors

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Directors

DRW Young (Chairman)

G Bains

K Rowe

R Sharrock

D Anciano

Secretary and registered office

B Latham, 39 Craven Street, London, WC2N 5NG.

Company number

2402857

Bankers

Barclays Bank Plc, 54 Lombard Street, London, EC3V 9EX.

Solicitors

Ashurst Morris Crisp, Broadwalk House, 5 Appold Street, London, EC2 2HA.

Auditors

BDO Stoy Hayward LLP, 8 Baker Street, London, W1U 3LL.

Report of the directors for the year ended 30 April 2004

The directors present their report together with the audited financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2004.

Results and dividends

The profit and loss account is set out on page 6 and shows the profit for the year.

The directors do not recommend a dividend for the year (2003 - £Nil). The retained profit for the financial year of £500,079 (2003 - £513,601) will be transferred to reserves.

Principal activities, trading review and future developments

The company specialises in applying business psychology to the development of people, teams and organisations.

The directors are pleased with the revenue growth of 30% for the year and expect the company to continue to build upon this performance going forward. This growth has been achieved given an uncertain economic climate. The international expansion element of the strategy has been progressed with the successful opening and growth of the Australian office in Sydney, this now services YSC's growing client base in the Asia-Pacific region. The first full year of operation for the Edinburgh office has also been successful with targets being met. Psymmetry has seen significant growth over the period with revenues up 26% and operational profitability up 400%.

In addition, YSC has strengthened its core service lines whilst building on its core strengths, so as to maintain its unique position in the market.

For the forthcoming year we look to develop our service offerings in Executive Coaching and the application of psychology to teams. Further investment will be made into developing and managing our intellectual capital in and effort to add further value to clients. In addition we are looking to accelerate our recruitment, to both firm up the management of the business and help meet existing and forecast demand from clients, both domestically and internally.

Charitable and political contributions

During the year the company made charitable contributions of £2,050 (2003 - £15,687).

Post balance sheet events

These are detailed in note 19 of the financial statements.

Report of the directors for the year ended 30 April 2004 (Continued)

Directors and their interests

The directors and their interests in the company during the year were:

		Ordinary shares of 10p each (2003 - £1 each)		
	2004	2003		
DRW Young (Chairman)	5,000	5,000		
G Bains	90,196	100,000		
K Rowe	90,196	100,000		
R Sharrock	33,824	37,500		
D Anciano	33,824	37,500		

Purchase of own shares

On 10 February 2004, following the departure of two employees, the company purchased for cancellation 950 ordinary shares of 10p each in the share capital of the company for an aggregate consideration of £32,300.

Directors' responsibilities

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; 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 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.

Report of the directors for the year ended 30 April 2004 (Continued)

Auditors

On 31 December 2003, BDO Stoy Hayward, the company's auditors, transferred its business to BDO Stoy Hayward LLP, a limited liability partnership incorporated under the Limited Liability Partnerships Act 2000. Accordingly BDO Stoy Hayward resigned as auditors on that date and the directors appointed BDO Stoy Hayward LLP as its successor. A resolution to reappoint BDO Stoy Hayward LLP as auditors will be proposed at the next annual general meeting.

On behalf of the Board

R Sharrock **Director**

Date 1 6 FEB 2005

Report of the independent auditors

To the shareholders of Young Samuel Chambers ("YSC")Limited

We have audited the financial statements of Young Samuel Chambers ("YSC") Limited for the year ended 30 April 2004 on pages 6 to 17 which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out on pages 9 and 10.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

The directors' responsibilities for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards are set out in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and United Kingdom Auditing Standards.

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. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Directors' Report is not consistent with the financial statements, 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.

Our report has been prepared pursuant to the requirements of the Companies Act 1985 and for no other purpose. No person is entitled to rely on this report unless such a person is a person entitled to rely upon this report by virtue of and for the purpose of the Companies Act 1985 or has been expressly authorised to do so by our prior written consent. Save as above, we do not accept responsibility for this report to any other person or for any other purpose and we hereby expressly disclaim any and all such liability.

Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with United Kingdom 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.

Report of the independent auditors (Continued)

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 30 April 2004 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

BDO STOY HAYWARD LLP

800 Stoy Hayward LLP

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors London

Date 16 February 2005

Profit and loss account for the year ended 30 April 2004

	Note	2004 £	2003 £
Turnover	2	9,169,335	6,999,719
Cost of sales		(6,190,725)	(4,717,433)
Gross profit		2,978,610	2,282,286
Administrative expenses		(2,235,371)	(1,614,382)
Operating profit		743,239	667,904
Interest receivable Interest payable	5	21,098 (7,836)	14,980 (197)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	6	756,501	682,687
Taxation on profit from ordinary activities	7	(256,422)	(169,086)
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation and retained profit for the year	12	500,079	513,601

All amounts relate to continuing activities.

All recognised gains and losses are included in the profit and loss account.

The notes on pages 9 to 17 form part of these financial statements.

Balance sheet at 30 April 2004

	Note	2004 £	2004 £	2003 £	2003 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		287,155		285,062
Current assets					
Debtors	9	2,694,954		2,151,750	
Cash at bank and in hand		2,547,022		499,367	
					
		5,241,976		2,651,117	
Creditors: amounts falling due	10	4.000 #00		1 100 000	
within one year	10	4,032,709		1,483,282	
					
Net current assets			1,209,267		1,167,835
					•
Total assets less current liabilities			1,496,422		1,452,897
Creditors: amounts falling due					
after more than one year	10		575,720		-
Net assets			920,702		1,452,897
Capital and reserves			***************************************		
Called up share capital	11		33,590		33,685
Capital redemption reserve	12		16,410		16,315
ESOP reserve	13		(999,974)		,
Profit and loss account	12		1,870,676		1,402,897
Equity shareholders' funds	15		920,702		1,452,897
- •			,		, ,

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 1 6 FEB 2005

R Sharrock Director

The notes on pages 9 to 17 form part of these financial statements.

Cash flow statement for the year ended 30 April 2004

	Note	2004 £	2004 £	2003 £	2003 £
Net cash inflow from operating activities	16		2,467,883		43,943
Returns on investments and servicing of finance Interest received Interest paid		21,098 (7,836)	13,262	14,783	14,783
			15,202		14,763
Taxation UK corporation tax paid US taxes paid		(159,917) (17,993)		(243,838) (20,086)	
			(177,910)		(263,924)
Capital expenditure Payments to acquired tangible fixed assets			(138,450)		(196,059)
Equity dividends paid			-		(505,275)
Cash inflow/(outflow) before financing			2,164,785		(906,532)
Management of liquid resources and financing New borrowings Repayment of loan Share capital purchased for cancellation Purchase of ESOP shares		1,000,000 (84,856) (32,300) (999,974)		- - -	
			(117,130)		-
Increase/(decrease) in cash	17		2,047,655		(906,532)

The notes on pages 9 to 17 form part of these financial statements.

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2004

1 Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and are in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

In preparing these financial statements the company has adopted UITF Abstracts 17 (Revised 2003) 'Employee Share Schemes' and 38 'Accounting for ESOP Trusts' for the first time. Further details are given below under the accounting policy for 'Employee Share Ownership Plans'.

The following principal accounting policies have been applied:

Turnover

Turnover, which excludes value added tax, represents the invoiced value of services supplied in the year.

Income is recognised in the profit and loss account, at the point at which the client receives the benefit of the service.

Tangible fixed assets

The cost of tangible fixed assets is their purchase cost, together with any incidental expenses of acquisition.

Depreciation is calculated so to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets less their estimated residual value on a straight line basis over the expected useful economic lives of the assets concerned. It is calculated at the following rates:

Office equipment

331/3% per annum

Furniture

12½% per annum

Fixtures and fittings

10% per annum

Deferred taxation

Deferred tax balances are recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed by the balance sheet date except that the recognition of deferred tax assets is limited to the extent that the company anticipates to making sufficient taxable profits in the future to absorb the reversal of the underlying timing differences.

Deferred tax balances are not discounted.

Operating leases

Rental costs in respect of operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

Foreign currencies

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange ruling at the dates of transactions. Assets and liabilities expressed in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at rates of exchange ruling at the end of the financial year. All foreign exchange differences are taken to the profit and loss account in the period in which they arise.

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2004 (Continued)

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

Pension costs

The company contributes to personal pension schemes on behalf of certain employees. The cost of these contributions is charged to the profit and loss account in the period to which they relate.

Employee share ownership plan

The cost of the company's shares held by the EBT is deducted from shareholders' funds in the company balance sheet. Any cash received by the EBT on disposal of the shares it holds is also recognised directly in shareholders' funds. Other assets and liabilities of the EBT (including borrowings) are recognised as assets and liabilities of the company.

Research and development

Expenditure on pure and applied research is charged to the profit and loss account in the year in which it is incurred.

Development costs are also charged to the profit and loss account in the year of expenditure, unless individual projects satisfy all of the following criteria:

- the project is clearly defined and related expenditure is separately identifiable;
- the project is technically feasible and commercially viable;
- · current and future costs are expected to be exceeded by future sales; and
- adequate resources exist for the project to be completed.

In such circumstances the costs are carried forward and amortised over a period not exceeding five years commencing in the year the group starts to benefit from the expenditure.

2 Turnover

An analysis of turnover by destination is given below:

	2004	2003
	£	£
United Kingdom	7,257,343	5,985,532
Rest of Europe	610,608	410,043
USA	830,124	340,623
Middle East	92,323	73,928
Rest of World	204,786	124,536
Asia Pacific	174,151	65,057
	9,169,335	6,999,719

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2004 (Continued)

3	Employees	2004	2003
		£	£
	Staff costs consist of:		
	Wages and salaries and other benefits	5,437,436	4,205,646
	Social security costs	416,364	360,232
	Other pension costs	165,721	178,444
		6,019,521	4,744,322
	Included in wages and salaries were bonuses payable to staff of £1,9-	————— 45,009 (2003 - £1,57)	3,758).
		2004	2003
		Number	Number
	The average number of employees, including executive directors, during the year was:		
	Consultants	33	30
	Administration	28	21
		61	51
4	Directors		
		2004	2003
		£	£
	Directors' emoluments consist of:		
	Aggregate emoluments (including benefits in kind)	1,252,813	1,208,655
	Consideration paid to a third party for services of director Company pension contributions to money purchase	25,000	25,000
	schemes in respect of 4 (2003 – 4) directors	51,300	29,750
		1,329,113	1,263,405
	Highest paid director:		
	Aggregate emoluments	407,206	396,862
	Company pension contributions to money purchase schemes		

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2004 (Continued)

	Interest payable	2004 £	2003 £
	Bank interest payable	7,836	197
6	Profit on ordinary activities before taxation		
		2004	2003
	This has been arrived at after charging:	£	£
		126.255	70 577
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	136,357	72,577
	Operating lease - property	315,420	201,329
	Auditors' remuneration - for audit services	17,400	16,000
	- non audit services	106,000	62,500
	Research and development costs	86,379	242,640
	Office refurbishment expenses	126,762	
7	Taxation	2004	2003
		£	£
	The taxation charge on the profit on ordinary activities for the year was as follows:		
	UK corporation tax	249,000	149,000
	Underprovision in respect of prior years Overseas tax	7,422 -	20,086
		256,422	169,086
	The tax assessed for the year is higher than the standard rate of cor	poration tax in t	he UK. Th
	differences are explained below:	-	
		poration tax in t 2004 £	he UK. Th 2003 £
		2004	2003
	differences are explained below: Profit on ordinary activities before tax	2004 £	2003 £
	differences are explained below:	2004 £	2003 £
	Profit on ordinary activities before tax Profit on ordinary activities at the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 30% (2003 – 30%) Effects of:	2004 £ 756,501 ————————————————————————————————————	2003 £ 682,687 204,806
	Profit on ordinary activities before tax Profit on ordinary activities at the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 30% (2003 – 30%) Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	2004 £ 756,501 ———— 226,950 39,946	2003 £ 682,687 204,806
	Profit on ordinary activities before tax Profit on ordinary activities at the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 30% (2003 – 30%) Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Deferred tax not provided for	2004 £ 756,501 ————————————————————————————————————	2003 £ 682,687 204,806 13,570 (7,695)
	Profit on ordinary activities before tax Profit on ordinary activities at the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 30% (2003 – 30%) Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Deferred tax not provided for Research and development credit	2004 £ 756,501 226,950 39,946 11,906 (12,957)	2003 £ 682,687 204,806 13,570 (7,695) (36,396)
	Profit on ordinary activities before tax Profit on ordinary activities at the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 30% (2003 – 30%) Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Deferred tax not provided for	2004 £ 756,501 ————————————————————————————————————	2003 £ 682,687 204,806

Young Samuel Chambers ("YSC") Limited

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2004 (Continued)

8	Tangible assets			
		Office equipment £	Furniture, fixtures and fittings £	Total £
	Cost			
	At 1 May 2003	275,804	286,768	562,572
	Additions	124,144	14,306	138,450
	Disposal	(13,712)		(13,712)
	At 30 April 2004	386,236	301,074	687,310
	Depreciation			
	At 1 May 2003	184,563	92,947	277,510
	Charge for the year	104,623	31,734	136,357
	Eliminated on disposal	(13,712)	-	(13,712)
	At 30 April 2004	275,474	124,681	400,155
	Net book value			
	At 30 April 2004	110,762	176,393	287,155
	At 30 April 2003	91,241	193,821	285,062
9	Debtors		2004	2003
			£	£
	Amounts falling due within one year:			
	Trade debtors		1,718,161	1,587,514
	Other debtors		187,291	80,392
	Prepayments and accrued income		789,502	483,844
			2,694,954	2,151,750

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2004 (Continued)

Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
	2004	2003
	£	£
Bank loan (secured)	339,424	-
Trade creditors	175,184	137,494
Corporation tax	261,066	164,561
Other taxation and social security costs	767,006	736,802
Accruals and deferred income	2,473,116	444,425
Other creditors	16,913	-
	4,032,709	1,483,282
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		
Bank loan (secured)	575,720	

The bank loan is held by the Employee Benefit Trust and included in the liabilities of the company in accordance with UITF 17. The bank loan is secured on the assets of the company, Young Samuel Chambers ("YSC") Limited.

11 Share capital

	Authorised				
	2004	2003	2004	2003	
	Number	Number	£	£	
Ordinary shares of 10p each	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	
					
	Al	lotted, called up	and fully paid		
	2004	2003	2004	2003	
	Number	Number	£	£	
Ordinary shares of 10p each	335,900	336,850	33,590	33,685	

On 10 February 2004, the company purchased for cancellation 950 ordinary shares of 10p each in the capital of the company for an aggregate consideration of £32,300.

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2004 (Continued)

11 Share capital (Continued)

EMI share option scheme

At 30 April 2004 the following share option was outstanding in respect of the ordinary shares:

Date of grant of shares Pe		Period of option	Price per share
16 July 2002	16,650	July 2002 – July 2012	£7.50
3 March 2004	23,840	January 2004 – January 2014	£34.00

12 Reserves

	ESOP reserve £	Capital redemption reserve	Profit and loss account £
At 1 May 2003	-	16,315	1,402,897
Retained profit for year	-	-	500,079
Shares purchased for cancellation	-	95	(32,300)
Purchase of ESOP shares	(999,974)	-	-
At 30 April 2004	(999,974)	16,410	1,870,676

13 ESOP

The Employee Benefit Trust (EBT) was established in 2003 to provide for the future obligations of the company for shares awarded under the Share Ownership Plans detailed in note 11. Under the scheme the trustees purchase the company's ordinary shares in the open market using a £1,000,000 bank facility guaranteed by Young Samuel Chambers ("YSC") Limited which meets the net financing costs. At 30 April 2004 29,411 (2003 - Nil) shares held by the EBT are under option to employees.

ESOP shares

	2004	2003
Number of shares held	29,411	-
		
Market value held	1,000,000	-

At 30 April 2004 £92,692 (2003 - £Nil) had been loaned by the company to meet the repayments of the £1,000,000 loan (2003 - £Nil) which had been drawn down under the bank facility. In accordance with the UITF Abstract 38, these bank borrowings have been included in the company's balance sheet.

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2004 (Continued)

As at 30 April 2004, the company had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as						
2004	set out below:					
	Property:					
69,700	Expiring within - one year					
212,875	- two to five years					
	Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds					
£						
1 452 807	Opening shareholders' funds					
	Profit for the financial year					
	Purchase of ESOP shares					
	Shares purchased for cancellation					
920,702	Closing shareholders' funds					
2004	6 Reconciliation of operating profit to net cash inflow from operating activities					
£						
743,239	Operating profit					
•	Depreciation					
, -·	Loss on disposal of fixed assets					
(525,211)	Increase in debtors					
2,113,498	Increase/(decrease) in creditors					
2,467,883	Net cash inflow from operating activities					
)))	2004 £ 69,700 212,875 ————————————————————————————————————					

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2004 (Continued)

17	Reconciliation of net cash outflow to movement in net funds			
			2004	2003
			£	£
	Increase/(decrease) in cash in the year		2,047,655	(906,532)
	Cash inflow from changes in debt		(915,144)	-
	Net funds at 1 May 2003		499,367	1,405,899
				
	Net funds at 30 April 2004		1,631,878	499,367
18	Movement in net debt	At 1 May 2003 £	Cash flow £	At 30 April 2004 £
	Cash at bank and in hand	499,367	2,047,655	2,547,022
	Debt due within one year	, -	(339,424)	(339,424)
	Debt due after one year	-	(575,720)	(575,720)
		499,367	1,132,511	1,631,878

19 Post balance sheet events

After the year end, the company signed a rent agreement for new office premises. As part of the commitment to these new premises the directors anticipate committing £1,500,000 to the securing of and refurbishment of the premises.