

NOTES

1. Overseas results and cash flows have been translated into sterling at average rates of exchange for each period. Foreign currency assets and liabilities have been translated at period end rates.
2. In accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 10, purchased goodwill arising on consolidation in respect of acquisitions since 1 January 1998 has been capitalised and is being amortised over 20 years.
3. Financial Reporting Standard 12 'Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets' has been adopted for the interim statement. This has had no effect on the results of the current period or the 1998 full year comparative period. However, to comply with the new standard the 1998 first half comparative figures have been restated to show exceptional costs after tax of £5,500,000 (previously £7,700,000).
4. The exceptional item charged in 1998 was in respect of the closure of the Group's facility in Pennsylvania, USA and the relocation and start-up of a new facility in South Carolina. The 1998 full year comparative operating profit of £32,283,000 is stated after charging exceptional costs of £10,150,000.
5. Taxation has been estimated at the rate expected to be incurred in the full year.

	Six months to 30th June 1999	Six months to 30th June 1998 (Restated)	Year ended 31st December 1998
	£'000	£'000	£'000
United Kingdom corporation tax	1,604	2,195	3,988
Overseas taxation	4,290	2,603	6,809
Deferred taxation	290	6	(274)
Adjustment in respect of previous years	(42)	37	(22)
	6,142	4,841	10,501

6. The calculation of earnings per share before the exceptional item is based on earnings of £12,033,000 (1998: £12,916,000) and the calculation of earnings per share after the exceptional item is based on earnings of £12,033,000 (1998: £7,416,000) together with the weighted average number of shares in issue during the half year of 78,687,786 (1998: 79,615,874).
7. Capital employed is represented by net assets excluding net debt.
8. The financial information on pages 4 to 7, which is unaudited, does not amount to full accounts within the meaning of Section 240 of the Companies Act 1985 (as amended). Full accounts for 1998 with an unqualified audit report have been filed with the Registrar of Companies.