

Parent Company financial statements

Directors' responsibilities

The annual report and accounts complies with the Disclosure and Transparency Rules ('DTR') of the United Kingdom's Financial Services Authority in respect of the requirement to produce an annual financial report.

The annual report and accounts is the responsibility of, and has been approved by, the directors.

We confirm that to the best of our knowledge:

- the accounts of the Company have been prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- the financial statements give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Company.

On behalf of the Board



Mark J White

General Counsel and Company Secretary

26 November 2008

The directors are required by law to prepare separate financial statements for the Company in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. The directors have chosen to prepare these financial statements for the Company in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

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 as at the end of the financial year 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; 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 and Article 4 of the IAS Regulation. 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.

Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.