

*THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

-of-

CHECKIT PLC

Company Number: 448274

(Adopted on 29 July 2009 and amended by special resolution on 29 July 2010 and on 28 June 2012)

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EXCLUSION OF MODEL REGULATIONS

No regulations set out in any statute or statutory instrument concerning companies shall apply as regulations or articles of the Company.

INTERPRETATION

- 2 In these Articles unless the context otherwise requires:-
 - "these Articles" means these Articles of Association in their present form or as from time to time altered;
 - "Board" means the Board of Directors of the Company or the Directors present at a meeting of Directors at which a quorum is present;
 - "the Companies Acts" means every statute from time to time in force concerning companies insofar as the same applies to the Company;

Pursuant to a Special Resolution passed on 15 August 2001, the name of the Company was changed from Bulgin Plc to Elektron Plc on 22 August 2001.

Pursuant to a Special Resolution passed on 28 July 2011, the name of the Company was changed to Elektron Technology plc on 28 July 2011.

Pursuant to a Special Resolution on 30 July 2019, the name of the Company was changed to Checkit PLC on 24 September 2019.

¹ Pursuant to a Special Resolution passed on 21 August 1997, the name of the Company was changed from A.F. Bulgin & Company, Public Limited Company to Bulgin Plc on 1 September 1997.

- "Executive Director" means an Executive Chairman, Chief Executive Director, Joint Chief Executive Director, Managing Director, Joint Managing Director or Assistant Managing Director of the Company or a Director who is the holder of any other employment or executive office with the Company;
- "Member" in relation to shares means the member whose name is entered in the Register as the holder of the shares;
- "Office" means the registered office of the Company;
- "Register" means the Register of Members of the Company;
- "Seal" means the common seal of the Company (if any) or any official seal that the Company may be permitted to have under the Companies Acts;
- "Secretary" means any person qualified in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Acts and appointed by the Board to perform any of the duties of the Secretary including a joint, temporary or assistant Secretary;
- "Stock Exchange Nominee" means a person for the time being designated as a nominee pursuant to Section 185(4) of the Companies Act 1985 (as amended, consolidated or reenacted from time to time).
- "The Stock Exchange" means the International Stock Exchange of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland Limited;
- "United Kingdom" means Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

the expressions "debenture" and "debenture holder" shall include debenture stock and debenture stockholder respectively;

the expression "paid up" means paid up or credited as paid up;

references herein to statutory provisions shall be construed as references to those provisions as respectively amended or re-enacted or as their application is modified by other provisions from time to time and shall include any provisions of which they are re-enactments (whether with or without modification);

any words or expressions defined in the Companies Acts in force at the date when these Articles or any part thereof are adopted shall bear the same meaning in these Articles or such part (as the case may be);

where for any purpose an ordinary resolution of the Company is required, a special resolution shall also be effective; and

all the provision of these Articles shall be deemed to include the additional statement "subject to the provision of the Companies Acts".

OBJECTS

Nothing in these Articles shall constitute a restriction on the objects of the Company to do (or omit to do) any act and, in accordance with section 31(1) of the Companies Act 2006 (the "Act"), the Company's objects are unrestricted.

CHANGE OF NAME

4 The Company may change its name by resolution of the Board.

FORM OF RESOLUTION

Subject to the Companies Acts, where anything can be done by passing an ordinary resolution, this can also be done by passing a special resolution.

LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

The liability of the members is limited to the amount, if any, unpaid on the shares held by them

REGISTERED OFFICE

7 The Office shall be at such place in England and Wales as the Board shall from time to time appoint.

SHARE RIGHTS

Without prejudice to any rights attached to any shares or class of shares, any share in the Company may be issued with or have attached thereto such preferred, deferred, qualified or other rights or such restrictions, whether in regard to dividend, voting, return of capital or otherwise, as the Company may by ordinary resolution determine or, if there has not been any such determination or so far as the same shall not make specific provision, as the Board may determine.

REDEEMABLE SHARES

Any shares may, with the sanction of a special resolution, be issued on terms that they are, or at the option of the Company or the Member are liable, to be redeemed on such terms and in such manner as may be provided for by these Articles.

VARIATION OF RIGHTS

All or any of the rights for the time being attached to any class of shares for the time being issued may from time to time (whether or not the Company is being wound up) be varied or abrogated with the consent in writing of the holders of not less than three-quarters in nominal value of the issued shares of that class or with the sanction of a special resolution passed at a separate general meeting of the holders of the shares of the

class. To any such separate general meeting all the provisions of these Articles as to general meetings of the Company shall *mutatis mutandis* apply, but so that the necessary quorum shall be two persons holding or representing by proxy not less than one-third in nominal value of the issued shares of the class, that every holder of shares of the class shall be entitled on a poll to one vote for every such share held by him, that any holder of shares of the class present in person or by proxy may demand a poll and that at any adjourned meeting of such holders one holder present in person or by proxy (whatever the number of shares held by him) shall be a quorum and for the purposes of this Article one holder present in person or by proxy may constitute a meeting.

The rights conferred upon the holders of any shares or class of shares shall not, unless otherwise expressly provided in the rights attaching to, or the terms of issue of, such shares, be deemed to be altered by the creation or issue of further shares ranking *pari* passu therewith.

SHARES

- 12 The Company does not have an authorised share capital.
- Subject to the Companies Acts, these Articles and to any relevant authority of the Company in general meeting required by the Act, the Board may offer, allot, (with or without conferring rights of renunciation), grant options over or otherwise deal with or dispose of shares or grant rights to subscribe for or convert any security into shares to such persons, at such times and upon such terms as the Board may decide. No share may be issued at a discount.
- The Board may, at any time after the allotment of any share but before any person has been entered in the Register, recognise a renunciation by the allottee in favour of some other person and accord to the allottee of a share a right to effect such renunciation and/or allow the rights to be represented to be one or more participating securities, in each case upon the subject to such terms and conditions as the Board may think fit to impose.
- Under and in accordance with section 551 of the Act, the Board shall be generally and unconditionally authorised to exercise for each prescribed period all the powers of the Company to allot shares up to an aggregate nominal amount equal to the Section 551 Amount.
- Under and within the terms of the said authority or otherwise in accordance with section 570 of the Act, the Directors shall be empowered during each prescribed period to allot equity securities (as defined by the Act) wholly for cash:
 - (a) in connection with a rights issue; and
 - (b) otherwise than in connection with a rights issue up to an aggregate nominal amount equal to the Section 561 Amount.

- During each prescribed period the Company and its Board by such authority and power may make offers or agreements which would or might require equity securities or other securities to be allotted after the expiry of such period.
- 18 For the purposes of Articles 13 through to 17 (inclusive):
 - (a) rights issue means an offer of equity securities (as defined by the Act) open for acceptance for a period fixed by the Board to holders of equity securities on the Register on a fixed record date in proportion to their respective holdings of such securities or in accordance with the rights attached to them but subject to such exclusions or other arrangements as the Board may deem necessary or expedient with regard to treasury shares, fractional entitlements or legal or practical problems under the laws of any territory or under the requirements of any recognised regulatory body or stock exchange in any territory;
 - (b) **prescribed period** means any period (not exceeding five years on any occasion) for which the authority, in the case of Article 15, is conferred or renewed by ordinary or special resolution stating the Section 551 Amount and in the case of Article 16, is conferred or renewed by special resolution stating the Section 561 Amount;
 - (c) Section 551 Amount means for any prescribed period, the amount stated in the relevant ordinary or special resolution;
 - (d) Section 561 Amount means for any prescribed period, the amount stated in the relevant special resolution; and
 - (e) the nominal amount of any securities shall be taken to be, in the case of rights to subscribe for or to convert any securities into shares of the Company, the nominal amount of such shares which may be allotted pursuant to such rights.
- The Company may in connection with the issue of any shares exercise all powers of paying commissions conferred or permitted by the Companies Acts and the commissions may be satisfied by the payment of cash or by the allotment of fully or partly paid shares or partly in one way and partly in the other.
- Except as ordered by a Court of competent jurisdiction or as required by law, no person shall be recognised by the Company as holding any share upon any trust and (except only as otherwise provided by these Articles or by law) the Company shall not be bound by or required in any way to recognise (even when having notice thereof) any equitable, contingent, future or partial interest in any share or any interest in any fractional part of a share or any other right in respect of any share except an absolute right to the entirety thereof in the registered holder or in the case of a share warrant in the bearer of the warrant for the time being.

SHARE CERTIFICATES

- 21 Every person (except a Stock Exchange Nominee or other person in respect of whom from time to time the Company is not by law to complete and have ready for delivery a certificate) whose name is entered as a holder of any shares in the Register shall be entitled, without payment, to receive within two months after allotment or lodgement of transfer to him of the shares in respect of which he is so registered (or within such other period as the terms of issue shall provide) one certificate for all such shares of any one class or several certificates each for one or more of such shares of such class upon payment for every certificate after the first of such reasonable out-of-pocket expenses as the Board may from time to time determine. In the case of a share held jointly by several persons, delivery of a certificate to one of several joint holders shall be sufficient delivery to all. A Member (except such a nominee or other person as aforesaid) who has transferred some of the shares comprised in his registered holding shall be entitled to a certificate for the balance without charge. Every certificate shall specify the shares to which it relates and the amount paid thereon. The Company shall in no case be bound to register more than four persons as the joint holders of any shares.
- If a share certificate is defaced, worn-out, lost or destroyed, it may be replaced without fee but on such terms (if any) as to evidence and indemnity and to payment of any exceptional out-of-pocket expenses of the Company in investigating such evidence and preparing such indemnity as the Board may think fit and, in case of defacement or wearing-out, on delivery of the old certificate to the Company.
- All forms of certificates for share or loan capital or other securities of the Company (other than letters of allotment, scrip certificates and other like documents) shall be issued under a Seal. The Board may (in the case of certificates issued under a Seal) by resolution determine, either generally or in any particular case or cases, that any signatures on any such certificates need not be autographic but may be affixed to such certificates by some mechanical means or may be printed thereon or that such certificates need not be signed.

UNCERTIFICATED SHARES

Under and subject to the uncertificated securities rules, the Board may permit title to shares of any class to be evidenced otherwise than by certificate and title to shares of such a class to be transferred by means of a relevant system and may make arrangements for a class of shares (if all shares of that class are in all respects identical) to become a participating class. Title to shares of a particular class may only be evidenced otherwise than by a certificate where that class of shares is at the relevant time a participating class. The Board may also, subject to compliance with the uncertificated securities rules, determine at any time that title to any class of shares may from a date specified by the Board no longer be evidenced otherwise than by a certificate or that title to such a class shall cease to be transferred by means of any particular relevant system.

- In relation to a class of shares which is a participating class and for so long as it remains a participating class, no provision of these Articles shall apply or have effect to the extent that it is inconsistent in any respect with:
 - (a) the holding of shares of that class in uncertificated form;
 - (b) the transfer of title to shares of that class by means of a relevant system; or
 - (c) any provision of the uncertificated securities rules;
 - and, without prejudice to the generality of this Article, no provision of these Articles shall apply or have effect to the extent that it is in any respect inconsistent with the maintenance, keeping or entering up by an "Operator" (defined, for the purposes of these Articles, to mean Euroclear UK and Ireland Limited or such other person as may for the time being be approved by HM Treasury as an Operator under the uncertificated securities rules, so long as that is permitted or required by the uncertificated securities rules), of an Operator register of securities in respect of that class of shares in uncertificated form.
- Shares of a class which is at the relevant time a participating class may be changed from uncertificated to certificated form, and from certificated to uncertificated form, in accordance with and subject as provided in the uncertificated securities rules.
- If, under these Articles or the Companies Acts, the Company is entitled to sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of, forfeit, re-allot, accept the surrender of or otherwise enforce a lien over an uncertificated share, then, subject to these Articles and the Companies Acts, such entitlement shall include the right of the Board to:
 - (a) require the holder of the uncertificated share by notice in writing to change that share from uncertificated to certificated form within such period as may be specified in the notice and keep it as a certificated share for as long as the Board requires;
 - (b) appoint any person to take such other steps, by instruction given by means of a relevant system or otherwise, in the name of the holder of such share as may be required to effect the transfer of such share and such steps shall be as effective as if they had been taken by the registered holder of that share; and
 - (c) take such other action that the Board considers appropriate to achieve the sale, transfer, disposal, forfeiture, re-allotment or surrender of that share or otherwise to enforce a lien in respect of that share.
- Unless the Board determines otherwise, shares which a member holds in uncertificated form shall be treated as separate holdings from any shares which that member holds in certificated form but a class of shares shall not be treated as two classes simply because some shares of that class are held in certificated form and others in uncertificated form.

- Unless the Board determines otherwise or the uncertificated securities rules require otherwise, any shares issued or created out of or in respect of any uncertificated shares shall be uncertificated shares and any shares issued or created out of or in respect of any certificated shares shall be certificated shares.
- The Company shall be entitled to assume that the entries on any record of securities maintained by it in accordance with the uncertificated securities rules and regularly reconciled with the relevant Operator register of securities are a complete and accurate reproduction of the particulars entered in the Operator register of securities and shall accordingly not be liable in respect of any act or thing done or omitted to be done by or on behalf of the Company in reliance on such assumption. Any provision of these Articles which requires or envisages that action will be taken in reliance on information contained in the Register shall be construed to permit that action to be taken in reliance on information contained in any relevant record of securities (as so maintained and reconciled).

LIEN

- The Company shall have a first and paramount lien on every share (not being a fully paid up share) for all moneys, whether presently payable or not, called or payable, at a date fixed by or in accordance with the terms of issue of such share, in respect of such share. The Board may at any time either generally or in any particular case waive any lien that has arisen, or declare any share to be wholly or in part exempt from the provisions of this Article. The Company's lien on a share shall extend to all dividends and other moneys payable in respect of it.
- The Company may sell, in such manner as the Board may think fit, any share on which the Company has a lien, but no sale shall be made unless some sum in respect of which the lien exists is presently payable nor until the expiration of fourteen days after a notice in writing, stating and demanding payment of the sum presently payable and giving notice of the intention to sell in default of such payment, has been served on the holder for the time being of the share.
- 33 The net proceeds of the sale by the Company of any share on which it has a lien shall be applied in or towards payment or discharge of the debt or liability in respect of which the lien exists so far as the same is presently payable, and any residue shall (upon surrender to the Company for cancellation of the certificate for the share sold and subject to a like lien for debts or liabilities not presently payable as existed upon the share prior to the sale) be paid to the holder immediately before such sale of the share. For giving effect to any such sale the Board may authorise some person to transfer the share sold to, or in accordance with the directions of, the purchaser thereof. The transferee shall be registered as the holder of the share and he shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money, nor shall his title to the share be affected by any irregularity or invalidity in the proceeds relating to the sale.

CALLS ON SHARES

- No shareholder shall be entitled to receive any dividend or to be present or vote at any meeting or upon a poll, or to exercise any privilege as a Member, until he shall have paid all calls for the time being due and payable on every share held by him, whether alone or jointly with any other person, together with interest and expenses (if any).
- The Board may from time to time make calls upon the Members in respect of any moneys unpaid on their shares (whether on account of the nominal amount of the shares or by way of premium) and not by the terms of issue thereof made payable at a date fixed by or in accordance with such terms of issue, and each Member shall (subject to the Company serving upon him at least fourteen days' notice specifying the time or times and place of payment) pay to the Company at the time or times and place so specified the amount called on his shares. A call may, before receipt by the Company of a sum due thereunder, be revoked or postponed in whole or in part as the Board may determine. A Member shall remain liable for calls made upon him notwithstanding the subsequent transfer of the shares in respect whereof the call was made.
- A call may be made payable by instalments and shall be deemed to have been made at the time when the resolution of the Board authorising the call was passed.
- 37 The joint holders of a share will be jointly and severally liable to pay all calls in respect thereof.
- If a sum called in respect of a share shall not be paid before or on the day appointed for payment thereof, the person from whom the sum is due shall pay interest on the sum from the day appointed for payment thereof to the time of actual payment at such rate, not exceeding (unless the Company by ordinary resolution shall otherwise direct) 25 per cent, per annum, as the Board may determine, but the Board shall be at liberty to waive payment of such interest wholly or in part.
- Any sum which, by the terms of issue of a share, becomes payable on allotment or at any date fixed by or in accordance with such terms of issue, whether on account of the nominal amount of the share or by way of premium, shall for all the purposes of these Articles be deemed to be a call duly made, notified and payable on the date on which, by the terms of issue, the same becomes payable and, in case of non-payment, all the relevant provisions of these Articles as to payment of interest, forfeiture or otherwise shall apply as if such sum had become payable by virtue of a call duly made and notified.
- The Board may on the issue of shares differentiate between the allottees or holders as to the amount of calls to be paid and the times of payment.

The Board may, if it thinks fit, receive from any Member willing to advance the same all or any part of the moneys uncalled and unpaid upon any shares held by him and upon all or any of the moneys so advanced may (until the same would, but for such advance, become presently payable) pay interest at such rate, not exceeding (unless the Company by ordinary resolution shall otherwise direct) 15 per cent per annum, as may be agreed upon between the Board and the Member paying such sum in advance. No sum paid up in advance of calls shall entitle the holder of a share in respect thereof to any portion of a dividend subsequently declared in respect of any period prior to the date upon which such sum would, but for such payment, become presently payable.

FORFEITURE OF SHARES

- If a Member or person entitled to a share by transmission fails to pay any call or instalment of a call on the day appointed for payment thereof, the Board may at any time thereafter during such time as any part of such call or instalment remains unpaid serve a notice on him requiring payment of so much of the call or instalment as is unpaid, together with any interest which may have accrued and any expenses incurred by the Company by reason of such non-payment.
- The notice shall name a further day (not being less than fourteen days from the date of the notice) on or before which, and the place where, the payment required by the notice is to be made and shall state that in the event of non-payment on or before the day and at the place appointed, the shares in respect of which such call was made or instalment is payable will be liable to be forfeited. The Board may accept the surrender of any share liable to be forfeited hereunder and, in such case, references in these Articles to forfeiture shall include surrender.
- If the requirements of any such notice as aforesaid are not complied with, any share in respect of which such notice has been given may at any time thereafter, before payment of all calls or instalments and interest due in respect thereof has been made, be forfeited by a resolution of the Board to that effect. Such forfeiture shall include all dividends or other moneys payable in respect of the forfeited share and not paid before the forfeiture.
- When any share has been forfeited, notice of the forfeiture shall be served upon the person who was before forfeiture the holder of the share or the person entitled to the share by transmission, as the case may be, and an entry of such notice having been given and of the forfeiture with the date thereof shall forthwith be made in the Register opposite to the entry of the share; but no forfeiture shall be in any manner invalidated by any omission or neglect to give such notice or make such entry.
- 46 Until cancelled in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Acts, a forfeited share shall be deemed to be the property of the Company and may, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, be sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of either to the person who was, before forfeiture, the holder thereof or entitled thereto or to any

other person upon such terms and in such manner as the Board shall think fit, and at any time before a sale, re-allotment or disposition the forfeiture may be annulled on such terms as the Board may think fit.

- A person whose shares are forfeited shall thereupon cease to be a Member in respect of the forfeited shares, and shall surrender to the Company for cancellation the certificate issued to him (if any) for the shares forfeited, but shall, notwithstanding the forfeiture, remain liable to pay the Company all moneys which at the date of forfeiture were presently payable by him to the Company in respect of the shares with interest thereon at the rate of 25 per cent per annum (or such lower rate as the Board may determine) from the date of forfeiture until payment, and the Company may enforce payment without being under any obligation to make any allowance for the value of the shares forfeited.
- A statutory declaration in writing that the declarant is a Director or the Secretary of the Company and that a share has been duly forfeited on the date stated in the declaration shall be conclusive evidence of the facts therein stated as against all persons claiming to be entitled to the share. The Company may receive the consideration (if any) given for the share on the sale, re-allotment or disposition thereof and the Board may authorise some person to transfer the share to the person to whom the same is sold, re-allotted or disposed of, and he shall thereupon be registered as the holder of the share and shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money (if any) nor shall his title to the share be affected by any irregularity or invalidity in the proceedings relating to the forfeiture, sale, re-allotment or disposal of the share. The person who becomes registered as the holder of the share shall be discharged from all calls made before such sale, re-allotment or disposal of the share.
- The forfeiture of a share shall involve the extinction at the time of forfeiture of all interest in and all claims and demands against the Company in respect of the share and all other rights and liabilities incidental to the share as between the person whose share is forfeited and the Company, except only such of those rights and liabilities as are by these Articles expressly saved, or as are by the Companies Acts given or imposed in the case of past Members.

TRANSFER OF SHARES

- Subject to such of the restrictions of these Articles as may be applicable, any Member may transfer all or any of his shares by an instrument of transfer in the usual common form or in such other form or by such other method (whether by electronic means or otherwise) as may be permitted by law and as the Board may approve.
- Any instrument of transfer of a share shall be signed by or on behalf of the transferor and (in the case of a partly paid share) the transferee. Where some other method of transfer is permitted, the instruction for transfer shall be authenticated by the transferor and (in the case of a partly paid share) by the transferee in such manner as the Board may require.

The transferor shall be deemed to remain the holder of the share until the name of the transferee is entered in the Register in respect thereof. All instruments of transfer, when registered, may be retained by the Company.

- The Board may, in its absolute discretion and without assigning any reason therefor, decline to register any transfer of any share that is not a fully paid share.
- No transfer of any share shall be made to a minor, bankrupt or person who is mentally disordered or a patient for any purpose of any statute relating to mental health.
- The Board may also decline to register any transfer unless:
 - (a) the instrument of transfer, duly stamped, is lodged with the Company accompanied by the certificate for the shares to which it relates and/or such other evidence as the Board may reasonably require to show the right of the transferor to make the transfer;
 - (b) in any case where the transfer is effected by some permitted means other than an instrument of transfer, the instruction for transfer in a form and authenticated in a manner approved by the Board is produced to the Company together with such evidence as the Board may reasonably require to show the right of the transferor to make the transfer and that all stamp duty or other transfer tax payable in respect of the transfer has been paid;
 - (c) the instrument of transfer or other permitted form of instruction for transfer is in respect of only one class of share; and
 - (d) in the case of a transfer to joint holders, the number of joint holders to whom the share is to be transferred does not exceed four.
- If the Board declines to register a transfer it shall send to the transferee notice of the refusal within two months after the date on which the instrument of transfer or other permitted form of instruction for transfer was lodged with the Company.
- No fee shall be charged by the Company for registering any transfer, probate, letters of administration, certificate of death or marriage, power of attorney, stop notice, order of court or other instrument relating to or affecting the title to any share, or otherwise making an entry in the Register relating to any share.

TRANSMISSION OF SHARES

In the case of the death of a Member the survivor or survivors, where the deceased was a joint holder, and the executors or administrators of the deceased, where he was a sole holder, shall be the only persons recognised by the Company as having any title to his shares; but nothing herein contained shall release the estate of a deceased holder from any liability in respect of any share held by him solely or jointly with other persons.

- 58 A person becoming entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a Member or otherwise by operation of law may, subject as in hereinafter provided and upon such evidence being produced as may from time to time be required by the Board as to his entitlement, either be registered himself as the holder of the share or elect to have some person nominated by him registered as the transferee thereof. If the person so becoming entitled elects to be registered himself, he shall deliver or send to the Company a notice in writing signed by him stating that he so elects. If he shall elect to have his nominee registered, he shall signify his election by signing an instrument of transfer of such share in favour of his nominee, or by producing such other documentation as is permitted by law and as the Board may approve. All the limitations, restrictions and provisions of these Articles relating to the right to transfer and the registration of transfers of shares shall be applicable to any such notice, instrument of transfer or documentation as if the death or bankruptcy of the Member or other event giving rise to the transmission had not occurred and the notice, instrument of transfer or documentation were an instrument of transfer signed by such Member.
- A person becoming entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a Member or otherwise by operation of law shall (upon such evidence being produced as may from time to time be required by the Board as to his entitlement) be entitled to receive and may give a discharge for any dividends or other moneys payable in respect of the share, but he shall not be entitled in respect of the share to receive notices of or to attend or vote at general meetings of the Company or, save as aforesaid, to exercise in respect of the share any of the rights or privileges of a Member until he shall have become registered as the holder thereof. The Board may at any time give notice requiring any such person to elect either to be registered himself or to transfer the share and if the notice is not complied with within sixty days the Board may thereafter withhold payment of all dividends and other moneys payable in respect of the share until the requirements of the notice have been complied with.

STOCK

- The Company may from time to time in general meeting convert any fully paid up shares into stock and may reconvert any stock into fully paid up shares of any denomination. After the passing of any resolution converting all the fully paid up shares of any class in the capital of the Company into stock, any shares of that class that subsequently become fully paid up and rank *pari passu* in all other respects with such shares shall, by virtue of this Article and such resolution, be converted into stock transferable in the same units as the shares already converted.
- The holders of stock may transfer the same or any part thereof in the same manner and subject to the same regulations as the shares from which the stock arose might previously to conversion have been transferred or as near thereto as circumstances admit. The Board may from time to time fix the minimum amount of stock transferable and restrict or

forbid the transfer of fractions of such minimum, but the minimum shall not, without the sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company, exceed the nominal amount of each of the shares from which the stock arose.

- The holders of stock shall, according to the amount of the stock held by them, have the same rights as regards dividends, voting at general meetings of the Company and other matters as if they held the shares from which the stock arose, but no such right (except as to participation in dividends and in assets on a reduction of capital or a winding up) shall be conferred by an amount of stock which would not, if existing in shares, have conferred such right.
- All such of the provisions of these Articles as are applicable to paid up shares shall apply to stock, and the words "share" and "shareholder" herein shall include "stock" and "stockholder" respectively.

SHARE WARRANTS

- The Company may issue share warrants with respect to any fully paid up shares, and accordingly the Board may, in its discretion, on application in writing by the person registered as the holder of such shares and authenticated by such evidence (if any) as the Board may from time to time require as to the identity of the person signing the request, and on receiving the certificate (if any) of the shares and its reasonable out-of-pocket expenses in connection with the issue, issue under the Seal a warrant, duly stamped, stating that the bearer of the warrant is entitled to the shares therein specified, and may provide by coupons or otherwise for the payment of dividends or other monies on the shares included in the warrant. The persons so applying shall also if the Board so requires pay the amount of the stamp duty on the warrant and all other proper expenses.
- A share warrant shall entitle the bearer to the shares included in it, and the shares shall be transferred by the delivery of the share warrant, and the provisions of these Articles with respect to transfer and transmission of shares shall not apply thereto.
- The bearer of a share warrant shall, on surrender of the warrant to the Company for cancellation, and on payment of its reasonable out-of-pocket expenses in connection with the cancellation, be entitled to have his name entered as a Member in the Register in respect of the shares included in the warrant but the Company shall in no case be responsible for any loss or damage incurred by any person by reason of the Company entering in its Register upon the surrender of a warrant the name of any person not the true and lawful owner of the warrant surrendered.
- The bearer of the share warrant may at any time deposit the warrant at the Office or such other address as may have been specified by the Board at the time of issue of the warrant and so long as the warrant remains so deposited, the depositor shall have the same right of signing a requisition for calling a meeting of the Company, and of attending and voting

and exercising the other privileges of a Member at any meeting held after the expiration of two clear days from the time of deposit, as if his name were inserted in the Register as the holder of the shares included in the deposited warrant. Not more than one person shall be recognised as depositor of the share warrant. The Company shall, on two days' written notice, return the deposited share warrant to the depositor.

- Subject as herein otherwise expressly provided, no person shall as bearer of a share warrant sign a requisition for calling a meeting of the Company, or attend or vote or exercise any other privilege of a Member at a meeting of the Company, or be entitled to receive any notices from the Company, but the bearer of a share warrant shall be entitled in all other respects to the same privileges and advantages as if he were named in the Register as the holder of the shares included in the warrant and he shall be a Member of the Company.
- The Board may from time to time make rules as to the terms on which (if it shall think fit) a new share warrant or coupon may be issued by way of renewal in case of defacement or destruction. Such rules shall not allow the issue of a new share warrant or coupon save upon surrender of the existing warrant or proof beyond reasonable doubt that such warrant or coupon has been destroyed.

UNTRACED SHAREHOLDERS

- 70 (A) The Company shall be entitled to sell at the best price reasonably obtainable any share or stock of a Member or any share or stock to which a person is entitled by transmission if and provided that:-
 - (i) for a period of twelve years no cheque or warrant sent by the Company through the post in a pre-paid letter addressed to the Member or to the person entitled by transmission to the share or stock at his address on the Register or other the last known address given by the Member or the person entitled by transmission to which cheques and warrants are to be sent has been cashed and no communication has been received by the Company from the Member or the person entitled by the transmission provided that in any such period of twelve years the Company has paid at least three dividends whether interim or final and no such dividend has been claimed; and
 - (ii) the Company has at the expiration of the said period of twelve years by advertisement in both a leading national newspaper and in a newspaper circulating in the area in which the address referred to in sub-paragraph (i) of this Article is located given notice of its intention to sell such share or stock; and
 - (iii) the Company has not during the further period of three months after the date of the advertisement and prior to the exercise of the power of sale

- received any communication from the Member or person entitled by transmission; and
- (iv) if any securities of the Company are listed on The Stock Exchange in London or dealt in the Unlisted Securities Market the Company has first given notice in writing to the Quotations Department of The Stock Exchange in London of its intention to sell such shares or stock.
- (B) To give effect to any such sale the Company may appoint any person to execute as transferor an instrument of transfer of such share or stock and such instrument of transfer shall be as effective as if it had been executed by the registered holder of or person entitled by transmission to such share or stock. The Company shall account to the Member or other person entitled to such share or stock for the net proceeds of such sale by carrying all monies in respect thereof to a separate account which shall be a permanent debt of the Company and the Company shall be deemed to be a debtor and not a trustee in respect thereof for such Member or other person. Monies carried to such separate account may either be employed in the business of the Company or invested in such investments (other than shares of the Company or its holding company if any) as the Directors may from time to time think fit.

INCREASE IN CAPITAL

- The Company may from time to time in general meeting increase its capital by such sum to be divided into shares of such amounts as the resolution shall prescribe. Such new shares shall be subject to all provisions of these Articles.
- The Company may, by the resolution of increasing the capital, direct that the new shares or any of them shall be offered in the first instance to all the holders for the time being of shares of any class or classes in proportion to the number of such shares held by them respectively or may make any other provisions as to issue of the new shares.

ALTERATIONS OF CAPITAL

- 73 The Company may from time to time in general meeting:-
 - (a) consolidate and divide all or any of its share capital into shares of larger amount than its existing shares;
 - (b) sub-divide its shares or any of them into shares of smaller amount (subject, nevertheless, to the provisions of the Companies Acts) and so that the resolution whereby any share is sub-divided may determine that as between the holders of the shares resulting from such sub-division one or more of the shares may have any such preferred or other rights over, or may have such deferred or qualified rights or be subject to any such restrictions as compared with, the other or others as the Company has power to attach to unissued or new shares;

(c) cancel any shares which at the date of the passing of the resolution have not been taken or agreed to be taken by any person and diminish the amount of its share capital by the amount of the shares so cancelled;

and may also by special resolution:-

(d) subject to any confirmation or consent required by law, reduce its issued share capital or any capital redemption reserve or any share premium account in any Manner

Subject to compliance with the terms of any such resolution as is referred to in this Article, where any difficulty arises in regard to any consolidation and division under paragraph (a) of this Article, the Board may settle the same as it thinks expedient and in particular may issue fractional certificates or arrange for the sale of the shares representing fractions and for the distribution of the net proceeds of sale in due proportion among the Members who would have been entitled to the fractions, or, if permitted, for the retention of such net proceeds for the benefit of the Company and for this purpose the Board may authorise some person to transfer the shares representing fractions to the purchaser thereof, who shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money nor shall his title to the shares be affected by any irregularity or invalidity in the proceedings relating to the sale.

PURCHASE OF OWN SHARES

Subject to the provisions of these Articles and to any confirmation or consent required by law, the Company may from time to time purchase its own shares (including any redeemable shares) provided that if there are in issue any convertible shares of the Company then no purchase by the Company of any of its own shares shall take place unless it has been sanctioned by a special resolution passed at a separate class meeting of the holders of each class of convertible shares.

GENERAL MEETINGS

- An annual general meeting shall be held in each period of six months beginning with the day following the Company's accounting reference date at such place, date and time as may be determined by the Board.
- All meetings other than annual general meetings shall be called general meetings. The Board may, whenever it thinks fit, and shall on requisition in accordance with the Companies Acts, proceed to convene a general meeting.

NOTICES OF GENERAL MEETINGS

77 (A) An annual general meeting shall be called by not less than twenty-one days' notice in writing. A meeting other than an annual general meeting shall be called by not

less than fourteen days' notice in writing. The notice shall be exclusive of the day on which it is served or deemed to be served and of the day for which it is given, and shall specify the place, date and time of meeting, and, in the case of special business, the general nature of that business, and there shall appear with reasonable prominence in every such notice a statement that a Member entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint one or more proxies to attend and on a show of hands or on a poll vote instead of him and that a proxy need not be a Member of the Company. The notice convening an annual general meeting shall specify the meeting as such, and the notice convening a meeting to pass a special resolution shall specify the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, notice of every general meeting shall be given in manner hereinafter mentioned to all Members other than such as under the provisions of these Articles or the terms of issue of the shares they hold are not entitled to receive such notices from the Company, to all persons entitled to a share by reason of the death or bankruptcy of a Member or otherwise by operation of law, and also to the Auditors for the time being of the Company.

- (B) Notwithstanding that a meeting of the Company is called by shorter notice than that specified in paragraph (A) of this Article, it shall be deemed to have been duly called if it is so agreed:-
 - (a) in the case of a meeting called as an annual general meeting, by all the Members entitled to attend and vote thereat; and
 - (b) in the case of any other meeting, by a majority in number of the Members having a right to attend and vote at the meeting, being a majority together holding not less than 95 per cent, in normal value of the shares giving that right.
- The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting or (in cases where instruments of proxy are sent out with the notice) the accidental omission to send such instrument of proxy to, or the non-receipt of notice of a meeting or such instrument of proxy by, any person entitled to receive such notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

on the date or at the time or place stated in the notice calling the meeting, it may postpone or move the meeting (or do both). The Board shall take reasonable steps to ensure that notice of the date, time and place of the rearranged meeting is given to any member trying to attend the meeting at the original time and place. Notice of the date, time and place of the rearranged meeting shall, if practicable, also be placed in at least two national newspapers published in the United Kingdom. Notice of the business to be

transacted at such rearranged meeting shall not be required. If a meeting is rearranged in this way, appointments of proxy are valid if they are received as required by these Articles not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the rearranged meeting. The Board may also postpone or move the rearranged meeting (or do both) under this Article.

- No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present when the meeting proceeds to business, but the absence of a quorum shall not preclude the appointment, choice or election of a chairman which shall not be treated as part of the business of the meeting. Save as otherwise provided in these Articles, two Members present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote shall be a quorum for all purposes. A corporation being a Member shall be deemed for the purposes of these Articles to be present in person if represented by proxy or in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Acts.
- If within five minutes (or such longer time not exceeding one hour as the chairman of the meeting may determine to wait) after the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting, if convened on the requisition of the Members, shall be dissolved. In any other case it shall stand adjourned to such other day (not being less than seven days thereafter) and at such time or place as the chairman of the meeting may determine and the Company shall give not less than seven days' notice in writing of the adjourned meeting in the like manner as in the case of the original meeting. At the adjourned meeting one Member present in person or by proxy shall be a quorum.
- A Director (and any other person invited by the Chairman to do so) may attend and speak at any general meeting and at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares of the Company, whether or not he is a member.
- The chairman (if any) of the Board or, in his absence, a Deputy Chairman (if any) shall preside as chairman at every general meeting. If there is no such Chairman or Deputy Chairman, or if at any meeting neither the Chairman nor a Deputy Chairman is present within five minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, or if none of them is willing to act as chairman, the Directors present shall choose one of their number to act, or if one Director only is present he shall preside as chairman if willing to act. If no Director is present, or if each of the Directors present declines to take the chair, the persons present and entitled to vote on a poll shall elect one of their number to be a chairman.
- The chairman may, with the consent of any meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting), adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting except business that might lawfully have been transacted at the meeting from which the adjournment took place. When a meeting is adjourned for three months or more, notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given as in the case of an original meeting. However, without prejudice

to any other power which he may have under these Articles or at common law, the Chairman may, without the need for the consent of the meeting, interrupt or adjourn any meeting from time to time and from place to place or for an indefinite period if he is of the opinion that it has become necessary to do so in order to secure the proper and orderly conduct of the meeting or to give all persons entitled to do so a reasonable opportunity of attending, speaking and voting at the meeting or to ensure that the business of the meeting is properly disposed of.

- Save as expressly provided by these Articles, it shall not be necessary to give any notice of an adjournment or of the business to be transacted at an adjourned meeting.
- If an amendment to any resolution under consideration is proposed but is ruled out of order by the Chairman of the meeting in good faith, any error in such ruling shall not invalidate the proceedings on the original resolution.
- In the case of a resolution duly proposed as a special resolution, no amendment to it (other than an amendment to correct a patent error) may in any event be considered or voted on. In the case of a resolution duly proposed as an ordinary resolution no amendment to it (other than an amendment to correct a patent error) may be considered or voted on unless either at least 48 hours prior to the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which such ordinary resolution is to be proposed, notice in writing of the terms of the amendment and intention to move the same has been lodged at the Office or received in electronic form at the electronic address at which the Company has or is deemed to have agreed to receive it or the Chairman of the meeting in his absolute discretion decides that it may be considered or voted on.

CIRCULATION OF RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER MATTERS ON REQUISITION OF MEMBERS

- Subject to the Companies Acts, the Board shall on the requisition of members, and where relevant, those entitled under section 153 of the Act, (requisitionists):
 - (a) give to the members entitled to receive notice of the next annual general meeting, notice of any resolution which may properly be moved and is intended to be moved at that meeting and of any matter which may properly be included in the business of that meeting;
 - (b) circulate to the members entitled to receive notice of any general meeting, a statement of not more than 1,000 words with respect to a matter referred to in any proposed resolution or other business to be dealt with at that meeting.
- Members and requisitionists who requisition the Company to circulate a resolution or statement or any matter to be included in the business of a meeting must meet the expenses of the circulation (in this Article defined as costs) unless the members have resolved that the Company will meet the costs.

In cases where the members and the requisitionists have to meet the costs, the Company will, unless it has otherwise resolved, not be bound to circulate the resolution or statement or matter to be included in the business of the meeting unless there is deposited with it or tendered to it a sum or sums reasonably sufficient to meet the costs. The costs must, in the case of a resolution or matter to be included in the business of the meeting, be deposited or tendered not later than six weeks before the date of the annual general meeting to which the request relates, or if later, the time at which the notice of the meeting is given or, in the case of a statement, be deposited or tendered not later than one week before the date of the meeting to which it relates.

VOTING

- 91 (A) At any general meeting a resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is duly demanded before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands or on the withdrawal of any other demand for a poll. A poll may be demanded by:-
 - (a) the chairman of the meeting; or
 - (b) at least three Members present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote; or
 - (c) any Member or Members present in person or by proxy and representing in the aggregate not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all Members having the right to attend and vote at the meeting; or
 - (d) any Member or Members present in person or by proxy and holding shares conferring a right to attend and vote at the meeting on which there have been paid up sums in the aggregate equal to not less than one-tenth of the total sum paid up on all shares conferring that right.
 - (B) Unless a poll is so demanded and the demand is not withdrawn, a declaration by the chairman that a resolution has, on a show of hands, been carried or carried unanimously or by a particular majority or lost shall be final and conclusive, and an entry to that effect in the minute book of the Company shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded for or against such resolution.
- 92 If a poll is duly demanded the result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.
- A poll demanded on the election of a chairman, or on a question of adjournment, shall be taken forthwith. A poll demanded on any other question shall be taken in such manner and either forthwith or at such time (being not later than three months after the date of the demand) and place as the chairman shall direct. It shall not be necessary (unless the chairman otherwise directs) for notice to be given of a poll.

- The demand for a poll shall not prevent the continuance of a meeting for the transaction of any business other than the question on which the poll has been demanded, and it may be withdrawn with the consent of the chairman any time before the close of the meeting or the taking of the poll, whichever is the earlier.
- On a poll votes may be given either personally or by proxy.
- A person entitled to more than one vote on a poll need not if he votes use all his votes or cast all the votes he uses in the same way.
- In the case of an equality of votes at a general meeting, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the chairman of such meeting shall be entitled to a second or casting vote.
- Subject to any special terms as to voting upon which any shares may be issued or may for the time being be held, on a show of hands every Member who is present in person or by proxy at a general meeting of the Company shall have one vote, and on a poll every Member who is present in person or by proxy shall have one vote for every share of which he is the holder.
- In the case of the joint holders of a share the vote of the senior who tenders a vote, whether in person or by proxy, shall be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint holders, and for this purpose seniority shall be determined by the order in which the names stand in the Register in respect of the joint holding.
- A Member who is mentally disordered or a patient for any purpose of any statute relating to mental health or in respect of whom an order has been made by any Court having jurisdiction for the control or management of the affairs of persons incapable of managing their own affairs may vote, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, by his receiver, committee, curator bonis or other person in the nature of a receiver, committee, curator bonis appointed by such Court, and such receiver, committee, curator bonis or other person may vote on a poll by proxy, and may otherwise act and be treated as such Member for the purposes of general meetings, provided that such evidence as the Board may require of the authority of the person claiming to vote shall have been deposited at the Office (or at such other place in the United Kingdom as may be specified for the delivery of instruments of proxy in the notice convening the meeting or other document sent therewith) not less than forty-eight hours before the time appointed for holding of the meeting or adjourned meeting or for the taking of the poll at which it is desired to vote.
- No member shall, unless the Board otherwise determines, be entitled to be present or to vote, either personally or by proxy, or to be reckoned in a quorum at any general meeting unless all calls or other sums presently payable by him in respect of shares in the Company have been paid.

If (i) any objection shall be raised to the qualification of any voter or (ii) any votes have been counted that ought not to have been counted or that might have been rejected or (iii) any votes are not counted that ought to have been counted, the objection or error shall not vitiate the decision of the meeting or adjourned meeting on any resolution unless the same is raised or pointed out at the meeting or, as the case may be, the adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is given or tendered or at which the error occurs. Any objection raised or error pointed out in due time shall be referred to the chairman of the meeting and shall only vitiate the decision of the meeting on any resolution if the chairman decides that the same may have affected the decision of the meeting. The decision of the chairman on such matters shall be final and conclusive.

FAILURE TO DISCLOSE INTERESTS IN SHARES

- 103 If a member, or any other person appearing to be interested in shares held by that member, has been issued with a notice under section 793 of the Act (section 793 notice) and has failed in relation to any shares (default shares, which expression includes any shares issued after the date of such notice in right of those shares) to give the Company the information required by the section 793 notice within the prescribed period from the service of the notice, the following sanctions shall apply unless the Board determines otherwise:
 - (A) the member shall not be entitled in respect of the default shares to be present or to vote (either in person or by representative or proxy) at any general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares or on any poll or to exercise any other right conferred by membership in relation to any such meeting or poll; and
 - (B) where the default shares represent at least 0.25% in nominal value of the issued shares of their class (calculated exclusive of any shares held as treasury shares):
 - (a) any dividend or other money payable for such shares shall be withheld by the Company, which shall not have any obligation to pay interest on it, and the member shall not be entitled to elect to receive shares instead of that dividend; and
 - (b) no transfer, other than an excepted transfer, of any shares held by the member shall be registered unless:
 - (i) the member himself is not in default of supplying the required information; and
 - (ii) the member proves to the satisfaction of the Board that no person in default of supplying such information is interested in any of the shares that are the subject of the transfer.

- For the purposes of ensuring this Article 103 (B)(b) can apply to all shares held by the member, the Company may in accordance with the uncertificated securities rules, issue a written notification to the Operator requiring conversion into certificated form of any share held by the member in uncertificated form.
- Where the sanctions under Article 103 apply in relation to any shares, they shall cease to have effect (and any dividends withheld under Article 103(B) shall become payable):
 - (a) if the shares are transferred by means of an excepted transfer but only in respect of the shares transferred; or
 - (b) at the end of the period of seven days (or such shorter period as the Board may determine) following receipt by the Company of the information required by the section 793 notice and the Board being fully satisfied that such information is full and complete.
- Where, on the basis of information obtained from a member in respect of any share held by him, the Company issues a section 793 notice to any other person, it shall at the same time send a copy of the notice to the member, but the accidental omission to do so, or the non-receipt by the member of the copy, shall not invalidate or otherwise affect the application of Article 103.
 - (a) For the purposes of Article 103 through to 107 (inclusive):
 - (a) a person, other than the member holding a share, shall be treated as appearing to be interested in that share if the member has informed the Company that the person is, or may be, so interested, or if the Company (after taking account of any information obtained from the member or, pursuant to a section 793 notice, from anyone else) knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the person is, or may be, so interested;
 - (b) "interested" shall be construed as it is for the purpose of section 793 of the Act;
 - (c) reference to a person having failed to give the Company the information required by a notice, or being in default as regards supplying such information, includes reference:
 - (i) to his having failed or refused to give all of any part of it; and
 - (ii) to his having given information which he knows to be false in a material particular or having recklessly given information which is false in a material particular;
 - (d) "prescribed period" means 14 days;
 - (e) "excepted transfer" means, in relation to any shares held by a member:

- (i) a transfer by way of or pursuant to acceptance of a takeover offer for the Company (within the meaning of section 974 of the Act); or
- (ii) a transfer in consequence of a sale made through a recognised investment exchange (as defined in section 285 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000) or any other stock exchange outside the United Kingdom on which the Company's shares are normally traded; or
- (iii) a transfer which is shown to the satisfaction of the Board to be made in consequence of a sale of the whole of the beneficial interest in the shares to a person who is unconnected with the member and with any other person appearing to be interested in the shares.
- Nothing contained in this Article shall be taken to limit the powers of the Company under section 794 of the Act.

PROXIES

- The instrument appointing a proxy shall be in writing under the hand of the appointor or of his attorney authorised in writing or, if the appointor is a corporation, either under its Seal or under the hand of an officer, attorney or other person authorised to sign the same.
- 109 A proxy need not be a Member.
- The instrument appointing a proxy and (if required by the Board) the power of attorney or other authority (if any) under which it is signed, or a notarially certified copy of such power of authority, shall be delivered at the Office (or at such other place in the United Kingdom as may be specified in the notice convening the meeting or in any notice of any adjournment or, in either case, in any document sent therewith) not less than forth-eight hours before the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the instrument proposes to vote or, in the case of a poll taken subsequently to the date of a meeting or adjourned meeting, not less than twenty-four hours before the time appointed for the taking of the poll and in default the instrument of proxy shall not be treated as valid. No instrument appointing a proxy shall be valid after the expiration of twelve months from the date named in it as the date of its execution.
- Instruments of proxy shall be in common form or in such other form as the Board may approve and the Board may, if it thinks fit, send out with the notice of any meeting forms of instrument of proxy for use at the meeting. The instrument of proxy shall be deemed to confer authority to demand or join in demanding a poll and to vote on any amendment of a resolution put to the meeting for which it is given as the proxy thinks fit. The

- instrument of proxy shall, unless the contrary is stated therein, be valid as well for any adjournment of the meeting as for the meeting to which it relates.
- A vote given in accordance with the terms of an instrument of proxy shall be valid notwithstanding the previous death or incapacity of the principal, or revocation of the instrument of proxy or of the authority under which it was executed, or the transfer of the share in respect of which the vote is given, provided that no intimation in writing of such death, incapacity, revocation or transfer shall have been received by the Company at the Office (or such other place in the United Kingdom as may be specified for the delivery of instruments of proxy in the notice convening the meeting or other document sent therewith) one hour at least before the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting, or the taking of the poll, at which the instrument of proxy is used.

THE NUMBER OF DIRECTORS

Unless and until otherwise determined by ordinary resolution of the Company, the Directors shall be not less than two and not more than ten in number.

DIRECTORS' SHAREHOLDING QUALIFICATION

The qualification of a Director shall be the holding alone, and not jointly with any other person, of registered Ordinary Shares of the Company of the nominal value of £100.

APPOINTMENT AND REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS

- Subject to the provisions of these Articles, the Company may by ordinary resolution appoint any person to be a Director, either to fill a casual vacancy or as an addition to the existing Board, but so that the total number of Directors shall not at any time exceed any maximum number fixed by or in accordance with these Articles.
- Without prejudice to the power of the Company by ordinary resolution in pursuance of any of the provisions of these Articles to appoint any person to be a Director, the Board shall have power at any time and from time to time to appoint any person to be a Director, either to fill a casual vacancy or as an addition to the existing Board, but so that the total number of Directors shall not at any time exceed any maximum number fixed by or in accordance with these Articles. Any Director so appointed by the Board shall hold office only until the next following annual general meeting and shall then be eligible for reappointment but shall not be taken into account in determining the Directors or the number of Directors who are to retire by rotation at such meeting.
- 117 The Company may by special resolution, or by ordinary resolution of which special notice has been given in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Acts, remove any Director before the expiration of his period of office and may (subject to the provisions of these Articles) by ordinary resolution appoint another person in his place.

Any person so appointed shall be subject to retirement at the same time as if he had become a Director on the day on which the Director in whose place he is appointed was last appointed a Director.

No person other than a Director retiring at the meeting shall, unless recommended by the Board, be appointed a Director at any general meeting unless, not less than six and not more than twenty-eight clear days before the day appointed for the meeting, there has been given to the Secretary notice in writing by some Member (not being the person to be proposed) entitled to attend and vote at the meeting for which such notice is given of his intention to propose such person for appointment and also notice in writing signed by the person to be proposed of his willingness to be appointed.

REMUNERATION OF DIRECTORS

The Directors other than those holding full-time salaried employment in the Company shall be entitled to remuneration for their services as Directors in such amount as the Board may determine and such remuneration shall be apportioned amongst them as the Board may agree.

ADDITIONAL REMUNERATION

Each Director may be paid his reasonable travelling, hotel and incidental expenses of attending and returning from meetings of the Board or committees of the Board or general meetings or separate meetings of the holders of any class of shares or of debentures of the Company and shall be paid all expenses properly and reasonably incurred by him in the conduct of the Company's business or in the discharge of his duties as a Director. Any Director who, by request, goes or resides abroad for any purposes of the Company or who performs services which in the opinion of the Board go beyond the ordinary duties of a Director may be paid such extra remuneration (whether by way of salary, commission, participation in profits or otherwise) as the Board may determine and such extra remuneration shall be in addition to any remuneration provided for by or pursuant to any other Article.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

The Board may from time to time appoint one or more of its body to be Executive Chairman, Chief Executive Director, Joint Chief Executive Director, Managing Director, Joint Managing Director or Assistant Managing Director or to hold any other employment or executive office with the Company for such period (subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts) and upon such terms including remuneration (whether by way of salary, commission, participation in profits or otherwise) as the Board may determine and may revoke or terminate any of such appointments. Such remuneration shall be in addition to any remuneration provided for by or pursuant to any other Article.

Any such revocation or termination as aforesaid shall be without prejudice to any claim for damages that such Director may have against the Company or the Company may have against such Director for any breach of any contract of service between him and the Company that may be involved in such revocation or termination. The Managing Director or the Joint Managing Directors so appointed shall not (as the case may be), whilst holding that office, be subject to retirement by rotation or be taken into account in determining the Directors or the number of Directors who are to retire by rotation.

An Executive Director shall receive such remuneration (whether by way of salary, commission, participation in profits or otherwise) as the Board may determine, and either in addition to or in lieu of his remuneration as a Director.

DISQUALIFICATION OF DIRECTORS

- Without prejudice to the provisions for retirement by rotation hereinafter contained, the office of a Director shall be vacated in any of the events following, namely:
 - (a) if (not being an Executive Director whose contract of service precludes resignation) he resigns his office by notice in writing delivered to the Office or tendered at a meeting of the Board;
 - (b) if the Board resolves that he is through physical or mental incapacity or mental disorder no longer able to perform the functions of a Director;
 - (c) if, without leave, he is absent from meetings of the Board (whether or not an alternate Director appointed by him attends) for six consecutive months, and the Board resolves that his office is vacated;
 - (d) if he becomes bankrupt or compounds with his creditors;
 - (e) if he is prohibited by law from being a Director;
 - (f) if he ceases to be a Director by virtue of the Companies Acts or is removed from office pursuant to these Articles;
 - (g) if he is requested to resign by a notice in writing signed by all the other Directors;
 - (h) if he ceases to hold the number of shares required to qualify him for office or does not acquire the same within two months after election or appointment.

ROTATION OF DIRECTORS

Subject to the provisions of these Articles, at every annual general meeting one-third of the Directors for the time being or, if their number is not a multiple of three, then the number nearest to but not exceeding one-third shall retire from office.

- 125 The Directors so to retire shall be those subject to retirement by rotation who have been longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment but as between persons who became or were last reappointed Directors on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot. The Directors to retire on each occasion (both as to number and identity) shall be determined by the composition of the Board at a date not earlier than twenty-eight days before the date of the notice convening the annual general meeting, and no Director shall be required to retire or be relieved from retiring by reason of any change in the number or identity of the Directors after such date but before the close of the meeting.
- A Director who retires at an annual general meeting shall be eligible for reappointment. If he is not reappointed he shall retain office until the meeting appoints someone in his place or, if it does not do so, until the end of the meeting.
- Subject to the provisions of these Articles, the Company at the meeting at which a Director retires in manner aforesaid may fill the vacated office by appointing a person thereto and in default the retiring Director shall, if willing to continue to act, be deemed to have been reappointed, unless at such meeting it is expressly resolved not to fill such vacated office or unless a resolution for the reappointment of such Director shall have been put to the meeting and lost.

AGE OF DIRECTORS

No person shall be disqualified from being appointed a Director and no Director shall be required to vacate that office by reason only of the fact that he has attained the age of seventy years or any other age, nor shall it be necessary to give special notice under the Companies Acts of any resolution appointing, reappointing or approving the appointment of a Director by reason of his age.

ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

Director shall have the power to appoint any person to be his alternative
Director and may at his discretion remove such alternate Director. If such
alternate Director is not another Director, such appointment, unless previously
approved by the Board, shall have effect only upon and subject to it being
approved. Any appointment or removal of an alternate Director shall be effected
by notice in writing signed by the appointor and delivered to the office or
tendered at a meeting of the Board. An alternate Director, shall, if his appointor
so requests, be entitled to receive notices of meetings of the Board or of
committees of the Board to the same extent as, but in lieu of, the Director
appointing him and shall be entitled to such extent to attend and vote as a Director
at any such meeting as the Director appointing him is not personally present and
generally at such meeting to exercise and discharge all the functions, powers and

- duties of his appointor as a Director and for the purposes of the proceedings at such meeting the provisions of these Articles shall apply as if he were a Director.
- (B) Every person acting as an alternate Director shall (except as regards power to appoint an alternate Director and remuneration) be subject in all respects to the provisions of these Articles relating to Directors and shall alone be responsible to the Company for his acts and defaults and shall not be deemed to be the agent of or for the Director appointing him. An alternate Director may be paid expenses and shall be entitled to be indemnified by the Company to the same extent *mutatis mutandis* as if he were a Director but shall not be entitled to receive from the Company any remuneration in his capacity as an alternate Director except only such part (if any) of the remuneration otherwise payable to the Director appointing him as such Director may by notice in writing to the Company from time to time direct.
- (C) Every person acting as an alternate Director shall have one vote for each Director for whom he acts as alternate (in addition to his own vote if he is also a Director). The signature of an alternate Director to any resolution in writing of the Board or a committee of the Board shall, unless the notice of his appointment provides to the contrary, be as effective as the signature of his appointor.
- (D) As alternate Director shall *ipso facto* cease to be an alternate Director if his appointor ceases for any reason to be a Director provided that, if at any meeting any Director retires by rotation or otherwise but is reappointed at the same meeting, any appointment made by him pursuant to this Article which was in force immediately before his retirement shall remain in force as though he had not retired.

POWERS OF DIRECTORS

- 130 (A) A Director may hold any other office or place of profit with the Company (except that of Auditor) in conjunction with his office of Director for such period and upon such terms as the Board may determine, and may be paid such extra remuneration therefor (whether by way of salary, commission, participation in profits or otherwise) as the Board may determine, and such extra remuneration shall be in addition to any remuneration provided for by or pursuant to any other Article.
 - (B) A Director may act by himself or his firm in a professional capacity for the Company (otherwise than as Auditor) and he or his firm shall be entitled to remuneration for professional services as if he were not a Director.
 - (C) A Director of the Company may be or become a director or other officer of, or otherwise interested in, any company promoted by the Company or in which the Company may be interested, and shall not be liable to account to the Company or the Members for any remuneration, profit or other benefit received by him as a director or officer of or from his interest in such other company. The Board may

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also cause the voting power conferred by the shares in any other company held or owned by the Company to be exercised in such manner in all respects as it thinks fit, including the exercise thereof in favour of any resolution appointing the Directors or any of them to be directors or officers of such other company, or voting or providing for the payment of remuneration to the directors or officers of such other company.

- (D) For the purposes of section 175 of the Companies Act 2006, the directors shall have the power to authorise any matter which would or might otherwise constitute or give rise to a breach of the duty of a Director under that Section to avoid a situation in which he has, or can have, a direct or indirect interest that conflicts, or possibly may conflict, with the interests of the Company. Such authorisation of any such matter shall only be effective if any requirement as to quorum at the meeting of the directors at which the matter is considered is met without counting the Director in question and the matter is agreed without his voting or would have been agreed to if his vote had not been counted. As such, a Director shall not vote or be counted in the quorum on any resolution of the Board concerning his own appointment as the holder of any office or place or profit with the Company or any other company in which the Company is interested (including the arrangement or variation of the terms thereof, or the termination thereof). Any authorisation of a matter under this Article 130(D) extends to any actual or potential conflict of interest which may reasonably be expected to arise out of the matter so authorised and shall be subject to such conditions or limitations as the directors may determine, whether at the time such authorisation is given or subsequently, and may be terminated by the directors at any time.
- (E) Where arrangements are under consideration by the Board concerning the appointment (including the arrangement or variation of the terms thereof, or the termination thereof) of two or more Directors to officers or places of profit with the Company or any other company in which the Company is interested, a separate resolution may be put in relation to each Director and in such case each of the Directors concerned shall be entitled to vote (and be counted in the quorum) in respect of each resolution except that concerning his own appointment (or the arrangement or variation of the terms thereof, or the termination thereof) and except (in the case of an office or place of profit with any such other company as aforesaid) where the other company is a company in which the Director owns one per cent, or more within the meaning of paragraph (I) below.
- (F) Subject to the next paragraph of this Article, no Director or proposed or intending Director shall be disqualified by his office from contracting with the Company, either with regard to his tenure of any office or place of profit or as vendor, purchaser or in any other manner whatever, nor shall any such contract or any other contract or arrangement in which any Director is in any way interested be liable to be avoided, nor shall any Director so contracting or being so interested be liable to account to the Company or the Members for any remuneration, profit or other benefits realised by any such contract or arrangement by reason of such Director holding that office or of the fiduciary relationship thereby established.

- (G) A Director who is in any way, whether directly or indirectly, interested in any transaction with the Company shall declare the nature and extent of his interest pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of Sections 177 and/or 182 of the Companies Act 2006 at the meeting of the Board at which the question of entering into the transaction is first taken into consideration, or if the Director was not at the date of that meeting interested in the transaction, at the first meeting of the Board after he is or has become so interested. For the purposes of this Article a general notice to the Board by a Director to the effect that (i) he is a member of a specified company or firm and is to be regarded as interested in any transaction which may after the date of the notice be made with that company or firm, or (ii) he is to be regarded as interested in any transaction which may after the date of the notice be made with a specified person who is connected with him within the meaning of the Companies Acts, shall be deemed to be a sufficient declaration of interest under this Article in relation to any such transaction; provided that no such notice shall be effective unless either it is given at a meeting of the Board or the Director giving the same takes reasonable steps to secure that it is brought up and read at the next Board meeting after it is given.
- (H) Save as otherwise provided by these Articles, a Director shall not vote (nor be counted in the quorum) on any resolution of the Board in respect of any transaction in which he is materially interested, and if he shall do so his vote shall not be counted, but in the absence of some other material interest and subject to compliance with the provisions of Sections 177 and/or 182 of the Companies Act 2006, this prohibition shall not apply to any of the following matters namely:-
 - (i) any transaction for giving to such Director any security or indemnity in respect of money lent by him or obligations undertaken by him for the benefit of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or subsidiary undertakings;
 - (ii) any transaction for the giving by the Company or any of its subsidiaries or subsidiary undertakings of any security or indemnity to a third party in respect of a debt or obligation of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or subsidiary undertakings in respect of which such Director has himself given an indemnity or that he has guaranteed or secured in whole or in part;
 - (iii) any transaction by such Director to subscribe for shares, debentures or other securities of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or subsidiary undertakings issued to or to be issued pursuant to any offer or invitation to Members or debenture holders of the Company or any class thereof or to the public or any section thereof, or to underwrite or sub-underwrite any such shares, debentures or other securities;
 - (iv) any transaction in which such Director is interested by virtue of his interest in shares or debentures or other securities of the Company or by

reason of any other interest in or through the Company;

- (v) any transaction concerning any other company (not being a company in which such Director owns one per cent or more within the meaning of paragraph (I) below) in which he is interested directly or indirectly whether as an officer, creditor or otherwise howsoever;
- (vi) any proposal concerning the adoption, modification or operation of a superannuation fund or retirement, death or disability scheme that relates both to Directors and employees of the Company or of any of its subsidiaries or subsidiary undertakings and that does not accord to any Director as such any privilege or advantage not generally accorded to the employees to whom such scheme or fund relates; and
- (vii) any arrangement for the benefit of employees of the Company or of any of its subsidiaries or subsidiary undertakings under which the Director benefits in a similar manner to the employees and that does not accord to any Director as such any privilege or advantage not generally accorded to the employees to whom such arrangement relates.
- (I) A Company shall be deemed to be a company in which a Director owns one per cent or more if and so long as (but only if and so long as) the Director together with any person connected with him within the meaning of the Companies Acts (a "connected person") is (either directly or indirectly) the holder of or beneficially interested in one per cent or more of any class of the equity share capital of such company or of the voting rights available to members of such company. For the purpose of this paragraph there shall be disregarded any shares held by a Director or connected person as bare or custodian trustee and in which he has no beneficial interest, any shares comprised in a trust in which the interest of the Director or connected person is in reversion or remainder if and so long as some other person is entitled to receive the income thereof, and any shares comprised in an authorised unit trust scheme in which the Director or connected person is interested only as a unit holder.
- (J) Where a company in which a Director holds one per cent or more is materially interested in a transaction, then that Director shall also be deemed materially interested in such transaction.
- (K) If any question shall arise at any meeting of the Board as to the materiality of the interest of a Director or as to the entitlement of any Director to vote or be counted in the quorum and such question is not resolved by his voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting or not to be counted in the quorum, such question shall be decided by a resolution of the Board (for which purpose such Director shall be counted in the quorum but shall not vote thereon) and such resolution shall be final and conclusive except in a case where the nature or extent of the interest of such Director as known to such Director has not been fairly disclosed to the Board.

- (L) The Company may by ordinary resolution suspend or relax the provisions of this Article to any extent or ratify any transaction not duly authorised by reason of a contravention of this Article.
- (M) The word "transaction" in this Article shall include any transaction, contract, arrangement or agreement or any proposed transaction, contract, arrangement or agreement.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD

- 131 The business of the Company shall be managed by the Board, which may exercise all such powers of the Company as are not by the Companies Acts or by these Articles required to be exercised by the Company in general meeting, subject nevertheless to the provisions of these Articles. No alteration of these Articles shall invalidate any prior act of the Board that would have been valid if that alteration had not been made. The general powers given by this Article shall not be limited or restricted by any special authority or power given to the Board by any other Article.
- The Board may establish local boards or agencies for managing any of the affairs of the Company, either in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, and may appoint any persons to be members of such local boards, or any managers or agents, and may fix their remuneration. The Board may delegate any such local board, board manager, or agent any of the powers, authorities and discretions vested in or exercisable by the Board, and may also power to sub-delegate, and may authorise the members of any such local board of any of them to fill any vacancies therein and to act notwithstanding vacancies. Any such appointment or delegation may be made upon such terms and subject to such conditions as the Board may think fit, and the Board may remove any person appointed as aforesaid, and may revoke or vary such delegation, but no person dealing in good faith and without notice of any such revocation or variation shall be affected thereby.
- 133 The Board may by power of attorney appoint any company, firm or person or any fluctuating body of persons, whether nominated directly or indirectly by the Board, to be the attorney or attorneys of the Company for such purposes and with such powers, authorities and discretions (not exceeding those vested in or exercisable by the Board under the provisions of these Articles) and for such period and subject to such conditions as it may think fit, and any such power of attorney may contain such provisions for the protection and convenience of persons dealing with any such attorney as the Board may think fit, and may also authorise any such attorney to sub-delegate all or any of the powers, authorities and discretions vested in him.
- 134 The Board may entrust to and confer upon any Director any of the powers exercisable by it upon such terms and conditions and with such restrictions as it thinks fit, and either collaterally with, or to the exclusion of, its own powers, and may from time to time

- revoke or vary all or any of such powers but no person dealing in good faith and without notice of such revocation or variation shall be affected thereby.
- Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Company may keep an overseas or local or other register in any place, and the Board may make and vary such regulations as it may think fit respecting the keeping of any such register.
- All cheques, promissory notes, drafts, bills of exchange and other instruments, whether negotiable or transferable or not, and all receipts for moneys paid to the Company shall be signed, drawn, accepted, endorsed or otherwise executed, as the case may be, in such manner as the Board shall from time to time by resolution determine.
- 137 The Board shall cause minutes or records to be made in books provided for the purpose:-
 - (a) of all appointments of officers made by the Board;
 - (b) of the names of the Directors present at each meeting of the Board or committee of the Board; and
 - of all resolutions and proceedings at all meetings of the Company, of the holders of any class of shares in the Company, and of the Board, and of any committee of the Board.
- The Board on behalf of the Company may exercise all the powers of the Company to grant pensions, annuities, gratuities and superannuation or other allowances and benefits, including allowances on death, in favour of any person including any Director or former Director or the relations, connections or dependants of any Director or former Director. A Director or former Director shall not be accountable to the Company or the Members for any benefit of any kind conferred under or pursuant to this Article and the receipt of any such benefit shall not disqualify any person from being or becoming a Director of the Company.

BORROWING POWERS

- 139 (A) Subject as hereinafter provided the Board may exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money and to mortgage or charge all or any part of the undertaking, property and assets (present and future) and uncalled capital of the Company and to issue debentures and other securities, whether outright or as collateral security for any debt, liability or obligation of the Company or of any third party.
 - (B) (1) The Board shall restrict the borrowings of the Company and exercise all voting and other rights or powers of control and exercisable by the Company in relation to its subsidiary undertakings (if any) so as to secure (but as regards subsidiary

undertakings only in so far as by the exercise of such rights or powers of control the Board can secure) that the aggregate principal amount from time to time outstanding of all borrowings by the Group (exclusive of borrowings owing by one member of the Group to another member of the Group) shall not, without the previous sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company, at any time exceed an amount equal to two times the Adjusted Capital and Reserves.

- (2) For the purpose of the foregoing restriction:-
 - (a) "the Adjusted Capital and Reserves" shall mean the aggregate from time to time of:-
 - (i) the amount paid up or credited as paid up on the issued share capital of the Company; and
 - (ii) the amount outstanding to the credit of the reserves (including, without limitation, any share premium account, capital redemption or other capital reserve, property revaluation reserve, and any credit balance on profit and loss account) all as shown by the then latest audited balance sheet but after deducting therefrom any debit balance on profit and loss account (except to the extent that such deduction has already been made) and making adjustments to reflect any variation in the amount of such paid up share capital or reserves (including, without limitation, any share premium account, capital redemption or other capital reserve and property revaluation reserve) since the date of such audited balance sheet;
 - (b) "borrowings" shall be deemed to include not only borrowings but also the following except in so far as otherwise taking into account:-
 - (i) the nominal amount of any issued share capital and the principal amount of any debentures or borrowed moneys, the beneficial interest wherein or the right to repayment whereof is not for the time being owned by a member of the Group, of any body whether corporate or unincorporate and the payment or repayment whereof is the subject of a guarantee or indemnity by a member of the Group;
 - (ii) the outstanding principal amount raised by acceptances by any bank or accepting house under any acceptance credit opened on behalf of and in favour of any member of the Group;
 - (iii) the principal amount of any debenture (whether secured or unsecured) of a member of the Group owned otherwise than by a member of the Group;
 - (iv) the nominal amount of any preference share capital of any

- subsidiary undertaking beneficially owned otherwise than by a member of the Group; and
- (v) any fixed or minimum premium payable on repayment of any borrowing or deemed borrowing;

but shall be deemed not to include:-

- (vi) borrowings for the purposes of repaying the whole or any part of borrowings by a member of the Group for the time being outstanding and so to be applied within six months of being so borrowed, pending their application for such purpose within such period;
- (vii) borrowings for the purpose of financing any contract in respect of which any part of the price receivable by a member of the Group is guaranteed or insured by the Export Credits Guarantee Department of the Department of Trade and Industry or by any other Governmental department fulfilling a similar function, to an amount not exceeding that part of the price receivable thereunder which is so guaranteed or insured; and
- (viii) amounts borrowed or raised that are for the time being deposited with H M Customs and Excise or any other body designated by any relevant legislation or order in connection with import deposits or any similar governmental scheme to the extent that a member of the Group retains its interest therein;
- (c) when the aggregate principal amount of borrowings required to be taken into account for the purposes of this Article on any particular date is being ascertained:-
 - (i) any of such moneys denominated or repayable (or repayable at the option of any person other than the Company) in a currency other than sterling shall be converted for the purpose of calculating the sterling equivalent at the rate of exchange prevailing on that date in London provided that any of such moneys shall be converted at the rate of exchange prevailing in London six months before such day if thereby such aggregate amount would be less (and so that for this purpose the rate of exchange shall be taken as the middle market rate as at the close of business);
 - (ii) where under the terms of any borrowing the amount of money that would be required to discharge the principal amount of such borrowing in full if it fell to be repaid (at the option of the Company or by reason of default) on such data is less than the amount that would otherwise be taken into account in respect of

- such borrowing for the purpose of this Article, the amount of such borrowing to be taken into account for the purpose of this Article shall be such less amount; and
- (iii) amounts borrowed by a company before, and outstanding after, it becomes a subsidiary undertaking of the Company shall not be included until the expiry of a period of six months from the date on which the said company becomes a subsidiary undertaking of the Company unless the reserves of the said company have been included in the audited balance sheet during such period of six months;
- (d) "audited balance sheet" shall mean the audited balance sheet of the Company prepared for the purposes of the Companies Acts unless at the date of the then latest such balance sheet there shall have been prepared for such purposes and audited a consolidated balance sheet of the Company and its subsidiary undertakings (with such exceptions as may be permitted in the case of a consolidated balance sheet prepared for the purposes of the Companies Acts) and in the latter event "audited balance sheet" shall mean such audited consolidated balance sheet of the Company and such subsidiary undertakings, the references to reserves and profits and loss account shall be deemed to be references to consolidated reserves and consolidated profit and loss account respectively and there shall be excluded any amounts attributable to outside interests in subsidiary undertakings;
- (3) A Certificate or report by the Auditors for the time being of the Company as to the amount of the Adjusted Capital and Reserves or the amount of any borrowings or to the effect that the limit imposed by this Article has not been or will not be exceeded at any particular time or times shall be conclusive evidence of such amount or fact for the purposes of this Article.
- (C) Notwithstanding the foregoing no lender or other person dealing with the Company shall be concerned to see or inquire whether the limit imposed by this Article is observed and no borrowing incurred or security given in excess of such limit shall be invalid or ineffectual except in the case of express notice to the lender or the recipient of the security given that the limit hereby imposed had been or was thereby exceeded.

PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS

Subject to the provisions of these Articles, the Board may meet for the despatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate its meetings as it thinks fit. Questions arising at any meeting shall be determined by a majority of votes. In the case of any equality of votes the chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote. A Director may, and the Secretary on the requisition of a Director shall, at any time summon a Board meeting.

- Notice of a Board meeting shall be deemed to be duly given to a Director if it is given to him personally or by word of mouth or sent in writing to him at his last known address or any other address given by him to the Company for this purpose. A Director absent or intending to be absent from the United Kingdom may require of the Board that notices of Board meetings shall during his absence be sent in writing to him at his last known address or any other address given by him to the Company for this purpose, but in the absence of any such requisition it shall not be necessary to give notice of a Board meeting to any Director who is for the time being absent from the United Kingdom. A Director may waive notice of any meeting either prospectively or retrospectively.
- The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the Board may be fixed by the Board and unless so fixed at any other number, shall be two. Any Director who ceases to be a Director at a Board meeting may continue to be present and to act as a Director and be counted in the quorum until the termination of the Board meeting if no other Director objects and if otherwise a quorum of Directors would not be present.
- The continuing Directors or a sole continuing Director may act notwithstanding any vacancy in the Board but, if and so long as the number of Directors is reduced below any minimum number fixed by or in accordance with these Articles, the continuing Directors or Director, notwithstanding that the number of Directors is below the number fixed by or in accordance with these Articles as the quorum or that there is only one continuing Director, may act for the purpose of filling vacancies in the Board or of summoning general meetings of the Company but not for any other purpose. If there be no Directors able or willing to act, then any two Members may summon a general meeting for the purpose of appointing Directors.
- The Board may appoint a Chairman and one or more Deputy-Chairmen of its meetings and determine the period for which they are respectively to hold such offices. If no such Chairman or Deputy-Chairman is appointed, or if at any meeting neither the Chairman nor any Deputy-Chairman is present within five minutes after the time appointed for holding the same, the Directors present may appoint one of their number to be chairman of the meeting.
- A meeting of the Board at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all the powers, authorities and discretions for the time being vested in or exercisable by the Board.
- The Board may delegate such of its powers or discretions as it may think fit to committees consisting of one or more members of the Board and (if thought fit) one or more other persons co-opted as hereinafter provided. Any committee so formed shall in the exercise of the powers so delegated conform to any regulations that may from time to time be imposed by the Board. Any such regulations may provide for or authorise the co-option to the committee of persons other than Directors and for such co-opted members

to have voting rights as members of the committee but so that (i) the number of co-opted members shall be less than one-half of the total number of members of the committee; (ii) no resolution of the committee shall be effective unless a majority of the members of the committee present at the meeting are Directors and (iii) the chairman of each committee shall be a Director and in the case of any equality of votes the chairman of the committee shall have a second or casting vote.

- The meetings and proceedings of any committee consisting of two or more persons shall be governed by the provisions contained in these Articles for regulating the meetings and proceedings of the Board so far as the same are applicable and are not superseded by any regulations imposed by the Board under the last preceding Article.
- A resolution in writing signed by all the Directors (or their duly appointed alternatives) for the time being in the United Kingdom (provided that number is sufficient to constitute a quorum) or by all the members of a committee for the time being shall be as valid and effectual as a resolution passed at a meeting of the Board or, as the case may be, of such committee duly called and constituted. Such resolution may be contained in one document or in several documents in like form each signed by one or more of the Directors or members of the committee concerned.
- All acts done by the Board or by any committee or by any person acting as a Director or member of a committee, shall, notwithstanding that it is afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment of any member of the Board or such committee or person acting as aforesaid or that they or any of them were disqualified or had vacated office or were not entitled to vote, be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed and was qualified and had continued to be a Director or member of such committee and had been entitled to vote.

SECRETARY

- 150 The Secretary shall be appointed by the Board for such term, at such remuneration and upon such conditions as it may think fit and any Secretary so appointed may be removed by the Board.
- A provision of the Companies Acts or these Articles requiring or authorising a thing to be done by or to a Director and the Secretary shall not be satisfied by its being done or to the same person acting both as a Director and as, or in place of, the Secretary.

THE SEALS AND THE EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS

152 The Board shall provide for the safe custody of every Seal. No document shall be executed by the Company under the common seal of the Company, if any, or by the signatures of a Director and the Secretary or a second Director on behalf of the Company

(with the intention of having the same effect as execution under the common seal of the Company), unless such execution has been authorised by the Board or by a committee authorised by the Board in that behalf. The Board may determine who shall sign any document to which the common seal of the Company is affixed and unless otherwise so determined it shall be signed by a Director and by the Secretary or by a second Director. Any instrument to which an official seal is affixed need not, unless the Board for the time being otherwise determines or the law otherwise requires, be signed by any person.

The Company may exercise all the powers conferred by the Companies Acts with regard to having official seals and such powers shall be vested in the Board.

AUTHENTICATION OF DOCUMENTS

Any Director or the Secretary or any person appointed by the Board for the purpose shall have power to authenticate any documents affecting the constitution of the Company and any resolutions passed by the Company or the holders of any class of shares of the Company or the Board or any committee of the Board, and any books, records, documents and accounts relating to the business of the Company, and to certify copies thereof or extracts therefrom as true copies or extracts. A document purporting to be a copy of a resolution, or the minutes of or an extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Company or the holders of any class of shares of the Company or of the Board or any committee of the Board that is certified as aforesaid shall be conclusive evidence in favour of all persons dealing in with the Company upon the faith thereof that such resolution has been duly passed or, as the case may be, that such minutes or extract is a true and accurate record of proceedings at a duly constituted meeting.

DIVIDENDS AND OTHER PAYMENTS

- 155 The Company in general meeting may from time to time declare dividends to be paid to the Members according to their rights and interests in the profits available for distribution, but no dividend shall be declared in excess of the amount recommended by the Board.
- Insofar as in the opinion of the Board the profits of the Company justify such payments, the Board may pay the fixed dividends on any class of shares carrying a fixed dividend expressed to be payable on fixed dates on the half-yearly or other dates prescribed for the payment thereof and may also from time to time pay interim dividends on shares of any class of such amounts and on such dates and in respect of such periods as it thinks fit.
- Unless and to the extent that the rights attached to any shares or the terms of issue thereof otherwise provide, all dividends shall (as regards any shares not fully paid throughout the period in respect of which the dividend is paid) be apportioned and paid pro rata according to the amounts paid on the shares during any portion or portions of the period

- in respect of which the dividend is paid. For the purposes of this Article no amount paid on a share in advance of calls shall be treated as paid on the share.
- No dividend shall be paid otherwise than out of profits available for the purpose in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Acts.
- No dividend or other moneys payable on or in respect of a share shall bear interest as against the Company.
- Where any asset, business or property is acquired by the Company as from a past date, the profits and losses arising therefrom as from such date may at the discretion of the Board in whole or in part be carried to revenue account and treated for all purposes as profits or losses of the Company. Subject as aforesaid, if any shares or securities are purchase *cum* dividend or interest, such dividend or interest may at the discretion of the Board be treated as revenue, and it shall not be obligatory to capitalise the same or any part thereof.
- 161 (A) The Board may retain any dividend payable upon shares in respect of a share on which the Company has a lien, and may apply the same in or towards satisfaction of the debts, liabilities or engagements in respect of which the lien exists.
 - (B) The Board may retain any dividend or other moneys payable on or in respect of which any person is under the provisions as to the transmission of shares hereinbefore contained entitled to become a Member, or that any person is under those provisions entitled to transfer, until such person shall become a Member in respect of such shares or shall transfer the same.
- The waiver in whole or in part of any dividend on any share by any document (whether or not under seal) shall be effective only if such document is signed by the holder thereof (or the person becoming entitled to the share in consequence of the death, bankruptcy or mental disorder of the holder or by operation of law or any other event) and delivered to the Company and if or to the extent that the same is accepted as such or acted upon the Company.
- The payment by the Board of any unclaimed dividend or other moneys payable on or in respect of a share into a separate account shall not constitute the Company a trustee in respect thereof and any dividend unclaimed after a period of twelve years from the date such dividend is payable shall be forfeited and shall revert to the Company.
- The Company may upon the recommendation of the Board by ordinary resolution direct payment of a dividend in whole or in part by the distribution of specific assets (and in particular of paid up shares or debentures of any other company) and the Board shall give effect to such resolution, and where any difficulty arises in regard to such distribution, the Board may settle the same as it thinks expedient and in particular may issue fractional certificates and fix the value for distribution of such specific assets or any part thereof

and may determine that cash payments shall be made to any Members upon the footing of the value so fixed in order to adjust the rights of all parties and may vest any such specific assets in trustees as may seem expedient to the Board.

- The Board may, with the sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company, offer Members the right to elect to receive shares, credited as fully paid, in whole or in part instead of cash in respect of such dividend or dividends as are specified by such resolution. The following provisions shall apply:
 - (a) the said resolution may specify a particular dividend or may specify all or any dividends announced or declared within a specified period, but such period may not be longer than five years from the date of the resolution;
 - (b) the entitlement of each Member to new shares shall be such that the relevant value thereof shall be as nearly as possible equal to (but not in excess of) the cash amount that such Member would have received by way of dividend (or in respect of that part of the dividend in respect of which a right of election has been offered). For this purpose, "relevant value" shall be calculated by reference to the average of the middle market quotations for the Company's shares as derived from The Stock Exchange Daily Official List (where the Company's shares have been admitted by the Council of the Stock Exchange to the Official List) or the average of the prices at which bargains have been marked in the Company's shares as derived from the Unlisted Securities Market section of The Stock Exchange Daily Official List (where the permission has been granted to deal in the Company's shares in the Unlisted Securities Market) on such five consecutive dealing days as the Board shall determine provided that the first of such dealing days shall be on or after the day when the shares are first quoted "ex" the relevant dividend:
 - (c) the basis of allotment shall be such that no Member may receive a fraction of a share;
 - (d) the Board, after determining the basis of allotment, shall notify Members in writing of the right of election offered to them and shall send with, or following, such notification forms of election and specify the procedure to be followed and the latest date and time by which, duly completed forms of election must be lodged in order to be effective;
 - (e) the dividend (or that part of the dividend in respect of which a right of election has been offered) shall not be payable on shares in respect whereof the said election has been duly made ("the elected shares") and instead thereof additional shares shall be allotted to the holder of the elected shares on the basis of allotment determined as aforesaid. For such purpose the Board shall capitalise out of such of the sums standing to the credit of reserves (including any share premium account or capital redemption reserve) or any of the profits which could otherwise have been applied in paying dividends in cash as the Board may determine, a sum equal to the aggregate nominal amount of the additional shares to be allotted on

- such basis and apply the same in paying up in full the appropriate number of unissued shares for allotment and distribution to and amongst the holders of the elected shares on such basis;
- (f) the additional shares so allotted shall rank *pari passu* in all respects with the fully paid shares then in issue save only as regards participation in the relevant dividend; and
- (g) the Board may, from time to time determine that the right of election shall not be made available to any number or class of Members whose registered addresses are in any territory where, in the absence of a registration statement or other formalities, the offer of the right of election would or might be or be considered to be unlawful or to such Members if the offer would, in the opinion of the Board, be impracticable or unduly costly and in any such event, the provisions of this Article shall be read and construed subject to such determination.
- 166 Any dividend or other moneys payable in cash or in respect of a share may be (A) paid by cheque or warrant sent through the post to the registered address of the Member or person entitled thereto (or, if two or more persons are registered as joint holders of the share or are entitled thereto in consequence of the death, bankruptcy or mental disorder of the holder or by operation of law or any other event to any one of such persons) or to such person and such address as such Member or person or persons may in writing direct. Every such cheque or warrant shall be made payable to the order of the person to whom it is sent or to such person as the holder or joint holders or person or persons entitled to the share in consequence of the death, bankruptcy or mental disorder of the holder or by operation of law or any other event may in writing direct and payment of the cheque or warrant by the banker upon whom it is drawn shall be a good discharge to the Company. Every such cheque or warrant shall be sent at the risk of the person entitled to the money represented thereby.
 - (B) The Company shall be entitled to cease sending warrants and cheques for dividends or other monies payable in cash or in respect of a share if warrants or cheques sent in accordance with these Articles in respect of any such share have been returned undelivered or left uncashed on at least two consecutive occasions and the Company has not since the last such occasion, received any indication of the existence or whereabouts of the Member concerned (or other person entitled to such share).
- 167 If two or more persons are registered as joint holders of any share, or are entitled jointly to a share in consequence of the death, bankruptcy or mental disorder of the holder or by operation of law or any other event, any one of them may give effectual receipts for any dividend or other money payable or property distributable on or in respect of the share.
- Any resolution declaring, paying or making a dividend, distribution, allotment or issue in respect of shares of any class, whether a resolution of the Company in general meeting or

a resolution of the Board may specify that the same shall be paid or made to the persons registered as the holders of such shares at the close of business on a particular date, notwithstanding that it may be a date before that on which the resolution is passed, and thereupon the dividend, distribution, allotment or issue shall be receivable by them in accordance with their respective holdings so registered, but without prejudice to the rights *inter se* in respect of such dividend, distribution, allotment or issue of transferors and transferees of any such shares.

RESERVES

The Board may, before recommending any dividend, set aside out of the profits of the Company such sums as it thinks proper as reserves which shall, at the discretion of the Board, be applicable for any purpose to which the profits of the Company may be properly applied and pending such application may, also at such discretion, either be employed in the business of the Company or be invested in such investments as the Board may from time to time think fit. The Board may also without placing the same to reserve carry forward any profits that it may think it prudent not to distribute.

CAPITALISATION OF PROFITS

- 170 The Company may, upon the recommendation of the Board, at any time and from time to time pass an ordinary resolution to the effect that it is desirable to capitalise all or any part of any amount for the time being standing to the credit of any reserve or fund (including the profit and loss account) whether or not the same is available for distribution and accordingly that such amount be set free for distribution among Members or any class of Members who would be entitled thereto if it were distributed by way of dividend and in the same proportions on the footing that the same be not paid in cash but be applied either in or towards paying up the amounts for the time being unpaid on any shares in the Company held by such Members respectively or in payment up in full of unissued shares, debentures or other obligations of the Company, to be allotted and distributed credited as fully paid up among such Members, or partly in one way and partly in the other, and the Board shall give effect to such resolution, provided that, for the purposes of this Article, a share premium account and a capital redemption reserve, and any reserve or fund representing unrealised profits may be applied only in the paying up of the unissued shares to be allotted to such Members credited as fully paid up.
- Where any difficulty arises in regard to any distribution under the last preceding Article the Board may settle the same as it thinks expedient and in particular may issue fractional certificates or authorise any person to sell and transfer any fractions and arrange for the distribution of the net proceeds of sale in due proportion among the Members who would have been entitled to the fractions or, if permitted, for the retention of such net proceeds for the benefit of the Company, or may resolve that the distribution should be as nearly as may be practicable in the correct proportion but not exactly so or may resolve to ignore fractions altogether, and may determine that cash payments shall be made to any

Members in order to adjust the rights of all parties, as may seem expedient to the Board. The Board may appoint any person to sign on behalf of the persons entitled to participate in the distribution any contract necessary or desirable for giving effect thereto and such appointment shall be effective and binding upon the Members.

FORM OF RECORDS

Any register, index, minute book, or other book or accounting records required by these Articles or the Companies Acts to be kept by or on behalf of the Company may be kept either by making entries in bound books or by recording them in any other manner. In any case in which bound books are not used, the Directors shall take adequate precautions for guarding against falsification and for facilitating its discovery.

ACCOUNTING RECORDS

- The Board shall cause to be kept accounting records sufficient to give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs and to show and explain its transactions, in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Acts. The accounting records shall be kept at the Office or, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, at such other place or places as the Board may think fit and shall always be open to inspection by the officers of the Company. No Member (other than an officer of the Company) shall have any right of inspecting any accounting record or book or document of the Company except as conferred by law or authorised by the Board.
- A copy of every balance sheet and profit and loss account, including every document required by law to be annexed thereto, that is to be laid before the Company in general meeting, together with copies of the Directors' and Auditors' reports shall be sent to each person entitled thereto in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Acts, and copies shall also be sent in appropriate numbers to The Stock Exchange in accordance with the terms of any regulations or arrangements for the time being binding on the Company.

AUDITORS

Auditors shall be appointed and their duties regulated in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Acts.

SERVICE OF NOTICES AND OTHER DOCUMENTS

Any notice or other document (including a share certificate) may be served on or delivered to any Member by the Company either personally or by sending it through the post in a prepaid letter addressed to such Member at his registered address as appearing in the Register or by delivering it to or leaving it at such registered address addressed as aforesaid, or (subject to the Companies Acts) a document or information may be sent or

supplied by the Company to any Member in electronic form to such address as may from time to time be authorised by the Member concerned or by making it available on a website and notifying the Member concerned in accordance with the Companies Acts that it has been made available. A Member shall be deemed to have agreed that the Company may send or supply a document or information by means of a website if the conditions set out in the Companies Acts have been satisfied. In the case of joint holders of a share, service or delivery of any notice or other document on or to one of the joint holders shall for all purposes be deemed a sufficient service on or delivery to all the joint holders. Any such notice or other document so served or delivered shall be at the sole risk of such Member.

- Any Member described in the Register by an address not within the United Kingdom, or any holder of a share warrant, who shall, from time to time, give to the Company an address within the United Kingdom at which notices may be served upon him shall be entitled to have notices served upon him at such address, but save as aforesaid no Member other than a Member described in the Register by an address within the United Kingdom shall be entitled to receive any notice from the Company.
- The Board may from time to time require any holder of a share warrant who gives or had given an address as in the last preceding Article mentioned to produce his warrant and to satisfy it that he is or is still the holder of the share warrant in respect of which he gives or gave the address.
- Any such notice or other document, if sent by first class post, shall be deemed to have been served or delivered on the day after the day when it was put in the post and, if sent by second class post, shall be deemed to have been served or delivered on the second day after the day when it was put in the post, and in proving such service or delivery it shall be sufficient to prove that the notice or document was properly addressed, prepaid and put in the post. Any notice or other document delivered or left at a registered address otherwise than by post shall be deemed to have been served or delivered on the day it was so delivered or left.
- Any notice or other document delivered or sent by post to or left at the registered address of any Member in pursuance of these Articles shall, notwithstanding that such Member is then dead or bankrupt or that any other event has occurred, and whether or not the Company has notice of the death or bankruptcy or other event, be deemed to have been duly served or delivered in respect of any share registered in the name of such Member as sole or joint holder unless his name shall, at the time of the service or delivery of the notice or document, have been removed from the Register as the holder of the share, and such service or delivery shall for all purposes be deemed a sufficient service or delivery of such notice or document on all persons interested (whether jointly with or as claiming through or under him) in the share.

- If at any time by reason of the suspension or curtailment of postal services within the United Kingdom the Company is unable effectively to convene a general meeting by notices sent through the post, a general meeting may be convened by a notice advertised on the same day in at least two leading national daily newspapers and such notice shall be deemed to have been duly served on all Members entitled thereto at noon on the day when the advertisement appears. In any such case the Company shall send confirmatory copies of the notice by post if at least seven days before the meeting the posting of notices to addresses throughout the United Kingdom again becomes practicable.
- Any summons, notice, order or other document required to be sent to or served upon the Company, or upon any officer of the Company, may be sent or served by leaving the same or sending it through the post in a prepaid letter addressed to the Company, or to such officer, at the Office, or be sent or supplied in electronic form (provided that it is given in such form and manner and to such address as may have been specified by the Directors from time to time for the receipt of documents or information in electronic form). The Directors may prescribe such procedures as they think fit for verifying the authenticity or integrity of any such document or information given in electronic form.
- Nothing in any of the preceding Articles shall affect any requirement of the Companies Acts that any particular offer, notice or other document be served in any particular manner.

DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS

- 184 The Company may destroy:-
 - (i) any share certificate that has been cancelled at any time after the expiry of one year from the date of such cancellation;
 - (ii) any dividend mandate or any variation or cancellation thereof or any notification of change of name or address at any time after the expiry of two years from the date such mandate variation cancellation or notification is recorded by the Company;
 - (iii) any instrument of or other form of instruction for transfer of shares that has been registered at any time after the expiry of six years from the date of registration; and
 - (iv) any other document on the basis of which any entry in the Register is made at any time after the expiry of six years from the date an entry in the Register was first made in respect of it;

and it shall conclusively be presumed in favour of the Company that every share certificate so destroyed was a valid certificate duly and properly cancelled and that every instrument of transfer so destroyed was a valid and effective instrument duly and

properly registered and that every other document destroyed hereunder was a valid and effective document in accordance with the recorded particulars thereof in the books or records of the Company. Provided always that:-

- (a) the foregoing provisions of this Article shall apply only to the destruction of a document in good faith and without express notice to the Company that the preservation of such document was relevant to a claim;
- (b) nothing contained in this Article shall be construed as imposing upon the Company any liability in respect of the destruction of any such document earlier than as aforesaid or in any case where the conditions of proviso (a) above are not fulfilled; and
- (c) references in this Article to the destruction of any document include references to its disposal in any manner.

SECRECY

No Member or general meeting of Members shall be entitled to require discovery of or any information respecting any detail of the Company's trading, or any matter that is or may be in the nature of a trade secret, mystery of trade or secret process, or that may relate to the conduct of the business of the Company that in the opinion of the Board it would be inexpedient in the interests of the Company to communicate to the public.

EMPLOYEES

The Board may by resolution exercise any power conferred by the Companies Acts to make provision for the benefit of persons employed or formerly employed by the Company or any of its subsidiaries or subsidiary undertakings in connection with the cessation or the transfer to any person of the whole or part of the undertaking of the Company or that subsidiary or subsidiary undertaking.

WINDING UP

- 187 The Board shall have power in the name and on behalf of the Company to present a petition to the Court for the Company to be wound up.
- 188 If the Company shall be wound up (whether the liquidation is voluntary, under supervision, or by the Court) the liquidator may, with the authority of a special resolution and subject to any provision sanctioned in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Acts, divide among the Members in specie or kind the whole or any part of the assets of the Company (whether they shall consist of property of the same kind or not) and may, for such purpose, set such values as he deems fair upon any assets to be divided as aforesaid and may determine how such division shall be carried out as between the Members or different classes of Members. The liquidator may, with the like

authority, vest the whole or any part of the assets in trustees upon such trusts for the benefit of Members as the liquidator with the like authority shall think fit, and the liquidation of the Company may be closed and the Company dissolved, but so that no contributory shall be compelled to accept any shares or other property in respect of which there is a liability and the liquidator may make any provision referred to in and sanctioned in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Acts.

INDEMNITY

The Company may purchase and maintain for every Director, alternate Director, Auditor, Secretary or other Officer of the Company insurance against any liability which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to him in respect of any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust of which he may be guilty in relation to the Company and every such person shall be entitled to be indemnified by the Company against all costs, charges, losses, expenses and liabilities incurred by him in the execution and discharges of his duties or in relation thereto including any liability incurred by him in defending any proceedings, civil or criminal, which relate to anything done or omitted or alleged to have been done or omitted by him as an officer or employee of the Company and in which judgement is given in his favour (or the proceedings otherwise disposed of without any finding or admission of any material breach of duty on his part) or in which he his acquitted or in connection with any application under any statute for relief from liability in respect of any such act or omission in which relief is granted by the Court.