

INTERIM REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2006





### CHAIRMAN'S & CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S STATEMENT

### TRADING RESULTS AND DIVIDEND

We are pleased to announce that, for the interim period covering the 28 weeks ending 15 October 2006, your Company increased pre-tax profits by **0.7%** to **£1,026,000** (2005: £1,019,000).

Total Retail Sales increased by **15.9%** to **£10,879,000** (2005: £9,383,000) and provides the measure that we believe best indicates transactional volumes. In a similar manner, Transfer Price (the wholesale value paid by the franchisee in respect of each order) increased by **16.1%** to **£5,881,000** (2005: £5,067,000).

Turnover marginally decreased by **3.4%** to **£6,187,000** (2005: £6,404,000), reflecting the change in ownership of several Stores and, significantly, the legacy 'Agency' division. In previous periods these were Company owned and Total Retail Sales were included in turnover. In the period under review, now under franchise ownership, Printing.com's turnover only included the wholesale value (Transfer Price) of these orders, with the balance (along with the associated overheads) passed to the franchisee.

At the close of the interim period, the Company had cash-in-hand of £3,223,000. During the period, working capital increased by £543,000 and the Company paid dividends of £559,000. Capital expenditure in the period amounted to £3,285,000 of which £2,955,000 was lease financed.

The Directors are declaring an interim dividend of 0.6p per share to be paid on 15 December 2006 to shareholders on the register at 1 December 2006.

### **CURRENT TRADING**

As previously reported at the Company's AGM, trading deteriorated during June and July with the downturn being more than would simply reflect the usual summer seasonality. It was also reported that disruption pertaining to the Hub expansion restricted certain options which could ordinarily have been used to mitigate such conditions: accordingly the Company revised its budget for the year.

We are pleased to report that following the last update on 28 July 2006, and save for the first two weeks of August, trading has proved more encouraging. As a result, the penultimate and final 4-week trading Periods, ending 17 September 2006 and 15 October 2006, saw volumes inline with the Company's current budget. Encouragingly, the first Period of the second half has also followed this more positive trend.

We attribute better trading both to an improvement in the market and to more potent promotional offers that are now possible following the Hub expansion. Indeed, September's 'Stationery Pack' offer generated over £200,000 of Total Retail Sales with over 1,200 clients placing orders.

### **ESTATE DEVELOPMENT**

The Company's estate of open and pending Outlets at the end of the reporting period comprised:-

	15 October 2006	16 October 2005	31 March 2006
Company Owned Stores	6	8	6
Franchised Stores – open and pending	42	39	42
Bolt-on Franchises	140	98	118
Total Outlets – open and pending	188	145	166

The Franchised Stores (most of which operate under the Company's Territory Franchise model) include not only those open but also those pending under option or trading from temporary premises. Whilst previously the pending element, would have represented a significant number, today all but one of the Stores are now trading from permanent locations.

Our strategy for securing franchisees for the limited remaining Territory Franchises has reverted away from the expense of major exhibitions as in many parts of the UK and Ireland we simply have no availability.

Previously our proposed structure for the UK included 66 Territory Franchises or Company owned equivalents. Such has been the success of the Bolt-on Franchise programme that in certain instances we have 'merged' designated Territory Franchise areas to provide greater scope for expedited Bolt-on Franchise development. Accordingly, we now anticipate that a full complement of Territory Franchises would be in the region of 58 to 60. We therefore have in the order of 12 to 14 still to grant.

Bolt-on Franchise development continues to make good progress and we hope that the rate of growth will increase as more Territory Franchisees gain experience in the marketing of the Bolt-on opportunity. Certain of our Territory Franchisees have now added more than five Bolt-ons across their development area and, indeed, many of these successful Territory Franchisees are optimistic that additional Bolt-on outlets may be signed. Accordingly, we believe that the scope exists for the number of Bolt-on franchises to significantly exceed 300 as the estate matures.

### LIKE FOR LIKE

Our like for like measure reflects the value of transactions pertaining to the principal Store and the Bolt-on Franchises of a given Territory Franchise. This is because some of the Territory Franchises put more emphasis on the Store they directly own, whilst others focus on the development of the local Bolt-on network. Both are valid strategies. In addition, only Territory Franchises where the Store is over three years old are considered, thereby avoiding new Stores distorting this metric.

On this basis, like for like growth during the interim period was 6.8% versus 17.6% reported for the twelve months to March 2006. This reflects the challenging trading conditions that have been encountered over the summer months.

### INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

It is a little over a year since your Company outlined its International strategy, whereby established printing companies in other countries would be able to licence Printing.com's software and systems and thereby establish a similar network in their market place. In return for providing its software and systems, Printing.com would be paid a combination of licence fees and royalties.

June 2006 saw the granting of the first of these licences to an established printing group in New Zealand with an Option also granted for Australia. Following extensive training of the New Zealand team in the UK, coupled with on-site support in New Zealand, the system and software are now in use. Importantly, initial feedback from both the licence owner and their franchisees has been encouraging. Also, since commencing operations with the system, the first New Zealand Bolton Franchise has been secured demonstrating the scope for this model to translate into other countries.

The operation of the system means that royalties have begun to be generated at a modest level, but we anticipate that over the next fiscal year and beyond, these will prove more significant and worthwhile.

In July, we announced that an Option had been taken out over Poland. This situation has progressed significantly and we remain optimistic of a positive outcome.

Following a variety of promotional initiatives, including major print exhibitions in the UK and US, we are actively engaged in discussions with many prospective partners across the EU, US and elsewhere. We remain cautiously optimistic that these discussions will result in the granting of additional licences during the current fiscal year.

### **HUB DEVELOPMENT**

At the beginning of the Interim period Printing.com's production Hub had a capacity measured in Total Retail Sales of £20-25 million with the Period by Period run rate close to this level and week by week peaks having exceeded this range.

Following the substantial completion of the major Hub expansion project, we now have a Total Retail Sales capacity £40-£45 million and our objective is to derive the maximum efficiencies from our new infrastructure whilst maintaining the high standards that the Printing.com brand represents.

### OUTLOOK

During the interim period we have faced challenges relating both to the softer market conditions combined with the Hub operational disruption and the complex demands on managerial time for the activities surrounding the promotion of the Master Franchise programme and the instigation of the first international operational licencee.

Whilst the fiscal performance of the Interim period versus the previous year could be construed as one of consolidation, we firmly believe that the operational developments provide the basis for the Company to significantly move forward.

Accordingly, we remain optimistic about the prospects for Printing.com.

George Hardie Chairman

21 November 2006

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Tony Rafferty Chief Executive

21 November 2006

## **UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT**

FOR THE 28 WEEK PERIOD ENDED 15 OCTOBER 2	2006	28 Weeks ended 15 October 2006 Unaudited £'000	28 Weeks ended 16 October 2005 Unaudited £'000	Year ended 31 March 2006 Audited (restated*) £'000
Turnover	2	6,187	6,404	12,344
Changes in stocks of finished goods		21	(12)	16
		6,208	6,392	12,360
Raw materials and consumables		2,069	1,840	3,557
		4,139	4,552	8,803
Staff costs		1,676	1,960	3,422
Depreciation and amortization		439	416	794
Other operating charges		1,003	1,156	2,363
Operating Profit		1,021	1,020	2,224
Investment income		107	77	141
Interest payable and similar charges		(102)	(78)	(134)
Profit On Ordinary Activities Before Taxation		1,026	1,019	2,231
Taxation	3	(308)	(306)	(528)
Proft On Ordinary Activities After Taxation		718	713	1,703
Earnings per ordinary share – basic		1.61p	1.61p	3.84p
Earnings per share – fully diluted		1.53p	1.53p	3.65p

<sup>\*</sup> The restatement of the prior year results relates to the new accounting treatment for share based compensation as required by Financial Reporting Standard 20 (note 1)

# UNAUDITED GROUP STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS & LOSSES

AS AT 15 OCTOBER 2006		28 Weeks	Year
	28 Weeks	ended	ended
	ended	15 October	31 March
	15 October	2006	2006
	2006	Unaudited	Audited
	Unaudited	(restated*)	(restated*)
	£′000	£′000	£′000
Total recognised gains and losses relating to the year	718	713	1,703
Prior year adjustment (net of tax)	(195)		
Total recognised gains and losses since last annual report	523		

# UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 15 OCTOBER 2006			16 October	31 March
		15 October	2005	2006
		2006	Unaudited	Audited
		Unaudited	(restated*)	(restated*)
		£′000	£′000	£′000
Fixed Assets				
Intangible assets		68	93	68
Tangible		6,689	3,652	3,855
		6,757	3,745	3,923
Current Assets				
Stock		102	94	124
Debtors	5	3,973	2,813	3,084
Cash		3,223	2,734	3,452
		7,298	5,641	6,660
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year		(4,645)	(2,975)	(3,493)
Net Current Assets		2,653	2,666	3,167
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		9,410	6,411	7,090
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one	e year	(2,595)	(695)	(499)
Provision for Liabilities and Charges		(215)	(255)	(243)
Net Assets		6,600	5,461	6,348
Capital And Reserves				
Called up share capital		447	445	447
Share premium		3,833	3,797	3,823
Merger reserve		211	211	211
Other reserve		374	191	280
Profit and loss account		1,735	817	1,587
Equity Shareholders' Funds		6,600	5,461	6,348

# UNAUDITED GROUP CASH FLOW STATEMENT

AS AT 15 OCTOBER 2006			28 Weeks	Year
		28 Weeks	ended	ended
		ended	16 October	31 March
		15 October	2005	2006
		2006	Unaudited	Audited
		Unaudited	(restated*)	(restated*)
		£′000	£′000	£′000
Net Cash inflow from Operating activities	6a	1,012	821	2,466
Returns on Investments and servicing of finance	6b	5	(1)	7
Taxation		-	-	-
Capital Expenditure	6b	(330)	(467)	(973)
Equity dividends paid		(559)	(222)	(443)
Cash Inflow Before Financing		128	131	1,057
Financing	6b	(357)	(261)	(469)
rinancing	OD	(337)	(201)	(409)
(Decrease)/increase in cash in period		(229)	(130)	588
Reconciliation Of Net Cash Flow To Movemen	it In Net Fu	ınds		
(Decrease)/increase in cash in the period	6c	(229)	(130)	588
Net cash outflow from debt financing		367	291	527
Change in net debt resulting from cashflows		138	161	1,115
New finance leases		(2,955)	-	(45)
Net funds at start of period	6c	2,508	1,438	1,438
Net (Debt)/Funds At End Of Period	6с	(309)	1,599	2,508
Being:				
Net cash		3,223	2,734	3,452
Finance leases		(3,532)	(1,135)	(944)
	6c	(309)	1,599	2,508

### NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED INTERIM ACCOUNTS

### FOR THE 28 WEEK PERIOD ENDED 16 OCTOBER 2005

 The Group's Interim Results consolidate the results of the Company and its subsidiary companies made up to 15 October 2006

The information set out does not constitute statutory accounts within the meaning of Section 240 of the Companies Act 1985. The financial information for the full preceding year is based on the financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2006. These accounts, upon which the auditors issued an unqualified opinion, have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies.

The interim financial information has been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out in the statutory accounts for the year ended 31 March 2006, with the exception of accounting for share based payments. This follows the adoption of Financial Reporting Standard No 20 (FRS 20 – Share based payments) for the year ending 31 March 2007. In accordance with the standard, the cost of share options awarded to employees and franchisees measured by reference to their fair value at the date of grant is recognised over the vesting period of the options based on the number of options which in the opinion of the Directors will ultimately vest.

Comparative figures for the period ended 16 October 2005 and the year ended 31 March 2006 have been restated to apply the provisions of FRS 20, increasing staff costs and other operating charges and consequently reducing profit for those periods, as follows:

	28 weeks	Year
	ended	ended
1	6 October	31 March
	2005	2006
Į	Jnaudited	Audited
(1)	restated*)	(restated*)
	£′000	£′000
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation prior to adjustment	775	1,826
FRS 20 share option charge (net of tax)	(62)	(123)
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation restated	713	1,703

The Board of Directors approved the interim report on 20 November 2006.

- 2. Turnover and profit before taxation were mainly derived from the Group's principal activity carried out in the UK and Republic of Ireland.
- 3. The tax charge is based on the current rate of UK corporation tax applicable to the Company and comprises:

		28 Weeks	Year
	28 Weeks	ended	ended
	ended	16 October	31 March
	15 October	2005	2006
	2006	Unaudited	Audited
	Unaudited	(restated*)	(restated*)
	£′000	£′000	£′000
UK corporation tax at 30%	336	332	566
Total current	336	332	566
Deferred taxation			
Originating from timing differences– based on			
standard rate of corporation tax at 30%	(28)	(26)	(38)
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	308	306	528

4. Earnings per share		28 Weeks	Year
g. per s	28 Weeks	ended	ended
	ended	16 October	31 March
	15 October	2005	2006
	2006	Unaudited	Audited
	Unaudited	(restated*)	(restated*)
	£′000	£′000	£′000
Profit after taxation Weighted average number of shares (No)	718	713	1,703
For basic earnings per ordinary share	44,718,617	44,347,127	44,312,566
Exercise of share options	2,286,800	2,270,196	2,304,496
For fully diluted earnings per ordinary share	47,005,417	46,617,323	46,617,062
Earnings per ordinary share – basic	1.61p	1.61p	3.84p
Earnings per share – fully diluted	1.53p	1.53p	3.65p

5. The Debtors figure of £3,973,000 (28 weeks ended 16 October 2005: £2,813,000; year ended 31 March 2006: £3,084,000) includes amounts falling due after more than one year of £714,000 (28 weeks ended 16 October 2005: £285,000; year ended 31 March 2006: £561,000).

### 6. Cash Flow

	28 Weeks	28 Weeks	Year
	ended	ended	ended
	15 October	16 October	31 March
	2006	2005	2006
	Unaudited £'000	Unaudited £'000	Audited £′000
a Reconciliation of Operating Profit to Net Cash Inflo			
Operating profit	1,021	1,020	2,224
Share based compensation	94	88	176
Depreciation and amortisation	439	416	794
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	22	12	(16)
Increase in debtors	(889)	(626)	(934)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	324	(89)	219
Profit on sale of assets	1	-	3
Net cash inflow from operating activities	1,012	821	2,466
	ne cash flow staten	nenc	
Returns on Investments and servicing of finance			
Interest received	107	77	
Interest received Interest paid	107 -	77 -	141
Interest received Interest paid Interest element of finance lease rental payments			(1)
Interest received Interest paid	107 -	77 -	(1) (133)
Interest received Interest paid Interest element of finance lease rental payments  Net cash inflow/(outflow) from	107 - (102)	77 - (78)	(1) (133)
Interest received Interest paid Interest element of finance lease rental payments Net cash inflow/(outflow) from returns on investments and servicing of finance	107 - (102)	77 - (78)	(1) (133) 7
Interest received Interest paid Interest element of finance lease rental payments Net cash inflow/(outflow) from returns on investments and servicing of finance Capital Expenditure	107 - (102) 5	77 - (78) (1)	(1) (133) 7 (42)
Interest received Interest paid Interest element of finance lease rental payments Net cash inflow/(outflow) from returns on investments and servicing of finance  Capital Expenditure Purchase of intangible assets	107 - (102) 5	77 - (78) (1)	(1) (133) 7 (42) (972)
Interest received Interest paid Interest element of finance lease rental payments  Net cash inflow/(outflow) from returns on investments and servicing of finance  Capital Expenditure  Purchase of intangible assets  Purchase of tangible assets	107 - (102) 5	77 - (78) (1)	(1) (133) 7 (42) (972) 41
Interest received Interest paid Interest element of finance lease rental payments  Net cash inflow/(outflow) from returns on investments and servicing of finance  Capital Expenditure  Purchase of intangible assets  Purchase of tangible assets  Sale of tangible assets  Net cash outflow from capital expenditure	107 - (102) 5 (64) (266)	77 - (78) (1) (7) (460)	(1) (133) 7 (42) (972) 41
Interest received Interest paid Interest element of finance lease rental payments  Net cash inflow/(outflow) from returns on investments and servicing of finance  Capital Expenditure  Purchase of intangible assets  Purchase of tangible assets  Sale of tangible assets	107 - (102) 5 (64) (266)	77 - (78) (1) (7) (460)	
Interest received Interest paid Interest element of finance lease rental payments  Net cash inflow/(outflow) from returns on investments and servicing of finance  Capital Expenditure  Purchase of intangible assets  Purchase of tangible assets  Sale of tangible assets  Net cash outflow from capital expenditure  Financing	107 - (102) 5 (64) (266) - (330)	77 (78) (1) (7) (460) - (467)	(1) (133) 7 (42) (972) 41 (973)

				At 1 April 2006 Audited £(000)	Cash Flow £(000)	Non Cash Movements £(000)	15 October 2006 Unaudited £(000)
	c Analysis of Net Fun	ds/(Debt)					
	Net cash						
	Cash at bank and in h	nand		3,452	(229)	-	3,223
				3,452	(229)	-	3,223
	Debt:						
	Finance leases			(944)	367	(2,955)	(3,532)
	Net funds/(debt)			2,508	138	(2,955)	(309)
7.	Equity reserves		Share			Profit	
		Share	premium	Merger	Other	and loss	
		capital	account	reserve	reserve	account	Total
		£′000	£′000	f'000	£′000	£′000	f'000
At 1	April 2006						
– as	previously reported	447	3,823	211	1	1,782	6,264

3,823

10

3,833

447

447

Αt

84

6,348

718

(559)

(11)

10

94

6,600

### 8. Interim statement

Share based compensation

FRS 20 adjustment

Profit for the period

Exchange differences

At 15 October 2006

Dividends paid

As restated

Share issue

The Interim Report will be posted to all shareholders of the Company and copies will be available upon application to the registered office, Printing.com plc, Focal Point, 3rd Avenue, The Village, Trafford Park, Manchester M17 1FG.

211

211

279

280

94

374

(195)

1,587

718

(559)

(11)

1,735

6.

Cash Flow (continued)

### INDEPENDENT REVIEW REPORT TO PRINTING.COM PLC

#### Introduction

We have been instructed by the company to review the financial information set out in the consolidated profit and loss account, the consolidated balance sheet, the group cash flow statement and the related notes and we have read the other information in the interim statement and considered whether it contains any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial information.

This report, including the conclusion, has been prepared for and only for the company for the purpose of their interim statement and for no other purpose. We do not, therefore in producing this report, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

### Directors' responsibilities

The interim statement, including the financial information contained therein, is the responsibility of, and has been approved by the directors. The directors are responsible for preparing the Interim Statement in accordance with the Alternative Investment Market Rules which require that the accounting policies and presentation applied to the interim figures must be consistent with those that will be adopted in the company's annual accounts.

### Review work performed

We conducted our review in accordance with guidance contained in Bulletin 1999/4 issued by the Auditing Practices Board for use in the United Kingdom, as if that Bulletin applied. A review consists principally of making enquiries of group management and applying analytical procedures to the financial information and underlying financial data and based thereon assessing whether the accounting policies and presentation have been consistently applied unless otherwise disclosed. A review excludes audit procedures such as tests of controls and verification of assets, liabilities and transactions. It is substantially less in scope than an audit performed in accordance with Auditing Standards and therefore provides a lower level of assurance than an audit. Accordingly we do not express an audit opinion on the financial information.

#### Review conclusion

On the basis of our review we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial information as presented for the 28 weeks ended 15 October 2006.

Baker 7-14

BAKER TILLY
Chartered Accountants
Brazennose House
Lincoln Square
Manchester
M2 5BL
20 November 2006

