

Company No: 5344714

**THE COMPANIES ACTS 1985 AND 2006**

**A PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES**

**ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

**(adopted by Special Resolution passed on [ ] 2009)**

**of**

**Hardide Plc**

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**of**

**Hardide Plc**

1. No regulations set out in any schedule to any statute concerning companies shall apply as regulations or Articles of the Company.
- 2.1 In these Articles if not inconsistent with the subject or context, the following words shall bear the following meanings:-

“the Acts” means the Company Act 1985, the Companies Act 2006, the Uncertificated Securities Regulations and every other statute or statutory instrument, law or regulation for the time being concerning companies and affecting the Company;

"these Articles" means these Articles of association of the Company as originally adopted or from time to time altered;

“CREST” means the relevant system operated by the Operator in terms of the Uncertificated Securities Regulations, which enables title to shares or other securities to be evidenced and transferred without a written

	instrument;
"electronic communication"	means any document or information sent or supplied in electronic form within the meaning of section 1168 of the Companies Act 2006;
"executed"	includes any mode of execution whether under seal or under hand;
" the Group"	means the Company and any subsidiary or subsidiaries for the time being of the Company;
"the holder"	in relation to shares means the member whose name is entered in the register of members as the holder of the shares;
"London Stock Exchange"	means London Stock Exchange Plc; and
"office"	means the registered office of the Company;
"Operator"	means Euroclear United Kingdom & Ireland Limited or such other person as may from time to time be approved by HM Treasury as Operator under the Uncertificated Securities Regulations;
"Properly Authenticated Dematerialised Instruction"	has the meaning given to that expression in the Uncertificated Securities Regulations;
"the seal"	means the common seal of the Company (if any) and includes the official seal (if any) kept by the Company by virtue of the Acts;
"secretary"	means any person appointed to perform the duties of the secretary of the Company;
"Treasury Shares"	means any shares in the Company held in treasury pursuant to the Acts;
"the Uncertificated Securities"	means the Uncertificated Securities Regulations 2001 in so far as the same applies to the Company and includes (i) any enactment or subordinate legislation which amends or supersedes those Uncertificated Securities Regulations and (ii) any

applicable rules made under those Uncertificated Securities Regulations or any such enactment or subordinate legislation for the time being in force.

- 2.2 References to writing shall include typewriting, printing, lithography, photography and any other modes of representing or reproducing words in a legible and non-transitory form but shall not (save where the context requires otherwise) include electronic communications.
- 2.3 Where for any purpose an ordinary resolution of the Company is required a special resolution shall also be effective.
- 2.4 Unless the context otherwise requires, words or expressions contained in these Articles bear the same meaning as in the Companies Act 1985, the Companies Act 2006 or the Uncertificated Securities Regulations as the case may be or any statutory modification or re-enactment of it or them in force when these regulations become binding on the Company.
- 2.5 A reference to shares in "uncertificated form" means shares, the title to which is recorded in the register of members as being held in such form and which by virtue of the Uncertificated Securities Regulations may be transferred by means of a relevant system and reference to shares in "certificated form" means shares, the title to which is not and may not be so transferred.
- 2.6 The expression "address" in relation to electronic communications, includes any number or address used for the purposes of such communications, and includes in the case of any Uncertificated Proxy Instruction permitted pursuant to these Articles, an identification number of a participant in the relevant system concerned.

### **SHARE CAPITAL**

- 3.1 The share capital of the Company is £2,500,000 divided into 250,000,000 Ordinary Shares of £0.01 each ("Ordinary Shares").

- 3.2 The Ordinary Shares shall rank pari passu in all respects and the holders of the Ordinary Shares shall be entitled to attend and vote at any general meeting of the Company.
4. Subject to the provisions of the Acts and to any special rights conferred on the holders of any shares or class of shares, any shares may with the sanction of a special resolution be issued which are to be redeemed or are to be liable to be redeemed at the option of the Company or the holder.
5. Subject to the provisions of the Acts, the Company is hereby authorised to enter into any contract for the purchase of all or any of its shares of any class (including any redeemable shares) and any contract under which it may, subject to any conditions, become entitled or obliged to purchase all or any of such shares. Every contract entered into in pursuance of this Article shall be authorised by such resolution of the Company as may be required by the Acts, but subject thereto the directors shall have full power to determine or approve the terms of any such contract. Any contract which the Company is hereby authorised to enter into may be or provide for the purchase of shares by private treaty, on a stock exchange or otherwise and neither the Company nor the directors shall be required to select the shares in question rateably or in any other particular manner as between the holders of shares of the same class or as between them and the holders of shares of any other class or in accordance with the rights as to dividends or capital conferred by any class of shares. Subject to the provisions of the Acts the Company may agree to the variation of any contract entered into in pursuance of this Article and to release any of its rights or obligations under any such contract. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in these Articles, the rights and privileges attached to any class of shares shall be deemed not to be modified or abrogated by anything done by the Company in pursuance of this Article.
6. The Company may exercise the powers of paying commissions conferred by the Acts. Subject to the provisions of the Acts, the commission 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. The Company may also on any issue of share capital pay such brokerage as may be lawful.
7. Except as required by law, no person shall be recognised by the Company as

holding any share upon any trust and (except as by these Articles or by law otherwise provided) the Company shall not be bound by or to recognise (even when having notice thereof) any interest in any share except an absolute right to the entirety thereof in the holder.

#### **VARIATION OF RIGHTS**

8. Subject to the Acts, all or any of the special 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 altered or abrogated with the consent in writing of the holders of not less than three-fourths 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 such shares. 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 or more persons holding or representing by proxy not less than one-third of the issued shares of the class except where there is only one holder of the relevant class of shares in which case the quorum shall be that holder, 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.
9. The special 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.

#### **SHARE CERTIFICATES**

10. Every person (except a stock exchange nominee in respect of whom the Company is not by law required to complete and have ready for delivery a certificate) whose name is entered as a holder of any shares in the register of members of the Company shall be entitled, without payment, to receive within two months after allotment or lodgment of a 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

directors may from time to time determine. In the case of a share held jointly by several persons, delivery of a certificate to one or several joint holders shall be sufficient delivery to all. A member (except such a nominee as aforesaid) who has transferred part of the shares comprised in his registered holding shall be entitled to a certificate for the balance without charge.

11. All forms of certificate for shares and/or loan capital or other securities of the Company (other than letters of allotment, scrip certificates and other like documents) shall, except to the extent that the terms and conditions for the time being relating thereto otherwise provide, be issued under seal affixed only with the authority of the Board or in such other manner as the Board having regard to the terms of issue, the Acts and the regulations of the London Stock Exchange may authorise. The directors may 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 by any person.
12.
  - 12.1 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 payment of the exceptional out of pocket expenses incurred by the Company in investigating such evidence and preparing such indemnity as the directors may determine and where it is defaced or worn out, after delivery up of the old certificate to the Company and in any event no replacement of a lost certificate will be issued unless the Company is satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the original has been destroyed.
  - 12.2 Notwithstanding the terms of Articles 10, 11 and 12.1 above, where, in accordance with the terms of Article 12.3 hereof, any shares or other securities of the Company are issued, transferred, registered or otherwise dealt with in uncertificated form, any references in these Articles requiring title to shares or other securities to be evidenced by or transferred by reference to share certificates or any other form of written instrument shall not apply and the holding, transfer, recording of title to and, registration of, uncertificated securities issued by the Company will be governed by reference to the provisions of Article 12.3 hereof.

- 12.3 (a) Nothing in these Articles shall preclude any share or other security of the Company from being issued, held, registered, converted, transferred or otherwise dealt with in an uncertificated form in accordance with the Uncertificated Securities Regulations and any rules or requirements laid down from time to time by CREST or any other relevant system operated pursuant to the Uncertificated Securities Regulations.
- (b) In relation to any share or other security which is in uncertificated form, these Articles shall have effect subject to the provisions of the Uncertificated Securities Regulations and (so far as consistent with them) to the following provisions:-
- (i) the Company shall not be obliged to issue a certificate evidencing title to shares and all references to a certificate in respect of any shares or securities held in uncertificated form in these Articles shall be deemed inapplicable to such shares or securities which are in uncertificated form and furthermore shall be interpreted as a reference to such form of evidence of title to uncertificated shares or securities as the Uncertificated Securities Regulations prescribe or permit;
  - (ii) the registration of title to and transfer of any shares or securities in an uncertificated form shall be effected in accordance with the Uncertificated Securities Regulations and there shall be no requirement for a written instrument of transfer;
  - (iii) a properly authenticated dematerialised instruction given in accordance with the Uncertificated Securities Regulations shall be given effect in accordance with the Uncertificated Securities Regulations;
  - (iv) any communication required or permitted by these Articles to be given by a person to the Company may be given in accordance with and in any manner (whether or not in writing) prescribed or permitted by the Uncertificated Securities Regulations;
  - (v) if a situation arises where any provision of these Articles is inconsistent in any respect with the terms of the Uncertificated

Securities Regulations in relation to shares or securities of the Company which are in an uncertificated form then:-

- (a) the Uncertificated Securities Regulations will be given effect thereto in accordance with their terms; and
- (b) the directors shall have power to implement any procedures they may think fit and as may accord with the Uncertificated Securities Regulations for the recording and transferring of title to shares and securities in uncertificated form and for the regulation of those proceedings and the persons responsible for or involved in their operation;
- (c) the directors shall have the specific powers to elect, without further consultation with the holders of any shares or securities of the Company (except where such shares or securities are constituted by virtue of some other deed, document or other source), that any single or all classes of shares and securities of the Company become capable of being traded in uncertificated form in accordance with the Uncertificated Securities Regulations on CREST or any other Operator of a relevant system.

#### **DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS**

- 13. The Company may destroy: -
  - 13.1 any share certificate which has been cancelled at any time after the expiry of one year from the date of such cancellation;
  - 13.2 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;
  - 13.3 any instrument of transfer of shares which has been registered at any time after the expiry of six years from the date of registration; and

13.4 any other documents on the basis of which any entry in the register of members is made at any time after the expiry of twelve years from the date an entry in the register of members 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.

#### **UNTRACED SHAREHOLDERS**

14.1 (a) The Company shall be entitled to sell the shares of a member or the shares to which a person is entitled by death, bankruptcy or operation of law by instructing a member of the London Stock Exchange to sell them at the best price obtainable if and **PROVIDED THAT:-**

- (i) during a period of 12 years all warrants and cheques in respect of at least 3 dividends declared by the Company in respect of the member's shares sent by the Company through the post in a prepaid letter addressed to the member at his registered address or to the person so entitled at the address shown in the register of members as his address and have become payable and remain unclaimed and uncashed or have been returned undelivered; and

- (ii) the Company shall insert advertisements in a national daily newspaper and a newspaper circulated in the area in which the last known address of the member or the address at which service of notices in the manner authorised by these Articles may be effected, giving notice of its intention to sell the said shares; and
- (iii) during the said period of 12 years and the period of 3 months following the said advertisements the Company has had no indication that such member or person can be traced; and
- (iv) where any shares in the capital of the Company are listed or dealt in on the London Stock Exchange notice is first given to the London Stock Exchange of its intention so to do.

(b) To give effect to such sale the Company may appoint any person to execute an instrument of transfer of the share or in the case of a share for the time being in uncertificated form to take such other steps in the name of the holder as may be necessary to transfer the shares sold, then the instrument or steps (as the case may be) shall be as effective as if it had been executed or they had been taken by the registered holder of, or person entitled by transmission to, the share. The Company shall account to the member or other person entitled to such shares for the net proceeds of such sale and shall be deemed to be his debtor and not a trustee for him in respect of the same and no interest shall be payable by the Company to the member or other person entitled to such shares.

(c) Any moneys not accounted for to the member or other person entitled to such shares shall be carried to a separate account and shall be a permanent debt of the Company. Moneys carried to such separate accounts 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.

14.2 If on two consecutive occasions dividend warrants and/or Notices have been sent through the post to any member at his registered address or his address for the service of Notices but have been left uncashed and/or returned undelivered or if, after one such occasion reasonable enquiries have failed to establish any new address of the registered member, such member shall not thereafter be entitled to receive dividend warrants and/or Notices by post from the Company until he

shall have communicated with the Company and supplied in writing to the office a new registered address or address within the United Kingdom for service of the Notices.

### LIEN

15. The Company shall have a first and paramount lien on every share (not being a fully paid share) for all moneys (whether presently payable or not) payable at a fixed time or called in respect of that share. The directors may at any time declare any share to be wholly or in part exempt from the provisions of this regulation. The Company's lien on a share shall extend to all moneys payable in respect of it.
16. The Company may sell in such manner as the directors determine any shares on which the Company has a lien if a sum in respect of which the lien exists is presently payable and is not paid within fourteen days after notice has been given to the holder of the share or the person entitled to it by reason of the death or bankruptcy of the holder demanding payment of the sum presently payable and stating that if the notice is not complied with the shares may be sold.
17. To give effect to a sale the directors may authorise some person to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares sold, or in the case of shares for the time being in uncertificated form to take such other steps in the name of the holder as may be necessary to transfer the shares sold to, or in accordance with the directions of, the purchaser. The purchaser shall be registered as the holder of the share and he shall not be bound to see the application of the purchase money. The title of the transferee to the shares shall not be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings in reference to the sale.
18. The net proceeds of the sale, after payment of the costs, shall be applied in payment of so much of the sum for which the lien exists as is presently payable, and any residue shall, in the case of shares in certificated form (upon surrender to the Company for cancellation of the certificate for the shares sold and subject to a like lien for any moneys not presently payable as existed upon the shares before the sale) be paid to the person entitled to the shares immediately before the date of the sale.

### **CALLS ON SHARES AND FORFEITURE**

19. Subject to the provisions of these Articles and to the terms of issue, the directors may make calls upon the members in respect of any moneys unpaid on their shares and not by the terms of issue thereof made payable at a date fixed by or in accordance with such terms of issue (whether in respect of nominal value or premium) and each member shall (subject to receiving at least fourteen clear days' notice specifying when and where payment is to be made) pay to the Company as required by the notice the amount called on his shares. A call may be required to be paid by instalments. A call may, before receipt by the Company of a sum due thereunder, be revoked in whole or in part and payment of a call may be postponed in whole or part. A member shall remain liable for calls made upon him notwithstanding the subsequent transfer of the shares in respect whereof the call was made.
20. A call shall be deemed to have been made at the time when the resolution of the directors authorising the call was passed.
21. The joint holders of a share shall be jointly and severally liable to pay all calls in respect thereof.
22. If a call remains unpaid after it has become due and payable the person from whom the sum is due shall pay interest on the unpaid sum from the day it became due until it is paid at the rate fixed by the terms of allotment of the share or in the notice of the call or, if no rate is fixed, at such rate not exceeding 15 per cent. per annum as the directors may determine but the directors may waive payment of the interest wholly or in part. The Company may also recover any costs, charges and expenses incurred by reason of the non-payment of any call.
23. A sum payable in respect of a share on allotment or at any fixed date, whether in respect of nominal value or premium or as an instalment of a call, shall be deemed to be a call and if it is not paid the provisions of these Articles shall apply as if that sum had become due and payable by virtue of a call.
24. Subject to the terms of allotment the directors 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.

25. The directors may receive from any member willing to advance the same all or any part of the money unpaid upon the shares held by him beyond the sums actually called up thereon as a payment in advance of calls, and such payment in advance of calls shall extinguish, so far as the same shall extend, the liability upon the shares in respect of which it is advanced, and the Company may pay interest upon the money so received, or so much thereof as from time to time exceeds the amount of the calls then made upon the shares in respect of which it has been received, at such rate as the member paying such sum and the directors agree; but provided that any such payment in advance of calls shall not entitle the holder of the shares to participate in respect thereof in a dividend subsequently declared by reference to a record date earlier than the due date for the call. The directors may repay any amount paid in advance of the call, upon giving the member concerned at least three months' notice in writing.
26. If a call or instalment of a call remains unpaid after it has become due and payable the directors may give to the person from whom it is due not less than fourteen clear days' notice requiring payment of the amount unpaid together with any interest which may have accrued. The notice shall name the place where payment is to be made and shall state that if the notice is not complied with the shares in respect of which the call was made or instalment is payable will be liable to be forfeited.
27. If the notice is not complied with any share in respect of which it was given may, before the payment required by the notice has been made, be forfeited by a resolution of the directors and the forfeiture shall include all dividends or other moneys payable in respect of the forfeited shares and not paid before the forfeiture. Where any share has been forfeited in accordance with these Articles, the Company will serve a notice of forfeiture on the person who was the holder of the share before forfeiture. The accidental omission to give notice or the non-receipt of notice will not invalidate the forfeiture.
28. Subject to the provisions of the Acts, a forfeited share may be sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of on such terms and in such manner as the directors determine either to the person who was before the forfeiture the holder or to any other person upon such terms and in such manner as the directors think fit and at any time before a sale, re-allotment or other disposition the forfeiture may be annulled by the directors on such terms as they think fit. Where for the purposes of its disposal a forfeited share is to be transferred to any person the directors

may authorise some person to execute an instrument of transfer of the share, or in the case of a share for the time being in uncertificated form to take such steps in the name of the holder as may be necessary to transfer the share to that person.

29. A person any of whose shares have been forfeited shall cease to be a member in respect of them and, in the case of shares in certificated form shall surrender to the Company for cancellation the certificate for the shares forfeited but shall remain liable to the Company for all moneys which at the date of forfeiture were presently payable by him to the Company in respect of those shares with interest at such rate as may be fixed by the terms of allotment of the share or in the notice of the call or, if no rate is fixed, at the appropriate rate (as defined in the Acts) from the date of forfeiture until payment but the directors may waive payment wholly or in part or enforce payment without any allowance for the value of the shares at the time of forfeiture or for any consideration received on their disposal. Forfeiture of a share shall extinguish all interest and all claims and demands against the Company in respect of that share.
30. A statutory declaration by a director or the secretary that a share has been forfeited on a specified date shall be conclusive evidence of the facts stated in it as against all persons claiming to be entitled to the share and the declaration shall (subject to the execution of an instrument of transfer if necessary) constitute a good title to the share and the person to whom the share is disposed of shall not be bound to see to the application of the consideration, if any, nor shall his title to the share be affected by any irregularity in the proceedings in reference to the forfeiture or disposal of the share.

### **DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

- 31.1 No member holding shares representing 0.25 per cent or more in nominal value of the issued shares of any class of capital in the Company, excluding Treasury Shares, shall, unless the Directors otherwise determine, be entitled:-
- (a) in respect of any such shares, 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 to exercise any other right conferred by membership in relation to any such meeting; or
  - (b) to receive payment of any dividend (including shares in lieu of dividend) or other distribution payable in respect of any such shares; or
  - (c) to transfer any such shares otherwise than:-

- (i) pursuant to acceptance of a take-over offer;
- (ii) through a recognised investment exchange or other recognised market; or
- (iii) in any other manner which the Directors are satisfied is bona fide and at arm's length (in each case hereinafter referred to as an "arm's length sale")

if he or any person appearing to be interested in such shares has been duly served with a notice under Section 793 of the Companies Act 2006 ("**Section 793 Notice**") and has failed to give the Company the information thereby required within 14 days from the date of the service of the said notice provided that upon receipt by the Company of notice that the shares have been transferred pursuant to any arm's length sale or upon all information required by the Section 793 Notice being given, such restrictions shall cease to apply in respect of such shares and any dividend withheld shall be paid.

31.2 For the purposes of this Article:-

- (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 Companies Act 2006;
- (c) "take-over offer" shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Section 974 of the Companies Act 2006;
- (d) "recognised investment exchange" shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Section 285 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000; and
- (e) "at arm's length" means a transfer to a person who is unconnected with the members and with any other person appearing to be interested in the shares; and

(f) reference to a person having failed to give the Company the information required by a Section 793 Notice includes (i) reference to his having failed or refused to give all or any part of it and (ii) reference 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.

31.3 Where on the basis of information obtained from a member in respect of any share held by him, the Company gives 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 sub-clauses 1 and 2 of this Article.

31.4 Any sanctions imposed upon a shareholding in respect of a person having failed to give the Company the information required by a Section 793 Notice will cease to apply 7 days after the earlier of:-

- (a) receipt by the Company of notice that the shareholding has been sold to a third party in the manner described above; and
- (b) due compliance to the satisfaction of the Company, with the Section 793 Notice.

31.5 Nothing in these Articles shall limit the powers of the Company under Section 793 of the Companies Act 2006 or any other powers whatsoever.

#### TRANSFER OF SHARES

32.1 Subject to such of the restrictions of these Articles as may be applicable, any member may transfer all or any of his shares. The instrument of transfer of a share in certificated form may be in any usual form or in any other form which the directors may approve and shall be executed by or on behalf of the transferor and, unless the share is fully paid, by or on behalf of the transferee.

32.2 Nothing in these Articles shall require title to any securities of the Company to be evidenced or transferred by a written instrument, the regulations from time to time made under the Acts so permitting. The Board shall have power to implement any arrangements it may think fit for such evidencing and transfer which accord with those regulations.

33. The directors may, in their absolute discretion and without giving any reason, refuse to register the transfer of a share in certificated form which is not fully paid or of a share on which the Company has a lien provided that such refusal shall not prevent dealings in the shares taking place on an open and proper basis.
- 34.1 The directors may also decline to recognise an instrument of transfer in respect of shares in certificated form unless:-
- (a) it is lodged duly stamped at the office or at such other place as the directors may appoint and is accompanied by the certificate for the shares to which it relates and such other evidence as the directors may reasonably require to show the right of the transferor to make the transfer;
  - (b) it is in respect of only one class of share; and
  - (c) it is in favour of not more than four transferees.
- 34.2 In the case of shares for the time being in uncertificated form transfers shall be registered only in accordance with the terms of the Uncertificated Securities Regulations but so that the directors may refuse to register a transfer which would require shares to be held jointly by more than four persons.
35. If the directors decline to register a transfer they shall within two months after the date on which the transfer was lodged with the Company or in the case of uncertificated shares the Operator-instruction was received by the Company send to the transferee notice of the refusal together with reasons for the refusal.
36. The registration of transfers of shares or debentures or of any class of shares or debentures may be suspended at such times and for such periods (not exceeding thirty days in any year and subject to the Acts) as the directors may determine but so that such a suspension shall only apply to uncertificated shares with the prior consent of the Operator.
37. No fee shall be charged for the registration of any instrument of transfer or other document or instructions relating to or affecting the title to any share or for otherwise making any entry in the register of members relating to any share.
38. Subject to Article 13, all instruments of transfer which are registered shall be retained by the Company, but any instrument of transfer which the directors refuse to register shall be returned to the person depositing it.

39. Nothing in these Articles shall preclude the directors from recognising a renunciation of the allotment of any share by the allottee in favour of some other person.

### **TRANSMISSION OF SHARES**

40. If a member dies the survivor or survivors where he was a joint holder, and his personal representatives where he was a sole holder or the only survivor of joint holders, shall be the only persons recognised by the Company as having any title to his interest; but nothing herein contained shall release the estate of a deceased member from any liability in respect of any share held by him solely or which had been jointly held by him.
41. A person becoming entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member or otherwise by operation of law may, upon such evidence being produced as the directors may properly require, elect to become the holder of the share or in the case of certificated shares alternatively elect to have some person nominated by him registered as the transferee. If he elects to become the holder he shall give notice to the Company to that effect. If he elects to have another person registered he shall execute an instrument of transfer of the share to that person. All the provisions of these Articles relating to the transfer of shares shall apply to the notice or instrument of transfer as if it were an instrument of transfer signed by the member and the death or bankruptcy of the member had not occurred. Nothing in these Articles shall preclude the transfer of shares or other securities of the Company in uncertificated form in accordance with the terms of Article 12.3 hereof, and any references contained in these Articles in relation to the execution of any instrument of transfer or the registration of any transfer of shares or other securities of the Company in uncertificated form shall be read in accordance with the terms of Article 12.3 hereof.
42. A person becoming entitled to a share by reason 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 directors as to his entitlement) have the rights to which he would be entitled if he were the holder of the share, except that he shall not, before being registered as the holder of the share, be entitled in respect of it to attend or vote at any meeting of the Company or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares in the Company. The Board may at any time give notice requiring the person to elect either to be

registered himself or to transfer the share and if the Notice is not complied with within 60 days the Board may withhold payment of all dividends and other monies payable in respect of the share until the requirements of the Notice have been complied with.

### **STOCK**

43. The Company may by ordinary resolution convert any paid up shares into stock, and re-convert any stock into 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 which 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.
44. The holders of stock may transfer the same or any part thereof in the same manner, and subject to the same regulations, as would have applied to the shares from which the stock arose if they had not been converted, or as near thereto as circumstances admit, but the directors may from time to time, if they think fit, fix the minimum amount of stock transferable, but so that such minimum shall not exceed the nominal amount of each of the shares from which the stock arose.
45. The holders of stock shall, according to the amount of the stock held by them, have the same rights, privileges and advantages in all respects as if they held the shares from which the stock arose provided that no such privilege or advantage (except participation in dividends and profits of the Company and in the assets on a winding up) shall be conferred by an amount of stock which would not, if existing in shares, have conferred such privilege or advantage.
46. All the provisions of these Articles applicable to paid up shares shall apply to stock and in all such provisions the words "share" and "member" shall include "stock" and "stockholder" respectively.

### **ALTERATION OF CAPITAL**

47. The Company may from time to time by ordinary resolution:-
  - 47.1 increase the share capital by new shares of such amount as the

resolution prescribes;

- 47.2 consolidate and divide all or any of its shares into shares of a larger amount than its existing shares;
- 47.3 subject to the provisions of the Acts, sub-divide its shares, or any of them, into shares of smaller amount than is fixed by the Memorandum of Association (subject nevertheless to the Acts) and the resolution may determine that, as between the holders of the shares resulting from the sub-division, one or more of the shares may have any such preferred or other special rights over, or may have such deferred qualified rights or be subject to any such restrictions as compared with, the others as the Company has power to attach to unissued or new shares; and
- 47.4 cancel 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.
48. Whenever as a result of a consolidation of shares any members would become entitled to fractions of a share, the directors may, on behalf of those members, sell the shares representing the fractions for the best price reasonably obtainable to any person (including the Company) and distribute the proceeds of sale in due proportion among those members, and the directors may authorise some person to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares, or in the case of shares for the time being in uncertificated form to take such other steps in the name of the holder as may be necessary to transfer shares sold to, or in accordance with the directions of, the purchaser. The transferee 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 in or invalidity of the proceedings in reference to the sale.
49. Subject to the provisions of the Acts, the Company may by special resolution reduce its authorised or issued share capital, any capital redemption reserve, and any share premium account in any way.

#### **GENERAL MEETINGS**

50. The Directors may whenever they think fit convene a General Meeting and shall, following requisition in accordance with the Acts, proceed to convene a General Meeting in accordance therewith.

51. Members of the Company shall have the rights provided by the Companies Act 2006 to have the Company circulate and give notice of a resolution which may be properly moved, and is intended to be moved, at the Company's next Annual General Meeting. Expenses of complying with these rights shall be borne by the Company if requests sufficient to require the Company to circulate the resolution are received by the Company before the end of the financial year preceding the meeting in question, or such later date as the Directors may resolve, and otherwise shall be borne in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

#### **NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS**

52. A General Meeting of the Company shall be called by notice of at least such length as is required in the circumstances by the Acts. The Company may give such notice by any means or combination of means permitted by the Acts: Provided that a General Meeting notwithstanding that it has been called by a shorter notice than that specified above shall be deemed to have been duly called if it is so agreed:
- 52.1 in the case of an Annual General Meeting by all the members entitled to attend and vote thereat; and
- 52.2 in the case of any other General Meeting by a majority in number of the members having a right to attend and vote thereat, being a majority together holding not less than 95 per cent. in nominal value of the shares giving that right (excluding any shares in the Company held as treasury shares)
53. Every notice shall be in writing and shall specify the place, the day and the time of meeting, and (in the case of special business) the general nature of such business, and in the case of 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. There shall appear with reasonable prominence in every such notice a statement that a member entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint a proxy or (if he holds more than one share) proxies to attend, speak and vote instead of him and that a proxy need not be a member of the Company.
54. Notices shall be given in manner hereinafter mentioned to all the members, other than those who under the provisions of these Articles or under the rights attached to the shares held by them are not entitled to receive the notice, and to

the auditors for the time being of the Company.

55. To the fullest extent permitted by law 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 appointment of proxy to, or the non-receipt of notice of a meeting or notification or such appointment of proxy by, any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.
56. For the purposes of determining which persons are entitled to attend or vote at a meeting and how many votes such person may cast, the Company may specify in the notice of the meeting a time, not more than 48 hours before the time fixed for the meeting, by which a person must be entered on the register in order to have the right to attend or vote at the meeting.

#### **PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS**

57. All business shall be deemed special that is transacted at a general meeting other than an annual general meeting. All business that is transacted at an annual general meeting shall also be deemed special, with the exception of declaring dividends, the consideration of the accounts and balance sheet and the reports of the directors and auditors and other documents required to be annexed to the balance sheet, the appointment of directors in the place of those retiring by rotation or otherwise and the reappointment of the retiring auditors (other than retiring auditors who have been appointed by the directors to fill a casual vacancy) and the fixing of or the determining of the method of fixing the remuneration of the auditors and the directors.
58. No business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present 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. Two persons entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted, each being a member or a proxy for a member or a duly authorised representative of a corporation, shall be a quorum.
59. If a quorum is not present within five minutes (or such longer time not exceeding one hour as the chairman of the meeting may determine to wait) from the time

appointed for the meeting, or if during a meeting a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting if convened on the requisition of, or by members, shall be dissolved. In any other case it shall stand adjourned to such other day not being less than fourteen nor more than twenty-eight days thereafter and at such other time and place as the directors may determine. At such adjourned meeting one member present in person or proxy (whatever the number of shares held by him) shall be a quorum. The Company shall give not less than seven days' notice in writing of any meeting adjourned through want of a quorum and such notice shall state that one member present in person or by proxy (whatever the number of shares held by him) shall be a quorum.

60. The directors may make arrangements for simultaneous attendance and participation in general meetings by members and proxies entitled to attend such meetings at places other than the place specified in the notice convening the meeting ("the specified place"), Any arrangements for simultaneous attendance at other places shall operate so that any members and proxies excluded from attendance at the specified place are able to attend at one or more of the other places. For the purpose of all other provisions of these Articles any such meeting shall be treated as being held and taking place at the specified place. The right of any member or proxy otherwise entitled to attend a general meeting at the specified place shall be subject to any arrangements that the directors may at their discretion make from time to time (whether before or after the date of the notice convening the meeting) for facilitating the organisation and administration of any general meeting by requiring any such person (selected on such basis as the directors may at their discretion decide) to attend the meeting at one or more of the other places.
61. The chairman, if any, of the board of directors or in his absence the deputy-chairman, or in the absence of both the chairman and the deputy-chairman some other director nominated by the directors shall preside as chairman of the meeting, but if neither the chairman nor the deputy-chairman nor such other director (if any) be present within five minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, or if present is unwilling to act, the directors present shall elect one of their number to be chairman.
62. If no director is willing to act as chairman, or if no director is present within five minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the members

present and entitled to vote shall choose one of their number to be chairman, and will remain chairman for the duration of the relevant meeting.

63. A director shall, notwithstanding that he is not a member, be entitled to attend and speak at any general meeting and at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares in the Company.
64. Where shares are held by nominee shareholders the directors may make arrangements for the holders of the beneficial interest in shares to attend and speak (but not vote) at general meetings notwithstanding that the names do not appear on the Register of Members. Any person invited by the Chairman to do so may attend and speak at any general meeting.
65. The chairman may, with the consent of a 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. In addition, the Chairman may at any time without the consent of the meeting, adjourn any meeting to another time or place if it appears to the Chairman that:
  - 65.1 the number of persons wishing to attend cannot be conveniently accommodated in the place(s) appointed for the meeting; or
  - 65.2 the unruly conduct of persons attending the meeting prevents or is likely to prevent the orderly continuation of the business of the meeting; or
  - 65.3 an adjournment is otherwise necessary so that the business of the meeting may be properly conducted.

No business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than business which might lawfully have been transacted at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.

- 66.1 (a) In the case of a Resolution duly proposed as a Special Resolution, no amendment thereto (other than an amendment to correct a patent error) may be considered or voted upon and in the case of a Resolution duly proposed as an Ordinary Resolution, no amendment thereto (other than an amendment to correct a patent error) may be considered or voted upon unless at least 48 hours prior to the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which such Resolution is to be proposed notice in writing of the terms of the amendment and intention to vote to move the same have been lodged at the office.

(b) If an amendment shall be proposed to any resolution under consideration but shall in good faith be ruled out of order by the Chairman of the meeting, the proceedings on the substantive resolution shall not be invalidated by any error in such ruling.

66.2 A resolution put to the vote of a meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless (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 is duly demanded. Subject to the provisions of the Acts, a poll may be demanded:-

(a) by the chairman of the meeting; or

(b) by at least two members having the right to vote at the meeting; or

(c) by a member or members representing not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all the members having the right to vote at the meeting (excluding any voting rights attached to any treasury shares);  
or

(d) by a member or members holding shares conferring a right to vote at the meeting being shares on which an aggregate sum has been paid up equal to not less than one-tenth of the total sum paid up on all the shares conferring that right (excluding any voting rights attached to any treasury shares);

and a demand by a proxy for a member shall be the same as a demand by a member.

67 Unless a poll is duly 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, or not carried by a particular majority shall be final and an entry to that effect in the minutes of the meeting shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against the resolution.

68 The demand for a poll may, before the poll is taken, be withdrawn with the consent of the chairman and a demand so withdrawn shall not be taken to have invalidated the result of a show of hands declared before the demand was made.

69. A poll on any question other than the election of the Chairman shall be taken as the chairman directs, including the use of ballot or voting papers or tickets, and he may appoint scrutineers (who need not be members) and fix a time and place

for declaring the result of the poll. The result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.

- 70 In the case of an equality of votes, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the chairman shall be entitled to a second or casting vote in addition to any other vote he may have.
71. 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 either forthwith or at such time and place as the chairman directs not being more than thirty days from the conclusion of the meeting. 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 was demanded, and it may be withdrawn with the consent of the chairman at any time before the close of the meeting or the taking of the poll, whichever is the earlier. If a poll is demanded before the declaration of the result of a show of hands and the demand is duly withdrawn, the meeting shall continue as if the demand had not been made.
72. No notice need be given of a poll not taken forthwith if the time and place at which it is to be taken are announced at the meeting in respect of which it is demanded. In any other case at least seven clear days' notice shall be given specifying the time and place at which the poll is to be taken.

#### **VOTES OF MEMBERS**

- 73 Subject to any rights or restrictions attached to any shares, on a show of hands every member who (being an individual) is present in person or by proxy or (being a corporation) is present by a duly authorised representative, not being himself a member entitled to vote, shall have one vote, and on a poll every member present in person or by proxy shall have one vote for each share of which he is the holder.
- 74 In the case of joint holders 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 seniority shall be determined by the order in which the names of the holders stand in the register of members.
- 75 A member in respect of whom an order has been made by any competent court or official on the ground that he is or may be suffering from mental disorder or is otherwise incapable of managing his affairs may vote, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, by his receiver or other person authorised in that behalf and such person may vote on a poll by proxy. Evidence to the satisfaction of the directors of the authority of the person claiming to exercise the right to vote

shall be deposited at the office or at such other place or address as is specified in accordance with the Articles for the deposit or receipt of forms of appointments of a proxy, not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the right to vote is to be exercised and in default the right to vote shall not be exercisable. Calculation of any such forty-eight hour period shall take no account of any part of a day that is not a working day.

- 76 Unless the directors otherwise determine, no member shall be entitled to receive notice of or to vote at any general meeting, either in person or by proxy, in respect of any share held by him unless all moneys presently payable by him in respect of that share have been paid.
- 77 No objection shall be raised to the qualification of any voter except at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is tendered, and every vote not disallowed at the meeting shall be valid. Any objection made in due time shall be referred to the chairman whose decision shall be final and conclusive.
- 78 On a poll votes may be given either personally or by proxy. A member entitled to more than one vote need not, if he votes, use all his votes or cast all the votes he uses the same way.
- 79 A proxy may be appointed by an instrument in writing in any usual or common form, or in any other written form which the Directors may approve, and:
- 79.1 in the case of an appointor who is a natural person shall be signed by the appointor or his agent lawfully authorised in writing; and
- 79.2 in the case of an appointor which is a corporation shall be either given under its common seal or signed on its behalf by an agent lawfully authorised in writing or by a duly authorised officer of the corporation.
- The signature on such an instrument appointing a proxy need not be witnessed.
- 80 Such an instrument appointing a proxy must be left at such place or one of such places (if any) as may be specified for the purpose in or by way of note to or in any document accompanying the notice convening the meeting not less than forty-eight hours (or such shorter time as the Directors may determine) before the time appointed for the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which it is to be used (or, in the case of a poll taken otherwise than at or on the

same day as the meeting or adjourned meeting, it must be so left in advance of the time appointed for the taking of the poll) and in default shall not be treated as valid. Calculation of any such forty-eight hour period shall take no account of any part of a day that is not a working day.

- 81 Where an instrument appointing a proxy is signed on behalf of the appointor by an agent lawfully authorised in writing, the authority under which the agent is appointed or a duly certified copy thereof must (failing previous registration with the Company) be lodged with the instrument of proxy in the manner directed above, failing which the instrument may be treated as invalid.
- 82 A proxy may be appointed by electronic communication to such address as may be notified by or on behalf of the Company for that purpose, or by any other lawful means from time to time authorised by the Directors. Any means of appointing a proxy which is authorised by or under this paragraph shall be subject to any terms, limitations, conditions or restrictions that the Directors may from time to time prescribe.
- 83 An appointment of a proxy by electronic communication where an address including an identification number of a participant in a relevant system has been specified for the purpose of receiving appointments by electronic communication:
- (a) in the notice convening the meeting; or
  - (b) in any instrument of proxy sent out by the Company in relation to the meeting; or
  - (c) in any invitation contained in an electronic communication to appoint a proxy issued by the Company in relation to the meeting

must be received at such address not less than forty-eight hours (or such shorter time as the Directors may determine) before the time appointed for the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which it is to be used (or, in the case of a poll taken otherwise than at or on the same day as the meeting or adjourned meeting, it must be so received in advance of the time appointed for the taking of the poll) and in default shall not be treated as valid. Calculation of any such forty-eight hour period shall take no account of any part of a day that is not a working day.

- 84 Without limiting the foregoing provisions of these Articles, in relation to any shares which are uncertificated shares, the Directors may from time to time permit appointments of a proxy to be made by means of an electronic communication in the form of an Uncertificated Proxy Instruction, (that is, a Properly Authenticated Dematerialised Instruction, and/or other instruction or notification, which is sent by means of the relevant system concerned and

received by such participant in that system acting on behalf of the company as the Directors may prescribe, in such form and subject to such terms and conditions as may from time to time be prescribed by the Directors (subject always to the facilities and requirements of the relevant system concerned)); and may in a similar manner permit supplements to, or amendments or revocations of, any such Uncertificated Proxy Instruction to be made by like means. The Directors may in addition prescribe the method of determining the time at which any such Properly Authenticated Dematerialised Instruction (and/or other instruction or notification) is to be treated as received by the company or such participant. The Directors may treat any such Uncertificated Proxy Instruction which purports to be or is expressed to be sent on behalf of a holder of a share as sufficient evidence of the authority of the person sending that instruction to send it on behalf of that holder.

- 85 From time to time the Directors may (consistently with the Acts and these Articles) make such regulations and establish such procedures as they consider appropriate to receive and verify the appointment or revocation of a proxy. Any such regulations may be general, or specific to a particular meeting. Without limitation, any such regulations may include provisions that the Directors (or some person or persons appointed by them) may conclusively determine any matter or dispute relating:
- (a) to the appointment or revocation, or purported appointment or revocation, of a proxy; and/or
  - (b) to any instruction contained or allegedly contained in any such appointment,

and any such regulations may also include rebuttable or conclusive presumptions of any fact concerning those matters. The Directors may from time to time modify or revoke any such regulations as they think fit, provided that no subsisting valid appointment or revocation of a proxy or any vote instruction shall thereby be rendered invalid.

- 86 Unless the contrary is stated therein, the appointment of a proxy shall be valid for any adjournment of the meeting or meetings to which it relates, and for any poll arising from any such meeting or adjourned meeting.
- 87 The valid appointment of a proxy relating to more than one meeting (including any adjournment thereof), having once been so delivered for the purposes of any meeting, shall not have to be re-lodged or otherwise re-registered with the Company for the purposes of any subsequent meeting to which it relates.

- 88 A validly appointed proxy shall have the right to demand or join in demanding a poll and the right to speak at a meeting and to vote on a show of hands or a poll.
- 89 Notice of the revocation of the appointment of a proxy may be given in any lawful manner which complies with all (if any) regulations for the time being in force that the Directors have made to govern how a proxy is validly revoked. Nevertheless, a vote cast by proxy shall not be invalidated by the previous death or insanity of any appointor, or by the revocation of the appointment of the proxy or of the authority under which the appointment was made, unless notice (in writing or by electronic communication) of such death, insanity or revocation shall have been received by the Company at such place or one of such places (if any) as may be specified for the purpose in any notice convening the meeting or in any material accompanying the notice convening the meeting at least forty-eight hours (or such shorter time as the Directors may determine) before the time appointed for the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting (or, in the case of a poll taken otherwise than at or on the same day as the meeting or adjourned meeting, before the time appointed for the taking of the poll) at which the vote is cast. Calculation of any such forty-eight hour period shall take no account of any part of a day that is not a working day.
- 90 To the extent permitted by law, each of the Directors, the Secretary and each person employed or, directly or indirectly, retained or used by the Company in the processes of receiving and validating the appointment and revocation of proxies shall not be liable to any persons other than the Company in respect of any acts or omissions (including negligence) occurring in the execution or purported execution of his tasks relating to such processes, provided that he shall have no such immunity in respect of any act done or omitted to be done in bad faith.

### **REPRESENTATION OF CORPORATIONS**

- 91 Any Corporation being a member may, by resolution of its directors or other governing body, authorise such person as it thinks fit to act as its representative (or, as the case may be, representatives) at any general meeting of the Company or any class meeting of the members of the Company. A person so authorised shall be entitled to exercise the same powers on behalf of the grantor as the Grantor could exercise if it were an individual member of the Company and each person so authorised shall, if present at any such meeting, for the purpose of these Articles be deemed to be a member present in person at such meeting.

## **NUMBER AND QUALIFICATION OF DIRECTORS**

- 92 Unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution the number of directors (other than alternate directors) shall be not less than two in number. The Company may from time to time by ordinary resolution fix a maximum number of directors and from time to time vary that maximum number. No shareholding qualification for directors shall be required.

## **ALTERNATE DIRECTORS**

- 93 Any director (other than an alternate director) may appoint any other director, or any other person approved by the directors, to be an alternate director and may remove from office an alternate director so appointed by him. An alternate director shall be entitled to receive notices of all meetings of directors, to attend and vote at any such meeting at which the director appointing him is not personally present, and generally to perform all the functions of his appointor as a director in his absence. An alternate director shall cease to be an alternate director if his appointor ceases to be a director; but, if a director retires by rotation or otherwise but is reappointed or deemed to have been reappointed at the meeting at which he retires, any appointment of an alternate director made by him which was in force immediately prior to his retirement shall continue after his reappointment. Every appointment and removal of an alternate director shall be in writing executed by the director making or revoking the appointment and (in the case of an appointment) by the person appointed and shall be deposited at the office or tendered at a meeting of the directors or in any other manner approved by the directors.
- 94 Every person acting as an alternate director shall (save as regards the 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 for his own acts and defaults and he shall not be deemed to be the agent of the director appointing him. The remuneration of any alternate director shall be payable out of the remuneration payable to the director appointing him, and shall consist of such part (if any) of the last-mentioned remuneration as shall be agreed between the alternate director and the director appointing him.

## **POWERS OF DIRECTORS**

- 95 Subject to the provisions of the Acts and these Articles and to any directions given by special resolution, the directors may exercise all the powers

of the Company. No alteration of these Articles and no such direction shall invalidate any prior act of the directors which would have been valid if that alteration had not been made and that direction had not been given. The powers given by this Article shall not be limited by any special power given to the directors by these Articles and a meeting of directors at which a quorum is present may exercise all powers exercisable by the directors.

96 The directors may exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money and to mortgage or charge its undertaking, property and assets (present and future) and uncalled capital, or any part thereof, and subject to the Acts 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.

97 If any uncalled capital of the Company is included in or charged by any mortgage or other security, the directors may delegate to the person in whose favour such mortgage or security is executed, or to any other person in trust for him, the power to make calls on the members in respect of such uncalled capital, and to sue in the name of the Company or otherwise for the recovery of moneys becoming due in respect of calls so made and to give valid receipts for such moneys, and the power so delegated shall subsist during the continuance of the mortgage or security, notwithstanding any change of directors, and shall be assignable if expressed so to be,

98 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 directors may from time to time by resolution determine.

#### **DELEGATION OF DIRECTORS' POWERS**

99 The directors may delegate any of their powers:-

99.1 to any Managing Director or any director holding any other executive office; and

99.2 to any committee consisting of one or more directors or to any committee consisting of directors and co-opted persons not being directors.

Subject to the above the delegation may be made subject to any conditions the directors may impose, and either collaterally with or to the exclusion of their

own powers and may be varied or revoked. Subject to any such conditions and the above, the proceedings of a committee with two or more members shall be governed by the Articles regulating the proceedings of directors so far as they apply.

- 100 The directors may from time to time, and at any time, appoint any corporation, firm or person, or any fluctuating body of persons, whether nominated directly or indirectly by the directors, to be the agent of the Company for such purposes and with such powers, authorities and discretions (not exceeding those vested in or exercisable by the directors under these Articles) and for such period and subject to such conditions as they may think fit, and any such appointment may contain such provisions for the protection and convenience of persons dealing with any such agent as the directors may think fit, and may also authorise any such agent to sub-delegate all or any of the powers, authorities and discretions vested in him.
- 101 The directors may cause to be kept in any part of Her Majesty's Dominions outside the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man in which the Company transacts business a branch register or registers of members resident in such part of the said Dominions, and the directors may (subject to the provisions of the Acts) make and vary such regulations as they may think fit respecting the keeping of any such register.

#### **APPOINTMENT AND RETIREMENT OF DIRECTORS**

- 102 At the annual general meeting in every year, any director who is still in office at the start of the annual general meeting which falls nearest to the third anniversary of the annual general meeting at which he was appointed or was last re-appointed shall retire by rotation.
- 103 Subject to Article 102, at the annual general meeting in every year, one third of all the directors shall retire by rotation but if that number is not a multiple of three, then the number shall be rounded down to the nearest whole number.
- 104 Subject to Article 108, a director retiring at a meeting aforesaid shall retain office until the dissolution of that meeting.
- 105 Subject to the provisions of the Acts, the directors to retire by rotation shall be those 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.

- 106 If the Company, at the meeting at which a director retires by rotation, does not fill the vacancy the retiring director shall, if willing to act, be deemed to have been reappointed unless at the meeting it is resolved not to fill the vacancy or unless a resolution for the reappointment of the director is put to the meeting and lost.
- 107 No person other than a director retiring at a meeting shall, unless recommended by the directors, be appointed or reappointed a director at any general meeting unless, not less than seven nor more than a maximum of forty-two days before the date appointed for the meeting, notice executed by a member qualified to vote at the meeting (not being the person to be proposed) has been given to the Company of the intention to propose that person for appointment or reappointment stating the particulars which would, if he were so appointed or reappointed, be required to be included in the Company's register of directors together with notice executed by the person being proposed of his willingness to be appointed.
- 108 Subject to Article 109 the Company may by ordinary resolution appoint a person to be a director either to fill a vacancy or as an additional director and may also determine the rotation in which any additional directors are to retire.
- 109 The directors may appoint a person to be a director, either to fill a vacancy or as an additional director, provided that the appointment does not cause the number of directors to exceed any number fixed by or in accordance with these Articles as the maximum number of directors. A director so appointed shall hold office only until the next following annual general meeting and, if not then reappointed, shall vacate office and shall not be taken into account in determining the directors or the number of directors who are to retire by rotation at the meeting.
- 110 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 electing a person thereto and in default the retiring director shall, if willing to continue to act, be deemed to have been re-elected, unless at such meeting it is expressly resolved not to fill such vacated office or unless a resolution for the re-election of such director shall have been put to the meeting and lost.
- 111 Any contract of employment entered into by a director with the Company shall not include a term that it is to be for a period exceeding five years unless

such term is first approved by ordinary resolution.

- 112 Any provisions of the Acts which but for this Article, would have the effect of rendering any person ineligible for appointment as a Director or liable to vacate office as a Director on account of his having reached any specified age, or of requiring special notice or any other special formality in connection with the appointment of any Director over a specified age shall not apply to the Company.

### **DISQUALIFICATION AND REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS**

- 113 Without prejudice to the provisions of the Acts, the Company may, by ordinary resolution of which special notice has been given in accordance with the Acts, remove a director before the expiration of his period of office (but such removal shall be without prejudice to any claim such director may have for breach of any contract of service between him and the Company) and may, by ordinary resolution, appoint another person in his stead. The 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 or reappointed a director.
- 114 Without prejudice to the provisions for retirement by rotation contained herein the office of a director shall be vacated if:-
- (a) he ceases to be a director by virtue of any provision of the Acts or is removed from office pursuant to these Articles; or
  - (b) he becomes prohibited by law from being a director; or
  - (c) he becomes bankrupt or makes any arrangement or composition with his creditors generally; or
  - (d) an order is made by a court of competent jurisdiction by reason of his mental disorder for his detention or for the appointment of any person to exercise powers with respect to his property or affairs; or
  - (e) not being a director whose contract of employment precludes resignation, he resigns his office by notice to the Company; or
  - (f) he shall for more than six months have been absent without permission of the directors from meetings of directors held during that period and his alternate director (if any) shall not during that period have attended any such meeting in his stead and the directors resolve that his office be vacated; or
  - (g) he shall be removed from office by notice in writing served upon him signed by at least three-quarters of his co-directors and all of the other directors are not less than three in number, but so that if he holds an

appointment to an executive office which thereby automatically determines such removal shall be deemed to be an act of the Company and shall have effect without prejudice to any claim for damages for breach of any contract of service between him and the Company.

### **REMUNERATION OF DIRECTORS**

- 115 The directors shall be entitled to directors' fees in aggregate not exceeding £100,000 per annum, or such other higher amount as the Company by ordinary resolution may from time to time determine, which shall (unless otherwise determined by the resolution by which it is voted) be divided between the directors as they may agree or, failing agreement, equally. The directors' remuneration shall be deemed to accrue from day to day. The directors shall also be entitled to be paid all travelling, hotel and other expenses properly incurred by them in connection with the business of the Company, or in attending and returning from meetings of the directors or of committees of the directors or general meetings.
- 116 Any director who serves on any committee or who devotes special attention to the business of the Company, or who otherwise performs services which in the opinion of the directors are outside the scope of the ordinary duties of a director, may be paid such extra remuneration by way of salary, participation in profits or otherwise as the directors may determine.

### **DIRECTORS' APPOINTMENTS**

- 117 The directors may from time to time appoint any one or more of their body to be a Managing Director or to be the holder of any other executive office on such terms as they think fit, and may revoke or vary any such appointment. The appointment of a Managing Director or of a director to any executive office as aforesaid shall automatically be terminated if in either case he ceases for any reason to be a director. Any revocation or termination of any such appointment shall be without prejudice to any claim for breach of any contract between the director and the Company. A Managing Director or a director appointed to such other executive office as aforesaid shall receive such remuneration (whether by way of salary, commission, participation in profits and partly in one way and partly in another or others, or otherwise) as the directors may determine.
- 118 The directors may entrust to and confer upon any director appointed to any such executive office any of the powers exercisable by them as directors, other than

the power to make calls or forfeit shares, upon such terms and conditions and with such restrictions as they think fit, and either collaterally with or to the exclusion of their own power, and may from time to time revoke, withdraw, alter or vary all or any of such powers.

- 119 A director, including an alternate director, may hold any other office or place of profit under the Company (other than the office of auditor of the Company or any subsidiary of the Company) in conjunction with his office of director for such period and upon such terms as the directors may determine, and may act in a professional capacity to the Company, on such terms as to tenure of office, remuneration and otherwise as the directors may determine.

#### **DIRECTORS' GRATUITIES AND PENSIONS**

- 120 The directors may establish and maintain, or procure the establishment and maintenance of, any pension or superannuation funds (whether contributory or otherwise) for the benefit of, and give or procure the giving of donations, gratuities, pensions, allowances and emoluments to, any persons who are or were at any time in the employment or service of the Company, or of any company which is a subsidiary of the Company or is allied to or associated with the Company or any such subsidiary or of any of the predecessors in business of the Company or any such other company as aforesaid, or who may be or have been directors or officers of the Company or of any such other company as aforesaid and who hold or have held executive positions or agreements for service with the Company or any such other company as aforesaid, and the wives, widows, families, connections and dependants of any such persons, and also establish, subsidise and subscribe to any institutions, associations, societies, clubs or funds calculated to be for the benefit of, or to advance the interests and well-being of the Company or of any such other company as aforesaid, or of any such person as aforesaid, and make payments for or towards the insurance of any such person as aforesaid and subscribe or guarantee money for charitable or benevolent objects, or for any exhibition or for any public, general or useful object, and do any of the matters aforesaid either alone or in conjunction with any such other company as aforesaid. Subject to particulars with respect to the proposed payment being disclosed to the members of the Company and to the proposal being approved by the Company by ordinary resolution, if the Acts shall so require, any director who holds or has held any such executive position or agreement for services shall be entitled to participate in and retain for his own

benefit any such donation, gratuity, pension, allowance or emolument.

### **DIRECTORS' CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS**

121 A Director must declare to the other Directors any situation in which he has, or could have, a direct or indirect interest that conflicts, or possibly might conflict, with the interests of the Company unless it relates to a contract, transaction or arrangement with the Company or the matter has been authorised by the Directors or the situation cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest.

122 The Directors may (subject to such terms and conditions, if any, as they may think fit to impose from time to time, and subject always to their right to vary or terminate such authorisation) authorise, to the fullest extent permitted by law:

- (a) any matter which would otherwise result in a Director infringing his duty 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 and which may reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest (including a conflict of interest and duty or conflict of duties);
- (b) a Director to accept or continue in any office, employment or position in addition to his office as a Director of the Company and may authorise the manner in which a conflict of interest arising out of such office, employment or position may be dealt with, either before or at the time that such a conflict of interest arises,

provided that for this purpose the Director in question and any other interested Director are not counted in the quorum at any board meeting at which such matter, or such office, employment or position, is approved and it is agreed to without their voting or would have been agreed to if their votes had not been counted.

123 If a matter, or office, employment or position, has been authorised by the Directors in accordance with these Articles then:

- (a) the Director shall not be required to disclose any confidential information relating to such matter, or such office, employment or position, to the

Company if to make such a disclosure would result in a breach of a duty or obligation of confidence owed by him in relation to or in connection with that matter, or that office, employment or position;

- (b) the Director may absent himself from meetings of the Directors at which anything relating to that matter, or that office, employment or position, will or may be discussed; and
- (c) the Director may make such arrangements as such Director thinks fit for board and committee papers to be received and read by a professional adviser on behalf of that Director.

124 A Director shall not, by reason of his office, be accountable to the Company for any benefit which he derives from any matter, or from any office, employment or position, which has been approved by the Directors pursuant to these Articles (subject in any such case to any limits or conditions to which such approval was subject).

#### **PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS**

125 The directors may regulate their proceedings as they think fit. A director may, and the secretary at the request of a director shall, call a meeting of the directors. Notice of a meeting of the directors shall be deemed to be duly given to a director if it is given to him personally or by word of mouth or by telephone or sent in writing to him at his last known address or any other address given by him to the Company for this purpose, or is given by any other such method and subject to any terms and conditions as the directors may determine. A director absent or intending to be absent from the United Kingdom may request the directors that notices of meetings of Directors 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 request it shall not be necessary to give notice of a meeting to a director who is absent from the United Kingdom. Any director may waive notice of any meeting and such waiver may be retrospective. Questions arising at a meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. In case of an equality of votes, the chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote. 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 directors or a committee of the directors shall, unless the notice of his appointment provides to the contrary, be as effective as the signature of his appointor.

- 126 The quorum for the transaction of the business of the directors may be fixed by the directors and unless so fixed at any other number shall be two. An alternate director who is not himself a director shall be counted in the quorum. Any director or member of a committee of the directors may participate in a meeting of the directors or such committee by means of conference telephone or similar communications equipment whereby all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other and participation in the meeting in such manner shall be deemed to constitute presence in person at such meeting and that person shall be entitled to vote or be counted in a quorum accordingly. Such meeting shall be deemed to take place where the largest group of those participating is assembled, or, if there is no such group, where the Chairman of the meeting then is.
- 127 The continuing directors or a sole continuing director may act notwithstanding any vacancies in their number, but, if the number of directors is less than the 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 only for the purpose of filling vacancies or of calling a general meeting of the Company but not for any other purpose.
- 128 The directors may appoint one or more of their number to be the chairman or the deputy chairman of the board of directors and may at any time remove any director so appointed from office and appoint another director in his place. The director appointed as chairman, or, in his absence, as deputy chairman shall preside at every meeting of directors at which he is present, but if there is no director holding either such office, or if no director holding either such office is present within five minutes after the time appointed for the meeting the directors present may appoint one of their number to be chairman of the meeting.
- 129 All acts done by a meeting of directors, or of a committee of directors, or by a person acting as a director or member of a committee of directors shall, notwithstanding that it be afterwards discovered that there was a defect in the appointment of any director or that any of them were disqualified from holding office, 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 a committee of directors and had been entitled to vote.
- 130 A resolution in writing executed by all the directors for the time being entitled to receive notice of a meeting of directors or by all the members for the time being

of a committee of directors (not being less, in either case, than a quorum) shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of directors or (as the case may be) a committee of directors duly convened and constituted. Such resolution may be contained in one document or in several documents in the like form (which may be facsimile or electronic copies) each signed by one or more directors or members of the committee concerned. No signature shall be necessary if electronic copies are used, subject to any terms and conditions which the directors may prescribe for such copies.

### **VOTES AND DIRECTORS' INTEREST**

131

131.1 A Director who is in any way, directly or indirectly interested in a proposed or existing contract, transaction or arrangement with the Company must declare the nature and extent of that interest to the other Directors unless it cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest.

131.2 Save as herein provided, a Director shall not vote in respect of any contract, transaction or arrangement or any other proposal whatsoever in which he has an interest which (together with any interest of any person connected with him) is to his knowledge a material interest otherwise than by virtue of his interests in shares or debentures or other securities of or otherwise in or through the Company. A Director shall not be counted in the quorum at the meeting in relation to any resolution on which he is debarred from voting.

131.3 Subject to the provisions of the Acts and always to the provisions of Articles 121 to 124 (inclusive), a Director shall (in the absence of some other material interest than is indicated below) be entitled to vote (and be counted in the quorum) in respect of any resolution concerning any of the following matters, namely:

(a) The giving of any security, guarantee or indemnity in respect of money lent or obligations incurred by him or any other person at the request of or for the benefit of the Company or any of its subsidiaries;

(b) The giving of any security, guarantee or indemnity in respect of a debt or obligation of the Company or any of its subsidiaries for which he himself has assumed responsibility in whole or in part under a guarantee or indemnity or by the giving of security;

(c) Any contract or arrangement by a Director to participate in the

underwriting or sub-underwriting of any offer of shares, debentures or other securities of the Company or any of its subsidiaries for subscription, purchase or exchange;

- (d) Any contract or arrangement concerning any other company in which the Director and any persons connected with him do not to his knowledge hold an interest in shares (as that term is used in sections 820 to 825 of the 2006 Act) representing one per cent. or more of either any class of the equity share capital, or the voting rights, in such company. For the purpose of this paragraph, there shall be disregarded any shares held by a Director as bare or custodian trustee and in which he has no beneficial interest, any shares comprised in a trust in which the Director's interest 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 is interested only as a unit holder;
- (e) Any arrangement for the benefit of Directors or employees of the Company or directors or employees any of its subsidiaries which does not award him any privilege or benefit not generally awarded to the other persons to whom such arrangement relates;
- (f) Any proposal concerning any insurance which the Company is empowered to purchase and/or maintain for or for the benefit of inter alia any Directors of the Company.

131.4 Where proposals are under consideration concerning the appointment (including fixing or varying the terms of appointment) or the termination of appointment (including fixing or varying the terms of such termination) of two or more Directors to or from offices or employments with the Company or any company in which the Company is interested, such proposals may be divided and considered in relation to each Director separately and in such case each of the Directors concerned (if not otherwise debarred from voting under these Articles) shall be entitled to vote (and counted in the quorum) in respect of each resolution except that concerning his own appointment or termination of appointment.

131.5 If any question shall arise at any time as to the materiality of a Director's interest or as to the entitlement of any Director to vote and such question is not resolved by his voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting, such question shall be referred to the chairman of the meeting (or if the Director concerned is the chairman to the other Directors at the meeting) and his or their ruling (as the case may be) shall

be final and conclusive except in a case where the nature or extent of the interests of such Director has not been fairly disclosed.

131.6 Subject as otherwise provided in the Acts or these Articles, a Director may be in any way, directly or indirectly, interested in any contract or arrangement or transaction with the Company and he may hold and be remunerated in respect of any office or place of profit (other than the office of auditor of the Company or any subsidiary thereof) under the Company or any other company in which the Company is in any way interested and he (or any firm of which he is a member) may act in a professional capacity for the Company or any such other company and be remunerated therefor and in any such case as aforesaid (save as otherwise agreed) he may retain for his own absolute use and benefit all profits and advantages accruing to him thereunder or in consequence thereof. For the avoidance of doubt, the Company shall have no claim arising from, or in consequence of, the Director's interest in any contract or arrangement or transaction within the scope of this Article 131 and Articles 121 to 124 (inclusive) and the Director shall not breach any of his duties to the Company as a result of having that interest.

131.7 For the purposes of this Article 131 and Articles 121 to 124 (inclusive) an interest of a person who is, connected with a Director (within the meaning of Section 252 of the Companies Act 2006) shall be treated as an interest of the Director and, in relation to an alternate Director, an interest of his appointor shall be treated as an interest of the alternate Director without prejudice to any interest which the alternate Director otherwise has.

131.8 An interest of a Director may be declared at a meeting of Directors, by notice in writing pursuant to section 184 of the Companies Act 2006 or by means of a general notice under section 185 of the Companies Act 2006.

131.9 This Article 131 does not require a declaration of an interest of which the Director is not aware (and ought not reasonably to be aware of it) or where the Director is not aware of the contract, transaction or arrangement in question (and ought not reasonably to be aware of it).

131.10 The Company may by Ordinary Resolution suspend or release the provisions of this Article 131 to any extent or ratify any transaction not duly authorised by reason of a contravention of this Article.

### **MINUTES**

- 132 The directors shall cause minutes to be made in books kept for the purpose:-
- 132.1 of all appointments of officers made by the directors;
- 132.2 of the names of the directors present at each meeting of directors and of any committee of directors;
- 132.3 of all resolutions and proceedings at meetings of the Company and of the holders of any class of shares in the Company and of the directors and of committees of directors.

### **SECRETARY**

- 133 The secretary shall be appointed by the directors for such term, at such remuneration and upon such conditions as they think fit and any secretary so appointed may be removed by the directors.
- 134 Anything by the Acts required or authorised to be done by or to the secretary may, if the office is vacant or there is for any other reason no secretary capable of acting, be done by or to any assistant or deputy secretary or, if there is no assistant or deputy secretary capable of acting, by or to any officer of the Company authorised generally or specially in that behalf by the directors: provided that any provision of the Acts or of these Articles requiring or authorising a thing to be done by or to a director and secretary shall not be satisfied by its being done by or to the same person acting both as director and as, or in the place of, the secretary.

### **THE SEAL**

- 135 The Company may have a seal if it so resolves. In such case the directors shall provide for the custody of every seal. The seal shall only be used by the authority of the directors or of a committee of directors authorised by the directors in that behalf. The directors may determine who shall sign any instrument to which the seal is affixed and unless otherwise so determined it shall be signed by a director and by the secretary or by a second director. The directors may determine that specific documents or classes of documents may be printed in any way, with a copy or representation of such signatures. Any instrument to which an official seal is affixed need not, unless the directors for the time being otherwise determine or the law otherwise requires be signed by any person.

## DIVIDENDS

- 136 Subject to the provisions of the Acts the Company may by ordinary resolution declare dividends to be paid to members in accordance with the respective rights and their interests in the profits available for distribution, but no dividend shall exceed the amount recommended by the directors.
- 137 Subject to the provisions of the Acts and of these Articles, the directors may pay interim dividends if it appears to them that they are justified by the profits of the Company available for distribution. If the share capital is divided into different classes, the directors may pay interim dividends on shares which confer deferred or non-preferred rights with regard to dividend as well as on shares which confer preferential rights with regard to dividend, but no interim dividend shall be paid on shares carrying deferred or non-preferred rights if, at the time of payment, any preferential dividend is in arrear. The directors may also pay at intervals settled by them any dividend payable at a fixed rate if it appears to them that the profits available for distribution justify the payment. Provided the directors act in good faith they shall not incur any liability to the holders of shares conferring preferred rights for any loss they may suffer by the lawful payment of an interim dividend on any shares having deferred or non-preferred rights.
- 138 Except as otherwise provided by the rights attached to or the terms of issue of shares, all dividends shall be declared and paid on the Ordinary Share capital according to the amounts paid up on such shares otherwise than in advance of calls on which the dividend is paid. Subject as aforesaid, all dividends shall be apportioned and paid proportionately to the amounts paid up on the shares otherwise than in advance of calls during any portion or portions of the period in respect of which the dividend is paid.
- 139 The directors may deduct from any dividend or other moneys payable to any member on or in respect of any share any moneys presently payable by him to the Company on account of calls or otherwise in respect of shares of the Company.
- 140 A general meeting declaring a dividend may, upon the recommendation of the directors, direct that it shall be satisfied wholly or partly by the distribution of specific assets and in particular of paid-up shares or debentures of any other company and, where any difficulty arises in regard to the distribution, the directors may settle the same and in particular may issue fractional certificates or authorise any person to sell and transfer any fractions or may ignore fractions altogether

and may fix the value for distribution purposes of any such specific assets and may determine that cash shall be paid to any member upon the footing of the value so fixed in order to secure equality of distribution and may vest any such specific assets in trustees.

141

- 141.1 The Directors may, with the sanction of an Ordinary Resolution of the Company, offer holders of Ordinary Shares the right to elect to receive in respect of all or part of their holdings of Ordinary Shares additional Ordinary Shares in the Company, credited as fully paid, instead of cash in respect of all or part of such dividend or dividends whether interim or final and (subject to the following provisions of this Article) upon such terms and conditions and in such manner as may be specified in such Ordinary Resolution and otherwise as the Directors may determine. Any such resolution may specify a particular dividend and/or all of any dividends (or part of such dividends) declared or paid within a specified period, but no such period may end later than the beginning of the Annual General Meeting in the calendar year next following the date on which such Ordinary Resolution is passed.
- 141.2 When any such right of election is offered to the holders of Ordinary Shares pursuant to this Article, the Directors shall make such offer to such holders in writing (conditionally if the necessary Ordinary Resolution has yet to be passed, upon such resolution being passed) and shall make available to or provide such holders with forms of election (in such form as the Directors may approve) whereby such holders may exercise such right and shall notify such holders of the procedure to be followed and of the place at which and the latest date and time by which, duly completed forms of election must be lodged in order to be effective.
- 141.3 Each holder of Ordinary Shares who elects to receive additional Ordinary Shares in the Company under a right offered to him pursuant to Articles 140 to 141.8 (inclusive) shall be entitled to receive such whole number of additional Ordinary Shares as is as nearly as possible equal in value (calculated on the basis of the Market Value of an additional Ordinary Share in the Company) to (but not in excess of) the cash amount that such holder would otherwise have received by way of dividend. For the purposes of this Article, the "Market Value" of an additional Ordinary Share in the Company shall be the average of the prices at which business is done in the Ordinary Shares (derived from the Daily Official List of the London Stock Exchange) on such five consecutive dealing days as the

Directors shall determine (save that the first of such dealing days shall be on or after the day when the issued Ordinary Shares in the Company are first quoted "ex" the relevant dividend, unless no business is done during such dealing days, when in that case the first of such dealing days should be the latest practicable date at least five days prior to the date when the issued Ordinary Shares in the Company are first quoted "ex" the relevant dividend when business is done in the Ordinary Shares) or the nominal value of an Ordinary Share in the Company (whichever is the higher).

- 141.4 Following an election by holders of Ordinary Shares in accordance with this Article, the relevant dividend (or that part of a dividend in respect of which a right of election has been offered) shall not be payable on the Ordinary Shares issued pursuant to the election but in lieu thereof, the Directors shall capitalise out of any undistributed profits of the Company not required for paying any preferential dividend (whether or not they are available for distribution) or out of any sum standing to the credit of the Company's share premium account or capital reserves (including any capital redemption reserve), as the Directors may determine a sum equal to the aggregate nominal value of the number of additional Ordinary Shares required to be allotted to the holders of Ordinary Shares who have made such election and shall apply such sum in paying up in full such number of additional Ordinary Shares and shall allot and distribute the same to and amongst such holders on the basis set out in Article 141.3 save that the foregoing provisions of this paragraph shall be subject to any right of the Directors under these Articles to retain any dividend or other monies payable on or in respect of the Ordinary Shares of a particular member.
- 141.5 The additional new Ordinary Shares so allotted shall rank *pari passu* with the fully paid Ordinary Shares in the Company then in issue save that they shall not be entitled to participate in the dividend in relation to which the relevant election was made.
- 141.6 A resolution of the Directors capitalising any part of the reserves or profits hereinbefore mentioned shall have the same effect as if such capitalisation had been declared by Ordinary Resolution of the Company in accordance with these Articles and in relation to any such capitalisation the Directors may exercise all the powers, other than the powers to allot fractional shares, conferred on them by these Article, without the need for any such Ordinary Resolution.
- 141.7 The Directors may at their discretion make any rights of election offered pursuant to this Article subject to such exclusions or arrangements as they may consider

necessary or expedient to deal with any legal or other difficulties which would or may otherwise arise under laws of, or the requirements of any recognised regulatory body or any stock exchange in, any territory.

141.8 Every duly effected election shall be binding on every successor in title to the Ordinary Shares or any of the members who have effected the same.

142 Any dividend or other monies payable in cash or in respect of a share may be paid by cheque, or other instrument sent through the post to the registered address of the person entitled or, if two or more persons are the holders of the share or are jointly entitled to it by reason of the death or bankruptcy of the holder, to the registered address of that one of those persons who is first named in the Register of Members or to such person and to such address as the person or persons entitled may in writing direct. Every such cheque, warrant or other instrument shall be made payable to or to the order of the person or persons entitled or to such other person as the person or persons entitled may in writing direct. Any such cheque, warrant or other instrument may be crossed "account payee only" although the Company shall not be obliged to do so. Any such dividend or other monies may also be paid by any bank or other funds transfer system as the directors may consider appropriate and to or through such person as the person or persons entitled thereto may in writing direct and the Company shall have no responsibility for any such dividend or other monies lost or delayed in the course of such transfer or when it is acted upon such direction. Payment of the cheque, warrant or other instrument by the bank upon whom it is drawn or transfer of the funds by the bank instructed to make the same shall be a good discharge to the Company. Every such cheque, warrant or other instrument shall be sent and every such transfer of funds shall be made at the risk of the person or persons entitled to the money represented thereby. If any such cheque, warrant or other instrument has or shall be alleged to have been lost, stolen or destroyed, the directors may at the request of the person entitled thereto issue a replacement cheque, warrant or other instrument subject to compliance with such conditions as to evidence and indemnity and the payment of such out of pocket expenses incurred by the Company in connection with the request as the directors may think fit.

143 All unclaimed dividends or other moneys payable on or in respect of a share may be invested or otherwise made use of by the directors for the benefit of the Company until claimed. No dividend or other moneys payable in respect of a share shall bear interest against the Company unless otherwise provided by the rights attached.

- 144 Any dividend which has remained unclaimed for twelve years from the date of declaration of such dividend or (if later) the date such dividend became due for payment shall, if the directors so resolve, be forfeited and shall revert to the Company and the payment by the directors of any unclaimed dividend, interest or other sum payable on or in respect of a share into a separate account shall not constitute the Company a trustee in respect thereof.

### **RESERVES**

- 145 The directors may before recommending any dividend, whether preferential or otherwise, carry to reserve out of the profits of the Company (including any premiums received upon the issue of debentures or other securities of the Company) such sums as they think proper as a reserve or reserves, which shall, at the discretion of the directors, be applicable for any purpose to which the profits of the Company may properly be applied and, pending such application, may at the like discretion either be employed in the business of the Company or be invested in such investments (subject to the provisions of the Acts) as the directors may from time to time think fit. The directors may also, without placing the same to reserve, carry forward any profits which they may think prudent not to distribute.

### **CAPITALISATION OF PROFITS**

- 146 The directors may with the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company:-
- 146.1 subject as hereinafter provided, resolve to capitalise any undistributed profits of the Company not required for paying any preferential dividend (whether or not they are available for distribution) or any sum standing to the credit of the Company's share premium account or capital redemption reserve;
- 146.2 appropriate the sum resolved to be capitalised to the members in proportion to the nominal amounts of the shares (whether or not fully paid) held by them respectively which would entitle them to participate in a distribution of that sum if it were then distributable and it were distributed by way of dividend and apply such sum on their behalf either in or towards paying up the amounts, if any, for the time being unpaid on any shares held by them respectively, or in paying up in full unissued shares or debentures of the Company of a nominal amount equal to that sum, and allot the shares or debentures credited as fully paid to those members, or as they may direct, in those proportions, or partly in one way

and partly in the other but the share premium account, the capital redemption reserve, and any profits which are not available for distribution may for the purposes of this regulation, only be applied in paying up unissued shares to be issued to members credited as fully paid;

- 146.3 resolve that any shares so allotted to any member in respect of a holding by him of any partly paid shares shall so long as such shares remain partly paid rank for dividend only to the extent that the latter shares rank for dividend;
- 146.4 where any difficulty arises in regard to any distribution under this Article the directors may settle the same as they think expedient and in particular may issue fractional certificates or authorise any person to sell and transfer any fractions or may resolve that the distribution should be as nearly as may be practicable in the correct proportion but not exactly so or may 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 directors;
- 146.5 authorise any person to enter on behalf of all the members concerned into an agreement with the Company providing for the allotment to them respectively, credited as fully paid, of any further shares or debentures to which they are entitled upon such capitalisation, any agreement made under such authority being binding on all such members; and
- 146.6 generally do all acts and things required to give effect to such resolution as aforesaid.

### **NOTICES**

- 147 Any notice or 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 cover (in such form as any Director or the Secretary may determine) addressed to such member at his registered address, or (if he has no registered address within the United Kingdom) to the postal address, if any, within the United Kingdom supplied by him to the Company as his address for the service of notices, or by delivering it to such address addressed as aforesaid. In the case of a member registered on a branch register any such notice or document may be posted either in the United Kingdom or in the territory in which such branch register is maintained.
- 148 Where a notice or other document is served or sent by post, service or delivery shall be deemed to be effected at the expiration of twenty-four

hours (or, where second-class mail is employed, forty-eight hours) after the time when the cover containing the same is posted and in proving such service or delivery it shall be sufficient to prove that such cover was properly addressed, stamped and posted.

149 The Company is generally and unconditionally authorised to use electronic communications with its shareholders and in particular to send or supply documents or information to its shareholders by making them available on a website. Accordingly, the Company may, subject to the provisions of the Acts, give or send to any members any notice or other document (excluding a share certificate) by electronic communication where:

(a) the Company and that member have agreed to the use of electronic communication for sending copies of documents to the member and:

(i) the documents are documents to which the agreement applies; and

(ii) copies of the documents are sent using electronic communication to such address (or to one of such addresses if more than one) as may for the time being be notified by the member to the Company for that purpose; or

(b) the Company and that member have agreed to that member having access to documents on a website (instead of the documents being sent to him) and:

(i) the documents are documents to which the agreement applies; and

(ii) the text and images in the documents can be (as appropriate) read or seen using the naked eye; and

(iii) the member is notified in a manner for the time being agreed for the purpose between the member and the Company of:

(1) the presence of the documents on a website;

(2) the address of that website;

(3) the place on that website where the documents may be accessed and how they may be accessed; and

(4) the period of time for which the documents will be available on the website, which must be the period specified in any applicable provision of the Acts or, if there is no such period specified, for a period of not less than twenty-eight days from the date of notification or, if later, until the conclusion of any

general meeting to which the documents relate (the “**Relevant Period**”); and

- (iv) the documents are published on that website throughout the Relevant Period, provided that, if the documents are published on that website for a part but not all of such period, the documents will be treated as published throughout that period if the failure to publish those documents throughout that period is wholly attributable to circumstances which it would not be reasonable to have expected the Company to prevent or avoid.

150 A member of the Company which is itself a company shall be deemed to have agreed that the Company may send a notice or other document in accordance with this Article if that member is deemed by a provision in the Acts to have agreed that the notice or document may be so sent.

151 Where a notice or other document is given or sent by electronic communication, it shall be deemed to have been given or sent at the expiration of two hours from the time it was sent to an address supplied by the member or of notification to the member of its publication on a website. Proof that a notice or other document given or sent by electronic communication was given or sent in accordance with current guidance issued by the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators shall be conclusive evidence that the notice or document was sent or given.

152 Any notice or other document may be served or delivered by the Company by reference to the register as it stands at any time not more than 15 days before the date of service or delivery, no change in the register of members after that time shall invalidate that service or delivery.

153 Any notice given to that one of the joint holders of a share whose name stands first in the register of members in respect of the share shall be sufficient notice to all the joint holders in their capacity as such. For such purpose a joint holder having no registered address in the United Kingdom and not having supplied an address within the United Kingdom for the service of notices shall be disregarded.

154 Save where prohibited by law, anything to be agreed or specified in relation to any notice, document or other information to be served on or sent or supplied to joint holders may be agreed or specified by any one of the joint holders and the agreement or specification of the senior shall be

accepted to the exclusion of that 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.

155 A person entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member or otherwise by operation of law upon supplying to the Company such evidence as the Directors may reasonably require to show his title to the share, and upon supplying also an address within the United Kingdom for the service of notices, shall be entitled to have served upon or delivered to him at such address any notice or document to which the member would have been entitled, 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. Save as aforesaid any notice or document delivered or sent by post to or left at the address of any member in pursuance of these Articles shall, notwithstanding that such member be then dead or bankrupt or in liquidation, and whether or not the Company has notice of his death or bankruptcy or liquidation, be deemed to have been duly served or delivered in respect of any share registered in the name of such member as sole or first-named joint holder.

156 A member who (having no registered address within the United Kingdom) has not supplied to the Company a postal address within the United Kingdom for the service of notices, or an address for the service of notices by electronic communication, shall not be entitled to receive notices from the Company. If on three consecutive occasions a notice to a member has been returned undelivered, such member shall not thereafter be entitled to receive notices from the Company until he shall have communicated with the Company and supplied in writing to the office a new registered address, or a postal address within the United Kingdom for the service of notices, or shall have informed the Company, in such manner as may be specified by the Company, of an address for the service of notices by electronic communication. For these purposes, a notice sent by post shall be treated as returned undelivered if the notice is sent back to the Company (or its agents), and a notice sent by electronic communication shall be treated as returned undelivered if the Company (or its agents) receive notification that the notice was not delivered to the address to which it was sent.

157 Any member present, either personally or by proxy, at any meeting of the

Company or class of members of the Company shall for all purposes be deemed to have received due notice of such meeting and, where requisite, of the purposes for which such meeting was convened.

- 158 If there is a suspension or curtailment of postal services with the United Kingdom or some part of the United Kingdom, the Company need only give notice of a general meeting to those members with whom the Company can communicate by electronic means and who have provided the Company with an address for this purpose. The Company shall also advertise the notice in at least two newspapers with a national circulation in the United Kingdom and make it available on its website from the date of such advertisement until the conclusion of the meeting or any adjournment thereof. If at least six clear days prior to the meeting sending or supply of notices by post in hard copy form has again become generally possible, the Company shall send or supply confirmatory copies of the notice by post to those members who would otherwise receive the notice in hard copy form.
- 159 Every person who becomes entitled to a share shall be bound by any notice which, before his name is entered in the register of members, has been given to the person from whom he derives his title.
- 160 Nothing in any of Articles 147 to 159 (inclusive) shall affect any requirement of the Acts that any particular offer, notice or other document be served in any particular manner.

#### **RECORD DATES**

- 161 Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles but subject always to the Acts, the Company or the directors may by resolution specify any date ("the Record Date") as the date at the close of business (or such other time as the Directors may determine) on which persons registered as the holders of shares or other securities shall be entitled to receipt of any dividend, distribution, interest, allotment, issue notice, information, document or circular and such Record Date may be on or at any time before the date on which the same is paid or made or (in the case of any dividend, distribution, interest, allotment or issue) at any time after the same is recommended, resolved, declared or announced, but without prejudice to the rights inter se in respect of the same of transferors and transferees of any such shares or other securities.

## ACCOUNTS

- 162 The accounting records shall be kept at the office, or (subject to the provisions of the Acts) at such other place as the directors think fit, and shall always be open to inspection by the officers of the Company. No member (other than a director) shall have any right of inspection of any account or book or document of the Company except as conferred by statute or authorised by the directors or by the Company in general meeting.
- 163 Unless the Acts from time to time otherwise permit, a copy of every balance sheet and profit and loss account which is to be laid before a General Meeting of the Company (including every document required by law to be comprised therein or attached or annexed thereto) shall not less than twenty-one days before the date of the meeting be made available to every member of, and every holder of debentures of, the Company and to every other person who is entitled to receive notices of meetings from the Company under the provisions of the Acts or of these Articles. For these purposes "made available" means being sent by post or any other means permitted by the Acts (including by electronic communications or by making them available on a website). Provided that (i) this Article shall not require a copy of such documents or any substitute permitted by the Acts to be made available to more than one of joint holders or sent to any person of whose address the Company is not aware, but any member or holder of debentures to whom a copy of such documents or any substitute permitted by the Acts has not been sent shall be entitled to receive a copy free of charge on application at the Office and (ii) the Company need not, subject to the provisions of the Acts and the regulations of the London Stock Exchange so permitting and if the Board so decides, send the copies of such documents to members, but instead send them a summary financial statement derived from the Company's annual accounts and the directors report, in such form and containing such information as may be required by the Acts and provided further that copies of the Company's annual accounts (together with the directors' report for the financial year and the auditor's report on those accounts) shall be sent to any Member who wishes to receive them and the Company shall comply with any provisions of the Acts as to the manner in which it is to ascertain whether a Member wishes to receive them

### **WINDING UP**

- 164 If the Company is wound up, the liquidator may, with the sanction of a special resolution of the Company and any other sanction required by the Acts, divide among the members in specie the whole or any part of the assets of the Company and whether or not the assets consist of property of one kind or of properties of different kinds may, for that purpose value any assets and determine how the division shall be carried out as between the members or different classes of members. The liquidator may, with the like sanction, vest the whole or any part of the assets in trustees upon such trusts for the benefit of the members as he with the like sanction determines, but no member shall be compelled to accept any assets upon which there is a liability.

### **INDEMNITY**

- 165 Subject to the provisions of and so far as may be consistent with the Acts, every Director, Secretary or other officer of the Company may be indemnified by the Company against all costs, charges, losses, expenses and liabilities incurred by him in the execution and/or discharge of his duties and/or the exercise of his powers and/or otherwise in relation to or in connection with his duties, powers or office.