

Directors and advisers

Executive Directors

Martin Flower (Aged 53) Chief Executive of the Coats Division. Joined the Group in 1968 after graduating from Oxford University and has held various overseas appointments in Venezuela, Peru, Indonesia, Hong Kong and Brazil. Appointed Chief Executive of the Coats Division in 1988 and to the Board of Coats Viyella Plc in 1990. Non Executive Director of Severn Trent Plc.

Kazia Kantor (Aged 50) Joined the Group as Finance Director in October 1998. Qualified at PricewaterhouseCoopers and has held senior financial positions at Inchcape and Grand Metropolitan. Finance Director of Central Television until 1994.

Mike Hartley (Aged 51) Chief Executive of the Viyella Division. Joined Tootal Group in 1985 and worked in their Clothing business. Joined the Coats Division in 1991 as Strategy Director and has held various overseas appointments in South Africa and the Far East. Appointed Chief Executive of the Clothing Division in January 1998 and appointed to the Board of Coats Viyella Plc in September 1998.

Non Executive Directors

Sir Harry Djanogly (Aged 61) Appointed a Director in 1985 and Non Executive Deputy Chairman in March 1999. He became Non Executive Chairman in July 1999. He is Non Executive Deputy Chairman of Singer & Friedlander Plc and a Non Executive Director of Carpetright Plc. Chairman of the Nomination Committee as well as a member of the Remuneration and Audit Committees.

Sir Victor Blank (Aged 57) Appointed a Director in 1989 and senior independent Non Executive Director in March 1999. Became Non Executive Deputy Chairman in July 1999. Chairman of Trinity Mirror Group, Deputy Chairman of The Great Universal Stores PLC, a Director of Williams PLC and Chairman of the charity WellBeing. Chairman of the Audit Committee and a member of the Remuneration and Nomination Committees.

Keith Merrifield (Aged 57) Appointed a Director in September 1996. Director of British Biotech Plc, Danka Business Systems PLC and Boehringer Ingelheim (UK) Ltd. Formerly Director of International Operations of Wellcome PLC. Chairman of the Remuneration Committee and a member of the Audit and Nomination Committees.

The Right Hon. the Lord Owen CH (Aged 61) Appointed a Director in 1994. Chairman of Middlesex Holdings Plc and a Director of Abbot Laboratories Inc. EU negotiator on former Yugoslavia 1992-95. Leader of the SDP 1983-90, Foreign Secretary 1977-79 and MP for Plymouth 1966-92. A member of the Audit, Remuneration and Nomination Committees.

Company Secretary: Christopher Healy

Auditors: Deloitte & Touche

Solicitors: Slaughter & May

Brokers: Cazenove & Co and Credit Suisse First Boston de Zoete & Bevan Limited

Principal Bankers: Barclays Bank Plc, Citibank NA, HSBC Bank Plc, National Westminster Bank Plc, Standard Chartered Bank Plc and Wachovia Corporation NA.