

Filtrona plc Interim Statement 2006

# **Filtrona plc**

# Filtrona is an international, market leading, speciality plastic and fibre products supplier.

By concentrating on niche international markets Filtrona has been able to establish and develop strong positions in its chosen product categories.

It is a well invested global business, headquartered in the UK, with 37 manufacturing facilities, 33 distribution outlets and sales offices and four research facilities spread across 23 countries in the Americas, Europe and Asia. Filtrona employs some 5,500 people worldwide.

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Front Cover:

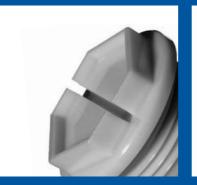
Filtrona's tectorguard protects wires and hoses from abrasion and other damage. It is produced in our Plastic Profile and Sheet extrusion operation and supplied by our Protection and Finishing Products businesses.

## Filtrona plc at a glance

#### Plastic Technologies

Plastic Technologies produces, sources and distributes protection and finishing products, self-adhesive tear tape and certain security products as well as proprietary and customised plastic extrusions and packaging items for consumer products.

#### Plastic Technologies



#### **Protection and Finishing Products**

Our facilities in the UK, Canada, Continental Europe, Mexico, the US and Brazil provide rapid supply of primarily plastic products for general protection, masking, electrical, fastening, security and finishing applications.



**Coated and Security Products** 

Under the Payne brand our operations in the UK, the US, Brazil, Germany, France, Spain, India, Indonesia and Singapore, provide self-adhesive tear tape and coated film products for use in brand promotion, document authentication, personal identification and other security applications.

#### **Plastic Profile and Sheet**

Through our locations in the US, Mexico and the Netherlands, we are a leading supplier of thermoplastic profile, sheet and speciality tubes for a selected range of applications including lighting, fencing, signs and displays, refrigeration, medical and traffic control.

#### **Plastic Technologies overview**

£m	Six months ended 30 June 2006	Six months ended 30 June 2005	∆%
Revenue	£151.5m	£136.1m	11.3
Operating profit#	£22.1m	£18.6m	18.8
Margin (%)	14.6	13.7	

# before intangible amortisation

# **Fibre Technologies**

Fibre Technologies focuses on the production and supply of special filters for cigarettes and bonded fibre products such as reservoirs and wicks for writing instruments and printers, household products and medical devices.

Fibre Technologies



#### **Consumer Packaging**

Globalpack, based in Brazil, is a leading speciality manufacturer of complete plastic packaging sets for the cosmetic and personal care, pharmaceutical, food and chemical industries.

#### **Cigarette Filters**

With 12 locations worldwide, we produce a wide range of filters from monoacetate to multi-segment special filters with sophisticated adsorbent materials.

#### **Bonded Fibre Components**

Under the Fibertec brand, with locations in the US, Germany and China, we are the leading manufacturer of bonded fibre components used in a wide range of consumer disposable products including writing instruments, printer cartridge reservoirs, medical devices and air fresheners.

#### **Fibre Technologies overview**

£m	Six months ended 30 June 2006	Six months ended 30 June 2005	∆%
Revenue	£131.4m	£115.8m	13.5
Operating profit#	£14.0m	£14.0m	
Margin (%)	10.7	12.1	

# before intangible amortisation

## **Highlights**

for the six months ended 30 June 2006

- Another good set of financial results
- Above trend organic growth
- Chinese facility moves into profit
- First FractureCode licence agreement signed



**Revenue** +12.3%

Adjusted earnings per share\* +10.4% Operating profit<sup>#</sup> +8.0%

2.3p

Interim dividend per share +8.0%

£28.9m

Profit before tax +9.9%

£117.4m

Net debt

# before intangible amortisation

\* before intangible amortisation less tax relief thereon

# Operating review Mark Harper



Filtrona has continued to perform well with revenues of £282.9m (2005: £251.9m) up 12.3%

Filtrona is an international, market leading, speciality plastic and fibre products supplier with activities segmented into Plastic Technologies and Fibre Technologies.

For the six months ended 30 June 2006, Filtrona has continued to perform well with revenues of £282.9m (2005: £251.9m) up 12.3%. Operating profit before intangible amortisation was £32.4m (2005: £30.0m) up 8.0%. Profit before tax was £28.9m (2005: £26.3m) up 9.9%. At 30 June 2006, net debt was £117.4m with gearing improving to 85.1% (2005: 93.0%). Adjusted earnings per share were 8.5p (2005: 7.7p) up 10.4%.

The Board has declared an interim dividend up 8.0% to 2.3p per share (2005: 2.13p) which will be paid on 27 October 2006 to shareholders on the register on 29 September 2006 with an ex-dividend date of 27 September 2006.

Underlying like-for-like revenues at constant exchange rates were up 8.0%. Underlying like-for-like operating profits at constant exchange rates, and taking account of the benefit in 2005 from lower central services costs in the pre-demerger period, were also up 8.0%.

#### **Plastic Technologies**

Plastic Technologies produces, sources and distributes protection and finishing products, self-adhesive tear tape and certain security products as

well as proprietary and customised plastic extrusions and packaging items for consumer products.

Plastic Technologies delivered excellent revenue and profit growth driven by sustained investment in marketing programmes, new products and productivity improvements. Reported revenues were £151.5m (2005: £136.1m) up 11.3% with underlying like-for-like revenues at constant exchange rates up 7.0%. Reported operating profit increased to £22.1m (2005: £18.6m) up 18.8% with underlying like-for-like operating profit at constant exchange rates up 14.5%. Margins improved by 90 basis points to 14.6% (2005: 13.7%).

Protection and Finishing Products continued to achieve strong growth. At Moss, the continued success of new product introductions and further good progress in Continental Europe more than offset the challenging trading conditions in the UK which are expected to persist. The expansion of the Moss North European distribution hub was completed and this will yield important service benefits to the Continental European operations. Growth from the Central European operations was encouraging. The disposal of a small non-core plastic promotional products business was completed in February.

The Skiffy business continued to perform ahead of the forecasts set at the time of the acquisition in 2004 as a

Plastic Technologies revenue was £151.5m (2005: £136.1m) up 11.3% and operating profit was £22.1m (2005: £18.6m) up 18.8%

result of increased investment in marketing programmes and productivity improvements. A new Skiffy distribution operation in Poland is planned to commence operations in the second half of the year.

Alliance continued to progress as planned. A new manufacturing facility was established in Sao Paulo, Brazil as scheduled and further investment in tooling is under way. The Alliance Express network continued to trade well, benefiting from the ongoing marketing programme. The configuration of the Erie, Pennsylvania central warehouse was modified to achieve improved stocking density.

Performance at the MSI oil country tubular goods thread protector business was again particularly strong buoyed by the sustained high levels of drilling activity in the oil and gas sector. Additional investments in new production machinery and tooling at Houston, Texas and Vera Cruz, Mexico are delivering significant benefits.

**Coated and Security Products** continued to progress with satisfactory revenue growth. Volumes of printed tapes for promotions were depressed as some important customers in the tobacco sector reduced promotional activity. The Indonesian operation was relocated to the new Cigarette Filters facility in Surabaya and the printer in Richmond, US was upgraded to facilitate the printing of security applications. The requirement for productivity upgrades has generated the need for new slitting lines in the UK and US which will be installed during the second half of the year. Supplies of laminate for the new generation UK passport commenced and volumes built steadily through the period. In May the acquisition of the CORGI identity card printing operation was completed and the business has been successfully transferred to the Mold facility in North Wales where a major upgrade programme has been completed. Investment continues to be made in the development of proprietary security technologies for use across the business.

FractureCode has just concluded a three and a half year licence agreement with a major FMCG company and follow up activities are being undertaken after a successful launch at the May Intergraf Symposium. During the first half, investments in building the organisation and in further developing the handheld reader have, as expected, resulted in operating losses. FractureCode is expected to generate a meaningful contribution to Filtrona's profits in 2009.

The **Plastic Profile and Sheet** business achieved very strong growth as sales progressed positively at each of the North American facilities with excellent revenues from the point of purchase and aerospace markets. Performance was also assisted by the closure of the small Phoenix, Arizona facility at the

# **Operating review**

Fibre Technologies revenue was £131.4m (2005: £115.8m) up 13.5% and operating profit was £14.0m (2005: £14.0m)

start of the year and the transfer of volumes to the facilities at Chicago and Tacoma in the US and Monterrey, Mexico. Significant productivity and performance improvement was delivered at Chicago. As a result of business growth, facility expansions in the Netherlands and Mexico are due to become operational later in 2006 and early in 2007 respectively.

The Globalpack **Consumer Packaging** business in Brazil experienced a return of the tough trading conditions which characterised the majority of 2005. Although the business has continued to win new customers, margins on existing business have come under pressure due to market overcapacity, particularly in tubes. The third roll-on ball line came on stream successfully at the end of the first quarter and ball volumes continue to grow satisfactorily. The business is focused on both product innovation and operational cost reduction in response to the more challenging market conditions.

#### **Fibre Technologies**

Fibre Technologies focuses on the production and supply of special filters for cigarettes and bonded fibre products such as reservoirs and wicks for writing instruments and printers, household products and medical devices. Fibre Technologies delivered good revenue growth though operating profits were level with the same period in 2005. Revenue was £131.4m (2005: £115.8m) up 13.5% and operating profit was £14.0m (2005: £14.0m). Margins were reduced by 140 basis points from 12.1% to 10.7% and operating profit at constant exchange rates was down 2.8%.

The **Cigarette Filters** business continued to encounter difficult conditions with a mixed performance across its manufacturing facilities. Overall volumes were up 0.3% with an encouraging 17.7% increase in special filters offset as expected by a 19.3% decline in monoacetate filters. The facility at Monterrey, Mexico has continued to incur higher than anticipated costs to achieve the appropriate levels of quality and productivity resulting in losses in the period. Forthcoming volume reductions in North

The Board is confident that Filtrona will continue to progress satisfactorily

America, driven by an important customer's decision to transfer significant volumes of cigarette manufacturing out of that region, have generated the need for a capacity review. Performance at the UK facility in Jarrow has improved, but the integration of new technologies after the closure of the Swiss operations held back results. In Asia, the transfer of the Indonesian business to a new and larger facility was successfully completed and the volumes produced in this facility are growing rapidly.

The Fibertec **Bonded Fibre Components** business progressed well in the period. The Ningbo, China facility moved into profit as volumes continued to grow due both to production transfers and to new business won in the region. A plant expansion is due to commence later in the year to support the growth being achieved in China. The recovery in household products volumes has continued, new European and Asian business has been won in writing instruments, and significant new projects remain on track for commercialisation in the inkjet printer and medical products sectors. An investment programme to upgrade the facility in Reinbek, Germany is due to commence later in the year.

#### **Prospects**

These interim results represent an above trend performance in organic growth terms and Filtrona continues to seek investments to develop its niche market positions. The Board is confident that Filtrona will continue to progress satisfactorily in the second half of the year although financial performance is likely to be affected by a weaker dollar and higher interest rates.

#### Mark Harper

Chief Executive 30 August 2006

# **Consolidated income statement**

	Note	Six months ended 30 Jun 2006 £m	Six months ended 30 Jun 2005 £m	Year ended 31 Dec 2005 £m
Revenue	2	282.9	251.9	513.7
Operating profit before intangible amortisation and demerger expense		32.4	30.0	57.8
Intangible amortisation		(0.5)	(0.4)	(0.8)
Demerger expense		-	-	(1.0)
Operating profit	2	31.9	29.6	56.0
Finance income	3	4.7	1.1	5.6
Finance expense	3	(7.7)	(4.4)	(11.6)
Profit before tax		28.9	26.3	50.0
Income tax expense	4	(9.8)	(9.2)	(17.0)
Profit for the period		19.1	17.1	33.0
Attributable to:				
Equity holders of Filtrona		18.4	16.5	31.6
Minority interests		0.7	0.6	1.4
Profit for the period		19.1	17.1	33.0
Earnings per share attributable to equity holders of Filtrona:				
Basic	5	8.4p	<b>o</b> 7.5p	14.4p
Diluted	5	8.3p	<b>b</b> 7.5p	14.4p

# **Consolidated balance sheet**

30 Jun         31 Das 2005           Note         200           Assets         Fm           Property, plant and equipment         6           177.6         165.6           180.5         3.0           Deferred tax assets         7           17         61.9           17.6         19.6           17.6         19.6           17.6         19.8           17.6         19.8           17.6         19.8           17.6         19.8           17.6         10.0           17.6         10.0           17.8         10.0           17.8         186.6           17.4         186.5           177.4         186.5           177.8         186.5           177.8         186.5           173.4         186.5           16.8         54.8           173.4         186.5           173.4         186.5           173.4         186.5           173.4         186.5           173.4         186.5           161.9         411.6           174.19.9         411.6           1				00.1	0.4-7
Note         Em         Em         Em           Assets			30 Jun 2006	30 Jun 2005	31 Dec 2005
Property, plant and equipment         6         177.6         165.6         180.5           Intangible assets         7         61.9         57.3         63.0           Deferred tax assets         3.0         2.2         1.6           Total non-current assets         242.5         225.1         245.1           Inventories         59.3         59.7         59.8           Income tax receivable         1.0         0.6         1.6           Trade and other receivables         91.9         89.5         85.6           Derivative assets         0.4         0.1         0.1           Cash and cash equivalents         8         20.8         36.6         30.7           Total assets         173.4         186.5         177.8         Total assets         415.9         411.6         422.9           Equity         1         1.0         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1<		Note			
Intangible assets         7         61.9         57.3         63.0           Deferred tax assets         3.0         2.2         1.6           Total non-current assets         242.5         225.1         245.1           Income tax receivable         1.0         0.6         1.6           Trade and other receivables         91.9         89.5         85.6           Derivative assets         0.4         0.1         0.1           Cash and cash equivalents         8         20.8         36.6         30.7           Total current assets         173.4         186.5         177.8         173.4         186.5         177.8           Total current assets         173.4         186.5         177.8         10.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1 <t< td=""><td>Assets</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></t<>	Assets				
Deferred tax assets         3.0         2.2         1.6           Total non-current assets         242.5         225.1         245.1           Inventories         59.3         59.7         59.8           Income tax receivable         1.0         0.6         1.6           Trade and other receivables         91.9         89.5         85.6           Derivative assets         0.4         0.1         0.1           Cash and cash equivalents         8         20.8         36.6         30.7           Total current assets         173.4         186.5         177.8           Total assets         415.9         411.6         422.9           Equity         sued capital         54.8         54.8         54.8           Station reserve         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1           Patiation reserve         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)           Translation reserve         4.0         3.3         5.3         5.7           Attributable to equity holders of Filtrona         132.3         113.1         124.7           Minority interests         5.7         4.7         5.6           Total equity         138.0         17.8	Property, plant and equipment	6	177.6	165.6	180.5
Total non-current assets         242.5         225.1         245.1           Inventories         59.3         59.7         59.8           Income tax receivable         1.0         0.6         1.6           Trade and other receivables         91.9         89.5         85.6           Derivative assets         0.4         0.1         0.1           Cash and cash equivalents         8         20.8         36.6         30.7           Total assets         173.4         186.5         177.8         Total assets         415.9         411.6         422.9           Equity         Issued capital         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         10.1         0.1           Other reserve         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)         113.1         124.7           Minority interests         5.7         4.7         5.6         74.7         5.6           Total equity         138.0         117.8         130.3         13.3         130.1         124.7           Minority interests         5.7         4.7         5.6         74.7         5.6           Total equity         138.0         117.8         130.3	Intangible assets	7	61.9	57.3	63.0
Inventories         59.3         59.7         59.8           Income tax receivable         1.0         0.6         1.6           Trade and other receivables         91.9         89.5         85.6           Derivative assets         0.4         0.1         0.1           Cash and cash equivalents         8         20.8         36.6         30.7           Total current assets         173.4         186.5         177.8           Total carrent assets         415.9         411.6         422.9           Equity         Issued capital         54.8         54.8         54.8           Issued capital         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8           Capital redemption reserve         0.1         0.1         0.1           Retained earnings         206.2         187.7         197.3           Attributable to equity holders of Filtrona         132.3         113.1         124.7           Minority interests         5.7         4.7         5.6           Total equity         138.0         117.8         130.3           Liabilities         11.6         11.6         11.4           Interest bearing loans and borrowings         36.1         36.7         2.2 <td>Deferred tax assets</td> <td></td> <td>3.0</td> <td>2.2</td> <td>1.6</td>	Deferred tax assets		3.0	2.2	1.6
Income tax receivable         1.0         0.6         1.6           Trade and other receivables         91.9         89.5         85.6           Derivative assets         0.4         0.1         0.1           Cash and cash equivalents         8         20.8         36.6         30.7           Total current assets         173.4         186.5         177.8           Total carrent assets         415.9         411.6         422.9           Equity         ssued capital         54.8         54.8         54.8           Capital redemption reserve         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1           Other reserve         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)           Translation reserve         4.0         3.3         5.3         18           Attributable to equity holders of Filtrona         132.3         113.1         124.7           Minority interests         5.7         4.7         5.6           Total equity         138.0         117.8         130.3           Liabilities         36.1         34.7         35.8           Interest bearing loans and borrowings         36.1         34.7         35.8           Other payables         9.4	Total non-current assets		242.5	225.1	245.1
Trade and other receivables       91.9       89.5       85.6         Derivative assets       0.4       0.1       0.1         Cash and cash equivalents       8       20.8       36.6       30.7         Total current assets       173.4       186.5       177.8         Total assets       415.9       411.6       422.9         Equity       1       0.1       0.1       0.1         Staued capital       54.8       54.8       54.8       54.8         Capital redemption reserve       0.1       0.1       0.1       0.1         Other reserve       (132.8)       (132.8)       (132.8)       (132.8)         Translation reserve       4.0       3.3       5.3       197.3       197.3         Attributable to equity holders of Filtrona       132.3       113.1       124.7         Minority interests       5.7       4.7       5.6         Total equity       138.0       117.8       130.3         Liabilities       11.6       11.6       11.6       11.6         Interest bearing loans and borrowings       36.1       34.7       35.8         Other payables       3.4       2.6       2.1         Provisions	Inventories		59.3	59.7	59.8
Derivative assets         0.4         0.1         0.1           Cash and cash equivalents         8         20.8         36.6         30.7           Total current assets         173.4         186.5         177.8           Total assets         415.9         411.6         422.9           Equity         Issued capital         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8           Capital redemption reserve         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1           Other reserve         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)           Translation reserve         4.0         3.3         5.3         Retained earnings         206.2         187.7         197.3           Attributable to equity holders of Filtrona         132.3         113.1         124.7         197.3           Interest bearing loans and borrowings         137.3         130.0         145.2           Retirement benefit obligations         36.1         34.7         35.8           Other payables         3.4         2.6         2.1           Provisions         2.8         7.2         2.5           Deferred tax liabilities         11.6         11.4         11.4           Total non-current liabilities	Income tax receivable		1.0	0.6	1.6
Cash and cash equivalents         8         20.8         36.6         30.7           Total current assets         173.4         186.5         177.8           Total assets         415.9         411.6         422.9           Equity         ssued capital         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8           Capital redemption reserve         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1           Other reserve         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)         173.3           Retained earnings         206.2         187.7         197.3         Attributable to equity holders of Filtrona         132.3         11.1         124.7           Minority interests         5.7         4.7         5.6         5.7         4.7         5.6           Total equity         138.0         117.8         130.0         145.2           Retirement benefit obligations         36.1         34.7         35.8           Other payables         3.4         2.6         2.1           Provisions         2.8         7.2         2.5           Deferred tax liabilities         11.6         11.4         11.6         11.4           Total non-current liabilities         0.3	Trade and other receivables		91.9	89.5	85.6
Total current assets         173.4         186.5         177.8           Total assets         415.9         411.6         422.9           Equity	Derivative assets		0.4	0.1	0.1
Total assets         415.9         411.6         422.9           Equity         Issued capital         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8         5	Cash and cash equivalents	8	20.8	36.6	30.7
Equity         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8           Capital redemption reserve         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1           Other reserve         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)           Translation reserve         4.0         3.3         5.3           Retained earnings         206.2         187.7         197.3           Attributable to equity holders of Filtrona         132.3         113.1         124.7           Minority interests         5.7         4.7         5.6           Total equity         138.0         117.8         130.3           Liabilities         Interest bearing loans and borrowings         137.3         130.0         145.2           Retirement benefit obligations         36.1         34.7         35.8           Other payables         3.4         2.6         2.1           Provisions         2.8         7.2         2.5           Deferred tax liabilities         11.6         11.4         11.4           Total non-current liabilities         0.3         1.3         5.0           Interest bearing loans and borrowings         0.6         14.9         0.7           Derivative liabilities         0.3 <td>Total current assets</td> <td></td> <td>173.4</td> <td>186.5</td> <td>177.8</td>	Total current assets		173.4	186.5	177.8
Issued capital         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8           Capital redemption reserve         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1           Other reserve         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)           Translation reserve         4.0         3.3         5.3           Retained earnings         206.2         187.7         197.3           Attributable to equity holders of Filtrona         132.3         113.1         124.7           Minority interests         5.7         4.7         5.6           Total equity         138.0         117.8         130.0           Liabilities         1         130.0         145.2           Retirement benefit obligations         36.1         34.7         35.8           Other payables         3.4         2.6         2.1           Provisions         2.8         7.2         2.5           Deferred tax liabilities         111.6         11.4         140.0           Total non-current liabilities         191.2         186.1         197.0           Bank overdrafts         0.3         1.3         5.0           Interest bearing loans and borrowings         0.6         14.9         0.7     <	Total assets		415.9	411.6	422.9
Issued capital         54.8         54.8         54.8         54.8           Capital redemption reserve         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1           Other reserve         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)           Translation reserve         4.0         3.3         5.3           Retained earnings         206.2         187.7         197.3           Attributable to equity holders of Filtrona         132.3         113.1         124.7           Minority interests         5.7         4.7         5.6           Total equity         138.0         117.8         130.0           Liabilities         1         130.0         145.2           Retirement benefit obligations         36.1         34.7         35.8           Other payables         3.4         2.6         2.1           Provisions         2.8         7.2         2.5           Deferred tax liabilities         111.6         11.4         140.0           Total non-current liabilities         191.2         186.1         197.0           Bank overdrafts         0.3         1.3         5.0           Interest bearing loans and borrowings         0.6         14.9         0.7     <					
Capital redemption reserve         0.1         0.1         0.1         0.1           Other reserve         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)           Translation reserve         4.0         3.3         5.3           Retained earnings         206.2         187.7         197.3           Attributable to equity holders of Filtrona         132.3         113.1         124.7           Minority interests         5.7         4.7         5.6           Total equity         138.0         117.8         130.3           Liabilities         Interest bearing loans and borrowings         137.3         130.0         145.2           Retirement benefit obligations         36.1         34.7         35.8         01her payables         2.4         2.1         Provisions         2.8         7.2         2.5         2.5         Deferred tax liabilities         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6         11.6					
Other reserve         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)         (132.8)           Translation reserve         4.0         3.3         5.3           Retained earnings         206.2         187.7         197.3           Attributable to equity holders of Filtrona         132.3         113.1         124.7           Minority interests         5.7         4.7         5.6           Total equity         138.0         117.8         130.3           Liabilities         1         137.3         130.0         145.2           Retirement benefit obligations         36.1         34.7         35.8           Other payables         3.4         2.6         2.1           Provisions         2.8         7.2         2.5           Deferred tax liabilities         111.6         11.4         114.6           Total non-current liabilities         191.2         186.1         197.0           Bank overdrafts         0.3         1.3         5.0           Interest bearing loans and borrowings         0.6         14.9         0.7           Derivative liabilities         0.3         -         0.8           Income tax payable         12.2         15.2         15.2	•				
Translation reserve       4.0       3.3       5.3         Retained earnings       206.2       187.7       197.3         Attributable to equity holders of Filtrona       132.3       113.1       124.7         Minority interests       5.7       4.7       5.6         Total equity       138.0       117.8       130.3         Liabilities       1       138.0       117.8       130.3         Interest bearing loans and borrowings       36.1       34.7       35.8         Other payables       3.4       2.6       2.1         Provisions       2.8       7.2       2.5         Deferred tax liabilities       11.6       11.6       11.4         Total non-current liabilities       191.2       186.1       197.0         Bank overdrafts       0.3       1.3       5.0         Interest bearing loans and borrowings       0.6       14.9       0.7         Derivative liabilities       0.3       1.3       5.0         Interest bearing loans and borrowings       0.6       14.9       0.7         Derivative liabilities       0.3       -       0.8       10.2         Income tax payable       12.2       15.2       15.2       15.2			•••	••••	•••
Retained earnings         206.2         187.7         197.3           Attributable to equity holders of Filtrona         132.3         113.1         124.7           Minority interests         5.7         4.7         5.6           Total equity         138.0         117.8         130.3           Liabilities         1         137.3         130.0         145.2           Retrement benefit obligations         36.1         34.7         35.8           Other payables         3.4         2.6         2.1           Provisions         2.8         7.2         2.5           Deferred tax liabilities         111.6         11.6         11.4           Total non-current liabilities         191.2         186.1         197.0           Bank overdrafts         0.3         1.3         5.0           Incernet ax payable         12.2         15.2         15.2           Trade and other payables         0.3         -         0.8           Income tax payable         12.2         15.2         15.2           Trade and other payables         3.5         3.7         5.0           Total current liabilities         3.5         3.7         5.0           Total current liabilities			. ,	· /	. ,
Attributable to equity holders of Filtrona         132.3         113.1         124.7           Minority interests         5.7         4.7         5.6           Total equity         138.0         117.8         130.3           Liabilities         1         132.3         137.3         130.0         145.2           Retirement benefit obligations         36.1         34.7         35.8         0           Other payables         3.4         2.6         2.1         11.6         11.6         11.4           Provisions         2.8         7.2         2.5         2.5         2.8         7.2         2.5           Deferred tax liabilities         191.2         186.1         197.0         3.3         5.0           Interest bearing loans and borrowings         0.3         1.3         5.0         11.6         11.4           Total non-current liabilities         191.2         186.1         197.0         193.3         5.0           Interest bearing loans and borrowings         0.6         14.9         0.7         21.2         15.2         15.2           Derivative liabilities         0.3         -0.8         10.6         14.9         0.7           Derivative liabilities         69.8					
Minority interests         5.7         4.7         5.6           Total equity         138.0         117.8         130.3           Liabilities         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         3         1         3         1         3         1         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         1         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         1         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3         3	Retained earnings		206.2	187.7	197.3
Total equity         138.0         117.8         130.3           Liabilities         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         30.3           Liabilities         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         30.3           Liabilities         1         1         3         1         30.0         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1         1 <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>					
Liabilities         137.3         130.0         145.2           Interest bearing loans and borrowings         36.1         34.7         35.8           Other payables         3.4         2.6         2.1           Provisions         2.8         7.2         2.5           Deferred tax liabilities         11.6         11.6         11.4           Total non-current liabilities         191.2         186.1         197.0           Bank overdrafts         0.3         1.3         5.0           Interest bearing loans and borrowings         0.6         14.9         0.7           Derivative liabilities         0.3         -         0.8           Income tax payable         12.2         15.2         15.2           Trade and other payables         69.8         72.6         68.9           Provisions         3.5         3.7         5.0           Total current liabilities         86.7         107.7         95.6           Total liabilities         277.9         293.8         292.6	Minority interests		5.7	4.7	5.6
Interest bearing loans and borrowings       137.3       130.0       145.2         Retirement benefit obligations       36.1       34.7       35.8         Other payables       3.4       2.6       2.1         Provisions       2.8       7.2       2.5         Deferred tax liabilities       11.6       11.6       11.4         Total non-current liabilities       191.2       186.1       197.0         Bank overdrafts       0.3       1.3       5.0         Interest bearing loans and borrowings       0.6       14.9       0.7         Derivative liabilities       0.3       -       0.8         Income tax payable       12.2       15.2       15.2         Trade and other payables       69.8       72.6       68.9         Provisions       3.5       3.7       5.0         Total current liabilities       86.7       107.7       95.6         Total liabilities       277.9       293.8       292.6	Total equity		138.0	117.8	130.3
Retirement benefit obligations       36.1       34.7       35.8         Other payables       3.4       2.6       2.1         Provisions       2.8       7.2       2.5         Deferred tax liabilities       11.6       11.6       11.4         Total non-current liabilities       191.2       186.1       197.0         Bank overdrafts       0.3       1.3       5.0         Interest bearing loans and borrowings       0.6       14.9       0.7         Derivative liabilities       0.3       -       0.8         Income tax payable       12.2       15.2       15.2         Trade and other payables       69.8       72.6       68.9         Provisions       3.5       3.7       5.0         Total current liabilities       86.7       107.7       95.6         Total liabilities       277.9       293.8       292.6	Liabilities				
Other payables       3.4       2.6       2.1         Provisions       2.8       7.2       2.5         Deferred tax liabilities       11.6       11.6       11.4         Total non-current liabilities       191.2       186.1       197.0         Bank overdrafts       0.3       1.3       5.0         Interest bearing loans and borrowings       0.6       14.9       0.7         Derivative liabilities       0.3       -       0.8         Income tax payable       12.2       15.2       15.2         Trade and other payables       69.8       72.6       68.9         Provisions       3.5       3.7       5.0         Total current liabilities       86.7       107.7       95.6         Total liabilities       277.9       293.8       292.6	Interest bearing loans and borrowings		137.3	130.0	145.2
Provisions       2.8       7.2       2.5         Deferred tax liabilities       11.6       11.6       11.4         Total non-current liabilities       191.2       186.1       197.0         Bank overdrafts       0.3       1.3       5.0         Interest bearing loans and borrowings       0.6       14.9       0.7         Derivative liabilities       0.3       -       0.8         Income tax payable       12.2       15.2       15.2         Trade and other payables       69.8       72.6       68.9         Provisions       3.5       3.7       5.0         Total current liabilities       86.7       107.7       95.6         Total liabilities       277.9       293.8       292.6	Retirement benefit obligations		36.1	34.7	35.8
Deferred tax liabilities         11.6         11.6         11.4           Total non-current liabilities         191.2         186.1         197.0           Bank overdrafts         0.3         1.3         5.0           Interest bearing loans and borrowings         0.6         14.9         0.7           Derivative liabilities         0.3         -         0.8           Income tax payable         12.2         15.2         15.2           Trade and other payables         69.8         72.6         68.9           Provisions         3.5         3.7         5.0           Total current liabilities         86.7         107.7         95.6           Total liabilities         277.9         293.8         292.6					
Total non-current liabilities       191.2       186.1       197.0         Bank overdrafts       0.3       1.3       5.0         Interest bearing loans and borrowings       0.6       14.9       0.7         Derivative liabilities       0.3       -       0.8         Income tax payable       12.2       15.2       15.2         Trade and other payables       69.8       72.6       68.9         Provisions       3.5       3.7       5.0         Total current liabilities       86.7       107.7       95.6         Total liabilities       293.8       292.6					
Bank overdrafts       0.3       1.3       5.0         Interest bearing loans and borrowings       0.6       14.9       0.7         Derivative liabilities       0.3       -       0.8         Income tax payable       12.2       15.2       15.2         Trade and other payables       69.8       72.6       68.9         Provisions       3.5       3.7       5.0         Total current liabilities       86.7       107.7       95.6         Total liabilities       277.9       293.8       292.6	Deferred tax liabilities		11.6	11.6	11.4
Interest bearing loans and borrowings         0.6         14.9         0.7           Derivative liabilities         0.3         -         0.8           Income tax payable         12.2         15.2         15.2           Trade and other payables         69.8         72.6         68.9           Provisions         3.5         3.7         5.0           Total current liabilities         86.7         107.7         95.6           Total liabilities         277.9         293.8         292.6	Total non-current liabilities		191.2	186.1	197.0
Derivative liabilities         0.3         -         0.8           Income tax payable         12.2         15.2         15.2           Trade and other payables         69.8         72.6         68.9           Provisions         3.5         3.7         5.0           Total current liabilities         86.7         107.7         95.6           Total liabilities         277.9         293.8         292.6	Bank overdrafts		0.3	1.3	5.0
Income tax payable       12.2       15.2       15.2         Trade and other payables       69.8       72.6       68.9         Provisions       3.5       3.7       5.0         Total current liabilities       86.7       107.7       95.6         Total liabilities       277.9       293.8       292.6	Interest bearing loans and borrowings			14.9	0.7
General and other payables         General and other payables         Fraction of the payables         Fra	Derivative liabilities			-	0.8
Provisions         3.5         3.7         5.0           Total current liabilities         86.7         107.7         95.6           Total liabilities         277.9         293.8         292.6					15.2
Total current liabilities         86.7         107.7         95.6           Total liabilities         277.9         293.8         292.6					
Total liabilities         277.9         293.8         292.6	Provisions		3.5	3.7	5.0
	Total current liabilities		86.7	107.7	95.6
Total equity and liabilities         415.9         411.6         422.9	Total liabilities		277.9	293.8	292.6
	Total equity and liabilities		415.9	411.6	422.9

# **Consolidated statement of cash flows**

	Six months	Six months	Year
	ended 30 Jun	ended 30 Jun	ended 31 Dec
	2006	2005	2005
Note	£m	£m	£m
Operating activities		00.0	50.0
Profit before tax	28.9	26.3	50.0
Adjustments for:		0.0	0.0
Net finance expense	3.0	3.3	6.0
Intangible amortisation	0.5	0.4	0.8
Depreciation	11.4 0.7	10.4 0.6	22.1 1.1
Share option expense			
Other items	(0.6)	1.1	1.1
Increase in inventories Increase in trade and other receivables	(2.0)	(3.5)	(2.2)
	(9.0) 3.7	(10.8) 7.8	(4.7) 2.1
Increase in trade and other payables	3.7		(1.0)
Acquisition of employee trust shares Other cash movements	(1 0)	(1.0)	· · /
	(1.0)	(0.2)	(4.6)
Cash inflow from operating activities	35.6	34.4	70.7
Income tax paid	(11.6)	(5.2)	(13.8)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	24.0	29.2	56.9
Investing activities		0.5	10
Interest received	0.5	0.5	1.2
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	(15.9) 0.9	(15.1) 0.8	(38.2)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		0.0	0.9
Acquisition of businesses net of cash acquired Proceeds from sale of businesses	(0.5) 0.3	-	(4.6)
Other investing cash flows	(0.5)	(0.1)	(0.4)
	. ,		. ,
Net cash outflow from investing activities	(15.2)	(13.9)	(41.1)
Financing activities			
Interest paid	(3.9)	(3.6)	(6.7)
Dividends paid to equity holders	(9.3)	(0.0)	(4.7)
(Repayments of)/proceeds from short term loans	(0.1)	13.8	(0.6)
(Repayments of)/proceeds from long term loans	(0.2)	121.3	133.7
Capital contributions from former parent company	(01_)	4.2	4.2
Repayments to former parent company	_	(147.0)	(147.0)
Net cash outflow from financing activities	(13.5)	(11.3)	(21.1)
	(10.0)	(11.0)	(2111)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(4.7)	4.0	(5.3)
Net cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	25.7	29.7	29.7
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(4.7)	4.0	(5.3)
Net effect of currency translation on cash and cash equivalents	(0.5)	1.6	1.3
Net cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period 8	20.5	35.3	25.7

# Consolidated statement of recognised income and expense

S	Six months ended 30 Jun 2006 £m	Six months ended 30 Jun 2005 £m	Year ended 31 Dec 2005 £m
Recognition of defined benefit pension schemes on demerger:			
Actuarial loss	-	(34.7)	(34.7)
Deferred tax credit on actuarial loss	-	10.5	10.5
Other actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	(1.3)	-	(2.0)
Deferred tax credit on other actuarial losses on defined benefit pension scheme	s <b>0.4</b>	-	0.7
Movement on cash flow hedge	-	0.1	(0.1)
Foreign exchange translation differences	(1.4)	5.1	7.4
Income and expense recognised directly in equity	(2.3)	(19.0)	(18.2)
Profit for the period	19.1	17.1	33.0
Total recognised income and expense for the period	16.8	(1.9)	14.8
Attributable to:			
Equity holders of Filtrona	16.2	(2.7)	12.9
Minority interests	0.6	0.8	1.9
Total recognised income and expense	16.8	(1.9)	14.8

### **Notes**

#### 1. Basis of preparation

This interim financial information has been prepared and approved by the Directors in accordance with the accounting policies that were applied in the preparation of the Company's published consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2005.

The accounting policies, which conform to IFRS, have been consistently applied to all periods presented.

The figures for the six months ended 30 June 2006 and 30 June 2005 are unaudited and do not constitute statutory accounts of Filtrona within the meaning of Section 240 of the Companies Act 1985. However, the auditor has carried out a review of the figures for the six months ended 30 June 2006 and their report is set out in the Independent Review Report. The comparative figures for the financial year ended 31 December 2005 are not the Company's statutory accounts for that financial year. Those accounts have been reported on by the Company's auditor and delivered to the Registrar of Companies. The report of the auditor was (i) unqualified, (ii) did not include a reference to any matters to which the auditor drew attention by way of emphasis without qualifying their report, and (iii) did not contain a statement under section 237(2) or (3) of the Companies Act 1985.

#### 2. Segment analysis

		Revenue			Operating prof		
	Six months ended 30 Jun 2006 £m	Six months ended 30 Jun 2005 £m	Year ended 31 Dec 2005 £m	Six months ended 30 Jun 2006 £m	Six months ended 30 Jun 2005 £m	Year ended 31 Dec 2005 £m	
Plastic Technologies	151.5	136.1	273.3	22.1	18.6	37.6	
Fibre Technologies	131.4	115.8	240.4	14.0	14.0	26.9	
Central Services	-	-	-	(3.7)	(2.6)	(6.7)	
	282.9	251.9	513.7	32.4	30.0	57.8	
Intangible amortisation				(0.5)	(0.4)	(0.8)	
Demerger expense				-	-	(1.0)	
Total	282.9	251.9	513.7	31.9	29.6	56.0	

#### 3. Net finance expense

	Six months ended 30 Jun 2006 £m	Six months ended 30 Jun 2005 £m	Year ended 31 Dec 2005 £m
Finance income	2.111	2.11	2.III
Bank deposits	0.5	0.5	1.1
Other finance income	0.1	-	0.1
Expected return on pension scheme assets	4.1	0.6	4.4
	4.7	1.1	5.6
Finance expense			
Loans and overdrafts	(3.8)	(2.1)	(5.4)
Former parent company financing	-	(1.7)	(1.7)
Other finance expense	-	-	(0.1)
Interest on pension scheme liabilities	(3.9)	(0.6)	(4.4)
	(7.7)	(4.4)	(11.6)
Net finance expense	(3.0)	(3.3)	(6.0)

#### 4. Income tax expense

An income tax expense of 34% (six months ended 30 Jun 2005: 35%; year ended 31 Dec 2005: 34%) on the profit of the underlying operations has been provided based on the estimated effective tax rate for the year.

Income tax expense in the UK is £0.5m (six months ended 30 Jun 2005: £0.5m; year ended 31 Dec 2005: £1.1m).

### **Notes**

#### 5. Earnings per share

	Six months	Six months	Year
	ended	ended	ended
	30 Jun	30 Jun	31 Dec
	2006	2005	2005
	£m	£m	£m
Earnings attributable to equity holders of Filtrona	18.4	16.5	31.6
Adjustment*	0.3	0.3	1.2
Adjusted earnings	18.7	16.8	32.8
Basic weighted average ordinary shares in issue (million)	218.9	219.3 <sup>#</sup>	219.1#
Dilutive effect of employee share option plans (million)	2.1	0.2	0.8
Diluted weighted average ordinary shares (million)	221.0	219.5	219.9
Basic earnings per share	8.4p	7.5p	14.4p
Adjustment*	0.1p	0.2p	0.6p
Adjusted earnings per share	8.5p	7.7p	15.0p
Diluted basic earnings per share	8.3p	7.5p	14.4p

\* The adjustment relates to intangible amortisation and demerger expense less tax relief thereon

\* The number of ordinary shares issued on demerger was used as the weighted average number for the period prior to demerger

#### 6. Property, plant and equipment

During the period Filtrona spent £15.9m on land and buildings, plant and machinery and fixtures, fittings and equipment.

Land and buildings, plant and machinery and fixtures, fittings and equipment with a net book value of approximately £1.1m were disposed of for proceeds of £0.9m.

#### 7. Intangible assets

During the period Filtrona purchased certain assets and the business of the CSL Digital Print division of CORGI Services Limited and, concurrently, entered into a five year agreement with CORGI Group Limited for the exclusive supply of registered gas installer identity cards. The value of this agreement and the customer list attached to the business is included on the balance sheet as an intangible asset.

#### 8. Analysis of net debt

	30 Jun 2006 £m	30 Jun 2005 £m	31 Dec 2005 £m
Cash at bank and in hand	17.4	29.0	22.6
Short-term deposits repayable on demand	2.9	5.8	7.1
Short-term deposits not repayable on demand	0.5	1.8	1.0
Cash and cash equivalents	20.8	36.6	30.7
Overdrafts	(0.3)	(1.3)	(5.0)
Cash and cash equivalents in the statement of cash flows	20.5	35.3	25.7
Debt due within one year	(0.6)	(14.9)	(0.7)
Debt due after one year	(137.3)	(130.0)	(145.2)
Net debt	(117.4)	(109.6)	(120.2)

#### 9. Dividends

	Per share					Total
	Six months ended 30 Jun 2006 p	Six months ended 30 Jun 2005 p	Year ended 31 Dec 2005 p	Six months ended 30 Jun 2006 £m	Six months ended 30 Jun 2005 £m	Year ended 31 Dec 2005 £m
2005 interim: paid 31 October 2005 2005 final: paid 28 April 2006		2.13	2.13 4.27		4.7	4.7 9.3
2006 interim: payable 27 October 2006	2.30			5.0		
	2.30	2.13	6.40	5.0	4.7	14.0

The interim dividend for 2006 of 2.30p per 25p ordinary share will be paid on 27 October 2006 to equity holders on the share register on 29 September 2006.

# **Notes**

#### 10. Transactions with related parties

There were no significant related party transactions during the period.

#### 11. Exchange rates

The principal exchange rates for Filtrona were:

			Average			Closing
	Six months	Six months	Year	Six months	Six months	Year
	ended	ended	ended	ended	ended	ended
	30 Jun	30 Jun	31 Dec	30 Jun	30 Jun	31 Dec
	2006	2005	2005	2006	2005	2005
US\$:£	1.79	1.86	1.81	1.85	1.77	1.72
€:£	1.46	1.46	1.47	1.45	1.48	1.46

# **Independent Review Report to Filtrona plc**

#### Introduction

We have been instructed by the Company to review the financial information for the six months ended 30 June 2006 which comprises the consolidated income statement, consolidated balance sheet, consolidated statement of cash flows, consolidated statement of recognised income and expense and related notes. We have read the other information contained in the Interim Statement and considered whether it contains any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial information.

This report is made solely to the Company in accordance with the terms of our engagement to assist the Company in meeting the requirements of the Listing Rules of the Financial Services Authority. Our review has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company those matters we are required to state to it in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company for our review work, for this report, or for the conclusions we have reached.

#### **Directors' responsibilities**

The Interim Statement, including the financial information contained therein, is the responsibility of, and has been approved by, the Directors. The Directors are responsible for preparing the Interim Statement in accordance with the Listing Rules of the Financial Services Authority which require that the accounting policies and presentation applied to the interim figures should be consistent with those applied in preparing the preceding annual accounts except where any changes, and the reasons for them, are disclosed.

#### **Review work performed**

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

#### **Review conclusion**

On the basis of our review we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial information as presented for the six months ended 30 June 2006.

KPMG Audit Plc

Chartered Accountants London 30 August 2006

# Advisors' details and investor information

#### **Directors**

 Jeff Harris
 Chairman

 Mark Harper
 Chief Executive

 Steve Dryden
 Finance Director

 Paul Drechsler
 Senior Independent Non-executive Director

 Adrian Auer
 Non-executive Director

 Warren Knowlton
 Non-executive Director

#### Secretary and Registered Office

Jon Green Avebury House, 201–249 Avebury Boulevard, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire MK9 1AU Company Number 5444653 www.filtrona.com

#### Financial advisor and stockbroker

JPMorgan Cazenove 20 Moorgate, London EC2R 6DA

#### Legal advisor

Slaughter and May One Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8YY

#### **Auditor**

KPMG Audit Plc 8 Salisbury Square, London EC4Y 8BB

#### **Principal bankers**

Lloyds TSB Bank plc 25 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7HN

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc 135 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3UR

#### Registrar

If you have any questions about your shareholding, please contact, in the first instance Computershare Investor Services plc PO Box 82, The Pavilions, Bridgwater Road, Bristol BS99 7NH Telephone 0870 702 0003

Computershare also has an internet facility whereby shareholders in Filtrona plc are able to access details of their shareholding. You can access this service at **www.computershare.com**.

#### **Electronic communication**

As an alternative to receiving documentation through the post, the Company offers shareholders the option to receive by email a notification that shareholder documents (including the Annual and Interim Reports, Notices of Shareholder Meetings, Proxy Forms etc.) are available for access on the Company's website. If you wish to make such an election you should register online at **www.etreeuk.com**. If you have already made such an election you need take no further action. Registration is entirely voluntary and you may request a hard copy of the shareholder documents or change your election at any time.

#### CREST

#### Share Settlement System

The Company entered the CREST system on listing and the ordinary shares are available for settlement in CREST. As the membership system is voluntary, shareholders not wishing to participate can continue to hold their own share certificates.

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