



APPOINTMENT OF GROUP FINANCE DIRECTOR

Hartest Holdings plc, the AIM-listed specialist in the provision of scientific and medical equipment is pleased to announce the appointment of Alasdair Culshaw as Group Finance Director. Alasdair Culshaw, 52, is a chartered accountant and has over 20 years experience in senior finance positions in UK listed companies, venture capital-backed and private companies, including nine years as Group Finance Director of Protean plc. Protean plc was a main market listed group specialising in scientific equipment and consumables, whose annual sales grew to £85 million during his term of employment.

Since flotation in July 1999, Hartest has established itself as the choice supplier of scientific and medical instruments in a number of niche markets both at home and abroad. The Group appointed Geoff Spink as CEO in May 2004, and the appointment of Alasdair Culshaw as Group Finance Director further strengthens the Group's financial management, and enhances the Group's ability to maintain its progress and achieve growth both organically and by acquisition.

Max Dyer Bartlett, who has stepped down as Finance Director, will remain on the board as a non-executive director, and continues in his position as Company Secretary.

David Leeming, Chairman, commented:

"I am delighted to welcome Alasdair to Hartest at this exciting stage of the Group's development. His experience in finance positions in groups of growth-based companies, and in corporate transactions, will strengthen the Group finance function, and I am confident that he will be a great support to our new Chief Executive, Geoff Spink, and contribute to the development of the Group.

I should also like to take this opportunity to thank Max Dyer Bartlett for his contribution in the finance role over the past five years."

Alasdair Douglas Culshaw's current and previous directorships and partnerships over the past five years are as follows:

Current:

Trident Analytical Limited¹, Trident Ventures Limited^{1,2}, G Cussons Holdings Limited^{1,2}, G Cussons Limited^{1,2}, Trident Overseas Holdings Limited^{1,2} Alasdair Culshaw & Company Limited, Alandel Limited

Previous:

Ward Patents Limited, Optim Electronics Limited, Trident Optim Limited, Solarsoft Limited

(1) Administrative Receivers appointed 30 August 2001

(2) Subsidiary of Trident Analytical Limited

Save for the information disclosed above there is no other information falling to be disclosed under schedule 2 paragraph (f) of the AIM Rules.