# Experian Group Limited Annual General Meeting 2008



#### This document is important and requires your immediate attention.

If you are in any doubt as to the action you should take, you are recommended to obtain your own personal financial advice immediately from your stockbroker, bank manager, solicitor, accountant or other independent professional adviser authorised under Part VI of the UK Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, or from another appropriately authorised independent financial adviser if you are in a territory outside the UK.

If you have sold or otherwise transferred all your Experian Group Limited ordinary shares, please send this document together with the accompanying documents as soon as possible to the relevant purchaser or transferee or to the stockbroker, bank or other person through whom the sale or transfer was effected, for transmission to the relevant purchaser or transferee.



# **Annual Report 2008 highlights**

Good revenue, profit and cash performance against a backdrop of difficult market conditions.

#### Revenue

Revenue from continuing activities up 14% at constant exchange rates to US\$4.1bn. Organic revenue growth of 4%.

#### **EBIT\***

EBIT from continuing activities up 13% at constant exchange rates to US\$938m. EBIT margin of 21.8% from continuing activities in line with prior year.

### **Cost-efficiency measures**

Swift action to improve efficiency and reduce costs, with annualised cost savings target raised to US\$110m from US\$80m.

### **Acquisitions**

Acquisition expenditure US\$1.7bn, including Serasa (70% stake), Hitwise, Tallyman and N4 Solutions, with all acquisitions trading at least to plan.

#### **Dividend**

Second dividend of 12 US cents per share, giving a full-year dividend of 18.5 US cents per share, up 9%.

"Experian performed well during a challenging year. We delivered organic revenue growth across all four of our regions and all four of our principal activities, there were good profit and cash performances and we made excellent strategic progress, which positions us strongly for future growth.

"These achievements are all the more significant for having been secured against one of the most challenging market environments for the financial services sector in the US and the **UK** in recent times. Our performance attests to the commitment of our people, the strength of our market position, the global demand for our products and the balance and diversity of our portfolio."

Don Robert
Chief Executive Officer

\* EBIT is defined as profit before amortisation of acquisition intangibles, goodwill impairments, charges in respect of the demerger-related equity incentive plans, exceptional items, net financing costs and taxation. It includes the Group's share of associates' pre-tax profit.

The Annual Report 2008 highlights are extracted from, and should be read in conjunction with, Experian's Annual Report and Accounts 2008 (ARA). It is not intended to be a substitute for reading the ARA which contains a full statement of the results and state of affairs of the Group including principal risks and uncertainties relating to the Group

## Letter from the Chairman

10 June 2008

To holders of ordinary shares

Dear Shareholder

#### **Annual General Meeting: 16 July 2008**

I am writing to you with details of our Annual General Meeting ("AGM") to be held on Wednesday 16 July 2008 at 9.30am at the Four Seasons Hotel, Simmonscourt Road, Dublin 4, Ireland.

The directors regard the AGM as an important forum for engagement, particularly with private shareholders and therefore welcome the opportunity to address any questions that shareholders may have. Like last year, shareholders who are unable to attend the AGM in person may submit questions beforehand via email in relation to the business of the meeting to agmquestions@experiangroup.com or on the reply paid question card attached to the proxy form. All questions will be considered and, if appropriate, addressed at the AGM, via the Company's website at www.experiangroup.com, or on an individual basis, according to the nature of the question.

The notice of meeting and notes are set out on pages 2 to 5 of this document. An explanation of the resolutions being proposed at the meeting is set out on pages 6 to 8. Voting at the meeting (except for any procedural resolution which may be taken on a show of a hands) will be taken on a poll and I would encourage you to use your vote by attending in person, voting electronically online or completing and returning a proxy form by post. A postage stamp is not required if the proxy form is posted in the UK. Completed proxy forms should be returned as soon as possible but in any event to arrive by no later than 9.30am on Monday 14 July 2008. Shareholders wishing to vote electronically can do so online via our registrars' website, www.sharevote.co.uk, or, if you have registered for the Shareview service, at www.experianshareview.com.

The return of a proxy form will not prevent you from attending the meeting in person and further details of how to vote are included in the 'Information for shareholders' section at the end of this document. Shareholders entitled to attend, speak and vote at the AGM may appoint a proxy to exercise their rights in their place. A shareholder may appoint more than one proxy, provided that each proxy is appointed to exercise the rights attached to different shares.

I would like to draw your attention to two items of special business. The first is the proposed change of the name of the Company from Experian Group Limited to Experian plc, a change which will reflect the 'plc' status of the Company. Previously, Jersey company law did not allow the Company to use the 'plc' designation, but an amendment is expected to come into force later this year which will allow use of the designation by Jersey registered public limited companies. The board is of the view that, as a FTSE100 public company listed on the London Stock Exchange, it is appropriate that the name of the Company be changed. Resolution 11 is to approve the change of name once the change in law becomes effective.



The second concerns changes to the Company's articles of association which are being proposed at this year's AGM. Similarly to last year's AGM, we are proposing that amendments to the articles be made primarily to provide appropriate consistency with relevant provisions of the UK Companies Act 2006 which have come into force since the date of the last AGM and relevant provisions which will come into force on 1 October 2008 (to the extent permitted by Jersey law). In addition, certain amendments are being made to the articles to reflect changes to Jersey law. The proposed amendments will be implemented by adopting a new set of articles of association pursuant to resolution 12. The main differences between the existing articles of association and the new articles of association as proposed to be adopted are summarised in the Appendix to the Notice of Annual General Meeting.

The directors have announced a second interim dividend of 12 US cents per ordinary share to be paid on 25 July 2008 to holders of ordinary shares in the Company on 27 June 2008. To ensure that certain UK shareholders have the same tax treatment on their dividend as if the Company was based in the UK, income access share arrangements have been put in place by the Company. The mechanics of the income access share arrangements make it impractical to submit a proposed dividend for approval at the AGM, but the board has no plans to announce any additional dividend in respect of the year ended 31 March 2008.

The Company currently issues tax vouchers to shareholders with every dividend payment. Following a review of this procedure, with effect from the second interim dividend payment in July 2008, the Company will issue one tax voucher each year to those shareholders who receive their dividends directly into their UK bank or building society account. Such shareholders will receive a consolidated tax voucher beginning with the first interim dividend payment in 2009. Shareholders who dispose of their holding during the tax year will also receive a consolidated tax voucher at this time. Shareholders who have elected to receive relevant shareholder communications by email will receive notification of the availability of their tax voucher online at www.shareview.co.uk following the payment of each dividend.

The directors consider that all the resolutions to be put to the AGM are in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders as a whole. Accordingly, the directors unanimously recommend that you vote in favour of all resolutions as they intend to do in respect of their own beneficial shareholdings.

Yours faithfully

John Peace Chairman

Experian Group Limited (incorporated and registered in Jersey No. 93905). Corporate headquarters: Newenham House, Northern Cross, Malahide Road, Dublin 17, Ireland. Registered office: 22 Grenville Street, St. Helier, Jersey JE4 8PX

## **Notice of Meeting**

Notice is hereby given that the 2008 annual general meeting of Experian Group Limited (the "Company") will be held at the Four Seasons Hotel, Simmonscourt Road, Dublin 4, Ireland on Wednesday 16 July 2008 at 9.30am.

Explanatory notes regarding the resolutions set out below are contained in the Appendix.

You will be asked to consider and, if thought fit, pass the following resolutions.

#### **Ordinary resolutions**

- 1. To receive the report of the directors and the financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2008, together with the report of the auditors.
- 2. To approve the report on directors' remuneration contained in the financial statements and reports of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2008.
- 3. To re-elect Fabiola Arredondo as a director of the Company.
- 4. To re-elect Paul Brooks as a director of the Company.
- 5. To re-elect Roger Davis as a director of the Company.
- 6. To re-appoint PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as auditors of the Company to hold office until the conclusion of the next general meeting at which financial statements and reports are laid.
- 7. To authorise the directors to determine the remuneration of the auditors.
- 8. That the authority conferred on the directors by article 10.2 of the Company's articles of association shall be renewed and for this purpose the Authorised Allotment Amount shall be US\$34,000,000 and the Allotment Period shall be the period commencing on 16 July 2008 and ending on the conclusion of the annual general meeting to be held in 2009 or, if earlier, 15 October 2009, unless previously renewed, varied or revoked by the Company in general meeting except that the Company may before such expiry make an offer or agreement which would or might require relevant securities (as defined in the articles of association of the Company) to be allotted after such expiry and the directors may allot relevant securities in pursuance of such an offer or agreement as if the authority conferred hereby had not expired.

#### Special resolutions

- 9. Subject to the passing of resolution 8 above, that the authority conferred on the directors by article 10.3 of the Company's articles of association shall be renewed and for this purpose the Non-pre-emptive Amount shall be US\$5,100,000 and the Allotment Period shall be the period commencing on 16 July 2008 and ending on the conclusion of the annual general meeting to be held in 2009 or, if earlier, 15 October 2009, except that the Company may before such expiry make an offer or agreement which would or might require equity securities (as defined in the articles of association of the Company) to be allotted after such expiry and the directors may allot equity securities in pursuance of such an offer or agreement as if the authority conferred hereby had not expired.
- To authorise the Company, generally and unconditionally:
  - (a) pursuant to Article 57 of the Companies (Jersey) Law 1991, to make market purchases of ordinary shares in the capital of the Company on the London Stock Exchange on behalf of the Company on such terms and in such manner as the directors may from time to time determine, provided that:
    - (i) the maximum number of ordinary shares which may be purchased under this authority is 102,000,000 ordinary shares of US 10 cents each;
    - (ii) the minimum price (not including expenses) which may be paid for each ordinary share is US 10 cents;
    - (iii) the maximum price (not including expenses) which may be paid for each ordinary share is an amount equal to the higher of: (a) 105% of the average market value of the Company's ordinary shares as derived from The London Stock Exchange Daily Official List for the five business days immediately preceding the day on which the relevant share is purchased; and (b) the price stipulated by Article 5 (1) of the Buy-back and Stabilisation Regulation (EC No. 2273/2003);

- (iv) the authority hereby conferred shall expire on the earlier of 15 October 2009 and the conclusion of the annual general meeting of the Company to be held in 2009 (except that the Company shall be entitled, at any time prior to the expiry of this authority, to make a contract of purchase which would or might be executed wholly or partly after such expiry and to purchase shares in accordance with such contract as if the authority conferred had not expired) unless such authority is renewed prior to such time; and
- (b) pursuant to Article 58A of the Companies (Jersey) Law 1991, and if approved by the directors, to hold as treasury shares any ordinary shares purchased pursuant to the authority conferred by resolution 10(a) above.
- 11. That, subject to the necessary amendment to the Companies (Jersey) Law 1991 coming into force, the name of the Company be changed to Experian plc.
- 12. That the articles of association as set out in the draft produced to the meeting and initialled by the Chairman for the purposes of identification be and are her by approved to take effect from the conclusion of the meeting.

By order of the board Charles Brown Company Secretary 10 June 2008 Corporate headquarters:
Newenham House
Northern Cross
Malahide Road
Dublin 17
Ireland

Registered office: 22 Grenville Street St Helier Jersey JE4 8PX

## **Notes**

- 1. The Company, pursuant to the Companies (Uncertificated Securities) (Jersey) Order 1999, specifies that only those persons entered on the register of members of the Company as at 6.00pm on 14 July 2008 shall be entitled to attend or vote at the meeting in respect of the number of shares registered in their name at that time. Changes to entries on the register of members after 6.00pm on 14 July 2008 shall be disregarded in determining the rights of any person to attend or vote at the meeting. If the meeting is adjourned to a time not more than 48 hours after the specified time applicable to the original meeting, that time will also apply for the purpose of determining the entitlement of members to attend and vote (and for the purposes of determining the number of votes they may cast) at the adjourned meeting. If however, the meeting is adjourned for a longer period then, to be so entitled, members must be entered on the Company's register of members at 6.00pm on the day two days prior to the adjourned meeting, or, if the Company gives notice of the adjourned meeting, at the time specified in that notice.
- 2. The following documents will be available for inspection at the Company's registered office, 22 Grenville Street, St Helier, Jersey JE48PX, at the offices of Linklaters, One Silk Street, London EC2Y 8HQ during normal business hours on weekdays (Saturdays and public holidays excluded) and at the place of the annual general meeting from 9.15am on the day of the meeting until its conclusion:
  - (i) copies of all the directors' service contracts and letters of appointment; and
  - (ii) the memorandum and articles of association of the Company in the form they will appear if altered by resolution 12.
- 3. A member entitled to attend and vote at the meeting may appoint a proxy or proxies to attend and, on a poll, to vote in his/her place. A proxy need not be a member of the Company. If a shareholder wants their proxy to speak on their behalf, they must appoint someone other than the Chairman as their proxy. A shareholder may appoint more than one proxy, provided that the total number of such proxies shall not exceed the total number of shares carrying an entitlement to attend such meeting held by such member. The appointment of a proxy will not preclude members entitled to attend and vote at the meeting (or at any adjournment(s) of the meeting) from doing so in person if they so wish.

- 4. Under Jersey law, corporations may only appoint one corporate representative. Corporations wishing to allocate their votes to more than one person should use the proxy arrangements.
- 5. Any person to whom this notice is sent who is a person nominated to enjoy information rights (a "Nominated Person") may, under an agreement between him/her and the shareholder by whom he/she was nominated, have a right to be appointed (or to have someone else appointed) as a proxy for the meeting. If a Nominated Person has no such proxy appointment right or does not wish to exercise it, he/she may, under any such agreement, have a right to give instructions to the shareholder as to the exercise of voting rights.
- 6. The statement of the rights of shareholders in relation to the appointment of proxies in paragraph 3 above does not apply to Nominated Persons. The rights described in that paragraph can only be exercised by shareholders of the Company.
- 7. To be valid, an appointment of proxy must be returned using one of the following methods:
  - (i) by sending a proxy form (together, if appropriate, with the power of attorney or other written authority under which it is signed or a certified copy of such power or authority) to the office of the Company's registrars, Equiniti (Jersey) Limited, c/o Equiniti Limited, Aspect House, Spencer Road, Lancing, West Sussex, BN99 6EF; or
  - (ii) by logging onto www.sharevote.co.uk, entering the Reference Number, Card ID and Account Number printed on the proxy form (which, together, make up a unique 24-character reference number) and following the online instructions. If requested, the Company's registrars will send an acknowledgement that the online proxy appointment has been lodged with them; or
  - (iii) in the case of members who have registered for a Shareview portfolio with the registrars, by logging onto their portfolio at www. experianshareview.com, clicking on "Company Meetings" and following the online instructions. If requested, the Company's registrars will send an acknowledgement that the online proxy appointment has been lodged with them; or

(iv) in the case of CREST members, by utilising the CREST electronic proxy appointment service,

and in each case the appointment of proxy (together with any relevant power/authority) must be received (or, in the case of the appointment of a proxy through CREST, retrieved by enquiry to CREST in the manner prescribed by CREST) by the Company's registrars not later than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the meeting.

8. CREST members who wish to appoint a proxy or proxies through the CREST electronic proxy appointment service may do so for the meeting and any adjournment(s) of the meeting by using the procedures described in the CREST Manual. CREST personal members or other CREST sponsored members, and those CREST members who have appointed a voting service provider(s), should refer to their CREST sponsor or voting service provider(s), who will be able to take the appropriate action on their behalf. In order for a proxy appointment or instruction made using the CREST service to be valid, the appropriate CREST message (a "CREST Proxy Instruction") must be properly authenticated in accordance with Euroclear's specifications and must contain the information required for such instructions, as described in the CREST Manual. The message, regardless of whether it constitutes the appointment of a proxy or an amendment to the instruction given to a previously appointed proxy, must, in order to be valid, be transmitted so as to be received by the issuer's agent (ID 7RA01) by the latest time(s) for receipt of proxy appointments specified in note 7 above. For this purpose, the time of receipt will be taken to be the time (as determined by the timestamp applied to the message by the CREST Applications Host) from which the issuer's agent is able to retrieve the message by enquiry to CREST in the manner prescribed by CREST. After this time, any change of instructions to proxies appointed through CREST should be communicated to the appointee by other means. CREST members and, where applicable, their CREST sponsors or voting service providers should note that CRESTCo does not make available special procedures in CREST for any particular messages.

Normal system timings and limitations will therefore apply in relation to the input of CREST Proxy Instructions. It is the responsibility of the CREST member concerned to take (or, if the CREST member is a CREST personal member or sponsored member or has appointed a voting service provider(s), to procure that his/her CREST sponsor or voting service provider(s) take(s)) such action as shall be necessary to ensure that a message is transmitted by means of the CREST

system by any particular time. In this connection, CREST members and, where applicable, their CREST sponsors or voting service providers are referred, in particular, to those sections of the CREST Manual concerning practical limitations of the CREST system and timings.

The Company may treat as invalid a CREST Proxy Instruction in the circumstances set out in Article 34 of the Companies (Uncertificated Securities) (Jersey) Order 1999.

9. As at 16 May 2008 the Company's issued share capital consisted of 1,023,451,405 ordinary shares of 10 US cents each with voting rights and 20 deferred shares of 10 US cents each which have no voting rights. Therefore, the total voting rights in the Company as at 16 May 2008 was 1,023,451,405.

## **Appendix**

Explanatory notes in relation to the resolutions to be proposed at the annual general meeting.

Resolutions 1 to 8 will each be proposed as ordinary resolutions that will be passed if more than 50% of the votes cast are in favour of the resolution. Resolutions 9 to 12 will each be proposed as special resolutions that will be passed if not less than two-thirds of the votes cast are in favour of the particular resolution.

#### Resolution 1

The directors are required to present to the meeting their report, the financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2008 and the report of the auditors.

#### Resolution 2

This resolution is an advisory shareholder vote on the report on directors' remuneration.

#### Resolutions 3 to 5

In accordance with the Company's articles of association, each director is required to retire at the annual general meeting held in the third calendar year following the year in which he or she was elected or last re-elected by the Company. In order to ensure an orderly re-election process, the Company intends that a number of directors will retire each year and, this year, Fabiola Arredondo, Paul Brooks and Roger Davis will each retire at the annual general meeting and, being eligible, will offer themselves for re-election.

A formal evaluation of the performance of the board and its committees was conducted during the year ended 31 March 2008. The evaluation process involved interviews by independent consultants with all members of the board, as well as those senior executives who regularly attend board and committee meetings. In addition, the Chairman conducted an individual evaluation of each director. The board concluded that overall, the board and its committees continued to operate effectively and the board is satisfied that each director continues to contribute effectively and demonstrates commitment to the role. Accordingly, the board recommends each retiring director's re-election.

Biographical details of each of the directors seeking re-election are set out on pages 38 and 39 of the Annual Report 2008.

#### Resolution 6

Auditors have to be appointed at each annual general meeting. PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP has advised of its willingness to stand for re-appointment as the auditor of the Company.

#### Resolution 7

The remuneration of the auditors must be fixed by the directors or the Company in general meeting or in such

manner as the Company may determine in general meeting. The usual practice is for shareholders to resolve at the annual general meeting that the directors decide on such remuneration.

#### Resolution 8

The purpose of resolution 8, which will be proposed as an ordinary resolution, is to put in place a new authority of the Company to allot relevant securities (as defined in the Company's articles of association), this year up to an aggregate nominal amount of US\$34,000,000, being approximately one third of the Company's issued ordinary share capital as at 16 May 2008.

If granted, this authority will expire on the earlier of 15 October 2009 and the conclusion of the annual general meeting to be held in 2009.

#### Resolution 9

The purpose of resolution 9, which will be proposed as a special resolution, is to put in place a new authority for the directors to allot equity securities (as defined in the Company's articles of association) for cash without offering those equity securities pro rata to existing shareholders up to an aggregate nominal amount of US\$5,100,000 representing approximately 5% of the Company's issued ordinary share capital as at 16 May 2008. The directors do not intend to issue more than 7.5% of the issued ordinary share capital for cash on a non preemptive basis in any three year period.

The board considers that it is in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders generally that the Company should have the flexibility conferred by resolutions 8 and 9 to make small issues of shares for cash as suitable opportunities arise, although the board has no present intention of exercising either this authority or the authority under resolution 8 other than for the allotment of shares under share incentive schemes.

If granted, this authority will expire on the earlier of 15 October 2009 and the conclusion of the annual general meeting to be held in 2009.

#### Resolution 10

The purpose of resolution 10, which will be proposed as a special resolution, is to put in place a new authority to enable the Company to make market purchases of up to 102,000,000 ordinary shares, being approximately 10% of the issued ordinary share capital as at 16 May 2008. The Company's exercise of this authority is subject to the stated upper and lower limits on the price payable which reflect the requirements of the UK Listing Rules and the provisions of Article 57 of the Companies (Jersey) Law 1991. The Company will only exercise the power of purchase after careful consideration and in circumstances where, in the light of market conditions prevailing at the time, it is satisfied that it is in the best interests of the

Company and of its shareholders generally to do so and where there would be a resulting increase in earnings per share.

The Companies (Jersey) Law 1991 now permits the Company to hold any shares purchased by it as treasury shares as an alternative to immediately cancelling them. If the Company purchases any of its ordinary shares and holds them as treasury shares, the Company may sell these shares (or any of them) for cash, transfer these shares (or any of them) for the purposes of or pursuant to an employee share scheme, cancel these shares (or any of them) or continue to hold them as treasury shares. Holding such shares as treasury shares gives the Company the ability to reissue them quickly and cost effectively and provides additional flexibility in the management of the Company's capital base. No dividends will be paid on, and no voting rights will be exercised in respect of, shares held as treasury shares. If any ordinary shares are purchased by the Company, the directors intend to decide whether to cancel shares purchased pursuant to this authority or hold them as treasury shares based on the interests of the Company and shareholders as a whole at the relevant time.

As at 16 May 2008, there were options outstanding over 44,387,884 ordinary shares representing 4.34% of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company at that date. If the full authority being sought under resolution 10 was utilised, so reducing the issued ordinary share capital by an equivalent amount, the figure of 44,387,884 would represent approximately 4.82% of the issued ordinary share capital at that date.

If granted, this authority will expire on the earlier of 15 October 2009 and the conclusion of the annual general meeting to be held in 2009.

#### Resolution 11

Resolution 11 concerns a proposal to change the name of the Company from Experian Group Limited to Experian plc. An amendment to the Companies (Jersey) Law 1991 has been approved by the States of Jersey which, subject to approval by the Privy Council (which is expected to be given in the third quarter of 2008), will allow a Jersey public limited company to designate itself as a 'plc'. The board is of the view that, as a FTSE100 public company listed on the London Stock Exchange, it is appropriate that the name of the Company be changed. At this time, the required law is expected to be in force by the autumn of 2008 and, as a result, this resolution is conditional upon the enactment of the required law.

#### Resolution 12

Although the Company is a Jersey company, the purpose of resolution 12 is to adopt a new set of articles of association (the "New Articles"), with the aim of continuing to ensure the consistency (to the extent permitted by Jersey law) of the articles of association with those provisions of the UK Companies Act 2006 which

have come into force since the date of the last annual general meeting and those which will come into force on or before 1 October 2008 and to enable the Company to benefit from those new provisions.

Summarised below are the key changes introduced in the New Articles, which (if approved) will be adopted from the conclusion of the meeting. Other changes, which are of a minor, technical or clarifying nature, have not been noted in this appendix.

A copy of the Company's existing articles of association (the "Existing Articles"), and a copy of the New Articles as proposed to be adopted pursuant to resolution 12, marked to show the differences from the Existing Articles will be available for inspection at the Company's registered office, 22 Grenville Street, St Helier, Jersey JE4 8PX, and at the offices of Linklaters, One Silk Street, London EC2Y 8HQ during normal business hours on weekdays (Saturdays and public holidays excluded) until the conclusion of the annual general meeting.

It is important to note that, as the UK Companies Act 2006 is being implemented in phases with the final phase anticipated to come into force in October 2009, further changes to the Company's articles of association may be proposed to shareholders at the next and/or subsequent annual general meeting(s) of the Company to achieve consistency of the Company's articles of association (to the extent permitted by Jersey law) with those provisions.

The main proposed changes to the Company's articles of association are as follows:

#### **Directors' interests**

The UK Companies Act 2006 sets out directors' general duties. The provisions largely codify the existing law, but with some changes. Under the UK Companies Act 2006, from 1 October 2008 a director must avoid a situation where he has, or could have, a direct or indirect interest that conflicts, or possibly may conflict with, the Company's interests. The requirement is very broad and could apply, for example, if a director becomes a director of another company or a trustee of another organisation. The UK Companies Act 2006 allows directors of public companies to authorise conflicts and potential conflicts where the articles of association contain a provision to this effect. The UK Companies Act 2006 also allows the articles of association to contain other provisions for dealing with directors' conflicts of interest to avoid a breach of duty. The proposed amendments to the articles of association give the board of directors authority to approve such situations and to include other provisions to allow conflicts of interest to be dealt with in a similar way to the current position.

## **Appendix** (continued)

There are safeguards that will apply when directors decide whether to authorise a conflict or potential conflict. First, only independent directors (those who have no interest in the matter being considered) will be able to take the relevant decision, and secondly, in taking the decision the directors must act in a way they consider, in good faith, will be most likely to promote the Company's success. The directors will be able to impose such limits or conditions when giving authorisation as they think appropriate.

Even where a director has a conflict of interest authorised by the other directors, in exercising his or her duties as a director of the Company, the director will still be required by the Companies (Jersey) Law 1991 to act honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the Company and to exercise the care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances.

It is also proposed that the New Articles contain provisions relating to confidential information, attendance at board meetings and availability of board papers to protect a director against being in breach of duty should a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest arise. These provisions will only apply where the position giving rise to the potential conflict has previously been authorised by the directors. It is the board's intention to report annually on the Company's procedures for ensuring that the board's powers to authorise conflicts are operated effectively.

#### Liability limitation agreements

The UK Companies Act 2006 allows auditors, from 6 April 2008, to enter into liability limitation agreements to limit their liability for the audit work which they carry out. Under the UK Companies Act 2006 a liability limitation agreement cannot reduce the auditors' liability to less than is fair and reasonable, must be subject to shareholder approval and must not apply for more than one financial year. It is proposed that the articles of association of the Company be amended to include a provision requiring shareholder approval for any such agreements. There is no such agreement available for approval at this year's annual general meeting.

#### **Proxies**

Consistent with the UK Companies Act 2006, the New Articles reflect certain amendments and clarifications concerning the appointment, rights and termination of proxies.

#### Convening extraordinary and annual general meetings

An amendment to the Companies (Jersey) Law 1991 has been approved by the States of Jersey which, subject to approval by the Privy Council, will allow a Jersey company to convene all general meetings (including a meeting at which a special resolution is proposed) upon 14 days' notice in writing. The UK Companies Act 2006 allows for

all shareholders meetings (other than annual general meetings) to be convened on 14 days' notice even where a special resolution is proposed. Subject to the amendment under Jersey law referred to above coming into force, it is proposed that the articles be amended to allow the Company to conform with the provisions in the UK Companies Act 2006.

Other amendments relating to annual general meetings have also been made in the New Articles to conform with the UK Companies Act 2006.

#### **Treasury shares**

Recent changes to the Companies (Jersey) Law 1991 provide that, subject to shareholder approval, a Jersey company has the option to hold as treasury shares any of its shares it redeems or purchases. The New Articles update certain provisions to reflect the position at law.

#### Capital distributions

An amendment to the Companies (Jersey) Law 1991 has been approved by the States of Jersey which, subject to approval by the Privy Council, will allow a Jersey company to make capital distributions from its share premium account capital or other accounts (excluding its nominal capital account or capital redemption reserve) without a court sanction. The articles will be amended to give the Company the flexibility to make such capital distributions. The Company has no current intention to make any such capital distributions.

## Information for shareholders

#### Time of the meeting

Registration will commence at 9.00am on Wednesday 16 July 2008 at the Four Seasons Hotel and the annual general meeting will start promptly at 9.30am. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available prior to the meeting.

If you are planning to attend the annual general meeting, the Four Seasons Hotel is located just south of the centre of Dublin city. A map showing the location of the venue is set out on the back of your attendance card.

#### Attendance at the meeting

Please bring the attendance card attached to the proxy form with you if you attend the meeting. It will authenticate your right to attend, speak and vote and will speed up your admission to the meeting.

#### Shareholders with disabilities

There will be facilities for shareholders who are in a wheelchair. Anyone accompanying a shareholder in need of assistance will be admitted to the meeting as a guest of that shareholder.

#### Questions

If you are unable to attend the annual general meeting, but would like to ask a question, you can do so by using the shareholder question form attached to the proxy form or by submitting a question via email to agmquestions@experiangroup.com.

#### **Voting arrangements**

Save for any procedural resolution which may be taken on a show of hands, each of the resolutions to be put to the annual general meeting will be taken on a poll rather than on a show of hands. The results of the poll will be announced via a regulatory information service as soon as practicable following the conclusion of the meeting and will also be published on the Company's website at www.experiangroup.com.

The Company has included on the proxy form a "Vote Withheld" option in order for shareholders to abstain on any particular resolution. However, it should be noted that a "Vote Withheld" is not a vote in law and will not be counted in the calculation of the proportion of votes "For" or "Against" the particular resolution.

#### Completing the form of proxy

Notes on completing the form of proxy can be found on the form and should be read carefully before the form is completed.

#### Action to be taken

If you are unable to attend the meeting or wish to register your proxy votes now in relation to the resolutions proposed, you should complete the enclosed proxy form(s) and return it to the Company's registrar, Equiniti (Jersey) Limited, at the address shown on the proxy form,

to be received by **no later than 9.30am on Monday 14 July 2008.** A postage stamp is not required for the proxy form if posted in the UK. Returning a completed form of proxy will not prevent you from subsequently attending in person and voting at the meeting.

#### **Electronic proxy voting**

You may, if you wish, register the appointment of a proxy and/or voting instructions for this meeting online via our registrars' website, www.sharevote.co.uk, or, if you have registered for the Shareview service, at www.experianshareview.com. Full details of the procedures are given on those websites.

The proxy appointment and/or voting instructions must be received by Equiniti (Jersey) Limited by **no later than 9.30am on Monday 14 July 2008.** 

Please note that any electronic communication sent to the Company or the registrar that is found to contain a computer virus will not be accepted.

You will need to have your form of proxy to hand when you log on as it contains information which is required in the process.

CREST members who wish to appoint or instruct a proxy or proxies via the CREST electronic proxy appointment service should refer to the notes to the notice of annual general meeting where there is information on how to proceed.

#### **Information rights**

A shareholder who holds shares on behalf of another person may nominate that person (a "Nominated Person") to have information rights to receive all communications sent by the Company to its shareholders. Any shareholder wishing to make such nomination should apply to the Company's registrar, Equiniti (Jersey) Limited, at the address below giving details of the Nominated Person including their relationship with them.

#### **General enquiries**

Equiniti (Jersey) Limited maintains the Company's register of members. They provide a telephone helpline service (telephone number + 44 (0) 121 415 7586 or 0845 601 0810 for calls within the UK). If you have any queries about the annual general meeting or about your shareholding, please contact Equiniti (Jersey) Limited at the following address:

Equiniti (Jersey) Limited PO Box 63 11-12 Esplanade St Helier Jersey JE4 8PH

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